

**Leave  
Sheikh Jingir  
Out Of Your  
Mischief,  
NASS Member  
Tells Sen Jang**

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**Timi Frank Condemns British High Commissioners' Call On Nigerians To Be Proud Of Presidential Election**

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**Calls For Sack Of EFCC Boss Satanic, Wicked -Northern Group**

## Councilor, Two Others Feared Killed In APC, PDP Clash In Ibadan

**\*Others injured, vehicles, motorcycles destroyed**

By: BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

With few hours to the governorship election, three persons are feared dead yesterday, following a bloody clash between members of the All Progressives Congress (APC) and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) at Ile-Tuntun area of Ibadan South East Local

Government of Oyo State. New Nigerian gathered that the bloody clash also left no fewer than 10 people sustaining varying degrees of injuries, while motorcycles, and vehicles were damaged by suspected political thugs. It was learnt that the clash erupted when members of the APC were holding meeting at the party office at Iyana Court, Ile-tuntun,

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**Ogun Guber Polls: 10 Political Parties, 20 Deregistered Others, Adopt NNPP Candidate** *Page 4*

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Oyo State Commissioner of Police, CP Adebowale Williams reading Joint Security agencies communiqué ahead of Saturday's gubernatorial election, yesterday in Ibadan.

# Ebonyi Govt Lauds Electorate For Supporting APC

*\*Says posterity will honour Sen. Anyim, others for standing on equity*

By; MKPUMA ENYINNA, Abakaliki

Following the outcome of last month's presidential election in Ebonyi State, Governor David Umahi has appreciated Ebonyians for the overwhelming support witnessed in the state, saying that posterity will honour people like Sen. Anyim Pius Amyim, Sylvanus Ogiji Ngele, among other prominent Ebonyians for their contributions and position to ensure equity, justice and fairness, especially in the rotation of power in the state.

The Commissioner for Information and State Orientation, Barr. Uchenna Orji expressed this during a press conference at the APC party office in Abakaliki, capital of Ebonyi State.

According to him, the election was one of the most peaceful conducted in recent times, stating that despite skirmishes of some opposition political parties, the will of the people was expressed through the ballot.

"Despite the skirmishes of some opposition political parties which exposed their desperation

during the last election, the will of the people was expressed through the ballots. We thank the APC family and indeed the good people of Ebonyi State for keeping faith with the ideals of APC and the leadership of our dear governor who has continued to make the State proud in innovative leadership. We congratulate the APC family and indeed the good people of Ebonyi State for the landslide victory recorded by APC in the National Assembly elections which saw the emergence of 100% APC in the Red Chambers and overwhelming majority of APC in the Green Chambers.

"We are glad to note the enthusiasm of stakeholders of opposition political parties in the state who have seen reasons to support the candidature of Rt. Hon Francis Ogbonna Nwifuru. Honestly, since after the first election, it has been either massive political alignment in favour of APC or mass defection to APC or open support for the Governorship Candidate of APC by the bigwigs of opposition political parties including Labour



Party, PDP, APGA etc.

"History will be kind to prominent leaders of opposition political parties in the state, including Sen. Anyim Pius Anyim GCON, Sen. Sylvanus Nguji Ngele, Sen. Obinna Ogba, Amb. Lawrence Nwuruku, Sir Arch Edward Nkwegu, Hon Peter Ede, Engr. Livinus Makwe, Hon. Anayo Edwin Nwonu, Chief Boniface Ofoke, Hon Sylvester Ogbaga and many others too

numerous to mention, for upholding the Divine Mandate zoning arrangement for the Governorship seat, which is equitably the turn of Ebonyi North, Izzi in particular.

"Their stand for truth, justice and good conscience and their decision to support the candidature of Rt. Hon. Francis Ogbonna Nwifuru is a record that shall be honoured by posterity." he said.

# NTI Trains 148 Teachers On Digital Literacy

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

National Teachers' Institute (NTI), Kaduna, has trained 148 teachers on Leadership and Digital Literacy across the six geo-political zones of the country.

Speaking at an event to mark the commencement of the training workshop, Director General Professor Musa Garba Maitafsir

said the advancement in technology has led to an era, where learning through the internet becomes possible.

He said digital literacy is

concerned with the development of teachers' capacity to know when and how to use digital technology to access, process, evaluate, create, and communicate information in the 21st century.

He explained further that the Institute will continue to partner with the relevant stakeholders to provide Nigerians with necessary skills needed to improve their job and professional line to enhance technological teaching and learning.

He called on relevant stakeholders in education to incorporate the basic

elements of digital literacy in primary school curriculum and implemented, accordingly.

He decried that despite the enormous potential of information Communications Technology ICT and digital literacy in educational institutions in the country, particularly at the primary level, are yet to take advantages of its numerous benefits.

He said further that the primary education system in Nigeria is the foundation on which other levels of education are built.

He said the workshop is designed to monitor, coach skills of the tools for effective administration and the capacity of the school heads to use relevant communication tools to support school administration and build skills of school administrators for effective service delivery. According to Prof. Maitafsir, other objectives are, to strengthen the capacity of the school for effective school management and education delivery, guide, and counsel skills of school heads for enhanced delivery of counseling services.

## Fresh Online Survey Tips Binani In Adamawa Guber Polls

By; DAHIRU SANI

A fresh online survey has again, projected Sen Aishatu Dahiru Ahmed Binani as the possible winner of Saturday's governorship election in Adamawa State.

Binani who is the lone female candidate in the contest, is set to upset the power of incumbency in an election which promises to be a game changer in the political history of the state.

The All Progressives Congress (APC) flagbearer is projected to emerge winner of the male dominated contest with a wide margin.

The election of Binani as the first governorship candidate of a major political party in Adamawa has brought in new political dynamics, forcing the governor to fire his deputy and appoint a female university don, Professor Kelatapwa Farauta as his running mate.

The governorship candidate in another feat of exceptional popularity, drew large organic crowd in all the places she visited during her campaign across the 21 local government areas of the state.

Such exuberant display of love for Binani who carved a niche for herself in philanthropy and leadership excellence, became the hallmark of her grilling campaign, making the governor to adopt new and drastic measures to contain her swelling popularity, including proscription of NGOs in the state.

An outcome of a six month online survey compiled by the Internet and IT professionals of Nigeria (IITN) placed Binani as the winner of the polls with an overwhelming margin of 65%, while Fintiri emerged the first runner up with 25% as other political parties coasted home with 10%.

In conducting the poll, IITN employed the services of independent and seasoned data analysts, with indepth knowledge of online resources to obtain data on the preferences of the electorate.

The organization also used a two way web platform to ensure the security, integrity and safety of the data collected.

The survey was also conducted in major languages of Adamawa including English, Hausa and Fulfulde to enhance comprehension and understanding of the content of the questionnaires.

Over 150,000 questionnaires were sent to the various respondents out of which 98,000 responses were obtained.

The summary of the polls favoured Binani who scored a total of 63,700 while Fintiri trailed at a distant 24,500 while other political parties got 9,800.

Leader of the IITN team who conducted the polls, Mr. Vincent Olu noted that all the major statistical online sampling tools to ensure the spread of the polls including Google maps were deployed to ensure the potency and precision of the results.

Olu noted that the outcome of the survey is indicative of the fact that a clear winner will emerge at the first polls, adding that the election will not stretch to rerun which happened in 2019.



Binani

# Timi Frank Condemns British High Commissioners' Call On Nigerians To Be Proud Of Presidential Election

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

**A** former Deputy National Publicity Secretary of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Comrade Timi Frank, on Thursday, condemned in strong terms a statement credited to the outgoing British High Commissioner to Nigeria, Catriona Laing, about the recent presidential and National Assembly democratic election in the country.

Laing was recently quoted in media reports to have called on Nigerians to be proud of the 2023 general election despite a observed setbacks.

Frank in a statement in Abuja, called on Laing to urgently apologize to Nigerian for apparently putting her stamp of authority on an election that has been adjudged fraudulent and having not been conducted in line with due process of law but with the selfish whims and caprices of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

He called on Nigerians to reject the call in its entirety, because it came from somebody who incidentally is not concerned about their welfare.

Frank said, "Our attention has been drawn to a tendentious statement credited to the outgoing UK High Commissioner to Nigeria, Catriona Laing to the effect that "despite setbacks", Nigerians should be "proud" of the recent Presidential and National Assembly elections.

"This statement coming from the representatives of the British Government in Nigeria could be described as an insult upon injury.

"We have waited for her to deny or dissociate herself from the media report that quoted her to have said Nigerians should be proud of an election where their wish was thwarted by INEC.

"But up till now, no such rejoinder has been published in the media nor the website of the UK High Commission in



Timi Frank

Nigeria.

"Nigerians have been robbed and you are telling us to be proud. The outcome of the election continues to make Nigerians bitter and angry because their mandate was stolen.. What aspects of the election does she wants Nigerians to be proud of?"

"It appears that Laing is unaware that most local and international election observers including her counterpart in the U.S. and even Chatham House (a UK body) identified massive irregularities during the elections and faulted INEC.

"The Commission on its part admitted that it did not adhere to the Electoral Act 2022 and its own guidelines during the conduct of the elections. Yet she asks Nigerians to be proud of such a sham.

"A US Senator has called on the

American President not congratulate the President-elect because of the highly compromised election process. Yet she says Nigerians should be proud.

"We dare say that it is because of appointees like Laing that UK has not been getting real facts about the true situation in Nigeria.

"Her comment during the visit to Lawan is a complete diplomatic fiasco bordering on total deviation from her brief as a diplomat.

"We call on her to immediately apologize to Nigerians over the highly unprofessional, undiplomatic and unfortunate remarks credited to her in the media."

Frank who is the United Liberation Movement for West Papua (ULMWP), Ambassador to East Africa and Middle East,

insisted that Laing and officials like her are among those who encourage corruption in Nigeria by helping corrupt elements to warehouse their ill-gotten wealth in the UK to the benefit of the UK's economy.

He said, "In the first place, her farewell visit to Lawan was not only misplaced but shows her condescension and support for illegality.

"This is a man who never contested the APC Senatorial primary election but was illegally awarded a ticket by the courts to return to the 10th Senate.

"Yet, Laing who has been in Nigeria and is abreast with all these issues of illegalities surrounding Lawan chose him as one of those deserving of her farewell visit.

"It is most unfortunate that Britain appears to condone and

allow proceeds of crime from Nigeria to be invested in buying properties in their country but yet they will turn around to say Nigerians are corrupt.

"They are not afraid to enter the UK but scared to go to the US because they know their stand concerning proceeds of corrupt.

"America is stopping corrupt elements and cancelling their VISAs. Let the UK show a list of Nigerians looters they have banned from their country.

"Let them stop encouraging corruption in Nigeria or telling Nigerians to be proud of an election that has been adjudged fraudulent by both local and international observers.

"UK as a former colonial masters of Nigeria should allow Nigerians to develop at its own pace rather than telling them to accept what cannot be accepted in their own country."

***"This statement coming from the representatives of the British Government in Nigeria could be described as an insult upon injury. "We have waited for her to deny or dissociate herself from the media report that quoted her to have said Nigerians should be proud of an election where their wish was thwarted by INEC. "But up till now, no such rejoinder has been published in the media nor the website of the UK High Commission in Nigeria. "***

# Councilor, Two Others Feared Killed In APC, PDP Clash In Ibadan

\*Others injured, vehicles, motorcycles destroyed

Ibadan. According to an eye witness, midway to the meeting, vehicles suspected to be conveying PDP members said to be passing by allegedly provoked members of the APC at the meeting by allegedly throwing objects at them.

Our Correspondent gathered that this resulted into shootings as suspected political thugs took over the situation

amidst sporadic shootings and throwing of dangerous weapons

In the clash, a Councilor representing Ward 10, Ibadan South East Local Government Area, Sulaiman Ariyibi was shot dead with two others feared killed.

It was learnt that the dead bodies have been evacuated to a morgue, and those injured currently receiving medical attention.

Oyo State PDP Publicity Secretary, Engr. Akeem Olatunji in his account, said that the campaign train of the PDP was attacked by sponsored thugs of one of the leading opposition parties in the state

According to Engr Olatunji, suspected thugs of one of the leading opposition parties attacked the PDP campaign train at Ile Tuntun and killed Ariyibi, a councilor representing

ward 10, Ibadan South East local government, adding scores of our supporters including Hon Agboworin escaped death by whiskers.

