

Saturday, January 21, 2023
Jumada Al Akhir 28, 1444 AH

STILL IN CAPTIVITY

11 SCHOOLGIRLS OF FGC, BIRNIN YAURI

585 DAYS

1 STUDENT OF BETHEL BAPTIST HIGH SCHOOL, KUJAMA

557 DAYS

ENTERTAINMENT



Real housewives of Abuja to premiere February
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NEWS

Senate: S/Court affirms Akpabio's candidacy, as Lawan, Umahi await fate
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ADVERTORIAL
The Chief of Naval Staff Vice Admiral Awwal Zubairu Gambo and the Managing Director of Nigerian Ports Authority Mr. Mohammed Bello-Koko sign memorandum of understanding on Friday, Jan. 20 on collaborative engagement to enhance inter-agency cooperation.

Insecurity could trigger voter apathy in northern Nigeria – Stakeholders

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F E A T U R E



FCTA's 'park and pay' policy raises dust again
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N E W S

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Gunmen kidnap 6 pupils in Nasarawa
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Malleri: Gombe community ravaged by hippos

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QUOTE UNQUOTE

"Life is really simple, but we insist on making it complicated."

— Confucius



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen.

— Winston Churchill



PHOTO OF THE DAY



■ A motorist patronizes a black-market fuel dealer in Lagos yesterday.

Photo: Benedict Uwalaka

PRAYER TIMES

City	Fajr	Dhuhr	Asr	Maghrib	Ishah
ABUJA	5:37	12:45	4:00	6:32	7:37
ENUGU	5:37	12:46	4:01	6:33	7:38
KADUNA	5:40	12:46	4:01	6:30	7:35
KANO	5:39	12:41	3:56	6:23	7:28
KATSINA	5:44	12:45	4:00	6:26	7:31
LAGOS	5:26	1:03	4:18	6:51	7:56
MAIDUGURI	5:22	12:24	3:39	6:06	7:11
P/HARCOURT	5:37	12:49	4:04	6:37	7:42
SOKOTO	5:53	12:53	4:08	6:37	7:42

Source: Islamic Research and Timing Organisation, Kaduna.

WEATHER

STATES	DAY	NIGHT
Abuja	36	26
Kaduna	36	24
Kano	33	22
Katsina	33	22
Maiduguri	35	21
Jos	31	18
Ibadan	37	27
Enugu	38	27
Port-Harcourt	30	22
Lagos	34	28

NO, THANK YOU

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Kogi lawmakers resort to makeshift assembly after fire incident

The midnight fire of October 10, 2022 left the chambers of the Kogi State House of Assembly in ruins, forcing the lawmakers to make do with makeshift arrangements to continue their constitutional duties, *Daily Trust Saturday* reports.



■ The burnt Kogi Assembly complex

Tijani Labaran, Lokoja

It's not the best of times for members of the Kogi State House of Assembly following the fire incident which destroyed their legislative chamber.

The fire incident had thrown up a challenge of plenary venue for the state lawmakers since then.

The lawmakers now rely on a makeshift arrangement to keep the business of the House running.

Deputy Speaker of the House, Alfa Momoh Rabiu, said the burning of the plenary chamber of the House has created a constitutional challenge to the lawmakers.

He noted that it was a difficult task for members to shift business of the House from the state assembly complex to another place, saying the lawmakers have to push on, despite its attendant "hitches, hiccups and inconveniences."

"To keep the business of the house going, the state was forced to put up a makeshift arrangement for the lawmakers in order to function till repair work is effected on the burnt chamber.

"We received Governor Yahaya Bello in the makeshift place at the Speaker's lodge in Lokoja, where he delivered his 2023 budget presentation to the lawmakers."

Hon. Rabiu added, "If we have to wait, it will take us for months because the money for the rehabilitation of the burnt chamber is not available at the moment, as it has to be budgeted for. And that will keep us out of our constitutional role for months."

Until the Speaker's lodge was restructured temporarily for their plenary session, the state legislators were holding their plenary at Reverton Hotel in Lokoja.

Notable issues like the controversial BUA land deal with the state government and Obajana cement tax evasion crises were handled from their base then at Reverton Hotel.

Thereafter, the lawmakers moved over to the Speaker's lodge where Governor Yahaya Bello presented his 2023 appropriative bill to the House for consideration.

According to Yahaya Bello, "for the first time since I started presenting budgets to this House in 2016, I am doing so outside the purpose-built facilities of the Kogi State House of Assembly.

"As the whole world knows, your

chambers at the House of Assembly Complex which this administration reconstructed and furnished at great cost lie in ruins.

"Over a month after the incident, we are still working to unravel the origin of that fire which is as mysterious as it is suspicious," Bello said.

Governor Bello vowed to fish out the hoodlums behind the ugly incident that has resulted in a lack of plenary venue for the lawmakers, adding "until the cause is known and culprits apprehended, we shall neither act rashly nor speculate wildly."

The governor assured the lawmakers that the sad incident would soon be a thing of the past as he was making efforts to ensure the burnt chamber is repaired to ease their deliberations at plenary.

"Let me make an undertaking that your destroyed chambers will be built back better and that you will soon be able to sit there again to discharge your duties," Bello assured.

According to the Speaker of Kogi State House of Assembly, Mathew Kolawole, the challenge posed by the unexpected fire would be overcome as the lawmakers have moved on with a makeshift arrangement to keep the business of the House in progress.

The Speaker who spoke through his Chief Press Secretary, Mr Femi Odugbemi, said the lawmakers did not allow the fire incident to overwhelm them and impede their legislative duties.

Equally, the state commissioner of Information, Evangelist Kingsley Fanwo, said the state government is committed to renovating the burnt Assembly Complex within the shortest time.

"At the moment, we are looking at the funding; and we have also been looking at the cost. It is our utmost desire to see them back at their chambers where they will find it more convenient to legislate for the good of our dear state.

Comrade Hamza Aliyu, the CEO of Initiative for GrassRoot Advancement (IGRA), said the resources invested in the rehabilitation of the Speaker's lodge to hold the plenary of the state legislators temporarily would have been used for the renovation of the burnt chamber of the House of Assembly.

Comrade Aliyu stated that the Speaker's lodge lacks the necessary space for legislative business.

NUMBERS

COMPILED BY Abbas Jimoh

135bn Naira Nigeria Customs Service said was lost to concessions, exemptions, waivers FG granted Niger Delta Development Commission in 7 years

250 Cross section of golfers that featured in this year's Armed Forces Remembrance Day tournament in Abuja

5bn Naira unclaimed dividends from investors shares of Nigeria's tier-1 from January to September 2022

5m Jobs federal government through NITDA targets in National Adopted Village for Smart Agriculture (NAVSA) scheme

Infographics KEHINDE O. OMOTOSHO

WHOSAIDWHAT? IN THE NEWS

Compiled by Abbas Jimoh

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"It is what is taught and learned that shapes the character of individuals and nations. But it is not just teaching, governments must lead this ethical revolution, by rewarding ethical behaviour and ensuring speedy punishment for misconduct."

— Professor Yemi Osinbajo
Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria



”

"Anybody who commits a crime should not be covered under politics. Somebody who commits a crime, burn houses, kill people, should be prosecuted. That is the only way people would stop doing this. Security services have a lot to do, they must not spare any criminal."

— Dr. Goodluck Jonathan
Ex - President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria



COVER

Insecurity could trigger voter apathy in northern Nigeria — Stakeholders

- Residents want armed soldiers deployed on election day
- CSOs, journalists may not monitor elections
- 'What govt, community leaders must do'

Abubakar Akote (Minna), Shehu Umar (Gusau), Ahmed Ali (Kafanchan) and Abubakar Sadiq, (Zaria)

As a result of rising insecurity in the country, northern Nigeria, with about 50million registered voters, may face apathy ahead of the general elections slated to hold this year, findings by Daily Trust Saturday have revealed.

With more than half of the country's 93million registered voters, based on the final list of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), the North is facing security challenges being perpetrated by Boko Haram and the Islamic State, West Africa Province (ISWAP).

Residents and stakeholders who spoke with Daily Trust Saturday in Zamfara, Niger and Kaduna states, said millions of voters across communities affected by banditry, especially in the North West, may not participate in this year's elections.

Internally displaced persons, members of civil society organisations, journalists, community and women leaders, as well as potential voters, said many residents had fled their communities with no hope of returning, while others had lost their permanent voters' cards. They urged the Nigerian government to make the deployment of armed soldiers to various communities a priority so as to protect voters and officials of the INEC.

Fear of attack could trigger voter apathy

Stakeholders further warned that the fear of attack on communities ravaged by banditry could trigger voter apathy, especially among women, who form 47.5 per cent of the country's eligible voters, according to INEC records.

The North West is the leading region in terms of voter registration with over 22.6million registered voters, while the North Central comes third with 15.6million. Incidentally, the two regions are the most affected by banditry, which has led to the displacement of hundreds of Nigerians.



■ Residents fleeing Magazu community in Zamfara State as a result of banditry in April 2022

In Minna, the Niger State capital, Muhammad Alfa Muhammad of the Congress of Accountability Ambassadors, said bandits could take advantage of election gatherings and launch attacks.

"People are not ready to vote because they feel they are not secure," Muhammad said, adding that even if INEC creates voting opportunities, residents may be reluctant to exercise their franchise because of fear of abduction. Muhammad, whose works takes him across rural areas of Kagara and Rafi local government areas of the state said, "If they are abducted, the government cannot do anything. We have village heads that are still in captivity. There is no protection, so, how do you go out to vote? There are areas that do not have telephone network."

The fear of attacks is equally the case in Zamfara State, which is said to be the epicentre of the banditry that has claimed hundreds of lives and displaced at least 700,000 persons, according to data released by the State Government in March 2022.

An electorate from Mada, a community plagued by banditry in Zamfara, Saddam Idris, reiterated that unless armed

security agents are deployed to his constituency, he won't be voting in the upcoming election.

"At a meeting I attended, the INEC said they would not conduct elections in Wonaka and Ruwan Bore communities, but they would transfer the polling stations to Mada town. Even in Mada, there are security problems. Government must make sure that security personnel are deployed to all the entries and

exits of communities," he said.

Mairo Ibrahim, a resident of Zaria in Kaduna State, expressed concern over the security of women and youths, who she described as the highest voters in all elections. She said that unless the security situation is addressed, women may not come out en masse to cast their votes.

"People have been displaced due to insecurity. And many of them are not willing to return

home to cast their votes for a government that will not protect them during crisis," Mrs Thabita Bako, a woman leader from Atyap Peace and Security Partnership Committee in Zangon Kataf, Kaduna State said.

Aliyu Yusuf of the African Future Connect Initiative predicted a low turnout at the election, saying, "Let me cite an example with Giwa Local Government Area of Kaduna State, where about 20 villages have been completely razed down and some residents were either killed or forced to flee. How can you expect voter turnout in these areas when the occupants are no longer there?"

Absence of polling units in IDP camps, lost PVCs worry stakeholders

Mua'zu Abubakar Albarkawa, a journalist in Giwa Local Government Area of Kaduna State, echoed the concern of other stakeholders, that polling units have not been provided at various internally displaced persons camps in Giwa, one of the local government areas facing the challenge of banditry. "This, to me, is denying people the opportunity to exercise their constitutional rights," he said.

In Jema'a Local Government Area, The Reverend Gambo Waziri, founder of Mercy IDP Camp in Zonkwa, Zangon Kataf, said that with many communities now inaccessible due to insecurity, there was the need for INEC to create temporary polling units at IDP camps.

"Before the spate of insecurity increased, Zangon Kataf had 250 polling units, but now, many of them are no longer accessible," he said.

Also speaking on the situation, an electorate from southern Kaduna, Shehu Adamu said, "Sending ballot boxes to empty communities is not the way to go."

This view was re-echoed by Kassim Shuaibu, a displaced person from Galadima-Kogo in Shiroro Local Government Area of Niger State. He said residents of his community were scattered across displaced persons camps and many lost their voters' cards during attacks.

"We do not know where our polling units would be relocated to so that those who have cards can vote," he said.

Mores so, Muhammad Alfa Muhammad, who is currently carrying out humanitarian activities in Rafi Local Government of Niger State, said, "A community was completely

Internally displaced persons, members of civil society organisations, journalists, community and women leaders, as well as potential voters, said many residents had fled their communities with no hope of returning, while others had lost their permanent voters' cards

20th Daily Trust DIALOGUE

Theme:

Interrogating the 2023 Presidential Agenda

Chairman of the Event



John Cardinal Onaiyekan
Archbishop Emeritus of Abuja.

Royal Father of the Day



HRH Alhaji Ismaila Mohammed, MFR
(Veteran Journalist)
Sarkin Karshi, Abuja.

Panelists



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



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



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



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

Thursday, **January 26, 2023** 10:00 am

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

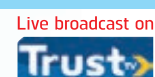
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Insecurity could trigger voter apathy in northern Nigeria – Stakeholders

Continued from page 4

burnt down and people fled; some of them lost their children, not to talk of voters' cards.

As one of the solutions to the challenge at hand, some of the stakeholders called for the relocation of polling units from volatile areas to places considered relatively safe.

But an electorate from Talata Mafara in Zamfara State, Kabiru Muhammad Mai Kulluga, said he would not vote if his polling unit is transferred to another location.

"They said our polling units would be transferred to a relatively safer Jangebe, but I have made it clear that I will not go there to vote despite the fact that voting in my village would be risky. I am not even sure INEC officials would risk going there. Government needs to deploy security operatives to our community," he said.

The chairman of the Coalition of Civil Society Organisations in Zamfara State, Musa Aboki, however, said though transferring polling units to areas considered safer is a welcome idea, government needs to convince voters to relocate from their communities.

"We all know that we have inadequate security personnel. The government should deploy security personnel from relatively peaceful areas to risky places," he said.

CSOs, journalists may not monitor elections

Another setback to the 2023 general elections in parts of northern Nigeria is that members of civil society organisations (CSOs) and journalists could be discouraged from monitoring the exercise. And this could provide room for irregularities.

The chairman, Coalition of Civil Society Organisations in Zamfara State, Musa Aboki, who has been monitoring elections in the state since 2007, said



■ Stakeholders during an FGD organised by Daily Trust in Zaria, Kaduna State

that this year may be different due to the security situation in the country, especially the North, adding that he would not participate in the exercise.

A correspondent of the News Agency of Nigeria, Ishaq Zaki Tambuwal, also said, "As a journalist, insecurity will not allow me to monitor the process and report. And if this happens, how will people or authorities know about irregularities in the process?"

Also, Joel Adegboyega of the Centre for Leadership, Youth and Peace Development Initiative, called on the government to revisit the INEC regulation that prohibits the deployment of armed security personnel to polling units.

This position was supported by Hassan

Mamman from Zaria, who called for a massive deployment of all uniform security personnel to augment the number of operatives in the insecurity-prone areas to build confidence in the electorate.

What govt, community leaders must do - Stakeholders

Stakeholders agreed that the Nigerian Air Force should deploy sufficient aerial surveillance to restore confidence in the affected communities while other security agencies work with local vigilantes to ensure that the eligible citizens cast their votes without fear of possible attacks.

Alhaji Bashiru Rabi'u from Zamfara said the government would need to form a special task force involving security

operatives and the vigilantes and deploy to polling stations.

However, Fijr Umar Gwadabe from Zaria said communities must play a significant role to assist the government achieve successful elections by forming strong vigilante groups to handle security issues.

Reacting to this position, Musa Dogara from Zaria said, "Our members are conversant with the terrains and the people in our area; therefore, they could assist more effectively to provide adequate security for voters."

This story was supported by the Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD), Abuja.

Senate: S/Court affirms Akpabio's candidacy, as Lawan, Umahi await fate

John Chuks Azu

The Supreme Court has affirmed Godswill Akpabio as the candidate of the All Progressives Congress (APC) for Akwa Ibom North West senatorial district in the forthcoming general elections.

A five-member panel of justices yesterday unanimously resolved the 10 issues raised by Akpabio in his favour, adding that the "appeal succeeds on the merit and is allowed."

The apex court panel held that the nomination of a candidate is an exclusive preserve of the political party; moreover, the National Working Committee of the party takes precedence over the State Working Committee.

In a lead judgement, Justice

Ibrahim Saulawa held that the Federal High Court in Abuja, which on September 22, 2022, ordered the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to reinstate Akpabio as the APC candidate over the June 9, 2022 primary, lacked the jurisdiction to entertain the suit, and as such, the order amounted to a nullity.

Akpabio was on November 14, 2022, disqualified by the Court of Appeal in Abuja because he failed to file his proof of arguments within the time provided by the rules of the court.

The appellate court had ruled that Akpabio, being a presidential aspirant of the APC, did not participate in the primary of the party held on May 27, 2022, and monitored by INEC, which produced Udom Ekpoudom as the

APC candidate.

Some analysts have compared Akpabio's case to that of Senate President Ahmad Lawan and Governor Dave Umahi of Ebonyi State, who both contested the Senate seat after losing their party's presidential ticket.

Lawan's nomination as the APC senatorial candidate for Yobe North senatorial district at the primary of May 28, 2022 was first rejected by INEC, which was affirmed by the Federal High Court and the Court of Appeal in favour of Bashir Machina.

Umahi is also locked in a legal dispute with a factional senatorial candidate of the APC for Ebonyi South, Mrs Ann Agom-Eze, over the two primaries of the party for the nomination of the candidate.

Datti and I have never stolen government money – Obi

Dickson S. Adama, Jos

The Labour Party (LP) presidential candidate, Peter Obi, has said that he and his running mate, Yusuf Datti, are corrupt-free and have never stolen government money, saying they remain the right people to be elected into office in next month's presidential election.

He stated this yesterday at the Rwang Pam Stadium in Jos, the Plateau State capital at the campaign rally of the party.

He said those accusing him of anything were only mentioning that he is stingy but never made any allegation of corruption against him.

He said the country's resources would be well secured by him and

utilised for the benefit of the common man.

He said he and his running mate, as well as their party leaders, were young, intelligent, agile and active, unlike the candidates of other political parties, who are old men.

He said that poverty, corruption and insecurity in the country would be tackled if he is elected.

Money laundering: Keyamo seeks order for Atiku's prosecution

John Chuks Azu

The spokesperson of the All Progressives Congress (APC) Presidential Campaign Council, Festus Keyamo, has filed a suit before a Federal High Court against Atiku Abubakar over an alleged money laundering.

In the writ filed on January 20, Keyamo demands an order of the court compelling Atiku, who is the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) presidential candidate to provide to anti-corruption agencies details of a bank account belonging to a company, Marine Float and two undisclosed companies described as Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) allegedly used for money laundering during his tenure as vice president between 1999 and 2007.

The anti-corruption agencies listed by Keyamo include the Code of Conduct Bureau (CCB); the Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC) and the Economic and

Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC).

He seeks the court's declaration that Atiku is under obligation to make public details of the SPVs "which information he disclosed to a certain close aide of his called Michael Achimugu, as to how the said accounts were used as "Special Purpose Vehicles" to secretly divert and misappropriate public funds between 1999 and 2007 when the first defendant (Atiku) served as the vice president of Nigeria."

A media aide of Atiku, Jackson Ude, had earlier dismissed the claims by Keyamo, while noting that the APC presidential candidate, Bola Tinubu, is the person who has to explain why Alpha Beta, a company linked to him, paid \$4million to "a drug-infested company, Baranquilla" in Colombia, USA in 2015 through a domiciliary account.

No date has been fixed for the hearing.

Ekweremadu: Court vacates order to forfeit 40 properties

John Chuks Azu

A Federal High Court in Abuja has vacated its interim order for the forfeiture to the federal government, 40 properties linked to former Deputy Senate President Ike Ekweremadu.

Justice Inyang Ekwo vacated

the order yesterday over the non-disclosure of relevant information by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), especially following Ekweremadu's detention in the United Kingdom.

Justice Ekwo agreed with the submission of Ekweremadu's counsel, Adegboyega Awomolo,

a Senior Advocate of Nigeria, that the detention of his client would not permit him to defend himself over the ownership of the properties.

The EFCC had on November 4, 2022 obtained an order from the court for the interim forfeiture of the said properties as proceeds of corruption.

But Ekweremadu, in an application moved by Awomolo on December 15, 2022, contended that the forfeiture order was obtained in error as the anti-graft agency failed to disclose his travails at the Uxbridge Magistrate Court in the UK, where he is being remanded on allegations of trafficking one David Ukpo for the

purpose of harvesting his kidney for his daughter's much-needed transplant.

Specifically, Ekweremadu alleged that the EFCC fraudulently obtained the forfeiture order for the government by concealing information that the investigation on the 40 properties started as far back as 2008.



■ Minister of works and Housing, Babatunde Raji Fashola (middle) flanked by the Executive Secretary, Federal Government Staff Housing Loans Board (FGHLB), Alh. Ibrahim Mairiga (right) and the Head of the Civil Service of the Federation, Dr. Folasade Yemi-Esan (left) with other stakeholders, during the ground breaking ceremony of the Federal Integrated Staff Housing (FISH) in Gwagwalada Abuja on Thursday
PHOTO: Ikechukwu Ibe

\$53m judgement debt: Court erred in summoning me — Emefiele

John Chuks Azu

The governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Godwin Emefiele, has argued that the summons for him to appear before a Federal High Court in Abuja over a \$53million judgement debt arising from the Paris Club refunds was made in error.

In a notice of appeal filed before the Court of Appeal in Abuja by his counsel, Damian Dodo, a Senior Advocate of Nigeria (SAN), Emefiele said the summons of the High Court on October 20, 2022 to compel his attendance on January 18 was entered after some notices of appeal against the enforcement of the judgement debt, which robbed the High Court of jurisdiction to summon him.

While maintaining

that Emefiele was not the judgement debtor and a party before the court in the suit involving Joe Agi, Linas International Ltd, and the minister of finance, Dodo also refuted media reports that he and other lawyers in the matter were summoned by the court.

"The learned trial court erred in law, which occasioned a miscarriage of justice when it compelled and ordered the first appellant (Emefiele) to appear personally without determining one way or another, the appellant's challenge of the court's jurisdiction," Dodo said.

The suit arose over an alleged \$70million judgement debt over the lawyer's services in the Paris Club refund, which Emefiele was said to have released only \$17m, leaving an outstanding \$53m.

Senate panel summons NNPC boss over N48bn surveillance contract

Abdullateef Salau

The Senate Committee on Ethics, Privileges and Public Petitions, yesterday summoned the Group Chief Executive Officer of the Nigerian National Petroleum Company (NNPC) Limited, Mr Mele Kyari, over the N48billion pipeline surveillance contract in the Niger Delta region.

