

**Got A Story?**  
Call  
08032178602

**To Place  
Adverts,**  
Call  
08025378799

LSWMO Seals  
off Public Toilets  
In Sangotedo,  
Lagos Island **PG.5**



LASHMA Honoured  
Among Nigeria's  
Top Impactful  
Businesses **PG.8**

# Echoneews

www.echoneews.ng

LAGOS COMMUNITIES EDITION

A publication of Echoneews Newspapers Limited

Monday 2nd June - Sunday 8th June 2025

# WHERE TO GET CHEAP SALLAH RAM



Mushin LG  
Transforms  
Schools Into  
Modern  
Learning  
Hubs **PG.16**



Sanwo-Olu Hails  
Religious Leaders  
for Fostering  
Peace in Lagos **PG.9**

Team Lagos  
Finishes Strong  
In Sixth Position  
At Gateway  
Games 2024 **PG.29**

**Echoes of Collapse:** Tragedy and Rising Fears in Ikorodu **P.17**

Oba Ogunlaja Urges LASG To Intervene On High Toll Charges **P.19**



# Where To Get Cheap Sallah Ram

By Kunle Awosiyun

Kara market on Lagos-Ibadan Expressway has become the hub of the sales of Sallah rams over the years due to its proximity and price affordability.

Echonews visited the market as this year's Eid-El-Kabir celebration draws closer and observed how Muslims travelled from interior parts of Lagos to buy Sallah rams at Kara, Lagos-Ibadan Expressway.

Meanwhile a few politicians in the state have stood up to provide succour for many Muslims who may not be able to afford the high cost of commodities to celebrate "Ileya".

A member of the Lagos State House of Assembly representing Alimosho Constituency 02, Hon. Kehinde Olaide Joseph distributed rams and cows to some Muslims in Alimosho Area of the state.

Also, a member of the federal house of representatives, Hon. Abiodun Faleke, representing Ikeja Federal



Kara Ram Market

Constituency also rolled out various gifts, including rams, rice and cash gifts for his constituents.

Faleke said each LGA will receive eight cows to be shared among politicians and community members for the Sallah feast.

Our correspondent who visited Kara ram market compared the prices of rams in some parts of Lagos,

including Lekki, Lagos Island and Agege with what obtains at Kara.

According to findings, there is price difference of over N100,000 between a ram at Kara and other places in Lagos State.

There are also various breeds of rams at Kara, which creates many options for buyers, Mrs. Bukola Salami told Echonews.

Salami who is a ram retail merchant says that people come as far as Lekki to Lagos-Ibadan Expressway to buy Sallah rams.

"Kara is like ram depot. People come to buy in large quantity to be resold across Lagos," she said.

There are three major breed of Nigeria's indigenous sheep. They are classified according to their sizes; the

Balami Ram is the most predominant breed in the Northeastern part of Nigeria. They are predominantly white and hairy breed with a pronounced convex heat and a dull depression. It has a dewlap-like fold of skin with a white mane. The ear is large and droopy with a pretty long tail. Balami is a large, long-legged and long-tailed breed with an average adult weight of 45-100kg with large horns.

There is Uda breed of African long-legged sheep common in Chad, Niger, northern Cameroon, and northern Nigeria. Uda are of two types, according to Salami; the front half of Uda sheep is brown or black and the back half white. She said that Uda comes from different sizes but they are not as big as Balami and that this makes the price difference.

At Kara, our correspondent observed that a few rams were tied separately from others. One of the sellers, Mallam Sulaimon Amodu told Echonews that the isolated rams were for sports and food too.

Speaking in heavy pidgin English, Amodu said, "I don't support the idea of using rams to fight. We separate these rams because they are of bigger sizes for Sallah. It costs between N800,000 and One million Naira, however, some people buy them for sports."

While prices of rams are as high as N500,000 in Lekki and Lagos Island, Echonews noticed that the same size and breed of ram costs about N350,000 in Agege area of the state.

According to Alhaji Isiaka Isa, rams are generally costly this year due to the cost of transport from the north to the south but it is still affordable at Kara and Agege.



Uda



79<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary

# THE BANK THAT WORKS

Monday 24th February - Sunday 2nd March 2025

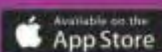
The advertisement features a central image of a smiling man's head wearing sunglasses. Surrounding him are various ALAT services and products:

- ALAT WEMA** logo and a purple Visa card.
- DEVICE LOANS** with an image of a laptop and smartphone.
- Prestige** by Wema with a diamond icon.
- SARA** by Wema with a woman's profile.
- WEMA MSME COLLECTION AND PAYMENT PLATFORMS** featuring **NQR** and **ALATPay FOR BUSINESS**.
- ALAT Xplore** by Wema.
- ALAT GOALS** with an image of a person walking.
- Royal Kiddies ACCOUNT** with an image of children.
- MSME** with an image of a woman.
- ALAT TRAVELS** with an image of a travel scene.
- PHYSICAL BANKING** with an image of a laptop.
- #945** hashtag.

A QR code in the bottom left corner is labeled "Scan Here To Begin".

**WEMA BANK**  
With you. All the way.

Are you an ALAT user? Download the app to join the ALAT Trybe



Dial \*945\*01#

Don't forget payments are easier with

\*945#

0-7000-PURPLE, 0803 900 3700

purpleconnect@wemabank.com

Customer help desk 09044411010

Get social with us at:



@wemabank | @alat\_ng



alat.ng

wemabank.com

alat.ng



# Where To Get Cheap Sallah Ram

*continued from page 2*

"I bought my Sallah ram at N300, 000 at Agege. I have two wives. One stays in Agege, another one at Magboro. My wife who is Hausa bought the ram for me at Agege and it's a big Uda compared to what I bought last year, I have a better buy this year.

However, some Muslims spoke to Echonews that they had given up on celebrating Sallah with ram meat due to high cost of the animal. A few of them told our correspondent in Alimosho area of the state that if not for the intervention of a lawmaker, they would not have got ram to mark Sallah.

However, a member of the Lagos State House of Assembly representing Alimosho Constituency 02, Hon. Kehinde Olaide Joseph provided succour to some Muslims through his annual tradition of benevolence as he presented rams and cows to them.

Joseph who is a Christian distributing explained that sharing with Muslim brothers and sisters during Sallah celebrations has always been his practice, even before entering politics.

This year, he expanded his outreach to assist a greater number of people from Alimosho Federal Constituency in light of the current economic austerity.

Joseph who is the Chairman of the Committee on Public Accounts (State), urged his constituents to remain humane, patriotic, and resilient. Comparing the nation's challenges to labour pains, he expressed his hope that they would lead to progress and growth rather than stagnation and underdevelopment. In Ikeja area, Faleke's outreach programme, tagged "Stomach Infrastructure" initiative, is aimed at ensuring that no household in Ikeja, Onigbongbo, or Ojodu is left out of the celebration.

In his well thought out strategy, the federal lawmaker is collaborating with community-based committees and traditional, religious,

and civic leaders to provide rams and rice for the people.

He said in a statement made available to Echonews that each ward will receive 20 bags of 50kg rice; each Local Government Area (LGA) will get 14 bags of 50kg rice, to be shared as 25kg portions, with the LGA Chairmen receiving one full bag each.

At community level, the lawmaker expects every LGA to form a community distribution committee consisting of the Oba, all Baales, Regents, and Chiefs, representatives from churches and Muslim leaders to get the gift items.

For artisans, market leaders, Security personnel from Army, Police, Customs, MOPOL, NURTW,



Abiodun Faleke

CDC/CDAs, and general community representative during this eid-el-kabir, Faleke said that his office had earmarked for Onigbongbo LGA: 3,000 bags of 5kg Garri and 2,500 bags of 5kg Rice; Ikeja LGA: 3,000 bags of 5kg Garri and 2,500 bags of 5kg Rice;

Ojodu LGA: 4,000 bags of 5kg Garri and 3,000 bags of 5kg Rice

He also provides cash supports with each LGA receiving 7 million as he called on the chairman of each LGA's committee and traditional rulers to forward the account details directly to him.





# LSWMO Seals off Public Toilets In Sangotedo, Lagos Island

The Lagos State Wastewater Management Office (LSWMO) has continued to demonstrate its dedication to ensuring credible and sustainable wastewater management in the State by once again clamping down on Public Toilets in Late Hon Rafiu Olufunmi Ultra Modern Market, Sangotedo, Eti-Osa, Adeniji Adele Road, Offin, Balogun, and Oke Arin area of Lagos Island, for illegally discharging untreated wastewater into public drains.

These environmental nuisances were discovered through complaints received from concerned residents of the State, who have been impacted negatively by the recurring offensive odour emanating from the activities of the public toilets.

