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NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NIGERIA Anniversary celebrates 60,
calls for more advocacy on reading culture

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NATIONAL
LIBRARY
OF NIGERIA
News Letter



NATIONAL LIBRARY CELEBRATES 60TH ANNIVERSARY (1964-2024)

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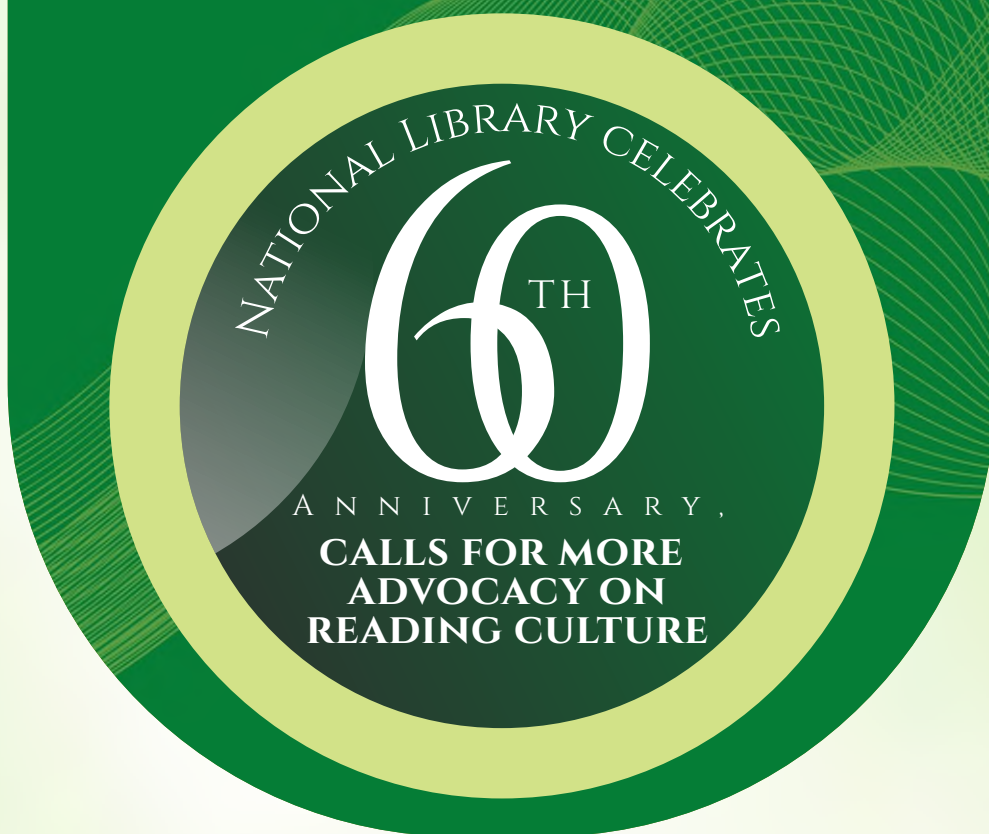
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National Librarian/CEO National Library of Nigeria Prof. Chinwe Veronica Anunobi



The National Library of Nigeria celebrated her 60 years of existence from November, 14 1964 to November, 14 2024. The event took place at the Shehu Musa Yar'adua Centre, Central Business Area, Abuja on 19th and 20th November, 2024

National Library being the apex library in Nigeria is mandated to collate all intellectual materials of Nigerians and about Nigeria, keep them for posterity and make it easy accessible to Nigerians. This mandate is a unique responsibility of the National Library, another is the issuance of the International Standard Numbers to Authors and Publishers, the Organization also carries out the annual readership promotion campaign across the Country with the aim of enlightening Nigerians on the importance of reading culture for National development.

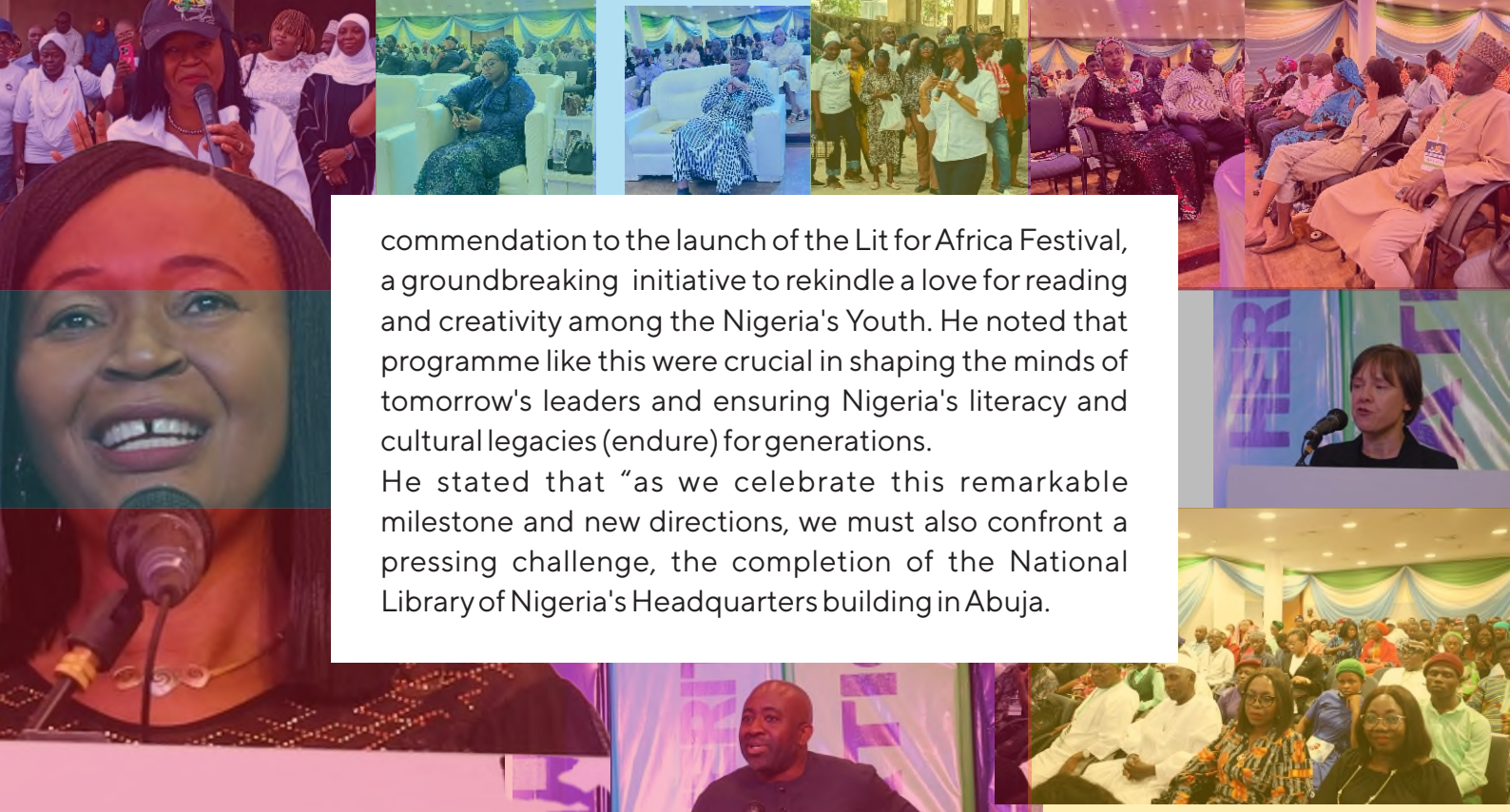
These mandates have been successfully

running throughout six decades of the National Library of Nigeria.

Former President Olusegun Obasanjo who delivered a goodwill message stated that the National Library of Nigeria has stood as a cornerstone for the Country's intellectual and cultural development by preserving the nation's heritage and empowering Nigerians through access to knowledge and making significant stride in fostering literacy..

He said "I commend the National Library of Nigeria's commitment to embracing digital transformation and innovation, as reflected in it's 2025- 2030 strategic plan. This exemplifies the Institution's forward thinking approach to positioning its self as a vital engine for Nigeria's knowledge economy" He also extended his





commendation to the launch of the Lit for Africa Festival, a groundbreaking initiative to rekindle a love for reading and creativity among the Nigeria's Youth. He noted that programme like this were crucial in shaping the minds of tomorrow's leaders and ensuring Nigeria's literacy and cultural legacies (endure) for generations. He stated that "as we celebrate this remarkable milestone and new directions, we must also confront a pressing challenge, the completion of the National Library of Nigeria's Headquarters building in Abuja.

