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Opposition leaders: Atiku Abubakar, Peter Obi and Rabiu Kwankwaso.

Agitation grows as opposition leaders demand fresh amendment of the Electoral Act 2026

- The Senate urged opposition leaders to channel concerns through their legislators
- "Nigerian government has lost respect for reason and reality" - Opposition leader

By Tawheed Yakub

Leaders of the opposition African Democratic Congress and the New Nigeria Peoples Party have mounted fresh pressure on the National Assembly demanding an immediate amendment of the Electoral Act 2026, which they described as anti-democratic

and skewed ahead of the 2027 general elections.

A Rising Agitation

The Senate, however, swiftly dismissed the agitation, advising opposition leaders Atiku Abubakar, Peter Obi and Rotimi Amaechi to pursue their concerns within the framework of the National Assembly. Speaking at a press conference in Abuja, National Chairman

of the New Nigeria Peoples Party, Ajuji Ahmed, said the contentious provisions must be expunged without delay. Under the Electoral Act 2022, political parties were permitted to nominate candidates through direct primaries involving all registered members, indirect primaries conducted by delegates, or by consensus

arrangements reached by party leaders.

However, the 2026 Electoral Act recently passed by the National Assembly and assented to by President Bola Tinubu on February 18 restricts parties to only direct primaries and consensus options. In addition, the new law shortens campaign periods and timelines

for primaries, while funding for the Independent National Electoral Commission will now be released six months before an election, instead of the previous 12 months. Ahmed stated that opposition leaders viewed certain provisions of the Electoral

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Desperation for Profit: Inside the dramatic NDLEA crack-down on drug traffickers in Nigeria

By Martha Gwary

The desperation and audacity of drug traffickers in Nigeria have reached disturbing heights, as law enforcement agencies continue to uncover increasingly bizarre and dangerous concealment methods at the nation's airports and borders.

Drug Pregnancy

Only this week, operatives of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) intercepted a mature woman at a Nigerian airport who had strapped illicit drugs to her abdomen in a crude attempt to feign pregnancy. The deception, described by officials as both "calculated and reckless", is the latest in a string of brazen attempts by traffickers determined to outwit authorities.

According to NDLEA sources, the suspect's artificial "pregnancy" was discovered during routine screening procedures. Beneath the façade of motherhood lay tightly wrapped parcels of narcotics intended for export. The agency has since reiterated its warning that no method of concealment is too unusual to escape detection.

A Catalogue of Concealment

The fake pregnancy incident is far from isolated. In recent years, NDLEA operatives have arrested individuals who swallowed dozens of cocaine pellets, later excreting them

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Drugs in fake pregnancy

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CULTURAL HERITAGE AND SOCIO-POLITICAL GROWTH OF THE MWAGHAVUL PEOPLE OF PLATEAU STATE



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WHY I EMBRACED TEACHING WITH PASSION AND FOUND PURPOSE IN THE CLASSROOM – RETIRED EDUCATIONIST, KHADIJA GOJI



Neptune World

Science is organised knowledge.
Wisdom is organised life

IMMANUEL KANT

Education is not a way to escape
poverty; it is a way of fighting it

JULIUS NYERERE

PICTURE OF THE DAY

Abel Yakubu is a Nigerian-born cloud engineer with NexEdge Technologies in Germany who has made history by earning a Guinness World Record for leading the longest computer programming lesson.

The event was held in Abuja from November 21-23, 2025. The 60-hour marathon session focused on cloud computing platforms including AWS, Google Cloud, and Microsoft Azure, showcasing over a decade of expertise and a strong commitment to tech education.



RANDOM FACTS

Some useful contemporary fashion hacks

The Silhouette Savers, the "Bracelet" Sleeve Trick: If your oversized blazer or sweater sleeves won't stay pushed up, put a sturdy hair tie or rubber band over the sleeve around your forearm, pull the fabric up, and fold the excess over the band to hide it.

The Belt Loop Tuck: If your belt is too long and the "tail" is flopping around, use a small, clear hair elastic on the belt itself to create a "faux" loop that holds the end flat against your waist.

The Front Tuck (French Tuck): To avoid bulk, tuck only the very front centre of your shirt into your waistband. It defines your waist without the "stuffed" look of a full tuck.

Stop the Squeak: If your leather shoes squeak when you walk, sprinkle a little baby powder under the inner sole to reduce friction.

The Keyring Zipper Lock: If you have a pair of jeans where the zipper won't stay up, slide a small

metal keyring through the zipper hole. Zip it up, then loop the ring over the button before fastening your pants. It stays hidden and secure.

Clear Nail Polish: It's the ultimate multitasker. Use it to stop a run in your tights or to coat the back of cheap earrings if they irritate your skin.

Remove Deodorant Marks: Use a dry dryer sheet or even another piece of denim to rub away those white deodorant streaks on dark shirts. It works like an eraser.

Shave Your Sweaters: Use a cheap disposable razor to gently "shave" off the pills (fuzz balls) on wool or cashmere sweaters. Just keep the fabric flat and be light-handed!

To keep your jeans looking brand new and dark, wash them inside out in cold water and never put them in the dryer. The heat breaks down the elastic fibers and fades the dye.



Deemed Unmarriageable: The love story of Elellanar Whitmore and a noble slave

In Virginia, 1856, they said Elellanar Whitmore would never marry. In four years, twelve men had looked at her wheelchair, bowed politely, and walked away as though her disability were contagious.

At twenty-two, she was a Southern belle deemed "damaged goods" in a society where a woman's worth depended entirely on physical perfection. Her mahogany wheelchair — crafted after the riding accident that shattered her spine at age eight — became her identity in the eyes of Virginia's elite.

Not Elellanar Whitmore, daughter of Colonel Richard Whitmore. Not the brilliant young woman who learned Greek at fifteen or devoured philosophy in secret. No. She was simply the crippled one. And in 1856 Virginia, a crippled woman was a burden, a liability, a womb assumed useless by rumour and ignorance. A doctor she had never met speculated

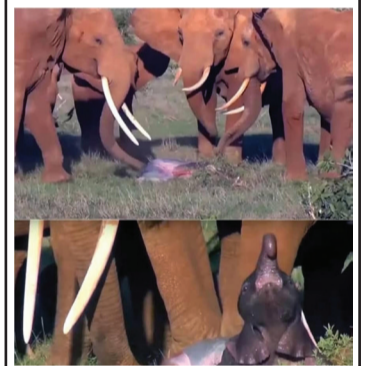


aloud — falsely and recklessly — that she was infertile. The rumour swept through plantation society like wildfire.

Too weak, too broken, unmarriageable. Even William Foster — fat, drunk, fifty, and known for accepting nearly any bride with a dowry — rejected her despite her father offering him a third of the estate's annual profits. That was the day Elellanar accepted her fate: she would die alone. But her father had other plans — plans so radical, so shocking, so utterly outside the bounds of Southern society that

when he spoke them, she thought she had misheard. "I'm giving you to Josiah," he said. "The blacksmith. He'll be your husband." Elellanar stared at him, certain he had taken leave of his senses.

"Father... Josiah is enslaved." "Yes," he replied, calm and deliberate. "I know exactly what I'm doing." What she didn't know — what no one could have predicted — was that this desperate decision would become the beginning of the greatest love story she would ever live.



The powerful display of survival instinct, love, and protective unity during elephant births

Few moments in nature are as powerful as the birth of new life. In a recently shared video, a herd of elephants surrounded a mother as she went into labour — forming a protective circle while she gave birth to her calf.

At first, the newborn lay still, wrapped in its sac, fragile and uncertain. Then, with a small lift of its head, life began — and the herd erupted in celebration. Trumpets filled the air, trunks reached out in tender welcome, and the baby was embraced not just by its mother, but by an entire community.

It was more than a birth. It was a poignant reminder of how deeply elephants care for one another, how they grieve, protect, and celebrate as a family. Yet it was also bittersweet — because these magnificent creatures still face the threat of extinction from poaching and habitat loss. This single calf's first breath carries with it a larger story: one of survival, community, and hope for a species on the edge.

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NEWS

Agitation grows as opposition leaders demand fresh amendment of the Electoral Act 2026

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Act 2026, which was signed into law by President Bola Tinubu last week, as a deliberate move by the ruling All Progressives Congress to undermine the will of the people ahead of the 2027 general elections.

“New Electoral Act is Anti-Democratic” - Opposition

Reading from a prepared text, he stated, “We therefore state unequivocally that the new Electoral Act is anti-democratic, and its implementation will undermine electoral transparency and the sanctity of the ballot, which are fundamental to free, fair, and credible elections and the bedrock of participatory democracy.

“The introduction of the proviso in Section 60(3), which allows wide and undefined discretionary powers to the presiding officer, overrides and negates the purpose of introducing electronic transmission of election results from polling units. This negation is unambiguously intended to provide a blank check to those who seek to manipulate election results by delaying the electronic transmission of results from the polling units to the IREV on the pretext of network failure.

“The premise of the proviso in Section 60(3) is the unavailability or possibility of network failure. We find this premise dubious and inconsistent with reality.



Nigerian Senate

The immediate past INEC Chairman, Prof. Mahmud Yakubu, stated on record that the BVAS equipment, which operates offline, had worked with over a 90 per cent success rate across the nation, and in the event of network failure at the point of transmission, the transmitted results would be delivered successfully whenever the network is available.

“This position has been further confirmed most recently by the former INEC Commissioner, Festus Okoye, as widely reported, that every polling unit in Nigeria has internet access. Indeed, these statements by those who have been in a

position to know provide a counterfactual to the lies that are being fed to the Nigerian people by a government that has lost respect for reason and reality.” The opposition leader further stated that the accounts of these two principal INEC officials were strongly corroborated by data available in the public domain. Ahmed added, “According to the Nigerian Communications Commission, as of 2023, Nigeria had achieved more than 95 per cent 2G coverage, which is more than sufficient for the transmission of election results from polling units.

“By that same period, Nigeria

already had more than 159 million internet subscribers and more than 220 million telephone subscribers using the 2G network. It is also noteworthy that this capacity provides 24-hour coverage of the entire country. This goes to show that denying mandatory real-time transmission of election results from polling units on the basis of a lack of a communication network is not supported by evidence.

Network Argument

“Fortunately, millions of our people who transact business daily with various financial platforms, even from the remotest parts of the country,

know that the no-network argument is fraudulent and is merely part of the APC game plan to rig the election in 2027. “Indeed, we find it quite ironic that the same APC that strongly agitated for electronic voting only a few years ago is now opposed to the use of technology for the mere transmission of results. The game at hand is very clear.”

Contention in Party Primaries

On party primaries, the opposition leaders stated that the amendment to Section 84 of the Act, which confines political parties to direct primaries and consensus in selecting candidates, amounts to an encroachment on the constitutionally guaranteed autonomy of parties in managing their internal affairs. They further argued that the National Assembly could not rely on Section 228(b) of the Constitution as a basis to limit political parties to only two methods of nomination.

Ahmed stated, “There is nothing undemocratic about indirect primaries, which create an electoral college for the selection of candidates in an objective, transparent, and orderly manner.

“Our position, therefore, is that as political parties, we do not need legislation that prescribes which mode of party primaries political parties must adopt. In other words, the mode of nominating candidates should be strictly the internal affair of political parties.

“It is obvious that the objective of the APC government

and their accomplices in the legislature is to provide the legal pretext for the corruption of the electoral system. They harbour neither plans nor intentions to conduct free and fair elections in 2027, because even in their arrogance and self-delusion, they are acutely aware of their growing unpopularity across the length and breadth of Nigeria, even with the recent gale of coerced and procured defections to their party.

Senate’s Standpoint

Meanwhile, the Senate on Thursday urged the opposition to channel their concerns through members of the National Assembly rather than heightening political tensions. Senate spokesman, Senator Yemi Adaramodu, dismissed the agitation for another review of the law, likening it to a belated action taken after due process had been concluded.

“Electoral Act again? Do you abort a pregnancy after the naming ceremony? But no problem. If they (opposition leaders) have any grey areas, they can just make their personal proposals to their legislators and they will bring them.

“Once they bring it to the National Assembly, we will look at it,” he said.

Also weighing in, Chairman of the Senate Committee on South-East Development Commission, Senator Orji Uzor Kalu, maintained that the power to amend the Electoral Act rested with the National Assembly and not with individuals or pressure groups.

Desperation for Profit: Inside the dramatic NDLEA crackdown on drug traffickers in Nigeria

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under medical observation. In some cases, suspects have been found to have ingested such large quantities that their lives were placed at grave risk.

Shoes, Food and Religious Items

Others have hidden narcotics in shoe soles, luggage linings, food items, and even religious artefacts such as prayer beads. The use of seemingly sacred objects has shocked many Nigerians, highlighting the moral depths to which traffickers are willing to descend in pursuit of profit.

Airports in Lagos and Abuja remain major transit points, with traffickers targeting Europe, Asia and the Middle East. Security agencies say traffickers constantly evolve their tactics, exploiting vulnerable individuals — including women and young people — as couriers.

A Dangerous Gamble

Medical experts warn that ingesting or strapping drugs to the body is not only illegal but potentially fatal. A ruptured cocaine pellet inside the stomach can cause instant overdose and death. Similarly, tightly binding drugs to the body for extended periods poses

serious health risks.

Yet the promise of quick financial reward continues to lure individuals into the trade. Analysts attribute the trend to economic hardship, unemployment, and the influence of organised criminal networks that prey on desperation.

NDLEA’s Crackdown

The NDLEA has intensified surveillance, deploying advanced scanning equipment and profiling techniques at international airports. The agency maintains that while traffickers may grow more inventive, enforcement measures are evolving just as rapidly.

Public affairs officers have repeatedly stressed that arrests and convictions will continue, regardless of the ingenuity of concealment. Under Nigerian law, drug trafficking carries severe penalties, including lengthy prison terms.

A Moral and Social Crisis

Beyond the legal implications, the rising creativity in drug concealment reflects a deeper social malaise. The willingness to simulate pregnancy — a symbol of life — to traffic substances that destroy lives underscores a troubling erosion of values. As Nigeria battles its role in



Seized narcotics

the global narcotics trade, the message from authorities is clear: the risks far outweigh the rewards. For every

trafficker who slips through, many more are intercepted, prosecuted, and publicly disgraced.

The fake pregnancy case may have stunned the public, but to seasoned narcotics officers, it is simply another

reminder that in the illicit drug trade, there appears to be no limit to human ingenuity — or desperation.

NEWS

BY ABDULLAHI HARUNA

Police bust child trafficking syndicate in FCT, rescue victims



Police

The Federal Capital Territory Police Command has uncovered a suspected child trafficking syndicate operating under the guise of an orphanage home in the Saburi area of the Federal Capital Territory.

The discovery followed a petition submitted on January 29, 2026, by concerned members of the Saburi community to the Office of the Commissioner of Police, FCT Command, over suspicious activities linked to the orphanage.

Acting on the complaint, the command commenced a discreet investigation into the matter.

A statement released on Thursday by the command's spokesperson, Josephine Akeh, said preliminary findings revealed

that the operators of the orphanage allegedly targeted indigent families in rural communities across the country, obtaining custody of young children under the pretext of providing them access to education in urban centres and promising a better life.

Akeh said instead, the children were reportedly trafficked to prospective buyers in different parts of the country through the facility.

"FCT Police Command uncovered a suspected child trafficking syndicate operating under the guise of an orphanage home in the Saburi area of the FCT.

"The discovery followed a petition submitted on January 29, 2026, by concerned members of the Saburi

community to the Office of the Commissioner of Police, FCT Command, regarding suspicious activities linked to the orphanage. Acting swiftly on the complaint, the Command commenced a discreet and thorough investigation into the matter.

"Preliminary investigations revealed that the operators of the orphanage target indigent families in rural communities across the country, obtaining custody of young children under the pretext of providing access to education in urban cities and promising them a better life. Instead, the children were trafficked to prospective buyers in various parts of the country through their orphanage," the statement partly read.

Akeh said 21 out of 46 children allegedly trafficked through the illegal orphanage operation had been rescued and are undergoing procedures to ensure their safe reunification with their biological parents.

"So far, 21 out of 46 children trafficked through the illegal orphanage operation have been rescued and are undergoing procedures to ensure their safe reunification with their biological parents, while efforts continue to locate the remaining victims and apprehend all those connected to the crime," Akeh said.

She said efforts are ongoing to locate the remaining victims and apprehend all individuals connected to the crime.

Akeh urged parents and guardians to exercise vigilance regarding the welfare of their children, warning that not all offers of sponsorship or improved opportunities are genuine. The discovery comes amid growing concerns over child trafficking and illegal adoption practices across the country, particularly in urban centres where unsuspecting families are lured with promises of education and better living conditions for their children.

DSS arrests mastermind of ECWA Church attack in Kogi

Operatives of the Department of State Services (DSS) have arrested Shafiu Usman, the alleged mastermind behind the deadly attack on ECWA Church in Ayetoro, Kogi State, where over 20 worshippers were kidnapped on December 14, 2025.

Security sources disclosed that Usman was nabbed at a hideout in Gombe State, where he had been lying low.

"During interrogation, he reportedly confessed to orchestrating the Ayetoro church attack, as well as other kidnappings in Niger, Kwara, and Kogi States.

"Usman revealed that he collaborated with Ibrahim Dange Battijo, a bandit operating across Niger, Kwara, Kogi, and Zamfara States. Shafiu admitted to involvement in kidnapping, banditry, and cattle rustling.

"He said Ibrahim Battijo supplied him with arms and ammunition," the source quoted.

"After the Kogi attack, Usman fled to Gombe, but DSS operatives trailed and arrested him.

This arrest underscores the DSS's ongoing achievements in tackling banditry and terrorism, including recent operations in Gombe State that neutralised arms trafficking networks, rescued kidnap victims, and dismantled cross-state syndicates."