Oyo State Police Command Public Relations Officer (PPRO), SP Adewale Osifeso however, said "the case is under investigation as we speak, further update as regards the clash will be communicated accordingly".

## 2023 Guber Polls: Southern Kaduna Labour Party Members Vow To Support PDP Gubernatorial Candidate

By; AMOS TAUNA, Kaduna

A group under the auspices of a coalition for Labour Party, Southern Kaduna Youth Forum (SOKAYYUF) and Southern Kaduna PDP Youth Supporters have agreed to work for the victory of the candidature of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), gubernatorial candidate, Isa Ashiru in the March 18 elections. "We are now aware of our strength and political sagacity. Despite the little time, the party has suddenly grown from infancy to adulthood." Audu explained that after a thorough analysis of the February 25th, 2023, presidential election results, they have reached the resolution that if they replicate their voting pattern of the just concluded presidential and National Assembly elections, the danger is, they are definitely going to split their votes and pave way for the continuous stay in office of the ruling APC.

"A party that we want to unanimously retire from power for its anti-people policies and cruelty, it was important to take into account that, LP and the PDP share the same political DNA, which will make it easier to align our interests and powers to dislodge the ruling APC that brought untold hardship to Kaduna citizens irrespective of any religion ethnicity, party or any difference,"

he explained.

He added that their coming together is rooted in the realism that they are stronger together if in deed, they want to take over power from the ruling party, stressing that the opposition parties must aggregate its interests to be able to achieve that goal so as to enthrone an inclusive leadership that will secure and unite the state for the general good of the people.

He explained that they have perceived the danger of going to the Saturday, March 18, 2023 gubernatorial election in Kaduna state as separate entities, saying that supporting the Labour party gubernatorial candidate would amount to dividing their votes to the advantage of the APC which will embolden its chances of extending its reign in power and by extension continues with its cruel and inhuman policies.

"In view of the aforementioned, we hereby aligned with the PDP candidate, Isah Ashiru/John Ayuba candidature which is inclusive and stands the best chance to win the 2023 gubernatorial election because of his capacity, popular and general acceptability across the state; having won the three Senate seats and 10 House of Reps seats out of 16, with the APC securing just four seats," he explained.

## Ogun Guber Polls: 10 Political Parties, 20 Deregistered Others, Adopt. NNPP Candidate

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

With few hours to the governorship polls, Ten political parties and 20 deregistered parties in Ogun State yesterday, endorsed and adopted the New Nigerian People's Party (NNPP) governorship candidate in Ogun state, Ambassador Olufemi Ajadi Oguntoyinbo.

The 10 political parties namely African Democratic Congress (ADC), Labour Party (LP), African Action Congress (AAC), Action Alliance (AA), Allied Peoples Movement (APM) and Social Democratic Party (SDP). National Rescue Movement (NRM), All People's Party (APP), Action Democratic Party (ADP), Boot Party (BP), Atiku Support Group among others, also withdrew from the race in Ogun State and formed

alliance with the NNPP. Announcing the adoption at ONTEC Event Centre, Abeokuta, spokespersons for the 10 political parties Olowo John Bolaji, Sokeye Oluwalogbo, Sonde Rasaq, Amusa Sefiu, Bolaji Sunday said their decision is "to rescue Ogun state".

The spokespersons lamented that the four years of Gov Dapo Abiodun administration has rolled back the achievements of past governments and returned Ogun state to the locust years, saying, "the state has stagnated for many years hands of previous administrations in the state and we must not squander this opportunity that democracy has given us".

"We believe that to right these wrongs, there is need for us to form a virile coalition with a party that can dislodge this administration that has shown itself to be lacking

in development. That is why, after many meetings with major stakeholders even outside of our party, we arrived at Amb Olufemi Ajadi Oguntoyinbo of New Nigerian People's Party (NNPP)", they said

The spokespersons added, "Our decision is not based on anything than the development of our dear state. He has the record. He is not someone who would promise what he won't do. He is as straight as that. All these said, we like to enjoin all of us to go out en mass and vote for him.

"In the last 46 months, governance has become something else in Ogun state. To save us, we are calling on everybody that have attain the voting age that on Saturday, March 18, 2023, we will make a decision that will determine the trajectory of our State for the next four years and more'.

They stressed, "It is not a decision to make lightly based on ethnic, partisan and religious sentiment. It is not a decision to make based on assumptions or emotions", adding, "this is your opportunity to place the power back in the hands of the people by choosing a candidate who is competent with the capacity, compassion, character and track record that shows resolute leadership to work for the good of our State".

Speaking after his adoption, the NNPP gubernatorial candidate in Ogun state, Ambassador Oguntoyinbo lauded the leadership and members of the parties that adopted him for believe in his competency, ability and capacity to move Ogun state forward.

He pledged to transform Ogun State for better and promised not to let the people of the state down.

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***"A party that we want to unanimously retire from power for its anti-people policies and cruelty, it was important to take into account that, LP and the PDP share the same political DNA, which will make it easier to align our interests and powers to dislodge the ruling APC that brought untold hardship to Kaduna citizens irrespective of any religion ethnicity, party or any difference,"***

## Calls For Sack Of EFCC Boss Satanic, Wicked - Northern Group

By ; PETER NOSAKHARE, Kaduna

Concerned Northern Forum (CNF) has described the call for the sack of the Chairman, Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) Mr. Abdulrasheed Bawa by some civil society groups as satanic, wicked and lacks human understanding.

Making this remarks at Arewa House, Kaduna, yesterday in his statement, Chairman of CNF, Alhaji Aliyu Sani said that as the only chairman of the commission to have risen from the ranks, Mr. Bawa was the most qualified chairman the commission has had since its inception and wondered why some are calling for his sack and impartial and neutral he has discharged his duties since assumption of office. "Mr. Bawa has not in any way influenced arrests of accused persons or allowed himself to be used as an agent of torture to opposition parties. So for some wicked Nigerians to



be calling for his removal is uncalled for".

According to him, Mr. Bawa has discharged his duties according to the ethnics of the commission and as a trained professional and as such followed the tenets of the administration of President Buhari's fight against corruption. "He has followed the fight against corruption and as

most Nigerians have clamored for youth participation in governance in the past, he qualifies as representative of youths in governance," he added.

It would be recalled that on Tuesday, March 14, 2023, some Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) had in Abuja called for the sack of the EFCC Boss claiming corruption, partiality and high handedness as reasons.

Alhaji Sani urged Nigerians to support the EFCC Boss as the CNF passes a vote of confidence on him and thanked Mr. President for his appointment.

"The CNF passes a vote of confidence on Mr. Bawa and uses this medium to appreciate and thank Mr. President for his appointment," he concluded.

## Leave Sheikh Jingir Out Of Your Mischief, NASS Member Tells Sen Jang

By ; BUHARI B. BELLO, Jos

Member Representing, Jos North/Bassa Federal Constituency, Honourable Muhammad Adam Alkali has described as unpalatable, the recent statement credited to a former Governor of Plateau State, Jonah David Jang, where he was said to have castigated Islamic scholar, Sheikh Sani Yahaya Jingir, alleging that he has been, "causing crisis in Plateau State, simply because he firmly stands to protect the rights of his people.

A statement signed by the member of the National Assembly, said, "it is rather unfortunate, that Jonah Jang, made the serious allegations, which was not only untrue, but also unproven.

He explained that Sheikh Jingir, whose religious

belief, has bestowed on him the burden of leading people unto the right path, would not delve into creating crisis, contrary to Jang's statement, just in order to score undeserved political goals.

"The irony of Jang's, unguarded utterances is that he sees nothing wrong with the unholy but hugely instigating utterances of his demigod, Pastor Isa El-Buba, against our revered Islamic leaders, which is capable of causing serious crisis.

"It is instructive to note, that bad polices of the likes of Jonah Jang and some of his cohorts, makes the entire Muslims on the Plateau, despite our huge population, since inception of this 4th Republic, of being politically sidelined. We are not being given the right to be deputy governor, secretary to the Government of the State,

Chief of Staff, and even commissioners. We are not given first grade ministries, such as works, finance and others, hence the formation of the Council of Ulama, which has been guiding our people on whom to vote," he said.

He explained that listening to Jang's outburst, one could clearly, understand that he is still nursing the pains of losing his selfish bid at imposing an anointed Governorship candidate, far back in 2015, "whereas, the Council of Ulama, under the co-chairmanship of Sheikh Sani Yayaya Jingir, guided the Muslims to vote for Governor Simon Lalong. All in search of peace and prosperity."

According to him, Jang, should know that Sheikh Jingir, has never sought any favour, rather than good governance, driven on fairness, equity and

justice, from Governor Simon Lalong and his led administration.

"Again, it should be noted that Sheikh Sani Yahaya Jingir, being the chairman of the Council of Ulama, is not single mindedly, giving guidance, but it is the collective or majority decision of the council members that he always projects, as such, the decision to now vote for the APC candidate in the forthcoming March 18th, 2023, Governorship election, as the next Governor of Plateau State, isn't exceptional.

"Mr. Jang should know and clearly understand that, Sheikh Jingir, is so revered, within and outside Plateau State, beyond demonization, and we shall not just watch the likes of Jang, to castigate or demonise him," he said He admonished Jonah Jang, to avoid false allegations against Sheikh Jingir.

## 4 Die, 6 Receiving Treatment From Contaminated Food In Katsina

By ; SULAIMAN AHMED MISAU, KATSINA.

No fewer than four people have died while additional six others critically receiving medical attention after taken contaminated food items in Bakori town of Bakori local government area of Katsina state.

New Nigerian gathered that, the incidence happened on Sunday night when families of ten eat a traditional meal and shortly after became seriously ill and rushed to

hospital.

Three out of the ten died on Monday while additional one died this Tuesday morning at Funtua General Hospital. A visit to the hospital revealed that the victims are under medical care. When Contacted the Director of Health in Bakori local government, Alhaji Mansir Garba confirmed the incidence and said the sample of the poisonous food eaten by the victims has been taken to Katsina for further investigation.

## Guber Polls: INEC Distributes Sensitive Materials In Katsina

By ; SULAIMAN AHMED MISAU, Katsina

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) in Katsina State has distributed all sensitive materials for the conduct of Governorship and State Houses of Assembly elections.

The sensitive materials include Ballot papers and result sheets to be use on eighteen March this Saturday during the elections.

The Resident Electoral Commissioner of INEC in Katsina State Professor Yahaya Ibrahim Makarfi disclosed this to newsmen during the distribution of the materials at Central Bank of Nigeria, Katsina State Branch in Katsina Metropolis

Professor Yahaya Makarfi said the materials started in good tune to enable it reach Local Government INEC offices across the State.

The Resident Electoral Commissioner added that the materials will be investigated by INEC officials and agents of various political parties to ensure there is no any shortages.

With regard to late arrival of election materials in some places, the REC assured that there would be no delay this time.

When contacted the State commissioner of education who was also representing APC Alhaji Badamasi Lawal and Sanusi Ali representing PDP expressed satisfaction over the distribution of the sensitive election materials.

# Maiduguri Market: Zulum lauds pace of reconstruction works

## *\*Says donations well documented*

By; SADIQ ABUBAKAR, Maiduguri

**B**orno State Governor, Babagana Umara Zulum, has expressed satisfaction with the progress of ongoing rehabilitation works at the Maiduguri Monday market which was engulfed by fire on Sunday, February 26, 2023.

Zulum made this known on Tuesday, when he paid an assessment visit to the market, the repairs of which is being accelerated to hasten return of trading activities.

The governor was received and

conducted round the market by the Monday Market Committee chairman, Engr Zarami Dungus.

“I am satisfied with the level of work done. This committee is doing a very great job and we have to support you. Most importantly we should beef up the security here to ensure the absolute safety of people's property”, Zulum said.

Governor Zulum had in response to the fire disaster, approved the release of N2 billion with one billion meant as emergency palliative to victims and another one billion naira for the start of

reconstruction of the market. The governor supervised the commencement of work last week.

Meanwhile, Governor Babagana Zulum explained that donations so far received in respect to the Maiduguri Monday Market fire incident have been properly documented and urged mischief makers to stop spreading misleading information on the social media.

