

Echonews

Communities Edition - Oshodi, Isolo & Ejigbo

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Monday 11th January - Sunday 17th January 2021

HAWKERS:

WHY WE DRESS TO KILL



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Shammeh commends quality of ongoing project **PG.7**

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I will knock out Joshua in two rounds - Fury **PG.4**

Hawkers: Why we dress to kill

By Abolaji Adebayo, Damilola Kushimo and Saheed Afolabi

With about 15 loaves of bread in the tray sitting prettily on her head, Adeola Komolafe, moved with gait, swaggering along as she called out her potential customers to buy. Beyond her swaggering, Komolafe has on her, a gorgeous dress and diamond-tinted Brazilian hair. This, she matched with newly painted nails, eyelashes, and a silver-like bracelet.

Such expensive wears may not be common among bread sellers of old, but public observers say Komolafe's type of dress is the trendy lifestyle of today's bread hawkers and other ladies who engage in petty trading.

"I dress to satisfy myself and look attractive," Komolafe told ECHONEWS in apparent rebuttal of what observers said has become trendy.

"The way I dress is the way I would be addressed. I need to look beautiful whether I'm selling or not. I must spend on my dressing as part of my life, that is what is trending," she added.

However, Komolafe has another agenda: to lure men for marriage.

In a chat with ECHONEWS, another bread seller at Jakande Estate, Ejigbo who simply gave her name as Shade said she dresses well to impress customers and prospective suitors.

Not minding the fact that her outfits are more expensive than the products she displayed for sale, noting that she also uses the opportunity of dressing well to entice her male customers.

"Aside from attracting customers, I am a single lady, I have to dress to attract good suitor who would take me as a wife. And I know my dressing is part of what men would look for in me, good dressing is part of women's beauty," she stated.

When asked whether she has been able to secure a good suitor with her dressing, she said she turned down most of those who wooed her



A well dressed lady selling local herbs

because the few she has dated have always disappointed her.

Our correspondent came across a local herb seller at Ailegun junction in Ejigbo who addressed herself as Titi.

Titi disclosed that she set herself to catch the attention of male customers who patronise her more than the female customers

She said that her dressing would persuade male customers to patronise her.

According to a religious leader and public analyst in Isolo, the act continues to trend especially among petty traders who dress more expensively than their wares.

It is not uncommon to see a typical bread seller whose total business capital is not more than N5,000, putting on wears worth of N10,000, fixing nails for N2,000, plaiting hair for N9,000.

An investigation by ECHONEWS confirmed that the majority of the petty traders who dress above their incomes do so to attract men

who could spend for them rather than attracting more customers, borrowing money to invest in fashion.

According to Kemisola Afolabi, an orange seller who spoke to ECHONEWS, a good trader must look gorgeous to attract customers.

She noted that though some of them may have some other motives behind their dressing, the major target is to attract customers, saying "If you dress neatly, you may attract good men and subsequently get a good husband especially if you are single. The way you dress will determine the kind of people that patronise you and even woo you because you cannot sit at home and expect to meet those who would help you in life."

"It's important we dress neat, smart, and attractive because neatness is one of the factors we believe people consider before they can patronise us. Though people often misinterpret our nature of

dressing for something else, that's not true. If you observe very well, many people are doing this business here and that's to tell you that there's serious competition among us all so we must dress attractively so that we can be patronised. Very early in the morning, I can decide to station myself at a junction or hawk, it depends," Salami Nimota, who sells sachet alcohol drinks and fried meat in Isolo told ECHONEWS. Popoola Anuoluwapo has this to say: "Dressing attractively doesn't mean anything. It is just to appeal to our customers and to make them understand that we are neat and our herbal concoctions are neatly processed. You can imagine going to a canteen and finding out that they are not neat or clean, will you patronise them at all? Even if you've settled to eat, you might change your mind and leave the place. That's how it is for us. We believe that our mode of dressing is one of the appeals that we

must make good use of for sale's sake."

One of the observers, Mrs. Adeola Ilori, a psychologist and a businesswoman living in Oshodi, noted that there are other motives behind such expensive dresses beyond attracting customers. She said many of them dress expensively to lure men to milk them, sourcing funds from any sources.

According to her, the majority of the ladies get loans from microfinance banks to buy clothes, fix nails, plait their hairs, expecting to attract who would fund them to repay their loans.

while carrying out their businesses.

"However, many of them, when they can't meet up with their targets or fail to get men to fund them, turn street prostitutes as means to get the loan repaid," she noted.

Abigail (not real name) is a native of Oyo State who resides in Ibadan but sells herbal concoctions (agbo) in Oshodi during the weekends.

Abigail would travel from Ibadan on Friday down to Lagos to sell agbo and go back to her residence in Ibadan on Monday morning.

