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# Sunday Standard



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# ASUU, FG feud: Challenges of unsolved problems



*They say when two elephants fight; it is only the grass that suffers. Put in another way, when the federal government and the Academic Staff Union of Universities fight, the students and parents suffer. When all had thought that the dust of the eight months protracted strike which was suspended on October 14, 2022 may have been laid to rest; only for unanswered questions to remain afloat. KATDAPBA Y. GOBUM takes a trip into the campuses of Nigerian universities to find out if government has solved the issues raised by ASUU. Turn to Pages 10, 31*



Governor Simon Bako Lalong laying the 2023 appropriation budget at the chambers of Plateau State House of Assembly on Friday last week  
Photo by : DANLADI DUK

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### When states fail prudence test

**JUST** recently, the Fiscal Responsibility Commission [PRC], an agency of Government charged with encouraging financial prudence at all levels of government had cause to rate states of the federation low on implementation of a federal law on financial prudence.

**THE** commission had during a three-day sensitization workshop on Transparency and Accountability in Yola, Adamawa state expressed concern on the lack of seriousness on the part of most states to adapt to the National Fiscal Responsibility Law.

**ALTHOUGH** the commission acknowledged that 31 states have signed the fiscal responsibility law or at least have laws designed to achieve financial prudence, with the exception of only Borno, Imo,, Rivers and Zamfara states, the fact still remains that some of these states who have established the agency have either made them perpetual lame dogs or better described as, just existing on paper.

**IT** is obvious that states are yet to align with the federal government's fiscal management framework despite the present challenges particularly as the nation braces for an uncertain future which if not carefully nipped in the bud portends dire consequences ahead.

**PRESENTLY**, the economy continues to bleed as a few individuals feasts on national resources while the political class have turned a blind eye on financial discipline either through mismanagement or outright financial recklessness across all tiers of government.

**WE** now have a situation where states claim they are generating humongous Internally Generated Revenues [IGR], apart from the monthly Allocation from the Federation Account. Yet, most states have succeeded in securing loans and other facilities from various financial Institutions and in most cases tied such payments to Irrevocable Payment Order [IPO].

**DISTURBING**, is the fact that in the midst of these, states continue to embark on elephant projects that may not see the light of the day such projects are sometimes a misplacement of priority. Sadly enough, most of these states cannot pay their workers the approved N30,000 minimum wage while in most cases workers in some states are owed several months of their salaries.

**WORSE** is the height of irresponsibility and insensitivity on the part of some state Governments who have assumed ownership of local Government funds thus, hindering any meaning development at the grassroots and while the art of governance is failing by the day as a result of the inefficient management of resources at all levels, the citizens continue to go through rounds of excruciating pain that has reduced them to destitute.

**NO** doubt, it is patently unjust for states to announce year in year out budgets running into billions of naira that does not reflect any structural development nor take into cognizance the yearnings and aspirations of the vast majority of the populace. Rather, it is a system that venerates corruption above merit, nepotism and all forms of bigotry that has been the bane of the nation's lack of socio-economic development.

**INDEED**, this negative report by the Fiscal Responsibility Commission poses an indictment on the states who have by no means exhibited a care-free attitude towards matters of financial prudence and management which has given room for an over blotted and corrupt system that has encouraged over spending within all government circles. Recently a state governor was even proud to announce the appointment of over 200,000 special assistants, further expanding the spending scope of government, thereby making nonsense of logical thinking and financial prudence.

**THEREFORE**, it is our view that this narrative must change and must be reversed, while government has the duty to demonstrate a good faith by ensuring equitable distribution of resources at the same time, design the template for prudence which must be closely guarded.

**The Governor of Plateau State Simon Bako Lalong has presented the 2023 Appropriation Bill to the Plateau State House of Assembly.**

He did the presentation on Friday 11th November 2022 at the Main Chambers of the State Assembly Complex in the state capital, Jos after a plenary session of the House.

In his presentation, the Governor gave a rundown of the performance of last year's 2022 budget before presenting a budget proposal of N139.3bn Naira for the 2023 fiscal year.

He said the 2023 budget is tagged "Budget of Infrastructural Consolidation and Transition" and it consists of a recurrent expenditure of N77.6bn Naira representing 55.72% of the total budget.

"The budget has N61.7bn Naira as capital component which represents 44.27% of the total budget", he said.

He also disclosed that the budget shows an increase of N32.6bn Naira from last year's 2022 approved budget.

In the capital expenditure, the budget allocated N2.8bn Naira to Agriculture, N2.2bn Naira to law and justice sector, N661.3 Million Naira to information and communication for effective dissemination of information particularly in an election and transition year.

While commending the Legislature for playing a key role in the growth of democracy, the Governor said the 2023 budget will focus on completing major projects of the Rescue Administration and ensuring that government machinery continues to operate in a most efficient and productive manner.

He said "Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, you will recall that having completed many inherited and abandoned projects from previous administrations, this Government initiated many projects many which

### Lalong presents N139.3bn as 2023 budget

**By PALANG KASMI**

have been completed. Among them are the Legacy Projects comprising of world standard schools and hospitals spread across the 17 Local Government Areas of the State".

"Although the Legacy Project suffered a setback as result of the failure of the previous contractor to deliver the project within agreed timelines, I am happy to say that the project having been terminated has been re-awarded to a new contractor and advance payment made. The Contractor is to complete the project for commissioning before the end of this administration".

"Other projects which are being completed and will soon be commissioned according to the Governor include the Plateau High Court of Justice Complex which is more than 95 percent completed and currently being furnished. Also, the British American Junction Flyover and Dualisation to Lamingo Road Junction will be completed and commissioned before the lifespan of this administration".

"The General Hospital Mabudi, Langtang South Local Government and General Hospital Kwall, Kanke Local Government are equally being furnished and will soon be commissioned. Similarly, the completed Shendam internal roads and bridges as well as the Angwan Dadi - Kalong Bridge (being the longest bridge in Plateau State) will also be commissioned soon. Others include the Potato Value Chain Processing Centres in Bokkos, Mangu and Barkin Ladi, Riyom Water Works among others".

Lalong said the Rescue Administration will continue to

operate under a prudent, accountable, and transparent manner in line with the commitment to give value for money and improve the lives of the citizens.

While urging the Assembly to give the proposed budget desired attention, the Governor said he has already directed all heads of MDAs to fully cooperate and make themselves available for the defence of the budget as well as provide necessary details that may be required.

Speaker of the Plateau State House of Assembly Rt. Hon. Yakubu Sanda said the House will give the budget all necessary attention in order to ensure its passage into law for the good of the citizens.

He added that the accelerated passage of the Budget after all the legislative process will also demonstrate their continued partnership with the executive in the delivery of dividends of democracy to the people.

Sanda advised heads of MDAs to cooperate with the House by appearing promptly to defend their estimates.

In attendance at the the budget presentation were Deputy Governor Prof. Sonny Gwanle Tyoden, Speaker House Of Representatives, Rt. Hon Idris Wase, Member representation Kanke, Pankshin Kanam in the House of Representatives, Rt. Hon Yusuf Gagdi, APC state Chairman Hon. Rufus Bature, Government Officials, 8 former speakers of the Plateau House of Assembly and members, including Judges, Civil Society Organisations, and the Plateau traditional council.

### No going back on results transmission-INEC

**The** Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has rejected claims that it plans to abandon the transmission of Polling Units (PUs) results and switch to the INEC Result Viewing (IREV) portal.

The National Commissioner and Chairman, Information and Voter Education Committee, Festus Okoye, said this on Friday in Abuja.

According to him, reports that INEC wanted to rig the 2023 general elections by abandoning the direct and real-time electronic upload of

PUs results to the IREV portal by the Registration Area Technical Support Staff (RATECHSS) were patently false.

"The commission has repeatedly reassured Nigerians that it will transmit results directly from the polling units as we witnessed in Ekiti and Osun State Governorship elections and 103 more constituencies where off-cycle Governorship/FCT Area Council elections and bye-elections were held since August 2020. The results can still be viewed on the portal.

"The IREV is one of the innovations introduced by the Commission to ensure the integrity and credibility of election results in Nigeria. It is therefore inconceivable that the Commission will turn around and undermine its own innovations.

"The public is advised to ignore the reports. The Bimodal Voter Accreditation System (BVAS) and IREV have come to stay for voter accreditation and uploading of polling unit results in real-time in Nigeria," Okoye said.

### FG warns political parties, supporters

The National Security Adviser, Babagana Monguno, on Friday sounded a note of warning to political parties and their candidates over electoral violence ahead of the 2023 elections.

He asked the parties to prevail on their supporters to desist from all kinds of violent activities.

He gave the warning at an emergency meeting of the inter-agency consultative committee on election security at the headquarters of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) in Abuja.

The emergency meeting was convened by INEC following the recent attacks on its facilities in Ogun and Osun state.

"Those people who have gangsters working for them, I want to send a very clear warning, a categorical, unequivocal warning to each and every one, regardless of whichever party, including the party of the President," Mr Monguno said.

"For as long as you decide to scuttle the electoral process, you will be visited with appropriate,

commensurate response. I want to assure you, and I am saying this with all sincerity."

"Those who feel they have a history of organizing and controlling groups that have an inclination for excessive, immoderate, inordinate behavior, I want to send this warning to you, please, recess, re-evaluate and run through whatever contemplation you have been making.

"Call your people and advise them to behave in a manner that suggest and operate within the rules and regulations of the electoral process and Nigeria at large otherwise, you will be held accountable.

"Therefore, it is important for you to call those people under your control. Those thugs, blood thirsty, trigger happy thugs, fuming at the mouth, desperate to undermine the will of the process. They would be brought to book.

He assured Nigerians that, the security agencies and intelligence agencies are already tracking those thugs.

He stated further that, President

Muhammad Buhari wants a repeat of the success recorded in Anambra, Ekiti and Osun elections in the next year general elections adding that whichever party wins shouldn't be truncated in any form.

"Security agencies have been giving a matching order and if you think you can stretch them, you will be disappointed.

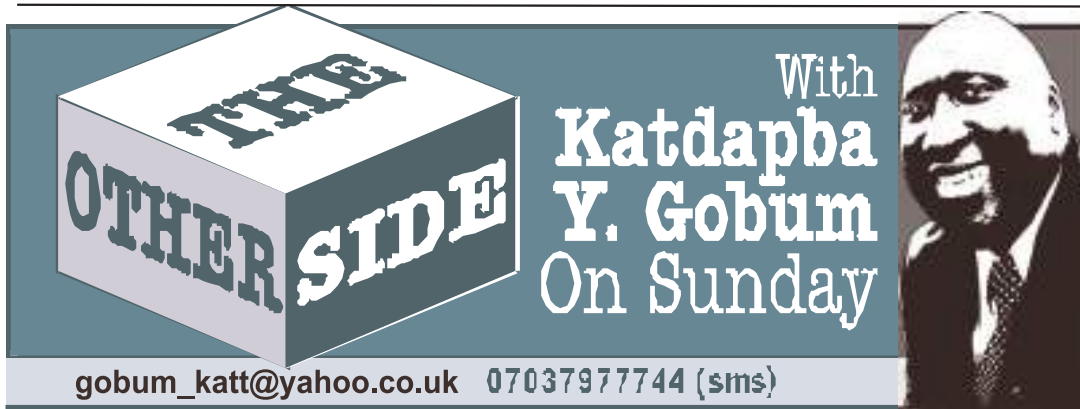
He said President Muhammad Buhari had given a clear card instruction that "If you think we've had a history of not following through whatever instructions given to us, this time you will be in for real shocker."

The Inspector-General of Police, Usman Baba, who was also at the meeting, said some arrests have already been made in connection to electoral violence.

"With the incidences so far, arrests have been made, investigations have been conducted and some suspects are being charged to court," the IGP said.

"My prayer is for quick dispensation of justice so that it will serve as deterrent and it will reduce the cases of impunity."





**"For these long years running, everything we ever prided ourselves of has been lost. Had but kept our peace, no state would have been our rival in tourism and commerce. The market that made many envy us was bombed in 2002. Sadly the effort to rebuild the market has become contentious. We are where we are today because we have lost sanity and cannot get out of the quagmire on account that justice and truth have been denied us".**

**S**OME call it the 21 years of madness on the Plateau. However you wish to call those years, one thing is certain: They are years one would never wish to be visited on any community again. Except perhaps those who wish they return are sadists, the state has had enough share of its tribulations.

For those who remember that black Friday afternoon of September 7, 2001, the day Jos went up in flames and for days, the city was engulfed in the most atrocious violence it would ever be witnessed, there is nothing so outstanding about the incident except that, it remains one of the saddest days, amongst other, in the history of Plateau State.

Taking arms against one another could be a harrowing experience on a people. Indeed it was sad, while it lasted. While it was surreptitiously planned by some crisis merchants, those who were caught off guard paid the supreme price. While it lasted, uncountable of people were wasted; thereby leaving scars on individuals, families and of the communities that make of the theater of the violence.

Today, many remember that had the crisis not taken place, brothers, sisters, fathers and mothers would today have become notable in various human fields of human endeavour. They were regrettably cut short, wasted for no fault of theirs. From the Congo-Russia junction where a group of Muslim had converged for their Friday prayers; a certain Christian woman had made to pass, the argument which ensued soon became a conflagration of fire on anything was seen as the enemy's.

Since September 2001, the metropolitan city of Jos and Bukuru became divided on religious lines. Areas that hitherto had a mixture of both adherents of the two religions, Christianity and Islam could no longer contain adherents practicing them to live together.

Several years after the Jos crisis, some may have forgiven, but there are yet others who walk with the scars and find it difficult to let it go. Some few years ago, it was Governor Simon Bako Lalong who established the Forgiveness Center in the heart of the city. It was meant to stimulate those who have been wronged to see reason why the past must be put behind in the life of the state and its people.

In fact, the attacks on the state persisted up till 2021. There are yet grievances from members of those communities that have repeatedly been attacked. They need assurances from government that they can be protected; and even when they suffer loss, some help should be extended to them by government agencies responsible for emergency management.

It was indeed sad, brothers and sisters who, before the crisis had

## Plateau: The years the locusts have eaten



**Lalong**

co-existed together for decade took up arms against each other and chased their 'enemies' out of those communities. Sadly, as it stands all together, the city is segregated along tribal and or religious lines. Entrances to communities and neighbourhoods are not done until one was sure of his or her safety first.

This development has made business in the city difficult, as it is different from what used to obtain in the past. Life has been a hell relating to one another. Everyone is a suspect of the other; those vendors who before now went around the city unchallenged are today cautious of where to enter to sell.

Beyond the reasons that may have been advanced for the violence, it is certain that since September 7, 2001, the orgy of attacks has been sadly replicated in all local government areas of the state. That is why the number of the death harvested in the last two decades is regrettable.

It is exactly 21 years since the religious crisis in Jos took place. It was the year mistrust and hatred was brought to live with the people of the state-and even in the communities that make up the state.

Perhaps for a few weeks of the incident, no one could categorically say they knew the reasons for the crisis. The buildup was the disappearance of private parts of men at different points in the city and the hot exchange by youth who wrote threats on wall and threw caution to the wind by telling whoever wanted to know that they were ready to face each other. The security failed to act; in fact, they should have known better what was to hit the city.

It's been two decades and nobody can tell you exactly what

started the crisis and or who was arrested or prosecuted for desecrating the peace long enjoyed in the state.

Sadly for 21 years, the state has refused to move. Sadly also, the state is still walking within the perimeter of distrust, angst and cosmetic peace'. It can be observed that the slightest of provocation no matter how far it is to Jos, people take up arms against each other, thereby, venting their anger on others as if the state has become a center for revenge. Recall what happened on the University of Jos after the killings of the Ondo 22 last year.

For these long years running, everything we ever prided ourselves of has been lost. Had but kept our peace, no state would have been our rival in tourism and commerce. The market that made many envy us was bombed in 2002. Sadly the effort to rebuild the market has become contentious. We are where we are today because we have lost sanity and cannot get out of the quagmire on account that justice and truth have been denied us.

It has been stated: 'Nobody is a winner in a war. We lost properties, lives, businesses, opportunities, our cherished peace, and most importantly, the humanity in us was substituted with hunting human beings as games. May the state never experience those dark days again but return Plateau to our Home of Peace and Tourism'.

Sadly also, lands have been grabbed in Bassa, Bokkos, Barkin Ladi, Mangu and Riyom local government areas. It was in the course of these sad developments that some travelers who were enroute Ondo from Bauchi were attacked on Rukuba road and killed. Sad as it was, it is important to recall what may have happened

before that event. While there is no justification of the killings, that took place when terrorists sustained a vicious degree of attacks on Irigwe communities of Bassa and Yelwan Zangam inhabited by the Anaguta; a sleepy community on the outskirts of Jos North local government area in 2021; after a repeated siege on Riyom, Barkin Ladi, Jos South, Mangu and Bokkos local communities.

The sustained attacks were so intense to the point that questions were asked: Do the people not deserve justice? Can the government and security find a way out of attacks? Can't there be reprieve for these communities? Do they not deserve to be protected? All Nigerians deserve to be protected, no matter where they come from; whether they are Christians or Muslims.

We have repeatedly said that justice is the meat for all, and not for a select group. No government can function when they select to give justice to Christians and or Muslims alone. Nations survive and prosper, so long as justice is given to all.

Truth has been established: The state remains marked. The communities are targets for these actions that had been hatched in secret dark places. Regrettably, we are a country that denies justice for its people; no wonder, there is always a cry for it whenever there is an attack. The people have every reason to believe that they are treated as second class citizens-always demanding for their rights

It is even more regrettable that in the course of the years, a state of emergency was slammed on the state in 2004. It was as a result of the Yelwa-Nshar killings in May of that year that led to reprisal killings of Christians in the northern city of Kano. That led Secretary General of the Christians Association of Nigeria in the north, Saidu Dogo to question the rationale behind the imposition of the state of emergency.

He had told journalists thus: On the principle of justice, the decision to impose emergency rule in Plateau is wrong. If he had done the same in Kano it would've made sense. Many people were killed in Kano, and it was the governor (Ibrahim Shekarau) that went on radio to urge muslims to demonstrate'.

The state soon got round the ashes of the destruction. The decisions of the peace conference during the emergency period by General Chris Ali were far reaching. Not only did the state decide on the way forward, the peace conference established the fact that Jos belongs to: Berom, Anaguta and Jarawa people. For many, they reasoned: What could have been better than the

outcome of a well coordinated peace conference meant to establish respect and togetherness in the fractured state?

The circle of violence in several other communities had followed after, claiming several hundreds of lives, displacing people from their ancestral lands in the process since September 2001. Total strangers now occupy those lands; and it does appear that nothing can be done, because when they make attempts to return to take possession they are repelled, killed and thereby compounding their problems the more. Such has repeatedly happened in Barkin Ladi, Riyom and Bassa local government areas.

But for how long should this ill-treatment persist? How long can the people remain traumatized, even when promises have been made and not fulfilled? There cannot be anything sadder to be treated as shabbily when the aggressor is regarded as the victim. How it feels is only when one may have visited the displaced persons that had been scattered in different improvised facilities in different communities; or staying with relations whose living conditions is nothing to write home about.

Over the years, whether it is the Justice Niki Tobi, Justice Jotham Aribiton Fiberesima or Justice Bola Ajibola who chaired a few of the commission of inquiry into the various crises that tore the heart of the city into shreds, they have been able to establish one area of concern; sadly however, governments over the years at the level of the state have failed to act and deal with the perpetrators.

That is one aspect which the people of the state will continue to blame the government. Action has not been taken to assuage the feelings and expectations of the victims towards finding a lasting solution to the plight of communities. The question to ask concerning this is: Why have governments been reluctant about implementing the outcome of the findings? Governments can't spend huge sums of money only to allow the outcome rot in the cabinet files of the Ministry of Justice.

There are issues which must be addressed in the case of Plateau, nay, Nigeria generally: Justice is central to peaceful living. Truth has only but a colour. No matter how it is twisted, we cannot make a head way; but until it is established only then can we sleep not thinking of any one attacking communities in the dead of the night.

**NB: Material is being repeated as the attacks on communities still persist-Editor**





### Trading places: The higher level

Last week, our eyes were opened to some irresponsible attitudes of parents which push their children to so many vices to enable them cater for their parents' needs. Today, we are looking at parents who have really swapped positions with their children in every aspect of life. Some of these cases are so bad that the parents cannot exercise any control over their children.

About a month ago, the parish priest of St Finbarr's Catholic Church, Rayfield, Rev Fr Godfrey Gopep based his sermon on irresponsible parenting that has caused the society more harm than good. The facts have always been right there before us but we never saw it that way.

One of the scenerio the Rev Fr pointed was the fact that nowadays, some parents just give birth and after some time, the children are meant to understand that they are meant to cater for themselves. Eagle eye has seen cases where the only thing the parents provide is a roof over the children's head and the family name. Every morning, each child wakes up, and the struggle begins all over again. They all take off to eke a living and in between eat their meals.

In the above family individualism is the order of the day. Everyone to himself. The mother would shout fire and brimstone if her teenage children entered the kitchen and helped themselves to the little food she struggled and got for her little kids who are yet to be weaned from mother's care into the world. And her



**"The height of Irresponsibility is when the parent starts stealing from his or her child. Fr Gopep asked: "What if your child catches you red handed- your hand removing notes from his or her pocket, purse or wallet, what would you say? " In the first place you are not doing what is expected of you as a parent. Secondly, you are a common thief, stealing from your own child. What would you say if he or she takes up the matter with the family head ( extended)? Such a parent deserves to be shamed."**



teenage children would make so much trouble if anyone touched their edibles. It is so horrible the foundation laid in that family. Everyone is to himself.

This is a legal ground for the children to be thieves, cultists, prostitutes, and ready army to be recruited by insurgents, gangs and trouble makers. It is an issue of survival which is how they were brought up.

Another set of irresponsible parents are those who have relinquished their responsibilities to their children. Eagle eye once told us of a young man who had to carry the burden of catering for his younger siblings from the moment he entered medical school. The burden was too much on him and he became all grey before his time. It was surprising that he still passed through medical school with flying colours.

The above story even though bad, is better than what Gopep described. He painted a scenerio where the parents do nothing but wait for their children to go and trade, do menial jobs to come and feed them. Such a parent has no control over his or her child. What audacity does such a parent have to raise his or her voice for the child no matter what path the child takes. Understandably, there are instances where the parent is incapacitated or sick. Apart from that, a parent should provide for his children or be guilty of child labour which is punishable by law.

The height of Irresponsibility is when the parent starts stealing from his or her child. Fr Gopep asked: "What if your child catches you red handed- your hand removing notes from his or her pocket, purse or wallet, what would you say?"

In the first place you are not doing what is expected of you as a parent. Secondly, you are a common thief, stealing from your own child. What would you say if he or she takes up the matter with the family head ( extended)? Such a parent deserves to be shamed.

Fr Gopep also pleaded with parents not to add to their children's burden by becoming drunks and or drug addicts. In this case, he said, the children become the advisers, admonishing their parents to stop indulging in such negative attitudes because they are damaging.

It is very sad that children are the ones taking their parents for rehabilitation. The tables have turned indeed. Apart from feeding the parents, they have to clean up after them. They have to spend resources on restoring their sanity or reputation.

What is happening? We need to go back to the original plan of God or we can never have a sane society. May God help us.

## NEWS

### Kogi REC laments poor response to PVC collection

From AMEDU JOSEPH, Lokoja

THE Independent National Electoral Commission, Resident Electoral Commissioner, (REC) in-charge of Kogi State, Dr. Hale Gabriel Longpet has lamented over poor response of Permanent Voters Cards (PVC) collection in the state with a call on the people to do the needful to guarantee the safety of the nation's democratic process. The Resident Electoral Commissioner in his maiden press briefing held in Lokoja on Wednesday, disclosed that out of the 1,939,365 total number of PVCs billed for collection in Kogi, only 28% of the figure were so far collected by their owners

Longpet noted that the PVC collection which had been ongoing nationwide since September 2022, is central to the kind of leaders that people desire. He expressed dismay over the nonchalant attitude of citizens in Kogi to respond positively

"One cannot hope to vote if he or she doesn't have a PVC, hence the need for a call on those that have not responded to do so. While the PVCs for those that registered between June 28th and 31st will be ready this November, the commission is working very hard to improve the process of PVC collection to ensure that



Mahmood

the people have a pleasant experience when they go to collect their cards," the Resident Electoral Commissioner explained.

He called on the media to brace up in its constitutional roles in shaping the political landscapes of various countries worldwide.

He assured that the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), now armed with improved electoral act, administrative

procedures and requisite technology will ensure credible, free and fair elections come 2023.

According to him "the days of wanton manipulation of election results is over. However, this task cannot be left to INEC alone, hence the need for Nigerians, the media and all stakeholders as well as organisations to partner with us to deliver elections that will be globally acceptable,"he emphasized.

### 2022 ANSA World Cup: Over N250,000 cash prizes to be won

From AMEDU JOSEPH, Lokoja

THE Association of Nigerian Student Authors (ANSA) in collaboration with the National Association of Young Authors (NAYA) and the Global Association of Young Authors (GAYA), have concluded plans to hold the 2022 ANSA World Cup.

Billed as the most seismic battle of wits in modern literature, staged in the 21st century's grandest and most compelling literary theatre, the ANSA World Cup offers young writers from across the globe the opportunity to showcase their writing skills and get rewarded for

doing what they know how to do best.

A statement by Dr. Kennedy O. Obohewemu, founder, Emeritus President, Life Patron and Board Chair of ANSA, NAYA and GAYA), said participants' entries for the ANSA World Cup competition have been opened from November 7 to December 7, 2022.

Obohewemu described the 2022 ANSA World Cup as 'A Battle Like No Other' with over N250,000 (Two hundred and Fifty thousand naira) up for grabs!

"It is the unique nature of

ANSA to help us see in ourselves our latent gifts and abilities, our talents just beneath the surface of our consciousness, hovering about among our hopes and dreams, our aspirations and our heartfelt wishes.

"We want young aspiring writers to cherish these moments, for they are real and pure." Dr. Obohewemu said.

On his part, Maymunah Kadiri, the ANSA National President, emphasised the need to equip oneself with the habit of learning, consistent writing, editing and rewriting; if one must write brilliantly.

"Learning the magic of writing takes discipline, alongside the exploration of your muse. In order to write brilliantly, you have to equip yourself with the habit of learning, consistent writing, editing and rewriting.

"This is a habit that ANSA harnesses cleverly, making sure to probe into innate talents, and in the process producing exquisite young writers," Kadiri said.

He said that the ANSA World Cup is proudly sponsored by Penkup Foundation.



Bello



# SUNDAY POLITICS

## Plateau's support for Tinubu will be captivating -Sen. Daduut

BY  
EZEKIEL DONTINNA  
& JIDAUNA YANUNG

SENATOR (Prof) Dame Nora Ladi Daduut, has expressed confidence that the Presidential flag-off of the All Progressives Congress (APC) in Plateau State come November 15, 2022 would witness massive support, turn out from the people of the state when the party's candidate Asiwaju Bola Tinubu, stumps Jos with Governor Simon Bako Lalong as his Campaign Director General.

This was contained in a press statement signed by Senator Nora Daduut and made available to **SUNDAY STANDARD** in Jos, the Plateau State capital Friday, ahead of the kick-start of the rally in Jos, describing it as a national endorsement of the fact that Plateau state was home of the APC.

The Senator who is representing Plateau South District in the National Assembly, reiterated that the capacity of Plateau State Governor and the Director General of the APC Presidential Campaign Council, Governor Simon Lalong, to lead the party to victory at the polls next year was certain.

Daduut, who is a member of the TINUBU/SHETTIMA Women Presidential Campaign team assigned to the strategic Planning Directorate, lauded Governor Simon Lalong's disposition as the Director General of the APC campaign council to ensure that the All Progressives Congress flags off its national campaign in Jos.

She said, "as a member of the women Presidential Campaign team, I call on the people of the state to come out en mass to support our Presidential Candidate Asiwaju Bola Tinubu on November 15 as well as vote massively for him at the polls. There is no politician in this country that has recorded the feat Tinubu has recorded in politics."

"Tinubu is the only politician in Nigeria that has mentored the highest number of politicians and has placed there in strategic positions across the country. He is a builder of men and resources. I am determined to go the length and breadth of our dear country to canvass votes for him at all levels in the general elections.

"I will work for the success of our leader and Presidential Candidate Bola Ahmed Tinubu, Dr Nentawe Yilwatda the gubernatorial Candidate of Plateau State as well as other candidates of our party in the state. I



Daduut

urge citizens of the country especially those from Plateau South Senatorial district to work for the victory of the All Progressives Congress at all levels in the forthcoming general elections", Daduut appealed.

The Senator, also eulogized the leadership virtues of Bola Tinubu and his Wife Senator Oluremi Tinubu assuring that, the country would be in safe hands under the guidance of the former Governor of Lagos State Tinubu if elected.

She, therefore, welcomed the Presidential Candidate Bola Ahmed Tinubu to

## Desert encroachment: SDP to reward people who plant trees

From GYANG PAM, Yola

THE Social Democratic Party (SDP) in Adamawa State says it will reward people who plant not less than two trees following the threat posed by desert encroachment in the state.

According to its governorship

## APC presidential campaign: PIFNASS urges citizens on peace

From JIDAUNA YANUNG, Abuja

AS preparation for the kick off of the Presidential Campaign scheduled for Jos the Plateau State Capital gathered momentum, the secretary Plateau Indigenes Forum in the National Assembly (PIFNASS) Mr. Augustine Nyam has urged citizens and residents of the state to be law abiding and avoid anything that will disrupt the peace being enjoy in the state now.

Nyam who disclosed this in an exclusive interview with Journalists in his Office expressed the hope and belief that plateau state is known for such events and this particular one will not

Plateau State and called on the people of the state to come out en mass, to welcome the national party to Plateau on Tuesday November 15th 2022.

## INEC calls for early collection of PVCs

THE Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has called on Nigerians to begin early collection and checking of their Permanent voter Cards (PVCs) to avoid rushing.

Alhaji Yahaya Bello, FCT INEC Resident Electoral Commissioner (REC), made the call in Abuja at a news conference.

Bello said the main purpose

of the news conference was to inform Nigerians on the issue of the display of voters register.

He said that INEC would begin to display the register from November 12, for the purpose of claims and objections.

"Residents could go through the register in their respective localities and see if there are issues so they can raise them."

He said all those who partook in the registration were being identified and notified through SMS to come and collect their PVCs.

He said that the response had been great especially INEC partnership with Yaiga Africa, a CSO devoting its time for enhancement of participation in the electoral process.

"Before we started this SMS process, there's low PVC in all the area councils as low as 15 collection daily even in AMAC."

"However, now it went up to almost 150 percent, in some cases even 180 percent."

According to him, an administration run by him plans to conquer hunger, illiteracy and ignorance, unemployment, infrastructural deficit and restoring, honesty, transparency and accountability in public service and ending the stealing of public funds.

The SDP candidate promised not to steal a single kobo from the State Treasury while not allowing anybody else to do so. In his speech, Presidential candidate of the party Adebayo Adewole assured the people that he will tackle insecurity to make life safe for all Nigerians.

Among them also is to build dams that will check the menace of floods in the country and to generate power for the nation.

Alhaji Yahaya Bello, the FCT INEC Resident Electoral Commissioner (REC), gave the warning at a news conference in Abuja.

