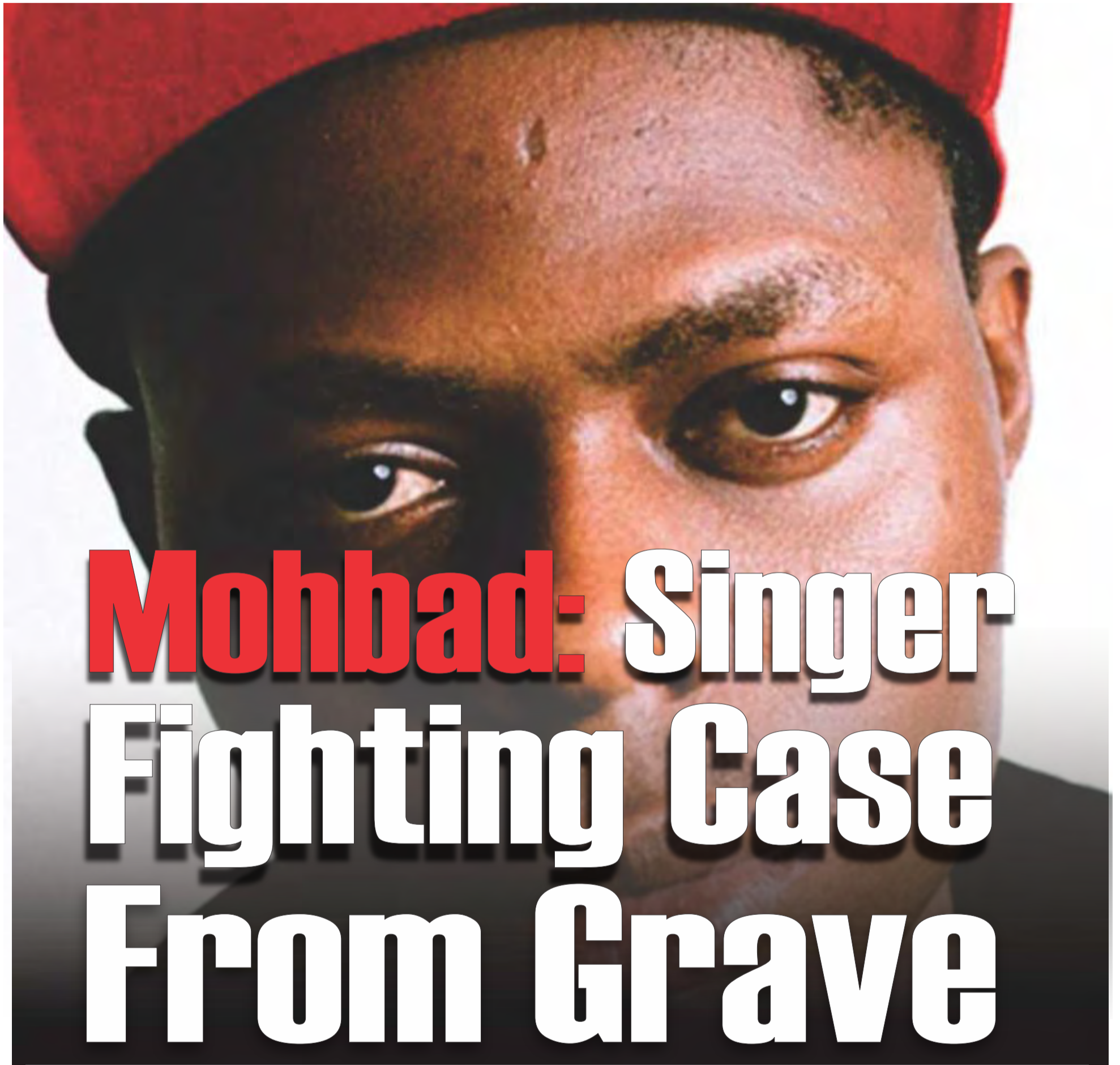


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Mohbad: Singer Fighting Case From Grave

By Kunle Awosiyun

The sudden rise of the Nigeria Police to unravel the mystery behind the death of a popular singer, Ilerioluwa Oladimeji Aloba, aka, Mohbad looks more like a damage control instead of a real investigation.

Not until he died and many videos of the probable circumstances leading to his death hit the social media space, the police had failed to treat the letter the singer sent to them over the threat by a killer gang to take his life.

Many of the evidences that the police will work with in their probe to get Mohbad's killers are now the videos and letters released by the singer himself. It is a case of the dead fighting back from his grave due to the negligence of the police.

Mohbad, a former carpentry apprentice from a broken home suddenly became more popular after his death with his music taking three spots on Billboard's top 10 trending songs for the first time.

Mohbad's songs took the number two, five and eight spots on the Billboard barely a week that the singer gave up the ghost.

Before his death, he wrote to the police over a threat to his life. In a letter dated June 27, 2023 to the police, the singer informed the law enforcement agent about the threat to his life.

Tagging it 'They are after my life' the late singer addressed the letter to to the Assistant Inspector-General of Police, Force Criminal Investigation Department Annex, Lagos, petitioned the force over "threat to life, malicious damage of properties valued at the sum of N5 million, assault, occasional harm,



Mohbad

oppression, and conduct likely to cause breach of peace against one Sam Larry, Elele, Obele, and others.

He stated that he was attacked at a video shoot on June 25, 2023, by men who claimed that they worked for one Oba Elegushi.

The 'Peace' crooner who also dubbed himself as Imole said that even after he narrowly escaped on the said date, the hoodlums were still threatening to kill him.

According to the petition: "On 25 June 2023, while having a video shoot with another artist, Zlatan Ibile. The above-mentioned persons, numbering about fifteen, led by Sam Larry Elegushi, invaded the premises with dangerous arms such as guns, cutlasses, etc, where he was shooting a video and scattered the whole process, damaged the



Mohbad's father, Pastor Joseph Aloba

equipment he was using for the shooting, valued at about N5 million, and started threatening his life. In the process, they became violent and assaulted him.

The petition to the police showed that Mohbad was seriously injured but escaped being killed. Attached with the petition were pictures, the receipt of the total amount he

paid for the shooting, which the gangs destroyed. He paid non-refundable N8 million for the shooting, which was never allowed to hold by the gangs.

However, during the assault, the hoodlums boasted that they worked for Oba Elegushi and that they had been asked to deal with the singer for reasons best known to them.

The late singer wrote in the petition "Sir, I call on your good office to save my life from the above-mentioned persons and bring them to book. Thank you for your timely intervention."

Despite the letter, the police failed to act until the singer eventually died fortnight ago, buried while his fans stormed the streets to demand justice.

In one of videos released after he had passed away, the singer had alleged the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency of using its operatives to serve him with a poisoned table water while in their custody.

He said he was arrested alongside some of his colleagues but was the only one given the water to drink while at the NDLEA custody.

Reacting to this, the NDLEA media executive, Mr. Femi Babafemi denied the allegation, saying that at no time did the agency arrest any person called Ilerioluwa Aloba or Mohbad as he called on members of the public to disregard the viral video.

However, the police officially launched investigation into Mohbad's death a day after his demise.

The Lagos State Police Command inaugurated a 13-man special investigation team to look into the death of Mohbad on September 18, 2023, six days after the body of the singer had been horridly buried.

The Lagos State governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu also integrated the Department of State

Mohbad: Singer Fighting Case From Grave

But when asked why he hurriedly buried the body of his son, Mohbad's father, Joseph Aloba attributed it to the tradition in Yoruba land; stating that it is sorrowful to keep the body of a young child around while his parents are still alive. As he put it "Everybody has what they are facing. In Yoruba land, his body is not the type you keep at home because he was young and his parents are alive. If it were to be an elderly person, we would have kept the body in the mortuary for as long as we wanted. In his case, the day we see evil is the day it goes away. It was at that midnight that I made the decision. I had him buried on that land because that is the only property that I know of and we had an agreement that I'd use the land to build a church."

The father also spoke on how he was rushed to the hospital following a phone call about the condition of his son on the day he gave up the ghost. The bereaved father narrated that on the day his son died, he got a call from his associates asking him to meet them at the hospital. According to the father, he was at the bus stop when he got another call telling him that he should return home. However, he suspected something had happened, hence, insisted on seeing his son. On getting to his son's house, he found his lifeless body with an injury on his hand and not his neck as widely claimed. When he asked the



Letter to the police

singer's friends about how his late son got the injury, he was told that the injury was from a playful fight he had with his friend after which his hand got swollen. Mohbad's father added that his friends informed him that the singer vomited after being given an injection by an auxiliary nurse. Mr Aloba alleged that the nurse who treated his son looked more like a quack and might be the one who killed Mohmad. "She might have been unintentionally responsible for my son's death," he said in

another video. Of course, the allegations to the death of Mohbad have become complex that the police had to exhume the body on Thursday for autopsy as the world awaits the final report of the coroner inquest. Speaking, the state Commissioner of Police, Idowu Owohunnwa emphasised that the perpetrators and anyone linked to Mohbad's death would be arrested and brought to book under the full wrath of the law. He reminded the general public that the police command has

access to the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) as well as their resources. He said, "Wherever you are in this world do not forget, we have unique access to INTERPOL. We do not want to mention specific names but everybody linked to the death of Mohbad will be identified and they will be brought to establish their level of involvement." Numerous times, he stressed that the police did not want to mention the names of anyone involved in the investigation yet, but wanted the public to



AIg, Kayode Egbetokun

seek solace in the fact that they were on the case. He added, "We don't want to isolate specific characters, all facts including videos and other things that have been mentioned. I don't want to reduce the investigation to a specific name at this moment. Let's proceed with the investigation and as we have it, to identify individuals, we could pick on whoever within the constraints of the law and they would be required to come and clarify." Interestingly, the police investigation is coming after the singer had passed away not when he was alive with his petition lying fallow at the police station. Again the probe came after the public outcry for the police to take up the case of the singer's sudden death. This is especially because of

the different videos making rounds on social media of Mohbad being harassed and assaulted by members of his former record label Marlian Music. Before Mohbad's passing, he once posted a video name-dropping his former boss Naira Marley and his counterpart Sammy Larry, declaring that if he ever died they were responsible. The singer also allegedly drafted a request to the police requesting protection from them. However, after his death, they both declared that they did not harm the singer and that he 'was like a brother' to them. In the last four days, his fans had organised numerous candlelight processions to pay their last respect and of course demand for justice.

