

Erosion Reduces 84 Per Cent Of Lagos Shoreline In 50 Years



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Erosion Reduces 84 Per Cent Of Lagos Shoreline In 50 Years

According to a study, some parts of Lagos State may soon experience landslides due to erosion. The study "Shoreline Erosion", published by Scientific Research, says 84% of Lagos' shoreline has retreated in the last 50 years at a rate of 2.64 meters per year. The study attributed the erosion to deepwater ports along the Bight of Benin, Illegal mining, Eko Atlantic construction, sea level rise, storm surges and urban growth.

Meanwhile, another study carried out by the state Ministry of Environment and Water Resources showed cases of widespread soil erosion in places like Alimosho, Mosan-Okunola, Isheri, Ojodu, Egbe-Idimu, Agbado Oke-Odo, Ifako-ljaiye, Oke-Ira, threatening lives and properties of residents. The study attributed the erosion to unsustainable soil usage.

These are a few of several studies uncovered by Echonews during an investigation of soil

Kunle Awosiyan

erosion. They observed several studies on soil erosion in Lagos, including studies on the shoreline and environmental decay.

A study on environmental degradation in the Ikorodu Sub-Urban Lagos found that built-up land use increased from 6.4% in 1980 to 19.16% in 2015. Light forest decreased from 81.33% in 1980 to 67.89% in 2015

The steepest slope ranges were mostly prone to soil erosion. The loamy soil that should be used for agricultural purposes is being eroded by 0.7 per cent daily. At the same time, 25.70% and 39.7% of the basin had a high and very high likelihood of being eroded.

Many residents live in the gully at Oke-Ira, the Ogba area of Lagos, which our correspondent visited. The community is not structured and widely open to gully erosion. It was observed that the residents hardly sleep in the community during the rainy season, and those on



Goernor Babajide Sanwo-Olu

the upland are always afraid of landslides. Houses were built on the cliff.

In some areas in Magodo

and Isheri, houses were built at the steep edge of the upland, making it prone to landsliding.

However, a resident who

refused to mention his name in the Shangosha area of Magodo told our correspondent that the state government approved the houses.

He said, "It has been assessed and found to be safe,". He said the Lagos State Government officers came some time ago to look at the structures here and gave it a pass mark. "Note that the buildings here passed through certification by the government," he said.

However, to a resident at Oke-Ira who identified herself as Mrs Morounkeji Alabi, staying in the lowland is destiny. , "This is where I have found myself after years of paying high rent as a tenant. I don't mind the erosion as much as it will not kill me."

Lagos State Government demolished over 300 buildings last year due to structural defects. The Special Adviser to the state governor on e-GIS and Urban Development, Dr Olajide Babatunde, added that 354 distressed structures were identified, and 85 per cent were brought down.

:Some of these structures were weakened by perennial erosion of their foundations," former Chairman of the Nigerian Institute of Town Planners, TP Ayodele Adejumo said. He attributed the problem of urban development to a lack of proper regulation on the side of the government, adding that unapproved developments spring up in places not meant for such structures.



Effects of erosion on some houses

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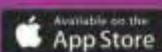









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Erosion Reduces 84 Per Cent Of Lagos Shoreline In 50 Years

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"When I was the chairman of NITP, Lagos Council, we wrote a letter to the governor to let him know about the activities of "Developers" in some parts of the state who indiscriminately build and disrupt the original setting of the town development. "When you build across the path of water, or you dig a foundation where it's not supposed to be, it is soil pollution and, of course, abnormal features on the ground," he said.

In its bid to find a lasting solution to soil erosion, the Lagos State Government has urged residents to halt the destruction of its soil, describing soil erosion as pollution and a significant threat of serious global concern.

Reacting to the threat, the Commissioner for the Environment and

Water Resources, Tokunbo Wahab, drew attention to the importance of soil health and raised awareness of the use and management of soil resources sustainably.

Wahab said that the government is collating data on soil usage to allow regulators to make informed decisions on sustainable soil management for food security.

"The importance of healthy soil cannot be overemphasised as they are essential for healthy plant growth, soil filtration processes, human nutrition through resilient agrifood systems, carbon sequestration and overall ecosystem health considering that it serves as habitat for billions of organisms serving different purposes within the ecosystem", he said. He mentioned some of the biggest threats facing soil health in the State as unsustainable sand

mining and dredging practices, indiscriminate land reclamation activities, soil erosion, deforestation, and indiscriminate solid waste disposal practices, urging communities and individuals to be environmentally mindful of the soil and give deserved attention to preserve it.

Wahab stated that raising awareness and seeking solutions to these increasing challenges raised by polluting the soil was essential.

According to him, the state is aware of issues of soil and land degradation, adding, "Loss of forest and wetland areas in the state is rampant, more than ever and with a study conducted by the Ministry, cases of widespread soil erosion were reported in places like Alimosho, Mosan-Okunola,



Tokunbo Wahab

Isheri, Ojodu, Egbe-Idimu, Agbado Oke-Odo, Ifako-Ijaiye, Oke-Ira, threatening lives and properties of residents in these areas. These were mostly attributed to unsustainable soil usage," he said.

The Commissioner stressed that the State Government has continued to

take proactive steps in stopping and reversing these trends over the years through regular, targeted tree-planting exercises to forestall soil erosion, monitoring of degraded and erosion-prone areas, and protection of wetland areas from indiscriminate reclamation.

He listed other measures, including monitoring sand mining, dredging activities, and regular stakeholder consultation, which will ensure compliance with sustainable and global best practices and identify oil-impacted or contaminated areas specifically to conserve the state's soil integrity.

"Soil management

requires a concerted effort from both Government and the general public, and it is for this reason that Lagosians are hereby enjoined to join hands with the Government in ensuring wise use of the soil and the resources within it for sustainability purposes while shunning all acts that may be inimical to their natural use and functions", he said.

(Tokunbo Wahab, Lagos Commissioner for The Environment and Water Resources)

He urged residents to eschew all activities that could lead to soil degradation and encouraged society to conduct activities that improve soil health.



Effects of erosion on some houses

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Education agency sets up MDAs network to improve services

The Lagos State Office of Education Quality Assurance (OEQA) on Monday held its Collaborative Technical Committee Quarterly Meeting with technical partners from over 25 Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) at its Headquarters in Alausa, Ikeja.

The Coordinating Director of OEQA, Mr. Remi Abdul, in his keynote address, reaffirmed the committee's commitment to improving education standards by transforming schools below the tertiary level into hubs of excellence that nurture the potential of every learner.

"This mission is as urgent as it is noble, and I am deeply grateful for the expertise, passion, and commitment that each of you brings to this table", Abdul remarked.

Highlighting the origins of the initiative, Mr. Abdul credited the Honourable Commissioner for Basic and Secondary Education, Mr. Jamiu Tolani Alli-Balogun for spearheading the idea of fostering synergy among MDAs. By assembling Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) from diverse fields relevant to education, the committee aims to address critical challenges affecting schools and improve learning outcomes.

"This meeting serves as a platform to reflect on our progress, tackle unresolved challenges, and lay the foundation for future achievements", Abdul stated.

He further noted that findings from the Whole School Evaluation, Monitoring, and Investigation reports underscore the importance of collaboration, stating that issues such as student welfare, safety, infrastructure, and curriculum development require a collective response driven by technical expertise and innovative solutions.

Earlier in his welcome address, the Director of Planning, Research and

Statistics Department (OEQA), Mr. Hakeem Kehinde Idowu, described the meeting as a celebration of partnership and shared purpose. He noted that the collective efforts of this committee ensured that every child in Lagos State benefits from quality education and a supportive learning environment.

He praised the dedication of representatives of MDAs for their contributions to creating a holistic and integrated evaluation framework for schools.

The Director of Planning, Research and Statistics Department (OEQA), Mrs. Evelyn Pelemo, during her presentation, titled: "Enhancing Collaboration with MDAs Towards a Robust Education System", listed some of the major mandates of OEQA which include Monitoring and Ensuring Standards in all Schools below Tertiary Level, Development of a



Statewide and Harmonious School Calendar in collaboration with stakeholders, Ensuring that every child in the school receives qualitative

education through collaboration with other stakeholders, Quality Assurance Evaluation of Public and Private Education institutions

including the review and amendment of the school curriculum with collaboration of all stakeholders amongst others.

Pelemo stated further that the key areas of collaboration with other MDAs in the recent past includes Safeguarding, Child protection, monitoring and investigation, school site and approval inspection, training, health and education quality improvement.

The meeting brought together representatives from over 25 MDAs, categorised into sectors such as health, environment, safety, safeguarding and child protection, building, and fire safety.

Their technical expertise continues to drive the shared vision of transforming Lagos schools into models of excellence.

Present at the Collaborative Technical Committee Quarterly Meeting were the six Coordinating Directors from the six Education Districts and also the OEQA Head of Departments.

LASDRI Recertifies 80 Public Service Drivers

In its quest for quality capacity training and development for professional drivers in the employment of the Lagos State Government, 80 drivers in the Public Service Office have been recertified by the Lagos State Driver's Institute (LASDRI).

Welcoming participants, the General Manager of the Institute, Mrs. Tihamiyu Afusat said their coming for the yearly training and recertification exercise resonates deeply with the THEMES Plus Agenda of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu towards recognising the importance of road safety by making transportation the focal point and driver education, which is a key component of road safety and sanity.

According to the LASDRI boss, "Investing in driver education is not only teaching drivers how to operate a vehicle but instilling a sense of



responsibility and awareness that extends to every decision they make on the road. These include understanding the effects of impaired driving, the importance of defensive driving techniques, and the need to respect the rights of other road users". Tihamiyu further explained that the recertification exercise would equip participants with in-depth

knowledge of driving, skills and attitudes necessary to navigate roads responsibly, noting that a well-trained driver understands the importance of adhering to traffic laws, maintaining their vehicles and being aware of risks associated with driving. She said the initiative reflects the government's shared vision of promoting

professionalism, safety and efficiency among drivers in the employment of the Lagos State Government.

The General Manager averred that their participation in this yearly training signifies their commitment to excellence not only in their personal development but also in contributing to broader goals of sustainable

transportation and road safety in our dear State, admonishing the participants to engage actively and share knowledge.

Tihamiyu added that the experience gained would not only benefit them as individuals but also have a positive impact on the lives of countless others who rely on their expertise and dedication.

Wastewater Agency, USAID Partner Against Gender Violence

In a demonstration of the commitment of the Lagos State Government to build the right mindset amongst its employees, the Lagos State Wastewater Management Office (LSWMO), in collaboration with USAID/LUWASH, has organised a one-day sensitisation programme on curbing Gender-Based Violence for its staff.