He said the vision for a purpose –built, state of the art national library is not just a symbolic aspiration" He said "It is necessity for our Country which represents a physical and functional commitment to our collective belief in the power of knowledge to transform lives and societies. I therefore, call on all stakeholders, from government to private sectors and international partners, to prioritize the completion of this vital structure, A fully operational headquarters that will serve as a beacon for literacy and learning, a hub for cultural preservation, and a global symbol of Nigeria's commitment to education and innovation.

The former President emphasized that "as someone who has personally experienced the transformative power of reading and writing, I know that libraries are not just spaces, they are catalysts for individual and national development." He said "let us ensure that this 60th anniversary of the National Library of Nigeria marks not only a celebration of past achievements but also a turning point for the National Library's future, one that includes a fully realized headquarters to inspire generations to come".



PROF. SUWAIBA SA'ID AHMAD
MINISTER OF STATE EDUCATION

He concluded "I congratulate the leadership, staff and stakeholders of the National Library of Nigeria on this historic occasion, may this celebration spur us all to redouble our efforts to build knowledge –driven Nigeria".

In his keynote address, the Honourable Minister of Education, Dr. Tunji Alausa represented at the occasion by his State Minister Dr. Suwaiba Sa'id Ahmad stated that for six decades, the National Library of Nigeria has stood as the guardian of



Nigeria's intellectual heritage, serving as a beacon of knowledge and learning, this journey has been one of dedication, perseverance, and a relentless commitment to empowering Nigerians through access to information and resources. Nigerians must celebrate this legacy collectively and to look forward to the brighter future of the Nation.

He said the National Library of Nigeria is more than just repositories of books and document, he noted that it is the bedrock of any thriving knowledge economy. He stated that libraries remain the engines of lifelong learning, the pillars of research and guardian of culture. He added now that information is power, the National Library of Nigeria holds the key to unlocking the potential of millions of Nigerians.

The Honourable Minister also said that “ technology is transforming how we live, work and learn, therefore the role of libraries and especially the National Library of Nigeria must evolve, it is not only the a repository of nation's history but a driving force in shaping the future of Nigeria and Nigerians” he emphasized that “This Government will continue to prioritize education as the cornerstone of national development in line with President Bola Ahmed Tinubu GCFR's renewed hoped agenda, this proved the National Library has a crucial role to play in expanding access to quality education”.

He emphasized that apex Library in Nigeria

must take its rightful place in this digital age, serving as a modern hub for learning, research and innovation, by making reading materials accessible to every Nigerians regardless of their location and circumstances.

He said “ I am particularly heartened by the strategic initiative underway to bring the National Library into the future which includes among others: digital transformation effort that will enable the library to leverage on cutting edge technologies like artificial intelligence (AI), virtual and augmented reality and a data analytics to improve access and enhance learning experience”

He added that “ in this regard, I want to acknowledge the leadership of the National Librarian Professor Chinwe V. Anunobi, the Governing Board of the National Library for their vision and foresight in steering the Library into a new era, by transforming it into a central pillar of Nigerian's

knowledge economy” The Minister also expressed excitement over the launch of “ Lit for Africa Festival” an initiative powered by Kyterion, that seeks to ignite a passion for reading among the youth, this festival would not only promote literacy but nurture creativity, critical thinking and a lifelong learning for National development.

Dr. Alausa also charged Nigerians to harness the power of information, education, and innovation to drive Nigeria's development in the future.

The National Librarian, Professor Chinwe Veronica Anunobi during her opening remarks at the occasion stated that Nigerians must appreciate the giant stride made by the Chairman standing Committee on the Provision of Libraries in 1948, which was re-echoed in 1953 by UNESCO, propagated by the West African Library Association (WALA) and the Nigeria Library Association (NLA) which ultimately led to acceptance of the Rogers report by Council of Ministers on the establishment of National library of Nigeria. She said finally the goose roosted through the arrival of Prof. Carl White in 1962 (Dean of the School of Library Science from Columbia University) based on the request made by the Nigeria Government to Ford Foundation. Thus, the golden egg – National Library of Nigeria was laid through the National Library Act of 1964 and the library was opened to public by Prof. White and three other American librarians on November 6, 1964.

She noted that “We are today celebrating this resilience and dogged efforts of our founding fathers to ensure that Nigerian heritage is preserved for posterity and for Nigeria to be counted among the comity of developed nations priding herself on providing access to

information for education, research, economic and socio-political development as expected of a national library of the highest standing”

The National Librarian revealed that “it gives me enormous joy to be the pilot of this ship as we celebrate this milestone. Casting our minds back, it is indisputable that National Library of Nigeria like other globally acclaimed national libraries has her role cut out for her as encapsulated by the pioneer Director –Prof. White. However the approach to its actualization is changing with the evolution of the system, informed by the external and internal environmental factors”.

She said “deriving from our foundational mandate which is rooted on preservation of our nation's heritage, serving as a bibliographic centre relating with international standard organizations, acting as a space for research, education, lifelong learning and cultural development, and promotion of reading among Nigerians.

As she highlighted some of the achievements recorded by the Apex Library in Nigeria from inception to date, she said it was a progress that reflects the institution's relevance to national heritage, worthy of pride among Nigerians and deserving of support from those who care for the preservation of our national memory and intellectual legacy. She said the National Library of Nigeria has preserved over 5million titles and over 13million volumes stored in various locations all over the country inclusive of 2.5million titles and 7.5million volumes of resources of Nigerian origin. As a bibliographic centre, a total of 1,000,574 and 27,755 International Standard Book and Serials numbers were issued to our publishers respectively. She noted that “we are proud to position that many Nigerians and non-Nigerians interested in scholarship, education, research, lifelong learning including learned gentlemen have benefited from the National Library through her services at the 34 State branches and the

headquarters. Consequently, we have recorded over 7million unique users and 32million footprints”.

Prof. Anunobi also revealed that the Organization has had personal engagements with over 1million Nigerians on her effort to ensure that Nigerians across every age, gender, occupation, and class understand and embrace the culture of reading towards sustainable development. This was achieved through the annual readership promotion advocacy across the nation, mostly in hospitals, correctional centres, skills acquisition centres, motor parks, schools, Local Government Secretariat, Palaces of Traditional Rulers which transcendent to the Heard to Reach Communities from year 2022 and beyond.

She said it became necessary as Nigeria could

not leave anybody behind in her developmental engagements; the establishment of literacy centres were also successful across the nation with the support of volunteers in every Local Government Councils.

She said with the evolving global technology landscape prevalent in the manner of information packaging, processing, access and retrieval, the National Library of Nigeria transited to digital operations and services, through her various platforms viz: **National Virtual Library of Nigeria, National Repository of Nigeria**, Online Public Access Catalogue, Online Index and Abstract to Nigeria Newspapers, ISBN/ISSN online , she said these would be accessed from the National Library of Nigeria website. She added that the Institution has also deepened its services to the preservation and promotion of Nigeria indigenous languages through its various programs.

The direction of the Apex Library for the next five years – 2025-2030 strategic plans has also been unveiled.

The anniversary has its theme “The Future of Libraries in a Digital Age: Preserving Heritage, Expanding Access and Engaging Youth” this indicates that National Library of Nigeria must design education, research and cultural development programs that will not only attract the youths but transform them as very important and valuable asset of this nation.

The National Librarian stated that henceforth Nigerians must accept the fact that National Library of Nigeria has become the apex repository of Nigeria's wealth of knowledge, and used the occasion to acknowledge the tireless efforts of every staff member, librarians, other stakeholders including visionary leaders within and outside this country who believed in the transformative power of libraries to enlighten minds and uplift societies.

She congratulated every Nigerians on a 60 years journey in knowledge collection, preservation and dissemination of



PROF. CHINWE V. ANUNOBI



MALLAM HABIB ABBA JATO
FORMER DIRECTOR/ CEO NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NIGERIA



HAJIYA NEEMAT ABDULRAHEEM
DIRECTOR EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTRE FCT

information in Nigeria.

Meanwhile in his good will message, virtually, the National Librarian of South Africa, Mr. Kepi Madumo congratulated the National Library of Nigeria in its quest to advancing literacy and the promotion of culture, he said this significant milestone served as a testament to the Library's unwavering dedication to safeguarding Nigeria's diverse heritage, facilitating knowledge accessibility, and nurturing a culture of reading that transcends generations within the Nigerian population.