The NNPC had in 2022 awarded the contract to a firm linked to a former commander of the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND), Government Ekpempulolu, also known as Tompolo.

The firm is expected to carry out the N4billion per month contract that covers

Delta, Ondo, Imo, Rivers and some parts of Bayelsa State, in collaboration with other stakeholders in the communities that host the oil pipelines.

The Senate committee summoned the NNPC boss following a petition by the Isoko community, alleging that their young men were not carried along in the multi-billion naira project.

The Isoko people, under the auspices of Interested Isoko Youth Groups, through a petition sent to the Senate on their behalf by Stanley Okonmah, stated that they were completely marginalised in the contract award.

Specifically, the people urged the Senate to look into the matter, and urged the

Minister of Petroleum Resources and the Group Chief Executive Officer of NNPC Limited to correct the anomaly.

They wanted the NNPC to award the pipeline surveillance contract to a company to be chosen by stakeholders of Isoko nation.

The chairman of the Senate panel, Senator Ayo Akinyelure, said the GCEO of the NNPC was being summoned to the Senate to assure Isoko people that the agency would do the needful to avoid economic sabotage by the aggrieved youths.

Akinyelure appealed to the NNPC boss to make himself available before his panel on January 25 to avoid any form of hostility in the Niger Delta region.

Diphtheria outbreak: FG monitoring situation in Kano, Lagos, others — NCDC

Ojoma Akor

The Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (NCDC) said it has responded to reports of diphtheria cases in Lagos and Kano states.

The director-general of the NCDC, Dr Ifedayo Adetifa, who made the disclosure in a public health advisory issued late Thursday night, said the organisation was also monitoring the situation in Osun and Yobe states where cases are now being picked up.

Data from the Kano State Ministry of Health revealed that the diphtheria outbreak has so far killed 25 people, with 58 suspected cases and six persons on admission.

According to the NCDC, Diphtheria is

a serious bacterial infection caused by the bacterium called Corynebacterium species that affects the nose, throat and sometimes, skin of an individual.

The symptoms of diphtheria include fever, runny nose, sore throat, cough, red eyes (conjunctivitis) and neck swelling.

In severe cases, a thick grey or white patch appears on the tonsils or back of the throat associated with difficulty in breathing.

Adetifa said that in addition to clinically suspected cases, there have been laboratory-confirmed cases, and the NCDC is working with state ministries of health and partners to enhance surveillance and response to the outbreak.

He said people mostly at the risk of contracting diphtheria are children and

adults who have not received any or a single dose of the pentavalent vaccine (a diphtheria toxoid-containing vaccine); people who live in a crowded environment, people who live in areas with poor sanitation as well as healthcare workers and others who are exposed to suspected/confirmed cases of diphtheria.

The NCDC says diphtheria spreads easily between people through direct contact with infected people, droplets from coughing or sneezing, and contact with contaminated clothing and objects.

It advised parents to ensure that their children are fully vaccinated against diphtheria with three doses of the pentavalent vaccine as recommended in the childhood immunisation schedule.

NPC fixes March 29 for nationwide census

Muideen Olaniyi

The National Population Commission (NPC) has fixed the national population and housing census for March 29 to April 1, 2023.

Nasir Kwara, NPC Chairman, disclosed this while speaking with State House reporters after meeting with President Muhammadu

Buhari at the Presidential Villa, Abuja, on Friday.

"By March 29 to April 2, our staff will be in the field enumerating people," he said.

Kwara added that the technological tools to be deployed would be able to code building and landmass, detailing information such as location, landscapes among

others.

The NPC chairman, who said his commission would ensure a credible exercise, added that non-Nigerians would equally be counted so long as they are in the country at the time of the exercise.

He said the exercise would be different from the previous ones marred by controversies with high

end technology.

Kwara said, "From March 29 to April 2, our staff will be in the field enumerating people... This census is going to be different from past censuses. The theory and practice is essentially the same, but we are using high-end technology to conduct this census and it is such that nobody can tamper with any figure. Nobody will be counted more than once."

Daily Trust advertisement banner with contact information and a list of services: Real Estate, Schools, Hospitals, etc.

Rahamaniyya Fertilizer & Processing Co. Ltd. advertisement featuring images of farmers and fertilizer bags. Text includes: "NEW WAY OF FARMING", "FACTORY ADDRESS: Asare Town, along Kalambaina/Wammako Road, Wammako L.G.A, Sokoto State, Nigeria.", and contact details.

FEATURE



■ Abubakar Alhaji on his farm in Malleri

■ One of the flooded rice fields at Malleri



■ Rice fields being prepared for planting in Malleri



■ Abubakar Alhaji working alongside his children on their beans farm near the Dadin-Kowa River

Malleri: Gombe community ravaged by hippos

Haruna Gimba Yaya, Gombe

Malleri in Kwami LGA of Gombe State is an agrarian community located about 60 kilometres on the North Eastern part of Gombe town.

Our correspondent who visited the community reports the concerns of residents over incessant hippopotamus attacks on their farmlands.

A 60-year-old farmer, Abubakar Alhaji, alongside his children, was clearing his farm on the banks of the Dadin-Kowa River for dry season farming, hoping to recover the losses he recorded during the rainy season following floods that ravaged his farms.

He explained that as he was recovering from the flood losses, a bloat of hippos invaded his farms and destroyed the remnants of crops and other plantations that survived the floods.

He said, "We used to experience flooding occasionally on our farms, but last year's was the worst. I suffered great losses on my five farms where I planted rice and sorghum from flooding and hippos."

"Hippos usually ravage our farms. The government has banned us from killing them. We see them destroying our crops but the government has warned us about killing or harming them."

"In the past, the hippos grazed in the night, but these days we see them in daylight roaming on our farms and destroying crops."

He noted that the people of Malleri and surrounding communities on the banks of the Dadin-Kowa River were at risk of a famine if the government does not intervene.

He added that, "Even though they don't attack people, the losses we record are immeasurable. We are, therefore, appealing to the government to prevent them from attacking our farms."

On his part, Malam Sa'idu Mohammed (54),

a vegetable farmer, said apart from the hippo attacks and floods, they lacked farm implements and inputs during dry season farming.

He said, "Apart from onion, pepper, tomato and other vegetables, I also plant beans. But last year, we didn't get fertiliser and other farm inputs."

"Also, because of the sharp increase in the price of diesel, we couldn't power our machines to water the farmlands. We had to abandon vegetable farming and plant beans which can easily grow near the river."

"But after struggling to plant the bean, floods and hippos destroyed our farms. Now, most of us don't have food in our houses; being subsistence farmers."

Malam Mohammed, therefore, said, "We are really in need of help to be able to feed our families and attend to our other needs."

When our reporter met Malam Babawuro Magaji (53) on his farm on the outskirts of Malleri, he said he was into rice, watermelon, guinea-corn and maize farming.

He said, "We are used to flash floods, but last year it consumed farmlands in high-rise areas that we never expected it would reach. A lot of farms were destroyed after people spent huge sums of money cultivating them."

"We need government's assistance to be able to be on our feet again because we lost all our investments on the farms to the flood."

He, however, noted that, "Our other problem is hippos, and the only option is for us to stay on the farms to protect them and prevent the animals from trespassing and destroying our crops."

The Chairman of the Malleri Rice Farmers Association (MRFA), Alhaji Sarki, complained that the hippos last year destroyed several hectares of rice in Malleri and neighbouring villages.

He said, "The hippos destroyed my farms. We planted rice hoping to recover the losses we recorded from the floods but the hippos

Hippos usually ravage our farms. The government has banned us from killing them. We see them destroying our crops but the government has warned us about killing or harming them

invaded in the night and finished everything."

Sarki explained that they encircled their farmlands with prickles and thorns as a temporary measure to prevent the hippos from crossing into the farmlands.

He said, "The fear of attacks from the hippos is what delayed us from planting the rice. They now invade the farms even in the afternoon. I have lost over three hectares."

"After the rains subsided, I planted again, yet the hippos destroyed it too. I lost my investment in three farms worth over N300,000."

"I also planted wheat but when it started to flourish, the hippos came in the night and consumed all the plants."

"As you can see them (pointing to the bloat of hippos in the river); they are waiting for us to leave the farms and they will come out and invade and destroy our crops."

"So, in addition to money spent to get good seedlings, fertiliser and other farm implements.

Now, we have to engage the services of vigilantes to protect the farms."

Sarki decried that the government had failed to protect them from the frequent hippo attacks.

Another farmer, Uzairu Ali (30), said, "We now pay vigilantes daily to protect our farms. We are paying at least N1,000 on each farm daily. We don't have an option but to pay because one problem with the hippos is that even if they don't eat anything on the farms, by merely passing through them they destroy whatever is planted."

"The hippo attacks were more severe last year because of the flood. Because the river was flooded the hippos were left with no option than to cross over to our farms in search of food. So, in broad daylight the hippos invaded the farms."

He noted that were it not for the hippos, they could have recovered the losses they recorded from the flood.

He said, "Even though we suffered losses during the rainy season because of the flooding, had it been there was no threat of the hippos, we could have recovered the losses. The hippos' threat is big and we fear greater losses are looming if adequate care is not taken."

Ali, therefore, appealed for assistance from the government to engage the services of rangers to protect their farms.

Govt to establish hippo colony

When contacted, Ismaila Uba Misilli, Director General of Press Affairs to Governor Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya, said the state government was aware and working to address the hippo issue in Malleri village and other communities along the Dadin-Kowa River in Funakaye, Kwami and Yamaltu/Deba LGAs.

He said although the affected farmlands were under the purview of the Upper Benue River Basin Development Authority (UBRBDA), the state government was ready to address any issue affecting indigenes and other residents of the state.

Misilli said, "We have taken conscious steps towards finding a lasting solution to this issue to ensure that humans and hippos cohabit peacefully."

"Because the hippopotamus are endangered species, officials of the state government in May, 2022, met with Dr Lynne Baker, a United States-based conservation biologist and some Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) on how to establish a hippopotamus colony in the state."

Letters

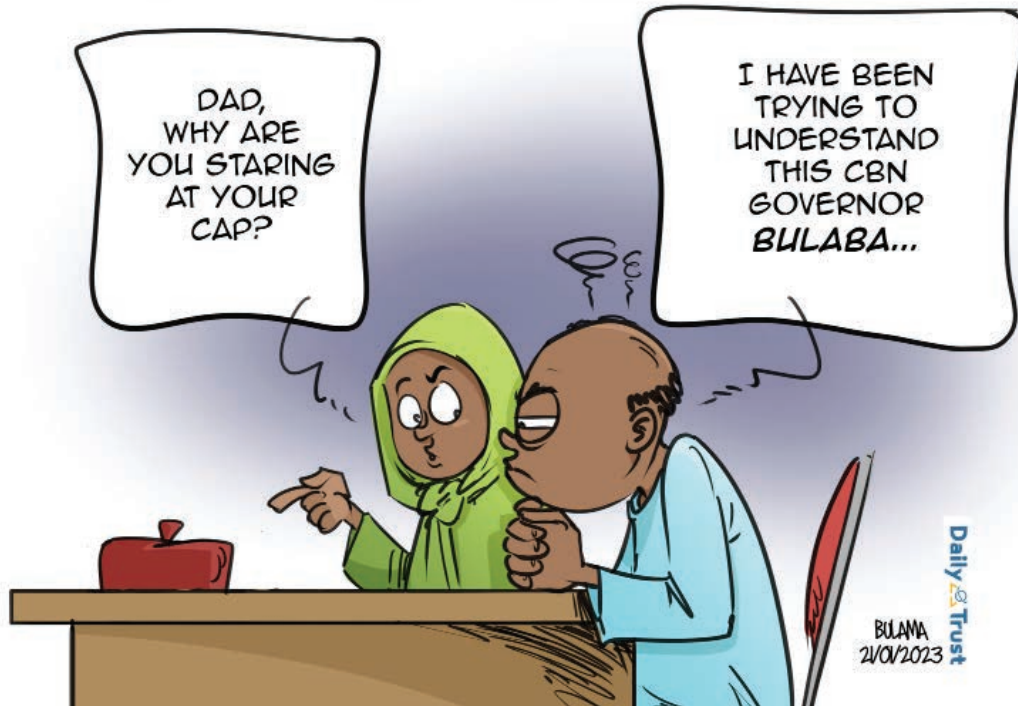
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CARTOON

Emefiele meets Buhari in Aso Rock amid DSS saga



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Tackling menace of thuggery among youths

The menace of political thuggery has been in existence for a long time as it has become a threat to Nigeria's progress. The menace came to public notice during the 2003 general elections.

Sponsored thugs unleashed terror victimizing, intimidating and injuring innocent individuals and weak politicians without punitive actions. That was why Howell (2004) said "When politics is criminalized, it is left in the hands of ruffians, thugs and hooligans because the good people are scared away."

Nigeria still has elements of such derisive minds as leaders; they mute critics, disturb happiness, cause tension, abort dreams and destroy determinations of fellow human beings through sponsorship of political thugs.

Leaders are supposed to act like drivers that move citizens from the darkness of challenges to the glowing light of developments, but unfortunately, bad leaders in democratic settings have taken over by diverting funds meant for projects and recruiting youths under their watch to wreak havoc.

They send their children to best schools overseas while acting passively to lingering institutional strikes. Hospitals especially in rural areas lack proper medications and residents find it hard to access them due to the existence of bad roads. Negligence of leaders and egocentrism have led to the emergence of political thugs called Kalare in Gombe, Yan Daba in Kano State; they are named Sara-Suka in Bauchi; ECOMOG in Borno and in Lagos State, they are called Area Boys.

The thugs are like flutes in the hands of the owner who could force them to sound (act) purposely to satisfy their whims and caprices.

The sad part is that those politicians are not involving their sons and daughters in such devilish activities. It is a pity that the minds of thugs could not revolt against the wills of their masters. Bad leaders play vital roles in fueling political thuggery especially before, during and after elections.

They pay irresponsible youths hugely to actualize their evil missions. Core causes of political thuggery include unemployment. Idle youths can do anything to earn money not minding the consequences of such actions.

Unemployed youths are like cats that submit to be fed; they become susceptible to thuggery.

The failure of our security system is not helping matters.

According to Human Rights Watch, perception of violence and their sponsors often enjoys complete impunity for their actions both from the official law enforcement bodies and their own political parties. Similarly, excessive love to remain in power is another factor fuelling thuggery. Candidates that are in power but foresee imminent defeat in elections usually employ thugs to dastardly disrupt smooth conduct of elections, collations and counting of votes cast. This was evident in 2007 when the then Nigeria's president tried to perpetuate himself in power after ruling for 8 years as constitutionally stipulated.

Thank God, opposition parties refused to welcome the idea and luckily, the National Assembly said no to it which ended the move. It also occurred in 2011 when some supporters of opposition and a presidential candidate took to streets protesting against the elections' outcome but was unfortunately taken over by hoodlums who unleashed.

Second to the last factor is the absence of pure democratic culture; our bad leaders scare credible people from contesting because it has been the culture of our democracy for decades which is not healthy for democratic dispensation.

The last factor that fuels political thuggery is the lingering corruption in the system; electoral bodies for years have been doing their best to conduct free and fair elections but corrupt officials amongst them at times collect huge amounts of money from bad leaders and systematically change choices of the populace. Leaders that got to the throne through rigging of elections are mostly nonchalant in bringing developmental projects.

In summary, there is a need for governments to give more priority to youth empowerment. This would make them responsible and desist from risking their lives in the name of thuggery. Security forces should recruit more agents so that the number of people under the watch of a single officer would less. They should also be equipped with modern weapons and have freewill to arrest anyone found guilty of sponsoring thugs.

Political positions should be made less lucrative; salaries and benefits attached to such offices should be adjusted to make it less attractive to covetous candidates and those already on the mantle.

Electoral bodies should be independent and free from the ruling government's control; it must be conducting free, fair and credible elections which might give hope to eligible persons irrespective of tribe or religion and that would put an end to the era of family politics or God-fatherism.

Mukhtar Garba Kobi wrote from Bauchi

Short&Sharp

Re: Blocking of roads by aggrieved tanker drivers raises concerns

We wish to give our side of the story over the above piece published in your edition of January 17, 2023.

The report gave a narrative of the traumatic experience of road users who travelled on the ever-busy Zaria-Kano highway between Wednesday, January 11 and Saturday, January 14, 2023, when protesting petroleum tanker drivers blocked the road over the alleged killing of one of their members by a security operative.

According to the report, the incident happened around 3:30pm at Tashar Yari in Makarfi LGA of Kaduna State when the victim, who was driving a cement truck, had an altercation with a security operative attached to a construction company on the road.

The report also read in part: "It was also gathered that the tanker drivers decided to block the highway to show their displeasure with the way and manner they were being treated on the highways by security agencies."

We need to call your attention to the fact that the victim of the unfortunate incident was not a petroleum tanker driver. He was a driver of a cement company.

It was his colleagues who were provoked by the wicked action of the security operatives that blocked the highway. The protesters could not have been members of the Petroleum Tanker Drivers of NUPENG as wrongly presented in the report.

It is also instructive to note that the pictures, used to illustrate the report by your newspaper on the road blockage on the Tashar Yari in Makarfi LGA of Kaduna State, was revealing. They were articulated trucks, conveying cement, not tankers! No member of the PTD- NUPENG, Kaduna Branch or anyone in transit who was our member was involved.

We crave the indulgence of your reporters to always seek our own side of the story in the nearest future by speaking with the Kaduna Depot Chairman of PTD-NUPENG or the national chairman, whose office is located in Abuja.

The leadership of PTD-NUPENG feels scandalised by this report which has portrayed us in bad light in the eyes of the reading public.

Please, kindly accord our rejoinder the needed attention.

Comrade Lucky Osesua, National Chairman, PTD- NUPENG, Abuja.

As deadline for PVCs draws close

The deadline for collection of permanent voter cards is drawing closer by the day.

I urge all Nigerians who have registered to go and collect their cards before it is too late.

The next elections are very crucial as we cannot afford to get it wrong this time around.

Go and collect your card to avoid a mad rush at the eleventh hour.

Okoh Felix wrote from Utako

Who is hoarding redesigned notes?

While the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has said that it has released enough quantities of the new notes to commercial banks, we are yet to see these notes.

Many ATMs are still empty and those dispensing money are still bringing out the old notes.

Who is hoarding the new notes between the CBN and the commercial banks?

This issue must be addressed as the deadline is already by the corner.

Reuben Daniel wrote from Ado, Nasarawa State

ENCOUNTER

Meet Borno youth who developed app to curb insecurity, boost revenue

Yusuf Hayatudeen, 30, is a young passionate inventor and entrepreneur who developed softwares to fight crimes and generate revenue in 5 states. The last child in a family of 5, he had both primary and secondary school education at Elkanemi Islamic Primary School and Elkanemi College of Islamic Theology before proceeding to study Information Management Technology at the Sikkim Manipal University of Ghana. Yusuf is currently the Chief Executive Officer of Bexil Computer and Solution limited Maiduguri. Excerpts



Olatunji Omirin

What did you specialise in?
We specialize in providing solutions to some critical challenges facing the society. Growing up in Maiduguri, I always thought of what could be done to improve my state; looking at the unemployment rate of the youth, poverty levels and insecurity. It used to be of great concern to me, so after the one-year mandatory NYSC, I did a lot of research, which led to the development of some applications that can reduce insecurity if put into proper use with the help of artificial intelligence.

What informed your decision to develop these apps?

I have always been an ICT enthusiast. In 2014, I developed an app to help improve security, especially within Maiduguri. In the heat of insurgency, I and some of my friends tried to decipher the cause of the problems we were facing in Borno and the North-east, and answer to our quest was the issue of Okada riders then. There was a time the government ordered that they must wear helmet in the state capital but this order led to an uproar. That was part of the beginning of Boko Haram insurgency. The people and security agencies clashed around Custom area because of the refusal of the people to obey government's orders. This was part of what culminated to the national security issues we are facing today.

So, we felt if the tricycle operators are not sanitised, another bigger Boko Haram is looming because a lot of crimes are being perpetrated in Borno State, especially at night, using Keke Napep.

We no longer have Okada since the Keke Napep have replaced them, so why not create a software that will enable the government have the data of all operators and create solutions and innovations that would help curb the crimes and generate revenue?

Bearing in mind that many of the Keke Napep operators are illiterate, how would this be possible?

First of all, the recklessness of the operators calls for concern. If you were in Maiduguri four years ago, before we started the innovation, the crimes reported daily would shock you. Because there was no proper identity management or number plates, they behaved anyhow. The number on the body of the tricycle was not visible enough for people

to identify them.

There was no centralized data or information on the operators so they could commit a crime, and just go ahead and erase the number on the tricycle and put another one. At that time, you could see multiple Keke with the same number.

What we did was to first collate all their information and then number the tricycles. After numbering, we made it impossible for anyone to use his Keke Napep without QR code placed on the tricycles.

Was there any resistance from the association at first?

All you had to do was come to the Borno Traffic Management Agency (BORTMAN) with that number so it can be easily traced to the original owner of the Keke. Within three to six months, the crimes reduced and people started seeing the impact of the initiative. After realizing that they couldn't commit crimes and go free, those criminal elements stopped because there was no escape route for them. You can go the Police Headquarters in Maiduguri to verify this fact. Our apps have helped reduce the crimes perpetrated by Keke Napep operators.

We are the first company in Nigeria to invent this app; we have not seen it any where else in the country.

However, we have replicated it in four states.

Tell us more about the features and benefits of this app?

Apart from fighting crimes in our society, it has improved job creation. In Keke Napep associations alone, I think more than 1,000 people have benefited directly. We have registered at least 25,000 tricycles in Borno State. People come to register their tricycles and checks are being conducted by the association before they could be integrated into our system. Also, revenues are collected digitally.

As you know, identity is very important when it comes to profiling taxpayers, and governments are losing billions of naira in that sector. If the government can identify the taxpayers, it would be easy for governments to know if someone is paying tax or defaulting. So, with this app, the operators have their unique identities and the electronic machine would reveal the data of every operator. There is no way to default at all. It has worked perfectly and you can go to the Board of

Internal Revenue to verify.

We generate between N600 and N700 million annually from Keke Napep alone since the inception of this software. Before, it was a zero-revenue sector for the state government.

What prospects did you have in this initiative?

