

# Sanwo-Olu, Dickson, Jandor, Rhodes-Vivour in hot race for governor's seat

... As LP woos PDP to form allinace, says can't collapse own structure for PDP



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# Sanwo-Olu, Dickson, Jandor, Rhodes-Vivour in hot race for governor's seat

... As LP woos PDP to form allinace, says can't collapse own structure for PDP

By Rasaan Adebayo

Five days to the governorship election, the gubernatorial candidates in Lagos State have entered into a hot race, set on track, and struggling to outrun one another to secure the required votes to mount the coveted governor's seat in the state.

The incumbent, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, who is adjudged to be the front runner in the race, has been on his toes as well, making frantic effort to beat other contestants for his second term bid.

Though each of the candidates had been campaigning towards their ambitions in their different styles, the fashion and tempo of their campaigns have changed since the outcome of the results of the February 25 presidential/national assembly elections especially in Lagos State. Each party has been deploying new strategies to convince the electorate to buy their manifestoes and vote for them.

This week, on Saturday, March 11, 2023, the highest political race would be terminated when the winner would emerge and a new governor would be eventually chosen by Lagosians.

The political umpires, the spectators, the observers, the analysts, the



Mr. Babatunde Sanwo-Olu



Hakeem Olaogun-Dickson



Gbadebo Rhodes-Vivour



Adediran Azeez Olajide

electorate, and even the contestants are eagerly waiting to see who rules the state for another year.

While the incumbent governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu is carrying the flag of the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) to the race, the Lead Visioner of Lagos 4 Lagos Movement, Olajide Adediran (Jandor) will bear the jersey of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), the former chairman of Surulere

Local Government, Hakeem Olaogun-Dickson will be contesting on the platform of Accord Party (AP) while Gbadebo Rhodes-Vivour, a former PDP senate candidate is going to the race kitted with Labour Party (LP) kits.

These major parties in the game are ready to slug it out with one another for the coveted post of the state governor on Saturday, as they have, in the last one week, been devising new strategies to be

able to win the race, coming out of the experience of the last presidential/national assembly elections. Apart from the normal door-to-door campaign, the ruling APC party has started engaging political leaders and other stakeholders, especially the youths in each community, convincing them on the reasons why they should vote for the party.

The party has also charged leaders in each polling unit, ward and local

government to make sure they deliver their respective areas by canvassing their people's votes, showing them the achievements of the Sanwo-Olu led administration and educating them on why the good works should continue in Lagos State.

The party leadership has been engaging different ethnic and religious groups in the state, making them understand that the best political party for them is APC and that the best

governor for them is Sanwo-Olu.

Having seen the stronghold of the APC and being afraid that the results of the gubernatorial election may not favour his party as it did during the presidential election, Rhodes-Vivour of LP said he has been trying to enter into alliance with PDP to form a strong hold to oust the ruling APC party.

He confirmed this to ECHONEWS in a telephone conversation with our correspondent, saying forming alliance with the PDP became necessary and that he has been discussing with the leadership of party to forge a common front against the APC in the governorship election to be held this week.

He said: "Yes, we are in talk with the stakeholders and owners of PDP to work together to take APC out of this government.

"We are determined to emerge victorious during the coming Saturday gubernatorial election. We have made plans to ensure everybody comes out to vote. We will not be cheated twice, INEC has promised us that there would be electronic transmission of the results; they deceived us because that was not what happened during the last

## Sanwo-Olu, Dickson, Jandor, Rhodes-Vivour in hot race for governor's seat

### Continued from page 2

election, but we will not be deceived again. So, we are encouraging all our members to come out massively, and we have made sufficient security plans to ensure everybody is safe."

Though he did not disclose whether the PDP has agreed with his alliance motive, when asked whether his own party will collapse its structure into that of the PDP to form the said alliance, Rhodes-Vivour quickly

said his own party cannot collapse its structure, explaining that his LP party has more followers than PDP, adding that his party has become stronger than the PDP.

"How is that possible, Labour Party is strong, we got 900+ thousand votes and have higher votes than both APC and PDP, so it is not possible for us to collapse our structure for the PDP. We're working with the party,

and they are collapsing their structure for us so that we can deliver Lagos State."

Rhodes-Vivour has also planned to leverage what played out during the presidential election, believing that the Ndigbo in Lagos will also vote for his party and that their votes would give him victory. He reportedly quickly added an Igbo name to his name to show the Ndigbo that he is their kinsman. Hence, his name was re-written as Gbadebo Chinedu

Rhodes-Vivour as shown on Wikipedia.

Rhodes-Vivour was said to be trying to remind the Ndigbo that though he is a Yoruba man, his maternal lineage is in the Igbo origin as his mother, Mrs. Nkechi Rhodes-Vivour was from the Southeast while he also married from the same region.

He also believed that the youths, who are the majority, would vote en masse for him, appealing to them to vote for his party as they did during the last election.

Though it seems the PDP is not putting more

vigour into its campaign, political analysts said the emergence of the LP has weakened the party (PDP). They believe that LP and PDP would share their votes to give the APC upper hand and ample opportunity to emerge the winner seamlessly. For the Accord Party, it has still not been ascertained whether the party is going into an allinace with any other party or it is standing all alone in the race.

While speaking with ECHONEWS, the party's flag bearer, Olaogun Dickson said

he had contacted some parties to form allinace but did not get response from them, "hence, we are standing on our own and going into the competition as any other party. Though we are still expecting whether a party will come to us; for now, we are on our own as an independent party, and we believe in our success."

Earlier, ECHONEWS had reported that Dickson might pitch tents with the ruling APC party.

However, the Accord Party candidate said he has never been in any talks with APC before.



Mr. Babatunde Sanwo-Olu



Hakeem Olaogun-Dickson



Gbadebo Rhodes-Vivour



Adediran Azeez Olajide

## Lagos Assembly: 394 candidates Jostle For 40 Seats

Kunle Awosiyan

**O**n Saturday March 11, about 394 candidates will be contesting for the 40 seats of the Lagos State House of Assembly.

According to a list released by the Independent National Electoral Commission at its Yaba, Lagos office, 16 of the 18 political parties will be fielding candidates.

The major political parties, the All Progressives Congress, the People's Democratic Party,

Labour Party have candidates for the 40 seats.

Meanwhile, investigation showed that the APC candidates for the House of Assembly seats had been busy since the state lost the presidential election to LP.

Our correspondent who went to town to speak with some of the candidates could not meet them.

The lawmakers also failed to pick their calls dis to rigorous work they must do to win the coming Saturday election.





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Council chairman congratulates APC candidates

# Avoid opposition intimidation

By Motola AbdulGafar

The chairman of Oriade LCDA, Hon. Ramotalai Hassan has reached out to all loyalists of the All Progressives Congress (APC) to avoid opposition intimidation over the success of the presidential election. She said their priority is

to work on the necessary obligations to deliver for the party after success. She said the act of exchanging vain talk or aggressiveness when the party's success is being challenged is also a form of demoralizing their spirit which could affect the upcoming State election. She advised that the

propagation of the candidacy of all APC candidates should be the priority of all which shows that the party deals with mature minds. Hassan added that party loyalists should continue to trust the unbiased nature of INEC as their collation and judgement is transparent.



Hon. Ramotalai Hassan

The chairman of Apapa-Iganmu LCDA, Mrs. Funmilayo Muhammed has congratulated All Progressives Congress (APC) candidates of Lagos Central senatorial district, Sen. Wasiu Eshilokun and Apapa Federal constituency representative, Samuel Adebayo for emerging winners at the recently concluded polls. According to her, the victory was well deserved, saying the party is more capable than any other across the country. She described the lawmakers as honourable citizens who are ready to bring development to Apapa federal constituency and Lagos Central at large. According to her, the lawmakers emergence will bring a rebirth of great aspirations towards meeting the needs of the people.

## Stakeholders tip security agents of black spots

By Motola AbdulGafar

Stakeholders in Amuwo-Odofin Local Government have urged the security personnel to focus on some identified polling units in Amuwo-Odofin LG where electoral process may be disrupted during the coming governorship and state assembly elections.

