

**GOT A  
STORY? CALL**  
07011901845

**To place  
Adverts, call**  
07010496879

Why I organised Qur'an  
Competition in honour of  PG. 3  
K1's daughter - Bayo Olasoju

# Echoneews

Communities Edition - Oshodi, Isolo & Ejigbo

The Best Free Weekly Community Newspaper in Nigeria

 Free

Monday 10th May - Sunday 16th May 2021

# WHY I AM BACKING KENDOO -MC OLUOMO



 PG. 2

Isolo 2021: Why I  
stepped down for  
Olasoju - Salisu  PG. 7

The Gains of Istikaf,  
Lailatul Quadri and  
Umrah - Clerics  PG. 4

Almighty Talent FC  
emerge champion  
of Brave Sport  
tourney  PG. 4

APC ward secretaries declare support for Obe's second term bid  PG. 6

# WHY I am backing Kendoo - MC Oluomo

By Ladapo Kolade

The chairman of the National Union of Road Transport Workers, NURTW in Lagos State, Alhaji Musiliu Akinsanya aka MC Oluomo has explained his reasons for throwing his weight behind Mr. Kehinde Adeola Oloyede, aka Kendoo to contest for the chairmanship of Oshodi-Isolo Local Government Area.

Oloyede is locking horns with three incumbent council officials - vice chairman, Town Planner Daisi Osho, Supervisor for Environment, Mr. Yusuf Adesanya and Secretary to the Local Government, Mr. Oladipupo Abiola.

Others in the race are veteran politician, Mr. Abiodun Ogundimu and the son of late party chieftain, Mr. Badmus.

Narrating how he invited Oloyede to join the race to reconcile their differences after over 22 years of hostile relations, Akinsanya said he visited the residence of the aspirant on the island to persuade to start his political journey from the grassroots.

"My brother likes it big. I had to persuade him to let us start from the scratch, he said in Yoruba, alluding to the proverbial eating of bean cake from its remnants: Mo ni ka fi ibi pebebe mu ole je.!

He said he made the overture because he desired better roads and greater development in Oshodi and was confident that Oloyede would make the change. Assuring that the aspirant would make himself available to the people, Akinsanya said Oloyede would run a responsive government that will throw the doors of the council open to the people.

He lamented that his contributions to the ruling party were to shore up its fortunes during elections to ensure good governance and the provision of capital projects.

Akinsanya also announced that Oloyede would be setting a new record in the history of governance in Oshodi-Isolo local government by running with the first ever female vice chairman to promote gender balance and open up more opportunities for women.

The running mate is expected to be Mrs. Bose Agbabiaka, a former supervisor who became a councilor during Ipesa- Balogun administration and currently runs a school.

Mrs. Agbabiaka had launched a serious campaign to be the first female chairman of the local government weeks ago but was invited on board the Oloyede ticket to give it more vigour and feminine appeal.

Assuring Oloyede of winning the primaries, Akinsanya said he would mobilise more than enough crowd to secure victory at the party primaries and the local government elections holding on July 24.

He promised to hold another rally

after Ramadan to fete the participants enjoining them to go out and canvass for the victory of Oloyede at the polls.

Akinsanya's open declaration of sponsoring Oloyede emerged as news made the round that incumbent Supervisor for Environment Yusuf Adesanya is being backed by the outgoing local government chairman, Hon. Bolaji Muse-Ariyoh for the chairmanship.

Everyone has been waiting to see who will earn Muse-Ariyoh's support among his aides and allies. A few close watchers of the local government politics said they were not surprised because Yusuf, a business man who made good in the furniture sector, is a staunch member of his political group.

Muse-Ariyoh's two terms of seven years at the local government and four years as the secretary of the Conference of local government chairmen packs substantial influence that he will certainly deploy in the struggle against the opponents.

Many supporters of Daisi Osho, a town planner and incumbent vice chairman, were surprised that he didn't get the support of his boss despite serving faithfully in the past three and a half years.

This decision seemed to have



L-R: Kendoo and MC Oluomo

jolted his loyalists and sponsors leading to rumours that he may collapse his campaign structure and back Badmus.

But Osho dismissed the rumours in an interview with Echoneews, declaring that he would fight till the end.

"I am fully in the race, I am not joking to have obtained the chairmanship form of N 2 million, 50 thousand Naira, Even if it is

sold for N 10 Naira, I will not joke with it, not at this level, if anyone is collapsing his campaign, it's not for someone like me and am saying this with all sense of responsibility and not out proportion because I know my worth.

"It is the best to have a vice Chairman that has been in the position of governance with lots of experience, it's not against my candidature having served twice as vice Chairman, it should even qualify me the more with all that I have learnt.

"This is the more reason that the position should go to the person that has served twice as vice Chairman with the substance that he has brought into the governance, there is no sense in the rumor.

Reacting to the suggestion that he might back Badmus' son, he said:

"Badmus' son is a brother, a young man coming up and local government association is a serious business, it's not a joke, not a walk in the isle, one must be equal to the task to fit in. if an Elephant is standing, it should be known that it's an Elephant, Same thing goes to the Lion when it roars, it should neither be compared to an ant standing nor a cock crowing.."

## The gains of Istikaf, Umrah and Lalatul Quadri- Clerics

By Abolaji Adebayo

As Islamic holy month of Ramadan rolls to an end, Muslims all over the world have been making frantic efforts to catch up with the last ten days of the month, seeking earnest closeness with Allah.

Knowing the sumptuous and enormous benefits inherent in the month especially the last ten days, the Islamic faithfuls have been making strenuous efforts since the commencement of the last ten days to increase in their good deeds and supplication to Allah.

According to Islamic scholars, the ten days of the month are more important to humanity especially the faithful ones than the previous days of the month.

They believe, according to Islamic doctrine, that Allah puts rewards on whatever good deed done during the period in hundred folds compared to other days in the month of Ramadan.

Some politicians have also been taking the advantage of the period to seek divine supports.

Many of them have been involving in almsgiving, sponsoring Muslims to Ummurah (lease Hajji) performed during the last ten days of Ramadan and giving Iftar (foods) to the Muslims to break their fast.

One of the Islamic scholars in Oshodi-Isolo Local Government Area, Imam Lukman Fasasi, explained that there are various deeds (ibadah) which are highly important for any Muslims seeking good rewards from Allah to observe during the last ten days of the holy month.