Giving the breakdown, Zulum said, a donation of N300m was made by the Zenith Bank Ltd, N100m each by the Vice

President-Elect, Kashim Shettima, the Yobe State Government, All Progressive Congress (APC) and the Chairman of the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND), Alhaji Kashim Imam.

Others, he said, are the donation of N50m by Martix Nigeria Ltd, N20m by Al-Ansar Foundation and N10m by the Senator representing Southern Borno, Mohammed Ali Ndume.

“I heard some information going round on social media, we have to be very careful. Some people

are posting ghost donations which we know nothing about. There was even a social media report that one person has donated N500m, but we did not receive such an amount, people should take note of that”, the governor said.

“At least after every two weeks, the committee as the custodian of the special account meant for the market fire incident should inform the public of the amount of money received”, Zulum noted.



# Kaduna Electric MD Calls For Effective Framework To Ensure Settlement Of Military Electricity Bills



By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The Managing Director/ CEO, Kaduna Electric, Engr. Yusuf Usman Yahaya has disclosed that the unpaid electricity bills owed Electricity Distribution Companies across the country by the Military constitutes significant portion of total debt of DISCOs, a development he said is adversely affecting their operations.

Engr. Yusuf Usman Yahaya made the remark today in Kaduna when he received participants of Course 7, 2023 of the Army War College of Nigeria.

While acknowledging the fact that progress has been made in reconciling the indebtedness of the military as at 2021, Engr. Yusuf called for institutionalization of a framework that will clearly spell out who or which department of government does what

and provides for sustainable mechanism that will ensure that electricity bills of military are paid as at when due.

He appreciated the contributions of the military in containing the internal security challenges in the country and especially in the Company's operational jurisdiction and assured the visiting participants of the Army War College of the unwavering commitment of Kaduna Electric and its staff to supporting the service men in discharging the all important task of securing the country and its people.

"Kaduna Electric is the largest DISCO in terms of wide operational jurisdiction; we have our assets and network covering hundreds of kilometers across the four North-West states of Kaduna, Kebbi, Sokoto and Zamfara. Quite a large expanse of our franchise is bedeviled with menace of banditry and arm

insurrection. Indeed, we would not have been able to discharge our duties and responsibilities in some of these areas but for the support of the military. We thank you most sincerely for your service to our nation and Kaduna Electric in particular", the electricity boss said.

Engr. Yusuf Usman Yahaya also disclosed that Kaduna Electric is making investment in technology so as to automate some of its operation for greater productivity and improvement in service delivery.

Earlier in his address, the leader of the team, Brigadier General U. G. Yusuf stated that the Course 7, 2023 participants are on study tour to Kaduna State and part of their mandate is to undertake extensive study of current security arrangements for critical power infrastructure and how effective collaboration between actors in the security

architecture and the electricity value chain will enhance the security of such critical national power assets.

He commended the Management of Kaduna Electric for accepting to share knowledge, experience and other valuable information with the participants and assured that the knowledge gained will be put to good use in improving security of not only Kaduna Electric's infrastructure but the nation's security in general.

He revealed that the participants are drawn from the three services of the Nigerian Military and that of some neighbouring countries.

High point of the visit was presentation on the operation of Kaduna Electric, knowledge sharing session and study tour of power supply installations within Kaduna metropolis.

## Lagos Guber Race: Senator Shehu Sani Urges Electorate to Vote Sanwo-Olu

*\*Says PDP, Labour Candidates Lack Experience*

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Head of the Saturday Governorship elections across Nigeria, the former Senator representing Kaduna Central Senatorial District, Senator Shehu Sani has backed the re-election bid of the All Progressives Congress (APC), candidate and current Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-olu.

According to him, though the recent presidential election results reveal the overt threats from the Labour Party in Lagos State, it's time the voters in the State shun all forms of sentiments and considered experience; capacity and ability to work and deliver on campaign promises.

He also said in a cosmopolitan State such as Lagos, people shouldn't vote along line of sentiments, especially when Sanwo-Olu is a working clock and working machine, who has consolidated on the good works of all his predecessors.

Senator Shehu Sani, who stated this in an interview with some journalists on

his view about the forthcoming March 18 gubernatorial elections across Nigeria said in his views that, "Stopping Sanwo-olu is stopping the wheel of progress."

Fielding question on why as a PDP member, he decided to support Sanwo-Olu of APC for Lagos Governor instead the PDP candidate, the former Lawmaker said, "It's true that I am a member of the People's Democratic Party, but from the PDP's performance during the Presidential election in Lagos, it obvious that the battle is between APC and Labour Party. For me, the leadership record of Sanwo-olu is inspiring. I'm not from Lagos, but Lagosians should vote for him.

On attacks on Igbos and their Properties, Sani said, "Lagos is not a no man's land, but it's wrong to attack the Igbos. They are there, because they believe in one Nigeria. The constitution guarantees every citizen the right to live anywhere.

"I don't know about the Labour candidate but it appears he is a man of honour and with great ideas. The challenge he poses is good for democracy."



Sanwo-Olu

# All Will Be Well, YPP Guber Candidate Assures Akwa Ibom Workers

By; PATRICK TITUS, Uyo

One of the frontline governorship candidates in March 18 elections, Senator Bassey Albert Akpan of the Young Progressives Party (YPP), has assured the workers in Akwa Ibom State of improved welfare, timely promotion and prompt payment of gratuities to their retired former colleagues.

At a consultative meeting with the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) and the Trade Union Congress (TUC) yesterday in Uyo, Akpan popularly known as OBA, said his government will bring an end to the days of neglected working conditions, unpaid pensions and gratuities; non-promotions and lack of regular training for civil servants.

While acknowledging the prevalence of hunger and poverty in the land, OBA promised to reintroduce the 13th month salary payment, enjoyed when he was the Commissioner for Finance under Governor

Godswill Akpabio's era.

"I am here to tell the workers that all shall be well. The welfare of workers is key in our Positive Impact Agenda", he said, promising to restore the lost glory of the working class in the state.

To ensure effective and proper implementation of issues concerning the workers, the Senator promised to appoint a commissioner from among them.

He also promised to expand the state secretariat to accommodate all government offices to reduce government expenditure on longer rents.

The Senator also pledged to ensure massive and steady generation of power to cover the entire secretariat, so workers can operate in comfort for higher productivity.

OBA reasoned that effective implementation of the free and compulsory education in the state will further increase the welfare of the workers, as the burden of payment of school

fees will be taken off them.

He promised to bring back the days of free, compulsory and effective education, once enjoyed in the state, with payment of subventions to heads of schools; regretting a situation some pupils study on the floor as witnessed in trending pictures of a school in Four Towns, Uyo.

While charging the workers to vote for YPP on March 18, 2023, OBA said: "I present myself to you as the best alternative...support me for YPP to win and your life will never be the same again".

He expressed the belief that God kept him to face the challenges of today so Akwa Ibom people can experience a better tomorrow, adding that no prize is too high for him to pay for the freedom of his people.

"The choices we make today will determine what will become of the welfare of the workers tomorrow", OBA said, assuring them

of frequent training and retraining for improved manpower.

His mandate, he added, hinges on the premise of 3Rs - to recover, reconcile and reposition Akwa Ibom for future greatness; submitting that "the latter reign shall be greater than the former".

Earlier, the chairman of TUC Comrade Dominic Abang, while welcoming the Senator, had expressed happiness that he could eventually consult them, despite his tight schedules.

Similarly, the chairman of NLC, Comrade Sunny James, commended OBA for his keen interest in the welfare of the workers and urged him to ensure full implementation of his lofty plans for them.

He later presented a Charter of Demand to OBA, urging him to ensure that the workers are carried along the in-coming government.





# Timi Frank To Presidency, Others: Wike Playing Dangerous Politics, Call Him To Order

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

**A** former Deputy National Publicity Secretary of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Comrade Timi Frank, on Monday, called on the Presidency, the leaders of thought across the country and the security agencies to urgently call the Governor of Rivers State, Nyesom Wike, to order to prevent him from igniting political crisis between the Northern and the Southern regions of the country.

The political activist said Governor Wike is presently playing dangerous politics that if not quickly checked, could worsen already bad situation as far as the recent conduct of presidential election is concerned.

In a statement released in Abuja on Monday, Frank said Wike's recent doublespeak in public statements on Peter Obi has shown that the Labour Party presidential candidate was not genuinely in the race to win the presidency but was used by forces known to Wike to play a spoilers game against the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and the North from winning the presidency.

Wike, who reportedly said Obi was his hero of the just concluded presidential election, openly worked and delivered Rivers State for the presidential candidate of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu during the election.

According to Frank, Peter Obi was good for a spoiling role but not for Presidency as portrayed by Wike's statements.

The former APC spokesman accused Wike of celebrating a fraudulent and controversial presidential election victory as if the South has just defeated the North, hence the need to call him to order.

Frank said: "I am using this medium to call on the Presidency, religious leaders, all the elders and leaders of thought, and the security agencies to call Governor Wike to order before he ignites a political crisis between the North and the South, even as most Nigerians are still bitter about the outcome of the Presidential election which has been adjudged to be massively rigged.

"It's on record that since Wike lost his presidential bid to former Vice President Atiku Abubakar who is more experienced

than him, the bitter Rivers state governor had put on the garment of hate against the North while hiding under the toga of Southern presidency.

"If truly Wike meant what he said in public that Peter Obi is his hero of the last Presidential election, he should have campaigned and openly supported him but to the contrary, acting like a Chameleon, Wike mobilised support for Bola Tinubu of the APC.

"Governor Wike is celebrating a fraudulent and illegal victory not only against Alhaji Atiku Abubakar or the PDP but against the North as if the South has defeated the North which is dangerous for our fragile democracy."

Frank who is the United Liberation Movement for West Papua (ULMWP), Ambassador to East Africa and Middle East, added: "Governor Wike has also confirmed the rigging of the controversial



presidential election by saying that they had agreement before the election that anywhere Tinubu of APC comes first, Peter Obi of LP should come second and vis-versa.

"I, however, call on the North to hold Wike and his likes responsible who conspired to manipulate the controversial presidential election against the PDP presidential candidate," he said.

# Why I Pay Taxes - Dambatta

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

**¶** As a villager, I loathed paying taxes, or what they called revenue, in our weekly open air market," said Maitabo, the livestock trader who is now an industrialist in the big city where he established factories that turned out a basket of consumer goods, including polished rice.

He said he spent the first 40 years of his life in his native village without electricity. There was no smooth, all-season motorable road to his village either. The only school in the district was in Alkarya, the district headquarters of his Karkara collection of hamlets, tiny villages, and homesteads.

Maitabo said he previously viewed paying the community tax and cattle tax to the local leaders as an unnecessary dishing money out to big men who dress nicely, ride bicycles, even motor cycles and build cemented houses with roofs made of shiny corrugated iron sheets.

However, as his livestock trade expanded and the necessity for Maitabo to hire articulated trailers to convey his wares from the big livestock markets where he buys them in hundreds to far-flung consumption centres of Kano, Ibadan, Warri, Abuja, Benin, Uyo, Yenagoa, Port Harcourt and Okigwe near Umuahia, he appreciated that the wide, smooth and tarred highways plied by the trailers were important facilitators for his flourishing lucrative trade.

He also realised that the trailers

conveying his livestock travel through thick forests where security personnel were stationed to protect travellers from marauders. The trailers were driven on bridges built by the government to cross both big rivers and streams: the days of using risky ferries to cross the rivers were over.

As an industrialist who graduated from livestock trade and living in a rural Nigeria 50 years ago, he is now face to face with the importance and benefits of paying taxes. And he no longer loathes paying taxes as he did previously. He nowadays encourages other business owners and everyone who will listen to him to pay taxes as and when due.

His favourite justification for his willingness to pay taxes was the improvement he noticed to the wellbeing of people in his village during a visit. The authorities have provided a laterite road linking his village to other towns; a windmill that draws potable water from a deep well for his community; a dispensary that meets the health care needs of a cluster of villages including his home village, and the most wonderful of all, the electricity that was wired to the village by the Rural Electrification Authority.

Maitabo will tell his listeners that it was long after he enjoyed various government services that it dawned on him that the livestock tax he paid and the flat tax paid by all male adults in his village, contributed to the pool of money spent in

providing those services in his and other neighbouring villages.

Now as a dweller in a city, the owner of manufacturing plants and a fleet of trailers that bring raw materials to his factories and evacuate manufactured goods from there, he realises that the constant electricity supplied to his factories and the smooth roads used by his articulated trucks were emplaced by government using the very taxes he previously loathed to pay.

