

# New NIGERIAN

"The Greatest Weapon is Truth"

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## APC Using Trial, Error Approach In Governance Of Nigeria - PDP

■ Insists party still alive in SW states

■ Says Ondo will fall under PDP umbrella

By: **BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan**

The National Vice Chairman South West of the Peoples Democratic Party, (PDP), Barrister Kamarudeen Ajisafe yesterday, berated the All Progressives Congress (APC) for its style of governance in the country. Speaking during a media chat held at the PDP South West Party Secretariat at Bodija area of Ibadan, the PDP National Vice Chairman accused the ruling APC at the Federal level of using a trial and error approach in the governance of Nigeria. According to the PDP

National Vice Chairman, it is now glaring that APC as a political party, is not prepared for governance in the country going by the present situation in the country.

He emphasized that with the hardship in the country, Nigerians are not happy with the present situation in the country and that the party should not make Nigerians to lose interest in the nation's democracy.

Barrister Ajisafe stressed that there is the need for the APC led Federal government to arrest the on going high cost of food stuffs among others.

Speaking further, the PDP National Vice Chairman



Fire outbreak burns four buildings at Docemo Street, Idumota in Lagos. Photo: AKINOLA ARIYO

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## UI Appoints Senayon Olaoluwa As Director TETFUND Centre For Diaspora Studies

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

Authorities at the University of Ibadan have appointed Professor Senayon Olaoluwa, the founding head of Diaspora and Transnational Studies at the Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, as the pioneer Director of the TETFund Centre of Excellence for Diaspora Studies.

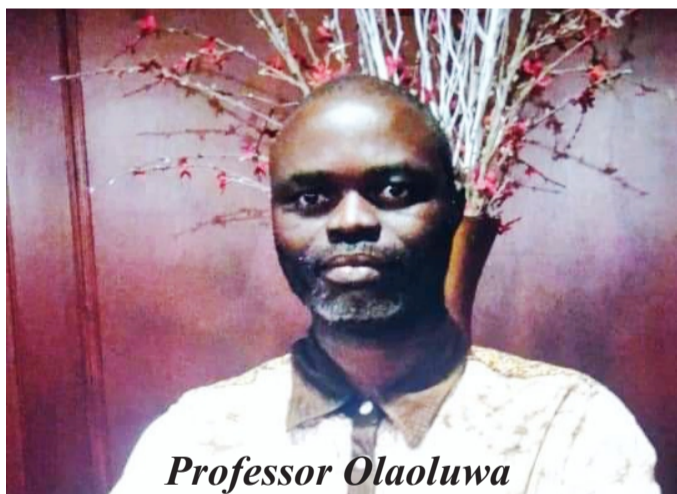
The appointment according to a statement is with effect from the March 1, 2024, in the first instance.

It stressed that the Centre has received a TETFund take-off grant to the tune of N250, 000, 000.00 for research towards establishing a credible database for the Nigerian Diaspora, among others. According to the statement, the award is in recognition of the multi-year partnership between the Diaspora and

Transnational Studies programme and the Nigerians in Diaspora Commission (NIDCOM). The new Centre has also been granted a building infrastructure to the tune of N1, 000, 000, 000.00 by TETFund.

In what appears as some kind of happy coincidence, Prof. Senayon Olaoluwa's Diaspora theory-inspired project won a pilot grant at the College Public Health at the University of Iowa, USA.

Therefore, using the theory, "extalgia" by Prof Olaoluwa, the consortium comprising scholars from College of Public Health, University of Iowa, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan and the Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, will be investigating "Emigration and Mental Health Outcomes among the Left-behind Families in Ibadan,



Professor Olaoluwa

## Fish Out Killers Of Army Personnel In Delta, Prayer Group Urges FG

By; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

Members of a prayer group under the aegis of Prayer & Support 4, the Nigerian Armed Forces and other security agencies, have condemned the gruesome killing and mutilation of the bodies of some officers and men of the Nigerian Army who went for a peace mission at Okuama community in the Bomadi Local Government Area of Delta State.

The convener of the group, Ambassador Mary Abayomi Fatile who condemned the act, called on the Federal Government and all necessary stakeholders to look into the gruesome killing of the military personnel, insisting that the government must fish out the murderers and ensure that they face the wrath of the law.

The group in a statement signed by Amb. Abayomi Fatile, strongly condemned the act, noting that the troops of 181 Amphibious Battalion were on a peace mission to the Okuama community where they were surrounded by some youth and killed.

The group listed those affected to include the Commanding Officer of the 181 Amphibious Battalion Lt Col, two majors, one captain & 12 soldiers.

Ambassador Abayomi Fatile emphasized the universal desire for peace and freedom among nations and their citizens.

She underscored that to achieve peace and tranquility globally, effective leadership is essential, particularly in nations where democracy prevails.

The Convener highlighted a troubling reality in Nigeria, noting that despite over two decades of democratic rule, peace and freedom remain elusive for its citizens. Since the advent of democracy in 1999, the nation has been plagued by ongoing challenges to these fundamental democratic principles.

She lamented that even during periods of military rule, dialogue was often employed to resolve issues, yet now, under democratic governance, members of the military are being brutally murdered in settlements within the country.

"This occurrence, is particularly alarming given that Nigeria is not at war. Adding to the concern is the lack of response from leadership quarters, including the hierarchy of government, security agencies, and legislative executives. Despite the gravity of the situation, no meaningful action or statement has been issued in the four days since the incident," she emphasised. The Convener's question



The murdered Army personnel

regarding the hope for peaceful coexistence among Nigerians is poignant and underscores the deep-seated apprehension resulting from such incidents. If the military, entrusted with maintaining security and stability, is not immune to such violence, it raises significant doubts about the prospects for peace and security for all Nigerians.

The group emphasized the importance of respecting and properly treating the personnel of the armed forces, recognizing them as fathers, uncles, and brothers who protect the nation. They highlighted the need for Nigerians to unite and collaborate as they did during the nation's cup in Cote D'Ivoire to tackle the challenges of insecurity, kidnapping, and other vices.

Ambassador Abayomi Fatile emphasized the significance of offering prayers and love to the

armed forces during this period of insecurity, acknowledging the sacrifices they make by being away from their families for extended periods.

She called upon the federal government, legislators, state governors, and traditional rulers to address the issues at hand and ensure that the perpetrators are appropriately punished to deter others.

Furthermore, Amb. Abayomi Fatile expressed condolences to the families of the deceased personnel and extended prayers for the souls of the fallen soldiers.

She also conveyed sympathies to Chief of Army Staff Lieutenant General Taoreed Lagbaja and Chief of Defense Staff General Christopher Gwabin Musa, while fervently hoping that such tragic events do not reoccur in the future.

## Oppression, Intimidation Reasons 16 Soldiers Were Killed In Delta Community - Video

By; UTEBOR PETER, Asaba

Oppression and intimidation are the reasons behind the killing of 16 soldiers in Okhella South Local Government Area of Delta State. A trending video coming out few days after the 16 soldiers were killed in Okwuma community while on peacekeeping mission over a communal clash or crisis between Okuama community and Okoloba community in Bomadi and Ughelli South local government area both in Delta State, South South Nigeria. A young man suspected to be one of the perpetrators behind the

killing of the 16 soldiers claiming to be a youth of one of the troubled communities, has revealed the reasons the 16 soldiers were killed in Okuama community in Delta State

The young man who failed to mention his name in the video currently trading online, said, two troubled communities Okoloba and Okuama are having land dispute which led to fight (crisis) between both communities.

The young man whose name was not mentioned in the video, said, "this is my last video I will make over the fight between Okuama community and Okoloba community."

He however, blamed the government and leaders for not

calling both communities for settlement peacefully. "Nigeria as a country is not one to die for.



The face behind the video

"The Ijaw people from Okuama community used army to carry three people from Okoloba community and killed them. The three people were all slaughtered.

"The Federal Government gave some people power to do bunkering and after doing the bunkering the army followed and guided them to sell the product. They betrayed their brothers and their own blood."

"The man in charge of the bunkering uses the soldiers to take away three persons from his community. The three persons were killed and slaughtered.

"The 16 soldiers were killed when they came to take away our community leaders and the youth knew that when they take

them (the community leaders) away, they community will be powerless.

"And that was the reason the 16 soldiers were attacked.

"My father was a retired Army Captain who died last year. I have lost six of my people to the fight between Okuama community and Okoloba community.

"The Federal Government can declare me wanted after making this video." He added.

It would be recalled that three persons in connection with the killings of the 16 soldiers have been arrested and taken to the military headquarters Abuja and more efforts are ongoing to capture the perpetrators of this evil act.

## Governor Raises Alarm Over Criminal Activities Of Scrap Dealers In Ebonyi

\*Says Govt will put laws to checkmate Scrap dealers  
\*Insists a lot of economic losses incurred by residents

By; M K P U M A  
ENYINNA, Abakaliki

Ebonyi State Government had vowed to put in place enabling laws to checkmate clandestine activities of scrap dealers in the state.

Governor Nwifuru dropped the hint while swearing in the chairman and members of the Revenue Appeal Commission, in his Office, Ochoudo Centenary City, Abakaliki on Wednesday. The governor while regretting that residents of the state have incurred huge economic losses owing to criminal activities of some of the scrap dealers, maintained that the State can not fold its arms and watch the criminals cash out on the hard earnings of Citizens.

"There is no uncompleted building in this City that they have not stolen the wires, everything, they are now deroofing houses because they are looking for aluminum and they are not even paying taxes."

The governor also cautioned the appointees against indiscriminate taxation of the less privileged persons selling their farm produce in local markets and charged them to go for big time property owners and business moguls.

"I have told the revenue service, I don't want you to go to the village markets and be taxing vegetable sellers, I have said it times without number.

"It is a big challenge to us because it is not showing the electorate that they have a Government.

"I don't see reasons why we should be taxing people who are selling what they got from their farms, leaving those who have benefitted from the government and have investments that ought to be paying revenue to the state." He said.

Governor Nwifuru called on the chairman and members of the Revenue Service and Appeal Commission to go about their duties with human face to improve the internally generated revenue of the state and not step on the toes of the people.

"I don't want shouting, I don't want closing people's shops, you have to look at the people's shops and tax them based on what they have, everything is all about negotiations." He

warned.

The governor also warned people against indiscriminate siting of markets in areas not approved for such activities by government saying such ventures are bound to give way for government development plans.

"There is no city that everywhere can be market, if it is not a plaza or shopping mall, you cannot open shops along the road." He added.

On-behalf of the appointees, the chairman, Chief Augustine Nwankwegu thanked the governor for finding them worthy to serve and assured that they would work hard to improve the revenue status of the state and increase ease of doing business.



## NDE Benue Office Commences Training Of 70 Graduates

By; ARCHIBONG  
ESUENE, Makurdi

The National Directorate of Employment (NDE) in Benue State has commenced the training of 70 young unemployed graduates in establishing their own businesses.

New Nigerian Newspaper correspondent reports that the young participants - male and female were drawn across the 23 local government areas of the state and are expected to undergo the training for a duration of one week.

State Co-ordinator of NDE, Apochi Ubah Mathew, said that the training "Start Your Own Business (SYOB)" is one amongst the numerous scheme of the Directorate under the Small Scale Enterprises (SSE) aimed to fight unemployment bedeviling graduates of tertiary institutions in the country.

Mathew explained that a total of 840 persons were currently undergoing the

SYOB training in 12 states of the federation at 70 per state on how to convert themselves into full fledged potential entrepreneurs and wealth creators.

"The Directorate wish to accord those of you specially selected, the opportunity to undergo this training exercise for a period of one week to acquaint you with modern rudiments of how to write feasibility studies, how to get fund, how to establish, grow and run your businesses successfully," he said.

On her part, the HOD of SSE in Benue, Dr Abeje Mfam, urged the participants to take advantage of the opportunity coming to them on a platter of gold and acquire their dream skills.

