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Set Aside Arrest Warrant Against Me, Yahaya Bello Urges Abuja Court

By: ADAMA JOHN, Lokoja

The embattled former Governor of Kogi, Alhaji Yahaya Bello yesterday prayed a Federal High Court, Abuja to vacate the arrest warrant order issued to the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) against him on April 17.

Bello, through his lawyer, Adeola Adedipe, SAN, made the application following an order by Justice Emeka Nwite, directing the EFCC to effect the service of the charge and proof of

evidence on the ex-governor's lead counsel, Abdulwahab Mohammed, SAN

Justice Nwite had, earlier, ordered the EFCC's lawyer, Kemi Pinheiro, SAN, to serve Mohammed, the leading counsel of Bello, with bundles of the charge and the proof of evidence in a ruling yesterday.

Relying on provisions of Section 382v(4) and (5) of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act (ACJA), the Judge held that Mohammed, who announced an unconditional appearance

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Professor Baba Yusuf Abubakar left, receiving the 2024 Hallmark of Labour Foundation's (HLF) Award of Excellence

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PDP Will Retain All Positions In Oyo April 27 LG Polls, Gov Makinde Boasts

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

Oyo State Governor, Engr Seyi Makinde yesterday said the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) will retain all positions in the April 27, 2024 Local Government Elections in the state.

According to the governor while presenting flags to the PDP chairmanship candidates in Iseyin Federal Constituency at Ode Oba, Iseyin, his confidence is based on the unprecedented achievements of his administration across the state.

Engr Makinde emphasized the need for the people of Oyo State to vote en masse for all PDP candidates, saying the government at the grassroots will toe the line of his government in delivering sustainable development.

"I congratulate the Chairmen and the Vice Chairmen in advance. I believe our people will vote massively for them. Those who said we are planning to write results, can you see them campaigning?", he said. Engr Makinde added, "They are not. As for us, we will go out en masse, vote and elect our candidates" I am in Oke-Ogun Zone I today. When we said we wanted to do the Moniya-Iseyin Road in 2019, didn't we do it? Yes, we did".

"From there, we told the contractor to face Oyo-Iseyin road and he did. After that, we started the Iseyin to Ogbomoso and that was also done. I said in 2019 that we would facilitate the establishment of a higher institution in Iseyin and we fulfilled that promise".

Gov Makinde stressed, "For eight years, the only road the last administration did in the whole Oke-Ogun zone is just the road within Iseyin

and they didn't do another one. That was just a 6.5km road. So, what do they want to point to while campaigning to you ahead of this council election?."

Expressing confidence that the PDP candidates would come out victorious, considering his government's unprecedented achievements in Oke-Ogun Zone and the state in general, Gov Makinde urged residents of the state to go out in their numbers to vote, because it is their civic duty.

"Now, let me tell you what this government will do. After commissioning the Ogbomoso to Iseyin road, the only road remaining will be that of Iseyin to Igboora. As we do that, we will also fix Okeho to Iganna at the same time. We have started from Ijio to Iwerelle and the road will link Ilero through Otu to Alaga so that our agricultural belt will be linked together. Now, let them come out and promise what they want to do."

Assuring PDP faithful that their labour would not be in vain, as according to him, their efforts towards the progress of the party will be duly rewarded, he said, "let me assure you once again that we won't forget your efforts. All our efforts towards the progress of the PDP will be rewarded."

"We will continue to do the needful at the same level to make sure that our people are happy. As for those expecting appointments, you won't need to wait for long again as the time is nigh." The PDP candidates are: Mr Fadiran Rasaan, Iseyin Local Government; Mr Ojo Monsuru, Itesiwaju Local Government; Hon. Akeem Mustapha, Kajola Local Government, and Mr Oyewunmi Murtala, Iwajowa Local Government.

Suspected Bandits Kill Three In Otukpo

By; ARCHIBONG ESUENE, Makurdi.

Suspected bandits have killed three persons in Otukpo, Otukpo Local Government Area of Benue State according to Alfred Omakwu, the Caretaker Committee Chairman.

The chairman in a phone

interview yesterday, lamented the magnitude of killings, saying that his domain does not enjoy peace due to the activities of persons suspected to be bandits.

He said the three persons were killed on Saturday in Entekpa and Uda Ibi, Adoka Icho communities respectively.

The chairman explained that, "one person who was riding a motorbike, they followed him in a bush path and attacked him. They shot him, burnt the bike and escaped. At Uda Ibi in Adoka Icho, they killed 2 persons in a farm. "We have been having series of meetings with their leaders (ArDOS) but

this ones that come to our area, they claim to come from Nasarawa. They are not known and their leadership is unknown. These are the violent ones".

All efforts to get reaction of the Benue State Police Command Police Public Relation failed.



The out-going Area Comptroller, Comptroller Baba Imam successfully handed over the mantle of leadership to his successor, Comptroller Mohammed Babandede recently

Protest Rocks Ogbomoso Over Shooting Undergraduate Dead, Two Others Injured

*Investigations ongoing - Police

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The death of an undergraduate student of Ladoke Akintola University of Technology (LAUTECH) Ogbomoso on Monday is now causing tension in the town.

New Nigerian gathered that the undergraduate was reportedly shot dead at a popular lounge in the town by a yet to be identified person.

Two other students of the university were said to

have sustained injuries during the confusion at the lounge and the situation, resulting to protest early yesterday by students of the university

New Nigerian learnt that the confusion reared its head few hours after the commencement of the 2024 Convocation ceremony of the institution held at the university main campus on Monday following a heated disagreement among the students at the lounge

The owner of the lounge

was said to have alerted the security agents for intervention with the dimension the disagreement was assuming.

Upon their arrival, the security agents reportedly in attempt to scare away the students from the trouble spot shot into the air during which one of the students was reportedly hit by the bullet leaving two others injured

Early Tuesday, some students of the University embarked on protest over the death of

their colleague, barricading the roads in the vicinity as well as locked the entrance to the institution demanding justice for the deceased and the Two others with injuries

Contacted, Oyo State Police Command Public Relations Officer, (PPRO) SP Adewale Osifeso declared that the Command has commenced investigation into the matter, saying, "Investigation is ongoing. Updates would be provided accordingly please".

IPU Nominates Senator Akpabio, 15 Others To Prepare Grounds For World Conference Of Speakers Of Parliament

By: BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) has named President of the Nigerian Senate, Senator Godswill Akpabio as a member of the Preparatory Committee for the Sixth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament 2025.

A statement made available to journalists by the Special Assistant on Media to the Senate President, Jackson Udom stated that Akpabio's nomination was contained in a letter signed by the General Secretary of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Martin Chungong and addressed to the Senate President.

According to the statement, the nomination letter reads: "I wish to congratulate you upon your nomination as a member of the Preparatory Committee for the Sixth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament (2025) and to invite you to a first meeting of the Preparatory Committee at IPU Headquarters in Geneva on 16-17 May 2024".

"As you are aware, every five years since 2000, the Inter-Parliamentary Union has convened a World Conference of Speakers of Parliament. The Conferences are organized in close cooperation with the United Nations and aim to reinforce the parliamentary dimension in the work of the UN and to bridge the democracy gap in international relations", it said.

The statement added, "At the recently concluded 148th IPU Assembly, further to consultations with Member Parliaments and the Geopolitical Groups, the composition of the Preparatory Committee for the 2025 Speakers' Conference was endorsed by the IPU governing bodies".

"I expect that three meetings of the Preparatory Committee will be held between May 2024 and the Speakers' Conference which is tentatively scheduled to take place from Wednesday 30 July 2025 to Friday 1 August 2025 and preceded by the Summit of Women Speakers in Bern on Tuesday 29 July.7"

It stressed further, "Preparations for the Speakers' Conference are

spearheaded by a Preparatory Committee composed of some 20 Speakers of Parliament, a select number of representatives of the IPU Executive Committee, and the senior representative of the UN Secretary-General". It maintained that, "the Preparatory Committee usually meets four times during the 18-month preparatory period, with the fourth and final meeting taking place on the eve of the Conference."

Other members of the committee include: Dr. Tulia Ackson, President of the IPU; Mr. Brahim Boughali, President, National People's Assembly, Algeria; Ms. Carolina Cerqueira, Speaker, National Assembly, Angola; Mr. Adama Bictogo, Speaker, National Assembly, Côte d'Ivoire; Mr. Godswill Akpabio, President, Senate, Nigeria.

Others are: Arab Group, Mr. Rachid Talbi El Alami, Speaker House of Representatives, Morocco, Ms. Hamda bint Hassan Al-Sulaiti, Deputy Speaker, Shura Council, Qatar, Asia Pacific Group, Mr. Milton Dick, Speaker, House of Representatives, Australia, Ms. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury.

"Speaker, Parliament, Bangladesh, Mr. Zhao Leji, Chairman, National People's Congress, China, Eurasia Group, Mr. Alen Simonyan, Chairman National Assembly, Armenia, Ms. Sahiba Gafarova, Chairwoman, National Assembly, Azerbaijan Group of Latin America and the Caribbean, Ms. Victoria Eugenia Villarruel, President

Senate, Argentina, Mr. Manzoor Nadir Speaker, National Assembly, Guyana Ms. Marcela Guerra Castillo, among others.

The statement urged them to note that, "at your first meeting in May, you will have an opportunity to engage with fellow Speakers and discuss matters relating to the time and venue of the 2025 Speakers' Conference, its main objective, general format, themes, and expected outcomes, adding, "I very much hope that you can join us for this important meeting and look forward to working closely."

Food Security: ABU VC Excited As IAR Introduces Over 10 Crop Varieties To Farmers

By: SANIALIYU, Zaria

The Vice Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) Zaria, Professor Kabiru Bala said that over 10 crop varieties have been introduced to farming communities in Nigeria including 3 Bt maize which are resistant to the dreaded fall army worm and stemborers by the Institute of Agriculture Research (IAR).

He stated this at the opening ceremony of the Annual Research Review and Planning Meeting and RECILS at Institute for Agricultural Research (IAR).

Professor Kabiru Bala said it is the university's ardent believe that these technologies are developed to ease hunger and starvation, thus ensuring food security in the midst of of the challenges of insecurity in Nigeria.

Represented by the Provost College of Medical Sciences, Professor Mohammed Sani Shehu, he said, IAR

has become a household name among farming communities in terms of technology generation and dissemination.

The Vice Chancellor said it is collective resolve to ensure availability of food in a sustainable manner to enhance academic and social well being of all and sandry within the purview of the ABU through the Agricultural Veterinary complex research efforts.

In his address, the Executive Director Institute for Agricultural Research Professor Ado Yusuf said the Challenge of global warming resulting in droughts and floods ravaging nation's behoves on us to develop climate resilient crops and technologies in save farmers from huge economic losses.

He said in the last decade the institute have imbibe the use of cutting-edge technologies using the tools of biotechnology to develop and release climate smart crop varieties for the benefit of the farmers.

Professor Ado added that IAR will not relent on their ongoing efforts on the development of crop varieties that exhibit tolerance or resistance to both biotic and abiotic stresses, including drought, extreme heat, floods, pest and diseases in order to address the challenges of climate change.

According to him, IAR Crop varieties will be complemented by production technologies focusing on improved soil management and agronomic practices that will assist in attaining their maximum potential as well as various simple tools designed to minimize labour in both crop production and post harvest activities.

In his message, the Executive Secretary Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria, Prof. Garba Hamidu Sharubutu said IAR has strengthens the pivotal role the instructions like them play in shaping the trajectory of Nigerian Agricultural

landscape.

Represented by Prof. Bello Abubakar Zaki a Director in the Council said, IAR steadfast commitment to advancing the frontiers of Agricultural Research and technology has not gone unnoticed.

Also, the institute unwavering dedication, innovative spirit and tireless efforts are instrumental in driving sustainable economic development across Nigeria.

The Executive Secretary said the Council has acknowledged and commended the remarkable strides made by the institute in agricultural and technology development, while the ground breaking initiatives, cutting edge research endeavors and impactful interventions are contributing significantly to the advancement of agricultural sector.



