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Confusion As Controversy Trails Kaduna Guber Election Tribunal Verdict

■ APC, PDP claim victory

By: JACOB ONJEWU
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ADERINTO, Kaduna

Confusion has trailed the ruling of the Kaduna State Governorship election petition tribunal as the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) and main opposition People's Democratic Party (PDP) are both claiming victory. This follows the verdict delivered via zoom in Kaduna yesterday, where

two justices declared the election inconclusive, while ordering a rerun, while one upheld the victory of the APC at the March 18, 2023 polls. Governor Uba Sani in a statement signed by his Chief Press Secretary, Muhammad Lawal Shehu, lauded the tribunal for its verdict, which he described as a welcome development. "Kaduna State Governor, Senator Uba Sani has

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Ashiru Kudan



Uba Sani

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Nigeria @ 63: Be Hopeful, Positive - NOA

By: BAYOAKAMO, Ibadan

Oyo State acting Director of the National Orientation Agency (NOA) Dr Olukemi Afolayan yesterday, tasked the people of Oyo State and Nigerians in general not to despair but full of hope on Nigeria.

Dr. Afolayan expressed this in a statement personally signed by her and made available to journalists to felicitate citizens on this year's independence, she emphasized that Nigerians should at all times, be hopeful that "we as a people, shall soon tide over our myriads challenges.

"No doubt the country is passing through a difficult time now, but with Zeal and perseverance we shall soon see lights at the end of the tunnel as every cloud has a silver lining", she said.

Dr. Afolayan added, "We just have to stand by the Government in its renewed hope of turning around the country.

"The path to freedom is not paved with gold, we may not have reached the desired

destination but we have solidify our nascent democracy and have identified the various cogs in the wheels of the nation's progress, being cleared about our priorities, with our support, the government can then implement social policies that will tackle our social problems one by one like killing a sitting deck and therefore bring a boon upon the vessel of the country" She stressed further, "albeit the journey might not be on a coaster roller, but, we give glory to God that we are not marching on one spot either - we have made appreciable progress. The NOA acting state director, then tasked Nigerians, "to join hands together with the Governments at all levels in bringing the nation out of its proverbial woods" She charged us to be cost-effective and



live without the extremes. Sooner, with the virile, responsive and law abiding Citizens, the time for all to smile is nigh".

Dr Afolayan wished the executive Governor of the state, Engineer Oluwaseyi Makinde and members of his cabinet, the traditional rulers, heads of

parastatals, security agents, community leaders, the clergies and everyone in the State a happy independence anniversary.

Ensure Release Of Abducted Corps Members, NUJ Urges FG, DG NYSC

By: PATRICK TITUS, Uyo

The Akwa Ibom State Council of Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) has expressed resentment over continue holding in captivity of corps members by suspected bandits from the northern part of Nigeria.

Recall eight prospective corps members of Akwa Ibom State origin were kidnapped over six weeks ago by unknown gunmen along Zamfara-Sokoto Road while traveling to place of primary assignment in Sokoto.

NUJ during its September Congress in Uyo on Wednesday,

resolved with a call to federal and state governments, Director-General of the National Youth Service Corps, NYSC, and relevant security agencies to ensure the release of eight abducted corps members unhurt. The position of union came under the State of the Nation as captured in agenda for the day's business.

Congress also worried with bitterness the recent resurgence of motorcycle operations within Uyo metropolis, which Congress noted has led to a rise in criminality within the capital city, and therefore, called on

security agencies to halt the drift. It also lent concern over the menace of erosion at Nung Ukot Itam and Ekit Itam in Itu local government area of the state, and called on the state government to intervene in order to save lives and property in the communities. The union decried the continued refusal of Akwa Ibom State Environmental Protection & Waste Management Agency, AKSEPWMA, to cover the drains on Abak Road, a development that has exposed pedestrians to serious danger. Congress was also worried over blocked gutters in Uyo

metropolis and urged AKSEPWMA to double its efforts in this direction while also called on AKROIMA to urgently address the embarrassing and rising cases of potholes in the state. Congress applauded the state governor, Pastor Umo Eno for what members described as his commitment to the completion of the Auditorium Project at NUJ Press Centre in Uyo and solicited more partnership to enable the Union do other projects. Congress congratulated the new executive of the state chapter of

Nigerian Institute of Public Relations, (NIPR) led by Comrade Manasseh Umoette and wished the EXCO a successful tenure.

The communique which was signed by the members of the communique drafting committee and chairman as well as Secretary of the state council of the union, Comrades Amos Etuk said Dominic Akpan also congratulated Mr. John Obot on his successful attempt to break the Guinness Book of World Record for longest non-stop reading hours of an individual.

Ward Heads In Kaduna State Vow To Support Govt In tackling Insecurity



Gov Uba Sani

By; SANIALIYU, Zaria

Ward heads in Kaduna State have vowed to support government to crush criminal elements in their midst, especially within their domains to effectively curtail social vices and security challenges in the state.

Speaking on behalf of the ward heads in Kaduna State, Alhaji Aliyu Habibu Dubanni, the ward head of Kofar Gayan Low-Cost, Zaria, said they welcome their involvement in security issues of the state. Alhaji Dubanni said tackling security and other communal issues have been their day-to-day activities within their communities.

According to him, as government recognizes their importance and engaged them officially, it's really a thing of joy.

"And we are more than ready to work hand in hand with the government to identify fish out and expose all criminal elements in our domains". Dubanni lamented the poor social well being of most of the ward leaders whom are the closet authority in every given community, yet they are not on the payroll of government, despite their significance.

He urged Governor Uba

Sani to begin by enumerating the number ward heads as well as capturing their bio-data to be able to have more control.

Dubanni noted that the ward heads are the closest authority in every community, hence the need to accord them official recognition by the government to enable them have more respect among their communities. He suggested that government should make it a law that all government appointees and political office holders must obtain letter of good conduct from the head of their community before given any position.

The ward head explained that such action will produce people of proven integrity and leaders of credible background for the citizens.

He said even though Kaduna State Governor, Malam Uba Sani had earlier assured the citizens of his commitment to tackle head on, all forms of security challenges in the state.

Also the governor pledged to involve traditional leaders at all levels while assuring them his determination to upgrade their social well being for effective discharge of their duties.

Lagos Taskforce Set To Impound, Prosecute Owners Of Vehicles Parked On Road, Unapproved Spaces

By; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

The Lagos State Taskforce has sounded a note of warning to Night club owners in the state against parking their vehicles and that of their customers by the road setback and walkways meant for pedestrians passage.

This was made known by the Chairman of the Agency, CSP Shola Jejeloye at the Headquarters, Bolade Oshodi where he received some representatives of Cubana Hut and Grill Night Club, Ikeja

Jejeloye decried the spate and manner in which vehicles of attendees of night clubs park by the road side and sometimes occupy multiple lanes meant for road users and then cause traffic gridlock. He addressed them on the plans of the taskforce to nip this problem in the bud and put a final stop to this avoidable acts.

"This meeting was called to appeal to you again to warn your customers. Provisions and laid down guidelines have been made known by State Government as to how and where to park vehicles especially in residential areas like Ikeja GRA but you find some night club owners willfully directing their customers to park right on the road and walkways, thereby inconveniencing other Lagosians. This is the



Chairman of Lagos Taskforce CSP Jejeloye leading operatives in an operation

highest form of insensitivity and we will put a stop to it."

One of the representatives of the Night Clubs present, Mr. Daniel Akabiro who also double as the Facility Manager for Cubana hut and grill stated that they carry out their activities according to the limits of the law and ensure that parking of vehicles are according to the stipulation of Lagos State Parking Permit Authority (LASPPA). He promised to relay the warnings of the State Government to the necessary stakeholders in the industry and ensure that Night Club owners tow the line of best practices in parking of their vehicles.

According to a release by Gbadeyan Abdulraheem,

Director, Press & Public Affairs of the Agency, the Chairman further urged them and other operators across the state to desist from parking haphazardly while carrying out their personal business. He said that any night club that cannot accommodate its customers should find an alternative to do so.

"Lagosians have every right to utilize every amenity provided by the State Government and we will ensure that those rights are not deprived of them by Nigh club owners. Customers of these entities should have their vehicles parked at the authorised parking spaces approved by the Lagos State Government"

Jejeloye stated that this is the third in the series of meetings called to appeal

to night club owners to tow the line of best practices and provide a parking space for their customers. He however said that anytime from now the Agency will move in to compel compliance.

He warned anyone whose vehicle is seen parked illegally that such vehicles would be impounded and the owner prosecuted according to the provisions of the law.

He concluded that Shobo Arobiodu, Isaac John to connect with Oduduwa Crescent and other streets around the area have become impassable for motorists due to the indiscriminate parking, hooliganism, thuggery and illegal markets operating around the axis. All these infractions will be checkmated soonest.

Subsidy Palliative: Nigerian Railway Introduces Express Passenger Train

By; MATTHEW UKACHUNWA, Lagos

Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) has disclosed its intention to introduce Mass Transit Express Passenger Train service between Apapa in Lagos State and Kajola in Ogun State.

The Express Passenger Train will run on standard gauge railway line.

Deputy Director, Public Relations of NRC, Mr. Yakub Mahmood, said the initiative is part of federal government's measures to cushion the effect of the petroleum subsidy removal to the barest minimum on the citizenry. "This was disclosed by the Director of Operations of the corporation Mr. Akin Osinowo on behalf of the Managing Director Engr.

Fidet Okhiria," the DDPR wrote in a Press release titled, "Railway Introduces Apapa-Kajola Express Train."

The stopping stations for the Apapa-Kajola Express Train include Mobolaji Johnson, Agege, Agbado and finally Kajola, Mahmood stated.

The management of Nigerian Railway

Corporation expressed hope that "this train service will surely reduce the hardship experienced by commuters, especially those plying Apapa to Kajola route."

The corporation appealed to passengers to ensure that they obtain tickets at the designated stations before boarding the train.

Atiku To Tinubu: You Can't Hide Under Privacy Law *Asks judge to speed up process to beat time limit

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The candidate of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), in the last presidential election, Alhaji Atiku Abubakar, on Wednesday, told President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, that he cannot use the excuse of privacy law to stop the release of his academic records from the Chicago State University (CSU).

Atiku, who stated this in his reply to Tinubu's objection to the order of Magistrate Judge Jeffrey Gilbert, maintained that Tinubu's objection was incompetent and lacking in merit.

According to the former Vice President, all the grounds of objections raised by Tinubu against the execution of the lawful order of the magistrate court were resolved by Justice Gilbert after listening to parties. Recall that the court had on September 19, held that Atiku's application for discovery outweighs Tinubu's plea for protection under the privacy law. Tinubu had, amongst other grounds, for the denial of Atiku's request submitted that Judge Gilbert erred in directing the CSU to release documents bordering on Tinubu's Diploma certificate, transcripts and admission letter amongst others. But Judge Gilbert pointed out

that the case of Atiku has merit as it has to do with Tinubu's qualification for the 2023 presidential election, which he (Tinubu) won.

