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National Librarian Presents Map of Nigerian Languages to Education Ministers

To promote and preserve the Indigenous Languages in Nigeria, the National Library of Nigeria has designed a Map containing all Languages spoken in the Country in order to educate Nigerians to understand, and prevent them from going into extinction.

Presenting the Map to the Honorable Ministers of Education Prof. Tahir Mamman (SAN) and the Minister State for Education Hon. Dr. Tanko Sununu, on Wednesday, 17th July,



2024 at the Minister's Office in Abuja, the National Librarian, Prof. Chinwe Veronica Anunobi stated that according to UNESCO, the period of 2022-2032 has been dedicated as the International Decade of Indigenous Languages (IDIL2022-2032).

Based on this, the National Library of Nigeria has taken steps to preserve and indigenous Nigerian languages and culture through activities which include Commemorating International Mother Language Day since 2022; documenting family history in indigenous languages and has secured a grant from UNESCO,

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Bauchi State Education Commissioner Visit National Library on Study Tour

The National Librarian, Prof. Chinwe Anunobi, on 9th September, received the Bauchi state Commissioner for Education, Dr. Jamila Mohammed Dahiru, and members of the Bauchi State Library Board Management, on a study tour of the National Library of Nigeria.



The delegation from Bauchi which also included the Board Chairman, Alh. Aliyu Haruna, the State's Librarian, Alh. Abdulahi Sule, the State's Deputy Librarian. Mr. Nazif Mahmoud

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National Library Inaugurates Anti-Corruption Unit

The National Librarian, Professor Chinwe V. Anunobi has inaugurated the Anti-Corruption and Transparency Unit (ACTU) of the National Library of Nigeria, under the supervision of the Independent Corrupt Practices and

Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC).

Speaking at the event which held on the 11th September, 2024 at the Headquarters of the Library in Abuja, the National Librarian who was

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LIS Students of Lagos State University visits Lagos State Branch

Students of Library and Information Science from the University of Lagos, on Tuesday 9th July 2024, were on an excursion visit to the Lagos Branch of the National Library of Nigeria to understudy the operations of the National Library.

The students' delegation which was led by their Head of Department, was received by a Deputy Director, and Head of the Lagos State Branch of the National Library of Nigeria, Mrs. Uju Onourah, who charged the students to be serious in their studies and to pursue their interest in library and information science with passion, if they are desirous of achieving success in the profession. Mrs. Onourah further explained to them the functions, services and activities of the National Library of Nigeria and took them round different sections of the Branch including the Nigerian section which houses monographs authored by Nigerians, the Serials section and the Foreign Monographs section.

In his remarks, the student's Head of Department, Mr. Ibitoye Bamidele expressed satisfaction on the level of services they received from the staff member of the Branch, expressing delight that the visit exposed them to some professional terms that might not be found in the theories and that students would not understand them unless if they meet professionals in the field, to clarify such theories for them.

He thanked the Management of the National Library of Nigeria for the quality services rendered to Nigerians despite all odds and commended the staff for being true Professionals recognized all over the world. He said



part of the courses taken in Class by Student included Library services, in which a visit to the National Library becomes compulsory for them to fulfill.



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National Library Inaugurates Anti-Corruption Unit

represented by Director of Collection Development and Technical Services Department, Mr. Abubakar Hussaini Hambagda said that she expects the team to enlighten staff of the organization about the relevant laws and ensure compliance with applicable laws, rules, regulations and instructions of the ICPC Act.

Speaking during the ceremony, the ICPC Chairman Dr. Musa Adamu Aliyu, who was represented by Mr. Clement Obaniyi, a Deputy Director in the Commission, expressed hope that with the inauguration, the Unit will be empowered to deliver on its mandate which includes sensitization of staff on ills of corruption, examination of

systems, processes and procedures that are prone to corruption and proffering solutions.

An oath of allegiance was administered on the members of the ACTU by the Commission's lawyer, Barrister Nkem Ezenwa.