Niger gov't announces reopening of tertiary institutions following three-month closure

The Niger State Government has announced the reopening of tertiary institutions in Niger North senatorial district after three-month closure following the spate of kidnappings in the State. Following the abduction of students and staff of St. Mary Catholic School, Papiri, in Agwara local government area of Niger North late last November, the state government announced the closure of all schools, including tertiary institutions in the area.

The Niger State Ministry of Tertiary Education, however, disclosed that the approval for the immediate reopening of the State Polytechnic, Zungeru, and other institutions in Niger North has been granted by the state governor.



Students

The commissioner of the ministry, Professor Muhammad Yakubu Auna, said, "This followed the directive of the Executive Governor of Niger

State, Mohammed Umaru Bago, for the reopening of all tertiary institutions in Niger North Senatorial Zone."



Suspect

OUR HEART

2026 Electoral Act Amendment: It goes beyond the electronic transmission of results

The Electoral Act, the groundswell of the rules for the conduct of elections has been amended. Coming after that of 2022, amendments to the nation's Electoral Act have almost become a routine at every electoral season since the start of the Fourth Republic. The amendments are intended to improve the rules guiding the nation's electoral procedures.

Perhaps, the most crucial propellant for the 2026 amendment to the Electoral Act, was the need to improve the modalities for the transmission of results of votes from the polling units to the collation centres. At the heart of the issue is the question of the application of technology which precisely, is a reference to the electronic transmission of the results of votes.

The demand for the electronic transmission of results of votes was informed by the quest to enhance the integrity of the voting process through the elimination of fraudulent practices due to manual transmission.

The proponents of electronic transmission argued that the modality would greatly aid in the elimination of incidents of inflation of votes, ballot box snatching and alterations of results among other abuses that are susceptible to manual manipulations. The electronic transmission makes for real-time transmission, thereby eliminating delay and attendant abuses in the announcement of results.

Previous efforts at enhancing free and credible elections had resulted in the provisions for penalties for electoral offences such as vote buying, ballot box snatching, alterations of results among others. The introduction and use of the Bimodal Voter Accreditation System, BVAS, in the 2023 general elections as well as the INEC Result Viewing Portal, Irev, were other measures the INEC has adopted over the years to improve the integrity of the nation's electoral process. For obvious reasons, the APC-dominated National Assembly was slow in passing the 2026 Electoral Bill. The tardiness exhibited by the two legislative houses in passing the bill was clearly due to the inclusion of a clause by the INEC, making for exclusive, mandatory use of electronic real-time transmission of results of votes from the polling units to the collation centres.

The legislators, eventually succumbed to intense pressure, including protests by opposition political parties and civil society groups and passed the Bill on the 17th of February, 2026. The president expeditiously assented to it to become an Act the following day.

However, the 2026 Electoral Act has continued to be a subject of controversy. The provision for resorts to use of manual transmission in instances of glitches in the IREV Portal or the BVAS and failures in the communication networks, has been criticised by opposition political parties and civil society organisations.

Sceptics are of the view that the provision for exigent circumstances that warrant manual transmission, was a deliberate ploy to manipulate the elections in the old ways. To them, there should be no alternative whatsoever, to the mandatory electronic transmission of results from polling units to the IREV Portal.

Indeed, even as it is a fact that the nation's broadband internet is not perfect and can be erratic, the country can have up to 94% coverage which can be regarded as good enough for the purpose of real-time electronic transmission of results of votes.

The intention of the lawmakers in the provision of the clause that allows for manual transmission of results of votes, is therefore curious and questionable. The long, unreasonable delay in passing the bill and the unusual haste with which President Bola Tinubu assented to it, strongly add to the grounds for suspicion.

However, the fact remains that the conduct of credible elections depends more on the human factor rather than on the level of technology brought to it. President Bola Tinubu captured this point very perfectly in

his address at the signing of the Bill into an Act:

"It is time that we have confidence in our system. No matter how good a system is, it is managed by the people, promoted by the people, and ultimately the result is finalised by the people. In fact, for final results, you are not going to be talking to the computer. You are going to be talking to human beings who announce the results."

We cannot but absolutely agree with the president that the human factor plays the most crucial role in the conduct of credible elections. To the extent that we still vote manually and not digitally and votes are manually downloaded into the IREV Portal, to that extent, the human factor is inevitable in the election process.

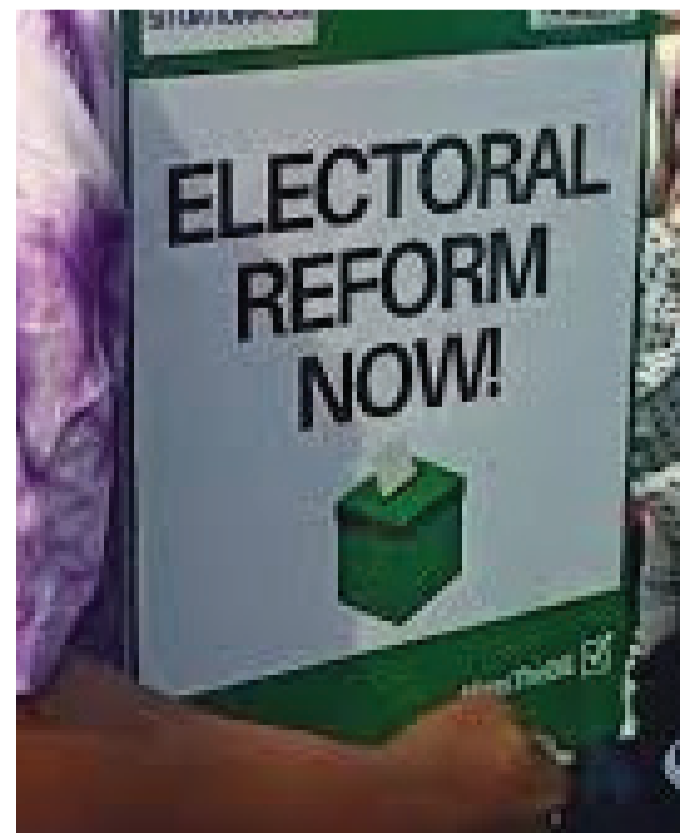
Until and unless Nigerians: the INEC officials, security agents, party agents, the voters and observers are resolved to go by the rules, no amount of technology applied in the election process will end in credible results. In the recently conducted FCT Council elections, despite BVAS and IREV there were yet, reports of results alterations, vote buying and violence resulting in a fatality.

The view that human factors more than any others are the greatest impediments to having credible elections in Nigeria, is explicit in the fact that, despite the existence of several laws governing the conduct of elections, there have been only a few instances of prosecution and conviction of those who breached such legislation.

India, the world's largest democracy records credible elections even with a registered population of, 940,000, 000 voters and an average of 750, 000, 000 accredited voters in general elections..Nigeria can have unblemished elections if we are so determined.

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NORTH-EAST

BY GIFT LUCKSON
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Yobe gov't purchases, upgrades hunters' residence after two decades of renting



Hunters

Yobe State Government has officially inaugurated a newly renovated accommodation for the state's hunters' group, transforming a dilapidated property rented for two decades into a modern and habitable facility. The project was unveiled by the Adviser to Governor Mai Mala Buni on Security Matters, Brigadier General Abdussalam

(rtd), who stated that the government approved funds to completely overhaul the building, which was previously deemed unfit for human habitation. "We are happy now that the hunters live in a habitable accommodation, because what was there before was unfit for human habitation," Abdussalam said during the inauguration. He revealed that the

property, originally a three-bedroom house that the government had rented for the past 20 years, has now been purchased and extensively remodelled. The facility currently features 13 rooms capable of housing between 180 and 240 people, new fencing, and a conference hall named in honour of Governor Mai Mala Buni. He outlined a robust welfare package provided by the state government, underscoring the hunters' critical role in maintaining peace in the region. He noted that all members have been enrolled in the Yobe State Contributory Healthcare Management Scheme (Yochma) and receive monthly stipends and regular feeding. "Anytime they go on special operations, they are given allowances as an incentive to do their job," he added. Abdussalam further explained that the government takes responsibility for the families of members killed in action and covers medical treatment and compensation for those injured. Operationally, the

state supplies the group with essential equipment, including uniforms, kits, weapons, ammunition, and vehicles. He stressed, however, that while the group is vital to security, they operate strictly under the command and control of the Nigerian Army. Highlighting their impact, the adviser credited the hunters alongside the military for the sustained peace in the state since an attempted Boko Haram incursion into Damaturu in December 2019. "They are doing a lot, and that is why we can sleep peacefully," he stated. The Yobe State Commander of the Hunters Group, Idriss Buba, expressed deep gratitude to the state government for purchasing and rehabilitating the building, a property the group had rented for over two decades. While appreciative of the development, he appealed for further interventions, including the construction of a borehole for clean water, additional buildings to expand capacity, and a new mosque to serve the members.

Gov. Yahaya inspects developmental projects in two Gombe LGAs



Gov. Yahaya

Gombe State Governor, Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya, CON, has inspected the commissioning and foundation laying of key projects across Kwami and Dukku Local Government Areas. During the visit to Kwami Local Government Area, the governor inspected the remodelled palace of the Senior District Head of Malam Sidi, a project aimed at preserving traditional institutions while strengthening their role in community leadership and conflict resolution. He also inspected the 28-kilometre Gadam-Yame-Kyari to Malam Sidi

road, a strategic infrastructure linking Kwami West and Kwami while connecting several communities within the axis. Governor Yahaya also commissioned the Mega Non-Formal Learning Centre (Modern Tsangaya School) in Bojude, which is part of the state government's effort to reform and integrate the Tsangaya education system while providing a conducive learning environment for Almajiri pupils. At the foundation-laying ceremony for the construction of the Kwami West LCDA in Bojude, the governor noted that the establishment of Local

Council Development Areas was designed to deepen governance at the grassroots and accelerate development. He reiterated that his decision to establish the LCDAs was inspired by President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, who initiated and successfully implemented the initiative in Lagos during his tenure as governor, expressing optimism that the successes recorded there would equally be replicated in Gombe State. Earlier in his remarks, the Chairman of Kwami Local Government, Ass. Prof. Ahmed Wali Doho, commended the

governor for initiating projects that directly impact the lives of people of Kwami, saying his interventions across critical sectors would stimulate economic activities and ensure enhanced development and progress across communities. Similarly, the Senior District Head of Kwami, Alhaji Aminu Haruna Abdullahi, expressed appreciation to the governor for remodelling his palace alongside palaces of other 11 district heads across Kwami and other developmental projects across communities in the LGA. The governor later proceeded to Dukku Local Government Area, where he commissioned a modern combined facility housing a motor park, cattle market and grains market named after him. The integrated market complex is expected to boost commercial activities and support farmers, traders and livestock dealers within Dukku and neighbouring communities. Governor Yahaya also commissioned a Non-Formal Learning Centre (Modern Tsangaya School) in Dukku as part of the administration's commitment to expanding educational opportunities, particularly for the almajiri children to enable them acquire both formal and Qur'anic education as well as acquire skills. As part of his visit to Dukku, the governor inspected some ongoing road project which include the 32 km Dukku-Zange road expected to be completed in the next 3 months as well as the Gombe-Abba to Kirfi road being funded by the Northeast Development Commission (NEDC).

Police deploy security personnel, enhanced weaponry to tackle crime in Bauchi

The Bauchi State Police Command has announced the deployment of massive security personnel and enhanced weaponry to troubled communities in a renewed effort to curb banditry and prevent any breakdown of law and order. Speaking during a press briefing on Thursday, the Police Public Relations Officer in Bauchi, Nafiu Habib, said the move followed a recent resurgence of security concerns in Gwana, Digare and Kafin Duguri, all located in Alkaleri Local Government Area. Habib explained that the deployment was carried out through joint operations involving the police, the military, the Department of State Services, the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps and other security agencies. According to him, the collaborative efforts of security agencies, supported by the Bauchi State Government, are already yielding positive results. "In recent days, there has been a resurgence of security concerns in Gwana, Digare and Kafin Duguri. Following a thorough security assessment, the Command, in collaboration with sister security agencies, has initiated a massive deployment of joint security personnel to the affected communities with a view to suppressing the activities of these criminal elements," he said.

The police spokesman noted that the affected border communities had long faced security challenges due to the infiltration of criminal elements

from neighbouring states. He, however, reassured residents of Mansur town, who reportedly fled their homes over fears of attacks, that the security situation remained under control. "Despite recent incidents in neighbouring Gwana District, Mansur town remains unaffected, and there is no cause for alarm," Habib stated. "I confirm to you that massive deployments of security personnel and enhanced weaponry have been put in place to prevent any breakdown of law and order. Operatives are working tirelessly to ensure peace and stability in the affected areas," he added. The Command further assured residents of Alkaleri LGA that there would be no safe haven for bandits in the area, stressing that security operations would be sustained. Habib said the Commissioner of Police, Sani Omolori Aliyu, emphasised the importance of community cooperation in tackling insecurity. He urged residents to promptly provide intelligence to security agencies and report suspicious movements, strange faces or objects within their communities. Habib added that the CP assured residents that all information provided would be treated with strict confidentiality. He also encouraged citizens to take advantage of the improved security measures and go about their lawful activities without fear.



Police personnel

NORTH-EAST

BY IBRAHEEM EL-TAFSEER

NIS team inspects facilities in Adamawa ahead of official launch

The National Institute for Sports (NIS) has completed an inspection of facilities in Adamawa State, Nigeria, in preparation for the official launch of its academic programmes there.

The visit highlights the increasing collaboration between the NIS and the Adamawa State Government, aiming to enhance sports development, institutional capacity, and administrative efficiency in the North-East region. According to a statement from Yakubu Iliyasu, NIS Adamawa State Information Officer, the inspection team, led by NIS Registrar Mr Belmont Benson, expressed satisfaction with the infrastructure and logistical support provided by the Adamawa State Government.

Mr Benson confirmed that the facilities meet the required standards for both academic and administrative operations, noting the state government's strong commitment to supporting the institute's launch.

Benson also assured that new staff posted to Adamawa would receive



NIS

the necessary institutional support for a smooth transition and effective performance.

He stressed the importance of continued cooperation between the host state and the institute for a successful launch.

Dr Maj Remu, a Consultant with the NIS, praised the Adamawa State Government for providing the facilities, calling it a significant

step towards expanding access to sports education and professional training in the region.

Dr Maj anticipates the facilities will be fully ready by 12th April 2026, with all finishing touches completed ahead of schedule.

Mr Albert Sambo, Permanent Secretary of the Adamawa State Ministry of Youth and Sports, reiterated the state government's readiness to host the institute and pledged ongoing support. Alhaji Abdulkareem Bakala,

Special Adviser to the Governor on Youth and Sports Development, assured that the administration would prioritise the safety and security of all NIS staff, fostering a conducive environment for operations and a long-term partnership.

This visit represents a crucial step in NIS's expansion and reflects a shared vision between the federal institution and the Adamawa State Government to advance sports education and development across Nigeria.

Gombe ranked as Nigeria's most peaceful, least dangerous state



Gov. Yahaya

Gombe State has been ranked as Nigeria's most peaceful and least

dangerous state in the latest Nigeria Watch 2024 Report released

by StatiSense, a leading data intelligence and analytics firm.

According to the latest report, Gombe recorded the lowest fatalities nationwide with an index of 0.33, outperforming all other states.

Cross River followed with 0.37, while Akwa Ibom ranked third with 0.89 within the period under review. This remarkable achievement has been attributed to the proactive, intelligence-driven and people-centred security architecture of the Gombe State Government under the leadership of Governor Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya, CON. The governor has consistently prioritised security through strategic investments in security infrastructure, intelligence-led policing, community engagement and close collaboration with security agencies.

Since assuming office, Governor Yahaya has also strengthened conflict prevention mechanisms and grassroots participation, promoting peace, social cohesion and stability across the state.

Taraba gov't creates Qur'anic education centres for Almajiri children

Taraba State government has established 52 Integrated Qur'anic Tsangaya Education Centres (IQSEC) as part of its efforts to expand access to education, strengthen the Almajiri system and improve learning outcomes among vulnerable children in the state. The state commissioner for Basic and Secondary Education, Dr Augustina Godwin, stressed the importance of the ongoing initiatives to integrate Almajiri and nomadic children into the formal education system.

Godwin said that because education is a critical component of the current administration's development plan, a Department for Nomadic and Almajiri Education had been created, headed by a director under the State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB) to actualise its goal.

"As a government, the Almajiri system of education is important to us, which is why we have given it the attention it deserves.

"Beyond other integration efforts, we have built two model schools, one in Jalingo and another in Mutum Biyu, where Almajiri children receive both Qur'anic and Western education," she said.

According to her, some beneficiaries of the programme have progressed to secondary school and beyond.

Godwin explained that, in addition to the model schools, the state operates 52 IQSEC centres in various communities. "At the centres, SUBEB deploys teachers to provide Western education alongside traditional Qur'anic instruction," she added.

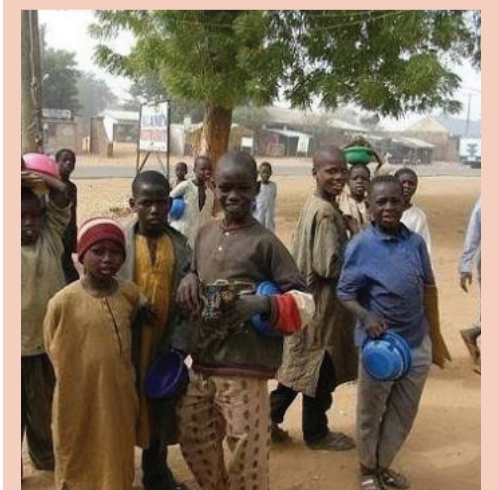
The commissioner admitted that more needs to be done to expand access and to scale up interventions across the state.

"We are trying, but it is not enough. We need to expand and scale up our activities to accommodate more children and increase the number transitioning to secondary schools," she said.