Apatira Reads Riot Act To Roadside Traders

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Itire Ikate LCDA, Honorable Ahmed Apatira has read the riot act to roadside traders that flout the rules of transportation. Apatira has declared zero tolerance on roadside/walkway trading and indiscriminate parking by commercial bus drivers across the LCDA. The council boss said such acts, apart from becoming irritating, also portrays the council in bad light. He also said his government will no longer tolerate any act

of indiscipline, thuggery, hooliganism, and any act of violence that can disrupt the prevailing peace in the council area. Apatira said the move was to sensitize the people and sanitize the area, to ensure a conducive business environment and free flow of traffic. "What we have done today is not a one off thing. It will be a continuous exercise and we will ensure the tempo is maintained. We are not relenting on our efforts, we will continue the process."

He said there is punishment for violators, adding that the law will take its course. "To ensure there is compliance with what we have done today, we have the environmental health officers and the joint task force who are here to ensure the exercise is maintained. Anyone that fails to sustain and maintain what has been done today will be sanctioned. It is an ongoing process, we have been sensitizing people on this and we will continue with the enlightenment."



(The chairman of Itire Ikate LCDA, Honorable Ahmed Apatira warning a roadside trader about the dangers of roadside trading.)

Olamilekan Promises More Intervention In Education

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Coker Aguda LCDA, Honorable Rasaq Olamilekan has promised that his administration will place more priority on education in the community. This came on the heels of the recent distribution of free educational materials to the students of the local council. Speaking to the Press the council boss emphasized that education is one the major priorities in his administration and he will do everything within his power to ensure pupils are not thrown out of school to roam the streets as urchins as education is one of the greatest gift the leaders of tomorrow can be given. Base on passion for education and ensuring academics excellence in our society, Hon Olamilekan has distributed free school



(Pupils of Coker Aguda LCDA happily displaying the learning materials donated to them by Coker Aguda LCDA)

uniform, free school bags, free sandals and free customized books to pupils of Coker Aguda LCDA. Hon Olamilekan

recently gave out free jamb forms, free GCE form to students who attended the free summer teaching camp organized by Coker

Aguda LCDA. Free training on solar installation has just been concluded, he also gave maximum supports to the

students that took part in summer training on ICT. He concluded by giving hope to the residents of Coker Aguda LCDA, That the

leadership of the council will not relent in ensuring youths and students are given serious attention with respect to education and vocational studies.



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Salawu Charges Residents To Clear Waterways

By Saheed Afolabi



(Volunteers of an healthy environment in Somolu LG)

The chairman of Somolu LG, Honorable Abdulhamed Salawu has charged residents to clear their waterways to avoid floodings in the communities.

Speaking at the World Clean-Up Day, the council boss, Hon Salawu lauded the environmental volunteers who volunteered to preached a healthy environment.

Reiterating his commitment to Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu's THEMES Agenda on Health and Environment, the Chairman disclosed the importance of

frequent sanitation in the community, urging residents to never relent in keeping their immediate environs well tidy and clean for safety purposes.

However, he stressed that his administration will always be spontaneous on this particular aspect of governance at the grassroots, for the utmost benefits of every dwellers within the Local Government.

In the wake of heavy downpour of rain across Lagos, environment lovers led by Comrade Olaniyi Kushimo (SA, Environment), Members of Somolu Youth Council

(N.Y.C.N), Green Janitors, Somolu Green Initiative, CDA's and other Youth organisations within the domain, defied the odds to mark the Clean Up Exercises, alongside their counterparts in Bariga LCDA and other 55 LGAs/LCDAs in the State. Meanwhile, the Council Chairman has charged Hon Olumide Akinola and Hon Femi Adebisi Taiwo including Sanitarian H.O Ogunbekun led Environment and Health Services Department, to ensure continuous clearing of drainage systems in the community, so as to combat possible rise of flood.

NGO donates school packs To Foster Parenthood

By Saheed Afolabi



The school kids displaying the learning materials donated to them by Lira Foundation

Somolu Local Government based NGO, Lira Foundation has described its donation of school packs to students an avenue to help out parents in their roles to kids.

The Lira Foundation boss, Lijirin Ruth Ayomide JP received overwhelming accolades for its kind gesture to the grassroots and less privileged.

She disclosed that every child requires vital

growth in all aspects to boost their focus in life.

"Therefore, it is with our deepest concern to contribute our quota and help in nurturing our young ones, simply by distributing Educational Materials in all varieties to them, which serve as an avenue to strengthen Parents crucial roles in our respective communities."

In the same vein, the pioneer sought for effective grassroots

engagements from stakeholders in Lagos towards the requisite grooming of youths for better tomorrow.

The back to school packs includes, school bags, food flasks, school sandals, writing materials and water bottles.

Other dignitaries include Hon. Modiu (Super for Health, Bariga); Hon. Koya Olayinka-Sodipe (SA on Health, Somolu) and Mr Adetola Orekoya (PA to LSHA Member, Somolu 01), Mrs Ogundipe (From Educational Sector), SP Kazeem Salau (DCO Bariga), Mr Bulus (Station Officer, Bariga); Alhaja Raji & Mr Okeowo Nurani (Bariga APC Woman & Youth Leaders), Engr. Ayobami Opasanya, Lagos Youth For Sanwo-Olu Members, Akoka Leo Club, Orisolape Event, Avatar Ushers, QY-Cakes and esteemed Youths/volunteers across the state.

Bada distributes more Palliatives

By Nurudeen Adebayo

In her effort to ameliorate the suffering of her people due to the present inflation by fuel subsidy removal the Chairman of Ikosi-Isheri LCDA, Princess Samiat Abolanle Bada, has demonstrated her commitment to the welfare of the community by providing much-needed palliative support.

Recognizing the recent collapse of dilapidated buildings in Agboye Estate, Mayoress Bada and other leaders visited the affected ward to rally round the residents and offer subsidies.

Accompanied by Hon. Eto Afolabi, an Apex leader in Ikosi-Isheri, and the councillor of the ward, Mayoress Bada ensured that the palliative support reached those who needed it most.

The presence of supervisors and state officials monitoring the area addressed concerns of flooding,

emphasizing that the collapse was due to the deteriorating condition of the buildings rather than proximity to rivers or oceans.

Princess Samiat Bada added "This morning, we have been to Ward A in magodo phase 1 you can see the crowd because it was not announced there, from there, we went to ward G where they needed this palliative the most because they are vulnerable, we left there and went to ward C where the same

vulnerable people came out to receives the palliatives.

In conclusion she said "It was surprising that we could see a lot of people coming out to collect the palliative, it means they really needed it and that we approached the places it was needed, we also distributed to ward D in front of kabiesi onikosi palace, and we ensure we distributed the palliatives to them, by tomorrow we will round up with Ward F and Ward B."



(Beneficiaries of the palliatives)

Bamigboye Tasks Mushin CDC To Report Any Community Vandalism

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Mushin LG, Honorable Emmanuel Bamigboye has tasked the newly inaugurated Community Development Committee (CDC) executives in Mushin to report any frivolous or any act of vandalism to the local government.

While addressing the new officials during the swearing-in ceremony, the Mushin LG chairman, Hon Bamigboye, advised them to be the eyes of the council in their various communities.

He tasked them to partner with the local government and co-operate with officials through feedback from their communities on areas where there are shortcomings and need for improvement in social services to the people.

Hon Bamigboye appealed to the CDA chairmen to always update the council on information concerning security and sabotage of government projects or properties by vandals in their communities.

The council boss empowered them with authority to query any contractor executing any unapproved projects that can cause damage to roads or any government facilities. He also enjoined them to enlighten the people on ways to contribute towards the development of their communities, through environmental sanitation, protection of public properties, payment of obligatory dues to the government etc.

He appealed to other contestants who lost during elections and advised them to also

join hands with the executives in order to position themselves for leadership after the expiration of their tenure which lasts for two years.

The list of the newly constituted Executives of Mushin Local Government CDC as presented by the head of Agriculture and Social Services department, Mrs Aderonke Ogundiran are, Otunba Femi Okuyemi (Chairman), Alhaji Taiwo Odunsi (1st Vice Chairman), Mr Alaba Adesanya (2nd Vice Chairman), Mr Moruf Alli (Secretary), Mr Adawale Odukale (Assistant Secretary), Mrs Modina Adeoye (Treasurer), Otunba Temitope Omidiji (Financial Secretary), Mr Afeez Lawal (Auditor), Mrs. Abiola Ojo (Welfare officer 1), Alhaja Tawakalitu Balogun (Welfare Officer 2), Chief Kikelomo Olaogun



(The newly elected CDC excos of Mushin LG taking their oath of office)

(Social Secretary), Mr Abimbola Shodipe (PRO), Alhaji Okuwobi Olatunde (Ex Officio 1) Mr Monday Olusola (Ex Officio 2), Mr Ganiu Akanni Sanni (Ex Officio 3), Mr Eniola Taiwo (Ex Officio 4), Mr Henry Ojo (Ex Officio 5), Alhaji Mustapha Lawal (Ex Officio 6), Mrs Morakinyo Folashade Lawal (Ex Officio 7), Mr Waheed Akanbi (Ex Officio 8), Alhaji Sheu Ogunbona (Ex Officio 9), Mr

Olukemi Fatai (Ex Officio 10), Mr Ajiboye Temidayo (Ex Officio 11).