Speaking on behalf of other members of the ACTU, the Unit Chairman Mrs. Jennifer Anabah promised to perform the responsibility that has being bestowed on them, of being the eyes of ICPC in the organization and promised to work assiduously with the members of the unit in actualizing the mandate of ACTU and the mutual benefit of the organization and the society at large.

Other members of ACTU are Ms Oluwakemi Adeyinka, Mr. R.B Gafar, Mr. Ibrahim Ogaji, Mr. Christian Anibueze, Mr. Sunny Akhigbe and Mr. Ganiyu Oluwole.



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National Librarian Presents Map of Nigerian Languages to Education Ministers

for the training of 60 Students, teachers, and young adults, and authors on documentation of their family history in the indigenous language.

She added that the Map of Nigerian Languages is one such step aimed at preserving and promoting Nigerian languages. She concluded by praying to the Hon Ministers to support the National Library's efforts in the preservation of our National Heritages.

The National Librarian reminded the Hon. Ministers that she is the Lead Expert representing Nigeria in the Communication and Information (CI) 4 Commission of UNESCO and that UNESCO has dedicated the period of 2022-2032 as the International Decade of Indigenous Languages (IDIL2022-2032).

In their responses, the Hon. Minister of Education applauded the efforts of the NLN for the laudable project. He emphasized that "the languages belong to the heart of what a person is and what a community stands for, it is a critical part of the culture". The minister further emphasized how important this project is to the ministry and hoped that the compendium of alphabets and Numerals of Nigerian languages will be ready as quickly as possible to help the ministry in its strive to adopt mother languages for instruction in schools and other public uses. He stated that the mother tongue facilitates the transmission of knowledge and research.

On his part, the Hon. Minister of State applauded the project but suggested areas that need minor corrections and

fine-tuning

The Map of Nigerian Languages is an initiative of the National Library of Nigeria, born out of concern for the existential threat to our indigenous

worldwide.

The National Librarian Prof. Chinwe Veronica Anunobi was accompanied by the Director of the Collection Development and Technical Services



languages. The map reflects all 36 states of the federation, as well as the FCT and the languages the people considered indigenous to those states and not transitory languages by sojourners. It is part of the local content creations of the National Library, and a reference material that has a Creative Commons license to be referred to by researchers

Department, Mr. Abubakar Hambagda, the Head of the Public Services Department (PSD), Alhaja O. K. Olani, the Special Assistants on Administration and Professional matters, Mr. D. Aworinde and Mohammed Nma Baba respectively as well as the Head of the Public Relations Division, Vershima Orvell-Diô,

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Bauchi State Education Commissioner Visit National Library on Study Tour

Abubakar, as well as the Director of Administration and Human Resources, Mrs. Esther Andrew, the Library's Accountant Mr. Abdulmudallib Jibril and a Principal Librarian, Samaila Muhammad, was around to understudy the operations and services of the National Library of Nigeria, with the aim of replicating quality service to the people of Bauchi state, as approved by Governor Bala Mohammed.

speaking during an interactive session with the National Librarian, the Honourable Commissioner stated, that following the visit of the National

Librarian to Governor Bala Mohammed during the National Librarian's Conference with Chairmen and Directors of State Library Board in May 2024, had cut short her visit return back to Bauchi, the rest of the team was taken round on a virtual tour of the National Library of Nigeria on www.nln.gov.ng where they were shown resources and services that can be accessed real-time, from anywhere in the world.

Before then, Prof. Chinwe Anunobi made a presentation on the topic, Building Public Libraries for Today, and the Future: An Exploratory and Strategic

Approach.

They were round some critical operations areas include the audiovisual studio, the publications section, the Archives and Museum, the cataloguing lab, and the digitization studio.

The exploratory visit continues tomorrow.

Present with the National Librarian was the Heads of the Public Services Department, Legal Deposit Department, Collections Development and Technical Services Department, Mrs. Olabimpe Olani, Dr. Adejumoke Olani and Alhaji Abubakar Hambagda respectively.



National Library Engages Stakeholders in South West

The National Library of Nigeria, on Saturday 17th August 2024 held a stakeholders/citizens engagement meeting with stakeholders in the South West.