Bello said the commission was putting all efforts in place to ensure the smooth conduct of the Presidential and National Assembly Elections in the FCT.

"We have to observe campaign expenditure, this is very important and it is for political parties."

"We will host political parties in a conference to lecture them on political campaigns and spending during campaigns because there are lots of rules and guidelines guiding their campaign expenditures."

"I wish to inform you that there are laws and ethics governing our monitoring of political parties and these are guided by the Electoral Act, Police Act, INEC's regulations and guidelines among others."

"There is a code of conduct

## 'We'll monitor campaign expenses, sanction defaulters'

for media regulations as well as for political parties they provide sanctions in the event of a breach," he said.

Bello, therefore, advised all political parties, partners and those who will partake in the elections including the press to take note of the provisions.

He said this would help to avoid breaching electoral rules and regulations.

Bello said listed some of the

rules to include "no violence, no use of any physical force during political campaigns and no political campaign should be conducted inside the premises of religious organisations."

He added that no political campaign should be based on ethnicity, or religious persuasions and political parties should avoid hate speech.



Bello

## INEC calls for early collection of PVCs

"This is to ensure that our register is cleaned; this display is going to start by 9a.m to 3p.m daily at the registration areas or ward levels."

"While on November 19 to 26, it will take place at the area council offices."

"We have concluded the CVR and a lot of people partook in it, it is on record that we have devised new means which is a departure from the previous election," he said.

Bello said all those who partook in the registration were being identified and notified through SMS to come and collect their PVCs.

He said that the response had been great especially INEC partnership with Yaiga Africa, a CSO devoting its time for enhancement of participation in the electoral process.

"Before we started this SMS process, there's low PVC in all the area councils as low as 15 collection daily even in AMAC."

"However, now it went up to almost 150 percent, in some cases even 180 percent."



Yakubu



## SUNDAY POLITICS

# Nigeria Decides 2023: To debate or not

**At the beginning of the week, Arise Television and Centre for Democracy and Development hosted the first in an undisclosed series of debates on security and economy with five out of 18 presidential candidates, AYISHA OSORI writes.**

**W**HILE reactions have been mixed about debate operations and performance of candidates, there is an unexpected outcome: that this first debate might be the last presidential debate we have before the 2023 elections because of the explanation Bola Tinubu of the All Progressives Congress (APC) gave for ignoring the debate. In a press statement, Tinubu pointed out that aside from his gruelling campaign schedule, there are going to be several debates organised by and with different television stations and he will not be able to make them all. To avoid accusations of 'selective appearance', he plans to decline all debates. The multiplicity of debate platforms is a plausible reason. In the United States, the Commission on Presidential Debates, a nonprofit organisation jointly funded by the Democratic and Republican parties, organises the debates; in Nigeria, what we need is more collaboration between media and civil society on planning inclusive debates for federal and state candidates e.g., Nigeria Elections Debate Group.

One could also argue, based on the invitations he has not honoured, that Tinubu is already selective about his appearances and is comfortable only on home turf and APC-controlled environments.

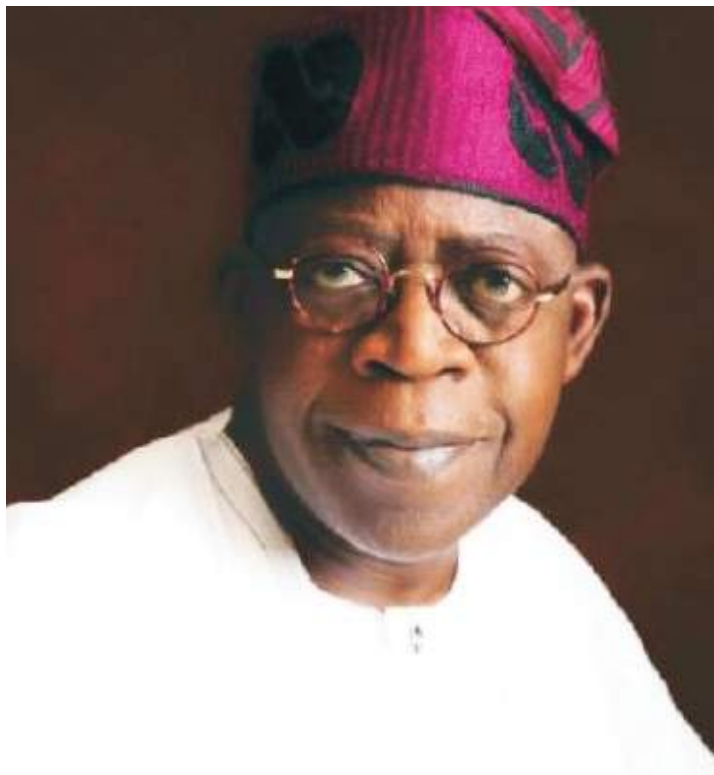
Already, there are indications that one presidential candidate will stop debating if Tinubu refuses to participate. This is unfortunate. The decision to not engage Nigerians and other candidates on their manifestos, visions and track records is not one worthy of emulation but there is an election myth to protect.

In the US, the first televised presidential debates with presidential candidates in attendance was held in 1960 between John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon. Some would say the first debate was in 1956, but Democratic candidate Adlai Stevenson was represented by Eleanor Roosevelt while Senator Margaret Smith represented incumbent Republican president Dwight Eisenhower. Interesting tidbit for the gender of the representatives and that representatives were not vice presidents.

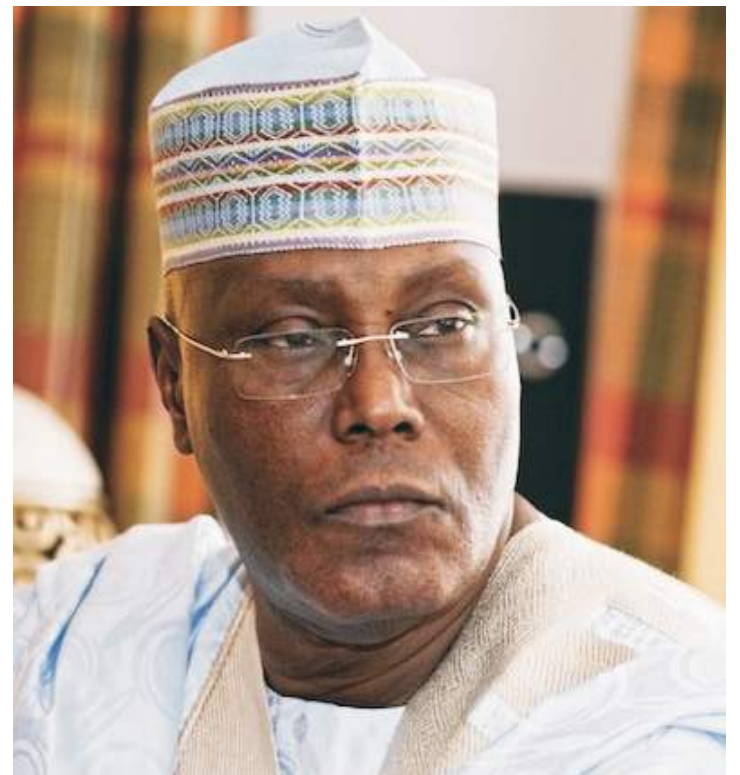
There have been no-shows for debates in the US. For instance, after he was shown up at the debate with Kennedy, Nixon refused to debate against Humphrey in 1968 and McGovern in 1972. Johnson also refused to debate republican Barry Goldwater in 1964 but since 1980, both republicans and democrats have turned up for presidential debates.

There are several reasons we need debates – to keep the element of surprise and to ensure the door of opportunity remains ajar. Some did not know Kola Abiola (Social Democratic Party), until the Arise TV debate; now they have a better sense of him; while some came away impressed with Rabiu Kwankwaso's outing (New Nigeria Peoples Party).

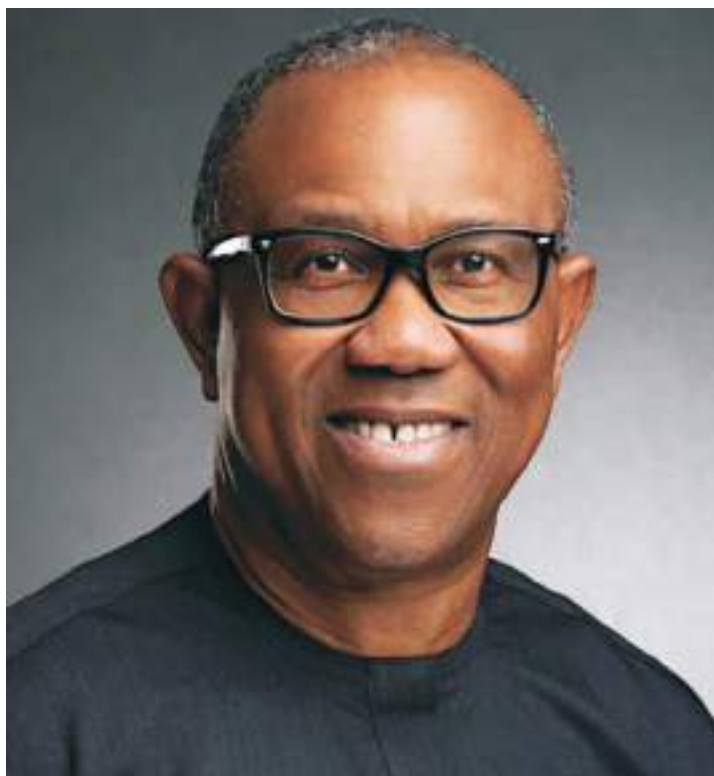
Aside from providing a platform for competition of ideas, composure and experience – debates level the playing field – allowing underdogs and those who have been dismissed to present themselves. Voters and influencers of voters get to see them on the same stage with other candidates including incumbents and favourites; this is precisely why Tinubu is staying away. Elections are a contest and contests can be



Tinubi



Atiku



Obi



Kwankwaso

ungovernable and unpredictable, open in a way that Lagos State politics, where Tinubu has ruled for 24 years, cannot condone.

Candidates can and should hold their town halls and rallies with their home crowd but the voters should be able to compare and assess candidates through dialogue between the candidates as they take each other on. It provides insight into how they handle pressure and how convincing or convinced they are about their plans. Debates provide glimpses into their weakness and humanity – we see a little bit about who they are when the doors are closed – who snaps, won't stop talking, does not care about rules and process, and who will dodge the issue and throw mud.

Unfortunately, we have a history of incumbents not debating such as Jonathan in 2011 and we have the Buhari model, where he debated in 2011 and lost and then did not debate in 2015 and 2019 and won – fostering this sense that 'only the

weak' debate. It is a hidden admission of insecurity and need for self-preservation for those who have done badly at it and those who are not sure they will do well. Like the emperor robed only in the most exquisite hot air a con artist could dream up, the debate weak candidates know and we know why they won't show up, but the popular narrative driven by supporters is that 'debates don't matter', 'that's not how elections are won' and 'those who vote don't care about debates'. These are the narratives of election manipulators.

We need to bury the decades old myth about who votes in Nigeria and where votes come from. It's stale on the side of propagandist propagators and it's lazy on the side of those who accept it without challenge. It is common knowledge, from the cries of those who feel betrayed by the practice, that vote padding does not take place in the cities where the educated, civil society and

international observers flock with eagle eyes – it happens in rural areas, in creeks and forgotten villages. Population drift shows urban Nigeria with 52.75 percent of the population; without a breakdown of where votes come from by polling unit, there is no basis for this 60-year-old folktale that the majority of the votes come from the deliberately impoverished and rural areas. What we do know is that in urban areas, violence is used to keep people home and away from the polls because to depress voter turnout is to make it easier to win and despite technology and billions of naira, the Independent National Electoral Commission, four years after, cannot provide a breakdown of polling unit results of the 2019 presidential election. We also know that Nigeria's demographics has changed. We have a majority youthful population engaging with information and technology in different ways and data from the last voter registration exercise indicate that the highest

number of new registrants were students. Since Nigerians are not homogenous, it is not unreasonable to expect presidential candidates to have a variety of voter engagement formats including debates for those who want this level of engagement.

Tinubu was the architect of APC – we give him all the glory; making Buhari president was the path he saw to his crowning ambition. He must also take all the ignominy: he sacrificed Nigerians wellbeing and it is incredible that instead of submitting himself to be questioned about his and APC's record, he refuses to engage.

A time will come when it will be unthinkable that a person who wants to lead Nigeria will refuse to engage in public and compete with honour with other candidates seeking the same opportunity. Maybe that time is now. Only voters can send the unequivocal message to candidates that those who refuse to engage with them will pay dearly at the polls.

**BusinessDay**



## SUNDAY POLITICS

# 2023: What do Nigerian youths want?

*There seems to be a paradigm shift in Nigeria's political space as the nation's young minds are gradually rediscovering their voices, dominating the media spaces with the buoyant message of building a new Nigeria while hoping the crucial 2023 elections will herald a redemptive path, CHURCHILL OKORO writes.*

**E**NERGETIC as they seem, the teeming youth population – who possess the influence to inspire positive change and the capacity to cause an upswing in different sectors across the nation – are eagerly anticipating casting their votes for their respective choice of candidates.

But, as campaigns gather steam, will these potential leaders, who make up a huge proportion of eligible voters and will likely determine the next crop of elected officials, stay the course and change the old narrative of the class system in politics or will they surrender their bright future and remain hirelings for moneybags politicians?

Miffed by the prevailing challenges confronting the nation including worsening insecurity, rising unemployment level, waning educational standard and dwindling economy, the youths, in recent times, have on several occasions aired their grievances through protests and different fora but their complaints have, obviously, not yielded the expected solution.

While some observers attribute the building momentum to the "Not Too Young to Run" Act signed by President Muhammadu Buhari prior to the 2019 election to accommodate more candidates in their youthful age to run for president, governorship, seats in the national assemblies and the state houses of assembly with a view to increasing opportunities for youths to take part in the decision-making process of government.

Others linked the upward surge of the interest of the youths in the run-up to the poll to the never-ending call for good governance because, according to them, the current state of poverty is reaching a harrowing proportion if urgent steps are not taken to address the problem.

Despite the rallying cry among the youthful population, a recent preliminary report released by Yiaga Africa, a Non-Government Organisation, on the "youth candidacy in the 2023 elections in Nigeria" showed that there was a drop in the number of youth candidacies from the figure gathered in 2018 against 2023.

According to the report, youth candidacy recorded a decline from 34 percent in the 2019 election to 28.6 percent in the 2023 elections.

The report also showed that youth candidacy for the House of



## Nigerian youths

Representatives plunged from 27.4 percent in 2019 to 21.6 percent in 2023. Similarly, the state house of assembly also dropped from 41.8 percent in 2019 to 35.6 percent in 2023.

For the total number of youth candidates contesting for various positions, the New Nigeria Peoples Party (NNPP) ranks third, Labour Party (LP) came fifth, the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) came 13th while the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) ranks 15th.

"Key findings by Yiaga Africa from the 2023 candidates analysis also indicate that 43.2 percent of youth candidates in the 2023 elections were direct beneficiaries of Not-too-Young-to-Run-Act. Moreover, of the 15,336 candidates on the ballot in the 2023 elections, 4,398 are youth candidates, with only 1,899 between the ages of 25-30 years," the report shows.

It is worthy of note that most Nigerian leaders, the likes of Murtala Mohammed, Olusegun Obasanjo and Yakubu Gowon who

ruled the country prior to democracy, got into power at a younger age.

Ben Bowei, President and founder of the Niger Delta Volunteers For Good Governance (NDVFGG), told BusinessDay that the youths seek a new face of Nigeria, but the stumbling block is the "mental poverty" constraining their decisions.

"This is what appears to be a vitiating factor or setback to the not too young to run law, or even when the youths are being elected or appointed to handle high leadership positions in Nigeria.

"Nigerian youths are in two categories. The category who doesn't know what they want and are always present in all political gatherings, whether for Peter Obi, Atiku Abubakar or Bola Tinubu provided they receive a token of money. These set of youths are the ones who are not just suffering from financial poverty but mental poverty. Any politician who can afford to pay some money can always buy their conscience.

"The second category of Nigerian youths is the set of youths who know what they want. But, in this category, we have two clusters; there are those who actually know what they want but do not know how to go about it. That is why you find some youths who just clamour for Peter Obi and they tell you they are obedient without any interrogation. Some are involved in it because they actually seek a new face of Nigerian politics or leadership without any scrutiny or interrogating who this new face of Nigeria should be.

"There are other sets of Nigerian youths who actually know what they want and know how to go about it. These sets of youths will not just sing for Peter Obi, clap hands for Atiku, dance for Tinubu or praise Rabiun Kwankwaso. They do what they are doing upon conviction.

They must have salient opinions or reasons for supporting any of the candidates they are supporting," Bowei said.

Bright Oniovokukor, project director, of Indomitable Youths Organisation (IYO), a non-governmental organisation, urged the youths to clamour not for change but a "better change".

"The age group referred to as youths are actually the bridge between childhood and adulthood. The youths are adventorial, they are inquisitive. They use available information to form their notion hence the system in place can readily manipulate them.

"Considering the population of the youths in the society, there are enough youths to stand for any other candidates without supporting another. However, there are some who have participated in APC, PDP and LP rallies. The reason is not far-fetched considering that some of them want to be adventurous to tell the story, some for gains while others may be compelled for one reason or the other.

"The youths have been conditioned to act, react and behave the way the society has been structured. They act based on the information at their disposal. What you see or read is a major influence on how you think, hence youths with limited information or exposure can easily be brainwashed.

"Even as the youths are unemployed, kept impoverished, used as thugs or all manner of vices in the society, the onus still lies on the leaders to make deliberate efforts to change the narratives. The youths do not have a choice to conform to the system they grow up to meet.

"We cannot continue to blame the youths for being willing tools in the hands of politicians, however, they have a role to play in choosing the seemingly harder right than the

lesser wrong. The system also should encourage them to follow the harder right.

"Once the system is functional, our youths will know where and how they can fit as well as become productive. Nigerian youths need a system that is working; a system without ethnic, religious or cultural bias; a system that rewards merit and hard work; a system where no one is above the law and a system where standards are maintained," Oniovokukor stressed.

Omobude Agho, former coordinator general of Edo Civil Society Organisation (EDOCSO), said "Nigeria as a country has put all and sundry including the teeming youths in a state of total frustration to the extent that most people are not sure of what they want."

Also speaking, Olu-Derimon Omaghomi, secretary Ijaw Youths Council (IYC), Western zone which comprises Delta, Edo and Ondo States, urged youths to take responsibility for their actions.

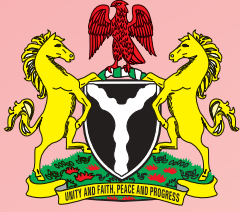
"As much as the youths need well-paid jobs or need to be empowered, they should be responsible. One of our challenges in this country is that we are not taking responsibility for our actions.

"Generally, it is not about old age. You don't need the government because everything is within our reach in terms of information and access to technology. We don't have to be involved in politics before we can become leaders of tomorrow.

"What we are currently seeing in the political space such as the large turnout of persons collecting Permanent Voters Cards (PVC) was informed by the problems facing Nigeria. The truth is that the situation in Nigeria is worrisome. The fact that things are not working, the system is not palatable and the youths feel the only way to change the status quo is to utilise the ballot," Omaghomi said.

**"According to the report, youth candidacy recorded a decline from 34 percent in the 2019 election to 28.6 percent in the 2023 elections. The report also showed that youth candidacy for the House of Representatives plunged from 27.4 percent in 2019 to 21.6 percent in 2023. Similarly, the state house of assembly also dropped from 41.8 percent in 2019 to 35.6 percent in 2023. For the total number of youth candidates contesting for various positions, the New Nigeria Peoples Party (NNPP) ranks third, Labour Party (LP) came fifth, the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) came 13th while the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) ranks 15th."**





WELCOME TO PLATEAU STATE AND

# Congratulatory Message

On behalf of Management and staff of the Directorate of Research, Strategic Planning and Documentation, Government House, Plateau State as well as the State Livestock Transformation Programme, I heartily express gratitude to the leader of our great Party, the All-Progressive Congress (APC), His Excellency, President Muhammadu Buhari, GCON, the Tinubu Shettima Campaign Organization for granting Plateau State the rare privilege of hosting the Presidential campaign flag-off ceremony in the state. I also heartily welcome all and sundry to our beautiful and serene State of Plateau, the Home of Peace and Tourism.

This development of granting us the hosting right of flag-off no doubt is necessitated by the consensus of confidence reposed on the result-oriented Governor of Plateau State, Rt. Hon. Dr. Simong Bako Lalong KSG, CON, Chairman of Northern Governors Forum as well as the Director General of the Tinubu/Shettima Presidential Campaign Organization.

Indeed, this singular gesture has distinguished our amiable Governor as a capable, competent and trusted team leader who seemingly has all the acumen it takes to deliver our great party, the APC, come 2023.

From a historical perspective, it is worthy of note that Plateau State has continued to host several campaign flag-offs in the past which has justified its positional standing as a political heavy weight in contemporary times.

Therefore, the choice of Plateau State in hosting this epoch making event, particularly at an auspicious time like this when Governor Simon Lalong's administration is reaping the gains of its successes, goes a long way in consolidating our assurances for victory as no Presidential Candidate that genuinely flags off his campaign from Plateau as ours today ever fails to make it to Aso Rock.

While once again welcoming and felicitating with the great APC and promise to deliver good governance and democratic dividends to all Nigerians, I pray that the good Lord will grant us a successful flag-off and journey mercies back to our respective destinations.

**PROFESSOR JOHN W. WADE, KSM, mni.**  
*Director-General, Research, Strategic Planning  
And Documentation, Government House,  
& Secretary, Steering  
Committee, State Livestock  
Transformation Plan (SLTP).*





**D**URING its emergency plenary of Friday, 11th November 2022, the Plateau State House of Assembly (PLHA) in accordance with its constitutional mandate confirmed the appointment of Mr. Aaron Mwelsen Pyelshak as the Auditor General for Local Government. This is sequel to a correspondence from the executive for the screening and confirmation of the nominee, following the retirement of the former auditor general in May. While presenting the nominee before his colleagues, the member representing Pankshin South constituency, Hon. Ezra Dakup described Pyelshak as a well grounded accountant who due to hardwork rose through the ranks to become who he is today. Being a fellow of the National Accountants of Nigeria with a Master's degree in Accounting, his wealth of experience as observed by the lawmakers gives him an edge over others. Having gone through his resume, the members unanimously approved his appointment as the new Auditor General for Local Government in the state.

Three bills during plenary also scaled through the first reading stage. They are a Bill for a Law for the Establishment of Rural Access Road Agency/Authority and State Fund under the Rural Access and Agricultural Marketing Project in Plateau State, 2022. The bill subsequently cited as 'Plateau State Rural Access Road Agency and State Road Fund Bill, 2022' is being sponsored by the Majority Leader and member representing Mikang constituency Hon. Na'anlong Gapyil Daniel who also moved the motion, seconded by Hon. Amurudu Usaini representing Bokkos constituency. The second is a Bill for a Law to Establish the Plateau State Investment and Promotion Agency and for Other Matters Connected, 2022 with the majority leader as mover of motion which was seconded by Hon. Philip Peter Dasun representing Pankshin North constituency. The bill was subsequently cited as 'Plateau State Investment Promotion Bill, 2023'. Last but not the least is a Law to Provide for Gender and Equal Opportunities Commission for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination and for Other Matters Connected, 2022. The bill also cited as the 'Gender and Equal Opportunities Commission Bill, 2022' is under the name of Hon. Ibrahim Baba Hassan, the member representing Jos North North constituency who also moved the motion that was seconded by Hon. Esther Simi Dusu representing Jos North West constituency. The three bills are to undergo proper scrutiny and study within two weeks before the commencement of deliberations by members.

In fulfilment of his constitutional responsibility to the Plateau State House of Assembly and indeed the people of Plateau, the state Executive Governor Rt. Hon. Simon Bako Lalong was at the assembly complex Friday, to present the 2023 Appropriation Bill. Lalong was accompanied by the Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, Rt. Hon. Idris Ahmed Wase, the member representing Pankshin, Kanke and Kanam (PKK) federal constituency Hon. Yusuf Adamu Gagdi, the state Deputy Governor Prof. Sonny Gwanle Tyoden, former speakers of the assembly and other Government officials. Those who have been following the trend of events in the last few years would have noticed that while there is a desire by the executive to present the budget as early as

possible, there is also a willingness on the part of the legislature to see that it is passed in record time. This is indeed a welcome departure from the past where budget presentation and approval were unnecessarily delayed. Of course, delay in budget approval is unhealthy as it basically affects economic growth. Tagged 'Budget of Infrastructural Consolidation and Transition,' the 2023 budget estimate promises to cater for the completion of the Rescue Administration's major projects and ensure that Government machinery continues to operate in the most effective and efficient productive manner. Among these projects are the Legacy projects consisting of schools and hospitals that are sited within the seventeen local

**FROM THE ASSEMBLY**  
 With **PAULINE DALLONG**  
 paulinedallong@yahoo.com

## PLHA plenary, budget presentation tops agenda



government areas of the state. Another project dear to the administration of Simon Long is the British/America junction fly over bridge which he has promised will be completed in due time. As good and as beautiful as the 2023 budget looks and sounds, implementation still remains key.

In as much as Government has made plans to continue with strategic spendings on critical sectors of the economy, the Lalong administration must explore other avenues towards creating opportunities for all sectors if at all it really wants the people to feel its impact and enjoy the dividends of

democracy. In all this, the state legislature has a major role to play. Thankfully, Plateau State assembly Speaker Rt. Hon. Yakubu Yackson Sanda has given us his word that the lawmakers will do the needful. The assurance to pay attention to details while bearing in mind the legislative

requirements of due diligence with thorough scrutiny of the 2023 appropriation bill is a right step in the right direction. Equally commendable is the promise that work will commence on the bill sooner than expected for the executive's assent and implementation.



## SUNDAY MAGAZINE



Buhari



Ngige



Osodeke

## ASUU, FG feud: Challenges of unsolved problems

***They say when two elephants fight; it is only the grass that suffers. Put in another way, when the federal government and the Academic Staff Union of Universities fight, the students and parents suffer. When all had thought that the dust of the eight months protracted strike which was suspended on October 14, 2022 may have been laid to rest; only for unanswered questions to remain afloat. KATDAPBA Y GOBUM takes a trip into the campuses of Nigerian universities to find out if government has solved the issues raised by ASUU.***

**N**O one had thought that the industrial action embarked early February 14, 2022 by the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) would linger for long. The issues raised had been on ground, but some were quick to point out that it was the recalcitrance of authorities pitched against the strong will of the university teachers' union that made it last long.

ASUU had pressed home her demands to include, improved funding for universities, review of salaries for lecturers among other issues. On October 7, 2022, the Court of Appeal sitting in Abuja ordered the union to call off its strike. Its president Prof Emmanuel Osodeke noted that the reason the lecturers decided to resume teaching was because the court had asked them to resume.

### **Why ASUU suspended strike**

When he appeared on Channels Television's Sunday Politics, Osodeke said the union hopes that government will do what was expected of it, given

that it had suspended the strike. He said apart from the intervention of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Femi Gbajabiamila, 'the major reason we are resuming is because we are obeying the court order'.

Speaking further, he had said 'the issues have not been fully resolved and no agreement has been signed. So, we are resuming because we are law abiding body and we don't want to break the law. We are hoping that the intervention of the Speaker, as promised by him, will resolve these problems in a very short time.'

The Minister of Labour and Employment, Chris Ngige according to ASUU 'believes that the best way is to force them to class. It's so sad, but because of the interest of the Nigerian students, their parents, and the speaker, our members will teach'. If this sacrifice is anything to go by, it is not understood why the nation is not serious about education.

Smaller countries that are Nigeria's neighbours give priority to education by

allocating about '16 percent of the budget to education'. It is believed that when this is done, according to ASUU, some of the problems currently faced will be avoided and 'sorted out. Our children will go to school effortlessly'.

The suspension of the salary may have been the weapon the federal government is using to hold ASUU by the jugular, as members were paid their salary pro-rata and not half salary as widely reported by the media. The ministry according to a release issued noted that the method was done because they cannot be paid for work not done.

The case for which ASUU is interested in is the accusation that is linked to biased payment of salaries to selected professional members of the union on the basis of the application of 'No Work No Pay'. The ministry has dismissed the selective treatment in payment to members of ASUU saying it is a barefaced distortion of what is right.

### **No Work, No Pay**

The dust thought to have been earlier raised appears not to have settled. The Nigerian Labour Congress (NLC) has since rejected the No Work, No Pay Nigerian government policy which is being tested on the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) on account of the recently suspended eight month old strike.

Rising from its National Executive Committee meeting in Kebbi State in the last week of October 2022, the umbrella organization called on government to honour all collective bargain agreements with unions in the education sub-sector, particularly with those that have to deal with wages and conditions of service.

The communiqué at the end of the meeting which was signed by the NLC President, Ayuba Wabba and General Secretary, Emmanuel Ugboaja reads thus: The fact is buttressed by recent protracted industrial dispute in public universities in the country which was consummated in industrial litigation, arm-twisting of conciliation efforts and extreme violations of human and trade union rights, withholding of the salaries of university workers and interference in trade union activities including the balkanization of trade unions in the tertiary education sub-sector and overt threats to proscribe existing trade unions'.

Even though ASUU through its Vice President, Chris Piwuna is optimistic of going to be paid its salaries even as the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Femi Gbajabiamila had made an appeal to President

Muhammadu Buhari to pay the lecturers salaries for the eight months period. ASUU is yet to hear what the president has to say as he is currently in London for medical check-up.

### **Enter Speaker Gbajabiamila's effort**

Speaker Femi Gbajabiamila had in a statement stated that the federal government may not fully pay lecturers for the eight months the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU), saying, when they 'called off their industrial action three weeks ago, it meant that academic activities could resume in our public universities and students could return to academic pursuits after the prolonged interruption. This decision was rightly heralded nationwide as the correct decision.

'Since then, the Executive and the House of Representatives have worked to address the issues that led to the strike. We are currently working on the 2023 Appropriation Bill, which includes the sum of N170, 000,000,000 to provide a level of increment in the welfare package of university lecturers. The bill also includes additional N300, 000,000,000 in the revitalization funds to improve the infrastructure and operations of federal universities.

'The Executive position is that it is not obligated to pay salaries to lecturers for the time spent on strike is premised on the law and the government's legitimate interest in preventing moral hazard and discouraging disruptive industrial actions.

*continues of page 31*

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NEWS

# G.I.N.S appeals for support for Gyang's health condition

By EZEKIEL DONTINNA

A passionate appeal has been made to government and spirited individuals in Nigeria by Gowon Initiative For Needs Support Foundation (G.I.N.S.), a non-governmental organisation in Jos, to support one DanladiGyang of Vom District of Jos-South LGA who has been battling with elephantiasis for over nineteen years.

The President/Executive Director of Gowon Initiative for Needs Support Foundation (GINS), Gowon O. Friday, made the appeal Friday while in an interview with **SUNDAY STANDARD** in Jos, the Plateau State capital on behalf of the 42 year old Gyang whose parents died when he was still a little child.

He disclosed that, "the foundation came across DanladiGyang of Vom District in Jos-South Local Government Area of Plateau State and has been taking care of him for over two years now. We felt that there is need to help him have his life back and feel compassionate over this elephantiasis he has battling with for 19 years.