They intimated the police during their meeting with the Area Commander of Nigeria Police, Area E Command, ACP Olusegun Ajomolaya. Speaking, the area commander said the reason for noting the views of the public is to do a review of the security strength of the council area during election to safeguard the good people of

Amuwo-Odofin. He said they intend to strengthen the effectiveness of policing during and after election as they are fully committed to their statutory responsibilities. Ajomolaya appealed for the full cooperation of residents during election to avoid violence and criminality to ease the tension in the atmosphere



Police, community stakeholders and council chairman

## Olowa links Abiru's Balogun's victory to performance

By Motola AbdulGafar

The chairman of Ibeju-Lekki Local Government, Hon. Abdullahi Olowa has linked the electoral victory of the Senator representing Lagos East Senatorial District at the National Assembly, Hon. Mukhail Adetokunbo Abiru and the representative of Ibeju-Lekki at the House of Representatives, Hon. Adebayo Balogun to their performances. He said their emergence is a recognition and acknowledgement of their performances as legislators. He advised them not to disappoint the public with their expectation

as their reputation in the heart of the masses is key. Olowa said at the Senatorial District, residents expect the legislation that would improve their socio-economic status.

He added that they also expect a rustworthy representative that would fight for the interest of the Ibeju-Lekki Constituency at the legislative House which they are confident in his ability.



Hon. Mukhail Adetokunbo Abiru

## Hassan gives reason for distribution of food palliatives

By Motola AbdulGafar

The chairman of Oriade LCDA, Hon. Ramotalai Hassan has justified the reason for the distribution of food palliatives in this period, saying it is to relieve residents of their experience of naira scarcity.

The palliatives She appreciated the according to her were cooperation of distributed to all community leaders communities across who ensured that the the seven wards of the food items were fairly distributed to those in need. She said the dire need of them. government aims to She, therefore, ameliorate the masses appealed to residents due to their inability to remain calm over the access physical cash to current challenges go about their daily posed by the monetary needs. policy.



Distributed food palliatives in Oriade LCDA

The All Progressives Congress (APC) House of Representatives Member-elect in Ifako-Ijaiye constituency, Hon. Benjamin Olabinjo, has appreciated the constituents for giving him the opportunity to represent them. According to him, the mandate giving to him is a call to duty to develop the community. He said: "On behalf of my family, my team the Campaign Council, All Progressives Congress (APC) members in Ifako-Ijaiye/Ojokoro and all support groups, I say a very big and sincere thank you for your supports and votes.

"We promise to do our best to represent you well as we seek your continuous support for

# APC rep-elect, Olabinjo appreciates electorate

By Edith Igbokwe

our great party in the March 11th 2023 general election.

He enjoined all to go out en mass to vote for the APC candidates during the March 11 governorship and state assembly elections.

He reiterated that if APC candidates are given the opportunity, dividends of democracy will flow from top to bottom.

He further encouraged APC members, supporters not to relax but to continue in the race until victory is attained in the remaining polls.



Hon. Benjamin Olabinjo

## SDP candidate, Carew debunks backing out of Assembly race

By Edith Igbokwe

The Social Democratic Party (SDP) candidate for the Lagos State House of House in Kosofe constituency I, Mr. Lanre Carew has debunked the rumour that he has backed out of the race, saying he is still contesting. He said he has not stepped down for any person as against the rumour circulating on social media that he had stepped down from the race.

He described the rumour as a baseless and incorrect statement.

Carew, who boasted of his victory at poll, urged his supporters, well-wishers and the party

loyalists to continue their efforts in mobilising supports and votes from the electorate ahead of March 11 election.

He said the Independent Electoral Commission (INEC) has registered him as the candidate of SDP for the Lagos State House of

Assembly candidate for Kosofe constituency 1. He reiterated his assurance to secure victory at the polls on March 11.



Lanre Carew

## Kosofe produces first female rep

By Edith Igbokwe

For the first time, Kosofe constituency produced the first female member of Federal House of Assembly, Hon. Kafilat Ogbara under the platform of the All Progressives Congress (APC). Ogbara scored 45,111 votes to beat her close opposition from

Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Florence Adepegba, who pulled 28,964 votes.

When she was declared the winner by the returning officer on Monday, Ogbara expressed highest level of joy over her victory. She appreciated the people of the constituency, promising better representation to her people.



Kafilat Ogbara

# Lagos Refutes Report on Poor Treatment to State Counsel

Kunle Awosiyun

**T**he Lagos State Ministry of Justice has debunked in totality a report by an online media platform that the leadership of the ministry has been mistreating the state counsel.

The online report with the headline "LAGOS STATE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE: SHOCKING TALES OF WOE AND INJUSTICE: CLARION CALL FOR URGENT REFORM" was vehemently rebutted in a rejoinder signed Director, Public Affairs of the ministry, Mrs. Grace Alo.

It said, "The attention of the Lagos State Ministry of Justice has been drawn to a malicious and false publication by a faceless online platform and our reaction to the

said publication is as follows:

The Ministry of Justice debunks in its entirety the false accusation leveled against the leadership of the ministry relating to the welfare and well-being of State Counsel as contained in the fabricated report by the platform. Nothing can be farther from the truth.

Alo said that the clamour for the payment of special allowances to law officers had been in existence since the year 2000 but past administrations could not actualize it, However, the current administration of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu had since approved it in October 2021 while partial implementation of the harmonisation of salaries and allowances

commenced in November 2021, when State Counsel started receiving Security and Insurance Allowances. She said, "The only outstanding item in respect of the harmonisation of state counsel salaries and allowances with that of the Magistrates is the responsibility allowance and the same has reached the final stages of implementation."

According to her, in the past couple of years, Robe allowances of State Counsel were not only paid yearly but were in fact increased substantially by 500% based on representations and memos presented by the Attorney-General to the governor.

"Apart from the above, other allowances are paid to State Counsel in their various departments

depending on the schedule of duties. On the issue of unpaid Litigation Allowance, unfortunately, the payment is delayed due to administrative issues relating to the CBN Cash Re-Design Policy which has nothing to do with the Office of the Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice as well as the Solicitor-General and Permanent Secretary.

"Contrary to the unsubstantiated allegations in the write-up, there was no approval for payment of allowances to State Counsel during the NBA's AGC. The only approval obtained related to funds paid directly to the NBA for sponsorship of the AGC and funds for holding a Lagos State showcase session during the AGC. There was no item in the approval for payment of allowances

to State Counsel who were sponsored to attend the Conference as falsely and maliciously alleged. It is therefore false to allege that the Attorney-General refused to pay or release funds for the payment of allowances due to the State Counsel who attended the Conference," she said.

Alo stated that there had been no maladministration in the Ministry of Justice, rather the Ministry under the watch of the Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice, Mr. Moyosore Onigbanjo SAN.

According to her, the commissioner has introduced innovations such as the Mentorship Scheme; the Secondment Programme (whereby State Counsel are posted to private law

offices for a period of between 2-3 months to enable them to experience legal practice in the private sector).

"Counsel had continued to enjoy sponsorship to local and International Training and Conferences including the International Bar Association Conference; the District Prosecutor Scheme (State Counsel are posted to Magisterial districts to vet/filter charges filed by Police prosecutors); ensuring that all the Laws of Lagos State are available online in Law Pavilion; Drafting of over 23 Laws which have been passed and other pending Bills, including the Administration of Civil Justice Bill; Creating the first Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency in the country among others," she said.



# Coroner Inquest: Lagos Justice Ministry Kicks Against Exhumation of Whitney's Body

By Kunle Awosiyani

The Lagos State Ministry of Justice has said that it will vehemently oppose the exhumation of the body late Whitney Omodesola Adeniran, a pupil of Chrisland Schools.

This is coming after coroner Inquest recommended the exhumation of the body to affirm the cause of her death.

The Director of Public Affairs of the State Ministry of Justice, Mrs. Grace Ali says that the government is aware of

the current ongoing dialogue about the alleged plans to exhume the body of the late Adeniran and would not allow such to happen.

She said that the autopsy, conducted by Lagos State University Teaching Hospital had already established the cause of the death as a result of asphyxia and electrocution.

"Whilst we have not received any such official communication requesting for exhumation, however if and when we do receive such a request, we shall be opposed to it," she

stated.

She explained that the circumstances for exhumation under the Coroners' Systems Law, 2015 do not arise in this case.

"Additionally, it is not our intention to further traumatize the deceased's family. We are working closely with the police who have given their reassurance that the duplicate case file would be forwarded on Monday, 6th of March, 2023 to the Directorate of Public Prosecutions to aid the speedy issuance of Legal Advice."



Late Whitney Omodesola Adeniran

## Lagos Set To Partner With Association of Estate Surveyors

By Kunle Awosiyani

The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Waterfront Infrastructure Development, Esv. (Mrs.) Olayinka Patunola-Ajayi has urged the leadership of the Nigerian Institution of Estate Surveyors and Valuers (NIESV) to partner with the State Government in its drive towards economic sustainability and development of the State.

