

N250m earmarked for anti-EFCC campaign - Spokesman



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## Qaddafi's gaffe:

# Nigeria recalls envoy from Libya

By Aisha Umar Agaie & Nasidi A. Yahaya

THE Federal Government yesterday recalled its ambassador, Alhaji Isah Mohammed, from the Libyan Peoples Arab Socialist Jamhariyah "for consultations" following Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi's call on Tuesday for the splitting of Nigeria into two, along religious lines.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman Ozo Nwobu said yesterday that the recall was with effect from yesterday.

He said, "The recall of Nigeria's ambassador back to Nigeria is an act of protest in diplomatic circles and it will enable government find out some information about the Nigerian embassy's assessment of the situation in Libya, which will determine further action."

Nwobu said, "The intensive and oftentimes irresponsible utterances of Col. Qaddafi, his thematic grandstanding at every auspicious occasion have become too numerous to recount. These have indeed diminished his status and credibility as a leader to be taken seriously. His comments on the Jos crisis are most unacceptable and unbecoming of any leader who claims to advocate and champion the cause of African integration and unity."

He said media reports about the execution of fourteen Nigerians in Libya could not yet be confirmed because the federal government was yet to receive

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PHOTO: NAN

THE new Lamido of Adamawa, Alhaji Muhammadu Barkindo Aliyu, being installed in Yola yesterday.

# Big guns jostle for cabinet posts

By AbdulFattah Olajide & Mohammed S. Shehu

JOSTLING began in earnest yesterday for plum ministerial positions a day after Acting President Goodluck Jonathan dissolved the Federal Executive Council. *Daily Trust* learnt that PDP national leaders and other top shots, state governors, many of the recently removed ministers, as well as

influential lawmakers and traditional rulers were already mounting pressure on the Presidency to get either themselves or their nominees to be appointed as ministers.

Already, the Acting President had indicated to the former ministers at Wednesday's farewell cabinet meeting that most of them could bounce back to office. A senior political source however

said Jonathan may not be able to deliver on that promise because hundreds of party men have been waiting in the wings to serve as ministers.

PDP National Chairman Prince Vincent Ogbulafor was at the State House yesterday and held a two hour meeting with Jonathan. Although Ogbulafor told reporters that he was in the

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## Kano approves new salaries for judicial staff

From Halima Musa, Kano

THE Kano State government has approved a new salary scale for judicial workers in the state. In the new salary structure, the minimum salary would be N14,163,75. This was contained in an agreement signed by the Kano State government and the Judiciary Staff Union of Nigeria (JUSUN), Kano State chapter. The agreement read, "With effect from January 2010, the new wage profile/aggregate of basic salaries and allowances for members of JUSUN working in Kano State will begin from N14,163,75," it said.

Under the agreement, no worker will be victimised for participating in the strike.

It added that, "In the spirit of this agreement, government will strive to engender and maintain on-going efforts to improve infrastructure and an enabling environment for the smooth dispensation of justice while JUSUN and indeed all workers in the state judiciary will ensure efficient and effective service delivery."

It said based on the agreement by the union and the government, the strike action embarked upon by the workers had been called off.

## Dust obstructs flights in Maiduguri

From Yahaya Ibrahim, Maiduguri

FLIGHTS from Maiduguri to other parts of the country were yesterday afternoon suspended following a dust storm in the metropolis.

A source at the airport told our correspondent that ARIK airline flights to Abuja, Lagos and Yola were suspended due to the weather. At the time of filing this report, no flight had been able to leave the Maiduguri Airport.

Our correspondent observed motorcycle riders and passengers covering their noses to prevent the dust. Some schools were also closed and children sent home. The Spokesman of the Nigeria Metrological Agency (NIMET) in the North-East, Zakariyau Darazo told our correspondent on phone that for any aircraft to take off and land, there must be visibility of over 1,000 metres, adding that airline operators had been advised not to move because of the weather. He added that the bad weather may persist till today. He said the weather was also dangerous to motorists and advised residents to stay indoors.

# Barkindo turbaned new Lamido of Adamawa

From Abdullahi Tasiu Abubakar, Yola

CHIROMA of Adamawa Dr Muhammadu Barkindo Aliyu Musdafa, 66, was yesterday turbaned as the new Lamido of Adamawa following Governor Murtala Nyako's approval of his appointment.

At a ceremony, presided over by the most senior member of the emirate council, Galadima of Adamawa Murtala Aminu, and witnessed by the governor and other council members, Barkindo was turbaned as the 12th Lamido of Adamawa.

The governor's approval of his appointment followed the recommendation of the Adamawa Emirate's kingmakers who submitted only his name to the state government on Wednesday out of the six candidates that vied for the throne.

The six candidates that came from the three ruling houses of the emirate are Dr Barkindo Aliyu Musdafa (Yelwa); Alhaji Lawal Gabdo, Alhaji Aliyu Gabdo and Alhaji Aminu Ahmed (Sanda) as well as Alhaji Ahmed Mohammed Tongo and Ahmed ibn Lawal (Toungo).

Barkindo's two younger brothers, former comptroller-general of Nigeria Customs Service Ahmadu Aliyu Musdafa and former secretary

to Adamawa State Government Adamu Aliyu Musdafa, withdrew before the selection process began.

The two candidates from Toungo ruling house have already visited and congratulated the new Lamido while Alhaji Lawal Gabdo, representing Sanda ruling house, too, told Daily Trust that they wished him a very successful tenure, although, he said, they felt that it should have been their turn now to rule.

Barkindo is the eldest son of late Lamido Aliyu Musdafa who died on Saturday after a brief illness. Born in Yola in February 1944, the new Lamido began his primary education in Mubi before proceeding to Yola Middle School and later Dutsinma Boarding Senior Secondary School in Katsina.

He attended Zaria Provincial School and Barewa College Zaria before proceeding to Ahmadu Bello University Zaria where he secured his Diploma in Law in 1969.

Barkindo Musdafa also attended North London Polytechnic and St Clement University Grand Turn in British West Indies.

His Curriculum Vitae released by the spokesman of the palace Muhammad Chubado said the

new Lamido holds a PhD and Masters degree in transport management.

He had worked with the Nigeria Customs Service, Nigerian Port Authority and the National Freight Company before he became a Commissioner for Works and later Animal Health in the defunct Gongola State.

The new Lamido was a director of the National Engineering and Technical Company (1991-1993), chairman of Stirling Civil Engineering Nigeria Limited (1991-2003) and chairman of the Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria (2003-2005).

His late father had earlier turbaned him as Chiroma of Adamawa in 1980 and became a portfolio member of the Adamawa Emirate Council in 1987.

Among the numerous personalities that attended yesterday's ceremony include former Vice President Atiku Abubakar, former Inspector General of Police Muhammadu Gambo Jimeta, former Industries Minister Alhaji Bamanga Tukur, Chief Imam Khadi Bobboi, Senator former All Peoples Party (APP) chairman Mahmud Waziri and Wakilin Adamawa Alhaji Hassan Adamu.



VENDORS display newspaper headlines to drivers on a busy road in Abuja yesterday.

## Attempt by EFCC to arrest me political —Bafarawa

From Rakiya A. Muhammad, Sokoto

FORMER Sokoto State Governor Alhaji Attahiru Bafarawa has described the attempt by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission to arrest him after Wednesday's court session in Sokoto as political.

Speaking with our correspondent

yesterday in Sokoto, he said, "I arrived Nigeria, I was in Abuja and then I took myself to Sokoto and to the court. I was surprised when we came out of the court and the EFCC wanted to arrest me without any warrant from the court. I think it is political. I was not in court at the March 1st sitting because I was receiving medical attention abroad and I asked my lawyer to

convey my letter to the court, but the court temporarily revoked the bail."

He added that at Wednesday's sitting, the High Court stayed action on all proceedings pending the determination of their case at the Appeal Court.

"I respect my country and I respect the rule of law therefore whatever we do, let us ensure justice," he added.

## Kogi govt explains alleged attack on House member

From Isiaka Wakili, Lokoja

THE Kogi State government yesterday spoke on the alleged attack on Yakubu Yunusa, the member representing Ofu Constituency in the Kogi State House of Assembly.

Special Adviser to Governor Ibrahim Idris on Media and Publicity, Zakari Adamu told our correspondent that it was Yunusa who brought the youths to the Government

House for reconciliation based on his earlier appeal to the governor.

"The youths were claiming that since Yunusa decamped from the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) to the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) after they had helped him to get elected, he abandoned them. That was why the governor attempted to reconcile him and the youths. When the aggrieved youths attempted to rough-handle him, the

security agents at the Government House immediately took control of the situation. I don't have any information that his near attack was instigated by any politician in the state", Adamu said.

It would be recalled that the state House of Assembly had reportedly threatened to embark on an indefinite boycott of session if the government could not guarantee the security of lives and property of members.



PIC: NAN

SPEAKER, House of Representatives Dimeji Bankole (left) with Lt. Col. Biodun Quadri of Nigeria Army during the Speaker's assessment visit to Dago Nahawa village in Plateau State on Tuesday.

## Bafarawa: 'Those who caused row in court not Sokoto indigenes'

By Sulaiman M. Bisalla

MAGAJIN Garin Sokoto Alhaji Hassan Ahmadu Danbaba yesterday said that those who prevented operatives of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) from arresting former governor Alhaji Attahiru Bafarawa at the premises of the state High Court on Wednesday could not have been true indigenes of Sokoto State.

He dismissed a newspaper report which claimed that Sokoto indigenes frustrated EFCC attempt to arrest the former governor.

Speaking to *Daily Trust* in Abuja yesterday, the traditional ruler said true indigenes of Sokoto will not cause pandemonium at the court premises because they are known for decency and respect for constituted authority.

He said those who caused trouble at the premises may have been brought from elsewhere.

"We the people of Sokoto are well cultured; we have respect for authorities and we are not aware that this culture has changed," he said, stressing that community leaders across the state have always called on their subjects to behave in line with the norms and values they are known for.

While calling on the people of Sokoto to continue to be law abiding and avoid acts capable of jeopardising the peaceful atmosphere in the state, the Magajin Gari also advised Nigerians who claim innocence of charges against them to utilise any given opportunity to clear themselves.

"Violence and lack of respect for the law will not take us anywhere but set us backwards in this advanced age," he said.

## Electoral reform: Senate panel wants President to appoint INEC boss

By Abdul-Rahman Abubakar & Turaki A. Hassan

THE Senate Committee on Review of the 1999 Constitution (SCRC) has dumped the recommendation of the Justice Mohammed Lawal Uwais Electoral Reform Committee (ERC) on appointment of the Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

*Daily Trust* learnt yesterday that the report of the SCRC which was laid yesterday by Deputy Senate President Ike Ekweremadu recommends that appointment of the INEC boss should be left at the discretion of the President in difference to recommendation of

the Uwais panel which wants the appointment to be done by the National Judicial Council (NJC).

Sources told *Daily Trust* that members of the Senate panel believed that appointment of INEC chairman is not the problem of the electoral system.

A member of the committee who spoke on condition of anonymity said "If you look at the electoral situation in the country, appointment of INEC chairman is not the problem. The problem is the integrity and sincerity of the person appointed and whether or not politicians will give him free hand to do his job sincerely.

We studied the situation in other countries and found that

most electoral commission bosses were appointed by the Presidents. Look at Ghana for instance, President Rawlings appointed the electoral commission chairman but the first election he conducted the President's party lost. So it is not the appointment that matters."

The source said "If INEC gets first line charge we believe the conduct of election will improve because nobody can then stifle them of funds to intimidate them into submission.

In the past we saw INEC begging for funds, but if they have their funds straight from the Consolidated Revenue of the Federation, their independence is guaranteed."

It was also gathered that the report recommends that beginning 2011, federal lawmakers may begin to go for mid-term elections as part of plans to stagger elections in the country.

Other recommendation of the panel include establishment of the Electoral Offences Commission (EOC), allowance for independent candidates and to delete all sections bothering on elections from the constitution to be incorporated in a comprehensive Electoral Law being proposed.

Debate on the report of the SCRC is to commence Tuesday and there are indications that the process is to be televised live on television.

## PTDF commends Media Trust on integrity

By Hamisu Muhammad

EXECUTIVE Secretary of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) Engr Muttaqa Rabe Darma has commended the management and staff of the Media Trust Limited for upholding the ethic of journalism and promoting integrity of the practice.

Engr Darma made the commendation while receiving the Managing Director and Chief Operation Officer of the Media Trust Limited Mallam Isiaq Ajibola yesterday in Abuja.

He said the Fund has enjoyed a cordial relationship

with *Media Trust*, publishers of *Daily*, *Weekly* and *Sunday Trust* newspapers, which informs a lot of Nigerians about its mandate and activities.

"You are our partners in letting Nigerians to know what we do. I understand the symbiotic and very cordial relationship that PTDF has with *Daily Trust*," Engr Darma, who was represented by the General Manager, Nigerian Content Division, Hajiya Habiba Wakil, said.

He said the fund recently introduced local scholarship schemes in order to reach more Nigerians who are not

opportune to be on the Overseas Scheme due to the limited number of the slots.

He informed the *Media Trust* team that the PTDF has intervened in upgrading universities by the way of building new departments, equipping them, providing books and journals, computers etc to make them conducive for learning.

In his remark, Mallam Isiaq Ajibola said the company believes strongly that the activities of the PTDF are a good strategy by the federal government to educate Nigerians and empower them to compete in the oil and industry.

## Spokesman: N250m earmarked for anti EFCC campaign

By Boco Edet

THE Economic and Financial Crimes Commission yesterday said a group of some accused people has earmarked N250million to launch media attacks against the commission for daring to touch some people seen as untouchables.

The group is being spearheaded by a national lawmaker for expediting adjudication on corruption cases before the 2011 elections kick off, spokesman of the anti-graft agency Femi Babafemi said in Abuja yesterday.

Babafemi who did not name the lawmaker however said he is being prosecuted in a court in Abuja and the group under the aegis "Group of Accused Persons" comprises of people that are either facing investigation or prosecution.

He said intelligence reports available to the agency as at Wednesday night revealed that as much as N6million has been offered to people to appear on some discussion programmes on television stations to attack the commission.

# Senate: Soludo fooled Nigerians on global meltdown

By Abdul-Rahman Abubakar & Turaki A. Hassan

FORMER Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) governor Professor Chukwuma Soludo did not tell Nigerians the true status of Nigerian banks at the start of the global financial meltdown in 2008, Senate President David Mark has said.

Speaking during a one-day public hearing on the Assets Management Corporation of Nigeria (AMCON) establishment bill,

Senator Mark said, "We have found ourselves where we are today as a result of one thing; the Central Bank's inability to supervise the banks properly."

"I recall that in Soludo's time, we called the governor of CBN no less than three times to come and brief us when the economic melt-down started, and on each occasion, we were assured and re-assured that the situation in Nigeria was excellent and that there was no problem at all. Now

we know better," he added.

Mark who blamed the former CBN boss and the candidate of the ruling People's Democratic Party (PDP) in last month's Anambra State governorship polls for the woes in the banking sector, argued that if there was proper supervision of the banks by the apex bank under Soludo's watch, the banks wouldn't have been where they are today.

"What is even more disturbing is that while the banks were run-

ning these toxic debts, they were also declaring profits. Simply, I mean to me as an ordinary man, I cannot understand how you will be owing so much debts and then you are dashing out money. It is never done in my place," Mark said.

Speaking, CBN governor Sanusi Lamido Sanusi said the banking reform embarked upon by the apex bank uncovered so many abnormalities in the sector which could only be addressed by the establishment of an asset man-

agement company.

Senator Nkechi Nwoagu, chairman Senate Committee on Banking, Insurance and other Financial Institutions, said, "The establishment of AMCON is aimed at assisting banks to efficiently manage and dispose of toxic assets, encourage virile economic activities, improve the liquidity of our banks' balance sheets and create a conducive environment for the resumption of lending activities in the banking sector."

PIC: KENNEDY EGBONODJE

## Nigeria will seek fresh Nitel bids if sale collapses

NIGERIA will halt the sale of former state telecoms monopoly Nitel and start afresh if a probe of the top two bidders finds them unable to pay their promised offer price, the privatisation agency said on Thursday.

Acting President Goodluck Jonathan set up a panel last week to investigate the two prospective buyers amid doubts about the financial backers for a \$2.5 billion preferred bid approved by the Bureau for Public Enterprises (BPE). The bid by the New Generation consortium including Unicom (0762.HK: Quote), China's second biggest carrier, little-known Dubai company Minerva, and a small local firm, valued Nitel at more than five times what industry analysts said it was worth.

Doubts over the bid arose when Unicom initially denied any involvement but later said one of its units had shown interest.

There was further confusion over Minerva, which is meant to be providing much of the financing.

Omen International, a consortium registered in the British Virgin Islands which emerged as the reserve bidder with a \$956 million offer, is also being investigated by Jonathan's panel.

BPE spokesman Joe Anichebe said the investigation would be completed by the end of the week.

"We are dealing with the preferred and reserved bidders and if they fail to pay, we terminate the process and start afresh," Anichebe said. The Financial Times reported on Thursday that the third bidding consortium Brymedia, whose technical partner is an arm of Telecom New Zealand, was prepared to invest \$5 billion in Nitel if the government threw New Generation out of the process.

Anichebe said a fresh bid round would be needed if the top two consortiums were ruled out.

Nigeria has been trying to sell Nitel for almost a decade and the controversy over the latest effort is embarrassing for sub-Saharan Africa's second biggest economy. Jonathan last week suspended the head of the BPE in the wake of the confusion.



MANAGING Director of Media Trust Ltd Alhaji Isiaq Ajibola (right), presenting a souvenir to the General Manager, Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF), Hajiya Habiba Wakil, representing the Executive Secretary, during his courtesy visit to PTDF in Abuja yesterday.

## Cabinet dissolution: 'Jonathan may have kept Obasanjo in dark'

From Isa Umar Gusau, Maiduguri

ACTING President Goodluck Jonathan shocked virtually everyone in the corridors of power by dissolving the entire cabinet because he kept the decision very close to his chest until he acted on Wednesday, a former minister told Daily Trust yesterday.

The ex-minister, who pleaded not to be identified, told our correspondent on telephone that though there were speculations of imminent cabinet shakeup, it was never known to many that the acting president was capable of dissolving the entire cabinet even when ailing President Umaru Yar'adua and his wife Turai were in Aso rock.

He said that getting feelers on Jonathan's next plan may only be possible by the weekend as he appears to be working somewhat in secrecy.

The former minister also said

with the manner the acting President executed the dissolution, former President Olusegun Obasanjo may not have even been in the clear picture. He however said that it will be nearly impossible for the acting president to constitute a new cabinet without consulting with Obasanjo since he (Jonathan) is likely to map out plans on how to get rid of those close to Yar'adua as well as some of the elderly ministers he couldn't control because he respected them too much to his disadvantage. The source said that Jonathan is not likely to re-appoint them.

A source in the PDP said that one or two ministers sacked by Yar'adua in 2008 may be re-appointed by the acting president to reward them for either kick-starting the clamour for transfer of power from Yar'adua to him or for some roles they played in the power struggle.

## Ex-minister explains yelling at staff

By Misbahu Bashir

FORMER Minister of Defence Godwin Abbe yesterday explained that he was always shouting at the officials of the ministry because he was impatient with the way they discharge their duties sometimes.

Abbe, who made the explanation during the handing over of the ministry's affairs to the Permanent Secretary Ezekiel Oye-momi, said he often yelled at his sluggish subordinate staffers in order to make them more efficient and hardworking.

He said "Now that I am leaving, the yelling will be over; but I shout at the staffers so that they can do their job better but was not done for any ulterior motive".

While acknowledging the support of the staff of the ministry, Abbe noted that during his brief stay, the army was restructured and acute accommodation problem was addressed.

## Perm secs take over from former ministers

By our reporters

MINISTERS yesterday began handing over to their respective Permanent secretaries in compliance with the directive of the Acting President following the dissolution of the cabinet last Wednesday. Our reporters who monitored the ministries indicated that the 8 former Ministers handed over to their Permanent Secretaries. They include Professor Dora Akunyili, Information and Communications, Dr Sayyad Abba Ruma, Agriculture and Water Resources, Godwin Abbe, Defence, Mansur Muthar, Finance, Ambassador Ibrahim Kazare, Labour, Dr Sam Egwu, Education, Sen. Muhammadu Adamu Aliero, FCT and John Odey, Environment.

Daily Trust gathered that handing over was yet to take place in Power, National Planning, Foreign Affairs and Petroleum Resources Ministries.

PHOTO: NAN

## Nigeria recalls envoy from Libya

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any formal information to that effect. He said it will be confirmed when Ambassador Isa Mohamed returns to the country. Government is aware that some Nigerians are on death row in Libya, he said.

He said "the Federal Government welcomes well meaning comments from concerned members of the international community regarding the crises in Plateau State.

The government hereby reassures all Nigerians and the international community that the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Nigeria are sacrosanct and non-negotiable."

Meanwhile, The House of Representatives yesterday summoned the Libyan ambassador in Nigeria over the recent comments credited to the Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi calling for the splitting of Nigeria into two along religious lines.

The House adopted the resolution after a motion sponsored by Rep Halims Agoda (PDP-Delta State).

Agoda said the comments were a contradiction of Gaddafi's struggle to establish one single African country, saying "how can he advocate for a single African country and at the same time calling for the break-up of another country?"

**“ We can afford to ignore the messenger but not the message, because it is a fact that we are currently being challenged as a nation**

Similarly the House urged Acting President Goodluck Jonathan to recall Nigeria's ambassador to Libya for consultations over the comments.

The members also urged the securities agencies to urgently launch investigations to ascertain if there was any relationship between Gaddafi's comments and the recurring religious crises in some parts of the country.

Many of the members who spoke condemned the statement and also attributed it to the ignorance of the composition and structure of Nigeria by the Libyan leader. Many members recalling other inflammatory remarks on international issues by Gaddafi.

Former House Speaker Mrs. Patricia Etteh said, "We can afford to ignore the messenger but not the message, because it is a fact that we are currently being challenged as a nation by religious-induced crises that claimed thousands of lives."



TOMATOES arriving at the Mile 2 market in Lagos yesterday after the warning strike by traders was called off.

## Big guns jostle for cabinet posts

Continued from page 1

Villa to brief the Acting President on party issues, sources said the party chief and his colleagues insisted on the PDP national and state branches retaining an important role in the selection of new ministers in order to retain the loyalty and morale of party men ahead of next year's general elections.

*Daily Trust* learnt that the party bosses were fearful that a small clique of the Acting President's aides and friends could hijack the nominating process to foist their own men as ministers, to the detriment of loyal party men and women.

Also seen at the State House yesterday was Chairman of the Presidential Advisory Council, retired Lt Gen T. Y. Danjuma who recently urged Jonathan to make the most of the time available to him in running the government.

Danjuma also had a separate meeting with Jonathan for about two hours. Sources said it may not be unconnected with the new list of ministers.

Also at the State House yesterday was Chief Rochas Okorocho, who finished second in the PDP's presidential primaries of December 2006, after President Umaru Musa Yar'adua. Some sources said Okorocho was at the Villa to perfect his nomination as minister.

*Daily Trust* also learnt that state governors who belong to

the PDP, about 28 of them, have already made representations to the Acting President demanding that they play key roles in nominating ministers from their states.

The governors repeated their position of two weeks ago, that Jonathan made a mistake by nominating members without of his Presidential Advisory Council without consulting them, something that they said did not happen even under the imperial President Olusegun Obasanjo.

Sources said most of the governors want to change the ministers who were representing their states in the Federal cabinet. A source said this was mostly due to calculations for the 2011 elections, since first term governors fear that a minister who serves in the cabinet for too long could "grow wings" and create problems for the party nomination later this year.

Many other ministerial hopefuls have run to influential party men and regional leaders who have an influence on Jonathan. The top player is believed to be Ijaw leader Chief Edwin Clark. Former President Olusegun Obasanjo, former military ruler General Ibrahim Babangida, General T. Y. Danjuma, new National Security Adviser general Aliyu Mohamed Gusau, Secretary to the Government of the Federation and Jonathan loyalist Mahmud Yayale Ahmed are all thought to be influential in the new selection process.

Besides, many former ministers are mounting lobbies of their own to bounce back into the cabinet.

Those former ministers thought to be in the Acting President's good books are believed to include Professor Dora Akunyili, Mrs. Diezani Allison-Madueke, Elder Godsway Orubebe, Prince Adetokunbo Kayode [SAN] and Chief Demola Seriki. Conversely, former ministers thought to be loyal to the ailing President Yar'adua are thought to stand little chance of returning to office under Jonathan.

Ogbulafor told reporters after meeting Jonathan yesterday that the ruling Peoples' Democratic Party (PDP) asked him to consult the party before appointing new ministers. The party also threw its weight behind Jonathan, saying that it was in full support of the cabinet.

Asked to comment on the role of the party in the constitution of the new cabinet, Ogbulafor said: "The Acting president will consult us. He did the dissolution yesterday and we will give him time to do the consultation. I am in the State House to brief the Acting President on party issues."

Ogbulafor, who described Jonathan as a "party man to the core," urged him to liaise with the party, saying that the party has key role to play in the running of the government.

"We still play a key role. I have absolute confidence in the Acting President. He is a party man, he

has been governor of a state and he has been a Vice President and now an Acting President. So, he is a party man to the core. We are satisfied. Very, very satisfied with the dissolution of the cabinet."

Even though Dr. Jonathan had indicated to the former ministers on Wednesday that his reconstitution of the new cabinet will be quick, a top PDP official told *Daily Trust* last night it would take about two weeks to reconstitute it.

He said the process of consulting governors and party branches was just beginning and he did not think that Jonathan could have a list ready before the next 10 days at least.

Meanwhile, Adviser to the President on National Assembly Matters Mohammed Abba-Aji said yesterday that only credible people would make the new list of ministers.

He told reporters at the State House in Abuja that the list has not been handed over to him, adding that he has confidence in the Acting President that only the best candidates would be picked for the job.

Abba-Aji was among the many visitors to the Villa yesterday, apparently to consult with Jonathan over the transmission of new ministers' names to the National Assembly. Asked what the National Assembly will be looking for in the new nominees, he said, "the best. People who he can work with to move this nation forward."

# Plateau tribunal sacks council boss

From Mahmud Lalo, Jos

THE election petition tribunal set up by the Plateau State government to look into the November 2008 local government elections in the state has sacked the Chairman of Wase Local

Government Area Muhammad Abubakar Badu. Chairman of the tribunal, Magistrate Ishaku Kunda, yesterday delivered the judgement which quashed the election of Badu, a People's Democratic Party (PDP) member on the ground that the presiding

officer did not return to the collation centre after the election. The tribunal added that the result of the election was fabricated and that the result submitted was not genuine and pronounced Action Congress candidate Muhammad Zakari as the duly elected chair-

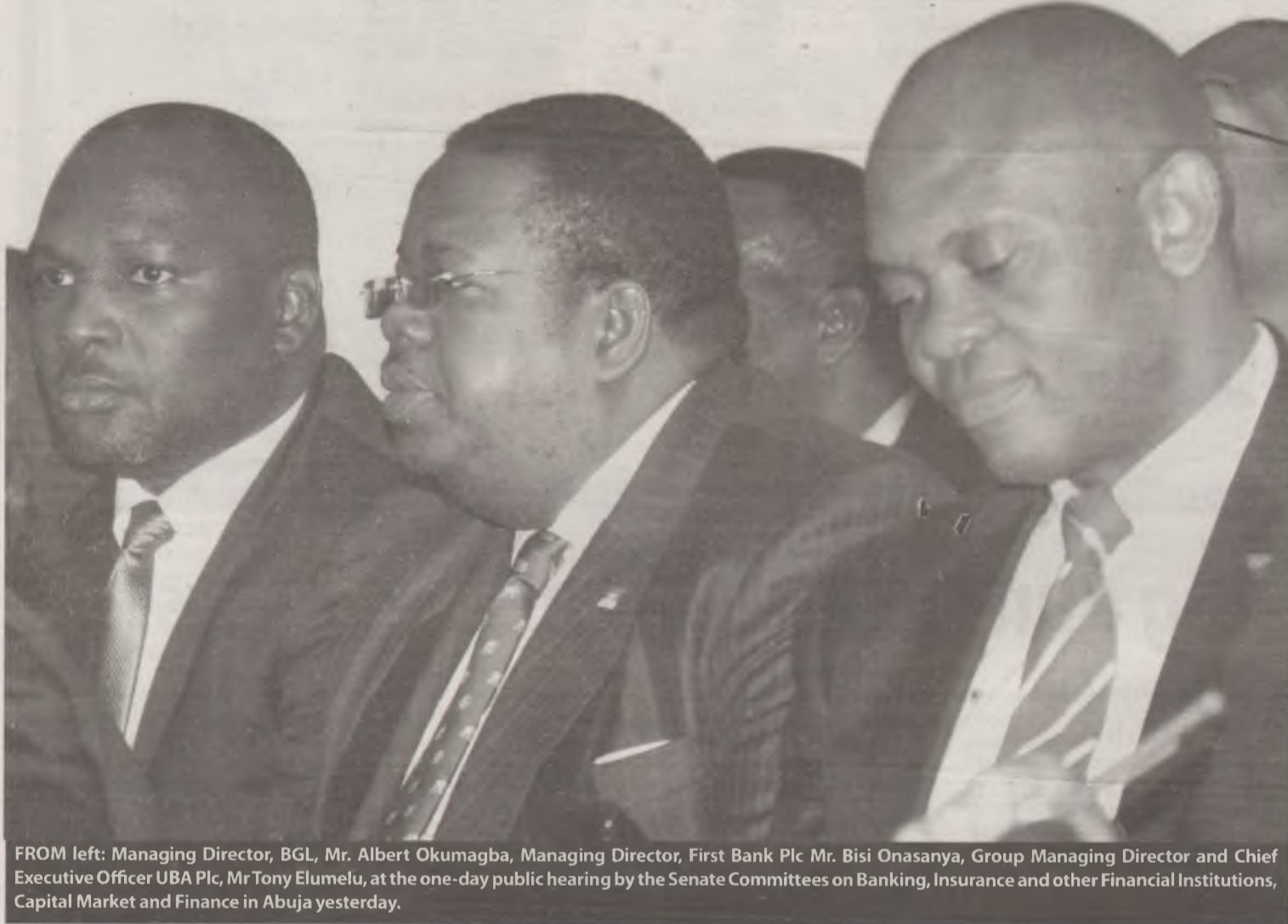
man of Wase.

AC candidate Muhammad Zakari had gone to the tribunal challenging the November 2008 local government election.

The chairman of the AC in the state, Chief Emos Gizo, said the judiciary had shown that they

were the last hope of the electorate.

Chairman of the Conference of Nigeria Political Parties (CNPP) in the state Alhaji Muhammad Yusuf Kanam commended the judiciary for strengthening democracy in the country.



FROM left: Managing Director, BGL, Mr. Albert Okumagba, Managing Director, First Bank Plc Mr. Bisi Onasanya, Group Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer UBA Plc, Mr Tony Elumelu, at the one-day public hearing by the Senate Committees on Banking, Insurance and other Financial Institutions, Capital Market and Finance in Abuja yesterday.

## Jos crisis: Police to prosecute indicted persons

From Ahmed Mohammed, Jos

THE Assistant Inspector General of Police (AIG) in charge of Zone 4 Mr Donald Iroham yesterday said the police would prosecute anyone indicted in the Jos crises.

Mr Iroham who said this yesterday while briefing newsmen in Jos, Plateau State, said seven persons arrested after Wednesday's attack in Riyom were being interrogated after which they would be prosecuted.

He said he was in Jos to compliment the efforts of those already on ground to restore peace.

"We have already mapped out our strategy, we will intensify surveillance and effective intelligence gathering. You will see policemen everywhere because we want to have enough men on ground to deal with the situation. Anyone found guilty will also be made to face the music because we want people to have confidence in us", he said. Iroham advised trouble makers to join hands with the Police to restore peace.

## ...Police explain release of 43 suspects

From Ahmed Mohammed, Jos

THE Plateau Police Command yesterday explained why it released the 43 suspects arrested near Jos last week.

Assistant Commissioner of Police in charge of the state Criminal Investigation Department Mr Femi Oyeleye told newsmen yesterday in Jos that after investigation, nothing incriminating was found on the suspects and that was why they were released.

Mr Oyeleye said majority of the suspects were from Orugwe in Imo State and were on their way back home.

Last week, security operatives intercepted a bus with 43 passengers along the Jos Abuja road, but were released on Tuesday.

## 'Why Kogi tops NECO malpractice list'

From Isiaka Wakili, Lokoja

THE highest rate of examination malpractice recorded by the National Examination Council (NECO) in Kogi State during the last external senior secondary school certificate examinations is due to the influx of candidates from other states, the state government has said.

Special Adviser to Governor Ibrahim Idah on Media and Publicity Zakari Adamu who spoke with our correspondent yesterday said candidates from other states came to register for examinations at various centres in Kogi State because of the good record the state had in public

examinations.

"Kogi State is known for academic excellence that is why candidates from other states usually leave their states for our states and in the process, they introduced all these malpractices. Some of us schooled in the rural areas of the state and we never knew about examination malpractices. If we stop these candidates from registering in our state, the problem will be wiped out", he said.

The chairman of the Academic Staff Union of Secondary Schools (ASUSS) in Kogi, Mr Rotimi Ojo has blamed examination malpractice on NECO.

"NECO is the cause of the problem. Qualified

supervisors and invigilators were not recruited for the examinations. NECO did not involve school principals and other stakeholders in the conduct of examinations in the state. Instead, they brought people who do not know anything about the conduct of public examinations", he said.

Ojo added that the NECO was not objective in its rating of examination malpractice, saying, "For instance, Ibaji Local Government Area was not accessible and the NECO team could not reach there, yet the council cancelled the candidates results, alleging malpractice. Does that make sense?" he said.

## Lokoja market commissioning stalled

From Isiaka Wakili, Lokoja

THE commissioning of the Lokoja international market could not take place yesterday as earlier scheduled. This according to the Kogi State government was due to cir-

cumstances beyond its control. Special Adviser on Media and Publicity to the Governor, Zakari Adamu, hinted that the development might not be unconnected to Wednesday's dissolution of the Federal Executive Council. He said a new

date would soon be announced for the commissioning of the market and other projects in the state, adding that the government regretted any inconvenience the postponement might have caused the people of the state.

"We did not expect what happened at the federal level yesterday. I think that was why the Acting President could not come to commission these projects as earlier intended. But very soon, we will announce a new date", he said.

# Nigerian dies at Swiss airport before expulsion

A Nigerian deportee died at Zurich airport after collapsing in handcuffs as he was being placed onto a special flight for expelled criminals or failed asylum seekers, Swiss police said yesterday.

The man had been arrested

for drug dealing, said Zurich police in a statement, and was meant to have been sent back to Nigeria on the flight with 15 other people.

"The 29-year-old, whose asylum application was not accepted by the Federal Migra-

tion Office, had refused food for several days, and was trying to resist arrest. He could only be handcuffed with use of force," AFP quoted the Swiss police as saying in the statement.

"Shortly after, he suddenly

showed health problems," the police added, saying that the accompanying officials had unlocked his handcuffs and tried to resuscitate him.

However, the man died shortly after. Local police added that investigations are

ongoing into the cause and circumstances of his death.

The Federal Migration Office said in a statement that it "deplored this tragic incident" and that it was suspending special flights while a probe was taking place.

PIC: NAJEEM RAHEEM



STUDENTS at the maiden matriculation of Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti.

## Why Bafarawa was not arrested - EFCC

By Boco Edet

ECONOMIC and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) failed to arrest former Governor of Sokoto State Attahiru Bafarawa at the state's High Court on Wednesday where his case came up for hearing to avoid violence.

Bafarawa's supporters who had thronged the court had checkmated his arrest and whisked him out of the court premises while his counsel Lateef Fagbemi (SAN) threatened to sue the Commission if operatives succeeded.

EFCC's Spokesman Femi Babafemi said the operatives acted on the order of the court to re-arrest him.

"After the court session there was a court order for his re-arrest and after the court session there was an attempt to do that but because of the kind of arrangement, the kind of mobilization of political thugs we just had to be careful in how we handle such cases and that was why we never had such incident in that place," Babafemi said.

He denied there was any political undertone to the action and said, "When people of high profile are arrested and are taken to court they tend to advance reasons as to why they were arrested."

The court on Wednesday adjourned till April 7 for hearing on the matter as the former governor and 18 others obtained an interlocutory injunction at the Court of Appeal, Abuja to stop the continuation of the case against them.

The ex-governor was arraigned by EFCC over an alleged N15bn fraud belonging to the state government during his tenure.

## Jos: 'Eight Muslims killed in secret attacks'

From Andrew Agbese, Jos

THE Muslim community in Plateau State said eight of its members have been killed secretly in Jos in the last two weeks.

The community in a statement by its spokesman Muhammad Sani Mudi said two water vendors were killed last week along Busa Buji Street in Jos while there were four different attacks on Muslims in Naraguta, Vom, Rukuba road and Bauchi ring road and last Sunday's sudden disappearance of a newspaper vendor.

They said Muslims in Plateau State now live in fear as a result of what has been happening to their members recently and cannot move

or go about their normal businesses freely as before.

Mudi said it is regrettable that there has been an intensification of hate campaigns as well as provocative assertions to incite the Christian community against Muslims in the state by some group of people and want the development checked.

He condemned the recent recommendation of the Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (PFN) Plateau State chapter, which called on Christians to screen newspaper vendors before allowing them come near Christian gathering while not allowing them come near church building saying this may have instigated the recent development.

## Culprit sentenced to 35 years for attempted murder

By Atika Balal

A Federal Capital Territory (FCT) High Court has sentenced one Mr. Ofem Omini Ekapong to 35 years in prison for attempting to murder the Secretary of the National Judicial Council (NJC) Danladi Halilu.

In delivering judgment, Justice Hussain Baba Yussuf held that most of the facts leveled against the accused person were admitted by him.

Ekapong was charged alongside Lawrence Many and others said to be at large for shooting the NJC secretary on Feb. 23, 2006 at Area 11, Garki Abuja.

Ekapong, whose seven count charge includes armed robbery, did not deny the allegation as evidence was

given by one of the witnesses, Olawole Olawoye.

The court held that the statement made by the accused was confessional and voluntary and discountenanced a claim by the accused that he was forced to make the confessional statement.

Justice Yusuf rejected the plea of the accused person to temper justice with mercy as he held that he was a person of doubtful character.

While stating that the attack on the NJC Secretary was without basis or provocation, he noted that the accused person had been hostile in court while the trial lasted.

Ekapong was convicted on all seven charges and is to serve his term concurrently. He however has a right to challenge the judgment on appeal.

## Reps want Jonathan to tackle corruption

By Nasidi A. Yahaya

ABOUT 140 members of the House of Representatives under the aegis of Nigeria First Forum yesterday asked the Acting President Goodluck Jonathan to expose and fight corruption in all its ramifications.

The members led by Rep Abba Anas Adamu (PDP, Jigawa

State) told newsmen that they are collaborating with their Senate counterparts under the auspices of the National Interest Group to push for maximum support for the acting president by removing all legal and constitutional impediments that shall impede his progress.

Adamu said: "The issue of the ongoing electoral reforms must

be addressed through the institutionalisation of a fair and transparent electoral process. In addition; to the foregoing, we enjoin the acting President to expose and fight relentlessly against corruption in all its ramifications".

They also asked Jonathan to give priority to the power sector, pointing out that the sector has suffered greatly.

The forum said: "Our dear nation, Nigeria will particularly be indebted to the acting president if he will give unqualified priority to the perennial problem of power which has so much impeded our economic progress".

The members said since his empowerment as acting president, Jonathan has taken positive steps which deserve commenda-

tion like appointment of a new and veteran National Security Adviser Lt Gen. Aliyu Gusau; the setting up of the Presidential Advisory Council; the spontaneous response to the lingering Jos crisis; the initial minor cabinet reshuffle and the final dissolution of the hitherto polarised executive council of the federation".