Set Aside Arrest Warrant Against Me, Yahaya Bello Urges Abuja Court

for the defendant to receive the charge.

However, shortly after the ruling, Adedipe argued that the arrest warrant order, having been made before the charge ought to be set aside suo motu (on its own accord, without any request by the parties involved).

The senior lawyer argued

that contrary to Pinheiro's submission that the ex-governor must be in court first before any application could be entertained being a criminal case, he said the anti-graft agency also made an application on April 18 after the warrant arrest was issued to EFCC on April 17 and that the

court granted it.

According to him, the complainant made an application for substituted service on 18th day of April after the arrest warrant had been issued on 17th day of April and today, my noble lord granted it.

"The court must satisfy itself that the defendant (Bello) will not be

prejudiced in fairness if the warrant of arrest continues to hang on his neck, having been made before service of the charge contrary to Section 394 of ACJA," Adeola argued.

The court is to deliver ruling in Yahaya Bello's application to vacate the warrant of arrest May 10.

Timi Frank Commends EFCC For Pursuing Arrest Of Yahaya Bello *Calls for expanded anti-corruption efforts

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Former Deputy National Publicity Secretary of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Comrade Timi Frank, has praised the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) for its efforts to apprehend and prosecute former Kogi State Governor Yahaya Bello.

In a statement made available to newsmen yesterday in Abuja, Frank urged the commission to broaden its investigation to include other allegedly corrupt individuals, particularly former governors, ministers, and public officials associated with both the past administration of ex-President Muhammadu Buhari and the current administration of President Bola Tinubu. Frank stressed the importance of extending the probe to avoid giving the impression that the EFCC's actions against Bello were merely a witch hunt. While commending the EFCC's steps to hold Bello accountable, Frank highlighted the need for equal scrutiny of other individuals accused of corruption.

"We commend the EFCC for its efforts in pursuing Yahaya Bello's prosecution. However, we urge the agency to also investigate other former governors, including Minister of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Nyesom Wike, whose alleged corrupt practices have been reported to the EFCC," said Frank.

According to him, EFCC's efforts to apprehend Bello and bring him to trial would appear to be a deliberate and malicious witch hunt simply because he contested the Presidential primary election of the All Progressives Congress (APC) against President Bola Tinubu.

"Furthermore, we have yet to witness the arrest of several allegedly corrupt public officials who served under ex-President Muhammadu Buhari, despite petitions against them before the EFCC. These

individuals include former Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Abubakar Malami; former Governor of Benue State, Samuel Ortom; former Governor of Abia State, Okezie Ikpeazu; former Minister of Aviation, Hadi Sirika, among others.

"Additionally, there are those like former personal assistant to President Buhari, Tunde Sabiu; former Director General of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), Bashir Jamoh; immediate past Chairman of the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS), Muhammad Nami; the Group Chief Executive Officer (GCEO) of the Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited (NNPCL), Dr. Mele Kyari; and Senate President Godswill Akpabio, who remain unprosecuted.

"Similarly, former Minister of Finance, Budget and Economic Planning, Zainab Ahmed; former Director General of the Nigerian Ports Authority and current aide to President Tinubu, Hadiza Bala Usman; former Governor of Ebonyi State and present Minister of Works, Dave Umahi; and former security chiefs who are the subject of petitions before the EFCC continue to evade prosecution."

Frank, representing the United Liberation Movement for West Papua (ULMWP) in East Africa and the Middle East, emphasized that by bringing these individuals to court to face trial, the EFCC would demonstrate to Nigerians that their actions against Bello are not politically motivated.

He said: "Someone like Wike has a petition against him before the EFCC, but they have never invited him to defend allegations against him. Is it because some of these people supported and campaigned for Tinubu to emerge President in 2023 that makes them untouchable?"

He acknowledged that the EFCC's action

against Bello is a positive step in the fight against corruption.

However, Frank emphasized the need for the EFCC to show the same level of commitment in addressing allegations against other corrupt individuals.

He added: "For instance, we have seen the recent revelation of the Governor of Abia State, Alex Oti, against the former governor of the State, Okezie Ikpeazu, concerning humongous money

paid for the construction of a non-existent airport and other bogus projects by the immediate past administration in Abia state.

The political activist, who hails from Bayelsa, asserted that the failure to prosecute former governors and ministers accused of corruption would undermine the credibility of the anti-corruption efforts. He criticized the EFCC for appearing selective in its prosecutions, targeting only those who may not be in favour with the President.

He said that individuals who support the current administration seem to evade prosecution while those critical of it are pursued.

Frank warned that if the EFCC continues to neglect its duty to investigate allegations against individuals like Nyesom Wike, they will make the petitions public to shed light on their actions while in office and compel the



EFCC to take action.

"Hence, we urge the EFCC to demonstrate its commitment to combating corruption in Nigeria by actively pursuing all individuals accused of corrupt practices, not just a select few.

"If the EFCC truly aims to gain the trust of both Nigerians and the international community in the fight against corruption, it must extend its investigations to all relevant parties mentioned. Additionally, we demand swift prosecution of those implicated in corruption allegations to ensure accountability and fairness.

"Furthermore, we call upon the EFCC to cease the harassment and intimidation of individuals like Yahaya Bello. Doing so will signal to the public that the EFCC is dedicated to upholding justice and integrity in Nigeria, thereby restoring faith in the anti-corruption efforts of the current administration."

Water Scarcity: Gov Buni Directs Supply Of Free Diesel To Private Boreholes

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

In an effort to curtail the challenges of water scarcity faced by residents of Damaturu the Yobe State capital, Governor Mai Mala Buni has directed the State Ministry of Water Resources to supply free diesel to some selected private boreholes weekly.

Supervising the distribution on Monday, the General Manager of the State Water Corporation, Engineer Mahdi Zarma explained that the effort is to cut down cost of the water trucks for the general public.

"Government has recently increased the supply of diesel from 40,000 litres to 60,000 litres to over 100 government boreholes in Damaturu, but we came to realize that some areas that are overpopulated still have the challenges of getting water at a subsidized rate from the water vendors".

"We are giving 10 litres of diesel each to



some selected private boreholes in Damaturu the state capital to cushion the sufferings of the buyers. The borehole

operators charges N300.00 per truck thereby forcing the water vendors to sale the truck at about N1,000 to residents

depending on the location, therefore with this development, we hope they will reduce the cost for the general public or the buyers" he said.

Adamu Abubakar, a private borehole operator and Babagana Ali a resident of Nasarawa community in the state capital; thanked the government for cushioning the sufferings of the people during the hot season.

It would be recalled, the suspected Boko Haram insurgents vandalized poles number 377 and 378 of the Nigeria Transmission Company (TCN) in the last eight weeks thereby causing epileptic power supply to the state capital, as most government boreholes depend on electricity for source of energy.

With the efforts put in place by the government, the residents look forward to when the electricity supply will fully be restored.

By; PATRICK TITUS,
Uyo

Hardship bites harder in Akwa Ibom State as fuel scarcity hit the state following allegations of extortion and impounding of products by Natural Oil and Gas Suppliers Association (NOGASA), forcing marketers to close stations.

According to the state branch of the Independent Petroleum Marketers Association (IPMAN), the decision to suspend operations was taken after a stakeholders meeting following a series of "refrations into our businesses caused by the activities of Natural Oil and Gas Suppliers Association (NOGASA) where members' products were impounded on the road and extorted."

It directed members to close stations/outlets from the public effective Monday April 22, 2024 adding that any non compliance would attract a fine of N300,000 which it said would be enforced.

Checks in Uyo, the Akwa Ibom State capital revealed that many of the service stations did not open since Sunday forcing a few that defied the directive to sell their products at N800 litre as against the current price of N700 per litre.

The check further showed that though the price of petrol is said to have been slashed in some parts of the country, the looming strike has worsened the current situation in Akwa Ibom State.

The effect however, is the hike in transport fares. A drop by bus or Keke that was formerly between N100 and N150 depending on a distance, now charge N200, N250 and N300.

Those, especially students and low income earners who cannot afford to pay the high fare trek distance to their destinations.

Reacting to the development, Petroleum Products Retail Outlets Owners Association Of Nigeria (PETROAN) however urged the public to disregard the threat while its members should go about their businesses.

Udeme Esset, chairman of the group in Akwa Ibom state in a statement made available to newsmen in Uyo, said the association would release their enforcement team from

today (Monday) "to monitor the operations of the retail outlets and report to the (Nigeria Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority)" adding that the "necessary security agencies for action should there be any encumbrance from any unauthorised person or group."

It urged the state government to take necessary actions against those stopping petrol tankers on the road therefore causing unnecessary traffic and endangering the residents in an event of a possible accident or explosion from any of the inflammable petroleum tankers impounded.

Reacting to the scenerio, Governor Umo Eno said he has directed the Commissioner for Internal Security to liaise with the Co-ordinator of Ibom Community Watch, a government owned security outfit and other security outfits to mount surveillance at the borders to checkmate the unscrupulous elements from carrying out their evil intentions.

According to the governor there is fake news in circulation from an unknown group saying they want to withdraw their service of fuel delivery in Akwa Ibom state, we have contacted the original and authentic group who have since countered that announcement.

"In the wake of the prevailing hardship in the country, if any group believes it can constitute themselves into a nuisance and create additional hardship for the people of Akwa Ibom, we will confront that group," he said.

The governor who spoke during a special service and fundraising for church building project in Onna local government council noted that Nigerians have been severely impoverished by the present economic realities and warned groups not to worsen the situation.

Until the threat by IPMAN, nothing was heard of PETROAN in the state which many believe is a faction within the marketers which is sympathetic to the state government.

Fuel Scarcity Hits Akwa Ibom Over Alleged Extortion, Impounding Of Products



Makarfi Education Endowment Trust Fund Pays Fees Of Over 300 Students

By; ISAAC ODEH,
Kaduna

A Non Governmental Organisation under the aegis of Makarfi Education Endowment Trust Fund (METEF) has announced that it has paid tuition fees for over 300 students, particularly those from vulnerable homes in the LGA.

According to the foundation, the payment aims to support the students in focusing on their education without financial challenges.

Secretary of the foundation, Sama'ila Aliyu Makarfi, stated this following a courtesy visit by the foundation's leadership under the chairmanship of Mahmud Bako Gazara to stakeholders of Makarfi Local Government Area origin in the state, including the former state

governor, Ahmed Makarfi. He disclosed that the benefiting students were from Nuhu Bamali Polytechnic and Kaduna State University, emphasizing the foundation's efforts to secure a JAMB registration center for Makarfi LGA due to the absence of one in the town, forcing students to travel to Zaria for exams.

"We have supported approximately 300 youth within Makarfi LGA, covering their tuition fees to facilitate their education. Most of these beneficiaries are students of Nuhu Bamali Polytechnic and Kaduna State University," he said. Similarly, Chairman of the foundation, Mahmud Bako Gazara, addressing journalists, expressed the foundation's commitment to combatting school dropout rates in the LGA.

"We aim to tackle school dropout rates among our youth, both male and female, in the LGA. Our goal is to support the educational development of Makarfi LGA," he stated.

In response, Umar Abdulkadir Ajilo, the member representing Makarfi/Kudan Federal Constituency, reiterated Makarfi's commendable educational background and pledged to collaborate with the foundation to provide necessary support for educational development in the LGA. Ajilo emphasized that as a lawmaker, such initiatives could assist him in realizing his plans to ensure youth education in the LGA, noting that this was his third meeting with high-powered stakeholders since assuming office to discuss educational development

in his constituency. Other stakeholders visited to solicit for their support, including former Governor Senator Ahmed Mohammed Makarfi, former Deputy Comptroller General of Customs Alhaji Garba Bala Makarfi, and Alhaji Auwalu Mohammed Makarfi, pledged to help METEF achieve its goals. The stakeholder visit aimed to raise awareness about METEF's impactful activities and seek collaboration to ensure quality education is accessible to every Makarfi indigene, regardless of their socioeconomic background.

Established for a decade, METEF is actively seeking support from relevant stakeholders to fully realize its noble objectives.