Speaking at the programme held recently at the LSWMO's Office in Ikeja, the General Manager, Engr. Adefemi Afolabi, while welcoming the participants and USAID/LUWASH officials to the event, emphasised that progressive support and collaboration on the menace of GBV can make a difference and help create a safer, more equitable society for everyone.

He stated that Gender-Based Violence is a prevalent issue affecting



individuals, families and communities globally, which is also a violation of human rights that demands collective responsibility to bring it to an end.

Afolabi informed that, as the Agency at the forefront

of ensuring sustainable and safe wastewater management in the State, officials of LSMWO are its greatest assets, and as such, they must be protected from harassment, discrimination and abuse

that can occur within the workplace or the home front.

The General Manager added that workplace harassment, bullying and other forms of misconduct can have serious consequences for

employees, including emotional distress, decreased productivity and even physical harm. He, therefore, emphasised that the Agency has a zero-tolerance policy for any form of misconduct while

committed to providing a safe and supportive work environment for all employees.

One of the Speakers from USAID/LUWASH and a focal person on Gender-Based Violence, Mrs. Stella Abah said it is important for everyone to note that emotional torture can be very destructive whether at home or the office, and it is no longer a secret that GBV is common around the world.

The USAID/LUWASH facilitator, Dr. Jurbe Godep said the programme theme: "Strengthening, Safeguarding End to Gender-Based Violence", is apt and timely.

He explained that the campaign is aimed at raising awareness about Gender-Based Violence both at home and in the office environment to galvanise action to prevent and end this unwanted practice.

Taskforce Restates Commitment To Public Safety

The Lagos State Environmental and Special Offences Unit (Taskforce) has reaffirmed its dedication to ensuring a safe, secure and habitable environment with the successful hosting of its Special Advocacy and Public Sensitisation Programme over the weekend.

The event, which commenced at the Safety Arena, Bolade, Oshodi, brought together stakeholders from across the state to address pressing environmental and traffic-related issues under the theme: "Zero-Tolerance for Environmental and Traffic Offences".

The Commissioner for Justice of Lagos State, Mr. Pedro

Lawal, who was accompanied by the Coordinator of the Mobile Court, Mrs. Arinola Ogbara, stated that the THEMES Plus agenda of the present administration has provided enough bus stops to prevent traffic obstruction by commercial vehicles that pick up passengers on the highway while it has also provided toilets to prevent open defecation in the metropolis.

Also, speaking at the event, the Chairman of the Lagos State Taskforce, CSP Adetayo Akerele, emphasised the need for public collaboration in upholding the state's environmental and traffic laws. "This programme reflects

the Agency's unwavering resolve to promote awareness, enforce regulations, and foster a culture of responsibility among residents", he said.

He further assured Lagosians that the force remains resolute in its mission to uphold the laws of the state, ensuring a safe, serene, and habitable environment for all. The programme highlighted critical violations that pose threats to public safety and urban order, including driving against traffic (One-Way violations), obstruction of roadways, unauthorised street trading, open defecation, Non-use of pedestrian



bridges, illegal operation of motorcycles (okada) on highway, blocking streets for parties and others. To further pass the message, Taskforce officials embarked on sensitisation tours to

key areas such as Oshodi, Ikeja Along, Ikeja Under Bridge and Abule Egba, engaging with residents and community leaders. The team also visited the National Union of Road Transport

Workers (NURTW) Lagos Headquarters, where they were warmly received by the Chairman, Alhaji Mustapha Adekunle (aka Sege) and his executives, who pledged their support for the initiative.

Think Beyond Conventional Boundaries, Agoro Tells Civil Servants

The Lagos State Head of Service, Mr. Bode Agoro, has urged the state public servants to embrace their imaginative spirit and think beyond conventional boundaries within the public service, adding that this would inspire public servants to recognise the power of imagination as the foundation of innovation which serves as the driving force toward envisioning a better tomorrow.

He made the remarks at the third edition of the Lagos State Public Service Ideas Day Innovation Competition, organised by the Office of Transformation, Creativity, and Innovation (OTCI), held recently at the

Adeyemi-Bero Auditorium Alausa, Ikeja.

Earlier in her welcome address, Mrs. Toyin Anjous-Ademuyiwa, the Director-General of OTCI, characterised Ideas Day as a celebration of the limitless creativity, collaboration, and innovative spirit inherent in the state's public service. She highlighted that this year's theme reflects a collective vision aimed at reimagining and reshaping the future of governance.

Mrs. Anjous-Ademuyiwa further underscored the transformative power of innovation, announcing an exciting development: the increase in award categories from just one in previous years to an impressive 19 for

2024. "Since launching this initiative in 2018, we have embarked on an incredible journey of transformation, demonstrating that empowering public servants to think creatively and share their ideas is vital for tackling the challenges we encounter", she remarked.

Additionally, she announced that the Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu, has granted ongoing approval for recognising innovative ideas on an annual basis through the Office of the Head of Service. "This strong support reinforces our dedication to cultivating an environment where creativity flourishes and innovation leads to sustainable change",

she concluded.

During the event, two public servants - Mr. Akin George Fashola of the Lagos State Vehicle Inspection Service and Mr. Korede Adeboye from the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Systems - showcased their ideas. Mr. Akin George Fashola of the VIS was declared the winner of the 2024 Ideas Day competition with his innovative proposal focused on the quality maintenance and renewal of vehicle plate numbers.

Additionally, awards were presented to 15 individuals and three Government Agencies for outstanding performances in various categories, including the Public Service Leadership Award to Mr. Olabode Shuaaheeb Agoro, Head of Service;

The Dynamic Beacon Award to Mrs. Toke Benson-Awoyinka, Honorable Commissioner, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture; Empowerment and Growth Initiative Award to Mrs. Cecilia Bolaji Dada, Honorable Commissioner, Ministry of Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation; Sustainable Development Award to Ms. Abisola Olusanya, Honorable Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Systems; Excellence in Lagos State Public Service Revenue Innovation Award to Mr. Opeyemi Abdulkabir Ogungbo, Special Adviser, Taxation and Revenue; Award of Excellence in Human Resource Practice to Mrs. Bibilomo O. Olushekun, Permanent Secretary, Office of Local Government Establishments, and Training and the Urban

Housing Infrastructure Award to Engr. Abdulhafis Gbolahan Toriola, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Housing.

Other award presentations are the Champion of Modernization and Efficiency to Mr. Kamar Olowosha, Permanent Secretary, Lands Bureau; Creative Catalyst Award to Dr. Abimbola Cecilia Mabogunje, Permanent Secretary, Primary Healthcare District VI; Creative Catalyst Award to Dr. Mustapha Adebola Quadri, MD/CEO, General Hospital, Somolu; Creative Catalyst Award to Dr. Babatunde Olufemi Aletan, MD/CEO, General Hospital, Ijede; Due Diligence Award to Engr. Gbolahan Owodunni Oki, General Manager, Lagos State Building Control Agency (LASBCA); Champion of Urban Resilience and Adaptation Award to TPL. Daisi Oso, General Manager, Lagos State Planning and Environmental Monitoring Authority; Award of Excellence in Community Security to Prince Ifalade Oyekan, General Manager, Lagos State Neighborhood Safety Agency, and the Transformational Leader in Patient-Centric 2024 Award to Dr. Sola Pitan, MD/CEO, General Hospital, Orile Agege.

Three Ministries honoured with different awards are Tourism, Art and Culture for Tourism Development and Cultural Preservation Award; the Ministry of Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation for Social Empowerment and Advocacy Award, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Systems for Food Systems Development Award.



Sanwo-Olu Commissions Abiola-Onijemo Link Road

Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu, on Monday commissioned the Abiola-Onijemo Link Road with a bridge in the Ifako Ijaiye Local Government Area of the State.

The Abiola-Onijemo Link Road with bridge provides a strategic connection linking the Abiola/Ajayi/Ogba and Obawole/Iju-Ishaga communities, which are separated by a 25-meter swamp belt. The project covers a total length of 643 meters, including a 135-meter reinforced concrete bridge with retaining walls. The infrastructure features 7.3-meter-wide carriageways, alongside slip roads, walkways, and solar-powered street lighting—all representing state-of-the-art infrastructure tailored to meet the needs of a growing population. It also has a drainage system that addresses long-standing flooding challenges, safeguarding the surrounding communities from adverse effects of poor water management.

Abiola-Onijemo Link Road with a bridge is one of the 36 newly constructed roads and bridges scheduled for commissioning by the Babajide Sanwo-Olu administration.

Speaking during the formal commissioning of the project at Ifako-Ijaiye, Governor Sanwo-Olu, who earlier handed over to the public the newly constructed Alapere Pedestrian Bridge, built by his administration, said the Abiola-Onijemo Link Road with a bridge embodies his administration's commitment to addressing long-standing challenges faced by the people of Lagos State.

He said: "Today marks a significant milestone in our collective journey to build sustainable communities, improve connectivity, and enhance the quality of life for all Lagosians. It is with immense pride and joy that we unveil the Abiola-Onijemo Link Road with

Says administration is committed to addressing long-standing challenges faced by Lagos residents



Abiola-Onijemo Link Road

Bridge, a vital infrastructure project that links Abiola Street and Onijemo Street, separated for decades by a canal that created a divide between these two vibrant communities.

"This project embodies our administration's commitment to keeping our promises and addressing long-standing challenges faced by the people of Lagos State. If you recall, during our campaigns, we pledged to tackle issues of inadequate infrastructure and persistent flooding, challenges that have plagued this area for years. Today, we deliver on that promise.

"Before now, crossing between Abiola and Onijemo Streets was both difficult and unsafe. Pedestrians had to navigate a wooden bridge over a swamp, which exposed them to danger and was an environmental eyesore. These conditions were unacceptable. Our administration recognised the urgency of providing a lasting solution, which led to the construction of this modern reinforced concrete bridge, complete with

pedestrian and vehicular access, as well as a new, well-paved link road and an upgraded drainage network to prevent flooding."

Speaking on the importance of the project to the people of Ifako-Ijaiye, Governor Sanwo-Olu said: "This project is not just about building roads and bridges. It is about connecting lives, fostering unity, and stimulating economic growth. With these improvements, residents and businesses can now enjoy safer, faster, and more efficient movement. Reduced travel time and better access to other parts of the city will undoubtedly bring new opportunities for trade, commerce, and investment into this community.

