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# DAILY TRUST

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As at Thursday, April 16

#### TOP GAINERS

| Symbol   | Price(N) | Gain  |
|----------|----------|-------|
| Oando    | 70.00    | +2.00 |
| Nestle   | 151.00   | +1.01 |
| UAC-PROP | 17.30    | +0.82 |

#### TOP LOSERS

| Symbol   | Price(N) | Loss  |
|----------|----------|-------|
| J/Berger | 21.95    | -1.15 |
| Guinness | 88.50    | -0.49 |
| BCC      | 21.66    | -1.14 |

Cap. N4, 492, 921, 418, 493.83

### NAIRA EXCHANGE RATE

|        | Selling | Buying |
|--------|---------|--------|
| EURO   | 213     | 211    |
| POUND  | 245     | 243    |
| DOLLAR | 181     | 179    |

Source: Daba Bureau de Change, Lagos



Book Online:

www.flydanaair.com

## Marketers stop fuel imports

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## Media Trust titles wear new look

Media Trust Limited, publishers of *Daily Trust*, *Weekly Trust*, *Sunday Trust* and *Aminiya* is pleased to announce to its readers that we are offering crisp new look newspapers as from the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April 2009. This follows months of intensive work designed to give our loyal readers better looking papers that will be more pleasing to the eye and with improved content. We hope to provide our readers with better pictures and graphics that will make reading real fun. Our readers will also find new specialized pages including a richer, fuller and more colourful sports reporting. Readers of *Weekly Trust*, our Saturday edition will be treated to a glossy magazine insert on style, fashion and the latest society events like weddings, turbanings and anniversaries.

With all these changes and to continue to serve readers better in the face of the rising cost of doing business, *Daily Trust* will from the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April be sold at 150 Naira which is the price of most other daily newspapers. *Weekly Trust* and *Sunday Trust* will both be at 200 Naira

as from the weekend of 25<sup>th</sup> April 2009. As a reward to our loyal subscribers Media Trust is offering them the unprecedented package of continuing to enjoy the Trust newspapers at the old price. This means that any individual or company who subscribes to any of the titles for a minimum of 1 year will have it delivered to his address at no extra cost at the price of 100 Naira for *Daily Trust* and 150 Naira each for *Weekly Trust* and *Sunday Trust* respectively. At the start the offer is limited to residents of Abuja, Lagos, and Kaduna. Kano, Maiduguri, Port Harcourt and other cities will follow soon. Those interested in this fantastic offer in the 3 initial cities should text YES to the number provided against their respective cities.

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## Buhari to Yar'adua:

# Cut 7-point agenda to electoral reform

By Abbas Jimoh

President Umaru Yar'adua would have accomplished a lot to Nigerians' satisfaction if he reduces his much talked about Seven Point Agenda to only one thing—election reform, two-times presidential flagbearer of the All Nigeria Peoples Party [ANPP] General Muhammadu Buhari said yesterday. Speaking at a one-day strategic meeting of the Civil Society Coordinating Committee on Electoral Reform in Abuja, Buhari said the holding of credible elections should be the one-point agenda of President Yar'adua.

The event was organised to launch the collation of 20 million signatures of Nigerians in pursuance

of the organisers' quest for the full implementation of the Justice Lawal Uwais Electoral Reform Committee (ERC) report.

"Nigeria has become what it is today because the leadership has not been doing the right things. What Nigerians are asking for is that they need people in leadership who are going to make things right. Nigerians do not need the seven-point agenda. What they need is just one-point agenda which is credible election," Buhari, represented by former Minority Leader of the House of Representatives Alhaji

Cont. on Pg. 5



General Muhammadu Buhari (right) with Chairman of the Electoral Reform Committee, Justice Muhammed Uwais in Abuja, recently.

Photo: Felix Onigbinde

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## NEWS

## Deregulation: Marketers stop fuel imports

Hard times loom as oil marketers suspend importation of petroleum products, Daily Trust gathered yesterday.

They claim that even though the market had been deregulated the government had pegged the prices of the products and that they were currently selling below cost.

Industry sources informed our reporter yesterday that the marketers had since stopped the importation and most of the products currently consumed are from the stocks.

But NNPC assured yesterday there would not be any scarcity in the near future because it had 30-day reserves.

By Hamisu Muhammad

"The Market is robust and adequately supplied with PMS. As at today, we have over 30-day sufficiency for Premium Motor Spirit (PMS-Petrol)," NNPC said in a statement in Abuja recently.

Sources said government has already stopped paying for the subsidy on the imported fuel which the marketers use to recover the cost of importation.

"The new policy by government suspended any subsidy on imported fuel and we will not continue to bear the cost" don't forget that the same government asked marketers to reduce petrol price to N65 from N70 and the price of fuel now is going up again".

Daily Trust reported recently that members of MOMAN - African Petroleum Plc, Chevron Nigeria, Conoil, Mobil, Oando and Total Nigeria, which claim they are responsible for 50 percent of fuel import warned they

would stop importing fuel if government didn't attend to their demands.

Speaking on the issues on phone the Minister of State for Petroleum, Odien H. Ajumogobia yesterday said it is not true that marketers don't want to import

petroleum products but the action they took is to protest nonpayment of subsidy arrears on PMS imported for last year.

The Minister told our reporter on phone that they are meeting today with the marketers in order to

negotiate on the payment.

Also contacted on Phone, the Executive Secretary of the Major Marketers Association of Nigeria (MOMAN), Mr Obafemi Olawore confirmed today's meeting but denied further comments.

## El Rufa'i says: Seek asylum? Never

By Mibahu Bashir

Former Minister of the Federal Capital Territory, Malam Nasir El-Rufai yesterday denied he was seeking asylum in any country and boasted he would return to Nigeria soon.

The Media Consultant to El-Rufai Goodluck Ebelo said in a statement that nobody would keep El-Rufai out of Nigeria. He said "El-Rufai has reiterated his intention to return home upon completion of his course of studies at Harvard. He has no need or desire to seek asylum, but would not be stampeded to abandon his studies to make the government happy," he said.

The statement quoted El-Rufai as saying, "I have no other passport than my Nigerian passport and I intend to live the rest of my life and die in Nigeria."

Ebelo said El-Rufai was not threatened by the EFCC's statement that it had gone to court to seek his extradition.

"Regarding the threat of extradition, it bears noting that government officials have been puffing about this since December 2008 when they announced that they

had contacted Interpol to trace and apprehend him. They are welcome to persist in their pursuit of extradition," he said.

He said El-Rufai has no apology for making public his view on the non-performance, inertia and cluelessness of the Yar'adua government.

"He stands by the patriotic comments reported in his recent interviews with Nigerian newspapers. When he decided to state his case to the Nigerian people through the press, he was aware that there would be a backlash from the officials of a government which has spent a considerable proportion of its time in office libeling his person and devising means by which they seek to deny him his liberty and property. He is not surprised by the viciousness of the lies spawned by these government officials, but they will not stop him from exercising his rights to all the safeguards the constitution affords a citizen, including free speech and the presumption of innocence."



From left: Edo State Governor Adams Oshiomhole, Chief Economic Adviser to the Presidents, Mallam Tanimu Yakubu and Group Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer UBA Plc, Mr. Tony Elumelu, at the meeting of the Presidential Steering Committee on the Global Economic Crisis, at the Presidential Villa, Abuja, yesterday.

## Democracy may soon lose its appeal, says Gowon

By Francis Okeke

Democracy may soon lose its appeal, unless Nigeria comes up with policies which are designed to save the poor from getting poorer and arresting more of our citizens from joining the over 50 per cent of the people who are living below the poverty line, former Head of State Yakubu Gowon has said.

Gowon said this yesterday in Abuja at the inauguration of the National Working Committee to draft a National Security Policy for Nigeria which seeks to articulate and coordinate the social needs of the populace.

He said, "Ideal democracy is a means to having a peoples' oriented government and that the essence of government is basically the welfare and security of the people. Consequently therefore,

social security becomes the first principle which no government should toy with.

"Nigerians have continued, over the years to witness a gradual, but steady decline in their standard of living.

"The unpredictable prices in the crude oil market-our economic mainstay as a nation, rising unemployment rates as more and more companies succumb to the inclement business climate, widening income inequality, rising cost of goods and services, the effect of the environment and of course, the current financial and economic meltdown affecting all major economies of the world with its severe ripple effect on developing nations, have all taken a huge toll on the

abilities of several members of our society to be able to afford even the basic necessities of life; food, water and shelter."

However, the former President commended government's "foresight and commitment" in creating a system that covers all segments of national life.

"After almost half a century of being an independent country, this event, the inauguration of a National Working Committee to draft a Social Security Policy which will lead to the implementation of an integrated social protection scheme for our country, would go down in Nigeria's history as one of the most far-reaching and courageous act by any government since independence to attempt to provide a comprehensive

social security scheme for the nation that will ensure the building of a more humane and caring nation; a nation and government which places great premium on the welfare and well being of its citizens above all else" he said.

The Minister of Labour and Productivity, Prince Adetokunbo Kayode, while inaugurating the committee said that Committee would "propose a policy which will cover both the formal and informal sectors of the Nigerian economy.

The 24 member-committee is headed by Gen Gowon with Professor Dayo Akeredolu-Ale as technical Vice-Chairman while the Managing Director of Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund Chief Joe Enukora Okoli will serve as Secretary.

## AP shares manipulation: SEC suspends Nova Finance for one year

## \*MD to face EFCC, Dangote cleared

By Idris Ahmed

11 to March 20.

A Statement from SEC's head of media, Lanre Oloyi said his company, Nova Finance and Securities Ltd, was blacklisted and suspended from transacting in all capital market activities for one year with effect from April.

Nova Finance and Securities Ltd was suspended by the Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE) on March 27 and slapped with a N500, 000 fine for share

price manipulation, while AP was fined N300, 000 for contravening the Post Listing Requirements.

SEC, later summoned all the parties involved in the saga for further investigation, the outcome of which informed the latest penalties. In the latest decisions, Aliko Dangote was cleared by SEC. He was also cleared earlier by the NSE.

According to the Commission, there was no evidence to show that Alhaji Aliko Dangote instructed

Nova Finance and Securities Ltd and Mr. Eugene Anenih to carry out any of the transactions in AP Plc purportedly done on his behalf.

However, SEC has directed the NSE to upgrade its surveillance system to generate triggers for unusual or suspicious transactions.

"The Nigerian Stock Exchange is hereby advised to review its rules and procedures for appointing or electing its Council members in order to ensure good corporate governance and

avoid conflict of interest situations", SEC said.

In its findings before arriving at decisions, SEC said that after a review of the facts obtained from the meeting and the investigation report, it discovered that records from the Central Securities Clearing System Ltd (CSCS) showed that between February 11 and February 12, 2009, Nova Finance and Securities Ltd purchased 100,000 units of AP Plc shares purportedly on behalf of Alhaji Aliko

Dangote.

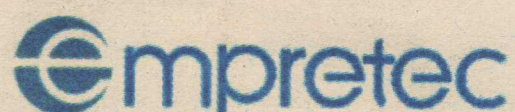
It said that between February 11 and March 20, 2009, 50,000 units of AP Plc shares were continuously crossed per transaction between Alhaji Aliko Dangote share account under Nova Finance and Securities Ltd and Nova Finance and Securities Ltd.

According to the report, within the same period, the daily traded volumes of AP Plc Shares fell below 100,000 units except on February 27, 2009 when 124,829 units were traded and March 20, 2009 when 123,286 units were traded.



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# NEWS

## Sokoto gets two new commissioners

From Rakiya.A.Muhammad, Sokoto.

Two new commissioners were yesterday sworn in to fill the vacancies created by the resignation of the previous ones in Sokoto State. They include Alhaji Iyasu Abubakar and Alhaji Bello Rabah. Former Works Commissioner, Alhaji Shehu Ahmad had resigned a few months ago on health grounds while the former Commissioner for Animal Health and Fisheries, Alhaji Kabiru Tafida resigned last month on personal grounds. Alhaji Abubakar who is now commissioner for works, was the immediate past Head of Service and Alhaji Bello Rabah, a retired Director is the new Commissioner for Economic Planning. Meanwhile, Alhaji Shehu Danchadi who was the Commissioner for Economic Planning has been moved to the Animal Health and Fisheries Ministry. The former Commissioner for Animal Health and Fisheries, Alhaji Kabiru Tafida was yesterday appointed as "Senior Special Assistant" to the governor. While swearing them in, Governor Aliyu Wamakko asked them to use their wealth of experience to boost the socio-economic development of the state. According to him, the new appointees were chosen on merit, dedication and honesty. The governor called for a renewed commitment by all government employees, urging them to make sincerity and the fear of God their watchwords.

## ... as Ondo Assembly confirms 17

From Leye Adewumi, Akure

Ondo State House of House Assembly yesterday at plenary confirmed the nomination of 17 commissioners out of the 19 on the list sent to it by Governor Olusegun Mmiko. One of the commissioners, Prince Solagbade Amodeni (Akoko South East) was given partial confirmation because of a petition on his nomination. According to the petition which was read in the House by Otitoju Atikashe, Amodeni while in office as council chairman allegedly awarded an inflated contract worth N1.44 million to himself. The House unanimously agreed to confirm him on the condition that his own confirmation would have a letter attached stating that the confirmation would be withdrawn if the allegation against him was substantiated. Meanwhile the House Speaker, Taofik Abdusalamī had declared that the House is now different from what it used to be, adding that the confirmation of any of the commissioners who did not perform in the interest of the state could be withdrawn at any time.

## Economic meltdown: Nigerian Minister urges rescue package

From Isa Sa'idu, Kano

Republic of Niger Minister of Industries and Poverty Eradication, Alhaji Abdu Dauda, has called for the creation of a special economic rescue package for Africa to handle the present global economic recession. The minister made the call yesterday while addressing newsmen in Kano as part of his visit to the country to participate in the ongoing ECOWAS trade meeting. Alhaji Dauda stated that the European Union had already set up its rescue package that would handle the financial crisis by harnessing abundant human and natural resources. "What is drawing us back is our penchant for importing foreign raw materials. We should focus attention on harnessing our agricultural potentials by paying more attention to cotton farming. With this alone, we would be able to make considerable in-road", he said. According to the minister, there is no better way African nations could assert their influence on the global economy than resorting to regional cooperation, saying youths in the continent would benefit from such enterprise.

## NSCDC nabs 25 for cheating in JAMB exams

From Rakiya.A.Muhammad, Sokoto

The Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) in Sokoto said it arrested 25 suspects over examination malpractices during the JAMB examinations on April 4. It also said four others were nabbed in the state for allegedly disrupting public peace. Commandant of NSCDC, Alhaji Aminu Kofar Soro who disclosed this to journalists yesterday added that the Corps would not fold arms and allow unscrupulous element cause problems in the state. He said out of the 25 arrested for cheating and impersonation during the JAMB examination, seven had been released on bail while the remaining 18 were handed over to the police for investigation and possible prosecution. The commandant said the suspects included seven women and that if found guilty, they risk between eight and 21 years prison terms. According to him, they were apprehended while sending and receiving GSM text messages during the examinations while others impersonated other candidates.

# Yar'adua's aide unimpressed with MDG progress

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

Nigeria is still far from attaining the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) with only six years to the 2015 target to reach the goals, Senior Special Assistant to the President on MDGs, Hajiya Amina Ibrahim has said. Speaking during a courtesy call on Governor Mohammed Namadi Sambo of Kaduna State in continuation of her nationwide MDGs sensitization tour, she said

the country had not got the foundation for the attainment of the goals.

"We are off-track in terms of the MDGs because we have only a few years to the target date and things are not going well. Maternal health is still poor, education

too is in bad shape ... MDGs target is just a baseline and not a ceiling. So as the president is working to make the country one of the 20 most developed economies come 2020, we must all work for the actualisation of this dream," she said. She said there was an urgent need for concerted efforts and

collaboration between the three tiers of government to fast-track the development agenda of the country. On debt relief, she said Kaduna State alone got a total of N6 billion from 2006 till date.

"While we are trying to fix the country, we should ensure that our resources are properly utilised and channeled in the right direction so that we can move forward because we still have mountains to climb on the MDGs", she said, adding that the greatest challenge before the country was human capacity development. She said Nigerians, especially civil servants must be made to work. While reiterating the commitment of the Federal Government on the attainment of the goals, she said her office would be effective in supporting states and LGAs for the acceleration of development.

Governor Namadi Sambo said the state was spending N30 million monthly to support MDGs and enumerated the successes recorded by his administration on the goals.

## Plateau Assembly denies endorsing Jang for 2011

From Andrew Agbese, Jos

Members of the Plateau State House of Assembly have denied being part of any meeting that endorsed the state governor, Jonah Jang for a second term.

The legislators, who were reacting to the purported endorsement of the governor as PDP's sole candidate for 2011 described the announcement as strange,

## Tanko Yakasai harps on proportional representation

From Yusha'u A Ibrahim, Dutse

National and state assemblies have been urged to adopt proportional representation in the Nigerian electoral system as one of the modalities to bail the country out of current political problems.

A Kano NEPU activist, Alhaji Tanko Yakasai who made the call in an interview with Daily Trust said legislators should support the change of the present electoral system to a proportional representation, as according to him it is the best option for Nigerian democracy.

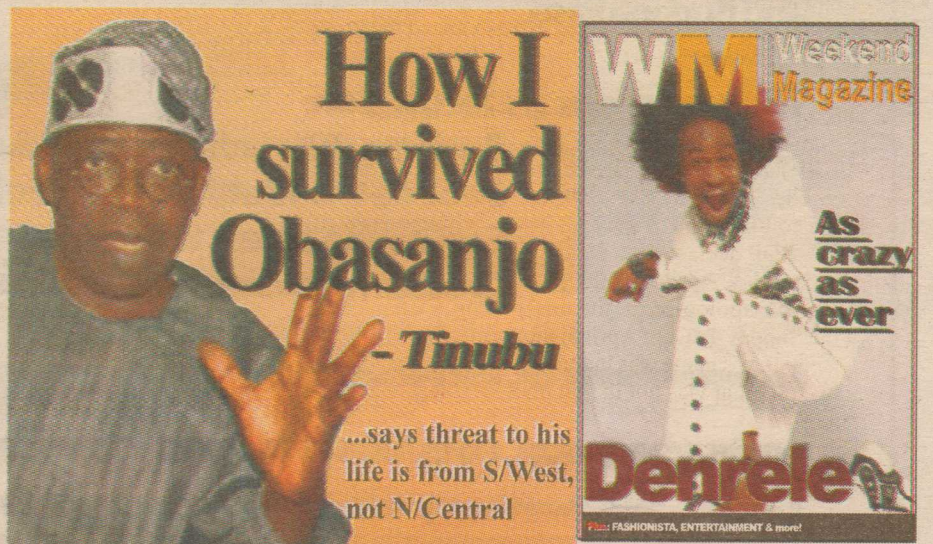
"If we can introduce the proportional representation system in its true sense like is done in Germany, France, Italy and other developed democracies, elections would gain more acceptability. I am not happy with the way the Justice Uwais-led electoral reform committee handled the issue of proportional representation system," he said.

He noted that the Uwais-led committee did not do justice to the proportional representation system, as according to him, the committee dealt with the issue half heartedly, adding that since government and Nigerians believed that the present system had failed, the proportional representation system should be adopted and practiced.

...In Tomorrow's

# WEEKLY TRUST

## Inside dangerous world of child hawking



**How I survived Obasanjo**  
- Tinubu

...says threat to his life is from S/West, not N/Central

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## Alarming rise of kidney diseases in Nigeria

# NEWS

## Alleged plot to kill Tinubu baseless - Police

The Police said yesterday in Abuja that the recent allegation by the Action Congress that the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) was plotting to assassinate the former governor of Lagos State, Senator Bala Ahmed Tinubu, has no substance.

Inspector General of Police Mike Okiro said the interim report of the team of policemen investigating the matter revealed that the allegation by the AC was meant to heat up the polity and create an atmosphere of uncertainty in the country.

Okiro said "I wish to state emphatically that Alhaji Lai Mohammed, on interrogation, could not substantiate the allegation nor disclose the source of his information on the alleged plot. He also failed to identify the Governor of the North Central Zone alleged to have been involved in the plot.

All efforts made by the police to obtain further information from the suspect on the issue met brick walls and thus putting the entire nation in the dark. Beside, Chief Bisi Akande failed to volunteer a statement or show-up at the police station to justify his allegation. He continuously feigned illness and has not helped the police in way to sort out matter of grave national importance. The case has been forwarded to the Director Public Prosecution in the Ministry of Justice for advice. The suspects must confirm their statements."

Reacting to the police

By Misbahu Bashir & Muideen Olaniyi

statement yesterday, AC said it was not surprised at the police assertion.

"Let it be known that we in the AC are not bothered by this well-couched threat, and that we are ready to meet them in court, if necessary," the party said in a statement issued in Lagos by Alhaji Lai Mohammed.

It said the police have merely confirmed that they are now an appendage of the PDP, hence their eagerness to sign on to the emerging persecution of the opposition by the PDP-led federal government.

AC however expressed surprise at the coincidence in timing between the AC's call on the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of the Federation Michael Aondoakaa to step down for hindering the anti-corruption fight and the decision of the police to announce the end of their 'investigation' into the plot to assassinate Tinubu.

"Need we say more to confirm fears that the AGF and the Inspector-General of Police are working in league to re-deploy two key EFCC investigators handling the Halliburton bribery scandal? But the PDP and its police should realise that the whole world is watching their antics, and are still waiting for them to announce their finding into the allegation by the PDP that the opposition is seeking to bring down the government of President Umaru Yar'adua.

## Cut 7-point agenda to electoral reform

Continued from Page 1

Farouq Adamu Aliyu, said. On his part, Alhaji Faruq said he would provide open register in all the local government areas of Jigawa State, where he hails from.

After the launching of a campaign to collate 20 million signatures of Nigerians to press the federal government to fully implement the Uwais report, Emma Ugboaja of the Alliance for Credible Election (ACE) read the sub-committee agenda report titled: Nigerian Peoples Campaign for full implementation of Justice Uwais Report on Electoral Reform.

He said the vision of the committee is: "To present the widely held view of support from all segments of Nigerian society for the full implementation of the Justice Uwais Report to the National Assembly in pursuance of the democratic ideals enshrined in the Nigerian Constitution with particular reference to creating a level playing field for electoral succession politics."

He listed the objectives as: "Mobilize Nigerians at home and abroad to support and actively demand for the full implementation of the report; Co-ordinate and concretize widespread public support for the untainted and undiluted Uwais Report and collate 20 million signatures of Nigerians aged 18 years and above and Present the Electoral Reform Draft Bill on Electoral/Constitutional Reforms and the collated signatures of Nigerian people to the National Assembly for passage into law in pursuance of the democratic ideals enshrined in the Nigerian Constitution, among others."

## Yar'adua's administration is corrupt - NBA

The President of the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA), Mr. Oluwarotimi O. Akeredolu (SAN) yesterday blasted the government of President Umaru Musa Yar'adua, saying the administration is not committed to the fight against corruption as it claimed, but rather harbours corrupt officials.

The NBA president who was addressing a press conference in Abuja alleged that: "The government of Yar'adua is comfortable in deceiving the people of this country and the Attorney General of the Federation (AGF) and the Minister of Justice, Chief Michael

Kaase Aondoakaa (SAN) presented himself as the most willing tool to be used in this process of deceit.

We are not mincing words to say that the government is not serious and Nigerians must take up the challenge and the bar is trying other measures with which to confront the government because, it appears that only what this government hear is a blunt confrontation", the NBA boss said.

Akeredolu lamented that the issue of corruption is still prominent in the nation's polity, pointing out that the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and the

speaking at the event, former presidential candidate of the Alliance for Democracy (AD) Chief Olu Falae, represented by Engr. Ade Adesina, said option A4 should be modified and endorsed for future elections. "It was the openness of the option A4 that made the election where it was applied to be credible. This will make democracy and leadership credible," Falae said.

Gloria Okolugbo of the Restore Initiative, who represented the Coalition of Women in National Development said, "Yar'adua, you are a leader of Nigeria and not that of the PDP. We (women) are tired of queuing to vote and our votes do not count."

Former Senate President Ken Nnamani, who insisted that the National Judicial Council (NJC) should be the one to shortlist and recommend for appointment the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) chairman, also said the fight and struggle for credible electoral process is not against President Yar'adua but about credible election and the avoidance of deceptive leadership. Dr. Sam Amadi represented Nnamani.

Mike Osekhome said that it is wrong for the Federal Executive Council (FEC) and Council of State to mutilate the Uwais report despite the collation of over 140,000 memoranda submitted by Nigerians before the report was prepared. "One of the things that should not have been tampered with is the recommendation that no elected officer should assume office until his electoral fate has been decided. Nigerians should change their mindset to ensure that they make the electoral process to work," Osekhome said.

Independent Corrupt Practices and other related offences Commission (ICPC) appear helpless in the fight against corruption.

Commenting on the Halliburton bribery scandal, the NBA boss said unless those involved in the scam are named before long, Nigeria's efforts at re-branding the image of the country would be rubbished before the outside world.

While noting that Aondoakaa's statement that the government awaits the release of the names of those involved in the scam from the American authorities should not be a ploy to

sweep the matter under the carpet, the NBA president called on the federal government to ensure that the identities of all those involved are revealed now that part of the proceeds from the criminal act has been traced to the Swiss Bank.

"We recommend that the same means through which Abacha's loot was recovered by the previous administration should be employed to unmask the names behind the dedicated accounts in Zurich and wherever the money may have been lodged. This should not be difficult at all", he stated.

## Corrections: For the record

In the Daily Trust of Monday April 6, 2009, a story "UK hikes visa price" was repeated having been reported in the previous day's paper, Sunday Trust of April 15, 2009.

Again in the Sunday Trust of April 15, 2009, on page 4, a report "HIV ravages Yola prison?" was carried the previous day in the Weekly Trust of 4<sup>th</sup> April 2009. We apologise for the repetitions.

On page 2 of the Daily Trust of Thursday, April 21, 2009 the picture caption was wrongly spelt. It should have been Dr Christiana Thorpe and not Christian Thorpe. The error is regretted.

In the continuation of the lead story, "Atiku is a drowning man - PDP declares" on page 9, column 4 of the Daily Trust of Tuesday, April 17, 2009, Atiku was wrongly spelt as Atoka. We apologise for the misspelling.

In the Sunday Trust of April 5, the former vice president Atiku Abubakar's name was included in the caption on page 3. Atiku Abubakar was not in that photograph. The error is regretted.

Again in a picture caption on page 2 of Daily Trust of Thursday April 16, 2009 the minister of state for Petroleum, Mr Odein A. ...'s name was wrongly spelt. We apologise for the mistake.

In the Daily Trust of April 9, 2009 on page 5, Gbong-Gwom Jos was spelt as Gbom-Gbom Jos in a story titled "Reps threaten to arrest new Gbom-Gbom Jos, 7 others". In the same story customs and Excise was referred to as Custom and Excise without the 'S'. We apologise deeply for the errors.

## N4bn sugar development levy missing

By Turaki A. Hassan

The whereabouts of about 4 billion naira meant for the National Sugar Development Council is not known, Executive Secretary of the council Mr. Usman Bello told the Senate yesterday.

Speaking at a public hearing of the Senate Committee on Public Account at the National Assembly, Bello said of the N10 billion naira that was supposed to have been remitted, the council received less than a million naira. "Let me quickly make it clear that the

N10.17 billion represent the accruals from the ten per cent sugar levy within the period. It is not what was released to us within the period.

We collected only N756 million from the Nigerian Customs Service as money accrued from the ten percent sugar development levy since its inception in 1994. But we used to hear that some parts of the levy were being used for other purposes.

We even made a presen-

tation to the President in 2008 over the non-release of funds to the council but there has been no response yet. This is how far we can go.

The law states that the customs should collect the levy and make it available for the council for use to develop sugar production in the country. But it has never happened. The authorities are aware of this. So we cannot query them."

The committee threatened to arrest the Director General of the Budget office Dr. Bright

Okogwu over his refusal to appear before the committee to answer questions on the where about of the N4 billion naira.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, Mr. Stephen Orosanye, told the panel that "only Okogwu would be able to give the committee all the information it required about the alleged discrepancies in the figures provided by the customs and that of the ministry of finance regarding the amount of levy collected and paid since 2004.

## Hajj 2009: FCT fixes May payment deadline

By Abdulkadir Badsha Mukhtar

The Directorate for Muslims Pilgrim Board of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) has fixed May 15 as the deadline for payment of the initial deposit for this year's hajj. The Director General of the Board, Dr. Shuaibu Kurfi, who made the statement via the board's Public Relation Officer Mallam Aliyu Usman, said the board would not entertain any deposit payment after the deadline.

He said any payment after the deadline must be full pay-

ments or the depositor's completion of the approved fare, which is yet to be announced by the National Hajj Commission of Nigeria (NAHCON).

Dr. Kurfi therefore urged all the intending pilgrims from FCT ensure they make their payments within stipulated time as the board would strictly adhere to deadline.

# NEWS

## FG to support party conventions

By Atika Balal

The Ministry of Information and Communication has expressed its willingness to support the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), in its upcoming convention aimed at amending the party's constitution. The Minister Professor Dora Akunyili said this yesterday while receiving members of the PDP special convention board at her office in Abuja. Describing the conclusion of the PDP democratization process as a necessary step in ensuring more credibility in Nigeria's democracy, she called on other political parties to follow suit and assured them of the ministry's necessary assistance. While denying reports which said the convention is aimed at impeaching its Chairman Board of Trustees (former President Olusegun Obasanjo), as well as paving ways for the return of President Umaru Yar'adua come 2011, head of the delegation Muhammad Shaba Lafiagi said the convention is aimed only at amending the constitution in three spheres.

## Aliero sacks two FCT Secretaries

By Nasir Imam

FCT Minister, Sen. Adamu Aliero, has sacked two FCT Secretaries inherited from the former minister, Dr. Aliyu Modibbo Umar. The sacked Secretaries are Dr. Abubakar Ali Gombe, formerly the FCT Secretary, Health and Human Services Secretariat, and Mrs Felicitia Olajide, Secretary, Social Development Secretariat. Dr. Gombe, is presently on casual leave in Gombe, while Mrs. Olajide was in her office when she was delivered the letter relieving her of her appointment on Wednesday. Five FCT Secretariats were created by the past FCT Minister, Nasir el-Rufai in 2005 to function like ministries in the States of the Federation. They are Agriculture and Rural Secretariats, Education, Health and Human Services, Social Development, and Transportation. Special Assistant (Media) to the FCT Minister, Diran Onifade, who confirmed the sacking of the two Secretaries, said it was a normal re-organization within the FCT Administration.

## Power Probe: New report ready -Tambuwal

By Tashikalmah Hallah & Nasidi A. Yahaya

The ad-hoc committee to review the controversial Power Probe report in the House of Representatives said yesterday it had completed its assignment and the report is ready for presentation to the House in plenary, Rep Waziri Aminu Tambuwal has said. Tambuwal (PDP, Sokoto State) who chaired the Ad-hoc committee told newsmen yesterday that the report will be tabled before the House immediately it resumes from the Easter break. The ad-hoc committee twice failed to meet the deadline given to it by the House. The Ad-hoc committee was constituted at the behest of the controversy that trailed the consideration of the Committee on Power and Steel report on the alleged \$16bn spending in the power sector between 1999 to May 2007, without commensurate result.

## Police not in custody of Tafa's loot

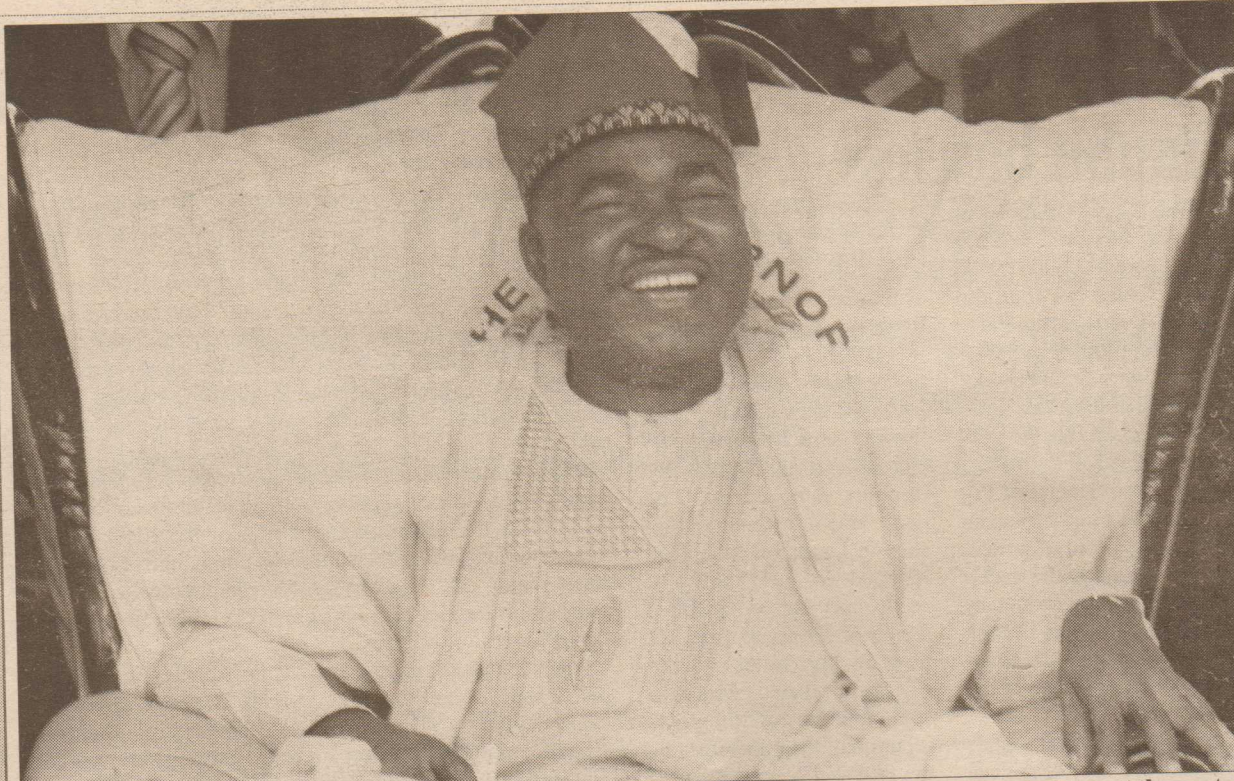
By Misbahu Bashir

Force Headquarters yesterday said it did not play any role in the investigation of the former Inspector General of Police Tafa Balogun and is not in possession of the N16 billion recovered from him. Police Force Public Relations Officer, Assistant Commissioner of Police Emmanuel Ojukwu said Balogun was investigated and prosecuted by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission and not the Force. "If there were monetary, movable or immovable exhibits recovered in the investigative and judicial process, the onus lies between the EFCC and the relevant courts to account for such exhibits," he said. He said when the Chairman of the House of Representatives Committee on Police Affairs, Abdul Ningi had requested the IGP to give details of the whereabouts of the recovered money the IGP also wrote the Chairman of the EFCC about the matter. The EFCC Chairman Farida Waziri said the money had been remitted to the consolidated account out of which the President approved the release of insurance benefits of some policemen which formed part of the recovered money to the Police Force.

## Yar'adua approves implementation of Ogoni-shell initiative

By AbdulFattah Olajide

President Umaru Musa Yar'adua has ordered the immediate commencement of the technical study of all the locations affected by oil spillage in Ogoniland as a necessary prelude to the clean-up. President Yar'adua gave the directive at a meeting with the Presidential Facilitator of the Ogoni-Shell Initiative, Rev. Matthew Hassan Kukah, leading a delegation of the Presidential Implementation Committee and the United Nations Environment Programme,



Bauchi State Governor Malam Isa Yuguda during his formal defection to the Peoples Democratic Party at the party's headquarters in Bauchi on Tuesday.

## Amaechi heads PDP Special Convention Electoral Panel

*\*Delegates to vote Yes or No on constitution amendment*

By Muideen Olaniyi

Governor Chibuike Amaechi of Rivers State has been appointed the Chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) Special Convention's Electoral Panel.

The Chairman of the 2009 Special Convention Committee, Alhaji Shaaba Lafiagi said this yesterday while briefing newsmen on the activities of the 99-man committee set up for April 20 PDP non-elective Special Convention.

Responding to questions from journalists on the convention budget and why the committee visited the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), he said: "Admitted that because of global economic meltdown,

the budget estimate was pruned down. Budget is a proposal and that pre-supposes that somebody else will look at it to either amend, add or subtract. In this committee, we have two Ministers, we have governors and a guru in industry. So there is no basis that these people will ever sit down and produce any bogus budget, it is not possible. Budget is subject to scrutiny and that is what has happened."

On the speculation that the visit to INEC office was to get ballot papers, he spoke further: "We didn't ask for ballot papers from INEC. I can assure it (Special Convention) is going to be ab-

solutely secret to the Electoral Panel which is headed by His Excellency, the Governor of Rivers State... We are going to vote in the open Yes, No to all the proposed amendments and that is why there are ballot boxes. Apart from requesting for ballot boxes, we also briefed them (INEC) on how far we have gone and what we are doing."

He said that the state delegates to the Special Convention will vote "Yes" or "No" to the proposed amendments while the votes would be counted in the open, monitored by party observers and recorded with the full assistance of the INEC.

Alhaji Lafiagi noted that the current PDP constitution

did not provide for the tenure of Chairman and Secretary of the BOT, adding that 'we are going to have tenure and tenure is 5 years.'

While saying that the convention was not targeted at any interest group, individual or group of persons, the Chairman explained that the party was simply returning itself to its pre-2006 status quo which clearly defined the role of the BOT as an advisory Board.

According to him, as against speculations and insinuations in the media, the current BOT Chairman is not in any affected by this Special Convention or by the amendment. This is because he would retain his position till the expiration of the 5-year term limit in 2011.

## Telecommunication: FG seeks alternative power supply

By Atika Balal

The Federal Government yesterday said plans were underway to generate alternative power supply for the telecommunication sector to deliver market driven tariffs reduction.

Speaking to newsmen at her office in Abuja, the Minister of Information and Communication said with Nigeria being the largest telecommunication market in Africa,

it cannot afford to be left behind in sourcing alternative energy to power its telecommunication sector.

Professor Dora Akunyili said the government will work with the Ministry of Power as well as other stakeholders in order to arrive at a decision capable of accelerated implementation.

"The government must

drive initiatives that will lower dependency on the current energy sources and embrace sustainable energy sources like solar and bio-fuels, as other developing countries like Zambia, Kenya, Sri Lanka, Malawi, Ghana and India are doing"

She added that even though there are many young innovators amongst Nigerian youths, most of

whom focus on mobile phones, it requires the right investments to deliver the right results; thus while respecting other principles of market deregulation, the policy thrust will seek to organize the telecommunication ecosystem in such a way that Nigeria's innovators have a predictable environment to invest in and thrive within.

all parties involved in the exercise and clean-up were carried along.

President Yar'adua said the Rivers State Government, the Ministry of Niger Delta and the Niger Delta Development Commission should be at the forefront of providing social amenities

for the people of Ogoni, adding that the social cushions in the UNEP proposals should be restored

Earlier, Monsignor Kukan had said the PIC had completed the groundwork necessary for the commencement of the technical assess-

ment, adding that UNEP was ready to implement the 18-month exercise, prior to the mediation.

Also in attendance were the Deputy Governor of Rivers State, Ministers of Petroleum, Environment, Niger Delta and GMD, NNPC.

# NEWS

## 57 Jigawa students in Singapore for IT programmes

The Jigawa State government on Wednesday said 57 of its students had been sponsored to Singapore to pursue degree and masters degree programmes in Information Technology (IT). The beneficiaries were diploma holders of the state-owned School of Information Technology, Kazaure. The Secretary to the State Government, Alhaji Aminu Abdullahi, said this in an interview with newsmen in Dutse. The sponsorship package, he said, would cost the state government \$2 million (N292million). Abdullahi said those for the first degree programme would spend only two years while those for the masters would spend one year. The SSG, who said government would sponsor another 143 students for the Singapore programme, advised beneficiaries to work hard to justify the money to be spent on them. (NAN)

## Kogi partners Malaysia on palm produce

From Sam Egwu, Lokoja

Kogi State has signed an agreement with the state of Malaka, Malaysia for a special breed of palm tree to improve the economic base of the state. This was disclosed in Aloma, Ofu Local Government Area, Kogi State when the Chief Minister of Malaka came on an inspection tour of the palm plantation yesterday. The Chief Minister of Malaysia, Dartuk Mohamed Alih said what was on ground as palm plantation was mere palm groove. He noted that the special breed could produce for about 50 years if properly groomed. Alih added that the partnership would strengthen relationship that exists between Nigeria and Malaysia. The governor of Kogi State, Alhaji Ibrahim Idris who just returned from Malaysia said the trip was very rewarding and promised to make Kogi State the largest producer of palm oil in Nigeria.

## Shell to establish laboratory in ABU

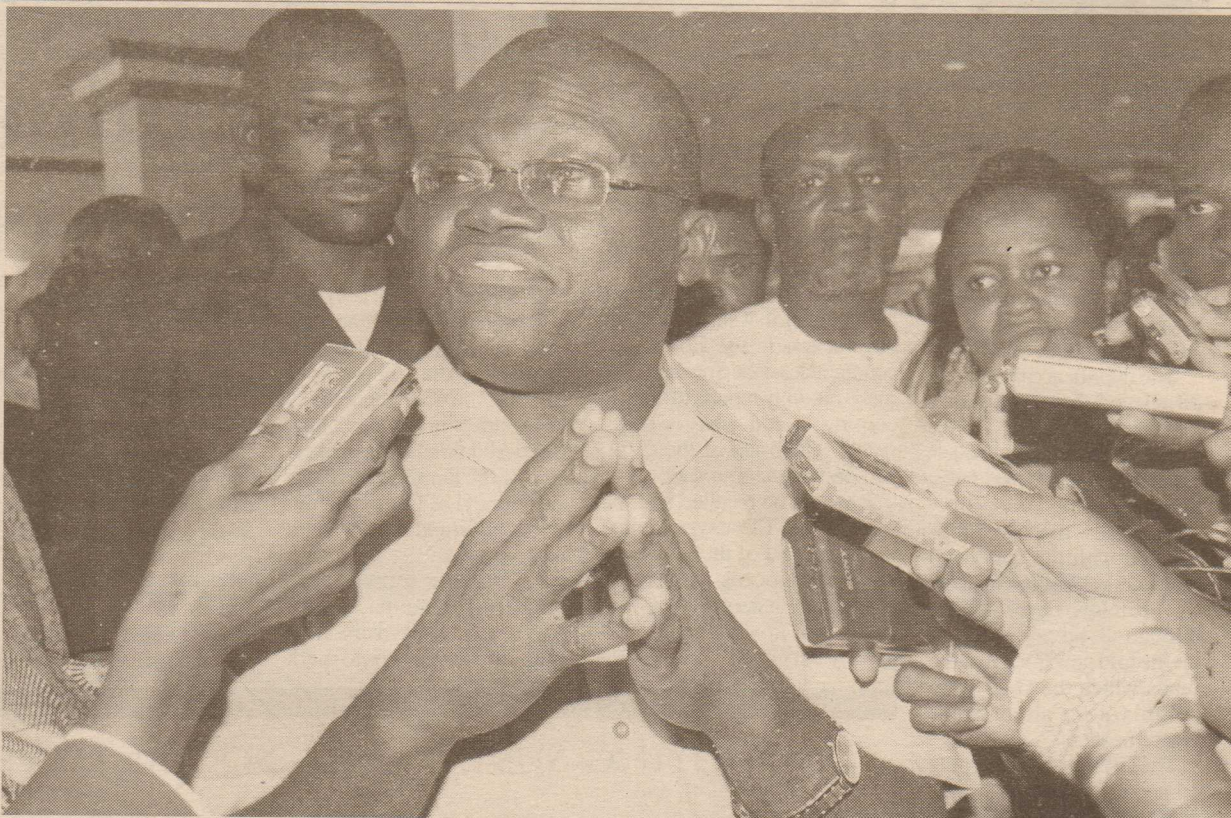
From Aliyu Yusuf, Zaria

Oil giant Shell is to establish a corrosion laboratory at the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria. The university coordinator of the Shell professorial chair and cooperation, Professor Peter Madakson disclosed this in an interview with Daily Trust in Zaria. According to him, the laboratory is expected to cost about N100 million under the Shell professorial technical cooperation, adding that the laboratory was part of the Shell's corporate responsibility efforts in developing science and technology in Nigeria. Madakson said the laboratory was meant to carry out two respective technological researches in oil and aircraft building materials. According to him, the major research activities are on fire resistance and roofing sheets as well as aircraft, boat and automobile. He said the university management had set up a committee on the research and the laboratory as well as to run the university's Shell professorial chair effectively.