The foundation delegation in a group photograph with the former governor Ahmed Makarfi at his residence in Kaduna

Tamallan Foundation: Putting Smiles On Faces Of Less Privileged

By; JABIRU A. HASSAN, Kano

Tamallan Foundation, remains committed towards putting smiles on faces of the less privileged across Dambatta and Makoda local government areas, since its establishment.

The foundation under the dynamic leadership of its founder, Dr. Saleh Musa Wailare is working selflessly towards assisting the needy of all categories and in every sector like education, employment opportunities, empowerment for self reliance and healthcare services.

Other areas being touched by Tamallan Foundation, include, hosting various programmes on Islamic education and

sponsoring academic pursuit for the young ones for better tomorrow, in addition to programmes related to the United Nations activities.

Recently, Tamallan Foundation took responsibility of keeping the Dambatta rehabilitation centre inmates clean and tidy before the just concluded Eid-el Fitr and making a special visit to the center for Sallah festival and dinner respectively.

Most of the people that had a chat with our correspondent, commended the founder of the foundation, Dr. Saleh Musa Wailare and his trusted lieutenants for putting a smile to the needy and less privileged and prayed for the success of the foundation in future.



2027: NYA President Meets Africa's Most Influential Politician, Ousmane Yara In Dakar

**Mulls floating youth friendly political party*



By; ISAAC ODEH, Kaduna

The President of the National Youth Alliance (NYA), Ambassador Aliyu Bin Abbas on Monday April 22, 2024, held a strategic meeting with a renowned influential figure in Africa's political space, His Excellency Ousmane Yara at his Dakar residence in Senegal.

This was contained in a statement signed by NYA President's SA Media and Publicity, Okpani Jacob Onjewu

Dickson, made available to newsmen in Kaduna on Tuesday April 24, 2024.

According to the statement, the discussions centres on how to get youth fully involved in the 2027 polls in Nigeria.

"Earlier today, I paid a visit to His Excellency Ousmane Yara at his Dakar residence, we discussed extensively on areas of collaboration for youth inclusiveness in politics and governance in Africa.

"HE Yara is one of the

prolific political mediators and strategic negotiators in modern Pan-African political history. Born in Guinea Conakry, he is a Pan-African citizen with extensive knowledge and experience in political negotiations across Africa," Ambassador Abbas was quoted in the statement. The statement pointed out that some of his achievements includes the negotiation between President Alpha Conde (Guinea Conakry) and President Macky Sall (Senegal), with him

suggesting that NYA should become registered as a political party in Nigeria ahead 2027.

He also conducted negotiations between President Macky Sall (Senegal) and President Abdoulaye Wade (Senegal).

Recently, he conducted sensitive negotiations between the Senegalese opposition figure Ousmane Sonko who is the current Prime Minister of Senegal and Bassirou Diomaye Faye the new President of Senegal respectively.

We Are Not Part Of Call For Yoruba Exit From Nigeria - Afenifere

*Faults Prof Akintoye, Sunday Igboho
*Says Yoruba has invested so much in Nigeria, Tinubu already on right path of making Nigeria better for everybody

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

The Pan-Yoruba socio-cultural and socio-political organization, Afenifere on Monday, described the call for the exit of Yoruba from Nigeria as undesirable, self-serving and unnecessary 'at the moment at least'.

Afenifere in a statement by the organisation's National Publicity Secretary, Comrade Jare Ajayi rubbished the call by a group, 'Yoruba Self-Determination Movement' (YSDM) in an open letter to President Bola Tinubu on Saturday for a peaceful secession of the Yoruba nation from Nigeria.

The Pan Yoruba socio political and socio cultural organization stated in its statement that the problems bedeviling Yorubaland and Nigeria as a whole "are not merely because multi-ethnic groups make up the country".

According to Afenifere, "Rather, the country's multi various problems can be traced to lack of good governance", adding that it faulted "the reason adduced for the request to exit Nigeria which was on the basis of perceived marginalization that Yorubas are suffering in Nigeria.

"There is no doubt that the lot of Yorubas can be better than it presently is. But whatever deprivation Yorubas may be experiencing today in the Nigerian nation is not due mainly to the fact that they are Yorubas", it said.

The Pan Yoruba organization added, "The deprivations they may be suffering could be traced to the general mis governance that corporate Nigeria had been subjected to over the years if not decades. Meaning that marginalization, deprivation, injustice, misgovernance etc that Yorubas may be experiencing today is, if truth is to be told, not peculiar to Yorubas alone".

"We are not, by this submission, claiming that Yorubas are getting the best or should not be better served. Far from it. What we are saying is that it would be unfair to use the excuse of the deprivations in the land as an alibi to want to leave Nigeria.

"What we should clamour for is good governance that will enable every segment of the society to have a better lease of life".

It noted further "when, during the First Republic, the country Nigeria ran a semblance of true federalism in which each region was able to determine its own affairs, life was relatively better and the agitation for separation was not rife".

New Nigerian recalls that Prof Banji Akintoye, Chief Sunday Adeyemo Igboho, was reported to have sent a letter to President Bola Tinubu allegedly asking him to within the next two months, set up a negotiation team that will midwife the exit of Yoruba people from Nigeria.

Governor Inuwa Congratulates Gombe's Prof Abubakar For Winning 2024 HLF Excellence Award

By: JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

Gombe State Governor, Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya, CON, has congratulated an illustrious son of Gombe and member of the State's Special Honorary Advisory Council, Professor Baba Yusuf Abubakar for winning the 2024 Hallmark of Labour Foundation's (HLF) Award of Excellence for his outstanding contributions to research, innovation and value-chain development. A statement signed by the Director-General (Press Affairs) Government House Gombe, Ismaila Uba Misilli, made available yesterday, said that Governor Inuwa described the honour as well-deserved, considering the immense contributions of the awardee towards the development of the state

and the entire nation. "This outstanding award is indeed a recognition of your positive contributions. Your achievements remind us all of the power of hard work, integrity, and commitment to making a difference," the governor said, expressing optimism that the recognition will encourage others to follow suit. "We hope this remarkable recognition which brings pride and honour to the entire people of Gombe State, will serve as an inspiration for others," he added. He was honoured alongside some prominent Nigerians, including the Coordinating Minister of Health and Social Development, Prof Ali Pate. Professor B.Y. Abubakar was the pioneer Executive Secretary of the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria (2006-

2016) and former Pro-Chancellor of the Gombe State University of Science & Technology, Kumo (2018-2020). He is currently serving as member in the Special Honorary Advisory Council inaugurated by Governor Inuwa Yahaya to guide the implementation of his government's good policies and programmes. Hallmarks of Labour Foundation is a non-governmental organization, established to promote the virtues of honesty, hard work and integrity. through character emulation and role modeling. The Chairman of the Board of Trustees is the Chancellor of McPherson University, Dr Christopher Kolade, a veteran broadcaster, diplomat, scholar and administrator, with leadership excellence and outstanding integrity.



Prof Abubakar



FG Announces Recovery Of N57bn Debt From 10 MDAs

By; BASHIR BELLO DOLLARS, Abuja

The Federal Government has announced the recovery of N57 billion from the N5.2 trillion liabilities owed the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) and other bodies by Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) of government. The Permanent Secretary, Special Duties, Federal Ministry of Finance Mr. Okokon Ekanem Udo made the disclosure yesterday in Enugu, the Enugu State Capital, during a Sensitisation Workshop on Federal Government Debt Recovery Drive through Project Lighthouse Programme for South-East geo-political zone.

A statement signed by the Director, Information & Public Relations, Mohammed Manga, dated Tuesday April 23, 2024, said that while declaring the event open, Ekanem stated that the debts came to the spotlight from data aggregated from over 5,000+ debtors across more than 93 MDAs.

Represented by the Ministry's Director, Special Projects, Aisha Omar, the Permanent Secretary informed that it also received refunds to the government from companies who failed to deliver on projects for which payment had been made, adding that others are unpaid credit facilities granted to both corporate entities and individuals by the Bank of Industry (BOI), Bank of Agriculture (BOA), Judgment Debt in favor of Government and debts owed Pension Transitional Arrangement Directorate (PTAD) by Insurance

Companies amongst others.

Mr Udo added that data from Project Lighthouse revealed that many companies and individuals, who owe government agencies and refused to honour their obligations were still being paid. This, he said, was done through government platforms such as GIFMIS and Treasury Single Account (TSA) due to lack of visibility over these transactions. According to him, in actualising debt recovery goal, the Federal Ministry of Finance initiated *Project Lighthouse*, which has enabled the aggregation of relevant economic and financial information from multiple agencies who hitherto did not share data.

Ekanem explained that, generally, revenue loopholes have been aided by poor information sharing and enforcement. *It may interest you to note that the Ministry, through the consolidation efforts of the Debt Analytics and Reporting Application, has been able to aggregate monumental debts of approximately N5.2 trillion*, he said.

The Permanent Secretary who informed further that the debt aggregation effort is still ongoing stated that *currently, approximately N57 billion has been recovered so far* *from this amount due to concerted efforts on the part of stakeholders*

and the Federal Government

He hinted that similar sensitization workshops have been held in the five geo-political zones of the country, namely South- West, North-Central, North-West, South-



South and North-East respectively

Ekanem explained further that important part of the policies and strategies was to leverage big data technology to help block revenue loopholes, identify new revenue opportunities, optimize existing revenue streams, especially non-oil revenue as well as improve fiscal transparency, in line with the policy objectives of the President Bola Ahmed Tinubuled Administration

He disclosed that the Ministry, in this regard has however taken steps to address this major revenue loophole, through the issuance of a Ministerial directive to all MDAs to aggregate all Government debt across the Public Finance Space as well as having a single window on the credit profile of Government.

*It extends the functionalities of

Debt Recovery Capability of Lighthouse to enable the Federal Ministry of Finance to fully automate the debt recovery process and make settlements of debts as seamless as possible*.

The usefulness of this platform is that, our revenue generation effort will be dependent on your cooperation and commitment in providing quality and relevant information (debt-related data) to populate the platform, he added

The Permanent Secretary who expressed optimism that participating Organizations stand to benefit immensely from the Lighthouse Project called for their continuous support to ensure the full realization of the Programme's goals and aspirations.

Responding, one of the participants at the sensitization workshop Mrs. Ifeoma Ojukwu, applauded the initiative, noting

that it had created more awareness on the benefits accruable to participating MDAs.

In his vote of thanks, Deputy Director (PICA) Federal Ministry of Finance, Mr. Johnson Oludare commended President Bola Ahmed Tinubuled Administration, the Minister of Finance and Coordinating Minister of the Economy, Mr. Wale Edun, the Permanent Secretary Federal Ministry of Finance Mrs Lydia Shehu Jafiya as well as the Management and Staff of the Ministry for creating the enabling environment for the operationalization of the Project Lighthouse which he said, is a data-driven initiative aimed at collecting, integrating and analysing data from revenue - generating agencies in order to create insightful information for improved decision making.

Environmental Safety Integral Part Of Our Operations – Indorama

By; BON PETERS, Port Harcourt

Indorama Eleme Petrochemicals Ltd, has said that effective environment management has continued to be an integral aspect of its operations.

The company made its position known over the weekend, while addressing newsmen shortly after a tour of its facility at the company's corporate headquarters in Eleme, Rivers.

Head, Corporate Communications of the company, Dr Jossy Nkwocha said that the tour became necessary to express the extent of commitment towards achieving a zero harm, safe and healthy environment in line with operational laws of the Federal Government and the World Health organization (WHO).

"We have painstakingly shown you

during the facility tour and the detailed presentation on our environmental management system that we are a responsible corporate entity committed to the goal of zero harm, safe and healthy environment.

"We have been able to achieve this milestone by making effective environment management system an integral part of our operations.

"We have also ensured a robust implementation of the environment management and monitoring system, thereby enhancing environmental performance as stipulated by Regulators and Lenders.

"We are putting efforts into continual improvement of our environmental systems and performance," he said.

