



Gov. Peter Mbah:
Celebrating
One Year of
Excellence in Enugu State



Alleged Terrorism:
Nnamdi Kanu Deserves
Igboho's Treatment
- Hon. Obinna Aguocha

Jim Nwobodo's
84th Birthday
An Inquest by
Dr. Ben Oramalugo



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Tinubu's 1 Year In Office: The Good, The Bad, The Ugly

INSIDE STORY:

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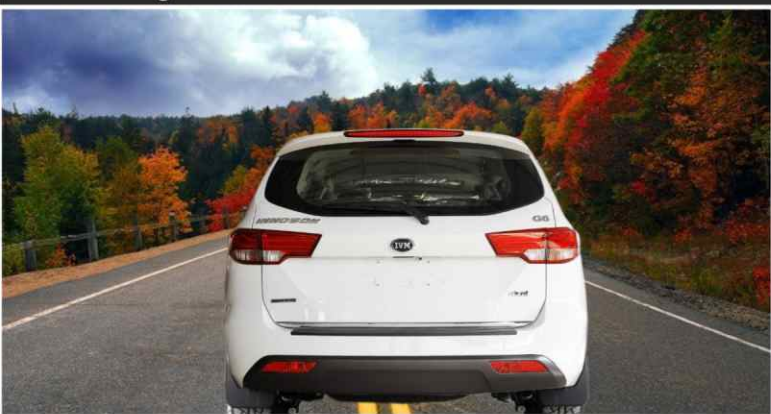
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OFFICE ADDRESS:

Plot 8B Kayes Str.
PMB 5305,
Wuse Zone 1, Abuja

Contents



ORJIAKO SAM ORJIAKO (JP)
CEO/Editor-in-Chief

Editorial

President Bola Tinubu's first year in office has been marked by ambitious reforms and significant challenges. His administration's economic policies aim for long-term growth, with the establishment of the Renewed Hope Infrastructure Development Fund channeling billions into critical infrastructure projects. These initiatives are expected to boost economic expansion and job creation.

However, the removal of the fuel subsidy, a key part of Tinubu's economic strategy, led to higher fuel prices, sparking widespread protests. Additionally, the shift to a market-driven exchange rate resulted in the Naira's depreciation, exacerbating



economic hardships for many Nigerians.

Tinubu's security strategy has been transformative, focusing on inter-agency collaboration and substantial budget allocations. Overall, his first year has involved a delicate balance of necessary but painful reforms and visionary projects. Moving into his second year, Tinubu faces the challenge of alleviating immediate economic pressures while continuing to build a resilient Nigeria.

Antagily
Orjiako Sam Orjiako
CEO/Editor-in-Chief
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C.E.O/MD:
Orjiako Sam Orjiako

Co-Publisher/Assoc. Editor
Emeka Emeri
(Richmond Texas, USA)

Editor-In-Chief:
Orjiako Sam Orjiako

West African Bureau Chief
Greg Odogwu

Online/Content Handler
Sonia Chiamaka O.

Bureau Chief South-West:
Ogunsola S, Dayo

Editor Women Column:
Nddi Sam

Photograph/Designer
Samuel Kene Jnr. (SKJ)

CORRESPONDENTS:
Kano - Ibrahim Yakasai
Lagos - John Afolabi
Awka - Austin Aginam
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Sokoto - Abdulanasir Argungu
Enugu - Emmanuel Terwase
Jos - Mary Ann
Abakaliki - David Nwankwo

Graphics:
Dee-Great Oliveprints

Contact :

Head Office:
Suite C3, 2nd Floor, Silverline Plaza,
Plot 153, Cadastral Zone,
Garki II, Abuja.

Branch Office:
No. 10 Sarki Road, Badariya,
Birnin Kebbi, Kebbi State.

USA Address:
1601 Main Street, Suite 600,
Richmond TX 77469,
Fax: 1-877-596-2233

Mobile: 08064631946, 07037623496, 07067557790, 08088324999
Email: newsglobal21@gmail.com, bowa_akala@yahoo.com, orjiakos@yahoo.com
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Richard-Mille-rm56-02-ao-Tourbillon-Sapphire-2

Rare Richard Mille Watch Could Set a Record at Christie's New York Auction

The watch world is abuzz with anticipation as Christie's New York prepares to auction a rare Richard Mille timepiece, potentially setting a new record in the process. This unique wristwatch, one of only ten ever made, will be the highlight of Christie's "Important Watches" sale on June 10 at Rockefeller Center.

The Richard Mille RM56-02 Tourbillon Sapphire, known for its intricate and revolutionary design, is expected to

fetch between \$3 million and \$4 million. This stunning piece features a complex sapphire case and a skeletonized tourbillon, showcasing the brand's commitment to innovation and luxury. The grade 5 titanium baseplate, suspended within the sapphire case by a minuscule braided cable, exemplifies the precision engineering that Richard Mille is celebrated for (nationaljeweler.com) (Luxurylaunches).

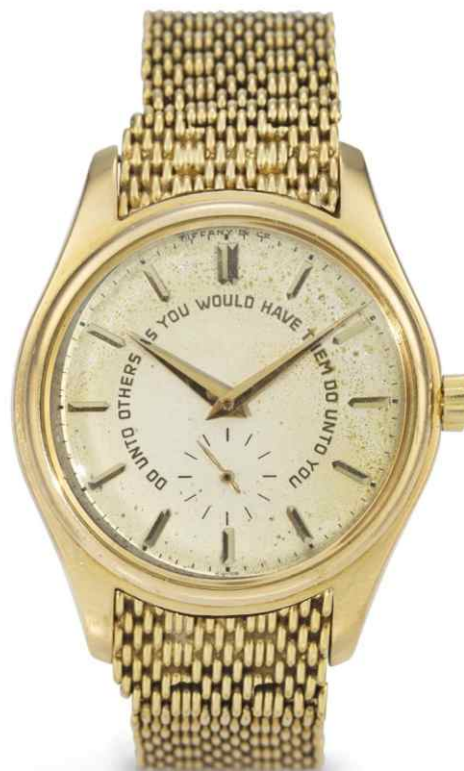
Christie's head of sale, Rebecca Ross, expressed

excitement about the auction, highlighting the RM56-02 as a pinnacle of watchmaking excellence. This model's transparency and complexity, combined with its limited availability, make it a coveted item among collectors. The watch's original sale price was slightly over \$2 million, and it has since appreciated significantly in value (Luxe Watches).

In addition to the RM56-02, the auction will feature other extraordinary timepieces. A diamond-set Richard Mille skull watch, another rare piece expected to reach up to \$1 million, will also be available. This model is notable for its bold design and limited production, marking its debut at auction.

The sale will also include a Rolex Daytona worn by NASA astronaut Walter Cunningham during his Apollo 7 mission. This particular watch, renowned for its historical significance and pristine condition, is estimated to sell for up to \$450,000. The Apollo 7 mission was a critical step in the Apollo program, setting the stage for future moon landings, and Cunningham's watch is a testament to this pioneering era of space exploration (LuxuryLaunches).

Additionally, a Patek Philippe wristwatch customized by Tiffany & Co. for President Lyndon B. Johnson is expected to attract significant interest. This 18-carat gold timepiece, once a gift from Johnson to Senator Robert Kerr, carries an estimate of up to \$45,000. The watch not only reflects exquisite craftsmanship but also a rich political history, having been owned by two prominent American figures (LuxuryLaunches).



Patek-Philippe-duo-for-US-President-Lyndon-B-Johnson-ref-2526

These timepieces will first be showcased in Hong Kong from May 24 to 26 before being displayed in New York from June 6 to 10, giving collectors and enthusiasts a chance to view these exceptional items up close.

Christie's auction promises to be a landmark event, with the potential for the RM56-02 Tourbillon Sapphire to set a new benchmark for Richard Mille watches at auction. The auction house has a history of setting records with luxury timepieces, and the upcoming sale is poised to continue this tradition. The convergence of innovative design, historical significance, and limited availability makes this auction a significant event in the world of horology (nationaljeweler.com) (Luxe Watches).

For those interested in acquiring a piece of horological history, Christie's New York auction offers a unique opportunity to own some of the most distinguished and rare watches ever made. The Richard Mille RM56-02, in particular, stands out not just as a timepiece, but as a work of art and engineering marvel, encapsulating the pinnacle of modern watchmaking.



Rolex-Daytona-Paul-Newman-Ref-6239-reportedly-Worn-in-space-by-Apollo-7-Astronaut-Walt-Cunningham



Preparing for the Future: The Imperative of Cybersecurity Training Amidst Nigeria's Cybersecurity Levy Debate

By Charles Awuzie



Dr. Charles Awuzie



Several people want me to talk about Nigeria's Cybersecurity Levy and I'm just laughing because I have been advising them to get proper Cybersecurity Training as that's the skill every government WILL TAX CITIZENS to pay for.

The next global LOCKDOWN will not be caused by a pandemic... The next global LOCKDOWN will be caused by a Cyberwar... And only cybersecurity experts will be prepared to defend systems, networks, governments and organisations when it comes.

The world is currently experiencing an unprecedented exploitation of the internet for terrorist activities... Forget little problems like Shan George's

bank accounts getting wiped. That's painful but it's nothing compared to threats posed by darknet markets, criminal hackers and criminal government regimes.

For us at Gemsbok Group, we are investing Millions in building Cybersecurity Training facilities. Right now, our virtual ethical hacking labs have gone Live.

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I will personally meet our students in

my next trip to Nigeria....

I am not interested in getting into the politics of the Cybersecurity Levy....

I'm more interested in your future....

Do you still not see that Cybersecurity is a must have skill?





Content Creation

- A Disaster About To Happen in Nigeria...

In a nation grappling with economic instability and high unemployment rates, the allure of social media content creation has sparked a trend among Nigerian youth. However, beneath the surface of this digital boom lies a looming disaster, warns Charles Awuzie, a fervent patriot dedicated to nurturing Nigeria's future through its young generation.

Awuzie, renowned for his unwavering commitment to national development, highlights the perilous path Nigeria may tread if the surge in content creation continues unchecked. His profound analysis delves into the repercussions of this phenomenon, painting a sobering picture of its impact on the nation's economic landscape.

By Charles Awuzie

The trend of Nigerian youths gravitating towards careers in social media content creation, primarily driven by monetization incentives from platforms like Facebook, poses several long-term economic challenges for Nigeria. Here's a detailed analysis of how this shift can adversely impact the nation:

Skewed Labor Market:

The surge in content creation as a career choice can lead to an imbalance in the labor market. Traditional sectors such as manufacturing, agriculture, and building technology may experience a shortage of skilled and unskilled labor. This imbalance can hinder productivity and growth in these essential sectors.

Underdevelopment of Critical Sectors: Manufacturing and agriculture are fundamental to Nigeria's economic stability and growth. These sectors contribute significantly to GDP, provide employment, and ensure food security. A decline in interest and

workforce in these areas can lead to underdevelopment, reduced output, and increased dependency on imports, exacerbating trade deficits.

Economic Vulnerability:

The reliance on social media platforms for income introduces economic vulnerability. Algorithms and policies of these platforms can change, impacting income streams unpredictably. Unlike traditional sectors with more stable income patterns, the volatile nature of digital content creation can lead to financial instability for individuals and, by extension, the economy.

Lack of Innovation and Industrial Growth:

Innovation and industrial growth are often driven by a workforce engaged in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). With fewer youths entering these fields, Nigeria risks lagging in technological advancements and industrial competitiveness on a global scale.

Sustainability Concerns:

Content creation is often seen as a short-term income solution rather than a sustainable career. The rapid evolution of digital trends means that today's popular content may not be relevant tomorrow. In contrast, skills acquired in manufacturing, agriculture, and technology are more enduring and transferable.

Socioeconomic Disparities:

The lucrative nature of content creation can exacerbate



socioeconomic disparities. Only a small percentage of content creators achieve significant financial success, while the majority may struggle. This can create a societal divide between a small group of successful influencers and a larger population with unstable incomes.

To mitigate these risks, it is crucial for policymakers to:

Promote Diversified Career Paths:

Encourage and incentivize youths to pursue careers in traditional and emerging sectors through education, training programs, and financial incentives.

Enhance Vocational Training:

Strengthen vocational and technical education to equip youths with skills necessary for manufacturing, agriculture, and technology sectors.

This rush into content creation as a career can only be likened to the rush into Religious ministry as a career by many Nigerians - both are caused by the high unemployment rate in Nigeria.

While you create content, please study and earn knowledge in more stable sectors of the economy. The most influential content creators are those who have built technologies, businesses etc outside content creation.



The Sussexes Prince Harry and Meghan, arrived the city of Lagos for their last day in Nigeria, accompanied by Maj. Gen. Christopher Musa, his wife Mrs. Lilian Musa, Dr. Allen Onyema, Chairman and founder, AirPeace Airline and others

Meghan Markle Dons Traditional Nigerian Attire As She and Prince Harry Conclude Vibrant Nigeria Tour with Air Peace

The Duke and Duchess of Sussex ended their Nigeria tour in a flourish of color and culture, underscoring their commitment to global engagement and community support. Arriving in Lagos aboard an Air Peace aircraft on Sunday, May 12, Prince Harry and Meghan Markle were greeted with an extraordinary traditional dance performance by the esteemed Igbo dance troupe, Atriogu. Their arrival marked the culmination of a vibrant and engaging visit to Nigeria, highlighted by cultural immersion and humanitarian activities.



A Festive Arrival in Lagos

Touching down in Lagos, Harry and Meghan were immediately enveloped in the sights and sounds of Nigerian hospitality. The Atriogu dance troupe performed a spectacular welcome ceremony, complete with human towers and spirited choreography, reflecting the rich cultural heritage of the Igbo people. The couple, visibly delighted, clapped and cheered, fully engaging with the local customs.

The festive mood was complemented by the presence of Allan Onyema, the owner of Air Peace, who personally welcomed the royal couple. Onyema, a notable

figure in Nigeria's aviation industry, emphasized the importance of such high-profile visits in fostering international goodwill and understanding.

Meghan's Fashion Statement

Meghan Markle made a sartorial statement by donning a traditional

Nigerian skirt, a thoughtful gift she received earlier during their stay in Abuja. Paired with a crisp white Carolina Herrera button-down shirt, Meghan's outfit was both a nod to local traditions and a reflection of her evolving fashion philosophy.

During a panel appearance with



Prince Harry and Meghan meet with Chief of Defence Staff of Nigeria, Maj. Gen. Christopher Musa, his wife Mrs. Lilian Musa



Meghan and Harry gifted traditional Nigerian clothing by Mrs. Lilian Musa, Maj. Gen. Christopher Musa looks on



Meghan and Harry, Maj. Gen. Christopher Musa, Mrs. Christopher Musa pose with young Polo players after handling out medals

Prince Harry/Megan's Visit

Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Director-General of the World Trade Organization, Meghan humorously acknowledged her shift in wardrobe choices. "I very quickly got the memo that I need to wear more color, so I can fit in with all of you and your incredible fashion!" she remarked, highlighting her admiration for Nigeria's vibrant fashion scene.

