

Masari Receives Report Of Commission Investigating Banditry On Bakori/Kankara

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el-Rufai Impressed As Troops Neutralize 11 Bandits During Intense Battle In Birnin Gwari LGA

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**Enclaves cleared, arms, ammunition recovered*



Nigeria And Lagos: No Man's Land

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NGO Demands Improved Budgetary Allocation For Girls with Special Needs

By: ALEX UANGBAOJE, Kaduna

A Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO), Centre for Girls' Education (CGE), has appealed to the Kaduna State Governor, Malam Nasir el-Rufai, to accent the improved 2023 budgetary allocation for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), for girls with special needs by 0.46% of the current allocation.

Kaduna State Team Lead of CGE, Aisha Bello Aminu, made the appeal at the weekend during an inception meeting of "Advocacy for Improved Budgetary Allocation for STEM Education for Girls with Special Needs in Kaduna" project with different stakeholders, to formally introduce the project to enable mutual understanding of project goal and deliverables.

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Pray For Peace,
Tranquility
In Nigeria
- Olubadan

**Optimistic of a brighter future*

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Front left, Country Manager, Gulf of Africa International Ltd., Mr. Mohammad Javeef, Managing Director, Federal Airport Authority of Nigeria, Capt. Rabi'u Yedudu, Minister of Aviation, Sidi Sirika, Director, Airport Operations, Capt. Muktar Mute, General Manager, Aerodrome Rescue and Fire Fighting Services, (FAAN), Mr. John Ekpe and Commissioner/CEO, Accident Investigation Bureau, AIB, Engr. Akin Olateru at the commissioning of Aerodromes Rescue and Fire Fighting Vehicles at the department of Fire service, FAAN, Murtala Muhammed Airport, Ikeja, Lagos. Photo: AKINOLAARIYO

Akwa Ibom Governor-Elect, 26 Others Receive Certificates of Return

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Man In Police Net For Allegedly Stripping Girl Naked For Turning Down Marriage Proposal

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RAMADAN

DAY 12

CITY/TOWN	FAJR	SUNRISE	MAGRIB
Abuja	5.23	6.33	6.38
Aba	5.29	6.39	6.37
Abakaliki	5.24	6.34	6.35
Abeokuta	5.41	6.51	6.56
Afikpo North	5.26	6.36	6.36
Akure	5.33	6.43	6.48
Akwanga	5.22	6.32	6.38
Ankpa	5.25	6.35	6.38
Argungu	5.29	6.39	7.00
Asaba	5.29	6.39	6.39
Auchi	5.30	6.40	6.44
Awka	5.28	6.38	6.38
Azare	5.08	6.18	6.34
B/Kebbi/Gwandu/Jega/Yauri	5.32	6.42	6.59
Bali	5.09	6.22	6.25
Bama	4.55	5.05	6.20
Baruwa/Gashaka	5.08	6.18	6.23
Bauchi	5.12	6.22	6.31
Benin	5.35	6.45	6.44
Bida	5.28	6.38	6.47
B/Gwari	5.24	6.34	6.47
Birnin Kudu	5.11	6.21	6.35
Biu	5.02	6.12	6.22
Calabar	5.25	6.35	6.33
Damaturu	5.01	6.11	6.27
Bichi/Danbatta	5.14	6.24	6.39
Daura/Kazaure	5.13	6.23	6.44
Dukku	5.07	6.17	6.30
Dutse	5.11	6.21	6.36
Dutsinma	5.28	6.38	6.47
Enugu	5.31	6.41	6.36
Funtua/Malumfashi/Chafe	5.20	6.30	6.46
Gashua	5.03	6.13	6.31
Gembu	5.07	6.17	6.24
Gombe	5.08	6.18	6.27
Gumel	5.11	6.21	6.36
Gusau/Gummi/Anka	5.23	6.33	6.49
Hadejia	5.14	6.24	6.35
Ibadan	5.36	6.46	6.55
Ife	5.14	6.44	6.53
Ijebu Ode/Ikorodu	5.38	6.48	7.00
Ilesha	5.28	6.38	6.49
Ilorin	5.35	6.45	6.55
Jalingo	5.06	6.16	6.26
Jos	5.18	6.27	6.35
Kafanchan	5.21	6.31	6.38
Kano	5.17	6.27	6.41
Katsina	5.25	6.35	6.47
Keffi/Nasarawa	5.22	6.32	6.40
Kafin Maiyaki	5.18	6.28	6.41
Kontagora	5.30	6.40	6.50
Kaduna	5.22	6.32	6.41
Lafia	5.19	6.29	6.37
Lagos	5.44	6.54	6.5
Lere/Saminaka	5.18	6.28	6.36
Lokoja	5.29	6.39	6.44
Maiduguri	4.56	6.06	6.21
Makurdi	5.22	6.32	6.35
Minna	5.28	6.38	6.46
Misau	5.09	6.19	6.31
Monguno	4.55	6.05	6.20
Mubi	4.58	6.07	6.21
Nafada	5.05	6.15	6.28
Ngala	4.53	6.03	6.19
Nguru	5.08	6.18	6.3
Nsukka	5.20	6.30	6.39
Ogbomosho	5.08	6.18	6.29
Okene	5.26	6.36	6.45
Onitsha	5.27	6.37	6.40
Osogbo	5.36	6.46	6.53
P/Harcourt	5.28	6.38	6.38
Potiskum	5.05	6.15	6.31
Shagamu	5.39	6.49	6.55
Sokoto/Gwadabawa/Wurno	5.30	6.40	6.56
Suleja/Jere	5.26	6.36	6.40
Talata Marafa	5.28	6.38	6.53
Umuahia/Uyo	5.25	6.35	6.37
Warri	5.34	6.44	6.44
Wukari/Takum/Ibbi	5.19	6.29	6.28
Yauri	5.30	6.40	6.55
Yenagoa	5.33	6.43	6.41
Yola	5.02	6.12	6.22
Zaria	5.17	6.27	6.41
Zuru	5.14	6.24	6.28
Benin Cotonou	4.58	6.08	6.24
Cameroun Yaounde	5.14	6.24	6.19
Niger Niamey	5.07	6.17	6.12

CNS Gambo To Deliver Lead Paper For International Symposium In South Africa

By; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

In an effort to boost Blue Economy and Security in Africa, the Nigeria's Chief of Naval Staff (CNS), Vice Admiral Awwal Zubairu Gambo, has been selected as the Lead Speaker for an international symposium coming up in South Africa in May.

The two-day symposium is organized by the Security Watch Africa Initiatives (SWAI) and the Centre for Military Studies (CEMIS) from Stellenbosch University, South Africa.

The theme of the symposium fixed for 4th and 5th of May, 2023, is 'BLUE OCEAN ECONOMY AND SECURITY IN AFRICA: CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS FOR AGENDA2063'

The Symposium, holding at the STIAS Conference Centre, Stellenbosch, South Africa, seeks to explore various aspects of the Blue Ocean Economy and the potential roles that the Navies of various countries can play, in conjunction with public and private sector entities, in ensuring security on the continent's ocean waters.

It is aimed at articulating practical mechanism in actualizing the Blue Ocean Economy for the African continent using the Nigeria's Chief of



CNS Gambo

Naval Staff (CNS) Vice Admiral Awwal Zubairu Gambo's outstanding leadership at the Nigerian Navy.

President / Chief Executive Security Watch Africa, Mr. Patrick Agbambu in a release in Lagos said the discussions are also aimed at exploring how African Navies have experienced the unlocking of the Blue Economies in Africa.

It will further assist to foster inter-naval co-operations and relationships between ECOWAS and Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Navies.

The symposium is providing an important opportunity for the Chiefs of Navies to frame the agenda for Naval participation in their respective Blue water economies.

It will allow each Navy to provide a keynote address regarding their experiences in defending the blue water economy. There will also be syndicate discussions, and a feedback session to allow each syndicate to report their findings. The conference will close with a consolidated report of these findings.

Among those expected to attend the symposium

include parliamentarians, Ministry/secretary of Defence personnel, Practitioners in the maritime space, Academics, Defence Industry representatives.

Also expected at the symposium are Students of the Military Academy while a limited number of seats will be opened for the public to apply to attend.

The call for delegates will close on 20 April 2023 for foreign delegates and 28 April 2023 for African delegates.

Agbambu called on Interested delegates to register.

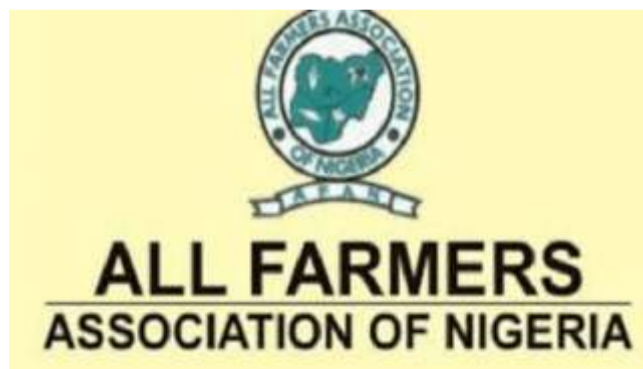
Dan Modi's Administration Would Boost Agriculture In Jigawa State -AFAN Chairman

By; JABIRU HASSAN, Dutse

The newly elected governor of Jigawa State, Malam Umar Namadi Dan Modi's policy on agriculture would be a good channel to boosting good production, employment opportunities and economic progress in the state.

This was expressed by the state's chairman of the All Farmers Association of Nigeria (AFAN), Idris Yau Mai Unguwa Jaga in a chat with newsmen in Dutse, shortly after the presentation of certificate of return to the governor elect, adding that from his 12-point agenda presented to the people of Jigawa State, agriculture would receive top priority at both dry and rainy seasons.

"We have studied all the 12-point agenda of our governor elect, Malam



Umar Namadi Dan Modi, and we found it necessary to express gratitude that agriculture is on top of the agenda, which is a sector that contributes to Jigawa State's economy in addition to others," he said.

Mai Unguwa Jaga reiterated their determination to ensure the full implementation of the policy on agriculture to ensure that Jigawa state remains one of the best in

agricultural transformation and economic viability with optimum results.

He called on the farmers of Jigawa State to adopt research findings from professionals to seek alternate counselling from the agricultural development projects which are always there to assist for profitable

farming. Mai Unguwa Jaga on behalf of the executive officers, members and entire Jigawa State farmers congratulated Malam Umar Namadi Dan Modi for receiving his certificate of return as the elected governor of the state during the March 18 gubernatorial election, and pledged to work closely with his government for the actualization of his blueprint on agriculture.

Man In Police Net For Allegedly Stripping Girl Naked For Turning Down Marriage Proposal

By; ADAMA JOHN, Lokoja

The Kogi State Police Command has arrested one Arome Danjuma as prime suspect for allegedly ambushing and stripping a girl naked in a viral video. Danjuma, alongside his friend, said to be currently at large, is reported to have carried out the dastardly act in Achigili Village around Abocho under Dekina Local Government Area of the state. The Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), SP Williams Aya, while briefing journalists at the command's headquarters in Lokoja on Saturday, said investigations were still ongoing to apprehend the other suspect who was on the run. The incident was widely condemned by the general public and according to

the state PPRO, the culprits would be made to face the full wrath of the law.

The police spokesperson added that the suspect would soon be charged to court.

The victim, who identified herself as Alami, said one of the suspects approached her for marriage which she refused.

Narrating the incident, she said, "One of the guys approached me for marriage which I refused. When I closed from work on my way going home at about 8pm last week Sunday 19th, he attacked me and forced me to his house and started beating me.

"Another person was waiting in his house carrying knife and axe threatening to kill me if I don't pull off my clothes. I had no option but to obey

them if not they would have killed me in the room. When I pulled off my clothes, they started filming my nakedness and later posted it on the internet. They just want to destroy my life".

Speaking during an interview, the suspect, Danjuma, confessed to have committed the crime, stressing that, he conspired with his friend to commit the atrocity.

Reacting to the incident, the Commissioner of Women Affairs who was represented by the Director, Research Planning and Statistics, Ministry of Women Affairs, who is also the Secretary of the Kogi State GBV Technical Workgroup, Mr. Oseni Isaac, described the incident as one of the most barbaric in recent time. He described the act as animalistic which he said

would not be acceptable in the state.