Mfam said the trainees would be opened up to the world of exceeding imagination that can launch them into an unending wealth creation.



Governor Nwifuru

## World Water Day: Business School, Int'l Breweries Partner On Sustainable Management Practices

By; MATTHEW  
UKACHUNWA, Lagos

In commemoration of year 2024 World Water Day (WWD), Lagos Business School Sustainability Centre (LBSSC) and International Breweries have partnered to organize a webinar on

sustainable water management practices.

The web forum will take place on Friday March 22.

The theme of this year's World Water Day is, "Water for Peace: The Triple Bottom Line of #Sustainable Water Management in Brewing

Operations."

"Water is the lifeline resource for all life and activities on our planet. In commemoration of the 2024 World Water Day, join International Breweries and Lagos Business School Sustainability Centre at this insights Web-Forum as we delve

into the impact of sustainable water management in brewing operations, exploring how organisations and individuals can responsibly harness water resources to advance positive social, economic and environmental outcomes," LBSSC wrote in a statement

made available on Thursday.

World Water Day webinar aims to spark dialogue, collaboration, and innovation on sustainable water management practices that promote sustainable development, the hosts explained.

# Nigeria Must Stop Judges, Lawyers From Deciding Election Winners - Mutfwang, Falana, Others

By; **BASHIR BELLO DOLLARS, Abuja**

**N**igeria must ensure that true winners of elections emerge before swearing in, Plateau State Governor, Caleb Mutfwang and human rights activist Femi Falana and others have said.

They spoke separately at the Haske Satumari Foundation annual colloquium with the theme, "Electoral And Judicial Reforms: The Imperatives on Nigeria's Democracy, Governance, Leadership and its selection processes," held at the Yar'Adua Centre Abuja on Thursday.

Plateau State Governor Mutfwang who was shocked by various court pronouncements that came up as a result of the 2023 election petitions, said since leadership has become crucial, it will be unfashionable to allow the judges and lawyers to decide the true winner of election.

"Our leadership recruitment is a fraud. Some of us get into positions of leadership simply by the mercy of God. Not because of fat Bank account.

"We must develop rules that are clear and transparent. Our process is far from being

transparent. To strengthen democracy, electoral reform is important.

"Also, comprehensive judicial reforms became expedient because every election circle had its legal regime.

"For the judiciary, there is an urgent need to safeguards its independence and integrity. What we witnessed is partisan interference," Mutfwang said, adding that the judgment that came out as a result of the 2023 elections petitions, even professors of law became confused with the legal jurisprudence.

"Both the lawyers and the judges must up their game. Time has come when lawyers must tell their clients "you have a bad case. Judges and lawyers should not determine who wins the election," Mutfwang added.

He said injustice in the electoral process starts from constituency delineation adding that the country must have a way of resolving it.

Speaking on democracy in Nigeria, Mutfwang said while he doesn't believe in throwing the baby and the bath water, added that military rule will never be inclusive and democratic but a government of few people by

few people.

"We can't afford to return to the dark days of military rule. We didn't have a clean constitution in 1999. Falana is here. That's what the military brought and we must not return to military rule," Mutfwang said.

Legal Luminary, Femi Falana said some lawyers in Nigeria deliberately sabotage the system, insisting that Nigeria must decide not to allow lawyers and judges to decide who is an elected representative.

"Electoral system is good. What we should remove is the intervention of the court.

"Let's make the electoral process transparent, transmit the results from the polling unit to the server and insist on electronic transmission.

"If you must know, judges are not suited to determine who wins election. Because they were not there. The winner should be determined by the electorates and not judges," Falana said, adding that Nigeria has the most election cases in the world.

"Pre-election matters should be decided before the election. All pre-election matters should be concluded before swearing in.

Tinubu was sworn in, he became ECOWAS leader and we were

still determining whether he won the election or not. So, it is a mockery of the system.

"As soon as the election is concluded, all the electoral materials should be made available to the aggrieved party.

The rigmarole that goes on in an election has to stop," Falana said, adding that in appointing INEC chairman and Residents Electoral Commissioners, the position should be advertised.

"The best three names should be sent to the Senate for screening. We must go back to the Uwais panel report. All election petitions should be concluded before swearing in," Falana added.

Speaking, former President Goodluck Jonathan who declared the event open, said Nigeria must move forward through open conversation at the Haske Satumari Foundation Colloquium.

Represented by the Vice President during his tenure, Arch Namadi Sambo, Jonathan said he hopes that the outcome of the colloquium will help in the development of Nigeria.

The Mayor of Entebbe in Uganda, Facrice Rulinda, said Africa must look at things that

can work for its democracy adding that even in the US, not everybody elects their president.

"In Africa, we talk about one man, one vote. Civic education is lacking. The people must know that their vote is their voice, so they should not sell it," Rulinda said, adding that only action will lead to African integration.

The Convener of the colloquium who is also the founder of the Haske Satumari Foundation, Kudla Satumari, said the conversation will help in shaping political discussion in Nigeria as the country prepares to amend the constitution and the electoral act.

"Some of the discussions will be valid in the electoral amendment process. The keynote speakers made valid points. We must ensure that all pre elections causes are settled before the election. We must ensure that all cases are concluded before swearing in.

"Also, we must ensure that the Justice Uwais panel report is implemented. All election cases should be concluded before the swearing in. Judges should not determine the true winner of an election," Kudla added.

## Governor Inuwa Yahaya Appoints Acting Auditor-General for Local Governments

By; **JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON**

**G**ombe State Governor, Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya CON, has approved the appointment of Mohammed Bappayo Abdulmumini as Acting Auditor-General for Local Governments.

The State Head of Civil Service, Alhaji Ahmed Kasimu Abdullah who conveyed the Governor's approval, stated that the development followed the exit of the former occupant of the office, Mr. Mahdi Mele Aliyu since May, 2023. A statement signed by the Director-General (Press Affairs) Government House Gombe, Ismaila Uba Misilli,

made available yesterday, said that the Head of Service, further emphasized that the appointment of the Acting Auditor-General for Local Governments was based on his personal records, loyalty, dedication to duty, and relevant experiences in the public service.

Mohammed Bappayo Abdulmumini who hailed from Kwami local government area, obtained B . S c . B u s i n e s s Administration from the University of Maiduguri.

He started his career in the civil service as an Internal Audit Staff in Gombe local government in 1992 and rose through the ranks to the position of Director, Local

Government in the Ministry for Local Government and Community Development before this new appointment.

He has over 15 years of Public Sector Accounting experience with membership of several professional bodies including the Chartered Accountant of Nigeria (ANAN) and the Financial Reporting Council of Nigeria (FRC)

Governor Inuwa expects the new appointee to leverage his unique qualities and experience to effectively fulfill the responsibilities of his new office.

The appointment is with effect from 20th March, 2024.



# Boko Haram: Zulum Disburses N255m, 5,513 Bags Of 50kg Rice To CJTF, Hunters

By; SADIQ ABUBAKAR, Maiduguri

**B**orno State Governor, Babagana Umara Zulum, has disbursed N255,650,000 cash and 5,513 bags of 50kg rice to members of the Civilian JTF and hunters fighting Boko Haram insurgents alongside the security forces.

Zulum performed the distribution at the Multipurpose Hall of the Government House in Maiduguri, on Wednesday. About 5,523 CJTF and hunters operating within Maiduguri and Jere, comprising those on government payroll and the volunteers received the governor's package.

Each of the 4,513 that receives monthly pay from the government was given

a bag of 50kg rice and N50,000 cash, while 1,000 volunteers each got a bag of 50kg rice and N30,000 cash.

Governor Zulum expressed gratitude to the volunteers for the sacrifices they have been making to ensure that peace is restored to the state.

"I want to appreciate your efforts in complementing the military and other security forces to restore peace in the state. I assure you that your welfare is a top priority for me," Zulum said.

The occasion was witnessed by the Secretary to the State Government, Hon. Bukar Tijjani, the Head of Service, Barrister Mallam Fannami, and the Commissioner for Information and Internal Security, Prof. Usman Tar.



# Borno To Export Sesame, Cassava, Others From 20 Hectares Irrigation Farm - Zulum



By: SADIQ ABUBAKAR, Maiduguri

Governor Babagana Umara Zulum of Borno State has said the state government is working assiduously towards attaining food sufficiency and exportation of cash crops and other farm products such as maize and cassava, among others.

The governor stated this on Wednesday at the Koiri Irrigation Farm, one of the pilot drip irrigation schemes of his administration.

Koiri Scheme, which covers about 20 hectares of land is targeted at producing

364 tonnes of maize and sesame in one crop cycle, while with three cycles per year, the scheme is targeted at cultivating over 1,092 tonnes of maize and other crops annually.

Zulum also noted that his administration will focus on investing in irrigation agriculture to maximise food production in the state.

"Let's carefully put things in order. Borno State will start exporting sesame and other cash crops in the near future.

"We will subsequently change focus and invest our resources in irrigation farming

or, rather, food production. I assure you that we will provide the political will needed to achieve food sufficiency," Zulum said.

The governor however, ordered for the expansion of the scheme to 300 hectares, with 100 hectares to be cultivated in each senatorial zone," saying, "We need to expand our scope. We should identify bigger land; we can expand with another 100 hectares each in Borno Central, South and North.

"My predecessor has procured about

10,000 hectares of drip irrigation kits. After this year's rainy season, we hope the state will be able to cultivate at least 1000 hectares."

The governor was accompanied by the Secretary to the State Government, Hon. Bukar Tijjani, Commissioners for Agriculture and Natural Resources, Bawu Musami, Information and Internal Security, Professor Usman Tar, and members of the agric transformation team, among other government officials.



# APC Using Trial, Error Approach In Governance Of Nigeria - PDP

- Insists party still alive in SW states
- Says Ondo will fall under PDP umbrella

said PDP is still very much alive in the South West states and that the party is presently doing very well in Oyo and Osun states with the governors enjoying massive support of the people of their respective states.

On this year's governorship election in Ondo State, the National Vice Chairman disclosed that PDP is preparing for the election and that the party is determined to win the election. "Our party chances in the coming Ondo state governorship election election is very good. We are in full control of Oyo and Osun states, and we are

leveraging on the achievements of our governors in the two states to storm Ondo State", he said. The PDP National Vice Chairman added, "You people can see what Gov Seyi Makinde is doing here in Oyo State. Gov Ademola Adeleke too is doing wonders in Osun State, so we are using their performances to leverage in the coming Ondo election".

He maintained that PDP is in full control of Oyo and Osun states and that the party will be leveraging on the party's achievements in Oyo and Osun states to storm Ondo state.



PDP National Vice Chairman SW during the media chat.

# ACF Commends President Tinubu Over Opening Of Nigeria-Niger Border

*\*Urges Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger to remain in ECOWAS*

By; ARCHIBONG ESUENE, Makurdi

The Arewa Consultative Forum (ACF), has commended President Bola Ahmed Tinubu over the reopening of the Nigeria-Niger

air and land borders and lifting of economic sanctions, which includes restoration of power supply to Niger Republic.

The apex Northern group which had maintained opposition to the sanctions and the threat of a

Nigeria-led ECOWAS military invasion in the wake of a military coup in Niger, which according to them only served imperialist and neo-colonial interests, against the complex historical socio-cultural, economic and

political ties which predated European colonialism.

According to a statement signed by its National Publicity Secretary, Prof. T. A. Muhammad-Baba, the directive from the president is a welcome development for Nigeria and Niger, whose border communities had groaned under the sanctions with

local economic activities asphyxiated.

The border communities he said, can now look forward to a change in their challenging life conditions consequential to the sanctions. "Critical supplies of food, medicines and electricity will now resume as will air travel operators and passengers see an end to the ordeals while the sanctions lasted".