The commissioner revealed that the ministry, in collaboration with key stakeholders, recently reviewed the national policy on Almajiri education with a view to domesticating it in Taraba State.

"At the end of our deliberations, a 3-man committee was constituted to examine the policy document and recommend how it can be adapted and implemented in the state.

"The director of Nomadic Education has also submitted a proposal outlining the way forward," she said.



Almajiri children

CUSTOMS

BY ABDULLAHI HARUNA

Customs partners with Nigerian Navy to improve operational efficiency at Apapa port

The Apapa Command of the Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) has strengthened operational ties with the Nigerian Navy to enhance maritime security and ensure seamless cargo movement through the nation's busiest port.

Customs Area Controller of the Command, Comptroller Emmanuel Oshoba, strengthened this partnership with a courtesy visit to the Flag Officer Commanding, Western Naval Command, Rear Admiral Abubakar Abdullahi Mustapha, in Lagos.

Oshoba said the move aligns with the policy thrust of the Comptroller-General of Customs, Bashir Adewale Adeniyi, which emphasises consolidation, collaboration, and innovation.

He explained that upon assuming office, he prioritised consolidating existing gains and strengthening the Command's relationship with the Navy to improve operational efficiency along the Apapa port corridor.

"Modern border management requires agencies to work together. While Customs is known for trade facilitation and revenue generation, we also perform critical security functions, and achieving this mandate requires close collaboration with the military," he said.

The Customs chief commended the Navy for safeguarding Nigeria's maritime domain, noting that secure waters are essential for vessel movement and international trade.

He also called for sustained naval support to ensure smooth cargo clearance and port operations.

In his response, Rear Admiral



Customs and Naval personnel

Mustapha reaffirmed the Navy's commitment to inter-agency cooperation, stressing that effective port security depends on strong

coordination among relevant agencies. He equally praised the Nigeria Customs Service for its recent performance, particularly in

blocking revenue leakages and exceeding national revenue targets, noting that improved revenue would support infrastructure

development and social programmes. The naval commander assured the Apapa Command of continued cooperation

in securing the maritime environment and supporting Nigeria's economic growth through safe and efficient port operations.

Customs CG inaugurates facilities in Jigawa border community

The Comptroller-General of the Nigeria Customs Service, Mr Bashir Adeniyi, has reaffirmed the service's unwavering commitment to impacting lives beyond revenue generation and border enforcement.

This came to the fore with the inauguration of renovated classrooms, toilets, and a solar-powered borehole at Malam Alhassan Primary School in Maigatari Local Government Area of Jigawa. The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that Adeniyi stated that the projects symbolised the agency's resolve to strengthen community relations and

contribute meaningfully to national development, particularly in peaceful border communities like Maigatari.

He urged the residents and beneficiaries to make judicious use of the facilities to secure a brighter future for their children.

The intervention was part of the service's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme, which also included the renovation of a health facility in the area.

The Zonal Coordinator, Nigeria Customs Service, NP Umoh, said the transformative leadership of Adeniyi had made CSR a

major pillar of the service.

Over 1,800 units of educational materials were distributed to pupils to enhance teaching and learning.

Comptroller NP Ibrahim, in charge of CSR, said the "Customs Care" initiative reflected the service's vision of extending its mandate beyond revenue collection to social impact.

Stakeholders, including the Chairman of Maigatari Local Government Area, Usman Na'Allah, and Jigawa Governor's representative, Alhaji Babangida Umar, commended the NCS for the invaluable gesture.



CG Adeniyi

PRIME PHOTOS

BY MERCY ADAJE
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A photo of General Yakubu Gowon, Head of State of Nigeria, attending a dinner hosted by Alan Mais (1911–1993, right), the Lord Mayor of London, at the Guildhall, London in 1973.



This image captures a significant moment of Muhammad Dikko dan Gidado, CBE, the 47th Emir of Katsina State, during a tour of the new British submarine HMS Thames at the Portsmouth Dockyard in May 1933.



A photograph of Nigerian Heads of State, General Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida and General Abdulsalami Abubakar, as teenagers in the 1960s. Both attended Government College Bida in Niger State and later became Nigeria's Heads of State in 1985 and 1998, respectively.



This picture captures Muhammadu Buhari with the Commander of the United States Army War College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, upon completing a senior officers course in 1980.

PRIME 10 MOMENT

BY MERCY ADAJE
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NAPTIP probes child sexual abuses involving singer Simi following resurfaced tweets

The National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) has announced plans to investigate allegations of child sexual abuse and misconduct linked to a daycare owned by the mother of singer Simi Kosoko. The development follows renewed backlash against the singer after an old tweet about children at her mother's daycare resurfaced, with some X users alleging it suggested inappropriate intent.

In a public notice via their X page, NAPTIP called on individuals with "factual information, evidence, direct knowledge" related to the allegations to reach out confidentially.

The agency said it would commence a thorough probe once credible reports are received, reaffirming its commitment to addressing all allegations involving child abuse and misconduct at daycares in Nigeria.

"Public Notice: We take all reports of child sexual abuse/misconduct seriously and are committed to investigating every credible claim," the notice reads.

"Following recent public discussions and concerns raised regarding alleged incidents of child sexual abuse/misconduct in daycare settings in Nigeria, we are committed to thoroughly investigating credible reports.

"We kindly request anyone with factual information, evidence, direct knowledge, or who was personally affected by the matters referenced in the viral posts or related experiences to kindly reach out to us confidentially. Via DM or email us info@naptip.gov.ng."

Simi, however, dismissed the allegations of child sexual abuse, explaining that her old tweets merely reflected the playful nature of a cheeky young woman with nothing to conceal.

She maintained that the posts were never made with any inappropriate intent.



Simi

Actor Leonardo DiCaprio funds renovation of local library in his childhood neighbourhood



DiCaprio

Hollywood actor Leonardo DiCaprio has secretly helped bankroll a tiny local library in California — and it's very close to his heart.

DiCaprio is known for donating millions to environmental causes, wildlife conservation and fighting climate change.

The Hollywood megastar has quietly dished out cash to the Los Angeles Public Library's Los Feliz branch near Griffith Park, which sits on the site of his childhood home.

The 51-year-old actor and his family donated \$35,000 to its computer centre in 1999 and have

funded other initiatives over the years such as newspaper subscriptions. The walls are decorated with movie posters from some of his biggest hits, including "Titanic," "Gangs Of New York," "Catch Me If You Can," and "The Great Gatsby." Some of them are even

autographed, with DiCaprio's father George occasionally dropping by to add to their collection. Senior librarian Pearl Yonezawa said it took him a while before he realised they were signed, adding they have since been better secured to the walls.

He told SFGate: "I was so busy getting the building up and getting it working. They're secured a little better to the wall, once we realised that some of them were signed. Sorry, Leo!"

The library was once the site of the actor's childhood home, and the tech room sits on the spot where his bedroom used to be. The original house was demolished long before the library opened its doors in 1999, soon after the actor surged into the spotlight with "Titanic".

Growing up, DiCaprio, who only recently moved out of the Los Feliz area, would visit another library across the street, where he would meet friends and skateboard outside.

Sam Loco died without a house of his own - Nollywood actor, Chigozie Nwoye

Chigozie Nwoye, the ace Nollywood actor, says his late colleague Sam Loco Efe did not have a house of his own at the time of his death.

Sam Loco, born Samuel Arase Efeimwonkiyeke, passed away on August 11, 2011, at the age of 65. In a recent interview with NetNollyFilm, Chigozie revealed that he was among the actors who travelled to Benin, Edo State, for Sam Loco's burial.

He added that the late actor did not have a house at the time, but one was subsequently built for him later under the government of Adams Oshiomole, the former Edo State governor.

"I was part of the people who went to Benin for Sam Loco's burial. He had no house of his own. It was the government of Edo State under Oshiomole that built a house for Sam Loco," he said.

Sam Loco Efe's journey in entertainment began on the theatre stage, where he honed his craft before seamlessly transitioning to film.

He became renowned for his incredible versatility, effortlessly switching between side-splitting comic roles and deeply moving dramatic performances.

He is widely regarded as one of



Sam Loco

the greatest comic actors Nigeria has ever produced. With a career that spanned more than three decades, he graced countless

classic Nollywood productions, leaving behind an indelible mark and a lasting legacy in the industry. Nwoye, on the other hand, has

starred in films like 'Strange Powers', 'Son Of A Diety', 'Magic Forest', 'Death Over Life' and 'Mission To Love'.

NEPTUNE PRIME BUSINESS

BY AISHA WAZIRI KIDAJI (Student at University of Maiduguri, Borno State)

MARKET SURVEY



Residents adjust budgets as increased demand drives up food prices at Tashan Bama Market in Maiduguri

As Muslims observe the Holy Month of Ramadan, a visit to Tashan Bama Market in Maiduguri metropolis of Borno State revealed mixed reactions among traders and consumers over the prices of essential food items. Findings at the market showed that while some food commodities have recorded slight increases, others remain relatively stable compared to previous weeks.

The survey indicated that a measure of rice now sells between ₦1,800 and ₦2,000 depending on the quality, while a mudu of beans ranges from ₦1,500 to ₦1,700.

A measure of millet and maize was observed to reach between ₦900 and ₦1,200. Cooking oil prices also vary, with a litre selling for approximately ₦1,800 to ₦2,000.

Some traders attributed the price fluctuations to transportation costs and high demand during Ramadan. One trader, who identified himself as Ibrahim, said, "Demand usually increases during Ramadan. Sometimes suppliers increase their prices, and we have no option but to adjust. However, we try not to overburden customers." Residents and students expressed concern over the rising cost of living, noting

that Ramadan expenses place additional pressure on households.

A student of the University of Maiduguri, Amina Usman, said the situation has forced her to adjust her spending habits.

"As students, we depend on limited allowances. When food prices increase during Ramadan, it affects us seriously. We now buy in smaller quantities and sometimes combine resources with friends," she said.

Another customer, a civil servant, described the situation as challenging but manageable.

"Prices are not drastically high compared to last year,



but they are still difficult for low-income earners. We are coping by prioritising essential items only," he stated. Despite the challenges, many residents remain

hopeful that prices may stabilise as the month progresses. Traders also expressed optimism that increased supply could help moderate costs. The situation at Tashan

Bama Market reflects the broader economic realities facing residents during Ramadan, as families strive to balance spiritual devotion with financial responsibility.

MILESTONE

BY AISHA WAZIRI KIDAJI (Student, University of Maiduguri, Borno State)

Media executive, Ehi Braimah, nominated as Rotary District governor

Ehi Braimah, publisher of Naija Times and Lagos Post, has been nominated as district-governor designate for Rotary International District 9112.

The announcement follows the recent nomination and election process. District 9112 covers over 86 Rotary clubs and more than 2,300 Rotarians across parts of Lagos and Ogun States.

In the role, Braimah, also a member of the Nigerian Guild of Editors (NGE), is expected to lead the district in the 2028-2029 Rotary year.

He will oversee strategic leadership, club performance enhancement, humanitarian initiatives, public image promotion, and advancement of Rotary's service goals throughout the district.

Braimah is the chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Neo Media and Marketing, an agency providing integrated public relations (PR), marketing, and event solutions.

He earned an MBA from the University of Roehampton, London, in 2017 and received the institution's distinguished chancellor's alumni award in the inspiration and innovation category in October 2024.

He founded Naija Times in 2020 and Lagos Post in 2021, both independent online newspapers.

His Rotary service includes roles as past president of his club, district secretary, and chairman of several district committees in both District 9112 and the defunct District



Braimah

9110.

Reacting to his

emergence,

stakeholders within the district described the nomination

as a reflection of Braimah's consistent service, leadership

capacity, and passion for advancing Rotary's humanitarian mission.

Winners receive cash prizes at PEARLs Quiz competition for secondary schools



Winners

Winners have emerged from the 2025 edition of the PEARLs Quiz competition for secondary schools across Edo and Delta States.

The competition was organised by Seplat Energy Plc, a leading Nigerian independent energy company, in partnership with its Joint Venture partner,

the NNPC Exploration and Production Limited (NEPL).

During the grand finale of the knowledge-based contest, held in Asaba, Delta State, Pioneer Education Centre, Edo State, emerged first place winners and went home with the prize money of N10 million, to be used to equip its ICT centre.

In the same vein, the second and third placed schools; Notre Dame College, Uzoro, Delta State and Eucharistic Heart of Jesus Model College, Benin, Edo State, received N5million and N3million respectively as their winning prizes.

The fourth-placed school, Ogini Model College, Ogharefe-Oghara, Delta

State went home with a consolation prize for participation.

In her opening remarks, the Director, External Affairs and Social Performance, Seplat Energy, Chioma Afe, represented by Hadiza Garbati, General Manager, Government Relations, Seplat, said the initiative was conceived for promoting exceptional and respectable leaders, dating back to 2012, which has seen Seplat remain active in host communities and helping to foster students in the right direction.

She noted that by the quality of participation in this year's edition, the students have demonstrated that the initiative is already bearing fruit by nurturing young people.

"A school might be going home today with the prize, but all of you are already winners and I congratulate

you," she said.

"The most important aspect is the learning which each participant had taken from the PEARLs Quiz to make him or her a better person in the journey of life. I commend the teachers, many of whom have also been trained under various CSI initiatives of Seplat for encouraging the students to make the 2025 PEARLs Quiz the huge success it has turned out to be" she stated.

In addition to the quiz competition, the grand finale also featured the STEAM Innovation Challenge, where students showcased inventive projects in the areas of science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics.

Under the STEAM challenge, the top three projects were awarded cash prizes and commendations for

creativity, functionality, and real-world problem-solving potential.

The first prize of N1million went to Hollywood International School, Asaba, Delta State who presented a multi-functional academic laboratory. In second place was the Pioneer Education Centre, Benin, Edo State, which got N500,000 prize money, while Women Affairs Secondary School, Asaba, Delta State took the third position and N250,000.

The PEARLs Quiz, which stands for promoting exceptional and respectable leaders, is one of Seplat Energy JV's flagship Corporate Social Investment (CSI) initiatives.

It is geared towards promoting academic excellence, nurturing critical thinking, and inspiring the next generation of leaders.

HERITAGE

BY TAWHEED YAKUB

Cultural heritage and socio-political growth of the Mwaghavul people of Plateau State

The Mwaghavul people of Plateau State, Nigeria, are a culturally rich and historically rooted ethnic group, recognised for their resilience, industrious spirit, and strong communal values preserved across generations. Known for courage, hospitality, and a deep attachment to their ancestral land, the Mwaghavul have maintained their distinct identity despite colonial restructuring, missionary influence, political transitions, and the pressures of modernisation.

They are predominantly found in Plateau State, particularly in Mangu Local Government Area and surrounding districts such as Panyam, Pushit, Kerang, Ampang West, and Kombun.

Their homeland is characterised by highland plains, rocky outcrops, fertile valleys, and a temperate climate that supports agriculture. These geographical features have influenced their farming systems, settlement structures, defence strategies in earlier periods, and their community-oriented lifestyle.

Over time, the Mwaghavul people have contributed significantly to the socio-political development of Plateau State, upholding values centred on unity, respect for elders, justice, bravery, and communal cooperation.

Historical Background and Origin

Mwaghavul history is largely preserved through oral traditions, clan genealogies, folktales, praise chants, and ancestral narratives passed down by elders.

Linguistically, the Mwaghavul language belongs to the Afro-Asiatic language family (Chadic branch), reflecting historical ties with other ethnic groups on the Plateau. Traditionally, the Mwaghavul lived in organised settlements structured around clans and extended families. These settlements were often



strategically positioned on elevated terrain for protection during periods of inter-communal conflict and to enhance cooperation in farming and defence.

They maintained trade and cultural relationships with neighbouring groups such as the Berom, Pyem, Ron (Bokkos), Afizere, and Hausa communities, engaging in the exchange of farm produce, crafts, livestock, and cultural practices while preserving a distinct identity.

Leadership was traditionally organised under clan heads and a central traditional authority.

Today, the Mwaghavul Traditional Council is headed by the Mishkaham Mwaghavul, a respected institution overseeing land matters, cultural preservation, conflict resolution, and community development.

Colonial administration reshaped aspects of governance, yet traditional leadership remains influential and respected within Mwaghavul society.

Culture and Tradition

Mwaghavul culture is deeply communal, with strong emphasis on kinship, solidarity, and mutual



assistance. Elders are custodians of tradition and moral authority, while youths are expected to embody discipline, hard work, and bravery.

Communal labour, especially during planting, harvesting, house construction, and festivals remains a defining feature of Mwaghavul society. The Mwaghavul language is central to identity and is expressed through proverbs, folktales, traditional songs, and ceremonial chants that transmit history, ethics, and social values.

Christianity is predominant among the Mwaghavul today, introduced through missionary activities during colonial times, though elements of indigenous spiritual heritage remain embedded in cultural expressions.

Traditional music, drumming, flute melodies, and energetic dance performances play an important role during festivals, weddings, and cultural celebrations, reinforcing unity and pride.

Marriage Customs

Marriage among the Mwaghavul is regarded as a

sacred institution that unites families and clans.

Traditionally, the process involves family consultations, formal introductions, negotiation of bride price (which may include livestock, farm produce, or symbolic items), and blessings from elders.

Ceremonies are marked by music, dance, feasting, and strong community participation.

While polygamy existed historically, modern religious and socio-economic influences have reduced its prevalence. Contemporary marriages often combine traditional rites with church or civil ceremonies, reflecting adaptation while preserving heritage.

Socio-Economic Life

Agriculture remains central to Mwaghavul's livelihood. The people cultivate crops such as maize, millet, guinea corn, yams, Irish potatoes, cassava, beans, and vegetables.

Animal husbandry, particularly goat and cattle rearing, as well as poultry farming, contributes to household income.