Nkwocha, however condemned attempts by certain individuals who are determined to disparage the company, alleging that the company had undermined environmental safety as well as corporate social responsibility to host Communities. Nkwocha noted that the company had remained committed to the federal government and host Communities by ensuring a 7.5 equity for its host.

The company had also funded various programs and projects with a view to improving the living standards of host Communities and positively touching the lives of the youths, widows, persons living with disabilities and artisans through employment opportunities, skills acquisition programs, business support/

educational funding for indigent scholars. Emphasising on the various strategic environment management systems adopted by the company, Nkwocha noted that the company was in compliance with all applicable national and state environmental regulations as well as international best practices.

According to him, the company has unrelentlessly carried out periodic monitoring (daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly as defined) of noise, ambient air quality, and stack emissions.

The company, in collaboration with accredited consultants, has also ensured treated effluent quality, groundwater quality, recipient water body (Okulu River) quality and biodiversity.



Governor Dauda Lawal left, met with Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, in Washington, D.C.,

We Must Deploy Advanced Technology To Fight Insecurity, Governor Lawal Tells United Nations

By; **I M R A N A ABDULLAHI, Kaduna**

Governor Dauda Lawal has emphasized the pressing need to deploy advanced technology to combat insecurity in Zamfara State and the North.

The Zamfara State Governor and other state governors, met with Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, in Washington, D.C., on Friday.

A statement by the spokesperson of the Zamfara Governor,

Sulaiman Bala Idris, revealed that the meeting was attended by governors from Zamfara, Benue, Jigawa, Kaduna, Katsina, Kebbi, and Niger states.

The Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, Amina J. Mohammed praised the Governors for their efforts in finding a lasting solution to the region's problems. "Your presence here indicates a strong desire from the Northern Governors to implement change in their states.

Explaining the Zamfara situation to the Deputy Secretary-General,

Governor Dauda Lawal highlighted the crucial role that technology can play in enhancing security and the need for a coordinated effort to harness the power of technology, including the use of artificial intelligence, biometric identification systems, and surveillance cameras.

"We are here with common problems. The major challenge is insecurity, and something has to be done.

"Due to insecurity, agriculture has been impossible. We need assistance in transitioning from peasant farming to

advancing agriculture so that we can deploy technology to fight this insurgency. We hope to find solutions to these problems during these meetings. I inherited a dysfunctional state with poor development indices. "I have declared a state of emergency in education and health. We must take immediate action to address these critical issues; otherwise, our future will be bleak. We require significant support to overcome these challenges and ensure a better future for our people."

PSC Boss Arase, Visits Coomassie Hospital Katsina For Recruits Screening Monitoring

By; **SULEIMAN AHMED MISAU, Katsina**

Former Inspector General of Police and Chairman Police Service Commission (PSC), Mr Solomon Arase (rtd) was in Katsina State, where he visited Ibrahim A. Coomassie Cottage Hospital Katsina, venue of medical screening and test for specialists Police candidates.

IGP Arase (rtd) who was accompanied by Assistant Inspector-General of Police, (AIG), Zone 14 Headquarters, Katsina,

AIG Yahaya S. Abubakar, Commissioner of Police, Katsina State Command, CP Aliyu A. Musa and other senior Police officers of the Zone, went round for on the spot inspection of the ongoing medical and Specialists test being carried out at the center.

IGP Solomon Arase was "impressed with what he saw on ground such as the display of various equipment being used in testing practical skills of the applicants and commended the AIG Zone 14 Headquarters, Katsina and the officers for a well done job"



'One Chance' Robbery, Drugs Peddling, Motor Battery, Keke, Stealing Suspects Arrested

By; **KELVIN OKPARA, Enugu**

Police Operatives serving at different Divisions of the Enugu State Police Command have arrested a total of six male suspects for the offenses of "one chance" robbery, unlawful possession and peddling of suspected cocaine, "Ghana Loud," stealing of a motor vehicle battery, a tricycle (Keke), and a church organ keyboard.

Also recovered from the suspects, are, two (2) tricycles, one (1) motor vehicle battery, one (1) organ keyboard, wraps of substances suspected to be cocaine, and quantities of weeds suspected to be "Ghana Loud"

This was disclosed in a statement by the Command's Spokesman, DSP Daniel Ndukwe on Monday.

"Accordingly, Police Operatives serving in the Independence Layout Police Division of the Command, working with law-abiding citizens, on April 18, 2024, around 10 a.m., arrested one Edeh Chibuike "m", aged 44, and recovered a yellow-coloured Bajaj tricycle with registration number NSK 218 QA.

"The suspect and his cohorts who escaped,

operating in the recovered tricycle, are alleged to have robbed their female victim and passenger of her iPhone and Bank's ATM Card at Nwakanwa Street, Independence Layout, Enugu."

He said the "suspect and gang members were given a hot chase by law-abiding citizens, which caused their keke to skid off the road into a fence, leading to his arrest while others escaped.

"The suspect confessed to the crime, stating that his criminal gang has been in the business of "one chance" robbery and fraud on unsuspecting victims within Enugu metropolis.

"Similarly, the same Operatives, on April 17, 2024, around 4 p.m., arrested one Supuruchukwu Udeozor "m" aged 20, of Power-line near New Artisan, Enugu, and recovered a suspected stolen blue-coloured tricycle (keke) with Reg No. UWN 132 VK and Fleet No. EBS/TRO 1555.

"On interrogation, the suspect claimed his male cohort at large brought the keke to his car wash stand at New Artisan, Enugu; he took and hid it, where it was recovered in a compound at New Haven, Enugu.

In a related development, the same Operatives serving at Independence Layout Division, acting on credible information, on April 15, 2023, around 9 a.m., arrested one Chukwuemeka Emmanuel 'm' aged 30, of Sunrise Estate Emene, and recovered a Johannus Organ Keyboard valued at five million Naira (N5,000,000.00).

"Upon interrogation, the suspect confessed to having stolen the keyboard from a parked vehicle in a church (name withheld) at 2nd Avenue, Independence Layout, Enugu, and was on his way to sell it before he was arrested.

"In a different development, Police Operatives serving in New Haven Police Division of the Enugu State Command, while on routine visibility patrol duty on April 17, 2024, separately arrested Umaru Abdul "m" aged 20, and Izuchukwu Njoku "m" aged 36.

"Wraps of substances suspected to be cocaine were recovered from Umaru Abdul, while wraps of weeds suspected to be "Ghana Loud" were recovered from Izuchukwu Njoku. Both suspects confessed to having been peddling illicit substances

within Enugu metropolis.

Ndukwe added that "n another development, Police Operatives serving in Central Police Station (CPS) Enugu, on April 17, 2024, arrested one Ani Arinze "m" aged 33, of Zone 7, Obed Camp, Coal Camp, Enugu, and recovered a master key and a stolen motor vehicle battery from him.

"The suspect, a notorious motor battery thief, confessed to the crime, stating how he successfully used the master key to open a vehicle at his mentioned address and stole the battery therein. He also confessed to having repeatedly committed the same act in the area and beyond.

He said the suspects will be arraigned and prosecuted once investigations are concluded.

"Meanwhile, the Commissioner of Police, CP Kanayo Uzuegbu, has commended the Police Operatives and the law-abiding citizens for making the operational breakthroughs possible. He reaffirmed the commitment of the Police to remain focused on flushing diehard criminals and their activities out of Enugu State while soliciting the continued support of all and sundry.

Bauchi Amirul Promises Better 2024 Hajj Operation, Commends Gov Bala

By; ABBASSHEHU, Bauchi

As the fifteen-man Bauchi State Amirul-Hajj Committee set to commence responsibilities vested on it by the state government, it expressed determination to ensure adequate welfare of all intending pilgrims from the state to Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

This was made public by Alhaji Usman Bilyaminu Othman, the state Amirul Hajj during the committee's inaugural meeting held at Government House Bauchi recently.

Alhaji Usman Bilyaminu Othman who is the Emir of Dass, assured that the committee would study the report of the last year's Hajj Exercise with a view to proffering solution to the challenges identified to better

the operation.

While appreciating Governor Bala Mohammed for the confidence reposed in them, the Amirul-Hajj charged members of the committee to work in synergy towards achieving the desired objective.

The Executive Secretary of the State Muslim Pilgrims Welfare Board Imam Abdurrahman Ibrahim Idris said the Board has made adequate preparations to ensure a hitch free exercise, before, during and after.

He revealed that through proper support from the state government under the good leadership of Governor Bala Mohammed, Bauchi has successfully registered over two thousand six hundred intending pilgrims which is higher than most other states across the country as at today.



Bauchi Amirul Hajj



One of the sealed facilities

Oyo Govt Seals 9 Health Facilities In Crackdown On Quackery, Illegal Health Facilities

By; BAYO AKAMO, Ibadan

Oyo State Government on Monday, sealed nine health facilities in the state in continuation of its moves commitment to eradicate quackery and illegal health facilities throughout the state

The State Commissioner for Health, Dr. Oluwaserimi Ajetunmobi made this known this while monitoring various health facilities across the state during which Ayinke Clinic and Maternity, Omowumi Hospital and Olajumoke Clinic Maternity at Saki respectively, and six others within Ibadan were sealed.

According to Dr Ajetunmobi, Oyo state government is commitment to eradicating quackery and illegal health facilities throughout the state, adding that a huge number of health facilities have been sanctioned for committing different offenses ranging from the recruitment of unqualified medical personnel, non-registration of the facility, handling of cases beyond the facility, among others

The Chairman of the Oyo State Anti-quackery Task Force Committee, Dr. Adekunle Aremu while speaking during the monitoring said the state government " is

making concerted efforts in monitoring various health facilities across the State to separate the quacks from professionals in the health sector

Dr Aremu tasked the people of the state to report any suspicious or illegal activities in health facilities to the State Ministry of Health or any security agency.

The Chairman of the Anti-quackery Task Force Committee said the exercise which began in Ibadan would soon expand its tentacles to other zones including Oyo, Ogbomoso and Saki with a clear message that anyone found culpable will face the full wrath of the law

Borno, FG Partner On Irrigation Farming, Water Supply

By; SADIQ ABUBAKAR, Maiduguri

Borno State Governor, Babagana Umara Zulum, visited the Minister of Water Resources and Sanitation, Professor Joseph Utsev, at the ministry's headquarters in Abuja on Monday.

Zulum sought collaboration with the federal government to enhance Borno's irrigation capabilities and ensure food security.

"The insurgency has affected the agricultural activities in Borno State, but now that there is an emerging peace, I am here to partner with the federal government to see how we shall revive irrigation

activities, Zulum said.

The governor urged the minister to explore the research aimed at recharging Lake Chad through the internal water bodies within the country.

Responding, the minister expressed the federal government's readiness to partner with Borno State Government to boost agricultural production and enhance food security.

Also present at the meeting were the Hon. Minister of State, Water Resources, Rt. Hon. Bello Muhammad Goronyo, Permanent Secretary of the ministry, Alhaji Shehu Aliyu Shinkafi, and Borno State Commissioner for Information and Internal Security, Prof. Usman Tar.



Northern Governors including those of Kaduna, Kebbi, Jigawa, Sokoto, Niger, Zamfara, and Benue presently in the United States of America, led by the Chairman of the North West Governors Forum and Executive Governor of Katsina State, Dikko Umaru Radda, PhD, yesterday, attended a strategic meeting hosted by the Acting Nigerian ambassador to the United States, H.E. Uzoma Emenike.

Photo: BASHIR BELLO DOLLARS



PSC Boss Visits Police Recruitment Screening Centres, Declares Exercise A Huge Success

By: RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

The Chairman of the Police Service Commission, Dr. Solomon Arase CFR, retired Inspector General of Police, has declared the ongoing Police recruitment exercise which comes to an end this weekend across the federation a huge success.

Dr. Arase has already visited four centres, Zone 5 in Benin, Zone 7 in Abuja, Zone 1 in Kano and Zone 14 in Katsina.

He will be in Zone 2 Lagos and Zone 11 Osogbo this week as the exercise winds up.

In the course of his tour, he also visited some stakeholders, which included the former President, Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, the Emir of Daura Alhaji Faruk Umar Faruk and many others.