Isaac noted that the ministry is out to fight any act of gender-based violence in the state, warning that it would no longer be business as usual for anyone who intends to perpetuate gender-based violence in Kogi State.

Also reacting, the Executive Director, Challenged Parenthood Initiative, Eunice Agbogun, described the incident as barbaric.

"This is the height of gender-based violence. This is a serious crime against humanity. We feel that this case must go through the entire process and justice must prevail. Am glad that the police have prevailed.

"We are glad that the perpetrator has been arrested and we have been assured by the police that justice will prevail.

10th Assembly: Barau Jibrin Deserves Senate Presidency - Hayin Hago



Senator Barau Jibrin

By; JABIRU A. HASSAN, Kano

A member of the All Progressives Congress from Dawakin Tofa Local Government Area, Honourable Sa'ad Muktar Hayin Hago has described Senator Barau Jibrin as an experienced politician who deserves to be the Senate President of the 10th Assembly.

He expressed this in an interview with our correspondent in Kano, adding that Senator Jibrin who returns to Senate after the 25th Presidential, Senatorial and National Assembly elections, would lead the Red Chamber to an exemplary parliament with optimum

results.

Honourable Hayin Hago said that, "Senator Barau Jibrin deserves to be the Senate President because of his long term experience in the parliament, especially how he was elected and re-elected many times by the people of his senatorial zone due to competency". He called on all the contenders to step for Sanator Barau Jibrin in order to have the most formidable parliament that can bring real progress to Nigeria and to compete with the entire Africa's legislative arms as the globe is now fast advancing in terms of excellent democracy.

Crisis: Oyo SDP Suspends Guber Candidate, State Secretary

**Don't mind them, they are jokers - Lana*

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The crisis rocking the Social Democratic Party (SDP) in Oyo State at the weekend, assumed fresh dimension as the party announced the suspension of its governorship candidate in the March 18 polls, Barrister Michael Lana.

Oyo SDP in a letter to the party's National Secretariat signed by its State Chairman, Hon Michael Okunlade, also suspended its State Secretary, Mr Idowu Awokoya.

In a swift reaction, Barrister Lana dismissed the purported suspension, saying, "Don't mind them. They are jokers and lovers who are trying to redeem themselves from their inglorious alliance with the APC.

The party in the letter, asked its National Secretariat to ratify the suspension of Barrister Lana and Mr. Awokoya, the state secretary.

In the letter addressed to

the SDP National Chairman dated March 31, the Oyo State SDP accused Barrister Lana of alleged, "Anti party activities and no substantial contribution to the party".

Oyo SDP in the letter titled, "Suspension of Mr Folorunsho Lana and Idowu Awokoya as a member of SDP in Oyo State and as a state secretary respectively accused the state Secretary of alleged, " indiscipline, insubordination and dropping the name of the national secretary to destabilize the party".

" I wish to bring to your attention of the meeting held today 31st March, 2023 in our state office, Oyo State

The meeting comprising members of state executives and the local government Chairmen. After reviewing the activities of Mr Folorunsho Lana, the gubernatorial candidates



in the just concluded general election and the secretary of the party during and after the elections, the whole house resolved as follows", it said.

The letter added, " That Mr Folorunsho Lana be suspended from the party for anti-party activities. No substantial contribution to the party. The state Secretary of the party Mr Idowu Owokoya be suspended for indiscipline, insubordination and

dropping the name of the national secretary to destabilize the party".

" In line with party constitution, we therefore wish to forward the resolution of the party for your office approval to suspend both Mr folorunsho Lana and Idowu Owokoya".

The party maintained in the letter that it " also resolved that Ajibola Adeniyi of Lagelu local government under the Oyo central secretarial district to replace Idowu Owokoya in acting capacity"

No Constitutional Provision for Interim Govt in Nigeria - Agbakoba

By; MATTHEW UKACHUNWA, Lagos

Senior Advocate of Nigeria (SAN), Dr. Olisa Agbakoba, has expressed shock on disclosure made by the Department of State Security (DSS) that secret plans are underway to put an interim government in place in Nigeria.

He argued that such arrangement will undermine the country's democratic process and transition.

He described the idea as a major setback, and advised that it must be resisted.

Agbakoba said this in a statement issued on March 30, 2023.

He said, "It is shocking to learn from the Department of State Security that secret plans are underway to undermine Nigeria's democratic process and transition, by arrangements of what is described as an interim government. This will be a major set-back and we must all resist."

The senior advocate suggested that the gravest possible consequences must be applied to all who are associated with the idea, and said that it is a treasonable intent.

"The general elections have held, albeit under the most challenging circumstance. But a president-elect has emerged and we must respect and accept this as fact. At least for now. All leading Presidential candidates have approached the courts with grounds of complaint concerning what they consider as electoral irregularities. If the presidential candidates have accepted the democratic process by lodging petitions before the courts, then it is very difficult to understand upon what basis anyone considers that an interim government is a viable and legal alternative. We must all reject this nonsense and respect our Constitution, which has no provision for interim arrangements," Agbakoba said.

He pointed out that as the President-elect is sworn into office on May 29, the Judicial process will ultimately render a decision.

"As Nigerians, we must turn to the Courts to render a decision on the petitions before them. The Judicial process will certainly carry a huge responsibility in the process of democratic consolidation," he clarified, adding: "The notion of the contraption referred to as interim government, has no place in our lives and our constitution. We must all say No!"

Let's 's Build Plateau Together, Mutfwang Tells Lalong, Nentawe

By; BUHARI B. BELLO, Jos

Plateau State Governor-elect, Barrister Caleb Mutfwang has extended an invitation to Governor Simon Bako Lalong and the All Progressives Congress (APC) governorship candidate in the March 18 election, Dr. Nentawe Yilwatda to join him in building a state that will be more united, secure and prosperous. Barrister Mutfwang made the appeal in a vote of

thanks after receiving his certificate of return from Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) and afterwards, at a reception to mark the event.

"I appeal to my brother, Dr Nentawe to come Let's work together. Plateau is bigger than all of us.

"I appeal to Governor Lalong not to dissipate energy, but he should come Let's work together. I am not after anybody. We were not elected to probe anybody, but we were

elected to make sure that the lives of the people become better and that is our focus; that us our agenda."

He acknowledged Dr. Patrick Dakum of the Labour Party for his maturity and brotherhood in putting a call through and congratulating him shortly after INEC declared him winner of the governorship election.

"If anybody tells you this election was rigged, he is living in the sky. There's no way we would have

rigged the election. This is a vote by the people, for the people and of the people."

He thanked those who voted for and against his team.

"The election is over. It is time for governance. It is time to put hearts together and see what is in the best interest of Plateau. How can we move Plateau forward? This should be the concern for every genuine Plateau person." He declared.



NGO Demands Improved Budgetary Allocation For Girls with Special Needs

The centre is currently implementing a one-year project aimed at providing equal opportunities for girls with disabilities on STEM education in Kaduna State, with funding support by Rise Up.

Aisha, who is also a Rise Up Leader, noted that if the budget is accented to, it will provide equal opportunities for girls with disabilities in the area of STEM with a view to narrowing intra and inter gender gaps.

"It will also enhance girls with special needs

education and economic security, ensure diverse and talented STEM workforce and eradicate discrimination.

"We appeal to the Executive Governor of Kaduna State to accent the improved budgetary allocation for STEM education by 0.46% of the current allocation for girls with special needs; aged 10-19 by December 2023". She said.

According to her, under this project, her organization will engage the management of the Kaduna State Disability

Board, to participate in the process and girls with special needs will also be incorporated into the advocacies to the Governor and various MDAs.

The Centre for Girls' Education (CGE), is focused on empowering adolescent girls in Northern Nigerian States and Southern Niger Republic by designing programmes to improve access to and quality of schooling for rural and low-income urban girls.

The Centre works to advance adolescent girls'

education and empowerment in northern Nigeria through innovative programming, advocacy, applied research, and strategic partnerships.

The meeting was attended by representatives from Ministry of Education, Finance, Planning and Budget Commission, State Basic Education Board (SUBEB), People with Disabilities, Joint Association of People with Disabilities and the Disability Board.

Northern Elders Caution Parties Spokesmen Against Unguarded Utterances

**Tasks judiciary to salvage nation's democracy*

By; AMOS TAUNA, Kaduna

The Northern Elders Forum (NEF), has expressed dismay with utterances of spokespersons of political parties.

The forum therefore, called on party leaders to immediately intervene and restrain them from using unhealthy language and exchanges that could be detrimental and heat up the polity.

Dr. Hakeem Baba-Ahmed, the forum's Director of Publicity and Advocacy in a statement, explained that the forum has followed the conduct of the elections, some of which are still being planned or conducted and expressed reservations over utterances of party spokespersons, describing it as not healthy to the development of democracy in Nigeria.

He said, "The forum is, however, concerned over rhetoric and exchanges, which raise tensions and fuel negative dispositions

that threaten inter-community relations. Party leaders should restrain spokespersons from escalating damaging language and exchanges."

He then appealed to Nigerians to allow the judiciary to undertake its onerous responsibility in a calm and peaceful atmosphere in order to get a head way to the development of democracy in the country.

He expressed displeasure that leaders are not exercising enough responsibility to encourage respect for the judicial process that is a key element of the electoral process.

The Director of Publicity and Advocacy reminded the judiciary that Nigerians look up to it to salvage democracy and restore the faith of Nigerians in its integrity and competence as it looks forward to having leadership that will give a sense of direction in the country.



Hakeem Baba Ahmed

Uba Sani, 32 Kaduna Assembly Members-elect Receive Certificates Of Return

By: IBRAHIMADAMU, Kaduna

Governor-elect, Senator Uba Sani and 32 members-elect of Kaduna State House of Assembly were on Friday, given certificates of return by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) as winners of March 18 general elections.

The certificates of return were presented to the governor-elect Uba Sani, his running mate, Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe and state assembly members-elect by National Commissioner of INEC, Mohammed Haruna Kudu in a brief ceremony held at Kaduna INEC office.

Senator Sani in a brief statement shortly after receiving his certificate of return as elected governor of Kaduna State, promised to run an all-inclusive administration in which interests of all citizens irrespective of party and religious affiliation would be taken care of.

He disclosed that a well-thought out plan has already been prepared and in place to address pressing needs of the state, adding that no discrimination would be made against anybody or segments of the society based on voting patterns of the just concluded election.

"I will hit the ground running as soon as I assume mantle of leadership of our great by ensuring I deliver my electoral pledges to our people.

"I am not unaware of barrage of issues confronting our people and state at this material time because I'm also part and parcel of you and I can feel your pulse.

"Leadership is all about service to the people and ensure their welfare and other issues affecting them directly are handled and given priority," he maintained.

According to INEC statistics of the governorship and state assembly elections conducted on March 18 All progressives Congress (APC) won 20 seats while 12 went to the opposition People's Democratic Party (PDP).

Contests in four constituencies were declared inconclusive.

They are; Kaura, Kudan, Sanga and Giwa East with dates for elections in the affected areas yet to be announced by the electoral umpire



Pray For Peace, Tranquility In Nigeria - Olubadan

**Optimistic of a brighter future*

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The Olubadan of Ibadanland, Oba Lekan Balogun has asked Nigerians to pray for continuous peace and tranquility in Nigeria.

Oba Lekan Balogun gave the task in Ibadan on Saturday, while speaking at the maiden Ramadan Lecture organized in his honour by the Federation of Ahlus-Sunnah Organization in Nigeria (FASON) at his Ali-Iwo Palace

The Olubadan stressed that Nigeria as a country would be a better place for all if the tenets of Islamic religion are followed in the daily activities of the people.

According to Oba Lekan

Balogun, there is the need for Nigerians to put into practice the lessons inherent in the Ramadan Fast adding that he was impressed by the event of the day.

The Olubadan then prayed that the Almighty Allah would grant the religious leaders strength, more knowledge, wisdom and understanding to remain the mouth-piece of the Almighty Allah.

Speaking at the lecture themed 'The Royal Da'wah: Ali-Iwo Dynasty in Ibadan History', Sheikh Tajudeen AbdulKareem Al-Adabiyy (Baba L'agbeni), who is the National Amir, FASON stressed that one unique thing about the Ali-Iwo dynasty is the fact that it

remains the only ruling house in Ibadan till date that has no any shrine whatsoever.