"He is a vulcanizer and he values his job so much in that he treks ten kilometers from home to his work place because



Gyang

even with his money, tricycle riders reject him. Many people refuse to patronize him because of his condition. He suffered rejection from people and community and has no wife, no friend and no child. "People ran away from him because they believed he is smelling and irritating, but we came to him as friends and brothers and shouldered the responsibility by catering for his welfare and medical

needs. Our effort and mission is to give him normal life and we wish to take him outside this country for treatment.

"Currently, the foundation is pleading and crying to burden bearers, philanthropists, Nigerians and the world over on behalf of DanladiGyang to add value to his life the passion he has for his job. No amount is small since it is for humanity.

The Foundation can be supported through its Bank Account: Zenith Bank:

1214026008 and can be contacted via these Phone Number +2348161148880 as well as email: (gowoninitiative@gmail.com)", he appealed.

The president, however, revealed that the foundation has been into poverty alleviation and eradication, educating youth on drug usage and has been partnering with ACCESS and PLACA. He explained that "Our aim is to bring out 250, 000,000 people out of poverty across the world through impact, influence, empowerment, counseling and mentorship.

"We intend to embark on awareness campaign at least once in a week to help enlighten people on issues. We do that by driving the course to put food on their table and educate the younger ones to stay away from drug usage. Plateau State is God given land and I see Plateau as the most peaceful irrespective of past happenings. They are gifted people and hospitable because they love to see people progressing irrespective of tribe, religion and ethnic background. I pray God to give them wherewithal to help our brother, Danladi Gyang", Friday prayed.

## Tinubu/Shettima campaign: DG Lalong assures farmers

By PALANG KASMI

November 10, 2022.

"The meeting was part of engagement between APC Presidential Candidate Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu and critical stakeholders, after similar Town Hall Meetings were held in Minna Niger State to underscore the importance of Agriculture to the APC", Lalong said.

He said Nasarawa State, known as the Home of Solid Minerals has huge mineral potentials that are yet to be exploited and utilised lamenting that "These mineral deposits which are known to be in large quantities are not only untapped, but also threatened by the activities of illegal miners leading loss of revenue, insecurity and other crimes".

The DG said the North central States which are the food basket of the country are also faced with challenges of agro processing.

"Despite the large variety and bumper harvest of crops and fruits of different types within the region farmers still have to watch helplessly as their harvest rot away or sell them at give-away prices because of lack of processing capacity and preservation".

"Instead of making money from their hard labour and investment in farming, our farmers end up getting poorer or unable to sustain

their main source of livelihood".

"These are issues that our Presidential Candidate Asiwaju Bola Tinubu is fully aware of, and has vowed to address squarely during his tenure".

"Tinubu has captured these issues in his manifesto "Renewed Hope" with detailed strategies of implementation", Lalong assured.

We have seen a growing connection between mining and criminality apart from the threat posed by illegal miners with national and international connections".

"Vote for Jagaban, when he comes into office, there will be industries and processing hubs that will ensure that our youths get jobs while farming and mining activities benefit all. We shall no longer lament over lack of revenue to provide better services to our people", Lalong said.



Lalong



### Lalong installs Miskaam Mwaghavul

Governor Simon Bako Lalong of Plateau State, has installed Da John Putmang Hirse, as the Miskaam Mwaghavul as the first class Chief of the Mwaghavul Chiefdom of Plateau State at the Mangu Mini Stadium last Saturday.

He, therefore, congratulated the newly coronated monarch and tasked him to rule his subjects with inclusiveness, urging him to work hard to maintain peace and unity of the chiefdom.

### PLSG proposes N139.3bn budget

Plateau State Government has sent a proposed budget of one hundred and thirty-nine billion, three hundred million naira (#139,300,000,000bn) for the 2023 fiscal year.

The State Commissioner for Information and Communication, Hon. Dan Manjang, disclosed this shortly after an emergency meeting of the State Executive Council (SEC), describing the budget as "Realistic and not too bogus".

### PSN certifies, endorses Procold Pharmaceutical products

The apex body of Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria (PSN), has certified and endorsed the number one brand West African product known as Procold, produced by an Indonesian company in Nigeria to be formally used for medical treatments in the society.

This took place recently, at the opening ceremony of the occasion marking the 95th National Convention of the Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria (PSN), held at the Crispian Events and Suite Hotel Jos, the Plateau State capital.

### Plateau APC family mourns Ngo Lydia Bot-Mang

Plateau State Chairman and the entire All Progressive Congress (APC) family in the state, have condoled with the Botmang family over the demise of their mother and grandmother, her Excellency, Ngo Lydia Botmang, who passed away recently.

This came in a press statement signed by the State Publicity Secretary of the party, Hon. Sylvanus Namang, and made available to **SUNDAY STANDARD** in Jos, the state capital immediately after receiving the news of her demise Saturday.

### Ethiopia peace deal hailed as a "new dawn"

A French parliament session was thrown into turmoil after a far-right legislator was accused of yelling "back to Africa" to a black colleague who asked a question on migrant arrivals.

Parliament member Carlos Marthens Bilongo of the leftist France Unbowed party was questioning the government over a rescue boat that was carrying hundreds of passengers in the Mediterranean Sea and has not received an assigned port to bring them to.

US donates \$1m humanitarian aid for flood victims

The United States Government has promised to provide \$1million in immediate humanitarian aid for the people affected by unprecedented flooding in Nigeria.

This came in a statement signed by the US Ambassador to Nigeria, Mary Beth Leonard, and made available to **THE NIGERIA STANDARD** in Jos, expressing concern over the situation that has led to the loss of lives and over 200,000 houses partially or fully damaged.

Compiled by EZEKIEL DONTINNA



## SUNDAY FEATURE

# Economics of time management in Nigeria

**The entire existence and progress of human society thrive on the tripod of matter, space and time. How a nation or people explore, deploy and use these natural endowments determine their respective level of development. Hence, the need to appreciate these resources with the view to perfect how best they can be harnessed and appropriated to advance human progress. AYUBA YILGAK'HA, writes.**

**I**N elementary science, "matter is anything that has weight and can occupy space." In this essay, it refers to all physical resources be they living things (trees, animals, human being, birds, etc) and non-living things (rocks, water bodies, weather, sun and moon light, etc) which have value and could be carefully explored, diligently exploited and judiciously appropriated through the knowledge of science and technology for the benefit of man and other living creatures that need them. It is the sum total of all planetary bodies and everything in them that are Matter does not exist in a vacuum but space.

Space can be described as a location or place where matter in all its dimensions exist and human activities take place. All human institutions whether formal or informal are spaces without which no matter could be located and harnessed. In order to appropriate matter which exists in space, time is required.

It is the time dimension of matter that constitute what is called chance (opportunity). In other words, time is the opportunity to work or carry out any activity on earth. It is an economic resource and allowance for human actions which constitute the focus of this expository treatise.

All living things have 60 seconds, a minute, 60 minutes an hour, Twenty four hours a day, on the average, 30 days a month, Twelve months a year, ten year, a decade; twenty five years, a silver jubilee; Fifty years, a golden jubilee; Hundred years a century, One Thousand years, a Millennium, that is, if any single human could last this long. There is none as far as my history tells me. As long as men live, there is no discrimination in allocation of time; they enjoyed equal opportunity to explore, exploit and appropriate every resource (matter) that is available to them except for those who for unnatural reasons are confined (prisoners).

Prisoners, though have the inalienable right to live, are within the time of incarceration, denied the freedom to walk about and explore available opportunities that life could offer them. Their stay in confinement has time dimension. How long their freedom is taken away from them has economic implications because the time lose would have been deployed into productive ventures that will add to the overall economic output.

Time is a stick master and in its natural order always fair and just to all. Once it starts, it does not wait for no man. Men are either adjusting to its regular rhythm and deliberate speed or missed out on everything. While other resources (matter and spaces) could be conserved, time is delicately not conservable and controlled. It is an unseen essential that could trigger transformation in a nation if properly harnessed but destroys same when misused.

The value man attaches to time (opportunities) and his purposes shall ultimately determine what he makes out of it. It is important to note that the value of time derives from man's understanding of it and he stands to badly lose when it is not used properly. As a corollary, the



value man placed on his purpose (s) also guides how his time could be structured to achieve optimal results. This implies, that given the purpose (s) of man, and other resources available to him, time is one of the most critical resource that needs careful exploration and appreciation for man to break through.

Time provides limitless opportunities for greatness but yet, it is the singular most abuse of all resources in human history, especially on the continent of Africa. While "time is money" in other climes like the USA; it means virtually nothing in the continent. Africans could go to war in pursuit of power to control other resource endowments such as land, forest, rivers, seas and oceans and other planetary bodies but care less about time which, though equally allocated by natural order, could be as scarce as any other resource.

"The time in Africa", they say, "is when the programme gets started." This implies that time is of no consequence and not taken seriously in the continent. The concept of African time simply refers to flagrant abuse of time. It means coming late to every function be it school, wedding, business meetings, duty post, etc. A programme in Africa which is scheduled to start by 10 am could unapologetically starts 12 pm (Two hours behind time)! The African time mentality has become a cultural malaise and a retrogressive myth trap which must be deconstructed and replaced if any productive and meaningful progress can be in the continent at all.

The main thesis of this piece is that poor use of time is the bane of underdevelopment in Africa. Continents or countries that have mastered the use of time has made

tremendous progress in every facets of their lives be it economic, social, cultural, moral, ecetra. A nation that comes behind in time management can be sure to come behind in all development indicators. In other words, nations that waste time, waste every opportunity for rapid development. This is especially so in the 21st century world where technology is a defining element.

The justification for this hypothetical consideration is based on the fact that most of the countries that have made great progress have no clear evidence of endowments material or physical resources. For instance, Taiwan has history of constant importation of sand but yet is making great progress. Due to poverty of material resources, countries like Spain and Japan are constantly depending on taxes to develop but Africa which is described as the 'black gold' is lagging behind in almost all development indicators. What makes the difference is that while these countries (Taiwan and Spain) invest Quality time in Human Capital Development to create value from nothing; most African countries are wasting quality time in rent seeking. The country's people have no time discipline and less commitment to the need to sharpen their skills which have the potential to enhance speed in the production of goods and services in the continent.

The general drive in the 21st century, actually, is to attain speed in the use of time facilitated by technology. In Africa, however, speed which is ultimately measured in time is not an issue at all. Africans, from the least to the mighty often behave as if they have all the time in the world. Disrupting important occasions for coming behind time is a sign of power and prove of

relevance. Important dignitaries who apologised for coming late to one function lives to repeat the same crime tomorrow and subsequently too.

During important functions, it is common to hear very Important Persons (VIPs), who ought to be models in time management, telling people something like, '...apologies, please. Due to the huge demands of my office, I could not get here on time.' Then the question is asked: Why are leaders or public functionaries not defaulting in time management in other climes? Leaders elsewhere are time conscious, time disciplined and time productive but not in Africa. It is a mentality of rogues to keep repeating actions acknowledged as wrong yet do nothing to change it!

Time management is poor in Africa but why? Attempts are being made to answer this all important question by examining the situation in Nigeria with the view to make inferences and recommendations. There is no better theoretical explanation for Africa's failure to maximise the use of time other than Murphy's Law which says, "Everything that can go wrong will." With this fated philosophy, Africans believe, whether time is properly managed or not, what will be will be. In order words, African underdevelopment is a fate dictated by natural order; not anybody's undoing but really?

Nigeria is sixty three (63) years old and blessed with all manner of material and human resources but have woefully failed in achieving rapid development. With its estimated 206m people, 923,768 km<sup>2</sup> land mass that is characterised with diversified weather and rich mineral deposits, the country is grossly underdeveloped.

Over the years, Nigeria has

mobilised resources from within and without but has continued to default in time management. It can be argued that substantial part of the problems militating against the development of Nigeria is closely tight to time insensitivity and wastage. The nation-state is behaving as if it has all the time in this world. In terms of value creation and productivity, Nigeria cannot explicitly and unambiguously account for it's over six decades of existence as a sovereign state.

Lateness to work, absenteeism, truancy and idleness at work places are recurrent decimal in Nigeria. This is part of the unfaithfulness and deficit in patriotism associated with resource in the country. Except private establishments or public offices perceived as 'lucrative', other places of work in Nigeria's public service often become functional from 9 or 10 am on week days and begins to wind down by 1pm.

It is not exaggeration to argue that, on the average, the active work hours in most of the country's public institutions is 3 hours as against the supposedly eight hours per day. Worse still, Nigeria's work system is characterised by so many public holidays which consumes lots of work hours annually. These glaring abuses of labour time have substantial negative effect on productivity in the economy and must be reversed if the country is to leapfrog.

Skills and time mastery are recipes for rapid development. Anything that has time dimension is an opportunity to make a difference. The problem, though, is how to use it. When you don't know how, ask questions; If you know less, still ask questions to know more. With the right questions, your mind can be illuminated and there is no feat you cannot attain. 'Time', 'they say, waits for no one.' The opportunity cost, that is, the alternative forgone after choosing to misuse time in Nigeria is development. In other words, when time is misused or mismanaged, development is forfeited. This is the headache and nightmare of contemporary Nigeria.

Time has no reverse gear. It is not elastic nor is it renewable. Those seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months running into years, decades and even centuries, etc, you failed to utilise constitutes missed opportunity which cannot be regained or recovered. Because I previously did not have quality understanding on the dynamics of the working of time, I cannot account for, at least, ten (10) cumulative years of my life on earth. And I do not think I am the only victim in this glaring wastage of time resource. Therefore, this exposition is meant to awaken our consciousness and, if possible, to forestall further misappropriation of the time resource at private and public work places.

Time must be put to better use in Nigeria if it must catch up with developed and emerging countries that have gone ahead. The country with its people must, angrily and deliberately, redoubles effort to redeem time resource or maintain the status quo and be left behind forever. God forbid!



## SUNDAY FEATURE

**Asaba National Cooperative Summit redefines members' future prospects**

*It was a refreshing moment when cooperators of various multipurpose Cooperative Societies across the length and breadth of Nigeria gathered at Asaba, the Delta State capital to share their experiences, gain new knowledge, make new friends and of course fraternize with each other in the spirit of togetherness to achieve meaningful results with the sole aim of adding value.*

**JENNIFER YARIMA writes.**

**T**HIS year's annual summit, exhibition and award was zoned to the south-south region of the country which offered some people the opportunity to have a glimpse of what is obtained in that part of the country. This ample opportunity also afforded the participants through interactions a glimpse of the way of life of other people which included their food, cultural display, weather and of course how hospitable the hosts were and still are. The reunion also brought members to the reality of the fact of life. It was also an opportunity for members from the north region of the country to have eaten starch and Banga soup, Nsala with Fufu or Eba, rice and Banga stew etc. Many were a little bit careful not to eat all available food, but inquisitive to just wet appetite for something different from the usual.

It was fascinating as the Delta State cultural troupe thrilled the air with admirable but energetic dance steps. This shows that Nigeria is indeed endowed with diverse culture and traditions which gives us an edge over others, no wonder the name giant of Africa is not an exaggeration as that is where our strength lies.

The President, Cooperative Federation of Nigeria (CFN), High Chief Tajudeen Oriyomi Ayeola who doubles as President of International Cooperative Alliance-Africa, (ICA-Africa) explained that the National Cooperative Summit was designed to enable cooperators in Nigeria come together to discuss on how to improve various operations and better the welfare of members.

This year's programme though impressive but it did not get the expected turnout of members because of the unfortunate flood devastation which destroyed many homes, farmlands, properties as scores of vulnerable individuals also lost their lives in some states. Nevertheless, the attendance was much appreciated.

The 7th National Cooperative Summit which was held at Orchid hotel, DBS road Asaba, Delta State centered on the theme "Accelerating Economic Growth through Cooperatives", which was delivered by Peter Ashade, Group Chief Executive Officer, United Capital Plc, with other sub themes as reinventing the cooperative business strategy, solving affordable housing delivery through cooperatives savings and essentials of productivity for cooperative sustainability.

It is a fact that Cooperative Societies also play important roles in Nigeria today. As a group of likeminded people, cooperative societies are structured to effectively tackling common problems of their members as well as those of their society. Members are being empowered to advocating for interest of the society on certain issues.

In as much as loans are accessible in Nigeria today, cooperative societies make them more accessible. Getting loans from other financial institutions such as banks could be more tedious in our contemporary society with the need for collateral and all those paper works which makes the process longer than necessary. Cooperative societies on the other hand provide relatively low interest rate loans to members after other members standing as guarantors. They provide loans to members either in cash or in goods form. This in turn



**Hanatu Mershak, President PLASCOFED**



**Mershak in a warm handshake with High Chief Ayeola, President CFN, ICA-Africa**



**Plateau delegation**

also helps to improve the welfare of the citizens.

The unique feature of cooperative societies is that they create unity as it gives room for members to work together with in one accord irrespective of social class for the betterment of the country. It certainly unites different people from all works of life who have a common goal. Societies provide training programmes for inexperienced and untrained members through workshops, seminar and courses. Members through such forum are taught variety of skills to build capacity of their members in this contemporary age.

This year's summit recorded successes as events unfolded within the year which earned commendation for the Cooperative Federation of Nigeria (CFN) board for a job well done. Nigeria was well represented at the 9th technical committee of the Africa Ministerial Cooperative conference held in Mombasa, Kenya in May and 13th Africa Cooperative Ministerial

Conference held in Cairo Egypt in October, 2022.

It was no doubt a fruitful outing which saw the emergence of a young Nigerian, Mr Sadiq Labaran from Niger State who emerged as the newly elected president of the ICA-Africa Youth Network and youth representative on the board of ICA-Africa. In a brief chat, Labaran explained to Sunday Standard that his dream for young people was to know their standard and have a sense of investment and as leaders of tomorrow would need to train themselves for leaderships roles in due course. On assumption of office, Labaran set up the Youth Alliance training with the support of CFN which was held in Delta to build their capacity on the understanding the International Cooperative Alliance including the Global cooperative movement; a pathway for getting involved. Youths from the 36 states of the federation are being groomed to take mantle of leadership and key into the dream at an early age.

For the contingents from Plateau

State, it was a worthwhile journey going through tough terrain, defying all odds to reach our destination. We all returned with songs of victory for the award given to the President of Plateau State Cooperative Federation, (PLASCOFED), Mrs Hannatu Mershak. It did not come to us as a surprise because of her doggedness and outstanding leadership role which she has continued to exhibit on the Plateau. She has no doubt carved a niche for herself nationwide. The award also defines Mershak as an exemplary leader for her commitment, loyalty and contributions to the development of the cooperative movement in Plateau and Nigeria at large.

In her delight, Mershak said, she is overwhelmed as she was taken by surprise for this award. "I dedicate the award to God, PLASCOFED, all cooperative leaders in Plateau State, because it was their support that has earned me this award. With this, I pledge to do more to give purposeful leadership and coordinate the

societies towards bringing them together to achieve the desired economic development in our state".

Other award recipients were Alhaji Balogum Abdulrazak, from Ogun State and Mr. Larry Egun Onyeche, President of Delta State Cooperative Federation.

Whoever belongs to a cooperative society without mincing words has benefited in one way or the other. Many cooperators today are landlords, business tycoons, and successful people in life because the support from cooperatives has changed their lives. Check out the equipments in most homes today, they are products courtesy cooperative societies which have either provided funds in form of soft loans or bought items for people.

It baffles me that even now most people and organizations have not keyed into cooperative ideas. No wonder the experiences gathered during the Asaba seminar would linger on the minds of participants for decades to come.



**W**OMEN! Women! women! Gather overhere. Let us talk. What is going on? In less than a month, two married women have been burnt to death. One purportedly by self and the other by her husband. What does it take for the society and women to learn? Why do we keep encouraging women to stay in dangerous marriages for religious and cultural reasons when women die daily as a result of this? What does it take for women to walk away? What support structure does the society and religious institutions have for protecting and counselling victims of domestic violence? Today it is somebody else's daughter, tomorrow, it may be yours. Before we proceed let us read the following stories:

A man, identified simply as Akpos, is on the run after allegedly burning his wife, Risikat, to death at their residence on Ayide Osolo Street, Divine Estate, in the Ijanikin area of Lagos State. PUNCH Metro gathered that Akpos and Risikat were at their residence when an argument ensued between them. The argument reportedly degenerated and Akpos, out of annoyance, reached for petrol, poured it on his wife and set her ablaze. After perpetrating the crime, Akpos was said to have abandoned the woman for dead and fled the premises.

Some good Samaritans reportedly rushed the victim to a nearby hospital for treatment, as the matter was reported at the Ijanikin Police Station for investigation. The state Police Public Relations Officer, SP Benjamin Hundeyin, said Risikat sustained severe burns, adding that she died while receiving treatment in the hospital. He said, "A case was reported at the Ijanikin Police Station that a woman, Risikat, 48, allegedly had an altercation with her husband and in the process, he poured petrol on his wife and set her ablaze.

The forgoing is from the punch newspapers. The Vanguard reported the death of Mrs. Bimbo Oghona:

THE Lagos State Government, yesterday, ordered a coroner's inquest into death of late Bimbo Ogbonna, who allegedly died recently due to severe fire injuries as a result of domestic violence.

The Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice, Moyosore Onigbanjo, SAN, gave the directive recently, noting that a thorough investigation would be carried out to ascertain the cause of death.

The family of late Bimbo Ogbonna, wife of Lagos auto dealer, Ikechukwu Ogbonna, aka IVD, who died on Saturday as a result of the injury she sustained from a fire incident that occurred in their home, have called for justice over her untimely death. "The findings of this investigation will be made public in due course and appropriate sanctions meted out to anyone found culpable. "The family alleged that the mother of five was killed by her husband in a well-documented act of domestic violence. But Onabanjo assured the public that everything will be done to ensure that the cause of death is known. He said: "A Coroner's Inquest has immediately been requested in line with Sections 14 and 15 of the Coroners' Systems Law, Laws of Lagos State 2015, to determine the cause and circumstances of death. The forgoing is from the Vanguard Newspaper of 26<sup>th</sup> October.

Today, we would like to speak first to the society and then to women. Whenever we advise women to leave their violent spouses, we are accused of encouraging broken marriages. For reasons best known to some members of our society, it is better to be dead than divorced. To them, it is also better to be in a bad marriage than to be single because they have stigmatized being single and divorced in totality. To them, nothing good can come from a woman who has no husband or husband-to-be. This stigmatization is what is encouraging married women with violent partners to remain in these marriages until they lose their lives because they are terrified of being alone.

The society validates a woman only when she is married. If she is not married, it does not matter if she is of a good character and is a responsible member of her community, she is daily served a meal of disrespect and

invalidation because she does not have a man of her own and she is still bearing her maiden name. This stigmatization is largely responsible for keeping abused and battered women in their marriages until their parents are called upon to come and carry their daughter's dead body.

This invalidation and disrespect that society has for unmarried women, is the stigma that we need to address. It is even worse if a woman is divorced, you would think that she is the devil if you see the way some people treat her and disassociate themselves from her. If she is single, she is so anxious to settle down that she pays no attention to the red flags that show the abusive tendencies that her husband-to-be exhibits.

## Dying for "love"



Let us, yet again, look at the psychological effect of remaining at the receiving end of a violent relationship. The forgoing is the culled from Hestia. It is a product of a research published in Hestia (<https://www.hestia.org/blog/domestic-abuse-suicide>). Hopeful. This should give us deeper insights into doestic abuser and ist link t suicide.

### Domestic Abuse & Suicide

It's a horrific but relatively known fact that on average, two women are killed by a partner or former partner every week in England and Wales. What remains far more hidden, however, is the stark number of women who take their own life as a direct result of experiencing domestic abuse.

Domestic abuse is still too often seen as an issue of violence alone. Yet many women in our refuges tell us that the emotional abuse, resulting in trauma and mental health implications stay with them for far longer.

Research in this area is limited, but the figures that do exist are harrowing. A 2018 study by the University of Warwick, focusing on more than 3,500 women supported by domestic abuse charity Refuge, uncovered that almost a quarter (24%) of women supported by the charity had felt suicidal at one time or another. A staggering 83% reported feelings of hopelessness and despair, key symptoms of suicidal ideation.

The research also found that nearly a fifth (18%) of participants had actively planned to take their own lives, while data from charity SafeLives indicated a similar number (17%) had planned or attempted suicide.

Perhaps most troubling is data from Professor Sylvia Walby, whose research estimates that approximately one in eight of all female suicides and suicide attempts in the UK are due to domestic violence and abuse. This equates to 200 women taking their own lives and 10,000 attempting to do so due to domestic abuse every year in the UK. That's nearly 30 women attempting to complete suicide every single day. Concerned by the lack of research in this space, the Transforming Health and Social Care in Kent and Medway partnership (STP) conducted its own research, concluding that almost 1 in 5 (19%) of the people who died by suicide in the county in 2020 had been



It's important to note that it is more complex than to simply suggest that the pandemic is causing more domestic abuse survivors to feel suicidal. As Samaritans states, there is often no one cause or reason why someone takes their own life. However, we have heard from women in our refuges who said that being told to stay indoors is retraumatizing, particularly for those who faced coercive and controlling behaviour as part of their experience.

One woman told us how being forced to share a single room with her son during lockdown made her feel like a bad parent, making her feel suicidal. Another mentioned the lack of face-to face support during the pandemic as one of the reasons she felt unable to cope, while another told us that the pandemic prevented her from seeing her children, due to the closure of contact centres, leading to her suicidal ideation.

Women in refuges who would have otherwise been able to explore their new areas, meet new people and benefit from in-person support have instead been stuck indoors, grappling with a new environment and immense uncertainty. Women have had their move on to other accommodation delayed, and their opportunity to move forward to a life beyond crisis halted.

The link between domestic abuse and suicide has long been overlooked, and as we emerge from a global crisis that has significantly intensified both issues, now is the time for this link to be examined closely and preventative measures put in place. The first step is to lay the foundations for greater collaboration between the mental health and domestic abuse sectors, so we can begin to see the bigger picture.

In Kent, the STP has started work in providing mental health training to specialist domestic abuse practitioners and vice versa, which is vital in raising awareness of the needs of those supported by both sectors. Trauma workshops have also been facilitated for victims and a mental health support text service has been launched.

Earlier this year, Hestia hosted a roundtable discussion with key individuals across both sectors, including Domestic Abuse Commissioner Nicole Jacobs and Sarah Anderson, CEO of suicide prevention charity The Listening Place. Our intention was to bring the two sectors together and begin to explore how we can start to bring trauma-informed solutions into all areas of the domestic abuse sector, from the moment someone is identified as at risk of experiencing domestic abuse, to the point of them exiting specialist support services.

Thankfully, this work is continuing. Just this month, the National Suicide Prevention Alliance (NSPA) and Kent and Medway STP hosted a roundtable, providing opportunity for specialists in both sectors to discuss how better to collaborate in tackling the issue. Hestia also joined the NSPA as a member, keen to take forward this area of work and learn how we can do more to prevent suicide for victims of domestic abuse.

If the pathways between domestic abuse and mental health services are clearer, we can begin to properly address this issue; one that is plaguing the country more than we may ever know.

The forgoing with Hestia is no different from what is happening in our society. The difference here is the research and documentation.

**To be continued.**

impacted by domestic abuse. This included current victims and those who had historically experienced abuse, perpetrators and young people living in households where abuse was occurring.

ONS figures indicate that approximately 2.3 million adults experience domestic abuse every year in England and Wales. But we know that domestic abuse is a hidden crime, happening behind closed doors, and the true number of victims is likely to be much higher. It's likely then that many other individuals experiencing domestic abuse have thought about or made plans to end their lives.

Despite its pervasiveness, the issue is scarcely recognised in wider societal discussions. High profile cases have made headlines, such as that of Gurjit Dhaliwal, who took her own life in 2006 after 25 years of physical and emotional abuse at the hands of her husband, or the more recent case of Alex Reid, who killed herself in February 2020, after her abusive partner told her that no one would believe her. These cases have shone a light on what is happening in every corner of the UK, and yet the dots are still not connected.

### The Pandemic

During the pandemic, connecting these dots is all the more vital. We know that there has been a rise in domestic abuse during lockdown; calls to the Met Police about abuse have risen by 12%, while we saw a 38% rise in the number of people trying to access our domestic abuse services. Mental health has also been a paramount concern throughout Covid, as isolation and anxiety has taken hold of many of us.

Earlier this year, we conducted a rapid study into the prevalence of suicidal ideation among women in our refuges during the pandemic, with worrying results. It found that between July and September 2020, four out of every 100 women were contemplating or planning to take their own lives, compared to just one in every 100 in the same period in 2019. Last month, we presented our findings to the Government's National Suicide Prevention Strategy Advisory Group, exploring the impact of Covid-19 on survivors of domestic abuse and risk factors enhanced by the pandemic.



**W**E have been teaching from the series FEAR NOT TRUST GOD and our theme text is Isaiah 12:2. I believe this is a pertinent subject in the earth today because of what the earth is going through. For example, our nation, Nigeria is going through very interesting times and the hearts of many are full of fear and uncertainty but, I want you to understand that for the child of God; someone who knows Jesus as Lord and savior, there is no need to fear because God has factored in all the tests, troubles, trials and the tribulations that can ever come against a child of God in this world.

Jesus said in John 16:33, **These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.** I want you to understand that no matter the perils, the tribulations or trials that life may offer a child of God, our faith in God will always bring us out; our covenant with God will always make a way out for us to win in every situation that we face.

In life, there are basically two paths a man can walk on, or two choices that a man can make whenever he is faced with a circumstance that is too difficult for him. The first is that you can be afraid and allow the situation to consume you and the second is to trust God. Isaiah 2:12 says **Behold;** which means look **and see that God is my salvation.** I want you to know if you are a child of God that God is your salvation. In this world the only sure and secure hiding place is God.

Isaiah 12:2 puts it this way; **Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid.** I will trust in that salvation and will not be afraid. The word Salvation is Yeshua which is the root word for the name of Jesus in the Hebrew language and it talks about many things. It talks about welfare, well-being, deliverance, healing, safety, and everything that is good and desirable in life.

The Bible talks about the fact that Jesus in His capacity as Saviour has pledged to be responsible for all these things all through your life's journey. So the Bible is telling us here to refuse to be afraid and trust in the salvation that has been made available through the Lord Jesus Christ. We talked also from 2Timothy 1:7 of the fact that **God has not given us the spirit of fear but of power, love and a sound mind.** The number one reason God instructs us not to be afraid is because he has not given us that spirit and I make bold to say that

fear in any of its forms is not to be tolerated in the life of the child of God. It is important that a child of God does not make an excuse for fear because God has made us an exception. He has given us an opportunity to be exempted from any cause of fear. Therefore, though fear may attack or come at you, the Bible firmly instructs us not to be afraid.

If God has not given us the spirit of fear then why would we want to embrace it. James 1:16-17 says; **Do not err, my beloved brethren. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from**

realm of darkness. Whether it is a fear of sickness, death, insecurity, lack or whatever else that fear is. Another very important spiritual fact we need to understand about fear is that Satan can literally do nothing in the life of an individual outside of fear.

Now, I want to localize my thoughts to those who have confessed Jesus as Lord and Savior. For you to enjoy the benefits of your salvation in Christ, you must understand and know that fear is a very important entry point of the devil into your



## The path a man can walk in



“**Fear serves as the open door for Satan to steal, kill and destroy. As long as the gate or door of fear is shut in the life of a believer, Satan has not power or authority to steal, kill and destroy. The thing you want to make sure is that the gate is shut. To deal with the issues in your life; (whether financial, health, insecurity or any threat against your life) begin by dealing with fear.**”

**above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.** There is no changing of God's mind; He only does and gives good. Fear is not good neither is it a gift from heaven; it is not to be embraced, rather it is to be rejected and resisted.