The event which took place at the Ondo State Branch of the National Library in Akure with reasonable number of stakeholders in attendance as well as the Management, and Heads of National Library branches in the zone.

Addressing the stakeholders in her opening address, the National Librarian/CEO, Prof. Chinwe Anunobi stated that the intention was to create awareness about the National Library of Nigeria, its mission and vision, services, programs and activities.

In a detailed paper presentation, Prof. Anunobi informed that the services and operations of the National Library are tailored towards the promotion of mutual understanding with stakeholders and citizens; building and sustaining public trust as well as pursuing programs and services to meet citizens aspirations, and best practices.

She further informed participants that the vision of the National Library of Nigeria is to Connect and Build an Informal Citizenry. While its mission is to Collect, Process, and Provide easy Access to Knowledge leveraging on ICT.

Prof. Anunobi further stated that the collections of the apex library is approximately 5.2 million titles in approximately 13.9million volumes, adding that the Library has presence in 33 states and the Federal Capital Territory, with a staff strength of 632 across the federation.

The National Librarian/CEO further explained the Mandate of the

organization as well as her eight-point agenda, which serves as a guide in actualizing the organisation's mandate which is in sync with President Bola Tinubu's Renewed Hope Agenda.

In order to maintain constant touch with the citizens, Prof. Anunobi stated that the Library interfaces with the public through some of its programs/events, such as the Readership Promotion Campaign, Sensitization workshops, Electronic and virtual Services, trainings and capacity building which is carried out at the Centre for Advanced Library and Information Management (CALIM), as well as collaborations and partnerships.

Prof. Anunobi listed some of the achievements recorded so far which includes; digitalization, virtual library, automation of library services and operations, enhancement of branch library services, documentation of family heritage in indigenous language, to mention but a few.

In responding to the presentation by the National Librarian, a His Royal Majesty, Oba Benjamin Omolewo, encouraged participants to start making use of the library either by visiting their physical structures or through online, having heard that most of the library services could be accessed online. He promised to go back and preach the message of the National Library to his community.

He also charged participants not to forget our indigenous languages, which are a part of our culture.

Another participant, an educationist and a friend to the library, Mr.

Basorun Seinde Arogbofa, who spoke suggested that the government should ensure that our indigenous languages are embedded in the school curriculum as compulsory subject, otherwise, the languages will go into extinction.

Other stakeholders; the Association of Nigerian Authors, the ICPC, Ondo State Library Board and others, all spoke on possible areas of collaboration with the National Library of Nigeria to enhance the organisation's services and impact the communities they serve.

Earlier, the Special Assistant on Administrative Matters, Mr. Dele Aworinde in an opening remarks said that the federal government has mandated all MDA, Agencies and Parastatals to host quarterly engagement meetings and let stakeholders know what they do and also get feedback from the people. He informed that the National Library of Nigeria held its first meeting in the northeast, Bauchi State and Southwest is the second phase of the meeting.

In her vote of thanks on behalf of the National Library, the Director of Public Services Department, Mrs Olabimpe Olani appreciated the participants for their time, contributions and observations. She said that the National Librarian has taken note of issues raised and will do well to bring them to the table for further discussions on a way forward.

Dare-to-be-different Book Club Visits Plateau Branch

Dare to be different Book club, one of the major book clubs in Plateau State, responsible for the advocacy on the promotion of reading culture in Nigeria had visited Plateau State Branch of the National Library of Nigeria on 7th July, 2024. Members of the book club numbering 110 were received on arrival by the Head of Branch, Mrs. Sarah Mshelia who welcomed and explained to them function and activities of the National Library of Nigeria, she commended them for the good work they do and encouraged them to be patient and steadfast on their task. She took them round different sections of the Library and Staffs were on hand to explain to them the function of each section.



Library User Appreciates FCT Branch

A young library user, Benita G. who regularly visit the FCT Branch of the National Library of Nigeria visited the branch with excitement on 10th July, 2024 where she expressed satisfaction over the services she received from the branch during her study period. She said she registered for Joint Admission and Matriculation Board examination where she scored 282 points and also secured a scholarship to study in the United State of America.



