

# New NIGERIAN

"The Greatest Weapon is Truth"

Published since January 1, 1966

Vol. 6 No. 224

Wednesday 15th November, 2023

Jumada Awwal 1, 1445 AH

**Timi Frank To Nigerians:**  
Don't Expect Credible  
Elections In 2027  
Under APC, Tinubu

\*Says "if we don't stop Tinubu, APC,  
they will turn Nigeria into a one party state"

[Story on Page 21](#)

## Tinubu A Divine Project That Will Lay Foundation For Greater Nigeria - Comrade Afiyo **PAGE 10**

\*Says Atiku, others should  
join hands in developing Nigeria



Comrade Afiyo

## Advocate Of Good Governance Decries Poor Performance Of Budgets At Rural, Grassroots Levels **Story on Page 7**

\*Says citizens must hold  
government accountable

# Assault On NLC President: Warri Port Barricaded As Organizers Cancel Events In Asaba

- Ondo schools, civil servants shun directive, banks shut at midday
- Strike greeted with low compliance in Oyo State
- Kano schools deserted
- Students sent home in Delta
- Academic activities threatened as ASUU orders members to join strike

By: BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan, UTEBOR PETER, Asaba, JABIRU A HASSAN, Kano, ADEBOYE ADO, Akure & JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The indefinite strike declared the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC), Trade Union Congress (TUC) and affiliate unions, in spite of a court order, was greeted with mixed reactions and uniformed compliance across the country yesterday.

As the strike commenced as part of its protest against the brutality and assault on the president of the NLC, Joe Ajaero in Imo State, organizers cancelled a seminar scheduled for Tuesday November 14, in compliance with the NLC directive at Asaba, Delta State capital.

At the same time, the main entrance of Delta Ports, Warri, was barricaded yesterday morning by trade union officials enforcing compliance of the NLC/TUC strike, while students and pupils of public secondary and primary schools in Warri, were being sent home as at 9.20am yesterday.

[Continued on Page 3](#)



A deserted public school in Kano following the NLC/TUC strike which commenced yesterday.

## Operation Safe Haven Arrests

Notorious Arms Dealers/gunrunners,  
Suspected Kidnappers **PAGE 20**

\*Rescue kidnapped victims,  
recover arms/ammunition

[Story on Page 2](#)

## Police Neutralises 22-yr Old Kidnapper In Katsina, Recovers Cache Of Ammunition

[Story on Page 3](#)

## Court Slams N200m Damage Against IGP, 5 Others Over Unlawful Detention In A'ibom

## Court Slams N200m Damage Against IGP, 5 Others Over Unlawful Detention In A'Ibom

By; PATRICK TITUS, Uyo

A High Court sitting in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State has ordered the Inspector General of Police (IGP) and five others to pay a housewife in Uyo, Peace Ekom Robert, the sum of N200m as damages for unlawful arrest and detention.

The presiding judge, Justice Ntong Ntong gave the order on Tuesday in a judgment he delivered in a case of enforcement of fundamental rights brought by the applicant. Recall, in March this year, one Ifenyinwa Anthonia Olua, approached the applicant, one Peace Ekom Robert, a mother of two children to link her up with someone in Europe that could buy Euros and pay her in Naira.

A total of 55,000 Euros amounting to N42.9m was said to have been

transferred to a Spanish account and surprised by the transfers which came in quick succession, the account holder reported to the Spanish authorities, who placed restrictions on the account on the suspicion that the money could be illicit funds.

Consequently, the applicant was arrested by the Police.

Joined in the suit as Respondents were the Inspector General of Police, Commissioner of Police, Administration, Force Criminal Investigation Department, Abuja, Mr. Babazango Ibrahim; DSP Yusuf Dauda of Anti-Homicide Section, Alagbon in Lagos, Inspector Celestina Ugbaja of Special Fraud Unit, Ikoyi, Lagos and Police Service Commission.

In a one hour judgment, the presiding judge, Justice Ntong Ntong said

he has "read in between lines the record file and has not seen where the Inspector General of Police and other respondents filed any process to challenge the averments of the applicant."

Justice Ntong said the evidence before the Court showed that "the Police threw caution to the wind and became law unto themselves thereby bastardizing the 1999 constitution, disrespecting the Order of the Court and treating the name of God and Office of the President and Commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria with disdain."

The Court also ordered the Inspector General of Police and five other "Respondents to return the N15m collected from the applicant to the Chief Registrar of the Federal High Court, Abuja

pending the hearing and final determination of the criminal charge against the applicant before the Federal High Court."

The trial judge held that the Police was not "a debt recovery agency and has no power to have extorted N15m from the applicant in a matter they have not concluded investigation nor the applicant tried and found guilty by a court of competent jurisdiction."

Counsel to the applicant, Uwemedimo Nwoko, SAN, described the Court as the last hope of the common man.

Counsel to the Respondent, Akebong Essien Esq. said his client did no wrong to have reported the matter to the Police.

Up to the time of the judgment, the Police was yet to properly arraign the applicant who has remained in their custody since March, this year.

## Suspected Bandits Set 20 Farms Ablaze In Niger

By; AMOS TAUNA, Kaduna

Over 20 maize, soya beans and guinea corn farms on the outskirts of Kontagora, headquarters of Kontagora Local Government Area of Niger State, have been torched by suspected bandits.

A source explained that the bandits asked them to pay N30m levy each or face further attacks by dropping notes for them on their various farms.

Those who called the number, according to the source, said that they were told that the speakers confirmed to them that they burnt the crops they had assembled on their farms and threatened to further deal with them if they failed to pay the imposed levy.

He appealed to the federal and state governments to find a way of addressing the incessant attacks on farmers in order to restore normalcy for farmers to about their normal businesses.

He said that they just woke

up to this sad incident, saying that they went to their farms where they assembled their crops that were due for harvest and were almost done with the assembling before bringing them home, only for the crops to be set ablaze.

He lamented, "And notices in Arabic with a phone number were hung at our respective farms, asking us to pay N30m levy each."

Of the farms that were burnt down, he said there is one where you could not have less than 50 bags of maize if harvested, adding that there was another one of soybean, the owner would not get less than 60 bags if harvested.

On his own farm, there were guinea corn and beans that he had assembled for processing before bringing them home, lamenting all of them were set ablaze.

There was no response from security operatives on the incident as the state police spokesman could not be reach for comment.

## Hajj Cost: CSO Advises NAHCON To Reduce Number Of Saudi-based Service Providers, Sign Long-term Contracts

By; JABIRU A. HASSAN, Kano

Given the short time available for pre-Hajj preparations and the rising cost of the pilgrimage, Independent Hajj Reporters, a faith-based civil society organization that monitors and reports Hajj activities has advised the National Hajj Commission of Nigeria (NAHCON) and State Muslim Pilgrims Welfare Boards and Agencies (SMPWBAs) to commence the signing of long-term contracts with Saudi Arabia based Hajj services providers to bring down the rising cost occasioned by the high foreign exchange rate of the dollar to the Naira.

The CSO also called on NAHCON to consider reducing the number of Saudi-based service providers to create room for effective coordination and impactful supervision by both the commission and the States.

These recommendations were given by IHR in a statement yesterday, signed by its national coordinator, Ibrahim Mohammed.

"Liaising with over 20 or more

service providers during Hajj creates multiple operational challenges for the apex Hajj regulatory body and inhibits the smooth process of systematisation," IHR said.

IHR also said Hajj services to Nigerian pilgrims like accommodation, feeding and car syndicates should have some elements of uniformity and standard across the board.

"For example, one or two accommodation and catering service providers can serve the entire Northern pilgrims, given that they share common culture and traditions, especially in the areas of menu and tastes.

"One or two others can provide similar service for Southern pilgrims, using the same parameters. Countries with a higher number of pilgrims such as Indonesia, Bangladesh and India utilise fewer service providers and it is the reason why they have efficient crises management control system during Hajj operations". The group said.

IHR also said the yearly signing of contractual agreements with Hajj service providers is no longer feasible, given the new

Hajj calendar issued by the Saudi Ministry of Hajj and Umrah.

"The new Hajj calendar has shortened the pre-Hajj preparation period thereby giving Hajj participating countries little or no time to be travelling twice or more to negotiate for yearly hajj services with service providers.

"More importantly, signing long-term agreements with service providers such as accommodation, catering, and car syndicate providers will create stability in hajj fare templates and also allow such service providers to map out long-term planning which will result in efficient service delivery to Nigerian pilgrims.

"For example, Malaysian Tambung Hajj last week signed a long-term contract with Saudi companies as a way of reducing costs of hajj fare which allows Tambung hajj to deliver good services to pilgrims at reduced costs.

"Signing the contracts, the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Religious Affairs) Datuk Dr Mohd Na'im Mokhtar said it included contracts involving accommodation,

flights and food to ensure prices could be fixed for a period of time," IHR explained.

According to him "The increase in the cost of Hajj is inevitable because it is exposed to factors beyond the control of Tabung Haji, including the rate of inflation and taxation in Saudi Arabia, the exchange rate of the Malaysian ringgit against the Saudi riyal and the US dollar".

He argued that he signing of long-term contracts with Saudi-based service providers will lessen the number of pre-hajj trips undertaken by NAHCON and States since they will only need to travel once for physical inspection of accommodation and catering facilities before the airlift of pilgrims.

IHR added that the ongoing expansion projects in the Misfalah area of Makkah that has seen many buildings previously used by Nigerian pilgrims demolished will add more pressure on the pilgrim's accommodation rental price market, hence the need to sign long-term contracts and reduce the numbers of service providers.

"Such will also reduce the number of activities in the hajj calendar". IHR said. The CSO said yearly requests for applications, screening and selection of hajj service providers connote more expenses and time-consuming constraints – the two critical challenges currently facing 2024 hajj.

Criteria to select such service providers could include their experiences in serving Nigerian pilgrims, record of service delivery, ratio of number of Nigerian pilgrims they have served in the past and their capacity to handle large numbers of pilgrims.

IHR said NAHCON can embed its taxes and commissions in the long-term contracts to help keep the Nigerian Hajj industry in a self-sustaining mode and reduce the bureaucracy of hajj operations.

NAHCON can also provide a caveat that such long-term contracts can be terminated once the service providers fail to meet the required standard of service delivery set and agreed upon.

# Assault On NLC President: Warri Port Barricaded As Organizers Cancel Events In Asaba

\*Ondo schools, civil servants shun directive, banks shut at midday

\*Strike greeted with low compliance in Oyo State

\*Kano schools deserted

\*Students sent home in Delta

\*Academic activities threatened as ASUU orders members to join strike

The strike action seems to be recording reasonable compliance in Delta State as a seminar scheduled for Tuesday November 14 and Wednesday November 15, have been cancelled by the organizers.

The strike action also shut down activities in Warri as the popular Warri Port was barricaded and students, pupils of public schools were turned back home.

Also, the Nigeria Union of Local Government Employee (NULGE), Warri South Issued compliance order on its members. Some students and pupils of public schools were seen returning home. Some walking and others in commercial tricycles

The privately owned primary and secondary schools in Warri, were yet to comply with the Organized Labour strike order.

It was gathered that workers of Warri South Local Government Council, Warri, were instructed to stay off their duty posts, by the branch leadership of Nigeria Union of Local Government Employees, NULGE.

"NULGE WEE! Pls Note that the strike is on as directed by the leadership of NLC and TUC. Therefore all offices and health centers are expected to be shut. Please comply to avoid further sanction", the NULGE directive to staffers of Warri South Local Government Council, stated.

\*Ondo schools, civil servants shun NLC's directive on strike. Meanwhile, contrary to the directive NLC and TUC to embark on industrial action; schools, government offices were opened for activities yesterday in Akure, the Ondo State capital.

Our correspondent who observed if the order was obeyed, reported that virtually all public schools were opened with students thronging their various schools, while some new-generation banks were shut at exactly 12pm.

A top banker who preferred anonymity, told our correspondent that his branch in Akungba in the Akoko South West Local Government Area of Ondo State, was to be ordered to shut down by 12pm.

"We were told to close by 12pm to observe the directive of the NLC and TUC", he tersely said.

However, some stakeholders in an exclusive interview, expressed mixed feelings about the development.

A civil servant, Ade Azeez said the strike was a welcome development following several failed promises made by the government coupled with the assault of the National President of the NLC, Comr. Joe Ajaero.

Azeez therefore, condemned the assault on Ajaero, while he called for stiff punishment for those responsible for the attack.

Conversely, a staff of National Identity Management Commission (NIMC) simply identified as Leke, condemned the industrial action, describing it as inconsequential.

He said, "It is not sensible to go on strike because of issues of personal interest. I see no reason for the strike because the assault happened in Imo State and it should be limited to the state, why declaring a nationwide strike? It is inconsequential."

However, a retired teacher, Okeowo Aji, urged the NLC and TUC to sheath their swords, adding that the nation needs to be alive so as to allow smooth running of governance.

\*NLC strike greeted with low compliance in Oyo State

The nationwide strike declared by the NLC yesterday witnessed low compliance as normal activities are ongoing in most parts of Ibadan, the Oyo State capital.

At the Oyo State Government secretariat at Agodi, the secretariat was open for activities as workers reported for duties with those having business dealing within the secretariat complex going about their normal activities.

Also, offices at the secretariat were seen open with workers firmly on their duty posts across most of the ministries and departments visited by our correspondent

However, the Oyo State Assembly Complex remained shut as the parliamentary workers in the state have been on



*A deserted public school in Kano following the NLC/TUC strike which commenced yesterday.*

strike for the past three weeks.