After the chairman's address, the legal officer of the council, Barrister Fatima Adesanya Ijaodala, administered the oath of office and conducted the swearing-in for the CDC executives and CDA chairmen.

While addressing pressmen, the Supervisor for Agriculture and Social

Services, Mr Shakiru Oyefolu, commended the Chairman for steps taken and security arrangements put in place while the team was moving from one community to another, conducting the CDA elections. He however tasked the new leadership of the CDC and CDAs to wake up to their responsibilities by joining hands with the government to ensure that members of their communities enjoy the dividends of democracy.

Bamigboye Promises More Intervention In Sports

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Mushin Local Government, Honorable Emmanuel Bamigboye has promised to provide more intervention in sports in the community.

The council boss made it known at the final of the Chairman's Cup while speaking to the Press.

Speaking with Journalists, the Chairman promised to continue in his efforts towards engaging the youths in Mushin. He also assured the youth of his commitment towards promoting sports and other activities that will help in discovering talents and skills among the youths in Mushin Local Government.

Hon Bamigboye who was excited with the victory of his Ward as the winner of the trophy, also encouraged the other wards with cash prizes for the two losers at the semi-final

matches and other four losers at the quarter finals.

Ward H emerged champions by defeating 2-1 the winning team went home with the sum of 100,000, with an additional 100,000 from Executive Chairman - Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye, totalling 200,000 naira.

The second position went home with 50,000 with an additional 50,000 from the Executive Chairman, totalling 100,000.

The two teams who lost at the semi finals also got a prize of 15,000 each with additional 15,000 from the chairman, making 30,000 for each of the teams while those who lost at the quarter final matches also went away with 10,000 each with additional 10,000 from the Executive Chairman, to make it a total of 20,000 each



Chairman of Mushin LG, Hon Emmanuel Bamigboye presenting the trophy of the Chairman's Cup to the winners, Ward H.

While Hon. Toyin Fayinka donated the sum of 10,000 each to the two best players from each of the teams that played the final match, Hon Kayode Shobande (Shokas) also donated the sum of 50,000 to the winner of the final match and 30,000 to the second

place team.

At the end of the tournament, all the teams that participated, went home with cash gifts.

Before the commencement of the match, a minute silence was observed in honour of the late Deputy Leader of the

legislative arm of Mushin Local Government, Hon. Muritala Oyeniyi, who died on Saturday 26th August and was buried Sunday 27th August, 2023.

The Supervisor for Youths and Sports, Mr. Tunji Okelola, who spoke with the press,

expressed his appreciation to the chairman for his support towards promoting sports among the youths in Mushin. He also assured that the tournament will be a continuous exercise in order to keep the youths engaged in Mushin.

Commissioner for Tertiary Education, Sule, Vows To Sustain Tempo of Excellence

By Kunle Awosiyan



(Lagos State Commissioner for Tertiary Education, Mr. Tolani Sule with Gov, Sanwo-Olu)

Lagos State Commissioner for Tertiary Education, Mr. Tolani Sule has pledged his commitment to sustaining the current tempo of excellence in all the state-owned

institutions, adding that Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu has invested in infrastructure and quality tertiary education, hence, the time to hit the ground running is now. Sule, who made the

promise recently during his assumption of duty at the new Ministry, noted that the establishment of two additional state universities was a response to the need to provide youths the opportunity for tertiary education.

While commending his predecessor, Tokunbo Wahab, for working hard to ensure that the vision for additional State Universities was realised, the Commissioner assured that his administration would work to sustain the current tempo of excellence in all institutions of the State. He urged the staff to join hands with him in implementing the policies that would help to raise

the bar of Tertiary education in the State, stressing that it was not a coincidence that LASU and the two newly established State Universities, LASUED, and LASUSTECH, became first choice institutions for most candidates, but a practical example that investment in Tertiary education in the State, is yielding desired result.

Earlier, the Permanent Secretary, Mr. Kasali Adeniran explained that the new Ministry is blessed with human capital and material resources needed for good performance. He assured the Commissioner that the staff would give him all the necessary support that would fast-track development in State-owned institutions.

Commissioner for Commerce And Investment Preaches Quality Service Delivery

Speaking with the Heads of Departments and Units in her office shortly after taking a tour of the Ministry, Ambrose-Medebem stated that she has always used her previous experiences to leverage current tasks while noting that she will challenge the convention as she is a huge believer in excellence while cherishing feedback. Her words: "Mr. Governor has said the Ministry of Commerce, Cooperatives, Trade & Investment is an incredibly important Ministry to the State, which means we have a lot to do. This is because we do not benchmark Lagos against other States in Nigeria but with other

leading cities like Singapore, London and others. As a people, we need to ask ourselves what other leading economies in the first to fourth positions are doing and what we can do differently to move Lagos a notch ahead". The Commissioner charged the Departmental and Unit Heads to engage in self-development, knowing their strengths, weaknesses and what they need to do to move to the height desired while noting that she is very transparent and trusting and sitting around the table together is the beginning of building that trust.

Responding, the Permanent Secretary



Honourable Commissioner for Commerce, Cooperatives, Trade & Investment (MCCTI), Mrs. Folashade Ambrose-Medebem has tasked the leadership of the Ministry to embrace excellence to move the State towards Greater Lagos.

of MCCTI, Mrs. Adetutu Oluremi Ososanya, FCA, expressed the desire to have a leader who will take the Ministry to the deserved greater heights,

stressing that the Ministry has also been challenging the status quo which is reflected in the restructuring of the State-owned Industrial

Hubs, Enterprise Zones and Industrial Sheds. "We are willing and ready to work with you to achieve the vision of the administration as

we do not want to mouth what the Ministry is doing but want it shown through impact on the State's economy and Nigeria as a whole", she said.

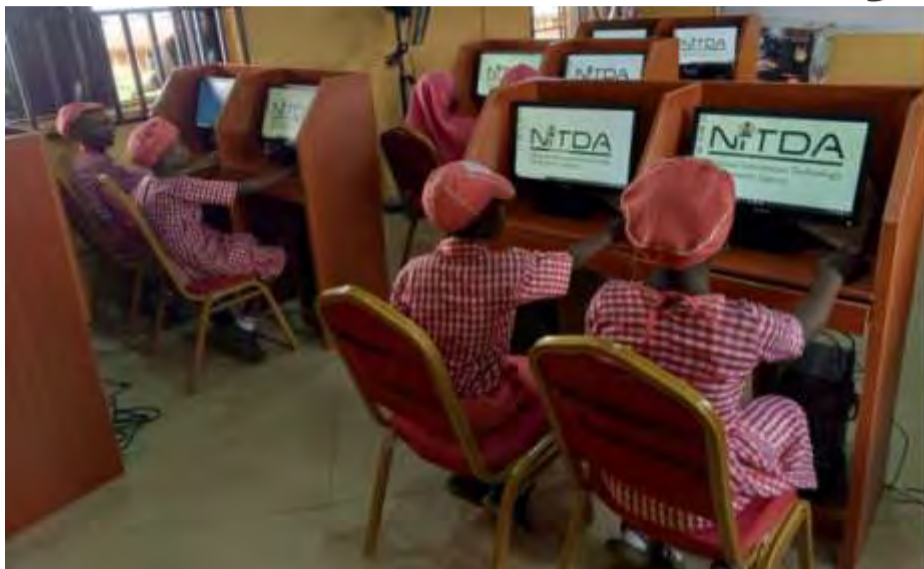
Rep. Benson Facilitates Additional Centres In Ikorodu Federal Constituency

By Nurudeen Adebayo

In his attempt to decentralise the learning of computer education in Ikorodu Federal Constituency, Rep. Babajimi Benson, has facilitated two additional ICT centres, after facilitating the central in Ikorodu.

The centres were facilitated through the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA), Federal Ministry of Communication and Digital Economy.

The centres according to Princess Abosoye Oredoyin, was facilitated by the three-term lawmaker to reduce the stress by pupils going from other five LCDAs, for computer learning at the main centre which Benson facilitated in Ikorodu years back.



(Ikorodu Lions Club)

At the Igbogbo center were 15 computer sets, inverter, photocopier machine, router, binding machine, generator and fans. The same facilities were provided at the Isawo Centre, alongside a

projector.

Mr Ajewole Oluwatimilehin, a teacher at the Methodist Primary School, Igbogbo, and an instructor at the Digital Economy Centre, described the ICT centre as a big experience for

him in his teaching life.

While stating that the centre will aid the development of the pupils' computer

knowledge and passing their Computer Based Test (CBT), he also thanked the lawmaker for bringing the innovation to the school.

"This is one of the greatest innovations that I have ever experienced in my teaching line, seeing my pupils having access to these modern age systems which many of the business centres cannot even boast of. We are not just having this, but also 24 hours' internet and power supply", he said.

So, there is no delay in learning when it comes to technology. We will make research online, google assignments and engage students in practical learning, whereby, they can know about Microsoft words, excel and other things.

Model examinations are also computer based,

so, with this, they will not have any problem with that. They just have to click as appropriate and select their answers. Since they will be familiar enough with the system, I believe that passing any Computer Based Test will be easy, so far, we can train them to a reasonable level.

"I am very grateful for this opportunity given to our school. We are saying a very big thank you to Hon. Babajimi Benson who have the interest of the children at heart for him to have thought of this kind of innovation which has been extended to the public school", he said.

Samiat Banjoko, a primary six pupil of Methodist Primary School, Igbogbo, speaking with THE IMPACT, said that he will make use of the facility to prepare for his examinations and learn more about computer.

Ikorodu Metro Lions Club Holds Childhood Cancer Awareness Programme In Ijede LCDA

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The leadership of Ikorodu Metro Lions Club held a childhood cancer awareness programme at Oke-Eletu Primary Health Center in memorial of World Cancer Day.

The initiative is to engage parents and teach them how to take note of their children's cancer disease symptoms by enlightening them about signs, prevention, and causes.

President of the club, Lion Shakirat Adefijabi NLCF, extolled the Doctors, Nurses, and Parents for their health cautious efforts.