Another very important thing we talked about why we should not permit fear is in 2 Tim 1:7 which tells us that fear is a spiritual force. It is not just a natural thought that comes to us or a feeling. All fear emanates from the devil and comes from the

hand. Without the operation of the spirit of fear in the life of a believer, Satan can do nothing. This sounds like a very bold and audacious statement but I want to back it up with the scriptures.

Satan cannot fulfill his ministry of stealing, killing and destroying in the life of a believer without the operation of the spirit of fear. Unless he can get you to yield to the spirit of fear, he cannot keep you sick, he cannot keep you poor, cut short your life upon the earth and cannot fulfill his three-fold ministry of killing, stealing and destroying as the bible lets us understand in John 10:10. **the**

**thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.** This satanic ministry simply cannot operate without the spirit of fear.

Hebrews 12:14-15 says, **Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.** Jesus took on flesh and blood, and through his death and resurrection, he has rendered powerless, Satan's power.

This scripture shows us a very important truth. It shows us that Satan used to have this power of death but since Jesus came and died and paid for mankind's sin, went to hell for us and was raised to life according to the scriptures; by this resurrection, the power of death has been removed from the hand of Satan. All he can do is to threaten you, to cause circumstances to rise against you but he cannot and is powerless to defeat you because the power of death has been removed from his

hand. These scriptures also said He delivered them who through fear, were all their lives subject to bondage. It is fear that opens the door for bondage. It is fear that opens the door for satanic activity. It can be likened to a secure house fenced round with gates locked up. As long as you do not want anybody coming into your house, you will keep your gate locked. As that fence and gate serve as a barrier for any intruder, so it is when you refuse to fear.

Fear serves as the open door for Satan to steal, kill and destroy. As long as the gate or door of fear is shut in the life of a believer, Satan has not power or authority to steal, kill and destroy. The thing you want to make sure is that the gate is shut. To deal with the issues in your life; (whether financial, health, insecurity or any threat against your life) begin by dealing with fear. To deal with any issue and walk in the fullness of the salvation God has made available to you in Christ, you must learn to deal with fear and not tolerate it in any way. As long as fear is in operation, Satan has an inroad or access but when you make up your mind to deal with the spirit of fear, you remove his authority to continue to fulfil his ministry of stealing, killing and destroying.

**“Satan cannot fulfill his ministry of stealing, killing and destroying in the life of a believer without the operation of the spirit of fear. Unless he can get you to yield to the spirit of fear, he cannot keep you sick, he cannot keep you poor, cut short your life upon the earth and cannot fulfill his three-fold ministry of killing, stealing and destroying as the bible lets us understand in John 10:10. the thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. This satanic ministry simply cannot operate without the spirit of fear.”**



# INTERNATIONAL

## AU Chairman, Macky Sall to attend G20 summit

**A**frican Union Chairman and Senegal President Macky Sall plans to attend the upcoming G20 summit in Bali, two government officials have said.

Sall would have "two hats" at the meeting, representing both the AU and Senegal, one of the officials told Reuters news agency on Friday.

The visit, his first to a G20 summit, comes as Africa looks to hold wealthier nations to account for their climate pledges. It will follow Sall's attendance at the United Nations COP27 climate meeting in Egypt where he was a leading advocate for rich countries to contribute more cash to help Africa adapt to climate change.

The summit in Bali, Indonesia, takes place on November 15-16, overlapping the second week of the COP27 conference.

Senegal is in discussions with G20 members about a



Macky Sall

deal to support its transition to low-carbon energy.

The so-called Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP) was pioneered by South Africa's deal last year with countries including the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, and France, providing funding to speed up its transition away from coal power.

"He will be there at the

conference and one of the agenda items he will be discussing with the G20 partners is the Senegal JETP," said the official.

In September, while addressing the 77th session of the UN's General Assembly, Sall had advocated for a seat for the AU within the G20, "so that Africa can, at last, be represented where decisions are taken that affect 1.4 billion Africans".

## Xi-Biden meeting: Taiwan top of agenda for Chinese, US leaders

**M**R Biden had met Mr Xi in person previously, when he was the US vice-president

Taiwan is expected to top the agenda when US President Joe Biden and Chinese leader Xi Jinping meet next week - their first in-person encounter since Mr Biden took office in 2020.

The much-awaited meeting comes at a time when relations between the two superpowers have particularly soured.

This has been fuelled by Beijing's claims over self-ruled Taiwan and its increasing assertiveness in Asia.

The US has responded by restricting access to computer chip technology.

That has hit China's export-driven economy which uses the tech to make and sell everything from phones to electric cars.

Given the recent spike in

tensions and rhetoric, the world - and America's Asian allies such as India, Japan and Australia - will be closely watching the meeting scheduled to take place on Monday in Bali ahead of the G20 Summit.

Mr Xi has spent most of the pandemic in China and only recently began travelling overseas again.

Beijing sees the self-governing island as its own territory that must be united with the mainland. But Taiwan sees itself as distinct.

Mr Biden, unlike previous US presidents, has repeatedly said the US would defend Taiwan in the event of a Chinese invasion.

But the White House has always rolled back his comments, insisting that Washington's stance of "strategic ambiguity" - under which it does not commit to defending Taiwan but also does not rule out the option -

remains unchanged.

Meanwhile Mr Xi has told the People's Liberation Army (PLA) to "focus all energy on fighting a war... and build the ability to win", according to state media reports earlier this week.

Mr Xi is reported to have said the army must "strengthen military training in preparation for war" because China was in an "unstable and uncertain" position.

Tensions soared in August when US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi visited Taiwan. China responded with large scale military exercises around the island.

On Thursday the White House said it would brief Taiwan on the results of the Biden-Xi meeting, with national security adviser Jake Sullivan saying the aim was to make Taiwan feel "secure and comfortable" about US support.

**W**ASHINGTON plans to buy 100,000 South Korean-made artillery shells for use in the Ukraine war, a United States official has said, though South Korea has insisted its policy against providing lethal aid to Ukraine remained unchanged and it expects the end user of the ammunition to be US forces.

Citing US officials familiar with the deal, the Wall Street Journal reported that the US and South Korea were nearing an agreement to buy 100,000 rounds of 155mm artillery shells that would be delivered to Ukraine.

A US official, speaking on condition of anonymity, confirmed with Reuters news agency on Friday that Washington wanted to send the South Korean artillery shells to Ukraine.

The official said that Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative (USAI) funds could be used to buy the ammunition, but that it was unclear whether the shells would be shipped through US territory.

The official warned that news of the talks being made public could threaten the deal.

Responding to reports on the ammunition deal, South Korea's defence ministry said on Friday that its position on not providing lethal aid to Ukraine remained unchanged, and its "confidential" negotiations on the sale of the artillery shells were being conducted "under the premise that the US is the end user".

"In order to make up for the shortage of 155mm ammunition inventories in the US, negotiations are ongoing between the US and Korean companies to export ammunition," the ministry said in a statement.

South Korea's Yonhap News Agency reported on Friday that the country's defence minister Lee Jong-sup and US Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin had "agreed 'in principle' to proceed with the

## US to buy S Korea artillery shells for Ukraine

artillery deal" during talks earlier this month.

"But the allies are having related talks under the premise that the materials will be used by the US," Yonhap reported, citing a statement from the country's defence ministry.

The ministry added that the South Korean government had not altered its commitment to refrain from supplying Ukraine with lethal weapons, Yonhap said.

Top of Form

A US ally, South Korea has sought to avoid antagonising Russia, for economic reasons and because of the influence that Moscow can exert with North Korea.

South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol denied last month that Seoul had provided any lethal weapons to Ukraine after Russian President Vladimir Putin said that such a decision would destroy their bilateral

relations.

Putin made the remark at a conference in Moscow, accusing the West of inciting the war in Ukraine and warning South Korea against supplying weapons to Ukraine.

Putin equated such a move by Seoul to Moscow sending arms to North Korea.

Seoul has provided bulletproof vests, helmets and other non-lethal military as well as medical supplies to Ukraine, but has turned down Kyiv's requests for weapons, local media reported.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has called on South Korea to provide weapons, which he said would be "indispensable".

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said on Thursday that Washington would provide an additional \$400m in arms, ammunition and other equipment from the defence department.

### KARU LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL, NASARAWA STATE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVES CHAIRMAN

Karu Local Government finance and general-purpose committee under the distinguish chairmanship of the executive chairman Hon. James Thomas have on the 26th October 2022 renew its commitment to provide for the growing demand of infrastructural development across the Local Government Area.

The council therefore have approved some key development project across the eleven electoral wards of the Local Government council these projects include

- Drilling of 15 numbers boreholes
- Construction of a block of 5 number offices
- Renovation of PHC center Koya
- Renovation of PHC center Ado
- Renovation of a block at primary school Gurku
- Renovation of a block at Primary School Karshi
- Renovation of 2 burnt offices in the secretariat
- Provision of some furniture to 4 supervisory Office
- Provision of some furniture to chairman office
- Provision of some furniture to deputy chairman office
- Provision of some furniture L C Secretariat office

**Signed:**  
**Ibrahim Umaru Wali (Bunun Nasarawa)**  
**Director works, Housing, Transport Land and Survey.**

**For: Executive chairman.**  
**For Enquiries: 08060271830**

### KOKONA LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL

#### TENDER NOTICE

THE Kokona Local Government Council wish to invite competent and reputable contractors/ companies to make submission for the construction and financial Bids in respect of the following projects:

1. Construction of bridge at Laminga.
2. Construction of Endo bridge at Agwada.
3. Purchase and installation of 60 nos solar lights.
4. Construction of Abattoir at Garaku.
5. Construction of Bass a North Clinic.
6. Repairs of legislative bus.
7. Grading of Mararaba Mai Sauri.
8. Completion of Garaku Guests House.
9. Grading of Garaku Local Government Secretariat.
10. Purchase of Hilux for Kokona Local Government

For the purpose of evaluation, interested contractors should submit the under listed documents.

- a. Evidence of incorporation issued by Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC).
- a. Evidence of Company tax clearance certificate for the last three 3 years.
- c. Company Audited account for three years.
- d. Evidence of registration with Kokona Local Government.
- e. Verifiable document evidence of at least three years similar Job completion certificate and photographs of the projects.
- f. List of plants/ equipment with proof of ownership/ lease.

All documents for submission should be transmitted with a covering/ forwarding letter under the company/firms letter headed paper bearing contact address telephone no and e-mail. SUBMISSION OF PRE-QUALIFICATION.

Prospective bidders are to submit pre qualification documents two (2) hard copies in envelopes and clearly marked invitation for TENDER.

The management of Kokona local government is not bound to pre qualify any bidder and reserve the right to annulled the procurement process at any time without incurring any liabilities in accordance with public procurement ACT.

**Signed:**  
**NUHU HARUNA, DPM**  
**For: Chairman Kokona Local Government**

**CHANGE OF NAME**

**CHUNDUNG**  
I, formerly known as **CHUNDUNG SAMUEL**, now wish to be known and addressed as **DAPWE CHUNDUNG JATAU**. All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public should please take note.

**LOJOK**  
I, formerly known as **LOJOK KANGYANG**, now wish to be known and addressed as **LOJOK KANGYANG CHUWANG**. All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public should please take note.

**PLANGNAN**  
I, formerly known as **PLANGNAN CALEB DAWEN D.**, now wish to be known and addressed as **PLANGNAN DAWEN**. All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public should please take note.

**MISSING PERSON**



This is to inform the general public that **UGWU IFEANYI** a Native of Umuaze Umuakashi Village, Nsukka LGA, Enugu State has been reported missing.

He was last seen at his home at Rock Haven, Jos Plateau State, wearing a black trouser and a white shirt.

He is chocolate in complexion and speak Igbo, English and a bit of Hausa. He is about 5.5 ft tall with no facial mark.

Any one with useful information about his where about should please contact the nearest Police Station or these Numbers. 08175501427, 08039143753.

**Signed:**  
**Ebuka Obodo Degreat**  
**08039187465**

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**NUHU HARUNA, DPM**  
**For: Chairman Kokona Local Government**



# SUNDAY PEOPLE

## PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN COUNCIL HOSTS PATRONS AND ADVISERS

The All Progressives Congress (APC) Presidential Campaign Council, Director General, Rt. Hon. Simon Bako Lalong (CON) last week hosted Patrons and Advisers to a dinner at the Campaign Headquarters in Abuja



Director General of the Presidential Campaign Council, Rt. Hon. Simon Bako Lalong (CON) discussing with Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu and Sen. Kashim Shettima at the dinner



Sen. Modu Sheriff, Governor Babagana Zulum of Borno State and others listening to speeches



APC Presidential Candidate, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu advancing to deliver his speech



Rt. Hon. Simon Bako Lalong (CON) listening keenly to the Campaign Council Secretary, Chief James Falake



From left are; former Governors of Kebbi State, Usman Saidu Dakingari, Otunba Gbenga Daniel of Ogun State and former Speaker, House of Reps, Rt. Hon. Oladimeji Bankola



Chief Moses Taggun and Arc. Pam Dung Gyang, Patron and Adviser at the dinner



Sen. Joshua Chibi Dariye (left) exchanging greetings with Sen. Ahmed Sani Yarima



Director General, Presidential Campaign Council and Governor of Plateau State, Rt. Hon. Simon Bako Lalong (CON) delivering his remarks

Photos: DANLADI DUK





## In God I trust to soar musically - Bishop Ken



For this young starter, Elijah Odumu, aka Bishop Ken, who has exceptionally written and sang over twenty-two (22) tracks, he believes in God to break through musically.

He said, "although I was into football, but I had an accident. So, I said God, I will like to go into music that will make me and people happy. From there, I developed interest and I started copying the likes of Alex 'O' in those days when I was in Kotoko barracks, Kaduna State. When I started writing and singing my music, I really loved it and the passion I have has been driving me on."

"When my parents packed to Jos and I was transferred to

Command Secondary School Jos, my school mates gave me the name Bishop because of my antecedents in writing different tracks. I was very proud of it and that was what motivated me because I know and understand what I am capable of.

"My first experience was when I featured myself at one event in Polo Field Jos. I was privileged to sing one of my songs there and it

*Continued on page 26*



It is one thing to have a talent and another thing to put it into use for the benefit of the society. In a social sphere of life, music has a special place not defined by language or limited by race, religion or status. It is a unique art and form of entertainment that touches the better part of your imagination and can calm the nerves.

Music they say is about the soul and it is one of the remedy to a worrying or anxious mind. Some say it is the fastest money making business that drives the mind and entertains the public at parties and ceremonies as it takes away sorrowful moments and makes one happy in many ways.

For those who think music is just fun and nothing else, they listen to the sound they enjoy and never care to understand the lyrics that culminate into making one merry, and calming a troubling mind. They should know that there is more than meets the eye as far as music is concerned.

It is certain that we have both gospel and secular music. As their name implies, gospel music covers all genre of music that either worship or praise God. On the other hand, secular music is any music that is outside gospel music.

One of the talents that abound on the Plateau is music. There is no denying the fact that most of the musical stars' in Nigeria have their roots in Jos or a kind of link or relationship with Jos or Plateau State.

## The likeliest actors to play the next James Bond, ranked

*With No Time To Die now out and Daniel Craig's tenure as the British spy resoundingly over, speculation is only going to ramp up surrounding who his gun-wielding, martini-swilling replacement will be.*

*The debate on who would be fit and ready to don James Bond's signature tuxedo has been raging since well before Daniel Craig even stepped in front of a camera to start filming No Time To Die. The actor made headlines way back in 2015 by saying he'd rather "slash his wrists" than play the part again, and although a very handsome pay packet did eventually convince the Englishman to reprise his role for the 25th Bond film, Daniel Craig's confirmation that No Time To Die would undoubtedly be his final film as James Bond has reignited fiery conversations of who should replace him and carry on the franchise's storied legacy.*

*This all means means a flurry of potential names has been mooted over the years, largely depending on the prevailing tides of who seems to carry biggest Bond energy at any given time. Tom Hardy has been a long-standing favourite thanks to his perennially grizzled nature. Bodyguard star Richard Madden made the case with his stoic, suit-wearing security agent in the Netflix drama. Even boyband member-turned-soloist and lauded suit wearer, Harry Styles, has been pinned as a potential name to carry Bond beyond 2021 thanks to his looks, style and surprising acting chops. And until Craig's successor is announced, Bond fans everywhere (us included) will pay mind to each and every rumoured replacement, even if No Time to Die's ending may have already revealed one potential candidate.*

*As such, we've combed the internet, trawled every rumour mill and even looked at the betting odds (because the bookies always know stuff we don't) to weigh up every actor predicted to play the next James Bond, and just how likely it'll be they step into the most famed shoes of all.*

### Regé-Jean Page

**The case for:** young, oodles of charm, looks unbelievable in a tux, likely your girlfriend/boyfriend's pick.

**The case against:** questionable acting chops.

In a January 2020 interview on The Tonight Show starring Jimmy Fallon, breakout *Bridgeton* star Regé-Jean Page spoke out about the possibility of becoming the next Bond. Following Fallon's proclamation that he was the Internet's current "front runner to be the next James Bond," Page responded with an answer that both mildly swiped away at rumours, but also left the door wide open for a 007 offer.

"I think the Internet thinks a lot of things, that's one of the more pleasant ones, so I'm pleased as far as that goes. But I think there might be an element of cultural translation to be done here," Page told Fallon, adding "if you're a Brit and you do something of any kind of renown, that people regard well, then people start saying the 'B' word. It's like a merit badge. You get a 'B' word merit badge."

Humility aside, Page did welcome the flattery, saying that if he was tapped as the next Bond, he would be in "wonderful company." Having taken in his portrayal of The Duke of Hastings in the recent regency era series, most believe that Page is incredibly apt for a role that demands a debonair demeanor, but his ability to carry a franchise all by himself is still yet to be proven. Still, given the calls to take the character in a new direction and the Broccolis' previous for taking punts on unknown talents, this might actually work in his favour.

### Richard Madden

**The case for:** his performance in *Bodyguard*, looks the part

**The case against:** also now probably too famous, does he have the range?

Perhaps it was his highly praised role in the BBC miniseries *Bodyguard*, his ability to commit to a character long-term as evidenced by his years-long stint as Robb Stark in *Game of Thrones*, or his natural wear of a white tuxedo, but whatever the reason, Scot Richard Madden has also been pinned by Bond devotees as an obvious choice for the lead role.

Madden has shut down rumours around his links to the role on more than one occasion, but this hasn't stopped him from remaining around the top of the bookies' list for the last couple of years. And why not? The 35-year-old Madden has clearly shown he has what it takes to pull off the stoic secret agent with aplomb. The only thing we're wondering is whether he can deliver Bond's more humorous moments with the same level of charm.

### Tom Hopper

**The case for:** his performance in *Bodyguard*, looks the part

**The case against:** also now probably too famous, does he have the range?

Perhaps it was his highly praised role in the BBC miniseries *Bodyguard*, his ability to commit to a character long-term as evidenced by his years-long stint as Robb Stark in *Game of Thrones*, or his natural wear of a white tuxedo, but

*Continued on page 26*





# EVIE'S WORLD

With **Henrietta Gonzuk**

## Relationship

# Destructive nature of defensive listening

BY SYLVIA SMITH,  
Expert Blogger

**H**ave you ever been in a situation where your innocent comments or words were negatively taken and twisted by someone? Where a nice comment has been twisted into having a hidden meaning that has caused someone to be upset or angry?

No, you didn't do anything wrong here. In fact, you might just have dealt with a person who applies defensive listening. If you are familiar with this scenario or in any event, you think you might be doing defensive listening, then read through.

What is defensive listening?  
*Defensive listening is when someone takes an innocent comment as a personal attack to them.*

Defensive listening definition revolves around a person who can create wrong impressions from simple comments and answers from anyone.

It happens when a person tries to find fault from simple and innocent comments or statements from a person and perceive it as a personal attack, an indirect criticism and even a trigger to pick a fight which then causes the receiver to become upset and defensive as well.

**Underlying causes of defensive listening**

Defensive listening is one trait of poor listening skills which can cause any relationship to have problems. Can you imagine being married to someone who takes your statements and comments negatively which ultimately causes fights and misunderstandings?

Where does the defensiveness come from and why is it so hard to stop?

By default, someone who



reacts defensively is due to a perceived threat. However, with defensive listening, a person might just give off an innocent comment or joke but the other end hears a trigger that then causes the listener to act defensive. The listener here clearly shows a poor way of listening and is only showing a difficult defensive behavior.

If a person has poor communication skills and is showing signs of defensive behavior, this may have been a result of mental, emotional, personality issues or disorders that have developed over the course of past experiences that gave them the feeling of being abandoned, shows inferiority complex, shows low self-esteem, and even as a sign of narcissism.

**Defensive listening examples**

It's hard to deal with people who focus on defensive listening.

In fact, this may cause people

to stop communicating or to withdraw from their relationship or friendship because of the toxicity of the relationship. Let's look at some of the most common defensive listening examples.

A person who is being defensive will create a twisted reasoning about all impersonal statements. A person might comment something about work ethics and people who are lazy, which might just be an honest opinion or a statement but for a defensive listener, this is a personal attack on the part of the speaker. This can cause rage and hate and can also cause a fight.

For couples, having a relationship with someone who has poor communication and is always on the defensive listening, there will always be miscommunication, misunderstandings, and ultimately arguments. It's hard to keep a good relationship when your partner uses your words against you. In fact, this is considered a toxic relationship.

Sarcastic humor also won't work for defensive listeners because they will always take it seriously and personally. If a person jokes around saying sarcastic jokes which is okay and even funny for most of us, a person who is defensive will think that it's a real statement targeting them.

This can cause this person to literally explain and defend themselves to the person who

said the joke which is not just awkward but also a trigger for misunderstanding.

**How to eliminate defensive listening**

Self-realization is very important if you want to stop the practice of defensive listening. Once you have realized how toxic it is or how it can ruin your relationships, then it is time to change. In dealing with your inner monsters, patience and commitment is needed because it's not only a long process but an exhausting journey as well.

It's hard to change the way you think and harder to practice good communication skills when you are used to defensive listening especially when the triggers are rooted from past experiences.

There is still hope for people who have been used to defensive listening. Aside from therapy, there are ways and practices that can help.

**Address the behavior**

As the term implies, a person who practices defensive listening is defensive. So, one must know the root of defensiveness, the triggers and primarily the cause. Address the issue and be able to apply the correct ways to improve yourself.

**Control your temper and know that there is no immediate danger**

Think before you speak and react. Learn to understand what the person is saying instead of allowing your emotions to control you.

**Analyze the situation and asks questions if needed**

Along with these two, it's important that you know how to accept faults and criticisms too, so that in any event that you may hear something that might trigger you, you'd be able to control your impulses.

**Practice proper communication skills**

Learn to practice proper communication skills where listening is as important as talking. It may be hard but be able to endure this for your personal development.

Lastly, ask help if needed and accept the treatment being offered. Let the therapist understand you and accept the feedback. Commit to the change needed and stay focused. Remember that change will start with us and not with other people.

Defensive listening may be because of bad past experiences but we don't want to live life living in defensiveness and the lookout for people to say something so we can be defensive about it. Good communication skills and practices may be hard at first but definitely not impossible. Remember that your will to change for the better will help you live a life of positive change.





# THE SOWORLD

With **Henrietta Gonzuk**

## Health

# What is shea butter?

Derma Essentia

**S**HEA butter is a fat that is derived from shea nuts of the shea tree. It usually remains solid at a warm temperature and is ivory white in colour and appearance. The shea trees are native to Africa and that is why most of the butter is obtained from the countries in West Africa.

It has been used as a core ingredient for cosmetic products for centuries and there are so many benefits of shea butter. It is highly rich in fatty acids and vitamins, due to which it plays an important role in soothing and conditioning the skin.

### Raw shea butter

There are high concentrations of vitamins and fatty acids present in raw shea butter and because of this, our body is able to produce essential proteins required for proper nourishment of our skin. Raw and unrefined shea butter can be easily applied over skin, face or hair, thus giving you the best results.

### Shea butter benefits

Shea butter benefits our skin and hair in a lot of many ways. It offers mild protection from the UV radiation and provides the skin with an adequate amount of fatty acids which are sufficient for regular collagen production.

It contains ample vitamins and fatty acids which can play an important role in moisturizing our skin. Thus if someone is having dry skin, then products containing this are highly recommended.

It has also been discovered that shea butter is anti-inflammatory and avoids skin mutations. Thus it can also treat acne-related problems.

It increases the body's collagen production and prevents the skin from getting dryer. It is rich in antioxidants which helps in smoothing the skin and prevent wrinkles.

### Shea butter for hair

Shea butter has been used for centuries to cure dry itchy scalp and dandruff. It goes deep into the root and provides moisture

to each and every layer of the hair and scalp. It even has emolliating properties due to which it locks the moisture in your hair without making them greasy or heavy.

It also protects you from treatments which require lots of heat. This is great for softening of natural hair and thus helps in treating curly, fragile and dry hair. Thus it is a key ingredient of deep hair conditioner, Revitalizing shampoos, hair masks & other hair care treatments.

### Shea butter for face

Shea butter has anti-inflammatory properties and even reduces the redness or swelling on the face. It has been reported that it even has anti aging properties because of its effect on collagen production. Thus by increasing the collagen synthesis, it makes the skin of the face appear smooth, clear, lightened and free from wrinkles.

### Shea butter uses for skin

It helps in protecting us from the harmful UV rays of the sun. It keeps our skin moisturized and gives it a smoothened texture. Also, it boosts the collagen synthesis of our body, due to which are facial skin remains young and wrinkleless.

A person with dry skin is always advised to use shea butter because of its high moisturising effect. So it is highly recommended for maintaining proper dry skin care. It can even help in getting rid of cracked heels as it reduces soreness and the dryness from the skin.

### Shea butter for stretch marks

There are various medical procedures to remove the stretch marks, however, the use of natural methods are not that effective. Applying a small amount of raw shea butter on stretch marks can help in reducing the stretch marks but it cannot complete vanish them. It is highly rich in vitamins which help in restoring the elasticity of the skin.



### Shea butter for skin lightening

It is a potent skin lightening agent because of the presence of Vitamin E. It reduces the inflammation and soreness of the skin thus, lightening it and giving it a bright and smooth look.

Nowadays there are various cosmetic products which often contains shea butter and gives you the desired skin.

### Shea butter cream

Such creams play an important role in restoring the elasticity of the skin and reduce the blemishes or wrinkles. These increase the circulation of blood in our skin and even have anti-ageing properties. They are excellent moisturisers for dry skin and helps in treating various skin related disorders like dry skin, eczema, cracked heels etc.

### Shea butter moisturisers

These moisturisers can be used to deal with dry skin and various other skin related disorders. It is a good hydrating agent which traps moisture between the layers of the skin, giving them a soft, fresh and smoothened texture.

Choose your product made with shea butter today

So, in order to get the perfect hair and skin, one always dreams about, start using products rich in shea butter like Hair Shampoo, Conditioner, Moisturizer or Foot cream for cracked heels and see the change in yourself.

### FAQ'S on shea butter

#### Is shea butter good for face?

Yes, it is an excellent natural product that can be used for getting a perfectly fresh and clear skin. Its anti-ageing

properties have come out to be quite useful and because of this, we can get a bright and wrinkled free skin.

#### Is shea butter good for hair?

Yes, it is absolutely perfect for your hair because it plays an important role in moisturizing the layers of your scalp and is emolliating in nature. It softens the hair and helps in getting rid of dry and frizzy hair.

#### How to use shea butter on the face?

It can be directly applied to your face before you go to sleep or applying it before makeup can be beneficial as it may protect your skin from harmful chemicals and it even has anti-

ageing properties by which it gives you smooth and wrinkles free skin.

#### Does shea butter clog pores?

It is a non-comedogenic, which means it does not clog your pores. It is believed that moisturizers in shea butter act similarly like the moisturizers present in our sebum. Therefore, it prevents excessive formation of sebum and prevents clogging of pores.

#### Is shea butter good for skin?

Shea butter is great for your skin because of its high hydrating and moisturising capabilities. Thus it keeps the skin moist and soft and even protects it from various harmful UV radiations from the sun.







# Reality Bites

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## Children's suicide: Red flags to look for

Benadine Nonye

**W**HEN I saw a video of the heart breaking story of a mother, who lost her teen son to suicide, I realised how easy it can happen right under our noses.

In the video, she narrated how she did her best as a mother to encourage him and bring him close after failing his exams but all to no avail till his dead hanging body was discovered by his siblings.

Sometimes, there are red flags and warning signs but we may not recognise them. Sometimes, the signs are being mistaken for deviance but it may not be so.

Suicide is the second leading cause of death in people ages 10 to 24. Knowing the often subtle warning signs plays a crucial role in prevention says psycom.com.

The number of teens committing suicide is on the increase in the country and all over the world. But having an idea of some of the suicidal signs could be helpful to parents, friends, neighbours, colleagues and close people to the child.

According to pyscom.com, subtle warning signs in children

suicide might not feel like a family-friendly dinner conversation topic, but perhaps it should be.

"The latest data from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), suicide was the second leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 10 and 24. Suicide does affect children and adolescents, and avoiding the topic won't help them learn how to get help if they need it".

"One of the misconceptions about the discussion of suicide is that talking about it causes kids and teens to think about it. The truth is that parents can never know for certain whether or not a child experiences suicidal thinking if they are too afraid to ask the question".

"Suicidal behavior in children is complicated. It can be impulsive and associated with feelings of confusion, sadness, or anger. The so-called "red flags" people are cautioned to look for can be subtle in young children. While a young adult might say something like, "You'll be better off when I'm



gone," for example, a child might say something like, "No one cares if I'm here."

"Studies on suicide and suicidal ideation among elementary school-age children are limited and tend to have small sample sizes. This makes it difficult to draw direct correlations between specific triggers and suicidal behavior. One study published in Pediatrics, however, compared characteristics and precipitating factors for suicide between elementary school children (5-11 years old) and early adolescents (12-14 years old)".

"Results indicated that children who died by suicide more often experienced relationship issues with family and friends (compared to relationship issues with boyfriends or girlfriends for adolescents.) Both groups were likely to suffer from mental health disorders. While adolescents were more likely to

experience depression or dysthymia, children were more likely to experience attention deficit disorder, with or without hyperactivity".

Subtle Warning Signs in Children according to psycom.com:

While the warning signs in children can be subtle, learning potential red flags plays a crucial role in intervention.

Changes in baseline behavior: Trust your gut. If you notice behavioral changes that aren't a one-time issue, take note. While suicidal behavior is often associated with symptoms of depression, you might also notice the following changes in your child:

Also, changes in sleeping habits (too much, too little, insomnia, or night wakings) or changes in eating habits (overeating or eating too little), withdrawing from family and friends (social isolation).

There are Psychosomatic

symptoms like headaches, stomachaches, other aches and pains that can't be explained.

Changes at school: It's perfectly normal for kids to experience ups and downs during the learning process, but a pattern of negative change can be a red flag that a child needs help. Make a note of the following: Drop in academic performance, decreased interaction with teachers and kids at school, lack of interest in school, school refusal, loss of interest in normal daily activities (playing, sports, extracurricular activities).