"This achievement aligns with the goals of our THEMES+ Agenda, particularly under the Transportation and Traffic Management Pillar, and underscores our determination to deliver impactful projects despite global economic challenges and rising costs. We remain unwavering in our commitment to improving

lives and providing the dividends of democracy to all Lagosians."

Governor Sanwo-Olu urged Lagos residents, particularly the people of Abiola and Onijemo Streets, to take ownership of the infrastructure built by the government. "These are your assets, built with our collective resources, and it is your responsibility to protect and maintain them. Community leaders and associations must ensure these facilities are used responsibly to preserve their quality and longevity. A well-maintained infrastructure inspires further development, and your active involvement will encourage the government to do even more.

"I thank Lagosians for their steadfast support, particularly through the prompt payment of taxes. Your contributions make transformative projects like this possible, and we deeply value the trust you have placed in us.

"As we work together to achieve the vision of a Greater Lagos, I assure you that this administration remains focused, resilient,

and committed to building a state that works for everyone."

Speaking at the event, the Special Adviser on Infrastructure, Engr. Olufemi Daramola, said the Babajide Sanwo-Olu administration has shown a persistent commitment and responsibility towards the delivery of strategic link roads not only in Ifako-Ijaiye but in many other parts of the state, as would be witnessed in the coming days.

Daramola, who appreciated her predecessor, Engr. Aramide Adeyoye, for her insight and dedication, which laid a solid foundation for the project, commended the residents of Ifako-Ijaiye for their patience and cooperation, which, according to him, was vital to the project's success.

He said: "The Abiola-Onijemo Link Road with a bridge is more than just a physical connection; it is a lifeline for multiple communities. The road spans a swampy terrain, connecting College Road through Ajayi Street in Ogba to Aruna, Obawole and Iju-

Ishaga. The vital connection will significantly enhance vehicular movement, reduce travel times and stimulate local commerce.

"The Abiola-Onijemo Link Road and Bridge bring substantial socio-economic benefits by enhancing traffic flow and connectivity, increasing property values and investment opportunities, and improving public safety through the provision of street lighting."

The Chairman of the Lagos State House of Assembly Committee on Works and Infrastructure, Hon. Desmond Elliot, commended the Governor Sanwo-Olu administration's giant strides in the State.

Elliot, who also represented the Speaker of the Lagos State House of Assembly, Rt. Hon. Mudashiru Obasa, said the incumbent administration would not relent in delivering the dividends of democracy to the people of Lagos State.

Speaking earlier, a member of the Lagos State House of Assembly, representing Ifako-Ijaiye I, Hon. Temitope Adewale, disclosed that the Governor Sanwo-Olu administration has delivered 29 roads in Ifako-Ijaiye. He said the people of his constituency appreciate the state government for laudable projects in different communities within the local government.

Also speaking, the Chairman of Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government Area, Hon. Usman Hamzat, said the Abiola-Onijemo Link Road with a bridge and other projects initiated by the Governor Sanwo-Olu administration is in fulfilment of the THEMES+ developmental agenda.

He said Governor Sanwo-Olu has set a benchmark for good governance in Lagos State

Bayo Onanuga, Special Adviser To President Tinubu On Information & Strategy Celebrates Daughter Tobiloba In Grand Traditional Marriage



Bayo with Tobiloba and Toyin at the traditional marriage



Ayodele prostrates to greet the bride's parents



Tobiloba with her parents



Ayodele with the bride's parents



Mother and daughter



Tobiloba knelt to receive parental blessings

FG, Ooni, Commend Sanwo-Olu On Real Estate Development

The Minister of Housing and Urban Development, Architect Ahmed Musa Dangiwa; Chairman of the House of Representatives Committee on Housing and Habitat, Hon Abdulmumin Jibrin; and the Ooni of Ife, Oba Adeyeye Ogunwusi, among others, have commended Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu for its commitment to the housing and real estate sectors.

They gave the commendation at the 5th Lagos Real Estate Marketplace Conference and Exhibitions held at Eko Hotel and Suites, Victoria Island, Lagos.

Meanwhile Sanwo-Olu, has said his administration is committed to creating an ecosystem that supports the economic growth of the State through real estate, which plays a critical role in the development and growth of Lagos.

Governor Sanwo-Olu, disclosed that the State is set to introduce an integrated, effective and efficient waste management system in collaboration with international partners.

The conference is an avenue created by the Lagos State Real Estate Regulatory Authority (LASRERA) to provide an enabling environment and transparent platform for stakeholders in the real estate sector.

Speaking during the conference, Governor Sanwo-Olu said his administration is committed to building a thriving real estate sector. He said, "As a government, we remain steadfast in our efforts to building a thriving real estate sector by prioritising human capital development, to ensure we have skilled professionals capable of



driving innovation. We are equally committed to establishing sustainable regulations that protect practitioners and consumers alike while fostering an integrated ecosystem that links housing development with transportation, technology, agriculture, health, and youth development.

"We consistently draw inspiration from global trends and best practices to inform our policies and programs. Today's distinguished speakers, moderators, and panellists bring invaluable insights, and we are confident that their contributions will enrich our collective vision for the real estate sector.

"We understand that the pace of change is accelerating, and partnerships with private sector players are essential. This forum is an opportunity to co-create pathways for upskilling and reskilling the workforce while ensuring the sector's accessibility and sustainability."

Governor Sanwo-Olu also disclosed his administration's commitment to collaboration and progress in the real estate sector is yielding positive results.

He said his administration, based on the recommendations from the 4th Marketplace held in 2023, has made considerable strides in establishing a comprehensive developer database to enhance transparency, reducing bureaucracy in development permits to streamline processes, and implementing various measures to improve safety and consumer protection.

"Our ongoing initiatives reflect our determination to integrate sustainability into every facet of real estate development. From investing in renewable energy to advancing intermodal transportation systems, promoting technology-driven urban planning, and delivering sustainable housing solutions, we are laying the groundwork for a

Lagos that balances economic growth with environmental responsibility and social equity.

"Achieving a sustainable future is not a task for the government alone—it requires collective action. Public-private collaboration is critical for driving innovation, financing sustainable projects, and creating inclusive regulations. It also ensures that opportunities for growth and contribution are accessible to all, including women, youth, and marginalised communities.

"As we deliberate on the future of real estate in Lagos, let us commit to equipping ourselves and our successors with the knowledge, tools, and resources to build a state that is equitable, prosperous, and sustainable."

Speaking earlier, the Commissioner for Housing, Hon. Moruf Akinderu-Fatai, said the Babajide Sanwo-Olu administration has

strengthened its framework to ensure sustainable urban development and will ensure continuous policies and upgrades of existing laws while also increasing enforcement and capacity building.

"As we re-imagine Lagos, let us commit to embracing and strengthening the regulatory frameworks that will guide us toward a resilient, inclusive, and vibrant city.

"Every architect, developer, financier, policymaker and citizen has a role to play in this journey. Together, we can create a Lagos where progress meets purpose and development respects the delicate balance of nature and community," he said.

Also speaking, the Special Adviser to the Governor on Housing, Barr. Barakat Odunuga-Bakare, described the event as an assembly of experts to drive sustainable growth, innovation, inclusivity, and sustainable development practices.

She called for collaboration between the public and private sectors towards ensuring resilient physical landscapes for Lagos State.

Odunuga-Bakare said the real estate sector remains a significant pillar of Lagos State's socio-economic development, providing employment opportunities, enhancing urban infrastructure, and driving economic growth.

She said the Lagos State Government has strengthened its regulatory frameworks through enhanced building codes, disaster-resilient urban planning, and initiatives to promote the use of sustainable building materials and technologies.

During the event there were different panel sessions on Integrating Green Building Standards in Lagos Real Estate, Flooding and Ecosystem Preservation in Urban Landscapes, Protecting Lagos Physical and Natural Resources, among others.

LASG, WEMA Bank Empower 1, 425 Residents With POS Machines

Lagos State Ministry of Wealth Creation and Employment, in collaboration with WEMA Bank, has empowered 1,425 residents with Point-of-Sales (POS) Machines as part of strategies to reduce the rate of unemployment in the State.

The gesture is part of measures towards eradicating the lingering unemployment crisis in the State through Wealth Creation and Employment initiatives for sustainable growth.

Speaking during the on-boarding of 1,425 recipients of the Point-of-sales (POS) Machines event recently at Adeyemi-Bero Auditorium, Secretariat, Ikeja, Hon. Akinyemi Bankole Ajigbotafe, Commissioner for Wealth Creation and Employment disclosed that the Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu is aware of the needs of Lagosians, especially the youth population.

Ajigbotafe maintained that the Ministry of Wealth Creation and Employment will continuously come up with useful creativity and more impactful programmes that will change the current narratives of joblessness and unemployment in the State. He said that it has become necessary to empower the people of Lagos State for financial sustainability to cushion the effect of the harsh economy.

The Commissioner further stated that the distribution of the free POS Machines was a collaboration of the Ministry of Wealth Creation and Employment with WEMA Bank, adding that the implementation of these support systems would not have also been possible without the contributions and dedication of partners like WEMA Bank, who have been instrumental in the advancement of empowerment projects in

the State.

He commended beneficiaries of the POS Machines, stressing that they had demonstrated resilience and determination in seeking avenues for the growth of their businesses, therefore, it is the responsibility of the State Government to support them in harnessing their potential fully.

In his words, "The distribution of these Point-of-Sales (POS) machines is not merely a gesture; it is an investment in your aspiration and a decision to empower you with the tools needed to thrive in an increasingly digital economy".

Ajigbotafe added that the provision of POS technology by the State Government represents a powerful enabler in the world of commerce to facilitate seamless transactions, enhancing

customer conveniences and significantly reducing the risk associated with handling cash.

The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Wealth Creation and Employment, Dr. Biodun Onayele urged beneficiaries of the POS Machines to make good use of the empowerment tools given to them to improve their lives.

In his goodwill message, Mr. Adewale Agboluade, a business support personnel and representative of Wema Bank, stated that the initiative is part of the financial institution's contributions to the residents of Lagos State to become self-independent financially.

Speaking earlier, Mrs. Tosan Mabayaku, Head of the Corporate Affairs Commission, commended the Lagos State Government for the



laudable initiative to impact the lives of the citizenry. She added that the partnership with the State Government on POS for residents will give operators a legal opportunity with business registration with the Corporate Affairs

Commission and the confidence to succeed in the business terrain.

One of the beneficiaries, Mr. Oseni Kabiru, appreciated the State Government and said that the empowerment of POS machines would go a long way to reduce the rate of

unemployment in the State.