Engagements and Activities

Following their colorful welcome, Harry and Meghan visited a local school to participate in a basketball clinic organized by the non-profit Giants of Africa. The organization, founded by Masai Ujiri, aims to empower African youth through sports, particularly basketball. The couple's involvement in the clinic underscored their commitment to youth empowerment and community development.

Later in the day, they attended a cultural reception, further immersing themselves in Nigerian

traditions and forging connections with local leaders and influencers. The reception provided an opportunity for the royal couple to discuss various initiatives and explore avenues for collaboration between the UK and Nigeria.

Reflecting on Legacy

The trip also evoked memories of Prince Harry's parents, King Charles and Princess Diana, who visited Nigeria in March 1990. Their arrival at Murtala Muhammed International Airport in Lagos had similarly been marked by a warm reception and cultural exchanges, creating a poignant connection between the past and the present.

Humanitarian Focus

Invited by General Christopher Gwabin Musa OFR, Nigeria's Chief of Defense Staff, Harry and Meghan's visit also emphasized their dedication to supporting military personnel and veterans. Their final engagement was a polo



Prince Harry joins in on a sitting volly-ball game


fundraiser for Nigeria:

Unconquered, a national charity focused on veteran support in collaboration with the Invictus Games Foundation. This event brought their tour full circle, aligning with Prince Harry's ongoing advocacy for adaptive sports and the empowerment of wounded, injured, and sick service personnel.

In September 2023, Nigeria made its debut at the Invictus Games in Düsseldorf, Germany, and the fundraiser in Lagos served to strengthen these ties and highlight the global reach of the Invictus spirit.

A Legacy of Color and Compassion

As their tour concluded, Meghan and Harry's visit to Nigeria left a lasting impression. Their interactions with local communities, engagement in cultural activities, and support for humanitarian causes underscored their role as global ambassadors of compassion and change. Meghan's embrace of Nigerian fashion and Harry's poignant connection to his mother's legacy added layers of personal significance to their journey.

The Duke and Duchess of Sussex's visit to Nigeria, marked by vibrant cultural exchanges and meaningful humanitarian efforts, showcased the enduring power of empathy and global solidarity. Their commitment to fostering connections and supporting communities around the world continues to inspire and resonate, leaving a legacy of color and compassion. 



Prince Harry and Meghan visit children at the Light Academy in Abuja



The Duchess hosts a woman in leadership panel alongside Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Director-General of the World Trade Organization, Nigerian media mogul, Mrs. Abudu moderated the event



Meghan meets some of the basketball players



Prince Harry and Meghan visit children at the Light Academy in Abuja and thrilled by Atirigu dance display



Duchess Meghan, Mrs. Christopher Lilian poses with reception attendees



Prince Harry joins in on a sitting volly-ball game



Your Excellency
Barr. Peter N. Mbah
Executive Governor, Enugu State



I extend my heartfelt congratulations to you, Your Excellency as you mark one year in office. Your leadership has been marked by progressive and inclusive governance, bringing tangible development and unity to Enugu State. Your dedication to improving infrastructure, healthcare, and education has

profoundly impacted our communities. We celebrate your achievements and look forward to continued prosperity and growth under your visionary guidance. Congratulations on this significant milestone and best wishes for the future.



Hon. Engr. Anayo B. Onwuegbu FNSE
Member representing Aninri/Awgu/Oji-River Federal Constituency
House of Representatives, Federal Republic of Nigeria



His Excellency, Dr. Peter Ndubuisi Mbah, Executive Governor, Enugu State

Celebrating One Year Excellence In Enugu State

As Governor Peter Mbah marks his first year in office, Enugu State has witnessed a paradigm shift towards progressive and inclusive governance. Mbah's tenure so far has been characterized by substantial strides in economic and social development, setting a high standard for political leadership in Nigeria. Our editorial team a short piece put together His Excellency Dr. Peter Ndubuisi Mbah's uncommon achievements within one year



Golf Estate Road, GRA, Enugu State

Gov. Peter Mbah: A Year of Transformative Progress in Enugu State

Marking his first year in office, Governor Peter Mbah has been an example of progressive and inclusive governance, steering Enugu State towards significant economic and social development. From his inaugural day, Mbah emphasized a people-centric approach, swiftly signing three Executive Orders focused on job creation, quality amenities, and transparent governance.

One of his standout achievements is the ambitious 2024 budget, totaling ₦521.5 billion, with an unprecedented allocation of ₦414.3 billion to capital expenditure. This budget, dubbed the "Budget of Disruptive Economic Growth," aims to catalyze extensive economic activities and infrastructural development in the state. Mbah's administration plans to use these funds to construct 260 smart schools and 260 primary healthcare centers, along with extensive road and agricultural infrastructure development. The governor's focus on growing the state's GDP from \$4.4 billion to \$30 billion underscores his commitment to making Enugu a leading economic hub in Nigeria.

Governor Mbah's efforts to improve the business environment have also borne fruit. His administration has implemented policies to enhance the ease of doing business, attracting both local and international investors. A notable example is the Sapphire Ceramics Company, which has flourished under these favorable conditions, producing 75,000 square meters of tiles daily and employing over 800 workers. This is a testament to the governor's vision of private sector-driven economic growth supported by government-enabled platforms.

Moreover, Governor Mbah has emphasized the importance of sustainable development and revenue generation. By focusing on internally generated revenue and minimizing reliance on borrowing, his administration is setting a solid financial foundation for future projects. The move towards e-governance is another critical step, aiming to streamline government services and enhance efficiency, thereby improving overall service delivery to the citizens of Enugu.

Governor Peter Mbah's first year in office has been marked by strategic initiatives and substantial investments aimed at transforming Enugu State. His visionary leadership and dedication to inclusive growth are paving the way for a prosperous future, making Enugu an exemplary model of sustainable development in Nigeria.

CELEBRATING GOVERNOR PETER MBAH'S MONUMENTAL ACHIEVEMENTS IN ONE YEAR

Governor Peter Ndubuisi Mbah has marked a remarkable first year in office, transforming Enugu State through a series of visionary projects and partnerships that promise long-term



Gov. Dr. Peter Ndubuisi Mbah, on inspection of on-going project

economic and social benefits.

One of the most notable achievements is the partnership between the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the federal government with Enugu State for the development of Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zones (SAPZ). This initiative aims to harness commercial agriculture and transform rural areas into thriving economic zones, fulfilling Governor Mbah's promise to establish SAPZs in the state's three senatorial zones.

In addition, Governor Mbah laid the foundation stone for a five-star International Conference Centre Hotel in Enugu, part of his broader vision to position Enugu as Africa's conferencing hub. Alongside this, he inspected the ongoing work at



Gov. Dr. Peter Ndubuisi Mbah, tours Sapphire Ceramics Company in Obinofia Ndiuno, Enugu State

the 5,000-capacity Enugu International Conference Centre, which is being upgraded to modern standards (ThisDayLive) (Leadership News). These projects are pivotal in his plan to grow Enugu's economy from \$4.4 billion to \$30 billion within the next four to eight years.

Mbah's administration has also tackled long-standing infrastructure and utility issues. Within his first 100 days, he addressed the pervasive insecurity in the region by enhancing the Distress Response Squad and rolling out a statewide CCTV network. Additionally, he broke a 20-year jinx by

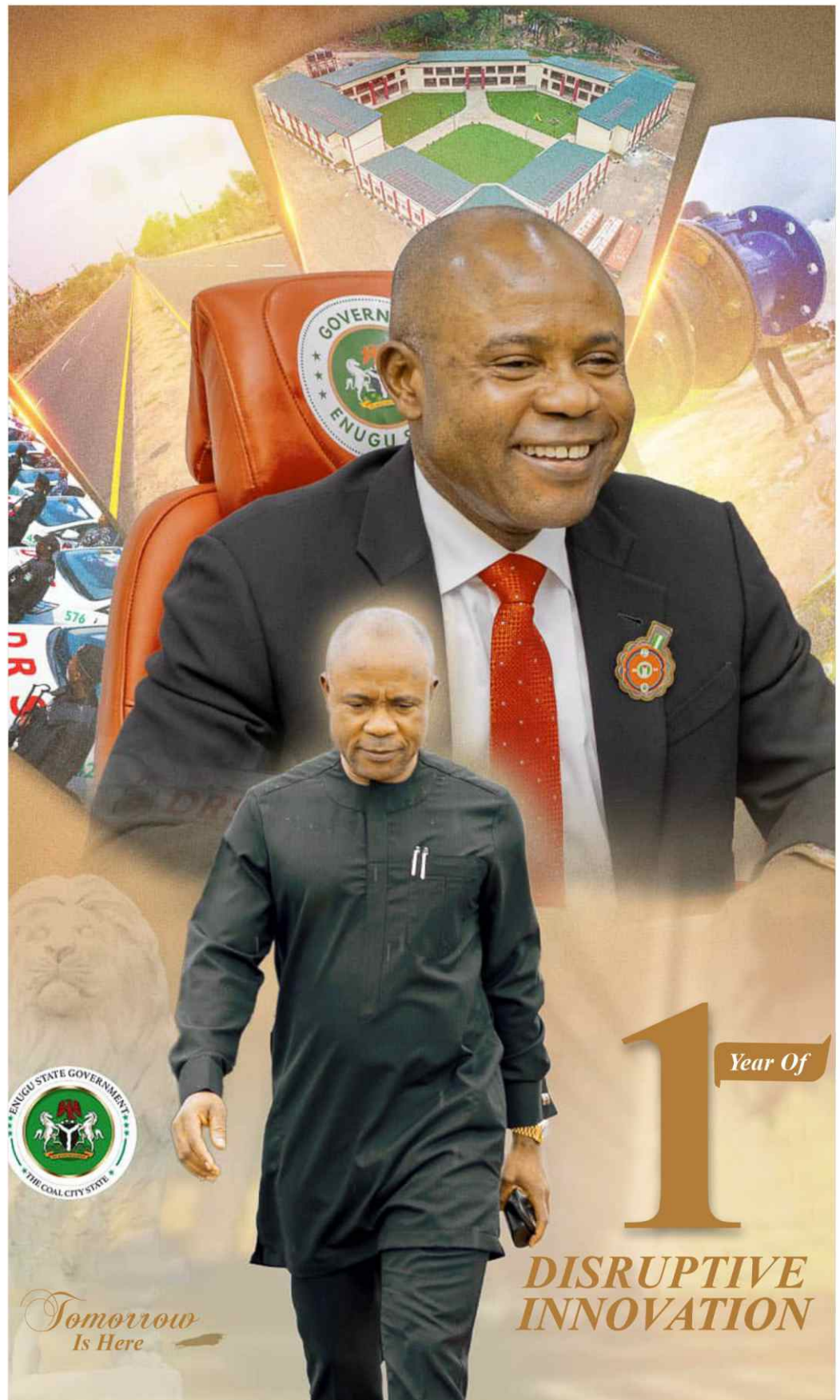
restoring pipe-borne water to Enugu, fulfilling a significant promise within 180 days.

Road infrastructure has seen unprecedented development with over 1,000 kilometers of road construction awarded within a year. This comprehensive approach includes significant urban renovations, ensuring quality and durability in all projects. Governor Mbah's commitment extends to energy reforms, having signed the State Power Act into law, which enables the creation of an Enugu State Electricity Market. This move is expected to attract substantial investment in power generation and distribution, further supporting the state's economic growth.

These initiatives have not gone unnoticed. Governor Mbah was honored with the prestigious Sun Newspaper Award for Governor of the Year 2024, a testament to his effective governance and transformative impact on Enugu State.

In summary, Governor Peter Mbah's first year in office is marked by strategic partnerships, infrastructure development, and innovative economic policies that set Enugu State on a path of sustainable growth and prosperity. His administration's achievements demonstrate a clear commitment to improving the lives of the people and positioning Enugu as a leader in economic and social development in Nigeria.

His Excellency
Dr. Peter Ndubuisi Mbah is working
These are some of the projects executed and on-going





Five-Star International Conference Centre Hotel, Enugu



Enugu Smart School Project



New Heaven Road/Phone Village, Enugu State



Enugu Water Project



Trans Ekulu Road, Enugu State



Signing of the N100 Billion deal to revive Moribund, the Enugu State United Products Ltd.



Enugu Govt., FAAN Raise Committee on infrastructural upgrade of Enugu Airport set to complete International wing, construct Cargo terminal warehouse



Dhamija - GRA Road



A Rare Patriot Dr. Odiraa Nwankwor

*Dr. Odiraa Nwankwor's Transformative Impact
on Pediatric Healthcare in Nigeria is Unique*

Dr. Odiraa Nwankwor, a distinguished pediatric intensivist, is making significant strides in transforming pediatric healthcare in Nigeria through his visionary Nigeria Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) Project. His efforts, spanning several years, have focused on establishing and enhancing pediatric intensive care services in a country where such facilities are critically needed.



Nigeria PICU Project

Dr. Odiraa Nwankwor And His Team Sorting and Packing of Medical Supplies and Equipment For Nigeria's PICU Project



Early Beginnings and Inspiration

Dr. Nwankwor's journey began in Nigeria, where he completed his medical degree at the University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus. Driven by a desire to address the dire state of pediatric healthcare in his homeland, he pursued further training in the United States, earning a Master of Public Health from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and completing his pediatric residency and critical care fellowship at prestigious institutions in New York and Maryland (4th World Sepsis Congress). His dual roles at Nemours Children's Hospital and Cooper University Hospital, along with his academic positions at Thomas

Jefferson University and the University of Nigeria, uniquely position him to bridge the gap between advanced medical practices and the needs of Nigerian healthcare (Our Blogs and Newsletters) (4th World Sepsis Congress).



PICU Project team from USA



Dr Odiraa Nwankwor And His Team Sorting and Packing of Medical Supplies and Equipment For Nigeria's PICU Project

Nigeria PICU Project



Nigeria PICU at College of Medicine, University of Nigeria, Ituku/Ozalla, Enugu



PICU team from USA and some staff of UNTH



Dr. Odiraa teaching some Doctors/Nurses on latest techniques

The Birth of the Nigeria PICU Project

The Nigeria PICU Project was conceived from Dr. Nwankwor's recognition of the alarming child mortality rates in Nigeria, where one in eight children dies before the age of five, often from preventable conditions. In collaboration with the Health Place for Children Initiative, which he founded, and support from Nemours Children's Hospital and Cooper University Hospital, Dr. Nwankwor embarked on a mission to establish Nigeria's first organized pediatric intensive care unit at the University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital (UNTH) in Enugu (Our Blogs and Newsletters) (Health Place for Children).

Establishing the First PICU

In 2019, Dr. Nwankwor and a team of medical professionals from the United States traveled to Nigeria to set up a 5-bed PICU at UNTH. This unit was equipped with donations of medical equipment and supplies facilitated by Dr. Nwankwor's network in the US. The team also initiated the training of local healthcare workers, ensuring they were well-prepared to manage the new facility. This groundbreaking project marked a significant milestone as the first of its kind in Nigeria, offering critical care to children in a country with limited access to such specialized services (Jefferson University) (Our Blogs and Newsletters) (Health Place for Children).