In a statement on Sunday by Ikechukwu Ani Head, Press and Public Relations, made available to journalists, Dr. Arase said the Commission has ensured that the ongoing recruitment exercise had the buy in of relevant stakeholders so that at the end of the exercise "we would have recruited young Nigerians who will have the endorsement of Nigerians.

He noted that this was the reason the Commission set up an independent Recruitment Board which is made up of representatives of the Police Service Commission, Nigeria Police Force,

Ministry of Police Affairs, Federal Character Commission, Police Trust Fund and Police Colleges.

The PSC Chairman said the exercise has been a huge success, adding that at last Nigerian youths are now desirous to join the Nigeria Police Force and contribute to the fight to save Nigeria.

He noted that a new template for recruitment in Nigeria which gives room for collective and inclusive participation has been put in place by the Commission and which he is recommending to other Agencies of Government.

Dr. Arase also commended the Police Recruitment Board for its forthrightness and commitment to this national assignment.

He noted that in the places he visited, there was visible enthusiasm by the youths to be counted in this new efforts to improve policing in Nigeria. "We will not take this enthusiasm for granted as the Commission will ensure that fairness, equity and merit will remain the basis for the final selection".

He however warned that the desperate applicants should not cave in to untoward pressure by fraudsters and even officials at the screening centres to pay money for a place in the final list.

He said there will be consequences for any staff of the Commission or Police Officer



found to have compromised in the course of this exercise.

The Chairman of the Recruitment Board, Chief Onyemuche Nnamani, a Commissioner in the PSC has also visited some zones including Zone 13 in Ukpo Anambra state and Zone 9 Umuahia Abia

State and has confirmed that the exercise has received the endorsement of Nigerians.

He said the ongoing two weeks medical screening was heading to a glorious end.

Edo CSO Chief Says APC Must Wake Up Ahead Guber Polls

By: PETER NOSAKHARE, Kaduna

A very senior Civil Society Organisation, CSO, Chieftain sympathetic to All Progressives Congress (APC) in Edo State,

who wants his name withheld, has raised alarm that it appears APC has lost the election even before the first ballot is cast.

"Where is the APC candidate and his deputy? They are nowhere to be found? Look at

Asue Ighodalo, he has met with all the who is who in Edo state, unions, associations, labour, students, Professional, traditional rulers etc.

"On social media, Asue is leading public opinion, on

Twitter the APC candidate is absent.

"Look at the diaspora engagement over the weekend, Ogie got much more crowd than Dennis Idahosa who is even younger.

"Asue is not campaigning with Obaseki name at all. He has created an image for himself. He is addressing issues pointedly without any, leaving any doubt as to his capacity and experience," he said.

Elvis, Not Too Young To Lead Initiative CEO, Steps Up Leadership Role In NIPSS

**Undergoing PSLC Course 49 in Strategic Modules, Policy Strategy, Leadership, and Governance*

By: TOM GARBA, Yola

The Founder and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Not Too Young to Lead Initiative, Mr Elvis Obas Akpobi has stepped up his vision of becoming a world leader whose dream is to amplify youth voices in becoming part of governance in Africa.

For this burning desire to drive through his passion, he got in empowering young Africans to be involved in the electoral process and develop high leadership skills, Delta State born Elvis was inducted into the National Institute for Policy and Strategy Studies (NIPSS) to shore up his call to good governance by becoming



Mr Elvis Obas Akpobi

an excellent leader.

Elvis, an environmental management expert is currently taking modules on Strategy, Policy, Governance, and Leadership on the NIPSS' Short Course of Policy Strategy Leadership Course (PSLC).

Young Elvis is among the forty-three participants who are middle and senior cadre executives

cutting across all fields of endeavors receiving thorough coaching by world-rating standard scholars who are mostly university dons.

Course forty-nine of the NIPSS' Short course was designed to awaken the leadership zeal, passion, and policy formation and birth out people like Elvis as policy managers, formulators, and Strategist, at the end implementing sound policies in the interest of the Nigerian masses is the expected takeaways for all participants.

Elvis who is currently running a PhD in Environmental Management and Toxicology is expected to have an executive certificate in Policy

Strategy and Leadership course from the Nigerian-only Institute of Policy in Kuru, Jos founded in 1977 which will make him a better leader in few weeks time.

Elvis who attended the Federal University of Petroleum Efurun, is an acclaimed achiever with high leadership potentials, having been to many countries around the world as a lead delegate.

Elvis was appointed Nigerian Ambassador to the Young leadership Political School Africa (Liberia) the NIPSS' PSLC Course will no doubt, make him a twenty-first century leader with a zeal to serve humanity.

We Will Not Rest Until Last Abducted Chibok Schoolgirl Is Released - Borno Govt



By; SADIQ ABUBAKAR, Maiduguri

The Borno State Commissioner of Information and Internal Security, Professor Usman Tar has said that, "the state government will not rest until the least remaining abducted Chibok schoolgirl is released from captivity and hands of the Boko Haram insurgents.

He also assured that the government of Professor Babagana Umara Zulum' is working assiduously with the federal government to ensure total repatriation of Borno State indigenes taking refuge in the neighbouring country of Chad Republic, as those in the Republic of Niger have been relocated and resettled in Damasak town and others places.

Professor Tar who stated this on Saturday at a press conference held at the NUJ Press Center Maiduguri with journalists to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the abducted Chibok schoolgirls by Boko Haram insurgents in Chibok village of Chibok LGA of Borno State.

"Ten years ago, the Boko Haram insurgents criminally abducted 276 innocent girls at their hotels at Government Girls Secondary School Chibok. This painful date is engrained in our collective

memory and we shall not rest on our oars until the last of our innocent girls are back home with their families.

"On this auspicious occasion of the 10th Anniversary of the abduction of Chibok Girls, the Borno State Government identifies and sympathises with all those who are affected by abduction. The Government wishes to inform the public that we shall continue to struggle to salvage our abducted girls on behalf of the parents and relatives of the Chibok girls who are still in captivity.

"The Borno State Government is committed to rescuing and reuniting the remaining Chibok girls and reuniting them with their families. We understand the pain and anguish that the families of those still in captivity are going through, this is our sorrow!

"We also wish to use this occasion to take stock of the rescued girls and provide an update on how the girls are coming to terms with adjusting to normal life after captivity, and efforts of the Borno State Government to sustain the momentum on the rescue of the remaining girls."

According to him, "Borno State Government will not rest until every missing person is found and returned home safely. We call for unity

and support from all citizens as we navigate these challenging times together."

"We remain hopeful and determined that, with the combined efforts of our security forces, intelligence agencies, and community support, all abducted persons will be safely returned.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the abducted Chibok girls and, indeed, all missing persons. We will continue to stand together during this difficult time.

"So far, out of the 276 abducted Chibok Girls, 187 have been rescued and reunited with their families. Most of the rescued girls have, over the years, been enrolled in different schools or graduated under the supervision of the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs. A number of the girls have been enrolled into local and foreign scholarships or empowerment programmes.

"Many have since been reunited with their immediate families and are continuing to receive psychosocial support to reconcile them with normal life. Furthermore, 16 recently rescued girls are being rehabilitated by the Borno State Government and attending the 2nd Chance School where they learn skills in various vocations that will

provide them with sustainable livelihoods, while their kids are also placed in nursery schools. Four rescued girls have voluntarily decided to return to their parents," Tar said.

On the Return of IDPs to their Ancestral Homes, Fire Outbreaks" he said, "Borno State Government is fully committed to the return of all IDPs - both those in formal and informal camps - back to their ancestral homes.

"So far, over 90% of active IDP Camps have been decommissioned and the displaced persons resettled, while the balance shall be resettled within 2024 In Sha Allah.

"The dismantling of each IDP Camp and resettling of the displaced persons is normally preceded by the restoration of security, clearance of farmlands initially within a 5 kilometer radius and restoration of vital infrastructure especially schools, water systems, electricity and mobility.

"This, village-by-village; town-by-town; and household-by-household our people are being resettled with military precision and meticulous logistic engineering. We thank the agencies of the FGN, especially the armed forces and security agencies, for

their unflinching support in this regard," the commissioner added

Professor Tar said in addition to the domestic IDPs, "we are also dealing with the issue of Nigerian refugees who are seeking asylum in Niger, Chad and Cameroun."

"The Borno State Government is deeply grateful to our neighbouring countries and our neighbourly kiths and kindreds for their magnanimity and hospitality in accommodating our citizens in their territories. The relocation of Nigerian refugees is in the radar of the Federal Government.

"Recently, the Executive Governor of Borno State Governor, Prof Babagana Umara Zulum had sought an audience with the President CnC, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu GCFR, on the issue of relocation of Nigerian refugees to their ancestral homes within Nigeria.

"The President has pledged to support this process, and provide the federal might that is needed to ensure a seamless return of our people back home after a decade of stay as refugees. This process requires patience on the part of our people.

"The return of our teeming displaced citizens require careful logistic work and restoration of security and

We Will Not Rest Until Last Abducted Chibok Schoolgirl Is Released - Borno Govt



vital infrastructure as a precursor to the actual relocation and resettlement. We urge our people to exercise patience while the state and federal governments find sustainable solutions to our security and developmental challenges," Prof. Tar said.

The Borno State Government is not oblivious of the extant challenges that may be associated with the relocation of the IDPs and refugees. While we relocate our IDPs and refugees, we also have a solemn duty to maintain law, order and security in the remaining camps. We are dealing with the risk of attacks by unscrupulous elements and the remnants of the Boko Haram insurgency, and the rising cases of crime and

criminality in our active IDP Camps. A case in point is the recent breach in security and issues surrounding the missing IDPs near Ngala town. Certain narratives suggest that these IDPs numbered between 200 and 300 were abducted.

It is important to clarify that while there have been cases of missing internally displaced people, the number, according to the available data, stood at 106 boys and girls, and so far 8 have since returned to their respective camps. On March 3, 2024, these youth left their camps to look for firewood in the bush far beyond the distance that security agencies permitted and considered secure. These IDPs may have come into contact with violent non-state actors in the bush.

The Borno State Government is working closely with the Federal security agencies to safeguard the lives and property of the citizens in the state. In particular, the government is working on the rescue of the missing IDPs and all others in captivity. The Government calls on all stakeholders, including the media, humanitarian partners, and the general public, to approach this issue with sensitivity and understanding. We must work together to address the root causes of displacement and provide support to those in need.

The Borno State government is also not ruling out criminals who take advantage of the security situation to commit atrocities. However, security forces are on the trail of these

criminals. Meanwhile, investigating is ongoing on alleged cases of crimes, and we urge citizens to exercise patience while we deal with this all alleged crime. Our citizens should be rest assured that anyone or agency who is found culpable shall face the full wrath of the law.

Despite the recent challenges in Ngala, the Government wishes to confirm that peace has gradually returned to Borno state, and the "Build Back Borno Better Project" is on course. We would also like to state that about a million IDPs have returned to either their local government headquarters or ancestral homes.

The reconstruction and rehabilitation of destroyed communities and public

infrastructure is ongoing, and the public's trust in our government and security agencies remains high.

The Borno State Government is working tirelessly to improve conditions in the IDP the camps, enhance security measures, and facilitate the voluntary return and reintegration of displaced persons into their communities.

While fully cooperating with security agencies to carry out the kinetic approach against the insurgents, the Borno State Government is also investing heavily in non-kinetic measures, particularly the mass clearance of farmlands for agriculture and the involvement of community leaders and traditional rulers in alternative dispute resolution.



Change Of Batton At Onne Area 11: Baba Imam Hands Over To Compt Babandede

By: BON PETERS

It was pomp at Onne Area 11, customs command as the out-going Area Controller, Comptroller Baba Imam successfully handed over the mantle of leadership to his successor, Comptroller Mohammed Babandede.

The grand occasion which took place Friday in Port Harcourt the Rivers state capital witnessed a sensational handing and taking over Parade in honour of the out-going Customs Area Controller, Comptroller Baba Imam and the incoming Area Controller, Comptroller Mohammed Babandede.

