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- Israeli Prime Minister vows to make Hamas pay
- 2,700 Israelis, 2,200 Palestinians wounded
- 750 Israelis declared missing

By: IBRAHIM ADAMU, Kaduna

There has been no resounding response from the United Nations (UN) as the Arab/Israeli conflicts escalated yesterday morning, with a surprise attack launched into Israel from Gaza by Hamas fighters in a commando like operation. Hamas followed the predawn invasion with rocket attacks with some reaching as far as Tel Aviv and Jewish settlements in southern part of Israel. Casualty from the Israeli side as at time of filing this report, stands at 700. Israel responded swiftly by striking the blockaded

Gaza enclave by air, sea and land, killing no fewer than 350 Palestinians. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, while declaring that Israel was in a state of war, vowed to make Hamas pay dearly for its provocative attacks on his country. Military reservists have been called back for duties to reinforce the defensive and offensive lines of Israeli armed forces. Hamas spokesperson, while calling for support from the group's allies said the preemptive strikes were launched in response to provocative acts by Jewish settlers against the Palestinian people. World leaders have called



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Yoruba Council Passes Vote Of Confidence On Kyari, Assures Of Partnership To Grow Oil, Gas Sector

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The Yoruba Youth Council (YYC) has passed a vote of confidence on the Group Chief Executive Officer of the Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited (NNPCL) Mr. Mele Kyari.

This is even as it described the attempts by some unscrupulous elements to blackmail Kyari as a distraction that will not do the oil industry any good.

The YYC said that rather than joining other faceless groups to blackmail the NNPCL boss, it would further increase its level of partnership and support for Kyari in view of the numerous successes recorded by the GCEO in the oil and gas industry.

The group said it is on record that the NNPCL GCEO was appointed at a time when disputes, aside from oil theft and pipeline vandalism were paralysing oil production, stressing that within a few months of stepping into office, Kyari was able to resolve these disputes.

The Youth Council in a statement jointly signed by the President and Publicity Secretary, Comrade Eric Oluwole and Saheed Adeola said when Kyari came in as the then GMD in 2019, he instituted a multi-security control room manned by the NNPC and all assets of the company were linked in real-time to the command-and-control center.

The center was responsible for monitoring, locating, and reporting suspicious activities to various security agencies for intervention. The effort led to oil production recovering to 1.6 million barrels per day at the close of 2022.

The YYC said that after seeing the damages which oil theft continued to wreck on the country's earnings, Kyari pushed the Buhari administration to re-introduce private security arrangements which eventually led to the revalidation of Tompolo's pipeline surveillance contract. Since then, oil production has continued to stabilize and seen a steady increase.

The Yoruba youth said findings revealed that Kyari came at a time when disputes, aside from oil theft and pipeline vandalism, were paralysing oil production. But within a few months of stepping into office, Kyari was able to resolve them.

These include the dispute

between Shell and Belema Oil that shut in over 30,000 barrels per day production in OML 25, and over agreements with SNEPCo and other PSC partners to resolve the disputes around another deep offshore block, OML 118, leading to the renewal of that acreage with the prospect of a new \$10billion investment in the development of the Bonga South-East Field.

'Among the resolutions was the execution of the Abo OML 125 Heads of Terms leading to the resolution of the issues around most of the deep offshore Production Sharing Contracts. This paved the way for the renewal of OML 125 and further investment.

"There was also the successful resolution of 1993 PSC dispute which holds over 90% of Nigeria's deepwater production, paving the way for unlocking over 7 billion barrels of oil, 20Tcf of gas reserves, and potential investment of up to US\$40bn over the next five years, and at the same time relieves NNPC of almost US\$10bn in contingent liabilities," the group pointed out.

The YYC also said Kyari achieved the commercial discovery of hydrocarbon in the Gongola basin of the Upper Benue trough and attained the Presidential flag-off of the Kolmani Integrated Development Project (KIPRO) on 22nd November 2022, with over one billion barrels of oil and 500BCF of gas addition to existing hydrocarbon reserves, which will go a long way to enhance national energy security, create jobs opportunities and stimulate balanced economic growth.

As part of the strategic drive to shore up national reserves, the Group said Kyari expanded hydrocarbon exploration campaigns to the Sokoto and Bidda basins and achieved a spud-in for the ongoing exploration projects in the Nasarawa and Chad Basins. Within this year alone, the Council said Kyari achieved first oil in OML 13, restored production in OMLs 11 and 18, and currently working to achieve first oil in OMLs 83/85 among others.

Kyari is also taking major initiatives that will move towards achieving FID for major projects in the deepwater and frontier basins such as the Bonga Southwest Apraro, Bonga North, Prowei, KIPRO, Owowo, Bosi, and so on.

Poverty, Hunger: Kano Governor To Flag-Off Second Batch Of Palliatives

**Rolls out youth, women empowerment initiative for Nigeria's most populous state*

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Kano State government under the leadership of Governor Abba Kabir Yusuf is set to distribute bags of grains and empower youth, women and people living with disabilities with cash. This was contained in a statement made available yesterday, by his Chief Press Secretary Sanusi Bature Dawakin Tofa. It informed that further to his government's effort of providing succour to the people of the state to alleviate the effects of fuel subsidy removal, arrangements has been completed for the distribution of grains comprising of rice and maize across the 484 wards within the 44 LGAs of the state.

Governor Alhaji Abba Kabir Yusuf made this known yesterday at a meeting with the state and local governments chairmen/secretaries of four grassroot Mobilisation platforms (Community Re-Orientation Committee (CRC), Lafiya Jari, Kano P R O - P A and Kwankwasiyya) an event

that was held at Coronation Hall, Kano Government House.

The governor said the second batch distribution is imperative looking at the difficulties people are going through and made a clarion call on the distribution committees at the state and local levels to be just in the exercise to achieve the goal of cushioning the current hardship of extreme hunger and abject poverty. Alh Abba Kabir Yusuf added that plans are in the pipeline for empowerment programmes that was envisaged to three categories of beneficiaries totalling 4,840 across women, youth and people living with disabilities who will be trained and provided with start-up capital.

"We will also ensure the introduction of Amana taxis and buses scheme for our teaming youth, some tricycles riders (Yan Adaidata Sahu) will be included in this scheme to upgrade their status."

On the areas of development projects, the Governor said the five kilometres projects in the headquarters of 44 local



Gov Abba

governments initiated by Senator Rabi'u Musa Kwankwaso in the second tenure of his administration, would be completed as contractors has been mobilised back to sites for the completion as planned.

He also during the meeting informed the plan of the State Government to organise an appeal fund for the security agencies operating in the State so as to provide them with the needed vehicles, working gadgets and other interventions to perform according to the standard rules.

Alh Abba Kabir used the

opportunity to state other development initiatives in the areas of education, health, agriculture, expansion of streets in Kano municipality, construction of fly overs and underpasses to ease vehicular movements, desilting of dams, renovation of hospitals and schools in the 44 local governments of Kano.

The governor appreciated the level of support and cooperation accorded to his government by people of Kano and urged for the sustenance of the tempo for the continuous, peace, stability and prosperity in the state.

Alleged Land-grabbing: 92-yr Old Father Of 37 Laments Threat By Military Officer

By: MIKE ODEH JAMES, Kaduna

A 92 years old farmer, Pa Ogande Akya Adra of Galadima Ward, Doma Local Government Area of Nasarawa State has cried out over what he alleged as threat to life and attempt by some senior military officers, led by M. Gidado playing a role to forcefully take over his farmland.

He is appealing to the Commander of 4 Special Forces Command, Nigerian Army in Doma, Maj. Gen. Hillary Nzan and meaningful public to intervene by ensuring that he gets justice on the matter.

The farmland according to him, is located opposite the

Military Barracks in Doma.

According to a letter titled, "Save my Soul" made available to newsmen on Friday in Abuja, the nonagenarian stated that he got the shock of his life on the fateful day of September 28, 2023, when two of his sons, Eugene Atakwe Ogande and Ishaleku Ogande rushed home to complain to him about an encounter with the Senior officer, (M. Gidado) who ordered them to vacate the land noting that the officer gave the order at the barracks, after summoning them through his emissary.

"As if that was not enough, Eugene was again called by the same officer on the 30th day of September, 2023 and ordered him to go and rebuild

a beacon as claimed allegedly destroyed by him or else he would be decisively dealt with," he said.

According to him, since the fateful encounter between his children and the officer, his life appeared to be gradually ebbing out of him, being his only means of livelihood.

The nonagenarian and father of 37 children with over 70 grand, great grand children become worried and traumatized as he lamented his ordeal at the time of filing this report.

He said, what baffled him is that he has never met the said officer, neither had he any issue with the military to warrant such a directive.

As the situation stands, he explained that he lives under

fear of the unknown, since the officer never deemed it necessary to come to him, but was quick to issue a threat to deal with whomever enters the farm land henceforth.

While providing a historical background, he revealed that the farmland is a customary land inherited from his father who deforested the land and had farmed on it and thereafter, he took over after his father's death for a period that spans over 150 years.

Moreover, in line with the requirement of modernity, he said that he approached the then Village head of Doma, Ada Akabe Oshigada and later the local government authority, who validated his right of ownership of the

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Insecurity: Fish Out Sponsors Of Terror Groups, HEKAN President Tasks Tinubu

**Says hope not lost, urges Nigerians to pray for a better country*

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Following increasing spate of insecurity in the country, a call has been made for security agencies to double efforts and for the federal government to investigate the financiers and sponsors of these terror groups, with a view to nipping such in the bud

The call was made by the President of The United Church of Christ in Nigeria (UCCN), popularly known as HEKAN, Rev. (Dr.) Amos G. Kiri during Priestly Ordination of clergies on Sunday October 8, 2023 at HEKAN Headquarters in Kaduna.

"The loss of one life of a Nigerian is one too many. We pray that God will grant Mr. President and the entire nation the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss. [A minute silent]. In spite of change in leadership, Nigeria continues to experience attacks from bandits, kidnappers, and unknown gunmen.

"While we note the efforts of the government and security personnel in arresting the situation, may I use this medium to call on our security officials to re-strategize their plans in the fight against these hoodlums.

"In my previous speeches, I had urged the Government to take a closer look and investigate the financiers and sponsors of these terror groups. One wonders what happened to those who were fingered as sponsor of terror

group during the PMB government. In this kind of fight, intelligent base information gathering and synergy is key," he said.

On behalf of the entire HEKAN family, he felicitated with the President and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of Nigeria, Chief Bola Ahmed Adekunle Tinubu, GCFR; over the loss of military officers and other security personnel across the nation.

He added that the government should use all the apparatus in its custody to fight these groups headlong.

"Mr. President, Nigerians are suffering and hunger is so visible everywhere because many farmlands have been confiscated by these terror groups preventing farmers from accessing their farms to plant crops. Where the farmers can plant, the terror groups are the harvesters.

"As if this is not enough, the subsidy removal has escalated the cost of basic essential commodities that the average Nigerian needs. The palliative measures initiative by the government is a welcome development.

"However, I appeal to those saddled with the work of distribution to be magnanimous enough in their responsibilities, have the fear of God and ensure that only the needy get the palliative. If this is done, the hardship on the common citizens will be cushioned minimally," he said.



On Nigeria's 63rd Independence Anniversary, he said all hope is not lost.

"Beloved, Happy Independence!! Wish you all the 63rd Independence Anniversary. As we embark on this journey, I pray that God's favour locates you and His grace uphold you in all life endeavour. As Noah's ark rested on the mount of Ararat after the flood, may you find a firm ground to stand on and rest from all storms of life. I want to use this medium to crave your

indulgence to always commit our Leaders in your prayers just as the Bible instructs all Christians to pray for their leaders.

"Let us keep HOPE alive and believe that our country Nigeria will be great again. Irrespective of the fact that the voice of the common man seems not to be heard via our Courts, Congresses, House of Representatives, etc. God listens to the voice of His children, so no matter where you find yourself

in the country, no matter the volume of hardship in the country, no matter the rate at which you are faced with storms, do not hesitate to pray to God for a better Nigeria.

"Keep yourselves well informed and updated with what can benefit you as a Nigerian because the country belongs to all of us therefore our participation spiritually and physically is mandatory. May the Lord grant our Leaders the wisdom to make Nigeria better.

Tinubu's Govt Planning To Gag Media Ahead Release Of FBI Files, Atiku's Aide Alleges

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Former Vice President Atiku Abubakar's Special Assistant on Public Communication, Phrank Shaibu, has said that the President Bola Ahmed Tinubu administration has perfected an elaborate and sinister plot to gag the media ahead of the release of the records containing his criminal investigations by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

Shaibu said in a statement yesterday, that the Tinubu administration has become frustrated with the Chicago State University scandal and was planning a massive offensive in the coming days.

Atiku's aide added that the threat by the National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) to sanction Arise Television News was only a tip of the iceberg.

He said the NBC had been watching as Tinubu's media platforms like Television Continental (TVC) had been constantly

attacking Atiku and had refused to even air opposition views.

Shaibu added, "Back in February, the NBC tried to show a bit of fairness and fined TVC for unprofessional broadcasts including the airing of the Joint media Directorate of the APC Presidential Campaign Council press briefing where Festus Keyamo said Obasanjo and Atiku ran a criminal enterprise, and an empire of fraud in Abuja.

"However, since Tinubu became president on May 29, the NBC has become more partisan than ever. The NBC boss, Balarabe Ilesah, is obviously seeking to retain his appointment and is now dancing to the tune of the APC and their master at the Presidential Villa.

"The NBC has now been co-opted into a grand plot to gag the media over Tinubu's certificate scandal. Having lost the battle in the court of public opinion, they are now trying to use the powers of the state to browbeat the media into silence. This is indeed shameful for a man who

claimed to be a hero of the June 12 struggle.

"But this is not the time for the Nigerian media to show any weakness. The trove of documents that the FBI is set to release this month will expose details of the investigation that tied Bola Tinubu to heroin trafficking. The dissemination of this information must not be left to social media alone. The media must rise up to its role as the watchdog of society as enshrined in Section 22 of the 1999 constitution."

Shaibu said the hypocrisy of the Tinubu government and the APC-led Senate is legendary.

He noted that a ministerial nominee from Delta State, Stella Okotete, a director at NEXIM Bank, was denied ministerial confirmation over alleged certificate forgery even though the lady in question tried so much to defend herself.

Atiku's aide, however, wondered why the standard for the President of Nigeria is lower than that of a ministerial nominee and the

youngster, Mmesoma Ejikeme, who forged her JAMB results from a third party vendor.

Shaibu said, "Okotete claimed to have graduated from Benson Idahosa University in 2007 with a second class lower grade in International Studies and Diplomacy and completed the compulsory National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) from Kebbi State in 2009.