These, as he said, include I'tikaf (seclusion), ummura (lesser hajj), giving iftar (foods for breaking fast) and most importantly seeking Lailatul-Qadr. He said there is a particular night, Lailatul-Qadr (the night of Majesty), which every Muslim must not miss, adding that the target of all the conscious believers is meet up with night due to abundant benefit inherent in it hence, they keep vigil through the ten days.

"Muslims are recommended to take the month of Ramadan and especially its last ten days as a period to ask Allah to safeguard them from entering the hellfire. It is a period in which a repentant person has an opportunity for their sins to be erased by Allah," he said.

He explained that the last ten days are used to make up for the lost twenty days in ibadah to seek forgiveness of sins, supplicate to Allah on all one's desires, commit oneself to do ibadah regularly day and night as one has never done before.

Despite the pressure of work, businesses, and ways of making ends meet for a jolly Ramadan, those who really know the benefits inherent in this period damn all the encumbrances of worldly affairs and take a short break off work, businesses for Allah. They embark on I'tikaf (seclusion) for the last ten days to solidify their relationship with Allah.

One of the greatest traditions of Islam, the spark of which has become a popular issue at this period of Ramadan is I'tikaf. This is

a tradition which has been in Islam from the early days of the revelation and is also something known and recognised as the practice of Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w) as ordained by Allah (SWT).

"I'tikaf means to stay in the Mosque with the intention of abiding in it for the sake of Allah (SWT). The purpose of such stay in the Mosque is ibadah and to get closer to Allah. During I'tikaf, nothing is required other than observing nawafil, reading, studying the Holy Quran and doing Zikr which is the remembrance of Allah. For those who are not able to embark on seclusion, they should use the period very well in getting closer to Allah, obey the commandments of Allah (SWT), refrain from the things which He has prohibited and to be in His service.

"This night opens its gates of treasures; the angels with the permission of Allah descend with peace, more importantly, the blessing will dwell with us till Fajr. "The Prophet (s.a.w) said: "The person who offered prayers to Allah in the Night of Majesty with faith and with the hope of reward from Allah, all his past sins have been forgiven" (Bukhari).

"This holiest and most blessed night is likely to occur on one of the odd nights on the last 10 days of Ramadan and the reward of worship on this night is better than the worship of a thousand months of worship, equivalent to a person's lifetime put together," Imam Fasasi explained.

Also explaining the importance of I'tikaf in the last ten days of Ramadan, the Chief Imam of

Ishagatedo Central Mosque, Alhaji Abdul Rasaq Orebiyi said: "About I'tikaf, it's a period of seclusion; getting closer to Allah for the purpose of worshipping Him inside the mosque. It is recommended that one can observe I'tikaf in every central mosque especially those that have toilet facilities for convenience because you are expected to be in the mosque through the period. If you are a government worker, nothing is stopping you from observing I'tikaf. You will just head to mosque from work every day; that will be the routine.

"Ummurah (lesser hajj) can be observed at any time of the year. But, if you perform Ummurah during Ramadan, you will get the reward of someone who performs Hajj."

In Oshodi, I'tikaf is ongoing at various Jumat Mosques organised by Ansarudeen Islamic Society, NASFAT, Shams-Ud-Deen Al-Islamiy mosque and some other mosques in the locality.

However, ECHONEWS gathered that few mosques in Isolo and Ejigbo LCDAs organised I'tikaf due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

A Muslim sister, Nabeelah Thanni living in Ejigbo told ECHONEWS that she wanted to go for I'tikaf but the closest standard mosque where she could do the I'tikaf was at Abaranje, claiming that she could not find a Mosque where I'tikaf was being organised in Ejigbo.

The Chief Imam of Ejigbo, Alhaji Mikail Sanni also confirmed that the was no I'tikaf in Ejigbo Central

Mosque.

He said the mosque only organises Lailatul-Qadr every night in the last ten days of Ramadan.

The Chief Imam of Ishagatedo Central Mosque, Alhaji Abdul Rasaq Orebiyi also confirmed that I'tikaf was organised in very few mosques in Isolo.

"I'm not really aware of any mosque where I'tikaf is being done here in Isolo but there are some. There is one in Okota whose name I can't recall. You know it involves catering for the persons observing it, their sahur and Iftar," he stated.

However, ECHONEWS observed that only 15 people were in a mosques for the ten days in Jakande Estate, while some other worshipers only came in the odd days.

Meanwhile, majority of the mosques and some Islamic organisations as well as Arabic study centres in Oshodi-Isolo organised Lailatul-Qadr to seek Allah's favour.

Some well-to-do Muslims and non-Muslims including politicians donated to sponsor some of the events.

For instance, the vice-chairman of Isolo LCDA, Hon. Bayo Olasaju who sponsored a Qur'an competition, said he did so despite being a Christian because he knows the importance of the Holt month.

The Managing Director of Haji Mabur Ventures Limited, Alhaji AbdulHameed Solate, is one of the Muslims in Ejigbo confirmed by ECHONEWS to have gone for ummar during the last ten days of this year's Ramadan.

## Ishaga chiefs commend Shammeh over road rehabilitation

By Damilola Kushimo

The chiefs of Ishagatedo Community have lauded the Chairman of Isolo Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Shamsudeen Olaleye Shammeh for completing the rehabilitation of Baale/Adebajo Street. According to them, road rehabilitation is one of the projects executed by the council chairman which he would be remembered for after leaving the office in July, this year. They said the road would bring great relief to the people in the

community, saying they were looking forward to its completion.

While commissioning the road project after its completion recently, Shammeh explained that the efforts were being made towards the completion of Ishaga Bypass for the convenience of commuters and motorists in the community and for diversion of traffic from the narrowed and ever-busy Mushin-Isolo Way. Expressing his gratitude to the council boss, the Akogun of the community, Chief Jimoh Ganiyu-Aina said: "We are happy with this project and his previous efforts in Ishagatedo community. We were looking

forward to the completion of the road and we are glad that he has finally completed it. He has done well in Ishagatedo community as regards road infrastructure and you will agree with me that a good road network is one of the needed developments in a community."