The Command had in attendance to witness the parade, various Commanders, Heads of Security Agencies and Stakeholders working in the Port Environment.

In his farewell address, Comptroller Baba Imam appreciated God for his mercy and Love, even as he also appreciated the Comptroller General of Customs, BA Adeniyi mfr dsm fnipr psc (+), for the opportunity given to him to serve as the Customs Area Controller of the Command.

Continuing, he extended same appreciation to all security agencies and stakeholders attributing the successes recorded in the Command to the improved synergy, intelligence sharing and cooperation he enjoyed while working with them.

Speaking further Comptroller Imam noted that in the area of revenue, the Command set an unprecedented record in the history of the Command and the Service by generating in a single day, over 22 Billion Naira adding that in the first three months of the year 2024 the Command had generated over 162 Billion Naira which was more than the revenue generated from January to July (Seven months) in the year 2023.

Comptroller Imam emphasized that officers and Men of the Command have been trained with the view to bringing attitudinal change aimed at enhancing trade facilitation in the Command.

Rendering his stewardship, he recounted some of the achievements made during his 15 months he was at the saddle of leadership as the Area Controller to include construction of a 110 seating capacity Conference Room with modern facilities, creation of a Computer training centre with 50 computers to enhance capacity building workshops and training in the Command.

He said both facilities were open for use by both Customs Officers and Stakeholders who need them.

On the impact of the revamped COWA, he insisted that officers could not have made significant impact in trade facilitation, revenue generation and anti-smuggling if their homes were in disarray, hence he appreciated his wife who was the Chairperson, Customs Officers Wives Association, Onne Chapter and said in order to appreciate COWA for all they do, the Command was able to establish a COWA Office within the Customs house, refurbish a canteen in the Office and two additional canteens in the Customs Barracks noting that the Command established two saloons in the barracks, for male and female and Tuck shops from which the proceeds go to the Association. Addressing the officers and men of the Command, sister agencies and stakeholders, the in-coming Area Controller, Comptroller Mohammed Babandede promised to sustain the cordial relationship already established in the Command with a view to improving the synergy, promising to operate an open door policy saying "I will operate an open door policy just like the Out-going Area Controller and I employ all Officers and Men in the Command to give me their support as they continue their good work. This will help improve on the successes recorded with the aim to enhance revenue generation, value addition and suppression of smuggling".

The atmosphere was clouded with mixed feelings of joy and sadness as both officers, stakeholders and invited guests poured out their Goodwill messages to the

out-going and in-coming Area Controllers.

Speaking on behalf of all the Security Agencies within the Port Environment, the Commandant Nigeria Navy Basic Training School Onne, Commodore GJ Kashim said the Out-going Controller has instilled and improved synergy among the Security agencies which he commended and prayed for more success for him in his next duty post. He also employed the In-coming Controller to maintain the cordial relationship already established by his predecessor. Speaking on behalf of the Container Terminals at Onne Port, the Managing Director Onne Multipurpose Terminal, Mr Jim Steward said Comptroller Imam has made Container Terminal activities seamless with his intervention in reducing most of the bottlenecks they experienced in the Cargo clearing process.

On their part, Managing Directors of Bonded terminals operating within the Area 2 Command who were represented by Mr Kingsley Ofor, of Kingsoo Bonded Terminal commended the out-going Area Controller applauding his giant stride on trade facilitation which he stressed that Comptroller B Imam has made through a conducive working environment for Bonded terminal operators. He prayed for success and God's favour towards him. To the in-coming Controller he prayed for God's grace to function more than his predecessor.

On behalf of the various Customs Brokers operating with the Command, the Chairman, Association of Nigerian Licensed Customs Agents, ANLCA, Onne Seaport chapter, Mr Mike Ebeatu, commended the out-going Controller even as he praised him for his listening ear and an open door policy which he urged



the in-coming Controller to embrace.

Earlier in his welcome address, the Deputy Comptroller Administration, Deputy Comptroller Chidi Nwokorie has described the occasion as a mixed feeling for both the officers and men of the Command as a result of the impact of the outgoing Comptroller Baba Imam within a short time. He commented him for his belief in value addition and hard work and dedication even as he pledged for continuous support for the new Controller and promised that all hands must be on deck to make him succeed.

The high point of the occasion was the commissioning of Compt Baba Imam Car parks, A and B, at the Customs gate. Present at the occasion include, representatives of, NPA, NIMASA, Nigeria Police, DSS, NDLEA, Terminal operators, Customs Bonded Terminals, NAGAFF, ANLCA among others.



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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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Width	25.4 (CM)	Width -	10 (Inches)

POLITICAL RATE

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

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4	Per 1000 Copies (Magazine)	80,000.00	6,000.00	86,000.00

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S/NO	POSITION	SIZE	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
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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

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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
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FR ONT PA GE M A S T H E A D E A R P I E C E	215,000.00	16,875.00	231,875.00
FR ONT PA GE S O L U S	312,500.00	23,437.50	335,937.50
FR ONT PA GE S T R I P	375,000.00	28,125.00	403,125.00
B A C K PA GE E A R P I E C E	200,000.00	15,000.00	215,000.00
B A C K PA GE S T R I P	250,000.00	18,750.00	268,750.00
C E N T R E S P R E A D (C O L O U R)	837,500.00	62,812.50	900,312.50
D O U B L E S P R E A D (C O L O U R)	700,000.00	52,500.00	752,500.00
C E N T R E S P R E A D (B L A C K & W H I T E)	575,000.00	43,125.00	618,125.00
D O U B L E S P R E A D (B L A C K & W H I T E)	590,000.00	44,250.00	634,250.00
FR ONT PA GE (10" X 6)	3,250,000.00	243,750.00	3,493,750.00
R O P S T R I P (C O L O U R)	125,000.00	9,375.00	134,375.00
R O P S T R I P (B L A C K & W H I T E)	85,000.00	6,375.00	91,375.00

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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

Kwankwaso's Plot To Oust Ganduje

By: KHALID IBNABUBAKAR

Political power play, power game as well as high political interests aggregation, are normal variables that define partisan politics. However, when these correlates are stretched beyond certain limits, there may be the likelihood of ushering in very dangerous instinctual reactions that have huge capacity for destabilizing the polity.

For all followers of the politics of Kano, Northwest Nigeria, particularly between May 29, 1999, to May 29, 2007, there is a tie-back to the historical precedence of the joint electoral victory between Alhaji Rabi'u Musa Kwankwaso as then governor-elect and Alhaji Abdullahi Umar Ganduje, PhD, as deputy governor-elect, respectively.

These two gentlemen were members of the same political party, the Peoples' Democratic Party {PDP}, but they had definitely passed through varying and divergent socialization processes. Even as it is a known fact that all deputy governors in Nigeria are hardly allowed to exercise full political authority, the duo of Alhaji Rabi'u Musa Kwankwaso and Alhaji Abdullahi Umar Ganduje managed to work together in harmony during their first tenure.

For Alhaji Kwankwaso to consider the inclusion of Ganduje as running mate for the second term, however, it was a tug-of-war. Elders of the party, eminent citizens and significant others, intervened, persuaded and eventually prevailed on Kwankwaso to restore Ganduje to the joint gubernatorial ticket as running mate. They expectedly won the elections. So, they worked together for eight years.

Ganduje was to succeed Kwankwaso as governor, perhaps against the wishes of his former political principal and leader who, after his tenure as governor, was rewarded with a high end political portfolio as Nigeria's minister of defence by the then President Olusegun Obasanjo. Over time, Ganduje has achieved a solid political stature which tended to overshadow his former principal. The result is that Kano has been split between the two tendencies. The particular human behavioural trait at play here is none other than the human Ego. As a student of the Freudian tradition, one is quick to point out that the major behavioural set back that any political leadership, must avoid in his or her political career, is by avoiding a negative inter-play of the different roles of the three major clinical psychology properties that regulate the impulse of all human, namely, Id, Ego and Superego, respectively.

These three, when negatively influenced, can bring about the downfall of anybody who is somebody, irrespective of his or her social stratification in the larger society.

It is therefore imperative to point out within this medium that the ongoing struggle for political power, relevance and advantage between a former political principal, Alhaji Kwankwaso, and his "junior" associate, Dr. Ganduje — who by way of chronological and mental age is much more senior and better educated than his erstwhile political boss — can all be traced to politics. That is why there is a



Ganduje and Kwankwaso

desperate plot by Kwankwaso and his group to oust Dr. Ganduje as the National Chairman of the All Progressives Congress (APC).

Part of the plot is the sinister scheme to destabilize the Tinubu administration using veiled propaganda, campaign of calumny and allied methods to tarnish APC and its leadership with the hope that such a distraction will add to the political fortunes of Kwankwaso and his NPP in Kano. The calculation is that once Ganduje is out of the way, Kwankwaso and his acolytes can have the whole of Kano to themselves.

Not surprisingly, the whole machinery of the Kano State Government has been deployed to achieve this end.

Dr. Ganduje in his eight years as governor of Kano State produced a very credible democratic scorecard, whose sectoral achievements are cogent and verifiable by any interested member of the public. Apparently not getting adequate results from all the failed plots so far executed by him and his lackeys, Alhaji Rabi'u Musa Kwankwaso does not seem to have any iota of respect for seniority and civilized order.

Devoting and ploughing all his energies towards clandestine schemes aimed at pulling down the personality of Alhaji Ganduje who had paid his dues in society by Allah SWT's divine blessings, is akin to trying the patience of the Almighty ALLAH SWT. The bitter jealousy of Kwankwaso and his men can be further understood when one considers the fact

that Ganduje is an urbane intellectual who obtained his Doctor of Philosophy degree {PhD} at the famous University of Ibadan, in 1993, following his first degree in 1975, when Alhaji Rabi'u Musa Kwankwaso had not dreamt of enrolling in any Higher School Certificate program. The conditioned behaviour, which had always propelled Alhaji Rabi'u Musa Kwankwaso, who has an affinity for wanting to show political dominance over every citizen from Kano State as an infallible dictator, was what made eminent personalities like Alhaji Ibrahim Shekarau and Distinguished Senator Jibrin Barau, just to mention a few, not stay in the same political camp with him. In Kwankwaso's world, his word is law. He cannot tolerate democratic tenets. He cannot work with intellectually endowed people. For him, getting Dr. Ganduje out of his current position as the National Chairman of the APC is his greatest headache. He is probably calculating that Ganduje's ouster will enable him (Kwankwaso) grab a ministerial position as a pre-electoral bargaining condition and convince President Bola Ahmed Tinubu that he has the entire Kano State in his pocket and that his NNPP is waiting in the wings to play ball.

The NNPP gang is full of hypocrites. They demand integrity from others while lacking it themselves. An example: Governor Abba Kabiru Yusuf has appointed Kwankwaso's son as a member of the Kano State Executive Council. It's payback time. They are sharing the spoils

as all the other parties do. There is no difference between the way they are carrying on and the way Ganduje ran the government. If anything, Ganduje was better. Time will tell.

When Governor Yusuf eventually finds out that he is not allowed to have a mind of his own and that Kwankwaso is supposed to be all-knowing, the current cosy relationship between them will disappear. Owing to the fact that Kwankwaso would always want every eminent political citizen in Kano State to submit to his overbearing and dictatorial tendencies, all who flock around him must play the dummy to be considered loyal.

In their desperation to pull down Alhaji Abdullahi Umar Ganduje, NNPP hirelings have embarked on senseless moves to procure fake "APC Executive Members", at the ward and state levels, who are their sidekicks. They've tried impersonation, blackmail, open threats and all sorts of sabotage to no avail.

From the grapevine, Alhaji Rabi'u Musa Kwankwaso's most pressing need now is how best he can penetrate the APC federal administration to get a plum ministerial appointment when the president rejigs his cabinet as expected. To achieve this, he is persuaded that he has to destroy Dr. Ganduje. But, if history is anything to go by, all their schemes will fail. For, history teaches us that those who plot the destruction of others often fall on their own sword.