Emphasizing mothers' readiness to seek doctor's advice on symptoms, Prevention, and causes of cancer.

Furthermore, she explained that mothers should always take note of every single change in their child's body, urging them not to take self-medication or go to the chemists for inaccurate prescribed drugs.

Lion Shakirat, appealed to all mothers to make use of the health center or any approved hospital around for better treatment, using the medium to pray for them not to encounter any health issues in their families.

The guest speaker, Dr. Adedayo Lydia, praised



Ikorodu Metro Lions Club for picking Oke-Eletu Primary Health Center for childhood cancer awareness.

She explained that most people in the country believe cancer is meant for only adults which is wrong, recollecting that every year, over 400 children died of cancer.

She subsequently advised mothers to take note of any changes in the body of their children and refer them to the appropriate hospital in due time.

"A day-old baby can be diagnosed with cancer and early detection is better than late detection," Nurse Hassan Adekemi Adenike OIC of Oke-Eletu Primary Health Center said.

Also, Lion Ahmed Ajayi from Ikorodu Metropolitan Lions Club appealed to the mothers to share whatever they've learned in the program with their family, friends, neighbors, and loved ones in other to help the community from any form of cancerous disease.

Before the close of the program, Mrs. Abdurasaq Nofisat appreciated Ikorodu Metro Lions Club, shedding light on what she learned from the childhood cancer awareness program.

She also encouraged other mothers at the program to stay tuned to all the lectures the doctor delivered in other to prevent their child from any form of cancer disease.

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The Ranodu of Imota, His Royal Majesty, Oba Bakare Ajibade Agoro, has joined the Imota Ayayo Development Association and the Organising Committee of the 2023 Imota Ayayo Day, in unveiling the official local fabric, popularly called 'Ankara' or 'Aso Ebi', for the 2023 edition of the celebration.

The fabric was unveiled at the Ranodu palace at the weekend, with the royal father stating that this year's Imota Ayayo Day will renew efforts towards the development of the town.

Oba Agoro charged residents in diasporas to return home to support the community during the celebration which would start on Thursday, November 9, and ends on Sunday, November 12, 2023.

This is a renewed effort to improve on the past efforts of past leaders to develop Imota. It is a renewed hope like the President said. I am sure that this will be a new and a big beginning that would expose us to further developments that would gladden the people of this area", Oba Agoro said.

"Indigenes of Imota in areas and diasporas should return home to join efforts with us to



(Oba Agoro)

develop Imota. They don't have any other home apart from Imota. They should come home and support us", the royal father charged.

Prof. Okedeyi Abiodun Sakiru, PH.D., FNIP, Chairman, Organising Committee for the 2023 Imota Ayayo Day, appealed to residents of Imota to patronize the fabric which, according to him, was picked to add colour to the celebrations.

"It is a four day affairs starting from Thursday to Sunday. On Thursday which is the opening, we have the Artisan's day and Royal Parade at the centre garage where they will exhibit their trades, he said.

"Programmes for Friday are Imota Youth Activities and the First annual lecture which is a new innovation that we are introducing with Mrs Ibukun Awosika, former Managing Director, First Bank of Nigeria, as the guest lecturer, who will be talking about the 'Youth Challenges and Possible Way Out'. She is a motivational

speaker. We will also have panel of rapporteurs among them are Prof. Biodun Degoji, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academics), Lagos State University of Science & Technology (LASUSTECH), Mr Fatai Lasidi, former Special Adviser to the Governor on Taxation and Mrs Biola Aberuagba, Auditor - General Office, Lagos State.

"There is also the Public Service Programme during which awards will be given to deserving members and there will also be Jumat Service.

Saturday is the grand finale with the Odofin of Ikorodu, Odofin Adewunmi Ogunsanya, SAN, as the Chairman of the occasion, Oba Saheed Elegushi as the Royal Father of the day and other important personalities. We shall exhibit the culture and heritage of the town. During the grand finale, we will be giving out the Imota educational endowment fund to the indigent students to further their education.

"On Sunday, we will move to the Church for the thanksgiving", he said.

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Council chairman celebrates Deputy Governor at 59

By Edith Igbokwe



(Ifako-ijaiye's Visit to SA on works to Governor Sanwo-Olu)

The Chairman, Prince Usman Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government, Hamzat led his cabinet members to felicitate with the Deputy Governor of Lagos State, Dr. Kadri

Hamzat on his 59th Birthday Anniversary. The visiting team from Ifako Ijaiye LG was at the Ikoyi residence of the Deputy Governor to wish him longevity, sound health and

wisdom to deliver more for the prosperity of Lagos State, Nigeria and humanity at large. With the Executive Chairman at the Deputy Governor's residence include, the

Vice Chairman, Secretary to the Local Government (SLG), Chief of Staff to the Council Chairman, Supervisory Councillors, Special Advisers to the Chairman and other aides of the Executive Chairman

Ifako-ijaiye LG, CDC Executives Synergise To Development Community

By Edith Igbokwe



Newly elected CDC members with Hamzat

The newly elected Community Development Committee (CDC) Executive members of Ifako-ijaiye Local Government have visited the chairman, Prince Usman Hamzat for good working cooperation. The CDC members was led by the Chairman, Pastor Samuel Opajobi.

According to him, their purpose is to bring people together to work towards a common goal, improving the quality of life in the communities. The Chairman noted that the position giving to them is a powerful tool to address social and economic issues, promotes inclusivity

and diversity, and empowers communities to take action. I enjoined the team with renewed mandate to focus, strategize and compliment the local government in community development. He promised to the collaborative efforts towards active grassroots engagement and development.

Ifako-ijaiye stakeholders praise Adekunle

By Edith Igbokwe

The Chairman, Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government, Prince Usman Hamzat (UAH) led members of his Cabinet on official visit to congratulate the Special Adviser on Works and Infrastructure to Governor of Lagos State, Engr. Adekunle Olayinka (KOPI) on his appointment and new office. According to reports, the visit was unannounced to surprise Olayinka and to encourage him to remain dutiful.

The Chairman said the essence of the visit was to pray for the Special Adviser to Mr. Governor while congratulating him on the appointment which has been described as the first of its kind in Ifako-Ijaiye. Hamzat also noted that Olayinka's nomination from Ifako Ijaiye LGA amongst so many others for such a demanding office should be seen as a herculean task and an opportunity to bring his longtime experience and professionalism towards advancing the developmental strides already paced across the State by Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu. Olayinka expressed his gratitude as the chairman and his team turned out as a full house to visit him, from

his constituency, Ifako-Ijaiye. He appreciated the Chairman of Ifako-Ijaiye and the visiting team for counting it worthy to pay him a Congratulatory Visit, especially at the inception of routine activities in the Ministry of works. He noted that his first responsibility is to deliver good infrastructures and fast-track giant strides of development across the State especially within the purview of the Ministry of Works and in the interest of the good people of

Lagos State. He also assured the Council Chairman and his team that Ifako-Ijaiye won't be taken out of critical decisions being his source. He also charged everyone to eschew condemnable acts of setting political leaders against each other. He also implored them to close the gaps of enmity and that has hampered Ifako-Ijaiye's growth for a long time. "I stand for progress, peace and it is with these we can achieve noticeable development in our Local Government and beyond."



(Ifako-ijaiye cabinet crew with Hamzat @59)

Lagos Deputy Governor, Hamzat, Hails MTN Scholarship Initiative

By Kunle Awosiyen

The Lagos State Deputy Governor, Dr. Kadir Obafemi Hamzat has commended the MTN Foundation for empowering the youths and promoting academic excellence in public Tertiary Institutions through its scholarship programmes.

He gave the commendation on Tuesday at the 2023 Award Ceremony and Alumni Induction of MTN Scholarships (Science & Technology) for blind students and top 10 UTME candidates held at the Roof Top MTN Plaza, Awolowo Road, Ikoyi.

Dr. Hamzat, who was represented by the Special Adviser, Taxation and Revenue, Mr. Abdulkabir Ogungbo, said it is very encouraging to see children and youths having access to various opportunities provided by corporate

organisations, including MTN, to acquire skills and knowledge in the new media and technology.

According to him, MTN as a corporate organisation has contributed to the socio-economic development of the economy by creating job opportunities and empowerment initiatives across different strata of society, adding that the different initiatives have enabled the youths to realise and achieve their potential using the MTN Foundation as leverage.

The Deputy Governor emphasised that the present administration, through the implementation of the T.H.E.M.E.S Plus Agenda is working in synergy with the organised private sector and other stakeholders to ensure the provision of needed platform for children and youths to stand shoulder to shoulder with their



(The Chairman of MTN Foundation, Prince Julius Adewale Adelusi-Adeluyi with other personalities at the event)

peers on the global platform despite physical challenges.

In his words: "There is ability in disability, which is why our administration in Lagos State is a strong proponent and advocate of equal opportunity for all. The opportunity afforded students living with visual/audio-visual challenges to acquire knowledge and education in any field of study from any public Universities, Colleges of Education and Polytechnics through

the grant of scholarships by MTN Foundation is highly commendable".

"There are emergent opportunities for our children and youths as the future of our country to acquire needed skills and knowledge in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics and launch themselves into the highest levels of artificial intelligence and robotics engineering", he added.

On behalf of the Lagos State government, the Deputy Governor congratulated all the

beneficiaries and inductees, charging them to move with renewed hope into the future and contribute to the development and growth of the Nation.

Speaking earlier, the Chairman of MTN Foundation, Prince Julius Adewale Adelusi-Adeluyi said the MTN Scholarships, under the Youth Development Cause of MTN Foundation, is an annual award that seeks to recognise and reward qualified high-performing students in Nigeria's public tertiary institutions. He implored all the

beneficiaries to take advantage of the Scholarship and use it as a springboard to success.

The Executive Secretary of MTN Foundation, Mrs. Odunayo Sanya said hundreds of thousands of students applied for the scholarships but only the best were selected, adding that over 300 students have benefitted from the Scholarship.