Patunola-Ajayi, gave the advice while receiving the President and Chairman in-Council of the Nigerian Institution of Estate Surveyors and Valuers, Esv. Johnbull Amayaevbo on Friday.

She noted that while the State Government continued to open up roads and maintain the existing ones for smooth road transportation, it has just inaugurated the first phase of the Blue rail services to

complement rail transportation, while work is in top gear for the completion of the red rail line.

The PS also revealed that in the area of water transportation where the Ministry is involved, the State Government has also commissioned a state-of-the-art Control Room at the Lagos State Waterways (LASWA) Jetty at Falomo where all activities on Water Transportation are monitored 24/7 for quick intervention when and where needed to ensure safety on the waterways.

Esv. (Mrs.) Patunola-Ajayi said that well-equipped rescue boats were also purchased and deployed on the water for monitoring and quick response where necessary which had reduced to the barest minimum incidences of boat mishaps.

She noted that the Ministry of Waterfront Infrastructure Development is presently working on the

construction of 21 concrete Jetties across the State for safety and fast water transportation out of which seven are completed, and ready for commissioning and use by Lagosians.

She further disclosed that the State Government, through the Ministry, is working on the upgrade of the existing small Jetties in the rural areas to bring

them up to the established standard of the present administration for the safety and comfort of the citizens of the State. Patunola-Ajayi, therefore, implored the association to join hands with the state government to move Lagos forward.

In his remark, the President of the Nigerian Institution of Estate

Surveyors and Valuers, Esv. Johnbull Amayaevbo said the essence of the visit was to engender a more cordial relationship between the Institution, State Government, Ministries, Departments, Agencies (MDAS) of Government and critical stakeholders.

He commended the Permanent Secretary for the appreciable progress

the Ministry has recorded in the area of Jetty construction within the short period she assumed office. He reaffirmed his trust in the competency of Esv. (Mrs.) Patunola-Ajayi's ability to continue to work for the improvement of services engenders a better society, particularly within her sphere of responsibilities.



Olayinka Patunola-Ajayi with Estate Surveyors



# ILERA EKO Records 47 Sets of Triplets In Three Years

By Kunle Awosiyun

The Lagos State Social Health Insurance Scheme, Ilera Eko has recorded 47 sets of triplets since its inception about three years ago.

The General Manager, Lagos State Health Management Agency, LASHMA, Dr. Emmanuella Zambia said this during a visit to Ikorodu General Hospital where the state had recorded its first set of Quadruplets.

The set of four girls are the first birth of the family of Mr. and Mrs. Dayo Faniyi.

Dr. Zamba also said that 435 twins had been delivered on the scheme as she commended the Medical Director of the hospital Dr. Taiwo Hassan and the entire staff for a job well done. She added that the highest number of birth recorded on the Lagos State Health Scheme (LSHS) was triplets and that the Agency was extremely delighted in recording another milestone birth.

Dr. Zamba said that since the full commencement of the Scheme in the Year 2020, 47 sets of triplets and 435 sets of twins had been delivered on the Scheme.

Describing the birth as miraculous, she congratulated the parents of the Quadruplets on the safe delivery of the babies and promised that the Lagos State Health Management Agency (LASHMA) would do its best to ensure that the babies have access to medical care when due.

The General Manager urged residents in the State who are yet to enrol, to immediately tap into the opportunity provided by Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu, in ensuring that every resident has access to quality and affordable healthcare.

She reminded that there was also an opportunity to pay by instalment for any resident who could not afford to pay N8,500 premium per annum for ILERA EKO individual plan or N40,000 per annum for ILERA EKO family plan comprising of the father, mother and four children below 23 years old.

The Medical Director, Ikorodu General Hospital, Dr. Taiwo Hassan, said that the facility

would continue to partner with the Lagos State Health Management Agency (LASHMA) in order to give quality healthcare to the residents of Ikorodu and its environs.

He pledged that the Hospital would continue to improve the standard of healthcare delivered to ILERA EKO Enrollees.

Mr. Dayo Faniyi, father of the babies and a town planner with Isolo Local Council Development Area, commended Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu, for his commitment to ensuring that ILERA EKO becomes a reality. He said, "ILERA EKO is a great relief to me, if not for the Governor, I wonder how much I would have paid in a government hospital for the delivery of my four babies".

He added that he would have been running helter-skelter to get money to pay for the operation of his wife, Mrs. Adeola Faniyi and the babies, especially at this crucial time when money is so difficult to get in Nigeria, if not for the good gesture of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu and ILERA EKO.

Describing the birth as mixed



Set of triplet

blessings, he appealed to Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu to support him in taking care of the babies as the load, he said, "is too heavy for him".

He also called on prominent individuals and groups, home and abroad, to partner with the Lagos State Government in the provision of health insurance coverage for

all in the State in order for the residents to have relief in the payment of their medical bills.

Mrs. Adeola Faniyi, the mother of the Quadruplets and a Fashion Designer, said that she was highly surprised that right from her antenatal to delivery and post-delivery, no tangible payment was made except those few items that

are not covered on the Scheme. She thanked the Doctors and Nurses for taking good care of her while accessing care at the hospital.

She, therefore, implored all to be part of ILERA EKO, as the health insurance scheme is real and highly rewarding.

## Pay Attention To Your Health, Govt Tells Lagos Health Workers

By Kunle Awosiyun

Health workers in Lagos State and Nigeria have been advised to pay adequate attention and prioritise their health needs as they deliver health care services to citizens.

Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health, Dr. Olusegun Ogboye who disclosed this at the Y2023 Continuing Medical Education (CME) programme organized by the Ministry of Health for Health Workers and allied staff in the Ministry, noted that improving quality of healthcare delivery and enhancing effective service delivery in the health sector are direct consequences of mental, physical health and well-being of health workers.

Speaking at the Opening Ceremony of the five-day CME programme holding at the Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry, CBD, Alausa, Ogboye encouraged health care professionals to pay adequate attention to their own health just as they give professional care to

their patients, adding that maintain good health and well-being will go a long way in enhancing the much desired efficient and effective service delivery in the State health sector. He said: "This five-day capacity building workshop themed: 'Improving Quality of Healthcare Delivery' is targeted at encouraging health care workers to prioritise their health needs as well as educate them on trending health issues that will enhance their productivity during the discharge of their duties.

"This capacity building exercise or workshop is in line with the direction that the Lagos State government wants to go in the development of its Workforce. The main objective is to build the capacity of our health workers, especially around trending topics such as issues around epidemics, writing proper reports, proper programs planning amongst others"

While noting that the Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu led administration in Lagos State

remains committed to improving the well-being of its workforce, Ogboye assured that the Lagos State government will continually improve the capacity of its health workforce through regular and appropriate trainings programs to improve quality of health care delivery in the State. He added that government will not relent in putting in place policies and strategies geared towards the achieving Universal Health Coverage and fulfilling the health and environment mandate of the THEMES developmental agenda of the present administration.

While commending the facilitators and organisers of the training, the Permanent Secretary urged all participants to maximize the lessons learnt and practically apply them to their everyday life and in the discharge of their duties, assuring that it will be of immense benefits to health workers and the health sector.

Earlier, Director, Medical Administration, Training and Programs, Dr. Funmilayo Shokunbi reiterated that the

capacity building is targeted at addressing the health needs of caregivers themselves so that they can discharge their duties optimally.

Dr. Shokunbi explained further that the state government recognizing the importance of having a smart workforce, has carefully selected topics that will add value to the health workers. She added that government has continued to ensure that health workers in the state are provided with conducive environment which will enhance their productivity.

"We are going to address the health needs of the care givers themselves. We are going to ensure that they are also loaded with knowledge information that will make them perform at their optimal level. We're so ensuring that we put topics that will make them to relax. And all these are to ensure that they are happy with their work. When you're happy, you are more productive". She said.

# 2023: bamigboye congratulates Tinubu

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Mushin LG, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye has congratulated the president-elect of Nigeria, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu. The council boss described Tinubu's victory as triumphant as he appreciated party members and leaders for ensuring victory at the polls. "We, the entire people of Mushin Local

Government, congratulate our dear leader, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu and Kashim Shettima, on their victory as President and Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. "We are grateful to God for giving you the strength and favour to overcome the turbulence. "We thank all our members and citizens across the nation, who have sacrificed their time, resources

and energy towards the success of the party at the Presidential and National Assembly poll. "May God Almighty give you the wisdom, strength and sound mind to govern the country to the next level of development and build a greater future for our children and generations to come. "Congratulations to you, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu and Kashim Shettima."



Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu.