"Whatever his future aspiration is, Ishagatedo will solidly be behind him. He fulfilled his promises to us and, you know that being trustworthy is one of the hallmarks of leadership so for this, he has our supports any day, any time," the Baale of the community, High Chief Razaq Owodeyi.



The rehabilitated road

## Why I organised Qur'an Competition in honour of K1's daughter - Bayo Olasoju

By Damilola Kushimo

The Vice-Chairman of Isolo Local Council Development Area (LCDA) and one of the leading aspirants for the chairmanship seat in the forthcoming local council polls, Hon. Bayo Olasoju has explained his motive behind sponsoring a Qur'an competition in honour of Wasilat Ayinde Marshal, the daughter of Fuji maestro, King Wasiu Ayinde Marshal who died a few years ago. The competition was jointly organised by Olasoju's campaign group, Ilerioluwa Organisation and Penckers International School, Isolo but sponsored by the politician.

At the end of the competition, the final six winners were rewarded with N30,000,000 worth of scholarships and cash prize.

Speaking about the competition, Olasoju explained that the need to promote religious tolerance was one of the reasons behind the competition.

He said he was moved to organise the competition in honour of the late daughter of his former boss due to her good records when alive.

He described the late daughter as a cheerful giver, a devoted Muslim who took pleasure in investing in people especially education during her lifetime.

"Religious tolerance is one. If a

Christian could collaborate with Muslim friends to organise a Qur'an competition, why can't we tolerate one another? We are calling on the same God but the way we are looking at our God is in different ways.

"I'm a Christian but Faisal (the proprietor of Penckers International School) has been my friend and we have been looking at how we can collaborate to get things done. We felt that the holy month of Ramadan is the right time to get the young people and youths busy so, we concluded to organise a Qur'an competition.

"The programme started with more than 600 applicants who submitted for entrance but they were screened based on their certificates to about 300. The 300 participated from the preliminary stage up to the final stage.

"We felt the need to name the competition after somebody who really loved that exercise and that was where Wasilat came to mind.

"Wasilat herself went through Quranic training and she was a giver who believed in children's education. I can tell you for free that while she was alive, even as an undergraduate, she had children she was sponsoring to school both primary and secondary. Even when she left Nigeria for Canada, she was still doing it, monitoring her mentees that she was sponsoring to school. She is really worth the honour.

In the senior category, the overall winner, Ahmad Aliyu Adam, was given N1, 000,000 while Umar AbdulRasheed and Abdul Rahman AbdulGaniyu, the first and second runners-up received N500, 000 and N250, 000 respectively.

Awwal Ishaq, who emerges overall winner in the junior category, received N500, 000

cash prize while the first and second runners-up, Abdullahi AbdulAzeez and Abdullahi Abdulganiyu went home with N250, 000 and N150, 000 each.

Dignitaries who graced the event include Osolo of Isolo Oba Kabiru Alani Agbabiaka as

represented by Princess Balikis Agbabiaka, Hon. Ganiyu Olanrewaju Solomon(GOS), the Babaloja of Oshodi Market, Abdul Rasak Kolawole Sanni (Provida), Director of Academics Daarud-Da'wah Sheikh Ishaq Zuglool Sanusi, Council leader

Oshodi-Isolo LGA Hon. Abdul Rasheed Obasa, Chief Imam of Ishagatedo Alhaji Abdul Razak Temitope Orebiyi, Chief Imam of Isolo Sheikh Qasim Ajijyan, Alhaji Bukola Alayande (Ere Asalatu), Alhaji Azeez Abiodun (Saoti Arewa) among others.

## Students, youth group honour Isolo NURTW chairman

By Damilola Kushimo

In appreciation of the Joint Admission and Matriculation Board (JAMB)/UTME forms given to 100 students by the National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) in Isolo and Ejigbo, students and youths in Isolo Local Council Development Area (LCDA) under the aegis of the Association of Isolo Students and Youth Development Forum, have honoured the NURTW chairman, Isolo-Ejigbo Branch A, Comr. Musiliu Oriyomi Fatai (Gaga) for extending Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to the education sector.

The president of the students' body, Abdulahi Yusuf said that the gesture is unusual from a non-political or social organisation like the transport union hence, the need to recognise and appreciate the branch chairman.

Yusuf noted that the meritorious award became more imperative in order to encourage the union to

intensify its CSR in the education sector and also encourage other corporate organisations and well-meaning individuals in the community to support the indigent students in the community in their academic pursuit.

"We were surprised when we read the news in ECHONEWS and we felt the need to recognise and appreciate this remarkable gesture from the NURTW. Such gesture has further confirmed that the union believes that education is the best legacy and we are hopeful that the lucky students will justify this effort. We have a lot of indigent students in the community whose parents are financially incapacitated, we believe that if corporate organizations and individuals with good-will in the community can do more for the education sector the menace of thuggery and other social vices will completely be a thing of the past in our community and never

resurface again.

"The students' constituency is grateful to Comrade Gaga and his fellow executives. God will keep being with them," said Yusuf.

In reaction, Fatai said he was surprised as he was not expecting the recognition and award.

"I'm grateful for the award because I never expected it and we didn't do what we did for recognition or award. We were only doing it as advised by our state chairman, MC Oluomo and also by our desire to invest in the future of some students. We're grateful to them and they can be assured that we will keep up with the gesture and strive to do better in the future.

"We'll intensify our CSR in other areas in the community which include security, road maintenance and community integration. We wish the students success in their exams."

## Uphold the tenets of Islam beyond Ramadan - Cleric admonishes Muslims

By Damilola Kushimo

As the holy month of Ramadan rounds off, the founder of Hasbiyallah Islamic Foundation of Nigeria, Alfa AbdulAkeem Salami, has called on all Muslims to sustain their steadfastness to the tenet of Islam.

Salami advised the Muslims to sustain their good deeds and submission to Allah beyond the month of Ramadan and continue to pray for the country.

According to him, as Ramadan condemns bad habits and behaviours which include gossiping, fornication, adultery, lie, alcohol consumption and other sinful acts but encourages selflessness and good deeds of various kinds as well as closeness to Allah, so do other months, stressing that Islamic faithfuls should continue to grow spiritually beyond Ramadan.