Also, most Federal Government organisations, ministries and parastatals in the state were also open for business activities.

When our correspondent visited the University College Hospital (UCH), the main entrance gate to the hospital was opened but the second gate was half open with Medical officers attending to patients.

Banks in Ibadan were busy with operations with customers going in and out, while the Federal Secretariat was also opened with activities ongoing at all the departments and agencies housed at the secretariat, Ikolaba.

Sources close to the state labour unions hinted that the strike may not be effective in the state due to Governor Seyi Makinde's recent approval of the wage award to the workers and pensioners.

"Kano schools deserted. Many schools across Kano State remained shut as a result of the announcement made by the NLC and TUC, directing the commencement of a strike defying court orders that all strikes should be suspended pending the resolution between government and the labour union.

Our correspondent who monitored the impact of the NLC directive, reports that many schools were seen closed, while students of both male and female schools were also seen confused and returning home.

Some of the pupils lamented that they were not happy with the strike and some of their senior colleagues may miss their examinations because of the strike action.

They called on the federal government and the labour leaders to urgently resolve the tussle for the progress of the nation.

Similarly, Commercial vehicles were seen roaming without passengers, while banks and some markets remained closed, due to the unexpected strike action.

Also affected were some restaurants Point of Sales (POS) outlets, supermarkets and tea joints, which did not open because of fear of attacks by the hoodlums.

\*Academic activities threatened as ASUU orders members to join strike

Academic activities in Nigeria's universities may yet again, suffer setback as the the Academic Staff Union of Universities

(ASUU) has directed its members to join the nationwide strike declared by the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) and the Trade Union Congress (TUC).

The ASUU President, Emmanuel Osodeke directed compliance in a letter to ASUU zonal coordinators and branch chairpersons across the country.

"As an affiliate of NLC, all members of our union are hereby directed to join this action of NLC to protect the interest of Nigerian workers and the leadership of the union. Zonal coordinators and branch chairpersons should immediately mobilise our members to participate in the action," Mr Osodeke wrote in the letter.

It would be recalled that the National Industrial Court, in Abuja, on Friday November 10, stopped the NLC and TUC, from embarking on the strike.

The judge, Benedict Kanyip, ordered the two major labour unions, to stop their industrial action scheduled to commence on November 14.

The declared strike is part of efforts to protest the unwanted brutality, and assault on the President of the NLC, Comrade Joe Ajaero.

## Court Verdicts Sacking Plateau PDP Lawmakers Unacceptable, Undemocratic, Group Says

\*Cautions judiciary against upturning Mutfwang's election

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Head of Appeal Court reserved judgement on victory of Plateau State Governor, Mr. Caleb Mutfwang, a group under aegis of Forum for Justice and Good Governance (FJGG) has warned the judiciary against upturning the people's will in the state.

According to the group, the situation where the electorate happily trooped out to vote candidates of their choice during the concluded 2023 general elections and the court later upturned such popular victory is not only undemocratic, but also unacceptable.

The group, which issued the warning in a statement signed by Comrade Daniel Gowong, expressed worries over the recent verdict delivered by the Appeal Court in the National Assembly (NASS) election case in Plateau State.

It said, "The idea of the Election Petition Tribunal nullifying election on the grounds that the PDP candidates did not have a proper party structure and therefore, could not file candidates for the elections are preelection matters that should not hold water at the Appeal Court".

While describing what happened in Plateau State



Governor Mutfwang

as insensitive and may not reflect the will of the people, the group explained: "The Appeal Court entering pre-election matters at this point in time is not fair to the people and could be deemed as miscarriage of justice"

"We make bold to say, the decision to declare the former Governor and Minister of Labour, Mr Simon Lalong, winner of the Plateau South Senatorial election against the PDP candidate, Senator Napoleon Bali on grounds the PDP didn't have structure and lacked the right to take part in the election is a case of travesty of justice.

"The Independent National Electoral Commission had declared

Napoleon Bali of the Peoples Democratic Party winner with 148,844 votes, while Lalong scored 91 674 to come second in the February 25 elections.

"Similarly, we recalled the recent Court of Appeal at Abuja, in separate judgements, sacked three PDP House of Reps members: Peter Gyendeng representing Barkin-Ladi/Riyom Federal Constituency; Musa Bagos representing Jos South/Jos East Federal Constituency and a fifth-term lawmaker, Beni Lar, who represented Langtang North/Langtang South Federal Constituency over issue of invalid nominations by the party.

"For us, these are clear cases of rape of our

democracy, and any well-meaning Nigerian must reject it in its ramification."

It however, said, "Now that Appeal Court sitting in Abuja has reserved judgment in the appeal by the governorship candidate of the All Progressives Congress in Plateau state, Nentawe Goshwe challenging the victory of Caleb Mutfwang, we are calling on the judiciary as the last hope of the masses to affirm Governor Mutfwang's victory.

"INEC declared the PDP candidate, Governor Mutfwang as winner of the Guber election with 525,299 votes to defeat his APC rival Goshwe, who polled 481,370 votes in the March 18 governorship election in the state.

"Goshwe later challenged Mutfwang's victory the tribunal, claiming that the governor was not validly nominated and sponsored by his party with allegations that his election was not conducted in compliance with the electoral act and he did not win the majority of lawful votes cast during the election.

"We would be happy to join people of Plateau State ,if the Appeal Court dismissed the baseless allegations and Affirm Mutfwang's victory which reflects people choice."

## Police Neutralises 22-yr Old Kidnapper In Katsina, Recovers Cache Of Ammunition

By: SULA IMAN AHMED MISAU, Katsina

Katsina State Police Command has announced the neutralisation of a 22-year old suspected notorious kidnapper and gunrunner, Nazifi Ibrahim of Uguwar Tsamiya Village in Faskari Local Government Area of the state and recovery of a large cache of ammunition.

Spokesman of the state Police Command, Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP), Abubakar Sadiq Aliyu in a statement, attributed the success to the able leadership of CP Aliyu Abubakar Musa based on the command's determination in the ongoing fight against banditry in the state.

"On November 11th, 2023, at about 03:30hrs, based on a tip-off on the activities of some suspected kidnappers wielding dangerous weapons such as AK 47 rifles, in a farm situated at the outskirts of Yankara Village, Faskari LGA, Katsina State, upon receipt of the report, the DPO Faskari promptly mobilised a joint team of police operatives, members of the vigilante, and officers of the Katsina State Neighbourhood Security Watch Corps and responded to the scene," the statement said.

However, it explained that, "upon noticing the presence of the operatives, the suspected kidnappers opened fire on them, which the officers valiantly returned fire, forcing the terrorists to abandon their evil plan and flee into the nearby bush." Accordingly, while combing the scene, the

PPRO said the body of the neutralised suspected kidnapper and one hundred and eighty-five (185) live rounds of 7.62mm ammunition, ninety (90) live rounds of 5.56mm M193 type 06 ammunition as well as thirteen (13) Ak-47 magazines neatly concealed in a sack were recovered.

"The body of the neutralised suspected kidnapper and gunrunner was later identified as one Nazifi Ibrahim, 'm', 22 years old, of Uguwar Tsamiya village, Faskari LGA. Efforts are on with a view to arresting the fleeing suspects as the investigation proceeds," ASP Sadiq Aliyu said.

Consequently, while praising the operatives' professionalism, synergy, and bravery, the CP Aliyu Abubakar Musa, urged officers and DPOs to cultivate a high level of synergy with all relevant security agencies in their respective local government areas and also to work hand in hand with the State Neighbourhood Security Watch Corps for improved security of the lives and property of the citizens of the state.

Commissioner of Police, Abubakar Musa called on citizens of the state to keep providing the command and other security agencies with crucial and timely information on criminal activities so that swift and decisive action could be taken to stop any criminal activity and to report to the nearest police station any person seen with suspicious injuries, as some of the bandits have escaped the scene with gunshot wounds.

## Kogi/Imo Guber Polls: APC Has Conquered Again - Medugu

Says it's a job well done by Ganduje

\*congratulates Uzodinma, Ododo

By: TOM GARBA, Yola

frontline member of the All Progressives Congress (APC) in Adamawa Mallam Hamisu Idris Medugu has congratulated the incumbent Governor of Imo State, Senator Hope Ozedinma, and the Kogi Governor-elect, Alhaji Usman Ododo for winning the elections as declared by the

Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

The Adamawa State APC critical stakeholder also congratulated Mr Abdullahi Ganduje, the party's national chairman, for working so hard to ensure they win.

According to Medugu, it's a job well done by Ganduje for working round the clock to succeed for both Uzodinma and

Ododo in less than one year in Office.

Medugu said the success of Ododo and Uzodinma is a whisper of wisdom that Ganduje is a good leader and is set to lift the party to lofty heights in the coming years of Nigeria's elections.

He praised the leadership qualities of Mr. Ganduje over the Kogi and Imo states governorship and attested that he will sustain

the party's chances of winning in coming elections.

While wishing Uzodinma and Ododo well in office, Medugu called on Ganduje to make the party more formidable in all states, especially in Adamawa for APC to take it back from PDP, the ruling party.

Hamisu in a congratulatory statement to the newly elected



The recovered ammunition

# Delta Gov Hails Diri's Re-election, Says Victory Reward For Hardwork

By; UTEBOR PETER, Asaba

Governor of Delta State, Rt. Hon. Sheriff Oborewori, on Monday, lauded his Bayelsa counterpart, Senator Douye Diri on his re-election in Saturday's Governorship election in the state.

This was expressed in a statement by his Chief Press Secretary, Sir Festus Ahon, in Asaba, on Monday.

In the statement, Governor Oborewori described the re-election of Diri as "the reward for Diri's humility, hard work and good governance" and commended the people of Bayelsa for standing by their governor when it mattered most.

"Let me congratulate my brother, Senator Douye Diri, on his victory in the November 11 Governorship election in Bayelsa State.

"It is heart-warming to see

you re-elected as Governor of Bayelsa against all odds and I am grateful to the electorate in Bayelsa for shunning entreaties of the opposition, who were ostensibly determined to subvert the wishes of the people.

"Let me also thank the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) for improving on the logistics and conduct of the election".

The governor also

congratulated the PDP and the chairman of the its National Campaign Council for Bayelsa Governorship Election and Governor of Taraba State, Dr Agbu Kefas and other members of the council for their efforts, which culminated to the victory.

"I join you and Bayelsans in praying that God grants you wisdom, knowledge and the needed resources to keep your campaign promises of making

# Katsina Govt Bans Night Gatherings

By; SULAIMAN AHMED MISAU, Katsina

Katsina State Government has banned all types of public night large gatherings across the 34 local government areas in the state.

The State Commissioner of Information and Culture, Alhaji Bala Salisu Zango disclosed this in a statement to all Media Houses in the state.

Alhaji Salisu Zango said the Public gathering includes, religious and social large public gatherings with exception of obligatory prayers.

The Honourable Commissioner of the Katsina State Ministry of

Information and Culture, Alhaji Bala Salisu Zango however, said in the case of gatherings during hours of the day, when it becomes necessary to held the gathering permission must be thought from Police Divisional office within the local government Area where the gathering would take place.

Alhaji Zango explained that, "the announcement is in the best public interest and safety." and "the ban takes immediate effect," he added.

Alhaji Bala Salisu Zango enjoined people of the state to strictly comply to the directives, as violators would face the full wrath of law.



## CSO Fumes Over Illegal Foreign Loan, Hails Ondo On Budget Implementation

By: ADEBOYE ADO, Akure

A Civil Society Organization, Policy Alert (PA) has hailed the Ondo State Government for prioritizing critical sectors in the state budget implementation during the third quarter of 2023.

The organization notable for promoting fiscal and ecological justice in the Niger Delta, also raised the alarm incessant illegal foreign loan.

In a statement signed by its Programme Officer, Fiscal Reforms and Anti-Corruption, Comrade Faith Paulinus, the organization noted that of the nine Niger Delta states, Ondo tops the chart for prioritizing key human development sectors such as Health, Education, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), and Agriculture.

The statement noted that capital releases for the Educational Sector accounted for N779m with N725 million disbursed for State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB), Health N756 million, WASH N96.3m and Agriculture N1.45bn.

"We are impressed that attention was given to these key development sectors in capital expenditure as the social sector alone recorded a release of N2.7bn, 73 percent higher than the administrative sector which had a total release of N1.56bn"

Policy Alert added that, "although the spending priority of the government as regards capital release is commendable, the government needs to prioritize its capital spending above the recurrent budget.

"A review of the expenditure pattern, showed that out of the N48.21bn spent during the quarter, a total of N33.33bn went to recurrent expenditure while Capital expenditure had N14.88bn. This implies that what was spent for the cost of governance was 124 percent higher than the capital expenditure. This is not a healthy approach to public expenditure management for any society that wants to grow."

PA further queried the N719.36m foreign loan taken by the State Government within the period stressing that it is doubtful the loan got the approval of the State Assembly.

"We could not find any records or reports indicating that the request and subsequent approval for this loan was ever discussed at plenary by the State House of Assembly. Taking loans without the approval of the State House of Assembly is illegal and a gross affront on the powers of the House of Assembly. We call on the Executive to stop this negative trend and the Ondo State House of Assembly to live up to its oversight responsibility."