In modern times, Mwaghavul men and women are active in education, public service, healthcare, security services, business, politics, and entrepreneurship across Plateau State and Nigeria at large, while maintaining strong ties to their cultural roots.

Modern Times

Like many indigenous communities, the Mwaghavul face contemporary challenges including youth migration to urban centres, language preservation concerns, economic pressures, and land-related disputes.

However, cultural associations, church institutions, youth organisations, and the

traditional council continue to promote Mwaghavul heritage and unity.

Efforts to document oral history and encourage the teaching of the Mwaghavul language among younger generations demonstrate a commitment to sustaining identity in a changing world.

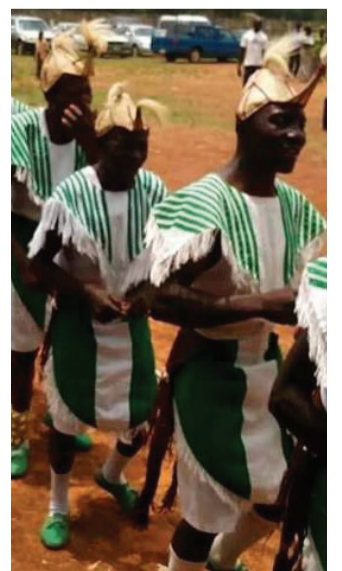
Ceremonies and Cultural Practices

Mwaghavul ceremonies symbolise unity, spirituality, bravery, and gratitude for the harvest.

Important cultural events include harvest celebrations, naming ceremonies, marriage rites, funerals, reconciliation gatherings, and annual cultural festivals that showcase traditional dances, attire, and communal pride.

These practices reinforce values of hard work, respect, courage, and collective responsibility.

From the hills of Mangu to cities across Nigeria and the diaspora, the Mwaghavul people continue to show that tradition and modernity can coexist, preserving a proud legacy built on resilience, unity, and enduring cultural identity.



HISTORICITY

BY FALMATA MA'AJI MUHAMMAD (Student at Helwan University, Cairo, Egypt)



Pingyao: The ancient living city that redefined Chinese banking



grid-like streets, and authentic Ming-Qing style residences, temples, and courtyards that offer a glimpse into everyday life centuries ago.

In 1997, Pingyao Ancient City was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site, recognised for its outstanding preservation of Han Chinese urban traditions, alongside Shuanglin Temple and Zhenguo Temple.

Climate and Architecture

Pingyao County belongs to a temperate continental climate, characterised by a mild and dry climate, large temperature differences between winter and summer, and strong sandstorms in winter.

The annual average temperature is 10.2 °C, and the annual precipitation is about 540 millimetres, with most of the precipitation concentrated in summer.

The climate of Pingyao is temperate. It is cold in winter, often having northwestern winds with little snow and severe fog. In the spring, the temperature varies greatly between day and night, with a little rain and some winds. Summertime is often hot, humid and rainy. Autumn days have falling temperatures

Pingyao is an ancient significant city located in Shanxi Province about 600 km Southwest of Beijing. It is one of China's best-preserved historic towns, founded over 2,700 years ago, and it became especially important during the Ming and Qing dynasties as the financial hub of imperial China.

Significant Popularity

The city is famous for its three treasures:

1. City Wall: Built in 827 AD to protect against Mongolian invaders, stretching 6 km with

72 watchtowers, and considered the best preserved town wall in China.

2. Bank: The first modern bank in China was established here, earning Pingyao the title "Town of Wealth" and marking it as the birthplace of Chinese banking.

3. Cultural Heritage: Temples with detailed sculptures and unique shops, including martial arts bodyguard services, reflect the city's rich traditions.

Pingyao's layout is still intact, with massive walls built in 1370,



with little rain and are cool and clear with abundant sunshine.

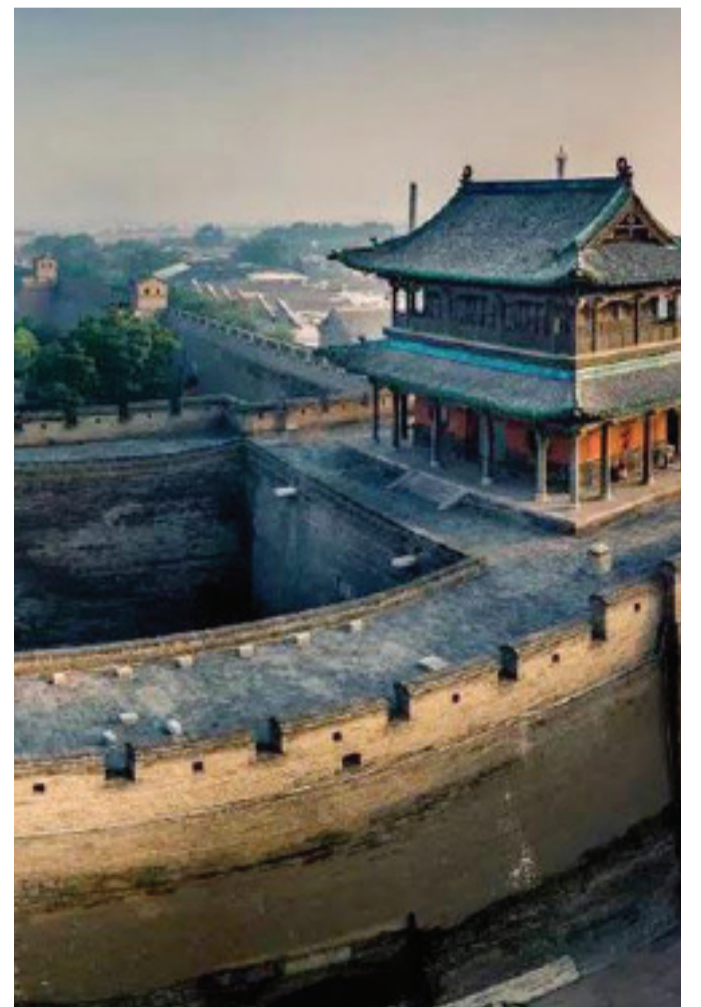
Pingyao still retains its urban layout from the Ming and Qing dynasties, conforming to a typical ba gua pattern. More than 300 sites in or near the city have ancient ruins. The city has over a hundred streets and lanes, lined with close to 4,000 17th–19th century shops and residences.

The streets and storefronts still largely retain their historical appearance. In addition, the ancient urban city is still home to 20,000+ people, making Pingyao one of the best examples of an ancient "living city".

Modernity

Today, Pingyao is considered one of the "Four Best-Preserved Ancient Cities" in China. It symbolises the fusion of commerce, defence, and culture, serving

as a living museum streets, explore historic banks, and experience traditional festivals.



ROOTS

BY GIFT LUCKSON
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Amos Fortune: From enslaved African to prosperous American in life and legacy

Amos Fortune (1710 – November 1801) was an African-American citizen of Jaffrey, New Hampshire, in the 18th century.

African Roots

Fortune was born in Africa and brought to America as an enslaved person. He was given the name “Amos Fortune” by his masters.

He purchased his freedom at the age of 60 and moved to Jaffrey to start a leather tannery business. Documents now archived at the Jaffrey Public Library testify to his literacy, community position, and financial success.

The first record of Amos Fortune is an unsigned “freedom paper” dated December 30, 1763. In it, Fortune’s owner, Ichabod Richardson, a “tanner of Woburn, in the province of Massachusetts-bay in New England,” outlines an agreement with Fortune that at the end of four years, Amos would be “Discharged, Freed, and Set at Liberty from my service power & Command forever...”

Purchasing Freedom

When Richardson died unexpectedly in 1768, his will contained no mention of Fortune’s freedom. Fortune then negotiated with Richardson’s heirs to “pay off his bond.” He made the last payment in 1770 and subsequently purchased his freedom. After purchasing his freedom, Fortune continued to live and work in Woburn. He bought land and built a house with help from his first mistress’s family. He purchased his first wife from Josiah Bowers of Billerica, but she died within a year of their marriage. On November 9, 1779, Fortune purchased the freedom of a woman named Violet (also spelt Violate, including on her tombstone) from James Baldwin. They were married the next day in Woburn. Violet and Amos adopted a daughter, Celyndia, after they were married.

Death

Fortune died in November 1801 at the age of 91. He is buried behind the Jaffrey Meeting house in the Old Burying Ground. The inventory of his estate testifies to his prosperity.

Among the items listed are silver shoe buckles, a silver watch, and a fur coat. Many of the items were sold, and due to the precise details documented, it is known to amount to \$770.20. Fortune instructed his executor, Eleazer, to have “hand stones” erected to his wife and himself and to make a “handsome present” to the church.

Charity After Death

The remaining money, totalling about \$233, was given to the town to support Schoolhouse Number 7. This last bequest has evolved into the Amos Fortune Fund and has supported diverse projects, including public speaking contests and special publications.

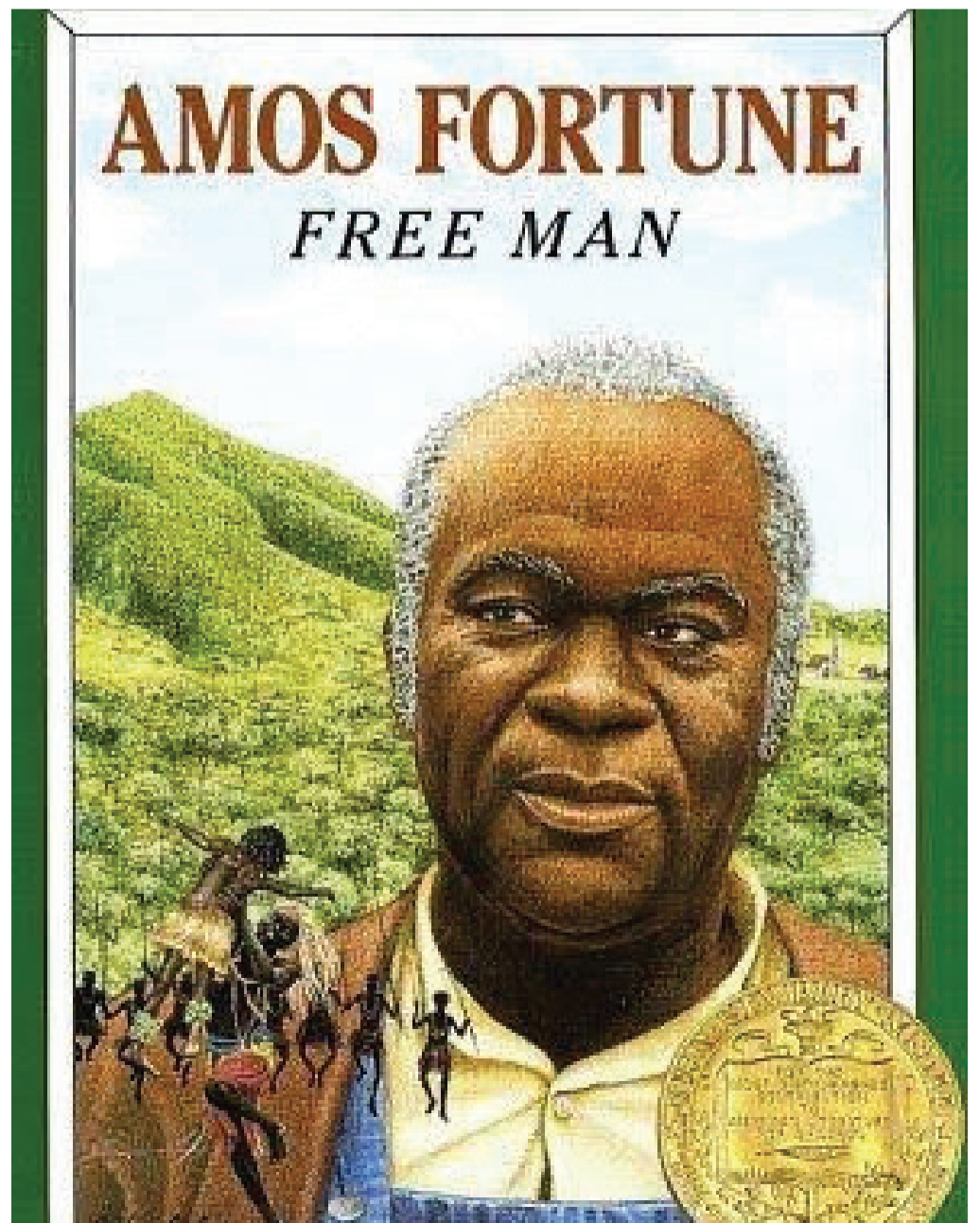
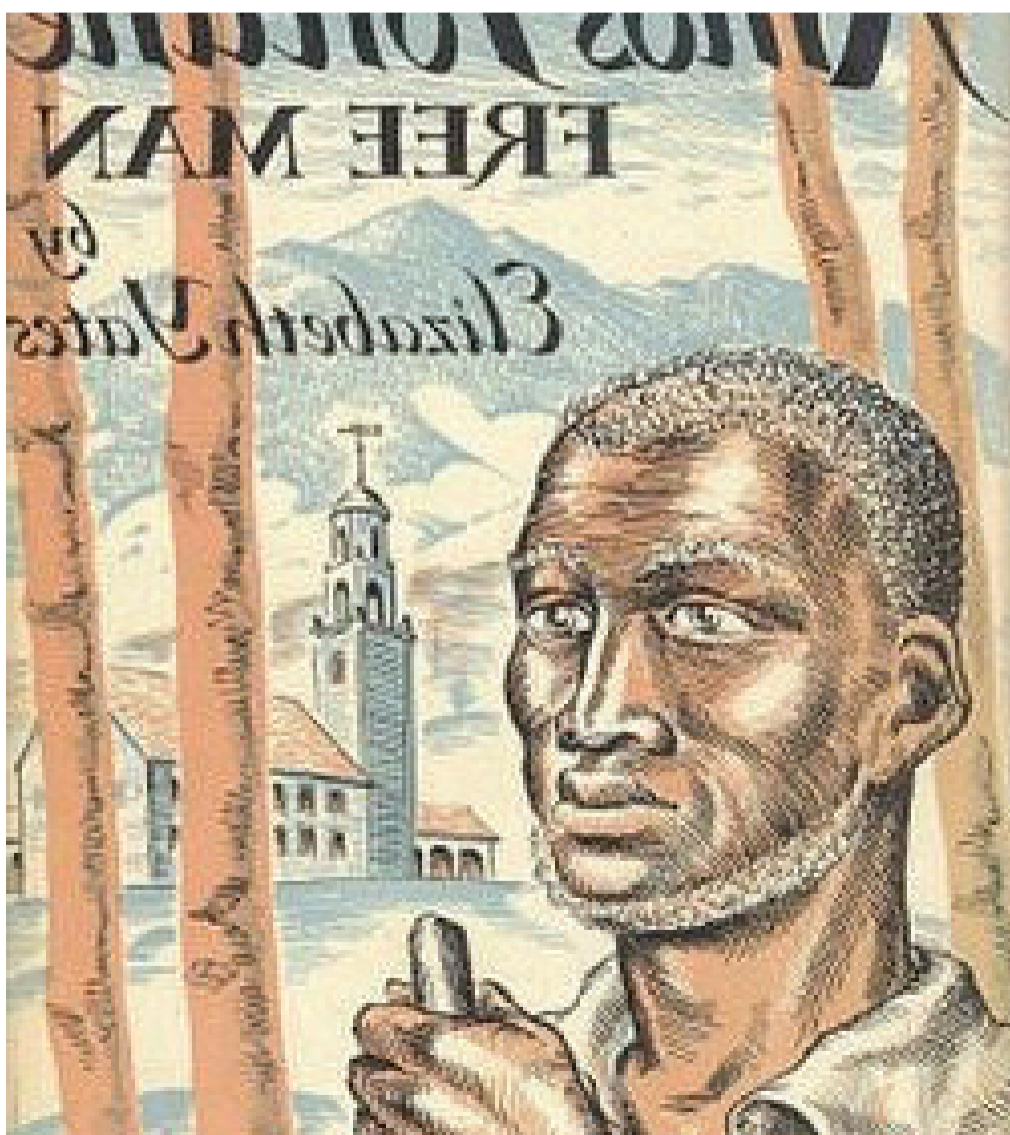
The Jaffrey Public Library now administers the Fund, using the income to develop and distribute educational materials on Amos Fortune.

Violet Fortune died in 1802, one year after her husband, and was buried next to him. Their epitaphs were written by the Reverend Laban Ainsworth.

Legacy

Elizabeth Yates wrote a Newbery Medal-winning biographical novel entitled *Amos Fortune, Free Man*, in 1950. Amos Fortune Day was celebrated on February 20, 1955, created by New Hampshire Governor Lane Dwinell. F. Alexander Magoun’s 1964 novel *Amos Fortune’s Choice* is a fictional biography of Fortune’s life. A 1997 short film by Matthew Buckingham, *Amos Fortune Road*, meditates on the scantness and fragility of the surviving historical record regarding Fortune.

Fortune is featured on a New Hampshire historical marker (number 13) along New Hampshire Route 124 in Jaffrey. The Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire unveiled a marker honouring Fortune in Jaffrey in 2023.



THIS LIFE!

BY MARYAM SALEH ISA (Student at Yobe State University, Damaturu)

Why I embraced teaching with passion and found purpose in the classroom – Retired Educationist, Khadija



Khadija Goji

Khadija Ahmed Goji, a retired educationist born in 1953, made significant contributions to society as a classroom teacher. In this interview with Neptune Prime's correspondent, she dwells on her career, lessons learned, and offers advice for the younger generation.

Neptune Prime (N.P): Tell us about yourself.

KAG: My name is Khadija Ahmed Goji. I was born in 1954 in the Kukuri community of Nangere Local Government Area, Yobe State. I started my education at Kukuri Primary School and then moved to Damboa Primary School in Potiskum. After that, I attended Fika Government Secondary School, where I obtained my secondary school certificate. I then continued my education at the Teachers College in

Bauchi Province, where I trained to become a teacher. After completing my training, I was employed as a teacher at Central Primary School in Potiskum Local Government Area. I dedicated my career to education and retired in 2011.