He said "this table of contents provides a comprehensive guide to our fashion catalogue, offering insights into the craftsmanship, creativity, and personalized services that define our brand". He added that "the National Library of Nigeria has been a pillar of education and intellectual growth, ensuring that information remains accessible to all. Your institution has played a pivotal role

in nurturing minds, inspiring curiosity, and advancing literacy across the country. Your work echoes our shared mission of enriching communities, preserving the heritage of our nations, and empowering our citizens through knowledge".

He noted that "As we celebrate this remarkable anniversary with you, we look forward to strengthening our relationship as sister institutions dedicated to similar ideals. Together, may we continue to champion the cause of learning, cultural preservation, and intellectual empowerment throughout the African continent and beyond".

Also in her goodwill message, the Director of St. Methodius National Library of Bulgaria, Prof. Krasimira Alexandrova also extended a congratulatory message to the National Library of Nigeria, she stated that the Nigerian National Library has established it's self as a leading cultural and educational centre and a

guardian of a literary heritage of Africa's largest nation.

She said “your library plays a crucial role in providing access to knowledge and culture across the country, uniting diverse ethnic and cultural communities, your collections of over 10 million books and documents, including numerous rare and valuable editions- from unique manuscripts and historical records to first edition of Nigerian Authors such as “Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe” and “The Man died: Prison notes by Wole Soyinka”

She said these remarkable works along with important historical documents reflects Nigeria's rich and diverse cultural identity and showcase it to the world. She noted that “the partnership between our National Libraries solidified through the Memorandum of Understanding and corporation signed in 2023 in Sofia, Bulgaria are symbolic of the friendship between our people, culture and literatures.

She added that the National Library of Nigeria

steadfastly pursued its mission of promoting literacy, knowledge and a love for books in every new generation of Nigerians, quoting one of the Nigerian Authors, Chinua Achebe who said “books are not just repositories of knowledge but sources of imagination and vision, they provide us with keys to unlocking the worlds around us and connect us with the past to understand the future” She added that these words resonate with those of the Bulgarian literary classic Yordan Yovkov, who said “ Books are the light that illuminates the darkness of ignorance”

She said though the two Scholars were separated by thousands of kilometres and having lived and written in different times, she said the words of these two enlightened scholars demonstrate how books and knowledge can unite nations and lead to a deeper understanding of the world, regardless of geographical cultural differences.

She extended the congratulations to the entire Nigerians as quoted “please accept heartfelt congratulations from your Bulgarian Friends at St. Cyril and Methodius National Library of Bulgaria on this anniversary”, she said “though nearly five thousand Kilometres separate us but distance cannot be an obstacle to the cultural bridge we are building, happy 60th anniversary, may this celebration mark the beginning of new achievements and contributions to the preservation of Nigerian culture, knowledge and literary heritage”.

The former National Librarian/Chief Executive Officer from Mrs. Olayemi Olubunmi Omolayole who served from year 2000 to 2006 also stated that “Sixty years may seem brief in the life of an organization, yet the National Library has accomplished so much and made significant contributions to the development of our nation”.

She commended the Federal Ministry of Education for supporting the efforts to develop the National Library and also extended felicitation to the founding fathers for their vision and commitment more especially the first two Chief Executives, Dr. Simeon Babasanya Aje and Alhaji Muazu H.





Wali, whose passion and unrelenting zeal fostered the growth of the National Library. May their souls continue to rest in peace”.

She appreciated the various Governing Boards of the National Library who deserve commendation for ensuring the continuity of the Library. She revealed that the efforts of the Chief Executive Officers over the years in keeping the library's doors opened despite scarce resources were highly appreciated. Her appreciation also went to all past and current members of staff, who also deserve immense commendation for their steadfast pursuit of the institution's goals.

She said “They are the ones who brought the policies and programs to life. I acknowledge the supportive roles and cooperation of the Friends of the National Library, notably the publishing industry”. She said the commitment to Legal Deposit continues for National development.

She added that “the responsibilities of the National Library are ongoing and require steady funding. These include building a library of the highest standing, serving as the giant memory of the nation, her intellectual storehouse, and the data bank for Nigeria's learning and knowledge”.

She emphasized that a library of such standing cannot operate from unsuitable premises.

Therefore, it is of utmost importance that the government aggressively funds the completion of the National Library Headquarters building without further delay. She said this project is a National Monument in the Central Business Area in Abuja, which has been under construction for about 20 years! I appeal to the Federal Government to complete this building and hand it over for use by the nation”.

However, former Director/Chief Executive Officer from 2011 to 2016 Mallam Habib Abba Jato also in his goodwill message emphasized that National Library of Nigeria has a unique history as an organization since 6th November, 1964. He said it started as a Department under the Federal Ministry of Information which was commissioned by Chief T.O.S Benson a former Federal Commissioner of Information to Federal Ministry of Education.

He said” this breakthrough came in 1988 when the National Library of Nigeria expanded from being one Department to seven Departments. He added that “Ten (10) years ago, the National Library of Nigeria celebrated fifty (50) years under my leadership as the Chief Executive Officer of the Organization”. He noted that 60th Anniversary was truly a milestone that needed to be celebrated with library's pomp and pageantry.

He further stated that “I congratulate the National Librarian/Chief Executive Officer, Professor Chinwe V. Anunobi, her Management Team and Entire Members of Staff for their perseverance in making the National Library of Nigeria a better place”.

The Managing Director Havilla Group also in his contribution admonished the Nigerian Government to take the education sector of this country very serious, he said “looking at the nature of technological advancement going around the globe” without education Nigeria will have to struggle to survive, as the most populous Nation in the African continent it must take a leading step at actualizing the development of the entire continent.

He said education could not be successful without the primary role libraries play, and National Library of Nigeria being the apex library must take its rightful place in the supervision and regulating the library services in the Country. He said this would not be achieved unless the National Library is being supported and upgraded to match with the global standard, he advised the Government to speedily complete the headquarters building of the National Library of Nigeria which served one of the steps to achieving the National development.

So many other stakeholders showered their encomiums calling on Government at all levels to commit to the development of library services in Nigeria.

However the program kicked off on the 19th November, 2024. The celebration started with a program “Lit for Africa Festival” a program pioneered by the Kyreton Nigeria Limited which partnered with the National Library of Nigeria to improve the love for reading culture amongst Nigerians. The event invited stakeholders, Authors and Publishers including Librarians and School Teachers who charted a way forward in the successful discharge of library services in Nigeria.



PROF. ANUNOBI CALLS FOR SPEEDY COMPLETION OF THE NLN HEADQUARTERS BUILDING UNDER CONSTRUCTION



PROF. CHINWE V. ANUNOBI
NATIONAL LIBRARIAN/CEO

The National Librarian, Professor Chinwe Veronica Anunobi has called on the Government and all stakeholders to consider a speedy completion of the Headquarters building of National Library of Nigeria under construction located adjacent the National Mosque at the Central Business Area of the Federal Capital Territory, FCT Abuja.

She made the call during a Road walk which she personally led from the Temporary building belonging to Sanusi Dantata to the permanent building project at the Central Business District, Abuja on 19th November, 2024, she said she led the road walk in commemoration of the National Library of Nigeria 60th anniversary in order to showcase the milestone of the Institution to the general public.

She appealed to the Government and the stakeholders to consider completion of the building in order to preserve heritage of this country, she said she was optimistic that the new Minister of education Dr. Tunji Alausa would leave no stone un-turned in improving the educational sector and complete the



National Library of Nigeria headquarters building which is under construction within which has been moribund since 2006.

The building which was conceived by the former President Olusegun Obasanjo administration of having an edifice to preserve the nation's heritage, consist of eight storey building with two basements located at the heart of the nation's Federal Capital Territory FCT Abuja, however, she noted that after the Obasanjo administration, successive

governments have done little or no meaningful contributions toward the project.