He now discourages tax evasion; shun false tax entries and avoids quarrels with tax officials. Maitabo believes as the World Bank does in a Subnational Studies on ease of doing business that, taxpayers and businesses are interested in what they get for their taxes: quality infrastructure including good roads, reliable railway network, functional aviation facilities, efficient sea ports, continuous supply of electricity and telecommunication connectivity, which are all vital for the sound functioning of an economy.

A healthy workforce enhances economic competitiveness and productivity.

This makes governments invests in the provision of health services. Government also spends on imparting relevant skills to improve the efficiency of workers. It provides tertiary education facilities such as the 37 Federal Polytechnics, 43 Federal Universities and 27 Federal Colleges of Education where top-level human capital is nurtured to support the economy through technical innovations.

Maitabo often explains to his listeners that although the government in Nigeria charges excise, import and export duties and collects petroleum profit tax to raise revenue to finance the operations of the security forces namely the Nigeria Police Force, the Department of State Services, the Nigerian Army, Navy, Air Force, and the Civil Defense, he noted that the bread and tea millions of Nigerians buy daily, complete with fried eggs and the meals they enjoy in countless eateries and open air restaurants, including the peppersoup, are not taxed by the government.

Maitabo is always at his best telling people who listen to him why he pays taxes. He points out that revenues from taxes are used to compensate public servants who provide essential services as ambulance drivers, fire fighters, nurses in healthcare centres and air traffic controllers who contribute to safe aviation in the country.

He narrates correctly that Nigerians who travel anywhere by road, sea and air, inevitably drive on government-provided roads, use safe sea lanes cleared by the country's maritime authority and fly out or land at beautiful airports built by government--using money from taxes.

Maitabo admits that he benefits immensely from the services provided by the government which it pays for with money generated through taxation, and wished that those services continue to improve sustainably, often saying, "That is why I pay taxes."



# COMMUNITY FOCUS

## Dialogue: Community Peace Stakeholders Advocate Justice, Peace, Prosperity In Borno

By; SADIQ ABUBAKAR, Maiduguri

Allamin Foundation for Peace and Development in collaboration with UKaid has organized a town hall forum titled, "Community Peace and Security as activity From Insurgency to stability, towards strengthening community- level peace and security dialogue" to mobilize Borno State stakeholders to develop traditional justice and reconciliation policy recommendations in the North East of Nigeria.

The community stakeholders who converged on Gongolon village of Jere Local Government Area of Borno State for a one-day discussion and dialogue meeting on Tuesday at the Village Head's palace, called on government as a matter of importance, to provide educational opportunities, facilities and structure for the out of school children, orphans, the physically challenged persons and drop outs affected by the over a decade Boko Haram insurgency.

The stakeholders also advocated for the establishment of women and youth skills acquisition and vocational training centers to address idleness among the youth and women in the community.

It was also resolved at the dialogue meeting that government and relevant authorities including NGIs and wealthy individuals should endeavour to empower youths and women through organized and well established policies and operational guideline.

The facilitator and coordinator of the dialogue, Barrister Muhammad Umara who is also the Head, Legal Team of Allamin Foundation for Peace and

Development explained that the stakeholders further suggested that special prayers, forgiveness, fear of God, honesty, transparency, sincerity, confidence and trust building as well as reconciliation should be the watchdog of residents in every strata of the society, while discipline, respect to constituted authorities, cultural heritage and pointing out suspicious elements among the people.

The community leaders also suggested for improvement on the security measures on ground, while calling for additional and wider security patrol and surveillance searchlights across all the nooks and crannies of the community, while calling on women as mothers of the society to be more watchful and monitor their children at home.

Some were of the view that prayers, tolerance, forgiveness and understanding among residents and other stakeholders should be adopted and harmonized in the overall interest of the people of the community as means of discouraging acceleration of crime, drug addiction, prostitution, hooliganism, possession of weapons, arms and ammunition.

While others were of the opinion that child education or girl child education should be prioritized and monitored in the society, while womenfolk should be encouraged to send their children to school to acquire knowledge and discipline.

The DPO, Jere Divisional Police Station,



SP Audu Isa as one of the community stakeholders, emphasized that special attention should be given to the IDPs that are still in some designated camps, while residents of communities should be accorded similar, if not better care, livelihood support and assistance as accorded to the Boko Haram repentant. Similarly, the District Head of Khaddamari, Jere LGC, Alhaji Baba Abba Hassan also elaborated on trust and confidence building, while calling on his subjects to embrace peace, dialogue, fear of God, honesty, unity, peaceful co-

existence and cordial relationship, as well as harmonious relationship with one another irrespective of origin, trade, profession, religion, tribe, political affiliation among others.

Other stakeholders who are leaders of various groups, clubs, associations, unions, agencies, authorities, business community, farmers, technocrats, civil servants, religious bodies, ethnic, teachers, security agents, CJTF, the blind and physically challenged, youth, etc also made various inclusive contributions and suggestions amongst others.



## Guber/Assembly Elections: Pentecostal Bishops Caution Clerics Against Inciting Sermons, Hate Speech



By: ISAAC ODEH,  
Kaduna

**A**head of the Saturday 18th March, 2023 Governorship and States Houses of Assembly elections in Nigeria, the Pentecostal Bishops Forum (PBF) had cautioned clerics both of the Christian and Islamic faiths to be mindful of their sermons, utterances and hate speeches to avoid inciting their followers and others.

Chairman of the forum, Kaduna State Chapter, Bishop Ademola I. Tinuoye who made the call in an interview with newsmen on the forthcoming elections, also called on the good people of Kaduna State to come out en mass on the 18th March to vote/elect their leaders without sentiment. He admonished that competence and inclusiveness which he said is better than gang up and conspiracy should be the yardstick for who to vote for regardless of party, religion or ethnicity.

"Christian and Muslim leaders must stop issuing statements that could create chaotic tension and over heat the polity, their speeches or sermons must be such that

will calm nerves and promote peaceful and religious coexistence.

"While we appreciate the outgoing administration in Kaduna State under the leadership of Malam Nasir el-Rufai for infrastructural development in the state, we appeal to them that they should complete the ongoing projects especially those in the southern part of the state capital. Doing this will change some narratives".

On the current naira notes and fuel challenges, Bishop Tinuoye urged the citizens to endure the challenges, saying it will soon be over, adding that it should not discouraged them from coming out to exercise their franchise.

He frowned at the renewed attacks on some communities of Zangon Kataf of Southern Kaduna and called on government and security agencies to rise up to the situation before it escalates beyond what it is now.

"We pray for peace in the troubled Southern Kaduna and any other area in Nigeria. May the peace of God reign supreme and expose those behind the attacks" he prayed.



## IWD: Bridge Gender Gap In Access To Technology For Development, AWON Tasks Stakeholders



AWON members at the Press conference

By: BAYO AKAMO,  
Ibadan

**T**he Association of Women Orientation for sustainable development in Nigeria (AWON) on Tuesday, tasked the government and other stakeholders to bridge the gender gap in access to technology for even development.

AWON President, Comrade Adekemi Akintade while speaking at press conference to herald its event to celebrate the 2023 International Women Day disclosed that Nigeria as a whole has more to gain in many aspects if more women and girls are aided and supported to have equal access in the areas of information technology and development. Speaking on the theme for the years commemoration "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality", Comrade Akintade emphasized that gender equity is important because it ensures that everyone has an equal chance to succeed regardless of their gender

such as employment opportunities, health care and other resources as well as protection from discrimination, harassment and violence. "It also promotes social and economic development by enabling women and marginalised group to fully participate in their skills and talents to the workforce. This can lead to increased in productivity and economic growth", she said.

Comrade Akintade added, 'Today, throughout the world, our lives depends in technological integration in the areas of lives and our economy starting from healthcare, calling loved ones (communication), making a bank transaction, transportation, business transaction (trading) among women'.

"Everything today goes through a digital process. Meanwhile, majority of the women do not have access to internet, especially in the grassroot and in the rural areas. Despite the fact that that they account for nearly

half of the population of the world, few that have access do not feel safe online.

"Thus unable to develop necessary digital skills thereby reduce the opportunities of our girls and women to pursue careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) related field. By 2050, 75 percent of jobs will be centred on STEM."

Comrade Akintade stressed further that to achieve gender equity in technological development and innovation, government and other stakeholders must address certain barriers facing access to education and training.

"Encouraging girls and women to pursue STEM education and careers through mentorship, training programme and scholarship. Provide support, resources for women and girls (youths and adolescent) entrepreneurs include access to funding, network opportunities and mentorship. Promote and

create a conducive environment in workplace for women.

The AWON President listed others as "Create policies and initiatives that promote work life balance and flexible work arrangements, which can support women participation in the technological work force. Promote diverse hiring practices toces that is inclusive and welcoming to women and under-represented groups. Create more literacy centres in the communities for women and out of school drop-out.

"Create ICT centres in the communities both urban and rural areas to encourage and stimulate children and women participation", she said.

Others speakers including the Vice President, Mrs Omobola Thompson; Mrs Christianah Asimolowo harped on the need to bridge the gap to aid gender equality so that women can thrive in their various fields.

## 15,000 Security Personnel Deployed For Oyo Guber, Assembly Polls

*CP Williams says security agencies fully ready for Saturday elections.*

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

Oyo State Commissioner of Police, CP Adebowale Williams has hinted that no fewer than 15,000 security personnels are to be deployed by security agencies in the state for the Saturday Governorship and House of Assembly elections

CP Williams who dropped this hint while reading a communique issued at the end of strategic meeting of Heads of Security agencies and Paramilitary organizations in Oyo state said security agencies in the state are fully ready for the election.

According to the Commissioner of Police "more pre-emptive measures towards the protection of lives and property have been emplaced towards the overall success of the Saturday's elections and that residents in the state "shall witness a complete overhaul of the present security architecture to accommodate more inclusive measures effective this moment".

"On behalf of the Oyo State Heads of

Security Agencies I want to applaud your support and cooperation so far. We equally appreciate your inspiring commendations and appraisals which for us means more commitments towards the protection of democratic values in the state", he said..

CP Williams added "anchoring on the above, we Heads of Security Agencies and Paramilitary Organizations, wish to intimate residents that more pre-emptive measures towards the protection of lives and property have been emplaced towards the overall success of the Saturday's elections".

"Residents shall witness a complete overhaul of the present security architecture to accommodate more inclusive measures effective this moment.

These would include but not limited to; "joint visibility patrols and raids of black spots", "coordinated intelligence" surveillance and "close monitoring of habitual criminals".

CP Williams stressed "also, included in the

new security schedule is the involvement of cyber-forensic experts to handle cyber-related offences especially circulation of fake and unverified news in other to heat up the polity as violators would be sanctioned in accordance with the provisions of sec 24(1)(b) of the Cybercrime, Prohibition, Prevention Act of 2015."

He maintained that "similarly, in a bid to secure a safe and conducive environment for electorates in the interest of Public Order and Safety, the extant ban on the following remains in force; VIP escorts, accompanying their principals to polling units. Use of sirens and revolving lights by unauthorized persons. Tinted glasses and covered number plates, and Vehicular restrictions from 12:01hrs (12:01AM Election Day) till 1800hrs (6:00pm) of same. i.e Saturday 18/03/2023".

CP Williams also said "vendors of food, alcohol and other consumables shall not be allowed to operate around polling

units/ wards as no opportunity shall be created for points of negotiation to aid vote buying" and that "going armed is a criminal offence and would be viewed seriously on election day".

Advising residents in the state against placing physical objects such as bricks, wooden materials or stones on streets and major roads under the guise of recreation as it might debar immediate intervention during times of distress", CP Williams asked parents, guardians and leaders wielding degrees of influence in the society "to prevail on their children, wards, protégés against being used as expendable objects of disruption in Saturday's Gubernatorial & House of Assembly Elections as stiff sanctions await all violators in accordance with all relevant laws".

"In furtherance of the above, it is advised that post-election celebrations should be done in moderation, devoid of inciting utterances and provocative gestures that could lead to an eventual breach of peace".



Picture from the meeting

## LP Guber Aspirant Dumps Party, Endorses Sanwo-Olu's Re-election

By; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

Dozens of members of the Labour Party (LP) led by a former governorship aspirant, Moshood Salvador, yesterday, endorsed the APC gubernatorial standard-bearer Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu for the Saturday March 18, 2023

governorship election.