We have provided services for the Gombe State government. As we speak, we have about 17,000 registered tricycles/Okada. We are also in Niger, Katsina and Nasarawa states. Governments, at all levels, need to think of using artificial intelligence to curtail crimes. As I said, we just want to collect data from the public and the data can be used to improve the security ravaging our country; you can use the data to track down criminals. Using the system that has data of people who are operators in this sector would help the security agencies to arrest any criminals because their photographs and bio data have been captured. Security agencies can use artificial intelligence for their brief, study, analysis and profiling of suspects. The prospect of this initiative is huge, if the government can invest in it massively, it would reduce crimes and generate more revenue for the treasury.

In what ways do you think artificial intelligence can help curb insurgency?

Artificial Intelligence has the capacity of learning beyond human thinking, it is very difficult for us to create patterns, but it is easy for artificial intelligence to do so. For instance, if we have CCTV cameras in the state without their data, it would not solve the problem, but when their data is integrated, AI will help to facilitate the arrest of the criminal.

When you go to advanced countries, they only identify you through facial recognition, so governments need to get data to reduce crimes through big data. Also, government can index databases in police stations, hospitals, schools, correctional centres and other public places and people should be indexed by facial recognition so AI will track the movement of criminals and it would be curtailed. Likewise, insurgency will disappear because there would be no hiding place for any criminal.

Another area government needs to improve is our transportation sector. For instance, if you go to a motor park, there is a document called the passengers' manifest. Most people lie when writing their names and phone numbers. If we are serious in addressing insecurity, all that governments

need to do is instal an electronic machine that would request your national identity card or voter card at motor parks across the states, and security agencies would be able to synchronise the data. Information gathering is very critical in solving security problems so, there should be a way to bring computerising to monitor and access information because criminals move from one place to another.

Looking at big data in the next 5 years, where do you think Nigeria will be?

It will create jobs and employment opportunities. We are working in five states now, and I have 70 direct staff receiving salaries from my company every month. We also have at least 300 volunteer staff that are receiving wages to ensure the system is working effectively and efficiently.

In the next 5 years, we hope to be a big company providing solutions to challenges not only in Nigeria but in Africa. Governments need to encourage and support young inventors and entrepreneurs to create jobs to address our keys enemy which is poverty, especially in the northern part of the country. We have young people with great ideas; all they need is a little push and they will come out with fantastic solutions to the problems in our region.

What are the challenges you have experienced?

One of the setbacks we faced at the beginning of the project was fear of change from our people, they thought we were coming to take over their jobs, that was a major problem we had. Even in the state government circle, a lot of people were afraid of these initiatives.

I developed this app since 2014, we started making some moves and contacting people in the government but they were afraid. It didn't materialise until 2020 after Prof Babagana Zulum became the governor and I met with the Commissioner for Transportation, forwarded the proposals to the office of the governor and it was immediately approved by the governor.

For six years I pursued the state government to sell this initiative to them, so you can see that consistency is key. As we speak, we have a lot of software on ground that we trying to sell to people but we are not deterred by those challenges because we know it is part of what makes us stronger and brings out the best in us.

Congratulations on your **WELL-DESERVED ELEVATION!!**



**Alhaji Umaru Abubakar
Madakin Gombe**

On behalf of the family of Madawakin Gombe, we wish to heartily rejoice and congratulate a worthy Husband, Father and Brother, **Alhaji Umaru Abubakar** on your elevation and official turbanding as the **Madakin Gombe** by His Royal Highness, **Alhaji (Dr) Abubakar Shehu Abubakar III, CFR, the Emir of Gombe and Chairman of Gombe State Council of Emirs and Chiefs.**

Your elevation and coronation with the prestigious title of **Madakin Gombe** is a testimony to your selfless service to mankind, your trustworthiness and patriotism towards the development of our dear state and Nigeria at large.

We share in your joy and pray to Almighty Allah to bless you with good health and longer life to continue serving humanity.

**Congratulations to the
13th Madakin Gombe
Gidan Bubayero!!!**

Signed:

The Family of Madakin Gombe

Why I went into politics – Gospel singer, Kenny Best

In this interview, a popular gospel singer, Kenny Saint Best shared her experiences in the music industry, as well as her journey into politics.



Ademola Olonilua

We are in a new year. What should we expect from your stable?

People should expect new music, most especially worship song. What I call 'churchy' music. My music has always been gospel but I veered into the mainstream some years back when I did what I term 'street gospel,' what they call afrobeats now. At the time, they were not calling it afrobeats.

At a point you were not visible in the Nigerian music industry, what happened?

I slowed down my career to attend to my family needs - my children - but I am back now. During the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, I started slowly but I am fully back as a gospel artiste. But now, I would be doing more of church songs - core worship songs. I was given this assignment by God with instructions.

In March, I will release an album and celebrate my 25 years on stage. Although I clocked 25 years on stage in 2021, I did not do a concert because I had not done an album. My plan is to use the concert to announce myself as a worshipper. Also, every week, I do a worship programme on all my social media platforms. By the side, I am working with my party to ensure victory at the poll.

Also, on the home front, my first child would be graduating from the university in June. So, when people say that they did not hear from me for a while, it is because of that. The fruit of that is what I would be harvesting in June as my daughter would be graduating from the Pan Atlantic University, the undergraduate side of Lagos Business School.

Some people argue that males have an edge over females in the entertainment industry because oftentimes the women have to focus on their families at some point. Was that the case with you?

Partially, I agree with the argument because men do not do menstrual cycle. Men do not carry pregnancy for 9 months and have to breastfeed. They do not have to do school runs. So, partially it is true.

However, what pays some women in the entertainment industry is when they work with their husbands, especially in the gospel sector of the industry; for example, Tope Alabi and her husband. Her husband is the band leader and producer while Tope is just the singer. So, the brand called Tope Alabi is a combination of the singer, her husband and the band. Tope is tasked with getting the songs to sing while her husband handles the logistics. Tope just has to pray to God to inspire her, attend shows while her husband handles the business side of the music. More so, they run the home together. But it is not all women that have it like that.

You started singing gospel music 27 years ago at a time the genre was not popular in Nigeria. Why gospel songs?

I did not choose that path, it chose me. God called me; that was how it happened. I was a worker in the Redeemed Christian Church of God and I was like a prayer warrior. I love praying; in fact, I pray more than I sing. God wanted this work for me and he called me, so even when after 15 years of being a gospel singer I felt I was done with the career, thinking that I had done well and music had done me good, after about 10-year break he called me back. God told me that he was the one that called me so he would be the one to tell me when to stop. He started pouring music into me. Not everybody has the grace or enjoy such opportunities a second and third time like me. It is because the calling was original and authentic. It was a sure calling.

The Holy Spirit groomed me in music because I did not have a mentor or teacher. I was not part of any band; I was in the church choir for a very short period of time. So,

music came to me as a reward for praying. Music always comes to me after I have prayed thoroughly. Most of the things I have prayed about come back to me as songs. That is how my journey has been. My hit songs were prayer request; for instance, the song, Turn Around, was a prayer point; I was asking God to turn my life around.

Also, God gave me the gift to be able to do futuristic songs because when we started, it was not called afrobeats. It did not have a name then, but look at the genre now. It is global. Then, I was seeing into the future of Nigerian music. Don't forget that at the time, I was with Remedies, Tony Tetuila and others. There was a bit of hip hop that rubbed off on me. I was managing them when they were with Kennis Music. I started off with praise, then I did the street gospel, and now, I am back with the 'pulpit worship,' which I call the authentic throne room worship.

Some people believe that politics is a dirty game, yet in 2014 you ventured into it despite being a minister of God. Why?

Two things influenced me to go into politics at the time. The first was seeing the gap between the entertainment industry and the government at that time. We knew that the industry was growing and it would be global. We knew that we were reaching out to the rest of the world and they were accepting us. I knew that the music industry would become as huge as it is now. I knew all these because I was the vice president of Kennis Music.

I and a few others were major players in the music industry. And we knew that we could not handle what was coming because it was going to be huge.

Personally, I felt there was a way I could get into politics to bridge that gap. I felt that aside government giving us infrastructure, entertainment could have its ministry, and it would be funded.

I was going to go to the House of Assembly to raise such issues; to

raise a bill where the government could start such initiative. I realised that to influence the Nigerian government you have to be a part of the government from the inside. It is hardly done on the outside. What people do on the outside is to criticise the government.

The second reason I went into politics was because at that time, I was slowing down on being an artiste. As an artiste there are some things you can do till a particular age, especially if you are a woman. You would get to a point where you cannot go on stage and display sexiness. You just have to slow down. I knew I was slowing down and I needed to pick up another vocation and it was politics.

I had to first come out to state that I was running for a particular position and use that to learn how to become a proper politician, learn political administration and become a force to reckon with in the political sector and the government.

When your party is in government, most of the people who would be lawmakers are your colleagues because we all worked together during campaign. That is how you become influential. These were my reasons.

I am a strong player in politics right now but I have not gotten an appointment. I was not there for the appointment sake but the influence that will benefit my industry. Between that time and now, there is a fantastic flow, influx from the government fund into the entertainment industry, especially the movie industry, which has benefitted more. Look at 'Detty December' and how the government has made it appealing to the youth who come to enjoy Nigeria, especially Lagos, in December.

The number of people coming into Lagos to have fun in December is a lot, and it has become a tourist attraction. A lot of people flew into Lagos in December and even other states like Cross Rivers. It was up to some people to talk to the

government about entertainment initiatives; and they listened.

When you ran for a seat at the Lagos State House of Assembly you contested against some strong contenders, including the son of the Minister of Information and Culture, Lai Mohammed, who you lost to. Did you have an inkling that you would lose; and when you heard the news, how did you feel?

It is politics. And at that time I was a fresh person going into politics, so I did not expect them to roll out the red carpet for me. I really tried. I went there to make my opinion known.

I met Jimi there and he already had his grassroots network and team. I lost to him, but since then I have been working as a political administrator.

Would you run for an elective post again?

By the time I ventured into politics, I was retiring from music. However, I discovered that music was preparing me for politics. It became like a familiar terrain getting to know the right people I needed to know. I became a grassroots person. I also became a party person at the state and national level. It became natural.

When they were about to give me an appointment, God called me and said I would not get it, instead, I was going to sing. He said I should not think that because someone had used eight years, it would be my turn. He called me again. All these he told me during COVID. He said that even if they gave me an appointment I would have to turn it down.

It was difficult and I cried for six months. I went everywhere asking people to talk to God on my behalf, but all they said was that if God called me back I should answer the call. That's what birthed the worship song. I am no longer singing for commercial success, instead, it is to glorify God. It is God that would introduce the songs to the world of men. It is God that would announce his daughter to the world.

Why G-5 govts can't sway election victory for Tinubu – APC ex-spokesman

Saawua Terzungwe

A former deputy national publicity secretary of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Yekini Nabena, has said the party would not trust the aggrieved G-5 governors of the opposition Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) if they decide to join the ruling party to work for its victory in the forthcoming polls.

In an interview with newsmen yesterday in Abuja, Nabena, a member of the National Executive Committee (NEC) of the APC, described the governors as confused, handicapped and lacking

in capacity to sway election victory for the APC presidential candidate, Bola Ahmed Tinubu.

The G-5 was formed after the Rivers State governor, Nyesom Wike lost out to Atiku Abubakar at the PDP presidential primary poll and was also not picked for the vice presidential slot ahead of the February 25 poll.

The G-5 governors led by Wike have decided not to work for Atiku until the PDP's national chairman, Dr Iyorchia Ayu, resigns and the position taken to the South. They are Samuel Ortom (Benue), Ifeanyi Ugwuanyi (Enugu), Seyi Makinde (Oyo), Okezie

Ikpeazu (Abia) and Nyesom Wike (Rivers).

Nabena said, "The new electoral law has dramatically reduced the influence of sitting governors doing magic during elections, unless the electoral umpire decides to hand over the process to them. Less-performing governors are the worst for it because the electorate won't listen to them on election day.

"I will advise those who are still waiting on the G-5 governors to shift their attention to the real voters because they won't be at the polling unit on the election day."

CBN accuses banks of hoarding N4.5bn redesigned notes

Victor Edozie, Port Harcourt

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has accused some commercial banks in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, of refusing to dispense the sum of N4.5 billion redesigned notes distributed to them.

The controller of the Rivers State branch of the apex bank, Maxwell Okafor, who led an enforcement team on the newly redesigned notes to some commercial banks and markets in Port Harcourt, said that between Thursday and Friday, the apex bank had disbursed about N4.5 billion new notes to commercial banks in the state and wondered why many customers were not getting them.

He expressed worry that some banks in Port Harcourt were frustrating the efforts of the CBN in implementing the

disbursement of the new naira notes by hoarding it in their vaults.

"We have been monitoring the dispensing of the new naira note and the impression we had is not encouraging. We have visited some banks and one of them was not dispensing the new naira notes. Their ATM machines were not functioning, even as early as the time we came. We had it on good authority that the bank received money from the CBN. Some of these banks received money yesterday and the money is still in their vaults.

"In some of the banks, their ATMs are down. There is no explanation for their actions. The CBN has warned that there would be serious consequences for hoarding these new naira notes and giving it to special customers.

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ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

Compiled by Rosemary Etim Bassey

Real housewives of Abuja to premiere February

The Real Housewives franchise has its sights set on the capital of Nigeria with "The Real Housewives of Abuja (RHOAbuja)" after the popularity of "The Real Housewives of Lagos." The most recent episode follows six powerful ladies in the metropolis of riches and power as they live opulent lives.

The glitzy lifestyles of Arafa, Comfort Booth, OJ Posharella, Princess Jecoco, Samantha Homossany, and Tutupie as they negotiate relationships, families, and companies in the influential



metropolis of Abuja and beyond, will be exclusively revealed to fans of the popular franchise.

Wizkid discloses joint tour with Davido

On Wednesday, January 18th, 2023, Wizkid took to Instagram to make the surprising revelation that he will be going on tour with fellow megastar Davido.

Wizkid wrote in a post on his Instagram account that; "After my 'MLLE (More Love, Less Ego)' tour!! Davido and I going on tour! save your



coins! I no wan hear pim."

Fans are surprised by the news because they weren't expecting it. As they excitedly

anticipate a joint performance from two of Africa's biggest stars, it has put fans in a frenzy.

Wizkid and Davido notably joined the stage at Wizkid's December 2017 event, where he brought Davido out as a special guest to play 'FIA'.

Charles Okocha survives ghastly accident on 3rd Mainland bridge

Following a car accident, Nigerian actor and rapper Charles Okocha, aka Igwe 2Pac, has been admitted to the hospital.

The comedian thanked God for protecting him from the catastrophe in a series of Instagram posts that included images of himself in a hospital bed

and a little video clip from the accident scene. Okocha revealed the incident happened on the Third Mainland bridge in an Instagram post.

He said: Thankful for life. Was involved in a car accident on 3rd mainland bridge last night but GOD DID!!! We Asaaaaa still."



Ubi Franklin speaks on relationship with Davido

In an interview with "Tea with Tay," Ubi Franklin discussed his relationship with Davido, with whom he has formed a strong acquaintance over the years.

Ubi claimed that Davido is one of the persons who has always supported him, even when he was at his lowest. Ubi said that Davido would frequently call and make fun of him so



he could laugh and forget his problems.

He added that the megastar had given him

the responsibility of overseeing his partner Chioma.

Ubi Franklin recently got the nickname "Popsicle" given to Ifeanyi Adeleke tattooed on his hand. Fans praised the act on social media, praising his affection for Davido and his family.

In the interview, Ubi Franklin praised Davido, calling him a kind person and a fantastic friend.

'Papa Ajasco' original actor Abiodun Ayoyinka addresses death mix-up

Abiodun Ayoyinka, the original Papa Ajasco, has cleared up the misunderstanding surrounding the death of fellow 'Papa Ajasco' cast member Femi Ogunrombi. In the early hours of Wednesday, January 14, Ogunrombi passed away. He replaced Ayoyinka when the latter departed the "Papa Ajasco" show.

Since then, numerous people who were unaware that the late

Ogunrombi was a replacement for the real Papa Ajasco, Ayoyinka, have reproduced the latter's photos in their reports on the late Ogunrombi's demise.

Ayoyinka went up and released a video on Sunday, January 15, to explain the misunderstanding.

He said in the video;



"My name is Abiodun Ayoyinka popularly known as Papa Ajasco. I am not dead. I am still alive. And thank you very much my fans out there for your concern. I really appreciate you people."

REVIEW



Movie title: Something from Tiffany's Director: Daryl Wein

Running time: 1h 27m | Release year: 2022

Tiffany's is known for its classic, timeless jewelry. You see that little teal box, and you know to expect something elegant and thoughtfully crafted out of the best materials. Unfortunately, that's not the case with Daryl Wein's "Something from Tiffany's." Overlong at a mere 87 minutes, there's nothing timeless or elegant about this flop, entirely composed of elements derived from much better films.

The beautiful jewel-toned opening scene captures a nostalgic, magical midcentury New York City Christmas vibe. It's all sparkling holiday lights and crisp snowflakes, underscored by Dean Martin crooning "I've Got My Love to Keep Me Warm." If only the rest of the Prime Video rom-com, based on the novel of the same name by Melissa Hill, continued to match this sequence's verve.

A swirl pan from the city streets places us inside the titular Tiffany's, where writer Ethan (Kendrick Sampson, fine) and his daughter Daisy (Leah Jeffries, exuberant) painstakingly pick out just the right ring to propose to his girlfriend Vanessa (Shay Mitchell, who does the best she can with an underwritten character). Their precision is intercut with self-centered tattoo artist Gary (Ray Nicholson, surprisingly bland), who barges through the crowded store, half-heartedly in search of a last-minute gift for his girlfriend Rachel (Zoey Deutch), a chef who is at home getting an elaborate anniversary dinner in order. When the careless Gary walks out of the store straight into an oncoming cab and a bout of amnesia, Ethan rushes to his aid—and their little teal bags get accidentally switched.

The rest of the film finds Ethan and Rachel brought together by accident, only to realize they are with whom they should have been with all along. This is the plot of many screwball comedies, old and new. Unfortunately, instead of finding an original twist on these tropes, screenwriter Tamara Chestna appears to have put elements of holiday-set rom-coms like "Serendipity," "While You Were Sleeping," "You've Got Mail," and "Sleepless In Seattle" into a blender, leaving all the surface-level pieces intact, but none of the charm—or, most importantly, any well-developed characters.

Much of the movie rests on leading lady Zoey Deutch's shoulders, the filmmakers coasting on the zany persona



SOMETHING FROM
TIFFANY'S

DEC 9 | NEW MOVIE

she's been honing since her breakout role in 2018's "Set It Up." But beyond an underwritten backstory about a dead mother and a love for Italian pastries, there's not much to her character beyond her zippy, mile-a-minute patter. Allegedly, she's in business with her best friend Terrie (Jojo T. Gibbs), but there's not enough chemistry between the actresses to make a lifelong friendship believable.

Deutch doesn't have any chemistry with anyone in the film—including the two men she's found herself between. Sampson gives her emotional glances, but Deutch gives nothing back in return. Likewise, Nicholson seems to have been directed to play his role with as little facial emotion as possible while having all his natural heat sapped out. Anyone who's seen his work in 2021's YA series "Panic" knows how much he's been sanded down here.

Aside from a lack of chemistry with its stars, one of the main problems with many modern rom-coms is their overemphasis on hitting situational beats and memeable one-liners over crafting interesting, complex characters. Everyone in this film still feels like a concept of a person rather than a real person. The messy heroine who's a ball of fire. The toxic, careless boyfriend. The single dad with a heart of gold. The precocious kid, wise beyond her years. The sassy Black best

friend. The fiance who just doesn't fit.

Weirdly, the one actor able to overcome his stock character trappings is Connor Hines as Gary's ne'er-do-well friend Finn. Introduced in the third act solely to accidentally reveal some information that undermines everything Rachel thought about Gary's hidden depth and selflessness, Hines is absolutely hilarious, and for about five minutes, the film has a discernible pulse. But, unfortunately, there are still about 20 more minutes to plod through after he leaves the picture.

LCD Soundsystem's melancholic electro-bop "Oh Baby" makes for an unexpected but welcomed needle drop to the film's inevitable conclusion as Deutch does her best Billy Crystal sprint across the city to share her true feelings. Despite the inspired song choice, the moment lands with a dull thud, rehashing a handful of scenes from a few beloved Meg Ryan movies without even a wink or nod.

Everything, of course, wraps up in a neat little Christmas bow, the numbers painted so completely that any magic of possibility hanging in the air is snuffed out in favor of unearned closure. Rather than the journey of telling the compelling story of two individuals finding love, it's clear that getting to that rote perfect final moment was always the film's only goal.

culled from www.rogerebert.com

Opinion

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PHILOSOPHIAITH WITH M.U. NDAGI

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In the spirit of strengthening bonds

When Islam rose over pagan Arabia, it offered a teaching through the Qur'an and the traditions of the Prophet (SAW) that encompassed every matter relating to society and the individual. It called believers to brotherhood, friendship, love and benevolence with a view to binding them together so that no divisive agent such as hatred, malice or envy would alienate one individual from others. Allah (SWT) asserts in Qur'an 49:10 "Believers are but a single brotherhood". Social cohesion in an Islamic society involves encouraging one another to piety, righteousness, mutual responsibility and the nurturing of a community in which younger generations appreciate goodness. This helps in mobilizing all the constructive energies of people for the general welfare of citizens as against corruption and evil.

In this manner, the goals and activities of members of the society are harmonized, their sense of co-operation awakened, and their collective efficiencies set to work for the service of humanity. The enforcement of the Muslim Brotherhood is one of the self-sacrificing concepts of Islam. Allah (SWT) states in Qur'an 3:103 "And holdfast, all together, by the rope which Allah (stretches out for you) and be not divided among yourselves ..." This allegory, according to the great Qur'anic exegete, Yusuf Ali, is that of a people struggling in deep water, to whom a benevolent providence stretches out a strong and unbreakable rope of rescue. If all would hold fast to it together, their mutual support shall certainly add to the chances of their safety.

The true spirit of brotherhood is one precious shared value that is missing today among Individuals and groups. The absence of it in our inter-personal relationships is as good as disunity. People's indifference, apathy, lack of shared feelings, unwillingness to make sacrifices, and the complete lack of the spirit of altruism are indices of social immaturity. A situation where individuals fail to appreciate and link the correlation between their own lives to the happiness and welfare of others could be compared to a ship sinking in a storm at sea where everyone is concerned about how to save just his or her own life.