## Olamilekan describes Arc Okunlola as dogged politician

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Coker-Aguda LCDA, Hon. Rasaan Olamilekan has described the House of Representatives member-elect in Surulere constituency II, Arc Lanre Okunlola as a dogged politician

that has the masses at heart. The council boss said he was optimistic that Surulere will experience developmental projects in the next four years because of the qualitative representation they have in Arc Lanre Okunlola.

"I am using this medium to congratulate Arc. Lanre Okunlola as the member representing Surulere constituency II at the Federal House Representatives. "Arc Lanre Okunlola is a dogged politician with an heart of gold to the people of Surulere, you have

been serving the good people of Surulere with your personal fund even before your emergence and facilitated several projects to our constituency. "We the people of Surulere have no doubt that Surulere will experience developmental

projects in the next four years while you are representing us at the green chamber of federal republic of Nigeria. "Coker-Aguda LCDA wants to deeply appreciate everyone that voted for our candidate in this election. Thank you and God bless."

## Council boss warns sponsors of fake news to desist

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Mushin Local Government, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye, has warned perpetrators and sponsors of fake news about post election violence in Mushin, to desist from their evil act.

Speaking in his office about the election, the chairman thanked the people of the local government area for their peaceful conduct throughout the election held on Saturday February 25, 2023.

He clarified that every Nigerian has right to vote for their chosen candidate during election irrespective of tribe, religion or geographical location. He emphasized that the local government will not tolerate any act of violence aimed at destabilising and threatening the peaceful co-existence of the people of Mushin.

He called on the residents to be focussed and prepare for the governorship and state assembly elections coming up on March 11, as he assured his people of total victory for the All Progressives Congress (APC) party while praying for cause to celebrate at the end of the entire elections.

There have been accolades as the Deputy Speaker of Lagos State House of Assembly, Rt Hon. Wasii Eshinlokun was elected as the Senator to represent Lagos Central during the last election held on February 25, 2023. The chairman of Coker-Aguda LCDA, Hon. Rasaan Olamilekan believes that with Eshinlokun at the National Assembly, the people in the constituency will have say in the government and enjoy fully the dividends of democracy. Olamilekan said the victory of Eshinlokun at the poll amounted to his good work. "The people of Coker-Aguda LCDA are using

## Accolades as Eshinlokun wins senatorial seat

By Saheed Afolabi

this medium to congratulate the deputy speaker of Lagos State Assembly, Rt. Hon. Wasii Sanni-Eshinlokun on his victory at the just concluded senatorial election. "The residents of Coker-Aguda LCDA have the believe that dividends of democracy will get to the common man at the grassroots in the local government and Lagos central senatorial district. "The successful electoral process depicts the good work which you have done while you occupy public offices."



Hon. Wasii Eshinlokun

# Abila completes three access roads in Iba

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Three access roads have been graded by the chairman of Iba LCDA, Hon. Yisa Jubril (Abila). The roads are Benjamin Alabi to Adeolu Gbadamosi Street, Maryola Street and Dickson Adebayo Street in Wards D & A in the council. The roads are used by motorists as optional routes to avoid traffic on the main road, especially at the later hours of the day. According to Abila, the grading would not be

limited to the aforementioned streets, saying manpower has been moved to Ward B to do same. He said the graded roads are not only to ease traffic but to reduce the tension of flood and potholes in linking roads to boost the economic situation of the council. He said his administration expects that with the grading and sand filling of the roads, the socio-economic situation of the council will improve. He urged residents to

accept government projects to also benefit from such infrastructural work as a servitude to the government and a means of paying back to their community. "I urge you to refrain from any act that may undermine the durability of these projects and give maximum cooperation. "Several infrastructural projects are competing for taxpayers' money, and we all have the joint responsibility of optimizing resources and protecting our infrastructure," He said.



Graded road in Iba LCDA

## Abila commends residents for electoral commitment

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The chairman of Iba LCDA, Hon. Yisa Jubril (Abila) has appreciated the dedication of residents in the area towards the just concluded national election. He said they have shown their courageous act and belief that the party's candidates have the ability, capability and tenacity to rule the nation. He noted that their massive turnout has

showcased that they are in support of the current administration in achieving development in the area. Abila said the party has noted their efforts as all candidate-elect will ensure delivering their mandate to the masses. He, therefore, appealed for continuous support ahead of the coming election saying their support is also needed to create a government with people with like minds in service.



Hon. Yisa Jubril (Abila)

## Religious scholar preaches against hypocrisy

By Motolani AbdulGafar

A religious scholar, the Imam of Agboroko Central Mosque in Iba LCDA, Imam Najimudeen Aminullah has preached against hypocritical acts as the nation produces a new president. He warned against such fallacy echoing that it is against the teachings of God to be two-faced in dealings. Imam Aminullah cited Q 9 vs 67 as an evident quote that discerns cultivating oneself in such behaviour.

"The hypocritical men and the hypocritical women are all alike; they enjoy evil and forbid good and withhold their hands; they have forsaken Allah, so He has forsaken them; surely the hypocrites are the transgressors." He said political disparity does not warrant void behaviour that would displease one Lord over trivial pursuit that is worldly. He, therefore, prayed for a peaceful nation and the efficiency of all elected candidates in government.



Imam Najimudeen Aminullah while delivering his speech

## Ege hails president-elect, Tinubu over electoral success

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Lagos State House of Assembly candidate in Ojo constituency I under the platform of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Hon. Olusegun Ege, has appraised the president-elect, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu as a visionary leader. He said the success of Tinubu is worth reckoning with as Nigerians are mostly concerned about the competence of each candidate before casting

their votes which Tinubu has put forward a promising future. Ege advised that the next step for Nigerians to take is to continue to pray for the successful administration of Tinubu for him to be able to carry out his mandate and avoid argument and fight as it is also a means of cooperating with the still-to-come new administration. In light of the success, he organized the distribution of free food for residents in his constituent. He said Asiwaju's victory

and the distribution depict that relief has come into Nigeria.

He canvassed for the vote of all APC members at the March 11th election.



Hon. Olusegun Ege

# Oloyede extols Tinubu's victory at poll

By Edith Igbokwe

The chairman of Oshodi-Isolo Local Government, Otunba Kehinde Oloyede (Kendoo) has congratulated the President-elect, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu on his electoral victory. He said it is a well deserved victory going by the antecedents of Tinubu across the country. He said the emergence of Tinubu as a president is a great blessing to the country which must be protected. Oloyede, therefore, appreciated Nigerians for choosing the best among the contestants. Tinubu was announced the winner of the presidential election having pulled the total votes of 8,794,726 against his closest opponent, Alhaji Atiku

Abubakar, who got 6,983,823. The council boss, in his congratulatory message, also commended President Muhammadu Buhari for conducting a free, fair and credible election. He charged Nigerians to pledge their support and commitment to ensuring the success of the Tinubu's administration for a better Nigeria. "I congratulate our president-elect, Bola Ahmed Tinubu on his electoral victory. I also applaud the Nigerian people for their resilient and commitment towards a better Nigeria. "It is a moment when hope is re-born, faith is rekindled and a fresh fire of patriotism is released for the task ahead, It is an extraordinary sign of Nigeria's strength and resilience as a country

that there has been an election with its outcome accepted so clearly despite all the challenges Nigeria has faced, It gives all of us, who care about Nigeria, great optimism and confidence in its future." He equally praised the Independent National Election Commission (INEC) and its chairman, which he said deserves special recognition for what independent international observers have adjudged, a largely peaceful and orderly election. "Nigeria is bigger than everyone of us, and we must all rise beyond all political, ethnic, religious, and sectional differences." He prayed for a successful administration filled with peace, development and prosperity of Nigeria and its citizens.



Kendoo congratulates Tinubu

## I'll be magnanimous with renewed opportunity, Dawodu pledges

By Edith Igbokwe

The re-elected member of the House of Representatives in Oshodi-Isolo constituency I, Dr. Bashiru Dawodu has pledged to be magnanimous with the renewed opportunity given to him by his constituents to represent them once again, promising to facilitate more developments to the constituency. He made the promise while appreciating the people of Oshodi for giving him second term opportunity at the federal level through their votes. "I sincerely want to appreciate those that voted for me for the continuity of my administration which has produced people-centered projects,

initiative, and empowerment for the progress and greatness of our beloved constituency, I can't thank you enough and together we shall achieve more for our Constituency. "I commend our fellow people who believed in the dreams of our constituency, the security personnel, the

INEC, the Media and local observers for a peaceful, free and fair elections, I am not ungrateful. "However, it is worthy to note that we are all winners, and no one loses, because the job is for everybody and together, we can take our constituency to the promised land. "My dear fellow party

members, your support, prayers, and endorsement before, during, and even after the elections are overwhelming, this will never be taken for granted, "I promise to keep the standard high, together we can do, and achieve more, thank you for your support."