He further admonished them to honour the last ten days of Ramadan and strive to receive the blessing of the night of Majesty (Lailatulquadri) which he said could still be received

within the few days to the end of Ramadan, saying it is more beneficial than 1000 nights.

Speaking on the Ramadan lecture he organised recently, the cleric said it was the first one and wished to organise it annually.

"We organised a lecture with the theme "Importance of Ramadan" to enlighten people about Ramadan. We want to re-emphasise its importance. What its benefits are as God has directed us to do in the Quran. Allah said we should fast just as those before us had done noting that there are a lot of benefits in Ramadan. There are blessing, mercy, forgiveness and other benefits. Also, the Lailatul-Quadri is more beneficial than 1000 nights and he who is fortunate to observe Ramadan with due diligence, the benefits therein is immeasurable.

"Ramadan condemns every bad habit and behaviour. As we abstained from all these bad habits during Ramadan, it is expected that we maintain them after Ramadan. We should keep up with our kind and rewarding acts after Ramadan. There are many benefits in doing well."



The chairman NURTW Isolo-Ejigbo Branch A Comrade Musiliu Oriyomi Fatai (3rd left), the president of Association of Isolo Students and Youths Development Forum Comrade Abdulahi Yusuf (3rd right) flanked by other executives of the union: the Vice-Chairman Comrade Muftau (1st right), Financial secretary Comrade Wasiu Faronbi(2nd right), Assistant secretary Comrade Wale Adio (2nd left) and the treasurer Comrade Oluwole Oni (1st left) during the award presentation.

## Fearless Cup screening programme ends, 24 players selected

By Saheed Afolabi

No fewer than 24 players have been selected in the just concluded Fearless Cup two-day screening to seek greener pasture in professional Leagues outside the country. Many talented youngsters came to showcase their talents, hoping to be selected in the screening process. One of the selected players, Oluwasegun Farojoye, who impressed the scouts with his attacking move and ruthless defensive approach, said he felt overwhelmed that he was picked and thanked the scouts for giving him the opportunity to prove his ability. He said: "I felt good and overwhelmed that I was picked at the final. I just want

to thank God for the opportunity the sponsors gave to us. I am very glad that I was one of the lucky players selected."

Nnamdi Peter, a modern day defensive midfielder, disclosed that he worked very hard to get to the final stage as he appreciated the management of Fearless Cup for bringing him a step closer to his dream.

The CEO of Fearless Cup, Mrs. Renda Udan, expressed her satisfaction over the number of talents on parade at the screening programme.

She said: "I am satisfied with the number of talents and we also want the players to be committed to their career."

"The players will be promoted and their videos will be sent to our clients abroad to assess them for selection."



Fearless Cup screening

## Arsenal show interest in Onana

By Saheed Afolabi

Arsenal are presently weighing up their options in the goalkeeping area and are strong contenders for Ajax goalkeeper, Andre Onana.

The Cameroon goalkeeper is wanted by Arsenal and he is presently serving a 12 months doping suspension which will expire by February 2022.

Though Onana has appealed the doping ban, Arsenal will wait for the result of the appeal before stepping up their interest in the goalkeeper.

Onana was suspended for 12 months by UEFA after he was found to have used a banned substance Furosemide, which was found in his urine.

The appeal will be heard by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in June and a verdict will be given later in June.

Onana's lawyers want the ban to be reduced to 8 months to make it easier for him to find a move away from Ajax.

Arsenal had an interest in 25 year old Onana in January this year but financial issues prevented the North London side from making a concrete offer.

The goalkeeper will cost

## I don't have an agent – De Bruyne

By Saheed Afolabi

Kevin De Bruyne is a talented midfielder who has made his mark in the game of football.

The 29 years old midfielder falls into the category of rare footballers who do not have agents, which means it is the player, who negotiates his transfer himself.

De Bruyne said past issues dealing with agents made him decide with his family that he would stand on his own.

"Some things happened in the past with my former agent and I just decided with my people and

my family that I could do it myself," he explained.

"I'm at an age where I know enough about football and the business side of football to understand and to express what I want as a person and player."

"At my age I'm not really looking at a lot of individual things any more, which I think makes it easier to negotiate with the club." De Bruyne added that negotiations are easy, difficult and a bit more direct without an agent.

"Negotiations are easy and difficult, there are lots of side notes to everything. But it went perfectly well. The club was really happy and for us, it was an easy



Kelvin De Bruyne

conversation to have.

"Maybe it's a little bit more direct like this, maybe with an agent there is more going around and stuff and as a player you can say more directly what you want and it was clear from both sides."



Andre Onana

potential buyers £12 million if his appeal is successful but an offer in the region of £7 million will make the Eredivisie champion into doing business because the goalkeeper's contract will expire by the summer of 2022.

Terms of Onana ban noted that he is unable to train with Ajax and currently works with his personal goalkeeping coach on pitches owned by local amateur club in Amsterdam.

If his appeal is successful, Onana will be allowed to start training with a professional team in June.

## YBS FC knock out Ghetto Tigers in 7-goal thriller

By Saheed Afolabi

Ghetto Tigers woke up late in their encounter with YBS FC as they lost 4-3 in an exciting game played at Ilesa, Isolo.

Tayo Adamson and Habeeb Azeez grabbed a goal each for YBS while Stephen Awoyemi scored a brace in the encounter to secure a win in the match.

Ghetto Tigers star player Habeeb Adeniran also secured a goal in the encounter, taking his tally to five goals in the Ramadan Cup while Tunde Taiwo and Yakub Samuel scored a goal each. Habeeb Adeniran failed to convert a penalty at a very crucial time in the game which would have secured the path to the penalty shootout for Ghetto Tigers.

Tayo Adamson broke the deadlock in the 25 minutes by firing past the goalie of Ghetto Tigers following a defensive error. Stephen Awoyemi doubled the lead of YBS in the 31st minute

following another defensive blunder giving them a 2-goal lead.

Habeeb Adeniran pulled a goal back for Ghetto Tigers in the 37 minutes as the first 45 minutes ended with Ghetto Tigers trailing by a goal margin.

Stephen Awoyemi extended YBS' lead with an emphatic finish to go back to the status quo of the two goal lead in the game.

YBS Azeez Habeeb scored the 4th goal in the 65th minute to put the game beyond Ghetto Tigers.