Behavioural scientists opine that there are two kinds of people in the society; those who undertake painstaking efforts for the comfort of others, and those who cause hardship to others for the sake of their own comfort. The second category of people reflects western concept of brotherhood. If today's developed nations decide to budget a fraction of their economic resources for the 'development' of developing nations, their action in the first place, is not usually



inspired by pure humanitarian motives. Rather, it is because if the economy of developing countries collapses and thus



A proper and subtle approach should be adopted in order to preserve the dignity of every indigent person. Islam demands from the wealthy to hold their hands low when giving so that the less-privileged person's hand remains higher while receiving. This is the mutual and respectful condition under which the act of giving and taking should be conducted and concluded

become unable to consume the products of developed nations, their economies would equally suffer distress due to decline in foreign trade. While Islam teaches that you give not in anticipation of receiving anything in return, it is the opposite in western civilization where you give in order to receive.

While altruism is central to the concept of brotherhood in Islam, the act of benevolence is to be carried out without undue humiliation of the recipient of any kind of favours. A proper and subtle approach should be adopted in order to preserve the dignity of every indigent person. Islam demands from the wealthy to hold their hands low when giving so that the less-privileged person's hand remains higher while receiving. This is the mutual and respectful condition under which the act of giving and taking should be conducted and concluded.

One day, a man came to Prophet Muhammad (SAW) and declared that he was hungry. The Prophet (SAW) immediately sent someone to bring food from his house. The Prophet's wife said with regret that there was nothing in the house except water. The Prophet (SAW) turned to his companions and asked them: "Can any one of you accept

him as his guest?". Thereupon, one of the Ansar (Helpers) of Madina extended his hospitality to the man. When the man's host arrived home, he was told that the food available was not going to be enough for all of them. At the time when the guest was to eat, the host put out the lamp so that the guest would think he too was eating food. This is the sincere sense and spirit in which individuals could make sacrifices for the comfort of others that may be experiencing deprivation and other forms of adversities, difficulties or inconveniences in life.

Hospitality, kindness and respect for human dignity are forms of expressing the brotherhood that Islam expects Muslims to show to one another. These values bind the kith and kin together. The love of one's kinsman or woman is as important as self-love. There's need to strike a balance of mutual interdependence between "I" and "We" as a necessary condition for 'oiling' the relationship that binds people together as family members, partners, associates, friends, colleagues, professionals, or as contemporaries such that the individuals' pronoun of "I" would transform into collective "We". May Allah (SWT) guide us to treat others in the best way we would want others to care for us, amin.

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Three reasons why you should plant food forests

In one of the episodes of the American sitcom, "Big Bang Theory," Sheldon, the genius, is looking for an additional friend to achieve a certain objective, but according to Leonard, one of the handful of friends he already has, he is going about it the wrong way. You can't make friends by reading books and theorizing, Leonard tells him, you make friends by going to the coffee shop and talking to people.

Then Leonard reminds Sheldon how he learned to swim from the internet.

Leonard: All I'm trying to say is that maybe you can't approach this purely as an intellectual exercise.

Sheldon: What do you mean?

Leonard: Remember how you tried to swim using the internet?

Sheldon: I did learn how to swim!

Leonard: On the floor!

Sheldon: The skills are transferable. I just have no interest in going in the water.

Leonard: Then why learn how to swim?

Sheldon: The ice caps are melting, Leonard. In the future, swimming isn't going to be optional!

Leonard: And so from the mouth of a comedian comes the hard truth: the ice caps are melting!

Climate change is real. Global temperatures are rising. By the time

it gets four degrees higher, we will be in serious trouble because then, it will be irreversible. But even with two degrees, the effect is catastrophic. PBS explains:

"This 2-degree warmer world still represents what scientists characterize as a profoundly disrupted climate with fiercer storms, higher seas, animal and plant extinctions, disappearing coral, melting ice, and more people dying from heat, smog, and infectious disease."

But how will the irreversible change occur?

"One study suggests losing 40 percent of the forest or crossing 7.2 °F (4°C) of warming could cause permanent, irreversible change," National Geographic reported in August 2021.

How much time do we have?

It can be as soon as the next five years! "The threshold for dangerous global warming will likely be crossed between 2027 and 2042, research indicates," World Economic Forum wrote in a January 2021 report.

You can see where you come in. The report says that when we lose 40 percent of the forest, we're going to reach the point of no return. Why are forests important in the scheme of things? It's because a tree can store (sequester) 22 KG of carbon. So by

planting trees, you're helping the environment to be sustainable for ourselves and great-grandchildren.

Two, having a food forest is a source of wholesome food for your family. Not only that, you're helping farmers in three ways. We'll return to this in another chapter.

Three, it's therapeutic. Have you heard the story of forest bathing in Japan?

What is forest bathing?

"In 1982, the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries created the term *shinrin-yoku*, which translates to "forest bathing" or "absorbing the forest atmosphere." The practice encourages people to simply spend time in nature — no actual bathing required," Kaiser Permanente wrote.

What are the benefits of forest bathing?

In a 2019 academic paper, Akemi Furuyashiki and colleagues wrote: "Studies have found that "forest bathing" (*Shinrin-yoku*) has positive physiological effects, such as blood pressure reduction, improvement of autonomic and immune functions, as well as psychological effects of alleviating depression and improving mental health."

With your food forest, you don't need to go to Japan, or any forest for that matter, to have a forest bath. You



only need to step into the backyard and absorb all the benefits. I do that every day in my house. So do my friends and customers for whom I planted food forests.

Also, during the COVID-19 pandemic, neighbors came to my house in Minna to take leaves from the trees to treat the flu. It's customary for our people to use leaves from neem, guava, citrus, and papaya trees to treat the common cold, therefore,

they extrapolated that to COVID-19. And that solution appeared to be quite therapeutic.

You can also make money. The bonus reason for having your food forest is the fact that you can make money from it—a lot of money. There are two ways of making good money from your trees, and you're already familiar with one of them. But there's something you can sell from your trees that is even more profitable than

the fruits. I will tell you more about that in the following pages. You'll also learn the cost-effective way to start, how to minimize water use and how to get your trees to blossom quickly.

I'll also show you pictures of the food forests I've planted for my customers—some of which started yielding fruits in as little as one year.

PS: This is the introduction to the book, "\$100 Food Forest" by Ibraheem Dooba

Buhari's unusual road interventions in tertiary institutions

Ifeanyi Maduekwe

President Muhammadu Buhari's administration is receiving resounding accolades from management and students of many federal higher institutions of learning across the country for extending his massive infrastructure development agenda to their institutions. At the last count, 83 road rehabilitation projects had been inaugurated across the country. While 66 of the projects had already been completed, 46 were just commissioned.

Though during the official handover of the 1.2-kilometer internal road at the University of Uyo, Akwa Ibom State, recently, and everywhere such inauguration had happened; the Minister of Works and Housing, Babatunde Raji Fashola (SAN) reiterated that the federal government's intervention in the construction of the nation's tertiary institutions internal roads was part of government's commitment to improving the human condition and a critical intervention to support education, and that much the benefitting schools had confirmed.

Some of the institutions that benefited from this initiative include Yaba College of Technology (YabaTech) in Lagos; National Institute for Nigerian Languages, Kastina, Aba, Abia State; University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital (UMTH); Federal University, Dutse, Jigawa State; Alvan Ikoku, UNILAG,

Federal Medical Centre, Owo; University of Ilorin; the University of Uyo, Federal College of Education (Technical) Gombe, and the Federal University of Agriculture, Makurdi, Benue State.

There were also the Nigerian Law School, Bwari, FCT, Abuja; Federal College of Agriculture, Moor Plantation, Ibadan; Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto (UDUS); Alex Ekwueme Federal University Ikwo in Ebonyi State; Nigerian Institute for Oil Palm Research (NIFOR), Isiuwa, Edo State; Federal University Oye, Ekiti State; the University of Abuja, Federal College of Education (Technical), Omoku, Rivers State; and Federal Polytechnic, Daura in Katsina State.

Others were Bayero University, Kano; Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital, Kano; University of Ibadan (UI) and UCH; Federal University of Technology, Owerri; University of Benin (UNIBEN); Federal College of Education (Technical), Omoku, Rivers; Federal University of Gashua, Yobe; University of Nigeria (UNN), Nsukka; Federal Polytechnic Ede, Osun; Federal Polytechnic, Offa, Kwara; University of Calabar; and the Federal Polytechnic Kaura-Namoda, Zamfara.

Not left too out were Federal College of Education, Kastina; Kaduna Polytechnic and Federal University, Lokoja; the Federal University of Technology, Akure (FUTA); Neuro-Psychiatric Hospital,

Sokoto State; Aro Neuropsychiatric Hospital, Abeokuta; Waziri Umaru Federal Polytechnic, Birnin Kebbi; Hussaini Adamu Federal Polytechnic, Kazare, Jigawa State; Federal Polytechnic, Ukana, Akwa Ibom State; University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital (UNTH), Ituku Ozalla, Enugu and several others.

For both President Buhari and Fashola, it must be very gratifying that the decision of the federal government to carry out infrastructure renewal in its institutions was met with widespread joy and gratitude from the academic community, which had hitherto felt neglected.

Executive Director of the National Institute for Nigerian Languages Aba, Abia State, Prof. Obiajulu Elumelu, while receiving the rehabilitated 2.1-kilometer road in the institution on February 18, 2021, declared: "This intervention is unprecedented. It has indeed raised the profile of our institute and confirmed to the naysayers that we also are a federal government owned tertiary institution."

At the University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital (UMTH), where a 2.5-kilometer internal road was rehabilitated and handed over on February 4, 2021, President of the Students Union Government (SUG), Comrade Hakuri Tamus, was even more touching in his speech.

According to him, "This intervention is a big blessing to the

academic community because the sandy nature of the roads before the intervention, made it slippery and the school recorded a lot of accidents as students usually fell from motorbikes."

To understand the values of these interventions, it is best to evaluate it through the lenses of the leaders of the institutions that benefited from the initiative.

For instance, the vice chancellor of Federal University, Dutse, Jigawa State, Prof. Fatima Batul Muktar, in her remarks at the handover of a rehabilitated 800-meter road in the institution on February 2, 2021, showed genuine appreciation.

She said "Before the rehabilitation of this road, students and parents had to park their vehicles outside the gate to walk down to the school in a pool of water."

Also, the Rector of Federal Polytechnic Nasarawa, Nasarawa State, Dr. Abdullahi Alhassan while receiving a rehabilitated road in the institution on Thursday, February 18, 2021, said: "This is the first of its kind in the history of this polytechnic since its establishment in 1983".

The Kaduna Polytechnics Rector, Professor Idris Bugaje, while receiving the revamped roads in his institution on March 27, 2021, declared, "On my arrival in October 2017, this institution was in very bad shape with all the infrastructure dilapidated. We owe a debt of gratitude to the federal government

for undertaking to break that jinx."

The vice-chancellor, University of Uyo, Prof. Nyauodh Ndaeyo, also commended President Buhari, for the federal government investment in infrastructure development in tertiary institutions, adding that the road network handed over to the university was indeed in a very poor condition and was a death trap, to both staff and students, members of the club and worshippers at the Catholic Cathedral.

Receiving the road project at his institution, the Provost, Federal College of Education (Technical), Gombe, Ali Adamu, said the project would impact greatly on the lives of the entire college community and enhance easy access within the institution.

Like his colleagues, the vice chancellor of the Federal University of Agriculture, Makurdi, Prof. Anande Kimbir, gave kudos to the President Buhari-led federal government and Fashola, for the project, which was coming less than two months after an 8.25MW solar hybrid power plant was commissioned in the school.

He said: "The positive impact of this project on campus life is highly invaluable, as it addresses infrastructure needs of the university with direct bearing on the quality of the learning environment, easy movement on the campus for staff, students and members of the host community."

The Provost, Federal College

of Education (Technical), Omoku, Rivers State, Dr. Emmanuel Ikenyiri, described the roads fixed by the government in his school as "critical infrastructure for learning."

He expressed happiness at the intervention, adding that the situation the college had suffered since its inception has impacted negatively on the academic activities in the college.

He said, "This will make movement easier; lecturers will move to their lecture halls without encumbrances. The students are happy with what the federal government has done: roads are critical infrastructure for learning for every higher institution."

At every institution where the projects were commissioned, Fashola went with one message - that President Buhari was genuinely committed to bridging infrastructure gaps in tertiary institutions and thereby boosting investments in the education sector.

While Fashola is particularly elated that the gap in the infrastructure need is steadily being bridged by a gradual process of repairs, renewal, and construction on major highways and in the schools; he is more satisfied with the trickle-down effects of government investment in infrastructural development as contractors, workers, artisans, food vendors and other make a daily living from work done.

Maduekwe wrote from Abuja.

How not to vote

I've written and admitted in the past that I'm one of the harshest critics of Nigerian politicians. One does not have to be a Quantum Physicist to witness the extremely low depths which they continue to sink to on a daily basis, with us ordinary Nigerians on the receiving end. Recently, in both traditional and new media, tensions are flaring up regarding candidates and their soundness regarding candidacy in the first place. While the 'discourse' appears to be robust and healthy even, it may not necessarily influence how we will pick our leaders come next year. While we are notoriously fickle people with a penchant for repeating mistakes over and over again, I will not relent in pointing out - yet again - how Nigerians should not vote in 2023.

So how do you avoid picking the same clowns to perform the same inane circus for another long 4-year cycle? First of all, be smart in how you choose. In the piece I wrote earlier about this same topic, I suggested taking a good look at how the sitting presidency is approaching its responsibilities, as that would definitely give a good preview of how an 'anointed' candidate would perform. Now, as it stands today, the 'anointment' seems to have been granted to about three candidates, or at least interested people. Did I hear you say 'Indifference?' 'Complacency?' Or did you say 'apathy?' Whichever word you chose, you would be right, judging by the way things are going today. The way out, however, involves making a list of all the conventional things which living in the here and now demands we ask of our leaders-to-be, and then tear it up. The year 2023 is the year we should strive to do everything political in completely different ways.

I repeat: These are the ways I will approach choosing who to vote for. I am not in any way stating them expressly as laws which any Nigerian who happens upon should live by. That said, the first thing to not look out for is the candidate's age. On a landscape where the 'youths' have weaponised their youth, and the older ones have positioned 'experience' as a magic wand, you would do well to toss a candidate's age away when choosing. Young or old, we have had more than our share of truly awful leaders. So yes, do not pick a candidate solely on their age. Politics is a place where the maxim 'age is nothing but a number' certainly applies. That said, be wary of those who would use their age to garner your vote.

Another thing to not do is listen to 'endorsements', or to waste their respect on any 'anointment'. An example is when a beloved ex-governor from the North-East animatedly began to champion the cause of one of the first contenders to openly throw his hat into the 2023 ring, to almost comical levels. This is a candidate whose popularity is not very strong, and who might not be able to go very far, but someone who is a sitting senator, and who is known for political acumen, is trying to shove him down the collective throats of northern Nigeria. It would've been

If my advice strikes as a tad extreme, think of the fact that even Physics as a science seems to be redundant when applied to Nigerian politicians. That is why you, too, like me have to be extreme when applying common sense to the choices you will make.

funny, if it wasn't so insulting. Therefore, my advice is to ignore such, and make your own informed decisions.

Most of you - even if you wouldn't admit it - vote based on ethnic and religious sentiments. The best way around that problem is to not vote that way this time around. Like I mentioned earlier, your conscience and instinct, guided by hard facts should guide your decision. After all, if there is anything certain in Nigeria, it is the fact that crime, violence, evil, and even that ever-present spectre called corruption, are found in commercial quantities in all

ethnic tribes, and adherents of any religion you can imagine. Which is exactly why no one should vote based on ethno-religious sentiments. After all, the suffering which bad choices bring upon are universal, therefore shouldn't the choice of leadership be equally diverse?

An important point in the advice I'm offering is that of money. Though I mentioned it earlier, this time it's not about the stipends handed out to regular folk for their votes, no. I'm talking about the apparent wealth or poverty of a candidate and how both can be positioned theatrically to hoodwink the electorate. We've had stinking-rich people who became governors and ended up stinking-terrible at leadership, and likewise we've had some who rode in on account of their Spartan lives and ended up becoming poster-boys of luxury while the country sinks deeper into that nasty quicksand called poverty. Again, go with cold, hard logic and you most likely won't fail.

If my advice strikes as a tad extreme, think of the fact that even Physics as a science seems to be redundant when applied to Nigerian politicians. That is why you, too, like me have to be extreme when applying common sense to the choices you will make next year. Rich or poor, young or old, savvy or newbie - just make sure you pick good people who have demonstrated in other spheres of life and endeavor a strength of will, a love for the people, and a drive to serve. Because after all is said and done, in the end you're the one who will have to live with your choices and their consequences, for better or worse. The good news is that if you vote well, it will certainly be for the better.

This piece was first published on November 12, 2022





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■ My target is to emerge 2023 NPFL highest goalscorer

World School Athletics Championship Trials end in Abeokuta

From Dotun Omisakin, Lagos

Ahead of the 2023 World School Athletics Championship, Nigeria School Sports Federation (NSSF) has concluded a two-day World School Athletics Trials where over 1,300 students competed to be selected.

Participants from primary and secondary schools across 24 states including Lagos, Rivers, Delta, Bayelsa and hosts, Ogun participated in the trials to select Nigeria's contingent for the 2023 World School Athletics Championships to be held later in the year.

The World Athletics Trials which was held in Abeokuta, the Ogun state capital, featured track and field events for U-12, U-15 and U-18 athletes.

According to the president of Nigeria School Sport Federation, Olabisi Joseph, students selected from the event will soon start camping ahead of the country's participation at the global events.

She commended the Ogun State Government for hosting the trials and lauded the support of stakeholders for the successful staging of the two day championship.

Joseph, who is also the Vice President of the Nigeria Olympic Committee (NOC), urged government, corporate organizations and well-meaning individuals to support the body in sponsoring the athletes to Turkey.

"NSSF will commence preparations in earnest in order to ensure that the athletes excel at the ISF organized competitions, government and private organisations should show their support," she said.

Events competed at the NSSF World School Athletics Trials were 100 meters, 200meters 400meters, 800meters, 1500 meters, 3000meters, Long Jump, High Jump, Discus and Shot Put for boys and girls.

The Athletics Federation of Nigeria (AFN) and the Nigeria Olympic Committee (NOC) also commended NSSF for the smooth organization of the trials which they believed would help to unearth talents for the country.

'Adopted pitches' suffer as IMC rejects 5 stadia for failing Club Licensing

Jide Olusola

Prior to the kick-off of the 2022/2023 abridged Nigeria Premier Football League (NPFL) season, the Interim Management Company (IMC), led by Hon. Gbenga Elegbeleye, announced that five clubs had failed to meet the infrastructure requirements of Club Licensing regulations and will be playing their home matches at other approved venues.

The affected clubs that failed to provide up-to-standard stadium facilities to host matches based on requirements of Club Licensing are Enugu Rangers, Kwara United, Niger Tornadoes, Lobi Stars and Nasarawa United.

It will be recalled that pursuant to FIFA and CAF directives and in particular CAF circular dated November 26, 2013, on Clubs' Licensing System, the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) adopted the NFF Clubs Licensing Regulations which is the basic document for Club Licensing System in Nigeria, through which different members of the football family aim to promote common principles in the world of football such as sporting value, transparency in their finances, ownership and control of clubs, players and coaches welfare, and the credibility and integrity of club competitions.

Davidson Owumi, the Head of Operations of the IMC, therefore said that in strict adherence to the provisions of the NPFL Club Licensing Regulation, clubs that fail requirements will be held accountable.

"We want to get it right from the start and this can only be achieved when the rules are followed", he said then.

His stand was re-echoed by the IMC chairman, Hon. Elegbeleye who said that the committee is adopting a holistic approach to develop a framework to reposition the league in line with the mandate given it by the NFF and the Federal Ministry of Youths and Sports.

Elegbeleye noted that the committee is committed to ensuring that the NPFL is henceforth organised in line with global best practices.

Consequently, Aper Aku stadium Makurdi, Bako Kotangora stadium Minna, Lafia Township stadium in Lafia, Kwara Township stadium in Ilorin and Nnamdi Azikiwe International stadium Enugu were axed by the IMC for lacking standard playing pitches and other critical facilities like dressing rooms, floodlight and electronic scoreboard.

Therefore, alternative venues were approved for adaptation by the clubs whose traditional home grounds have been rejected. So, while Nasarawa United are playing 'host' to opponents at the New Jos Township Stadium, which is little over 200 kilometers from their usual Lafia home, Enugu Rangers are welcoming visitors at Awka City Stadium in neighboring Anambra State.

Kwara United are covering 180 kilometers to reach Ibadan to play their 'home' games at the Lekan Salami Stadium. Niger Tornadoes are doing slightly more than 200 kilometers from their base in Minna to Kaduna to use the Ahmadu Bello Stadium just as Lobi Stars have also adopted the New Jos Township Stadium, which is nearly 300 kilometers from Makurdi.

The New Jos Township Stadium in Jos will be the most used stadium as it is 'home' to three different clubs who will use it for their home matches till May when the league is expected to end. Pantami stadium Gombe, Lekan Salami Ibadan and Godswill Akpabio Uyo are hosting two teams each.

However, there is growing apprehension that if nothing is done by the respective state governments for their clubs to return to their traditional home grounds, the few existing stadia approved by the IMC will become even worse off.

The proprietor of Youth Arise Football Academy (YAFA), Olagbemiro Olayinka, said a situation where by almost every stadium is

hosting more than one club side is dangerous.

"I can say without any fear of contradiction that if the five clubs that are now 'homeless' continue to use these adopted home grounds, very soon we may not boast of any good playing surface again.

"The few available ones are being exposed to too many matches and considering our poor maintenance culture, what will become of the pitches is better imagined.

"The only way out is for the state governments that own these rejected stadia to show more commitment to upgrading them to ease the pressure on other facilities," said the former junior international.

However, the Media officer of Enugu Rangers, Norbert Okolie, said playing their home games away from home is not a serious challenge.

"Playing in Awka stadium is not a big challenge to us except that we are not playing in front of our fans," he said.

He noted further that the 'Cathedral,' as the Nnamdi Azikiwe stadium is known is undergoing renovation but the contractor has not given any possible date when it will be completed.

So, as the season progresses, everyone is waiting with bated breath to see what will become of stadia like Godswill Akpabio stadium in Uyo, Pantami stadium Gombe, New Jos stadium and Lekan Salami stadium Ibadan at the end of the season.

A look at match venues approved for clubs by the IMC shows that only Akwa City stadium, Ahmadu Bello stadium Kaduna, Remo Stars stadium Ikenne, Samson Siasia stadium Yenagoa, Samuel Ogbemudia stadium Benin City, Abubakar Tafawa Balewa stadium Bauchi, Adokiye Amaesimaka stadium Port-Harcourt, El-Kanemi stadium Maiduguri, Umuahia stadium Umuahia, Akure Township stadium and Enyimba stadium in Aba are not 'invaded' and so, saved from further deterioration.