The Aare Musulumi of Yorubaland, Edo and Delta States, Alhaji Daud Akinola Makanjuola in his remark congratulated the Muslim community for being in faith and commended Olubadan of Ibadanland, Oba Lekan Balogun in whose honour the lecture was held for acknowledging Almighty Allah, not minding his position as the paramount ruler of Ibadanland.

Alhaji Makanjuola urged the congregation to emulate Oba Lekan Balogun by seeing the Almighty Allah as the all in all in whatever position they may find themselves.

Speaking with newsmen at the prayer Alhaji Makanjuola, tasked Nigerians to pray for the President-elect and cooperate with him to deliver the message the Almighty Allah sent to Nigeria and Nigerians through him.

He described the President-elect, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu as a man of integrity with capability and ability to lead Nigeria at this particular time, saying, "after our prayers for him and the team to work with him, all hands must be on deck and see what the Almighty Allah would do for this country through him. The country would witness remarkable difference from what we are witnessing presently".

82,000 Women Die From Pregnancy, Childbirth Related Complications In Nigeria Annually - UNICEF

By; AMOS TAUNA, Kaduna

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), has explained that a new global maternal mortality report indicated that in Nigeria, 82,000 women die from pregnancy and childbirth-related complications every year. Eduardo Celades, the UNICEF Nigeria Chief of Health, during a media dialogue on COVID-19 and routine immunisation organised by UNICEF Nigeria Office on Friday, in collaboration with the Child Rights Information Bureau (CRIB) of the Federal Ministry of Information and Culture. According to the report, titled: 'Trends in maternal mortality 2000 to 2020' was done by the United Nations Maternal Mortality Estimation Inter Agency Group (MMEIG) – comprising WHO, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the World Bank Group and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (UNDESA/Population Division), and covers the period 2000-2020.

Celades explained that it translated to 225 deaths from maternal mortality every day, saying that it showed that the number of women dying from pregnancy-related causes was very high in the country.

The way out, he said, "involved a three-prong approach, which involves increasing effective investments in primary health care at the state level, as well as the Basic Health Care Provision Fund (BHCPF)."

The UNICEF Nigeria Chief of Health further explained that the second one was to expand the National Health Insurance Scheme, stressing that it is a powerful tool to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and reduce maternal mortality. He added that the third one was to target the most vulnerable, including women who don't have access in hard-to-reach areas to be able to curb the menace.

Celades lamented that Nigeria had the second highest number of zero-dose children in the world, while calling for the prioritisation of routine immunisation in order to protect Nigerian children from vaccine-preventable diseases.

Akwa Ibom Governor-Elect, 26 Others Receive Certificates of Return

By; PATRICK TITUS, Uyo

The Governor-elect for Akwa Ibom State, Pastor Umo Eno, who emerged the winner at March 18 governorship election conducted by Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has been issued a Certificate of Return.

Also issued with the Certificates of Return, were 26 members of the State House of Assembly, who also emerged winners at the poll in their various state constituency. of the number, PDP has 29 seats while YPP picked two seats.

The presentation ceremony which took place at the INEC Office in Udo Udoma Avenue in Uyo, was supervised by INEC National Commissioner, Mrs May Agbamuche-Mbu Agbamuche-Mbu expressed appreciation to all stakeholders for the role they played for the successful conduct of the election.

She said that the Electoral Act, mandated the Commission to issue certificates of return to winners of the election within 14 days from the day the results were announced.

"Let me appreciate our critical stakeholders for their unwavering support



throughout the 2023 general elections in Akwa Ibom.

"I wish to commend the Resident Electoral Commissioner, Dr Cyril Omorogbe, the management staff of the the commission, members of the press and observers for their commitment and participation in the just concluded general elections," she said.

She said that the election to office was a call to service and urged the elected officers to work hard and provide dividends of democracy to the people.

The Resident Electoral Commissioner (REC) in Akwa Ibom, Dr Cyril Omorogbe, reassured all

stakeholders in the electioneering process that INEC was poised at building on the high level of credibility it has achieved.

REC urged them to use the renewed mandates given to them to serve the people diligently and truthfully.

He urged the stakeholders especially the political class and security agencies to continue to support the Commission's efforts at ensuring a lasting democratic process in the country.

In his remarks, the governor elect, Eno promised to be magnanimous in victory and called for everyone to join hands to build the state.

"Let me again use this opportunity to invite my brothers who, also, aspired and contested for the same position that it has pleased God to entrust me with today, to join me in this great journey of deepening the continued peace and progress of our dear State.

"As I said in my Acceptance Speech, we all ran a good race, but in any contest, a winner must emerge and it has pleased God to make me the winner.

'I am committed to remaining magnanimous in victory and be a Governor for all Akwaibomites irrespective of their political affiliations

FCT Senator-elect, Ireti Kingibe Promises To Work With Other Parties For Development

By; AMOS TAUNA, Kaduna

The Senator-elect on the platform of the Labour Party representing the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Hajiya Ireti Kingibe, has enjoined candidates of other political parties that contested in the February 25 poll to come together and work with her for the overall interest of development of the capital city.

She assured that she would vigorously pursue and continue with the legacies of the outgoing Senator, Philip Aduda.

Speaking in a press conference in Abuja, Ireti said, "The FCT has had several senators before me and they have all given their input into making the FCT what it is today. My predecessor (Aduda) has given FCT his best in the last 12 years. For that, we also thank him, and I would like him to know that I am willing to continue to work from wherever he has left."

She stated that she would also like to reach out to them (co-contestants), make them understand that this whole thing is not about her and the need for we all join hands to move the FCT to places that it has not been before.

She expressed her readiness to work with everybody irrespective of parties that contested with me for the purpose of enhancing the living standards of the people in the area.

She added that she was very ready to take their ideas and whatever they have done or they want and expressed her willingness to work with them to get those things done.

Troops Neutralize Bandits, Capture Arms, Ammunition In Kaduna State

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

In continuation of the onslaught against bandits and other criminal elements terrorising the North Western part of the country, troops of 1 Division Nigerian Army operating in Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State have conducted clearance operation along Kanti-Tantatu in Kubusu Forest and Kaso Hills general area in Kaduna State to deprive bandits and

criminals freedom of action to create an enabling environment for economic activities and legitimate businesses to thrive.

This was contained in a statement signed by the Acting Deputy Director Army Public Relations 1 Division Nigerian Army Lieutenant Colonel Musa Yahaya and made available to the press on March 31, 2023

During the operation which lasted several

hours, troops dealt a heavy blow on the criminals, neutralizing five bandits as well as capturing four AK 47 rifles, six AK 47 magazines and 24 rounds of 7.62mm.

Others include, three motorcycles, one matchet, two handsets and some charms. The General Officer Commanding 1 Division Nigerian Army and Force Commander Joint Task Force Operation Whirl Punch, Major General Taoreed

Lagbaja has expressed satisfaction in the conduct of troops and commended their commitment and resilience during the operation.

He also urged all law abiding citizens to continue to support the troops and other security agencies with credible and actionable information that will assist in the fight against the criminal elements.



Masari Receives Report Of Commission Investigating Banditry On Bakori/Kankara

By; SULAIMAN AHMED MISAU; Katsina

Katsina State Governor Aminu Bello Masari has received the report of the white paper drafting committee on the report of the judicial commission of enquiry that investigated the Bakori/Kankara banditry attack leading to the loss of innocent lives. In an address at the presentation of the report, Governor Aminu Masari assured that Government would carefully study the report and implement it as much as possible.

According to him, the State Government would advise sister States sharing similar security challenges on areas of recommendations that could be of importance to them.

He said copy of the report would be forwarded to the Federal Government through relevant establishment in the State. Alhaji Aminu Masari said

his administration is seriously concerned with what is happening in the State and the entire North with regard to the activities of bandits now transformed into full scale criminals.

Earlier, the Chairman of the White Paper Drafting Committee who is also the Head of the State Civil Service Alhaji Idris Usman Tune said all the recommendations of the committee were made with due regard to relevant laws, extant rules and regulations governing the conduct of affairs in public service.

The Committee Chairman hoped that the recommendations would go a long way in further propelling the determination of the State Government aimed at bringing lasting solution to the current banditry problem bedeviling not only Katsina State the North-West and some states in the North Central.

Training Of Education Managers On Digital Register Opens In Katsina

By; SULAIMAN AHMED MISAU, Katsina

A one-day Planning Meeting and Training of Education Managers on digitalization of Attendance and Admission Registers has been declared open in Katsina State.

Declaring the training workshop open, the Executive Chairman Katsina State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB), Alhaji Lawal Buhari Daura described the training as timely as the world is changing to technology oriented.

Alhaji Lawal Buhari Daura represented by the Board's Secretary Dr. Isah Idris Zakari further stated that through the digitizing the process attendance and Admission Registers it will enhance simplifying work and keep good records.

He then charged participants of the training to give their maximum support and cooperation to achieve the desired goals

Earlier in a welcome address, the Technical Adviser on BESDA in Katsina State Alhaji Lawal Muhammad Kofar Sauri stated that the twentyone NON Intensive Learning Programme Local Government Education Authorities were attending the training programme.

In a goodwill message, the State Project Coordinator Adolescents Girls Initiative Learning Empowerment (AGILE) Mustafa Shehu has assured that the AGILE programme would continue to collaborate with the Better Education Service Delivery for All-BESDA to move the education sector forward in the state.

German Embassy, JIFORM Mull Partnership To Train Journalists On Migration, Economic Issues

By; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

Indication has emerged that the German Embassy in Nigeria and the Journalists International Forum For Migration (JIFORM) would soon actualise a training programme for journalists on migration and economic issues.

A statement from the secretariat of JIFORM confirmed the development to journalists in Lagos.

Last week, the duo of Dr Ajibola Abayomi, the president of the JIFORM and another member of the organization, Mrs Yemisi Izuora was received by Gerald Wolf, the Deputy Consul General and Elle Ogunsonya, the programme Coordinator at the Lagos consulate of the embassy during which the JIFORM delegation requested for collaboration on the training of journalists on migration matters.

At the parley, Ajibola admonished the embassy to work with the JIFORM to further drive the campaign against

irregular migration, human trafficking and other migration menaces.

“While we agree that migration is not a crime, the message must be clear that it must not be abused by anyone due to inadequate information on the choice they make. We are appalled by the cases of repatriation of thousands of migrants from Germany and other countries involving Nigerians.

“We are convinced that we can do better with quality information for the purpose of enlightening the public and this can be achieved with capacity building for the media practitioners to engage stakeholders on the way out. Journalists also need to be exposed to better management of migrant information geared towards economic development for the good of all.

“The JIFORM is open to collaboration with various institutions to ensure that migrant matters from the point of safe, regular and orderly migration become a win-win situation for all

countries. On this, we seek your support to continue to empower journalists in Nigeria as we look forward to having the second edition of the JIFORM intercontinental migration summit hosted in Germany later this year” he said.

Responding, Gerald said his office would welcome a proposal to actualise a workshop for journalists and take steps to ensure its success when approved.

He added that the German government has a series of opportunities for skilled and qualified migrants from Nigeria especially in education and those who are qualified as teachers.

The Deputy Consul while wishing the JIFORM well on its desire to stage a migration summit in Germany said his office was looking forward to also liaising with other German organizations in Nigeria to be part of interaction with the media during the proposed training programme.

The JIFORM founded in 2019 in Lagos comprises over 300 journalists covering migration across

the continents. The body has facilitated a series of local and international capacity building and training programmes for journalists and other stakeholders over the years.

These included the initiation of the annual global migration conference with the 3rd edition held in Toronto, Canada in 2022. The JIFORM in partnership with Nekotech Centre of Excellence pioneered the African Migration summit in Ghana in 2021 and organised the West African Media Migration Summit in Togo in the same year.

Apart from these, the JIFORM in collaboration with the City University, New York City in Brooklyn between November 2-4, 2022 held the inaugural intercontinental migration summit and has equally put in place an annual national migration summit which berth in Lagos on February 9 to serve as a retreat for journalists and stakeholder on migration matters in Nigeria.



L-R: Dr Ajibola Abayomi, President of the Journalists International Forum For Migration (JIFORM), Gerald Wolf, Deputy Consul General, German Embassy, Lagos, and Mrs Yemisi Izuora member of JIFORM during the visit.