Continued Support and Training

Despite challenges posed by the global COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Nwankwor's commitment to the project remained unwavering. He and his team adapted by continuing training sessions virtually, ensuring that the knowledge transfer to Nigerian healthcare professionals was not interrupted. This ongoing support has been crucial in maintaining the operation and effectiveness of the PICU (Our Blogs and Newsletters) (Health Place for Children).

Expanding the Reach

Dr. Nwankwor's vision extends beyond the initial PICU. He plans to establish additional units across Nigeria, addressing the widespread need for pediatric critical care. In 2020, preparations were made for another delivery of equipment and supplies to set up a second PICU, demonstrating the project's scalability and the potential for a nationwide impact (Our Blogs and Newsletters).

Recognition and Awards

Dr. Nwankwor's efforts have not gone unnoticed. He has received multiple accolades, including teaching awards and recognition among the Top Doctors for Kids by South Jersey Magazine. His leadership and dedication have earned him fellowships and positions on various professional bodies, further underscoring his influence and commitment to global health (4th World Sepsis Congress).



Some medical equipment coming to Nigeria for the Nigeria PICU Project

COLLABORATION WITH:

Educational Institutions

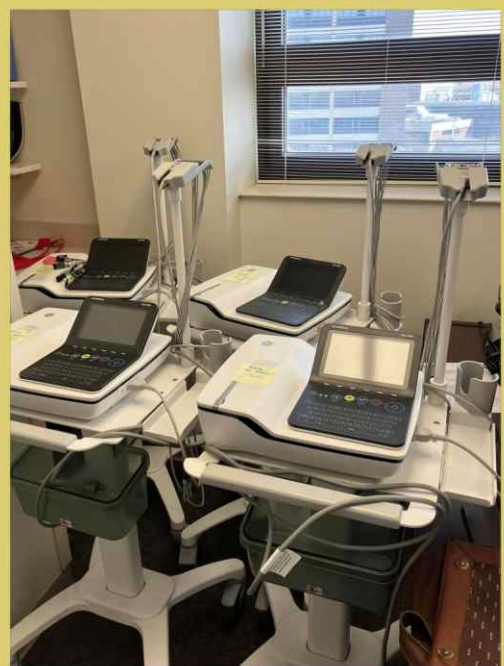
An essential aspect of Dr. Nwankwor's approach is collaboration with educational institutions. Through partnerships with Villanova University and other academic entities, he has involved doctoral students and medical volunteers in the project. These collaborations enhance the training and capacity-building efforts, creating a sustainable model for pediatric critical care in Nigeria (Villanova University).

Future Prospects

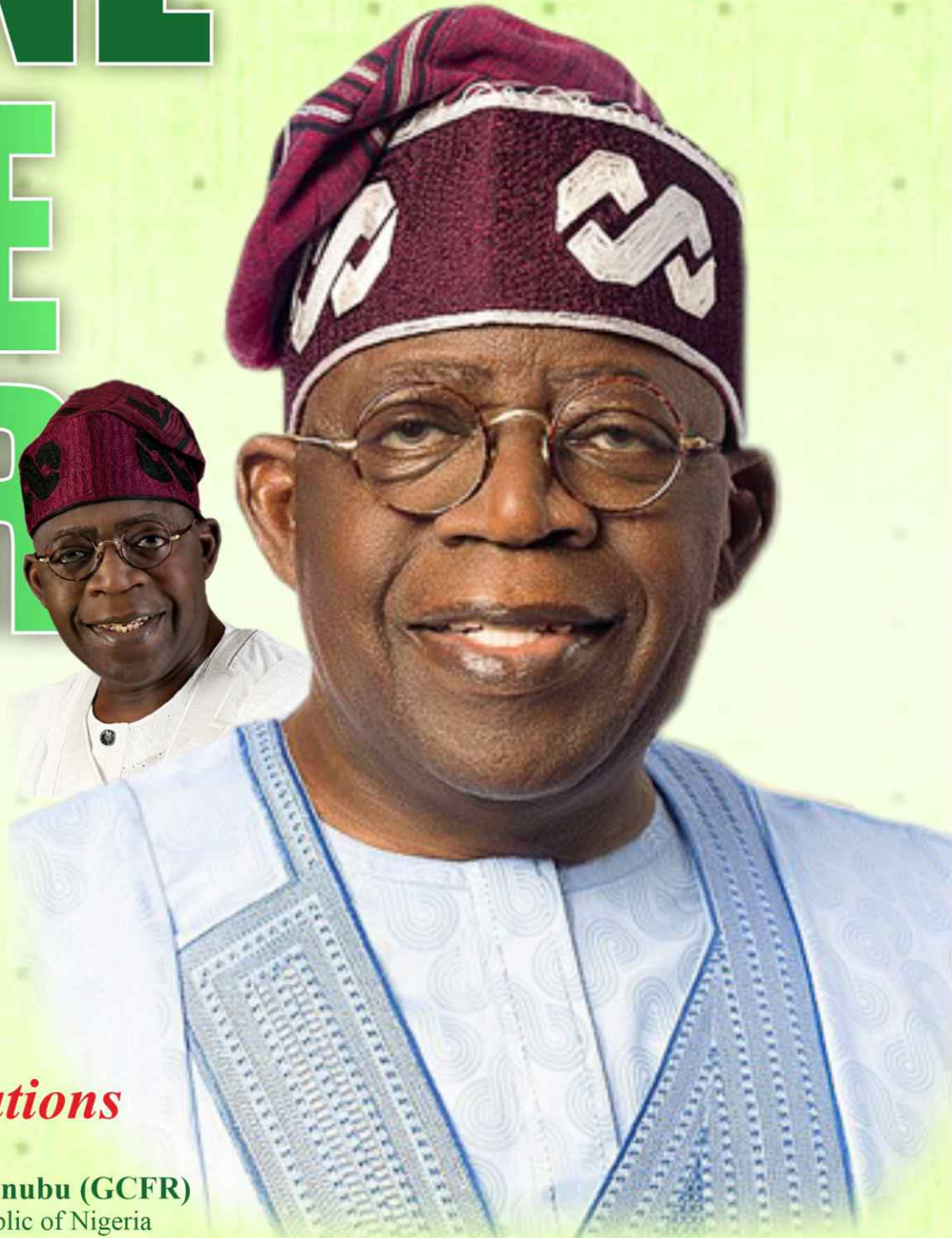
As Dr. Nwankwor prepares for his upcoming visit to Nigeria, the anticipation is palpable. His visit will not only reinforce the ongoing projects but also potentially pave the way for new initiatives and collaborations. The success of the Nigeria PICU Project serves as a beacon of hope and a model for similar endeavors in other resource-limited settings around the world.

Dr. OdiraaNwankwor's work epitomizes the transformative power of dedicated healthcare professionals who leverage international collaboration to address critical health disparities. His Nigeria PICU Project is a proof to what can be achieved through vision, dedication, and the collective effort of a global community. As he continues to make strides in pediatric healthcare, Dr. Nwankwor's impact on Nigeria's medical landscape promises to be enduring and profound.

LATEST MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT FOR NIGERIA'S PICU



ONE YE AR



Congratulations

Your Excellency

Sen. Bola Ahmed Tinubu (GCFR)

President, Federal Republic of Nigeria

On Your First Anniversary in Office

Tinubu's Visionary Reforms:

Celebrating One Year of Progress

On behalf of the All Progressives Congress (APC), I extend my heartfelt congratulations to you on completing your first year in office as President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Your leadership has been marked by bold decisions and monumental achievements that have set our nation on a path of renewal and progress.

Your decisive action to remove the long-standing fuel subsidy has been a significant step towards economic stability and transparency. This courageous move, despite initial challenges, has allowed for the reallocation of resources to crucial sectors such as infrastructure, healthcare, and education.

Additionally, your efforts to unify the multiple exchange rates have brought much-needed clarity and confidence to our financial markets, fostering a more transparent and competitive economic environment. The establishment of the Renewed Hope Infrastructure Development Fund and the mobilization of substantial investments demonstrate your commitment to Nigeria's long-term growth.

Your administration's focus on security, including the unprecedented budget allocations and strategic appointments, has significantly bolstered our national security framework. This, coupled with your role as Chairman of ECOWAS, underscores your dedication to regional stability and collaboration.

We commend you for the socio-economic relief programs aimed at alleviating the impact of necessary reforms on Nigerians. The introduction of education loans, cash transfers, and initiatives to provide affordable public transportation reflect your deep concern for the welfare of our citizens.

Your visionary leadership and relentless pursuit of a prosperous Nigeria inspire us all. As we continue this journey under your guidance, the APC stands firmly with you in transforming our nation's future.

Congratulations once again on your exemplary achievements.

The establishment of the Renewed Hope Infrastructure Development Fund and the mobilization of substantial investments demonstrate your commitment to Nigeria's long-term growth



Dr. Abdullahi Umar Ganduje (OFR)
National Chairman,
All Progressive Congress (APC)
fmr. Governor, Kano State



National Chairman, All Progressive Congress (APC), Dr. Abdullahi Ganduje (OFR), joins President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, FCT Minister, Barr. Nyesom Wike and others in commissioning one of the numerous projects executed by the APC-led leadership within one year in office

Dr. Abdullahi Ganduje: Driving APC's Transformative Achievements

By Abdullahi Yarmo

Dr. Abdullahi Ganduje, the National Chairman of the All Progressives Congress (APC), has been instrumental in the party's substantial achievements and the success of the APC-led government over the past year. His seasoned administrative capabilities have played a pivotal role in steering the party towards numerous developmental milestones.

Under the leadership of the APC, significant strides have been made across various sectors. Infrastructure development has been a cornerstone of the government's achievements.

The APC administration has successfully completed major projects like the Lagos-Ibadan expressway, the Abuja-Kaduna-Zaria-Kano expressway, and the Second Niger Bridge, which had been neglected by previous administrations.

The completion of these projects has greatly improved transportation and logistics, contributing to economic

growth and connectivity across the nation.

In the aviation sector, the APC government has transformed the landscape by completing new international airport terminals in Abuja and Port Harcourt and improving safety standards with the installation of advanced landing systems. This modernization effort includes the ongoing concession of major airports to enhance their efficiency and economic viability.

Economic policies have focused on improving the business environment and fostering industrial growth. The APC administration has implemented measures to ease business operations.

Investments in power generation and distribution have been enhanced, with significant projects like the Mambilla hydropower project and the expansion of grid capacity, which are set to further stabilize power supply in the country.



Dr. Abdullahi Umar Ganduje (OFR)
National Chairman, All Progressive Congress (APC)
fmr. Governor, Kano State

Dr. Ganduje's leadership has been central to these accomplishments. His ability to navigate complex political landscapes and drive consensus within the party has ensured that the APC remains focused on its developmental agenda. His contributions are a testament to the importance of experienced and dedicated leadership in achieving national progress. Overall, the APC's achievements in infrastructure, agriculture, aviation, and economic reforms are clear indicators of the party's commitment to transforming Nigeria.

The role of leaders like Dr. Abdullahi Ganduje in these successes cannot be overstated, as their strategic direction and governance have paved the way for these significant advancements. **NG**



Congratulations 365 Days of Remarkable Leadership in Kebbi State

His Excellency
Cmrdr Dr. Nasir Idris
(Kauran Gwandu)
Executive Governor, Kebbi State

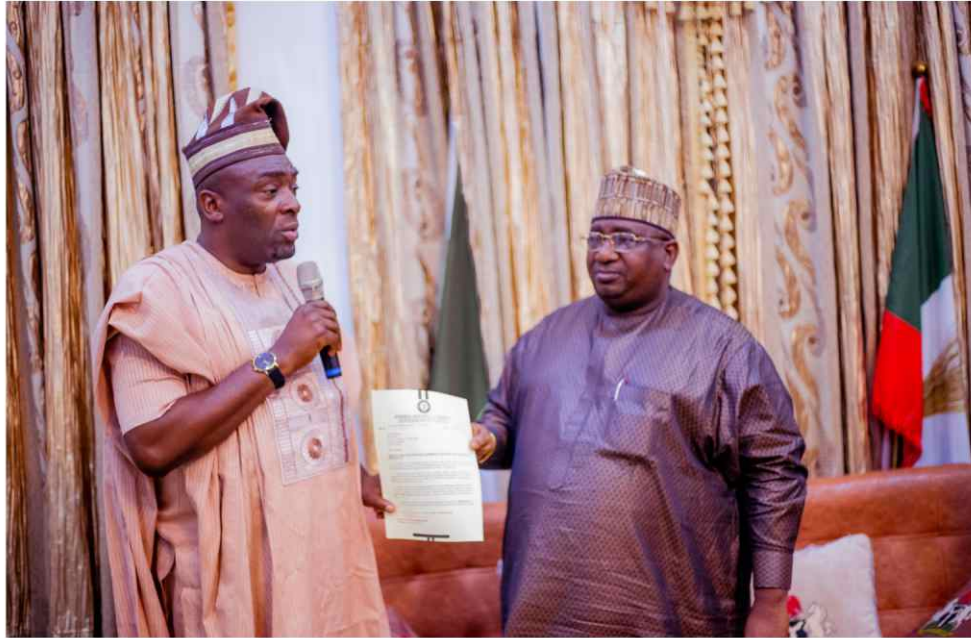
Your modern urban planning initiatives and unwavering dedication have set a new benchmark for development. We commend your tireless efforts and selfless commitment to transforming Kebbi into a model urban city. As Commissioner for

Physical Planning and Urban Development, I pledge to support your vision and work diligently to realize our shared goals. Wishing you continued success and excellence in your outstanding leadership.



Alh. Hayatudeen Ahmed Bawa
Hon. Commissioner
Ministry of Physical Planning and
Urban Development, Kebbi State





R-L: His Excellency, Cmdr. Dr. Nasir Idris (Kauran Gwandu), the Executive Governor, Kebbi State and Hon. Oyetunde Ojo, the MD/CEO, Federal Housing Authority

Gov. Nasir Idris Pledges Land Compensation for 500 FHA Houses, As Hon. Oyetunde Ojo FHA Boss Visits



R-L: His Excellency, Cmdr. Dr. Nasir Idris, Hon. Oyetunde Ojo, and Alh. Umar Dankane Abdullahi

Towards fostering affordable housing solutions, the Managing Director of the Federal Housing Authority (FHA), Hon. Oyetunde Ojo, has embarked on a significant visit to Kebbi State. During the visit, Kebbi State Governor, Comrade Dr. Nasir Idris, Kauran Gwandu, made a resolute commitment to facilitate compensation for land designated for the construction of 500 pilot housing units by FHA in Birnin Kebbi.

Governor Idris, speaking in Birnin Kebbi, emphasized his dedication to providing affordable housing for

citizens, drawing from his past roles as the President of the Nigerian Labour Congress (NLC) and Chairman of the Nigerian Union of Teachers (NUT), recalled the establishment of the Adamu Aliero housing estate, a proof to his longstanding advocacy for housing accessibility, particularly for workers.