The untreated wastewater is usually pumped into public drains from the public toilets through the use of a pumping machine; this act pollutes the environment and exposes the citizens to communicable diseases through the discharge of untreated wastewater onto the roads, drains and lagoons.

The General Manager of the Agency, Engr. Adefemi Afolabi, while emphasising that the State has zero tolerance for Environmental pollution and degradation, advised that residents should adopt proper wastewater disposal methods and maintain good hygiene practices to promote public health and environmental sustainability.

The Agency, according to Afolabi, remains undeterred in its efforts

to ensure a clean and healthy environment in the State for the sake of the public health of the citizens.

The General Manager maintained that acts of environmental nuisance and pollution that pose significant risks to public health will continue to attract strict regulatory sanctions.

Engr. Afolabi appealed to citizens of the State to continue to reach out to the Office whenever

they see any act of Environmental Nuisance that can affect the health and well-being of citizens, adding that the LSWMO can always be reached on their official line, 08022022397, or through any of its Social Media handles, Instagram: @lswmmedia, and Twitter: @lswmof, and The Lagos State Wastewater Management Office on Facebook.



The General Manager of Lagos Traffic Radio, Tayo Akanle, has affirmed the commitment of the Station to leverage the Lagos Traffic Information System (LATIS) towards disseminating data-driven traffic information to Lagosians.

Mr. Akanle, who stated this while receiving the Country Manager, JC Decaux Nigeria Outdoor Advertising Limited, Omoniyi Dada, during a courtesy call to his office, stressed the importance of the connection between technology adding value service delivery to Lagosians as the inspiration behind this imminent partnership.

He further stated that the technologically driven data emanating from the robust infrastructure of the company will play a major role in this new partnership, pointing to the fact that it also aligns with the vision of the station, just as its overall benefits to Lagosians cannot be overemphasised.

The conversation, which also revolved around achieving mutually beneficial results, centred on

## Traffic Radio Leverages LATIS on Data-Driven Information

exploring new paths in the quest to add value to Lagosians, pointing to the comparative advantage of the station and company. Speaking earlier, the Country Manager, Omoniyi Dada, stated that the partnership is long overdue, given the uniqueness of the Station in providing

traffic information to Lagosians, just as he mentioned that the diverse benefits the partnership will bring forth to people, even beyond Lagos State cannot be overestimated.

He stressed that the Lagos State Government and its agencies have greatly

benefited from the rich data and technology available to make informed decisions concerning the State's transport strategy, adding that the company is an innovator that supported Mr. Governor's visions of urban development as encapsulated in the

#GreaterLagosvision. Mr. Dada further stressed that with its infrastructure, the company could provide periodic vehicular counts, which entail cars, buses, motorcycles, trucks, and gender-based pedestrian counts, amongst others.





# Waste Management: Lagos To Build Material Recovery Plant, Recycling Facility In Ikorodu, Badagry

• Deal to decommission Olusosun dumpsite, Solous III landfill

Lagos State is set to build a material recovery plant and a waste recycling plant — the two most important facilities required to fully integrate the State into a sustainable modern waste management system. Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu presided over the formal signing of the Waste Management and Processing Concession Agreement between the State Government and ZoomLion Nigeria Limited, a subsidiary of Jospong Group of Companies, in a ceremony held at the State House, Alausa, recently.

The pivotal deal is an innovative waste management solution, which further reinforced the Sanwo-Olu administration's vision in driving environmental sustainability through initiatives supporting urban hygiene and healthy living.

Lagos currently generates approximately 13,000 tonnes of waste daily, necessitating provision of robust infrastructure for sustainable waste management in the metropolis.

The concession will not only lead to an overhaul and enhancement of the state's waste processing capabilities, there will be a construction of a Transfer Loading Station (TLS) at Olusosun Dumpsite in Ketu, which will enable the closure and full decommissioning of the site.

The TLS facility at Olusosun Dumpsite will support the daily diversion of 2,500 tonnes of waste to a new Material Recovery Facility (MRF) that will be built in Ikorodu.

Also, to be delivered under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) agreement is the construction of another Transfer Loading Station at Solous III Dumpsite in Igando, facilitating the closure of the site and diversion of 1,500 tonnes of waste daily to a new MRF to be built in Badagry.

There will be deployment of self-tipping tricycles for improved waste collection in hard-to-reach areas within the metropolis.

The projects listed in the agreements are to be completed within the next 18 months.

Sanwo-Olu described the PPP agreement as "a turning point" in his administration's effort towards bequeathing a viable waste management alternative to Lagos, pointing out that the capacity of the private partner engaged to handle the project had been proven in the sector.

He said: "Today, we have witnessed the official commencement of a mutually beneficial relationship between a forward-looking private company and a committed public sector. This is a relationship we have tested; we have seen and we are convinced that the skills and the expertise will work here in Lagos. Having



Gov. Sanwo-Olu

authenticated the capacity of our partner, we did not shy from taking this responsibility.

"The signing of agreements will completely change the strategy, management, output and outcome of how waste management is conducted in Lagos. We are convinced that this will improve not only our physical environment, in terms of waste management and waste generation, it will also reverse what hitherto is a burden that we need to deal with.

"I consider this collaboration as a win-win for Lagos' citizens, operators in the waste management sector, State Government and our private partner. It is

a long journey that made us identify the partner that is best suited to manage each of the level of agreements and it has now been given the responsibility. Our purpose is driven by the sheer vision of a cleaner, better and responsible environment."

Sanwo-Olu emphasised that the concession would not lead to job loss in the waste management sector; rather, the partnership, he said, would lead to employment of more thousands of jobs that would be dignified, enduring and sustainable.

The Governor said the PPP initiative would give PSP operators an opportunity to step up

their waste collection activities and not give excuses of not being able to have a quick turnaround in the collection chain. This concession, Sanwo-Olu stressed, would provide access for PSP operators to quickly dump their refuse at MRFs faster.

"This is also an opportunity to see that wastes are being recycled to things that can be used in other forms. From food waste to plastics and glasses, materials will be recycled to something useful. In terms of future opportunities, we are also going to witness the conversation around carbon credit, biodiversity and biofuel. Thousands of wastes being

generated in Lagos daily can now be useful, reusable and properly disposed of, so that we can have a more friendly, healthy and ecologically suitable environment," the Governor said.

Commissioner for the Environment and Water Resources, Mr. Tokunbo Wahab, noted the initiative came at the right moment, noting that the State could now generate wealth from tonnes of waste generated.

He said the project was thoroughly evaluated by the State Executive Council and the House of Assembly before the decision on the proposal was approved by the cabinet.

Wahab said: "This is a watershed in the history of Lagos, because we have now taken a decision to move the State from the linear waste management system that has been practised for decades to a more sustainable and environmentally-friendly system where we can take waste as resources for wealth creation."

Chairman of Jospong Group of Companies, Dr. Joseph Siaw Agyepong, said the collaboration demonstrated the importance of cooperation between African entities for sustainable development.

He pledged that the concessionaire would not downplay the provisions of the agreement, promising that ZoomLion Nigeria Ltd would confidently work with the timeline of the project.

The project is expected to generate over 5,000 direct and indirect jobs upon completion.



# A new Lagos is in the works

The future is loading!

Pay your part. **Pay your tax!**



### Lagos State Internal Revenue Service

Lagos Revenue House, Assbifi Road, Central Business District, Alausa, Ikeja, Lagos State  
Tel: 0700-CALL-LIRS (0700 2255 5477)

Lagos State Internal Revenue Service (LIRS) | [www.lirs.gov.ng](http://www.lirs.gov.ng) | @lirsgovng | @lirs\_govng | [info@lirs.net](mailto:info@lirs.net)





# LASHMA Honoured Among Nigeria's Top Impactful Businesses

The Lagos State Health Management Agency (LASHMA) has been recognised as one of Nigeria's "Top 100 Businesses Making Impacts in 2025," a prestigious acknowledgement presented at the recent Nigeria Business Forum. LASHMA stands out as the sole Health Maintenance Organisation (HMO) to achieve this distinction, underscoring its significant contributions to the nation's healthcare landscape. The award ceremony, held at the Oriental Hotel in Lekki, was part of the Nigeria Business Forum theme: "Harnessing the Transformative Power of Digital Innovation for

Nigeria's Economy." Dr. Dada Ajai-Ikhile, Editorial Board Chairman of Business Times, and Mrs. Taiwo Abatan, Human Resource Manager at VFS Global, jointly presented the award. Dr. Ajai-Ikhile lauded LASHMA for its pioneering innovations in health insurance and the remarkable impact of its ILERA EKO scheme on Lagos residents. He cited numerous testimonials highlighting the benefits individuals have received through the Lagos State Social Health Insurance. He further commended the Lagos State Government for its proactive initiative in ensuring vulnerable populations, unable

to afford premiums, still have access to quality and affordable healthcare. Mr. Tosin Awosika, Coordinator of Regulations at LASHMA, received the award on behalf of the Permanent Secretary, Dr. Emmanuella Zamba. He expressed the agency's gratitude to Business Times for acknowledging LASHMA's impact and its unwavering commitment to achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC). Dr. Zamba, through Mr. Awosika, affirmed LASHMA's dedication to drastically reducing out-of-pocket medical expenses and fostering a strong health insurance culture among Lagos residents.