Watch out for signs like preoccupation with death: It's natural for kids to think about death at times, particularly when they are coping with loss or hear about tragic events in the news. Preoccupation with death, researching ways to die, and/or talking about their own death can be red flags.

Watch for the following warning signs that involve thoughts about death:

Frequent questions about or looking up ways to die, statements about dying or what will happen if the child dies (ex: "You won't miss me when I die, I wish I was dead, I won't bother you anymore when I'm gone.")

Take all suicidal statements seriously by seeking an evaluation for your child. Feelings of hopelessness: Children who have suicidal thoughts might communicate feelings of hopelessness for the future. They might also make statements about helplessness. These kinds of statements indicate that the child feels as if there is nothing to be done to improve their outcome, and no one who can help.

Child-sized will: Some children give away their favorite possessions or tell parents, siblings, or friends who should get their favorite possessions. While talk of divvying up possessions might seem like fantasy play to parents, it can signal thoughts of suicide when combined with other changes in demeanor.

Writing or drawing about death or suicide: Young children often struggle to verbalize intense emotions, but they are likely to write or draw about them. Poems, stories, or artwork that depicts suicide or frequent writings and drawings about death should be evaluated.

Significant changes in mood: Kids experience changes in mood as they grow and work through stressors, but significant changes in mood signal a problem. You know your child best. If your child suddenly shifts from calm and relatively happy to aggressive, completely withdrawn, or very anxious, it's important to get help.

In addition to the warning signs that a child might experience suicidal ideation, there are also certain factors that can elevate the risk. Previous suicide attempt (regardless of how serious). Experiencing a loss (this can include grief and the loss of a relationship due to divorce or family discord), chronic bullying, family history of suicide or suicide attempts, violence or witnessing violence, access to firearms, impulsivity, acute rejection, feelings of hopelessness, feeling like a burden.

Any signs of suicidal ideation or behavior should be taken seriously. Parents should ask specific questions about suicidal thoughts, "Are you thinking about hurting or killing yourself?" Parents should also talk openly about depression by asking questions like, "Are you feeling depressed or very sad lately?" These questions show your child that you understand and that you care. Conveying empathy in a time of emotional crisis is crucial.

Regardless of how your child answers these questions, it's essential to seek an evaluation by a licensed mental health practitioner who specializes in working with children. If you're not sure where to access help, schedule an immediate appointment with your child's pediatrician, and indicate that you have concerns about your child's mental health and potentially suicidal behavior.

With proper support in place, children can work through the feelings and triggers that result in suicidal thinking and learn effective coping skills to deal with difficult life situations. Not all depressions are the same. Depression, of course, is not a rarity. The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) estimates that in 2016, 6.7% of adults in the United States —16.2 million!—endured at least one major depressive episode in a given year.

Obviously, it feels miserable to feel miserable whether it's a temporary or chronic condition. But it is essential to know what you are dealing with so you can get the proper treatment as quickly as possible.

Major Depressive Disorder is diagnosed when you experience five or more of the following symptoms over a two-week period that impact your ability to function day to day: Feelings of sadness, hopelessness, emptiness, loss of interest or pleasure in activities you normally enjoy, lack of energy and fatigue, feelings of worthlessness, sleep disturbances, difficulty focusing, anxiety, restlessness, unexplained physical pains such as headaches or backaches, thoughts of suicide or suicide attempts.

There need not be a trigger or obvious cause for these symptoms to develop.





# EVERYBODY'S WORLD

With **Henrietta Gonzuk**

## Living

# Amazing Benefits of drinking okra

Benadine Nonye

**W**HEN it comes to okra water, a lot of people are not even aware that okra can be soaked and that the water is drinkable not just as a water but it also possesses unknown amazing health benefits as we are going to be discussing below on this article.

Okra which is commonly known as "Lady Finger" is a very common vegetable around the world and it is a very nutritious and healthy vegetable consumed by many people around the world in different delicacies.

It might even be your favorite soup when it comes to **dishes and delicacies** but it can do better than just serve as food on your table because you can also get a lot of nutrients and health benefits from okra water.

While trying to discover the benefits of okra water, a lot of researches have been carried out in order to discover these hidden secrets of okra water intake and its relation to healthy living because some people take okra water for diabetics as it has been proven that okra water diabetes cure is real. Others have also identified that okra water weight loss is very effective.

Some of the unknown amazing health benefits attached to drinking okra water first thing in the morning include the following:

**It Treats and controls diabetes**  
Following researches, it has been proven that Okra contains insulin-like properties, which are beneficial for the treatment of diabetes. Okra water helps to reduce the sugar level in the

blood therefore ensure you consume okra water regularly to control diabetes.

**Treats a sore throat and cough**  
Okra contains antibacterial properties that help to reduce this soreness. Okra water can be very effective when it comes to treating a sore throat and cough. Everyone feels so much of discomfort when there are constant soreness and itchiness in the throat.

**It improves the immune system.**  
The immune system helps the body fight against various

diseases, such as cold and flu. Okra water contains high amounts of Vitamin C and antioxidants, which help to improve the immunity power of a person.

**It strengthens the Bones**  
This health benefit of okra water helps to strengthen the bones. The folate present in it offers great benefits during the pregnancy for both the mother and the child. It increases the density of the bones resulting in stronger and healthier bones, preventing osteoporosis.

**It treats diarrhoea**  
Diarrhoea can be a life-threatening disease if it is not treated for a long period of time. It causes a huge loss of water from the body, leaving one completely dehydrated. Okra water helps to replenish this lost water and various other minerals in the body. All you need to do is drink just a glass and you'll be fine.

**It relieves constipation**  
Ever felt the pain of constipation and the sense of a bloated body? Very disgusting, right? Well, okra water is here to your rescue.

The same soluble fibre, which regulates cholesterol, helps in providing relief from this condition as well. Okra water is a natural laxative and contains fibre that helps to ease the bowel movements.

**It treats anaemia**  
Okra water helps the body to

produce more red blood cells, which helps to treat anaemia. Okra water contains many vitamins and minerals like Vitamin A, Vitamin C, magnesium, etc., which help in producing more red blood cells in the body.

**It reduces asthma attack**  
Okra water has powerful benefits and can help to curb asthma attacks. Asthma attacks can be deadly and happen just about anytime without any warning. It is always better to prevent it rather than curing it. Drinking okra water every day

attacks.  
Do you have further questions or any other form of contribution? then kindly use the comment box below for all your contributions.

You are also encouraged to kindly share this information with friends that also need to know this. Thank you

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## BUSINESS WORLD

# Towards sugar self-sufficiency in Nigeria

**Nigeria was once on the enviable list of leading sugar producing nation's within the continent. It is safe to say that the 60s and 70s was Nigeria's golden era as far as sugar production was concerned. Nigeria took advantage of its sheer productive human population, large arable land, large body of water flowing from Rivers Benue and Niger, and It relied on the competence of expatriates and local sugar experts to become a top player in the sector in the past. Writes ABDULLAHI W. YUNUSA**

We recall with profound nostalgia, but with a scintilla of regret the glorious days of the foremost and premier sugar company, Nigeria Sugar Company (NISUCO), Bacita, Kwara State, Lafiagi Sugar Company (LASUCO), Kwara state and the Savannah Sugar Company located in the agrarian community of Numan, Adamawa state. These companies were then the pride of the nation and the most sought after by young graduates desirous of building their careers. The sugar sector of that era contributed greatly to Nigeria's industrialization policy, especially as it relates to growing what we eat and eating what we grow. Sadly, like every other sector in the county in the succeeding years, the sugar industry became a victim of maladministration and bad governance.

But the sad story in the sector changed for the better and showed some flashes of rebirth with the launch of an ambitious, progressive, well-throughout and brilliant 10-year-long policy to drive, revive, reposition, revamp the sector and restore Nigeria's lost glory as far as sugar production with the continent was concerned. The policy, code named, the Nigeria Sugar Master Plan (NSMP) was birthed in 2012, but actual implementation began in 2013. With the launch of the NSMP, the once comatose, moribund and neglected sugar sector roared back to life as local and international investors picked interest in it.

The sugar policy is anchored on four broad, but distinct standpoints or cardinal objectives which are; for Nigeria to attain self sufficiency in sugar production, stem the rising tide of sugar importation, create job opportunities, generate electricity and produce ethanol for industrial purposes. As captured in the master plan, Nigeria's annual sugar consumption of 1.7 million metric tones would be met after 10 years. A total of 250,000 hectares would be required for cane cultivation, 28 factories would be established and over 100,000 direct and indirect jobs would be created for Nigerians. A total of four companies signed into the Backward Integration Programme (BIP) of the NSMP. The companies are Dangote Sugar Refinery, BUA Sugar Refinery, Golden Sugar Refinery and KIA Africa Group. These BIP operators have their sites located in states across Nigeria where there are providing jobs for Nigerians and contributing and changing the economic fortunes of their host communities. The Dangote Sugar Refinery has its BIP sites in Numan Adamawa state and in Tunga in Nasarawa state, while the BUA Group has hers in Lafiagi, Kwara state, Golden Sugar BIP is located in Sunti, Niger state while that of



KIA Africa is in Bacita, Kwara State.

With the Phase 1 of the master plan which began in 2013 reaching its crescendo in the first quarter of 2023, the Federal government in a rare show of commitment to its economic diversification policy through the promotion of industrialization has graciously approved Phase 2 of the policy, with actual implementation to begin in 2023 through 2033. Briefing newsmen at the end of the Federal Executive Council meeting, Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment, Otunba Niyi Adebayo said, "Today, Council approved the extension of the sugar master plan from 2023 to 2033. That's for another 10 years. And the whole idea of the sugar master plan is for the development of the sugar industry in order for Nigeria to attain self sufficiency in sugar production".

"The plan has several policy measures or fiscal incentives to stimulate demand and attract private sector investment in the sugar industry. And part of the benefits of the sector is the local production of sugar. We have under phase 1 four major investors, investing in the industry. These are Dangote Sugar, BUA Sugar, Golden Sugar and KIA Africa Group which have jointly created 15,000 jobs and they have over 200,000

hectares of land that has been acquired for the production of sugarcane to enable them produce sugar locally. So, Council approved Phase 2 of the Nigeria Sugar Master Plan".

Speaking with newsmen on the current status of the NSMP Phase 1 and what the NSMP Phase 2 holds for the country while on a scheduled inspection visit to the various sugar BIP sites, the Executive Secretary, National

Sugar Development Council, Mr. Zacch Adedeji said, "like I've said elsewhere, the granting of the NSMP Phase 2 by President Muhammadu Buhari is a reconfirmation of the trust and confidence that he has in the sector. This singular act points to the fact that Nigerians are pleased with what the Council, our supervising Ministry and operators have been doing with regards to the meaningful revitalization of the sugar sector.

To whom much is given, expectedly, much would be expected. We are quite optimistic that a lot would be achieved in this Phase 2 of the NSMP".

Mr. Adedeji further hinted that, "in line with the expectations of Mr. President and Nigerians, we shall in the shortest possible time attain self sufficiency in sugar production, and subsequently export to countries within the continent. But you know that one of the things that we have in the mandate to do is to assess what has happened in the last 10 years, what are the lessons that we need to include as we begin a new journey come 2023. We shall tinker a bit with what we had in the past. Essentially, our next phase of activities would be anchored on verifiable data and innovation to make our work seamless".

Meaningful implementation of the master plan cannot be achieved without the inputs of critical stakeholders in the sector. It was in full realization of this fact that the NSDC helmsman, Mr. Adedeji led a delegation from the Council, recently on a courtesy visit to the Governor of Nasarawa state and Chairman, Forum of Governors of Sugar Producing States, Engr. Abdullahi Sule in Lafia, Nasarawa state. He said the guidelines for the implementation of the Phase 2 of the NSMP require the inputs of critical stakeholders like state governors for it to succeed.

"Your Excellency, sir, we are quite pleased with the invaluable contributions of the Forum you chair to the faithful implementation of the Nigeria Sugar Master Plan. We've made considerable progress in critical segments of the NSMP, especially as it relates to the refining component of the plan. Our next plan of action is how to replicate the successes recorded in the area of sugar refining in our field and agricultural operations".

"As you rightly know, the NSMP isn't about sugar production alone, we count largely on its ability to take millions of our people out of poverty, develop infrastructure and improve the economic status of communities hosting sugar projects. We are quite optimistic about our projections in the sugar industry. We shall rely heavily on the use of verifiable data and modern technology to drive the Phase 2 of the master plan. The sugar sector holds tremendous opportunity for Nigeria and Nigerians in terms of job creation for our youths, increased revenue and general economic prosperity for the nation".

Without doubt, the journey to self-sufficiency in sugar production isn't without some bottlenecks, but the NSDC boss, Mr. Adedeji remains optimistic and upbeat that the Council under his watch would put necessary measures in place to ensure that all the lofty economic goals captured in the NSMP are manifestly realized for the overall benefit of Nigerians.

**Source: Economic confidential**



**Adebayo**



BUSINESS WORLD

# Buhari affirms stance on naira redesign

**P**RESIDENT Muhammadu Buhari has reaffirmed his stance that the ongoing redesign of naira notes by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) will not be halted.

Responding to some opposition to the policy, the President said he does not understand the reasons against the policy.

President Buhari spoke in London, while responding to questions from newsmen.

He said, "With this change of currency, I think there will be issues with a lot of money, but time is being given from October to December.

"Three months is enough for whatever money you have, to get it changed through a legal system. So I do not know why people are complaining. There is no going back."

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), in October, announced plans to redesign the 200, 500, and 1000 naira notes.

CBN Governor, Godwin Emefiele, said the redesign will take effect from Thursday, December 15, 2022.

He also said that existing notes would cease to be regarded as legal tender by January 31, 2023.

The CBN said that it is worrisome that 85 percent of the currency in circulation is being hoarded by Nigerians.

He further urged Nigerians to proceed to their banks to deposit their Naira notes, adding that the deposit fee would be waived for



Buhari

transactions below N150,000. Emefiele added that the redesigning of Naira notes would help to curb counterfeit notes, as well as hamper ransom payment to terrorists and kidnapers.

However, some Nigerians who opposed the policy, claimed that the redesigning of the Naira notes will only cost the nation huge sums of money at the expense of taxpayers.

Others claimed that redesigning the Naira notes will not add value to the standard of living of Nigerians and as such the exercise is unacceptable.

However, President Buhari, who had in an earlier

statement confirmed that he endorsed the plan, said he was convinced that the nation would gain a lot from CBN's decision to redesign the naira notes.

He said reasons given to him by the CBN convinced him that the economy stood to benefit from reduced inflation rate, currency counterfeiting, and the excess cash in circulation.

Buhari said he did not consider the period of three months for the change to the new notes as being short.

He further noted, "People with illicit money buried under the soil will have a challenge with this, but workers, businesses with legitimate incomes will face no difficulties at all."

**T**HE Northern Youth Council of Nigeria (NYCN) leadership has urged President Muhammadu Buhari-led government to review the national minimum wage to reflect the current economic reality Nigerians battle.

The NYCN National President, Isa Abubakar, in a statement says "It is no longer speculation that the purchasing power of naira has dropped significantly and the higher cost of foodstuff is telling on Nigerians. People are presently living from hand to mouth in Nigeria."

The youths also called on the government of President Buhari to immediately take steps to see how it can intervene and ameliorate the suffering of Nigerians and give them hope of living.

The youths suggested, "It is very important as well to review the monetary policy to make sure that businessmen have some sort of credit loan at a very low interest rate to help sustain their businesses,

# Youths beg Buhari to review national minimum wage

with the economic hardship on Nigerians, the economic team of Mr President must wake up and find a solution to our economic problems."

The statement noted that it is high time for the Nigeria Labour Congress, NLC, and the Trade Union Congress of Nigeria, TUC, to step in favour of Nigerians, saying that their silence looks more like a compromise to the hardship Nigerians are suffering.

The youths observed that the government's decision to recall currency in circulation is yielding results, stressing that there are some unpatriotic elements in the society whose action is placing a hardship on the average citizen.

The statement added that they are now buying grains like maize, soya and rice at low prices and storing them to

later sell at higher prices, saying, "This has caused a skyrocket in the price of food items. There is the urgent need to arrest the situation as fast as possible, the relevant agencies should swing into action to avoid food crisis in the country."

Additionally, many workers and civil servants in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) also appealed to the federal government to support them with palliatives to cushion the rising cost of living as workers could no longer meet their needs with their present earnings.

However, they support the discussion to review minimum wage, but urged the government to in the meantime share palliatives to help cushion the effect of the economic hardship.

# Petrol will cost N410 without subsidy

-Kyari

**T**HE Group Chief Executive Officer of NNPC Limited, Mele Kyari has warned that without the current subsidy on petrol, the actual importation and retail cost would be at N410 per litre as market conditions take price to thrice of N170 pump price.

The petrol scarcity and queues have continued with fewer vehicles plying the city roads.

He stated this recently at



Kyari

the Legislative Transparency and Accountability Summit organised by the House of Representatives in Abuja.

He said, "It is not possible for you to buy fuel at N170 when your actual cost is thrice that value. For instance, today, when PMS comes into this country, we transfer to marketers at N113 per litre for us to ensure N165 at the pump, so you must sell at N113 to them to be able to deliver at N165.

"That means whatever the cost, anything after that value, that is subsidy. Somebody has to pay for it. Everyone knows the price of PMS around the world. There is nowhere today that you can land a litre of PMS to the pumps at the N445 exchange rate, it is not possible."

Speaking further, the NNPC boss said: "In some places, you are subsidizing up to N290 on every litre. With this regime, it is impossible for you to avoid all the wrong things that are happening. Round tripping, cross-border smuggling, document

forgery-anywhere you have arbitrage, you will have these issues."

Kyari further justified the engagement of private security contractors to secure its facilities in an effort to fight against oil theft in the country, saying it has paid off.

Speaker of the House of Representatives, Femi Gbajabamila, said the summit was important for legislators and policymakers to gain valuable insights into the issues and achieve clarity on the actions needed to be taken to achieve greater transparency and accountability in the oil and gas industry.

Marija Peran, the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation's Resident Representative, called for greater transparency in the oil and gas sector, saying Nigeria, the largest oil and gas producer in Sub Saharan Africa, is ranked among the lowest in the UN Human Development Index at the same time.

# Banks to accept deposits beyond cashless policy limit

**A**S part of efforts to ensure full compliance with the Naira redesign deadline, the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has directed banks to accept cash deposits beyond cashless policy threshold.

Osita Nwanisobi, director, corporate communications department of the CBN disclosed this recently on the occasion of the CBN's special day at the ongoing 2022 Lagos international trade fair.

"While Deposit Money Banks (DMBs) have been directed to immediately start returning the existing currencies to the CBN, they have also been instructed to receive the existing banknotes beyond the threshold stipulated by the

Cashless Policy without charge to customers," he said.

The CBN cashless policy stipulates a daily cumulative limit of N500, 000 and N3, 000,000 withdrawals and lodgments by individual and corporate customers respectively, without charges.

Nigeria's Central Bank recently announced the redesign, production, release, and circulation of new series of three banknotes out of the existing eight banknotes, comprising N200, N500, and N1000 denominations, respectively, effective December 15, 2022; after its launch by President Muhammad Buhari.

Represented by Samuel Okogbue, deputy director,

corporate communications department, he said the new and existing currencies shall remain legal tender and circulate together until January 31, 2023,

He noted that the eNaira has recorded over 700,000 transactions worth about N8 billion within its first year (October 2022).

According to him 33 banks have been fully integrated and live on the platform. In addition to the foregoing, over 1.0 million customers have been onboarded while over 3,305 merchants have successfully registered on the eNaira platform across the country.

Nwanisobi said the theme of the fair, which is Connecting Businesses, Creating Value', is in line with the Central Bank's strategy of consistently creating enabling policies that drive economic activities, job creation, increased productivity, and contribute to sustainable inclusive economic growth and development of the country.

"The Central Bank of Nigeria will continue to demonstrate unwavering commitment to supporting a productive economy and prudent management of the country's vast resources as that is the only panacea to reaching Nigeria's desired economic destination," the director said.

Explaining the reasons for



Emefiele



# ENTREPRENEUR WATCH

WITH CELESTINE D. ATTSAR

## Supply chain mapping, why it is vital

**Increased globalisation heightens supply chain risks and brings many challenges. Critical goods and services are the lifeline of your business and must be protected at all times, with multiple approved sources and action plans, writes GARTNER PETER**

"Although the outbreak is being compared to the 2003 SARS outbreak, China is now much more developed and integrated with the global economy, and the country has significantly improved its transportation networks." The coronavirus will have a far greater global impact to supply chains than SARS did 17 years ago.

As the epidemic hits the heart of the world's tech supply chain and shakes things up at Apple,

Singapore's minister of trade, Chan Cun Sing has a word for supply chain, "I think this is a very good lesson for everyone to really look at the supply chain resilience."

As the effects of the coronavirus begin to infiltrate our supply chains, and tariff wars continue to play games with our imports, the need for contingency planning has never been greater.

Proper supply chain mapping serves both as a risk-mitigating strategy and a supply chain resiliency tool, and it should be a significant part of your defensive strategy.

"The best defense is a good offense."

It's a much-used adage that has been applied to many fields and is, in fact, part of the United States principles of war: Offensive action is the most effective and decisive way to attain a clearly defined common objective. Offensive operations are the means by which a military force seizes and holds the initiative while maintaining freedom of action and achieving decisive results.

In other words, proactivity, or a strong offensive action, will ultimately hinder the opponent's ability to counterattack, thereby acting as a defense and creating a strategic advantage. Today, more than ever, supply chain needs to be proactive in mitigating risk, ensuring continuity of supply, and locating opportunities for improvements.

Supply chain mapping

Mapping your supply chain is an offensive move that adds resiliency and agility to your supply chain. It detects high-risk points of failure and establishes courses of action that increases responsiveness and limits blowback from disruptions.

Supply chain mapping is the process of connecting all sources of supply at every level of the value chain. It provides a complete, end-to-end picture of your supply chain, tracing every component from raw materials through to finished goods.



Think of it as your supply chain family tree. Much like understanding your DNA, supply chain mapping affords you invaluable information on the makings of your raw materials and services.

Why it's vital

As we embrace globalisation and source lower-cost alternatives seeking to remain competitive, we expose ourselves to increased risks and uncertainties. The more intricate the supply chain, the more opportunities abound for time-critical networks to experience disruptions of all sorts.

The World Economic Forums Global Risks Report 2019 noted

**"As we embrace globalisation and source lower-cost alternatives seeking to remain competitive, we expose ourselves to increased risks and uncertainties. The more intricate the supply chain, the more opportunities abound for time-critical networks to experience disruptions of all sorts.**

**The World Economic Forums Global Risks Report 2019 noted extreme weather events, natural disasters, and geopolitics as top threats for 2019. From John Drzik, president of Global Risk and Digital, Marsh, "The most striking aspect of this year's report is the level of concern about geopolitical issues. Of the top ten risks expected to deteriorate in 2019, seven are connected to the political environment."**

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Allianz' Global Claims Review analysis 470,000+ claims from over 200 countries and territories and lists the top causes of loss (by the total value of claims) for

2013-2018 as fire/explosion, aviation collision/crash, and fault y workmanship/maintenance. "In the past five years, fire and explosion incidents have caused in excess of €14bn worth of insurance losses from over 9,500 claims and are responsible for more than half (11) of the 20 largest nonnatural catastrophe loss events analysed."

Of course, supply chain risks don't only stem from acts of God or politicians alone. Extreme weather, natural disasters, epidemics, and politics aside,

there are inherent risks that arise from market dynamics, manufacturing processes, and logistics that complicate matters further. Oversold markets, yearly plant turnarounds, and union strikes are but a few examples of the issues that plague supply chains.

However, the power of supply chain mapping doesn't solely lie in disruption mitigation but also in identifying areas for cost, efficiency, or quality improvements and ensuring regulatory compliance. In today's highly competitive market, it can be your differentiator.

Solutions

Although once a very cumbersome, resource-heavy process that provided little more than a high-level time-stamped view, today, we're afforded a more holistic viewpoint and highly responsive solutions.

UPS Customer Solutions now offers a supply chain mapping service, "Supply chain mapping is the first step in creating an "outcome-driven supply chain." The process identifies the change that will differentiate an organisation from its competition, serve a client base with a prosperous value proposition, reduce internal cost, and drive profitability."

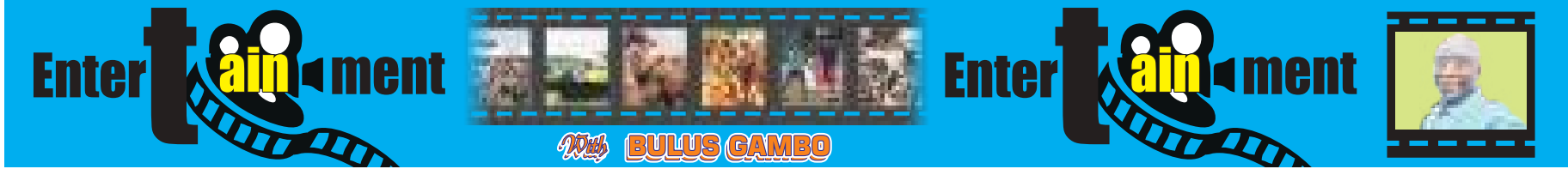
The rise of Web 2.0, GPS, online maps, and social networking have transformed how we map our supply chains. Methodologies such as IDEF0 and SCOR have all but given way to cloud-based solutions. Today's offerings allow for large scale collaboration, verification of geographical location, and synchronization of real-time data such as combining inventory data with emergency warnings and GPS locations of in-transit material.

As the effects of the coronavirus begin to infiltrate our supply chains, and tariff wars continue to play games with our imports, the need for contingency planning has never been greater. Yet, supply chain mapping continues to be an underplayed, high-value tactic, changing your play from reactive to proactive, and may just be the move that wins you the game.

Bottom of Form

Source: Business Day





## In God I trust to soar musically - Bishop Ken

Continued from page 18

was heartwarming. People were so happy and that was the stepping stone. I started writing so many tracks. Today, I have over twenty-two tracks. I am hoping to make my video and launch my album soon.

"My major challenge now is finances and I wish to have my back up and support from spirited individuals who would help me to excel. Sometimes, because of these challenges, I write and wonder what am I writing about and feel discouraged. However, one voice keeps pushing me to keep writing and that has been my consolation", he enthused.

Bishop Ken, as he is popularly known, is a Jos based musician and an indigene of Benue State who has been into music for years. He sees music as his vision and destiny packaged in the cool device. He said, "I am looking up to God and wish to be like 2-Face and Burner Boy. Internationally, I wish to be like Gram-Ulster



and Alex "O" because music has become part of me now.

"Kudos to Mai-kudi, Desmond "D" and my producer who have been doing wonderfully well in supporting and trying to push me forward. I thank God for the different talents He has given me. Apart from reggae music, I am proud to tell you that I can sing R&B, raps and any other music. I know music is highly competitive and there are plenty of competitors, but I have kept my faith going because I trust in God", he stated.

He says his inspiration comes in the night when everywhere is calm and quiet and he has written over twenty-two tracks with his favorite songs titled: One Day, Nigeria, Sweet home and My mother among others. "I remember when one man asked how I manage to cope with writing music and still keep late hours? I told him that my magical hours are when everybody is asleep".

Elijah Odumu, (Bishop Ken) is one young promising musician whose style of music is quite exceptional and needs to be supported. He is an orphan now with neither a father nor mother. He has only one sibling. But unlike majority of young men, he wants to be up and doing. That is the reason he has put his talent into constructive use.

He is appealing to any spirited individual to support him in his dream since that is what makes him and others happy. Please, let's not snuff this flickering light.

To keep our young people off the streets, we must identify such talents and make them useful tools in our society. Such talents make the world go round because entertainment is a powerful tool that shapes the world.

## The likeliest actors to play the next James Bond, ranked

Continued from page 16

whatever the reason, Scot Richard Madden has also been pinned by Bond devotees as an obvious choice for the lead role.

Madden has shut down rumours around his links to the role on more than one occasion, but this hasn't stopped him from remaining around the top of the bookies' list for the last couple of years. And why not? The 35-year-old Madden has clearly shown he has what it takes to pull off the stoic secret agent with aplomb. The only thing we're wondering is whether he can deliver Bond's more humorous moments with the same level of charm.

### Sam Heughan

**The case for:** another low-profile choice, look at that jawline

**The case against:** might not draw a crowd  
Emerging from the pack in recent years has been Outlander star Sam Heughan. Sources have claimed before that filmmakers were eyeing the actor for the coveted role, including Barbara Broccoli, and one Daily Mail report has even claimed that Heughan got a call from producers to audition for Barbara Broccoli as she prepares to usher in a new era of the spy franchise. Heughan himself later denied this, of course, however he did say that he once auditioned for the Bond role back when they were preparing to film Casino Royale, meaning he'd likely answer if 007's producers came knocking. "There's a long list, right? It's one of those things, isn't it? You don't want to talk about it, because there isn't anything to talk about," he said on the Just The Facts with Alex Zane podcast, It's all media, and there's no weight to it at all, there's no truth to it. Having said that, you can't help but then think, 'God, that would be amazing.' And I have been up for Bond, I went up for it when they did Bond 21. It was an amazing experience and I was completely out of my depth. But I think now I feel the right age for it, I feel capable enough to do it, I'd love the opportunity to throw my hat in the ring."



### Henry Cavill

**The case for:** he's Henry Cavill

**The case against:** too famous, too busy  
Having already helped the Superman franchise for seven years (and counting), Henry Cavill's aptitude to pick up the heroic character torch once Craig unhands is abundantly clear. Partner that with his existing turn as a government agent when portraying CIA agent Napoleon Solo in the film revival of the Man from U.N.C.L.E. series, and the fact that Cavill once came close to stealing the role from Craig himself, it's near impossible to convince us that Cavill isn't the only logical choice for the next Bond.



Few have flirted publicly with the idea of playing the role quite like Cavill, either. The Brit has kept himself across the rumours that he could once again be in line to portray 007, and has expressed his willingness to step into the 007 role if it were offered to him. Speaking to The Hollywood Reporter, Cavill said he would be interested in speaking with Bond producers. "I think it would be very exciting to have a conversation with the producers," he said. "In an ideal world, I'd never have to turn anything down. Nothing is off the table. It's an honour to even be part of that conversation."

But while we may think that his role as the 'Man of Steel', as well as his secret agent stints in The Man from U.N.C.L.E and Mission: Impossible — Fallout, near guarantee his casting as Bond, experts believe his past roles and the gargantuan amount of franchises he already leads actually do him a disservice. According to Dr. Kinane, Cavill may be "too famous" and likely too busy to play Bond, the scholar noting that actors who have slipped into the iconic tux in the past have been relatively unknown, per Movie Web.

### Tom Hardy

**The case for:** moody, gritty, action movie experience, the most Daniel Craig-ish actor on this list

**The case against:** his age, maybe too famous  
While the official word on Craig's replacement for the franchise's titular role is still outstanding, many were convinced that action film fixture, Tom Hardy, was believed to have signed on as the next Bond at one point late last year. However, following the wave of seemingly confirmatory rumours, many industry insiders were quick to quash the possibility of a Hardy-portrayed Bond, including Forbes' film-industry reporter Scott Mendelson. "Contrary to what you might see in the British tabloids, Tom Hardy has not been cast, and probably will not be cast, as the next James Bond once Daniel Craig vacates the role upon the release of No Time to Die," claimed Mendelson. He remains the third-favourite name at the bookies at the time of writing, and as far as natural successors to Craig go, you can't argue with a CV like Hardy's if you're looking for someone to portray a debonair, hard-nut agent. Given life as Bond is likely a decade-long commitment, however, the now 44-year-old Hardy might have already aged out of contention, and may be too much of an a-lister for a producer team that generally favours placing relative unknowns in the role.