■ Novak Djokovic

Djokovic adopts 'day-by-day' approach at Australian Open

Novak Djokovic said he is taking things one day at a time as he looks to manage a hamstring injury that hampered him during his 6-1 6-7(5) 6-2 6-0 win over French qualifier Enzo Couacaud.

Djokovic hyper-extended his left hamstring during a tune-up event in Adelaide earlier this month.

The 35-year-old has had his thigh strapped up in subsequent matches, and took a medical timeout at 4-4 in the second set of his win on Thursday to receive treatment and have the strapping changed.

The Serbian is no stranger to dealing with injury at Melbourne Park, however, having suffered a painful muscle tear in his abdomen en route to winning his record-extending ninth Australian Open title in 2021.

When asked if he could play another five matches with his injury, Djokovic told reporters, "There's

two choices: leave (the tournament) or keep going. So I'm going to keep going..."

"I know matches are only going to get tougher for me from here. Two years ago I had kind of similar circumstances here in Australia with a different muscle where I had a tear and I had to deal with that. Somehow I pushed it through and won the tournament.

"But it's different now, obviously. I don't know how my body's going to react. I hope for the best. I hope for the positive outcome. I'll take it day by day, match by match, and see how it goes."

Djokovic also had to contend with hecklers during his second-round win, with one fan attracting his ire in the fourth set after repeatedly making noise while he was preparing to serve.

Djokovic next faces Grigor Dimitrov today.

Chelsea agree £30.5 million Noni Madueke transfer

Chelsea have reportedly agreed to sign Noni Madueke from PSV as the Blues' January spending shows no signs of slowing down.

They are set to pay up to £30.5 million (\$38m) for the 20-year-old England youth international, according to widespread reports.

The youngster now looks set to head to the Premier League also, with Chelsea allowed to discuss personal terms and arrange a medical with a transfer fee verbally agreed, according to the Evening Standard.

Madueke, who mostly plays on the wing but occasionally lines up through the middle, was born in Barnet and spent time in the youth ranks at Crystal Palace and Tottenham before moving to the Netherlands, where he came up

through the academy at PSV. Head coach Ruud van Nistelrooy conceded that the club wouldn't be able to turn down an offer from Chelsea if it was strong enough, which now appears to have played out.

Chelsea have pulled no punches in the winter transfer market thus far as they desperately try and reshape their squad amid a difficult time on the pitch for Graham Potter's side. Madueke follows the likes of Mykhailo Mudryk, Benoit Badiashile, David Datro Fofana, Andrey Santos and loan signing Joao Felix to Stamford Bridge.

With a fee agreed, it should only be a matter of time before the youngster arrives in England for his debut, though Saturday's meeting with Liverpool is likely to come too early for that.



■ Noni Madueke

INTERVIEW

Joseph Atule: My target is to emerge 2023 NPFL highest goalscorer

Lobi Stars newly signed attacking winger, Joseph Atule 'Masaty', has said his ultimate ambition in the ongoing Nigeria Premier Football League (NPFL), abridged season is to emerge the highest goalscorer. In this interview with Trust Sports, the 22-year old former Katsina United star who played for Cleopatra FC and El Makasa of Egypt spoke on why he joined Lobi Stars, his first league goal for the 'Pride of Benue', and what fans should expect from the former Nigerian champions.

David Ngobua

Congratulations. You scored your first league goal for Lobi Stars against Rangers. How happy are you?

Thank you so much. As a striker, I feel very very happy that I scored the goal that gave us our first victory in our first home match in the current season. I am hoping to build on that achievement to score more goals for Lobi Stars.

How difficult was it for Lobi Stars to beat Enugu Rangers?

It was a very tough match. They had chances in the first half and missed. We also missed but in the second half everyone came out to play. And as the match progressed, we showed more hunger for the three points and as God would have it, another opportunity fell kindly to me and I didn't make any mistake. It was a snapshot that took the opponents' goalkeeper by surprise. But overall, it was a very difficult match.

What is your personal target for the season?

What I do is that for every season, I challenge myself that if I am not going to emerge the highest goalscorer in the league, then I must be the highest goalscorer in my club. So, it is the same target that I have set for myself. I am not going to be selfish but anytime I have the opportunity to score, I will do my best to get the ball into the net. But my first ambition is to emerge the highest goalscorer in the league even as we are going to play fewer matches because the league is abridged.

Are you not putting yourself under pressure?

I am used to it. I did it before but I went on to deliver for my former club Katsina United. When I was there, I was consistent in scoring goals. So, it is all about one's mindset. When you set a target and work towards it with self belief, there is nothing like pressure. Instead of pressure, targets when achieved lead one to pleasurable moments. So, I don't think I am putting myself under any form of pressure.

A tree, they say, does not make a forest. How do you intend to achieve your set target?

I am playing in a team that has quality players who can assist me with good passes. When you are playing as a striker and you are starved of quality passes, it limits your chances to score goals. But in Lobi Stars, there are quality players who are well experienced so it makes it easier for us to play. Apart from that, we are like one united family. We always play for one another. So, even as I talk about emerging the highest goalscorer either in the league or in my team, I am not going to undermine the overall interest of the club. I will always put the interest of Lobi Stars before any personal ambition.

Since the league is abridged, how prepared are you to face congested fixtures?

We are all prepared for it. Right from the time we heard there were plans for us to play abridged league, we began to prepare so as not to be taken unawares. We are ready to make any sacrifice. We know that there are going to be more matches in quick successions but we are not losing any sleep over this. We are professionals.

Don't you think congested fixtures would affect the quality of play or the standard of the league?

Of course, it will affect the standard of the league because when players are involved in so many matches within a short period of time without time to recover, it usually has an adverse effect on their output. And to make matters worse, almost all the clubs cover long distances by road to play away matches. Unfortunately, the deplorable condition of Nigerian roads exposes us to so many hazards. Apart from road accidents, there is the



■ Joseph Atule

problem of fatigue. When there is fatigue, it is also very easy for players to sustain injuries. Therefore, I agree with those who were sceptical about playing abridged league. However, the league organisers are also trying to see how we can harmonise our calendar with other countries so we all must support them.

What informed your decision to join Lobi Stars?

When I couldn't go back to Egypt immediately, I wanted to go to Kwara United but on a second thought, I remembered that Lobi Stars had been on my trail even before I travelled out. So, when they kept calling, I decided that there is no place like home. I am happy that I made the decision to play for my mother club.

Considering that Lobi Stars struggled to escape relegation last season, were you not afraid that a similar fate might befall you?

Honestly, I was not happy with the way Lobi Stars struggled against relegation last season. In fact, even as I was not in the country, I continued to pray for them to survive and remain in the topflight. Thank God my prayer was answered. So, when they called on me again, I saw every need to come and help the club. I don't want Lobi Stars to struggle again. I hope that my presence will inspire other players. Instead of fighting against relegation, we are going to fight for a continental ticket.

How much are Lobi Stars motivated under the leadership of the vice-chairman, Dominic Iorfa?

He has been a wonderful motivator. As a former international who has seen it all, he knows exactly how to motivate us. He has made our welfare a thing of priority and that is indeed a great motivation. In fact the government and people of Benue State are fully behind us.

How painful was Lobi Stars' opening day loss at Rivers United ended?

We all felt sad because we deserved at least a point in that match. We gave everything but it was not meant to be. Everybody in the stadium knew that the added time was up but for inexplicable reasons, the referee allowed the match to continue. Even our opponents were tired of playing so I think they were surprised when the opportunity to win the match was handed to them on a platter of gold. But we gave them a good fight.

Having played in Egypt, how do you compare the Egyptian league with the Nigerian league?

The league in Egypt is far ahead of the Nigerian league. It is better organised in terms of world class facilities and good officiating. VAR is used in Egypt so even when you are playing away, you feel as if you are playing at home.



INSIDE SOCCER

WITH DAVID BILLINGTON

Arsenal feeling confident

William Saliba says the energy in the Arsenal camp is sky high and the players do not feel any extra pressure despite finally being odds-on favourites to win the Premier League title. After suffering season long comments from the media and the football community that the Gunners could not last and would slide down the table, Mikel Arteta's team have proven everyone wrong. If they do win the title it will be the first time in 19 years. Saliba said this week, "We are not focused on our rivals, we are focused on ourselves. There are lot of games to go but we are totally up for the battle and we can win the title this year." After spending much of last season on loan in France at Marseille, Saliba

William Saliba

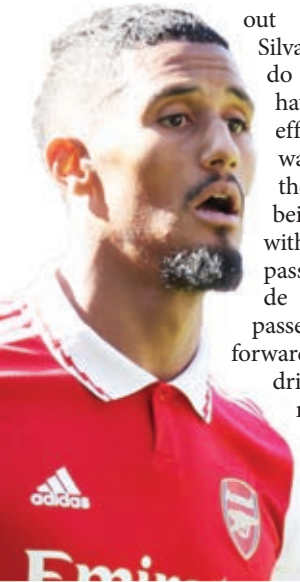
has been a very important player for Arteta this year. The club are preparing a new deal to replace his contract when it expires in 2024 but there is an option to extend it by twelve months. Having dispatched Tottenham last weekend, next up is Manchester United on Sunday and that will be a true test of two teams in top form. United are the only team to have beaten Arsenal in the league this season and they have won nine games in a row.

Klopp, Potter, Lampard & Moyes desperate to avoid defeat

This weekend is very much about managers who are desperate not to lose after a period of poor results. Liverpool take on Chelsea which is virtually Klopp v Potter with the winners climbing towards a Champions League spot and the losers more or less saying goodbye to a qualification place. The situation between West Ham and Everton is vital for both managers and a loss could be their last game in charge. Frank Lampard is on very thin ice at Everton where even the board of directors are not attending matches in case they are attacked by fans who last weekend chased the players' coach throwing missiles as they shouted abuse after another defeat. The Hammers David Moyes has admitted that he could be collecting his belongings and driving out of the home ground on Monday for the last time if a positive result is not achieved at Everton.

Haaland must be more involved

Manchester City's Pep Guardiola went to the Etihad Campus training ground on Monday suffering a big headache. Having lost to close derby rivals Manchester United, the City coach called his players together where they discussed how to involve Erling Haaland more into games. Guardiola showed a video of Haaland running into open spaces and near to goal and then being frustrated by the lack of direct passes and opportunities to score. City are a clever footballing side with lots of possession, clever jigs and turns and dribbles but without creating that final thrust at goal which is why they paid for Haaland. It is no fault of the Norwegian because he did his part but Guardiola pointed



out that Mahrez, Silva and Foden do not seem to have learned how effective Haaland was earlier in the season after being supplied with constant direct passes from Kevin de Bruyne. Those passes, from fellow forwards, have largely dried up and it resembles the City of last season when they played with a false centre.

Danilo flies in from Brazil

Big spending Nottingham Forest are delighted to have signed Brazilian defender Danilo for £16million. As I write this column, the midfielder is expected to take a medical and join coach Steve Cooper because of the injury to Senegal's excellent Cheikhou Kouyate who is sidelined until March with a hamstring injury. Cooper is linking Danilo with new recruit Gustavo Scarpa who has played well since arriving at Forest.

Guimaraes for quick return

After an anxious wait, Newcastle coach Eddie Howe has confirmed that after a scan, midfielder Bruno Guimaraes will be out for a few weeks at the most and not several months as first feared. It was thought the Brazilian had torn ligaments during Sunday's 1-0 win over Fulham and he left the field in tears after turning on his ankle. Bruno left St James' Park on crutches and wearing a protective boot. Howe thinks a week on the treatment table with team medics and physios and he could be back in a week's time.

Chelsea pip Arsenal to capture Mudryk

Football is a cruel business. Arsenal thought the Shakhtar Donetsk Ukrainian winger Mykhaylo Mudryk was all theirs and were making preparations to welcome him to the Emirates. Chelsea however had other ideas and co-owner Behdad Eghbali and head of recruitment Paul Winstanley boarded a plane on Saturday and flew directly to Turkey where they agreed a deal with Shakhtar president Rinat Akhmetov. Mudryk also thought he was going to Arsenal and had been watching their games on the internet. The Chelsea pair flew back to London on Saturday evening with Mudryk's signature securely sealed. Mudryk had been



Jordan Henderson

persuaded to join Chelsea in an international phone call between London and Turkey when he was assured that he would automatically go straight into the first team. Both Chelsea and Arsenal were prepared to pay £62million for Mudryk but the Blues put another £26.5million on the table in additional incentive payments and bonuses which Arsenal would not match. He has signed an astonishing eight year contract worth £60million.

As I write this column the Chelsea coach Graham Potter is trying to decide whether to decide Mudryk because the last competitive match he played was way back on November 23rd although the player himself says he "Can't wait to get started." He did attend Shakhtar's winter training camp and he feels ready to play.

Shakhtar donate to Ukraine war effort

I have been very impressed with Shakhtar president Rinat Akhmetiv who has personally arranged for £20.5million of Mykhaylo Mudryk's transfer fee to be donated to Ukraine in their fight against the Russian invasion. Akhmetiv said, "One of the things I look forward to most after our Ukraine victory (against Russia) is Mykhaylo returning with his Chelsea team for a friendly match in the Donbass Arena in a Ukrainian Donetsk."

Klopp blamed for not strengthening midfield

Jurgen Klopp has confirmed that he would not walk away from Liverpool during the terrible time they are experiencing but there would be big changes this summer as he plans to bring in new players. After the 3-0 defeat to Brighton at the weekend, Klopp described this current period as the worst of his managerial career. Klopp has been talking to owners Fenway Sporting Group but was told not to discuss the details with anyone. The club also need a new sporting director. Klopp accepts his midfield will change and Naby Keita and Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain will leave when their contracts expire in June. Jordan Henderson is exhausted after the World Cup tournament combined with the stress and demands of fighting for so many titles last season. Fabinho is in the same tired condition and Thiago is not getting any younger. Many fans and commentators are blaming Liverpool's poor season on Klopp's insistence that he did not need to strengthen his midfield at the end of last season. Roberto Firmino and James Milner also have contracts which expire at the end of the season but I am hearing that Klopp will probably give them an extra 12 month deal.

Liverpool's number one target this summer is Dortmund's Jude Bellingham but in the meantime Klopp is focusing on getting the team back on track and aiming for a Champions League place which he believes is still possible.

WEEKEND FIXTURES

Saturday, January 21

Premier League
 Liverpool vs Chelsea 1:30pm
 Bournemouth vs N'Forest 4pm
 Leicester City vs Brighton 4pm
 Southampton vs A'Villa 4pm
 West Ham vs Everton 4pm
 C'Palace vs Newcastle 6:30pm

La Liga

Vallecano vs Sociedad 2pm
 Espanyol vs Real Betis 4:15pm
 A'Madrid vs Valladolid 6:30pm
 Sevilla vs Cadiz 9pm

Serie A

Verona vs Lecce 3pm
 Salernitana vs Napoli 6pm
 Fiorentina vs Torino 8:45pm

Bundesliga

Union Berlin vs Hoffenheim 3:30pm
 Bochum vs Berlin 3:30pm
 Frankfurt vs Schalke 3:30pm
 Stuttgart vs Mainz 3:30pm
 Wolfsburg vs Freiburg 3:30pm
 Cologne vs Bremen 6:30pm

Sunday, January 22

Premier League
 Leeds United vs Brentford 3pm
 Manchester City vs Wolves 3pm
 Arsenal vs Man United 5:30pm

La Liga

Villarreal vs Girona 2pm
 Elche vs Osasuna 4:15pm
 Barcelona vs Getafe 6:30pm
 Athletic Bilbao vs Real Madrid 9pm

Serie A

Sampdoria vs Udinese 12:30pm
 Monza vs Sassuolo 3pm
 Spezia vs Roma 6pm
 Juventus vs Atalanta 8:45pm

Bundesliga

Dortmund vs Augsburg 3:30pm
 M'gladbach vs Leverkusen 5:30pm

PREMIER LEAGUE STATS

LEADING GOALSCORERS

1. Erling Haaland 21
2. Harry Kane 15
3. Ivan Toney 13
4. Aleksandar Mitrovic 11
5. Rodrigo 10

LEADING ASSISTS

1. Kevin De Bruyne 10
2. Christian Eriksen 7
2. Bukayo Saka 7
4. Gabriel Jesus 5
4. Alex Iwobi 5

MOST PASSES

1. Rodri 1,596
2. Virgil van Dijk 1,317
3. Thiago Silva 1,311
4. Lewis Dunk 1,286
5. Pierre-Emile Højbjerg 1,216

MOST CLEAN SHEETS

1. Nick Pope 11
2. Aaron Ramsdale 9
3. David de Gea 8
4. Ederson 7
5. Dean Henderson 6

MOST SAVES

1. David Raya 81
2. Bernd Leno 80
3. Jordan Pickford 71
4. Alisson 63
5. Illan Meslier 58

Stats in numbers >>>>>>>>>>

20 Bruno Fernandes now has 20 goals both home and away in the Premier League, one of only four players to have scored 20+ goals both home and away since his debut in February 2020, along with Harry Kane, Mohamed Salah and Son Heung-Min.

9 Only Lionel Messi (9) has completed more take-ons in the opposition penalty area than Kaoru Mitoma (8) in Europe's big five leagues this season, despite Mitoma only starting six of Brighton's 18 games.

0 Brentford haven't lost a league game that they have led in for nearly 2 years; since a 2-1 defeat to QPR on 17th Feb 2021. They've not lost any of the 27 Premier League games they've led.

47 Arsenal have won 47 points from 18 Premier League games this season; the most points they've won at this stage of a campaign in their league history.

8 Arsenal are eight points ahead of second-place Manchester City in the Premier League table, with this their biggest lead in the competition when playing the same number of games as the side below since the final day of 2003-04, when they won the title by 11 points.

FCTA's 'park and pay' policy raises dust again

The fresh plan by the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) to reintroduce the 'Park and Pay' policy which raised dust in the past has created fresh apprehension among residents and motorists in the territory, *Daily Trust Saturday* reports.

Seun Adeuyi & John C. Azu

The Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA)'s plan to reintroduce the controversial 'Park and Pay' policy has created fresh apprehension among residents of the FCT. There have been similar attempts in the past.

Controversy had trailed the policy initially with allegations of harassment by sundry agents, extortion, illegal clamping of tyres and forcing of dubious electronic parking fees on motorists.

Under the policy then, motorists who desired to park at designated locations are made to pay a certain amount of money, ranging from N50 to N500.

In 2014, the scheme was in place before a court judgment stopped the FCT Administration from further ticketing parked cars.

In a judgment that lasted over one hour, Justice Peter Affen held that though the park and pay policy might be described as an excellent policy, it lacked the backing of the law.

The plaintiff, SunTrust Savings and Loans Limited, had sued the Minister of FCT and two others challenging the legality of the policy under which motorists paid for parking their cars in the territory.

The plaintiff, among other things, had asked the court to determine whether the park and pay policy of the FCT was in pursuant of any Act of the National Assembly as provided by the 1999 Constitution and whether the defendants could exercise the powers to collect taxes, rates and fees without the Act of the National Assembly.

The plaintiff had sought a declaration that the pay and park policy scheme was ultra-vires, illegal and not in pursuant to any Act of the National Assembly.

It also asked for a declaration that the defendants were not constitutionally empowered to collect tax, fees and rate in the FCT without an Act of the National Assembly.

It sought an order of perpetual injunction restraining the defendants, their agents and privies from collecting taxes, fees and issuing of parking violation charges.

The plaintiff also sought the refund of N20,000 collected by the third defendant and another N100million in exemplary damages.

Justice Affen in determining the suit held that though the first defendant could make laws to collect taxes, fees and rates in the FCT, but the 2005 bye-law of the FCT did not contemplate the park and pay scheme rather made provision for park and ride, "which is not being implemented."

He further held that the FCT Road Transport Regulation made elaborate provisions, the judge however said: "But I was not fortunate enough to find the park and pay scheme in the 2005 FCT by-law. What it provided for under section 118 and 119 is the park and ride scheme.

"For reasons of clarity, I will state those provisions in extensor. Section 118 states that the transport secretary may from time to time designate any operational area or zone as a park and ride area or route for the purposes of traffic management between 6am and 6pm."



Owners of cars parked by the road side are to pay for the space under the policy



FCT Minister, Muhammad Musa Bello

In granting the reliefs sought by the plaintiff, the judge declared the scheme illegal, ultra vires, null and void.

The judge also restrained the first defendant from collecting any taxes, rates and fees from motorists except as was provided for by a valid subsidiary legislation.

"The defendants by themselves, privies, agents, servants or whatever name they are called are hereby restrained from operating pay and park scheme save and except the same is provided for or authorised by a valid bye law," the judge ruled.

But nine years after the suspension of the on-street parking scheme in Abuja, the FCTA last Monday said it had concluded plans to commence the enforcement of the reintroduced policy.

The Director of Traffic Management at FCTA Transportation, Wadata Bodinga, announced that the policy is aimed at

bringing sanity and addressing disturbing traffic congestion in Abuja.

The first phase of the exercise would be human-friendly and will commence in March in areas like Maitama and Wuse, at no cost to vehicle owners, he said.

He noted that the new FCT Parking Regulations 2019 has sufficient provisions for the scheme and assured that all the legal issues that were an impediment have been resolved.

Bodinga explained the policy was necessary, following the rapid population growth in Abuja and its resulting traffic congestion.

According to him, "with the present state of the FCT traffic irregularities which pose a great hazard towards road users, the reintroduction of the On-street parking scheme by the administration will mitigate these challenges to the barest minimum.

"While the On-street parking scheme may seem overbearing for some users, the scheme impacts positively on the FCT residents on economic activities through improving customer experience and promoting an efficient parking management system," he added.

However, a cross-section of the FCT residents, who spoke with Daily Trust on the planned re-introduction of the policy, kicked against it and warned the administration not to bring another policy that would further worsen their sufferings.

According to Mr. John Audu, no amount of explanation on the policy would be welcomed.

Esther Madaki, a civil servant, pleaded with the FCT minister to stop implementation of the plan immediately, saying the policy would further add to the suffering of the residents.

A motorist, Tunde Ogunleye, said the last time the policy was in place, taxi drivers usually engage in fisticuff with those enforcing the policy.

"Then, I could be ticketed over three times in a day when I park my car to get

something at supermarkets. I was happy when it was cancelled. I hope the minister stops the implementation so as not to add to the problems taxi drivers already face in the course of doing their work.