How To Escape Lawsuits, Jail Terms

By: CARL UMEGBORO

Many a time, people carelessly suffer as a result of being ignorant of the laws until after offences or crimes have been committed. Majority only get to discover they have committed an offence at a Police station or other law enforcement facilities after being arrested. In their defence, it is always – “I don't know it's a crime”. Incidentally, ignorance of the laws is not an excuse. For instance, recently, Idris Okuneye, widely known as Bobrisky, a controversial transgender was arraigned in the Federal High Court in Lagos for money laundering and abuse of naira notes. He was convicted and in allocutus, pleaded 'ignorance of the law. Of course, the law accordingly took its course. During the sentencing, the court handed him a 6-month jail term without option of fine. What an avoidable predicament!

This defence has also been the lot of many people on trial or convicted already by our courts. The reason is that societies are guided by laws and when broken, knowingly or unknowingly, the law takes its cause in wrath. It's immaterial if the offender is aware of the law or not as long as it has become operative. So, many learn from these bitter experiences which shouldn't be so. This oversight also affects most business owners who simply register a business name or incorporate a company but don't know their mandatory civic obligations on such a venture. For example, there are statutory annual returns business-owners are duty bound to file yearly which may result in striking out the company or business name from CAC (Corporate Affairs Commission) alongside other sanctions. To make it worse, the law empowers another person to acquire, register and use any business names or company names struck out from the CAC register as a new business. Imagine your business name or company name for decades suddenly acquired by another person, maybe your competitor.

Presently, the federal government is putting actions together to go against such defaulters. In the United States, former President Donald Trump has been in court to clear himself from the charges of tax evasion. So, it is a conventional standard practice. In a nutshell, it is dangerous to register a business or own a company but not file the statutory returns yearly. As we speak, thousands of business and company owners are liable to this. Some are not even aware of these obligations as many were probably not thoroughly briefed about registering a business name or owning a company.



This is among the risks of not engaging a legal practitioner.

So, this is where engaging a legal practitioner for legal advice and opinion comes to bare. It could be by retainer or periodic consultancy. Engaging a lawyer will prevent the 'ignorance of law' defences. It saves from distress and prevents a lot of problems. Legal retainership refers to a contractual relationship between a lawyer/law firm and a client (individual or corporation) either on a general or special retainer basis. A retainer agreement is useful for people and business enterprises, particularly small ones that need regular legal work or assistance but do not need a full-time attorney on staff.

Many small-business owners and some individuals retain a lawyer/law firm on a monthly fee, so the attorney is available whenever needed. It saves a lot for the business enterprise or individual as the retainership makes an attorney available for legal advice and directions. By 'rule of law', it implies the law rules; therefore, having a lawyer or law firm retainer cannot be a bad idea. It is noteworthy that all

aspects of life endeavours are subject to the positions laid down by laws. There are other compelling reasons to consider seeking legal opinion and advice.

Second is that lawyers by their training understand better and know how to negotiate settlements and plea bargains. A lawyer sees what a non-lawyer cannot see as a practicing lawyer knows and follows the law. An experienced lawyer probably has seen or handled a similar case, and therefore in a better position to make calculated guesses about how it might end in trial. Above all, as laws are prominently, superlatively made by the courts by case laws and judicial precedent in the course of its statutory duty of interpreting the laws made by the legislatures, it is advisable that while everyone should endeavor to know the enacted laws, a lawyer should be consulted to know the ultimate position beyond the enacted laws from the case laws.

Furthermore, the Law is complicated. It can be complicated for practicing lawyers as each area has its unique

procedures to scale through. Even experienced lawyers typically do not represent themselves in court despite the fact they are not restricted. Then, imagine a non-lawyer taking some vital actions without being guided by a lawyer that has a good understanding of the area. It is in the light of this that lawyers tend to specialize in one or more legal practice areas such as criminal, civil, constitutional, human rights, family, corporate, property, maritime, tax law, etc..

Finally is that hiring a lawyer to guide in most undertakings will help you avoid potential legal headaches. For instance, do you really understand the fine print of that contract you are signing and what it will mean for you down the road? A lawyer will. Many from record have ignorantly signed agreements that ended up not in their favour or did not represent their interest as hoped. Let a lawyer guide you before taking any serious action that affects another person, company or governments. This is because virtually all actions are regulated by laws. One funny sticker in bold letters displays; 'Wetin lawyers dey do sef?' which translates to "what do lawyers even do?" Don't allow yourself to fall victim, only to plead 'ignorance of the law'. A stitch in time, they say, saves nine.

Umegboro, ACI Arb is a Counsel at Professor Mike Ozekhome (SAN) Chambers, and reachable on 08023184542, 08173184542.

“Many small-business owners and some individuals retain a lawyer/law firm on a monthly fee, so the attorney is available whenever needed. It saves a lot for the business enterprise or individual as the retainership makes an attorney available for legal advice and directions.”

Implementing Oronsaye Report: The Domestic Cat Is Not A Lion

By Owei Lakemfa

THE TINUBU administration picked up the courage to implement the Oronsaye Report on restructuring the federal public service and cutting cost of governance. It was a courage lacking in his two immediate predecessors.

The Report recommends the merger of 220 of the 541 agencies, reducing agencies from 263 to 161. In all, 31 agencies are to be abolished, 54 merged, and 14 reversed to their previous status in the ministries. It is not clear yet how much of the Report will be implemented, but it is off to a good start.

There has been some controversy about the decision to implement the Report with some accusing Tinubu of seeking to divert attention from the punishing economic crises Nigerians are going through. However, for me, the issues of reform, change and effective service delivery to the populace, should not be wished away or thrown out purely on such basis. I also do not buy the argument that rather than implement the Oronsaye Report, the administration should concentrate on creation of more jobs.

The architect of the reforms is Stephen Osagiede Oronsaye, a rather conservative public servant who was appointed Head of the Civil Service of the Federation in June 2009 and left office on retirement on November 16, 2010. As Head of Service, he had pushed through a new policy limiting terms of permanent secretaries and directors to eight years. Armed with this, he forced nine permanent secretaries and some directors to retire from service.

Impressed by this unprecedented reform in the service, President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan appointed him to head a team that would reform the public service. His team turned out an 800-page document that became known as the Oronsaye Report. But Jonathan found it too hot to handle and dropped it like hot potato.

President Muhammadu Buhari came into power singing an anthem of change. After a number of declarations and vows to implement the report, he dropped it.

Oronsaye, himself, might not be too happy with the country. He supported an Executive Bill presented to the National Assembly in 2013 for the creation of an Independent Nigerian Financial Intelligence Unit outside the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC). A visibly angry EFCC opposed the bill. Shortly after, it accused Oronsaye of carrying out a N190 million pension fraud back in 2010-2011. Two years later, he was hauled before the courts and, for the next eight years,

dragged before two different judges before a third, Justice Iyang Ekwo, discharged and acquitted him.

The judge ruled that the entire investigation and subsequent arraignment of the reformer, was a witch-hunt. He had wondered how, over the years, Oronsaye was not even availed a copy of the petition against him, so he had no way of responding or defending himself against the charges.

In a sense, the commencement of the implementation of his 12-year Report is a further vindication of the 74-year-old Oronsaye.

There has been some controversy about the decision to implement the Report with some accusing Tinubu of seeking to divert attention from the punishing economic crises Nigerians are going through. However, for me, the issues of reform, change and effective service delivery to the populace, should not be wished away or thrown out purely on such basis. I also do not buy the argument that rather than implement the Oronsaye Report, the administration should concentrate on creation of more jobs. I do not see both as being mutually exclusive. Again, those who argue that we need more, not less agencies, have missed the point because the multiplication of bureaucracy does not translate to more government.

If anything, so long as the implementation does not result in job loses, I think it is not even going far enough. For instance, I do not see the reason for the existence of the Police and the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps as two distinct civil security bodies.

No serious country gives a single senator N21 billion as 'constituency projects' for which there are no competitive biddings, no specific projects approved and no proper accounting system. If we were to be serious with cutting cost, the Bicameral Legislature would give way by the scrapping of the 360-Member House of Representatives. Its duplicated functions can be carried out by the Senate.

It makes a lot of sense to me that the Directorate of Technical Cooperation in Africa and Directorate of Technical Aid Corps are merged under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with the Nigerians in Diaspora Commission also brought



under the Ministry. Why should the National Metallurgical Development Centre and National Metallurgical Training Institute be different agencies or, the Nigeria Army build a university separate from the Nigeria Defence Academy?

I think those who claim that with the implementation of the Oronsaye Report, the Tinubu administration has begun the much-needed restructuring and cutting cost of governance, are widely off the mark. It is like claiming that because the domestic cat and the lion share a common ancestry and belong to the same feline family, they can be interchanged. In comparison, the Oronsaye Report Implementation is cosmetic.

To begin with, the Presidency is so ubiquitous, with so many officials and aides, that they can in themselves constitute a country. A supposed Federal Government has 68 items on the exclusive list, including fishing in local waters, police, marriage and divorce!

Despite being the economic capital of the country and housing a mega city, Lagos State is not allowed to create local governments that can service its populace. To be able to do so, is what true restructuring means.

Cutting cost of governance includes states being allowed to run only the local governments they need and not maintain the number imposed on them by military fiat.

Cutting the cost of governance includes making the legislative houses part-time. It should also include paying them basic allowances and total emoluments not higher than those of an assistant director in the ministry. To pay a senator N14 million monthly is the equivalent of the wages of 466 workers on the monthly National Minimum Wage of N30,000.

In a country like Cuba, senators receive no payments at all, and if they need to

research, they approach the tertiary institutions to assist.

To be serious about restructuring and cutting the cost of governance, we need to retrieve the Report of the 2014 National Conference just as the Oronsaye Report was dusted up.

No serious country gives a single senator N21 billion as 'constituency projects' for which there are no competitive biddings, no specific projects approved and no proper accounting system. If we were to be serious with cutting cost, the Bicameral Legislature would give way by the scrapping of the 360-Member House of Representatives. Its duplicated functions can be carried out by the Senate.

An agency of massive wastage is the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC). In some Third World countries like Venezuela, all the voter has to do is show up with his national identity card at any voting centre, cast his vote by touching the symbol of his preferred party as provided on the secluded screen. His vote is automatically counted.

In contrast, INEC developed temporary voter's card which is then replaced by permanent voter's card, display of voters list for every polling station, printing of voters' cards, movement of non-sensitive electoral materials, followed by the sensitive materials which are escorted by armed security men. At the voting centre itself, it has deployed card readers, the Bimodal Voter Accreditation System (BVAS) and the INEC Result Viewing (IREV) portal. All these rigmaroles, only to produce inconclusive or hotly disputed results.

To be serious about restructuring and cutting the cost of governance, we need to retrieve the Report of the 2014 National Conference just as the Oronsaye Report was dusted up.

Disregard For Rule Of Law: Yahaya Bello Media Office Raises Alarm, Asks President To Call EFCC To Order

The media office of the immediate past Governor of Kogi State, Yahaya Bello, has urged President Bola Tinubu, to call the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) to order.

The media office made this known in a statement issued on Wednesday.

The statement read, "About 9:30 am today, the 17th day of April 2024, persons who described themselves as officers of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) arrived the Wuse Zone 4 Residence of His Excellency, Alhaji Yahaya Bello to effect his arrest.

"This is despite a subsisting Order of injunction granted on 9th February 2024 by the High Court of Justice, Lokoja Division in Suit No. HCL/68M/2024 between Alhaji Yahaya Bello v. Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, restraining the Commission either by itself or its agents from harassing, arresting, detaining or prosecuting Alhaji Yahaya Bello, pending the hearing and determination of the substantive fundamental rights enforcement action. "The EFCC was duly

served with that Order on 12th February 2024 and on 26th February 2024; the EFCC filed an Appeal (Appeal No. : CA/ABJ/CV/175 /2024: Economic and Financial Crimes Commission v. Alhaji Yahaya Bello) against the said Order to the Court of Appeal Abuja division.

The Appeal was accompanied by a Motion for Stay of Execution of the Order of the High Court which the Court of Appeal adjourned for hearing till the 22nd day of April 2024.