## Change of Name

<b>ANTHONY</b>	<b>GARBA</b>	<b>RACHEL</b>	<b>ISA</b>	<b>DANAT</b>	<b>JIMOH</b>
I, formerly known as <b>PIYORSHAK ANTHONY SAMUEL</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>ANTHONY SAMUEL</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>ABUBAKAR DANTALA ABUBAKAR</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>GARBA ABUBAKAR DANTALA</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>RACHAEL PAM JAZAT</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>RACHEL KIZITO JUGU</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public should please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>IAS ADAMA ADAMU</b> now wish to be known and addressed as <b>ISA ADAMA ADAMU</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public should please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>PANGSHAK NANPAN MICHEAL</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>DANAT ENDURANCE SARKI</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public should please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>JIMOH GARBA GANIYATU</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>JIMOH GANIYATU GARBA</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public should please take note.
<b>SAMUEL</b>	<b>MAREN</b>	<b>BILAL</b>	<b>ONATUNDE</b>	<b>OHAEGBU</b>	<b>MARTHA</b>
I, formerly known as <b>PAM JACOB DAVOU</b> now wish to be known and addressed as <b>SAMUEL JACOB DAVOU</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public should please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>UTARAN EZEKIEL NAOMI</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>MAREN EZEKIEL NAOMI</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public should please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>BILAL FATIMA ABDULLAHI</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>BILAL FATIMA</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public should please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>ONATUNDE ELIZABETH DAMILOLA</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>ONATUNDE TEMITOPE ELIZABETH</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public should please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>OHAEGBU, CHIDIEBERE</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>OHAEGBU MATHEW CHIDIEBERE</b> . Correct date of birth is 16/06/1982 not 21/06/1981. All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public should please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>MARTHA LUKA</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>MARTHA LUKA MAFWALAL</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public should please take note.
<b>MODU</b>	<b>BINVEN</b>	<b>BABANGIDA</b>	<b>KPATI,</b>	<b>KALTIME</b>	<b>KWANGA</b>
I, formerly known as <b>MODU AUWALU BUKAR</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>MODU AWOLU</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>PETER JOHN</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>BINVEN CHANGTIM JOHN</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public should please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>ABUBAKAR UMAR IBRAHIM</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>BABANGIDA ABUBAKAR UMAR</b> . Correct date of birth is 20/02/1970 not 04/02/1994. All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public should please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>DAN - A S A B E CHRISTOPHER</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>KPATI, CHRISTOPHER DAN-ASABE</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public should please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>KALTIME HAJIYA MUSA</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>KALTIME MUSA ABUBAKAR</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public should please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>KWANGA GAROS ADAMU (MISS)</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>KWANGA GAROS EMMANUEL (MRS)</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public should please take note.
<b>PEACE</b>	<b>NYAM</b>	<b>DANLADI</b>	<b>MUHAMMADU</b>	<b>LADAN</b>	<b>ABDULRAHAMAN</b>
I, formerly known as <b>PEACE DAKOM GOLTONG</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>PEACE VINCENT GOLTONG</b> . Correct date of birth is 20/03/1990 not 19/04/1987. All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>NYAM ANNA AJANG</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>NYAM ANNA ANAP</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>DANLADI PATIENCE</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>DANLADI PATIENCE ANINA</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>MOHAMMADU BISSALLA</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>MUHAMMADU BISALLA</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>IDRIS SANI</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>LADAN SANI</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>ABDULRAHAMAN SALISU NASIR</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>ABDULRAHAMAN MUHAMMAD NASIR</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.
<b>LONGPIYA</b>	<b>DAKUP</b>	<b>JAN</b>	<b>SANI</b>	<b>ZAKKA</b>	<b>ZAKARIYA</b>
I, formerly known as <b>LONGPIYA KAMSEN J.</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>LONGPIYA KAMSEN JOSEPH</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>DAKUP FOTDORMWA HAPPINESS</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>DAKUP FOTDORMWA TONGSHAR</b> . Date of birth from 05/04/1992 to 05/04/2000. All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>MATHEW JAN</b> now wish to be known and addressed as <b>JAN MATHEW DAGON</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>SANI MU'AZU AHAMED</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>SANI MU'AZU</b> . Correct date of birth is 05/06/2001 not 02/02/1999. All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>ZWAKKA TOKMAWATAK</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>ZAKKA ABISHAK GOMPIL</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>ZAKARIYA IDRIS</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>ZAKARIYA IDRIS AHMAD</b> . Correct date of birth is 07/09/2003 not 01/01/2001. All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.
<b>SABITU</b>	<b>SATSHWAR</b>	<b>ABDULRAHMAN,</b>	<b>AMEH</b>	<b>BLESSING</b>	<b>KANGYANG</b>
I, formerly known as <b>SANI IBRAHIM</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>SABITU SABO</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>PETER SATSHWAR</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>SATSHWAR PETER IBRAHIM</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>ABDULAKEEM ADISA ABDULRAHMAN</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>ABDULRAHMAN, ABDULHAKIM</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>OCHEHO, ELIZABETH AMINA</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>AMEH ELIZABETH AMINA</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>BLESSING UKAMAKA OKEAKPU</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>BLESSING UKAMAKA EZEH</b> . Correct date of birth is 06/06/1980 not 06/06/1979. All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>CHUNG KANGYANG DAVOU</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>KANGYANG DAVOU CHOMO</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.
<b>DAVID</b>	<b>DEWI</b>	<b>DALANG</b>	<b>RACHEAL</b>	<b>YAKUBU</b>	<b>NWAFOR</b>
I, formerly known as <b>MOSES PAM</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>DAVID MOSES PAM</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>MONDAY BARRY D.</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>DEWI MONDAY BARRY</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>DALANG NANCY</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>DALANG NANCY NA'ANPEON</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>RACHEAL STEVEN</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>RACHEAL BITRUS DALUK</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>ZAKARIYA DATIT</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>YAKUBU ZAKARIYYA DATIT</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>DANIEL FESTUS</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>NWAFOR OLISA</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.
<b>NWAFOR</b>	<b>NWAFOR</b>	<b>POLIT</b>	<b>MUHAMMAD</b>	<b>DALANG</b>	<b>DRUMKYES</b>
I, formerly known as <b>CHISOM FESTUS</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>NWAFOR CHISOM MARIAGORETTI</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>FESTUS CHIMAKA</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>NWAFOR CHIMAKA</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>POLIT DAUDA JOASH</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>POLIT JOASH NENROT</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>MUHAMMAD SULAIMAN</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>MUHAMMAD SAMAILA</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>DALANG NANCY</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>DALANG NANCY NA+'ANPEON</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>DRUMKYES BAMMUN</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>DRUMKYES NANBAM</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.
<b>MARIAM</b>	<b>AYUBA</b>	<b>ZIRA</b>	<b>PAUL</b>	<b>SALLAH</b>	<b>MUSTAPHA</b>
I, formerly known as <b>MARIAM EBUTE</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>MARIAM MAHA MONDAY</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>AYUBA JOYCE</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>AYUBA JOYCE JEREMIAH</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>ZIRA FELIX KWAGA</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>ZIRA ZIRA</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>MARIBA VICTOR DUNKA</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>PAUL VICTOR DUNKA</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>NANLIR SALLAH</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>SALLAH VICTOR NANLIR</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>MUSTAPHA KHADIJA AJOKI</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>MUSTAPHA KHADIJA ISHOLA</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.
<b>HADIZA</b>	<b>CHUWANG</b>	<b>GYOK</b>	<b>AUTA</b>	<b>BITRUS</b>	<b>NENFORT</b>
I, formerly known as <b>HADIZA ABUBAKAR ADAMU</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>HADIZA AUDU</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>CHUWANG BITRUS CHRISTIANA</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>CHUWANG CHRISTIANA BULUS</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>DAVOU ISAAC</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>GYOK GYANG DAVOU</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>ASABU AUTA</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>AUTA ISAAC</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>AJIK JOB</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>BITRUS AJANG KAZE</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.	I, formerly known as <b>MISS. EDEBOR LYDIA ODION</b> , now wish to be known and addressed as <b>MRS. NENFORT LYDIA ODION</b> . All former documents remain valid. All concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.





**ICRC**

The International Committee of the Red Cross - ICRC- ([www.icrc.org](http://www.icrc.org)) is an independent humanitarian organisation, neutral and impartial. Jos Sub Delegation is looking for a suitable candidate to fill the vacancy below

**Administrative Assistant**

Under the direct supervision of Head of Office/Finance and Administrative Manager, the Administrative Assistant handles various administrative and secretarial tasks e.g. (photocopies, mail delivery, document filing, contact with clients etc), Maintains contact with external interlocutors, update office records and responsible for specific administrative files.

**Main Duties and Responsibilities**

- Ensures that the financial rules are implemented within the structure/office and understood by every employee
- Manages fixed amount of cash for office needs
- Reports weekly on use of cash to the F&A Manager in Jos and prepares weekly cash request in agreement with Head of Office when available
- Highlight any Financial unclear or doubtful inputs, to F&A Manager in Jos
- Plan cashflow forecast to cover potential expenditures
- Ensure that Damaturu premises are furnished and equipped according to the standard list; follow up and processes the requisitions order linked to furniture or equipment
- Keeps inventory of furniture and equipment up to date (excl. IT/Radio materials)
- Ensures proper maintenance and follow up of the premises (including air conditioner, generator, fire extinguishers, disinfection, and fumigation of the office) and organises repairs/maintenance
- Organises the maintenance and repair of office equipment (photocopiers, telephones, etc)
- Follow-up on the utilities of Damaturu premises including maintenance and payments
- Acts as a link for HR administrative tasks between employees and Head of Office/FAM – ensures the information flow
- Checks sick leave Certificates and other absences to ensure respect of existing procedures
- Maintains each personnel file up-to-date: ensures all original documents are sent to Abuja HR and a copy of each document is kept in Damaturu
- Welcomes visitors, arranges for Hotel accommodation if necessary
- Follows up on Field Trip Form (FTF) and make necessary arrangements for visitors
- Answers the office phone and writes messages where necessary
- Prepares and receives pouches and delivers the courier to the final recipients
- May be asked to perform tasks not covered in this job description and to provide support to other departments when necessary.

**Education and Experience Required**

- Bachelor's degree/college certificate in Administration or a relevant field
- Minimum of 2 years' experience in a similar role (INGO, Embassy etc)

**Desired profile and Skills**

- Fluent in written and spoken English and knowledge of local languages is an asset
- Very well organized, with good planning abilities.
- Knowledge of cultural & socio-economic environment of northern Nigeria
- Computer literacy; proficient in Microsoft Office software skills (outlook, Excel Power Point, Word).

**How to Apply**

- Send Curriculum vitae, application letter and NYSC Certificate to [ABJ\\_Recruitment\\_Services@icrc.org](mailto:ABJ_Recruitment_Services@icrc.org)
- Clearly indicate "ABJ202200336 Administrative Assistant DAT" as the subject of your application (*Applications intended for this role without this subject will not be considered*)
  - In the body of the mail, please indicate the following in the following format:
    - Qualification(s)
    - Current location
    - Languages you speak
    - Years of relevant experience

The deadline for the submission of applications will be 17.11.2022, 16:30hrs. Late applications will not be considered.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

Equal opportunities shall be provided to all employees and applicants for employment based on their demonstrated ability and competence without discrimination based on race, colour, religion, sex, nationality, status, disability etc.

(The ICRC values diversity and is committed to creating an inclusive working environment)

We welcome applications from all qualified candidates; Female & People Living with Disability applicants are encouraged to apply. ICRC will not request any monetary payments from applicants at any stage of the recruitment process



**ICRC**

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**Logistics Assistant**

Under the direct supervision of Head of Office, the Logistics Assistant Provides support to Damaturu in the areas of Dispatching, Purchasing, Transport, and Fleet. Handles logistical files independently, Implements and runs ICRC Logistics procedures; Negotiates contractual matters with external interlocutors and Supervises a small team.

**Main Duties and Responsibilities**

- Receives goods and checks that they correspond to the requested quantities and qualities ordered
- As delegated by the Purchasing team, follows up on purchases and deliveries and checks that they conform with specifications and contract details
- Independently works to ensure that the fleet is used in a rational manner.
- Organizes and plans drivers' duties and assignments; dispatches the assigned vehicles.
- Monitors and records vehicle use and fuel consumption.
- Takes all necessary steps to implement the delegation's security rules
- Where necessary, checks that field-trip forms are filed and correspond to the assigned mission and that logbooks are filled out.
- Organizes the classification and filing documents in proper order place for all areas of responsibility
- Performs as ICT focal point for Damaturu Office
- Keeps tracks of all vehicle movements
- May be asked to perform tasks not covered in this job description and to provide support to other departments when necessary.

**Education and Experience Required**

- University Degree in Logistics, Supply Chain Management, Business Administration, or another relevant field
- Minimum of 2 years' experience in a similar role
- Driving licence

**Desired profile and Skills**

- Fluent in written and spoken English and knowledge of local languages is an asset (Hausa is mandatory)
- Very well organized, with good planning abilities.
- Computer literacy; proficient in Microsoft Office software skills (outlook, Excel Power Point, Word).

**How to Apply**

- Send Curriculum vitae, application letter and NYSC Certificate to [ABJ\\_Recruitment\\_Services@icrc.org](mailto:ABJ_Recruitment_Services@icrc.org)
- Clearly indicate "ABJ202200339 Logistics Assistant DAT" as the subject of your application (*Applications intended for this role without this subject will not be considered*)
- In the body of the mail, please indicate the following in the following format:
  - Qualification(s)
  - Current location
  - Languages you speak
  - Years of relevant experience

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**Barkin Ladi Local Government Council**

**TENDER NOTICE**

**PROPOSED PROJECTS TO BE FUNDED BY SURE – P FUNDS**

1.	Purchase of assorted brands of fertilizer (2 trucks)	- 20,000,000.00
2.	Purchase of 3 no vehicles for traditional rulers	- 20,000,000.00
3.	Purchase of 2 no vehicles for official use of the council	- 12,000,000.00
4.	Grading and leveling of the Barkin-Ladi old stadium	- 5,000,000.00
5.	Construction of 2 blocks of 4 room toilets each in the Council secretariat	- 4,000,000.00
6.	Upgrading and rehabilitation of the existing borehole in the secretariat	- 3,000,000.00
7.	Coupling and installation of hydroform block molding Machines and training of handlers of the machines	- 3,000,000.00
8.	Construction and fencing of PHC at Zangun Kamamg Village Zobot ward, Foron district	- 20,000,000.00
9.	Construction and fencing of police post at Gung Zaron Foron	- 20,000,000.00
10.	Grading and rehabilitation of internal roads in Barkin Ladi town (Vopye Junction to Bokkos Junction with a Spur through the Da Gwom Rwei's Palace	- 18,000,000.00
11.	Installation of street lights along the rehabilitated road of Vopye Junction to Boko Junction with a spur through the Da Gwom Rwei's Palace	- 2,300,000.00
12.	Construction of a PHC centre at Lajam	- 8,000,000.00
13.	Replacement of wooden poles with concrete poles along Lajam to Marit town	- 4,000,000.00
14.	Construction PHC Centre at Fit-Makkusho (Mazat)	- 8,000,000.00
15.	Completion of a PHC Clinic at Tirsan and the Building of a 4 man quarters	- 15,000,000.00
16.	Completion of a PHC Clinic a Kai village in Gashish	- 3,500,000.00
17.	Drilling of hand pump borehole at Nghar Village Gashish	- 1,500,000.00
18.	Rural electrification extension, from Tatu to Yelwa Village and from Larwin to Dunduma Village in Heipang District	- 5,000,000.00
19.	Grading of 2km road from borehole point (Ban) to old Ban Village in Heipang District	- 3,000,000.00
20.	Drilling of simple motorized boreholes (4no) using GP Tanks at the following locations in Heipang district	
	(i) Lagung Tabwam – Heipang	- 2,582,857.33
	(ii) Kanti adjacent RCC Heipang	- 2,582,857.33
	(iii) Yow Village in Heipang	- 2,582,857.33
	(iv) Lachwel Jarak Pwomol Heipang	- 2,582,857.33
21.	Replacement of electric poles at chit Village Heipang	- 2,000,000.00
22.	Grading of rural roads starting from Dorowa Isoho through Bawan dodo, Kanakon to terminate at Razek in Fan District	- 20,000,000.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>= 207,631,429.35</b>

**Requirements/conditions**

- Contractors must Register with B/Ladi LGC
- Contractors must have 3 years tax clearance
- Contractor profile must be provided for the bidders
- Pre-condition- The Local Government is not under obligation that the registered contractor will be awarded with the contract
- All tender is at flat rate of twenty thousand (#20,000.00) naira only
- NOTE: Opening and closing of tender is:-
- Closing of tender will be at 12 noon while the Opening of bidder will be on 28th November, 2022 by 2pm

**SIGNED:**  
**ESTHER YAKUBU POLIT**  
 DPM  
 FOR: CHAIRMAN, BARKIN LADI LGC



NEWS

**Bello has no hand in billboards charges, others -KGIRS**

From **AMEDU JOSEPH, Lokoja**

**T**HE Acting Chairman of Kogi State Internal Revenue Service (KGIRS), Sule Salihu Enehi has told PDP and other interested parties that Governor Yahaya Bello has no hands in the newly introduced signage laws and the verification of Tax Clearance Certificates, saying it is purely the concern of the state tax administration.

The clarification is coming on the heels of reports by some media platforms that the billboards charges and verification of the Tax Clearance demand notice by the Kogi State Internal Revenue Service were targeted at the People's Democratic Party (PDP).

The Chairman made the disclosure on Wednesday in Lokoja at a press conference to highlight the newly introduced tax law in the state.

The Chairman pointed out that any action of the revenue service has a constitutional backing, quoting From "Section 85 (2) of Personal Income Tax, 2021 as amended, vest the power to verify tax clearance certificate in the



**Bello**

issuing tax authority". He disclosed that obtaining a tax clearance through misrepresentation, forgery, or falsification, according to the law is guilty of an offence and such an offender is liable for prosecution.

"The Kogi state government through the state house of assembly passed the law tagged "Kogi state of Nigeria a law to provide for the regulation of outdoor structures for the display of signage, hoarding and advertisements in Kogi

state and for other matters connected in addition to that 2022"

The acting chairman who stated that the law was assented to by Governor Yahaya Bello in September 2022, empowered KGIRS to enforce its implementation.

"Therefore for anybody or organisation to come out now and claim that Kogi state governor, AlhajiYahaya Bello, brought the law to witch hunt opposition parties in the state is a ruse and far from the truth.

**T**HE ICPC Sokoto has vowed to investigate and unearth corrupt practices by some persons in the state bordering on projects and contracts.

The projects according to the Agency were awarded at the sum of N355, 391,657.95 and expected to be fully implemented.

That the group which comprises of members from the ICPC, Nigeria Institute of Quantity Surveyor, Civil Society Organisations, Media and Executing Agencies are mandated to track the projects.

"This is in order to monitor, track the performance of the projects and value of work done."As well as identify the contractual sum and contractors, unearth payments made, identify the status and persons behind the projects," Yahaya said.

According to him, the team will also track the contracting companies' compliance to statutory regulations, including tax obligations.

That they will also ascertain the value and impact of the projects for the various communities, where they were provided.

**Constituency projects in Sokoto under investigation**

From **ANENE AIKE, Sokoto**

TNS reports that some of the projects include the supply of VEHICLES in Sokoto East Senatorial district and motorcycles in Sokoto North Senatorial district.

Also included in the tracking details is the supply of 188 motorcycles in Illela/Gwadabawa Federal constituency.

Others are, supply of NPK Fertilizer and water pumping

machine to Kware/Wamakko constituency and strategic empowerment programme for Agripreneurs in Bodinga/DangeShuni/Turet a constituency.

Our Correspondent also reports that CEPT team has already visited some of the projects executed in Sokoto North/Sokoto South Federal constituency and Bodinga/DangeShuni/Turet a Federal constituency.



**Bolaji**

**Nigerian Army offers free medical treatment to community**

From **AMEDU JOSEPH, Lokoja**

THE Nigerian Army has offered free medical services to the people of Eika-Ohizenyi communities in Okehi Local Government Area of Kogi State. The Chief of Army Staff

(COAS), Lt Gen. Farouk Yahaya, provided all the resources for the free medical treatment as part of the Civil-Military Cooperation (CIMIC) related activities.

Speaking at the flag-off ceremony in Okehi, the COAS said the medical outreach was carefully planned to cater for the identified common health challenges of the citizens in the communities. This, he said would enhance the existing cordial relationship, and the support the Nigerian Army had enjoyed from the good people of Kogi State.

The COAS, who was represented by the Commander, Headquarters Command Army Records (CAR), Maj Gen. Sunday Igbinomwanhia, said the free medical outreach was in continuation of the exercise Enduring Peace II, recently launched by the Nigerian Army.

The COAS said it was very much in line with his vision of a professional Nigerian Army, ready to accomplish assigned missions within a joint environment in defence of Nigeria.

Lt Gen Yahaya explained that in pursuance of his vision, he had ensured that the Nigerian Army formations and units paid

adequate attention to the non-kinetic aspect of the military operations.

He added that conscious efforts had been made to cater for pregnant women and nursing mothers by making provision for the distribution of treated mosquito nets during the outreach.

He said that aside the free drugs to be dispensed, free medicated glasses would also be distributed to people with sight challenges.

He, therefore appealed to the people to see the medical outreach as evidence of the cooperation between the Nigerian Army and the good people of Kogi State.

"Let it foster the desired peace, progress and prosperity in this community and the entire Kogi State," he said.

In his capacity, the CAR Commander Command Army Records, thanked the COAS for his continuous support which had enabled the Command to carry out its assigned responsibility effectively and efficiently. He thanked the Governor for his support in making the apparatus of the Kogi State Government available for military operations.

**Court adopts two evidences tendered against Prophet Essessein**

BY **EZEKIEL DONTINNA**

**T**HE Area Court sitting in West of Mines Jos, Plateau State has received in evidence and adopted two copies of documents tendered by the Prosecuting Counsel, Inspector IjupitIthlawur, in a case between Commissioner of Police and one Prophet Moses Essessein of Mount Zion Ministry, Bassa Local Government Area.

The documents tendered included printed copy of Jissey Royal Hotel's Register used in Omega Hotel, where the first defendant, Moses Essessein, booked with the name John on July 4,2021 in disguise to lure to bed one of his members, Mrs. Adewumi who was in court to testify and was adopted as Exhibit 'E'.

Also, the second document

tendered and adopted as Exhibit 'F' was a printed copy of the text message sent by the second defendant, Mr. Paul Nimel, who is the Prophet's Secretary, prescribing one PITOCINE tablet through a phone line:+2348030717681 for the woman to control the bleeding after aborting the pregnancy allegedly nailed on his boss.

Although, the Defending Counsel objected the submission of the Prosecuting Counsel before the court, but the presiding judge, Justice Zakka Dung, overruled the objection saying, "Even though the documents were not earlier before the court, but the court finds it relevant in

this case. Therefore, the printed attendance register will be marked as Exhibit 'E', while the text message as Exhibit 'F' respectively."

Earlier, the presiding Judge encouraged Mrs. Adewumi to tell the court everything if truly she wants to get justice in the case because the court was there to dispense justice to whoever seeks justice. And that she wanted to know what really happened so that they would be able to sieve out the truth from lies.

It would be recalled that the prophet who is the first defendant in this case was dragged to court for hypnotizing Adewumi's wife and having canal knowledge of her. And later threatened to post pictures of her nakedness on social media if she dared tell her husband or anybody.

While testifying in court, the victim who was crowned as one of the prophet's pastors said, she was called upon by the man of God one fateful day that they were travelling with other pastors for an evangelism and she went, only for her to be taken to one Gravity Hotel around Rukuba road.

She said, "when we reached the hotel, I asked about the other pastors we were travelling with and he said they will catch up with us. So, I sat at the reception waiting for 30 minutes but none of them showed up. When he returned, he gave me a glass of wine to take while waiting and I collected and drank it.

"Then I started to feel one sharp pain in my head and before I knew it I fell asleep. When I woke up the following day, I found myself in the hotel room naked, so I picked my phone to tell my husband what Moses did to me. But he stopped me and

showed me pictures of my nakedness threatening to post it on social media if I dared call my husband or tell anybody.

"When I missed my period I informed him and he shouted at me and insulted me. He later sent his Secretary, Pastor Paul Nimel, to give me abortion pill and threatened me that, if I refused to take the pills, I know what his Father (the Prophet) is capable of doing to me. So, I went home and took the pill, but it did not work", she narrated.

According to her, "when the pills did not work, I called Paul and told him and he took me to one school in Bukuru and injected me. The next day I started bleeding and it continued for 4-5days. So, I again called Paul and he texted the name of this drug to me: "TIPOCINE" using this phone number:+2348030717681".

The case was adjourned to November 30,2022 for further hearing.

**Governor attends COCIN President's daughter's burial**

By **DUMAH RANDONG**

**T**It was a solemn moment for family members, friends and sympathizers as they gathered to pay their last respect to the late Barrister Alheri, daughter of the President, Church of Christ in Nations, COCIN, Rev Dr Amos Mohz who died following a protracted illness.

Governor Simon Lalong who in a condolence message at the funeral service which took place at the COCIN Headquarters Church in Jos, Wednesday, described the death as a great loss not only to the family, Church but the entire state.

Represented by his deputy, Professor Sonni Tyoden, Lalong said as mortals, death was hanging over

everyone and it comes at the time God decides.

"It's only God that will comfort all of us and I want us to also be consoled by the attributes of Alheri as stated here," the governor encouraged.

President of the Church of Christ in Nations, Rev Dr Amos Mohzo, his wife, Deborah said their late daughter was a humble and obedient child.

They added that the family will not lose faith in God no matter the trials they are going through.

The deceased husband, Pastor Jelkyes Samuel said his wife was a blessing to his life and thanked the church and those who identified with

them during her time of sickness.

Recounting the trials, temptations and the struggles they went through which were quite enormous, Pastor Samuel appreciated God for the life of his late wife.

Rev Joseph Damar in a sermon, titled: "How to face death with faith," said only God could determine the death of everyone and as such Christians should not allow challenges of life to take them away from their faith.

Rev Joseph Ajina of COCIN Local Church Council, Dashik, while performing the funeral rites, told believers to continue to trust God and never allow anything to separate them from the love of Christ.



**Arioola**



## NEWS

# Trucks kill 6 persons

From  
GYANG PAM, Yola

Six persons have been killed after a truck, conveying laterite sand lost control and rammed into a motorcycle mechanic workshop, at Vunoklang in Girei Local Government Area of Adamawa State Wednesday.

Eyewitnesses told our correspondent that the truck, also known as articulated vehicle, veered off the road after a tyre burst at the Vunoklang junction, near the Jimeta bridge on the outskirts of Yola, the capital city.

Among those killed was a traffic police officer on duty, Isa Usman at the busy junction. He was reported to be the first casualty, the truck hit and smashed his remains before it rammed into the mechanics workshop "an eyewitness, Talatu Addison told our correspondent.

Another eyewitness, Drambi Ezra said, "it was like a horror scene to see the truck crushing mechanics while working on vehicles.

"Six crushed bodies were counted on the spot. We evacuated the remains of their bodies into a police van,"



Biu

he said.

The driver of the truck was said to have escaped and abandoned the vehicle, sparking outrage, as irate youths then set the truck ablaze. The fire spread from the vehicle, razing many shops and destroying an electricity transformer.

As at the time our correspondent arrived the scene, a combined team of

policemen, Road Safety marshals, firefighters and Red Cross officials were busy evacuating dead bodies and the injured.

Spokesperson for the police in Adamawa State, SP Suleiman Nguroje has confirmed the accident, saying, "one police officer from the Motor Traffic Department, Isa Usman and five others have now been confirmed dead."

BUA Cement has commissioned a 10,000 litre capacity mechanised borehole at Gagi in Sokoto South Local Government and 500 kva electricity transformer at Gidan Baduwa in Wamakko Local Government Areas of Sokoto State

Inaugurating the projects, the Managing Director, of the company, Engr Yusuf Halliru Binji, represented by a Director at the company, Engr, Tukur Lawal at the two occasions while commissioning the projects said they were provided to complement "government's efforts in the provision of basic amenities to its host communities.

The director said that they believe in giving back to the communities, appreciating the unconditional support and understanding that they receive from the host communities and state.

He pointed out that in addition to these projects, in the current year (2022), the company provided similar ones at Gidan Gamba (borehole), Hunde Cibawa (500 kva transformer), Rugar Wuro

# BUA Cement commissions borehole, donates transformer

From ANENE AIKE, Sokoto



Tambuwal

(500 kva transformer), Specialist Hospital Sokoto (transformer), solar powered borehole in Dagelawa, drugs and hospital equipment to eight clinics within Wamakko Local Government.

He explained further that

they are also currently executing similar projects in Gidan Fulani, Bakin Kusu (installation of 500 kva transformer), solar borehole at Gidan Sanda, all in Wamakko Local Government that will be completed this month November and will be commissioned accordingly.

He also stated that One hundred and eighteen students (118) will receive their scholarship grants this month, to enable them continue with their studies, after a prolonged ASUU strike. He added quickly that these students are from Sokoto, Kebbi and Zamfara states and are made up of continuing and fresh beneficiaries.

According to him, as part of educational sector contribution, BUA Cement is also donating school tables and exercise books to about 20 schools within Sokoto metropolis and Wamakko Local Government.

"We are also renovating classroom blocks and conveniences at Abdurashed Adisa Raji School for physically challenged and all these projects and programmes are essential and part of our corporate social responsibility initiative, to better the lives and leaving conditions of our host communities and state," Engr Binji added.

He commended Sokoto State government "for its unconditional support to the company and for always supporting our efforts for better operations, he further narrated.

Appreciating BUA, the District Head of Gagi, Umar Sani said the borehole will go a long way in providing portable water for members of the community. Also, the District Head of Arkilla, Aliyu Hassan commended BUA Cement for continued provision of amenities to host communities in the area.

# Nigeria Customs generates N77.9million

SHEHU DANJUMA, Katsina

THE Controller of Katsina Customs Area Command, Alhaji Chedi Wada says the command has generated N77,803,825 as Duty Paid Values (DPV), on vehicles and general goods imported in the month of October, 2022.

Wada disclosed this while briefing newsmen in Katsina.

He noted that in the period under review, the sum of N20,000,000.00 was paid as a DPV on a DAF Truck, N9,450,000.00 for Honda Accord, N1,755,00 on Volkswagen Golf, N1,485,000 on a Toyota Tacoma Pickup.

According to him, others include; Toyota Corolla N3,105,000.00, BMW N1,755,000.00 and a Corolla LE NI,890,000.00.

The controller however said, on general goods, the service collected N8,969,400.00 from 302 bags of 50kg of foreign parboiled rice, N2,599,200.00 on 361

cartons of foreign spaghetti. The sum of N2,88,000.00 was collected for the 40 cartons of foreign macaroni, N600,000.00 on bales of second hand clothing, N553,575.00 on 122 Jerri cans of premium motor spirit (petroleum) among others.