Part of the statement reads "PBAT deserves accolades for the latest move and acting in Africa's interests, a heroic step forward against neo-colonial manoeuvres. ACF congratulates the President for emerging from the saga as bona fide, listening and responsive leader concerned with the plight of the people of Nigeria, Niger and, ultimately, West Africa."

The ACF also appreciated the intervention by General Dr. Yakubu Gowon (rtd), former Nigerian Head of State and a founding father of ECOWAS, in seeing an end to the imbroglio.

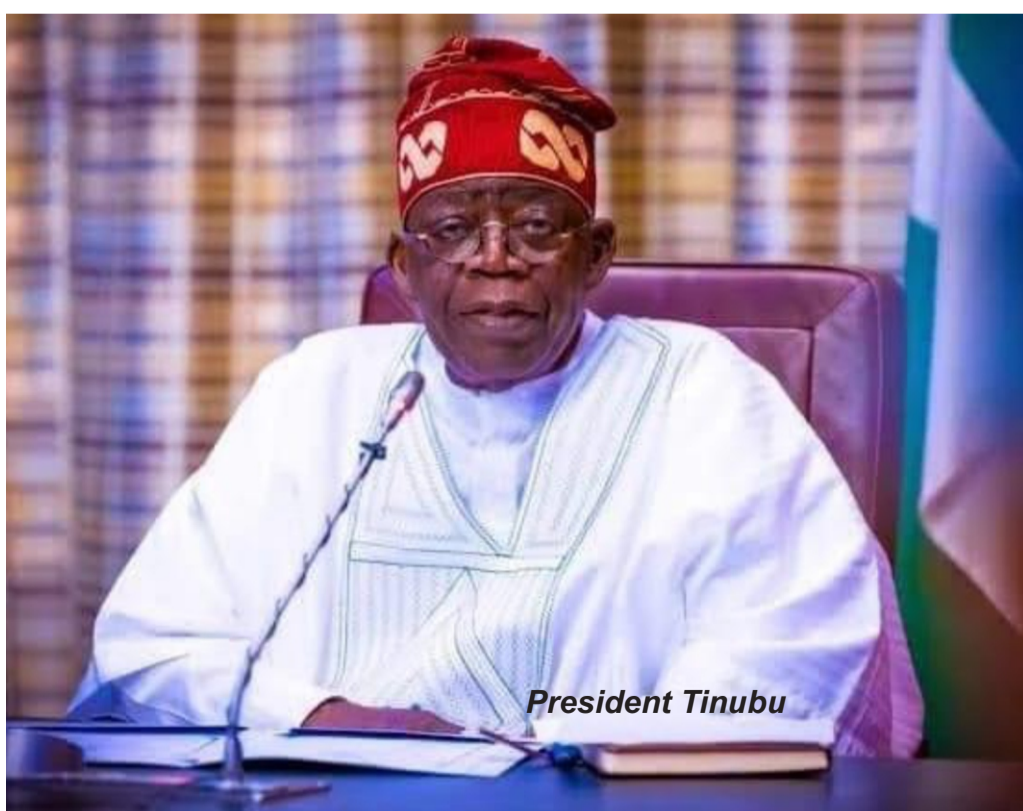
"Happily, the General remains active in uniting West African

people around issues of common interests. May General Gowon, ACF's amiable Grand Patron, live even longer, enjoy good health and continue to reap from God Almighty's Grace and Mercies".

The ACF called on the political authorities in the Republic of Niger to reciprocate and fully exploit this window of rapprochement to reset Nigeria - Niger relations.

While pointing out that this is not a time for flexing of muscle between brotherly Nations AGF called on the heads of governments of Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger (and Guinea) to back down on their threat to exit ECOWAS.

"The recent misunderstandings and animosities are but irritating bleeps that can and should be overcome in the interest of all West Africans. For certain, lessons have been learnt as to how to process such regrettable political developments that, ipso facto, engendered the acrimonious misunderstandings".



President Tinubu

# Greenfield University A Mini Nigeria - Emir of Zazzau

\*Pro Chancellor Says Zainab Shamsuna Ahmed Lecture Theater a testament to what can be achieved

By; MIKE ODEH JAMES Kaduna

Chancellor of Greenfield University, HRH, Emir of Zazzau, Ambassador Ahmed Nuhu Bamalli has described the Greenfield University, Kaduna as a mini Nigeria.

He expressed this at the commissioning of the Zainab Shamsuna Ahmed Lecture Theater, at the City Campus of Greenfield University on Thursday March 21, 2024.

"Greenfield University is a mini Nigeria where you find people from all over the country of diverse religions coming to study," he said.

The Emir, who is the Chairman of Kaduna State Council of Traditional Rulers, prayed that the university would continue to grow and become one of the best in the country.

While declaring the occasion open, the Emir of Zazzau, said that he is proud to be part of the university

"If you go to the website of the university, you can see a lot that is being offered

"We are calling on all Nigerians to come to this place and benefit from the wealth of experience," he said.

Speaking further, he said that he is happy that the lecture theater is being named after one of Nigeria's best, Zainab Shamsuna Ahmed.

Founder/Pro Chancellor of Greenfield University, Engineer Simon Ifediora Nwakacha (Onwa of Umueri) affirming what the Emir said, explained that the university is indeed a mini Nigeria, owing to the fact that he as the founder Hails from the South East, the Registrar is from the North, Vice Chancellor from the South West and it's students, drawn from all parts of the country.

In his welcome address, Chief Nwakacha said that innovators, and visionaries will gather to be inspired, challenged, and empowered to make a positive impact on the world at Greenfield University.

"As we stand here today, we are not only celebrating the inauguration of a building, but also commemorate the values and ideals that Zainab Shamsuna Ahmed embodies, integrity, excellence, and the



relentless pursuit of progress.

"Her leadership and contributions have set a standard for all of us to strive towards, and this lecture theater will serve as a constant reminder of the impact that passionate individuals can have on the world around them.

"I would like to express my deep gratitude to the management of Greenfield University Kaduna for their foresight and commitment to creating an environment that fosters academic excellence and innovation. I extend my heartfelt appreciation to all the faculties, staff and students who have worked tirelessly to bring this vision to fruition, ensuring that the Zainab Shamsuna Ahmed Lecture Theater stands as a beacon of educational advancement and inspiration," he said.

He also recognised the continued support of their esteemed Chancellor, His Royal Highness, the Emir of Zazzau whose guidance and dedication have played an integral role in the development and success of our university. His vision for excellence and unwavering commitment to the advancement of education have

instrumental in shaping the future of the institution.

He commended all dignitaries present for witnessing the impact of collective vision, passion, and dedication in creating a space that will shape the minds and future of generations to come.

"The Zainab Shamsuna Ahmed Lecture Theater is a testament to what can be achieved when we come together with a shared purpose and a commitment to building a brighter future.

"May I also use this opportunity to pay our glowing tribute to the late father of our celebrant, Malam Yahaya Hamza whose passion for education, his unwavering dedication to excellence and his visionary leadership have laid the foundation upon which we stand today.

"Malam Yahaya Hamza was an educationist per excellence and there is no way one can discuss the success of education in Nigeria today without mentioning the name of Malam Yahaya Hamza, may

Almighty God continue to bless his memory.

speech, Hajiya Zainab Shamsuna Ahmed said that she was deeply moved by the gesture.

Represented by her sister, Commissioner, Kaduna State Independent Electoral Commission, Hajiya Safiya Umar Balarabe said that she would have loved to be physically present, but was unavoidably absent, due to some reasons beyond her control.

"May this lecture theatre, serve as a beacon of intellectual curiosity and academic excellence for generations to come.

And may it remind us all of the profound impact that each of us can make when we dedicate ourselves to the pursuit of knowledge and the betterment of society," she prayed.

She thanked and appreciated the Chancellor, Pro Chancellor, Vice Chancellor and the entire Management Staff of the university for finding her worthy to be part of the university by naming the theatre after her.

Speaking further, she said, "with this recognition, I consider myself part and parcel of the university and will continue to contribute my quota.

"I wish the university success and may it continue to grow from strength to strength.

On behalf of my extended and immediate family, I thank you for this great honor and privilege".

In a vote of thanks, Vice Chancellor Greenfield University, Prof John Olu-Coris Aiyedogbon said that the dignitaries present added immense value to the occasion, and they are truly grateful for their time and wisdom.

"A special word of thanks goes out to our dedicated faculty members and staff who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the smooth running of this event.

"Your hard work, dedication, and commitment to excellence are truly commendable, and we are grateful for all that you do to support our university community," he said.

Representative of SA Gbagyi, Dr. Ishaku Yari Sarkin Kudenda, Jarman Gbagyi, Mr. Yerima was also one of the dignitaries present.



"As we embark on this new chapter in the history of Greenfield University Kaduna, let us carry forward the spirit of innovation, collaboration, and commitment to excellence that the Zainab Shamsuna Ahmed Lecture Theater represents.

"May this space be a catalyst for profound discoveries, transformative ideas, and enduring legacies that will echo through the corridors of time," he prayed.

In her acceptance



# Kaduna Agency, UNICEF Partner To Improve Social Devt In Communities

By; ISAAC ODEH,  
Kaduna

The Kaduna State Community and Social Development Agency (KADCSDA) has said that it is partnering UNICEF to improve social development in vulnerable communities in the state.

Muhammed Mukaddas, General Manager of the agency, made this known in a meeting with UNICEF officials on Wednesday in Kaduna.

He said that the visit was to strengthen collaboration to improve the social, economic conditions of people at the grassroots through prompt service delivery geared towards poverty reduction in the state.

Mukaddas said the collaboration would enhance the capacity of local people to undertake community projects.

He enjoined his team to embrace the opportunity and give all necessary

support for the collaboration to succeed. Mrs Gerida Birukila, Kaduna Chief Field Officer, said community members must participate in the design and planning of any intervention for it to succeed.

"We cannot talk about development without placing emphasis on education, health, water and sanitation for women and children, being the most vulnerable groups in the communities.

"UNICEF's interventions focus on communities and by extension, households where social developments start from," she noted.

Birukila said that UNICEF would collaborate with the state government through KADCSDA to improve social development in vulnerable rural and urban poor communities of the state, acknowledging that both agencies had similar mandates.



# All Set For Zazzau National Education Trade, Investment Summit

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Organisers of the maiden Zazzau National Education Trade and Investment Summit (ZANETIS) have said that all is set for a successful hosting of the event. This was contained in a statement signed by Mal. Yahaya Garba (Garkuwan Madakin Zazzau) on behalf of organisers, Zazccima Investment Ltd, made available to our correspondent, yesterday.

"This is to inform members of the general public that all arrangements have been concluded for the successful hosting of the 1st Zazzau National Education Trade and Investment Summit (ZANETIS) scheduled to commence from Friday 3rd to 12th May, 2024.

"The event with the theme Consolidating on the Gains of Democracy for Rapid Development in Education Trade and Investment in Nigeria is being organized by ZAZCCIMA Investment Ltd in Collaboration with Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment (FMTI) Abuja, with the support of Zazzau Emirate Community Advancement Foundation (ZECAF), the Association of International Trade and Investment Promoters of Nigeria (AITIP Nigeria), the Nigerian Institute for Leather Research and Science Technology (NILEST)," it said. It explained that it is a strategic initiative aimed at unlocking the untapped potentials of Zazzau Emirate, Kaduna State and Nigeria. While Zazzau Emirate has long been recognized as an Educational hub, the region has been lagging behind in the areas of Trade and Industries, with

limited commercial activities and inadequate Government and Private Investments.

"The Summit is expected to be declared open by the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Bola Ahmed Tinubu (GCFR). The Speaker of the House of Representative, Federal Republic of Nigeria representing Zaria Federal Constituency Rt. Honorable Abbas Tajudeen (PhD) is expected to be the Chief Host of this event while the Executive Governor of Kaduna State Malam Uba Sani is the special Host and the Emir of Zazzau Malam Ahmed Nuhu Bamalli, LLD, CFR will continue to be the Royal father of the event.