## Faguji Ishiyaku Dedicates ACAT Award To IAR

By; SANIALIYU, Zaria

The recipient of the prestigious African Conference of Agricultural Technology (ACAT) Award, Professor Muhammad Faguji Ishiyaku has said, the honour is a testimony of what IAR has been doing since its inception over 100 years ago.

The award winner stated this while fielding questions from journalists in respect of the award in Zaria by ACAT in Nairobi, Kenya.

He said the award was an acknowledgement of his remarkable achievements in the field of Bt Cowpea, a groundbreaking contribution to agricultural innovation and sustainable practices.

Accordingly, this recognition serves as a testament to Professor Ishiyaku's unwavering dedication, expertise, and tireless efforts in advancing agricultural technology, specifically in the domain of Cowpea Genetic Improvement in Africa.

Professor Muhammad Faguji Ishiyaku's visionary leadership and pioneering

work have not only enhanced the agricultural landscape, but have also significantly contributed to the well-being of communities across the African continent.

Faguji Ishiyaku said the award is for the entire team members who worked tirelessly in ensuring the success of the project throughout the period.

He said, commitment to excellence, innovation, and sustainable agricultural practices continues to inspire.

The former Executive Director said, the award is for Institute for Agricultural Research (IAR) the community and Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) Zaria.

He called on the Federal Government to increase more funds in the research institutes for more research activities as regards to the food security in Nigeria.

Prof Ishiyaku's success is a true reflection of IAR/ABU commitment towards pushing the boundaries of agricultural innovation for a brighter, more sustainable future.

## Katsina CP Presents Cheques Worth Over N42m To Families Of Deceased Police Officers

By; SULAIMAN AHMED MISAU, Katsina

Katsina State Commissioner of Police, CP Aliyu Abubakar Musa has presented cheques of forty-two million, three hundred and fourteen thousand Naira, eighty-one Kobo (₦42,314,145.81K) to families and next of kin of deceased Police officers who died in active service in the state.

The cheques were presented to the families, according to a statement by the Command Public Relations Officer, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Abubakar Sadiq Aliyu on behalf of the Inspector-General of Police (IGP), Kayode Adeolu Egbetokun under-IGP family welfare

insurance scheme.

The programme, which took place at the command's headquarters in Katsina, witnessed the presentation of various checks of different amounts to the families/next of kin of deceased police officers.

The Commissioner of Police appreciated the efforts of the Inspector-General of Police in improving the welfare of the officers and men of the Nigeria Police Force and urges the beneficiaries to make judicious use of the money for their own benefit.

One of the benefiting families, Philip Paul, who spoke on behalf of other beneficiaries, thanked the Inspector-General of Police for the welfare package, and promised to use the money judiciously.

## Oyo/Osun Customs Command Generates Over N11bn Revenue

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The Comptroller of Nigeria Customs Service, Oyo/Osun Area Command Ibadan, Comptroller Ben Oramalugo on Friday disclosed that the command generated ₦11,679,732,583.91k as revenue collected within between September and October 2023.

Comptroller Oramalugo who said this during his maiden press briefing at the command's headquarters in Ibadan, said that since his assumption of duty on 18th September 2023, several laudable achievements have been accomplished.

According to him, the laudable achievements are aimed at enhancing trade facilitation, and revenue generation as well as

suppression of smuggled, and prohibited items within the Command's Area of responsibilities

"During the period covering September to October 2023, the Command through its rigorous enforcement measures and strategic initiatives has contributed to the economic growth of the Nation by collecting the Sum of ₦11,679,732,583.91k (Eleven Billion, Six Hundred and Seventy Nine Million, Seven Hundred and Thirty Two Thousand, Five Hundred and Eighty Three Naira, Ninety One Kobo) as revenue into the coffers of the Federal Government", he said

The Comptroller added, "when added to the revenue collected for the period covering January to August 2023, the

Command has collected a Sum of ₦59,087,983,670.64k (Fifty Nine Billion, and Eighty Seven Million, Nine Hundred and Eighty Three Thousand, Six Hundred and Seventy Naira, Sixty Four Kobo).

"This feat is made possible by our resolve to continue to prioritize trade facilitation, religiously enforce provisions of our extant laws aimed at facilitating legitimate trade, implementation of various measures to simplify Customs processes, reducing bureaucracy within the system with the aim of promoting legitimate trade and foster a conducive business environment for Excise traders operating within the Command's Area of Responsibility."

Speaking on anti-smuggling operations of

the command, he declared, "during the period under review, the Command with the use of intelligence and continuous patrol operations has made series of interceptions comprising 1,248 (50kg) bags of Rice with duty paid value worth ₦27,456,000.00, 425 kegs of 25 litre of petroleum (PMS) with duty paid value worth ₦2,125,000.00, Used Clothing's and Used Bags, 24 Bales of used Clothing's worth duty paid value of

₦4,320,000.00, ₦180,000.00 respectively, 492 pieces of Used tyres with duty paid value of ₦2,952,000.00, 64 sacks and 150 wraps of cannabis sativa (weighing 777.5kg) with duty paid value of 14,138,460.00 and One (01) Dane Gun, 9,000.00, all totalling at

## Ebonyi Governor Congratulates Uzodinma Over Re-election Victory

By; MKPUMA ENYINNA, Abakaliki

Governor Francis Ogbonna Nwifuru has congratulated Governor Hope Uzodinma of Imo State on his victory at just concluded Governorship Election.

A statement issued by the Chief Press Secretary, Dr. Monday Uzor said that the gubernatorial in Imo State is a true reflection of the will of the people.

He, therefore, enjoined the people of Imo state to embrace peace and support governor Uzodinma for growth and development of the state.

"I am delighted to congratulate the Governor of Imo State and Chairman of the Progressive Governors' Forum, His Excellency, Sen Hope Uzodinma on his resounding victory at the just concluded Governorship Election."

"The outcome of the polls is a true reflection of the implicit confidence the people reposed in you. You have in the past four years offered quality leadership to your people through policies and



Ebonyi Governo

programmes that have direct and positive impact on the lives of the people.

"This bold statement by the people at the polls has given you another opportunity to consolidate on your laudable achievements and

continue with the reforms you have initiated in the state."

He thanked the All Progressives Congress (APC) for their tenacity, steadfastness and courage which he said contributed Largely to the victory.

"As I congratulate Imolites for making the best choice, I urge them to remain steadfast in their support to the Governor to enable him continue with his development agenda." Governor Nwifuru said.

# Advocate Of Good Governance Decries Poor Performance Of Budgets At Rural, Grassroots Levels

**\*Says citizens must hold government accountable**

By: IBRAHIMADAMU, Kaduna

Advocate of good governance at local government level, Yusuf Goje has decried poor performance of budgets in rural and grassroots level, blaming the development for absence and dearth of critical infrastructure needed for socio-economic growth and prosperity.

Goje posited that meaningful social infrastructure could best be facilitated and delivered to target beneficiaries if policy makers worked in partnership with civil society organizations, the media and community development champions to identify areas of priorities and needs for people at the grassroots.

Goje, State facilitator for Kaduna Local Government Accountability Mechanism (KADLGAM) spoke at a roundtable parley yesterday, with media practitioners, civil societies and other stakeholders on strategic direction and priorities and ways to amplify citizens' score cards so governments would know areas of lapses and shortfalls.

In his appraisal of budget performance in 23 local government areas of the state, Goje scored implementation low, particularly at the grassroots level, where he said the people are in dire need of key infrastructure to make life meaningful and enjoyable.

He added that out of 701 capital projects amounting to 2.2 billion Naira, out of 12.1 billion in the year under review, 179 were CDC initiated.

He harped on accountability, transparency, teamwork, innovation and citizens centric policies as principles he noted if adhered to could serve as guide

for fast tracking growth and development through open government partnership at local level.

"We will not relent until citizens at the grassroots understand the mechanism of governance and the need for them to actively participate in budget initiation, tracking and implementation through their community champions.

"Kaduna State as a signatory to Open Government Partnership has moved in the right direction in quest to carry citizens along in affairs of governance.

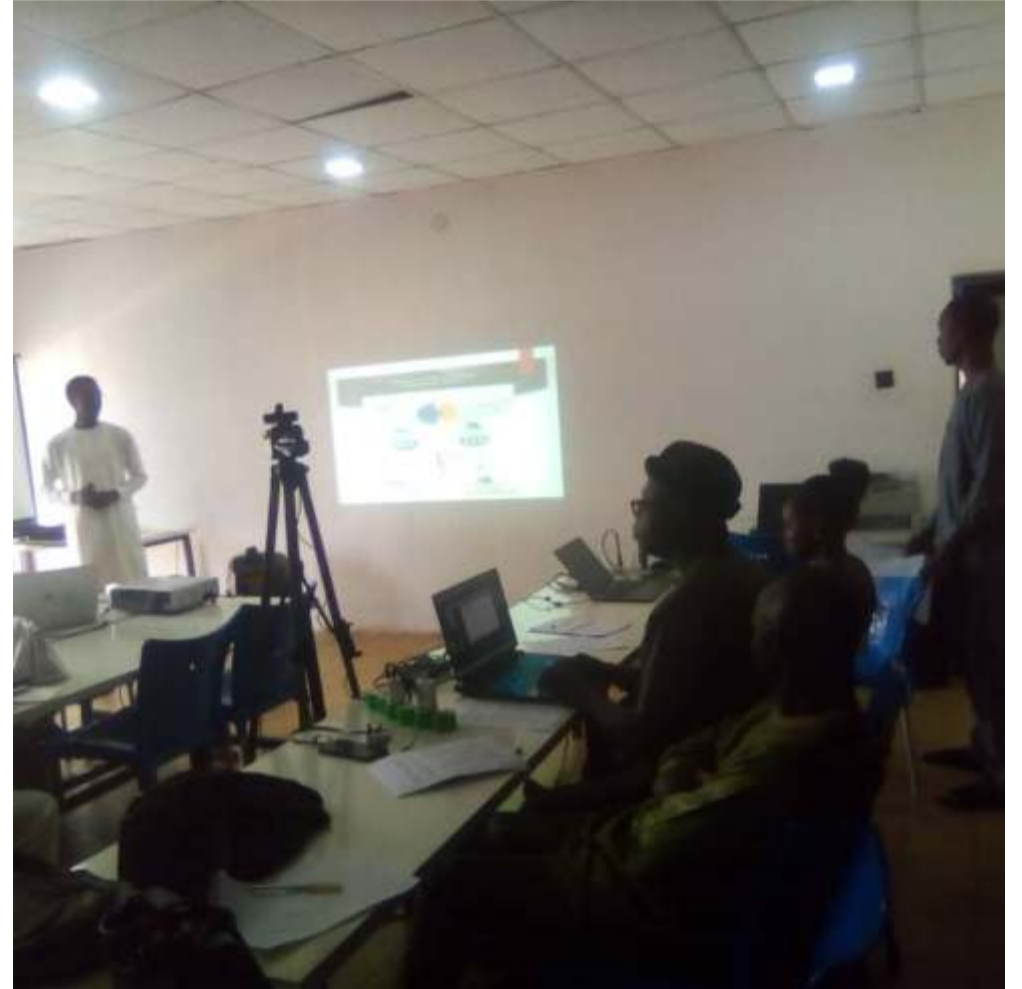
"It is our priority along side the media as an important stakeholders to ensure principles of OGP is stepped down to the grassroots level through proactive and constructive engagements with communities.

"Citizens must hold government accountable via the media as 4th Estate of the Realm whose functions and responsibilities are clearly spelt out in Section 22 of the constitution.

"We will put heads together and draw a media work plan capable of achieving our aims and objectives in the shortest time until communities get value for their money by delivering quality service to people at the grassroots," he assured.

In a paper jointly presented by Seth Luke and Sumayya Abdul of KAD-LGAM, the duo mapped out areas of focus for governments to effectively reach grassroots dwellers to include; infrastructure and human capital development, peace building and conflict mitigation, reforms and environmental and climate change.

A key partner in the project of Accountable Governance Mr. Gabriel



Adejor of PERL expressed optimism in progress made through civil society organizations, saying more and more citizens are now enlightened and could hold their governments responsible and accountable in efforts to enhance transparency and deliveries of value for money.

He however mentioned seeming secrecy,

nonchalant attitudes in some government agencies and lack of awareness at grassroots as challenges hindering effective monitoring and tracking process by CDCs, saying the hiccups would be overcome with consistent strategic engagements amongst critical stakeholders.



# North West NNPP Reaffirms Expulsion Of Kwankwaso

**\*Hails dissolution of Aba Kawu led NWC**  
**\*Reveals list of acting state chairmen**



By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Rising from a meeting held in Kaduna on November 7, 2023, the North West Executive of the New Nigeria People's Party (NNPP), has endorsed the expulsion of its presidential candidate in the 2023 general elections, Senator Rabilu Musa Kwankwaso from the party. This was conveyed in a communique signed by NNPP National Vice Chairman North West, Alh. Sani Yusuf Danmasani, made

available to newsmen in Kaduna on Friday November 10, 2023.

The communique informed that the decision was part of the resolutions taken.

"The executive committee reaffirms the expulsion of Dr Rabiu Musa Kwankwaso from NNPP

"The executive committee reaffirmed the dissolution of Abba Kawu Ali led National Working Committee (NWC).

"The executive committee passed 2nd vote of confidence on the founder and life member of board

of trustees Dr Boniface Aniebonan," it informed.