The high point of the event was the presentation of the POS machines to 1, 425 recipients by the Commissioner for Wealth Creation and Employment, Hon. Akinyemi Bankole Ajigbotafe

Education District VI Inducts 155 New Teachers

The Tutor-General/Permanent Secretary, Education District VI, Mrs. Mojisola Christiana Yusuff has officially inducted 155 new teachers to the District, advising the new educators to conduct themselves in a manner that earns the respect of their students.

Mrs. Yusuff emphasised the significance of their role in shaping the minds of future generations. "Your job is not only to teach but to mold and guide our students in their academic and social interactions, helping them become good citizens of Lagos State and Nigeria", she said. The Director of Administration and Human Resources, Education District VI, Mrs. Oluyinka Akintola, encouraged the new teachers to

familiarise themselves with the civil service rules, which serve as a guide for their conduct in the civil service. She stressed the importance of diligence, dedication,

and punctuality in their duties.

Mr. Olayinka Ogunsola, Director of Schools Support and Special Duties, Education District VI, cautioned the new teachers about the

dangers of the "3Is" - Illegal Admission, Illegal Collection of Money from Students, and Illicit Affairs with Students. He urged them to maintain the highest standards of professionalism and

integrity.

The induction of the 155 new teachers marks a significant milestone in Education District VI's efforts to enhance the quality of education in the district.



LASG Installs New Oba of Ibooye Kingdom



As part of the efforts to ensure traditional institutions are involved in governance as well as engender peaceful co-existence among residents, Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu has installed Prince Abdulrasaq Akanni Musa as the Oba Alaiyeluwa, the Orikelu of Igbooye Kingdom.

In his keynote address, the Governor commended the Ruling House of Igbooye Kingdom for maintaining a united front which fostered the seamless process of selecting the new Oba.

The Governor, who was represented by the Honourable Commissioner, Ministry of Local Government, Chieftaincy Affairs and Rural Development, Mr Bolaji Kayode Robert, at the event, congratulated the new Oba and urged him to uphold the dignity of the throne, maintain cordial relationships with other Obas while promoting peaceful co-existence with neighbouring communities.

Sanwo-Olu also assured that the State Government will always ensure that Igbooye Kingdom would enjoy the dividends that democracy offers by initiating and executing programmes and projects that would make development visible in

Igbooye Kingdom. In his vote of thanks, the newly elected Oba, His Royal Majesty Alaiyeluwa Oba Abdulrasaq Akanni Musa, expressed gratitude to Mr. Governor for approving his selection as the Oba of Igbooye Kingdom, adding that his leadership will enable him to vigorously pursue his vision for the community and the State.

Oba Abdulrasaq also urged members of the community to join hands with him to chart a new course for Igbooye Kingdom to foster development, growth and peaceful co-existence.

Present at the occasion were the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local Government, Chieftaincy Affairs and Rural Development, Mrs. Kikelomo Bolarinwa; Oloja of Epe, HRM Oba Kamorudeen Ishola Animashaun; the Omola of Odumola, HRM Adebawale Adeshina Sulaimon; the Vice-Chairman of Epe Local Government, Honourable Sikiru Owolomose, representing the Chairman, Epe Local Government; Honourable Princess Surah-Olayemi Animashaun; Eredo LCDA Chairman, Honourable Ismail Monsuru Akinloye, represented by the Vice-Chairman, Honourable Adesanya Lateef and top officials from the Ministry.

Education District II Celebrates Winners of National Awards

The Tutor-General/Permanent Secretary, Education District II, Mrs. Anike Adekanye has celebrated Eva Adelaja Junior Secondary School, Bariga and Mrs. Aderonke Ibiyemi Abidoeye of Kosofe Senior College, Agboyi-Ketu for winning the prestigious President's Award of Excellence for the Best Junior Secondary School in Nigeria 2024 and the Lagos State Maltina Teacher of the Year Award respectively. Speaking during the celebratory visit to Eva Adelaja School, Mrs Adekanye expressed her excitement that the feat was worth celebrating, commending both staff and students for the great achievement. She particularly applauded the Principals of Eva Adelaja Junior and Senior Secondary School for their dedication and commitment to excellence, urging everyone to keep up the good job they've been doing in the school.

In her words, "Today is a special day in Education District II. We are here to

celebrate Eva Adelaja Junior Secondary School for being a recipient of the best Public Secondary School in Nigeria. This is to show all of us the importance and positive effect of the THEMES Plus Agenda of Governor Sanwo-Olu. This is what we are here to showcase to the world. This is a great achievement and we need to thank God for this".

"I want to appreciate both the Principals as well as Teachers and Non-Teaching Staff for their efforts in making the School, the District and Lagos State proud. I celebrate my students because they have been excellent in the three main domains of the taxonomy of education, that is the cognitive, the affective and psychomotor. I urge my staff to continue to wax stronger even after I must have left the service, I will still come around to celebrate with them", she added.

She also expressed her appreciation to the Deputy Governor, Dr. Kadiri Obafemi Hamzat and the Commissioner for Basic and Secondary

Education, Mr. Jamiu Tolani Alli-Balogun, for their continued support of the development of Education in Lagos State.

Responding, the Principal of Eva Adelaja Junior Secondary School, Mrs. Viniyon Ayobami Buhari, expressed her gratitude to the Tutor-General/Permanent Secretary for the honour accorded her and the school, noting that the success could not have been possible if not for the support, motivation and encouragement of Mrs. Adekanye.

Similarly, during her visit to Kosofe Senior College, Agboyi-Ketu to felicitate the winner of the Lagos State Maltina Teacher of the Year Award, Mrs. Aderonke Ibiyemi Abidoeye, the TG/PS expressed happiness that a teacher in the Public Secondary School from District II came tops among 500 participants from both Public and Private Secondary Schools in the State.

She said, "I purposefully came down to celebrate the Lagos State Champion in the Year 2024 Maltina Teacher

of The Year Competition, Mrs. Aderonke Ibiyemi Abidoeye. She has been featured in many competitions and has been a serial winner in Lagos State. She has been a very hard-working teacher, very eloquent with the fear of God".

While commending the Principal, Vice Principals and Staff of the School, she encouraged other teachers to try and emulate Mrs. Abidoeye so that more winners would emerge from Education District II in subsequent competitions.

Responding, Mrs. Abidoeye noted that the award was evidence of the support and guidance given to all teachers by the Tutor-General/Permanent Secretary, her Principal, Mr. Razak Adejumo, as well as the collaboration of her colleagues and the dedication of her students to excel in their studies.

She also acknowledged the effort of the State Governor, Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu for improving the quality of the education sector in Lagos State.



Beleaguered Former Central Bank of Nigeria Governor, Godwin Emefiele, has been billed for re-arraignment at the Special Offences Court in Ikeja Lagos.

Justice Rahman Oshodi, at the court on Monday, scheduled another trial against Emefiele to be held on January 7, 2025. The court proceeded to adjourn the case following an argument submitted by the defence counsel, Olalekan Ojo.

Ojo, at proceeding held that the court, said that the court lacked the jurisdiction to preside over the case. He further stated that Section 73 of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, 2011, under which counts one to four alleged offences of abuse of office alongside fraud of \$4.5 billion and N2.8 billion were filed could not apply extra-territorially to any alleged abuse of office by Emefiele.

Furthermore, he stated that the charges violated Section 36(12) of the Constitution also asserting that the actions Emefiele was accused of were not legally recognized offences.

The Counsel also uttered that the Lagos State House of Assembly did not have legislative authority over matters on the Exclusive Legislative

Lagos Court To Re-arraign Emefiele, January 7

By Felix Kuyinu



Emefiele

List. However, the Economic Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC, Counsel, Rotimi Oyedepo, SAN, in his counter affidavits, argued

that the court had the authority to hear the case. Oyedepo mentioned that that the alleged crimes were economic and financial in nature, therefore, within the

jurisdiction of EFCC. He also added that the evidence in support of the facts against the defendant proved Lagos as the appropriate venue for the trial.

Additionally, the Prosecutor uttered that the subject matter of the charge fell squarely within the court's jurisdiction, as the offences were committed

within the court's territorial reach. Oyedepo also said that the objections raised by Emefiele's legal team were not substantiated by facts or evidence.

Lagos Assembly Enacts Bill Against Human Organ Harvesting

By Felix Kuyinu

The Lagos State House of Assembly has passed a bill to prohibit human organ harvesting in the state.

The bill titled, 'Human Organ and Tissue Transplantation Bill' stipulates 10 years imprisonment against any transgressor.

Other bills passed into law include : the Consumer Protection

Law, Lagos Enforcement Training Institute Laws, Victims Assistance, Witness Protection Laws and Fire and Rescue Service Laws. The lawmakers stated that the enactment of the bills shows that the Lagos State government is committed to ensuring justice in the state and also tackling pressing issues facing the metropolis.

The legislators also disclosed that the bills will secure

prosperous future for the residents of in Lagos.

Other positives regarding the passed bill include curbing issues of illegal harvesting, trading of body organs as well as unethical medical practices.

While expressing that the regulations surrounding the bill will be strictly enforced, they disclosed that a fine of N10 million fine will be imposed on violators.



Lagos House of Assembly

Man Sexually Molests 12-Year-Old Girl, Faces 10 Years Imprisonment

One Bamidele Afolorunso has been convicted for sexual assault on a 12-year-old girl. At the Ikeja Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Court on Wednesday, Justice Rahman Oshodi sentenced the jailer to 10 years in prison after pleading guilty to an amended two-count charge of indecent treatment of the victim and sexual assault. During the proceedings, State Counsel, Olufunmilayo Aluko, mentioned that Afolorunso indecently fondled the breast of the survivor. She added that the lawbreaker treated the minor indecently by also touching her anus. Aluko submitted that the convict committed

By Felix Kuyinu

the offences sometime in February 2018 at Lambo Lasunwon Street, First Gate, Ikorodu, Lagos. According to the prosecution, the offences violate Sections 135 and 263 of the Criminal Laws of Lagos State, 2015. In October 2021, the offender was charged with an offence of defilement, to which he pleaded not guilty. However, he later changed his not guilty plea to guilty in a plea bargain agreement. The convict admitted he made the plea voluntarily and was



satisfied with the advice of his counsel. "I have found you guilty based on your plea in the amended information

dated December 11," the judge began in his ruling. "I have carefully considered the plea bargain agreement

and your show of remorse. "I hereby sentence you to 10 years of imprisonment, which

will commence from March 22, 2018, the day you were arrested, and your name shall be registered as a sex offender."