"The summit aims to showcase and promote vast opportunities in various Sectors of our Economy. These Sectors hold significant potentials for growth and development if effectively harnessed and processed. Specifically, the Summit seeks to:

Showcase Investment Opportunities in Agriculture and Agro-allied activities. Foster collaboration with leather Research Institutions to promote Leather goods, provide a platform for Stakeholders to explore and identify viable Trade and Investment opportunities, facilitate knowledge exchange and ideation, nurturing new Business ventures and Industries in Zazzau Emirate, Kaduna State and Nigeria. Capitalize on Zazzau Emirate's concentration of higher learning Institutions to bring to light hidden Academic Research findings, Student's projects and Innovations capable of attracting Investments in Education and other Sectors of Nigerian Economy," it said.

The statement explained that as part of the activities marking this event, there will be a two-day seminar to address the issue of declining standard of education in Kaduna State and Nigeria from primary, secondary school and institutions of higher learning.

"Already, researchers from the six (6) geopolitical zones and regulatory authorities on education in Nigeria have been contacted to undertake research which findings will be presented and discussed during the Seminar. Written and oral testimonies will be received from Members of the general public and other Non-Governmental Organizations. There will be display of Books, Student's Projects and Innovations, Research findings among others.

"Governments agencies have also been invited. A day conference on the theme of the Summit will also be staged. The event will also witness a Ten (10) day Exhibitions by Corporate Organizations and Traders. There will be livestock, farm produce and food displays with award of prizes to well-fed livestock and well-trained Horses.

"The 36 state governments of the Federation including Abuja, have been invited. There will be display of Hausa Material Culture and mini Zoo to display wildlife Animals in cages for visitors to see particularly Students and Children who may come for excursion among others," the statement informed. It added that there will also be a day open lecture on livestock feeds and effective maintenance in order to revive the old heritage of Household Cow and Horse



Emir of Zazzau

breeding that is facing gradual extinction.

"By converging stakeholders, researchers, inventors from formal and informal sectors, industrialists, investors, government ministries, and agencies in Zaria, the summit seeks to provide a platform for concrete business relationships and collaborations.

"This synergy is expected to incubate new business ideas, leading to the establishment of

new Industries in Zazzau Emirate, Kaduna State and Nigeria.

"ZANETIS 2024 brings about sustainable development, socio-economic growth, and empowerment of communities in Zazzau Emirate and Kaduna State. By exploiting the region's comparative advantages and hidden potentials, the Summit aspires to propel Zazzau Emirate and Nigeria toward progress and prosperity," it explained.

## Enugu: Ex State APC Chairman, Nwoye Faults Unconstitutional Suspension Of Party Stalwarts

By; KELVIN OKPARA, Enugu

Immediate past chairman of the All Progressive Congress (APC) in Enugu State, Dr Ben Nwoye has faulted the purported suspension of the Federal Commissioner representing Enugu State in the Federal Character Commission, Ginika Tor, calling on president Ahmed Bola Tinubu and national leadership of the ruling party to beam their searchlight on the unconstitutional conducts in the state and South East zone.

He advised the leaders in the state and zone to refrain from such acts capable of destroying the party in the state.

He told them that rather than always engaging in incessant suspension of old members who built the party to the level it is presently, they should look for ways of

attracting new members into its fold.

Nwoye, a former Federal Commissioner, decried the alarming spate of suspension of members of the party in the state, advising the Ugochukwu Agballah led executive to refrain from such acts and organize political rallies to welcome people into the party instead of incessant announcement of the suspension of it's chieftains.

The former Chairman and Secretary of APC Chairmen's Forum, recalled how same Agballah-led executive announced the purported suspension of former Senate President, Ken Nnamani, ex Governor Sullivan Chime, former Speaker, Eugene Odoh, former Director General of Voice of Nigeria, Osita Okechukwu among others in the past and the recent purported suspension of Tor.

Our correspondent reports that the APC South East Zone had in a statement personally signed by the South East National Vice Chairman, Dr. Ijeomah Arodiogbu on Tuesday, announced ratification of the purported suspension of Tor by the Enugu State APC.

But Nwoye who addressed newsmen on Wednesday in Enugu while reacting to the purported suspension of Tor, described the action of the Enugu and South East APC as unconstitutional, and ridiculous, insisting that Tor as a member of the party, can only be suspended by the political ward.

He therefore, urged the state Chairman and National Vice Chairman, to make out time and study the constitution of the party so that they will be guided in their action, saying the incessant suspension is

becoming embarrassing to the party.

Nwoye, further stated that he was not aware that Tor was at any time suspended by her political ward in Awgu Council Area of Enugu State, neither was he aware of any appeal at the local government level that led to the suspension by the state executive of the party.

He also advised the South East National Vice Chairman of the party Dr. Ijeomah Arodiogbu to refrain from actions capable of tarnishing his image even outside the political circle.

The ex-chairman, maintained that the frequent visit of Arodiogbu to Enugu to suspend people who supported the emergence of President Bola Tinubu as APC president candidate and president has done more harm than good to the party.

# Osun Govt Will Continue To Support Tinubu - Gov Adeleke

## \*Expresses support for housing for civil servants

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

Governor Ademola Adeleke has declared that Osun State Government will not leave out anything in supporting the government of President Bola Tinubu,

The governor stated this while receiving members of the Federal Housing Authority, (FHA) who paid him a courtesy call at his new rehabilitated Government House.

According to Gov Adeleke, it requires the collective efforts of all for President Tinubu to succeed as leader and political father of the nation.

Stressing that Osun State supports housing for civil

servants under the present administration, Gov Adeleke said President Tinubu is aware of the complete support which Osun State Government has for his policies and programmes for the country.

The governor asserted that his government would not leave out anything in supporting the government of Bola Tinubu, and in making the housing project a fruitful one in Osun state, and that the state is open for partnership with the FHA for the President's Housing Agenda for all.

Congratulating the new management of the housing authority, the governor urged, "the housing management to

continue to place national interest above any political interest as the bottom line to achieve set goals, and as well, accountability to our people."

He also assured them that he would continue to relate with Mr President in brotherhood and comradeship, and that his administration' has demonstrated willingness to support the efforts of Mr President to set the ship of the country right and pilot it out of the present socio-economic quagmire.

Responding, Chief Executive, Chairman of Federal Housing Authority Board, Hon. Oyetunde Oladimeji Ojo appreciated the Governor for the warm welcome

given to him and his team, despite the short notice, adding that they brought good tidings from President Tinubu on how to develop and build low-cost houses for both low and medium income earners in the state.

Hon Ojo stressed that the housing board have toured the South West states, where Osun state happens to be part of, and that the buildings will be sold to low income civil servants and that the government has promised to give them cooperation, and assured them of their partnership, which he said will in turn bring about job creation, trading as well as provision of affordable shelter for the people of the state, particularly the civil servants.

# Ibadan Polytechnic Recorded Tremendous Achievements During My Tenure - Prof Adebisi

## \*Says its now ranked as 1st state polytechnic, 8th among in Nigeria

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The outgoing Rector of the Polytechnic Ibadan. Professor Kazeem Adebisi yesterday, said that the institution is now ranked first among the state owned Polytechnics in Nigeria.

Addressing a valedictory media chat at the institution's Governing Council Chambers on the activities of his management team in the last five years, he disclosed further that the polytechnic is now ranked number eight among the polytechnics in Nigeria.

According to Prof Adeniyi, the ranking was conducted by the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE) and that he is leaving the polytechnic far better than how his management team met it in 2019.

The rector pointed out that Ibadan Polytechnic has recorded tremendous achievements in terms of students academic performance, adding that aside this, over 80% staff of the institution have become PhD holders in their respective fields.

Prof Adebisi emphasized that since his assumption of office as the Rector in the last five years, the institution has not recorded any major industrial strike by staff as a result of cordial relationship between the staff and the management team.

He stressed further that the Management embarked on reforms to curb violence, indecent dressing and cultism in the institution which the management team was able to do through collaboration with security agencies in the state. Speaking further, the out

going Rector said the management also f created automated online platform for students of the institution to vote during their SUG elections which has helped to curb violence that used to erupt in the institution before he came on board.

Prof Adebisi maintained his Management team met 5 Faculties at the institution and that by now, we have 6 additional faculties with 4 departments against the 32 met by the management, adding that 11 new courses have been added into the Institution courses with full accreditation.

Stressing that more are still coming, the Rector said his tenure recorded unprecedented academic excellence, infrastructural development and improved workers welfare.

Commending Gov Seyi Makinde for his quick response and intervention to the institution's needs, he said the Polytechnic enjoyed the support of the governor TETFund, CIBN groups, old students, individuals and philanthropists on infrastructural development.

"Governor Seyi Makinde has been supportive in ensuring the progress of the institution with regular financial support for accreditation, infrastructures and other activities that enhanced development of the institution.

Speaking on the demands by the Institution's ASUP, on the appointment of Senior Lecturer as the next Rector of the institution, Professor Adebisi said he is in full support of it because it is the dictate of the NBTE and the council has approve it so there is no cause for alarm"



Gov Ademola Adeleke with the FHA Chairman Hon Oyetunde Ojo

# SSANU/NASU Strike Records Success In ABU Zaria

By; SANIALIYU, Zaria

The Joint Action Committee and Chairman of Senior Staff Association of Nigerian Universities (SSANU), Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) Zaria branch, Comrade Mohammed A. Yunusa has revealed that the one week strike action declared has recorded success, adding that its members are angry.

Yunusa told journalists on Tuesday in Zaria that, SSANU and NASU believe

that those in government should understand the reality and if they are serious about education in the interest of the masses, they should act accordingly.

"The president already has a waiver that we should be paid but some people decided not to pay us.

"They feel we are lesser mortals or not important or they think university is all about ASUU only," he said.

The JAC Chairman reminded them that it is a recipe for trouble when they don't have

water on campus, or electricity no server for ICT examinations and all laboratories are closed.

"We removed the security personnel from the gates and our students are on campus, then they will know it is a terrible issue.

"We have recorded 90 per cent success, our people are angry, they are not happy, it is clear injustice," he declared.

The strike by NASU and SSANU paralysed activities on campuses across the Ahmadu Bello University.

Comrade Mohammed A. Yunusa said the strike was a success as members of the two unions complied totally with the directed of the national body.

"The compliance of our members to the strike is total. We held a congress at the gate of the university early on Monday before members dispatched to their respective homes and this will continue in the next seven days". He vowed.

# Fire Razes 4 Buildings In Lagos

By; RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

An early morning inferno has reportedly razed four buildings in Idumota area of Lagos Island, New Nigerian Newspapers has learnt. One of the buildings was said to have collapsed due to the intensity of the fire which engulfed the structures located at the intersection of Nnamidi Azikwe and Dosunmu on Wednesday. As gathered, the affected property included three structures of four-storey buildings and one five-storey building. Residents of the area and traders were said

to have scammed for safety and held in panic as the fire which begun at about 8.00am rage. As at the time of filing the report, emergency responders are already combating the inferno to prevent it from escalating to other area. The Southwest Coordinator of National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Ibrahim Farinloye who confirmed the incident, said efforts were ongoing to prevent the inferno from spreading beyond it's present reach. Speaking in the inferno, the Permanent

Secretary, Lagos State Emergency Management Agency (LASEMA), Dr. Olufemi Oke-Osanyintolu, hinted that the inferno started from the 4-storey building due to power surge after electricity was restored to the building. According to him, the fire which started at No. 47 Dosunmu Street, escalated to four buildings at No 45, No. 47, No. 49A and No. 49B at Dosunmu Street, Lagos Island. The building at No. 47 collapsed as a result of the impact of the fire. "The responders are currently combating the fire to prevent further escalation to

other adjoining buildings. "The LASEMA Response team at Lekki alongside LRU Fire, Lagos State Fire and Rescue Service, Federal Fire Men, Nigerian Ports Authority Fire men, LASAMBUS Officials, Lagos Neighbourhood Security Corps (LSNC) officials, Central Business District crew and Nigeria Police Force are all responders present at the scene of the incident under the supervision of the Hon. Commissioner for Special Duties and Intergovernmental Relations, Gbenga Oyerinde.", he stated.