"Fuel is expensive and at times scarce. We are forced to pay money for different reasons and the government wants to snuff life out of us again," Ogunleye said.

In the same vein, Taiwo Adetunji, a cab driver, said since taxi drivers pay for tickets daily to operate, they should be exempted from the policy.

Reacting to the latest introduction, Obioma Ezenwobodo Esq, said the policy is ill-timed considering the economic burden on the citizenry.

"Agreed that government should explore ways to generate funds through taxation but the people of Nigeria and Abuja, in particular, are under numerous taxes, levies, and dues imposed by various strata of government. The policy is the least of policies to be implemented by the FCTA," he said.

For him, Ali Zubair Esq said he was informed that the FCDA has, in a bid to avert the legal obstacles to the policy as in the past, enacted some bye-laws to back the operation.

"If this is correct, it is a legitimate means of generating revenue. This is being done in other climes as well. It is hoped that the revenue generated therefrom will be used in road maintenance, drainages, etc," he said. However, in a chat with our correspondent, a public affairs analyst, Emeka Ikechukwu, said the policy would put a stop to illegal parking of vehicles on roads.

"When the policy starts, those who park their cars illegally will have a rethink and change the way they park their cars. This will allow cars to be in safe hands of security agencies thereby making the car owners not to worry about theft of their cars," he said.

He appealed that the money involved should be very affordable to allow average income residents afford the price.

Fuel is expensive and at times scarce. We are forced to pay money for different reasons and the government wants to snuff life out of us again

PHOTOS: Onyekachukwu Obi

Stakeholders disagree over move to exempt police from contributory pension

Abdullateef Salau

Stakeholders yesterday disagreed over a move by the Senate to exempt Nigeria Police Force from the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS).

They spoke at a public hearing on a bill to establish the Police Pension Board organised by the Senate Committee on Police Affairs at the National Assembly, Abuja.

While senators, Nigeria Police Force and groups of police retirees supported the proposal, the National Pension Commission (PENCOM), pension fund administrators and Nigeria Labour Congress kicked against it.

The Inspector-General of Police, Alkali Baba, represented by Deputy Inspector General Sanusi Lemu, in his presentation, said the police force deserved to have a separate body for management

and administration of pension of its retirees.

He said the proposed board, when established, would boost the morale of police personnel to dispassionately discharge their duties of fighting crimes.

Chairman of the Committee, Senator Dauda Haliru Jika, sponsor of the bill, Senator Elisha Abbo and Senator Ali Ndume, in their separate remarks, said the police deserved to be given special treatment being enjoyed by the military with a special pension board.

However, PENCOM said the exemption of personnel of the police from the contributory pension scheme would imply additional financial burden on the Federal Government by way of unsustainable pension obligations.

Commission's Director-General, Aisha Dahiru, represented by Clement Oyedele Akintola, said: "As at 30 November 2022, there were 307,154 police personnel based on IPPIS data. An actuarial valuation revealed that the retirement benefits (pension and gratuity) liability of

these personnel under the defunct Defined Benefits Scheme would amount to about N1.84 trillion. This liability is expected to significantly increase with the proposed yearly recruitment of 10,000 personnel into the police force.

"The Federal Government is already overburdened with the payment of pensions under the Defined Benefits Scheme as illustrated by the 2023 Appropriation Act, which made a provision under the Service Wide Vote for the sum of N854.8 billion

as total allocation for Pension and Gratuities.

"Consequently, it would be fiscally imprudent to increase the number of this category of retirees under that Scheme. It would also render the retirees financially vulnerable and insecure."

President of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC), Ayuba Waba, said the proposed Police Pension Board is well envisioned but the problem is sustainability of funding saying "the mistake of moving from known to unknown should not be made."

Foundation flags off pilot sewing championship for Abuja schools

Itodo Daniel Sule

The Ladi Memorial Foundation (LMF) has flagged off its UNESCO supported incentivized pilot Schools Sewing Championship Project 2023 (SSCP 2023) for secondary school students in the Federal Capital Territory.

Speaking during the flag off in Abuja, the Executive Director of LMF, Mrs Rosemary Osikoya, said the initiative was designed to sensitize the general public and targeted stakeholders on the benefits of vocational education and livelihood skills development.

She said the pilot sewing contest will draw 54 participants from schools across the six area councils of the FCT who will undergo a 5-day intensive training at a boot camp after which three winners will emerge.

Osikoya said participants and participating schools that will emerge first, second and third positions at the end of the competition will get sewing machines and sewing equipment as prizes.

According to her, the targeted beneficiaries/groups include young adults aged 12-20 years who are enrolled in both formal learning centres (JSS and SSS) and out of school youths or learners in non-formal learning centres in Abuja.

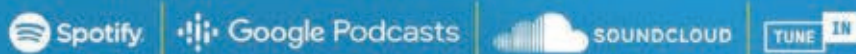
She said the initiative will contribute to sharpening perception and reducing stigmatization associated with vocational education, while at the same time providing a credible interactive platform to incentivize young adults of school age to commit to acquisition of functional vocational skills.

Daily Trust

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Benue community yet to return, one year after attack

Hope Abah Emmanuel, Makurdi

Fleeing residents of Idoma-speaking Igama community in Edumoga Ehaje district of Okpokwu Local Government Area in Benue State are still not back to their homes exactly one year after suspected gunmen sent them packing.

The rural community in southern part of Benue had first witnessed a deadly attack in January 2022, during which two persons were reportedly killed and several houses set ablaze.

Sadly, the same Igama was besieged six months later and many villagers were killed and all the houses in the community destroyed by the attackers, according to report.

The second attack, which happened in June 2022, forced the villagers to flee their homes in droves for fear of further attacks.

Our correspondent reports that since then, the people have been on the run because the attackers continued to besiege their farms, just as any attempt to return to their homes were often resisted by the killers.

Some survivors of the attacks, who are now scattered around neighbouring communities, told *Daily Trust Saturday* correspondent in Makurdi that their suffering was unimaginable.

Victoria Odeh, an aged widow whose house was also torched, lamented that the invaders had not allowed them to return to their homes and they now live like fugitives.

Another widow, Theresa Ofikwu, who lost relatives during the attack, also lamented that they had been rendered homeless, neither could they go to farm, saying that their situation is very pathetic.

Ofikwu said amidst tears that she survived by going to places where garri is processed to gather remnants for her household to feed.

"We are now slaves in our land and it is very pathetic," she lamented.

In the same vein, Obagwu Rich (junior) said the situation of Igama demanded intervention from relevant quarters so that the people would return home.

Rich, who is now a member of the Community Volunteer Guards, a local security outfit recently set up by the Benue State Government, said the attackers kept threatening to come back and kill more people if they dared to return to their ruined homes.

"The attackers normally come to graze on our farms, then come into the village again and destroy our things. They finished our yams and rice. I personally went to the village with some of my boys (security) sometime ago and saw them with their cattle all over the place eating our rice. We met them when they were cooking some

One year after residents of Igama community in Okpokwu LGA of Benue State fled homes following a deadly attack by suspected gunmen, they are yet to return; *Daily Trust Saturday* reports.



■ Ruins of the houses in Igama deserted community

PHOTOS: Hope Abah Emmanuel

The village is now covered with grasses; you cannot even see anybody. The village has over 200 population and all of them have deserted the place

yams to eat. Each time people go to do one or two things, even in their farms, they are threatened.

"The village is now covered with grasses; you cannot even see anybody. The village has over 200 population and all of them have deserted the place. As I speak to you, I do not have any building standing in the village. Survivors are scattered in neighbouring communities, such as Utonkon, Ojapo, Otukpo and Okpoga, among others," he said.

Rich, who is married, with two children, also said his uncles were killed in the attack. He pleaded with the government to help salvage the situation so that they would return to their homes.

"The state government was trying to persuade the fleeing residents to go back home, saying

that nothing would happen. But if you are persuading people to go back to their homes, at least security agents should be deployed to protect them," Rich added.

Another victim, who is the head of the community, Anthony Onah, said that life had become miserable for them.

Mathias Agbo, 67, who lamented that he was rendered homeless at his age, said, "My children, wife and I are in a pitiable situation - no clothes to wear and no food to eat. The attackers reduced my three-bedroom house to rubbles."

However, through the intervention of the Emancipation Centre for Crisis Victims in Nigeria (ECCVN), led by Major Gabriel Adofikwu, in company of the state representative, Adakole

Inalegwu Daniel and security operatives, the villagers were able to see their ruined homes for the first time in the past one year.

At the palace of the district head of Edumoga, Och'Edumoga, Chief Sunday Abah, in Okpokwu Local Government Area, Adofikwu said the ECCVN was highly concerned about the plight of the people; hence they came to see things for themselves.

He said, "As an organisation, the plight of the people bleeds our hearts. We are more pained at the limited attention the government at all levels gives to crisis victims, especially in the Middle Belt region of Nigeria, and indeed, the Edumoga area of Idoma land in Benue State. We have come to give our little contribution and draw public attention to the situation of our people."

In his response, the monarch appreciated the organisation for their continuous support and concern through their state representative since the attacks took place. They have been intervening in the areas of food and school fees for the children, among many others.

Adakole Daniel, an ECCVN representative said, "The villagers have become internally displaced persons in many communities within the local government and outside since June 2022. A visit to Utonkon (one the communities they are taking refuge) shows a very pathetic situation as they do not have food and anywhere to go back to."

Efforts to reach the chairman of Okpokwu Local Government, Amina Audu, did not yield results as at the time of filing this report, but she had in the past confirmed the attacks.

She had at a time confirmed 15 people killed in one attack and unverified number of persons missing.

The police, through its public relations officer in the state, SP Catherine Anene, also confirmed that four suspects were arrested over the attack, including one who later died after they were engaged in a gun duel.

"One of the suspects identified as Musa Dako sustained injuries and was admitted at St. Mary's Hospital, Okpoga for treatment, where he eventually gave up the ghost. Three other suspects are in custody for further investigation," Anene had said.



■ Village head, Anthony Onah



■ Victoria Odeh



■ Other villagers in company of an NGO visited the rubbles scenes of the deserted village

INSIDEPOLITICS

Katsina gov'ship: Chances, weaknesses of APC, PDP, LP, NNPP candidates

No fewer than 13 political parties have fielded candidates for the Katsina State governorship election slated for March 11, according to the state office of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

Of the 13, candidates of the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC), opposition Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), New Nigeria Peoples Party (NNPP) and the Labour Party (LP), are the top contenders.

Yusha'u A. Ibrahim & Tijjani Ibrahim, Katsina

Dikko Umar Radda

Some residents of the state and political observers believe that the governorship candidate of the APC, Dr Dikko Umar Radda would succeed Governor Aminu Masari. This is premised on the fact that he has the backing and support of the state governor and other top government functionaries and enjoys the support of the people in the state.

He is also said to have the backing of APC candidates for different positions. This, pundits say, would give Radda a smooth sail in terms of availability of resources for the campaign and subsequent emergence as winner of the election.

In terms of personal qualifications, Radda is a PhD holder, former local government chairman, former chief of staff to Governor Masari and the immediate past director-general of the Small and Medium Scale Enterprises Agency of Nigeria (SMEAN).

Political observers see Radda as a strategist who can change the tide of events at the last minute, taking cognisance especially of his last year's display at the governorship primary of the party, where he edged out bigwigs and chieftains of the party to emerge the flag-bearer.

However, the major weakness of the APC candidate in the state is indeed the problem of insecurity and economic hardship faced by the country, which many see as the party's failure at both federal and state levels.

Another setback for the APC candidate is the aftermath of the governorship primary,



■ Danmarke

where some party bigwigs and other political gladiators in the state felt shortchanged and left the party. Some political juggernauts, including the former secretary to the state government, Dr Mustapha Inuwa, left to other parties.

A political analyst and public affairs commentator in the state, Yusha'u Abubakar Mani, said that despite the incumbency factor, APC's inability to fulfill its campaign promises could affect its flag-bearer's chances of becoming the next governor of the state.

"The APC has failed woefully in terms of provision of dividends of democracy to the people of Katsina. The party has not done much to the people, and this may affect its chances of winning the election in the state," he said.

Mani, however, said the internal crisis in Katsina PDP could be an advantage to APC's candidate, as according to him, less than two months to the election, the party has failed to resolve its internal crisis in the state.

Yakubu Lado Danmarke

Senator Yakubu Lado Danmarke is the candidate of the PDP. His party has been campaigning against the APC, using economic hardship and insecurity in Katsina State as major campaign tools to woo potential voters in the state.

Danmarke was a local government chairman, member of the House of Representatives and senator. As a businessman he also has the resources required to run a gubernatorial election, with support coming from the Atiku campaign as an added advantage.

Pundits say that politically, Danmarke is a force to reckon with, going by his political pedigree, having won elections at primary and secondary levels. It is said that the way he has been financing the party at the state level made him popular among supporters.

Similarly, with the defection of Dr Mustapha Inuwa, a former secretary to the state government and Senator Ahmed Babba Kaita into the PDP, his chances are bright.

But the internal crisis in the party is being considered as its major weakness.

Another challenge of the PDP is that despite the cries, people are still supporting the APC, perhaps because of the power of incumbency and the social intervention programmes of the party, which many have benefitted from in the state.

Similarly, some politicians have painted Danmarke as a "Kano-based politician"



■ Khalil

whom they accuse of having virtually all his investments and family in Kano.

However, Dr Kabir Musa Yandaki, the head of the Department Political Science at the Umaru Musa Yar'adua University, Katsina, is of the opinion that the PDP has much strength in the state, as according to him, people are more sympathetic to the party and its candidate than candidates of other political parties.

"The people of Katsina have enjoyed more dividends of democracy under the 16 years of the PDP-led administration than under the APC," he said.

But he added that the education of its flag-bearer was not impressive and could be another major weakness of the party in the state.

"Many people, especially the elite, are looking at the PDP gubernatorial candidate in terms of education as unfit to govern the state. Although he has held several positions in government, Katsina, being a state that always values education, considers him unfit to be the next governor," he said.

Dr Mani also added that the credibility of Danmarke's running mate, Alhaji Ahmed Yar'adua, a seasoned public servant, could be



■ Radda

an added advantage to the candidate.

"Many people, especially the Katsina elite, have respect for Yar'adua. They have the hope that with Yar'adua as deputy he would use his vast experience to guide Danmarke on how to man the state effectively if elected," he said.

Nura Khalil

The candidate of the NNPP is seen as a 'complete gentleman' and many political observers believe he should be entrusted with power.

His combination with Dr Muttaqa Rabe Darma as running mate also gives the party an additional strength because Darma is seen by many as a trustworthy and dependable politician, going by his track record in the previous positions he held at both state and federal levels.

But analysts say his party is not strong enough to win the election in the state.

Khalil is also seen by many as a candidate who shows up in the state only when it is election season and disappears almost immediately mostly to foreign countries.

He is also considered as someone who lacks the resources or financial strength to mobilise the electorate.

Dr Yandaki said, "Many people in Katsina State did not even know the NNPP's logo, and the party's flag-bearer does not have a broad political structure. Most of the candidates fielded for the National Assembly seats were invited just to fill the gaps; they were not fully prepared for the race."

"Most of them are not politically robust enough to reach out to the electorate to present themselves. They have influence only in few local government areas of their respective constituencies."

Ibrahim Abu-Musawa

Labour Party has Comrade Ibrahim Abu-Musawa as its flag-bearer in Katsina State. He contested three times for the governorship of the state in 2011, 2015 and 2019.

Dr Yandaki said the presence of the party is not much felt in the state and its governorship candidate is not as financially buoyant as candidates of other parties to vigorously pursue his ambition.

It was further observed that if politics of region and religion would play any role in the election, the LP candidate would have no place in Katsina as the emergence of Peter Obi has painted the party as belonging to a particular ethnic group and section of the country (South East).

Most of them are not politically robust enough to reach out to the electorate to present themselves. They have influence only in few local government areas of their respective constituencies

Open defecation, others expose Niger residents to health hazards

Abubakar Akote, Minna

Rising incidents of open defecation and indiscriminate dumping of refuse in Minna, the Niger State capital, have exposed residents to health hazards. Drainages and uncompleted buildings across the city have been littered with human feces, becoming a serious public health challenge

Daily Trust Saturday found that residents defecate and dump refuse indiscriminately in drainages, canals and even on the centre of roads across the city. Mostly affected is the Julius Beggar axis, where drainages extend across all parts of the state capital, as well as uncompleted shops at the Kure Ultramodern Market.

The drainage at Julius Beggar, which helped in the control of flood in Minna and its environs, was constructed during the military regime of General Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida.

Some residents told *Daily Trust Saturday* that open defecation had become a ritual to some people, who engage in it even when they have toilets in their houses. They also said those who engaged in it were able to do so because there is no good lighting system; hence everywhere is usually dark at night when they do it.

Daily Trust Saturday observed that food vendors and fruit sellers do business in front of some of these drainages and heaps of refuse, and people patronise them.

Some residents who spoke with our correspondent claimed that they did not have any idea of the health implications of open defecation and indiscriminate refuse dump.

Environmental experts said the situation was unacceptable, especially as it exposed residents to a lot of health hazards. They called on the government and concerned agencies to put measures in place to address the menace.

Some residents attributed the rising cases of open defecation in the city to water scarcity, which they said made it difficult for residents to use toilets in their houses.

The Head of Hospital Services, General Hospital, Wushishi and chairman, National Association of Government Medical and Dental Practitioners (NAGGMDP), Niger State chapter, Dr Umar Ndagi, said open defecation and indiscriminate refuse dump were serious public health challenges that could cause serious diseases like cholera, diarrhea, typhoid fever, polio, worm infestation, as well as contaminating the air the people breathe in.

"The bacteria that causes typhoid fever usually passes through fecal matter, and during the rainy season, the eggs of these bacteria are washed into the lagoon or river; and people use this water from these lagoons to water their vegetables or gardens. And we consume these vegetables on a daily basis. By doing so we are injecting the eggs of these bacteria and the bacteria into our systems, and that is how we come down with typhoid fever and polio. However, the common sickness associated with open defecation is diarrhea, which is one of the major causes of child mortality, especially children that are less than five years.

Citing a World Health Organisation (WHO) report, Dr Ndagi said 2,000 children of less than five years old died from diarrhea every day.

He said open defecation also had a gender impact on women, explaining that, "It affects the dignity of women; hence they are usually ashamed to be seen outside defecating or urinating. So, they usually look for a secluded area, either at night or in the bush during the day where nobody would see

them. In so doing, they are exposed to gender-based violence and exposed to sexual molestation.

"There is also the issue of worm infestation, and that is why children that are less than five years old have to be de-wormed regularly. One of the ways they have these worms in their bodies is open defecation. The soil can produce worms, especially hookworm, which can penetrate one's leg and get into the body, especially the children that play around."

He said there was a need for massive sensitisation for attitudinal change.

One of the residents of the town, Bala Aliyu said, "People defecate and dump refuse anyhow in some areas. And water supply is not regular in Minna.

"Also, most often, the sanitation agency does not have the capacity to go to households to collect their refuse and dispose properly. It does not have the facilities. They use open vans to evacuate refuse, and as the truck is moving, the refuse will be scattered by breeze.

"Open defecation is not only in Minna, it happens in Bida and other major towns where you even expect people to be more civilised and hygienic. In Niger State, open defecation is worse in cities and towns than even the rural areas because of lack of water supply."

Sule Hamidu, a resident of the Kwangila area of Minna, told *Daily Trust Saturday* that his child and wife were once victims of cholera outbreak.

"I was once a victim of cholera outbreak years back. My daughter and wife were affected, but luckily, they survived. Unfortunately, three adults and five children died from the outbreak in my area. So, there should be sanitary inspectors who go round to stop open defecation and indiscriminate dumping of refuse. The state government should also bring back the weekly sanitation exercise," he said.

Another resident, Aisha Shuaibu, whose house is close to the Julius Beggar drainage on Yoruba Road, Minna, told our correspondent that they hardly stayed outside their rooms during the dry season because of unpleasant smells. She said, "Government should help us stop those defecating on these drainages every morning."

Abdul Abubakar Kuta, a resident of Sabon-Gari, said most of the defecations were done in the night because of the poor lighting system in the state capital.

Also, Salisu Abdullahi, who sells fruits in front of a heap of refuse in Kure Market, said the situation was affecting his sales as many people hardly buy from him when they see flies on his fruits, even when he always covers his table with leather.

Traders in Kure Market told our correspondent

Most of the people that engage in open defecation do not have serious shelters. In the places they live, there is no water cistern to use toilets. Unfortunately, open defecation can lead to an outbreak of diseases

Open defecation coupled with indiscriminate dumping of refuse in Minna, the Niger State capital is raising public health concerns among residents and stakeholders, *Daily Trust Saturday* reports



Julius Beggar drainage filled with refuse dumps and human feces behind Oceanic Bank, Mobil Roundabout, Minna



Julius Beggar drainage filled with refuse dumps and human feces in Makera Area of Minna

that they were already paying millions of naira as revenue to the government and believed the evacuation of heaps of refuse in the market should not be their responsibility.

Daily Trust Saturday learnt that the Niger State Environmental Protection Agency (NISEPA), which has the mandate to protect the environment, including water bodies, lacks the capacity to discharge its duties. It was revealed that the agency has only 34 trucks evacuating refuse across the state and 80 per cent of them are on contract.

Findings also revealed that the rising cost of diesel has made it difficult for the contracted companies and the agency to adequately evacuate refuse.

On December 6, 2022, the 2021 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) report unveiled by the state planning commission, with support from the United Nations International Fund (UNICEF), Kaduna Field Office, ranked Niger State as the worst in the North Central in terms of open defecation. The report showed that over 40 per cent of residents of the state indulged in the menace.

The survey was carried out by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).

The governor of Niger State, Abubakar Sani Bello, represented by the secretary to state government, Ahmed Ibrahim Matane, confirmed that the state was not doing well in addressing the open defecation aspect of the Water and Sanitation Hygiene (WASH) Programme.

When contacted, the deputy general manager, Environmental Monitoring and Pollution Control, Niger State Environmental Protection Agency (NISEPA), Dr. Aisha Adamu, said the agency was doing its best to curtail open defecation and indiscriminate dumping of refuse, especially in drainages.

"The agency is doing its best to curtail open

defecation across the state to the barest minimum. Yearly or quarterly, we always ensure that we evacuate the drainages, most especially the Julius Beggar drainages. But even as we are doing our best, people are spoiling the work of the agency. We have an enforcement team that is going round on a daily basis to ensure that the culprits are sanctioned. So, it has reduced when compared to 2020 and 2021," he said.