Dr. Bashir Dawodu

## Raji appreciates constituents for electing him again

By Edith Igbokwe

The re-elected member of the Federal House of Representatives in Epe Constituency, Hon. Wale Raji, has appreciated the residents of his constituency for re-electing him to represent them once again. Raji, who contested

under the platform of the All Progressives Congress (APC), defeated his opponent, Hon. Noheem Balogun of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in the just concluded election held across the 19 wards with a wide margin to claim his mandate for another term of four years. The result of the elections showed that

Raji polled a total of 19,337 votes against 9,039 of Balogun. In his victory speech, he thanked the leaders of the APC for their choice to make him the candidate of the party. "My unalloyed gratitude goes to the Almighty Allah for His Grace and mercy towards this electoral victory. Without Him, I wouldn't have been this much

supported by the good people of Epe. Alhamdulillah! "I cannot thank my leaders enough for their trust and belief yet again in me. Though, my track records show much of me, but their support has been awesome. "The people of Epe have once again showed their good spirit of kindness and support for my emergence. It is another



Rep Wale Raji

call to do more and I won't disappoint them at all by His Grace."

# Mint Leave benefit to skin, health

By Edith Igbokwe

The most common and popular mints for growing are peppermint (*Mentha piperita*), native spearmint (*Mentha spicata*), Scotch spearmint (*Mentha gracilis*), and cornmint (*Mentha arvensis*); also (more recently) apple mint (*Mentha suaveolens*).

Mint grows natively on all continents except Antarctica. Peppermint and spearmint are likely the most commonly used mint varieties, but many others exist, such as wild mint and water mint.

There are many varieties of the mint plant, and most fall under the genus *Mentha*. Because mint plants spread quickly, gardeners tend to grow them in containers. When planted directly into the ground, they can become invasive and take over a garden.

Some plants referred to as "mint" also fall under the genus *Monarda*. Both *Mentha* and *Monarda* genera are within the same family, called *Lamiaceae*. *Monarda* mints include horsemint, catmint, and stonemint.

All varieties of mint leaves may be used fresh, in dried herb form, brewed as a tea, or concentrated in an essential oil.

Mint provides most of our common culinary herbs (e.g., basil, oregano, marjoram, rosemary, sage, thyme, summer and winter savory).

Plus, there are dozens (perhaps hundreds) of traditional medicinal herbs, not to mention many aromatics for use in flavorings, perfumes, and cosmetics.

Many, if not most mint-family members, contain strongly aromatic oils (think lavender, rosemary, basil, thyme, and sage), which account for their many uses as seasoning, flavoring, and perfuming agents.

## Uses for Mint Leaves

There are many safe uses for mint-family herbs besides beautifying your gardens. Here is just a sampling:

**Food:** The peppermints are especially good culinary mints, ideal for chopping into salads, sprinkling over fruits or combining with basil or cilantro to make mint pesto. We like to add a couple tablespoons of fresh chopped mint to peas, green beans, carrots,

cauliflower, or zucchini to create a minted vegetables.

**Drinks:** Freeze a few trays of strong mint tea, then use the ice cubes for cooling summer drinks, add mint leaves or cubes to mojitos, iced tea, or fresh lemonade.

**Tea:** Why buy mint tea when it's so easy to make? What we usually call the "mints" (peppermint, spearmint, apple mint, etc.) are traditional tea herbs. Just steep your fresh mint leaves in boiling water for about five minutes and serve. It's a great digestive aid after dinner. Apple mint is one of my favorites with more mint flavor and less aftertaste.

**Hair rinse:** Add one part strong mint (especially rosemary) tea to one part cider vinegar for a conditioning rinse you can either leave in or rinse out. The vinegary smell dissipates after drying.

**Facial astringent:** Add a few finely minced leaves of fresh peppermint or other mint to a cup of witch hazel. Store in a glass jar for a week or more, shaking occasionally. Strain the herbs from the mixture after a week.

**Mouthwash:** Chop a quarter cup of fresh mint, bee-balm, lemon balm, basil, thyme, or oregano leaves and infuse in a quart of boiling water. When cool, strain the herbs and store in the refrigerator.

**Mint bath.** Steep a handful of mint leaves in a pint of hot water for about ten minutes, then strain. Add to bath water for an invigorating, stress-free soak.

**Ease sunburn pain:** Make a strong peppermint tea and refrigerating the mixture for several hours. To use, gently apply to the burned area with cotton pads.

**Breath freshener:** Just chew on a

few mint leaves, Sage teas and extracts have been used for centuries as a mouthwash for oral infections.

Don't use chew mint-family herbs if you're breastfeeding, as even small amounts of sage and peppermint may reduce milk supply.

**Scent up a space:** Keep your home smelling fresh by adding a few drops of mint essential oil to your favorite unscented cleaner or just take a cotton ball and dap onto a light bulb.

**Moth repellent/scented sachet:** Tie a few branches of strongly scented mint (peppermint, sage, lavender, rosemary, bee-balm) together, or pull off a handful of leaves, and stuff them into the leg of an old nylon stocking. Suspend by a string inside a garment bag, tuck into bags of stored woolen clothing, or just place in your drawers to let your clothes soak up the scent. Refresh periodically to keep the scent fresh.

**Bug repellent:** When ants come into the kitchen during the summer, place a few stems of mint, gently crushed, near suspected entry points really does deter ants. You need to replace the mint with fresh material every few days. Also, keep pets flea-free by stuffing a small pillow with fresh spearmint and thyme and placing near your pet's bed.

Of course, mint isn't only used to deter bugs; it also attracts the beneficial insects. Bees and butterflies and hover flies love mint, which is rich in nectar and pollen, and this benefits pollinated plants and crops.

## Medicinal Use of Mint Plants

Mint has been long known as an

herbal remedy, easing queasy stomachs, calming stress and anxiety, and promoting restful sleep.

Peppermint tea has long been viewed as an excellent way to ease an upset stomach, calming the digestive tract and alleviating indigestion, gas, and cramps.

**Brain Health:** Consuming mint might promote brain health. One study found mint extracts have potential to treat Alzheimer's symptoms, although more research is needed. Another study found that smelling peppermint could enhance memory and increase alertness, although it's unknown if ingesting it has similar effects.

**Treats asthma:** Mint leaves possesses relaxant properties and is considered to be extremely useful for asthma patients as it relieves congestion in the nasal pipe. However, the quantity and frequency of mint usage needs to be kept in check as excess use might lead to irritation in the nose and stomach.

**Mint for liver:** Mint is known to effectively boost the performance of the liver. Owing to the presence of nutritional essential oils and properties such as relaxing and soothing, mint is a highly beneficial herb to enhance the liver strength. Mint helps in cancer prevention: Research has suggested that certain active enzymes present in mint are equipped with the ability to prevent and cure cancer.

Mint has also been used for centuries in traditional medicine. Many, perhaps most, are also being used for human and veterinary medicine, as insecticides or insect repellents,

and as antifungal or antibacterial protection for crop plants.

Mints are potent plants, full of phytochemicals that plants manufacture to protect themselves against harmful bacteria, viruses, and other assaults from the environments they evolved in.

Interestingly, there are studies that show spearmint is even beneficial to honeybees by cleaning out the mites that infect their hives.

## Use With Caution

If herbal medicine interests you, please approach the mints, especially their essential oils, tinctures, and concentrated extracts, with care. This goes for both over-the-counter and homemade remedies.

Although many have been used by traditional healers around the world for centuries, most herbs haven't undergone rigorous testing for safety and efficacy, especially in pregnant/nursing women, children, elders, and people with chronic illnesses.

Seek out as much information as you can from books, online sources, and experienced herbalists in your area. Inform your healthcare practitioner whenever you begin using an herbal remedy.

## Side-Effects & Allergies of Mint

In individuals with a gall stone disorder history, mint should be consumed only after careful consultation with a trained medical practitioner.

Same goes for pregnant ladies as it has rarely been seen to trigger a miscarriage. Excess dosage of mint is advised against as large quantity of menthol consumption is neither healthy nor advisable.



Mint Leave

# Why Lagosians must re-elect Sanwo-Olu - Adedeji

By Rasaq Abolaji

**F**elt concerned about sustainability of the series of developments going on in Lagos State under the administration of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu, the former chairman of Kosofe Local Government, Bar. Ademuyiwa Adedeji, has urged the Lagos residents to make sure they re-elect the governor to keep the progress of the development in the state.