Miss. Benita was accompanied by her Siblings and Friends to celebrate the achievement with the National Library FCT Staff held at the Area 2 Office Mooshid Abiyola Way opposite Area 2 shopping Complex Abuja, she commended the Staff for being steadfast and dedicated to their job, she said their contributions to the National development is well spelt out, she also prayed that God reward them immensely.

Earlier in welcome address, the Head of Area 2 Branch, Mrs. Shade Adepoju expressed happiness for the success registered by the Library User, Miss. Benita, she said one of the responsibilities of the National Library of Nigeria is to discharge effective library services to Nigerians, she said “a duty we do with passion” she added that it excites National Library Staff to discover that People recognize this duty. She called on other Young Nigerians to emulate this good character of Benita to dedicate themselves to reading more especially to emulate reading at the Library because this gives more concentration and understanding.

However, Miss. Benita bought a pack of Malta drink as refreshment.



NLN, Lead Star Intersarsity Kaduna, Organizes Entrepreneurship Youth Summit

The National Library of Nigeria in conjunction with Lead Star Intersarsity Kaduna has jointly organized an entrepreneurship summit to create an avenue for the Young Nigerians to secure Job through the Entrepreneurship scheme. Held at the KAD ICT HUB Kaduna which attracted over 100 Youths

The two days Youth Entrepreneurship & Skills Development Summit in Kaduna State aimed to address unemployment, youth restiveness, drug Addictions, and insecurity amongst others had facilitators from different Professions including Mrs. Martina Egwuibe, Head of Branch National Library of Nigeria, Kaduna. The summit which was attended

by Government personnel and representatives from corporate and government establishments received commendation in demands for skilled acquisition by many Nigerian Youth. Also discovered was the lack of Entrepreneurial Knowledge and support from Government which if addressed the menace of underdevelopment will become a thing of the past.



Project Your Profession Wherever You Are -National Librarian

The National Librarian Prof. Chinwe Anunobi has urged Librarians to project their profession wherever they find themselves, stating that libraries are crucial facilities as far as education is concerned.

The National Librarian stated this during the opening ceremony of the 62nd National Conference and Annual General Meeting of the Nigerian Library Association, held at the CBN Centre of Excellence, University of Port Harcourt, Rivers State. She informed participants at the event which held under the theme, Promoting Diversity and Inclusiveness through Innovative Library and Information Service Delivery in Nigeria, that the National Library of Nigeria will continue to play its leadership role in all its activities, through life-long learning and literacy. She stressed the need to work in synergy to achieve the mission and vision of the profession.



Professor Anunobi Flags Off The Media, And Information Literacy Club

The National Librarian, Professor Chinwe Veronica Anunobi in a bid to promote, media and information Literacy among young professionals, flagged off a one-day workshop for young professionals in the industry. The one-day workshop which was organized in conjunction with MILAP, was held on the 18th of July 2024 at the headquarters of the National Library of Nigeria.

Speaking during the Opening Ceremony, under the theme, Data Literacy: Understanding and Interpreting Data in the Media Space, Professor Chinwe Veronica said that data Literacy is imperative, given the global need to collate, improve, process, review, share, or retrieve data. According to her, data literacy leverages

information, digital and statistical computation, and ethical literacy, she therefore charged participants to be on top of the game on data management, by maximizing the benefits of this training. She encouraged everyone present not to be lazy or docile but to follow the trend by paying attention and learning from the training.

Speaking earlier in her opening remarks Miss Victoria Toluwanimi, the founder of MILAP said that one of the targets of MILAP is that by 2030, to reduce the spread of fake news among professionals, by organizing seminars, symposiums, and workshops. In achieving this goal, they set up a project tagged “Train the trainers” which focuses on training a select group of professionals who will in turn train and influence their communities positively. According to her, the workshop marks the beginning of the project which is projected to have a lifespan of 3 years. She encouraged everyone to embrace the opportunity to expand their horizons, challenge their assumptions, and empower themselves with the transformative power of data literacy. Dr. Ahmed Abdulganiyi, the Head of the Department of Library and Information Science at the University of Abuja who was the keynote speaker said in his address that professionals must become data literate, equipped with the skills to understand and interpret the data that surrounds them. He also said that critical thinking is essential, it is our responsibility to discern the true story the data is telling. He was represented by Mrs. Folashade Adepaju.

