

New NIGERIAN

"The Greatest Weapon is Truth"

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Presidential
Election
Fell Below
Expectations
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Buhari Commissions NNPC Gas Emergency Power Plant, Capital Projects In Maiduguri ■ Commends Zulum efforts, leadership

By ; S A D I Q Maiduguri and environs.
ABUBAKAR, Maiduguri Speaking at the occasion,
President the President said his
Muhammadu administration has worked
Buhari yesterday, hard to fulfill the promise
commissioned the of tackling the nation's
Maiduguri Emergency electricity challenges and
Power Project, describing has succeeded in laying the
the feat as another foundation for a strong,
testament towards prosperous country
achieving stable, through the Economic
uninterrupted power Recovery and Growth Plan
supply aimed at improving (ERGP).
the economy and lives of He noted that a key
Nigerians. execution priority of the
The gas plant was ERGP is ensuring national
constructed by the Nigeria energy sufficiency for
National Petroleum Nigerians.
Company Limited (NNPC 'The Maiduguri
Ltd) to supply 50 Emergency Power Project
megawatts of electricity to is part of an incremental

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President Buhari congratulating the president-elect, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu

APC UK Congratulates Asiwaju

*Says outcome shows Nigerians no longer
interested in politics of ethnicity, religion

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Police Officer Kills Lover, Commits Suicide Over Alleged Sour Relationship



Remains of the late girlfriend in a pool of blood,
allegedly killed by her cop boyfriend

*Police Confirms
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ongoing

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APC UK Congratulates Asiwaju

*Says outcome shows Nigerians no longer interested in politics of ethnicity, religion

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

In the aftermath of the announcement of the victory of the presidential candidate of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, the APC UK has congratulated Asiwaju Tinubu over his emergence as the 16th President and Commander-in-Chief having met all requirements of the law.

J K Adebola, the Chairman of APC UK Interim National Working Committee (NWC) in a statement released by Jacob Ogunseye said that Asiwaju's emergence against all odds and every mudslinging thrown at him is a testament to the fact that he is indeed the chosen one to lead Nigeria to economic prosperity.

The statement revealed that Asiwaju's invitation to other parties in his acceptance speech to work for the progress of Nigeria attests to his statesmanship which many of us knew all along and informed our decision to support him.

"The interactions we had with Asiwaju during his campaign show that he will hit the ground running upon assuming office and put square pegs in square holes in fixing the challenges facing Nigeria. To that extent, APC UK wishes to advise that he surrounds himself with people who have the love of humanity (just like himself) and are selfless in the discharge of their duties. We don't want a repeat of a situation where those saddled with the responsibility of propagating the policies and achievements of his government leave such to those outside his cabinet or allow the opposition to drive narratives against his government."

"As an astute politician who understands the dynamics of politics, a democrat and leader with the propensity for



identifying talents and who has been practicing the policy of human capital development all his political life, Nigerian women and our youths have in Asiwaju a President who will provide them with a platform to excel in the Nigerian project. He alluded to this fact in his first speech as the President-elect after receiving his Certificate of Return."

"Asiwaju is a man born for this moment and endowed with a vision and unmatched focus which he displayed throughout the campaign season by ignoring every mud thrown, fake news and outright lies told about him and trudged ahead towards his destiny for which he has spent decades preparing himself."

Having crossed and trampled over all barricades placed in his path by enemies of Nigeria and emerged victorious, especially against all the intrigues that played out these past few days in the country as engineered by some centrifugal forces, the job of the in-coming President is cut

out for him. There is a lot to be done to begin to realign Nigeria and its people by bridging the apparent gaping divide along ethnic and religious lines.

The heart and minds of Nigerians especially the Youths MUST be realigned towards patriotism and love for their fatherland to be high and above everything else. A deliberate policy of national reorientation and transformation must be put in place and our sense of values must also be reinvigorated. Charity they say begins at home and I believe Asiwaju can transfer to the country the wisdom with which he navigates his marital arrangement which has lasted for decades so Nigerians can continue to live in harmony irrespective of our ethnic and religious differences. The current administration has done a lot in providing a solid foundation for the future which Asiwaju promised during his campaign to build upon. Asiwaju and Shettima must not only build on that solid

foundation, but ensure he replicates the development plan he so diligently deployed successfully in Lagos at the national level for economic growth. His Presidency is bound to encourage more foreign direct investments into our economy. This is already evident in the Bloomberg recent report that says "Nigerian Bonds are posting some of the best gains in emerging markets as investors bet that Tinubu will offer reforms to pull Africa's largest economy out of a fiscal mess."

APC UK Chapter hereby calls on all Nigerians to rally around the incoming government of Asiwaju in his quest of providing egalitarian governance and dividends of democracy to all. With Asiwaju's emergence as the President-elect, our march to the new Nigeria we seek has become imminent and the antecedents of Asiwaju and Shettima in their previous assignments as governors portend good omen for the country.

"Asiwaju's presidency will undoubtedly give renewed hope to the populace and the fillip needed by many Nigerians in Diaspora to return home to help in transforming the Country into the new Nigeria we seek and desire. APC UK and other APC Diaspora Chapters are ready to assist the incoming administration in the implementation of the Action Plan contained in the Renewed Hope 2023."

"Asiwaju who has proved himself over the years as a unifier, in his first official statement as the President-elect during the presentation of the Certificate of return stated the fact that the road has been long, yet we walked it and that he sees himself as a servant of a larger purpose and, like a seer looking into the crystal ball, Asiwaju touched on how he sees the Nigerian Youths and Women mounting the rostrum to receive same certificate of return. This speaks to a large extent the mindset and aspiration of the man called Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, a man born for this moment in the life of our fatherland and who has prepared himself diligently for the tasks ahead. Nigerians expect the incoming President to be engaging and to take the lead at critical times."

"This election result has shown that Nigeria is no longer interested in politics of ethnicity or religion. This has proved right the scriptural saying "There are many plans in a man's heart, Nevertheless the Lord's counsel – that will stand." Now is the time for us all to rally around the President-elect who has assured us that he will work to make Nigeria better."

"The new Nigeria we all seek and desire is possible and with Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu in Aso Villa, the next couple of years will be of peace, progress and prosperity for Nigeria. The only way for Nigeria is up."

Nigerian women and our youths have in Asiwaju a President who will provide them with a platform to excel in the Nigerian project. He alluded to this fact in his first speech as the President-elect after receiving his Certificate of Return. Asiwaju is a man born for this moment and endowed with a vision and unmatched focus which he displayed throughout the campaign season by ignoring every mud thrown, fake news and outright lies told about him and trudged ahead towards his destiny for which he has spent decades preparing himself."

Tinubu Has Capacity To Lead Nigeria To Enviably Heights - Ooni

**Congratulates him for winning 2023 Presidential polls*

By; BAYO AKAMO,
Ibadan

Ooni of Ife and Co-Chairman, National Council of Traditional Rulers of Nigeria (NCTRN), Oba Adeyeye Enitan Ogunwusi on Wednesday, said that the President elect, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu has adequate proven capacity to lead the country to an enviable position in the global committee of nations.

The Ooni made this known in a statement by Palace Director of Media and Public Affairs, Otunba Moses Olafare in his congratulatory message to the All Progressives Congress (APC) Presidential candidate and winner of last Saturday's Presidential election, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu.

Oba Ogunwusi tasked the President elect of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to without wasting time, come up with an economic recovery blueprint and swiftly upon his inauguration on May 29, 2023.

According to the Ooni, the President elect is 'a man of destiny, a game changer and a progressive workaholic who does not only merit the victory but also has adequate proven capacity to lead the country to an enviable position in the global comity of nations.

"As a tested and trusted cerebral team leader that



Ooni

you are, you must in a couple days present your transition team of cerebral men and women to give us an economic recovery blueprint as Nigerians can not wait to be liberated from the unbearable economic hardship that has bedeviled the country in the recent times," he said.

Ooni Ogunwusi added, "Nigerians have voted for you because of your promise of a 'Renewed Hope' and you must swiftly from your first day in office come May 29th 2023 set the ball rolling in a manner that will further

assure Nigerians of the 'Renewed Hope'.

"Your Excellency, I congratulate you and your amiable wife on behalf of the Oduduwa race worldwide as you have victoriously emerged as the President elect of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

"You are indeed a man of destiny, you are a game changer and you are a progressive workaholic who has worked assiduously with right strategy and tactics justifying the merit of your recorded victory".

Ooni Ogunwusi stressed.

"as a pragmatic leader and manager of resources with adequate proven capacity to lead this country to an enviable position within the global committee of nations, please don't disappoint Nigerians and the African people."

The royal father tasked Asiwaju Tinubu "to immediately assemble a transition team of cerebral men and women to come up with an economic recovery blueprint and swiftly upon his inauguration on May 29th 2023 move into action in a way that will further assure Nigerians of the 'Renewed Hope'"

Borno Central Senator-Elect Congratulates Tinubu, Shettima, Appreciates Zulum, APC Stakeholders

By; SADIQ
ABUBAKAR,
Maiduguri

The Senator-Elect, Borno Central Senatorial District at the National Assembly, Barrister Kaka Shehu Lawan has no congratulated the President-Elect, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu and Vice President-Elect over their successful election in last Saturday's presidential election which he said was described as the best even by the international observers.

He also expressed appreciation and gratitude to Governor Zulum and all APC ruling party stakeholders at the state, local and ward level; including community, traditional, religious leaders as well as business community leaders, students leaders, security agents and the vigilante CJTF and Hunters for their honest, living and acclaimed support and votes in solidarity.

The Senator-Elect also sympathizes with the Monday market traders on the fire disaster that engulfed the market, while urging to bear the loss and regards such disaster as a destiny and from God.

He prayed God to continue to comfort them and .bless them with his bounties as well compensate them abundantly cushion their loss.

Barrister Lawan further thanked the entire prop;e ND leaders of his senatorial district for their

votes and decision to elect hi, to represent their interest at the national assembly who;w promising to serve them to his best and never to disappoint them neither the confidence the constituents reposed on him as a senator and member of the upper Chamber of the National Assembly.

He also acknowledged the support and cooperation of the media in the state, where he confessed that he has been a friend to the media at all strata of the circle in the state and respect the media with high regards always having related and interacted always and severally with the media.

Kaka Shehu however, pledged to discharge his responsibilities according;y and in the overall interest of his Senatorial District and the electorate who elected him to represent them at the National Assembly in the next four years.

In his reaction to the People's Democratic Party (PDP) Senatorial candidate, Hon. Mohammed Umar Kumaila's allegations and complaints, leveled against the electoral body, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) and APC the ruling party, he said, "I will not say anything for now. Hence he is a complainant and serial petitioner, we will meet in court," Senator Lawan said.



Barrister Kaka Lawan

Post-Election: Kano/Jigawa States Peaceful

By; JABIRU A
HASSAN, Kano

In Kano and Jigawa States, normal activities after the Presidential, Senatorial and National Assembly elections held on February 25, 2023, have resumed. Our correspondent gathered that although there was some minor crisis at Kano State during the polls in some places,

despite the efforts being made by the security agencies to ensure that the polls were hitch free.

Similarly, there were issues with the accreditation machine known as BVAS, while the election officers were seen early, as recommended, which facilitated early commencement of the election.

Furthermore, there were

adequate election monitors and observers from different government and non-governmental organisations, who remained vigilant about what was happening across the polling units.

During the Presidential elections, the issue of vote buying was minimal due to the current monetary policy introduced by the

Muhammadu Buhari administration though the politicians improvised many ways of buying votes from the electorate. From all indications, the election in Nigeria tends to be healthy and the issue of votes buying may be minimal in the future, while Nigeria's democracy would continue to get sanity as seen at present.

Buhari Commission's NNPC Gas Emergency Power Plant, Capital Projects In Maiduguri

**Commends Zulum efforts, leadership*

4,000mw of power generating assets that this administration embarked upon to improve national power supply and stimulate economic growth.

"The aggressive project strategy deployed to complete this project on schedule is a total reflection of Federal Government sensitivities in identifying and easing the plight of the Nigerians; particularly those recovering from the adverse impact of the insurgency in this North-East region.

"Over the past few years, insurgents had attacked power supply lines along Maiduguri-Damaturu and Maiduguri-Damboa-Biu roads leading to acute power supply shortages to the city of Maiduguri and its environs and crippling the economic activities in the region.

"For this purposeful response, I want to commend the NNPC Ltd for following my directive to ensure the immediate restoration of reliable power supply to Maiduguri within the shortest possible time," he said.

President Buhari reassured Nigerians of the Federal Government's resolve to implement programmes, particularly in the power sector, that deepen domestic gas utilization, expand national power generation capacity, revitalize industries and create



multiple jobs for economic growth.

He directed the Ministry of Power and other relevant agencies namely, the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC), Nigerian Bulk Electricity Trading Plc, Transmission Company of Nigeria to continue to collaborate with NNPC Ltd to ensure that millions of Nigerians access affordable electricity in the short term.

He expressed confidence that

the undaunting spirit of the New NNPC Ltd would continue to engender affordable energy for all Nigerians, not just for the immediate, but for the years ahead.

President Buhari, who is making his fifth visit to the state since the administration of Prof Babagana Zulum, thanked the governor for keeping his campaign promises to the people of the state.

He declared that the governor, who is seeking a second term in office, deserves to be re-elected.

"Your Excellency, I cannot remember the number of projects I commissioned during your first tenure, these laudable projects are impressive. I thank you.

"We also acknowledge the excellent work that you have done, working closely with the Federal Government and other stakeholders, to bring back the IDPs and refugees from Cameroon and other neighboring countries. I think the Governor deserves another term," he said.

While in Maiduguri, the President inaugurated the dualized Ahmadu Bello Way; Shehu Sanda Kura Road; Lafiya Road and Mogoram Road; Ultra-Modern Market, Bama Road; newly constructed Staff Quarters for University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital; Hon. Muktar Betara Aliyu Cancer Centre, and the newly constructed Bolari Market Road.