According to the communique, other resolutions reached, include, reaffirming the election of Dr Tope Aluko as Board of trustees chairman and Engr. Mohammed Baboyo Abdullahi as Board of Trustees Secretary

Also, the executive committee reaffirmed the appointment of new NWC under the leadership of Dr Agbo Major.

Similarly, the executive committee of the North West Zone released the names of acting state

chairmen of the zone as follows, Alhaji Akilu Kabo, Kaduna State, Alhaji Sulaiman Ghana, Kano State,

Alhaji Bello Magaji, Katsina State, Alhaji Ado Ibrahim (Magayaki), Jigawa State, Faruk Yusuf Ali, Sokoto State, Umar Abubakar Yauri, Kebbi State and Abubakar Sani, Zamfara State

"All the executive committee members of North West Zone attended the meeting and Engr. Mohammed Baboyo Abdullahi, board of trustees secretary, was in attendance," it informed.

## Leave Matawalle Out Of Your Failures, AYCF Warns Zamfara Governor

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The Arewa Youths Consultative Forum (AYCF) has brought to light a concerning issue regarding the Governor of Zamfara State, Dauda Lawal, saying it has observed that Lawal has been consistently using the name of his predecessor, Bello Mohammed Matawalle, who currently serves as the Minister of State Defense, to deflect blame and destabilize the state.

The group in a statement by its President, Yerima Shettima, argued that Governor Lawal's actions are not only detrimental to the progress of Zamfara State but also a disservice to its citizens. "Governor Lawal's persistent reliance on Matawalle's name as a shield for his failures in providing security for the people of Zamfara is a clear indication of his inability to take responsibility for his own actions.

"We warn Dauda Lawal to note that we are in possession of solid evidence of the funds he spent on sponsoring the campaign of calumny against President Bola Tinubu regarding the thwarted Chicago certificate saga and we shall not hesitate to expose him if he persists in his drive to undermine the credibility of the federal government by targeting the widely acclaimed efforts of the Ministry of Defense.

"We caution President Tinubu to watch his back against the antics of the Judas in Zamfara government house who is involved in every sinister plot against the success of his administration," Shettima said.

He said, instead of addressing the pressing security concerns in the state, Lawal has resorted to using his predecessor's name to deflect blame and avoid accountability.

"This strategy not only undermines the trust of the citizens but also hampers any potential progress in resolving the

security crisis," the Group said. According to the Group, the primary responsibility of any governor is to ensure the safety and security of their constituents.

"However, Lawal's tenure has been marred by a continuous rise in insecurity, including banditry, kidnapping, and other criminal activities. Rather than implementing effective strategies to combat these issues, Lawal has chosen to exploit Matawalle's name, who is currently serving in a different capacity, to divert attention from his own shortcomings.

"By using Matawalle's name, Governor Lawal is not only misleading the public but also undermining the efforts of the Minister of State Defense in his current role. Matawalle's position as a minister demands his full attention and dedication to national security matters. Exploiting his name for personal gain not only distracts from his responsibilities but also attempts to undermine the trust placed in him by the federal government," Yerima said.

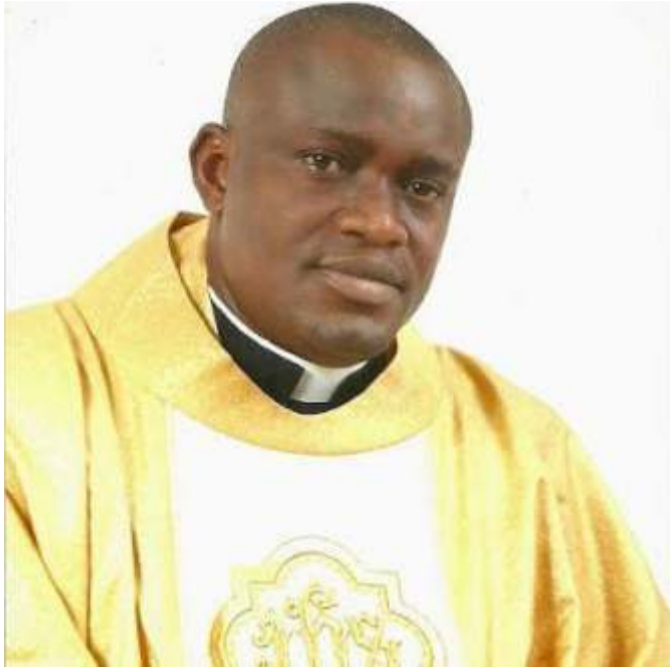
Furthermore, the group said, Governor Lawal's actions have far-reaching consequences for the people of Zamfara. By failing to address the security challenges head-on, Lawal perpetuates a cycle of violence and instability in the state.

"The citizens of Zamfara deserve a leader who is willing to take responsibility for their safety and work towards finding lasting solutions to the security crisis. Lawal's reliance on Matawalle's name only serves to exacerbate the situation and hinder any potential progress.

"We call on President Tinubu to note that the actions of Lawal are part of a wider agenda to cripple the growing popularity of his administration which is promoted and protected by his Defense Minister, Matawalle," they said.







Reverend Obinyan

## Good Governance: Catholic Priest Urges Journalists To Be United

By; R A P H A E L OKHIRIA, Benin City

Reverend Father Andrew Obinyan of the Benin Catholic Church, has called on members of the fourth-estate of the realm to be united in the fight for good governance and the security of the country.

Father Obinyan made the call at a prayer session organized by members of the Correspondents' Chapel of the Edo State Council of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) in Benin City.

The Catholic priest who stressed the need for unity among members of the pen profession, noted that without unity, the responsibility to hold politicians and leaders in all sphere of human endeavours accountable will be a mirage.

According to him, "Journalists have a very important role to play in nation building. As the fourth-estate of the realm, the constitution of the Federal of Republic of Nigeria empowers it to hold government at all level accountable to the people.

"For you to be able to perform this noble responsibly, members have to be united. The masses depend on you for good governance."

The cleric however, lauded the leadership of the chapel for organizing the prayer session, noting that without God the labourer labours in vain.

Earlier, Mrs Nefishetu Yakubu, Chairman of the Chapel, said the prayer session was to offer thanks to God for His protection of their members.

## FMC Asaba Will Give Adequate Medical Attention To Residents - CMD

\*Dr. Osiatuma urges residents to follow due process, confidence in medical personnel

By; UTEBOR PETER, Asaba

Chief Medical Director (CMD) of the Federal Medical Center (FMC) in Asaba, Delta State capital, Dr. Victor Osiatuma has assured the general public of maximum medical attention.

The medical director personally disclosed this

in his office, Asaba, while debunking a rumours making round that the medical personnel in the Federal Medical Center, FMC, are not always attending promptly and professionally to patients.

The CMD called on members of the public to always follow due process and have confidence in medical personnel in order

to receive the deserved medical attention.

Federal Medical Center (FMC), has about 447 bed capacity and when it is filled up, they normally refer such patients to nearby hospitals to prevent congestion.

On the issue of fake and adulterated drugs in circulation, Dr. Osiatuma advised members of the

public to always patronize accredited pharmacies to avoid falling into the hands of quacks.

Dr. Victor Osiatuma stated that the FMC, has enough manpower in all the departments with adequate supervision and expressed confidence that his workers are capable of delivering the best to members of the public.



## Governor Mutfwang Calls For Calm Amidst Protests Following Appeal Court Judgments

By; B U H A R I B. BELLO, Jos

Plateau State Governor, Barr. Caleb Manasseh Mutfwang, has pleaded for calm amongst citizens of the state in the wake of protests sparked by the recent Appeal Court decisions that invalidated the mandates of the People's Democratic Party (PDP) National Assembly members in the state.

In a statement in Jos, Governor Mutfwang acknowledged the profound disappointment felt by the people over the Appeal Court's pronouncement, but called for calm.

He emphasized that it is natural to be

distressed and devastated when there is a feeling that their will has been truncated.

Though the judgments haven't gone as many envisaged from the onset, he urged the people not to take the laws into their hands.

Governor Mutfwang said it has been brought to his knowledge that both partisan and non-partisan persons participated in the protest and said, "I appeal for calm. I strongly urge the citizens of Plateau State not to take any steps that will adversely affect the relative peace we are enjoying today. Let's not allow the feeling of

disenchantment to degenerate into breakdown of law and order."

Expressing unwavering faith in the judiciary, Governor Mutfwang assured the people that justice would prevail for the citizens of Plateau State.

He encouraged the people to be optimistic amidst the prevailing challenges and to trust the judicial process.

The governor also noted that it was brought to his attention that some security personnel manhandled innocent persons.

He however, acknowledged the

significant contribution of various security personnel in ensuring there is peace in the state and urged them to be polite in controlling peaceful protesters. Governor Mutfwang urged the people, particularly supporters of the PDP not to resort to vandalism but rather to place their trust and confidence in God Almighty, the Supreme Judge who presides over the universe.

He reiterated that as long as God remains on the throne, victory is certain. He urged the citizens not to succumb to despair but to find solace in the knowledge that God is ever watchful and active.

# Tinubu A Divine Project That Will Lay Foundation For Greater Nigeria - Comrade Afiyo

*\*Says Atiku, others should join hands in developing Nigeria*

**Comrade Elliot Afiyo is the 5th National President of the Northern Youth Leaders Forum (NYLF) the umbrella body of 42 Northern Youth Groups which was formed by the Northern Political, Military, Traditional and Religious Leaders on the 26<sup>th</sup> of September, 1994 with the sole aim of protecting and propagating the Northern interest within the National Interest.**

**The Forum has been very influential in the victories of all the presidential candidates since 1999 till date. The Forum also controls the majority of the Northern Youth especially at the rural areas of the North. NYLF has also produced a sizeable number of Governors, Senators, Representatives and Members of the State Houses of Assembly.**

**In this interview with the newsmen at Abeokuta after a meeting with the former President Obasanjo for three hours, Comrade Afiyo who is also a Senior Pastor of the RCCG and the Secretary –General of the Association of West African Monarch (AWAM), bares his mind and that of the Forum on some burning national issues.**

**Excerpts:**

**Comrade Sir, you have been silent since the judgments of the presidential election tribunal and subsequently, that of the Supreme Court, what necessitates this silence sir?**

Our Forum decided not to make any comment on these judgments until after consultations with our patrons. My visit today is part of the consultation process and I am glad to tell you that we have concluded that process and have addressed the press.

During that press conference, you made mention of your patrons coming together to support President Tinubu. Can we say then that it is your collective decision?

The Presidential Election Tribunal ruled that President Tinubu won the election and this judgment was affirmed by the Supreme Court. By implication, President Tinubu becomes the legal and constitutionally recognized president and Commander in-chief at least for the next four years. This also implies that, his decisions are binding on all Nigerians, his instructions must be carried out, his commands must be obeyed and his actions are legally backed up. There is nothing anybody could do to change or alter this fact. Whether the judgments were wrongly delivered or not, they are binding on us and remain sacrosanct.

Our Patrons are advanced citizens and nationalists, and as patriots, they have strong belief in the progressive and peaceful Nigeria. They have all agreed to support, encourage and participate in the Renewed Hope Administration of president Bola Tinubu to salvage our country despite their seeming differences.

I want you to know that Tinubu is a divine project that will lay the foundation for a greater Nigeria. He is definitely the Moses but not the Joshua.

**How soon are we going to witness this support Sir?**

Very soon. They have given us go ahead to arrange for meetings and interfaces between them and the President. We have already agreed to initiate the process. That should be after our NEC meeting next week. We would surely contact the president through one of our patrons who is close to him.

**Sir you made mention of lopsided appointment by the present administration though you said it is not the first time we are witnessing it. What do you suggest of the Federal Character Commission?**

The Federal Character Commission deals with the public and civil service recruitments and appointments. We are talking of political appointments here. If you listened to me very attentively during the press conference, you will observe that I made an analogy comparing the disparity



*Comrade Afiyo*

and the gap created by these appointments since independence. Presidents Goodluck Jonathan and Muhammadu Buhari widened this gap. Only President Obasanjo that narrowed the gap both as a military Head of State and as well as a Democratic President. **We are seeing another dimension towards this gap. As I said earlier, the Northerners must not complain. But can we continue this way as we strive towards a united Nigeria?**

The president to my own opinion, should create an independent political appointments office to be headed by a Special Adviser or Special Assistant to be reporting directly to him instead of the present set up in the hands of his Chief of Staff or SGF.

Though it is impossible to balance up, it is very possible to narrow the gap and create of a sense of belonging.

Some Northern clerics are claiming that Abuja belongs to the North and as such the minister must be a Northerner. What do you have to say about it sir?

It is total ignorance or deliberate and calculated propaganda. Abuja belongs to Nigeria under the trust

of Mr. President. Nobody can dictate or force the president to appoint a particular person as a minister from Sokoto or Kano not to talk of Abuja. The President has the prerogative power and right to appoint even a Herbalist or Babalawo as minister of FCT subject to confirmation by the Senate under the

democratic dispensation.

When Lagos was the Federal Capital, Alhaji Mahmud Ribadu was appointed the Administrator of Lagos by the Prime Minister-Not a single Lagosian, Yoruba or Southerner came out to complain not to talk of claiming the ownership. Ribadu is adjudged today to be the best Administrator of Lagos ever produced because he made the master plan and ensured that it was obeyed and carried out even when his life was threatened by an acclaimed Babalawo. Today, we have the Tafawa balawa Square, Onikan Stadium, Defence House and the State House in Marina Lagos because Ribadu risked his life by ensuring that the master plan was adhered to. His Excellency Nyesom Wike should ignore all these threats and focus on the restoration of the Abuja master plan.