Dissatisfied, Tinubu last Thursday begging a Federal High Court presided by Judge Nancy Maldonado to delay the enforcement of the order till Monday, September 25, when he would formally file his objection.

At Monday's proceedings, Tinubu had, amongst others, argued that the granting of the order violates his right to privacy and breached the US law regarding the release of academic records.

Specifically, Tinubu had argued that what the discovery Applicant seeks is intrusive because educational records are private and protected from disclosure under the Federal Educational Records and Privacy Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1232(g) ("FERPA").

But Atiku, in his latest move, argued that the law of privacy pleaded by Tinubu to stop the release of his academic records was not relevant in this instance. Atiku's lawyer, Angela Liu, in her reply, pointed out that the FERPA and analogous state laws do not create an independent privilege for educational records and cannot serve as a shield

against a court-issued subpoena. According to the applicant, "the assertion of a privilege or privacy interest under FERPA is a nonstarter; the statute does not give individuals any enforceable rights", adding that, "FERPA does not provide a privilege that prevents the disclosure of student records."

Moreso, Atiku argued that Tinubu cannot plead protection when he "has placed its educational records at issue, ECF 40 at 25-26 (explaining that Intervenor put his diploma at issue by submitting it to INEC and Tinubu's records have already been introduced into the Nigerian proceedings, including by Tinubu himself, and widely published in the media".

Stating further that through various proceedings, Tinubu has submitted his own educational records for consideration by courts and indeed by the public, Atiku submitted that Judge Gilbert correctly decided that the balance of the Intel discretionary factors weigh in favor of granting the discovery.

"The Objections are meritless." Apparently justifying the need for Tinubu's contentious academic records to be released, Atiku insisted that a mechanism exists in the Supreme Court of Nigeria to admit fresh evidence. He cited Supreme Court Order 2,

which reads in part, "A party who wishes the court to receive the evidence of witnesses (whether they were or were not called at the trial) or to order the production of any document, exhibit or other thing connected with the proceedings in accordance with the provisions of Section 33 of the Act, shall apply for leave on notice of motion prior to the date set down for the hearing of the appeal.

"The application shall be supported by affidavit of the fact on which the party relies for making it and of the nature of the evidence or the document concerned.

"It shall not be necessary for the other party to answer the additional evidence intended to be called but if leave is granted the other party shall be entitled to a reasonable opportunity to give his own evidence in reply if he so wishes".

While stating that his application is a straightforward Section 1782 application, Atiku submitted "Contrary to Intervenor's inflated rhetoric, Applicant is not seeking "to conduct a fishing expedition into Intervenor's private, confidential, and protected educational records.

"Rather, Applicant seeks to test (1) the authenticity and origin of twelve (12) pages of documents (including two very different diplomas) that purport to have

been issued by CSU (the "CSU documents")—all of which have already been submitted to the Nigerian courts and widely published in the media; and (2) the basis for CSU's categorical assertion that Tinubu received a B.S. degree in 1979, given discrepancies between information in the CSU documents and information in his affidavit submitted to INEC.

"If, as Intervenor asserts, he graduated from CSU in 1979—and the CSU documents are authentic copies issued by CSU—there is no reason why he should oppose the limited discovery Applicant seeks.

"For the foregoing reasons, the Court should overrule the Objections in their entirety.

"If the Court overrules the Objections, Applicant respectfully requests that it enter an order requiring production of documents no later than October 2, 2023, and the deposition scheduled no later than October 3, to allow time for transcripts to be finalized, and the discovery obtained to be sent to Nigeria (which is six (6) hours ahead) by October 4 so that such evidence may, in turn, be filed with the Supreme Court by October 5, which is when Applicant's Nigerian counsel intend to submit any new evidence to the Supreme Court", he said.

Labour Party Lagos Assembly Member Loses Seat To APC

By: RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos.l

The House of Assembly Election Petition Tribunal sitting in Lagos has sacked the lawmaker representing Amuwo – Odofin Constituency I, Foluke Osafile, elected on the platform of the Labour (LP) and declared Folorunso Olusegun of the All Progressives Congress (APC) popularly called Ola Western, as winner of the March 18 polls in the state.

It faulted the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) for declaring Osafile,

who contested on the platform of the Labour Party (LP), winner of the polls after reviewing petitions and defense presented before the three-man panel by parties and candidates that contested the election.

The court ruling came barely a week after she was appointed by Speaker of the House, Mudashiru Obasa, as the chairman, House committee on Wealth Creation and Employment.

The development was confirmed by Lagos APC chairman, Cornelius Ojelabi, and Osafile, through statements released on

their official social media handles after the judgement.

Osafile, who rejected the tribunal judgement, disclosed that he would be heading to the Appeals Court to reclaim her mandate which was gotten through the ballot.

She said: "By now, I believe it must have come to your knowledge the new development as related to our electoral case at the tribunal that did not go in our favour earlier today.

"While the judgement is unacceptable by all standards and as far supreme court

precedent is concerned, I want to appeal to all our esteemed supporters across the constituency to maintain the same law and order that we are known for over the years as peace loving people. I will like to assure you all that the tribunal judgement will be appealed and we shall get the appeal court judgement in our favour.

"I will continue to perform my legislative duties as enshrined in the constitution while the appeal judgement last. This is mandate of the people and we will see that the right thing is done", Osafile added.

On the part of Ojelabi, the party chairman described the judgement as the actualisation of the APC aspirations before the 2023 election in the state.

He said: "It is 40/40 for APC at the Lagos State House of Assembly. Earlier today, I received the joyful news of Hon. Folorunso Olusegun (Ola Western) of Amuwo – Odofin Constituency I winning at the Election Petition Tribunal sitting in Lagos State.

"Congratulations to the good people of Amuwo – Odofin and all progressives across the state", he added.

Confusion As Controversy Trails Kaduna Guber Election Tribunal Verdict

APC, PDP claim victory

welcomed the judgment of the Kaduna State Election Petition Tribunal which upheld his election in the March 18, 2023 Gubernatorial Elections, describing the verdict as a win for democracy, the rule of law, validation of the people's will and above all, God's decree.

"On this historic day, I join the people of Kaduna state to celebrate this monumental victory for democracy" the Governor stated.

"I consider this verdict not only as a win but a call to action, a call to deliver on our campaign promises as captured in the SUSTAIN agenda. This victory is a testament to the strength of our great judicial institutions and a proud moment for me as one of the pioneer advocates for democratic governance in Nigeria decades ago.

"The Deputy Governor, Dr Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe and I, express our immense gratitude to the good people of Kaduna State for their prayers, support and firm belief in our mandate.

"Indeed, your unshaken loyalty and confidence in our administration is the propellant to ensuring we continue to deliver on our promises to you." Governor Sani added.

The governor while commending the tribunal judges for their diligence and steadfastness in handling the case, described their commitment to upholding truth, justice and the rule of law as exemplary.

Additionally, he thanked his erudite legal team for their representation, and praised the leadership and members of the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) for their unflinching support from the beginning of the tribunal.

"Finally, in the spirit of togetherness, Governor Uba Sani has resolved to continue to encourage dialogue with all stakeholders irrespective of political divides, he also promised to maintain an open-door policy to well-meaning citizens to move our great state forward," the statement said.

Meanwhile, in a counter statement issued sane day, the Gubernatorial candidate of the People's Democratic Party (PDP), Rt. Hon. Isa Mohammed Ashiru, also claimed victory of the verdict at the tribunal.

In the statement personally signed by him, titled, "Tribunal Nullifies Uba Sani's Election" Ashiru said that based on the majority of ratio 2:1 verdict, judges nullified the election.

"First, I give glory to God Almighty for the progress made so far in our effort to reclaim the mandate given to us by the good



Ashiru Kudan

people of Kaduna State. I also thank the people of the state for widely believing in me and the PDP.

"Also, given the ruling of the Kaduna state election tribunal, it has become necessary to share with our teaming supporters, the true position of the ruling.

"On the preliminary objection, the tribunal, based on the majority of 2:1 judges upheld the preliminary objection of the respondent to the effect that the application for pre-hearing was done prematurely i.e. before the service of the last set of petitioners' reply to the 2nd respondent's reply to the petition was served.

"How ever, the law enjoins the tribunal, as a trial court, to proceed to pronounce on the merit of the substantive suit so that in the event the court of appeal finds that the trial tribunal was wrong in its decision on the preliminary objection, it would have the benefit of pronouncing on the decision of the tribunal in the substantive matter.

"Accordingly, the trial tribunal finds merit in the aspect of the petitioner's case relative to the margin of win between the two leading candidates.

"The tribunal by a split decision of 2:1 accordingly, nullified the election of the governor of



Gov Uba Sani

Kaduna state, ordered that the Certificate of Return be retrieved and fresh elections be conducted in some polling units in 4 LGAs and the outcome thereof be reckoned with before the declaration of the winner of the governorship election in Kaduna State.

I want to again thank the people of the state while urging them all to remain law abiding while we pursue the appeal process.

"One thing I can assure the good people Kaduna state is that I will pursue this mandate you freely gave me to its logical conclusion and by the grace of God, victory on our side," he declared.

Eze Ndigbo Of Ibadanland's Death, A Personal Loss - Olubadan

By: BAYOAKAMO, Ibadan

The Olubadan of Ibadanland, Oba Lekan Balogun yesterday, described the death of Eze'ndigbo in Ibadan and Oyo State, Dr. Alex Anozie as a rude shock and disbelief.

Oba Balogun in a condolence message through his Personal Assistant (Media), Oladele Oguniola, said the exit of the Eze Ndigbo was a personal loss.

The Olubadan stressed that late Dr. Anozie was a very peaceful and peace loving personality, who used the virtue to ensure good neighborliness between his

Igbo community and their Yoruba hosts.

Oba Balogun maintained "the Igbo community has lost a rare leader who would always be remembered for his advocacy for oneness of Nigeria irrespective of tribe, language and religious differences".

According to Oba Balogun, the late Eze'ndigbo, faced a lot of challenges, but bore all with calmness, humility and sense of purpose and these accounted for his success and ability to lead his people for that long.

Stressing that "as painful as his sudden exit may be, coupled

with the fact of the loss of his wife last year, the Olubadan urged the children to be of good cheers because of the good legacies left behind by their departed father.

"I urge you to feel happy because you have a father to be proud of. Dr. Anozie lived very well and was at peace with his maker going by his disposition to fellow beings", he said.

Oba Balogun added, " To the Igbo community, I share your pains and grief over the loss of a rare gem. A bridge builder and a leader that was compassionate and full of ideas for the well-

being of all. I urge you to remain steadfast and committed to the ideals of peaceful coexistence and good neighborliness which he professed".