Expressing his administration's wholehearted support for FHA's objectives, Governor Idris pledged to expedite the provision of all necessary documentation through the State Ministry of Land and Housing. This commitment highlights the state

government's alignment with FHA's mission to address housing challenges across Nigeria.

In reciprocation

, Honorable Ojo expressed gratitude for the Governor's steadfast backing of FHA's endeavours, affirming FHA's commitment to President Bola Tinubu's Renewed Hope Agenda, aimed at ensuring affordable housing for all Nigerians. Ojo's visit underscored the importance of collaboration between the federal and state governments in achieving common developmental goals, particularly in the housing sector.

Moreover, the FHA Boss commended Governor Nasir Idris for the remarkable development initiatives evident in Kebbi State, notably the transformation of Birnin Kebbi with improved infrastructure such as illuminated streets—a stark contrast from his previous visits. This accolade not only acknowledges Governor Idris's dedication to progress but also highlights the synergy between visionary leadership and administrative competence. **NG**



Alh. Umar Dankane Abdullahi, Hon. Oyetunde Ojo and Gov. Nasir Idris and other stakeholders



MD/CEO played host to stakeholders in his office

The Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria and the Association of National Accountants of Nigeria (ANAN) have resolved to enhance their partnership towards the professional development of staff of the Bank and provision of affordable housing to ANAN members, among other deliverables.

The agreement was reached when the Executive Management Team of the Federal Mortgage, led by the Managing Director/Chief Executive, Shehu Usman Osidi, played host to the President and Chairman of Council, ANAN, Dr. James Ekerare Neminebor, and other Principal Officers of the Association on Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at the Bank's headquarters in Abuja.

In his welcome remarks, Osidi highlighted the significance of the visit as providing a wonderful opportunity for the two organisations to deepen engagements, exchange insights and explore avenues for further collaboration.

He intimated the visitors about the Bank's mandate of providing affordable mortgages to drive homeownership among Nigerians of low and medium incomes, with the overall focus of deepening the housing finance and mortgage sector towards improved contribution to the GDP, enhanced homeownership among Nigerians, wealth creation and economic prosperity, as well as drastic reduction of the housing deficit in the country.

He acknowledged ANAN's invaluable contributions to the Accounting profession and the broader society, noting that "ANAN stands as a

beacon of excellence in the field of accountancy, fostering professionalism, integrity, and innovation among its members." Bringing it home, the Chief Executive said, "Here at the Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria, the undeniable impact and influence of ANAN runs through the institution with members manning important job functions and overseeing critical departments." He added that the Bank alone boasts of about 47 members of ANAN as its staff, which stands out as one of the highest in any institution in the country.

In view of achieving the mandate of the Bank, Osidi urged the members of ANAN, as a section of Nigerian workers and as contributors to the National Housing Fund (NHF), to take advantage of the array of the Bank's products to access affordable housing opportunities.

Additionally, the Managing Director pledged the commitment and readiness of the Bank to engage with ANAN on specialized training of staff of the Bank, and the Mandatory Continuous Professional Development Programmes (MCPDs) organised by ANAN.

Representing the President and Chairman of Council, the Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Kayode Olusola Fasua, enunciated ANAN's support for the initiatives of the Bank, especially under the administration of one of their own, Shehu Osidi.

Dr. Fasua noted that the association was established in 1979 and chartered in 1993 with over 56,000 members across the 36 states of Nigeria, including the Federal Capital

Federal Mortgage, ANAN Seal Partnership for Human Capital Development, Affordable Housing




Shehu Usman Osidi
Managing Director/Chief Executive, FMBN

Territory, United Kingdom, United States of America, Canada and Cote d'Ivoire.

He said ANAN has a Nigerian College of Accountancy which has existed for the past 30 years, admitting 5000 students yearly for further studies and has established ANAN University in 2020/2021, making it the only professional body in Nigeria and probably the world to have a university and a residential college at the same time.

Dr. Fasua further called for the support of the Bank through the Cooperative Housing Development Loan (CHDL). "We also require your support to see how our staff can have access to your services in the form of Mortgage loans for houses," he said.

The collaboration is one among many others being forged by the Federal Mortgage to deliver on its mandate towards the actualization of President Tinubu's Renewed Hope Agenda for the housing sector. 

FHA Mortgage Bank Receives Praise for Stellar Performance: Osidi and Hon. Oyetunde Ojo Champion Housing Mandate Collaboration

In a recent meeting between the Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria and the Federal Housing Authority (FHA) Mortgage Bank, Shehu Usman Osidi, the Managing Director/Chief Executive of the Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria, lauded the FHA Mortgage Bank for its exemplary professionalism and remarkable achievements as a leading Primary Mortgage Bank (PMB) in Nigeria.

Osidi not only commended the FHA Mortgage Bank but also expressed the Federal Mortgage Bank's eagerness to strengthen collaboration with the FHA. This partnership aims to address Nigeria's persistent housing deficit effectively.

During the meeting with Hon. Oyetunde Ojo, the Managing Director of the FHA, Osidi emphasized the importance of synergy between the two institutions in fulfilling President Bola Tinubu's vision of significantly reducing the housing deficit in Nigeria.

MD/CE of FMBN specifically praised Hayatuddeen A. Awwal, the Managing Director of FHA Mortgage Bank, for his dedication to making the bank the epitome of efficiency in primary mortgage financing. He highlighted

their impressive record of prompt loan repayment and underscored the historical synergy between FHA and the Federal Mortgage Bank, emphasizing its critical role in advancing the housing sector.

Moreover, the FMBN Boss commended the FHA's digitalization efforts and revealed the Federal Mortgage Bank's significant progress in deploying its Core Banking Application, enhancing operational efficiency and transparency.

In response, Hon. Oyetunde Ojo outlined FHA's initiatives, including securing vast land banks across 23 states and fostering commitments from state governors to provide off-taker guarantees, crucial for accessing loans from the Federal Mortgage Bank. He also highlighted FHA's strategy of building carcasses to lower construction costs, seeking support from the Federal Mortgage Bank to achieve their shared vision.

The Executive Directors of the Federal Mortgage Bank echoed Osidi's sentiments,



Osidi not only commended the FHA Mortgage Bank but also expressed the Federal Mortgage Bank's eagerness to strengthen collaboration with the FHA.

reaffirming their commitment to collaboration and cooperation with FHA to realize the Federal Government's housing aspirations.

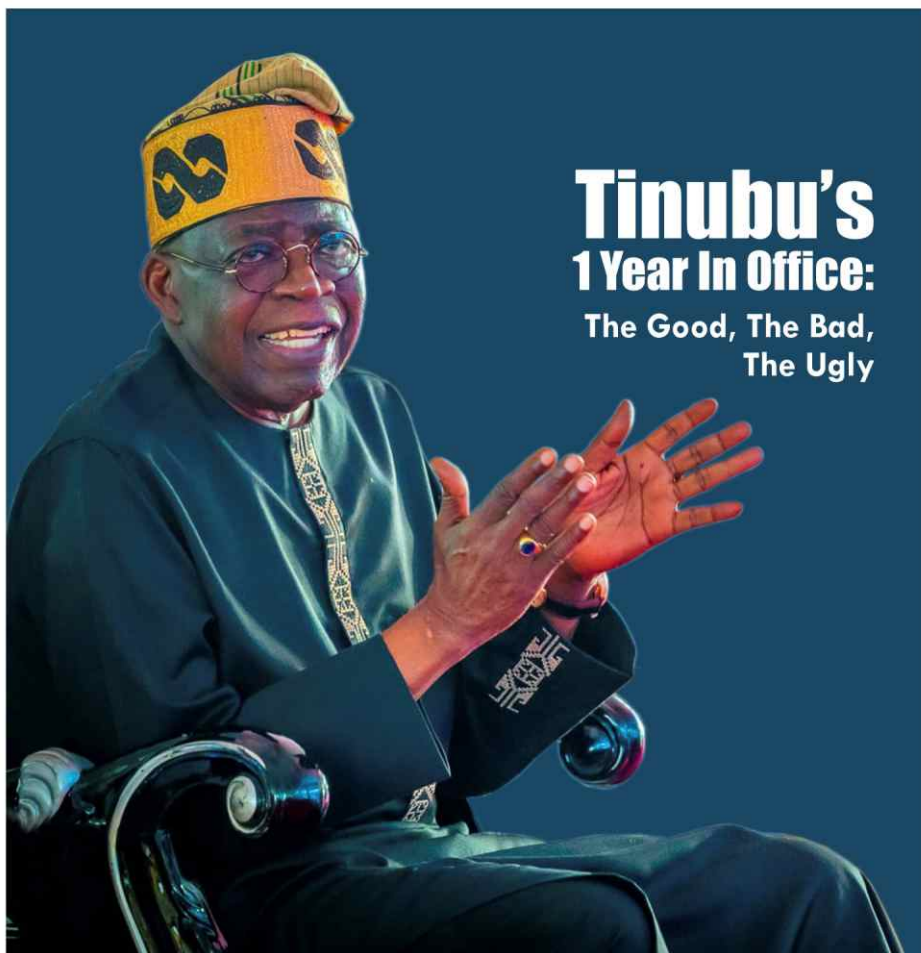
Dr. Muhammad Sani Abdu, the Executive Director of Loans and Mortgage Services, also assured FHA of the Federal Mortgage Bank's firm support, demonstrating confidence in the institutions' collective ability to fulfill their mandates effectively.



MD/CEO FMBN, Shehu Usman Osidi presenting a FMBN Souvenir to the MD/CEO of FHA, Hon. Oyetunde Ojo



MD/CEO FMBN, Shehu Usman Osidi, MD/CEO of FHA, Hon. Oyetunde Ojo in a group photograph with other staff of FMBN



Tinubu's 1 Year In Office: The Good, The Bad, The Ugly

Sen. Bola Ahmed Tinubu (GCFR), President, Federal Republic of Nigeria

President Ahmed Bola Tinubu's inaugural year has been a whirlwind of impactful reforms and controversial decisions. His administration's economic initiatives, such as the Renewed Hope Infrastructure Development Fund and social investment programs, promise long-term growth but have sparked immediate hardships, notably with the fuel subsidy removal and currency depreciation. Institutional reforms and legislative milestones signal progress, yet delays and stringent measures have stirred public discontent. As Tinubu enters his second year, balancing transformative policies with alleviating citizens' economic struggles remains crucial for a stable and prosperous Nigeria. His leadership will be judged on navigating these complex challenges while maintaining public support.

President Ahmed Bola Tinubu's first year in office has been a period marked by significant reforms, bold decisions, and sweeping changes. While these initiatives have garnered both praise and criticism, they have undeniably set a new course for Nigeria's future. Let's delve into the good, the bad, and the ugly aspects of his administration over the past year.

The Good

1. Economic Reforms and Investment Attraction

President Tinubu's administration has focused on creating a conducive environment for both local and foreign investments. The establishment of the Renewed Hope Infrastructure Development Fund (RHIDF)

has mobilized billions of dollars for critical infrastructure projects, including roads, airports, seaports, and power plants. This initiative aims to boost Nigeria's infrastructure, thereby facilitating economic growth and job creation.

2. Social Investment Programs

Tinubu has launched several programs aimed at providing economic relief to Nigerians. These include grants, education loans, food and fertilizer distribution, cash transfers,

and health insurance. Notably, the disbursement of nano-grants of fifty thousand Naira each for one million Nigerians



Tinubu inaugurates Renewed Hope City Project in FCT



Fuel scarcity in FCT

is part of a larger 200 billion Naira MSME credit program. Additionally, the Nigerian Education Loan Fund (NELFUND) and the Nigerian Consumer Credit Corporation have been introduced to support students and consumers respectively.

3. Strengthening of Institutions

In an effort to improve governance, Tinubu has taken decisive steps to strengthen key institutions. This includes the suspension and replacement of the Central Bank Governor and the Chairman of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), moves aimed at reforming the financial sector and combating corruption. Moreover, the President has unified the multiple foreign exchange markets to foster a more transparent and efficient economic environment.

4. Political Stability and Regional Leadership

Tinubu's diplomatic efforts have also been noteworthy. As the Chairman of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), he has played a critical role in addressing regional issues, such as the political crisis in Niger, demonstrating Nigeria's leadership in West Africa.

5. Legislative Milestones

The President has signed several significant bills into law, including the Nigeria Data Protection Bill, the Student Loan Act, and the Electricity Act, which aim to protect personal data, provide financial support for students, and enhance the power sector respectively.

The Bad

1. Fuel Subsidy Removal

One of the most contentious decisions of Tinubu's

administration has been the removal of the fuel subsidy. Announced during his inaugural speech, this move led to an immediate increase in fuel prices from ₦185 to



President Tinubu signs seven bilateral agreements with Qatar across multiple sectors

over ₦500 per liter (Pulse Nigeria). While the subsidy's removal was necessary to prevent economic collapse and redirect funds to more productive uses, it has caused significant hardship for many Nigerians, leading to widespread discontent and protests.

2. Currency Reforms

The shift to a more market-driven exchange rate policy, while essential for economic stability, has resulted in the depreciation of the Naira. This has increased the cost of living and created temporary economic discomfort for citizens. These reforms are expected to stabilize the economy in the long run, but the immediate impact has been challenging for the average Nigerian.



Naira depreciates due to shift to a more market-driven exchange

3. Delayed Ministerial Appointments

Despite high expectations, Tinubu took over 50 days to announce his ministerial appointments, leading to initial frustration and uncertainty. The delay was criticized given the urgent need for leadership in key ministries to address the country's pressing issues.

The Ugly

1. Stringent Economic Measures

Tinubu's administration has introduced several stringent economic measures aimed at stabilizing and restructuring the economy. These include extensive tax and fiscal reforms intended to simplify the tax system, eliminate multiple taxes, and enhance revenue collection without burdening citizens with new taxes (ThisDayLive). While necessary for long-term economic health, these measures have been perceived as harsh by ordinary citizens who are already struggling with high living costs.

2. Security Sector Overhaul

The replacement of all service chiefs and the appointment of a new National Security Adviser were part of a broader



President Tinubu meets Ramaphosa to strengthen Nigeria-South Africa relationship



President Tinubu thanks regional leaders for electing him ECOWAS Chairman

strategy to enhance national security. However, these sweeping changes have led to concerns about continuity and the potential for instability within the security apparatus.

3. Public Discontent

Despite the government's efforts to cushion the impact of its reforms through various social intervention programs, public discontent remains high. The initial discomfort and economic strain caused by subsidy removal and currency devaluation have overshadowed the potential long-term benefits, leading to significant unrest and dissatisfaction among the populace.

President Ahmed Bola Tinubu's first year in office has been a mix of bold, transformative actions and the resulting public backlash. His administration's focus on economic reform, institutional strengthening, and regional leadership has laid a foundation for potential long-term growth and stability. However, the immediate impact of these reforms has been tough for many Nigerians, leading to significant discontent. As Tinubu moves into his second year, the challenge will be to balance these necessary reforms with measures that can alleviate the immediate economic pain felt by the citizens, ensuring that the path to a more prosperous Nigeria is both inclusive and sustainable.



