

NAFDAC Approves Pfizer's COVID-19 Vaccine For Use In Nigeria

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NIGERIA'S MOST INFLUENTIAL NEWSPAPER

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Founding Chairman of LEADERSHIP Sam Nda-Isaiah is 59 today. We salute the man of Big Ideas on this first posthumous birthday, with an editorial on *Page 3*



TERRORISM:

Ex-military Top Brass, Others Demand Open Trial Of Sponsors



■ Say secret trial will raise suspicion of complicity ■ NLC warns against relocation of US AFRICOM



Traffic gridlock at Ogbere Junction on Lagos-Benin-Ore expressway as a result of road construction on Thursday.

PHOTO BY NAN

MAY DAY: Workers Lament Poor Pay, Insecurity



IGP Orders Re-posting Of Tactical Commanders In South East

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Celebs' Humpty Dumpty Fall Through Sexual Crimes

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Mbaka Angry For Failing To Get Contract – Presidency

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MAKING IT, SPENDING IT: MAKE OR MAR MONEY CHOICES

Protecting Your Money From Fraudsters

BY BUKOLA IDOWU, Lagos

Technology no doubt, has made banking activities easy. But there's a catch, it has also increased the risks that customers face daily from fraudsters. Last year, customers of Nigerian banks lost N2.75 billion to fraudsters. Here are some tips to ensure that your funds do not fall into the hands of fraudsters:

ATM Cards

Always ensure that your ATM cards are kept in a safe place where it cannot be picked up by third parties. Digits on the front and back of your ATM cards can be used by fraudsters to withdraw funds from your

account. Besides keeping your ATM cards safe, do not share your personal identity number (PIN) with anyone.

It is not advisable to write down your PIN as someone can have access to it and make withdrawals without your consent. It is better to memorise it.

Do not use easy to guess PINs such as your birthday or the last four digits of your card or phone number.

While using the ATM, always ensure that no one can see your PIN as you transact. Always ensure that the area is secure whilst using an offsite ATM. Avoid using offsite ATMs at night and when you have to, make sure the area is well lit.



If you see an attachment on an ATM that looks suspicious, don't use the ATM. Notify the institution that owns the machine as soon as possible. This is because sometimes, fraudsters capture the magnetic stripe data from your card and use it to create a new, counterfeit card.

Usually fraudsters use a small device that appears to be a part

of the machine placed over the card insertion slot of an ATM, gas pump, or other self-service kiosk. As you slide your card into the ATM, this device "reads" the data on the stripe and either stores it or transmits it to a nearby location. Often times, there is also a small, hidden camera that captures your keystrokes as you input your PIN into the machine.

Whilst using a Point of Sale terminal, do not allow the operator to take the card out of your sight. Watch and make sure that no one is taking pictures of your card while using the POS. Notify your bank to block your card if it is missing or stolen.

Phones

Recently, there was a video that went viral where fraudsters confessed to harvesting data from stolen phones to gain access to bank accounts. With mobile banking there are increased risks.

Always password your phone and do not leave it with people you do not know. In the age of short code banking, anyone can use your phone within minutes to make transactions or to obtain information that could be used to gain access to your account.

If your phone is stolen or missing, quickly notify your bank in order to stop all unauthorized transaction on your account. ...to be continued tomorrow

Science, Discovery And Uses



Dark Matter Could Be Destroying Itself Inside The Bellies Of Exoplanets

Large gaseous exoplanets could be filled with self-destructing dark matter. And now, a team of researchers has proposed using the soon-to-be-launched James Webb Space Telescope to scan distant behemoths in the galaxy for potential heating effects that could arise from the mysterious substance, which outweighs regular matter by almost 6 to 1 in the universe.

Massive DDT Dumping Ground Found Off The Los Angeles Coast Is Bigger Than Anyone Thought

The sea bottom near southern California has been hiding a very dirty secret: decades of discarded chemicals in thousands of barrels.

And the toxic debris field is even bigger than anyone expected, containing at least 27,000 drums of DDT and industrial waste, scientists recently discovered.

Space Junk Is Blocking Our View Of The Stars, Scientists Say

The night sky is becoming increasingly filled with shiny satellites and space junk that pose a significant threat to our view of the cosmos, as well as astronomical research, a new study warns.

The researchers found that the more than 9,300 tons (8,440 metric tons) of space objects orbiting Earth, including inoperative satellites and chunks of spent rocket stages, increase the overall brightness of the night sky by more than 10 per cent over large parts of the planet.

Culled From: www.livescience.com

SUDOKU PUZZLE AND SOLUTIONS

Each Sudoku puzzle comes with some numbers already filled and each box has a corresponding row, column and 3x3 grid where the numbers cannot be repeated. The row, column or 3x3 grid with the most numbers filled is the best place to start, filling new numbers because there you have fewer options to choose from. As you fill each number on a box, you increase your chances of getting new spaces filled.

2	8	5	1	3	6	9	7	4			5	1	3			7	
6	9	7	5	2	4	3	1	8	6		7				3		8
1	4	3	8	7	9	6	2	5		4			7	9	6		
3	5	1	2	4	8	7	6	9	3		1		4		7		
8	7	2	9	6	5	1	4	3	8		2	9	6		1		
9	6	4	7	1	3	5	8	2						3		8	2
5	1	9	4	8	7	2	3	6		1		4					6
7	3	8	6	5	2	4	9	1	7	3			5		4		
4	2	6	3	9	1	8	5	7		2			9	1		5	7

Solution To Yesterday's Puzzle

Puzzle For Today

SEVEN TIPS ON: FUN THINGS TO DO AT HOME

Here are some suggestions on how to avoid boredom and enjoy the weekend at home!

HAVE A COSTUME NIGHT

Generally, the only time we can get away with putting on costumes is on Halloween. It is so entertaining to put on a costume and play. Host an evening where everyone has to dress up in a costume. (Some costume ideas here!) Eat your dinner that evening all dressed up. Play games and just have a party. You can even make it a "themed" costume party by choosing a time era or movie characters. Shape it to meet your interests.

THROW AN INDOOR PICNIC

Set out a picnic blanket and basket of food and eat your dinner as though you were having a picnic. Just having variety in your family life brings you closer together as a family unit. Events like this are often the catalyst for a fun-filled evening.

HAVE A KARAOKE NIGHT

Plan an evening of karaoke. This is a great way to spend family time together. PlayStation and Wii have several options to pick from. From experience, this is an evening of lots of laughter and joy! Everyone loves to sing... even those who might not have a singing voice like to bust out at karaoke.

HOST AN INTERNATIONAL DINNER NIGHT

As a family, pick out a country you would like to learn more about and are interested



in. Find cuisine that is unique to that country. Prepare a dinner that would be served in that country. The family can even find clothing that is worn in the country and wear it to dinner. Each family member would be responsible to bring one fact about the country to share at dinner time.

FILM A COOKING SHOW

Have you ever watched the cooking shows on TV? Cooking is a hot topic. In fact, cooking shows are so popular these days that there are networks that only broadcast shows about cooking. Pick out

a recipe you would like to try. Pretend you are hosting your own cooking show and video it. Make sure the whole family participates, in one way or another. You are certain to have a lot of laughs while watching your family episode.

HAVE AN INDOOR/OUTDOOR SCAVENGER HUNT

Everyone loves hunting for hidden things. Type up a list of things that need to be found and give everyone a list. The things can be inside your home or even outdoors around the yard. Put a time limit on how long they have to locate the articles.

Be creative. You can even put some things in the form of clues, so everyone has to figure out what the object is. Have a small prize for the winner.

HOST A THEMED MOVIE NIGHT

There are many movies that have sequels. Pick a genre that your family would enjoy. Plan for a whole evening of back-to-back viewing of the movies. Make sure you have plenty of popcorn and snacks on hand! If you want to be really creative, find props that go with the movie and set them out. You can even make a dessert that matches the movie theme. May the force be with you!

Culled From: www.lifehack.org

SPORTS ON THE GO: WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

ALONSO SAYS HIS TIME OUT OF F1 IS 'NOT AN EXCUSE' FOR NOT YET GETTING THE MOST FROM HIS ALPINE

Fernando Alonso may have scored his first point for Alpine at Imola but the two-time World Champion said he has "no excuses" for not having got to grips with his new car ahead of the Portuguese Grand Prix – adding that he felt "a bit down" after finishing 10th last time out.

Having retired from the Bahrain Grand Prix, then clinching a single point at Imola, Alonso admitted before the Portuguese Grand Prix that he still isn't comfortable enough with his Alpine A521 to extract



the maximum from it – but stressed that it's the same for everybody who's changed teams this season.

"There are things you discover with races and with experience. So that's something that is not different for me or is bigger to me as it's not that I changed team, I changed sport basically. It will take time but it is not an excuse and I need to work harder and prepare things better into the weekend," he said.

"I've changed teams and categories many times in my career and it was never a problem, and it will not be a problem this time, either. Soon we'll be at 100 per cent."

Culled From: www.formula1.com

INBOX

As part of ongoing efforts to improve standards, opinion articles by readers will be accompanied with photographs and also what the writer does and actual address. All opinions should be emailed to: opinion@leadership.ng

our stand

Sam Nda-Isaiah Is 59 Today

Today, our founding chairman, Sam Nda-Isaiah, is 59. He had dreams and life-time accomplishments far beyond his years. If he were alive, this editorial will not be written to mark this day.

He abhorred drawing attention to himself as a result of which a day like this might have been spent with his family, and Sam being Sam, he would have been hard at work, too.

But he is not here, in person. Today is the first posthumous birthday of Sam Nda-Isaiah, who passed on, on Friday, December 11, 2020. A man of big ideas, infectious zeal, boundless energy and a patriotic spirit, the events of recent times make us wonder what Sam Nda-Isaiah would be thinking of his country now.

Hardly a day passes without reports of killings, kidnappings, banditry and virtually every franchise of lawlessness partly caused by environmental factors, but largely motivated and compounded by ethnic and religious bigotry and sheer lack of tolerance.

One foreign newspaper called Nigeria a "bandit country". It's not their fault. In a painful but apt characterisation, minister of defence, Major General Bashir Magashi, also said, "Nigeria is bleeding."

The killings in different parts of the country, now so casually shared in viral videos, have descended from predatory to a level worse than bestiality. Life is taken so lightly that innocent civilians, security agents and even state institutions have become fair game. Governments at all levels are bereft and those supposed to guarantee security are themselves frightened and insecure.

What would Sam Nda-Isaiah say of his country today?

It's a country he loved so dearly, defended passionately and served unpretentiously in his capacities as a professional, businessman and politician. As we remember Sam Nda-Isaiah today, we also remember, with a heavy heart, Nige-

ria that he loved unreservedly.

He did not love his country in words only. In the over two and a half decades that he segued from his profession, pharmacy, to journalism, he invested himself in the art of speaking truth to power, a gift he inherited from his journalist father and honed through years of dedicated practice and personal education.

Sam Nda-Isaiah was a bridge-builder and an ardent believer in a one, united and strong Nigeria. A down-to-earth pundit and straight shooter, he said in many of his writings that he believed that Nigeria is stronger and better together.

He saw from his many personal travels and expansive self-education that countries with large populations and focused, disciplined leadership are able to get a whole lot more done for citizens and secure their place in the world. China was his ever-present example.

Not that he under-estimated the challenges of a multi-ethnic nation like Nigeria, but

Sam Nda-Isaiah believed that given the country's potential, and with the right leadership, there was nothing it could not achieve.

After years of punditry, he threw his hat in the ring in 2014 and, in a bold, courageous move for which he will forever be remembered, he contested the presidential ticket of the All Progressives Congress (APC), a party whose formation he played a front-line role.

He lost the ticket, but his ideas were not defeated – ideas for a change in the bankrupt, beggarly status of state governments and the renewal and transformation of the country. He continued to canvass these ideas as a party man, a businessman and a visionary till the very end.

It is remarkable that perhaps the only birthday that Sam Nda-Isaiah marked in pomp and circumstance was his 50th. He did it not necessarily to announce himself as he was already an established publisher, businessman and

politician at the time. He hosted the event to unite the fragmented and hopelessly divided opposition when he perceived that only a united front could end nearly 20 years of the Peoples Democratic Party's (PDP) arrogant and rotten rule.

We recall that, that birthday, nine years ago, was the first time some of the opposition's biggest prizes – General Muhammadu Buhari (as he then was) and Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu – would be meeting face-to-face after a futile and catastrophic merger attempt in 2011.

That meeting, orchestrated by Sam Nda-Isaiah, was not just an event to mark his birthday, it also sowed the seed for the eventual successful merger of five legacy parties which produced the current APC administration after the historic 2015 election.

But Sam Nda-Isaiah was not just a politician and a loyal party man, he also made friends across party lines. He was an entrepreneur with a huge appetite for risk and a gift for finding talented people wherever they may come from. He despised mediocrity and went the extra mile to reward hard work and creativity.

These are values in acute short supply as a result of which our country is in a sorry state today. But we are sure that as Sam Nda-Isaiah looks down on his country today, he might demur in his accustomed impatience, and agree that it is not too late for the country to pick up the pieces and reinvent itself once again. It may look like the eleventh hour, but yes, games change even in the dying minutes.

As a newspaper, we use the occasion of his 59th birthday and first posthumous remembrance to renew our pledge to uphold the values of fairness, justice and faith in a strong, united country.

We remain solidly for God and country, knowing that nothing will deepen Sam Nda-Isaiah's legacy more and bring greater joy to his memory.

FOR GOD AND
LEADERSHIP
weekend www.leadership.ng

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FOUNDING CHAIRMAN

Sam Nda-Isaiah (1962 - 2020)

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Abraham Nda-Isaiah

mission statement

LEADERSHIP is a national paper symbolically embedded in the nation's capital.

We shall stand up for good governance. We shall defend the interest of Nigerian people even against their rulers, and we shall raise our pen at all times in defence of what is right. These are the values by which we intend to be assessed.

We shall never, ever for any reason forget the noble reason of our coming into being:

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY!

Ex-military Top Brass, Others Demand Open Trial Of Sponsors

BY OUR CORRESPONDENTS

Following the federal government's revelation that some sponsors of terror have been arrested, Nigerians including retired military top brass, security experts and civil society organisations have called for public trial of the suspects.

They say open trial and public punishment of violent crimes offenders would not only show that justice is served, but also serve as deterrence and show government's sincerity in the fight against terror.

Recently, presidential spokesman Garba Shehu revealed that several persons had been arrested for alleged links with terrorists and other organised armed groups threatening the peace and stability of Nigeria. He, however, did not reveal their identities, saying it was confidential.

However, a retired senior military officer and an elder statesman, who does not want to be quoted on the pages newspaper, said the lack of punishment for offences emboldened crimes and brought the nation to its present state.

"If there is an investigation, there should be proper investigation, and if there are trials, they should be properly done. If there is judgement carried out, there should be proper announcement. These are normal procedures we are used to, whether it is a military court, civilian court, Sharia court, alkali court - what have you.

"I think the journalists are not doing a proper job on these types of things. Journalists must do proper research," he said

He said, "There is a lot that is going on, but on the way forward, if somebody commits an offence here or there, and then people know about it, shout about it, and when you punish you should let the public know. These are not done, and because they are not done, the culprits continue to do what they like because nobody will come and apprehend him. and so it continues."

"If you want to look at the answers, then you will have to look at a total change of humanity in the country. We need a complete change of humanity in the country, to change the society, to change the mode of humans that are supposed to be united but everybody is just falling apart.

"Everybody is doing what they like or think is their right. Unless you have somebody that is disciplined and tough in a leadership position, he cannot create that discipline and then get that order back into society. That is where we are lost," he said

A public and private security analyst and trainer, Major Banjo Daniel (retd.) said the collapse of the justice system in favour of the elite brought Nigeria to its present state.

He decried widespread corruption and bias which favour children of the leaders, calling for an open trial and public announcement of justice once served.

"Justice served is not just a punishment for unlawful or criminal activities but also a measure of deterrence of others on the line of wrongdoings. So if the others, the populace are not aware of the justified rewards of offenses, how can they be deterred? Every aspect of our lives and every part of our governing system is corrupt and biased in favour of the rulers and politicians, their families, friends and neighbours. Thus, I see a situation where justice is tampered with if these criminals are members of the aforementioned. I see Mr. President as a man with integrity but in a governmental system occupied by a majority of non-conscientious inhuman beings in its legislative and judiciary sub-



Monguno

system, it becomes an 'Animal Farm' scenario.

"What happened to Evans the all-time self-confessed serial killer, armed robber-turned kidnapper? What happened to the communities in Plateau that had been killing travellers, dumping them in ponds and mines undetected until the search for Gen. Alkali's body was revealed?

"What has the police done to Mr. Igboho the arsonist and murderer of the Seriki Hausa's family? If injustice reigns, and justice, when practised, is not publicised, it is an indication of the acceptance and continuity of criminality. "In summary, an open trial is recommended with maximum punishment to deter potential criminals. Unfortunately, this can't be as the criminals are associates of our rulers. "

He advocated for the establishment of the Border Guard to protect communities and riverine areas.

"I have posited in various media that we should establish a Nigerian Army Border Guard consisting of highly trained men equipped with modern 'ears and eyes tools', gadgets and technology devices for ground, air and riverine operations, having control centres in all borderlines of all local governments.

"All divisions and units of the Army would be so deployed as to create an ARD - All Round Defence - of our sovereign soil and All Round Observation (ARO) of our the borderline and our neighbours' immediate areas."

According to him, China's great wall and Trump's planned Mexico borderline wall were to control entry of immigrants and criminals.

"Physical security equipment in the form of walls, wire fences to complement electrical devices and humans could also be deployed. However, these would not be done as the politicians would prefer the funds being 'padded' or siphoned into their accounts.

The ex-military officer also said Nigeria's leaders may be associated with the rising insecurity.

"Imagine an individual accosted with over 2,860 Valid ATM Cards travelling out of the country. And of course for any purpose, support of terrorism and other deadly crimes inclusive. Following those cards past transactions would reveal 'cans full of different worms'. Our rulers and leaders are likely to own or be associated with owners of these cards," he said.

Speaking to our correspondent in Jos, the Plateau State capital, Ambassador Melvin Ejeh, a security analyst and the

executive director, Global Peace and Life rescue initiative, a non-governmental organization, NGO, said federal government should conduct the trial of the Boko Haram suspects and their collaborators in an open court to serve as a deterrent to others.

According to him, their nefarious activities have brought pains and anguish to thousands of families in Nigeria, and if the federal government is serious to bring Boko Haram to a halt, those suspects and their sponsors must be tried in open court because they have committed heinous crimes against humanity.

"If the federal government conducts their trial in secret, it goes to show that they have something to hide and it is not wrong to say that they are accomplices to this crime against Nigerians," he said .

For a Jos-based Lawyer and human rights activist, Barrister Lawal Ishaq, it is sad that the Federal Government seems to be afraid to make full disclosure on the supposed sponsors of Boko Haram in the country.

According to him, "When the government said it has a list that will shock Nigerians, we expected real names, not abstract like the one we saw released recently who are said to be operators of bureau de change that supply Boko Haram with cash.

"This means sponsors of Boko Haram pay them in hate currencies. It goes to give credence to the allegations of foreign involvement."

He pointed out that in any case, Nigerians will take the government more seriously when they see real names, and not just naming names, but full and speedy prosecution of all involved."

The secretary of Plateau Initiative Development for the Advancement of Natives (PIDAN), Comrade Nanle Gojur in his reactions said, "I don't know why it has taken the Federal Government this long to publish the names of such people."

The scribe of PIDAN, an association of over 54 ethnic nationalities in Plateau State, argued that this has further clouded the minds of Nigerians about the transparency of government, stressing that it appears that they are giving cover to such people.

Gojur queried, "Should these bandits finish Nigerians before they are exposed? I think it shouldn't be so. They should be tried publicly, otherwise, there is the tendency that the outcome will be the perfect guess of many of us." Terrorists, Bandits Must Be Tried In

Special Courts CSOs, Others Insist

Civil society organisations and human rights activists have insisted that the bandits and terrorists must be tried in special courts.

Director of Programmes, Development Dynamics, Dr. Jude Ohanele, advised the federal government to display transparency and sincerity of purpose in the trial of suspected terrorists and banditry sponsors, by trying them openly as this will restore the confidence of the masses.

Dr. Ohanele stressed that a situation where the suspected sponsors of banditry were arrested and kept in custody for quite some time does not augur well for the country and demanded that they should be tried openly .

He submitted that the reason Insurgency and banditry persist is because the government appears to be handling this challenge with kid gloves.

A security expert, Dr. John Okoronta, said if the trial is not done publicly, it would appear as if there is something the government is hiding from the citizens and advised the government to follow the popular views and do the needful expeditiously.

He cautioned that the world is watching and takes note of how the federal government intends to handle the sponsors of terrorism and banditry.

In her reaction, the executive director of Women Empowerment and Peace Building Initiative, a non-governmental organisation based in Enugu, Oguadinma Ijeoma Joy, called on the Federal Government to as a matter of urgency release the names of the sponsors of banditry and other crimes.

Apart from releasing the names, she said there was need for the sponsors to be prosecuted.

He said apart from the patrols, the command had been providing training operatives with a view to improving their performance.

He further disclosed that the command is presently on advocacy visits to traditional rulers in the state, adding that the command has been sensitising them on the need for them to mobilise their subjects and advise them on the need to avoid violence and issues that encourage such.

Still on the vexed issues of insecurity, the Civil Liberties Organisation (CLO) and the Centre for Basic Rights Protection and Accountability Campaign (CBRPAC) also enjoined the Federal Government to set up a special court to try sponsors of Boko Haram insurgency.

Speaking with LEADERSHIP Weekend in Port Harcourt, CLO's South-South zonal chairman, Chinedu Karl

Uchegbu said: "There is no doubt that the only way for the Federal Government to demonstrate its seriousness about the war against the Boko Haram terrorists is to publish the full lists of the sponsors of terrorism and banditry. This will help shore up government's waning credibility in the war on terror.

"Nigerians have watched helplessly in the past as the government wrung its hands on a helpless gesture of lack of political will to deal decisively with terrorism.

"Globally terrorists are not tried in open courts, but rather in secret courts to shield the trial judges and prosecutors and also to protect their families.

"The mode of trial here is not the issue but the commitment of the government to secure convictions against terrorists and their sponsors."

Speaking with LEADERSHIP Weekend, CBRPAC's national

coordinator, Prince Wiro, urged the Federal Government to ensure that the trial of the Boko Haram sponsors are concluded in record time.

Wiro said: "Yes, Federal Government should publish the list of sponsors of Boko Haram to demonstrate that there are no sacred cows in the fight against terrorism.

"Also, we recommend that there should be special courts for terrorism cases for speedy trial and dispensation of justice, and with special courts the trial will be completed in record time."

SAN, Others Support Prosecution Of Alleged Sponsors Of Terrorism

The nation's legal icons are also on the same page with other stakeholders on the right punishment for sponsors of terrorism and banditry. For instance, a Senior Advocate of Nigeria (SAN), Kehinde Eleja said the government has a duty to expose crimes and criminals.

He, however, stressed the need for the government to ensure that thorough investigations have been conducted and necessary evidence that could lead to successful prosecution had been obtained before the suspects are charged to court for prosecution.

"The government must not stop at publishing the names; they must proceed to prosecute them to logical conclusions. This is the only way to avoid a media trial which usually is counter-productive.

"It may also not be out of place to identify some courts, judges to try the suspects expeditiously," he added.

PMB, Security Chiefs In Marathon Meeting, Adjourns Till Tuesday

President Muhammadu Buhari has met with the security chiefs over the worsening state of insecurity in the country .

The meeting which lasted for several hours was adjourned till Tuesday next week .

In a statement after the meeting, the National Security Adviser(NSA), Retd. Major-General Babagana Monguno said President Buhari expressed sadness that insurgents and bandits are still wreaking havoc in the country .

He also disclosed that President Buhari expressed confidence in the ability of the security chiefs to end the insecurity.

He said "Concerned about the persisting security challenges in parts of the country, Mr. President summoned a crucial meeting of the National Security Council today as he continues to frontally confront the situation in the country.

The meeting which held at the First Lady Conference room had in attendance Vice President Yemi Osinbajo.

Relocation Of Africom, Foreign Troops Will Be Counterproductive, NLC Warns

The Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) has warned that the call by President Muhammadu Buhari for the relocation of the United States Africa Command (AFRICOM) from Germany to Africa would be counter-productive.

President of the NLC, Comrade Ayuba Wabba, gave the warning at the 2nd NLC Peace and Security Summit with the theme, 'Overcoming the Siege of Insecurity in Nigeria: Imperative of Human and Physical Security,' on Thursday in Abuja.