He appealed to them to allow the governor to continue his work in order not to truncate the development but sustain and witness more in term of human and community development.

He made the appeal while speaking to journalists at Mende, Maryland.

According to him, there is a master plan which makes it easy for successive All Progressives Congress (APC) governors in Lagos to record significant achievements.

Adedeji said other candidates from any other party do not have the master plan and may push the state into regression if given the power.

He noted that since he assumed office as the governor of the state, Sanwo-Olu has embarked on so many projects to further develop the state, mentioning some he has completed and some others still under execution, with so many others lined up to be

executed during his second term.

"If we don't allow him to come back, so many developmental projects in Lagos State will suffer and there will be backwardness in the progress the state has been witnessing so far. No other party or candidate understands the secret behind the progress of the State except APC and its candidates.

"I am not soliciting for Sanwo-Olu because I am a politician, no, I am not a politician; I have been out of politics since I completed my tenure as Kosofe LG chairman in 2007; but as a Lagosian, I know what and who we really need in government for now. We

citizens have discussed with Sanwo-Olu on what Lagos residents need now and he has promised to do them especially for the youths.

"The youths in their different professions will have access to empowerment programmes and funds I can assure you of that dito the women, and the elderly ones. And these will not stop the general infrastructure development in each community across the State."

The former council boss noted that during his first tenure, Sanwo-Olu made sure every community got at least a big project from the state government, promising that he would do more for individuals as well as generality of the people in the

state.

Referring to Sanwo-Olu's achievements so far, he mentioned the over 300 road projects he completed and commissioned, the new transportation systems both land and water tagged Lagride and Lagferry with construction of new jetties, upgrading of 970 public primary and secondary schools across the state, the MSME programmes, commissioning of 16 Housing projects in 3 years and others.

He emphasised the need for the Lagosians to keep the chain of development in the state by voting in all APC candidates during the coming gubernatorial and state assembly elections.



Gov. Babajide Sanwo-Olu



# PFN Endorses Sanwo-Olu, Says Governor Is A Child Of God

By Kunle Awosiyan

The Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria, Lagos Chapter has thrown its weight behind the second term bid of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu of Lagos State. The Chairman of PFN, Apostle Eyinnaya Okwuonu said at a meeting of the leadership of the body on Thursday that Sanwo-Olu is a member of the Christian body and a true son of God who must be supported. He said that supporting Sanwo-Olu did not mean that other candidates were not good but based on the performance of the governor in the last four years, the

fellowship would be praying for his victory at the March 11 polls.

According to Okwuonu, the decision to support Sanwo-Olu is based more on his performance and his passion to finish to the good works he had started.

"Over the years, I have been watching Sanwo-Olu and seeing in him a man with vision whose desire is to impact lives. Moreso, he is one of us. He is a child of God and we need to give him that support. And that does not mean we don't value other candidates."

Also at the meeting, the fellowship's Director of Politics and Governance, Bishop Theophilus

Ajose said it had to take a stance concerning the governorship race because Governor Sanwoolu has done well in the state. He said, "There is no need to change a winning team. The governor has done well and we thought it will be great if he is allowed to continue the good work that he started."

Ajose explained that it is the candidacy of Sanwoolu that is of interest to the PFN and not the party. "The gubernatorial election is not about the party, but the person of Babajide Sanwoolu. So far, he has made the church proud and has governed the state without any religious bias. He deserves our support."



Babajide Sanwo-Olu

## Accredited Observers Commend Presidential Election, INEC

By Kunle Awosiyan

The Independent National Electoral Commission, INEC has been commended by the accredited election observers under the aegis of the Voters Awareness Initiative, VAI, for conducting a credible presidential and National Assembly elections on February 25. In a statement signed by the president of VAI, Mr. Wale Ogunade Esq and the Director, Media and Mobilisation, the observers congratulated and commended Nigerians for the peaceful and credible conduct of the election, adding that the outcome reflects the will of the people and is a

victory for Democracy.

The group said, "We are proud and delighted with the peaceful, credible and successful conduct of the 2023 presidential and national assembly elections in which the outcome reflected the will of the people and is a victory for Democracy".

According to the statement, VAI deployed over 100 accredited election observers, monitored reports of other observer organizations as well as the media for situation reports in the conduct of the elections in 176, 606 polling stations across the 36 states and the federal capital territory, Abuja and can confidently report that the electoral process

was duly complied with by the electoral umpire at the polling stations and at the different stages of the collation of results in substantial compliance with provisions of the electoral Act, at variance with the campaign of lies, falsehood, misinformation, blackmail and calumny against the electoral umpire".

It said that Voters Awareness Initiative (VAI) specifically commended INEC for its professionalism, objectivity and dogged commitment to the provisions of the electoral Act in the conduct of the elections even in the face of unwarranted and unprovoked attacks, lies, falsehood,

misinformation, campaign of blackmail and calumny.

"We are indeed proud and commend INEC for the professional and unbiased discharge of its responsibility in line with the provisions of the constitution and global best practices.

The group also commended the Nigerian electorate for coming out to vote on election day even in the face of excruciating economic and social pains and agony and for remaining calm, peaceful and committed to democracy in the face of provocations by anti democratic elements who plotted unsuccessfully to truncate the announcement and declaration of results

with spurious and unsubstantiated claims, fake news, letter and incitements of various kinds.

"We also commend the security agencies for their professionalism and unbiased conduct which contributed in no small measure to the success and credibility of the election.

The group applauded local and international observers for their unbiased observations and report of the elections which had helped to deepen the democracy.

The media was not left out of commendations for its untiring and patriotic role in the objective and professional coverage and reportage of the election and the

outcome in which due process was followed and reflects the will of the people as victory for Democracy.

The political party agents were commended for their civilized conducts which contributed to the peaceful and credible conduct of the 2023 general elections.

The Voters Awareness Initiative (VAI) congratulated the winner of the presidential election Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu of the All Progressives Congress (APC) on his hard won and national spread electoral victory which is a testament of the peoples confidence and trust in his capacity and capability to take Nigeria to greater heights.

# Lagos Guber Poll: Eti-Osa Traditional Community Endorses Sanwo-Olu

Kunle Awosiyan

**T**raditional rulers and community leaders in the 62 communities in the Eti-Osa Local Government Area of Lagos, have thrown their weight behind Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu for his re-election bid.

They also sued for peaceful coexistence among all residents of the area and urged them to come out en masse to perform their civic responsibility without fear of victimisation and harassment from any quarters during the poll.

Speaking during a press conference held at Ikota Primary School, Lagos on Saturday, the Chairman of the Baale's Forum in Eti-Osa Local Government Area, Chief Wasiu Alli-

Balogun, who is the Baale of Lafiaji, assured victory for Governor Sanwo-Olu, who is the APC governorship candidate in the March 11 gubernatorial poll.

He implored all the Lagos residents in Eti-Osa Local Government Area to file out in large numbers and re-elect Governor Sanwo-Olu because of the remarkable achievements of the governor during his first term in office.

"We want to appeal to those that were annoyed with the last elections, that they should forget what happened. Let us forget the past and face the future. Governor Sanwo-Olu means peace. He wants progress for Eti-Osa and Lagos as a whole. We need to support him and give him votes so that he can be able to complete the work

he has started," the Baale appealed.

Chief Alli-Balogun who claimed there were many irregularities in last Saturday's presidential and National Assembly elections in Eti-Osa Local Government Area, noted that many eligible voters were disenfranchised as they could not locate the new polling units where their names were before the close of the election.

He also appealed to all aggrieved members of the All Progressive Congress (APC) and residents in Eti-Osa Local Government Area to sheath their swords and come out en-masse to vote for Governor Sanwo-Olu and other APC candidates, stressing that the governor has done so much for the state and deserves to be given a second term

of office.

The Chairman of the Baale Forum of Eti-Osa Council, who admitted that there were lots of irregularities during the presidential and National Assembly elections, said security should be beefed up to ensure the safety of lives and prosperities, adding that security agencies should perform their constitutional duties without being partisan.

Also speaking, the Baale of Ikota, Chief Nasiru Omotayo Laguda, urged Governor Sanwo-Olu to count on the communities in Eti-Osa Local Government Area, promising that they would support and deliver votes for him in the area as he had been very supportive of people in the area, which had also witnessed massive socio-economic

development during his tenure.