She said that the building is well positioned and well structured to take care the heritage of this country but quick to lament that not much has been done, only 48% completed, she expressed optimism that "by the time it is completed we are hopeful we are going to preserve the heritage that is scattered all over this country"



AKWA IBOM STATE BRANCH

CELEBRATED NATIONAL LIBRARY @60 ANNIVERSARY



The event witnessed in attendance, a total of 82 members, in 46 females and 36 males, including SIWES Students of Library and information Science Department, University of Uyo, members of GOLDEN BRAINS BOOK CLUB, Of the National Library of Nigeria, Uyo. Staff of the state Library Board and their Library users, Authors and publishers were not left out. The event took place at the State Library Board Headquarters Udotung Ubo Street Uyo, chaired by the Head State Library Board, Comrade Edidiong Hanson, accompanied by the Head, Abak LGA Divisional Library, Mr Ibanga. THEME OF THE YEAR'S ANNIVERSARY, The Future of Libraries In A Digital Age: Preserving Heritage, Expanding Access, And Engaging Youth. The Head Abak Division, a researcher, authors, a publisher, and Librarians who attended the event gave goodwill messages to grace the occasion.

IMO State Branch

Road-walk With Flyers To Sensitize Our Community NIn @60





KANO STATE BRANCH CELEBRATED NATIONAL LIBRARY @60 ANNIVERSARY

The following reports were recorded.

1. The branch made an exhibition of National Library publications throughout the period of the celebration
2. School children from two schools totaling two hundred were invited to partake in the programme by engaging them in practical computer training at the e library.
3. An elaborate banner was printed and displayed at the branch entrance informing the general public of the celebration.

Sign HOB KANO

ADAMAWA STATE BRANCH STATISTICS FOR NLN @ 60TH GRAND FINALE ARE AS FOLLOWS :

Theme: The future of Libraries In A Digital Age: Preserving Heritage, Expanding Access, And Engaging Youth.



The National Library of Nigeria Adamawa State Branch celebrated 6th decades of its existence in Yola. Series of activities were carried out in celebration of the giant store house of knowledge. These include Radio talk show with Adamawa State Broadcasting Corporation on the 14th November 2024. Highlighting the key functions Of NLN and it's impact to the community of users , exhibition of NLN publications and historical informational resources which attract the community of users. Among personalities that graced the occasion include Assistant Professor from American University of Nigeria Adamawa state Mr Richards Kamai ,Polytechnic Librarian Mrs Minakaro and other dignitaries. .Roadwalk was also done showcasing the existence of NLN@60.



REPORT OF NLN @60TH ANNIVERSARY HELD IN BAUCHI STATE BRANCH.

60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION EVENTS:

1. Prayers in church and mosque to express appreciation to God
2. Radio live talk show @ Bauchi Global FM.
3. Exhibition of pictorial pictures of the past and present leaders
4. Road walk accompanied by Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) from Bauchi State Branch office to Bauchi State Government House.

STATISTICS OF ATTENDANCE FOR BAUCHI STATE BRANCH.

STUDENTS = 197 (Male= 94. (Female = 103)
 TEACHER= 6
 (Male =3) (Female = 3)
 DIGNITARIES = 12
 Male=117)
 Head, Bauchi State Branch (Female=122) . Total= 239
 submitted by : Ngorngor R.O Head, Bauchi State Branch
 Photos of activities speaks



Yelwa, Bauchi, Nigeria
 8R4G+F57, Yakubun - Bauchi Rd, Yelwa 740102, Bauchi, Nigeria
 Lat 10.30620°
 Long 9.825736°
 13/11/24 12:39 PM GMT +01:00

REPORT ON THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NIGERIA'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION HELD ON THE 19TH NOVEMBER, 2024 AT YOBE STATE BRANCH, DAMATURU

Yobe branch joined the Headquarters and other state branches to celebrate the grand finale of the Apex Library's 60th Anniversary which was preceded by the radio talkshow, and the road walk on the previous day to the grand finale day.

Among other daily activities, the Branch marked the grand finale by inviting three secondary schools within Damaturu metropolis; two (2) government schools and a private school. **Namely:**

1. Government Girl's Day Senior Science Secondary School, Damaturu.

2. Damaturu International School, Damaturu.

3. Government Day Junior Secondary School, Central Ajari, Damaturu.

Where different educational interactive programmes such as "Success Stories", "Drop Everything And Read to Somebody", Impromptu Speech", Sensitization on the Statutory Functions and the Achievements of the National Library and finally a pep talk on "The Role of Library in Achieving one's Dream" followed by Questions and Answers by the invited attendees.

Statistics of Attendants:

S/N	Categories	Females	Males	Total
1	Students	21	06	27
2	Teachers	03	Nil	03
3	Dignitaries	02	01	03
4	Community Youths	02	07	09
5	Staff	01	01	02
	Total	29	15	44

The invited schools were also informed about the National Library's community engagement by showing them our previous RPC's pictures displayed in the exhibition within the branch.



EBONYI STATE BRANCH CELEBRATES THE ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NIGERIA ON 19TH NOVEMBER, 2014



Enugu State Branch

Report on National Library @60 Celebration

Exhibition: The event started with a very robust exhibition of rare materials, books, historical pictures of notable people. The exhibition caught the attention of many users.

Road Walk: The Branch took to a road walk from the office premises to the popular Okpara Square where teeming crowd joined in the celebration.

Radio Talk Show: The Branch was on air for one hour on Energy 100.5 FM (live) To tell the story of National Library.

During the grand. Finale the branch invited guests, students, National library retirees for a closing ceremony.

Still in celebration mood, National Library of Nigeria Enugu State Branch invited some dignitaries to celebrate with us.:

1. Dr Ibegbulam (UNN)_ Quest Speaker
2. Dr Uzoagba (UNN)-Pep talk
3. Mrs Adora Eje (CEO Zijag Educational Hub)-Pep talk
4. Barr. Ifediora.

Enugu State Branch retirees:

1. Mrs Victoria Harbor. (Retired Chief Library officer.)
2. Mrs Victoria Anunobi: (Retired Chief Library officer)
3. Mrs China Emeh (Retired Chief Admin Officer)

Schools invited included the following

1. Haddie Dasha International School (Female 10, Male 10)
2. Hilview Education Center (Female 9, Male 11)
3. Our Lords Shepherd International School (Female 14, Male 6)

Other Quests_15 (Female 12, Male 3)

Total quests_88

Female_55



CROSS RIVER STATE BRANCH STATISTICS

FOR NLN @ 60TH GRAND FINALE ARE AS FOLLOWS :

Dignitaries	Students	Youth	Teachers
Male : 6	Male: 12	Male: 13	Male : 4
Female : 11	Female: 15	Female : 10	Female: 11
Total=17	Total= 27	Total= 23	Total= 15

Total Participants =82

Submitted please by, HOB Cross Rivers Branch Mr Udofia.



OSUN STATE BRANCH STATISTICS FOR NLN @ 60TH GRAND FINALE ARE AS FOLLOWS :

Dignitaries	Students	Youth	Teachers
Male : 4	Male:15	Male: 9	Male : 7
Female : 1	Female: 56	Female : 10	Female: 5
Total =5	Total=71	Total =19	Total=12

Total Participants =107

Submitted please HOB, Osun State Branch.



OGUN STATE BRANCH STATISTICS

FOR NLN @ 60TH GRAND FINALE ARE AS FOLLOWS :

Dignitaries	Students	Others
Male : 06	Male: 33	Male : 29
Female : 10	Female: 42	Female : 13
Total=75	Total= 75	Total=16

Total Participants =120

Submitted by HOB, Ogun State Branch..



Oyo State Branch

commemorated NLN's 60th year of excellence with a memorable grand finale.



Ondo State Branch

commemorated NLN's 60 years of excellence with a memorable grand finale.

60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION EVENTS

- EXHIBITION
- ROAD WALK
- GRAND FINALE.



ROAD WALK

Ondo State Branch Staff Members led by the Head of Branch, Prince Akinlolu M. Ajani, observed the Road walk along Oba Adesida road Akure.

MAIN EVENT

took place at ECWA group of schools, in their auditorium on 22nd November, 2024. The program commenced with Opening prayer by a staff of ECWA group of schools, Mr Omolola O. at 10a.m followed by National Anthem.

ATTENDANCE

Three (3) Schools were invited with 6 Teachers. Names of the invited Schools are as follows :

1. ECWA Group of schools
2. Fiwasaye girls grammar schools, Akure
3. Ijapo high school, Akure

Submitted . Prince AJANI.M.AKINLOLU. HOB/ DEPUTY DIRECTOR



FCT Branch

Celebrated NLN's 60 years of excellence with a memorable grand finale.