Wabba insisted that with adequate and necessary support, there was no need for foreign soldiers as those in the country were capable of overcoming the rising spate of insecurity witnessed in different parts on a daily basis.



Today, we appreciate everyone contributing positively to the growth and development of our society.

Happy Workers' Day

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IGP Orders Re-posting of Tactical Commanders In South-East

BY EJIKE EJIKE, Abuja

The Acting Inspector-General of Police, Usman Alkali Baba, has ordered the re-posting of strategic and tactical commanders within the South East zone, police spokesman Force Headquarters, Frank Mba, said yesterday.

Two deputy commissioners of police (DCPs) 14 assistant commissioners of police and other mid-level officers were affected.

The IGP enjoined the people of South-East and South-South zones to cooperate with the police and other security agencies to enable them succeed in the responsibility of safeguarding them and the nation.

Meanwhile, Christopher Owolabi has been named the new commissioner of police in Anambra State.

The police spokesman said the deployment of the new commissioner was part of ongoing efforts at re-ordering, overhauling and strengthening the security and policing architecture in the state and other states of the South-East and South-South geo-political zones.

He said this was ultimately designed to improve the operational efficiency of the commands and enhance public safety and security. CP Chris Owolabi takes over from CP Monday Bala Kuryas, who has been redeployed to the anti-fraud section at the Force Headquarters Annex, Lagos.

Mba said the IGP charged the new commissioner of police in Anambra State to take adequate measures in consolidating and improving on the gains of his predecessor.

He further charged the commissioner to re-jig the security apparatus in the state and harness the full potentials of the command (its workforce, assets and stakeholders) in advancing the collective safety of all citizens.

First Bank Shares Takes A Beating As Management Reassures Customers, Investors

BY BUKOLA IDOWU, Lagos

Investors continued to react to the shake-up in the management of First Bank of Nigeria Limited and its parent company, FBN Holdings Plc, with the share price taking a beating as the new management assured its customers and investors of the stability of the bank.

In a statement made available to Leadership Weekend yesterday, the financial conglomerate's new management said it was cooperating with the Central Bank of Nigeria and other regulators while the operations of the bank were not hampered or hindered in any way but were in fact running smoothly.

The CBN had on Thursday sacked the board of FBN Holdings and FBN Limited in a chain of reactions that started with the removal of Adesola Adeduntan as the managing director and chief executive of the banking arm.

On Wednesday when the board of the bank announced the change in leadership, the share price moved upward although it closed at the value which it opened N7.40 having recorded 69.47 million units of its shares valued at N514.3 million that changed hand in



Adeduntan

243 deals.

Following the query by CBN on the sudden change in baton without informing regulators on Thursday, April 29, the share price took a beating dropping by 6.76 per cent from N7.40 to N6.90 as 51.52 million units of the

shares of the bank valued at N359.82 million changed hands in 527 deals

On Friday, the price remained unchanged despite 95.28 million of its shares valued at N641.15 million that changed hand in 663 deals, after the CBN

announced the re-installment of Adeduntan as the managing director, dissolved the board of the bank and the hold company, announcing a new board.

FBN in a statement issued yesterday said; "We refer to the CBN's pronouncement on the reconstitution of the Board of Directors of First Bank of Nigeria Limited.

"Further to the press conference held by the governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria, Mr. Godwin Emefiele on Thursday, the boards of FBN Holdings Plc and First Bank of Nigeria Limited were dissolved and reconstituted, pursuant to its power under Banks and Other Financial Institutions Act (BOFIA) 2020.

The new board of the bank now has Mr. Tunde Hassan-Odukale as the chairman, Dr. Adesola Adeduntan as the MD/CEO, Mr. Gbenga Shobo as deputy managing director, Dr. Remi Oni and Mr. Abdullahi Ibrahim as executive directors. Other members of the board are; Mrs. Tokunbo Martins, Mr. Uche Nwokedi, Mr. Adekunle Sonola, Ms. Isioma Ogodazi, Mr. Ebenezer Olufowose and Mr. Ishaya Elijah B. Dodo.

NAFDAC Approves Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine For Use In Nigeria

BY ROYAL IBEH, Lagos

The National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) yesterday said it had partially approved the use of Pfizer-Biotech COVID-19 vaccine for use in Nigeria.

Director general of the agency, Prof. Mojisola Adeyeye, who disclosed this during a virtual meeting, said the vaccine was for emergency use authorization.

According to her, a review

of the vaccine is possible pending information gathering from usage.

"We have approved Pfizer Biotech vaccine for possible use in the country. Our COVID-19 vaccine team must carefully review it to make sure that the science behind it is well understood, and also in accordance with our own regulations," she said.

Adeyeye said the vaccine was approved based on different mechanisms known to the agency while noting that the approval

was not a full one but within the period of getting people vaccinated and gathering of data about the adverse effect following immunisation.

She stated that data gathering on vaccine was not limited to NAFDAC, adding that the agency belonged to an organisation called International Coalition of Medicine Regulatory Authorities (ICMRA).

"We belong to ICMRA, which is a global gathering of regulatory agencies

across the country, where we share our experiences like that of Oxford AstraZeneca Vaccine," she said.

On storage, she said the country had what it takes to store the vaccine effectively.

"We have the capability because the freezer temperature is now -30 degrees unlike when it was -80 to -60 degrees. So, the storage is not an issue in Nigeria," Adeyeye said.

She added that the agency was reviewing the Johnson and Johnson vaccine.

Mbaka Angry For Failing To Get Contract – Presidency

BY JONATHAN NDA- ISIAH & BODE GBADEBO

The Presidency has disclosed what it said were the reasons why Catholic priest, Reverend Father Ejike Mbaka of the Adoration Ministry demanded the resignation of President Muhammadu Buhari over the high level of insecurity across the country.

Mbaka earlier said Buhari had failed Nigeria woefully and should resign.

He also warned members of the National Assembly that if they fail to impeach Buhari and begin to fight him (Mbaka), something worse than what they ever imagined would befall them.

Presidential spokesman, Garba Shehu, in a statement yesterday said Father Mbaka had asked for contracts

as compensation for his support when he visited the president.

Shehu said the refusal of the president to accede to Mbaka's pecuniary demands necessitated his recent turnaround.

He said; "An outsider distilling the avalanche of verbiage will be surprised that after supporting the president two times to win the presidency, Father Mbaka has made a complete u-turn, preposterously asking President Buhari to resign or be impeached.

"Here is the point of departure: Father Mbaka asked for a meeting and to the shock of presidential aides, he came accompanied by three contractors. The president graciously allowed them in, and to everyone's surprise, Father

Mbaka asked for contracts as compensation for his support.

"Anyone familiar with President Buhari knows that he doesn't break the laid down rules in dealing with contracts or any other government business for that matter. He requested the appropriate authorities to deal with the matter in accordance with laid down rules.

"Inside the Villa, discretion prevailed, that if those pictures and requests were made public, the followers would turn against the religious leader. None of it was released. Now, this is what is eating Father Mbaka," he added.

Meanwhile, an Abuja-based activist, Comrade Deji Adeyanju, has said the President Muhammadu

Buhari administration's dismissal of Father Ejike Mbaka's criticism should be a warning signal to religious leaders in the country.

Reacting to the development on his verified social media handles on Friday, Adeyanju, the convener of the Concerned Nigerians group, said more embarrassment awaited religious leaders except they stopped romancing with politicians.

Adeyanju wrote: "God is using Mbaka to warn religious leaders who join dirty politicians to play their dirty games. More embarrassment awaits you if you don't stop.

"I can never forget how they used Mbaka to announce Imo Supreme Court fraud & he claimed God told him."



FG To Develop Geographical Indication System For Intellectual Property

BY JONATHAN NDA- ISIAH

The federal government has declared its commitment to develop a geographical indications (GI) unique system for Nigeria as part of ongoing efforts to review the nation's intellectual property policy and laws.

Minister of State, Industry, Trade and Investment, Ambassador Mariam Katagum, stated this on Thursday at a capacity building workshop in Abuja.

The workshop with the theme; "Understanding policy support for Geographical Indications (GIs) in Nigeria," was organised as part of a series of collaborative efforts between the federal government and the European Union to build the required capacity for evolution of a GI unique system for Nigeria.

Other collaborating stakeholders for the event include the European Union Intellectual Property Office funded Africa Intellectual Property Rights and Innovation (AfrIPRI) project, the African International Trade and Commerce Research (AITCR) and the IP First Group of Nigeria.

PDP Asks Security Agencies To Question Akpabio

BY CHIBUZO UKAIBE, Abuja

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) has asked the Department of State Services (DSS) and other security agencies to immediately invite the minister of Niger Delta Affairs, Senator Godswill Akpabio, to name politicians in the All Progressives Congress (APC) that are behind acts of terrorism and banditry ravaging the nation.

The party said there was self-professed evidence that Senator Akpabio was privy to certain terrorism-related information which he must be made to share with security agencies.

The national publicity secretary, Kola Ologbondiyan, said the PDP's position was predicated on comments made by Akpabio at the APC national secretariat in Abuja on Thursday that the acts of terrorism in the country were "politically motivated" and were the handiwork of infiltrators from neighbouring countries.

Ologbondiyan in a statement added; "It is instructive to state that Senator Akpabio's revelation provides more insight into the alleged affiliation of APC leaders with terrorist elements who have reportedly infiltrated our nation after being imported from neighbouring countries by the APC as political mercenaries to assist it in unleashing violence to rig the 2019 general elections.

Kano Dismisses 4 Workers For Misconduct

BY ABDULLAHI YAKUBU, Kano

The Kano State government has sacked four members of staff of the state primary health care management board over misconduct.

This was contained in a statement issued by the board's public relations officer, Maikudi Muhammad Marafa, yesterday.

The statement said the decision was taken following the recommendations by the Governing Board and the Disciplinary Advisory Committee constituted to investigate cases affecting the staff.

According to the statement, upon confirmation of the offences committed, the committee recommended their sack.

May Day: Nigerian Workers Lament Poor Pay, Insecurity

BY MUYIWA, ABUJA AND ANDREW OJIEZEL, Lagos

As Nigerian workers join their counterparts across the world to mark this year's workers day, issues of poor welfare and insecurity have again popped up as their prime concern.

This year's celebration is coming at a time the Judiciary Staff Union of Nigeria (JUSUN), Parliamentary Staff Association of Nigeria (PASAN) and Academic Staff Union of Polytechnics (ASUP) are currently on strike over improved welfare packages.

It is also coming at a time when workers, especially in the health sector are at the forefront of the fight against the COVID-19 amidst complaints of poor welfare.

NLC president, Comrade Ayuba Wabba, lamented the state of insecurity in the country, saying workers are mostly targets for kidnapping and killings.

In his May Day speech, said so many teachers, health workers, agricultural and food chain workers had been either kidnapped or killed.

According to Wabba, so many working families have had the lives of their breadwinners brutally cut short, leaving behind open wounds that could be the sores for another cycle of counter-violence.

He therefore urged the Nigerian security apparatus to do more, even as he reiterated the call for improved social protection and investments in social services to deal with human insecurity which is the bane of physical insecurity.

He said, "It is unfortunate and a terrible injustice to the memory of Nigeria's founding fathers that virtually every part of the country has been engulfed by one form of security challenge or the other. In the North East, there is the challenge of Boko Haram terrorism. In the North West, there is the challenge of rural banditry and kidnap-for-ransom. In the North Central, there is the challenge of farmers and pastoralists clashes.

"In the South South, armed militants still operate in the mangroves engaged in all manner of economic sabotage. In the South West and South East, local militias are filling the vacuum created by the absence of the state and are heating up the polity with ethno-religious rhetoric.

"In the midst of this confusion, Nigerians are asking, 'where is the state?' Many Nigerians understand the grave dangers of surrendering our sovereignty to a mob of violent and non-descript non-state actors. Already the numbers are piling up as the humanitarian carnage left in the wake of Nigeria's medium to high intensity conflict continues to rise."

On other issues affecting the country, the NLC President said quality wages has also been an issue in the face of the rising cost of living, but more especially, the payment of the new national minimum wage.

He said, "A few states are yet to begin the implementation of the new national minimum wage. We have already asked affected state councils to proceed on state-wide industrial action. Some states also are yet to conclude negotiations on the consequential increase in salaries."

Wabba also lamented the moves by those he called "a section of Nigeria's ruling class" to scuttle the minimum wage as enshrined in the ILO provisions. He, however, vowed that workers would resist such moves.

He said, "The National Minimum Wages serve as social protection by providing a minimum income floor to safeguard low earners. Today, there are attempts by a section of Nigeria's ruling class to kill the National Minimum Wage by removing it as an item from the Exclusive Legislative List to the Concurrent Legislative List. This is most despicable.

"Hiding under the mask of 'fiscal federalism', a few Nigerian politicians want to rob workers of the meagre national minimum wage which by today's foreign exchange is equivalent to \$US60 – a far cry from the first national minimum wage of the equivalent of \$US125 which was signed into law in 1981 by the Late Shehu Shagari. We will resist this evil!"

Secretary-general of the Trade Union Congress of Nigeria (TUC), Comrade (Barrister) Lawal Ozigi, said what Nigerian workers need most is security.

He said, "Job security, security of lives and properties. Security starts from home; everyone should be concerned about security."

In the same vein, the TUC Scribe called on the government to pay national minimum wage as and when due, adding that "government should pay minimum wage and consequential adjustment first."

He said, "Security concerns all. Citizens should support the government. Government, on its part, should seek external assistance possibly from African countries to cooperate in the continent."

President of the Nigeria Civil Service Union (NCSU), Comrade Lawrence Amaechi, in his reaction to this year's workers day celebration, said while workers are agitating for payment of their wages and other welfare packages, security challenges remains topmost on workers' agenda as it is becoming very worrisome

He said, "Insurgents, bandits, kidnapers and others are our main concern at the moment. In other words, insecurity across Nigeria is worrisome.

"Right now that (minimum wage payment) is secondary because it is when a worker is alive that minimum will have meaning, though we still urge the remaining states that are yet to pay the national minimum wage to do so without further delay."

On his part, the president of the Parliamentary Staff Association of Nigeria (PASAN), Muhammed Usman, said workers currently face inadequate welfare packages.

He also reiterated that the workers want the government to prioritise security for every Nigerian

He said, "Well, the challenges workers are facing include inadequate welfare packages, bad retirement benefits, medical attention, transportation, and inadequate staff quarters.

"We expect a total charge to all what I listed for the betterment of Nigeria workers but most importantly the security of life and properties of the Nigerian people. Government



Olaleye

should try by all means to restore the security challenges the country is going through. May Allah bring to and end all these calamities we are facing as a nation. May he give our leaders the wisdom to pilot the affairs of this country and give more strength to our brothers and sisters who are in the war front to safeguard our dignity, lives, pride and territory."

On the on-going strike action, he said the workers remain resolute to sustain the action because autonomy for State Assemblies will improve the nation's democracy.

He said, "As for our agitations on the Implementation of the Financial Autonomy granted by the president, we are resolute and still on strike until our demands are met. While wishing my members happy workers day, I want to remind us that the Legislative arm is not a toy to be played with or looked down on. We must salvage it together."

For the Nigeria Union of Pensioners (NUP), this year's workers day comes with excitement following President Muhammadu Buhari's approval of the consequential adjustment in the pension of retirees under the defined benefit scheme.

The approval followed agitations by the Nigeria Union of Pensioners (NUP), urging the federal government to review the minimum pension for retirees after the signing of a new Minimum Wage in 2019.

According to a circular released by the National Salaries, Income and Wages Commission, the approval by President Buhari for the new pension increase takes effect from April 18, 2019.

The circular dated April 28, 2021, with file number SWC/S/04/S.542/11/298, was signed by Ekpe Nta, the acting chairman of the commission.

In its reaction, the Nigeria Union of Pensioners (NUP) commended the president for the release of the circular.

NUP's head of Information, Comrade Bunmi Ogunkolade, while reacting, said the approval was a workers' day gift to pensioners, saying "NUP appreciates President Muhammadu Buhari for the release of the circular"

Also reacting, the TUC chairman, Lagos State chapter, Comrade Gbenga Ekundayo, warned the National Assembly not to remove the national

minimum wage from the exclusive list through the backdoor or face the wrath of Nigerian workers.

Speaking with LEADERSHIP Weekend on expectations of Nigerian workers in the 2021 May Day celebrations, he said, "He reiterated his warning that if the National Assembly does not rescind the plan to remove minimum wage from the exclusive bill, then they will be prepared to face the consequences.

Ekundayo challenged any state that is not willing to abide by payment of the national minimum wage as approved by President Buhari to desist from collecting federal allocation or be ready to face the anger of Nigerian workers.

Likewise, he called on the federal government to tackle the issue of shortage of vaccines which has rendered many people from taking it thereby preventing most people.

"The plight of Nigerian workers is very glaring for everyone to see. Coronavirus pandemic did lots of havoc to the living conditions of many workers. Many lost their loved ones; some lost their means of livelihoods. Those having jobs today are just managing as some have their salary slashed or some are still working from home.

"Though some have jobs retained but they are not enjoying it, as most of them now have many mouths to feed. They are the only bread winners in their families. Level of income of average Nigerian workers has been rendered meaningless; the average worker is now having many extended families to cater for.

"We expect the government to ensure that most jobs lost and factories shut down by the pandemic are brought back to life to enable people now roaming the streets or merely sitting at home to get tangible things to do through useful engagement in meaningful jobs. Giving room for people to earn salaries is the best solution to the current conditions facing the country.

"This is better than equipping police and other security personnel. Not that such equipment is bad, but that insecurity can be tackled through job creation whereby most of those involving themselves in crimes out of idleness will find useful means of livelihoods."

It's Criminal Not To Pay Minimum Wage, Oshiomole Tells Governors

Meanwhile, former national chairman of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Comrade Adams Oshiomole, said it was criminal for any governor not to pay workers national minimum wage as and when due

He alleged that the over 35,000 workers recently sacked by Kaduna State government had contributed greatly to the current insecurity experienced in the state.

Speaking at the 2nd NLC Peace and Security Summit with the theme, 'Overcoming the Siege of Insecurity in Nigeria: Imperative of Human and Physical Security', Oshiomole said, "When they deny workers such payment, can there be peace? I submit with the International Labour Organisation that the condition for national peace and security does not necessarily need much bullet but decent jobs but when you are in an environment where jobs are being killed, jobs that do not exist cannot even be decent.

"If the oppressed stop antagonising and organise themselves, and find a common unity across the country that would be the beginning of laying the foundation for sustainable peace in Nigeria.

"The 36 state Governors are united. The oppressors are united against you (workers). When we are through with discussing the issue of insecurity, we can then start discussing the issue of security of wage and jobs."

The former NLC president also observed that those retrenched and left without any means of livelihood have now been forced into crime, even as children abandoned by the society are now grown and have turned against the society for turning their backs on them.

"Who are the bandits? Those 35,000 workers in Kaduna city whose livelihood have been taken, what are they doing? What will their children and grandchildren be doing now? It's common sense to know that an idle mind is a devil's workshop.

"I suspect that those Nigerians that we abandoned and don't provide for them, as you can call them almajiri or beggars, have all grown up. When you talk about unemployment, the biggest problem is having the biggest population of unemployed because they never had any opportunity of being taught by a qualified teacher."

Also speaking, secretary to government of the federation (SGF), Boss Mustapha, said the choice of the theme of the summit was to underscore the importance of government and labour working together for the common good of the Nigerian people.

He said government and labour interaction would constantly be needed to seek ways of improving the best for the country.

"I want to thank the NLC for creating this avenue and which is very important, as we begin to think and find solutions to all that are bedeviling us and we must find solutions," he added.

Lite

» Join the convo using the hash tag #Lite on @leadershipNGA

NAME TAG

Abubakar Suleiman

PRESENT DESIGNATION

Chief Executive Officer
Sterling Bank Plc

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

Non Executive Director
Financial Institutions Training Centre (FITC)

EDUCATION

Master of Science (M.Sc)
Major Programme Management
University of Oxford - Said Business School
Bachelor of Science (B.Sc)
Economics
University of Abuja

GROUP INTERESTS

Harvard Business Review Discussion Group
The Project Manager Network - #1 Group for Project Managers
Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Network | #1 Exec Finance Group
Banking Career
Africa Banking Network
Nigeria Business Communities

TWITTER

@suleimana
12.6K Followers

BIRTHDAY

August 19



» HUBSPOT

Zenrose Concept Got You Covered 'Cakewise'

Zenrose Concept is a catering outfit in the business of providing exceptional experience as regards to cakes and general party catering. With Zenrose you no longer have to worry about getting a 'great' cake (both in looks and taste) for that event as they provide you with sumptuous, tasty cakes and treats. Interested in learning a skill? Why not contact them on any of their social media handles. "We don't just bake cakes, we create an experience that cannot be put into words," says Adangozi Onumonu, CEO of the company. "How do I know this? Everyone who has ever tasted our cakes say so," she added emphatically.

» SPORTING TRIBUTES

Kelechi Iheanacho: King of the 'King Power'?

INTERVIEWS BY OSSAI SAMUEL

'Seniorman Kelz' as he is fondly called by a section of his fans is having the season of his life. As at the time of writing this, he is the highest goal scorer for English Premier League side, Leicester City. An astonishing 14 goals in 14 matches is making the former Manchester City starlet the toast of his team's fans. The Super Eagles of Nigeria striker is enjoying his best season ever alongside Wilfred Ndidi for the Foxes. So, has Iheanacho overtaken Jamie Vardy as the real king of Leicester's King Power stadium? Fans give their views.

Can Arsenal just buy him and Ndidi and have these two things work for God's sake.

-Faisal Olawale Lawal

All I want to say is we bless God for the person that 'cut soap' for him. He's been pretty impressive!

-Tariah Ipalibo

His village people have finally freed him to shine as he was

supposed to.

-Cobham Esther

Make Iheanacho go thank the baba wey do am for am.

-Stephen Idongesit

Thank God for him. It couldn't have come at a better time. Vardy is aging out, he's in pole position to be head honcho in the coming seasons.

-Nona Matthew

I think this is the Kelechi Iheanacho we expected to see when he broke out. He's finally living up to his potential. I hope he finally finds consistency.

-George Hope Joshua

Iheanacho's recent form is great, this is the guy we know before he got signed to Manchester City. Scoring goals every game is good for both him and the team.

-Ama Emmanuel



“

HIS VILLAGE PEOPLE HAVE FINALLY FREED HIM TO SHINE AS HE WAS SUPPOSED TO.

-COBHAM ESTHER

TREND SPOTTER

The Anambra International Cargo and Passenger Airport, Umueri is a beauty to behold. The airport has a four-storey terminal building with shops, a ten floor control tower and a car park that can accommodate 750 vehicles.

» ON THE RISE

WHO IS CLIMBING THE LADDER?

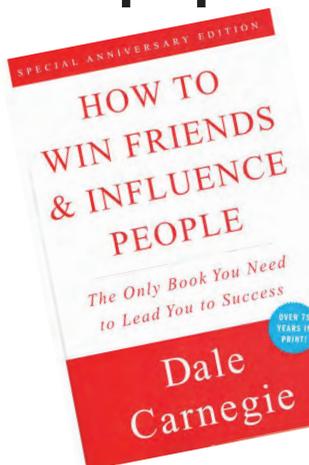
David Masi-Iseki teams up with Juve Academy, Abu Dhabi



Born in March 2007, David Masi-Iseki is lighting up the Juventus Academy U-14s in Abu Dhabi, UAE. The right-footed British-Nigerian nicknamed 'Stingy' joined up from GND Football Academy U14s. He is a striker who is also comfortable playing as a left or right wing forward or attacking midfielder.

» A BOOK I READ

'How to win friends and influence people' – Mimi Obi



If I was asked to rename the book 'How to Win Friends and Influence People' by Dale Carnegie, it would be called a 'Secret tips on Life Application'. This book is aimed at people who want to improve their relationships, master success and learn the secrets to being great influencers in any field of life.

If you have ever studied the lives of great leaders and asked yourself how they got everyone to like them, you can find practical answers in this book. Using a conversational style of writing packed with real life experience, this book takes you through a rewarding mental shift using practical knowledge on how to become who you want to be.

What I love most about this book is that the lessons learnt can be applied to both your professional and personal life. If you want to move from where you are and become who you want to be, then this book is a great start.



» WEEKEND COOKING

This meal goes well for me any day any time. The pounded yam is easy to prepare as it involves peeling the yam, cutting it to slice pieces, washing with clean water and allow to boil till it is soft. Pound the cooked yam in a mortar and you have your pounded yam.