## Audu urges prudent management of resources

From Sam Egwu, Lokoja

Good governance and attainment of meaningful governance could only be achieved through prudent management of scarce resources, transparency and accountability, former governor, Abubakar Audu has said. Audu who was in Enabo, Ankpa Local Government for the wedding fathia of the daughter of a friend, Alhaji Isiaka Alfa told Daily Trust in an interview yesterday that good governance had become the central need of the world economy. "Good governance and initiative that positively impact on the people are the yard sticks for enduring peace, there is so much poverty all over the place, which can be witnessed at the grassroots where the majority of the people live in untold hardship", he said. According to the ex-governor, an environment characterized by poor governance creates room for corruption. He urged the government to be prudent in its expenditures.



Vice President of the Nigeria Labour Congress Isa Aremu addressing a press conference on his protest against the Minister of Commerce who came in late and did not participate at the Textile and Garment Industry Sub-sector Stakeholders Meeting in Abuja, yesterday. Pic: Kennedy Egbonodje

## Gwada crisis not religious -CAN

The Deputy President of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN)

Gwada chapter in Niger State, Reverend Jonathan Agu has said that last Sunday's disturbance at Gwada town in Shiroro Local Government was not motivated by religious differences.

Agu said this when the Deputy Governor of Niger State, Alhaji Ahmed Ibeto visited the place to ascertain the cause and extent of damage.

From Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna

He said after a detailed investigation into the matter, it was discovered that the trouble was caused by some miscreants and not religious extremists as generally believed by many in the state.

"The issue is not that of religion but basically caused by trouble makers in the community. We have conducted a detailed investigation and the re-

sult shows that there is no element of religiously based problem in the matter", he said.

The Deputy Governor also said the disorderliness in the community was not related to religion, adding that people from other parts of the country were responsible for the incident.

He said the state governor, Dr Muazu Aliyu had called on emirs and traditional leaders in the state to keep vigil in order to identify the culprits. He ex-

pressed concern that the areas targeted were churches and mosques. He urged people in the area to go about their normal businesses, adding that the state government would not relent in its effort to protect lives and properties.

Meanwhile, a seven man committee has been set up to look into the crisis. It would involve all the stakeholders in the matter, including the state government. It has been given four weeks to submit its report.

## Expert blames high TB rate on poor awareness

A medical practitioner, Dr Wale Akredolu, yesterday attributed the high incidence of tuberculosis in the country to poor awareness of the disease by Nigerians.

He told newsmen in Lagos that most Nigerians lacked adequate knowledge of the disease and how they could protect themselves against it. Akredolu, who is the Lagos Island Local Government Medical Officer, added that this was further worsened by the reluctance of most victims of the disease to seek prompt medical attention.

He urged the government and other stakeholders in the control and prevention of tuberculosis to create more awareness on the prevention and treatment of the life-threatening disease.

Akredolu also said government should make the treatment of the disease more accessible to the people through the creation of more treatment centres.

"The government should make affordable TB treatment accessible to the people through the establishment of treatment

centres in all the nooks and cranny of the country" he advised.

The medical officer further said that tuberculosis was treatable and urged people suffering from it to seek urgent medical attention. "TB is treatable; people suffering from it should go to the hospital for prompt medical attention. The disease can be better treated, if reported early," he said.

The Minister of Health, Prof. Babatunde Osotimehin, recently raised an alarm over rising cases of TB in the country. According to the minister, the nation now ranks fifth among the 22 TB-ravaged countries.

He said the 22 countries collectively accounted for 80 per cent of the global TB burden. Tuberculosis cases in the country have increased from 31,264 in 2004 to 90,307. (NAN)

## Embrace God, prelate urges Christians

Bishop Edward Osuegbu of Okigwe Diocese (Anglican Communion) has said that Nigerians were witnessing increase in social vices because the people, especially Christians have refused to embrace God.

The prelate during his visit to the Chairman of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) Imo State Council yes-

From Johnkennedy Uzoma, Owerri

terday in Owerri said until Christians in the country begin to give their lives to God, crime would continue to thrive in the society. Osuegbu said the essence of evangelism was to reach out to people not only to administer to the soul but also the

body through prayers and the word of God.

To achieve this, the Bishop said the Diocese in collaboration with other denominations in the area had initiated strategies aimed at addressing the problems of water scarcity and dilapidated roads in the area.

He added that the Diocese had started sinking bore holes

and mission clinics in all the communities in the area to provide water and health care services.

Responding, the chairman, Nigeria Union of Journalists Imo State Council, Mr. Fidel Onyeneke congratulated the Bishop on his consecration and assured him of the support of journalists in the state.

# NEWS

## Assembly members plot removal of Benue Speaker

Some members of the Benue State House of Assembly are insisting on the removal of the Speaker, Mr. Terser Tumba unless he gives proper account of funds accruing to the House.

The members called the G 23 alleged that the Speaker had been pocketing House funds with impunity, a development which they said was unacceptable.

Though the Speaker pleaded with the aggrieved members to allow them access the accounts of the House through an ad-hoc committee, he told newsmen that the funds which the G-23 were complaining about were "mere peanuts."

The G-23 which is harping on accountability and transparency in the management of the funds, said yesterday that it would get to the bot-

## My dethronement is politically motivated —Alkali

From Yusha'u A Ibrahim, Dutse

The recently dethroned Sardauna of Gumel, Senator Muhammad D. Alkali yesterday said the withdrawal of his title was politically motivated.

Speaking to *Daily Trust* in a telephone interview yesterday, Senator Alkali maintained that his removal was not unconnected to his declaration to contest for the gubernatorial seat against Alhaji Sule Lamido in 2011.

"Nevertheless, I want to assure Lamido that nothing will stop me from challenging him. In fact, only death can prevent me from contesting for the Jigawa gubernatorial seat in the next election," he said.

Senator Alkali said throughout the period he was the Sardauna of Gumel, he never had any disagreement with the emir or the emirate council. He insisted that his relationship with emir and the members of council was cordial.

Sources close to the emirate also told *Daily Trust* that the emir of Gumel, Alhaji Ahmad Muhammad Sani was given 24 hours by the state government to either remove Sardauna or be sacked. The letter of removal was written by the council and conveyed to the state government through the secretary of the council, Alhaji Muhammad Mayaki.

The state Commissioner for Information, Alhaji Aminu Muhammad has dissociated government from the matter, saying it was purely an emirate affair. He explained that even the state chieftaincy affairs office informed government that it only received a letter to that effect from the Gumel emirate.

Senator Muhammad Alkali was turbaned as Sardauna of Gumel in December 1994 by the present emir of Gumel, Ahmad Muhammad Sani.

From Hir Joseph, Makurdi

tom of the matter when the House reconvenes.

"It is a simple thing. All we are saying is that since we don't have access to the House' accounts, at least the Speaker must make monthly reports of what is coming in and what is being spent," chairman of the G-23, Mr. Bayer Dzeremo said.

It would be recalled that the speaker last Tuesday, admitted that members of the House do not have access to the accounts, but insisted that the funds had always been judiciously expended.

# Atta Ibrahim family to mark 45th anniversary April 25

From Ibraheem Musa, Kaduna

The family of the late paramount ruler of Ebiraland, Alhaji Ibrahim Onoruoza Atta will on April 25 mark the 45th anniversary of his death in Okene, Alhaji Aliyu Abdulmalik, the spokesman of the family who is also the Ohinoyi of Ebira community in Kano and Jigawa States said yesterday.

Addressing a press conference in Kaduna, Alhaji Aliyu also said from next year, the family would mark

the anniversary on March 3.

He added that as part of activities for the anniversary the family would launch a directory containing the list of all descendants of the late Atta Ibrahim. So far over 1,056 family members have been registered while efforts are being made to register those who have been left out in the first edition.

The family spokesman main-

tained that the compilation of the directory became necessary because of the emerging danger in the world and the need to exploit family affinity for the desired growth and collective security.

"We are confronted with a situation today where many of our siblings meet and mingle with one another in institutions of higher learning and other public institutions without knowing they share the same root and back-

ground," Alhaji Aliyu said.

According to the family spokesman, the late monarch laid a solid foundation for the intellectual and socio-cultural development of Ebiraland through his various populist programmes.

The late monarch who abdicated the throne in 1954 over irreconcilable differences with the colonial administration promoted traditional institution and transparency in governance.

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Date: May 5-7, 2009.

Venue: Rockview Hotel, Adetokunbo Ademola Crescent, Wuse II, Abuja.

Date: June 22-26, 2009.

Venue: London School of Economics, Institute of Social Psychology, London UK.

TIME: 10:00 am Daily

### WHO TO ATTEND:

General Managers, Task Managers, Project Officers and Senior Officers in public sub-sectors who handle the task of facilitating the implementation of community-driven projects by working closely with the urban and rural poor. It will also suit Policy Makers, Commissioners, Permanent Secretaries and Directors in various ministries and agencies such as Poverty Eradication, Women Affairs, and Planning Commissions amongst others.

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### FACILITATORS:

Prof. Susan Rifkin teaches at the London School of Economics and Political Science. Her book, written with Pad Pridmore, *Partners in Planning*, has been used extensively in training programmes for development workers and has been translated into Spanish and Vietnamese.



Dr. Kolade Daodu received community development and community health psychology training while studying at the London School of Economics and Political Science.



Catherine Campbell is a Professor of Social Psychology at the London School of Economics where she is Director of the MSc in Health, Community and Development.



Morten Skovdal has worked on health and social protection issues in China and Kenya through local and international NGOs. Morten is at present affiliated to the London School of Economics and Political Science and is near to complete his PhD.



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# BIDA YOUTH OF THOUGHT

No. 2 Mamma Vatsa Street Dokozda Area Bida.

## AN OPEN LETTER TO THE HON. MINISTER OF HEALTH ON FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTER BIDA

Hon. Minister Sir, Please kindly permit us to seize this opportunity to congratulate you on your appointment as Hon. Minister of Health, we hope the standard you set at NACA will be repeated at your new office, you have indeed set an unbeatable standard at NACA. **CONGRATULATIONS!!!**

By way of introduction:- Bida youth of thought is a non governmental organization with people of like minds, highest level of discipline, moral thought, integrity and IQ has her members, with headquarter at No 2 Mamma Vatsa street Dokozda Area Bida. One of our cardinal objectives is to monitor the activities of public institutions located within our community in-order to protest when ever they are not doing well and to commend them once their work is good enough.

In light of the above, Sir, we wish to use this medium to bring to your notice that the recent petition written against the medical Director of the federal Medical Center Bida Dr. A.G. OKUKU by one Nupe Development Forum is baseless and unfounded as there is no any organization with such a name in our community, it will be that some people who by all standard are not Nupes they are only hiding under their own shadow using Nupe name in order to achieve their selfish end. The sole aim of the petitioners is to divert the attention of the people from the good work Dr. Okuku is doing and to distract the attention of the MD from his busy schedules of working for the people. Petition writing is not in the character of Nupe people but, to speak the truth, the all truth and nothing but, the truth at any giving time.

Further more, the most reasonable and reliable organizations or pressure groups in our community are as follows: Bida forum, Ndaduma Development Association, Landzun Development Association, Nupe Egorolo Development Association, G25 Youth Forum, Katambako Development Association etc. We believe that all the associations mentioned above, can testify to the good work and new face lift given to the FMC Bida by Dr. Okuku's led management. Any one visiting the hospital after every one year might require some form of help to still be able to find his or her way around the premises.

The current management headed by Dr. AG. Okuku, Began an unprecedented renovation of the old building which were relics of the colonial hospital (in which construction began in 1929) and the construction of new ones to position/re-engineer the hospital toward being able to render qualitative health care services at a tertiary hospital level. While the development in the hospital might be quite obvious to a first time visitor to the centre, the changes would even be more remarkable and better appreciated by any one re-visiting the hospital after two years. There is today a very sharp contrast and radical departure in the out look of the hospital from the previous one with old structures at different stages of dilapidation, to the

current new branded out look with various completed and on going project as well newly renovated ones. More importantly the number of specialist Doctors and Nurses have more than doubled. Having a conducive environment and the requisite equipments to work with is the main source of success of any organization in contemporary Medical practice, therefore, the resources invested in renovation of old structures, construction of new ones and indeed procuring of Modern equipment for the hospital by the current management can not be over emphasized. As at July 2008 when the FMC Bida celebrated her first health week we were a witness to the public display and commissioning of the below listed projects:

### A Renovation/Expansion

1. Renovation of obstetrics and Gynecology Clinic complex
2. Renovation of conference Room/8 Room Departmental offices
3. Renovation of burnt-down old school of midwifery classroom building now housing works and maintenance workshop.
4. Renovation of old school of midwifery classroom block now housing finance and audit.
5. Renovation of surgical ward III
6. Renovation of old school of midwifery principal office complex
7. Renovation of old Administrative building now housing HIV/AIDS Treatment Unit.
8. Renovation of Dental Surgery Departmental Building
9. Renovation of old Radiology Departmental Building
10. Renovation of old Laboratories Building
11. Renovation of old Chest ward
12. Rehabilitation of hospital perimeter fencing
13. Renovation and expansion of mortuary building

### B New Constructions

1. construction of 1.5 Km Ring Road network
2. construction of 28room specialties poly Clinic
3. construction of a crèche
4. construction of twin suite Labour ward Theater
5. installation of road/street overhead lights
6. construction of 10 Bed Gynecology Emergency ward
7. construction of 30-cot Neonatal intensive care unit
8. construction of ophthalmic/physiotherapy/ ENT outpatient Complex

### C Additional Infrastructure (Utilities)

1. Purchase Of 500 KVA (Sound-proof Perkins) Generator
2. Purchase of PABX intercom equipment (Panasonic TD 123DBX super Hybrid for 80 extension cerpat (1005) telephone set with accessories
3. Wide range of Administrative and clinical office furniture
4. Drilling and motorization of 2 no Boreholes
5. Purchase of wide range of office equipment such as Laptops Desk top computers file cabinets etc.
6. provision of Wireless internet services on public-private partnership (ppp) basis

### D Additional Infrastructure (Transport)

1. purchase of 2 no utility vehicles (Peugeot 406)
2. purchase of 2 no utility vehicles (Toyota Corolla wagon)

### E Additional Equipment Procured

1. purchase of 12-body mortuary unit (refrigerator)
2. purchase of 2 no Diathermy Machine (eschmann RD-411RS)
3. Purchase of Anaesthetics Machine (Ohmeda) with ventilator and monitor.
4. purchase of microbiology safety cabinet (class II cabinet Holten laminar safe 2010)
5. purchase of oxygen plant
6. purchase of maternity ward equipment: suction machine, examination couch, Angle poise lamp etc
7. Purchase of labour ward equipment delivery Beds, Vacuum Extractors resuscitaires etc.
8. Purchase of NICU equipment: Resuscitaires, Phototherapy Lamp suction Machine etc.
9. purchase of Gynecology Emergency ward equipment (Resuscitation equipment)
10. Purchase of emergency pediatric unit (EPU) equipment suction Machine, Oxygen Gauges, Resuscitation Kits, Diagnostic set etc.
11. purchase of a blood Bank and laboratory equipment: Microscopes, centrifuges etc
12. construction and installation of Laboratory/ Scientific Benches
13. Purchase of Labour ward theater equipment: Eschmann J3 operating Table Laparotomy and caesarean section sets. Etc.

14. purchase of siesta breezy Anaesthetic Machine/automated ventilator.
  15. purchase of X-Ray machine - Triup 500 MA F 99 1B-Europe with fluoroscope
  16. purchase of sanoscape 3D Doppler model SS 1-5000
  17. purchase of Ultrasound Machine HD3
  18. purchase of mobile X-Ray Machine practix 400
  19. Purchase of X-Ray Accessories Viewing Boxes, Automatic Film processors
  20. purchase of scan sonomed AB 5500 ophthalmic Ultrasound
  21. installation of Radiation protection panel in X-Ray Room
  22. construction of 40 No office tables
  23. purchase of nursing care equipment drug trolleys, patient trolleys, wound dressing equipment
  24. purchase of 100 sets of hospital Beds, mattresses, Bedsides lockers, drips stands, cardiac tables and other accessories
- Purchase of Dental Equipment Dental X-Ray Machine and a complete Dental unit/station

### At the moment other projects we found the Center carrying out are:

1. Construction of a one storey building Administrative Block
3. construction of new 15 Bed accident and Emergency ward
4. construction of two storey Haematology Department building
5. construction of intensive care unit and Dialysis Center, consultants office (ongoing)

### CONCLUSION

Finally before final, one must admit that the administration of Dr. Okuku in FMC Bida is definitely human and is expected to be subject to the natural human inclinations to answer back in response to wicked allegations made against it by the so called gust NDF. By all measures, Dr. Okuku's good works are beautifully done. We there fore wish to request the Hon. Minister to use his good office to make available more funds to the management of the federal Medical centre Bida, for them to ably commence the development of the permanent site so that the present site will not be over stretched.

Hon. Mohammed Dokozda  
Chairman

Alh. Shehu Buhari  
Secretary



## OFFICE OF THE SENIOR SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT ON MDGS (OSSAP-MDGS)

### NOTICE! NOTICE!! NOTICE!!!

The submission date of the pre-qualification documents for Quickwins 2009 has been extended to **Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2009.**

The extension is occasioned by the Easter public holidays.

All submissions will therefore come to a close on **Wednesday, 22nd April, 2009 at 4:00P.M.**

Signed:  
Management



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# NEWS

## 'Lack of political will hindered Ajaokuta project'

Lack of political will by government has been identified as one of the factors that hindered the smooth operation of Ajaokuta steel project.

The Director, Metallurgical Inspectorate and Raw Material Development,

By Abdulkadir Badsha Mukhtar

Ministry of Mines Steel Development, Professor Ibrahim Madugu, made the comment yesterday while presenting a paper at the two day capacity building workshop for journalists in Abuja.

He said despite the present global economic meltdown, the government must summon the political will power to go ahead with the project,

saying where there is the will there is a way.

For any country to attain any meaningful level of industrialisation, he said, steel consumption should not be less than 150kg per capita. At present, Nigeria consumption is less than 10kg per capita, he said.

The other factor that also affects steel production in Nigeria is poor funding

Adding that the only way out is the adoption of Public-Private Partnership (PPP), as private sector can provide the sector

## Fertiliser now sells at N2,100 in FCT — Minister

By Abubakar Ibrahim

NPK fertiliser will now sell at N2,100 per bag while the SSP type will go for Ni,650 per bag to farmers in the Federal Capital Territory this year, FCT Minister of State, Chief Chuka Odom has said.

FCT will also provide 80 tractors with complete implements at 40 per cent subsidy to cooperative farmers and other large scale farmers under the Trust Fund Model Tractor Loan Scheme.

Announcing this during the flag off of FCT 2008/2009 Dry Season Farmers Field Day at Shere/Igu in Bwari Area Council yesterday, the minister said FCT would provide a total of 7,500 metric tonnes of assorted fertilisers

to its farmers at 50 per cent subsidy and encourage farmers to produce food all year round.

Dry season farming, he said, would involve the use of wash-bore technology in irrigation to ensure food security to FCT residents for which reason youths are currently being trained.

"We are collaborating with the Leventis Group to train youths in modern agricultural production with the establishment of the Centre for

Integrated Agricultural Development and Training (CIADT) at Yaba in Abaji Area Council. The first batch consisting of 28 youths have recently graduated", he said.

The youths, he explained, would be engaged from the city to work in the flood plains of Bobo, Afara, Usuma and Gurara Rivers to produce vegetables, grains, livestock and fishery products adding that FCT would work with the private sector to provide necessary farm infrastructure to enable them grab agriculture as an enterprising business.

## NOA partners DAAR Communications to promote Ya'adua's agenda

By Yunus Abdulhamid


The National Orientation Agency (NOA) is partnering with the DAAR Communications Plc, owners of the African Independent Television and Ray Power Radio to promote the seven point agenda of President Umaru Yar'adua.

The Director General of NOA Alhaji Idi Farouk said the partnership was part of the effort of the agency in carrying out its mandate of mass mobilisation and social orientation, adding that Nigeria's cherished values of integrity, modesty and respect for one another have been eroded over the years.

He said widespread and deep corruption, criminality and negative attitudes and primordial sentiments are some of the features that have characterised the Nigerian society but such laudable goals as the seven point agenda and the vision 20: 2020 of the present administration can only be realised in an environment characterised by the right values, peace, security and stability.

The project will feature television drama series like Scale of Justice, a reality television show and The Patriot aimed at reinforcing feelings of patriotism in Nigerians and documentaries on Nigeria's image designed in collaboration with Foreign Affairs ministry in line with the rebranding effort of the federal government.

The chairman of DAAR Communications, High Chief Raymond Dokpesi, while declaring support for the rebranding campaign urged Nigerians to give priority to locally made goods and services rendered to avoid capital flight detrimental to the economy.



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# THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURAL CREDIT SCHEME" (CACCS)

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) in collaboration with the Federal Government of Nigeria represented by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources has established a N200billion "Commercial Agricultural Credit Scheme" (CACCS), for promoting commercial agricultural enterprises in Nigeria.

## Administration of the Fund

The fund is being administered by two participating banks (PBs):

- (i) United Bank for Africa Plc (UBA Plc);
- (ii) First Bank of Nigeria Plc (FBN Plc)

## Target Agricultural Enterprises and Commodities

Key agricultural enterprises and commodities to be covered under the Scheme are:

- (i) Cultivation of crops (rice, cassava, cotton, oil palm, wheat, rubber, sugar cane, jatropha carcus, fruits and vegetables);
- (ii) Livestock (dairy, poultry, piggery);
- (iii) Fishery;
- (iv) Processing, storage and marketing of target commodities; and
- (v) Any other activity as may be specified from time to time.

## Eligibility of borrower under the Scheme include:

### A. Corporate and Large Scale Commercial Farm/Agro Enterprises;

- (i) Integrated Large Scale Farm or Agro-based Enterprises with assets (excluding land) not less than N350 million with prospect of growing the assets to N500 million within the next three years
- (ii) Non-Integrated Commercial Farms/Agro-enterprises with assets (excluding land) not less than N200 million with prospect of growing the assets to N350 million within the next three years.

### B. State Government /FCT.

All State Governments /FCT can access up to twenty per cent (20%) of the N200billion (i.e. N40billion) through specialized agencies or secretariat established for the purpose of on-lending such funds to Co-operative Unions, Co-operative Societies, Self-Help Groups and Agricultural Commodities Associations in their respective states.

## Modalities of the Scheme

- i. Agricultural credit from the participating banks (PBs) shall be in the form of loans and overdraft.
- ii. Interest on loan under the Scheme is nine per cent (9%), inclusive of all charges.
- iii. Loan tenor under the Scheme shall be a maximum of seven (7) years.

## Procedure for Applying for the Loan

All applications for loans under the Scheme shall be made to either of the two participating banks immediately as per the contact addresses below:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| (A) United Bank for Africa Plc<br>Mr. Reginald Ihebuzor<br>Agric Relationship Director<br>UBA Plc<br>Plot 701, Usuma Street<br>Maitama, Abuja<br>Tel: 07067318766; 07080354632 | (B) First Bank of Nigeria Plc<br>Dauda Lawal<br>Business Dev. Manager<br>First Bank of Nigeria Plc<br>Plot 777, Mohammadu Buhari<br>Way, Central Business District<br>Abuja |
|--|---|

e-mail: [Reginald.ihebuzor@ubagroup.com](mailto:Reginald.ihebuzor@ubagroup.com) Tel: 08033176790; 09-4614988

All loan applications are to be processed within 30 days.

Detailed Guidelines for the Scheme can be obtained from any Central Bank Branch, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources and the participating banks, or from the CBN website [www.cenbank.org](http://www.cenbank.org).

For further enquiries, you may please contact:

The Director,  
Development Finance Department,  
Central Bank of Nigeria,  
Abuja.

Tel: 09 46237602

Mobile: 08037860675

e-mail: [jalegieuno@cenbank.org](mailto:jalegieuno@cenbank.org)

April 15, 2009

# OPINION

## Shekarau: Resolve the TROVAN logjam now!

From all indications, the main issues blocking the final resolution of the logjam in the controversy between the American pharmaceutical giant Pfizer and the Federal and Kano State governments, over the 1996 trials of the anti-meningitis vaccine Trovan, are those of transparency and accountability. It is now 13 years since the trial of this drug, then at an experimental stage, the efficacy, modalities and legality of which became subjects of several court cases.

In an out-of-court settlement brokered by our former Head of State General Yakubu Gowon and America's former President, Jimmy Carter, Pfizer has, from all indications, agreed to pay a total of \$75 million (US, not Zimbabwean) to be split three ways: \$10 million to the Kano State Government for the legal fees it incurred, \$35 million to be kept as health care fund from which verified patients of the Trovan trials are to receive compensation, and \$30 million will be for the rehabilitation, upgrading and expansion of the children's ward of the Infectious Diseases Hospital (IDH), Kano, where the trials took place, as well as for a sustainable training programme for medical personnel dealing with such epidemics. This has been widely reported in all national newspapers.

While this amount is much less than the \$8.5 billion being sought in the Federal and Kano State lawsuits, it is no small amount and perhaps represents the best we can expect from this very controversial case given the claims and counterclaims, posturing, outright lies and impersonation by people claiming to speak on behalf of the victims as well as some who were born crippled or deaf and were never part of the trial but who now want a piece of the action. Some officials who gave the go-ahead for the trials have been talking from both sides of their mouths.

### Sanusi Abubakar ON Friday

sanusiabubakar@dailytrust.com

So, an offer has been made and accepted. The trouble is who controls the funds? Pfizer, it appears, would prefer an independent board or committee, under a reputable, competent and honest chairperson, to authenticate the true participants in the trial, disburse the funds meant for these people, oversee the rehabilitation of the children's ward of the IDH where the trials took place and design and implement the manpower development envisaged so that the State would be in a better position to deal with meningitis and similar epidemics when, not if, they arise. Kano State government is insisting, according to a reliable source, that it should administer the package as a whole. Meanwhile, the 'victims' and their relations have waited all these years for the outcome of this battle of the titans.

If you ask me, Kano State Government is being unnecessarily difficult. Who does the Government have in mind to run the compensations, facilities expansion and manpower training envisaged? Political appointees and civil servants? It can't be serious. The same people whose incompetence rendered us incapable of preventing such outbreaks or coping with them when they occur? Can such a group be independent of the government of the day? Neither can the Government put Imams and Judges. The former, because they are not public health professionals; the later, because they would be the ones to try cases of diversion

or abuse that may arise. We are logically left with only one option: appointing genuine representatives of civil society, public health specialists, other professionals, as well as representatives of the relatives. The State and Federal governments should of course be represented, along with Pfizer.

This is all the more serious because, already, controversies surround the identities of those who were actually treated with TROVAN, who their next-of-kin's are, and how much of the N100,000 per person preliminary compensation paid some time back actually reached those who were involved. Who is Mustapha Maisikeli, and who does he represent? One Anas Mohammed claimed he was a victim only to be discovered he was not even among those who were treated with the drug. According to *Pyramid* Newspaper, Auwalu Magaji, the grandson of the village head of Dan Rimi, who was paraded as a victim of the study, turned out to have been born crippled. The cases of Yusuf Ibrahim and Lantana Magaji have also been found to be shaky, at best. Several more would surely emerge as part of this wicked and heartless attempt to hijack the compensations before the final details are even worked out. Given the way and manner donations for building mosques and schools disappear, inheritance of orphans and the rights of widows are trampled upon in this our north there is room for concern. Not to talk of giving any

state government N12 billion to administer at its discretion. At best, that becomes part of the budget and would go the way of most government funds.

While all men and women (and children too) of goodwill must express gratitude to General Gowon and the team that helped to sort out this mess we must not lose sight of the big picture. Our approach to health care and disease prevention is terrible. Right now I hear thousands are dying in the same IDH and Governor Shekarau is running helter-skelter trying to find some fire-brigade type solutions. When institutions are allowed to collapse, when mediocrity, nepotism and clientism determine public policies and actions, when health contractors and their political patrons control hospitals and health care we are going to see a repeat of these types of epidemics and the usual blame game.

It would be naive to hope that we would get to know the whole truth about this matter anytime soon. We should not play down the significance of the lives of the 11 kids that died out of the 200 or so who participated in the trial, we must remember, to put it in proper context, that over 12,000 kids died that year during the meningitis epidemic. We should dedicate ourselves, not just to grand-standing over what others have supposedly done to us, but also to doing all we can to preventing such disasters in future. We expect the governments at both state and federal levels, to spearhead legislations and provide clear guidelines for ethical standards in experiments and tests on the human beings.

For now, we expect Governor Shekarau to facilitate a transparent, accountable and sustainable outcome in the interest of all stakeholders. We would not want the \$75 million to disappear into a bottomless pit.

## Award of contract as achievement

By Salisu Suleiman

Flip through the pages of any Nigerian daily and you are sure to come across full page colour advertorials celebrating the 'achievements' of state governors, local government chairmen and other public officials. While I do not begrudge the good fortune of newspaper proprietors, it is a sad reflection on the state of public administration in Nigeria that these officials waste valuable public resources to advertise that they have awarded contract for the construction of a primary school, a dispensary or a culvert. Is it an achievement to do the job they begged to be 'elected' to do?

It is only in Nigeria that councillors would use public funds to congratulate a local government chairman for awarding contract for the construction of a borehole, while the chairman would in turn use more public funds to congratulate the wife of a governor for using public funds to launch a pet project. And the governor would use scarce public funds to thank the First Lady for visiting his state! When the conduct of governance is reduced to such abysmal levels of incompetence and sycophancy, is it any wonder that there is so much angst in the land?

In proper democracies, public administration is about the generation, aggregation and optimization of resources to improve the lot of citizens, facilitate access to social infrastructure and the judicious use of public funds to invest in projects and programs that would improve the lives of citizens. Therefore, because a government official awards contracts for public a project is not an achievement by any means. What else would they have done? We know that in Nigeria, they usually just 'Chop the Money'. That is why they go to such lengths to try to convince the public that though we mere mortals cannot see anything on ground, they in fact exist. We only have to read newspapers to see them!

Until recently, the state of California in the

United States was regarded as the fifth largest economy in the world. And yet, the governor, Arnold Schwarzenegger is battling with how to raise funds by increasing certain taxes and cutting public sector workers allowances. The first duty is to generate scarce resources, then use such judiciously (and under intense public scrutiny) to select a range of public programs that would serve the public good. Conversely in Nigeria, once 'elected' into office, public officials just sit and await the release of monthly allocations from the federation account. So how can the award of contract for the supply of fire trucks (usually second-hand and highly over priced) be an achievement?

Anyone following the current global economic crises would realize the problems facing leaders like President Obama and Prime Minister Gordon Brown. Both leaders are committed to stimulating the economy of their respective countries through the massive injection of funds into the economy and the financial system. But their biggest headache is centred on where to generate the vast sums needed to implement their plans. Even as they embark on borrowing to finance their plans, they have an eye on the deficits they are incurring and are planning strategies to cut public debts. The judicious application and management of scarce resources should be the focus of governance, not the award of contracts.

The Monthly Allocation Dependency (MAD) syndrome has reduced governance in Nigeria to the theatre of the absurd. State and local government areas simply do not have the energy to generate internal revenue. Why bother to generate a paltry five million when billions are assured every month? And why bother with transparency and accountability to the public when the money you are using is not from their taxes? And why bother to execute projects in public

interest when they did not elect you to office in the first place? And indeed who says you are in office to work for the public good when you can steal and plunder with impunity? These questions explain the terrible tragedy that is public administration in Nigeria. (Happily, Lagos State is proving to be an exception, and one does not have to read advertorials to see proof).

Apart from glibly advertising the award of contract as achievements in office, the saddest part is that the so-called contracts do not follow due process (forget the published 'Invitations to Bid') and are hardly executed to professional standards. Thus the same contracts are awarded year after year with no tangible impact on the lives of citizens apart from 'settling' political godfathers and providing food for the 'boys'. With this mentality to public service, we do not need to look far to understand why South Africa, and not Nigeria was invited to the G20 Summit recently.

One of the most disillusioning discoveries I have made is the explanation on why some projects never seem to get completed. Year after year, budgetary allocations are made for these projects. In my naivety, I had assumed that on-going projects were meant to be completed so that new ones could come on stream. Alas, it was to my utter shock that a public official informed me gleefully that if projects are completed, there would no more budgetary provisions and thus no more 'chua-chua'. (Me? I never said Bulkachua). I remember the case of a particular project that was awarded by the Shagari administration at the then mind boggling sum of 40 million naira while I was a secondary school student. Twenty years later as an official, I was part of a delegation that visited the same project. It was still uncompleted.

The same logic is evident in the award and re-award of contracts many times over at the expense of proper planning and development. In Abuja for instance, the original plans were

for all electricity and telephone wirings to be underground, and indeed, thousands of kilometres of cable are buried underground. Due to poor planning and total absence of maintenance culture, those expensive cables laid at the cost of billions of naira have been abandoned. Today, the electricity in the capital is distributed by hanging wires and cables. The underground infrastructure remains buried, literally and figuratively.

In the 2009 appropriation, most local government areas in Nigeria have budgets in billions of naira, yet at the end of the year, it would be difficult to see the evidence of where those billions have gone. School pupils still study under trees. Women and children still have to trudge for miles in search of water. Youth cannot gain admission to schools or find jobs. Public transport is pre-colonial. Neglected farmers cannot get their produce to the markets. But you can be sure that His Excellency, Mr. Chairman would take several newspaper pages to advertise his 'achievements'. If you cannot verify them on ground, read the papers.

The fact is that most Nigerians do not care about this kind of public exhibitionism. While government reserves to right advertise its 'achievements', real or imagined, I daresay that what majority of people want to see are concrete achievements - clean water; good roads, proper schools, operational health care; stimulation of the private sector to create jobs, etc. That way, rather than government wasting scarce public resources to convince us that it has indeed achieved something (which we cannot see), it will be members of the public congratulating government for a job well done. And this is done at the election booths, not on the pages of newspapers. Sadly, as with everything Nigerian, the more you see, the less you understand. *Abracadabra!*

Suleiman is of the Dept. of Public Administration, A.B.U., Zaria  
ssuleiman@gmail.com

## EDITORIAL

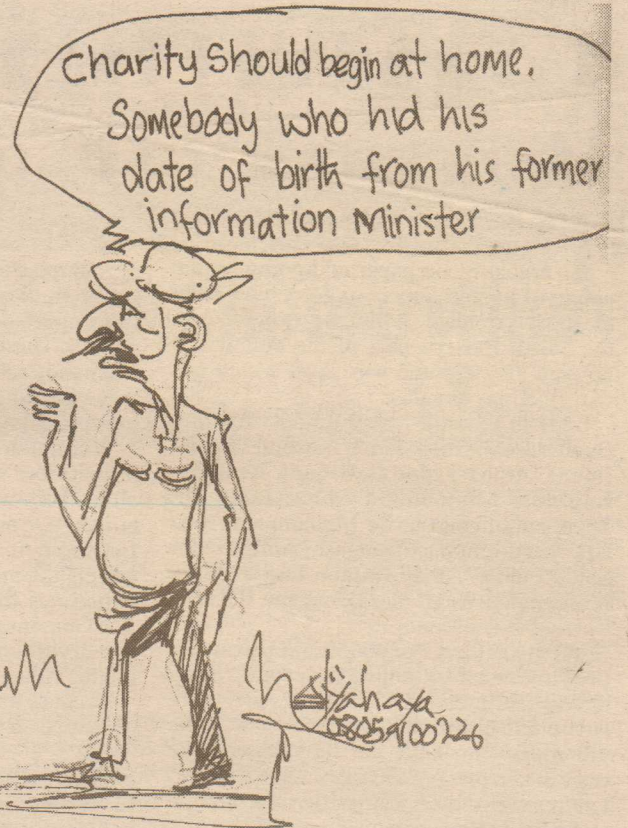
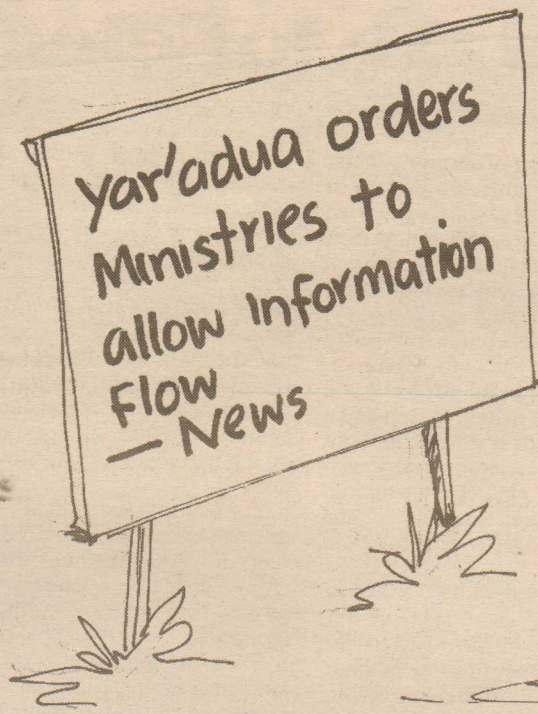
### An undemocratic move

It is just as well that the Peoples Democratic Party is divided on the issue of automatic tickets for political office holders. Recently the National chairman of the party Prince Vincent Ogbulafor offered the National Assembly members automatic tickets to contest the 2011 polls on its platform but barely 24 hours later the party changed its position and ruled out automatic tickets for all its elected political office holders. The party's Deputy National Chairman, Dr Bello Haliru Mohammed had earlier said that President Umaru Yar'adua would get the party's ticket to contest for election in 2011.

However, on March 25, 2009 its National Publicity Secretary, Professor Rufai Ahmed Alkali said the party's constitution only gives room for the conduct of primaries to elect candidates of the party for each public office. He said such an action would be unconstitutional and that only members in their constituencies could determine whether or not to return elected public office holders in transparently conducted primaries. This clarification is gratifying as it helps to assuage the anxiety over the slouching of the party towards dictatorship. The confusion in PDP as regards the party tickets for 2011 election is a symbolic reflection of what obtains currently in the party's hierarchy. Although PDP claims to be the largest party in Africa, its democratic pretensions are questionable. The party has dictatorial tendencies of imposing candidates without regards to stipulations of its constitution. What happened in the 2007 party primaries and the subsequent general elections were anything but democratic. For one, it is too early for PDP to start talking of who gets what in party primaries when it has not delivered on its promises. The average Nigerian has not felt the impact of this regime in spite of the 7-point agenda programme. What PDP ought to concentrate on in 2009 is to urge its elected public office holders to work to improve the lives of the citizens and not dissipate energy on party primary infighting. Certainly, Nigerians are not interested in PDP's intra party struggle for who wins its party tickets.

It should bother the PDP that crucial matters which should strengthen the polity economically and politically promised by this administration have been trifled with. An example is the electoral reforms on which future elections depend but which has been treated with levity. Any ruling political party consciously seeking genuine reform and the attendant progress would work genuinely to bring it about and not be making public statement that it will rule Nigeria for the next 60 years when indeed it has been unable to grapple with the monumental developmental challenges staring everyone in the face. In USA and Britain public statements of this nature would be seen as arrogant and presumptuous and could consign such a party to an eternity in opposition. The dynamics involved in retention of power in those countries depend on ability to uplift the wellbeing of the people. The PDP should concentrate on provision of electricity, good roads, quality education and basic health facilities. It is a mark of how the PDP has become disconnected with reality that after 10 years of want and privation under its rule all it is concerned with are matters involving only itself.

The PDP should therefore allow the party's constitutional provisions of conducting primaries to prevail at all levels. Those who win party tickets through genuine primaries would be more committed to duty if eventually elected because they will be accountable to the electorates. Performance should determine who gets party tickets. By imposing candidates, political parties are gradually destroying themselves and would sooner than later realize their mistakes because they will degenerate to the level of political irrelevance. PDP should therefore not arrogate to itself the power to rule the nation till eternity, rather it should endeavour to meet the yearnings of the people who eventually have that power to decide whether or not a party gets a mandate to rule in perpetuity. Democracy should promote freedom of choice; an ingredient which if subverted makes any pretensions to democratic tenet a sham. Therefore any tendency towards encouraging imposition of candidates is nothing but dictatorial and autocratic. It should be discouraged.



## Your Letters

### ABUTH should rescind decision on sacked nurse

Allow me a space to comment on the recent termination of the appointment of Safiya Ahmad, a nursing staff, by the management of Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital (ABUTH) allegedly for violating the hospital's dress code.

After reading Safiya's case as reported in the *Daily Trust* and supported with a photograph showing the hijab in contention, I have no doubt in my mind that the management of ABUTH was wrong. According to Safiya, the hijab she was using did not contravene the nursing dress code, as approved by the National Council of Nursing and Midwifery of Nigeria for Muslim women

nurses.

Safiya, who cited references with some federal hospitals in Kano and Zamfara states where Muslim nurses wear longer hijabs, added that the ABUTH's management told her that they are not talking about national laws but that they are only interested in what the hospital wants its staff to do.

The ABUTH management did not fault Safiya's submission. Rather, the chief medical director of ABUTH Professor Abdulmumini Rafindadi told *Daily Trust* that he doesn't have to see Safiya's hijab before taking decision (read: terminate her appointment). Rafindadi was quoted by *Daily Trust* as saying "...I

don't have to see the type of Hijab she was using because her superior officers have recommended that the Hijab she was using is against the dress code of the hospital. You should know that we have a system and this system is entrusted on us. We have to maintain it if we want it to progress without any sentiment..."

The chief medical director did not mention any specific rule of ABUTH that Safiya violated by wearing breast length hijab.

I must say that the reasons advanced by Rafindadi are not convincing, and shouldn't have attracted the punishment meted out on Safiya. Good administrators

don't talk or respond the way he did. In any case what kind of system is ABUTH running that women cannot have a decent uniform or dress in a proper way?

The chief nursing officer should also defend herself. This is a great disservice to women's right by a fellow woman.