Meanwhile, President Muhammadu Buhari has

commissioned a Cancer Centre at the University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital (UMTH).

Buhari while inspecting the facilities at the centre yesterday, commended the hospital management.

Chief Medical Director, Prof. Ahmed Ahidjo said the facilities include HD Versa, electa machine among others.

"This hospital is one of the best in West Africa because of the latest facilities there," Ahidjo disclosed.

He said the hospital is also conducting research on increasing kidney cases in the Borno State and parts of the northeast, through a N50 million grant provided by the state government.

He said the centre has a unit for treating kidney stone with infusion without opening it. "It has two theatre; operation theatre and urology," he explained.

President Buhari also commissioned 24-flats Doctors Quarters in the hospital built by Borno State government.

President Muhammadu Buhari has expressed deep grief at the fire disaster, Sunday, February 26, which razed Maiduguri's Monday Market.

He expressed the grief in Maiduguri, yesterday, March 2, while paying homage to the Shehu of Borno, Alhaji Abubakar Ibn Umar Garbai Al-Amin Al-Kanemi.

"I am here to commiserate with you over the fire incident at the market," the President told the Shehu.

"I am mainly here to go and see the market, but the governor has hijacked me to commission his projects," he stressed.

Earlier, the Shehu expressed gratitude to President Buhari for standing with the people of Borno in their trying times.



Zulum Inaugurates 24-man High Powered Committee On Disbursement Of Donations To Monday Market Fire Victims

By: SADIQ ABUBAKAR, Maiduguri

The Governor of Borno State, Prof. Babagana Umara Zulum has approved the constitution of a twenty-four-member High Powered Investigation Committee on the Maiduguri Monday Market Fire Disaster and Emergency Relief Assistance to the victims.

A statement issued by the Secretary to the State Government (SSG), Alh. Usman Jidda Shuwa said the constitution of the committee is in furtherance to a state wide broadcast by the governor on the fire incident that engulfed the market in the early hours of Sunday February 26, 2023.

The statement added that the High Powered Investigation Committee has 9 point terms of reference that includes, to appraise and determine the immediate and remote causes of the fire disaster, to assess and ascertain whether or not there are specific individuals who may be directly or indirectly responsible for the incidence.

According to the statement, the committee is to further thoroughly examine the magnitude of the fire incident and the extent of damage on the structures, and assess the type of relief assistance to the victims of the inferno, to accurately determine the actual number of persons who suffered the losses to the inferno and establish the amount of property each of the individuals lost to the fire disaster.

The statement further tasked members of the committee to examine the original master plan of the market, determine whether or not alteration have been made over the years to accommodate more traders and the extent to which such alteration contributed to the uncontrollable nature of the fire incident

Equally, the committee is to determine the extent to which the fire disaster disrupted

commercial activities of the market and suggest a suitable site for the construction of another market to decongest the present Monday Market.

The committee is to further make appropriate recommendations to Government on how best to avoid re-occurrence of such fire disaster in further.

The committee is further mandated to evaluate and commence reconstruction and rehabilitation of the damaged structures while investigations is being undertaken, in addition to that, they are to take any measure deems relevant that will improve their assignment in tandem with the terms of reference.

The 24-member committee has Engineer Zarami Dungus as Chairman.

The Secretary Monday Market will serve as the Secretary of the Committee, with Prof. Mohammed A. Alhaji, Khalifa Ahmed Banki, Alhaji Umaru Maina Chara as members.

Also to serve in the committee are the Representative of 8 Joint Forum Monday Market, the Representative of the Monday Market Traders.

Others include, one representative each from the 60 Pillars Monday Market.

Also on the committee is the Special Adviser on Religious Affairs, the Special Adviser on Legal and Administration Matters, Representative of the North East Development Commission and that of National Emergency Management Agency.

Similarly, the representatives

of the Chamber of Commerce, the Nigerian Army Force, the Nigerian Police, the Department of State Services, the Nigerian Fire Service, the Nigerian Security and Civil Defense

Corps.

Also to serve on the committee includes, representatives of Ministries of Poverty Alleviation, Commerce Trade and Investment, Works, Justice,

Office of the SSG and the Representative of the Shehu of Borno.

The committee was inaugurated by the Executive Governor on Wednesday March 1, 2023.



TY Buratai Foundation Congratulates Tinubu As President-elect

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

TY Buratai Humanity Care Foundation, has warmly congratulated Sen Bola Ahmed Tinubu Jagaban Borgu upon his election as the President-Elect of the Federal Republic of Nigeria following the successful conduct of Presidential Election on February 25, 2023, which was free, fair and credible. The foundation also commended the outgoing President H.E Muhammadu Buhari GCFR for his strong and impactful leadership during his tenure of office. The foundation further congratulated the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), and all national and international

observers, for their collective efforts and exemplary conduct in holding peaceful elections up to the final outcome of the election.

"Prof Mahmood Yakubu is a national hero.

"In this regard the foundation expresses deep gratitude to it's Grand Patron H.E Ambassador Lieutenant General Tukur Yusufu Buratai CFR Garkuwan Keffi for his Support to the foundation during the campaigns of the APC," it said

TY Buratai Humanity Care Foundation further reiterated the continued support of the Humanitarian Project Nationwide in her journey to deepen the country's democracy, constitutionalism, good governance and sustainable development.

Presidential Election: AA Taking Legal Action To Nullify Process - Omo-Aje

By; AMOS TAUNA, Kaduna

The Action Alliance (AA) party has said that it feels differently as it insists on going to court to seek nullification of the entire processes alleging unlawful exclusion of the party from the whole exercise.

In a telephone chat with the party's authentic National Chairman, Adekunle Rufai Omo-Aje after the declaration of the candidate of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, as winner of the President-elect, he advised Nigerians to tarry a while, assuring that he would be heading to court to seek total nullification of the exercise.

Omo-Aje, who sounded very serious and very determined, insisted that his party has a good ground to pursue the case, saying that there was no basis for excluding all his candidates from the race, describing the court as an

arbiter is there for the aggrieved people of the country.

The aggrieved AA chairman called on all the members of the party to boycott the presidential and National Assemblies polls of February 25, 2023 over alleged exclusion of the constitutionally recognised candidates of the party, adding, "we have gone beyond the boycott as we have started preparations towards rigorous litigation for total nullification of the whole exercise since the authorities in charge of the election have refused to do the needful before embarking on the poll."

Omo-Aje then called on all members of the party, their loyalists and teeming supporters across the country and beyond to be calm and remain law-abiding, believing that at the end of the day, victory would be ascertained because of our belief and confidence in the judiciary.

Chanchangi Airlines Congratulates President-Elect, Expresses Hope In Better Country Under Tinubu

By; IBRAHIM ADAMU, Kaduna

Executive Chairman and CEO Chanchangi Airlines, Alhaji Musa Ahmadu Chanchangi has joined millions of Nigerians in congratulating Bola Ahmed Tinubu for winning the 2023 presidential election.

"In this regard the foundation expresses deep gratitude to it's Grand Patron H.E Ambassador Lieutenant General Tukur Yusufu Buratai CFR Garkuwan Keffi for his Support to the foundation during the campaigns of the APC," it said

TY Buratai Humanity Care Foundation further reiterated the continued support of the Humanitarian Project Nationwide in her journey to deepen the country's democracy, constitutionalism, good governance and sustainable development.

"I can vouch for exemplary leadership qualities of Asiwaju Bola

Ahmed Tinubu and the robust and symbiotic relationship We had with him as governor of Lagos State.

"He ensured a friendly business environment for all while he held sway as governor of Centre of Excellence and bequeathed a legacy of tolerance and prosperity worth emulation to his successors as the state keeps growing in business and infrastructure.

"We must admit that the country at present is in dire need of effective and vibrant leadership capable of meeting the yearnings of Nigerians to lead the way for a united, strong, prosperous and economically buoyant entity that will be the pride of Africa.

"I am sure Asiwaju will



Alhaji Musa Chanchangi

not disappoint millions of nigerians across all divides who came out in their numbers to cast their votes for a man they believe will change the course of history in positive ways.

"We at Chanchangi Airlines will support and partner with governments, individuals and corporate

entities in our quest to see a great and developed nation.

"We enjoin all patriotic countrymen and women to put the season of politics behind them as we look forward to a better Nigeria under the President-Elect Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, "he appealed.

ANA Congratulates Tinubu, Warns Obasanjo Against Undermining Democracy

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The Arewa New Agenda, (ANA) has congratulated Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu for winning the 2023 presidential election, while warning.

The group also warned former President Olusegun Obasanjo against truncating the democracy of the country with inciting press releases.

While describing Obasanjo's administration as the worst democratic adherence to processes and procedures, the group fingered him as the reason the PDP became a disdainful outcast with no respect for the rule of law and internal democracy. The group said he was the chief architect of the collapse of the PDP as a formidable party and therefore, posit that he

represents the worst advocate of political righteousness.

In a statement by the convener of the group, Sen. Ahmad Abubakar Moallahyidi, he urged all Nigerians to close ranks and support the incoming administration to take the country to greater height. He also called on the good people of Nigeria to disassociate themselves from the inciting press release by former President Obasanjo as he is trying to undermine democracy that people have labored for since the commencement of the release of guidelines by INEC for the 2023 national elections as this is unacceptable, we encourage all and sundry who have issues to seek redress through laid processes."

He challenged the former president to explain how

Tinubu rigged and called to deliver Lagos.

He added that "Ganduje couldn't deliver Kano, el-Rufai couldn't deliver Kaduna, Buhari couldn't deliver Katsina; APC Chairman couldn't deliver Nasarawa; Ahmed Lawan couldn't deliver Yobe; Lalong couldn't deliver Plateau and even lost his senatorial bid; Philip Aduda couldn't deliver Abuja; South East Governors lost in South East, is this same election that you are vilifying as a corrupted process?"

"Food for thought: Peter Obi wins Tinubu's Lagos Atiku wins Buhari's Katsina Tinubu did not even win Osun, Atiku did Kwankwaso wins Ganduje's Kano Peter Obi wins Abdullahi Sule's Nasarawa Atiku wins Mai Mala's Yobe.

"What other transparency can be better than this? We

of the Arewa New Agenda commend President Buhari for opening up the space for everyone to exercise his/her franchise and discharge his responsibility to the nation by voting freely. We encourage the INEC Chairman and his hardworking staff to remain steadfast and undaunted in this national assignment.

Senator Moallahyidi however commended security men and women for holding the country together to ensure peaceful election of Feb 25th 2023.

"We look forward to seeing another successful outing on March 11th 2023.

Finally, we suggest that Chief Obasanjo consider being circumspect in his speeches lest he misleads the public into assuming that he has anything good to offer."

Maiduguri Market: Zulum Approves Another N1bn

By; SADIQ ABUBAKAR, Maiduguri

Governor Babagana Umara Zulum on Wednesday, approved another N1 billion for reconstruction work to start at the Maiduguri Monday Market which was engulfed by a fire disaster in the early hours of Sunday.

Zulum's approval was announced by the Secretary to Borno State Government, Usman Jidda Shuwa, during the inauguration of a committee that will coordinate all matters relating to the market fire incident.

The governor on Monday, presented a cheque of one billion Naira to be distributed to victims to serve as emergency relief pending other measures by government.

SSG during the inauguration read a speech on behalf of Zulum, "As a responsible and responsive government, we cannot fold our hands and let the situation be as it is, but rise to our responsibilities and do the needful to salvage the situation for the betterment of our people. I'd been making frantic efforts in providing palliative to boost their resilience. In this connection, I made some commitments which include the constitution of this high-powered committee, I have also approved the sum of N1bn for immediate disbursement to the victims for the upkeep of their families. I have approved another N1bn for commencement of

reconstruction works at the market", Zulum said as quoted by the SSG.

The 23-member committee inaugurated comprised the following, Engr. Zarami Dungus as the chairman, with members including, Prof. Mohammed A. Alhaji, Khalifa Ahmed Bankim, Alhaji Umaru Maina Charam, Special Adviser on Religious Affairs, Special Adviser on Legal and Admin Matters, Rep. of the North East Development Commission, Rep. of the National Emergency Management Agency, Rep. of the Borno State Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture, Rep. of the Nigerian Army.

Others are, Rep. of the Nigerian Police Force, Rep. of the Department of State Services, Rep. of the Nigerian Fire Service, Rep. of the Nigerian Security & Civil Defence Corps, Rep. of the Monday Market Community, Rep. of the Ministry of Youths, Sports & Empowerment, Rep. of the Ministry of Trade, Investment & Tourism, Rep. of the Ministry of Works, Rep. of the Ministry of Justice, Rep. of His Royal Highness, the Shehu of Borno.

The committee also includes Chairman 8 Joint Forum Monday Market, the Chairman Traders Association, One Representative each from the 60 Pillars, Rep. Office of the SSG. While General Manager, Monday Market serves as secretary of the committee.

The governor also spelt out nine specific terms of reference for the committee as follows:



1. To appraise and determine the immediate and remote causes of the fire as well as the factors responsible for its wild untrollable nature, engulfing the entire market and establishing whether it was the result of arson or accident.

2. To meticulously assess and ascertain whether or not there are specific individuals who may be directly or indirectly responsible for the incident and apportion blame appropriately.

3. To thoroughly examine the magnitude of the fire and the extent of the damage caused to physical structures and assess/determine the type of and amount of relief assistance to the affected victims of the fire disaster.

4. To accurately compile and determine the actual number of persons who suffered losses as a result of the fire and establish the quantity/amount of property each individual lost to the fire disaster.

5. To carefully examine the original master plan of the market and determine whether or not alterations have been made over the years to accommodate more traders and the extent to which such alteration contributed to the uncontrollable nature of the fire.

6. To determine the extent to which commercial activities have been disrupted by the fire disaster and suggest a suitable site for the construction of another market with a view to

decongesting the present one.