President inaugurates Wuse bridge interchange, linking Wuse and Wuye village district in FCT



President Tinubu inaugurates FCT's Southern Pathways



The Renewed Hope City FCT, Abuja - Inaugurated by President Bola Ahmed Tinubu



President Tinubu inaugurating the National Assembly Library and Resource Centre



President flagging-off the re-launch of Commercial operations on the Abuja Light Rail



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oladiranolayinka@yahoo.com

odylogistics@yahoo.com



www.odylogisticstransport.com





Hon. High Chief Obinna Aguocha

Release Nnamdi Kanu Unconditionally -Hon. Aguocha

*Aguocha's Call for Nnamdi Kanu's
Unconditional Release Echos
Amidst Legal Disparities*

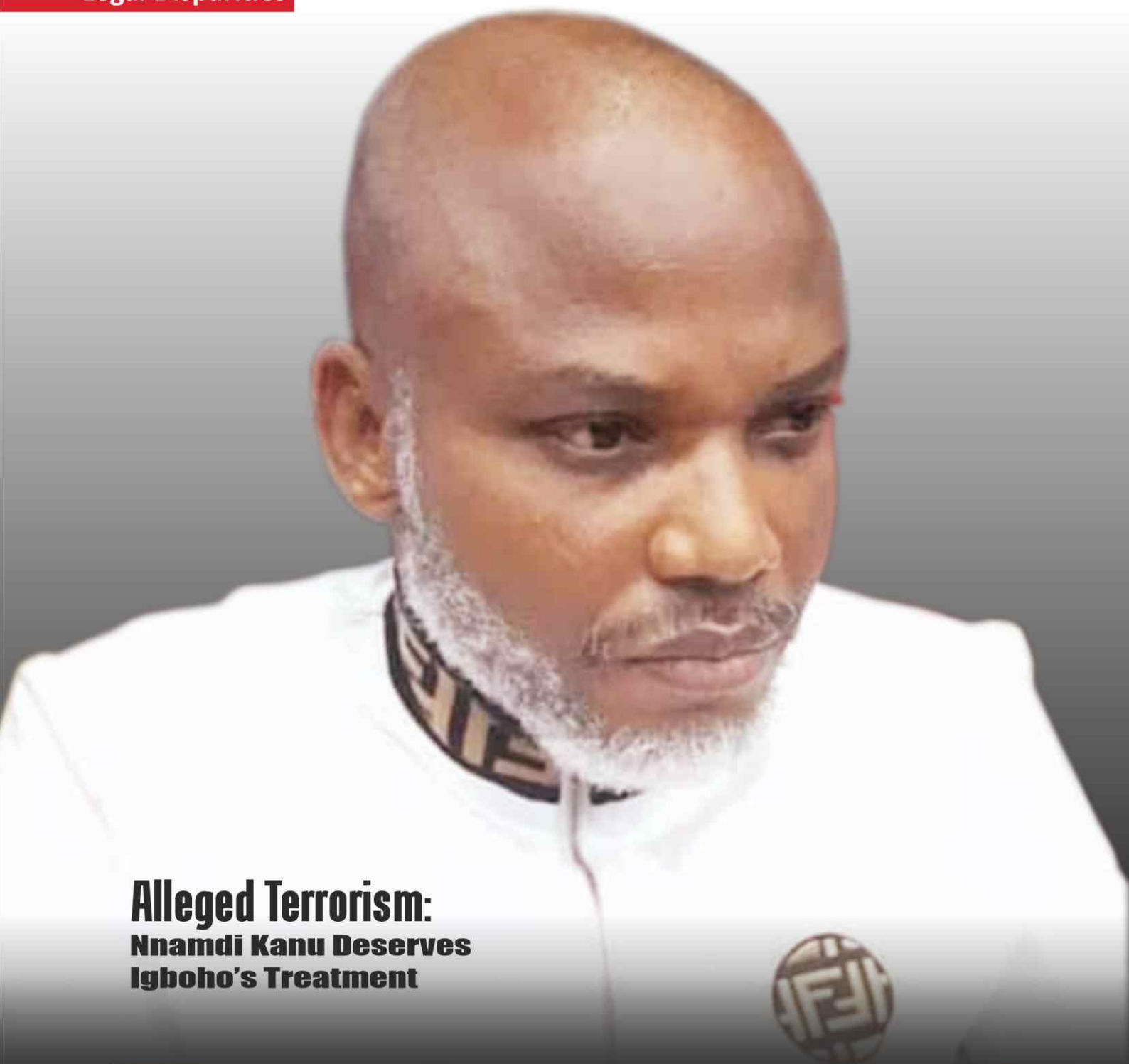
In celebrated legal battles involving prominent Nigerian figures—Nnamdi Kanu, Omoyele Sowore, Sunday Igboho, and even Godwin Emefiele—a glaring disparity in treatment has sparked doubts of Igbo membership in their country, and has kept Hon. Obi Aguocha on his toes as he relentlessly call on President Ahmed Bola Tinubu to release Nnamdi Kanu unconditionally.

While Sowore and Igboho have been freed due to judicial protection of their rights and Emefiele was granted bail, these legal actions have raised questions about fairness in Nigeria's legal system.

Hon. Obi Aguocha appeals to President Ahmed Bola Tinubu to release Nnamdi Kanu unconditionally since Sowore and Igboho have been freed due to judicial protection of their rights

However, Nnamdi Kanu, a citizen like the others, remains incarcerated despite his constitutional right to bail. This discrepancy begs the question: Are there double standards based on regional affiliations?

On this ground Hon. High Chief Obinna Aguocha, member representing Ikwuano/Umuahia North/Umuahia South Federal Constituency appeals to President Bola Ahmed Tinubu to intervene, emphasizing the need for Nnamdi Kanu's immediate release as a step towards fostering peace in the South East and ensuring equitable justice for all Nigerians.



Alleged Terrorism: Nnamdi Kanu Deserves Igboho's Treatment

The circumstances surrounding Kanu's arrest and detention have been contentious, with his supporters arguing that he is a political prisoner and should be released like other activists such as Omoyele Sowore and Sunday Igboho. Sowore, a prominent journalist and activist, was arrested multiple times for

his criticism of the Nigerian government before being released on bail. Igboho, on the other hand, gained prominence for his advocacy for the rights of the Yoruba people in southwestern Nigeria and was arrested in July 2021 in Benin Republic and have been released while Mazi Nnamdi Kanu is still in detention.

Release of Nnamdi Kanu: Hon. Aguocha Not Afraid To Stand Alone, Advocates for Justice



Mazi Nnamdi Kanu in court

In the battlefield of Nigeria's political struggle. One man says he is not afraid to stand alone and wage war against injustice.

He is Hon. High Chief Obinna Aguocha. Hon. Aguocha-MHR, representing the Ikwuano/Umuahia Federal Constituency has emerged as a single force advocating for the release of Nnamdi Kanu, the prominent leader of the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB).

Aguocha's recent media release titled "Re: Nnamdi Kanu Sowore, Igboho, and Emefiele", resonates as a poignant call to uphold justice and safeguard the rights of Nigerian citizens.

His voice akin to that of a lone ranger amidst the cacophony of political rhetoric, echoes a plea for Kanu's freedom similar to the release of others held under similar circumstances.

Through his media release, he



Sunday Igboho in court



Sowore Omoleye in court



Godwin Emefiele in court



Hon. Chief Obi Aguocha

meticulously dissects the legal intricacies surrounding Kanu's case, emphasizing the judiciary's pivotal role in safeguarding citizen rights.

Drawing parallels to recent cases like Omoyele Sowore and Sunday Igboho, both of whom secured freedom through judicial intervention, Hon. Aguocha emphasized the judiciary's capacity to champion justice in the face of governmental overreach.

Moreover, he highlighted the granting of bail to Mr. Emefiele, juxtaposing it with Kanu's continued detention, raising pertinent questions regarding potential regional


disparities in treatment.

Aguocha's plea extends beyond legal discourse, transcending into a direct appeal to President Bola Ahmed Tinubu GCFR, urging him to leverage his influential position for Kanu's unconditional release.

Framed as a gesture towards fostering peace and prosperity in the South East region and uplifting the welfare of Igbo people, Aguocha's appeal resonates with a sense of urgency and moral imperative.

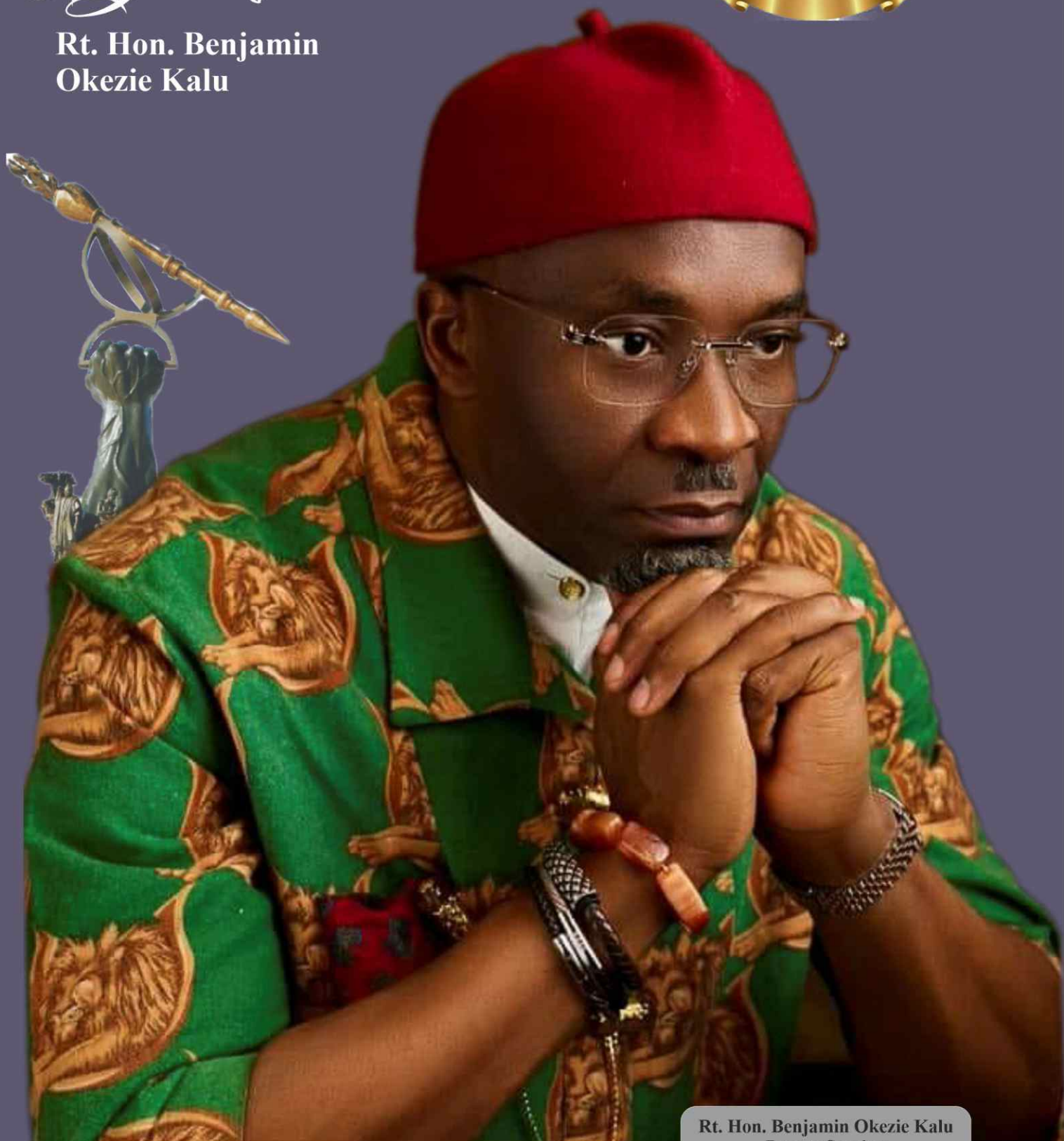
Aguocha's plea extends beyond legal discourse, transcending into a direct appeal to President Bola Ahmed Tinubu GCFR

He further extends gratitude to President Tinubu, expressing hope for his receptive consideration of the appeal.

Hon. Obinna Aguocha's steadfast advocacy underlines the indispensable need to uphold principles of justice and fairness within Nigeria's legal framework, thereby reaffirming the sanctity of citizen rights and the rule of law. 

Happy *Birthday*

Rt. Hon. Benjamin
Okezie Kalu



Rt. Hon. Benjamin Okezie Kalu
Deputy Speaker
House of Representatives
Federal Republic of Nigeria

Courtesy:

NewsGlobal Communications Limited



Rt. Hon. Benjamin Okezie Kalu: An Example of Leadership and Philanthropy

It was a beehive of activities and a great heartwarming display of compassion and leadership by example, as the Right Honourable Benjamin Okezie Kalu, Deputy Speaker, House of Representatives, marked his birthday in a manner that truly epitomizes his commitment to service and empathy for the less privileged.

Nestled in the serene ambiance of his country home in Agbamuzu, Bende Federal Constituency, Rt. Hon. Kalu

orchestrated a celebration that transcended mere festivity, extending his hand of generosity to the widows, pensioners, and less privileged individuals hailing from the 17 Local Governments of Abia State.

The event, which unfolded as a well-planned programme of compassion and communal support, showcased Kalu's resolute dedication to uplifting the downtrodden. From an eye care medical outreach aimed at addressing the healthcare needs of the

underprivileged to a banquet brimming with camaraderie and goodwill, every facet of the celebration reverberated with the essence of altruism.

But beyond the material provisions, it was the intangible gifts of hope and solidarity that the Deputy Speaker bestowed upon his guests, igniting flickers of optimism in hearts that may have been shrouded in despair. His genuine concern for the well-being of his constituents resonated


Photo Speaks - Rt. Hon. Benjamin Okezie Kalu's Philanthropy

profoundly, reaffirming his status not merely as a political figure but as a source of hope and empathy.

In the midst of festivities and expressions of gratitude, Rt. Hon. Kalu humbly acknowledged the outpouring of prayers and warm wishes he received on his special day. His humility in the face of adulation highlights his authenticity as a leader who remains firmly rooted in the service of his people.

Rt. Hon. Benjamin Kalu's leadership prowess shines brightly, illuminating a path towards a brighter future for Abia State

As he stands resolute in his commitment to deliver on his responsibilities, Rt. Hon. Benjamin Kalu's leadership prowess shines brightly, illuminating a path towards a brighter future for Abia State. With the firm support, prayers, and love of his constituents, it is evident that better days lie ahead under his stewardship.

In celebrating Hon. Benjamin Okezie Kalu, we not only commend his exemplary leadership but also applaud his steadfast philanthropy, which serves as an evidence to the transformative power of compassion in governance. May his dedication continue to inspire positive change and foster unity within the communities he serves. 