She highlighted the agency's relentless efforts to streamline access to healthcare services, hinting at upcoming innovations designed to further simplify medical access for residents. In line with the Executive Order signed by Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu on July 16, 2024, making social health insurance mandatory for all Lagos residents, Dr. Zamba urged those yet to register and enrol in the scheme to do so promptly. She emphasised that achieving UHC is a collective journey requiring the active participation of both the government, LASHMA, and the residents themselves through registration and

enrollment. Residents can register by visiting LASHMA Headquarters in Ikeja, any divisional or sub-divisional offices, or kiosks located across the state. Self-registration options are also available via the agency's website: [www.lashma.com](http://www.lashma.com), USSD Code \*6700\*006#, scanning the LASHMA QR Code, or calling 0700-ILERA EKO (0700-45372356). Reinforcing the agency's zero cash payment policy for enrollment, Dr. Zamba cautioned residents against making payments into personal accounts of sales agents, deeming such practices unethical and detrimental to the health insurance

scheme. She explicitly stated that LASHMA will not be responsible for any payments made into personal agent accounts from July 1, 2025. Residents are advised to insist on paying their health insurance premiums through LASHMA's designated payment channels, which include the USSD Code, Quickteller, the official website, authorised POS terminals at LASHMA Offices and kiosks, or bank transactions using E-Bills. For any agent requesting or insisting on personal bank account payments, residents are urged to immediately call or send a WhatsApp message to 0802 629 2253.





# Sanwo-Olu Hails Religious Leaders for Fostering Peace in Lagos

As part of efforts to ensure stronger collaboration and synergy for a better parking culture, the Lagos State Parking Authority (LASPA) today held a strategic meeting with the Ministry of Local Government, Chieftaincy Affairs and Rural Development.

Speaking at the meeting, the General Manager of LASPA, Mrs. Adebisi Adelabu informed that the State Parking Authority has concluded arrangements for the commencement of the 'On-Street Parking Campaign' in some selected zones in the State, namely Victoria Island, Ikoyi, Yaba, Ikeja, and Surulere.

She noted that the

Management of LASPA, had earlier met with the Chairmen of Local Government and Local Council Development Areas to intimate them of the proposed campaign, adding that there was need for the Authority to also sensitise members of the various Community Development Associations (CDAs) for their support towards a more successful campaign.

She solicited the support of Ministry towards facilitating and creating an enabling environment for LASPA to meet with the various CDAs and CDC in the designated zones for the On-Street parking pilot campaign.

Responding, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local



Government, Chieftaincy Affairs and Rural Development, Mr. Kikelomo Bolarinwa,

promised the Ministry's collaboration with LASPA and suggested an invitation of the

Authority's Officials for a clearer Management for an engagement session with the Local Council

channel.

As part of efforts to ensure stronger collaboration and synergy for a better parking culture, the Lagos State Parking Authority (LASPA) today held a strategic meeting with the Ministry of Local Government, Chieftaincy Affairs and Rural Development.

Speaking at the meeting, the General Manager of LASPA, Mrs. Adebisi Adelabu informed that the State Parking Authority has concluded arrangements for the commencement of the 'On-Street Parking Campaign' in some selected zones in the State, namely Victoria Island, Ikoyi, Yaba, Ikeja, and Surulere.

She noted that the Management of LASPA, had earlier

## On-Street Parking Campaign: LASPA Partners Ministry of Local Govt

met with the Chairmen of Local Government and Local Council Development Areas to intimate them of the proposed campaign, adding that there was need for the Authority to also sensitise

members of the various Community Development Associations (CDAs) for their support towards a more successful campaign.

She solicited the support of Ministry towards facilitating

and creating an enabling environment for LASPA to meet with the various CDAs and CDC in the designated zones for the On-Street parking pilot campaign.

Responding, the Permanent Secretary,

Ministry of Local Government, Chieftaincy Affairs and Rural Development, Mr. Kikelomo Bolarinwa, promised the Ministry's collaboration with LASPA and suggested

an invitation of the Authority's Management for an engagement session with the Local Council Officials for a clearer communication channel.





# Ministry Hosts Three-Day Bootcamp To Strengthen Learning

The Ministry of Establishments and Training has concluded a three-day boot camp to enhance the capacity of Learning and Development Officers across the State's Public Service. The event with the theme "Cultivating Growth through Learning and Development in Lagos State Public Service" was held recently at Novatel Hotel, Lekki. Declaring the event open, the Head of Service, Mr. Bode Agoro, represented by the Permanent Secretary, Local Government Establishments and Training, Mrs. Bibilomo Olushekun, emphasised the strategic importance of investing in human capital. He noted that bridging skill gaps and embracing emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence are essential steps toward building a globally competitive and future-

ready workforce. The boot camp provided participants with intensive workshops on key professional areas, including monitoring and evaluation, e-learning, and human capital analytics. These sessions were designed to enhance productivity, strengthen performance, and align training initiatives with the State Government's broader development goals. In his address, the Honorable Commissioner for Establishments and Training, Mr. Afolabi Ayantayo, commended the Ministry's ongoing efforts to promote a culture of continuous learning and institutional development. He described the initiative as "timely and timeless", calling for a move from ad-hoc training programmes to a more structured, long-term approach to

workforce development. "Flexibility, foresight, and knowledge remain the cornerstones of effective public service delivery, Mr. Ayantayo stated. "The future we envision for Lagos' public service depends on our collective

choice to learn, grow, and lead through learning". Earlier in her welcome remarks, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Establishments and Training reiterated that the boot camp was designed to build the capacity of

Learning and Development Officers and ensure that training efforts across Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) directly support the State's strategic objectives. The programme, which

attracted over 100 participants, marks the first in a two-part series and is expected to catalyse improved service delivery and institutional effectiveness across the Lagos State Public Service.



Members of the Lagos State House of Assembly have begun a screening exercise in the Lagos State Ministries and Agencies to aid check and balances and ensure compliance with the directives on the appropriation law. The lawmakers took on an intense review of budget performance by the Ministries, Departments, and Agencies, MDA's, stressing on the need to adhere to the principles of N3.346 trillion 2025 Appropriation Law to ensure that taxpayers receive value for money. Chairman of the House Committee on Economic Planning and Budget, Sa'ad Olumoh, while informing that the ongoing exercise covers the last quarter of 2024 and first quarter of 2025, mentioned that the

## Lagos Assembly To Sanction Ministries, Agencies Over Mismanagement Of Budget

By Felix Kuyinu

initiative was convened to underscore the Assembly's responsibility in bolstering

transparency, strengthen institutional accountability, and support effective governance. Olumoh who

represents Ajeromi-Ifelodun constituency said, "It is a constitutional duty aimed at monitoring and scrutinizing the financial activities of

government agencies, reinforcing the legal basis of the budget performance review. On accountability, Olumoh warned, "Any agency found culpable

during the review would be sanctioned accordingly as reports would be presented on the floor of the House for further action."

12:46







**Echonews**  
Newspapers Limited

# We Never Fail To Deliver

Every Minute

Every Week



Subscribe | Advertise | Partner

www.echonews.ng | www.facebook.com/EchonewsNG



# Lagos Forges Global Alliance For Food Security

The Lagos State Government, through its Ministry of Agriculture and Food Systems, is spearheading a transformative initiative to bolster food production and ensure long-term sustainability.

In a strategic collaboration with the Danish Embassy in Nigeria and other key stakeholders, Lagos State is actively positioning itself as a hub for agripreneurial innovation and investment, leveraging immense opportunities within its agricultural ecosystem.

The latest stride in this direction was the "Lagos Agrinnovation Hangout 6.0", an event designed to foster networking and knowledge exchange among agripreneurs.

Ms. Abisola Olusanya, Commissioner for Agriculture and Food Systems, emphasised that the hangout's core mission is to achieve food sustainability, enhance food security, and ensure the resounding success of agribusinesses in Lagos.

The event served as a crucial platform for local agripreneurs to gain insights into cutting-edge techniques and expand their business horizons through both local

and international perspectives.