7. To make appropriate recommendations to the government on how best to avoid fire disasters of a similar nature in future.

8. To evaluate and commence reconstruction/rehabilitation of the damaged structures immediately while investigation is being undertaken.

9. Any other matter the panel deems relevant to the terms of reference as articulated in the foregoing paragraphs.

Chairman of the committee, Engr. Zarami Dungus expressed gratitude to Governor Zulum for finding them worthy to serve Borno State. He assured of transparent and accountable execution of the task given to them.

Northeast Jagaban's Movement Hail APC National Youth Leader, Congratulates, President Elect On Victory

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The North East Secretary of the Jagaban's Movement has congratulated Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu for winning the presidential ticket of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and also hail the All Progressives Congress (APC) National Youth Leader, Honourable Dayo Abdullahi Israel for making the youth wing campaign council active and relevant in the party structure.

Bashir Mohammed Ranccas who is the North East Zonal

Secretary of the Jagaban's Movement as well as SSA to APC National Youth Leader on Public Affairs and Political Intelligence II made the disclosure in a press statement made available to journalists in Yobe state after the official declaration of the presidential result by the INEC.

"My fellow distinguished compatriots, I salute



your courage, doggedness and determination to be able to achieve this giant stride against all odds. This has shown that there is no might we cannot achieve if we are determined, I congratulate us for being part of this epochal history making and I will assure you that our labor shall never be in vain".

"In the next few

days, we will still meet at our various polling units to elect our governors and state assemblies, in view of this I am encouraging us to maintain the same energy so that our great party, the APC will win all the positions in North East and beyond" the statement reads in part.

Mister Ranccas urged the Jagaban's Armies while celebrating the President-Elect, appealed to all to be matured in conducts, caution and be in the right state of mind to actualise lofty goals for the New Nigeria.

Tinubu's Victory Reward For Great Antecedents, Consistency - Kwara Gov

**Says President-elect will justify people's confidence in APC*

By **BILIQIS OLAJUMOKE ONAOLAPO, Ilorin**

Kwara State Governor, AbdulRahman AbdulRazaq has congratulated President-elect Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu and the All Progressives Congress (APC) family nationwide on the victory at the polls. In a statement on Wednesday morning, the Governor called the victory of Asiwaju Tinubu "truly deserving and a reassuring message that Nigerians ultimately value great antecedents, clear

vision, national unity and security, and development over other partisan considerations".

He added: "This is a victory for national unity, as had been preached by the Progressive Governors and other statesmen across the country. It is a vote of confidence in the capacity of the President-elect to build on the great strides of President Muhammadu Buhari especially in the area of infrastructure, address some key national questions in line with global best practices, and build a stronger and more

competitive economy. I have no doubt that Asiwaju, a great team player, will hit the ground running, helped by his experience, rich network, great understanding of all the burning issues and assisted by an array of patriots, including the resourceful Vice President-elect Kashim Shettima, who would prioritise national security and development over every other thing.

"I congratulate our party leader President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, for his leadership

and courage, which have seen our party to this electoral victory. I join our party leadership to thank the people of Nigeria, especially my good people of Kwara State, for the confidence they have again reposed in the APC to continue to lead Nigeria on the path of sustainable growth. We do not take it for granted.

"This, indeed, is the time for everyone, irrespective of partisan affiliations, to join hands with the president-elect to build a stronger nation."



Ahmed Bola Tinubu

Tinubu's Election Will Mark Beginning Of New Nigeria - AFAN President

By: **SANIALIYU, Zaria**

The All Farmers Association of Nigeria (AFAN) has described the election of Bola Ahmed Tinubu as President elect, marking the beginning of new deal in the history of Nigeria. In a statement issued by the National President of the association, Arc. Kabiru Ibrahim and made it available to New Nigerian in Zaria, said as

he represents 'renewed hope' for the prosperity of a richly endowed nation yearning for an astute administrator who has shown great aptitude in harnessing the capacity of capable lieutenants to turn around the fortunes of Lagos State.

According to the AFAN President, the President elect demonstrated his competence in Lagos State by appointing people

on merit to assist him and they are confident that he will replicate similar feat in giving meritorious service to Nigeria.

Arc. Kabiru Ali said, All Farmers Association of Nigeria (AFAN) looks forward to working with him to bring about food security in Nigeria.

He disclosed that AFAN pledged its support to his candidature at the town

hall meeting with farmers in Minna upon reflecting on his manifesto on agriculture.

"The entire AFAN members join other Nigerians in congratulating the President elect and wishing him Allah's guidance, good health and every success in renewing Nigeria's hope and nation building," he said.

Gov. Inuwa Yahaya Congratulates President- Elect, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu



President-elect Ahmed Bola Tinubu

By: **JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON**

Gombe State Governor, Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya has congratulated the President- Elect of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu and the Vice President- Elect, Sen. Kashim Shettima on their victory at the just concluded Presidential Election.

According to a statement signed by the Director-General (Press Affairs) Government House Gombe, Ismaila Uba Misilli, dated Wednesday March 1, 2023, in a congratulatory message he personally signed, Governor Inuwa said, Tinubu's victory at the polls is a manifestation of his years of personal commitment, sacrifice, tenacity, political experience and service to the nation.

He noted that the president- elect is a well-groomed leader with vast wealth of experience and network as a former Governor, Senator and political leader who has the competence and character to hit the grounds running and build on the successes of President Muhammadu Buhari in all facets of human endeavour.

He added that Tinubu's antecedents in governance and his huge political connections are a good asset for a renewed hope and expression of national

unity of purpose.

Describing Tinubu as an enigmatic leader and strong pillar with immense influence, Governor Inuwa Yahaya expressed confidence in his acumen and sagacity to unite Nigeria having been building bridges across the length and breadth of the country which has resulted in the historic victory.

He said Senator Tinubu has proven that he is able and capable to lead the nation, having governed Lagos state with a magic wand.

While commending President Muhammadu Buhari for providing leadership and support that led to the enthronement of a sustainable democracy, Governor Inuwa urged Nigerians to rally round the President- Elect to move Nigeria forward in leaps and bounds, in line with his 'renewed hope' mantra.

The Gombe State Governor, who played a significant role as the North East Coordinator of the Presidential Campaign Council, assured the President- elect of continued support, solidarity and goodwill of the people of Gombe State as he prepares to take up the responsibilities and challenges of the high office as the President and Commander -in -Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and largest democracy in Africa.

Customs FOU Zone B Seizes Items Worth Over N305m

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

In its efforts to weaken the activities of smugglers in the Zone, the Federal Operations Unit (FOU) Zone 'B' Kaduna has from 1 January 1 to February 28, 2023 made a total of 130 Seizures of different items at various locations in the zone, worth over N305 million. According to a statement signed by the Public Relations Officer, FOU Zone B, SC I. Sulaiman, the seized items include the following, 9 units of used vehicles, 2 units of means of conveyance, 724 bags of foreign rice (50kg each), 6 cartons of foreign machetes, 163 jerrycans vegetable oil (25 litres each), and 646 cartons of foreign spaghetti and macaroni. Other seized items are 90 Bales of Foreign Secondhand clothing, 569 packs of Foreign unregistered pharmaceutical products, 119 packs of unregistered Tramadol, and

Tramaking 225mg and 17 sacks foreign secondhand shoes.

The rest include, seven cartons of foreign cigarettes, 147 pieces of foreign jack knives, 50 cartons of foreign soap and 635 kegs of Premium Motor Spirit (25 Litres each).

"The total Duty Paid Value (DPV) of the seized items is Three Hundred and Five Million, Seven Hundred and Ten Thousand, Five Hundred and Forty-Four Naira and Fifty-Five Kobo only" (#305,710,544.55k) only," the statement said.

It explained that the seized items were arrested in contravention of the Federal Government policies regarding imports and exports and were deposited at various Customs Formations in the Zone.

"In line with the extant laws and guidelines, the seized Premium Motor Spirit was auctioned as directed by the NCS

Headquarters, and the proceeds were remitted to the coppers of the Federal Government.

"The Operatives of the Unit under the leadership of Comptroller Musa Ibrahim Jalo have stepped up on the fight against smuggling across the border areas to make more arrests and cause financial loss to the smugglers.

"The Comptroller reiterated the commitment of the Operatives of the Unit to their renewed efforts in the fight against smugglers," it said.

He called on the communities around the border areas to provide useful information that will assist the unit in achieving its mandate and also consider the operatives of the service as implementers of the Federal Government fiscal policies that are meant to improve and protect our industries thereby creating employments and boosting the economy of the Country.



M I Jalo



Acquisition Of Mobil Nigeria Awaiting President's Approval - Seplat

By; PETER NOSAKHARE,
Kaduna

Seplat Energy Plc has said the sale and purchase agreement to acquire the entire share capital belonging to Mobil Producing Unlimited, Nigeria for \$1.28 million, plus up to \$300 million contingent consideration, was still awaiting presidential approval.

Its Chief Executive Officer, Roger Brown, made the announcement while commenting on its audited results for 2022, which recorded a rise in profit before tax by 15 per cent to 87 billion Naira from 71 billion Naira year-on-year.

According to Brown, the company hopes to conclude the transaction before the end of the current administration.

"We are continuing to pursue the presidential approval received on August 8, 2022, for the MPNU acquisition and we remain focused on concluding the transaction within the remaining term of President Buhari before a new president is sworn into office at the end of May 2023," Brown noted.

The company said it also generated cash from its operations to the tune of 242.4 billion Naira from 150.9 billion Naira year-on-year, rising by 52 per cent, while growing revenue by 30 per cent to 404 billion Naira from 294 billion Naira in 2021 and gross profit soaring by 63 per cent to 197 billion Naira from 114 billion Naira year-on-year.

Seplat Energy said it would be paying a US\$7.5 cent final dividend, despite the significantly disrupted

production experienced in the second half of the year.

This amounts to a full-year dividend of US\$15 cents, representing a dividend yield of around 11 per cent at the current London Stock Exchange share price.

Llinitis operations, Seplat Energy's working interest production averaged 44 kboepd, impacted by outages of key infrastructure predominantly in Q3. Use of the Amukpe-Escravos Pipeline enabled high uptime in December, an exit rate of 53 kboepd.

The company said it completed 13 wells including two wells for the ANOH gas processing plant. ANOH Gas Processing Plant is 95 per cent mechanically complete, awaiting third-party infrastructure completion.

Arewa Christians, Indigenous Pastors Alleges Manipulation Of Election Results

By; BUHARI B. BELLO, Jos

Arewa Christians and Indigenous Pastors Association (ACIPA) has decried the system used in the collation center for the presidential election.

A statement by the chairman of ACIPA, Rev. Shehu Luke made available to newsmen in Jos, said that it has become imperative and compelling to issue the public statement especially to the electoral umpire, INEC and the federal government under President Muhammadu Buhari.

"The first observation is with regards to the President flaunting his choice of APC Presidential candidate on the ballot paper to the public glare.

"Secondly, was the purported use of a private Jet on 25th February 2023 belonging to the same APC Presidential candidate by the leading electoral umpire," the statement said.

According to him, "this smacks of more than suspicion especially in view of the reports from Lagos, Kano and other states that confirmed

our fears.

"ACIPA here advises and warns desperate politicians and this government not to test the will of the youth nor take for granted the position of Nigerian Christians and our allies.

"This is the only good legacy President Muhammdu Buhari and the electoral umpire can bequeath to Nigerians and should they choose to trample on it by allowing manipulations in order to impose a candidate, then they should be ready to bear the consequences of their actions or inactions.

"Suffice to say that we are aware that most of the sitting governors are culpable in the complicity of rigging and manipulations in order to either install their stooges or cover up their failures and corruption in office.

"We therefore, strongly advise the President, INEC and security operatives to rise to the occasion as is expected of them by Nigerians. Anything short of this will not be acceptable and may have dire consequences," the group declared.



Presidential Election Fell Below Expectations - Datti Baba-Ahmad

**Said truth will prevail*

By; AMOS TAUNA,
Kaduna

Yusuf Baba-Ahmed Datti, the Vice presidential candidate of the Labour Party, has noted that the just concluded 2023 presidential elections fell below standards.

Speaking in Hausa in an interview, he explained that the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) should not have announced the result of the Presidential election without attending to

complaints and rectifying all the anomalies brought before the commission concerning the presidential election.

He assured of the party's determination to take action in saving Nigeria and protecting the sanctity of votes cast by Nigerians in last Saturday's election. He reiterated that the electoral commission is violating the law, stressing that the law was read to the commission and it violated the Electoral Act 64 sub-section 4 and section 65 of the Electoral

Act 2022 as amended.

According to him, "The Act has stipulated that it was mandatory that at the completion of an election, the result must be transmitted to what was called IIREV."

He added that an Electoral Officer must not document the election result without ensuring that the result has been transmitted to the IIREV.

He said that is a law that stands when told that the INEC Chairman said that doing so was not a must, adding that unless if a

person said yes he has seen the law but will not adhere to it.

The presidential running mate stated that the law also said that unless what is in the IREV that would be considered and not what was held manually, saying that they (INEC) did not input it in the IREV.

He enjoined all Nigerians to be calm and go about their normal businesses, while awaiting the truth to prevail.

Tinubu As President Will Return Nigeria To Economic Prosperity, Political Stability - Engineer Alao

**Congratulate him on election as President elect*

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

A Chieftain of the All Progressives Congress (APC) in Oyo State, Engineer Oyedele Alao on Wednesday, said that Asiwaju Bola Tinubu election as Nigeria's next President will return the country to the comity of nations where economic prosperity, security and political stability are hallmarks of development.

Engineer Alao stated this in a statement to congratulate the President-elect, Asiwaju Tinubu, for winning the last Saturday, February 25 presidential election.