Your Excellency,

Congratulations

As You Mark
One Year in Office

His Excellency
Cmdr. Dr. Nasir Idris
(Kauran Gwandu)
Executive Governor, Kebbi State



Alh. Mohammad Arzika Dan Atto
Special Adviser Revenue Generation
Kebbi State

Your steadfast commitment to the development of Kebbi State and your inclusive approach to governance have brought significant progress and hope to our communities. Your visionary leadership continues to inspire us all. As

you forge ahead in piloting the affairs of Kebbi State, I wish you continued success, wisdom, and strength in all your endeavors. Together, we will achieve greater heights for our beloved state.





Comrade Dr. Nasir Idris, (Kauran Gwandu), Executive Governor, Kebbi State

Chronicling the Giant Strides Of The Quintessential Kauran Gwandu In One Year

By Yahaya Sarki,
*Special Adviser (SA)
to the Governor on Media and Publicity*

The quantum of development recorded within one year of the incumbent administration of Comrade Dr. Nasir Idris, Kauran Gwandu of Kebbi State elected on the 23rd of March, 2023 is unprecedented.

Kebbi State has witnessed revolutionary infrastructural

turnover particularly, the state capital, Birnin Kebbi which is often referred to as a 'Glorified local Government Area' due to many years of neglect by previous administrations which resulted to underdevelopment and dearth of basic amenities required of a state capital.

It is not a hidden fact that most of the states created alongside Kebbi State have gone too far ahead of the State in many sectors of development.

However, it is gratifying to see

that the narrative is fast changing with the emergence of a God-Given leader, that is resilient, focused, transparent, firm and decisive. That chosen Charismatic gentleman that ascended the leadership of Kebbi State through the democratic mandate of people of Kebbi State is comrade Dr. Nasir Idris, Kauran Gwandu, a classroom teacher, a labour leader and a title holder of the prestigious Gwandu Emirate, the 'Kauran Gwandu'.

This is a man that is resolute on his campaign promises to the electorate and people of Kebbi State faithfully, even at the heat of election litigation against him from the opposition. Kauran Gwandu has triumphed from Election Petition Tribunal to the Court of Appeal and finally the Supreme Court, this has certainly left the nay sayers dumbfounded. Their calculated attempt from one court to another has failed woefully and yet they have now embarked on unguarded comments and unnecessary criticism against the Kauran Gwandu-led administration.

Even though criticisms are a central and logical aspect of democratic governance, but when such criticisms lack factual information on significant development issues, the purpose is defeated and becomes irrelevant.



Gov. Nasir Idris kicks off para soccer in Birnin Kebbi



Some of the newly procured vehicles for security personnel operating across the state

Kauran Gwandu is never deterred, his campaign promises were as realistic as his blueprint that will guide his four year tenure to develop Kebbi State. Protecting the lives and property of people, massive infrastructural development with particular reference to the State capital, Birnin Kebbi, sustaining Agricultural development, improving Healthcare delivery, education and women and youth empowerment .

The return of peace and security in Kebbi South comprising Fakai, DankoWasagu and Zuru where the obnoxious activities of bandits who often infiltrate from the neighbouring Niger and Zamfara States into some local government areas afformentioned to cause havoc by destroying farmlands, rustling castles and destruction of lives and property is certainly a testimony of Kauran Gwandu's tenacity, effectiveness and dexterity towards achieving peace in the area.

For many years, peace has eluded farming communities of these areas only for the intervention of Kauran Gwandu's approach in dealing with insecurity. Farmers who have deserted their farms due to insecurity, have now happily returned to their farms in most areas of Kebbi South.

Many a times ,time without number, Governor Nasir Idris declared that his



Gov. Nasir Idris on inspection of new state secretariat

topmost priority as the chief security officer of the state is to protect lives and properties of people so that they can sleep with their two eyes closed. Sensing very well that without security, there is no development, Governor Nasir Idris invested heavily in Security . His administration spends 500 million naira on monthly basis on security, to make sure that the lives and property of Kebbi people are protected.

His approach to security is multidimensional. He ensured regular security meetings with all the security chiefs in the state including the vigilante. Purchased 27 new Hilux brand of vehicles to security operatives, 1000 motorcycles to vigilantes to promote grassroots

state one of the most peaceful place to stay in Nigeria .

As a labour leader and a classroom teacher who has dedicated most of his years as a civil servant, providing sound education to children as well as struggling to better the lives of workers, Kauran Gwandu knows the importance of a conducive working environment for civil servants.

Civil servants as a bedrock of implementing government policies and programmes, obviously need a conducive working environment to operate. That is why the first project he embarked upon when he was sworn in as the Governor of Kebbi State on 23rd of May, 2023 was to approve the completion of the Gwadangwaji Secretariat complex which was started

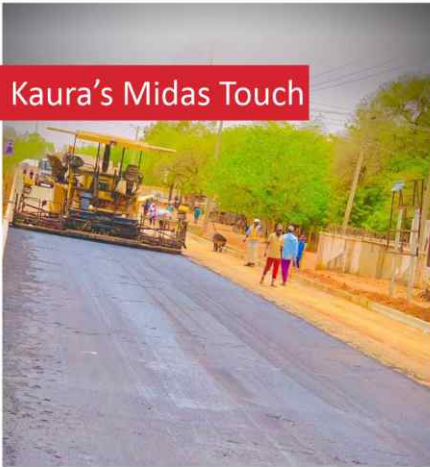


1000 motorcycles procured by Kebbi State Government and distributed to vigilantes in order to support other security operatives in the state and enhance community policing



The new face of Kebbi State Government House. The entire house underwent face lift

Kaura's Midas Touch



Ongoing road construction in Yauri local Government as part efforts of Kauran Gwandu's led administration to reach out to other LGAs



This is one of the many roads constructed in Birnin Kebbi



This is one of the many roads constructed in Birnin Kebbi, it is adorn with solar street lights

over 15 years but abandoned by previous administrations. The Gwadangwaji Secretariat complex, which is a ultra modern Secretariat complex gulped over 9 billion and has reached 80 percent completion stage.

The ultra modern building edifice when completed would bring together all the state's ministries, boards and parastatals under one roof with the State of the art working materials.

Another cogent successes recorded by the Kauran Gwandu-led administration since he assumed office in May ,2023 is the timely Payment of Workers , Government running cost, Payment of Pension and Gratuity to retirees. The government has also settled outstanding Leave Grant of civil servants in the state.

Perhaps, the Kauran Gwandu's project which stands tall and made indelible mark in the heart of people of Kebbi State and any stranger coming to the State capital remains the ongoing construction of Birnin Kebbi township roads, the state capital .

This is in consonance with his urbanisation program and in line with keeping to his campaign promise to make Birnin Kebbi a befitting State Capital, not a glorified local government headquarters.

The Governor performed the epoch-making event of REMODELING KEBBI STATE CAPITAL, BIRNIN KEBBI on 25/7/2023 by awarding the contract for the reconstruction of major roads of the state capital to Habib Engineering Nigeria Limited.

The project entails the rehabilitation of 15 kilometres of road in the city

from NNPC mega station through Emir Haruna road to Haliru Abdu round about extending to AP 2 round about to be completed in 18 months, also with the provision of solar street lights and drainage.

Kauran Gwandu also reiterated that not only the State capital, Birnin Kebbi, other major towns in the four senatorial districts of the State would be urbanised and rural areas too will recieve the desired attention in terms of infrastructural development in all the 21 local Government Areas of Kebbi State.

Already, construction of 5 kilometres township roads have commenced in Yauri and Ngaski while that of Argungu ,Zuru and other local Government Areas are on the pipeline as promised by our amiable governor. Interestingly too, contractor handling the deplorable Malando Road in Ngaski Local Government has been mobilised by government and had since returned to work.

On distribution of palliatives to reduce the hardship of people as a result of the present economic quagmire and improving Agricultural production, an economic sector which is the life wire of the state, the incumbent administration in Kebbi State had spent over twenty-one billion naira, 21 billion on the purchase and distribution of palliatives, pumps, fertilizer, as well as the disbursement of financial support to its people to improve their livelihood.

Kauran Gwandu, very mindful of the enormous need to support people particularly the less privileged in the society, purchased hundreds of truckloads of grains, including rice

worth billions of naira. This includes 200 truckloads procured during the Ramadan period, which were distributed free to the people throughout the state.

The Kebbi State Government under the able leadership of Comrade Dr Nasir Idris Kauran Gwandu has also taken drastic measures to promptly combat the threat of migratory birds, particularly quelea birds, to improve



The combination of rice, millet and corn procured and distributed free to people of the state by Kauran Gwandu led administration

food security.

The government has sprayed over 4,000 liters of chemicals and conducted numerous flight hours to protect agricultural yields from pests. Government also purchased fertilizer



Some of the procured vehicles for security personnel operating across the state

worth N2.6 billion, which was distributed free to farmers. Furthermore, N8.5 billion was spent on the procurement of solar-powered water pumps, CNG pumps, conversion kits, power tillers, and motorized sprayers to support farmers and reduce operational costs, with the aim of improving agricultural productivity and sustainability.

All these laudable gesture by government of comrade Dr. Nasir Idris, is aimed at providing essential interventions to enhance food security, implement policies to empower individuals, support farmers, and provide free sustenance to the populace.

The BirninKebbi Central Motor Park for many years has been in a state of dilapidation and neglect even with its economic and social importance to the

modern motor park for public transport. Among facilities under construction are adequate water supply, modern administrative block, lock up shops, available sit out for commuters, gallery, up to date readable electronic information board and restaurant. The motor park when completed would serve as convenient centre for both local and international travellers and freight collation coming from all over the country and the neighbouring Republics of Niger and Benin.

As a classroom teacher, Dr. Nasir Idris believes that Quality Education is the backbone of any societal development, and one of his administration's key agenda. Governor idris's never hides his feelings as a teacher to turnaround and reform this vital sector. Since he assumed leadership of the state, he made conscious effort to salvage education and make schools conducive and friendly for both teachers and students.

The Kebbi State Government has spend billions of naira on education sector particularly on construction and rehabilitation of schools across the state with provision of instructional materials.

The present administration under Governor Nasir Idris, Kauran Gwandu made the education sector in a sorry state with dilapidated structures , lack of teaching facilities and low teacher morale. These situation necessitated the governor to embark on renovation of both primary and secondary schools. The projects being embarked upon by the Kauran Gwandu-led administration in schools from June 2023 to May 2024, the State Universal Basic Education Board, SUBEB recorded significant level of accomplishment in construction, renovation, procurement, furnishing and provision of instructional materials to the tune of over 8 billion naira.

Under Better Education Service



Some of the renovated schools in the State

Delivery for All, BESDA, program, over 5 billion was spent on construction, renovation and training of teachers in different locations across the state. The Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education also spent over 3 billion naira on the procurement of instructional materials for schools across the state to enhance teaching.

It is also gratifying to point out that contract for the construction of 5, five Mega Schools in Birnin Kebbi, Argungu, Yauri and Zuru has since been awarded by Government, all in furtherance of the incumbent administration agenda to provide quality education to our teaming youths in the state.

The whole essence of these proactive policies by the people's Governor is to ensure education equation, because whenever there is child friendly , student friendly environment there most be increase in enrollment, retention and transition in our schools

Payment of scholarship to students in tertiary institutions has been the hallmark of this administration to students studying within and outside Nigeria such as India and Egypt. Recently Kebbi State Government released the sum of over N309,584,041.80 for payment of foreign scholarship to 64 students in India amounting to N228,150,148 and 23 students in Egypt to the tune of N81,433,893.80 this was after payment of scholarship to our students in various tertiary institutions across the country under the Ministry for Higher Education to the tune of N967,685,854 million naira covering 20,908 students for 2022/2023 Academic session.

It is worth mentioning the Kebbi State Governor, Dr Nasir Idris created eight new Ministries including the Ministries of Humanitarian Affairs



One of the newly constructed roundabouts in the state capital, Birnin Kebbi

populace.

Kauran Gwandu's midas touch is now changing the narrative as the Governor approved the sum of N2.99 billion for its reconstruction and rehabilitation into a modern befitting



Computers and other instructional materials purchased for schools across the state to enhance effective learning



National Hajj commission kicks off this year's Hajj

and Internal Security.

Idris also created Ministry of Rural and Community Development, Establishment, Training and Pension, Solid Minerals Development and Mining, Rural and Community Development, Religious Affairs, Physical Planning and Urban Development as well as Ministry of Digital Economy.

Creation of additional Ministries has paved the way for broadening the civil service and restructuring it for effective service delivery as well as for more job creation to citizens of the state.

The inaugural flight for the 2023 airlift of intending pilgrims to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is still fresh in our minds. Vice-President, Senator Kashim Shettima on Wednesday 15th of May, 2024 inaugurated the airlift of Nigerian pilgrims to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the 2024 Hajj exercise.

The epochal event for the first in the history of Kebbi State took place at the Sir Ahmadu Bello International Airport, Birnin Kebbi.

The National Hajj Commission of Nigeria (NAHCON) granted the hosting right of the inaugural flight to Kebbi State sequel to the uncommon commitment of Dr. Nasir Idris, Kauran Gwandu, to the success of the 1445AH Hajj season preparations. This is the first time Kebbi State has witnessed the flag off of intending

pilgrims to Saudi Arabia in its home soil and it happened under the able leadership of Comrade Dr. Nasir Idris, Kauran Gwandu.

The President, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, the Sultan of Sokoto, His Eminence, Alhaji Saad Abubakar and the National Hajj Commission of Nigeria, NAHCON are all full of praises to our amiable governor, Dr. Nasir Idris for putting up one of the most successful Hajj preparations in Nigeria.

The myriads of achievements recorded by Kauran Gwandu led administration in one year are too numerous to be mentioned here. However, others include establishment of Kebbi State Commission for persons Living with Disability, the establishment of two additional units at the State Ministry for Justice, they are the Citizens' Rights and Public Engagement and Gender Based Violence Support Unit, all in the bid to boost the administration of justice in the state, renovation of Government House, Birnin Kebbi and many others too many to be mentioned.

The popular saying 'Behind every successful man, there is a woman' is very correct as the Governor has two educated wives whom have been his pillar, who have supported his rise to stardom in governance among equals.

Each of the two wives of the governor, Hajiya Zainab Nasare Nasir Idris and Hajiya Nafisa Nasir Idris have all contributed alot to people of Kebbi

State through their foundations, the Nasara Foundation and the NANAS Foundation respectively.

The modus operandi of these two foundations are philanthropic in nature as well as empowerment particularly to the



Hajiya Zainab Nasare Nasir Idris



Hajiya Nafisa Nasir Idris

women folk and the less privileged in the society and people with disability touching their lives positively in education, healthcare, religion, SMEs and empowerment.

Health is wealth: The incumbent administration of Comrade Dr. Nasir Idris, Kauran Gwandu has provided medical treatment to 23,542 patients with mental health problems and related illness at Zauro Psychiatric hospital. General Hospitals across the state are being renovated and provided with modern health facilities. As part of his efforts to ensure retention of health workers in our hospitals, the governor increased the entitlements of doctors and nurses as well as abolished the employment of casual staff in our hospitals.