"Following the success of Hangout 5.0, where we hosted the Consul General for the Netherlands, we are thrilled to have Denmark with us today," stated Commissioner Olusanya. "This collaboration is designed to expose our agripreneurs to innovative ideas, vast possibilities, and readily available tools and technologies that can significantly scale their businesses. We continually invite foreign partners and multinational corporations to share their expertise, empowering our entrepreneurs to operate more

effectively."

The Commissioner highlighted the remarkable growth of the Agrinnovation Club, established in 2023. "The membership is steadily increasing, and we are witnessing tangible dividends. Many members are thriving, venturing into areas of the food space they might not have accessed independently. We have professionals from diverse backgrounds - accountants, bankers, architects - who, despite not having formal agricultural training, are now successfully exporting products and expanding their reach. We aim to encourage more individuals to join us,

and events like this are pivotal in achieving that."

According to her, Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu's administration has been a staunch advocate for youth involvement in agriculture, actively partnering and facilitating knowledge-sharing to enhance the sector's performance.

"Governor Sanwo-Olu has been incredibly supportive of this vision. Last year, our Agrithon Summit, tailored for the Lagos Agrinnovation Club, provided over N100 million in funding to 26 businesses. This year, our aspirations are even grander, prompting us to seek

broader partnerships with multilateral and bilateral agencies. A larger funding pool will enable us to support more businesses and attract more young people into the food sector", Commissioner Olusanya noted.

Mrs. Jette Bjerrum, Consul General of Denmark, expressed her enthusiasm for the collaboration, reiterating Denmark's commitment to nurturing agricultural ecosystems. She affirmed Denmark's continued partnership with critical stakeholders like Lagos State.

Bjerrum underscored the vital role of agriculture and its entire value chain for both Denmark and

Nigeria, emphasising that robust education for prospective farmers can be significantly enhanced through innovative approaches like the Agrinnovation Club.

"Education is paramount for us," she stated. In Denmark, you cannot operate a farm without proper certification and training. We are a small country, but our ability to innovate and automate our agricultural processes, making them highly efficient, serves as an inspiration. We have even developed a direct finance investment programme to promote agriculture".





# Lagos Partners Miss Motherland To Foster Unity, Culture

The Lagos State Government, through the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture, has officially announced its strategic partnership with the Miss Motherland Pageant, an innovative cultural initiative designed to promote national unity, youth empowerment, and cultural reawakening.

This was made known at a media briefing held recently at the J. Randle Centre for Yoruba Culture and History, Onikan, Lagos Island.

Speaking on behalf of the Permanent Secretary, Mr. Olanrewaju Bajulaiye, the Deputy Director of Public Affairs of the

Ministry, Ms. Adeoti Sobowale, reaffirmed the state's commitment to support the 2025 edition of the pageant.

"This is far more than a beauty contest. It is a unity project, an impactful platform for cultural education, civic reorientation, and patriotic engagement. Under the leadership of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu's T.H.E.M.E.S Plus Agenda and our strategic inter-ministerial collaboration, Lagos is proud to serve as the official support for this landmark event", he said.

The Permanent Secretary emphasised the importance of

collective action in delivering initiatives of this scale, noting that success depends on collaboration across various government arms. "This programme is not the work of a single ministry. It represents a confluence of efforts across departments, agencies, and partners, all aligned to advance a shared vision for national development," he added.

Prince Timmy Abiri, Director of the Motherland Pageant and Convener of the initiative, described the project as a purposeful platform for national healing.

"Miss Motherland Pageant celebrates our heritage while bridging the divide

between citizens and government", he said. "The Lagos State Government, through the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture, has demonstrated visionary leadership in using culture as a tool for unity and progress".

Unlike conventional pageants, the Miss Motherland pageant excludes objectifying segments such as bikini displays and focuses instead on cultural expression, attitude, behaviour, intellectual engagement, empowerment, and public service to humanity. "This is not a superficial spectacle," Abiri noted. "It is a cultural crusade, one that champions shared values and a

sense of national purpose."

Open to Nigerian women aged 18 to 35, both locally and in the diaspora, registration for the pageant is completely free. "We are not asking women to pay to be empowered," said Abiri. "We are seeking women with passion and purpose - those who are ready to serve as cultural ambassadors and agents of national development."

The programme also includes training in skill acquisition, civic education, and public service mentorship, providing contestants with direct exposure to governance and

social development frameworks.

"Too often, young people see the government as distant or ineffective. This platform offers a direct interface, enabling them to experience how real change can be driven through collaboration and civic participation," Abiri added.

All contestants will be recognised as cultural ambassadors and will receive consolation prizes, while the eventual winner will be conferred with the title of National Ambassador for Unity and Cultural Development, supported by a government-issued identification card.

Addressing concerns about inclusivity, Abiri reaffirmed the pageant's commitment to celebrating diversity in all forms. "Whether you are slim or curvy, beauty here is defined by character, courage, and commitment to nation-building," he said.

"Government cannot do it alone, that's why we are working with capable institutions, those that can mobilise resources not through personal wealth, but through a shared commitment to Nigeria's progress," he stated.





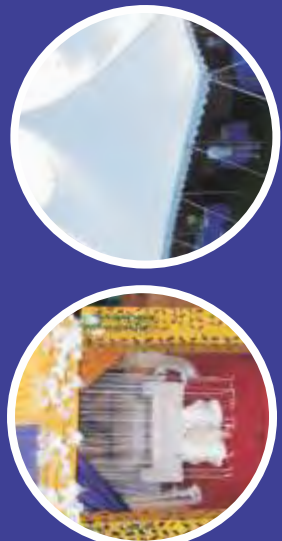


# FATTI

## RENTAL SERVICES



### Tables • Chairs • Canopies • Drums



- 1 Plot Canopy
- 1/2 Plot Festival Canopy
- 20X40 Festival Canopy
- 15 X 30 Festival Canopy
- 12 X 20 Canopy
- Bridal Canopy
- Banquet Tables
- Normal Tables & Chairs

 21 Ona Iwa Mimo Street, Ori Oke  
 Bus Stop, Ejigbo Lagos  
 +234 802 905 4032



# Three Men Sentenced To Prison Over Internet Fraud

By Felix Kuyinu

**T**he Ikoyi High Court in Lagos has sentenced three men to jail over offences bordering on internet fraud.

Justice Alexander Owoeye pronounced the ruling after finding the jailers: dauda Umar, Oko Gift and Fashola Alabi culpable of fraud and Impersonation charges imposed on them by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC.

One of the charges by the EFCC disclosed that the the first defendant, Dauda, al alongside his accomplices, on the 19th of May, 2025, fraudulently impersonated citizens of the United States of America by identifying himself as "Kate Peggie" to defraud unsuspecting victims.

Extracts from the charges reads: "That you, Dauda Umar, and other accomplices, on or about the 19th of May, 2025 in Lagos, within the jurisdiction of this



Honorable Court, directly made a false statement, wherein you held yourself out as a white woman by name "Katie Peggie" on your Google account, knowing same to be false and with intent that the representation is relied upon for the purpose of procuring the issuance of financial

instrument to yourself and thereby committed an offence contrary to and punishable under Section 22(3) of the Cybercrimes (Prohibition, Prevention etc) Act, 2015."

They each pleaded "guilty" to the charges when they were read to them. The Commission held that

fraudulent documents were printed from the devices recovered from the convicts which were submitted as exhibits alongside their confessional statements.

The EFCC prayed the court to admit in evidence the defendants' extrajudicial statements and the fraudulent

documents printed from their devices tendered through the investigators.

Consequently, Justice Owoeye convicted and sentenced Gift to two years imprisonment, with an option of fine of N400,000 (Four Hundred Thousand Naira). While Quadri bagged two years

imprisonment, with an option of fine in the sum of N450,000 (Four Hundred and Fifty Thousand Naira). Umar was jailed three years, with a fine of N250,000 (Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Naira).

The Judge ordered that their devices be forfeited to the Federal Government of Nigeria



# Mushin LG Transforms Schools Into Modern Learning Hubs

By Saheed Afolabi

**C**hairman of Mushin Local Government, Mr Emmanuel Bamigboye, has spearheaded a

significant overhaul of primary education in the area, transforming dilapidated schools into modern centers of learning.

This initiative is a cornerstone of his commitment to fostering educational development and

combating illiteracy within the community. Under Chairman Bamigboye's direction, several primary schools are undergoing

extensive rehabilitation. Ishaga Close and Islamic Model Mission Primary Schools are

already nearing 90% completion, showcasing the rapid progress of the project.