# Akwa Ibom: ASWHAN Seeks More Affirmative Action For Women To Realize Full Potentials

By: PATRICK TITUS, Uyo

The Association of Women Living with HIV and AIDS (ASWHAN), Akwa Ibom State Chapter, has called for adequate inclusion of women in developmental programmes that will aid the realisation of their full potentials. ASWHAN made the advocacy at a press conference recently held at the Akwa Ibom State Agency for the Control of AIDS (AKSACA) in Uyo.

Reflecting on this year's theme of the International Women's Day, "Invest in Women, Accelerate progress", the Association noted the theme as a call to inspire inclusion so as to forge a better society.

Speaking through the State Coordinator of ASWHAN, Mrs. Rachel Ignatius, stressed the need for measures to be put in place for productive grassroots sensitization and functional awareness creation.

"The International Women's Day 2024 global campaign theme; Invest in Women: Accelerate progress is a call to Action for investment in women and girls living with HIV in all diversities to enjoy their rights as live a decent livelihood.

"The theme resonates with the need to empower women with life building skills to reduce their vulnerability and encourage National and International partners to demonstrate their commitment in providing platforms for

women to have access to economic resources." Mrs. Ignatius said.

She also highlighted that inclusion will be inspired when ASWHAN is included in Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV (PMTCT) interventions amidst other programmes to positively shape the narratives of those living with the virus.

"Federal and State Ministries of Health should engage ASWHAN in PMTCT program implementation and service delivery thereby positioning ASWHAN as the lead CSO for PMTCT in Nigeria to end Mother to child transmission of HIV. No child henceforth should be born with HIV.

"The burden lies with us. We urge all partners to recognize our role in this fight. We ask GLOBAL FUND, the PMTCT Implementing partners to include ASWHAN in the GC7 PMTCT Implementation," the ASWHAN coordinator added.

She also called on the Akwa Ibom State Government to consider the HIV Anti-stigma and discrimination bill which had not been assented to in the last administration, pointing out that having the law in place would protect the rights of women with HIV as well as those who are not infected with the virus.

Speaking also at the event, the Program Manager of Akwa Ibom State Agency for the Control of AIDS (AKSACA) Dr Enobong Akpan noted poverty as one of



the keys factors affecting the well being of those living with HIV and AIDS in the state.

He called for private and public collaboration to advance the empowerment of women that are infected with the virus with soft loans for business, skills acquisition, saying that it will go a long way in increasing their

economic level an ending poverty.

Dr Enobong also mentioned Gender Responsive financing. According to him, funding for women is crucial to end violence against them.

"We join ASWHAN in advocating for funding for women to end violence against women. We call on various stakeholders to implement what we call Gender Responsive Financing. There is a Global Annual deficit in budget for women especially in the area of violence against women" he stated.

Other organisations such as AKSACA, Ministry of Women Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Map-IT, UNAIDS, UNWomen, Heartland Alliance, among others, spoke on their commitments towards supporting and protecting the rights of women living with

HIV in the state.

The Joint United Nations Programmes on HIV/AIDS - UNAIDS, Dr IDAYAT Idayat Uthman said, "We will continue to support the state in ensuring that the Anti stigma law is enacted. We will not stop. We started the fight and we will see it through".

# Delta Monarchs, UPU Seek Peace, True Investigation Over Killing of Soldiers in Ukwuama

By: UTEBOR PETER, Asaba

The Executive Council of Urhobo Traditional Rulers (Ukokor'Ivie r'Urhobo) and the executive of Urhobo Progress Union (UPU) worldwide on Tuesday, called on Delta State Government to set up an independent truth commission to investigate the immediate and remote causes of the crisis between Okuama in Ughelli South local Government Area and Okoloba in Bomadi local Government Area of Delta State.

This was contained in a seven point communique signed by the Chairman of the Urhobo Traditional Rulers council (Ukoko r' Ivie r'Urhobo), HRM (Dr) Emmanuel E.Sidoso, Abe

I,JP OON, the ovie of Uvwie kingdom and the President General of Urhobo Progress Union worldwide, Chief Ese Gam Owe during a joint meeting of both Executive councils at the palace of the Uvwie Monarch, Effurun Uvwie local government Area of Delta State.

The groups urged the Delta State Government to provide a permanent solution to the crisis that affected the killing of Seventeen (17) Military Personnel and the razing down of Okuama Community by soldiers on revenge mission.

According to the communique, "That the Urhobo nation is highly pained by the unfortunate but avoidable bloodshed and the razing down of Okuama

Community in Ughelli South LGA over the weekend particularly the killing of the seventeen Officers/Soldiers of the Nigerian Army and the reprisal mission of the Nigerian Army occasioning arson, killing of innocent/ vulnerable women and children of Okuama Community.

"That we commiserate with the families of the dead officers/soldiers who were killed in the avoidable/unfortunate incident.

"We also commiserate with the families of the innocent and vulnerable people of Okuama Community who have been rendered homeless, killed and/or displaced through the revenge mission of the Nigerian Army.

"We call on all parties to the impasse to sheathe their swords. Two wrongs can not make a right. Killings and counter-killings and/or arson is not and never a solution. All parties must give peace a chance.

"We call on the Government of Delta State to set up an independent truth commission to investigate the immediate and remote causes of the Okuama/Okoloba crisis and or causes of the frequent disagreements between the Urhobo and the ijaw communities/neighbours on the forcados Rivers of Delta State for a permanent solution.

"We call on the President, His Excellency, Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR to prevail on the Nigerian Army to honour a

round-table discussion that may be inaugurated by the Delta State Government to avoid future occurrence.

"We call on our Ijaw Traditional Rulers to join hands with us, their colleagues, Urhobo Traditional Rulers to work for sustainable peace on the Forcados Rivers particularly between the aged-long neighbours of Urhobo and Ijaw Communities to achieve sustainable peace in the area.

"We wish to state that the Urhobo people are peace loving people who have been living in peace with their Ijaw neighbours from time immemorial.

"We remain committed to sustaining the peace, despite the unfortunate incident of the recent past."

# Kaduna State APC-led Administration Lacks Coordination - PRP

## *\*Predicts return of PDP to power*

By; SANIALIYU, Zaria

**A** Kaduna Zone One Senatorial Candidate during the 2023 general election, under the platform of People Redemption Party (PRP), Abdullahi Ahmad Wakili (Wakilin Jama'a), has observed the unfolding events in the state, under the All Progressives Congress (APC)-led administration, saying it is evidently lacking in idea, direction and coordination. In a statement issued by Wakili, he said, hence, that is the main reason why the administration is presently experiencing serious setback in execution of socio-economic/human capital developmental projects. He said it is high time the Kaduna State APC-led administration addressed the people of the state and give reasons behind the aforesaid unpleasant situation. According to him, the administration also needs to pay quick attention to and prioritize security, welfare and progress of Kaduna citizens.

He said this would, in no doubt, go a long way in helping the administration to restore its eroded confidence back before the eyes of Kaduna citizenry.

"It is demoralizing now that, the only consistently recorded credit of the state APC-led administration, in its ten month in office so far, is payment of monthly salary to civil servants, though, in most cases it is without implementation of promotion and annual increment".

"This situation raises so much questions about the government's priorities and its commitment to good governance". He said.

Ahmad Wakili who expressed concerns over the current displeasing situation in Kaduna State under the APC-led administration, said that it is glaring that progress and prospects are diminishing.

"I feel duty bound therefore, on behalf of the silent majority, to call on the led administration to publish its 10-months score-card, hence, explain reasons for

the decimal performance, particularly in the areas of security and infrastructural development, and also state its position on the status of the littered inherited abandoned projects".

"The administration is surrounded by political opportunists, with some appointed in various sensitive political offices, whom by all indication, many of them are not working towards the success of the administration, but instead, are silently advancing their personal political ambition comes 2027".

"The appointees are presently creating political camps/groups within the APC, for their vested interest and to the detriment of APC-administration. It is without doubt now that, the present administration is cruising at a high speed, going towards having a repeating of the former Governor Muktar Ramalan Yero's administration fate, if the APC Kaduna chapter did not act". He stressed.

On the other critical issues worth

mentioning, he said the present status of the state's Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) and that of the security of lives and property, call for concern.

He said the state IGR is declining, largely due to alleged leakages in the system and lack of commitment, resulting from laxity in the state Tax and Revenue administration.

The politician observed that the present insecurity challenges that has aggressively resurfaced, with devastating instances such as the Kuriga school abduction, Kajuru attacks and kidnappings are attributed to the state existing weak governance, which has resulted in poor monitoring and coordination of the state security system.

"The relative peace, enjoyed by Kaduna citizens during the past administrations is now deteriorating by the day, criticism and opposition party politics are major tools of correcting leaders' anomalies in a democratic system of governance.

"The APC administration has

undoubtedly created good opportunity for the leading opposition party in the state, the People's Democratic Party (PDP) to maximally leverage on and possibly bounce back. Regrettably, Kaduna state chapters of the PDP is still in the state of disarray, still being hunted by its dark past.

"This has made the PDP to have failed to occupy the wide opposition space created by the present administration in Kaduna State," he said.

He said it is overdue for the opposition parties in Kaduna state to join hands in discharging their constitutional responsibility of righting the wrong in moving Kaduna state forward.

"Similarly, opposition parties in Kaduna state are duty bound to, ethically and patriotically, team up in restoring Kadunans hope and above it all, in rescuing the state from the glaring imminent destruction it is presently facing in the hands of this present administration of APC," he pointed out.

# World Social Work Day: We Are Committed To Serving Humanity — NASOW Chairman

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

**C**hairman, Nigeria Association of Social Workers (NASOW), Kaduna State chapter, Mrs Comfort Bangoji has said that the association is committed to serving humanity and promoting human rights, social justice and collective wellbeing.

She made this known on Wednesday, during the celebration of the 2024 World Social Workers Day in Kaduna with the theme, "Buen Vivir: Shared Future for Transformative Change."

According to her, the day is to raise awareness and support for

social workers who play a significant role in the lives of children, families and communities facing adversity.

She added that social work had been instrumental in responding to various crises and challenges in Nigeria such as HIV/AIDS pandemic, poverty, Gender-Based Violence and conflicts.

She said, "I want to state that community-led approaches in social work have emerged in Nigeria."

The chairman said that new approach is the use of social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Tik Tok to create awareness.

"It is in this light that Kaduna

State chapter of the association embraced these innovations and decided to launch its website," she added.

In her address, Sen. Nenadi Usman, who officially launched the website, congratulated social workers, "for the significant work toward social change and empowerment to improve lives."

Represented by Mr. Toyin Alabi, the Managing Director, Invicta Radio, Usman said social service work deals directly with clients to provide care by meeting their physical, psychosocial and emotional needs.

In her paper presentation, Dr Gladys John, a lecturer at Kaduna Polytechnic, urged

social workers to effectively respond to crises through platforms for transformative changes in communities.

She said, "this can be achieved by embracing the principle of 'Buen Vivir' and only be possible through being part of a community working together to achieve development."

She commended the state government for establishing a trust fund for the poor and vulnerable, the passage of the Child Welfare Protection Law, the launch of the State Priority Agenda on Vulnerable Children and Violence Against Children Campaign.

She appealed for adequate funding of social welfare institutions, as well as employment of professionals and trainings.