Suspected Drug Lord Re-arraigned, Gets N100M Bail

By Felix Kuyinu

Justice DehindeDipeolu has ordered the re-arraignment of an alleged drug dealer, Sulaimon Olowoigbe, who is facing court prosecution. Justice Dipeolu, at the Federal High Court in Ikeja Lagos on also granted the Olowoigbe a N100,000,000 bail and adjourned the case till January 15, 17 and 20, 2025. The suspect is to present three sureties in like sum. To perfect the bail conditions, the court also mandated that two of the sureties must be serving directors in



the Federal Government or Lagos State Government, while the third must be a blood relative with landed property within the court's jurisdiction. Additionally, the relative must swear an affidavit of means and submit six

passport photographs to the court. Justice Dipeolu further ordered the defendant to submit his travel documents to the court alongside directing the prosecution and the court registrar to verify all documents provided to meet the bail conditions.

The defence counsel was also directed to submit a written letter of recommendation for the sureties. Prior to the adjournment of the case, the accused, according to the

National Drug Law Enforcement Agency, NDLEA, was said to have imported 704 kilograms of an harmful drug known as 'Ghana Loud' from Ghana to Nigeria and also financed a drug peddling organization from year 2020 to 2024. The NDLEA also accused the defendant of laundering proceeds from illicit drug trafficking, concealing the true source of the funds, and converting them into legitimate enterprises. Additionally, the prosecution alleged that Olowoigbode

procured individuals, including one Wasiru Saliu, who is now at large, to traffic cannabis sativa. Justice Dipeolu had initially rejected the defendant's bail application, ordering an accelerated trial. However, the defence later filed a fresh application supported by medical reports indicating that Olowoigbode is suffering from a severe cardiac condition requiring specialist care unavailable in Nigeria's correctional facilities. The court admitted him to bail based on the health considerations.

Oshodi-Isolo L.G Relocates Banjoko Primary Health Centre

The Oshodi-Isolo Local Government has temporarily relocated the Chief Banjoko Primary Health Centre at Ogunlana Street to the staff clinic/Ogunloko primary health centre

Kehinde Adeleye inside the local government Secretariat. The relocation of the Chief Banjoko primary health centre popularly called Ogunlana PHC to the

renovated PHC at the local government is to give room for its reconstruction to an ultra modern state. The council chairman, Otunba Kehinde Almaroof Oloyede said the PHC on completion would be equipped with state of-

the-art equipment that will cater for the interests of the heterogeneous residents. Otunba Oloyede appealed to residents to be patient with the government as work will began soon on the

project and would be completed on record time. He said he knows the value the PHC has for the residents, that is why he is reconstructing it to an ultra modern one to serve the needs of the people.

We urge residents to visit the PHC at the local government for their health needs as health officers have continued to attend to the residents as they continue to troop in for their health needs and checks.

Itirelkate LCDA Equips Staff With Financial Accountability Training

By Saheed Afolabi

Itire-Ikate Local Council Development Area (LCDA) recently equipped their staff with a training workshop on emphasizing "Transparent and Proper Accountability of Public Funds." This initiative aimed to enhance staff efficiency and knowledge in critical areas such as public finance management, revenue generation, and ethical conduct. The workshop delved into the importance of effective revenue generation, particularly Internally Generated Revenue

(IGR). Participants learned about innovative strategies to boost revenue collection and ensure its optimal utilization for community development. Recognizing potential obstacles to revenue collection, the training session explored factors like enforcement challenges, outdated systems, and public compliance issues. Practical solutions were discussed to overcome these hurdles and improve efficiency. The role of budgeting in local governance was also highlighted. Participants gained insights into how effective budgeting can facilitate resource allocation and management, leading to improved service

delivery and successful project implementation. Throughout the workshop, the significance of transparency and accountability was emphasized. Staff members were reminded of their duty to uphold integrity and honesty, and were provided with practical guidelines to ensure transparency in all aspects of public service. By equipping its junior staff with these essential skills and knowledge, Itire-Ikate LCDA reaffirms its commitment to good governance, financial responsibility, and public trust. The training initiative is expected to contribute to the overall growth and development of the community.



Hon. Hameed Apatira, Executive Chairman, Itire Ikate LCDA

DISCOVER LAGOS – LEKKI CONSERVATION CENTER (LCC)

By Preve Blessing ALBERT

Hold onto tightly to your food or hide it," I often say to visitors visiting Lekki Conservative Center for the first time. You don't want to be surprised by the "over-friendly" monkeys. Maybe not friendly really, but they must share or take your food away from you and you don't want that so please hide it. Lekki Conservation Center (LCC) is a popular and one of the best maintained tourist destinations tucked away in the heart of Lekki, Lagos, created to protect the unique biodiversity of the Lekki Peninsula in the face of increasing urbanization in Lagos. The area, threatened by development, thus the natural reserve was established to preserve the natural environment. Established in 1990 by the Nigerian Conservation Foundation (NCF), a nongovernmental organization dedicated to sustainable development and nature conservation, it is a stunning natural reserve that showcases the beauty and diversity of Lagos' flora and fauna within a 78-hectare nature reserve that offers a tranquil escape from the hustle and bustle of city life. It is one of the few remaining green areas in Lagos and a significant example of urban conservation in Nigeria. The Lekki Conservation Centre is



managed by the Nigerian Conservation Foundation (NCF) which plays a crucial role in protecting Nigeria's natural heritage, including its wildlife and mangrove forests. The project was initially funded by Chevron Corporation in partnership with the NCF and the Lagos State Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperative. Chevron continues to provide annual funding. Visitors start off with the canopy walk way, one the longest in Africa, through which guests walk in. A brief Introduction is conducted by a narrator, and subsequently, a tour guide is assigned, giving detailed explanation of everything to know about the park. The conservation centre is home to a wide variety of plants and animals, including monkeys, birds, and reptiles and the biggest turtle ever, the West African Black Turtle

(Pelusios niger). Visitors can explore the reserve's natural habitats, including secondary forests, swamp forests, and savannah grasslands. The centre is also a popular spot for birdwatching, with over 100 species of birds and species of unique fishes too in the fish pond documented within the reserve. The Lekki Conservation Centre

offers a range of activities and attractions for visitors, including The Canopy Walk which is a thrilling 40-foot-high walkway that offers breathtaking views of the surrounding forest. It also has the Family Park relaxing area with picnic facilities, barbecue stands, and outdoor activities like swings and slides. There is also the

Treehouse, which reminds me of activities of the NYSC camp, having to climb into it, safe for kids and adults, offering stunning views of the surrounding forest. The location is an excellent spot for picnicking for friends and family day out. As I usually, advice, be as comfortable as possible with clothing and footwear as it is a long walk into the

park. Gate fees, though very affordable, vary depending on the activity, age and group size. The center is open to all with opening hours from 1:00pm-4:00pm on Mondays and from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm from Tuesday to Sunday. What to bring along:
 - Insect repellent
 - Sunscreen
 - Hat or cap
 - Water
 - Camera
 - Binoculars (for bird watching)
 In conclusion, the Lekki Conservation Centre is a must-visit destination for nature lovers, families, and anyone seeking a peaceful retreat from the hustle and bustle of Lagos. With its stunning natural beauty, exciting activities, and conservation efforts, the centre is a true gem that deserves exploration and support. I have been there multiple times, even you should too!



Onilude Honoured For Educational Leadership

By Saheed Afolabi



(Chairman of Badagry LG, Olusegun Onilude)

Badagry Local Government Chairman, Olusegun Onilude, has been recognized for his dedication to education by the National Association for Educational Administration and Planning (NAEAP). Onilude was recently inducted into the Council of Fellows of the NAEAP, a prestigious honor bestowed upon individuals who have made significant contributions to the field of education. The council boss was excited about the award as he assured of his administration commitment in

prioritizing education at the grassroots.

"Foremost, let me welcome you all to Badagry, Nigeria's premier border community, renowned for its rich cultural heritage. It is the first place in Nigeria where the Christian gospel was first preached, where Christmas was first celebrated, as well as the host town of the first storey building and the first primary school.

"I feel honoured and elated to be inducted into the prestigious Council of Fellow of this great body. I have received so many awards but the one I received today is special and significant.

"As an educator and

educational administrator, I feel very fulfilled to be found worthy of this recognition. On behalf of my family and everyone who has supported me so far, I say thank you for the honour."

The induction ceremony, which took place at the Badagry Local Government Council premises, was led by NAEAP National President, Prof. Gospel Kpee. In a departure from tradition, the association chose to induct Onilude outside of its annual convention, highlighting the exceptional nature of his contributions.

Prof. Kpee commended Onilude for his commitment to grassroots governance and his administration's

substantial investments in Badagry's educational sector. One notable example is the sponsorship of a large group of Badagry residents to attend the recent NAEAP conference.

Several local government officials were present to witness the induction ceremony, including Vice-Chairman Elizabeth Kappo, Leader of the House Taofik Aremu Akindele, Secretary to the Local Government Hon. Moses Gbetogo Opa, Council Treasurer Mr. Olugbenga Hunponu, Supervisors, Special Advisers, Councillors, and Heads of Departments and Units.

Project Inspection: Folawiyo Expresses Satisfaction

By Saheed Afolabi

Chairman of Lagos Island East LCDA (LIELCDA), Dr Muibi Folawiyo has expressed satisfaction over the amount of commitment and work done in the ongoing construction of various projects in the community. Folawiyo recently conducted an inspection tour of various infrastructure projects in the community.

The inspection tour aimed to assess the progress and quality of



(Chairman of Lagos Island East LCDA, Dr Muibi Folawiyo inspecting ongoing projects in the community with other council staff)

ongoing works.

The inspected projects

includes significant road

rehabilitation efforts are

under way on

Hawley Street and Tokunboh/Freeman

Street, construction of 30 two-bedroom flats at the sura site, the development of a modern LIELCDA council secretariat at Zappas.

Dr. Folawiyo was impressed with the work done so far, commending the contractors for their dedication to delivering high-quality projects.

He emphasized that these initiatives are vital for improving the lives of residents and boosting local economic growth.

The inspection tour was

attended by key government officials, including the newly appointed Council Treasurer and Council Engineer.

Dr. Folawiyo reiterated the administration's commitment to delivering sustainable infrastructure projects that meet the needs of the community.

He assured the people of LIELCDA that the government will continue to work tirelessly to enhance the area and improve the lives of its residents

Adebajo Extends Olive Branch to Residents of Mosan-Okunola LCDA

The Chairman of Mosan-Okunola, Princess Olabisi Adebajo, in her good motherly heart, has extended her hands of fellowship to community members, most especially the Aged.