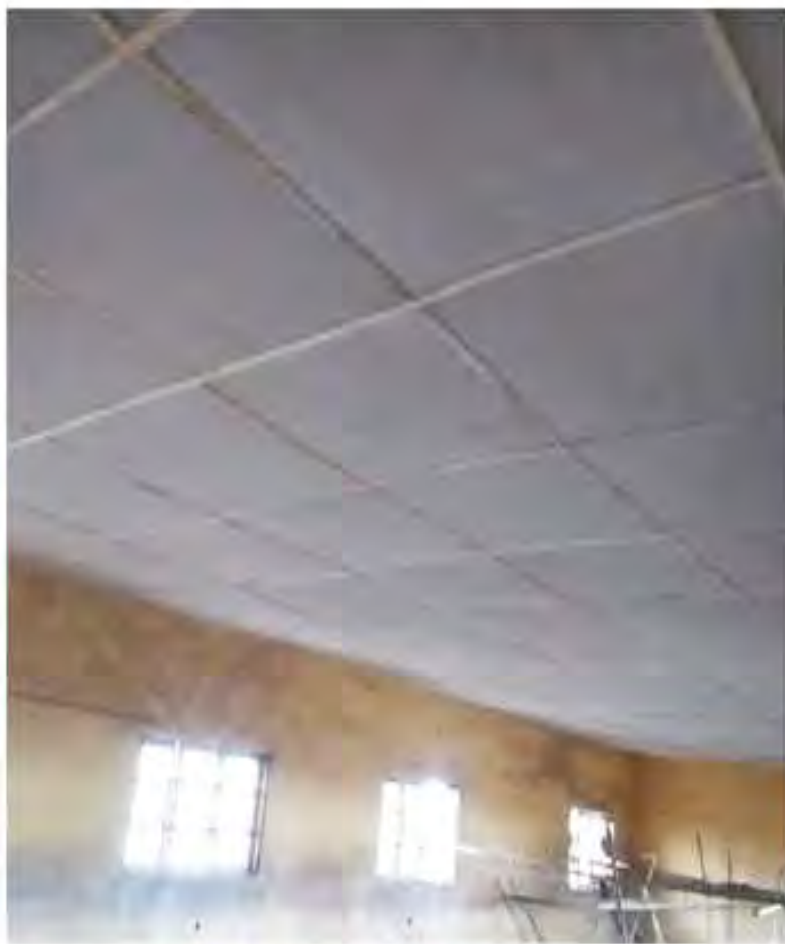
This commitment to education is a key part of the Chairman's broader vision, recognizing that education is the bedrock of societal progress and crucial for shaping the future of Mushin's children.

The impact of these renovations extends beyond just aesthetics. The improved learning environments are expected to positively influence teaching quality and knowledge impartation, ultimately benefiting the pupils who are considered the future of the community.

The school rehabilitation policy has seen immediate action since its inception. Ayetoro Primary School has been fully rehabilitated and furnished, while NAFRIC has also undergone significant improvements. Army Children School has been completely constructed, and Baruwa Primary School is also nearing its 90% completion mark.

The renovated schools will feature modern amenities including boreholes and contemporary toilet systems.

Bamigboye has pledged to continue prioritizing infrastructural projects, health services, and other essential service delivery for the residents of Mushin throughout his tenure.





# Echoes of Collapse: Tragedy and Rising Fears in Ikorodu

By Nurudeen Adebayo

On what should have been an ordinary Tuesday morning in the bustling Ota-Ona axis of Ikorodu, the ground shook with panic instead of celebration.

May 27, 2025 ironically coinciding with the sacred annual Oro Festival turned into a day of anguish as a two-storey building came crashing down along Obafemi Awolowo Way.

Within moments, bricks and mortar gave way to cries for help, dust clouds, and frantic rescue efforts.

By the time the rubble settled, three lives had been lost.

Ten others were pulled from the debris—injured, shaken, but alive. For the families who stood at the edge of that ruin, watching emergency workers battle time and debris, it was a day they will never forget.

The collapsed building belonged to the Ogayemi Osinowo family well known in the area.

Neighbours say the structure, now a mangled heap of concrete and steel, had been home to several tenants and small businesses.

“They were inside when it just gave way,” recalled Mr. Femi Adebajo, a trader whose kiosk sits just a few meters away. “We heard a loud sound—gbam!—and people started shouting. Some rushed to help. Others just froze.”

The Lagos State Emergency Management Agency (LASEMA) arrived promptly, supported by officers from the Federal Fire Service.

For hours, they worked tirelessly, digging through the wreckage, guided by faint cries and the desperate hope of finding survivors.

The following day, Hon. Wasiru Adesina, Chairman of Ikorodu Local Government, arrived at the scene. The look on his face mirrored the grief etched

into the hearts of residents.

“It’s a sad day for Ikorodu,” he said after surveying the damage. “God knows why this unfortunate event occurred. I urge the affected families to take heart and stay strong during this trying period.”

Hon. Adesina paid tribute to the victims and extended his condolences to the Osinowo family and others affected by the collapse.

He also confirmed that the Lagos State Government has begun a full investigation into what led to the tragic incident.

But amid the mourning came a

chilling revelation: a nearby two-storey building—just steps from the collapsed one—has also shown signs of structural instability. Hon. Adesina didn’t mince words in raising the alarm.

“This second building is a ticking time bomb,” he warned. “It must be thoroughly examined before we witness another tragedy.”

A Familiar Crisis While this incident has thrown Ikorodu into mourning, it also echoes a recurring nightmare in

Lagos and other parts of Nigeria—building collapses that stem from poor structural integrity, substandard materials, and disregard for safety regulations.

Residents in the area have begun voicing concerns. Some alleged that the collapsed building had been showing signs of distress for months, yet no official inspection took place.

“We can’t just move on from this,” said Amina Sule, who lost a friend in the collapse. “How many more buildings are like this in Ikorodu, waiting to fall?”

As investigators

dig deeper and the community begins the long, painful process of healing, the questions remain: Could this have been prevented? And will real change follow? For now, the wreckage on Obafemi Awolowo Way stands not just as a symbol of loss, but also as a warning.

In the midst of sacred festivals and everyday life, disaster struck—and the memory of it will linger far longer than the dust in the air.

And in Ikorodu, a community grapples with the sorrow of the moment while looking anxiously at the buildings around them, wondering which one might be next.





# Ikeja LG Makes History with Landmark Project

Kehinde Adeleye

**U**nder the visionary leadership of Engr. Mojeed Alabi Balogun, the Ikeja Local Government Council marked a historic milestone recently with the commissioning of multiple legacy projects and implementation of megaprograms. Governor Babajide Olushola Sanwo-Olu, represented by

his Chief of Staff, Mr. Tayo Akinmade Ayinde, inaugurated a newly constructed three-story administrative building featuring 80 ensuite rooms. Additionally, Hon. Adedamola Richard Kasunmu, Deputy Majority Leader and representative of Ikeja II at the Lagos State House of Assembly, commissioned a

two-floor legislative building. Mrs. Toun Nelson Popoola commissioned the Kemi Nelson Primary Health Center, a project supported by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) initiative. A remodeled Ikeja House, serving as the Office of the Chairman, was inaugurated by Rt. Hon. James

Abiodun Faleke, representative of the Ikeja Federal Constituency. The event also witnessed significant community empowerment efforts, with Engr. Dr. Mojeed Balogun facilitating the distribution of 50 mini-buses (KOROPE) to constituents. Furthermore, cash grants of N100,000 and

N250,000 were awarded to 300 and 100 constituents, respectively, to bolster financial security and support local growth. The council Chairman took no step back in immortalizing his leader, late Chief Mrs Kemi Nelson. Two of the commissioned buildings were

named after the late leader. The administrative office complex got named as Chief Mrs Kemi Nelson Building, while the new primary health center got named as Kemi Nelson Primary Health Center. Important dignitaries and personalities attended the event as well as traditional rulers and titled chiefs.





# Oba Ogunlaja Urges LASG To Intervene On High Toll Charges

By Mohammed Adekola

Oba Ogunlaja JP, traditional ruler of Odo Noforija Epe Kingdom, has voiced serious concerns over the growing outcry surrounding the tollgate situated between Mojoda and Odo-Agboju, lamenting its negative impact on both farmers and the general motoring public who rely heavily on the route. The monarch revealed that a series of

complaints have reached him from community members, commercial drivers, and traders who are struggling under the weight of frequent toll payments. A lot of people have come to me to complain bitterly about the tollgate," Oba Ogunlaja said. "it affecting farmers and everybody that passes through that road, especially Lagos State residents who use it more often. The burden is becoming too much."

The monarch explained that many of the road users are farmers who may have to pass through the tollgate four to five times daily, particularly during harvest seasons, and commercial vehicles that ply the road for their daily operations. He recounted the case of a local food vendor who crosses from a neighboring town to sell at Mojoda. "She lives just across the tollgate and sells food at Mojoda. She pays 1,000 every day just to go and return. That's already eating deep into her little profit," he said.