Celebration of National Library of NIGERIA FCT Branch **dignitaries**

1. Ambassador Kabiru Bala as the chairman and our special guest of honour
2. Coordinator, Abuja Chapter of Network of Book Clubs and Reading Culture Promoters in Nigeria (NBRP), Dr. Kabura Zakama as a keynote speaker
3. Royal Father of the day Chief Timothy Gwamna
4. Engr. Isaac O. Akindele
Group Managing Director
Access Power Technologies Ltd
5. Dr. Abdulmalik Badamasuiy

Three [3] schools were invited with seven [7] students and one [1] teachers each.

- a. Junior secondary school, (JSS) Area 1
- b. LEA primary school, Area 1
- c. Junior Secondary school Area, 10.

The number of students were [11] eleven boys and [10] Ten girls [21] Twenty one.

All Adults including teachers were forty six [49]
Male :24
Female: 25

Grand total of the participants : Seventy [70].

Activities of the day includes:

- . Keynote address: The Future of Libraries in A Digital Age: preserving Heritage, Expanding Access and Engaging Youth
- * Books Exhibition
- * Cultural Dance
- * Cultural dressing Yoruba, Hausa Ibo and Gbagi
- * Book gifts for all schools present for their Libraries

Oye, O. Margaret
HoB: FCT Branch



NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NIGERIA 60th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IN UMUAHIA. ABIA STATE BRANCH

Program of the Event:

- 14th Nov.
- 1. Visits and Invitation of stakeholders.
- 15th--18th Nov
- 2. Exhibition of National Library publications
- 18th Nov.
- 3. Road Walkshow
- 19th Nov.
- 4. Grand finale lecture.

The NLN 60th anniversary celebration in Abia State Branch was a very colorful event. The program started on the 14th of November 2024 with an invitation to the Exco of the Nigerian Library Association (NLA) Abia State Chapter. An exhibition of publications of the National Library of Nigeria as well as display of past and present CEO'S of the organization was mounted at the venue. A Road Walk show with a banner printed for the event was on the streets of Umuahia for publicity. The grand finale of the program was on the 19th of Nov. Apostle David Onuoha, a renowned public speaker, an ambassador, patron of the National Library of Nigeria was on hand to deliver a short anniversary lecture. Refreshments Refreshments.

Statistics of participants

- LIS students of MOUAU- 20
- Pupils of Creative Kids Academy Umuahia-- 20
- Abia State Library Board- 2.
- NLA members-- 5.
- Publishers -- 5.
- Members of staff-- 9



LAGOS STATE BRANCH STATISTICS FOR NLN @ 60TH GRAND FINALE ARE AS FOLLOWS :

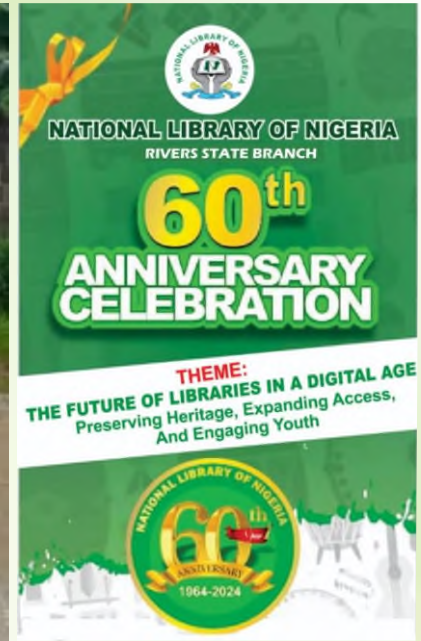
Dignitaries	Students	Guest	Staff
Male : 2	Male: 27	Male : 8	Male : 5
Female : 2	Female: 18	Female : 5	Female : 12
Total=4	Total= 45	Total=13	Total=22

Total Participants =84

Submitted HOB, Lagos State Branch. DD Mrs Onuorah PC.



NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NIGERIA, RIVERS STATE BRANCH REPORT OF NLN@ 60



Rivers State Branch On The Road Show For Nln@60 Anniversary

National Library of Nigeria Port Harcourt on the 14th through 19th, November 2024 held series of events marking National Library of Nigeria @60 anniversary. The celebration started with a chat with Port Harcourt, “The Tide” as part of our sensitization campaign on the 14th, of November 2024, and on the 15th of November an exhibition was mounted at the National Library of Nigeria Port Harcourt Premises which showcased among other things publications of National Library of Nigeria, 1999 constitution and historical books on National Library of Nigeria including picturals. On the 16th November, the entire members of staff including some library clientele trooped out for a beautiful road show within the library environs before the grand finale which was on the 19th of November which featured Round table discussion, speeches and light refreshment. Keynote address was delivered by Chief Adi Wali, a prolific author and chairman Association of Nigerian Authors, Rivers State Branch. The event was hosted by Mr. Kingsley Egbulonu Deputy Director/ Head National Library of Nigeria Port Harcourt.



National Library Of Nigeria Port Harcourt, Rivers State Mounted An Exhibition To Mark Nln@60



Roundtable discussion for NLN 60 Anniversary

REPORT OF NLN @60TH ANNIVERSARY HELD IN EKITI STATE BRANCH.

Ekiti State Branch celebrated the grand finale of 60th Anniversary of National Library of Nigeria with the headquarters today 20th November, 2024 at Baptist Comprehensive High School Ado Ekiti, Ekiti State.

In the first day there was a display of materials on National Library of Nigeria in the office premises.

The ceremony took place at the school hall Baptist Comprehensive High School Ado Ekiti.

The chairperson of the occasion was Dr (Mrs) Adepoju M.A a lecturer from the Department of Library and information Science at Ekiti State University Ado Ekiti.

She delivered a good will message using the theme of the anniversary to educate the students. "The future of Libraries In a Digital Age : Preserving Heritage,

Expanding Access And Engaging Youth".

The principal of the school Mr Ologunleko A. E who was accompanied by three of his principal officers were also in attendance.

Mrs Olukitibi Caroline a principal Librarian in Ekiti State Branch told the students and their teachers on the activities of National Library of Nigeria since inception in 1964 when the organization was established.

Writing materials were distributed to students and their teachers.

Total attendance at the accession were sixty four (64) Population of students present were fifty two (52) in number. Number of females Thirty (30) and number of males Twenty two (22)

The staff and other invited dignitaries were twelve (12) seven (7) males and five (5) females



BORNO STATE BRANCH STATISTICS FOR NLN @ 60TH GRAND FINALE ARE AS FOLLOWS :

Dignitaries	Students	Other Guests	Teachers
Male : 6	Male:9	Male: 6	Male : 2
Female : 2	Female: 11	Female : 9	Female: 4
Total =8	Total=20	Total =15	Total=6

Total Participants =49

Submitted please HOB, Borno State Branch.





BAYELSA STATE BRANCH STATISTICS

**FOR NLN @ 60TH GRAND FINALE ARE
AS FOLLOWS :**

Bayelsa State Branch staff joins other branches of NLN in the commemoration of NLN @60th. To mark this milestone, Bayelsa State Branch organized a Road show around the Swali community promoting NLN giant strides in her Literacy Campaigns. Lectures were also delivered by one of the friends of the library, Dr. Authority Benson of Niger Delta University (NDU).

Dignitaries

Male : 4

Female : 2

Total=6

Students

Male: 8

Female: 7

Total= 15

Teachers

Male : 4

Female: 2

Total= 6

Total Participants =27

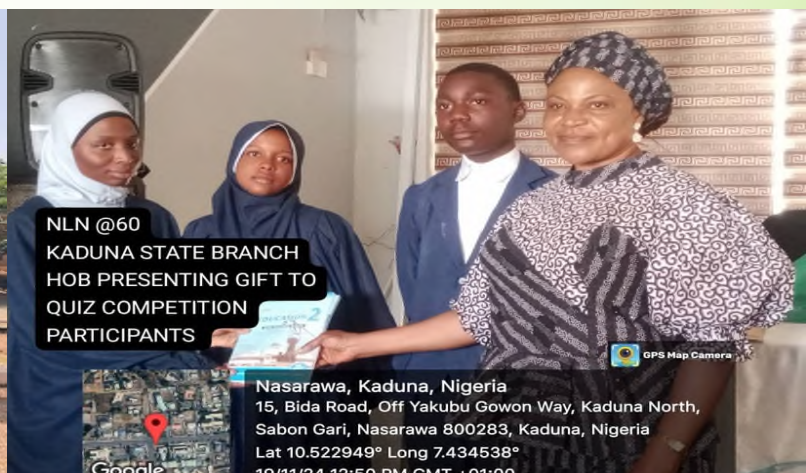
Submitted please HOB, Bayelsa Branch.