Participants were drawn from Ministry of Human Services and Social Development, Disability Affairs Board, National Eye Centre, Federal Neuro-Psychiatric Hospital, Kaduna Polytechnic and social work related NGOs.

Highpoint of the occasion was a visit to four retired social workers, namely Tijani Umar, Safiya Tukur, Mrs Lanti Yaroson and Mrs Elizabeth Makoshi, by the chairman and her exco.

# Late Olubadan Demise Very Sad, Shocking - Ganduje

\*Says his image towers beyond Ibadan, Oyo State

\*Visits in Ibadan on condolence to Balogun family

By: BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

National Chairman of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Dr. Abdullahi Ganduje has described the demise of the late Olubadan of Ibadanland, Oba Lekan Balogun as very sad and shocking,

The APC National Chairman said this on Tuesday during his condolence visit to the Alarere residence of the late Oba Lekan Balogun.

He declared that the late Olubadan was not only the father of Ibadan or that of Oyo State, but the father of Nigeria and that the late monarch was somebody whose image towered far above Ibadan which he reigned over and the entire Oyo State.

The APC National Chairman noted that as human beings, there was nothing anybody could do to halt the inevitability of death when it was the appointed time by the Almighty Allah, adding, "What we should do is to continue to pray for the repose of his gentle and peaceful soul".

"Our late father made his marks on the sands of time. He left

behind imperishable legacies as a bridge builder, peaceful and loving personality", he said

Dr Ganduje added, "His nationalistic outlook set him apart from his peers and we would continue to cherish our relationship".

The younger brother of the late monarch, Senator Kola Balogun while speaking on behalf of the late Olubadan family lauded the steadfastness of Dr. Ganduje in his loving relationship with his late brother which he said the visit, less than a week after the sad incident represented.

"Until baba's death, he was always proud of his relationship with Kano as he would always refer to himself as a Kano man. The enduring relationship the late Oba established with his late friends and leader, Rimi, Musa and Alhaji Aminu Kano got rekindled through the honorary titles of Aare and Yeye Aare Fiwajoye of Ibadanland bestowed on both Your Excellency and wife in 2022", he said

Senator Balogun added "Your Excellency has demonstrated



unalloyed loyalty to our late referred father and we can only assure you that this place remains your second home and Ibadan Palace remains your second palace after the palace of Emir of Kano. On behalf of the family, we say a big thank you

for this visit with prayers for journey mercies as you return to base".

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## Oyo Govt Will Embark On Rehabilitation Of Water Schemes Across All Zones - Corporation Chairman

By: BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The Executive Chairman of Oyo State Water Corporation, Hon. Elias Adejo has disclosed that Oyo State Government is ready to spread its tentacles to all the geo-political zones in the state.

Hon Adejo who stated this during a visit to the ongoing rehabilitation work in Ogbomoso Water Supply Scheme, said all the schemes of the Corporation will be resuscitated to their full capacities to serve the teeming population of the state.

The chairman while maintaining that provision of clean water to the residents remains one of the agenda of Governor Seyi Makinde's second term highlighted the need for replacing the main pipes that supply water to Ogbomoso town,



Women and children fetching water

as some of them have become obsolete or damaged due to

urbanization.

Hon Adejo during the visit met

with the Soun of Ogbomoso, Oba Ghamdi Afolabi Olaoye, to

discuss the rehabilitation work with the Chairman expressing his gratitude for the monarch's support in the Corporation's efforts to rehabilitate the water supply scheme.

The chairman called on other monarchs, well-meaning individuals, and corporate organizations in the state to support the government's development initiatives.

Already, a team of engineers from the corporation has already begun repair work in the Ogbomoso Water Supply Scheme, replacing AC pipes with ductile pipes.

The rehabilitation work is expected to be completed in a record time, ensuring that residents of Ogbomoso have access to clean and safe water.

# Uba Sani Signs Mining Partnership With Trovec International

By ; FUNMI ADERINTO, Kaduna

Kaduna State Government, led by Governor Uba Sani on Tuesday, signed a mining partnership agreement with Trovec International Ltd.

A significant milestone was reached as Kaduna State Government, represented by Deputy Governor, Her Excellency Dr. Hadiza Balarabe, signed a mining

partnership agreement with Trovec International Ltd.

The partnership's primary objective is to promote sustainable development of the mining sector in the state.

Also, it is aimed at establishing a mutually beneficial relationship between both parties, create job opportunities and boost the Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) of the state.





# Ramadan: Uba Sani Hosts CAN, Christian Leaders To Iftar



**By; FUNMIADERINTO, Kaduna**  
Governor of Kaduna State, Senator Uba Sani has hosted Christian clerics and other members of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) to Iftar dinner at Sir Kashim Ibrahim House on Sunday. They were led to the dinner by the outgoing Chairman of the Kaduna State

Chapter of CAN, Rev. Joseph John Hayab. The speakers at the Iftar dinner, commended Governor Uba Sani's administration for uniting the citizens of Kaduna State, bringing development closer to the people, and doggedly promoting interfaith dialogue. The governor said "they are particularly impressed with our prompt response to the

abduction of the Kuriga school children, describing it as a clear demonstration of responsive and responsible leadership. "They admonished us not to go back on the noble path we have chosen because it is the sure road to Kaduna's greatness. "I thank the Christian clerics for honouring us with their presence and praying fervently for continued peace in

Kaduna State, improvement in the security situation, and the success of our administration. "We shall continue to promote dialogue and cooperation among people of different faiths. We are one people before God. We must always consider our diversity as our strength. We are all stakeholders in the Kaduna Project."



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## 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

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- 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)	550,000.00	41,250.00	591,250.00
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

# Uba Sani: Acting On Sardauna's Script

By: IBRAHEEM MUSA

In size, political stature and achievements, Sir Ahmadu Bello loomed large across the arena. Sardauna, as he was called, built people, edifices and institutions as Premier of Northern Nigeria. However, the Colossus was killed in 1966 and as yet, his political dexterity remains unparalleled in the north. Specifically, Senator Uba Sani, the Kaduna State Governor, is approximating him in some respects. Right now, he is building bridges, embracing people and accommodating all tendencies on the political spectrum. Figuratively, he has erected a Big Tent and Muslim clerics, as well as Christian clergymen, including politicians and non partisans, the young and old, are now under one roof. Likewise, projects are spread across local governments, amongst the three senatorial districts and between urban and rural areas. The Governor, from all intents and purposes, is deliberate about inclusion. Last October, he hosted elders and senior citizens, comprising retired Generals and civil servants, accomplished businessmen, seasoned politicians from all parties, as well as elder statesmen of Kaduna State. In fact, Alhaji Abubakar Mustapha, former Head of Service, and retired General Zamani Lekwot, are Co-Chairmen of the Kaduna Elders/Senior Citizens Forum, a peace-building advisory body. Similarly, in his strategic engagement, Senator Uba Sani chairs the quarterly Inter-Religious Harmony Committee, where he rubs minds with religious leaders. Last Saturday, he hosted Kaduna State Council of



Ulama and Imams, at Sir Kashim Ibrahim House, to the breaking of Ramadan fast. In particular, Sheikh Khalifa Sani Zaria, Sheikh Tukur Al Mannar and Imam Kabir Kassim, Chief Imam of Kafanchan, as well as Malam Muhammadu Mai Barota, were at the Iftar. Similarly, Christian clergymen like Reverend Joseph Hayab, Kaduna State C A N C h a i r m a n , Archbishop Matthew Manoso Ndagoso, Reverend Bitrus Gajere and Apostle Comfort Kato, were among the 35 pastors that broke fast with the Governor on Sunday.

Politically, Governor Uba Sani has been wooing the opposition, in the last ten months, to join hands in building Kaduna State. Indeed, spokesman of Kaduna State PDP

Campaign Council, Alhaji Yakubu Lere, has harkened to the call and last July, he pitched tent with APC. Likewise, the Chairman of Chikun Local Government, Mr Salasi Musa and his Councillors have left PDP, a party on whose platform they were voted into office. Similarly, Kajuru Local Government Chairman, Hon Ibrahim Gajere, has voted with his feet, so has Hon Mathias Siman, his counterpart at Kaura Area Council. Last Monday, Alhaji Muktar Ramalan Yero, ex Governor of Kaduna State, formally ditched PDP for the ruling APC.

Likewise, financial inclusion tops the Governor's agenda, from signing an Executive Order, to empowering Micro, Medium and Small

Enterprises, as well as providing succour to individuals. Last Monday, Senator Uba Sani flagged-off the distribution of palliatives, especially to the poor, vulnerable and underserved, as well as senior citizens of Kaduna State. Cumulatively, the Government is spending N11.4 billion for the exercise. Indeed, 128 trucks of rice and maize worth N3.4 billion, were distributed, targeting 200,000 households, in this second round of palliatives distribution. Approximately, 1,000,000 persons are expected to benefit across the three senatorial districts.

Similarly, the sum of N4.2 billion has been earmarked for cash, grants, fertilizer and farm inputs distribution. Beneficiaries include vulnerable

households, smallholder farmers and MSMEs, as well as Persons With Disability, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Orphans, including market women and youths. Likewise, N3.3 billion has been released for Pension and Gratuities, as well as Death Benefits to families of deceased civil servants. Besides, civil servants are benefitting from a N500 million Revolving Loan Scheme.

From enabling religious harmony, to being even-handed to all citizens and providing succour to the vulnerable, including extending a handshake to political opponents, Sir Ahmadu Bello fostered the concept of "one north, one people." Senator Uba Sani may as well be reading from that playbook.

## Katsina Governor Mourns Demise Of Father Of SA Political Who Died At 110

By; SULAIMAN AHMED MISAU, Katsina

Alhaji Umaru Gajere Gwojo, the father of the Special Adviser to Katsina State Governor on Political Matters and former Speaker of the State House of Assembly, Alhaji Ya'u Umar Gwojo is dead.

Aged 110, Alhaji Umaru Gajere died at Federal Teaching Hospital in Katsina after an illness.

Governor Dikko Umaru Radda was amongst hundreds of People who attended the funeral rite of late Umaru Gajere at Gwojo Gwojo town in Mai'adua local government area of the state.

Governor Dikko Radda in company of his Deputy Alhaji Faruq Lawal Jobe and the Speaker State House of Assembly Nasiru Yahya Daura joined other Muslim sympathisers to escort the remain of the late Ahaji Umar to a grave

yard in Gwojo Gwojo town where he was laid to rest.

Similarly, a Katsina based business Mogul and Chairman of Max Air and Afdin Group of Companies, Alhaji Dahiru Bara'u Mangal and several other important personalities within and outside the state including Niger Republic, paid condolence visit to the former Speaker of the Katsina State house of Assembly, Alhaji Ya'u Umar Gwojo Gwojo in Gwojo Gwojo town over the death of his father.

Late Alhaji Umaru Gajere Gwojo until his death is survey by Two wives, ten children and many grand and great grandchildren.

Among his children include, Alhaji Ya'u Umar Gwojo, Alhaji Nasiru Umar of the forestry office Mai'adua local government and a farmer Alhaji Ibrahim Umar.

## Reps Member Zanna Distributes Food Palliatives To 5,000 Heads Of Households, Party Stakeholders, Others In Borno



By; SADIQ ABUBAKAR, Maiduguri

Member representing Kaga/Magumeri/Gubio Federal Constituency at the House of Representatives from Borno State, Hon. Usman Zannah, has distributed food items to 5,000 heads of households.

Other beneficiaries of the gesture include stakeholders of the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC), families of Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF), hunters and vigilantes among others, to cushion the effect of economic hardship in his constituency the state as a whole.

Unveiling the distribution of the food

items, which comprised of assorted bags of rice, grains and other condiments in Maiduguri last weekend, Hon. Zanna said the gesture was to encourage people in the constituency to value government presence and be law-abiding citizens.