"It will interest you to know to know that we generated the sum of N59,575,000.00 duty values on vehicles while the sum of N18,228,825.00 was collected for the general goods in our anti smuggling operations in the period under review".

"We therefore have a total of N77,803,825 for the vehicles and general goods which was collected," Wada said.

The Area Custom boss said that the attention of the Customs Service was drawn to a video that went virile with a deceitful narrative on extortion by Custom operatives.

"That story is not only fake

and mischievous but aimed to misinform the public. It is also aimed to tarnish the image of the service".

As far as we are concerned, there will be no hiding place for smugglers around the

Katsina borders because we are watching them"

"No amount of blackmail and intimidation would deter our officers and men executing their statutory responsibility to block any

# COP 27: Minister optimistic about expectations

From  
DARE AKOGUN, Egypt

THE Minister of Environment, Barr. Mohammed Abdullahi has expressed optimism that the expectations of Nigeria and Africa at COP 27 will be achieved as issues that are of concern to them are already in the front burner of agenda for discussions.

Speaking on the expectations of Nigeria at a conference dubbed Africa and action COP, the Minister of Environment who is also the head of Nigeria's delegation stated that amongst other issues, Nigeria will push for the implementation of the loss and damage issues.

According to him, "We are focused on ensuring that we bring the issue of loss and damage to the fore and we are already making progress in this regard.

"During the Pre-Cop engagement, the COP 27 President, Sameh Shoukry highlighted flood related issues with particular reference to Nigeria and Pakistan amongst other nations as one of the key issues on the agenda for discussion. Already, the issue of flood is linked to loss and damage and that is of priority to us as a nation, he said.

Speaking further, the Minister added that the Nigerian delegation will also focus on the African carbon market initiative

as it tries to kick start the framework for carbon trading.

He added that similar attention will also be given to the debt for climate swap aimed at calling the attention of developed countries on the impact of their industrialisation on the developing countries and the need for them to mitigate the impact on the continent of Africa and Nigeria in particular.

"In addition, Nigeria as the leader of the PAN African Agency for the Great Green Wall will focus on climate finance to support its activities in the Sahel Region particularly in the most endemic Northern states described as the front line states where there is fast approaching desert encroachment and of course wetland drying up. These and others are huge issues that we will be focusing on" Abdullahi affirmed.

Speaking on unfulfilled promises made to the developing countries by the developed countries during past COPs, the Minister stated that Nigeria will not take a know it all approach but will align its position with the African agenda that was agreed at Dakar meeting.

"Part of what we will do is to galvanise the action plan for Africa to push for a positive

climate funding action from the developed countries.

"African countries and developing countries indeed understand that funding is important in whatever position COP 27 will take," he posited.

As the leader of Nigeria's delegation and representative of President Muhammadu Buhari to COP 27, the Minister speaking on his plan to interface and engage with private sector and investor that could support the energy transition plan of Nigeria, stated that a number of bilateral meetings and engagements have been arranged to discuss funding from development partners and the private sector.

He added that what he intends to do is to capitalise on the GGW accelerator which is a window for financing the activities of the Great Green Wall member states.

Towards this end, a side meeting has been arranged with the sustainable energy for all donors that focus on climate finance, particularly carbon trading. "We are also working with Nigerian private enterprise amongst other development partners."

Furthermore, the Minister assured Nigerians that he and his team of negotiators will return to the country with a strong, dependable and bankable commitment from the development partner.



Ali



## SUNDAY MAGAZINE



## ASUU, FG feud: Challenges of unsolved problems

*continue from page 10*

Nonetheless, interventions have been made to explore the possibility of partial payments to lecturers. We look forward to a favourable consideration by His Excellency, President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, who has manifested his desire to what is prudent and necessary to resolve all outstanding issues'.

### **NLC insist on doing things right**

The NLC-NEC is determined to resolve the debacle by using the provisions of the labour laws, even as government has made up its mind on the issue. It has since 'asked the government to release the withheld salaries owed the university lecturers'. The last is yet to be heard concerning it.

The NLC through the communiqué also 'called on the Minister of Labour and Employment (Chris Ngige) to respect the provisions of Nigeria's Constitution, Trade Unions Act (CAP T14 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria), Conventions 87 and 98 of the International Labour Organization (ILO) on respect for trade union independence, promotion of tripartism and social dialogue in the exercise of his mandate as a minister.'

### **Condemnation of casualization of intellectuals**

Recall that ASUU's National Executive Council (NEC) was held to discuss the issue of the 'controversies trailing the payment of the mutilated salaries for its members for the month of October 2022'. While condemning the federal government's action allayed any fear of another industrial action. The NEC wondered why

government will condescend to pay just 18 days because it contravenes "all known rules of engagement in any contract of employment for academics the world over."

The statement after the meeting reads: "The action of the union was a display of manifest trust in the judiciary and other institutions and organs of government to always put national interest above all other considerations."

"This, we believe, as a union of thinkers, intellectuals, and patriots, will not only aid the process of amicable resolution of the crisis, but will also set the tone for smooth industrial relations between Government and Nigerian workers at large."

"NEC noted with dismay that paying academics on "pro-rata" basis, like casual workers, is unprecedented in the history of university oriented labour relations and therefore condemned this attempt to reduce Nigerian scholars to casual workers in its entirety."

### **Chapters condemn development: ASUU, CONUA kick**

The Academic Staff Union of Universities and the newly registered Congress of Nigerian Universities Academics (CONUA) have kicked against the payment of half salaries to their members for October. Some had alleged that government was disposed to paying CONUA in full rather than ASUU, if only it could be allegedly used to break the lecturers resolve.

Whether government succeeds or not, the bottom line is not about lecturers; it is about disturbing developments in a system which have refused to be 'honoured' by government over

the years with sufficient funds for research, infrastructure and welfare. Some have asked: Do politicians who occupy certain political office get paid when they stay away from office for a period? Why is the case of the lecturers different from what obtains in the system generally?

ASUU's National Vice President, Chris Piwuna, a former chairman of the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) in Plateau State, said he received his half salary last Thursday and found the development "insulting."

"Since I started working in the university system, this is the most insulting, humiliating and embarrassing experience I have experienced," Piwuna said. He threatened that Nigerians would hear from the union very soon.

The University of Jos and that of the University of Lagos (UNILAG) chapters have risen in condemnation of the development, but appealed to its members to remain calm. University of Jos had initially asked its members to stay away from the campus; however as at press time, it was alleged that that directive may have been rescinded. Authorities of the university had said lecturers would lecture their students from home.

ASUU Usmanu Danfodiyo University, (UDU), Sokoto, has accused the Minister of Labour and Employment, Chris Ngige, of attempts to polarise the union and create disharmony through selective and biased payment of lecturers' salaries at the university. This has been the opinion of several chapters of the union, a development that saw to the emergence of CONUA.

The statement read in part:

"On Monday, 31 October 2022 the Academic Staff Union of Universities, Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto (ASUU UDUS) Branch received information that a segment of academic staff in the College of Health Sciences (CHS) has been paid a backlog of seven months of their withheld salary (March to September).

"Our preliminary investigations, as to why only a section of academic staff in the university were paid, revealed that the payment was made due to a letter written to the Hon Minister of Finance instructing the exemption of some listed staff from the application of the "No work No Pay" rule.

UNILAG chapter of the union, Dele Ashiru, described the development as "insensitive and disheartening". Members are to remain calm and await further directives from the National Secretariat even in the face of

this brazen provocation and crass wickedness by this administration."

Niyi Sunmonu, National Coordinator of CONUA, 'described the development as unfortunate but appealed to members that all the contradictions would be resolved', saying that the national leadership of the union was working to right the "wrong."

He insisted according to reports, that his union was not on strike during the industrial strike embarked upon by ASUU, saying its petitions against the stoppage of its members' salaries have been submitted at the appropriate quarters.

For now, there is growing concern, even as the ripples effect as many fear that the system will continue to suffer from except measures are taken to address some of them if not all.

“  
**The statement after the meeting reads: "The action of the union was a display of manifest trust in the judiciary and other institutions and organs of government to always put national interest above all other considerations. "This, we believe, as a union of thinkers, intellectuals, and patriots, will not only aid the process of amicable resolution of the crisis, but will also set the tone for smooth industrial relations between Government and Nigerian workers at large.**  
”



# METRO-FOCUS

## Reawakening corporate social responsibility in Plateau

By HOSEA NYAMLONG

Corporate social responsibility (CSR) refers to strategies that companies put into action as part of corporate governance that are designed to ensure the company's operations are ethical and beneficial for the host society, especially the immediate community where they are located.

Despite the widely accepted ideal way of pursuing "shared value", this is more like creating economic value in ways that also create value for society.

Bearing the above in mind, one can say with authority that the issue of corporate social responsibility is nearly absent in Plateau State. For a state referred to as a civil service state, the presence of the few companies flourishing should be felt. Unfortunately, that's not the case.

Majority of them prefer to keep a low profile when it comes to making their host community better by providing social amenities within their means.

On this note, METRO FOCUS took a critical survey on some areas within the state capital that have major concentration of companies, but yet are in a deplorable state. There is nothing to show that the presence of the company in their environment is a plus, or that it has added value to their lives.

That is except the beautiful edifice that represents the company.

It believed that CSR goes beyond earning money for shareholders. It's concerned with protecting the interests of all stakeholders, such as employees, customers, suppliers, and the communities in which businesses operate. Examples of CSR include adopting humane employee practices, caring for the environment, and engaging in philanthropic endeavours.

Moreover, some people contend that the purpose of corporate social responsibility is to give back to the community, take part in philanthropic causes, and provide positive social value. Businesses are increasingly turning to CSR to make a difference and build a positive brand around their company and also the citizens of those communities feel their impact.

To a large extent, this not feasible in most areas that companies are located in Plateau state in particular. For reasons best known to them, companies on the Plateau believe that if they employ members of their host community as guards or cleaners, they should be applauded.

Areas like Jonah Jang road, formerly Old Airport Road, Jos International Brewery(JIB) Road, Nasco

Park, Vitafoam, Jos Steel Rolling Mills and a host of other companies situated within Abattoir which are the host communities to these companies are faced with the issue of lack of social amenities, especially bad roads which is key to gain access to the companies.

The big question that is begging for answer is, to whom should the citizens residing within these communities cry out? Government or the companies owners?

It is not out of place for Plateau State to borrow a leaf from Gombe State which has a committee



saddled with the responsibility to get in touch with all companies residing in Gombe to find out what they intend to do as regard corporate social responsibility.

It is expected that as part of the social corporate responsible to the host community, they provide social amenities like portable water, accessible road which is going to be beneficial to them too, electricity, employment, hospital, schools, recreational centres etc.

Companies fail to understand that a happy host community will ensure safety of your company no matter what storms come. A good example is how the residents of State and Federal Low cost Jos

stood their ground and refused criminal elements to destroy Industrial Training Fund, ITF headquarters during one crisis in Jos. They know what they are benefitting from ITF.

By extension, corporate social responsibility are environmental responsibility, ethical responsibility, philanthropic responsibility, and economic responsibility. However, companies can also consider different forms of CSR; such as diversity, inclusion of what particular needs of the community and also the wellbeing of employees which are paramount. Nonetheless, corporate social

responsibility is important to both the companies and the host communities, because it enables businesses to use their resources to take positive action in the name of the business to better the lives of people within.

This is crucial in today's world, where social responsibility is a number one priority for potential employees, customers and the community.

Mostly, companies often claim that they already "give back to the community."

They support this claim by citing the amount of money donated by their employees, the number of hours their employees volunteer

on their own time, and the number of board seats management holds with different non-profit's.

It is observed that management often use this case to avoid further investment into the communities where they have a footprint.

By proposing a CSR strategy that aligns with the revenue streams of the individual company, change makers can ensure that both societal and business benefits are realized for the benefit of both parties, the companies and communities.





# NATIONAL POPULATION COMMISSION PLATEAU STATE



## RECRUITMENT OF ADHOC STAFF FOR THE 2023 POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS

The National Population Commission invites applications from eligible candidates to serve as adhoc staff in the 2023 Population and Housing Census in the following categories:

- ✓ Facilitators
- ✓ Field Coordinators
- ✓ Training Centre Administrators
- ✓ Monitoring and Evaluation Officers
- ✓ Data Quality Managers
- ✓ Quality Assurance Officers
- ✓ Supervisors and;
- ✓ Enumerators

### HOW TO APPLY

All interested applicants are to register on the Census e-Recruitment portal (<http://2023censusadhocrecruitment.nationalpopulation.gov.ng>). To be considered for consideration and engagement, all candidates must have the following documents:

- ◆ National Identification Number (NIN)
- ◆ Functional Gmail account
- ◆ Functional Phone Number
- ◆ Functional/Operational Commercial Bank Account (No Student/NYSC Account or Micro Finance Bank Account)
- ◆ Relevant educational qualifications

### DATE

The 2023 Census e-recruitment portal will be open on **27th October 2022** and closes on **10th December 2022**, However a temporary closure will take place between from **7th to 13th November** for audit and assessment.

### AREAS OF ASSIGNMENT

Prospective adhoc staff can only apply on the census portal in areas where they are resident and will be deployed accordingly.

For more information on the e-recruitment, please contact our hotlines (07000236787) **or email: [info@nationalpopulation.gov.ng](mailto:info@nationalpopulation.gov.ng)** or any of our social media platforms.



YOU COUNT, BE COUNTED



[natpopcom](https://twitter.com/natpopcom)



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[www.nationalpopulation.gov.ng](http://www.nationalpopulation.gov.ng)

**MRS. CECILIA A. DAPOET**  
**Hon. Federal Commissioner, Plateau State**  
**ANNOUNCER**





**Road Runner**  
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**SAFER TOGETHER**

## Becoming a better driver

### CRITICAL self-awareness: the key to safe driving skill

Acknowledging the need to change attitude is difficult because the evidence is statistical and most people trust their own experience rather than statistics on pages. If you are a fast or aggressive driver, you may not make the connection between your attitude and the way you drive even if you had had a crash before. Research has shown that drivers have a strong tendency to blame the road conditions or other drivers rather than themselves for the crashes they cause. This explains why there is a strong tendency for drivers to repeatedly make the same mistakes and become involved in the same kinds of crashes.

A fully professional approach to driving requires taking an objective look at the facts, being prepared and where there is evidence, discarding inappropriate attitudes and developing a critical awareness of your own attitudes and capabilities.

### These are the key steps to achieving this critical self-awareness:

- .Acknowledge that attitudes affect driving performance
- .Be aware of your own attitudes and recognize that they affect your risk of having a crash
- .Recognize that you are vulnerable
- .Make safety your primary concern in all your driving decisions
- .Consider your own experience of near misses

or crashes and what you can learn from them

.Carry through changes in attitude to your driving performance by applying them in every driving situation

### Concentration and alertness

These are also key mental aspects of driving skill. What are the factors that can hinder concentration and alertness?

Our ability to handle information about the environment is limited. We handle this by giving more attention and concentration to some parts of the environment than others (selective process theory). This is important in driving because we react most quickly to things happening in the part of the environment in which we are concentrating.

One way of seeing this is to imagine your field of view as a picture -you can see the whole picture but you can only concentrate on one part of it at a time. If you concentrate your vision on a small area, you are less aware of the whole picture. If you scan different areas of the environment in turn, you become more aware of the picture as a whole.

### Scanning the environment

Drivers who can rapidly scan the whole environment, looking for different kinds of hazards, have a lower risk of crash than those who concentrate on one area. There are several ways you can develop your ability to do this:

- ❖ Move your eyes around
- ❖ Look for hazard in any shape or size and from any direction
- ❖ Develop your sensitivity

to the variety of possible hazards in different driving situations-this depends on learning, experience and a commitment to developing this awareness.

### Looking but not seeing.

Whatever we see depends to a large extent on what we expect to see. You may have experienced at one time or the other, a situation where you pull out and narrowly miss a bicycle coming from the direction in which you just looked. Errors of this nature are commonplace because drivers are generally looking out for cars and lorries rather than other road users smaller in size such as bicycles, motorcycles, pedestrians, animals, hence they fail to see them. When we concentrate, we do not just look at a particular part of a scene, we look rather for some particular type of objects that we expect to see and react quickly to them.

Conversely, we often fail to see objects that we do not expect to see. In looking out for cars and lorries, drivers can become blind to smaller and less expected road users. This explains why road traffic authorities and traffic road management professionals insist that smaller and more vulnerable road users go extra mile to make themselves visible to drivers by adorning themselves with bright and reflective attires. A group of pedestrians strolling at night should ensure they carry white lights in front and red light behind. These are measures to promote visibility and prevent road traffic crashes.



## NEWS

### COCIN Presidents daughter laid to rest

By DUMAH RANDONG

IT was a solemn moment for family members, friends and sympathizers as they gathered to pay their last respects to the late Barrister Alheri, daughter of the President Church of Christ in Nations, COCIN, Rev Dr Amos Mohzo who died following a protracted illness.

Governor Simon Lolong who in a condolence message at the funeral service which took place at the COCIN Head-Quarters Church in Jos, Wednesday, described the death as a great loss not only to the family, Church but the entire state.

Represented by his Deputy, Professor Sonni Tyoden, Lalong said as motals, death was hanging over everyone it comes at the time God decides.

"It's only God that will comfort all of us and I want us to also be consoled by the attributes of Alheri as stated here," the governor encouraged.

President of the Church of Christ in Nations, Rev Dr Amos Mohzo his Wife, Deborah said their late daughter was a humble and obedient child.

They added that the family



Mohzo

will not loose faith in God no matter the trials they going through.

The deceased husband, Pastor Jelkyes Samuel said his wife was a blessing to his life and thanked the church and those who identified with them during her time of sickness.

Recounting the trials, temptations and the struggles they went through which were quite enormous, Pastor Samuel appreciated God for the life of his late wife.

Rev Joseph Damar in a sermon, Titled: "How to face death with faith," said only God could determine the death of everyone and as such Christians should not allow challages of life to take them away from their faith.

Rev Joseph Ajina of COCIN Local Church Council, Dashik, while performing the funeral rites, told believers to continue to trust God and never allow anything to separate them from the love of Christ.

### Premier Hospital Tambuwal at 70% completion

From ANENE AIKE, SOKOTO

THE contracted by the Sokoto state Government at Tambuwal LGA of the state, has reached over 70% completion seven months after the agreed date.

The Tambuwal Premiere hospital was one of the three marked to be constructed at SabonBirni, Binji and Tambuwal LGAs representing the three Senatorial District were all awarded since the year 2020 August and are at 70% completion.

It could be recalled that the formal handing over of the construction site to the contracting firm, SBMC Construction took place in Tambuwal town of Tambuwal local government area of Sokoto state on Wednesday, August 12020.

The handing over was done in the presence of officials from the Ministry of Works, Ministry of Land and Housing, Ministry of Justice and led by the client Ministry of Healt.

That Governor Aminu Waziri Tambuwal, who paid unscheduled visit to the project site on February 26, 2022, was asked when the project would be completed but he directed the question to the site

Engineer, Babatunde who promised it would be completed in six months from the date of the Governor's visit.

When members of the Sokoto State Council of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) undertook project tour to the site at Tambuwal on Monday, the Quantity Surveyor of the construction firm, Ayodele Adeosun said the project is at 70 percent completion level.

He assured that the firm will complete the project once funds were made available when due even as the journalists were led on the projects tour by the Director of Works of Tambuwal Local

government, MainasaraAbubakarKilgori .Among and other projects visited were expanded administrative blocks at the School of Nursing and Midwifery, completed 60KW Solar PV mini grid, upgraded General Hospital Tambuwal, Modern Abbatoir, 30 kilometers and the rest.

The Vice Chairman of NUJ, Abbas Tukur who led the journalists, commended the state government for the projects and also called on the state government to make funds available for contractors handling different projects in the area for timely completion of all the ongoing projects.



Tambuwal



## SUNDAY FEATURE

## Significance of Ofo to the Igbo

**Traditional Igbo political system is rooted in the very structure of Igbo society exhibited democratic orientation, individualistic achievement, motivation, egalitarian tendencies and lack of hierarchical centralization. All these notwithstanding, the system has a high degree of solidarity and stability within beneath the apparent picture of compartmentalization. MICHAEL BERNICE writes.**

**T**HE Igbo socio-cultural system like other pre-colonial societies has been adequate for coping with most of their problems especially in respect to settling of personal and group disputes. The mobilization of community resources for communal purposes, the taking of decision as to peace and war with neighbouring people etc. Political stability did not necessarily mean the absence of conflicts but there were in existence, effective mechanisms and institutions for effectively resolving conflicts.

Before and after the advent of the Europeans, the Igbo played many unique roles in formation of means and standards. One of the ultimate sources of political authority and sometimes of political decisions was the day-to-day use of Ofo (ancestral cult staff) as the physical medium for the invocation of the powers of "Ani" (Earth goddess) and the ancestors. The Ofo was one of the powerful instruments of unification which bound all the societies in Igbo land. Its role in the traditional politics of Igbo society cannot be overemphasized. Being one of the uniting forces weiding the various levels together, the Ofo tried to avoid tyranny and excessive utilization of power. It implied that there was no authoritarianism.

The concept of Ofo in traditional Igbo society has remained basically the same. It is a reverend symbol by virtue of the belief that it is a representative of the ancestors. However, despite the Igbo rich culture as exemplified by Ofo institution, western influence has eroded its traditional values to a large extent. In spite of this, Ofo institution is still a strong uniting force in Igbo traditional set up. In other words, contrary to the Eurocentric views that western influence destroyed most of Igbo cultural values, it did not prevent many traditionalists from practicing their faith.

#### The origin and meaning of Ofo

The origin is not clearly known although it is a household name in Igbo land. Ofo is a weapon which every Igbo man always identifies with because it signifies his innocence and clear conscience. Hence, the popular saying "ejim ofo na ogu" (Truth and innocence all my weapon). This concept is the same in many Igbo societies. It is the "Olu oha" Olu mmuo na mmadu, "olu munuo na mmadu (voice of the people, voice of the living and the dead. Generally, Ofo represent political, ritual authority, power and justice. Thus the institution of Ofo is practically the defender of the weak and the weapon of the innocent. It is further viewed as a revered symbol by virtue of the belief that it is a representative of the ancestors. It is a link between the people and their heroic progenitors.

The origin of Ofo dates back to antiquity. As mentioned earlier, it is not completely clear when and how it was adopted in various communities in Igbo society but it was accepted by the people. Every Igbo community faithfully accepted it as binding on their lives.

Ofo sticks are obtained from a special stick called - Osi Ofo botanically known as detarium Senegalense. It is usually black due to constant rubbing of blood and feathers from fowls and other animals sacrificed on it for effectiveness. In most parts of Igbo society, Ofo was categorized into



four parts. They include:

a) The village ofo (Ofo ukwu): This category of ofo was held by the oldest kindred of the village.

b) The ofo of the kindred: This was held by the first male child of every kindred "Okpara".

c) The ofo of the family. This was held by the "Okpara" first son of every family. The family referred to the extended family which consists of father, mother, children, cousins, nephews, uncles and grand-children etc.

d) The fourth category of ofo was held by diviners and priests. These included custodians of oracles and deities.

The institution of ofo was highly respected before the emergence of Christianity. Generally, ofo performed many important roles in the socio-political and religious lives of the people. It was a symbol of authority, instrument of power and acted as a legal seal for every decision of the community. This legal seal was secured by stroking ofo on the ground and uttering curses on anyone who would contravene the particular decision of the assembly (Amala) kindred or village. This was followed by shouts of (unanimity) "iha" by the people which literally means let it be so. Ofo is like the bible to the Igbo.

Secondly, Ofo was a status symbol and judicial instrument. Its presence in any judicial proceedings was respected. Everybody must be willing to speak the truth before the ofo in order to escape divine sanction. An ofo oath was often taken as the last resort to determine the validity or authenticity of any evidence. The oath was taken when difficult to ascertain the truth from human evidence. Parties involved in cases were asked by their relatives to examine themselves carefully before taking the oath because the end result was instance death if taken without proper examination.

Thirdly, Ofo as legal instrument was used in validating decisions of the community and also helpful to ensure political stability. It was used as an instrument of sanction and for settling disputes. It equally ensured

peace, harmony and conformity.

Fourthly, it expressed the will of the community, both the living and the dead ancestors and the gods. Its presence fostered in all a sense of unity and cohesion because it was a dreaded cult.

This was because of the belief that ofo could kill instantly. It was used to ostracize any erring member of the community in Igbo society.

The Igbo believed that ofo could help a man get children. A woman who was unable to bear children was often asked to offer sacrifices to the ofo for fertility. However, a woman who was involved in extra marital affairs cannot eat anything placed before ofo. If she does it, she must confess and mention the men she committed extra marital affairs with her and she will appease the Ofo before her husband would eat her food.

The Igbo believed in the protection of ofo institution since it was regarded as symbol of justice and sanction. It was respected in its entirety even after Christianity had made its encroachment. It was held in great awe and constantly in almost every issue in Igbo society. One important point to note about ofo was that it never harmed an innocent man. It was a measure of uprightiness. It was an object to religious symbolism loaded with spiritual power and authority.

The Igbo theory of leadership was based on the significance of Ofo. It was always used by the elders in all major events in Igbo life: offering sacrifices decision making at meetings and oath taking required the use of Ofo to authenticate the exercise.

Finally, it was the Igbo traditional symbol of justice and truth which occupied a place of honour in religious life of the people. Ofo was believed to have come from 'Chukwu' who wanted to be used by leaders of different categories in order to promote justice and fair play in the areas of authority.

#### The role of Ofo holders in pre-colonial Igbo society

The Ofo holders could have been neither priest nor magicians with supernatural functions. They were

however supported by the supernatural power of their Ofo. In some parts of Igboland, the holder of ofo was normally the oldest (Okpara) of the kindred, village or family he belonged. Consequently, the ofo had a mystical aura, power and influence. The ofo holder was adjudged to be impartial and morally upright. He was the spiritual head and the custodian of traditional authority of his people. As the spiritual head, he performed sacrifice involving members of his family and other kinsmen.

Rule of succession was very simple. It was hereditary and the concept of primogeniture was adopted. In other words, the first son often succeeded the father and nobody had the right to reject him. However, in some areas of Igboland, the immediate younger brother of the ofo holder could take over if there was no son from the previous Ofo holder. The youngest brother could briefly hold the ofo for his elder brother's son if he was still tender on the death of his father. Any rejection of the ofo could result to calamity for the people. In severe cases, its rejection could wipe out a whole village.

The "Okpara" eldest son must ensure that the ofo did not touch the ground. It must be hung up on the roof when not in use. It is evidently in some intimate connection with Ala (the earth goddess) and must be kept from contact with the ground except when it is being ceremonially used. It is usually kept up in the roof of a man's room when not in use and carried on his shoulder when he carries it with him.

An ofo holder was expected to appease it by offering some sacrifices. Some pepper was chewed and spit on the ofo requesting it to spare the life of the holder. The ofo was equally asked to remove all obstacles on the ways of the holder. The ofo holder was expected to be impartial in his dealings with others. He could as well be killed by the ofo if found wanting in discharging his duties or his sacred functions. The affirmation of innocence was known as "Itu ogu" and was often done by

the holder. Finally, he regarded the institution of ofo as a guardian of the moral code as well as an important social sanction.

#### The effects of European presence on the ofo institution

The advent of Europeans to Igbo land marked the beginning of the decline of many traditional institutions. The decline of traditional values was witnessed when the missionaries introduced Christianity using different strategies to attract adherents.

The creation of warrant chiefs also marked a turning point in the traditional politics of the Igbo. The colonial master never took into consideration that each village had a traditional head who held the big Ofo. The Europeans were ignorant of the prominent positions occupied by the Ofo holders in Igbo society. His authority became undermined with advent of Christianity. Similarly, the role of Ofo in settlement of disputes became eroded. Many criminals and ostracized citizens embraced Christianity and disregarded the powers of Ofo. Infact, the advent of Christianity to Igboland to a large extent, informed the beginning of modern Igbo society.

#### The role of Ofo in contemporary Igbo society

In the pre-colonial Igbo society, the ofo was a symbol of authority. It was the Bible equivalent in Igbo society. The situation is no longer practiced in modern Igbo society, in contemporary Igbo society. The Bible is used instead of the Ofo. Ofo no longer plays the central place.

Meeting are commenced with Christian prayers instead of invoking the presence of Ofo as it was the case in pre-colonial era. Offering, sacrifices and prayers to Ofo in the morning is no longer widely practiced. Similarly, the offering of sacrifices with kolanut and pepper has been replaced with Christian practices in some parts of Igbo society. The institution of Ofo is no longer regarded as the great adjunditor. It is disregarded when cases are settled. Its importance has gone into oblivion for many Igbo people.

The ofo in contemporary Igbo society has lost respect and privileges that were formally given to them in pre-colonial era.

Finally, many ofo holders have become Christians and do not participate any longer in traditional practices. Many rejected their ofo and others handed theirs to their brothers when they became converted to their new faith. The cumulative impact of these changes is the apparent total or near collapse of traditional practices in most Igbo communities.

Nevertheless, despite colonial distortion and marginalization, the institution of ofo remains to many, the ultimate symbol of truth and justice.

In conclusion, contrary to the Europeans views that western influence destroyed the entire traditional Igbo land, it did not prevent few traditionalists from practicing their faith. Ofo is an important aspect of Igbo culture that should not be eroded. If it were not eroded of the rate of criminality in Igbo society be minimized.

**Bernice Ego is from Institute of Archaeology and Museum Studies Jos, Plateau State.**



# SUNDAY FEATURE

## AM Kangubo: Promoting history, culture of Tangale

**Kalorgu is one of the nine major clans (kormana) in Kaltungo section of the Tangale East (Tanglem mo ra) speaking people of Kaltungo Chieftom. Others are Kalaring, Termana, Baganje, Popandi, Poshereng, Kaleh, Okra and Aya. Yet other major clans of the Tangalem mo ra are found in Ture, Shonghom and Tangalton (Tanglem mo tong) that is Billiri or West Tangale. GONI YUSUF LAWONDO writes.**

**T**HE people of Kalorgu are part of the larger Tangale speaking people, or ethnic group, found in Kaltungo Chieftom, Tangale Chieftom and Akko Local Government Area, of Gombe State. They are Tangale because the word Tangle or Tangale (which is a Hausa corruption of the term), refers to both the people and the language that they speak. Various dialects of Tangale language are spoken in Kaltungo, Ture, Shonghom, Billiri and Akko. They are therefore united ethnically by the language even while found in different geographical and political administrative areas.

The tradition of origin and migration of the Tangale people trace their roots to the east. The east often refers to Middle East where "Yemen" is regarded as the actual point of origin. From Yemen, the Tangale migrated through Northeast Africa to the Lake Chad region in Central and West Africa. They were believed to have crossed a large body of water or "pali" before settling for some time in the Lake Chad area of present Borno State. The body could have been the Mega-Chad lake which is today the Lake Chad. The Tangale people settled at a place called "Mak" before migrating further south to the Gongola basin. In the tradition of eastern origin, Mak is sometimes regarded as the actual point of origin of all the Tangale speaking people. Mak was part of the ancient Kanuri Empire of Kanem-Bornu ruled by Mais. The title of "Mai" used by all Tangale people is connected to their historical origin from Borno.