KADUNA STATE BRANCH STATISTICS FOR NLN @ 60TH GRAND FINALE ARE AS FOLLOWS :

Dignitaries	Students	Others
Male : 13	Male: 23	Male : 15
Female : 17	Female: 52	Female : 15
Total=30	Total= 75	Total=30

Total Participants =135

Submitted HOB, Kaduna State Branch..



KATSINA STATE BRANCH HELD ACTIVITIES TO MARK NLN AT 60

With exhibition, roadwalk, radio Talk show and luncheon with it's students. Finally, the branch took the campaign to 3 different schools and had a fun day with students and attended a quiz competition at Police children school.

The chief judge Justice Musa Danladi Abubakar and NLA Katsina State Branch were also around to celebrate with NLN. It was a week long programme full of activities

Dignitaries include :

1. Chief judge
2. NLA chairman
3. Members of NLA
4. The Librarian KSITM
5. The Director State library board
6. Student from department of Library and Information Science FUDMA
7. IT students

Total no of students estimate 60

Total no of Dignitaries 20

Total no of IT students 18.

Find below some pictures from different events.

Thank you

HOB Katsina



NASARAWA STATE BRANCH STATISTICS FOR NLN @ 60TH GRAND FINALE ARE AS FOLLOWS :

1. Production of Banner.
 2. .Nov.14th 2024- Radio talk/show for sensitization and awareness of the NLN @60.
 3. .Nov.15th-18th- Exhibition of materials on NLN activities, CEOs major contributors in National Library Branch, Lafia, Nasarawa state
 4. Nov. 18th - Road walk
- We carryout road work on the streets, market place and gagages.

Male	Female
45	30
TOTAL 75	

5. Nov. 19th - Grand finale.

The Nasarawa State Branches linked up with the Headquarters on the 20th Nov, 2024 via Zoom.

No program held on that day at the state Branches.

After the Headquarters programme, we entertained all the stakeholders to celebrate the NLN achievements and activities over the 60 years spent.

Mrs. Isa, R.S HOB Nasarawa



EDO STATE BRANCH STATISTICS FOR NLN @ 60TH GRAND FINALE ARE AS FOLLOWS :

Dignitaries	Students	Others	Teachers	Staff
Male : 5	Male: 2	Male : 11	Male : 2	Male : 7
Female : 3	Female: 37	Female : 6	Female : 6	Female : 7
Total=8	Total= 39	Total=17	Total=8	Total=14

Total Participants = 85

Submitted by Ekoh Nicholas HOB, Edo State Branch..





Jalingo, Taraba, Nigeria
 W934+WXM, Jalingo 660213, Taraba State
 6.90483°
 8.1357112°
 2024 10:12

TARABA STATE BRANCH STATISTICS FOR NLN @ 60TH GRAND FINALE ARE AS FOLLOWS :

Dignitaries	Students	Youth	Teachers
Male : 13	Male: 50	Male : 50	Male : 9
Female : 6	Female: 20	Female : 10	Female : 6
Total=19	Total= 70	Total=60	Total=15

Total Participants = 164

Submitted by Rhoda Aranda HOB, Taraba State Branch..



GOMBE STATE BRANCH STATISTICS FOR NLN @ 60TH GRAND FINALE ARE AS FOLLOWS :

Dignitaries = 2 Male = 1, Female = 1, Public = 7, Male = 5, Female = 2, Staff = 9,
Male = 5, Female = 4 Total Male = 11, Total Female = 7
Grand Total = 18



Head of Gombe State branch, Mal.Abubakar Yakubu Musa and his staff at the gombe Jewel Radio to discuss brief his of National Library



Gombe, Gombe, Nigeria
74q9+7q, Gombe 771104, Gombe
Lat 10.287713° Long 11.120175°
11/24 09:13 AM GMT



Gombe State Branch on the street celebrating the milestone of the National Library

NIGER STATE BRANCH STATISTICS FOR NLN @ 60TH GRAND FINALE ARE AS FOLLOWS :

Dignitaries	Students	Youth	Teachers
Male : 5	Male: 22	Male : 26	Male : 9
Female :3	Female: 30	Female : 32	Female : 6
Total=08	Total= 108	Total=58	Total=15

Total Participants = 52

Submitted by HOB, Niger State Branch..



PLATEAU STATE CELEBRATES NLN 60 ANNIVERSARY ON THE 19TH NOVEMBER, 2024 PLATEAU STATE BRANCH

Plateau State Branch was not left out in celebrating the NLN 60th Anniversary. Therefore, the following activities were carried out during the celebration:

- Display of the Library's Literary materials as well as photographs of both past and present Chief Executives/Staff and so on (15th November, 2024)

- Panel discussion held on 16th November, 2024 with Teachers, Youths and a members of the Press. General discussion on books, as well as Questions and answers on the National Library were also attended to by the participants.

- Road walk took place on Monday 18th November, 2024, through the Yakubu Gowon way; sharing of different titles/volumes of books with the public. We utilised the opportunity to donate books to three schools in the community. They include: Government Secondary School Hwolshe, God's Way Secondary School and Christ the Redeemers' Academy.

- Lastly, the Grand finale was held on 19th November, 2024. Among the Guests present were our Guest Speaker, Mrs Sandra Adik, the Founder Better Class Environment, the Director, State Library Board, Mr Haruna Gimang, the author of the book titled The University of Jos Library, Mr Tongjal Wungaka, Yabiyangs Publishers, Mr Yakubu Byangs, Some Library users, Teachers and Students from the three invited schools (23 students and 6

teachers). The Head of Branch gave a welcome address, where she threw more light on the vision/mission and achievement of the apex Library at sixty.

she encouraged participants to feel at home and participate in the discussion/interactive session. Further more, the Guest speaker pictured a digital library of the century (attractive and receptive), a habitat for the digital natives, and encouraged the students to always not only come to the library alone but also to invite others. During the interactive session, the participants shared their success stories. Similarly, goodwill messages were given by the stakeholders present, congratulating the Management and staff of the library at sixty, as well as share their experiences with the students.

- Statistics for panel discussion and the grand finale are as follows:

Male - 34 Female - 43 Dignitaries - 04

Total - 81. The press were not left out, NTA Jos and Radio Nigeria were present to cover the event.

Indeed, the line up program was a memorable one.



NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NIGERIA BENUE STATE BRANCH

REPORT ON NLN @60 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



The National Library of Nigeria Benue State Branch successfully celebrated the NLN @60 Anniversary with new initiatives to further strengthen research, increase patronage and visibility of branch.

Road Walk (18th November 2024)

The Benue State staff embarked on a road walk about a 6 kilometre radius from the branch to the Federal Medical Centre - EFCC - State Local Government Secretariat - Police Headquarters - Past the Main Bowl of the Aper

Aku Stadium - Christ Apostolic Church and Schools - back to the office. The walk was carried out with the following groups of persons:

- 16 Benue State University Students (300L) currently on Industrial attachment in the branch.
- 40 Students of Christ Apostolic Secondary School alongside the Principal and three teachers.
- 15 Members Boys Brigade Band of NKST Church Welfare Quarters.
- 5 Operations officers of the Federal Road Safety Corps Crew with an ambulance to ensure safety and administer first aid.



**Former Board Chairman of the
NLN Elder Niyongongo Ninga (1982-83)**

THE GRAND FINALE NLN @ 60 CELEBRATION. (19th November 2024)

This was held outdoors on the branch premises and was graced by Members of the University Community, Government Functionaries, Parents, School Principals and Library Users.

**Kersha Patience Ngunan
Head; NLN Benue State Branch.**



NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NIGERIA KOGI STATE BRANCH

REPORT ON NLN @60 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Kogi State Branch visited Lokoja School for the Deaf and Special Needs to celebrate NLN @ 60 anniversary with students of the school, the need to embrace reading was shared and the title of the book read was Aisha's mouth and the magic water. Note books were presented to the school with other gift items. The proprietress expressed gratitude to NLN for celebrating their anniversary with students of the school. Statistics of people that participated: Adult male: 4, Adult female: 6, Students male: 15, female: 20, teachers and sign interpreter Male: 1, female:1, and the proprietress of the school.