# Yayale disowns fraudulent mails

By Francis Okeke

SECRETARY to the Government of the Federation (SGF) Mahmud Yayale Ahmed yesterday urged the general public to disregard letters purportedly emanating from his office offering political appointments.

A press statement signed by

the spokesman of the office of the SGF Salisu Na'inna Dambatta said some faceless persons have been contacting unsuspecting members of the public asking them to present their credentials for consideration and appointment into non-existing political positions.

Na'inna explained that the

SGF, "Mahmud Yayale Ahmed, CFR wishes to state with all the emphasis at his command that any correspondences through text messages and e-mails allegedly from his office requesting for such credentials from any member of the public should be disregarded because it is unauthorised, fraudulent and mis-

leading.

"Where it is practicable, anybody identified to have been engaged in sending the purported correspondences should immediately be reported to security agencies for appropriate action," he said.

The statement government has standard channels and methods

of contacting individuals for any purpose and the deviation from the established methods should be disregarded by the recipients of such correspondences.

*Daily Trust* recalls that a similar press release was issued on July 1, 2009 by the office of the SGF warning members of the public to disregard such mails.



A motorcyclist coping with strange dust that beclouded Maiduguri yesterday.

PIC: YAHAYA IBRAHIM

## Senate sends delegation to Kano over market fire

By Abdul-Rahman Abubakar & Turaki A. Hassan

SENATE has raised a six-man delegation to convey its sympathy to government and people of Kano State over the recent fire incident that razed most parts of Kantin-Kwari market in the ancient city.

The delegation will be led by Senator Mahmud Kanti Bello, to be accompanied by Aloysius Etok (PDP, Akwa Ibom), Ahmad Ibrahim Lawan (ANPP, Yobe North), Chris Anyanwu (PDP, Imo), Munirudeen Muse (AC, Lagos) and Abubakar Danso Sodangi (PDP, Nasarawa West).

The resolution followed a motion moved by Senator Mohammed Adamu Bello (ANPP, Kano Central) who

informed Senate that the inferno claimed lives of some traders while over 500 shops and goods worth billions of Naira perished in the inferno.

According to Bello "The Senate is worried that the loss of lives and the wanton damages to the entire market could have been averted or minimised if the market was properly planned. The fire outbreak took a very long time to be brought under control owing to the inaccessible nature of the market to the fire fighting machines and other volunteers on the sad day."

He said the fire affected all ethnic groups in the country including foreigners that conduct trading activities in the market.

## New cabinet: AC asks Jonathan to ignore govts

By Muideen Olaniyi

THE Action Congress (AC) yesterday advised Acting President Goodluck Jonathan to ignore the influence of governors in the constitution of fresh Ministers in order to pick those who can make an appreciable impact in a short time.

AC National Publicity Secretary Alhaji Lai Mohammed said if the Acting President gives the governors' and

other interests a free hand to nominate candidates for ministerial posts, he would get ministers whose loyalty will be to the governors, rather than to the country.

Mohammed also advised the Acting President to use technocrats, if necessary, in order for his administration to impact on the lives of the Nigerian people.

He attributed the problems that bedevilled the sacked cabinet to the

absence of visionary leadership, adding that the dissolution of the cabinet was long overdue.

He described them as a band of unpatriotic people who put narrow and parochial interests above the national interest.

He restated that the key areas in which the Acting President can lift the veil of despondency across the country are electoral reform, power and energy as well as the Niger Delta issue.

## ...nominate credible people only – CNPP

By Abdulmutallib A. Abubakar

CONFERENCE of Nigeria Political Parties (CNPP) yesterday advised the Acting President Goodluck Jonathan to nominate competent and transparent personalities as members of Executive Council of the Federation (EXCOF).

CNPP's National Publicity Secretary Osita Okechukwu said in a statement that the appointment should be made regardless of party affiliation or religion creed as long as those nominees have good track records.

He also lamented that nomination of partisan and

corrupt people will defeat the objective of the dissolution and make mockery of the expectations of Nigerians who earnestly want the decayed infrastructure and educational services to be revamped.

While maintaining their position to invoke section 144 of 1999 constitution,

Okechukwu said selection of patriots who will appreciate value and relevance of that provision would ensure its application by empowering the President of the Senate to set-up a medical panel that will determine the true state of the health of President Umaru Musa Yar'adua.

## FG tasks commonwealth nations on youth dev

By Romoke W. Ahmad

ACTING President Goodluck Jonathan has called on commonwealth member nations to take up and intensify the issue of youth mainstreaming seriously in their development planning process.

He said the younger

generation is the hope of every nation and also one of the most vulnerable in the society.

Jonathan, who was represented by the Secretary to the Government of the Federation Alhaji Yayale Ahmed, said this in Abuja during the opening ceremony of the Africa Region

Senior Government Officials meeting (RSGOM).

He said though there is a growing concern globally among comity of nations of commonwealth in respect of young people which brought about the acceptance of investing in young people by member states in their last meeting

held at Trinidad, Spain and Tobago.

Former Minister of Youth Development Senator Akinlabi Oluwakunmi urged the African Region of Commonwealth nations to create synergy with relevant stakeholders to replicate initiatives with success stories.

## How Nigeria can progress, by Archbishop

By Aisha Umar Agaie

NIGERIA will not progress but will continue to go round in circles unless practical action is taken on the crisis situation in the country, chairman of Nigeria Christian Pilgrims Commission (NCPC) Archbishop Nicolas D. Okoh has said. He made the statement at the NCPC and conference of states held in Abuja.

On pilgrimage, he said "We do not just organise pilgrimage for people to visit Israel for comfort only but should help in national retention, issues of time like this most come to our mind seriously, that is why

we choose the theme of 'in times like this, what do we do in order to achieve our national health.'

He said crisis is a terrible distraction for national development and people must find solution to the bloody circle so that we can concentrate on national development.

"As a Christian body, pilgrimage is a vehicle to change in crisis situation and if we cannot achieve change, the body is not serving its purpose," he added.

He appealed to Muslims and Christians to stop bloodshed and called for prayers and practical steps for development.

## 'Counterfeiters use advanced machinery to imitate drugs'

By Ruby Rabi

COUNTERFEITERS of fake drug now use advanced machinery to package their products even more attractive and better looking than the genuine drugs, Director General of the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC), Dr Paul Orhii has said. He said some of these fake drugs have expensive packages and are sometimes more expensive than the genuine drugs on the market. Speaking during the inauguration

of the federal task force on counterfeit/fake drugs and unwholesome processed foods in Abuja yesterday, the NAFDAC boss said his agency has already put in place strategies and systems to make the counterfeiting business very unprofitable for those engaging in the act.

"Counterfeiters produce nearly exact replicas of the genuine drugs, copying every detail including packaging and labeling. They have even advanced to imitating holograms and other sophisticated printing techniques," he said.

# LG boss dies in car crash

From Mahmud Lalo, Jos

THE Chairman of Bassa Local Government Area of Plateau State Mr. Amil Anko yesterday died in a car crash which occurred along the Pankshin-Mangu high way, Public Relations Officer of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) Sa'idu Badamasi has said.

Badamasi said the accident occurred when the car carry-

ing the chairman, a Peugeot 406, attempted to avoid a pothole on the road.

He added that when the vehicle dodged the pothole, but rammed into an electrical pole. The Plateau State government through its Commissioner for Information and Communication Gregory Yenlong has described the chairman's death as a great loss, not only to the

people of Bassa, but the state.

Mr. Yenlong added that Mr. Anko was a just man who was committed to serving his people, saying he contributed immensely to the development of his people and the state.

"Truly, he will be missed and we pray God to give his family and the people of Bassa Local Government Area the fortitude to bear the loss", he said.

## Security beefed up ahead of NDDC stakeholders forum

From Leye Adewumi, Akure

FOLLOWING the recent bomb blasts that disrupted the post amnesty meeting in Warri, Delta State, the Ondo State government has beefed up security in Ilaje/Ese-Odo area of the state ahead of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) Stakeholders forum which begins today.

Addressing newsmen yesterday in Akure, the commissioner representing Ondo on the board of the NDDC, Mr. Benson Enikuomehin, said the commission was working with all security agencies to ensure adequate security during the meeting.

Enikuomehin, who is the convener of the forum, said, "We are networking with all security

agencies and we even choose Igbokoda as the venue because it is a Naval Base. We don't expect any problem because the chance of militants overrunning a whole Naval Base is very remote. It is an oddity."

He said about 300 indigenes of Ilaje and Ese-odo Local Government Areas including traditional rulers, civil servants, politicians would participate.

He said the purpose of the meeting was to discuss with the leaders of the oil-producing areas in the state on ways to tackle challenges militating against them, saying the commission would focus on road construction, provision of pipe borne water, qualitative healthcare and quality education in the area.



PIC: NAN

PERMANENT Secretary, Ministry of Information and Communications Professor Nicholas Damachi (left) receiving the hand over notes from the outgoing Minister of Information and Communications Professor Dora Akunyili in Abuja yesterday.

## Meningitis: Yobe residents sleep outside

From Hamza Idris, Damaturu

MANY families in Damaturu and other parts of Yobe State now sleep outside their rooms for fear of the Cerebrospinal Meningitis (CSM) disease which is usually caused by heat. Our correspondent who visited Nayinawa, Sabon Fegi, Babban Tsangaya, Nyanya and Sani Daura estates in Damaturu on Wednesday night reports that the men now sleep outside their houses while women and children sleep in the courtyards.

"Sleeping outside is a necessary precaution because anything can happen due to this unbearable heat" Alhaji Musa Ali, a resident of Sabon Fegi said.

Reports from Nguru, Gashua, Machina and other parts of the state indicate that power supply has declined drastically.

"We all sleep outside because the rooms are too hot", Sunusi Sani, a resident of Nguru told our correspondent on phone. He said men and women including children now take their bath at least four times daily.

Speaking yesterday in Damaturu at an awareness campaign on the control of CSM in the country, the Director General of National Emergency Management Agency Air Vice Marshal Audu Bida said last year, 156 people died in the country as a result of CSM attack and noted that the North-eastern part of the country was the worst hit.

Bida, who was represented by Mr. Gediel Apolos, the Assistant Zonal Coordinator of NEMA in charge of the North-east added that there was a need for all stakeholders to collaborate to tackle Meningitis.

## NYSC insists no corps members for crisis areas

From Ismail Adebayo, Birnin Kebbi

THE Director General of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) Brig Gen. Maharazu Tsiga has restated the decision of the agency to withdraw corps members from states where their

security cannot be guaranteed. He said the security of corps members could not be compromised for whatever reason.

Tsiga, who was on a visit to the Kebbi State NYSC orientation camp in Jega, said government had mapped out strategies to pro-

tect corps members anywhere they are deployed to.

"The Acting President has directed security agencies to give adequate protection to corps members wherever they are. We are determined to ensure their safety", he said.

He urged the Batch 'A' corps members who were presently in orientation camp in Jega to be security conscious.

He enjoined the corps members to take advantage of the leadership training, saying it would help them face the challenges of life.

## Jos crisis: Kuru victims gives Police Commission 30 days to compensate them

From Ahmed Mohammed & Mahmud Lalo, Jos

VICTIMS of the crisis in Kuru Karama in Plateau State yesterday gave the Police Service

Commission (PSC) 30 working days to pay them compensation or face legal action in which they hope to claim N100 billion in damages.

In a pre-action notice sent to

the commission by counsel to the victims, Barrister Ahmed Garba, the victims said they were taking that action because the Kuru Karama killings started after the former Plateau State

Commissioner of Police Mr Gregory Anyanting allegedly made some statements which according to them made natives to kill people in Kuru Karama, Kuru Babba, Tim Tim, Kaduna

Vom, Dogo na Hauwa and other villages.

Garba said his clients claimed that before that attack, they had always lived in peace with each other.

## Kantin Kwari fire: Traders urged to sue PHCN

From Halima Musa, Kano

THE traders of Kantin Kwari market in Kano State have been advised to take legal action against the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN) if it is confirmed that the fire was caused by a power surge. The Labour Party in a statement signed by its Chairman Alhaji Isa Tijjani said the Labour Party was ready to collaborate with the Kwari market leadership on the matter. The party noted that the loss was colossal and called on those affected to remain steadfast and courageous. Meanwhile, the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN) in Kano has said that it was not responsible for the fire. Addressing newsmen Wednesday, The Chief Executive Officer of the company Alhaji Muhammed Tunde Bolagun described the claim that the fire was from a transformer as false and unfounded.

He said investigation had shown that the 11KV Ibrahim Taiwo Road feeder which supplies power to parts of the affected market through the 500KVA, 11/0.415 KV Society Sub-station transformer was in circuit from around 12:21 a.m. when the supply was restored until 3:06 a.m. when the feeder was switched off following an alert from their Nassarawa dispatch office.

"While it is easy for some people to blame the unfortunate incident on PHCN, it is however necessary to provide substantial technical proof to the allegations made", he added.

He commiserated with the government and people of Kano over the incident.

## Northern Forum cautions Jonathan on Save Nigeria Group

From Jaafar Jaafar, Kano

THE Northern Civil Society Forum has cautioned Acting President Goodluck Jonathan to beware of the Save Nigeria Group (SNG) and other groups. Speaking to newsmen in Kano yesterday, the North-West Coordinator of the forum Comrade Bashir S. Salisu said such groups would only cause disharmony and instability in the country.

He alleged that protests carried out by the SNG were aimed at achieving selfish desires of some Nigerians. The forum advised the Acting President to tackle poverty and unemployment in the country. They also expressed concerns over the Jos crises, saying government must take a definite position on the settler/indigene issue. The forum called on government to bring those behind the crises to book.

# NHIS threatens service providers

From Aliyu M. Hamagam, Gombe

THE National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) has threatened to revoke its contract with any health provider that fails to deliver services in accordance with the terms of agreement. The North-East zonal Coor-

dinator of the scheme Abdulsalam Bala who spoke yesterday in Gombe State at a workshop on the role of schedule officers in ministries, parastatals and agencies said the NHIS would not hesitate to withdraw its services from any health provider who rendered sub stand-

ard services to clients. He added that the scheme was working with 8,000 health providers in the country, saying the scheme deliberately declined to contract more health facilities.

He added that it would not be good for the scheme if only a few NHIS clients patronized

a particular health provider because the health facilities would be operating at a loss, urging people to patronise them.

He added that the scheme was working on another programme that would accommodate the rural dwellers.



MALLAM Mohammed Sambo Bashar, Permanent Secretary in the office of the Head of Service of the Federation at the reception in his honour organized by his community in Sokoto recently.

## Niger to spend N150m on NYSC orientation camp

From Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna

THE Niger State government says it has awarded a contract of N150 million for the construction of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) permanent orientation camp in the state. The state Acting Governor Ahmed Musa Ibeto said this yesterday when officials of

the national board of the NYSC paid him a visit in Minna. Ibeto said the gesture was aimed at complementing the efforts of the NYSC towards building a virile and peaceful nation. He added that the state had benefited immensely from the program. Ibeto said efforts had been made by the state government to create a conducive environment for corps members, saying coun-

cil chairmen in the 25 local government areas of the state had been asked to build lodges for corps members.

Earlier, Brigadier General B.Y. Bukar, leader of the team while thanking the state government for its support, urged it to support corps members with necessary logistics that would help them in the discharge of their duties.

## Kano court strikes out case against lawmaker

From Lawan Danjuma Adamu, Kano

A Kano High Court has struck out a suit instituted against the member representing Gwale Local Government Area in the state House of Assembly, A.A. Sule, due to the absence of both the plaintiff and defendant in

court at its Monday sitting. The lawmaker was sued last year by his neighbour, Alhaji Abdulkadir Sani Bello, for allegedly trespassing on his residence located at Lokon Makera in Kano City. He was also accused of building an engine room, soak away and gutter on the

plaintiff's property. However when the case came up for hearing before Justice A.T. Badamasi of the High Court 10 Monday, counsel to the plaintiff and that of defendant were not in court and as such the case was stuck out.

Speaking with our corre-

spondent yesterday in Kano, Sule said he was happy with the ruling.

"I thank Allah that the case ended this way. I don't intend to sue them for damages and will not harbour any grievances against them," he added.

## 'Uwais c'ttee recommendations will secure Nigeria's future'

From Rakiya A. Muhammad, Sokoto

RECOMMENDATIONS of the Uwais report on Electoral reform should be passed into law to secure the future of Nigerians.

A Kaduna-based lawyer, Mr. Maxwell Kyon, said this at a constituency outreach organised by the Electoral Reform Network (ERN) under the auspices of the Civil Society Committee

on Electoral Reform (CSCC) yesterday in Sokoto. Mr. Kyon who delivered a paper titled, 'Understanding the Electoral Reform Recommendations and their Implications', called for the religious implementation of the reforms. The Programmes Manager of ERN, Mr. Shaba Temitope, said the programme was organized to collate the views of Nigerians on the ongoing constitutional and electoral

reforms. According to him, grassroots views were very crucial to the success of the reforms. The outreach addressed areas of consensus among the civil societies. They include the independence and autonomy of INEC, finances of INEC charged to the consolidated revenue fund and the conclusion of election petitions before inauguration of elected officials.

# Online Reactions

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



**LIBYAN Leader Moammar Gaddafi**

## Gaddafi is a mad man, Mark says

GADDAFI is much more than a mad and insane man. I don't even know what to call him. I wonder how he is leading a nation.

**Yusuf Sulaiman**  
yusulaiman08@gmail.com

Even though I do not agree with Gaddafi, I don't think David Mark should qualify him as a mad man simply because he holds a contrary opinion. Being Senate President, he supposedly knows better than to contest the freedom of expression. Gaddafi is only concerned and I don't think he wants to see Nigeria fall; he is just eccentric.

**Haruna**  
mrharuna@hotmail.com

Personally, I am extremely disappointed in David Mark and all our leaders. You have all failed us. He did not speak like a statesman. Why is he now trying to crucify Muammar Gaddafi for speaking his mind when, for all these years killings like the recent ones have been recurring in Northern Nigeria and nothing has been done to stop it?

**Kayode**  
kogunbode@yahoo.com

Thanks for telling Nigerians the bitter truth. More grease to your elbow. Indeed you are a true son of Africa.

**Tony**  
okoro1966@yahoo.co.uk

## How insurance sector fared in 10 years

THE new face of the Nigerian Insurance Industry is a welcome innovation. The consolidation has brought about the restoration of trust (which is a key factor to the industry's success) to the industry. What we need now is effective monitoring to ensure compliance to the statutory and regulatory requirements

**Akinyomi Oladele J.**  
delejohn21@yahoo.com

## Buhari, Atiku, Tinubu to join 'modified' AC

WELL done Buhari, Atiku, Fas-hola and Bafarawa. We are sure this time you will successes in throwing out PDP.

May God help us to carry out this task.  
**Sadik Hadejia**  
sadeeqmuhammed@yahoo.com

Insha Allah, this fusion will succeed in toppling PDP.  
I pray it will kick start our

march to real democracy.  
**Sunusi Musa**  
iyando22@yahoo.com

## Jonathan sacks Federal cabinet

AS Sherlock Holmes would say, "the game, Watson, is afoot". As mere pawns in this tragic game of chess we can only look on and await the inevitable checkmate. We have survived a decade of PDP misrule, surely we can survive some more.

**Abdalla Mohammed**  
neoteny7@yahoo.com

The action of the Acting President should not be politicized or regionalized for the interest of the nation. Let those who value Nigeria's interest be appointed. God bless Nigeria!

**Dave**  
daveconfy@yahoo.com

Now that Goodluck has taken this decision, we wonder what will happen next.

**Auwal**  
asmsycool@yahoo.com

This is a welcome development. But I hope the acting President will inject the new blood into the new cabinet. Those that were listed on the expected list will not make any difference from the sacked ones. Let him try the young ones and see many changes.

**Abubkr Badru Jkamshi**  
damurna@yahoo.com

Well done to our able acting President for dissolving the FEC. May Allah help you to promote our unity.

**Abbagana Ali**  
aliganamakinta@gmail.com

Well, whatever the constituent of the FEC may be, my anticipation is that this move is marking the end of the PDP's dominance on power. As the popular say-



**ACTING President Goodluck Jonathan**

ing goes "whatever goes up must surely come down." Goodluck may end up beating about trying to secure PDP's ticket with huge oppositions from Yar'adua's loyalists who are still very strong while the opposition are gathering more momentum and the masses are getting more sensitized and ready to face any fraud. God bless us with good leadership.

**Usman Ahmed Danbaba**  
danbaba1986@yahoo.com

Dissolving the cabinet seems to be your concern. What about the people who being killed in Jos?

**Aliyu**  
alliyus@yahoo.com

I would please like to draw the attention of our fellow countrymen to the ongoing power consolidation moves by our acting president. This might do more harm than good to the country at large because it further opens

up room for sentiments - which have already eaten deep into the hearts and minds of our people - in the country. Dissolving and reappointing ministers is a waste of time and resources which we cannot afford at this trying time of our dear nation's history. If some of the ministers are to be reappointed why sack them in the first place and why would you want to ask serving senators and members to vacate their elected offices in other to be reappointed as executives which leaves open slots for run up elections in their states, which in turn brings creates power vacuums in the various states and more communal problems by further diversifying the people in conflicts of interest and vying for offices that are empty.

**Rabiu Muhammad**  
muhammadrabiu09@yahoo.com

For me it's a bad step indeed. The time is too short for this. The

issue of not being loyal to Jonathan does not arise because for me loyalty should be to the system not to a person. Acting presidency does not mean a new government as far as am concerned. It's a continuation of the Yar'adua's government.

**Sunusi Musa**  
iyando22@yahoo.com

We just hope that whatever the acting president does is in the interest of the nation.

**Abdulkadir S. Daura**  
duraas@hotmail.com

A servant is not superior to his Master, just like a student is not in any way more than his teacher (in the class). To this end, I say that you betrayed the the capable president who is in a critical condition. Remember that one must do same to you.

**Samuel Agber Jnr**  
aondowase@gmail.com

The dissolution of the cabinet is long overdue. It is said that united we stand, divided we fall. If the cabinet was divided, it means Nigeria was heading for the failed state before 2015 as predicted by the Americans. Dissolving the cabinet was a saving grace to the nation. The acting president should only appoint serious-minded and well-meaning Nigerians as new ministers and not those with selfish interests and lacking in political will.

**Samira**  
sdegoshie@yahoo.com

This is a step forward in the Political history of Nigeria. Goodluck is calling a spade a spade. I believe it will be for the better.

**Benley**  
benstudies@yahoo.com

## 13 killed in fresh Plateau violence

PLATEAU state is wracked by the internal demons its xenophobia created, and the vicious man-made circle is threatening to drag us all to utter ruin. Meanwhile, the powers that be are instead playing fiddles and plotting on how to govern us yet again by hook, crook or crude come 2011. Gentlemen, if you don't solve the Plateau question once and for all, there may not be anything or anyone left for you to govern by 2011. Then you'd look utterly stupid, much more than you do now.

**Abdalla Mohammed**  
neoteny7@yahoo.com

Somebody is having a grand plan to send Plateau into emergency rule by force! They want to see people going on a revenge mission which will spark Plateau into 'fire for fire'. Thank God Almighty it's not working and it will not work! We are praying that God will give our security agents the willingness and wisdom to expose all those behind these crises. I think the hatred is too much and God will expose everyone working behind the scenes.

Plateau people must remain calm and report any suspicious activities through the radio and TV since reporting through

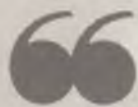


**PLATEAU State Governor David Jonah Jang**

phone is no longer working.  
**Aji Isuwa Suleiman**  
suleimanaji@yahoo.com

Who is to blame now? The other time they said it was because Sarki Mukhtar was not efficient enough as the NSA. Now that they've brought in the most powerful NSA in Nigeria, the attackers still went away with it. Something really needs to be done to bring peace to Plateau, because Allah that made us to be Muslims, Christians, Hausas, Fulanis Beroms, Tangales etc did it for a purpose and we should learn to live with one another in harmony. A child that denies his mother sleep will also not sleep. A word is enough for the wise.

**Hafizu Murtala**  
mhafizu@yahoo.com



By AT Mohammed

## Wazirin Fika was economical with the truth

Our attention was drawn to a column captioned "Emir Abali Muhammadu of Fika: One year after" by Adamu M. Fika (Wazirin Fika) in the *Daily Trust* editions of Friday 5th March and Monday 8th March, 2010. We believe strongly that the guest columnist is one of the most qualified people alive who could give a good account of the life and times of the late Emir Abali Muhammadu. A careful consideration of being economical with the truth, and in order to buttress our assertion, an examination of some of the positions taken by him is necessary.

We are told that the late Emir did not have peace of mind during the reigns of Governor Muhammadu Goni in Borno, and Governors Bukar Abba Ibrahim and Senator Mamman Ali in Yobe because people close to him and those in Potiskum and Fika districts voted for other than the government party. This is the reason given for the attempts made to depose him, and for splitting his emirate. In our view, the real reason for the late Emir's predicament is that he inherited from his predecessors a long standing inter-group chieftaincy dispute with the Ngizim who demanded the restoration of their chieftaincy, and his relocation to his ancestral land in Fika. It is a known fact that some of the hottest disputes on these two issues took place during his tenure. The problem has partially been solved but protests on the relocation of the emirate to Fika are continuing in the current reign of his son, and successor. In view of that, the column may be an attempt to divert attention from the issue, and whip up sentiments by flying the kite of political victimization.

The impression given that he was victimized by civilian administrations is, therefore, misleading. The truth of the matter is that successive administrations both military and civilians, from Borno days to Yobe, had to address the issue of the chieftaincy dispute at various times. It is obvious that Fika Emirate used its influence and connections under some military regimes to protect its minority status, have its say, and its way as well. That unholy alliance reached its climax between 1993 and 1996. The Military Administrator at that time behaved as if he was acting a script written by Fika Emirate Council. He dissolved the emirates created by Governor Bukar, and announced publicly that one new emirate would be created out of Fika. His tenure ended without fulfilling that promise. However, even the military was able to see through the lies, distortions, and manipulations and acted in accordance with the true wishes of the people. For example, the military regime under General Sani Abacha appointed the National Reconciliation Committee which subsequently recommended the restoration of Potiskum Emirate. Furthermore, the same military regime punctured the move to excise the six village areas from Potiskum and merge them to Nangere in a delineation of wards exercise.

Whatever happened to the late Emir Abali Muhammadu therefore was not

a case of political victimization as the column claims. The actions taken by the civilian regimes were in response to the legitimate demands and yearnings of their deprived peoples. The requests to Government to look into the chieftaincy disputes between Potiskum and Fika did not start with Governor Goni or Governor Bukar Abba Ibrahim.

The latter in particular, took the bull by the horn in order to avert crisis and possible breakdown of law and order. The actions taken, therefore, are directly in connection with the chieftaincy disputes and not isolated cases of political victimization. In any case why should the civilian administrations between 1979-1983, 1991-1993, 1999-2003, 2003-2007 and 2007-January, 2009 victimize the Emir? Contrary to the assertion by the Guest Columnist, the GNPP, SDP, and ANPP which formed government in Borno and Yobe States respectively were comfortable in terms of the number their candidates who were elected to various posts in Potiskum and Fika. We suggest that Waziri should look at the statistics once again otherwise he would end up ridiculing himself before those who could easily recall the situation during the periods he referred to.

The column also contains instances of errors of facts. Referring to the 1995 dissolution of the emirates created by Governor Bukar, the columnist says:-

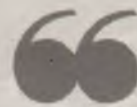
"...when General Sani Abacha came to power and ordered to set the record straight, the entity called Fika Emirate which General Abacha is said to have restored was a colonial creation. It had not been like that from time immemorial. In pre-colonial times, the area that came to be known as Fika Emirate encompassed two chiefdoms of Potiskum and Fika under 'M' and 'M' respectively. The two co-existed side by side as independent entities. When the British colonialists reached the area in 1902/1903 AD, they recognized them as the rulers of their respective domains. In 1909 AD colonial re-organization led to the deposition of Mai Bundi of Potiskum and the placing of the western part of his chiefdom which contained Karai-Karais under the Moi of Fika, by 1913AD even the remaining eastern part of Potiskum was tampered with by the British. Mai Agudum who succeeded Mai Bundi was also deposed and what remained of his chiefdom also placed under Fika. In 1915 AD an uprising in Potiskum to protest the re-organization was violently put down by the British. However, the protests continued in various forms. When the British left, representations to successive governments and authorities continued. In view of the foregoing, it is not correct to say that Fika Emirate as it was when General Abacha restored it had been in existence from time immemorial".

In his exception to the rule of victimization, the guest columnist wrote as follows:-

"...and between 24th January 2009 and 3rd March 2009 when he died and when Alhaji Ibrahim Geidam had become Governor".

Some senior officials of Fika emirate were overheard accusing Geidam's administration of victimization as well.

Mohammed wrote from Ibrahim Taiwo Road, Potiskum Ybe State.



By Ban Ki-moon

## Don't wait for disaster

No country can afford to ignore the lessons of the earthquakes in Chile and Haiti. We cannot stop such disasters from happening. But we can dramatically reduce their impact, if the right disaster risk reduction measures are taken in advance.

A week ago I visited Chile's earthquake zone and saw how countless lives were saved because Chile's leaders had learned the lessons of the past and heeded the warnings of crises to come. Because stringent earthquake building codes were enforced, much worse casualties were prevented. Training and equipping first responders ahead of time meant help was there within minutes of the tremor. Embracing the spirit that governments have a responsibility for future challenges as well as current ones did more to prevent human casualties than any relief effort could.

Deaths were in the hundreds in Chile, despite the magnitude of the earthquake, at 8.8 on the Richter scale, the fifth largest since records began. In Haiti, a less intense earthquake caused hundreds of thousands of deaths. Haiti had non-existent or un-enforced building codes, and very poor preparedness. The lessons are universally applicable. No

Many of the world's poorest people live in high-risk densely populated cities in flood or earthquake zones, or both

country is immune from disaster, be it earthquakes or floods, storms or heat waves. More and more intense natural disasters are affecting all five continents, we believe as a result of climate change. Many of the world's poorest people live in high-risk densely populated cities in flood or earthquake zones, or both.

The culture of disaster risk reduction must spread. I am encouraged that we already have a head start in this regard.

The Hyogo Framework for Action, a 10-year plan to make the world safer from disasters triggered by natural hazards, was adopted by 168 governments in 2005.

Hyogo gives national authorities a blueprint to assess and reduce risks through planning, training, and better public education. For example, making sure that schools, hospitals, and other key public infrastructure meet certain safety standards.

Based on the Hyogo Framework, the UN has made disaster risk reduction a priority. I have appointed a Special Representative for implementation of the Hyogo Framework of Action. Last year I launched the first global assessment report on disaster risk reduction in Bahrain.

There has been progress. Bangladesh

lost more than 500,000 people during Cyclone Bhola in 1970. It subsequently built 2,500 cyclone shelters on elevated concrete platforms and trained more than 32,000 volunteers to help in evacuations. When Cyclone Sidr struck in 2007 with an enormous sea surge, the death toll was less than 4,000. Cyclone Nargis, a similar event in unprepared Myanmar in May 2008, cost 140,000 lives.

Cuba weathered four hurricanes in 2008. It sustained \$9 billion of

When China spent \$3.15 billion on reducing the impact of floods between 1960 and 2000, it averted losses estimated at about \$12 billion

physical damage but very few lives were lost.

The evidence is overwhelming. Yet the lessons of these disasters are forgotten with depressing speed. Many governments have failed to follow through on the practical measures Hyogo proposes. Some states argue that they cannot afford to embrace the prevention model. I say no country can afford to ignore it.

We know prevention actually saves governments money in the long run. When China spent \$3.15 billion on reducing the impact of floods between 1960 and 2000, it averted losses estimated at about \$12 billion.

Similar savings have been recorded in Brazil, India, Vietnam and elsewhere.

Everyone has a role to play.

Governments, central and local, have to do what it takes to make communities able to cope with both continuing challenges and sudden shocks.

In flood and earthquake-prone areas, the solution is to enact and enforce building regulations. For flood prone areas, it's to move or improve squatter settlements, restore natural coastal barriers such as mangrove swamps, provide more suitable land and better infrastructure for the urban poor and install effective early warning systems.

These measures will keep many thousands of people alive who may otherwise perish. The UN is ready to help governments build preparedness at the country and regional levels. Donor nations need to fund disaster risk reduction and preparedness measures. Adaptation to climate change in particular means investing in systems for disaster reduction, preparedness and management.

The Chile and Haiti earthquakes showed us once again why action before disasters makes all the difference. To prevent natural hazards turning into disasters, we must all act sooner and act smarter.

Ban is Secretary-General of the United Nations.

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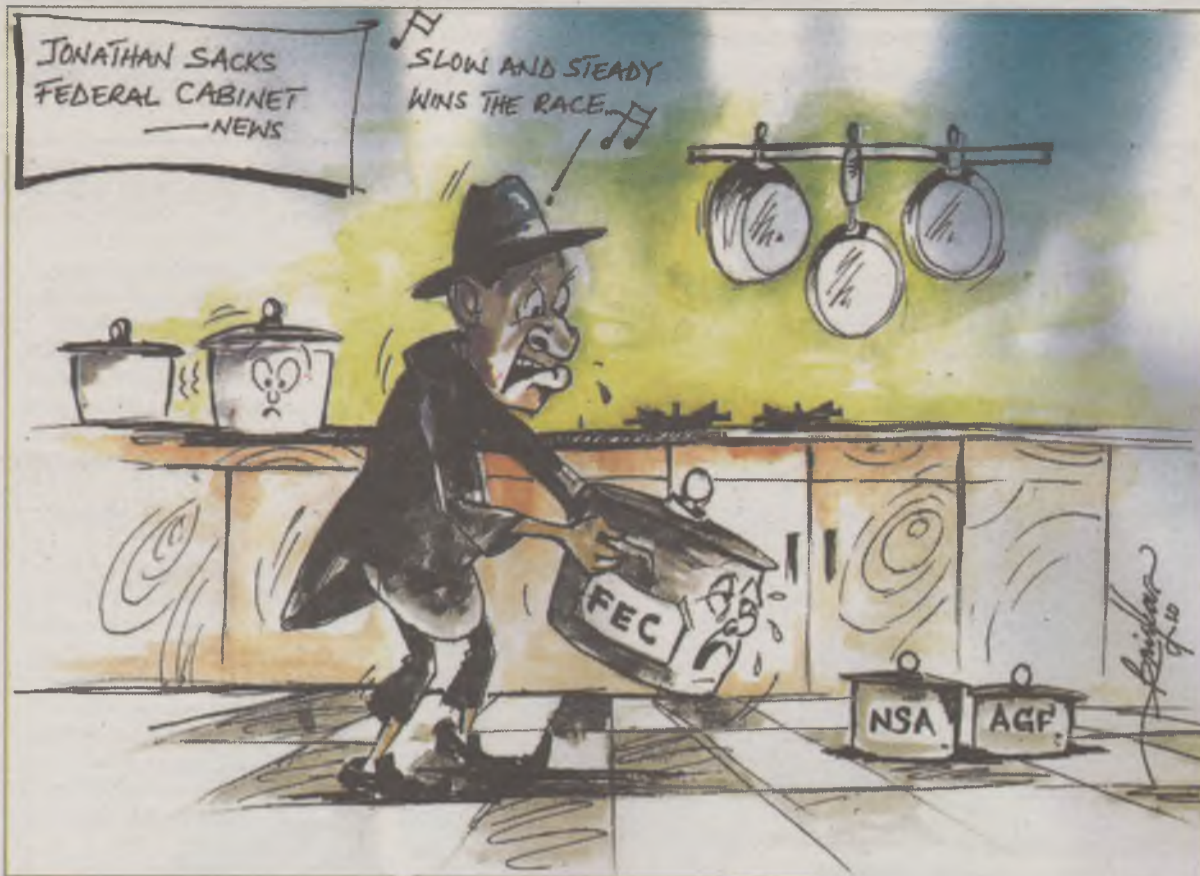
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## Your Letters

### Excuse me, Tim Mathias!

I felt like throwing up reading through the column on Wednesday of a respected media veteran, Tim Mathias. My disappointment is in the

discovery through his write-up that he is a believer in the indigene-settler syndrome that has destroyed the once-peaceful Plateau State. But it was worse for my appreciation of Mr. Mathias that he was drawing parallels between the Hausa-Fulani settlers and the white colonizers of Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe. Mr. Mathias said, and I quote "(Do) they expect Jang to

declare and defend a policy that opens up indigeneship to "settlers", against the will of the people who voted him? It is like asking Mugabe to return recovered lands to the whites of Zimbabwe."

Does Timawus Mathias want ethnic cleansing of Plateau to continue?

**Emmanuel Madaki**  
(emmanuelmadaki@gmail.com)

## Text us on 08 131 8000 30

### Stop the slide

IT is time the government took drastic measures to address issue of education in the country. With recent declaration of massive failures at public exams, it is time to overhaul the entire educational sector.

**RABIU Muhammad, NTA,**  
08026087548.

### Listen to Gaddafi

THE question is, are we truly one nation? Religion and ethnicity have separated us already. Since we don't believe and trust ourselves, whether as a Yoruba, Igbo, Ijaw, Hausa, etc, Christian and Muslim, then we are not supposed to be one nation, i.e. Gaddafi was right.

**IBUKUN Ogunsola, Zaria,**  
08038841510.

### Alternative view

I always hate to hear people say that Jos crisis is between Muslims and Christians; it is not. On the contrary, it is between the haves and the have nots.

**ABDULKADIR, 08029106054.**

LET the leaders stop paying leap service and work towards genuine and lasting peace by: appointing responsible and respectable people from both Birom and Hausa/Fulani communities to work jointly and visit the aggrieved sections of the state. They should

get persuade them to see the folly of the mutual destruction through unnecessary war of attrition. They should encourage them to stop trading blame and work toward building bridges of peace. All should own-up to his own share of the blame. It is not hidden that all had suffered casualties, no matter the effort tried to distort the true picture using a section of the press. All should promise forgiveness and forge ahead with life. That is the path to enduring peace on the Plateau.

**MIKO Bichi, Kano,**  
08033321133.

### Blurred mirror

GOING through a write-up of opinion by Abdulhamid Babatunde, one will have no option but to agree on issues that he touched on. Nigerian press is always one sided; one begins to see so many junk papers on the streets authored by tribal and religious bigots.

**ABU Wushishi, 08032837198.**

### Stop Tim!

TRUST Management had better spare us this columnist with tongue twisting name called Timawus Mathias. He is living in the past; otherwise, how come he won't support a policy that opens up indigeneship to 'settlers'; because it is against the will of the

'people'?  
**08035231406.**

### Log in his eye

GADDAFI should look for solution to his country's Berber problem before jumping to Nigeria. Majority of Yoruba are Muslim; so do we ask them to come to the North and live with us?

**08035908669.**

### The more you look

WHAT made it necessary to cause the dissolution of the federal cabinet? I think there's something fishy going on there. Please we need peace and unity in this country.

**IBRAHIM Yahaya A. Goron-Maje, Dambatta, Kano State,**  
08038050115.

### Haba, Daily Trust

I'VE been reading your publications for the past 6 years & I have more than ten thousand back copies in my store to prove it. Wallahi I feel frustrated when I send comments through SMS and not one of them has been published.

**ABDULLAHI Abdullahi Kabomo, Dept. of political science, BUK, Kano, 08034978424.**

FEDERAL Government should stop the sale of military uniforms in Nigerian markets, before those with hidden agenda use it to kill us all.

**JOEL Kasim, Kano,**  
07030156946.



By Muhammad Kabir

## Re: Jang: Between the hammer and the anvil

Reading through Timawus Mathias's piece of 17/3/10 in the *Daily Trust* titled above, I began to wonder if Mathias has himself not fallen into the same trap as the columnists he accused of failing to rise above their primordial backgrounds to offer solution that will bring peace.

Without necessarily holding brief for the 'columnists' Mathias is obviously referring to, who are more than capable of defending themselves, I decided to write this piece more out of disappointment with Mathias whom I used to see as among the few 'middle belters' that have been able to transcend the unfortunate and unnecessary mindset of being short changed by the North.