Dr Adamu also said the agency was collaborating with ministries of land, housing and water resources to address the challenge of open defecation, especially by sanctioning owners of uncompleted buildings that have not been occupied for many years.

She attributed the cause of open defecation to poverty, saying, "Most of the people that engage in open defecation do not have serious shelters. In the places they live, there is no water cistern to use toilets. Unfortunately, open defecation can lead to an outbreak of diseases.

Dr Mohammed Abubakar Sadiq of the Department of Agriculture and Bio-Resources Engineering, Federal University of Technology, Minna, said some crops grown through contaminated water in form of irrigation farming had health implications, especially those consumed raw. He said, "These crops contain micro-organisms that go into the food chain and the human system. In the end, people defecate indiscriminately and you see an outbreak of cholera.

"You can see that in recent times, the death toll in Minna has risen. I took a survey a year ago. A data from the general hospital showed that from 2006 to 2021, 800 - 900 deaths were recorded yearly in that health facility alone. So, a lot of public conveniences need to be built within the town. It should be done in such a way that people pay for maintenance. This will reduce the rate of open defecation."

|| MY PRECIOUS WIFE BIDS THE WORLD BYE!!! ||

DAME CAROLINE OLADUNNI ADEBUTU

YEYE - MODE OF THE SOURCE

19TH JUNE 1939 - 19TH JANUARY 2023



I announce with mixed feelings of utmost grief and profound gratitude to the Supreme Lord for a fulfilled-Christian-life, of the peaceful transition of my cherished Wife, Matriarch, Mother, Grand Mother and Great Grand Mother - Dame Caroline Oladunni Adebutu, which inevitable event occurred on Thursday 19th January 2023.

MAY HER SOUL MERIT THE BOSOM OF THE SUPREME LORD. Amen.



Burial Arrangements shall be announced by the family in due course.

Sir KESINGTON ADEBUKUNOLA ADEBUTU OON, CON, CFR, KJW, FISM, FNIJ, FAmedS
ODOLE-ODUA OF THE SOURCE
For: THE ADEBUTU DYNASTY



AROUND THE STATES

GOMBE

NNPP condemns arrest of journalist, opposition members

Haruna Gimba Yaya, Gombe

The New Nigerian Peoples Party (NNPP) in Gombe State has condemned the arrest and detention of radio journalist, Yakubu Halliru and one of its stalwarts, Malam Ahmed Mandi.

The party said Halliru, a local radio presenter with Radio Nigeria Jewel FM Gombe and Mandi, a stalwart of the NNPP in the state, were allegedly arrested on the orders of the state government over a political programme aired on the radio station and have been held for 24 hours.

Mandi had while promoting the governorship candidate of his party, Khamisu Ahmed Mailantarki, alleged that the Gombe Government House under construction gulped over N4 billion.

The special adviser to Governor Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya on information management and strategy, Ahmed Shuaibu Gara, however, denied the allegation, saying only the sum of N1.6bn was expended in the last four years in the maintenance of all public buildings in the state.

In a statement issued on Saturday by the state publicity secretary of the party, Muhammad Kabir Makko, the NNPP described the arrest and subsequent detention of Halliru and Mandi, as an attempt to gag the press, "which is condemnable and totally unacceptable."

"Yakubu Halliru simply did his job as a journalist by anchoring a programme where a guest made presentations based on facts available to him (guest) at the time of the said programme," Makko said.

NASARAWA

Gunmen kidnap 6 pupils from Doma

Umar Muhammed, Lafia

Gunmen yesterday kidnapped no fewer than six pupils from the Local Government Education Authority Primary School (LGEA) Alwaza, in Doma, the headquarters of Doma Local Government Area of Nasarawa State.

Daily Trust Saturday learnt the gunmen who invaded the school premises on Friday morning, abducted the primary school children to yet-to-be known destination.

A source in the community who didn't want his name to be mentioned informed our correspondent that the incident occurred at 7am when other pupils were still arriving for the day's activities.

Confirming the development, Deputy Director, Army Public Relations, 4 Special Forces Command, Doma Barracks, Major Joseph Adekunle Afolashade, said six pupils of Alwaza Primary School in Doma were kidnapped by gunmen, adding the command has intensified effort by deploying its patrol to ensure that all the victims are rescued unhurt.

Meanwhile, the State Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Ramhan Nansel, has debunked claims that six pupils of the LGEA Primary School Alwaza were kidnapped in the school premises.

He explained that those kidnapped by the gunmen were two boys - 7 and 8 years old, who were on their way to school when the sad incident occurred.

TARABA

2 wives, 6 children of monarch abducted

Magaji Isa Hunkuyi, Jalingo

Two wives and six children of the chief of Mutumbiyu in Taraba State have been abducted by gunmen suspected to be kidnapers.

Daily Trust on Saturday gathered that the gunmen, numbering about 10, stormed the residence of the monarch in Jalingo in the early hours of Thursday and abducted his two wives and six children.

The monarch, Justice Sani Muhammed (retired), who is a second-class chief, was not in his Jalingo residence at the time of the incident.

It was learnt that the kidnapers had called the monarch and demanded that he meet them to discuss the release of his family.

The spokesperson of the Taraba Police Command, Usman Abdullahi, a Deputy Superintendent of Police, confirmed the incident and informed that efforts are being made to rescue the abductees.

BENUE

Gov Ortom's convoy involved in accident

Hope Abah Emmanuel, Makurdi

Several persons were injured on Friday morning following an accident involving some vehicles in Governor Samuel Ortom's convoy in Benue State.

Ortom and his entourage were headed to Igumale, the headquarters of Ado Local Government Area for the Peoples' Democratic Party (PDP) governorship campaign when the incident happened at Utokon community in Ado Local Government Area.

Our correspondent reports that the accident occurred when the driver of an inscribed bus with candidates' posters and loaded with PDP supporters lost control and rammed into a jeep, a security vehicle and another bus in the convoy.

Those in the motorcade include the state's deputy governor, Engr Benson Abounu; Senator Abba Moro; House of Representatives and House of Assembly members from Benue South district, among other top government and party officials in the state.

Meanwhile, the state government

ambulance in the convoy immediately evacuated the injured to the hospital.

Similarly, Ortom has sympathised with those injured in the accident. Among them were three lawmakers, including the member representing Guma State Constituency, William Ortyom, and that of Gwer-East State Constituency, Geoffrey Agbatse, and the member for Kwande West State Constituency, Sugh Abanyi.

Ortom, who described the accident as unfortunate, expressed appreciation to God that it was not fatal and no casualty was recorded.



■ From left: Special Adviser to Gov. Sanwo-Olu on Tourism, Art and Culture, Mr Femi Martins; Commissioner for Information and Strategy, Mr Gbenga Omotoso; and Commissioner for Transportation, Dr Fredrick Oladeinde, during a news conference on the forthcoming Lagos Festival of Projects to be inaugurated by President Buhari, in Lagos State on Friday

PHOTO: NAN

KWARA

180 passports uncollected in Kwara — Immigration

Mumini Abdulkareem, Ilorin

The Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS) has said that there are 180 international passports yet to be collected in its Ilorin office.

The NIS controller in Kwara, Mr Aminu

Shamsudin, disclosed this during a chat with newsmen on Friday in Ilorin.

According to him, most of the yet-to-be-collected passports are owned by people who reside outside Kwara.

"Some people are so busy that they prefer to send

proxies which is not allowed because of the importance of the document.

"All applicants of international passports must apply by themselves, to prevent spelling errors and they must be present for biometric capturing and collection.

"The whole procedure has changed, it now requires applying online, through the immigration website and visitation to the state office for capturing and collection," he added.

He said all those affected have been contacted through the phone numbers they filled

FCT

Defections: Northern group urges Kwankwaso to withdraw for Atiku

Itodo Daniel Sule

A group, Northern Liberal Democratic Movement (NLDM) has called on the presidential candidate of the New Nigeria Peoples Party (NNPP), Senator Rabiu Kwankwaso, to withdraw from the race for the candidate of the Peoples Democratic Party

(PDP), Alhaji Atiku Abubakar.

National Secretary of the group, Balarabe Ali Bello, in a statement in Abuja said the recent gale of defections from NNPP to PDP were reflection of the mood of people of the region.

According to the group, the mood and opinions of stakeholders in the region and

the country were in favour of Atiku whom he said was in a better position to win the contest irrespective of the former Kano governor's decision.

He said the NNPP had in the last few weeks lost its chieftains to the PDP with the recent being the deputy governorship candidates of the party in Niger and Yobe states as well as several

members that had left the party in Bauchi State.

"I am joining other well-meaning Northerners to urge our brother, His Excellency, distinguished Sen. Rabiu Musa Kwankwaso to consider the overwhelming interest of our people and allow the Wazirin of Adamawa win the forthcoming elections," he said.

ANAMBRA

Anambra vigilantes arrest electricity vandal

Titus Eleweke Awka

Vigilante operatives in Anambra State have arrested one Chidiebere Agbalusi for allegedly vandalizing facilities of the Electricity

Distribution Company (EEDC) Plc.

Chidiebere Agbalusi, a native of Awo village in Oraifite, was arrested while in possession of vandalized aluminium cable and a

cutter in Oraifite, Ekwusigo Local Government Area of Anambra State.

The Head of Corporate Communications of EEDC, Emeka Ezech, has commended the efforts of the

various vigilante groups in heeding the call to safeguard installations.

He said the operations of vigilantes against vandals have reduced their activities drastically in the state.

Daddy we miss you!

In loving memory of

**CHIEF BARRISTER MARKUS
BEZHIWA IDAKULA**

6th November 1954 – 21st January 2022

“To live in the hearts of those who love you is to never die”

Dearest Daddy,

It was just like yesterday the Lord called you the rock of our lives back home and into His loving arms. Every day we remember you, every day we miss you even more and every day we wish you were still here with us. You are irreplaceable. Your laughter warmed our hearts and your wonderful humour cheered us up even on the most challenging of days. Thank you for being the best father we could have ever wished for. We cherish deeply all the knowledge, wisdom, and the fear of the Lord you imparted in us and we keep your love and all the precious memories we shared with you alive within our hearts. As we remember and celebrate you on this day, we know and believe that you rest in the bosom of our Lord Jesus Christ, until we meet to part no more. We love you.

We would like to thank all those who graced the funeral rites and who continue to comfort us during our season of mourning. May the Almighty God bless you and your families. Amen.

“Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his faithful servants.” – Psalm 116:15

Lovingly remembered by:

Mrs Ruth Ladi Idakula – Wife (late)
Mrs. Mbawuese Nwanyanwu – Daughter
Ms. Angela Idakula – Daughter
Mrs. Jessica Orekoya – Daughter
Mrs. Judith Akuanyionwu – Daughter
Shane, Vincent, Ada, Ethan, Luke, Chloe and Levi – Grandchildren
Okechukwu Nwanyanwu, Olusola Orekoya, Olisaemeka Akuanyionwu – Sons-in-Law

Classifieds

Booking is Simple and Quick

MADE EASY

1 E-booking/E-payment
Make payment into Media Trust Account, type the material by using our already existing format below, attached marriage certificate/Court Affidavits and send with evidence of payment to:
*dailytrustadvert@gmail.com
*See account details below

2 For Enquiries Call:
ABUJA: 0703005 4108, 08135550022
LAGOS: 08038600327, P/H: 07032757193
KANO: 08050455382, SOKOTO: 08034275900
KADUNA: 08063479316
JOS: 07065103971
MAIDUGURI: 08060473379
e-mail: dailytrustadvert@gmail.com

3 Visit
Abuja Office: No. 20, P. O. W. Mafemi Crescent, Off Solomon Lar Way, Utako, Abuja
Lagos Office: No. 10, Acme Road, (Textile Labour House), Agidingbi - Ikeja, Lagos
Kano Office: Plot 56, Behind Kano International Trade Fair Complex, Off Zoo Road, Kano
Kaduna Office: Abdussalam Ziza House, A9 Mogadishu City Center, Kaduna

4 Costing:
Change of Name - **N3,000**
Loss of Documents - **N9,450**
Registration of Trustees - **N15,500**

LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

COMPANY REGISTRATION

CHANGE OF NAME

LEGAL NOTICE

- JOSEPH:** I formerly known as **MONDAY SIMON**, now wish to be known and addressed as **JOSEPH MONDAY**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

ISAH: I, formerly known as **ISAH ABDULKADIR KABIRU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ISAH ABDULKADIR**. My date of birth was wrongly captured as 6/02/1996 instead of 4/04/1996. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

OYIBO: I, formerly known as **OYIBO NUHU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **AHMED OYIBO NUHU**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MARTHA: I formerly known as **ONCHE MARTHA OLOHILIYE**, now wish to be known and addressed as **AGADA MARTHA OLOHILIYE**. All documents bearing my former names remain valid. General public should please take note.

STEPHFANNY: I FORMALLY KNOWN AND ADDRESS AS **ERHAHON OSARETIN STEPHFANNY**, NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN AND ADDRESS AS **ALBERT FANNY OSARETIN ALL OTHER DOCUMENT REMAIN VALID, ALL PUBLIC SHOULD TAKE NOTE.**

LAWAL: I formerly known and called as **LAWAL KAMAL**, Now wish to be known and called as **LAWAL SHEU KAMALIDEEN**, ALL Former documents remain valid. General public and Authorities concerned should please take note.

NASIRU: I, formerly known as Nasiru Magaji Danjemage, with date of birth 09-12-1964, now wish to be known and addressed as Nasiru Turaki Magaji, with corrected date of birth 09-12-1968. All documents remain valid. Authority concerned and the general public to take note.

OLUCHI: I, formerly known as **AGHARANYA GRACE OLUCHI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **AJAYI GRACE OLUCHI**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **UMMU KALTHUM MUHAMMAD RABIU**. Now wish to be called and addressed as **UMMU KALTHUM ABUBAKAR**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **ABDULRAHIM SULE LAWALI** with date of birth 07/ Feb/1990 now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULRAHIM SULE LAWAL** with date of birth 11/April/1993. All former documents remain valid. First bank and general public to take note

GRACE: I formerly known and addressed as **MISS GABRIEL OLOHIYE GRACE**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS DANIEL OLOHIYE GRACE**. All former document remain valid. Authority concerned and public to take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **MISS AJI OCHANYA MARY** and Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS OTOKPA OCHANYA MARY**. That the change of name is because I'm now married and want to bear my husband's name **OTOKPA** All former documents remain valid. Relevant agencies and general public should take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **AKEEM ROFIAT ODUNOLA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **IYIOLA ROFIAT ODUNOLA**. All former document remain valid. NYSO and general public should take note.

CHANGE OF NAMES: I formally known as **ABDUSALAM KUDIRAT OCHUWA**, now wish to be known and Address as **ABDULAZEEZ KUDIRAT OCHUWA** due to my Marriage to **MR ABDULAZEEZ OSENIA** All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned ,NYSO, Banks and general public please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **AISHA IBRAHIM** now wish to be known and addressed as **SALAMATU IBRAHIM**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note

DOOBEE: I formerly known as **MISS TYOAPINE DOOBEE FELICITY** now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS LUMUNGA DOOBEE FELICITY**. All other documents remain valid. The authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **JAMILU ABDULLAHI** and **ABDULLAHI JAMILU** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULLAHI JAMILU MUSA** with date of birth 02/01/1998. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I formerly known as **DIKKO MAIWALIMA MUHAMMAD** now wish to be known and addressed as **DIKKO MUHAMMAD MAIWALIMA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

OLASUNKANMI: I, formerly known as **OLASUNKANMI GABRIEL JOHN** now wish to be known and address as **OLASUNKANMI GABRIEL OGUNLEYE**. DOB 17/01/1989. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

CHANGE OF NAME. I am formerly known and addressed as **GRACE IGNATIUS BAKARI**. That I now wish to be called and addressed as **GRACE IGNATIUS MUTAFVI** as it appeared on all my documents. That I want the National Identity management commission and all authorities concern to please take note.

CORRECTION OF NAME. My name was captured with one name abbreviated as A instead of **AKWAI** on my NECO certificate. That my correct and full name is **FLORENCE AKWAI VANDI** as it appeared on my National Identity card and all my document. That I want **NECO** Board and all authorities concern to please take note.

ERUANGA: I formerly known and addressed as **MISS ERUANGA PATIENCE**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS ERUANGA PATIENCE ITEPU**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and public to take note

AMINA: I, formerly known as **AMINA MUHAMMAD KAURA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **AMINA MUHAMMAD TAOFEEK**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

SERIKI: I formerly known as **AKINJOBI IFEOLUWA MARY** with Date of Birth 01/07/1990 and 01/07/1992, now wish to be known and addressed as **SERIKI IFEOLUWA MARY** with Correct Date of Birth 01/07/1991. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

AMADU: I formerly known as **NURA SAMAILA** now wish to be known and addressed as **AMADU SAMAILA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

FATUMA: I formerly known and addressed as **FATU ISA** but now wish to be known and addressed as **FATUMA ISA**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned should take note, please.

ABDULLAHI: I formerly known and addressed as **YUSUF MARYAM JUMAI** but now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULLAHI YUSUF MARYAM**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned should take note, please.

AIDEJILE: I formerly known and addressed as **RAMATU USMAN** but now wish to be known and addressed as **RAMATU USMAN AIDEJILE**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned should take note, please.

SAMSON: I formerly known and addressed as **SAMSON TITUS GOWOK** but now wish to be known and addressed as **SAMSON TITUS ILIYA** And D.O.B 12/12/1990. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned should take note, please.

Aminat: I formerly known as **Aminat Olajumoke Abdullahi** now wish to be known and addressed as **Aminat O. Abdullahi Abdulgafar**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

I formerly known and called as **USAIN LUCYNDA FIDELIS**. Now wish to be known and called as **MRS KOMOLAFE LUCYNDA USAIN**. ALL Former documents remain valid. General public and Authorities concerned should please take note.

IBRAHIM: I formerly known as **Inusa Ibrahim** chwar, but now wishes to be known and addressed as **Inusa Ibrahim**. All formal documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

DOGO: I FORMERLY KNOWN AND CALLED AS **Dogo Azaki**. NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS **Dogo Azaki kugyeyi**. ALL OTHER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. ALL RELEVANT AUTHORITIES CONCERNED AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC SHOULD TAKE NOTE

I formerly known and called as **ABDUSALAM RAHAMA**. Now wish to be known and called as **HARUNA RAHAMA**. Former documents remain valid. NYSO, Authorities concerned and General public should please take note

I formerly known and called as **BABAGANA MODU KANZA**, Now wish to be known and called as **BABAGANA KANZA**, ALL former documents remain valid. General public and Authorities concerned should please take note.

ADDITION OF NAME: IORHEN: I, FORMERLY KNOWN AND CALLED AS **IORHEN ANTHONY** NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN, CALLED AND ADDRESSED AS **IORHEN ANTHONY MBATIYAWASE**. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC AND OTHER AUTHORITIES CONCERNED SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

MODIFICATION OF NAMES : I formerly known as **ONWUGAMBA OKWUDILI ANITA**, now wish to be known as **CHUKWUMERE OKWUDILI ANITA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public please take note.

DOGARA: I formerly known as **YUSUF COMFORT**, now i wish to be known and addressed as **DOGARA COMFORT**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public please take note.

I formerly known as **AL'AMIN YUSUF**, but now wish to be known and addressed as **ISHAKA ABUBAKAR**. All my former documents to remain valid. General public, financial institution and all authorities concern should please take note.

PRECIOUS I formerly known as **PRECIOUS BASSEY** now wish to be known and addressed as **PRECIOUS ABDULRAZAQ**. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

HUSSAINI I formerly known as **ADAMS HUSSEINI** now wish to be known and addressed as **HUSSAINI ADAMU**. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

OLAYEMI: I formerly known as **OLAYEMI KOLA LESHADO**, now wish to be known as **KOLAWOLE OLAYEMI LESHADO**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

PATIENCE: I formerly known as **MWOLPUN PATIENCE SAMUEL**, now wish to be known as **MWOLPUN PATIENCE PANSYAK**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

SALAMA: I formerly known as **MAISAMARI SLAMA JAMDI**, now wish to be known as **MAISAMARI SALAMA JANDI**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note

IBRAHIM: I formerly known as **HASSAN ALIYU** now wish to be known as **IBRAHIM HASSAN DOB 09/10/1999** All former document remain remain valid general public should please take note

I formally known as **AHMED AHMED MOHAMMED**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MOHAMMED AHMED HASSAN**. D.O.B 15/04/1987 All former documents remain valid general public take note.

I formerly known as **Miss BULUS PATIENCE VASHTI** now wish to be addressed as **Mrs AWADA PATIENCE VASHTI** all former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **MISS OKAFOR MERCY ONYEISI** now wish to be called and addressed as **MRS DIKEAMAKA MERCY ONYEISI**. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

I formerly known as **HAUWA MUTARI HAMISU** now wish to be called and addressed as **AISHA MUKHTAR HAMISU**. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

DANLADI: I formerly known as **DANLADI BALA** now wish to be known and addressed as **DANLADI ABUBAKAR**. All former documents remain valid . NIMC And General Public Should please take note.

NACHANAA: I formerly known as **NACHANAA DANLADI** now wish to be known and addressed as **NACHANAA ISAIAH**. All former documents remain valid . NIMC, ACCESS BANK PLC And General Public Should please take note.

MARYAM: I formerly known as **SAFIYANU TILKAHAYATULLAH TILKA** now wish to be called and addressed as **MARYAM ABDULHAMID**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **KHADIJA MUAZU IBRAHIM** now wish to be known as **KHADIJA NURA IBRAHIM** All former documents remain valid authority concerned and general public should please take note

MUHAMMAD: I formerly known as **MUHAMMAD ADAMU INUWA** now wish to be called and addressed as **MUHAMMAD MUS'AB BABA**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

ALHAJI: I formerly known as **ALHAJI MUHAMMED** now wish to be called and addressed as **ALHAJI AHMED MAMMAN**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

ZAINAB: I formerly known as **ZAINAB YUSUF MUSA** now wish to be called and addressed as **ZAINAB IBRAHIM ABUBAKAR**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

ABUBAKAR: I, formerly known as **ABUBAKAR ISMAILA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ABUBAKAR ISMAILA MOHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

ISAH: I formerly known as **ABDULLAHI ISA** now wish to be known and addressed as **ISAH ABDULLAHI ISAH**. All former documents remain valid . NIMC And General Public Should please take note.