President Tinubu should also give Wike the needed political freedom to do the needful. **If I may ask, if Abuja actually belongs to us as the clerics are claiming, how many votes did President Tinubu get from the supposed owners of Abuja that they are demanding for their own to be made minister of the FCT?.**

**What do you think is the way forward against this propaganda?**

The government should do something fast and urgently too, to counter this propaganda before the rural northern population is polluted. You know they have rigid beliefs

and are subservient to indoctrination. If such is not done, the Tinubu's administration will encounter a very stiff and unimaginable opposition and hatred, which will make that of Jonathan's administration a child's play.

On our own part, we have directed our local government coordinators to engage in rural awareness to counter this propaganda.

There was a video of a cleric calling for prayers and incantations against President Tinubu and Wike. (Cuts in).

Who is he that will harm you if you are a doer of that which is good? No divination against Jacob shall stand. Only the counsel of the Lord shall prevail. Do you know how many prayers were offered against President Tinubu's victory and assumption of office? God answers prayers on one condition. That is, if you pray according to His

will, He answers. Do you know that some churches declared fasting and prayers including night vigils against Tinubu? I was referred to and called a suspect by my one of our pastors because I did not support Prof. Yemi Osinbajo and later Peter Obi? Where are they now? Many pastors openly declared them as God's choice. I laughed because they have Samuelic mentality which prophet Samuel displayed in the house of Jesse. (I Sam 16:6-7).

You are one of Atiku's strong pillars and confidants. What is your advice to him now that the Supreme Court has affirmed President Tinubu's victory.

Atiku has done his best towards deepening and strengthening our democracy and democratic institutions and structures. He has said on several occasions that he will appeal to God after the Supreme Court verdict. When somebody appeals to God, it means he has nothing to do or say again. He either waits for God's goodwill, permissive and acceptable will or perfect and affirmative will.

As I said earlier, the Supreme Court has settled all the issues concerning the 2023 presidential elections. President Tinubu is now the authentic and constitutional president of Nigeria. All our political differences must be buried for now. All hands must be on deck to assist and support the president to succeed. Assuredly, I am telling you now, we are 100% behind President Tinubu. That does not mean that we can't give him constructive criticisms.

**What is your stand concerning the ongoing war between Israel and Hamas?**

I am neither for Israel nor Hamas. I am not against Israel nor Hamas. I am for peace and I am totally against Illuminati who are deliberately initiating and sponsoring wars and conflicts to destroy lives and property to reduce the world's population.

# NEMA Distributes Relief Materials To Mosque Collapse Victims, Others In Kaduna

By; ISAAC ODEH, Kaduna

Victims of Juma'at Mosque collapse and other persons facing different untold hardship totalling about 100 beneficiaries received Federal Government relief assistance in Zaria, Kaduna.

The Director General (DG) National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Mustapha Habib in a symbolic presentation, handed over the relief materials to the Emir of Zazzau, Ambassador Ahmed Bamalli at the Zazzau Emirate

Council in presence of other government authorities.

The DG who was represented by the North West Zonal Coordinator, NEMA, Alhaji Abbani Garki during the event, commiserated with the affected persons and their relations and urge them to use the relief materials judiciously as it's a means to cushion their plight.

The Emir, HRH Ambassador Bamalli said the relief intervention is a welcome development as it's coming at the right time people are facing difficulties to even procure

feeding for themselves. Saying it will surely serve as a succour to them.

He then appealed to the agency on behalf of his people that the relief support and intervention should be extended to others who are facing severe financial challenges at this critical time were the country is facing numerous challenges.

He further commended the agency and other facilitators as the gesture will also reduce the challenges of insecurity in the land. Adding that lack of means led to frustration by extension to

other forms of crime.

He urged capable individuals and leaders to be generous and provide support for the needy individuals who find it hard to put food on the table.

The relief items are; 100 bags each of rice, beans and maize (10kg, 50 cartons of Sphagetti, 10 bags of salt (20kg), 20 kegs of vegetable oil (20 litres), 10 cartons of seasoning, 100 pieces each of blankets, wax prints, guinea brocade, plastic buckets, cups and plates.

Others to be distributed are; 100 pieces of men, women and

children's clothing, 100 cartons of detergent, 50 cartons of toilet soap, 100 pieces each of mattresses, bath towels, and mosquito nets.

The rest are, 100 bundles of roofing sheets, 100 bags of cement and 20 packets of zinc nails.

The Executive Secretary, KADSEMA, Mallam Usman Mazadu also assured that with the aid of his staff, the relief materials will definitely reach each targeted beneficiary.



# NEMA Distributes Relief Materials To Mosque Collapse Victims, Others In Kaduna





Oritsejafor

## Newly Crowned Eze Of Chikun, Morrison Urges Govt To Alleviate Hardship

By: EMMANUEL AGBO, Kaduna

The new crowned Ezediohamma I of Chikun Chiefdom in Kaduna State, His Highness, Eze Morrison Ikpeamaeze has called on governments at all levels to try everything within their reach to alleviate the plight of the Nigerian masses.

Eze Morrison made the appeal in Kaduna on Friday in his acceptance speech, during his coronation to take over the mantle of rulership of the Ndigbo Kingdom in Chikun.

According to him, economy in the nation is on a free fall because of tribalism from different ethnic, religious and other differences, adding that the sense of national identity and unity is

weakened due to this menace.

While calling on relevant stakeholders to put up their heads in ensuring that suffering Nigerians are given adequate attention, Morrison said the traditional institution will continue to support government in their own capacity to bridge the gap in respective communities, no matter the differences.

He said, "economy in the nation is on a free fall because of tribalism from different ethnic, religious and other differences because the sense of national identity and unity is weakened.

"Nigerians have become so dazed with hardship, all that matters with most people is to eat whatever they see on their table. Government at all levels

must reduce the influence of tribalism by promoting inclusivity, equal opportunity and unity amongst all citizens, thereby creating an environment where everyone can contribute to the development and progress of the nation.

"Leaders should actively promote unity and condemn tribalism. They should live by examples, demonstrating tolerance and respect for all ethnic and tribal groups.

"I called on government at ball levels to improve security architecture, curbing kidnapping and it's attendant evil.

"I Appeal to the government to do the right thing to redeemed it's image and cushion and sufferings and hardship

people are currently facing."

In his remarks, the Eze Isala of Iseketa Ancient Kingdom Abia state and Chairman of ohangwa traditional rulers council, His Royal Majesty, Eze Nelson Merengwa who coronated the newly crowned Ezediohamma I of Chikun Chiefdom, said he is delighted to witness the the day.

Eze Nelson who is also the 1st Deputy Chairman of Abia state Local Council of Ndieze further disclosed that Chief Morrison is an outstanding personality.

He believes that Morrison is capable of taking the Chiefdom to greater heights and urged that he works with all Igbo community and ensure that unity is consolidated.

## Gov Oborevwoori Lauds Ayo Oritsejafor On Birth Anniversary

By: UTEBOR PETER, Asaba

The Governor of Delta State, Rt Hon Sheriff Oborevwoori has lauded the General Overseer of Word of Life Bible Church, Pastor Ayo Oritsejafor on his birth anniversary.

This was contained in a statement issued by his Chief Press Secretary, Sir Festus Ahon in Asaba, wherein the governor also rejoiced with the former President of the Christian Association of Nigeria CAN on his 51 years in ministry.

Governor Oborevwoori described Pastor Oritsejafor as a distinguished man of God who had contributed immensely to the growth of Christendom.

He lauded the respected cleric for his humility and outstanding patriotism, especially in leading the flock of Christ since he got born again 51 years ago.

He remarked that Oritsejafor's place in history was replete with accomplishments in God's vineyard where he had

mentored many clerics and raised churches in the last 51 years.

"On behalf of my family, the government and people of Delta State, I congratulate you, our highly revered cleric, on your birth anniversary.

"Under your faithful stewardship, the nation's Christian umbrella body CAN, was very vociferous and as the Shepherd of Word of Life Gospel Church, you preached the gospel from Delta and throughout Nigeria and all over the continents of the world with power and authority.

"The yearly Jubilee Word Festival of your church is renowned for signs and wonders, with thousands of lives saved from sin and delivered from demonic bondages with guest ministers coming from all over the world.

"As you celebrate this year's anniversary, I wish you more years of fruitful ministry in the vineyard of the Lord and service to humanity," Governor Oborevwoori said.



## Kwara Gov Congratulates Emir Of Ilorin On 28th Coronation Anniversary

By BILIQIS ONAOLAP OLAJUMOKE, Ilorin

Kwara State Governor/Chairman of the Nigeria Governors' Forum (NGF) AbdulRazaq has congratulated the Emir of Ilorin Dr. Ibrahim Sulugambari (CFR) on the

28th anniversary of his turbaning as the Emir.

The governor joined the people of Kwara State, especially of the Ilorin Emirate, to celebrate the royal father whose ascendancy to the throne marked a new positive beginning for the respected institution and

the people of the Emirate. Governor AbdulRazaq commends the Emir for being an outstandingly peaceful and diplomatic leader whose credentials as a statesman, lover of culture and tradition, and generosity have rubbed off positively on the people

and their wellbeing. He beseeched Allah to give the Emir and chairman of the Kwara State Council of Chiefs good health, steady his feet on the right path, and ease his affairs as he continues to lead the people.

# Gov Bago In Saudi Arabia As Part Of FG Delegation To First Saudi -Africa Summit



By: AMOS EBUTE MATHEW, Kaduna

Niger State Governor, Mohammed Umaru Bago is in Saudi Arabia as part of the Presidential delegation for the maiden edition of the Saudi-Africa Summit held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Governor Umaru Bago intends to use the opportunity to among other things try and woo

investors to Niger State in line with his vision of transforming the State and driving towards the "NEW NIGER" initiative. It was made known in a statement signed by Bologi Ibrahim, Chief Press Secretary to Niger State Governor. According to the statement, the governor will equally push for the Green economy plans he has on the ground for the

state and will engage critical stakeholders as one of the key areas to be addressed at the summit will be new energy solutions. It stated that, Governor Bago is among the delegation headed by President Bola Ahmed Tinubu which also has the Minister of Foreign Affairs Ambassador Yusuf Tuggar, Minister of

Education, Professor Tahir Mamman and the coordinating Minister of Economy and Finance, Wale Edun. Also on the list are National Security Adviser Nuhu Ribadu, Director General, of Nigeria Intelligence Agency, Ambassador Ahmed Rufai and the Chairman of Nigeria Hajj Commission, Malam Jalal Arabi.



# Court of Appeal Upholds Luggerewo's Election Victory

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The Court of Appeal sitting in Abuja on Friday, affirmed the election of Hon. Abubakar Mohammed Luggerewo as the duly elected member representing Akko Central Constituency. The unanimous decision, delivered by the lead judge, Justice Uzoamaka Ifeyinwa Ndukwe-Anyawu, upheld the return of Luggerewo by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) as proper and in substantial compliance with the Electoral Act 2022. The court's ruling was unambiguous in dismissing any dissenting judgment, asserting the merit of the appeal.

The counsel for the appellant, Barr. Caleb Ubale, successfully argued that the order for a supplementary election in unit code 018 of Kumo East ward and the collation

of results in three units in Kumo central ward lacked merit. The court agreed, emphasizing that the initial petitioners-turned-respondents failed to substantiate their claims. This judgment saw the resolution of three appeals stemming from the Election Tribunal's initial decision, bringing clarity to the contested issues related to the supplementary election in Kumo East ward and the reduction of the Speaker's margin of victory in Kumo central ward. The Court of Appeal found the first and second appeals (Abubakar Mohamed v. Bashir Mohamed & 3 others and All Progressives Congress v. Bashir Mohamed & 3 others) meritorious, while dismissing the third appeal by INEC. The grounds for rejecting the INEC appeal centered on the court's insistence on the electoral body maintaining an unbiased umpire role.

## Fuel Subsidy Removal: Obaseki Extends Free Bus Service By 3 Months

By; R A P H A E L OKHIRIA, Benin City

The Edo State Governor, Mr. Godwin Obaseki, has approved the extension of the free bus scheme implemented by the state government for three months.

The free transport scheme was introduced on September 11, 2023 for an initial two-month period to cushion the effect of the fuel subsidy removal by the Federal Government on the people of the State.

A statement by the Managing Director of Edo State Transport Authority (ESTA), Mrs. Edugie Agbonlahor, disclosed that over 1.5 million residents have benefitted from the first phase of the scheme which covers all intra and intercity routes operated by the State-owned Edo City Transport Services (ECTS).

She said that the extension is in furtherance of the government's commitment to the welfare of Edo people, noting that the free bus scheme will now run till February 2024.

According to Mrs. Agbonlahor, "In a continued effort to cushion the impact of the federal government's fuel subsidy removal on the people of Edo State, His Excellency, the Edo State Governor, Mr. Godwin Obaseki, has graciously approved the extension of the free bus service by three months. "With the extension, the free transport scheme will

now end in February 2024, ensuring sustained support for the Edo residents amid the economic realities occasioned by the fuel subsidy removal."

The ESTA Managing Director, further stated that: "The State Government is pleased with the success and positive feedback garnered during the two-month initial period for the scheme which 1,536,904 residents benefitted from, including 33,480 commuters from the intercity routed and 1,503,424 from the intra-city routes."

She noted that the extension will benefit persons embarking on travels to their home town during the Yuletide season, adding that the gesture is intended to ease the pressure from transportation costs for residents in the State.