The endorsement was made during a meeting held in Surulere Local Government area of the state.

The internal crisis rocking the party, which started as a child play, further degenerated less than 48 hours to the 2023 governorship election with the leaders

abandoning the LP flagbearer, Gbadebo Rhodes-Vivour.

They said that their decision to endorse Sanwo-Olu over their party's authentic governorship candidate was due to the ill-treatment they received from Rhodes-Vivour who was handed.

## Again, Terrorists Kill 10, Injure Others In Southern Kaduna

By; Amos Tauna, Kaduna

A renewed attack in Langson Community in Atyap Chiefdom, Zangon Kataf Local Government Area of Kaduna State by terrorists has claimed the lives of ten, with many others sustaining various degrees of injuries.

The attackers said to be in their large numbers, according to a source who spoke to New Nigerian, invaded the community around 9pm on Wednesday, shooting sporadically, and also looting a shop in the area, before they were repelled by the Mopol.

He further explained that those who sustained injuries have been taken to a hospital for treatment.

Following the renewed attacks on Atyap land by the suspected militias,

the Atyap Community Development Association (ACDA), has passed a vote of no confidence on a section of the security operatives deployed to the area to protect lives and property.

Dr. Sam Achie, the ACDA National President, who made the revelation at the scene of attack, lamented the silence of government to the attacks in the area and its inability to take proactive measures to bring the ugly situation to an end.

He said, "I urge the government to match words with action by arresting the perpetrators since the government know them and where they are."

The ACDA National President also thanked the Mopol in Langson community who where

said to have repelled the attackers and appealed to them to keep on with the good works of defending the territorial integrity of the country for peace to reign.

He also called on the people to continue to remain on alert to protect their communities and properties against the oppressors who are bent on taking over their ancestral land, saying, "We have to protect our ancestral land because we have no any other place to go to."

Mr. Francis Sani Zimbo, the Zango Kataf Local Government Council chairman, while confirming the attack, appealed to government to deploy more security to Zango the local government area to arrest the recurring attacks on innocent lives and property in the area.

**"anchoring on the above, we Heads of Security Agencies and Paramilitary Organizations, wish to intimate residents that more pre-emptive measures towards the protection of lives and property have been emplaced towards the overall success of the Saturday's elections".**

# Lagos 2023: South East Groups, Concerned Lagosians, Endorse LP's Gbadebo Rhodes-Vivour For Governor

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Coalition of South East groups and Indigenous Lagosians galvanised through the full support of the South East Revival Group (SERG), under the aegis of the Concerned True Igbo Stakeholders, Indigenous Lagosians and Non-indigenes in Lagos State on Wednesday, endorsed the governorship candidate of the Labour Party, Gbadebo Rhodes-Vivour ahead of the March 18 election in the state.

Alongside some civil society organisations in Lagos State, the mega endorsement took place during a restricted media briefing in Lagos State by the President and National Coordinator, South East Revival Group (SERG), Chief Willy Ezugwu.

The groups urged Igbos, other Non-indigenes, indigenous Lagosians and all residents of the state to come out en masse and vote for the candidates of their choice on Saturday, saying that they are "aware that a few compromised Igbo leaders, including some in Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos State, have collected money against their conscience to sway the votes or look the other way while the election is rigged.

"This is the time to let them know that not all Lagosians are for sale! Money won't change anything! How much can compensate for another four years of bad governance and destruction of properties?" in the state.

The full text of the press briefing reads:

Gentlemen of the press,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

You are all warmly welcome to this all-important press conference on the current political reality in Lagos State, where the Igbos have been singled out by some tribal bigots for attack and all manner of threats to dissociate true Igbos in Lagos from a self-seeking position of some ill-advised faceless persons who recently took a stand on behalf of Ndigbo with regards to the Saturday's gubernatorial and state assembly elections.

Specifically, it became very imperative to rightly place one Peter Claver Oparah and two others who took it upon themselves to arrogate to themselves as the mouthpiece of Igbos in Lagos.

According to the group of three, they claimed that Igbos living in Lagos, made up of traditional rulers, market leaders, market women, youths, civil society organizations, town unions and other categories of Igbo population in Lagos State, purportedly endorsed and pledged support to the incumbent Governor of Lagos, His Excellency, Babajide Sanwo-Olu in his re-election bid.

The group went on to claim that their support for the governorship candidate of the All Progressives Congress (APC) was "anchored on his performance, competence, cordial relationship with Igbos and his grand vision for Lagos, which has greatly favoured Igbos in the last four years."

The question is: Where has the Governor been since Igbos are being targeted for attacks, including setting their wares and properties on fire in markets in Lagos?

The Governor, whom they claimed to

have had a cordial relationship with the Igbos in Lagos, is yet to arrest and show any form of diligence in prosecuting persons who attacked non-Yorubas, particularly Ndigbo, during the Labour Party presidential campaign rally in Lagos State. The group naively went on to argue that "Lagos is neither an Igbo State nor a non-man's land, as some provocatively state."

The question is: Is there any Igbo

contesting in the forthcoming governorship election in Lagos State? Was there at any time that Igbo took arms against the Yorubas to dislodge them in Lagos?

The group ended up fanning the embers of tribalism and sowed a seed of discord between the Igbos and the Yorubas who have been living harmoniously over the years.

The cordial relationship between the Yorubas and the Igbos led to intermarriages, with several sons and daughters of such unions dotting every segment of the Yoruba and Igbo communities.

We emphatically state that Igbos and Yorubas are not at war over the forthcoming governorship election.

Having established that fact, we wish to state categorically that Igbo living in Lagos State have been taxpayers and have continued to contribute to the economic well-being of Lagos State due to their ingenuity and business mindedness.

Therefore, the continued profiling of Igbo people, and other non-Yorubas, living in Lagos State is unacceptable. This political gimmick of an obviously sinking administration of Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu will come back to hunt every Lagos resident in years to come.

Right now, the post-election safety of Igbos and all other non-Yorubas living in Lagos State is worrisome due to the current unwarranted politically motivated attacks on Igbos in Lagos State.

We then call on all Lagosians, especially the Igbos, to vote their conscience. We're aware that a few compromised Igbo



leaders, including some in Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos State, have collected money against their conscience to sway the votes or look the other way while the election is rigged. This is the time to let them know that not all Lagosians are for sale! Money won't change anything! How much can compensate for another four years of bad governance and destruction of properties.

For the avoidance of doubts, the issues that will determine whether or not the incumbent Governor returns are:

1. Assurance to the non-Yoruba residents of Lagos State that their lives and property will be guaranteed after the election.
2. Persuading Yorubas resident in Lagos, who have been dying in silence since 1999 when Alhaji Bola Ahmed Tinubu took over Lagos State and turned it and all that are therein, into a personal estate.
3. Getting the buy-in of true Lagosians, whose ancestral lineage are traceable to Lagos parents to support the incumbent Governor.

Among the three categories of Lagos State residents, the born-Lagosians are the most wounded and most troubled since Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu took over Lagos State from them and denied them every opportunity to emerge as Governor of the state as most anointed candidates for the governorship of Lagos State were not Lagosians with traceable ancestors in the state.

Clearly, these are the three categories of Lagos residents who have opted to support the Labour Party (LP) governorship candidate, Gbadebo Rhodes-Vivour in the forthcoming coming Lagos State elections.

We commend leaders of other opposition

political parties, including Elder Bode George, whose efforts in the struggle for good governance in Lagos State has remained glaringly unquestionable.

And for the fact that the incumbent has not demonstrated enough political will to protect the non-Yoruba residents of Lagos State, we therefore call on all Igbos and other non-Yorubas in the state to voter en masse for the Labour Party governorship candidate and all other candidates of the party in the state House of Assembly election on Saturday. This is the only way to guarantee that a Governor who will protect them from the ongoing attacks and arson against Igbos and other non-indigenes.

We commend President Muhammadu Buhari for the level of security during the presidential and National Assembly elections on February 25, which created enabling environment for Nigerians to troop out to cast their ballots without fear or favours.

Therefore, for the safety of the non-Yoruba voters, including the Hausa communities in Lagos State, the gubernatorial election on Saturday requires special attention in terms of adequate security in view of the attacks against voters on February 25 presidential and National Assembly elections.

Long Live Lagos State!

Long Live Federal Republic of Nigeria!!  
Signed: Chief Willy Ezugwu, President and National Coordinator, South East Revival Group (SERG), on behalf of the Concerned True Igbo Stakeholders, Non-indigenes And Civil Society Organisations in Lagos State. March 15, 2023.

# Emir Of Zazzau Wants More Universities Established To Meet Demands

- \*Commissions HRH Nuhu Bamali Health Faculty at Greenfield University
- \*Says Greenfield Pro Chancellor should be emulated
- \*Describes pro Chancellor as nationalist



By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

While commending the management of Greenfield University Kaduna for providing quality facility at its city campus in Kudenda, the Emir of Zazzau, Ambassador Ahmed Nuhu Bamali has stressed the need for more investment in the education sector through establishment of more universities.

Emir of Zazzau expressed this in his remarks at the Greenfield University City Campus in Kudenda on Wednesday March 15, 2023 after commissioning Ahmad Nuhu Bamali Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, named after him.

"Four universities in Kaduna metropolis and the mother of all, we have ABU in Zaria. I cannot say we have enough, but with the population in Kaduna, it is not enough to cater for demands. With Greenfield in Kaduna metropolis, more students will gain, from what we have seen, you have most of the required faculties.

"Congratulations for your resilience to terror

attack at your main campus along Kaduna-Abuja Highway. I believe in a couple of years, we should be seeing the university as a leader of private universities in the North. Our doors are always open, it is a technology driven university, keep it up. We look forward to collaborating better so that the school can get to the next level. Congratulations," he said.

The Emir who is the Chancellor of Greenfield University Kaduna, used the opportunity to commiserate with the university over the monumental loss of some students during bandits attack on the main campus of the university.

"Secondly let me take this opportunity to thank the board for making me the Chancellor, I am honoured.

"Let me also thank the Pro Chancellor and his wife for doing a lot to contribute to education in our community.

"Let me also congratulate the university for being the first private in Kaduna State," he said.

Emir Bamali said that he was there to see for

himself, the environment and ways the Emirate can contribute in making it more conducive.

"I am so delighted that the university has adjusted and gotten over the attack, they have more students than before.

"The investment and infrastructure in the university is fantastic. I am so happy with this campus because it is in centre of town and more accessible than the one along Kaduna-Abuja highway. Lot of investment done at the main campus, but we are very happy that this campus is safe and secure.

"I have seen quality teaching staff and with what I have seen here, this university should become one of leading private universities in the country," he added.

He thanked the host community of the school as well as the pro Chancellor for investing wisely.

"This is what we call nationalism. That's the beauty of Nigeria, diversity is displayed here. Others should take a cue. Please keep it up and we thank you immensely for this investment

to humanity," he charged.

In his remarks earlier, Founder and pro Chancellor Greenfield University, Engineer Simon Ifediora Nwakacha said that it is like a dream come true, having the Emir visit the institution.

"Today is a special day in the life of Greenfield University. This is the first time the Chancellor is visiting Greenfield since we appointed him. It is also the first time he is visiting the City Campus since the unfortunate incident.

"There is something also important today is the setting up of a faculty which we are naming after the Emir," he said.

Dr. David Obiorah, member BoT in a vote of thanks, said that the visit of the Emir is an encouragement and would spur them to become one of the best private universities, not only in North, but Nigeria.

Chancellor Greenfield University, Entourage of Emir included, members of council and district heads



# Anti-corruption CSOs, Constitutional Lawyers Petition Buhari, Demand Probe Of EFCC Under Bawa

**\*Allege 'Bawa's modus operandi causing serious concerns among Commission's officials'**

**\*Ask President to direct IGP to effect his immediate arrest**

**\*Uncover EFCC's plan to sponsor launch of 'attack organisation' against perceived enemies**

By; ADO ADEBOYE, Akure

**S**cores of Anti-corruption Organisations and constitutional lawyers in Nigeria, yesterday, submitted a petition to President Muhammadu Buhari, protesting what they described as brazen disobedience of court orders by the Chairman of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), Abdulrasheed Bawa; alleged reckless politicisation of the Commission under his watch and his continued stay in office, in spite of a court order committing him to prison for contempt.