Again without being uncharitable I am minded to describe the write up as a sponsored piece as all the views expressed therein are the official position of Jang and his government. So really nothing is new, except perhaps two conclusions of Mathias which are surely inciting as they are irresponsible to say the least.

The first conclusion is 'Jang and the community leaders have done well to restrain the locals from retaliation. One prays that the local communities make the sacrifice to turn the other cheek and work for peace instead of a revenge that will definitely beget another act of violence.'

That second is thus: 'They expect Jang to declare and defend a policy that opens up indigene ship to settlers, against the will of the people who voted for him.'

Whatever Mathias hopes to achieve by this words is certainly not peace on the Plateau. Mathias can rest assured that as the Dogo Na Hauwa incident has shown violence is not the preserve of any person or group. The people he represents thought they could get away with Kuru, Gero, Sabon Gida and all those innocent and harmless communities they attacked in January. Nay, the retribution is there awaiting them. It is now obviously their choice to stay in peace. Mathias who hails from Adamawa State knows very well who the Fulbe are in terms of humility, but also in terms of war. The sacrifice the Locals will do is to stay away from the Fulani whose only crime is sharing the same religion with the Hausa-Fulani in Jos. The itinerant Fulani have never claimed indigeneship of Plateau or of any other place for that matter. Attacking them without any provocation whatsoever is an invitation to war whose consequences and longevity can only be imagined. So anybody who sees wisdom in launching another attack in the name of retaliation should do that expecting the Dogo Na Hauwa punishment.

On the issue of indigene/settler, am not sure the vast majority of Jos Hausa-Fulani community are bothered about it, as it does not in anyway affect their living fortunes. I belong to the younger generation of the so-called settlers. I am doing extremely very well in a private organization without the need to rely on any indigene certificate. I did not and will never need an indigene status

Attacking them without any provocation whatsoever is an invitation to war whose consequences and longevity can only be imagined

certificate to acquire anything in Nigeria. I can bet that this much is same for Mathias for his station in life. This much more so for older generation who are more interested in their business than in government jobs, contracts and patronage for the Mathias and his indigenes of this world. Indigene status is for the lazy who live off public purse and thus owe their survival to continuous protection of that meaningless conjecture.

May be as a last word to Mathias and his sponsors: ill-wind does not blow any good to anybody. If however anyone is in delusion as to the consequences of continuing crisis in Jos, they will only have themselves to blame.

Kabir wrote from Abuja.

## DAILY TRUST

## EDITORIAL

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Utako District, Abuja  
09-6726241, 6715364

## The Lokoja truck accident

**A**n estimated seventy people were killed and several others were severely injured last week Tuesday when a trailer loaded with six hundred bags of cement veered off its lane at Lokoja, capital of Kogi state. It then rammed in to several vehicles coming from the opposite direction, and crushed scores of roadside traders and pedestrians. It was gathered that the trailer, with Dangote Cement markings, was coming from the cement factory located at nearby Obajana. Officials of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) said the brakes of the truck might have failed causing its driver to lose control. The FRSC Sector Commander in Kogi state, Mr Yomi Asaniyan, disclosed that the accident involved twenty vehicles including five buses and five motor-cycles, all of which were coming from the Abuja direction.

According to the vice chairman of Lokoja Local Government Area Mr Lawrence Ikuboroje, the accident could have been averted if the on-going Abuja-Lokoja road dual carriageway project had been completed. That may be one factor, but there are other serious issues of concern that could have provided a real chance of averting the accident. The growing trend of petty traders setting up make-shift shops and kiosks along highways across the country, probably to attract potential buyers, is a major factor. It is therefore reasonable to expect concerned government agencies to have foreseen accidents such as this one occurring. The formal siting of markets along highways is also a disturbing development which ignores the need to adhere strictly to town planning rules.

It has been well documented that some of the trailers and other articulated vehicles that are used for transport of goods by manufacturing companies are often not roadworthy; those entrusted with the task of ensuring that they are, usually turn a blind eye to defects when they are scrutinised on the highways. The fact that many accidents involving trailers result from brake failure indicates pervasive poor maintenance culture not only among corporate organizations but also among individual drivers. Some transporters, with eye only on profits, ask their truck drivers to make-do with worn parts when reports of mechanical defects are made. Some drivers too, out of carelessness, see it a great burden to undertake prompt and proper repairs on their vehicles when malfunctions are noticed. When Vehicle Inspection officers (VIOs) compromise the trust placed upon them by their jobs and thus issue certificates of roadworthiness to underserving transporters, sometimes without even conducting physical inspection on vehicles, they open a wide window for unworthy vehicles to ply our roads. This is why our highways are full of unqualified drivers and not good enough vehicles.

**T**he problem on our roads is further compounded by drivers who lack adequate training and knowledge on safety measures. The manner through which most drivers acquire driving license today is questionable. The cutting of corners in the administration of safety standards on our roads is a major source of accidents that could be very fatal in some cases.

Over-loading has also been identified as a critical factor central to road accidents. It is dismaying how vehicles, particularly heavy-duty trucks, freely transport cargo goods over long distances across the country without any sanctions imposed on erring drivers by officials of the appropriate government agencies. The FRSC and other road traffic agencies should insist on and strictly enforce rules governing the loading capacity of vehicles, issuance of driving licenses and other requirements necessary to make a vehicle roadworthy at every material time.

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## On Lamido's 'Tribute to History' Project

By Adagbo Onoja

**I**n a country where politics has been debased from the noble act of negotiated accommodation to the most vicious and evil sides of the power elite and even the ordinary folks, the kind of things that Jigawa is planning for this year's Democracy Day (May 29th, 2010) should excite all but the nihilists among us. It's still work in progress but the outline so far is breathtaking.

Instead of a routine, soulless May 29th, the governor, Sule Lamido is planning the final phase of what he himself calls 'Tribute to History'. 'Tribute to History' is an attempt to link the present with the past in the contemplation of the future. But it is not just the romantic past. It is the rugged past. It is the past of the heroes and heroines of a very specific re-interpretation of history and its costly praxis.

The praxis under reference is the radical tradition in Northern Nigerian politics and the parties like the Northern Elements Progressive Union, (NEPU) and the People's Redemption Party, (PRP) that carried this banner. But Lamido's 'Tribute to History' is not going to be an essentialist project in which only the heroes and heroines of these two defunct parties will be celebrated. There is no doubt, for example that Alhaji Magaji Dambatta and Dr. Mudi Spikin, the only two surviving of the eight (8) warriors who unfolded the Sawaba Declaration on August 8th, 1948 would be the stars on May 29th, 2010 when Aminu Kano Triangle at Dutse would be commissioned. But other stars would also shine that day, including those who were not in any of these two parties but have captured a nugget of Nigerian history.

**A**n example of this would be the members of G-9 who formed the nucleus of the G-18 that enlarged into G-34 and eventually into the People's Democratic Party, (PDP) that we know today. They include Malam Adamu Ciroma, Chief Solomon Lar, the late Bola Ige, the late Francis Ellah, Alhaji Abubakar Rimi, Dr. Iyorchia Ayu, Professor Jerry Gana and the incumbent Jigawa State governor, Sule Lamido. Dr. Alex Ekwueme closes the list for encasing this nucleus with the dignity of his former office, thereby sounding the death knell of elite fragmentation which was the main problem of the post Abacha re-engagement with democratic transition.

For Lamido, the exploratory meetings and political reconnaissance of this nuclear group is an elaboration of the democratic trajectory in Nigerian politics because, according to him, it has led to the formation of a political party that captures the Nigerian chemistry (Lamido's description of Nigeria's diversity) better than any other in the history of the country. For him too, it amounts to a one dimensional view of history to look at PDP as a party of riggers, looters, killers and rogues without also looking at the patriotic high mindedness of its origin. He is, therefore, determined to, in due course, send the appropriate invitation to those

of the G-9 members who are still alive to be core and reflective participants in the 'Tribute to History' project.

In the same vein, those he calls party builders or patriots will have their rooms in the great hall of 'Tribute to History'. That is the basis for the invitation of former President Obasanjo to commission numerous projects in Jigawa last year. Unfortunately, the invitation and Obasanjo's visit was understood strictly within the mischievously restricted prism of Lamido's personal gratitude to the old fox.

But Lamido insists on his argument that it is wrong, from the point of view of party building and processes for anybody who contested and won election in 2007 to join the crowd in throwing stones at Obasanjo or other party officials whose collective leadership led the party to victory. To do so, as far as he is concerned, is to be blackmailed by opponents to a quietude that will enable such opponents

phrase again) are the reserve force for right wing backlash perpetrated by warlords, tin gods, god fathers, crooks, rogues, 'emperors', coup plotters, fascists, murderers, election riggers, profiteers and other plain political criminals throughout the continent. It is what we saw in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Angola, Ethiopia and it is what we are seeing in DRC and Uganda now. It is at the heart of the conflict in Zimbabwe when you remove all the statist paraphernalia and the discourse jargons.

**I**t is, therefore, not difficult to agree with Mr. Governor that Aminu Kano's was a uniquely unique re-interpretation of dogma to serve man, which in Northern Nigeria, as in all semi-industrial societies in the world, meant the peasantry. Aminu Kano himself made this clear when he said that, "We interpret democracy in its more traditional sense and that is the rule of the common people, the illiterate while our opponents, (the Northern People's Congress) interpret it in its modern Tory, (the

Everyone prays that God makes May 29th, 2010 possible as planned for the Jigawa State capital, Dutse, hoping the contractors would deliver the massive physical structure as the conclusive tribute to the spirit of man which Malam Aminu Kano represented \*

of PDP to win elections without working for it.

This was the argument he used against all internal resistance to Obasanjo's highly publicized and highly misunderstood visit to Jigawa last year and the basis for Dr. Amadu Ali's impending visit on the eve of 'Tribute to History', also to commission projects. In other words, Lamido's is not commitment to Obasanjo or Amadu Ali or any particular person per se but acting out the political education of a pre-1983 Nigerian politician at work. The tragedy is that those breed of politicians are, indeed, very few at work today.

**T**here is certainly something to admire in tying a day like May 29th which has a very shallow historical content in Nigerian history to something or somebody as profound as the late Malam Aminu Kano and his leadership of the rather clerical populism in Northern Nigeria of the late 1950s up to 1980s. Aminu Kano's politics remains the most important political landmark in Nigerian politics from the point of view of the political sociology of instability and anarchy across Africa. Aminu Kano's educated politics of resolving the elite-mass dichotomy by centralizing the peasantry as the objective of political power would have saved Nigeria from the present quagmire if he came to power, seeing as all the conflict and disorder in Nigeria today and everywhere in Africa can be located in the fact that the 'uncaptured peasantry' (this

conservative party tradition in the UK) sense and that is the rule of the enlightened and prosperous minority in the supposed interest of the common people". This is the cardinal idea of Democratic Humanism, a rejection of clever elite pretending to know what is good for the poor and the numerous and it is the recognition and rejection of that democratic fraud and the costly suffering that went with it that stands Aminu Kano very tall in Humanity's Hall of Fame.

Lamido's 'Tribute to History' therefore offers all of us another opportunity to look again at Nigeria in relation to the alternative model of development. This culture of deep and critical reflection was our culture before the dawn of cleverness and deceit as models of statecraft. Even though there is a total collapse of the knowledge industry in Nigeria now, it is assumed that there are still well bred scholars of radical populism and also of the other discourses that will provide the contextual background for 'Tribute to History', a task that should be hopefully more interesting after we might have watched the impending visual on the life and times of Aminu Kano. Everyone prays that God makes May 29th, 2010 possible as planned for the Jigawa State capital, Dutse, hoping the contractors would deliver the massive physical structure as the conclusive tribute to the spirit of man which Malam Aminu Kano represented.

*Onoja is Lamido's Media Adviser.*



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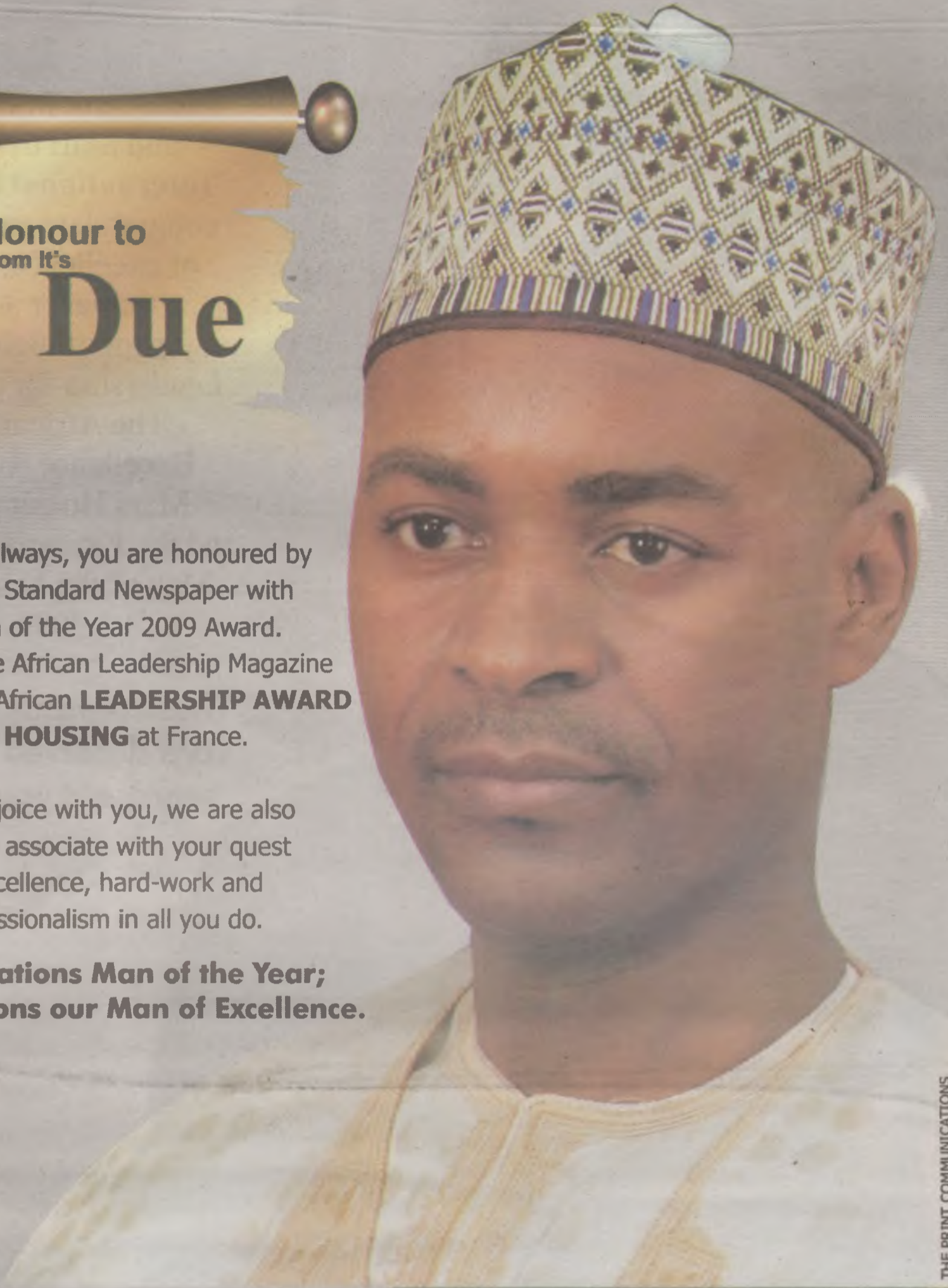


An Honour to  
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**Due**

Today as always, you are honoured by  
Financial Standard Newspaper with  
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gave you the African **LEADERSHIP AWARD  
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As we rejoice with you, we are also  
proud to associate with your quest  
for excellence, hard-work and  
professionalism in all you do.

**Congratulations Man of the Year;  
Congratulations our Man of Excellence.**



THE PRINT COMMUNICATIONS

May God continue to guide you. Amin

Alhaji Abdulsalam Ahmed  
MD/CEO Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria

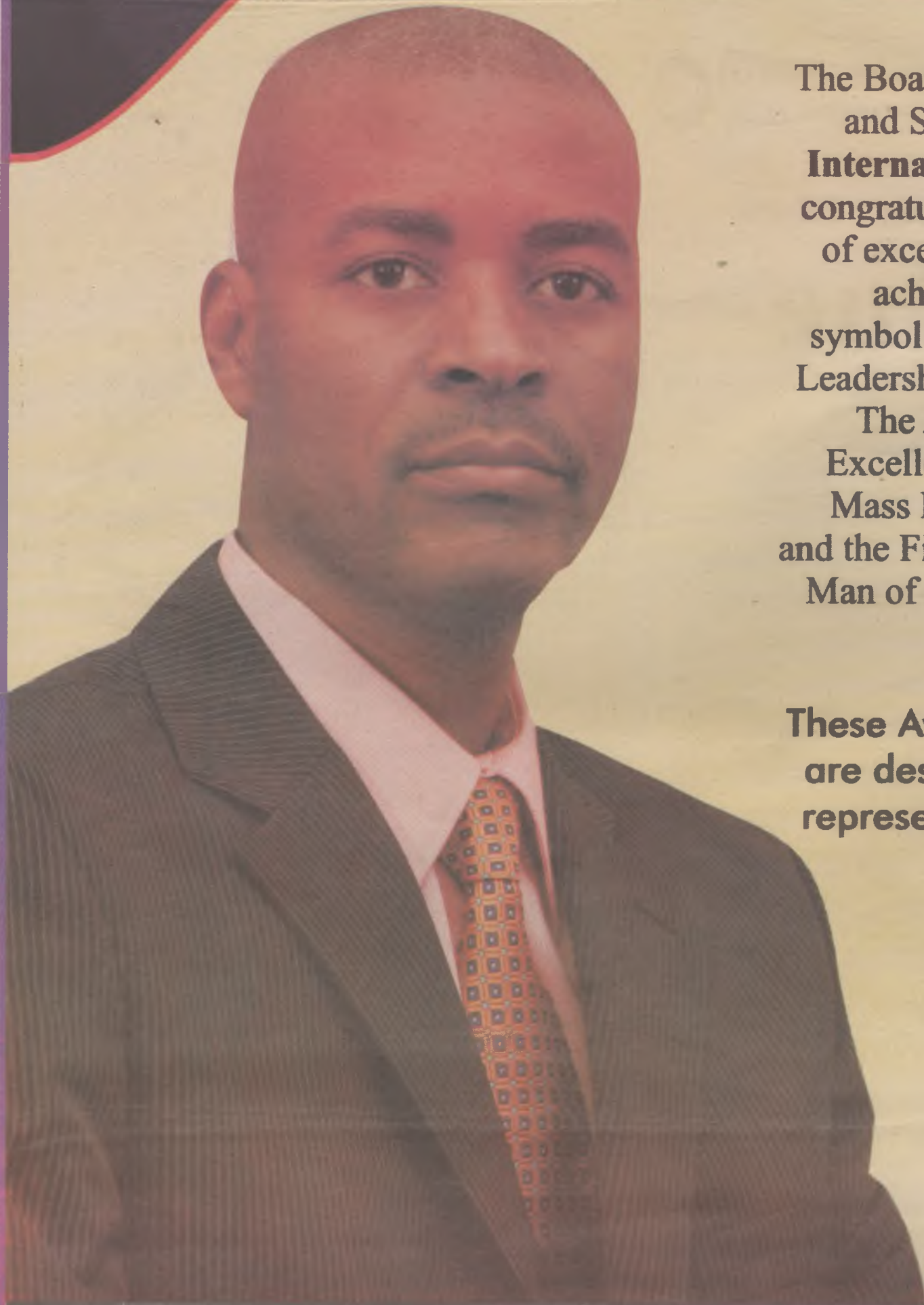
**SIGNED**

Mr. Babatunde Obisesan  
Kashim Shettima  
Chika Nduka  
Safiyanu Usman

Ibrahim A. Ja'afar  
Dogara Joseph  
Babangida Bello Jino

Kehinde Ademola  
Yusuf Suleiman  
Umar Bashir Sambo

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The Board, Management and Staff of CPTI International Limited congratulate an epitome of excellence, a great achiever and a symbol of high quality Leadership for clinching The African Star Excellence Award in Mass Housing 2009 and the Financial Standard Man of the Year Award 2009.

These Awards are highly deserved and they represent your person.

Alhaji Abdulsalam Ahmed  
Managing Director/CEO  
Federal Mortgage Bank Of Nigeria

*Congratulations our Man of the Year.*

SIGNED  
MR. ISAAC IMASUAGBON  
Managing Director/CEO

## HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS

The Board, Management and the entire staff of Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria, heartily congratulate our amiable Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer **Mr. Abdulsalam Y. Ahmed** on the conferment on him the Award of the 2009 Financial Standard Man-of-the Year today Friday, March 19, 2010 taking place at Transcorp Hilton Hotel, Abuja

We are very proud of you and we are wishing you as always, God's wisdom and good health.



### Once again, Congratulations



Signed  
Management

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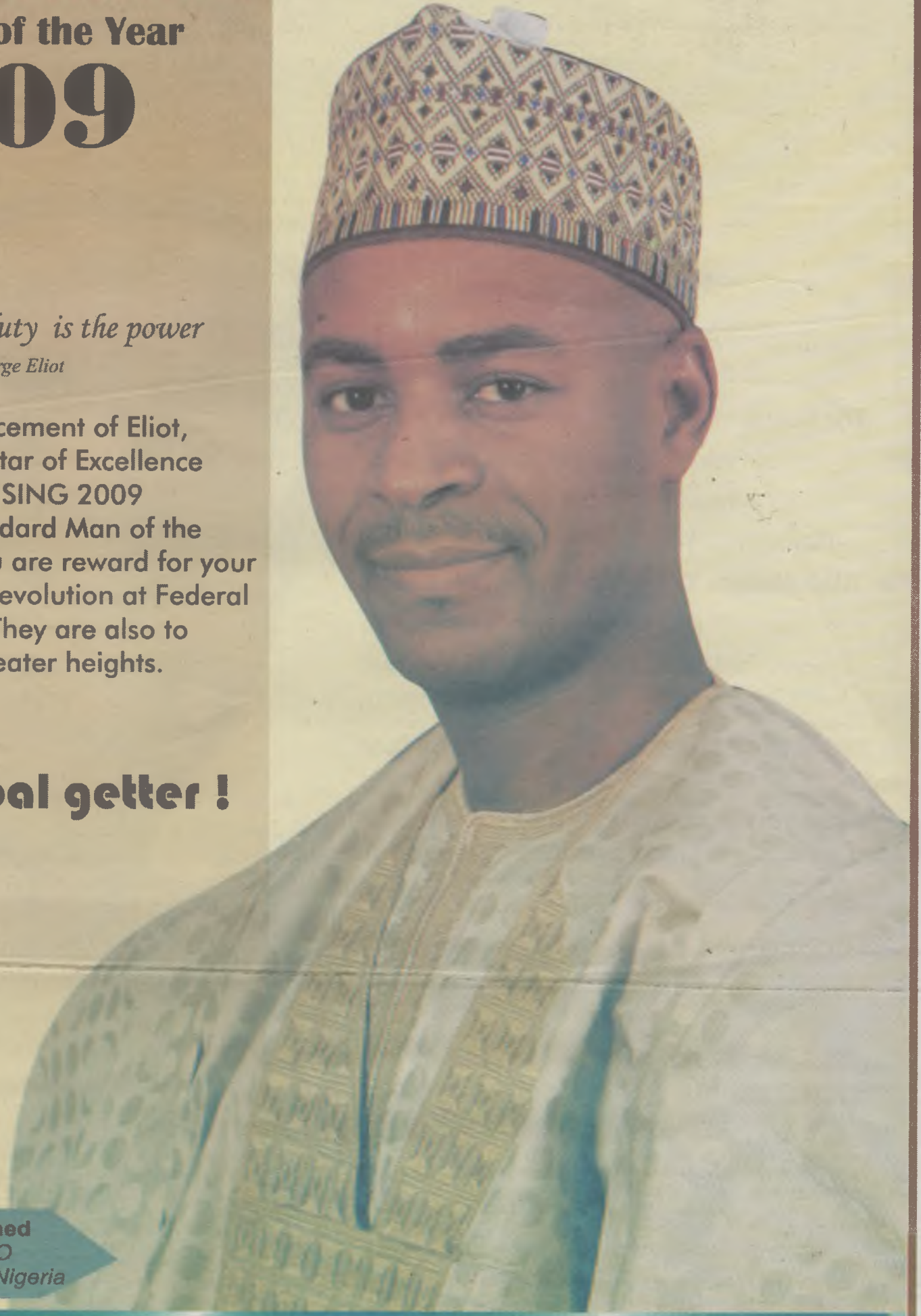
*Congratulations*  
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**2009**

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to fill another - George Eliot*

Like the pronouncement of Eliot,  
Award of African Star of Excellence  
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Year 2009 given to you are reward for your  
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**Alhaji Abdulsalam Ahmed**  
Managing Director/CEO  
Federal Mortgage Bank Of Nigeria



*Signed*  
**MARCEL HALLAL**  
Managing Director/CEO  
marcel@geroma-eng.com

# INTERNATIONAL

## Sudan signs peace framework deal with Darfur rebels

SUDAN'S government and a Darfur rebel group, the Liberation and Justice Movement, signed yesterday a framework peace accord, as talks with the larger Justice and Equality Movement appeared to falter.

The agreement for a ceasefire and talks was signed in Doha by Ghazi Salahuddin, an adviser to Sudanese President Omar al-Beshir, and LJM leader El-Tijani

El-Sissi.

"This is an important step which will give momentum to peace efforts in Darfur," said Sudanese Vice President Ali Osman Taha, who attended the signing of Qatari-sponsored agreement.

"We reiterate the commitment of the government of Sudan to press ahead with talks following this framework agreement. The

deal with the alliance of splinter rebel factions, which was formed last month, came after a deadline set for the completion of peace talks between Khartoum and the larger rebel group JEM passed without agreement on Monday.

The target was set by a framework accord inked last month and hailed by the international community as a major step towards bringing peace to Darfur,

but the talks have since run into difficulty. Sudanese authorities re-arrested 15 JEM members on Wednesday after having released them following the wavering truce.

One key rebel group -- the Sudan Liberation Army faction of Abdelwahid Nur -- has so far refused to have any negotiations with the government and earlier this month engaged in fierce

clashes with the army in the fertile Jebel Marra plateau in the heart of Darfur.

Since ethnic minority rebels first rose up against the Arab-dominated government in Khartoum in 2003, the Darfur conflict has claimed some 300,000 lives and left 2.7 million people homeless, according to UN figures. Khartoum puts the death toll at 10,000.

### Zimbabwe rivals under fresh pressure in Zuma talks

ZIMBABWE'S rival leaders faced fresh pressure yesterday to mend their differences and push toward new elections, as South African President Jacob Zuma led talks on the fragile unity government.

Zimbabwe's ageing President Robert Mugabe, in power since independence from Britain in 1980, reluctantly formed a unity government one year ago with Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai, the former opposition leader. The power-sharing pact has curbed deadly political violence that erupted around disputed 2008 presidential elections, while halting Zimbabwe's decade-long economic collapse.

But they remain sharply divided on a slate of key appointments, western sanctions on Mugabe's inner circle, and the treason trial of a top Tsvangirai ally. Amid the feuding, work has stalled on drafting a new constitution, which is required under the power-sharing pact to pave the way to fresh elections envisioned by February 2011.

Zuma's spokesman Vincent Magwenya told AFP that one-on-one talks with Mugabe and Tsvangirai on Wednesday were "quite encouraging, in the sense that President Zuma got an impression that parties were as keen as we are to move things forward."

"There was commitment all round to work harder in finding a lasting solution," Magwenya said. Zuma, the regional mediator on Zimbabwe, is now set to hold round table talks with the rival leaders yesterday in a bid to pressure them to resolve their differences.

The power-sharing deal called for the creation of committees to oversee reforms in media freedom, human rights and the electoral process.

### Court upholds Rwanda singer's genocide sentence

THE International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) yesterday upheld the 15-year prison sentence handed down on the famous Rwandan singer Simon Bikindi.

On December 2, 2008 Bikindi was found guilty of direct public incitement to commit genocide for a speech he made from a vehicle equipped with loudspeakers in late June 1994 on a road in northwestern Rwanda. "The appeals chamber dismisses Simon Bikindi's appeal in its entirety, affirms the conviction for direct and public incitement to commit genocide, (and) affirms the sentence of 15 years imprisonment," presiding judge Patrick Robinson said.

The panel of five appeals judges also dismissed a prosecution appeal for a minimum sentence of 30 years. The time Bikindi has already spent in prison since his arrest in July 2001 will be deducted from the 15 years. The singer, dressed in white, appeared upset by the ruling and wiped away his tears with the back of his hand.

The ruling on Bikindi found that his speech in late June urged the population to kill Tutsis. He was not found guilty for his songs, even though they were at the centre of the trial. The lower court recognised the inflammatory nature of some of Bikindi's lyrics but emphasised they were composed before 1994, before the period for which the court has competence.

The court also found that the judges had failed to prove that the singer played a role in the broadcasting of his songs in 1994 on state radio, which used them to urge the nation to exterminate Tutsis.

Based in the northern Tanzanian town of Arusha, the ICTR is tasked with tracking down and trying the masterminds behind the 1994 genocide that left some 800,000 people dead, essentially Tutsis.



RWANDAN singer Simon Bikindi, faces a 15-year prison sentence after his appeal was thrown out by the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for inciting genocide.

## International

# Gaza rocket kills one in Israel, clouds peace moves

A flurry of Middle East diplomacy was marred yesterday as a rocket fired from the Gaza Strip killed a civilian in Israel as the EU foreign policy chief was visiting the Palestinian enclave.

A Thai agricultural worker was killed when the rocket slammed into a kibbutz just a few kilometres (couple of miles) from the Gaza border. UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon condemned the attack. "All such acts of terror and violence against civilians are totally unacceptable

and contrary to international law," his office said.

The attack, claimed by the Al-Qaeda-inspired Ansar al-Sunna Brigade, came just as EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton was visiting the impoverished coastal strip which is still struggling with the aftermath of the 22-day offensive Israel launched in December 2008 in a bid to halt rocket fire.

"I'm extremely shocked by the rocket attack ... and the tragic loss of life," Ashton told journalists. "We need to move forward to get

the peace process to move toward a successful resolution."

Qaeda-inspired group claims deadly rocket attack Ashton was to fly later yesterday to Moscow for a meeting of the Middle East diplomatic Quartet also attended by US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and the UN chief. Ban himself also plans to visit the Middle East, including Gaza, over the weekend amid mounting tension in the region as well as between Israel and the United

States.

US Middle East envoy George Mitchell, who brokered a now troubled deal for indirect talks between Israel and the Palestinians on a previous visit, is due back in the region on Sunday, a senior Palestinian official said.

The trip, initially scheduled for last Tuesday, was postponed amid a major row between Washington and the Jewish state over Israel's announcement of 1,600 new homes for settlers in annexed mainly Arab east Jeru-

salem. Washington was all the more angered as the announcement was made while Vice President Joe Biden was in Jerusalem promoting the talks, but President Barack Obama has insisted there is no crisis.

"We and the Israeli people have a special bond that's not going to go away," he said in an interview with Fox News on Wednesday night. He called on both Israelis and Palestinians to "take steps to make sure that we can rebuild trust."

## Iraq PM in slim lead with almost 90% of votes counted



AN election official at the Iraqi Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC) in Baghdad's Karkh department.

PRIME Minister Nuri al-Maliki held on to his slim overall lead in the nationwide vote tally over his main challenger Iyad Allawi, updated results from Iraq's general election showed yesterday.

Maliki's State of Law Alliance led Allawi's Iraqiya bloc by 39,905 votes, according to new figures released by Iraq's election commission and based on 89 percent of ballots counted. That figure includes 70 percent of special voting, conducted three days before the election, for the security forces, hospital patients and staff, and prisoners.

Overall, State of Law garnered 2,448,452 votes compared to Iraqiya's 2,408,547. The Iraqi National Alliance, a coalition led by Shiite religious groups, was third nationwide with 1,859,606.

The nationwide vote count is an indication of the tight race between the two, but it was not immediately clear how their tallies would affect the number of seats they win in parliament. Iraq's system of proportional representation makes it unlikely that any single group will clinch the 163 seats that would enable it to form a government on its own, and protracted coalition building is likely.

## Iran frees activists for Iranian New Year holiday

IRAN released a prominent opposition politician as well as three activists and a filmmaker detained for suspected involvement in the country's postelection turmoil, a relative and local media said yesterday.

Mohsen Mirdamadi, the leader of the country's biggest reformist party, the Islamic Iran Participation Front, was temporarily freed late Wednesday on \$450,000 bail, his son Ali told The Associated Press.

Iran traditionally releases some prisoners before the New Year holiday, which begins March 21 and normally ends April 4. While the semiofficial ISNA news agency said Mirdamadi's release came within the framework of the holiday leaves, it also can be seen a part

of an effort by the Iranian government to ease tensions in the country.

Iranian security forces arrested Mirdamadi on June 13, a day after the country's disputed election that won President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad a second four-year term. Mirdamadi was among more than 100 prominent political figures and activists who were put on a mass trial following the crackdown on opposition supporters who claim Ahmadinejad won the election by fraud.

Before his release, Mirdamadi was the most senior opposition leader left in prison. But other political figures, including Davood Soleimani, Feizollah Arab-sorkhi and Issa Saharkhiz, as well as human rights activist Emadod-

in Baghi and several journalists are still in jail.

Internationally renowned filmmaker Jafar Panahi, who was detained earlier this month, also remains in custody.

The official IRNA news agency also reported Thursday that authorities released filmmaker Mohammad Rasoulof, journalist Ali Akbar Montajabi and female activist Farzaneh Qassemi, all of whom were detained in recent weeks. The report said Rasoulof was freed on bail, but IRNA did not provide details on the release of Montajabi and Qassemi.

The opposition web site Kaleme also reported yesterday that authorities released another journalist, Bahman Ahmadi Amouei, who had been in jail since June.

## Yemen-American imam calls for US Muslim revolt

A Yemeni-American Muslim preacher known for his ties to extremists operating in the US called on American Muslims in a new audio message to turn against their government because of its actions against Muslims around the world.

Anwar al-Awlaki's latest message, excerpts of which were aired on CNN, described his own radicalization after US operations against Muslims and called on those in the US to follow his path.

"I eventually came to the conclusion that jihad against America is binding upon myself just as it is binding on every other Muslim," he said in his American-accented English.

SITE Intelligence Group, which monitors extremist Web Sites, confirmed the existence of the audio message when contacted by The Associated Press.

"To the Muslims in America I have this to say, how can your conscience allow you to live in peaceful coexistence with a nation responsible for the tyranny and crimes against your own brothers and sisters?" he asked.

"How can you have loyalty to a government leading the war against Islam and Muslims?" Al-Awlaki, a US citizen born in New Mexico to Yemeni parents, has used his personal Web site to encourage Muslims around the world to kill US troops in Iraq.

## International

### Junta frees Myanmar-American to deport him

A US citizen accused of subversion was released from prison in his native Myanmar and deported yesterday after serving part of a three-year prison sentence.

The aunt of Kyaw Zaw Lwin, also known as Nyi Nyi Aung, said he was released after 6 1/2 months in prison and taken to Yangon's international airport for a flight to Thailand. Khin Khin Swe said her nephew was accompanied to the airport by a U.S. consular official.

"We can confirm that Kyaw Zaw Lwin has been released from prison and has left the country," the U.S. Embassy said in a statement. "We welcome that development." The 40-year-old was arrested Sept. 3 on arrival at the same airport. He was initially accused of plotting to stir up political unrest, which he denied.

He was sentenced in October for forging a national identity card, for possession of undeclared foreign currency, and for violating Myanmar's so-called Resident Registration Act — under which he was accused of failing to renounce his Myanmar citizenship when becoming an American citizen and failure to inform authorities of his new address. "He looks well and happy, though much thinner than before," said Khin Khin Swe.

### Key Al-Qaeda figure believed killed in Pakistan

AN Al-Qaeda figure who helped plan a deadly attack on the CIA in Afghanistan is believed to have been killed in a US drone strike in Pakistan, a US counterterrorism official said.

"We have indications that Hussein al-Yemeni -- an important al-Qaeda planner and facilitator based in the tribal areas of Pakistan -- was killed last week," the official told AFP Wednesday on condition of anonymity.

Yemeni's specialty was in "bombs and suicide operations" and he was suspected of playing "a key role" in the December attack at a CIA post in eastern Afghanistan that killed seven Americans, the official said in an email.

The Al-Qaeda operative was apparently killed in a US drone strike in the Pakistani city of Miranshah in North Waziristan, in the country's northwest tribal belt. Washington has stepped up drone raids in Pakistan against Islamist militants in the past year, as President Barack Obama has put Pakistan at the center of his fight against Al-Qaeda.

He stopped short of explicitly acknowledging the US bombing raids against militants by unmanned aircraft in Pakistan, a campaign that has become an open secret.

# Thai PM says he's open to talks with protesters



ANTI-GOVERNMENT demonstrators call out former Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra's name during a morning rally yesterday in Bangkok, Thailand.

THAILAND'S prime minister said yesterday the government was ready to hold talks with protesters, who want him to call new elections, but only if they stop throwing blood, blocking government offices and remain peaceful.

For the past week, Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva has been sleeping at an army base outside Bangkok to avoid mass demonstrations by anti-government protesters. Their rallies have featured shock tactics like splattering jugs of their own blood at his private home Wednesday and at the government headquarters a day earlier.

Tens of thousands of demonstrators remained encamped in the historic heart of the Thai cap-

ital Thursday, vowing to wage a "class war" until Abhisit dissolves Parliament and calls fresh elections — a demand he has repeatedly rejected.

Some of the protest's leaders have increasingly portrayed the demonstrations as a struggle between Thailand's impoverished, mainly rural masses and a Bangkok-based elite impervious to their plight. The group largely consists of supporters of former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, who was ousted by a 2006 military coup for alleged corruption, and pro-democracy activists who opposed the army takeover.

Thaksin is popular among the rural poor for his populist policies. They believe Abhisit came

to power illegitimately with the connivance of the military and other parts of the traditional ruling class and that only new elections can restore integrity to Thai democracy.

But Abhisit indicated that their recent antics tested the limits of the law — and were testing his patience. He reiterated the government's stance that the protests will be allowed to continue as long as they remain peaceful. "If demonstrators follow the rules, the government sees no problem in talking," Abhisit told a televised news conference from the army base, which is also serving as a temporary seat of government. Talks did not appear imminent.

A protest leader Jatuporn

Prompan called Abhisit's offer for dialogue "insincere." He said protesters would only consider direct talks with Abhisit himself and only if demands to dissolve Parliament were met.

The so-called Red Shirt protesters stayed in their encampment yesterday after four days of mass demonstrations that have paralyzed parts of Bangkok but avoided violence, which was widely feared.

Leaders of the movement, which is formally known as the United Front for Democracy against Dictatorship, say a 2,000-vehicle protest through the streets of Bangkok is planned for tomorrow. "It will be the beginning of a class war," said

## Afghan president beefs up anti-graft body

AFGHAN President Hamid Karzai yesterday boosted the power of an anti-corruption body that had faced fierce accusations of being toothless and half-hearted in its battle to wipe out official graft.

Karzai is under intense pressure from the Western backers that keep him in power to tackle corruption endemic in every walk of Afghan life, including the polls that saw him re-elected last year to a second five-year term.

The move marked "a very major and important step in our efforts at fighting corruption and bribery in our country," Karzai told reporters after signing a decree at his palace. "It gives Mr Osmani and his unit further power. I wish him success," he said, referring to the head of the body, Mohammad Yasin Osmani.

The High Office of Oversight and Anti-Corruption will now be permitted to investigate allegations of corruption after Karzai publicly signed the document extending its authority.

Until now the office has not had the power and legal authority to carry out investigations or enforce its recommendations, rather than just refer cases to police and prosecutors, who were widely seen as part of the problem.