On Youth and Women

empowerment: Over 500 were trained across the four Emirates of the state in cosmetics, barbing, hair dressing, popcorn making, tailoring, computer application, handset repairs, animal husbandry among others. More opportunities are also provided to women and youths organisations in the agricultural sector. **NG**





**Congratulations
Your Excellency**

Cmrd. Dr. Nasir Idris (Kauran Gwandu)
Executive Governor
KEBBI STATE



On behalf of Fadama III in Kebbi State, I extend my heartfelt congratulations as you mark your first year in office. Your resolute commitment to the welfare of the people of Kebbi and your determined efforts towards comprehensive development are truly commendable.

Under your leadership, we have witnessed significant strides in improving the lives of our citizens. May God continue to bless you with wisdom, protection, and guidance as you lead our state selflessly towards greater heights.



Alh. Umar Faruk Udulu
Project Coordinator
Fadama III Project, Kebbi State

Congratulations

AS YOU MARK

365

DAYS IN OFFICE

His Excellency
Cmdr. Dr. Nasir Idris (Kauran Gwandu)
Executive Governor
KEBBI STATE

Your Excellency,
Congratulations on
marking one year in
office. Your
impressive and
inclusive
governance has
been exemplary,
fostering unity and
progress across
Kebbi State. The
remarkable
advancements in
our High Education
sector, under your
leadership, reflect
your commitment to
quality education for
all. Your dedication
to infrastructure
development,
scholarships, and

innovative programs
has transformed our
institutions,
empowering our
youth with the tools
for a brighter future.
We celebrate your
visionary leadership
and look forward to
continued success
under your
guidance.



Alh. Isah Abubakar Tunga
Hon. Commissioner for High Education,
Kebbi State



■ Cmr. Dr. Nasir Idris (Kauran Gwandu),
Executive Governor, Kebbi State

ELEVATING EDUCATION IN KEBBI STATE: HON. ISAH A. TUNGA HIGHLIGHTS TRANSFORMATIVE INITIATIVES UNDER GOVERNOR IDRIS

In an exclusive interview with NewsGlobal, Alh. Isah Abubakar Tunga, Commissioner for High Education, Kebbi State spoke to Orjiako Sam Orjiako as the present administration marks One Year in office. Excerpts:

As the Commissioner for High Education in Kebbi State, how has your experience been in steering the ministry's initiatives and projects?

My experience has been both challenging and rewarding. Upon assuming office, I encountered a landscape marked by significant potential but also substantial hurdles. Our primary focus has been to elevate the standards of science education across the state, aligning with both national educational goals and global best practices.

Governor Nasir Idris has spent one year in office, can you highlight specific programmes or initiatives of his that have had a notable impact on the educational landscape in Kebbi State?

His Excellency, Comr. Dr. Nasir Idris, Kauran Gwandu has made significant strides in improving the educational landscape of Kebbi State. One of his key initiatives was the comprehensive review of the laws governing the state's six tertiary institutions, ensuring they align with current educational standards and needs.

He has approved N119 million for the convocation of 12 sets of graduates at the state university, marking the first convocation since its establishment. This significant move addresses a long-standing issue and enhances the institution's reputation.

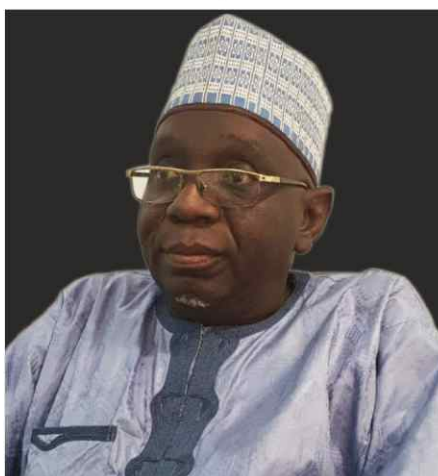
Additionally, Governor Idris approved N967,685,854 for the registration fees of 20,908 Kebbi students studying in 36 tertiary institutions across Nigeria, easing the financial burden on families and promoting higher education accessibility.

He also approved over N438 million for scholarships for 92 students from Kebbi State studying in India and Egypt, fostering international education opportunities and exposure.

Furthermore, N77 million was approved for the accreditation of two course, ND and HND at the College of Nursing and Midwifery, Birnin Kebbi while N40million was approved for the accreditation of the College of Health Sciences at Aliero University to ensure that these institutions meet national standards and can provide quality education.

These initiatives are part of Governor Idris's broader commitment to enhancing educational opportunities and infrastructure in Kebbi State.

Looking forward, what strategies or recommendations would you suggest to further enhance the quality and reach of High Education in Kebbi State? Are there particular areas or aspects that you believe require immediate attention and resources?



Alh. Isah Abubakar Tunga
Hon. Commissioner for High Education, Kebbi State

As the Commissioner for High Education of Kebbi State, my focus is to ensure that our High Education system is both inclusive and of high quality, preparing our students for the challenges of the modern world. To this end, I would suggest several strategies and recommendations to enhance the quality and reach of High Education in Kebbi State and by focusing on our strategies and prioritizing the areas of ICT, faculty development, research, and access, we can create a more robust and inclusive High Education system in Kebbi State that not only meets the current needs but also anticipates future challenges and opportunities.

Kebbi First Lady Champions Economic Growth with N10 Million Boost for Entrepreneurs

In a significant move to bolster the local economy, Hajiya Zainab Nasare Nasir Idris, the wife of the Kebbi State Governor, has extended financial support totaling ten million naira to entrepreneurs participating in the Ramadan Funfair. This initiative, emblematic of her enduring commitment to the state's development, aims to enhance the livelihoods of small business owners and promote economic self-sufficiency.

Speaking at the Presidential Lodge on Sunday, Hajiya Zainab Nasare emphasized that all participants at the fair would receive a share of the financial aid. She lauded the traders for offering discounts on their diverse array of goods, which included foodstuffs and clothing, and urged them to maintain their dedication to customer service even after the fair concludes to increase patronage.

The First Lady also acknowledged the efforts of Hajiya Maryam Bello Bala, the State Coordinator of the Ramadan Funfair, for her role in supporting small-scale traders. She expressed

delight over the fair's expansion compared to previous years, noting the participation of traders from both within and outside the state.

Dr. Halima Muhammad Bande, Commissioner for Basic and Secondary Education, encouraged traders to balance their commercial activities with the educational needs of their children to foster both economic and societal growth. She also reminded them to adhere to ethical practices as prescribed by their faith.

Alhaji Nura Fingila, Commissioner for Youths and Sports Development, praised Hajiya Zainab Nasare for her consistent support, which has enabled many young people to venture into profitable enterprises. Further endorsements came from Hajiya Aisha Usman, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Budget and Economic

Planning, who underscored the importance of perseverance in business, and representatives from SMEDAN and NAFDAC, who provided insights on formal business registration and regulatory compliance.

The Ramadan Funfair, organized by the Association of Kebbi Women Entrepreneurs in collaboration with the Nasara Foundation, stands as a testament to the transformative impact of Hajiya Zainab Nasare Nasir Idris's initiatives since the inception of the current administration.



Hajiya Zainab Nasare Nasir Idris
Wife of the Kebbi State Governor



Hajiya Zainab Nasare Nasir Idris inspecting some products of the benefitting entrepreneurs



Hajiya Zainab Nasare Nasir Idris inspects trader's goods



Beneficiaries of Kebbi Governor Wife's palliatives at the 223 Battalion in Zuru

Kebbi Governor's Wife Distributes Palliatives To Widows of Fallen Soldiers in Zuru



Hajiya Zainab Nasare Nasir Idris
Wife of the Kebbi State Governor

The First Lady of Kebbi State, Hajiya Zainab Nasare Nasir Idris, extended heartfelt sympathy and support to the widows of fallen soldiers at the 223 Battalion in Zuru. During her visit, she distributed food items and cash assistance, pledging that the current administration would continue to support these families in overcoming their daily challenges.

Addressing the widows at the Army Barracks, Hajiya Zainab emphasized the importance of faith in the face of loss, acknowledging the ultimate sacrifice made by their spouses. She encouraged the women to maintain the moral and educational upbringing of their children, assuring them that the

state would provide ongoing support.

Hajiya Zainab's visit was met with appreciation from the Commanding Officer of the 223 Battalion, Colonel M. Iliya, who lauded the governor and his wife for their consistent compassion towards the soldiers and their families. Representing the widows, Mrs. Ladi Rabo expressed gratitude for the First Lady's generosity and the relief brought by the distributed items.

Earlier, Hajiya Zainab also provided palliatives to over three thousand women from Fakai, Zuru, Danko-Wasagu, and Sakaba at the Zuru Town Hall. The items included rice, assorted grains, and cash. She reassured the

community that these efforts to alleviate economic hardship would continue across the state.

The visit extended to the Zuru Orphanage, where children received food and cash assistance. Accompanying the First Lady were prominent state officials, including the wives of key government figures and the Commissioner of Women Affairs.

Local leaders, such as the Sole Administrator of Zuru Local Government, Alhaji Bala Isa Gajere, praised the First Lady's initiative and the governor's ongoing support for the people of Kebbi State.



Some of the Wife of Kebbi State's palliatives



Beneficiaries of Kebbi Governor Wife's palliatives in Kebbi State

Your Excellency,

Cmrd. Dr. Nasir Idris (Kauran Gwandu)

Executive Governor

KEBBI STATE



Congratulations
on your
365 days
in office!



Your unwavering commitment to infrastructure development, especially road construction, has significantly transformed Kebbi State. Your open-door policy fosters inclusiveness and

community engagement, driving progress and unity. May you continue to lead with vision and dedication, bringing prosperity and development to the people of KebbiState.



Engr. Muslim Abdullahi Umar Faruk
(Majikiran Gwandu)
Hon. Commissioner for Works
Kebbi State



Chief Jim Nwobodo

Jim Nwobodo

The 84th Birthday

By Dr. Ben Oramalugo

Dr. Ben Oramalugo's recent article on the 84th birthday celebration of Jim Nwobodo—an eminent figure in Igbo politics—piqued my interest in the political dynamics within the Igbo community. The resilience and ambition of the Igbo people, marked by their enduring struggles, losses, and triumphs, are truly commendable. Nwobodo's legacy of extensive development initiatives is undeniable. However, it is perplexing that his supporters and successors often seem preoccupied with emphasizing his controversies rather than his considerable achievements. This dichotomy invites deeper reflection on the complex narratives that shape the legacies of political figures within the Igbo race.

— Orjiako Sam Orjiako JP

Here is Dr. Ben Oramalugo's Inquest



By



Dr. Ben Nkem Oramalugo Phd, FNIM
Nkenke Enyi Inyinese

This is a noble dance by Chief Jim Nwobodo. May I say happy birthday to an icon of our time. He held sway as Governor of old Anambra State between 1979 and 1983. I grew up in Enugu within this era. Jim was a fantastic Governor. With a degree in English, experience in Shell, he dabbled into business and politics. He has become a benchmark on which other Governors after him are being assessed. He was charismatic to the core. He was an enigma. Jim was the most handsome Governor of this period, only comparable to his friend Governor Abubakar Rimi of Kano State. Jim brought glamour into leadership of old Anambra State. Within a period of four years, Jim changed the landscape of old Anambra State.

As at then, Jim had realized that in public relation, the way you dress determine to a large extent, the manner you are addressed. In other words, quality dressing is a veritable tool in leadership. Jim exploited this to the extreme. Jim set the standard of fashion. Jim started the senator dress that is in vogue today. His eye glass "Jimmy bowl "was a spectacle to behold. His charisma was effusive and charming. No wonder that the then celebrities like Onyeka Onwenu, Christiana Essien, Nelly Uchendu etc were always in Enugu beholding Jim. Jim was the Ladies man. No beautiful woman in old Anambra state that was not attracted to Jim. Jim was an Ijele masquerade whom you ignore at your peril. If you didn't like Jim because of his intellect , you would like Jim because of social and political showmanship. If you didn't like him because of the above, you will like him because of his fashion razzmatazz.

Jim was an Ijele masquerade whom you ignore at your peril. If you didn't like Jim because of his intellect , you would like Jim because of social and political showmanship

Nwobodo impacted on the economy of old Anambra State. Not only did he maintain industries that were bequeathed by Prof. Eyo Ita, Zik and Okpara, he built new ones. Presidential Hotel was built during Zik and Okpara but Jim maintained it. Jim built Cashew plantation Oghe, Niger Steel Emene, AVOP Nachi, Flower mill Emene etc .

It is an irony that these factories have collapsed and people have the temerity to be debating on the causes of banditry and unknown gun men in Igbo land when they know the obvious causes. We hope that this present Government of Peter Mbah will resuscitate these collapsed industries and even build more.

We all believe that the present Governor has the intellectual



Jim Nwobodo's 84th birthday in top gear



Jim Nwobodo's Birthday Celebration

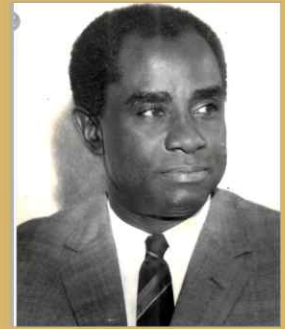
sagacity, developmental mien and political goodwill to change this unpalatable status-quo. It will go a long way in reducing unemployment and crime. That I supposed should be a birthday gift to the great Jim.

In the education sector, Jim was also a colossus. He established the Anambra State University of Technology in 1980 (ASUTECH). He brought home Professor Kenneth Dike, former Vice Chancellor of University of Ibadan, emeritus professor of history in Harvard, the author of "Trade and Politics in Niger Delta" to assume the post of Vice Chancellor of the new University. After Dike died, Professor Onwumechili, former Vice Chancellor of University of Ife was appointed Vice Chancellor of ASUTECH.

The university has since metamorphosed into Nnamdi Azikiwe University and Enugu State University of Science and Technology (ESUT). He built schools

and polytechnics like Eha Amufu College of Education, College of Education Nsugbe etc. Bursaries and Scholarships were given to students of that era. For lack of time, let me not delve in other areas but the fact remains that Jim was a factotum in old Anambra State.

Lest I forgot, Jim was a sports man. Prior to his emergence as Governor, he was the chairman of Rangers International Club. As you know, Rangers was formed in early 70s by Jerry Enyeazu when the psyche of Igbo man was down after civil war. Jim came and invigorated the dignity of Igbo man through Rangers. They won all the laurels and cups available in football in Nigeria and even in Africa. This was an era when our son, from Umuomelinyi, Amaechi Igweobi excelled in soccer. He was a member of CKC squad that won Secondary School world cup in 1977. He also won 1981 league and champion Cup in Nigeria with Rangers.