The APC Chieftain emphasized that the emergence of Asiwaju Tinubu as the President-elect is a well deserved victory for a man with decades of political activism and democratic

struggle, stating that it is the beginning of a renewed hope for the country.

He maintained that he is confident that the president-elect would work hard to return the country to the comity of nations where economic prosperity, security and political stability are hallmarks of development.

Engr Alao stressed that the President elect "is a man of immense experience, capacity and competence who will be the servant of the people of the country irrespective of tribe or religion".

"I wish to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the National Leader of our dear party and Jagaban Borgu, Senator Bola Ahmed Tinubu, for his resounding victory in last Saturday's presidential elections", he said.

Engr Alao added, "I have

no doubt in my mind that Asiwaju Tinubu is an achiever, progressive and pro-people. As a bridge builder and man with midas touch with many decades of democratic struggle, I know that with our collective support he will replicate the giant strides recorded in Lagos State in the entire country and move our dear country to higher heights'.

"I am sure that his deserved victory would be the dawn of a renewed hope for the people as he will make every Nigerian and the country proud by running an inclusive and purposeful government."

While congratulating President Muhammadu Buhari, the national leadership of APC, leaders and members of APC in Oyo State led by the governorship candidate, Senator Teslim Buhari, for the memorable victory, the APC Chieftain noted that

the success of the 2023 elections attests to the fact that democracy is the only credible means of attaining power with the people at the centre of the struggle.

"I commend leaders of APC, President Muhammadu Buhari; Senator Teslim Folarin, members and supporters, for working assiduously to deliver this remarkable and memorable victory".

Engineer Alao however urged APC members in Oyo State to work assiduously to deliver victory for the party during the gubernatorial and House of Assembly elections on March 11, noting that the joy of victory would only be full when wins the state by sending the present administration of Governor Seyi Makinde of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) packing from the Agodi Government House.



Senator Folarin

March 11 Polls: We Need APC Governor, House of Assembly Members For Greater Oyo - Senator Folarin

**Congratulates Tinubu*

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The Coordinator of the All Progressives Congress (APC) Presidential Campaign Council and Gubernatorial Candidate of the party in Oyo State, Senator Teslim Folarin has hinted that the state needs an APC governor for the much desired greater Oyo State.

Senator Folarin dropped this hint in a statement signed by the Chairman, Central Media Council for the Presidential and Gubernatorial Campaigns council in Oyo State, Alhaji Kehinde Olaosebikan to congratulate the people of Oyo State on the election of Asiwaju Tinubu as the Nigeria next President.

The APC governorship candidate stressed that certainly the best way to go as the rewards and benefits of all the support and votes for Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu could only be fully actualized with the election of an APC

governor in the state", he said.

Senator Folarin added, "it is a thing of joy for us in Oyo State that we gave all the necessary support to Bola Tinubu while campaigning with the unprecedented crowd that received him during the presidential rally in Oyo State and more importantly with the 100 percent victory recorded in the entire 33 local government areas of the state. Thank God, we are truly the Asiwaju people", he said

"All our support and votes are recognized and deeply appreciated by the president elect and I can assure you they would reflect in his interactions and dealings with Oyo State in all aspects of life'.

Emphasizing that the election of Asiwaju Tinubu as the next president of Nigeria marks a new dawn for real growth, development and prosperity for Oyo State and Nigeria in general, Senator Folarin said the people of Oyo state deserved to be congratulated and thanked profoundly, for their immense contributions to the emergence of Asiwaju Bola Tinubu as Nigeria's President-elect.

"As the Coordinator of the campaign for Bola Ahmed Tinubu in Oyo State, I am already in a good stead to form a cordial and functional synergy with the incoming president and get the best for Oyo State in terms of projects and juicy appointments for the people of Oyo State.

Tinubu's Victory Is Tribute Resilience - el-Rufai

By; FUNMI ADERINTO, Kaduna

Governor Nasir Ahmad el-Rufai of Kaduna State has described the victory of Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu as a tribute to the resilience of the Nigerian people whose votes have made it all possible.

In a congratulatory statement that he personally signed on Wednesday, the Kaduna State Governor said that the victory, "is a much deserved triumph, reflecting the connection between dedicated effort and reward."

According to el-Rufai, Tinubu's success at the polls came amidst the most onerous circumstances for the candidates of a ruling party, adding that, "it underlines the scale of the hard work put in by the APC and its

supporters."

The governor pointed out that APC "has a duty to repay this faith by providing purposeful governance that delivers progressive outcomes for all Nigerians."

"I have no doubt that Asiwaju Bola Tinubu grasps the import of this victory and will lead Nigeria's forward march with renewed hope. He knows he has our staunch support in bringing Nigerians together and uniting the country in common endeavours for progress, peace and prosperity," he added.

el-Rufai who said that he is proud of the contributions of Kaduna State to this monumental triumph that the APC has accomplished, noted that "in this titanic struggle, we sadly lost many of our National Assembly seats."

The statement however, noted that as "regrettable as that is, APC members are still victors."

"APC members in Kaduna State, our supporters and the entire people of Kaduna State have just partaken in a festival of democracy that has demonstrated our status as people of honour."

"Our region as a whole has shown that we value national unity, that we honour agreements and dutifully discharge the obligations that such entail," he added.

el-Rufai further said that, "every APC member is as an integral part of this victorious national party."

The governor promised that Kaduna APC will build on this momentum to victory in the March 11, 2023 governorship and State House of

Assembly elections.

"On that day, our people would use the legitimate route democracy offers to redress the setbacks of 25 February by giving an emphatic victory to all APC candidates in Kaduna State."

"We will campaign hard anew on our strong record of governance in the last eight years in which we have put our people first," he pledged. el-Rufai appealed to the people of Kaduna state to come and vote massively on 11 March 2023, arguing that "many more of our candidates would have won on 25 February if there was better turnout of our supporters."

According to him, this is no time for political apathy because, "the choice Kaduna State faces is monumental, and we should choose wisely just as Nigeria has done."

Olubadan, YCE Hail Asiwaju Tinubu Election As Nigeria's President Elect

By: BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The Olubadan of Ibadanland Oba Sen. Lekan Balogun has felicitated the All Progressives Congress (APC) Presidential candidate in the last Saturday elections, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu on his election as the Nigeria President elect.

Also, the Yoruba Council of Elders (YCE) has congratulated the APC Presidential candidate for emerging winner of the February 25 Presidential polls.

The Olubadan in a congratulatory message on Wednesday by his Personal Assistant (Media), Oladele Ogunsola hailed Nigerians for the choice made through their votes adding that the President-elect's tenacity of purpose, focus, determination and political sagacity earned him the victory that could only be likened to the pan-Nigerian mandate given to the late Basorun MKO Abiola in 1993.

Oba Lekan Balogun pointed out that the results of the election clearly showed that the new president was strategic and meticulous in his politics, saying, "I felicitate Asiwaju on his resounding victory at the poll conducted across the country on Saturday on behalf of my Aliwo dynasty, my members of the Advisory Council and Ibadan sons and daughters, both at home and in the diaspora".

"It must be placed on record that he threw everything into the contest and he has been bountifully rewarded. He worked very hard for his victory. A dogged fighter, consistent and resolute. Right from the primary election, he has not left anybody in doubt of his seriousness on what he set out to achieve and all praises to the Almighty Allah for crowning his efforts with success", he said.

Oba Lekan Balogun added "even, as we all savour the victory, he must be reminded of the enormity of the job lying ahead of him as the new helmsman in waiting. Nigeria is at crossroad and it is not by accident that the Almighty Allah raised him up at this time, considering his enviable track records both as an oil company worker and as the governor of Lagos State which today remains a reference point of what good governance should be".

Stressing that the time has come for Nigerians and the political class especially to ensure smooth transition of

power come May this year, the Olubadan said, "Nigerians are looking up unto him to be the Moses of their time that would lead them out of insecurity, economic doldrum, unemployment, hunger, starvation, deprivation, darkness occasioned by epileptic power supply, infrastructure decay, fuel scarcity among other existential issues daily confronting an average Nigerian."

"You have been known as a leader that knows how to assemble team of brilliant minds. There is no other or better time than now for Nigerians to enjoy such assemblage, using your national network to bring on board capable, goal getting, resourceful and focused minds from across the country to quickly and steadily steer the country's ship to a safe haven", the message added.

Oba Lekan Balogun commended Nigerians for their sense of patriotism during the election, recalling that the social malaise of fuel scarcity and cash crunch leading to the election was enough to cause dislocation in the entire system and which would have jeopardized the conduct of the election, but Nigerians rose above all those factors and cast their votes.

"I commend Nigerians, especially those, who against all odds cast their votes and ensured that nothing untoward happened before, during and after the election. They are the heroes of the struggle and having invested their electoral confidence in the president-elect by voting him, he has no excuse than to reward the people with good governance", Olubadan added.

The Yoruba Council of Elders (YCE) on Wednesday in congratulating the APC, Presidential candidate on his election as the Nigeria President elect expressed happiness on the outcome of the election.

YCE in a statement in Ibadan by its Secretary General, Chief Oladipo Oyewole maintained that Asiwaju Tinubu victory at the polls was a well-deserved one and timely considering the present situation in the country.

"On behalf of the Yoruba Council of Elders, I hereby express our sincere congratulations to H.E Bola Ahmed Tinubu, The Jagaban Borgu, for his victory at the polls and declaration as President-elect of the Federal Republic of Nigeria", he said

Tinubu's Emergence As President-Elect, Symbolizes Better Days Ahead For Nigeria - Akpabio

By: PATRICK TITUS, Uyo

The Senator-Elect for Akwa Ibom North West in the Senate, Godswill Akpabio has described the emergence of Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, as President-Elect as a sign of better days ahead for Nigeria.

Akpabio, who spoke through his Chief Press Secretary, Mr Jackson Udom, views Tinubu as a tested and trusted hand in service delivery, "He did it before when he called the shots in Lagos State and I am very confident that he will do more for Nigerians

as its leader."

Senator Akpabio, who is the immediate past Minister of Niger Delta Affairs Ministry and former governor of Akwa Ibom State bared his mind while reacting to the victory of the APC Presidential candidate as declared by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), Wednesday morning in Abuja.

Udom, quoted his Boss former, who was also a Senate Minority Leader, as saying, "the victory of our Presidential candidate, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, as

declared this morning by the Electoral Umpire (INEC), is a confirmation of his nationwide acceptance. He has the ability, capacity and the required experience needed now to take this country to the next level in both national and international affairs."

According to the former Senate Minority Leader, "electioneering and campaigns are all over. May 29th would mark the commencement of the delivery of dividends of democracy to our people in our Renewed Hope promise. I congratulate the leadership and

membership of our great party on this well-deserved victory of our party."

Recall the Independent National Electoral Commission, INEC, early Wednesday declared Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu winner of the February 25 Presidential/ National Assembly polls having pulled a total of 8,794,726 votes on top of his major contenders in APC who scored 6,784,520; LB - 6,101,533 and NNPP - 1,496,687 to come second, third and fourth respectively.



President-elect Tinubu and Gov El-Rufai

Presidential Election: AA Taking Legal Action To Nullify Process - Omo-Aje

By: AMOS TAUNA, Kaduna

The Action Alliance (AA) party has said that it feels differently as it insists on going to court to seek nullification of the entire processes alleging unlawful exclusion of the party from the whole exercise.

In a telephone chat with the party's authentic National Chairman, Adekunle Rufai Omo-Aje after the declaration of the

candidate of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, as winner of the President-elect, he advised Nigerians to tarry a while, assuring that he would be heading to court to seek total nullification of the exercise.

Omo-Aje, who sounded very serious and very determined, insisted that his party has a good ground to pursue the case, saying that there was no basis for excluding all his

candidates from the race, describing the court as an arbiter is there for the aggrieved people of the country.

The aggrieved AA chairman called on all the members of the party to boycott the presidential and National Assemblies polls of February 25, 2023 over alleged exclusion of the constitutionally recognised candidates of the party, adding, "we have gone beyond the boycott as we have started preparations towards

rigorous litigation for total nullification of the whole exercise since the authorities in charge of the election have refused to do the needful before embarking on the poll."

Omo-Aje then called on all members of the party, their loyalists and teeming supporters across the country and beyond to be calm and remain law-abiding, believing that at the end of the day, victory would be ascertained because of our belief and confidence in the judiciary.

Election Aftermath: We've Responded To Over 70 Security Threats In Lagos - CP Owohunwa

By; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

Not less than 70 security-related call outs have been responded to by the police in Lagos State since the conclusion of the Presidential and National Assembly Elections on Saturday February 25, 2023.

Of the calls, eighty per cent of the distress calls were found to be informed by false feedbacks that were largely informed by apprehension and misinformation, fueled by fake news from elements that seem to be bent on feasting on the post-election tension to destabilise the peace and order in Lagos State for inexplicable reasons.

The Lagos State Commissioner of Police Idowu Owohunwa made the disclosure on Wednesday at a security meeting with critical stakeholders held at POWA Hall, Ikeja.

Owohunwa however, said that few instances that turned out to be real were largely attempts by

misguided local urchins to threaten citizens at specific locations.

He added that such were localized, uncoordinated, and unpremeditated and were all promptly mitigated by the Police, while several arrests were made.

"In addition, we also upscaled our deployments across all identified flashpoints and vulnerable localities while also sustaining patrols and visibility policing across the public space in order to reassure Lagosians of their safety and deter possible mischief makers from manifesting any plan that might be inimical to peace and security across the State", he added.

The police Commissioner emphasised that a major challenge remains the genuine fear of crime by Lagosians on the one hand, and the manipulation of the media space by faceless elements to spread fake news that could fuel apprehension, sense of insecurity, and engender major security threat.

Owohunwa said he would base his policing strategy on the principle of inclusivity, trust, public consent, collaboration and bridging of the gap between the Police and the citizens for optimal and cost-effective law enforcement service delivery.