The nurses' union must struggle for her reinstatement. As it seems, due process was not followed. The management of ABUTH should have a second look at that decision in order to be fair and just.

**Buhari A. Suleiman,**  
Nasarawa State University,  
P. M. B. 1022, Keffi.  
suleimanabuyzeed@yahoo.com

### Text us on 08059100257

#### Yar'adua's second term

Yar'adua's second term bid may fail because Nigeria and the international community will no longer accept rigging. To have a smooth sailing in the next election he must perform well and reach out to all aggrieved PDP members. His appointments must be spread nationally.

**Alhaji Ahmad, Kano, 08056831745**

#### Advice to ETF

Education Trust Fund (ETF) should introduce a section/department that will be responsible for the inspection of ETF intervention works in various institutions. This will ensure judicious use of funds for the development of education.

**Omale A.Y., Nuhu Bamalli Polytechnic, Zaria, 07058301920.**

#### Re-branding Nigeria

Whoever wants to change the way things are done in Nigeria for the better must start with the leaders. If they can give us constant supply of electricity, quality education, good hospitals, effective security and a workable electoral system, Nigeria will be rebranded automatically.

**Abdullahi Saidu, Funtua, 08039684534**

#### Beware of sycophants

Governor Mahmuda Aliyu Shinkafi of Zamfara State should be careful. All those sycophants campaigning for your second term are only motivated by greed and selfishness. Just perform well and a second term will be yours for the taking. We wish you Allah's guidance.

**Isaac G Misau, 08026875844**

#### Abuja-Lokoja highway

President Yar'adua should ensure the speedy completion of the Abuja-Lokoja highway because of its strategic

importance. The road is too narrow and is leading to avoidable accidents. This is one project that must not be politicised.

**Yusuf M.B, 08037274705**

#### Please Gov. Namadi!

With all your efforts to see that the entire Kaduna metropolis gets potable water supply, we in Rafinguza are still not getting water even once in a week. It is five years since we saw tap water last. Kindly, look into it for Allah's sake. Water sustains life.

**Engr. Abdullahi O. Usman, 08036529133**

#### SOS to Yobe governor

You deserve commendation for working to complete the projects started by late Mamman Ali. I hope your present commissioner of finance will compliment your efforts by jealously guarding the state resources.

**Hassan Anchinai, Potiskum, 08033202456**

#### Senators Talba and Lawan

Senators Adamu Talba and Ahmed Lawan of Yobe State are doing well in the Senate trying to stop the construction of Kafin Zaki Dam by Bauchi State. The dam when constructed will be to the disadvantage of the people of Yobe State. Keep up selfless services!

**Waziri Ibrahim Idriss Tikau, 08037044597**

#### Help HND graduates

The Federal Government of Nigeria should decide the fate of Higher National Diploma (HND) holders once and for all. Recently, Bayero University Kano rejected corps members with HNDs on the grounds that their qualifications are not needed. I suggest our polytechnics should also start rejecting corps members with degrees to protest this discrimination.

**Yusuf Lawal Nadabo, Kaduna, 08062687722**

# Opinion

## Borno PDP's litany of electoral agonies

The Borno State Chapter of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) should, arguably, on paper and going by the cream of juggernauts in its fold, have been the most formidable political power block in the North Eastern part of the country. It arrayed an awesome war chest which can win elections any day.

Look at this roll-call: Architect Ibrahim Bunu, Alhaji Asheik Jarma, Kashim Ibrahim Imam, Ambassador Babagana Kingibe, Engineer Mohammed Abba Gana, Dr. Shettima Mustapha, Dr Muhammed Abba Aji, Senator Sanusi Daggash, Ambassador Saidu Pindar, Alhaji Gambo Lawan, Hon. Mohammed Wakil and Babagana Bafurra. The list is endless.

Yet this is the set of people has repeatedly been trounced by political upstarts. They have superintended a political party with sufficient clout and muzzles to win the presidency on end, but they lacked the organizational ability, discipline, selflessness and maturity to concede grounds and rally behind one of them to become governor of Borno State. The general elections of 2003 and 2007 are illustrative.

Prior to any election, Borno PDP is a temple of peace and tranquillity. The moment election time comes, peace takes flight and a selfish agenda of "me-too-ism", which is a condition of either "I get the ticket or I bring the roof down on the head of every body", sets in.

Immediately a gubernatorial election is lost the fight shifts to Abuja for ministerial nomination. The same rancour, backstabbing, betrayal and treachery will rule the air, this time with more intensity and ruthlessness. At the end of it all, the "winners" would return to Maiduguri, gather a group of cronies and outline the type of buttons they pressed, the pressure they exerted and the number of contracts they deployed to outclass a perceived opponent to corner a particular federal

By B. K. Ahmed

appointment for members of his group. Their intention clearly is to portray a picture of self importance and relevance in Nigerian politics. These people seem to get more kick when they sabotage one another than when they win gubernatorial, senatorial or house of representative elections.

Whenever the time comes for party primaries to select one to vie for governor, all of them would like to be governor and not a single one will be willing to step down for another, leading to a do-or-die fight which ultimately breeds acrimony that obliterates the PDP's chance of winning. The Obasanjo type of 'garrison politics' and his divide-and-rule antics did not help matters either.

Because the PDP leadership lacked sense of justice and fairness, the antagonism that ruled the hierarchy in Borno and the attendant show-up attitude of some of them, the bickering went on at the expense of the collective interest of the party.

When Obasanjo wanted to pick one of them for a ministerial post, they became so unruly that a Hajiya Bintu was picked from 'nowhere' and made a minister. Even the last Yar'adua exercise produced the same result: Dr. Shettima Mustapha – a respected politician but he was not in reckoning party hierarchy-wise – just picked the slot effortlessly, because the old order of bickering reared its head again. He simply benefited from the in-house rancour of the party in the state.

Now, why is it that Kashim Ibrahim Imam always wins the PDP ticket for governorship, but on each turn, gets a bloody nose when it mattered most? The truth is that Kashim-Imam is about the most grounded politician in the PDP in Borno State. To be fair, all of them are formidable or so they taught, but whenever the primaries come, Kashim-Imam manages to get the ticket. But instead of the others to work collectively, each will

work against it.

The 2011 election offers another chance for Kashim-Imam to rout them all at the primaries only for him to get another bloody nose against a Governor Sheriff's anointed candidate in the main election – that is the likely scenario. So is it wise for the PDP to continue to field a political liability in a one-sided bout that will continue to post the same bitter result? If Kashim-Imam is a kill joy, then who amongst the rest can win it? If you ask me, I will tell you no one can. My reason is that all the others would work against who ever emerges, or at best stand on the fence when all hands are required on deck.

The solution is a radical approach akin to the joker played by the GNPP in the second republic. An unknown Muhammed Goni was literally conscripted into the governorship race when the leadership of the party was faced with a dearth of marketable candidates just as the PDP in Borno today is confronted by a similar cul-de-sac. The big guys in Borno PDP need to understand that their faces have been too reoccurring such that the electorate is largely distrustful of them.

The PDP in Borno should adopt the GNPP's drastic and radical paradigm shift. Ex-Governor Muhammadu Goni emerged almost out of the blues, instantly appealed to the people, became a hot cake and got elected in a landslide and ended up posting such an excellent record of achievements that is still being talked about decades after.

A number of indigenes of Borno State both within the political circle and outside it fit the bill here. Many of them are either in the federal civil service or are into entrepreneurship after they have laboriously accessed quality education, got connected around the world and have been honed to exploit opportunities to serve the people. All it takes to discover them is for the leadership of the PDP at the national level with the direct involvement of the

president to fish them out.

In 2003 I served as the media coordinator to the campaign team of Architect Waziri Bulama of the AD when he contested for the House of Representatives. The energy, finesse and character he put into it so much appealed to me that I wondered why the PDP to which he defected to, did not deem it fit to make him its Governorship candidate under a consensus arrangement in 2007. A first class brain, the man had, during the 2003 electioneering campaign became the toast of the people due mainly to the fact that he was new, intelligent and charismatic.

Again, the recent death of Shehu Mustapha Umar El-Kanemi and the resultant brouhaha that attended the selection process of his successor, has, unknown to many, thrown up a window of opportunity which any political party can cash in on and gain some political capital. The younger brother to the late Shehu Prince Abba Rufai was one of the contenders for the throne, but as God the Almighty has willed, he lost it; but the torrent of goodwill, widespread amenability and the general outpouring of love which Prince Abba Rufai enjoyed state wide, coupled with his apolitical mien, his exposure, humility, education and charisma are attributes that have jelled well with the public. Get a man like that and watch the state go gaga in a frenzy and common desire to ignite change and development.

The 2011 election is a make or mar one for the PDP in Borno State. Allow the bickering to continue and risk losing out once more, or inject a new concept and a new blood and win easily and thus have the mandate of the people to unfold policies that will bring the seriousness, class and standards required to seriously deal with the myriads of problems bedeviling the state.

Ahmed, a journalist contributed this piece from 114 Kashim Ibrahim Road, Maiduguri. bkyaks1122@yahoo.com

## Kogi politics and the need for unity

By Abdulmalik Abdulkarim

The Kogi Central Senatorial District has, over the past, years found itself in a very worrisome position. It is a known fact that that part of the state otherwise called Ebiraland has been bedeviled or entwined in perennial violent political crises with clannish subways.

Having become the most conspicuous and worrisome flash point in the past years with its attendant negative effects not just in the zone or the state but the nation at large, series of efforts by various individuals, groups as well as the government threw the spanners into work in the quest for a solution. But the way out has also seem to be a mirage not because the perpetrators of the fratricidal hostilities are spirits and untamable but the truth is that the fundamental issues have not been addressed by those in the authority.

Principal among these issues include the growing spate of unemployment, deliberate political disequilibrium and the imaginary ethnic hatred among the major ethnic groups in the state.

A critical review of these sources of political unrest showed that some shallow minded politicians who are bereft of ideas and people oriented programmes tacitly planted these trees of discord and retrogression to make the otherwise peace loving people of the state hate one another lest they have time to look into how they are governed.

At local government level, you hear about inter-clan and inter-district acrimony while at the state level, it is ethnic, and to some extent, religious. But the wholesome truth is that non of these looters of public treasury really care about any other person but themselves, their wives and their children.

Even in employment, the favoured clan or ethnic group is made to believe that they are in charge but in the real sense they are in no degree better than the not-favoured. They all go to the same market to contend with the

ever increasing inflation.

The truth is that if there is good governance and the socio-economic climate is friendly and progressive, the government would not have been the only major source of employment. It wouldn't have favoured any particular ethnic group at the detriment of the other.

Many discerning minds such as the Academics from Kogi Central in a published advertorial letter to the President recently gave a detail statistics on the remote and immediate causes of the unabated crises. They went further to give a downright lopsided table of employment and appointment figures which up till now, has not been contested by those in the government. Verily, Lugard House owed the people of the state an explanation and swiftly too.

As an association, it is one of our cardinal objectives to enhance dialogue – not violence – in wanting to address the imbalance. True to the ethics of our profession, Journalism, we are poised to be objective, balanced and fair on any issue that catches our attention. We are no subscribers to hostility. We are not out for destructive criticism or an uncivilized approach to solving issues. When government performs well, we will say it. Where its action or inaction is antithetical to good governance, we will waste no time to constructively criticize it.

It is our firm belief that every part of the state is as important as the other. The crisis in the central affects other parts of the state as well as the entire nation. As gate way to the north and south, peace in that zone is sacrosanct.

Now that the elites in the zone have risen, all hands must be on deck to bell the cat. Politicians from the central should know that posterity will put them on the roll call of

cheap opportunists who heated up the polity to achieve their narrow economic gains.

It is abundantly clear that citizen Onimisi from the Central has no reason to see as his enemy, citizen Olu from the West or citizen Attai from the East. Scores of these citizens live together peacefully as each other's keeper in the same neighbourhood. I have not also seen a situation where the Igala passenger refused to board the taxi driven by an Epira man or an Okun man refusing to seat by the side of a Nupe or Ogori passenger. When people go shopping, they go for the articles that meet their expectations, not the facial marks on the seller's face or her ethnic background. Even at schools, our children interact without tribal prejudice.

It is only at political and governmental level that all these differences are used to fan embers of discord so that the looters of public treasury could have a field day with impunity. At the end, it is the entire people that bear the brunt of the unending thievery of public treasury.

To correct this fixed dislike, this deep-seated ethnic suspicions in the body polity of Kogi State and put the final nails in the coffins of those who thrive only in highly retrogressive political antipathy, we call on our colleagues and brothers from the west and east districts to rise up and join hands with us. We will cooperate with the government where they do well and we will waste no time to take them to the cleaners where they take tax payers and their children's wellbeing for granted. The state belongs to us all and collectively we must salvage it.

Every part of the state is a fraction of the whole and no part is too minute to be ignored just as no part, no matter how big can take the place of a whole. A fraction is a fraction and it has to be added up to make a whole. Therefore no one should be propelled by Dutch courage to carry the illusions

superiority complex on his head for too long. The tide, some day, shall change just as it changed in the South Africa and recently, the US.

World history also showed that no body or nation ever held on to power for ever. In Kogi State, our brothers from the east should see the wisdom in fair sharing just as the people of the central must also appreciate the wisdom in dialogue. And our chief concern should be good governance and not vendetta. The east need our trust, the west no less need our trust and cooperation. We just have to integrate and put the ugly stomping past behind us. The change we desire is that change predicated on collective bargain; not conspiracy. Our brothers from the east should also understand the law of natural consequence that the present storm and stress situation in central and west districts is a time bomb that must not be allowed to explode hence the call for serious dialogue over power sharing in the state.

Any irrational formula no matter how smart it drives out nature with a pitchfork constantly runs back. We shall tirelessly encourage the oppressed parts of the state to come together in unison in their quest for change but they should also be flushed with the heart to recompense injury with justice, and recompense kindness with kindness. Two wrongs never make a right except in mathematics where negative, when added to negative becomes positive. Reality of life is not like that. The object in the construction of the state is the greatest happiness of the whole, and not that of any fraction. The good of the people, according to Cicero – Roman orator and Statesman – is the Chief Law.

Abdulmalik Abdulkarim, President, Kogi Central Media Practitioners Association wrote from Lokoja.



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*Signed:*

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Distinguished Senator, as you add another year to your extremely productive life sojourn, we pray that God, in His Infinite Mercies, continues to give you good health and strength, long life and prosperity for your enduring patriotic service to the motherland, in particular, and humanity, in general.



*Signed:*  
**Professor Nuhu O. Yaqub, OFR**  
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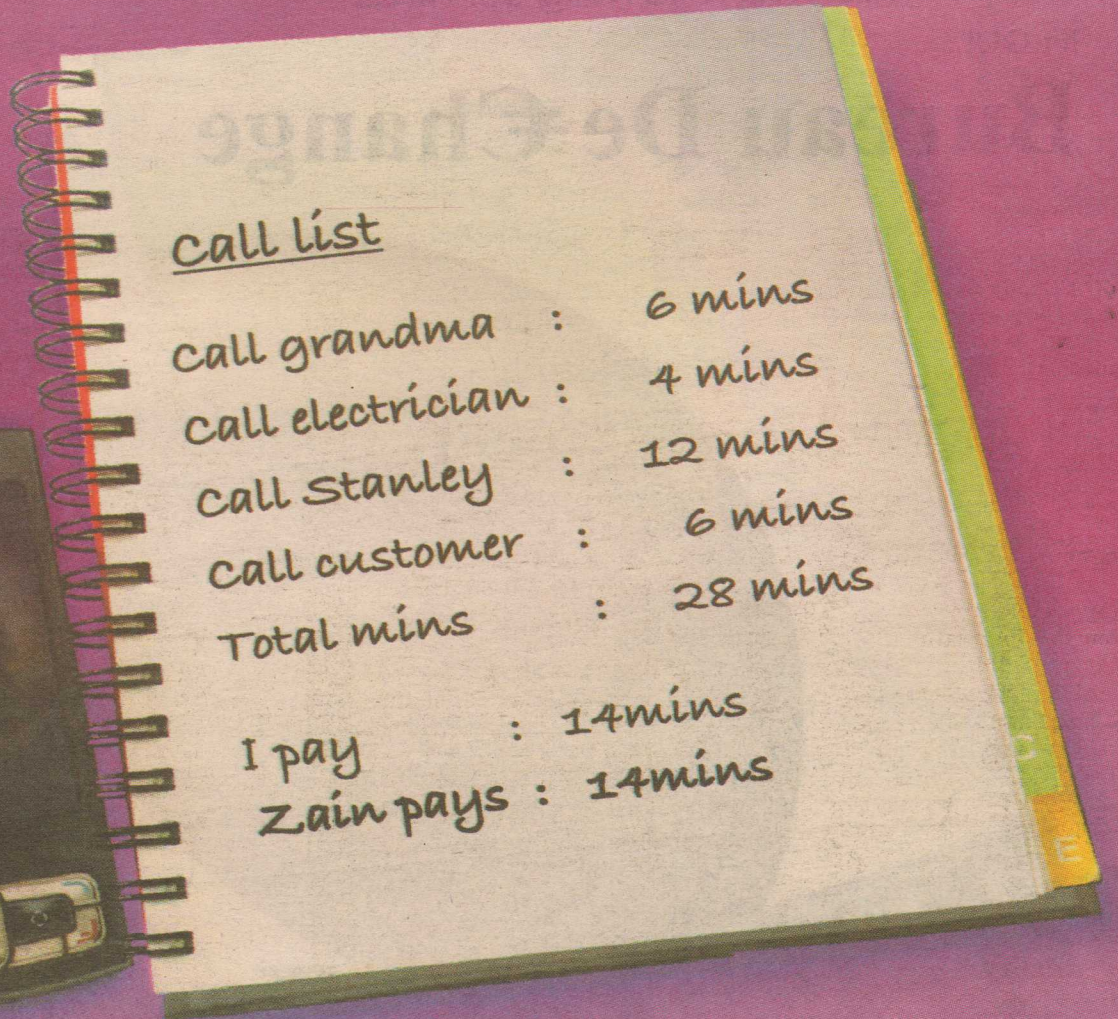
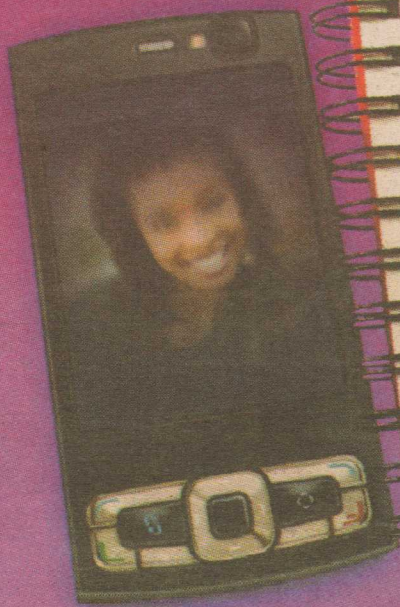
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## WORLD REPORT



North Korean leader Kim Jong Il and senior party and state officials in Pyongyang. UN nuclear inspectors left North Korea yesterday after the regime ordered them out and announced plans to restart production of weapons-grade plutonium.

### UN nuclear inspectors quit N/Korea

UN nuclear inspectors left North Korea yesterday after the hardline communist state ordered them out and announced plans to restart production of weapons-grade plutonium. The inspectors from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) arrived in Beijing but declined to comment to reporters.

A separate four-member US team which had been monitoring the North's disablement of its Yongbyon nuclear complex was also preparing to leave after being ordered out, the State Department said.

The complex produced enough plutonium for a 2006 nuclear test and for several other bombs until it was shut down in 2007 under a six-nation disarmament deal.

Pyongyang, angry at UN censure of its rocket launch this month, announced Tuesday it was scrapping the deal, would reopen the plants to build up its nuclear deterrent and said the UN inspectors should leave. They removed their seals from equipment and rooms before going.

The IAEA said in Vienna that four of its inspectors pulled out — two who were already posted at Yongbyon and another two who had arrived in Pyongyang in preparation for taking over.

"It's a step backward. We're obviously concerned about this," State Department spokesman Robert Wood said Wednesday, referring to North Korea's planned expulsion

of the US monitors. "They (North Korea) just bring upon themselves further isolation from the international community."

Wood said the United States would speak with other nations in the talks — China, Japan, South Korea and Russia — about the next step. North Korea has previously threatened to quit the talks, which began in 2003 and several times came close to collapse.

But its Tuesday statement announced it would "never" take part in such discussions again and was no longer bound by any six-party agreements. Pyongyang appears to be pushing instead for bilateral talks with the United States, analysts say.

White House spokesman Robert Gibbs said the United States and its negotiating partners were "anxious for the North Koreans to come back to the table."

The Japanese and South Korean foreign ministers on Thursday agreed to work towards resuming the six-way talks and outlined the pivotal role China had to play as a key ally of the North, a Japanese foreign ministry official said. In Pyongyang, North Korean leader Kim Jong-Il Wednesday watched a fireworks display marking the anniversary of the birth of his late father and founding president Kim Il-Sung.

He "warmly greeted" the cheering crowd that gathered along the Taedong River to mark the occasion, official media said.

### Somali PM asks for more help to fight pirates

Somalia's prime minister says his government has identified many pirate leaders and would be willing to share that information with other countries, including the United States, to get the resources needed to go after them.

Prime Minister Omar Abdirashid Ali Sharmarke, speaking yesterday to The Associated Press in an exclusive interview, said the pirates have become so wealthy and powerful that they threaten his government.

"We have... on who is behind this, who is involved," Sharmarke said in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi. "There is a lot of money flowing in... we are following very closely how money is distributed here."

He was referring to the fact that Somali pirates can earn \$1 million or more in ransom for each hijacked ship. Forty-two ships were hijacked by Somali pirates last year, and so far 19 have been taken this year.

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton on Wednesday announced new diplomatic efforts to freeze the pirates' assets and said the Obama administration will work with shippers and insurers to improve their defenses against pirates.

"These pirates are criminals, they are armed gangs on the sea. And those plotting attacks must be stopped," Clinton said in Washington.

Clinton did not call for military force, although she mentioned "going after" pirate

bases in Somalia. She urged the U.S. and others to "explore ways to track and freeze" pirate ransom money and other funds used in purchases of new boats, weapons and communications equipment.

Sharmarke said the Somali government was presenting a plan to envoys from the European Union, the United States and a regional authority to fight pirates by building up military forces and establishing intelligence-gathering posts along its coastline.

"The best way to actually deal with this is to prevent (the pirates) from going waters," Sharmarke said.

"We are planning to establish at least ten or more observation posts on the coastline."

### Mauritania's junta leader steps down, to run for presidency

The head of Mauritania's junta announced yesterday he had stepped down to run for president, eight months after seizing power in a coup that ousted the country's first democratically elected leader.

General Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz announced in a statement broadcast on state radio and television early Thursday he had resigned as head of state and quit the army ahead of the June 6 elections that observers expect him to win easily.

In the statement, Ould Abdel Aziz said he had stepped down "in conformity with the law," which required the junta leader to relinquish power and leave the army by April 22 to qualify as a candidate.

He said he was standing in the election in the "sincere wish to build a new Mauritania based on justice, equality and liberty."

While Ould Abdel Aziz has stepped down as leader, the junta's state council led by one of his allies will remain in place until the vote.

The president of the Mauritanian senate Ba Mamadou has been appointed interim head of state. A coalition of parties opposed to last year's coup has rejected the coming elections as a farce aimed at legitimising army rule. Most of the opposition to the junta and its government plan to boycott the vote.

When he seized power, Ould Abdel Aziz presented the August coup as a necessary change to save the country from the leadership of president Sidi Ould Cheikh Abdallahi.


While the move was widely condemned by the international community, a majority in Mauritania's senate and parliament backed the ouster of the president.

The junta leader faces no serious challengers in the election due to the opposition's boycott of the vote. He has also used his position as self-appointed head of state in recent months to campaign for himself.

"It isn't a surprise. He has been campaigning for himself for months, crisscrossing the country," said Alain Antil, a Mauritania expert at the French Institute for International Relations.

Ousted president Ould Cheikh Abdallahi said he will not run because he wants the army to relinquish power permanently before holding elections.

Ahmed Ould Daddah, who came in second in the 2007 presidential elections, has also announced he will boycott the vote. Although Ould Daddah initially supported the coup, he later turned against Ould Abdel Aziz, accusing him of using the state "to serve his crazed ambitions".




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A University of Glasgow team led by Mr. Robbie Willis (Senior International Officer) and comprising Professor Kwako Upong (Accounting and Finance), Dr. Edward Wasige (Engineering) and Helen Templar (International Office) is visiting Nigeria in April 2009 and will hold presentations and student interviews as follows:

## STUDY IN THE UK



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| <p><b>Abuja</b><br/>Date: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2009<br/>Venue: BCIE Office<br/>Ground Floor Metro Plaza<br/>Plot 991 -992 Zakariya Maimaleri<br/>Street, Central Area, Abuja<br/>E-mail: abuja@bcie.co.uk<br/>Time: 1pm - 5.30pm<br/>Contact person: Emeka Udeh (0806 678 8636)</p> <p><b>Lagos (Victoria Island)</b><br/>Date: Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2009<br/>Venue: BCIE Victoria Island Branch<br/>Plot 146C Imman Abibu Adetoro Street<br/>Off Ajose Adeogun, by Sinaru Daranjo<br/>Victoria Island Annex, Lagos<br/>Time: 1pm - 6pm<br/>Contact person: Gbolahan Awotorebo (0806 235 1535)</p> <p><b>Lagos (Victoria Island)</b><br/>Date: Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2009<br/>Venue: Kaplan International<br/>(Glasgow International College)<br/>3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Eleganza Biro Plaza<br/>Plot 634 Adeyemo Alakija Street<br/>Victoria Island<br/>Time: 10am - 5.30pm<br/>Contact Person: Hopell Akarator (0805 197 5398)</p> | <p><b>Abuja</b><br/>Date: Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2009<br/>Venue: Transcorp Hilton Hotel<br/>Maitama Abuja<br/>E-mail: daveabionabj@yahoo.com<br/>Time: 10am - 5.30pm<br/>Contact person: Mary Adejo (0806 535 1761)<br/>(Dave Abion Consulting, Abuja)</p> <p><b>Lagos (Ikoyi)</b><br/>Date: Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2009<br/>Venue: British Council<br/>20 Thompson Avenue, Ikoyi<br/>Time: 10am - 5.30pm<br/>Contact persons: Tara, Ify and Vivianne (Dave Abion Consulting)<br/>(0703 338 3220, 0806 270 0622, 01-7746088, 01-4627838)</p> <p><b>Lagos (Ikeja)</b><br/>Date: Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2009<br/>Venue: Dave Abion Consulting Office<br/>6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Elephant Cement House<br/>Alausa, Ikeja<br/>E-mail: daveabion@yahoo.com<br/>Time: 10am - 5pm<br/>Contact persons: Tara, Ify and Vivianne (0703 338 3220, 0806 270 0622, 01-7746088, 01-4627838)</p> |
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On-the-spot offers for entry in September 2009 will be made to qualified students after the interviews.

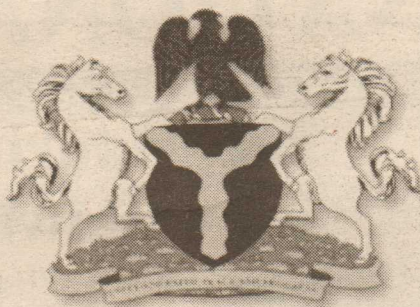
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| <p><b>LAGOS (IKEJA)</b><br/>6th Floor, (Wing F) Elephant Cement House, Alausa, Ikeja.<br/>Contact: Tara or Ify<br/>Tel: 01-7379959, 7379960, 7746088;<br/>Mobile: 08062700622, 07055177000, 07058787704<br/>Fax: 01-2714723<br/>E-mail: daveabion@yahoo.com; and info@daveabionconsulting.com</p> | <p><b>LAGOS (VICTORIA ISLAND)</b><br/>2nd Floor, Nurses House, 43, Afribank Street, V/Island, Lagos<br/>Contact: Vivianne or Henry<br/>Tel: 01-4627838<br/>Mobile: 07033383220, 08081172252 07087757986, .<br/>E-mail: daveabion_vi@yahoo.co.uk and vi@daveabionconsulting.com</p> |
|---|--|

**ABUJA OFFICE**  
Suite 217B (second floor)  
...A PLAZA (opposite Securities & Exchange Commission Office)  
Muhammadu Buhari Way,  
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E-mail: daveabionabj@yahoo.com and abj@daveabionconsulting.com





**Invitation for Bids (IFB)**  
**FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA**  
**MINISTRY OF MINES AND STEEL DEVELOPMENT**  
**SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES PROJECT (SMMRP)**  
**ALTERATION /MODIFICATION OF THE NATIONAL GEOSCIENCES RESEARCH**  
**LABORATORIES CENTRE, KADUNA**

IFB No. SMMRP/NCB/CW/09/02

Credit No.: 4012-UNI

1. This Invitation for Bids follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project that appeared in *Development Business*, issue no. **ID-843108** of **December 9, 2004**.
2. The Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria has received a credit from the *International Development Association (IDA)* towards the cost of **Sustainable Management of Mineral Resources Project (SMMRP)**, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this *credit* to payments under the contract for the **Alteration /Modification of the National Geosciences Research Laboratories Centre, Kaduna**
3. The **Sustainable Management of Mineral Resources Project (SMMRP)** now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders to carry out the **Alteration /Modification of the National Geosciences Research Laboratories Centre, Kaduna**.

| Description of works   | Bid Security | Completion Period |
|--|--------------|-------------------|
| ALTERATION /MODIFICATION OF THE NATIONAL GEOSCIENCES RESEARCH LABORATORIES CENTRE, KADUNA. | N 3.0 M      | 8 Months          |

4. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures specified in the World Bank's *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits*, and are open to all bidders from Eligible Source Countries as defined in the Bidding Documents.
5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from **Sustainable Management of Mineral Resources Project (SMMRP)** and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below from **1000 hrs to 1600 hrs, Monday to Friday**.
6. Qualifications requirements include:
  - An average annual financial amount of construction work over the last five years of: **N 271.0M**
  - **Experience as prime contractor** in the carrying out of at least two projects of similar nature and complexity equivalent to the Works over the last five years (to comply with this requirement, the works cited should be at least 70 percent complete)
  - Availability (own, lease, hire, etc.) of the essential equipment listed in the Bidding Data Sheet;
  - **A Contract Manager** with five years' experience in construction works of an equivalent nature and volume, including no less than three years as Contract Manager; and
  - **Liquid assets and/or credit facilities**, net of other contractual commitments and exclusive of any advance payments which may be made under the Contract, of no less than **N 54.0M**
  - **A margin of preference** for eligible national contractors/joint ventures **SHALL NOT** be applied.
7. A complete set of Bidding Documents in **English language** may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written Application to the address below and upon payment of a non refundable fee of **Fifteen Thousand Naira (15,000.00)** or its equivalent in any freely convertible currency. The method of payment will be by **bank draft** in favor of **Sustainable Management of Mineral Resources Project (SMMRP)**. The document will be collected by bidder's representative or sent by courier services on request.
8. Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before **10:00 a.m. on Friday May 15, 2009**. Electronic bidding **shall not** be permitted. **Late bids will be rejected**. Bids will be opened physically in the presence of the bidders' representatives, who choose to attend in person at the address below at **10:00 a.m. on Friday May 15, 2009**
9. All bids shall be accompanied by a **Bid Security** as stated in the table above or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency.
10. The address referred to above is:
 

**The Project Coordinator,**  
**Sustainable Management of Mineral Resources Project (SMMRP)**  
**Project Management Unit (PMU)**  
**Ministry of Mines and Steel Development**  
**No 6 Marte Close, Off Misau Crescent**  
**Garki II - Abuja**  
**Nigeria**

Tel.: +234- 8033140096, 8053000153  
 uladie2001@yahoo.co.uk , utsu.adie@msmd.gov.ng



## THE WEST AFRICAN EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL

PRIVATE MAIL BAG 1022, YABA, LAGOS

[www.waecnigeria.org](http://www.waecnigeria.org)

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2009

### WEST AFRICAN SENIOR SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION (WASSCE) FOR PRIVATE CANDIDATES

#### 1. APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION

Intending candidates for the November/December 2009 West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE) for private candidates are hereby informed that the registration will be online.

#### 2. MODE OF PAYMENT

Candidates are expected to pay by cash a registration fee of **Five thousand, one hundred and fifty naira (₦5,150.00)** made up of examination fee, administrative charges, e-learning fee and information VCD fee in any of the approved banks nearest to them or to accredited selling agents and collect two different scratch cards for the examination. One scratch card is for the online registration and the other for the checking of results. Scratch cards are also available for sale in any of the WAEC offices by bank draft. Candidates should note that banks and other selling agents are allowed to charge **two hundred naira (₦200.00)** as commission.

The following banks have been approved by the Council for the sale of the online registration scratch cards for the November/December 2009 WASSCE (P):

|                         |                           |                            |                              |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Access Bank Plc         | Afribank Plc              | Diamond Bank Plc           | First City Monument Bank Plc |
| Ecobank Plc             | Fidelity Bank Plc         | First Bank of Nig. Plc     | Union Bank Plc               |
| Guaranty Trust Bank Plc | Intercontinental Bank Plc | United Bank for Africa Plc | Bank PHB Plc                 |
| Oceanic Bank Plc        | Stanbic IBTC Bank Plc     | Skye Bank Plc              | Zenith Bank Plc              |
| Sterling Bank Plc       |                           |                            |                              |

#### 3. REGISTRATION PERIOD

The registration period is from **31st March to 15th July, 2009**. However, late registration is allowed from **16th July to 31st July, 2009** with a penalty fee of **one thousand five hundred naira (₦1,500.00)** in addition to the normal fee.

#### 4. REGISTRATION

Candidates must conclude registration within two weeks of first access to the website during the registration period. They are also to print the admission notice/photocard as evidence of successful registration. This will serve as their photocard during the examination.

#### 5. BLIND CANDIDATES

Blind candidates will also register online like sighted candidates *but must clearly state their disability*.

#### 6. GENERAL INFORMATION

- (1) Candidates should note that examination fees are not refundable.
- (2) Entries must be submitted with **good quality black and white photographs**, not "wait and get" or coloured passport size. **The background of such photographs MUST NOT BE BLUE OR RED.** The size should be 275 by 314 pixels.
- (3) **Candidates should study carefully, the information on the scratch cards** before registration.
- (4) Candidates should study the Regulations and Syllabuses as well as the timetable for the examination which they can download using their registration scratch cards.
- (5) Candidates who lose their scratch cards will purchase another card.
- (6) All candidates must go to their examination hall in mufti and without arms. No professional uniform of any kind will be allowed in the examination hall.
- (7) The entire results of candidates who make more than one entry will be cancelled.
- (8) Smoking is not allowed in the examination hall.
- (9) Any candidate that comes into the examination hall with mobile phone and/or electronic organizer will have his or her entire results cancelled.
- (10) **All candidates must ensure that their entries are correctly uploaded, as the Council will not be held responsible for errors in candidates' particulars. No request for correction will be entertained on any information which a candidate voluntarily gives at the point of registration.**
- (11) Candidates who engage in examination malpractice will not only have their results cancelled but may be prosecuted.
- (12) Candidates must come into the examination hall with their original photocards.

**DR. IYI UWADIAE**  
HEAD OF NATIONAL OFFICE



# THE Nigerian STOCK EXCHANGE

## THE NIGERIAN STOCK EXCHANGE'S STAND POINT ON BUSINESSDAY'S MISGUIDED JOURNALISM

**F**INALLY, BusinessDay has shown its hand, with its editorial of Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> April 2009. The said editorial was the culmination of its campaign against the leadership of The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and The Nigerian Stock Exchange, (NSE) which the newspaper started on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2009. Evidently, if there were doubts as to the motives of the newspaper, it is now conclusive that the infamous BusinessDay series on the Nigerian capital market was a build-up to the editorial under reference. The editorial called for the resignation of the CEOs of SEC and The Nigerian Stock Exchange because their 'light touch' regulation, as alleged by BusinessDay, 'triggered the crash of the country's capital market.'

BusinessDay editors cannot be farther from the truth. They are either mischievous or completely lack knowledge about the workings of a capital market. Also, just as BusinessDay has raised questions (albeit misguidedly) about the state of the capital market and the governance of SEC and The Nigerian Stock Exchange, it has inadvertently raised questions about its journalism credentials. Readers of its series on The Exchange between 9<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> February 2009 would recall that despite the gravity of what it set out to publish, the newspaper did not consider it a professional duty to balance its report by hearing from The Exchange before going to press. If it did, it would have saved itself and journalism the ridicule that followed its story that "many Council members no longer attend meetings ..." among other slippages. In fact, BusinessDay has become the **PROBLEM** in the ongoing effort to restore investor confidence in the market, because confidence cannot be erected on obvious negative and baseless media publications on the market.

Incidentally, the edition of the newspaper that carried this editorial led with a 'story' (not a news report) entitled 'CEOs seek overhaul of capital market'. The innocent reader, looking at the headline and the introduction to the story, would think that the paper was reporting a communiqué instead of the newspaper's opinion presented, rather unprofessionally, as news. The story included interviews the newspaper had with two bank directors in a failed attempt to give credence to its story – failed attempt because neither of the directors said anything near what the newspaper wanted its readers to believe. While one spoke essentially about what investors should be doing in the market, the other dwelt on the role of banks and the need for a review of how they had engaged with the market.

For the avoidance of doubt, it is necessary to shed some light on the situation in the Nigerian Capital Market and the role of SEC and The Exchange in successfully managing this situation. The BusinessDay editorial claimed that 'the crash' in the stock market 'started ever before the effects of the global financial crisis were felt in Nigeria'. **FALSE.**

The global financial crisis started in the United States of America (USA) in the second quarter of 2007 and Nigeria did not feel the impact until August 2008. How could BusinessDay say it was SEC and The NSE that started the decline of prices in the Nigerian capital market? Could SEC and The NSE have

stopped investors from borrowing money from the banks to invest in the market? **NO.** Also, is BusinessDay aware that every day, The Nigerian Stock Exchange publishes a Daily Official List, which, among other things, shows changes in the Price/Earnings Ratio of quoted companies? It is necessary to remark that 40% of the meltdown arose from investments in Private Placement which many investors misunderstood as Public Offerings approved by The NSE. However, The NSE has no control over Private Placement.

From BusinessDay's language, it is obvious that its editors love hyperbole. The editorial said the stock market has "collapsed", when the record shows that the contrary is the case, as there were stocks that gained and lost during the period. In addition, The Exchange during the period listed three new companies and two government bonds, while ten new issue applications are being processed. Some time this month, another company would be added to the Daily Official List. Meanwhile, as the editors of BusinessDay worked on their editorial, they failed to see that in the two weeks to the editorial, price movement on The Exchange had been on upward swing.

BusinessDay did not see anything good in the leadership of SEC and The NSE; yet, this is the same leadership that enabled Nigerian companies to get listed on London Stock Exchange and JSE Securities Exchange of South Africa, thereby widening the financing options for Nigerian companies; the same leadership that enabled banks and insurance companies to meet their financing needs under their industry consolidation programme; and the same leadership that have aligned its processes and corporate governance with International Organisation of Securities Commission (IOSCO) and World Federation of Exchanges (WFE). The same leadership has **re-created** the middle class in Nigeria through capital market investment and significantly diversified and increased domestic participation in the capital formation process.

Obviously, these accomplishments do not count with BusinessDay, which was why its editorial hinged on fallen share prices to hang the leadership of the market. However, the fundamentals of our market remain strong and the market, we believe, will rebound in due course. The Lagos State Government bond that was listed this year was oversubscribed, further affirming the virility of the market. In the last five years, a total of **N6.3 trillion** was raised on The Nigerian Stock Exchange for the financing of commercial and public sector projects, providing jobs and a variety of conveniences for the Nigerian public, contrary to what BusinessDay would want the public to believe.

In conclusion, these times challenge everybody. The situation calls for concerted efforts aimed at promoting investor confidence, rather than engaging in media sensationalism that only works to further unsettle investors at the expense of the economy.

**MANAGEMENT**

# BUSINESS TRUST

● **FG wants Nigerians to patronize locally made products** —Page 30

● **Mauritius sees 2008/09 inflation down to 7%** —Page 27

● **Stock Market Report** —Page 28 & 30

Hotline: 08051000536

## Brief

### Firms partner on Lagos/Ibadan expressway

By Idris Ahmed

Green Russetts Limited is to partner Bi-Courtney on the reconstruction, expansion, modernisation and maintenance of the Lagos/Ibadan Expressway, a representative of Green Russetts has said.

The Federal Executive Council (FEC) Wednesday, granted a 25-year concession to Bi-Courtney to maintain the road, said to be the busiest in the country. The arrangement is valued at N89.5 billion.

A representative of Green Russetts, Mr. Roberts Sokou, said both companies have assured Federal Government of their capacity to deliver a modern expressway on Lagos/Ibadan road with facilities that can compete with such other roads in the world.

Sokou said both firms were now ready to commence work on the project very soon.

He said if this project is successful, a proper foundation would have been laid for the use of Public Private Partnership initiative (PPP) in resolving road transportation problems in the country.

He said the firms are well experienced in Build, Operate and Transfer schemes. He said the firms would combine their wealth of experience to deliver on the expectations of the Federal Government on the Project.

### Insurance firms begin nationwide awareness campaign

From Chris Agabi, Lagos

Worried by the low insurance penetration in Nigeria, a consortium of insurance companies has begun a nationwide awareness campaign about the industry and its inherent benefits.

Insurance awareness in the country is currently put at less than one percent.

Briefing the press in Lagos, Wednesday, the project's Consultant of Ideas House, Mr. Kehinde Salami said a sizeable percentage of the country's population do not have any insurance policy despite the array of benefits insurance offers.

He said: "This commendable effort is borne out of the low penetration level of insurance business compared with other financial services in the country. The campaign, which deploys an Integrated Marketing Consultancy (IMC) strategy, seeks to enlighten the populace on the values, services and benefits of insurance.

"The campaign roadmap will also include talk shows, school trips and other events geared at helping Nigerians to assure their future and standards of living through the purchase of insurance products."

He also said that they seek to disabuse the minds of some Nigerians on the negative perceptions and widespread misconceptions about the industry and its practitioners.

While lamenting this unfortunate situation that ranks Nigerians among the country with lowest insurance penetration levels in the world, Salami expressed optimism that this campaign will go a long way towards addressing the situation.

He said: "The Nigerian insurance business is clearly under-developed in relation to other sectors of the financial services community. Less than one million Nigerians have a single insurance policy (excluding NHIS). Yet per capita income is in excess of \$1,100."

"As reported by Agosto & Co in its 2009 Insurance Industry report, low public confidence and poor perception remain the bane of the sector. The industry therefore needs to educate and sensitize Nigerians on the benefits and usage of insurance products for both personal and corporate purposes in maintaining and improving their living standards."

He said about 14 insurance companies are involved in the project.

The companies sponsoring the project include ADIC Insurance, AIICO Insurance, Consolidated Hallmark, Cornerstone Insurance, Custodian Insurance, Guaranty Trust Assurance and IEL.

## Fuel scarcity: NNPC, marketers trade blames as queues persist

By Hamisu Muhammad

The Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) has denied imposing any embargo on selling petroleum products in Abuja and environs. The Group General Manager, Group Public Affairs, NNPC, Dr Levi Ajuonuma said yesterday that it is not true that NNPC has directed marketers to be closing petrol stations by 8pm or sell the products for specific amount.