It would be difficult for anybody to know what Abigail does for a living if they don't get closer to her or meet her where she sells her product.

She dresses as someone working in a big company with a different hairstyle and costly fabrics with matching shoes and jewelry.

Does she make the money from the agbo she sells only during the weeks? No!

Abigail told our correspondent that she only makes meager income from the trade and that the main purpose of her dressing is to make more money aside her. The mother of two kids confided in Echone news that she has two male friends who support her financially. She said she was able to get the attention of her 'wealthy' friends by wearing expensive attires.

Abigail makes more than N4,000 weekly but not enough to feed the family.

She said she was able to catch those men through her dressing, adding that though other men also approach her, the majority of those who woo her are averagely well-to-do.

"What do I sell? How much do I make from the business to get such money to take good care of myself? To be factual, most of those who deal in petty trading like this and wear costly attires get financial supports elsewhere.

"I'm not saying they engage in prostitution but for you to be selling small goods that all your business are not more than N20,000 and your dressing on daily basis worth about N10,000 to N15,000, there must be other sources.

"For me, I have chosen to have two men aside from my husband who could support me financially. I am not a prostitute and I cannot engage in that and that is why I limit myself to two men to support me. And what do you expect? I must always look neat to win their hearts."

LAGFERRY ferries 200,000 passengers in 2020

By Abolaji Adebayo

Following the rebirth of water transportation in Lagos State, the agency in charge of the sector, Lagos Ferry Services (LAGFERRY), said it was able to convey about 200,000 passengers through waterways within 150 days of its operation in 2020.

As part of effort to tackle the traffic issues across the state and the need to create an instant alternative transportation system to decongest the roads, the state governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu, in line with his T.H.E.M.E agenda, procured new eight state-of-the-art boats in February 2020 at Badore, Ajah, to commence public transportation by the waterways.

The LAGFERRY Managing Director/CEO, Hon. Abdoulbaq Ladi Balogun, while reviewing the agency's activities in 2020 at a Workshop organised during the weekend, said the agency commenced operations from six major routes by deploying 12 boats immediately after the launch.

He said the Workshop, with the

Theme "Resilient Sailing for Sustainable Economy" was organised to review the success of Y2020 with a view to strategically positioning LAGFERRY for the challenges ahead in 2021 in order to develop a resilience sailing economy for the State in line with the T.H.E.M.E.S agenda of the State Government.

While analysing its operations in 2020, Balogun said: "We were averaging daily commuting of between 800 to 900 passengers and by the month of June we had ferried our 60, 000th passenger and by September we celebrated our 100, 000th in the person of Mr Murtala Balogun.

"I can proudly tell you that we had commuted over 200, 000 passengers within 150 days of operation in the Y2020.

"In the same year, one of our boats, MV Ayangburen, christened the sea warrior of water transport accomplished a feat of completing 22 trips in 7 hours 6 minutes.

"A total number of 2,857 persons have been commuted on our chattered services to different part of the State for pleasure, recreation and



The MD, The LAGFERRY Managing Director/CEO, Hon. Abdoulbaq Ladi Balogun with other guests and staff members

business."

He cited a notable achievements and huge milestone recorded by LAGFERRY in 2020 to include the expansion of services to Epe, Badagry, Agbowa-Ikosi, Agbara and Ibeju-Lekki areas of the state.

The LAGFERRY MD said the agency contributed 38 per cent of the water transportation index to the transportation matrix of the state, improved water transportation's contribution to the state's GDP from 0.2 per cent to 0.08 per cent, paid high premium to safety and achieved an accident-free record.

"This was in addition to the provision of a reliable

alternative intermodal transportation for residents, by helping to decongest road traffic and assisting in ensuring ease of doing business through the waterways", he added.

He said LAGFERRY has been assisting in ensuring ease of doing business by providing innovative logistics solution for cargoes of corporate Lagos through the waterways despising the deplorable state of the Apapa road which has been making it difficult for businesses to be transacted seamlessly.

He noted that the agency was able to successfully move 41,040 trucks from its terminal between January and December 2020, adding that

2,308 cleared goods containers have been received from the port while 941 containers have been loaded back to the port, giving the agency the opportunity to create 284 directly and indirect employments.

Balogun, while mapping out LAGFERRY's operational strategies for 2021, added that the service would have done better if not for the interruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and #ENDSARS protests.

He assured that commuters would witness a lot of transformation in water transportation in 2021, as arrangements had been concluded by the state

government to increase the agency's boat fleet to 20.

He said the agency would work harder to meet the mandate given by the Governor to move 30 percent of Lagosians by the waterways in order to decongest the road.

Balogun said LAGFERRY would reciprocate government's huge investments in water transportation, with improved and efficient service delivery to its customers in the new year.

"I urge you to stay tuned and expect more remarkable giant strides in water transportation in the first quarter of the new year, as we take delivery of additional world class, state of the art, boats to increase our fleet to 20 and our capacity to meet the ever increasing demands," he said.