"Indeed, by involving the policed communities and strategic players in the policing decision making process, we are merely giving effect to Robert Peels Principles of Policing which emphasise that 'the people are the police and the police are the people'.

"The import of this, therefore, is that while deployment of lethal response to policing might be statutorily permissible to enforce public security, the option of prevention through meaningful communal engagement remains, for my police leadership, the most preferable model.

"Indeed, I want to benchmark my leadership as Commissioner of Police, Lagos State not on

the number of violence I am able to suppress, but on the number of threats I am able to prevent and the depth of the trust and partnership I am able to perfect with the citizens and strategic stakeholders towards proactively protecting the lives all Lagosians regardless of social, religious, gender or political persuasions and in guaranteeing peace in the Public space", the police Commissioner emphasised.

He therefore, called on the stakeholders to collaborate with the police towards dousing the current security tension across the state, and to present a common front in confronting the real enemies of the people and the state who are the criminal elements that are bent on threatening our valued peace, security and livelihood, and discourage subversive agents that trigger and disseminate unfounded fake news in order to deepen tension and engender discord and expose the stable public disorder to risks.

Polls: Director Youth Mobilization PCC Congratulates Tinubu Over Victory



By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The Directorate of National Youth Mobilisation All Progressives Congress (APC) North West, Barr. Bello Muhammad Goronyo has congratulated the President elect, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu of the All Progressive Congress (APC) over the well-deserved victory at the presidential polls.

The Director said, the get out to vote initiative campaign engaged by the directorate produced the required results which culminated into a resounding victory for the President elect, Senator Tinubu.

While acknowledging the efforts of the Northern Governors and APC leader H.E Senator Aliyu Magatakarda Wamakko for standing firm on their believe that power be returned to South on the principles of Unity, equity, fairness and justice, he said, the support for Asiwaju/Shettima which is sequel to their capacity, experience and commitment to the Nigerian project has yielded result.

He however, urged all the North West State directors to embark on rigorous campaign untill all the Northern states governors and State Houses of Assemblies are delivered to the APC.

"We must not go to sleep, let us get out to vote in all the nocks and crannies and ensure they reach the door

step of all eligible voters for the Governorship and State Assembly elections on March 11th.

Barrister Goronyo also congratulated Nigerians for standing by the APC in the Presidential and national Assembly elections, urging them to do it again in the March 11th elections.

This is even as he said, with the Presidency of Tinubu as elected, Nigerians will enjoy a new phase of live.

"Without doubt, APC North-West has affirmed that North-West is APC and APC is North-West. We must remind Nigerians that the political history of Nigeria has shown that every Presidential candidate that wins the votes of North-West wins the Presidency.

"With APC youth united in North-West, supported by all party members and all candidates at all levels, in sha Allah, APC will win again massively the March 11th elections.

"While congratulating the President elect Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu and his vice Senator Kashim Shettima, we wish them Allah's guidance as they prepare to take this task of building a new Nigeria".

Goronyo also commended the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) for conducting a free, fair, transparent and credible elections, trusting that such will be replicated in the Governorship and State Assembly elections come March 11, 2023.



CP Idowu Owohunwa addressing the stakeholders

Borno PDP Alleges Election Malpractices In National Assembly Election

By; SADIQ ABUBAKAR, Maiduguri

The People's Democratic Party (PDP) Borno Central Senatorial Candidate, Hon. Mohammed Yara Kumalia has alleged that election in the eight local government areas comprising Borno Central senatorial district was conducted without following the election guidelines and procedure as outlined in the election manual and the 2023 electoral Act.

The eight local government areas in Borno central are, Maiduguri Metropolitan, Jere, Konduga, Bama, Mafa, Dikwa, Gamboru Ngala and Kala Balge. Kumalia expressed this at a press conference at the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) Press Center, said infractions and manipulations are in respect of the Presidential, Senate and House of Representatives elections.

He added that In all the eight local government areas, the use of the BVAS machine was generally disregarded as people were accredited manually without the use of the machine.

The PDP candidate explained further that, there were widespread incidences of over voting across the eight local governments, alteration of result sheets after the elections among others claiming the following particulars:

1. MAIDUGURI METROPOLITAN

a. There are incidents of over voting in several units across the local government. In particular, Lamisula Jabbamari, Bolori I, Bolori II, Gwange I, II, and III, Shehuri South, Shehuri North among others.

b. Result sheets from the Units were not uploaded to the INEC server/portal after the elections at the units in accordance with the election guidelines.

c. Alteration of results of units after completion of elections across the 15 wards of the local government.

d. Destruction of ballot papers by APC stalwarts

e. BVAS machine was not used in some polling units.

f. Elections did not hold in some polling units.

g. Results of elections in some polling units won by PDP were not entered into the collation sheet at the ward level.

h. In Maisandri ward, at about 2am this morning (Tuesday), all the agents were chased out of the collation center after collating about 120 out of 200 units where PDP was leading comfortably and the results were manipulated and doctored to favour the APC candidates.

2. JERE LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Results of several units in several wards have been altered and changed after completion of voting in about six (6) out of 12 wards. The results that were altered are in respect of the Presidential, Senate and House of Representatives elections.

The affected Local Governments are:

1. Old Maiduguri Ward

2. Mashamari Ward

3. Mairi Ward

4. Maimusari Ward

5. Ngomari Ward

6. Bale Galtimari ward

According to him, the tampering of the results is obvious as there are a lot of cancellations and alterations in the Form EC 8B of the affected wards. For clarity, the results of the polling units are different from the results recorded on Form EC 8B in a number of the units in the aforementioned wards.

3. BAMA LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

a. There was over voting in the final result of the local government in respect of the Presidential, Senate and House of Representatives elections. A case in point is the senatorial election where the total number of accredited voters is less than the total number of votes cast (Both Valid and Invalid votes). The total number of accredited voters for Bama Local Government is about 18,000 while the total number of votes cast is 21,850. However, a figure of 22,076 was super imposed over the 18, 000 as the total number of accredited voters. Unfortunately for the manipulators, the figure of 18,000 is still visible despite the super imposition of an increased figure of 22,076.

b. There was voting without accreditation using the BVAS machine for the purpose of accreditation contrary to the election guidelines.

c. Scores on result sheets were altered and the amendments are obvious as the old figures and the newly super imposed figure



are both visible in many instances. New figures are super imposed on the old figures either to increase the votes received by APC or to increase the total number of accredited voters to justify the inflated votes that has been allocated to the APC.

4. DIKWA LOCAL GOVERNMENT

a. Elections were conducted without the use of the BVAS machine in most places and ballot papers were thumb printed indiscriminately.

b. All Party agents were chased away by security forces except those of the APC for the APC to do whatever they wanted.

c. Some units did not have BVAS machines and even where present, the machines did not work and results were turned in for these places.

5. MAFA LOCAL GOVERNMENT

a. Elections did take place in Mafa, Mafa Central, Zangebe and Laje wards but results were turned up for these wards.

b. BVAS machines were not used in the conduct of the elections in several units across the wards.

c. In Tansuwu Ngamduwa ward, there are three units (22 maternity unit, Kaleri transformer and Zannari II) elections took place but the

results were not recorded because PDP won those units.

6. KONDUGA

a. There was no use of BVAS machine in a number of units across all the wards in Konduga Local government. Incidences of manual voting was widespread.

b. Party agents were chased away from the polling units and results were recorded arbitrarily in favour of the APC.

C. Invalid votes were recorded in favour of APC in several units across the wards.

7. NGALA LOCAL GOVERNMENT

a. No use of BVAS machine for accreditation

b. About 6000 fake votes were added to the APC votes for presidential, Senate and House of Representatives seats

c. There was over voting in a number of polling units across the local government.

d. There was voter intimidation and harassment

8. KALA BALGE LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

a. there was no use of the BVAS machine throughout the 10 wards of local government.

b. People without voter's cards were allowed to vote.

c. Those with temporary voter's cards were allowed to vote contrary to the electoral

guidelines

d. There was open use of US Dollar bills by the APC officials to bribe INEC officials to manipulate the results

e. Even the manipulated results at the units were not uploaded on the INEC portal

f. There was over voting in several units across the 10 wards of the local government.

d. At the collation centers, all agents of the PDP were chased away by the Army personnel for the INEC and APC officials to write whatever result that they wanted.

Hon. Kumalia prayer , "We call on the Borno State Resident Electoral Commissioner and the collation and Returning officers for the Presidential, Senate and House of Representative seats within Borno Central Senatorial District to cancel the elections in all the eight local government in respect of the presidential, Senate and House of Representatives for Maiduguri, Jere, Dikwa, Mafa and Konduga as well as Bama, Ngala and Kala Balge Federal constituencies, as the elections has failed to meet the minimum requirements of the election guidelines, the Election Manual as well as the Electoral Act, 2023.

CORRECTION OF NAME

This is to notify the general public that Munonye N. Prince and Munonye Nkem Prince is one and the same person now wish to be known and addressed as MUNONYE NKEM PRINCE. All former documents remain valid. General public, and all relevant authorities please take note

Division in PDP Made Us Lose Presidential Polls In Cross River - Senator Gershom

Senator Gershom Bassey, a member of the Atiku/Okowa PDP Presidential Campaign Council, gives a post-mortem of the just concluded Presidential and National Assembly elections as it affects Cross River State. He says that PDP must go back to the drawing board to sort out what went wrong during the elections. He saw a great division in the PDP family and except it is ratified, it will not augur well in subsequent elections. This interview was granted to our correspondent VITALIS UGOH in Calabar.

What is your reaction on the poor performance of PDP in the just concluded presidential and national elections in Cross River State?

It is time for us to all go back to the drawing board and see what we did right or wrong. This has been a verdict from the people of the Southern Senatorial District. So we in the PDP have to go out and do some soul searching to see how we can get things right for next time.

As an advocate of back to South, with the current situation, would you still encourage it?

The principle of rotation is still there but as you know, my party has taken a different path and I am a party man, so for now, I would just say we as politicians must always listen to the people that we aspire to lead. For now, I really do not have much to say about it.

What's your comment on the election generally in the state?

If you look at all the winners, they are all former PDP members from three years ago. It just goes to show that sometimes, under the leadership of the current governor, he has not been able to successfully manage the PDP in a way it was loyal to him and because of that, he was one of those who scattered the PDP as it were. That is, his leaving the party with some members, helped to scatter the party. The PDP has a big task to go back to the drawing board and look at things again holistically.

What lessons has the PDP learnt from this?

The lessons we can learn for next time is that the PDP has been greatly divided because if you look at everybody that won, they are all former PDP members, including the Labour Party candidate that won. Next time could be anytime, it could be in a re-run election, run off election or governorship election but these are some of the lessons we must learn deliberately for the next elections.

Don't you think the Wike/Atiku crisis contributed to PDP's poor outing in Cross River State?

That may be a factor but it was never a civil war. We were always talking to each other. If you look at our Presidential Campaign Council, there were nominees from these groups and if you look at the

state campaign organisation, there also were nominees from those groups. So the disagreement would have been a forced disagreement from an outsider because within the state, there was never a sharp division as they are talking about.

But the division was very glaring as the opposing sides never worked together?

Maybe you have done a post mortem but we have not done a postmortem. So you may have more information than we do, but we are going to sit down and do a post mortem to determine the mistakes we made so that we would be stronger for the next climb.

In the cause of campaign you and former governor Liyel Imoke said if Atiku fails in the state other candidates will fail. Do you still stand by that statement?

I never said so publicly but I do believe we would have been better off with an Atiku victory. It is very important for us that in the elections, Atiku wins because if he does not win, it would affect our governorship candidate and that is just a fact.

Already, Atiku has lost Cross River. Do you not think it would affect your candidate here?

Everybody's moralr is low. Labour was just a phenomenon. A situation were somebody who did not even print a poster, won the House of Representatives election against a very experienced legislator. It is a very unusual occurrence and that was a complete tsunami. Labour won the State and that affects all other parties going forward but fortunately for



Senator Gershom Bassey

us, Labour does not have a gubernatorial candidate, otherwise we would have been in trouble.

Do you have confidence in INEC?

I do not have confidence in the results declared so far by INEC and the reason is very simple. We are the people that passed that Electoral Law and it is very clear in the law that there are three stages of the process when you get to the polling unit. The first stage is the verification stage where you use BVAS, the second is when you thumbprint and vote after you have been verified and the third stage is uploading of the results after they have been announced at the polling unit. In a situation where you vote, result is declared at the polling unit but it is not uploaded, which is part of the process, it

means that the process is immediately fatally flawed. Uploading the results 24-48 hours later is unacceptable because the essence of uploading immediately which is transparency, is completely gone. So nobody can tell me it is a transparent election because at the very least, it has not complied with the law which is a problem immediately. So INEC has a very big issue, that is why you find a lot of people calling for the cancellation of the election or a complete overview of every result and the only way to do that is by bringing every point unit's result, put it against what the Returning Officers had brought from the states and compare. So I do not accept the results of the presidential election in any way, shape or form as it is presently constituted.

Sanwo-Olu Salutes RCCG Leader Adeboye At 81

By; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu, has congratulated the General Overseer of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG), Pastor Enoch Adejare Adeboye, on the occasion of his 81 years birthday.

He described Pastor Adeboye, who clocks 81 on Thursday, March 2, as a respected global preacher whose unblemished records of service in God's kingdom over several decades have made him a role model to many religious leaders and Christians.

Governor Sanwo-Olu in a statement issued yesterday by his Chief Press Secretary, Mr. Gboyega Akosile, said Pastor Adeboye, popularly known as "Daddy GO" is worth celebrating due to many positive impacts he has made in the lives of millions of people locally and internationally, which he has done by building one of the largest spiritual

institutions in the world.

He said Pastor Adeboye has raised millions of committed followers of Jesus Christ within the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG) and outside the church, adding that the respected global evangelist had contributed immensely to the propagation of the gospel globally without any blemish or scandal.