But the marketers said they have received new regulations from NNPC which stated that petrol or Premium Motor Spirit (PMS) henceforth will be sold for specific amounts to consumers. The regulation as they said is that only N1,000 petrol for private car owners and N2,500 for Commercial cars and buses. The new rule also stated that no filling station should be selling fuel after 8pm.

But Dr Ajuonuma said it

is not true that NNPC set those rule for them. He told our reporter on phone yesterday that NNPC has never set any regulation for them.

Some of the marketers in Abuja confirmed receiving directive from NNPC on the new regulations. Our reporter gathered that most of the filling stations have already started implementing the new rules.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, some managers of filling stations in Abuja denied diverting fuel to other parts of the country, rather blamed NNPC for not giving them enough products for their stations.

One of the manager of the filling station in Area 11, said the new rules is seriously contributing to the long queues witnessed in the filling stations, saying before

now some filling station are selling products 24 hour but now they must close for business by 8pm.

Another manager at in a filling station located in the Central Business Area, Abuja said denied diverting fuel to create scarcity by Marketers. He said the queues in Abuja re-surface as a result of the scarcity of petrol in the surroundings communities of Abuja.

He said most of the filling stations in Mararraba, Nyanya and other town long Abuja- Keffi road are not selling petrol which forces most of the drivers to troop to Abuja to buy.

He said if NNPC will ensure enough fuel for marketers in Abuja environs the problems will reduce. But NNPC recently blamed marketers for the scarcity in Abuja.

Dr Ajuonuma said in a

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Fuel queue in Abuja yesterday

## NIM to build N1bn office in Abuja

By Idris Ahmed

The Nigerian Institute of Management (NIM) yesterday said that it would need about N1 billion to construct its proposed Abuja office.

The money would be sourced from members of the institute as well as other well wishers, NIM's president has said.

Sir Peter Edeogbon told newsmen yesterday in Abuja at the institute's meeting that already, fund raising for the

Abuja office started since February and that they have secured a land for the structure from the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA).

NIM is the largest professional bodies in Nigeria with over 100,000 members, but the only association that is yet to have office in Abuja.

Edeogbon said: "We intend to raise fund for the

building by tasking our members and soliciting from our members in government for help. What we need is not less than N1 billion naira.

He said that the new management house would contain an administrative block, six class rooms with modern equipment and hostel for resident students.

"The conference room we are thinking of would be able to contain about 1,000 to 2,000 people", the Presi-

dent said.

He said by the time the institute's building is built, management courses that are obtained overseas would be domesticated.

"We would train people on development management courses that would promote excellence. We intend to domesticate overseas courses since overseas courses we offer are getting smaller", he said.



## INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA

### KEBBI STATE HEALTH SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT II (KBHSDPII)

**CREDIT NO:** CR4522 – UNI  
**IFB NO:** KBHSDP II/AF/NCB/WKS/009/001 &  
 KBHSDP II/AF/NCB/GDS/009/002-004

## PROCUREMENT OF WORKS, MOTOR VEHICLES, COMPUTERS & TEACHING AIDS

**BID ISSUANCE DATE:** 17<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2009  
**LAST DATE OF BID SUBMISSION:** 15<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2009

1. This invitation for bids follows the general procurement notice for this project that appeared in the Development Business (dg Market)
2. The Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria *has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) toward the cost of the Kebbi Health Systems Development Project II, and it intends to apply part of the fund to eligible payments under the contract for:-*
  - (i) Procurement of Works
  - (ii) Procurement of Motor Vehicles
  - (iii) Procurement of Computers & Equipment for Drug Monitoring Unit
  - (iv) Procurement of Teaching Aids for School of Nursing B/Kebbi and School of Health Technology, Jega.

3. The Kebbi Health systems development Project II now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the following:

#### I. PROCUREMENT OF WORKS IFB NO. KBHSDPII/AF/NCB/WKS/09/001

| Lot No | Description of Works   | Location  | Bid Security Required    | Completion Period |
|--------|--|---|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1      | Construction of PHC at Gulmare (Hospital main building)  | Gwandu LGA  | At least 3% of Bid Value | 14 Weeks          |
| 2      | PHC Gulmare (Staff Qtrs, i.e 2 no, 2 Bed room houses& boys qrt, Mortuary, Gen. House, VIP Toilet and Incinerator)      | Gwandu LGA  | At least 3% of Bid Value | 12 Weeks          |
| 3      | Construction of Male Hostel for Sch. of Nursing & Midwifery, B/K   | Sch. of Nursing Annex, B/Kebbi                          | At least 3% of Bid Value | 16 Weeks          |
| 4      | Construction of PHC at Kasati (Hospital main building)   | Kasati Village, Bagudo LGA                              | At least 3% of Bid Value | 14 Weeks          |
| 5      | PHC Kasati (Staff Qtrs, i.e 2 no, 2 Bed room houses& boys qrt, Mortuary, Gen house, VIP toilet and incinerator)        | Kasati Village, Bagudo LGA                              | At least 3% of Bid Value | 12 Weeks          |
| 6      | Construction of 2no Boreholes, over-head tank and reticulation at Sch. of Nursing male hostel and PHC Gulmare premises | Sch. of Nursing Annex B/Kebbi and Gulmare in Gwandu LGA | At least 3% of Bid Value | 8 Weeks           |

#### II. PROCUREMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES IFB NO. KBHSDPII/AF/NCB/GDS/09/002

| Lot No. | Description            | Qty | Delivery Schedule                       |
|---------|------------------------|-----|---|
| 1       | 33 Seater Bus          | 2   | 49 Days from the date of contract award |
| 2       | 4x4 Wheel Drive (Jeep) | 1   | 49 Days from the date of contract award |

#### III. PROCUREMENT OF TEACHING AIDS IFB NO. KBHSDPII/AF/NCB/GDS/09/003

| Lot No. | Description   | Qty     | Delivery Schedule                       |
|---------|---|---------|---|
| 1       | Supply of Teaching Aids to School of Nursing & Midwifery, B/Kebbi | Various | 35 Days from the date of contract award |
| 2       | Supply of Teaching Aids to School of Health Technology, Jega      | Various | 35 Days from the date of contract award |

#### IV. PROCUREMENT OF COMPUTERS & EQUIPMENT FOR DRUG MONITORING UNITS IFB NO. KBHSDPII/AF/NCB/GDS/009/004

| Lot No. | Description                         | Qty     | Delivery Schedule                       |
|---------|-------------------------------------|---------|---|
| 1       | Computer & Accessories              | Various | 49 Days from the date of contract award |
| 2       | Equipment for Drugs Monitoring Unit | Various | 49 Days from the date of contract award |

Bidders may bid for any one or more lots and discounts offered for the award of combined lots will be considered in bid evaluation.

4. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding Procedures specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: *Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits*, and is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines.
5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below from 0900hrs to 1600hrs, Mondays through Thursdays and 0900hrs to 1300hrs on Fridays.
 

The Project Manager,  
 Kebbi State Health Systems Dev. Project II  
 21, Emir Haruna Rd., B/Kebbi.  
 GSM: 08035179569, 08036075051  
 Email: kbhsdptwo@yahoo.com
6. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Ten Thousand Naira (N10, 000) for first Lot and Five Thousand Naira (N5,000) for any additional lot for bid I and N10,000 for Bids II, III & IV. The method of payment will be by *Cash or Bank draft*. The document may be collected by hand or sent by courier services on request.

7. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 10:00a.m 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2009. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of at least *Three Percent of bid price*. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders or bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below.

Time: 10:05am Local time  
 Date: Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2009  
 Venue: Conference Room, KBHSDP II B/Kebbi  
 The Project Manager,  
 Kebbi Health Systems Dev. Project II  
 21, Emir Haruna Rd., B/Kebbi.  
 GSM: 08035179569, 08036075051  
 Email: kbhsdptwo@yahoo.com

# INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

## Botswana mulls \$70 million Zimbabwe credit line

Botswana is considering a \$70 million credit line to help revive struggling Zimbabwean industries, a senior Zimbabwean official said on Thursday, following a recent call for financial aid.

Zimbabwe's new unity government has appealed for international help to rebuild its shattered economy, after a decade of economic contraction, hyperinflation and chronic shortages of basic goods. It says it needs about \$8.3 billion for the task.

A Botswana delegation, led by the secretary for Economic and Financial Policy, Taufila Nyamadzabo, met Zimbabwe's Finance Minister Tendai Biti in Harare to discuss details of the financial package.

Speaking after the meeting, a senior Zimbabwean official told reporters Botswana had pledged to help selected industries.

"Botswana is proposing to provide \$70 million in credit support for some industries, all that is left is to tie up the agreement," the official said.

Botswana was one of the fiercest critics of President Robert Mugabe but has softened its line since the formation of the unity government that includes new Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai's Movement for Democratic Change.

Nyamadzabo, whose delegation included officials from Botswana's central bank and the Botswana Export Development Agency, said his government would provide the money, subject to certain conditions being met.

"We're looking at providing some credit lines for Zimbabwe, especially for industries where there could be mutual benefit, such as the steel, leather, pharmaceutical, agro-industries and

manufacturing sectors," Nyamadzabo said.

"We need to do some due diligence in those industries."

Regional leaders last month agreed to make proposals on how their government could help Zimbabwe.

On Thursday Botswana's Finance Minister Baledzi Gaolathe said his government could not offer direct budget support because of its own financial constraints due to the global financial crisis.

"We might also look into assisting through joint ventures with Zimbabwe companies as the country's industry is currently unable to take off because of lack of funds," Gaolathe told Reuters.

Biti said the credit lines would help resuscitate Zimbabwe's manufacturing sector, which he said was currently operating at below 10 percent of capacity.

Zimbabwe's crisis has been exacerbated by the withdrawal of aid by Western donors critical of Mugabe's policies, including the seizure of white-owned commercial farms for redistribution to inexperienced black farmers.

Donors are demanding the unity government undertakes political and other reforms before offering support, but this could be undermined by reports of new farm invasions affecting white commercial farmers who had survived earlier land seizures as well as some black resettled farmers.

"We cannot be working hard, while others are busy undoing what we are trying to build," Biti said.

"There has to be patience and policy consistency, particularly in those areas...relating to the outstanding issues in the global political agreement, farm invasions and the issue of political prisoners." (Reuters)

## Mauritius sees 2008/09 inflation down to 7%

Mauritius sees inflation easing to 7 percent in the 2008/09 financial year from 8.8 percent in the previous period, the Central Statistics Office said on yesterday.

"Based on price movements observed for the past months and forthcoming price trends, the inflation rate for the financial year 2008/09 is forecasted at around 7.0 percent," it said.

The central bank's Monetary Policy Committee expects inflation in 2009 calendar year to more than halve to 4 percent from 9.7 percent last year.

The Indian Ocean

island's annual average inflation rate slowed to 8.5 percent in March from 8.8 percent in February, the statistics office says.

Mauritius, a nation of 1.3 million people famed for its white beaches and luxury resorts, is suffering like other economies from the global economic slowdown.

Fewer tourists are visiting, and textile exports to Europe are also being hit.

While most analysts expect price rises to slow further during the year, some have cautioned that a weaker currency could curb the impact given the economy's dependence on imports. (Reuters)

## Congo rejects miners' contract proposals

Democratic Republic of Congo has rejected contract revisions proposed by six of the biggest mining firms there, and will extend a much delayed review by six months, the deputy mines minister said on Thursday.

Of an initial 61 contracts evaluated during the review launched in early 2007, only six remain unresolved. They include major deals with

Freeport-MacMoRan, AngloGold Ashanti, First Quantum, Banro, Gold Fields, and Mwana Africa.

"The outcome of negotiations to date are far from the terms of reference, therefore they have been rejected by the government...In six months' time they have to come with acceptable proposals," Victor Kasongo told Reuters. (Reuters)

### CONGRATULATIONS



**ALHAJI MUHAMMAD KABIR ABUBAKAR**  
Dan-Mallikin Keffi  
Executive Director Loans, Federal Mortgage Bank

over his recent appointment as Executive Director Loans, Federal Mortgage Bank Nigeria, by the President, Commander-In-Chief, Federal Republic of Nigeria Alhaji Umaru Musa Yar'Adua.

In fact your appointment is a well deserving one considering your track record of achievements both in the private and public sectors.

While wishing you the Almighty Allah's guidance and support, I want to assure you of my continued prayers and good wishes so that you succeed in the task ahead of you.

Once again congratulations and the best of wishes.



Signed  
**ALHAJI IBRAHIM BALA**  
Nasarawa 2011 Insha Allah  
Keffi West Constituency  
Nasarawa State House of  
Assembly

YA-TAKKO PROPERTIES  
NO 4 COOPERATIVE BUILDING  
KEFFI, NASARAWA STATE



## UNIVERSITY OF ABUJA TEACHING HOSPITAL

P. M. B. 228, Abuja FCT, Nigeria

Tel:- 09-8821228, DL. 09-8821128. Fax:- 09-8821382

### INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS/COMPANIES

#### (A) Introduction:

The University of Abuja Teaching Hospital in accordance with the Public Procurement Act hereby invites competent and reputable companies/contractors to submit pre-qualification documents as pre-requisite to tender for the provision of the following goods and services as contained in the 2009 Capital Budget.

#### (B) List of Projects (Lots)

- LOT1 Completion of clinical consultants offices, seminar room and furnishing.
- LOT2 Procurement of hospital, beds.
- LOT3 Completion of critical care, accident and burns unit.
- LOT4 Procurement of video gastroscopie machine.
- LOT5 Procurement of patient monitors and ICU beds.
- LOT6 Medical oxygen gas piping.
- LOT7 Procurement of power inverters.

#### (C) Pre-Qualification requirements:

Interested competent and reputable bidders are to submit the following documents.

- (1) Evidence of registration with the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) of Nigeria.
- (2) Evidence of registration with the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital.
- (3) Evidence of financial capability and bank support.
- (4) Evidence of equipment and technical capacity.
- (5) Evidence of technical qualification and experience of the key personnel.

- (6) Company Audited Accounts for three years.
- (7) Company income tax clearance certificate for three years.
- (8) Evidence of value added Tax (VAT) registration and remittances.
- (9) Evidence of performance of similar works/supplies in Nigeria and elsewhere.
- (10) Evidence of payment of non refundable pre-qualification fees of N20,000.00 per category or LOT in bank draft or certified cheque.

#### (D) Submission of Pre-Qualification Documents

- (1) The pre-qualification documents are to be submitted in A4 sizes and neatly bound.
- (2) The document must be sealed in an envelope and the reference number or LOT must be clearly written at the top left hand corner of the envelope.
- (3) The envelope is to be addressed to:  
The Chief Medical Director  
University of Abuja Teaching Hospital  
P. M. B. 228, Abuja.

#### (E) Closing and Opening of Pre-Qualification Documents

Submission of pre-qualification documents shall close at exactly two-weeks from the date of this advertisement while submissions will be opened on the same day at 12 noon in the conference hall of this hospital in the presence of the bidders or their representatives.

Thank you.

**DR PETER ALABI**  
CHIEF MEDICAL DIRECTOR

# FINANCE BUSINESS

## THE NIGERIAN STOCK EXCHANGE

REPORT AS AT THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2009

| Company Name                           | No of Deals  | Quotation(N) | Quantity Traded      | Value of Shares         | Company Name  | No of Deals | Quotation(N)         | Quantity Traded         | Value of Shares      |
|--|--------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------------------|---|-------------|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>2ND-TIER SECURITIES</b>             |              |              |                      |                         | <b>HEALTHCARE</b>   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| ADSWITCH PLC                           | 1            | 2.71         | 100,000              | 271,000.00              | EVANS MEDICAL PLC   | 2           | 2.66                 | 11,700                  | 29,601.00            |
| CAPITAL OIL PLC                        | 3            | 13.83        | 16,759               | 231,776.97              | FDSON HEALTHCARE PLC                                      | 13          | 2.20                 | 941,248                 | 2,127,938.88         |
| <b>Sector Totals</b>                   | <b>4</b>     |              | <b>116,759</b>       | <b>502,776.97</b>       | GLAXOSMITHKLINE CONSUMER NIG PLC 14                       | 16.50       | 177,391              | 2,883,904.00            | 273,555.73           |
| <b>AGRICULTURE</b>                     |              |              |                      |                         | <b>HOTEL &amp; TOURISM</b>                                |             |                      |                         |                      |
| AFPRINT NIGERIA PLC                    | 2            | 0.86         | 6,750                | 5,535.00                | MAY & BAKER NIGERIA PLC                                   | 10          | 4.07                 | 67,139                  | 56,248.00            |
| ELLAHLAKES PLC                         | 1            | 4.26         | 3,000                | 12,150.00               | NEIMETH INT. PHARM PLC                                    | 3           | 1.68                 | 35,155                  | 56,248.00            |
| FTN COCOA PROCESSORS PLC               | 26           | 1.03         | 480,200              | 488,072.26              | UNION DIAGNOSTIC & CLINICAL SERVICES PLC 24               | 0.70        | 509,543              | 353,816.53              |                      |
| LIVESTOCK FEEDS PLC                    | 13           | 1.05         | 187,559              | 198,448.13              | <b>Sector Totals</b>                                      | <b>66</b>   |                      | <b>1,742,176</b>        | <b>5,725,064.14</b>  |
| THE OKOMU OIL PALM CO. PLC             | 2            | 29.61        | 2,520                | 70,887.60               | <b>INDUSTRIAL/DOMESTIC PRODUCTS</b>                       |             |                      |                         |                      |
| PRESCO PLC                             | 8            | 5.00         | 153,500              | 772,380.00              | ALUMINIUM EXTRUSION IND. PLC 1                            | 13.04       | 1,084                | 13,430.76               | 852,866.80           |
| <b>Sector Totals</b>                   | <b>52</b>    |              | <b>833,529</b>       | <b>1,547,472.99</b>     | B.O.C. GASES NIGERIA PLC                                  | 8           | 16.96                | 48,001                  | 28,280.00            |
| <b>AIR SERVICES</b>                    |              |              |                      |                         | <b>INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION &amp; TELECOMMUNICATION</b> |             |                      |                         |                      |
| NIGERIAN AVIATION HANDLING CO. PLC     | 103          | 7.02         | 1,376,446            | 9,936,880.75            | CHAMS NIGERIA PLC   | 34          | 1.19                 | 30,562,798              | 36,398,122.72        |
| <b>Sector Totals</b>                   | <b>103</b>   |              | <b>1,376,446</b>     | <b>9,936,880.75</b>     | MASS TELECOM INNOVATION NIG PLC 4                         | 0.57        | 19,406               | 10,673.30               | 6,034,944.62         |
| <b>AUTOMOBILE &amp; TYRE</b>           |              |              |                      |                         | <b>INSURANCE</b>  |             |                      |                         |                      |
| DUNLOP NIGERIA PLC                     | 19           | 0.50         | 603,168              | 301,584.00              | AICO INSURANCE PLC  | 124         | 1.03                 | 2,932,576               | 3,074,436.84         |
| INCAR NIGERIA PLC                      | 1            | 9.22         | 5,000                | 43,800.00               | CONTINENTAL REINSURANCE PLC 3                             | 0.83        | 4,050                | 3,199.50                | 1,788,740.90         |
| R.T. BRISCOE (NIGERIA) PLC             | 3            | 8.28         | 4,176                | 32,865.12               | CORNERSTONE INS. CO. PLC                                  | 14          | 1.15                 | 1,561,465               | 1,160,624.00         |
| <b>Sector Totals</b>                   | <b>23</b>    |              | <b>612,344</b>       | <b>378,249.12</b>       | CUSTODIAN & ALLIED INS. PLC                               | 15          | 2.01                 | 570,300                 | 7,750.00             |
| <b>BANKING</b>                         |              |              |                      |                         | <b>LEASING</b>  |             |                      |                         |                      |
| ACCESS BANK PLC                        | 133          | 4.83         | 2,171,676            | 10,501,556.46           | G&I LEASING PLC   | 2           | 5.74                 | 105,000                 | 602,700.00           |
| AFRIBANK NIGERIA PLC                   | 73           | 5.25         | 1,583,370            | 8,218,404.83            | <b>Sector Totals 2</b>                                    | <b>2</b>    |                      | <b>105,000</b>          | <b>602,700.00</b>    |
| DIAMOND BANK PLC                       | 65           | 4.40         | 1,016,464            | 4,502,209.52            | <b>MARITIME</b>   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| ECOBANK NIGERIA PLC                    | 7            | 27.96        | 21,893               | 612,128.28              | JAPAOIL & MARITIME SERV. PLC                              | 168         | 1.45                 | 6,925,998               | 10,413,637.84        |
| FIRST CITY MONUMENT BANK PLC           | 61           | 4.96         | 4,752,502            | 23,243,821.52           | <b>Sector Totals 168</b>                                  | <b>168</b>  |                      | <b>6,925,998</b>        | <b>10,413,637.84</b> |
| FIDELITY BANK PLC                      | 97           | 2.15         | 2,058,778            | 4,265,230.32            | <b>MEDIA</b>  |             |                      |                         |                      |
| FIRST BANK OF NIGERIA PLC              | 953          | 14.00        | 19,328,178           | 270,876,731.70          | DAAR COMMUNICATIONS PLC                                   | 297         | 1.43                 | 1,909,430               | 2,704,934.90         |
| FIRST INLAND BANK PLC                  | 40           | 2.23         | 9,493,093            | 22,444,968.67           | <b>Sector Totals 297</b>                                  | <b>297</b>  |                      | <b>1,909,430</b>        | <b>2,704,934.90</b>  |
| GT BANK PLC                            | 319          | 10.09        | 27,802,848           | 278,054,370.89          | <b>MORTGAGE COMPANIES</b>                                 |             |                      |                         |                      |
| STANBIC IBTC BANK PLC                  | 14           | 5.35         | 133,360              | 717,128.75              | ASO SAVINGS AND LOAN PLC                                  | 14          | 0.91                 | 827,600                 | 755,117.00           |
| INTERCONTINENTAL BANK PLC              | 124          | 7.18         | 1,020,121            | 7,328,070.50            | UNION HOMES SAVINGS & LOANS PLC 71                        | 1.62        | 3,744,651            | 5,825,288.88            |                      |
| OCEANIC BANK INT. PLC                  | 303          | 6.00         | 9,439,116            | 56,992,675.57           | <b>Sector Totals 85</b>                                   | <b>85</b>   |                      | <b>4,572,251</b>        | <b>6,580,405.88</b>  |
| BANK PHB PLC                           | 87           | 4.93         | 3,669,424            | 18,311,153.75           | <b>OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS</b>                       |             |                      |                         |                      |
| SKYE BANK PLC                          | 114          | 4.00         | 2,799,661            | 11,167,514.69           | CRUSADER NIGERIA PLC                                      | 1           | 3.44                 | 5,000                   | 16,350.00            |
| SPRING BANK PLC                        | 7            | 5.59         | 30,377,261           | 169,808,888.99          | DEAPCAP MANAGEMENT & TRUST PLC 1                          | 5.43        | 200                  | 1,032.00                |                      |
| STERLING BANK PLC                      | 34           | 1.35         | 8,315,100            | 10,854,538.88           | ROYAL EXCHANGE PLC  | 1           | 2.17                 | 43,575                  | 90,200.25            |
| UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA PLC             | 273          | 8.40         | 3,461,343            | 29,221,272.18           | <b>Sector Totals 3</b>                                    | <b>3</b>    |                      | <b>48,775</b>           | <b>107,582.25</b>    |
| UNION BANK OF NIGERIA PLC              | 170          | 10.68        | 1,217,394            | 12,914,250.17           | <b>PACKAGING</b>  |             |                      |                         |                      |
| UNITY BANK PLC                         | 46           | 1.38         | 2,679,786            | 3,786,785.16            | NIG BAG MANUFACTURING CO. PLC 438                         | 1.29        | 564,898              | 725,022.12              |                      |
| WEMA BANK PLC                          | 17           | 2.85         | 2,347,133,753        | 6,689,331,196.05        | NAMPAL NIGERIA PLC  | 1           | 7.73                 | 85,600                  | 661,688.00           |
| ZENITH BANK PLC                        | 187          | 13.49        | 5,462,737            | 73,197,044.34           | <b>Sector Totals 439</b>                                  | <b>439</b>  |                      | <b>650,498</b>          | <b>1,386,710.12</b>  |
| <b>Sector Totals</b>                   | <b>3,124</b> |              | <b>2,483,937,858</b> | <b>7,706,349,941.22</b> | <b>PETROLEUM (MARKETING)</b>                              |             |                      |                         |                      |
| <b>BREWERIES</b>                       |              |              |                      |                         | <b>AFRICAN PETROLEUM PLC</b>                              |             |                      |                         |                      |
| CHAMPION BREWERIES PLC                 | 1            | 3.31         | 43,000               | 135,450.00              | CHEVRON OIL NIGERIA PLC                                   | 22          | 90.30                | 29,655                  | 2,811,590.55         |
| GUINNESS NIGERIA PLC                   | 49           | 88.50        | 551,666              | 48,899,834.54           | CONOIL PLC  | 1           | 67.23                | 1,000                   | 63,870.00            |
| INTERNATIONAL BREWERIES PLC            | 23           | 2.86         | 130,350              | 357,705.90              | ETERNA OIL & GAS PLC                                      | 2           | 26.68                | 13,200                  | 352,176.00           |
| NIGERIAN BREWERIES PLC                 | 132          | 36.98        | 2,211,674            | 81,713,575.08           | MOBIL OIL NIGERIA PLC                                     | 6           | 96.61                | 5,538                   | 561,774.72           |
| <b>Sector Totals</b>                   | <b>205</b>   |              | <b>2,936,690</b>     | <b>131,106,565.52</b>   | ODANDO PLC  | 60          | 70.00                | 572,566                 | 39,998,149.32        |
| <b>BUILDING MATERIALS</b>              |              |              |                      |                         | <b>TOTAL NIGERIA PLC</b>                                  |             |                      |                         |                      |
| ASHAKA CEMENT PLC                      | 46           | 8.38         | 1,180,191            | 9,700,354.46            | <b>Sector Totals</b>                                      | <b>231</b>  |                      | <b>1,196,777</b>        | <b>95,932,175.49</b> |
| BENUE CEMENT COMPANY PLC               | 10           | 21.66        | 107,156              | 2,327,727.76            | <b>PRINTING &amp; PUBLISHING</b>                          |             |                      |                         |                      |
| CEMENT CO. OF NIGERIA PLC              | 24           | 7.71         | 111,281              | 819,921.00              | LONGMAN NIGERIA PLC                                       | 2           | 3.56                 | 26,000                  | 96,980.00            |
| NIGERIAN ROPES PLC                     | 1            | 10.73        | 5,000                | 51,000.00               | UNIVERSITY PRESS PLC                                      | 3           | 4.59                 | 53,160                  | 233,050.80           |
| ELAFARGE WAPCO PLC                     | 45           | 17.10        | 1,475,267            | 25,455,449.90           | <b>Sector Totals</b>                                      | <b>5</b>    |                      | <b>79,160</b>           | <b>330,030.80</b>    |
| <b>Sector Totals</b>                   | <b>126</b>   |              | <b>2,878,895</b>     | <b>38,354,453.12</b>    | <b>REAL ESTATE</b>  |             |                      |                         |                      |
| <b>CHEMICAL &amp; PAINTS</b>           |              |              |                      |                         | <b>UACN PROPERTY DEV. CO. PLC</b>                         |             |                      |                         |                      |
| CHEMICAL & ALLIED PROD. PLC            | 1            | 32.77        | 75                   | 2,335.50                | <b>Sector Totals</b>                                      | <b>7</b>    |                      | <b>56,200</b>           | <b>909,998.00</b>    |
| DN MEYER PLC                           | 2            | 9.88         | 7,000                | 65,730.00               | <b>ROAD TRANSPORTATION</b>                                |             |                      |                         |                      |
| DMWA PLC                               | 1            | 3.04         | 59,998               | 182,393.92              | ASSOCIATED BUS COMPANY PLC                                | 15          | 0.96                 | 277,503                 | 264,005.12           |
| <b>Sector Totals</b>                   | <b>4</b>     |              | <b>67,073</b>        | <b>250,459.42</b>       | <b>Sector Totals</b>                                      | <b>15</b>   |                      | <b>277,503</b>          | <b>264,005.12</b>    |
| <b>COMMERCIAL SERVICES</b>             |              |              |                      |                         | <b>THE FOREIGN LISTINGS</b>                               |             |                      |                         |                      |
| RED STAR EXPRESS PLC                   | 7            | 1.99         | 147,069              | 292,667.31              | ECOBANK TRANS. INCORPORATED 33                            | 9.00        | 256,750              | 2,337,268.50            |                      |
| <b>Sector Totals</b>                   | <b>7</b>     |              | <b>147,069</b>       | <b>292,667.31</b>       | <b>Sector Totals</b>                                      | <b>33</b>   |                      | <b>256,750</b>          | <b>2,337,268.50</b>  |
| <b>COMPUTER &amp; OFFICE EQUIPMENT</b> |              |              |                      |                         | <b>Overall Totals</b>                                     |             |                      |                         |                      |
| NCR (NIGERIA) PLC                      | 1            | 9.42         | 5,000                | 47,100.00               | <b>6,291</b>  |             | <b>2,596,856,865</b> | <b>8,276,276,135.96</b> |                      |
| OMATEK VENTURES PLC                    | 6            | 0.83         | 199,300              | 165,419.00              |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| THOMAS WYATT PLC                       | 1            | 2.22         | 10,000               | 21,100.00               |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| TRIPPLE GEE AND COMPANY PLC            | 2            | 7.39         | 47,586               | 334,529.58              |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| <b>Sector Totals</b>                   | <b>10</b>    |              | <b>261,886</b>       | <b>568,148.58</b>       |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| <b>CONGLOMERATES</b>                   |              |              |                      |                         |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| JOHN HOLT PLC                          | 2            | 11.97        | 20,000               | 227,600.00              |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| PZ CUSSONS NIGERIA PLC                 | 23           | 16.52        | 76,671               | 1,292,310.88            |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| TRANSNATIONAL CORP OF NIG PLC 34       | 0.54         | 3,297,019    | 1,757,422.73         |                         |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| UAC OF NIGERIA PLC                     | 27           | 29.60        | 151,499              | 4,527,469.02            |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| UNILEVER NIGERIA PLC                   | 78           | 8.50         | 1,381,039            | 11,568,543.30           |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| <b>Sector Totals</b>                   | <b>164</b>   |              | <b>4,926,228</b>     | <b>19,373,345.93</b>    |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| <b>CONSTRUCTION</b>                    |              |              |                      |                         |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| CAPPA & D'ALBERTO PLC                  | 1            | 105.80       | 200                  | 20,102.00               |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| COSTAIN (WA) PLC                       | 25           | 4.67         | 172,183              | 813,609.87              |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| JULIUS BERGER NIGERIA PLC              | 14           | 21.95        | 140,132              | 3,076,847.40            |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| MULTIVERSE RESOURCES PLC               | 6            | 0.50         | 74,130               | 37,065.00               |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| <b>Sector Totals</b>                   | <b>46</b>    |              | <b>386,645</b>       | <b>3,947,624.27</b>     |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| <b>FOOD/BEVERAGES &amp; TOBACCO</b>    |              |              |                      |                         |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| Z-UP BOTTLING CO. PLC                  | 17           | 37.05        | 22,654               | 803,497.80              |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| BIG TREAT PLC                          | 2            | 2.24         | 3,500                | 7,455.00                |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| CADBURY NIGERIA PLC                    | 19           | 10.50        | 143,376              | 1,475,757.60            |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| DANGOTE FLOUR MILLS PLC                | 162          | 6.96         | 964,862              | 6,834,092.97            |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| DANGOTE SUGAR REFINERY PLC             | 136          | 15.00        | 6,603,176            | 95,785,520.10           |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| FLOUR MILLS NIGERIA PLC                | 55           | 15.38        | 820,171              | 12,413,627.06           |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| NATIONAL SALT CO. NIGERIA PLC          | 24           | 3.89         | 330,060              | 1,284,006.00            |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| NIGERIAN BOTTLING CO. PLC              | 14           | 23.00        | 157,627              | 3,642,582.00            |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| NESTLE NIGERIA PLC                     | 39           | 151.00       | 143,816              | 21,558,060.48           |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| TANTALIZERS PLC                        | 5            | 0.93         | 244,265              | 227,166.45              |   |             |                      |                         |                      |
| <b>Sector Totals</b>                   | <b>473</b>   |              | <b>9,433,507</b>     | <b>144,031,765.46</b>   |   |             |                      |                         |                      |



# FINANCE BUSINESS

Start from page 28

## Top 10 Trades

| Symbol     | Volume           | Value            | Trades |
|------------|------------------|------------------|--------|
| STERLNBANK | 8,315,100.00     | 10,854,538.88    | 34     |
| OCEANIC    | 9,439,116.00     | 56,992,675.57    | 303    |
| FIRSTINLND | 9,493,093.00     | 22,444,968.67    | 40     |
| INTENEGINS | 9,792,251.00     | 8,537,556.67     | 72     |
| WAPIC      | 12,888,414.00    | 26,753,923.00    | 34     |
| FIRSTBANK  | 19,328,178.00    | 270,876,731.70   | 953    |
| GUARANTY   | 27,802,848.00    | 278,054,370.89   | 319    |
| SPRINGBANK | 30,377,261.00    | 169,808,888.99   | 7      |
| CHAMS      | 30,562,798.00    | 36,398,122.72    | 34     |
| WEMABANK   | 2,347,133,753.00 | 6,689,331,196.05 | 17     |

## Gainers

| Symbol     | Last Close | Yesterday's Close | Change |
|------------|------------|-------------------|--------|
| OANDO      | 68.00      | 70.00             | +2.00  |
| NESTLE     | 149.99     | 151.00            | +1.01  |
| UAC-PROP   | 16.48      | 17.30             | +0.82  |
| FLOURMILL  | 14.65      | 15.38             | +0.73  |
| ZENITHBANK | 12.85      | 13.49             | +0.64  |
| GLAXOSMITH | 16.00      | 16.50             | +0.50  |
| NBC        | 22.50      | 23.00             | +0.50  |
| CADBURY    | 10.08      | 10.50             | +0.42  |
| ASHAKACEM  | 7.99       | 8.38              | +0.39  |
| CCNN       | 7.35       | 7.71              | +0.36  |

## Losers

| Symbol     | Last Close | Yesterday's Close | Change |
|------------|------------|-------------------|--------|
| J/BERGER   | 23.10      | 21.95             | -1.15  |
| BCC        | 22.80      | 21.66             | -1.14  |
| GUINNESS   | 88.99      | 88.50             | -0.49  |
| PZ         | 17.00      | 16.52             | -0.48  |
| UACN       | 30.01      | 29.60             | -0.41  |
| NAMPAK     | 8.13       | 7.73              | -0.40  |
| CILEASING  | 6.04       | 5.74              | -0.30  |
| DIAMONDBNK | 4.63       | 4.40              | -0.23  |
| MAYBAKER   | 4.28       | 4.07              | -0.21  |
| UBN        | 10.84      | 10.68             | -0.16  |

## Market State:

Closed

|          |                        |
|----------|------------------------|
| Index :  | 19,858.96              |
| Deals :  | 6,291                  |
| Volume : | 2,596,856,865          |
| Value :  | ₦ 8,276,276,135.96     |
| Cap. :   | ₦ 4,492,921,418,493.83 |

## FG wants Nigerians to patronize locally-made products

The large scale consumption and craze for foreign products by Nigerians is worrying the Federal Government.

The Federal government therefore yesterday began a nationwide campaign for increased patronage of locally made products and advised manufacturers in the country to give the policy the much-needed support.

Minister of Commerce and Industry, Chief Achike Udenwa, who announced this in Lagos at a stakeholder meeting said the influx of foreign products into the country is unacceptable.

The Minister said some of the

**Abubakar Buba & Mohammed Shosanya, Lagos**

product brought into the country are consumer goods can be manufactured in Nigeria, adding that Nigeria is the largest importer of lace materials in the world.

According to him, the nation would have been saved from the agony of foreign exchange if it mellowed down on foreign goods consumption.

He said manufacturers can also explore ways of partnering with foreign companies with a view to producing local goods in the country.

The Minister who said the

Federal government will set up a committee comprising of stakeholders that would look into the feasibility of promoting home-grown production of products, added that the government is not tinkering the option of bail out fund for the industrial sector now.

He said the government is shelving the bail-out fund due to lack of platform in the sector to channel the fund but said the government will try as much as possible to create environment that can engineer industrial growth.

In his remark, President of the Nigerian Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture

(NACCIMA), Dr. Simon Okolo said that there is need for government to come out with a blue print on the restoration of ailing industries in the country.

He added that Government should continue to ensure improved public-private sectors consultations on policy conceptualization, formulation and monitoring of projects nationwide by constituting relevant committee.

While commending Government's efforts to contain the acute scarcity of cement, Dr. Okolo said that other alternatives such as burnt bricks should be encouraged to reduce the current high demand for cement in Nigeria.

## FG urged to give priority to women farmers

From Halima Musa, Kano

Federal Government has been urged to give priority to women farmers in terms of allocation of fertiliser and other agro-allied equipments.

The call was made by the wife of the president, Hajia Turai Yar'adua while declaring open the Global Agric Exhibition, Kano 2009 organised by Kano state chamber of commerce, industry mines and Agriculture (KACCIMA) in collaboration with Water and Gender Alliance, held at trade fair complex, Kano.

Turai said that women deserved the gesture because they constitute about 72% of Nigeria's farmers, adding "I'm calling on the minister for agriculture to accord priority to women farmers in allocation of fertiliser and all farming equipments, as according to research findings women constitute 72% of Nigerian farmers."

She explained that most rural women spend their times in the farms producing food for the country while the men were either

in the market or in their offices.

She charged the women farmers to learn the strategy of marketing their farm produced through good packaging.

In her remarks, the kano state ambassador for Gender and Water Alliance (GWA), Hajia Amina Shekarau said GWA focuses on ensuring access to water and good environment by rural women and youths.

She pledge continued support to the rural women and youths, saying her office had trained youths and women on pump repairs, toilets cover constructions among others.

Explaining the essence of the exhibition the Nigerian adviser for GWA Hajia Salamat Garba said it was to provide an avenue for the exchange of ideas, improve market for small scale farmers as well as ginger them towards commercial farming.

## Youths meet African leaders at W/Economic Forum

By Kayode Ekundayo, Lagos

Africa youths will be converging in South Africa next month in an intensive workshops, discussions and round tables dialogue organised by the British Council

The meeting, according to a statement by the Council in Lagos preceding their presence at the World Economic Forum on Africa slated later

next month in Davos, would afford them visiting local organizations and other interested places in the former apartheid country

It stated that a smaller group will be selected to participate in the World Economic Forum on Africa from Wednesday 10

June to Friday 12 June.

The group, known as "Global Changemakers", will represent the voice of their generation when they meet African leaders at the World Economic Forum and present them with their views on how best to deal with the current challenges that Africa is facing.

Preceding the Forum, the youth will come together for a

five day meeting in South Africa.

Global Changemakers, the council said are a select group of youth (between the ages of 16 and 25) who have demonstrated a significant track record of achievement in their local communities through social entrepreneurship, community activism, and voluntary work.



R-L: Managing Director Bank of Industry, Ms Evelyn Oputu, Minister of State, Commerce and Industry, Mr. Humphrey Abah and UNIDO Country representative Masayoshi Matsushita at a Textile and Garment Industry stakeholders meeting in Abuja, yesterday. Pic: Kennedy Egbonodje

# THE HOME FRONT

## INSIDE

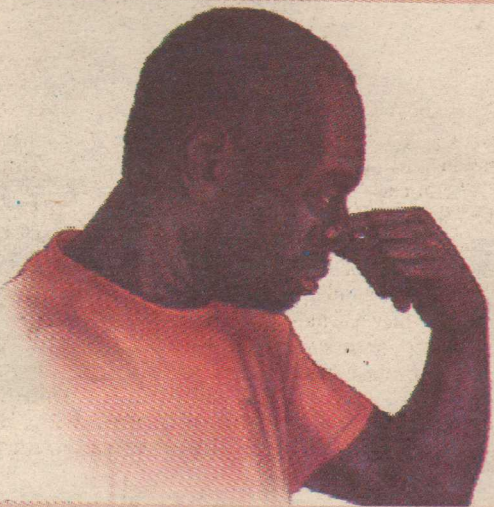
### FRAGMENTS

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### Health Interactive

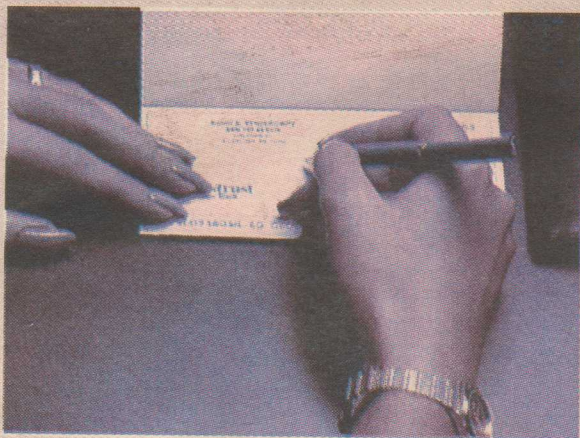
With Dr Aminu Magashi



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### LIVING

**Can you keep a joint account with your spouse?**



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**C**olic, a problem that is said to originate from the intestine, affects some babies during the first three to four months of life. Usually it begins with sudden loud and continuous crying in most cases, says Doctor Sulaiman Anoba a paediatrician with University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital, Kwara state.

Babies with this condition would cry for at least 3 hours per day, more than 3 days per week and for 3 weeks to three to four months of life. To parents who have such babies, the experience is quite stressful and frustrating.

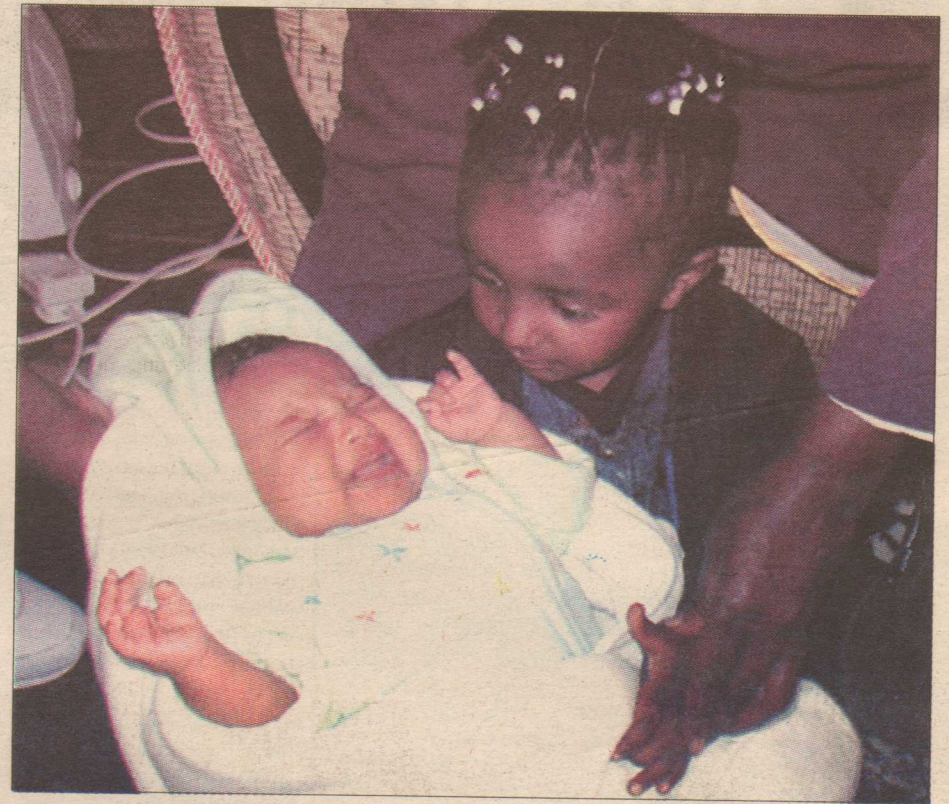
#### Causes

According to *children.com*, experts are not certain about the cause. However a baby may develop colic due to the following reasons:

#### Adjusting to parents

The new baby and the parents have to adjust and learn to communicate with each other. The baby can only do this by crying and the parents especially would have to try everything to detect and understand their baby's needs. Until these needs are met the baby continues crying.