She added: "The extended three-month period will further ease the mobility concerns of Edo State residents and enhance their overall welfare, in line with the government's commitment to the welfare and well-being of the people."

"The Edo State Government encourages residents to take advantage of this continued transportation palliative even as we explore all necessary measures to ease the economic burdens imposed by the fuel subsidy removal policy of the Federal Government."



Gov Obaseki

## Kwara Gov Mourns Death Of Spiritual Leader Of C&S Movt Adefila

By BILIQIS ONAOLAPO OLAJUMOKE, Ilorin

Kwara State Governor, AbdulRahman AbdulRazaq has commiserated with the Cherubim and Seraphim Movement worldwide over the death of their General Overseer and spiritual leader, Baba Aladura, Dr. Samuel Adefila Abidoeye.

On behalf of the people and government of Kwara State, the Governor sends his heartfelt

condolences to the immediate family of the spiritual leader, the people of Omu Aran, and the C & S Movement family worldwide on the sad event.

The governor said the late Baba Aladura made tremendous impact as a religious leader with tentacles across the world and significant contributions to the wellbeing of his people.

He prayed God to grant comfort to everyone who mourns the late spiritual leader.



Late Baba Aladura

## Gov Makinde Has Ended Era Of Arrears Of Promotion, Stagnation In Oyo State - Head of Service

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The Oyo State Head of Service, Mrs Olunmi Oni has hinted that the present administration in the state would end mythical era's of stagnation in career progressions and arrears of promotion.

Mrs Oni dropped this hint in Ibadan during a one day Sensitization Programme organized on Conduct of Year 2022 Promotion Exercise for Schedule Officers in all Ministries, Departments and Agencies, organized by the State Civil Service Commission at Simon Adebode Staff Development Center, Secretariat.

She stressed that Governor Seyi Makinde has always displayed his unrelenting affection, support to Civil and Public Servants, since the inception of his administration by clearing inherited arrears of promotion from 2017 to 2019 and the 2020 and 2021 promotions which had since been concluded.

Reiterating that with the approval of the 2022 promotion exercise, workers in the state, would no longer have courses to wait endlessly but henceforth, it would be as at when due, Mrs Oni tasked the Schedule Officers across the MDA's to understand the significance of an error free implementation process, whether minor, major, overtly or covertly as this, according to her, can have far-reaching effects on the affected workers.

"It is imperative for you to approach this exercise with utmost care, precision and adherence to the established guidelines in the personnel estimates, extant Public Service Rules and relevant Circulars", she said.

Executive Chairman, Oyo state Civil Service Commission, Alhaji Aderibigbe Abiodun, commended Governor Makinde saying "Compassionate God sent man" for always putting

smiles on the faces of every personnel, especially, by graciously giving approval for the conduct of the 2021 and 2022 promotions in quick succession, despite dwindling economic resources available to the State.

Alhaji Aderibigbe recalled that Gov Makinde had earlier issued letters of promotion for 2017-2020, including the 2019-2020 concessionary promotion for Officers who could not be promoted before, and due to inadequate vacancies declared by the various Ministries, Departments and Agencies.

He stressed that the Civil Service Commission, with the approval of the Executive Governor recently released letters of conversion to about Seven Hundred Civil/Public workers to strengthen their career progressions, adding that the Commission looked forward to having an error free promotion reports

from Ministries, Departments and Agencies.

Warning Schedule Officers against delay in making available adequate vacancy provisions for eligible officers in the book of Estimates to the Commission, he tasked workers in the state to vehemently support the present administration as "to whom much is given, much is expected"

The Permanent Secretary of the Commission, Mrs Fausat Ayobami Oluokun, described the exercise as timely, and a proactive measure to forestall occurrence of errors in the implementation of the 2022 promotion, to ensure timely release of letters to eligible workers in the state.

Mrs Oluokun affirmed that since promotion played a significant role in work satisfaction, as it is connected to career growth, new title, changes in job responsibilities, leadership roles and pay increase.

# Engr Hassan Mohammed's Humanitarian Efforts Recognized By Our Nigeria News Magazine

## \*Dedicates Award to Amb TY Buratai

By ; I BRAHIM DAHIRU DANFILANI, Kaduna

Engr Hassan Mohammed Yusufari, President of the TY Buratai Football Academy, has been honored with the prestigious General Excellence Award in Youth Development by Our Nigeria News Magazine, which dedicated to His Excellency, Ambassador Lt. Gen Tukur Yusufu Buratai (rtd) CFR.

Engr Hassan acknowledged that without the support and guidance of Ambassador Buratai, he would not have had the platform to receive such recognition.

Engr Hassan attributed his success and the recognition he has received to the platform and opportunities provided by Ambassador Buratai.

The award ceremony, held at the Africa Hall International Conference Center Abuja, was attended by distinguished guests, including His Excellency, Amb Tukur Yusufu Buratai CFR, who served as the Chairman of the occasion, traditional rulers from various parts of the country, and numerous other notable personalities. The recognition bestowed upon Engr Hassan Mohammed is a testament to his unwavering commitment to improving the lives of young people through various humanitarian projects.

His passion for uplifting communities and

empowering the youth has been evident since his early years, and he has consistently strived to make a positive impact.

Engr Hassan's journey began at childhood when he initiated philanthropic endeavours aimed at addressing the needs of vulnerable individuals and communities.

Over time, his efforts grew and culminated in the establishment of the Sarkin Yaki Garkuwa Foundation, which has touched the lives of countless individuals across various communities.

The TY Buratai Football Academy, under the leadership of Engr Hassan Mohammed, has become a beacon of hope for aspiring young footballers.

The academy not only provides a platform for talent development, but also emphasizes the importance of education and character-building.

Through this holistic approach, Engr Hassan has successfully nurtured and guided numerous young athletes, equipping them with the skills and values necessary for success both on and off the field.

The General Excellence Award in Youth Development recognizes Engr Hassan's exceptional dedication to creating opportunities for young people to thrive

and reach their full potential. His visionary leadership and tireless efforts have undoubtedly contributed to the positive transformation of countless lives.

Engr Hassan Mohammed's recognition by Our Nigeria News Magazine serves as an inspiration to others, encouraging them to actively engage in initiatives that uplift and empower the youth. His exemplary work showcases the immense impact that can be achieved through genuine compassion and a steadfast commitment to making a difference.

As a nation, we must celebrate and support individuals like Engr Hassan Mohammed, who selflessly dedicate their time, resources, and expertise to shaping a brighter future for our youth. Their contributions are invaluable, and their efforts deserve widespread recognition and appreciation.





# Police Arrests Armed Robbery Suspect, Rescues Kidnapped Victim, Recover Guns In Delta

By: UTEBOR PETER, Asaba

The Police in Delta State has confirmed the arrest of an armed robbery suspect, also rescued a kidnapped victim and recovered guns at Ugolo Community in Okpe Local Government Area of the state.

This was confirmed in a statement made available to New Nigerian Newspapers Correspondent in Asaba, the Delta State capital by the State Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Bright Edefe, who stated that, following a distress call informing of the kidnap of one man (name withheld) from Ugolo community in Okpe LGA.

"The Commissioner of Police, CP Wale Abass immediately gave a marching order to the DPO Orerokpe, CSP Paul Oboware to activate all mechanism and ensure that the rescue of the kidnapped victim unhurt.

"According to the CP's directive, on Thursday, November 10, 2023 at about 1900 hours, the DPO embarked on a technically intelligence-led investigation, mobilized men, and stormed their hideout at Ugolo Community.

"The kidnapers on noticing that the police were closing in on them, relocated the victim to Erueni Community while negotiating for ransom.

"The police team relentlessly trailed the kidnapers to their new hideout, where they were eventually forced to abandon

the kidnapped victim in an uncompleted building and escaped.

"The victim was rescued unhurt and has since been reunited with his family while efforts to arrest the fleeing suspects is ongoing.

"In a similar development, on November 8, at about 1645hrs, operatives of the Eagle-Net Special Squad acting on credible information also stormed Ugolo Community in Okpe LGA where one Israel Akitia 'm' (34) was arrested during a search of his residence and one locally fabricated cut-to-size gun with three (03) live cartridges were recovered.

"Meanwhile, on 09/11/2023 at about 1405hrs, while the Police visibility patrol team from Agbarho Division were on stop and search duty alongside local vigilantes along the Five Junction axis in Agbarho, sighted two (02) adult male suspects who on sighting the patrol team, threw their bags away, and took to their heels into a nearby bush.

"Suspecting their intents, a search was done on the bag, and one {01} locally fabricated pistol was recovered.

"The Exhibit is now in custody, and effort is on to arrest the fleeing suspects.

"The Commissioner of Police CP. Wale Abass has congratulated Deltans for the relatively peaceful ember months so far.

"This is not only due to the resolute of the command, but also due to the cooperation the command is



Commissioner of Police, CP Wale Abass



# New NIGERIAN

"The Greatest Weapon is Truth"

Published since January 1, 1966

**CORPORATE OFFICE:**  
AHMADU BELLO WAY  
KADUNA

Advert e-mail: joenibro@gmail.com || joe\_ibro@yahoo.com  
FOR ADVERT BOOKING AND PLACEMENT:  
Contact: 08033257282, 08117876009

## ADVERT RATE

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 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 three working days for the North and four 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 25% surcharge.
- Advertisers/Agencies are to provide their Camera ready artwork in electronic copies, in 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

<b>6 COLUMNS</b>			
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)	50,000.00	3,750.00	53,750.00
4	Per 1000 Copies (Magazine)	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 W RAPA ROUND	6,750,000.00	506,250.00	7,256,250.00
HALF W RAPA ROUND	4,500,000.00	337,500.00	4,837,500.00
PA GE 2 O R 3	400,000.00	30,000.00	430,000.00
PA GE 4 O R 5	375,000.00	28,125.00	403,125.00
PA GE 6 O R 7	325,000.00	24,375.00	349,375.00
FR ONT PA GE M A S T H E A D E A R P I E C E	215,000.00	16,875.00	231,875.00
FR ONT PA GE S O L U S	312,500.00	23,437.50	335,937.50
FR ONT PA GE S T R I P	375,000.00	28,125.00	403,125.00
B A C K PA GE E A R P I E C E	200,000.00	15,000.00	215,000.00
B A C K PA GE S T R I P	250,000.00	18,750.00	268,750.00
C E N T R E S P R E A D (C O L O U R )	837,500.00	62,812.50	900,312.50
D O U B L E S P R E A D (C O L O U R )	700,000.00	52,500.00	752,500.00
C E N T R E S P R E A D (B L A C K & W H I T E)	575,000.00	43,125.00	618,125.00
D O U B L E S P R E A D (B L A C K & W H I T E)	590,000.00	44,250.00	634,250.00
FR ONT PA GE (10" X 6)	3,250,000.00	243,750.00	3,493,750.00
R O P S T R I P (C O L O U R )	125,000.00	9,375.00	134,375.00
R O P S T R I P (B L A C K & W H I T E)	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

## Boundary Dispute: Delta Govt To Stop Ondo's Plans To Cede Part Of Community Land

By; UTEBOR PETER, Asaba

The Government of Delta State has waded into the planned move by its Ondo counterpart to cede some Ijaw communities located in Egbema, Warri North Local Government Area of Delta State.

This was revealed at a fact-finding meeting, held at the Government House in Asaba, between leaders of Opuama, Tsekelewu and Okirigbo communities and the Delta State Boundary Committee presided over by the Deputy Governor of Delta State, Sir Monday Onyeme on Thursday.

The people of Opuama, Tsekelewu and Okirigbo communities told the Boundary Committee that they were at the verge of defending themselves, following efforts by the Ondo State Government to illegally annex their communities into Ilaje East Local Development Area, LDA.

Onyeme while assuring the communities and other communities in the state that are experiencing similar issues, of the state government's



Delta Governor

commitment to protecting them.

"You have made your case very loud and clear about where you belong because you have been able to trace your history from the defunct Western region.

"Your facts are enough to convince anybody that you belong to Delta State; Delta State has never dreamt of ceding any part or any community to other states, so, do not be afraid as government will do everything within its

powers to ensure that the matter is resolved.

"It is good to know that the Chairman of Warri North is from your community and four councillors who are representing your communities are also domiciled in Warri North and your votes are counted in Delta State, so, it is wrong for any other state to want to annex those communities".

Chief David Ugedi who spoke on behalf of the

affected communities, gave historical perspective of their roots in Delta State, disclosing that the interest of the government of Ondo State was mainly about oil resources in their communities.

He stated that they are ready to defend themselves, if such is required and asked Delta and the Federal Government to as a matter of urgency, intervene.

## Yoruba Youth Pass Vote Of Confidence On Minister Of State For Defence, Matawalle

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The Yoruba Youth Council has passed a vote of confidence on the Minister of State for Defence, Alhaji Bello Mohammed Matawalle.

In a statement on Saturday by its National President, Comrade Eric Oluwole, the council, which is an umbrella body of the Yoruba youth, described the minister as an invaluable asset in the Bola Ahmed Tinubu administration in view of his commendable antecedents in public service.

Oluwole recalled the commendable role played by Matawalle as the immediate past governor of Zamfara State, in unison with other notable former Northern governors, in ensuring

that Asiwaju Tinubu emerged as the flagbearer of his party, the All Progressives Congress (APC) and eventually won the February 25 Presidential Election.