JIGAWA STATE BRANCH, DUTSE REPORT ON NLN @60 ANNIVERSARY



The Jigawa State Branch is not left behind in celebrating of national library of Nigeria @60, to mark the 60th years of the Apex library's achievement in promoting literacy and education in the nation, preserving the Nigerian cultural and documentary heritage, preserving the Nigerian intellectual heritage among others,.

The branch organized various programs such as:-

1. Radio talk show
2. Visiting Schools (reading clubs)
3. Books exhibition
4. Road walk
5. Grand final

1. Radio Talk Show (Monday 18th November 2024)

The branch participated in a live 30-minute talk show on Freedom Radio Dutse to sensitize the Jigawa people about the NLN @60 Anniversary and its significance. The outreach emphasized the role of libraries in promoting literacy and cultivating a reading culture.

The Head of Branch Alhassan M. A. and Director School libraries of Jigawa State Library Board participated at the talk show

2. Visiting Schools (Reading clubs) Tuesday 19th November 2024

In commemoration of National Library @60 the Jigawa State Head of Branch and his assistant Fatahullahi M. A visited two reading clubs to join us to celebrate National library at @60, Dutse Capital Reading Clubs and Day Science Secondary School Reading Clubs. We have taught them how to use the library, types of library and their resources we equally teach them the importance of reading to our society.



3. Books exhibition (Wednesday 20th November 2024)

On 19th November 2024 the Branch continued exhibition of library books showcased the publication which include journals and pictures of library scientists. Others display included:-
Historical documents and artifacts.

Works of past National Librarians/Chief Executive Officer.

A curated collection of books and publications celebrating the institution's legacy.

4. Road walks (Thursday 21st November, 2025)

The Jigawa State Branch embarked on a road walk within the Office and State Library in order to create awareness about the NLN @60 celebrations. The National Youth Service corps Jigawa state Office joined in the sensitization effort, thus enhancing community engagement.

The representatives from Jigawa state Television (JTV) Alhaji Sidi Gumal visited the library to cover the celebration. The Head of Branch (HOB) and three staff members discussed the event and the challenges faced by the National Library as it marks 60 years.

5. Grand Finale (Monday 25th November, 2025)

The grand finale was held at the Branch premises and was graced by dignitaries, schools, and participants.

Dignitaries Present:

1. Dr. Ahamad Muhammad (Federal University Dutse librarian)
2. Abdullah Musa (representative of commissioner of education).
3. Mrs. Hauwa, Librarian, Ministry of Education.
4. Director, Jigawa State Library Board.

Schools in Attendance:

1. Dutse Capital School
2. Dr., Sanusi Secondary School
3. Day Science Senior Secondary Schools
4. Yoruba Community Schools

Activities of the Day:

1. Keynote Address: Delivered by the Dr. Ahamad Muhammad (Federal University Dutse librarian)
2. Pep Talk: Presented by Mrs. Hauwa, Librarian, Ministry of Education.
3. Drama and Cultural Dance: Performed by Yoruba Community schools and Dutse Capital
4. Presentation on Heritage Preservation: Delivered by Director, Jigawa State Library Board.

Participants:

SN	MALE	FEMALE	total
Dignitaries	6	3	9
students	22	38	60
Other staff	11	7	18
total	39	48	87
Final total	87		

Total Attendance: 87 participants.

SOKOTO STATE BRANCH STATISTICS FOR NLN @ 60TH GRAND FINALE ARE AS FOLLOWS :

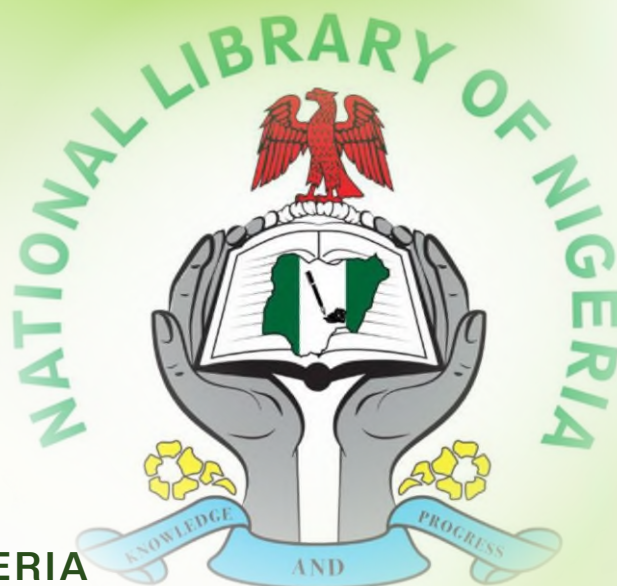
Dignitaries	Students	Other Guests	Teachers
Male : 6	Male:9	Male: 6	Male : 2
Female : 2	Female: 11	Female : 9	Female: 4
Total =8	Total=20	Total =15	Total=6

Total Participants =49

Submitted Zaki Jekada HOB, Sokoto State Branch.



BRIEF History OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NIGERIA



The official pronouncement of the National Library in Nigeria dated back to year 1944 in a letter on July 3rd, 1948 drafted by the Chairman of the Standing Committee on the Provision of Libraries to the Chief Secretary to the Government of the federation, Federal Republic of Nigeria. The Committee suggested to the Government to set up a National Central Library whereby books and other reading materials hard and soft copies written by Nigerians and about Nigeria will be deposited at the National Library of Nigeria.

This would also serve as copyright library to keep the works of reference, it would serve as repository and distribution centre to Branch Libraries across the Nation such as microfilms of rare or out-of-print books in libraries abroad (White, 1964)

During the Seminar by UNESCO International on Public Libraries in Africa held at Ibadan, Nigeria, from 27 July to 21 August 1953 to find out how to establish public libraries in the entire Africa, and the idea to establish the National Library of Nigeria was then recommended, proposals were made for the advancement of effective public library services, in order to enhance general education.

The West African Library Association (WALA) also emerged, with John Harris, the Librarian

of University College, Ibadan, as President, and has representatives from Liberia, Sierra Leone, Gold Coast and Nigeria, which constituted the Executive Committee to have the National Library of Nigeria.

Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe before that time had been pressing for the establishment of National Library of Nigeria, and had already developed the concept for easy implementation for the whole of Africa. Even though the concept was rejected by the Nigerian Council of Ministers arguing that all library development would be made at the lower regional governments, that should be applied to local government and private establishments.

The Council of Ministers could not resolve having public libraries at the regional governments. Others argued that, it was the liability of the central government to set up a National Library for the whole Country which would serve and regulate the regional and States Libraries (Aguolu, 1980).

When Nigeria got her independence in 1960, the idea of the National Library by the Council of Ministers, who earlier rejected it in 1952, then made a turnaround together with the Nigerian Branch of the West African Library

Association (NBWALA), established in 1954, hurriedly embraced the Rogers Report and recommended the establishment of a National Library of Nigeria.

Chief T.O.S. Benson the Minister of Information inaugurated seven Man Library Advisory Committee with Terms of reference to kick start the successful operation of effective library services in Nigeria. The Committee were: M.A. Wali, L.O. Gwam, N.O. Ogbeide, O. Okereke, A. Achi, Y. Adedigba; and J.A. Dosunmu.

They were then sent on training of 3-5 years in librarianship profession at the British Council Library, No 227, Herbert Macaulay Street, Yaba, Lagos and started in Dec. 1960 and were later taken to the United Kingdom. While on training, Nigerian Government looked for a sponsor who would assist in the discharge of successful operation of the National Library of Nigeria, while the Organization was growing Ford Foundation of the United States of America accepted the offer and provided finances of the Library and embarked on research to develop the Apex Library of the Nation.

Dr. Frank B Rogers, a Director of National Library of Medicine in the United State America Washington D.C. in 1961 also assisted during the research study and the struggle to establish and maintain successful operation of the National Library of Nigeria. Nigerian Government accepted and endorsed the recommendations from the research and was implemented in 1962.

The Nigerian government requested the Ford Foundation for intervention and they sent Dr.

Van Jackson to commence the preparation and implementation who was then substituted by Dr. Carl White, Dean Faculty of Library Science, Colombia University, New York and was assigned to collect all documents and the fundamentals of a blueprint to fully establish the central library for the Nation called the National Library of Nigeria, He formed the following sections: (i) enabling legislation; (ii) developing the collection for the Library and (iii) developing the personnel.

As a Library Advisor to the Nigerian government he discovered on reaching Nigeria in March 1962 that Nigeria did not have provision for the National Library of Nigeria in its budget in the first post-independence National Development Plan, 1962-1968.