"Extending hands of fellowship is a powerful way to foster meaningful connections, promote unity, and strengthen community bonds. By reaching out to others, we demonstrate compassion, empathy, and kindness, creating a ripple effect of positivity that resonates throughout our communities". She noted.

The event kickstarted with medical check-ups and screening for every community member irrespective of your age,

the medical check-up which involves Diabetes and hypertension screening, health talk, and eye check.

The Medical Outreach which also involved Health Talk on nutrition and wellness, healthy eating habits,

balanced diets, and managing cravings, working routines, goal setting and overcoming motivation barriers, relaxation techniques, mindfulness and self-care strategies, anxiety, depression, trauma, and seeking support.

At the end of each screening and test, many

went home with thousands of naira worth of drugs and free eye glasses, which was also distributed courtesy of the Executive Chairman.

Beneficiaries of the health screening, free medications and eye glasses expressed

their profound gratitude to the executive chairman, said its timely.

Considering vulnerability, high rise in food commodities, and nutritional needs, the Chairperson makes sure the aged and persons with disability in the community who was present all went home

with food stuff packs, putting smile on their faces.

The event also witnessed Health Walk, the walk which took off from the council secretariat down to Abesan gate b/stop and back to the council.



Badagry West LCDA Chairman Honored For Community Service

By Saheed Afolabi



(Badagry West LCDA chairman, Gbenu Henugbe)

Chairman of Badagry West LCDA, Gbenu Henugbe, has been recognized for his exceptional community service by the National Association of Proprietors of Private Schools

(NAPPS). Henugbe was presented with a prestigious Community Service Award in recognition of his significant contributions to education, community engagement, and social responsibility.

According to the organisers, Henugbe has demonstrated a strong commitment to the development of his community, particularly in the areas of education and social welfare. NAPPS officials praised Henugbe's unwavering commitment to the

development of his community, especially in the realms of education and social welfare. His dedication and hard work have made a positive impact on the lives of many, and this award serves as a well-deserved acknowledgment of his efforts.

Onibon Inspires Epe Youths at FEDSA Conference

By Mohammed Adekola

In a powerful keynote address at the maiden edition of the Federation of Epe Division Students Association (FEDSA) National Leadership Conference, Associate Professor Nosiru Onibon, former Provost of Michael Otedola College of Primary Education (MOCPE), decried the scarcity of effective leadership in Nigeria.

The event, themed "Leadership with Purpose: Creating a Culture of Innovation and Excellence," took place at the Epe Club.

Speaking passionately to an audience of eager youths, Onibon described leadership as "the most scarce commodity in our climate," drawing comparisons between

Nigeria's leadership crisis and the structured systems he experienced abroad.

Drawing from his time as MOCPE Provost and his educational experiences in Malaysia and Colorado, Onibon underscored the importance of purposeful and servant-oriented leadership. "We lack leadership with sincerity of purpose. What we have most times is leadership with the purpose of personal enrichment. Are our leaders our servants?" he questioned.

He cited Malaysia's rapid development as a model for purposeful

leadership, noting that its success hinged on sincerity and discipline. "In Malaysia, leadership is ingrained as a core competency, even a prerequisite for graduation," he explained. These reflections resonated deeply, serving as a wake-up call for the youths to adopt a servant-leadership approach in their personal and collective aspirations.

Recounting his tenure as MOCPE Provost, Onibon shared transformative strategies anchored on institutional rules and foundational visions. He recalled an interview for his Provost position, where he surprised his interviewers by grounding his plans in the mission of MOCPE's founding fathers. "Many leaders today are oblivious to their

responsibilities. Familiarity with the laws governing their institutions is key to transformation," he stated.

He emphasized the importance of adhering to established rules over succumbing to external influences. "The rules or laws of the establishment are

enough to work with. Taking advice or guidance from third parties often comes with personal agendas," he asserted.

Onibon also highlighted the role of discipline in leadership, comparing the enforceability of Nigeria's laws with the lack of structure in private settings. "It's not difficult to govern Nigeria if leaders invoke the existing laws. I used these laws to tackle

'untouchables' and 'cabals' at MOCPE, restoring sanity to the institution," he remarked.

Prof. Onibon's keynote address set the tone for a transformative conference, with discussions extending into panel sessions. For young attendees, ranging from secondary school students to university undergraduates, his address served as a blueprint for purposeful leadership.



Raji Launches Classroom Project in Eredo

House of Representative member representing Epe federal constituency 1, Hon. Wale Raji commenced Parliamentary Intervention Project (PIP). The groundbreaking ceremony for two blocks of three classrooms at Adeshonwon Secondary School, Ilara, Eredo LCDA, Epe, took place on December 11, 2024, drawing praise from traditional rulers, community leaders, and local government officials.

The Alara of Ilara Kingdom, HRM Oba Dr. Olukayode Olufolarin Ogunsanwo,

represented by High Chief Balogun Azeez, the Ekeji Ilu of Ilara Kingdom, commended Rep. Raji for prioritizing education. "This initiative will significantly enhance the learning environment for our children, and we deeply appreciate the lawmaker's commitment to our community," he said.

Hon. Tunde Bakare, representing Eredo LCDA Chairman, noted the swift execution of the project. "In just a month after discussions with the lawmaker, this intervention has become a reality. Such responsiveness is

unprecedented in this region," he remarked, urging the community to protect the new infrastructure from vandalism.

Vice Principal of Adeshonwon Secondary School, Mr. Adesanya, expressed relief over the construction, describing it as a game-changer for

By Mohammed Adekola

the school. "This project will alleviate the burden of overcrowded classrooms and provide a more conducive learning environment," he stated, appealing for additional

classrooms to accommodate the growing student population.

Community elder and politician, Pa. Oguntimehin praised Rep. Raji for fostering inclusive governance. "Every ward in Epe Federal Constituency has benefited from his

initiatives. This is the hallmark of true leadership," he noted. Students and teachers shared their excitement. "The new classrooms will reduce congestion and improve learning conditions," said Oke-Eko Joshua, a junior school student. Also, Babalola Oluwadarasimi added her voice saying, "In the last few years, there's been congestion and too much heat in our classrooms and I believe this project will address such issues." Mrs. Dada Aminat, a teacher joined the students to laud the speed of execution, calling it "a pleasant surprise."



Sanwo-Olu Visits Mental Health Institute At Ikosi-Ejirin

By Mohammed Adekola

Lagos State Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu embarked on a landmark working visit to Ikosi-Ejirin Local Council Development Area (LCDA). The Governor assessed two pivotal projects, the Lagos State Mental Health Institute, Psychiatric and Rehabilitation Center, and the Lagos Central Food Security Systems and Logistics Hub, both in Ketu-Ereyun.

The visitation underscored the state's commitment to fostering transformative development in grassroots areas. Speaking on behalf of Ikosi-Ejirin residents, Otunba Anomo expressed deep gratitude to Governor Sanwo-Olu for prioritizing the LCDA in these groundbreaking projects. He lauded the substantial progress



achieved so far and emphasized the lasting economic impact the projects promise.

"These projects are transformative for Ikosi-Ejirin, and their completion will undoubtedly enhance the economic fortunes of our community," Anomo stated. "We are committed to complementing Mr.

Governor's efforts to ensure these initiatives achieve their full potential."

Highlighting the LCDA's broader developmental potential, Anomo pointed to additional ongoing projects, including the Okobaba Timberville Relocation Settlement in Agbowa/Owu, the Lagos Film Village in Ejirin, and the soon-to-commence NYSC Permanent Orientation Camp in Odo-

Ayandelu. He reaffirmed his administration's dedication to ensuring Ikosi-Ejirin thrives, remarking, "Under my leadership, we are leaving no stone unturned in our quest to make Ikosi-Ejirin a model of progress and development."

The Lagos State Mental Health Institute stands as a

flagship project, underscoring the state's commitment to providing comprehensive mental health care. Situated on 25 hectares in Ketu-Ereyun, the 1,000-bed facility will integrate clinical treatment with vocational and recreational programs, ensuring patients are holistically rehabilitated and reintegrated into society.

Currently at 50% completion, the first phase (a 500-bed facility) is on track for delivery by late 2025. During his visit, Governor Sanwo-Olu emphasized the institute's significance, noting, "This facility addresses a critical need for mental health care in Lagos State, offering not just treatment but hope and recovery."

The Governor inspects the Lagos Central Food Security Systems and Logistics Hub, a cornerstone of the state's agricultural agenda under its 5-Year

Agricultural and Food Systems Road Map (2021-2025). Positioned to become Sub-Saharan Africa's largest food logistics hub, the project is designed to optimize food production, storage, and distribution, bypassing middlemen to regulate prices and ensure direct market supply.

"The hub will strengthen food security and redefine how Lagos handles food systems, from farm to table," Governor Sanwo-Olu stated. The first phase is expected to launch in 2025, setting a new standard for food logistics in the region.

Governor Sanwo-Olu's visit highlights the state government's vision of inclusive growth. The projects in Ikosi-Ejirin LCDA are poised to reshape its socioeconomic landscape, bringing unprecedented opportunities and stability to residents.

EPWA Hails Odutola's Re-Election as LASCOTA President

By Mohammed Adekola

President of the Lagos State Council of Trademen and Artisans (LASCOTA) in Epe Local Government, Mrs. Olusola Odutola, popularly known as "Confidence," has been re-elected for another term. The news was met with widespread celebration, particularly from the Epe Division Professional Women Association (EPWA).

In a statement issued by EPWA's President, Mrs. Folakemi Oluyomi-Johnson, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, ExcOs, and members, the association commended Mrs. Odutola for her dedication and expressed confidence in her ability to continue driving

progress in the artisan community.

"Mrs. Odutola's re-election is a testament to her unwavering commitment and the trust she has earned from tradesmen and artisans in Epe," Mrs. Oluyomi-Johnson stated. "Her leadership embodies the values of inclusivity and vision, and we are confident she will continue to champion the welfare of her members."

The election, described as free and fair, was conducted under the supervision of respected community stakeholders and security officers, reinforcing the peaceful nature of the

process.

Speaking about the importance of tradesmen and artisans, Mrs. Oluyomi-Johnson highlighted their role in driving societal and economic growth. "Tradesmen and artisans are the backbone of our

economy, especially in advancing small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Their contributions cannot be underestimated," she noted.