Yakub Samson scored a fantastic goal for Ghetto Tigers in the 83rd minute to put more pressure in the game.

Taiwo Tunde brought Ghetto Tigers back to the game by getting on the score sheet in the 87th minute and thereby set up a frantic finish to the game.

YBS FC were able to grind out a win against their local rivals 4-3.

The Coach of Ghetto Tigers, Azeez Mustapha, said defensive blunders contributed to the defeat incurred by his team.

## Almighty Talent FC emerge champion of Brave Sport tourney

By Saheed Afolabi

Almighty Talent FC finally emerged the winner of a day tournament organised by Brave Sport to celebrate Workers Day contested by six teams.

Almighty Talent FC emerged the champions of the U10 tourney by defeating FC Robo 1-0 to claim bragging rights of

the competition.

Reigning Almighty Talent beat Exceptional Boys 1-0, God's Word 1-0 and FC Robo 1-0.

At the final, FC Robo also defeated HB Utility 1-0, Excellent Talent 1-0 but lost to Almighty Talent FC with 1-0 who eventually won the tourney.

Both FC Robo and Almighty Talent FC showed fatigued legs in the final as they had played

over 3 games before reaching the final which made the players show signs of tiredness but that did not disturb the free flow of football from both sides.

Both teams paraded players who were capable of reaching the top of their career with their fascinating display despite their young ages.

Almighty Talent FC scored the lone goal of the match in the

second half to emerge the king of the Brave Sport Workers Day competition in Ilesa.

Speaking, the organiser of the competition, Babatunde Balogun, said he brought up the competition as a way of appreciating the workers in the community and to also let football lovers know the abundance of talents around in the age grade competition

# Fearless Cup screening programme ends, 24 players selected

By Saheed Afolabi

No fewer than 24 players have been selected in the just concluded Fearless Cup two-day screening to seek greener pasture in professional Leagues outside the country. Many talented youngsters came to showcase their talents, hoping to be selected in the screening process. One of the selected players, Oluwasegun Farojoye, who impressed the scouts with his attacking move and ruthless defensive approach, said he felt overwhelmed that he was picked and thanked the scouts for giving him the opportunity to prove his ability. He said: "I felt good and overwhelmed that I was picked at the final. I just want

to thank God for the opportunity the sponsors gave to us. I am very glad that I was one of the lucky players selected."

Nnamdi Peter, a modern day defensive midfielder, disclosed that he worked very hard to get to the final stage as he appreciated the management of Fearless Cup for bringing him a step closer to his dream.

The CEO of Fearless Cup, Mrs. Renda Udan, expressed her satisfaction over the number of talents on parade at the screening programme.

She said: "I am satisfied with the number of talents and we also want the players to be committed to their career."

"The players will be promoted and their videos will be sent to our clients abroad to assess them for selection."



Fearless Cup screening

## Arsenal show interest in Onana



Andre Onana

By Saheed Afolabi

Arsenal are presently weighing up their options in the goalkeeping area and are strong contenders for Ajax goalkeeper, Andre Onana.

The Cameroon goalkeeper is wanted by Arsenal and he is presently serving a 12 months doping suspension which will expire by February 2022. Though Onana has appealed the doping ban, Arsenal will wait for the result of the appeal before stepping up their interest in the goalkeeper.

Onana was suspended for 12 months by UEFA after he was found to have used a banned substance Furosemide, which was found in his urine.

The appeal will be heard by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in June and a verdict will be given later in June.

Onana's lawyers want the ban to be reduced to 8 months to make it easier for him to find a move away from Ajax.

Arsenal had an interest in 25 year old Onana in January this year but financial issues prevented the North London side from making a concrete offer.

The goalkeeper will cost

## I don't have an agent – De Bruyne

By Saheed Afolabi

Kevin De Bruyne is a talented midfielder who has made his mark in the game of football.

The 29 years old midfielder falls into the category of rare footballers who do not have agents, which means it is the player, who negotiates his transfer himself.

De Bruyne said past issues dealing with agents made him decide with his family that he would stand on his own.

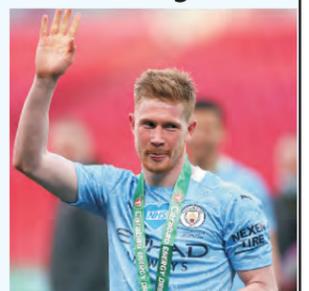
"Some things happened in the past with my former agent and I just decided with my people and

my family that I could do it myself," he explained.

"I'm at an age where I know enough about football and the business side of football to understand and to express what I want as a person and player."

"At my age I'm not really looking at a lot of individual things any more, which I think makes it easier to negotiate with the club." De Bruyne added that negotiations are easy, difficult and a bit more direct without an agent.

"Negotiations are easy and difficult, there are lots of side notes to everything. But it went perfectly well. The club was really happy and for us, it was an easy



Kelvin De Bruyne

conversation to have.

"Maybe it's a little bit more direct like this, maybe with an agent there is more going around and stuff and as a player you can say more directly what you want and it was clear from both sides."

## YBS FC knock out Ghetto Tigers in 7-goal thriller

By Saheed Afolabi

Ghetto Tigers woke up late in their encounter with YBS FC as they lost 4-3 in an exciting game played at Ilasa, Isolo.

Tayo Adamson and Habeeb Azeez grabbed a goal each for YBS while Stephen Awoyemi scored a brace in the encounter to secure a win in the match. Ghetto Tigers star player Habeeb Adeniran also secured a goal in the encounter, taking his tally to five goals in the Ramadan Cup while Tunde Taiwo and Yakub Samuel scored a goal each.

Habeeb Adeniran failed to convert a penalty at a very crucial time in the game which would have secured the path to the penalty shootout for Ghetto Tigers.

Tayo Adamson broke the deadlock in the 25 minutes by firing past the goalie of Ghetto Tigers following a defensive error. Stephen Awoyemi doubled the lead of YBS in the 31st minute

following another defensive blunder giving them a 2-goal lead.

Habeeb Adeniran pulled a goal back for Ghetto Tigers in the 37 minutes as the first 45 minutes ended with Ghetto Tigers trailing by a goal margin.

Stephen Awoyemi extended YBS' lead with an emphatic finish to go back to the status quo of the two goal lead in the game.