Also speaking at the workshop, Mr. Gladden UkaOgbale, a Data Analyst who was the first speaker of the training explained the meaning of data literacy and said the three characteristics of data literacy are curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking, according to him these are what are needed to be a data literate and he enjoined everyone to pay attention and learn.



National Librarian Visits Yobe State Branch

While attending the plenary meeting of the Joint Consultative Committee on Education (JCCE) organized by the Federal Ministry of Education in collaboration with Yobe State Ministries of Basic and Higher Education holding from 22nd to 25th July 2024 in Damaturu, Yobe State, the National Librarian, Prof. Chinwe Anunobi took out time to visit the Yobe state branch of the National Library.

Accompanied by the Deputy Director, Public Services Department, Mrs. O.K. Olani, Prof. Anunobi praised the Head of Branch for persevering in the face of the challenges in the host community, and reiterating that previous staff of the branch who were posted to neighboring branches at the height of insecurity in the state that resulted in the bombing of the branch office, have been directed to resume back in the branch, as their return will help to fully rejig the branch. She further urged the branch staff to

explore ways of attracting readers to the branch as service to the people is the primary purpose of setting up the branch.

While reporting on the branch's current situation, the Head of Branch, Mr. Ishaku Agwam pointed out his efforts at reviving operations after the branch had been closed for many years due to insecurity in the state. He noted that the branch is still working towards full recovery and went on to list some of the difficulties it has faced, some of which may be peculiar to states in the North-East.



Sunshine Book Club Meets In Ondo State Branch

The monthly book reading session of the Sunshine Book Club of Ondo State took place on Saturday, 20th July 2024. Activities that took place included library orientation, a lecture on techniques of reading and answering questions, and the use of library where they can have access to a variety of materials to read including newspapers etc.



Akwa Ibom Branch Brainstorm With Book Clubs in the State

The Akwa-Ibom State Branch of the National Library of Nigeria on Saturday 10th August, 2024 held its Monthly meeting with all the Book Clubs established in the State to brainstorm and improve on the strategies to get more people in to the dragnet of an avaricious reading culture in the State.

In her opening remarks during the meeting, the Head of Branch, Mrs. Helen Alfred Ebi expressed satisfaction on the performance of the Clubs in areas of the promotion of reading culture in the State and charged them to keep the tempo and urged them to encourage more people to join.

Speaking further, she informed them that during the long vacation, the Branch alongside all the Book Clubs would engage on the activities that will keep school children gainfully engaged, such as book reviews, dramas, music, public speaking, language development and Skills, Reading Competition, Debate, Spelling Competition, Building vocational skills, and art/craft classes.

Mrs. Ebi also voiced out the challenges affecting a more virile pursuit of the

aims of the book clubs, such as logistics to enable the instructors to pay visits to centers since there establishment especially at two different Local Governments Areas of the State during each visit, provision of refreshments for children during break periods, instructional materials for the children



as well as the establishment of a small library by the National Library of Nigeria to these literacy clubs with at least two (2) computer systems to assist in training people at the Communities.

Imo State Branch Pays Solidarity Visit to Libraries in the State

In an effort to engender collaboration among libraries in Imo state, the Imo State Branch of the National Library of Nigeria, led by the Head of Branch, Dr Mrs. Eddy Ugorji, made a solidarity tour to other libraries in the State.

According to Dr. Ugorji, the tour is aimed at seeking greater collaborations amongst all Libraries in the State, share experiences and resources, expand programs, in order to make library services more visible and relevant to the People.

Among the libraries visited was the Odumegwu Ojukwu Memorial Library where it was observed that the library is yet to be fully operational. Dr. Ugorji in her remarks to the Chief Librarian of the Memorial Library, urged her to provide a status report to the State Commissioner for Education, and further appeal for the necessary support to enable full operations of the library.