Commiserating with the generality of the people over the exit of the Igbo leader in Ibadanland, Olubadan equally remarked that the exit would be felt by them, especially those who enjoyed his optical services and said it was an act of God which no mortal had power over. *Let's all thank God for the life of the man and pray for the repose of his peaceful soul".

New Nigerian recalled that the Eze'ndigbo of Ibadan land and Oyo state, Dr Alex Anozie died in his sleep at the age of 74 years at his home in Ibadan.

His remains has been taken home ahead of preparation for his burial at his home town Igboukwu, Aguata Local Government Area of Anambra State.

The late Eze'ndigbo of Ibadan and Oyo State was President of Non Indigenes Traditional Council of Ibadan and Oyo State (NITCIOS) besides being a founder of Ndieze In diaspora.

Visitation Panels To Gombe Varsity, Poly Submit Reports To Governor Inuwa Yahaya

***Suggest Ways To Enhance Academic Excellence, Administrative Proficiency In Higher Institutions**

By; **JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON**

The visitation panels to Gombe State University and the State Polytechnic Bajoga have presented their reports to Governor Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya. According to a statement signed by the DG (Press Affairs) Government House Gombe, Ismaila Uba Misilli, both panels were inaugurated by the Gombe State Governor on the 27th of July this year to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the two institutions and report same to the State Government. The Chairman of the visitation panel to Gombe State University, Barrister Achana Gayus Yaro had while presenting his committee's report, said in

fulfilment of its mandate, his panel worked with commitment, resilience and patience towards meeting the State Government's expectation of coming up with a report that will guide future policies in respect to the institution.

He said the report been presented is a robust work that emerged out of a careful and extensive deliberation based on mutual consultations, various submissions from stakeholders, engagement with development documents and physical observation among others.

While thanking Governor Inuwa Yahaya for finding members of the panel worthy to serve in the first ever visitation panel to the institution, Barr. Achana Gayus assured the Government of

finding a precise and all encompassing report that is worthy of consideration.

Equally presenting its report, the Chairman of the visitation panel to the State Polytechnic Bajoga, Dr. Maijama'a Kallamu represented by the Dr. Umar Adamu highlighted some of the challenges militating against the growth of the institution to include; the absence of a Governing Council for the Polytechnic, lack of a conducive teaching and learning environment for staff and students.

Dr Kallamu added that other challenges confronting the institution are insufficient monthly allocation to the Polytechnic, lack of clinic and the urgent need for institution to

move to its permanent site so TETFund which has enlisted the Polytechnic for intervention can begin to do the needful.

Responding Governor Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya expressed gratitude to both visitation panels for writing their names in the annal of history pertaining the growth and development of institutions of higher learning in particular and the state in general.

Represented by the Secretary to the State Government, Professor Ibrahim Abubakar Njodi the Governor stressed that his administration was deliberate in setting up the panels in order to have a bird side view of where and how the state government can intervene in order to enhance

effective teaching and learning in the various institutions of higher learning across the state.

Governor Inuwa Yahaya noted that visitation panels are a necessary ingredient in the administration of higher institutions and therefore assured members that the state government will carefully study the reports and implement same within available resources.

"In the first place no one forced us to set up the panels; so be rest assured that the state government will work with your findings and implement your recommendations in order to make teaching and learning in our institutions of higher learning more effective", the Governor assured.



VP Shettima, Buni, Abu Kyari, Kadafur, Betara, Others Attend Funeral Prayers Of Late Khadi Kaka Shehu Imam

*Dignitaries sympathize with Mohammed Imam over death of father

By ; SADIQ
ABUBAKAR,
Maiduguri

Vice President Kashim Shettima was in Maiduguri on Monday evening, to attend the Funeral (Jannaiza prayer) proceeding of late Khadi Kaka Shehu Imam, the father of Alhaji Mohammed Imam at his residence, opposite GRA Police Station Maiduguri around 6.30pm, which was performed by Chief Imam of Borno, Zannah Laisu Ibrahim Ahmad after which his remains were buried at Gwange Grave Yard according to Islamic rites.

Late Alkali Imam died at the age of 100yrs after a protracted illness. The deceased is survived by children, prominent among them is Alhaji Mohammed Imam who was a two-time governorship candidate in Borno State, as well as several grandchildren.

Shettima prayed to Almighty Allah (SWT) to admit the deceased into Aljannatul Firdausi.

The Vice President described the death of Khadi Imam as a huge loss and he would continue to be remembered for his

contributions to the state.

He said the family lost a great pillar, especially his contributions in providing wisdom and advice to younger generation and the society would always remember him.

He prayed to Allah to forgive his shortcomings and the entire family the fortitude to bear the loss.

Special prayers were offered by the Chief Imam of Borno, Zannah Laisu Ibrahim Ahmad.

Dignitaries who attended the funeral prayers included, Sen. Kashim Shettima, Governor of Yobe State, His Excellency, Mai Mala Buni, Shehu of Borno, Alhaji Abubakar Ibn Umar Garbai Al-Amin Elkanemi, Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, Sen. Abubakar Kyari and Chairman TETFund, Matawalle Kashim Ibrahim Imam.

Others were, APC Deputy National President (North), Hon. Ali Bukar Dalori, Secretary to Borno State Government, Alhaji Bukar Tijjani, Head of Service, Barr. Mallam Fannami mni, members of the State Executive Council, traditional rulers, politicians among others.



HIV/AIDS Scourge: AKSACA Intensifies Awareness Campaign

By: PATRICK TITUS, Uyo

Akwa Ibom State Agency for the Control of HIV/AIDS (AKSACA) in collaboration with related HIV/AIDS implementation Partners (IPs) have pushed more on public awareness and sensitisation programme to tackle the staggering prevalence of the disease in the state.

The event-pack exercise which was done in line with Governor Umo Eno's economic blueprint, ARISE Agenda on quality healthcare delivery, witnessed road walk along some major streets in Uyo, the state capital

yesterday.

Others include sharing of condom/lubricant, testing and counseling, sharing of health flyers to members of the public.

The project Manager of AKSACA, Dr Enobong Akpan who spoke during the event, stressed the need for community mobilization and sensitization, just as he regretted the current high prevalence status of people living with HIV in the state.

Dr. Enobong reiterated that HIV is not a death sentence, as it could be treated with anti-retroviral therapy (ART) which is available at secondary health

facilities and health centers in the State.

The Project Manager, having made provision for self prevention assesment tools like free test, condom, greasing lubricant, and literature guide, called on the public to avail themselves of the free test with professional counseling toward prevention and protection against infection or affection of HIV.

He commended the state governor, Pastor Umo Eno, for his commitment to the Health Sector as included in the Arise Agenda targeted at sustaining the

State's global plan to end HIV/AIDS in 2030.

Dr. Akpan further urged the stakeholders and IPs to be target and result oriented in all their activities, to ensure complete eradication of the scourging disease.

Shortly after the road walk events, Dr Akpan inaugurated Mrs. Stella Etok Akpan, permanent Secretary, State's Hospitals management Board, as Grand Ambassador of HIV/AIDS Awareness Programme in the State.

The permanent Secretary, Mrs. Etok Akpan, in her remark,

commended the ingenuity of Dr Enobong Akpan demonstrated in the holding of such magnitude of campaign against HIV/AIDS, without sponsorship from the government.

She likened such initiative as being on the same page with the Governor's stance on entrepreneurial development, saying, "it is pertinent to have the welfare of the people at heart, the HIV stakeholders and implementation partners should have the populace in mind in all their engagements towards preventing the epidemic infection."



Governor of Katsina State, Malam Dikko Umaru Radda personally supervised the distribution of about 1,993 bags of rice and maize to residents of Funtua Local Government Area of the state.



Photo: BASHIR BELLO DOLLARS



COMMUNITY FOCUS

Illuminating Hope: CUF Installs 60 Solar Lights In Ngor Okpala Community



By; **JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON**

In a significant stride towards sustainable development and community empowerment, the Chidiebere Uduokammiri Foundation (CUF) has illuminated the Ngor Okpala community with the installation of 60 solar-powered lights.

This transformative initiative not only brings light to the night but also heralds a brighter future for the residents of this close-knit community.

The Ngor Okpala community, nestled amidst the serene landscapes of Ngor Okpala LGA, has long yearned for reliable and accessible lighting after sunset.

The lack of adequate illumination posed challenges for safety, education, and economic activities, especially during the evening hours.

The Chidiebere Uduokammiri Foundation, known for its unwavering commitment to community development, recognized this need and took action.

The installation of solar lights is a testament to the foundation's dedication to sustainable solutions. Harnessing the power of the sun, these lights not only reduce the community's reliance on non-renewable energy sources but also pave the way for a greener and more environmentally conscious future.

Okere-Onyema Chidiebere

Christian, the visionary force behind the foundation, expressed, "Access to reliable lighting is a fundamental right that should be enjoyed by all. Through this project, we aim to enhance the quality of life for the residents of Ngor Okpala, in Imo State and create an environment conducive to growth and prosperity."

The impact of this initiative is already palpable. Children now have a well-lit space to study in the evenings, extending their learning hours and nurturing their academic aspirations. Local businesses and markets experience increased activity, fostering economic growth and stability.

Furthermore, the enhanced safety and security brought about by the lights contribute to a stronger sense of community well-being.

The Chidiebere Uduokammiri Foundation extends heartfelt gratitude to all supporters, partners, and volunteers who played a pivotal role in making this project a reality.

Their contributions have not only brightened the nights in Ngor Okpala but have also ignited a beacon of hope for similar initiatives in the future.

As the solar lights illuminate the path ahead, the Chidiebere Uduokammiri Foundation remains committed to its mission of creating positive and lasting change in communities worldwide.

Eid-el-Moulud: Senator Alli Charges Muslims To Pray Fervently For Nigeria, Political Leaders

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The Senator representing Oyo South Senatorial District, Senator Sharafadeen Alli on Wednesday, called on Muslims in the country to pray fervently for Nigerians and its leaders with the Eid-el-Moulud celebration.

Senator Alli in a statement signed by his Special Adviser on Media, Akeem Abas to commemorate the Eid-el-Moulud which marks the birth of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), urged Muslims to use the occasion to pray fervently for the nation as well as leaders toward peace, unity and economic prosperity.

He described the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) as a man whose exemplary life embodies peace, love, and kindness towards all, and serves as an enduring guide for all believers.

The Maye-Balogun of Ibadanland while felicitating Muslim faithful across the nation



Senator Sarafadeen Alli

on the occasion of Eid-el-Moulud stressed further that "It is also important for us to use this opportunity to pray for our country and our leaders, that they may be guided aright and take actions that will promote the peace, unity, and progress of our dearnation".

Senator Alli then urged them to reflect on the teachings of the Holy

Prophet and imbibe his exemplary qualities of compassion as well as selflessness towards one another, saying such was very important as the country navigates challenging times, including insecurity, economic challenges and social unrest.