"However, amid allegations of certificate forgery, the Senate refused to confirm her while the authorities continued to investigate her. However, in the case of Tinubu, who holds the highest office in the land, they want Nigerians to overlook it. They are asking Nigerians to focus on governance instead.

"Isn't it ironic that the bar has been lowered for the office of the President? Is it not mind-boggling that people who would not employ even third class graduates in their private companies are the same ones now defending certificate forgery? The hypocrisy is indeed disturbing."

NDLEA Arrests Brazil Returnee With Ingested 100 Wraps Of Cocaine, Nabs 13 Others In Kano, Gombe, Ogun, Edo

By; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

Moves by an American returnee to start life afresh in Nigeria, with an ingested 100 wraps of cocaine, has landed him in the net of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA).

Similarly, no fewer than 13 other suspects were arrested by operatives of the Agency in Gombe, Kano, Edo and Ogun states over alleged possession of large quantities of Cannabis Sativa within the past week.

Nabbed at the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport (NAIA), the 67-year-old trafficker, identified as Chukwuemeka Clement was said to have claimed he had wasted 30 years of his life in Brazil, Ethiopia and Thailand before returning to the country.

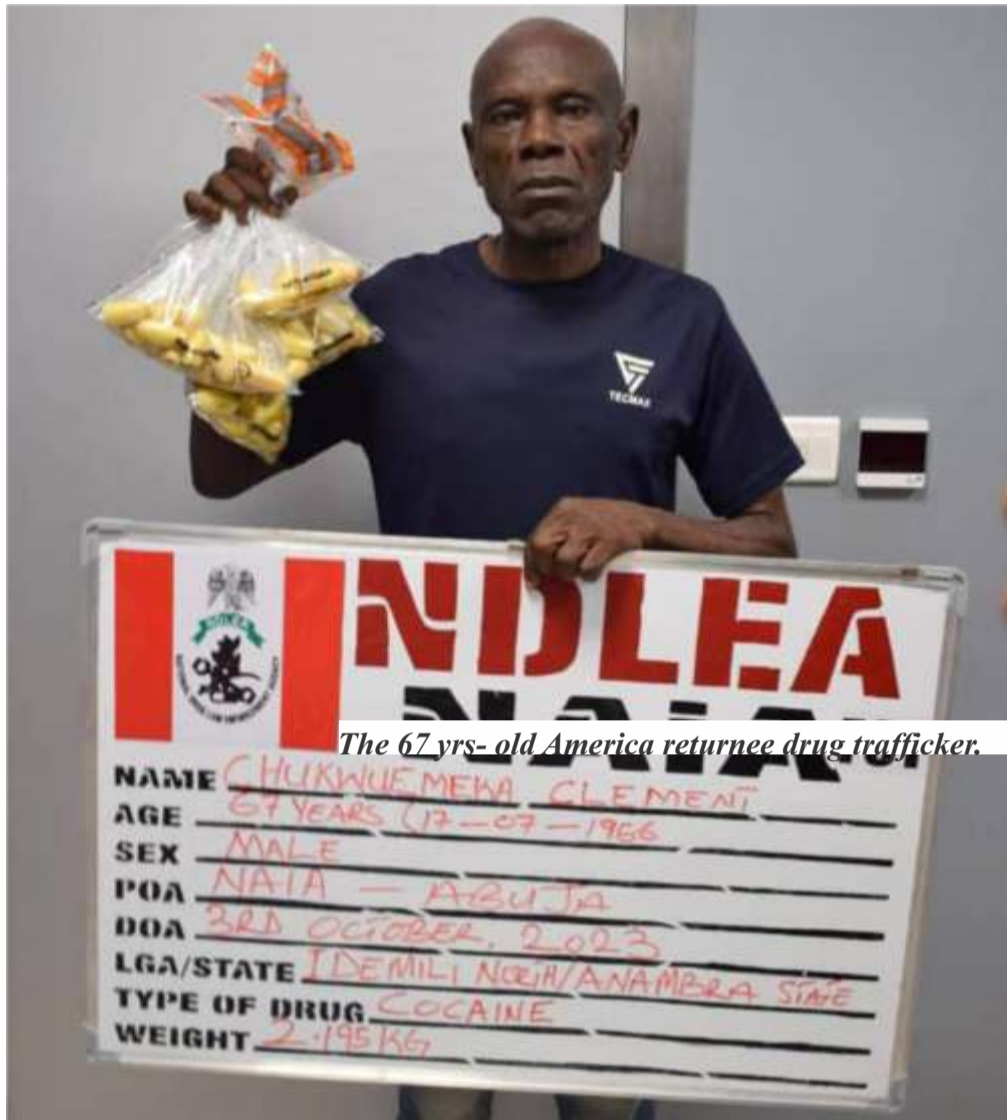
The Director, Media and Advocacy of the Agency Femi Babafemi, who made the disclosure in a statement yesterday, disclosed that Chukwuemeka was arrested on Tuesday, October 3, 2023, during the inward clearance of passengers on Ethiopian Airlines flight 951 from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Babafemi added that the suspect was taken for body scan, which revealed multiple pellets in his stomach. While under observation, he excreted a total of 100 wraps of cocaine weighing 2.195 kilograms in four excretions.

In his statement, Chukwuemeka claimed to have spent 30 years in Brazil, Ethiopia and Thailand, while he was once married, but lost his wife and without a child.

He added that it is the reason why he decided to go into drug trafficking to raise enough money to marry a new wife and start life afresh.

Babafemi stated that on the same 3rd of October, NDLEA operatives at the Malam Aminu Kano International Airport (MAKIA), intercepted a 45-year-old woman, Bilkisu Mohammed Bello while preparing to board a Saudia Airlines flight to Saudi Arabia.



The 67 yrs- old America returnee drug trafficker.

While being interviewed, she confessed that pellets of cocaine given to her to swallow before her flight were kept in a house in Farawa area of Kano.

When she led NDLEA officers to the house, 52 wraps of the illicit substance with a total weight of 767grams were recovered.

Meanwhile, NDLEA operatives supported by officers and men of the Nigerian Army, Civil Defence Corps and Amotekun personnel on Tuesday 3rd October stormed James town, in Ogunmakin, Obafemi Owode local government area of Ogun State where they located and destroyed 10.38 tonnes of cannabis sativa covering over 4.152 hectares.

While on their way back from the operation, the team also intercepted a truck marked FS548XN carrying a 40ft container loaded with logs of wood.

A search of the container led to the recovery of two bags of cannabis sativa weighing 20kgs while six suspects: Ahmed Yusuf, Olaniyi Babatunde, Adedeji Babatunde, Richard John, Osolale Olamilekan and Abdulazeez Saied, in the

truck were arrested.

The statement added: "Operatives on Sunday 1st October raided Obi camp in Owan West LGA, Edo state where 30 sacks of skunk weighing 300kgs and concealed in charcoal were evacuated from an old dilapidated mud house.

Similarly, two cannabis farms measuring 1.179065 hectares at Igbanke forest in Orhiowon local government area of the state were identified and destroyed on Friday 6th October while four suspects: Tersoo Zaria, 28; Ifeanyi Osai, 53; Moses David, 19, and Daniel Gabriel, 20, were arrested.

"In Gombe state, a suspect, Auwal Bindow was arrested on Friday 6th October along Bauchi - Gombe road with 50,000 capsules of tramadol, while in Oyo state, NDLEA operatives on patrol along the Lagos-Ibadan expressway nabbed Anuoluwapo Blessing Iyanu, 32, with 52 blocks of compressed pawpaw shaped cannabis sativa weighing 30kgs on Wednesday 4th October.

"With the same vigour, the various commands of the Agency across the country continued with the War

Against Drug Abuse, WADA, advocacy campaign in the past week. Some of them include: WADA sensitisation lecture for students and teachers of Igbonnibi High School, Ila Orangun, Osun state; WADA sensitisation lecture at Royal Ambassador Secondary School, Makurdi, Benue state; WADA sensitisation lecture at Ilora Baptist Grammar School, Ilora, Oyo state and LGA WADA sensitisation lecture for students of Beth-Root Model Secondary School, Onitsha, Anambra state".

Chairman/Chief Executive Officer of NDLEA, Brig. Gen. Mohamed Buba Marwa (Rtd) commended the officers and men of the NAIA, MAKIA, Ogun, Oyo, Edo, and Gombe Commands of the Agency for their outstanding feats in the past week.

He equally applauded their counterparts in all the commands across the country for intensifying their WADA advocacy lectures thus creating a fair balance between their drug supply reduction and drug demand reduction activities.

Middle East: UN 'Silent' As 700 Israelis, 350 Palestinians Killed In Escalating War

- Israeli Prime Minister vows to make Hamas pay
- 2,700 Israelis, 2,200 Palestinians wounded
- 750 Israelis declared missing

for restraint from the belligerent parties.

President Joe Biden as usual said America would stand with Israel as its strongest ally in the world. Egypt, Turkiye and Qatar have called for a ceasefire and a diplomatic solution to the renewed conflicts that had persisted for over seven decades.

The Israeli Defence Force (IDF) said among the dead was a colonel who was the commander of one of the country's brigades stationed close to its border with Gaza.

The number of casualties on the Israeli side was put at 300, according to local television stations in cities invaded by Hamas as IDF announced that pocket of battles were still ongoing

with Hamas fighters.

The UN Secretary-General condemned "in the strongest terms" the attack by Hamas against Israeli towns, UN Spokesperson Stéphane Dujarric said in a statement on Saturday.

However, no strong action has been taken to bring to an end the war by the world governing body as at time of filing this report.

The battle is ongoing in Southern Israel with Hamas militants and bombing of Gaza by Israeli fighter jets persisting as night falls.

Meanwhile as at 5:40pm yesterday 750 other Israelis were declared missing, 2,700 wounded. While Palestinian number of those killed remains 350 and 2,200 injured.

Alleged Land-grabbing: 92-yr Old Father Of 37 Laments Threat By Military Officer

farm land, which Gidado threatens to deal with him and his children if they dare set foot on.

Giving more insight on the land, he explained that he has been enjoying undisturbed possession of the land since deforestation until the year 2007, when one Ahmed Bako and Bako Doma & Sons Nig. Ltd began to lay sudden claims to the land.

He said such claims led to litigation in the court and he won the case against the plaintiff.

After the litigation, he continued to enjoy and exercise unfettered possession till this year (2023) when the family of Usman Osabo started encroaching violently on the land.

He added that the the life threatening act of this people have increasingly continued unabated.

"Presently, they have resorted to embarking on various kinds of activities on the land, by cutting down trees, making demarcations vide, erection of cemented beacons, farming and alteration of boundaries.

"We make bold to state that the

forgoing ungraceful and nefarious attitude of these fellows has translated to aggravated and unabated impunity aided and guaranteed by your gallant officers.

"It is for this reason that I call on the GOC of Doma Military Barracks to SAVE MY SOUL from people that are trying to take advantage of the military for a civil case."

He noted, "We humbly crave your indulgence to invoke the instrumentality of your highly exalted office to call the soldiers involved in this self assigned duty to order as the issued is currently pending at the court of Justice.

When our correspondent contacted the Army Public Relations Officer of Four Special Forces Command at Doma, Deputy Director, Major Joseph Afolasade denied knowledge of the incident relating to the military involvement on the farmland issue.

He assured our reporter that he will investigate the issue and get back accordingly to ensure amiable resolution between the parties involved.

Ebonyi Assembly Approves N1.9bn For Christmas Largesse

By; MKPUMA ENYINNA, Abakaliki

The State House of Assembly has approved the sum of 1.9 Billion Naira for the State Government procurement of Christmas palliatives for the people of the state.

The approval was made on Friday, during the House plenary session presided over by the Speaker, Hon Moses Ije Odunwa, at Legislative Chambers, Nkaliki Road. The authorization which followed the earlier approval by the State Executive Council members and the request of the governor, Chief Francis Ogbonna Nwifuru, was considered appropriate by the Hon members of the State Assembly and granted.

Highlighting the importance of palliatives to the people of the state, the Speaker of the House, Rt Hon Chief Moses Ije Odunwa said that the Christmas largesse would go a long way in ameliorating the economic hardship experienced by most of the residents of the State.

He said that the unanimous approval received by the palliatives request from members of the Assembly, was evidence of its importance and expressed no regrets for the approval. Chief Odunwa further noted that understanding of Ebonyi people and



acting in line with their yearnings is the true meaning of the People's Charter of Needs of Governor Nwifuru and thanked him for always putting the people first. On his part, the leader of the House, Chief Kingsley Ikoro Representing Afikpo North West Constituency, emphasized that the palliatives would not only assist in cushioning the effects of fuel subsidy removal, but more importantly, help Ebonyi people celebrate the 2023 Christmas with peace of mind and brotherly love and appealed to his colleagues to support the motion.

In the same vein, the member representing Ezza

North West State Constituency, Hon Chikaodiri Nome, the member representing Ohaozara West, Hon Onu Ukpia, the member Representing Edda East, Hon Stephen Orji, and his Ebonyi North West counterpart, Hon Bar Aloysius Nwodo in their appeal for the approval of the palliatives request, thanked the State Governor, Hon Francis Ogbonna Nwifuru for symbolizing peace, unity, and development in his administration, saying that the palliatives would also assist House members to extend hands of fellowship to their constituents during the Yuletide.

They further opined that

the palliatives would assist households to enjoy the forthcoming Christmas celebration despite the economic hardship in the country.

Earlier, the Leader of the House Rt. Hon Kingsley Ikoro moved a motion for acceptance of the letter as a working document which was seconded by Hon Ifeanyi Nwakpu Representing Ikwo North Constituency.

After an exhaustive debate, the Speaker, Hon Moses Ije Odunwa put the approval into question and it was unanimously approved. The Clerk was directed to do a memo to the governor conveying the position of the House.

NEITI Report: Investigate bribery Allegation Against Glencore, Eni, Shell, CISLAC Tells FG

By; ALEX UANGBAOJE, Kaduna

Follows revelations contained in the 2021 Oil and Gas Industry Audit Report of the Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI), Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC) has asked the Nigerian government to investigate those involved.

The report fingered Glencore, Eni, and Royal Dutch Shell in a bribery allegation.

The Executive Director of CISLAC, Auwal Rafsanjani, in a statement on Friday, said the report has uncovered critical issues within Nigeria's oil and gas sector that demand prompt attention to ensure transparency, accountability, and optimal national development.

Rafsanjani, who heads Transparency International Nigeria Chapter, emphasized that the report highlighted a decline in Nigeria's ranking and score in the Transparency International (TI) 2021 Corruption Perceptions Index, underscoring recurring concerns regarding the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation's oversight of the nation's shared assets.