Osmani welcomed the presidential decree, saying his office would now have more power to deal with corrupt officials.

"We used not to have a number of powers. Now after the president signed this decree, we have been granted some legal authority, meaning that our staff are authorised to act, in some cases, as prosecutor," he said.



**JIGAWA STATE POLYTECHNIC**  
P.M.B 7040 KIYAWA ROAD  
DUTSE- JIGAWA STATE

**INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION AND TENDER FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF LIBRARY FOR FYEAR 2009 INTERVENTION PROJECT**

The management of Jigwa State Polytechnic Dutse hereby invites competent and experienced contractors for pre-qualification and tender for the construction of library complex under ETF intervention project for the year 2009.

**SCOPE OF WORK:-** Construction of library complex.

**Pre-qualification requirement:**

Interested contractor for the pre-qualification and tendering process are the required to submit comprehensive technical and financial information as follows:

- A. Evidence of registration with Corporate Affairs Commission.
- B. Evidence of tax clearance certificate for the last 3 years.
- C. Companies audited account for the last 3 years.
- D. Evidence of financial capability and banking support.
- E. Technical qualification and experience of personnel.
- F. Verification list and documentary evidence of similar jobs successfully executed with their locations within the last three years (include photocopies of letter of award).
- G. List of plants and equipments to be used for the project.
- H. Annual turnover of company.
- I. VAT registration and evidence of past VAT remittance.

Submission of pre-qualification document should be sealed and submitted in an envelope marked pre-qualification for the construction of library and addressed to:

The Registrar,  
Jigawa State Polytechnic  
P.M.B 7040, Kiyawa Road, Dutse, Jigawa State.

To reach him within 4 weeks from the date of this publication

**OPENING OF BIDS AND PRE-QUALIFICATION**

Bidder's representatives are invited to the public opening of pre-qualification at the end of the four weeks from the date of this publication.

**Notes:**

- i. All pre-qualification document shall be rendered in English Language and spiral bound.
- ii. Late Submissions will not be accepted.

Signed  
Alhaji Sadiu Buhari, MNIM, FICEN  
(REGISTRAR)

International

**Clinton sees progress in arms reduction treaty**



US Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton waves upon arrival in Moscow's Vnukovo airport yesterday.

US Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton yesterday opened two days of talks with Russian leaders on nuclear arms control and other security issues and was meeting separately with top international diplomats on the outlook for bringing Israel and the Palestinians back to peace talks.

Clinton arrived in the Russian capital after an overnight flight from Washington and was to be joined by the Obama administration's special envoy for Mideast peace, George Mitchell, for talks with diplomats from Russia, the European Union and the United Nations.



**FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
FEDERAL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD  
PLOT 245 SAMUEL ADEMULEGUN STREET, CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT, ABUJA**

**2010/2011 BILATERAL EDUCATIONAL AGREEMENT (BEA) SCHOLARSHIP AWARD INTERVIEWS**

The 2010/2011 Bilateral Educational Agreement Scholarship application forms are now available online at [www.fsbnigeria.org](http://www.fsbnigeria.org).

All qualified candidates that have fully completed the prescribed application forms for the above scholarship are hereby invited to attend nomination interview slated for 22<sup>nd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2010.

Application Forms for the above Interviews are now available on-line at [www.fsbnigeria.org](http://www.fsbnigeria.org).

**QUALIFICATION:**

**Undergraduate Candidates** must have a minimum of five (5) principal passes (A&B in their WASC, NECO) including English Language and Mathematics at a sitting while **Postgraduate Candidates** should obtain a minimum of Second Class Upper Division in their first degrees.

**INTERVIEW SCHEDULES:**

All qualified candidates should attend the nomination interviews with their completed application forms and relevant documents as scheduled below:

Zone	State	Hosting State	Venue	22 <sup>nd</sup> March Monday	23 <sup>rd</sup> March Tuesday	24 <sup>th</sup> March Wednesday	25 <sup>th</sup> March Thursday	26 <sup>th</sup> March Friday	27 <sup>th</sup> March Saturday
North East	Gombe, Yobe, Borno, Adamawa, Taraba, Bauchi	Gombe	North East/ETF Education Resource Centre, Inside Govt. Arabic College, Dukku Road, Gombe	Bauchi	Adamawa	Yobe and Borno	Gombe and Taraba	Collation	Departure
North West	Kaduna, Katsina, Kano, Kebbi, Jigawa, Sokoto, Zamfara	Kaduna	Kaduna State Scholarship Board	Zamfara, Jigawa	Kebbi, Sokoto	Kano, Katsina	Kaduna	Collation	Departure
North Central	Kwara, Niger, Kogi, FCT, Benue, Nasarawa, Plateau	Kogi	Government Science School, Lokoja.	FCT & Nasarawa	Kwara, Niger	Benue	Plateau, Kogi	Collation	Departure
South East	Enugu, Abia, Imo, Anambra, Ebonyi		F.G.C., Enugu	Anambra	Ebonyi, Abia	Imo	Enugu	Collation	Departure
South West	Ogun, Lagos, Oyo, Ekiti, Ondo, Osun	Ogun	Abeokuta Grammar Schol. Abeokuta, Idi-Aba, Opposite F.M.C.	Lagos & Oyo	Osun and Ekiti	Ondo	Ogun	Collation	Departure
South-South	Rivers, C/River, Delta, Edo, Bayelsa, Akwa-Ibom	Cross-River	F.G.G.C. Calabar	Rivers & Bayelsa	Delta	Edo	C/River & Akwa-Ibom	Collation	Departure

- \* Application Forms should be completed in quadruplets with all necessary documents attached. Candidates are expected to submit their completed application forms at the interview venues.
- \* Candidates are however, free to attend the interviews in Centres nearest to them on the days their States of Origin are scheduled.

Signed: Permanent Secretary  
Federal Ministry of Education  
Abuja

## Trust Islamic

*In the name of Allah the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful. All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of the worlds. We testify that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allah, and that Muhammed (peace be upon him) is His prophet and messenger. May the benediction and blessings of Allah be on Prophet Muhammed who is the noblest of mankind, his household, his companions and those who follow their foot steps till the day of resurrection.*

# Marrying with the intention of getting divorced is haraam

SOME scholars said that a marriage done with the intention of getting divorced is an invalid marriage, because it is temporary, so it is akin to mut'ah marriage.

Others are of the view that it is a valid marriage, but it is haraam due to the deceit and betrayal involved, because if the woman and her guardian knew that the husband was only getting married with the intention of divorce after a few days or a month and so on, they would not have agreed to that.

Among those who are of this opinion is Shaykh Muhammad ibn 'Uthaymeen (may Allaah have mercy on him). He was asked: There is a man who wants to go abroad because he is being sponsored by the government, and he wants to maintain his chastity by marrying a woman there for a specific period, then after that he will divorce this wife, without telling her that he is going to divorce her. What is the ruling on his doing this?

He replied: One of two scenarios must apply to this marriage that is done with the intention of divorce. Either he stipulates in

the marriage contract that he is marrying her for a month or a year or until his studies end, which is a mut'ah marriage and is haraam, or he is intending that without stipulating it. The well known Hanbali view is that it is haraam and the marriage contract is invalid, because they say that that which is intended is like that which is stipulated, because the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "Actions are but by intentions and each person will have but that which he intended." And because if a man marries a woman who was divorced thrice by her husband for the purpose of making her permissible for him, then he divorces her, then the marriage is invalid, even if that is done without any stipulation, because that which is intended is like that which is stipulated. If the intention is tahleel (making it permissible for the woman to go back to her first husband) then the contract is invalid. Similarly the intention of mut'ah renders the marriage contract invalid. This is the view of the Hanbalis. The other scholarly view concerning this issue is that it is

valid to marry the woman with the intention of divorcing her when he leaves the country, like those who go abroad to study and so on. They said: Because this is not stipulated, and the difference between this and mut'ah is that when the time stipulated comes, separation is automatic, unlike this, because he may like this wife and want her to stay with him. This is one of the two views of Shaykh al-Islam Ibn Taymiyah.

In my view, it is valid and is not mut'ah, because the definition of mut'ah does not apply to it. But it is haraam because it is deceiving the wife and her family, and the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) forbade deceiving and cheating. If the wife knew that this man only wanted to marry her for this period, she would not have married him and her family would not have agreed. Just as he would not want to give his daughter in marriage to a person who intends to divorce her when he no longer has any need of her, how can he agree to treat others in a way that he would not like for himself? This is contrary to faith,

because the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "No one of you is a believer until he likes for his brother what he likes for himself." And because I have heard that some people use this opinion as a means to do something which no scholar would approve: they go to other countries just to get married, so they go and get married, and they stay there for as long as Allah wills with this wife whom they intended to marry for a short time only, then come back. This is also a grave wrong and closing the door to it would have been better because of the deceit and betrayal involved in it, and because it opens the door to such things, as most people are ignorant and most people's whims and desires encourage them to transgress the sacred limits of Allaah. Fataawa al-Mar'ah al-Muslimah (2/757, 758).

Whatever the case, marrying with the intention of getting divorced is haraam, and it may be either invalid in and of itself like mut'ah, or haraam because of the deceit and betrayal involved.

And Allaah knows best.

## Group urges Jonathan to reconstitute advisory c'ttee

By Abdulmutallib A. Abubakar & Muideen Olaniyi

THE Vanguard for Islamic Propagation has urged Acting President Goodluck Jonathan to reconstitute the leadership composition of the Presidential Advisory Council (PAC) by ensuring that it is religiously balanced between Muslims and Christians.

Acting President Jonathan had recently set up the council headed by Former Defense Minister, Lt. General T. Y. Danjuma with a constitutional lawyer, Professor Ben Nwabueze as deputy. Both of them are Christians.

The group, in a statement signed by its coordinator, Alhaji Ishaq Kunle Sanni said considering the comprehensiveness of the assignment given to the council, that covers social, political and religious aspects of people's life, there ought to be an adequate Muslim representation in the committee and its leadership.

While commending the consideration of regional dichotomy in the constitution of the committee, the organisation warned Jonathan that "he should not ignite religious suspicion because religion is an emotive issue".

The statement reads: "The attention of Vanguard for Islamic Propagation has been drawn to the composition of the PAC constituted by the Acting President. Looking at this composition, there is no doubting the fact that it took care of the North/South dichotomy of the country, which is commendable.

"However, it refuses to take cognizance the sensitive nature of our religious diversity. Both the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman, are both Christians which is condemnable to say the least. There is in this country a silent, but strong convention that when the President is a Christian, the Vice President

would be a Muslim. That was why when Chief Olusegun Obasanjo a Christian was President, Abubakar Atiku a Muslim was Vice President.

"Even in the present foggy situation when Umaru Yar'adua is President, in spite of the preponderance of eminent Muslims qualified for the post, like Chief Ahmed Okiri of PortHarcourt, it was Dr Goodluck Jonathan, A Christian that was chosen to maintain a religious balancing.

"This type of insensitivity to the religious yearnings and polarity in the country also reared its ugly head during the selfishly motivated Constitutional Conference Obasanjo instituted to perpetuate himself in office. That was when Justice Niki Tobi a Christian was made Chairman and Reverend Father Kukah another Christian was the Secretary.

"The initial hue and cry over this crisis ridden appointment was initially neglected

by the strong-headed President. It took the visit to Obasanjo of the highest Islamic body-the Nigerian Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs, headed by the late Sultan of Sokoto, Muhammadu Maccido for Professor Ishaq Oloyede to be appointed Co-Secretary of the Constitutional jamboree.

"Acting President Goodluck Jonathan should be conscious of the unhealthy and highly controversial circumstances that shot him into the apex of political leadership in Nigeria. It is pertinent to mention that his ascension to power is still riddled with controversy and bad blood.

"If a Muslim President through ill-health had to step aside, a Christian Vice-President should come into the saddle and give an impression of having evangelistic motivation, through surreptitious promotion of Christianity at the inglorious expense of Islam.

## ASK your Imam

### IT is not permissible for spouses to use contraceptives without mutual consent

A woman came to a gynaecologist to ask her for contraceptive medicine without her husband's permission, on the grounds that this woman's husband had another wife and he had children from her, and she was still studying in the university. Is it permissible for the doctor to prescribe this medicine for her or should she refuse?

It is haraam for her to use contraceptives without her husband's consent, because it is the right of both husband and wife to have children. Hence the scholars said that it is haraam for the husband to withdraw from his wife without his wife's consent.

"Withdraw" here refers to ejaculating outside the vagina ('azl) lest the woman become pregnant. But if both spouses agree to taking these pills, it is permissible, because that is akin to 'azl, which was practised by the Sahaabah, as Jaabir (may Allaah be pleased with him) said: We used to practise 'azl at the time when the Qur'aan was being revealed.

In other words, if it had been forbidden the Qur'aan would have forbidden it. However, it is better not to take these pills because that goes against the wishes of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) for this ummah, that they should have many children.

I tell you that the ones who first invented these pills were the Jews and other enemies of the Muslims, who want to eradicate this ummah and reduce its numbers, and leave it dependent upon other, because the smaller their numbers the smaller their productivity, and the greater their numbers the greater their productivity -- in agriculture, industry, commerce and in every field. Nations are feared more than others if they are greater in number, even if they are not advanced in industry, because large numbers alarm the enemy.

So we call upon the Muslims to have many children, so long as there are no circumstances such as sickness or poor health on the woman's part or she cannot give birth without surgical intervention, because these are cases of necessity and cases of necessity are subject to different rulings.

Shaykh Ibn 'Uthaymeen, Fataawa al-Mar'ah al-Muslimah, 2/556

## TRUE DEMOCRACY ADVOCACY NETWORK (TRUDAN)

### 2011: Why AC/SNG Got it Wrong on Iwu

The beauty of democracy stems from its liberating principles that draw life from the rule of law. The culture of free speech finds a fertile ground and blossom under true democracy. Thus, when some interest groups and individuals take to the street, making inflammatory and uncomplimentary comments against government and some of its key institutions while the Nigerian police provide security for them, that is democracy in action. But that does not necessarily makes their actions or positions correct or right!

That is why the people that believe that the chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), Professor Maurice Iwu is the problem of Nigeria's electoral system are neither right nor correct, essentially since it is obvious that desperate politicians and ill-informed electorate and not Iwu are the ones that mastermind violence, ballot box stuffing and snatching and other electoral ills that paint the nations in bad colours.

That is why the Action Congress and its promoters are fundamentally wrong in their accusation that Professor Iwu as an electoral umpire is "biased, incompetent and a threat to Nigeria's democracy and stability". Because there is no verifiable evidence to back that crude allegation.

That is why the Save Nigeria Groups (SNG) call for Iwu's removal just because of the 2007 election, fail every test of objectivity and fair play especially when the INEC under Iwu has shown a steel resolve and determination to achieve a free, fair and transparent elections in 2011 by the deliberate and progressive reforms in the commission, initiated by Iwu after the 2007 elections.

That is why the foreign interest groups and their manipulated and brain-washed Nigerian collaborators, who are fueling the orchestrated campaign for Iwu's removal just few months to the coming general election, are not only mischievous but also acting against the true interest of the Nigerian democracy, because common sense and objectivity dictate that such calls will be counter-productive and create more confusion at this critical point when the nation should be strategizing for the 2011. In a country where office holders are always in a hurry to discontinue the policies of their predecessors, any incoming chairman at this time will bring more problem than solution in both INEC and the electoral system.

In *Thisday Newspaper* of May 11, 2009 while speaking on the problems of Nigeria's electoral system, President Umaru Yar'Adua had said "*what has been noticed is that the politicians and the political leaders prefer to go into elections with a one-track mind of never losing. In the process, they at times make provision for compromising electoral officials and security officials*".

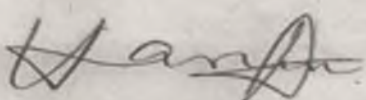
#### Question for AC and SNG

- When opposition parties won elections recently in Ondo, Edo and Anambra states, why did SNG not protect against INEC's performance or the outcome of the elections?
- Why is it that AC and their promoters only see election as free and fair only when the party's candidates emerge as winners?
- Why do AC and SNG think they can stampede the Acting President to do their bidding just to satisfy their huge hunger for self adulation and parochialism?

Political analysts and objective followers of Nigeria's electoral development have consistently posited that lack of internal democracy in the parties, unpatriotic attitude of some desperate politicians and unprincipled electorate (who see their vote as a commodity that must be bought) are the bane of Nigeria's electoral system and obviously not the electoral body or its leadership. Former Chief Justice of the Federation, Idris Kutugi rightly hit the nail when he said what needs reform is not the electoral system but the Nigerian people!

So, let's allow Iwu to concentrate and prepare the commission for the 2011 elections, while we reform our attitude towards election for our democracy to take root.

Sign



**Haruna Abubakar**  
National Chairman



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# BUSINESS

0805 1000 536



PIC: YUNUS ABDULHAMID

FROM Left: Chairman of the House of Representatives Committee on Privatisation and Commercialisation Abass Braimoh listening to the NITEL/Mtel workers' protest leader Suleiman Auwaloo over 25 months unpaid salaries yesterday at the National Assembly.

## Share your Goodluck, pay our 25 months salaries

### ... NITEL workers tell Jonathan

By Yunus Abdulhamid

EMBATTLED workers of the Nigeria Telecommunications Limited and its mobile arm, MTEL yesterday called on Acting President Goodluck Jonathan to share in his good luck by approving the payment of the 25 months salaries owed them.

The staff numbering over a 100 stormed the National Assembly yesterday, adorned in the MTEL orange coloured campaign T-shirts chanting solidarity songs. They were however barred from entering the National Assembly complex by men of the Nigeria Police who barricaded the gates.

Some of the placards read: "Lucky Goodluck, let us share in your luck," "Pay NITEL/MTEL workers to avoid terrorism," "out of job leads to terrorism." An estimated N15 billion is needed to pay the two years salaries of the 3, 500 workers of the beleaguered companies.

Spokesman of the protesting staff, Sulaiman Umar Auwalu said: "We have been suffering untold hardship for no fault of ours. We are not against privatisation of NITEL/MTEL nor government running it as its own.

"Marriages have been broken, children sent out of school, many families evicted from homes. For how long are we going to wait for our money?" he asked

Chairman of the House of Representatives Committee on Privatisation and Commercialisation, Mr Abass Braimoh came out to address the aggrieved men and women on behalf of Speaker Dimeji Bankole.

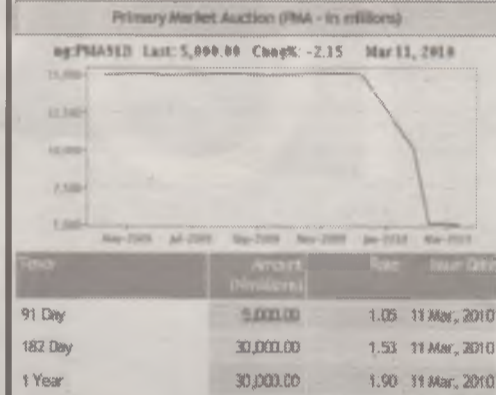
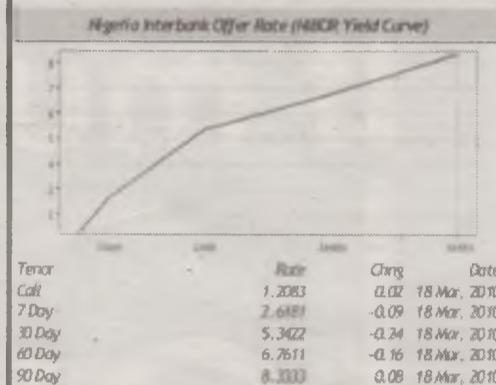
He said "we are in receipt of your petition to the house and Mr Speaker is very concerned about your plight. He asked me to speak to you and I can assure you that our position is that the sale of NITEL to New Generation Telecommunication Consortium for \$2.5 billion must be concluded.

"We are aware that the Technical Com-

mittee of the National Council on Privatisation (NCP) has approved the transaction and we can only fall back on the reserved bidder, Omen International if the preferred bidders are unable to pay as required."

The irreversible minimum is for the NCP (chaired by Acting President Jonathan) to approve the transaction tomorrow (today) so that New Generation can pay the required 30% within 10 days after, which is \$750 million, he said.

Braimoh expressed optimism on the outcome of today's scheduled NCP meeting where a seven man ad-hoc committee set up by Acting President Goodluck Jonathan to evaluate the transaction would present its report, following the indefinite suspension of the Bureau of Public Enterprises' Director General, Dr Christopher Anyanwu. The committee was chaired by then minister of Justice, Adetokunmba Kayode.



Source: FMDA

### Stock Market Index

Date: Thursday, March 18, 2010  
 Index: 24,504.58  
 Deals: 8,396  
 Volume: 481,620,300  
 Value: N 4,380,543,674.41  
 Cap.: N 5,921,698,320,285.13

### Trust Index

Inflation → 12.3%  
 GDP → 6.90%  
 Budget → N3.1tr  
 External Reserves Acct → \$41.5bn  
 Excess Crude Acct → \$3.2bn  
 Poverty Ratio → 54.4%  
 Monetary Policy Rate → 6%  
 Banks → 24  
 Oil Price → \$82 a barrel  
 Power Supply → 2, 200MW  
 Oil output per day → 2.5mbd  
 Broad Money Supply → N10,796,734.5m  
 Credit to Private Sector → N10,018,035.3m  
 Inter-Bank Rate → 1.1600%  
 Treasury Bills → 2.02%  
 Deposit Rate → 12.28%  
 Prime Lending Rate → 18.38%

CBN EXCHANGE RATES				BUREAU DE CHANGE RATES	
17/3/2010				BUYING	
	Buying (NGN)	Central (NGN)	Selling (NGN)	DOLLAR.....	N151
CFA	0.29	0.3	0.31	EURO.....	N255
DANISH KRONER	27.2786	27.3712	27.4637	POUNDS.....	N231
EURO	203.073	203.7619	204.4507		
POUNDS STERLING	226.1116	226.8786	227.6456	SELLING	
RIYAL	39.3067	39.44	39.5733	DOLLAR.....	N152
SDR	226.7454	227.5146	228.2837	EURO.....	N208
SWISS FRANC	139.888	140.3626	140.8371	POUNDS.....	N234
US DOLLAR	147.4	147.9	148.4		
WAUA	225.6026	226.3679	227.1331		
YEN	1.6264	1.6319	1.6374		

Source: S6 J Bureau de Change, Wuse Zone 4, Abuja.



## UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION COMMISSION (UBEC)

*Inna Lillahi* wa Ina  
*Alaihi Raji'un*



The Board, Management and Staff of Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC), condole His Excellency, the Governor of Adamawa State, Admiral Murtala H. Nyako, the State Government, Adamawa Council of Emirs and Chiefs, the family of the late Lamido, the Emirate Council and the entire people of Adamawa State on the loss of His Royal Highness, Alh. (Dr.) Aliyu Mustapha, CFR, CBE.

The late Lamido was an epitome of peace, unity and progress. The people of Adamawa State and indeed all Nigerians will miss his wise counsel.

May his gentle soul rest in perfect peace. Amen.

His Royal Highness  
Alh. (Dr.) Aliyu  
Mustapha, CFR, CBE

The Lamido of Adamawa

Signed

**Prof. Tunde Adeniran, OFR**

Chairman, UBEC Board

## Business/Telecoms

**BPE, NITEL and Anyanwu**

By Jibrin Abubakar

THAT the recent turbulence that jolted the sale of NITEL to New Generation consortium is settling, is to ignore the political dimension to the story.

Needless to say, Godfatherism, Intrigues and board room politics have rubbished efforts to privatise the Nigerian Telecommunications Limited.

Even as the chips are down and Dr. Christopher Anyanwu, the embattled BPE Director General is under suspension, while the unfinished transaction looks upon Nigeria, there are fresh concerns that the government is likely to call for a fresh bid for troubled NITEL.

It would appear therefore that the government is not comfortable with New Generation Consortium who won the bid-not with the controversy that rocked it later.

Perhaps the suspended DG was a victim because he was unaware of the thin line between politics and business in Nigeria-A green but intellectual horn freshly plucked from the university.

This is against the backdrop of the fact that last week the Goodluck Jonathan government had set up a new panel of ministers to probe BPE activities in recent times, especially as it affects NITEL sale.

But with the sacking of ministers Wednesday, commentators fear that a new twist may be added to the already saturated situation and that the country's privatisation effort may be spooled back.

Despite the mounting criticisms, Pundits believe that BPE has been the major promoter of the Nigeria's effort to growing the private sector of the economy. Some point to the success story of the telecommunications sector. But to others yet, the GSM was a revolution that was bound to come.

They also said the ability to win investors over and made them ready to commit \$2.5billion to the country's asset that was hitherto valued at \$500million should have earned the BPE a pat at the back. But experts fear that wrong signals are being sent to investors and this may make them to develop cold feet. Others also fear the outcome of the ongoing review may affect NITEL workers and further dampen the morale of the BPE staff. They say BPE and Nigeria in general is working a tight rope when it comes to the sale of NITEL.

But the handlers of the suspended BPE DG said their boss was a victim of the Nigerian syndrome of Godfatherism which he tried to fight. They claimed that the power that had been wanted a different consortium to emerge as the preferred bidder but Anyanwu thwarted the

game plan.

"This transaction got this quality bargain mainly through what is perceived to be due process and transparent manner with which the sale was handled by the BPE. Sadly as has become nearly typical of such high wire sales as was the case with NICON Insurance, back stabbing and power play has taken over, with the BPE boss, Chris Anyanwu sent on compulsory suspension, just as again the nation might send wrong signals over its seeming unseriousness to position itself as a potential global economic threat," one of them said.

Anyanwu, the suspended BPE boss, however decided to stick to the guidelines as set by the NCC as it is aimed at encouraging competition and discouraging monopoly, more so that Nigeria remains the highest paying nation as it concerns GSM tariff and it is expected that further opening of the market would crash down the rates.

They point to the fact that in the query sent to him, past issues such as SAHCOL's sale where Anyanwu was accused of unilaterally revising the criteria for the selection of a core investor without reference to the technical committee crept up. Added in the widely read query is also the allegation that proceeds from the sale of SAHCOL got diverted to an account opened with-

out the consent of the liquidator of Nigeria Airways, just as is the story of issuance of Bond/Promissory notes for the payment of N70bn to the creditors of TRANSCORP after the revocation of the sale of NITEL to it and other issues like arrangement of foreign trips at great cost to the public.

They also point to the remarks made by the chairman of the technical committee on privatisation Prof. Taiwo Osipitan who said: "I believe that due process was followed in terms of getting advice from Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) as to who could complete and technical committee did their best to follow due process. When it comes to the financial bid which I handled, I must tell you that we recorded 100% transparency. We called all the bidders, it was televised nationwide. Each company that bid had their representatives there. Each of the representatives was called to confirm that the bid they submitted in sealed envelopes was the same and that the bids remained in that form. Thereafter, each bid was opened and the results were announced to the hearing of the public. It was televised. They were then given 20 minutes to go and reconsider their positions. Each bidder went to a separate room to do this. Some of them were busy phoning their home countries for further instructions. They later came back with their bids in sealed envelopes. Everyone saw this. It was 100% transparent and this was corroborated by members of the National Assembly who were present. The regulatory authorities also confirmed that the exercise was transparent. Above all NITEL workers who were also there commended the transparency of the process".



CHRISTOPHER Anyanwu

If the behind-the-scene explanation put forward by the Anyanwu handlers is concrete, he may be returned to his job, but if the review committee finds him wanting, the story may change. What is clear for the time being is that those who say, as it is alleged, that he has refused to dance to their tune, may not want him there. Only time will tell however how this will play out.





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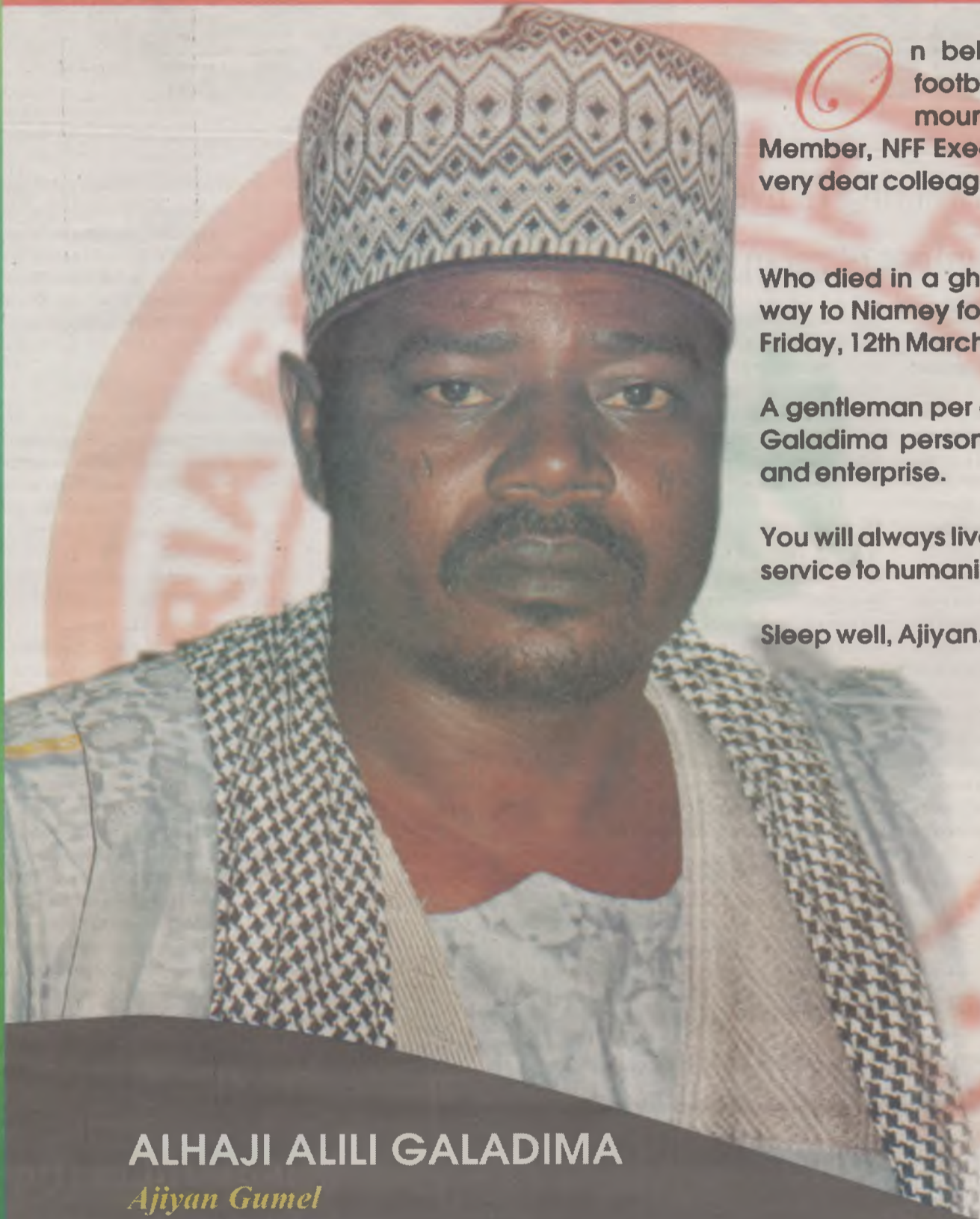
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# NIGERIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION (NFF)

Inna Lillahi Wa Ina Ilaihi Rajiu'n



In behalf of the entire Nigeria football family, we earnestly mourn the passing away of Member, NFF Executive Committee and our very dear colleague and a good man,

Who died in a ghastly auto accident on his way to Niamey for a national assignment on Friday, 12th March, 2010.

A gentleman per excellence, late Alhaji Alili Galadima personified honesty, selflessness and enterprise.

You will always live in the minds of all, for your service to humanity.

Sleep well, Ajiyan.

**ALHAJI ALILI GALADIMA**

*Ajiyan Gumel*

(1963-2010)

**Signed:**

**ALH. SANI LULU ABDULLAHI**

*President*

**DR. BOLAJI OJO-OBA**

*General Secretary*

## Star Feature

# Inside the world of 'Keke NAPEP'

For many it is serving as a source of livelihood, but for others it is a potent instrument of calamity.

By Tosin Omoniye

**A**BDULLAHI Tanko is a 38 year old indigene of Kano State who came into the capital city about 3 years ago. He started as a commercial water seller, popularly known as 'Mai ruwa.' Having faithfully set aside a substantial amount of money made from the proceeds of his trade, he then ventured into the sale of tomatoes and onions at the Wuse market. Three years down the line Abdullahi says that his present occupation has not only brought him fulfillment, but has equally given him a dependable means of livelihood which has shot him up the social ladder considerably. Abdullahi is one of the beneficiaries of the 'keke napep' project of the Olusegun Obasanjo administration which was initiated in 2002, and which is being spearheaded by the officials of the National Poverty Eradication Programme, NAPEP. Each vehicle which cost the government about N450, 000, was given out to beneficiaries at a 50% discount payable in instalments.

Today, according to Abdullahi, the programme has given him more dividends than he could ever hope to get by taking part in any other form of vocation. 'At least now I can comfortably fend for myself, my wife, and four children, three of whom are in secondary school. Even though my wife earns a little amount of money trading in condiments and edibles, the major part of our income

comes from the money I make on a daily basis plying the Asokoro-AYA route of town.' Although the soft spoken gentleman rebuffs entreaties to state precisely how much he earns on a daily basis, he nevertheless says that it is much more than what others, especially government employees make from their respective places of work. 'I can determine my working hours, and equally determine how much I want to make on a daily basis. This you cannot get in any office,' he enthuses.

**M**bakwe Festus is another grateful colleague of Abdullahi. He drives his own motorized tricycle along the Nyanya-Jikwoyi axis, and he says that apart from the constant harassments he encounters from the officials of the road transport union, he has no regrets engaging in the transport business which has proven to be lucrative for him. He says: 'the business, is a profitable one if you are patient enough. It is an investment that requires perseverance. You put in money on an instalmental basis, and slowly recoup your money. Here you do not have to answer to anybody but yourself. Apart from the regular deductions you make to pay off the NAPEP for the purchase of the vehicle, any other amount you make belongs to you. What else can you ask for?' He adds however that even though the business is a profitable venture, the trepidation most commuters still feel about boarding the tri-

cycles, still militates against their daily earnings. 'Unlike other drivers who use commercial buses for their operations, we still have the challenge of persuading some people to board our vehicles, as they are always fearful of the possibility of accidents. This ought not to be so, because if you can trust a bus driver with your life while he is driving, why can't can's passengers also do the same with us,' he queries.

**M**bakwe's observations may not be totally misplaced. Findings have revealed that these open transport vehicles account for some of the most tragic accidents that occur on a monthly basis in Abuja, and indeed in other states where they operate. Apart from the carelessness of its drivers many of whom are known to weave in and out of traffic dangerously, many also say the fragile structure, and open nature of the tricycles makes it a potential target for fatal accidents. A commuter, Glory Akpan, notes that ever since she observed a fatal accident involving a bus and a keke Napep few years back, she has vowed never to be found boarding any until she takes her last breath. 'Any time I see any of these buses, I usually relive the horror that I experienced years back when an accident occurred right in front of me. A keke napep slammed into the back of a stationary bus. The occupants of the tricycle were flung into a nearby gutter. One of them had a broken skull as result of that, while the other sustained different degrees of injuries. You could even see the bone of one of the victims protruding from his legs. It was horrific. Ironically the careless driver sustained minor bruises. Many of these drivers are untrained in driving, and the government by giving them the vehicles, are not doing anything to make sure that those benefiting from the project are given adequate training, to aid them in their work and equally ensure public safety,'



THEIR ban from the city center has not in anyway scared them from plying such routes.

“He says: 'The business, is requires perseverance. You money. Here you do not ha deductions you make to pa you make belongs to you. V

KEKE NAPEP



P still remains a formidable means of poverty alleviation to many.

she avers.

Another commuter, Sunday Adesina, a journalist says that some of the drivers of such vehicles operate under the influence of alcohol. He recalls an incident that occurred a few months back when he boarded a tricycle going to Wuse from the office of the Federal Capital Development Agency, FCDA in area 11. 'When we got to the central area, a vehicle of the Federal Road Safety Commission, FRSC flagged the driver down. He refused to stop, but instead started speeding away from the officials. All the pleas of passengers for him to stop fell on deaf ears. It was as if he was suddenly insane, as he drove as if all hell had been let loose. The officers acted wisely by stopping the chase. Who knows what would have happened if they continued chasing him. It would have been fatal, I am very sure. Many of such drivers abound

amongst this keke napep group,' Sunday confides.

A commuter, Bunmi Adeleye, who regularly plies area one section of the city, says she prefers taking the tricycles more than buses. She says apart from the civility of the drivers of the kekes, which is lacking in the commercial bus counterparts, the fact that she can bask in fresh air while in the tricycles makes it more comfortable for her. 'I prefer to take keke because it is not cramped as the buses, and you can actually enjoy fresh air while on them. Besides most of these drivers are very polite, more humble than bus conductors and their drivers,' she notes.

A Keke driver, Solomon Uchendu however agrees that indeed some of his colleagues are careless and ignorant about the operations of the tricycles. He identified two major causes of accidents involving the tricycles. 'They are built in a unique way, and a

driver needs to understand this. When a keke slows down, its weight which is initially centered at the back is automatically transferred to the front, and if a driver is not careful when he brakes suddenly the vehicle may somersault and lead to an accident.' He adds also that, 'there are two types of kekes in circulation nowadays, the originally imported ones which use diesel, and the locally made ones which are run by petrol. Unlike the original ones, the local ones need constant servicing for it to operate at optimum level. Sadly many of our drivers do not make this sacrifice and this can be dangerous.'

Recently the director Abuja Environmental Protection Board, AEPB, Dr Abubakar Yabo announced the intention of the FCT administration to ban the tricycles from the city's centre, due to their careless way of driving and parking. He had noted that, 'Keke Napep, which replaces Okada in Abuja would only be allowed to operate in Gwarinpa, Apo, Kubwa and other satellite towns, where Abuja painted taxis are not available, because they have become a nuisance in the Abuja metropolis.'