In addition to that is the babies' temperament and adjustment to the world. Babies do not have the same temperament thus some of them are easy going while others are impatient. For those of



## Colic in babies

By Ni'imah Shehu

them who are impatient, crying may be one way to express their feelings as they adjust to the world around them.

Oversensitivity to gas in the intestine

Doctors say babies with colic do not produce more gas than others, but they become uncomfortable even with the normal amount of gas being produced as food is

digested. If a baby with colic seems to pass more gas than other babies do, it is probably due to swallowing more air while crying for prolonged periods of time.

#### Milk allergy

Milk allergies may cause abdominal pain thus leading to prolonged crying in babies.

#### Symptoms

A baby who is well yet cries or is fussy for several hours in a day, especially from evening to about 10 pm in the night, with no apparent reasons like wet diaper, hunger, cold or hot weather; may have colic, the expert says.

Such baby may burp frequently or pass a significant amount of gas, but this may be due to swallowing air while crying, and is not regarded as a cause of colic.

Doctor Anoba explains that a baby with this problem would present with irritability; tensed abdomen; legs drawn up to the abdomen; clenched hands and cold feet.

These symptoms may terminate when he or she is exhausted, he adds.

#### Treatment

Doctor Anoba says colic is a self limiting ailment meaning that the pain would subside by itself. In other words there is no need for treatment.

He also notes that people ignorantly over treat colic by giving all sorts of mixtures such as gripe water and traditional medicine. These he said are not useful though they may be coincidental in the sense

that attack may cease at the instance of such drugs.

Some authorities, he adds, also believes in the use of paracetamol for relief of pain.

The paediatrician recommends that you hold the baby upright; make him or her lie stomach down, on your lap or on hot water bottle when you notice the symptoms.

In rare cases the baby may be sedated or admitted in the hospital to give relief to the parents. A matured and experienced baby sitter may also be called in for assistance.

#### When does it become a concern?

Colic becomes a concern because it is rather frustrating and stressful to parents; both parents and baby lose sleep. This may lead to other health problems for parents meanwhile the baby with colic usually continue growing and gaining weight appropriately, despite being irritable, being gassy, and losing sleep. In an attempt to pacify the baby he may also be overfed.

#### Look out for signs of other illness

Experts advise that you should look out for signs of illnesses that might present colic-like symptoms.

These symptoms may include not sucking or drinking less milk than usual; vomiting; diarrhoea; becoming more irritable when held or touched; strange sound cry; change in breathing rate or breathing with effort and being more sleepy or sluggish than usual.



# THE HOME FRONT

## Fragments

By Safiya I. Dantiye  
safiya@dantiye@yahoo.com

### Why do women become 'too old' to marry while men...

In many a Hausa setting elderly widowers with only one wife are expected to re-marry, if only to have someone to take care of them. And in a lot of cases it is the widower's children, who may not be young, that urge for the marriage in order for them to have a peace of mind that their father has someone to look after him. Some even admit the wisdom of having more than one wife, when their mother died and they had to go and coax their father to eat, saying that if he had another wife, the loneliness wouldn't have been too much for him.

But then it becomes an entirely different thing in the same setting if an elderly widow decides to re-marry, it is as if she commits a blasphemy! In such a case it is her children that will be the first to disapprove. They will be very vehement with words such as: "never!", "Out of the question!", "Impossible!"

And the few that dare it will become a source of gossip. If the widow lives in her late husband's house and the new husband is expected to visit her there her children may refuse to agree, and if she decides to move into his house it will create another scintillating gossip, for behaving like a young woman, besides what does she need a man for at her age?

However in the rural areas it is not seen as strange for very old women to marry, in fact, it is the norm, which may make them more liberal and open minded than those in the urban areas.

Recently one elderly widow re-married and people were dumbfounded, how could she be so brazen, some even accused her of having *budurwar zuciyar* (behaving like a young girl).

This marriage has generated debate among her relatives; with few supporting her while the majority were against it as to be expected. It was with the intervention of elders that her grown up children (with their own families) relented to allow the husband to visit her.

Though it may be a difficult thing for the children of such elderly widows to bear, but if the widows wish to marry, they shouldn't be condemned as if they have committed a sin.

This outlook emphasises how society expects men and women to behave. While a widower is expected to be married, a widow is expected to live the rest of her life alone, though surrounded with relatives and grandchildren. Nobody bothers to ask whether she may need a husband as a companion.

Therefore you will see elderly widows giving up in that aspect of their lives, while their male counterparts are pampered, coaxed and cajoled, to have another wife, and some marry very young girls and before you know it they are starting another family!

The point is if the grandmothers feel like re-marrying why should people castigate them, and especially their families? It is not a taboo.

‘Though it may be a difficult thing for the children of such elderly widows to bear, but if the widows wish to marry, they shouldn't be condemned as if they have committed a sin’

### Take a stand: Lying down in the early stages of childbirth makes it longer and harder, says midwife

Lying down during the early stages of labour can make childbirth more painful, researchers claim.

Women who kneel, stand up, walk around or sit upright have a significantly shorter labour and experience fewer contractions.

A review of 21 studies involving almost 4,000 women concludes there is no risk to pregnant women from standing up when they start the delivery process and it may actually be harmful to lie flat.

Research midwife Annemarie Lawrence said: 'In most developing countries, women stand up or walk around as they wish during the early stages of birth with no ill effects.

'This review demonstrates that there is some benefit and no risk to being upright and or mobile during first stage labour.'

The researchers, whose findings are published by The Cochrane Library, used data from 21 studies in developed countries since the 1960s, involving 3,706 women.

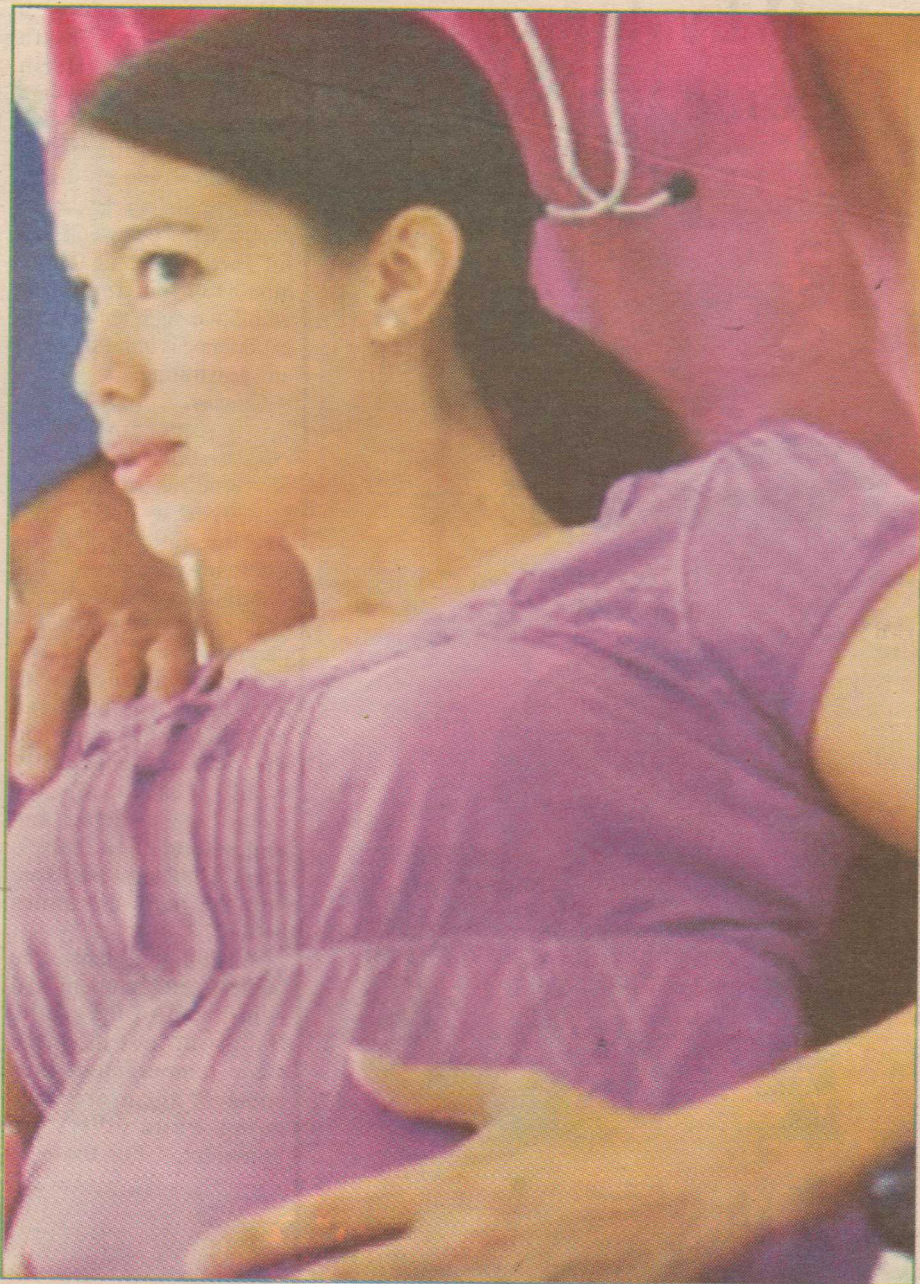
They found the first stage of labour was around an hour shorter in those who used upright positions compared with those who lay down. 'Shorter length of labour is an important outcome, as every contraction is potentially painful,' says the review.

Upright positions are used by women around the world, but in the West women are not always encouraged to adopt them.

Standing up, sitting, or squatting to give birth reduces pain, shortens the length of the first stage of labour and results in fewer assisted births or caesareans. The effect of gravity also means the angle of descent is easiest for mother and baby.

Mrs Lawrence, of Townsville Hospital in Queensland, Australia, said: 'Based on these results, we would recommend women are encouraged to use whichever positions they find most comfortable, but are specifically advised to avoid lying flat.'

Previous research has demonstrated that women who adopt upright positions for labour have less need of an epidural anaesthetic and are less likely to develop an infection of the womb.



Sitting up while in the early stages of labour can ease the pain of childbirth

‘Standing up, sitting, or squatting to give birth reduces pain, shortens the length of the first stage of labour and results in fewer assisted births or caesareans’

If the woman is upright, the baby's head pushes on the cervix, aiding dilation and delivery. It also encourages better blood flow to both the baby and placenta, reducing the risk of foetal distress.

Upright positions are also thought to maximise the space between the pelvic bones and allow the joints to flex slightly so the baby has more space to move.

Consultant obstetrician Dr

Maggie Blott, spokesman for the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, said: 'We very much encourage women with low-risk pregnancies to

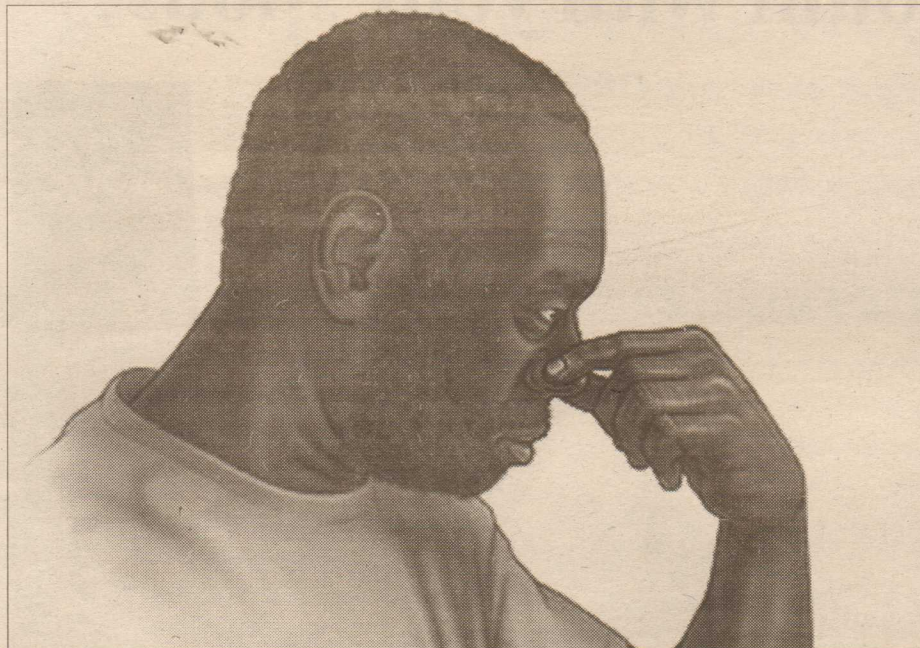
move around, use a ball, get in and out of the birthing pool. Modern practice does not recommend lying flat in the first stage of labour.'

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

## THE HOME FRONT

## Health Interactive

With Dr Aminu Magashi

**Is it normal?**

I am a 23 year-old unmarried woman and I have never had sex, but for the past three years my private part is so wide that I don't feel like a virgin. Please I want to know if it is normal.

**Worried Young Lady**

Based on your brief history, I can only make a probable guess as to the likely causes of the widening. For a lady that is a virgin, a thin loose membrane called Hymen covers the opening of her vagina. A lot of reasons other than sexual intercourse could break it. Among them are:

1. Your hymen could break during repeated exercises that involve legs movement and also horse riding and bicycling.
2. Repeated checking of hymen to ensure its patency by inserting your finger(s) also poses a risk of loosening and breakage
3. Some ladies with high sexual urge and don't want to indulge in sexual intercourse resort to masturbating by inserting fingers and/or any object in to their private part.
4. If for any reason, you were assaulted sexually by either a male or female counterpart
5. From your brief history, it appeared to me you have used your finger, or been using it to check. That might be the process of how you got to know your private part is widely open. That could lead to the breakage of your hymen.

**I am suffering from mouth infection**

I have been suffering from mouth infection for months. I will like to know the causes, treatment and prevention

**Worried Person**

What you are suffering from is mouth sores, not infection which is the invasion of any part of the body by microorganisms. Mouth sores vary in appearance and size and can affect any part of the mouth, inside and outside. Some sores may be raised, usually filled with fluid (in which case they are called vesicles or bullae, depending on size), whereas others may be ulcers. An ulcer is a hole that forms in the lining of the mouth when the top layer of cells breaks down and the underlying tissue shows through. An ulcer appears white because of the dead cells and food debris inside the hole.

**Causes**

There are many types and causes of mouth sores. Because the normal flow of saliva helps protect the lining of the mouth, any condition that decreases saliva production makes mouth sores more likely. Any sore that lasts for 10 days or more must be examined by a dentist or doctor to ensure that it is not cancerous or precancerous.

**Injury or irritation:** Any type of damage to the mouth, for instance, when the inside of the cheek is accidentally bitten or scraped by jagged teeth or poor-fitting dentures, can cause blisters (vesicles or bullae) or ulcers to form in the mouth. Typically, the surface of a blister breaks down quickly (ruptures), forming an ulcer. Noncancerous ulcers are always painful until healing is well under way.

Many foods, drugs, and chemicals can be irritating or trigger a type of allergic reaction, causing mouth sores. Acidic foods may be particularly irritating, as can certain ingredients in common substances such as toothpaste, mouthwash, candy, and gum.

**Infection:** Viruses are the most common infectious causes of mouth sores. Cold sores of the lip and, less commonly, ulcers on the palate, caused by the herpes simplex virus, are perhaps the most well known. Herpes zoster, the virus responsible for chicken pox as well as the painful skin disorder called shingles, can cause multiple sores to form on one side of the mouth. These sores are the result of a flare-up of the virus, which, just like herpes simplex virus, never leaves the body. Herpes zoster is treated much like severe herpes simplex, but occasionally the mouth may remain painful for months or years or even permanently after the sores have healed.

A bacterial infection can lead to sores and swelling in the mouth. Infections may be caused by an overgrowth of organisms normally present in the mouth or by newly introduced organisms. Bacterial infections from teeth or gums can spread to form a pus-filled pocket of infection (abscess) or cause widespread inflammation (cellulitis). Bacterial infections that spread from decayed lower teeth to the floor of the mouth can cause a very severe infection underneath the tongue called Ludwig's angina. The swelling caused by this

infection may force the tongue upward and block the airway. Infections from an upper tooth can spread to the brain.

Syphilis may produce a red, painless sore (chancre) that develops in the mouth or on the lips during the early stage of infection. The sore usually heals after several weeks. About 4 to 10 weeks later, a white area (mucous patch) may form on the lip or inside the mouth if the syphilis has not been treated. Both the chancre and the mucous patch are highly contagious, and kissing may spread the disease during these stages. In late-stage syphilis, a hole (gumma) may appear in the palate or tongue. The disease is not contagious at this stage.

**Inflammatory disorders:** Behçet's syndrome, an inflammatory disease affecting many organs, including the eyes, genitals, skin, joints, blood vessels, brain, and gastrointestinal tract, can cause recurring, painful mouth sores. Stevens-Johnson syndrome, a type of allergic reaction, causes skin blisters and mouth sores. Some people with inflammatory bowel disease also develop mouth sores.

**Other causes:** Canker sores are one of the most common causes of mouth sores. Their cause is unknown.

An uncommon condition called necrotizing sialometaplasia may begin after an injury to the mouth. In this condition, a large, gaping sore up to 1 inch (about 2½ centimeters) in diameter forms on the roof of the mouth within 1 or 2 days of an injury. Despite its unsettling appearance, necrotizing sialometaplasia is relatively painless and heals without treatment in 1 to 3 months. A doctor may distinguish the condition from oral cancer based on the symptoms (cancer would take a long time to reach the same size and by then would be painful) and sometimes by performing a biopsy (removing a tissue sample for examination under a microscope).

**Treatment**

1. Doctors treat the cause, if known.
2. Frequent, gentle tooth brushing with a soft brush may help keep sores from becoming infected.
3. Pain can be helped by avoiding acidic or highly salty foods, and any other substances that are irritating.
4. An anesthetic such as dyclonine or lidocaine may be used as a mouth rinse.

However, because these mouth rinses numb the mouth and throat and thus may make swallowing difficult, children using them should be watched to ensure that they do not choke on their food. Lidocaine (Xylocaine) in a thicker preparation can also be swabbed directly on the mouth sore.

Also if doctors are sure that the sore is not caused by an infection, they may prescribe a corticosteroid gel to be applied to each sore.

Some mouth sores can be treated with a low-powered laser, which relieves pain immediately and prevents sores from returning. Chemically burning the sore with a small stick coated with silver nitrate may similarly relieve pain but is not as effective as a laser.

**I suffer nose bleeding**

For the past two weeks, I have been suffering from nose bleeding. What are the causes and remedy?

**Joseph from Lagos**

Nose bleeding is also called Epitaxis

There could be local or systemic factors that could cause Epitaxis, Some Local factors are:

1. Inflammatory reactions, for example Acute Respiratory Infections, Chronic Sinusitis, Allergic Rhinitis
2. Foreign bodies
3. Intranasal tumours (abnormal swelling within the nose)
4. Nasal Spray
5. Trauma
6. Surgery such as Endoscopic sinus surgery

Some Systemic factors are:

1. Drugs such as Aspirin and Warfarin
2. Alcohol due to Vasodilation
3. Allergies
4. Heart failure
5. Hematological malignancies (abnormal blood cells)
6. Hypertension
7. Narcotics
8. Vascular disorders (diseased condition of veins)

All nosebleeds are due to tears in the mucosal lining and the many small blood vessels it contains. Fragility or injury may cause the tears, while inflammation, coagulation problems and other disorders may make the injury harder to repair

**Treatment**

The flow of blood normally stops when the blood clots, which may be encouraged by direct pressure and reducing the blood pressure in the head by sitting upright with the head tilted forward for about 10 minutes. Tilting the head back is not advised, as it can lead to blood flowing into the respiratory system, and possibly resulting in death or vomiting.

If other techniques do not work, an anterior packing is a possible remedy. An anterior pack works by applying pressure from the inside of the cavity, thus stopping the bleeding. This procedure can be performed at home for minor nosebleeds by gently packing tissue or gauze into the nasal cavity. Nasal sponges are available in good chemists.

If bleeding continues, seeking emergency medical attention is important. Continued bleeding is an indication of more serious underlying conditions. First aid includes inserting either a balloon inflated nasal tampon or dry hydrophilic nasal tampon

Chronic epitaxis resulting from a dry nasal mucosa is often treated by spraying saline in the nose up to three times per day. There are also non-petroleum based gels that can be used.

Persistent epitaxis is an indication for urgent medical consultation. Nasal packing, cryosurgery, electrocautery or application of trichloroacetic acid are options that may be used in severe epitaxis

Write in confidence to [healthinteractive@hotmail.com](mailto:healthinteractive@hotmail.com) or send a text message to 080-89972539 or P.O.Box 14807, Kano, Nigeria

## THE HOME FRONT

## LIVING

## Can you keep a joint account with your spouse?

Sharing, and doing things together is often seen as a sign of love and mutual understanding between a husband and wife. Thus several couples eat together, wear the same colour or make of clothes, go out on visits together and other activities just to mention a few. In doing things jointly does it also extend to having a joint account? The Home Front went out to sample the opinions of people on this issue.

According to Mr Silvester Okoye, a photo laminator, keeping a joint account is a true test of love between spouses. He said he keeps a joint account with his wife who is a business woman and there have been no problem whatsoever between them concerning contribution of money and expenditure. "We got married five years ago and since then we have been keeping a joint account. We don't have any problem because we inform one another of each withdrawal and what it is to be used for. My wife makes most of the withdrawals for the family upkeep and for her needs because as a woman she needs more clothes and other luxuries than me but we normally plan everything together. Keeping a joint account is an easy thing to do once couples understand each other."

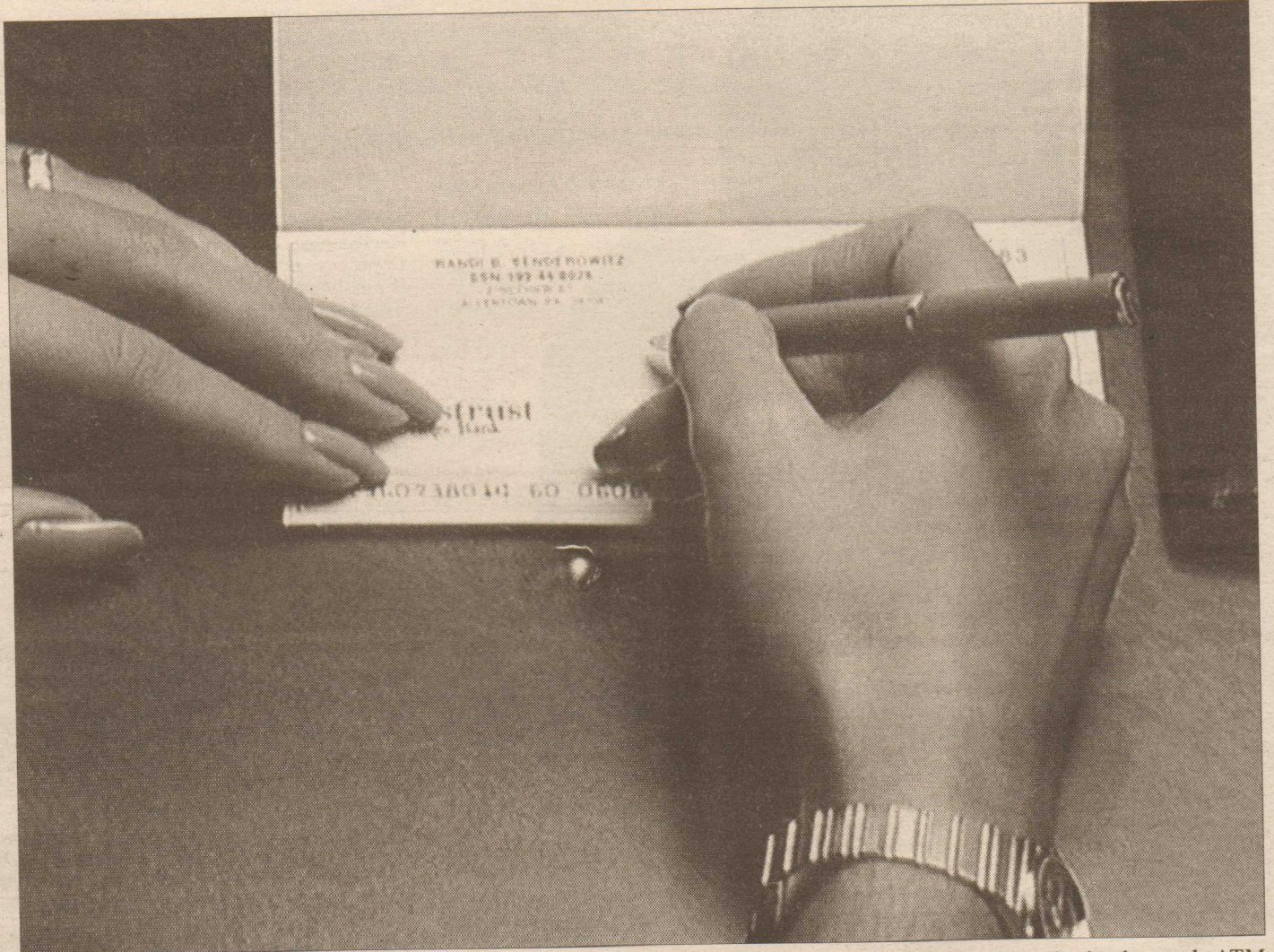
Mr Sikiru Jimoh, a journalist agrees with this view. "A joint account is the best account for married people because with this kind of account they wouldn't be hiding anything from each other. I have been keeping a joint account with my wife and we have not had any problem."

Ibrahim Fatai, says he prefers a joint account with his spouse. "Keeping a joint account is my desired wish in marriage because it brings unity. I will plan this with my intended wife before we get married and then carve out avenue where it will work smoothly for us."

Alhaji Bala Abu, however disagrees with this. "I have two wives and so cannot keep a joint account with them. One is trading and the other is not doing anything so there will not be a proportionate contribution and spending and even when all of man's wives are working, a joint account is still a problem. Naturally even if I have only one wife I cannot keep a joint account with my wife because that will be looking for trouble. Women can be sometimes so funny that when you keep a joint account with your wife she will know exactly how much you earn, and then begin to monitor your expenses seriously. Even when you are not extravagant, if you don't tell her the whole details of how you spend every dime you withdraw from the account, she will complain she contributes for you to spend any how or give to other women outside or marry another wife. I cannot advise any man to keep a joint account with his wife because money can cause problem. It is better to avoid that problem by keeping separate accounts, so that the man can contribute how much he can as the head of the family while the woman supports him, it will not be a question of how much this woman is earning and contributing so little or how much this man is earning and wants me to contribute equally like him."

Mr Osas Johnson, a civil servant also disagrees with a joint account. "I can't keep a joint account with my wife. If any married man really wants to be a man, it is better for him to keep a separate account from his wife. They can do all things together except a joint account because the issue of money is a different ball game all together."

On the part of women quite a number of



By Akor Ojoma

women disagree with a joint account.

According to Mrs Glory Ocheme, a teacher, "I disagree wholly with a joint account. When I married my husband as newly wed, we started keeping a joint account but this caused a lot of problems for us. Whenever I collected my salary I used to take it straight to the joint account and I didn't have freedom to spend out of it. There were emergencies that arose and I had to go through the protocol of informing my husband first. For example when my relatives or friends needed money from me no matter how little, I couldn't give them as much as I wanted or as early as they needed it. My husband and I quarrelled over amounts we spent or gave out to people. Peace only began to reign after we opened separate accounts. Today he leaves up to his responsibility as the head of the family and I also play my supportive role with liberty and do what I couldn't do before."

Mrs Ebele Nosike, a business woman also disagrees with a joint account. According to her, out of twenty five of them, all women, in a monetary contributory union, only the husband of one of them is aware of her membership. "We didn't tell our husbands we are doing any weekly contribution because men knowing whom they are will either collect it or make unnecessary monetary demand or they will leave some things they should do for you to do with the money in the home. The only woman who told her husband did so because the man is very gentle and doesn't even ask for her money for the family upkeep. He alone takes care of the family and the lady only uses her income to buy things for herself or her children if she wants to. Women's things are very expensive, if you keep a joint account with your husband and you see a lace of twenty thousand naira (N20,000) that you want to

buy, he may not agree saying it is too expensive or he may say you are buying too many clothes but if you have your own separate account even when you buy a head tie of ten thousand naira (10,000) and say it is two thousand naira (N2,000) you bought it he wouldn't know. It is not also wise to keep a joint account with your husband because he will be spending it at your expense."

Henrietta Ikwo, a student said the issue of a joint account does not in any way appeal to her. "There are many banks today so why confine yourself to a single account when you can both open even ten each if you want to. I don't think it is a rational thing to do because the man will take you for a ride and you will lack financial independence as a woman."

Hajiya Amina Yakubu said, "I can only keep a joint account for special projects for example if we want to build a house and decide to contribute towards it I will be doing that, but have my own account at the same time."

Mrs Elizabeth Idoko, a pastor and marriage counsellor advises couples to sit down and discuss and agree with their choice of accounts either separate or joint. "A joint account is workable and good so long as both partners agree to it and maintain it with understanding without hurting the other party."

Jeremy Vohwinkle, a Financial Planning Guide of About.com website advises that before you tie the knot, talk about how you'll mingle your money. Calmly express your opinions and discuss the ramifications of the different options:

#### One joint account

One option is to each put all of your earnings into one joint checking account. If you're both comfortable with this approach, it's certainly the easiest logistically. If one of you is deeply in debt or is notoriously bad at

keeping track of checks and ATM withdrawals, this may not be the best method for you.

#### The one-two method (one joint account plus two separate accounts)

Many couples today set up a joint checking account while retaining their separate checking accounts. They each pay an agreed upon amount into the joint checking account each month and use this account to pay the household bills. One of the big advantages to this method is that each person retains his or her own autonomy and financial independence, which helps avoid the use of money as power in the relationship.

If the One-Two method is used, come up with a method of determining how much each of you will contribute to the joint checking account. To do this:

Set up a budget so you know what your shared monthly expenses are and how much will need to go into the joint checking account.

If you both earn roughly the same amount, it makes sense to each contribute the same amount to the joint account. If one of you earns substantially more than the other, it's more fair to contribute on a percentage basis.

Set up a joint savings account that each of you contributes to for your shared financial goals, such as saving for retirement, investing, buying a new vehicle, taking a vacation, paying for your kids' college educations, etc.

Neither of these methods is right or wrong. Resentment over money can fester and eventually poison a relationship if it's not addressed in a way that satisfies each partner, so what's right is what works for you as a couple. It's important to your long-term relationship that each of you feels good about how the money works in your relationship.

**IS PRESIDENT YAR'ADUA'S "RULE OF LAW" APPLICABLE IN EDO STATE PDP?  
A TEST CASE FOR THE NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS OF PDP COME APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup> 2009  
DURING PDP SPECIAL NATIONAL CONVENTION**

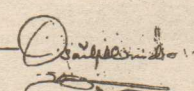
On FRIDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF OCT. 2008 the High Court in Benin City granted an injunction restraining Chief Samson Ekhabafe from parading himself as the elected chairman of PDP in Edo State.


**MR. PRESIDENT/General Public may want to know that some officials in PDP headquarters have obeyed this injunction on the breach.**

Reproduced below is a copy of this injunction that has not been vacated by the courts

Next, we are waiting to see whether this subsisting court injunction will be flouted again on the 20/04/09 by illegal attendance of appointed persons in the stead of duly elected ones from Edo State. **Is Mr. President's "Rule of Law" applicable in Edo State PDP?** We are Waiting and watching.

SIGNED:

Gen. (Dr.) S.O. Ogbemudia 

Admiral M.O. Akhigbe 

Chief Johnny Aburimen

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE  
EDO STATE OF NIGERIA  
IN THE BENIN JUDICIAL DIVISION  
HOLDEN AT BENIN CITY**

BETWEEN

SUIT NO. B/280/OS/2008

1. HON. (BARR.) EDWARD SADOH (CHAIRMAN, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
2. HON. CLEMENT EDO-OSAGIE (DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, NORTH, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
3. HON. DOMINGO OBENDE (VICE CHAIRMAN, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
4. HON. HENRY OKOROR (VICE CHAIRMAN, CENTRAL P.D.P. EDO STATE)
5. HON. SUNDAY UYIGUE (VICE CHAIRMAN, SOUTH P.D.P., EDO STATE)
6. HON. FELIX UTUBOR (SECRETARY, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
7. HON. (BARR.) MONDAY OYAKHIRE (ASSISTANT SECRETARY, NORTH, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
8. HON. (ALH.) E.E. ABHUKHEGBE (ASSIST. SECRETARY, CENTRAL, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
9. HON. (BARR.) OKUNS AIHIE (ASST. SECRETARY, SOUTH, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
10. HON. (BARR.) NOSA OGIEVA-OKUNBO (TREASURER, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
11. HON. (MALLAM) ABU MOMODU (FIN. SECRETARY, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
12. HON. (ALH.) M.Z. NABOYA (AUDITOR, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
13. HON. (BARR.) F.E. EDOGIA WERIE (LEGAL ADVISER, P.D.P., EDO STATE) – PLAINTIFFS/APPLICANTS
14. HON. (PRINCE) FRANCIS OMO-OSUNDE IYASERE JP (PUB. SECRETARY, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
15. HON. ERNEST IHIMEKPEN (ASSIST. PUB. SECRETARY, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
16. HON. PROMISE AGBEDE (ORGANISING SECRETARY, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
17. HON. KOYOME A.R. (ASST. ORG. SECRETARY, NORTH, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
- HON. ANTHONY AIGBOGUN (ASST. ORG. SECRETARY, CENTRAL, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
18. HON. AIGBEKAEN MONDAY (ASSIST. ORG. SECRETARY, SOUTH, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
- HON. (CHIEF) FRANCIS INEGBENEKI (YOUTH LEADER, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
19. HON. (MRS.) UWA EZOMO (WOMAN LEADER, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
20. HON. HENRY TENEBE (EX-OFFICIO MEN, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
21. HON. ISAAC ENANAH (EX-OFFICIO MEN, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
22. HON. MONDAY GOLD (EX-OFFICIO MEN, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
23. HON. (MADAM) MARY CLEMENT (EX-OFFICIO, WOMEN, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
24. HON. (MADAM) DOLLY ESEMUEDE (EX-OFFICIO, WOMEN, P.D.P., EDO STATE)
25. HON. (BARR.) L. OKOJIE (ASSIST. LEGAL ADVISER, P.D.P., EDO STATE)

AND

1. PEOPLES' DEMOCRATIC PARTY
  2. PRINCE VINCENT OGBULAFOR (CHAIRMAN, PEOPLES' DEMOCRATIC PARTY)
  3. ALHAJI ABUBAKARWU BARAJE (SECRETARY, PEOPLES' DEMOCRATIC PARTY)
  4. BARR. SAMSON O.I. EKHABAFE
- DEFENDANTS

**ENROLMENT OF ORDER  
MOTION ON NOTICE**

Upon the Plaintiffs/Applicants application unto this Honourable Court to wit:-

1. "AN ORDER of Interlocutory Injunction restraining the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Defendants, their agents, servants, privies or anybody acting under their authorities

from removing the Plaintiffs/Applicants from the Executive Committee of the Peoples Democratic Party, Edo State Chapter or from doing anything capable of affecting the tenure of the Executive Committee of the Peoples Democratic Party, Edo State Chapter, pending the determination of this suit.

2. AN ORDER of Interlocutory Injunction restraining the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Defendants from appointing, handpicked, selected or appointed person or persons to function as members of the Executive Committee of the Peoples Democratic Party, Edo State Chapter pending the determination of this suit before this Honourable Court.
3. AN ORDER of Interlocutory Injunction restraining the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Defendants from giving effect to the purported appointment of the 4<sup>th</sup> Defendants as Chairman by the Peoples Democratic Party Executive Committee, Edo State Chapter by the National Working Committee of the 1<sup>st</sup> Defendant pending the determination of this suit.
4. AN ORDER of Interlocutory Injunction restraining the Defendants from taking any further action whatsoever calculated to prejudice the position of the Plaintiffs/Applicants as duly elected members of the Executive Committee of the Peoples Democratic Party, Edo State Chapter, pending the determination of this suit before this Honourable Court.
5. AN ORDER of Interlocutory Injunction, restraining the Defendants, their agents, servants, privies or anybody acting under their authorities from suspending or expelling the Plaintiffs/Applicants or taking any step capable of affecting their membership of the party, pending the hearing and determination of this suit in this Honourable Court.
6. AN ORDER of Interlocutory Injunction restraining the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Defendants from suspending and/or dissolving the Executive Committee of the Peoples Democratic Party, Edo State Chapter, pending the determination of this suit before this Honourable Court.
7. AN ORDER of Interlocutory Injunction restraining the 4<sup>th</sup> Defendant from parading himself or functioning as the Chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party, Edo State Chapter pending the determination of this suit before this Honourable Court.

Coming up for hearing and determination before His Lordship the Honourable Justice C.O. Idahosa Judge, sitting at High Court No. 2, Benin City in the Benin Judicial Division on Friday the 31<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2008 in the presence of 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Plaintiffs/Applicants, 1<sup>st</sup> Defendant present by Dickson Imasogie Vice Chairman Edo South, 4<sup>th</sup> Defendant and other parties absent.

And the Court having heard Chief Giwa O. Osadolor Esq. with him are E.O. Enabulele Esq., Nosa Iyekekpolor Esq., C. Aiguobarueghian Esq. and Nosa Osakpolor Esq. of Counsel for the Plaintiffs/Applicants, Chief Olusole Oke of Counsel for 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> Defendants, Chief Ferd Obih of Counsel for 4<sup>th</sup> Defendant ordered as follows:

"On the whole, and after due consideration of the application, the affidavits filed by all the parties, the submissions of Learned Counsel and the principles guiding the consideration of applications for interlocutory injunctions as set out in the case of KOTOYE V. CBN supra i.e. the locus classicus and other cases by the Supreme Court, I am of the view that this is an appropriate case in which an order of interlocutory should be granted.


Accordingly it is ordered as prayed in prayers 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 of the motion paper.

In the circumstances it is ordered as follows:

1. The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Defendants/Respondents their agents, servants, privies or anybody acting under their authorities are hereby restraining from removing the Plaintiffs/Applicants from the Executive Committee of the Peoples Democratic Party, Edo State Chapter or from doing anything capable of affecting the tenure of the Executive Committee of the Peoples Democratic Party Edo State Chapter, pending the hearing and determination of the substantive suit.
2. The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Defendants/Respondents are hereby restrained from giving effect to the appointment of the 4<sup>th</sup> Defendant as Chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party Executive Committee, Edo State Chapter by the National Working Committee of the 1<sup>st</sup> Defendant pending the hearing and determination of the substantive suit.
3. The Defendants are hereby restrained from taking any further action whatsoever calculated to prejudice the position of the Plaintiffs/Applicants as duly elected members of the Executive Committee of the Peoples Democratic Party Edo State Chapter pending the hearing and determination of the substantive suit.
4. The Defendants are hereby restrained by themselves their agents, servants, privies or anybody acting under their authority from suspending or expelling the Plaintiffs/Applicants or taking any step capable of affecting their membership of the Party, pending the hearing and determination of the substantive suit.
5. The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Defendants are hereby restrained from suspending and/or dissolving the Executive Committee of the Peoples Democratic Party, Edo State Chapter, pending the hearing and determination of the substantive suit.
6. The 4<sup>th</sup> Defendant is hereby restrained from parading himself or functioning as the Chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party, Edo State Chapter pending the hearing and determination of the substantive suit.
7. Prayer No. 2 is hereby refused.
8. The Plaintiffs/Applicants are to enter an undertaking to pay damages if at the end it is held that this order ought not to have been made. The undertaking shall be supported by an affidavit of means.
9. The substantive suit is to be given an accelerated hearing.
10. There shall be no order as to costs"

  
JUDGE

Issued at the High Court Registry Benin, under the SEAL of the Court and the Hand of the presiding Judge this Friday the 31<sup>st</sup> day of October 2008.

  
ASSISTANT CHIEF REGISTRAR.

## DIGEST

# Aspirin may cause bleeding in the brain, claim researchers

Aspirin may cause bleeding in the brain, according to new research.

Brain scans of 1,062 people found a 70 per cent higher incidence of microscopic bleeding among those taking aspirin or carbasalate calcium, a close chemical relative, than those not taking the drugs.

Millions of Britons take such blood-thinning drugs to cut their chances of dangerous clots in the arteries, which cause heart attacks and strokes.

The study, published online in the Archives of Neurology, suggested that aspirin, and related medications, can raise the chance of 'cerebral microbleeds' in the brain.

But the researchers at the Erasmus MC University Medical Centre



**Risk: Aspirin may cause bleeding in the brain, claim researchers - but they added that benefits of the drug outweigh any risk in patients with heart disease**

in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, said that the beneficial effects of anti-

clotting drugs for individuals at risk for heart attack and stroke typically outweigh any risks of

bleeding.

Dr Meike Vernooij, who led the study said: 'It may

be that in selected persons such as those with signs of cerebral amyloid angiopathy, this risk-benefit ratio may differ for certain drugs like aspirin, thus influencing treatment decision.'

Both aspirin and carbasalate calcium prevent formation of clots by acting against platelets, the blood cells that form clots. It is widely known that the anti-clotting medications carry a small risk of bleeding in the gastrointestinal tract - the oesophagus, stomach, or intestines.

The study showed that the association between cerebral microbleeds and aspirin was stronger among participants taking the drugs at higher doses.

The researchers added that participants in the study did

not appear to have any symptoms as a result of their brain bleeds, so there may be little reason for concern, especially when weighed against the proven benefits of taking the drug.

They said that future studies should follow up with the study participants to see if the microscopic brain bleeds raise the chance of more serious bleeding over time.

Microbleeds in certain parts of the brain can cause the small vessel disease, cerebral amyloid angiopathy. In such cases, a protein related to Alzheimer's accumulates, causing degeneration of muscle cells, and an increased chance of rupture and haemorrhage in blood vessels.

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

## Stem cells 'can treat diabetes'

An experimental stem cell treatment has enabled patients with type 1 diabetes to go for as long as four years without insulin injections, researchers say.

A US-Brazilian project with 23 patients found most were able to produce their own insulin after a transplant of stem cells from their own bone marrow.

Even those who relapsed needed less insulin than before.