Researchers From Fed Min Of Special Duties, Inter-Governmental Visit Excites ABU VC

By; SANI ALIYU, Zaria

The Vice-Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria, Prof. Kabiru Bala, has described the field trip by team of researchers from the Federal Ministry of Special Duties and Inter-Governmental Affairs, as apt.

This was contained in a statement issued by the Public Affairs Directorate of the university at the weekend.

Addressing the team, Prof. Bala, who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Administration, Prof. Ahmed Doko Ibrahim, decried the neglect of the third-tier of government throughout the country. He applauded the ministry's efforts for mandating its Department of Inter-Governmental Affairs to embark on research to evolve new strategies for effective local government administration in Nigeria.

The team's assignment includes review of the existing modus operandi, and to identify and analyze recent innovative developments, as well as to make recommendations for new approaches, in enhancing local government administration in Nigeria.

The team was on ground from 28th to 30th March, 2023 specifically at the Department of Local Government and Development Studies, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.

The Vice-Chancellor, on behalf of the University Management, particularly the Department, thanked the Ministry for what he described as "resuscitation" of over 13 years relationship, which he said was an issue of national development that ABU must support.

He thanked the Ministry for all the projects and structures put in place in the Department, in addition to the annual grants for maintenance of the Department, as well as conferences and seminars all sponsored by the Ministry. Earlier in his address, the leader of the team, Nkanor Umoh, thanked the University Management for the cordial relationship between the ministry and the University.

He announced that the forthcoming stakeholders conference coming up with foremost Nigerian universities in attendance, will be coordinated by Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria. It is slated for 18th and 19th of April, 2023. Other members of the team are, Audu Eucharia, Ufaruna Sarah Azi and Ndubuisi

Kano Governor-elect Announces Transition Committee

**Dr. Baffa Bichi, Abdullahi Musa appointed as Chairman, Secretary*

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Following the presentation of Certificates of Return by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), the Kano State Governor-elect Engr. Abba Kabir Yusuf (Abba Gida Gida) has unveiled his 2023 Transition Committee.

In a statement issued by Sanusi Bature Dawakin Tofa, the Chief Press Secretary to the Governor-elect, the former Executive Secretary of the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND) and NNPP 2023 Senatorial Candidate for Kano North Dr. Abdullahi Baffa Bichi is announced as Chairman of the Gubernatorial

Transition Committee (GTC), while a retired Permanent Secretary, Abdullahi Musa as the Secretary.

The Transition Committee will amongst other things, facilitate the orderly transfer of power from the outgoing Ganduje Administration to the incoming Abba Gida Gida Administration.

His Excellency, the Kano State Governor-elect inaugurated the Committee on Saturday April 1, 2023 by 2:00pm. The full list of the Main Committee membership, while sub-committees on various sectors and sub-sectors would be announced in due course.

APC Chieftain Gives Reasons Why Senate President Should Emerge From North West

**Backs Barau Jibril*

By; BASHIR DOLLARS, Abuja

All Progressives Congress (APC) National Leadership has been urged to zone the Senate President to North West Zone of the country for the unity of the party.

A chieftain of the party in Kaduna Alhaji Muhammadu Multala made the call in an interview with newsmen in the state.

According to him, North West deserves the Senate Presidency, looking at the number of votes recorded for the party during the presidential election.

Alhaji Multala also advocated for Senator Jibril Barau, popularly known as (Maliya) from Kano State to be elected as Senate President of the 10th Assembly.

The politician also explained that already the South West has a President, while North East has Vice President and so North West that

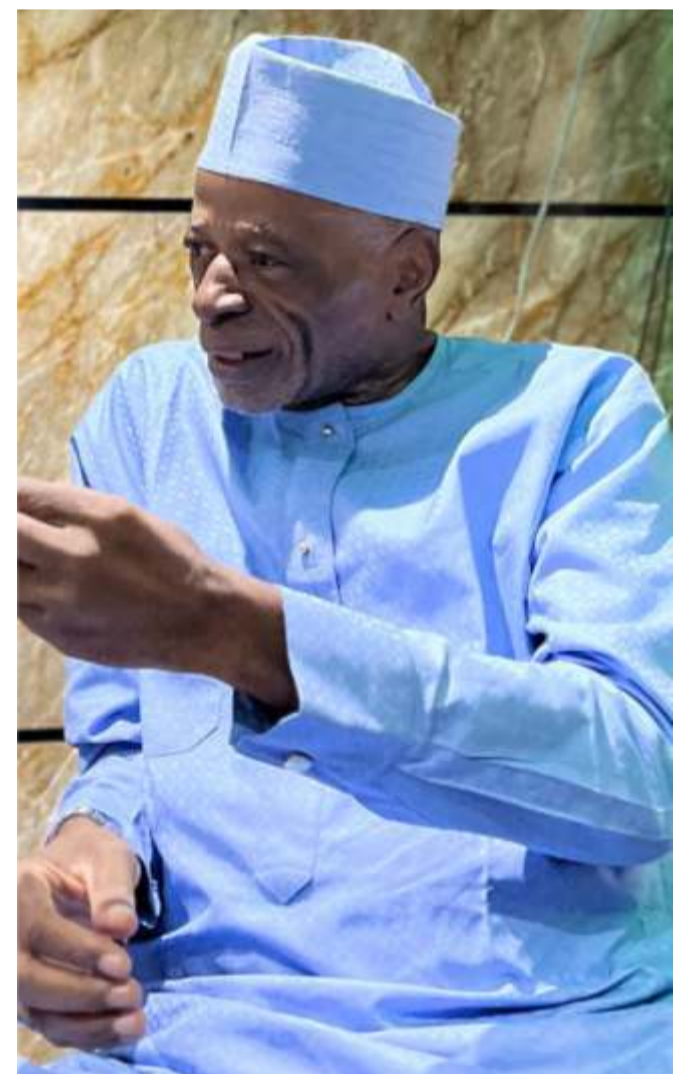
produced the highest votes to the president, deserves the Senate President position too to strike a balance.

He said, Senator Barau as a fourth timer in the National Assembly, is the most qualified to occupy the seat from the North West zone.

"Our National party leadership needs to zone the Senate position to North West because it is the zone where Senator Barau Jibril comes from. He is also an experienced Senator, which makes him the most qualified among all indicatinv interest for same position," he said.

He urged other members of the Senate with similar interests especially from other zones to drop it because none of them had acquired the experienced of Senator Jibril.

He urged the elected lawmakers to rally behind Senator Jibril for the development of the 10th National Assembly and the country.



Alhaji Muhammadu Multala

NIIT, NACETEM Expedite Moves To Operationalise MOU

By; SANI ALIYU, Zaria

The Nigerian Institute of Transport Technology (NITT), Zaria, and National Centre for Technology Management (NACETEM) are expediting action towards operationalising the recently signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). A statement issued by the institute's Public Relations Unit said that this effort is coming on the heels of the visit of NACETEM management to NITT to

explore possible areas of partnership.

Speaking at the occasion, the Director General/Chief Executive of NITT, Dr. Bayero Salih Farah, observed that the relationship between NACETEM and NITT dates back over a decade.

"We trace back the relationship between NITT and NACETEM several years back", he noted, adding that "signing of the MoU was the climax of the relationship."

Dr. Farah expressed optimism about the

MoU, given the conscientiousness and commitment of both parties.

"We appreciate your commitment and we are going to show equal level of commitment to ensure that we derive the benefit of the MoU", he noted.

In his remarks, the overseeing Director General of NACETEM, Dr. Omimakinde John Akintayo, who acknowledged the serene and conducive environment at NITT, expressed his organisation's commitment to realising the objectives of

the MoU.

"When we signed the MoU, our interest is to make it work", he stated.

Dr. Akintayo enumerated some of the key areas of synergy categorized under joint local and international training programmes, workshops and research.

The technical committees from the collaborating organisations agreed to critically scrutinise proposals from both parties with a view to harmonising them for immediate implementation.



COMMUNITY FOCUS

Jama'atu Nasrul Yatama: 17 Glorious Years Of Philanthropy To Orphans In Kudan Community



BY: SANIALIYU, Zaria

For 17 years now, Jama'atu Nasrul Yatama Orphanage Service, Kudan, a non governmental organization has been putting smiles on the faces of orphans, especially during Ramadan fasting season with foodstuff, clothings and other basic needs.

With all the challenges members of Executive Committee of this great association face they stand on their feet in ensuring sustainability of the noble project of caring for orphans.

The major challenge before concerned people of Kudan with interest of these kids at hearts is mobilization of resources to fund education of these orphans who got admitted into tertiary institutions.

It is the wish of prominent members of the Kudan community to be part of the success story of the organization by contributing their quota into this philanthropic gesture to supplement the job of the committee.

Members of the committee, realizing the importance of joint and collective efforts did not relent in reaching out to donors to ensure continuity of the good work which has flourished in the past 17 years making life worthwhile for orphans who are primary targets of the committee.

The members will only match their integrity and seasoned disposition with the expectations of this Clarion call of service to humanity through passion, compassion and zeal to impact lives positively.

As a committee of patriotic citizens of Kudan and its environs who are poised to resuscitating a moribund essential community for people, you're without doubt, the best of the people in this wonderful community as emphasized by a

prophetic tradition which says: the best among people is one from whom much benefit is derived.

The Committee Secretary, Malam Adamu Muhammad Kudan said, "we are now focused on skills acquisition, training, on education both Islamic and Western, in addition to the distribution of foodstuff and cloths for Ramadan and Sallah festivities, health-care among others to the orphans.

He highlights some challenges facing the committee to include; paucity of funds, lack of healthcare facilities to attend medical needs of the orphans in the area.

In his lecture, Dr Mu'azu Sa'adu Kudan emphasized the importance of assisting orphans at all levels.

Dr. Kudan advised people to always support and assist the orphans to have a life similar or even better than children with parents.

It is worthy of mention here the basketful of gratitude from beneficiaries - orphans and widows to organisers for putting smiles on their faces during this festive period.

"I am a widow and doing petty trading to enable me look after the orphans under my custody. This support would ameliorate the hard times we are going through," a beneficiary said.

These past 17 years of the existence of the foundation have been golden so to say considering the many positive impacts it has made on lives of orphans within the community: school fees paid, vocations enabled, shelters provided etc.

It is in this light, the Kudan orphanage committee is extending hands of fellowship to well meaning individuals as well as corporate organizations to support them by contributing towards assisting the orphans.



Uba Sani Commends Kaduna Citizens, Seeks Support



By; FUNMI ADERINTO, Kaduna

Kaduna State Governor-elect, Senator Uba Sani has commended the citizens of the state for trusting in him the mandate to lead the state as he sought support of people of Kaduna State.

This followed the presentation by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) at the weekend, Certificates of Return to Kaduna State Governor-elect, Senator Uba Sani and the Deputy Governor-elect, Dr Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe as winners of the Governorship election in Kaduna State.

Speaking shortly after he was presented the certificate, Governor elect Uba Sani assured the state of working along with women and youth in the state.

He said the citizens who

reposed their confidence on him, will no doubt be beneficiaries of the dividends of democracy.

According to the Governor elect, the people of the states had on March 18 chose their leaders in the election by electing the governor -elect, his deputy and the 19 state constituencies elect and also 29 house of assembly members-elect for the next four years.

He commended Governor Nasir Ahmad el-Rufai for his leadership by example, while using the occasion to pray for guidance of God upon the new leaders to be able to deliver in accordance to the mandate giving to them.

Consequently, the National Electoral Commissioner in charge of Kaduna, Plateau, Nasarawa and the FCT, Mohammed Haruna presented the Certificates of Return to the Governor and Deputy Governor-

elect, while the Administrative Secretary of INEC, Kaduna State, Mohammed Ahmad Mashi presented the Certificates of Return to the 29 elected State House of Assembly Members.

He said, their seven-point agenda is to strengthen infrastructure, institution, trade and investment, agriculture and investment in human capital and nurturing citizens engagements. Governor-elect thanked God for making the day a reality, assuring the state that he will be servant of the people and he will carry out every responsibility with the fear of Allah, whether they voted for him or not, in respect of his religion.

He sought the support of all the citizens of Kaduna State, while commending the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) for dedication and commitment in the discharge of its duties.

He also appreciated the security agencies for maintaining law and order in the state during the election.