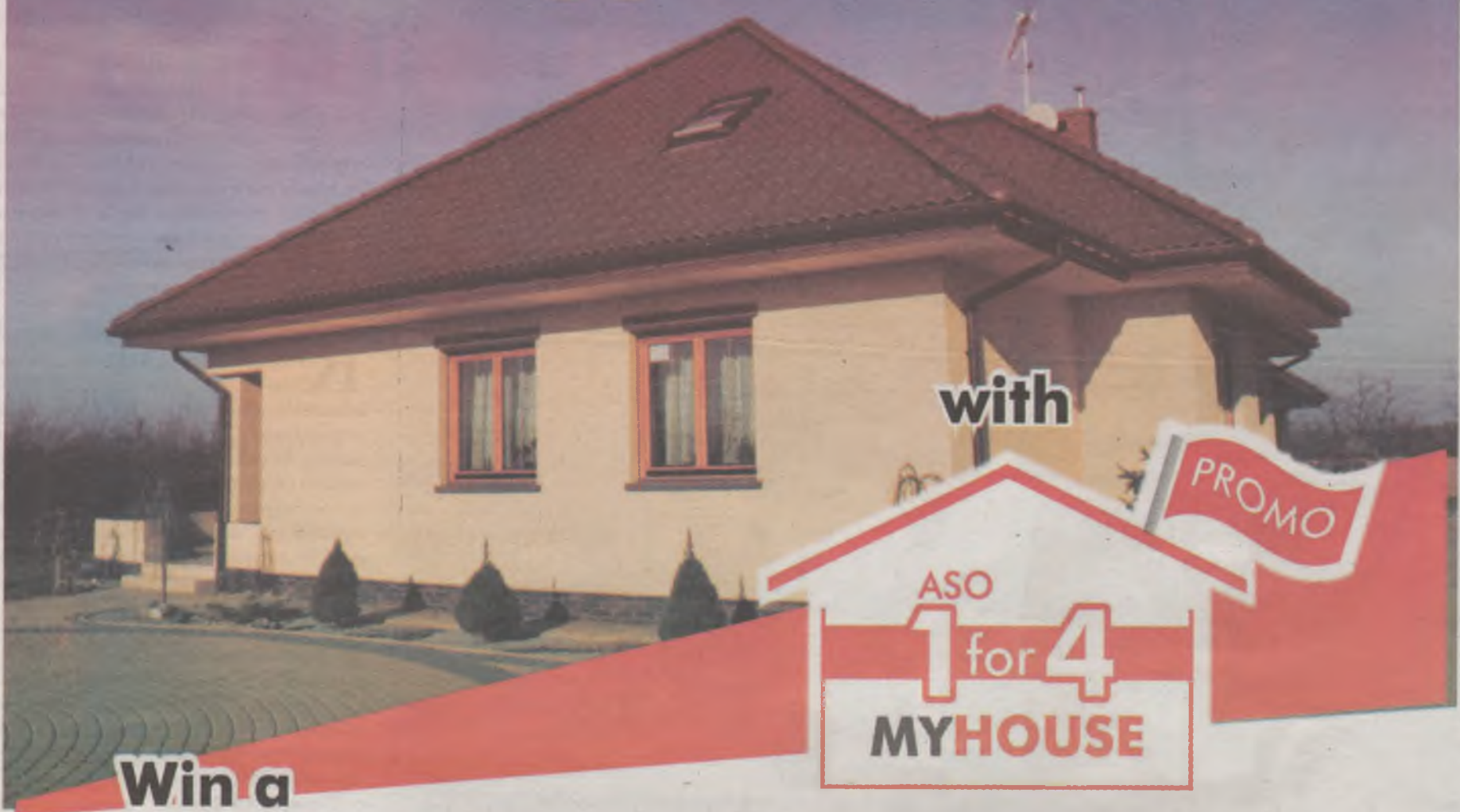
Despite this many actually agree that the motive behind the introduction of the vehicle which is to alleviate poverty amongst Nigerian has dwarfed whatever disadvantages it may pose. One of such is Alban Ofili-Okonkwo, chairman, Autobahn Technique Ltd. He says: 'Keke Napep is an experimental model of poverty eradication that seeks to empower the poor unemployed or underemployed Nigerian, to a position where he can create a measurable and verifiable value in society, in order to earn daily bread. We have proven that with this Keke model it is possible to pick a street urchin and empower him through micro-credit to become a productive member of society. From our monitoring activities, we have established that Keke may not just be a tool for earning sustenance and daily bread; it is a formidable vehicle for wealth creation.'

But Christabel Asuquo, director of Falling Angels Foundation, Abuja which is one outfit at the front row of organizations churning out programmes to alleviate the plight of the underprivileged in the Nigerian society, says the government needs to do more in terms of mitigating the sufferings of the people. She adds that if care is not taken, the funds allocated by the government to ease the sufferings of its citizens may at the end of the day not really get into the hands of those for which it is meant for. She enthuses: 'the funds presently been given out by the government for the alleviation of poverty are grossly inadequate. They should equally put these funds in the hands of key and certified NGOs, who will ensure that it gets to those people who actually need the help. It is equally not all about throwing monies around. They should go down to the grassroots, the suburbs and the homes of the impoverished. Let us not just do government from afar off. Government is about all of us. They should not just set aside an office where the funds are given to people who the government officers know to manage. There should also be transparency in the disbursement of the materials and cash coming from the government coffers. The Keke Napep project is working but it is not strong enough.'

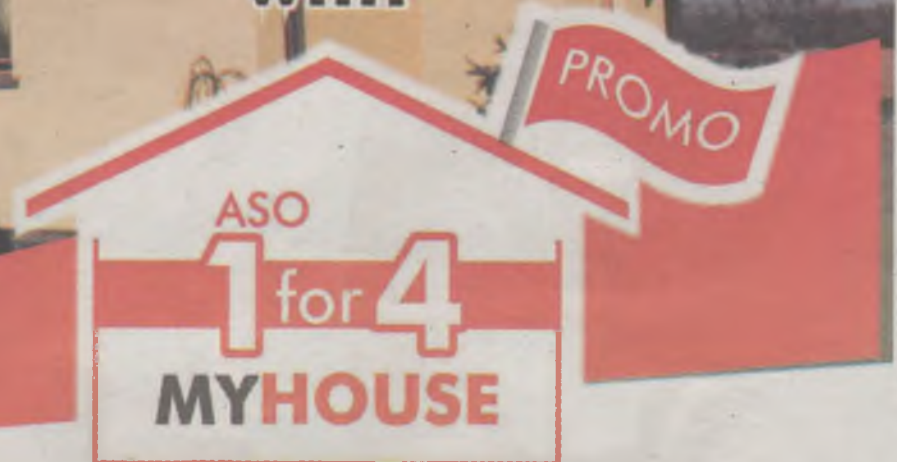
Despite the misgivings of Christabel, Abuja residents like Abdullahi and Mbakwe and hundreds of beneficiaries of the scheme, would daily have a cause to smile over the ability to make ends meet through the famed, 'keke napep.'

a profitable one if you are patient enough. It is an investment that  
put in money on an instalmental basis, and slowly recoup your  
ve to answer to anybody but yourself. Apart from the regular  
y off the Napep for the purchase of the vehicle, any other amount  
What else can you ask for?'

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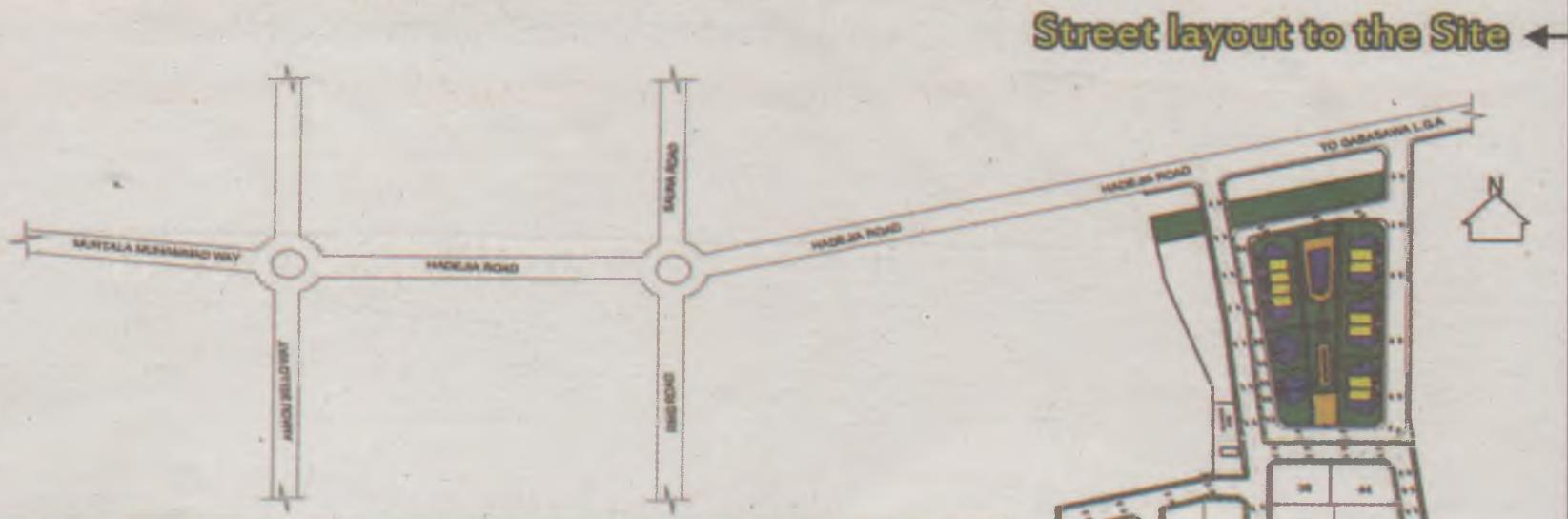
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→ Main entrance Gate to the Site



Proposed Development side view in the site ←

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# Business



L-R: Mr. F.G. Ibrahim of Admiral Environmental Care, Mr. N. Bachiri of Morocco, President Blaise Compaore of Burkina Faso, Engr. Shadrack Madlion - Executive Director of Admiral Environmental Care Ltd and Chief Mike Okpere - Consultant of Admiral Environmental Care Ltd during the signing up ceremony between Admiral Environmental Care Ltd and Burkina Faso Government on Public/Private Partnership in Burkina Faso recently.

## How to improve power generation, by PHCN boss

By Fidelis Mac-Leva

FOR Nigeria to generate additional 10,000M by 2011 and additional capacity generation thereafter as stipulated in the power sector's strategic plan, the country needs additional power plants as well as adequate funding, Managing Director and Chief Executive of the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN), has said.

Engineer Hussein Labo who stated this in an interview with Daily Trust said in addition to the completion of the ongoing National Integrated Power Projects that were awarded last year, the country requires an annual investment of \$5 billion to meet up with power needs.

He said only 50 percent of the annual budgetary requirement required to meet Nigeria's power needs was being provided by the government.

"Some power plants and transmitters in the country that were installed a long time ago also need to be replaced because they have a life span. For instance the Afan-1 Plant that was installed in the late sixties has been phased out and need to be replaced", Labo said.

He disclosed that a number of projects have been approved in this year's budget aimed at bringing about additional capacity in power generation.

He said these include the Zungeru hydro power plant which has the capacity of 500MW

as well as the Mambilla hydro power plant which has the capacity of generating 2,600MW of electricity.

"For improved capacity generation in the long run, we are also considering a 300MW coal plant in the country as well as a plant that would use crude oil for power generation rather than gas", Labo said.

On the 26 private investors in the IPPs that were granted licences by the Nigeria Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC), Labo said PHCN was still waiting for them to come up. "This is where the balance of £2.5 billion investment in the power sector is expected", he said.

## FCE Zaria subsidiary company gets new MD

From Isa Liman, Zaria

THE Governing Council of the Federal College of Education (FCE), Zaria has announced the appointment of Malam Masud Bala as the new Managing Director of the Zaria Consultancy Company, which is a subsidiary consulting firm of the College.

The appointment of Malam Bala followed an employment interview conducted by the College where many candidates attended.

A holder of Masters Degree in Accounting (Oil and Gas) with another Masters in Banking and Finance, Malam Bala has nine years working experience in the Banking and Financial sector before joining the employment of the College.

He had worked in various capacities of the Banking and Financial sectors both in Nigeria and the United Kingdom.

Born on September 10, 1970, Malam Bala did his Secondary Education at the famous Rumfa College, Kano from 1980 to 1985. From Rumfa College, the new MD moved to the Ahmadu Bello University's College of Advance Studies (CAS), Zaria in 1985. He got his Interim Joint Matriculation Examination (IJMBE) result in 1987. This result qualified Malam Bala to secure admission into the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria to read B. Sc Agricultural Economics in 1987. He earned his first Degree in Agricultural Economics in 1991.

In his quest for further academic pursuit, Malam Bala enrolled into the Bayero University's Postgraduate Diploma programme where he read Banking and Finance from 1996 to 1998.

Until his appointment as the Managing Director of the Zaria Consultancy Company, Malam Bala was the Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer of the Multiplex Limited, a firm which engages in estate development, contracts and supplies as well as other entrepreneurial activities.

## CBN to unveil new rules on ATM

By Sunday Williams

GOVERNOR of Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Sanusi Lamido Sanusi has said the Bank will soon unveil a definitive directive to guide financial institutions that provide ATM services to customers.

The CBN Governor made the remarks in Abuja at the Consumer Protection Council (CPC) interactive forum with the theme: 'Financial services: our money our rights' to mark the 2010 world consumer rights day.

Represented by Chris O. Chukwu, a deputy Director of the Bank, the CBN boss said the proliferation of ATM and the alarming increase in the number of fraudulent activities involving them makes ATM fraud one of the leading consumer complaints coming to CBN.

He said the new consumer and financial protection division of the Bank within the policy and regulatory department has started generating and analyzing data on ATM and other financial frauds.

The governor added that the CBN has commenced the process of reviewing the code of corporate governance for banks in Nigeria. The result of the review is expected to strengthen consumer protection by emphasizing transparency and full disclosure in the banks' service offerings.

According to him, the CBN understands that the nation will no longer tolerate the rampant incidents of hidden charges built into bank products. Also, that consumer complaints concerning banks' hidden charges represent a sizeable percentage of disputes between banks and their customers is receiving the attention of the CBN.

## NDIC pumps N464m into education sector

By Idris Ahmed

THE Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC) says it has spent about N464 million to fund education projects in Nigeria's higher institutions as part of its contribution to the sector.

N264 million of the funds were expended between 2003 and 2009 in 25 federal universities and other higher institutions in the first and second phases of the Corporation's education assisted projects.

Twenty one of these projected have been completed and commissioned, NDIC's head of communication and public Affairs Hadi Sule

Birchi has said. The funds were used to construct facilities such as students' hostels, lecture halls, classrooms, laboratories, academic offices, water and information technology (IT) facilities.

The beneficiary institutions were selected from the six (6) geopolitical zones of the country and the Federal Capital Territory, to ensure wider and equitable coverage.

The projects were selected by the individual institution in consultation with the Corporation, which also has an effective project monitoring and evaluation system to ensure judicious utilization of

the funds. Among the institutions that benefited from the first phase of the scheme include the University of Maiduguri, University of Benin, Federal University of Agriculture, Makurdi, Usman Danfodiyo University, Sokoto and Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi.

Others include Bayero University, Kano, Federal University, Uyo, Federal University of Technology, Owerri, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, University of Ilorin, University of Abuja, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife and University of Ibadan. Under the second phase, the institutions that benefitted are Gombe State University, Gombe,

Adamawa State University, Mubi, IBB University, Lapai, Niger State, University of Jos, Jos, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria and Kebbi State Polytechnic, Birni-Kebbi.

Others include Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Ebonyi State University, Rivers State University of Science & Technology, National Mathematical Centre, Abuja and Africa Institute of Science & Technology, Abuja.

The Corporation said it is extending the gesture to privately owned institutions in the country under the third phase of the scheme using 80 percent and 20 percent

sharing formula for the N200 million set aside for the government and privately owned institutions respectively. Ten institutions will receive N20 million each.

They include Katsina State University, Katsina, Kaduna State Polytechnic, Zaria, Wukari Jubilee University, Bukar Abba Ibrahim University, Damaturu, Federal Polytechnic, Offa, the Ibadan Polytechnic, and Ajayi Crowther University, Oyo.

Others include Anambra State University of Science & Technology, Uli, Delta State University, Otefe and Akwa Ibom State University of Technology, Uyo.

# Business

## France boosts Nigeria's micro finance sector

FRANCE yesterday in Abuja granted Nigeria one million euro to build the capacity of its micro finance sector.

Mr Jean-Michel Dumond, Ambassador of France to Nigeria, said the grant was part of his country's efforts to implement

its bilateral cooperation programmes in Nigeria. Dumond spoke at the signing ceremony with MicroCred Nigeria, a Kaduna-based microfinance institution.

"The one million euro grant provided by Agence

Francaise Development (ADF), we hope, will help build strong capacity within the sector. "By bringing suitable financial products to micro, small and medium enterprises of Kaduna, MicroCred Nigeria will favour job creation and economic growth in the country.

"It is a commitment toward the implementation of the MDGs and fight against poverty," Dumond said. The envoy said the financial institution was capable of providing more than 38 active loans and 55

active savings accounts by 2014. He said MicroCred would have had 50 branches and more than 400 employees in at least three states during the period.

Dumond also said the grant would cover the organisation's permanent and

short term technical assistance needs during the first two years of its operations.

AFD is the public organisation charged by the French Government with implementing its bilateral cooperation programme all over the world. (NAN).

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Application closes on 21 May 2010

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## INFORMATION SESSIONS

**Location:** Lagos

**Date:** 20 February & 17 April 2010

**Time:** 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Venue:** Lagos Business School

Km 22, Lekki-Epe Expressway, Ajah, Lagos.

**Location:** Abuja

**Date:** 13 March 2010

**Time:** 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - *Information session*  
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - *Individual meeting and interviews for candidates with GMAT scores*

**Venue:** Shehu Musa Yar'Adua Centre

1 Memorial Drive, Central Business District, FCT, Abuja.

**Location:** Port-Harcourt

**Date:** 27 March 2010

**Time:** 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - *Information session*  
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - *Individual meeting and interviews for candidates with GMAT scores*

**Venue:** Genesis Place Hotel

Plot 198/199 Rumuogba Estate, off Aba Road, Port-Harcourt.

Register for an information session online at [www.lbs.edu.ng](http://www.lbs.edu.ng)

Attendance is free but attendees should register to receive confirmation for a seat at the event



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[www.lbs.edu.ng](http://www.lbs.edu.ng)

## World Bank sees Africa economies rebounding in 2010

SUB-SAHARAN African economies will rebound this year, growing by about 3.8 per cent, the World Bank said on Thursday.

The group also said the recovery would be slower than in other developing nations because of a reliance on commodities.

The bank expects economic expansion of 4.6 per cent in 2011.

Africa is estimated to have grown by between 1.0 and 1.1 per cent in 2009, said Andrew Burns, the bank's manager of global macro economic trends.

"We expect the recovery to be a little more muted because the dip in growth was less pronounced (compared with other developing countries)," he told a news conference.

Other developing countries will grow on average by 5.2 per cent in 2010 and 5.7 per cent in 2011, the World Bank estimates.

"Globally the crisis is over; we are through the

acute phase.

"The post crisis rebound is starting to slow down and the growth impact of fiscal stimulus programmes will diminish in the course of this year," Burns said.

He said the sub-Saharan African region would not feel the impact of recovery in other global economies because it is less export-oriented than other developing countries.

Much of the continent is dependent on commodities rather than manufacturing.

"We don't see commodity prices rebounding to 2008 levels although they will remain high compared to 1990s and 2000s," said Burns.

The World Bank expects net private capital flows to developing countries to recover to between 3.5 and 4.0 per cent of gross domestic product in 2010.

By 2011, Africa will recover by 4.0 and 5.0 per cent in GDP range, the bank added. (Reuters/NAN).

## Trustfund promotes staff

By Francis Okeke

MANAGEMENT of Trustfund Pensions Plc has promoted members of staff who have shown outstanding performance while moving some as part of its strategy to improving services to contributors.

A press statement

signed by the spokesperson of the Trustfund Prisca Egede said staff who carried out their duties very well in the past year were rewarded with plaques, commendation letters and cash prizes during the company's 2009 Management Performance Review Meeting in Abuja.

## Nigeria to benefit from EU's grant

By Abbas Jimoh

THE information sessions on the call for proposals for the European Union's (EU) 20 million Euro grant to the Non State Actors (NSAs) in Nigeria have kicked off in all the six geopolitical zones, including Abuja the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) where the participants from the North Central were educated on how to access the funds.

The facilitator, Mr.

Richard Gang explained the scope of the 20million Euro grant, which is aimed to increase non-state actors' implementation and development expertise.

Gang said that the grant is meant to be used in the following breakdown: 6million euro to be given as small and big grants to the actors, 4.5 million euro for technical support, and 6million euro for capacity building while 3.5million euro is to be used for external monitoring.

# Business/Finance

## Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE) Thursday, March 18, 2010

COMPANY Name	No of Deals	Quot. (N)	Quantity Traded	Value of Shares (N)
<b>2ND-TIER SECURITIES</b>				
2ND-TIER SECURITIES				
CAPITAL OIL PLC	4	0.50	5,112	2,573.00
SECTORTOTALS	4		5,112	2,573.00
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>				
FTN COCOA PROCESSORS PLC	24	0.88	3,833,159	3,360,100.92
LIVESTOCK FEEDS PLC	3	0.73	62,500	45,625.00
OKTIPUPA OIL PALM PLC	2	6.21	400	2,480.00
PRESCO PLC	15	5.06	82,520	421,233.20
SECTORTOTALS	44		3,978,579	3,829,439.12
<b>AIR SERVICES</b>				
AIRLINE SERVICES & LOGISTICS PLC	16	2.77	299,000	828,980.00
NIGERIAN AVIATION HANDLING COY. PLC	81	8.95	897,529	7,945,033.55
SECTORTOTALS	97		1,196,529	8,774,013.55
<b>AUTOMOBILE &amp; TYRE</b>				
DNTYRE & RUBBER PLC	4	0.50	31,251	15,630.50
R.T. BRISCOE (NIGERIA) PLC	23	5.76	360,014	2,059,026.86
SECTORTOTALS	27		391,275	2,074,657.36
<b>BANKING</b>				
ACCESS BANK PLC	259	9.99	30,713,866	301,945,793.69
AFRIBANK NIGERIA PLC	66	2.65	3,810,904	9,987,965.88
DIAMOND BANK PLC	179	9.30	58,478,122	543,690,355.38
ECOBANK NIGERIA PLC	109	6.84	3,114,237	21,353,856.14
FIRST CITY MONUMENT BANK PLC	99	9.00	9,591,044	85,901,700.66
FIDELITY BANK PLC	128	3.02	12,259,380	37,023,327.60
FIRST BANK OF NIGERIA PLC	870	15.12	22,057,107	338,683,533.32
FINBANK PLC	81	0.71	5,851,953	4,168,633.79
GTBANK PLC	569	19.00	28,127,609	538,233,514.74
STANBIC IBTC BANK PLC	127	9.97	16,618,428	162,889,884.09
INTERCONTINENTAL BANK PLC	76	2.06	2,061,528	4,246,190.65
OCEANIC BANK INTERNATIONAL PLC	134	2.10	4,310,258	9,259,035.97
BANK PHB PLC	97	1.83	3,666,359	6,887,748.74
SKYE BANK PLC	265	7.50	14,566,643	106,696,290.66
SPRING BANK PLC	12	1.04	872,717	904,885.16
STERLING BANK PLC	110	2.05	30,318,776	60,429,314.76
UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA PLC	311	14.50	22,510,732	321,900,573.11
UNION BANK OF NIGERIA PLC	206	5.88	5,389,049	32,631,597.61
UNITY BANK PLC	21	1.09	1,273,441	1,406,127.94
WEMA BANK PLC	67	1.12	4,102,214	4,740,571.52
ZENITH BANK PLC	398	16.85	15,322,444	259,679,634.91
SECTORTOTALS	4,184		295,016,811	2,852,060,873.92
<b>BUILDING MATERIALS</b>				
ASHAKA CEMENT PLC	86	18.50	1,347,419	25,120,965.99
BENUCEMENT COMPANY PLC	121	64.61	2,538,754	171,077,036.50
CEMENT CO. OF NORTHERN NIGERIA PLC	59	18.50	2,407,101	44,434,019.57
LAFARGEWAPCO PLC	84	33.10	1,785,545	59,438,858.78
SECTORTOTALS	350		8,078,819	300,070,880.84
<b>CHEMICAL &amp; PAINTS</b>				
AFRICAN PAINTS (NIG.) PLC	1	3.49	1,000	3,320.00
BERGER PAINTS NIGERIA PLC	46	4.47	1,045,832	4,666,426.64
CHEMICAL & ALLIED PRODUCTS PLC	5	29.67	74,785	2,217,510.50
DNMEYER PLC	10	3.24	67,009	226,414.60
SECTORTOTALS	62		1,188,626	7,113,671.74
<b>COMMERCIAL/SERVICES</b>				
AFROMEDIA PLC	3	0.51	3,620	1,846.20
COURTVILLE INVESTMENTS PLC	3	0.50	51,000	25,500.00
RED STAR EXPRESS PLC	21	2.52	919,613	2,377,549.80
SECTORTOTALS	27		974,233	2,404,896.00
<b>COMPUTER &amp; OFFICE EQUIPMENT</b>				
NCR (NIGERIA) PLC	2	8.13	10,530	81,396.90
OMATEK VENTURES PLC	18	0.51	592,287	303,457.56
SECTORTOTALS	20		602,817	384,854.46
<b>CONGLOMERATES</b>				
A.G. LEVENTIS (NIGERIA) PLC	10	3.00	65,448	198,499.20
PZ CUSSONS NIGERIA PLC	55	28.45	481,746	13,656,999.50
SCOA NIGERIA PLC	1	8.71	500	4,140.00
TRANSNATIONAL CORP. OF NIG. PLC	53	0.52	10,243,483	5,361,239.16
UAC OF NIGERIA PLC	100	46.79	3,230,406	149,017,680.44
UNILEVER NIGERIA PLC	98	25.95	1,246,345	31,980,190.10
SECTORTOTALS	317		15,267,928	200,218,748.40
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>				
COSTAIN (WA) PLC	30	5.11	2,088,780	10,731,741.74
JULIUS BERGER NIGERIA PLC	28	28.90	165,740	4,768,238.00
MULTIVERSE RESOURCES PLC	2	0.50	430,780	215,390.00
SECTORTOTALS	60		2,685,300	15,512,369.74
<b>ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY</b>				
CUTIX PLC	4	2.83	19,680	58,449.60
NIGERIAN WIRE & CABLE PLC	5	0.65	807,989	525,192.85
SECTORTOTALS	9		827,669	583,642.45
<b>FOOD/BEVERAGES &amp; TOBACCO</b>				
7-UP BOTTLING CO. PLC	23	30.60	40,929	1,315,048.77
BIG TREAT PLC	9	0.81	478,624	389,631.44
CADBURY NIGERIA PLC	90	18.26	2,219,560	41,404,593.06
DANGOTE FLOUR MILLS PLC	430	16.06	12,325,182	200,329,798.42
DANGOTE SUGAR REFINERY PLC	110	16.88	4,631,416	77,694,095.08
FLOUR MILLS NIGERIA PLC	92	50.00	1,026,546	51,631,434.19
HONEYWELL FLOUR MILL PLC	51	9.00	1,310,974	11,862,763.40
NATIONAL SALT COY. NIG. PLC	53	6.51	1,233,646	8,080,749.00
NIGERIAN BOTTLING COY. PLC	11	26.50	34,691	921,043.90
NESTLE NIGERIA PLC	46	270.00	98,053	27,126,799.56
NORTHERN NIG. FLOUR MILLS PLC	7	25.35	85,600	2,161,720.00
TANTALIZERS PLC	19	0.98	1,403,500	1,370,825.00
UTC NIGERIA PLC	9	0.72	57,680	39,935.20
SECTORTOTALS	950		24,946,401	424,328,437.02

<b>HEALTHCARE</b>				
EVANS MEDICAL PLC	12	1.07	94,806	100,167.12
FIDSON HEALTHCARE PLC	47	2.60	2,204,011	6,022,841.35
GLAXOSMITHKLINE CONSUMER NIG. PLC	50	29.90	677,237	20,136,421.05
MAY & BAKER NIGERIA PLC	17	4.86	360,960	1,786,374.00
NEIMETH INTERNATIONAL PHARM. PLC	16	1.37	178,877	247,098.21
UNION DIAGNOSTIC & CLINICAL SERV. PLC	18	0.65	794,761	507,196.40
SECTORTOTALS	160		4,310,652	28,800,098.13
<b>HOTEL &amp; TOURISM</b>				
CAPITAL HOTEL PLC	1	3.35	4,715	15,795.25
IKEJA HOTEL PLC	12	1.50	305,327	457,990.50
SECTORTOTALS	13		310,042	473,785.75
<b>INDUSTRIAL/DOMESTIC PRODUCTS</b>				
B.O.C. GASES NIGERIA PLC	1	10.37	18,126	178,722.36
FIRST ALUMINIUM NIGERIA PLC	1	0.52	20,000	10,600.00
VITAFI NIGERIA PLC	45	5.61	1,227,043	6,627,123.64
SECTORTOTALS	47		1,265,169	6,816,446.00
<b>INFOMATION &amp; COMM. TECH.</b>				
CHAMS PLC	15	0.67	3,491,940	2,372,348.60
MAS TELECOM INNOVATION NIG. PLC	2	0.50	22,200	11,100.00
STARCOMMS PLC	49	2.15	8,902,716	18,972,445.26
SECTORTOTALS	66		12,416,856	21,355,893.86
<b>INSURANCE</b>				
AFRICAN ALLIANCE INSUR. PLC	1	0.50	20,000	10,000.00
AICO INSURANCE PLC	280	1.06	3,198,184	3,390,614.06
CONTINENTAL REINSUR. PLC	15	0.95	1,619,341	1,536,457.45
CORNERSTONE INSUR. CO. PLC	20	0.52	3,364,606	1,735,715.03
CUSTODIAN & ALLIED INSUR. PLC	47	3.78	5,193,699	18,984,491.83
EQUITY ASSURANCE PLC	4	0.50	201,260	100,630.00
GREAT NIG. INSURANCE COY. PLC	1	0.50	1,000,000	500,000.00
GOLDLINK INSURANCE PLC	20	0.55	3,492,774	1,872,082.96
GUARANTY TRUST ASSUR. PLC	56	2.67	13,117,500	34,030,461.74
GUINEA INSURANCE PLC	1	0.50	50,000	25,000.00
CONSOLIDATED HALLMARK INSUR. PLC	2	0.50	16,000	8,000.00
INTERNATIONAL ENERGY INSUR. COY. PLC	44	0.53	8,089,105	4,340,662.21
LASACO ASSURANCE PLC	29	0.50	3,381,657	1,712,048.50
LAW UNION & ROCK INSUR. PLC	9	0.53	1,624,066	857,254.98
LINKAGE ASSURANCE PLC	2	0.50	151,552	75,776.00
MUTUAL BENEFITS ASSUR. PLC	6	0.64	99,176	63,472.64
N.E.M. INSUR. CO. (NIG.) PLC	26	0.52	648,520	338,834.16
NIGER INSURANCE CO. PLC	4	0.69	110,978	78,474.82
OASIS INSURANCE PLC	1	1.12	2,340,989	2,621,907.68
PRESTIGE ASSURANCE PLC	7	2.83	595,159	1,666,511.17
REGENCY ALLIANCE INSUR. COY. PLC	1	0.50	4,000	2,000.00
SOVEREIGN TRUST INSUR. PLC	3	0.50	119,000	59,500.00
STACO INSURANCE PLC	6	0.61	1,306,352	796,874.72
STANDARD ALLIANCE INSUR. PLC	9	0.50	1,715,636	857,818.00
UNIC INSURANCE PLC	11	0.73	3,896,897	2,846,620.10
UNITY KAPITAL ASSUR. PLC	3	0.70	510,000	357,000.00
INTERCONTINENTAL WAPIC INSUR. PLC	16	0.84	346,794	285,905.07
SECTORTOTALS	624		56,213,245	79,154,113.12
<b>LEASING</b>				
C&I LEASING PLC	39	3.15	5,460,247	16,472,229.50
SECTORTOTALS	39		5,460,247	16,472,229.50
<b>MARITIME</b>				
JAPPAUL OIL & MARITIME SERV. PLC	91	1.26	2,218,996	2,795,710.74
SECTORTOTALS	91		2,218,996	2,795,710.74
<b>MEDIA</b>				
DAAR COMMUNICATIONS PLC	52	0.80	566,928	461,759.52
SECTORTOTALS	52		566,928	461,759.52
<b>MORTGAGE COMPANIES</b>				
ASO SAVINGS AND LOAN PLC	10	0.65	78,585	50,225.25
RESORT SAVINGS & LOANS PLC	23	0.50	21,449,332	10,724,666.00
UNION HOMES SAVINGS & LOANS PLC	40	0.91	2,858,597	2,586,971.16
SECTORTOTALS	73		24,386,514	13,361,862.41
<b>OTHER FINANCIAL INST.</b>				
CRUSADER NIGERIA PLC	23	1.01	6,168,000	6,006,761.94
DEAP CAPITAL MANAGEMENT & TRUST PLC	1	2.02	10,000	20,200.00
ROYAL EXCHANGE PLC	12	0.57	124,873	69,163.87
SECTORTOTALS	36		6,302,873	6,096,125.81
NIGERIAN BAG MANUFACTURING COY. PLC	368	2.59	5,696,197	14,917,693.63
BETA GLASS CO. PLC	12	13.00	311,264	3,887,710.00
SECTORTOTALS	380		6,007,461	18,805,403.63
<b>PETROLEUM (MARKETING)</b>				
AFRICAN PETROLEUM PLC	22	45.40	161,359	6,959,413.67
BECO PETROLEUM PRODUCT PLC	20	1.98	623,900	1,251,924.00
MRS OIL NIGERIA PLC	25	69.79	186,622	13,045,376.26
CONOIL PLC	31	40.00	156,135	6,238,973.19
ETERNA OIL & GAS PLC	27	7.44	237,060	1,710,727.40
MOBIL OIL NIGERIA PLC	10	107.64	16,350	1,690,340.00
OANDO PLC	222	80.50	2,989,882	235,147,358.22
TOTAL NIGERIA PLC	16	149.62	53,676	8,432,499.60
SECTORTOTALS	373		4,424,984	274,476,612.34
<b>PRINTING &amp; PUBLISHING</b>				
LONGMAN NIGERIA PLC	1	9.28	1,000	8,280.00
UNIVERSITY PRESS PLC	16	6.18	124,076	754,067.40
SECTORTOTALS	17		125,076	762,887.40
<b>REAL ESTATE</b>				
UACN PROPERTY DEVE. CO. PLC	26	20.00	471,413	9,389,812.41
SECTORTOTALS	26		471,413	9,389,812.41
<b>ROAD TRANSPORTATION</b>				
ASSOCIATED BUS COY. PLC	9	1.00	211,381	210,901.80
SECTORTOTALS	9		211,381	210,901.80
<b>OVERALL TOTALS</b>				
	8,396		481,620,300	4,380,543,674.41

### What is Call Option

An option which gives the holder the right, but not the obligation, to buy a fixed amount of a certain stock at a specified price within a specified time. Calls are purchased by investors who expect a price increase.

### Google

GAINERS	
OANDO	3.00
GLAXOSMITH	1.42
CAP	1.41



## FMBN BRAND LAUNCH AND FINANCIAL STANDARD MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD POSTPONED

This is to inform the General Public of the postponement of the Financial Standard Man-of- the Year Award 2009, which would have been conferred on the MD/CE of Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria, on Friday, 19th March 2010 and the Brand Launch of the Bank, slated for Thursday, 25th March 2010 respectively, due to unforeseen developments.

We sincerely apologise for any inconveniences this postponement may cause our stakeholders. New dates for the two events will be announced in due course.

**SIGNED:  
MANAGEMENT**



## NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL (NECO)

### INVITATION TO ORAL INTERVIEW

Following the Employment Aptitude Test recently conducted for shortlisted Applicants into vacancies advertised in the National Examinations Council, Applicants that sat the examination are advised to access their results on the website using the scratch card purchased for the Employment Aptitude Test.

Successful Applicants are by this notice invited for an oral interview scheduled as follows:

**VENUE:** NECO Headquarters, Minna, Niger State

**TIME:** 9.00 a.m. Daily

**DATE:** 24th, 25th and 26th March, 2010

Applicants are to appear for the interview in the following order based on their States of Origin.

S/N	24TH MARCH, 2010	25TH MARCH, 2010	26TH MARCH, 2010
1	Abia	Ekiti	Nassarawa
2	Adamawa	Enugu	Niger
3	Akwa-Ibom	Gombe	Ogun
4	Anambra	Imo	Ondo
6	Bayelsa	Jigawa	Osun
5	Bauchi	Kaduna	Oyo
7	Benue	Katsina	Plateau
8	Borno	Kano	Rivers
9	Cross River	Kebbi	Sokoto
10	Delta	Kogi	Taraba
11	Ebonyi	Kwara	Yobe
12	Edo	Lagos	Zamfara
13	-	-	FCT

**Note:**

- (i) Applicants are to come along with their Curriculum Vitae and Originals of all credentials.
- (ii) Applicants who fail to appear on the date scheduled against their States of Origin WILL NOT be allowed to appear on other dates.
- (iii) Applicants will be responsible for their transportation, accommodation and feeding.

**Signed:**  
Professor Promise N. Okpala  
Registrar/Chief Executive

# DIGEST

## Pregnant women 'more likely to mislay their keys'

MOTHERS-TO-BE are more likely to mislay their keys and forget where they left other belongings than other women, according to a study which suggests that "pregnancy brain" may not be a myth.

Pregnant women have more trouble remembering where they left their possessions, researchers found, and the effects last for up to three months after they gave birth.

Researchers believe that fluctuating hormone levels during pregnancy affect the regions in the brain responsible for laying down memories.

Earlier this year scientists suggested that the idea that pregnancy ruined a woman's brain was a "myth".

Researchers from Australian National University said that pregnant women were no more likely to be absent-minded, but that they and others did tend to blame memory problems on their condition.

But a new study shows that pregnant women are more likely to forget where they have left their belongings.

Researchers tested two groups of women, one who were pregnant and another who were not.

They found that pregnant women performed around 15 per cent worse on tests designed to assess spatial memory – associated with remembering directions or where we have left possessions.

Similar results were found in the first three months after the women had given birth.

Questionnaires given at the same time also showed that the pregnant women were more likely to be anxious and to categorise their mood as low than other women.

Spatial memory is associated with a specific region in the brain called the hippocampus.

Altered hormone levels, such as those which happen during pregnancy, can affect the working of this region, scientists believe.

The study, carried out by the University of Bradford and the University of Leeds, tested the women using computer programmes which examine how well they can remember patterns and previously seen locations.

The findings of the study, which involved 23 expectant mothers and 24 women who were not pregnant, were presented at the annual Society for Endocrinology conference in Manchester.

Diane Farrar, who led the research, said: "Forgetfulness and slips of attention are phenomena commonly reported by pregnant women, but scientists have yet to identify a specific mechanism by which this memory impairment might occur.

"Indeed, some question whether the reported memory loss exists at all.

"The research presented here shows that expectant mothers may experience reduced spatial memory ability and this persists for at least three months following birth. Mood and level of anxiety improved following pregnancy, suggesting hormonal influences may be responsible."

She added: "Altered mood and increased anxiety, which may be due to altered hormone levels or pregnancy related worries, may also adversely affect memory function."

Culled from Telegraph.co.uk



PREGNANT women have more trouble remembering where they left their possessions, researchers found

## Why loneliness is bad for your health - it raises your blood pressure

FEELING lonely can damage your health by raising your blood pressure over time, new research has found. The study, which focused on the over 50s, showed a direct relation between loneliness and a marked increase in blood pressure four years later. This was independent of other factors that could cause blood pressure to rise, including body-mass index, smoking, alcohol use and demographics such as race and income.

'Loneliness behaved as though it is a unique health-risk factor in its own right,' wrote researcher Louise Hawkey in a paper published in the current issue of the journal *Psychology and Aging*. High blood pressure, often called a silent threat as it has few symptoms, undermines health in many ways. It increases the risk for heart attack and stroke and impairs kidney function.

Professor Hawkey from the University of Chicago and her team looked at a study of 229 people aged 50 to 68. Members of the group were asked a series of questions to determine if they perceived themselves as lonely. They were asked to rate connections with others. During the five-year study, Professor Hawkey found a clear connection between feelings of loneliness reported at the beginning of the study and rising blood pressure over that period. The loneliest people saw their blood pressure go up by 14.4 mm more than the blood pressure of their most socially contented counterparts over the four-year study period.

## Dietary supplement can reduce diabetes risk – but only in men

TAKING a nutritional supplement could help reduce the risk of developing diabetes, but only in men, a new study shows.

Researchers found that men who had high levels of selenium, an antioxidant found naturally in nuts and liver, in their body were at significantly less risk of developing the condition. But the supplement, also sold in capsules from health food stores, did not appear to protect women, the research shows. Men who had high levels of selenium in the bloodstream were half as likely those with low levels to develop dysglycemia, a condition in which the body struggles to regulate blood sugar and which can lead

to full-blown diabetes. The study, by researchers at the University of Montpellier in France, followed 1,162 healthy men and women for nine years. All of the volunteers were aged between 59 and 71 at the start of the study. Tasnime Akbaraly, from the University of Montpellier, who led the study, said: "Our results showed that for elderly males, having (blood) selenium concentrations in the top third of the population was significantly associated with a lower risk of developing dysglycemia over the following nine years." She added: "The reason we observed a protective effect of selenium in men but not in women is not completely

clear, but might be attributed to women being healthier at baseline, having better antioxidant status in general and possible differences in how men and women process selenium". The findings were published in the journal *Nutrition and Metabolism*. Selenium is found in many multivitamins and researchers have previously suggested that it could have an effect on regulating insulin levels in the body.