"This is part of the federal government's intervention to alleviate suffering of our people and ensure food security across the country," Zanna said.

It was also observed that those who benefitted from the gesture included youth, women groups and CJTF and other stakeholders from various sections, irrespective of political consideration.

Zanna noted that the

youth and women groups are vulnerable, but he also holds those sacrificing their lives to provide peace so dearly, especially Civilian Joint Task Force members and other volunteers who deserve much of his support.

He thanked President Bola Tinubu, the Vice President Senator Kashim Shettima and Borno State Governor, Professor Babagana Umara Zulum for all their support in ensuring that the troubled areas of his constituency were liberated which gave freedom and peace to Internally Displaced Persons returned back to their ancestral homes with dignity.

In a vote of thanks on behalf of the other chairmen of Magumeri

and Gubio, as well as beneficiaries, the Chairman of Kaga Local Government Area, Alhaji Goni Abdullah described Hon. Zannah as a philanthropist even before he became a federal lawmaker, as his foundation has impacted positively on the lives of many people including students that he sponsored their education within and outside the state.

He therefore, commended the federal lawmaker for supporting the civilian JTF and other security agencies consistently.

However, Abdullah warned the beneficiaries against selling the food items given to them, saying doing so will discourage future

## Gov Alia Appoint New Members Of BSIEC, Urges Fairness To All

By; ARCHIBONG ESUENE, Makurdi

Governor Hyacinth Alia has forwarded to the Benue State House of Assembly, names of chairman and members of the Benue State Independent Electoral Commission (BSIEC) for confirmation.

The chairman and members according to the governor, are, Dr John Chen as chairman, Terhemem

N Shom, Member (1), Theodore Iordye Uchi-Member (2) and Solomon Aikighe Deva Member (3).

Others include Edache Isaac, Member (4), Mrs. Gloria Clement, Member (5), Peter Baba Ogagbolo-Member (6), while Dr Gisaor Vincent is to serve as Secretary.

The governor said that the nominees have been considered suitable based on their track records, and will be responsible for the conduct of elections into the local government areas in the state.

According to the governor, they are expected to be fair, just and always consider the interest of the state above theirs in the discharge of their duties.

# Creativity, Innovation Bane For Development In Nigeria - Prof Animasahun

By: BAYOAKAMO, Ibadan

**A** Professor of Counselling and Human Development at the University of Ibadan, Professor Adebayo Animasahun has declared that creativity and innovation are the bane for development in Nigeria.

Prof Animasahun stated this while speaking at a seminar and Induction of eminent Nigeria's who bagged honorary award from Prowess University and IAMPS held at the conference centre of the University of Ibadan hosted by Uniplan Integrated Services Limited.

The University Don pointed out that for Nigeria to experience National Development, government must pay attention to the young people and that

creativity and innovation are tools for national and economic stability for Nigeria at a time that the country is facing many challenges ranging from insecurity to fall in the price of Naira, as well as economic hardship among others.

He stressed that the psychological well-being of citizen can aid development as well as political reforms, business and educational changes can take Nigeria out of its current challenges.

Representative of the Registrar and CEO of IAMPS Professor Eze Chidi Nwauba, Dr Oyedele Olusegun while speaking urged recipients of the Honorary Doctorate and new intakes to be good example of the institution and take advantage of the

opportunity to impact the society.

Eze Nwauba then called on leaders across the country to invest in education, to prevent a total collapse in the nation's educational sector.

Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Uniplan Integrated Limited, and a member of IAMPS Governing Board Dr. Kunle Awotiku in his remarks also called on eminent individuals who believe in Project Nigeria to be positive of the country, as there are hopes that there will be a greater Nigeria.

Dr Awotiku said that everyone must support youth entrepreneurship, training and re-training of students as well as recruiting them for several

opportunities, adding that UNIPLAN had being existence for over 19 years in Nigeria with a view to support individuals especially youths and women in their educational career.

Insisting that many youth have been trained and mentored to be great, Dr Awotiku called on eminent Nigerians to come together to revive the educational system of our Nation Nigeria, saying more Youth have to be empowered in various skill acquisition, as Nigeria move from a consuming nation to a producing country in the coming days.

Several prominent individuals were appreciated by Uniplan Integrated Services Limited including Politicians, Business Mogul and professionals were

some persons were inducted as Associate members, Senior members and Fellows of Institute of Arts and Management Professionals, Chartered Institute of Information and Strategy Management and Professional School of Public Relations and Professional School of Project management.

It was indeed an impactful event with honorary Doctorates are Dr Seye Oyeleke of DAWN Commission, Chief Dr. Adekannbi Christiana Omotayo, Dr. Mrs Liase Mojisola A Duke, Dr. Gideon Oluseyi Daramola, Pastor Dr. Peter Olatunde Adejumo, Dr. Mrs Comfort Olubunmi Adedeji, Dr. Alabi Abiodun Joshua among other.

# Haske Satumari Foundation, IPAC Meets Over Electoral Reforms

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

**T**he Haske Kudla Satumari Foundation has met with the Inter-Party Advisory Council (IPAC) in its bid to increase advocacy in the area of electoral and judicial reforms.

Leading the delegation, the Founder of Haske Satumari Foundation, Hon Kudla Satumari, said the visit to the national headquarters of IPAC was significant and to also invite all political parties to Thursday's conversation on the electoral and judicial reforms.

IPAC serves as the umbrella body for all political parties in Nigeria and plays a crucial role in electoral reforms within the country.

Kudla said they are seeking to strengthen the existing partnership between Haske Satumari Foundation and IPAC, as well as to promote the advocacy for a comprehensive overhaul of the electoral processes in Nigeria.

"This visit signifies the commitment of both organizations to work together and bring about positive changes in the Nigerian political landscape," Kudla said while extending an invitation to the entire leadership of IPAC to attend the annual colloquium organized by Haske Satumari Foundation.



"The colloquium, scheduled to take place on the 21st of March 2024 at the prestigious Shehu Musa Yar'adua Center in Abuja, aims to foster dialogue and exchange ideas on electoral and judicial reforms.

"The theme of the colloquium will be "Electoral and Judicial Reforms: The Imperatives on Nigeria's Democracy, Governance, Leadership, and Its Selection Processes," Kudla said adding that Alhaji Yusuf Mamman Dantalle (the Eze Enyi

Di NAMBA), will be a panelists, discussing the significance of the reforms in shaping Nigeria's democracy.

"The panelists will be joined by keynote speakers, Chief Barr Caleb Manasseh Mutfwang, the Executive Governor of Plateau, and Chief Femi Falana SAN, a highly respected legal luminary and human rights activist in Nigeria," Kudla said.

The Haske Satumari Foundation, through its various initiatives, is actively

championing the cause of creating functional systems that will produce credible and competent leaders of character for accelerated development in Nigeria and across the African continent. This visit to IPAC and the upcoming colloquium serve as a testament to the Foundation's commitment to fostering meaningful conversations and driving positive change in the nation.

The partnership between Haske

Satumari Foundation and IPAC is a significant step towards achieving electoral reforms in Nigeria. With the collective efforts of these organizations, the nation can look forward to a more transparent, inclusive, and democratic electoral process that will ultimately lead to the emergence of competent leaders who will steer Nigeria towards accelerated development and progress.

# Nigerians, Where Is The Outrage?

By Jibrin Ibrahim

I HAVE said this before, one of my greatest fears about the future of Nigeria is our collective loss of the capacity for anger. The political class knows it, they can do what they want and get away with it because we simply note what they are doing, grumble and continue our daily hustle for survival.

It was the Cameroonian author, Prof Celestin Monga, who reminded us in his book, *The Anthropology of Anger: Civil Society and Democracy in Africa*, that the capacity of civil society and citizens in Africa to advance the democratisation agenda of their countries is a function of their ability to express outrage at the destruction of their societies and its assets by selfish ruling classes.

Today, Nigeria is in misery, suffering from a terrible cost of living crisis similar to the one experienced in 1945/1946, and all that happened is a one-day strike to make speeches about promises not kept. The second day of the protest was cancelled because the labour unions were afraid government could get angry and deal with them. That's our lot, we have lost the capacity to really get angry at those messing us up.

The nouns that define how we feel are important indications of our capacity to act. Anger, rage, fury, ire, wrath, resentment and indignation are vital elements in creating human agency and carrying out a real transformation agenda. *The Labour Movement And The Politics Of Liberation In Nigeria – Part Three*; By Omotoye Olorode

Fury denotes our marked displeasure at a particular situation and demonstrates we have not given up and substituted passive sadness for anger. Every week, Nigerians are inundated with news stories about massive corruption and bad governance. The least we can do is show our indignation at how our rulers are ruining our country.

Following the end of the Second World War, the anger of Nigerians at British misrule boiled. Nigeria had a leadership that could channel the anger. Herbert Macaulay, Michael Imoudu and Nnamdi Azikiwe organised a national strike in 1945 and in 1946, toured 153 communities to get the popular mandate to end colonial rule and use Nigerian resources for Nigerian development.

In Kano, Ibadan, Enugu and Lagos, tens of thousands of Nigerians turned up in the "cost of living" demonstrations and the death knell of colonialism was sounded. Herbert Macaulay, the 82-year-old "angry nationalist", died on his way back from the Kano rally. The British authorities, seeing the anger of the people, were forced to stop making the claims that the nationalist leaders were talking for the elite and not for the masses.

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second day of the protest was cancelled because the labour unions were afraid government could get angry and deal with them. That's our lot, we have lost the capacity to really get angry at those messing us up.

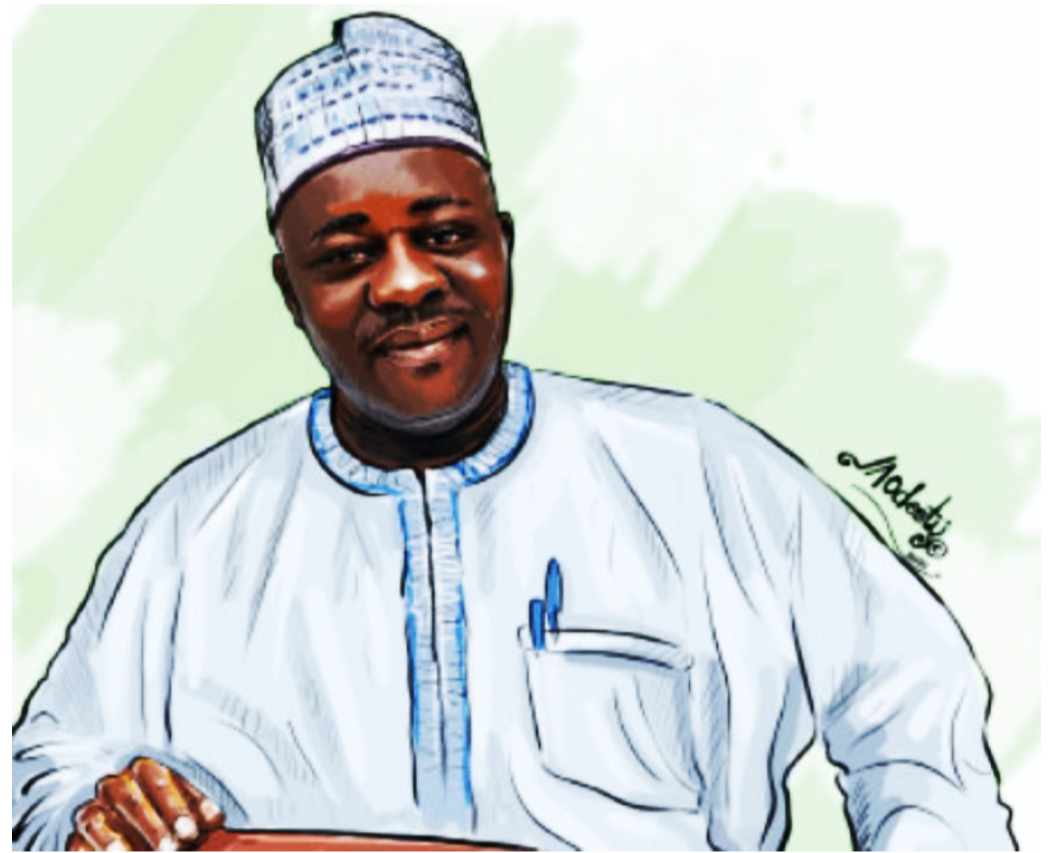
Over the past two decades, no general strike has lasted more than two days. It starts with apparent anger and ends with a whimper signalling some money have changed hands. The government knows the price it has to pay to "settle" a general strike. How can they take citizens seriously knowing the leadership to channel anger into effective results no longer exists?