Pledging to continue championing initiatives as

well as policies that would enhance the welfare and development of the people, irrespective of their religion or tribe as the move towards the path of greatness, Senator Alli wished all Muslims a happy Eid-el-Moulud celebration, praying that Almighty Allah bless and crown their efforts with success.

74th Birthday: Senator Alli Eulogises Oyo APC Deputy Chairman, Olayide Abas

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The Chairman, Senate Committee on INEC and Senator representing Oyo South Senatorial District, Senator Sharafadeen Alli has congratulated the Oyo State Deputy Chairman of All Progressives Congress (APC), Alhaji Olayide Abas on his 74th birthday.

In a statement on Wednesday signed by his Special Adviser on Media, Akeem Abas, the Senator representing Oyo South Senatorial District lauded Alhaji Abas for his astute administrative skills, respected community leadership, and principled political activism.

Senator Alli emphasized described Alhaji Abas as a politician who uses his political influence to bring real change and development to his community, adding that "such endeared him to many across the state".

"As he marks this milestone age, it is worth looking back at the distinguished career and contributions he has made to the political landscape of Oyo State over the years", he said. The APC Senator added, "Over the years, Alhaji Olayide Abas has played a key role in shaping the political fortunes of Oyo State. His contributions to the development of our state and country are immeasurable".

"He has worked tirelessly

to promote peace, progress, and prosperity in our community, and we are all grateful for his selfless service"

Stressing that Alhaji Abas stands as a loyal, committed and consistent party man, who has been instrumental in ensuring that the party remained united and focused on delivering good governance to the people of Oyo state, Senator Alli said his strides in the political landscape of Oyo State have made a significant impact on the lives of many people, saying the celebrant was known for his inclusive leadership style as well as unwavering commitment to the principles of justice, fairness, and equity.

"On behalf of the good people of Oyo South Senatorial District, I join millions of Nigerians to celebrate the birthday of Alhaji Olayide Abas.

As he marks this special day, we wish him good health, peace, and continued prosperity. May his influence continue to grow as he remains committed to the service of the people of Oyo State. Happy 74th Birthday once again Sir,"

Alhaji Abas is a pharmacist, former chairman of Ifelolu (comprising Ibarapa Central and Ibarapa North) Local Government and former Chairman of Oyo State Hospitals Management Board.

Maulud: Kaduna South Reps Member Congratulates Muslim Ummah, Charges Them to Pray For Nigeria

By; ISAAC ODEH, Kaduna

The Deputy Chairman, House Committee on

Host Communities and Member Representing Kaduna South Federal Constituency, Hon. Abdulkarim Hussaini

Ahmad (Mai Kero), has charged Muslim faithful to pray for the Nigerian state, noting that there is no better time than now

when the country needs divine intervention.

In a statement on Wednesday by his Media Aide, Sharifudeen Ibrahim Muhammad (Dan Jarida), to mark the 2023 Eid-el-Maulud Celebration, the Reps Member

encouraged Muslims to emulate the virtues of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam.

Hon. Abdulkarim Mai Kero called on well-meaning individuals to extend a helping hand to those in dire need in society as the country's economy bites harder.

He said he is optimistic that Nigeria will overcome the current hardships being experienced in the country, as soon, it will be over, noting that behind any hardship comes ease. Mai Kero said the 12th of Rabi-ul-Awwal of every Islamic calendar is the day Muslims celebrate the birth of the Holy Prophet Muhammad Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam.



Alhaji Olayide Abas

Maulud: Governor Inuwa Yahaya Extends Warm Greetings to Muslims, Urges People To Draw Inspiration From Teachings Of Prophet Muhammad (SAW)

As Muslims in Gombe State and around the world celebrate this year's Eid-el-Maulud, Governor Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya, CON has sent his heartfelt greetings to the Ummah, calling on all to reflect on the timeless virtues of Prophet Muhammad (SAW)

According to a statement signed by Director-General (Press Affairs) Government House Gombe, Ismaila Uba Misilli to mark this auspicious occasion, Governor Inuwa Yahaya urged the Muslim community to draw inspiration from the Prophet's teachings of service, peaceful co-existence, and exemplary leadership. The governor emphasized the importance of embodying the values of tolerance, humility, modesty, and generosity, all of which were exemplified by the life and teachings of Prophet Muhammad (SAW). He remarked, "As we commemorate this great day, let us continue to emulate the noble messenger of Allah in our actions, interactions, and relationships for the betterment of our society." Governor Inuwa Yahaya also called for continued prayers for the peace, well-being, and prosperity of Gombe State and the entire nation. He stated, "The celebration of Maulud



Gov Inuwa

should strengthen our faith and unite us as a people, coming together to pray for unity, peace, progress, and stability in our beloved state and nation, as we strive for growth and development." The Governor urged leaders and the entire citizens to contribute their best efforts towards the overall peace, unity, development, and prosperity of society. "In this Eid-el-Maulud and always, let us all take a moment to reflect on the

Prophet's teachings and strive to embody the values he left behind for the betterment of our society and the world". Governor Inuwa Yahaya further urged citizens not to despair in the face of the current economic challenges facing the country, but should look forward with hope and optimism, especially with the numerous programmes being rolled out by government aimed at revamping the socio-economic spheres of the state and nation in general. He stressed the need for tolerance among the diverse people of the state, irrespective of their differences, and implored everyone to uphold the relative peace and tranquility that Gombe State enjoys by avoiding actions that could jeopardize it, emphasizing that his administration will spare nothing in clamping down on all forms of crimes and criminalities in order to safeguard lives and property of the citizenry.

Colour, Grace As Gov AbdulRazaq Joins Kwara Maulid Celebration *Gov hailed for humility, consistent respect for Emir of Ilorin

*Scholars urge Muslims to be steadfast *Gov urges sense of community, fairness to all

By: BILIQIS ONAOLAPO OLAJUMOKE, Ilorin

For the third time in a row and with his habitual respect for time and culture of his community, Governor AbdulRahman AbdulRazaq on Wednesday, joined the 2023 public commemoration of the birth of the Prophet Muhammad in Ilorin, the state capital. Seated to the right of Emir of Ilorin, Dr Ibrahim Sulu-Gambari and dozens of his chiefs and prominent religious leaders, the Governor attended the event in company of cabinet members and loyalists. Thousands of Muslims, men and women, attended the Maulid as AbdulRazaq called on the faithful to imbibe "his time-tested values for sincerity of purpose, fairness, compassion to all, constant remembrance of God, and a strong sense of community built on the fear of God and collective good". "I join the entire Muslim community and people of Kwara State as a whole to celebrate the

anniversary of the birth of Prophet Muhammad. May the peace and blessings of Allah be on the Prophet, his households, his companions, and all of us," the Governor said. "There is no limitation to how far we can go if we always act as a community of people united by common humanity and interdependence. I urge us to work together as one people joined by one destiny and exemplary values. "Esteemed brothers and sisters, and our leaders, I assure you that our administration will continue to do its best within available resources to serve you in fairness. We will always act in good faith. "Once again, I congratulate the Muslim community on the anniversary of the birth of the Prophet." "We thank His Excellency for his generosity and humility and for always standing by us. We pray Allah to bless and honour you," chairman of the Kwara State Muslim Council retired Grand Kadi Justice Soliu Mohammed

said, congratulating the entire community on the occasion of Maulid. The Grand Kadi Justice Abdullateef Kamaldeen, who keynoted the event, said the Maulid offers a ground for introspection for the Muslims, especially the people of Ilorin. "Let us be complete Muslims, in action and utterances, and not follow the path of Satan. The recent event in Ilorin is a lesson to all and a call for us to look inward," the Justice said. The Grand Kadi called for patience and understanding as the country matches through a new economic phase with the removal of fuel subsidy. He called on the people to live within their means, and be patient. Hon. Moshood Mustapha, the chairman of the event who commended the Governor for his commitment to the community and the state, urged the Muslims to adhere to the dictates of the religion and admonition of the prophet. He urged people to avoid



spreading rumour and propaganda against others. Sheikh Abdulmumin Hanafi Ayara, one of the two lecturers at the event, urged the people to support and pray for the government. He expressed concerns about Federal Government promoting "gambling", urging a review of it in the interest of all. Sheikh Ayara said the Muslims are grateful to the Governor for his many pro-people policies and dispositions, including the declaration of Hijrah Holiday in

the state. Dr AbdulKadir Sambaki, the second lecturer who stood in for Sheikh Habeebullah Adam el-Ilory, called on the government to hire more teachers for religious studies in public schools. He also called on citizens to park to forgive one another, and to assist one another to do good. The event wrapped with the Governor standing in honour of the children from dozens of Islamic and Arabic schools for their match past.

Plateau People Celebrate Governor Mutfwang, PDP's Tribunal Victory

*We won't let Plateau down, says MUTFWANG

By
BUHARI B.
BELLO,
Jos

It was a jubilant day for the members of the People's Democratic Party (PDP) and the entire Plateau State community as they gathered to celebrate the victory of His Excellency, Barr. Caleb Manasseh Mutfwang, and other elected PDP representatives at the Election Petition Tribunal.

The solidarity rally, which took place at the Langfield Event Centre in Rayfield, Jos, brought together patriotic citizens from all the 17 local government areas of the state to commemorate the validation of their electoral mandate by the tribunal.

The Executive Governor, Barr. Caleb Manasseh Mutfwang, who led the enthusiastic crowd in a prayer and thanksgiving session, expressed gratitude to God Almighty for His sovereignty over mankind and acknowledged the role of the judges in upholding the will of the Plateau State people.

Governor Mutfwang rallied the crowd and highlighted the unease of the opposition party since his emergence as the PDP candidate, knowing that their days were numbered.

He found their argument at the tribunal, which questioned the PDP's party structure for sponsoring candidates in the 2023 election, laughable.

Governor Mutfwang said the tribunal's dismissal of their petition on the grounds of lack of merit, validated his position.

He reassured people of Plateau that he would not disappoint them and urged them to have faith in his government.

He also extended his appreciation to President Bola Tinubu for maintaining neutrality in all state-related political activities, and described him as a true democrat. The Governor

assured the state's teachers that the government was addressing the issue of unpaid salaries left by the previous administration and urged them to remain patient.

Acknowledging the strong support from the people, the governor disclosed that numerous appointments have been made while over 200 trucks of fertilizer have been acquired for distribution across the 17 local government areas of the state as part of government palliatives.

He assured the people that their welfare remained a top priority.

Former Plateau State Governor, Sen. Jonah David Jang expressed gratitude to

God for the victory and dedicated it to God and the people of Plateau State.

He asserted that the resilience and strength of the PDP structures, would remain steadfast and unbeatable.

He called for unity among Plateau people and emphasized the importance of pursuing core values that contribute to the state's development.

State PDP Chairman, Hon. Chris Hassan, represented by his deputy, Captain Bitrus Golen (retired), assured the youth of the party's solidity and urged them to protect the victories secured in the tribunal.