"The audit findings reveal alarming losses in crude oil due to theft, sabotage, and measurement errors, along with significant expenditures on PMS subsidies and quasi-fiscal items. Moreover, the report sheds light on unremitted or under-remitted federation revenues, misapplication of the 13% derivation principle, issues related to the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA), sector governance, and concerns regarding crude oil and gas barter arrangements.

"CISLAC is calling for immediate action, utilizing the legal and regulatory framework provided by the PIA to mobilize civil society for advocacy, public debates, and vigilant monitoring of sector reforms. The organization advocates for the simplification and widespread dissemination of the report's key findings to enhance public awareness and drive demand for transparency and accountability.

"Furthermore, the non-profit legislative advocacy is urging the strengthening of the capacity of extractive-focused civic actors concerning essential strategies and sector-

specific issues within the PIA, encompassing beneficial ownership, contract transparency, audit remediation, and metering. The organization emphasizes the critical importance of tracking and following up on remediations and host community development.

"In alignment with the PIA, CISLAC advocates for improved data management processes within government agencies reporting and conducting transactions in the sector. The organization also calls for a thorough investigation and audit into subsidy payments, Project Eagle loans, and other loan arrangements in exchange for the nation's crude oil and gas.

"CISLAC, the Nigerian chapter of Transparency International (TI), is urging the National Assembly to provide effective oversight of the implementation of the extractive sector legal framework and take serious action on NEITI audit report recommendations," the statement added.

The statement further urged the Nigerian government to investigate and hold public officials accountable for accepting nearly \$80 million in bribes from Glencore, a multinational mining and commodity trading company.

"Despite Glencore facing repercussions for bribery, public officials on the receiving end have not faced any consequences. Likewise, CISLAC points to the over US\$1 billion paid in bribes by Eni and Royal Dutch Shell for the rights to the OPL 245 offshore oilfield to members of President Goodluck Jonathan's administration.

"This questionable deal could cost Nigeria as much as US\$5 billion due to poorly negotiated fiscal terms, in addition to the US\$1.1 billion already lost due to corrupt payments, as outlined by Italian prosecutors.

"CISLAC remains steadfast in its commitment to fostering positive change and upholding the principles of transparency, accountability, and good governance within Nigeria's oil and gas sector.

"Lastly, CISLAC commends the NEITI Secretariat for its ongoing efforts in expanding transparency and accountability within the extractive sector," Rafsanjani added.

FG Starts 70,000 Hectares Wheat Dry Season Farming

By; AMOS TAUNA, Kaduna

The Federal Government has said that beginning from November this year, it will commence the dry season cultivation of wheat on over 70,000 hectares of land.

An expected yield of 875,000 metric tonnes would be derived from the dry season wheat farming in order to store in the country's food reserves.

The Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, Abubakar Kyari, made the disclosure on Friday at a briefing in Abuja, saying that the focus is on the way forward for agriculture in Nigeria.

He said that before the end of the year, the implementation of the dry season wheat production is starting in November 2023 as part of the National Agricultural

Growth Scheme and Agro Pocket projects funded by the African Development Bank.

According to him, "Under this scheme, the target is to produce wheat on over 70,000 hectares across the wheat production zone of the country, with an expected yield of 875,000 metric tonnes for our food reserves."

He assured that there would be blending of

appropriate fertilisers to support this year's dry season farming while making provisions for next year farming season well in advance, adding that there will be the provision of train-the-trainer for extension agents involved in dry season farming in collaboration with wheat producing states and other partners such as flour mills.

Gov Uba Sani Congratulates Malam Balarabe Abbas Lawal On Ministerial Confirmation



Malam Balarabe Abbas Lawal

By; **FUNMI ADERINTO, Kaduna**

Kaduna State Governor, Senator Uba Sani has congratulated Malam Balarabe Abbas Lawal on his confirmation as Minister of the Federal Republic of Nigeria by the Nigerian Senate on Wednesday 4th October 2023.

Governor Sani in a statement, also commended the transparent and fair process that led to the confirmation of Balarabe Abbas Lawal as Minister of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, describing it as a testament to the thoroughness and professionalism of the legislative arm of government.

From 2015 to May 2023, Balarabe Lawal served as Secretary to the State Government (SSG) under the immediate past administration. He was then reappointed into his old position as SSG by Governor Uba Sani, a position he held up until his confirmation as Minister.

Between September 1999 and February 2001, he served Nigeria as a Special Assistant to the Federal Minister of Education in Abuja. Additionally, between February 2001 and May 2003, he worked as a Special Assistant to the Minister of State (Army) at the Ministry of Defence.

The newly-confirmed Minister has served the nation in several capacities such as Special Assistant to the President in the Federal Capital Territory and as the Chief of Staff to the Minister of the Federal

Capital Territory in Abuja, among other positions held between July 2003 and July 2007.

Balarabe Abbas Lawal, a detribalized Nigerian is passionate about the transformation of rural areas, he is also an active agriculturist with interests in poultry, livestock, and crop production.

Governor Sani expressed confidence in Abbas Lawal's confirmation, stating that, "Balarabe Abbas Lawal's proven track record of diligence, excellence and dedication to service, will once again surface, propelling his designated Ministry to even greater heights"

Governor Sani, further stated that the confirmation of Malam Abbas is a bittersweet moment to him personally, as the former SSG's fatherly role, exemplary diligence, tenacity, professional brilliance and love for all irrespective of tribal or political affiliations will be greatly missed by the government and indeed the people of Kaduna state.

Governor Sani while praying for Allah's guidance and wisdom in carrying out his new national duties, expressed his extreme gratitude to Malam Abbas for his selfless service to Kaduna State, stating that, "the people of Kaduna are till date beneficiaries of policies and programmes he facilitated in several capacities he has served the nation over the years".

The governor also expressed gratitude to the people of Kaduna and Nigeria for their prayers, support and well-wishes.

Presidency Awards Gombe "Best State In Geographic Information System"

Nominates DG GOGIS for Distinguished GovTech Trailblazer's Award

By; **JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON**

The Presidency, through the Bureau of Public Service Reforms (BPSR), is to honour Gombe State with the prestigious "Best State in Geographic Information System" Award.

Additionally, Dr. Kabiru Usman Hassan, the Director General of Gombe Geographic Information System (GOGIS), has been nominated for the "Distinguished GovTech Trailblazer's Award" in recognition of his outstanding dedication to advancing digital governance within the agency.

This development was officially communicated to the government through the Gombe Geographic Information System (GOGIS) via a letter dated September 19th, 2023, and signed by the Director General of the Agency, Dasuki Ibrahim Arabi.

Both awards, as explained by Dr. Arabi, were sequel to a



nationwide nomination and online voting process initiated on radio, television and newspaper publications.

Dr. Arabi stated that the award for Gombe is a testament to the state's unwavering commitment to advancing GovTech initiatives and digital governance through the

Gombe Geographic Information System.

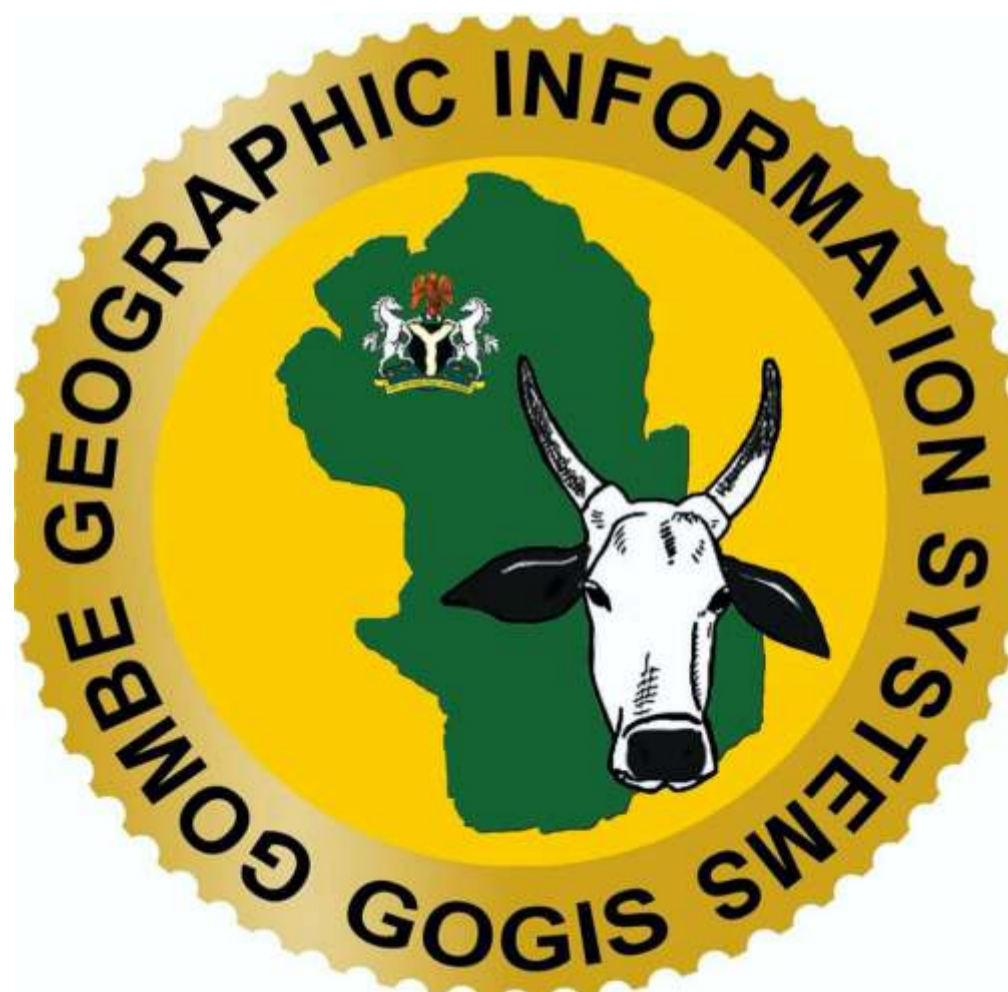
Gombe State is to receive the awards during an event tagged 'Awards Presentation Dinner' which will be the major highlight of the two-day Nigeria GovTech Conference scheduled for October 12th-13th, 2023, at the International

Conference Centre in Abuja.

Land administration is one aspect where the government of Governor Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya has recorded remarkable achievements. Land, as a critical factor of production got Inuwa's attention as the Governor has radically digitalised the land system to aid development of Gombe.

The government has also upgraded the existing aerial photographs and geographical maps of Gombe state by producing high resolution (GIS) imagery to enable clear identification of property boundary for the ease of application and issuance of digital certificate of Occupancy.

Governor Inuwa Yahaya has always emphasized the importance of digitalizing land administration, underscoring its role in improving urban planning, and supporting modern ICT and critical infrastructural development as well as environmental sustainability in the state.



Customs Boss Applauds Ogun 1 Area Command Over Interception Of Illicit Drugs, Used Tyres, Others

By; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

The Comptroller General Bashir Adewale Adeniyi, has commended the Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) in Ogun State for recent seizures of 1,179 kilograms of hard drugs, used tyres, and various prohibited goods in September.

Adeniyi expressed appreciation during a press briefing, while highlighting the NCS's unwavering commitment to safeguarding Nigeria. He also underscored the significance of the recent successful operations in Ogun State, which targeted illicit trade and road safety.

While addressing the issue

of foreign-used Pneumatic Tyres, also known as Tokunbo tyres, the CGC emphasized that many of these tyres have exceeded their recommended lifespan, posing a grave risk to motorists. He also noted that good-quality pneumatic tyres are safe for four years from their manufacturing date and should not be used on Nigerian highways beyond this period.

Reflecting on a previous press conference held on August 7, 2023, Adeniyi reiterated the NCS's commitment to protecting Nigerians from harmful substances, particularly the rise in Cannabis Sativa abuse in Nigeria. He highlighted the various tactics employed by

smugglers, including land border crossings, creek routes, and air smuggling. The NCS remains dedicated to ensuring the well-being of Nigerians.

The Acting Comptroller General then provided details of the recent successful seizures by the Ogun 1 Area Command which include:

"The Ogun 1 Area Command intercepted 1,436 used Pneumatic tyres, 53 sacks, and 569 parcels of Cannabis Sativa, totaling 1,179 kilograms between September 18 and September 30, 2023. Additionally, they confiscated 3,149 bags of foreign parboiled rice, 32 vehicles used for conveyance, and various

other items. The Duty Paid Value (DPV) of these seizures amounts to an impressive N241,977,943.00.

"These operations took place across multiple locations in Ogun State, including Papa/Ajgunle, Ilaro road, Imasayi/Joga road, Ijebu Ode axis, and Odogbolu bush path along Ijebu Ode road.

The Customs Boss reiterated the NCS's commitment to its mission and the safety and well-being of all Nigerians. He applauded the Nigeria Customs Service in Ogun State for their dedication and successful operations, contributing to building a safer and stronger Nigeria.



Governor Dikko Umar Radda

Katsina Governor Appoints GMs For State Radio, TV

By; SULAIMAN AHMED MISAU, Katsina

Governor Dikko Umar Radda of Katsina State has approved the appointments of Abba Dayyabu Safana and Abba Zayyana as the new substantive General-Managers of the State Radio and Television respectively.

Similarly, Governor Umaru Radda also approved the appointment of Shafi'u Abdullahi as the new Executive-Director of

the State Library Board.

However, Governor Radda approved the appointment of Dr. Salisu Abdullahi as the Director-State Islamic Education Bureau.

Governor Dikko Radda in a statement by his Chief-Press Secretary, Ibrahim Kaula Mohammed enjoined the new appointees to be proactive and work towards making the State great.

The Governor assured that, his doors are always open for any innovative ideas that would move the state forward.



CGC Wale Adeniyi inspecting the seized tyres and illicit drug

Katsina Govt Rolls Out N2bn Scholarship To Tertiary Institution Students

By; SULAIMAN AHMED MISAU, Katsina

Katsina State Government in collaboration with 34 local government councils in the state, will provide over two billion Naira as scholarship allowance to qualified indigent students studying at various institutions of higher learning across the country.

The state Commissioner for Local Government and

Chieftaincy Affairs, Professor Badamasi Lawal Charanci disclosed this while briefing newsmen after the fifth executive council meeting presided over by Governor Dikko Umaru Radda held at General Muhammadu (Government) House Katsina.

Professor Badamasi Lawal Charanci said the meeting also agreed on a joint project of ensuring three functional health centers at each of the 34 local

government areas in the state.

He said the centers would be fully equipped with needed medical facilities, ambulances and adequate manpower to operate twenty four hours.

This he said, would ensure patients receive medical attention at their respective local communities.

Professor Charanci said the state government would also join hand with the local governments

in stocking food items, supporting irrigation activities and provide empowerment support to young men and women in the state.