The team also visited the Imo State Library Board, where they had interactions with the Director, Imo State Library Board, Lady Ijeoma Akanaga, who promised to donate volumes of books to support the upcoming summer program and the Readership Promotion Campaign of the National Library of Nigeria in the State.

Lady Akanaga informed her visiting professional colleagues that the State Library Board had received 17



containers of volumes of books from a foreign donor agency to improve the education sector in the State, and that these materials are supposed to go round the State. She further stated that since both the National Library and the Imo State Library board had similar mandates, collaboration between these them would help in achieving these important task.

Benue State branch visits Return Press Limited Makurdi

The Head of Benue State Branch Mrs. Angela Anya in company of the former HOB Mr. Clement Mgba had on 7th August, 2024 paid a courtesy call on a renowned Publisher, Mr. Mhir Iyenge of the Return Press Makurdi on a familiarization visit to share ideas and ways of improving library services in the State more especially areas of the legal deposit obligation.

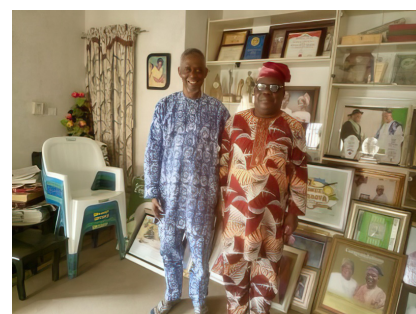
In his remarks, Mr. Mgba urged the Publisher to cooperate with the National Library of Nigeria under the leadership of Mrs. Angela, also encouraged him to give her all the

necessary support needed to improve library services in the State, especially on readership promotion Campaign, Sensitization campaign on ISBN and ISSN/ISMN Legal Deposit obligation and the establishment of Book Clubs in the State.



Ondo State Branch Pays Courtesy call on Basorun Arogbofa

Staff of the Ondo State Branch of the National Library of Nigeria had on Tuesday, 6th August, 2024 paid a courtesy visit to a Friend of the National Library, Chief Seinde Arogbofa who is a literary icon, seasoned educationist, community leader, statesman and an Afenifere chieftain, with the aim of soliciting his continual support in the delivery of its services to the people and residents of the state.



Basorun Arogbofa, who is regarded as a Friend of the National Library, has featured in several programs of the National Library of Nigeria from 2002 to date, he once the guest speaker during the Readership Promotion Campaign program at Ijora Olopa, Lagos, where he presented a paper on the theme of the topic, 'The Key to Lifelong Development.

In March 2024, he again demonstrated his passion for education and library advancement when he donated thirty-two volumes of his literary works to the National Library of Nigeria, as well as all libraries in the State, including the Ondo State Library Board, and all Secondary Schools in the State.

In appreciation of this wonderful gesture, members of staff paid a courtesy call to him, where the Head of the Branch Mr. Salawu delivered the felicitation and admiration of the management and extolled his virtues of patriotism and selflessness. He further acknowledged all his contributions and impactful contribution to the development of education in the State..

In his response, Chief Seinde Arogbofa expressed appreciation to the the National Library of Nigeria, and shared his experience of life with great emphasis on courage as reflected in his latest work, Psychology of Growing Old: a Personal Experience for Both Young and Old.

National Librarian Felicitates with MD of Havilah group

The National Librarian Professor V. Anunobi paid a courtesy visit on the Managing Director of Havilah Group, Mr. Lenre Adesuyi in his Office in Abuja to congratulate him on his 70th birthday and also to appreciate him for his contributions and support to the National Library of Nigeria especially, his recent donation of books worth 50 million Naira, to the organization during its 2023 annual readership Promotion Campaign nationwide, for distribution to students and researchers.

The National Librarian also used the opportunity to inform her host that the NLN would be celebrating its 60th anniversary in November, 2024, and solicited from him, ideas that will lead to a successful celebration of the event.