He however, invited his fellow contestants to join hands with him in moving the state to greater heights, while thanking his party leaders for their support.

" On behalf of the Governor elect and deputy Governor elect, I congratulate all the Kaduna State House of Assembly elect and I enjoy all of you to work with us as a team to continue building on development of our state and to sustain the outstanding achievements of Malam Nasir Ahmad el-Rufai. He said with their support, together they shall make Kaduna State a place of development, while praying for God to bless Kaduna State and Nigeria at large.

The event took a colourful

celebration after the presentation from INEC office to Yar'Adua Hall to APC campaign office at Ungwan Rimi with family, friends and well wishers with a congratulatory message to the Governor and Deputy Governor-elect, Senator Uba Sani and Dr. Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe.

In honour of the incumbent Governor, Nasir Ahmad el-Rufai, the Governor-elect of Kaduna State, Senator Uba Sani and the Deputy Governor-elect of Kaduna State, Dr Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe presented their Certificates of Return to him during a courtesy visit held on Friday at the Sir Kashim Ibrahim Government House.

In attendance, were the wife of the governor, Architect Hadiza Isma el-Rufai and the Secretary to the State Government, Kaduna State, Alhaji Balarabe Abbas Lawal.



Defence Minister Inspects, Commissions Multiple Projects In NDA

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The Minister of Defence, Major General Bashir Magashi (rtd), on Friday, inspected and commissioned multiple projects at the Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA) Kaduna, in a bid to enhance training of cadets. The projects inaugurated included roads, in honour of war heroes, NDA-NAF base link road and new gate in honour, and named after the Minister of

Defence, Magashi. Magashi also inspected concrete fence and block fence projects, while also unveiling new adventure obstacle course, where demonstration was carried out by the Cadets. He also witnessed river assault crossing demonstration by cadets of the 70th Regular Course at the Nigerian Air Force Dam. Speaking to newsmen after the inauguration, Magashi said he has had consisted expectation

that the armed forces of Nigeria are doing their best to in keeping to their constitutional duties to the country. He noted that his visit to the NDA, alongside commissioning of the multiple projects were also to see areas of improvement in training and other aspects of soldiering in the NDA to ensure good breeds of young officers being projected out from the academy. Shielding questions on the level of insecurity in the country,

Magashi said that there has been much improvement as seen in the North East and North West, noting however, that the issue cannot be completely be ridden off. The minister, however, also noted that gradually, people would return to civilised way of doing things, while hoping that Nigeria would achieve that in no distant time. He expressed gratitude for the project named after him at the NDA, while also commending the Commandant for his vision

and innovations towards ensuring standards being inculcated in all aspects of training to the Cadets. Earlier, Commandant of the Academy, Major General Ibrahim Yusuf, said the projects would enhance the security architecture of the NDA, and had open way for additional training areas. He thanked the Minister; Chief of Defence Staff, Chief of Army Staff and other service chiefs for their support to the Academy.



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NIIT, NACETEM Expedite Moves To Operationalise MOU

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conscientiousness and commitment of both parties.

"We appreciate your commitment and we are going to show equal level of commitment to ensure that we derive the benefit of the MoU", he noted.

In his remarks, the overseeing Director General of NACETEM, Dr. Omimakinde John Akintayo, who acknowledged the serene and conducive environment at NITT, expressed his organisation's commitment to realising the objectives of the

MoU.

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KADSEMA Supports 22,672 Victims Of Disaster In 2022

**ES attributes success to partnership*

By; ALEX UANGBAOJE, Kaduna

The Executive Secretary, Kaduna State Emergency Management Agency (KADSEMA) Muhammed Mu'azu Mukaddas, has attributed the successes recorded by the agency in 2022, to collaboration with different stakeholders in the sector.

According to the ES, during the State Emergency Sub-national Coordination meeting, support from various organizations, all relevant stakeholders and the Inter-agency collaboration approach introduced by the agency is the game changer for disaster management in the state.

He said the multi-agency coordination composition was drawn from senior Directors of relevant MDAs, which handles strategic thinking and decision making, is lead by ES SEMA when the need arises.

He explained that the agency also set up an Emergency Operation/Coordination Center (EOC/ECC) with memberships from SEMA; NEMA; Red Cross; Nigeria Security & Civil Defence Corp; Relevant MDAs and CSOs. Under the leadership of SEMA, the committee met every Tuesdays and Thursdays to review and coordinate

responses.

Tactical Team with memberships from SEMA; NEMA; Fire Service; Red Cross; Security; LEMCs and Divers, responsible for search, rescue and evacuation actions, lead by Fire Service, was also setup.

Mu'azu, revealed that the state recorded 22,672 Internally Displaced Person's (IDPs) in 72 IDP Camps within 5 LGAs of Birnin Gwari, Jemaa, Zangon Kataf, Kachia and Giwa in 2022 and that all the IDPs were adequately provided with succour to ameliorate their sufferings.

He noted that the meeting was

aimed to review all that was done in 2022, saying "In our efforts to manage emergencies in the state, we have been working with all relevant stakeholders at the state level as well as those coming from the LGAs. It has always been a joint work".

In her remarks, the State Deputy Governor, Dr. Hadiza Balarabe, who commended the ES and his team for the good work they are doing in securing the state from imminent disasters, called on all MDAs in the State to continue to support the agency and disaster management stakeholders so as to enable it meet its mandate.

Dr. Hadiza, who was

represented by the Deputy Chief of Staff to the Governor, James Kanyip, noted that "Preparations on saving lives cannot be too much.

"Apart from previous coordination meetings, I am aware that KADSEMA has held several activities meant to bolster its level of preparedness together with other stakeholders in disaster management. In August 2022, for instance, it reviewed the 2022 Risk Analysis Map and Multi-hazard Contingency Plan for Kaduna State where it identified actual and likely threats facing the state and planned for them. The Kaduna State Disaster Action

Plan for 2023 to be presented today is a result of this effort.

"I believe that nothing can be better than planning ahead, especially for problems that can cripple people or their environment when they occur.

Therefore, as a government we shall continue to support the activities of emergency management stakeholders in the State to mitigate against calamities as global warming, flooding, desertification, storms, heat waves, communal clashes, banditry, and other human conflicts.

"The Kaduna State Government is particularly thankful to the Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet) for its regular updates which help in disaster management in the State, including forestalling disasters in agricultural practices by our farmers.

"I am happy that NiMet has brought its wealth of experience in the organization of this meeting. I wish to also show our appreciation to Christian Aid and other donors who have assisted us in our disaster management one way or the other and especially today's program. We look forward to more of these collaborative efforts.

The meeting was supported by Christian Aid and Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI).



el-Rufai Impressed As Troops Neutralize 11 Bandits During Intense Battle In Birnin Gwari LGA

**Enclaves cleared, arms, ammunition recovered*

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Troops and Special Forces of the Nigerian Army have neutralized 11 bandits in a fierce battle which took place during fighting patrols in Birnin Gwari LGA.

A statement signed by the Commissioner, Ministry of Internal Security and Home Affairs, Kaduna State, Samuel Aruwan, made available yesterday, said that

operational feedback to the Kaduna State Government revealed that the troops advanced to several identified locations, and cleared bandit camps in Bagoma, Rema, Bugai, Dagara, Sabon Layi, Gagumi, Kakangi, Katakaki and Randagi.

"In the course of these operations, the forces made contact with bandits at Kakangi and Katakaki. A fierce gun battle followed, after which the criminals were

subdued by the troops' aggressive firepower. Eleven bandits were confirmed neutralized, as others fled.

"After the battle, the troops exploited the location and recovered two AK-47 rifles, two AK-47 magazines and 57 rounds of ammunition. Six motorcycles belonging to the bandits were destroyed during the encounter," it said.

It explained that receiving the report, Governor Nasir el-Rufai expressed

satisfaction at the emphatic outing by the security forces and praised the leadership of the Major General Taoheed A. Lagbaja, GOC One Division and Force Commander of the Operation Whirl Punch.

The governor lauded the troops for their consistent and spirited efforts, as he urged them to build on the momentum of this notable success.



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By: SANIALIYU, Zaria

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Addressing the team, Prof. Bala, who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Administration, Prof. Ahmed Doko Ibrahim, decried the neglect of the third-tier of government throughout the country.

He applauded the ministry's efforts for mandating its Department of Inter-Governmental Affairs to embark on research to evolve new strategies for effective local

government administration in Nigeria.

The team's assignment includes review of the existing modus operandi, and to identify and analyze recent innovative developments, as well as to make recommendations for new approaches, in enhancing local government administration in Nigeria.

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He announced that the forthcoming stakeholders conference coming up with foremost Nigerian universities

in attendance, will be coordinated by Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.

It is slated for 18th and 19th of April, 2023. Other members of the team are, Audu Eucharia, Ufaruna Sarah Azi and Ndubuisi

CMMRC, IMC Organize Breaking Of Fast Dinner For Muslims, Christians In Kaduna

By: USMAN NASIDI, Kaduna

The Conflict Mitigation and Management Regional Council (CMMRC), Community Peace Observers (CPO) in conjunction with the Network of Peace Journalists (NPJ), has organized a one-day Ramadan Iftar breakfast to strengthen peaceful coexistence and religious tolerance in Kaduna State.

During the event which took place on Friday evening at Unguwar Rimi, Kaduna North LGA, the group disclosed that the sole aim of organizing the Ramadan Iftar breakfast is to promote the ethical values on peaceful conducts among the diverse ethnic and religious group on the need to embrace Peace and by serving as Ambassadors of Unity in their various localities.

According to Mr. Samson Auta, the coordinator of the Community Peace Action Network (CPAN), of the Interfaith Mediation Centre (IMC) Kaduna State, the aim of coming together is to join their Muslim brothers and sisters in breaking Ramadan fasting.

However, the gathering

was also to emphasize the importance of strengthening peaceful coexistence and religious tolerance among the adherents of different faith groups and organizations in the state.

Similarly, it was gathered that top Islamic and Christian scholars, women organizations, youth groups and traditional title holders and security personnel attended the occasion.

Mr. Samson said, the Ramadan - Iftar provides a golden opportunity for self-reflection, devotion to the maker of all

mankind and serves as a means for both Christians and Muslims to interact, dialogue and exchange goodwill messages of peace and unity in the country.

He expressed happiness over the just concluded 2023 general elections in the state, which he said, shows people's aspiration towards peace and in promoting peaceful conduct before, during and after the elections.

He therefore, appealed to the youth groups in Kaduna State and across the country to shun all forms of violence and embrace peace as a sustaining factor for

development.

Similarly, Mrs Catherine John Amangs, who is the secretary of the group working on early warning and early response on the Community Initiatives to Promote Peace (CIPP), known as the Conflict Mitigation and Management Regional Council (CMMRC), said that they came to join their brothers and sisters for the breaking of the Ramadan fast with the aim of strengthening Christian-Muslim relationship in the state.

She noted that both Muslims and Christians at this season are both

observing fasting, "Lent and Ramadan," hence the need to join hands together towards praying for peace and stability in the country.

In his remarks, Comrade Abubakar Umar Suleiman, who is also one of the Community Peace Observer (CPO), residing in Unguwar Rimi, expressed delight and happiness for the large number of Christian brothers and sisters that came from far to join them in breaking the Ramadan Fast as a family.

He called on both Muslims and

Christians to always live in peace; irrespective of tribe, religion cultural and regional differences in the best interest of Nigeria.

The group also plans to celebrate the Easter together through exchanging visitation and sharing of gift to the less privileged.

Meanwhile, the network of Peace Journalists that also attended the event, called on the adherence of different faith groups and organizations in the country to embrace peace and harmony for the peace and stability in the country.



Nigeria And Lagos: No Man's Land

By: PRINCE CHARLES DICKSON

A sage presented a prince with a set of three small dolls. The prince was not amused. "Am I a girl that you give me dolls?" he asked.

"This is a gift for a future king," said the man. "If you look carefully, you'll see a hole in the ear of each doll."

"Ok?"

The sage handed him a piece of string.

"Pass it through each doll," he said.

Intrigued, the prince picked up the first doll; put the string into the ear. It came out from the other ear.

"This is one type of person," said the man.

"Whatever you tell him, comes out from the other ear. He doesn't retain anything."

The prince put the string into the 2nd doll. It came out from the mouth.

"This is the 2nd type of person," said the man. "Whatever you tell him, he tells everybody else."