But writing in the journal JAMA, the team warned the treatment may only work in those very recently diagnosed.

The treatment is designed to stop the immune systems of those with type 1 diabetes, a condition which usually develops in childhood, from mistakenly

destroying the cells which create insulin.

To measure its effectiveness, team from Northwestern University in the US and the Regional Blood Centre in Brazil, looked at levels of C-peptides, which show how well the body is producing insulin.

Twenty of the 23 patients who received the treatment became insulin-free - one for as long as four years. Eight had to return to insulin injections, but at reduced levels. The treatment did not work in three of the patients, and it was also unlikely to work in patients more than three months after diagnosis of diabetes, said Dr Richard Burt of Northwestern. This was because by this stage, the immune system had destroyed the body's islet cells. It was also unlikely to be have any therapeutic benefits for those with type 2 diabetes, mainly associated with obesity, as these patients still make insulin.

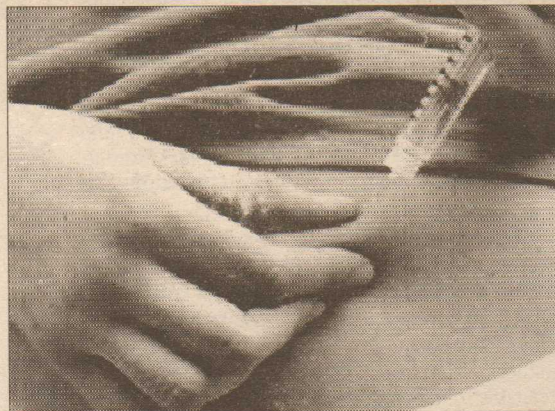
Dr Iain Frame, director of research at Diabetes UK, said: "although this remains an interesting area of research, the

importance of a limited extension to this study should not be overstated - this is not a cure for Type 1 diabetes."

He added: "we would like to see this experiment carried out with a control group for comparison of results and a longer-term follow up in a greater number of people."

"It is important that the researchers look at the causes of the apparent improvement in insulin production and C-peptide levels in some participants. In particular, it is crucial to find out whether this is associated with the timing of the treatment or possible side effects of it rather than the stem cell transplant itself. "It would be wrong to unnecessarily raise the hopes of people living with diabetes about a new treatment for the condition on the back of the evidence provided in this study."

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



One patient was able to go for four years without insulin injections

## Human ancestors 'less ape-like'

Human ancestors living millions of years ago were bad at climbing trees and not nearly as ape-like as many experts believe, new research suggests.

Scientists came to the conclusion after studying ankle joints from "hominins" dating back more than four million years.

The creatures lived a relatively short time after

humans and chimpanzees split from a common ancestor four to eight million years ago.

Ancient Egyptians used wine as medicine. Many experts have argued that this ancestor was probably quite chimpanzee-like. As a result it has been widely assumed that the earliest humans were ape-like too.

But the new research contradicts this view,

showing that - unlike modern chimps - ancient humans were not designed to climb trees.

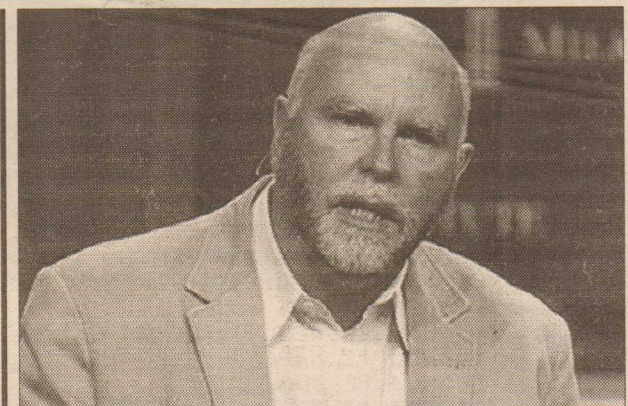
Dr Jeremy DeSilva, from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, analysed video of chimpanzees in Uganda to see whether the animals' skeletal motion was consistent with claims of early human climbing.

Focusing on the ankle joint, he determined the angle of "dorsiflexion" - the degree to which the ankle rotates to point the toes upwards.

The research showed that dorsiflexion is far more extreme in chimps than humans. Chimpanzees were capable of a 45-degree bend, whereas the range in humans was between 15 and 20 degrees.

To assist dorsiflexion, the bottom of the chimpanzee tibia - the larger of the two bones in the lower leg - is shaped in a certain way where it joins the ankle.

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



American scientist and entrepreneur Craig Venter  
Photo: REUTERS

## Scientists compete to build best living machine

Scientists from around the world are to compete in a competition to build the best machine using only parts from living organisms.

More than 100 genetic engineering laboratories will compete using the microscopic components found inside biological cells. The organisers of the competition, which is now in its sixth year, hope that useful technology will be created from these basic building blocks of life.

Meagan Lizarazo, a former biologist and assistant director of the International Genetically Engineered Machine competition at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Boston said: "Our mission has been to see if we can use biological parts to build things and operate them. A lot of people said it's too complex and can't be done, but every year we have systems that show it can work."

This week, the last of the teams, most of whom are students, will register for the competition. From June, they will spend three months building their machines from components ordered from MIT's registry, which contains about 3,200 biological spare parts. The organisers hope the competition, which brings together some of the world's most talented young scientists, will aid progress in synthetic biology.

One leading advocate of the technology is the American scientist and entrepreneur Craig Venter, who hopes not only to make bugs that produce hydrogen for environmentally friendly vehicles, but to create new life from scratch.

But critics of the field have raised concerns that the scientists could accidentally produce dangerous new organisms.

They have also suggested that the knowledge could fall into the hands of terrorists who could resurrect long-contained viruses, or fashion more deadly strains.

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





# NASARAWA STATE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA

## RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Financial Statement has been prepared in accordance with provision of the Financial (Control and Management) Act 1958 as amended. The Financial Statement complies with generally accepted accounting practices.

Responsibility for the integrity and objectivity of the Financial Statements rests entirely with the Government.

To fulfill accounting and reporting responsibility, the Accountant-General is responsible for establishing and maintaining an adequate system of internal controls, designed to provide reasonable assurance that the transaction recorded are within statutory authority. They also, properly record the use of all public financial resources by the Government.

Efforts were to ensure that this Financial Statement fairly reflect the financial position of Government as at 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2007 and its operation for the year ended on that date.

**PRINCE ALIYU ABDULLAHI IDDE, MBA, FCNA**  
Accountant-General  
Nasarawa State

## AUDITOR-GENERAL CERTIFICATION

In compliance with section 125 sub-section 2 of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, I have examined the Accounts and the financial Statement of Nasarawa State Government of Nigeria for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2007 proper returns have been rendered by ministries and department and their related parastatals in conformity with the public finance (control and Management) Law of 1958. I have obtained all information and explanation necessary in the discharge of my responsibility.

The audit was conducted in accordance with auditing requirements as Specified in the audit law (chapter 12) of Nasarawa State of Nigeria, 1996. in addition projects and programmes were verified in line with the concept of performance in audit. In the discharge of my responsibility as required, by section 125(5) of the same constitution, the financial statements have been certified subject to comments contained in this report.

In my opinion, projects and programmes executed were satisfactory in consideration of funds employed. Furthermore, the financial statement (Nos.1-3) and related schedules give a true fair view of the state of the affairs of Nasarawa State Government as at 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2007.

**Alh. Garba Adamu (CNA)**  
Auditor-General,  
Nasarawa State

Office of the  
Auditor-General,  
Nasarawa State

## NASARAWA STATE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA

### CASH - FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER, 2007

| PARTICULARS                             | 2007                         | 2006                         |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|
|   | N                            | N                            |
| Cash-Flows from Operating Activities    |                              |                              |
| <b>RECEIPTS</b>                         |                              |                              |
| Statutory Allocation                    | 20,943,324,002               | 19,588,512,334               |
| Value Added Tax (VAT)                   | 2,768,811,925                | 2,009,315,097                |
| Internally Generated Revenue            | 640,154,654                  | 502,509,806                  |
| Miscellaneous                           | <u>1,709,700</u>             | <u>5,310,024</u>             |
| <b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>                   | <b><u>24,354,000,281</u></b> | <b><u>22,105,647,261</u></b> |
| <b>PAYMENTS:</b>                        |                              |                              |
| Personnel Emoluments                    | 3,814,035,903                | 3,146,309,756                |
| Educational Services                    | 1,392,793,448                | 2,930,306,661                |
| Transport Services                      | 59,358,760                   | 24,982,884                   |
| Health Services                         | 677,535,924                  | 442,060,611                  |
| Agricultural Services                   | 333,680,898                  | 396,644,805                  |
| Consolidated Revenue Funds Charges      | 12,845,771,405               | 6,993,773,102                |
| Other General Nature                    | <u>2,485,926,988</u>         | <u>1,005,664,869</u>         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                            | <b>21,609,103,326</b>        | <b>14,939,742,688</b>        |
| <b>NET CASH-FLOW FROM OPERATION</b>     | <b>2,744,896,955</b>         | <b>7,165,904,573</b>         |
| <b>CASH-FLOW INVESTMENT</b>             |                              |                              |
| Purchase / Construction of Assets       | 3,537,747,615                | 7,144,747,153                |
| Purchase of Financial Market Instrument |                              |                              |
| Net Cash-Flow Investments               | <u>(3,537,747,615)</u>       | <u>(7,144,747,153)</u>       |
|   | <b><u>(792,850,660)</u></b>  | <b><u>21,157,420</u></b>     |
| <b>CASH-FLOW FROM FINANCING:</b>        |                              |                              |
| Proceed of Loans/Borrowing              | 4,692,469,925                | 4,626,000,000                |
| Dividends Received                      |                              | 5,310,024                    |
| Repayments of Loans                     | <u>(3,275,207,865)</u>       | <u>(4,626,000,000)</u>       |
| Net Cash Flow from Financing            | 1,417,262,060                | 5,310,024                    |
| Net increase/(Decrease) in cash         | 624,411,400                  | (15,827,396)                 |
| Opening Cash Balance                    | 44,542,562                   | 60,369,958                   |
| <b>CLOSING CASH BALANCE</b>             | <b>668,953,962</b>           | <b>44,542,562</b>            |

## NASARAWA STATE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA

### STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER, 2007

| PARTICULARS   | NOTES | 2007          | 2006          |
|---|-------|---------------|---------------|
|   |       | N             | N             |
| <b>ASSETS</b>                                       |       |               |               |
| Cash and Bank Balances                              | 1     |               |               |
| Cash Resource - Main Accounts                       |       |               |               |
| Cash Resources - SPG Accounts                       |       |               |               |
| Cash resources - Salary/ Subventions Accounts       |       |               |               |
| Cash Resources - VAT Accounts                       |       |               |               |
| United Bank for Africa (UBA) CRF                    |       | 710,474       |               |
| United Bank for Africa (UBA) - Salary/Subvention    |       |               |               |
| United Bank for Africa (UBA) - Call Deposit Account |       |               | 38,160,320    |
| United Bank for Africa (UBA) - Statutory Revenue    |       | 296,374,988   |               |
| Bank of the North-Deposit Account                   |       |               |               |
| Bank of the North-CRF Accounts                      |       |               |               |
| Zenith Bank-SUBEB Matching Grant                    |       |               |               |
| Platinum Habib Bank - Govt. House                   |       |               |               |
| Platinum Habib Bank - Call Deposit Account          |       |               | 61,332        |
| Diamond Bank - CRF                                  |       |               |               |
| Diamond Plc   |       | 253,433,432   | 6,245,958     |
| Unity Bank Exim 153N                                |       |               |               |
| Platinum Habib Ban                                  |       | 102,011,810   | 17,197        |
| United Bank for Africa (UBA) VAT Account            |       | 16,423,260    | 57,755        |
| Remittance In-transit                               | 2     | 2,350,958,294 | 1,658,892,139 |
| Imprest   | 3     |               |               |
| Ministry of Finance                                 |       | 1,052,600     | 1,052,600     |
| Office of the Accountant-General                    |       | 80,000        | 80,000        |
| Head of Servic                                      |       | 111,000       | 111,000       |

|                                    |           |               |               |
|------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|---------------|
| Loans and Advances                 | 4         | 1,825,400,447 | 1,825,400,447 |
| Statio Balances                    | 5         | (484,106,415) | 1,790,205,616 |
| Deposits 6                         |           |               |               |
| Board of Internal Revenue Services |           | 985,848,478   | 985,848,478   |
| CLS Stock Brokers                  |           | 6,000,000     | 6,000,000     |
| Daniyan & Associates               |           | 5,000,000     | 5,000,000     |
| NNDC                               |           | 50,000,000    | 50,000,000    |
| NIMCO                              | 2,383,258 | 2,383,258     |               |
| Nasarawa Transport Service         |           | 18,880,994    | 18,880,994    |
| Sundry Debtors                     | 7         |               |               |
| MANR-Sundries                      |           | 20,843,000    | 20,843,000    |
| Hon. Tahir Alayi                   |           | 1,000,000     | 1,000,000     |
| Alh. Danjuma Adamu                 |           | 603,659       | 603,659       |
| N/S Relief Committee               |           | 1,000,000     | 1,000,000     |
| Investments                        | 8         | 418,434,699   | 418,434,699   |
|                                    |           | 5,872,443,976 | 6,830,278,452 |

**NASARAWA STATE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA**  
STATEMENT OF CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER, 2007

|  | BUDGET 07<br>N        | ACTUAL 07<br>N         | VARIANCE<br>N           |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Balance as at 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan.     |                       | 1,824,895,935          |                         |
| <b>Add Recurrent Revenue</b>           |                       |                        |                         |
| Taxes                                  | 670,600,000           | 38,662,965             | 631,937,035             |
| Fines and Fees                         | 227,640               | 60,359,819             | (60,132,179)            |
| Licences                               | 63,755,000            | 9,000                  | 63,746,000              |
| Earning and Sales                      | 291,780,000           | 540,449,375            | (248,669,375)           |
| Rent on Govt. Property                 | 51,190,000            | 673,495                | 50,516,505              |
| Interest and Dividends                 | 20,000,000            |                        | 20,000,000              |
| Re-imbustments                         |                       |                        |                         |
| Miscellaneous Income                   | 51,500                | 1,709,700              | (1,658,200)             |
| Statutory Rev. Allocation              | 25,000,000,000        | 20,943,324,002         | 4,056,675,998           |
| Revenue from Parastatals               | 1,089,012,046         |                        | 1,089,012,046           |
| <b>Total Revenue (a)</b>               | <b>27,186,616,186</b> | <b>23,410,084,291</b>  | <b>3,776,531,895</b>    |
| <b>Less Recurrent Expenditure</b>      |                       |                        |                         |
| Personnel costs                        | 3,124,979,068         | 3,814,035,903          | (689,056,835)           |
| Overhead costs                         | 5,309,486,425         | 7,330,547,988          | (2,021,061,563)         |
| Grants/Subventions                     | 4,373,000,000         | 3,740,584,247          | 632,415,753             |
| Public Debt Charges                    | 1,500,000,000         | 12,314,986,492         | (10,814,986,492)        |
| Pension and Gratuities                 | 350,000,000           | 321,861,386            | 28,138,614              |
| <b>Total Recurrent Expenditure (b)</b> | <b>14,657,465,483</b> | <b>27,522,016,016</b>  | <b>(12,864,550,523)</b> |
| <b>Operating Balance (a-b)</b>         | <b>12,529,150,693</b> | <b>(4,111,931,725)</b> | <b>16,641,082,418</b>   |
| <b>Appropriation/Transfers</b>         |                       |                        |                         |
| Capital Dev. Fund                      |                       | 5,000,000,000          |                         |
| <b>Balance C/F</b>                     |                       | <b>888,068,275</b>     |                         |

**NASARAWA STATE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA**  
STATEMENT OF CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER, 2007

|  | BUDGET 07<br>N | ACTUAL 07<br>N | VARIANCE<br>N   |
|--|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Balance as at 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan. 2007 |                | 3,333,918,239  |                 |
| <b>Add Capital Receipts</b>              |                |                |                 |
| Value Added Tax (VAT)                    | 1,680,000,000  | 2,768,811,925  | (1,088,811,925) |
| Transfer from CRF                        | 13,284,847,636 | 0              | 13,284,847,636  |
| Special Grants & Loans                   | 1,000,000,000  | 4,692,469,925  | (3,692,469,925) |

|                           |                |                |               |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| TOTAL CAPITAL RECEIPTS(a) | 15,964,847,636 | 10,795,200,089 | 5,169,647,547 |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|

**LESS CAPITAL EXPENDITURE**

|                                     |               |             |               |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| Agric & Natural Resource            | 573,220,000   | 6,146,354   | 567,073,646   |
| Water Resources & Rural Dev.        | 478,000,000   | 94,148,820  | 383,851,180   |
| Livestock & Veterinary              | 285,000,000   | 46,084,154  | 238,915,846   |
| Forestry and Wildlife               | 23,500,000    |             | 23,500,000    |
| Fisheries 417,500,000               |               | 417,500,000 |               |
| Commerce & Industry                 | 261,000,000   | 444,945,277 | (183,945,277) |
| Tourism and Hotel Dev.              | 447,393,445   |             | 447,393,445   |
| Solid Minerals Dev. Company         | 100,000,000   |             | 100,000,000   |
| Works & Transport                   | 2,776,500,000 | 598,772,271 | 2,177,727,729 |
| Nasarawa Transport Service          | 204,600,000   |             | 204,600,000   |
| Education sector                    | 1,750,000,000 | 463,322,797 | 1,286,677,203 |
| Relevant Tech. Board                | 49,000,000    |             | 49,000,000    |
| Health Sector                       | 2,102,654,000 | 112,878,852 | 1,989,775,148 |
| Information                         | 835,981,988   | 40,523,523  | 795,458,465   |
| Nasarawa Publishing Company         | 150,000,000   |             | 150,000,000   |
| Nasarawa Broadcasting Service       | 84,000,000    |             | 84,000,000    |
| Youth & Sport Dev.                  | 873,000,000   | 17,217,972  | 855,782,028   |
| Tourism, Art & Culture              | 2,050,000,000 | 65,016,667  | 1,984,983,333 |
| Social Dev.                         |               |             |               |
| Housing Dev.                        |               |             |               |
| Women Affairs & Social Dev.         |               |             |               |
| Cooperative Commerce Dev.           | 161,000,000   |             | 161,000,000   |
| Pension Board                       | 161,000,000   | 1,500,000   | 159,500,000   |
| Water Supply                        | 781,000,000   | 38,973,986  | 742,026,014   |
| Produce Marketing Company           | 57,500,000    |             | 57,500,000    |
| Local Govt. Audit                   | 35,000,000    |             | 35,000,000    |
| Town & Country Planning (L&S)       | 760,000,000   |             | 760,000,000   |
| Town Country Planning (NUDB)        | 587,500,000   |             | 587,500,000   |
| Urban Dev. Board                    |               | 529,019,657 | (529,019,657) |
| Housing & Environment               | 299,000,000   | 457,609,508 | (158,609,508) |
| Nas. State Environ Protection Agen. | 49,000,000    | 65,000,000  | (16,000,000)  |
| Bureau for Land & Survey            |               |             |               |
| SSG's Office                        | 644,551,745   | 266,833,577 | 377,718,168   |
| High Court of Justice               | 225,000,000   |             | 225,000,000   |
| Ministry of Justice                 | 114,000,000   |             | 114,000,000   |
| Ministry of Finance                 | 111,000,000   | 289,554,200 | (178,554,200) |
| Nasarawa State Internal Rev. Sev.   | 122,000,000   | 122,000,000 |               |
| State Audit 42,000,000              |               | 42,000,000  |               |
| Hospital Management Board           | 75,000,000    |             | 75,000,000    |

**NASARAWA STATE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA**

STATEMENT OF CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER, 2007 (CONT.)

|                                    | BUDGET 07<br>N | ACTUAL 07<br>N        | VARIANCE<br>N  |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Nasarawa State House of Assembly   | 1,057,000,000  |                       | 1,057,000,000  |
| Ministry of Women Affairs          | 267,912,500    |                       | 267,912,500    |
| Local Government Service Comm.     | 70,000,000     |                       | 70,000,000     |
| NASIEC 246,925,000                 |                | 246,925,000           |                |
| Customary Court of Appeal          | 81,500,000     |                       | 81,500,000     |
| Sharia Court of Appeal             | 81,500,000     |                       | 81,500,000     |
| Civil Service Commission           | 26,470,545     |                       | 26,470,545     |
| Head of Service                    | 79,000,000     |                       | 79,000,000     |
| Teachers Service Commission        | 38,000,000     | 200,000               | 37,800,000     |
| Local Govt. & Chieftaincy Affairs  | 285,000,000    |                       | 285,000,000    |
| Judiciary Service Commission       | 85,230,000     |                       | 85,230,000     |
| Specialist Hospital                | 110,000,000    |                       | 110,000,000    |
| Karu Ara Planning & Dev. Authority | 287,155,384    |                       | 287,155,384    |
| Nasarawa State University          |                |                       |                |
| Econ. Planning & Budget            | 54,300,000     |                       | 54,300,000     |
|                                    | 15,287,418,825 | 3,573,747,615         | 11,749,671,210 |
| Balance c/f (a-b)                  |                | 7,257,452,474         |                |
| Transfer to CRF                    |                | 5,000,000,000         |                |
| <b>Balance C/F</b>                 |                | <b>N2,257,452,474</b> |                |

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# PROPERTY

## Intercontinental Bank expends N1 bn on hostels, lecture halls

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

In fulfilment of its corporate social responsibility, Intercontinental Bank PLC has expended a total of one billion naira in provision of hostels and lectures halls in tertiary institutions across the country, its Group Chief Executive, Dr. Erastus Akingbola has said.

Speaking during the presentation of cheques to beneficiaries of the bank's scholarship programme in Kaduna, he said the bank expended the amount for the provision of infrastructures in 18 tertiary institutions.

He said the bank decided to inject the amount in the education sector of the country as the challenges of improving the sector is too enormous to be left in the hands of the government alone.

"We are disturbed by the absence of world class facilities required for qualitative academic endeavour in our universities. This pitiable state of facility has not only resulted in an upsurge of social vices, but in appalling quality of research and innovations in the universities, hence our interventions," he said.

On the scholarship scheme of the bank, he said a total of 1600 students have been assisted through the scheme and that this scheme is part of the bank's way of partnering with state governments in enhancing access to quality education.

"We have over 1,000 students from eleven states, but with presentations of cheque to Kaduna state beneficiaries, we now have 1,100. Other states are coming on. In our Intercontinental Diamond Fund (IDF) scholarship programme we have 500 beneficiaries making the beneficiaries of our scholarship programme to be 1600," he said.

He assured that the bank would redouble efforts in ensuring that their customers get better value and services as the bank marks its 20th anniversary.

Governor Mohammed Namadi Sambo of Kaduna state, in his address at the occasion, commended the management of the bank for the initiative saying it shows that that the bank is committed to developing the manpower base of the country.

## N6.5bn water project to complement Asa Dam waterworks

From Mustafa Abubakar, Ilorin

The Kwara State Commissioner for Water Resources, Alhaji AbdulMumin Sidiq Katibi, has disclosed that the on-going N6.5 billion Water Network Distribution Project will enable the Asa Dam waterworks to distribute water to every home in the metropolis on completion.

The Commissioner, who disclosed this at an Inter-ministerial meeting of stakeholders on the project held in his office yesterday, said that the project on completion would be complemented by the pipe distribution network with low and high lift pumps project.

Katibi, who said that the project is aimed at scaling up the Asa waterworks to pump twenty-five million gallons of water per day also reiterated the commitment of the state government to its cardinal policy of making clean potable water available in all the nooks and crannies of the state.

The commissioner said the present administration was aware of the importance of water to human existence, and stressed that it was in pursuit of that the Bukola Saraki administration had expended a huge amount of money on rehabilitation and expansion of Asa Dam and other water dams across the state.

He also disclosed that the pipe network distribution project would be executed in phases and called all those whose property will be affected by the pipe installation to show understanding as government had concluded all arrangements to pay them adequate compensation.

Speaking at the inter-ministerial meeting, the commissioner for Works, Barrister Razaq Atunwa, pledged that the ministry would do everything within its capacity to ensure the success of the pipe project while the commissioner for Lands and Housing, Dr. Bayo Ishola, also pledged the co-operation of his ministry to ensure the realization of the project.



The National Mosque, Abuja.

Pic: Afolabi Sotunde

## Ondo govt acquires 12 hectares for auto dealers

From Leye Adewumi, Akure

The Ondo State government has acquired a portion of land covering 12 hectares for the construction of a permanent site for automobile dealers operating in Akure metropolis. The land stretch is located along Ilesa-Owo express road adjacent Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (PHCN) mega city in Akure.

Briefing reporters during the media tour of the bulldozed site, the Chairman, Akure Beautification Committee, Mr. David Akin Ige said the site would be ready for use in the next four weeks...

According to him, the decision of the present administration to provide the auto mart was to decongest Akure metropolis and make it look attractive as a state capital. He lamented that both vehicles and pedestrians were competing for space inconveniences thereby creating congestion in the metropolis.

Ige, who is a former

## Council calls for improvement of infrastructure

Dr Adesola Adedayo, Chairman The Apapa-Iganmu Local Council Development Area (LCDA) has said that improving social amenities and infrastructure would do more to people than increasing the salary of civil servants. Adedayo said in an interview with the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Lagos that salary increase has never solved the entire problem of the workforce.

"Since the day of Udoji, salary increase has never solved the entire problem of the workforce. What can solve our problem is improvement in infrastructure that is visible.

approach would assist in providing permanent solution to traffic congestion in Akure.

Ige hinted that the first stage which involved the land clearance would accommodate 800 vehicles at a time. His words, "This committee apart from relocating auto dealers has

also secured nine sites for mechanics, we will also relocate street traders to a more convenient place at the shortest time possible. The Chairman said the auto mart would be equipped with a secretariat building to take care of security communication service and other conveniences



### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2009 WORKPLAN OF THE INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING FOR ODS PHASE-OUT PHASE V CALL FOR PROPOSALS

In line with the implementation of its 2009 work plan for the Institutional Strengthening for ODS Phase-out Project Phase V, the National Ozone office of the Federal Ministry of Environment (as the Implementing Agency) in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme, hereby requests for proposals from interested vendors for the provision of services in respect of the following activities.

- A. Schools Outreach Awareness Programme
  - i. The programme is intended to create awareness and public education on the protection of the Ozone Layer in secondary schools around the FCT and will involve the provision of awareness promotion materials and the use of UNEP educational materials.
  - ii. Provision of Catering Services
- B. HPMP Inception Workshop
  - i. Provision of venue, meeting rooms and catering services
  - ii. Provision of workshop materials
- C. Publication of ODS Phase-out Activities and Montreal Protocol Implementation in Nigeria
- D. Preparatory Activities for the Hosting of the Joint ODS/NET Meeting for English and French Speaking African Countries.
- E. Celebration of the 2009 International Year for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer
  - i. Provision of Awareness Promotion Materials
  - ii. Catering Services
  - iii. Provision of Secretariat Services including Hall Decoration etc.

Interested vendors should visit Room 102, Ozone office of the Federal Ministry of Environment (Green Building), Plot 14 Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama, Abuja for the terms of reference/specifications and/or details of required services and send their proposals to the same office not later than 7 days from the day of this advert for Activity A and not later than 14 Days for Activities B-E, to be same address above accordingly. All submissions should be in sealed envelopes clearly marked for the particular activity or items for which the proposals are presented. Further information or clarifications can be obtained from the same office mentioned above.

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT  
ABUJA

# ENVIRONMENT

## Ministry worries over delay of passage of mining bill

The Federal Ministry of Mines and Steel Development on Wednesday expressed concern over the delay in the passage of the mining cadastre bill, saying it might affect the sector.

Director of Mining Cadastre in the ministry, Mallam Sheik Goni, who disclosed this in Abuja during a capacity building workshop for journalists covering the mining sector explained that the non-passage of the bill was hindering the mining cadastre to operate fully as an office. He lamented that the delay had impeded the smooth operation of the sector.

He said over 5,000 industrialists, both foreign and local, had indicated interest in investing in the sector out of which about 2600 applications received for mining title had been processed. Mallam Goni noted that there had been a lot of improvement in the sector since the beginning of the Federal Government's reform in 2006.

## Czech Republic to assist KNSG on environmental protection

The government of the Czech Republic has offered to assist the government of Kano state in the development of urban infrastructure and environmental protection.

The Chairman, Czech Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Affairs, Mr. Jan Hamacek announced the offer when he led a delegation from his country on a visit to the governor of Kano state, Malam Ibrahim Shekarau at the Government House. He noted the dynamic efforts of the state government in redesigning the state capital, saying his country has a lot of expertise to offer in this regard.

Speaking through an interpreter, Mr. Hamacek said his country has rich experience in waste management, pointing out that a joint partnership could be arranged between Czech Republic and the state government for the setting up of a pilot waste generation plant in Kano in view of the huge waste generated. He added that, Nigeria stands to benefit tremendously from the aircraft technology available in the Czech Republic, pointing out that already, his country has provided technical support to the Air Force Base in Kano toward enhancing its services.



The Nguru wetlands, Borno, State.

Pic: Afolabi Sotunde

## Eliminate newspapers, save the planet?

Marriott, the hotel group, announced on Monday that it no longer will automatically deliver newspapers to guests. Marriott said each newspaper represents emissions of a half pound of carbon dioxide. It said the new policy should reduce newspaper distribution by about 50,000 newspapers every day or by about 18 million newspapers every year.

That would reduce carbon emissions by 10,350 tons each year. "I visit more than 250 hotels a year, and more often than not, I'm stepping over unclaimed newspapers as I walk down the hallway," said J.W. Marriott, Jr., the company's chief executive. "This new program is more guest-focused,"

said Mr. Marriott.

From June 1, guests would have to make their preference known at check-in if they still wanted to receive a newspaper. But the emphasis going forward would be on delivering "innovative" products like online news on screens in lobbies in some hotels, Marriott said.

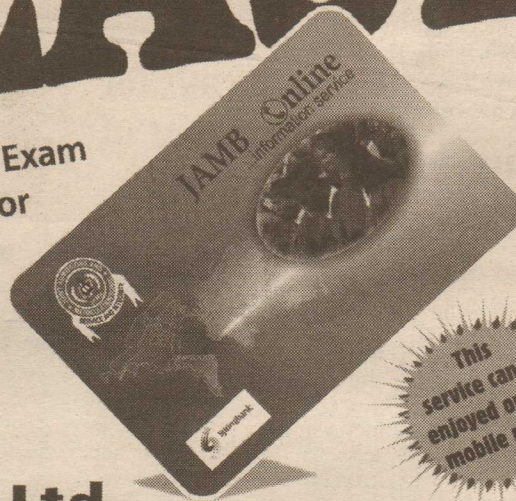
Marriott did not say in its statement whether cutting back on buying papers would, in turn, increase the use of electricity to power hardware like server farms and power masts that relay data to computers and mobile phones on which consumers increasingly rely for their news.

-New York Times



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# City news

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Secondary school students displaying their skills during a ceremony at Lugbe, Abuja recently. Pic: Abubakar Yakubu.

## Robbers strike at Masaka after heavy down pour

**D**are-devil robbers Wednesday night raided an apartment at Auta Balefi, Masaka, in Nasarawa State, immediately after heavy rain fell in the area. The robbers, numbering four and armed with guns entered the house of one Noel Umar and robbed him of his money, handsets and other valuables including two ash colour cars, a Honda 'end of discussion' brand with registration number FU 566 ABC and a Honda Academy with registration number EZ 799 ABC.

Our reporter learnt that the victim, Noel Umar, was inside his compound on that fateful day when one of the robbers

By Abubakar Yakubu

accosted him and led him into the parlour, where his wife and other family members were rounded up by members of the gang.

A neighbour stated that the robbers had a field day packing their victim's property because nobody expected such after the rain.

He said the victim, who was helpless cooperated with the robbers and dashed down to Masaka Police Station immediately the robbers left to make a complain.

At the police station, a police officer said immediately the report was made, police patrol teams were sent out to the crime

scene as well as to pursue the robbers.

"What stalled our operations was lack of appropriate communication gadget that would have made it possible for us to contact various police locations to apprehend the robbers," the police source said.

According to him, the rain had just fallen and network was terrible, adding that with the surveillance put in place by the present divisional police officer in Masaka, the robbers should count themselves lucky that they escaped.

City News also learnt that on the same day, thieves struck at the apartment of Ken Joshua, located near the Eid Mosque.

## Fuel scarcity worsens in Abuja

**T**he fuel situation at most communities in Abuja worsened yesterday with black marketers selling four liters of the product for N1,000.

Black marketers in the front

By Abubakar Yakubu

of Oando Filling Station at Utako sold four liters of the product for N1,000, while at Nyanya and Kubwa, the same liters sold at N500.

Some motorists at Nyanya complained that they saw a tanker supply fuel to AP filling station close to Check Point on Tuesday and the next day the fuel attendants told them they had exhausted the supply.

One of the motorists wondered where black marketers get their products that are sold in front of the fuel stations, at exorbitant prices.

"This is the time for government to act before the situation degenerates to something else," one of them said.

Our reporter saw large numbers of stranded commuters at major bus stops, while motorists especially government vehicles branched to buy two liters of petrol to keep their cars running.

The Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation has blamed independent marketers for the scarcity saying that they get their normal supply.

## PHCN officials investigate woman's death at Bwari

**T**hree officials of the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN) yesterday visited the Daily Trust in continuation of an investigation they are carrying out on the death of a mother of five, who died after holding a television pole.

After City News had come out with a story on January 23, our reporter learnt that the PHCN's management set up a panel to investigate the story and see whether the woman's death was caused by high tension electricity supply to the area.

By Abubakar Yakubu

Engineer Ganda, who led Mrs Ogunnaike and P.E. Essiet, said they came to Daily Trust to find out more details about the incident as well as visit the house where the incident happened in order to assess the electricity current supplied in the area.

He said the panel members have been to PHCN's office at Bwari and will be in touch with the police in the area to speak to them about the incident.

## Tenants desert house where pregnant lady was slain

**T**enants have fled from a house where a 28-year-old pregnant lady was strangled to death by her boyfriend on Tuesday night at Kogo village, Bwari, as a result of fear from police arrest.

The police at Bwari said the lady was strangled inside her lover's room and her corpse as well as travelling bag with clothes dumped by her side, behind the building.

When our reporter visited the house Wednesday afternoon, the place was deserted; while blood stains at the door entrance of the suspect were still visible.

City News learnt that when the tenants woke up Wednesday morning and discovered what happened to the lady, Nkiruka Ijeofor, they fled the building premises.

Pastor Dominic Hakuri of ECWA Church in the area said the building where the murder took place was given to the church as tithe by a member.

By Hamisu Kabir Matazu

He said the church officials rented out the apartments in the building to tenants and were disturbed that Kenneth Anyawu, the suspect had not paid his rent for the past three months.

The pastor stated that reports got to them that Kenneth dank alcohol constantly and was also bringing in ladies to his room, adding that each time they confront him with the allegation, he denies it.

"We decided to evict him but when we learnt that he recently got a job with FCC; we gave him a three months grace in order to see if he will be regular in paying his rent and to our dismay early the next morning we learnt about the incident," he disclosed.

One of church members said the deceased was pregnant when they saw her in the compound of the house, a day before the incident.

Speaking on the incident, the traditional head of the area, Maiungwa Shuaibu said a police sergeant and two other persons knocked on his door that Wednesday morning to intimate him of the incident, adding that he went to the place to observe before reporting the incident at Bwari Police Station.

"The divisional police officer and divisional crime officer accompanied some policemen to the crime scene to check the place and evacuate the body to the mortuary," he added.

Spokesperson of the FCT Police Command, Moshood Jimoh, a deputy superintendent, had earlier stated that the suspect killed his girlfriend inside his room and dragged her corpse to another room in the same house.

He said the suspect was arrested at his workplace on Wednesday and is denying killing his girlfriend, saying that the lady was occupying the other room and not his room.

### Inna-lillahi -Wa-inna -Ilaihir -Rajiu



**W**ith deep sense of honour and gratitude to the Almighty Allah, the management and staff of the Keffi Micro-Finance Bank Ltd Keffi wishes to announce the untimely and sudden death of one of its hardworking and dedicated staff (Head of Operations) late Hajiya Musliamat Ibrahim Yusuf which sad event took place on Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2009.

She died after a brief illness in Keffi at the age of 39 years

She left behind her Husband, Alhaji Ibrahim Yusuf, aged mother, children, relations and friends to mourn her.

The deceased has already been buried in Keffi according to Islamic injunctions.

Late HAJIYA MUSLIMAT IBRAHIM YUSUF

Signed:  
Alhaji Rajab Haske Baba  
MD/Chief Executive  
Announcer

# City news

## Man jailed for causing boy's death

A 25-year-old man, Ali Buba, was on Wednesday sentenced to four months imprisonment or a fine option of N8,000 for driving his car in a dangerous manner and crushing a boy to death.

The prosecutor told the court that on April 5, the ac-

**By Husein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai**

cused drove his Toyota Hilux vehicle with registration number RT 55 CT in a dangerous manner along Oladipupo Diya Road, by Gudu Market, Garki, Abuja and knocked down a two-year-old boy, Daniel Dom

of Ako Estate, Airport road, Abuja.

He said the boy sustained injuries and died on the spot, while the offence committed by the accused is punishable under Section 27 of the Road Traffic Act, Cap 548 of Federal Republic of Nigeria (1990).

When the charge was read

to the accused, he pleaded guilty and begged for leniency.

Following the guilty plea, the prosecutor asked the court to try the accused summarily.

Magistrate Hafsat Soso convicted the accused for the offence and sentenced him to four months imprisonment or to pay a fine of N8,000.

In another case, a 21-year-old man, Ali Mohammed was on Wednesday sentenced to three months imprisonment for stabbing one Nurudeen Abdulateef of Tundun Wada village, Abuja.

Holding brief for Prosecutor Jeremiah Elijah, Police Constable Yilkud Dungji in-

formed the court that on April 5, the complainant reported to the police that while he was sitting in his shop at Tundun Wada village, the accused came and started exchanging words with him.

He said the accused broke a bottle and used it to stab the complainant on the back, adding that there was no provocation from the complainant to warrant such action.

"As a result of the stab, the complainant sustained serious injury," the prosecutor added.

The prosecutor argued further that the offence committed by the accused is punishable under Section 246 of the Penal Code Law.

When the charge was read to the accused, he pleaded guilty, saying it was true that he stabbed the complainant on the back with a broken bottle.

After the confession, the prosecutor asked the court to try the accused summarily and Magistrate Bashir Attahiru Alkali sentenced him to three months imprisonment or to pay a fine option of N3,000.

## Two in court over stolen chicken

Two middle-aged men and a trader were yesterday arraigned before an Abuja magistrate court for allegedly being in possession of stolen chicken and other items.

The accused persons, Sahabi Muhammad and Ganiyu Kasim were charged for being in possession of stolen live chicken and other items that were sold to one Collins of Karu market.

Prosecutor Abue Palinus told the court that security men from Karu Market arrested and handed over the accused persons to the police on March 4, for being in possession of five live chickens valued at N2,000.

**By Sikiru M. Jimoh**

He said during police investigation, the accused persons confessed they sold the chickens to one Collins Okewuy, a trader at Karu market.

"When the police carried out further investigations, they recovered two hair drivers, two ceiling fans, one amplifier, a Sharp television, a Panasonic television and a Qlink stabilizer," he added.

The prosecutor said the accused persons could not give satisfactory answers as to how they got the items, thereby contravening Sections 317 and 319 of the Penal Code Law.

When the charges were

read to the accused persons, they pleaded not guilty and requested for bail.

Magistrate Ahmed Ndajiwo granted them bail in the sum of N50,000 and adjourned the case to April 27 for hearing.

In another case, three middle-aged men were yesterday arraigned for allegedly arming themselves at an unlawful assembly in order to commit an offence.

The accused persons, Agure Musa, Prince Willie Onwukwe and Emmanuel Onwukwe, all residents of Federal Housing Authority (FHA), Nyanya were charged for arming themselves with dangerous weapons to commit an offence in the premises

of Local Education Authority (LEA) Primary School, Karu in the FCT.

Prosecutor Stephen Eimoga told the court that on March 30, one Prince Nduka Uka of Winner Academy Centre, Karu, Abuja, reported to the police that the accused persons have been hanging out around the school with the intention of collecting pupil's belongings.

"In the process, they were arrested by an anti-crime patrol team led by one Inspector Kuduza Zama and after the arrest, the team discovered that the first accused person had a bag containing a chain, bottle, cable wire, screw driver and a pegged wood in preparation for a violent attack on one

Bawa Emmanuel and his friends, all pupils of LEA, Karu after closing," the prosecutor added.

Constable Abue said the alleged activities and attempt to commit an offence by the three accused persons contravened Sections 79, 103 and 95 of the Penal Code Law.

The three accused persons denied the charges and Magistrate Fatima Usman Mukhtar granted each of them bail in the sum of N50,000 with reasonable sureties each that must show evidence of rent payments for the year or documents to show they have houses in Abuja.

The case was adjourned to April 23 for hearing.