YBS Azeez Habeeb scored the 4th goal in the 65th minute to put the game beyond Ghetto Tigers. Yakub Samson scored a fantastic goal for Ghetto Tigers in the 83rd minute to put more pressure in the game.

Taiwo Tunde brought Ghetto Tigers back to the game by getting on the score sheet in the 87th minute and thereby set up a frantic finish to the game.

YBS FC were able to grind out a win against their local rivals 4-3. The Coach of Ghetto Tigers, Azeez Mustapha, said defensive blunders contributed to the defeat incurred by his team.

## Almighty Talent FC emerge champion of Brave Sport tourney

By Saheed Afolabi

Almighty Talent FC finally emerged the winner of a day tournament organised by Brave Sport to celebrate Workers Day contested by six teams.

Almighty Talent FC emerged the champions of the U10 tourney by defeating FC Robo 1-0 to claim bragging rights of

the competition.

Reigning Almighty Talent beat Exceptional Boys 1-0, God's Word 1-0 and FC Robo 1-0.

At the final, FC Robo also defeated HB Utility 1-0, Excellent Talent 1-0 but lost to Almighty Talent FC with 1-0 who eventually won the tourney.

Both FC Robo and Almighty Talent FC showed fatigued legs in the final as they had played

over 3 games before reaching the final which made the players show signs of tiredness but that did not disturb the free flow of football from both sides.

Both teams paraded players who were capable of reaching the top of their career with their fascinating display despite their young ages.

Almighty Talent FC scored the lone goal of the match in the

second half to emerge the king of the Brave Sport Workers Day competition in Ilasa.

Speaking, the organiser of the competition, Babatunde Balogun, said he brought up the competition as a way of appreciating the workers in the community and to also let football lovers know the abundance of talents abound in the age grade competition

## Be peaceful at polls, APC chairman, Kasumu implores aspirants

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The All Progressive Congress (APC) party chairman in Ejigbo Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Alhaji Fatai Kasumu, has urged all aspirants to avoid trouble during the election period.

He appealed to the aspirants to be peaceful during the party's primaries scheduled to hold on May 29, emphasising that the race is not a do or die affair.

He said his best achievement so far in office is his ability to maintain well-behaved party members unlike many other

local governments where various degrees of atrocities occur.

The party boss noted that right from the inception of his administration, the party has been calm and peaceful in conduct, a result of the co-operation between the party and those in government.

According to him, there is synergy among the members of the party in creating a peaceful environment within the local council area.

"I believe since we have a good leader, we have a peaceful environment. The only time we are likely to have an unsettled environment is

during the election if our members are not well behaved. But then, during the last election when we subsequently sensitised everyone in our general meetings, we all worked together to have a free, peaceful and fair election. I believe we can do that again. I urge all aspirants and members not to see this election as a do or die affair as it is normal that a person must always emerge a winner."

He also encouraged all aspirants to get their forms submitted before the deadline as the party would not accept any form after the closing date.

"APC has been and will continue to be a responsible party which is why we have so many people joining us day in day out. We are an organised body that works in accordance with the stipulated rules and we wouldn't entertain any form of mismanagement within us.

"Our election has always been credible; we shall continue to sustain the glory as we wouldn't entertain any form of corruption within our members after the rules have already been circulated. There is no excuse for the failure by any individual which would lead to lobbying because we wouldn't even entertain that," he said.



Alhaji Fatai Kasumu

## APC ward secretaries declare support for Obe's second term bid

By Motolani AbdulGafar

As the political atmosphere gets tense with preparations for the forthcoming local government elections, the chairman of Ejigbo LCDA, Hon. Monsuru Bello Obe has continued to receive more support from the residents for his reelection.

Aside from the endorsement of his second term bid by the GAC leaders and other stakeholders in the community, the League of Ward Secretaries of Ejigbo LCDA has also declared utmost support for Obe to re-contest as the council chairman.

Already, Obe has submitted his nomination form at the party's LGA secretariat as directed.

Speaking to ECHONEWS, the representative of the six caretaker ward secretaries, Mr.

Toyin Saka expressed confidence in the administration of Obe, noting that his achievements triggered them into endorsing him for a second term.

"Since the inception of Obe's tenure, we have attentively done a follow-up of all projects and programmes executed which have drastic development to Ejigbo communities and that is why we are endorsing him for second term.

"We all believe that one good turn deserves another. Good governance is measured on how the leader prioritises the interest of his people which is one of the unique qualities Obe has."

Saka and his colleagues with enthusiasm advocated for more support among Ejigbo residents while encouraging them to turn



Ejigbo APC Ward Secretaries

out en-masse at the polling units to ensure they vote for the right man to continue developing the local council area.

They also advised that

residents should desist from being used as political touts by unidentified persons that might in any way want to cause trouble within the party during the election.

## Council leader seeks support for re-election

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The councillor representing Iamoshe Ward, Hon. Olanrewaju Akinbowale (Larry), has sought the support of his immediate constituents and Ejigbo community at large for his reelection in the forthcoming local council polls.

Akinbowale, who is the incumbent council leader, is re-contesting under the platform of the All Progressive Congress (APC) with some other aspirants.

While declaring his intention to seek reelection, he said he deserves to be elected to represent his ward again considering his enormous achievements during his first term in office.

"As a councillor, our primary

responsibility is to approve bylaws, liaise with the executive arm in the satisfaction of the community, scrutinise and approve the annual budget estimate of the council, go on oversight functions to ensure that the projects and programmes contained in that particular year budget are well implemented as arranged in the budget document."

He said in going beyond the call of duty, he provided humanitarian services that greatly helped government and the community at large as their representative.

"I contributed to road infrastructure by donating 300 9inch blocks to rehabilitate Abiodun Adeshugba Street, I facilitated the grading of

Association Avenue. In empowerment, I gave 20 youths N10, 000 each to support their skills and businesses. In education, I'm, to date, sponsoring an indigent pupil of Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Primary School, Olubunmi Odejayi, I refurbished 110 tables, 96 chairs and donated 1000 exercise books to the pupils in the same school. I equally gave 50 food items to widows in 2019, 100 food items to the aged and widows in 2020. I provided food items for all CDAs and private school teachers during the coronavirus pandemic. As a philanthropist, I provided two dozens of plastic chairs and tables for joint CDA in Iamoshe ward among many others," he said.