"We want to tell the whole world that Eti-Osa is solidly behind Asiwaju Bola Tinubu and Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu. I am appealing to all our Baales that they should go back home and work out their strategies. It is not a matter of fighting. We will call our neighbours, children, communities, and everybody to come out en masse and vote for Governor Sanwo-Olu. We are more than our strangers and our neighbours. If we come out en-masse, we all will deliver our communities," he said.

The Chairman of Eti-Osa Resettlement Scheme, Chief Ayodeji Thomas, who is the Baale of Gedegede, urged residents of Eti-Osa to give maximum support to Governor

Sanwo-Olu and other APC candidates, saying by the grace of God victory is assured in the forthcoming elections.

"We need to encourage our people. We want to appeal to everybody to come out and vote without fear or intimidation. I can assure everybody that we are going to have a peaceful election on Saturday by God's grace. I pray by the grace of God that we are going to deliver for Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu," he said.

Chief Thomas, congratulated the President-Elect, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu for his victory in last Saturday's presidential poll and urged him to prioritise the welfare of the masses and ensure an indivisible country



Community Leaders



# How Obi Took Advantage of Our Youths To Launch His Ethnic And Divisive Politics-APC

The All Progressives Congress has described as divisive the politics of the Labour Party presidential candidate, Mr. Peter Obi.

The Special adviser on media and communication of the All Progressives Congress Presidential Campaign Council, APC PCC, Mr. Dele Alake said this at a news conference in Abuja on Friday.

Alake who was responding to the earlier press conferences held by the presidential candidates of the Peoples Democratic Party, Alhaji Atiku Abubakar and his counterpart for Labour Party, Peter Obi, challenging the results of the February 25 presidential election said that the former Anambra governor could not win the poll because he had no wide spread acceptance across the country.

He said that Obi's campaigns were laced with ethnicity and religiosity, which made it unacceptable to the majority of voters.

As he put it, "Obi, will go down as Nigeria's most dangerous and divisive politician. He elevated his well-known clannish mentality to a most unfortunate height by openly anchoring his campaign on religion and ethnicity. He presented himself as a poster boy for and a champion of our country's fault lines. He took advantage of our youths whose expectations are fast paced, who are uninterested in excuses, and who were in search of a hero. He pumped up their sentiments and rode on their emotions while grandstanding as a saviour. It was a false pretence. Obi's credentials are eternally stained as a former governor with no remarkable legacy."

Alake noted that Obi took the advantage of teeming youths to sell his clannishness agenda.

"Not a few of our youths thought Peter Obi looked like the leader they wanted and many of them could not tolerate any form of scrutiny of their newfound hero. They chose wilfully to canonise him while insisting no one should ask questions. The combination of the disgruntled youths, the ethnic champions, and commercial clerics were the reason Obi thought he could win a presidential election in Nigeria. Such illogic is not strange to the Labour Party.

If Labour Party could not fill up its quota for polling booth agents with a shortfall of over 40, 000, how did it intend to compete with political parties like APC and PDP? It would be interesting to see what evidence of rigging Labour Party will present before the court when the party could not appoint agents to monitor nearly a quarter of the venues of election.

As we look forward to an encounter with both the PDP and LP at the court, we want to enjoin the two of them to pursue their grievances with decorum. They should encourage their members, supporters, and ethnic and religious consultants to follow the path of the rule of law.

We note that both Atiku and Obi are claiming victory, wouldn't it make sense for them to agree who the actual winner is before challenging APC in court?", he said.

On Atiku and PDP, Alake commended them for finally opting for the rule of law as against the initial belligerent posture.

He said that those who lay claim to democratic credentials are expected to be conscious of those inimitable minimum requirements of law and order even in the face of a perceived injustice.

"The initial knee-jerk and hothead call for anarchy by their proxies was ill-



Peter Obi

Dele Alake

advised and would in no way serve any noble cause. It is good to know that reason has prevailed.

Let us say, unequivocally, that we welcome the decision of both the PDP and LP and also the NNPP candidates to test their claims, as ridiculous as they are, in the court of law as provided for by our constitution. This is without prejudice to the conciliatory efforts of the President-elect, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu. He has reiterated in his post declaration speeches the need for all Nigerians, irrespective of whom we all voted for, to rally quickly together for the good of our country.

We must say, however, that listening to both Atiku and Obi yesterday left us in the APC family confounded. We understand that there has been an orchestrated campaign by the acolytes of PDP and LP in the media to discredit the Presidential election. What we did not expect is that the two presidential candidates and, indeed, their political parties, would shamefully re-echo the puerile and unimaginative arguments that are being canvassed by political illiterates and mischief-makers who are crying wolf on the social media," he said.

Alake continued, adding that the two otherwise experienced politicians are pinpointing lack of adherence to the guidelines as basis for discrediting the votes lawfully cast by Nigerians. We shall examine the so-called process that was purportedly breached by the electoral body and how it, in their wild imagination, undermined the credibility of the election.

He said, "The claim that INEC did not use the BVAS is false. Those who voted across Nigeria, including Atiku and Obi, were accredited by BVAS. Save for bad losers that these two people have proven to be, we should rather be celebrating the tremendous improvement the use of BVAS has brought to our electoral process.

The complaint over the electronic transmission of the result is not supported by law."

Quoting Section 38 of the Electoral Act 2022, referred to by the PDP and LP, Alake said the law has nothing to do with transmission of election results.

"Section 60, subsection 2 of the Act deals with transmission of results and it is at the discretion of

INEC. The Act does not contain any mandatory provision regarding the transmission of results.

In any case, the process of transmitting results from polling units, whether real-time, two days later or at any time, cannot in anyway change the results that have been announced right after the counting in the presence of the parties' agents and to the hearing of the voters. It is, therefore, nonsensical to insinuate that time variation in uploading results would cause a change in the figures.

According to Alake, the 2023 Presidential election is a watershed as it produced unprecedented outcomes and defied conventions.

"The deployment and use of BVAS is the only reason the elections produced these strange outcomes and upsets in many cases. The loss of Katsina and Lagos to PDP and LP respectively were contrary to expectations. BVAS brought the intended credibility to voters' accreditation such that many governors and well-established politicians lost elections in what should be safe bet areas. The era of ghost-voting and stuffing of ballot boxes is gone. As the experience in the last

governorship election in Osun State has shown, over-voting would automatically lead to outright cancellation of the results of the polling units based on the provision of the new Electoral Act. The same PDP that is trying to pull the wool across the face of Nigerians was the culprit in the Osun State governorship election. Did they try to do it this time and it failed? Or did they do it in the areas they unexpectedly won? Did they have a grand plan to hack the INEC server if results were uploaded in real time? Nigerians will soon find out.

Contrary to the false claims of Atiku and Obi, the reasons for losing the elections were foretold. Besides the delusional expectations created during the campaigns to hoodwink the public, most PDP leaders knew their party had been decimated by Mr. Peter Obi. The South East and South South that were traditional strongholds of PDP constituted the core support base for the Labour Party. PDP went into this election without its limbs and lied to itself that it could win the race. It is worthy of note that Atiku also accepted this fact during his press conference yesterday, when he lamented that his party's votes in the South East and South South regions were carted away by the LP.

The PDP also found itself in No.3 in Kano, with a former member, Kwankwaso running away with over 900,000 votes.

How far could the PDP have gone with what was left of it? Not so far as the results of the elections have shown. The members of G5 were key leaders of the party who had substantial political influence. They also went away with their own pound of flesh, leaving a crippled PDP to scavenge for crumbs of votes" he said.

# You Are Not Electable, Relocate to Dubai, APC Tells Atiku

Kunle Awosiyan

The All Progressives Congress has advised the candidate of the Peoples Democratic Party, Alhaji Atiku Abubakar to relocate to Dubai instead of wasting time to challenge the results of the February 25 presidential election in court.

This was contained in a statement entitled "Immediate Response By Tinubu/ Shettima Presidential Campaign Council To The Press Conference By Alhaji Atiku Abubakar " and signed by its Director of Public Affairs and Chief Spokesperson, Mr. Festus Keyamo (SAN). The statement says, "Atiku Abubakar should quit being delusional: He destroyed his own party and reaped the full consequence of his indiscretion".

It reads, "Following his successive failures and rejection by Nigerians in different elections, it should be clear to him by now that he is simply UNELECTABLE. The expositions relating his self-confessed mode of syphoning public funds whilst in office through SPVs further dented his aspiration before Nigerians." However, the APC council said that it would be ready to meet Atiku in court, adding, "We are prepared to meet his challenge, no matter the nature of the challenge, anywhere and anytime."