N.P: What were your early experiences like as an educator, and what were some of the most significant challenges you faced?

KAG: My early experiences as a teacher were quite good. I approached teaching with so much passion for sharing knowledge. Being in the classroom brought me great joy, as I had the chance to shape young minds and watch my students grow academically and socially. Teaching was not just a job to me; it was a calling

I always wanted wholeheartedly. Yet, one of the biggest challenges I faced was balancing my professional responsibilities with my duties at home. Managing household tasks alongside a busy teaching schedule was not easy. There were times when the two roles conflicted, especially during exam periods or when preparing lesson plans. While facing the challenges, I always made sure neither aspect of my life suffered. Nonetheless, it required strong time management and many commitments.

N.P: Can you share some of your most memorable teaching experiences or successes?

KAG: One of my most intriguing memories as a teacher was when I secured my first job teaching Arithmetic, which is

practically mathematics. The level of excitement I felt on that very day is still ringing in my subconscious mind. Mathematics was a subject I loved, and having the chance to teach it put a wide smile on my face. I could still remember when my students mastered difficult concepts and their faces lit up with understanding. Over the course of my career, I have had the privilege of helping many students become successful individuals, who later went on to become doctors, lawyers, engineers, and more. Seeing my former students succeed in various professions gives me joy that is out of this world. The successes always made me believe in the value of teaching as a noble profession and reminded me that the knowledge I imparted contributed to shaping their futures to become responsible folks.

N.P: What advice would you give to policymakers on how to improve the education system to better prepare students for the challenges of the 21st century?

KAG: If I were to advise policymakers, I would emphasise the need to focus on the welfare of teachers. A motivated and well-supported teacher is the foundation of any strong education system. Policymakers should ensure that teachers receive fair salaries, opportunities for professional development, and access to resources that help enhance their teaching abilities.

Simply put, the government should invest in the renovation and equipping of schools to provide students with a conducive learning environment. A well-maintained school with modern facilities encourages better learning outcomes and prepares students to meet the challenges of the modern world. Finally, the curriculum should be updated to include technology, critical thinking, and entrepreneurship skills to better equip students for the evolving demands of the global workforce.

N.P: What advice would you give to new or aspiring educators, based on your own experiences?

KAG: To new or aspiring educators, my advice is simple but fundamental: a Approach teaching with passion and commitment. Teaching is not an easy job – it requires patience, dedication, and a true love for grooming

young minds. However, it is one of the most rewarding professions, as you have the power to shape the future of society.

KAG: I encourage aspiring teachers to fully embrace their role and remain resilient in the face of challenges. There will be moments of frustration, but remembering the positive impact you have on your students' lives will keep you motivated. Always strive to improve your skills, stay curious, and adapt to new teaching methods. Passion and perseverance are key to success in this noble profession.

N.P: Looking back, what are some of your proudest accomplishments, both in and out of the classroom?

KAG: Whenever I reflect on my career, I am most proud of spending over three decades impacting the lives of countless students. Those years were not without challenges, but the joy of seeing my students succeed made every effort worthwhile. Knowing that I played a role in shaping the lives of professionals who are now contributing to society fills me with fulfilment.

Outside the classroom, one of my proudest accomplishments was balancing my career with raising a family. It took hard work and sacrifice, but I managed to fulfil my duties as both an educator and a homemaker. This dual achievement remains a source of great pride for me.

N.P: How did you experience and respond to significant social and historical events, such as the Civil Rights Movement or the women's liberation movement?

KAG: One of the most memorable historical events in my life took place when I was in primary school. At that time, the Emir of Kukuri took it upon himself to ensure that all the girls in our community were enrolled in school. This was a groundbreaking initiative and a significant turning point for our community, as it marked a shift towards prioritising girls' education. I still cherish the memory of being part of that movement and witnessing the power of education.

Although I did not actively participate in the women's liberation movement, I have always strongly believed in empowering women through education. My own life and career are a testament to the opportunities that education can offer to women, and I hope to inspire future generations to pursue knowledge and self-development.

N.P: How can the government support teachers in their professional development and well-being?

KAG: Teachers are the backbone of any society, and the government must prioritise their welfare. Providing fair salaries, housing allowances, and access to healthcare are crucial steps to ensuring teachers feel valued and supported. Additionally, regular training programmes and workshops can help teachers stay up to date with the latest teaching methods and innovations.

The government should also establish mentorship programmes where experienced educators can guide and inspire younger teachers. Creating platforms for teachers to share their experiences and challenges will foster a sense of community and collaboration within the profession. By investing in teachers' professional development and well-being, the government can ensure a brighter future for the education system as a whole.

N.P: What subjects and age groups did you teach during your career, and which ones did you enjoy the most?

KAG: Throughout my career, I taught various subjects, including mathematics, basic science, and other foundational courses. However, mathematics remained my favourite subject to teach. I enjoyed the logical reasoning and problem-solving aspects of the subject, and I took great pride in helping students overcome their fear of numbers. I taught students of different age groups, but I particularly enjoyed working with primary school children. Their curiosity and eagerness to learn made teaching incredibly rewarding. Watching them grasp new concepts and grow academically was always a source of joy for me.

N.P: What legacy do you hope to leave behind as an educator, and how do you want to be remembered by future generations?

KAG: I hope to be remembered as an educator who positively impacted the lives of her students and contributed to the development of society. My legacy is rooted in the countless students I taught, many of whom have gone on to achieve great success in various fields. I want future generations to see me as someone who approached teaching with passion, dedication, and a true love for nurturing young minds. Above all, I want to be remembered as a role model who demonstrated the transformative power of education. My hope is that my story inspires others to embrace teaching as a noble profession and recognise the profound impact educators have on shaping the future. I have eight children, and I am happy with my life, even though there are sicknesses that come with age. But, Alhamdulillah.

I have had the privilege of helping many students become successful individuals, who later went on to become doctors, lawyers, engineers, and more



HUMANIST

BY JAMEEL LAWAN YAKASAI



Victim

Widow demands justice after only son goes missing following police arrest

A 58-year old widow, Justina Chibuzor has appealed to the Abia State Governor, Alex Otti, the Inspector General of Police and the Police Service Commission to help locate her only son Ifeanyi Chibuzor, arrested by policemen attached to the Central Police Station, Umuahia, Abia State. The distraught mother, a native of Amaokwe Ugba Ibeku in Umuahia North Local Government Area, along with her daughter, Adaku, said that on April 9, 2025, policemen from

the Central Police Station, arrested 22-year-old Ifeanyi Chibuzor, who is a cobbler and motor oil seller. Adaku said, "Ifeanyi went to buy something from a local store and did not come back on time. We called his mobile phone several times, and he did not pick up our calls. "Around 10 pm, some policemen came to search our house with Ifeanyi in handcuffs; the policemen saw a cutlass and asked the family to come to the CPS to see Ifeanyi. Adaku said the next day,

April 10, she visited him in the police cell, adding that after about five days, she was told that she could no longer see her brother because he had been transferred to another police detention facility. She further disclosed that after fruitless visits to detention facilities in Umuahia, Aba and Ohafia, she approached an Abia High Court in Umuahia presided over by Justice K. C. J. Okereke, on 22nd of July, 2025. She said the suit with no,

HU/76M/2025, was to prevail on the Inspector General of Police, Nigeria Police Force, Police Service Commission, Commissioner of Police, Abia State, and two other respondents to produce her brother in court. She added that Justice Okereke granted the application and ordered the respondents to produce Ifeanyi Chibuzor before the court. She added that when that route did not produce the desired result, and due to paucity of funds, the family

approached the Legal Aid Council in Umuahia for help. Justina Chibuzor and Adaku Chibuzor pleaded with Governor Alex Otti, the Inspector General of Police and the Police Service Commission to intervene. Madam Justina said, "They should please help us find the whereabouts of the only son of the family". The family's lawyer, Chimereze Onuigbo, lamented that all efforts he made to prevail on the Divisional Police Officer and the state Commissioner of Police for a solution to

the matter were not possible because both the DPO and the CP were elusive. He said, "After much effort, we decided to go to court. We filed for the enforcement of fundamental human rights. The court gave a judgment of N200 million against the respondents when they failed to appear before the court. There is no clear picture from the arrest of Ifeanyi to his disappearance. This is about human life, even the bandits still come to court". Efforts to get police reaction proved abortive.

FEATURES

Nigeria, greatness and the missing link (II)



Prof. Othman

By Prof. M. K. Othman

The picture of Nigeria and its potential to be a great nation was presented in this column last week. It is heartwarming and inspiring to recognize Nigeria's enormous natural and human resources, but also disheartening to know that these resources are lying idle, with some being plundered. As earlier buttressed, humans are the most important resource, which galvanizes the transformation of other resources to fast-track societal development. How qualitative is Nigeria's human resource? The major qualitative indicator of human resources in any society is the level of its human capital. Human capital refers to the stock of competencies, skills, knowledge, and personality attributes that individuals embody. These attributes are responsible for creating a high-quality labor force with appreciable economic, social, and personal values. Labor is the most important factor of production. Human capital is therefore a primary factor that converts all resources for the use and benefits of mankind and national development. How is Human capital developed? What is the missing link between greatness and Nigeria? How can the missing link be established? How is human capital developed? Massive public and private investments in the health and education of young people develop human capital. Human capital is periodically evaluated to guide policymakers. Nigeria's human capital index in 2020 averaged 0.36 (pre-pandemic) as reported by the World Bank (<https://businessday.ng/business-economy/article/nigeria-records-0-36->

points-in-world-banks-2020-human-capital-index). Still, in 2024, Nigeria's World Bank Human Capital Index (HCI) remains low at 0.36 (36%). With a score of 0.36 in 2020, Nigeria ranked 168 out of 174 countries, reflecting poor socio-economic outcomes, including a learning poverty rate of 70 percent, immunization coverage of 36 percent, an under-5 mortality rate of 110 deaths per 1,000 live births, and a stunting rate of 39.5 percent. In 2023/2024, Nigeria ranked 161 out of 193 nations, placing it in the low human development category. The result indicates that the earning potential of Nigeria's youngest generation over their lifetime is only 36 percent of what it could be with complete education and good health. In other words, the country is losing 64 percent of its productivity by failing to fully invest in the human capital of these young Nigerians. This result of Nigeria's human capital index looks discouraging, dispiriting, and gloomy. However, the reality is that several Nigerians are making waves and excelling in various human endeavors globally. This may not be unrelated to the significant growth in the country's human resources. The relatively small number of Nigerians with a high human capital index is sufficient to make Nigeria's name resonate across every continent in the World. This may be the positive aspect of the population explosion. These few Nigerians are endowed with creative capacities and innovative thinking, thereby positively impacting the nation's image at home and abroad. Who are these Nigerians? These Nigerians are perform-

ing exceptionally well in their various endeavors. Some of them are duly elected people into various political offices in the diaspora. Citizens of their host countries elected such Nigerians in Europe and America for their leadership qualities. As of 2019, in the United Kingdom alone, nine prominent Nigerians had been elected as mayors or British Members of Parliament. Names such as Chuka Umunna, Helen Grant, Abimbola Afolami, Kate Osamor, and Kemi Badenoch were featured. Others were Ernest Ezeajugh, Chinyelu Susan Onwurah, and Olugbenga Babatola, among several Nigerians. In most cases, they made history as the first black persons to hold such elective posts, which were hitherto exclusively reserved for white men/women or indigenous people of such countries. Back home, with all the resources, our country is an inch away from becoming a great and enviable country where peace, progress, tranquility, and harmony reign, comparable to those in Europe, Asia, and America. A missing link is required to bridge the gap and achieve greatness in good and accountable governance. That missing link is the development of human capital, which empowers people to think rightly and act in the right direction. When people are educationally empowered, they will be able to demand accountability and responsibility from their leadership while discharging their own. With education, people's capacity to innovate and address societal challenges is enhanced, benefiting their communities. Good and accountable governance will be the guiding principle of an

educated society where merit replaces nepotism, leadership entails service to humanity, and this is done with a high sense of responsibility. Fortunately, the Nigerian government, under the leadership of President Ahmed Bola Tinubu, has launched a human capital initiative to unlock the country's economic potential and drive inclusive growth. The program is an ambitious, World Bank-supported initiative aimed at accelerating inclusive economic development by strategically investing in Nigeria's people. It provides the financial framework to deliver globally aligned, state-led interventions in primary healthcare, education, and social development. Nigeria aims to improve human capital development and achieve a top-80 ranking on the global Human Capital Index (HCI) by 2030. While the government plays a key role in human capital development, the private sector, individuals, and corporate organizations can also make significant contributions at various levels. Nigerians in the diaspora can support the government by making massive investments in education, health, and agriculture. All hands must be on deck to support Nigeria achieve its enviable goal of top-80 by 2030. If we can achieve a significant improvement in the human capital index, all unexplored and untapped resources – natural and intellectual – will make Nigeria great in all developmental ramifications. May we see it happen in our lives.

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Governor Mai Mala Buni's interventions at Shehu Sule College of Nursing Sciences

By Maji MB

During this remarkable year, the administration of His Excellency, Governor Mai Mala Buni, has recorded significant milestones at the Shehu Sule College of Nursing Sciences, reinforcing the government's commitment to quality healthcare education and sustainable human capital development in Yobe State.

Infrastructure Development

To improve access, safety, and campus living standards, the governor's intervention delivered key infrastructure upgrades across the college. A newly constructed 1.5-kilometre access road now provides smooth and reliable connectivity to the campus. Student accommodation has been strengthened with the construction of a brand-new 200-bed capacity female hostel, alongside the comprehensive renovation of a major male hostel (M2). In addition, the entire campus has been fully fenced and secured with the construction of a modern gate, enhancing safety and order.

Modern Learning and Academic Facilities

Recognising that quality education thrives in a well-equipped environment, the administration invested heavily in modern academic facilities, including the construction of a state-of-the-art e-library, the establishment of a Digital Learning Centre, and the building of a dedicated Nursing Complex. A Public Health Department Complex was also constructed to support specialised training. Furthermore, the ICT centre and the Auditorium Hall were fully renovated, ensuring students and staff benefit from functional, technology-driven learning spaces.

Academic Expansion

In a major boost to academic capacity, nine new programmes were introduced, significantly expanding the scope and relevance of the institution.

These programmes include:

1. ND Nursing,
 2. HND Nursing,
 3. Community Nursing,
 4. Community Midwifery,
 5. Post-Basic Nursing,
 6. Public Health Nursing,
 7. Post-Basic Paediatrics,
 8. Pot-Basic Nephrology Nursing, and
 9. Post-Basic Midwifery.
- This expansion positions the college to meet evolving healthcare needs while reducing reliance on external training institutions.

Student Welfare

Demonstrating people-centred leadership, the governor approved a 100 per cent increase in students' allowances. This decisive step eased financial pressure on students and reaffirmed the administration's belief that welfare support is essential for academic excellence.

Impact on Yobe State

Today, Shehu Sule College of Nursing Sciences stands as a pillar of healthcare manpower development in Yobe State. With improved infrastructure, expanded academic offerings, and enhanced student welfare, the institution is now better equipped to produce skilled, competent, and compassionate healthcare professionals to serve hospitals and communities across the state. These achievements reflect a clear vision: investing in education as a pathway to stronger healthcare delivery and a healthier future for Yobe State.



Gov. Buni



SPORTS

BY MUHAMMAD KUKURI,
MuhammadKukuri@neptuneprime.com.ng



Benfica vs Real Madrid

Vinicius' winner goal eliminates Benfica from Champions League last 16

Vinicius Junior scored the winning goal as Real Madrid beat Benfica 2-1 in the Champions League, progressing 3-1 on aggregate to the last 16.

It was the Brazilian forward's superb goal which separated the teams in a first leg marred by an incident of alleged racial abuse aimed at him by Benfica's Gianluca Prestianni, who denies the allegation.

Jose Mourinho's side were still alive in the playoff round tie and took the lead early on at the Santiago Bernabeu on Wednesday through Rafa Silva, although Madrid's

Aurelien Tchouameni swiftly levelled.

Benfica gave the record 15-time champions a rough ride – but fittingly, Vinicius, who never hides from the spotlight, scored on 80 minutes to effectively end the contest.

It was Portuguese coach Jose Mourinho's first time back at the Santiago Bernabeu since he coached Real Madrid from 2010 to 2013, but he could not lead his team from the dug-out because of a suspension.

After a week dominated by the fallout from the first leg, Vinicius lined up for Real Madrid alongside Gonzalo

Garcia, who stepped in for the injured French superstar Kylian Mbappe.

Benfica were without banned midfielder Prestianni after an appeal against his provisional one-game sanction was turned down earlier on Wednesday, with UEFA still investigating the incident.

Madrid hung a large banner reading "no to racism" at one end, with the game played under the shadow of what happened last week in Lisbon. There were boos for Vinicius from the visiting Benfica fans, and he prodded wide in the early stages, appealing in

vain for a penalty as Nicolas Otamendi collided with him after he got his shot away.

Benfica took a deserved lead in the 14th minute as Madrid defender Raul Asencio clumsily turned the ball towards his own goal.

Belgian goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois kept the ball out, but Silva was on hand to bundle home from close range.

Stung into action, Madrid pulled level two minutes later through Tchouameni. The French midfielder finished the edge of the box from rampaging teammate Federico Valverde's cross.

Madrid thought they had gone ahead on the night when Arda Guler stabbed home a loose ball after Garcia's shot was blocked, but the Spanish striker had edged offside, and it was disallowed after a VAR review. Courtois made a fine save from Richard Rios before the break, as Benfica turned up the pressure.

Silva hit the bar with a deflected effort before the hour mark as Mourinho's side at times pinned back the hosts.