He explained further that as a



Hon. Lanre Akinbowale

councillor mandated to serve as a vehicle for community development, he has facilitated developments into his ward, promising that he would consolidate on the existing projects and ensure

## Stop stigmatising the aged with witchcraft, Aliu appeals to youths

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Administrative Officer of the Centre for Happy Elderly People (CHEP), Mrs. Aminat Aliu has cautioned the young ones to desist from stigmatising the aged people in their communities with witchcraft, saying old age is not synonymous with witchcraft.

She also urged the parents to educate their wards from childhood on how to care for elderly ones.

Mrs. Aliu made the call while explaining the high tendency of discrimination elderly people face as a result of the black's beliefs in myth and witchcraft.

She explained that the belief is an arbitral enlightenment being passed unto subsequent generations without considering the defects or consequences on the aged.

According to her, many aged people suffer in the society as the young ones are afraid of getting in contact with them even when they need their help, seeing them as witches.

It is as a result of their orientation. Many young ones learn in school to be generous to the aged but they do not implement that due to their orientation that the elderly ones are witches.

She said the situation is so pathetic that educated children are reluctant to associate with their parents who had painfully sacrificed for them just for a good upbringing with flimsy excuses that they are hindering them from progressing in life."

She cautioned that families should avoid being the cause of the mental state of their aged ones, saying shocking and negative information can easily cause brain damage, heart attack or severe stroke on the aged which may make them misbehave.

"Most aged women are prone to dementia disease because the heart of a woman is fragile but it is something that the family members do not take cognizance of. I really hope that we start educating children on how important it is to put a smile on everyone no matter the age or class of the person as this would drastically change the ill beliefs we have about the aged in our society." She said.

# Roads, security top Skibanj chairmanship agenda

By Edith Igbokwe

**F**ixing bad roads and securing lives and properties will top the agenda of chairmanship aspirant, Adebajji Atewogboye, better known as Skibanj, if he flies the flag of the All Progressives Congress, APC and eventually wins.

Other priorities listed by the aspirant minutes after obtaining his nomination form include the provision of quality education, health care, youth empowerment, quality education, good health care, youth empowerment/job opportunities, welfare/ sports and religious/ ethnicity harmony in the community, are strategically planned for

the development of the area. Atowogboye, popularly known as Skibanj, in a chat with ECHONEWS, said he would never compromise his ambition for anything as he solicited support to fly the party's flag to contest the election, saying he is sure of victory if supported by the party.

"I am confidently in the race to win the chairmanship position. I have done the needful within my capacity to ensure that the community members feel my impact in their lives, wards and in the community. If given the mandate, I will provide maximum security to promote peace and unity. With my effective education scheme, I will ensure that the people of Oshodi enjoy quality education which is the key to

success and a tool to eradicate illiteracy and social vices in the society.

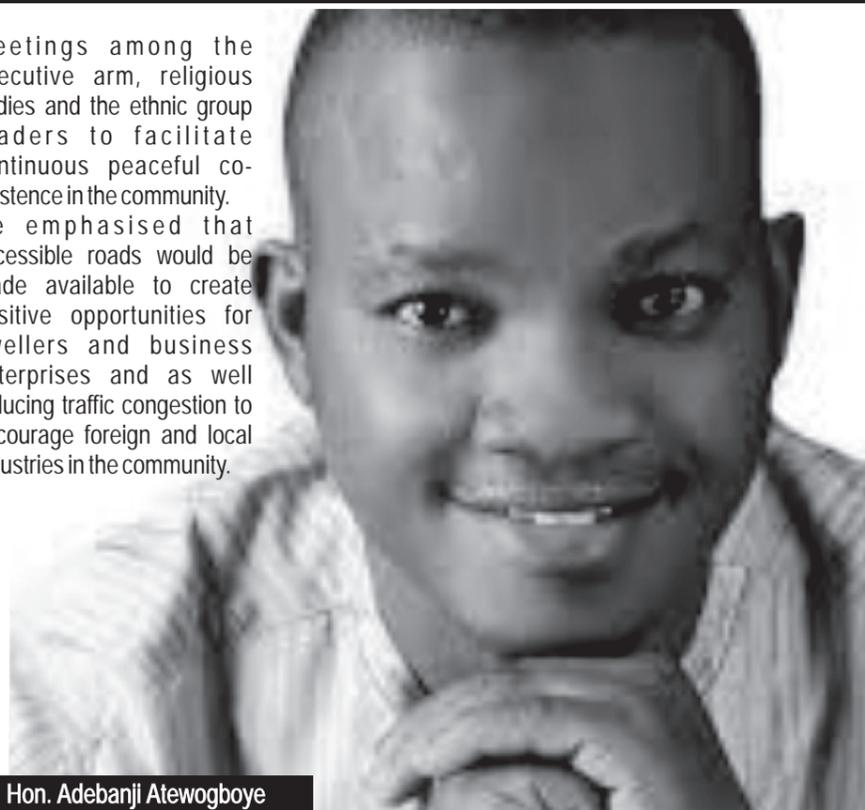
He said, according to the constitution of Nigeria, section 14 subsection 26, the welfare and security of the people is of paramount importance to any government in power.

"I will continue with the advancement of my welfare and sport programmes and also improve the quality of the health sector in our primary healthcare centres. Our youths are the leaders of tomorrow and I intend to invest more in the progressive youths to help maximise their potentials for them to explore their strengths while young.

To sustain the relative peace that is existing across the local government area, he promised to maintain regular

meetings among the executive arm, religious bodies and the ethnic group leaders to facilitate continuous peaceful co-existence in the community.

He emphasised that accessible roads would be made available to create positive opportunities for dwellers and business enterprises and as well reducing traffic congestion to encourage foreign and local industries in the community.



Hon. Adebajji Atewogboye

## I'm still in the race to contest for Oshodi -Isolo LG chairmanship - Ogundimu

By Edith Igbokwe

**A** chairmanship aspirant in Oshodi-Isolo Local Government, Abiodun Ogundimu, said he has not withdrawn from the contest, saying he is sure of success.

He said though he has not held a political post either elected or appointed before, he has what it takes to control the affairs of the local government.