The Commissioner for Justice

and Attorney General of the state, Barr. Philimon Daffi, provided an overview of the tribunal cases, pointing out that the judgments in favor of the PDP demonstrated the party's strong structure.

He noted that there were also petitions challenging the National and State Assembly Elections, with some ruled in favor of the PDP and others under contention at the Appellate Court.

The solidarity rally saw the presence of all PDP stalwarts, including state, local government, and ward executives, as well as women, elders, youth leaders and supporters of the party across the state.



Eid-el-Maulud: Kaduna Commissioner For LG, Chieftaincy Affairs Felicitates Gov Uba Sani, Muslim Faithful

By; AMOS EBUTE MATHEW, Kaduna

Kaduna State Commissioner For Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, Hon. Sadiq Mamman Lagos has congratulated Governor Uba Sani and Muslim faithful by extension, for commemorating anniversary of the birth of Prophet Muhammad.

Mamman Lagos in a statement, hopes that the anniversary would be leveraged by adherents of Islamic faith to pray for peace, progress and development of the state and Nigeria in general.

Hon. Lagos congratulated the good people of the state for having a wonderful leader like Governor Sani, who has the feelings of the masses at heart and ever willing to put smiles on the faces of the people of the state.

He enjoined Muslims to uphold exemplary characters, high sense of humility and love for humanity as preached and practised by the noble messenger of Allah.

"It is yet another season of celebrating the birth of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, who brought hope and glad tidings for mankind.

"I believe it is a period for



Mamman Laos

deep spiritual retrospection to mankind, particularly at this challenging time of global upheavals, characterized by natural and man-made disasters.

"I urge Muslim faithful to

use the blessings of this anniversary to pray for our dear country to overcome our perennial economic and security challenges.

"I will also wish to use this opportunity to call on the

good people of Kaduna state to unite and work towards making the state great and a country in tune with dreams and aspirations of our founding fathers," he said.

Eid-el-Maulud: Hon Ologede Felicitates Muslim Ummah

**Preaches peaceful coexistence as ingredient for development*

By; ADEBOYE ADO, Akure

Member of Ondo State House of Assembly Akure North Constituency, Hon. Kolawole Ologede has rejoiced with Muslim faithful on the occasion of Eid-el Maulud, which marks the birth of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW).

In his goodwill message to all Muslims to commemorate the day, Hon Ologede said the event holds great

importance for Muslims across the globe, as it offers an opportunity for reflection, gratitude, and renewed commitment to the teachings and exemplary principles of the foremost Messenger, Servant and Prophet of Allah.

"The teachings of Prophet Muhammad, (SAW) inspire untainted value for peace, tolerance and unity, which are essential ingredients for development of every society.

"Regardless of our fate, we

can leverage on the significance of this rare Gift from Allah to mankind to build a prosperous Akure North, Ondo State and Nigeria of our dream," he said

Hon Ologede therefore, urged all citizens to live peacefully with one another so that the dividends of the REDEEMED AGENDA of the Ondo State Governor Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Akeredolu, SAN, CON and the RENEWED HOPE

promised by President Bola Tinubu will trickle down to accelerate developments across our land and particularly in Akure North.

"Please be rest assured of my commitment to giving you quality representation in the Ondo State House of Assembly. I, therefore urge you to continue to live peacefully to fastrack the development of our constituency, state and country", he said.

Kano Governor Condoles Water Commissioner Over Daughter's Death

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Kano State Governor, Alh Abba Kabir Yusuf has condoled with the State Commissioner of Water Resources, Alh Ali Haruna Makoda over the death of his daughter (Usaiba Ali Haruna Makoda) who passed away yesterday after an illness.

In a statement signed by his Chief Press Secretary, Sanusi Bature Dawakin Tofa, Governor Abba Kabir Yusuf described the death as shocking, saying, "it is saddened to receive the news of the death of Usaiba Ali Haruna Makoda, an obedient

daughter, a committed house wife whose death create a wide vacuum difficult to fill.

"On behalf of the government and people of Kano State, I extend our condolences to the families and we are praying to Almighty Allah to grant her soul eternal rest, give the fortitude to bear her loss and bless the child she left behind." Prayed the Governor.

The deceased is the eldest of the children of Alh Ali Haruna Makoda and passed away after an illness some few weeks after giving birth to her first child.

OAU Announces Downward Readjustment Of Fees

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

Authorities of the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Osun State on Monday, announced downward readjustment of charges payable by the students 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, the downward readjustment in the charges followed the meeting the university management with the leadership of the Students Union Government (SUG) on Monday September 25, 2023.

The statement stressed that the meeting which lasted for several hours, was called by the University management, after several agitations by the students union for a reduction of the initial charges approved by the University.

Vice Chancellor of the University Professor Adebayo Simeon Bamire announced that the charges

initially announced have been reduced as follows:

"For the students in Humanities, the initial sundry charges of N89,200 for returning students have been reduced to N76,000 while the new students in the Humanities, the initial fees of N151,200 have been reduced to N131,000.

"For those in the Sciences and Technology, the initial charges of N101,200, for returning students is now N86,000 while the new students in the same Faculties will now pay N141,000 instead of the initial N163,200.

"The returning students in the Pharmacy and College of Health Sciences will now pay N109,000, instead of N128,200. The new students in the same Faculties will now pay N164,000 instead of the initial charges of N190,000."

The statement added that the University management has agreed that the payment can be in two equal installments.

It stressed that the University portal is now open to students for payment.

Olufon Stool: Olaojo Ruling House Lauds Osun Govt Efforts Towards Installation Of New King

*Sues for calm

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The Olaojo Ruling House of Ifon-Osun Orolu Kingdom in Osun State on Tuesday, hailed the concerted efforts of the state government towards effecting the selection and installation of a new king for the Ifon-Osun Orolu.

This was contained in a communique issued by the Olaojo Ruling House of Ifon-Osun Orolu Kingdom comprising the Morohunfolu and Odunolu Royal families after a meeting.

In the communique, the ruling house expressed "concerned about the absence of a king in our ancient town and hereby express our profound appreciation to the Osun State government to effect the selection and installation of a new king.

"The family is concerned about the absence of a king in our ancient town and hereby express our profound appreciation to the Osun State government to effect the

selection and installation of a new king," it said.

The communique added, "The family also appreciate the decision of the government to adopt the use of the extant 1988 Chieftaincy declaration to select the oba".

Enjoining all interested parties to allow the Ifon Kingmakers to carry out the selection of the appropriate candidate to fill the vacant stool in accordance with their statutory responsibilities.

The communique was signed by Prince (Alhaji) Sule Akinyooye, the Mogaji Olaojo Ruling House/Morohunfolu Royal Family. Prince Wahab Oyegbile, Mogaji Odunolu Royal Family and the Secretary, Olaojo Royal Family/Jurat, Prince Benson Adekunle.

It also, "appealed to all parties to allow peace to reign and avoid inflammatory statement and any action that may affect the peace and stability of our ancestral home."



Osun Governor

Gov Bello Inaugurates Reconstructed Key Projects In Kogi

By; ADAMA JOHN, Lokoka

Governor Yahaya Bello of Kogi State has inaugurated a school and clinic, reconstructed and equipped by his wife, Amina Oyiza Bello, for the Eika-Ohizenyi Community.

Financed by the governor's wife through her pet project, Hayat Foundation, Bello while inaugurating the projects urged other concerned indigenes to contribute their quota to the development of their communities.

The two projects were unveiled to celebrate the 16th birthday of the

Governor's first son, Hayatula Bello, in whose name the Hayat Foundation was marked.

While inaugurating the projects – Eika-Ohizenyi Community Clinic and Al-Dabiya Primary and Secondary School, also in the community, the governor particularly lauded the vision of the founding fathers of the school initially conceived and operated as an Islamic school but later expanded to accommodate Islamic and Western education.

In appreciation of the efforts of his wife to change the fortunes of her people through the initiatives, the governor declared free education for

pupils of the school as well as secondment of teachers to strengthen the manpower need of the school.

He also revealed that the administration would ensure the construction of the access road to the school in addition to the provision of a bus to facilitate academic activities in the school.

On her part, the wife of the governor and founder of the Hayat Foundation, Amina Bello, said the projects signified a special homecoming for her, noting that the clinic would run three days of free Medicare for residents of the community.

Thrilled by the excitement

of her people as a result of the projects, she narrated how she had always been inspired to make a difference in the lives of the people through selfless services and support.

She commended her husband, Bello for providing whole-hearted support for the success of the projects, noting that he had been there for her and Hayat Foundation in all its undertakings.

Amina Bello called on the youth to make themselves available in the service of society, urging them to contribute their time and skills through community volunteering with a view to adding positive values to their environment.

Continue To Pray For Nigeria - Gov Makinde Tells Muslim Ummah

**Felicitates on 2023 Eid El Maulud*

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

Oyo State Governor, Engineer Seyi Makinde on Tuesday, charged Muslim Ummah across the country to continue to pray for the leadership of the country and the state

Governor Makinde made the call in a statement by his Chief Press Secretary, (CPS), Mr Sulaimon Olanrewaju to felicitate Muslim faithful in Nigeria on this year's Eid-el-Maulud.

Congratulating Muslims in Nigeria on the occasion of the 2023 Eid-el-Maulud, commemorating the birth of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) charged the Muslim Ummah to use the blessedness of the occasion to seek the face of Allah for the country and Oyo state.

Commending the Muslim Ummah in Oyo State for their support for his administration, the governor said, "As we move on in our efforts to develop our state sustainably, we will

continue to need the prayers and support and we will never take them for granted.

"I congratulate my brothers and sisters in Islam on witnessing the 12th of Rabi' al-Awwal, the blessed day in which the Holy Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) was born", he said.

Gov Makinde added, "This is another opportunity for us to reflect on the majesty of Allah and the favour He bestowed on Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) among all his prophets and to use the blessings of the period to make supplications for our country and our state".

"As an administration, we value the support and prayers of the Muslim Ummah in Oyo State and we have continued to see the results of their prayers. As we move on in our efforts to develop our state sustainably, we will continue to need the prayers and support and we will never take them for granted.

"Eid Mubarak to everyone."

Maulud: Kaduna State Fityanul Islam Chairman Congratulates Muslims Ummah

By; SANALIYU, Zaria

The Chairman Fityanul Islam, Kaduna State, Sheikh Rabi'u Abdullahi has congratulated Muslims across the world on the birthday anniversary of the Holy Prophet, Muhammad (SAW).

Speaking to New Nigerian in Zaria on the anniversary, Sheikh Abdullahi described the anniversary as a moment of sober reflection and an occasion of love, peace and sacrifice.

"As Muslims, it is a privilege to witness this great day, we should use it in promoting the virtues and ideals of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W).

"We should all live by the exemplary life and teachings of the Holy Prophet, Muhammad (SAW).