He drafted a Report and sent to the Nigerian Government which led to the Bill (Nigeria, 1964) and established the National Library of Nigeria in September, 1964.

The Nigerian Governor-General, Dr. Azikiwe, and the Prime Minister, Sir Abubakar Tafawa Balewa, directed Professor White to plan a special report including finances, objectives, scope, mission and vision with building plan of the National Library of Nigeria which was described as the "May report 1964," this resulted in the commencement of operation of the National Library of Nigeria in Lagos, with three American librarians and Professor White as the Federal Government's Library Adviser.

The National Library Act was written by Professor Carl White, it was passed in to law then formally established and was declared opened to public on 6th November, 1964.

Dr. Carl White had received several supports

from individuals including Ford Foundation who also employed some professionals from America, amongst them were: Mrs. Dorothy Porter who became the Director of Collection Development Department; Miss Geraldine Amos Director Reference and Readers Services Department and Mr. Michael Briggs Director Serials publications and Official Documents.

He established essential compilation for the development of the library, by arranging responsibilities to staff members, among other things, he also persuaded government of the day to send the only legislation which was endorsed in September, 1964 and became the National Library Act. 1964.

The mantle of leadership of the National Library of Nigeria was transferred to a Professional Librarian, Mr. K.C. Okorie who had also contributed in the struggle to see the success of setting up of the Apex Library of the Nation, following request from the Nigerian Division of West African Library Association (WALA), which later turned to the Nigerian Library Association (NLA) in 1962.

While Nigerian Government employed professionals from Nigerians who worked hand in hand with the professionals from America to learn the strategies required in order to take over activities of running the Apex Library of the Nation in November, 1964.

They included: Evelyn Okeke, J. A. Dosunmu, A. E. Anyabo, A. E. Iwuchukwu, I. O. Soyawo, J. O. Odumosu and N. O. Oderinde.

After the ceremonial unveiling of the Organisation, the Federal Ministry of Information in turn employed other

Professional Librarians, Human Resources and Administrative and Accountants to fully run and maintain the Organization as one of the Federal Government's Parastatals.

Certainly Ford Foundation played major role during the struggle to establish of the National Library of Nigeria. Nigerian Government had partnered with Ford Foundation from 1962 – 1971 and three Professionals who served as advisers also played significant role they were: Dr Carl White 1962 – 1964; Miss Priscilla Taylor (later Mrs. Harris), 1964 – 1966; and Mr. Philip Rappaport 1966 – 1971.

Dr. Simeon Babasanya Aje, was the first indigenous Librarian appointed in 1971 as Director/Chief Executive Officer of the National Library of Nigeria, followed by Alhaji Mu'azu H. Wali, who served from 1986 – 1999 then Mrs. O.O. Omolayole who served from 2000 – 2004, Dr. Linus. N. Ikpaahindi served in acting capacity in 2004 and was confirmed by the Federal Government he served from 2006 – 2010, Mallam H.A. Jato also served from 14th February, 2011 while, Professor Lenrie Olatokunbo. Aina served from 2016 to August 2021 as National Librarian/ Chief Executive Officer while Professor Chinwe Veronica Anunobi is the current National Librarian appointed by President Muhammad Buhari on 09th August, 2021.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NIGERIA

PUBLIC SERVICE DEPARTMENT (PSD)

Directory of Heads of Branches

S/N	NAME OF HOBS	DESIGNATION	BRANCH	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
1.	Mr. E. N. Enang	Deputy Director	Abia (Temporary Building)	08057891750	Chikaezulike60@gmail.com
2.	Alfred S. Maidoki	Asst. Chief Librarian	Adamawa (Prototype Building)	08036869071	susommenm@yahoo.co.nz
3.	Mrs. Helen Ebi	Prin. Librarian	Akwa Ibom	08024415464	Ebihelen169@gmail.com
4.	Mrs. E. Nwandu	Asst. Chief Librarian	Anambra	08093010316	esenindo@gmail.com
5.	Mrs. Ngorngo, R.	Deputy Director	Bauchi (prototype Building)	08023786939	olohiliyengorngor3@gmail.com
6.	Nwoko, N.	Chief Librarian	Bayelsa	08069324881	Nnwoko54@gmail.com
7.	Kersha, N. Patience	Asst. Director	Benue (Temporary Building)	08033551106	, npatiencekersha@gmail.com
8.	Nafisa Ibrahim Bello	Snr. Librarian	Borno (Temporary Building)	08138618898	Nafinafi8448@gmial.com
9.	Mr. Udofia, A. A.	Asst. Chief Librarian	C/River (Temporary Building)	08037282321	nlnrcsbc@gmail.com
10.	Mrs. Obi Ifeoma, P.	Deputy Director	Ebonyi	08058079726	greatthosannarine@gmail.com
11.	Ekoh, N. A.	Deputy Director	Edo (Temporary Building)	08059110625	nedostatebranch@gmail.com
12.	Mrs. Oluakitibi, Oluwatoyin Caroline	Asst. Director	Ekiti	08030759736 08023275961	Ajayiojo9310@gmail.com
13.	Mrs. Essien	Deputy Director	Enugu (Prototype Building)	08034061024	Richneboh@yahoo.com
14 .	Mrs. Oye, O.	Asst. Director	FCT Abuja (Temporary Building)	07062389990	
15.	Abubakar, Y. M.	Asst. Director	Gombe (Re-Designed Prototype Building)	08036110669	abufawz@yahoo.com
16.	Dr. Eddy-Ugorji	Deputy Director	Imo (Prototype Building)	08033354073	ikpienang@gmail.com
17.	Alhassan, M. A.	Snr. Librarian	Jigawa	07062002010	jigawastatebranchnln@gmail.com

			(Temporary Building)	08020552251	
18.	Egwuibe, M.O. (Mrs.)	Asst. Director	Kaduna (Prototype Building)	07034973996	martinaegwuibe@gmail.com
19.	Abdullahi, Sanusi H (Mrs.)	Prin. Librarian	Kano (Temporary Building)	08082380790 08169487104	hafjasrah@gmail.com
20.	Sayyadi, Amina Maje (Mrs.)	Asst. Director	Katsina Re-Designed Prototype Building)	08061188417	nlnkatsina@yahoo.com Meenams06@yahoo.com
21	Agu, O. E. (Mrs.)	Asst. Director	Kogi (Temporary Building)	08032202142	NLNkogibranch2020@gmail.com
22.	Olani, O. K. (Mrs.)	Deputy Director	Kwara (Temporary Building)	08023385067 08039091614	wusae@yahoo.com
23.	Onuorah, O.C (Mrs.)	Asst. Director	Lagos (Temporary Building)	08136383341	ujuonuorah@yahoo.com
24.	Isa, R. S. (Mrs.)	Deputy Director	Nassarawa (Temporary Building)	08075122603 08187471882	goldensylva@gmail.com
25.	Ogunmade, C. T. (Mrs.)	Asst. Chief Librarian	Niger (Temporary Building)	08051358284	nationallibraryminna@gmail.com tinu2265@gmail.com
26.	Sangosanya, A. K. (Mrs.)	Asst. Director	Ogun (Temporary Building)	08135500996	Nationalibrayabeokuta@gmail.com
27.	Ajani, M. Akinlolu	Deputy Director	Ondo (Prototype Building)	08036243626	nlnodsb@gmail.com bashirusalawu@gmail.com
28.	Mrs. O. O. Ayanyemi	Deputy Director	Osun (Temporary Building)	08055300178 07063684775	
29.	Odubayo, O (Mrs.)	Deputy Director	Oyo (Temporary Building)	08069139184	nlnovsh2006@yahoo.com
30.	Mshelia, S. E	Asst. Director	Plateau (prototype Building)	08029569009	sarah_joda@yahoo.com , nkwasura12@gmail.com
31.	Egbulonu, Kingsley	Deputy Director	Rivers (Temporary Building)	07068608629	Kingsleyegbulonu100@gmail.com
32.	Zaki Jekada	Deputy Director	Sokoto (Temporary Building)	07036952980	natlibsok@gmail.com
33.	Aranda, Rhoda	Prin. Librarian	Taraba (Temporary Building)	08027710069	Jimohyakubu27@gmail.com
34.	Ishaku, Agwam	Senior Librarian	Yobe (Temporary Building)	08037747278	Ishakuagwam@gmail.com



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Mrs. Ngozi Odogwu
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