Professor Kenneth Dike

Amaechi was close to Jim. Jim most times visited our house in Enugu to look after the welfare of Amaechi Igweobi. That will show you the fraternity of Jim and sports. Innocent Egbunike and Mary Onyali etc, Olympic medalists were produced during this period. It might interest you to know that Jim's legacy can be seen in the struggle between Agbenu and Wawa people in the old Anambra State. Before this era, Agbenu regarded themselves as more superior to Wawa. Jim demystified that era. In 1979, he snatched the Governorship of old Anambra State. It was an aggressive and intensive struggle. Agbenu were represented by Dr. Alex Ekwueme, Ojukwu, Dr. Chuba Okadigbo, Barrister Anah etc. From 1979 to 1983, Agbenu people did not smell

but the fact remains that Jim was a factotum in old Anambra State



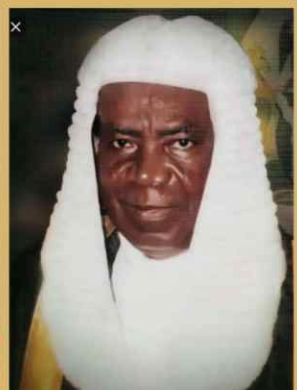
Dr. Alex Ekwueme



Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu



Dr. Chuba Okadigbo



Jim Nwobodo- A Birthday



Kwame Nkrumah



Julius Nyerere



Kenneth Kaunda



Sekou Toure

Government house in old Anambra State. Even when Jim Nwobodo was rigged out by NPN under Onoh, power remained with Wawa people. God crowned it all by giving us the then Commander Allison Madueke as Governor. Jim can be said to be a strong ambassador of Wawa people in the power dynamics of old Anambra State, in spite of their avowed false superiority. Wawa people will ever remember that era as the era of Wawa people.

Jim fraternity with Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe is worthy of discussion for the sake of present young generation. Zik was one of the greatest leaders that emerged out of Africa. He was contemporary of Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana, Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, Sekou Toure of Guinea, but Zik was far more above all these leaders.

It was Zik that mentored Nkrumah to travel to America for American education. Even Obafemi Awolowo confessed in

his book that it was Zik that motivated him to travel to London to read law and join politics. He said that he used to watch Zik displaying his oratory power in Mapo hall in Ibadan, during political debates. That ignited his desire to study law.

Jim being an intelligent politician stood on the back of Zik to excel. Zik acted as a bulldozer against behemoths like Ekwueme, Okadigbo, Barrister Anah, Ojukwu etc. He never betrayed Zik till death. He never truncated the fingers that fed him. In fact it was Zik that gave political relevance and audacity to Chief Jim Nwobodo and Jim never took it for granted. Jim also accorded the same respect and honour to M.I Okpara, Akanu Ibiam, Ironsi's wife, etc. Above all, Jim never had altercation with his pipe smoking Deputy, Engr. Roy Umenyi.

POLITICIANS OF THIS PERIOD SHOULD LEARN FROM JIM - POLITICS WITHOUT BITTERNESS

Jim's story cannot be exhausted on pages of magazine like this.

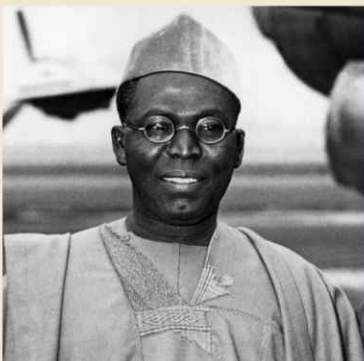
He has some pitfalls like any other great leader. His family life is deficient. He has a long standing crises with his first wife and children. Every great leader should have the capacity to maintain the home front and official front. No woman is a saint.

The capacity to manage a wife and family to a large extent defines you. Anything to the contrary impinges on your reputation and integrity. President Bill Clinton, in spite of his infidelity algebra, managed himself well and efficiently. Also Jim towards the end of his political melee, entered into violent political entanglement with Ojukwu.

Ojukwu formed Ikemba front and Jim formed Jim Vanguard. These were violent political thugs that nearly destroyed old Anambra State. We can still remember the bloody confrontation between Ojukwu and Jim at Nkpor with their criminally induced thugs. Jim would have excused himself from this madness. He should have known that Ojukwu being a military war fighter still regarded politics as a continuation of violence. If not for the military intervention in 1983, old Anambra State would have been destroyed by this bloody impunity and rascality.

Furthermore, another minus in Jim career was his modus operandi in the recruitment process in Enugu state in 1999. As at 1999, Jim was the most powerful godfather in Enugu State. Instead of basing his choice

Jim fraternity with Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe is worthy of discussion for the sake of present young generation. Zik was one of the greatest leaders that emerged out of Africa.



Chief Obafemi Awolowo



Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe



Dr. Chimaraoke Nnamani



Chief Sam Mbakwe



Chief Mbazulike Amaechi



Mazi Nnamdi Kanu



Sunday Igboho

of Governor on merit and equity, he was driven by instinct less than patriotic. Some people argued that money changed hands.

Our Son late Chief Silas Iloh was positioned to be Governor of Enugu State. Dr. Chimaraoke, a surgeon based in United States with humongous amount of dollars came to Enugu and snatched governorship ticket with the staunch backing of Jim. We saw what happened in Enugu under Nnamani. Jim also received the painful pill. Nnamani vowed to retire Jim politically, which he did.

Nnamani in a de facto manner banned Jim from entering Enugu State for years. Jim later apologized to Enugu people for facilitating the election of Nnamani but the damage has been done and Enugu State was worst for it. Jim is one of the greatest surviving statesmen of second republic. Chief Sam Mbakwe has gone. Chief Mbazulike Amaechi, Okadigbo, Ekwueme, Mokuwugo Okoye, Onoh (Aninefungwu), Ojukwu etc have gone.

God has a purpose of keeping Jim alive. His voice matters a lot. We know that age is telling on him but God has given him good health. In today's Nigeria, Igbos are being fantastically marginalized. Houses of Igbos

in Lagos are being demolished without human considerations. Nnamdi Kanu is still behind bars in spite of Court verdict that he should be released.

While Kanu is being held, Igboho, Yoruba champion of separation has been released. The issue of restructuring is still a critical agenda. Above all, the perfidious trajectory of banditry, kidnapping and unknown gun men have engulfed Igbo land. In all these, Jim's voice has not been heard. He need to speak up. He has a tremendous good moral voice. Igbos want to hear his voice. Nigeria want to hear him. How can our treasured asset and heritage keep mute in this cacophony of monumental injustice against the Igbos?

Chief Jim Nwobodo can be rated as the greatest and best Civilian Governor that has ever bestrode old Anambra state. He brought fineness to Governance. He liberated Wawa from the orgy of Agbenu marginalization. He sowed the seed of industrialization of old Anambra state. He was a fine man both in character, integrity and in the delivery of democratic dividends. Therefore his birthday dance at 84 is well deserved. May God give him long life to reap quadruple fruits of his Labour. Jim Nwokeoma, happy birthday.

Jim later apologized to Enugu people for facilitating the election of Nnamani but the damage has been done and Enugu State was worst for it



Maidens of Zuru land display their cultural costumes at Uhola festival

Gov. Nasir Idris Champions Cultural Renaissance: Upholds Commitment to Uhola Festival and Beyond

In a resounding demonstration to his firm dedication to the cultural fabric of Kebbi State, Governor Nasir Idris avowed that his administration would steadfastly support the Uhola Cultural International Festival, ensuring its annual celebration.

Emphasizing the pivotal role of culture in fostering unity among people, Governor Idris articulated this

commitment at the 2024 Zuru Emirate Uhola International Cultural Festival and Agricultural Show, a gathering teeming with vibrant displays of tradition and community spirit.

Asserting that the Uhola Festival had not only heightened the prestige of the Zuru Emirate but also elevated Kebbi State on the global stage, Governor Idris emphasized the imperative of



HRH, Emir of Zuru, Maj. Gen. (Rtd.) Sani Sammi Gomo II and Gov. Nasir Idris, Kauran Gwandu displaying the trophy

promoting cultural heritage as a cornerstone of his administration's agenda. He assured the assembled dignitaries and citizens of his enduring support for the festival's continuation, pledging both financial resources and logistical assistance to ensure its seamless execution each year.



Moreover, Governor Idris affirmed his administration's untiring commitment to bolstering security across the state, recognizing peace as the indispensable bedrock for development. With a monthly expenditure of 500 million devoted to security measures, including provisions for personnel allowances, logistical support, and vital equipment acquisitions, the government's resolve to safeguard lives and property stood resolute.

Addressing the pressing infrastructural needs of the Zuru

CULTURAL DISPLAY AT UHOLA FESTIVAL



Emirate, Governor Idris vowed to surmount obstacles hindering progress, particularly the lamentable state of the Zuru-Dabai Road. Despite challenges posed by dissenting elements, the governor pledged relentless efforts towards road reconstruction, underscoring his administration's unwavering dedication to advancing the region's prosperity.

Governor Idris vowed to surmount obstacles hindering progress, particularly the lamentable state of the Zuru-Dabai Road

The commendations bestowed upon Governor Nasir Idris by the Emir of Zuru, Major General (rtd) Sani Sami, Gomo II, resounded with gratitude for

his steadfast support and patronage of the festival. Recognizing the significance of cultural heritage in fostering unity and prosperity, the Emir echoed the sentiments of a united community striving for progress.

Additionally, the Chairman of the 2024 Uhola Festival, former Minister of Defence, Lt.-Gen. Theophilus Danjuma (rtd), lauded the festival as a beacon of cultural preservation and national cohesion. Dr. Bitrus Bogu, representing Lt.-Gen. Danjuma, extolled the rich tapestry of Nigerian culture and the abundant agricultural potential showcased at the event, underscoring the pivotal role of tradition in shaping national identity and pride.

Against a backdrop of colorful cultural displays, rhythmic traditional songs, and spirited wrestling matches, the 2024 Uhola Festival emerged as a testament to Governor Nasir Idris' visionary leadership and steadfast commitment to fostering unity, prosperity, and cultural preservation in Kebbi State. NG



HRH, Emir of Zuru
Maj. Gen. (Rtd.) Sani Sami Gomo II



Alh. Saidu Nasamu Dakingari
Fmr Governor, Kebbi State



HE., Dr. Nasir Idris, Kauran Gwandu and
Speaker, KHA, Rt. Hon Mohammed Usman Ankwe



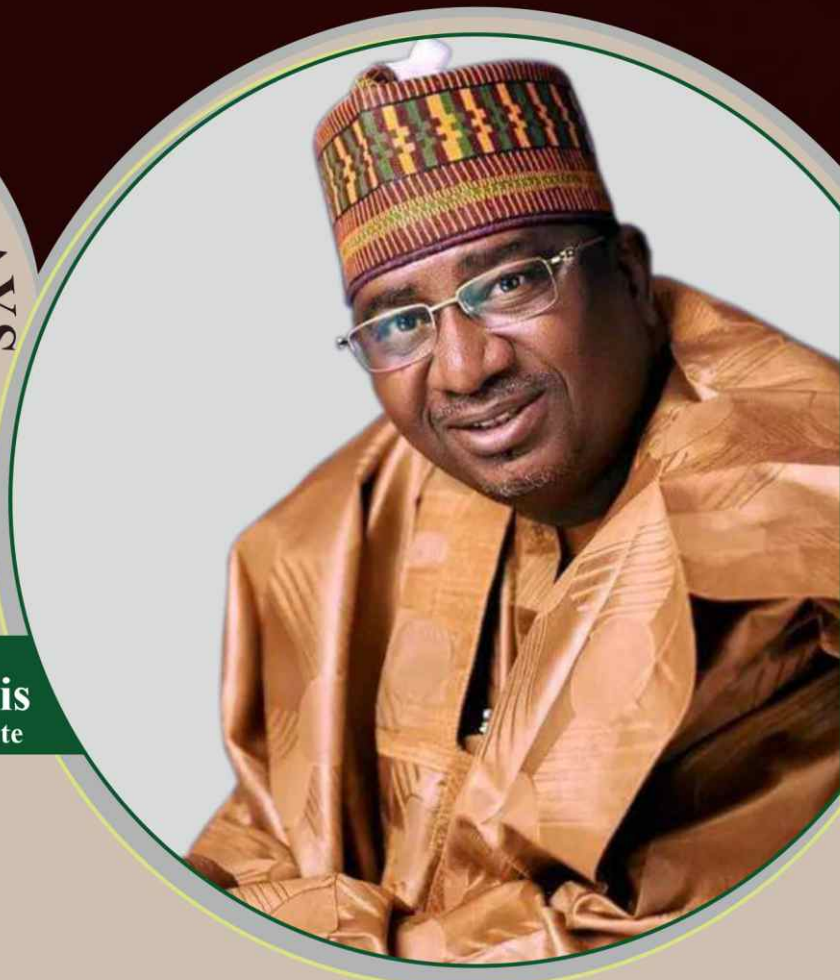
His Excellency, Dr. Nasir Idris, exchanging
pleasantries with traditional rulers

Sights & Glamour of 2024 Uhola Festival held in Zuru Emirate





Your Excellency
Cmrdr. Dr. Nasir Idris
 Executive Governor, Kebbi State



Your strong commitment to developing Kebbi State in all aspects is truly commendable.

Your efforts in uplifting the welfare of rural dwellers and empowering local government chairmen to effectively discharge their duties have fostered unity and progress across the state and as well

set a new standard for inclusive governance.

As you continue to pilot the affairs of our beloved state, may Almighty Allah continue to guide and bless you with wisdom and strength to lead Kebbians towards greater heights.



Alh. Garba Umar DutsinMari
 (SardaunanBagudo)
 Hon. Commissioner, Ministry for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, Kebbi State

NEW DAWN IN HOME OWNERSHIP & HOUSING FINANCE



National Housing Fund (NHF) Mortgage Loans

This is a mortgage facility to NHF contributors through Primary Mortgage Banks (PMBs), granted at 6% interest rate over a maximum tenor of 30 years.

A Contributor is expected to:

- Choose a house of his choice anywhere in the country
- Contact a PMB to profile and package his loan to FMBN
- On receipt, FMBN will process, approve and pay for the cost of the house on his behalf



Home Renovation Loan

This facility is granted to contributors for the renovation or improvement of their homes to deliver the desired functionality.

- Apply up to N1.0M
- Repay in 5 years
- Your employer will deduct from your salary and repay FMBN



Rent-to-Own Mortgage

With our Rent to Own mortgage, your rental payment over a period of time contributes towards the eventual ownership of the house.

- On any of our funded estates nationwide
- Apply via FMBN office nearest to you
- Payment is made monthly, quarterly or annually



Construction Finance

Our construction finance facilities help in bridging the housing deficit through mass production of houses. The facilities include:

-  Estate Development Loans
-  Ministerial Pilot Housing Scheme (MPHS)
-  Cooperative Housing Development Loan
 - Any registered Co-operative can apply to build for its members
-  Individual Construction Loan
 - With valid title, C of O, designs and bills, we provide you loan to construct your house at any location in the country



...everyone deserves a home



FEDERAL MORTGAGE BANK OF NIGERIA

Plot 266 Cadastral AO, Central Business District
Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, Nigeria
Tel: 09 292 0689; 09 292 0690

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