Mrs. Odutola's victory also underscores a growing recognition of women in

leadership within the Epe community. Her win is seen as a step forward in promoting gender inclusiveness across various sectors. As she begins her new term, EPWA has called on Mrs. Odutola to prioritize the welfare of her members and foster unity. "We urge you to lead with greater vigor, inclusivity, and a focus on the continuous development of our

community," Mrs. Oluyomi-Johnson added. "Extend a hand of fellowship to dissenting voices and promote the peace and progress we all cherish."

The association reiterated its unwavering support for Mrs. Odutola's leadership and expressed hope for groundbreaking achievements during her tenure.



Ifako-Ijaiye Budget: Education, Security, Healthcare Take Centre Stage

The Legislative Arm of Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government announced the presentation of the 2025 budget, aptly titled the "Budget of Prosperity." This landmark budget reflects our commitment to fostering sustainable development, enhancing the quality of life for the residents, and ensuring economic growth within our community.

The budget presentation took place at the Local Government Secretariat, with key stakeholders, community leaders, and residents in attendance. The Chairman prince Usman Akanbi Hamzat, Vice Chairman Mr. Oluwatoyin Akerele, Leader of the house Hon. Victor Onifade, SLG Mr. Fasusi Kolawole Ayokunle. The Council chairman emphasized that the "Budget of Prosperity" is designed to address



the pressing needs of our community while laying the groundwork for future growth and development.

The presentation by the Chairman Key Highlights of the 2025 Budget:

- 1. Infrastructure Development:** Significant allocations have been made for the construction and rehabilitation of roads, drainage systems, and public facilities to improve accessibility and safety for all residents.
- 2. Education and Youth Empowerment:** The budget prioritizes

- 3. Healthcare**
- 4. Environmental Sustainability:** Recognizing the importance of a clean and sustainable environment, the budget includes provisions for waste management, tree planting initiatives, and community clean-up programs.
- 5. Economic Growth and Development:** To stimulate local businesses and attract investments, the budget outlines strategies for supporting small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and promoting entrepreneurship within the community.
- 6. Security and Safety:** The safety of residents is paramount. The budget allocates funds for community policing initiatives and partnerships with

Services: A substantial portion of the budget is dedicated to enhancing healthcare services, with plans to upgrade existing health facilities, improve access to medical care, and launch health awareness campaigns.

security agencies to ensure a safer environment for all.

The Legislative Arm is committed to transparency and accountability. We encourage community members to actively participate in the budget implementation process. Feedback and suggestions from residents are vital to ensuring that our initiatives align with the needs and aspirations of the community.

Conclusion

The "Budget of Prosperity" represents a significant step towards a brighter future for Ifako-Ijaiye. We believe that with the collective effort of our government, community leaders, and residents, we can achieve sustainable development and improve the overall well-being of our citizens

Hamzat Commissions 147 Lock-Up Shops in Ishaga Ultra Modern Market

The Chairman of Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government Area has commissioned

Ishaga Ultra Modern Market earlier last week. The market consist of

147 (One Hundred and Forty Seven) lockup shops and 90 (Nifty) keep-clamp stalls for the

vendors. The event took place last week at Shaga Modern Market, Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government with the aim of improving the standard of livelihood and improving economic growth and development for the good people of the community. The Chairman commenced his speech by thanking God and everyone who was part of the successful, swift completion of the project, despite all

odds. In conclusion, Prince Usman drew the people's attention to the need for them to always keep and maintain the market, as it's not just a place for buying and selling but also a way of empowering local entrepreneurs. The Babaloja General of Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government, Evangelist Samuel Hungbo, in his closing remarks, appreciated the Executive Chairman for his love and unwavering support for the people of Ifako-Ijaiye and promised to make

judicious use of the public investment. Other dignitaries present at the event were, the Vice Chairman, Mrs Oluwatoyin Awoniyi Akerele; Leader of the House, Mr. Victor Onifade; the Council Manager, Mr Adesaya Akeem Adegbenro; SLG, Mr. Fasusi Kolawole Ayokunle; the Councillors, the Supervisors, Management Staff; Iya Oloja General, Chief Mrs Doyin Coker Ogunbiyi; Council of Obas; Traditional Rulers, Balees, market women and other stakeholders.



Hamzat Hosts Miss African Beauty Pageant

Kehinde Adeleye

The Chairman of Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government, Prince Usman Akanbi Hamzat, hosted the 6th edition of the Miss African Beauty with Brain Pageant, a celebration of beauty, intelligence, and advocacy, on Saturday, December 7, 2024. The event, held in the heart of Ifako-Ijaiye, attracted notable community leaders, youth advocates, and residents, making it a night of glamour and inspiration. In his keynote address, Prince Hamzat congratulated Diamond, the newly crowned beauty queen, urging her to leverage her platform to advocate for the girl child and champion youth-oriented initiatives.



He emphasized the transformative power of such events in

nurturing leadership, women, further inspire meaningful confidence, and a sense of encouraging her to societal change. purpose among young lead efforts that

Adding a special note to the evening, Prince Hamzat was honored with the distinguished "Ideal Grassroots Politician of the Century" award in recognition of his visionary leadership, accessibility, and dedication to community development. The organizers lauded his steadfast commitment to fostering youth empowerment and innovative programs that uplift the local community. The pageant reinforced the chairman's mission of driving inclusive growth and collaboration, solidifying his standing as a trailblazer in grassroots governance and development.

Folawiyo Pledges To Elevate Service Delivery



(Chairman of Lagos Island East LCDA, Dr Muibi Folawiyo)

Dr. Muibi Folawiyo, the Chairman of Lagos Island East Local Council Development Area (LIELCDA), has vowed to enhance service delivery after another award recognition from the Golden Crown Club, Lafaji. The council boss was recognized for his outstanding

contributions to community development, particularly in the areas of infrastructure and food security. Folawiyo was bestowed with the prestigious award of Mayor of Infrastructure & Food Security by The Golden Crown Club of Lafaji. This honor acknowledges his significant efforts in improving the lives of LIELCDA residents. He expressed his gratitude to the club for

recognizing his work. He stated that the award serves as further motivation to continue delivering quality public service and driving positive change in the community. The Golden Crown Club of Lafaji commended Dr. Folawiyo for his exemplary leadership and dedication to good governance. The club emphasized his commitment to sustainable development and his efforts to address the needs of the community.

Rep. Babajimi Benson, representing Ikorodu Federal Constituency in the House of Representatives, has initiated the much-anticipated Selewu Road Project in Igbogbo-Baiyeku Local Council Development Area (LCDA).

The groundbreaking ceremony marks a significant step toward addressing the long-standing infrastructure needs of the community.

The project was flagged off by Mayor Deen Sanwoola, Director General of the iCare Foundation, who represented Rep. Benson.

Sanwoola highlighted the strategic importance of the Selewu Road, describing it as a critical link that will improve transportation, facilitate trade, and connect neighboring communities.

"This road will not only serve the residents of Selewu but also provide a vital link to adjoining areas, enhancing the

Benson Flags Off Selewu Road Project in Igbogbo

By Nurudeen Adebayo



movement of people, goods, and services," he said.

Sanwoola also emphasized the need for community cooperation during construction,

cautioning that any disturbances could disrupt the project and delay its completion.

Builder Olusesan Daini, the Executive Chairman of Igbogbo-Baiyeku LCDA, expressed optimism

about the project's potential to transform the area.

He reassured residents of continuous efforts by his administration to prioritize impactful

developments, stating, "The Selewu Road was chosen as a priority because of its importance to multiple communities and its economic value."

The joint CDA Chairman of Selewu expressed heartfelt gratitude to Rep. Benson and other stakeholders, noting that the project ends years of neglect and brings much-needed relief to residents.

Representing the Adeboruwa of Igbogbo Kingdom, the Odofin of Igbogbo Kingdom extended royal blessings and urged parents to foster responsible behavior among youths to ensure smooth progress of the construction.

Other notable speakers included Chief Olusola Olugbode, who called for peace and cooperation during the project, and the APC LGA Chairman, who applauded Rep. Benson and other contributors for their dedication to community development.

President Bola Ahmed Tinubu has appointed Shamsudeen Babatunde Ogunjimi, an indigene of Ikorodu, Lagos State, as the Acting Accountant-General of the Federation (AGF).

Ogunjimi assumes the role following the commencement of pre-retirement leave by the incumbent, Dr. Oluwatoyin Sakirat Madein, ensuring seamless continuity in the management of Nigeria's treasury operations.

Hailing from Isale Salu, Itun Iwolo in Ikorodu, Ogunjimi brings over 30 years of experience in public financial management to the position.

A senior director at the Office of the

Ikorodu Celebrates Son, New Acting Accountant-General, Ogunjimi

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Accountant-General of the Federation (OAGF), he has previously served as Director of Funds and Director of Finance and Accounts at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Ogunjimi's academic and professional credentials include a BSc in Accountancy, a Master's degree in Finance and Accounting, and multiple certifications as a chartered accountant, fraud examiner, stockbroker, and investment specialist.

These qualifications have established him as a seasoned expert in financial governance.

In announcing the

appointment, President Tinubu emphasized Ogunjimi's strategic importance to Nigeria's ongoing economic reforms.

"Mr. Ogunjimi's appointment reflects our commitment to maintaining the integrity of our treasury operations. His wealth of experience will be instrumental as we pursue a robust financial governance agenda," the President stated.

The appointment is a source of pride for Ikorodu, with many residents celebrating Ogunjimi's elevation as a reflection of the town's growing contributions to national development.



Babatunde Ogunjimi

The outgoing AGF, Dr. Madein, was also lauded for her dedication to improving Nigeria's financial management systems. Dr. Madein, who will officially retire in March 2025, leaves behind a legacy of strengthened financial operations.

As Acting AGF, Ogunjimi is expected to play a pivotal role in advancing Nigeria's fiscal reforms and ensuring that treasury operations align with the government's broader economic objectives.

His appointment is seen as a testament to Ikorodu's reputation for producing accomplished professionals who excel on the national stage.