### FEDERAL MINISTRY OF AVIATION

ANNEX 3, FEDERAL SECRETARIAT COMPLEX, SHEHU SHAGARI WAY, MAITAMA, ABUJA

#### CONSTITUTION OF BOARDS OF PARASTATALS OF THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF AVIATION

The Honourable Minister of Aviation, Mr. Babatunde Omotoba, FCA will inaugurate the Boards of Parastatals of the Federal Ministry of Aviation as follows:

**Date:** Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2009  
**Venue:** Sheraton Hotel & Towers, Abuja  
**Time:** 11:00 am prompt

##### The Boards are:

##### 1. FEDERAL AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF NIGERIA (FAAN)

|    |   |   |          |
|----|---|---|----------|
| a) | Chief Ebitimi Banigo                    | - | Chairman |
| b) | Dr. B. N. Olorunfemi (MOD)              | - | Member   |
| c) | Director, STP (FMA)                     | - | Member   |
| d) | Capt. A. Araba (Rector/CEO) INCAT Zaria | - | Member   |
| e) | Mallam Atiku A. Kigo, Director (HR FMF) | - | Member   |
| f) | Mr. Richard O. Aisuebeogun - MD (FAAN)  | - | Member   |
| g) | Mr. Salihu Aliyu, Director (DPPF-FMJ)   | - | Member   |
| h) | Mrs. Ngozi Lavender E                   | - | Member   |
| i) | Hon. Hamisu Maaazu Shika                | - | Member   |
| j) | Mr. Collins Onyeka                      | - | Member   |

##### 2. NIGERIAN AIRSPACE MANAGEMENT AGENCY (NAMA)

|    |  |   |          |
|----|--|---|----------|
| a) | Abubakar Baraje                        | - | Chairman |
| b) | Director, PPA & R (FMA)                | - | Member   |
| c) | Air Commodore M. A. Aiyelowo (MOD)     | - | Member   |
| d) | Capt. A. Araba (Rector/CEO) NCAT Zaria | - | Member   |
| e) | Rep. of Airline Operators of Nigeria   | - | Member   |
| f) | Mohammed A. Yahaya                     | - | Member   |
| g) | Capt. Valentine Tongo                  | - | Member   |
| h) | Alhaji Ibrahim U. Auyo MD, (NAMA)      | - | Member   |

##### 3. NIGERIAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY (NCAA)

|    |                         |   |          |
|----|-------------------------|---|----------|
| a) | Chief Sule Onabiyi      | - | Chairman |
| b) | Director STP (FMA)      | - | Member   |
| c) | Mr. O. M. Idoko - (MOD) | - | Member   |

|    |  |   |        |
|----|--|---|--------|
| d) | Rep. of Federal Ministry of Communications | - | Member |
| e) | Hon. Tijani Kumalia                        | - | Member |
| f) | Makaman Rigachikun                         | - | Member |
| g) | Chief (Mrs) Remi Kuku                      | - | Member |
| h) | Mr. Tobias Okechukwu                       | - | Member |
| i) | Dr. H. O. Demuren - DG/NCAA                | - | Member |

##### 4. NIGERIAN COLLEGE OF AVIATION TECHNOLOGY (NCAT) ZARIA

|    |  |   |          |
|----|--|---|----------|
| a) | Chief Dayo Abatan                              | - | Chairman |
| b) | Mallam Abubakar Aboki                          | - | Member   |
| c) | Director, DFA(FMA)                             | - | Member   |
| d) | Capt. T. A. George, Director of Licensing/NCAA | - | Member   |
| e) | Dr. O. B. Aliyu (ICAO)                         | - | Member   |
| f) | Air Commodore A. A. Ogunnaike - (MOD)          | - | Member   |
| g) | Capt. A. Araba (Rector/CEO) NCAT Zaria         | - | Member   |

##### 5. NIGERIAN METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY (NIMET)

|    |                                       |   |        |
|----|---------------------------------------|---|--------|
| a) | Director, HRM (FMA)                   | - | Member |
| b) | Lngr. Oluwafunso Akilapa (FMA & WR)   | - | Member |
| c) | Rep. of Federal Ministry of Transport | - | Member |
| d) | Dr. Victor A. Fodeke (FME)            | - | Member |
| e) | Alh. Danladi Maiauduga                | - | Member |
| f) | Chief (Mrs) Rebeca Apedzan            | - | Member |
| g) | Dr. Anthony C. Anuforum - DG/NIMET    | - | Member |

6. Board Chairmen and members coming to Abuja by air will be received at the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport, Abuja by shuttle buses arranged by the FMA. Reservation for Hotel/Accommodation for the period 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2009 has been made at Sheraton Hotel & Tower, Abuja. Members should therefore proceed to the Hotel for check-in formalities.

(Signed)  
**IDRIS A. KUTA**  
Permanent Secretary



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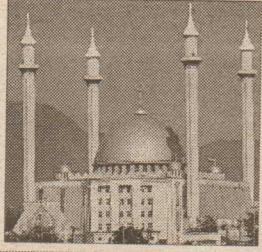
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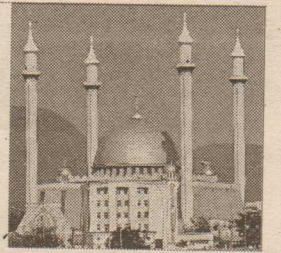




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In the name of Allah the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful. All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of the worlds. We testify that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allah, and that Muhammed (peace be upon him) is His prophet and messenger. May 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.

## 'O you who believe! Stand out firmly for justice'

**O** you who believe! Stand out firmly for justice, as witnesses to Allah, even as against yourselves, or your parents, or your kin, and whether it be (against) rich or poor: for Allah can best protect both. Follow not the lusts (of your hearts), lest you swerve, and if you distort justice or decline to do justice, verily Allah is well-acquainted with all that you do." [Sûrah al-Nisâ': 135]

Human life on Earth will neither prosper nor enjoy stability unless it is established upon a foundation of justice. All of the sacred scriptures call people to being just. The crux of Islamic law is the realization of justice.

Allah says: "And the word of your Lord has been accomplished in truth and justice; there is none who can change His words, and He is the Hearing, the Knowing."

"[Sûrah al-An'âm: 115] All people instinctively crave justice for themselves and despise being oppressed. In spite of this, far too many people treat other people unjustly. Too many people fail to be offended when injustice is perpetrated against their fellow human beings.

If Muslims really understood the how important justice is to the objectives and purposes of Islam, then the first quality of religiousness that would appear in a person who has renewed his commitment to his faith would be that the person would act justly. We would only see people who were just, and who were upright and in their dealings with others.

Likewise, if the Muslims realized how heinous a crime oppression is in Islam, they would be quicker to repent for oppression than many of the lesser sins that they shed tears about.

It is a great pity that many of the people who repent for their sins and renew their commitment to Islam change everything in their lives except for their conduct towards others. They are just as unfair, as cruel, and as inconsiderate of the rights of others as they ever were. This comes as no surprise, since their understanding of Islam is focused only on the rights their Lord has over them, and is blind to the rights of their fellow human beings. As a consequence, their "uprightness" is only

**Sheikh Sâmî al-Mâjid,**  
Professor at al-Imâm  
Islamic University, Riyadh

seen in the practices concerning their direct relationship with their Lord.

The resurrection and judgment in the Hereafter is a manifestation of divine justice. Justice starts in the Hereafter when retaliation is formally carried out between all the creatures that have been gathered after the resurrection. Even the animals will be recompensed. The hornless sheep will get its redress from the horned sheep that abused it. This justice will be fully realized when all legally accountable beings sent forward to their final destinations.

Would it be just for our Lord to let the deeds of those who engage in making things better for others and the deeds of the cruel and iniquitous simply get absorbed into the Earth after the people who carried out those deeds are placed in their graves? Would it be right that those who were good and honest find the same end as those who were treacherous and oppressive? The dictates of justice demand that there will be a judgment in the Hereafter.

There is no meaning to honor without rights. A human being who lives without rights lives without dignity. Allah has honored Adam's descendant, so He is not pleased when they are oppressed and their rights are violated.

Justice is the most essential of human rights from which all other rights are derived. Only within the context of justice can other human rights be upheld and guaranteed. All other rights are qualified in one way or another. They all have their limits, the frontiers beyond which the exercise of those rights transgresses upon the rights of others. For instance, people do not have unbridled freedom to do whatever they like.

This is not the case with justice. It is the only right that is absolute. There are no exceptions to it. It is the right of everybody to be treated justly and everyone's duty to be just.

Justice is the right of relatives and strangers. It is the right of the rich and the poor. It is the right of friend and foe. It is the right of people who share one's religion and

of those who disbelieve in it. It is everyone's right in times of war just as much as it is in times of peace.

Allah says: "O you who believe! Stand out firmly for Allah, as witnesses to fair dealing, and let not the hatred of others to you make you swerve to wrong and depart from justice. Be just: that is next to piety: and fear Allah. For Allah is well-acquainted with all that you do." [Sûrah al-Mâ'idah: 8]

He says: "O you who believe! Stand out firmly for justice, as witnesses to Allah, even as against yourselves, or your parents, or your kin, and whether it be (against) rich or poor: for Allah can best protect both. Follow not the lusts (of your hearts), lest you swerve, and if you distort justice or decline to do justice, verily Allah is well-acquainted with all that you do." [Sûrah al-Nisâ': 135]

This verse shows us that we should not be unjust to anyone, rich or poor. We often think of this in the context of the poor, since they often suffer injustice at the hands of those who have wealth and power. However, the verse is also telling us that we should not allow our sympathies for a poor person cause us to be unjust to others for the poor person's sake. This is why Allah says: "...for Allah can best protect both."

Justice is not necessitated by love. We do not treat people justly because we like them or are partial to them. If that were the case, there would be no need to command justice, since people are naturally just to those they favor. We need to be commanded with justice when dealing with those we have no favorable feelings towards.

Justice is necessitated by nothing other than our shared humanity. We must be just towards all human beings, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender. Justice is the greatest means of ensuring human dignity and human rights. Justice is what people ask for and expect from each other, regardless of their affiliations, loyalties, affections, and prejudices.

Justice is not something that exists only in the courtroom. It is not something only judges decide. It is the way we as people should conduct ourselves with each other in the course of our

daily lives. We should instill it in our children from the time they are small. It should be the first manner of con-

duct that our preachers and Islamic workers should call people towards. All people should be embraced by it

without exception. No one is above justice. No one is excluded from it and no one is exempted from it.

### ABUTH must reinstate nurse

By Dr. Is-haq Akintola

**A** staff nurse, Safiya O. Ahmad, was sacked last week by the Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital (ABUTH) for using hijab. Already, ABUTH decision has provoked reactions from many Islamic organisations who are threatening to take action.

The Muslim Rights Concern (MURIC) is baffled by the insensitivity of ABUTH authorities on this issue. We find it difficult to understand how a university teaching hospital based in a zone that has experienced several religious riots could take such a decision. The wearing of hijab by Muslim women is an expression of their Allah-given and fundamental human right. Any attempt therefore to persecute them on account of the hijab is a gross violation of that right and a crime against humanity.

By sacking Safiya, an hijab-wearing female staff, authorities of ABUTH have violated section 38 (1) of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria which

states, "Every person shall be entitled to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, including freedom to...manifest and propagate his religion or belief in worship, teaching, practice and observance". It breaches Articles 9 & 14 of the European Treaty of Human Rights as well as Articles 18 & 19 of the Treaty of Civil and Political Rights. Safiya's right to manifest her faith is further buttressed by Article 18 of the Charter of the United Nations Organisation.

ABUTH has therefore manifested a shocking disregard for decorum. Sacking Safiya exposes the hospital's authorities as enemies of peace. Their action is myopic, discriminatory and barbaric. It is capable of igniting another religious uprising whose consequences cannot be foretold.

Interestingly enough, Safiya wore shoulder-length hijab which conforms with the recommendations of the Nursing and Midwifery

Council of Nigeria at its 8<sup>th</sup> general meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2001. ABUTH also rubber-stamped the use of this type of hijab on 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2008.

MURIC demands immediate and unconditional reinstatement of Safiya Ahmad. We call on the Federal Government to take immediate steps to assert freedom of religion in this country. We affirm that this right only exists on paper as far as Muslims are concerned. There are several reports of religious persecution flagrantly committed against Muslims. We assert that justice is the soul of peace. The latter will continue to elude Nigeria so long as the Government fails to create the conducive atmosphere. Finally, we charge members of the civil society to show interest in Safiya Ahmad's case in the same way that they have demonstrated interest in cases where Muslims are accused of human rights abuse.

Dr. Akintola is the Director of MURIC

### MULAN demands reinstatement of sacked ABUTH nurse

By Abbas Jimoh

**T**he Muslim Lawyers' Association of Nigeria (MULAN) has urged President Umaru Yar'adua to order investigations into last week's dismissal of Hajia Safiya Ahmed by the management of Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital (ABUTH), and order her reinstatement.

MULAN National President, Adekola Mustapha, said in a statement yesterday in Abuja that "Our attention

has been called to the recent disengagement of Hajia Safiya O. Ahmed, a staff of Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital (ABUTH) who was sacked on the ground of contravening "the hospital dress code". From the statement credited to the Chief Medical Director of the hospital, Prof. Abdulmumuni Hassan, admitted that she was dismissed on the ground of breaking the al-

leged "hospital dress code. It is rather very sad and unfortunate that ABUTH will be involved in this denigrating attitude. The action of the hospital management is not only oppressive and cruel but capable of causing religious disharmony.

We call on the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to investigate the dismissal and order the management to re-instate the sacked sister immediately."

### Muslim students appeal for fund to build mosque

By Yunus Abdulhamid

**T**he Muslim Students Society of the Igbinedion University, Okada, Edo State, has appealed to well meaning individuals and corporate organisations to donate money or materials towards the completion of its N38 million mosque project on the university campus.

Making the appeal in a chat with *Daily Trust* in Abuja, an official of the society, Malam Ahmed A. Bulama said the project

which was started since 2004 has been grounded due to dearth of funds.

Bulama who is a 600 level medical student of the school and the current Amir of the Association of Muslim Health Students (AMHS) said "In 2004, the MSSN in the school found the need to erect a permanent structure in the school to serve as a mosque to the increasing population of Muslims in

the community. We appealed to the school owner, Chief Gabriel Igbinedion who gave us a piece of land. That same year during the convocation, we launched a public appeal fund were notable Muslims were in attendance including the Otaru of Auchi, former President and Alhaji Shehu Shagari. We are using this medium to appeal to good intentioned individuals to come to our aid, so we can complete the project."

# INSIDE POLITICS

## No need for Halliburton probe c'ttee—AC

By Muideen Olaniyi

The Action Congress (AC) has said that the plan to set up a joint committee of the nation's security agencies to investigate the \$180 million Halliburton bribery scandal was a diversionary ploy.

The Federal Government on Wednesday announced plans to set up a joint committee of security agencies to investigate the involvement of Nigerians in the bribery scam.

But AC's National Public-

ity Secretary Alhaji Lai Mohammed said yesterday in Lagos that the setting up of the committee was contemptuous of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), which has powers to probe such crimes.

"Simply put, the action is tantamount to passing a vote of no confidence in the EFCC's ability to successfully investigate the scandal,

an action which—in our judgement—is totally unjustified.

"The nation has not been told that the EFCC is unable to carry out the investigations. The commission has not complained of lack of cooperation from the security agencies in the investigations. We are therefore at a loss as to the reason for the constitution of this committee.

"Perhaps it is to punish the EFCC for working too

hard to unravel the truth, an outcome that is out of sync with those bent on undermining the investigations, either by seeking the re-deployment of two key EFCC investigators or other subterfuge means," Mohammed said.

"We are concerned that the setting up of a joint committee can only result in a bureaucratic bottleneck that will slow down the investigations, with those bent on sabotaging the probe hoping that Nigerians will eventually forget about it."

## Ekiti rerun: INEC to deploy staff from Abuja, 2 states

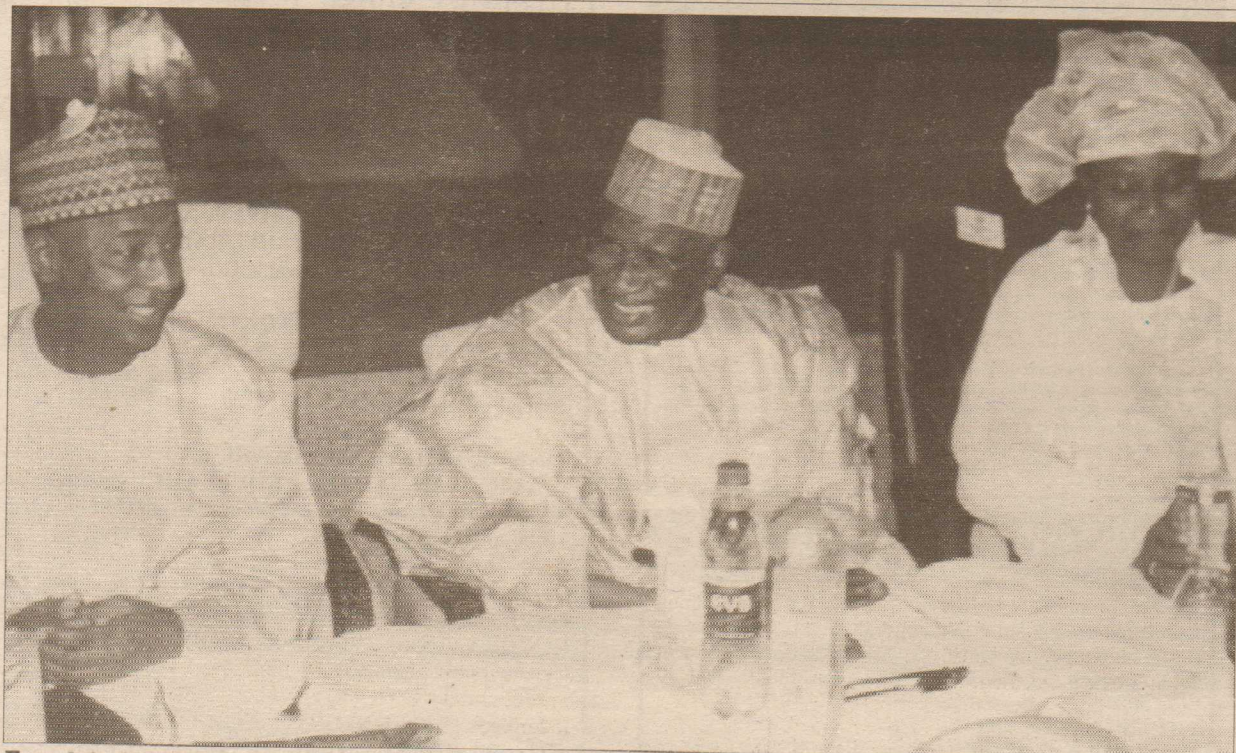
The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) is to deploy staff from Abuja as well as Kwara and Kogi states for the conduct of the April 25 governorship rerun election in Ekiti State. The Court of Appeal in Ilorin on February 17, nullified the election of former Governor Segun Oni of the PDP following a petition filed by the AC candidate, Dr Kayode Fayemi. The court ordered a rerun in 64 wards comprising 806 polling units of the local government areas. INEC Resident Electoral Commissioner (REC) in Ekiti Ms. Olusola Adebayo said yesterday in Ado-Ekiti that the commission had also recruited 806 corps members to serve as polling clerks in the election. She said that the INEC headquarters in Abuja had also deployed three national electoral commissioners, three resident electoral commissioners and 12 directors to participate in the conduct of the election. Adebayo added that 120 staff of the commission in Ekiti are to participate in the conduct of the election. She added that training of the staff had commenced in their respective states. The training of the corps members and INEC staff in Ekiti would hold between April 22 and April 24 in the three zones. Adebayo said that 13 political parties that participated in the April 14, 2007 governorship election would take part in the re-run election. She listed the parties to include, Ekiti East, Ekiti South West, Ekiti West, Gbonyin, Ido/Osi, Ijero, Ikole, Irepodun/Ifelodun, Ise/Orun and Oye. Adebayo said most of the electoral materials would be brought from Abuja under tight security to the state. (NAN)

## Anambra: Ojukwu backs Etiaba for 2010 poll

Group urges Ngige to contest

From Beatrice Onuchukwu, Awka

Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA), Dim Chukwuemeka Odimegwu-Ojukwu, has backed the candidature of Mr. Emeka Etiaba in the 2010 Anambra State governorship race. Emeka Etiaba, son of the Deputy Governor of Anambra State Dame Virgy Etiaba, is aspiring to rule the state on the platform of APGA. Governor Peter Obi is also standing for a second term. Speaking at the governorship declaration of Etiaba at his campaign office in Akwa, Ojukwu said he would support Emeka Etiaba as long as he was the choice of the people. Emeka Etiaba, while declaring interest to stand for the election, said Anambra State always desires more and that his aspiration will take the state to the next level. He said that though Obi has done his best, there was a need for a change of baton for the ventilation and implementation of fresh ideas. Emeka Etiaba pledged to conduct the long overdue local government election within the first 12 months in office if he is elected. Also on Wednesday, a group, "Ngige Mandate Movement", called on the former Governor of Anambra State Dr Chris Ngige to contest for the state's governorship election in 2010. In a statement at the end of a campaign rally in Awka, the Chairman of the group, Mr Innocent Peace, urged Ngige "to rescue the state from the suffocating grip of bad governance." The group commended Ngige for his performance during the 34 months he was governor of the state. It is that his administration earned the state the sum of N100 million from the Federal Universal Education Board as the best state in education development in the South East for 2005 and 2006. "You left for your predecessor a whopping sum of N12.8 billion among other things. For this unparalleled statesmanship, we sincerely urge you to come back and once more relay the foundation for the development of Anambra state," the statement said. Action Congress (AC) party men and supporters from the 21 Local Governments Areas attended the rally.



From left: Governor Sa'idu Dakingari of Kebbi State, Deputy National Chairman of PDP Dr. Bello Halliru Mohammed and Minister of Women Affairs Hajiya Salamatu Suleiman, at a function in Birnin Kebbi recently.

## PDP will be sanitised in Kaduna—Chairman

From Ibraheem Musa, Kaduna

The directive to all party officials who have spent eight years in office to vacate their seats by the Kaduna State chapter of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) is in line with the party's constitution and it is not done to witch hunt anybody or group, the state chairman clarified yesterday.

In an interview with *Daily Trust*, Alhaji Yau Usman said the exercise is meant to sanitise the party in the state and to forestall future litigations arising from election disputes. He challenged party members to mention any official who has been victimised in the exercise.

"If for any reason, anybody anywhere happens to know anybody who has not stayed up to eight years and his name has been submitted to our office, please let them raise that with me and I will reverse the decision," Usman said. He said where there are vacancies following the current exercise, the people will nominate replacements on an acting capacity, pending congresses.

"Since we are expected at the ward level to have 15 ex-

ecutives, 18 at the local government level and 28 at the state level, where vacancies exist, we will ask the people of that area to nominate on an acting capacity, pending when congresses are held either at the ward or local government levels, so that we can affirm those positions or bring in other people," he said.

The decision of the state PDP to remove party officials who have spent eight years in office has been generating mixed feelings in political circles in Kaduna State. Some party faithful see the exercise as a ploy to scheme out ex Governor Ahmed Makarfi's loyalists from the party structure but the state chairman said that the exercise was not aimed at any individual.

Usman said the party's directive is in line with article 14(1) of PDP's constitution which says "all national, zonal, state, local government area and ward officers of the party shall hold office for a term of four years and shall be eligible to re-election

at a national convention or appropriate congresses for a further term of four years and no more."

The chairman said that given this constitutional provision, anybody who remains in office after eight years, "his stay is illegal."

He called on party members to stop misinterpreting the exercise, adding that it is aimed at sanitising the party. "We want to avoid a situation where primary elections are held and a loser decides to go to court or write a petition to the party, alleging that

so so candidate who voted is not eligible," he said, adding that "if his reasons are genuine, we have to cancel that election and that is when problems start arising."

He denied that the exercise is against the former governor. "People always want to use an opportunity to insinuate what is not true. Anybody who falls victim of this constitutional provision, whether he is Makarfi or Namadi's supporter is immaterial, so long as he is a PDP member," the chairman added.

## LGs critical to electoral reform—Senator

By Turaki A. Hassan

The scrapping of state electoral commissions is not only necessary but also critical for any impact of the planned electoral reforms, Senator Adamu Garba Talba (PDP, Yobe South) has said.

Speaking to newsmen in Abuja yesterday, Talba argued that the existence of state electoral commissions has crippled democracy at the grassroots.

"As it is now there is no democracy at the grassroots

level because since last set of local government chairmen and councillors were elected in 1998 there has not been any election at the local government level," he said.

"State governors just keep on appointing their stooges as caretaker chairmen and even where the elections are said to be conducted the ruling party in the state is declared winner. This

is crippling intra-party democracy because even in the same party, primary elections are not conducted only those in the good books of the governors are appointed, selected or declared winners of the so-called elections."

He called on President Umaru Yar'adua to reverse the earlier decision allowing the state electoral commissions to continue functioning.

"If democracy is to flourish in our country and if the

people really mattered in democracy then local government election should never be left to the state. At least we have seen the effects and dangers it has caused to our people at the grassroots level," he said.

"I was two time local government chairman, that time we used to get out grant directly from the federation account without any interference by the state government but the reverse is the case now," he added.

## TRUST CLASSIFIED

### JESUS IS JESUS MINISTRIES INT'L

This is to notify the general public that the above named ministry has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Acts of 1990.

#### The Trustees are:

- |    |                           |              |
|----|---------------------------|--------------|
| 1. | Evangelist Dr. Rose Akaer | -Chairperson |
| 2. | Mrs. Charity Bossua       | -Member      |
| 3. | Pastor Judah Angou        | -Member      |
| 4. | Dr. Mrs. Chibuzo Okoro    | -Member      |
| 5. | Rev. George Igbafe        | -Member      |
| 6. | Pastor Tersoo Akaer       | -Member      |

#### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To reach the un-reached with the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ on all media around the globe.
- To empower all generations spiritually, physically, academically, financially and materially with the love of Jesus Christ.
- To embark on village, market and street evangelism.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, P.M.B 198, Area II Garki, Abuja within 28 days of the publication.

Signed:

Evangelist Rose Akaer

### AL-BASIT YUSRA FOUNDATION

This is to notify the general public that the above named body has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, 1990.

#### THE TRUSTEES ARE:

- |    |                        |          |           |
|----|------------------------|----------|-----------|
| 1. | Alhaji Kabiru Maikarfi | -        | Chairman  |
| 2. | Alhaji Danlami Danjuma | -        | Trustee   |
| 3. | Alhaji Abubakar Rajab- | Trustee  |           |
| 4. | Emmanuel Samuel Egbunu | -Trustee |           |
| 5. | Alhaji Abubakar Sadiq  | -        | Secretary |

#### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To give free Education to the less privileged.
  - To give free Medical Care services to the less privileged.
- Any objection(s) to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 421 Tigris Crescent - Maitama, P.M.B 198, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:

M.K.NAKORDI, ESQ  
08055237740

### SHELTER THE HURTING INITIATIVES

This is to notify 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, 1990.

#### THE TRUSTEES ARE:

- Zacchaeus Olukayode Sen. Banjo
- Abdulahman Ayinde Yakubu
- Christine Terlumun Clements Ende
- John Ede
- Anne Ngupor Ekwueme

#### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

- To support, identify options and educate for those who have suffered domestic violence, wife and incest.
- To shelter the victims temporarily so as to protect them from their abusers/batterers.
- To provide medical, legal and social resources for the abused women and their children in a discreet and safe place.
- To bring the unrepentant abusers/batterers to face the wrath of the law.

Any objection(s) to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 421 Tigris Crescent - Maitama, P.M.B 198, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:

BRIDGET OGHENEVO UGE

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that the following persons namely:

- |                               |           |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Njokuoma Eberechukwu Emmanuel | Chairman  |
| Njokuoma Vivian Amarachi      | Secretary |
| Iko Chukwudi Kingsley         |           |
| Mmeke Helen Ufoma             |           |
| Mmeke Chioma                  |           |

Have applied to The Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja to be registered as a body Corporate to be known as THE REGISTERED TRUSTEES OF THE OVERFLOWING GRACE MINISTRIES.

The aims and objectives for which the group is being formed are as follows:

- To preach, teach and propagate the total and unadulterated gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- To help establish and build up Christian ministries for the purposes of spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ.
- To operate theological and other related institutions deemed necessary by the ministry.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General Corporate Affairs Commission off Aguiyi Ironsi Street Maitama Abuja within 28 days of this publication

Signed  
Secretary

### CORRIGENDUM

Vacancies in a Micro Finance Bank located in the heart of Abuja published on page 52 of Daily Trust of Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> 2009 inadvertently carried a wrong postal address. The address should have been PMB 686 GARKI, POST OFFICE and NOT PMB 686 WUSE POST OFFICE. All other information remains valid. All inconveniences is highly regretted

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### CARDIOVASCULAR SUPPORT CLUB

The above named organization 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:

- MAZI SAMUEL IHEANYICHUKWU OHUABUNWA
- PHARM. EMMANUEL P. EKUNNO
- DR. DURU-ONWENI JUDE I.

The aims and objectives for which the club is being formed are as follows:

- To diagnose new hypertensive patients
- To inform and advise hypertensives
- To give lectures on medication.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the registrar General Corporate Affairs Commission Area II Garki Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

SIGNED:

Ada Asinobi Esq.  
08035605655, 07029754454

### BLIND STUDENTS ENDOWMENT FUND KATSINA

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 1990

#### THE TRUSTEES ARE:

- |    |  |        |                |
|----|--|--------|----------------|
| 1. | Alhaji Bilya Sanda                     |        | Chairman       |
| 2. | Justice Ummaru Abdullahi               |        | Member         |
| 3. | Grand Khadi Isa Dodo                   | Member |                |
| 4. | Justice Musa Danladi Abubakar          |        | Member         |
| 5. | Alhaji Manzo Abubakar (Dallatun Daura) |        | Member         |
| 6. | Alhaji Dalhat Lema Jikamshi            |        | Secretary      |
| 7. | Alhaji Rabe Mudi                       |        | Asst Secretary |

#### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To support blind students to pursue education with funds to procure special equipments/materials to facilitate their learning in primary/secondary schools and tertiary institutions.
  - To assist the qualified blind students to get admission in the higher institutions of learning in the country.
  - To provide funds for public enlightenment to mobilize the general public on the need to encourage blind education in Katsina state to reduce the menace of begging in our society.
- Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, plot 420, Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, PMB 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty eight(28) days from the date of this publication.

Signed: Dalhatu Lema Jikamshi,  
Secretary

### SHUGABA ALI DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above named foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission, Abuja for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, No. 1 of 1990 (As Amended), Cap C20 LFN 2004.

#### THE TRUSTEES ARE:

- Abdul-Aziz Ahmed Tahir
- Arc. Abdulalhi Abubakar
- Tahir Abdullah
- Kabir Yakubu Ali

#### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- Youth development and women empowerment
- Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, plot 420, Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, PMB 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty eight(28) days from the date of this publication.

Signed : Abdul-Aziz Ahmad Tahir

### SALEM CARE AND COMPASSION MISSION

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. | Archbishop Sam-Amaga       | -Chairman  |
| 2. | Bishop Love Sam-Amaga      | -Member    |
| 3. | Rev. James Oholi           | -Secretary |
| 4. | Rev. Chris Omeruo          | -Member    |
| 5. | Pastor Joyce Sam-Amaga     | -Member    |
| 6. | Pastor Covenant Sam-Amaga  | -Member    |
| 7. | Pastor Isaiah Sam-Amaga    | -Member    |
| 8. | Pastor Ezekeilla Sam-Amaga | -Member    |

#### Aims and objectives:

- Empowering the poor through skills acquisition.
- Empowering the underprivileged through various forms of training, equipping, mobilising and empowering them to do practically rewarding vocations.
- Providing food for the hungry.
- Providing water and relief materials to devastated areas/people.
- Providing medical assistance and mission outreaches to various communities in need.

Any objection to the above registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight (28) days of this publication.

Signed: Joseph Ameh, Esq (07058303378)

For: Oholi James, SAN and Associates, Plot 108, Idris Gidado Street, Wuse, Abuja.

### LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public that the Certificate of Occupancy belonging to Malam Umar Datti Kura with plot No. KN/21853/84 Letter of Grant No. 4948 situated at Zone G16 of Dobi West in Abuja local government of F.C.T. is missing. All efforts made to trace the said document proved abortive if found please contact the nearest police station.

Signed: Dalha Umar Datti

### CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly known as MISS MARIAM OLUFUNKE IDRIS, now wish to be addressed as MRS MARIAM OLUFUNKE OMOJARABI. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and general public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS LADELE GRACE, wish to be called MRS ISAAC GRACE OLUWASEYI. All former documents remain valid. UniAbuja take note.

I, formerly MISS OMIJORI MUJIDAT OLAJUMOKE, now wish to be known as MRS OLAWUYI MUJIDAT OLAJUMOKE. All former documents remain valid. Oceanic Bank Plc and general public to note.

I, formerly known as DEBORAH OYIWOJA IMANCHE, now wish to be called DEBORAH OYIWOJA SAMUEL. Civil Defence take note.

I, formerly called MISS IYABODE REBECCA OBASUJI, now wish to be known as MRS REBECCA IYABODE ATUNDAOLU MOGAJI. All former documents remain valid. General public note.

I, formerly called MISS NAFISAH SALISU BAYERO, now wish to be known as MRS NAFISAH IBRAHIM BELLO. All former documents remain valid. General public note.

I, formerly known as MISS RABIYATU AHMED, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS. RABIYATU HAMID. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS SADIQ NANA-HAUWA, now wish to be known as MRS NANA-HAUWA NASIR ABDULRAHEEM. All former documents remain valid. General public to note.

I, formerly YAHAYA ABDULLAHI, now wish to be known as ALHASSAN YAHAYA ABDULLAHI. University of Maiduguri, Gombe Media Corporation and the general public to take note.

I, formerly known and called MISS JUSTINA ENEYI ONYI, now wish to be known and call JUSTINA ENEYI IKWUBA (MRS). All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly MISS KATHRYN HABIBA JIYA, now to be addressed as MRS KATHRYN ADEBAYO DADA. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS ELIZABETH MEMBER NOMHWANGE, hereby wish to be called and addressed as MRS ELIZABETH MEMBER ALOHO. All former documents remain valid. University of Jos, PCN, PRSQB, please take note.

I, formerly known as FRANCES UGOCHUKWU JIDE ONWOR, now wish to be addressed as MRS FRANCES UGOCHUKWU ENEBELI. All former documents remain valid. Zenith Bank Plc, general public to note.

I, formerly CECILIA KELECHI CHIMEZE, henceforth to called MRS CECILIA KELECHI NVALOR. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, FORMERLY MISS SANMI MEDINAT ADEBUKOLA NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN AS MRS HASSAN SANMI MEDINAT ADEBUKOLA. ALL FORMER DOCUMENT REMAIN VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC TAKE NOTE.

I formerly called AHMADU MANSUR now wish to be called MOHAMMED AHMADU MANSUR. Former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

I, formerly MISS OMEREBERE FLORENCE UMEAKUBUIKE, now wish to be addressed as MRS OMEREBERE FLORENCE NWOSU. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly MISS AMAGBOR JULIET ABIBETU, now wish to be called MRS ANANOMO JULIET ABIBETU. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and the general public to note.

I, formerly UGWUANYI UKAMAKA CATHERINE, now EZE UKAMAKA CATHERINE. All former documents remain valid. University of Nigeria, Nsukka and general public take note.

I, formerly DANDAM JUDE NANBOL, now known as JUDE SUNUSI JIBRIN. Former documents remain valid. General Public take note

# TRUST CLASSIFIED

## HEALTH CARING MINISTRY

This is to notify the general public that the above named Organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under Part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990.

**THE TRUSTEES ARE:**

1. Evang. Victoria Chukwukere (Chairman).
2. Bro. Martin Chukwukere
3. Bro. Chukwudi Chukwukere.
4. Rev. Lawson Nnamdi Onwuka
5. Bro. Celestine Onwuanaku

**AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

1. To proclaim the gospel of salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ.
2. To carry out counseling and deliverance.
3. To establish branches of the Church within and outside Nigeria.
4. To promote and provide scriptural and secular education and evangelism
5. To establish institutions for the purpose of (3) above for the social welfare of the needy.

Any objection (s) should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 565, Ndola Square, Wuse, Zone 5, Abuja within 28 days of the publication

Signed:  
**BARR. ROSITA A. TONY - SAMPSON**  
OHANEZE CHAMBERS  
21 Emekuku Street,  
D/Line, Port Harcourt

## FRONTIERS FOR YOUTH ADVANCEMENT

This is to notify the general public that the above named Organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under Part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

**THE TRUSTEES ARE:**

- |                                    |           |                             |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Mrs. Rachael Irefo              | Secretary | 2. Prof. A.O. Obasohan      |
| 3. Engr. Ighalo Onode              |           | 4. Alhaji Nurudeen Asunogie |
| 5. Dr. Mrs. Nosa Aladeshelu        |           | 6. Hon. Paul Ohonbamu       |
| 7. Mr. Sam Aloje Ikhide            |           | 8. Pharm. M.L. Edokpolor    |
| 9. Mr. Jonathan Aigbokhan Ibbamawu |           | 10. John Amofeye Onovwiona  |

**AIMS & OBJECTIVES**

1. To provide refuge and strength for our youth to rise above violence, crime and oppression.
2. To recover as many street youths as possible and reposition them for relevance.
3. To revive a reading culture amongst our youths.
4. To promote responsible behaviour amongst our youths.
5. To help young people develop a clear understanding of the social, political and economic factors affecting their lives.
6. Celebrate innovative achievement of our young person.
7. Create opportunities for growing interactions within and outside the state.

Any objection(s) 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  
**Mrs Rachael Irefo**

## JESUS POOL OF BETHSEDA MINISTRY

This is to notify the general public that the above named Ministry has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under Part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

**THE TRUSTEES ARE:**

1. Prophet Edison Okoroafor
2. Brother Victor Oranu
3. Mrs. Florence Ojonjoku
4. Joshua Madueke
5. Chinyere Maduawueke

**AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

1. To impact the knowledge of Christians to members.
2. To raise up Godly Christians in the society.

Any objection(s) 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:  
**A.A. MUHAMMAD (ESQ)**

## CITY OF BETHANY CHURCH

This is to notify the general public that the above named Church has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under Part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

**THE TRUSTEES ARE:**

1. Mr. Osemudiamen Oseghale
2. Mrs. Rebecca Alacha
3. Jenifer Onoja
4. Peter Oseghale

**AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

1. To Project Jesus as the One and Only Means and end to Salvation and Eternal life.
2. To preach the word from a theological intellectual standpoint with the aim of recovering a broken sould back to God.

Any objection(s) 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:  
**CLARA OHAJUBA**  
SOLICITOR

## LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public that the original Conveyance of Statutory Right of Occupancy with Ref: No. FCDA/TRBM/1546 in respect of Plot No. B468 located at Dei-Dei Residential District and original Conveyance of Provisional Approval dated 30<sup>th</sup> June, 1998 in respect of Plot No. EC/161 located at Bwari Extension Layout, all belonging to Pastor Anthony Anyiador got missing. Please if found, contact **08039676000**.

## AKWA IBOM GOSPEL MINISTERS' ASSOCIATION

This is to notify the general public that the above named Church has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under Part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Decree No 1 of 1990.

**THE TRUSTEES ARE:**

1. AP. DR. EKOR HANSON
2. REV. DR. MIKE AKPAN
3. AP. DR. MORRIS
4. REV. ISREAL ELIJAH
5. RT. REV. EMMANUEL JOSIAH UDOFIA
6. REV. DAVID OKONNAH
7. EVANG. (MRS) ENOH EKWERE
8. APOSTEL IME ARCHIBONG
9. REV. AKPABIO AKPABIO

**AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

1. The basic aim of the association shall be to stand in the spiritual gap (intercessors) unto our leaders in various positions of authorities.
2. To reach out to the spiritual lost people of Akwa-Abasi Ibom State and the present generation.
3. To restore the dignity of Akwaibomites in all spheres of genuine human endeavors.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Maitama, P.M.B 198 Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:  
**Secretary**

## EMETH INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN CENTRE

This is to notify the general public that the above named Centre has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under Part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act No 1 of 1990.

**THE TRUSTEES ARE:**

1. PASTOR ANIEKAN INYANG -FOUNDER
2. PROPHESS MRS. ANIEKAN INYANG
3. CORDELIA ODOEMENAM
4. GIFT IROANWUSI
5. MORGAN OFURUN

**THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES ARE:**

1. The liberation of the world through the preaching of the word of deliverance and the restoration of human destiny and dignity.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Maitama, P.M.B 198 Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:  
**CHIDINMA AKUKWU, ESQ.**

## GOD IS WONDERFUL MINISTRY

This is to notify the general public that the above named Church has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under Part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act Cap 59, 1990.

**THE TRUSTEES ARE:**

1. Pastor Peter Ayo-Iyanu
2. Pastor Godwin Abraham Umoh
3. Pastor Babatunde Elisha Adewoyin
4. Pastor John Alaba Anifowoshe
5. Pastor James Amos Anicgbunam

**AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

1. To preach and teach the word of God from coast to coast round the globe and deliver the people from every stronghold of the darkness into their inheritance with God.
2. To be involved in Church planting across the globe.
3. To organize outreaches, specialized seminars, interdenominational meetings and crusades.
4. To establish community based development programme and projects such as mission schools, hospitals, orphanages, old people homes, youth moral development and rehabilitation/vocational centers.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Maitama, P.M.B. 198, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:  
**Omonuwa O. Esq.**  
Grace field Solicitors

## HARVEST OF JOY CHURCH

This is to notify the general public that the above named Church has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under Part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act Cap 59, 1990.

**THE TRUSTEES ARE:**

- |                               |               |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Pastor Ikpe Johnnie Udosen | Chairman      |
| 2. Elder Nse Jeremiah Ekot    | Vice Chairman |
| 3. Deacon Aniedi Etim Akpan   | Secretary     |
| 4. Elder Ekpe Jack Bassey     | Member        |
| 5. Reverend Victor Okon Ekpo  | Member        |

**AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

1. To preach the gospel and win souls for Jesus Christ.
2. To engage in the ministry of spiritual deliverance.
3. To undertake and be involved in prison Evangelism and rehabilitation.
4. To be involved in Christians education and ministry training.
5. To engage in social work and community development and allied activities.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Maitama, P.M.B. 198, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed  
**Omonuwa Ogiemudia Esq.**

## LOSS OF LAND DOCUMENT

This is to notify the general public that an original Acknowledgement Letter of the Federal Capital Territory and Right of Occupancy of **Plot No.1552 Cadastral Zone AO1 with Old file No. DT 1695, New file No. KN. 11315** dated 06-04-03 bearing **Chukwurah S. Felix**, is missing. If found, please return to AGIS, or the nearest police station

Signed:  
**Ilyasu Hassan. 08023320129**

## SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF BETTER NIGERIA

This is to notify the general public that the above named Church has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under Part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Acts of 1990.

**THE TRUSTEES ARE:**

1. Amadi Buduka Livingstone
2. Chukwu Nwabueze A.K
3. Warisuo Nabia Emmanuel
4. Suanu Moni-Nwinia
5. Mrs. Ophelia tammy Adura
6. Kuve Emmanuel Terver
7. Obioha Emmanuel
8. Mr. Sotonye George

**THE AIMS ARE:**

1. To prepare youths who will aspire and promote better Nigeria.
2. To network with Nigerian students and youths both at home, in the diaspora to work on national transformation and to crusade for the believer in the Nigerian dream.
3. To reorient our young ones on the dream of our nation and also to instill proper values and principles for nation building to take our nation to greater heights

Any objection(s) 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 28 days of this publication.

Signed:  
**Chijioke Agidi Esq**  
**08038720979**  
**08054991303**

## RESTORATIVE NEUROLOGY, REHABILITATION AND STROKE FOUNDATION

This is to notify the general public that the above named Foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under Part 'G' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act No 1 of 1990.

**THE TRUSTEES ARE:**

- |                       |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| 1. DR. IDRIS IBRAHIM  | PRESIDENT |
| 2. ALHAJI UMAR LUKMAN | SECRETARY |

**THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES ARE:**

1. To offer free medical treatments and services to people suffering from neurological and stroke conditions.
2. To educate the masses, create awareness and advance the course of restorative neurology and stroke conditions in Nigeria.
3. To establish centers for the treatment and rehabilitation of neurological and stroke patients.

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 28 days of this publication.

Signed:  
**CHIDI AKUNNAKWE & CO.**  
SOLICITORS

## CENTRE FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH EXCELLENCE IN SPORTS

This is to notify the general public that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under Part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act No 1 of 1990.

**THE TRUSTEES ARE:**

- |                                  |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. COACH BALA MOH'D KHALID       | CHAIRMAN  |
| 2. HON. (BARR.) MARK JACOB       | MEMBER    |
| 3. EMMANUEL ATTAH DANJUMA        | "         |
| 4. ALHAJI ALIYU MOH'D KOFAR SORO | "         |
| 5. MR. NICHOLAS KADI NWANI       | "         |
| 6. MRS. MIRIAM ONUOHA            | "         |
| 7. MRS. HASIYA IBRAHIM           | SECRETARY |

**AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

1. To advocate for better competition and championship through policy analysis and capacity building collaboration.
2. To develop children and youth through systematic and innovative approach in sports and leadership.
3. To build bridges of love, care and confidence between children, youth and their world.

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 28 days of this publication.