The Egusi soup is a special delicacy I learnt from my sister. I call her my expert chef due to her special ways of cooking. This fried egusi is prepared by first gathering the ingredient which are: two cups of egusi, de-boned and parboiled dried fish, some fresh seed of red pepper, handful of pumpkin (ugu) leaves, very small freshly washed bitterleaves, palm oil, seasoning, salt, crayfish, parboiled goat meat or any other meat of choice, some chopped onions and clean water.

The interesting time is the moment of preparing the egusi soup. By just perceiving the aroma coming out of the soup, one will feel like eating it right from the fire.

Also, the bitterleaves do the magic as they give the soup a finishing sweet taste as you swallow the food.

» WISHLIST: TOP FIVE THINGS THAT WOULD WOW ME

Ossai Lydia: 'Getting a first-class honours in field of study'

1. As a Nigerian youth, the first thing on that list would be to be alive and not to die before I could possibly get every other thing on that wishlist completed.

2. Second thing I would wish for is a comfortable life were I get things and pay for things without checking the price list and then dropping it back quickly.

3. Third on the list would be straight 'A's in my field of study to get me a first class honours.

4. Fourth on my list is a Red Toyota Tundra CrewMax 4x4 1794 edition.

My age-mates would probably be wishing for a Benz, Toyota Venza or Spider. But that car right there is my baby. I remember seeing it for the very first time at my neighbour's compound, then I knew I had to get it someday because I feel that other cars or people on the road find it intimidating.

5. The last but not the least because a girl can dream, should be an iphone XS Max because the camera is awesome and I will be able to showcase my business and promote my brand.



Police Move Against Covered Number Plates, Tinted Glasses In Vehicles

BY EJIKE EJIKE, Abuja

Security agencies led by the commissioner of police in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Bala Ciroma, have launched an operation against the use

of unauthorized covered number plates and tinted glasses in vehicles within the territory.

The team, according to the police spokesperson in the FCT, ASP Mariam Yusuf, has therefore

warned residents using such unauthorized covered number plates and tinted glasses within the territory to desist as violators will be arrested and prosecuted.

Mariam Yusuf said; "The operation is in

continuation with the security team's relentless effort to rid the Federal Capital Territory of criminality.

"The operation has extremely become necessary due to the recent

security threat analysis conducted by the joint team which revealed that criminal syndicates now execute their nefarious activities using tinted vehicles with covered number plates.

No Rift Between Ngige, NBS

BY EJIKE EJIKE, Abuja

The Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment has said that there is no conflict between the minister, Senator Chris Ngige, and the National Bureau of Statistics in relation to the national unemployment data.

A statement from Charles Akpan, the deputy director, press and public relations in the ministry said yesterday in Abuja; "The honourable minister had in clarification to a question during a private visit to his office by the Chartered Institute of Personnel Management of Nigeria (CIPMN) brought to the fore, an underplayed difference between the method engaged by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) for unemployment data collection as well as assessment and that used by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBC).

"He further informed his visitors of a meeting with the World Bank aimed at verifying these areas of differences, harmonizing them so as to ensure that figures brought out by any of the parties, the ILO or the NBS would be an unemployment figure that truly reflects the peculiarities of the Nigerian nation.

"The reason is that going by the ILO standard for unemployment statistical evaluation, there are some parameters which it considers obsolete, hence excluded, but still obtain in Nigeria. This is the essence of the meeting which held yesterday.

"The minister therefore did not refute or have issues with the statistics released by the NBC beyond bringing into reckoning, the ILO parameter which situates national peculiarities. And this does not in any way nullify the existing cordiality and cooperation between the office of the Minister of Labour and Employment and the NBS as part of the same government."

PMB Re-Appoints Heads Of NCAC, NTDC, NFVCB, SERVICOM

BY JONATHAN NDA-ISAIAH

President Muhammadu Buhari has approved the reappointment of Otunba Segun Runsewe, the director-general, National Council for Arts and Culture (NCAC), Mr Folorunso Coker, director-general, Nigeria Tourism Development Corporation (NTDC) and Alhaji Adedayo Thomas, executive director, National Film and Video Censors Board (NFVCB) for another term of four years.

According to a statement from presidential spokesman, Garba Shehu, the president also approved the appointment of Alhaji Ahmed Mohammed Ahmed as chief executive officer/artistic director of the National Troupe of Nigeria.

Alhaji Ahmed was until his appointment, the director of culture in the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Bauchi State.

The president also approved the re-appointment of Nnenna Akajemeli as the national coordinator and chief executive officer of SERVICOM for a second term of four years with effect from April 10, 2021.

The permanent secretary, State House, Mr Tijjani Umar, disclosed this at the presentation of the Revised State House Service Delivery Charter on Friday in Abuja.

On the State House Clinic, the permanent secretary said it had become fully self-sufficient, and commended medical workers for the improved service delivery.

In her remarks, the national coordinator of SERVICOM described her reappointment as a call to do more in terms of improving service delivery in Nigeria.



R-L: Minister of State, FCT, Hajiya Ramatu Tijjani Aliyu, being presented a copy of Nigeria @60, The BIG BOOK by director Special Projects, LEADERSHIP Newspaper, Rasheed Yusuf, and team member, Winifred Ogbedo, during their visit to the minister, yesterday.

NSCDC Directs State Commandants To Secure Airports

BY DAVID ADUGE-ANI, Abuja

The Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) has directed commandants of states with airports to immediately liaise with the airport managements and other relevant stakeholders to fortify the internal security mechanisms of the facilities.

Commandant-General of the corps, Ahmed Audi, who gave the directive in a

reaction to an intelligence report, said the move was necessary to elicit credible intelligence that would not only prevent such attacks but also bring those behind criminal acts to book.

Audi stated that the corps could not afford to treat the security of Nigerians with lightly, hence, his directive to all concerned state commandants to adequately deploy operatives

from special units such as the counter-terrorism, anti-vandalism, crisis and disaster management as well as intelligence and surveillance units for covert operations to all the airports in the country.

In a statement signed by the director, public relations of the corps, Olusola Odumosu in Abuja yesterday, the commandant-general assured Nigerians that a

highly coordinated approach had been put in place to check threats of attack on airport facilities across the country.

He urged all Nigerians to see the security of the nation as everyone's business and not an exclusive preserve of security agencies by volunteering credible information about any suspicious movement or criminal activity, even as he assured of the NSCDC's commitment to protect the identity of informants.

Minister Directs Commanders To Ensure Protection Of Prisons

BY DAVID ADUGE-ANI, Abuja

Minister of Interior, Ogbeni Rauf Aregbesola, has directed squadron commanders of Nigerian Correctional Service (NCoS) to use every means necessary to defend the custodial centres against internal and external aggression.

Aregbesola, who gave the directive while addressing the commanders in Abuja yesterday, said custodial facilities were a symbol of

the authority of the Nigerian state, sacred and inviolable institutions.

"You are empowered by the highest authority in the land to use every means necessary to defend the custodial centres against internal and external aggression. Your mission is to defend the facilities at all cost. Let me repeat again, defend them at all costs.

"The weapons you carry and the instrument you have are to be lawfully deployed for maximum effect in

protecting the facilities."

Aregbesola warned that anyone or group of persons that decide(s) to attack the facilities should not live to regret it, even as he charged the commanders not fail because failure means contributing to the insecurity in the land by allowing criminals to invade society.

"You must be on the watch for any instrument or material that could aid criminals in perpetuating jailbreaks," he added.

MISSING PERSON



NAME: CHARITY EZEKIEL
VILLAGE: GIDI ZAN
LGA: JOS SOUTH.
STATE: PLATEAU

She is dark in complexion, speaks English and Berom languages fluently.
Last seen on 13th March, 2021.
Left home at Flat 14, Block A1 APDC Estate Kabba District, Abuja.
If found please contact:
07035594576, 07033367118
Or Nearest Police Station.



It's different now

But your commitment remains the same and
the value of your service to society is still unequalled



Happy Workers' Day

Emir Urges Spiritual Devotion, Marks 25 Years On Throne

BY UMAR MOHAMMED, Gusau

The Emir of Moriki in Zamfara State, Alhaji Samai'la Muhammad Ari, has called on people of his emirate to devote more time to seek for spiritual intervention with a view to ending current security challenges facing the country as he marks 25 years on the throne.

The monarch, who was celebrating his 25th anniversary on the throne with special prayer session, said there was need for more devotion in prayers.

According to him, the security challenges facing the country, need total rebirth of the citizens, with more focus on good deeds.

Ari expressed appreciation and support accorded to him by people of the emirate in the past 25 years and called for extension of more understanding amongst people in the emirate.

"I am using this time to thank Allahu Subhanallahu Wata'ala for sparing our lives to witness this moment", he added.

He prayed to Allah for sustenance of peace and stability in the state and country as a whole.

UNICEF Lauds Improvement Of Nutrition Indices In Kaduna

BY ABDULLAHI YAKUBU, Kano

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), yesterday, commended the Kaduna State government for improving indices of malnutrition among children under five years in the state.

Dr Zakari Adam, chief field officer, UNICEF, Kaduna, made the commendation at a one-day Policy Dialogue on State Nutrition Policy, organised by the Planning and Budget Commission (PBC).

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that the policy dialogue had the theme, "Emerging Opportunities and Innovative Financing Options for Nutrition Interventions."

Adam, who was represented by the Nutrition Specialist, Mrs Chinwe Ezeife, pointed out that the government had been working hard to improve nutrition indices among children in the state.

"For instance, stunting, has slightly dropped from 56.6 per cent to 48.1 per cent between 2013 and 2018, according to the National Demographic and Health Survey.

Corruption Is Killing Nigeria – Ganduje

BY ABDULLAHI YAKUBU, Kano

The Kano State governor, Abdullahi Ganduje, has said that corruption is rapidly killing Nigeria and will continue until positive steps are taken to stop the ugly trend.

The governor lamented over the spate at which corruption is spreading in Nigeria, saying it is killing the country and if not restricted, will hinder development.

Ganduje, who was represented by the secretary to the state government, Alhaji Usman Alhaji, stated this on Thursday in Kano at the inauguration of the Anti Corruption Steering

Committee convened by the Public Complaints and Anti Corruption Commission, the anti graft agency in the state.

"Believe me, we need not say that corruption is killing everyone of us. The truth of the matter is that we will never develop or progress with this level of corruption in the country," Ganduje stated.

Speaking on the function of the committee, he explained that whosoever was found wanting by the commission, whether within or outside government, would be made to face the full wrath of the law.

"This committee is one of the most important committees inaugurated in

the state. This is because the anti graft agency has a dual role and responsibility:

The first role is that of public complaints. People might have one complain or the other that needs to be sorted out either between individuals, or between groups and individuals, or between individuals and government or even between neighbours and friends. This could be resolved amicably and cannot be referred to as crime.

On the other hand is anti corruption, which is a fight against crime. This means the double role should not be misconstrued as just the fight against crime.

Customs Seizes Goods Worth N165m

BY ISIAIAH BENJAMIN, Kaduna

The Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) Federal Operations Unit (FOU), Zone 'B', has made 122 seizures of items with Duty Paid Value (DPV) of N165,198,544.32 within three weeks.

The comptroller of the FOU with headquarters in Kaduna, Comptroller Al-Bashir Hamisu, who made the disclosure during a briefing in Kaduna, said, that the goods were seized between April 9th - April 29th, 2021 at various locations within the zone franchise, which are Kaduna, Zamfara, Kano, Kogi, Kebbi, Katsina, Sokoto, Jigawa, Kwara and Niger States.

Items seized and showcased to newsmen shortly after the

briefing include, 27 vehicles, which are used as means of conveyance for the prohibited goods, 1711 bags of foreign parboiled rice, 591 foreign spaghetti and macaroni, 360 cartons of pharmaceutical products without NAFDAC number, 191 kegs of foreign vegetable oil in 25 litres, 76 bales and sacks of second hand clothings and 70 bags of foreign fertilizer in 50kg.

Others are, 20 kegs of Premium Motor Spirit (PMS) in 25 litres, 19 cartons of couscous, six packs of foreign Ginny milky creamer and two units of used vehicles.

The comptroller said, the Nigeria Customs of today is committed in her resolve to bring

smugglers to their knees until they desist from their activities, which amounts to economic sabotage.

He disclosed that villagers at border towns now serve as informants to smugglers by giving them information about customs patrol team movements, adding that the smuggled foreign parboiled bags of rice were concealed in private vehicles aimed at deceiving the officers at check points.

"Those within the border community are sabotaging our efforts, they give information to the smugglers, making our efforts very tedious but our men are up to the task and we are not leaving any stone unturned until we achieve the desired results."

Bauchi Govt Launches Model Action Plan On VAPP Implementation

BY HARUNA MOHAMMED, Bauchi

Bauchi State government has launched a model action plan and advisory technical committee for implementation of the Violence Against Persons' Prohibition (VAPP) Act, aimed at fighting incessant violence against women and children in the state.

Inaugurating the committee at the Banquet Hall of the government House, the state

governor, Bala Mohammed Abdulkadir, said Bauchi State is first to domesticate VAPP, which he described as a major milestone for the state in its efforts to tame violence against vulnerable groups.

"Bauchi State is ready to translate the VAPP act into action by ensuring that all stakeholders that will see to the implementation of this law are brought on board.

"What we are doing today is a show of commitment from

Bauchi State and I want to assure you that the state government will adopt pragmatic intervention strategies that will target the most vulnerable in Bauchi State", Governor Mohammed said.

The governor said the state government would incorporate monitoring and evaluation as part of strategies that would ensure that the two committees defy derailing from the major objectives for which they were formed.

2023 Presidency: Katsina Youths Endorse Saraki In Daura

BY ISIAIAH BENJAMIN, Kaduna

Katsina State Youths Network (KSYN) has formally endorsed former senate president, Dr Abubakar Bukola Saraki, for the 2023 presidential race under the platform of the People's Democratic Party (PDP).

This is just as their Kaduna State chapter has also promised to join forces to ensure that Saraki succeeds in his presidential ambition.

The leader of Katsina Youths Network, Abubakar Nuhu Adam, in a statement made available to newsmen in Kaduna said, the endorsement of Saraki was formally done in Daura,

the hometown of President Muhammadu Buhari, as a sign of "politics without bitterness".

The Katsina Network said Saraki would be endorsed in two more zones in Katsina State any time soon.

"We have inaugurated the Katsina State youth network and have subsequently endorsed Dr Abubakar Bukola Saraki as presidential candidate under the umbrella of People's Democratic Party (PDP).

"We started with Daura zone and we shall, Insha Allah (God's grace), expand the movement to the remaining two zones of Katsina and Funtua, respectively. In the nearest future, we shall

open our head office in Katsina metropolis.

"Therefore, we, the Katsina State Youth Network for Dr Abubakar Bukola Saraki, have endorsed him to be our presidential bearer under the platform of our great party, PDP.

"Where are the Nigerian youths, I want to categorically tell you that it was through the effort of Dr Abubakar Bukola Saraki, that the bill of 'not too young to run' was brought in to the floor of the senate and was later signed into law. The bill gives equal opportunities to Nigerian youth to contest for different political office positions.

Ramadan Timing, Day 19

Towns	Magrib	Alfijr
Abakaliki	6.35	5.01
Abeokuta	7.20	5.20
Abuja/Suleja	6.43	5.03
Akure	6.48	5.12
Akwanga/Keffi/Nasarawa	6.39	4.59
Auchi	6.44	5.08
Ankpa/Ayangba	6.39	5.01
Argungu	6.58	5.07
Azare/Jama'are	6.34	4.45
Bama	6.20	4.31
Bauchi/Ningi	6.33	4.51
Benin	6.46	5.12
Bichi	6.42	4.53
Bida	6.47	5.01
BirninGwari	6.47	5.01
B/Kebbi/Gwandu/Jega	6.58	4.51
Birnin Kudu/Gwaram	6.35	4.49
Biu	6:25	4.39
Calabar	6.34	5.02
Damaturu	6.27	4.39
Daura/Dambatta	6.42	4.51
Dutse	6.38	4.39
Enugu	6.38	5.04
Funtua/Chafe	6.46	4.57
Gombe	6.27	4.44
Gumi	6.54	5.05
Gusau/K/Namoda	6.49	4.58
Gwadabawa	6.55	5.04
Hadejia/Gumel	6.37	4.46
Ibadan/Ife	6.53	5.15
Ilesha Baruba	6.57	5.17
Ilorin/Kaiama	6.53	5.13
Jalingo/Lau/Gashaka	6.25	4.45
Jere	6.42	5.00
Jos/Saminaka	6.36	4.54
Kabba	6.46	5.08
Kafanchan/Kachia	6.39	4.57
KafinMaiyaki	6.42	4.53
Kaduna	6.43	4.59
Kano	6.41	4.52
Katsina	6.46	4.55
Kontagora/Zuru	6.50	5.08
Lafia	6.38	4.58
Lagos	6.55	5.19
Lokoja/Idah	6.43	5.05
Maiduguri/Mubi/Gwoza	6.23	4.22
Makurdi	6.36	4.58
Minna	6.46	5.04
Misau	6.31	4.45
Mokwa/New Bussa	6.52	5.12
Monguno	6.22	4.30
Nguru/Gashua	6.33	4.42
Ogbomoshoh	6.53	5.15
Okene	6.45	5.07
Onitsha	6.41	5.07
Oyo	6.54	5.16
Port Harcourt/Owerri	6.29	4.51
Potiskum	6.30	4.41
Sagamu	6.54	5.19
Sokoto	6.55	5.04
Takum/Wukari	6.30	4.52
Warri	6.45	5.11
Langtang/WaseShendam	6.32	4.52
Wurno	6.54	4.55
Yola/Numan	6.31	4.41
Zaria	6.43	4.57
Cotonnou-Benin	6.58	5.24
Ndjamenah-Chad	6.15	4.26
Garoua - Cameroun	6.17	4.34
Younde-Cameroun	6.20	4.51

(Source: Society for the Propagation of Islam Kaduna)

TIPS ON HEALTHY 'IFTAR'

*Eat In Moderation:

A heavy stomach rarely agrees with a night of fruitful Ibadah.

(HealthyEating #Alarabiya.net)

Compiled By Al-Amin Ciroma

Youths Arrest Six Suspected Kidnappers In Kwara

BY ABDULLAHI OLESIN, Ilorin

Some youths in Odo-Owa in Oke- Ero local government area of Kwara State on Friday laid ambush for six suspected kidnappers who had been terrorising the people of the area and arrested them.

The suspected kidnappers whose gang leader was identified one Ramoni were said to have kidnapped four persons, including a Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) officer in Odo- Owa on Wednesday and thereafter demanded N8m ransom.

A source told LEADERSHIP Weekend that the family of the victims paid N2m to the kidnappers as the first tranche and it was when they were about to pay the balance of N6m that the youths pounced on the kidnappers and arrested them.

He added that the kidnappers had been handed over to security agents in the area.

Continuous Abduction Of Students Bad For North—Sani

The Action Democratic Party (ADP) has said the continuous abduction of students and teachers in the northern part of Nigeria would endanger education in the region.

Mr Yabaji Sani, the party's national chairman, spoke in an interview with the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) on Friday in Abuja.

Sani said it was obvious that the motive of those behind the kidnapping of students and their teachers was to frustrate education in the north.

According to him, the current abductions and killings of students is a clear way of frustrating the efforts of the government, parents and students in the education sector.

"Barely weeks after the abductions of an unprecedented number of students at the Government Science Secondary School, Kankara, Katsina State, the nation was greeted with a re-enactment at the Government College, Kagara, Niger State.



L-R: President/chairman of council Chartered Institute of Personnel Management of Nigeria (CIPM) Olawale Adediran; head of Civil Service of the Federation, Folasade Yemi-Esan; and minister of Labour and Employment, Chris Ngige, during the 2020 Fellows award and human resources recognition ceremony in Abuja, yesterday. PHOTO BY OLU AREMO.

Insecurity: Why PMB Must Take Responsibility Now—Senator Gyang

The senator representing Plateau North, Senator Istifanus Gyang, has called on President Muhammad Buhari to rise to his responsibility as the Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces and bring the challenge of insecurity under control.

Failure to take the bold step, Senator Gyang said, would allow those who want to overrun the country to

succeed in their mission.

The lawmaker made the call in Abuja while receiving the management staff of Federal College of Veterinary and Medical Laboratory Technology, Vom, Jos, Plateau State who came to honour him for his community development strides.

Gyang said legislators at both chambers of the National Assembly were

already bringing the issue of security to the front burner and attention of the president all the time, adding that the decisive action of the president would help arrest the situation.

"One of the places that was having this challenge earlier was Plateau State and my constituency in particular. When it started in our own area, some people felt that it was the communities that

were the problem. They thought it was the host communities that were generating insecurity, not being hospitable and all sorts of sentiments were attached to it at the early stage.

"But today, all over the country, from the North East to the North West and even to the South, we now know that it has become a national issue.

NSCDC Arrests 26 Cable Vandals In Kwara

BY ABDULLAHI OLESIN, Ilorin

The Kwara State Command of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) has arrested 26 suspects for allegedly vandalizing electricity cables and other valuable items in Ilorin, the state capital.

The suspects who allegedly

took away electric cables from Araromi and Akata-Tanke areas of Ilorin were arrested by the NSCDC anti-vandal team from their hideouts.

The NSCDC state commandant, Makinde Iskil Ayinla, disclosed this to LEADERSHIP Weekend in Ilorin.

Ayinla said while the prime suspects, Tanko, Bashir L.K and Nafiu took to their heels on sighting the NSCDC personnel, the man who accommodated them, Suleiman Abdullahi, was arrested alongside 25 suspected vandals who claimed to be scavengers.

He said the fleeing

suspects abandoned some cables and a motorcycle.

"Investigations revealed that Sulieman Abdullahi under the pretence of scavenging discarded items employed the services of the suspects to vandalize government property and perpetrate other criminal acts.

Provost Bemoans Dearth Of Facilities In Medical School

BY ACHOR ABIMAJE, Jos

The provost of the Federal School of Medical Laboratory Technology, Jos, Dr. Sunday Etukudoh, has said the school is serious in need of facilities to boost the training of students, research and workers' productivity.

He spoke during the visit of the minister of health, Dr. Osagie Ehanire, to the school's permanent site in Lamingo, Jos.

He said the contract for infrastructure development at the school's permanent site was awarded in 1983, but regretted that not much had been achieved due to

non-availability of funds and withholding of budgetary allocations.

He said the school would have been one of the approved Covid-19 testing centres in the country if the laboratory had been completed with adequate and functional facilities.

Dr. Etukudoh appealed

to the minister to urgently assist the school in these key areas of need.

The minister, while responding, said he was aware of the problems of the school, and the provost should put them in writing as each request would be responded to by the permanent secretaries.

Zungeru Hydro-dam Project To Go Operational Soon – Bello

The 700MW Zungeru Hydro-Electric power dam being built by the federal government will soon become operational, Governor Abubakar Sani-Bello of Niger State has said. This is contained in a statement by Mrs Mary-

Noel Berje, the chief press secretary to the governor in Minna on Friday.

Bello's representative, his chief of staff, Alhaji Ibrahim Balarabe, spoke when he visited the dam site in Zungeru in Wushishi local

government area of the state alongside other government officials.

He said the visit was to inspect one of the four turbines. He said the other three would be delivered in 2022.

"This is a major milestone and to us in Niger State, it is worth celebrating, we do hope that when the project is delivered, it will improve electricity generation, improve economic activities and a host of others," he said.

Malaria Cases Drop In Benue

Benue State has recorded a drop in malaria cases from 23 percent to 12.8 percent, the commissioner for health, Dr Joseph Ngbea, has said.

Ngbea, who was represented by the permanent secretary in the ministry, Andrew Ameer, made this known while briefing newsmen in Makurdi.

According to him, the figure is based on the latest Nigeria Demographic Health Survey (NDHS) 2020.

"This feat was made possible largely to the continued support and maintenance of essential health services by the state government. The government ensured that communities are protected from malaria," he said.

The commissioner said malaria kills more than 400,000 people around the world every year, mostly children.

He, however, said with continued use of proven tools and methods such as insecticide-treated bed nets, better management of malaria in children and pregnant women, its prevalence would go down. (NAN)

Omo-Agege Mourns Olu Of Warri, Congratulates Monarch-designate

BY SUNDAY ISUWA, Abuja

The deputy president of the Senate, Senator Ovie Omo-Agege, has expressed grief over the passing of the Olu of Warri, His Royal Majesty, Ogiame Ikenwoli Emiko.

This came as he felicitated with the Olu of Warri-designate, His Royal Majesty, Prince Utiyiyoritsetsola Emiko, on his selection as successor to the throne.

In a message, the Delta Central lawmaker commiserated with the Itsekiri people on the demise of their monarch, even as he urged them to rally support for the Olu-designate.