Government he said has directed local governments to identify irrigation sites and farmers to be supported with improved seeds, fertilizer, water pumps and tube wells.

Professor Lawal Charanci explained that the Executive

Council Meeting had also agreed to jointly raise substantial sums of money for the payment of ten thousand naira monthly allowances to each of the six thousand six hundred and fifty-two ward heads, six thousand six hundred and fifty members of vigilante and over two-thousand Imams and their lieutenants as among other steps to improve security across the state.

Bandits Kill 4, Injure 4 Others In Zaria

*Police confirms incident, says one assailant arrested

By; SANIALIYU, Zaria
Bandits have stormed Unguwar Dankali Community in Zaria Local Government Area of Kaduna State, killing four people and injuring four others.

Speaking on the incident, the village head of the area, Malam Sunusi Yusuf told New Nigerian, that the suspected bandits arrived around 10.30pm on Friday night and started shooting sporadically in the air in their efforts to raid the area.

He said, the bandits succeeded in shooting eight people and abducted four others before the arrival of security operatives who engaged them in a gun duel.

Out of the eight shot, four died instantly, while four sustained serious injuries.

“Due to the superior power of the security operatives, the bandits after shooting their victims, retreated into the bush, abducting four other people,” he said. Those killed by the suspected bandits include; Dahiru Tsalha Wawo, Bashir Salisu, Umar Yahuza and Umar Bako, while those who sustained various degrees of injuries and were hospitalized are; Abubakar Yahuza, Bala Shamaki, Aliyu Ahmed, and Abdullahi Mamuda.

The four abducted victims were later intercepted by members of the vigilante group at the Jaji area of Igabi Local government

Saturday morning and have been reunited with their families.

Funeral prayers for the four victims who lost their lives was conducted and their remains were subsequently buried at Hayin Dogo, Unguwar Dankali cemetery according to Islamic rites.

Liman Alhaji Musa Tanko, the ward head of the area, said residents have been thrown into panic and serious grief as the spate of attacks have continued to increase within the vicinity.

“Though this is the first time the bandits were invading Unguwar Dankali, however, it is the same with the neighbouring Wusasa and Kuregu areas that have continuously been attacked by the bandits.

“This is becoming so alarming as the activities of the bandits in the vicinity are widening its scope to other parts of the community,” he said.

Tanko called for fervent prayers and a more rigorous security approach to avert recurrence.

When contacted, the acting Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Kaduna State Police Command, ASP Mansir Hassan confirmed the incident and disclosed that one suspect has been arrested and investigation is ongoing with the hope of arresting the remaining suspects.



One of the wounded victims.

Online Media, Panacea For Development – Buratai

*Says online media vital for democratic progress



By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Former Chief of Army Staff and former Nigerian Ambassador to the Republic of Benin, Lt. Gen Tukur Buratai (Rtd), has described the new media as an instrument for good governance and the growth of democracy because of its potentials to hold politicians accountable.

Ambassador Buratai made the statement in Abuja during the 2023 Annual Conference of the Guild of Corporate Online Publishers (GOCOP).

Represented by his Special Adviser on Research and Documentation and Acting Director, Tukur Buratai Research Centre, Dr. M.S. Abubakar, the former Army Chief stated that he has always valued the vitality of online media in their reach, penetration, speed, and durability.

In his words, "As we all consider the media to be the fourth estate of the realm, then the online

component of the media should be compared to the Infantry Corps of an Army. "To an Army, the Infantry is the Queen of Battle. Therefore, I see the Online Publisher as the Queen of the Media. Real power revolves around the Queen."

General Buratai went on to say that, "unlike traditional or print media, online media can reach millions of people all over the world in minutes with just one click".

Because of its low cost, he maintained that online media has made big contributions to informing, educating, and entertaining the people.

While praising the adaptability of online media, Buratai pointed out that some undesirable developments, such as the extensive use of propaganda, half-truths, manufactured lies, and fake news, as unintended repercussions of the development.

He urged the Guild of Corporate Online Publishers to put a stop to

those who violate its corporate objectives by standing firm and ensuring that all practitioners in the online media adhere to ethical standards and professionalism.

"I have a firm conviction that online media is a genuine instrument for the consolidation of our nation's social fabric, the promotion of forward movement, the maintenance of peace and security, and the growth of our economy.

"Therefore, GOCOP should continue to assist us in sanitizing and standardizing the online media space to make it healthier and more effective. "This vital domain will not be ceded to fifth columnists, bigots, and blackmailers.

"This does not preclude the use of online media to expose corruption and injustice and advocate for the rights of the disadvantaged."

Speaking at the event, Mohammed Idris, Minister of Information and National Orientation,

said that it is the role of the media to guarantee that the truth is continually communicated, especially when it comes to fairness in governance.

"As Guild of Online Corporate Publishers, you have the responsibility to ensure that you report not only the truth but to help government officials to also tell the truth.

"It is a responsibility that you have to uphold because there is gradual erosion of the confidence people have in those in government. He also charged the media with projecting a favorable picture of the country to the outside world in order to bring in direct foreign investment."

The ceremony involved the swearing in of the new executive and the induction of new members and was attended by the Honourable Minister of Information and National Orientation, Professor Ishaq Oloyede, and the Chief of Air Staff, who was represented by the NAF spokesman, Air Commodore Edward Gabkwet.

JDPC Tasks Kaduna Religious Leaders On Promoting Peaceful Co-existence

By: ISAAC ODEH, Kaduna

Justice Development and Peace Caritas (JDPC) in collaboration with Global Peace Foundation Nigeria (GPFN) has urged religious and traditional leaders as well as other critical stakeholders to preach religious tolerance and peaceful co-existence among residents of Kaduna State.

The Coordinator of JDPC, Kaduna, Rev. Fr. Joshua Achir who made the call on Thursday in Kaduna to mark 2023 International Day of Non-violence urged Nigerians to shun culture of impunity.

According to him, "Nigerians should stop attack on one another and secure culture of peace irrespective of our differences.

"We should see ourselves as brothers and sisters created by one God, We should stop using derogatory statement against one another. Let us be knowledgeable about the concept of humanity, that we are first human before religion and ethnicity".

Achir identified marginalization and injustice as major drivers of violence, adding that there is need for government to give every Nigerian sense of belonging.

"When there is fairness and justice everyone will be carried along, some people feel marginalized and abandoned in terms of development because they are not been carried along, they don't see themselves as part of the process.

"Government should try to ensure that every part of the society is involved in terms of development, so that people will no longer feel marginalized, people don't feel happy when they are marginalized," he said.

He advised governments at all levels to be peace builders, have zero tolerance for decriminalization in terms of infrastructure and development.

The Northern Coordinator of Global Peace Foundation, Sheikh Halliru Abdullahi Maraya noted that there is no society that can develop where there is violence.

He urged Nigerians to embrace



peace and love one another irrespective of tribe or religion. Sheikh Maraya also advised

governments at all levels to provide quality education, quality healthcare services and

other social amenities in order to address youth restiveness in the country.

OPSH Arrests 91 Criminal Suspects, Recovers Arms/ Ammunition In Southern Kaduna/Plateau

**Rescues Kidnapped Victims, Secure Conviction Of Suspects*

By: BUHARI B. BELLO, Jos

Troops of Operation SAFE HAVEN (OPSH) on Operation HAKORIN DAMISA IV during several operations launched from September 25, to October 4, 2023, have arrested 91 criminal suspects in connection with kidnapping of University of Jos students, attack on Takania Village, farm destruction, armed robbery, drug peddling and cattle rustling amongst others.

According to a statement signed by the Media Information Officer Operation SAFE HAVEN, Captain Oya James, the notorious kidnapers; Bashiru Musa and Idris Abdulrahman who have been on wanted list of OPSH were arrested at Mista Ali Village in Bassa Local Government Area (LGA) of Plateau State.

The suspects during interrogation, narrated that they were involved in the kidnapping of seven students of University of Jos (UNIJOS) in July 2023.

Items recovered from the suspects include one AK 47 rifle loaded with 12 rounds of 7.62mm special.

The gallant troops acting on credible information, also arrested Mr. Goma Abubakar and Jibril Abass in connection to the attack on Takania Village in Zango Kataf LGA of

Kaduna State, where six persons were murdered in cold blood

The troops also arrested two notorious armed robbers/kidnappers, Nasiru Ahmed and Isah Mamuda at Kok Village in Barkin Ladi LGA, while Manu Sale and Amir Shaba, a notorious robbery syndicate operating along Barkin Ladi – Mangu road in Barkin LGA were also arrested alongside an armed robbery gang leader, Mr Shaibu Abubakar at NTV village in Barkin Ladi LGA.

Similarly, troops arrested two suspected kidnapers, Abdullahi Abubakar and Musa Yakubu a.k.a Yellow at Amper checkpoint in Kanam LGA of Plateau State, while trying to collect ransome.

Items recovered from the suspects include one cutlass, knife, two mobile phones and local charms.

While on mobile operations, troops at Bokkos LGA arrested two suspected cattle rustlers Abdullahi Ibrahim and Muhammadu Ori at Gwandu village in Bokkos LGA.

The troops also foiled a cattle rustling incident at Maiyanga Village in Bassa LGA and rescued 145 cattle and handed them over to the owners.

During the operation, troops recovered three rifles, 12 rounds of 7.62mm special, nine rounds of

7.62mm NATO ammunition and three axes.

Additionally, 57 cattle were detained for grazing on farmlands at Rim Village in Riyom LGA.

Furthermore, troops thwarted an attempt to kidnap one Hon Magai Peter at his residence at Ruku Village in Barkin Ladi LGA and another victim at Jeisey Village.

Troops' superior fire power during encounter with the kidnapers forced them to abandon their mission and flee. Items recovered included two Bajaj Boxers motorcycles.

Troops also rescued two kidnapped victims, Miss Silva Hassan and Salvation Obadiah at Zangang Hill, Kaura LGA in Kaduna State. Also, seven farmers were rescued at Jipun Village, Pushit District of Mangu LGA from suspected militias while harvesting crops in their farms.

However, one prime suspect, Ibrahim Isah was arrested in connection with the incident. While at Nimba Forest in Riyom LGA, one Bukar Kaigama was rescued from kidnapers by the troops.

Troops also intercepted a truck carrying 720 bags of Urea fertilizer with fake clearance documents. Four occupants of the truck were arrested and are currently undergoing interrogation.

In a similar development, troops also arrested a suspected cultist, Mafeng Gwot at Legislative Quarters in Jos North LGA and recovered a pistol loaded with 9mm special ammunition.

Troops also rescued a motorcycle snatcher from mobs at Gyero junction in Jos South LGA and handed him over to the Nigeria Police Bukuru Division for further action.

OPSH troops equally arrested two herders in connection with willful destruction of farmland at Gyero general area whilst rescuing a herder, Sani Mahmuda who was earlier declared missing at Kwonga Village in Jos East.

Based on a tip off, troops conducted cordon and search operations in a criminal hideout at Zango Urban area of Unguwan Fulani Baya Dutse in Zango Kataf LGA of Kaduna State.

Items recovered included one AK-47 rifle, four pistols, four motorcycles, cache of ammunition and one AK-47 magazine.

Within the week, OPSH also secured the conviction of four suspects, Kabiru Lawal, Sadiq Mohammed Dahiru, Umar Yusuf and Dauda Elkanah for criminal conspiracy, theft and receiving of stolen property.

Suspects were sentenced to one year six months imprisonment each with

an option of fine.

Also, troops arrested a suspect with cannabis sativa at Miango in Bassa LGA of Plateau State.

Additionally, 67 persons were arrested in connection to violent activities around Bolari village and seven locally fabricated rifles were recovered.

Troops further recovered three mobile phones and other valuables from suspected bandits at Garin Dogo village who fled with gunshot wounds on contact with troops.

In all, a total of 91 arrests were effected, seven suspected kidnapers, six suspected armed robbers, two cattle rustlers arrested while four victims were rescued from kidnapers and five attacks on vulnerable communities deterred and two kidnap attempts thwarted. Troops also responded promptly to a total of 24 distress calls.

"The Commander OPSH, Major General AE Abubakar appreciates the good people of Plateau, Bauchi and Southern Kaduna for the cooperation so far enjoyed and urges citizens to continually provide actionable information to troops, as they work tenaciously to protect lives and property. He assured the general public that the arrested suspects would be charged to court immediately investigations were concluded," the statement said.



COMMUNITY FOCUS

Bad Roads: Kamazou Community Sends SOS To Governor Uba Sani

By; EKASHILI STEPHEN,
Kaduna

Residents of Kamazou, a Kaduna suburb located in exit point in Southern part of the state capital have cried out to Governor Uba Sani over deplorable conditions of virtually all roads in the community.

Inhabitants of the settlement who spoke to our correspondent, narrated how they have been grappling with bad roads occasioned with dusty, muddy and undulated surfaces all round the year.

People of the area complained bitterly on how they have been neglected by successive administrations in the state, whom they accused of focusing more on areas within the metropolis and Northern part of the state capital.

"We have been facing difficulties with bad and terrible road network that has progressively worsened over the years.

"The road conditions have significantly deteriorated, leaving the residents fighting with persistent challenges such as potholes, erosion, and overall degradation.

"The state of our roads is a nightmare as it is difficult especially during the rainy season for us to transport ourselves from one place to another, while our pleas for urgent intervention have fallen on deaf ears for far too long," a resident, Mr. Olorunfemi lamented.

Miss Zugwai, a businesswoman located on the fringes of the area, spoke in a similar vein, stating, that poor condition of the road has negatively impacted business in Kamazou, especially during rainy seasons when most streets become inaccessible.

"Customers who would have

patronized us prefer to take better routes to get to their destinations, resulting in low patronage for our businesses. We are suffering, and it seems like nobody cares.

"In the face of these challenges, We are pleading with the government to prioritize the repairing of the road network.

"We urge the government to make haste because in their own way the community plays a critical role in fostering development and improving the overall quality of life for the people," she added.

Community and opinion leaders in the area also urged the government at both the state and federal levels to allocate necessary resources and expedite efforts to reconstruct and rehabilitate the roads in Kamazou as done to others through rural development initiative.

They maintained that a well-maintained road network is fundamental to socio-economic development and essential for improving the livelihoods of the people.

"The dire condition of roads in Kamazou as you have heard from people here calls for urgent intervention by the government.

"The level of frustration is high amongst residents whom We have been pleading with as community leaders to be patient with governments.

"The frustrations expressed by the local residents show the pressing need for immediate action to address the infrastructure deficit.

"We remain hopeful however that our pleas will be heard and swift action taken to alleviate our sufferings and restore the community road network to its good shape," a community leader who preferred anonymity noted.