Madrid were dealt a setback as Asencio was forced off on a stretcher after colliding with Eduardo Camavinga.

It had to be Vinicius who settled the tie, though, and Valverde played him scuttling through on goal, with the Brazilian calmly rolling a low shot past goalkeeper Anatoliy Trubin. Vinicius produced another celebratory dance by the corner flag, as he had done in the first leg in the run-up to the flashpoint with Prestianni and to the chagrin of Mourinho.

Victor Osimhen named in UEFA Champions League Team of the Week

Galatasaray striker and Super Eagles star, Victor Osimhen, has been included in the UEFA Champions League Team of the Week.

UEFA announced Osimhen among the best 11 players of thesecond leg of the playoffs, on their Champions League X handle.

Osimhen's inclusion is a result of his impressive performance for Galatasaray in their playoff clash with Juventus.

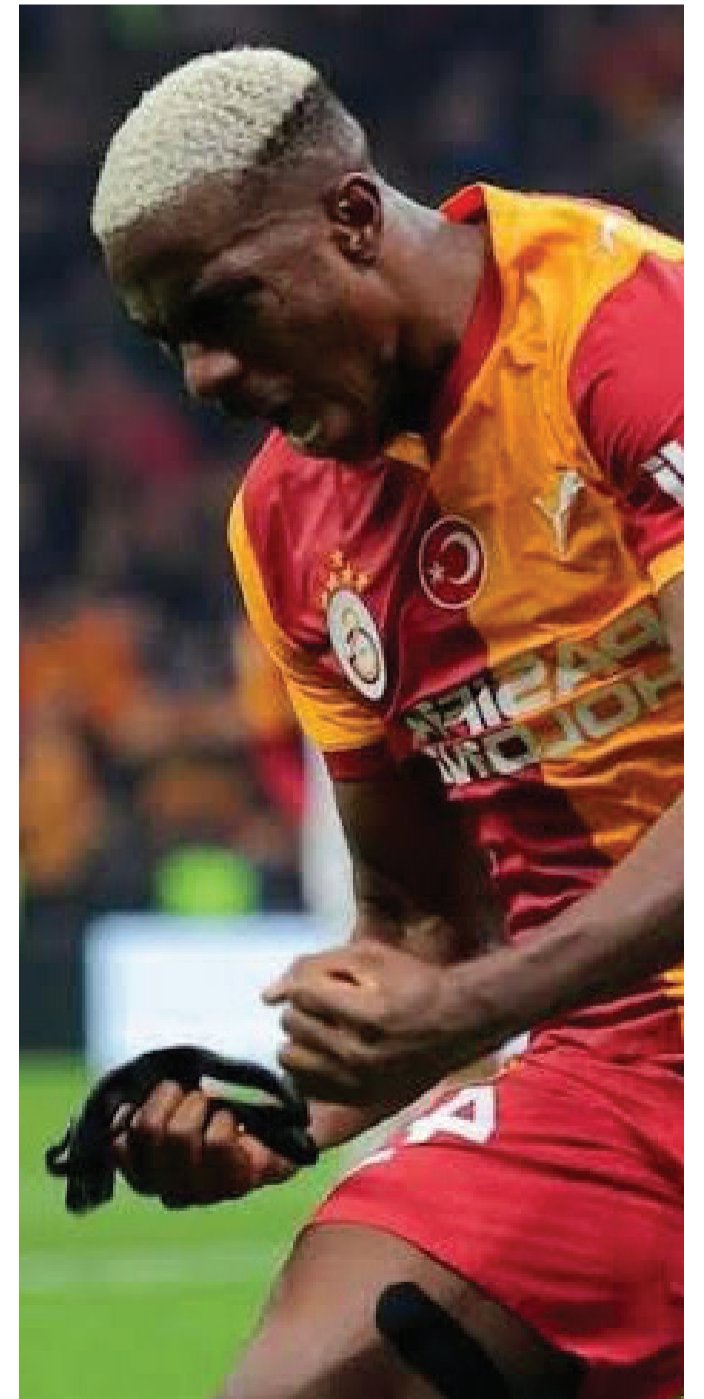
Other top stars who also made the Team of the Week are Atletico Madrid goalkeeper Jan Oblak, Real Madrid midfielder Aurelien Tchouameni, Sandro Tonali of Newcastle United and Osimhen's former Napoli teammate Kvicha Kvaratskhelia.

With Galatasaray 3-0 down and the tie levelled at 5-5, Osimhen then scored inextra time to put his side in front.

The Turkish giants went on to get a second goal to win the tie 7-5 on aggregate.

Following his superb display, the 2023 African Player of the Year was awarded the Man of the Match award.

His goal against Juventus was his seventh in eight appearances in this season's UEFA Champions League.



Osimhen

Tanzanian club suspends Super Eagles goalkeeper for match-fixing allegations

Super Eagles goalkeeper Amas Obasogie has been suspended for three months by Tanzanian club Singida Black Stars SC pending investigation into allegations of match-fixing, the club announced on Friday.

In an official statement issued by the CEO's Office and shared on the club's X handle, the club's Disciplinary Committee also suspended midfielder Khalid Aucho for three months over indiscipline and absenteeism from work.

The statement read: "The leadership of Singida Black Stars SC, through the Disciplinary Committee, has taken disciplinary action against players Khalid Aucho and Amas Obasogie as follows:

"Khalid Aucho: Punished for indiscipline and absenteeism from work, suspended for 3 months.
"Amas Obasogie: Suspended for 3 months to allow



Obasogie

investigation into match-fixing allegations.

"The club reminds all players and staff to uphold discipline, accountability, and respect for the club."

Obasogie joined Singida Black Stars in recent seasons and has been a

regular between the posts in the Tanzanian Premier League.

The match-fixing allegations are yet to be substantiated publicly, and no formal charges or detailed evidence have been released by the club

or Tanzanian football authorities.

The suspension is precautionary, allowing time for a full investigation. The club did not specify which matches or incidents prompted the probe into Obasogie.

SALUTE TO SERVICE

BY MERCY ADAJE
MercyAdaje@neptuneprime.com.ng

Abdullahi Sarki Mukhtar: A career marked by discipline, integrity, and moral courage

Abdullahi Sarki Mukhtar was born on July 5, 1949, in Kano State, Nigeria. Over the course of a long and eventful public career, he emerged as one of the most respected senior officers of his generation in Nigeria. He later served the country in key security and diplomatic positions. His reputation for discipline, professional integrity, and moral courage distinguished him at critical moments in Nigeria's political history. Mukhtar received his early education in northern Nigeria before proceeding to the Nigerian Defence Academy, where he underwent formal military training. In addition to his military education, he studied law and obtained both an LL.B and a BL qualification. His legal background would later shape his measured and principled approach to matters of military justice and national security. Mukhtar first came into national prominence when he was appointed the pioneer military governor of Katsina State following the creation of the state in September 1987. As the first administrator of the new state, he bore the responsibility of laying its foundational administrative structures



Mukhtar

and stabilising its public institutions. He served in Katsina until July 1988. He was subsequently appointed military governor of Kaduna State, serving from July 1988 to August 1990. In Kaduna, he oversaw a complex and politically sensitive state at a time when Nigeria was navigating economic pressures and

transitions within military rule. His tenure was marked by efforts to maintain order and strengthen governance structures. Mukhtar's army career was extensive and varied. He served as Director of Military Intelligence, a position that placed him at the centre of national security operations during a turbulent period.

During the regime of Sani Abacha, he was among the few senior officers who expressed reservations about the detention and trial of Olusegun Obasanjo and his former deputy Shehu Musa Yar'Adua. At a time when dissent within the military hierarchy carried grave risks, his stance earned him quiet admiration

among colleagues who valued professionalism over political expediency. He later rose to become General Officer Commanding the 1st Division of the Nigerian Army in Kaduna, one of the army's most strategic commands. Earlier in his career, he had also served as Chief of Staff of a peacekeeping force in Liberia, contributing to regional stabilisation efforts during the West African conflicts of the 1990s. Mukhtar became known as a principled and charismatic officer. His refusal to compromise professional standards in the treatment of alleged coup suspects in 1995 reportedly earned him the enduring respect of Obasanjo, who would later return to power as a civilian president. Following his retirement from active military service, Mukhtar continued to serve Nigeria in diplomatic and security capacities. He was appointed Nigeria's ambassador to the Russian Federation and was also accredited to Belarus. From January 23, 2002, to May 30, 2003, he served as the Embassy of Nigeria in Moscow, strengthening bilateral ties during a period of renewed international engagement. In May 2006, President

Olusegun Obasanjo appointed him National Security Adviser. He served in that capacity until March 2010. As NSA, Mukhtar coordinated national security policy at a time when Nigeria faced evolving internal and external security challenges. His tenure reflected a steady and institutional approach to security management, grounded in his long experience within the armed forces. Major General Abdullahi Sarki Mukhtar is widely regarded as a disciplined and thoughtful officer who navigated the delicate boundary between military authority and political power with caution and principle. In an era when the Nigerian military was deeply entangled in governance, he stood out for his refusal to allow political manipulation to override professional ethics. His career illustrates the trajectory of a soldier who combined legal training, operational command experience, and diplomatic service in a manner that reflected both competence and restraint. Within Nigeria's contemporary history, he remains a figure associated with integrity in public service and measured leadership in times of uncertainty.

Colonel Anthony Aboki Ochefu's distinguished role in Nigeria's military trajectory and national politics

Colonel Anthony Aboki Ochefu was a Nigerian Army officer who played a visible role in both the Nigerian Civil War and the political changes that reshaped Nigeria in the mid 1970s. He served as Military Governor of East Central State from July 1975 to February 1976 during the regime of Murtala Mohammed. During the Nigerian Civil War, which lasted from 1967 to 1970, Ochefu commanded a battalion in operations against Biafran forces. His unit was assigned to clear riverine areas in the Midwest. In the course of these operations, his battalion captured strategic towns including Koko, Sapele, and Warri. These advances were important because they weakened Biafran control of key supply routes and oil-producing areas. After consolidating those gains, his battalion moved northwards to link up with the 2nd Division, commanded by Murtala Mohammed. Ochefu's troops were later deployed as part of the force involved in the seaborne landing and capture of Calabar.



Ochefu

The fall of Calabar in 1968 was a major turning point in the war, as it gave feder-

al forces control of a vital coastal city and reduced Biafra's access to the sea.

By 1975, Ochefu had risen to the position of Provost Marshal of the Nigerian Army. On 29 July 1975, he was among the officers who carried out the bloodless coup that overthrew Yakubu Gowon. The coup was coordinated largely from Dodan Barracks in Lagos, which was then the seat of government. Ochefu was considered central to the success of the operation. As a Christian officer from the Middle Belt, he helped mobilise support among officers from that region, strengthening the coalition that carried out the takeover. Other prominent officers involved in the coup included Shehu Musa Yar'Adua, Joseph Nanven Garba, Ibrahim Babangida, Muhammadu Buhari, and Abdullahi Mohammed. Rather than assume leadership themselves, the group invited Murtala Mohammed to head the new government, with Olusegun Obasanjo appointed as Chief of Staff, Supreme Headquarters. Immediately after the coup, Ochefu was appointed Military Governor of East Central State.

His tenure was brief but symbolically significant, coming at a time when the country was attempting administrative reforms and a return to civil rule. As governor, Ochefu undertook changes in the state's health sector. In July 1975, he renamed the newly established Haile Selassie I Institute as the State Orthopaedic Hospital. This decision reflected a broader post war shift toward indigenising institutions and redefining public symbols. Plans to expand the facility with an ophthalmic surgery unit were put on hold during his administration. His time in office lasted less than a year. On 13 February 1976, Murtala Mohammed was assassinated in an abortive coup. Following the assassination, Olusegun Obasanjo became Head of State. In the aftermath, Obasanjo carried out a sweeping reorganisation of the armed forces, retiring or dismissing over 200 officers. Ochefu was among those removed. Officially, his retirement was linked to issues surrounding his earlier command of the Lagos Garri-

son before the 1975 coup. After leaving military service, Ochefu maintained a relatively low public profile. His life ended violently on 25 November 1999 when he was shot dead at a petrol station in Oturkpo, Benue State. The killing shocked many, given his former status as a senior military officer and state governor. The police arrested several suspects in connection with the murder. Reports at the time suggested that a traditional ruler might have been implicated. Colonel Anthony Aboki Ochefu represents a generation of Nigerian officers whose careers straddled both battlefield command and political authority. His involvement in decisive military operations during the civil war and in the 1975 coup places him among the influential mid-ranking officers who shaped Nigeria's post war trajectory. Although his time as governor was short, his career reflects the complex intersection of military power, regional identity, and national politics in Nigeria's formative decades after independence.

SOCIALS/FASHION

BY FARIDA ABBA

QUICK STATISTICS ON FASHION

99%
Of Women are not aware of underskirt or patroning such!

45%
of Women avoid bras due to advanced methods of sewing blouses

23%
Nigerians women replaces panties with tight!

78%
of Nigerians patronise native attires

78%
patronise nature attires

79%
of Nigerians can't live without jeans

84%
of Nigerians still patronise fairly used cloths, bags and shoes

79%
of Nigerians patronise can't dress without jeans



Crafting stylish, confident, and bold fashion statements with women's Agbada



The Agbada, a historically male-dominated, voluminous flowing robe from West Africa, has evolved into a powerful, high-fashion statement for women.

Once a symbol of power, status, and wealth restricted to men, the Agbada has been expertly reinterpreted by modern designers to offer women a stylish, confident, and unapologetically bold look.

The Evolution of Feminine Agbada
Historically, the Agbada was primarily worn by Yoruba men just as the babban riga was worn by Hausa men. However, as fashion trends have moved towards androgyny and versatility, designers have adapted this three-piece attire—comprising the outer robe (awosoke), inner vest (awotele), and trousers (shokoto)—for the female form.

“Times have changed and designers have evolved with different styles of agbada,” note fashion commentators, highlighting how the garment now seamlessly fits into a woman’s wardrobe for special, high-society, and casual occasions.

Key Features of Women's Agbada Fashion

Tailoring for Confidence: Modern female Agbada often features a more tailored, fitted cut compared to the traditional, ultra-loose male silhouette.

Fabric Choices: While traditional Aso-Oke remains popular, contemporary female Agbadas are now created with diverse materials, including silk, brocade, denim, and

lace.
Bold Colours: Unlike the often dark, solid shades of traditional male Agbada, women's versions often feature bright, vibrant colours like red, yellow, pink, and white to make a striking visual

statement.
Length Variations: Women's Agbada can range from traditional long flowing robes to shorter, chic, knee-length styles.

Styling Tips for a Confident Look
The Power Heel: Pairing

the Agbada with high heels adds a feminine touch that contrasts with the masculine tailoring, creating a sophisticated, powerful aesthetic.

Accessories: Statement jewellery, such as necklaces, bracelets, and rings, is key to complementing the ensemble.

Headwear: While some women embrace the

traditional men's cap (Fila) for a truly bold, androgynous look, many opt for elegant, elaborate headwraps (Gele) that blend traditional female attire with the Agbada robe.

Makeup and Clutch: A sleek look is achieved with a stylish clutch bag and bold makeup to emphasise the femininity of the outfit.



TO FEATURE ON OUR FASHION/SOCIAL PAGE!
You can send your pictures to neptuneprime2233@gmail.com

TECHWORLD

BY MUHAMMAD KUKURI
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GAMESCIENE

Dubbed the 'sickest ever' video game because players only have one aim - to massacre as many people as possible in a 'genocide crusade', Hatred is the second game in history to get adults only rating.

GADGETADDICT

Obviously inspired by the iPhone's glass touchscreen display, the Iconoclock, which is a wall clock that points out each hour with approximations of familiar app icons. Its crystal face delivers a similar jet black yet glossy background as the ubiquitous smartphone.

web update

Coalition urges media to seek integration of AI in news reporting

Media practitioners, especially journalists, have been charged to mount pressure on the Federal Government to ensure inclusivity in the adoption and deployment of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in news reporting.

At a Training for Journalists on Effective Reporting on AI organised in Yaba, Lagos, by Nigeria Religious Coalition on Artificial Intelligence (NRCAI), comprising Christian Council of Nigeria (CCN) and Jama'atu Nasril Islam (JNI), reporters were advised to report scientific findings on AI and encourage action that will not make Nigerians mere consumers of AI ideas from the West, but also co-creators of AI tools and information.

According to the Executive Director of Renevlyn Development Initiative (RDI), Philip Jakpor, global trends in the evolving AI world have shown that indigenous cultures and religions are being eroded because AI systems rely on large datasets that promote Western viewpoints and nuanced cultural narratives. He lamented Africa's backwardness in the race,

largely due to limited infrastructure, low local representation in data, and high implementation costs.

In his welcome address, the General Secretary of CCN, Rev Dr Evans Onyemara, said the AI project was dear to CCN; hence, it had been working to train religious leaders in AI. It added that the Muslims were not left behind, as it was working with the JNI. In his overview of the national AI strategy 2024 (with a focus on Pillar 4.0) concerning religion in Nigeria, the Director of the CCN-Institute of Church and Society, Ibadan, Oyo State, Rev. Kolade Fadahunsi, noted that they were working with the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA).

He said they had told NITDA and other relevant agencies to provide information on the technical robustness of the country for AI adoption.

Affirming how powerful China has become in the field of AI, he said: "If China wants to puncture our faith, it will just flood our systems with AI." Veteran journalist, Tope Oluwaleye, took the journalists through what they are



Stakeholders

Guide to AI Tools, noted that AI is good but can be dangerous if care is not taken. Veteran journalist, Tope Oluwaleye, took the journalists through what they are

supposed to know, but in the AI and religion aspect. According to him, religion is inseparable from daily life in many communities; hence, it is important not to overlook its influences.

Nigeria advances strategic partnership with Google on AI, digital governance

The Federal Government of Nigeria and Google have advanced discussions toward a structured strategic partnership focused on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and digital governance.