"On behalf of my wife, Ibijoke, the Lagos State Government, and the people of Lagos State, I want to congratulate a respected global evangelist and preacher of the undiluted word of God, Pastor Enoch Adejare Adeboye, on his 81st birthday.

"Pastor Adeboye has been a blessing, not just to the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG), but also to us in Lagos State. His unceasing prayers for us and wise counsel over the years have contributed in no small measure to the phenomenal progress our dear state, Lagos has continued to witness.



"Daddy G.O. is a true child of God, who is passionate about the gospel. His devoted service in God's Vineyard has helped put Nigeria in the global spotlight, as a land of spiritual exploits and greatness. Yet, amidst all these wonderful accomplishments, Pastor Adeboye has remained as simple and humble as ever, never seeking the limelight or personal glory.

"As Pastor Adeboye clocks 81 today, it is our prayer that the Almighty God will grant him more grace and strength to continue to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ. I pray that the Almighty God will continue to crown him with good health to enable him to render more service to God's kingdom. May he continue to enjoy God's manifold blessings and everlasting goodness."

Masari Sacks Works Commissioner

By; SULAIMAN AHMED MISAU, Katsina

Katsina State Governor, Aminu Bello Masari has relieved the State Commissioner of Works, Housing and Transport, Alhaji Tasi'u Dahiru Dandagoro of his appointment.

Alhaji Dahiru Dandagoro was sacked along with the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Agriculture Aminu Garba Waziri, Chairman Katsina State Pilgrims Welfare Board Yusuf Barmo and Permanent Secretary SDGs Fatima Ahmed.

A statement by the Secretary to the Government of the State Mukhtar Lawal said the removed officials were directed to handover all Government property in

their possession to the respective Permanent Secretaries or the most senior Director as the case may be.

In the meantime, Katsina State Governor, Alhaji Aminu Bello Masari has approved the deployment of some Permanent Secretaries in the State Civil Service.

This was also contained in a statement by the Permanent Secretary Administration Office of the Head of the Civil Service Usman Isiyaku.

According to the Statement the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs Abubakar Ahmed Yan'tumaki has been redeployed to the Civil Servant Commission.

He was directed to handover the Affairs of the

Ministry to the most Senior Director.

Similarly, Bilyaminu Muhammad Albaba moved from Ministry of Works, Housing and Transport to the Department of Skills Acquisition and Vocational Training as Permanent Secretary.

The Statement added that the posting was with immediate effect while the handing over and taking over comes up today Wednesday the first of March.

Also the Katsina State Governor Alhaji Aminu Bello Masari has approved the appointment of Magajin Garin Katsina Alhaji Aminu Abdulmumin Kabir as the new Chairman of the State Pilgrims Welfare Board.

Alhaji Aminu

Abdulmumin Kabir Usman is son of the Present Emir of Katsina, Alhaji Abdulmumin Kabir Usman.

The appointment was contained in a statement by the Secretary to the Government of the State Alhaji Mukhtar Lawal.

According to the statement, the appointment was in recognition of his outstanding qualities and performance at different capacity in the service of people of the State.

The statement added that, the Governor, Alhaji Aminu Bello Masari congratulated the appointee and charged him to put in his best and gigantic experience for the overall welfare of Katsina State pilgrims.

Tinubu's Emergence Reflection Of Wishes Of Electorate - Ally

By; SULAIMAN AHMED MISAU, Katsina

An All Progressives Congress (APC) chieftain and close associate to the Nigerian president-elect Senator Abu Ibrahim said the emergence of Asuwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu was the reflection of the wishes and choice made by the electorates.

This he said, is in realization of his track records of leadership that accommodated Nigerians from all sections of the country.

Senator Abu Ibrahim who described Bola Ahmed Tinubu as a true nationalist and trusted was prepared to ensure united and economically advanced

Nigeria.

The APC chieftain reaffirmed confidence of the president-elect intention to prioritize the issue of national security, economic recovery and good governance.

He therefore, urged the relevant stakeholders from the opposition parties and other patriotic Nigerians to join hand with Asuwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu in building new Nigeria.

On the next Saturday's Gubernatorial election, Senator Abu Ibrahim urged people in the state to bear in mind that Dr. Dikko Umar Radda has all the required capacity and leadership qualities to succeed Aminu Bello Masari as the Katsina State governor.

Labour Party Candidate Defeats Minority Whip, House Of Representatives, Kaura

By; AMOS TAUNA, Kaduna

Mr. Mathew Donatus Kozali, the Labour Party candidate for Kaura House of Representatives, has emerged the winner of last Saturday's election in Kaduna State.

He defeated the incumbent, the Minority Whip of the House of Representatives, Gideon Lucas Gwani, of the People's Democratic Party (PDP).

Mr Mathew Donatus Kozali polled 10,508 votes to defeat Gideon Lucas Gwani who

polled 10,297 votes.

Professor Elija D. Ella, the Returning Officer, who made the announcement at Kaura Local Government Secretariat in Southern part of Kaduna State, declared Mr. Mathew Donatus Kuzai as the winner.

He explained that Professor Benjamin Kumai Gugong of APC came third with 9,919 votes.

Mr Gideon Lucas Gwani, the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) was seeking to occupy the seat for the fifth time.

Taxes As Key To Nigeria's Economic And Infrastructural Development

By: MUSAILALLAH

To begin this discussion, it is imperative that we attempt to understand what taxes are all about.

Taxation is defined as the imposition of compulsory levies on individuals or entities by governments across the world. Taxation is used primarily to raise revenue to finance government expenditures among other reasons.

The Nigerian government is primarily reliant on taxes as they are a significant source of revenue and a major source of income to the government to discharge its responsibilities.

No one doubts the fact that the country today falls short of infrastructural development despite the unprecedented turn around on revenue generation and collection courtesy of the country's Federal Inland Revenue Service, FIRS under the leadership of its Executive Chairman, Muhammad Mamman Nami.

The FIRS in Nigeria is the agency of the Federal Government Agency statutorily charged with the responsibility and powers to assess, collect, account and enforce payment of taxes accruable to the Government of the Federation.

It is commonly said that taxation is a contribution individuals and corporate entities make towards national development. Many see this as their obligation under the social contract where they contribute to enable government provide social amenities, welfare services and infrastructural development among others.

It is not in doubt that the FIRS has been up and doing in significantly a n d substantially improving revenue generation a n d collection in the country in the last few years. In return, the country's infrastructural development has steadily improved across the length and breadth of the country.

Since Government cannot provide these resources if citizens do not reciprocate by paying their taxes as at when due as a n obligation, citizens must

assist government to provide it with resources to fund development of the country.

Visible and noticeable key projects government has executed with taxes across education, roads, health, power, agriculture, and other key sectors have dotted the country. Examples abound in the construction of Loko-Oweto Bridge; Second Niger Bridge, construction and

equipping of Primary Health Care Centres, building and equipping schools with the necessary infrastructure among many others.

Records show that TETFUND has disbursed over N2 trillion financed through the 2.5% education tax from the assessable profit of companies operating in Nigeria.

The government needs taxes as sustainable sources of

funding social programmes like health, education, infrastructure and other services which are important to achieve the common goal of a prosperous, functional and orderly society and most importantly to foster the country's economic growth and development.

One can confidently say that governments raise revenues so as to pay for public goods and services. The

commitment of the FIRS leadership in pursuing taxes generation and collection is very encouraging.

Undoubtedly, taxes are key to Nigeria's survival, economic and infrastructural development and FIRS is at the centre of it all is doing the country proud.

Musa Ilallah writes from Emeka Anyaoku Street, Abuja he can be reached via musahk123@yahoo.com



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ADVERT RATES FROM JANUARY 1, 2022

SPACE	COLOUR			BLACK AND WHITE		
	RATE	VAT	TOTAL	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
FULL PAGE	395,176.32	29,638.22	424,814.54	323,433.00	24,257.48	347,690.48
HALF PAGE	248,970.00	18,672.75	267,642.75	203,175.00	15,238.13	218,413.13
QUARTER PAGE	164,670.00	12,350.25	177,020.25	94,724.44	7,104.33	101,828.77
10" x 6 Col	364,320.00	27,324.00	391,644.00	245,005.20	18,375.39	263,380.59
10" x 5 Col	333,960.00	25,047.00	359,007.00	224,588.11	16,844.11	241,432.22
10" x 4 Col	242,880.00	18,216.00	261,096.00	163,336.80	12,250.26	175,587.06
10" x 3 Col	182,160.00	13,662.00	195,822.00	122,502.60	9,187.70	131,690.30
9" x 6 Col	327,888.00	24,591.60	352,479.60	220,504.68	16,537.85	237,042.53
9" x 5 Col	273,240.00	20,493.00	293,733.00	183,753.90	13,781.54	197,535.44
9" x 4 Col	218,592.00	16,394.40	234,986.40	147,003.12	11,025.23	158,028.35
9" x 3 Col	163,944.00	12,295.80	176,239.80	110,252.34	8,268.93	118,521.27
8" x 6 Col	291,456.00	21,859.20	313,315.20	196,004.16	14,700.31	210,704.47
8" x 5 Col	242,880.00	18,216.00	261,096.00	163,336.80	12,250.26	175,587.06
8" x 4 Col	194,304.00	14,572.80	208,876.80	130,669.44	9,800.21	140,469.65
8" x 3 Col	145,728.00	10,929.60	156,657.60	98,002.08	7,350.16	105,352.24
7" x 6 Col	255,024.00	19,126.80	274,150.80	171,503.64	12,862.77	184,366.41
7" x 5 Col	212,520.00	15,939.00	228,459.00	142,919.70	10,718.98	153,638.68
7" x 4 Col	170,016.00	12,751.20	182,767.20	114,335.76	8,575.18	122,910.94
6" x 6 Col	218,592.00	16,394.40	234,986.40	147,003.12	11,025.23	158,028.35
6" x 5 Col	182,160.00	13,662.00	195,822.00	122,502.60	9,187.70	131,690.30
6" x 4 Col	145,728.00	10,929.60	156,657.60	98,002.08	7,350.16	105,352.24
6" x 3 Col	109,296.00	8,197.20	117,493.20	73,501.56	5,512.62	79,014.18
6" x 2 Col	72,864.00	5,464.80	78,328.80	49,001.04	3,675.08	52,676.12
5" x 5 Col	151,800.00	11,385.00	163,185.00	102,085.50	7,656.41	109,741.91
5" x 4 Col	121,440.00	9,108.00	130,548.00	81,668.40	6,125.13	87,793.53
5" x 3 Col	91,080.00	6,831.00	97,911.00	61,251.30	4,593.85	65,845.15
5" x 2 Col	60,720.00	4,554.00	65,274.00	40,834.20	3,062.57	43,896.77
4" x 6 Col	145,728.00	10,929.60	156,657.60	98,002.08	7,350.16	105,352.24
4" x 5 Col	121,440.00	9,108.00	130,548.00	81,668.40	6,125.13	87,793.53
4" x 4 Col	97,152.00	7,286.40	104,438.40	65,334.72	4,900.10	70,234.82
4" x 3 Col	72,864.00	5,464.80	78,328.80	49,001.04	3,675.08	52,676.12
4" x 2 Col	48,576.00	3,643.20	52,219.20	32,667.36	2,450.05	35,117.41
3" x 3 Col	54,648.00	4,098.60	58,746.60	36,750.78	2,756.31	39,507.09
3" x 2 Col	36,432.00	2,732.40	39,164.40	24,500.52	1,837.54	26,338.06
2" x 2 Col	24,288.00	1,821.60	26,109.60	16,333.68	1,225.03	17,558.71
1" x 1 Col	6,072.00	455.40	6,527.40	4,083.42	306.26	4,389.68

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Width	25.4 (CM)	Width	-	10 (Inches)

POLITICAL RATE

SPACE	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
FRONT PAGE MAST HEAD EAR PIECE	461,622.86	34,621.71	496,244.57
FRONT PAGE SOLUS	787,474.29	59,060.57	846,534.86
FRONT PAGE STRIP	787,474.29	59,060.57	846,534.86
BACK PAGE EAR PIECE	420,889.54	31,566.72	452,456.26
FULL PAGE (COLOUR)	465,967.54	34,947.57	500,915.11
FULL PAGE (BLACK AND WHITE)	364,037.14	27,302.79	391,339.93
HALF PAGE (COLOUR)	303,285.71	22,746.43	326,032.14
HALF PAGE (BLACK AND WHITE)	247,500.00	18,562.50	266,062.50
QUARTER PAGE (COLOUR)	203,877.14	15,290.79	219,167.93
QUARTER PAGE (BLACK AND WHITE)	111,692.74	8,376.96	120,069.70

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4	Per 1000 Copies (Magazine above 8 pages)	80,000.00	6,000.00	86,000.00

CLASSIFIEDS

S/NO	POSITION	SIZE	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
1	Registration of Trustees	3" x 2 Cols	6,857.14	514.29	7,371.43
2	Loss of Documents	2" x 2 Cols	4,400.00	330.00	4,730.00
3	Change of Name	Per Box	2,000.00	-	2,000.00

SPECIAL POSITION

SPACE	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
FULL WRAP AROUND	6,750,000.00	506,250.00	7,256,250.00
HALF WRAP AROUND	4,500,000.00	337,500.00	4,837,500.00
PAGE 2 OR 3	400,000.00	30,000.00	430,000.00
PAGE 4 OR 5	375,000.00	28,125.00	403,125.00
PAGE 6 OR 7	325,000.00	24,375.00	349,375.00
FRONT PAGE MAST HEAD EAR PIECE	225,000.00	16,875.00	241,875.00
FRONT PAGE SOLUS	312,500.00	23,437.50	335,937.50
FRONT PAGE STRIP	375,000.00	28,125.00	403,125.00
BACK PAGE EAR PIECE	200,000.00	15,000.00	215,000.00
BACK PAGE STRIP	250,000.00	18,750.00	268,750.00
CENTRE SPREAD (COLOUR)	837,500.00	62,812.50	900,312.50
DOUBLE SPREAD (COLOUR)	700,000.00	52,500.00	752,500.00
CENTRE SPREAD (BLACK & WHITE)	575,000.00	43,125.00	618,125.00
DOUBLE SPREAD (BLACK & WHITE)	550,000.00	41,250.00	591,250.00
FRONT PAGE (10" X 6)	3,250,000.00	243,750.00	3,493,750.00
ROP STRIP (COLOUR)	125,000.00	9,375.00	134,375.00
ROP STRIP (BLACK & WHITE)	85,000.00	6,375.00	91,375.00