We'll Lead Plateau With Fear Of God, Says Gov Mutfwang

By; BUHARI B. BELLO, Jos

The Executive Governor of Plateau State, Barr. Caleb Manasseh Mutfwang, has reaffirmed his strong commitment to leading Plateau with the fear of God, steering the state towards growth and development.

Governor Mutfwang made this declaration on Wednesday during a solidarity visit by the leadership of Gindiri Old Students Association (GOSA), led by the National President, Engr. Sunday Hyatt, at the New Government House, Little Rayfield, Jos.

Expressing gratitude for the opportunity to attend the school, he acknowledged the solid foundation it provided for his spiritual growth. Governor Mutfwang sought fervent prayers to facilitate his administration's efforts in transforming the state for the benefit of all, emphasizing his openness to constructive advice.

"I pray daily for the strength to lead this state with the mind of Christ. It's challenging as we are only human. I urge you to

continue lifting us in prayer," he stated.

Governor Mutfwang noted with delight that Plateau State's foundation was established by a GOSA member, and stressed the need for a new foundation due to the daunting challenges the state faces.

He emphasized the importance of coming together in addressing the unpleasant situations inherited by his administration for the benefit of all.

Engr. Sunday Hyatt, the National President of GOSA, commended the Governor for his unwavering faith in the association. He said GOSA celebrated its 50th anniversary last year, during which it inaugurated projects that benefit their Alma Mater.

Hyatt announced plans for a convention on November 4 to honour members holding political appointments at both national and state levels.

Additionally, he said, a Thanksgiving Service has been scheduled for November 5, 2023, to thank God for His protection over all members.

Yobe: ACREsAL Inaugurates 153 LG Management Committee, To Reclaim 100,000 Hectares Of Land

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Yobe State Government under its World Bank Assisted Project, Agro-Climatic Resilience in Semi-Arid Landscapes (ACReSAL) says it's set to reclaim 100,000 hectares of land lost to desert encroachment.

The Commissioner for Environment, Yakubu Sidi Karasuwa who inaugurated 153 members of Local Government Project Management Committee in Damaturu the state capital charge

them to take ownership of all projects to be executed.

"The issue of desert encroachment is not only in Yobe state, it's a national issue and Yobe is the most affected considering its proximity with Niger Republic. We large number of kilometer distance that is affected by the desert encroachment"

"Therefore, the project is a local base, whatever activity that is implemented at local level must be owned by the community and involving them is very paramount to succeed" he said.

The State Project Coordinator, Shehu Muhammadu revealed the inauguration is part of the pre-requisite of ACREsAL where 9 persons were picked from each of the 17 local government areas of the state.

"This inauguration is part of the prerequisite of ACREsAL, the same committee was inaugurated at the National and State levels and this is the last batch of the committee entry"

"The project will last for 6 years and we are trying to bring succour to the

people. The Federal government is set to reclaim 4,000 hectares of land lost to desert encroachment and out of this number, Yobe ACREsAL is to reclaim 100,000 hectares of land. Some of the Directors of Personnel Management for the local government who are to serve as chairmen of the committee, explained the move would assist them in averting the challenge of climate change in their respective areas.

6th IAIEA Conference Holds October 16-20 In Lagos

By; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

The 6th Annual International Association for Innovations In Education Assessment (IAIEA) conference has been scheduled to hold between October 16 to 20, at the Anchor University Ayobo, Lagos Nigeria.

The theme for the 2023 conference is "Digitalized Educational Assessment for Entrepreneurial Productivity."

Other sub themes include, "Broad Based Curriculum Development For the 21st Century Skills," "Augmented Reality (AR), Virtual Reality (VR), Artificial intelligence as Educational Tools and Resources for Scientific Decision Making," "Inclusive Education and Educational Assessment," "Digital Support Outlets to Educators" and "Online Learning and Accessibility

to Educational opportunities in the 21st Century."

In a statement by its coordinator, Dr. Mike Egbayelo, eminent resource persons from home and abroad have been lined up to grace the occasion, which is expected to attract audience from Nigeria and abroad.

They include Zarke Vukmirovic from the USA, Professor A.O. Afemikhe from University of Benin, Akinyele Ariyo from the USA.

Others are Johnson .O. Fatokun deputy vice chancellor the University of Lagos; he will be giving the keynote address and Akinola .O. Mosobalaje who is the lead paper presenter.

IAIEA members and the general public who wish to participate in the conference can get further information on registration online.



Plateau Gov Commissions Strategic Health Centre



By: BUHARI B. BELLO,
Jos

Plateau State Governor, Barr. Caleb Manasseh Mutfwang, has commissioned a clinic in Vwei community, Mararaban Jama'a, in Jos South Local Government Area of the State.

The governor noted that the clinic which has been strategically sited at the entry route to Jos, the state capital, will cater for the healthcare needs of both the local residents and passersby.

Governor Mutfwang praised the efforts of Hon. Peter Vwang Dung, the Transition Committee Chairman of Jos South Local Government Area, who oversaw the construction.

The governor expressed his administration's strong commitment to significant investments in the healthcare sector, emphasizing fiscal responsibility and the completion of beneficial projects.

"I assure the people of Plateau state that this administration will prioritize prudence and ensure that every penny spent benefits the citizens. We have directed all local government chairmen to

assess and complete abandoned projects that serve the community. Our focus is on projects that truly benefit our people," Governor Mutfwang affirmed.

Governor Mutfwang called upon the community to collectively safeguard and utilize the facility for the well-being of all residents.

Hon. Peter Vwang Dung, while welcoming Governor Mutfwang to the site, said work on the clinic started in 2010 but was later abandoned until his appointment a few months ago. He said the Clinic is significant in view of its potential to meeting the health needs of the local populace.

He reaffirmed the commitment of Jos South residents to support the Time is Now administration's vision, which is aimed at enhancing the lives of the people through the delivery of quality healthcare services.

The Gbong Gwom Jos, Da Jacob Gyang Buba, on his part, urged the community to make optimal use of the facility, and stressed the need to always preserve the people's identity and traditions.

Senator Balogun Asks Police To Investigate Defamation Against Him By Olubadan's children

**Petitions CP, Insist Allegations False*

By: BAYOAKAMO, Ibadan

The immediate past Senator representing Oyo South Senatorial District Senator Kola Balogun on Thursday, asked the Oyo State Commissioner of Police to investigate alleged "Cyber stalking and Criminal defamation against him by children of Olubadan of Ibadanland, Oba Lekan Balogun.

Senator Balogun in a petition by his counsel Lateef Raheem Esq to the Police Commissioner, CP Adebola Hamzat stressed that there is the need to probe the allegations since Oba Lekan Balogun himself has debunked the allegations

He stressed in the petition that "Kabiesi, His Imperial Majesty, the Olubadan of Ibadan land is still alive, hale and hearty, he does not have anything against our Client and has debunked all the allegations of Yinka and Femi against our client.

"But since there is no truth in all these allegations against our

Client, it is our Clients instructions to plead with you to bring this unwholesome act to your notice and to kindly urge you to use your good offices to investigate the matter and prosecute Femi and Yinka for cyberstalking which is contrary to section 24 (a), (b) (2) (c) (i) (ii) of the CYBERCRIMES (PROHIBITION, PREVENTION, ETC) ACT, 2015". he said

Senator Balogun added, " This acts of alleging our client of stealing several sums when there is no truth in them also amounts to criminal defamation of our Client by Femi and Yinka Balogun which your office can equally prosecute them for. Our Client is available for further information as your officers may need to have."

" We are Solicitors to Sen Kola Balogun who is hereinafter referred to as our Client and on his behalf and instruction we write this letter to you. It is our Client instructions that on the 29th September, 2023 he

checked Allwo family whatsapp group and he discovered a letter signed by Femi Balogun, (a member of the family) posted on the whatsapp group, the letter is grossly offensive, obscene, of menacing character and it was complete criminal defamation of our client character."

Senator Balogun stressed, "In the first instance our Client is not in charge of management of any property of His Imperial Majesty Olubadan of Ibadan land. The sitting monarch being our Client's brother rather sends our Client on errands and our client personally uses his own funds for the wellbeing of the Olubadan.

" Since His Imperial Majesty took care of him during our Client childhood like a father, our Client felt His Imperial Majesty having done all these, His Imperial Majesty deserves pay back hence our Client takes good care of him using his personal funds and not that of Olubadan.

"On the first issue raised in the letter pertaining to His Imperial

Majesty Olubadan of Ibadan, landed property at Abuja, what happened was that Kabiesi personally negotiated for the sale of that property wherein he agreed with the buyer to sell it for N100,000,000.00 (One Hundred Million Naira), the buyer only paid N30,000,000.00 (Thirty Million Naira) out of the agreed sum, the buyer later did a whole lot of fraudulent and shoddy things on the property without paying the balance, which made His Imperial Majesty to institute suit against the buyer, the counsel handling the matter is Waheed Gbadamosi Esq (an Abuja based lawyer) and His Imperial Majesty won the suit in court but the buyer appealed, since the matter is still in court, our client would not want to comment much on it, but certainly our client benefited nothing from the property which is still lis pendens (still in court). Kabiesi is still hale and hearty, he can confirm all the issues relating to the property in Abuja, our Client has nothing to do with

the property rather than funding the litigation on behalf of Kabiyesi to protect the property of Kabiyesi, what crime has our Client committed by helping his older brother in securing his property? Certainly none!

"On issue of funds for installation of Baales and Mogajis, it is surprising Femi would level such an heinous crime against our Client without basis, Kabiyesi appointed somebody to manage the funds on behalf of the beneficiaries, namely His Imperial Majesty, Aliwo family sectional heads, Olubadan in Council and it was confirmed at a meeting between Kabiyesi and members of the family and the woman was commended on how she discharged her duty. All these are done on the instructions of Kabiyesi. Find attached minutes of the Aliwo family commending the woman appointed to manage the fund. All that Femi and Yinka are alleging against our Client are all tissues of lies."

Governor of Katsina State, Malam Dikko Umaru Radda, PhD was Guest of Honour at the Eid Maulud celebration hosted by Madarasatul Darul Imam at Unguwan Liman in Katsina.



Photo: BASHIR BELLO DOLLARS

Patronise Locally-Made Products, Export More To Boost Nigeria's GDP -Compt Nnadi

By: AYO OJEDOKUN, Lagos

The Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) has tasked Nigerians to patronise locally-made products to boost the country's economy. Comptroller Dera Nnadi of Tin-Can Island Customs Command gave the advice during a courtesy visit to his office by Executive members of Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Lagos State Council on Thursday in Lagos.

According to the newly-deployed TinCan Customs boss, the NCS will continue to engage relevant stakeholders in order to boost Nigeria's economy.

"We are all aware that Nigeria Customs Service generates huge revenue for Nigeria and this is one of the reasons why we must be seen to be alive to our responsibilities.

"Beyond the issue of revenue generation, data emanating from NCS helps the Nigerian Government to formulate policies for economic growth, national security and for environmental and social security". he explained.

Reacting to the exchange rate bedeviling Nigeria's economy, Nnadi gave assurances of the Naira bouncing back in spite of the fact that the surge would promote Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs) in the country.

The Comptroller urged Nigerians to look inward and consume locally-made products, describing it as an avenue to grow the economy.

"Whatever we produce locally and export will boost our earnings because of the exchange rate, not forgetting that the exchange rate will discourage importation of luxury items," he said..

With regards to revenue generation, Nnadi said Tin-Can Island Command would do all within its jurisdiction concerning 48 per cent of its uncollected revenue to meet the target for 2023 in the next two months.

He commended the media for being a partner in progress and tasked journalists to keep projecting the activities of the NCS.

"We will continue to partner with the media so that our intentions and actions can be properly understood by the public.

"We acknowledge the sacrifices journalists are

making towards making sure that we deliver on our mandate and we shall continue to work together," the comptroller said.

In his reaction, the Chairman, Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Lagos State Council, Mr Adeleye Ajayi, commended Comptroller Nnadi's media-friendly gesture.

"You have always made us proud and this is one of the reasons why this visit is a home-coming.

"We celebrate your giant strides, which is evident of the confidence reposed in you by the Executive Management of the Nigeria Customs Service.

"The appointment of Comptroller Nnadi three weeks ago to head the Tin Can Island Customs Command, which is the second largest revenue earner, did not come as a surprise to the media.

"This is because the Comptroller is more than capable, very committed and passionate about excellence at any duty post he finds himself," Ajayi said.

The NUJ Chairman reiterated the commitment of Lagos journalists to continue to project the activities of NCS.

"We want to put it on record that we are extending to you the same co-operation we extended to the Comptroller-General of Customs Service, Mr Wale Adeniyi, who is also a long-standing and a very good friend of the NUJ.

"We also know that you will not allow fraudulent importers and exporters who are bent on shortchanging the government of its revenue through illicit importation and smuggling.

"We also intend to partner with the command on capacity building of journalists, especially our colleagues covering the Maritime beat in order to be able to quote you appropriately.

"We wish you a very successful tenure of office and promise you our cooperation and partnership all the time," the NUJ chairman stated.

Other top officers of the command at the meeting included DC Samuel Ariyibi, DC Aliyu Gambo, DC Mohammed Shettima; Team Manager CIU, CSC Adamu; and Acting Public Relations Officer of the command, DSC Abdulssamad.



Sheikh Muyideen Bello Endorses Ufitfly's Aljannah Travels

By: BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

Renowned Islamic preacher, Sheikh Muyideen Ajani Bello on Thursday, lauded the Nigeria's foremost destination management firm, UfitFly in Christian pilgrimages for floating Aljannah Travels for the intending Islamic faithful wishing to perform Hajj and Umrah.

Hosting UfitFly and West Midland Communication that owns Splash and Lagelu FM crews in his house, Sheikh Ajadi Bello commended the move made by Ufitfly to invest in the Islamic tourism sector.

The renowned Islamic cleric tasked Ufitfly not to

desist from the truth and uprightness the tour broking firm is noted for assuring them of his support and spiritual backing saying he has heard so much about their pedigree in the pilgrimage world.

In his remarks, the team leader of UfitFly, Evang. Ajibola Ogunkeyede thanked Sheik Bello for his kind words, saying he has been longing for an opportunity to meet with him.

"Whenever Baba preaches or you are opportune to meet him at any event, you are in for the words of wisdom, knowledge from the throne of God.", he said

Evangelist Ogunkeyede

added, "It will interest you to know that not only Muslims listen to Sheikh Muyideen Bello, Christians too do. This is because of the way he delivers his messages and the manner he coins his words. I can tell you that he's a man of God whom people love to hear him preaching."

He stressed that he has handed the running of the firm (Aljannah Travels) to the capable hands of Alhaji Olasupo Abimbola as the Executive Director, Alhaji Saheed Ademola Aderinto as the Managing Director, Alhaji Sulaiman Yusuf as the Amir and Mr. Adewale Adeniran who is group head of Ufitfly.