In a press statement signed by Spokesperson for the over 130 CSOs, including more than 20 Constitutional lawyers, Olufemi Lawson, the activists disclosed that they had also submitted a copy of the petition to the Inspector-General of Police.

This, according to them, is "to intimate the Police authorities that a convict cannot be allowed to be walking freely without being reined in as ordered by the Courts."

They called on President Buhari to immediately suspend Bawa to restore confidence in the capacity of the commission to truly fight financial crime; direct the IGP to effect his arrest in line with a court order; and commission an enquiry into the workings of the EFCC, its present engagements and happenings within the agency. The activists said, being anti-corruption crusaders themselves, they could not stand by while the EFCC boss allegedly makes a mess of Nigeria's anti-corruption agency, noting specifically that his modus operandi in the Commission was reportedly "causing serious concerns and disgust among the top hierarchy of the Commission."

In the petition, a copy of which was made available to the press, the activists stated, "It is on the basis of the continued perpetration of illegality in the EFCC, that we promptly alerted the Nation to it, issuing a 7-day ultimatum to the Inspector-General of Police to effect Bawa's arrest and make him face justice.

"It is worrisome that weeks after we issued this ultimatum, Bawa is still walking free, continuing the perpetration of illegality that



has become the identity of the EFCC."

They listed the alleged unruly activities of the EFCC under Bawa to include "arrests without valid warrants, detention of suspects beyond the duration allowed by the courts, seizure of properties belonging to suspected persons before any such declaration by a court of competent jurisdiction, rascally handling of suspicions of financial crime that appear like witch-hunting, and brazen disobedience of court orders, among others."

"Aside from the above, the EFCC under Bawa is also quickly becoming a cesspool of internal corruption with several reports of corrupt practices going on within the Commission.

There are allegations of age falsification to remain in office beyond the statutory limit of civil service regulations, involving very senior officers of the commission.

"If a government agency expected to fight crime is found going about its business in a manner that mimics witch-hunt and rascality, while also being

unable to deal with corruption going on within its own workforce, we fear that the Nation may slide into some real crisis of confidence in our systems," the petition said.

The anti-corruption activists also disclosed that they had uncovered plans by the EFCC to sponsor the launch of a faceless organization, led by "discredited activists", for the purpose of laundering Bawa's tainted image before the incoming administration takes charge.

"At the said launch of the organization, the plan is to call on the Commission to seek the services of INTERPOL to harass perceived opponents of some political godfathers and other unpatriotic government officials, to whom we believe Bawa defers," they said.

They recalled that, upon his nomination for the position of the Commission's chairman in 2021, several groups of Nigerians had opposed the appointment of Bawa, based on what was described as his antecedents.

According to the petition, the Centre for Anti-Corruption and Open Leadership (CACOL), in a

letter dated 18th February 2021, had asked the National Assembly to reject Bawa's nomination as EFCC chair, based on several controversies that characterised his tenure in previous positions in the EFCC, giving the grave implication of such, on the exalted position.

In the light of the aforementioned, the anti-corruption CSOs urged President Buhari to: "Direct the Inspector-General of Police to immediately effect the arrest of Abdulrasheed Bawa in compliance with a subsisting order of the court and make him face the full consequences of his actions, based on court orders that we are sure he is aware of, but has refused to act upon.

"Commission an enquiry into the workings of the EFCC, its present engagements and happenings within the commission.

"Immediately suspend Mr Bawa as head of the Commission to restore confidence in the capacity of the commission to truly fight financial crime and purge itself of bad elements while discharging its job.

"Order an immediate overhaul of

the commission and where necessary lobby the National Assembly to amend the EFCC Act to make the structure less prone to high-handedness and make the Chairmen answerable to the laws of the land."

The 'Bawa Must Go' protests, which continued on Tuesday are being led by CACOL Chairman, Debo Adeniran; Executive Director, Zero Graft Centre, Kolawole Sanchez-Jude; Chairman, Coalition Against Corruption and Bad Governance, Toyin Raheem; Executive Director, Centre for Public Accountability, Olufemi Lawson; Spokesperson for the Transparency and Accountability Group, Ayodeji Ologun; Director, Activists for Good Governance, Declan Ihehaire; and Ahmed Balogun of Media Rights Concern, among over 120 notable leaders of Anti-corruption CSOs.

Barr. Mogbojuri Kayode of the Citizens Rights Advocacy Group (CRAG), is also leading over 20 constitutional lawyers in the protest.

# Tunfure Community Pays Solidarity Visit To Governor Inuwa, Pledges Bulk Vote For APC At Saturday's Election

*\*Gombe Governor reiterates commitment to purposeful leadership*

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

At the head of this Saturday's Governorship and State Assembly elections, thousands of residents of Tunfure community; a thriving suburb of Gombe metropolis, earlier today paid a solidarity visit to Governor Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya, declaring their total support for his reelection bid.

According to a statement signed by the Director-General (Press Affairs)

Government House Gombe, Ismaila Uba Misilli, dated Thursday March 16, the Banquet Hall of the Government House was filled to the brim with youth, women and the

elderly who were there to thank the Governor for addressing the perennial water scarcity, awarding road contracts and providing other interventions in their area.

Speaking in order of representation, the leader of elders' forum in the community, Alhaji Yelwa said they were at the government House to express their gratitude to Governor Inuwa for standing by the people of Tunfure, and to assure him of their bulk vote in this Saturday's Governorship and State Assembly elections.

In the same vein, the representative of women groups, Ladidi Mega explained that the provision of drinking water and the award of road

contract in the area presupposes that all men and women desirous of incremental development must vote for Governor Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya for continuity and consolidation.

Also speaking the representative of the youths, Usman Shongo lauded the Governor for his administrative ingenuity without which he said, the progress so far recorded in the state will remain a mirage.

Responding, Governor Inuwa Yahaya thanked the people of Tunfure for the solidarity visit, assuring them of better days ahead if they stand in solidarity with the All Progressives Congress, APC.

He said the multi billion naira water and road projects being

executed in Tunfure is a clear testament of his administration's commitment to deliver the dividends of democracy to the doorsteps of the people.

Governor Inuwa Yahaya reminded the people not to fall to the fruitless antics of the opposition parties in the state but to remain true to the APC cause whose track record is clearly visible for everyone to see and touch.

He said his administration remains committed to the common good of the people of the state and will therefore maintain same for the shared prosperity of all.

To this end, the Governor announced a cash donation of 5 million naira, to the visiting

members of Tunfure community as well as 300 hundred pieces of wrappers for the women and another 300 pieces of shemma materials for the men.

Other gift items to the visiting Tunfure community include one hundred bags of maize and one thousand cartons of pasta, etc.

Earlier in an address of welcome, the member representing Akko Federal Constituency Usman Bello Kumo enjoined the people of Tunfure to vote for Governor Inuwa Yahaya in view of his incredible performance within and outside their community.

He said the Governor has consistently displayed courage and unwavering commitment towards the advancement of the





# In Doha, Buhari Was Voice For LDCs

By; SALISU NA'INNA DAMBATTA

**A**t the just-concluded 5th UN - inspired Conference of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in Doha, Qatar, President Muhammadu Buhari highlighted the negative effects of debt to development on poor countries and advocated for a fairer and freer trade relationship between the developed countries of the world the G20 - and their 46 counterparts in the least developed category..

During the 5th United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), President Buhari and his peers from around the world gathered and charted the way forward as the decade of action for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) eats away, with less than eight years to 2030.

In an address which truly made him a strong voice for the LDCs, President Muhammadu Buhari listed obstacles that could hinder the achievement of the laudable targets of the SDGs for the Least Developed Countries, including and especially the lopsided global financial structure which forced most of such countries into heavy crippling debt. He proffered solutions for the challenges.

"The possibility of achieving the SDGs remains bleak for many countries, particularly, the Least Developed Countries. The difficulties in achieving the SDGs are numerous and were further compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic, the continued threat of Climate Change, and recently the Russia-Ukraine conflict," the President observed.

He said that the developmental vulnerabilities and challenges stalling development in LDCs which pose huge obstacles to their development efforts were not always of their making. He said that there is a need for speedy and comprehensive assistance package aimed at



unlocking their potentials and bolstering their socio-economic resilience. According to President Buhari, "This assistance can be provided within the framework of the Doha Programme of Action which is designed to help LDCs exit their current classification."

Another solution proffered by the President to minimise or even erase the difficulties, he urged developed countries, civil society actors, the private sector, and the business community to provide the necessary resources and capacity to deliver development outcomes, especially and specifically in the economic, social, and environmental targets of the 2030 Agenda.

President Buhari equally foresees that less obstacles for participating in global trade by LDCs through duty-free and quota-free market for their products can lead to their

integration in regional and global value chains, with all the advantages doing so entails for the world.

The President recommended, "the adoption of a global coordination mechanism to systematically monitor illicit financial flows and engender support for a United Nations International convention on tax matters to eliminate tax base erosion and profit shifting, tax evasion, capital gains tax and other tax abuses as essential to achieving the SDGs and promoting security and economic prosperity.

An entry on the United Nations website said that, "the category of least developed countries (LDCs), was officially established in 1971 by the UN General Assembly with a view to attracting special international support for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged members of the UN family."

Another posting on the site

stated that, "the 46 current LDCs are home to 880 million people, which is 12 percent of the world population. The countries face severe structural impediments to growth and account for less than 2 percent of world GDP and around 1 percent of world trade."

It is important to note that in line with the criteria for inclusion contained in the 2021 edition of the LCD Handbook, our country is rich enough, or not so poor, as to be included among those 46 LDCs, which comprise Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kiribati, Lao People's Dem. Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Myanmar,

Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen, Zambia.

However, it is on record that Botswana, Cabo Verde, Equatorial Guinea, Maldives, Samoa and Vanuatu have exited the LDCs category after reviewing their status by the Committee for Development Policy (CDP), which is a subsidiary of the United Nations Economic and Social Council. The CDP reviews the status of countries every three years.

It is hoped that more of the African and Asian countries in the LDCs grouping will exit it in the next seven years of this decade for action in the implementation of the 2030 Seventeen Social Development Goals (SDGs).

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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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Depth	38.1 (CM)	Depth -	15 (Inches)
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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S/NO	SIZE	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
1	Handling for the first 40 copies	120,000.00	9,000.00	129,000.00
2	Per 1000 Copies (1 Page)	28,000.00	2,100.00	30,100.00
3	Per 1000 Copies (Magazine 2-8 Pages)	50,000.00	3,750.00	53,750.00
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

SPACE	COLOUR			BLACK AND WHITE		
	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	32,285.71	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

# Kwara Gov Bags Fellowship Of Labour Institute, Pledges More Support For Workers

*\*Says workers' sack not an option for him*

By: BILIQIS OLAJUMOKE  
ONAO LAPO, Ilorin

**K**wara State Governor, Abdulrahman AbdulRazaq on Thursday, bagged the honorary Fellowship of the National Labour Institute (FNLS), an award labour leaders said the Governor truly deserves for his workers' friendly policies and programmes.

The conferment of the award was part of the activities to mark the 40th year anniversary of the Michael Imoudu National Institute for Labour Studies' (MINILS) Ilorin, Kwara State.

The award, according to the Institute, was in recognition of the Governor's exceptional commitment to workers' welfare and how he maintains a goodwill with the labour leaders in the state.

AbdulRazaq, in turn, reassured the labour unions of his administration's resolve to sustain the existing good working relationships, seeking an improved engagement with the union leaders.

He congratulated the Institute on its 40th anniversary and appreciated them for the honour.

"Let me first of all congratulate the new executives of the NLC. We look forward to a robust engagement with you. You would see that the state didn't interfere in the election, and a proper representation has emerged for the labour union. It is a disservice to the state and the people when the government interferes with the leadership of the union. This is why we don't do it," he said.

"I thank the Michael Imoudu National Institute for Labour Studies for this investiture. I have been there twice. I am a great supporter of the institute and of the labour unions."

The Governor tasked the union leaders to get prepared for a positive interface with regard to legitimacy of the new minimum wage in the face of high inflation in the country.

AbdulRazaq again declared that the government will not sack workers as doing so offers no sustainable benefits to the state and the workers.

He said it is costlier to retrench workers because of its negative implications for the economy and societal cohesion.