PROPERTY AND IT, VACANCY, AGRIC, AND EVENTS/EDUCATION RATE

COLOUR				BLACK AND WHITE		
SPACE	RATE	VAT	TOTAL	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
7 X 3	108,571.43	8,142.86	116,714.29	62,857.14	4,714.29	67,571.43
6 X 3	102,857.14	7,714.29	110,571.43	57,142.86	4,285.71	61,428.57
6 X 2	45,428.57	3,407.14	48,835.71	32,857.14	2,421.43	34,707.14
5 X 3	53,428.57	4,007.14	57,435.71	37,428.57	2,807.14	40,235.71
5 X 2	42,571.43	3,192.86	45,764.29	24,857.14	1,864.29	26,721.43
4 X 3	47,714.29	3,578.57	51,292.86	30,571.43	2,292.86	32,864.29
4 X 2	33,142.86	2,485.71	35,628.57	21,714.29	1,628.57	23,342.86
3 X 3	34,571.43	2,592.86	37,164.29	23,142.86	1,735.71	24,878.57
3 X 2	22,857.14	1,714.29	24,571.43	14,285.71	1,071.43	15,357.14
2 X 2	16,000.00	1,200.00	17,200.00	9,142.86	685.71	9,828.57
2 X 1	7,714.28	578.57	8,292.85	4,975.71	373.18	5,348.89

I Can't Understand Why INEC Hurriedly Announced Result - Atiku

**Says polls grossly flawed, PDP heading to court*

**Describes it as rape on democracy*

**Insists manipulation, fraud that attended election unprecedented*

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Former Vice President and Presidential Candidate of the People's Democratic Party (PDP), in last Saturday's election, Alhaji Atiku Abubakar has criticised the declaration of ruling party, All Progressives Congress (APC) candidate, Senator Bola Ahmed Tinubu winner of the polls, in spite of several flaws pointed out during the collation of results.

Atiku who expressed this while briefing newsmen at a forum where he was supported by several PDP chieftains yesterday, said that he and his party have consulted and would contest the result of the polls.

"I can still not understand why the electoral umpire was in such a hurry to conclude collation and announcement of the result, given the number of complaints of irregularities of bypassing of the BVAS, failure of uploading to the IREV, and unprecedented cancellations and disenfranchisement of millions of voters in breach of the Electoral Act and the commission's own guidelines. It was indeed a rape of democracy.

"Having consulted with leaders of our party and Nigerians from different walks of life, I have come to the conclusion that the processes and outcome of the Presidential and National Assembly election of last Saturday was grossly flawed in every material particular, and as such must be challenged. This has been attested to by both local and international observers. I want to believe that this was not the legacy that President Muhammadu Buhari had promised. For President Buhari, it is not too late to make amends for the good of our country and the future generations and indeed to assure his legacy," he said.

According to him, this battle to right the wrongs of Saturday is not about himself.

"It is a continuation of my battles to deepen democracy and for a better life for our people. It is about the future of Nigerian youths.

"I know that Nigerians, especially the youth, are traumatised by the



Atiku

developments, but I want to urge them to conduct themselves peacefully. Like I have done over the years, I assure you that I will commit the rest of my life in ensuring that true democracy, which affirms the supremacy of your votes and your will, will take firm footing and guarantee a stable, prosperous and peaceful Nigeria. This is more so as Nigeria represents the hope of Africa and the Black World.

"It is my hope that the judiciary will redeem itself this time around and rise to the society's expectation as the last HOPE. In the end, who wins is not as important as the credibility of our elections and electoral processes," he said.

He therefore, called on all men and women of goodwill to join hands with us in the vanguard to defend our constitution from the brigandage of anti-democratic forces.

"Finally I urge Nigerians to remain vigilant and resolute. You have the constitutionally guaranteed right of freedom to choose your leaders. We will not sit idly by and watch your rights taken from you.

"Your voices will be heard," he assured.

Atiku Abubakar, who is the Waziri Adamawa, explained to

Nigerians that it is with a heart full of sadness that he was addressing them.

"I have in the last three decades devoted my life to the battle to birth and deepen democracy in our country.

"It was a battle that started during the military era. It was a struggle that nearly caused me my life and that of my son, Adamu, in Kaduna. I survived the assassination only by the mercies and grace of God.

"Following that attack, I was forced into exile. But that attack claimed the precious lives of some police officers. That was not all: my businesses were nearly crippled and my signature business was eventually appropriated by the maximum ruler of that era. My commitment to enthroning democracy ensured that I joined forces with other compatriots. As a leader of the defunct Social Democratic Party (SDP), we fought and won the 1993 presidential election, which was acclaimed as the fairest and freest election in our history. Sadly, Chief MKO Abiola, who embodied that hope for the birth of a new Nigeria, paid the ultimate price.

"Our fight to enthrone democracy continued. Indeed,

the motivating factor for the birth of the Peoples Democratic Party was to force the exit of the military from government and their permanent return to the military barracks.

"Following the exit of the military and the advent of democratic rule in 1999, I did not rest on my oars. I deployed the same level of commitment to advance and deepen our democracy. I did this because our democracy was bought at a huge price of human lives. My mentor and true Nigerian hero, who this venue in which we are gathered this evening is named for, was one of those who paid the ultimate price in that battle. So, also was Chief Alfred Rewane, Chief MKO Abiola and his dear wife, Chief (Mrs) Kudirat Abiola.

"It was also for this reason that I sacrificed my political aspiration and fought against the actualisation of Third Term. Whether during the military or civilian era, I have, no matter how inconvenient, pitched my tent with the people against dictators. During the military regime, it nearly cost me my life and the near decimation of my businesses. In the civilian administration, it had serious adverse implications on my

political life. But I have remained undaunted because I was, and still convinced, that the only reason why I am in politics is to work in tandem with other compatriots in the advancement of the wellbeing of the people," he said.

According to him, the 2023 presidential election presented Nigeria and its people the greatest opportunity for a reset.

"We had everything going for us: a legal framework in the 2022 Electoral Act and the BVAS technology. The enthusiasm of Nigerians to turn out and in large numbers was an added bonus.

"However, the dreams and aspirations of Nigerians who braced all the challenges to go and cast their votes on Saturday, 25th of February, 2023, were shattered by the conduct of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), which failed to live up to expectations. "The weekend election was neither free nor fair. Preliminary assessments indicate that it is the worst conducted elections since the return to democratic rule. The manipulation and fraud that attended this election was unprecedented in the history of our nation," he stressed.

Atiku: A Tale Of A Unifier And Self-Saboteurs

By; ABDULHALEEM ISHAQRINGIM

The numbers are clear. My preferred candidate, Atiku Abubakar won't be coming anymore, at least not through the polls. But I do not regret resolutely supporting him. While I do not consider him a messiah, I strongly believe he would have performed excellently mainly because of his sense of ideological direction and his manifest preparedness, infrangible resolve and unmatched readiness.

He had plans that were clear, concise and detailed. And those plans constituted solutions to the myriad of challenges we are facing including those threatening the very existence of this country as a unified nation. He has not only been consistent, every failure was considered by him as another opportunity to prepare further, update his plans to cater for our most contemporary needs and come back to reassert his resolve to restore Nigeria's glory.

He could have joined the bandwagon to play the ethnic and religious sentiment game but he never considered it an option. He continued to maintain and reiterate his status as a Nigerian for all Nigerians.

Almost all the politicians that fought him in the guise of advocacy for equity and justice only dealt a heavy blow on not only the 'equity and justice' narrative they were supposedly advancing, but the sinister ethnic jingoistic tendencies they veiled under it as well.

Peter Obi for example, whose candidacy became the final recipe needed to ignite a full blown identity politics campaign in the country knew he could only go as far as securing the states in the SS, SE, one or two states in SW and NC and some fraction of votes from Christian-dominated constituencies of the core North. The numbers were clear even before the elections; he was going to lose the elections.

Wike, who frustrated the single most viable attempt at a

successful southern eastern presidential ticket (which would have assured a predominantly southern presidential race) when Atiku agreed to support the micro-zoning of the PDP presidential ticket to the SE and his cohorts (the disingenuous G-5 Governors) who seem to have exerted same effect on the polity as Peter Obi while staying back in the PDP and disguising themselves as freedom fighters also cost the SE and SS tremendously. Wike ended up working for Asiawaju of the APC and all other members of the G-5 failed.

The irony is, both Peter Obi and Wike (with his cohort) practically enabled Tinubu's soon-to-be-announced victory. And in doing so, they only succeeded in contributing to the potential alienation of the SS and SE from Nigeria's political scheme of affairs, while rendering the zones incapacitated in the quest to secure the nation's presidency for the next 16 years.

Except for a massive disruption of the status quo which I don't envisage at a national scale any time soon, a Tinubu presidency which would likely run for 8 years promises a rotation back to the North as per APC's internal political dynamics. The Northern presidency would then run for another 8 years, making it 16 years of presidential exclusivity to the North and SW. Do not deceive yourself, the



Atiku and Tinubu

religious and ethnic colorations of the factors that influenced Peter Obi's relative prominence and gave him a comparative advantage in this election would be same that would mar his chances in future elections. Hardly would he ever get the chance to command protest votes like he did this time around because of APC's Muslim-Muslim ticket. He is basically done! Who else would then fly the SS or SE flag? And on which platform?

Kwankwaso, whose ticket would mostly continue to feature a SS or SE VP in subsequent elections, also greatly enabled Tinubu's victory. His very obvious egoistic and narcissistic dispositions pushed

him to break away from the PDP and contest the presidency even while knowing that he could only deliver Kano's votes, albeit massively. But like Peter Obi, he can never secure the presidency with votes from Kano only. He also would now be looked upon by the people of the North as a person who cost them the presidency by undermining the chances of Atiku Abubakar. But that's by the way.

The political configuration has been stunted by these people for the foreseeable future, and so has the democratic formation and national cohesion of the country—wounded!

Atiku was on the verge of recalibrating this configuration for the better by offering a

chance for the SE and SS sections of the country to have the chance of producing a president within the next 8 years. He represented the images of both a unifier and potential transformational leader driven by the instincts of an unrepentant reformist. Now that chance seems to have been lost, courtesy of the sons of the SE and SS.

Not that I care, but what next then, especially for SE and SS agitations? Will it continue to be tagged as a consequence of Northern political machinations? If I hear!

Abdulhaleem Ishaq Ringim is a political/policy/public affairs analyst. He writes from Zaria and can be reached via haleemabdul1999@gmail.com

Renewed Hope Has Dawned in Nigeria

By Bola Ahmed Tinubu

My fellow Nigerians,

I AM profoundly humbled that you have elected me to serve as the 16th president of our beloved republic. This is a shining moment in the life of any man and affirmation of our democratic existence. From my heart, I say thank you.

“Now, to you, the young people of this country, I hear you loud and clear. I understand your pains, your yearnings for good governance, a functional economy and a safe nation that protects you and your future.”

Whether you are Batified, Atikulated, Obident, Kwankwasiyya, or have any other political affiliation, you voted for a better, more hopeful nation and I thank you for your participation and dedication to our democracy.

You decided to place your trust in the democratic vision of a Nigeria founded on shared prosperity and one nurtured by the ideals of unity, justice, peace and tolerance. Renewed hope has dawned in Nigeria.

We commend INEC for running a free and fair election. The lapses that did occur were relatively few in number and were immaterial to the final outcome. With each cycle of elections, we steadily perfect this process so vital to our democratic life.

Today, Nigeria stands tall as the giant of Africa. It shines even brighter as the continent's biggest democracy.

I thank all who supported my campaign. From President Buhari who adeptly led my campaign as its chairman, to my vice presidential candidate, Senator Kashim Shettima.

To the progressive governors of our party and this nation, to the party leadership, to our loyal party members, I owe you a debt of gratitude. To the entire campaign organization, I thank you sincerely.

I thank my loving wife and dear family whose support was ceaseless and inspiring. Without you, this victory would not be possible.

“Still, I know some candidates

will be hard put to accept the election results. It is your right to seek legal recourse. What is neither right nor defensible is for anybody to resort to violence. Any challenge to the electoral outcome should be made in a court of law, and not in the streets.”

I am grateful to Almighty God. By His mercy, I was born a son of Nigeria and through His sublime purpose, I find myself the victor of this election. May He grant me the wisdom and courage to lead the nation to the greatness He alone has destined for it.

Finally, I thank the Nigerian people for their abiding belief in our democracy. I shall be a fair leader to all Nigerians. I will be in tune with your aspirations, charge up your energies and harness your talents to deliver a nation that we can be proud of.

To my fellow candidates, former VP Atiku, former Governor Kwankwaso, former Governor Obi and all others, I extend the hand of friendship. This was a competitive, high-spirited campaign. You have my utmost respect.

Political competition must now give way to political conciliation and inclusive governance.

During the election, you may have been my opponent but you were never my enemy. In my heart, you are my brothers.

Still, I know some candidates will be hard put to accept the election results. It is your right to seek legal recourse. What is neither right nor defensible is for anybody to resort to violence. Any challenge to the electoral outcome should be made in a



President-elect Tinubu and former president Jonathan

court of law, and not in the streets.

I also ask my supporters to let peace reign and tensions fade. We ran a principled, peaceful and progressive campaign. The aftermath of our campaign must be as benign.