Speaking in the same vein,

Saheed Ademola Aderinto Managing Director Aljannah Travels said the vision of the firm is to become a leading provider of Hajj and Umrah services, distinguished by their commitment to excellence, integrity, and a Quranic foundation.

"Our mission is to provide exceptional and spiritually enriching experiences for pilgrims embarking on the sacred journey of Hajj and Umrah. We aim to offer comprehensive travel and tour services that prioritize the comfort, safety, and convenience of our customers, while fostering a deep connection to the teachings of the Quran." he said.



Sheikh Ajadi Bello with the Aljannah Travels team.

Makarfi, Zamfara Governor Dare, Others Grace Kaduna Commissioner, Mamman Lagos Daughter's Wedding

By; AMOS EBUTE MATHEW, Kaduna

It was a gathering and reunion of politicians and important figures at the wedding ceremony of daughter of Kaduna State Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, Hon. Sadiq Mamman Lagos was held over the weekend.

Habiba Mamman Lagos and Bashir Bello were joined in matrimony in a colourful

ceremony at Almannar Jummaat Mosque, Kaduna, venue of the wedding solemnization.

In attendance to grace the occasion were former Governor of Kaduna State, Ahmed Makarfi, Governor of Zamfara State, Dauda Lawal Dare, Sani Sidi, Deputy Governor of Kaduna State, Her Excellency Dr. Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe, Local Government Chairmen, party chieftains of All Progressives Congress (APC)

and People's Democratic Party (PDP).

Also in attendance, Principal Private Secretary to His Excellency, the Governor of Kaduna State, Professor Bello Ayuba, Emir's and Chiefs, Permanent Secretaries, Directors and some staff of Ministry for Local Government Affairs, friends, family members among others.

While expressing his delight over the honouring of invitation

by top political figures, friends and business partners to grace the wedding ceremony, Mamman Lagos appreciated Governor Uba Sani for all his supports and strides to take Kaduna State higher.

He commend governor Uba Sani for his fatherly role played during and after the wedding, calling on the good people of the state to support this current administration wholeheartedly to enable the governor deliver his

campaign promises.

He counselled the couple to be patient and supportive of each other by building and nurturing a continuous communication line between them, adding that keeping malice in marriage could result to unpalatable consequences.

Mamman Lagos wished the couple a blissfully blessed married life in peace and prosperity.



Health Sector: It's Time To Domesticate Patients' Bill Of Right In Nigeria - FCCPC

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC) on Thursday, tasked state governments and stakeholders in Nigeria health sector to entrench and domesticate Patients' Bill of Right (PBoR) in the healthcare sector.

Technical Assistance to the FCCPC Executive Vice Chairman, Mrs. Morayo Adebayo Adisa gave the task at a healthcare provider training in Ibadan organized by ACE in collaboration with FCCPC attended by Caregivers, media men and different stakeholders in the healthcare sector.

According to Mrs Adisa, this will serve as a measure to increase consumers' confidence in the services they receive as well as guarantee an improved consumer relationship and cooperation.

Emphasizing that the training is being facilitated for healthcare workers in South West region to sensitize them on the Patients' Bill of Right, Mrs Adisa said " it is a document that collates all the rights of the patients under Nigerian law and includes the responsibility of the patient as well as those of healthcare providers to their

patients". Mrs Adisa maintained that the commission hopes that with the sensitization program, healthcare providers would hopefully domesticate the PBoR in their facilities which would increase the confidence of patients in such facilities, saying, "Indeed the National Health Act was passed in 2014 and it includes a lot of things".

"I would say that in as much as we are not yet satisfied with the implementation of the National Health Act, this is the more reason why the FCCPC came up with the PBoR in 2018 to simplify the rights of patients and make it more accessible", she said.

Mrs Adisa added, " Certainly, grassroots level engagement is very important because if the people don't know their



FCCPC

right, they won't be able to assert or enforce it or come to people like us to complain when such rights are being violated".

"Our strategy is to sensitize consumers at the grassroots level and also healthcare providers. As long as we continue on this sensitization path which we started in 2018, over 20 healthcare facilities have domesticated the PBoR. That is, when you enter such facilities, you see at the entrance or reception, a bold signage which says these are the rights of the patients".

She stated further " Patients confidence in such facilities would be enriched because a facility that would declared patients' rights would definitely be willing to go beyond declaring those rights to promoting, protecting and enforcing those rights."

Chairman of the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) Oyo State, Dr

Wale Lasisi while speaking disclosed that with recent advancement in internet use, most people; patients and doctors inclusive are being enlightened on their rights and there is the assurance that improvements will be experienced as regards rights of patients and caregivers, saying, once it becomes an Act, the implementation would eventually trickle down to states.

On how patients' rights would be guaranteed when the National Health Act of 2014 which preceded PBoR but is yet to be domesticated by the governments, he assured that medical training in medical schools addresses most of those concerns.

"For instance , when a medical student is doing his final exam, the first mark usually centres on greeting the patient, it is one mark and very significant. So, everything has been imbibed into it."

2023 WORLD DAY: Governor Uba Sani Celebrates Kaduna Teachers

By ; FUNMI ADERINTO, Kaduna

Kaduna State Governor, Senator Uba Sani, has joined world leaders to celebrate teachers on World Teachers' Day 2023. The theme of this year's UNESCO World Teachers' Day 2023 celebration is tagged, "The teachers we need for the education we want: The global imperative to reverse the teacher shortage.

A statement from the Chief Press Secretary to the Governor of Kaduna State, Muhammad Lawal Shehu on October 5, 2023 said that the Governor in his goodwill message to Kaduna teachers, gave the assurance of his administration's willingness to continue to support and build on the capacity of teachers while improving their welfare to attract the younger generation to the noble profession of teaching, as it was in the past.

"Today, on World Teachers' Day, we celebrate our teachers who educate and shape us to become productive citizens of our great country Nigeria.

"As teachers and a crucial contact of authority outside the home, you are highly regarded as not only tutors but also second parents especially at the primary and secondary levels of learning." Governor Sani said.

"Indeed your contributions to the formation of values in the society cannot be overlooked, and for this you all must be celebrated today and always." he added.

"The 2023 theme for World Teachers Day is timely especially with the current dire economic realities experienced by Nigerians, now more than ever we need the firm but loving hands of you, our esteemed teachers to circumvent these murky times, with your knowledge and expertise.

"I want to urge you to continue to instill the virtues of patience, diligence and contentment into our children whom we

have entrusted in your care." Governor Sani said.

The governor also added that the Kaduna State Government has embarked on several interventions and programmes towards improving the abilities of teachers across Kaduna State, which include:

- TPD trainings for over 8,000 teachers.

- STEP training for 9,000 teachers in collaboration with British Council.

- Digital Literacy Training for 8,500 teachers with support from BESDA.

- The development of a Teacher Management Information System (TMIS) with support from UNICEF.

- 160 ECCDE teachers trained on REGIO EMILIA with support from UNICEF

- Trained 2400 teachers in Teaching at the Right Level (TaRL) methodology in 3 Local Government Areas.

- Trained 2,667 teachers on Accelerated Foundational teaching skills in 6 LGEAs with support from PLANE programme and - Conducted Biometric Verification for teachers.

Governor Sani also urged parents and other key stakeholders to raise their children and wards to respect teachers.

He asked for their support, prayers and protection against any form of intimidation or maltreatment towards teachers, especially in the line of duty.



Gov Uba Sani

Kaduna Community Assures International Alert, Global Peace Development Of Support

By; AMOS TAUNA, Kaduna

The village head of Kudansa in Maraban Rido Community in Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State, Mr Auta Ganyi, has assured the International Alert (IA) and Global Peace Development (GPD) of a space meant to train women and girls in the area.

The Safe Space, an assault referral centre, is meant to serve as a place where the female gender can come together to discuss issues of their importance with a view to finding lasting solutions to their challenges.

The Senior Project Officer

of IA, Sunday Jimoh told newsmen on Thursday at Kudansa after the meeting with the traditional leader, that the IA in collaboration with the Global Peace Development have been able to train the first responders that would take care of the center and provide psychosocial and psychological support to survivors of SGBV in the community, hence, the need to have the center take care of them.

He observed that the choice of the community became inevitable in view of the growing cases of SGBV in the area, saying that the move to establish the center became a necessity after several discussions and

consideration in order to curb some social problems in the area that affects women and girls.

He added that it informed the meeting with the traditional ruler with a view to enlightening the women and girls on ways they could guard themselves against the future for them to engage in meaningful ventures that will be to their advantage and the society at large.

According to Sunday, "We are here today to have a meeting with the traditional ruler of Kudansa in Maraban Rido community to discuss a partnership towards establishing a safe space for women and girls in the

area in order to enlighten them on certain things that will be to their benefit and the entire society.

"We are able to come to an understanding of what the benefits hold for the community when the center comes to stay. The traditional ruler promised to discuss with his council with a view to get back to us on their agreed discussion."

He thanked the traditional ruler for giving the NGO the listening ear and hope that a place would be allocated to them to ensure their programme takes proper shape for the benefit of the female in order to work together for the overall development of the area.



Sending Away A Stubborn Child

By Safiya I. Dantiye

EVERY parent wants his children to be good, though not every child turns out into a model one.

However, parents have different ways of dealing with stubborn or deviant children. In this case, teenagers that don't behave well or keep bad friends, skip going to school or take up drugs among others.

While some are patient and pray, and also talk to the children to make them change their ways, some parents beat the children, punish them and even prevent them from going out or forbidding them from seeing some friends.

So what are parents to do if they find themselves in such an unfortunate situation? There may not be a specific answer, because there is no manual to parenting though now there are some people who are 'parenting coaches' and they advise you on how to raise your child. But can anybody teach you how to be a parent?

Some parents even take them to the police station to make them afraid and amend their ways. But what is quite disturbing is when in a fit of anger some parents send them away from home. "Since you refuse to behave go away from this house. I don't want to see you again," they would say.

Therefore, instead of solving a problem, they have created another and probably a bigger one. This is because if you send away your son, you don't know where he would go. He may not go to a relative. He may go to the very people or friends you don't want him to associate with.

They may think that by sending the children away, the children would regret what they have done, but rather than be remorseful, some of these children may be actually happy to be away from home. And who knows, it may be the last time you see them again. There used to be one woman with many sons who did not turn out well. It was said when they were children, she was always cursing them and sending them away. It went to the extent that she

would not see some of them for some years and when she saw them, they were not any better, in fact some were said to be from prison or running away from the police or criminals.

So what are parents to do if they find themselves in such an unfortunate situation? There may not be a specific answer, because there is no manual to parenting though now there are some people who are 'parenting coaches' and they advise you on how to raise your child. But can anybody teach you how to be a parent?

In any event what is lacking in such case is family cohesion where the parents acknowledge the problem and discuss on how to tackle it. Usually, the parents are busy trading blames adding more problems to the family.

It may be frustrating, but sending your son away is not the solution to turn him into a good one. In this regard, both parents need to cooperate and do their best in solving the problems of their stubborn children.

One woman whose son dropped out from secondary school and got into drugs said when he went out at night, she would not be able to sleep until he came back. But the father was angry with her for showing care to the son.

"I cannot give up, I talk to him. I don't want to scare him away so that when he goes out, he would not come back. That is my greatest fear," she said.

And gradually, over the years, he has stopped and gone back to school. What if she had sent him away and said she never wanted to see him again?

As a result, while some are afraid of sending their children away, some do it and they mean it with all their heart. As far as I am concerned, it is like a curse and you disown them. You are angry with them and send them out to be embraced by criminals.

Two years ago in a mosque from Kaduna to Kano where travelers make a stop, an elderly commercial car driver got into quarrel with a young girl who was selling food.

Culled from National Record.

Nigeria Records 59 VIP Crashes In 4yrs As Kaduna FRSC Command Flags Off Ember Month Awareness Campaigns.

By; IBRAHIM ADAMU, Kaduna.

Nigeria has recorded within four years, 59 VIP crashes involving senior political and government officials on the nation's highways.

The figure was given by Sector Commander Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) Kaduna Command Kabiru Yusuf Nadaabo at a press briefing marking commencement of 2023 Ember Months Safety Awareness Campaign over the weekend in Kaduna.

Nadaabo, while attributing the sad development to over speeding and flouting of safety regulations, urged Nigerians, particularly drivers of very important persons and motorists in general to be safety conscious, especially in the last quarter of the year, which according to him, the nation's highways would record sharp increase in vehicular traffic due to the upcoming Yuletide season occasioned by Christmas and New Year's celebrations.

He said this year's ember months safety management campaign would kick off from Ahmadu Bello Stadium on Monday September 9, 2023 and heralded with far-reaching street walks to motor parks, markets, haulage business hubs among others, stating the

readiness and determination of the corps under his command to take message of safe driving to the grassroots to ensure seamless and enjoyable festivities in 2023.

In order to have an effective campaign, the Sector Commander disclosed that religious, political and opinion leaders would be engaged and coopted to partake in activities marking the ember months campaign, adding that services of entertainers would also be utilized to add colour to the event.

While stressing the imperative and importance of the intensive enlightenment campaigns in all ember months by the corps, Nadaabo lamented poor safety consciousness amongst drivers, which he noted has caused the loss of many lives, incapacitating several others.

He said due to high frequency of vehicles expected to ply the country's highways beginning from September, the likelihood of having frequent crashes would be more except drivers and travellers adhere to safety measures, hence the need for massive enlightenment by all stakeholders to prevent carnage on roads.

Nadaabo, while lamenting the intent of some politicians to cause inter service rivalry between the corps and state-owned traffic agency, the Corps

Marshal reiterated his resolve and those of men under his command to continue to carry out assigned duties for public good and safety.

"Nobody can intimidate us because what we do is for public good and you fulfil our oath and pledge to sacrifice ourselves to ensure safe highways and timely rescue of accident victims to hospitals so they can be saved by medics.

"Out of 26 states that created traffic agencies, Kaduna, Kano and Lagos are where we're having issues with which should not be happening if public interest is our concern.

"We have been up and doing since 1988 with our ember month campaigns as pioneers of this initiative of giving special attention to traffic and safety issues in this season because frequency of accidents on our highways gives us sleepless nights and are determined to look for ways out of the menace.

"We are so much concerned about insecurity and neglecting another killer of our people which is auto accident on our highways.

"It is high time We paid more attention to auto crashes which have become the order of the day on our roads due unsafe driving, bad roads and poorly maintained vehicles," he said.