According to Omo-Agege, as a first-class custodian of culture and traditional values, Ogiame Ikenwoli not only distinguished himself as a worthy monarch of the Itsekiri nation but also stood out as a reference point for majesty, dignity and peaceful co-existence.

Describing his demise as a personal loss, Omo-Agege noted that Ogiame Ikenwoli "led with a unique understanding of the value of positive human relationships. His Majesty embraced me as a dear brother, friend and son, and I am eternally grateful to him for the privilege".

Sustain Existing Industrial Harmony In Ondo – APC Urges Workers

BY TOPE FAYEHUN, Akure

The Ondo State chapter of the All Progressives Congress (APC) has urged workers to sustain the existing industrial harmony between the APC-led government and unions.

The party, in a statement by its publicity secretary, Alex Kalejaye, noted that it was the only panacea for economic and infrastructure development in the state.

The party commended the understanding and attitude of both union leaders, and the entire workforce even at critical moments.

Kalejaye said, “We rejoice with the Nigerian Labour Congress (NLC), the Trade Union Congress (TUC) and all its members, particularly in Ondo State, as you celebrate this year’s International Workers’ Day.

“The party is not oblivious of the high expectations from different spectra of stakeholders including workers, but confident that the highly compatible team currently saddled with our state affairs would live up to its billing.

We Will Continue To Implement Reforms In Health Sector –Sanwo-Olu

BY GEORGE OKOJIE, Lagos

Lagos State governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu, has assured residents of the state that his administration would continue to implement audacious reforms in the health sector, saying the wellbeing of Lagosians was non-negotiable.

The governor who stated this during the commissioning of a Blood Transfusion Service Office, Oxygen Plant and Oxygen Triage Centre and ground-breaking of doctors’ 24-unit staff quarters at Gbagada General Hospital in Lagos added that the present administration would continue to ensure that all Lagosians have access to quality healthcare irrespective of their status.

Sanwo-Olu said the three critical health facilities and state-of-the-art equipment were vital projects that would increase his administration’s most recent achievements in the health sector to further enhance healthcare service delivery to people of Lagos State.

He said provision of quality healthcare that guarantees comfort and longevity was a fundamental pillar of his administration’s T.H.E.M.E.S development agenda.



L-R: Lagos State deputy governor, Dr Obafemi Hamzat; deputy managing director, Total Nigeria, Engr. Victor Bandle; General Manager, National Petroleum Investment Management Services NAPIMS, Mr Yunusa Jibril; Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu and commissioner for Health, Prof. Akin Abayomi, during the official commissioning of Medical Oxygen Plant donated to the state by Total Nigeria/NNPC and Partners at Gbagada General Hospital, Gbagada, Lagos. PHOTO BY KOLAWOLE ALIU.

Restructuring, Decentralised Economy Will Enhance States’ Development – Makinde

BY ADEBAYO WAHEED, Ibadan

Oyo State governor, Seyi Makinde, has called for restructuring of the country and decentralisation of its economy to give states the opportunity to develop their resources at their own pace.

Makinde stated this while receiving the University of Lagos Faculty of Engineering alumni association which paid him a courtesy visit at the State

Secretariat, Agodi, Ibadan.

The governor’s chief press secretary, Taiwo Adisa, said in a statement that the governor stressed that though restructuring might not be a total solution, it would address the major challenges in the country.

“Yes, a restructured and decentralised country will not be a fix-all (solution) but it will at least put us on that trajectory where we can start dealing with other issues at the local level,” he

said.

The governor, who welcomed the UNILAG engineering alumni to Ibadan, further said; “This is indeed a challenging period for us as a country across various sectors, education inclusive, and tertiary education cannot be left to the government alone. And it is also tied to our request for a restructured country.

He stated that with the NUC and TETFUND, everything had become

centralised, adding that was why many are asking for a decentralised structure for the country, so that certain people can develop at their own pace without having to go to Abuja, even in terms of the FAAC.

He added: “So, I will accept to co-chair the committee with Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu and we will roll up our sleeves and ensure we raise funds for the faculty towards our target of N500 million”.

Ooni Of Ife Canvases Patronage For Locally Produced Goods

BY YUSUF BABALOLA, Lagos

The Ooni of Ife, Ooni Adeyeye Enitan Ogunwusi Ojaja II, has urged Nigerians to patronize locally made products, saying such gesture was required to improve the country’s economy.

Ooni Ogunwusi made the

call yesterday at his Ile Oodua palace in Ile-Ife while playing host to the management of Titan Multi-business Investment Ltd, producers of Titan Rice who were on a courtesy visit for the commissioning of Titan Farms corporate head office and rice factory located in Ibadan.

The Ooni who is the co-chairman, National Council of Traditional Rulers of Nigeria, commended the Titan management for its patriotism and originality, while rendering qualitative services to Nigerians.

“We should commend the management of this great

company and other few ones across the country for standing up to the challenges in the competitive market, it is obviously not easy. What I want to encourage our people to do is to patronize this brand and I assure Nigerians that they’ll be proud,” the Ooni said.

US Embassy To Prioritise Appointments For Student Visa Applicants

BY DUSTAN AGHEDO, Lagos

The United States Embassy in Nigeria has announced that it would give priority to applicants of student visa by increasing the number of appointments and ensuring that Nigerian students resuming this fall semester get their visa interview appointments in advance of

their programmes’ start date.

This was announced on Friday by the US Mission Country Consular Coordinator, Susan Tuller, who said the embassy in Abuja and the Consulate General in Lagos would make every effort to assist student visa applicants in a timely fashion while keeping personnel and customers safe.

She said; “As we continue to prioritise the health and safety of our staff and customers, processing student visas remains a high priority for the US Mission in Nigeria.

“We will increase the number of student visa appointments in May and June to ensure that we can offer appointments to as

many students as possible.

“If your US studies are scheduled to begin this fall, we encourage you to schedule your appointment as quickly as possible.”

Tuller warned applicants against the use of third-party services, and enjoined them to book their appointments through the US travel documents website.

JUSUN Strike: Staff Chased Out Of Lagos Court

Staff of the Ebute Meta Chief Magistrates’ Court in Lagos were on Friday chased out of the premises by officials of Judiciary Staff Union of Nigeria (JUSUN).

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that the staff were asked by

JUSUN unionists to suspend court activities and vacate the premises.

Some staff of the court were seen hanging around the court premises while others left for their homes.

A member of staff who spoke on condition of

anonymity said, “The courts were initially opened on Thursday but the magistrates did not show up; today again in the morning we resumed activities but we were told to halt all activities and vacate the premises and wait for further instructions.

“Although we have been coming every other day, but we always hang around because they deny us access to the court premises; hopefully the strike yields a positive result soonest, we are tired of being idle,” he said.

‘Igbo Must Reintegrate With Other Ethnic Nationalities For 2023’

Igbo people have been urged to reintegrate with other ethnic nationalities in the country so that they can realise their ambition of producing the next president of the country.

This advice was given by stakeholders from the South East geo political zone at the unveiling of the book, “Igbo, 50 years after Biafra,” written by the special adviser to Lagos State governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu on drainage and water resources, Engineer Joe Igbokwe.

Speaking at the unveiling of the book, the chairman of the occasion, Mr. Cutis Adigba, said the Igbo had always found it difficult to rule Nigeria because they refused to build bridges across the six geo political zones that make up Nigeria.

He noted that it was saddening that after two decades that Nigeria returned to civil rule, the Igbo had predominantly identified with only one political party, pointing out that remaining in one party cannot advance the cause of the people of the South East and cannot make them realise their objective of producing an Igbo man as president.

Adigba maintained that the publisher of the book, Igbokwe, played politics outside his state so that the Igbo race could be integrated with others.

Group Tasks FG On Insecurity, Seeks Unity Among Nigerians

BY ALO ABIOLA, Ado Ekiti

A socio-cultural organization, the Agbajowo Advocacy for Yoruba People’s Right (AAYPR), has charged the federal government to redouble its efforts at safeguarding the lives and property of citizens.

The group also stressed the need for the people of the six geo-political regions of the country to be more united than ever before at this trying period.

AAYPR in a communiqué issued at the end of its regional meeting held in Ado-Ekiti, the Ekiti State capital, said such would strengthen the bond of relationship among the people and further engender the progress and cohesion of the country.

According to the communiqué signed by its national president and secretary, Comrades Muyideen Olamoyegun and Bolawa Akindolie, respectively, the group also lamented incessant attacks by bandits in the country.

It noted that true federalism and restructuring are the way out of the insecurity and other problems confronting the country.

BRIEFLY

AGRIC

African governments should create training initiatives that empower farmers to become self-sufficient in food supply. Cultivation of arable land is essential, with access to quality inputs, and there should be an overwhelming support for the “science agenda” to establish methods of increasing crop yields. Affordable financing structures is also required.

BANKING

From analysis of the combined assets of 12 listed banks (Access, FBN, FCMB, Fidelity, GTB, Jaiz, Stanbic IBTC, Sterling, Union, UBA, Wema, and Zenith Bank) that have released their full-year (2020), results showed that the total assets increased by 27.9 percent from N38.7 trillion to N49.4 trillion. The increase indicates the stronger financial position of the banks.

FINANCE:

At a very basic level, personal financial management simply means gaining an understanding of your financial situation in order to make the most of your assets in day-to-day life and in planning for your future. But to many, all this really means is that you should watch what you spend and save what you're able to.

PENSION

A number of dynamics currently underway on the continent – expanding populations, increasing urbanisation, rising per capita incomes, and a growing and consuming middle class – are all contributing to a pension fund industry that urgently needs to diversify its investment portfolios.

INSURANCE

Although the pandemic has upended consumer and commercial discretionary expenditures, including insurance, the pandemic will delay but not alter Africa's insurance growth pattern, as well as accelerate the shift toward digital and remote platforms. The African insurance market is projected to grow at approximately twice the rate of North America and slightly higher than Asia's 6 percent growth rate.

MONEY MATTERS

Golden Rules Of Investing



When it comes to managing your money, investing is a key part of building wealth. The problem? It can seem difficult to get started or feel tough to keep going. But try following some simple golden rules of investing can help you stay on the right track.

Start Early

The key to building wealth is to start investing early. The most powerful ingredient when it comes to investing is time. Through the power of compound interest, your investments can grow and your money can be put to work. If you feel behind with investing, don't get discouraged. Remember, “The best time to plant a tree is twenty years ago, the second best time is now.

Be consistent

One of the most important investment strategies is to be consistent. You want to put money aside for your future every month and make it a habit. To make the process simple, set up automatic contributions every time you get paid so you don't have to think about it.

Diversify

Investing comes with inherent risk but there are ways you can be proactive to protect yourself. The key component is to diversify your investments. You've probably heard the saying, “Don't put all your eggs in one basket” well this saying goes best with

your investments. Have a well and properly diversified portfolio. To do that, you want to have different kinds of investments that will typically perform differently over time, which can help strengthen your overall portfolio and reduce overall risk.

Rebalance

Markets are always changing and so are your investments. You'll be investing for many years, so it's important to do regular check-ins to stay on top of your money. Sometimes your original asset allocation can get out of balance, so you'll need to

rebalance.

As part of the rebalancing process, you buy or sell certain investments in order to get back to your desired asset allocation. This can help prevent your portfolio from becoming too aggressive, when the goal is to minimize your risk.

Stay the focus

There's one big truth to investing: the market will always be in-flux. Don't let that scare you, though. This fear can lead to selling your investments in a time of fear, rather than stay the course. Your ultimate

goal is to build wealth, so it's key to keep your emotions out of the process. Adopting a ‘buy and hold’ strategy where you stay the course and don't touch your money until retirement can help you ride out the market, regardless of what happens.

Change it up

You'll likely be investing for decades and you and your financial situation won't be the same during that time. Most times in life there are big life changes like marriage, divorce, kids, moving, job loss, income increase/decrease. When that happens it's time to change it up and make sure your investments reflect your new financial situation. On top of that, your risk tolerance shifts as you get closer to retirement age. Keeping an eye on your investments and changing it up as necessary can keep your money in good shape.

Communicate With Your Advisor

If you have a financial advisor or financial professional in your life, check in with them regularly about your investments. Your financial advisor can be your guide and help you get where you need to go. Don't be afraid to reach out and check in, especially if you have any questions or concerns.

In all, if you're wondering how to invest, use these golden rules of investing to get started. Using these simple investment strategies you can put your money to work and take care of your future.

How I Made It

TUNDE LEMO: Braving the Odds of Leadership

BY ENYO ATI

Mr Tunde Lemo is doubtlessly one of the Nigeria's top management and boardroom gurus. He started his career in Arthur Andersen & Co Chartered Accountants in 1985 and over the years, he held various other positions in finance and control, provided significant leadership and top management training both in the public and private sectors. He was the managing director of Wema Bank plc prior to his appointment as the deputy governor in charge of operations, Central Bank of Nigeria from 2003 to 2014; he was also deputy governor, Financial Systems Surveillance. He is a Fellow of the institute of Chartered Accountant of Nigeria as well as a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Bankers. He was awarded with the prestigious national honour of the Officer of the Federal Republic (OFR), in November, 2011.

Lemo was appointed to the board as an independent non-executive director on 1st December 2014. “As deputy governor, I handled two major directorates. My first six years, I was a regulator and there were two major events during that time,” he recounts. These events happened to be the banking sector consolidation of 2004 and the major investigation into



Lemo

banking corporate governance flaws.

He narrates the second event that happened under his watch as Deputy Governor in the Financial Sector Surveillance directorate. “During Lamido Sanusi's tenure as CBN governor, we had to carry out an examination on the banks and

about nine to 10 of them failed the test. We then had to remove many of their CEOs because there were investigations as to why they failed and we realised that there were significant corporate governance flaws. Some of them actually stole money from the banks. They were

into many unethical practices and that made many of the banks to be non-functional.

“However, I am glad that today, the banks are very strong, well capitalised and are more visible in the lending space, particularly in the upstream energy sector. You can also see them in telecoms and other areas. From the financial sector surveillance directorate, I was moved to Operations and that presented many opportunities that gladden my heart.”

He also recounts how financial exclusion of the Nigerian population reduced to less than 30 percent. “At that time, only a few of the banks were computerised. The digital space was not as active as it is now, so we thought of a way that we could get the banks to offer services in a manner that would be cost effective. One of the reasons they lent money in a reckless way was because their cost of operations was very high and they needed high interest rates to be able to maintain their level of operation. We realised that to make the banks more efficient, they had to reduce their costs of operation. We had to get them to embrace technology and go cashless. That was what led to the cashless exercise we did. It led to the restructuring of the bank system and the revolution you see around now in terms of electronic banking.”

Save For Retirement (3)

BY AKOGU YUSUF

planner to work through your retirement income plan. There are many planners who charge a flat or hourly fee for a specific assignment. Or you might want to consider hiring a pro on an ongoing basis to help you manage your finances throughout your retirement.

Take advantage of catch-up contributions. Once you cross the retirement savings Rubicon that is the half-century mark, the annual contribution limits for IRAs and 401(k)/403(b) plans rise. If a spin through an online retirement income calculator didn't deliver the numbers you'd like, stuff more money into your accounts now.

Build tax diversification. If you've done most of your workplace retirement savings in traditional accounts, you might want to consider spending a few years saving in a Roth equivalent, if your plan offers one. Retirement planning experts recommend adding some Roth retirement savings as a way to create "tax diversification" that can help keep your IRS tab down once you retire.

In your 60s:

Check if these numbers add up. By age 60, have eight times your salary saved. By age 67, have 10 times your salary saved.

Consider waiting to claim Social Security. You can start collecting your retirement benefit at age 62. Every month you delay past 62 earns you a higher eventual payout. Wait until age 70 and your payout will be 76% higher than what you'd get if you claim eight years earlier.

Earn just enough to avoid starting retirement account withdrawals. If you want (and can) continue to work full-time at a fast-paced job, that's great. But if you're ready to downshift or you were pushed out of your career, a practical strategy may be to work at a job that brings in enough to cover your living expenses, even if you can't afford to continue to add to your retirement savings. At this point, giving what you have already saved more time to compound before starting withdrawals is a smart move.

To be Continued



Investor's Guide:

Guide To Your Investments In 2021



It was difficult for many people to reconcile all-time stock market highs with a year in which there were nearly 20 million reported coronavirus infections and more than 340,000 fatalities in the U.S., along with an estimated gross domestic product (GDP) decline of 3.5%, according to the Conference Board, and millions of unemployed Americans.

The pandemic amplified significant differences between the U.S. economy and capital markets. Lockdowns and other social distancing measures caused severe damage to GDP and employment, notably in the retail, restaurant, travel and entertainment industries. In contrast, only 7% of S&P 500 operating earnings in 2019 came from those segments of the economy, according to J.P. Morgan's Guide to the Markets April 2020 report.

The big stock market winners in 2020 included segments of the market that benefited from the "stay home" economy, including online retail, technology and home improvement. The big stock market losers for 2020 were the segments of the stock market hurt most by social distancing, including energy, airlines and brick-and-mortar stores.

Market intervention from central banks and fiscal stimulus from governments helped stem the tide of selling in March. Massive federal policy support provided needed liquidity to households, businesses and capital markets, boosting investor sentiment and reducing the risk of a widespread wave of personal and business bankruptcies.

Many good companies suffered because of the widespread shutdown in segments of the global economy, forcing investors to revisit portfolio decisions made under a very different set of economic expectations. Among the more challenging dimensions of investing during 2020 was the need to assess whether some of the companies hurt most by the pandemic would be

disrupted permanently or would have long-term staying power, with hope for an eventual recovery.

Avoiding emotionally driven decisions during market downturns was a running theme last year. In fact, Morningstar's annual study of 20-year returns is a consistent illustration of the perils of market timing. Investors in the U.S. equity market for the full 20-year period through the end of 2019 earned 6.1% annually, while investors who missed the 10 best days saw their returns drop to 2.4% per year. Although avoiding the 10 worst days would boost returns, the best and worst days tend to be clustered together. The past year was no exception to the historical pattern, and many investors were hurt in their attempts to time the market.

Armed with the lessons of 2020 in hand, here are four tips that may help improve the performance of your portfolio in 2021.

Go On a Media Diet

News junkies often obsess over the latest headlines. The activity bias is a common behavioral pattern among financial advisors who find themselves glued to business news during the trading day. Excessive trading can be one of the more damaging investment behaviors, so consuming less business and political news may be a healthy

resolution for those who find themselves bingeing on the latest tweets, broadcasts and articles.

Evaluating Government Policies

Know that constraints matter more than preferences when evaluating government policies. For example, President Joe Biden's campaign platform reflected a preference for significant increases in taxes and spending. But with the slimmest of possible Democratic majorities in the Senate, Biden faces constraints on his ability to enact legislative policy preferences. Biden will need support from centrist Senate Democrats who are less likely to support substantial tax increases and policy priorities favored by the progressive wing of the Democratic party. A couple of other examples of constraints include Sen. Joe Manchin's opposition to eliminate the filibuster, which lowers the odds that Democrats can remove the filibuster and pass policy priorities without Republican support, and former President Donald Trump's appointment of conservative judges, which may constrain Biden's ability to act through executive orders or regulatory edicts.

Spend Less Time in Echo Chambers

Confirmation bias is the tendency to seek evidence that supports

preexisting beliefs and to interpret information in a way that supports an existing position. The echo chamber that comes from avoiding contrary viewpoints can lead to costly investment mistakes. Seeking contrary points of view is a necessary step in testing an investment point of view and an important (albeit uncomfortable) tip for 2021.

Ask the Right Questions

Investment discussions in January are dominated by forecasts for the coming year. The most common question is: "What do you expect the market to do this year?"

For most investors, the focus on a relatively short-term time horizon is understandable but counterproductive. The more relevant discussion about the investment outlook should be framed around long-term investment expectations and the alignment with financial and personal goals. Realistically, once cash needs are taken care of, most investors have time horizons measured in years if not decades.

The incredibly unreliable directional "crystal ball" for one-year periods becomes a lot more reliable over longer periods, making planning a more predictable and less stressful exercise. Consequently, perhaps the most important tip for investment planning in 2021 is to think with the long term in mind and worry less about day-to-day volatility.

Source: US News invested

GLOBAL COMMODITIES PRICE

Commodity	Last price/ contract	Today's change	1-year trend	Low52-weekHigh
Brent Crude Oil AS OF APR 29 2021 16:54 BST.	68.20 USD	+0.93 +1.38%	20.53Apr 29 202071.38	Mar 08 2021
WTI Crude Oil AS OF APR 29 2021 16:54 BST.	64.69 USD	+0.83 +1.30%	12.67Apr 29 202067.98	Mar 08 2021
Heating Oil AS OF APR 29 2021 16:49 BST.	1.95 USD	+0.0155 +0.80%	0.6288Apr 29 20201.99	Mar 08 2021
RBOB Gasoline AS OF APR 29 2021 16:48 BST.	2.09 USD	+0.0145 +0.70%	0.6775Apr 29 20202.17	Mar 15 2021
Ethanol AS OF JAN 01 0001.	2.33 USD	0.00 0.00%	1.02Jul 20 20202.33	Apr 27 2021
Natural Gas AS OF APR 29 2021 16:54 BST.	2.89 USD	-0.072 -2.43%	1.43Jun 26 20203.40	Oct 30 2020

Data delayed at least 10 minutes, as of Apr 29 2021 16:54 BST

INDEX	VALUE	CHANGE	%CHANGE	HIGH	LOW	TIME (EDT)	Precious and Industrial Metals INDEX	UNITS	PRICE	CHANGE	%CHANGE	CONTRACT	TIME (EDT)
BCOMTR:IND Bloomberg Commodity	191.85	-0.72	-0.37%	194.21	191.83	12:04 PM	GC1:COM Gold (Comex)	USD/t oz.	1,767.50	-6.40	-0.36%	Jun 2021	11:54 AM
CMCITR:IND UBS Bloomberg CMCI	1,136.54	-2.67	-0.23%	1,148.73	1,136.54	12:03 PM	XAUUSD:CUR Gold Spot	USD/t oz.	1,767.26	-14.42	-0.81%	N/A	12:04 PM
CRYTR:IND Reuters/Jefferies CRB	212.58	-0.34	-0.16%	215.10	212.39	11:49 AM	SI1:COM Silver (Comex)	USD/t oz.	26.01	-0.11	-0.43%	Jul 2021	11:54 AM
RICIGLTR:IND Rogers International	2,736.85	-4.24	-0.15%	2,767.83	2,736.85	12:03 PM	HG1:COM Copper (Comex)	USd/lb.	449.20	-0.55	-0.12%	Jul 2021	11:54 AM
SPGSCITR:IND S&P GSCI	2,425.09	+14.20	+0.59%	2,446.22	2,393.45	4/28/2021	XPTUSD:CUR Platinum Spot	USD/t oz.	1,198.87	-22.77	-1.86%	N/A	12:05 PM
Energy INDEX	UNITS	PRICE	CHANGE	%CHANGE	CONTRACT	TIME (EDT)	Agriculture INDEX	UNITS	PRICE	CHANGE	%CHANGE	CONTRACT	TIME (EDT)
CL1:COM WTI Crude Oil (Nymex)	USD/bbl.	64.70	+0.84	+1.32%	Jun 2021	11:54 AM	C 1:COM Corn (CBOT)	USd/bu.	640.00	-4.00	-0.62%	Jul 2021	11:54 AM
CO1:COM Brent Crude (ICE)	USD/bbl.	68.20	+0.93	+1.38%	Jun 2021	11:54 AM	W 1:COM Wheat (CBOT)	USd/bu.	723.25	+0.50	+0.07%	Jul 2021	11:54 AM
XB1:COM RBOB Gasoline (Nymex)	USd/gal.	208.67	+1.45	+0.70%	May 2021	11:48 AM	CC1:COM Cocoa (ICE)	USD/MT	2,494.00	+22.00	+0.89%	Jul 2021	11:53 AM
NG1:COM Natural Gas (Nymex)	USD/MMBtu	2.89	-0.07	-2.36%	Jun 2021	11:53 AM	CT1:COM Cotton #2 (ICE)	USd/lb.	86.28	-3.24	-3.62%	Jul 2021	11:54 AM
HO1:COM Heating Oil (Nymex)	USd/gal.	195.41	+1.55	+0.80%	May 2021	11:49 AM	LC1:COM Live Cattle (CME)	USd/lb.	115.75	+0.30	+0.26%	Jun 2021	11:54 AM

MONEY MAKING VENTURES

Money Moves To Make During An Economic Worldwide Recovery



high-interest debt first or focusing on the debt that's easiest to get rid of quickest.

How to max your retirement for your 2021 financial resolutions

Now is a good time to plan for debt management, according to Brown. In the last few months, with a third round of stimulus checks and tax refunds going out, families especially could have thousands of extra dollars to deploy.