However, three years ago researchers from the State University of New York reported that taking selenium could actually increase the risk of developing diabetes.

Culled from Telegraph.co.uk

Sign Language

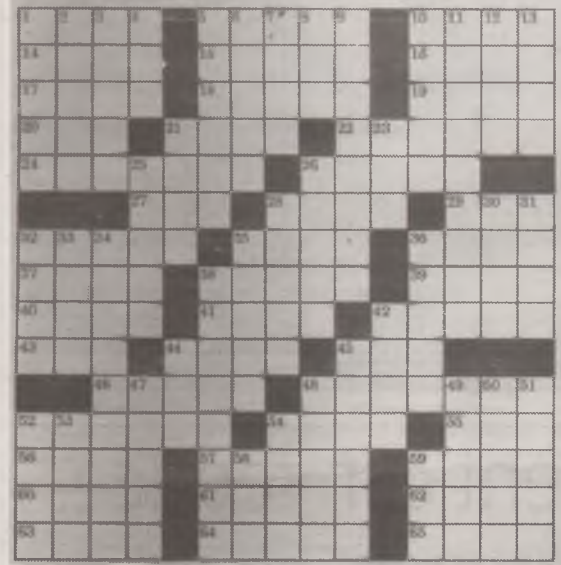


Contrary to the popular saying...  
Photo location: Callendar, Scotland, by Tim Moore  
Culled from telegraph.co.uk

EASY CROSSWORDS

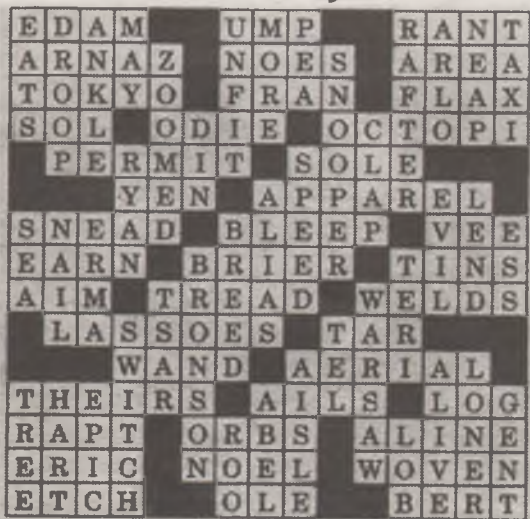
14

- ACROSS**
- 1. "Get a —!"
  - 5. Rogue
  - 10. Exult
  - 14. Seat of Washoe County
  - 15. D.C. commodity?
  - 16. Loki's girl
  - 17. Rara —
  - 18. Tell it from the Hill?
  - 19. Mine entrance
  - 20. Modernist
  - 21. Low draw
  - 22. Unoriginal thinker?
  - 24. Hemingway and Bevin
  - 26. Photo finish
  - 27. Place
  - 28. Went fast
  - 29. Forlorn
  - 32. Speedster's downfall
  - 35. Queue
  - 36. Lowly Anglo-Saxon
  - 37. Radiate
  - 38. Reduced gradually
  - 39. Russian river
  - 40. Terrible
  - 41. Be subservient
  - 42. It may be underfoot
  - 43. Understand
  - 44. Hebrew prophet
  - 45. Ogee section
  - 46. Fragrant material
  - 48. Oral junk
  - 52. Mediterranean vessel
  - 54. Layette recipient
  - 55. Menu words
  - 56. Blue dye
  - 57. Drench (a fire)
  - 59. State
  - 60. Oklahoma native
  - 61. Icelandic coin
  - 62. Glacial snow
  - 63. Thrill: slang
  - 64. Lease again
  - 65. Fabulous thing
  - 2. Simple machine
  - 3. Jack intro?
  - 4. Dawn deity
  - 5. Casual, as clothes
  - 6. Nuclei
  - 7. Off
  - 8. Satisfied
  - 9. Accustomed
  - 10. Outline
  - 11. Set right
  - 12. Spicy stew
  - 13. Thermal unit
  - 21. Extinct leader?
  - 23. Vexed: slang
  - 25. Puff up
  - 26. Bread
  - 28. Loses patience
  - 30. Ms. Moffo
  - 31. Treatment
  - 32. Ohio jocks
  - 33. Jean's pal
  - 34. What the wayward crave
  - 35. Strive
  - 36. Choose
  - 38. Scented ball
  - 42. Beg for
  - 44. Sweet quaff
  - 45. Actor Brooks
  - 47. Tracked down a sushi ingredien
  - 48. Jazz great
  - 49. Refuge
  - 50. Ecole attendee
  - 51. More tenuous
  - 52. Vientiane's land
  - 53. Pay to play
  - 54. An Ives
  - 58. Scottish grandchild
  - 59. Year, in Madr



Solution to Easy Crosswords

13



SUDOKU

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

110

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

Solution to Sudoku 109

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

## News Extra

# Thailand's blood protest

## ... What does it actually mean?

Pouring human blood on Thailand's government headquarters made news worldwide – but left many in the country baffled

It certainly looks spectacular, but what does it mean? According to the *Bangkok Post*, Tuesday's blood protest by Thai "Red Shirts" loyal to their country's multi-millionaire deposed prime minister, Thaksin Shinawatra, saw "12 five-litre bottles, two large buckets and 50 syringes of blood" ceremonially splashed on the four gates of Government House and over the headquarters of the ruling Democrat party in a "ritual aimed at bringing down the government".

The blood had been collected from several thousand supporters by the opposition United Front for Democracy against Dictatorship. Red Cross officials objected, arguing that throwing 300 litres of human blood on assorted public buildings might not be the best possible use of such a valuable resource, and that in a country with a relatively high rate of HIV infection, its collection and disposal raised potential public health issues.

Again according to the *Bangkok Post*, three demonstrators, including a Hindu brahman and a man carrying a statue of Buddha, "walked to the first gate of Government House, where a religious rite was performed. The brahman cited spells and incantations, and poured an amount of blood in front of the gate." Next, "the brahman took some of the blood from the ground to write letters on the concrete posts of the gate." Other Red tactics aimed at removing the present premier, Abhisit Vejjajiva, who they claim came to power illegitimately following the coup that ousted Thaksin for alleged corruption and abuse of power in 2006, have included burning coffins, breaking a pot in front of the statue of King Taksin, and throwing plastic bags full of rotten fish.

Blood, a symbol of life (and death), features in religious and other rituals around the world. Australian Aboriginals exchanged blood and rubbed it over their bodies in secret ceremonies; the spilling of human sacrificial blood was an important part of Aztec and other Mesoamerican cultures; ancient Germanic tribes sprinkled blood on walls and on the statues of their gods (the process of smearing blood was known in Old English as *bleod-sian*, a term apparently at the root of the Catholic term *blessing*). Catholics, obviously, believe consecrated wine becomes the blood of Jesus.

There appear, however, to be relatively few examples of blood



RED-SHIRTED protesters pour alleged human blood during a demonstration in Bangkok.

being poured as a form of modern political protest. That's what it plainly is, though, for those leading Thailand's pro-Thaksin demonstrations – even if they're not entirely certain why. Nat-tawut Saikur, one Red leader, said the blood showed the movement's "commitment in calling for democracy", and was an "important curse ritual". If Abhisit refuses to step down, Saikur added, "even though he does not have blood on his hands, his feet will be bloodied with our curses". Another Red leader, Veera Musikapong, said the gesture was "a sacrificial

offering... to show our love for the nation, to show our sincerity". A third, Somsak Janprasert, told AFP: "This is a very symbolic way to express that our blood, the people's blood, is power."

Experts on Thai culture and beliefs appear no less nonplussed: as SP Somtow, a Thai author and composer, relates on his entertaining and informative blog ([somtow.org](http://somtow.org)) that a recent televised debate between an authoritative panel of "Thailand's leading astrologers and magicians" failed completely to arrive at any meaningful conclusion as to the

efficacy – or, indeed, the meaning – of the blood-spattering ceremonies, beyond observing that many Red supporters come from "the superstitious north".

Possible theories, Somtow says, include the Cambodian "which states that pouring blood on the headquarters of the government is a Cambodian plot to ensure the return of Thaksin"; the Astrologers, propounded by the chairperson of the Thai astrology society, which holds that blood-spilling is "simple sympathetic magic in order to gain victory, and the sort of thing anyone would do

under the circumstances"; and the Historical, which seems based on the legend that the 16th-century Thai king Naresuan once ordered his army to capture and behead the Khmer king Satha so he could "use his victim's blood to wash his feet in".

So will the gory ritual work? Nothing, says Somtow, is less certain. According to the TV experts, "using your enemies' blood to ensure victory might be a logical example of sympathetic magic, but spilling your own could have the opposite effect." The Cambodian theory, too, could well backfire, "because you need to be 'pure of heart' to perform that rite... Without such doctrinal protection the magic would reverse itself, and the intended consequences would occur to the curser, not the cursee." And

“The brahman cited spells and incantations, and poured an amount of blood in front of the gate.”



A protester donates blood for the anti-Thai government demonstration.

in any case, everyone agreed that "the entire ceremony can easily be negated by sprinkling some holy water from the Emerald Buddha Temple over the blood".

Magic spells, voodoo rituals, blood-spilling and fish-throwing, Somtow concludes, are unlikely to solve Thailand's immediate problems. But hey, if what you're after is the dissolution of the lower house of parliament, "when you have the all the resources of witchcraft and the supernatural at your disposal, why stoop to such mundane devices as, for instance, lobbying one of the smaller parties to switch sides so as to shift the balance of power?"

Culled from [guardian.co.uk](http://guardian.co.uk)

## News Extra

# North Korean official executed for ruining country's financial affairs



PAK Nam Ki, left, was executed after Kim Jong-il, right, put him on trial for ruining North Korea's financial affairs, according to reports

A leading North Korean financial expert has been dragged before a firing squad and shot dead for ruining the country's financial affairs.

Mr Pak Nam Ki was responsible for revaluing the communist regime's currency last November, but his attempts to curb inflation caused nationwide misery - and leader Kim Jong-il was not amused.

It is understood the execution is an attempt to contain civil unrest.

Under Mr Pak's orders, people holding old banknotes were instructed to cash them in - at a rate of 100 old notes for one new one.

Further hardship was imposed with a restriction on the number of old notes that could be exchanged.

Savings were wiped out, prices soared and people went hungry, sparking anger among many North Koreans left with piles of worthless bills.

When Kim saw what 77-year-old Pak had done, he ordered the financier to be sacked from his job as chief of the communist party's planning and finance department, then put him on trial, according to reports reaching South Korea.

After being found guilty of ruining the national economy, he was taken to a military range in the capital, Pyongyang, and shot dead by a firing squad.

Park Sang-hak, a North Korean defector in Seoul who is a key organiser of a campaign to send anti-government leaflets into the North, said a contact there told him in a recent telephone conversation that there were rumors Pak was either executed or sent to a political prison.

Despite tough restrictions, some North Koreans are able to communicate with the outside world using Chinese cell phone networks, according to defectors.

South Korea's Yonhap news agency, quoting sources familiar with events in North Korea, said Pak's execution was seen as an attempt to placate those who had lost all their savings.

“In the 1990s, North Korea also publicly executed a top agricultural official following widespread starvation, Park said

But, said the news agency, many North Koreans believe he was made a scapegoat for others involved in the revaluation, which fuelled inflation and worsened what were already serious food shortages.

'If the report is true,' said South Korean university professor Kim Yong Hyun, 'it proves the regime is now desperate to placate its people.'

'The regime appeared to have

needed a scapegoat.'

He recalled the case of former agriculture ministry director Seo Gwan Hee, who was publicly executed in 1997 after being held responsible for a famine.

After Pak's orders went out for old bank notes to be handed in, reports from the North told of rioting by hungry people, disturbances which the regime had to brutally suppress.

North Korea has reopened hundreds of markets since the botched reform, but the prices of the few goods available have continued to rise, according to Lee Seung-yong, an official of Good Friends, a Buddhist-affiliated group that sends food and other aid to the North.

Pak was last mentioned by the North's official Korean Central News Agency in January when he accompanied Kim on an inspection trip.

Kim sacked Pak following arguments within the country's leadership over who should take responsibility for the currency fiasco, South Korean media

reported last month.

It is not unprecedented for the communist government to execute officials for policy failures.

Pak's reported execution follows the recent firing squad death of a North Korean who had made a mobile phone call to South Korea to pass on information to a friend about the price of rice in the communist state.

While mobile phones are allowed in North Korea, the network is restricted to calls within the country. But SIM cards can be purchased on the black market allowing international calls.

In the 1990s, North Korea also publicly executed a top agricultural official following widespread starvation, Park said.

The North faces chronic food shortages and has relied on outside assistance to feed much of its population since a famine believed to have killed as many as 2 million people in the 1990s.

North Korea is regarded as having one of the world's worst human rights records with public executions, camps for political prisoners and torture.



## ALHAJI ABBA TOR SHEHU MASTA II

Alh. Abba Tor Shehu Masta II is the Son of the late Shehu Masta II, otherwise known as Shehu Masta Kyarimi who was appointed the Shehu of Dikwa in 1937 at Dikwa but later moved his capital to Bama in 1942 at the request of the Colonial Administration.

Alh. Abba Tor started his early education at Bama Central and Senior primary schools from 1952 to 1958. He proceeded to Teachers College Mubi from 1959 to 1962 where he obtained Grade Three Teachers Certificate. He was employed as a teacher in Bama Central and later transferred to Kashimri from 1962-1963. From 1963-1964 he was transferred back to Bama Central School. In 1965 he attended Borno Teachers College Maiduguri, for his Grade II Teachers Certificate and completed in 1967. On his return he was appointed as the Headmaster of Bama Central where he stayed from 1967 to 1970. In 1971 he succeeded in getting admission to the Ahmadu Bello University to study Law which he did from 1971-1973 and passed out with Second Class. The Dikwa Local Authority asked him to become the Administrative Secretary of the Local Authority which he accepted and was appointed from 1973-1976.

In 1976 with creation of Local Governments he was deployed to Ngala as Head of General Administration from 1976-1977. He was appointed secretary of the Ngala Local Government in 1971 and in 1978 he went back to Ahmadu Bello University for an extensive academic course on Human Resource Management from 1978-1979. On completion of the Administrative Management Studies at Ahmadu Bello University he resumed his job as the secretary Ngala local Government in 1979. He was appointed as Commissioner by the Administration of Governor Muhammed Goni and assigned to the Ministry of Information where he became a household name from 1979-1984.

In between he has been appointed as the Borno State Amirul Hajj and Head of Borno State Pilgrims in 1981, completed his tenure as commissioner in 1984. He was employed as head of administration by the Borno State Agricultural Development Programme (BOSADP) from where he attended Human Resources Management Course at the International Centre for Management, Training, Research and Consultancy in London in 1991.

He was again appointed as Commissioner under the Military Government of Group Captain Ibrahim Dada and assigned to the Ministry of Works, Housing and Land and Survey. For the second time he was again appointed as the Amirul Hajj by the Ibrahim Dada Administration. He completed his tenure in 1996. He was on completion of the commissioner's tenure appointed as Director of Personnel Management in the Ministry for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs. Before his current appointment, he was the chairman of the Governing Council of Kashim Ibrahim College of Education Maiduguri. He is happily married with children. His hobbies are reading, debates and public relations.

### Achievements

- Attended Conference by Northern States on the drafting of Local Government Edict in Sokoto in 1977.
- Attended Administrative Management Training at Ahmadu Bello University from 1978-1979.
- Attended citizenship and Leadership Training Course at Shere Hills, Jos in 1979.

## PERSONALITY PROFILE ON

# ALHAJI ABBA TOR SHEHU MASTA II

- Attended Residential Course on Development Administration University of Maiduguri.
- Attended appreciation course on Personnel Management at ASCON.
- Attended Human Resource Management Course in London at the International Centre for Research and Consultancy.

### End of his biography

The State Governor Senator Ali Modu Sheriff has approved the appointment of Alhaji Abba Tor Shehu Masta II Elkanemi as the new first class Emir of the newly created Dikwa Emirate.

The appointment letter was formally presented to him by the Secretary of the State Government Ambassador Baba Ahmed Jidda at his residence in old GRA Maiduguri.

The letter of appointment dated eleventh of this month was signed by the State Governor Senator Ali Modu Sheriff and was presented to the new Emir by the SSG Ambassador Baba Ahmed Jidda.

In it, the State Chief Executive stated that the appointment was based on the powers conferred on him by Section 68 of the Borno State Local Government Amendment Law 2010 and the Creation of new Emirates order 2010 which was confirmed through the House resolution on the creation of new emirates on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March 2010.

Following this the Governor approved the appointment of Alhaji Abba Tor II as the first class Emir of the new Dikwa Emirate with effect from 11<sup>th</sup> of March 2010.

The Emirate according to the letter comprises of Ngala, Gamboru, Wulgo, Fada, Gumsu, Masa, Dikwa and Boboshe.

Other Districts under the new Dikwa Emirate are Rann, Kala, Abori and Jilbe while the headquarters of the Emirate is Dikwa.

With the experience and royal background of the new emir the Governor said he has no doubt in mind that he will be an able custodian of culture, religion and other necessities of traditional leadership for the interest and development of the State.

Governor Ali Sheriff then wished him long reign, good health and wisdom to carry out the heavy responsibilities.

Responding the new emir Alhaji Abba Tor Shehu II thanked governor Ali Sheriff for finding him worthy of the appointment.

According to him historically the throne belong to their family and promised to live above board.

Those in attendance during the presentation include the Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, Abdulrahman Terab, the Chairman of Ngala and Dikwa as well as the Imam Idaini of Borno Imam Adam Asil Ibn Kyari Al-Sunusiya.

Born to the family of the Late Shehu, Masta the second the new Emir of Dikwa Alhaji Abba Tor started his early education at Bama Central Primary School and Senior Primary School from 1952-1958.

He proceeded to Teachers College Mubi from 1959-1962 where he obtained Grade II Teachers Certificate.

Abba Tor Masta II was employed as a teacher in Bama Central Primary School and later transferred to Kashimri from 1962-1963.

In 1965 he attended Borno Teachers College Maiduguri for his Grade II Teachers Certificate before proceeding to Ahmadu Bello University to study Law and passed with second class between 1971-1973.

The new Emir also served as Secretary Ngala Local Government in 1979 and was appointed commissioner of Information by Goni Administration from 1979-1984.

Alhaji Abba Tor Shehu Masta II served again as Commissioner of Works Housing, Land and Survey during Ibrahim Dada's Administration.

He was also Amirul Hajj in 1981 and 1986 and before his current appointment as Emir of Dikwa; he was the Chairman of the governing Council of Kashim Ibrahim College of Education Maiduguri.

Among courses he attended is Northern State Conference on drafting of Local Government Edict in 1977, Administrative Management Training in ABU 1978-1979, Citizen as well as Human Resources Management in London at the International Centre for Research and Consultancy.

The new emir of Dikwa Alhaji Abba Tor Masta II Elkanemi was happily married with children.

## PETROLEUM EQUALISATION FUND (MANAGEMENT) BOARD



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CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT, P.M.B. 450 GARKI GPO, ABUJA.  
TELEPHONE: (09) 460 6100, 08077097114, 08077097124, 08077097126

### REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL PROPOSAL AND PRE-QUALIFICATION FOR THE AWARD OF CONTRACT TO IMPLEMENT A BUSINESS SOLUTION.

The Petroleum Equalisation Fund (Management) Board intends to award contract for implementing an Integrated Business Solution for the following:

1. Collection Management
2. Claims Management
3. Marketers Reconciliation

The Board hereby requests for **Technical Proposals** from interested companies for the purpose of pre-qualification for the bid round.

The Board is the Government agency responsible for the equalisation of Petroleum Products Prices across the nation by collecting allowances on refined and imported petroleum products and reimbursing marketers' cost of transportation of petroleum products across the length and breadth of the country.

#### Our Objectives include;

1. To automate fully the processes of accruing and collecting allowances for delivery of locally refined or imported petroleum products into the tanks of marketers.
2. To monitor distribution of petroleum products by trucks within the country.
3. To register the loading of trucks with petroleum products and track the movement of the trucks as well as, the content, confirm proof of delivery and trigger a workflow process for reimbursing the marketer for cost of transportation.
4. To automate the process of reconciliation between what is owed to the Board by the marketer and vice-versa.
5. To provide a full reporting framework for all activities related to the above
6. And integrate solution to the Board's ERP (SAP Business One)

#### Scope of Work

The following requirements have been identified and should serve as guide. However, proposed solution may not be limited to them:

1. Implement a tank gauge solution using accurate volume measurement (physicalization) devices.
2. Track the entry and exit of trucks from depots using tracking devices.

3. Track the movement of trucks using GPS, GPRS, RFID and /or any other applicable technology.
4. Business workflow Software
5. Reporting Software.
6. Development of Application Programs to Interface with SAP Business One using SAP B1 Software Development Kit (SDK) or any other integration approach.
7. Training.

#### Qualifications

To be considered for participation in the Bid round, interested companies must demonstrate through the solution proposal that they have the technical competence, are capable and have resources available to provide the required service.

The proposal should also include:

- i. Company Profile and Organizational structure, including names, resumes and telephone numbers of key personnel.
- ii. Verifiable list of previous similar works successfully carried out within the last 3 years with the names of clients, evidence of award and practical completion.
- iii. Evidence of Incorporation of the Company by the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC).
- iv. Company Tax Clearance Certificate for the last 3 years
- v. VAT Registration and evidence of past VAT remittances
- vi. Experience/ Technical Qualification of Key Personnel with copies of certificates.
- vii. Audited annual financial report of the company for the last 3 years
- viii. Evidence of Financial Capability (Bank Statements for the last 6 months) credit worthiness and readiness to instruct bankers to supply financial information on the company as may be required.

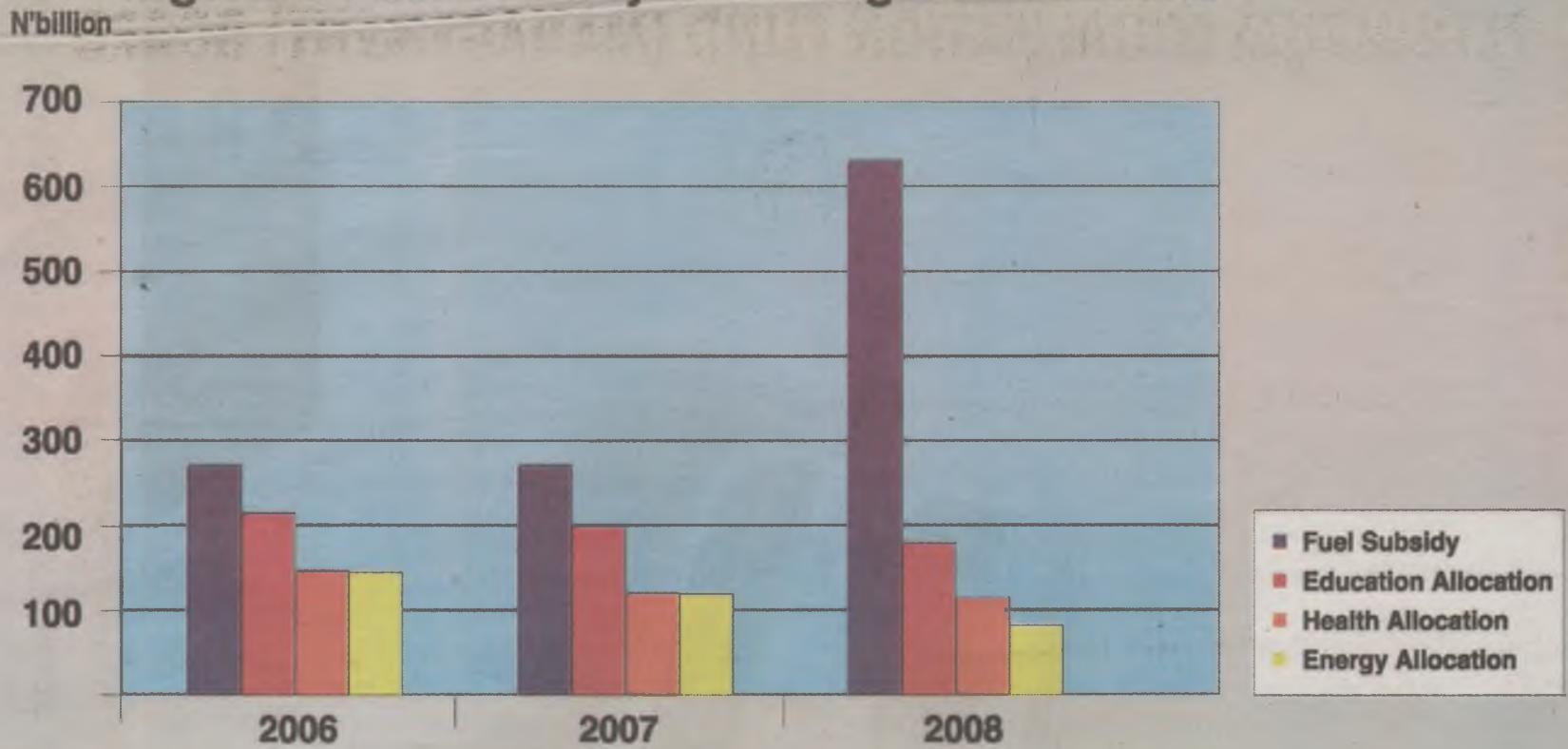
All proposals are to be submitted in sealed envelopes marked "Business Solution Project" addressed to: The Executive Secretary, Petroleum Equalisation Fund (Mgt) Board, Plot 622 Ambassadorial Conclaves, Central Business District, Abuja. All submissions should reach the office not later than three weeks from the date of this publication.

Signed

MANAGEMENT

Lagos Office: Plot 887 Balarabe Musa Crescent, Victoria Island, Lagos  
Telephones: (01) 262-4386, (01) 811-7415 customer service line: (09) 780-3723  
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### Nigeria's Fuel Subsidy and Budget Allocations



**SUBSIDY SPEND**  
 2006-2009  
**N2.5 trillion**  
 2010 Projection  
**N600 billion**

# LET'S MAKE IT RIGHT

**2006 Subsidy payment: N255.7bn**

(half the spend of Federal Government on critical infrastructure)

**2007 Subsidy payment: N290.4bn**

**2008 Subsidy payment: N654.7bn**

(one and half times the spend of Federal Government on critical infrastructure)

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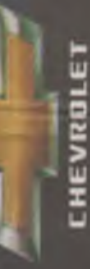
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INTERMOTORS



# THE HOME FRONT

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Magashi

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## FEATURE

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Who is an ideal  
parent?

## Preventing miscarriage

By Akor Ojoma

**M**ANY women live blaming themselves after a miscarriage but this should not always be the case as there are a multiple reasons of why the baby was miscarried.

According to Dr Nathaniel Adewole, a consultant gynaecologist at the Nisa Premier hospital Abuja "Miscarriage is loss of pregnancy before the age of viability. The age of viability means the age when a child can survive outside the womb or has a high chance of survival without problems. The age of viability differs from country to country. In the advanced countries of the world like America, Sweden and Germany the viability age is twenty weeks. In Britain it is twenty-four weeks while in Nigeria it is twenty-eight weeks."

When a woman has miscarried more than two or more times it is called recurrent miscarriage and it occurs in 30% of women. When a woman miscarries twice there is a 24% percent chance of losing another pregnancy and a 30% chance if she has miscarried three times.

### Types of miscarriage

**Complete miscarriage** - a complete miscarriage includes the expulsion of all products of conception including the foetus and placenta.

**Incomplete miscarriage** - The miscarriage is incomplete if only part of the contents of your uterus is expelled.

**Inevitable miscarriage** - This occurs when a woman experiences vaginal bleeding in conjunction with back or abdominal pain.

**Missed miscarriage** - The symptoms of early Pregnancy disappears with no bleeding, no abdominal pain.

**Septic miscarriage** - This occurs as a result of either a missed or incomplete miscarriage.

### Symptoms

Dr Adewole said the symptoms of miscarriage include: "Bleeding from the private part, cramping pain in the lower abdomen and labour like pains, you may start seeing water coming out of your privates that is a gush of fluid from the vagina without bleeding or pain. This may mean that your membranes have ruptured or your bag of waters has broken. You may notice that part of the uterus or some solid material passes out of your vagina. Try to keep this material so your



health care provider can examine it. Place it in a bottle of water with a little bit of salt. Another symptom is that part of the foetus comes out."

### Causes

The gynaecologist said most miscarriages which occur in the first trimester of pregnancy usually 4-13 weeks are due to genetic and chromosomal abnormalities. "Another cause is anatomical problem e.g. cervical incompetence - An incompetent cervix sometimes causes miscarriage later in the pregnancy and this usually occurs during the third trimester 20-26 weeks. A cervix that starts widening and opening too early in the pregnancy may result in miscarriage as it is relaxed and cannot carry pregnancy to term. Abortion can also cause cervical incompetence. Infections like malaria, typhoid fever and others which causes fever is another cause of miscarriage. Malaria drugs like quinine and chloroquine do not cause miscarriage. It is the fever that

causes miscarriage not the drug." He said

The doctor identified other causes as;

-Toures syndrome resulting from rubella, measles, or other viral infection, abnormality in the womb for example women who have double uterus which is a rare phenomenon, presence of fibroid in the inner cavity of the womb, immunological reactions and unusual taking of drugs.

### Diagnosis

The doctor asks questions and conduct tests like pelvic examinations, HCG blood test, foetal heart rate monitor, ultra sound etc but be mindful that it is not all miscarriages that needs ultra sound before diagnosis. So people who go directly to ultra sound centres should first see the doctor.

### Prevention

The gynaecologist advised women to place priority on their health. "Avoid the act of managing illnesses. When you notice unusual changes in your body, go to the hospital immediately

, don't manage the situation, some women on noticing symptoms go to local chemists and they mix all manner of drugs for them which compounds the problem. Go to the hospital for diagnosis. When cervical incompetence is detected early in the hospital, a cervical cerclage will be done to tighten the neck of the womb and prevent further losses. Early treatment of viral illness especially malaria can prevent miscarriage. In the area of chromosomal abnormalities nothing much to be done to prevent it."

### Treatment

The treatment for miscarriage depends on the type. For complete miscarriage for instance, antibiotics and emmenagogue blood tonics can be given. If it is incomplete, the treatment is to evacuate using manual vacuum aspirator (EVA). Also a dilation and curettage (D&C) or suction procedure may be required to remove pregnancy tissue that is still in your uterus among other treatment options.



# Bone breaking beauty

By Boco Edet

A popular Chinese proverb says, "Every pair of small feet costs a bath of tears." These words were literally true as far as the 10th century in China. Do you know that once upon a time in that country the price of beauty was to bind the feet of women so it never grew past 3 to 4 inches? What is worse is that the victims of this bone breaking beauty were usually as young as 4 years old.

Foot binding as it is called was a custom practiced on young females for nearly one thousand years beginning in the 10th century and ending in the early 20th century. Traces of this gruesome practice are still evident on some elderly Chinese women who now suffer some form of deformity or disability.

An estimated 5 billion Chinese women lost the use of their toes so they could end up with a pair of tiny, folded feet. If one refused to take part in the practice, your toes were considered ugly and unattractive; you could possibly remain a spinster forever and would be ostracized from the society because your refusal was deemed disrespectful.

The process of foot binding was a mixture of pain and pleasure. Each foot would be soaked in a warm mixture of herbs and animal blood. The girl's feet were then massaged delicately. Each of her toes were then broken to prevent growth and wrapped in wet silk or cotton bandages, ten feet long and two inches wide, pulled tightly downwards toward the heel. Each day, the bandage was tightened and the girl's feet



became narrower and shorter allowing her to use smaller sized shoes progressively. The entire process usually took about two years at the end of which the feet were essentially dead and utterly useless. The feet had to be washed and manicured on a daily basis. If they weren't manicured properly the toe nails could get infected.

Foot binding was considered a symbol of wealth and was the exclusive preserve of the upper class woman. Those of the working class could not bind their feet because they needed to do manual labor to earn income for themselves and their families. This meant that those who needed to work for a living could not perform strenuous work with bound feet, so this became a symbol of the wealthy in China.

As if the pain was not enough, some girls suffered from a bad job. If the bindings were too tight they could cut off circulation

which could lead to gangrene (local death and decay of soft tissues) and blood poisoning. What is worse? Corns would develop on the toes that were bent under and would have to be cut off with a knife.

These initial deformities contributed to less freedom in mobility in respect to the fact that walking long distances was not possible; dancing and running, which are normal child activities, was also hindered. Those who suffered from foot binding found that, later on in life, they were more likely to have suffered falls than non-foot bound women. Also, the bone density in their hips was much less than that of a normal woman. Not only did those with bound feet need more assistance as they got older; it was difficult for such women to go into a squatting position, which hindered normal toilet using abilities.

## FRAGMENTS

By Safiya I. Dantiye  
safiyaadantiye@yahoo.com

### Taking jealousy too far

**N**O woman wants her husband to marry a second wife, or subsequent wives as the case may be; for Muslims, where Islam permits a man to marry up to four wives, many women only wade off the inevitable, because sometimes no matter how hard they have tried to prevent it, the husbands eventually marry other wives.

Painful as it may be, patience is the best option since causing trouble may not prevent it, rather it could cost the woman her marriage which she might later on regret.

The recent case of a woman in Kaduna State who destroyed her husbands' car and burnt down his house because he wanted to marry a second wife after twenty three years of marriage has brought this issue to the fore. It has also displayed how narrow minded and selfish women can be.

According to the story, instead of calling off the wedding due to her uncalled for and disgraceful behavior all in the name of preventing the marriage, the husband gave out invitation cards to those that went to commiserate with him.

Many women that are the product of polygamous families will vow that they can go to any length to prevent their husbands from marrying second wives; these lengths of course include the diabolical which may not work. Such is the case of one woman who said she didn't care if her husband had extra marital affairs, but it was his getting married to another woman that she wouldn't tolerate. She was said to have used the hair of a mad woman in one of the 'medicines', but after more than twenty years, the husband married a second wife who now has three children. This goes a long way to tell you that you cannot prevent what God has destined.

In any event, let's assume that you cannot tolerate your husbands' marriage to another wife, why don't you simply leave instead of causing violence and leaving the stigma to follow your children and even great grand children? Some people will never allow their son to marry the daughter of a woman that burnt her husband's house or attacked the husband physically, or poured hot water or hot oil on him.

Some people say by leaving the marriage, a woman is leaving her 'investment' for another woman to enjoy, after all the husband made the money (for those that are wealthy) with her, so she has a stake in his wealth and no other woman should have such a right.

As I said above, some of these women that are vehemently against their husbands marrying a second wife are selfish, because they have no qualms if their daughters are going to become second wives, in fact they are happy that their daughters have 'found' husbands, forgetting that they are preventing other women from finding 'husbands' in their (the women's) husbands.

In one such case, the woman never accepted the second wife even after she had two children and her grown up children always quarrelled with the second wife, but when her daughter was marrying as second wife, she was very happy. She prayed that her daughter would live cordially with the first wife. Isn't that selfishness?

Although in some cases, men plant the root of delusion in their wives that they will never marry second wives. This happens shortly after marriage when they couples are young, and some women believe it, saying the husbands have promised! In such a case when the husband decided to marry a second wife after so many years the wife ran from one friend of her husband to another, telling them that he had promised not to marry another wife. But the 'promise' notwithstanding he went ahead and married the second wife.

To be jealous is a natural feeling, but that does not mean that women should behave in a totally unwomanly manner, destroying properties, inflicting injuries and disgracing themselves. A second wife is something you cannot prevent if God has destined it, with all the 'medicine' you could get from so-called malams to prevent it. And if eventually your husband marries a second wife despite all your preventive measures you would look *saroro* (sheepish), by trying to justify that which God has destined!

Let's assume that you cannot tolerate your husbands' marriage to another wife, why don't you simply leave instead of causing violence?

# Getting divorced was the biggest mistake of our lives (so we all got re-married!)

LINDA Clements vividly recalls the moment her divorce from her husband of 25 years was finalised.

'I looked at that decree absolute, and after all the fighting and haggling, I was suddenly overcome with grief. Our marriage was actually over,' she says.

'But more than that, I had a nagging feeling that our divorce was a huge mistake.'

Such a mistake, in fact, that in July last year - and seven years after they got divorced - Linda, now 53, and her husband Billy, 58, a businessman, remarried.

'It was akin to coming home,' recalls Linda, a health adviser. 'A relief that after what turned out to be seven years in the wilderness, I had finally realised how much Billy meant to me.'

Of course, some people would claim they'd rather walk on hot coals than even contemplate marrying their former spouse. There might also be concrete reasons why such a liaison is unthinkable - it was a violent relationship, for example, or your spouse was a serial cheater.

But Linda and Billy are far from the only ones to find marital bliss once again by remarrying their ex. In fact, while statistics on remarriage to an ex are not routinely recorded, according to counselling service Relate one in four people regrets their divorce.

Considering that divorce and separation hold second and third place in the psychiatric scale of life's most stressful events (death of a spouse comes first), and that divorced people are about 35 per cent more likely to consult their GP than married couples, it's not surprising many find being single again isn't quite what they thought it would be.

In this age of 'moving on', admitting you still love your ex might, however, be a taboo subject - especially if the divorce was costly and traumatic.

But Charlotte Friedman, relationship therapist and founder of divorcesupportgroup.co.uk, says feelings of regret are often an ongoing issue with the couples she speaks to.

'I've noticed that when a divorce that has taken a few years to finalise comes through, at least one partner can feel they made too hasty a decision,' she says.

'But by the time they realise that, so much bad feeling has come between them it can be hard to find a way back. That's why

divorces can take years to get over

The same sentiment is shared by Sandra Kaufman, 68.

She first tied the knot

with Terry, also 68, a retired chef, in 1958 when they were both aged 18. They then split two years later. After their divorce, Sandra remarried and had six children. Mean-

while, Terry remarried and had a daughter.

However, Sandra, a retired admin assistant, maintains she never forgot her first love. 'My new

husband Derek was a good man,' she recalls, 'but there was never the spark in our marriage that I had shared with Terry.'

She and Derek finally

divorced after 11 years of marriage. Although she didn't marry again, she met another man with whom she was with for a further 11 years.

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## Advice by Dr Aminu Magashi

### I have private part odour.

I have noticed an odor emitting from my private part for the last seven months and I don't know why. Is it normal or could it be due to an infection?

#### Merry

Women generally have a particular vaginal smell; it is natural. Even when one notices a recent difference in its smell; it is not necessarily an infection. That change may be linked to a specific moment of menstrual cycle because the smell of vagina can vary depending on the time of the cycle.

It is normal that it has a certain odor sometimes. Whether this natural smell is neutral or not, it is a matter of personal judgment. In fact, some women notice their odor when there is no notable odor detected by their partners.

However, if the odor changes and becomes strongly unpleasant (repugnant fishy vaginal odor), this change deserves attention because it is perhaps a sign of a serious vaginal infection. Left untreated, this condition may cause not only physiologic problems but also emotional stress and social problems (the person feels uncomfortable thinking the odor is detected by others).

Some people believe that vaginal odor is as a result of a lack of personal hygiene and wash excessively their vagina, unaware that such might worsen the problem. While poor genital hygiene can be the cause, excessive washing is not the solution. Very often, women hampered by a strong vaginal odor should not begin to wash themselves intensively. That does not help at all.

The first thing to do should be restoring the acidity and the balance of the vaginal flora naturally. That restoration cannot be done by antibiotic intake; it decreases immune system.

The vaginal flora consists of a large number of microaerophilic bacteria. Among them, lactobacilli are considered the principal ones for their role in protecting the vagina. These micro-organisms are primarily responsible for protective acidity of the vagina.