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

TERMS OF ADVERT PLACEMENT

- All adverts are expected to be prepaid in cash or bank draft in favour of New Nigerian Newspaper's Limited.
- Series discount is subject to the stipulated number of insertions, and it is payable only at the end of a campaign (to be deducted from balance pay).
- COPY DATE:** for all the Title Heads is two working days for the North and three working days for the South.
- Cancellation of previously booked advert will be accepted in writing within four working days notice, less than 24 hours to the date of publication will attract 50% surcharge.
- Advertisers/Agencies are to provide their Camera ready artwork in electronic copies, in e.g. PDF, or JPEG format.
- 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.
- The management of New Nigerian Newspapers Limited reserves the right to reject an advert or any publication in any of its titles where such materials are considered distasteful for public exposure or libelous.

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

LOOSE INSERTS

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

Sanwo-Olu Is Not Playing

By: DAYO ISRAEL

He (Gov Sanwo-Olu) stood up from his chair, walked to the white board and picked up the marker, drew something that represented the rail line and marked the point of the CMS station. "The train will terminate here, and from there you can connect to the island by our BRT buses". It was a busy afternoon around October 2019, just after he had won the primaries. "What we must achieve is a Multimodal Transport System - rail, water, road and air linking together. We have to open the coastal and regional road to the Lekki Airport....." he said.

To all of us sitting in that room in Eko Hotel that day, during one of our strategy sessions, he created a picture that could have been deemed impossible. But today, Jide Sanwo-Olu has shown that he came to this office, prepared to lead and bring to life the visions of the Founding Father of Modern Lagos, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu.

Just a month ago, on 4th September 2023, a man notably known for his enormous enviable strides and tenacious commitment to the greatness and development of Lagos State, one who passionately declares 'Igbega Eko, Ajumose ni' and tirelessly walk the talk, took the first ride as Lagos began the operation of its monumental blue line rail services - another promise made in the THEMES AGENDA.

Babajide Sanwo-Olu, the Executive Governor of Lagos State, whose relentless determination in the transformational work of making Lagos a 21st Century Mega City, took a remarkable step further as he announced the commencement of the operation of the blue line rail services in the state. Worthy of note is the undeniable ripple effect of this mighty feat on the quality of living in Lagos.

Since its commencement, over 350 trips, and 75,000 people have been successfully conveyed via the blue line rail system to their homes, schools, work places, businesses, and back home to their families and loved ones hitch free. Beyond reasonable doubt, the concluded phase 1 of the blue line rail project, as well as the prospective red line, would positively impact on the lives of residents across the state, which will lead a stress-free and decongested Lagos transport system, consequently propelling



Governor Sanwo-Olu

the economic growth and development of the state to greater heights.

We have seen it work in the water transport sector run by LAGFERRY and LASWA. Sanwoolu's not just invested in his transport vision but also headhunted quality men and women in the likes of Dami Emmanuel, Ladi Balogun and for LAMATA - Abimbola Akinajo. Investment in Boats, additional buses including the last mile buses and introduction of LAGRIDE is what Sanwoolu has continued to do to OPENLAGOS.

Unarguably, the rail service is the biggest boost to the new town development vision of Lagos,

due to its ability to connect the hinterland to the cities, where in no time soon, the heart of Lagos to Badagry can be traversed within thirty (30) minutes or less, as well as aiding students of Lagos State University (LASU) to and fro their campus daily and hitch free.

My cousin who lives in Apapa road, would now seamlessly make his trip through the National Theatre station to Mile 2, and then joining the BRT bus all the way to LASU Campus, and back home at night in no time, easing off the financial burdens of families who have had to extend further into their limited coffers to rent apartments for their children hitherto,

cutting cost in the process. Communities once forgotten will be opened up to immeasurable development opportunities, and general well-being of the residents when the rail system fully extend across Lagos as Governor Sanwoolu fully envisioned.

Needless to say, SANWO-OLU is still working. The blue line rail services amongst his other tremendous achievements so far in the state include but not limited to, Imota Rice Mill, Red Line rail, the Proposed Fourth Mainland Bridge, numerous housing projects in different parts of Lagos, school infrastructure development projects by SCRPS/SUBEB and

road projects across the state.

These projects have the capacity to employ over a million Nigerians, mostly youths, thereby substantially reducing unemployment in the state and by extension, the country. Furthermore, the drive by the governor to clean up Lagos, evident in the audacious steps by the new commissioner for Environment and Water Resources, Tokunbo WAHAB to engender a clean and healthy natural environment of Lagos state, is worthy of note.

Overall, the indefatigable quest of SANWO-OLU to deliver a transformed and world class Lagos state across all sector will undoubtedly bring to full fruition the delivery of the aforementioned projects, most especially the 4th Mainland bridge for the benefit of all, which will surely give rise to a sustainable and robust development of the state and the country at large.

Babajide Sanwo-Olu, my impeccable executive governor is still working.... Congrats Lagosians

Dayo Israel, a proud Lagosian and the National Youth Leader of the All Progressives Congress (APC).

writes from Ebute-Metta.

"We have seen it work in the water transport sector run by LAGFERRY and LASWA. Sanwoolu's not just invested in his transport vision but also headhunted quality men and women in the likes of Dami Emmanuel, Ladi Balogun and for LAMATA - Abimbola Akinajo. Investment in Boats, additional buses including the last mile buses and introduction of LAGRIDE is what Sanwoolu has continued to do to OPENLAGOS."

NIWA Mourns Kebbi Boat Mishap Victims, Identifies Human Error As Cause

By; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

The National Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA) has commiserated with government and people of Kebbi State over the recent boat mishap in the state, just as it blamed the incident on human error.

It would be recalled that the incident occurred on Monday October 2, 2023 when a boat loaded with 17 passengers from Kasabo Village in Agwara Local Government Area of Niger State heading to Yauri Market in Kebbi State capsized, in which eight person's died.

In a statement by the management, NIWA stated, "Whereas the sailor was supposed to berth at the nearest bank of the river which is NIWA safety guidelines for such weather condition, he decided to continue the journey thus making the passengers to panic and some of them jumped into the water without wearing life jackets and later the boat capsized."

The statement reads, "It is with deep sorrow and heavy heart, the Management of National Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA) commiserates with the Government and people of Kebbi state over the recent boat mishap involving 17 passengers from Kasabo village in Agwara Local Government Area of Niger State heading to Yauri Market in Kebbi State.

"Preliminary investigation from our area office in Yauri, Kebbi State revealed that, the wooden boat capsized as a result of

heavy windstorm that accompanied the bad weather caused the incident.

"The sad and avoidable incident occurred on Monday 2nd October, 2023 due to human error where the sailor ignored the weather condition that was turbulent.

"Whereas the sailor was supposed to berth at the nearest bank of the river which is NIWA safety guidelines for such weather condition, he decided to continue the journey thus making the passengers to panic and some of them jumped into the water without wearing life jackets and later the boat capsized.

"NIWA rescue team in Yauri Area Office where the incident happened, were involved in the rescue operation with other agencies. Nine (9) persons were rescued alive and Eight (8) dead bodies were retrieved.

"Despite several efforts in sensitization campaign on safety and training of Boat operators in Yauri in particular and other parts of the country, we still continue to record such boat mishaps due to negligence of the boat operators to NIWA safety guidelines.

"The Authority will continue its training and sensitization campaign to prevent the occurrence of such incident in the future. May God Almighty grant the families of the victims the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss of their loved ones and may the souls of the departed rest in peace."

Bullion Hotel Urges IGP, Ogun CP To Launch Investigation Into Alleged Police, Political Thugs Invasion

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Bullion Hotel, Simawa Area, Ogun State, Ambassador Olufemi Ajadi Oguntoyinbo and his legal team on Friday called on the Inspector General of Police, IGP Kayode Egbetokun and the Ogun State Commissioner of Police to carry out a thorough investigation into the invasion of his hotel by suspected political thugs.

Ambassador Ajadi tasked the IGP and the Ogun state Commissioner of Police to investigate the alleged actions of the Police officers, who allegedly accompanied political thugs to invade his hotel last Tuesday.

The New Nigeria People's Party, (NNPP) Chieftain said he is demanding accountability and justice for the alleged misconduct

of the officers who invaded his hotel and ransacked the rooms without a search warrant.

He stressed that the incident has raised serious questions about the conduct and professionalism of law enforcement personnel in the state, prompting calls for reform within the Police Force.

Describing the alleged behaviour of the said Policemen as unskilled and unprofessional, Ambassador Ajadi asserted that they displayed none of the qualities expected of law enforcement personnel in the discharge of their duties.

The NNPP Chieftain alleged that the officers together with the thugs who were heavily armed stormed the Hotel in a commando manner in the early hour of Tuesday without any legal

authorization and therefore intimidated and embarrassed the occupants of the hotel.

He alleged further that the police officers allegedly moved from one room to another searching underneath beds and wardrobes and giving blanket protection to thugs who stole items belonging to the staff and guests who came to lodge in the hotel, adding, "It was unfortunate for the officers and the thugs as their illegal and nefarious activities were captured by Hotel's CCTV.

"Furthermore, the officers were not properly attired. Instead of the standard Police uniform and boots, they appeared wearing casual shirts and slippers, a stark deviation from the expected dress code", he said.

Also speaking on the incident, the Head of Ajadi's Legal Team,

Barrister Isaac Izunya, said the Shimawa Divisional Police Officer (DPO) reportedly detained the individuals who had filed complaints about the incident and labeled them as suspects while releasing the original attackers and marking them as complainants.

Izunya said, "the DPO did not just stop at that but went ahead to make a case of attempted murder on the alleged complainants, who left their various homes to come to the hotel and suffered this unprovoked attack.

"The poser that will be calling for an answer is, how can someone who was attacked in his own apartment be facing the case of attempted murder? There was no arrest warrant to back up the illegal arrest made by the police officers and the physical assault meted out on the staff and the hotel's guests,".



One of those injured during the attack at Bullion Hotel undergoing treatment.

SAfER : Oyo Rolls Out N500m Loan To Support Agribusiness - OYSADA

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

Oyo State Agribusiness Development Agency (OYSADA) on Friday hinted that the state government has rolled out N500million loan to support agribusiness in the state.

According to a statement by the Oyo State Agribusiness Development Agency (OYSADA) made available to newsmen by the Chief Press Secretary to Gov Seyi Makinde Mr Sulaimon Olanrewaju, "the N500million earmarked by the state government as loan for agro-entrepreneurs is

one of the measures put in place by the government to empower those in the sector and reinvigorate the economy".

It maintained that the gesture by the Oyo State Government is to enable the YEAP beneficiaries "apply their knowledge and skills in profitable agribusiness ventures and reshaping the agri-food sector, not just in Oyo State, but across Nigeria."

The statement noted that OYSADA has been providing beneficiaries of its programme with enterprise support on an ongoing basis, adding, "In 2021, the agency provided an

opportunity for about 100 of youth agro-entrepreneurs to practise the skills they acquired when some of those in the crop production enterprise were given one hectare of farmland at the Fasola Agribusiness Industrial Hub.

It stressed further "another set of youths were supported in various farm groups in 11 Local Government Areas with over 200 of the YEAP beneficiaries receiving 25 bundles of cassava, 2.5 bags of fertiliser, and one litre of herbicide each".

"The SAfER agribusiness loan will create an opportunity for many of the YEAP

beneficiaries to launch their agribusiness initiatives. YEAP is an Oyo State programme targeted at training young people in modern technology-driven agribusinesses and providing them with enterprise support."

OYSADA added, "SAfER is a multi-prong intervention embraced by Oyo state government to ease the economic burden foisted on the people as a consequence of subsidy removal on Premium Motor Spirit, popularly known as petrol."

The statement added that interested beneficiaries should apply online.

CSU: You Can't Take Nigeria Back To Desert, APC Chieftain Tells Atiku

**Urges ex-VP to start preparations for 2027*

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Former Deputy National Publicity Officer of the All Progressives Congress (APC) Yekeni Nabena, has said Nigerians have moved on with the leadership of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, hence former Vice President Atiku Abubakar cannot take the nation back to desert.

Nabena said all the noise about Chicago State University certificate is a pre-election matter that has been forgotten.

Atiku Abubakar of the PDP had accused President Bola Ahmed Tinubu of forgery at a press conference on Thursday, October 5.

But in a statement signed on Friday in Abuja, Nabena asked Atiku Abubakar "to rather start preparations for another contest in 2027 as usual rather than dragging the Nation backward."

Nabena said contrary to media propaganda by Atiku and opposition parties; "The registrar of Chicago State University (CSU) Caleb Westberb never said President Tinubu forged the certificate he submitted to the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) in Nigeria."

He urged the public to be careful of manipulative reports churning out by the opposition parties to cause confusion and seek public sympathy.

According to the APC chieftain, Nigeria is a sovereign state and until the highest court of the land says otherwise, President Bola Tinubu is still legitimately elected and will continue to pilot affairs of the country.

The Bayelsa born APC chieftain called on party members, supporters of

the President and all Nigerians to disregard all attempts by the opposition parties to create unnecessary tension and make the country ungovernable.

Nabena also called attention of Nigerian Justices and Supreme Court to the contempt of court by Ahaji Atiku Abubakar against the matter already in court of law.

He said: "Let me use this medium to tell the former Vice President to start preparing for another election in 2027 as usual. Heating up the polity over pre-election matters will not make him President of Nigeria."

"Atiku Abubakar should know by now that Nigerians have moved on. The country is now enjoying good governance because this administration is responsive and responsible. See what is happening across

Ministries, Departments and Agencies; Nigerians will no longer wait for months to get their international passport when they apply, over 204,000 backlog has been cleared within three weeks, think about the welfare packages for the elderly by the

Humanitarian Affairs Ministry, the bold step to remove the fuel subsidy that has held the country hostage for a long time, government intervention in all sectors like Aviation, Health, Transport, Economy, Agriculture and security among others. This Renewed Hope Agenda is already working and Nigerians won't allow anyone, including Atiku or Peter Obi to drag the Nation back to desert," Nabena said.

Governor Lawal Receives Humanitarian Minister, Seeks More Support For Zamfara Displaced Persons

By: IMRANA ABDULLAHI, Kaduna

Governor Dauda Lawal, on Thursday, sought more support for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) across Zamfara State.

The governor appealed for support, while receiving the Honourable Minister of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation, Dr Betta Edu, in Zamfara State.

A statement by the Spokesperson to the Governor, Sulaiman Bala Idris, said that the minister visited Zamfara for the official opening and handing over of 40 fully completed and functional houses as a refugee resettlement city project.

He added that the governor, accompanied the Minister of Humanitarian Affairs, visited the Federal University Gusau, where they met with university authorities and students rescued from kidnappers. The statement read in

parts, "In his speech at the opening ceremony, Governor Lawal appreciated the efforts of other federal agencies like the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) for the various humanitarian support and interventions they have provided to the State over the years and recently.