The prince picked up the 3rd doll and repeated the process. The string did not reappear from anywhere else.

"This is the 3rd type of person," said the man. "Whatever you tell him is locked up within him. It never comes out."

"What is the best type of person?" asked the prince.

The man handed him a 4th doll, in answer. When the prince put the string into the doll, it came out from the other ear.

"Do it again," said the sage. The prince repeated the process. This time the string came out from the mouth. When he put the string in a 3rd time, it did not come out at all.

"This is the best type of person," said the sage. "A man must know when not to listen, when to remain silent and; when to speak out. And when he's developed these skills, he will be trustworthy and wise"

The term "no man's land" typically refers to a disputed territory that lies between two opposing forces, often in the context of war or conflict. It is a contested area where neither side has complete control or authority. Nigeria is a no man's land, everything is in contention and in contestation, at one point or the other!

The debate surrounding Nigeria as a no man's land has been ongoing for many years, with different viewpoints and opinions being put forward. Some argue that it is an essential part of the politician's strategy at dividing the populace, providing a buffer zone between opposing forces that allows for tactical movement and protection whether by faith, language or any other foolish nepotism reasoning, after all we have very few shared values.

Others argue that no man's land is a symbol of the futility and tragedy of war, we are a perfect example. In this view, the existence of no man's land reflects the failure of diplomacy and the inability of opposing sides to find peaceful solutions to their differences. Our recent elections again have exposed us badly, from Muslim—Muslim ticket conversations, to the Lagos Yoruba/Ibo warfare and wordfare!

Overall, the debate surrounding no man's

land reflects the complexity and nuance of the issues surrounding us as a people. While there are differing viewpoints and opinions, it is clear that the human cost of natives, non-natives, indigenes and non-indigenes, south and north and that efforts towards peaceful resolution are essential to reducing this cost is imperative.

While Nigeria has experienced conflicts and disputes over land ownership, the term "no man's land" is not commonly used to describe any specific territory in the country. However, there are ongoing conflicts and disputes over land ownership and control in different parts of Nigeria, particularly in the Middle Belt region, where clashes between farmers and herders have resulted in significant violence and displacement. These conflicts are often fuelled by factors such as competition for resources, ethnic and religious differences, and political tensions.

In recent years, the Nigerian government has taken steps towards addressing these conflicts, including setting up committees to investigate and mediate disputes, deploying security forces to affected areas, and implementing policies to encourage peaceful coexistence between different communities. Overall, while the term "no man's land" may not be commonly used in the context of Nigeria, the country has experienced significant conflicts and disputes over land ownership, which have had significant impacts on local communities and the wider region.

In the case of Lagos, Nigeria, the term "no man's land" is sometimes used to refer to areas of land that are not clearly defined as belonging to any specific individual or group. This is often due to the complex history of land ownership and development in Lagos, which has seen a mixture of customary land tenure systems and modern property rights regimes. As a result, there are areas of land in Lagos that are not formally registered or documented, leading to disputes and conflicts over ownership and control. But none of it is as deep as the political undertones, Jaja Wachukwu was the first

person to refer to Lagos as no man's land in 1947, provoking national controversy. In recent years, the Lagos state government has taken steps towards addressing these issues, including setting up committees to investigate and mediate disputes, and implementing policies to regulate land ownership and development. Yet, only recently one of the traditional rulers spoke about throwing the Ibos into the lagoon. However, challenges still remain, particularly in informal settlements and areas where the land tenure system is unclear or disputed. Overall, while the term "no man's land" may be used in the context of land ownership and disputes in Lagos, it is important to note that the situation is complex and multifaceted, with a range of social, political, and economic factors at play.



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Overall, while the term "no man's land" may be used in the context of land ownership and disputes in Lagos, it is important to note that the situation is complex and multifaceted, with a range of social, political, and economic factors at play.

The Ibos and Yorubas are two of the largest ethnic groups in Nigeria, and they have had a long history of cultural and economic interactions. However, there have also been periods of tension and conflict between the two groups, dating back to colonial times and continuing through the present day. Notably, fights and myths stemming from the days of Awolowo vs Zik and the Biafran war years.

One major point of conflict between the Ibos and Yorubas is political power and representation. Historically, the Yoruba people have been more dominant in Nigeria's political arena, and this has led to resentment and feelings of marginalization among some Ibos. The Ibos have also sought greater representation in government and have pushed for the creation of a separate state in the south-eastern region of Nigeria,

which has led to conflict with the Yorubas and other ethnic groups.

Another point of tension between the Ibos and Yorubas is economic competition. Both groups are highly entrepreneurial and have a strong presence in Nigeria's business sector, which has sometimes led to competition and conflict over resources and market share. This has also contributed to feelings of resentment and mistrust between the two groups.

The current situation provides yet another opportunity to address;

No Man's Land

Dis place we dey,

No be here, no be there,

No man land e be,

E no get owner e clear.

No tribe, no culture,

No language, no tradition,

E dey always dey sure,

No get dispute or competition.

But for inside dis place,

We fit create our own,

We fit give am face, And make am our home.

No man land, no wahala,

E no get wahala for true,

We fit live for here forever,

And make am sweet for me and you.

This is again fate providing us an opening to create a shared value, a new experience and shape our future, we must know when not to listen, when to remain silent and; when to speak out. And in developing these skills, we will be trustworthy and wise, if we so desire, but only time will tell!

Prince Charles Dickson PhD is the Team Lead, The Tattaunawa Roundtable Initiative (TRICentre) he may be reached via <https://tattaunawa.org> Alternate Mail: pcdbooks@yahoo.com or +234 803 331 1301, +234 805 715 2301 Skype ID: princecharlesdickson

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ADVERT RATES FROM JANUARY 1, 2022

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

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Depth	38.1 (CM)	Depth -	15 (Inches)
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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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3	Change of Name	Per Box	2,000.00	-	2,000.00

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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

Yobe, The State Of Party Chairmen



Gov Buni

By: HASSAN GIMBA

This is not what I had intended to discuss this week, but circumstances have given it priority. Yobe is a state that is blessed. Here, I am not talking about how blessed it is with peaceful and peace-loving people. No. Nor am I talking about the natural resources the Maker buried there. No, not at all. I am not even going to talk about the abundance of human resources in Yobe State.

I want to look at it from just one aspect – the political angle. Politics, from Greek (politiká - 'affairs of the cities') can be defined as the way that people living in groups make decisions. It is about making agreements between people so that they can live together in harmony.

One of Aristotle's most famous sayings is: "Man is by nature a political animal." His claim motivated his saying that "every man, by nature, has an impulse toward a partnership with others." This was accentuated by Karl Marx, who wrote that "The human being is, in the most literal sense, a political animal, not merely a gregarious animal, but an animal which can individuate itself only amid society."

As far back as the 4th century, Aristotle surmised that man is either a political animal (in its natural state) or an outcast like a "bird which flies alone."

The dominant ideology of man as a political animal stems from his ability to reason and communicate with others;

therefore, he has the potential to change his living conditions for the better because he can recognise the difference between right and wrong.

And so it is that man naturally plays politics wherever he is, from the moment he opens his eyes in this world to when he closes them for good. He does so wherever he goes and in whatever he does. The infant knows how to get attention with its tantrums.

We all play politics within peer groups, in schools and workplaces. You have to be good at it to have control over your family or else they bounce you about like froth floating on a fast river.

No aspect of humanity is devoid of politics. One may think religion should be an exception, but look at how the religious world is divided among the children of Abraham. And for mainly political reasons - as politics confers power, influence and wealth - the two sides are yet to come together and follow just one path.

Since man is an inborn politician and survives only in a society, it goes without saying that there must be an organised setting with a division of labour. Some people naturally gravitate towards a natural calling while others are forced into it by circumstances.

And so we leave the larger politics of running the society to others born into it, who want to, or who we request to because of certain qualities we see in them. And it is through such that

governments are formed.

In the early part of human history, when societies were being formed, the strongest ran the affairs of man. But societies glued together, for self-preservation, to form nations and, with time, the bravest took over because the bravest can overcome the strongest with guile; call it native intelligence. We saw this in the case of David and Goliath or the folklore of Achilles or in the legend of the 300 Spartans. Throughout history then, intelligence and bravery have always defeated brute force.

When the intelligent and brave organised the strong and not-so-strong into armies, military power ruled, but democracy has now permeated the world and soldiers have given way to

civilians to govern nations.

In a democracy, eligible members of a society or nation have the inalienable right to install a government through elected representatives. While there are various forms of democracy, here we practise the multi-party presidential system akin to that practised in the United States of America. The strength, reach and ultimate success of a political party may, inadvertently, rest heavily on the shoulders of its national chairman.

Nigeria has had many parties since the First Republic but I am particular about four national parties out of many because they concern this write-up – they are the Great Nigeria Peoples Party (GNPP), the Peoples Redemption Party (PRP), the All Progressives Congress (APC) and the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

All of them, at one point or the other, had a man from Yobe State as national chairman. Alhaji Waziri Ibrahim, the apostle of politics without bitterness, who many think was from Borno State, is actually from Yobe and he chaired the GNPP. Khalifa Hassan Yusuf, also from Yobe, took over the chairmanship of the PRP when its founder, the late Aminu Kano, died on April 17, 1983.

In the current dispensation, Yobe State Governor Mai Mala Buni took over the chairmanship of

the APC at its darkest hour, when little remained for it to tip over into the abyss. He was able to stabilise and strengthen it by courting at least three opposition governors, members of the National Assembly from the opposition, and other influential stakeholders. The credit for APC's victory in the just concluded elections should be attributed to him because he laid the foundation for it. Without his intervention, perhaps there wouldn't have been an APC as it now is – strong and all-conquering.

And now the PDP has also found it fitting to give another son of Yobe State, Ambassador Umar Iliya Damagum, the mantle of its chairmanship. He, too, is coming when the party is in its lowest spirits and threatened by extinction. He will face a lot of challenges from larger-than-life political figures and egotistical men who are stupendously rich.

Though Damagum is said to have a mind of his own, is fearless, not easily intimidated and so cannot be cowed, the question on the lips of observers is, will he be able to chair the PDP to success like the talented sons of Yobe before him, or will their shoes be too big for him?

Only time will tell is an overused cliché. But he has begun on a sound footing by reversing the suspensions of some of the party's prominent members.

Hassan Gimba is the Publisher and Editor-in-Chief of Neptune Prime.



Hassan Gimba
Monday
Column

"Since man is an inborn politician and survives only in a society, it goes without saying that there must be an organised setting with a division of labour. Some people naturally gravitate towards a natural calling while others are forced into it by circumstances."

OAU Council Appoints Bakare As New Registrar

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The Council of Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Osun State on Thursday, announced the appointment of Mr. Adetunji Kamardeen Bakare as the new registrar of the university. This was contained in a statement by the Public Relations Officer of the university, Abiodun Olarewaju, made available to journalists.

According to the statement, Mr. Bakare, who is currently the College Secretary of the university's postgraduate college, has served at various units where he distinguished himself as a thorough bred professional in University administration.

He began his professional career in the University, at a senior level, as an Administrative Officer 1 in the Senate Office. Between 1998 and 2007, he worked in the Senate Office and Directorate of Academic Affairs where he was promoted to the ranks of Assistant Registrar and Senior Assistant Registrar respectively. From 2007 to 2009, he served in the Directorate of Council Affairs as a Principal Assistant Registrar (PAR) before being posted, in 2009, to the office of the Vice Chancellor to assist the Director in servicing meetings of the Committee of Principal Officers, among other assignments. By 2013, he was transferred to the Faculty of Education as Deputy Registrar/Faculty Secretary where he served for three years, exhibiting exceptional candor. Between 2016 and 2019, Mr. Bakare coordinated all activities in the Senate



Division of the Directorate of Academic Affairs where he provided excellent leadership for members of the administrative and other staff. He also performed, very diligently, several other functions as directed by the Vice Chancellor, the Registrar and the Director, Academic Affairs. For two consecutive years (2017 - 2019), he was made to serve as the Director, Academic Affairs, in acting capacity before being posted to the Directorate of Personnel Affairs as the Deputy

Registrar and Head, Academic Staff Establishment. Two years later, precisely in 2021, the new Registrar was transferred, as the acting Director, Directorate of Corporate Services where he provided quality leadership for all heads of units and other staff.