Washing the vagina too often increases its pH, which disrupts the vaginal flora and can cause vaginal infections and particularly unpleasant odors. That is, do not rush to wash your vaginal excessively when you suffer from vaginal health issues.

If the vaginal flora is dis-

rupted, pathogenic bacteria proliferate, resulting in bacterial vaginosis. This type of proliferation tends to increase the number of bacteria normally present in the vagina causing unpleasant fishy vaginal odor.

Besides excessive washing, douching, tight clothes and certain chemicals (scented body washes, antibacterial soap, etc) can cause vaginal infection or yeast infection. Foreign body in vagina can provoke vaginal odor and other major health issues. Vaginal and anal intercourse alternation during the same session can cause vaginal infection resulting in vaginal odor.

#### Some tips to address vaginal odour

1. Wearing clean tampons and changing them regularly
2. Avoid douching, it is not necessary; it can damage or destroy the normal acidity of the vagina resulting in vaginal problems (washing with some chemicals)
3. If one suffers from any type of vaginal infection, it is recommended to avoid wearing tight underwear and pants so that the vagina can breathe

easier.

4. Tight clothes can irritate the vagina and cause or increase vaginal odor.

5. Wearing cotton panties is also important.

6. For some women, after intercourse, it is important to go and urinate. Urination after sex helps to remove any possible bacteria that may be outside or inside the vaginal canal that would go up in the urethra. Because once present, these microbes tend to go up into the bladder, and can cause recurrent urinary infections. Urination causes a cleansing effect, forcing the microbes outside.

#### Infections can cause the odour such as

1. Bacterial Vaginosis
2. Chlamydia
3. Genital Herpes
4. Gonorrhea
5. Pelvic Inflammatory Disease
6. Yeast Infection

And also Cancer of the cervix

If after adopting some of the tips provided above, the situation does not improve, you will

need a proper evaluation in a hospital.

#### My hair is turning grey

I am a young man but for a reason unknown to me, my hair is turning grey. Please what is the problem? I am confused and depressed.

#### Labaran

Graying of hair is not an unusual thing to happen. The age when graying starts depends on one's genetic inheritance. Aging is often a reason that causes the hair to turn grayish. However premature graying of hair is a condition that demands the need to pay attention to the root cause.

Loss of hair color before the age of 35 is termed premature graying. In turn, the thinner, grey hairs then have a chance to grow sooner and more rapidly than normal.

#### Among the causes are:

1. A faulty diet and mental worries are the two primary causes of premature graying of hair.

2. Lack of some of the B vitamins, iron, copper, and iodine in the daily diet is said to

be a contributory factor.

3. Other causes of premature graying of hair are an unclean condition of the scalp

4. Washing the hair with hot water

5. Drying it with an electric dryer

6. Use of hair dyes.

7. Heredity is also a predisposing factor (runs in the family)

Intake of curry leaves is considered beneficial in preventing premature graying of hair. These leaves provide vitality and strength to hair roots. New hair roots that grow are healthier and contain a normal pigment.

The role of proper diet in preventing and arresting premature graying of hair is very important. Eating a lot of fruits and vegetables is absolutely essential to facilitate the supply of essential vitamins and minerals.

Overall, please consult a nutritionist in any Federal Medical Centers/Teaching Hospitals close to you for evaluation.



# PROPERTY

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## Mass housing: 'FCTA yet to meet obligations'

By Nasir Imam

DEVELOPERS under the mass housing scheme have said the FCT Administration is yet to meet her obligations under the scheme despite massive investments by private developers who trusted the FCT administration and responded accordingly.

The Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Abuja Estate Developers Association (AEDA) Engr. Chinazor Okereke, stated this when he led a delegation to the former FCT Min-

ister of State, Chf. Chuka Odom in his office.

He said "As you may be aware, many private investors both local and foreign have invested billions in the scheme, creating sustainable jobs without realizing their objectives for making such huge investments due to lack of commitment on the part of the FCT administration that invited them."

Okereke noted that such a situation would only breed and encourage mistrust and lack of confidence among the investing public towards government programmes.

He added, "The 12 million housing deficit announced by

the United Nations Habitat some years ago, unfortunately, is still widening. We believe that this gap cannot be closed if we don't have a coordinated approach to housing development in the country.

Responding, Chf. Odom disclosed that the FCTA had initiated an audit of all existing mass housing projects in Abuja. "This audit will enable us know the estates that are functional, the level of infrastructure, the level of completion, and the degree of government involvement and commitment in the provision of infrastructure for these estates."

### Abuja to get independent power plant

THE FCT Administration has said it is working on a blueprint towards the establishment of an independent power plant in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

The immediate past FCT Minister, Senator Muhammad Adamu Aliero, made this disclosure in Abuja while receiving a trade and investment delegation from Finland.

The Minister reiterated that the independent power plant when established is expected to take care of the commercial and individual energy needs of the Federal Capital Territory.

Senator Aliero told the Finland visitors that Nigeria is seriously facing the challenge of power generation and distribution but that the Federal Government has provided an enabling environment for investors in the sector to take full advantage.

He urged the delegation to look into that sub-sector as the Federal Capital Territory needs about 300 megawatts; assuring that it is a viable sector that promises quick and lofty investment returns.

The Minister therefore called on the Finland businessmen and investors to buy into the Abuja independent power plant blueprint.

Speaking earlier, the leader of the delegation who is also the Finland Minister of Trade and Development, Dr. Paavo Varynen appreciated the warm reception accorded his team; stating that he was Nigeria with businessmen and investors who are experts in several fields.



A man sets up a scaffold at the Federal Secretariat Complex Bullet House, where renovation is taking place in Abuja.

### FCTA gives 2-week ultimatum for houses under power lines

By Mustapha Suleiman

DEVELOPERS who have erected structures within the right-of-way of high tension power lines have been given a 2 week ultimatum to remove such structures.

The Director, Development Control Department, Abuja Metropolitan Management Council (AMMC), Yahaya Yusuf, said this while briefing the two teams set up by the Department to handle

the exercise on their terms of reference.

Yahaya Yusuf said it is disheartening that developers in the Area Councils (outside the city) are still building structures under high tension lines despite several warnings and the hazards associated with such practice.

According to the Director, the terms of reference for the two teams covering the Northern and Southern Zones of the Federal

Capital Territory are as follows:

"To secure from PHCN the network of high tension lines and their rights-of-way within the respective zones of the FCT.

To move around the respective zones of the Territory to observe and determine the level of encroachment into the rights-of-way by properties, and determine the approval status of such properties."

Also to prepare a time

table for required actions and undertake the removal of encroaching properties and make any other recommendation aimed at preventing a re-occurrence of such encroachments and any other development incidental to the assignment.

The Director gave the teams (the committee) two months within which to complete the assignment.

### Abuja houses empty while many are homeless –MD FHA

By Ben Atonko

MANAGING Director (MD) of the Federal Housing Authority (FHA), Arch Terver Gemade has once again expressed government's helplessness in tackling the accommodation challenge in the country stressing that there are many empty houses in

the Federal Capital City, Abuja while many residents have no roofs over their heads.

Addressing guests at the groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of housing units for low income earners by the Millard Fuller Foundation in Luvu-Madaki, Masaka in Nasarawa State yesterday,

Gemade said, "The landlords put a very high rental premium on them [houses] and they are simply unaffordable for most Nigerians."

He noted that it is worrisome "when you turn around and you see quite a number of Abuja inhabitants without housing while houses lie fallow without

human beings in them."

He said up to 70 percent of Nigerians whose earnings are put at less than \$2 [less than N300] per day, constitute the chunk that go out their without proper income and therefore can scarcely afford decent homes.

Earlier, the MD Aso Sav-

ings and Loans Plc, Mr Hassan Usman who described the initiative as "celebration of humanity" said all one needs do to acquire a unit of the houses is to open an account with Aso Savings using N20,000 only. After six months, one is qualified to take a loan and pay for the Fuller house –all this under a mortgage system.

## Property



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# FERMA inspects Nasarawa roads

From Hir Joseph, Lafia

A management delegation of the Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) has inspected the repair work on two of the federal roads running through Nasarawa State, expressing satisfaction with the quality of the job.

The management however expressed dissatisfaction with the speed of work on Akwanga-Wamba Fadalkarshi Road and Nasarawa Toto-Keffi-Kaduna border Road being handled by SDY Engineering Limited at N211 million and Wewox Limited at N182 million,

respectively. The specification of the two respective projects entail patching of potholes, crack sealing and asphalt overlay.

Daily Trust observed the management of the agency carrying out the inspection, last Monday along the Toto-Keffi-Kaduna border road, and sought the confirmation of FERMA's Chief Maintenance Engineer in Nasarawa State, Engr. Musa Useni, who disclosed that the team was led by two Executive Directors. He gave their names as Engr. Bola Aganaba, the Executive Director (East) and Mr. Wakil Adamu, the Executive Director, Administration and

Human Resources. He said they visited at the instance of FERMA's Managing Director, Engr. Kabir Abdullahi.

Engr. Useni said the team gave a marching order to both contractors to speed up the work, adding that the team was particularly disturbed by the fact that Wewox cut out many potholes on the road without sealing them up, a possible cause of accident especially by unsuspecting motorists.

"Generally, the team was impressed with the performance of the two contractors especially in the area of job quality," Engr. Useni said.

## FG embarks on 20-year physical devt plan

By Nasir Imam

FORMER Minister of State for Works, Housing and Urban Development, Chief Grace Ekpiphwe, has said that the proposed national physical development plan is targeted at redressing the country's uncoordinated development agenda.

With the benefit of hindsight, she said that past strategies adopted by the three tiers of government to resolve the challenges of infrastructural decay, imbalanced regional development and unemployment had been largely uncoordinated. A statement from the ministry said Ekpiphwe said these in Ibadan, Oyo State, on Tuesday, in her address to the sensitisation round-table organised by the ministry for professional bodies, consultants and multilateral agencies.

The minister, who was represented by a Deputy Director in the ministry, Alhaji Lawal Abubakar, said that the meeting was a precursor to the proposed first national physical development plan.

She also said that the NPDP was set to redress the identified poor vertical and lateral coordination of the intervention in the country's low productivity, dwindling resources, escalating urbanisation and crime.

She also said that the NPDP was set to redress the identified poor vertical and lateral coordination of the intervention in the country's low productivity, dwindling resources, escalating urbanisation

## How we will deliver 100,000 houses by 2013 –FHA

**ARCH Terver Gemade, the Managing Director (MD) of the Federal Housing Authority (FHA), is passionate about providing houses for Nigerians. He has promised to deliver over 100,000 houses by the year 2013. He spoke on how the FHA intends to achieve this. Excerpts:**

By Nasir Imam

**You have spent almost one year in office as the MD/CEO of FHA, what have been your achievements so far?**

There has been tremendous achievement within the past eight months of my management, quite a number of projects have been completed and commissioned for example 240 housing units in Lugbe was commissioned last November, 558 housing units have been completed in Isheri-Olofin in Lagos and was commissioned this February.

We have awarded contracts for the construction of 88 housing units in Gwarinpa, Kado-Mbiko section, and about 300 houses in Abesan and the completion of other housing units in Gwarinpa is being done, so these are major milestones in terms of projects worth mentioning.

**Because of the large number of low income earners in Nigeria does FHA have any intention of going into social housing?**

Social housing is actually the responsibility of the government of any nation, unfortunately here in Nigeria the housing policy has been largely driven by the private sector and that has made it difficult for low income earners to be able to own their own houses. All developers are concentrating on developing for the high income earners where they have higher premium whereas we in FHA have been taking care of the low income

earners, government is not funding us any more, we source funds at high interest rates from banks to be able to finance our projects so to be able to pay back these loans we also embark on high income housing so that we can have a premium to be able to break even and pay back loans with interest.

**Do you have any PPP arrangement with stakeholders in the**



ARCH Terver Gemade

**housing sector?**

Of course quite a number of projects have been initiated here in Abuja, we have been in this business for the past ten years, that is the main drive of our activity now in terms of housing provision, we entered into PPP agreement with several companies. Right now we have entered MoU with a number of companies like BNL at Apo where we are going to put about 930 housing units, also in Apo we have gone into partnership with Bahaus International Ltd. For the development of 594 housing units, and we are partnering with another UK company, the Millard Fuller Foundation in Luvu-Madaki, Masaka in Karu local government of Nasarawa State for the development of over 11,000 housing units, that in itself will be a completely new town, it will have all the required infrastructure.

**What is the position of Gwar-**

**inpa Housing Estate, have all the houses been sold?**

Gwarinpa has been an old estate that has been on for the past 13 to 14 years, all the houses in Gearinpa have been commissioned, what we are doing now is that some of the buyers, about 150 houses, who made deposits are not forthcoming to pay the balance of the houses. The board of FHA have granted approval to withdraw such houses and give it to people who have the money to pay in full, the reason being that we don't have subvention from government, we are not on the appropriation so we don't have a budget, so we depend on the income we get from the sale of our products, so we need the money to plough back into other projects.

**What about the inadequate infrastructures in FHA Lugbe Estate?**

Lugbe too is an old estate, 16 years old, it was one of the National Housing Programme estates of 1994, of course many of the roads are bad but we are in the process of rehabilitating them, last year we rehabilitated three roads there and we are also going to embark on additional ones very soon, the tenders are just being prepared.

**You promised to deliver over 100,000 houses by the year 2013, are you on course, do you think you will be able to achieve those targets?**

Yes, we are on course, we are achieving those targets, from what I have told you so far you can see that from the partnership we have entered into we have about 12,000 already and from the ones we have commissioned and the ones we are building are all pointers to the fact that we are really on course.

**Coming to staff matters, how have you been able to curtail the volatile situation in the labour union in FHA?**

What many people don't understand is that labour unions are never out for confrontation, they are out there for the welfare of the workers so if any management co-operate with workers then you have very good industrial harmony and that is what my management is doing, co-operating with labour unions and everything is peaceful. And we have done a lot to improve the welfare of staff, we have promoted staff, we have assisted them in projects that they have

**What is the problem with the proposed headquarters complex of FHA in the central area of Abuja?**

The issue of the headquarters, you see for the thirty-seven years of existence of FHA we never had a permanent headquarters, we have always stayed in temporary accommodation, we on our own part have decided to embark on our corporate headquarters and in the past attempts were made by different managements to develop this project, we had some problem of having multiple consultants on the project but recently we got the approval of the minister to disengage all those consultants and embark on the projects in-house, we have done the design and we will soon embark on the construction.

**When will those who live in economically unviable areas going to enjoy the services of FHA?**

You know our activities cover the whole nation, we have offices in the whole six geo-political zones of the country, the aim is to have our impact felt so we have several estates across the country, but now we are acquiring more lands in the states, we have met several governors with the hope of reaching out, so even those areas you think are not economically viable we will still embark on projects in these areas. For example our co-oper-

ative housing which is actually a do-it yourself kind of thing which we are going to embark upon in areas where are not economically buoyant.

**What about the death of infrastructure in Festac Town Phase II across the canal, what is the problem?**

No, that was a wrong approach, we are doing things differently now, we are no longer going to provide sites that are not serviced. And we are going to back to that site and services will be provided.

**Is FHA making any effort to recover the lands that were revoked by former minister Nasir el-Rufai?**

Definitely, we have embarked on aggressive land acquisition, surveys are going on now, we want each of our parcels of land to be titled, the same thing we are doing in the FCT here, we are discussing the matter with the FCT Administration, we are about to be given a new plot of land for the development of a new town in Bwari area council, so shortly we will recover such lands.

**What about the controversy on the registration of land titles in the FCT?**

Anywhere that FHA obtains land, the land automatically belongs to the federal government, we have the right to issue titles to individuals in which case we provide sub leases from the main root title, and the sub lease is just like the CofO and registration is done with the Federal Land Information System (FELIS). But we started having problem when AGIS came on board, we are yet to resolve that, but the Federal Ministry of Works is going to do that on our behalf because we are a parastatal under it and that will be determined very soon.

## CITY NEWS



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# Rights abuse: Court orders police to pay Alfa N3m

By Abubakar Yakubu

AN FCT High Court last Thursday ordered the director State Security Services and the Inspector-General of Police to pay Ambassador Ali Abdallah Alfa N3 million as general damages for unlawful detention and violation of his fundamental rights.

The applicant's lawyer, Chief Karina Tunya (S.A.N) had earlier filed a motion on October 8, 2009, declaring Ambassador Alfa's detention from September 10, 2009 till October 6, 2009 as a gross violation of the fundamental human rights of the applicant as provided in Sections 34 and 35 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Chief Tunya sought the relief of the court to pay N50 million as general damages for unlawful detention, torture, loss of reputation and goodwill as well as for the violation of the fundamental human rights of the applicant.

The police had in their response stated in court that the police have the statutory powers to investigate, prosecute, search and arrest citizens who are suspected to have committed an offence, adding that

in the legitimate exercise of these duties, the police cannot be sued in court for fundamental rights.

The police also submitted that they acted within their statutory powers to prevent the commission of an offence.

Justice A.M. Talba faulted the submissions of the police and said the police have a legal duty to arrest, investigate, search and prosecute suspects within the ambit of the law, adding that the police powers are derived from the country's Constitution and Police Act.

The judge said he found out that Ambassador Alfa was actually detained for 30 days despite the clear writings of the Constitution that states that any person arrested or detained shall be brought before a court of law within reasonable time.

"In the case of an arrest or detention in any place where there is a court of competent jurisdiction within a radius of 40 kilo meters, a day is reasonable," the judge stated.

The judge held that the police have failed to justify the infringement of the applicant's fundamental rights and declared his 30 days detention as a gross violation of the applicant's right as guaranteed by



AMBASSADOR Ali Abdallah Alfa (left) after the court judgement last Thursday.

section 34 and 35 of the country's Constitution.

He said the police have to car-

ryout their responsibilities in due compliance with the rule of law, in order to enhance the quality of

the liberty and dignity of the citizens as guaranteed by the Constitution.

## 'E-enforcement does not amount to double taxation'

By Ogechi Ohalee & Nasir Imam

THE FCT director of the Directorate of Road Traffic Services (DRTS) yesterday denied claims that the encoded vehicle documentation and vehicle licensing programme amounts to double taxation.

The director also faulted statement that the programme is aimed at boosting the revenue base of the directorate.

Retired Major Adamu S. Argungu said the encoding programme, which is expected to take off on April 1 does not amount to double taxation as it entails the payment of only N1,000 for a three-year renewable period, adding that the scheme is aimed at saving man hour that would have been spent by DRTS staff and motorists, while checking vehicle documents.

He said the programme, which had been given wide publicity since December 2009 in various mediums will not cause anxiety and discomfort to vehicle owners as the department will establish zonal command offices in Bwari, Gwagwalada, Area 1, Outer Northern Express



FAKE car number plates siezed by DRTS officials in Abuja.

(ONEX), Nyanya, and A.Y.A.

He said the programme is a six-year PPP arrangement with a firm, Sonrex Ltd, who are manufacturers of electronic gadgets of first generation technology that are water proof.

Major Argungu also stated that April 1 will be a starting point for motorists in the FCT to comply with, adding that after the scheme begins fully in the FCT, any other state that is interested can also follow suit.

The Director urged motorists to come to the directorate's headquarters to obtain the e-encoding and disclosed that the directorate is also transitioning its registration of numbers plates to on-line registration.

## Man jailed for stabbing neighbour

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

AN Abuja magistrate court Wednesday sentenced one Innocent Ali to eight months imprisonment for stabbing his neighbour with a knife.

Innocent who was first arraigned on July 28, 2009, denied the charge when it was first read to him but at the end of the case Wednesday, Magistrate Bashir Attahiru Alkali found him guilty and jailed him.

During the trial, the prosecutor, Jeremiah Elijah, had told the court that on July 21, 2009, one Ikechukwu Udeneye of Aliata village, Abuja, reported to the police that the accused stabbed him after they had some disagreement.

The prosecutor said the complainant reported that the accused said he stole his sister's bag, which he denied.

"On reaching home, the accused attacked the complainant and inflicted deep cuts on his neck, shoulder and back with a knife," the prosecutor said.

He also stated that as a result of the stabbing the complainant was rushed to a hospital, where he was treated, adding that the offence the accused committed is punishable under Section 247 of the Penal Code Law.

Magistrate Bashir sentenced the accused to eight months imprisonment or to pay N5,000 as fine.

He also ordered the accused to pay N11,220 as compensation to the complainant.

# Estate agent denies N2.6m fraud charge

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

A 32-year-old estate agent Tuesday denied in court that he cheated Miss. Stella Kayode and Miss. Sadiq H.A. of about N2.6 million.

The agent, Tope Adebayo of Area F, Flat C7, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Kaduna State, was accused of committing the offence in December 2009.

Police prosecutor, Abu Okpachi, informed the court that on

December 10, 2009, Stella Kayode and Sadiq H.A. reported to the police that the accused deceived them and collected N900,000 and N1,750,000 respectively from them.

"The accused paraded himself as a house/property agent and in the process collected the sum of N900,000 from Stella Kayode and N1,750,000 from Sadiq H.A. and another person," the prosecutor said.

Narrating further, the pros-

ecutor said during police investigations, it was discovered that the accused actually deceived the complainants by claiming that the apartment to be rented out belongs to Senator Idris Ahmed.

He said the accused confessed to the offences, which are punishable under Sections 322 and 309 of the Penal Code Law.

When the two-count charge was read to the accused, he denied them and requested for bail.

Chief Magistrate Aemuyiwa

Oyeyipo granted the accused bail in the sum of N200,00 with a reasonable surety in like sum, who must reside within the court's jurisdiction.

The magistrate also ruled that the surety must be a federal government civil servant of not below Grade Level 14 and must swear to an affidavit to produce the accused in court on the adjourned date.

The case was adjourned to March 30 for hearing.

## Two trustees accused of forgery

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

THE police yesterday arraigned two trustees of the Cassava Growers Association of Nigeria, Chief Tola Adepomola and Daniel Okafor before an Abuja magistrate court for alleged criminal conspiracy and forgery.

Police prosecutor, Victor Nwadike, informed the court that information available to the deputy inspector-general of police "D" Department (Investigation) revealed that the accused persons conspired to forge the signature of one Chief Adebayo Ajayi.

"The accused persons, Chief Tola Adepomola and Daniel Okafor on or before September 2008 at the Corporate Affairs Commission, Abuja, did conspire among themselves and forged the signature of Chief Adebayo Ajayi," the prosecutor added.

Stating further, the prosecutor said the forged document was used by the accused persons to change the names of the trustees of the Nigeria Cassava Growers Association of Nigeria.

"The accused persons purportedly changed the names of the trustees of the Nigeria Cassava Growers Association and obtained another certificate of registration, contrary to Sections 97 (1) and 364 of the Penal Code Law," he said.

When the charges were read to the accused persons, they pleaded not guilty and their counsel, made an oral application for their bail.

Chief Magistrate David Ochimana granted each for the accused persons bail in the sum of N500,000 in sum with a surety each, who must have landed property within FCT.

The chief magistrate also ruled that if the accused persons cannot satisfy the above condition they must get two reasonable sureties, who reside within the court's jurisdiction.

The case was adjourned to April 14 for hearing.

## Fou'ad Academy's SAGE team commended

By Doris Afoma West

THE Fou'ad Lababidi Islamic Academy's Students for Advancement of Global Entrepreneurship (SAGE) team was at the weekend commended and urged to be focused in their activities so that their members can become successful entrepreneurs.

FCT Coordinator of SAGE, Muhammed Ibn Saheed, gave the advised during the business advisory board meeting of the group in the school's premises.

He said it is only when the members are focused that the school's SAGE project can be executed effectively.

Speaking earlier, Principal of the school, Hajia Hadiza Joda, said the aim of the project is to make students to become self employed after their graduation.

She said the programme is also aimed at making students compete favourably with other students in other continents during international entrepreneurship competitions.

The principal appealed to the advisory board to be fully supportive of the team at their time of need, so that they can be successful.



SAGE students of Fou'ad Lababidi Islamic Academy after a workshop in Abuja on Saturday.

## Why we impounded tricycles, by AEPB

By Usman A. Bello

THE Abuja Environmental Protection Board (AEPB) yesterday reacted to comments on impounded commercial tricycles (popularly called Keke NAPEP) at Area 1 roundabout, Abuja on Saturday.

It would be recalled that the FCT Keke NAPEP Chairman, Mr Austine Ape, had accused AEPB task force members of impounding nine of their tricycles on the instruction of one Kennedy of an illegal park at Area 1, who asked the owners of the seized cycles to pay N5,000 before their release.

Special Adviser to the

AEPB's director on security matters, Titus Ndawa, said the task force impounded nine commercial tricycles and three buses for operating at an illegal bus stop in the area as well as constituting nuisance in the city.

"When we got to the park, seven drivers out of the nine, whose tricycles were arrested, abandoned them, while the rest two drivers followed us with their tricycles and they faced a mobile court, where they were fined along with two bus drivers before their vehicles were released," he said.

He said some people later came to claim ownership

of the impounded tricycles and could not show proof of ownership, adding that they were asked to bring the particulars in order for them to be arraigned before a mobile court.

The special adviser debunked the allegation and said the riders, who were turned down told their leaders' lies that they were asked to pay N5,000 before the tricycles are released.

"The seven tricycles are still in our custody and will not be released until the owners' show us proof of ownership and appear before a court," he said.

## Driver in court over reckless driving

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

A 30-year-old commercial driver, Amadi Agu, was recently arraigned before an Abuja magistrate court for alleged careless and inconsiderate driving.

Prosecutor Isiaka Raheem told the court that on October 22, 2009, the accused drove his commercial bus with registration number AX 317 NTT along Independent road without consideration for other road users.

He said the accused negotiated a bend along Tafawa Balewa way without observing oncoming vehicles from the major road.

"The action of the accused led to an accident that involved Mrs. Abiakam, who drove a Mercedes Benz

with registration number AU 535 ABC," he said.

The prosecutor said the accident seriously damaged the car driven by the woman, adding that the offence committed by the accused is punishable under Section 28 of the Penal Code Law.

When the one-count charge was read to the accused, he denied it and said the accident was not caused by him.

Chief Magistrate Ademuyiwa Oyeyipo granted the accused bail in the sum of N50,000 with a reliable surety in like sum, who must reside within the court's jurisdiction and produce evidence of means of livelihood.

The case was adjourned to April 12 for hearing.

## Inside Politics

# How to contain Jos crisis, by Yahaya Mahmood

BARRISTER Yahaya Mahmood has appeared as counsel to many communities before several commissions of inquiry into ethno-religious crises in parts of the North in the last 20 years. In this interview in Kaduna, the legal practitioner gives insight into how such crises were stopped in Kaduna State and recommended a formula that will prevent persistent bloodletting in Plateau State.

From Ibraheem Musa, Kaduna

**YOU** were counsel to "Hausa/Fulani settlers" of Zangon Kataf of Kaduna State before the Justice Rahila Cudjoe Commission of Inquiry in 1992 and "Jasawa settlers" of Jos before the Niki Tobi Commission of Inquiry into the 2001 riots. What are the similarities of the two religious riots?

They are not religious riots. They are ethnic clashes between those that are called indigenes and those called settlers. The dispute in the two communities is not over religion, its practice or right. It is purely economic. In both cases, people who settled 200 years who are purely traders and businessmen dominated the economy over those who say they are indigenes and who are public servants and farmers.

**It** has been quite some time since a major ethnic/religious riot erupted in Kaduna State, can you give us an insight into how the issues were settled?

The various commissions of inquiry in Kaduna identified a fundamental issue. The Atyaps of Zangon Kataf wanted chieftdom. The settler area of the town was also made a district of the new chieftdom, completely separated from Zazzau emirate. And today we have peace.

**Is** the same panacea applicable to the Plateau crises?

In Plateau State, the settlers are issued "settler certificates". In Zangon Kataf, there was no such thing. In Jos, the settlers have no rights to public schools, hospitals or jobs. And they had no rights to contest for public offices. In Zangon Kataf the restrictions were not formal.

**H**ow can the government settle the Jos crisis?

Very simple, if the 'indigenes' will not accept the 'settlers' as Nigerians with a right to stay anywhere in Nigeria and enjoy rights as Nigerians, then the federal government should move all the settlers out of Jos back to wherever and pay them adequate compensation. That is why I welcomed the Chief Solomon Lar Panel, made up of indigenes and settlers to sort out their differences. It is better than setting up Judicial Commissions of Inquiry.

Most Nigerians and countries like the United States and the United Kingdom believe that the prosecution of offenders will serve as both deterrent to would-be rioters and also solve the intermittent crises.

The question is which of the offenders? Do we start with those identified from 1980 riots? That's one problem. The second problem is the legal system. If people can go to Court and enforce their rights, the riots will not take place in the first place. If leaders will be just and fair, the riots will not take place. We also discovered during the inquiries that politics play a role in inciting the riots. It is impossible to arrest and prosecute all the real culprits. It is impossible to get to more truth than what I said to you earlier.

**S**o how do we stop the Jos riots?

We should allow Chief Solomon Lar panel to do its work. They know themselves. They know the problems and have the solution. The federal government must step in, be firm and rebuild the town as was done in Zango. Plateau State government should be neutral and fair to all, if the settlers are to remain in Jos. The leaders of the settlers should undertake to control their people and there should be mutual respect. Only that can guarantee peace.



BARRISTER Yahaya Mahmood

## CNPP asks INEC to throw Akwashiki out of Senate

From Hir Joseph, Lafia

THE Conference of Nigerian Political Parties (CNPP) in Nasarawa State has given the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) a seven day ultimatum to declare Senator Patricia Akwashiki's seat vacant for a bye election.

Akwashiki (Nasarawa North) defected to the People's Democratic Party (PDP), last year, after she abandoned the All Nigerian People's Party (ANPP) on whose platform she went

to the National Assembly. She alleged that a division among ANPP's national hierarchy was responsible for her defection.

However, CNPP the state has written to INEC, asking it to invoke the provisions of the 1999 constitution to throw out Akwashiki as well as House of Assembly member, Raymond Akolo (Nasarawa Eggon West) who defected alongside the senator. CNPP insisted that the action of the do is in breach of the constitution.

Signed by 10 CNPP

leaders in the state, the letter which is addressed to the Resident Electoral Commissioner in Nasarawa State reads in part: "The duo have sometime in November/December 2009 cross-carpeted to the ruling PDP and since then, CNPP has watched with keen interest to see INEC do justice as required of it without being told. Unfortunately, the reverse is the case."

Titled: "Notice to invoke Brought pursuant to section 68 of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999", the letter

which was made available to Daily Trust is asking INEC to take note that the PDP is not responsible for its establishment, but the laws of the land.

"Also take notice that within seven days of service of this notice, the CNPP shall seek redress of this ugly situation in the state and this is aimed at preventing future occurrence.

"It will be in the interest of INEC to act now so that CNPP will be convinced of its independence ahead of 2011 as a neutral umpire", the letter adds.

## Group hails PDP for sticking to zoning arrangement

By Muideen Olaniyi

PDP Awareness Group yesterday lauded the National Chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) Prince Vincent Ogbulafor for reinforcing the zoning arrangement of the ruling party in Nigeria.

The group, in a communiqué signed by its protem chairman, Ahmed Leda, appreciated the maturity with which Ogbulafor handled the debate surround-

ing the health of President Umaru Musa Yar'adua.

The communiqué read in part: "The chairman must be commended for standing by the position of PDP as to which zone retains the Presidency in 2011 until 2015 before the South takes again," Leda said, pointing out that the chairman's position had helped to neutralise the controversial question of presidential candidature of the party in 2011.

# Inside Politics

## Zamfara senators to quit ANPP

By Abdul-Rahman Abubakar & Turaki A. Hassan

TWO senators from Zamfara State; Mohammed Hassan Gusau (Zamfara Central) and Sahabi Alhaji Ya'u (Zamfara North) have resolved to dump the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) which sponsored them to the Senate in 2007 for the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

The decision of the two legislators was made public yesterday when Senate President David Mark announced that a ceremony to receive them into the party has been scheduled for Monday in Gusau, the Zamfara State capital.

Speaking to Daily Trust on the matter, Senator Ya'u said the decision is as a result of the numerous factions that have now rocked the ANPP.

He said "I am aware of the constitutional provision for decamping and I can tell you that for long there have been factions in ANPP right from Zamfara State to the national body of the party. So we are acting in accordance with the provision of the constitution."

Also speaking, Senator Nasuha said: "We have been left with no option than to leave ANPP because of breakdown in leader-

ship within the party. The party has been factionalised and we have lost focus. We don't even know the faction to work with because they are all inviting people to meetings at the same time. So we decided that we have to leave."

On whether their joining the PDP could lead to disaffection in the party, Nasuha said: "I believe that we will be well received by

members of the PDP. We have consulted widely and I can tell you because of the belief that we can make impact in the party was why we were invited to join the PDP."

The two senators have for long expressed support for the state Zamfara State governor, Mahmuda Aliyu Shinkafi, who decamped to the PDP after coming to power in 2007 on the platform of the ANPP.

## Amaechi: Labour Party wants tribunal disbanded

By Atika Balal

RIVERS State 2007 Governorship candidate of the Labour Party has petitioned the Chief Justice of Nigeria (CJN) Justice Aloysius Katsina-Alu against the election petition tribunal over alleged cases of judicial travesty.

Engr. Ashley Emenike, in his petition, is asking the CJN to disband the five man

panel and set up a new one in the event that they do not disqualify themselves as demanded by his counsel.

He alleged that not only did the Justices who sat as members of the tribunal deny him the right to fair hearing; they also have a mindset that will lead to a miscarriage of justice.

According to his petition to the CJN, Emenike said he had appeared 42

times before the tribunal in the last three years since he filed his petition but has not been heard 'due to manipulations by the panel as well as the Registry division of the Port Harcourt Court of Appeal'.

He is asking for the matter to be revisited and the petition transferred to the Abuja division of the court for expedited hearing.

Emenike who scored

101,347 votes in the election to place second had in 2007 filed a petition at the Election Petition Tribunal sitting in Port Harcourt against the then governor of Rivers State, Sir Celestine Omehia.

Members of the panel are Justice S.U Dikko, Justice M.A Akoja, Justice A.I Gumel, Justice H.T.D Gwadah and Justice I.S Kamalu-Dinn.

## Oshiomhole criticises opponents

By Muideen Olaniyi

GOVERNOR Adams Oshiomhole of Edo State yesterday asked those accusing him of having a hand in the removal of the Speaker of the State House of Assembly Garuba Zakawanu to go to hell.

Featuring on a recorded interview session beamed on African Independent Television, AIT, Oshiomhole said he knew nothing about the saga, but expressed worry over the attention given to the issue, particularly the

House of Representatives' interest in the matter.

The governor wondered why the House of Representatives did not treat changes in the Houses of Assembly of Delta, Niger and Ogun the way Edo's case is being handled.

The governor, who carpeted the House leadership over the process that led to the removal of ex-Speaker Patricia Etteh, restated his animosity towards godfatherism, saying it retarded development and growth in the society.

## TRUST CLASSIFIED

### TALLAFIN KALLABI FOUNDATION

This is to inform the general public that the above named Foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part c of the companies and allied matters act No. 1 of 1990.

The trustees are:

1. Hajija Hamrah Imam
2. Hajija Fatima Munzali Jibril
3. Saadatu Bello Ibrahim
4. Fathia Habib Idris Shuaibu

Aims and objectives:

1. To enlighten and empower rural women through skills acquisition programs, microfinance and basic education - thereby producing self confident women with a reasonable amount of basic education and literacy capable of participating in general activities of their communities this ultimately bring about improvement in nutrition and basic health education in the various communities.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

Signed:  
Secretary

### RAMATU AGABI FOUNDATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above named organization has applied at the Corporate Affairs Commission for a change of its name from the above to AGABI FOUNDATION; has also removed some of the organization's Trustees and appointed new ones; and an alteration of the Constitution reflecting the new changes has also been made.

Old trustees are:

1. Ramatu Yusuf Agabi
2. Idris Muhammed Agabi
3. Sakinatu Abdulkarim Agabi
4. Muhammed Dauda Musa
5. Rakiya Dahiru Magaji
6. Salisu Hamidu Bala

New trustees are:

1. Yusuf Moh'd Agabi
2. Huraira Yusuf Agabi
3. Idris Muhammed Agabi
4. Sakinatu Abdulkarim Agabi
5. Muhammed Dauda Musa
6. Rakiya Dahiru Magaji

Any objections thereto should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

Yusuf Moh'd Agabi  
Chairman

Sakinatu Abdulkarim Agabi  
Secretary

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Because of the irregularities in my names, I HELEN, HELYN ZAINAB, ZAYNAB OKE AVRE GARBA GWANDU ABDULKADIR is the same person. All former documents remain valid. The general public to note please.

### LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to notify the general public that the original certificate of occupancy of plot no. NE/ 689 which was originally issued to HAJIYA HAWA SHUWA by Borno State Ministry of land and survey Maiduguri is declare missing by the present owner of the property-ALHAJI BUKAR KOLO. All efforts made to trace the above mentioned document proved abortive, if found please contact the nearest police station.

Signed  
Alhaji Bukar Kolo

### BLACK OIL SUPPLIERS WELFARE ASSOCIATION ASHAKA

This is to inform the general public that the above named association has applied to the corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part 'C' of the companies and allied Matters Act No. 1 of 1990

The trustees are:-

1. Alhaji Buba Dutse
2. Alhaji Dalha Bello Ashaka
3. Umar Makaniki
4. Alhaji Ibrahim Dauda
5. Alhaji Sabo Mohammed
6. Alhaji Ali Adamu B.A

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To protect and defend the interest of members.
2. To maintain unity among members.
3. To promote social interaction among members.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar - General Corporation Affairs Commission (CAC) plot 420, Tigris crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, maitama, Abuja, within 28 days from the date of this publication.

Signed  
Secretary

### THIS SPACE IS FOR SALE

### CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly SONIA ANDIRYA now wish to be known as SAFIYA ABUBAKAR ADAMU. Former documents remain valid. AKKO LGA and public to note.

NKEMJIKA MIRIAM PATRICK OGUAMA now wish to be addressed as MRS NKEMJIKA MIRIAM EWUZIE. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and the general public take note.

I formerly MISS OSAZEE LYDIA OSABUOHEN now wish to be known MRS EDEBOR RICHARD LYDIA OSABUOHEN. All former document remain valid. NYSC, general public take note. RC NO.59168

I formerly MISS LADI JOSEPH now to be called and addressed as MRS LADI HAMIDU GADZAMA. All former documents remain valid, Nigerian Prisons Service, unimaid to note.

Formerly MISS ANJORIN KUBURAT ADESHOLA now wish to be known as MRS. COKER KUBURAT ADESHOLA. Former documents remain valid. General public to note.

I, formerly known as MISS ABIMBOLA O. AFOLAYAN now wish to be called MRS ABIMBOLA SETH OLORUNYOMI. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly NAFISAT ADAM now wish to be known as NAFISAT IBRAHIM A. Former documents remain valid. NYSC, general public note.

I, formerly known as ONAIFOHOGE TRACY now wish to be known as JAMES OGE TRACY. All former documents remain valid. NYSC, general public take note.