Signed:  
**GRACE IGYO, ESQ**  
**08051594070**

## HOUSE OF DAVID MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL

This is to notify the general public that the above ministry has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act Cap 59, laws of 1990.

**The Trustees are:**

1. Oluwatosin Taiwo Ajolore
2. Oluwatoyin Olufunmibi Ajolore
3. Boluwatife Olufunmilayo Olutayo
4. Joseph Asem Abaya

**The aims and objectives are:**

1. To propagate the Gospel of Jesus Christ
2. To evangelise the world

Any objections to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:  
**Priscilla Omosi Omokpo**  
**07037969222**

## LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public that the Letter of Offer of Grant/Conveyance of Approval issued by the Ministry for Federal Capital Territory to Mrs. Lucy Goni of Federal Housing Estate, 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue No.102, Miango Road, Jos with Ref. No. MFCT/LA/93/PL 1425 of about 850sqm (Plot 281) within Katampe District and dated 23/10/96, is missing and all efforts to trace it proved abortive.



# ADMISSION

INTO JSS1, JSS2, SSS1 and SSS2 IS IN PROGRESS

*Give your child a fundamental Christian Education at*

## JOY INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

*(A Christian Co-Educational Boarding Institution)*

**"A"-Rated College by Kaduna State Private Schools Board**

**OUR VISION:**

To be among the top 5 Secondary Schools in Kaduna State and among the best 20 Secondary Schools in Nigeria by 2010.

**OUR MISSION:**

To produce excellent God fearing students without discrimination using sound Christian principles in compliance with Government Regulations at an affordable cost for the benefit of society.

**EXAMINATION DATE:**

**Saturday, 2nd May, 2009 by 9:00am**

**EXAMINATION VENUE:**

**College Premises, Km. 12, Kaduna-Abuja Express Way, Kaduna**

*You can obtain our forms/prospectus at*

College Premises | ECWA Goodnews, behind New Post Office, Minna, Niger State | ECWA Wuse II, Abuja | Unity Bank, Industrial Area, Kaduna South, Kaduna, | Unity Bank, Kachia Road, Kaduna | Unity Bank, Maitama, Abuja | Unity Bank, Bosso Road, Minna | Unity Bank, (Murtala House) Nasarawa Branch, Kano

*Please visit or contact us today at*

### JOY INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

Km. 12, Kaduna-Abuja Express Way, P. O. Box 4045, Kaduna, Nigeria.

☎: 062-372412, 0803 4512892, 0803 8893450, 0803 4146334, 0803 6438956, 0803 4266405



## TRUST CLASSIFIED

### THE CHANNEL OF LIFE CHILDREN MINISTRY

This is to notify the general public that the above mentioned ministry has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act Cap 59, laws of 1990.

**The trustees are:**

1. Mrs Emerald Chinasa Olugbuo
2. Lady (Mrs) Ngozi Nwachukwu
3. Ms Anthonia Uchechulam
4. Mazi Emmanuel Olugbuo
5. Mr. Ifeanyi Martins Ikpe
6. Barr Ernest Chikezie Idimah - Legal Adviser

**The aims and objectives are:**

- To bring children into the kingdom of Jesus Christ as his disciples through evangelism
- To engage in talent hunt development and leadership programme for Nigerian children and children of the world over
- To undertake charitable schemes for children and provision of basic social amenities to needy children in the society
- To organize crusades, seminars, lectures and workshop in the cities and villages and publish and print Christian literature books and journals for the growth of the kingdom

Any objections to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

### THE CORNERSTONE REDEMPTION CHURCH

This is to notify the general public that the change of trustees of the above mentioned church, **THE CORNERSTONE REDEMPTION CHURCH** in accordance with the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act Cap 59, laws of 1990.

**The Old trustees are:**

1. Elder Timothy Afahaide
2. Solomon Tom Udoh
3. Deaconess Winifred Davies

**The New trustees are:**

1. Elder Oskar James Ekpo
2. Deacon Joshua Umoh
3. Deaconess Dorothy Charles

Any objections 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:

Hauwa Mohammed

### ASSOCIATION OF PLACE BRANDING AND PUBLIC DIPLOMACY PROFESSIONALS.

This is to notify the general public that the above named Organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under Part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

**TRUSTEES:**

1. UCHE NWORA
2. KINGSLEY MORDI
3. ABDUL MONGUNO
4. SUNDAY DARE

**OBJECTIVES:**

1. TO PROTECT THE PROFESSIONAL INTEREST OF MEMBERS
2. TO PROMOTE DISCIPLINE AMONG MEMBERS THROUGH EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES SUCH AS WORKSHOP, SEMINARS, CONFERENCES ETC.

Any objection(s) 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:  
SECRETARY.

### DAVID MARK FOUNDATION

This is to notify the general public that the above named Foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under Part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

**THE TRUSTEES ARE:**

1. David Alechenu Bonaventure Mark (GCON)
2. Jonathan Mark
3. Rev. Father Moses Ikpe

**AIMS AND OBJECTIVES ARE:**

1. To facilitate social economic development in general, and education in particular, in Nigeria.
2. To partner with Government, organizations and individual with similar objectives.

Any objection(s) 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:

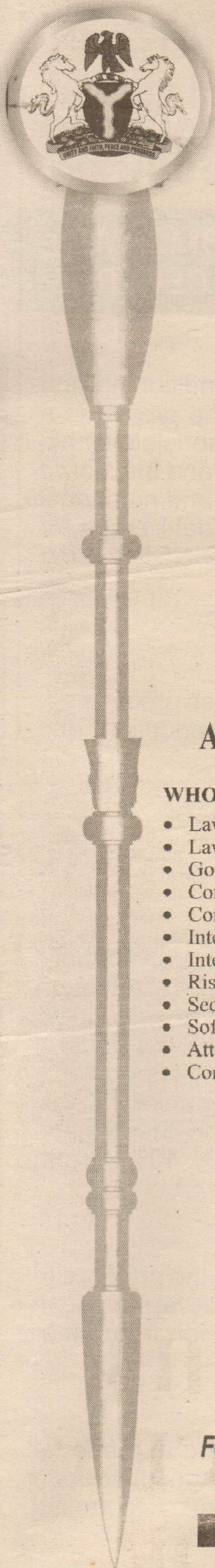
Barrister Jovita Ibe-khanoba

### LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of Original Receipt for the allocation of 600 bags of fertilizers and other documents issued by the Bauchi State Agricultural Supplies, belonging to **ALHAJI ATTAYI B. MAHMOOD** of Tundun Salmanu Bauchi. All efforts made to trace the above proved abortive. If found please contact **ALHAJI ATTAYI B. MAHMOOD** on 08036019864 or the nearest police station.

**THIS SPACE IS FOR SALE**

**THIS SPACE IS FOR SALE**



# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

*Anti-Money Laundering and Cyber Security Coalition*

*Presents*

## 1<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON CYBER SECURITY

(Conference and Exhibition)

### THEME

*Combating Cyber Crimes in the 21st Century:*

## WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES?

A meeting of Law Makers, Law Enforcement Agents and Industry Experts

#### WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Law Makers
- Law Enforcement/Intelligence Agents
- Government Regulators
- Compliance Officers
- Compliance Training Officers
- Intelligence Officers
- Internal & External Auditors
- Risk Management Specialists
- Security Brokers and Dealers
- Software Developers
- Attorneys and Certified Public Accountants
- Consultants

#### FROM

- National Assembly
- Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs)
- Banking
- Insurance Companies
- Accounting and Law Firms
- Credit, Debit and Pre-Paid Card Companies
- ICT Companies
- Security Agencies Police, Army, Navy, Air Force, EFCC, SSS, NIA etc
- Consultants
- Nigerian Internet Registration Association

#### Guest Speaker:

ICT Experts from Public and Private Sector Organisations

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2009      Time: 9:00 a.m. Daily

Venue: Shehu Musa Yar'adua Centre, Abuja

All interested ICT & Telecommunications Companies, Software Developers and other Stakeholders are invited to EXHIBIT their products and services

**For registration and exhibition information: Contact:** 0805-933-0712, 0706-735-1828 and 0808-885-9115  
or Visit Our Website: [www.amlcybersecuritycoalition.org](http://www.amlcybersecuritycoalition.org)

**Due to certain mix-up, this notice is an improved version; therefore it should be taken in place of any similar previous one**

Hon. PATRICK OBAHIAGBON  
Chairman, Planning Committee

Hon. ABBA ANAS ADAMU  
Chairman, Exhibition Committee



# FEDERAL MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND WATER RESOURCES

## ADVERT NOTICE TO STATE GOVERNMENTS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AGRO EXPORT CONDITIONING AND QUALITY CONTROL CENTRES

### 1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The Federal Government of Nigeria is desirous of establishing Agro-Export Conditioning and Quality Control Centres across the country - one in each geo-political zone. The project is a purpose-built aggregation centres for fresh agricultural produce where factors responsible for bio deterioration (temperature, relative humidity, moisture content, etc) are controlled and the stored produce are cleaned, sorted and graded to conform with visual, textural, flavours and nutritional quality standards and are hygienically packaged for export markets. The candidate crops for these centres are: **ONIONS, TOMATOES, CHILLIES, YAM, POTATOES, GINGER AND MANGOES.**

### 2. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- ◆ Reduction of post harvest losses
- ◆ Development of access to International markets, for hygienically packaged fresh produce
- ◆ Development of cluster-based value chains linked to regional food production and distribution centres which will strengthen the agricultural sector
- ◆ Diversification of the economy and increase in foreign exchange earnings
- ◆ Enhancing farmers productivity which could lead to increase in contribution to GDP
- ◆ Job creation and poverty reduction
- ◆ Increasing the level of women participation in economic engagement

### 3. PROJECT COST

The estimated project cost is about N1.2 billion per centre and would be built through a Public Private Partnership (PPP) arrangement under the build, own and operate model (BOO). Although under this delivery model the private sector partners are expected to source 100% of the funding and to recoup their investment through the cashflows emanating from the project, the Federal Government in its effort to attract investment in agriculture will provide some funding support as a catalyst to the realisation of the project. It has also engaged the support of three banks (FCMB, ZENITH & STANBIC-IBTC) that are willing to provide some funding window to the project. Therefore, the funding structure for the project is envisaged as follows: FGN 40% Grant, Participating banks 40% at concessionary lending rate and Private Investors 20%.

### 4. ROLE OF THE PARTICIPATING STATES

The role of the host State Governments will be to provide adequate land (20 ha for the project site and between 500 and 1000 ha for the production of the candidate crops), infrastructural support in terms of roads and water supply, and other fiscal support (tax relief and exemption from other state and local government charges) to the investors.

### 5. WHAT IS EXPECTED FROM THE PARTICIPATING STATES

Interested State Governments willing to participate in this project should respond to the letter written to them in respect of this subject-matter by the Honorable Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources within 2 weeks of this publication. Please note that participation in this project

**SIGNED**  
**OTAKI M. OYIGBENU OON, mni**  
**PERMANENT SECRETARY**

## SPORTS

Hotline:

08059100030 (Text Only)

NFF  
chieftain tasks  
Heartland

Heartland FC of Owerri have been urged to take their third round CAF Champions League game on Sunday seriously, as their opponents are very experienced side.

The Imo side face Cameroon's Cotonsport in a first leg third round tie in Owerri.

Cotonsport were runners-up in the competition last year.

NFF First Vice Chairman, Amanze Uchehbulam, told newsmen in Owerri on Thursday that Heartland must work harder than they had done since they began their continental campaign, by avoiding distractions over unpaid allowances and sign-on fees.

Uchehbulam said there was need for the team to win the first leg handsomely and make the return leg a mere formality.

He noted that the issues of unpaid allowances were raised in their previous four continental matches and were on each occasion, resolved 24 hours to the kick-off of the games.

He said they could not always be lucky against future opponents in such frame of minds.

"They had monetary problem a day to the match in Monrovia, and in Morocco it was the same problem.

"They cannot be that lucky all the time, against a team like Cotonsport, you don't give them the opportunity to bury you, so you have to put them in check with serious preparations.

"My appeal to them is to put money issue aside for now," he said.

The former state sports commissioner, Prof. Nnamdi Obiaraeri, urged the team's attackers to work harder and use their chances.

"I want to see Heartland attack ferociously, they must learn to take their chances. We didn't take our chances in Rabat against FAR of Morocco, because if we did, we would have scored three goals instead one.

"I want the state government to make sure that the fund needed is provided in good time," Obiaraeri said.

## Utaka eyes Champions League

Peter Utaka is confident his side Odense BK can clinch a Uefa Champions League spot at the end of the season.

Odense are in third position, trailing Danish giants and leaders FC Copenhagen by five points as the season reaches home stretch. With rivals Brondby fighting for second spot alongside Odense, Utaka remain positive they are in a pole position for at least a second place finish.

"Our target is a Champions League spot and I am confident we can achieve that," Utaka told KickOffNigeria.com.

"We are buoyed by the fact that all the players are fighting

## Vincent, others want Nigeria basketball job

Nine top world class basketball coaches, including Nigeria's former basketball coach, Sam Vincent have applied to handle the country's senior men's basketball team that will be taking part in the African Nations Cup (men) holding in Libya in August.

Tijani Umar, Chairman of the Nigeria Basketball Task

By Ismaila Lere & Orkula Shaagee

Force, said at a media briefing in Abuja yesterday that the other coaches that also applied for the job are Dennis Felton, former coach of University of Georgia, Dean Murray, Assistant Coach of LG Sakers of Korea and Myke Scholl of Loyola Marymount

University.

Others are Alex Nwora head coach of Ene Community College, Buffalo; Ayinla Johnson a Nigerian based in the UK; Alain Weisz, a former Head Coach of the French national team to the European Championship in 2003, Fabio Fossati, Italy coach of the year 2003 and 2005; and a first class college coach Tod Bozeman.

Umar, who was accompanied to the media briefing by other members of the Task Force including Mustapha Suleiman, Yusuf Tagwai and Francis Gbiri, explained that the decision to go for a world class coach was informed by the country's resolve to win the championship in Libya, stressing that only quality players will make the country's

team to the African basketball showcase.

"We assure you that only quality players will make the Nigerian team to Libya. This brings us to the all-important subject of who handles these quality players to give us the desired results.

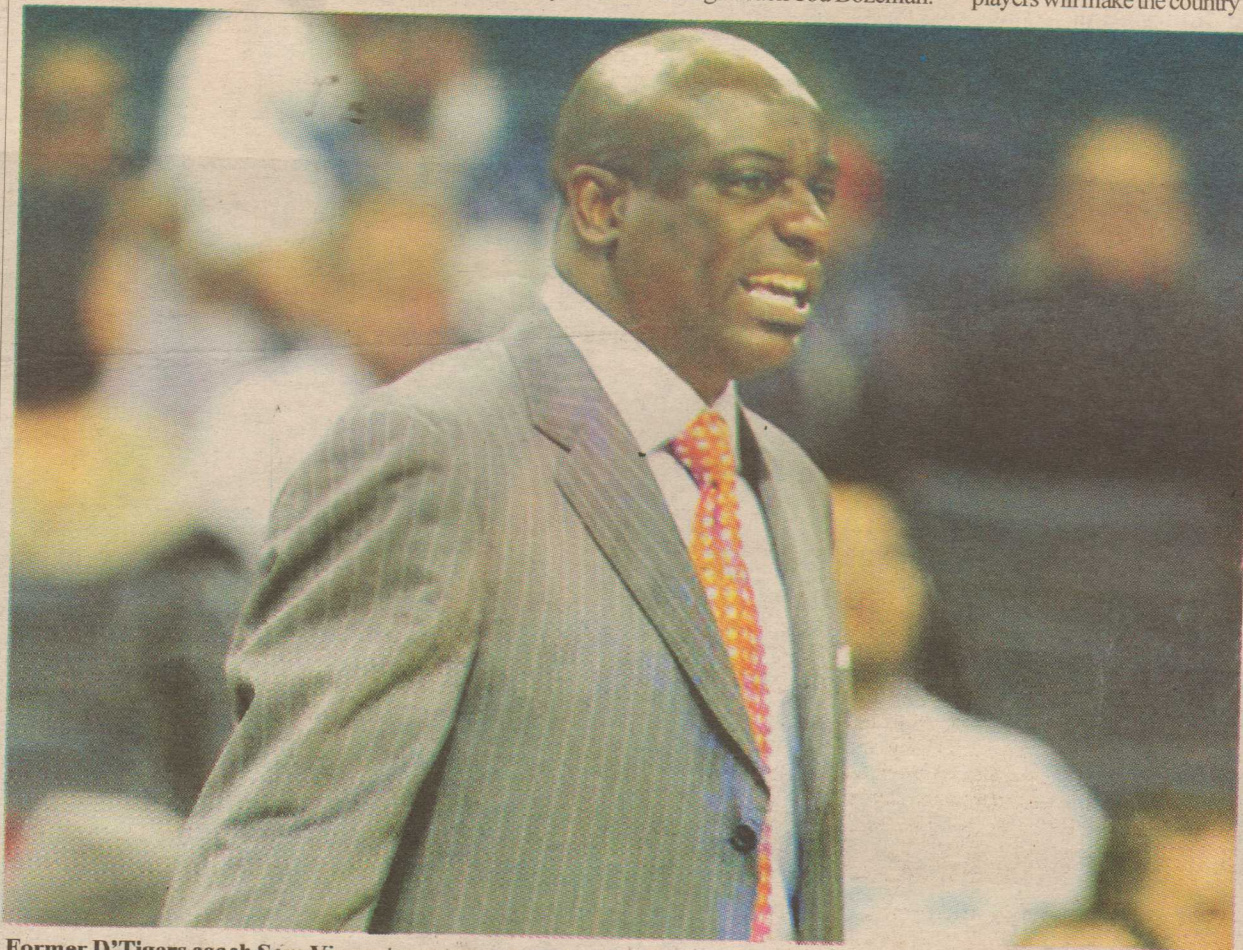
"We are not settling for anything less than the championship this time and for us to achieve this, the coach must also be a quality, top class coach who has experienced competition at comparable levels with the African Nations Cup", Umar added.

In preparing for the tournament, Umar stated that few Nigerian players plying their trade abroad have been identified and will be invited to camp in Washington DC from June 26-30.

Some of the players he named as Josh Akognon of California State, Fullerton; Ben Uzo of Tulsa; Kingsley Oguchi of South Carolina State; Abdullahi Kuso of Colorado; Anthony Skinn of George Mason (France) and Emmanuel Negudu of Tennessee State in the United States.

He added that the players will be led by tested and trusted Ime Udoka of San Antonio Spurs in the NBA, who has also agreed to talk to other Nigerian players in the NBA to answer the national call.

"Ime is assisting to talk to other NBA players like Ike Diogu of Portland Trail Blazers, to answer the national call... We intend to invite between 25-30 players to the first camp including 3 or 5 home-based players," he stated.



Former D'Tigers coach Sam Vincent wants to return to the job of coaching the Nigeria basketball team

## Yaro Yaro returns for Al-Ahly

Kano Pillars may field a full strength attacking squad against Al-Ahly of Egypt in Saturday's CAF Champions League last knock out phase first leg match in Kaduna as injury concerns in the team ceases off.

Ahmed Garba aka Yaro Yaro, who has been out for a long spell as a result of pile surgery resumed training on Tuesday.

Habibu Mohammed who also went through the

surgeon's knife for similar problem is also back.

The duo will add to coach Abdulmalik Jabir's attacking options that has Gambo Mohammed as the anchor.

Yaro Yaro who won the CAF Champions League title in 2003 with Enyimba of Aba told Complete Sports on Wednesday that he is back to training and is looking up to a good match on Saturday if the coaches certify him fit enough for the match.

"I resumed training on

Tuesday and by the time I train till Thursday, then I will know if I will play on Saturday or not," offers the left footed attacking midfielder.

"Habibu Mohammed has also recovered and has even started playing. He was part of the squad that defeated Akwa United 2-1 over the weekend.

"For me it's a good thing that we are back to the team to compliment the efforts of the others including striker Gambo Mohammed."

The former Super Eagles fringe star says the underdogs which Kano Pillars are regarded as in the competition will serve as a major advantage that will propel them to produce a result that will surprise Nigerians on Saturday.

"I have been telling my teammates here that the Egyptians are full of antics. But they can fall easily here.

"You know I have played in this competition and against Egyptian club, Ismaili, when I was in Enyimba," Yaro

Yaro goes down memory lane.

"So I know how they behave and as one of the most experienced players here, I have been telling my colleagues that we must beat them here and when we get there, the pressure will be on them.

"That was how we did it then at Enyimba. We won 2-0 in Aba and when we got there for the return leg, we got charged like bulls and they could not cope with us.

"We can repeat that here again," Yaro Yaro sounded.

## NFF to make changes to U-17's

Nigeria, who will play host to the FIFA Under-17 Championship in October, placed third at a Dubai Tournament that brought together hosts United Arab Emirates, South Korea and Zambia. They won a game, drew one and lost one to finish behind overall winners South Korea and second-placed Zambia.

A member of the board of the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF), Dominic Iorfa, told Goal.com on arrival from Dubai, "Football is all about results and as such we are disappointed that the team could only finish third in a tournament we were expected to win.

"This tournament offered us the chance to see how far behind we are to countries like South Korea and Zambia at this level. We therefore have no choice but to reorganise the entire team."

Iorfa added, "The technical committee of the NFF will soon meet to address all the issues that came up because we expected a lot more from this team." Officials have already informed Goal.com that the job of coach Henry Nwosu is not safe and he may most likely be shown the door with a more experienced coach brought in his place.

Besides being hosts of the FIFA World Championship in October, Nigeria are also the defending champions.

## Quote of the Day

"I have been telling my teammates here that the Egyptians are full of antics... So we must beat them here and when we get there the pressure will be on them."

- Kano Pillars attacking midfielder, Ahmed Garba Yaro Yaro, on the CAF Champions League knock-out phase first leg match against African Champions Al-Ahly of Egypt in Kaduna on Saturday.

# Sports

## Bolt angry over Abuja meet reports

Ricky Simms, the London-based agent of triple Olympic champions Usain Bolt, has blasted organisers of next month's Confederation of African Athletics Super Grand Prix in Abuja for fraudulently using the world 100m and 200m record holder to promote the meet.

The media was awash last week with reports that discussions are on-going between Bolt's agent and the Abuja meet organisers towards having the Jamai-

can in Nigeria on May 5. "I was disturbed when I read the report on the internet that Bolt will be coming to Nigeria. It was also reported that he (Bolt) has demanded for \$250,000 as appearance fees for the meeting. That is not true and it is fraudulent on the part of those who gave out that information", said Simms.

Simms is convinced somebody must have cooked up the story ostensibly to sell the meeting but

believes telling the truth about who and who will grace the meeting would have been more beneficial to the image of both Nigeria and the meeting itself.

"I have no idea who made up the story that Bolt will be in Nigeria for the meeting in Abuja. It is true I was contacted and told the contact person that a deal of this nature ought to have been concluded about six months ago because we already have Bolt's itinerary for the whole year firmed up. So I

was surprised when the reports from Nigeria say he will be coming to run or conduct a clinic as well as the appearance fees quoted.

"We never discussed any money with anybody or any clinic. I have already sent the contact person for the Abuja meeting an e-mail to express my displeasure with the lies about Bolt," said an angry Simms who however believes Bolt can still come to Nigeria if the arrangements are made early enough.



Bolt

### Nigeria 2009: Adamu commends Warri

FIFA Executive Committee member Amos Adamu has commended the preparations of the Warri sub seat for this year's FIFA Under-17 World Cup.

The city is among nine hoping to be named as one of the six venues for the championships later this year.

Adamu, who was on a pre-inspection visit preparatory to a final inspection visit by FIFA later this month, stated that the government of the state had demonstrated the will to make the city one of the venues for the tournament.

## Introducing Vita Safe...



### because accidents do happen.

Little mistakes can often be very costly; like failing to put out that candle in your bedroom or a burning cigarette in your hotel room. The Vita Safe mattress is a unique mattress made with flame-retardant properties in accordance with California Standards.

Now you can have total peace of mind as you rest after a long, hard day. Get the Vita Safe mattress today, because accidents do happen.

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Email or visit: info@vitafoamng.com; sales.marketing@vitafoamng.com or www.vitafoamng.com



# Sports

## Ferguson relishing United-Arsenal clash

Manchester United boss Sir Alex Ferguson predicted a "terrific" all-English Champions League clash with Arsenal after his team disposed of Porto in the quarter-finals on Wednesday.

The reigning European champions became the first English team to win in Porto and will now meet Arsene Wenger's Arsenal for a place in the Rome final after the London team swept past Villarreal.

"It would be tough no matter who we played, but the fact it is another English side gives it a different type of spice," Ferguson said.

"Our game earlier in the

### Ronaldo's best 'can fire United to quintuple'

Cristiano Ronaldo insists the best goal of his career will provide Manchester United with a springboard to complete their bid to win five trophies in one season.

Ronaldo's stunning long-range strike clinched a 1-0 quarter-final second leg victory at Porto on Wednesday to set up a Champions League semi-final meeting with English rivals Arsenal.

Now Ronaldo wants United to use the momentum of their 3-2 aggregate win to help see off Everton in Sunday's FA Cup semi-final and then Portsmouth in next Wednesday's crucial Premier League clash.

United, who have already won the League Cup and Club World Cup this season, remain on course for an unprecedented haul of five trophies. And Ronaldo is convinced the Old Trafford outfit can add the Premier League, FA Cup and Champions League to that haul.

"We have an opportunity to win everything and we are very confident that we can," he said.

"We did not play fantastic in the last five or six games but we expect the next ones will be better because of what we did against Porto."

Such was the power and accuracy of Ronaldo's 40-yard effort at the Dragao Stadium that the Portugal winger was unable to think of a better goal in his illustrious career.

"It is the best goal I have scored," he said. "It was a fantastic strike and I can't wait to see it again on DVD. I am very happy with it."

Meanwhile, United and England striker Wayne Rooney admits his side's semi-final showdown with Arsenal will be a substantial test of their quality.

The Gunners have the advantage of playing the second leg at the Emirates Stadium and Rooney said: "It will be a difficult game. They are a good team of course. Hopefully it will be two exciting games."

"Retaining the trophy is something we are really focused on. It is a great opportunity for us to do that, having reached the semi-finals."

season was fantastic. It was the way football should be played.

"We are two good footballing sides, so it should be a terrific semi-final and we are looking forward to it."

United were grateful to returning Portugal superstar Ronaldo whose stunning 40-yard strike gave United a 1-0 win on the night and 3-2 victory on aggregate.

Ferguson admitted he would settle for a low-scoring victory when the Gunners visit Old Trafford in the first leg on April 29.

"The first leg is at home, so 1-0 would be perfect for us. But it is not going to be easy," he said.

Although the Scot had generous words for his opponents, the two clubs have not always seen eye-to-eye re-

cently with many fixtures boiling over.

The most famous incident was the so called "Pizzagate" affair in 2004 when an Arsenal player splattered Ferguson with pizza after United had controversially brought the London club's 49-match unbeaten run to an end.

The return fixture saw a tunnel fracas between then captains Roy Keane and Patrick Vieira after the Arsenal man had squared up to United defender Gary Neville.

However, the two clubs have since made peace and their games have become more memorable for the quality of football on show.

If they succeed in beating Arsenal in Europe and Everton in this weekend's FA Cup semi-final, United will be confident of becoming the first team to

win a quintuple of trophies in the same season.

The manager of United's treble winners in 1999 remained cautious, but saw the return of his defensive partnership of Rio Ferdinand, who had been out with a groin injury, and Nemanja Vidic as key to his team's pursuit.

"We had the Bruce and Pallister partnership for six or seven years which was fantastic and with these two it's exactly the same—they balance each other very well," said Ferguson.

"Ferdinand's return made the difference and it gives us the foundation on which so much of our success in the past has been built."

After a rocky month, in which United slumped to a 4-1 defeat to Liverpool, Ferguson feels his team are

now fresh enough to maintain an assault on all fronts, especially with his team back on top of the Premier League, with a one point lead and a game in hand.

"Coming to the tail end of the season, and with the quick nature of English football, you come to a point where you say 'where can I freshen the team up?'" he said.

"Today I was able to call in six players who did not play on Saturday and we looked fresh."

Although ultimately unsuccessful, the Portuguese champions emerged from the tie with an enhanced reputation, especially after their superb attacking display at Old Trafford.


Assistant coach Jose Gomes refused to be downcast and predicted the experi-

ence would send his team to future success.

"We wanted more but our opponents were Manchester United and they are the best team in the world," he said.



Ferguson



**UACN PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT CO. PLC** RC 321582

**AUDITED RESULTS**  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER, 2008

|   | 2008<br>N'000 | 2007<br>N'000 | % Change<br>Inc/(Dec) |
|---|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Turnover                                  | 13,328,454    | 5,676,180     | 135%                  |
| Profit before tax                         | 3,579,677     | 773,616       | 363%                  |
| Taxation                                  | (33,725)      | (348,332)     | (90%)                 |
| Profit after tax before minority interest | 3,545,952     | 425,284       | 734%                  |
| Minority interest                         | 6,350         | 533           | 1090%                 |
| Dividend proposed                         | 825,000       | 535,912       | 54%                   |
| Shareholders' funds                       | 33,122,650    | 20,549,178    | 61%                   |
| Net assets per share (Naira)              | 30.21         | 18.80         | 61%                   |
| Earnings per share - Basic (Naira)        | 3.23          | 0.39          | 734%                  |
| Dividend per share (Naira)                | 0.75          | 0.49          | 54%                   |
| Share price as at 31 Dec. (Naira)         | 26.84         | 23.37         | 15%                   |

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Members of UACN Property Development Company Plc will be held at the Arthur Mbanefo Hall, Festac Hotel (Formerly Durbar Hotel), Near Mile 2, Amuwo-Odofin, Lagos State on Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2009 at 10.00 o'clock in the forenoon in order to transact the following businesses:

**ORDINARY BUSINESS**

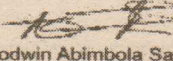
- Lay before the Members the Report of the Directors, the consolidated Balance Sheet of the Company and its subsidiaries as at 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2008 together with the consolidated Profit & Loss Account of the Company and its subsidiaries for the year ended on that date and the Reports of the Auditors and the Audit Committee thereon.
- Declare a Dividend
- Re-elect Directors
- Authorize the Directors to fix the remuneration of the Auditors
- Elect Members of the Audit Committee

**SPECIAL BUSINESS**

- Fix the remuneration of the Directors

A member of the Company entitled to attend and vote at this meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote instead of him, and such a proxy need not be a member of the Company. A proxy form is enclosed and if it is to be valid for the purposes of the meeting, it must be completed and deposited at the registered office of the Company not less than 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting

Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2009

  
Godwin Abimbola Samuel, Esq.,  
COMPANY SECRETARY

Registered Office  
UAC House  
1-5 Odunlami Street,  
Lagos

**NOTES:**

**DIVIDEND**  
In view of the results, the Directors have recommended to members the payment of a dividend of 75K per share. A resolution to this effect will be put to the meeting for the approval of the Members.

**DIVIDEND WARRANTS**  
If payment of the dividend is approved, the warrants will be posted on 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2009 to shareholders, whose names are on the Register of Members by 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2009

**CLOSURE OF REGISTER AND TRANSFER BOOKS**  
The Register of Members and Transfer Books will be closed on 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2009 for the purposes of payment of the dividend.

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**  
The Audit Committee consists of Two (2) shareholders and two (2) Directors. Any member may nominate a shareholder as a member of the Committee by giving notice in writing of such nomination to the Company Secretary at least twenty-one days before the Annual General Meeting. Nominators should note that by the Code of Corporate Governance in Nigeria and the Code of Conduct for Shareholders' Associations in Nigeria members of the Audit Committee should be able to read and understand basic financial statements, have knowledge of accounting and internal control processes and should be capable of making valuable contributions to the Committee.

**UNCLAIMED SHARE CERTIFICATES AND DIVIDEND WARRANTS**  
Shareholders are hereby informed that a sizeable quantity of share certificates and dividend warrants have been returned to the Registrars as unclaimed. Some dividend warrants have neither been presented to the Bank for payment nor to the Registrar for revalidation. A list of unclaimed dividends has been posted on the Company's website <http://updcplc.com>. Affected members are by this notice advised to contact the Company Secretary or the Registrars (UAC Registrars Limited) or call at the Registered Office of the Company during normal business hours.

**E-DIVIDEND/BONUS**  
Pursuant to the directive of the Securities & Exchange Commission notice is hereby given to all shareholders to open bank accounts, stock broking accounts and CSCS accounts for the purpose of e-dividend/bonus. A form is inserted into this Annual Report for completion by all shareholders to furnish the particulars of these accounts to the Registrar (UAC Registrars Limited) as soon as possible.

**Daily Trust Hotlines**

- ADVERT 0805 210 0453, 0805 910 0276
- MARKETING 0805 210 0114, 0805 910 0270, 0805 910 0218
- BUSINESS 0805 910 0210, 0805 910 0282
- NEWS ROOM 0805 910 0241, 0805 410 2934, 0805 910 0373

# DAILY TRUST

Friday, April 17, 2009

## Abuja National Stadium rots away

Apparent poor management and lack of maintenance culture is currently threatening the life span of the Abuja National Stadium reputed to be the best modern sporting arena in Africa, reports **Orkula Shaagee**.

The Abuja National Stadium built in 2003 to host the 8th edition of the All Africa Games is in danger of outright decay as its facilities are fast rotting away.

Apart from the main bowl of the stadium, which occasionally hosts football matches and athletics events, other sporting facilities at the multi-billion Naira sports arena have not tested action since the games were concluded on October 16, 2003, which is believed to be one of the reasons while the facilities are decaying.

A visit to the N36 billion stadium yesterday by Trustsports revealed that the worst hit of the decayed facilities is the hockey stadium

whose offices are facing serious decay from water leakages.

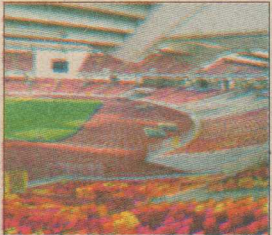
Already, more than ten pieces of the beautifully designed ceiling have been perforated by the sucking water from the rain, while the paints from the walls are also being washed away gradually.

Aside from the offices, the plastics chairs at the hockey pitch have been removed, while others have broken without replacement.

This same scenario replicates itself at the swimming section, where the some offices within the aquatic zone have suffered ceiling and wall decay, resulting in dilapidation.

The two practice pitches have also lost their green surface, leaving the surface bare and sandy.

The base ball and soft ball pitches have been overgrown by weeds, making a visitor to the stadium wonder what has happened to the excellent facility that staged the 2003 All Africa Games.



## Federer loses in Monte Carlo

Roger Federer lost to Olympic gold-medal doubles partner Stanislas Wawrinka 6-4, 7-5 Thursday in the third round of the Monte Carlo Masters. Federer looked sloppy throughout the match and faced 14 break points.

"I was making a few too many errors. That kind of gave him the advantage," Federer said. "I guess it was Stan's game. He did a good job today. He kept the ball in play."

Wawrinka set up his first match point with a deep shot into the corner that the second-seeded Federer failed to return. He clinched the match with a backhand pass down the line.

Federer, who needs one more Grand Slam title to equal Pete Sampras' record of 14 majors, was unhappy with his forehand and serve.

"Today, definitely, my serve wasn't working. I haven't served my best throughout the season, so I have to make sure I get my serve back in," Federer said. "Because I just don't hit the spots when I really want to."

The 13th-seeded Wawrinka, who plays alongside Federer on Switzerland's Davis Cup team, will next meet qualifier Andreas Beck of Germany in the quarterfinals.

"I am a bit embarrassed to celebrate it," Wawrinka said.

## Garnett could miss all of playoffs

Celtics star Kevin Garnett, the centerpiece of Boston's 2008 championship and a key to its hopes of a repeat could miss the playoffs because of a knee injury that has limited him to four games over the final two months of the season.

Celtics coach Doc Rivers said Thursday that Garnett will not be ready for Game 1 against the Chicago Bulls and possibly won't be back at all.

"It's not official that he's out for the entire playoffs, but its official as far as I'm concerned," Rivers said before practice at the team's workout facility. "I just don't see how. I hope I'm wrong, but I just don't see it."

Garnett has been the Celtics' inspirational leader since joining them in a 2007 trade that completed the new Big Three and propelled the franchise to its record 17th NBA title. He averaged 15.8 and 8.5 rebounds per game for the defending champions this season.

"I'm devastated for him," Celtics guard Ray Allen said. "This is the time of year you've been waiting for."

Garnett injured his right knee Feb. 19 and missed the next 13 games before returning for four and playing a total of 66 minutes, 18 seconds.



# Obama and the Muslim World [I]

**FRIDAY COLUMN**  
with Adamu Adamu  
adamuadamu@dailytrust.com

In the past, a cynic knew the price of everything and the value of nothing; but today, he has forgotten even the price, while a sceptic is only a hardworking cynic who has graduated; and even if he knows the value of everything, he won't care.

Fortunately for the world, this is a very bad time for sceptics and a tragedy for cynics. And on one issue and one person—US President Barack Obama at least—the cynics and skeptics had been conclusively proved wrong.

They said he couldn't win the primaries. And he won. They said he wouldn't win the secondaries. And he won. They said he couldn't heal the rift in the Democratic Party. And he did. They said he might not choose the right person for vice president or the right people for subordinates. And he seemed to have chosen the best. They said he couldn't lead America and the world. A fortnight ago the world had a chance to see whether indeed he could or couldn't.

Unfortunately, he came onto the world stage with a groundswell of national and international support—even euphoria—but is morally crippled. America's power, alas, is today only military: its moral component has been lost in the pursuit of unjust battles and unwinnable wars, in unconditional support for an aggressor-state like Israel, in support for undemocratic despots even as it lectures the world on the virtues of democracy, in its opposition to the aspirations of others that, because it couldn't understand, it wrongly thought a threat; and in its waging even the right battles wrongly.

Under the banner of combative Republicanism, hoisted by trigger-happy neo-conservatives, and in the shadow of a new world order being foisted on the world, the US lost the war and with it the moral leadership of the world; and, now, under the weight of not unconnected Wall Street greed, its financial underbelly has been exposed, and unless something drastic is done, it may lose the financial leadership as well. A crisis of confidence is unfolding in a largely leaderless world; and America has become a military power made impotent by unwinnable conflicts, a moral giant crippled by a multiplicity of credibility gaps.

What is required to rescue the world is some piece of brilliant, bold and inventive statesmanlike brinkmanship; and that is what the world expects of the West—a Bismarck, a Garibaldi or an internationalized version of De Gaulle? But for someone with a nail in hand, the solution for every problem begins to look like a hammer. For Bush, the gun was the answer. And, firing on all cylinders, he went about shooting his way—and just see where it has landed the United States. For Obama, the half-hearted answer is dialogue. And right now he is out there talking, winning, and beginning to lead, the world—with charm, with cold logic, with good sense—and with eloquence.

But the architecture of the international system—its political and financial institutions—is stronger than can be demolished by the force of eloquence alone or by the mere good intentions of a US president. Nonetheless, for a forlorn world, it has become a promising starting point. Perhaps it is no exaggeration to say the most reassuring words for the world to have been uttered by an American president are his promise to fight for 'a nuclear free world.' And what a world of difference there is between this sincere, outstretched hand and former US President George Bush's itchy finger tightened on the trigger! And then, all so suddenly, after more than six decades the world becomes a much safer place.

Ever since the start of the Manhattan Project, when so-called scientific geniuses bent science in double obeisance before power, science lost its innocence and the world its peace. Scientists, especially the theoretical physicists of that era, were no longer in search of knowledge or guided purely by the spirit of scientific inquiry. They went after intellectual power for self and military power for their patrons; and scientific enterprise became complicit in all the crimes committed in the pursuit after national power. Albert Einstein was acting the harlot of science in his undisguised solicitation of a powerful consenting partner—US President Franklin Roosevelt; and, like all illicit affairs, this liaison was arranged in the dark by middlemen-acquaintances.

This is no diatribe against knowledge: nuclear physics is a legitimate field of inquiry and nuclear power a thing to be exploited; but the manufacture of nuclear bombs should be recognized and treated for what it is—a crime against humanity.

And Roosevelt and all those scientists of the Manhattan Project should be remembered, not as statesmen and Nobel Prize winners, but as people who committed the most horrendous crime against humanity in the twentieth century.

Obama admitted that America was the only power to have used nuclear weapons, but he should have added that it is also the only power that is likely ever to use it again. Two more Bushes, for instance, and the world would probably have imploded in a mutually assured destructive nuclear Armageddon. In a way, by the admission of its president, America is the only real threat to world peace.

But planning to save the world from the threat of a nuclear war is but solution for just one problem. Obama's real problem is not a world that has become anti-American, and it is not even that legacy left behind by Bush which was what fueled this anti-Americanism. The world is forgiving and that Bush legacy will soon be forgotten. As far as the Muslim World is concerned, Obama's real and perhaps only problem is the State of Israel. And Obama knows it. Who doesn't?

However, in baking his Turkish Islamic cake, he forgot the icing; and, instead of by the horns, in desperation, he took his bull by the tail. And he kept mute, while silence is not an option; and, unfortunately, there are no half-measures in telling the truth, just as there should be no half-truths in taking measures to set the world right. For the Muslim World, that eloquent address in Turkey rang hollow for that which it omitted. Israel.

Not without reason. Telling the truth about America's relations with Israel or the fact that it is the cause of all the anti-Americanism would lead him to clash head-on with the all-powerful lobby and make him have to contend with media hostility. But speaking that type of business-as-usual tongue-in-cheek would almost certainly lead to an abrupt rejection of that extended arm even before it was fully stretched out. And it is a hand the Muslim World wishes to, and should, shake.

But Israel, that albatross hanging on the necks of all American presidents, that veritable strategic liability for America that, out of fear, it treats as a treasured asset, will not allow the handshake. Has it now fallen to the lot of Obama to terminate this relationship and lead America onto the path beaten for it by its Founding Fathers? But the statesmanship that will triumph over expediency can't begin with silence over the most crucial issue. In the end, whatever its president does or doesn't, America must make the choice between Israel and the Muslim World.

And if, as Obama said, the US really felt threatened by Iran's nuclear programme, which is still at the stage of development—for peaceful energy use, according to the Iranians, and for military purposes, according to the US; how much more threatened then would Iran and the Muslim World feel by Israel's nuclear programme, which already has a stockpile of 200 nuclear bombs; and is, going by its character, for aggressive military use, possessed as it is by a state that is not even signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, and led by politicians who were not bound by any known codes of civilized international behavior.

But the threat felt by the world is not limited to nuclear blackmail; the potential for it is present in everything that is going on. It is there in the international financial system, it is there in the character of international commerce and in the terms of world trade; it is there in the despoliation of the environment and it is there in the double standards of the emerging international criminal justice system. In such a situation, it is difficult to reassure the Muslim World; but, greatly daring, Obama has made the attempt.

"I know that the trust that binds us has been strained, and I know that the strain is shared in many places where the Muslim faith is practiced. Our focus will be on what we can do, in partnership with people across the Muslim World, to advance our common hopes and our common dreams. And when people look back, let it be said of America that we extended the hand of friendship," President Obama said. "Let me say this as clearly as I can: the United States is not, and will never be at war with Islam."

Oh yes, Mr. President, here two billion Muslims join the cynics and skeptics and think you already are, because your predecessor has been. But the choice to continue or stop the war is yours. And you know it.