Of course, some people may want to pay down their debt before they build up emergency savings or work towards both goals simultaneously.

If people can afford to work towards multiple financial goals at once, they should, said Menard, adding that not everyone has that ability.

3. Rework your budget for the new normal

Last year was unusual, and for many that resulted in drastic changes to their set budget. Whether people lost work and had to find other sources of income or found that they had extra money from canceled trips, budgets may need updating.

This is also important as people begin to reenter the world as it opens post-pandemic. They should be extra careful not to let their excitement lead to overspending, Brown said.

Really factor in what that inflation is going to be – what you think that you had budgeted before might not be enough

Marisa Bradbury

Investment Advisor At Sigma Investment Counselors

It's also a good idea to check to see if the cost of certain goods and services are the same or have changed due to the pandemic.

"Be mindful of inflation creeping in — things might cost more," said Marisa Bradbury, CFP, CPA and investment advisor at Sigma Investment Counselors in Lake Mary, Florida. "Really factor in what that inflation is going to be — what you think that you had budgeted before might not be enough."

If you do have money to allocate to fun things such as entertainment, shopping or travel, Bradbury recommends checking back in with your budget and setting aside a specific amount to guard against overspending. This is especially important for those in retirement living on a fixed income, Bradley said.

4. Recalibrate and revise your financial goals

As the U.S. moves on from the pandemic, people should also reassess their long-term financial goals. The past year set millions of Americans back in many ways, and for some that meant pushing off milestones such as buying a house or car.

"If they were hammered by 2020, they may have to push out retirement for a couple of years; that's OK," said Brown. "They may have to get some of those financial fundamentals taken care of first."

Even as the economy recovers, however, getting back to pre-pandemic finances won't happen overnight, according to Brown. And, people should be aware of that and adjust their expectations accordingly.

"What worked in 2019 or even 2020 may not work now," she said.

Source: Daily Muse Inc.



Five Personal Finance Books You Should Be Reading In 2021

BY ZARA SHENEW

If you have a goal to be more financially savvy in 2021, are just curious about how you can make better money moves or want a useful gift you can give to friends and family, check out my favorite personal finance books:

The Classics:

Some financial advice is time sensitive, but the fundamentals of making sound financial decisions are timeless.

"Why Smart People Make Big Money Mistakes and How to Correct Them"

Gary Belsky & Thomas Gilovich (1999)

Originally published in 1999, this book is loaded with lessons on behavioral economics—the science of financial decision making. It takes an in-depth look at the ways we spend, invest, borrow and waste money from a psychological perspective.

This book has had a place on my shelf for twenty years and is one I recommend to everyone.

Buy it here.

"The Millionaire Next Door: The Surprising Secrets of America's Wealthy"

Thomas J. Stanley & William D. Danko (1998)

This book is a New York Times Bestseller NYT for a reason.

Millionaires don't just happen. This book goes over the seven common traits that the wealthiest individuals have in common—and they may not be what you think. By understanding and implementing the ideas in this book, anyone with an income has the opportunity to grow their wealth.

Buy it here.

Newer Releases

"The Behavioral Investor"

Daniel Crosby (2018)

I probably sound like a broken record now that I've recommended this book on my podcast, in previous articles and even in my own book. That's how strongly I feel about it.

This book looks at the role that psychology plays in the art and science of investment management, and examines all the different factors (sociological, neurological and

psychological) that determine our own decisions about money. It is a fascinating read, and not too complicated to understand.

Buy it here.

"Women with Money: The Judgment-Free Guide to Creating the Joyful, Less Stressed, Purposeful (and, Yes, Rich) Life You Deserve"

Jean Chatzky (2019)

If there's anyone I recommend as often as Daniel Crosby, it's Jean Chatzky.

Talking about money is never comfortable, and there's an added taboo for women. In this book, Jean Chatzky uses interviews with successful women to explore our relationship with money, the ways we can control it and how we can use our money to create the lives we want to live.

Buy it here.

"Don't Retire... Graduate!"

Eric Brotman (2020)

You didn't think I'd leave off my own book, did you?

My latest book acts like a guide to get you from where you are right now to where you want to be—financially independent. Broken down like a college curriculum, each lesson offers an extra credit assignment that will have you actively working towards financial freedom and taking steps to reach your goals.

Buy it here.

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As more people get Covid-19 vaccinations and the U.S. reopens, people may be wondering what they should do to get on track with their money during an economic recovery.

There are signs that the economy is about to take off. Businesses across the U.S. are reopening as states loosen virus-related restrictions, and employers are hiring again.

In March, non-farm payrolls jumped by 916,00 and retail sales increased nearly 10% following the third round of stimulus payments. At the same time, last week's jobless claims dipped to 576,000 — still a staggering number, but the lowest since the pandemic surge of layoffs began.

More from Invest in You:

Deepak Chopra warns of impending disaster unless people address well-being

How companies can keep women in the workforce

To combat financial illiteracy, education needs to start early in school

"I think the economy is ready to rip," Federal Reserve Governor Christopher Waller told CNBC's Steve Liesman during a Friday "Squawk on the Street" interview. "There's still more to do on that, but I think everyone's getting a lot more comfortable with having the virus under control, and we're starting to see it in the form of economic activity."

Still, many households are still dealing with the impact of the pandemic and will be for many years, even as the economy recovers. And, even those who weren't hit as hard by Covid may need to reassess their finances, as lockdowns have shifted priorities and spending habits.

Money Basics: This strategy will grow your savings

What's more, money experts say after being caught off guard by the coronavirus pandemic, many Americans may now be more mindful about being prepared for the next possible economic downturn.

Here's what experts recommend people focus on as the economy

reopens and recovers.

1. Rebuild emergency savings

The pandemic was a complete surprise and showed many Americans just how unprepared they were to withstand an emergency. Now, as the U.S. rebuilds the economy and more people are going back to work, bolstering emergency savings should be top of mind.

"The best financial practices pertain through bad times and good," said Mark Hamrick, senior economic analyst at Bankrate. "We'd strongly counsel to make emergency savings a priority."

A rule of thumb followed by many financial experts is that people should have three to six months of living expenses in an emergency savings fund. But 13 months into a pandemic that's left millions unemployed, people may be rethinking their savings goals.

If you took on \$25,000 of debt, you can't manage your finances like you don't have \$25,000 of debt to pay off.

"That should make people think a second time about using the rule of thumb, and actually think of their own specific situation," said Dana Menard, a certified financial planner and founder and CEO of Twin Cities Wealth Strategies in Maple Grove, Minnesota.

Depending on their career, industry, family and specific needs, some people may want to save more — or even less — in an emergency savings fund to prepare for the next event.

"Three months is just the starting point," said Tania Brown, CFP and coach at SaverLife, a nonprofit focused on saving.

2. Pay down debt

Another high-priority financial goal that experts recommend is paying down debt, especially for those who might have taken on more to keep themselves afloat during the pandemic.

"If you took on \$25,000 of debt, you can't manage your finances like you don't have \$25,000 of debt to pay off," Brown said. That means that people should come up with a game plan for paying off debt with one of many strategies, such as paying off

No Pensioner Will Be Cheated In Coming Increments – Ekpo Nta

BY RICHARD NDOMA, Calabar

The acting chairman, National Salaries, Incomes and Wages Commission, Mr. Ekpo Nta, yesterday said in Calabar that no pensioner in the country would be cheated in the back log of reviewed pensions soon to be paid all pensioners.

This followed the announcement that arrangements had been concluded by the federal government to commence the process of implementing the reviewed pensions for retired workers in Nigeria with effect from April 2019.

Speaking with newsmen on the status of the new pension scheme which was given approval by the president two years ago, Nta stressed that in a bid to keep retirees abreast with latest development under the defined pension scheme, the commission issued a circular which would help relevant stakeholders to implement the decision regarding pension increments with effect from April 18, 2019.

“The circular indicating the pension increments

Bayelsa Community Members, Soldiers Clash Over Seizure Of Alleged Stolen Crude Oil

BY OSA OKHOMINA, Yenagoa

Tempers flared between angry residents of Biseni community in Yenagoa local government area of Bayelsa State and some armed soldiers yesterday over the decision of some youths and women to block the passage of five loaded oil tankers suspected to be conveying stolen crude oil from SPDC and Agip pipelines in the area.

According to a leader of the community, Chief Justus Bekesu, the suspicious movement of heavy duty oil tankers into the community started last week and as concerned citizens they decided to block the trucks and challenged them on the content.

He said; “On April 25, we saw tankers coming out of Biseni forest where both SPDC and Agip drill crude

oil. Suspecting foul play, our youths stopped them and asked what was in the tankers.

“They claimed it was water mixed with chemicals and that due to its toxic nature and in order not to cause damage to the environment, they were taking it to a safe place for proper disposal. But our youths insisted on confirming it.

“To our greatest surprise, when they checked, the

first tanker was conveying water while the rest were filled with crude oil. And when the soldiers were confronted with the facts, they claimed they didn't know that the other tankers were carrying fuel. After much argument, they left, only for us to wake up this morning to see over 30 armed soldiers in our community.

“That was when our youths and women came

NUJ Condemns Attack On Journalists

BY ANAYO ONUKWUGHA, Port Harcourt

The Rivers State Council of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) has condemned the recent attack on nine journalists by persons suspected to be hoodlums in the presence of officers of the Nigeria Police in the state.

The journalists were from media organisations in the state including Rhythm FM, RSTV, SweetCrude, Sahara Reporters, Wish FM, Today's FM and Arise TV.

The union alleged that they were attacked in the presence of operatives of the Anti-Cultism Unit of the Rivers State Police Command on Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at the New Airport Road in Rumuagholu community of Obio/Akpor local government area of the state, where they had gone for a press briefing.

It listed some of the items seized from the journalists to include nine smart phones, two cameras, one HDV Sonny and Canon and their accessories, audio recorders, wrist watches, two medicated eye glasses and physical cash.

The NUJ in a statement signed by the state chairman, Stanley Job Stanley and

Two Arraigned Over Murder Of Police Inspector In Abia

BY KALU EZIYI, Umuahia

Two persons have appeared before a Magistrates' Court in Umuahia, the Abia State capital over the murder of one police inspector, John Emmanuel, in September last year.

They were alleged to have along with others not at large hit the inspector on his head with an iron rod, robbed him of his AK-47 service rifle and ammunition, and inflicted several machete cuts on his body.

LEADERSHIP Weekend gathered that the offence which was committed at Ebeji Road, Urrata in Aba North Magisterial District is punishable under Section 319 of the Criminal Code Cap 80 Vol 3 Laws of the state 2005.

The magistrate, Mrs. Jane Mba, said the prosecution had complied with the remand proceedings, and ordered them to be taken to the Umuahia Correctional Service Centre pending the completion of investigations.

PSN Urges Use Of Alternative Medicine, Natural Supplements

BY EMMANUEL MGBEAHURIKE, Owerri

The president of Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria (PSN), Mazi Sam Oluabunwa, has advised

Nigerians to embrace natural and complementary medicines combined with a healthy lifestyle as a solution to the various diseases they encounter due to urban habitation and low immunity.

Oluabunwa made the call while granting audience to the management of STK Biotech, where he addressed relevant health concerns in the country.

He highlighted the concerns in respect of the mutating

strains of COVID-19 and its third wave across countries like India and Brazil and proclaimed that the nationwide launch of the STK immune boosters could not have come at a better time.

UNAUDITED INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Notore
RC: 640303

NOTORE CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES PLC UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE SIX MONTHS PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

STATEMENT TO THE NIGERIAN STOCK EXCHANGE AND THE SHAREHOLDERS ON THE EXTRACT OF UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE 6 MONTHS PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

(All amounts are in thousands of Naira, unless otherwise stated)

	Group		Company	
	Six months 31 Mar 2021	Six months 31 Mar 2020	Six months 31 Mar 2021	Six months 31 Mar 2020
	N000	N000	N000	N000
Revenue	5,253,284	13,116,540	4,744,011	13,116,540
Cost of sales	(9,675,264)	(10,550,945)	(9,404,424)	(10,550,945)
Gross profit	(4,421,879)	2,565,595	(4,660,414)	2,565,595
Administrative expenses	(3,012,807)	(3,324,957)	(2,854,803)	(3,249,233)
Selling and distribution expenses	(64,343)	(192,665)	(60,383)	(192,665)
Other income	8,673,410	3,630,027	8,673,390	3,630,027
Operating profit	(825,620)	2,677,999	(902,210)	2,733,723
Finance income	329	844	329	844
Finance cost	(8,447,289)	(8,477,131)	(8,447,289)	(8,477,131)
Finance costs - (net)	(8,446,960)	(8,476,287)	(8,446,960)	(8,476,287)
Loss before income tax	(9,272,579)	(5,798,288)	(9,349,169)	(5,742,564)
Income tax	-	-	-	-
Profit/(loss) for the period	(9,272,579)	(5,798,288)	(9,349,169)	(5,742,564)
Other comprehensive income:				
Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss				
Revaluation surplus on property, plant and equipment	-	233,472	-	233,472
Deferred tax charge on revaluation surplus	-	(70,042)	-	(70,042)
Total items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss		163,430		163,430
Items that may be subsequently reclassified to profit or loss				
Currency translation difference	37,296	40,292	-	-
Total items that may be reclassified to profit or loss	37,296	40,292		
Other comprehensive income / (loss) for the period-net of tax	37,296	203,722		163,430
Total comprehensive profit / (loss) for the period	(9,235,282)	(5,594,566)	(9,349,169)	(5,579,134)
Earnings per share (EPS)				
Equity holders of the parent company	(9,235,282)	(5,594,566)	(9,349,169)	(5,579,134)
Non-controlling interest	-	-	-	-
Earnings per share for loss attributable to the equity holders of the company				
Basic EPS (Naira)	(5.75)	(3.60)	(5.80)	(3.56)

NOTORE CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES PLC UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

(All amounts are in thousands of Naira, unless otherwise stated)

	Group		Company	
	Six months 31 March 2021	30 Sept 2020 Restated	Six months 31 March 2021	30 Sept 2020 Restated
	N000	N000	N000	N000
Non-current assets				
Property, plant and equipment	144,387,729	145,278,255	144,055,590	145,278,254
Right of use assets	103,750	152,547	103,759	152,547
Investment property	59,187,460	53,174,118	59,187,460	53,174,118
Intangible asset	6,133	12,509	6,133	12,509
Investments in subsidiaries	-	-	50,255	50,255
Total non-current assets	203,685,081	198,617,529	203,403,198	198,667,783
Current assets				
Inventories	6,186,006	5,950,222	6,156,113	5,950,222
Trade and other receivables	13,681,481	11,315,718	13,786,286	11,315,718
Pledged assets	4,540,129	4,540,129	4,540,129	4,540,129
Cash at bank and in hand	1,182,006	337,347	1,163,155	336,207
Total current assets	25,589,622	22,143,416	25,645,684	22,142,276
Total assets	229,274,703	220,760,945	229,048,882	220,810,059
Equity				
Ordinary shares	806,033	806,033	806,033	806,033
Share premium	27,995,916	27,995,916	27,995,916	27,995,916
Asset revaluation reserves	63,961,570	63,961,570	63,961,570	63,961,570
Foreign currency translation reserve	582,291	544,995	582,291	544,995
Retained earnings	(38,436,971)	(29,164,393)	(38,605,051)	(29,255,880)
Treasury shares reserve	(1,080,831)	(1,080,831)	(1,080,831)	(1,080,831)
Total equity	53,828,007	63,063,291	53,077,638	62,426,807
Liabilities				
Non-current liabilities				
Borrowings	83,657,862	89,669,185	83,657,862	89,669,185
Employee benefit obligation	1,853,793	1,620,322	1,853,793	1,620,322
Grant liability	3,472,259	4,026,113	3,472,259	4,026,113
Deferred tax liability	10,247,000	10,247,000	10,247,000	10,247,000
Total non-current liabilities	99,230,914	105,562,620	99,230,914	105,562,620
Current liabilities				
Borrowings	31,883,786	18,681,317	31,883,786	18,681,317
Lease liability	25,938	135,120	25,938	135,120
Trade and other payables	43,138,616	32,076,683	43,663,366	32,762,281
Grant liability	1,167,241	1,202,959	1,167,241	1,202,959
Current tax liabilities	-	38,956	-	38,956
Total current liabilities	76,215,782	52,135,035	76,740,331	52,820,633
Total liabilities	175,446,696	157,697,655	175,978,245	158,383,253
Total equity and liabilities	229,274,703	220,760,945	229,048,882	220,810,059

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors on 28 April 2021 and signed on its behalf by:


Mr. Olu Ohiwera
Managing Director/CEO
FRC/2017/CIBN/00000016412


Mr. Onajite P. Okoloko
Director
FRC/2014/NW/00000007662


Mr. Bolanin Tolajo
Chief Financial Officer
FRC/2018/ICAN/0000018981

For a better understanding of the financial position of the company and its results of operation for the period, the above financial information should be read in conjunction with the Condensed unaudited interim financial statements of the Company as published on www.notore.com

BY WANG GUIPING

I grew up in a small mountain village in central Anhui Province in east China, which was almost isolated from the rest of the world in times past. In my childhood, although the people in my hometown lived a rather primitive and hard life with no electricity, no tap water, no power vehicles, no motorway, and even no sufficient food supply, they still attached great importance to celebrating the Spring Festival, which is Chinese New Year or the Lunar New Year, the most important festival in China that celebrates the beginning of a new year on the traditional lunar Chinese calendar.

Although today's materials have been greatly enriched, the atmosphere of celebrating and the mood of looking forward to the Spring Festival have been much less and much lighter than those at that time! The serious attitude of meticulously preparing, the traditional ceremony of offering sacrifices to ancestors, the expectation and excitement of enjoying all kinds of delicious food and wearing new clothes during the New Year, and the happy atmosphere of setting off firecrackers and visiting each other to extend the New Year's greeting have always been lingering in my memory.

The word "Happiness" is most popularly written on red paper pasted on the door during Spring Festival

Making Spring Festival's Traditional Foods

In China, festivals are not complete without food. As the most important festival, Spring Festival is no exceptional. From the autumn of last year, people usually make preparations for making the New Year's foods. First, sufficient firewood should be chopped from the mountains, dried and stacked up because at that time there was no electricity or coal and it relied on firewood to cook and make festival foods.

In my hometown, three kinds of food are the most important and popular for the Spring Festival: frozen rice brittle, rice noodle and tofu.

In addition to making the above three kinds of food, one of the most important signs of celebrating Spring Festival is slaughtering pigs. In the old days, due to the limited economic conditions, every family could raise one pig every year and slaughter it before the New Year, so that it could have a "prosperous year". The so-called "prosperous year" is not to leave all the pork to eat at home, but to sell most of the pork for money, just leaving pig blood and pig offal.

The above-mentioned preparations for the Chinese New Year are just for one word: food. At ordinary times, the whole family is frugal, only hoping to eat better during the New Year's Day. Therefore, if there is anything delicious to eat, save it for the festival. Another reason is that farmers are usually busy with farm work and don't have time to visit relatives and neighbours, so they can only make use of this holiday to visit each other. Prepare more food, also for entertaining guests. It is the tradition and folk customs of my hometown that when guests come to our home during the Spring Festival and we always bring out the best food and drinks to entertain them.

Minor New Year, the prologue of Spring Festival

The day one week before the Spring Festival, that is on the 23rd of the 12th month of the lunar year, is Minor New Year, when sacrifices are

Celebrating Spring Festival In My Old Hometown



Wang

made to the Kitchen God. It is said on that day the Kitchen God will go to the Heaven for an annual meeting with the Jade Emperor who governs the whole Heaven and Earth. People will burn the old paper image of the Kitchen God, dispatching the God's spirit to the Heaven to report on the family's conduct over the past year. The Kitchen God is then welcomed back by to the home through the pasting of a new paper image of him beside the stove. There are two sorts of farewell cake, one is made of rice flour stuffed with black sesame and sugar and another stuffed with pork and tofu. The former is specially for offerings to the Kitchen God and his wife because it is said they are vegetarians. The latter is the main food of the people for the dinner after seeing off Mr. and Mrs. Kitchen God. Of course, firecrackers and incense are indispensable for the sacrificial activity, and there are three cups of tea. There is also a cup filled with some grains and straw. When I grew up, I realized that these were the fodder of the Kitchen God's horse. When all the items are ready, my father, the head of the family burnt incense, set off firecrackers, and led the whole family members to kowtow to the Kitchen God and said goodbye to Him. From then on, three-week celebrations of the Spring Festival kick off.

Preparations Before the Eve of the Spring Festival

After the Minor New Year, the atmosphere of celebrations becomes stronger day by day. Every family is making more preparations. The most important thing is to do shopping. In the old days, the farmers in my hometown almost had no savings so they had to sell firewood in order to get money to buy some necessary stuffs for the new year, such as cloth to make new shoes and clothes, fish, sacrificial offerings, etc.

On the 28th of the last month of the lunar year, in order to welcome the new year, people usually took a bath because at that time in winter people did not take bath every day. They also cleaned the house, the yard and empty the toilet thoroughly.

The Eve of Spring Festival

On the 30th of the 12th month of the lunar year, in some year it is on 29th according to calendar, it is the last day of the lunar year. On that day the whole family usually are making preparation for the New Year's eve dinner from the early morning. This dinner is divided into two parts, one for the ancestors, the other for the family members.

Before the New Year's eve dinner, another important thing in this busy day is pasting spring couplets.

When all dishes are ready, it is time for the ceremony to worship ancestors, that is to say, inviting the deceased ancestors back home and treating them with a banquet. During the ancestors' dinner, paper money are burnt for them. The Chinese people believe that when these yellow papers will become money in the nether world can be received by the deceased when they are burnt.

After the ancestors' dinner, it is time for the family members to eat the New Year's Eve dinner, that is, the reunion dinner. Only at this time in one year, all the dishes on the table are free to eat. The adults allow the children to eat whatever they like on the table. This is one of the most important reasons that children look forward to the New Year's Eve. On the table of the reunion dinner, children can receive lucky money which is put in a red envelop from their parents. Even if it is small money, it can also bring happiness to the kids.

After the New Year's Eve dinner, members of the family stay together to drink tea, eat pumpkin seeds, sun flower seeds, frozen rice brittle and candies, play cards or chat with each other until when the New Year comes after the midnight or even until daybreak. This is called "Shou Sui", which means "stay up to see the old year out and the new year in". In my childhood, because there was no electricity, even when people went to bed to sleep at that night, the kerosene lamps in all the rooms kept on all night. Nowadays, people still keep the lights on all night of the New Year's Eve.

The New Year's Day

The next day is the New Year's Day, the first day of the new year and the formal day of this long celebration. When people open the main gate in this morning, the first thing for them to do is to burn firecrackers and all kinds of fireworks to make as much of a din as possible to chase off the monster Year. The kids are awakened by these noises, get up in the early morning even when they stayed up very late last night, dressed in new clothes and new shoes and go to neighbour's doors to pick up the unfired firecrackers. The adults are busy with welcoming the deities of the heavens and earth with some offerings of rooster, fish and pork, of course burning incense and kowtowing are necessary.

Since using knives and cooking raw food are considered to be bad luck on New Year's Day, people just steam and eat the prepared food on this whole day. Spiced eggs, symbolizing wealth, are a must-eat food for breakfast. Only on this day, the adults don't limit the number of eggs the children eat. At this time every year in my childhood, my mom bubbled a bowl of parched rice (glutinous rice) with sugar and some spiced eggs and let us kids to send to the old people in the village. In this way, people pay tribute to the old people and establish a glorious virtue and fine tradition of respecting the old for the children.

People usually stay at home and enjoy gathering-together of the family members on New Year's Day. The next day, known as "beginning of the year" (Kai'nian) is when married daughters visit their birth parents, relatives and close friends.

Traditionally, married daughters are busy with farm or house work and do not have the opportunity to visit their birth families frequently in the my old hometown. For our children, it was the happiest time to visit my grandmother with Mom because we could be treated with delicious food and maybe lucky money and have opportunity to play with our cousins and other new friends.

Human Beings' Birthday

The seventh day of the first month is "Human Beings' Day". It is said that in the beginning the Goddess Nüwa created the world, and created people on the seventh day after creating animals such as chickens, dogs, pigs, sheep, cattle and horses, so this day is the birthday of Common human beings.

The Lantern Festival

After the seventh day, the atmosphere of celebration fades gradually which can be reflected from the meals people eat as usual again.

Before the dinner, a farewell banquet usually was prepared to "treat" the ancestors just the same as the welcome dinner on New Year's eve half month ago. After the dinner, the whole family bid farewell to the ancestors and saw them off. And then the family member sat together to have our own dinner.