"We should endeavour to make sacrifices and be our brother's keepers at this trying moment in our

nation's history," the chairman said.

He called on the Muslim Community to promote peace and peaceful coexistence with both Muslims and non-Muslims at all times.

The chairman used the occasion to urge Muslims to spread love, sacrifice and support to the less privileged, who are in need of support as it was the moral character of our beloved Prophet (SAW)

According to him, "Prophet Muhammad (SAW) was a messenger of peace, who enjoined us to live in peace.

"We must therefore emulate his life and spread his teachings in our relationship with each other."

Sheikh Rabi'u Abdullahi commended the Islamiyya schools, youth groups for making the anniversary celebration successful and a peaceful throughout the occasion.

Zango Kataf: Bandits Kill Six, Injure Four In Fresh Attack

By; AMOS TAUNA, Kaduna

Suspected bandits on Tuesday night, attacked and killed about six persons and injured four others at Takkanai Village in Atyap Chiefdom, Zango Kataf Local Government Area of Kaduna State.

A source told New Nigerian that the attackers came in large numbers some few minutes after pm and carried out the nefarious act.

According to the source,

"The attackers came and carried out their barbaric act by descending on innocent souls, killing six persons and four others sustained various degrees of injuries and left the village."

Another source who spoke to New Nigerian also confirmed the number of those killed and injured and said, "As I am talking to you, we are having a meeting with the Sector Commander of Operation Safe Haven to extensively discuss the issue with a

view to finding a possible solution of maintaining peace in the area and by extension, the state and the country."

He added that lives cannot continue to be wasted by attacking and killing as well as destroying farmlands and other property, saying, "We truly need to come to our senses and do what is good for ourselves to forge forward as a people for the overall development of humanity."

He called on Governor Uba Sani to do all he can to unearth the perpetrators of the killings that have been happening in Atyap land and Southern Kaduna, with a view to arriving at a workable solution for the interest of all.

The Police Public Relations Officer could not be reached to confirm the incident when calls were put to his phone, up to the time of filing this report.

Eid-el-Maulud: We Are Committed To Rebuilding Trust In Kaduna Communities - Uba Sani

By; FUNMI ADERINTO, Kaduna

Kaduna State Governor, Senator Uba Sani on Wednesday, wished Muslim faithful in Nigeria and Kaduna State in particular, Happy Eid-El-Maulud.

Senator Uba Sani thanked the Almighty Allah for His blessings, protection and guidance.

"We glorify Him for been our shield in these difficult and challenging times," he said.

According to him, "This is our first Eid-El-Maulud celebration since assuming office on May 29, 2023. We have settled down to the business of governance.

"We have committed ourselves fully to rebuilding trust in our

ravaged and divided communities. Our people deserve peace and a harmonious environment, so that they can rebuild their lives and contribute to the economic development of our dear state.

"This year's Eid-El-Maulud celebration is an opportunity for our citizens to imbibe the virtues of the Holy Prophet Mohammed (peace be upon him) in order to heal our communities and rebuild our badly damaged local economies.

"Our Holy Prophet Mohammed (peace be upon him) stood for love, tolerance, patience, justice, fairness, perseverance and forgiveness. He suffered persecution because of his beliefs.

"He never wavered in his commitment to the welfare and security of his people despite his trials and tribulations.

"We must, as a people, resolve to put our unpleasant past behind us. Let us reach out to one another and make peace. Through dialogue, we can resolve our differences and rebuild peace and trust in our communities. Hate, distrust and suspicion are antithetical to progress and development. We should henceforth deny conflict entrepreneurs the space to operate.

"Our administration will continue to encourage inter-faith dialogue. We shall give the Kaduna State Peace Commission all the support it needs to help resolve age-long

conflicts and forge understanding among our people.

"We have been strengthening our engagements with security agencies and boosting the capacity of the Kaduna Vigilance Service (KADVS) in order to re-energize the fight against banditry, kidnapping and other forms of criminality in Kaduna State".

The Kaduna State Governor urged all Muslims to pray fervently to Almighty Allah for peace and progress in Nigeria and Kaduna State in particular.

"I wish us all a peaceful and accident free celebration. Happy Eid-El-Maulud," he declared.

2023 International Day: We Need Sustainable Peace In Nigeria - Security Stakeholders

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

Stakeholders in the security sector have advocated the immediate need for sustainable peace and unity in and across Nigeria.

The stakeholders made the call at a one-day summit organized by the Department of Local Government and Development Studies of The Polytechnic, Ibadan to mark The International Peace Day 2023.

According to the stakeholders, it is glaring that peace has been eluding most parts of Nigeria, ranging from activities of Boko Haram, religious groups, robbery, cultism among others.

The stakeholders maintained that peace is not far from Nigerians, if the homes in particular, rise to the occasion by promoting good morals and godliness.

Keynote Speaker at the summit, Dr. Babatunde Oyekanmi of the Department of Political Science, University of Ibadan, blamed the developed countries for laying the foundation and strengthening conflicts around the world, most especially in Africa.

Oyo State Commissioner of Police, CP Ademola Hamzat represented by Chief Superintendent of Police who is also the Commanding Officer, Swift Response Squad, Dr Femi Okunnowo said, "conflict is as old as mankind and stressed the need for all security agencies to work and collaborate to bring and maintain peace in our neighborhood and country at large".

CP Hamzat stressed that parents have not been doing enough in the moral training of their children and charged them to rise to the challenge of training reliable and responsible children.

The Commander,

Amotekun Security Outfit, Col. Olayinka Olayanju (Rtd) said, "Cultism in tertiary institutions and the society at large has become a major threat to peace in the country".

Col Olayanju (rtd) stressed the need for the right thinking members of the society to join hands with the security agencies to curtail this menace.

The Amotekun Commander stressed that the activities of the illegal miners, particularly in Oke-Ogun area has become a major threat to sustainable peace in that part of the state, adding that most of them are in possession of illegal weapons.

Representative of Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC) in Oyo State, Superintendent Oyewo Olakunmi in her remarks, said the NSCDC has been promoting peace by resolving conflicts among families and religious bodies, noting that between January and March this year, her organisation resolved 250 land disputes in Ibadan alone.

Rector of The Polytechnic, Ibadan, Professor Kazeem Adekunle Adebisi while speaking, observed that the antidote to peace is for everybody, including states and countries to do the right thing at the right time, adding, "peace is desirable and achievable".

The Head of the Department of Local Government and Development Studies, Dr (Mrs) Adenike Adedokun said the department has been observing the international day of peace with the intention of bringing experts together on ways and manners to promote peace in the world.

She observed that the whole world is plagued with disaster and chaos, pointing out that all this have eroded the peace of the world, hence, the need for this peace summit at a time like this.

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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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- Advertisers will be surcharged 20% of the applicable rate where artworks are not provided.
- Adverts may not be published if the visuals given are considered too poor as to affect the reproduction.
- Alterations to original order should be conveyed in writing at least 24 hours to desired alteration date.
- Colour guides are to accompany coloured adverts.
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TECHNICAL DATA

6 COLUMNS

Depth	38.1 (CM)	Depth	-	15 (Inches)
Width	25.4 (CM)	Width	-	10 (Inches)

POLITICAL RATE

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

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S/NO	SIZE	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
1	Handling for the first 40 copies	120,000.00	9,000.00	129,000.00
2	Per 1000 Copies (1 Page)	28,000.00	2,100.00	30,100.00
3	Per 1000 Copies (Magazine 2-8 Pages)	50,000.00	3,750.00	53,750.00
4	Per 1000 Copies (Magazine above 8 pages)	80,000.00	6,000.00	86,000.00

CLASSIFIEDS

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

SPECIAL POSITION

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

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

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

Kano Tribunal: Northern Youth Assembly Writes

Open Letter To Tinubu 27th Sept. 2023

AN OPEN LETTER TO HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT BOLA AHMED TINUBU GCFR, BY NORTHERN YOUTH ASSEMBLY (MAJALISAR MATASAN AREWA) Sir, DO NOT SUCCUMB TO THE ANTICS OF SOME ALLEGED ELEMENTS IN YOUR GOVERNMENT TO CREATE POLITICAL CRISIS IN KANO STATE AS SUCH ACTION IS CAPABLE OF CREATING HATRED AGAINST YOUR NEW GOVERNMENT AND SHALL ERODE THE REMAINING CONFIDENCE OF THE CITIZENS IN THE NIGERIAN DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM

Let us for the record as we deemed it appropriate, to introduce our organization to you, as this is the first time we are writing to you since your assumption of office as the elected president, Federal Republic of Nigeria. Northern Youth Assembly (Majalisar Matasan Arewa), is a youth focused organization, established in 2010, and subsequently incorporated with CAC. The organization has a functional leadership, at both national and States leadership structures in each of the Nineteen Northern States and Abuja.

Your Excellency, we have painstakingly resolved to communicate to you through this medium, to avoid unnecessary protocol and administrative bureaucracy, considering the gravity of the situation, as well the urgency to draw your attention on the matter, before it goes out of hand.

As you are fully aware, Kano is officially the most populous State in the country, with an estimate figure of over 20 million, a population size equivalent to more than 5 states if added together in the country. Kano State, is also the heartbeat of the North, which many citizens of other states largely depend upon, for the viability of their economy, and steady earnings for livelihood. Kano State, has for some years been stable politically since 2019 due to huge sacrifices many individuals and organizations had paid, such as Kano Peace Committee (KPC), the Nigeria Police under the able leadership of CP Mohammed Wakil, who summoned all the courage to contain the evilly institutionalized political thuggery, until when the inconclusive saga descended on Kano, through the hand work of some politicians, who did not mean well for the State. Your Excellency, many lives could have been lost in 2019, but to God be the glory the situation was marginally controlled.

The 2023 general elections, equally went through peacefully, courtesy of the joint efforts of the security agencies, Kano Peace



Committee (KPC), as well as the cooperation of the Kano State Government. Kano State has been able to escape many of the evil plans purportedly designed to drag the State into chaos and disharmony. We are all aware of the pluralistic nature of the State, with diversities in tribe, region, religion, culture and social background.

Sir, the fragility of the democratic system especially in Africa occasioned by obvious social, legal and institutional injustice, have cumulatively exposed why the system is steadily losing the confidence of the citizens, and this is apparently witnessed through the broad day electoral injustice, such as: forceful snatching of the peoples mandate, through manipulation of either electoral process or judiciary, an evil act masterminded by some desperate and evilly minded politicians, who do not care about the future of the country, except for their political interest, even though at the detriment of the teeming number of electorates. It is our humble

opinion that, if the Nigerian democratic system should continue to operate on the basis of electoral injustice, undermining the best practices of the democratic governance, in fairness to all parties, the repercussion would surely be a devastating one.

Your Excellency, we are law abiding citizens and we believe in the rule of law, however, justice shall not only be done, but must apparently be seen to be done. The judiciary as an independent arm of Government, is expected to be the only last resort for a common man, however, where the citizens have begun to doubt the neutrality of the judiciary in the dispensation of justice system, then the country is certainly heading towards doom.