"Furthermore, Judgment in the substantive case between Alhaji Yahaya Bello and the EFCC is to be delivered at 12 Noon today in Lokoja.

"Contrary to all of the above, the EFCC has now laid siege to the home of H.E Yahaya Bello seeking to arrest him in contravention of the extant orders!

"It is a surprise that an agency led by a lawyer could flagrantly disobey a subsisting court order by taking actions contrary to the reliefs granted.



"We are aware of the total commitment of the current administration of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu to the rule of law and can say categorically that the leadership of the EFCC might have offered the agency on a platter of gold to desperate politicians to convert to their score settling tool without minding the effect on its integrity and the image of Nigeria as regards the rule of law.

"A situation where law enforcers disregard the rule of law is a definite recipe for anarchy, which will adversely affect every aspect of the nation's economy.

"Nigerians have perceived the desperation of the anti-graft agency to embarrass and harass the former Governor by all means

through spurious allegations, especially the latest one dating back to September 2015, way before he assumed office.

We are aware that there are clandestine moves to correct the error, but with even more questionable allegations, which would embarrass the Commission and Nigeria more than the initial one.

"It is unfortunate that an agency that is supposed to enforce the law is now the first culprit with respect to disobedience of court orders.

This is a big dent on the fight against corruption. He who comes to equity must come with clean hands.

"We call on President Bola Ahmed Tinubu to call the EFCC to order in the interest of legal sanity.

Katsina Governor Names Bawale New Head Of Service

Governor Dikko Umaru Radda of Katsina State has approved the appointment of Alhaji Falalu Bawale as new Head of Civil Service of the State.

Alhaji Bawale took over from Alhaji Usman Isyaku who retired after attaining 35 years in service.

Until his new appointment, Alhaji Falalu Bawale was a 1990 Graduate of Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria where he obtained a Bachelor of Education (Languages Art) Degree.

Alhaji Falalu was later bagged a Post Graduate Diploma in Management (PGDM) from Hassan Usman Katsina Polytechnic, Katsina in 2002.

He proceeded to Bayero University Kano (BUK) in 2005 and obtained a Masters Degree in Public Administration Reforms. Governor Radda "congratulated the new Head of Service, Alhaji Falalu Bawale on his appointment and urged him to bring to bear his cognate experience in his new assignment."

Governor Dikko Umaru Radda also thanked the outgoing Head of Service, Alhaji Usman Isyaku for his contributions and "wished him well in his new position."

Born on August 15, 1966 at Yar'adua Quarters in Katsina Metropolis, the new head of the Katsina state Civil Service, Alhaji Falalu Bawale was a 1990 Graduate of Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria where he obtained a Bachelor of Education (Languages Art) Degree. Alhaji Falalu was later bagged a Post Graduate Diploma in Management (PGDM) from Hassan Usman Katsina Polytechnic, Katsina in 2002.

He proceeded to Bayero University Kano (BUK) in 2005 and obtained a Masters Degree in Public Administration.

Alhaji Falalu Bawale is a widely traveled gentleman, who has attended several workshops, seminars and conferences across the

Governor Uba Sani Appoints Ibrahim DG KADGIS

Kaduna State Governor, Senator Uba Sani, has appointed Engineer Bashir Garba Ibrahim as the Director General of Kaduna Geographic Information Service (KADGIS).

Engineer Ibrahim holds a Doctorate and Master's Degree in Engineering Management from Ahmadu Bello University Zaria, in addition to a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the same institution. Prior to his current appointment, he served as the Special Adviser for Information and Communication Technology

According to a statement from the Chief Press Secretary To The Governor of Kaduna State, Muhammad Lawal Shehu on April 15, 2024, Engineer Ibrahim is an experienced educator, researcher, scholar, and engineering professional, having served Nigeria in various capacities that cut across several sectors in education, engineering, research, procurement, and public service.

He has worked at reputable institutions such as the AirForce

Institute of Technology (AFIT) Kaduna and Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria. Additionally, he has held various positions such as Managing Director-AFIT Consult Limited, Director-Centre for Defence Procurement, Logistic and Supply Chain Management, and Director-Public Procurement Research Centre, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.

At Ahmadu Bello University between 2016 and 2020, he served as secretary to several committees such as University Tenders Board, University Procurement Planning Committee, University Project Monitoring Committee, and University Payment Improvement Committee. At the Air Force Institute of Technology, Kaduna, he held positions such as Chairman Curriculum Development (BSc/PGD/MSc Procurement and Supply Chain Management) Faculty of Management and Social Sciences, Coordinator Technical Drawing Courses (Mechanical Engineering Department), and Chairman Curriculum Review (BSc/PGD/MSc Automotive Engineering) Department of Automotive Engineering.

He was also the National Coordinator Committee for Directors of Works and Physical Planning of Nigerian Universities in 2014 and served as Chairman of the Committee for the Restructuring of Procurement Division and Project Management (NARICT) Federal Ministry of Science and Technology.

The new DG is also a member of the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply Chain Management (UK), Member, Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE), Member, International Association of Engineers Senior Professional Engineer (IAE), Member, Council for the Regulation of Engineer's (COREN), Fellow, African Society for Engineering Management and President (SEM), Member, International Industrial Accident Investigation Member (IIAI) AE, Fellow, Chartered Institute of Logistics and Supply Chain Management, and Fellow, Nigeria Association of Evaluators.

Governor Uba Sani urged Engr Garba to remain diligent and apply his years of experience and dedication to



Katsina State Head of Service, Alhaji Falalu Bawale

CFASF Intensive Holiday Academics, Sports Clinic Ends With A Bang

By; JACOB ONJEWU DICKSON

The Coach Felix Academics and Sports Foundation Intensive Academics Clinic at the Ahmadu Bello Stadium, Kaduna ended with a bang at the weekend.

Speaking with our correspondent yesterday, Founder and Head Coach of Coach Felix Academic and Sports Foundation, Kaduna, Osiebe Felix Onoriode said the

intensive holiday academics and sports clinic was a huge success.

"The bar has been taken higher, all glory be God. As part of CFASF objective 3; "Create and maintain a culture that encourages family and community involvement". Over the years, we have kept to our promise. This time with more knowledge, skills and a better experience," he said.

According to him, "Our three weeks free holiday academics

and sports clinic was staged from 1st-19th April, 2024 daily (Monday-Friday) from 9am-5pm at Ahmadu Bello Stadium, Kaduna.

"The kids learnt Mathematics, English and Athletics. Each student-athlete that participated also went home with some gifts," he disclosed.

The CFASF Founder explained that with what the student-athlete had achieved over the short period of time, they shall be

reviewing the academics performance of the kids after the programme to check their academic progression.

"Because we are sure they will get better when they return to school," he assured.

He thanked God for divine enablement, while appreciating CFASF's affiliate organisations; partners; Micromanna Computer Limited, The Cavendish College, Manna Academy, Princes Mabel Madojiemu

Athletics Foundation. stakeholders; and parents for releasing and trusting the kids with them as always.

"We cannot wait to have them again at the Summer Academics and Sports Camp coming up in August," he added.

Coach Felix said, "winners and participants were given exercise books, water bottles and t.shirts were given to parents for their involvement in the clinic," he added.



**CFASF Intensive
Holiday Academics,
Sports Clinic Ends
With A Bang**

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FMO Sends Forth Predecessors In Grandstyle, Presents Appreciation Awards

By: **RAYMOND TEDUNJAYE, Lagos**

It was glitz and glamour weekend in Lagos as the Force Marine Officer (FMO) CSP Benedieth Nwosu organised a colour party to send-off two of his predecessors, ACP Benjamin Ogungbure and CSP Iwuzo Chinedu Callistus, who retired meritoriously from service of the Nigeria Police Force after 35 years.

While Ogungbure, an Assistant Commissioner of Police, the immediate pass FMO retired on 12th March, 2024, Iwuzo a Chief Superintendent of Police retired on 1st April 2019.

The ostentatious occasion, held at the Onikan Jetty of the Marine Police Headquarters, Lagos Annex, drew guests from within and outside the shore of Lagos as far as Kogi, Ondo, Imo, Abuja among others.

It had in attendance former State Marine Officers (SMO), Divisional Marine Officers (DMO) which include a former Kogi, Rivers State SMO, SP Eremiye, PMO Emiloju Eretan, DMO, SP Ojutiwon, DSP Timothy Kolawole, SP Adeleke, DSP Clement Austin, DSP Steve Imodu, Chief Abu Isele, ex-Station Officer, Engr Omojoye amongst others.

The colourful event was also graced by eminent personalities outside the police circle,

amongst them are Hon. Raymond Tedunjaye (JP) and his wife Deaconess Ajoke Tedunjaye, Prince Surulere Akinbule, President Artisans and Fishermen Association, Amb. Deacon Poly. C Ezumohia, a former governorship aspirant in Imo state and Secretary General Umudimodu Amaukwu-Orodo Development Community, Mbaitoli, the Baale of Apollo - Makoko Chief Ogungbure, Bishop Jato, DSP Mike Ijakpa (rtd).

Serving police officers, which include the former Divisional Police Officer (DPO) Anthony Division, Lagos, CSP Patrisha Amadin Idahosa, the State Marine Officer SP Ekure Pedro Irikefe and personnel of the Unit were also not left out of the glamorous occasion.

In his opening remarks, the FMO CSP Nwosu noted that the reception was organised to appreciate and honour the celebrants for their contributions and meritorious service to the nation through the Marine Unit of the Nigeria Police Force.

The FMO applauded their leadership and mentorship acumen, saying it will remain a reference point in the history of the Unit, just as he wished them well in all their endeavours.

Also speaking at the event, the Secretary General Umudimodu Amaukwu-Orodo Development



L-R: CSP Chinedu Iwuzo, FMO Nwosu Benedict and ACP Benjamin Ogungbure during the award presentation at the occasion

Community, Mbaitoli, Amb. Deacon Poly. C Ezumohia, described CSP Iwuzo as a selfless, compassionate and God fearing leader, with passion for development and assistance to mankind.

He hinted that the Umudimodu Amaukwu-Orodo Development Community has also concluded arrangements to honour CSP Iwuzo on 27th December 2024 for his developmental stride for the community.

In his appreciation speech on

behalf of the celebrants, CSP Iwuzo appreciated God for counting them worthy for the honour and appreciation and the grace to serve meritoriously.

He also applauded the FMO CSP Nwosu for his resolve to generate resources to organise the event inspite the hatch economic situation.

The former FMO, now a consultant in maritime security expressed joy for the presence of erstwhile heads of the Unit, lauding their mentorship in the

police culture.

"I want to appreciate all these my ogas for their presence because they taught us the act of effective policing such as investigation, crime detection and others. These are the people that mentored us in the Nigeria Police culture.

Highlight of the event was the presentation of awards of appreciation and sent-forth to the celebrants by the Force Marine Officer (FMO) CSP Nwosu Benedict.



Owodiong-Idemeko

Ex Akwa Ibom Guber Aspirant Appointed Chairman Of AKICORP

By: **PATRICK TITUS, Uyo**

The Governor of Akwa Ibom State, Pastor Umo Eno has approved the appointment of his erstwhile political opponent, Obong Ide Owodiong-Idemeko as Chairman, Akwa Ibom Investment Corporation, AKICORP.

Idemeko who contested the 2023 governorship ticket on the platform of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) but lost to Umo Eno, has extensive professional and

managerial studies from top institutions in the world.

These include PeopleSoft University, Reading, U.K.; Insead School of Business, Fontainebleau - Paris, France; and Thunderbird School of Global Management, Phoenix, Arizona, USA.

He possesses expertise in Human Resources, Business Leadership, Planning and Strategy, Policy Development and Administration, Organizational Effectiveness,

Labour and Industrial Relations, and has extensive interface in the Nigerian Oil and Gas industry, as well as within EM Regional and Global Business and Support organizations.

A statement by the Chief Press Secretary to the Governor, Mr Ekerete Udoh dated today, said Obong Idemeko's appointment takes immediate effect.

The new Chairman took over from Dr. Elijah Akpan.