Olasoju, Al-marroof, Oloyede-Bello Empower Women In Their Domains

Kehinde Adeleye

The Chairperson of Isolo LCDA, Mrs. Olajumoke Olasoju has teamed up with her counterparts in Oshodi-Isolo LGA and Ejigbo LCDA, Mrs. Fadekemi Al-Marroof and Mrs. Fatima Oloyede-Bello to empower women and indigent residents across Oshodi-Isolo

LGA. The event tagged 'Women Empowerment Program and Palliative' was held at the Ejigbo Council Secretariat as part of activities of the monthly meeting of Lagos State Council Chairmen's Wives Association (LASCOWA) hosted

by the trio. At the event, beneficiaries who were evenly selected across the federating council areas from various strata of the community smiled home with sewing machines, deep freezers, cash sums and food items as palliatives. Speaking on behalf of the host-chairpersons, the President of the Association, Mrs. Kehinde

Ajala who led other chairpersons to the event explained that the empowerment and palliative distribution was to replicate a similar initiative by the First Lady, Dr. Mrs Claudiana Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu and ultimately complement the

laudable welfarist strides of their spouses at their respective council areas. On their part, the Chairmen of Isolo and Ejigbo LCDAs, Olasoju Adebayo and Hon. Monsurudeen Oloyede Bello thanked their spouses and LASCOWA for the laudable gesture as they promised continued support for their activities.

Earlier, the program featured inter-religious prayers, motivational talks and religious counselling from Imam Abdul-Jamiu Oyebo, Imam Abdul-Haheem Mudathir and Pastor David Oluwole, respectively. Beneficiaries were full of gratitude to the chairpersons for the laudable gesture with a promise to make judicious use of the empowerment benefits. 'I'm delighted to have been selected for this empowerment program. I'm a fresh graduate from fashion school and I've been worried about how to get a machine to set up my own sewing business. I'm grateful to our chairpersons, Mrs. Jumoke Olasoju, Mrs. Fadekemi Oloyede and Alh. Obe's wife as well as the entire members of LASCOWA for this impactful program,' said, Iyanu Akinrinmade, a beneficiary from Isolo. The event was also graced by the council leader of Oshodi-Isolo LGA, Mr. Rasheed Obasa, his counterpart in Isolo, Mr. Akeem Adeyemi Alarape, the SLG of Oshodi-Isolo LGA, Mr. Smart Akinleye, his counterpart in Isolo LCDA, Mr. Sikiru Adeshina Salisu among other council officials.



Residents Commend Mushin LG Chairman On Road Construction

Residents of Mushin have praised their Local Government chairman, Emmanuel Bamigboye for bringing succour to the community through the construction of a new road.

Bamigboye demonstrated his commitment to improving the community's infrastructure by initiating a new road construction project on Bankole Street.

The road will be paved with interlocking stones and equipped with solar-powered streetlights upon completion.

This project is expected to significantly enhance

By Saheed Afolabi

traffic flow and accessibility in the area, connecting Agege Motor Road, Isolo Road, and other major thoroughfares. The timely intervention has garnered widespread praise from local residents who are enthusiastic about the positive impact the new road will have on their daily lives.

Bamigboye reaffirmed his dedication to delivering quality infrastructure, healthcare, and other essential services to the people of Mushin



Akinsanya Awards Scholarships To Odi-Olowo/Ojuwoye Medical Students

By Saheed Afolabi

Hon. Prince Ayinde Akinsanya (OSMAK), representing Mushin constituency 1 in the Lagos State House of Assembly (LAHA) has awarded scholarship to three indigent Odi-olowo Ojuwoye LCDA medical students in his bid to cater for educational needs of his constituency. The Chairman of the Lagos State House of Assembly's Public Accounts (Local) Committee demonstrated his

commitment to education by awarding the scholarships to three medical students from Odi-Olowo/Ojuwoye.

The announcement was made during a recent visit by the National Association of Odi-Olowo Tertiary Students to his office. The scholarship recipients, Mudasiru Taofeekat, Adeosun Temiloluwa, and Ibraheem Simbiat Abiodun, will receive financial support to further their medical studies.

(Akinsanya emphasized the importance of education as a catalyst for personal and societal development.)



(Hon. Prince Ayinde Akinsanya (OSMAK), representing Mushin constituency 1 in the Lagos State House of Assembly (LAHA) with members of the National Association of Odi-Olowo Tertiary Students)

He encouraged the scholarship recipients to excel academically and contribute positively to their community.

The lawmaker also revealed plans to launch two projects in the coming year to further motivate students and provide additional support, such as skills acquisition programs, mentorship, and internship opportunities. Adekunle Oluwatosin, the leader of the student delegation, expressed sincere gratitude for the scholarship initiative and urged Akinsanya to continue supporting students in the constituency

Iyabo Ojo Reveals Details of Daughter's Upcoming Wedding

Nollywood actress Iyabo Ojo has shared exciting details about her daughter Priscilla's forthcoming wedding to Tanzanian singer Juma Jux.

The highly anticipated event, scheduled for 2025, promises to be a grand, star-studded affair.

Iyabo Ojo, speaking at a recent red-carpet event, confirmed that the wedding celebrations will span multiple locations, offering a unique experience for family, friends, and fans.

"The first and second weddings will be held in Nigeria, the third in Tanzania, and the fourth will be a destination wedding," she revealed, hinting at the grandeur of the

By Nurudeen Adebayo

occasion.

The actress also surprised fans by announcing plans to invite 100 lucky individuals to the celebration. "I'll be sharing invitation cards to 100 lucky fans," she said, adding to the excitement surrounding the event.

The upcoming nuptials have been the subject of widespread anticipation, with many looking forward to seeing how the beloved Nollywood star and her family will host this elaborate and unforgettable series of celebrations.



Why I Quit Smoking Cannabis - Bella Shmurda

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Nigerian singer Bella Shmurda has opened up about his decision to quit smoking cannabis, citing its negative impact on his mental health and creativity. The revelation came during a recent podcast appearance where the artist candidly discussed the challenges he faced early in his music career.

Shmurda shared that smoking cannabis triggered anxiety and

fear about his future, prompting him to make a life-changing decision. "I stopped smoking Igbo years back because I started getting anxiety and became scared of the future," he said. The Cash App crooner further explained that the habit did not enhance his creativity, which was vital to his career as a musician. "Smoking wasn't helping my creativity, so I had to stop it in the early start of my music career," Bella Shmurda stated.

The singer's openness about his struggles and decision to prioritize his mental well-being has been applauded by fans and industry colleagues, with many noting the importance of artists advocating for healthier lifestyles.

Bella Shmurda's revelation adds to a growing conversation about the effects of cannabis on mental health, especially among young creatives navigating the pressures of the entertainment industry.



Dapper Music Addresses Allegations amid Shallipopi's Exit

Dapper Music & Entertainment has responded to allegations following the departure of Shallipopi, whose real name is Crown Uzama,

By Nurudeen Adebayo
from the label. This came after Shallipopi announced his exit from the record label, accusing it of

distrust, mismanagement of funds and abuse of artist's rights.

In a detailed press release shared on Instagram, the label emphasized its

commitment to transparency, fairness, and integrity in its dealings while addressing the allegations.

The label stated that after Shallipopi's first album success, he was allowed to renegotiate terms with full legal representation.

On October 28, 2024,

new terms were agreed upon, granting him the freedom to explore other opportunities while maintaining a mutually beneficial partnership.

Surprised by the allegations, Dapper Music claims to have provided clear financial records and is cooperating fully with auditors engaged by Shallipopi.

Also, it addressed accusations that another artist, Muyeze allegedly signed a contract as a minor. Clarifying this, the label stated that the agreement was signed by his legal guardian and witnessed appropriately.



Why I prefer younger men – Actress Adaku

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Omotunde Adebawale, better known as Adaku or Lolo1, opens up on her preference for younger men.

During an interview on Oyinmomo TV, Adaku described her taste in men as “very weird” while sharing her unique preferences.

The actress added that she is not exactly looking for a God-fearing man, but prefers a man who is good and Eurocentric in their thinking.

She said ...

“My tastes in men are very weird. I don't like old people. I like younger people men with long hair and earrings. Someone who is visually appealing.

“Gone are those days when you will be looking for a God fearing man. Are you even God-fearing yourself?”

“I like good things. And I'll find it difficult to connect with any man that isn't Eurocentric because I'm a fine dining girl. You won't catch me on a date at an amala spot”.



Mega 99 To Headline Boxing Day Extravaganza

Juju music maestro, Prince Abel Dosumu, popularly known as Mega 99, is set to headline a star-studded Boxing Day event at the 12 Legacy Hotel and Suites in Ipaja, Lagos. The event, organized by A.K Infinity Entertainment Promotions and OOP Productions, promises a night of non-stop entertainment featuring a lineup of top-tier Juju and Gospel artists. On December 26th, 2024, from 6 PM until dawn, music lovers will be treated to electrifying performances by Mega

By Saheed Afolabi

99, Shola Gulf, Sunny Bright, GP Praise, Ayanbolu Adisa, Shola Seriki, Mysek SK, and Tosin New Glory. Olumide Orogunle, CEO of OOP Productions, assured attendees of an unforgettable experience. "12 Legacy Hotel and Suites is the perfect venue for this festive celebration. With its world-class hospitality and affordable prices, we guarantee a royal

treat for everyone," he said. Akeem Bamijoko, CEO of A.K Infinity Entertainment Promotions, emphasized the importance of safety.

"We've taken stringent security measures to ensure a safe and enjoyable event for all attendees. So, come

out in large numbers and let's celebrate the festive season together," he added. The event is open to the public with free

entry. 12 Legacy Hotel and Suites is located at 10-12 Koya Akinwale Street, off Aina Obembe Road, Ipaja, Lagos.



(Two young boxers exchanging punches at a grassroots boxing championship)

Ajala Highlights Significant Impacts Of Odi-Olowo Annual Sport Fiesta

By Saheed Afolabi

Chairman of Odi-Olowo Ojuwoye LCDA, Mr Rasaan Ajala is elated over the impactful benefit the annual sport fiesta had on the community teeming youths and residents. The Odiolowo-Ojuwoye Local Council Development Area (LCDA) recently concluded its annual sports fiesta, a week-long event showcasing a variety of sporting activities. The grand finale saw participants compete in various sports, including street soccer, basketball, table tennis, boxing,

draughts, 52-card games, and Ayo Olopon. Winners were awarded medals and cash prizes. The council boss expressed his pride in the success of the event, highlighting its significance in promoting positive youth engagement and community development. He emphasized that the fiesta aimed to counter negative stereotypes about Mushin and showcase the abundant talent within the community. "We have demonstrated that we have what it takes to compete at the national and international level," he stated. "This program has not

only unearthed hidden talents but has also fostered unity and interaction among different communities within the LCDA."

The event was particularly impactful for the youth, redirecting their energy towards productive activities and away from negative influences.

Additionally, it provided opportunities for older adults to participate in friendly competitions like draughts, Ayo Olopon, and card games.

Ajala expressed gratitude for the positive feedback received and reiterated the commitment to organizing future events that contribute to the overall well-being and development of the community.





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