The Tangale people migrated in seven stages before reaching their present settlements. They migrated from Mak to Kubo, Poduka, Pokwaka, Hinna, Tungo and finally present Kaltungo town. This migratory route is found in the tradition of Kaltungo, Shonghom, Ture and Billiri have other versions. The sixth settlement, Tungo is the *Tungo-Kolwa hills area where Willi, Pokwangli, Kampandi and Kolwa* are all located today. The remains of the ancient settlement of the east Tangale on Tungo Hill are still visible today. The three major groups including Kaltungo, Ture and Shonghom also called "pan-robit kunung" or the tripod fire place, settled there before moving to the present location. The name Kaltungo derived from the sixth settlement. It means "Kalo Tungo" or meeting at Tungo. It therefore has deep historical significance.

From Mak the Tangale migrated as one group into the middle Gongola basin or present Gombe area. The Tangale were the first to settle in the area before other groups arrived. During the migration they were led by their



leader called "Mai Kambugut". He was guided by a stone "pandi" which gave direction to the movement. Wherever the stone moved and settled, the people followed. The resting place of the stone is in Ture today. The reasons for migration were dislocations from wars, attacks by insects (bitimbini), and need for water and good agricultural land. It is believed that by the middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the Tangale were settled in their present location. The East Tangale or Tanglem ra, are believed to have found and displaced a group of people known as "Komda" before occupying their present homeland including Kalorgu kormana.

Like other Tangale people, Kalorgu are organized into lineages or "Tubmana". Each lineage traces their origin to the same ancestor. The lineages or Tubmana are organized into two major sections: "Potara" and "Pidmoki". Some of the Tubmana in Potara are *Aya, Kalaujen, Kalgomo, Ok'are, Piyangai, Tuldibit, Kwe* etc. Those in Pidmoki are *Kalgunji, Kanguli, Kaldok, Tulungaka, Okra, Kalbandi, Tulgada* etc.

Kalorgu has a very rich history. The people were and are still hardworking farmers. No wonder after defeating the *Komda* in the pre-colonial period, many later went back to the fertile farm lands in Willi and Pokwangli to cultivate the ancestral land. That is why members of different Tubmana are found in both places. In the pre-colonial period, the people were brave and skillful hunters. The women too are industrious and hardworking. They supported their husbands who practiced "Wune" during the farming season. The husbands slept on the farms in farm huts or "Kundur" in order to start work early and protect the crops. Such practices are needed today to guide against thieves and marauding herdsmen.

In the colonial period, Kalorgu emerged as an important place in the history of Kaltungo Chieftom. The missionaries, Rev. John Hall and Mr. C. Gordon Beachem arrived and established the first Sudan Interior Mission (SIM) station at Kalorgu in 1917. Their station called "Kamishon" became a centre of learning and gospel propagation. The first convert in

Tangale/Waja, Shiji Karga was from Kalorgu. He became the language teacher of Pobe Mr. Hall. From Kalorgu Christianity spread to all parts of Tangale/Waja.

Missionary activities also introduced western education. Many sons and daughters of Kalorgu became initial beneficiaries. Members of new professions emerged in form of hospital workers, teachers, carpenters, masons, tailors, Native Authority (NA) employees etc. Education transformed Kalorgu society into a modern entity. Her sons and daughters are found in different sectors of the national and global economy and society today, as engineers, architects, surveyors, lawyers, politicians, military and para-military personnel, technocrats, academicians and even IT experts.

Kalorgu also produced the first modern leadership under the Native Authority system in Kaltungo. In 1980 Mai Umaru Lamayi, from Okra Tubmana emerged as the new head of Kaltungo District with powers extending to other non Tangale ethnic groups. His first palace was built in Kalorgu. The royal

family of Lamayi Dynasty is therefore part and parcel of Kalorgu, even though it belongs to all. A treasury or "Baitilmani" was also established by the palace. In 1948, the palace moved to Sabon Layi with the appointment of his son, Mai Muhammadu Omar. The movement of the palace to Sabon Layi led to the relocation of many Kalorgu people there. That is why members of different Tubmana have their relations in Kalaring and Sabon Layi. But they are part and parcel of Kalorgu. These developments also contributed to religious diversity. Some members of Kalorgu who moved embraced Islam which their children practice today. Nevertheless, the unity of the people remains through blood relationships. This must be emphasized and encouraged. *Am Kangubo* is certainly one way of doing so. But our daily interactions should and must reflect our bond of unity.

A vibrant and thriving market was also established when the palace was in Kalorgu. It was located at "Tuldwang". The market declined when a new one was established at Sabon Layi. The movement of the palace and the market led to reference to Kalorgu as "Tsohon gari" or Old Town. But today the right name Kalorgu has been restored.

As a result of its place in history, Kalorgu has emerged as the last hope for the revival and sustainability of Tangale culture today. The practice of *Am Kangubo* is therefore very significant not only for promoting unity among our people, reestablishing family ties but also promoting the history and culture of our people.

It is an opportunity to teach and remind our children and youths of our history and culture especially our Tangale language, cuisines (local food delicacies), songs and dance. And above all values of respect for elders. By now our children would have tasted *edmamu, kwagshak, shinga* etc. Let our daughters in diaspora do the cooking of local cuisines next time at the next *Am Kangubo*.

Even more important is the communal spirit of being our brothers' keepers. The old practices of family and communal work "Wuten Ape" and sharing of grains by the well to do during "Appo taba", opening of the grain barns, have died out due to changes in society and economy. But they ought to be revived and practiced in modern forms. Our salaries and incomes are our barns today. We need to support each other.

**Goni Yusuf Lawondo, Assistant Director Research (Ethnography) National Museum, Jos.**



# SUNDAY PEOPLE

## PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN COUNCIL HOSTS PATRONS AND ADVISERS

The All Progressives Congress (APC) Presidential Campaign Council, Director General, Rt. Hon. Simon Bako Lalong (CON) last week hosted Patrons and Advisers to a dinner at the Campaign Headquarters in Abuja



From left are, APC National Chairman, Sen. Abdullahi Adamu, APC Presidential Candidate, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, his Vice, Sen. Kashim Shettima, Senate President, Sen. Ahmad Lawal and the D.G of the Campaign Council, Rt. Hon. Simon Bako Lalong



Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu (right) putting heads together the APC National Chairman, Sen. Abdullahi Adamu



Sen. Danujma Goje (2nd left) Sen. Don Etebiet and other Patrons and Advisers of the Campaign Council at the dinner



Representative of the APC Governors' Forum, Dave Umahi (middle) with Governors Yahaya Bello of Kogi State (left) and Abubakar Sani Bello of Niger State at the dinner



APC National Chairman, Sen. Abdullahi Adamu, Sen. Joshua Chibi Dariye and the Director General, PCC, Rt. Hon. Simon Bako Lalong (CON) exchanging pleasantries



Former Senate President, Sen. Ken Nnamani (left) with Sen. Jack Tilley-Gyado



Hon. Abike Dabiri-Erewa (OON) with the Chief of Staff to the DG PCC, Hon. Yakubu Dati



Director of Press Affairs to the DG, PCC, Dr. Makut Simon Macham (left) and the Manager News, Nigerian Television Authority (NTA) Headquarters, Abuja, Gabriel Odu

Photos: DANLADI DUK



## SUNDAY SPORTS

## Birmingham to host event in 2026



**Birmingham impressively hosted the Commonwealth Games earlier this year**

**B**IRMINGHAM has been chosen to host the European Athletics Championships in 2026.

The renovated Alexander Stadium, which was used when the Commonwealth Games took place in the city earlier this year, will be the venue for the event.

It will be the first time the Championships have been held in the United Kingdom.

UK Athletics (UKA) chief executive Jack Buckner said it was "wonderful news for athletics".

He added: "UKA has held a long-time wish to deliver this event and we thank European Athletics for its faith in entrusting us with its most important competition.

"Our vision for the

Championships is about record-breaking ticket sales and an amazing atmosphere for athletes to be inspired inside and outside the stadium.

"We have promised to deliver an amazing, innovative and game-changing Championships, and we're excited we can now put this plan into action."

Budapest, in Hungary, had been a rival to Birmingham to host the event in 2026 but pulled out.

"Hosting the European Athletics Championships will be a fantastic opportunity to build on the legacy of the Commonwealth Games earlier this year and I know the British public will get behind the athletes and create a brilliant atmosphere in the Alexander Stadium," said UK Sport chief executive Sally Munday.

"We've seen throughout 2022 the significant economic and social benefits of hosting big sporting events in this country and hosting this mega-event will deliver huge benefits for the city of Birmingham, the West Midlands region and the whole of the United Kingdom."

## Woods to return at Hero World Challenge in the Bahamas

**T**IGER Woods has announced that he will return to action in next month's Hero World Challenge in the Bahamas.

Woods, 46, has not played since the Open Championship at St Andrews in July, when he missed the cut.

The 15-time major winner, who suffered severe leg injuries in a car crash last year, has only played nine competitive rounds in 2022.

**T**HERE was nothing "dodgy" about a drink prepared for Novak Djokovic during Saturday's Paris Masters semi-final win, says his wife Jelena.

**BBC SPORT** said that, a video showing Djokovic's physio Ulises Badio mixing a drink while being shielded by his team has been viewed 15 million times on social media.

Jelena Djokovic wrote on Twitter: "I don't see anything dodgy."

Serb Djokovic, who beat Greece's Stefanos Tsitsipas before losing in Sunday's final, has not commented.

The 21-time Grand Slam champion, who was seeking a record-extending seventh title at the Paris Masters, held off a spirited Tsitsipas fightback to win 6-2 3-6 7-6 (7-4).

He lost in three sets to 19-year-old Dane Holger Rune in the final.

The video led to questions on social media about what was in the mixture and why Djokovic's team were attempting to hide it.

## Djokovic wife says 'nothing dodgy' about Paris Masters drink



**Novak and Jelena Djokovic married in 2014**

Jelena Djokovic said: "I see people trying to be private about their business in a world where everyone feels like they have every right to point a camera at you whenever they want. Apparently, wanting/trying to be private makes you dodgy nowadays.

"He will talk when he is ready to talk. Sit a bit in silence. Mind yourself more. Not everything you see is controversial. It

could be private. Is that allowed?"

Djokovic, who is an advocate of alternative health care, was seen inhaling a powder during his victory over Nick Kyrgios in the Wimbledon final in June.

Djokovic later described it as a "magic potion", saying: "It's going to come out as one of the supplement, let's say, lines that I'm doing right now with drink and a few other things."

## McKibbin: Comparisons to McIlroy 'don't faze' 19-year-old



**McKibbin**

**N**ORTHERN Irish 19-year-old Tom McKibbin says comparisons to compatriot and world number one Rory McIlroy "do not faze him any more".

**BBC SPORT** said that, McKibbin secured his DP World Tour card for next season with a superb closing 66 at the Challenge Tour's Grand Final.

"I don't bother with comparisons any more. I try and stay out of it, don't listen to any of that," said McKibbin.

The teenager is the youngest Irish golfer since McIlroy to clinch a Tour card.

"Being compared [to Rory] is obviously a huge honour. I've heard it for so long, seven or eight years now, that it doesn't even faze me any more. I'm used to it," added the Galgorm Castle touring professional.

"Rory has been phenomenal. I've got to play a lot of golf with him and pick his brain. That has been a huge help."

McKibbin went into last week's event in Majorca 15th in the second-tier tour's rankings and needing to remain in the top 20 to earn a full tour card.

After opening rounds of 73, 73 and 70, McKibbin had work to do, having dropped to 17th in the projected rankings.

However, his seven-birdie, six-under-par 66 sealed his card for next season as he finished in a share of sixth place in the tournament and 10th in the Challenge Tour rankings.

His best performances this season were a share of third at the Cape Town Open and second place at the Irish Challenge at the K Club.

McKibbin, who like McIlroy hails from Hollywood in County Down, also finished tied for 10th in the DP World Tour's World Invitational at Galgorm Castle in August.

"It's been a goal of mine for a while and I've finally ticked that off," said McKibbin of sealing his DP World Tour card.

"There has been expectation but I haven't put myself under any pressure. I've just tried to take every tournament as it comes and see how well I could do really.

"When I started to play well in the summer that made me think and see how far up the rankings I could go. My game has elevated.

"You have to try and do well, finish high up every single week."

McKibbin, the 2015 World Junior Champion, turned professional 18 months ago after missing out on Walker Cup

selection and also seeing his plans of undertaking a collegiate golf scholarship in the US not coming to pass because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

"I've been looking forward to this moment for a while, to have achieved it is pretty special," he said.

"I'll sit down in the next few days and have a look at next season's calendar but I'll probably start in South Africa in

a few weeks.

"The Challenge Tour is a good stepping stone to feeling comfortable playing tournaments every week, maybe four or five events in a row, so I'll take that experience into next year.

"I've done a lot in a short space of time but this is up there with the best. My game has got better every year since I was a kid going up the levels."

Match. in Florida on 10 December.

Spieth is expected to be in the 20-man Bahamas field, alongside players including Scottie Scheffler, Jon Rahm, Justin Thomas, Shane Lowry and Tommy Fleetwood.

Woods previously admitted he will never play a full tournament schedule again after his car accident in Los Angeles in February 2021.

He finished 47th in the Masters this year and withdrew from the US PGA Championship following a third round of 79.

Meanwhile, Tommy Fleetwood will captain Great Britain and Ireland and Francesco Molinari will lead Continental Europe in next year's inaugural Hero Cup.

Two 10-man teams will compete in foursomes, fourballs and singles at Abu Dhabi Golf Club from 13-15 January.

The contest is intended to give potential 2023 Ryder Cup players experience of team matchplay events.

"The Hero Cup is a great idea. I felt like it benefited me when I played in similar events," said Italian Molinari.

England's Fleetwood said it would be "a little strange at first" competing against Molinari, his playing partner on the European team at the 2018 Ryder Cup.

"The Hero Cup is a fantastic way for players to compete in team matchplay, which is something both of us have always relished."

England's Luke Donald, Europe's Ryder Cup captain after Henrik Stenson defected to LIV Golf, will be in attendance in Abu Dhabi.

He will name his team for the Ryder Cup at Marco Simone in Rome, from September 29, at the start of that month.



**Woods suffered serious injuries in a car crash in February 2021**



# SUNDAY SPORTS



## Mane included in World Cup squad despite injury

**D**ESPITE a 'serious' injury, Sadio Mane has been named in Senegal's 26-man squad for the 2022 FIFA World Cup that kicks off in Qatar on 20 November.

Senegal's head coach Aliou Cisse disclosed in a press conference that the injured Mane will be part of the Teranga Lions' squad route despite the fitness worries.

According to Cisse, "We are monitoring the situation and have sent one of our doctors to assess him."

"On Thursday, Mane spent the whole day in Munich before travelling to Austria for further tests. The good news is that he

does not need an operation. "We want the situation to evolve in two-three weeks. I don't want to rule him out," the gaffer made this known at the Country's capital, Dakar, in the early hours of Friday.

FIFA General Secretary Fatma Samoura also stated that Mane will participate at the World Cup if it will require the need of a "witch doctor".

Senegal kick off her first game in the World Cup on 21 November against the Netherlands.

Just like people consult traditional means which is also known as "Juju" in the Western World, Samoura added that Mane's absence might cause a setback for the Teranga Lions which is the reason local means would be employed to get the Bayern Munich forward fit at all cost.

"Very sad news. We're going to use witch doctors. I don't know (if they're effective), but we're going to use them anyway. We're hoping for miracles. He has to be there. Sadio, you have to be there on the 21st," she said.

## Portugal Friendly: Peseiro Shuns Ahmed Musa, Awoniyi

**J**OSE Peseiro, head coach of the Super Eagles has shunned captain Ahmed Musa, Taiwo Awoniyi as he has invited red-hot Victor Osimhen, Paul Onuachu, William Ekong and Wilfred Ndidi in a 23-man squad to face World Cup-bound Portugal in a friendly encounter in Lisbon on Thursday next week, BSNSports.com.ng reports.

Recall Musa missed the last tune-up game against Algeria Foxes after he picked up an arm injury during a Turkish Super Lig game for Sivasspor and underwent surgery.

Ajax defender Calvin Bassey and Kevin Akpoguma made the list, just as Joe Aribo, Alex Iwobi, Moses Simon and Atalanta new kid in the block Ademola Lookman.

Wing back Tyrone Ebuehi makes a long-awaited return

to the fold, as hard-as-nails midfielder Oghenekaro Etebo. Defenders Bruno Onyemaechi and Bright Osayi Samuel (based in Portugal and Turkey respectively) are called up for the first time.

Belgium league top scorer Onuachu also makes his return to the three-time African champions.

Thursday's encounter at the Estadio Jose Alvalade in Lisbon will kick off at 18.45pm Portugal time (19.45pm in Nigeria).

Goalkeepers: Maduka Okoye (Watford FC, England); Francis Uzoho (AC Omonia, Cyprus); Adebayo Adedele (Hapoel Jerusalem, Israel).

Defenders: William Ekong (Watford FC, England); Olisa Ndah (Orlando Pirates, South Africa); Calvin Bassey (Ajax FC, The Netherlands); Kevin

Akpoguma (TSG Hoffenheim, Germany); Chidiobube Duru (Rivers United); Tyrone Ebuehi (Empoli FC, Italy); Bruno Onyemaechi (Boavista FC, Portugal); Bright Osayi Samuel (Fenerbahce FC, Turkey).

Midfielders: Joseph Ayodele-Aribo (Southampton FC, England); Alex Iwobi (Everton FC, England); Wilfred Ndidi (Leicester City, England); Frank Onyeka (Brentford FC, England); Oghenekaro Etebo (Aris Thessaloniki, Greece)

Forwards: Moses Simon (Nantes FC, France); Samuel Chukwueze (Villarreal FC, Spain); Ademola Lookman (Atalanta FC, Italy); Terem Moffi (Lorient FC, France); Paul Onuachu (Genk FC, Belgium); Victor Osimhen (SSC Napoli, Italy) and Emmanuel Dennis (Nottingham Forest, England).



## Traditional means may be the last resort to get Sadio Mane fit for Qatar 2022

**O**simhen reaches career high market value

**S**UPER Eagles forward Victor Osimhen has seen his market value

skyrocket from €60 million to a career high market value of €70 million amid intense speculation linking him to some high profile European clubs.

According to the latest update by Transfermarkt on Friday, November 11, the Nigerian is the most expensive player in Napoli and the fourth most valuable in the whole of Italian Serie A.

The increase in his market value is not a surprise as he has consistently churned out impressive performances in the shirt of the Naples based outfit this season as well as for the national team in 2023 Africa Cup of Nations qualifying.

With his scintillating performances, the 23-year-old has been linked with multiple clubs from across Europe.

However strong interests are coming from the Premier League where Tottenham Hotspur, Chelsea, and Manchester United have been linked with possible moves for the 2015 FIFA U17 World Cup Golden Boot winner.

Napoli's president Aurelio De Laurentiis has reiterated that Napoli will not sell Osimhen for anything less than a hundred million euros (€100 million) if any offer comes.

He joined the Parthenopeans in the summer transfer window of 2020 and is under contract with Napoli until the end of the 2024-2025 season.

Osimhen is the leading goalscorer in the Italian topflight this term, with eight goals from ten games.

## Women's football, next big thing, says Akinwunmi

**S**EYI Akinwunmi, the chairman, Lagos State Football Association, says women's football is the next big thing that will take the world by storm.

Akinwunmi who spoke to the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) on the sideline of the 2022 Sherone Awards in Abuja, said women's football was on the rise, especially in Africa and Nigeria in particular.

"You see, for us to understand where we are going, there is the need for us to understand where we are coming from."

"Indeed, I had no doubts before the Flamingos left for the U17 Women's World Cup that they were not going to come back empty handed after a lot of hard work and preparations put

in by the players and the coaches. "They indeed went and made us proud and people have now seen and recognised that the next big thing in the round leather game in the country is women's football."

"This is the message we must try and push out there so that sponsors can come in and see the opportunities to grow."

"Thank God this is coming on the back of a very good performance by our girls in India and it was only by a kick that we could not get to the finals."

"So, we are proud that they have done well," he said.

The former 1st Vice President of the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) praised Ratels Sports Development Foundation (RSDF), the organisers of the Sherone Cup and Award for their

efforts in the growth and development of women's football in the country.

"The Sherone Cup is undoubtedly the biggest football women tournament in West Africa."

"I have been privileged to watch some of the tournament's matches both physically as well as online and I am so impressed with what they are doing to put Africa women's football on the map."

"Also, honouring these deserving women through the Sherone Award is commendable and a wakeup call to other private organisations, multi-nationals and foundations to emulate what the RSDF is doing."

"Kudos to RSDF for the excellent job, resources and

energy they have put into these projects and I urge them not to relent in their efforts," he said.

Margaret Icheen, an executive member on the NFF Board who was among the awardees said receiving the accolade and recognition was an encouragement to continue to do more for women's football.

"This is wonderful and quite encouraging as those who were given awards have made history and when such people are being recognized, it indeed serves as an example to those young ones who are coming onboard."

"I think events such as this will really encourage and ginger them to do more," the former vice chairman of the Nigeria Women Football League (NWFL) said.

The President of RSDF, Paul Edeh, told NAN that the award which was in its third edition was the best ever, addin, however, that there was still room for improvement.

"For me, I have always believed that any project that does not have a legacy or an enduring existence is not worth venturing into."

"Certainly, I won't beat my chest to say this is the best, but I cannot assure you that this is definitely the best when you compare it to the past two editions."

"I am assuring you that we will keep improving and as many women and individuals as well as organisations that continue to support the cause of women, we will fish them out and reward them."



The Super Falcons of Nigeria celebrating a goal



Osimhen





## Amos Adamu involved in £1.3m bribery scandal

**N**IGERIA'S former football official, Amos Adamu, was allegedly offered £1.3m to back the Qatar 2022 bid, **The PUNCH** reports.

Adamu in 2017 was banned for two years by the world governing body FIFA for ethics violations.

The suspension came after he already served a three-year ban in 2010 for accepting bribes in relation to the attribution of the 2018 World Cup to Russia and the 2022 tournament to Qatar.

A member of Qatar's World Cup bid Phaedra Almajid made the allegations in the explosive new Netflix series, *FIFA Uncovered* on Thursday.

Phaedra Almajid claimed that she was in the room with Qatari official Hassan Al-Thawadi at a hotel in Angola in January 2010 when money was offered to the three men- Adamu, Issa Hayatou of Cameroon and Jacques Anouma Ivory Coast, who were among 24 voters set to pick the 2018 and 2022 World Cup hosts later that year.

Qatar won hosting rights for the 2022 tournament in a FIFA vote ahead of Australia, Japan, South Korea, and the USA.

Almajid told the doc, "We were talking about how Africa had been given its chance to host the World Cup and how the Arab world should be given their chance, and then Hassan offered Hayatou \$1m for Hayatou's football federation (Cameroon) and

in return, we wanted his vote.

"I remember there just being laughter and then him saying that is not enough, and so the price was upped to £1.3m — just like that. It was just so simple, "We will give you this money for your football federation, you give us your vote and thank you so much."

"One by one we did the same thing with Anouma and Adamu. \$1.5m was offered to each member that evening in exchange for their vote. It was verbal, I never saw money."

Almajid alleges the offer came at a meeting of African football federations in January 2010, just under a year before the FIFA vote for the 2022 host nation.

All three African officials have denied any wrongdoing.

Almajid claims the proposed money was made to the federations, rather than the individuals themselves.

She added, "It was made very clear the money was going to football, it was never said it is going into your pocket, I do need to emphasise that. Where it ended up I have no idea."

"Before I went back to my hotel room, Hassan told me, 'You never repeat this ever again to anyone and I was like, 'OK.'"

Al Thawadi has strongly denied the claims.

He said, "My reaction, especially on the Phaedra situation, it's frustration."

"They are inherently false

and there are facts on the ground that prove they are false."

Almajid anonymously revealed the alleged offers to the Sunday Times after being sacked by Qatar's bid, and later signed a statement withdrawing her claims.

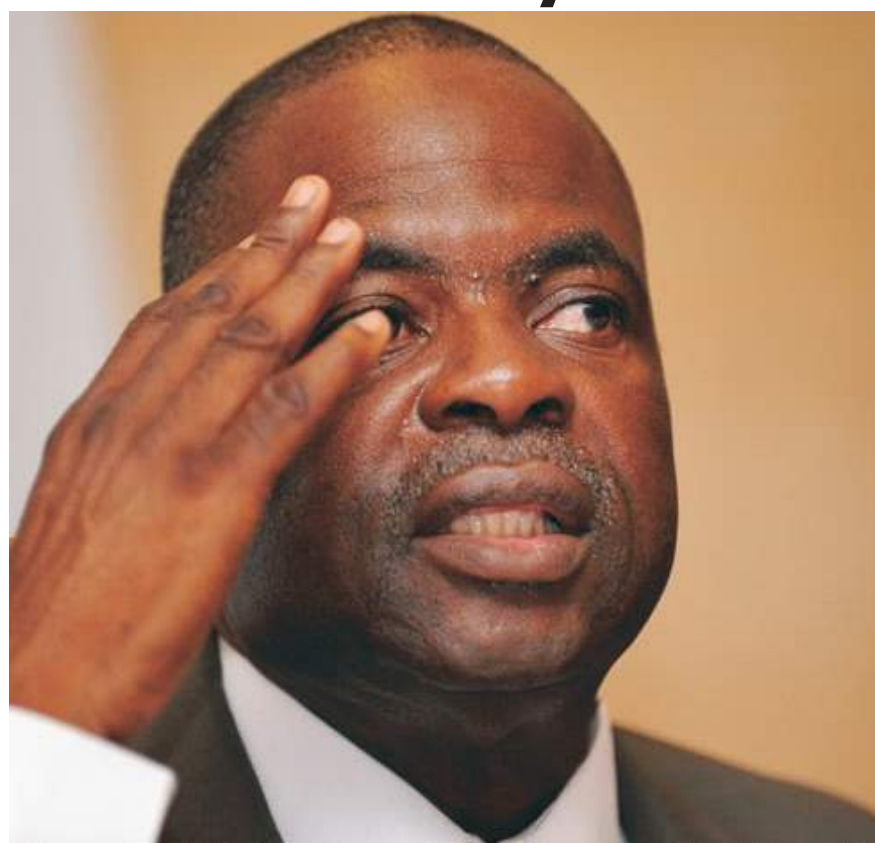
Detailing why, Almajid explained in the doc: "I'm starting to get threats, anonymous calls, emails, social media."

"I was basically told either you sign an affidavit stating that you lied or else we are legally going to come after you."

Meanwhile, President of the Nigeria Football Federation, Alhaji Ibrahim Musa Gusau has provided the Federation's corporate partners and sponsors with strong assurance that the new NFF administration will put their monies to judicious use in developing the game of football in Nigeria to the benefit of all stakeholders.

At warm and insightful interactions with a number of the partners and sponsors in Lagos on Monday, the NFF supreme, in company with immediate past NFF boss and FIFA Council Member, Mr. Amaju Melvin Pinnick, NFF General Secretary, Dr. Mohammed Sanusi and Director of Communications, Ademola Olajire, expressed heartfelt appreciation to the frontline corporates and appealed for even greater support for the Nigeria game at this time.

Pinnick's role, described as noble and in the national interest by Gusau, was to formally introduce the new



NFF President to the corporate partners, most of them brought on board by the former helmsman.

"For the first time in decent memory in Nigeria Football, we had a rancorous free transition from one Executive team to the other. It is as a result of the deep respect and strong passion for Nigeria Football and the Nigeria nation that we all share. It is for this reason that I have decided to introduce the new helmsman to you in order that you can continue to interact with and support him and the Federation to achieve their vision and mission," Pinnick said at the office of MTN Nigeria (NFF's official telecommunications partner), with Chief Executive Officer Carl Toriola, Chief Operating Officer Hassan Jaber, Chief Corporate Services Officer Tobechukwu Okigbo and Chief Marketing Officer Adia Sowho all seated.

In his remarks, Gusau thanked MTN for their strong support to Nigeria Football and Nigeria sports generally: "We appreciate what you have been doing for the game of football and we want you to continue, and even do more so that the new Board can be enabled to work assiduously to lift the Nigeria game to new heights. We apologize for the inability of the Super Eagles to qualify for the FIFA World Cup starting in Qatar next week but we want to use this opportunity to commence the hard work necessary to

avoid such mis-step in the future.

"I am assuring you that whatever funds come through you will be put to judicious use as we are presently cutting down on expenses to ascent prudence and manage available resources to achieve the best results."

Toriola responded that having signed a long-term contract with the football body, his organization would not break same because of a missed World Cup tournament. "We will continue to support the Federation until Nigeria football gets to the level it should be internationally. We must re-energize ourselves for the work at hand. I must commend Mr. Pinnick's exceptional dynamism and the MTN commits to supporting the new administration."

The same theme of appreciation and pledges of judicious use of funds and optimization of resources ran through the other meetings, with Executive Vice President of AITEO Group (NFF's official optimum partner), Mr. Francis Peters pledging his company's continued support and encouragement to the new Board.

At Premier Lotto, the Managing Director Mr. Adebisi Adebute said his company will explore even other areas they can support the NFF, in addition to the present partnership agreement. "I must say that we had a wonderful relationship with the Board

headed by Mr. Pinnick and we believe we will have same cordial relationship with the new Board."

Stanbic IBTC (NFF's official bank) also pledged continued support to the NFF, through Charles Omoera, Chief Executive: "We are particularly interested in the women's football and youth programs you have enunciated and are ready and willing to commit to these programmes to develop Nigeria's future legends and icons of the game."

NFF's chief marketing consultant, Mr. Mike Itemuagbor lauded the peaceful elections that brought in Gusau, and commended the role being played by Pinnick. "Pinnick has stout corporate drive and high relevance, and I believe he will help the new Board in that area. We will give ample support to the new Board but we want you to beware of the antics of ambush marketers and put stern measures in place to discourage them."

"Pamodzi Sports Marketing will be there for the new Board and will provide advice when necessary, because football is a passion that runs through the blood of every Nigerian and brings all of us together."

Sanusi added that indeed, without Pamodzi Sports Marketing, things would have been a lot more difficult for a number of NFF administrations over the past two decades.

### 15,000 facial-recognition cameras to monitor World Cup

**A**LL sixty-four matches in the FIFA 2022 World Cup tournament starting on November 20 in Qatar will be monitored with nothing less than 15,000 cameras equipped with facial-recognition technology, AFP reports.

The Chief Technology Officer (CTO) in Command and Control Centre for FIFA World Cup in Qatar, Niyas

Abdulrahman made this known on Friday as the preparations are in top gear for the biggest football event.

Abdulrahman said the Middle Eastern nation is mounting surveillance cameras to check security threats in a way to prevent terrorism and violence during the competition.

He also revealed that the hosting country has invested

\$300 billion to build new infrastructure which includes seven new stadiums to accommodate the influx of football tourists across the globe.

"Basically we can open a door or all the doors in a stadium right from here," Abdulrahman said.

He further said the control centre will monitor all nearby trains and buses.

"What you see here is a new standard, a new trend in venue operations, this is our contribution from Qatar to the world of sport. What you see here is the future of stadium operations," said Abdulrahman.

The security monitors will enable officials to map out access to rooms and equipment in case of emergency, per AFP.

"Whatever happens, there is a response in place," said Hamad Al-Mohannadi, the director of the command centre said. "As long as there is no property damage and no one is injured, we will just be watching."



Infantino