She affirmed the Foundation's commitment to the development of Nigerian youths through Skills, Entrepreneurship and Scholarships.

Lagos Govt To Introduce Innovative Financing For MSMEs

Lagos State Government has expressed its readiness to introduce innovative financing strategies to attract emerging classes of funders in support of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the State.

Commissioner for Commerce, Cooperatives, Trade & Investment, Mrs. Folashade Ambrose-Medebem revealed this at the 4th Business Roundtable and Exhibition organised by Nigerian Association of Small and Medium Enterprises (NASME), Lagos State Branch with the theme: "MSMEs: Catalyst for Nigeria Economic Rejuvenation and Growth".

Speaking at the event, Ambrose-Medebem stated that financing options such as gender bonds to support gender programming and green bonds to finance climate-resilient infrastructure will help fund critical initiatives and align with global sustainability goals.

Her words: "As a State

that thrives on innovation, trade and economic dynamism, it is our collective duty to ensure that Lagos continues to flourish, guided by a vision that resonates with every Lagosian. In this current dispensation, the administration of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu shall develop an Export Promotion Policy to provide support to companies exporting their products and services, which will boost our economy, create jobs and position the State as a hub for international trade".

While enumerating the State's intervention for MSMEs to include the disbursement of over N8.4 billion to 12,710 MSMEs through the Lagos State Employment Trust Fund (LSTEF), which helped them navigate the negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and other challenges, Ambrose-Medebem averred that the administration will incentivise the adoption of cleaner

energy production and utilisation, contributing to environmental preservation and economic growth.

According to her, all the goals will be pursued in addition to promoting an inclusive economy in line with the THEMES Plus Agenda while deepening the value chain through collaboration with the Organised Private Sector (OPS) and Business Membership Organisations (MBOs).

Chairman of the occasion, Mrs. Toki Mabogunje, applauded the Commissioner for turning up at the event, which was her first official assignment while appreciating the Ministry for its constant support to NASME.

She described NASME as one of the backbones of the Nigerian economy, contributing to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), creating employment and reducing poverty, noting that the event was timely and the topic relevant as it will help provide opportunities



for MSMEs to expand their businesses in the State", she said.

In his keynote address, Dr. Muda Yusuf stressed that innovative finance is key in the face of multifaceted challenges confronting MSMEs while acknowledging the robust support that NASME has enjoyed from the government in terms of new initiatives

and funding.

He advised policymakers on the need to continuously engage industry players to know areas in which they require intervention while noting that such can also be used as feedback. He also emphasised the need for deliberate protection of the informal economy to ensure inclusion. Chairman, Lagos State

Branch of NASME, Prof. Olatunji Olu Adams commended the partnership existing between the Association and Lagos State, expressing the desire to strengthen the relationship for the benefit of both parties.

Ambrose-Medebem, who was honoured with the "Strategic Partner Award", also toured the exhibition stands at the event.

Lagos Govt Set To Rehabilitate Two Roads In Igbo-Olomu, Awoyaya Communities

By Kunle Awosiyani

The Lagos Government has approved the rehabilitation of two road projects in Igbo-Olomu in Ikorodu West Local Council Development Area (LCDA) and Awoyaya in Ibeju-Lekki LCDA.

The General Manager of the Lagos State Urban Renewal Agency (LASURA), Tpl. Ajibike Shomade disclosed this at a stakeholders' meeting held recently with the residents of Igbo-Olomu and Awoyaya communities.

According to Shomade, the Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu recently approved the rehabilitation of the roads and contracted them to Sail Through Construction Company while the supervision will be done by an Advanced Engineering Consultant. The aim is to enhance the welfare of the residents as well as improve the socio-economic activities in the two communities.



(Govt officials at a meeting with community leaders)

In her words, "I am pleased to inform you all that the road rehabilitation of Igbo-Olomu and Awoyaya communities have been graciously approved by our amiable Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu and contracted to Sail Through Construction Company and will be supervised by Advanced Engineering Consultant".

"This is in fulfilment of Mr. Governor's promise

that all Lagosians will enjoy the dividend of democracy. It is also important to state that the approval was also expedited by constant appeal from notable political leaders and community representatives for urgent intervention projects that will boost the socio-economic activities in the communities".

She noted that the road earmarked for construction in Igbo-Olomu is a 2.1km Road from Owutu-Isawo to

Lagos-Ogun boundary and for Awoyaya is a 1.75km Road from Lekki Expressway to the end. The roads will be fitted with drainage on both sides, well-delineated interlocking blocks, street lights and alternative power supply.

While congratulating the residents, Shomade appealed to the community leaders to sensitise their members to cooperate with the consultant and the

construction company and caution miscreants against looting construction materials and equipment.

The General Manager also revealed that a larger stakeholders' engagement involving the Ministry of Physical Planning and Urban Development, Lands, relevant government agencies, and other major stakeholders will be held before the commencement of the road projects.

In his remarks, the Ibeju-Lekki LCDA Council Chairman, Honourable Sesan Olowa, who was represented by Hon. Mutiu Olasunkanmi expressed his pleasure at the goodwill shown to the people of Awoyaya by the Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu.

He said, "We all have seen the intervention of the Lagos State Government. We thank the Governor for this great project. This is one out of many. Let us stand with Mr. Governor in taking Lagos State to a greater height for more progressive work".

The Community Leaders in attendance, including Chief Fakayode Adetola, Baale of Igbo-Olomu Community; High Chief Eletu Isiaka of Awoyaya and High Chief Ogunlana Saliu of Awoyaya Community, among others, thanked the Lagos State Government and expressed their readiness to support and ensure the cooperation of their people towards the successful completion of the road projects.

Commissioner For Housing, Akinderu-Fatai, Tasks Ministry Staff on THEME Plus Agenda

Addressing the staff at a meeting, Akinderu-Fatai said though, the housing sector has witnessed great success in housing delivery in the state, more zeal is required to ensure that the transformational journey of providing adequate housing for all, is achieved.

He pointed out that the present administration is committed to changing the narrative of housing deficit and inadequate decent shelter through diverse strategies which include the utilisation of innovative building designs such as vertical construction of more homes as well as greater collaboration with private investors.

He urged the staff to be

ready to make sacrifices by putting in their best to actualise the ideas and innovations which would promote and deliver more homes to Lagosians.

Akinderu-Fatai also called on the staff to align with the spirit of the new administration by embracing the virtues of hard work, honesty, and selflessness.

He also advised the technical staff to bring to the attention of the State Government any contractor found using inferior or low-quality building materials for State housing projects, saying "It is the responsibility of every worker to ensure the safety and durability of every house delivered



The Commissioner for Housing in Lagos State, Hon. Moruf Akinderu-Fatai, has called on management and staff of the Ministry to rededicate themselves to duty and support the current administration to actualise the THEME Plus agenda of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu Administration.

to the people". In his remarks, the Permanent Secretary, Mr. Kamar Olowoshago said all hands must be

on deck to increase the housing stock in the State. He also cautioned all staff against the

violation of established rules and regulations while wishing the Honorable Commissioner giant

strides and a successful tenure, as he leads the team towards achieving the goals of more decent homes for all Lagosians.

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Lagos Govt Seeks FG's help on Infrastructure



(Lagos Deputy Governor Obafemi Hamzat with the Chairman of the Federal House of Representatives, Ad Hoc Committee on Mass Transit Scheme, Hon. Afam Victor Ogame)

By Kunle Awosiyen

Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu has called for the support of the Federal Government to enable the state to efficiently put in place

necessary infrastructures. The Deputy Governor, Dr. Kadri Obafemi Hamzat, made the call as he received the Federal House of Representatives, Ad Hoc Committee on Mass Transit Scheme

at the Round House, Alausa, Ikeja. Sanwo-Olu said that the state needed the assistance of the federal government in funding infrastructure projects which would contribute to the huge size of the Country's GDP, adding

that "there will be no progress recorded in the country if the big cities are not taken care of". Speaking further on huge projects undertaken by the State Government, Sanwo-Olu noted that the government had to take up the blue rail line

due to the large population in the state. "Despite the state being the first to take up such as no other sub-sovereign anywhere in the world has built a Rail Line without the Federal Government's inventions", he said.

According to him, "It would be difficult to run a city like Lagos without mass transit, the government cannot have a city that is 0.4 per cent of the land mass of the country but hosts 11 per cent of the population, it is going to be chaotic and that is why we decided as a state government to bite the bullet and start running it".

Sanwo-Olu also noted that the first phase of the 27km blue rail project has just been completed running from Marina to Okomimko, while the 14 km of the second phase has been awarded and will be commencing soon.

He also stated that the blue rail transports about 150,000 people daily, with an estimate of transporting between 480,000-500,000 people daily upon its completion. "At the commencement of the

red line operation, one million Lagosians will be conveyed daily to their various destinations", he assured. The Governor, however, noted that the execution of the blue line took a long time because of its financial implications.

On water transportation, he said the government has enormously increased the operation of its Lagferry operations, with the purchase of more ferries. "It has gotten to a stage where we now build these ferries in the state, currently, the state has built about fifteen ferries and of course, our private partners are also running".

Earlier in his remarks, the Chairman of the Federal House of Representatives, Ad Hoc Committee on Mass Transit Scheme, Hon. Afam Victor Ogame stated that the committee is being saddled by the plenary to look into reasons for previous failed mass transits.

According to him, most of the infrastructure put up in Lagos is worthy of emulation by the component states across the country.

Lagos Govt Collaborates With GIZ, NCRM To Empower Refugees, Vulnerable Persons

In a bid to eliminate the effects of poverty amongst women, particularly refugees and other vulnerable persons, the Lagos State Ministry of Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation (WAPA) has intensified its collaborative efforts with the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) and the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCRM) to empower vulnerable women and youths through its Skills Acquisition and Vocational Training Centres.