Besides, he recalled that Matawalle was among the former governors who sued the FG over its Naira redesign and cashless policy, and had forced it to cancel a policy that imposed an untold hardship on Nigerians close to the presidential election, which Tinubu eventually won.

His words: "We see former Governor Bello Matawalle as a good person in the cabinet of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu and we want the President to always work with him.

"We recall vividly how Matawalle stood firmly with Asiwaju and fought

gallantly to ensure that he was nominated as the Presidential Candidate of his party, the APC, and he eventually won the Presidential Election.

"We also recall that this former governor was in the forefront of other governors who fought against the Naira redesign and cashless policy that caused so much hardship for Nigerians in an election year."

Oluwole advised Zamfara State Governor Dauda Lawal to work with his predecessor who, with what he described as his giant achievements, had laid the foundation for him to build on in the state.

"The governor should know that we're fully aware that he has been sponsoring some PDP by sharing them money to blackmail the former Governor Alhaji Bello

Metawalle and also working to undermine the administration of Mr President Bola Tinubu. Yoruba youths Caution him to desist from this move or face the other side of the youths," the group said.

He said, "Rather than engage in meaningless wranglings, rather than try to undermine the achievements of his predecessor and wage fruitless, bitter smear campaigns against a man who recorded tremendous achievements in office as Governor, we advise Governor Lawal to join hands with his predecessor and Minister of State for Defence, Alhaji Bello Matawalle and work together with him for the development of Zamfara State and our dear Country Nigeria."

## Oyo Police Arrests 45-yr Old Self Confessed Ritualist With Fresh Human Head, Hands

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

A 45-year old man, identified as Hassan Kolawole was on Friday, paraded with a fresh human head in Ibadan by the Oyo State Police Command in Ibadan.

The man was paraded at the Oyo State Police Command headquarters in Eleyele area of Ibadan, alongside nine other suspects arrested for various crimes at different locations in the Ibadan North West Local Government Area.

Briefing journalists on behalf of the Oyo State Commissioner of Police, CP Adebola Hamzat, the state Police Public Relations Officer, I (PPRO), SP Adewale Osifeso said the 45 year old suspect was arrested on Monday, November 6, 2023.

SP Osifeso said the suspect was arrested at Ogbere-tio-ya in the Ona Ara Local Government Area with items found in his possession including fresh human hands and one HP laptop.

The suspect, Hassan Kolawole while answering questions from journalists, said the fresh human head and two hands found in his possession were for ritual purposes as a result of the financial difficulty he was going through.

"I have one wife and two children, and it is very hard

for me to take good care of them. I met one Waheed, who is also an Islamic cleric, at a Maolud. We discussed it, and he told me that he knew how to do money rituals that would require the use of human parts", he said

Kolawole added, "I told him that I didn't know how to get the human parts, and he promised to get them for me. He later brought the human parts to me at Amuloko, where we met early in the morning, and I kept them in my office, where I used to attend to people who needed spiritual assistance"

"The police came to search my office on the day Waheed gave me the fresh head and two hands".

According to the suspect said that the person who gave him the human parts is now at large.

Nine other suspects were paraded for various crimes ranging from murder to kidnapping, cultism, and theft with the suspects arrested at different locations across the states. Items recovered from the arrested suspects as exhibits, according to the police reports, include one Boxer Bajaj motorcycle with Reg Number NRK 754 QW, an improvised gun, a dual-faced axe, one HP laptop, one human head, two human hands, seventeen wraps of weed, and fifty-three wraps of Colorado.



The suspect nabbed with human head.

# Operation Safe Haven Arrests Notorious Arms Dealers/gunrunners, Suspected Kidnappers

## \*Rescue kidnapped victims, recover arms/ammunition

By: **BUHARI B. BELLO, Jos**

Troops of Operation SAFE HAVEN (OPSH) on Operation HAKORIN DAMIS IV from 6 to 13 November 2023, arrested 15 suspects in connection with kidnapping, murder, arms dealing, criminal attacks, cattle rustling, drug peddling, farm destruction, as well as recovered arms/ammunitions and illicit drugs.

On November 6, 2023, troops arrested Jerome Bulus Alamba and Denis Yohanna at Fang village in Riyom LGA of Plateau, in connection with the murder of one Abdulkarim Saidu on October 24, 2023.

In a similar incident, on November 7, 2023, troops of Sector 5 OPSH arrested one Alhaji Yakubu Shanono in Bokkos community, Bokkos LGA of Plateau State in connection with the killing of a Mobile Police personnel attached to OPSH.

On the same day, troops apprehended 75 cattle over farm destruction at Kassa village in Barkin Ladi LGA of Plateau State.

On November 8, 2023, troops in conjunction with NDLEA Pankshin Command, conducted raid operations to the hideout of illicit drug peddlers at Bargar village in Kanam LGA of Plateau State.

The troops arrested four suspects and handed them over to NDLEA for further action. Additionally, on November 9, 2023, troops of Operation HAKORIN DAMISA IV arrested two criminals, Haruna

Yusuf and Zubairu Jibril while trying to bypass checkpoint at Chanso village in Mangu LGA of Plateau State. The criminals were arrested in possession of one rifle.

On November 10, 2023, troops acting on credible information arrested a suspected kidnapper, Mr Sani Suleiman at Mista Ali village in Jos North LGA.

On the same day, troops deployed at Zangon Kataf arrested a suspected kidnapper, Mr Anu Usman at Kamaru village in Zangon Kataf LGA of Kaduna State.

Similarly, troops recovered 144 cattle rustled by unidentified gunmen during a gun duel with the miscreants at Sat village in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

On November 11, 2023, troops of Sector 6 OPSH rescued two kidnapped victims, Micheal James and John D at Angwan Buka village in Riyom LGA of Plateau State

The rescued victims were kidnapped while on transit along Hawan Kibo road in Riyom LGA, and have since been reunited with their families.

On November 12, 2023, combined troops of OPSH and Department of State Services (DSS) arrested a notorious arms dealer, Bala Inusa also known as Maigero in Barkin Ladi LGA of Plateau State.

The suspect who has been on the wanted list of security agencies was arrested with one AK-47 rifle, one Ak-47 magazine, one pistol, 417 rounds of 7.62mm special ammunition, one Toyota Starlet vehicle with plate number Adamawa – MUB – 779JB, and

one Dual SIM Tecno phone.

Furthermore, another gunrunner was arrested during a sting operations on November 12, 2023 at Danmakasuwa Mariri axis of Southern Kaduna with one AK-47 rifle.

Similarly, on November 12, 2023 troops of OPSH Special Force while responding to a distress call at Dakanung village in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State arrested one miscreant Bala Yerima and items recovered includes: one AK-47 rifle, one AK-47 magazine, 6 rounds of 7.62mm special ammunition and a red coloured Boxer motorcycle.

In a related development, based on intelligence gathering, troops captured one Davou Barry of Gyel District at Kara Market of Bukuru Area of Jos South LGA with 54 rounds of 7.62mm special ammunition one round of 7.62mm NATO ammunition while trying to make an exchange.

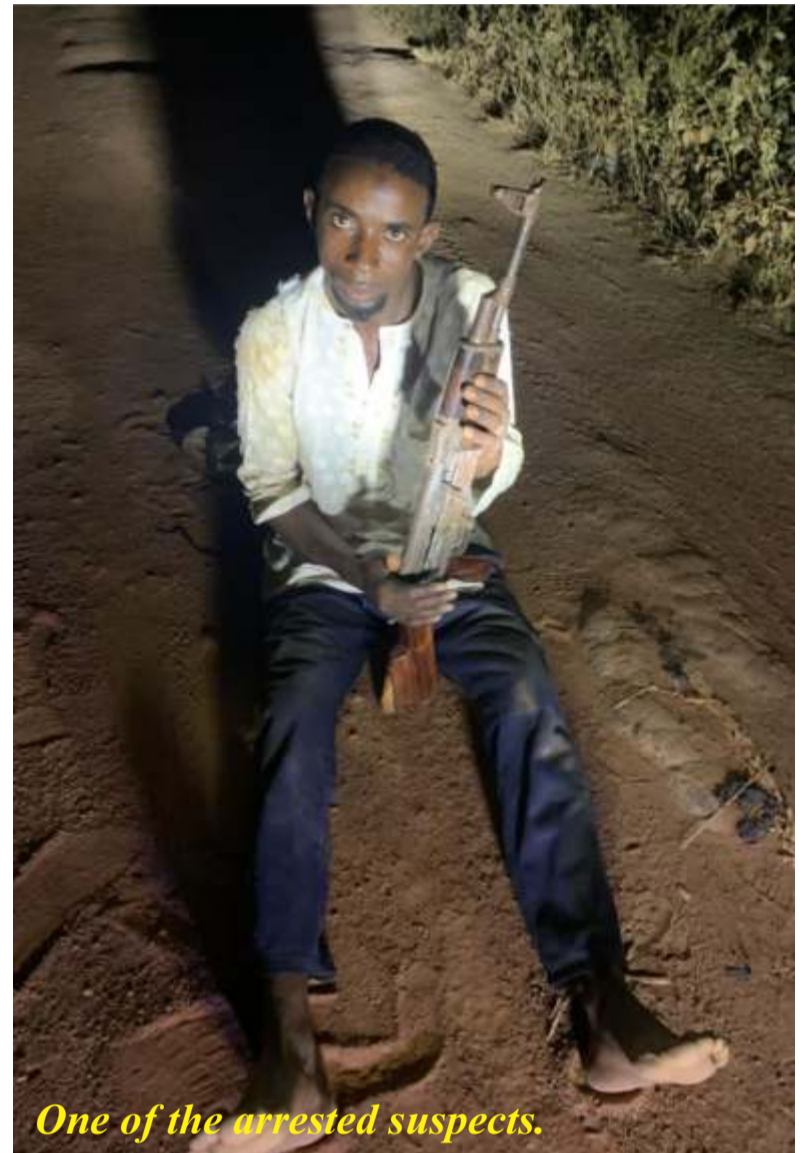
Within the week, Operation SAFE HAVEN secured the conviction of two suspects, Zubairu Usman and Saminu Haruna, who were charged with criminal conspiracy and theft.

The suspects pleaded guilty and were sentenced to two years imprisonment each with an option of fine.

A total of 15 suspects were arrested in connection with various crimes. Two were arrested for kidnapping, one for dealing in arms, 2 for murder, 4 for peddling illicit drugs and 4 for farm destruction.

Two suspects were also convicted for criminal acts.

Additionally, two kidnapped



*One of the arrested suspects.*

victims were rescued, four attacks on vulnerable communities were deterred and seven distress calls were promptly responded to.

The Commander Operation SAFE HAVEN, Major General AE Abubakar reiterates the commitment of OPSH to the protection of law-abiding

citizens in Plateau, Southern Kaduna and Bauchi States by all legitimate means.

He commended the populace for their continued support to troops and assured them that all arrested suspects in custody would be charged to court accordingly once investigations have been duly concluded.

# Makinde To Diri: Your Victory Heart-warming For PDP

By: **BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan**

Governor Seyi Makinde yesterday, described the reelection of the Bayelsa State Governor, Senator Duoye Diri as heart-warming for all members of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

The governor in a message to

Gov Diri to felicitate him on his re-election, said, Gov Diri would be able to consolidate on the good development his administration had put in place in the state since he first assumed office almost four years ago.

In the message by his Chief Press Secretary, Mr. Sulaimon

Olanrewaju, Governor Makinde commended the Bayelsa electorate on their peaceful conduct before, during and after the poll.

“I congratulate my brother and Governor of Bayelsa State, His Excellency, Governor Duoye Diri, on his re-election as governor of the state for

another term of four years”, he said.

Gov Makinde added, “This victory is heart-warming for us in the PDP and it is a testament to the fact that our party remains a credible platform with people-oriented leaders, who always put their people

first.

“I commend the great people of Bayelsa State for retaining Bayelsa in the PDP by re-electing Governor Diri and also for their peaceful conduct before, during and after the poll.”

# Timi Frank To Nigerians: Don't Expect Credible Elections In 2027 Under APC, Tinubu

**\*Says "if we don't stop Tinubu, APC, they will turn Nigeria into a one party state"**

By: **JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON**

Former Deputy National Publicity Secretary of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Comrade Timi Frank yesterday, called on Nigerians not to expect free, fair, transparent and credible elections in 2027 under the administration of President Bola Tinubu and the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC). Frank made the call in his reaction to the just concluded off-cycle governorship elections in three states of Kogi, Imo and Bayelsa.

According to Frank in a statement in Abuja, the level of electoral fraud, manipulation and rigging witnessed in Kogi and Imo states especially, points to the fact that no credible result can come out from future exercises.

"The election has nothing to write home about and to imagine that it was the first set of elections conducted under the watch of President Tinubu. What happened in Imo and Kogi is a clear indication of the kind of elections Nigerians will witness 2027.

"Our electoral system is presently in dire straits under our highly compromised Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) which has now graduated from rigging by manipulating the INEC Result View (IREV) portal and the Bi-Modal Voter Accreditation System (BIVAS) to writing results of polling units before the

people cast their ballot," he said. Frank who is the United Liberating Movement for West Papua (ULMWP) Ambassador to East Africa and Middle East, lamented that when INEC which is now a rigging department under APC has finished manipulating results, the judiciary which is unfortunately now the legal department of the ruling party, will simply legalise what the electoral body has done. Besides, security agencies that were meant to protect voters and arrest riggers also take part in the rigging. The police, and other security agencies are now a security department in the APC. He insisted that the brazen level of rigging in Imo and Kogi was not surprising because Tinubu himself was installed President through rigging and other acts of impunity which the judiciary validated.