Yes, there are divisions amongst us that should not exist. Many people are uncertain, angry and hurt; I reach out to every one of you. Let the better aspects of our humanity step forward at this fateful moment. Let us begin to heal and bring calm to our nation.

“My running mate, Vice President-elect Shettima, and I understand the challenges ahead. More importantly, we also understand and deeply value the talent and innate goodness of you, the Nigerian people. We pledge to listen and to do the difficult things, the big deeds, that put us on the path of irreversible progress. Hold us

firmly to account, but please give us a chance first.”

Now, to you, the young people of this country, I hear you loud and clear. I understand your pains, your yearnings for good governance, a functional economy and a safe nation that protects you and your future.

I am aware that for many of you, Nigeria has become a place of abiding challenges limiting your ability to see a bright future for yourselves.

Remodelling our precious national home requires the harmonious efforts of all of us, especially the youth. Working together, we shall move this nation as never before.

My running mate, Vice President-elect Shettima, and I understand the challenges ahead. More importantly, we also understand and deeply value the talent and innate goodness of you, the Nigerian people. We pledge to listen and to do the difficult things, the big

deeds, that put us on the path of irreversible progress. Hold us firmly to account, but please give us a chance first.

Together, we shall build a brighter and more productive society for today, tomorrow and for years to come.

Today, you have given me the greatest honour you can bestow on one man. In return, I will give you my utmost as your next President and Commander-in-Chief. Peace, unity and prosperity shall be the cornerstones of the society we intend to build. When you gaze upon what we shall accomplish in the coming years, you shall speak with pride at being a Nigerian.

I thank you all.

God bless you all.

God bless the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Being the acceptance speech by Bola Ahmed Tinubu, President-Elect of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Our Paths May Differ But Our Destination Is Same, A Greater Nigeria - Dayo Israel, APC National Youth Leader

By: DAYO ISRAEL

Fellow Young Nigerians, the last few months have been tortuous and tumultuous. We experienced one of the most disruptive campaign and election season in the history of our nation. Emotions were heated, brothers were against brothers, sisters against sisters, as we approached the poll due to differences in political reasoning or alignment.

In the midst of it, our nation like never before saw the energy of its youths at its loudest, demanding a Nigeria that works. To each their own, some of us Batist or rather Jagaban "Army"; some Obidient, some Atikulated, and so on and so forth.

While we all belong to different political parties or ideologies, never for once did I doubt that we all want the same thing - a Nigeria that works, a Nigeria fit for children. A Nigeria that helps the potential of our youth to blossom and in which everyone can achieve their potential with the government truly meeting the needs of its people. More Youths need jobs. Farmers require more support and protection. Women want more access to empowerment opportunities, leading to financial independence. Economic growth and opportunities must match the size of our population and the aspirations of the people.

Some young Nigerians have grown cynical and ventured abroad in search of greener pastures. Daily experiences across sectors, including the banking sector, underscore this grim reality. The frustration was taken to the polls and expressed loudly. Emotions became heated because our generation wanted to affect the status quo and herald change.

My Brothers and Sisters, I understand clearly that we have all fought aggressively in this election because we all want to make a decision that will ensure we don't have to run out of Nigeria in the next 4 years. Let me assure you by the Grace of God, that you would not have to,

under a Bola Tinubu Presidency by the Grace of God. Know that while our paths may differ, our destination is the same - A Greater Nigeria.

This election, like others in the past, has tested assumptions and wills. It has strained passion and caused us to debate vigorously. Such is the way of democracy. A contestation of ideas and visions settled ultimately at the polls. We may have disagreed on the road that will take us there, but there is no denying that all Nigerians desire a safe and prosperous country. It is to this shared desire that we must now turn.

I know you want the next 4 years to be better than the last 63 years. I know you want an engaging, humbling, unifying, and impactful leadership. Please believe this, that this is the Leadership President Tinubu will offer you.

Today, Nigerians have spoken. While there have been 4 key voices in this election, the voices of the BATIST have been adjudged the loudest and INEC has declared H.E Bola Ahmed Tinubu the President-Elect of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Although this may understandably not have been the desire of some of you my brothers and sisters on the other side of the divide, it is however time to move on with HOPE.

Bola Tinubu is a prepared man, he is an experienced leader and a pragmatic administrator. He is highly cerebral and very exposed. He knows his onions and commands the respect of a lot of Nigeria, rich and poor. He would hit the ground running on day 1, working for the good of All.

My Millennial and Gen Z brothers/sisters, I call on you all to give our next President the benefit of doubt and all your support. I can assure you that with the help of the Almighty God, he will not disappoint. ASIWAJU is known as a performer, we all, even in the progressive party, are counting on him strongly to turn around the lot of our Nation prayerfully. Regardless of political

affiliation, we count on you to give him your support, knowing that success in his quest to transform the economy of the country and reforge our bond and spirit of togetherness translates to a better Nigeria for all. Remember, Our route may be different but our destination remains the same.

Bola Tinubu has plans and is ready to achieve all of them, but his success will require our patriotism. Everyone must put the country first and commit to responsible actions conducive to peace and growth. This is how we can all thrive and ensure that our democracy, this precious gift given to us by our past heroes, is strengthened.

Finally, I am excited about this victory, it is a victory that must be celebrated, for all the obstacles that we overcame, internal and external. But even as we celebrate, we must remain mindful of the enormous work that lies ahead and display a largeness of spirit by extending a hand of fellowship to our fellow citizens who may have disagreed with our choice. And in that spirit, I tender apologies for any comment that may have been expressed in the heat of the politicking. We are all one people, compatriots and co-labourers in the movement to build a better Nigeria.

My gratitude goes to everyone who made this victory possible. The youths of the party especially the Jagaban Movement, ASIWAJU Airforce and BAT Envoy of the APC National Youth Wing Campaign Council who energetically and courageously preached the Renewed Hope gospel across



Dayo Israel

the Length and breadth of Nigeria, helping to replace the cynicism of their generation with hope and positive anticipation of the future. Party men and women who organized and mobilized; leaders who stood to be counted at crucial hours, acting with integrity and faith in the preservation of our bond and shared destiny as a nation. It is to you all that we owe this great victory.

I must also thank the Obidients, who put us on our toes, challenging us at every turn, and whom we will embrace with our policies and programs, carrying you all along. Asiwaju will not disappoint you. As the saying goes, what doesn't kill us makes us stronger. Adversity and opposition is a "tester of our strength", challenge accepted. I thank my Zonal and State Youth Leaders, as well as Youth stakeholders of our party. All my team members who worked with me and travelled the 36 States of this nation with me in the last few months, sometimes by road

in the dead of the night, just for this cause. History will be kind to you.

I thank my National Chairman and the NWC for their hard work, you are good people. I congratulate Nigeria for another peaceful transfer of power, 24 years after we exchanged the shackles of tyranny and dictatorship for the empowering and ennobling freedom of democracy.

Mummy, Madam First Lady, Senator Oluremi Tinubu, I Pray for strength for you in this new assignment. More Grace Ma. To the president-elect - Akanbi omo Olodo ide, this is your time, this is your moment. May you succeed and may Nigeria blossom under your leadership. Our eyes are on you, and our hope is in You.

Let's get to work.

Dayo Israel is the National Youth Leader, All Progressives Congress and Wing Marshall, APC National Youth Wing.

Police Officer Kills Lover, Commits Suicide Over Alleged Sour Relationship

***Police Confirms incident, says investigation ongoing**

By ; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos & BILQIS OLAJUMOKE ONAOLAPO, Ilorin

An estranged relationship has resulted in a murderous act as a police Sergeant shot and killed his girlfriend and also killed himself.

The sad incident, according to report, occurred on Thursday, 2nd March 2023 at about 8.05am at Chapel of Redemption Agba Dam

Housing Estate, Ilorin, Kwara State.

The berserk cop was later identified as Sergeant Olalere Michael, with Force number F/NO497093, attached to attached to Police Mobile Force (PMF) 15, Ilorin.

The Police Public Relations Officer Kwara State Command, SP Okasanmi Ajayi, who confirmed the incident in a release said the corpses were recovered and deposited at the University of Ilorin

Teaching Hospital, where the bodies were certified dead.

It reads, "At about 08:05 hours of March 2, 2023, information reached the command that a man in police uniform later identified by his uniform and name tag as F/NO 497093. Sergeant Olalere Michael "M," later known to be attached to 15 PMF, Ilorin went to Chapel of Redemption Agba Dam housing estate in Ilorin and shot and

killed a yet-to-be-identified lady, then shot himself in the head and died

"Immediately after the information got to the command, the Commissioner of Police for Kwara State, CP Paul Odama, psc+, dispatched a team of policemen and detectives to the scene, where the corpses were recovered and deposited at the University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital, where

the bodies were certified dead

"The command wishes to state clearly that the deadly incident was an aftermath of love gone sour and that it has nothing to do with police brutality.

"Meanwhile, investigation of this unfortunate incident is in progress, and the report of the investigation will be made public as soon as it is ready".



Remains of the late girlfriend in a pool of blood, allegedly killed by her cop boyfriend



The deceased police officer after allegedly committing suicide

Unite, Kick APC Out Of Kaduna, DP Urges Electorate

***Insists presidential elections nationally unacceptable, did not meet democratic requirements**

***Says PDP is home to all**

***Hints party will "challenge these rape on democracy"**

By: USMAN NASIDI,
Kaduna

Kaduna State People's Democratic Party (PDP), has expressed satisfaction over the peaceful elections conducted on the February 25, 2023 and applauded the efforts being put in place by citizens of the electorate to ensure PDP returns power back to power in the state. Speaking during a press briefing held on Wednesday in Kaduna, the PDP State Chairman, Hon. Hassan Hyat thanked the people for coming out to vote en-masses during the presidential, Senate and National Assembly general elections. Hyat added that the confidence and efforts of Kaduna people was clearly demonstrated through the outcome of the elections, saying "for the first time in the history of the country, PDP clinched all the three (3) Senatorial seats and ten (10) out of the sixteen (16) House of Representatives members in the state. According to him, in 2019

general elections, the state PDP produced the highest number of votes for the presidential candidate, the Wazirin Adamawa, Alhaji Atiku Abubakar and now has also produced same for him during the 2023 presidential polls. He said, "it is the people of Kaduna State that have demonstrated their love and confidence in the party and we appreciate it, because we do not take that for granted and we want to assure them more is expected as we approach the 11th of March where we'll go to the polls again to elect the governor and State House of Assembly members.

Furthermore, the PDP State Chairman once again, appealed to the people of Kaduna State to finally come out and say goodbye to the "retrogressive regime" of APC in the state for them to be confined in the dustbin of history. "In doing that, I want to call on all other parties that participated in the last Saturday elections to come up and joined hands with



PDP Chairman Kaduna State fielding questions from newsmen

PDP for the sake of Kaduna State and the people of the state, while I assure them that PDP is home to all and we should all secure the government of PDP

for the people and for the progress of Kaduna state. "Also, I want to appeal that, the outcome of the presidential elections which is very

unacceptable did not meet the democratic requirements of any modern democracy, so it should not be a reason why people shouldn't come out to vote again, because we'll support our presidential candidate and the party leadership at the highest level in any decisions it will take to challenge these rape on democracy.

"We want to make it very clear to all that Nigeria belongs to us all and that must talk about the votes must count that became the mantra of even the umpire, in which the INEC has not demonstrated and it is a shame, so we therefore, call on lovers of democracy to rise up to the challenge and ensure that justice, equity and fairness are done.

"Once more, the people of Kaduna State, I thank you more sincerely for your faith in the PDP, and I assure you that your confidence is not misplaced and that by the grace of God, Kaduna State will rise again and become a centre of attraction for the people of the State and for all Nigerians.

Guber Polls: PDP On Course For Victory - Kaduna South Reps Elect

***Hails constituents for massively electing him *Says he would be fair to all**

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

While praying for a peaceful conduct of the Gubernatorial and State House of Assembly in the state on March 11, the Member Elect for Kaduna South in the House of Representatives, Hon. Hussaini Abdulkarim Ahmed (Mai Kero) is optimistic of victory of his, the People's Democratic Party (PDP), under which platform he was elected.

Mai Kero expressed this in a thank you message he personally signed and made available to our correspondent on Thursday March 2, 2023 in Kaduna.

"I pray for peace and hitch free conduct of the forthcoming State elections, which by the grace of God, our great party, The PDP is on course to victory," he said.

Mai Kero saluted the courage of Kaduna South constituents, over 2023 election victory, while assuring that he would be fair to

all.

"Let me on behalf of my immediate family, exco and members of our great party, the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) use this medium, to express our profound gratitude and salute the courage, patience, enthusiasm and commitment exhibited during the just concluded National Elections by the powerful Kaduna South Constituents.

"By the special grace of God, you marked a new milestone on Saturday 25th February, 2023 when you voted for me massively as the first PDP member to represent Kaduna South Federal Constituency at the National Assembly, since the return of Democracy in 1999.

"I dedicate my victory at the polls to God and the good people of Kaduna South Federal Constituency, who irrespective of your commitments, challenges, gave me your mandates and as well stood by me until I was

declared winner, I promise to be fair to all.

"I urge you to join hands with me to move Kaduna South Federal Constituency to a greater heights, as I pledged to do my very best to impact the lives of our constituents, this can only be achieved with your maximum support, advice and above all prayers, in order to achieve the desired positive change.

"Let me also call on the people of Kaduna South Federal Constituency to bury their differences and vote massively for the candidates of Peoples Democratic Party in the forthcoming State elections for human, capital and political developments to strive, peace, unity, prosperity in our dear Kaduna State.

"I also want to thank various ethnic, religious and interest groups, the security agencies



Mai Kero

from Kaduna South Federal Constituency that worked tirelessly in providing an enabling environment for the election to hold peacefully, this victory is not for me alone but all and sundry," he said.