"He said that it is a well-known fact that Zamfara State faces formidable security challenges, and these challenges can only be resolved through effective collaboration with the Federal Government, neighbouring states, and all stakeholders in security matters. Above all, we must always do what is correct at the right time.

"Lawal further reiterated that it is regrettable to admit that banditry has led to many impoverished individuals, orphans, widows, and internally displaced persons, especially in rural areas. This has placed the State

at the top of the list of significant flashpoints of violence and vulnerable persons/households in the Northwestern States and the entire nation.

"Regarding the resettlement city for Persons of Concern in Zamfara State, it is essential to note that since the inception of this administration, we have been addressing the issue of Internally Displaced Persons in all parts of the State. Providing an IDP resettlement facility in the State Capital, Gusau is a welcome development.

"We appreciate the Federal Government's collaborative efforts in alleviating the suffering of our people. In this regard, the Government and the good people of Zamfara State remain grateful for this kind gesture."

While delivering her remarks, the Honourable Minister of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation, Dr Betta Edu, commended

Governor Dauda Lawal for his unending efforts in ensuring the well-being of the displaced persons across the State.

"It gives me great pleasure to be present at this momentous occasion of the official opening and handover of the resettlement city to the Government and people of Zamfara State for the benefit of the Persons of Concern.

"I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to Governor Lawal, who is compassionate about the plight of the displaced persons in the State.

"I have heard all the pleas by the State government. I would pass the message to the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for more support and interventions for the displaced persons in Zamfara.

"The beneficiaries of these houses would also benefit from the Federal Government's monthly cash transfer to cushion the effect of fuel subsidy removal," she said.



Governor Dauda Lawal, giving a helping hand to the Honourable Minister of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation, Dr Betta Edu, at the official opening and handing over of 40 fully completed and functional houses as a refugee resettlement city project in Zamfara recently

Sheroes Cup 2023: Naija Ratels, Edo Queens Record First Victories

*Edeh, Obi, Irabor, Onome Ebi light up opening day

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

It was a moment of talent display and team bonding amidst atmosphere of conviviality as the 6th edition of Sheroes Cup glamorously kicked off at the lush football pitch, located inside Aguiyi Ironsi Military Cantonment Abuja on Saturday October 7, 2023.

Aside football matches which showcased young women players from parts of the country on Day One of the competition which also prepares teams ahead of the new football season, the fully-packed spectators' corner afforded fans, family and friends to relax and catch a glimpse of soccer mastery.

Captain of Nigeria's Super Falcons, Onome Ebi, was among top dignitaries who graced the opening event.

In an action-packed encounter, the first match of the day ended with former Sheroes Cup Champions Edo Queens thrashing debutants and new entrants to the Premiership of Nigeria Women Football League (NWFL), Ekiti Queens 4-1.

The four goals from Edo Queens were scored in first half with Goodness Osigwe, Suliat Abideen, Omotoke Oduke and Emem Essien registering their names on the scoring sheet. The only goal from the Ekiti side came from Seun Fakunle.

Thereafter, the game between Naija Ratels and Sunshine Queens, which served as the official opening kick-off of the pre-season tournament, happened at the same venue. Naija Ratels won the encounter 2-1, courtesy of goals from Augustina Unamba and Bankole Sofiat. The consolation goal from Sunshine Queens came from Eunice Ezeani.

Performing the official opening ceremony, President of Ratels Sports Development Foundation (RSDF) Barr. Paul Edeh underscored the importance of the competition, formerly known as Flying Officer's Cup since inception in 2019.

He said, "The idea behind this pre-season is to bring all women teams together as they prepare for the new season. The RSDF has solely funded this tournament since it started in 2019. The competition has been living up to the expectation of preparing teams that have gone ahead to win the NWFL premiership as well as done Nigeria proud in the CAF Women's Champions League participation."

While paying glowing tribute to

the leadership of the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) Referees Committee anchored by Mrs Faith Irabor, Barr. Edeh, who is also the Chairman of Benue State Football Association (BSFA), made ceaseless case for enhanced officiating during the current pre-season outing and when the regular season gets underway.

"We thank the Chairperson of the NWFL for making giant steps in ensuring that women football continuously rise in Nigeria, with the increase of participating clubs in the women premier league from 14 to 16. We know that in the long run, the participating clubs in line with gender parity will increase steadily from one season to another," he said.

The Chairperson of NWFL, Ms. Nkechi Obi, while commending the quality organisation of the competition, reckoned, "This competition has been veritable in helping clubs prepare for new season by way of assessing their players especially new ones.

"It is left private or corporate bodies to take advantage of this kind of tournament to showcase the things they do as well as support human development efforts."

She, however, revealed that "very soon, the NWFL management will be unveiling welfare package for players in the coming season."

NFF Referees Chairman, Mrs Irabor, reeled out ongoing efforts to upgrade Nigerians' referees to measure up to international best standards and assured of the Federation's commitment geared towards improving the round leather game through quality officiating.

Talking about the format of this year's competition, Chairman of the Organising Committee and FCT FA Secretary, Coach Haruna Ilerika, said all participating teams will first play round-robin games, before the top two clubs would engage in a final battle to determine the eventual winners.

Coach Ilerika said the third and fourth clubs will face each other in a third place match.

Action continues on Sunday at Abacha Barracks pitch, where Dannaz Ladies will take on Honey Badgers, being the only match of the day.

Delta Queens, though absent in the ongoing edition, are the defending Champions of the tournament, with Imo Strikers triumphing in the NWFL Championship edition held earlier in 2023.



NPFL: Kwara United Visits Emir Of Ilorin, Seeks Royal Blessings

By: AYO OJEDOKUN, Lagos

Kwara United Football Club on Friday October 6, 2023, paid a visit to the Emir of Ilorin, Alhaji (Dr) Ibrahim Sulu-Gambari, CFR in his Palace, as they sought royal blessings ahead of the first home match of the season.

While receiving the team, the Emir, who admonished players and staffers of the club to be of good conduct, and be dutiful in order to make Kwarans happy, tasked the players on discipline.

The Emir prayed for a successful season, advised the team to target and work towards securing a continental ticket, even as he prayed that the players would all end up playing in Europe.

He charged them to serve the team with their heart.

The Emir of Ilorin, a former player himself, and former Board member of the Nigeria Football Association (NFA), now Nigeria Football

Federation (NFF), is the Grand Patron of Kwara United Football Club, Ilorin. The visit was a continuation of the annual pre-season visit to the Chairman of Kwara State Traditional Council, to seek royal blessings ahead of commencement of the NPFL.

According to the Secretary of the club, Wale Obalola, who represented the Chairman of Kwara United FC, Kumbi Titiloye on the visit, the club also sought for the support of the Monarch.

Kwara United started the season in far away Katsina, losing by a lone goal to the home team, Kwara United, and is rallying all Kwarans, both home and in the Diaspora, for support.

Kwara United last played in their traditional home, Ilorin, in the 2022/2023 NPFL season, owing to the regrassing of the Main-Bowl pitch last season, playing their home matches in Ibadan and Akure.

The Technical Adviser of Kwara United Football Club, Coach Kabir



Kwara United players during visit to Emir of Ilorin's palace.

Sulaiman Dogo is one of the Chiefs of Okun, SawMill Area of Ilorin, Kwara state. the Emir, been the Magaji of Odo-

...Announces Availability Of Replica Jerseys

By: AYO OJEDOKUN, Lagos

The Marketing Department of Kwara United Football Club has announced that the club's replica jerseys are now available for sale.

The jerseys are the product of Owu Sports wear outfit. Kwara United entered into agreement with the first indigenous sportswear manufacturing company four years ago, and has kept faith with the agreement up till this season.

In a statement from the Department, "we want to notify the club's fans, supporters, stakeholders and the general public that our replica jerseys for this season are available for sale, in different colours.

"We have white, green dominated yellow and yellow dominated green colours, with each going for just N5,000 (Five thousand naira only), added the statement signed by



Mrs Muslimat Shade Olabooye, for the Marketing Department of the club.

"We equally have them in all sizes, and its available at the Secretariat of the club, at the Kwara State Stadium Complex, Ilorin," the statement added.

She enjoined the fans, supporters and the stakeholders to identify with the club by purchasing any of the colours available. Kwara United opened its campaign in the 2023-2024 Nigeria Premier Football League (NPFL) season against Katsina United, in a match they lost by a lone goal.

Interested individuals or groups can also purchase the replica jerseys during Kwara United Football Club home matches, at the Kwara State Stadium Complex, Ilorin.

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Omoaje Re-elected Action Alliance National Chairman

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The Action Alliance (AA) has reelected Hon Adekunle Rufai Omoaje as the National chairman of the party.

This was contained in a statement made available to the media in Kaduna yesterday.

The statement said that the election of Omoaje was held at the elective convention of the party held at the Olusegun Obasanjo Presidential Library, Abeokuta Ogun State.

The election witnessed by representatives of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) was also observed by security agencies and the media.

Others elected at the convention include, the Deputy National Chairman, Alhaji Ibrahim Yisah, National Financial Secretary, Prince (Dr)

Awolola Awofala, National Publicity Secretary, Comrade Olu Omotosho, National Youth Leader, Alhaji Wasiu Adeyemo, National Legal Adviser, Barr. Abiodun Rufai and the National Women Leader, Mrs Aisha Abdullahi among others. Chairman of the electoral committee, Mr Oladele Sunday in his remarks, said the party chose option A4 as a means of electing its leaders to show transparency.

He said the election was transparent and the most acceptable candidates emerged at the end of the process, adding that the process that produced all the leaders was free and fair.

In his acceptance speech, the national chairman of the party assured of efficient leadership, just as he promised to take the party to the promised land. He said the party would continue to serve



Hon Adekunle Rufai Omoaje

Nigerians and provide effective leadership that will take Nigeria to its land of promise.

Fintiri Flags-Off Construction Of N9.2bn Flyover

*Says urban renewal remains integral part of his 2023 campaign promises to build new Adamawa

By; TINA PHINEAS, Yola

In fulfilment of his campaign promises, Adamawa State Governor, Ahmadu Umaru Fintiri has flagged-off the construction of a flyover in the city of Yola, valued at about N9,264,498,755.33.

Speaking at the groundbreaking ceremony of the flyover construction and its adjoining road networks over the weekend, in Yola, Fintiri said, urban renewal remains an integral part of his 8-point agenda.

He maintained that his administration would continue to execute projects that have direct bearing on the lives of the people of the state.

"Today, I am on the verge of fulfilling one of the many campaign promises we made to our electorate during the 2023 electioneering

campaign.

"Urban renewal occupies a central place on our 8-Point Agenda of ensuring no one is left behind and nothing is left untouched in Adamawa State.

"In our first term in office, we prosecuted this campaign with great vigour and in this second term, I want to reassure you that we shall prosecute this campaign with even greater strength." the governor stated.

Fintiri reaffirmed the determination of his administration on building an Adamawa State of the 21st Century and beyond.

"We have improved the infrastructural status of both our urban and rural centers tremendously and we are not willing to back pedal on this course until the narrative is completely altered for the better.

The governor said, Adamawa State has become investors haven and has become one of the best states for commuting and doing business in the northeast subregion due to the massive road networks his government has embarked.

"Today, we are gathered again to continue with the good job we are known for, the job of making our State great and making our people happy.

"The job of service to the present and future generation. So, when I say we are making history, you can appreciate what I mean. The project we are flagging-off today, is our latest additions to this never-ending task of making history", Fintiri stated.

Speaking at the occasion, the Commissioner of Works and Energy, Alhaji Adamu Atiku

Abubakar said the project is a symbolic testament of development and unwavering commitment of Governor Fintiri to serve the state.

The commissioner further said the overhead bridge project will not only address traffic congestion in the city but stimulate economic growth and development.

In their goodwill messages, the state lawmaker representing Yola North, Alhaji Suleiman Umar Alkali and the acting District Head of Jimeta, Alhaji Lawal Gabdo Babello thanked Governor Fintiri for making the project a reality.

New Nigerian reports that the construction which is situated around the popular Mubi Roundabout, linking other major roads in the city center, is expected to last for about 18 months.

Kwara United Announces Availability Of Replica Jerseys

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CSU: Tinubu's Men Using Forgery To Cover Forgery - Atiku's Spokesman

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The Media Adviser to former Vice President Atiku Abubakar, Paul Ibe, has faulted what he called "corrupted interpretation of the facts in the disposition" released by the Chicago State University against President Bola Ahmed Tinubu.

Ibe, in a statement yesterday, titled, "Tinubu's house of forgeries" said anyone who has taken time to do a thorough reading of the deposition will come to the unambiguous conclusion that the footprints of Tinubu's odyssey as far as the CSU documents are concerned is filled with profound forgeries and abuse of administrative due process.

The statement said: "Since Tuesday last week when the deposition regarding President Bola Tinubu's educational qualifications came to the fore in the United States, there have been several attempts to twist the facts of the matter, which deliberately aim to confuse the mind of the public concerning the matter.

"Some media aides to the president have come out openly to 'push back on the narrative', while some media houses, especially one, have persistently slanted their story to justify a corrupted interpretation of the facts in the disposition.

"Sadly, however, the truth of the matter remains that Nigeria's President, Bola Tinubu falsified a document he submitted to the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) and swore an affidavit under oath to back up his forgery.

"On page 26 of the deposition which is publicly available, the Registrar of the Chicago State University, Caleb Westberg under oath, was asked a simple question that, "CSU has determined that it does not have a true

and correct copy of the diploma issued to Bola Tinubu is 1979, correct?"

"To which the Registrar responded, "that's correct." Also, on page 27, a similar question was put to Mr. Westberg: "So, CSU, after going through every diploma, was unable to find an authentic copy of any diploma that CSU issued to Tinubu in 1979. Is that correct?"

The CSU Registrar, in his response, said: "We did not find any diploma issued by CSU in 1979 to Mr. Tinubu."

And coming straight to the specific issue of whether the CSU is aware of or in possession of the diploma that Tinubu submitted to INEC, to which Mr. Westberg simply said, "Correct, we are not aware of it."

President Tinubu's supporters and spin doctors will want to force the narrative of, at least, "Tinubu graduated from the CSU down our throat, even when the narrative has no foothold in logic.

The question remains: How does a candidate graduate from a university that you were never qualified for?

According to information in the open, President Tinubu applied to the CSU with a pre-qualifying 1970 certificate from Government College Lagos, whereas the school did not come into existence until 1974. Maybe this should make Tinubu the first man ever to have an anticipatory certification from the school four clear years before the founding of the school.

"Another mystery is that in addition to the non-existing Government College Lagos certificate, Tinubu presented a certificate from another school in the United States that belongs to a female candidate and a Cambridge HSC of 1970 - the same year he purportedly graduated from a secondary school in Nigeria."