Prof. Anunobi also brought to limelight

the National Library Headquarters building which has been under construction for almost two decades,



she said she was optimistic that Havilah's Chief Executive would use his network of influence to attract the attention of the concerned body to see

the completion of the Edifice, which according to her would upgrade library services in Nigeria to global standard.

Responding, Mr. Adesuyi expressed appreciation to the National Librarian for honoring him and pledged his support for the Apex Library. He regretted that the nation does not have

a national heritage or history which will be left for future generations. He promised to do all within his capacity to ensure that the National Library measures up to international standards.

The National Librarian was accompanied by the Director, of Collections Development and Technical Services, Malam Abubakar Hambagda, the Director of Planning Research and Statistics, Mrs. Ngozi Odogwu, the Deputy Director, Public Services Department, Mrs Olabimpe Olani, and the Head of Virtual Services Department, Ms. I.G. Akpabio.



University of Calabar Students Visit Cross River State Branch

Students of Library and Information Science Department of the University Calabar, on 12th August visited the, Cross River State Branch of the National Library, with the aim of having practical experience of the operations of the Library.

They were received at the Branch by the Head of Branch Mr. Etuk E who welcomed and explained to them the history, mandates, mission and vision of the Organization

Mr. Etuk added that promotion of reading culture is one of the mandates of the National Library of Nigeria, issuance of the International Standard Numbers to publishers and authors

and the legal deposit obligation.

The Head of Branch later took the visiting students round different sections of the facility including Foreign section, Nigeriana section,



Serials and monograph sections and the Café section where Staff were on hands to explain to them the functions of those sections.

Responding, Dr. Agbajibe, a Lecturer who led the students for the visit expressed satisfaction on the professional advice they received, he also extended their gratitude to the National Library of Nigeria for the warm reception and knowledge they have gained.

Leadership is Fueled By Grace - Prof. Anunobi

The Chief Executive Officer of the National Library of Nigeria, Prof Chinwe Anunobi has tasked Heads of Branches to brace up to the responsibilities of being impactful and influencing readers in their various communities of operations.

Addressing Heads of Branches at an annual conference and workshop held in Ondo state branch, Akure, the Chief

still lagging and those who are coming on board to be alert and deliver exemplary services that resonate



Executive Officer emphasized that the meeting accords the Heads of Branches and Management the opportunity to discuss matters of utmost importance that will help propel service delivery to meet the expectations of readers and the public. She commended the efforts, commitment, and dedication to duty by some of the HOBs who are engaged in various activities, that are impactful in

with the peculiarities of their various communities.

Speaking on the theme of the conference, Enhancing Productivity of Library Professionals and Library Services with the Current Trends Prof. Anunobi stated that as custodians of knowledge, “we must embrace our role as vanguards ensuring that our collections are utilized to their fullest



the respective communities they serve. Addressing participants, to Prof. Anunobi said, “It is apparent that the HOB is the CEO of the National Library in a specific branch. Often, nothing is known about the National Library of Nigeria in your state but you. Hence a measure of the NLN is a measure of your impact in the state of your locale”. She further charged those who are

potential by the right individuals at the right time”. While trying to provide access to available resources, it is pertinent to consider the community of operations and their needs. She stated that personal zeal is crucial to have the capacity to develop others.

Prof. Anunobi Honored as Transformative Digital Librarian

The National Librarian, Prof. Chinwe Anunobi has been honoured as a digital Librarian for the transformation she has brought into the profession to catch up with contemporary global standards

Prof. Anunobi received the award among other recipients during the 70th birthday and book presentation of the Managing Director of Biological Legacies and Research Foundation (BLERF), Dr. Nyaknno Osso, which held at the Yaradua Centre, Abuja.

In his remarks before the presentation of the award, Dr. Osso stated that it was a well-deserved honour for the National Librarian/ CEO for the massive transformation she has brought in the services and operations of the National Library of Nigeria and the library profession in general. This is visible by the digitization of over 20,000 resources of the National Library, establishment of the National Repository, online access to of the international standards numbers as well as indexed newspapers, to mention but a few.

Responding, the National Librarian CEO expressed appreciation to the management of BLERF for finding her worthy of the prestigious award. She noted that there are many other imminent Nigerians who has contributed to the development of education, but BLERF has singled her out for this honour for which she will forever cherish and dedicated the award to staff of the National Library.