The Permanent Secretary of WAPA, Mrs. Oluwemi Kalesanwo, made this known while receiving a visiting team from NCRM and GIZ, who were on a courtesy visit to the Ministry,

adding that the Babajide Sanwo-Olu Administration has zero-tolerance for idleness and mediocrity, hence the focus on empowerment programmes as a means to ensure financial sustainability for vulnerable women and youths in Lagos State.

Kalesanwo further charged the unemployed and underemployed in the State to enrol in any of the 20 Skills Acquisition Centres in the five divisions of the State offering tuition-free vocational courses. The centres were established to provide vulnerable persons in the State with vocations that will make them financially independent.

"The Skills Acquisition Centres provide access



(Permanent Secretary of WAPA, Mrs. Oluwemi Kalesanwo)

to training, information and resources, to increase the productivity of enrollees by making them financially capable and transforming them into contributors towards the economic growth of the State", she added.

Speaking on the purpose of the visit, the Human Rights and Social Policy Expert for GIZ, Nigeria Chapter, Sandra Vermuijten, expressed gratitude to WAPA for a warm welcome, stating that the team intends to

seek an enhanced collaboration between the Ministry and the Association towards the empowerment of women, particularly with regards to the successful reintegration of refugees into the society.

She affirmed that the association plans to support WAPA through capacity building of the staff and solicited the State Government's support where needed to have a seamless and beneficial relationship.

Sanwo-Olu's Aide Calls For Cooperation to Achieve THEMES Plus Agenda

By Kunle Awosiyani

The Special Adviser, Office of Political, Legislative and Civic Engagement (OPLCE), Dr. Tajudeen Afolabi has called for the cooperation and support of members of staff towards the successful delivery of the THEMES Plus Agenda of the Babajide Sanwo-Olu's administration. He made the call while meeting with the Permanent Secretary and Members of the Management on his assumption of duty as the Special Adviser on Monday. Afolabi, while addressing the management and

staff, said that all hands must be on deck to turn every challenge of the Office into opportunities while working to achieve the set goals and objectives. He averred that the Office has been given a mandate to deliver the THEMES Plus Agenda, hence the need for everyone to think deeply and suggest innovative ideas on how best to project the image of the State Government while moving the Office of Legislative, Political and Civic Engagement forward. Assuring the workforce of his readiness and total dedication to duty, he implored all



Special Adviser, Office of Political, Legislative and Civic Engagement (OPLCE), Dr. Tajudeen Afolabi

members of the management team to be on the same page and be ready to run along with

him. Earlier in her welcome address, the Permanent Secretary, Office of

Legislative, Political and Civic Engagement, Engr. Abiola Kosegbe pledged the support and

cooperation of the Management and Staff towards achieving the mandate of the Office.

Lagos Fire Service Seeks Collaboration With Cooking Gas Retailers

The Director, Lagos State Fire and Rescue Service, Mrs. Margaret Adeseye has emphasised the need for effective collaboration between the Agency and the Cooking Gas Retailers Association, Lagos State Chapter, to curb the incessant fire outbreaks that are caused by the improper use of Camp Cooking Gas which is designed for outdoor use. Adeseye made the call while welcoming a delegation led by the President of the Association, Comrade Akin Oyebowale, on a courtesy visit to the Headquarters of the Lagos State Fire and Rescue Service at Alausa, Ikeja. She advised the

delegation to regulate the activities of its members under a uniformed umbrella, engage the service of safety professionals to train their members and embark on public awareness to enlighten the public on the dangers of using substandard cooking gas cylinders. While reiterating that proper training should be conducted for all cooking gas retailers in Lagos State, the Director emphasised that officials of the Lagos State Fire and Rescue Service must be brought on board and be fully involved in the training of members of the Association to achieve the desired goal. Adeseye commended the



Cooking gas retailers

Association for the visit and reiterated the need to enhance the relationship between the two bodies for the safety and well-being of residents in Lagos State. On his part, the President of the Association, Comrade

Akin Oyebowale thanked the Agency for the warm welcome, stating that the Association is concerned about gas-related fire outbreaks across the Lagos metropolis and has taken the initiative to

conduct training for its members. He, however, implored the Lagos State Government to set up an organisation replicating the duties of the Standard Organisation of Nigeria (SON) at the State Level to

checkmate the influx of substandard gas cylinders imported into the country. Oyebowale asserted that this is necessary since the substandard cooking gas cylinders have caused a lot of havoc in

Eredo Residents Commend Lawmaker's Effort on Palliative Measure

By Edith Igbokwe

Residents of Eredo Local Council Development Area (LCDA) have commended their representative at Epe Constituency 2, Hon. Sylvester Ogunkelu for distributing food stuffs and other items to the people of the communities.

No fewer than 250 widows, aged and the less privileged received the food palliative across the 11 wards in Epe Constituency 2.

They said the distribution of the items would help cushion the effects of the removal of subsidy by the Federal Government.

The food items distributed include rice, beans and garri and others.

A beneficiary, Oseni



(Beneficiaries of Eredo LCDA palliative)

Taiwo Daodu, in Ward H1, said the lawmaker has demonstrated that he is a responsible and responsive leader with the distribution of the food items.

He said that the items received would help his family at this difficult period.

"The economy is harsh at this period and people are not smiling. Things are really hard. I thank the government for helping with the food items, it will definitely help me and my family."

Another beneficiary, Adebayo Ronke Idowu, in Ward K1 also applauded the Hon. Ogunkelu for the distribution of the items.

Another beneficiary, a trader, Buari Kudirat at Ward J1, expressed her gratefulness to the honorable for the food items noting that

business has been dull since the fuel subsidy removal, hence things has been difficult in her family.

She said the food items provided would go a long way to help her family.

Amuda Ogunlana, at Ward H1, urged the honorable to make the programme a continuous one so that more people could benefit.

Ogunkelu said that the gesture was to reduce the hardship caused by subsidy removal in the area and he is ready to put smiles on faces of all his constituents.

"We are closer to the people at the grassroots, we are playing our part, complementing the efforts of the federal and state governments, to ensure our people get succour at this period" he said.

UCS Awards Meritorious Officers, Seek Secured Epe Division

By Edith Igbokwe

Some deserving members of United Community Safety (UCS) formerly known as United Security Forum (USF) Epe Division have been promoted and presented with meritorious awards as they seek secured division and its environ. Officers of the security group were decorated with various ranks and awards was presented to some for their meritorious activities in the last two (2) years. The fast growing security group assured the community of adequate safety and peace in and around Epe Division.

According to reports, the ward was to motivate members to perform better in their chosen jobs as they mark second anniversary of the group, calling the presence of the

traditional chiefs, religious leaders, security agents among others.

According to the National Commander of the group Mr. Akinloye Akinwale, the group was founded to protect lives and property of the people of Epe Division and its environs.

He called on the people of the division to cooperate with the group to eradicate all sorts of social vices in the communities.

"We are actually celebrating our 2nd anniversary in order to further promote security in our division. "Epe is a very volatile community in terms of security and the situation must not be left without being addressed.

"Two years ago to be precise, after noticing the trend of events in areas like Ikorodu, Lagos Island and the rest, we came up with



(UCS Officers marking second anniversary)

the idea of policing our communities with adequate support from our cautious youths in the division.

"We want to thank the officers of the FRSC, Civil Defence Corps, LNSC and others for their support".

Akinwale noted that the government need to support the project as it is the duty of all to protect lives and property.

"We want to thank the officers of the FRSC, Civil Defence Corps, LNSC and others for their support".

The Aro of Odomola, Chief Lawal Olusegun appreciated the efforts of the security agents for their selflessness and continuous support for the community of Odomola and its environs.

"They have been doing

very well for the past two years. They are supporting the community by making sure that peace and tranquility reigns in the community.

"It is our prayer that they will further be more proactive and upright in their activities".

Aro's wife, Mrs. Adeola Lawal gave kudos to the security agents and advised that people

should support them as they have brought sanity and security to the community since they commenced their operations two years ago.

Officers of the United Community Safety (UCS) were orientated on how to carry out their duties on securing lives and property of the people.

Facilitators and speakers during the orientation exercise were the officers of the FRSC, Civil Defence and LNSC.



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Bamigboye Tasks Mushin CDC To Report Any Community Vandalism

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Mushin LG, Honorable Emmanuel Bamigboye has tasked the newly inaugurated Community Development Committee (CDC) executives in Mushin to report any frivolous or any act of vandalism to the local government.

While addressing the new officials during the swearing-in ceremony, the Mushin LG chairman, Hon Bamigboye, advised them to be the eyes of the council in their various communities. He tasked them to partner with the local government and cooperate with officials through feedback from their communities on areas where there are shortcomings and need for improvement in social services to the people.

Hon Bamigboye



(The chairman of Badagry LG, Hon Olusegun Onilude at the Ajido PHC)

He appealed to the CDA chairmen to always update the council on information concerning security and sabotage of government projects or properties by vandals in their communities.

The council boss empowered them with authority to query any contractor executing any unapproved projects that can cause

damage to roads or any government facilities. He also enjoined them to enlighten the people on ways to contribute towards the development of their communities, through environmental sanitation, protection of public properties, payment of obligatory dues to the government etc.

He appealed to other

contestants who lost during elections and advised them to also join hands with the executives in order to position themselves for leadership after the expiration of their tenure which lasts for two years.