He appealed to residents to embrace the unlimited possibilities offered by water transportation, to ease the incessant traffic gridlock in the state, while commending the state government's efforts and commitment to intermodal transportation system in the state, with huge investments in water transportation.

Isolo chairmanship race: Olojede launches campaign outfit, gains more support

By Damilola Kushimo

With the launching of his campaign programme and open declaration of his ambition to contest for the chairmanship of Isolo Local Council Development Area (LCDA), last week, the incumbent Secretary to the Local Government (SLG), Hon. Emmanuel Olojede, has finally thrown his hat into the chairmanship race.

Since its inauguration, the residents of Ilasamaja Ward have continued to seek support for Olojede with their slogan 'Ilasamaja Lokan' mantra, claiming that Ilasamaja is supposed to produce the next council chairman.

According to the community leaders who have been rallying supports for their candidate, the ward is the most populated of the seven LASIEC wards in the council

area with 26.2 percent of the polling units (44), claiming to be the powerhouse of votes in the council area.

They also claimed that the ward has not hitherto produced any elected political office holder either at the federal or state levels, not even at the local government level except for councillorship, which is customary, saying the situation has contributed to the perceived underdevelopment of the ward hence, the agitation for the chairmanship of the local council.

While declaring their support for Olojede, the stakeholders in the community said they have agreed to make him their consensus candidate to avoid conflict of interests which had affected them in the past.

It is noted that the incumbent chairman of the council, Hon. Shamsudeen Olaleyeh also has an interest in the candidacy of Olojede whom he has been drumming

support for.

Speaking on the community support for Olojede, the Chairman, Police Community Relations Committee (PCRC), Ilasamaja Divisional Police Station, Elder Tundeola Falujo who also doubles as the Chairman Onikonga Community Development Association (CDA), said Ilasamaja, despite having most of the vote cast in the council area with its larger population, it has not produced a council chairman due to unseriousness.

He noted that the community had been so divided on the choice of aspirant "but now we talked to one another that we want a single candidate who is Hon. Emmanuel Olojede and that's who we are rooting for.

"We've tested Olojede to be a consummate candidate, so disciplined. He has listening ears, he is so submissive. He's been in the system and he has the experience. He has proven to be so responsible

and people in the council have also testified to this. So, we feel if he happens to be in that office he won't be partial, he will greatly serve the interests of all in Isolo LCDA."

Meanwhile, his campaign DG, Hon. Engr. Tunbosun Oyegoke who is the incumbent LGA APC party secretary has said that the contest is open to all aspirants.

Olojede is the incumbent Secretary to the Local Government (SLG), Isolo LCDA, and had served in several capacities since 2003 when he reportedly stepped down for Hon. Adeola Ajatta whom he contested the position of Federal House of Representatives.

He has served as Special Adviser (SA) on political matters to the pioneer chairperson of Isolo LCDA, Hon. Modupeola Oseghale; SA to Hon. Abdul-Hakeem Abdul-Lateef when he was the SA Political to Governor



Hon. Olojede

Babatunde Fashola; Chief Protocol Officer 1 to Hon. Shamsudeen Olaleyeh during his first tenure as the council chairman and currently serving as the SLG, Isolo LCDA.

Olojede is the only aspirant to have officially declared his intention to run for the office of the local council chairman,

others rumoured to be in the race include the incumbent Vice Chairman of the Council, Hon. Bayo Olasaju, the Council Leader, Hon. Remy Shittu Remy; the former House of Representatives member, Hon. Akeem Muniru; the former councillor who represented Akinbaiye Ward, Hon. Shakiru Adeola.

Arsenal takes £120m loan to cushion effect of covid-19 on finances

By Saheed Afolabi

Arsenal have borrowed £120 million from the Bank of England to help the club's cash flow through the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. The loan is repayable by the end of May and is principally designed to help offset the ongoing absence of matchday revenue for the season. Significantly, the money cannot be used for transfers as it comes from the Bank of England's COVID Corporate Financing Facility (CCFF), which is the same scheme through which Tottenham and the Football Association received financial

support last year. Few clubs or organisations are eligible for the CCFF because of strict qualification criteria which include a strong investment grade rating and a determination that a company makes a "material contribution to the British economy." It is unclear what interest Arsenal will have to pay on the loan but Spurs borrowed their £175m sum at a rate of 0.5 percent. "As we continue to work through the implications of the global pandemic on our finances, we can confirm today that the club has met the criteria set by the Bank of England for the COVID Corporate Financing Facility