Born on the 27th day of March, 1964 in Ijebu-Ode, Ogun State, Mr. Bakare attended Islamic High School, Orita Bashorun, in Ibadan and Olode Grammar School, Olode (via Ile-Ife) Osun State for his West African School Certificate in

1983.

He later gained admission to the University of Ife that same year, 1983 and graduated in 1987 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Studies. In 1999, his quest for knowledge made him to enroll for a higher degree in Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, and by 2003, he was awarded a Master of Arts degree in Literature - in - English.

Happily Married with three children, Mr. Bakare has a Certificate in Electronic Data Processing from Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife.

Kaduna PDP Vows To Reclaim Mandate

By; IBRAHIM ADAMU, Kaduna.

People's Democratic Party (PDP) has vowed to use legal means to reclaim mandate as the All Progressives Congress (APC's) Senator Uba Sani received certificate of return as governor-elect of Kaduna State.

Kaduna State Chairman of the party, Felix Hassan Hyat insisted that candidate of PDP, Isa Ashiru Kudan won the March 18 election, expressing regrets that the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) in connivance with APC, doctored results of the exercise to give undeserved victory to Uba Sani.

He disclosed that the party has already commenced legal process by applying to the electoral umpire in Abuja to review the state governorship election.

"It was glaring that the results on INEC server which gave victory to our candidate was not used to arrive at a true winner of the contest, robbing our party and people of state by announcing APC candidate as winner of the election in cohort with some unpatriotic elements within the electoral commission.

"We rose from State Executive Council Meeting (SEC) with resolution to pursue through legal means all constitutional allowed avenues to retrieve our stolen mandate.

"I want to call on our teeming supporters to remain calm and be prayerful as We explore all legal means to retrieve the true mandate of the people.

"There were massive jubilations all over the state in anticipation of

announcing our candidate as winner but happiness of kaduna people was truncated by declaring Uba Sani as the winner.

"This will not stand because Uba Sani did not win the election from all available facts and figures in our custody which shall be made available to the public in due time," he assured.

Speaking on conduct of some returning officers whom he accused of acts unbecoming of academia, Mr. Hyat lampooned returning officer for Lere Local Government Area Professor Ladi Adamu of Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) whom he accused of allowing herself as a willing tool by politicians to rig and manipulate results of the governorship and state assembly exercise.

He said Prof. Ladi would be called to testify at election tribunal to state how she was used to announce a false result.

He urged the professor of Mass Communication to borrow a leaf from her counterpart in Abia State who resisted to dance to the tune of the power that be to misappropriate mandate of the people.

Meanwhile, governor-elect of Kaduna State and his running mate Senator Uba Sani and Hadiza Balarabe were on Friday March 31 presented with their certificates of return by National Commissioner of INEC Mohammed Haruna.

Elected members of Kaduna state House of Assembly also got their certificates of return.

A total of 32 members, with 20 and 12 seats going to APC and PDP respectively, while four seats in Sanga, Kudan, Kaura and Giwa East were declared inconclusive.

Remains Of Man Allegedly Killed By Bandits Found, 16 Others Kidnapped In Kaduna

By; AMOS TAUNA, Kaduna

The corpse of Amina's husband, who was abducted with her sister, Hajara by bandits in Janjala community in Kagarko Local Government Area of Kaduna State, Hussaini Lawal, has been found in the bush.

On Tuesday night, 28th March,

bandits in their numbers raided three communities, killing three people and abducted 16 others in the operation.

A source explained to New Nigerian that the man's corpse was found following a team that went in search of the man near a stream close to a forest in the early hours of Thursday.

According to the source, "The victim escaped with bullet wounds after bandits invaded his house in Taka-Lafiya village near Janjala and abducted his wife and his sister."

DSP Mohammed Jalige, the Kaduna PPRO, could not be reached for confirmation by the time of filing this report.



Hassan Hyat PDP Chairman

Apropos of the so-called Interim National Government

By Jibrin Ibrahim

What I find confusing is the re-fashioning of fears about the abortion of elections for an interim government in a totally different context.

By Jibrin Ibrahim March 31, 2023 Reading Time: 4 mins read DSS

Any attempt to truncate our democracy is a threat to the existence of the state itself and must be resisted by all democrats. When, therefore, an important institution such as the DSS comes out to make public comments on such a matter, it is important that the content of the messaging is indeed about preserving our democracy and not playing to the gallery of some spokespersons to an elected official.

Over the past couple of weeks, there have been statements and a petition by spokespersons to President-elect Bola Tinubu – Femi Fani-Kayode, Festus Keyamo and Bayo Onanuga – claiming that there is a subversive plot to deny their principal access to the presidential seat he won. I never really understood the argument, as I had not seen any action different from what has happened after previous presidential elections. The fact that some of them are questioning Tinubu's success at the tribunal is certainly not something new in our politics.

On Wednesday, Nigeria's secret police, the Department of State Services (DSS), joined the fray and announced that some key players are indeed plotting to impose an unconstitutional interim government on Nigeria. The service confirmed the speculations and calls by some for a truncation of Nigeria's democratic system. It said that the plot was an "aberration and a mischievous" way of setting aside the constitution, undermining civil rule, as well as plunging the country into an avoidable crisis. The DSS spokesperson, Peter Afunanya, said the planners, in their many meetings, had weighed various options, which include sponsoring endless violent mass protests in major cities to warrant a declaration of State of Emergency.

What then is the plot? I am not

sure I understand it. Nigeria is a country where public demonstrations are very common and legal, and they do not result in the declaration of states of emergency. The state of emergency is declared by the president and the legislature. President Buhari has affirmed consistently and repeatedly that he is eager to hand over power to the declared winner of the 25th February election, Bola Ahmed Tinubu, so I do not see the logic of his declaring a state of emergency to stop the handover of power. Senate President Ahmed Lawan and Speaker Gbajabamila are also definitely not in the political mould of anti-constitutionalists, so I am at a loss on where the fear of the declaration of a state of emergency is coming from.

What I do not understand, therefore, is the path that would lead to the unconstitutional imposition of an interim government. Which branch of government is engaged in nefarious meetings to put a stop to our democracy? Is it the executive, legislature or judiciary? What we know for sure is that Nigerians are committed to the sustenance of democracy and would fight to preserve it.

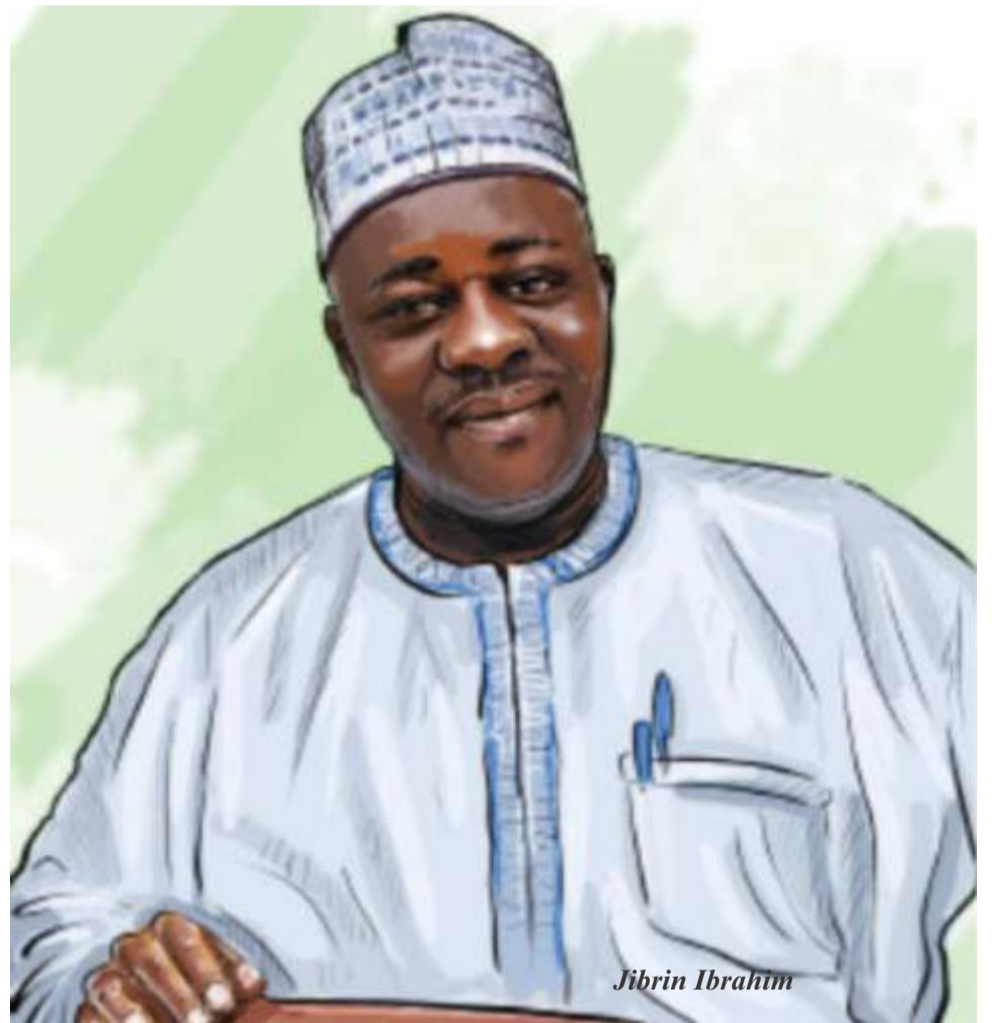
The other possibility coming from the DSS statement pertains to frivolous cases currently in the judiciary. Nigeria has the highest level of election-related petitions in the courts in the contemporary world. The fact of the matter, however, is that our Constitution allows for this and they are a legal and legitimate route to resolving contestations on electoral matters. Indeed, the counsel given to people who have been declared losers in an election is to go to court, rather than contest the loss on the streets.

What I do not understand, therefore, is the path that would lead to the unconstitutional imposition of an interim government. Which branch of government is engaged in nefarious meetings to put a stop to our democracy? Is it the executive, legislature or judiciary? What we know for sure is that Nigerians are committed to the sustenance of democracy and would fight to preserve it. If the purpose of the

statement is to get democracy defenders to stand by and get ready to defend democracy against anti-democratic elements, then the message needed to have been clearer. If, yet, the message is that there are fifth columnists within government branches planning evil against our democracy, then what is required is not a press release and tweets from the DSS; the suspects should be arrested and charged for their treasonable plot. The statement is coming barely a month after the 25 February presidential

election that produced Bola Tinubu as Nigeria's next leader. Mr Tinubu was the candidate of the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) and if some elements within the same government are plotting regicide, then immediate action against them must be taken. We cannot accept an end to the handover of power on 29 May, which has now become a constitutionally-entrenched habit we are all proud of.

My recollection is that the idea of an interim government was popularised by Afe Babalola, the renowned philanthropist, legal icon and founder of Afe Babalola University in April last year. He proposed that the 2023 general elections be suspended in favour of a six-month interim government to be drawn from various strands of the Nigerian social, economic and political life. Virtually all Nigerians condemned his proposal, which was expressly meant to truncate Nigerian democracy. Mr Babalola was looking for an unconstitutional shortcut to address his concerns over restructuring. That issue is no longer relevant because the elections held and the outcomes



Jibrin Ibrahim

have been decided and what has not been addressed would be in the tribunals.

What I find confusing is the re-fashioning of fears about the abortion of elections for an interim government in a totally different context, in which the elections have already taken place and a winner has emerged, even if the election results are in court, which in the Nigerian context is normal.

The next iteration of the interim government was in rumours that emerged alleging that some people close to President Buhari were hatching a conspiracy to impose an interim government and have the then coming elections postponed. As soon as those rumours surfaced, President Buhari once again spoke and assured Nigerians that the elections would hold and power would be handed over to the winner of the presidential race. What I find confusing is the re-fashioning of fears about the abortion of elections for an interim government in a totally different context, in which the elections have already taken place and a winner has emerged, even if the election results are in court, which in the Nigerian context is normal.