The event also marked the unveiling of a book authored by Dr. Nyaknno Abasi Osso titled, Against All Odds, a biography of prominent Nigerians.

The National Librarian obtained several copies of the book to be distributed across the state branches of the National Library of Nigeria.

The Director of Legal Deposit Department, Dr. Mrs Adejumo Ajobola, Deputy Director, Public Services Department, Mrs Adebimpe Olani, accompanied the National Librarian/ CEO to the event

National Librarian Enjoins Policy Makers to Promote Literacy

The National Librarian/CEO, Prof. Chinwe Anunobi has charged policy makers to take action and position policy that will engender literacy for lifelong learning and development, “individuals not to give deaf ears to this valuable call, communities to strategize towards enhancing the literacy skills in your communities and ultimately Nigerian government not to leave the governed in the dark”. Literacy is tied to every sustainable development goal index.

Prof. Anunobi made this clarion call in Lagos during the International Literacy Day Celebration jointly organized by the Zaccheus Onumba Dibiaezue Memorial Library ZODML and our Lagos state branch held at the Green Library, Yaba Lagos.

Speaking on the theme of this year's ILD: *Promoting Multilingual Education: Literacy for Mutual Understanding and

Peace*, the National Librarian/CEO stated that the ability to read and write in multiple languages is more than just a skill, it is a bridge to understanding and collaboration across cultures. It also deepens indigenous technology development and adoption. She informed that Nigeria has keyed into the initiative to promote multilingual education since 2021 by a policy from the Ministry of Education mandating all basic schools to teach in the language of the immediate community. “It is worrisome that the Nigerian populace is very low in literacy for both English and indigenous languages”.

She further emphasized, “if you want to achieve great minds that will move a people, first is to achieve great readers. Your level of literacy is dependent on your extent of reading”. Literacy does not stop with the ability to decode numerals and alphabets, it is a continuous process.

With basic literacy, you evolve to digital literacy, financial literacy, environmental literacy, health literacy, political literacy and all round literacy. All these aspects of literacy can be found in the pages of a book, the National Librarian advised.

The Founder of ZODML, Mrs Ifeoma Esiri speaking at the event buttressed the need for children to speak in their indigenous languages as that will go a long way to fostering harmony in diversity. She charged the students/pupils not only to read and write in English language but also to endeavour to read and write in their indigenous languages.

The Founder of ZODML donated 100 copies of Books to the National Library which was sponsored by the International Book Aid. The National Librarian/ CEO appreciated her and her team for their immense contribution to educational development. It could be recalled that ZODML had established a functional Green Library at our Lagos state branch.

Library and Information Professionals Tasked to Embrace New Trends in Library Operations and Services

Professionals in the Library and Information Sector have been charged to embrace contemporary global trends in library operations and services delivery in order to optimally serve their patrons.

The National Librarian and Chief Executive Officer of the apex library, Prof. Chinwe Anunobi made the charge during the opening ceremony of a five-day Capacity Building Workshop, organized by the National Library of Nigeria in Enugu.

According to the National Librarian, “the realities of our time require an innovative, consistent and dynamic approach to our operations and

service delivery if we must improve on our relevance and to meet the rapidly changing needs of our clientele”.

She informed that the library management in the context of the training focuses on the professional/technical, operations/activities which translate to satisfactory services to the users.-

She reiterated that Librarians “are not

just custodians of information, but also facilitators of knowledge and our work has the power to transform lives and communities”.

The workshop which held at the Centre for Advanced Library and Information Management, CALIM, centers on the theme, Concepts, Technologies and Strategies for Optimal Library Management.

The workshop covered six modules, and professionals engaged syndicate discussions, as well as question and answer sessions in order to ensure full knowledge assimilation.

Some of the papers discussed include: Overview of New Trends in Library Operations and Services, Use of Interactive Media in Library Services, Research Data Management in Library and Information Services, Automated Newspaper Indexing/Abstracting Basic and others.

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