Similarly, many farmers reside in Mojoda and have their farmlands in Odo-Agboju, just across the gate. Oba Ogunlaja pointed out that due to the proximity, paying each time they cross makes no economic sense. "Some traders have even stopped going to the market. What they make is what they use to pay the toll, and that is not sustainable."

He added that commercial drivers and private vehicle owners have also been severely affected, as the charges reduce their income and increase transportation

costs for commuters.

Oba Ogunlaja called on the Lagos State Government to urgently meet with the appropriate authorities managing the tollgate to review the current tolling system and explore possible solutions such as subsidized rates or exemptions for frequent local users.

"Our people are not saying tolls shouldn't be paid, but let it be reasonable. Gain is not made in a day. If people continue to lose money just for moving around their own community, how will they survive?" he questioned.

The monarch emphasized the need for a more considerate and people-focused approach in managing toll infrastructure, noting that the current situation, if left unaddressed, could escalate into a deeper socio-economic crisis.





# Mother Cries Out Over Alleged Killing Of Son By OPC Member

By Mohammed Adekola

Tears, pain, and unanswered questions trail the brutal killing of 17-year-old Michael Olaifa at Idi Aba Junction, Paramount Ita Opo, Epe, allegedly by a member of the Oodua People's Congress (OPC), identified as Boda Idowu.

The victim's mother, Mrs. Seyi Olaifa, spoke in deep anguish, rejecting any attempt at consolation and demanding justice for her son, who she described as innocent and full of promise.

"I don't want money or condolence messages, I want justice for my son," she cried. "He was not a cultist, he was not a thief, he had no issue with anybody. What did my child do to deserve such a painful death?"

Mrs. Olaifa explained she was at the hospital attending to her daughter who was in labour when her friend, accompanied by her

son's friend and younger brother, rushed in with devastating news.

"When I saw them, my heart dropped. I asked what was wrong, and they told me Boda Idowu had shot Michael. I was confused, asking why. They said he did absolutely nothing."

Eyewitnesses said Michael and his friend had gone to Oke Oyinbo that night to sell ram ropes to Hausa traders. Around 10p.m., while returning, a gunshot was heard.

"Michael's friend said he heard a gunshot and turned to see Michael on the ground," the mother recounted. "He saw Boda Idowu with a gun and ran to call for help."

On returning, they found the alleged OPC member using a cutlass to disembowel Michael while he was still alive and

crying for help. On returning, they found the alleged OPC member using a cutlass to disembowel Michael while he was still alive and crying for help.

"Michael was shouting, 'Boda Idowu, what have I done to you? I am not a cultist. I am not a thief. Why are you doing this to me?'" the friend recounted.

The boy was rushed to the hospital but sadly succumbed to his injuries. Community members, neighbors, and schoolmates described Michael as respectful, peaceful, and responsible. Many called for the suspect to be brought to justice.

"He butchered my son like a goat," Mrs. Olaifa sobbed. "He opened his stomach with a cutlass. What kind of heart does he have? Let him come out and explain what my son did to deserve

this. I will not rest until justice is done."

Mrs. Olaifa appeared at the disclosed that Boda Idowu fled claiming Michael

was trying to rob the Zenith Bank in Epe, a claim she and other residents have firmly denied.



- 17-year-old Michael Olaifa was allegedly shot and disemboweled by an OPC member in Epe
- Mother, Mrs. Seyi Olaifa, demands justice and denies robbery allegations made by suspect
- Community members affirm the boy's innocence and call for accountability

Tears, pain, and unanswered questions trail the brutal killing of 17-year-old Michael Olaifa at Idi Aba





# Oba Asunmo Installs Chiefs Ahead 15th Coronation Anniversary

By Mohammed Adekola



**O**ba Asunmo Ganiyu Aderibigbe of Odo-Ayandelu Kingdom Epe, Yamade the first, expressly conferred chieftaincy title to eight indigenous community members, in recognition of their meritorious contribution to the collective development of the community.

Oba Asunmo Ganiyu Aderibigbe, flagged off his 15th year coronation anniversary in grand style as he commence the week

long celebration with a special thanksgiving service at the Redeemed Christian Church, Odo-Ayandelu on Sunday, May 25, 2025.

As part of the programs for the grand celebration of Oba Aderibigbe, in commemoration of his successful reign on the throne since his ascension 15 years ago, chieftaincy installation rights were done at the palace, on Tuesday, May 27,

2025, as the community countdown to the grand anniversary. The installation procession, famously called 'Iwuye' in local parlance, was done according to the customary rites and tradition, as symbolic edibles were shared amidst oath making and prayers.

The newly installed chieftains expressed their excitement, recognizing the excellent reign of Oba Aderibigbe,

while offering prayers for his prolonged reign as the paramount ruler of Odo-Ayandelu Kingdom.

Chief Wahab Adebajo, Tobalase of Odo-Ayandelu Kingdom, shared his delight at the conclusion of the installation ceremony, stating that he had always been the kings' righthand.

"Every one of us seated here today, have been a staunch supporter

of His Royal majesty, Oba (Buldr.) Asunmo Ganiyu Aderibigbe, since his ascension to the throne". He said.

"I can say that I was the errand boy of Kabiyesi, whenever he calls me to represent him at an event, I do so wholeheartedly, I really appreciate him a lot." He added.

High Chief Abdullateef Shitta, the newly installed Olootu

Omooba of Odo-Ayandelu Kingdom, prayed for his continued reign of peace and prosperity in Odo-Ayandelu Kingdom. Chief Mrs. Ifarohunke Adebisi Olusanya, the Yeye Oluwari of Odo-Ayandelu Kingdom, prayed for Oba Aderibigbe's enduring reign ahead of the grand celebration of his 15 years of reign as the paramount ruler of Odo-Ayandelu Kingdom.



# Tijani Inaugurates New NSCDC Divisional Office

Kehinde Adeleye

**H**amed Idowu Daniel Tijani (HID), Chairman of Ojokoro Local Council Development Area (LCDA), participated in the commissioning of a new Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) Divisional Office today, May 27, 2025, alongside other notable figures. During the event, HID Tijani urged NSCDC officers to prevent pipeline vandalism, fires, and other criminal activities perpetrated by local miscreants.

Emphasizing Ojokoro LCDA's dedication to prosperity, Tijani underscored the non-negotiable nature of community security and called for cooperation between security agencies and LCDA citizens to ensure safety and protection of lives and property. The foundation for



the new NSCDC office was laid in August 2024 by Ojokoro LCDA Vice Chairman Mr. Coker Oladipupo, who was accompanied by other council management staff.

The successful completion of the project demonstrates the LCDA's commitment to improving local security

infrastructure. NSCDC Lagos State Commandant Adedotun Keshinro expressed gratitude to Ojokoro LCDA Executive Chairman HID Tijani and his team for fulfilling their promises and delivering essential support to the Corps.

He further said that to whom much is given much is

expected and as such the LCDA should expect the Ojokoro formation to work with all relevant stakeholders, in a bid to ensure the security and protection of all critical national assets and infrastructure in the area and by extension Lagos State.

He further requested, for

much more support of the Government and people of the area in safeguarding the communities. He charged them to feed the Corps with necessary credible and actionable information that can be used to destroy all hideouts of unscrupulous elements in the axis and sustain the prosperity, progress and peace of the area. The Lagos State Commandant also presented, an award of excellence to the Chairman of Ojokoro LCDA, for a job well done and his excellent penchant for the security and safety of the lives and property of his people in the council. The Lagos State Commandant was ably represented, today, Tuesday, at the office commissioning, by Deputy Commandant of

Corps Jimoh Sulaiman, his second in command and Head of Administration Department.

The Divisional Officer, Ojokoro Division, Chief Superintendent of Corps Oluokun Victor Adekunle and the Public Relations Officer of the Command, Superintendent of Corps Oluwaseun Abolurin and other officers and men also joined the representative of the Lagos State Commandant, to commission the new building.

Other very distinguished personalities present to grace the occasion today, include; Member House of Representative, Honourable Adeyemi Olabinjo, Kabiyesi Oba Adeshoga Adetola Williams, Tomia I, the Council Manager, Mojisola Akinola and the LCDA Chairman, Mr Durowoju Olanrewaju and many distinguished personalities.



# Ayo Maff: The Street Prince Rising with Fireboy's Spark

By Nurudeen Adebayo



For Ayo Maff, 2024 wasn't just a breakthrough year it was the moment everything changed. The fast-rising street pop star, known for his raw lyrics and gritty authenticity, catapulted into the limelight with the remix of his song Dealer, featuring Fireboy DML.

Now, with a Headies nomination, a performance at London's O2 Arena under his belt, and a debut album on the

way, Ayo Maff is no longer just another name on the streets he's one of its loudest voices.