We have received with dismay, information which alleged the involvement of some elements in your Government, to have interfered and manipulated the Kano State Governorship Elections Tribunal judgment, an information which if it turned out to be true, could certainly be

described as unfortunate, unprecedented, condemnable and uncalled for. Kano State, as temperamental as it is, such desperate actions could trigger political crisis in the State, and could possibly lead to anarchy. Kano is considered as the commercial nerve center not only for the North, but to the entire sub Saharan African countries, who have one relationship or the other with Kano State. Kano State could be described as a role model, and as the most politically strategic territory with vast knowledge and political civilization. In view of this, Kano is fragile and when broken into pieces, the national security would surely be threatened.

Sir, let us draw you to the memory lane, starting from 1999 to 2007, when you served as the Executive Governor of Lagos State, under AD. Your party was entirely different from the party at the centre, and despite some misunderstandings, His Excellency Olusegun Obasanjo led Federal Government did not make any attempt to snatch the mandate which the good people

of Lagos State gave you, to manage the affairs of the State, from 1999 to 2007. Therefore allowing, some alleged members of your Government, to mastermind the conspiracy of snatching the mandate of the Kano people, is as good as inviting hatred against your own personality, doubting your commitment to upholding democratic principles, institutionalizing electoral injustice, dashing the hope of the Nigerian electorates to lose complete confidence in the system, and subscribing to the school of thought which emphasizes on the unsuitability of the democratic system for African countries. In addition, is this electoral injustice is allowed to strive, it would further reaffirm the failure of your Government to uphold the rule of law, and treat all citizens equally and fairly regardless of ethnicity, region, religion, party affiliation and others, and the perceived situation wouldn't only amount to creating unrest, but would surely be a set back on the Nigerian democratisation and Africa as a whole.

The perceived conspiracy by some alleged elements in the Government, deploying Government machineries and influence, to destroy Kano State, the consequences would not end and stop in Kano, as the repercussions would certainly create a multiplier negative effects on other states of the federation. Therefore using politics to ignite crisis in Kano, through Governorship Election Petition Tribunal, would surely metamorphose into creating crisis which would be difficult to control, based on the brewing tensions, resulting from the Kano State Governorship Elections Tribunal Judgment. Therefore, there is no better time for you to act, than now to save the situation, by prevailing on your party members who have been alleged to be involved in this political recklessness, as the risk is not worth trying.

Signed: Dr. Ali Idris, Acting President. Comrade Adikwu Omale Joshua National Publicity Secretary,

Tender Unreserved Public Apology To Oke Ogun Obas, Afenifere Tells Obasanjo

**Says he can't ridicule respected Obaship institution in Yorubaland*

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The Pan Yoruba socio political organization, Afenifere has demanded an unreserved Public Apology from former President Chief Olusegun Obasanjo to traditional rulers in Oke Ogun area of Oyo State.

In a communiqué issued at the end of its monthly meeting made available to journalists by its National Publicity Secretary, Comrade Jare Ajayi, Afenifere also called on the Federal government and labour leaders to engage more in consultation to quickly resolve the issues surrounding the fuel subsidy removal and the attendant difficulties Nigerians are facing.

Afenifere in the statement, condemned in strong term

the action of the former President in Iseyin on Friday September 15 during which he ordered traditional rulers at a public function to stand up for allegedly failed to observe protocol while Gov Seyi Makinde was about to make a speech.

The Pan Yoruba socio political organization pointed out that Yorubas have enough respect for traditional institutions, the arrowhead of which, are our traditional rulers and are ready to resist attempt by anyone at ridiculing them.

"In view of the attempt to ridicule the respected Obaship institution in Yorubaland, Afenifere hereby demands an unreserved Public Apology to Obas from former President Olusegun Obasanjo. Our tradition describes who

we are. As such, no effort must be spared to prevent the rubbing of our noble tradition", it said.

Afenifere added, "In that wise, it's hereby recommended that Royal Fathers are spared the trouble to stand up at public functions as obtained in the United Kingdom among others"

"Afenifere was taken aback by the avoidable and unwarranted incident that took place at Iseyin, Oyo State on Friday, September 15, 2023 where former President Olusegun Obasanjo commanded Royal Fathers at the gathering to stand up (and after complying), were ordered to sit down. It was as though a military commander was giving orders to his troops".

Afenifere also in the communique appealed to

the government and Labour leaders to engage more in consultation view and to quickly resolve the issues surrounding the fuel subsidy removal and the attendant difficulties Nigerians are facing.

It tasked the government to redouble its efforts in finding a lasting solution to the intractable problem of exchange rate in order to bring succour to the teeming population of our people, in no distant future.

Afenifere in the communique reaffirmed its support for President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's administration, calling on all well meaning Nigerians to support the government in the onerous task of resuscitating our economy and improving the quality of life of all citizen.

Diphtheria Claims 453 Lives Mostly Children In Nigeria, UNICEF Raises Alarm

**Deploys 9.3m doses of diphtheria vaccines to Kano, Bauchi, Borno, Yobe, Katsina, Kaduna, Jigawa*



By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The UNICEF representative in Nigeria, Dr. Rowan Khan on Wednesday, raised the alarm over the outbreak of severe Diphtheria, particularly among the children in Nigeria.

UNICEF Nigeria in a statement made available to journalists, called for urgent need for widespread vaccination to curb the spread of the outbreak.

According to Dr Khan, "the outbreak has so far resulted in over 11,500 suspected cases, more than 7,000 confirmed cases, and claimed the lives of 453 people, mostly children.

It stressed that, "most cases are children aged between 4 to 15 years who have not received even a single dose of the vital vaccine, laying bare the urgency of the vaccination situation in Nigeria.

"UNICEF is providing urgent support to the Nigerian government in its efforts to combat the outbreak. A crucial part of this support includes the procurement of vaccines to support the government's response".

Dr Khan added, "So far, on behalf of the government, UNICEF has deployed 9.3 million doses of diphtheria vaccines to affected states including Kano, Bauchi, Borno, Yobe, Katsina,

Kaduna and Jigawa.

"Of these, four million doses have been dispatched to Kano, the epicentre of the outbreak. Another four million doses of vaccines are being procured and will be handed over to government in the coming weeks."

He stressed further, "The devastating impact of this diphtheria outbreak is a grim reminder of the importance of vaccination. Nigeria is home to a staggering 2.2 million children who haven't received even a single dose of vaccine - the second largest such cohort in the world.

"We must collectively take urgent actions to drastically reduce this number. Every child deserves protection from preventable diseases. This is not negotiable".

UNICEF Nigeria then called on partners, stakeholders, and the international community to rally together to ensure that every child in Nigeria is reached with life-saving vaccine, emphasizing the importance of strengthening routine immunization, community engagement, and health systems to avoid similar outbreaks in the future.

He maintained that, "to respond effectively to the outbreak, UNICEF Nigeria needs to raise an additional US\$ 3.3 million until the end of the year".

Bishop Aremu To CAN: Instill Discipline Among Christian Leaders

**Says leaders with undignified character humiliating the body of Christ*

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

Presiding Bishop, Christ The Light Ministry (Inc), Ibadan, Bishop Solomon Olusegun Aremu on Tuesday advocated discipline among Christian leadership in Nigeria.

Receiving the leadership of Nigeria Association of Christian Journalists (NACJ), Oyo State Chapter to the new Ultra Modern Cathedral of the ministry in Ibadan, Bishop Aremu charged the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) leadership to instill discipline in Christian leadership.

Bishop Aremu stressed that the time has come to avoid acts capable of ridiculing and humiliating the Christian body by CAN being more proactive in installing ensuring high level of discipline among Christian Leaders to discourage some degrading acts that is now common among Christian leaders as well as preventing those that see them as role model from towing same route.

According to Bishop



Bishop Aremu

Aremu, "Churches are no longer what we used to know. Many churches have departed from the side of truth and the real teachings of Christ, thereby operating churches like business ventures whose major aims is to make profits and enjoy the worldly gains".

The Presiding Bishop,

Christ The Light Ministry (Inc), noted that the leadership of Christian bodies in Nigeria are losing values due to what he called undignified acts that should not be heard of among Christians.

Bishop Aremu pointed out that it is the failure of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) that gave birth to the Pentecostal

Fellowship of Nigeria (PFN), adding that CAN has derailed from its primary mandate as the umbrella body of all churches in Nigeria comprising the body of Christ.

He stressed that the situation led to some Christians who are not satisfied with CAN mode of operation coming together and creating the Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (PFN).

The Chairman, NACJ, Oyo State, Lekan Shobo Shobowale described Bishop Aremu as a true man of God who despite all odds stand firm to be an exemplary role model for Christians by sticking to the right teachings of Christ and do not at anytime deviate from the teachings of Christ.

Activities marking the official commissioning of the church begins on Wednesday, September 27, 2023 with a three day revival while the official commissioning holds on Saturday, September 30, 2023.

My Rejoinder To The Cable Story: **“Ex-FIRS Boss Nami Approved N11bn ‘Suspicious’ Payments After His Exit**

By; MUHAMMAD NAMI

My attention has been drawn to a mischievous story by the Cable Newspaper claiming that I made approvals of over N11 billion after taking my pre-retirement leave. Nothing can be further from the truth. The entire story was sensationally written with mischief that took the ordinary events of my work out of context with the intent to tarnish my image.

First and foremost, I want to categorically state that after my exit as FIRS Executive Chairman, I made no such approvals as claimed in the report.

Fundamentally: It is important to note that no payment was made by the Service after the announcement of my pre-retirement leave as claimed by this story. An approval for payment in the Service is one step of a journey to payment. It is the custom that when a new Executive Chairman resumes office, he would review, validate and make final authorisation before any payments can be made.

It is important to note for the record that all decisions reached and extant liabilities/commitments of the Service during my stay in office are contained in the handover notes I made available to my successor, Mr. Zacch Adedeji. He is fully briefed on everything. For clarity the items listed in the Cable Newspaper Report were part of the N16 billion outstanding commitments contained in our handover note.

The N5 billion paid to Joint Tax Board was paid to fund the activities of Presidential

Committee on Tax and Fiscal Policy Reforms two months before I left office. It was paid after we received a letter to that effect from the office of Mr. President signed by Zacch Adedeji himself.

The report maliciously attempts to portray a picture that I hurriedly left the country on September 16th after these so called

“suspicious approvals” were made. Again, nothing can be further from the truth. If I traveled out of the country on the 16th of September, how then did I attend the handover ceremony with Mr. Zacch on the afternoon of Monday 18th September 2023? That handover ceremony was covered by the media, and can

be cross-checked.

It is disappointing to see the Cable, a revered online newspaper attempt to sensationalise events that took place in the ordinary course of my work in office, making them seem as if they were done in bad faith.