I, formerly known as **AISHA LAWAL MAIGARI** now wish to be known and addressed as **AISHA LAWAL** and my correct DOB is 12-03-1999 not 01-01-1992 a ll former documents remain valid, General public and the authority concerned should take note

I, formerly known as **FATIMA BABA BELLO** wish to be known and addressed as **MRS FATIMA BELLO JABIR** all former documents remain valid, General public and the authority concerned should take note

ISHAQ: I formerly known as **ISHAQ ILYASU** now wish to be known and addressed as **ISHAQ ILIYASU**. All former documents remain valid . **FIRST BANK PLC** And General Public Should please take note.

AMINATU: I formerly known as **AMINATU YAHAYA** now wish to be called and addressed as **AMINATU SHAMSUDEEN**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

ALHASSAN: I formerly known as **AMINA ALHASSAN** now wish to be called and addressed as **AMINA AHMAD ALHASSAN**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

MUHAMMAD: I formerly known and called **AMIN MUHAMMAD AMIN** now wish to be known and addressed as **IDRIS AMIN MUHAMMAD**. All former documents remain valid. Concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.

I formerly known as **MARYAM SALE** now wish to be known as **MARYAM SANI** All former documents remain valid authority concerned and general public should please take note

I formerly known as **LAWAN LAWAN AND LAWAN MUSBAHU** now wish to be known as **LAWAN MUSBAHU MUHAMMAD** All former documents remain valid authority concerned and general public should please take note

I formerly known as **MANSURA SANI** now wish to be known as **MANSURA ISAH** All former documents remain valid authority concerned and general public should please take note

I formerly known as **AHMED Sirajo** now wish to be known as **AHMED Siraja** all documents remain valid and general public should please take note,

I formerly known as **AMADU ABDULWAHAB** now wish to be known as **HALLIRU ISAH** All former documents remain valid authority concerned and general public should please take note

I formerly known as **SADIQ HAROUN GARBA** now wish to be known as **SADEEQ HAROUN GARBA** All former documents remain valid authority concerned and general public should please take note

IBRAHIM: I formerly known as **IBRAHIM ALIYU** now wish to be called and addressed as **IBRAHIM ALI IBRAHIM**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

HAUWA: I, formerly known as **MISS HAUWA USMAN**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS HAUWA SHEHU**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

Bank Details

Pay into any of our Accounts:
Account Name: **MEDIA TRUST LTD,**

Send your payment mandate to our email addresses

Requirement for Change of Name
Women: Marriage Certificate or Court Affidavit; Men: Court Affidavit

Bank: Stanbic IBTC Plc
Account No: 0000913253
Sort Code: 221081552

Bank: First Bank Plc
Account No: 2002911690
Sort Code: 011084060

Bank: UBA Plc
Account No: 1007117397
Sort Code: 033080013

Bank: GTBank Plc
Account No: 0024570856
Sort Code: 058083231

Classifieds

Booking is Simple and Quick

MADE EASY

- E-booking/E-payment**
Make payment into Media Trust Account, type the material by using our already existing format below, attached marriage certificate/Court Affidavits and send with evidence of payment to: **dailytrustadvert@gmail.com**
**See account details below*
- For Enquiries Call:**
ABUJA: 0703005 4108, 08135550022
LAGOS: 08038600327, P/H: 07032757193
KANO: 08050455382, SOKOTO: 08034275900
KADUNA: 08063479316
JOS: 07065103971
MAIDUGURI: 08060473379
e-mail: dailytrustadvert@gmail.com
- Visit**
Abuja Office: No. 20, P. O. W. Mafemi Crescent, Off Solomon Lar Way, Utako, Abuja
Lagos Office: No. 10, Acme Road, (Textile Labour House), Agidingbi - Ikeja, Lagos
Kano Office: Plot 56, Behind Kano International Trade Fair Complex, Off Zoo Road, Kano
Kaduna Office: Abdussalam Ziza House, A9 Mogadishu City Center, Kaduna
- Costing:**
Change of Name - **N3,000**
Loss of Documents - **N9,450**
Registration of Trustees - **N15,500**

LOSS OF DOCUMENTS COMPANY REGISTRATION CHANGE OF NAME LEGAL NOTICE

- AONDOVER; I**, formerly called and addressed as **JOHN AONDOVER AGUNE** wrongly born **10/1/2000** now wish to be addressed as **JOHN AONDOVER** correctly born **6/9/2001**. All former documents remain valid. **STANBIC BANK PLC** and general public should take note.
- UDOH; I**, formerly known and addressed as **CHARLIE DANIEL UDO**. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as **UDOH DANIEL CHARIE**. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.
- HABILA. I** Formally Known and Addressed as **DAVID HABILA**. now wish to be called an address As **DAVID HABILA DZAKWA**. All former document remain valid, Authority Concerned and General Public Should take note.
- AISHA I** formerly known and addressed as **MISS AISHA TIJJANI GIRGIRI** now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS AISHA TIJJANI MOHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid **NYSC** All concern and authority General public should please take note.
- ASHIRU I** formally known as **ASHIRU SAIDU** now wish to be known and Addressed as **SAIDU ASHIRU**. All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.
- MRS. SAMUEL; I**, formerly known and addressed as **MISS JAMES BLESSING ROBERT**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS. BLESSING SAMUEL**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public please take note
- FARIDA; I**, formerly known as **FARIDA SAID ADAM** now wants to be addressed as **FARIDA ABDULLAHI ADAM**. Former documents remain valid General Public, **NYSC** authority take note
- OKON; I** formerly known and addressed as **OKON ESTHER PATIENCE** and later as **OLADIMEJI ESTHER PATIENCE**, now wish to be known and addressed as **YINUSA ESTHER PATIENCE**. All former documents remain valid. The relevant authorities and general public, please take note.
- I**, formerly known as **ABUBAKAR MUSA MUHAMMAD** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABUBAKAR MUHAMMAD**. All former documents remains valid. And my correct **DOB** is **01-01-1999**, not otherwise stated therein. General public should take note.
- ABUBAKAR; I** formerly known as **ALHAJI BANDI ALHAJI AHMAD**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ABUBAKAR ALHAJI**, All former document remain valid. With correct **DOB. 13/02/1966**, General public should please take note
- BUHARI I** formally known as **BUHARI MUHAMMAD** now wish to be known and Addressed as **MUHAMMADU BUHARI**. All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.
- MRS. BARIDILU-JOSHUA; I**, formerly known and addressed as **MISS. WEBILOR REJOICE CHIOMA-WISS**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS. BARIDILU-JOSHUA REJOICE CHIOMA**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note
- HAJARA; I**, formerly known as **JAMILA YA,U SA'ID**. Now to be addressed as **HAJARA IBRAHIM**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note
- ADEYEMI; I**, formerly known and addressed as **ADEOLA PHILIP'S ADEYEMI**. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as **ADEYEMI ADEOLA BLESSING**. All former documents remain valid, **UBA Plc** and general public take note.
- HABIBA I**, formerly known as **HABIBA YERIMA KACHALLAH** now wish to be known and called **HABIBA MOHAMMED KACHALLAH (MRS.)** All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.
- I**, formerly known as **ALHAJI YAYA MUHAMMADU** now wish to be known and addressed as **MAGAJI YAYA ABARE**. All former documents remains valid. General public should take note.
- SAMBO; I** formerly known as **SAMBO UMAR**, now wish to be known and addressed as **SAMBO LIMAN**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.
- I**, formerly known as **JAMILU ABUBAKAR TANKO** with **D.O.B 01-01-1984** now wish to be known and addressed as **JAMILU ABUBAKAR** with **D.O.B 01-01-1994**. All former documents remain valid. General public should concerned should please take note.
- USULOR; I**, formerly known and addressed as **IGBONEKWU CHUKWUEMEKA KENNEDY**. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as **USULOR CHUKWUEMEKA KENNEDY**. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.
- OGUNMUYIWA; I**, formerly known and addressed as **ODUBIYI MARIAM AJOKE**. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as **Mrs OGUNMUYIWA MARIAM AJOKE**. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.
- NAFISA I**, formerly known **NAFISA HABU ZANGO** as now wish to be known and called **NAFISA HABU BUKAR (MRS.)** All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.
- LOUISA I** formerly known and addressed as **LOUISA CHIZOBA OSUJI** now wish to be known and addressed as **LOUISA CHIZOBA ANIEKWE** All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.
- AISHA; I** formerly known as **AISHA ABDULWAHID** now wish to be called and addressed as **Mrs. AISHA ABDULWAHID MUSTAPHA**. All former document remain valid. Authority concern and general public to take note
- I**, formerly known as **GARBA S FAWA** now wish to be known and addressed as **SARKIN-FAWA AMINU**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.
- CONFIRMATION OF NAME I**, **SANYAOLU SAULAT OPEYEMI**, states that I am the same person bearing **SANYAOLU OPEYEMI ADEJOKE** as appeared on my **BVN**. I now wish to be known and addressed as **SANYAOLU SAULAT OPEYEMI** as appeared on my **NIN**. All documents bearing the two names are mine and valid. The general public should please take note.
- AYORINDE; I**, formerly known and addressed as **ALAO KAFAYAT OPEYEMI**. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as **AYORINDE KAFAYAT YEMI**. That I was born on 18th day of November, 1987 not 18th day of November, 1982. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.
- ISA; I** formerly known as **ISA SALEH**. now wish to be known and addressed as **ISA UMAR SALEH**. All former document remain valid. General public should please take note
- IZZATU. I** formally known **IZZATU YUSUF BABA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **IZZATU YUSUF ABDULAZIZ**. All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.
- IBRAHIM; I** formerly known as **ABU DANHAJIYA IBRAHIM, ABU ABUBAKAR DANHAJIYA** now wish to be called and addressed as **ABUBAKAR DANHAJIYA IBRAHIM** with **OLD DOB 28-02-1983 NEW DOB 01-01-1988**. All former document remain valid. Authority concern and general public to take note.
- I**, formerly known as **MUSTAPHA IBRAHIM SANI** now wish to be known and addressed as **IBRAHIM MUSTAPHA SANI**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note
- FATIMA; I** formerly known as **FIDDAUSI ISIYAKU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **FATIMA MUSTAPHA**, All former document remain valid. General public should please take note
- BABA I**, formerly known as **MALLAM ABBANI** now wish to be known and called **MUHAMMAD ALHAJI BABA** with **15/02/1985** as **D.O.B**. All former documents remain valid. general public to note
- AZIMHEYE; I** formerly known and address as ***IKHIENA AIMUGWINA IRENE*** now want to be known and address as ***AZIMHEYE AIMUGWINA IRENE*** All former documents bearing my name remain valid. General public should please take note.
- I**, formerly known as **TUKUR ABUBAKAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **TUKUR A BELLO**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.
- HADIZA. I** Formally Known and addressed as **HADIZA UMAR**. now wish to be called an address As **HADIZA LAWAN**. All former Documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and General Public Should take note.
- ABDULLAHI I** formerly known and addressed as **ABDULLAHI IBRAHIM M** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULLAHI IBRAHIM** All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.
- BUKAR; I** formerly known as **BUKAR NGALA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **BUKAR ALI NGALA**, All former document remain valid. General public should please take note
- AISHA I** formerly known and addressed as **MISS AISHA USMAN** now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS AISHA MOHAMMED** All former documents remain valid **NYSC** All concern and authority General public should please take note.
- *AKANNI* I**, formerly known as ***AKANNI PRINCESS AYOMIDE***. Now wish to be known called and addressed as ***AKANNI AYOBAMI PRINCESS***. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.
- *MR SALAMI* I**, formerly known as ***MR. SALAMI LUKMON***. Now wish to be known called and addressed as ***MR. SALAMI LUKMON OLAWALE***. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.
- *ECHEFU* I**, formerly known as ***AMADI NMERI VICTORY***. Now wish to be known called and addressed as ***ECHEFU NMERI VICTORY***. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the Loss of Original Title Document of Plot No 214, RES/91/681 TP/KAS/193 which is situated at Dantsinke in Tarauni LGA kano and Plot No 30 which is situated at Bajallabe in Ungogo LGA Kano, also Plot No 237 also situate at Bajallabe in Ungogo LGA Kano, Plot No 14, laying and situate at Bajllabe in Ungogo LGA Kano belonging to IDRIS NUHU ABUBAKAR is declared missing. That on the 20th May, 2009 the original Title Documents got lost from Rijiyar Zaki to Kantin Kwari Market Kano. All efforts made to trace same proved abortive. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE OF KATSINA STATE OF NIGERIA PROBATE DIVISION

WHEREAS the person/persons whose names are set out in the first column hereunder died interstate on the date and at the place stated in the said column, AND WHERE AS the person/person (s) whose addresses claimed relationship to the said deceased is/are set out in the second column hereunder have applied to the High Court of Justice Katsina for a grant of "LETTER OF ADMINISTRATION" of the personal property of the said deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the "LETTER OF ADMINISTRATION" will be granted to such person/persons unless "NOTICE TO PROHIBIT" is filed in the Probate Registry, High Court of Justice Katsina within TWENTY-ONE DAYS from the date of publication of this notice.

NAME OF DECEASED PERSON LATE: MAREM E.D OF NIGERIA CUSTOMS SERVICE. DIED ON 29-11-2020. KATSINA.	APPLICANT 1- ABRAHAM EMMANUEL 2- MOSES EMMANUEL BOTH OF SHAGARI LOWCOST KATSINA LGA. SONS THE SAID DECEASED
NAME OF DECEASED PERSON LATE: UMAR SAMANJA OF KTRADA. DIED ON 06-01-2023 AT KATSINA.	APPLICANT IBRAHIM UMAR OF KOFAR MARUSA LOWCOST KATSINA LGA, SON OF THE SAID DECEASED

DATED THIS 20TH JANUARY, 2023

AT THE PROBATE REGISTRY, HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE, KATSINA. (Nuraddeen El-Ladan Ahmed) PROBATE REGISTRAR

EMMANUEL CHOSEN DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES

THE GENERAL PUBLIC IS HEREBY INFORMED THAT THE ABOVE NAMED HAS APPLIED TO THE CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMISSION FOR REGISTRATION UNDER PART "F" OF THE COMPANIES AND ALLIED MATTERS ACT (CAMA) 2020.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

- EDIJALA EMMANUEL EMEASOBETA - CHAIRMAN
- EDIJALA RUTH
- OBI SUNDAY OKE
- OBUKENI WILLIAM AZIAPONO
- UGHOVERO FRANCIS EFE
- ISAAC UJIROTOGHENE GABRIEL

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- TO DEVELOP A RELEVANT MODERN CHURCH WITH A DIFFERENCE; A PEOPLE-ORIENTED, BIBLE-BASED COMMUNITY, MODELLING JESUS CHRIST.
- TO PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD, DEMONSTRATE GOD'S POWER, AND EMPOWER GOD'S PEOPLE.
- TO EQUIP AND EDIFY BELIEVERS FOR THE WORK OF THE LORD, EMBRACING THE FIVE-FOLD MINISTRY: APOSTOLIC, PROPHETIC, EVANGELISTIC, PASTORAL AND TEACHING.

ANY OBJECTION TO THIS REGISTRATION SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL, CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMISSION, PLOT 420, TIGRIS CRESCENT, OFF AGUIYI IRONSI STREET, MAITAMA, ABUJA WITHIN 28 DAYS OF THIS PUBLICATION.

SIGNED: EDIJALA EMMANUEL EMEASOBETA - CHAIRMAN

Requirement for Change of Name Women: Marriage Certificate or Court Affidavit; Men: Court Affidavit

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the lost of original certificate of occupancy, belonging to TONY UME NVENE 'm' of No TT 10 Maradu Street Kabala West Kaduna got lost on 7/2/2021 with C.F.O No103003 in respect of his house at TT 10 Maradu Street Kabala West Kaduna State of Nigeria issued to him by Kaduna South Local Government on 19/3/2004 all efforts made to trace the said documents proved abortive KADGIS general public all authority concern should please take note.

Bank Details

Pay into any of our Accounts:
Account Name: MEDIA TRUST LTD,
Send your payment mandate to our email addresses

Bank: Stanbic IBTC Plc Account No: 0000913253 Sort Code: 221081552	Bank: First Bank Plc Account No: 2002911690 Sort Code: 011084060	Bank: UBA Plc Account No: 1007117397 Sort Code: 033080013	Bank: GTBank Plc Account No: 0024570856 Sort Code: 058083231
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Requirement for Change of Name Women: Marriage Certificate or Court Affidavit; Men: Court Affidavit



A PHYSICIAN'S DIARY
 BY FATIMA DAMAGUM
 drfatima0984@gmail.com

MEDICAL ERRORS: CLINICAL GOVERNANCE AS THE WAY FORWARD

A long time ago, during my days as a house officer in the labour ward, I delivered a young woman of a healthy baby girl. After the vaginal delivery, as is usually common, I was left alone to suture the cut made to increase the width of the birth canal. To control bleeding, doctors and midwives usually insert sanitary pads deep into the vaginal vault after delivery while making a mental note of how many pads they have inserted in. The pads are removed while the suturing process is ongoing; such that by the time we are done with the last suture, the final pad has been removed. I have done this procedure so many times, I sometimes brag that I can do it with my eyes closed.

On that day, after I had finished with the woman, cleaned her up and discharged her, I left to collapse on the narrow bed in our hospital room. Just as I was drifting off into the blissful abyss that is sleep, something tugged at the edge of my subconscious.

'Fatima, Fatima' my mind said. 'Leave me alone'

I refused to wake up but instead drifted into a fitful nap. While sleeping, I dreamt someone or something, I cannot remember, was chasing me around the hospital trying to catch me. I ran and jumped over fences, but I was no match for his Usain Bolt speed and he soon caught up and pinned me to the ground. I was shrieking and screaming, preparing my mind for the worst when he lowered his mouth to my ear and whispered: How many pads did you remove from that woman? Two or three?

I sat up, wide awake, sweating, despite the AC blowing at full blast.

How many sanitary pads did I really remove? Two or three? I could not recall. I ran out of the room, eyes dried of sleep, praying I had not already come to the end of my very short medical career. I could already see the headlines: 'Doctor loses licence after six months of practice!' My mother would have had a heart attack.

Anyways, by the time I reached the labour ward, the woman had left. I looked through her folder and noted that I had erroneously not mentioned the number of pads inserted. Two or three? How many did I remove? Two or all three pads?

The matron on duty gave me

sound advice: Call the patient back and check. We all make mistakes. If you removed everything, fine, if not, you will have a chance to right your mistake.

I got the woman's number from her file and asked her to return to the hospital claiming there was a form she needed to fill immediately. The poor woman returned with her husband and baby a few hours later. I cajoled her into the labour room and asked to examine her again. Luckily for me, the woman was co-operative, especially when I told her the truth. Lo and behold! I had left a pad shoved deep inside her vagina.

Alhamdulillah for our subconscious.

Since then, I have learnt to document everything. Call me miss meticulous.

In the year 2000, a man called Donald Church underwent surgery at the University of Washington Medical Center in Seattle. He was supposed to have an abdominal tumor removed. Surgeons did take out the tumor, but in its place, they left a 13-inch metal retractor.

It took two months of pain before the surgical mistake was discovered. Mr. Church recovered \$97,000 in damages. While these mistakes should never occur, this was the fifth incident in five years where this hospital's surgeons had left surgical instruments in patients.

Earlier in 1985, award-winning Miami Herald photographer Bob East was diagnosed with corneal cancer. His eye had to be removed. East decided to have it donated to the medical school to use for medical students to study eye cancers.

While he was having the surgery to remove his eye at Miami's Jackson Memorial Hospital, someone involved in the removal brought a vial into the operating room with the formaldehyde-like solution used to preserve the eye for science. The surgeon had earlier drawn some cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) from the patient to be re-injected into his spine. Instead of the CSF, the formaldehyde was injected into Mr. East's spine, rendering him brain dead. He died five days later. An autopsy showed the solution had turned his organs to stone. The catastrophe resulted in policy changes requiring no unmarked vials to ever be brought into an operating theatre.

So yes, medical errors have been occurring since time immemorial.

Two weeks ago, news broke about a new-born baby whose hand had swollen and appeared gangrenous due to a tourniquet been forgotten after blood samples had been drawn in a teaching hospital in Northern Nigeria. The news made waves on radio and social media outlets and once again the issue of medical negligence was brought to light. The public raved and shouted while lawyers convulsed in delight. Yes! Another fish caught. But, in the end what can we do about it?

Only by learning from these terrible mistakes can the medical profession improve safety. Unfortunately, the state of medicine today makes it more likely that mistakes will occur. The profit motive is often forcing doctors to spend less time with patients. Additionally, the number of patients per doctor at hospitals is increasing. Less personal care results in more mistakes. When you add Nigerians' general nonchalant attitude and poor work ethics into the mix, what you have is a ticking time bomb.

Clinical governance is a systematic approach to maintaining and improving the quality of

patient care within a hospital. It's essentially an overarching framework covering all activities that help sustain and improve high standards of patient care. This definition is intended to embody three key attributes: recognisably high standards of care, transparent responsibility and accountability for those standards, and a constant dynamic of improvement. Health care organisations must be able to evidence that standards are maintained when putting any structures, systems, or processes in place. Improving quality should be a core value of healthcare institutions worldwide; indeed, following the Health Care Act 1999 there is a statutory 'duty of quality' for healthcare providers in Nigeria.

Clinical governance is composed of the following elements: 1) Education and Training: It is no longer considered acceptable for any clinician to abstain from continuing education after qualification 2) Clinical audit: this is the review of clinical performance, the refining of clinical practice as a result and the measurement of performance against agreed standards - a cyclical process of improving the quality of clinical care. 3) Clinical effectiveness: this

is a measure of the extent to which a particular intervention works 4) Research and development: A good professional practice is to always seek to change in the light of evidence-led research 5) Openness: Processes which are open to public scrutiny, while respecting individual patient and practitioner confidentiality, and which can be justified openly, are an essential part of quality assurance 6) Risk management and 7) Information Management: Patient records (demographic, Socioeconomic, Clinical information) proper collection, management and use of information within healthcare systems will determine the system's effectiveness in detecting health problems, defining priorities, identifying innovative solutions and allocating resources to improve health outcomes.

It all sounds good in theory, right?

However, even though some of these systems exist in our medical centres, they are hardly implemented. Guidelines are not followed; incidents are swept under the carpet in hopes that they will magically disappear, and mortality meetings are hardly carried out because they have become boxing rings where the most junior doctor takes the hit.

The whole situation is sad and disheartening.

We need to stand up to our mistakes and make amends. Only from mistakes can we learn and be better.

BACK-HAND

BY ABDULKAREEM BABA AMINU