In an interview on Trending, Ayo Maff spoke candidly about the impact of his collaboration with Fireboy, calling it the defining moment of his career.

"Without Fireboy, there will be no Ayo Maff because he gave me that thing I want," he

said. "So thank God and thank you to Fireboy."

The remix to Dealer wasn't just another collab it became a phenomenon.

The track soared to the top of the charts, eventually being declared the most-streamed song on Spotify Nigeria in 2024. For a young artist still fighting for visibility, the moment was both unexpected and transformative.

"I didn't even think he'd jump on it," Ayo Maff recalled. "I just sent it out there, and when I got the verse back, I knew it was different. I knew it was big." Ayo Maff's sound is deeply rooted in the pulse of the streets. His lyrics touch on the gritty realities of life in Nigeria—police brutality, poverty, survival, and the unending hustle of youth trying to

escape the cycle. His authenticity has earned him a loyal fanbase among young Nigerians who see their own stories in his verses. It's this street-centric perspective, delivered with melodic hooks and trap-infused beats, that sets him apart from the rest of the pack.

This relatability, combined with his newfound mainstream appeal, led to his nomination for the prestigious Headies Next Rated category—a rite of passage for many of Nigeria's biggest stars.

But perhaps the biggest highlight yet came when he stepped onto one of the world's grandest stages: the O2 Arena in London.

Opening for Grammy-nominated Afrobeats superstar Asake, Ayo Maff delivered a performance that he says he had envisioned long before it happened

"That moment at the O2," he said, pausing. "I had imagined it in my head so many times. When it finally happened, it felt like I was walking in a dream that had waited long enough."

The Prince of the Street

As the spotlight continues to shine on him, Spotify has named Ayo Maff one of the artists to watch in 2025. He's not slowing down.

His debut LP, The Prince of The Street, is in the works an album he says will fully introduce him to the world, not just as a hitmaker, but as a storyteller.

"This album is everything," he said with a spark in his eyes. "It's my truth, my hustle, my sound. It's not just music it's my life on beats."

From the grime of the streets to global stages, Ayo Maff is a testament to what happens when preparation meets opportunity. And while Fireboy's verse might have lit the match, it's Ayo Maff's own fire that continues to burn and burn brightly.



**T**he Inclusive Cancer Care Research Equity (iCCaRE) Consortium recently hosted a crucial prostate cancer awareness roundtable in Badagry, bringing together security personnel, community leaders, and health officials.

This initiative underscores iCCaRE's commitment to addressing the disproportionate impact of prostate cancer on Black men and promoting health equity within communities.

The event, coordinated by Mr. Setonji Albert Oketojinu, Community

# iCCaRE Consortium Leads Prostate Cancer Awareness Initiative In Badagry

By Saheed Afolabi

Outreach Coordinator and Senior Coordinator for Sub-Saharan Francophone Africa, focused on a pilot project centered on "Nutrition RX and

Lifestyle Modification" specifically for uniformed men in Badagry.

Mr. Oketojinu highlighted the extensive dedication of Professor

Folakemi Odedina, founder of iCCaRE CaPTC, to Black men's health, referencing her inaugural visit to the paramount ruler of Badagry, HRM Akran

of Badagry, in 2023. He also noted that this awareness initiative is part of iCCaRE Consortium's 20th-anniversary celebrations.

Mr. Semako Balogun, Supervisor for Health, representing Hon. Onilude Adeniran, Council Chairman of Badagry Local Government, expressed the council's keen interest in the iCCaRE initiative.

He emphasized the vital importance of continuous training and sensitization programs to reduce the prevalence of prostate cancer. Mr. Balogun reaffirmed the council's commitment by stating, "We have provided an office for the consortium at one of our health centers in Torikoh."

Dr. Wale Akeredolu, Medical Officer of Health in Badagry, commended iCCaRE's proactive approach, highlighting the significance of such programs in facilitating early detection and prevention of prostate cancer.



## Lateef Pledges Fairness, Unity In Badagry

By Saheed Afolabi

**M**r Yahaya Lateef, popularly known as WAY, the newly appointed Commissioner II representing Badagry Division in the Lagos State Local Government Service Commission has publicly committed to ensuring transparency and equitable distribution of employment opportunities across

all local governments within the division.

"I won't shortchange any of the local governments. I'll make sure I balance it," he said.

"I'll ensure all the leaders in the division are happy with me at the end of the day and most importantly, the people I represent will be happy with me."

He also promised more impactful opportunities to come

into Badagry Division while emphasizing a collective unity.

"This appointment is nothing short of a miracle."

Yahaya attributed it to endurance, trust in God, and loyalty to his party.

Reflecting on his past electoral setbacks, he acknowledged the stress, the setbacks, but expressed gratitude for divinetiming.

"When I aspire for any position, I pray. I know

politics is a game: you win some, you lose some."

He extended his heartfelt thanks to those who played a pivotal role in his appointment, specifically mentioning Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu, Pastor Cornelius Ojelabi (State Party Chairman), and Mr Onilude Segu, the chairman of Badagry LG.





# Igando-Ikotun LCDA's New Council Manager Prioritizes Staff Engagement

Kehinde Adeleye

Newly deployed Council Manager of Igando-Ikotun Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Mrs. Modupeola Oluwatoyin Leosho, began her official duties on Monday, May 26th, 2025, by focusing on staff interactions and

facility inspections.

Her proactive approach included a comprehensive tour of council offices and the Primary Health Center, where she took the time to discuss the daily challenges faced by staff members.

Mrs. Leosho acknowledged the

importance of improving working conditions and vowed to collaborate with the Executive Chairman and the council's management team to facilitate office renovations.

She highlighted the necessity of a functional and inviting work

environment for increased productivity and service delivery.

Following the tour, Mrs. Leosho held a brief meeting with the management team and NULGE Executives before convening a general staff meeting.

The purpose of

these gatherings was to formally introduce herself and other newly deployed department and unit heads and to foster a stronger connection with council employees.

In her keynote address, Mrs. Leosho emphasized the significance of teamwork, discipline, and readiness ahead

of the visit by the Chairman, Commissioners, and Principal Officers of the Local Government Service Commission scheduled for the following day.

Echonews reports that her emphasis on collaboration and engagement sets a positive tone for her tenure as Council Manager and aims to improve overall council operations.

## IKEJA

# Odunmbaku Gives Empowerment Tools at Council Chairmen's Wives Association Event

The Lagos councils.

State Council Chairmen Wives Association held a dynamic empowerment program at the Ikeja Local Government Secretariat, bringing together members and stakeholders with a shared commitment to supporting women and vulnerable communities.

The event was collaboratively organized by the chairpersons of Ikeja, Ojodu, and Onigbongbo local

A key aspect of the event involved Mrs. Abimbola Odunmbaku, wife of Ojodu LCDA Executive Chairman, distributing empowerment tools and support packages to beneficiaries.

These resources included industrial sewing machines, deep freezers, and business support grants of N100,000 each. Wheelchairs were also presented to



children with special needs, and essential food items and household supplies were donated to the Super Parents Foundation, an NGO dedicated to helping

underprivileged children.

In her address to attendees, Mrs. Odunmbaku underlined the initiative's focus on uplifting

widows, single mothers, and artisans—particularly those facing adversity—by providing resources to enhance their livelihoods and support their

families.

Dignitaries at the event included Engr. Mojeed Balogun, Chairman of Ikeja LGA; Hon. Olusegun Odunmbaku, Executive Chairman of Ojodu LCDA; and Barr. Reqiya Hassan, Chairperson of Onigbongbo LCDA. They all praised the Council Chairmen's wives for their steadfast dedication to grassroots development and their vital contributions to community advancement.



# Akinsanya Harps on Staff Welfare and Service Delivery

Kehinde Adeleye

Comrade Lasidi Ayinde Akinsanya, Chairman of the Igando-Ikotun Local Council Development Area, extended a warm welcome to Hon. Kamal Bayewu, Chairman of the Lagos State Civil Service Commission, and accompanying commissioners, directors, and principal officers during a recent visit. In his address, the seasoned administrator and former President of the Nigeria Union of Local Government Employees affirmed his steadfast commitment to



prioritizing the well-being of staff members.

Akinsanya expressed gratitude for the commission's continued support of local government workers and announced special incentives for the upcoming Ileya Festival to honor

their dedication and hard work.

Represented by Hon. Hakeem Bamgbola, Hon. Bayewu reaffirmed the commission's dedication to bolstering service delivery across Lagos State local governments.

Recent accomplishments include the

simplification of staff conversion and promotion processes, as well as the promotion of a supportive work environment to encourage professional growth and efficient service.