Every day, there are reports on massive corruption by government officials who simply pocket billions and billions of public money and accountability mechanisms are almost never not activated against them. Nigerians simply watch and wonder at the depth of corruption and simply show no appreciation that these are public resources that could have gone a long way in addressing the crisis faced by the people but are privatised and accumulated by a few.

Today, Nigerians are suffering because they can no longer feed their families as stagnant wages and food inflation makes it impossible for them to get enough to eat. They should have been furious because they know that the decisions to remove fuel subsidy and float the naira were made precisely to produce this outcome. By these acts, Nigerians were guaranteed to suffer extremely high costs for transport, food and other essentials. It is a policy framework aimed at deepening poverty and the suffering of Nigerians.

Today, Nigerian citizens live in deep fear because of the insecurity that defines their daily existence. Millions of farmers can no longer farm their land because gunmen attack and kill them or impose taxes to "allow" them farm because they have the guns. Nigerians cannot travel anymore because they cannot afford the fare or because they are afraid of being kidnapped for ransom.

Nigerians cannot even worship in peace



Jibrin Ibrahim

because they are afraid terrorists could attack and kill them while worshiping in their churches and mosques. Where is the anger that flows from their knowledge that government has constitutional responsibility to provide for their security and welfare and it is simply not doing so?

Increasingly, the rights of the citizens of Nigeria to protest against bad governance, the right to dissent and to freedom of expression as guaranteed by the Constitution is denied, frustrated and challenged by the governing class. Meanwhile, Nigerians continue to watch and wonder. Dear Nigerians, when will we get out of the trap of passive sadness? Where is the anger, rage, fury, ire, wrath, resentment and indignation against bad and irresponsible governance in Nigeria? Every day, there are reports on massive corruption by government officials who simply pocket billions and billions of

public money and accountability mechanisms are almost never not activated against them. Nigerians simply watch and wonder at the depth of corruption and simply show no appreciation that these are public resources that could have gone a long way in addressing the crisis faced by the people but are privatised and accumulated by a few.

In terms of the political process, the electoral choices made by or sought for by Nigerians are often subverted using money, violence or the courts that specialise these days in removing elected officials chosen by the people and replacing them with people "illegally imposed" by judges who interfere continuously with electoral outcomes. The judiciary which is supposed to be the last hope of the common people is today almost entirely controlled by the political class and the people continue to watch and wonder.

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Dear Nigerians, when will we get out of the trap of passive sadness? Where is the anger, rage, fury, ire, wrath, resentment and indignation against bad and irresponsible governance in Nigeria?

*Ibrahim is a professor of Political Science and development consultant/expert, and Senior Fellow of the Centre for Democracy and Development. He is also the Chair of the Editorial Board of Abuja-based online newspaper, PREMIUM TIMES.*

**"Today, Nigerians are suffering because they can no longer feed their families as stagnant wages and food inflation makes it impossible for them to get enough to eat. They should have been furious because they know that the decisions to remove fuel subsidy and float the naira were made precisely to produce this outcome. By these acts, Nigerians were guaranteed to suffer extremely high costs for transport, food and other essentials. It is a policy framework aimed at deepening poverty and the suffering of Nigerians."**

# Hosting African Games Catalyst For Development - LOC Boss Asare



By; BUSAYO OLOWOOKERE, Accra

The African Games is a catalyst for economic and sporting development of Ghana.

This is the strong submission of the Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee of the 13th African Games Dr. Kwaku Ofori Asare in an interview with your authoritative news platform in Accra on Wednesday.

Dr. Kwaku Ofori Asare

explained that the ultra modern sporting facilities that was constructed by Ghana to host the African Games fiesta for the first time will leave beyond this generation.

The excellent facilities made it possible for Ghana to host 52 countries that participated in the different sporting events.

“The African Games has enhanced our tourism, sport businesses and transport industry.” Dr. Kwaku Ofori Asare stated.

He added that the local currency has also

benefited. “Our currency 'cedi' has also been strengthened because people came in with foreign currencies.”

Dr. Kwaku Ofori Asare also further said, Ghana will focus on other sports rather than the usual football by building on four pillars which are: Facilities, Talentsz Coaches and resources for future glory.

Egypt will host the next edition of the African Games which started in Congo Brazzaville in 1965.

# Federation Cup: Salisu Heaves Sigh Of Relief After FA Cup Opening Ceremony

By; ECHEAMOS

Salisu Galadima 'Basira' has stated that he is a fulfilled man after successfully spearheading the curtain raiser for the 2024 Nasarawa State Federation's Cup competition, his first major statewide task since assuming office as Chairman of the Nasarawa State Football Association alongside his Board on 4th November, 2023. The FA Chairman disclosed this to sports journalists who were covering the competition's opening match between AYD FC of Doma and Keffi Warriors at the Lafia City Stadium on Wednesday afternoon. According to him, "I feel extremely excited to have spearheaded my first major assignment as FA Chairman of Nasarawa State. "I used to be a participant as Chairman

of FC Basira, in this competition in the past. Little did I know I would one day be the Chairman to spearhead its commencement. "I had told representatives of the various Clubs during the recent draw ceremony for this year's FA Cup competition would be a complete deviation from what it used to be, and I meant this when I stated that. "I told them I would be coming up with some innovations, creativity, and we must insist on the right things to be done. "In fact, we are bringing some reforms. "There will be prize money in this edition of the competition for the finalist teams; so also individual and team awards for those who distinguish themselves. "Alhamdullilah, you all are living witnesses today to this historic

start to our administration." He called on the Media to support his leadership to achieve its goals and aspirations. "I want to thank the Media for what they have been doing for the FA. "But as a media person myself, I want more of their partnership with the FA for our collective mutual benefits. "They shouldn't wait until they are invited before partaking in the activities of the FA. I am part of the Media and the Media is part of us, so, let's work together for our common goals." In the first match of the 2024 Nasarawa State Federation Cup, AYD FC of Doma defeated Keffi Warriors FC by 3-2, with the Doma-based outfit setting up a Semi-Final clash with Nigeria National League side, Nasarawa United, on Monday, 25th March, 2024, at the Lafia City Stadium.



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## Emir of Ilorin, Sets Up Committee To Regulate Prices Of Food Items

By **BILIQIS ONAOLAPO OLAJUMOKE, Ilorin**

The Emir of Ilorin, Alhaji Ibrahim Sulu-Gambari, has established a committee known as the Islamic Youth Scholar of Ilorin Emirates to oversee the pricing of food items in markets within the Ilorin metropolis. This initiative aims to prevent traders from unfairly raising prices, especially during the upcoming holy month of Ramadan. In a statement issued by

the chairman of the committee, Maolaana Sheikh Abdul Fathai Arowolo Magaji, the chief Imam of Ojatuntun and Amir Majililis Shabab l Ulamah of Ilorin made available to the newsmen in Ilorin, the committee's mandate was outlined. It informed that they will conduct regular inspections of markets in Ilorin to identify traders who purchase food items at lower prices and subsequently increase their prices. The Emir emphasized the importance of maintaining

reasonable prices, highlighting that such practices are not in line with Islamic principles, particularly during Ramadan. The statement also urged traders to adhere to ethical standards and refrain from exploiting consumers by inflating prices. The committee's efforts are driven by the belief that fair pricing aligns with the teachings of Islam and fosters a sense of social responsibility within the community. "Emir's decision to form this committee reflects a

commitment to promoting economic fairness and ensuring that all members of the community can access essential food items without facing exorbitant costs. "The committee is expected to commence its monitoring activities immediately, with a focus on upholding ethical business practices during Ramadan and beyond," it said. The markets include, Ojatuntun ,Oja Oba, Mandate Market and Ipata Market Ilorin, Kwara State.



## Mambilla: Agunloye Heads For Appeal Court Over Ruling On Fundamental Rights

*\*Federal High Court dismisses his suit*

By: **BAYOAKAMO, Ibadan**

Former Minister of Power, Dr Olu Agunloye is to appeal the Monday's ruling of a Federal High Court in Abuja, dismissing his suit to restrain the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), from harassing him and breaching his fundamental rights on the ongoing International Arbitration on Mambilla Power Project. It was reliably gathered that Dr. Agunloye's lawyers have expressed preparedness in respect of the appeal considering that the court admitted basing its ruling on the suit being, "an attempt to use the instrumentality of the court to shield the applicant from

criminal investigation and to interfere with the statutory authority of the Respondent to investigate crimes or allegations of same in line with the EFCC Act." Sources stressed that it is believed that the duties of EFCC must be performed in accordance with the law, and the court has the powers to stop any infraction by the EFCC in the course of performance of its duties. According to the sources, " Such does not amount to interference with the statutory duties of EFCC but a legal checkmate of its powers to deter likely abuse. New Nigerian recalled that the suit filed by Dr Agunloye in June 2023 to restrain

EFCC from harassing him and breaching his fundamental rights because of the ongoing International Arbitration on Mambilla Power Project was on Monday, 18 March 2024 dismissed by Justice Obiora Ekwuatu at the Federal High Court in Abuja. The points made by Agunloye in the civil suit which has dragged for over nine months had become irrelevant or expired in reality because the EFCC, the Respondent, had, while the case was in progress, declared Agunloye wanted, detained him, maltreated him in detention, arraigned him before another court and remanded him in prison until the court granted him bail.

## Federation Cup: Salisu Heaves Sigh Of Relief After FA Cup Opening Ceremony

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Gov Yusuf

## Your Input Counts In Good Governance Delivery, Gov Yusuf Tells Special Advisers

By: **JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON**

Kano State Governor, Alhaji Abba Kabir Yusuf has urged Special Advisers to enhance their provision of positive advice, recognizing the pivotal role of their contributions in fostering good governance and delivering high-quality services to the populace of the state. This was contained in a statement issued by the governor's spokesperson, Sanusi Bature Dawakin Tofa yesterday. In a statement, Alhaji Yusuf Said this during an Iftar gathering with the Special Advisers appointed by his administration at the Kano Government House. Alhaji Yusuf emphasized the government's unwavering dedication to furnishing them with suitable office accommodations, with plans already in motion to repurpose specific sections of Abubakar Rimi Television (ARTV) to create additional offices for the seamless execution of official duties. The Governor charged the Special Advisers with the responsibility of presenting programs to the government that directly impact the lives of individuals in their

respective localities for thorough consideration and subsequent implementation. Alhaji Abba Kabir Yusuf disclosed that his administration has devised strategies to finalize projects initiated during Kwankwaso's tenure but left incomplete by the previous government, particularly focusing on the development of five-kilometer roads, road networks, water supply projects, among others. He issued a strong call to all political appointees to actively supervise the free Ramadan feeding programs at designated centers across the state, aiming to address any obstacles that may impede the efficient operation of the initiative. Furthermore, he took the opportunity to appeal to philanthropists and affluent members of society to extend assistance to the less privileged in the spirit of the holy month of Ramadan, seeking to alleviate the impact of economic hardships in the nation. The governor implored the Special Advisers and the people of Kano to fervently pray for enduring peace, stability, and prosperity in the state and the nation as a whole.