This was disclosed on the official Facebook page of Nigeria's Ministry of Foreign Affairs after a meeting between the Foreign Affairs Minister, Amb. Yusuf Tuggar, and Google's Regional Director for Government Affairs and Public Policy in Sub-Saharan Africa, Charles Murito, in Abuja.

Their discussions built on earlier exchanges at the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos, Switzerland.

The engagement focused on three strategic priorities: deepening long-term collaboration beyond digital infrastructure, institutionalising AI skills and knowledge transfer, and strengthening anticipatory



Murito and Tuggar

diplomacy tools to enhance information integrity and democratic resilience.

The Ministry stated that technical teams from both sides will continue working

to define clear, implementable outcomes at the intersection of AI, governance, and regional stability.

LG launches artificial intelligence-powered home appliances for Middle East, Africa

LG Electronics has unveiled a lineup of artificial intelligence-powered home appliances tailored for the Middle East and Africa MEA market at LG InnoFest 2026 MEA held in Abu Dhabi recently.

The exhibition, themed Innovation Forward Together, featured the company's latest developments in clothing care, built-in kitchen, and total cleaning solutions, with a focus on user-centric design and regional adaptation.

The company said in a statement that the event returning after a seven-year hiatus serves as the company's flagship regional platform for partners and media engagement. LG said the 2026 edition reflects its strategy to deepen market presence across MEA countries.

Speaking at the event, Hyung Sub Ji, President of LG West Africa Subsidiary said the company remains committed to delivering locally optimised solutions to enhance everyday life across the Middle East and Africa.

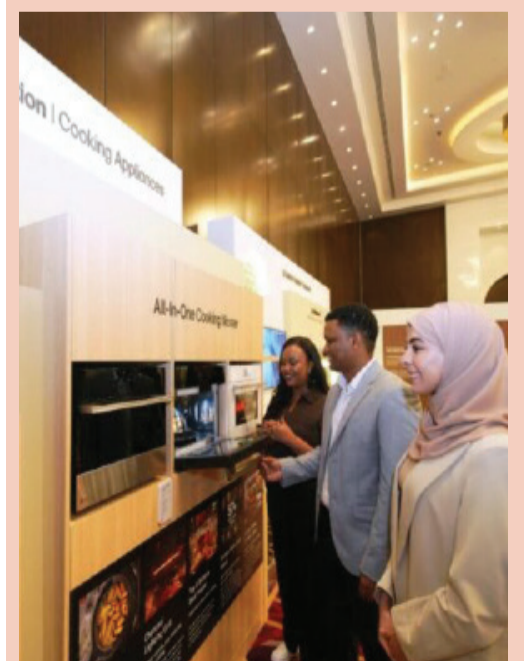
He added that LG will continue to pursue innovation and strategic partnerships to drive sustainable growth in the region.

According to the statement at the event, LG introduced next-generation residential laundry appliances built on its AI Core Tech platform.

The lineup includes models equipped with AI Wash and AI Dry features to improve washing and drying efficiency. Among the products showcased was the 29-inch LG SIGNATURE WashCombo, an all-in-one washer-dryer designed with a large capacity. The company also expanded its LG WashTower range with a new 25-inch model in addition to existing 24-inch and 27-inch variants to meet diverse installation requirements.

The WashTower integrates a washer and dryer into a single vertical unit to optimise space. Also introduced was a 27-inch WashCombo designed for larger households, offering 25-kilogram washing and 21-kilogram drying capacities.

The appliance is equipped with DUAL Inverter HeatPump technology to enhance drying performance and energy efficiency.



Exhibition

WORLD NEWS

BY ABDULLAHI HARUNA

Kenya administers HIV prevention drug to slum dwellers

Kenya began administering the first dose of a groundbreaking HIV prevention drug in a Nairobi slum on Thursday.

Lenacapavir, taken twice a year, has been shown to reduce the risk of HIV transmission by more than 99.9 per cent, though it is technically a chemical drug rather than a vaccine because it does not train the immune system.

"Today is a moment of hope for thousands of Kenyan families," Health Minister Aden Duale said during the rollout.

Kenya was among nine African countries selected last year to introduce lenacapavir, which has already been introduced in South Africa, Eswatini and Zambia since December. Roughly 1.3 million people are living with HIV in Kenya, with the highest burden among those aged 15 to 24.

"Many of our young people still face the risk of infection... this innovation gives us renewed strength in our national fight against HIV," Duale said, adding that the drug will be free to those receiving it.

Last week, Kenya received its first batch of 21,000 doses through a deal with lenacapavir's manufacturer, Gilead Sciences, and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS.

The rollout comes as African countries grapple with United States aid cuts that have affected HIV/AIDS programmes across the continent.



Lenacapavir

Bolivian military aircraft crashes with newly printed banknotes

A transport aircraft operated by the Bolivian Air Force crashed on Friday evening while attempting to land near La Paz, killing at least 20 people and injuring more than 30 others, authorities said.

The Hercules C-130 plane, which was conveying newly printed banknotes, was trying to touch down at El Alto International Airport when it skidded off the runway amid severe weather and ploughed into a nearby highway.

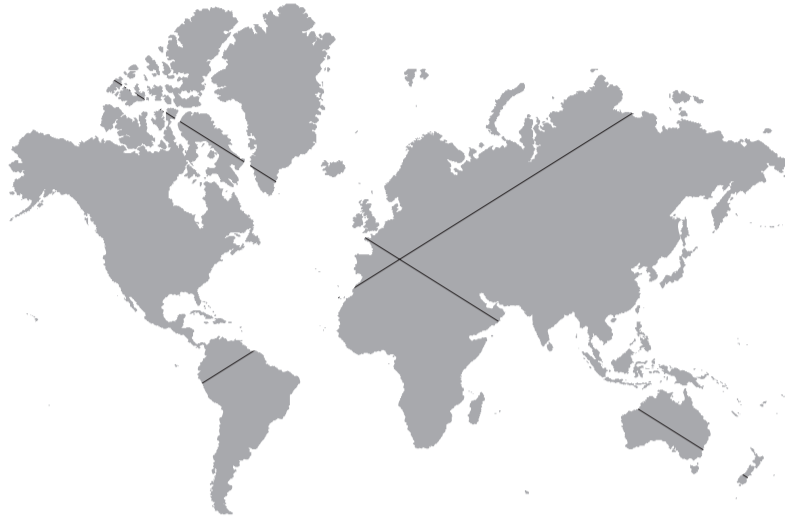
Confirming the death toll, Police Colonel Rene Tambo, head of the homicide division in El Alto said, "There are about 20, maybe a few more."

Defence Minister Marcelo Salinas said the aircraft "landed and veered off the runway" before coming to rest in an open field.

Firefighters extinguished a blaze that broke out after the impact, while investigations into the cause of the crash are ongoing.

Witnesses described a violent storm at the time of the incident. "There was a heavy hailstorm and lightning," said Cristina Choque, a 60-year-old roadside vendor whose car was hit by debris, in comments to AFP.

Videos circulating on social media showed chaotic scenes at the crash site, with wrecked vehicles, scattered debris and crowds converging on the area.



Pakistan launches cross-border air strikes, warns Taliban of crushing response



War zone

Tensions between Pakistan and Afghanistan have sharply escalated following fresh cross-border airstrikes ordered by Islamabad, with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif declaring that Pakistan's armed forces are prepared to "crush" Taliban-linked militants threatening national security.

According to Pakistani security officials, the strikes targeted suspected militant hideouts along Afghanistan's eastern border regions. Authorities in Islamabad say the operation was a direct response to a surge in cross-border attacks blamed on insurgent groups operating from Afghan soil.

At the centre of the dispute is the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), a banned militant organisation that has intensified attacks on Pakistani military personnel and civilians in recent months. Pakistani officials allege that TTP fighters have found sanctuary inside Afghanistan since the Afghan Taliban returned to power in 2021 — a claim Kabul has repeatedly denied.

In a strongly worded address, Sharif said Pakistan would not allow its sovereignty to be undermined. He emphasised that the military has been given full backing to neutralise threats wherever they originate.

"We will take every necessary step to defend our people and territory," he stated, signalling a tougher security posture.

The Afghan Taliban administration

condemned the strikes, describing them as a violation of Afghanistan's territorial integrity.

Officials in Kabul warned that such actions could damage bilateral ties and risk broader instability in an already volatile region.

Relations between the two neighbours have remained fragile since the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan. Despite shared security and economic interests, mistrust has deepened over border management, militant activity, and refugee flows.

Pakistan hosts millions of Afghan refugees and has recently tightened border controls, further straining relations.

Security analysts warn that continued military escalation could have far-reaching consequences. Beyond the immediate security concerns, cross-border fighting risks worsening humanitarian conditions in frontier communities, many of which are already grappling with poverty and displacement.

Diplomatic observers are urging both governments to reopen security dialogue mechanisms to prevent the situation from spiralling into sustained conflict.

However, with militant attacks on the rise and political pressure mounting in Islamabad, prospects for quick de-escalation remain uncertain.

The latest developments mark one of the most serious flare-ups between the two countries in recent months, raising fears that tit-for-tat military actions could entrench a dangerous cycle of confrontation.



Clinton

Hillary Clinton denies ties to Epstein's crimes, urges Congress to question Trump

Former US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has told a congressional panel she "had no idea" about the criminal activities of disgraced financier Jeffrey Epstein, while calling on lawmakers to require former President Donald Trump to testify under oath about his past association with Epstein.

Clinton spent nearly six hours behind closed doors on Thursday answering questions from the United States House Committee on Oversight and Accountability, which is investigating matters related to Epstein and his network.

Speaking to reporters afterwards in Chappaqua, New York, she said she wanted the full truth to emerge.

"I had no idea about their criminal activities," she said, referring to Epstein and his convicted associate Ghislaine Maxwell. Clinton added that she does not recall ever encountering Epstein, never flew on his plane, and never visited his island, homes, or offices.

Clinton expressed disappointment that her testimony was not conducted publicly, arguing that transparency would have prevented selective leaks. Nevertheless, she said she appreciated that Committee Chairman James Comer raised substantive questions and allowed her to outline areas she believes require further scrutiny.

Her appearance comes amid mounting political tensions surrounding the investigation. The Clintons had initially resisted the committee's subpoena, describing it as politically motivated. However, they agreed to testify after the possibility of contempt-of-Congress proceedings loomed.

Hillary Clinton also criticised Republican members of the committee for what she described as a lack of broader questioning of other witnesses connected to Epstein or Maxwell.

She pressed lawmakers to summon Trump directly, citing his name's repeated appearance in Justice Department files related to Epstein. There is no suggestion that inclusion in those documents implies wrongdoing.

The hearing was briefly interrupted after a photo from inside the closed-door session was leaked. Democratic lawmakers said the image, reportedly taken by Colorado Congresswoman Lauren Boebert, violated committee rules. Clinton later said her team paused proceedings to ensure compliance with confidentiality requirements.

Democrats on the panel defended Clinton strongly during a break in the deposition, dismissing the inquiry as politically charged and unproductive. The committee's top Democrat, Congressman Robert Garcia, called for the immediate release of the full, unedited transcript within 24 hours and renewed demands for Trump's testimony.

Chairman Comer, however, said it was unfortunate that it took months to arrange the deposition but maintained that Clinton answered most of the committee's questions. He noted that while many issues were addressed, some responses left members unsatisfied.

DID YOU KNOW?

BY VIVIAN OKAFOR

Bamboo is the world's fastest-growing plant

Bamboo is recognised as the world's fastest-growing plant, with certain species like *Phyllostachys edulis* (Moso) capable of growing over 90 cm (35 inches) per day—nearly 4 cm per hour—under ideal conditions.

As a member of the grass family, it reaches full height within a few months and matures in 3-5 years, making it a highly sustainable, renewable resource.

According to Guinness World Records, specific bamboo species can grow up to 91 cm (35 in) a day. Some studies have even documented rates up to 114.5 cm (45 inches) in 24 hours.

Bamboo shoots grow from an underground system called a rhizome. They

shoot up at a constant diameter, using rapid water uptake to inflate and elongate cells. It acts as a significant carbon sink, absorbing 17 tons of CO₂ per hectare annually, and releases 35% more oxygen than equivalent timber stands.

Despite being a grass, bamboo is incredibly strong, possessing higher tensile strength than steel and higher compressive strength than concrete. It is used for sustainable construction, "green steel," flooring, and textiles.

While known for tropical environments, bamboo grows on every continent except Antarctica. The rapid growth is driven by evolutionary pressure to reach sunlight in dense, shaded environments.



Bees dance to communicate



Honey bees use a sophisticated "waggle dance" to communicate the precise location, distance, and quality of food sources or new nesting sites to hive mates.

By performing a figure-eight pattern on the honeycomb, the dancer indicates direction via the angle of the run relative to the sun and distance through the duration of the waggle.

Waggle dance is used for resources further away (typically over 10 meters). The longer the straight "waggle" run, the further away the food is. Round dance is used to inform

other bees that nectar is nearby (within 10 meters). The angle of the straight run compared to vertical on the comb represents the angle of the food source relative to the sun.

Bees also perform "shaking," "tremble," and "alarm" dances to manage resources, request grooming, or warn of danger. This complex behaviour is

considered a form of symbolic language. While dances are crucial, bees also use scent and, in some cases, memory of previous sites to locate resources.

LIVING LEGENDS

BY AISHA AUYO
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Engr. Isaac David Balami, Renowned Aviation Engineer

Engr. Isaac David Balami is a distinguished Nigerian aviation engineer, entrepreneur, and reformer dedicated to advancing Africa's aviation industry.

Rising from humble beginnings, he turned his passion for aviation into a purpose, becoming one of Nigeria's most recognised aviation figures.

A certified aircraft maintenance engineer and former National President of the National Association of Aircraft Pilots and Engineers (NAAPE), he led transformative reforms that elevated the visibility and welfare of aviation professionals nationwide.

He is the Founder of Isaac Balami University of Aeronautics and Management (IBUAM), Africa's first privately owned Aeronautics University, designed to produce globally competent aviators and managers.

At IBUAM, every student graduates with a university degree, an Aircraft Piloting License, and over 1,000 hours of annual live aircraft experience using advanced simulation technologies from Boeing, Lockheed, and Rolls-Royce.

Engr. Balami also leads the 7Star Global Group, owners of the private Approved Maintenance Organisation (AMO) facility with the largest operational specification in West and Central Africa.

Academically, he holds a Master's in Fraud and Risk Management from the University of Salford, UK, and qualifications in Aviation Management and Aircraft Maintenance Engineering, with his ongoing doctoral programme in California.

Through the Isaac Balami Foundation and the Nigeria Rebirth Foundation, he continues to empower youth, promote leadership, and champion national transformation.

Engineer Isaac Balami recently appeared on Arise TV to announce the licensing of the Isaac Balami University of Aeronautics and Management (IBUAM). This visionary milestone marks a new era for aviation and leadership education in Nigeria.

IBUAM is set to bridge the gap between technical excellence and world-class management training, further advancing the mission of the Isaac Balami Foundation to empower future leaders in the aviation sector and beyond.

Beyond aviation, Balami's humanitarian work has also earned widespread acclaim. Through the Isaac Balami Foundation (IBF), he has provided support to more than 500 orphans and underprivileged individuals with housing, education, and empowerment opportunities.



Umeoji



Engr. Balami

Adaora Umeoji, Banker and First Female CEO of Zenith Bank

Adaora Umeoji, OON, is a Nigerian banking executive, entrepreneur and philanthropist appointed as the first female Group Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer of Zenith Bank.

Adaora Umeoji was born on 8 February 1974. She obtained a Bachelor of Science in Sociology from the University of Jos, and another Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Baze University, Abuja. She completed the Advanced Management Programme (AMP) at Harvard Business School, United States and earned a Certificate in the Global Banking Programme from Columbia Business School, United States.

She received her Master's of Laws from the University of Salford, United Kingdom, and a Master's in Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Calabar. She also holds a doctorate in business administration from Apollos University. Additionally, Umeoji earned a Certificate in Economics for Business from MIT Sloan School of Management and completed the strategic thinking and management programme at Wharton Business School.

Recognised as a peace advocate by the United Nations (UN-POLAC), she received the Officer of the Order of Nigeria (OON) national honour from the Nigerian government in 2022.

In 2023, Umeoji received the Humanitarian Services Icon of the Year Award at The Sun Awards for her phil-

anthropic works and commitment to improving the lives of less privileged persons.

In 2024, she received the Banker of the Year 2024 - Leadership Award from Nigeria's Leadership Newspaper. She was recognised and honoured in 2025 by Arise News as an Exceptional Woman Making Impact Adaora Umeoji: Driving Financial Innovation at Zenith Bank.

Adaora Umeoji received the 2025 Award for "Outstanding Female Bank Managing Director" from the Nigeria Chapter of the Women in Aviation International WAI.

She was also honoured with the 2025 Community Excellence Award by the Rotary District 9142.

In 2024, the Association of Professional Women Bankers (APWB) recognised Umeoji for her Remarkable Leadership and Contributions to the Banking Industry.

Adaora Umeoji received the Security Conscious Bank CEO of the Year award from the National Association of Online Security News Publishers (NAOSNP).

She was conferred with the honour of the Award of Excellence on SDGs Advancement by the Centre for Sustainable Development Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka.

At the 2025 25th Anniversary of the Bisi Olatilo Show, Umeoji was awarded the Banker of the Year Award at the BOS Awards.

ANIMAL WORLD

By Fatima Ma'aji Muhammad
(student at Helwan University, Cairo, Egypt)

Explore the unique, significant importance and role of the chameleon in evolution

The chameleon holds a distinguished place in the study of evolution. Belonging to the family Chamaeleonidae, it is widely recognised for its remarkable adaptation to life among trees. Every detail of its structure serves a clear and practical purpose.