Ogundimu disclosed that he was called to join the race to make Oshodi-Isolo LGA better. According to him, he supported the All Progressive Congress (APC) politicians in their campaign and provided social amenities to the community as an effort to give back to the community where he grew up.

Ogundimu traced his support for the party during the 2019 polls when he supported the

election of our two representatives in the Federal House, Dr. Bashiru Dawodu and State House Assembly, Hon. Hakeem Shokunle with polo shirts, caps and other materials during their campaigns.

"In my community, I provided four boreholes, two in my ward - Mafoluku, one each in Ewu and Shogunle and I provided standby generators to power the water source so that scarcity of water will become a forgotten issue in Oshodi environment.

He said he also installed street cables for electricity supply in the community adding that he was happy that the two and half years of struggle towards my ambition are becoming fruitful.

"The contest has commenced and I am part of the aspirants. If I withdraw, a lot of people would be disappointed in me. I



Abiodun Ogundimu

have obtained the nomination form and I'm ready for the election."

Ogundimu stated that he is contesting to affect more lives positively, saying "I don't feel happy seeing people in poverty, it moves me to do something to change their lives for good."

## Isolo 2021: Why I stepped down for Olasoju - Salisu

By Edith Igbokwe

**O**ne of the aspirants for the chairmanship position in Isolo Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Sikiru Adeshina Salisu, has disclosed the reason for his withdrawal from the race to support one of his opponents, Hon. Bayo Olasoju. Salisu, popularly known as Current, said his withdrawal was influenced by the appeals to do so, emphasising that he withdrew from the race in the interest of the party and as a result of his consultations and

appeals from some elders in the party.

He said he has pitched tent with the incumbent Vice Chairman of the council, Olasoju, who is also contesting for the position, saying he would continue to work for his (Olasoju's) success.

He confirmed to ECHONEWS that he has merged his own campaign structure - current campaign organisation with the Olasoju campaign group - llerioluwa 2021 in order to work together for Olasoju's success in the forthcoming election.

He further revealed that he has been appointed as the Director

of Finance and Mobilisation of Olasoju's campaign outfit.

"Yes, I have stepped down from the race in support of Otunba Bayo Olasoju in the interest of the party and its supremacy. I have confidence in the capabilities of Olasoju and I believe he will be democratic in his government when elected. I want to use this opportunity to appeal to my supporters across all wards and other electorate as well as other aspirants and leaders in Isolo LCDA to support the Hon. Adebayo Olasoju for a greater Isolo LCDA," he said.

## Councillor Mustapha lists achievements to seek re-election

By Edith Igbokwe

**T**he councillor representing Shogunle Ward E1, Hon. Femi Wasiu Mustapha is leveraging on his achievements to seek support for his second term bid as he listed the projects he has contributed to the community.

According to him, the projects he has executed so far in his ward which should earn him the people's support include refurbishment of the broken fence in Local Government Primary School, Shogunle and the distribution of exercise books to all the pupils in the four public primary schools in Shogunle which include Ago-Owu, Temidire, Folaranmi and Local Government Primary School. He noted that he gave out food items to more than 122 widows and cash to the needy to support their living.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, Mustapha said he provided palliative support such as 10 bags of rice and 10 bags of Garri to churches, mosques, youths, women and the less privileged in the community.

Others, according to him, include sports support, saying he organised a football competition in Shogunle, adding that he facilitated Onikewunla Street road reconstruction as part of the State Governor's community projects.

Recently, he commissioned his water project (borehole) at



Hon. Femi Wasiu Mustapha

6, Ayinke Street to relieve the people of Shogunle of water scarcity.

The aspirant, therefore, promised to continue to serve the people with sincerity if given the chance to represent them for a second term.

"2021 is a new start for us to work together, in collaboration and partnership deeds which will go a long way towards embracing the chance to better our society that we desire to have. I will continue to lead by example with

transparency, integrity and good values within my humanity and in the best interest to serve the people right.

"It is expected that a leader should lead by example with essential qualities such as courage, passion, humility, hospitality and charity giving which I would continue to embark on, to increase my capacity and to broaden my commitment to serve the good people of Shogunle Oshodi," he said.



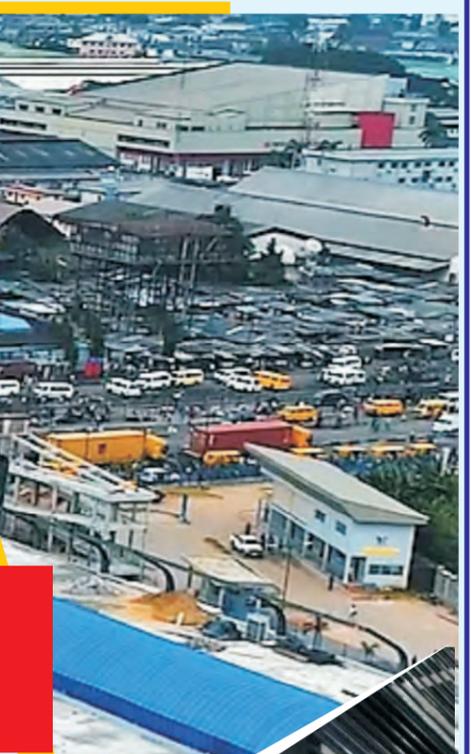
# Terminal 1

## DESTINATIONS

Ibadan • Abeokuta • Sagamu • Ifo • Ilaro • Owode • Ore • Ife  
Ijebu Ode • Ado Ekiti • Ilesha • Oshogbo • Offa

Ede • Ogbomosho • Akure • Iperu • Ikenne • Ikirun  
Oyo • Ago Iwoye • Ondo • Ilishan

Aba • Oweri • Onitsha • Port Harcourt • Umuahia  
Abuja • Otukpo • Kaduna • Kano



For enquiries, contact on +234 803 521 5263

Published by Echonews Newspapers Limited

21, Ona Iwa Mimo Street, Ori Oke Bus Stop, Ejigbo, Lagos. www.echonews.ng Email: echonews1111@yahoo.co.uk

Managing Editor: Obe Rasheed Tel, 08025378799 Editor: Abolaji Adebayo, Tel: 07061193610. Circulation: Opeyemi Akinlade; Marketing executive: Tope Yussuf 07010496879