Guiping works with the Chinese Embassy in Nigeria

In my childhood, because there was no electricity, even when people went to bed to sleep at that night, the kerosene lamps in all the rooms kept on all night. Nowadays, people still keep the lights on all night of the New Year's Eve

Amidst the rise in dangerous attacks on civic space of Nigerians by the government, rights stakeholders have downgraded Nigeria's civic space from obstructed to repressed, meaning that the nation's civic space is significantly constrained, which pivots the need to change the narratives and increase collective action by civil society to challenge threats, create opportunities, and widen civic space towards creating a positive change.

Statistics, however, show that Nigeria's citizens face severe challenges in participating in free and fair elections. This is even as youth participation in politics and decision-making is at the lowest level. Civic space simply put is the space for citizens to organise a political meeting as well other engagements, communicate freely without hindrance, air their grievances, identify and address issues of concern and claim their rights.

Over the years, Nigerians have also faced the problem of limited and declining civic space in other aspects of their lives. On attacks on civic space of Nigerians, from 2015 to date, a non governmental organisation, Spaces for Change, recorded a total of 252 incidents of government crackdown on civic space in Nigeria.

The incident tracked Spaces for Change also shows 63 recorded cases of press freedom/serious attack on journalists, freedom of association 48, free speech 53, torture and degrading treatment 36, right to life 25, political restriction 15 and anti-money laundering/countering of terrorism financing five.

However, while 146 males were affected correspondingly 36 females were also affected during this period. Meanwhile, the South-west region 58, South-east 33, South-south 43, North-west 27, North-central 83 and North-east eight cases.

Nigeria's Civic Space: Open Or Deteriorating Amidst Rights Abuse?

The 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as amended guarantees fundamental rights and freedom for all such as association, peaceful assembly, and expression. However, official data obtained by LEADERSHIP show a decline, increased threats and a widen civic space in the country, **TUNDE OGUNTOLA** writes

At the national level, there are indications that this trend will continue, for example, as efforts linger to pursue the Bill to Establish Non-governmental Organisation Regulatory Commission (the NGO Bill) and the Protection from Internet Falsehood and Manipulation Bill (the Social Media Bill) threatening to restrain freedom of speech and civil society activities.

But, the chairman House Committee on Civil Societies and development partners, Hon Kabiru Idris said that LNGOs should have a clear mandate when submitting documentation for registration to avoid ambiguity.

Gaya said that International Non-governmental organisations (INGOs) should rely on the local non-governmental organisations (LNGOs) for access, information and collaborations, as such, LNGOs need to be credible and reliable in providing such information. He also stressed the need for an information resource centre.

The executive secretary, Nigeria Network of NGOs, Oyebisi Oluseyi, while speaking during the USAID-funded Strengthening Civic Advocacy and Local Engagement (SCALE) dialogue series on Safeguarding Civic Space, which brings together CSOs, relevant government agencies and select stakeholders to explore opportunities for improving collaboration toward addressing civic

space issues in Nigeria, said the right to the freedom of association is the right of any citizen to join a formal or informal group to take collective action.

Oluseyi said this right includes the right to form a new group and join an existing group.

Speaking further, he said associations can include civil society organisations, clubs, cooperatives, non-governmental organisations, religious associations, political parties, trade unions, foundations and online associations, as well as less defined and new forms of groups such as social movements.

"There is no requirement that the association be registered for the right of the freedom of association to apply. Under the right to the freedom of association, groups have the right to access funding and resources," he said.

On the right to the freedom of peaceful assembly, he said the right of citizens to gather publicly or privately and collectively express, promote, pursue and defend common interests.

Oluseyi said this right includes the right to participate in peaceful assemblies, meetings, protests, strikes, sit-ins, demonstrations and other temporary gatherings for a specific purpose.

"States not only have an obligation to protect peaceful assemblies but should also take measures to facilitate them," he said.

He also stressed that the right to the

freedom of expression includes the right to access information, critically evaluate and speak out against the policies and actions of state and non-state actors, and publicly draw attention to and carry out advocacy actions to promote shared concerns, without fear of retribution from any quarter.

He said civil society organisations should be assured the freedom to carry out investigations and document their findings under this right.

On protection of citizens, he said the government (federal, state and local) have the duty to protect citizens, respect and facilitate their fundamental rights to associate, assemble peacefully and freely express views and opinions.

Keeping it simple, he said, "When a country or government fulfils its duty to protect, civic space is deemed open, when it fails it is closed."

To tackle civic space threats, CSOs during the dialogue resolved to work closely on three critical issues affecting civic space freedom.

They resolved to improve "CSO/legislature relationship, build support for a national CSO directory and improve access to SCUML information and registration for CSOs."

SCUML is the Special Control Unit on Money Laundering an agency of the federal government to ensure that our members comply with extant laws and guidelines.

On methodology on how to safeguard

civic space, he said the dialogue stressed the right to form a new group and join an existing group.

"Right to access funding and resources.

Right to participate in peaceful assemblies, meetings, protests, strikes, sit-ins, demonstrations and other temporary gatherings for a specific purpose.

"Right to access information, critically evaluate and speak out against the policies and actions of state and non-state actors, and publicly draw attention to and carry out advocacy actions to promote shared concerns, without fear of retribution from any quarter," he said.

He also stressed the need to pay attention to laws regulating the formation and operations of nonprofits at all levels and flag regulations that can close the space. This according to him includes those around taxes, data privacy, money laundering and countering of terrorism financing.

"Respect and publicly recognise the right of citizens to peaceful assembly. Participate in campaigns against the use of force on peaceful protesters etc.

"Document cases of right abuse by state institutions reported to you by your beneficiaries and relay to the government at the local and state level. Support initiatives to strengthen the use of the freedom of information ACT and efforts to keep the internet open and safe," he added.



Road Safety

WITH **Mashal JONAS AGWU, MNI**

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Tackling Incidences Of One For The Road

Sometime last years ago, my staff shared a sad story of a young man who cut his life short just before the 2020 Christmas celebration. The young man according to a tweet she read, took a bottle too many and dared to drive under the influence of alcohol. He was involved in avoidable road traffic crash and died. He was the only casualty. The sad crash and death reminded me of some effort to address the incidence of drinking and driving globally. One of such efforts is an international conference on drink driving, I was privileged to be one of the over 300 participants and discussants at the conference to reduce harmful drinking. It was an initiative of the International Centre for Alcohol policies, held in Washington DC, in the United States of America.

The Global Action On Harmful Drinking is a collaboration of initiatives dedicated to help reduce the harmful use of alcohol. This initiative reflects the collective commitment made by major international alcohol producers to make a significant effort to address harmful drinking through a combination of global and local actions with an emphasis on low and middle income countries such as Nigeria where they are working in collaboration with the

Federal Road Safety Corps and other road safety NGOs. These leading producers of beer, wine and spirits took on a new commitment that built on their long standing effort to reduce harmful drinking. The were 10 targeted actions in five key areas such as checking under-age drinking, strengthening and expanding marketing codes of practice, providing consumer information and responsible product innovation as well as reducing drink-driving in addition to enlisting the support of retailers to reduce harmful drinking.

Globally, there are about 1.35 million road traffic deaths yearly and millions of injuries. Although an estimate of crashes caused by drink-driving vary from country to country, one point is clear, it is a leading contributor. I have chosen to discuss these initiatives in view of rising cases of drink driving even in the face of the need to comply with COVID-19 protocols and the FRSC renewed deployment of breathalyzers to check drink-driving. My focus however will be on efforts in reducing under-aged-drinking and drink driving which is pronounced during festivities such as the coming Sallah celebration and weekends in major cities across the country.

With respect to reducing under-

age drinking, there are concern over the extent and harmful consequences of underage drinking as expressed by governments from all over the world, including the concern by World Health Organization. In most countries, there is minimum age for purchase and or consumption of alcohol, yet drinking by those under the minimum age of 18 is a concern in many parts of the world and can lead to serious public health consequences. Under-age drinking is a societal challenge that is only possible to prevent through expanded cooperation among governments, enforcement agencies, cleric, retailers, parents, educators and others in the community. The focus is therefore to encourage national governments to set ambitious but realistic and measurable targets to significantly reduce under-aged purchase and consumption of alcohol. In doing so, there should be commitments to actively seek enforcement of government regulations for under-age purchase and consumption in all countries especially where a minimum purchase and /or consumption age has been set.

In countries where no such limits exist, there is the need to encourage government to introduce a minimum purchase age and to enforce it.

In addition, there is the need to strengthen the work of other interested stakeholders, including NGOs and IGOs. Developing, promoting and disseminating educational materials and programmes designed to prevent and reduce under-age purchase and consumption among young people or those known to have strong influence over their behavior is critical. This, strategy will include consulting experts on the development of best practice educational materials for use by parents, schools and community groups and in social media.

Recall that Pillar 4 of the UN Decade of Actions on Road Safety (2011-2020) emphasizes, the need to improve road safety and behavior of road users and reducing drink-driving. In the area of reducing drink-driving, there is the need for government, international agencies, civil society organizations and the private sector to use the plan as a guiding document for their activities. We must acknowledge the preventable contribution that drink-driving makes to road traffic crashes and fatalities which has more impact among the youth as illustrated in the WHO Global Status Report on Road Safety 2009. The key point to note is that governments should enforce existing drink-driving

laws and regulations while advocating the introduction of effective drink-driving laws, including a BAC limit for novice drivers backed by appropriate enforcement.

I am excited by these developments but saddened by the slow pace of our legislations. As I write I am not aware of a national legislation restricting the purchase and consumption of alcohol by the under-aged in keeping with best practices. Even where they exist, there is hardly any concrete attempt at enforcement. The exception is the Lagos State Traffic Regulations which takes special exception to driving under the influence but I doubt if it recognizes the need to restrict purchase and consumption of alcohol. I am however elated by the 2012 National Road Traffic Regulations which aptly prescribed the alcohol limit permitted to be 0.5grammes in 100millilitres of alcohol or 80milligrams in 100millilitres of urine or best test. The same regulations prescribe a fine of N5,000 or six months' imprisonment or both against offenders. For me, the efforts of the Corps in 2014 may not yield significant results if other states don't emulate Lagos State by baring sale of alcohol and intoxicants at motor parks.



Aisha's Angle

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For years, I've thought about coming to Nigeria and spending a year or two, working and making my own memories. As a child of the diaspora, I need to come and experience Nigeria outside the realm of family holidays, and to create connections and networks for myself. Up until about a couple of months ago, I was convinced that once I'd finished my Masters, I would pack my bags and come to Nigeria to do my NYSC. It seemed like a logical way of getting that year of life in Nigeria that I wanted.

I'd heard horror stories and also fun encounters from friends, so I knew to proceed with caution. Ultimately, I was attracted to doing NYSC because it would give me a structured opportunity to come and live and

work in Nigeria. I also liked the idea of meeting other young Nigerians from all over the country to build intercultural and inter-ethnic unity.

But Nigeria being Nigeria somewhat put me off. In theory, NYSC is a great opportunity for Nigerians to explore parts of the country they've never visited before, learn about each other's culture, and the people they otherwise would never have met. However, given the way that people can request more convenient postings, you find that many individuals stay in places they are accustomed to. However, with growing insecurity and inter-ethnic troubles in some areas, it's understandable as to why many would be deterred from leaving their home state or venturing somewhere where they don't know a single soul. I knew I would have to figure out a way to complete the NYSC year in

either Abuja or Kaduna, places where I know I would be safe and had family.

Despite my hesitation to come to Nigeria to do NYSC, I still do think it's a great opportunity for young Nigerians. I believe if done properly, it could help ameliorate Nigeria's ethnic and religious differences. I have friends who have ventured from far and wide to come and do their service year in Kaduna and have stayed ever since because of their love of the place and the people.

The programme needs to be revamped to ensure that it's running as effectively and responsibly as possible. Corpers shouldn't be replacing teachers in schools. They aren't qualified yet they are teaching our youth when they lack the experience. There also needs to be increased protection and regulation in the support given to corpors. It's no wonder people do not

want to send their children to states where they have no connection because of the uncertainty and insecurity in this country.

I'm not completely opposed to coming and serving in Nigeria, but I don't think now is the right time for me. But perhaps this raises the question of how we integrate our youth from the diaspora who so much want to engage with the country, but the transition isn't made easy.

I have plenty of British-born Nigerian friends, like myself who would love to come to Nigeria to work, start a business and more, but the lack of infrastructure and the barriers in place to aid an easier transition sometimes deters them. I don't believe we should be exempted from any programme just because we're coming from abroad, but I do think that the country is

missing out on a trick by not actively engaging the youth from abroad to come back. Just look at Ghana and its Year of Return. My Instagram feed was flooded with pictures from peers and celebrities alike who were making the most of this initiative and discovering newfound opportunities in Ghana. I'm almost certain that if Nigeria were to do something similar, there would be a huge engagement from Nigerians around the world, from the UK, USA and all across Europe.

Nigerian youth in the diaspora are hungry to make a change, we are hungry to make a difference, and we want to come back to the motherland to really flourish and give it our all. But until more systems are put in place to sustain a smoother and lasting transition, Nigeria may not be benefitting from all its assets.



Love, Life & Family

with

Shamseddin Giwa

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I read somewhere, that a loser, is one who gives up on a course or a struggle. So, being a winner really isn't about prevailing over the goal(s), though that would be nice. It is, prevailing over the struggle, not giving up where the average mind will, to keep going where the average body would stop and not to stop pushing till the aim is accomplished. That struggle is what makes you a winner.

So, how can you become a winner? Simple, it is from the mindset not to give up on your continuous hard work or struggle. You made it this far, don't turn back, make it all the way. Take our lives for instance, we don't apply this mindset enough. Maybe we are too lazy or too

weak to face the challenges, maybe we don't tell ourselves enough that we are capable.

"I'm inspired by the challenge that I find myself standing eye to eye with, then move like a wise warrior and not a coward" (Black Thought of The Roots)

At work, we accept how things are without knowing why the things are! We refuse to challenge our minds to probe and get to the root of issues, we are too tired to be bothered.

In courtships, we see the wedding day as the goal and not the marriage itself. So, we struggle to be the best we can be till the knots are tied, then what happens? We just bring the drive to a complete stop, and sometimes even a

reverse!

So, if you have a partner who is still on 'full throttle', the partner pulls away from you. It's that simple.

Never accept yourself to be a finished product, tell yourself that you are, forever, God's work in progress.

It's why I never stop reading, I never stop listening and I never stop trying.

It is why I never give up,

It is why I am a winner.

Now all the talk about, the struggle and the strive is not going to manifest without expending massive energy. In fact, you need so much energy that only a combination of two sources can get you to the required amount. The first is the all time constant, which is God. The

second, is your mind.

So, God plus your mind, gets you wherever you need to be. I think it's safe to say we all know our God. But, can we say we know our minds?

To become better or at least stand a chance of becoming better, we need to decide that we want to get better. It does not matter, how many people tell it to you, if you don't tell yourself that you want to get better, the effort is already a failed one.

Now, beyond telling yourself, you need also, to believe that you can be better. I don't know why a lot of us believe in error, that everything that's good today has always been that good. Behind the scenes, a lot goes on to

ensure the continuous brilliance of that which you so much love and desire.

To an observer, one home is defined by the amount of love, peace and unity that oozes from it. All the hard work, struggle and discord that go into bringing about that evident accord is not seen. That doesn't mean that those discords don't exist, they are just handled properly with the believe that things must get better.

So, how about you tell yourself this very moment, that you want to get better, that you need to get better, that you will get better, that you will never stop wanting and needing to get better, then go out there, and get better (you didn't forget God did you?).

Family Being

BY THE SOCIETY FOR MEDIA
ADVOCACY ON HEALTH, NIGERIA.

Recently, Austine Ohenhen, a man who fled his home in Benin, Edo State, on hearing that his wife, Rita, had given birth to a set of quadruplets blamed the current economic situation in the country for his action.

Austin and his wife, Rita already had five children before the arrival of the quadruplets. The former engineer now turned farmer told the media that he did not have the money to take up the huge additional responsibilities the birth of the new babies would put on him.

Indeed, this large number of children belonging to one citizen with meagre income in a country with exponential population growth is of concern. Assuming Austin deliberately planned to have nine children and so executed the plan, it would not be a problem to him as he had the children by choice. Pregnancy and child birth by chance pose huge risks to couples, families, and the society. Thanks to family planning. Its services support people's decisions about when,

or if, they would like to have children by offering education, counselling, and birth control methods.

Having children by chance is one of the challenges resulting from unplanned and unintended pregnancies, which is currently plaguing the Nigerian society.

Unplanned pregnancies contribute largely to both maternal and child mortality. Further, high-risk sexual behaviour among young people is responsible for the increasing teenage pregnancy, out-of-school girls, baby dumping, post abortion complication, and death, according to statistics.

An estimated 1.25 million induced abortions occurred in Nigeria in 2012, equivalent to a rate of 33 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15 to 49, according to data from the Guttmacher Institute.

The estimated unintended pregnancy rate was 59 per 1,000 women aged 15 to 49. While 56 percent of unintended pregnancies in the country were resolved by abortion, about 212,000 women were treated for complications of unsafe abortion, which contributed 13 percent of maternal death in the country.

Family Planning: Benefits Of Pregnancy, Child Birth By Choice

However, through the opportunities which family planning offers to clients, deaths arising from abortions are preventable. The World Health Organisation (WHO) defines family planning as a process that "allows individuals and couples to anticipate and attain their desired number of children and the spacing and timing of their births. It is achieved through the use of contraceptive methods.

Family planning saves lives; it is also vital to safe motherhood, healthy families, and prosperous communities.

Pregnancies that are too early, too close, too late, or too many carry extra hazards not only for the health of the woman but also for the child, and embracing, family planning has been shown to prevent unintended pregnancies.

Available data show that every day about 111 women and girls in Nigeria die due to preventable pregnancy and child birth related complications (every hour five women die).

Besides, Nigeria accounts for one in nine maternal deaths worldwide. But,

research shows that 30 percent of such deaths could be prevented by increasing access to and uptake of family planning services.

The use of family planning paves the way for mothers and babies to be healthier because risky pregnancies are avoided. Besides, fewer children mean more food for each child.

Other benefits that accrue to users of family planning include the reduction of maternal mortality, enabling birth spacing while reducing the hazards of frailty associated with close births, averting chances of abortion complications and reducing abortions.

Similarly, family planning can also help couples enjoy sex more, because spouses are not afraid of unwanted pregnancy.

In addition, using contraception could protect against sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), including HIV/AIDS, and provide other health benefits.

Furthermore, pregnancies and child birth by choice and not chance advances individuals' rights to decide their own

family size.

Also, pregnancies and child births by choice and not by chance improve women's opportunities for education, employment, and full growth at the family, community, and national levels.

Although there is no single answer to the population explosion challenges facing the nation, it is clear that the population needs to be balanced with the amount of land available to feed and house Nigerian citizenry.

By reducing the birth rate and slowing population growth, family planning would improve the health of Nigerians, especially children and mothers, in addition to providing significant socio-economic benefits.

Beyond obvious societal benefits, pregnancies and child birth by choice and not chance has incredible health benefits for mothers and children.

According to a USAID-supported Demographic and Health Survey report, if all women waited three years to conceive after the birth of a child, 25 percent of all deaths of children under five could be avoided.



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
FEDERAL SECRETARIAT, SHEHU SHAGARIWAY, ABUJA



**SALUTE TO THE
 NATION'S WORKFORCE
 ON 2021 WORKERS DAY CELEBRATION**

On behalf of the Management and Staff of the Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment as well as its parastatals, I sincerely extend my good wishes to the Nigerian workers on the occasion of the 2021 May Day.

About this time last year, we could not gather as usual to mark the May Day celebration as a result of the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and its deleterious effects on the economy and by extension, the world of work. We had to resort to Virtual Engagement.

Regardless of efforts at global, national and even sub-national levels to contain the pandemic, it is still here with us. However, the good news is that vaccines are now available to help us develop immunity against this virus.

I am delighted to note that the Federal Government led by

President Muhammadu Buhari took practical steps in 2020 up to now to curb the menace and ensure that Nigerians get vaccinated in order to stop the spread of COVID-19 in the country. I therefore use this opportunity to call on all Nigerian workers to take advantage of this to get immunised.

Let me also assure the Nigerian work force that President Buhari is not oblivious of the challenges that they are facing at this time. Under his watch, the Federal

Government has committed enormous resources towards promoting decent work standards across various sectors of our national life, particularly in the education and health sectors. Workers have also been captured on the new rapid response register for urban poor and other forms of post covid19 palliative measures and social protection

As we celebrate this year's May Day, I have no doubt that it will bring plenty of blessings and hope for a better tomorrow.

Signed:

Senator (Dr) Chris Nwabueze Ngige, MD, OON,
 Honourable Minister of Labour and Employment



Celebs' Humpty Dumpty Fall Through Sexual Crimes

Ever since the ugly news of the involvement of popular comedy actor, Olanrewaju Omiyinka known as 'Baba Ijesha' in alleged rape and paedophilia, filtered in last week Thursday, members of the Nigerian movie industry and the general public have been aghast and bemused that such a talented actor could have been associated with such crime not to talk of being involved in such a dastardly immoral act as announced by the spokesman of the Lagos State Police Command.

The development was still generating reactions and anger on the social media as the time of filing this report. The spokesman of the Lagos Police Command, Mr Olumuyiwa Adejobi, in a statement, said the actor was caught after CCTV cameras had been installed in the home of the young girl. This was after one Princess Adekola Adekanya had suspected and reported the matter at Sabo Police Station and a CCTV camera was planted at the home to ascertain the veracity of the defilement.

Baba Ijesha, when confronted owned up to the crime which according to reports had been on for seven years when the young girl was just seven years old. The case is presently being investigated properly at the Gender Unit of the State CID, Panti, Yaba in Lagos.

Presently, the actor, aged 48, is cooling his heels in police detention. The guild where he belongs, Theatre Arts And Motion Picture Practitioners Association of Nigeria (TAMPPAN), condemned the act adding that justice must be served to their colleague if proven guilty.

Damilola Adekoya popularly known as Princess, a comedienne disclosed midweek that the 14-year old girl who was defiled was in her custody when the crime was committed. Princess who released a video on social media, in tears noted that it was during one of Baba Ijesha's visits to her apartment that he molested one of the three girls living with her. She stirred up emotion that the repeated acts of defilement for seven years affected the child academically.

But Lanre Omiyinka is not the first sexual offender in this clime as there have been celebrities who had also been accused of rape, paedophilia or other sexual crimes

Celebrity Accused Of Sexual Offences

D'Banj: In June 2020, Seyitan accused afro-pop artiste, D'Banj of allegedly raping her in a hotel room. The lady who shared details on the social media of meeting the artiste at an all-white party at the Eko Atlantic in 2018 and she had rejected his love advances only for D'Banj whose real name is Dapo Oyebanji, to enter her room unannounced and raped her. Seyitan, later settled out of court with the music artiste after the latter had sued for defamation, demanding for a public apology and N100 million in damages amongst a host of other requests.

Ernest Obi: Movie actor cum

In this piece, **SAMUEL ABULUDE** and **JOHN ADEGWU** write about celebrities and their entanglement with sexual crimes, as experts proffer possible solutions



Baba Ijesha



D'Banj



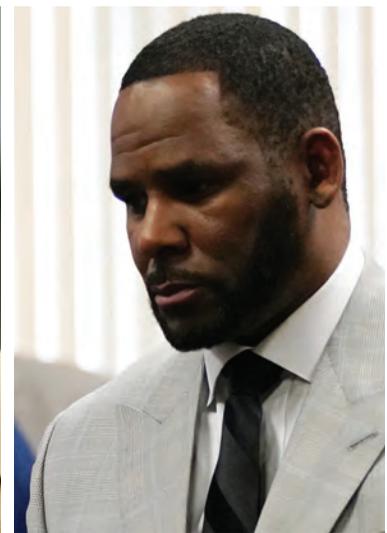
Ernest Obi



African China



Bill Cosby



R. Kelly

director, Ernest Obi in 2007 was reported to have allegedly raped his 15-year-old stepdaughter, getting her pregnant and made her to have two abortions. His estranged wife, Joanne and mother of the victim along with Ernest narrated their sides of the story to a soft sell magazine, the latter denying his involvement in the act.

African China: In April, 2006 popular Ghetto singer, African China was arrested in London for allegedly raping a lady, Denise McClurkin who he was said to have spent the night with after performing at Basketmouth's event- Laff and Jamz. Denise who said she was drunk, and must have been taken advantage off, was the friend of his female fan, Caroline Ojokola. The Nigerian singer whose real name is Chinagorom Onuoha, was later vindicated of the offence.