Staff members were encouraged to stay informed about the

commission's ongoing initiatives and to enhance their skills and knowledge to further improve their performance and contribute to the development of Igando-Ikotun LCDA.

During her vote of thanks, the

Council Manager, Mrs. Modupeola Oluwatoyin Leosho, lauded the commitment of the commission's leaders towards staff development and acknowledged the resolute dedication of the LCDA workforce.

This visit serves to strengthen the collaboration between the Lagos State Local Government Service Commission and local councils, aimed at promoting transparency, enhancing staff welfare, and improving administrative efficiency across the state.

## Eid-el-Kabir: Lagos Lawmaker Distributes Cows, Rams, Rice, and Cash

Kehinde Adeleye

Hon. Kehinde Olaide Joseph, Member of the Lagos State House of Assembly representing Alimosho Constituency 02, extended his annual tradition of benevolence during the 2025 Eid-el-Kabir (Ileya festival) by distributing cows, rams, bags of rice, and cash to hundreds of Muslim families across Alimosho Federal Constituency.

Recipients expressed gratitude for the grassroots-oriented lawmaker's humanitarian efforts, describing him as a steadfast supporter who continually aids his constituents during challenging times.

Many beneficiaries mentioned that they had nearly given up on fulfilling their

religious duty of sacrificing rams this year, but Joseph's gesture turned their circumstances around.

When asked about his motivations, Hon. Kehinde Joseph, a Christian, explained that sharing with Muslim brothers and sisters during Sallah celebrations has always been his practice, even before entering politics.

This year, he expanded his

outreach to assist a greater number of people from Alimosho Federal Constituency in light of the current economic austerity.

Joseph who is the Chairman of the Committee on Public Accounts (State), urged his constituents to remain humane, patriotic, and resilient.

Comparing the



nation's challenges to labor pains, he expressed his hope that they would lead to progress and

growth rather than stagnation and underdevelopment.



# Oshodi-Isolo LG APC Hosts Reconciliation Meeting

*Kehinde Adeleye*

In an effort to cultivate harmony and solidarity within the All Progressives Congress (APC) in Oshodi-Isolo Local Government, a high-level reconciliation meeting was recently held following the directive of the APC state chairman, Pastor Cornelius Ojelabi.

The meeting aimed to facilitate dialogue, heal divisions, and engage all aggrieved members in the aftermath of the recent primary elections.

Party Chairman, Hon. Saheed Animashaun, opened the meeting by welcoming stakeholders, including chairmanship aspirants and their representatives.

He highlighted the meeting's importance, asserting that peace and unity were paramount in moving the party forward.

Oshodi-Isolo Local Government Chairman, Otunba Kehinde Almaroof Oloyede, reaffirmed his dedication to peace and reconciliation.



Oloyede emphasized the significance of unity, expressing his ongoing commitment to extend the hand of fellowship to all party members, regardless of past disagreements.

Oloyede further urged aggrieved members, particularly those who participated in the primaries, to put aside their differences and collaborate with him for the greater good of the party.

He promised an inclusive government that

would prioritize the interests and needs of all constituents, setting a strong foundation for the APC's future in Oshodi-Isolo Local Government.

He said, "All hands must be on deck as we move forward, there is no alternative to peace. We must bury our differences and work together for the progress of our great party and the development of our local government."

The Apex leader and former chairman of the local government,

Prince Samuel Aina, appealed to all members aggrieved in one way or the other, to let peace reign. Assuring that the elders and leaders will continue to dialogue until all aggrieved members are pacified and brought back to the mainstream of the party structure devoid of caucuses.

Other speakers at the event, including the member representing Oshodi-Isolo federal

constituency at the federal house of representatives, Dr. Bashir Dawodu, APC state executive, Hon. Isreal Akinode, Baale of Mafoluku, High Chief Adedayo Thomas, and National President of the Roads Transport Workers (NURTW) Alhaji Musiliu Ayinde Akinsanya all echoed the chairman's call for the need for true reconciliation and called other aggrieved members to let peace and unity take centre stage of the party. They unanimously agreed that it is time for members to bury their hatchets and embrace reconciliation in the interest of the party and the people of Oshodi-Isolo.

Among the prominent personalities present were the Vice Chairman of the Council, Hon Modupe Aregbe-Badmus, a member representing Oshodi-Isolo state constituency at the Lagos State

House of Assembly, Hon. Stephen Ogundipe was represented by Hon. Toyin Adejo; Lagos State Commissioner for Housing, Hon. Maruf Fatai Akinderu, represented by Hon. Akorede Shoremekun; High Chief Munirun Obidairo (Baale of Shogunle-Oke); Chief Mrs. Catherine Badekojo; Alhaji Kehinde Olorunoje; Hon. Mumuni Olori; and Elder Ojo.

Others in attendance included Hon. Kayode Tinubu, former Vice Chairman of the Council; Elder Salako; Elder Akeju; Hon. Sunday Akinwale; Hon. Dokunmu; Cabinet members of the council led by the SLG, APC LGA officials, Ward Chairmen; and other party officials. The gathering ended on the note that the reconciliatory move would continue until all hands are on deck, while those at the meeting were enjoined to go ahead and preach the gospel of reconciliation at their different wards.



## National Sport Festival

# Team Lagos Dominates Boxing At National Sports Festival With 14 Medals

By Saheed Afolabi

**T**eam Lagos boxers delivered a stunning performance at the 22nd National Sports Festival, tagged the "Gateway Games 2024," held at Baptist Boys High School, Saje, Abeokuta. They clinched an unprecedented and impressive 14 medals, solidifying their position at the top of the boxing event. The Lagos pugilists took other states to the cleaners by securing

seven gold, two silver, and five bronze medals across various weight categories, demonstrating exceptional skill and outclassing their opponents. This commanding display underscores Lagos's reputation for significant investment in sports infrastructure, which continues to yield impressive results in boxing and other disciplines. The first gold for Team

Lagos came from Idowu Mistura in the 55kg category, who decisively defeated Ayomide Mayowa of host state Ogun with a 5-0 decision. Ajishola Kadijat followed suit, claiming gold in the 65kg category with a similarly dominant performance. All-African Games gold medallist Blessing Orakwe added to the tally in the 77kg division, securing a unanimous 5-0 victory

over Patricia Mbaka of Kaduna. Adeshina Zainab showcased her sharp punches and balanced footwork in the 48kg category, narrowly edging out Delta's Glory Ighomi with a 3-2 split decision for another gold. In the men's division, Micheal Olomitutu proved his prowess by overpowering Oseme Ochuko of Delta State in the 85kg category,

marking a significant comeback after failing to win in his debut at Delta 2022. Abijuwon Faruq secured gold in the 58kg category by defeating Ogun boxer Oshikoya Faruq. Rounding out the gold medalists, Akanni Muibat Anuoluwapo triumphed in the 50kg category. Team Lagos also earned two silver medals, with Omotajo Semiu Olamilekan in

the 75kg weight and Ikimot Jinadu in the -65kg weight. Bronze medals were secured by Abdullah Robiu (60kg), Adigun Oluwadamilola Mariam (+81kg), Obanla Saka Opeyemi (-80kg), Omotajo Qudus (65kg), and Lateef Qudus (55kg). Reflecting on his win, Michael Olomitutu expressed the privilege of representing Lagos State at Nigeria's premier multi-sport event.





## National Sport Festival

# Team Lagos Finishes Strong In Sixth Position At Gateway Games 2024

By Saheed Afolabi

**T**eam Lagos concluded its campaign at the 22nd National Sports Festival, tagged the "Gateway Games," with a commendable sixth-place finish on the overall medals table. The contingent from the Centre of Excellence amassed a total of 169 medals, comprising 38 gold, 43 silver, and 88 bronze medals, a testament to the dedication and

resilience of its athletes across various disciplines. Team Lagos showcased significant competitive spirit and a strong showing in key sports. The state's consistent

investment in sports development was evident in the performances, as athletes pushed their limits and brought glory to the aquatic city.

The impressive performance in boxing, as previously reported, stood out with the highest number of gold medals for the state, reflecting Lagos's continued

strength in combat sports.

Wushu Kung Fu and Weightlifting also contributed significantly to the overall tally, demonstrating the breadth of talent within the Lagos team.







# For News Round Lagos Read Echoneews

Read Echoneews Online

Subscribe for Echoneews Whatsapp E-Copy

www.echoneews.ng  Publisher@echoneews.ng

Published by Echoneews Newspapers Limited

21, Ona Iwa Mimo Street, Ori Oke Bus Stop, Ejigbo, Lagos. www.echoneews.ng Email: echoneews1111@yahoo.co.uk  
Managing Editor: Obe Rasheed • Editor: Kunle Awosiyan Circulation: Opeyemi Akinlade • Adverts: 08025378799