Frank said: "It is sad that when our democracy in Nigeria is meant to be progressing, it is rather retrogressing. Nigeria is now the worst country in terms of compromised election results compared to other African countries.

"We don't make improvements, we don't make progress. Things are getting worse. So in 2027, if Nigerians do not take the bull by the horns to fight to restore credibility in our electoral system we'll continue to have elections where the will of the people will not count. This is even so when the APC has appointed 10 of their card carrying members as Resident

Electoral Commissioners of the INEC.

"This anti-democratic and unfortunate development is a clear indication that the conduct of the 2027 elections will be a formality to endorse only APC candidates either as freshers or for second term in their various offices.

"So if Nigerians want change, they should wake up and do the right thing, like other nations have done to defend their democracy."

According to him, now that all the institutions of government that are meant to defend democracy, have practically compromised, "if we are not careful, Nigeria will turn to a one party state."

He added: "It's quite disappointing for a man, who under in the PDP regime was always crying, that the party wanted to turn Nigeria into a one party state, is unfortunately the one that is practically poised to officially turn Nigeria into a one party state like Uganda, Zimbabwe and Cameroon that have been under one party rule for decades."

He lamented that opposition governors have compromised their parties and have failed to perform their role as opposition because of harassment and blackmail.

He added: "So the opposition governors, especially the PDP governors, have turned themselves into praise singers because they have been blackmailed them to jettison



*Timi Frank*

their role as leaders of opposition in the country.

"That's why some of us have decided to bear the pains by doing everything in our power to legally defend our democracy and our country from turning into a one party state.

"We have commenced

mobilising Nigerians especially in diaspora to save the country from the hands of election riggers and make sure our democracy stands.

"If we don't stop Tinubu and APC, they will turn Nigeria into a one party state like Cameroon, Zimbabwe and Uganda."

## Attention To TVET, Matter Of Emergency - Reps

By: **ISAAC ODEH, Kaduna**

The Vice Chairman, House of Representatives Committee on Federal Polytechnics and Higher Technical Education Institutions, Hon. Danladi Suleiman Aguye has described the immediate attention needed in the country's Technical and Vocational Education (TVET) as an emergency.

Hon. Aguye raised the concern as part of his remarks at the public unveiling of the Committee at the Shehu Yar'adua Center, in Abuja on Monday.

The lawmaker noted that, the shift in global attention to skills acquisition is a wake up call for Nigeria to harness the potentials of technical education by creating the enablers towards activating local production, promoting enterprise and

creating wealth and employment opportunities.

He commended the leadership of the House for taking the innovation and vision in forming the Committee,

following the review of numbers of Standing Committees from 109 to 134, adding that, the responsibility before the committee is a challenging one.

"We have observed the steady decline in

the Polytechnic and Higher Technical Education sector over the years, even before this Committee was formed. Issues ranging from poor funding, dichotomy and other discriminatory

policies have prevented the growth of the sector and its contribution to meaningful national development. Nigerians are therefore relying on us to restore dignity and improved service delivery for the sector and its respective stakeholders, especially our children", Hon. Aguye stressed.

The Vice Chairman, who represents Lokoja-Kogi/KKF Constituency, challenged all stakeholders to evolve the political will, dedication and commitment to pursue the urgent rescue that Nigeria's Federal Polytechnics and Institutions of Higher Technical Education desire and deserve.



# SWAN Suspends Rivers Chapter Election

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The Sports Writers Association of Nigeria (SWAN) has announced indefinite suspension of a proposed election by its Rivers State Chapter.

A statement from the Association's National Secretariat, signed by its Secretary General, Ikenna Okonkwo, revealed that the decision which has already been communicated to the State SWAN Electoral Committee (SWANECO) through an official letter, was reached after petitions by members of the Chapter on certain aspects of the planned election.

The letter reads, "We write to inform you that the proposed election of would-be leaders expected to occupy

various positions in the State Executive Committee of SWAN Rivers State Chapter on Tuesday November 14, 2023 has been put on hold.

"This followed petitions by some SWAN members in the Chapter regarding certain aspects on the conduct of the election.

"Also, the Electoral Committee has since inception failed to communicate their activities including transmitting the proposed names of those to vote and be voted for.

"In a bid to ensure strict compliance to the stipulations of SWAN statute as amended especially but not limited to the conduct of elections and to ensure fairness in the required processes, our President,

\*Mr. Isaiah Benjamin\*, acting in line with \*Article 15 (a)\* has firmly directed that the SWANECO as presently constituted should stay action pending determination of all issues raised in the petitions as well as further necessary action.

"However, all concerned are enjoined not to engage in any action that will undermine the leadership, procedural operations or the Statute of the Association through your utterances or behavioural approach, as the National Secretariat pass more information on the next line of action as regards SWAN Rivers State Chapter.

"Please, always be assured of the President's highest regards."



## Nigeria, Lesotho Clash In Uyo: Omeruo, Umar, Collins Hit Super Eagles Camp

By; PATRICK TITUS, Uyo

On Monday November 13, 2023, three players arrived the Super Eagles camp in Uyo ahead of their 2026 World Cup qualifier against Lesotho.

Defenders Kenneth Omeruo from Kasimpasa in Turkey, Jamilu Collins of Cardiff FC in Wales and striker Sadiq Umar from Real Sociedad of Spain arrived the Victor Attah International Airport, Uyo by 11am.

The Secretary of the Akwa Ibom State Football Normalization Committee, Sir John Etim received the players on behalf of the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF).

More players are expected to hit camp today and tomorrow as preparation for the clash on Thursday gets underway.

Recall Coach Jose Peseiro invited 23 players for this month's World Cup qualifying fixtures against Lesotho and Zimbabwe.



# Nigeria Customs Men's Basketball Team Secures Victory in Prestigious NBBF Premier League

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The Nigeria Customs Service Men's Basketball Team clinched the championship title at the recently concluded Nigerian Basketball Federation (NBBF) Premier Basketball Men's Final Eight Championships, Savannah Conference, held in Abuja. The NCS team faced a formidable opponent, Gboko City Chiefs, in a tightly contested match on Saturday November 11, 2023, emerging victorious with a final

score of 83-78.

This win secures their qualification for the Final Eight Playoffs scheduled to take place in Lagos.

In a statement signed by Superintendent of Customs Akinwale Fatoki, the Public Relations Officer of the Training Doctrine Command, Gwagwalada, the NCS team displayed dominance by winning all 13 matches during the campaign, playing against competitive teams such as Nile University, Kano Pillars, Bauchi Nets,

Plateau Peaks, Gboko City Chiefs, Gombe Bulls, and Correctional Services.

Topping the league table, they secured a place in the Final Eight Playoffs, with Gboko City Chiefs securing the second spot.

The head coach of the Nigeria Customs Service Team, Coach Muhammed Abba, expressed his satisfaction with the team's outstanding performance.

He commended the players for their tenacity, strength, and professional shooting abilities.

Coach Abba stated that "the team's ultimate goal is to secure tickets to the prestigious Basketball Africa League (BAL)."

The Final Eight Playoffs will feature four teams selected from the top two of both the Savannah Conference and Atlantic Conference Leagues. The ultimate winner of the 2023 NBBF Premier Basketball League will proudly represent Nigeria at this year's BAL, scheduled to be held at the BK Arena in Kigali, Rwanda.



# New NIGERIAN

"The Greatest Weapon is Truth"

Published since January 1, 1966

Vol. 6 No. 224

Wednesday 15th November, 2023 | Jumada Awwal 1, 1445 AH

## Nigeria Will Still Be Great - Gov Zulum

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

Borno State Governor, Prof Babangana Umar Zulum on Monday in Ibadan, declared that Nigeria will still be great.

Prof Zulum said this while delivering a lecture titled, "LEADERSHIP, CITIZENSHIP AND MEETING CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL CHALLENGES IN NIGERIA" as part of activities marking the 70th anniversary of University of Ibadan.

The governor maintained that there is the need for reflection on leadership and citizenship, adding, "We are interested in the dimension of leadership that delivers results that matter to the general public."

Prof Zulum pointed out that citizenship devoid of responsibility produces leadership without accountability and an endemic system of strategic failure that becomes the albatross of the leader and the led.

"There are glimmers of hope that Nigeria can be great and Nigeria will be great. You see that in the number of great things that Nigerians are doing on the world stage in the sciences, arts, music, literature, health and so

on," he said.

Gov Zulum added, "Nigeria has come to a point where it is imperative to graduate from the perpetual position of POTENTIAL to actual greatness. Everyone has been talking about the potentials of Nigeria for years. It is time for us in this generation to translate potential to actualisation of greatness in education, infrastructure, basic services, security and an environment of peace that promote creativity."

"But then we still have problems in our own backyard. The fact remains that a key part of our problem could be traced to our collective inability to accept that the solution that worked in 1960 when Nigeria had a population of 45.1 million would be inadequate to address the same problem for a population of 224 million that we are today." He stressed further, "As we mark this important occasion today, I would like to invite us to a new dimension of reflection on leadership and citizenship. We are interested in the dimension of leadership that delivers results that matter to the general public".

'One thing I love about



Gov Zulum receiving his award

this country, of course, is that we all know the problems. We all have a million and one solutions to solve our problems. As a matter of fact, the commonest solution is not to look within ourselves as citizens but to raise our heads up and point at the 'leadership'

"Nigeria has come to a point where it is imperative to graduate from the perpetual position of POTENTIAL to actual greatness. Everyone has been talking about the potentials of Nigeria for years. It is time for us in this generation to translate potential to actualisation of greatness in education, infrastructure, basic services, security and an environment of peace that promote creativity."

The governor stressed, "But then we still have

problems in our own backyard. The fact remains that a key part of our problem could be traced to our collective inability to accept that the solution that worked in 1960 when Nigeria had a population of 45.1 million would be inadequate to address the same problem for a population of 224 million that we are today'. He maintained further, "But then we still have problems in our own backyard. The fact remains that a key part of our problem could be traced to our collective inability to accept that the solution that worked in 1960 when Nigeria had a population of 45.1 million would be inadequate to address the same problem for a population of 224 million that we are today".

## Nigeria Customs Men's Basketball Team Secures Victory in Prestigious NBBF Premier League

Story on Page 23

## Ohanaeze Hails INEC, Security Agencies Over Conduct Of Bayelsa, Imo, Kogi Polls

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Apex Igbo socio-cultural organization, Ohanaeze Ndigbo Youth Council Worldwide has lauded the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), and the security agencies over the successful conduct of the off-season elections in Bayelsa, Imo and Kogi states.

The group who made the commendation in a statement by its National President, Mazi Okwu Nnabuike shortly after the conclusion and declaration of winners of the election said, contrary to predictions by bookmakers, security agencies were able to provide adequate security before and during the elections.

According to him, "the feeling all over the country was that it was going to be a theatre of blood in the three states. Many people believed that blood would flow freely during the elections."

"However, security agencies were up to their responsibilities, such that no life was lost but for the unfortunate incident during the collation of results in Brass, Bayelsa State. We sympathize with the family of the deceased and urge security agencies to fish out

his killers.

"Having said this, we earnestly laud the various security operatives deployed during these elections; though a few of them compromised, a greater percentage of them demonstrated a high sense of neutrality and dedication to duty."

"We also congratulate Governor Hope Uzodinma of Imo State and Usman Ododo, the governor-elect of Kogi State.

"We, however, urge them to be magnanimous in victory, just as those who lost in the election should accept the hand of fellowship."

The Ohanaeze youth president also hailed voters in Kogi State for conducting themselves properly contrary to the thinking that there would be bloodbath.

He said now that a winner had emerged, "we urge the political actors in Kogi State to respect the will of the masses and join hands with the governor-elect to move the state forward."

"We call on INEC to ignore the call by few persons to cancel the result of the already announced. Those aggrieved with the outcome should seek redress in court."

Okwu equally hailed the INEC for delivering what he called "a credible election in the two states.

## IGP Egbetokun Lauds Police, Others For Smooth Elections In Bayelsa, Imo, Kogi

By; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

Officers and men of the Nigeria Police, including other security agencies have been commended by the Inspector General of Police, IGP Kayode Adeolu Egbetokun, NPM, for ensuring adequate security for the conduct of elections in Bayelsa, Imo, and Kogi States.

Egbetokun noted that the commitment and due diligence displayed by the security operatives in policing the electoral process is highly productive and commendable.

In a statement by the Force Public Relations Officer ACP Olumuyiwa Adejobi, the IGP emphasized that the

electoral process in the three states transpired seamlessly, defying earlier threat assessment and projected challenges from various quarters.

He acknowledged the exceptional efforts of the security personnel in maintaining law and order, safeguarding the electoral process, and ensuring the safety of citizens.

In another development, however, the IGP noted the pockets of incidents that were recorded during the elections and charged the Electoral Offences Desk Officers, under the supervision of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police in charge of the Force Criminal Investigation

Department, to commence immediate investigations into these incidences.

The IGP expressed gratitude to all security agencies involved in the election security management for lending their support to the Police for securing the electoral process.

He however, called on the officers to remain committed to upholding the highest standards of professionalism and integrity in the discharge of their duties, while emphasizing the importance of adherence to guidelines, rule of law and standard operating procedures of their respective agencies for a more secure democratic institution in Nigeria.



IGP Egbetokun