If there is any lesson to learn from these sexual crimes labelled at Nigerian celebrities, it's the fact that it doesn't matter when the crimes were committed, it would seep out and affect the careers of the offenders as well as the public's perception of them. The sex scandal of American singer, R. Kelly and that of ace comedian, Bill Cosby is a case study.

Bill Cosby: After becoming famous and successful as a comedian, Bill Cosby was accused by multiple women of perverted sexual offences ranging from

rape, drug-facilitated sexual assault, sexual battery, child sexual abuse and sexual misconduct. The 83-year old who was convicted in 2018, was sentenced to a maximum of 10 years in prison and despite the overwhelming allegations against him, Cosby maintained that he had never engaged in non-consensual sex and appealed his judgment in 2019.

R. Kelly: Famous R & B singer, R. Kelly is an accomplished singer and Grammy Award-winning artiste. He was accused of multiple sexual crimes which he denied. A documentary series titled "Surviving R. Kelly" was released in 2019, detailing multiple sexual crimes allegations by many women. Presently, R. Kelly is being incarcerated at Metropolitan Correctional Centre in Chicago since July 2019 on indictment of offences based on sexual abuse and misconduct often with underage girls.

Psychologist and mental health experts speak:

A mental health advocate, Dr Maymunah Kadiri, said sexual crimes are not peculiar to celebrities alone as it can be perpetrated by any class of people in the society and prevention begins with addressing the cultural values and norms that tolerate sexual assault.

"The news of a fully grown male adult who has been defiling a young lady since she was seven broke me, the fact that

the man is a public figure, someone most young adults and youth look up to does not help the matter as I begin to wonder what examples is he laying down for them? What could have made him do that? Why a young girl?

"Prevention begins with addressing the cultural values and norms that support and tolerate sexual assault. This is a long-term undertaking requiring sustained leadership and effort. Any ongoing development of an evidence-based modality should be anchored in the context of each environment as this is fundamental to sexual assault prevention and solution.

"Portfolios across all levels of government, including education, health, justice, and crime prevention, as well as the non-government sector and community stakeholders, each have a significant contribution to make. No single agency of government can address sexual assault alone," she posited.

A consultant psychologist, Nifemi Sowole, said paedophilia can be traced way back to the childhood of the perpetrator.

"Such persons from early stage of childhood, they can get anything they want, whichever way they can get it and this makes them exercise control of the vulnerable when they grow up, not learning to delay gratification. Parents need to educate and communicate with their children early on sex education and make them identify their sexual body parts are sacred and should not be touched by anybody," she said.



Interview

My Designs Emanate From A Feminist's View – Kato

Christine Kato is the creator of breast handbag design. In this interview with **JONATHAN NDA- ISAIAH** she captures who and what inspire her among other things

What do you understand by fashion and style?

Fashion and style are of utmost importance to me as a person. Fashion is a way of introducing yourself without having to say a word. My wardrobe

reflects my personality and plays a significant role in transformation and development as human beings. Fashion and style, I would say, is 'imagination, innovation, expression, and fantasy'. Not only is it relative to my professional career, but it's something I find myself indulging in and becoming inspired by within all other aspects of my life.

What is the inspiration behind the breast bag?

The inspiration behind "The Breast Bag" design emanates from a feminist view: a revolution; the need to empower women to reclaim, celebrate and embrace their bodies, sexualities; to display the power of feminism; to create awareness about issues affecting women; to make feminism

look fierce; to celebrate womanhood.

Many of the feminist issues include the breast ironing practice, women and breastfeeding, women sexuality and sexualization, women and body shaming. In addition to supporting those who choose plastic surgery to help a physical condition (such as reducing back pain with breast reduction), we also need to stop the accusations of vanity for those who simply want to improve something that makes them unhappy (for instance, improving breast shape and size with breast augmentation).

Women and reproductive rights

Sexual and reproductive rights mean you should be able to make your own decisions about your body and get accurate information about these issues, access sexual and reproductive health services including contraception, choose if, when and who to marry, decide if you want to have children and how many.

They also mean our lives should be free from all forms of sexual violence, including rape, female genital mutilation, forced pregnancy, forced abortion and forced sterilization.

Any narrative or positive feedback about the breast bag?

The breast handbag design has been received with mixed emotions, both negative and positive. Some see it as what it represents; a work of art, which is empowering for women, others see it as demeaning; different folks, different strokes. The design is not meant for everyone, only those who understand what

it represents.

What have been your challenges so far?

I had problems with social media pulling down and restricting my posts and limiting my followers.

Any regrets?

I have no regrets. My life consists of losses and wins, fails and falls. If I had to do it, I'd do it again as it all has been a learning experience and knowledge for me.

How do you unwind?

Eat, relax, take a swim, listen to music.

What makes you happy and sweeps you off your feet?

Living my life on my terms and conditions.

What genre of music do you listen to and why?

Classical, jazz, blues and oldies. I find them soothing. Music speaks straight to the heart.

What is your advice to the Nigerian youth in general, especially at this trying period?

Life can be pretty hard and rough, but that is not an excuse to give up or settle for less or failure. You must fight for the life you want, but the question is, how bad do you really want it? What odds are you willing to go through to get the life you want? Make good decisions, your future self will thank you for.

How has social media impacted your business?

Social media has affected my business by giving me an opportunity to have faster, easier communication with my clients. Also, I have good network and partnership, which boost my organic visibility and helps me connect with my customers and have a feedback.

How profitable is being a designer?

Fashion and designing can be an exciting and rewarding career. Being a fashion designer is not easy, especially a successful one. It is a competitive world, nevertheless, with dedication and commitment, success will surely be on the cards.

Beauty secrets and routine?

I don't use too many products; I moisturize both day and night and I sleep smarter.

Signature fragrance?

I like light perfumes, nothing too strong or choking.



Trends

Stylish Handbags

We all need a handbag to compliment and match our look for the day. We also want them spacious and portable. So, let's take a look at the trending and simple handbags to compliment your look for the day.

First it all depends on your look, you might dress sporty, office look, casual look etc.

For a modern woman, fashionable footwear, dark lipstick and a trending handbag are all that complete her womanhood. In today's market, there are a plethora of stylish handbags which can be opted

1) The blue velvet ball embroidery starry sky cute purses handbags with chain: The all-new embroidered blue velvet bag is an absolutely stunning handbag. Its round cut and starry sky design makes it dramatic. It is a perfect fit for an anniversary party, an evening date or festival.

2) The metal flower sawtooth leather bucket handbag wedding purse: This handbag can be used during the wedding season. It is available in white, green, pink and black shades.

3) The small flower backpack is for your casual sporty look. It gives you that simple look. You can easily carry it as the name implies backpack. It is easy to handle and also spacious to accommodate your belongings.

4) If you're a minimalist and only need enough space to carry your phone and wallet, you'll love the tiny bag trend.

5) Alternatively, for those who carry their whole lives in their handbags, the oversized bag trend is perfect. The jelly bag is great for summer beach days, and the gingham one is ideal if you need a bag big enough to run errands.



SOURCE: BLOG GURU AND COLLEGEFASHION NET.COM

Beauty

Simple-is-elegant Look

The simple-is-elegant look is the new and trending beauty look for ladies now, if you know how to do it. No one wants to wear heavy make-ups every day, which is why we now have the simple-is-elegant beauty look which goes well with your casual look. The simple-is-elegant beauty look goes with any kind of dress styles or look.



SOURCE: IFAIRER.COM

Accessories

Customized Jewellery

We have the customized jewellery these days, like the fashion rings, bracelets, anklets and many more.

There are the friendship-customized necklace and bracelet worn to share bonds with our friends and loved ones. They are different in colour and styles. Design depends on your choice.

If you're looking for a more casual piece of jewellery, the silver chain with a blue clasp and crystal geometrical form is a great choice.

If in need of something a little bit more classy, the gold chain is perfect for those dinners and date nights we're all looking forward to right now. If you'd rather go for a smaller, more discrete

piece of jewellery, a bracelet or ring is a great alternative. Again, bold colours and pearls are trending.

The pearl cuff bracelet and the amethyst bracelet are really elegant pieces of that would look great paired with a monochrome you'd rather go for a smaller, more discrete piece of jewellery, a bracelet or ring is a great alternative. Again, bold colours and pearls are trending.

Finally, stackable rings with crystals and neon colours are an easy way to add some colour and fun to a plain outfit. Finally, stackable rings with crystals and neon colours are an easy way to add some colour and fun to a plain outfit.



TOUS



SOURCE: COLLEGEFASHION.NET



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<p>BITRUS I, formerly known and addressed as IRIMIYA BITRUS, now wish to be known and addressed as ILIMIYA BITRUS. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.</p>	<p>LINDA I, formerly known and addressed as OBINEDO MMESOMA LINDA, now wish to be known and addressed as EZEORIZU MMESOMA LINDA. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.</p>	<p>CORRECTION OF NAME I, formerly known as HAHAMA PROMISE KENECHUKWU now wish to be called and addressed as DILLIMONO KENECHUKWU HAHAMA. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>OKEZIE I, formerly known as OKEZIE OKEZIE ONYEUKWU now wish to be called and addressed as OKEZIE ONYEUKWU DOMINION OKEZIE. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>UMAR I, formerly known as MALAM SANI now wish to be called and addressed as ADAM SANI UMAR. OLD DOB: 01/01/1987 NEW: 02/02/1986. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>ZANDAM I, formerly known as HALADU BALA. now wish to be called and addressed as HALADU BALA ZANDAM. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>
<p>ISHAKU I, formerly known as FAVOUR PWASPO now wish to be called and addressed as SADI MAKPLANG ISHAKU. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>ANNA I, formerly known as ABU ANNA now wish to be called and addressed as BONIFACE ANNA. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>EUNICE I, formerly known as EUNICE ESAOYE now wish to be called and addressed as JOSHUA EUNICE. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>AJIBISBE I, formerly known as OLUWAKEMI EGUNNLA now wish to be called and addressed as OLUWAKEMI AJIBISBE. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>ONORHERE I, formerly known as OVIGWE PRINCESS AWHATEFE now wish to be called and addressed as OVIGWE PRINCESS ONORHERE. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>LAWAL I, Formerly known as GRACE ERE JOHN LAWAL now wish to be known and Addressed as GRACE LAWAL. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.</p>
<p>DILO I, formerly known as DORCAS FOSHIYI now wish to be called and addressed as DORCAS FOSHIYI DILO. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>HARUNA I, formerly known as ABUBAKAR SADIQ HARUNA now wish to be called and addressed as ABUBAKAR HARUNA. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>UMAR I formally known as ADAMU ISA UMAR now wish to be known and addressed as AHMADU ISA UMAR. All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.</p>	<p>BAGAT I formally known as MAARUF BAGAT, ALHAJI MA'ARUF BAGAT now wish to be known and addressed as MOHAMMED MA'ARUF BAGAT. All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.</p>	<p>USMAN I formally known as KALTUMAI USMAN now wish to be known and addressed as KALTUME BULAMA USMAN. All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.</p>	<p>DZIBARAMU I formally known as VAHYA PIUS now wish to be known and addressed as VAHYA PIUS DZIBARAMU. All former documents remain valid, with New date of birth is 6-4-2002, general public should please take note.</p>
<p>ERNEST I, formerly known as IYEYE ERNEST now wish to be called and addressed as IYEYE ADELA ERNEST. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>RITA I, formerly known as EGHAREVBA PRINCESS RITA now wish to be called and addressed as IMOEBE PRINCESS RITA. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>ISAH I, formerly known as ISAH AMINA UMMI now wish to be called and addressed as ISAH FUKERA All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>AGWUPUYE I, formerly known as AGWUPUYE ANGELA now wish to be called and addressed as AGWUPUYE ANGELA ANDORNIMYE All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>CORRECTION OF NAME My correct name is AGAGA FREDRICK ABANGJI not AGAGA FREDRICK. Zenith Bank and general public should please take note.</p>	<p>INAH I, formerly known as INA BASSEY UTUM now wish to be called and addressed as INAH BASSEY UTUM All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>
<p>CORRECTION OF NAME I, formerly known as TORULE KERTOR JUSTICE now wish to be called and addressed as TARULE KEIGHTOR JUSTICE All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>TANKO I, formerly known as TANKO ALHAJI IBRAHIM now wish to be called and addressed as TANKO ISHAQ IBRAHIM All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>JOHN I, formerly known as JOHN DEBORAH JANADA now wish to be called and addressed as JOHN DEBORAH ALIFA All former documents remain valid. JAMB, NIN, FGGC Bwari and General public should take note...</p>	<p>ZAKARI I, formerly known as USMAN RAMATU now wish to be called and addressed as ZAKARI RAMATU DAUDA All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>NUHU I, formerly known as AHMADU UMAR now wish to be called and addressed as NUHU OKKOH UMAR All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>JOHN I, formerly known as JOHNEBAH RACHEAL OJODOMO now wish to be called and addressed as JOHN RACHEL. I was born on. 23 / 02 / 1997 not. 23 / 12 / 1993. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>
<p>HALILU I, formerly known as HASSANA HARUNA now wish to be called and addressed as HALILU HASSANA All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>FATIMA I, formerly known as FAATIMA SANI now wish to be called and addressed as FATIMA SANI YARTATA All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>EKWEREIKE I, formerly known as ONYIA ANTHONIA EZIJE now wish to be called and addressed as EKWEREIKE ANTHONIA EZIJE All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>CHARLES I, formerly known as CHARLES INNOCENT CHARLES now wish to be called and addressed as CHARLES INNOCENT CHUKWUEBUKA All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>SODIQ I, formerly known as SADIQ SULA now wish to be called and addressed as SODIQ SULAIMAN OLUWAROTIM All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>	<p>SAMUEL I, formerly known as HUSSENI CECILIA now wish to be called and addressed as SAMUEL CECILIA All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p>

PDP: Is NEC's Vote Of Confidence Respite For Secondus-led NWC?

BY CHIBUZOR UKAIBE, Abuja

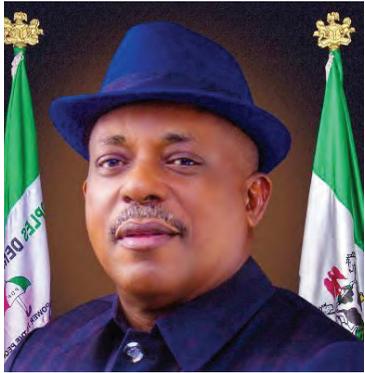
The second largest organ of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) passed a vote of confidence on the National Working Committee (NWC) of the party last Thursday. But that gesture was instructive and insightful in light of unfolding events within the party.

For followers of events within the main opposition political party, the past few months have been tough for the NWC led by chairman Prince Uche Secondus.

Besides the herculean task of managing the day to day activities of the party, the frictions among power brokers in the party had put the NWC on the edge of sorts. The NWC has since had to maneuver through a maze of political intrigues and allegations of financial impropriety.

At the turn of this year, moves to remove Secondus emerged. The move according to party sources was instigated by a governor from the South South who, having fallen with Secondus, was set to ensure he is removed.

It was learnt that the campaign, driven by the politics of 2023, is to stop the Secondus-led NWC from returning to the party leadership ahead of the national convention this December.



Secondus

With the intrigues for his removal mounting, LEADERSHIP Weekend learnt that too party leaders intervened, urging against any power change that would through the party into a leadership crisis reminiscent of the post-2015 tussle between Senator Ahmed Makarfi and Senator Ali Modu-Sheriff camps which brought the party to its knees. Nevertheless, while the Secondus-led NWC was being tackled for not handling frictions within the state chapters timely and properly, a memo surfaced early this year accusing the Secondus led

NWC of managing party funds generated in the last three years.

The memo which was purportedly sent to party leaders by the national auditor, Adamu Mustapha, said his department was denied access to all the party's financial transactions since 2017.

As ripples began to build over the purported memo, the PDP national publicity secretary, Kola Ologbondiyan, described it as false.

Not long after, Mustapha, the national auditor denied accusing the national chairman of the party of financial impropriety.

The party zonal congresses provided a hiatus of sorts to the unfolding intrigues over party finances until a fresh allegation emerged barely days ago.

This time, it was raised by former commissioner for information in Edo State, Prince Kassim Afegbua, who filed a petition at the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) demanding that an investigation be done into a purported N10bn generated by the party in the 2019 general election cycle.

Again, the national publicity secretary of the party, Ologbondiyan, refuted the claim,

saying the party generated N4.6bn and that all financial transactions by the NWC was approved by the National Executive Committee (NEC), the second largest organ of the party, the Board of Trustees and governors of the party.

What's more, he said that the party had submitted its audited accounts to the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) which has the mandate to vet the financial books of all political parties in the country.

However, while Afegbua insisted on the claim, Secondus through his lawyer, Emeka Etiaba, has asked the petitioner to retract his publication, apologize and pay a sum of N1 billion as damages within 48 hours (from Thursday) or face a legal action.

However as the drama continue to unfold, the vote of confidence by the party's NEC on Secondus and his team will serve as a soothing balm to say the least, especially as this is the first time in the party history that a party leadership has stayed this long within the mandate of its tenure.

It was learnt that the motion for vote of confidence was moved by the former Governor of Niger State, Babangida Aliyu, and was seconded by former minister of

foreign affairs, Chief Tom Ikimi.

But how far reaching can such a motion go in the face of the unfolding intrigues in the party, especially as the clamour for power shift in party leadership mounts, is another matter.

On his party, a party chieftain from Gombe State, Salisu Magaji, said "The NWC of the party are matured and are respected leaders of the party. Majority of them are founding fathers of the party. So if they pass a vote of confidence on a leadership just trust that leadership."

He however underscored the concerns within over moves to sack the leadership unconstitutionally. A political analyst, Mike Obiekwe however, stated that the vote of confidence would not amount to much, if the leadership does not inspire its members.

"I am not a member of the party, but a vote of confidence in any leadership has to reflect on whether or not it can still inspire its followers. If that does not exist then, whatever kind of endorse would only be cosmetic at best."

Feelers from within the party indicate that the battle is far from over, if anything, they are just beginning as the December national convention approaches.

AKPOMEZA
I, formerly known as **BIATE AZIBATARAM KATE** now wish to be called and addressed as **AKPOMEZA AZIBATARAM KATE** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MBAKA
I, formerly known as **MUHAMMAD USMAN MBAKA** now wish to be called and addressed as **MBAKA JOHN** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

CONFIRMATION OF NAME
This is to inform the general public that my name was wrongly captured as **INUSA BUHARIBUHARI** in my NIN instead of **YUNUSA BUHARI**. Henceforth my correct name is **YUNUSA BUHARI**. General public please take note.

HOPE
I, formerly known as **FATIMA PAUL** now wish to be called and addressed as **HOPE PAUL** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MOHAMMED
I, formerly known as **MOHAMMED MOHAMMED** now wish to be called and addressed as **MOHAMMED SANI MOHAMMED** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

JOYCE
I, formerly known as **JOYCE MNGOHOL AWEN** now wish to be called and addressed as **JOYCE MNGOHOL ORTESE** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

AONDO
I, formerly known as **AONDO JOY TERSEER** now wish to be called and addressed as **AONDO IEMBER JOY** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

ADAMA
I, formerly known as **ADAMA ONGADE ABBAS** now wish to be called and addressed as **ADAMA RILWANU ABBAS** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

GIWA
I, formerly known as **ALOEKWE ROSEMARY CHIAMA** now wish to be called and addressed as **GIWA ROSEMARY CHIAMA** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

TERNENGE
I, formerly known as **TERNENGE DOOSE MARTINA** now wish to be called and addressed as **TERNENGE MBAUNDEN MARTINA** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

AHMADU
I, formerly known as **MUHAMMAD MUSA ADAMU** now wish to be called and addressed as **AHMADU MUSA ADAMU** correct DoB 14/08/1998 All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

OBADIAH
I, formerly known as **OBADIA JOHN** now wish to be called and addressed as **OBADIAH YOHANNA GOJE** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

AKOGU
The name **JAMES ILEBAYE BLESSING** and **JAMES PATIENCE OJOCHENEMI** refers to one and the same person. Henceforth, I wish to be known and address as **AKOGU JAMES ILEBAYE BLESSING**. And that all documents are valid. General public should please take note.

SIMON
I, formerly known as **LUKA SIMON** now wish to be called and addressed as **SIMON LUKA AKYENGO** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

UMUIHUEZE 1 UNITED ELITES ASSOCIATION
This is to inform the general public that the above named has applied to the Corporate Commission For Registration Under Part "C" Of The Companies And Allied Matters Act 2020.
TRUSTEES:
1. Nwankwo Temple Kelechi
2. Rowland Nkem
3. Nwaeke Hamilton Obijuru
4. Onyeukwu Emmanuel Chukwunonso
5. Nwankwo Promise Chibuzor
6. Mac-Ajaelu Chigozie
7. Chima Prince Ezenwa
AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:
1. To chat the cause for social economic empowerment of the people of umuihueze
2. Promotion and advancement of the cultural heritage of umuihueze 1.
3. Establishment, maintenance, and operation of a system of prompt and efficient aid and assistance for umuihueze 1 people.
4. Harmonizing, formalizing, recognizing, legitimizing, utilizing, prioritizing the voices and actions of young people in the advancement of the youths.
5. Advancing youth involvement in community development through seminars and symposiums.
6. Promoting and providing mentorship for the younger generation.
7. Providing avenue for exchange of experiences and best practices for capacity building 8. Becoming a community watchdog to extinguish corruption among the council of chiefs, cdcs, youth organizations etc. Within Umuihueze 1.
Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the registrar-general, corporate affairs commission, plot b420, tigris crescent, off aguiyi ironsi street, maitama, abuja with 28 days of this publication.
SIGNED: SECRETARY

KAKANFO TEAM FOUNDATION
This is to notify the general public that the above named has applied to the corporate affairs commission for registration under part "c" the companies and allied matters act 1990.
TRUSTEES ARE:
1. Onile - Ere Saheed Smith - President
2. Safidiya Temitope Okikiola - Secretary
AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:
1. To work for the social development of underprivileged individuals, groups and communities;
2. To encourage welfare to those in the prisons and health promotion;
3. To assist in the process of social integration and personal realisation of underprivileged children, young people, adults and families;
4. To endorse the human rights and in particular the rights of the children and young people as well as the rights of underprivileged groups and communities;
5. To bring family settlement and give counselling to the married couples in the society.
6. Our work aims to break the vicious cycle of poverty and social isolation and to restore hope for a better future.
7. We believe that every person has the right to access resources and opportunities in order to live and develop with dignity and to become an active and contributing member of our society
Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission Maitama Abuja within 28 days of publication.
Signed:
Barrister John Nnaji
0803 667 5763

LOSS OF DOCUMENT
THIS IS TO INFORM THE GENERAL PUBLIC OF THE LOSS OF ORIGINAL PROVISIONAL ALLOCATION OF REPLACEMENT PLOT LETTER IN RESPECT OF PLOT NO. 4013 AT WUKARA VILLAGE ABUJA ISSUED BY FCDA DATED 24TH JANUARY 2014, BELONGING TO JIBREEN NUHU, WUKARA VILLAGE, AMAC, ABUJA. THE LOSS OF THE SAID DOCUMENT WAS DISCOVERED IN MARCH 2021 WHILE IN MY HOUSE SEARCHING FOR MY DOCUMENTS. ALL EFFORTS MADE TO TRACE THE MISSING DOCUMENT PROVED ABORTIVE, IF FOUND PLEASE CONTACT THE NEAREST POLICE STATION.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT
THIS IS TO INFORM THE GENERAL PUBLIC OF THE LOSS OF ORIGINAL OFFER OF LEASE OF PLOT 38 BLOCK XIII WITH REF NO. FCT/SAS./GWR/IX111/38 WITH SIZE OF THE PLOT 1,000 SQ.M LOCATED AT GWARIMPA BEARING KENNETH ABUAH, ISSUED BY FEDERAL MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING, THE SAID DOCUMENT BELONGS TO SULEIMAN BELLO ISA OF NO. 101 GWARIMPA 51 CRESCENT FCT, ABUJA, THE SAID DOCUMENT WENT MISSING ON THE 21/01/2021. ALL EFFORTS TO TRACE THE SAID DOCUMENT PROVED ABORTIVE PLEASE IF FOUND REPORT TO THE NEAREST POLICE STATION

LOSS OF DOCUMENT
THIS IS TO INFORM THE GENERAL PUBLIC OF LOSS OF THE ORIGINAL OFFER OF STATUTORY RIGHT OF OCCUPANCY IN RESPECT OF PLOT NO 2761, MEASURING ABOUT 636.20SQM. WITH OLD FILE NO AN 6651 AND NEW FILE NO AN 22637, DATED 25/01/06. SITUATED AT CADASTRAL ZONE FOI KUBWA DISTRICT LAYOUT. WITH ACKNOWLEDGEMENT RECEIPT. BEARING CHRIS OKEY ARUBALEZE. ALL EFFORTS TO TRACE THE SAID DOCUMENT PROVED ABORTIVE. IF FOUND RETURN TO THE NEAREST POLICE STATION.