I want to categorically state that every decision I made within the time of my stay in

office was within the ambit of the law and within the lawful powers I exercised then as Executive Chairman.

I inherited only N1.4 billion in the purse of the FIRS when I assumed office. I left N129 billion in the purse of the Service when I left.

Muhammad Nami is immediate past FIRS boss



Nami

NYG Asaba 2023; Akwa Ibom In Winning Haul

By: PATRICK TITUS, Uyo
 As the ongoing 7th National Youth Games in Asaba, Delta State, entered day five on Wednesday, September 27, Akwa Ibom team is bracing for more medals in various sports. Happiness Dickson Mbuk opened the winning haul for the state on Sunday with a silver medal in the 36 kg category of Judo, followed by Fervent Imo who grabbed another silver

medal in 1,500 metres boys on Tuesday. But on Wednesday, Otobong Enefiok Johnson clinched gold medal in 100 meters T46/47 Para-Athletics, while the team also pulled home one gold medal in Mixed Pistol, one bronze in Mixed Rifle and one bronze in individual Rifle events of shooting. Leader of Akwa Ibom team, who is also the Director of Sports in the state's Ministry of Youth

Sports Development, Mr. Ifiok Duff, while reacting to the record so far set in the ongoing event, expressed belief that in the remaining days of the competition, the team will win more medals for the state. Duff hinted, saying, "Many of our athletes have qualified for finals in their various sports. In football, our players have qualified for the semi finals and about five of them have been pencilled them for possible

invitation to the national team." The Director of Sports lauded the state Governor, Pastor Umo Eno, for making it possible for youths in the state to participate in the games and display their skills in the various sports registered for the competition. He also acknowledged the Commissioner for Youth Development and Sports, Sir Monday Ebong Uko, for pushing forward the needs as well as the show of commitment that saw

Akwa Ibom State participating in the National Youth Games. Para-Athletics Coach, Elizabeth Akpan, said that she was proud with the performances of her athletes, stressing the possibility of their doing better if there were advanced sports facilities in Akwa Ibom where the Athletes could be exposed to better training opportunities.



Eid-il-Maulud: Katsina Gov Preaches Compassion

By; SULAIMAN AHMED MISAU, Katsina

Governor Dikko Umaru Radda of Katsina State has enjoined Nigerians of all religious creeds to imbibe the virtues of true brotherhood and compassion for humanity in their inter-personal relationships.

Governor Umaru Radda said doing so would greatly assist in engendering national peace, unity and integration in a pluralistic society like ours.

The governor gave the advise in a statement by his Chief Press Secretary, Ibrahim Kaula Mohammed while felicitating with Muslims in the state, country, and all over the world, on the occasion of this year's Eid-il-Maulud celebration.

He noted that, the Maulud religious festivity, affords Muslims the opportunity to graciously and devotedly honour the Holy Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W), by remembering and exhorting one another to emulate his noble personality and flawless social characters of honesty, fairness, compassion, and regards for people.

"Our pious and revered

Prophet Muhammad was an iconic and legendary Messenger of God, who led a life of unmistakable piety, pure humility, astounding level of sincerity, genuine love for humanity, high sense of gratitude, sheer perseverance, true generosity, and stellar modesty, among other endearing moral values," the Governor said.

He explained that, in commemorating the anniversary of the birth of the Holy Prophet of Allah, Muslims in the country should recommit themselves to righteousness and other noble spiritual acts, that only project the Islamic religion and their own personality traits, in the most spectacular fashion.

"More importantly, I tasked Muslims in Katsina and the entire country to show love towards their fellow religious adherents, and even to those with different spiritual ideologies. On one hand, we all, as Nigerians, should strive to exhibit morals that are virtuous. Equally, now is the time for us to patriotically work towards making Nigeria a prosperous nation," Governor Dikko Umaru Radda said.

NYG Volleyball: Team Kaduna Claims Gold, 2 Silver

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Team Kaduna volleyball teams at the ongoing National Youth Games (NYG), fought hard to claim one gold and two silver medals, as the events ended yesterday in Asaba, the Delta State capital.

The gold medal came from the girls beach volleyball event, while the silver

medals were won by the male and female indoor volleyball teams, after both losing out in the finals decided yesterday.

The impressive run of Team Kaduna's female indoor volleyball team was cut short by hosts Delta in a pulsating final.

The Kaduna Girls had in the second semifinals played a day earlier, trounced Anambra 3-0 (26-24,25-9,25-16) to

book a final berth were they succumbed to Delta in the boys Indoor Volleyball semifinal, Team Kaduna beat their Oyo State counterparts 3-0 (25-16,25-16, 25-18) on Wednesday, but lost to Anambra in the final yesterday.

In the earlier stages, Team Kaduna boys beat same Anambra 2-1 (25-12, 22-25, 15-12) at Ogashe-

Uku Stadium.

In their second match, Team Kaduna beat Akwa Ibom 2-0 (25-16,25-15).

The girls on their part, beat FCT 2-1 (22-24, 21-7, 15-5) in their first match, but fell to Delta 0-2 (21-10, 21-17) in their second match.

When interviews after the final, Kaduna girls said the Delta girls had height advantage over them.



Osun State Governor, Senator Ademola Adeleke with Executive Secretary Tetfund, Mr. Sonny Echono during a courtesy visit to the Executive Secretary Tetfund by the Osun State Governor @ his office in Abuja. Photo: AKINOLAARIYO

NYG: Gov Uba Sani Congratulates Team Kaduna On Winning First Gold

By; FUNMI ADERINTO, Kaduna

Kaduna State Governor, Senator Uba Sani has congratulated the Kaduna State Cycling Team on their historic win at the ongoing 7th National Youth Games (NYG) in Asaba, Delta State, where the team won its first-ever gold medal.

Governor Sani commended the team's

exceptional performance during the 80km road race, describing the gold medal, "as a significant achievement that has brought pride to not only the team but the entire Kaduna State."

Additionally, the Kaduna State Cycling Team also earned a bronze medal, during the 10-kilometer Individual Time Trial (ITT), adding to their success at the 7th National

Youth Games in Asaba, Delta State.

"These accomplishments at the games are a reflection of the dedication and diligence of the cyclists, coaches and management in ensuring Kaduna remains at the forefront of sporting excellence in Nigeria.

"In efforts to further boost the morale of Team Kaduna at the ongoing

games, Governor Sani has also directed the Kaduna State Commissioner of Sports Development, Professor Benjamin Gugong, to immediately visit and interact with the team in Asaba, Delta State.

"This, he stated will ensure that they put in their best to emerge top winners at the end of the National Youth Games," the statement said.



Gov Radda

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Discharge Duties With Human Face, Compt James Charges Personnel

By ; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

Operatives of the Rivers State Command of the Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS) have been charged to discharge their duties in a humane manner.

Comptroller of Immigration Service Rivers State Command, James Sunday, PCC, who gave the advice, urged them to beyond law enforcement apply a blend of emotional intelligence which has to do with being humane.

James pointed out that the law is blind, but human beings are the eyes of the law.

In a statement personally signed by him, the Rivers Command Comptroller said, "it is not every issue that is law bound, there are issues that can be handled with human feelings.

" I don't mean to compromise ,especially minor errors that can be addressed by reprimanding in words or caution and not necessarily making the offender feel inhumanly treated or harassed.

" Another name for Emotional Intelligence is hostmanship ability or art of treating others the way we would like to be treated, as an operative in Passport Offices, Airports or other operational windows on land, air



Comptroller James

or sea borders we are the first contact as a service and first impression last longer in the mind of a visitor or a client,we must endeavor to give a care liking to a humane doctor and his client who will want the client to depart or leave happier than he came,many travelers arrives stressed up from the trip couple

with the distance, hours of sitting on a spot or a challenge before embarking ,they don't need more stress".

Even when a visitor is at fault, James counseled that politeness, humane and courteousness will go a long way to create the desired atmosphere at these point either at departure or

arrival, aame at Passport Offices.

The Comptroller explained that the passport office is a place that demands high sense of responsibility and respect for the feelings and dignity of the applicants who we are duty bound to serve because they paid for a Service that deserve good treat.

While being professional and curious, he said,. " we must guide against temptation to exploit shortcomings or observed anomaly to capitalize on extortion or Ill treatment, the law is clear, read what the law says and direct appropriately, any issue that is above us must be escalated to a higher authority, an attempt to handle, is what leads to abuse of power or office. As young and old officers, we are all guided by same principle because we are human and prone to error, but with upgrading, retraining, refresher, workshops and seminars and watching International best practices we are likely to get it right.

"The country at this time needs complimentary services not those complicating issues. While the Comptroller General is doing her bit at the top, we on the field

must compliment at our various beats and formations to ensure smooth administrative and operational procedures and proceeding that will launder good image of the service not tarnishing it."

James stated further that the country is in dare need of Professionals not problems, adding that" if we cannot solve problems we should not create one or be a problem to the country,we are being paid with task payers money we must serve them, hence we are a Service and Public Servants.

"With these understanding, I believe we are good to go rendering the best service expected by the Citizens. The new entrants must learn to be good observers and pick a good mentor one with credible, impeccable and worthy character and integrity not a quick fix, now now operative that lacks integrity and character, this is the bottom line for a good service and inadherence to best practices is gateway to bad service, the public will always judge us by how we treat them.The best of any public servant is in the how and what kind of service you render to the public and your ulterior motive while doing same".

69th Birthday: Plateau Gov Salutes Bishop Oyedepo

By; BUHARI B. BELLO, Jos

Plateau State Governor, Barr Caleb Manasseh Mutfwang, has felicitated Bishop David Oyedepo, the founder of the Living Faith Church, as he celebrates his 69th birthday.

In a birthday message to the renowned church leader, Governor Mutfwang reflected on the profound impact that Bishop Oyedepo has had on the lives of countless individuals worldwide

He lauded the Bishop as an epitome of resolute faith, whose messages of holiness and righteousness are delivered with courage and deep spirituality.

Governor Mutfwang noted with delight, the exemplary leadership that Bishop Oyedepo has exhibited throughout his lifetime, saying it transcends barriers of faith, ethnicity, and region.

He identified the virtues of selflessness, devotion, humility, sacrifice, and tolerance that have been

consistently preached by the revered man of God, mirroring the teachings of Christ.

These virtues, the governor noted, should serve as guiding principles for all members of society, fostering a healthier and more harmonious community.

Governor Mutfwang pleaded with Bishop Oyedepo to collaborate with other spiritual leaders in championing the cause of denominational unity within

the country.

He was of the belief that if the various branches of the Christian faith could work harmoniously in unison, Nigerians would undoubtedly be inspired to follow a path of unity, light, and prosperity.

Governor Mutfwang also encouraged Bishop Oyedepo to continue steadfastly in his fearless and unwavering propagation of the Gospel of Christ, even in the face of societal challenges.



Bishop Oyedepo