"We take workers' interests seriously. As a state, since when we came in, we ensure that salaries are paid as and when due, and we are paying the #30,000 minimum wage and the consequential adjustment



L-R: Akeyede Ibrahim; Mrs Aremu Khadijat; Mrs Olaide Oyerinde Ajiboye; Dr. Sylvanus Simon; Director Michael Imoudu National Institute for Labour Studies (MINILS) Comrade Issa Aremu; Kwara State Governor Abdulrahman AbdulRazaq; Deputy President Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) Comr. Najeem Usman Yasin; Head of Service Mrs Susan Modupe Oluwole; Special Adviser Labour Comrade Abdulkareem Mumini Onagun; and State NLC Chairman Comrade Muritala Saheed Olayinka; during an investiture to honour the governor as Fellow of the National Labour Institute (FNLS), held at the State Banquet Hall, Ilorin, on Thursday.

component. Can we improve on that? Yes, we can. With proper negotiation and exchanges of goodwill, we can do that. This is something that Asiwaju will do and this will cascade to the state level.

"Let me also assure the state workers that, God willing, when we come back (re-elected), we shall not be sacking any worker. It is important to say that. It costs us more to sack workers than to keep them in their jobs, because when we sack workers, we still have to pay their gratuities and pension, among other costs.

"So it is better for the workers to stay in their jobs. We are also working on increasing the retirement ages of our teachers as well. That will be looked into very soon. We are also looking in the direction of the private sector to create more jobs. Like I said, we are looking forward to a robust engagement and good working relationship with the labour.

"The APC government is a very serious government. The

President-elect (Asiwaju Tinubu) has stated his plans for the labour union. So, it is time for you to brace up and organise yourself because we will definitely make a case for the new minimum wage. All the indices have shown that inflation has truly eaten deep into your wages and welfare packages.

"And we are lucky to have the president-elect that will listen carefully to your articulated position. This is the time for all affiliates to escalate their demands to the executive through the national labour unions to make sure a proper representation is made by labour to the incoming President of Nigeria."

The event was well attended by government officials and various labour union leaders, including the Kwara State Head of Service Mrs Modupe Susan Oluwole; Director General of Michael Imoudu National Institute for Labour Studies (MINILS) Comrade Issa Aremu; Special Adviser to the Governor

on Strategy Alhaji Saadu Salau; Senior Special Assistant to the Governor on Labour Matters Comrade Abdulmumin Onagun; former Deputy National President for NLC Alhaji Najeemdeen Yasin;

State NLC Chairman, Comrade Olayinka Muritala; TUC Chairman Comrade Joseph Tunde; JNC Chairman Comrade Salihu Suleiman; and former state NLC Chairman Comrade Isa Ore; among others.

Comrade Aremu, for his part, said the award was considered necessary to appreciate the Governor's commitment to workers' welfare, his consistent payment of the minimum wage, and how he paves the way for freedom of association among the workers and union leaders in the state.

"He has been very consistent in ensuring the implementation of promotion arrears of all categories of workers who deserved it. Then, His Excellency, a person of courage, has also given due attention to

mass employment of various categories of workers, namely teachers, health professionals, and civil servants of various cadres. This Governor is also committed to the training and retraining of civil servants in the state, and of course, he knows the mandate of our institute is to improve the capacity of workers," he said.

"His Excellency has also improved the working environment within the shortest time of his one term in office. Then, another point that is critical to us is that the Governor is also committed to freedom of association. Under him, the labour union has been organizing and holding different demonstrations and various events like May day, delegates, conferences and without freedom there cannot be trade unions, workers' interest cannot be protected. Once again, we appreciate him."

# Kaduna Govt Releases N920m For Pensioners

By; F U N M I  
ADERINTO, Kaduna

Kaduna State Government has released N920 million for the settlement of outstanding pension liabilities which include death benefits and gratuity.

A statement issued from Sir Kashim Ibrahim House, said that the payment schedule which was dated March 9, 2023, comprises state and local government pensioners in the old Defined Benefit Scheme (DBS).

The statement further disclosed that state

pensioners will get N400 million while local government beneficiaries will receive N520 million. It would be recalled that last November, Governor Nasir El-Rufai had approved N900 million for the payment of Accrued Rights for retirees and families of deceased beneficiaries under the new Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS).

The Executive Secretary of Kaduna State Pension Bureau, Prof Salamatu Isah, had said that the amount covered batch 54 for the state and local

governments retirees and families of the deceased.

Prof Isah further explained that payment of retirees under the Contributory Pension Scheme is being done by the Pension Funds Administrators (PFAs), adding that government will only pay the past savings.

According to her, such savings which is known as Accrued Rights, is the retirees' entitlements prior to the commencement of the Contributory Pension Scheme in 2017, and they are paid to PFAs

instead of individual beneficiaries.

Giving breakdown of the payment, the Executive Secretary had said that N600,000,000 has been allocated to the state retirees and deceased families, while N300,000,000 was allocated to local governments retirees and families of the deceased.

The November 2022 release came two weeks after Governor El Rufai had earlier approved N1,160,000,000.00 for the payment of gratuity for batch 17 Local Government pensioners and batch 19 of State



Sha'aban

## Again, Terrorists Kill 10, Injure Others In Southern Kaduna

By; Amos Tauna,  
Kaduna

A renewed attack in Langson Community in Atyap Chiefdom, Zangon Kataf Local Government Area of Kaduna State by terrorists has claimed the lives of ten, with many others sustaining various degrees of injuries.

The attackers said to be in their large numbers, according to a source who spoke to New Nigerian, invaded the community around 9pm on Wednesday, shooting sporadically, and also looting a shop in the area,

before they were repelled by the Mopol.

He further explained that those who sustained injuries have been taken to a hospital for treatment.

Following the renewed attacks on Atyap land by the suspected militias, the Atyap Community Development Association (ACDA), has passed a vote of no confidence on a section of the security operatives deployed to the area to protect lives and property.

Dr. Sam Achie, the ACDA National President, who made the revelation at the scene of attack, lamented the silence of government

to the attacks in the area and its inability to take proactive measures to bring the ugly situation to an end.

He said, "I urge the government to match words with action by arresting the perpetrators since the government know them and where they are."

The ACDA National President also thanked the Mopol in Langson community who where said to have repelled the attackers and appealed to them to keep on with the good works of defending the territorial integrity of the country for peace to

reign.

He also called on the people to continue to remain on alert to protect their communities and properties against the oppressors who are bent on taking over their ancestral land, saying, "We have to protect our ancestral land because we have no any other place to go to."

Mr. Francis Sani Zimbo, the Zango Kataf Local Government Council chairman, while confirming the attack, appealed to government to deploy more security to Zango the local government area to arrest the recurring attacks on innocent lives and property in the area.

## Sha'aban Cautions Buhari Against Meddling In Kaduna Politics

By; BASHIR BELLO,  
Kaduna.

The gubernatorial candidate of Action

Democratic Party (ADP), in Kaduna State, Alhaji Sani M. Sha'aban has cautioned President Muhammad Buhari to stop interfering with the ongoing politics in Kaduna State.

Sha'aban stated this when he took his campaign in Tudunwada, Zaria.

He lamented how the president has allowed himself to be used by some politicians to rally support for the APC candidate in the state.

He said, "As a father of the nation, Buhari should not be seen according priority to a particular candidate whose election will not augur well to the people of the state, Kaduna being his second home."

Sha'aban who was reacting to a recorded video and audio broadcast of president Buhari urging people to vote Uba Sani of the APC as Governor of Kaduna state said people should be allowed to vote credible candidate of their choice during the forthcoming election without undue interference.

"Where was the president when bandits were having a field day, kidnapping people on daily basis in the state for ransom? Where was he when people of the state were being illegally sacked from their jobs, their shops and houses destroyed, school fees

hiked, district heads removed? Where was he then? why did he not intervene?"

"Only for him to surface now and canvass Kaduna resident's votes for a candidate that is very unpopular and distasteful to the people." He queried.

He therefore, stressed that people in Kaduna State are fully literate and know exactly what they want, and do not need anybody to instigate and play with their conscious against their wish.

The ADP Governorship candidate who is also the Dan Buran Zazzau, lamented that for eight years, people of Kaduna State have only suffered killings, destruction, poverty, illiteracy, demolition of property and dictatorship under the APC administration.

He said the people are now saying "enough is enough of misrule and are ready to vote out the APC for a credible ADP candidate that will save them from untold hardships.

Sha'aban a very popular and charismatic politician, assured that when voted into power, the ADP government will change the narrative and run an all inclusive government devoid of sentiments, sectionalism, tribal or religious bigotry. An astute politician, Sha'aban is viewed by many as a man closer to the masses and his popularity among the ordinary people is seen as a major challenge to the ruling party.

"As a father of the nation, Buhari should not be seen according priority to a particular candidate whose election will not augur well to the people of the state, Kaduna being his second home."

# el-Rufa'i Flags-off Reconstruction Of Kaduna Western Bypass Road

By: USMAN NASIDI, Kaduna.

The Executive Governor of Kaduna State, Malam Nasiru Ahmad el-Rufa'i, yesterday, flagged-off the reconstruction of the dilapidated Nnamdi Azikwe Express Way (Kaduna Western Bypass Road) by the Aliko Dangote Group of Nigeria.

The twenty-one and half kilometers Kaduna Western Bypass Road is among the three (3) approved Roads by the Federal Government under the task credit funding to be reconstructed in the state by the Dantata and Sawoe construction company of Nigeria.

While flagging the reconstruction of the road, Malam Nasiru el-Rufa'i expressed gratitude to the All Progressives Congress (APC) Government led by President Muhammadu Buhari for approving the task credit method of funding to be used for the reconstruction of three Roads in Kaduna State.

He said, "the first is this Western Bypass Road, 21 and half kilometers, there's also the Kaduna Birnin Gwari Road (old Lagos Road) and Birnin Gwari to Dan Sadau Road, a very important road linking Kaduna State with Katsina State. All this three project are to be undertaken by the Dangote group using the task credit approach of financing.

"We are grateful to Mr. President for approving this project, and grateful to Hon minister of works and housing, Mr. Baba Tunde Fashola for doing all that is possible to expedite the construction of this three projects.

"I wish this project was started three years ago, so that I will here to commission it, but with just only 76 days left for us in office, I can only hope to come back for the commissioning of this very important project.

"The technology of using concrete pavement for roads is a most welcome



development in Nigeria, because concrete Roads last more than a hundred years compared to other materials that last for about half of that period, so this are welcome development of the best technology for roads and Kaduna State is grateful to be a beneficiary." He said  
Meanwhile, Malam Nasir el-Rufa'i, thanked Alhaji Aliko Dangote over

pasting and bothering for the past two years to get this project started, also appreciates the presence Engineer Mansur Ahmed for being there in person to do the flag-off.

Similarly, el-Rufa'i appealed to the Kaduna South Local Government Council and communities around to be patient, hence no good thing comes easy

or without some sacrifice, saying, "this road construction is a good thing for this LG, community and Kaduna metropolis, so we should be patient and cooperate to give all the support they need within the 24 months earmarked for this project."





## Eze's 22 Points Couldn't Stop Kwara Falcons 3rd Defeat

By: MOHAMMED ABDULLAHI, Dakar

Nigeria's D'Tigers player, Victor Eze scored 22 points for Kwara Falcons but couldn't stop the team from losing its third consecutive game at the ongoing Basketball Africa League (BAL) Sahara Conference in Dakar, Senegal.

Kwara Falcons showed resilience on Wednesday, but the Nigerian champions were unable to beat the reigning champions, US Monastir. The Nigeria champions led for most of the contest, but lost during the last quarter of the game with the final score 85-75 in favour of US Monastir of Tunisia.

With this result, it becomes increasingly difficult for the Nigerian team to qualify for the playoff finals in Kigali in May, 2023.

Notwithstanding, Eze explained: "Nothing really went wrong with Kwara Falcons. The thing that happened was that they started hitting those shots. They moved the ball well enough. We need to do better."

"We are more confident. Now we see how well we can play. It wasn't the result that we wanted, but we are still optimistic about the next few games."

In the other game played same night, the home team, AS Douanes of Senegal lost their second consecutive game to REG of Rwanda who registered their third consecutive wins to become the first team to qualify for the playoff finals on their home ground. The game ended REG 69, AS Douanes 55.