EREMIAH OMOTO FUFEYIN FOUNDATION. CAC/IT/ NO 132844
This is to inform the general public that the above named Foundation has applied to Corporate Affairs Commission for Removal of Trustee, Appointment of Secretary and Amendment of Constitution under the Pat "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.
THE TRUSTEES ARE
1. Fufeyin Jeremiah Omoto (Chairman) (Retained)
2. Fufeyin Anthonia (Retained)
3. Fufeyin Harriet (Retained)
4. Ogunbameru Oluseun Olabanjo (Secretary) (Removed)
The removal of **OGUNBAMERU OLUSEUN OLABANJO** as trustee becomes necessary as he has not been attending meetings and activities of the Foundation.
That **FUFEYIN HARRIET** be appointed as Secretary to the Foundation.
Any objection to the above should be forwarded to the Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420 Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of this public notice.
SIGNED: CHAIRMAN SIGNED: SECRETARY

My Secret Life

It's Difficult To Please Everyone – Omechie

BACKGROUND

My name is Omeche Julia Agada. I am the seventh child of Chief and Mrs Silva Ameh. I am happily married with three kids. I hail from Ipari-Otukpa, Benue State. I attended a couple of schools while growing up. I started at Makurdi International School, then to Air Force Primary School, Victoria Island Lagos. My secondary school was at the Federal Government Girls' College Gboko and tertiary institution was at University of Abuja, Gwagwalada where I obtained my first degree in Economics. I went on to obtain a Masters in Business Administration at the Webster University, Missouri, USA. I'm a caterer, a baker to be precise. I run a small bakery in Abuja called MechysCuppies.

HOW IT STARTED

While growing up, I remember my mum used to bake pastries like meat pies, buns etc. She also had a friend in Makurdi she used to bake cakes with. She would bake our (my siblings and I) birthday cakes with her friends and anytime she brought them home I would just keep admiring the cakes. Over the years as I grew, I developed interest in baking. I also had a British neighbour that baked really lovely cakes so I had the chance to learn a lot from her. My love for cakes and pastries made me develop more interests. I started off baking for my family and friends at home and then gradually I saw myself baking for others who had tasted my cakes somehow, that was when I decided going commercial.

It was what I did at my spare time. I baked for hours trying out new recipes, watching videos on YouTube about techniques in cake decorating.

I started off baking for my family and friends at home with the little oven we had at home for the family and with their encouragement and support, gradually I saw myself baking for others who had tasted my cakes somehow. This continued for a while. After some years, when I resigned from my job at an investment company, I started baking again. I would bake at home for friends and get paid. Then I decided to go commercial and make it a profession. I remember vividly the day I drove to UTC to print some stickers and fliers.

I worked from home for some years, then I opened a cafe in the heart of Abuja for a number of years which I closed down for some reasons but I would still bake at home for my clients. It was a small cafe that served variety of cakes, ice cream, tea/coffee. We also catered to all types of occasions and

events. While running the cafe, I took some online courses and also took some courses abroad

MENTORS

I look up to so many people in the industry. In Nigeria, I have quite a number of them. I'm also inspired by lots of bakers around the world.

CHALLENGES

There are always challenges. I think the first one I struggled or still struggling with is space. Baking needs a lot of space and I don't think till now I have what I have always pictured in my head. Another one is getting to deal with staff, also all the overheads you have to deal with having a store in Abuja. I'm sure my Abuja people can relate.

DREAMS

My dream is to own a known well-established bakery in Abuja. Also, to venture into bread making/ ice cream production. I would say my fear is having to deal with all that comes with running a huge establishment but I continue to rely on God Most High for strength and all it takes.

ACHIEVEMENT

Baking has impacted my life in so many ways. It has connected me with so many people as I get to cater/ attend to events. It has also brought out the creative side of me. I get to create and learn more decorating techniques. I have also developed a business mindset. I'm opened to lots of business ideas now and diversifying into other areas. It has also helped me develop some skills. It has also been a source of income.

FUTURE

PROJECTIONS

In a few years to come, I see myself running a well established and seamless bakery, also having outlets in other cities in Nigeria. I see myself having an institution where I'm able to pass knowledge to other upcoming bakers as I get a lot of enquiries now on tutoring.

WHAT DIFFERENTIATES YOU FROM YOUR COMPETITORS

What differentiates me is being able to develop my own recipes. We try to work with everyone that walks into MechysCuppies. We have different products to suit everyone's budget. We also aim and we strive to please everyone we do business with although we know it's

difficult to please everyone.

WORDS OF WISDOM

Rome wasn't built in a day and never forget the days of your little beginning! Always strive for the best and have patience.

“
started off baking for my family and friends at home and then gradually I saw myself baking for others who had tasted my cakes somehow, that was when I decided going commercial

LIFE IN BRIEF

Omeche Julie Agada is the seventh child of Chief and Mrs Silva Ameh. She hails from Ipari-Otukpa, Benue State. A graduate of the University of Abuja and the Webster University, Missouri, USA where she obtained her first degree in Economics and Masters in Business Administration respectively, her passion for baking which she imbibed from her mother has now blossomed. She runs a bakery in Abuja.

INTERVIEW BY
SAM EGWU

PHOTO BY
NURUDEEN NAZIRAH OYIZA



SPORTS

LEADERSHIP
weekend

01.5.2021

NFSC Club Inaugurates Musical Equipment

The Nigeria Football Supporters Club (NFSC) has inaugurated musical equipment to enable it to adequately support the country's national teams at international and local competitions.

The instruments inaugurated at the club's monthly Star Night and Investiture of new members included 10 drums and sticks and six trumpets donated by one of its members based in Russia.

Inaugurating the instruments, the club's National Chairman, Rev. Samuel Ikpea, noted that the equipment came timely as it would help the team cheer the country's teams at both continental and global competitions.

He said the drums and sticks the National Band had were old as the last set was bought seven years ago.

He said some of the forthcoming competitions included the Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON), beginning in January 2022 in Cameroon and the 2022 World Cup in Qatar.

He recalled that he spoke with one of the members in Russia without disclosing his name about the

dearth of musical equipment in the organisation.

"After I discussed with one of our members in Russia on Monday, April 12, and complained about the need for trumpets in the club as a matter of urgency, and he promised that he was going to respond.

"Surprisingly, I got a call from a delivery man on April 14, who said he had a package for the club; and when he got here, behold, it was six brand new trumpets from him.

"Another member has promised to donate four more drums soon to complement the ones the current executive just bought," he said.

Ikpea appealed to the instrumentalists to make good use of the equipment to lift the spirit of the national team players even when the odds were against them in a match to eventually win.

He also appealed to corporate organisations and philanthropists to assist the club in its chosen call of cheering the national teams and promoting football, especially now normal competitions were gradually returning. (NAN)

Coutinho Set To Join Iwobi At Everton

Former Liverpool star Philippe Coutinho is set to become teammates with Alex Iwobi as the Brazilian will join Everton this summer in a £35million deal.

Everton are so confident of the playmaker returning to Merseyside, they are already house-hunting for him. Boss Carlo Ancelotti wants Coutinho to form a South American dream team with Colom-

bian James Rodriguez.

The 28-year-old has had a miserable time since leaving Anfield for Spain for £145m. Barca tried to sell him 18 months later but he ended up on loan at Bayern Munich.

He won the treble in Germany but was hit by injuries that cost him a permanent move to the Bundesliga.

He then made 14 appearances on his return to the Nou Camp, but has not played since late December thanks to a knee injury.

He had surgery at the start of this month and will not play again this season. Everton want to be sure he has recovered fully before committing, but a deal is thought to have been agreed on paper.

The prognosis is said to be excellent and plans are well underway to welcome Coutinho, his wife Aine and their three children.



Coutinho

Basketball Africa League: Opong Ready To Represent Rivers Hoopers

Ahead of the inaugural Basketball Africa League, Rivers Hoopers Basketball Club new signing, Robinson Odoch Opong, has said he is ready to represent the club in Kigali, Rwanda.

Recall that Opong was signed to be the replacement for injured 2015 NBA Champion, with Gold-

en State Warriors, Festus Ezeli.

Speaking for the first time since he was announced as Hoopers' player, the Ugandan international anticipated representing the Kingsmen during BAL, stating that there was no way he would have rejected the offer.

"When the offer came, it felt like

the right thing to do. Now I can't wait to get out there and represent the club and its fans in Kigali."

After sealing deals for four players, some fans have said the Kingsmen should be able to get at least a podium finish, but Opong says the player's health will be a major factor that could decide their title

ambitions.

"I think we have what it takes to make a push in the tournament. I pray that everyone stays healthy so we can accomplish big things together".

'NBA and BAL working together will only help elevate our sport.'



Dare

Minister Dissolves Boards Of 31 Sports Federations, Sets Up Caretaker Committees

BY SALIFU USMAN, ABUJA

Barely three months to the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, the minister of youth and sports development, Sunday Dare, has dissolved all the boards of 31 National Sports Federations in the country. This was disclosed in a press statement released yesterday in Abuja.

The Minister said the dissolution was in line with the Olympic charter which stipulates a four year tenure for all Sports Federations Boards.

"Having run a full Olympic cycle, the Boards of the NSFs inaugurated on June 21, 2017 are hereby dissolved to pave way for fresh elections," Dare said.

The minister consequently set up caretaker committees for the 31 federations until elections were conducted and new boards inaugurated.

He said the committees are now saddled with the responsibility of ensuring a good outing for Team Nigeria at the Tokyo Olympic Games slated for July.

The 31 federations involved include those of Athletics, Aquatics, Badmin-

ton, Basketball, Boxing, Chess, Cricket, Cycling, Darts, Deaf Sports, Fives, Golf, Gymnastics and Handball.

Others are those of Hockey, Judo, Karate, Kickboxing, Wushu Kungfu, Rowing, Canoeing and Yatching, Rugby and Scrabble.

The rest are Shooting, Squash, Table Tennis, Taekwondo, Tennis, Traditional Sports, Volleyball, Weightlifting and Wrestling.

The three-member committees were made up of Chairman, Secretary and a member for each federation.

"In keeping with the Olympic Charter which stipulates a 4-year tenure for all Sports Federations Boards, the tenure of the National Olympic Sports Federations in Nigeria have come to an end. There is a need for a transition from the old Boards to the new one.

"In order to ensure continuity in the administration of the Federations, Caretaker Committees are hereby put in place to manage the affairs of the Federations until elections are conducted and the new Boards inaugurated.

"Mindful of the Olympic Games

in July 2021, the Caretaker Committees will work assiduously towards enhancing team Nigeria participation at the Games. The Ministry in partnership with the NOC, will release in due course, the time-table for the elections into National Sport Federation Boards.

"In order to ensure transparency and accountability in the electoral process, the Ministry requested all National Sports Federations to submit their Constitutions. Regrettably, as at date, only 7 Federations have complied.

"Having consulted with the Nigeria Olympic Committee (NOC), the Ministry has concluded to organize elections into the Federations using the Code of Governance which is the administrative machinery that regulates the governance of Sports Federations in Nigeria.

"I encourage all Nigerians who have passion and interest for their chosen Sports and who can contribute selflessly to the development of Sports in Nigeria to show interest in the Membership of the various National Sports Federations," the statement read in part.



Opong (right)



Premier League Overtakes La Liga As Europe's Best League

The English Premier League has become the number one ranked league in Europe thanks to Manchester United's 6-2 victory over Roma in Thursday's Europa League first-leg, Daily Mail reports.

United's Europa League glory has seen the Premier League lead the UEFA rankings for the first time in nine years, pushing La Liga down into second place.

As it stands, England and the Premier League have a coefficient score of 98.997 after the nation's success in both the Champions League and Europa League.

Both Manchester City and Chelsea are leading the way in the Champions League, while Manchester United and Arse-

nal are very much in the Europa League.

With two Premier League clubs in both the semi-finals of the Champions League and Europa League – the English top-flight has officially outperformed LaLiga in three of the last five seasons.

Despite still having both Real Madrid and Villarreal in the Champions League and Europa League respectively, Spain will be unable to catch England.

Even Champions League and Europa League glory will leave Spain and LaLiga sitting in England's shadow.

That is because the gap between the two countries will increase when the rankings move on a season.

As it stands, Spain currently have a coefficient score of 97.425. While England's score has eclipsed that of their 2018-19 record and could even go on to beat the all-time highest coefficient score set by Spain in 2015-2016.

Spain set such a record when Real Madrid beat Atletico Madrid in the Champions League and Sevilla beat Liverpool in the Europa League.

England's rise to the top of the UEFA rankings will not affect either nation's number of Champions League places.

- UEFA COEFFICIENT TABLE
1. England 98.997
 2. Spain 97.425
 3. Italy 75.153
 4. Germany 73.570
 5. France 56.081

Joshua Wades Into Fury's Row With Promoter Hearn

Anthony Joshua has backed his promoter Eddie Hearn, after Tyson Fury launched an X-rated rant at the Matchroom boss.

Hearn is trying to finalise details for the £200m bout that will crown the first unified heavyweight champ since Lennox Lewis. But the Gypsy King has been growing increasingly frustrated in recent weeks, with talks between Top Rank's Bob Arum and Hearn stretching out.

Fury also took the opportunity to take aim at Hearn for his treatment of Billy Joe Saunders in the build-up to his bout with pound-for-pound king Canelo Alvarez.

Hearn represents Saunders, but during a training session with his fellow Brit, Fury claimed the promoter was prioritising Canelo in the build-up, labelling him an "absolute w*****".

"I think Matchroom Boxing and Eddie Hearn are absolute

w*****," Fury said on social media.

They're up to Canelo Alvarez's ringpiece a million miles. Look on the f***** webpage. All Canelo, Canelo," Fury said.

"Do you promote Billy Joe or not you little w**** p****?"

"Frank Warren is worth 10 of you, Eddie, you little sausage. He knows how to promote fighters, that's why he's a Hall of Fame promoter."

Iheanacho Has Silenced Critics With Goal Run – Rodgers

Leicester City manager, Brendan Rodgers, has said red-hot striker Kelechi Iheanacho has finally silenced the moaners with his goal run.

The Nigerian, 24, endured a tough start at the Foxes following his £25m moves from Manchester City in 2017.

But his 12 goals in nine games have cemented the third spot and put Leicester into next month's FA Cup final.

"Kelechi's gone through spells when there were moans and groans when he came on. But I don't think there's any

now. That's a testament to Kelechi," Rodgers said.



CREATIVE

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Country:	Nigeria
Subject:	Request for Applications (RFA) Number RFA-Northeast Connection-1216
Title of Opportunity:	Building the Capacity of Women's Groups and Female Leaders.
Issue Date:	01/05/2021
Deadline for Questions/Clarifications:	2021-05-07 5:00 PM
Deadline for Applications:	2021-06-01 5:00 PM Local Time

The North East Connection program funded by USAID and implemented by Creative Associates International, Inc. (Creative), is seeking applications from eligible applicants to fund a program entitled "Building the Capacity of Women's Groups and Female Leaders".

Program Summary
The purpose of Northeast Connection project is to strengthen the resilience of communities vulnerable to violent extremist infiltration and conflict. By targeting communities in Adamawa, Yobe, and Borno States that are not yet under the control of violent extremist organizations (VEOs), the Activity will mitigate the grievances that make communities vulnerable to violent extremism, while building social cohesion within and across communities in northeast Nigeria. In addition to helping northeastern Nigerians create a stronger foundation and become more resilient to VEO infiltration and conflict, the Activity will develop local capacity to respond to emerging threats and vulnerabilities. Northeast Connection also includes a rigorous analytical component to develop a more informed, shared understanding of local and sub-regional VEO and conflict risks, dynamics, and windows of opportunity. The Activity will also lead the coordination of implementing partners on such countering violent extremism (CVE) initiatives.

Eligibility & Submission Instructions
Interested applicants may obtain a full copy of the RFA, including detailed submission instructions, by (a) registering with Creative through its online grants management system at <http://smart.fluxx.io/apply/connection>, or (b) making a written request to Grants Team at grants@connection-nigeria.com. Interested applicants that register via the online grants management system will be able to view the full RFA through the grantee portal.

To be eligible for award, an applicant must meet the eligibility requirements and provide all the required information, both of which are outlined in the RFA. An award will be made to the eligible applicant(s) whose application(s) are most responsive to the program objectives and selection criteria.

Issuance of this RFA does not constitute an award commitment on the part of Northeast Connection, nor does it commit Northeast Connection to pay for any costs incurred by a potential applicant while preparing/submission costs are at the applicant's expense.

Thank you for your interest in this opportunity.

CREATIVE

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Country:	Nigeria
Subject:	Request for Applications (RFA) Number RFA-Northeast Connection-1217
Title of Opportunity:	Engage internally Displaced Persons, Persons with Disabilities and Cultural minorities to increase Social bonds and decrease perceived Marginalization
Issue Date:	01/05/2021
Deadline for Questions/Clarifications:	2021-05-07 5:00 PM
Deadline for Applications:	2021-06-01 5:00 PM Local Time

The North East Connection program funded by USAID and implemented by Creative Associates International, Inc. (Creative), is seeking applications from eligible applicants to fund a program entitled "Engage internally displaced persons, persons with disabilities and cultural minorities to increase social bonds and decrease perceived marginalization".

Program Summary
The purpose of Northeast Connection project is to strengthen the resilience of communities vulnerable to violent extremist infiltration and conflict. By targeting communities in Adamawa, Yobe, and Borno States that are not yet under the control of violent extremist organizations (VEOs), the Activity will mitigate the grievances that make communities vulnerable to violent extremism, while building social cohesion within and across communities in northeast Nigeria. In addition to helping northeastern Nigerians create a stronger foundation and become more resilient to VEO infiltration and conflict, the Activity will develop local capacity to respond to emerging threats and vulnerabilities. Northeast Connection also includes a rigorous analytical component to develop a more informed, shared understanding of local and sub-regional VEO and conflict risks, dynamics, and windows of opportunity. The Activity will also lead the coordination of implementing partners on such countering violent extremism (CVE) initiatives.

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Thank you for your interest in this opportunity.

01.05.21

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SPACE FOR SALE



Saturday
Column

SIMON REEF
MUSA

A Birthday Without Sam

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Today May 1 is Labour Day and also the birthday of the founder and Editor-in-Chief of the LEADERSHIP Media Group, Mr Sam Nda-Isaiah. As someone whom I had worked closely with in the early years of the newspaper, today will continue to be a watershed.

Two years ago, I took the decision to always celebrate this enigmatic man called Sam whose blazing fervor to reach the top did open numerous doors of opportunities that inspired him to establish a media platform for the advancement of national discourse.

Sam became a metaphor for an unwieldy paradox that may be too difficult to interpret as he combined the creativity of human intellect and a burning disposition in achieving dreams thought impossible. The life of Sam in starting LEADERSHIP recalls to memory the encounter between David and Goliath in the Bible. Even when his editors insisted that it was suicidal to start a daily newspaper in the North that had become the graveyard of the print media, the pharmacist refused to be deterred. Apart from the many errors encountered during the weekly production of the newspaper, Sam had refused to focus on the obstacles but on the ultimate goal of success to be gained from running a successful daily newspaper. Not even the resignation of his editor ahead of his newspaper going daily discouraged him.

The world almost stopped for some of us working for him a day before the daily edition hit the streets. The Chairman had left his office upstairs and took a permanent seat in the production room. He seemed to be everywhere as he screamed orders in a bid to ramp up the production process that was used to the weekly mode.

The first editor of the daily edition, Mallam Shehu Dauda, now late, was everywhere responding to inquiries from

Sam and at the same time conferring with other senior editors for a hitch-free production. The pharmacist-turned-publisher would most times blow hot over a misspelt word and sometimes simply hissed and shook his head in utter disgust over faulty headlines. It was a tough day for gentle and soft-speaking Dauda whose competence was being tested. We all thought he did his best, as we retired home to wait for the outcome of a grilling exercise that would produce the maiden copy of the daily edition.

My heartbeats raced as I flipped through the pages of the first daily edition that was printed on low quality newsprints. Considering the quality of newsprints and misspelt words, including wrong captioning of pictures, I was sure that Chairman would pull down the roof. Before midday, the publisher walked in and the entire office premises embraced a graveyard silence.

Few minutes later, senior editors were summoned for an editorial meeting in the Chairman's office. We filed silently and took our seats. The publisher of the newest daily newspaper looked neither happy nor sad; his disposition was not reflective of his inner feelings. When Dauda, whose baby was to be the subject of the meeting walked in and took his seat, he looked like a lamb prepared for the slaughter.

Speaking in a measured tone and in complete control of his emotion, Chairman blurted, "All of you seated here have put in not less than 10 years of experience in journalism. So, we have over 100 years of experience behind the production of this poor and embarrassing edition? I think we should just close down this paper and go home".

It was the shortest meeting ever to be called by the Chairman who was known for turning meetings into a monologue. We returned to our offices, oblivious of what to do next. Less than an hour after



The late Sam Nda-Isaiah

the meeting, the production room came alive as Mallam Dauda resumed his pacing up and down in preparation for the next production. Within the first six months of going daily, the resilience and crave for excellence by the Chairman paid off as the daily edition soon attracted endorsements for a frontline position in national dailies from stakeholders.

As someone who shares the same birthday with the Chairman, I discovered that he did not only defeat challenges but was also excited by future success. Sam was never satisfied with daily triumphs, but constantly saw little daily successes as building blocks for bigger dreams. He was in love with innovation for his newspaper, and that explained why he would always come back from foreign trips with several bags containing magazines and newspapers for reviews.

As a man whose accomplishments were founded on his unquenchable willpower hinged on relentless vision, reaching the next level was always his major preoccupation. Through the years, the pharmacist-turned-publisher continued to broaden new-fangled landscapes in journalism. He

brought exciting innovations that placed his media outfit in the prime position of national dailies.

Chairman's walk to the preeminent position in the media was not devoid of challenges. He braved the tide when he founded LEADERSHIP at a time the North was considered to be the cemetery for the print media. When hope was all gone and no one dared to tread on a field avoided by media professionals, Sam proved bookmakers wrong by establishing a newspaper that has continued against all odds.

When he passed away on December 11, 2020, the newspaper founder had refused to become a slumbering soul comfortable in living in unconquered spaces and mooning over life. The late media mogul aligned himself with Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's 'Psalm of life' that depicts the essence of living:

*Life is real! Life is earnest!
And the grave is not its goal;
Dust thou art, to dust returnest,
Was not spoken of the soul.*

*Not enjoyment, and not sorrow,
Is our destined end or way;*

*But to act, that each to-morrow
Find us farther than to-day.*

Recognising that bravery and the indomitability of willpower were the cornerstones of success, Chairman saw time as the major propeller in making humans achieve development within their short stay on earth. While he lived, Sam was so engrossed in prosecuting several projects that still holds abundant prospects in several human endeavours.

Sam was stubborn in not letting go of anything he put his hands to. There were too many obstacles to discourage his enterprising spirit, but his clear objectives and the worthiness of his causes aligned with Longfellow's poetic lines:

*In the world's broad field of battle,
In the bivouac of Life,
Be not like dumb, driven cattle!
Be a hero in the strife!*

I can attest to the Chairman's disposition in leading from the front and not from the rear as he was never dumb but was driven by the increasing impulse to achieve success. Sam's first posthumous birthday reminds me that:

*We can make our lives sublime,
And, departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time;
Footprints, that perhaps another,
Sailing o'er life's solemn main,
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,
Seeing, shall take heart again.*

Today's marks the first birthday without Sam whose tough spirit founded LEADERSHIP Media Group. He established a newspaper to provide a platform where every idea can find a space in national discourse. Even when his opponents attempted

to blackmail and cripple the take-off of the newspaper, Sam walked and worked with critical stakeholders across religion and ethnicity to silence his traducers.

Celebrating the first posthumous birthday of Sam reminds me of an unappeasable personality that was never comfortable with failures. There is no doubting the fact that if Sam had lived, his sterling achievements in the media and other national endeavours could have shot him into the corridors of power.

As I celebrate the unconquerable spirit of positivity that Sam epitomised, it is my earnest expectation that our nation's distraught citizens and government at all levels will be inspired by his fiery zeal for development and successes in tackling challenges.

Fortunately, Sam's biggest legacy, LEADERSHIP Media Group, is in good hands. We that were close to him hereby resolved that we will do anything within our capacity to assist in keeping alive the dream.

My Chairman, continue to rest in the bosom of your Maker.

GHANA MUST GO

COVID-19: People relying on native doctors for treatment in India

-News



They are playing with another variant!