It said, "If ATIKU Abubakar is not embracing the olive branch extended to him

and other losers in the 2023 elections by the President-elect, ASIWAJU Bola Ahmed Tinubu, the least he can do is to quietly relocate to Dubai which has become his traditional home base." The statement asked Atiku to be thankful that he even exceeded expectations in the elections by coming second despite distractions and fractured party with which he campaigned. It said Atiku must have sensed before hand that he was headed for a humiliating defeat that should have put him a distant third or fourth in the elections.

"His performance was therefore the best he could achieve," he said. The statement reads in part, "In the typical fashion of the last kick of a dying horse, Alhaji Atiku Abubakar this evening addressed the Press and claimed that the 2023 Presidential Election was neither



Atiku Abubakar

free nor fair. He made this bogus claim without providing a shred of evidence, except to trumpet the noise made by his supporters on social media. He also went ahead to make unfounded derogatory comments about the person of the President-

elect, ASIWAJU Bola Ahmed Tinubu in obvious bitterness and frustration.

Firstly, Atiku Abubakar breached the zoning principle within his own party by insisting on running for President when that was clearly against the mood of the nation;

even after emerging as a candidate, the PDP itself continued to rub insult on the faces of southern leaders in the Party by insisting on keeping the position of National Chairman in the North. This obviously led to the rebellion of the G5 Governors and their subsequent sabotage of the PDP before the polls and at the polls by campaigning against ATIKU'S candidature. His failure to unite his party and manage this post-primaries fall-out was his eventual undoing.

ATIKU'S bid for the Presidency this time around was dead on arrival when his inordinate ambition fractured his party into three parts, with Alhaji Rabi Kwankwanso and Mr. Peter Obi breaking away to the NNPP and the Labour Party respectively. The massive loss he suffered in traditional PDP zones and States

is a clear testament to this. One wonders, then, how he expected to have won the election. It is also comical to see that he claims victory at the polls together with Mr. Peter Obi with whom his party has been holding Press Conferences.

Nigerians have since seen through the ambition of ATIKU Abubakar that it is merely self-serving. Hence, he has run for Presidency at every point in time in the last 30 years, irrespective of the zoning tilt of the nation. Following his successive failures and rejection by Nigerians in different elections, it should be clear to him by now that he is simply UNELECTABLE. The expositions relating his self-confessed mode of syphoning public funds whilst in office through SPVs further dented his aspiration before Nigerians."

## Oba of Benin Congratulates Tinubu

Kunle Awosiyan

The Oba of Benin, Omo N'Oba N'Edo Uku Akpolokpolo, Oba Ewuare II, has congratulated the president-elect, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu, describing his emergence as "victory for all Nigerians."

"Tinubu is a National Leader, unifier and detribalised Nigerian, who will move Nigeria to greater heights," the foremost monarch said. Wishing Tinubu a successful tenure, Oba Ewuare II said, "I send

you my compliments and good wishes for your overall well-being. May I respectfully write, on behalf of myself, the Royal Court of Benin, members of the Royal Family, and Benin Traditional Council (BTC), to happily congratulate you on a well-deserved election as the President-elect of this great country, Nigeria. I am confident that you will excel in the discharge of your onerous mandate that has now been democratically placed on your shoulders by the people of Nigeria. Going

by your acceptance speech, you have already indicated that you are ready to be a unifier.

"We join other well-

wishers and Nigerians to thank God for the peaceful and hitch-free election and wish you a successful tenure. As you prepare to take up

your onerous responsibilities as the President of this great country, we wish you well and once more, hearty congratulations."



R-L: Adams Oshiomole, Bola Tinubu and Oba of Benin

# Aregbesola Pens Moving Message To Congratulate Tinubu

Kunle Awosiyan

**T**he Minister of Interior, Ogbeni Rauf Aregbesola has congratulated the president-elect, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu, for winning the presidential election.

Aregbesola who was a close ally of Tinubu could not hide his admiration for his former boss as he wrote on his twitter handle describing the electoral victory as "A call to duty".

The minister said, "Tinubu deserves every commendation, and I wish that his victory will consolidate the policies of the Muhammadu Buhari-led administration.

"It has been a long and arduous journey, from the Primrose Circle, the Senatorial bid and victory, Justice Forum / June 12/NADECO struggle, to Sunday Adigun/BATCO Gubernatorial struggle and victory, the governorship experience and MANDATE era in Lagos, the resurgence of progressive tendency in Western Nigeria, consolidation of progressive influence in Nigeria and now the Presidency. You deserve every commendation as we equally give glory to God for His mercy," Aregbesola said.

"This victory is a call to duty. It is my wish that with this victory comes the consolidation of the eight years of massive infrastructure development and progressive policies of President Muhammadu Buhari's administration,

deepening of the democratic process, advancement of social democracy, promotion of party discipline and guaranteeing of better life for all.

"Equally important is the need to ensure that Nigeria meets her historic responsibility to Africans and the Black Race as the leader of both entities.

"I congratulate President Muhammadu Buhari, the leaders and members of our party, the All Progressives Congress (APC), other parties that participated in the election and their candidates, for the keen contest and a successful election.

"I pray that God will give you good health and the wisdom needed for a successful tenure in office."

Aregbesola and Tinubu used to enjoy a cordial relationship but the duo began to fall apart in May 2020, when the former Osun governor reorganised the Mandate Group — Tinubu's core support group — without the latter's approval.

The rift between the duo was also worsened by the actions of Gboyega Oyetola, Aregbesola's successor, who is related to Tinubu.

In February 2022, while speaking in Oriade LGA of Osun on a campaign trail for Moshood Adeoti, his anointed candidate for the APC guber primary, Aregbesola blamed Tinubu for the crisis in the state APC, adding that Tinubu was exalted "beyond his status, and he turned himself to a god over us".



Rauf Aregbe and Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu

## BREAKING: Labour Party Secures Court Order Compelling INEC To Electronically Transmit Results

**A**head of The Forthcoming Elections, Labour Party, Lagos Legal Team has gotten an Order of Mandamus compelling the Independent National Electoral Commission to follow strictly to its guideline:

The order came from the High Court Ikoyi, Lagos.

The injunction also ordered INEC to Transmit ALL Votes immediately counting is completed at polling units.

It also said told INEC to ensure delivery of Voting Materials to ALL polling units in Lagos within the stipulated time.



# Berackiah Football Coaching Clinic partners Binary Sports Tech on equipment

By Saheed Afolabi

**B**erackiah Football Coaching Clinic has secured partnership with Binary Sports Tech to supply sports equipment to Coaches during training.

The agreement between the two organizations is set to take coaches training to a new height as the coaches will get to have standard equipment available to them for use with International standards.

Among the equipments that Binary Sports Tech will be supplying during coaches training done by Berackiah Football Coaching Clinic are coaching notepad,

matchday planner, clipboard, stopwatch, tactical and data analysis sheets and flashdrive that will contain over 100 videos of coaching training drills.

Reaction to the massive development, CEO of Berackiah Football Coaching Clinic International, Nwigwe Nduka said he's impressed with the innovation of Binary Sports Tech and he's happy to partner with them.

"I'm happy with the signing of the agreement between Berackiah Football Coaching Clinic International and Binary Sports Tech.

"This will go a long way in helping the coaches

have standard equipments at their fingertip.

"Most of this equipment will also help the coaches to be conversant and be in perfect touch with their tools because this are what coaches in the western world use."

Berackiah Football Coaching Clinic International will be having a football training session with coaches in Lagos State and this is in partnership with the Lagos State Football Coaches Association. This will provide avenue for grassroots coaches to learn the art of coaching from learned football coaches that will be brought in from outside the country.



# Iheanacho disgusted over Leicester City FA Cup ouster

**K**elechi Iheanacho has been left disgusted following Leicester City exit from the English FA Cup.

Blackburn Rovers stunned Leicester City 2-1 at the King Power stadium as Iheanacho scored the solitary strike for the Foxes.

Despite having a terrific run of form in the FA Cup, Iheanacho described how disappointed he is and can't believe they lost at home to Rovers.

The Super Eagles forward said the team did their bit which wasn't enough as they got punished for not taking their chances in the game.

"I am so disappointed, I don't even have the words now especially because we were at home," he told LCTV.



"We did our bit but it was not enough. If you don't do what you have to do, you get

punished. We just have to look forward to the Premier League and do better."

Iheanacho has now recorded 18 goals in 24 FA Cup appearances making him one of the

most prolific forward in the tournament. Leicester City have accumulated 24 points

from 24 matches and seat at the 14th position on the Premier League table.