The list of the newly constituted Executives of Mushin Local Government CDC as presented by the head of

Agriculture and Social Services department, Mrs Aderonke Ogundiran are, Otunba Femi Okuyemi (Chairman), Alhaji Taiwo Odunsi (1st Vice Chairman), Mr Alaba Adesanya (2nd Vice Chairman), Mr Moruf Alli (Secretary), Mr Adawale Odukale (Assistant Secretary), Mrs Modina Adeoye (Treasurer), Otunba Temitope Omidiji (Financial Secretary), Mr Afeez Lawal (Auditor), Mrs. Abiola Ojo (Welfare officer 1), Alhaja Tawakalitu Balogun (Welfare Officer 2), Chief Kikelomo Olaogun (Social Secretary), Mr Abimbola Shodipe (PRO), Alhaji Okuwobi Olatunde (Ex Officio 1)

Mr Monday Olusola (Ex Officio 2), Mr Ganiu Akanni Sanni (Ex Officio 3), Mr Eniola Taiwo (Ex Officio 4), Mr Henry Ojo (Ex Officio 5), Alhaji Mustapha Lawal (Ex Officio 6), Mrs Morakinyo Folashade Lawal (Ex Officio 7), Mr Waheed Akanbi (Ex Officio 8),

Alhaji Sheu Ogunbona (Ex Officio 9), Mr Olukemi Fatai (Ex Officio 10), Mr Ajiboye Temidayo (Ex Officio 11).

After the chairman's address, the legal officer of the council, Barrister Fatima Adesanya Ijaodala, administered the oath of office and conducted the swearing-in for the CDC executives and CDA chairmen.

While addressing pressmen, the Supervisor for Agriculture and Social Services, Mr Shakiru Oyefolu, commended the Chairman for steps taken and security arrangements put in place while the team was moving from one community to another, conducting the CDA elections. He however tasked the new leadership of the CDC and CDAs to wake up to their responsibilities by joining hands with the government to ensure that members of their communities enjoy the dividends of democracy.

LASIEC Reveals Reason For Visiting Badagry West LCDA

By Saheed Afolabi

The Lagos State Independent Electoral Commission (LASIEC) have disclosed the reasons for visiting Badagry West LCDA. LASIEC through their director of operations and logistics, Mr Gbadegeshin Ademola described the visit as an early preparations for the next local government elections which will hold in 2025. Mr Ademola said the purpose of the visit was to inspect the commission's office and storage facilities.

"The purpose of our visit was to inspect the

LASIEC office, the storage facilities, and more importantly to understand the working relationship between the council and the electoral officer in the area.

"It is not when the election is close that we only need to meet.

"Notice of election has to be a year ahead as stipulated in the constitution. Voter education will commence soon. These and many more are the reasons we need to start early preparations ahead of the 2025 local government elections."

Responding, Hon.

Gbenu Joseph welcomed the delegates and promises LASIEC of his adequate support towards ensuring a smooth administrative performance.

The Chairman further assured that the LASIEC office will be upgraded before the end of the year. "We will give LASIEC office a new look."

Other LASIEC delegates on visit include Mr Bashir David, Mr Benjamin Adeniyi, Bakare Dele (Electoral Officer), and Abayomi Samuel.

The visit also had in attendance the Vice Chairman, Hon Rauf Yemaren and Council Manager, Mrs Gbajabiamila.



(L-R: The director operations and logistics of LASIEC, Mr Gbadegeshin Ademola and chairman of Badagry West LCDA, Hon Gbenu Henuge)



HEROES & HEROINES OF LAGOS



Chief Amodu Tijani Oluwa

Chief Amodu Tijani Oluwa, also known as simply Amodu Tijani, was a Lagos traditional chief. Coming to prominence in the high colonial period, he was a notable nationalist. He held the title of the Oluwa of Lagos.

Life
A member of Lagos' Idejo

hereditary nobility, Chief Oluwa was a direct descendant of Olofin Ogunfunmire. His family had dominion over a patchwork of villages and towns in the Apapa area of Lagos. He held strong nationalist views, arguing that the British colonial government did not have

the right to deprive his overlord Eshugbayi Eleko, the Oba of Lagos, of his ancestral powers. To this end, he served as a co-founder of the National Congress of British West Africa. In 1920, the chief, Prince Adeniji Adele and Herbert Macaulay journeyed to London to appear before

the Privy Council. They were there to argue in defense of the Oba's right of ownership to land forcefully appropriated by the British Government. In *Amodu Tijani v Secretary, Southern Nigeria*, the Council ultimately ruled in their favour. This case proved to be a landmark in

Nigerian history as it recognised the chiefs as absolute owners of the land. Songs and poems were later composed in Chief Oluwa's honour as a result of his success. His case was later referenced in land tenure cases as far afield as India and New Zealand



Wanted: A City Without Filth

Lagosians hate the drainages so much they can't resist the temptation to turn them to garbage troughs. Wherever you are, Alimosho or Eti-Osa, Agege or Lekki, Ikorodu or Badagry, peek into the drainage. What assails your eyes is a mishmash or pet bottles, take-away packs, nylon bags, bloated grains of rice, rotten fruits, plastic spoons and just any imaginable used items.

You might say the drains are not the only victims of the reckless habit of indiscriminate waste disposal. The roads, infact, any space without regular occupation, carry the risk. These include medians, bus stops, roadsides, pedestrian walk, garages, junctions, streams, uncompleted buildings, abandoned properties and playing fields.

What drives this indiscipline of the young and old, rich and poor, men and women, Christians and Muslims? It can't be our African traditional values. Among the Yoruba of old, cleanliness was a spiritual obligation and several taboos were employed to enforce it. Olodumare, the Supreme deity, was worshipped with white symbols, chaste without stain. You could not drop litter just anywhere because it was believed to annoy the gods. And there, indeed, was a supernatural deity, Soponna, responsible for punishing disobedient households by inflicting pestilence on them. There was also the phobia for consequences of indiscriminate disposal: since the article being disposed was part of your personality or had been used by you, dropping it carelessly was giving your enemy the weapon to use to harm you! By playing on your survival instincts, traditional Yoruba communities whipped everyone into line without



a whip.

There is no doubt that the over 250 nationalities in Nigeria had similar faith strategies to abhor filth and enforce cleanliness. As a National Youth Corps Service member in Calabar in 1987, I was impressed that the women could sweep their compounds more than 10 times a day as if the tiniest, unwelcome speck of dirt irritated their senses and should not be allowed to survive in the neighbourhoods. In 1991, I was part of a UNICEF project in Dass, Bauchi State. I observed a similar attitude of the women to cleanliness in their neighborhoods.

If Lagos is the primary destination of migrants in Nigeria and migrants were to bring their traditional habits along, we should not find ourselves in this embarrassment. Everyone would not only do the needful by disposing waste correctly, every citizen would be obliged to frown at and oppose those who flout the cultural consensus.

This is at the bottom of the filth everywhere. A lack of consensus for zero tolerance for filth compounded by the lack of commitment to mutual, collective enforcement. This is not a government thing. It is a citizen

phenomenon.

How did we get here? Today's urban space is the product of colonial exploitation that established hegemony through, political and economic exploitation and oppression of pre-colonial political economy and value systems. It ruthlessly executed the imposition of Western values by condemning existing values and institutions. Not only did racist European intellectuals insist that Africans had no history, they propagated the noxious notion that civilization for Africa began with the arrival of European explorers on our shores. The educational system set up by the missionaries pumped into the impressionable mind of African children the idea that African values were uncivilized and replaced them with Western ideas.

Those Western ideas derobed hygiene of its spiritual connection. For instance, the Sonponna cult punished members of the community who engaged in activities injurious to the health of everyone. Smallpox was its punitive weapon. The fear of the cult enforced compliance with the hygiene code and saved societies from infectious diseases. In Lagos, the cult

was banned in 1907 following the recommendation of Dr.Oguntola Sapara who secretly joined the cult and discovered that its mode of punishment contributed to the spread of the disease. There are many similar gods whose propitiation requires the highest possible standards of hygiene, including taking baths, cutting nails, shaving hairs before they can be approached.

Colonial and post-colonial rule replaced this composite value system in support of cleanliness with enforcement by the authorities. It introduced a subject culture that bred resistance to authority. One of the modes of resistance is to occupy spaces left ungoverned or neglected by the authorities with protest behavior. Indiscriminate waste disposal is protest politics.

This is logical because hygiene is a self-evident truth. Everyone knows that filth is the cause of infectious diseases such as cholera, small pox etc. Everyone knows that indiscriminate waste disposal is a danger to all and sundry.

There are reasons for the protest politics that indiscriminate waste disposal manifests. First, many citizens believe the

cost of waste disposal through the Private Sector Participation in Waste Management is unaffordable. They refuse to add it to their budget. As chairman of Ejigbo LCDA, the hours of 5am and 7am were critical to our environmental monitoring team because the elite workers in suits dump their waste on public facilities-medians, bus stops and just anywhere they can quickly offload their waste during these hours. Similarly, the hours of 11pm to 2am are useful to catch artisans such as tailors, carpenters, food vendors who end their day by putting their waste in public facilities.

The second is alienation that comes from frustration with the inadequate social services that citizens take for granted. No fellowship truly binds and bonds citizens when present conditions compel them to romanticize past era of governance demonstrating what government used to be and confirming that their expectations are not unfeasible.

Enough said. How do we build a city without filth and citizenry resistant to filth? First, charge waste collection to the Land Use cost of each tenement and make waste pick up free. By shifting the waste bill to the Land Use Charge, you erase the idea of multiple collection that harasses the psyche of the payer. Payment of the PSP goes back end.

Second, incentivize. Propagate the clean culture by rewarding communities who demonstrate cleanliness. Step up the Monthly School, Hospital, CDA, Ward, Local Government, Private Company and Government Ministry, Department and Agency Cleanliness Champion of the Month with symbolic cash prizes or infrastructures.

Third, monitor, monitor and monitor. A fair,

comprehensive, consistent monitoring system that puts health stakeholders on their toes will deliver a more conscionable and committed citizenry. A weekly advisory spotlighting unacceptable practices and recommending instant remedy will mobilise support.

Fourth, resume the Monthly Environmental Exercise. The symbolism of setting certain hours of the month for clean-up is more important to the propagation of cleanliness than the effective execution of the policy. Symbolism targets the value system, the public perception that cleanliness is a core value of the Lagos State community. It is true that youths use the period to play soccer on the spaces. The fact that they can associate the opportunity for sports with a community need for hygiene is more critical to their conscientisation than the negative notion of non-compliance that critics tend to exaggerate.