Kwara Falcons next play AS Douanes on Saturday, May 18.

## Indonesia 2023: Nigeria's Nemesis, Portugal, Argentina, Fail To Reach World Cup

By: AYO OJEDOKUN, Lagos

Portugal, who got the better of Nigeria in a 2-0 in the Final of the FIFA U-20 World Cup in Riyadh in 1989, and Argentina, who beat the Flying Eagles to the trophy in The Netherlands in 2005, have both failed to make the cut as the field for this year's FIFA U-20 World Cup finals in Indonesia filled up at the weekend.

Europe's flag bearers will be England, France, Israel, Italy and Slovakia, while

South America will be represented by Brazil, Uruguay, Colombia and Ecuador—leaving out both Portugal and Argentina from the equation. Even Cup holders Ukraine got bumped in the qualifying race.

All 24 finalists have emerged following the conclusion of the Africa U-20 Cup in Egypt at the weekend, with champions Senegal, vice champions The Gambia, third-placed Nigeria and fourth-placed Tunisia to bear the touch for the continent.

Reigning vice champions Korea Republic, Uzbekistan, Iraq and Japan will be flying Asia's flag, while USA, Honduras, Guatemala and Dominican Republic will represent North and Central America. Fiji and New Zealand will bear the flag of Oceania.

All the teams will be in the four different pots for the Draw to be conducted at the Taman Werdhi Budaya Art Centre in Denpasar, Bali with Nigeria already slotted into Pot 3. African

champions Senegal stay in Pot 1 alongside Italy, USA and France while The Gambia and Tunisia have homes in Pot 4.

The teams will be drawn in six groups of four teams each, with the top two teams from each group and the four best third-place finishers in the six groups making the progress to the Round of 16.

Ukraine won the last championship in France in 2019, having defeated Korea Republic 3-1.



# Ex NAATO President Scores Zaria Athletics Grand Prix High

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Former president of National Nigeria Association of Athletics Technical Officials (NAATO), Mr Goodluck Akpodeh has praised the organizers of the Zaria Athletics Grand Prix meet, reeling out its many advantages to the athletes and the development of athletics.

Speaking at the Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) Sports Complex, the venue of the Grand Prix, Mr Goodluck said considering the fact that its the first this year, giving opportunity to the athletes to check their performance and fitness.

"The organisers tried by providing accommodation, feeding and cash prize for the first, second and third placed athletes in the different events," he said.

Reacting to people talking about the grand prix not being a point scoring event for the athletes, he said the prix is not a league, but it serves as opportunity for the athletes to make money and take care of themselves in terms of kits and other things to do with their up keep.

According to him, most of the athletes are not properly taken care of by some state governments, especially those not employed by the government.

Buttressing Mr Goodluck's advantages of the Zaria Athletics Grand Prix, Assistant Secretary of Kaduna Coaches Association, Mark Orduen, said the turnout would have been more than what was recorded

In his words, "the event was scheduled for 18th and 19th of March but the change in date of the governorship election affected the turnout, a lot of athletes could not come around, despite that, the event will

have a big impact on the athlete". He added that it should be a thing of joy that such an event is coming and encouraged other stakeholders to emulate the organisers of the Zaria Athletics Grand Prix.

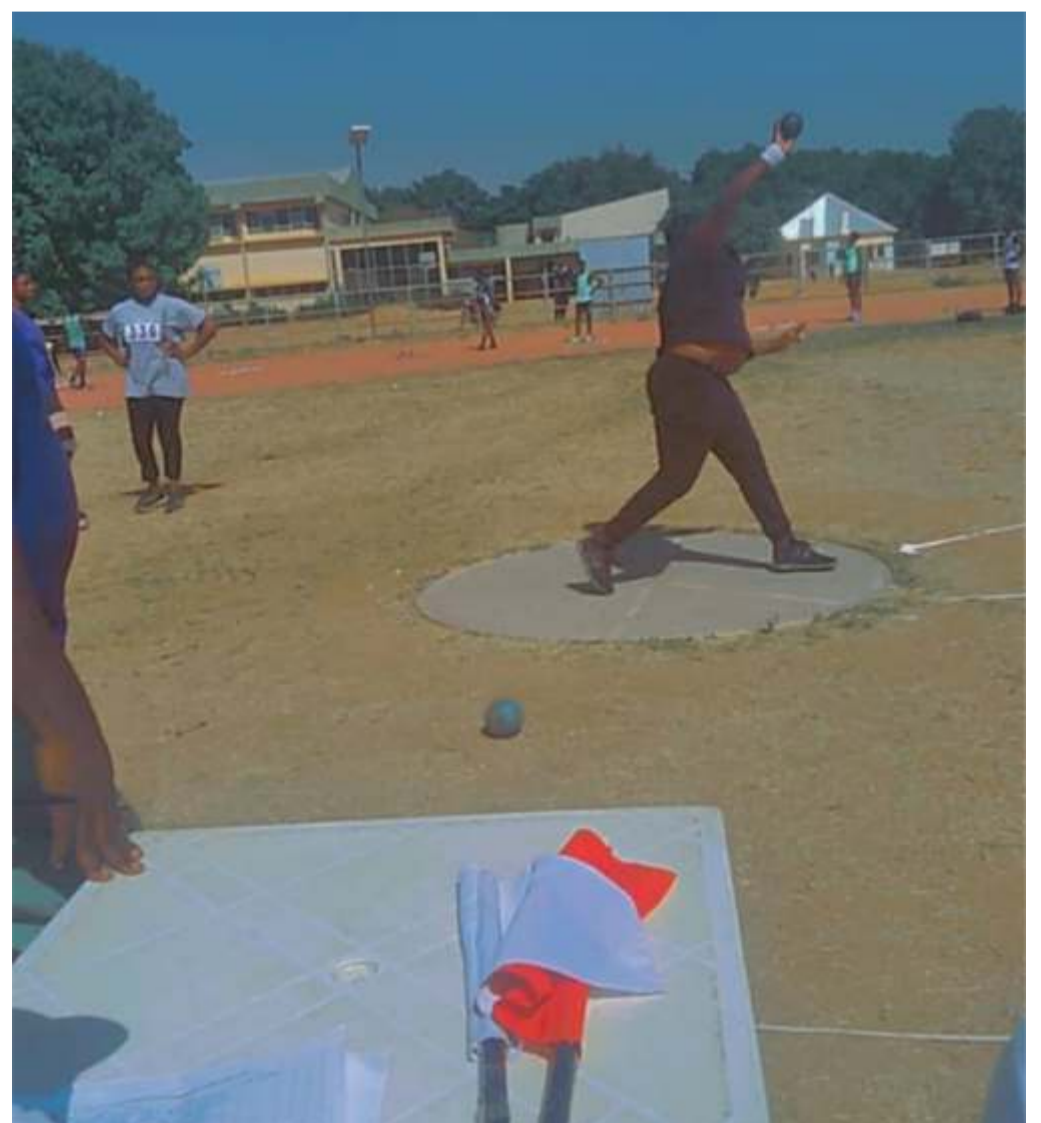
Meanwhile, below are some of the results from the Zaria Grand Prix'

- Shotput women
- 1st Aniefuna Anulika- 13.00m
- 2nd Uzuegbu Patricia- 11.20m
- 3rd Muhammed Salamatu- 10.17m
- Triple jump men
- 1st Kalu Chidozie- 15.91m
- 2nd Joel Iheakolam- 15.20m
- 3rd Orekevwe Justin- 14.64m
- 1,500 metres men
- 1st Salisu Ibrahim- 4m 2sec.86
- 2nd Zakariya Sadiq- 4min 4 secs.09
- 3rd John Benjamin- 4min 4sec.28
- 100metres Female
- 1st Haruna Hajara- 11.63
- 2nd Ayenuro Taiye- 11.80
- 3rd Blessing Ehi Ikpa- 11.83
- 100metres Men
- 1st Oche Emmanuel- 10.12
- 2nd Igube Chinemerem- 10.13
- 3rd Monday Ebuka- 10.35
- 800metres Female
- 1st James Comfort- 2m 1sec
- 2nd Lydia Akusho- 2m 13sec
- 3rd Verity Umaru- 2m 18sec
- Oche Emmanuel set a personal best in 100metres men
- Long jump women
- 1st oshopku grace - 6.09
- 2nd Ejiro ojoma - 5.68
- 3rd lekwt peace sonita- 5.60
- Triple Jump Women
- 1st Ejiro Ojoma- 13.22
- 2nd Oshopku Grace- 12.57



- 3rd Meekness Dogonyaro- 12.29
- 400M WOMEN
- 1st Olusesan Temitope- 56.04
- 2nd Ogundele Taiwo- 56.26
- 3rd Ovedje Gift Oke- 56.36
- 400M men
- 1st Samuel Japhet
- 2nd Achakapoeri Victor- 47.50
- 3rd Akwaga Alphonsus - 48.69
- 200m men
- 1st Ayenuro Taiye - 24.28
- 2nd Hajara Haruna - 24.87
- 3rd Blessing Ehi ikpa 25.08
- 200m MEN
- 1st Ogazi Samuel 20.73
- 2nd Enoch Jonathan 21.42

- 3rd Monday ebuka 21.46
- 5000 men
- 1st Salisu Ibrahim 16.09.30
- 2nd Williams Sunday 16.09.32
- Nemforth Mathais 16.10.88
- Women invitation relay 4 x 100
- 1st Favour Star 48.08
- 2nd Dynamic Athletic 48.12
- 3rd CFASF 49.14
- MEN 4 X 100 RELAY
- 1ST Dynamic Athletic 41.08
- 2nd Team Niger Republic 41.93
- 3rd UNIJOS 42.98



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## Network Of Peace Journalists, CMMRC Condemns Southern Kaduna Killings

By: USMAN NASIDI, Kaduna

The Network of Peace Journalists in partnership with Conflict Mitigation and Management Regional Council (CMMRC), has condemned the recent killings in Southern Kaduna that claimed the lives of nine persons with many reported injured, while other persons have not been accounted for.

In a statement jointly signed by Ibrahima Yakubu, team lead Network of Peace Journalism, Ibrahim Yusuf Chairman CMMRC and Silas Kure PRO CMMRC Kaduna State while issued to newsmen on wednesday in Kaduna, expressed shock over the unfortunate attacks on community members of a community of Zangon Kataf LGA of Kaduna State.

According to the statement, as a peacebuilding structure, they totally condemn the manner of such attacks and call on the security agencies and the Kaduna State government to do the needful in terms of arresting the perpetrators of such dreadful acts.

"We further appeal to all the

relevant government agencies responsible to do more in terms of protection of lives and property to ensure that communities are given the needed protection and to be provided with relief materials to the affected persons.

"We continue to solicit for more understanding among the religious groups and youth to ensure to continue to support for peace at all levels, seeing that they have strong influence in terms of peace and unity, as we continue to pray for peace in affected localities in Kaduna State and the nation at large."

Meanwhile, they commiserated with the families of those that have lost family members and the entire people in that region over the unfortunate incident.

"We would like to conclude by extending our condolences over the devastating situation and hope that peace will prevail in Kaduna State," the statement said.

The Network of Peace Journalists and CMMRC equally applauded the efforts being made by the state government for restoring peace and unity in the region.



## Former Senate President, Anyim Backs APC Guber Candidate In Ebonyi



Anyim

By: MKPUMA ENYINNA, Abakaliki

Ahead of the 2023 gubernatorial election in Ebonyi State, a former Senate President who also served as Secretary to Government of Federation (SGF), Sen. Anyim Pius Anyim has declared support for the gubernatorial

candidate of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Francis Ogbonna Nwifuru to emerge as the next executive governor of the state. Senator Anyim while speaking to newsmen during a town hall meeting at his country home, Amagu Ishiagu, Ivo Local Government Area of Ebonyi State, said that he believes in zoning

and rotation of political positions to all parts of the state, hence his support for the APC gubernatorial candidate, Francis Ogbonna Nwifuru, who hails from Ebonyi North senatorial zone. "I believe in zoning, I believe in rotation, it is the turn of Ebonyi North and the candidate is APC candidate," Senator

Anyim explained. It is worthy to note that Anyim Pius Anyim is a staunch member of the People's Democratic Party who served as a one time Senate President and also as a former Secretary to the Government of Nigeria. He was one of the PDP Presidential aspirants in the just concluded 2023 Presidential Primaries in Nigeria.