Most chameleons inhabit branches where balance, grip, and control are essential for survival. Their feet are divided into two opposing groups of toes, forming a strong grasp on even the narrowest perches.

Their prehensile tails curl securely around branches, providing added stability and confidence in movement. Even their slow, deliberate walk is strategic. By swaying gently as they move, they resemble leaves stirred by the wind, reducing the risk of detection by predators.

Perhaps the most striking feature of the chameleon is its vision. Each eye can move independently, allowing it to observe different directions



simultaneously.

This near-panoramic awareness keeps it alert to both prey and threat. When an insect comes within reach, both eyes align to measure distance

with accuracy.

In a fraction of a second, its long tongue extends with remarkable speed and precision, securing its target before swiftly retracting.

Equally impressive is the chameleon's ability to change colour. This transformation is not merely camouflage. Specialised layers of cells beneath the skin

reflect light in varying ways, enabling colour shifts influenced by temperature, mood, or social interaction. The chameleon survives not through aggression

or haste, but through patience, awareness, and refined adaptation. It is a powerful reminder that in nature, mastery often lies in quiet control rather than force.

JOKES AND PUZZLES

BY ABDULLAHI HARUNA

JOKES

1. Why don't skeletons fight each other?
Answer: They don't have the guts.
2. Why did the computer go to therapy?
Answer: It had too many unresolved issues.
3. Why did the math book look worried?
Answer: It had too many problems.
4. Why don't eggs tell secrets?
Answer: They might crack up.
5. Why did the scarecrow get promoted?
Answer: He was outstanding in his field.
6. Why did the bicycle fall over?
Answer: It was two-tiered.
7. Why don't programmers like nature?
Answer: Too many bugs.
8. Why did the coffee file a police report?
Answer: It got mugged.
9. Why did the tomato blush?
Answer: It saw the salad dressing.
10. Why can't your nose be 12 inches long?
Answer: Because then it would be a foot.
11. Why did the stadium get hot after the game?
Answer: All the fans left.
12. Why did the student eat his homework?
Answer: The teacher said it was a piece of cake.
13. Why are ghosts bad liars?
Answer: Because you can see right through them.
14. Why did the chicken join a band?
Answer: Because it had the drumsticks.
15. Why did the banker switch careers?
Answer: He lost interest.
16. Why did the cookie go to the hospital?
Answer: It felt crummy.
17. Why did the calendar get nervous?
Answer: Its days were numbered.
18. Why did the fisherman bring a ladder?
Answer: Because the fish were on another level.



RIDDLES

1. What has keys but can't open locks?
Answer: A piano
2. What has a heart that doesn't beat?
Answer: An artichoke
3. What gets wetter the more it dries?
Answer: A towel
4. I speak without a mouth and hear without ears. What am I?
Answer: An echo
5. What has hands but can't clap?
Answer: A clock
6. What has an eye but cannot see?
Answer: A needle
7. What comes once in a minute, twice in a moment, but never in a thousand years?
Answer: The letter M
8. What can travel around the world while staying in a corner?
Answer: A stamp
9. What has a neck but no head, two arms but no hands?
Answer: A shirt
10. The more you take, the more you leave behind. What am I?
Answer: Footsteps
11. What begins with T, ends with T, and has T in it?
Answer: A teapot
12. What can you catch but not throw?
Answer: A cold
13. What has a face and two hands, but no arms or legs?
Answer: A clock
14. What runs but never walks, has a mouth but never talks?
Answer: A river



15. I have branches, but no fruit, trunk, or leaves. What am I?
Answer: A bank
16. What is always in front of you but can't be seen?
Answer: The future
17. What have cities with no houses, rivers with no water, and roads with no cars?
Answer: A map
18. What goes up but never comes down?
Answer: Your age
19. What is full of holes but still holds water?

SPORTS: BEHIND THE SCENES

By Muhammad Kukuri
MuhammadKukuri@neptuneprime.com.ng

Cristiano Ronaldo and the distance between ordinary and extraordinary



Ronaldo

As a child in Madeira, Cristiano Ronaldo shared a small room with his siblings. His family

didn't have much, but he had something priceless — a dream bigger than his circumstances.

He was skinny. Coaches worried he was too frail. At one point, he was even diagnosed with a

heart condition that could have ended his football journey before it truly began. Surgery followed.

Recovery followed. But quitting? That was never an option. When he moved from

Madeira to Lisbon to join Sporting CP, he was just a boy far from home. He missed his family. He cried some nights. Yet every morning, he trained harder than everyone else. While others rested, he practised free kicks. While others celebrated small wins, he chased bigger goals.

Years later, stadiums around the world chanted his name. Trophies, records, Ballon d'Or awards — the boy who was once doubted became one of football's most relentless competitors.

But what truly defines his story isn't just talent. It's discipline. Ronaldo is known for staying after training, maintaining strict fitness routines, and constantly demanding more from himself — even after reaching the top.

What his journey exemplifies:

You don't control where you start.

You don't control who doubts you.

But you control your effort. Success is rarely accidental.

It's built in silence, in sacrifice, in the choice to work when no one is watching.

Simone Biles: The champion who knew when to push forward and when to pause

When Simone Biles was a little girl bouncing around her grandparents' living room, no one knew she would become one of the greatest gymnasts in history. She was small, energetic, and often underestimated. But inside her was a quiet fire — a determination that refused to shrink. Training was not glamorous. It meant early mornings, sore muscles, strict routines, and repeating the same move hundreds of times until it was perfect. She fell. She slipped. She missed landings. But every fall taught her something. Instead of seeing mistakes as failure, she saw them as instructions.

As the world watched her dominate the Olympic Games, it looked effortless. Gold medals, gravity-defying

flips, history-making performances. But what people didn't always see were the years of discipline, the mental battles, and the courage it took to protect her well-being when pressure became overwhelming. In one of her most powerful moments, Simone showed that strength isn't just physical — it's mental. Choosing to prioritise her health over public expectation proved that true champions know when to push forward and when to pause.

In her case, greatness is not about never struggling. It's about refusing to let struggle define you. You don't have to be the biggest, the loudest, or the most naturally gifted. You just have to be consistent. Show up. Improve by one per cent. Believe when no one else sees the vision.



Biles

BOOKS

BY MUHAMMAD AL-TJANI

Then I Was Guided (16)

CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK

I asked, "Who is being referred to as Ahl al-Bayt in this Qur'anic verse?" He answered me immediately, "The wives of the Prophet (saw), and the verse started by mentioning them: 'O wives of the Prophet, you are not like any other women, if you fear God.'" (Holy Qur'an 22:32)

I said to him, "The Shi'a Ulama say that it is 'Ali, Fatima, al-Hasan and al-Husayn, but of course I disagree with them because the beginning of the verse states: O wives of the Prophet. But they answered me as follows. That if the verse meant them (i.e. the wives of the Prophet), then the grammatical form would have been feminine throughout. But the Highest says: 'You are not (like any other women) if you fear God, be not soft in your speech, speak, stay in your houses, do not display your finery, keep up your prayers, give the alms, obey Allah and His Messenger.'" (All the above verbs are in the feminine form.)

And then, in the section of the verse which refers to Ahl al-Bayt, the form changes, so He says: "To keep away the uncleanness ... and to purify you (in the masculine grammatical form)." He removed his spectacles and looked at me then said, "Beware of these poisonous ideas, the Shias

change the words of Allah in the way they like, and they have many verses about 'Ali and his off-spring that we do not know. In fact they have a special Qur'an. They call it The Qur'an of Fatimah. I warn you not to be deceived by them." I replied, "Do not worry sir, I am on my guard, and I know many things about them, but I just wanted to find out." He asked, "Where are you from?" I said, "From Tunisia." He asked, "What is your name?" I replied, "Al-Tijani." He laughed with arrogance and said, "Do you know who Ahmed al-Tijani was?" I

answered, "He was the Shaykh of a Sufi order." He said, "He was an agent of the French Colonial authorities, and the French Colonial system established itself in Algeria and Tunisia with his help, and if you visit Paris go to the National Bibliothique and read for yourself in the French Dictionary under 'A' and you will find France gave the Legion de Honour to Ahmed al-Tijani who gave them incalculable help."

I was surprised at what he said, but I thanked him and bade him farewell. I stayed in al-Medinah for a whole week, and I prayed forty prayers and visited all the holy places. During my stay there I made very careful observations, and as a result I became more and more critical of the Wahabis. I left al-Medinah al-Munawwarah and went to Jordan to see some friends I had met while on my way to the pilgrimage, as I indicated before. I stayed with them for three days, and found them full of hatred towards the Shi'a, more so than the people in Tunisia.

There were the same stories and the same rumors, and everyone I asked for proof, answered that "he had heard about them," but I found nobody who had had contact with the Shi'a or read a book by the Shi'a or even met a Shi'i in all his life. From Jordan I went to Syria, and in Damascus I visited the Umayyad Mosque, next to which is the place where the head of our master al-Husayn is resting; also I visited the grave of Salah al-Din al-Ayyubi and our lady Zaynab bint 'Ali ibn Abi Talib.

From Beirut I took a ship that was going directly to Tripoli. The journey lasted for four days, during which I relaxed physically and mentally. I reviewed the whole trip in my mind and concluded that I had developed an inclination and respect towards the Shi'a; in the meantime I started to resent and

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Muhammad al-Tijani al-Samawi

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keep away from the sinister Wahabis. I thanked Allah for what He had given me and for His care and asked Him, Praise he to Him the Highest, to lead me to the right path.

I arrived home eager to meet my family and friends and found them all well. I was surprised when I entered my house and found many books had arrived home before me but I knew where they had come from. When I opened these books, which filled the whole house, I felt grateful to those people who had not broken their promises. In fact the books they sent me by post exceeded the number of books that had been given to me as presents there.

I was very grateful for the books which I organized and kept in a special place, which called the library. I rested for a few days, and received the time-table for the new academic year, and found out that I had to work for three consecutive days, and that for the rest of the week I was off-

duty. I started reading the books, so I read "The Beliefs of al-Imamiyya" and "The Origin and Principles of al Shi'a," and felt that my mind was at ease with the beliefs and ideas of the Shi'a. Then I read "al Murajaat (correspondences)" by al-Sayyid Sharaf al-Din al-Musawi. As soon as I read the first few pages, I became engrossed in it and could not leave it unless it was necessary, and even took it with me to the institute. I was surprised at the straight forward clarity of the Shi'i scholar when he solved problems that appeared complicated to the Sunni scholar from al-Azhar.

I found my objective in the book, because it is not like any ordinary book where the author writes whatever he likes without criticism or discussion, for "al-Murajaat" is in the form of a dialogue between two scholars, who belong to a different creed, and are critical of each other's statement. Both base their analysis on the

two important references for all Muslims: The Holy Qur'an and the Right Sunnah which is approved in Sihah al-Sittah. I found that there was something common between myself and the idea of the book: for I was an investigator searching for the truth, and was willing to accept it wherever it was found. Therefore I found this book immensely useful, and I owe it a great deal. I was astonished when I found him talking about the refusal of some of the Companions to comply with the orders of the Prophet(saw), and he gave many examples, including the incident of "Raziyat Yawm al-Khamis (The Calamity of Thursday)", for I could not imagine that our master Umar ibn al-Khattab had disagreed with the orders of the Messenger of Allah (saw) and accused him of Hajjr (talking irrationally), and I thought at the beginning that it was just a story from the Shi'a books.

However, I was even more astonished when I noticed that the Shi'i scholar made his

reference to the incident in the "Sahih of al-Bukhari" and the "Sahih of Muslim". I travelled to the Capital, and from there I bought the "Sahih of al-Bukhari", the "Sahih of Muslim", and the "Mosnad of Imam Ahmed", the "Sahih of al-Tirmidhi", the "Muwatta of Imam Malik" and other famous books. I could not wait to get back to the house and read these books, so throughout the journey between Tunis and Gafsah I sat in the bus looking through the pages of al-Bukhari's book searching for the incident of "The great misfortune of Thursday" and hoping that I would never find it.

Nevertheless, I found it and read it many times; and there it was, exactly as it has been cited by al-Sayyid Sharaf al-Din.

I tried to deny the incident in its entirety, and could not believe that our master Umar had played such a dangerous role; but how could I deny it since it was mentioned in our Sihahs; the Sihahs of al-Sunnah, in whose contents we are obliged to believe, so if we doubt them or deny some of them, it means that we abandon all our beliefs. If the Shi'a scholar had referred to their books, I would not have believed what he said, but he was referring to the Sihahs of al-Sunnah, which could not be challenged, because we are committed to believe that they are the most authentic books after the Book of Allah.

Therefore, the issue is a compelling one, because if we doubt these Sihahs we are left with hardly any of the rules and regulations of Islam to rely on. This is because the rules and regulations which are mentioned in the Book of Allah take the form of general concepts rather than details. We are far from the time of the Message, and have thus inherited the rules of our religion through our fathers and grandfathers with the help of these Sihahs, which cannot be ignored.

TO BE CONTINUED

SPACE
AVAILABLE

The Arbiter

BY HASSAN GIMBA



A cocktail of Fintiri, NEPA meters, Borno flood and Malami's son

This piece was originally published in September 2024, we are republishing it again in light of recent critical developments across the country, to provide deeper insight and context.

"This was a lynching. Make no mistake, this was state-sanctioned murder of an innocent Black man. Governor Parson had the responsibility to save a life, and he didn't. When DNA evidence exonerates a man, capital punishment is not justice—it is murder. Trump, McConnell, and the conservative Supreme Court justices now have blood on their hands." – NAACP President Derrick Johnson, reacting to the execution of Marcellus Williams.

When an election for the Governor of Edo State took place, winners and losers have emerged. All political parties, especially the two giants—All Progressives Congress (APC) and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP)—sang their songs, but that of the APC, the winner, was the loudest.

And as with every election in Nigeria, those who win are rejoicing in their victory, and telling grumpy losers to "go to court," knowing fully well that politicians have an adage that says "it is better to be taken to court than to go to court". Here, we have a Hausa saying, "Aikin gama ya gama" or "The deed has been done" because overturning an election victory in court is nigh impossible. I wouldn't have brought Edo and the election here if not for the complaint attributed to Ahmadu Umaru Fintiri, the governor of Adamawa State, who led the PDP group to prosecute the election in the state as chairperson of the PDP campaign council.

He lamented that the poll was marred by "vote-buying, disruption of collation processes, and suspicious results." Posting on his X handle, he added, "I weep for Nigeria's democracy after witnessing the shameful Edo gubernatorial poll." I do not know why some of our politicians always do not see how they are bastardising our democracy because of

their interests, yet are quick to notice those of others, even if in the figments of their imaginations. At present, the party that Fintiri owes his stature to is facing existential blitzes from fifth columnists who are hand-in-gloves with a serving minister who was a governor. Where has the Adamawa Governor pitched his tent to salvage the PDP? If tolerating a person who, for personal reasons, is destroying your party is not worth weeping for, then I do not know what is.

For many of our politicians, the wise words of Matthew 7:3-5: "Why do you see the speck in your neighbour's eye, but do not notice the log in your eye? Or how can you say to your neighbour, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye', while the log is in your eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbour's eye," is the best answer. Our leaders need to be sincere to themselves and the people they lead. It is this sincerity, which is lacking in some NEPA staff, that is causing part of our problems with the poor power supply we are battling with. I prefer to use NEPA because all the changes in names, structure, and duties have not worked well for us. To Nigerians, NEPA is NEPA, that's all.

To be accountable, meters were supposed to be provided to consumers, but because with the meter you pay only for what you consume, the staff have sabotaged that. They make sure meters are not available and, where available, you pay through the nose to get one. They make it difficult to get a meter because they prefer to hand you estimated bills where, like monsters that suck blood, they suck consumers dry. I recently became a victim of these monsters who billed me close to N500,000 and about N60,000 monthly



Dr Gimba

for what I did not consume, as I mainly rely on solar energy. A complaint to their headquarters in Abuja is still hanging, being treated with no serious interest. My experience is no doubt what thousands of helpless Nigerians go through at the hands of NEPA officials. You often want to

cry and ask, "Why do we get tripped in making our people suffer?"

One reason Nigeria continues on its sorry path is that no one holds accountable those who cause suffering to the people through commission or omission. Take the case of the

Maiduguri flood that has displaced at least a million people, killed hundreds and destroyed properties worth billions of naira. Surely there must be an official failure. Or neglect. The question on the lips of all discerning people is, "Who is going to pay for it?"

The authorities established a committee to investigate the imminent collapse of the Alau Dam and provide recommendations for safety measures. That committee turned in a report that said "all is well" to the governor and that there was no

"cause for alarm". Okay, at first, one may assume the "everything is okay" was for public consumption so as not to cause panic, but for the dam to collapse at midnight, barely three days after the report is unforgivable. Some people must take responsibility and must pay for it. In a saner clime, the governor would resign. However, since resignation is not an option in Nigeria, the authorities must ensure that they take action against the officials responsible for the false or unprofessional reports and bring them to trial in a court of competent jurisdiction.

Our lack of meting out justice and prosecuting offenders is a reason the crime rate is on the rise and people commit offences with impunity. Because we have a brief attention span, we talk and forget everything after a while. As a result, governance has become a joke and those at the helm of affairs flaunt their disdain for accountability in our faces and dare us to do "our worst", knowing our worst is to clap for them and line up for our crumbs from their tables. If not, how do you explain the inexplicable riches of one barely out of diapers, 29-year-old, Abdulazeez Abubakar Malami, whose only CV is being Abubakar Malami's, Nigeria's Attorney-General and Minister of Justice for eight years under Muhammadu Buhari's government's son? He is now the group managing director of Rayhaan Group, an overnight multi-billion naira Nigerian conglomerate with stakes in hospitality, communications, agriculture, education, security, real estate and rice milling.

Sadly, with all these and more, and hearing some things like the controversy surrounding Bobrisky's imprisonment, you want to give up. Nigeria baffles.

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