# TRUST CLASSIFIED

## LUNGUN GIDAN WANKA TRADERS ASSOCIATION SINGER MARKET KANO

The general public is hereby notified that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission, Abuja, for registration under part C of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, 1990. The Trustees are

1. Alh. Muhammad Zakan
2. Alh. Maikudi Garba Mairawani
3. Alh. Yusuf Abubakar
4. Ashiru Abubakar
5. Abba Muhammad Bello
6. Alh. Dalha Garba
7. Samaila Isa Abuballahi

### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To protect, promote and develop value of Trading in Nigeria
2. To encourage and enlighten our people in all aspect of socio-economic development
3. To ensure peace and stability in our state and Nigeria in general

Any objection should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, off AGUIYI Ironsi Street, Maitama PMP 198 Gerki, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

## JESUS RESSURECTION PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

This is to inform the General Public that the above named church has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part "C" of the companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

### THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Pastor Afolabi Tunde Timothy
2. Mrs. Morolake Adebayo
3. Mrs. Elizabeth Musili Afolabi
4. Mrs. Funmilayo Kuku
5. Pastor Samuel Ibiwoye
6. Pastor Ayorinde Emmanuel Omosuwa
7. Mrs. Awodun Savana
8. Mr. Akeem Dauda

### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

1. To preach the Gospel of the Lord to the World.
  2. To teach and deliver the sick and the broken hearted and carry the message of salvation and of the kingdom of God to the whole World.
- Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama Abuja, Within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:

PASTOR AFOLABI TUNDE TIMOTHY

## AUCTION! AUCTION!! AUCTION!!!

### NOTICE OF SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

Unity Bank Plc. Plot 785 Herbert Macaulay Way Central Business District Abuja, Nigeria vested with power of sale pursuant to a deed of Legal Mortgage duly stamped and registered offers for immediate sale of the ASNAB NIGERIA LIMITED properties described belonging to ASNAB.

Indebtedness is secured by the legal mortgage created over properties situated at SHERE VILLAGE DOGWA LOCAL GOVERNMENT KANO STATE covered by Certificate of Occupancy No. LKNAG/87/57. Auction will take place at the mortgage premises Farm land Area of Site: Approximately 312.10 hectares on Wednesdays 31ST March, 2010 Time: 11:30am. Reserve price N80,000,000.00 (Eighty Million Naira) for the certificate of occupancy No. LKNAG/87/57 and the action shall be in the highest bidder on the date and time hereinafter stated and in accordance with term and condition earlier stated.

### SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF SALE

- After acceptance of an offer the assignment of the interest of the mortgage to purchase of the property will be subject to the prior Government consent and approval.
- The successful bidder will be required to pay 50% of the purchase price on the spot to Unity Bank Plc. And the balance within (7) days thereafter.
- The purchaser will pay to the bank the purchase price at the time of the auction by cash or certified true cheque or bank draft on the spot.
- Once the condition (a) and (b) above have been satisfied, The Mortgage will transfer his interest in the property to the purchaser at their expense.
- The mortgage reserves the right to withdraw this property from auction without notice at anytime before the fall of the auctioneer's hammer.
- Any suitable offer by private treaty may be considered by the bank at its discretion.
- Any such written offer purchase by private treaty should be communicated in writing to the bank.

### DANGORA & PARTNERS

Mohammad Bala  
(License Auctioneer & Estate Agents)  
C/O 100/102 Murtala Mohammed Way P.O. Box 4131 Kano  
Tel: 09060364267

## LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public that the original certificate of occupancy No. BA/15904 registered as No 11371 at page 11371 Volume III belonging to MSSR, Baniaz Enterprises Nigeria Ltd. in the custody of Hajia Zahab Abubakar Abdulmumini ( a director in Baniaz Ent. Nig. Ltd.) of No. 4 Bui Road BCGA Gombe, Gombe State, is declared missing, all effort to trace it prove abortive. Gombe State Ministry of Land and Physical Planning and the General Public take note.

## LOSS OF DOCUMENT

The Certificate of Occupancy No. KDA/A/004972 dated the 25th June 1987 in respect of property known as Plot No. K6 Ungwan Gwari Kawo Kaduna in the name of Kamai Abba Yayock is missing, please if found, kindly return to Director of Lands, Ministry of Lands, Survey and Country Planning, Kaduna.

Signed

Lazarus Yayock

## LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original land allocation paper of Plot No. BA/307/CJ of about 640 sqm located at Bwari Area Council belonging to MRS CATHERINE OBOH got missing and all effort to trace the documents proved abortive. If found contact any nearest police station or call 0809 609 3998.

## THE CITY CLUB

This is to inform the General Public that the above named Club has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part "C" of the companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

### THE TRUSTEES ARE;

1. Ade Odedina
2. Dele Alabi
3. Wole Adebola

### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES;

1. To social, cultural, commercial and literary activities among members.
  2. To organise events and do other things incidental to the attainment of the aims and objects of the Club.
- Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama Abuja, Within 28 days of this publication.

SIGNED: W.A. GBADEBO Esq

259, BORNO WAY, ADEKUNLE, YABA, LAGOS

## PHARMACEUTICAL DISTRIBUTORS WANTED

An International Pharmaceutical company having operations locally seeks Distributors who are financially sound, have a wide distribution network, a proven track record, and capable of handling sales of 30 million Naira per month. We believe in the principles of teamwork and an intense dedication to building a great partnership so as to surpass all boundaries.

Please apply with all details and credentials to:  
The Advertiser, P. O. Box 17799, Ikeja, Lagos, NIGERIA.

## THE LORD'S CHAPEL OF MANIFOLD FAVOUR MINISTRY INC.

This is to inform the general public that the above named church has applied to Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja for registration under Part C of the Companies and Allied Matters Act.

- |                                   |                  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Trustees                          |                  |
| 1. Evangelist Theresa C. Omenihio | General Overseer |
| 2. Brother Uche Ogbonna           | Secretary        |
| 3. Sister Caroline N. Okelie      | Member           |
| 4. Mrs. Chinyere Esuane           | Member           |
| 5. Sister Chioma Omenihio         | Member           |

### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To operate as a non-profitable religious organization with perpetual succession, and to edify and preach the gospel of Christ according to the scripture and get Christian converts.
  2. To reach the whole world with the gospel by all means and methods according to the Bible.
  3. To establish Christian assemblies in the name of the Ministry in Nigeria and other parts of the world.
  4. To establish Bible institutions, charitable organizations, gospel singers for spreading of the gospel.
- Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 565 Nkella Square, Wuse Abuja within 28 days from date of this publication.

Signed:

Evangelist Theresa C. Omenihio  
Plot D31, Zaudna Dei-Dei, Abuja.

## TAKUM FOR CHANGE INITIATIVE

The general public is hereby notified that the above-named Initiative has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part C of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

### TRUSTEES:

1. Rev. Yakubu Shamaki
2. Rev. Joseph U. Ajaver
3. Nahum Haruna Angyu
4. Yakubu Muri Tukur
5. Mr. Joshua Hassan
6. Mrs. Christy Christopher Audu

### AIM & OBJECTIVE:

1. To promote peaceful coexistence among the sons and daughters of Takum town.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B. 198, Maitama, Abuja within Twenty-Eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

Signed:

Secretary

## CHANGE OF NAME

I formerly Known as MISS ABOH ESTHER ACHILE now wish to be called MRS. OLUMIDE-OLAIYA ESTHER ACHILE. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

I formerly Known as MISS OMOBOLANLE FATIMA OKESHOLA now wish to be called MRS. OMOBOLANLE FAVOUR NIYI-OWOEYE. All former documents remain valid. General public to note.

I formerly FARUK MOHAMMED, Now wish to be called as FARUK MUHAMMAD WAZIRI. All former documents remain valid public take note.

I formerly MISS HAJARA UMAR WANIYO, Now wish to be called as MRS HAJARA UMAR NUHU, All former documents remain valid general public should take note

I formerly NASIRU MUHAMMED ALIYU now wish to be called as SULE YUSUF. All former documents remain valid NINGI LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL. Public take note.

I known as MISS EUNICE ALYENGU LIAM now known as MRS. EUNICE ALYENGU MANDEUN. Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria and general public to note.

Formerly MISS MARYAM UTHMAN, now MRS MARYAM UTHMAN. Former documents remain valid. ABU, NYSC and the general public should take note.

I formerly called MISS AISHATU KABIR. Now wish to be know and called as MRS AISHATU SALISU CHINDO. Former documents remain valid. NYSC and the general public take note.

I formerly known as MISS MAIRO LAWAN wish to be called MRS. MARYAM MOHAMMED CHAANDA, All former documents remain valid and the general public to please take note.

I formerly known as MISS TITI OGUNDIPE now, wished to be addressed as MRS TITI SHOWANDE, general public take note.

I formerly known as MOHAMMED JIBRAILU now to be known as STEPHEN J. BITRUS. Former documents remain valid. General Public Take note.

I, formerly known as MISS NANYA JEMKUR now wish to be known as MRS. NANYA DENDEN. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

I formally called MRS ELIZABETH SAMUEL HARDING now wish to be called MRS ALISA MAMMAN DIKKO. All former documents remained valid. National Open University of Nigeria and the public to note.

I formally called CHINOMNSO VIVIAN MBANASO now wish to be called CHINOMNSO VIVIAN OBINNA UZODINMA (MRS). All documents remained valid. First Bank of Nigeria PLC and the general public to note.

I, formerly MISS ACHINIHU OLUCHI JANE, now wish to be known as MRS ATOYEBI OLUCHI JANE ACHINIHU. All former documents remain valid. Enugu State University (ESUT) and general public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS FATIMA MOHAMMED KANGIWA, now wish to be known as MRS FATIMA MOHAMMED LAWAL KANGIWA. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and the general public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS ROSEMARY AIROFO OGEDEGBE, now wish to be addressed as MRS ROSEMARY EMEJURU. All former documents remain valid. Oceanic Bank take note.

I, formerly called CHIGBU FRANCIS, now wish to be called CHIGBU FRANCIS NDIDI. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

# TRUST CLASSIFIED

## FRIENDSHIP AND RECREATION CLUB ABUJA

The general public is hereby notified that the above-named Club has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part C of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

### Names of Trustees:

- |                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Eng. I. Gana - Chairman | 2. Chief Onya         |
| 3. Elizabeth Jibrin        | 4. A.Y Dagaci         |
| 5. Eng. Ishola             | 6. Mohammed Abdullahi |
| 7. Chief Onyi              | 8. Alis Dogo          |

### Objectives:

- To create a forum for interaction and unity among members
  - To promote national unity
  - To promote the exchange of ideas and enhance public enlightenment
- Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B. 198, Maitama, Abuja within Twenty-Eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

Signed:  
Barr. Umar .M.  
Bagudu

## SECURITY AND JUSTICE FOUNDATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above-named foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part C of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

### TRUSTEES

- |                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| 1. Sir Mike Mbama Okoro    | IGP (RETD) |
| 2. Barrister Gadzama (SAN) |            |
| 3. Hon. Andrew Uchendu     |            |
| 4. Alhaji B.A. Olokun      |            |
| 5. Chief C.O. Ikumuanyan   |            |

### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To educate and orientate Nigerians on security consciousness as panacea for peace and national development.
  - To provide free legal services to under-privileged persons who cannot afford to hire lawyers and solicitors.
- Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B. 198, Maitama, Abuja within Twenty-Eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

SIGNED  
VICTORIA UDOW A Esq  
Victory Chambers, Abuja

## LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original copy of acknowledgement receipt of duly completed applications form for lands with file No. LA 60605 in favour of 1. **Alh. USMAN SANI**, 2. File no. FCT 60167 in favour of **ADEKOLE SAM ODE**, 3. File no. AN 65464 in favour of **Lawrence Onuchukwu**. All efforts made to trace it proved abortive if found please contact the nearest police station or AGIS.

## LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to notify the general public of the loss of the original certificate of plot of land located at **DUTSE SAGWARI LAYOUT** with plot no **BDS/MF/171 SIZE 1500 square meter** issued by **BWARI AREA COUNCIL FCT ABUJA**. All effort made to trace the document proved abortive. If found please return to **ALHAJI KANGIWA OF M.S GWALE NIGERIA LIMITED** or the nearest police station.

## CENTER FOR DEMOCRATIC PEACE & CONFLICT RESOLUTION IN AFRICA

The general public is hereby notified that the above-named Organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part C of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

### Trustees:

- |                                |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| a) Chief Mike Patrick Obiemiri | - President      |
| b) Alhaji Akasu Sadiq Abubakar | - Vice President |
| c) Dr. Ignatius Chukwuma       |                  |
| d) Hon. Saleh Kijir            |                  |
| e) Rev'd FR Peter Egin         |                  |
| f) Dr. Nwandi Mmorah           |                  |
| g) Rev'd Fr. Francis Eworo     |                  |

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B. 198, Maitama, Abuja within Twenty-Eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

Signed  
Barrister Amaka Okeke  
Solicitor

## GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR THE EMANCIPATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN SAHARA AFRICA

The general public is hereby notified that the above-named Organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part C of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

### Trustees:

- |                                |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| a) Ikechukwu Frank Okeke       | - President      |
| b) Alhaji Muazu Magaji         | - Vice President |
| c) Otubunmi Adeola - Secretary |                  |
| d) Auwal Suleiman              |                  |

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B. 198, Maitama, Abuja within Twenty-Eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

Signed  
Barrister Amaka Okeke  
Solicitor

## LOSS OF DOCUMENT

The general public is hereby informed that the original C of O No. bc4uw-13b2z-6d62r-a46au-10 with File No. AN10022 and Registered as No. B4 page 84 in volume 1 of the Certificate of Occupancy Register in the Land Registry Office Abuja, belonging to **Chief Gabriel Okonkwo Akajjobi** of Umudunu Awka-Ekfu Abuja is missing. All efforts to trace it have proved abortive.

If found please return to AGIS or to the nearest police station or call 08059464155.

Signed:  
Chief Gabriel .D. Akajjobi

## LOSS OF DOCUMENT

The general public is hereby notified of the loss of documents/Receipt belonging to **MUAZU IBRAHIM** of Block 139 Flat 4 PW-Kubwa Abuja being the last payment receipt of house issued by **FCDA Abuja** is missing and all effort made to trace same proved abortive. If found, return to the above name or the nearest police station.

## LOSS OF LAND DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original copy of letter of offer of the Term of Grant/Conveyance of Plot No. 3602 with File No. 1m/1990 and Plot No. 3446 with File No. 1m/1991 of about (1500sqm and 1,440 sqm in Lugbe I Extension Layout, belonging to **MR. CHUKWUKA OKEKE OKOH** issued by Federal Capital Territory Administration Urban Department of Land, Planning & Survey, Abuja, Abuja Municipal Area Council Area Council - (AMAC) office dated 24/1/2001 is declared missing. All effort made to trace the said document proved abortive. If found please return to the nearest police station or call us with this Nos 07093240124 or 08037010775.

## LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original letter of Plot No. 539 with File No. G060179 Gaduwa District Cadastral Zone B. 13 about 2098. 40 sqm2 dated 24/10/08 bearing **MOHAMMED BELLO SULEIMAN**. All efforts made to trace the missing documents proved abortive, if found please contact the bearer on No. 10 Lagos Crescent Garki II, Abuja or report to the nearest police station. General public should note.

## OUTREACH FOR RURAL HEALTH-AID INITIATIVE

This is to notify the general public that the above named Initiative has applied for registration under part "C" of the companies and allied matters act no. 1 of 1990.

### The Trustees Are:

- Mrs. Mercy Olukorede Ojumu
- Dr. Olamide Babafemi Borishade
- Professor Abraham Babalola Borishade
- Mrs. Ireti Olubunmi Borishade

### Aims And Objectives

- To provide healthcare to the less privileged
  - To promote primary healthcare in the rural areas.
  - To promote preventive health in rural communities
- Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama, PMB 198 Garki, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:  
Barr. Abdurazaq Jimoh

Suite 3012 Block B, Anbeez Plaza, Wuse Zone 5, Abuja.

## BEGOGINA HOME-OWNERS ASSOCIATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above-named association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part C of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

### Trustees are:

- |                                     |           |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Chief Ikachukwu Israel (Kwungbu) | Chairman  |
| 2. Sir Doree Lawrence Okafor        | Secretary |
| 3. Mr. Samuel Ekpedeokoro           | Member    |
| 4. Mr. David Gana                   | Member    |
| 5. Chief Ifanyi Nwacha              | Member    |
| 6. Sir Innocent Chanele             | Member    |
| 7. Alh. Kamoru Akide (Amidala)      | Member    |
| 8. Dr. Godwin Owoh                  | Member    |
| 9. Mrs. Grace Ekpoko                | Member    |
| 10. Sir Okwudi Odintwa              | Member    |

### Objectives:

- To promote and provide the enabling environment for a peaceful co-existence amongst members.
  - To foster the spirit of fellowship amongst members of the estate and its neighborhood.
  - To support all efforts put in place for the maintenance and security of all the equipments and facilities in the estate.
- Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B. 198, Maitama, Abuja within Twenty-Eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

Signed  
The Secretary

## CHANGE OF NAME

I, **ELIZABETH UXFENTIRIMAM ARENTA**, wish to be called and addressed as **MRS ELIZABETH DAVID AKAWU**. NSUK and general public should take note.

I, formerly known as **SA'ADATU LABARAN**, now wish to be known as **SA'ADATU LABARAN AUWAL**. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and ABU Zaria to note.

I, formerly called **DINAH JOSEPH**, now wish to be called **DINAH THOMAS GADO**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as **MISS OKAFOR NONSO CHUKWU ROSE**, now wish to be known as **MRS OBIKA CHINONSO ROSE MERY**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as **AZURFA DANIEL**, now wish to be known as **MRS AMINAT ABUBAKAR**. Mararaba Gurku Medical Centre, Nasarawa State and public to take note.

I, formerly known as **MISS MAUREEN ANENE OSUZOKA**, now wish to be called **MRS MAUREEN ANENE ONWUGHARA**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as **MISS EHIDIAMHEN BIBIAN ODION**, now wish to be called **MRS OKOKHERE- EDEGHOGHON ODION**. All former documents remain valid. National Universities Commission and general public take note.

I, formerly known as **MISS ADESIYUN MOJIRADE SIYANADE**, now wish to be addressed as **MRS OLALEKE MOJIRADE JOY**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I, formerly known as **AZIZAT OLAIDE RAHMAN**, now wish to be known as **AZIZAT OLAIDE WAKILI**. All former documents remain valid. Public to note.

I, formerly **MISS YUSUF HABIBAT MOHAMMED**, now wish to be addressed as **MRS HABIBAT MOHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid. General public and NYSC to take note.

I, formerly **MISS MBANASO CHIAMA ANDALENE**, now wish to be addressed as **MRS OGBONNA CHIAMA ANDALENE**. All former documents remain valid. Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria and general public should take note.

I, formerly **MISS MARIAM SIYAKA**, now wish to be addressed as **MRS. MARIAM IBRAHIM**. All former documents remain valid. All concerned bodies and general public take note.

I, formerly known as **OGUNSOLA GBENGA MATHEW** now wish to be known as **OLUWASOLA GBENGA MATHEW**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as **MISS ABUO REGINA MBUE** now wish to be known as **MRS ABUO REGINA MBUE**. All documents remain valid. NYSC and general public take note.

I, formerly known as **KUYOORO MOTUNRAYO OLAIDE** now to be known as **MRS ADEOSUN MOTUNRAYO OLAIDE**. All documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly **DR. EDUEK BENJAMIN UDOBIA** now wish to be known and addressed as **DR. (MRS) EDUEK BENJAMIN OSANG**. All former documents remain valid. Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN) and general public please take note.

I, formerly known as **MISS TANI SABO** now wish to be known as **MRS. TANI HUSSAINI**. All former documents remain valid. Nigeria Police Force and the general public to please note.

I, formerly known as **MISS JULIET ADEOLA MARTINS** now wish to be known as **MRS. JULIET A. MARTINS-FANWO**. All former documents remain valid. General public to please note.

## SPORT

Chelsea  
target  
Torres

Page 63



BEN Hansbrough, top, of the Notre Dame Fighting Irish goes for the basket despite the defense of the Old Dominion Monarchs' Ben Finney during their first round of the 2010 NCAA men's basketball tournament at the New Orleans, Louisiana, United States, yesterday.

## NBBF withdraws bid for African Championship

By David Ngobua

WITH few hours left for the host country for the 2011 Africa Nations Basketball Championship to emerge, the Nigeria Basketball Federation (NBBF) has announced its withdrawal from the race to host the continental event.

Speaking to Trustsports yesterday, the NBBF president, Mallam Tijani Umar, said the decision to step down the bid was necessitated by the inability of his federation to meet up with the demands of FIBA-Africa which requested

for additional financial guarantee.

He explained that the continental body had called to request for a financial guarantee to the tune of 1.5million euros and exclusive marketing right for the championship.

Umar said, "Before now, Nigeria had guaranteed far less than what the body is presently asking for and considering the recent dissolution of the federal cabinet, there will be no ministerial backing to pursue the Bid to a logical conclusion."

He added that since the federation lacks the capacity to guarantee

the additional financial request by FIBA, it has stepped down its bid to host the championship.

According to him, there are strong indications that Cote d'Ivoire and Madagascar who are in the race for the hosting right have agreed to provide the much needed financial guarantee unlike Nigeria which offered far less.

He said: "Last night I got a call from FIBA asking us to make financial guarantee of up to 1.5million euros. Before now, Nigeria guaranteed far less than the new amount and it was in dollars but they want it in euro.

"It appears countries like Cote d'Ivoire and Madagascar have agreed to step up their financial guarantees in euro as requested by FIBA. Our case has been made worse by the recent change of cabinet as there is no ministerial weight to make the necessary adjustments in our Bid".

Umar said now that his federation has stepped down its Bid, it will now concentrate fully on how to raise formidable male and female teams for the 2011 Africa Nations Championship which serves as qualifiers for the 2012 Olympic Games.

"Since we can not make additional financial guarantee, we have stepped down our interest to concentrate fully on preparing our two national teams for the 2011 Championships which will serve as qualifiers for the 2012 Olympics in London. At the moment, we are more worried about our participation than hosting. We have therefore, stepped down officially," he declared.

Meanwhile, the country to host the 2011 Africa Nations Basketball Championship will be announced either today or tomorrow.

## Eagles, North Korea friendly doubtful

THE proposed April 14 international friendly between Nigeria's Super Eagles and Asians, North Korea is hanging in the balance.

The Nigeria Football Federation is not favourably disposed to the decision North Korea's decision not to send flight tickets for the match they will be 'hosting' in their capital, Pyongyang.

Reliable source in the Glass

House reveals that the Koreans' stance might have dealt a big blow to both countries aspirations of using the game to intensify preparation for the FIFA World Cup finals in South Africa.

"We at the NFF are not comfortable with that arrangement because they (North Koreans) are the ones inviting us for the

friendly and not the other way round.

"They have to send us tickets for the game. If not, we are unlikely to honour that game," the source noted.

However, a ray of hope is on the horizon as Complete Sports scooped that the organizers of the friendly intend taking the friendly to London should the

Koreans refuse to budge.

The organizers are considering the possibility of having the friendly played in May and the 29th, precisely is the most likely date in London, as Ukraine, the opponents earlier billed for a friendly on that date may have backed out ostensibly because they did not qualify for the World Cup, citing inability to raise a first

team squad then when players should be on break.

The Eagles will play Colombia on May 26 in one of the friendlies Lars Lagerback is hoping will put his team in shape for the World Cup and his boys should remain in London, venue for the Colombia tie for a further 72 hours as the European football season would have winded up.

## Nnaji warns Yakmut against court contempt

By Orkula Shaagee

FOLLOWING Wednesday's declaration that the Nigeria Premier League (NPL) would go ahead with its planned election despite the court orders, the NPL Executive Secretary Al-Hassan Yakmut has been warned of the consequences of disobeying the court.

Yakmut had on Wednesday told a news conference in Abuja that regardless of

the two court cases, the NPL would go ahead with the election if the parent body Nigeria Football Federation clears the coast for it to do so.

Nnaji also described as laughable the 24 hour ultimatum given to these that have gone to court by the Executive Secretary to withdraw the cases or be shut out of having anything to do football in the country.

One of those that have

gone to court, Barrister Ray Nnaji told Trustsports on phone that Yakmut is a joker and he would face the consequences of court contempt if he goes ahead with the election.

"It appears he (Yakmut) don't know the consequences of disobeying court orders, and he will not only be able to know but be a direct victim if attempts to do anything regarding the election.

"Everybody know that any matter in court needs not be played with. So, what I am saying is that Yakmut will he should respect the law of the land, but if he wants to go ahead, I wish him the best, but I know that he consequences are grave."

Also yesterday, an Enugu Federal High Court acting on application brought before it by Nnaji, warned Yakmut of contempt charges as the

injunction served on the league governing body and the electoral committee has not been vacated.

It warned the respondents which included the NFL, chairman of the electoral committee, Tony Rafua chairman of Rangers international management (representing the twenty premier league clubs) and the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) from engaging in acts in disobedience to the court order.

## Ahmed Musa joins Eagles Team B

LEAGUE top scorer Ahmed Musa has joined Daniel Amokachi's team as Nigeria seek to overturn a 2-0 deficit from the first leg of their African Nations Championship qualifier against Niger.

But three Heartland players, ThankGod Ike, Austin Brown and Bello Musa Kofarmata all left on Wednesday to join their club for a CAF Champions League first round fixture in Cameroon this weekend.

Also away from the camp are Enyimba's Osas Idehen.

They are all expected back early next week.

Musa, scorer of 14 goals so far in the league, joined the team along with his Kano Pillars team mate, midfielder Solomon Okpako. Heartland's inventive midfielder Ikechukwu Ibenegbu is also expected to join up with the squad after this weekend's CAF Champions League first leg game against Cameroon's Tiko United FC.

Amokachi, a former World Cup striker, has come under unrelenting criticism following that shock defeat in the first leg, and with Nigeria staring down the barrel, has turned to the 14-goal forward.

"We need the best players from the league, and since he is the highest goalscorer, he should be there," Technical Committee member Taiwo Ogunjobi said.

The second leg game comes up next weekend in Kano.

## Amokachi gets help

DANIEL Amokachi is to get assistance from James Peters as Nigeria desperately seek to stave off the embarrassment of failing to qualify for a second successive African Nations Championship.

Nigeria trail Niger Republic by two goals from the first leg, and panicky federation officials have drafted Peters, deputy head of the NFF's Technical Department and former national team coach, to assist Amokachi.

"He is only going there to support him, not to take over," NFF Executive Committee member Taiwo Ogunjobi told KickOffNigeria.com. "We have to qualify for the competition and we believe that Peters' experience will help Amokachi and his colleagues."

Ogunjobi was quick to point out that the decision did not imply a lack of confidence in Amokachi's abilities.



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# Chelsea target Torres as they plan to rebuild

CHELSEA are drawing up plans to reshape their squad after being knocked out of the Champions League and despite the current squad pleading for one more chance to win Europe's top prize.

The 1-0 defeat by José Mourinho's Internazionale on Tuesday exposed weaknesses in Carlo Ancelotti's squad. The club will aim to retain the spine of the team

but a number of fringe players are expected to be moved on in the summer.

Chelsea's transfer policy in recent seasons has been one of relative prudence, as successive chief executives have aimed for self-sufficiency instead of continued reliance upon Roman Abramovich's benevolence. However, the club's Russian owner has made it

clear that should the right players become available at competitive prices, he will fund the occasional big signing.

Ancelotti may thus be able to consider moves for long-standing targets such as Fernando Torres, Franck Ribéry, Angel di María or Sergio Agüero. Torres is emerging as the club's principal target and the Spanish

striker's future at Liverpool could be decided by the level of investment attracted to his club in the next few months. Real Madrid will compete for Ribéry's signature though the French forward, who plays for Bayern Munich, confirmed interest from Chelsea last month.

Abramovich was at the club's Cobham training base

on Wednesday and he spoke to Ancelotti about long-term transfer policy. Funds could be raised by moving players on with the likes of Deco, Ricardo Carvalho, Paulo Ferreira, Juliano Belletti and even Salomon Kalou potentially made available. The owner's desire to reinvigorate the squad could also have implications for contract negotiations with Joe Cole and Michael Ballack, whose deals expire at the end of the season, and possibly Nicolas Anelka, who is contracted until 2011.

Previous Chelsea managers have come under serious scrutiny following elimination from the Champions League but Ancelotti, who has been at the club for nine months, retains the owner's faith and will oversee the next stage in this team's development.

"Most of the players are really happy and want to stay here and continue the adventure," said the striker Didier Drogba, 32, who was sent off late in the 1-0 second-leg defeat. "It would mean a lot to win [the Champions League] together next season because we've been trying so hard to do that for such a long time. I hope there is more to come from this team."

Their forward Florent Malouda, 29, said the current team "could have given much more than we did". Ballack, now 33, offered the telling admission that Inter's physical power had proved too much to cope with. "I don't think this team is coming to an end because you can't use this game as a means of assessing the development of the side over the whole year," the German midfielder said.

Uefa's disciplinary panel has yet to decide if Drogba's red card for violent conduct – the Ivorian stamped on Thiago Motta's ankle – will prompt further sanction. The Ivory Coast striker is nine months into a three-year probationary period for a previous offence. Drogba was banned for four matches, with a further two games suspended, for verbally abusing the Norwegian referee Tom Henning Ovrebo after Chelsea's defeat in last season's semi-final, against Barcelona.

Drogba faces a mandatory two match ban for his most recent offence, which could be extended to four games. "The referee was a bit hard [on me] with this red card," said the striker.

"I stepped on [Motta's] achilles tendon, but it was not intentional and I was more focused on the cross and the ball. I know I have had unhappy endings in Europe for the last three years [he was also sent off in the 2008 final], but I'm going to try and make it better. I hope next season will be mine."

## Ghana FA keen on Boateng switch

THE Ghana Football Association says it is keen on getting ex-Germany Under-21 international midfielder Kevin-Prince Boateng to play for the Black Stars.

Portsmouth's Boateng and Norway U-21 keeper Adam Kwarasey applied to FIFA in 2009 to enable them play for Ghana.

FIFA told BBC Sport this week that the GFA has not fulfilled all the conditions for the nationality switches to be approved.

But the Ghana FA bosses insist that they have finalised the paperwork.

"We started this process about six months ago and have sent every document that Fifa has asked for," said Ghana FA vice-president Fred Pappoe.

"If there is anything we have not done then FIFA has not communicated that to us so to create the impression of an incompetent body is mostly unfair."

With just three months to the World Cup, Pappoe added that the midfielder is in the future plans of Ghana coach Milovan Rajevac.

"We have been in regular touch with Kevin and he understands we want this to happen, the coach Rajevac is keen on him and we were the ones who initiated this process," added Pappoe.

"We have been sent letters from the German FA stating they have no objection to the switch to FIFA and have asked for documents relating to his mother's nationality even though it has no bearing on the outcome of the ruling."



FERNANDO Torres is on Chelsea's radar as they plan to reshape their squad after being knocked out of the Champions League.

## Paribas Open: Murray through to q-finals

ANDY Murray eased into the quarter-finals of the BNP Paribas Open in Indian Wells after opponent Nicolas Almagro retired with an ankle injury.

The Scot, seeded four, was leading 6-2 1-0 when the unseeded Spaniard was forced to call it a day.

Murray will play sixth-seed Robin Soderling, who beat Jo-Wilfried Tsonga in straight sets, in the last eight.

Novak Djokovic crashed out 7-5 6-3 to Croat Ivan Ljubicic, but Rafael Nadal overcame John Isner 7-5 3-6 6-3.

Ljubicic, the 20th seed, fired down 13 aces to record only his second win over Djokovic, the second seed, in seven meetings.

"I had a lot of opportunities and I didn't use many of them," said the Serb after converting only two of five break point chances.

"My execution was very bad and he played well when he needed to.

"I am not happy with the overall performance that I had in this tournament, because I know I could have played better and could have done better.

"But under decent circumstances I still made it to the fourth round, which is quite OK."

Almagro made an encouraging

start against the British number one, breaking serve early on only for Murray to break back to love in the very next game.

And Murray imposed his authority as the world number 40 won just 33% of points on his own serve, accompanied by 16 unforced errors.

The 24-year-old called for treatment to his left ankle at the end of the first set and eventually

withdrew from the match when Murray held his serve in the first game of the second set.

"He seemed like he was moving OK," Murray said.

"At the start we had some pretty good points. But then it seemed like it came on pretty suddenly.

"He said he had done it yesterday, and if you have a bad ankle sprain, it's obviously very difficult to move."

## THE FRIDAY COLUMN

Adamu Adamu

adamuadamu@dailytrust.com

## Jos: Solution looking for problem

In retrospect, one should have seen the latest clash in Jos coming. In November 2008 and January 2010, Hausa-Fulani were killed in operations in which they found the Plateau State government complicit, Governor Jonah Jang contemptuous, themselves without compensation, and without so much as a kind, soothing word. And while the people were bitterly complaining of police partisanship, Jang was praising the police for their loyalty, dedication and commitment to duty.

Following the November 2008 crisis in Jos, the Inspector-General of Police undertook a reorganization of the Plateau State Police Command. This action, which many expected would include a crackdown on partisan personnel, merely involved the transfer of some officers and men from Plateau to other commands.

Details of the reorganization were conveyed to the command in two letters from headquarters—SB: 4770/PMF/FHQ/ABJ/VOL. 1/50 of 21/11/2008 and CB: 4770/WEL/FHQ/ABJ/SUB. 1/3 of 26/11/2008. But on January 10, 2009, a few weeks after the postings, Jang wrote the IG requesting him to cancel the transfer of 60 affected policemen—seven inspectors, 23 sergeants, 16 corporals and 14 constables—all of whom, except for the sprinkling of a few names, were Berom. Jang said he “found them most loyal, dedicated and committed to their duties.” Astonishing as it might sound, the IG obliged him and all the transfers were cancelled.

Then we all woke up to the tragedy of Sunday. According to the police, what happened were reprisal killings by the Fulani retaliating for what happened to them in January. But according to Gregory Yenlong, Plateau State information commissioner, what happened at Dogo Nahauwa was ‘ethnic cleansing by Fulani against Berom.’ Jang himself said ‘some people came across the border of Plateau State and started attacking villages,’ and the Plateau State Christian Elders Forum said they came from Bauchi. All this is an improvement, because in January, words seemed to have failed all of them—they never told the world what happened at Kuru Karama and surrounding villages with the same passion.

Now, perhaps out of that dedication and commitment to duty which Jang said he saw in them, the police have arrested close to 100 Fulani herdsmen, the majority of them near Mangu, away from the theatre of conflict, in fact diametrically opposite the direction from which the Plateau Christian elders said they came. Presumably, they came, as said by the elders, at 1:30 am or earlier, precisely at 9:00 am, as said by Jang, who also said he received security reports from villagers at that hour, and they did the killings; and by 3:30 am they had left—presumably eastwards—back to Bauchi from where specifically the elders said they came. So, how could they have been arrested at Mangu, to the south, two days later? While we must search well in order to arrest the real perpetrators and mete exemplary punishment to them, apprehending the wrong people will only make us murderers of a different sort.

But why should all this be happening? Certainly, in January, Jang had shown half the concern he is showing now, and the *Gbong Gwon* Jos, who is supposed to be a father to all, had demonstrated a tenth of the activism and interest he is displaying now; and all the several other officials engaged in the current, instant, inflated body count; the setting up and running of a ‘search, recovery and evacuation’ unit; and the prompt arrest of the ‘killers’ had been up and doing, the victims of January then would have understood that there was indeed a government in Plateau State that cared about them, that would protect them, that would bring their killers to book; and they wouldn’t have found it necessary to undertake any revenge missions.

The people’s complaint about government complicity in the January killings has now been corroborated by the Nigerian Army, whose spokesman, Brigadier-General Chris Olukade, said Jang was “extraordinarily partisan” in the Plateau conflict. All this would seem to have been reinforced by Jang’s continuing total lack of remorse, an attitude in sharp and revealing contrast to the current mournful visage of Plateau officialdom. And that is the real trouble—that even after this tragedy, or perhaps because of it, Jang is still unrepentant and behaving as if he is governor only of the Berom and not of Plateau State.

On other hand, acting as the original title—Chief of Birom—suggested, rather than what was expected of him because of the

new title—*Gbong Gwon* Jos—which he now bears, His Highness Buba Gyang gave the impression that he had no case to take to Abuja last January, because what happened then didn’t seem to concern him; but last week, he was fulminating as he threatened to descend on Abuja over the “act of man’s inhumanity to man” that happened at Dogo Nahauwa. Under normal regal circumstances, traditional authority would be exercised with a larger heart and a wider embrace.

It was because of this feeling of abandonment and extraordinary partisanship of Plateau leadership, which left them to their own devices, that the victims of the November 2008 and January 2010 crises reached the conclusion that the only language killers would understand was the one that they spoke—violence. And they rose up.

But there could be another equally painful reason. The details of the still officially unreleased but leaked report of the Bola Ajibola Panel couldn’t have failed to create in the Hausa-Fulani a sense of loss and despair. First of all, it is a great shame that a so-called distinguished jurist could produce such a discreditable report with recommendations that are almost a joke. If Jonah Jang himself had presided over that panel, he couldn’t have given himself and his government a more favourable judgment—ethnic cleansing by judicial fiat.

Of course, it is known that the view is widely shared by the elite of the South-West from where Ajibola comes, that the Hausa-Fulani are a problem; but, for them, it was and still remains a problem of an entirely different sort—a political one. The Hausa-Fulani are guilty, this time, not of being settlers but, of dominating the nation’s political landscape—settlers in power, so to speak. And despite all recent happenings, this feeling has remained fresh. It had in fact been suggested that the real problem perhaps was because Hausa-Fulani had prevented an Awolowo presidency; but it would bring Ajibola no credit to his reputation, if he were to attempt to, as he in fact did, extrapolate and give to a political problem of his people a legal solution in a totally different and completely unrelated context—hitting with the vengeful force of the law what the elite of his people had failed to handle with required savvy and political skill.

The same unfortunate mindset permeates the commentaries and reportage of South-Western media. It is all collusive, ignorant, and arrogant and all too deliberate—giving media muscle to a political struggle that is being fought by non-political means. Today, it is almost impossible to know the truth or get anything useful in the media on any issue concerning religion or regionalism; and this has prevented like minds from different parts of the country coming together.

It is no secret that most of the elite of the South-West are inveterate anti-Hausa Fulani cry-babies; and that fact alone should perhaps have made Ajibola a disqualified, interested party to the Plateau dispute—an arbitrator with a mind prejudiced and already made up. And for Jang, the fact that Ajibola is a Muslim was an added bonus; because, since the dispute had become inextricably intertwined with the issue of religion, if, as he had now done, Ajibola gave a judgment against them, the Hausa-Fulani could not say it was because he was biased against their religion.

But, whatever their reason, we must condemn those who took the law into their own hands, and condemn them a second time for killing women and children; because, though murder is illegal and already stands condemned, there ought to be honour even among murderers, and even at the height of blind tribal passion or at the point of death, a weapon in the hands of a real man, even one in active feud for self-defence, must forever remain sheathed against women and children. For, without this difference, the original victim loses the moral high ground and descends to the same despicable level preying field with his erstwhile killer.

But it goes without saying that so long as the Hausa-Fulani or any other group in Plateau State live in despair of justice and equity at the hands of the Plateau State government, so long will taking the law into their hands continue to hold its attractions for them. And we must lay all the blame for what they do where it properly belongs—at the doorstep of Jang’s incompetent and partisan administration that has successfully made a preventable tragedy inevitable.

(Editor’s note: This article is reproduced because there were some omissions when it was first published last Monday.)

## SPORTS REPORT



OBAMA has said he hopes Tiger Woods has worked out his marital problems.

## Obama backs Tiger Woods

Barack Obama believes Tiger Woods will still be a “terrific golfer” when he returns to competition. Woods has not played in a tournament since November last year after disappearing from public view following tabloid revelations about his marital

infidelities. “I think that Tiger has acknowledged that he betrayed his family; that is a personal issue that he has got to work out,” said the American president in an interview with Fox News. “I hope they’ve worked it out and I am sure he is still going to be a terrific golfer.”



USAIN Bolt

## Bolt puts 400m mission on hold

Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt says he is unlikely to target the 400m record until after London 2012. Michael Johnson, world record holder at 43.18 seconds for the one lap, has suggested the Olympic and world 100m and 200m champion should change events.

But 23-year-old Bolt said: “The 400m is painful! I think it is somewhere in the future but hopefully after 2012.”

He clocked an impressive 43.58s split at a recent 4x400 relay and will run over 300m in the Czech Republic in May.

The world’s fastest man often uses the 400m to fine-tune his fitness before the start of the season and opened his campaign in February by running the one lap in 45.86 in the Campertown Classic in Jamaica.