Finally, build with the youth. Youths are the most effective propagators of new, positive ideas. Much more than Boys Scouts and the Girl Guides, the Ministry of Environment and the Lagos State Waste Management Authority should invest in establishing Red Cross clubs in all schools, kitting their members and working with them for campaigns to spread values of hygiene.

It is said that cleanliness is Godliness. Making Lagos a city without filth is feasible. Tokunbo Wahab, the new Commissioner for Environment should focus more on public sanitation, the sector where the people really matter and lives need to be transformed than the big waterways dredging contracts where the big money is. Time is not on our side.



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Lagos Assembly Felicitates First Lady, Senator Oluremi Tinubu, at 63

Members of the Lagos State House of Assembly have celebrated the First Lady of the Federal Republic, Senator Oluremi Tinubu on her 63rd birthday.

The Speaker, Rt. Hon. Mudashiru Obasa, who directed the Clerk of the House, Barr. Olalekan Onafeko to transmit a letter congratulating the First Lady on behalf of the Assembly, described Oluremi as a wonderful woman whose doors are always open to Nigerians in need.

"As a former First Lady of Lagos State, she continued and upgraded the Committee of Wives of



Lagos State Officials, COWLSO, which is today appreciated far and wide.

"Her New Era Foundation lifted thousands of people, including widows, promoted and

encouraged educational empowerment through the Spelling Bee competition that have produced many 'One-Day Governors' in the State.

"As Senator, she stood for Lagos in many

capacities making the State proud of her.

"As the First Lady of Nigeria, she has continued with her strides for the well-being of others with unquantifiable compassion and zeal to

help the less privileged, the challenged and those in need. She is doing this successfully through her Renewed Hope Initiative," Dr. Obasa said, adding that her philanthropic gestures have helped to build hope and motivated people.

He prayed for long life and health for the First Lady and her family.

Earlier, Hon. Omolara Olumegbon, who raised this on the floor of the House, appreciated Senator Oluremi for her achievements while she was the First Lady of Lagos and in her capacity as the Grand Patron of the Committee of Wives of Lagos State Officials (COWLSO).

Hon. Olumegbon also

recalled how the First Lady touched lives while she served as Senator of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

She described the First Lady as a mother, philanthropist, politician and patriotic Nigerian.

While Hon. Joseph Kehinde extolled her as a woman who loves widows and children, Hon. Olotu Emmanuel commended her for always helping people.

Hon. Mosunmola Sangodara described Senator Oluremi Tinubu as a woman of strength who is also God-fearing. According to her, the First Lady is "a humble person who respects people irrespective of their ages. She is a woman to emulate for the support she has always given President Bola Ahmed Tinubu."

Sanwo-Olu's Aide on Energy, Olowu, Wants Strict Compliance With Megacity Plan

The newly sworn-in Special Adviser to the Governor on Mineral Resources, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, Engr. Abiola Okanlawon Moshood Olowu officially assumed duties at the Ministry on Monday.

In his address to the Management and Staff of the Ministry, Engr. Moshood affirmed his readiness to start work immediately, stating that everyone needs to work together as a team to key into the agenda of the Sanwo-Olu Administration.

He emphasised that the Power sector, among others, is about to witness a new era of development, saying "We all need to spot new developments and be in



(Special Adviser to the Governor on Mineral Resources, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, Engr. Abiola Okanlawon Moshood Olowu

compliance with the 21st-century megacity plan, which is the main priority of the Governor".

The Special Adviser, however, solicited the cooperation of the staff towards achieving the agenda of the present administration for the

sector. Earlier, while welcoming the Special Adviser to the Ministry, the Permanent

Secretary, Ms. Sholabomi Mosunmola Shasore said the workforce is glad to have him and

pledged the full cooperation and support of the entire staff in ensuring that the mandate of the ministry is achieved.



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Half Page	60,000	Half Page	50,000
Quarter page	35,000	Quarter page	25,000
1x2 inches	2,000	1x2 inches	1,600
2x2 inches	4,000	2x2 inches	3,200
3x2 inches	8,000	3x2 inches	7,000
4x2 inches	10,000	4x2 inches	9,600
5x2 inches	12,000	5x2 inches	5,600
6x2/ 4x2 inches	15,000	6x2/ 4x2 inches	12,000
6x3 inches	22,000	6x3 inches	17,000
6.5x3 inches	24,000	6.5x3 inches	19,000
7x2 inches	17,000	7x2 inches	13,600
7x3 inches	28,000	7x3 inches	22,400
7x4 inches	34,000	7x4 inches	27,200
8x2 inches	20,000	8x2 inches	16,000
8x3 inches	30,000	8x3 inches	24,000
8x4 inches	39,000	8x4 inches	31,200
8x5 inches	49,000	8x5 inches	39,200
9x2 inches	22,000	9x2 inches	17,600
9x3 inches	33,000	9x3 inches	26,400
9x4 inches	44,000	9x4 inches	35,200
9x5 inches	66,000	9x5 inches	52,800
9x6 inches	80,000	9x6 inches	64,000
10x3 inches	37,000	10x3 inches	29,600
10x4 inches	49,000	10x4 inches	39,200
10x5 inches	77,000	10x5 inches	61,600
10x6 inches	92,000	10x6 inches	73,600
11x5 inches	85,000	11x5 inches	68,000
11x6 inches	97,000	11x6 inches	77,600
14.5x3 inches	53,000	14.5x3 inches	42,400
14.5x4 inches	86,000	14.5x4 inches	68,800
14.5x5 inches	100,000	14.5x5 inches	82,400

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Lagos FA Preseason: How Tradesafe FC Emerged Champions

By Saheed Afolabi

Tradesafe FC emerged the champions of the maiden edition of the Lagos FA Preseason tournament at the ancient Mobolaji Johnson Arena, Onikan.

Tradesafe defeated Ikorodu City FC 11-10 via penalty shootout after playing 1-1 at regulation time.

Both sides play in the second tier of Nigeria football and gave didn't disappoint the fans present at the stadium.

The heavy downpour of rain which preceded the game didn't devoid it of its excitement it garnered among fans and football enthusiasts.

Tradesafe broke the deadlock in the first half to ignite the passion of the fans at the stadium.

Ikorodu City FC drove their fans wild with the equalizer before the center referee blasted his whistle to end the first 45 minutes.

The second half was a keenly contested affair

as both sides defended well to ease passage to the penalty shootout.

The lengthy shootout produced breathtaking moments as Tradesafe got the upper hand to win 11-10.

Tradesafe FC got N500,000 for winning the tournament with a giant trophy while Ikorodu City FC were given N100,000 for coming second with a trophy and Broad City FC got a consolatory trophy and precious handshake for coming third.



Tradesafe FC Champions of the maiden edition of the Lagos FA Preseason Cup

We Have Great Potential At BYT - Bolanle Oshoba

By Saheed Afolabi



BYT FC

BYT FC founder, Bolanle Oshoba has disclosed the team has a great potential after a fair outing at the Lagos FA Preseason Cup.

Speaking to ECHONEWS exclusively, Oshoba commended the Professional Ejigbo based club side for putting up a good fight despite been one of the youngest teams in the tournament.

He highlighted the

needs of the team and their plans as they chase a promotion to the second tier of football in Nigeria from the third division.

"The Performance was highly commendable from a very young team where 90 percent of the players are between the real ages of 18 to 23. The first game was not so impressive, they still lost a couple of goalscoring chances and should have won but ended 0-0.

The second game the team outplayed was As Racine infact we spent most of the first half in As Racine half and they did not have a single shot on goal. We lost a lot of scoring chances. The third game was our best game an evenly balanced for the large chunk of the game until the referees sabotaged the game with their controversial decisions," he said.

"We have learnt that our players/team have great potential and would only get better. We have also identified the need to a get an experienced playmaker and striker.

"The club is putting together a Praise Jam scheduled for November 26 2023 at our home ground with top gospel artistes lined up. We are trying to build a strong fan base with a particular demographics and physiographic trends. We also aimed to chase promotion to the Nigerian National League again which is our immediate target and our long term target is to eventually play in the CAF competitions within the next 5 or 6 years as a premier league team with a well thought out plan.

Ajeromi-Ifelodun Joins Bid To Host Lagos Street Soccer championship

By Saheed Afolabi



A tour of one of the sport facilities in Ajeromi Ifelodun LCDA

The Chairman of Ajeromi-Ifelodun Local Government Honorable Fatai Adekunle Ayoola has thrown his hat into the ring with a bid for the 2023 Lagos Street Soccer championship hosting.

This was revealed in his speech to the delegation of Lagos Street Soccer committee led by Mr Bolaji Yusuf during an official visit to his office.

Hon Ayoola affirmed readiness of Ajeromi-Ifelodun to host the Street Soccer games with the quality of upgraded sporting facilities available within his LGA.

While declaring expressions of interest to bid for the hosting rights of the championship, Ayoola stated that there are sporting facilities

across the LGA structured for grassroot football competitions which he believes would land his LGA the hosting rights after inspection by the Lagos Street Soccer committee.

"We are ready to partner with the Lagos Street Soccer in our quest to win the hosting rights for the championship. We have sporting facilities in Oriola, Orege and Maracana stadium which we're proposing to host games during the tournament.

"Ajeromi-Ifelodun is a pacesetter in sports and a hub of musical entertainment. The mission intent is to continually expose these talented young players to different competitions and provide upgraded facilities, which

recently hosted over 4,000 participants in football competition, to keep them ahead of their contemporaries.

The Lagos Street Soccer delegation were subsequently taken on a tour of facility inspection within Ajeromi-Ifelodun LGA with Hon. Ayoola, personally leading the inspection delegation.

Chairman of the committee, Mr Bolaji Yusuf remarked after the facility tour that the committee will review its report on the inspected facilities across the State before awarding the hosting rights to the interested bidders.

The championship is expected to parade more than 1,000 football teams featuring men and women's teams including the U15 category.



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