Emotions over the elections remain high and hurtful actions and words have been expressed over the period. Nonetheless, it is important to state that Nigerian elections have been improving steadily since 2011 and while significant problems remain, the only meaningful approach is to continue the advocacy for the continued improvement of the quality and integrity of our elections. Any attempt to truncate our democracy is a threat to the existence of the state itself and must be resisted by all democrats. When, therefore, an important institution such as the DSS comes out to make public comments on such a matter, it is important that the content of the messaging is indeed about preserving our democracy and not playing to the gallery of some spokespersons to an elected official.

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A professor of Political Science and development consultant/expert, Jibrin Ibrahim is a Senior Fellow of the Centre for Democracy and Development, and Chair of the Editorial Board of PREMIUM TIMES.

The Voices of Man and God May Differ

By Owei Lakemfa

THE Imo State gubernatorial election in March, 2019 was a crowded field of seventy. A former Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives and candidate of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Emeka Ihedioha came first with 273,404 votes. Coming a distant second was Uche Nwosu of the Action Alliance who polled 190,364 votes. Third was Ifeanyi Ararume of the All Progressives Grand Alliance with 114,676 while Hope Uzodinma of the All Progressives Congress (APC) – the ruling party in the country – with 96,458 votes, came fourth. Former Governor Ikedi Ohakim of the Accord Party with 6,846 votes came fifth. Ihedioha was accordingly sworn into office as the elected Governor.

However, Hope Uzodinma, the man who came a distant fourth in the elections, approached the Supreme Court making what appeared to be a laughable and hopeless case that in his pouch, he had votes from 388 polling units which a policeman who is not a member of the electoral commission, had collated for him. In still unclear circumstances, the Supreme Court admitted these unverified votes and awarded all to Uzodinma without indicating the votes scored by the 69 other contestants. Also, without evidence of Uzodinma meeting other constitutional provisions, the apex court declared him the State Governor!

A shocked Governor Ihedioha raced back to the Supreme Court urging it to review its decision in the interest of justice and democracy, but the gods of the court in a false sense of infallibility declared that whatever they decide is eternal: “it shall remain forever.”

So, is the 'victory' of Uzodinma magic or miracle? If the argument is that it is only God that puts people in power, was he also the one that put Adolf Hitler in power who gassed six million Jews and ignited the Second World War that led to 75 million deaths? Was he the one that put King Leopold II of Belgium in power resulting in the massacre of 16 million Congolese just to satisfy his colonial greed?

One of the seven Lords who sat in judgement, Justice Centus Nweze, was a voice crying in the wilderness of justice. He pointed out, amongst other things, that Uzodinma had at the Election Tribunal admitted that he hijacked the result sheets from the electoral officials and completed the result sheets by himself.

He warned his fellow Lords that “the decision of the Supreme Court in the instant matter will continue to haunt our electoral jurisprudence for a long time to come.” But his colleagues would not listen. So it came to pass that they imposed Uzodinma on the people of Imo State, hence the popular appellation of the

latter as a 'Supreme Court Governor' This is what Fela would have called 'Government magic'

But no matter the illusion, the Supreme Court Justices are mere mortals imbued with human frailties. However, matters took a spiritual turn when on July 2, 2021, the President of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), His Eminence, Samson Ayokunle, travelled from his Oyo Town homestead and crossed the River Niger to go sanctify and beatify the controversial election results.

Pastor Adeboye, a man with a first degree in Mathematics, a Masters in Hydrodynamics and a Ph.D in Applied Mathematics surely knows about science. Rather than praise, he ought to have admonished Bello whose actions and inactions on Covid-19, like that of President Jair Bolsonaro of Brazil, tantamount to crimes against humanity because they not only endangered the lives of Nigerians, but also deliberately compromised humanity's collective fight for survival against the evil pandemic. The day Adeboye visited Bello, the world had witnessed about 167.2 million infections with over 3.47 million human beings dead; so, was this the voice of Pastor Adeboye or God?

The CAN President, without stating whether he consulted other CAN leaders or affiliates; saw a vision or was sent by God, told controversial Governor Uzodinma: “Let me tell you this, before you take any step or action, hear the voice of God, and you don't reject the voice of God. I say this because, you are a miracle governor. Your coming as governor was as a result of God's decision. So, you are a miracle governor. That is why any step taken against you will be subdued because your coming as governor can only be possible by God.”

So, is the 'victory' of Uzodinma magic or miracle? If the argument is that it is only God that puts people in power, was he also the one that put Adolf Hitler in power who gassed six million Jews and ignited the Second World War that led to 75 million deaths? Was he the one that put King Leopold II of Belgium in power resulting in the massacre of 16 million Congolese just to satisfy his colonial greed?

In Imo State, was that the voice of Samson Olasupo Adeniyi Ayokunle, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Amos and Theresa Bibilari Ogunkunle, or that of God?

His Excellency, Yahaya Bello, of Kogi State is another controversial Governor who brooks no opposition. In the 2019 elections, his supporters sang approvingly in the streets that anybody who opposed him would be shot. Indeed, people were killed before, during and after the elections. Thugs celebrating his victory burnt alive Mrs Acheju Abuh, the PDP Women Leader right inside her



home, and used arms to prevent her neighbours from recuing her from the flames. Bello's undemocratic actions are long and windy. But my primary concern here is his position on the coronavirus, Covid-19.

Even after many, worldwide, had been killed by Covid-19, he insisted that the virus does not exist and therefore refused to allow a lockdown of the state. When against his beliefs, officials of the NCDC visited the state as part of measures to combat the virus; he threatened to detain them in an isolation centre. Mass gatherings were known to be super spreaders of the virus; this led to the federal government banning all mass gatherings. Bello's way of circumventing this was to call a meeting of religious leaders in the state and pose the question whether people should be allowed to congregate for religious activities. He announced that the result of his curious referendum was that majority of the clerics voted for re-opening places of worship. Also, when medical personnel in the state insisted that they be provided with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), even if Bello does not believe that the corona virus is real, armed thugs invaded the hospitals attacking doctors, nurses and other health personnel.

Incredulously, when Pastor Enoch Adeboye, the General Overseer of the

over five-million-member Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG) visited Bello on May 22, 2021, he praised his actions on the pandemic. The Man of God told Governor Bello: “We are delighted by your show of faith in God, particularly in dealing with coronavirus. It takes a man of faith to have acted the way you did and we are very pleased with you.”

Pastor Adeboye, a man with a first degree in Mathematics, a Masters in Hydrodynamics and a Ph.D in Applied Mathematics surely knows about science. Rather than praise, he ought to have admonished Bello whose actions and inactions on Covid-19, like that of President Jair Bolsonaro of Brazil, tantamount to crimes against humanity because they not only endangered the lives of Nigerians, but also deliberately compromised humanity's collective fight for survival against the evil pandemic. The day Adeboye visited Bello, the world had witnessed about 167.2 million infections with over 3.47 million human beings dead; so, was this the voice of Pastor Adeboye or God?

I think when men of God meet secular leaders, they should, like Prophet Amos, insist that “justice roll down as waters, and righteousness like an ever flowing stream.” (Amos 5:24) Is it not said that righteousness exalts a nation?

30 Athletes On Spotlight As AFN All Comers Trials Ends In Kaduna

**Outstanding to represent Nigeria at African U-18, U-20 championships in Zambia*

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Over 30 junior athletes would be called to camp from the AFN All Comers, U-18 and U-20 Trials that ended at the Ahmadu Bello Stadium, Kaduna, the Athletics Federation of Nigeria (AFN) Technical Director, Samuel Onikeku has said.

Onikeku, an officer and Sports Secretary of Nigerian Customs Service, told sports writers in Kaduna that the performances recorded are laudable, "we are happy as a federation for bringing the All Comers, U-18 and U-20 Trials competitions to Kaduna to represent the Northwest. It's what the AFN president and board promised to do. We are happy that a national record is set. We have an U18 girl setting a national record and we are happy that 11 personal best times were set which is good for Nigeria.

"We are going to pick over 30 athletes from this competition for camping for the African U-18 and U-20 championships in Lusaka, Zambia. The AFN technical committee will meet to pick the team for the continental championship and present to the AFN board for approval and they would be called to camp in Abuja. From the camp, the team would depart for Lusaka, Zambia. We are happy to have good performances in Kaduna, the Ahmadu Bello Stadium track is one of the fastest tracks in the country and the whether is always competition friendly. So, another junior competition will be coming to Kaduna very soon."

Speaking in the same vein, Secretary General, Athletics Federation of Nigeria (AFN), Mrs. Rita Mosindi commended the

performances of the junior athletes, noting that Nigerian 100m hurdles world record holder, Tobi Amusan started same way when she attended the 2011 World Youth Championship in Athletics in Lille, France. She however called for sponsors to support AFN programmes, while urging athletics coaches and states associations to comb the grassroots for young talents.

"Some states are not here for the All Comers, U18 and U20 selection trials for the African U18 and U20 Championship in Lusaka, Zambia because they don't have grassroots programme. We registered over 700 athletes which is good for us. You cannot do without the grassroots because that is where we get young talents to replace the ageing stars.

"We are calling on sponsors to come in and help sponsor our programmes. We thank Premium Trust Bank for their support but we want more sponsors because we have lots of competitions for the year. We want to combine education and sports by engaging our youth from young age. We are looking at U13, U20, we are getting support from World Athletics to carry out grassroots programmes.

"I took Tobi Amusan to the 2011 World Youth Championship in Athletics in Lille, France, 11 years later she broke the world record. We have so many talents but we don't know how to harness them. The timings from our athletes here are very good. This is beginning of the season, the first event of the year and this is World Athletics Championship year, hopefully we would get more good performances as the season progresses," she added.



30 Athletes On Spotlight As AFN All Comers Trials Ends In Kaduna

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Ramadan Iftar: Zazzau Emirate Hosts Illustrious Sons

By: SANIALIYU, Zaria

Zazzau Emirate has hosted its illustrious sons to the annual 10th day Ramadan breaking of fast.

Speaking at the occasion, the Emir of Zazzau, Malam Ahmed Nuhu Bamalli congratulated people of the emirate and Kaduna State in general for the peaceful and successful 2023 general elections.

Emir Bamalli said, the sense of maturity, knowledge and discipline exhibited during and after the election is highly commendable.

He charged people to continue with the peaceful coexistence they are known for and to forget about political differences as the game is over.

The emir who congratulated the

entire Muslim community for the Ramadan period, tasked wealthy people to assist the needy in their society.

He urged people to continue respecting each other at all levels without any discrimination of either religion or tribe.

Bamalli also used the occasion to urge parents and community leaders to be vigilant of their children's movement and associates because of bad influence or peer groups syndrome.

To the newly elected leaders, the emir advised them to be good ambassadors of their people and to bring developmental programmes that will benefit people as well as carry everybody along.



Emir of Zazzau, Malam Ahmed Nuhu Bamalli

Redouble Your Work Rate, UI Senior Staff Club Tells Makinde

**Congratulates him on reelection*

By: BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The President, Senior Staff Club University of Ibadan, Dr Bisi Crown Olawuyi yesterday, called on Gov Seyi Makinde to begin legacy projects of impactful governance based on needs assessment.

In a statement made available to journalists in Ibadan, Dr Olawuyi noted that the Senior Staff Club, University of Ibadan identifies with the successes recorded so far by Gov Makinde who is also their member.

According to him, it is time for Gov Makinde to use his renewed mandate to redouble his efforts toward ensuring a productive economy in the state and that the governor should be wary of advisers who may mislead him into believing that he no longer

needs the people for electoral support again.

Dr Olawuyi stressed but rather, Gov Makinde should work for the people, and reposition the state to rank tops in good things among the comity of states.

"Today, the entire Senior Staff Club, University of Ibadan felicitate with His Excellency, Engr Seyi Makinde FNSE on his re-election for a second term. This is no mean achievement, but please know that one good work means more work", he said.

Dr Olawuyi added, "To whom renewed mandate is given, much is expected. You can not afford to let your people down, and we pray you will end well",

"As your club President, the Club will be willing to offer assistance in the areas where we

have quality and unparalleled expertise. Once again, congratulations on your renewed mandate"

Dr Olawuyi pointed out that there is the need for the governor to ensure revamping of education, deepening qualitative healthcare delivery, fast-tracking a safe and secure environment for the growth of the economy and diversification of the economy for improved revenue generation.

He emphasized that while the renewed mandate is an attestation of the trust that electorates reposed in the reelected Governor, it is important that he continues to be open to progressive ideas that are capable of turning Oyo State into a model of good governance and development.