(CCFF)," an Arsenal statement said. "As a result, we are taking £120m loan through this facility to partially assist in managing the impacts of the revenue losses attributable to the pandemic. This is a similar approach to that taken by a wide variety of major organisations across many industries including sport and is repayable in May 2021." The move highlights the difficulties clubs are facing in coping with a huge drop in revenue resulting from the pandemic, particularly at Arsenal where matchday income accounted for a quarter of their

revenue in 2018-19. Arsenal have already made 55 non-playing staff redundant in addition to drastically reducing the size of their scouting network and parting company with several senior staff members including the former head of football, Raul Sanllehi, and contract negotiator, Huss Fahmy. The absence of a preseason tour before the 2020-21 season represents just one blow to commercial revenue streams and it was estimated by the Arsenal Supporters' Trust early on in the pandemic that a full year without supporters could mean the club loses as much as

£144m. The club moved last year to refinance the debt on Emirates Stadium — estimated at the time to be around £160m — with owner Kroenke Sports Enterprises redeeming outstanding bonds and moving the remaining sum to another lender. "The CCFF is in addition to the loan provided by our owners Kroenke, Sports & Entertainment that enabled us to refinance the debt on Emirates Stadium in August last year," Arsenal added. It remains to be seen whether this short-term move will enable the club to rid themselves of

other financial burdens, not least a bloated wage bill. Sead Kolasinac and William Saliba have already departed on the loan while Mesut Ozil could leave with the club keen to remove his £350,000-a-week salary. Arsenal spent £45m on Thomas Partey in the summer but that money was only released after a specific request to Stan Kroenke from senior figures at the club including technical director Edu and manager Mikel Arteta. The club is hopeful of doing business in January but the need for a short-term loan underlines the constraints they are working in.

Karim Benzema to face trial for alleged involvement in attempted blackmail case



Benzema

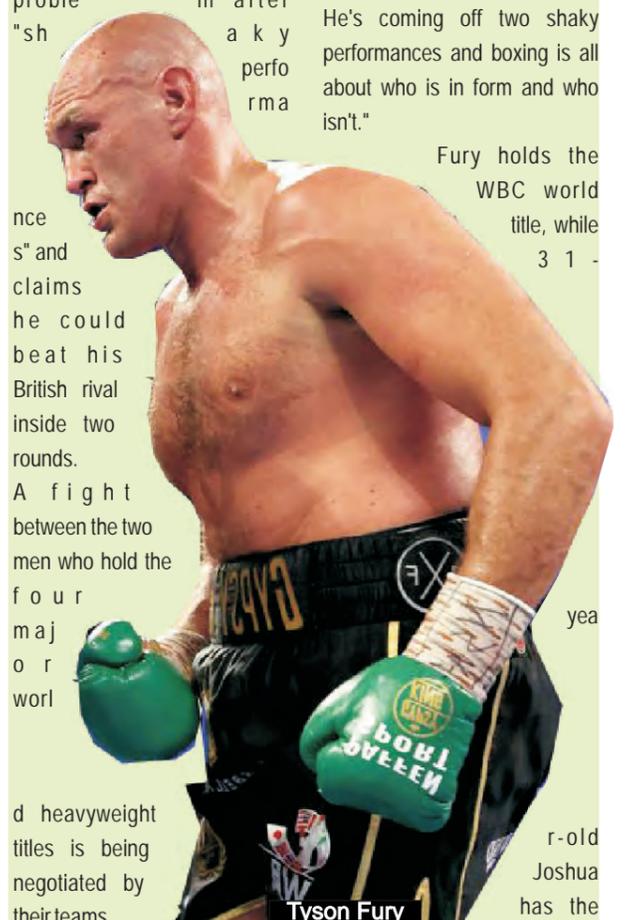
Karim Benzema will face trial for his alleged involvement in an attempted blackmail case linked to a sex tape featuring a former France team-mate.

Real Madrid forward Benzema is accused of paying individuals to extort money from Mathieu Valbuena by threatening to make the video public in 2015. The 33-year-old French striker argued that a police officer used dishonest methods to draw him into the affair. He has not played for his country since he came to light. AFP News Agency reported that French prosecutors announced that Benzema would face trial on Thursday. AFP also quoted Benzema's

lawyer, Sylvain Cormier, as saying he was not surprised the matter was going to trial, but that the decision was "as absurd as it was predictable". Benzema has scored 261 goals for Real Madrid since he joined the Spanish side in 2009. He and Valbuena were international team-mates at the time of the affair and were in the France squad for the 2014 World Cup in Brazil. Valbuena, 36, was playing for Lyon at the time but is now with Greek side Olympiakos.

I will knock out Joshua in two rounds - Fury

Tyson Fury believes Anthony Joshua has a confidence problem after "showing a key performance



Tyson Fury

doesn't believe he is himself. "He's got a confidence issue. He's coming off two shaky performances and boxing is all about who is in form and who isn't." Fury holds the WBC world title, while Joshua has the IBF, WBO, and WBA belts, meaning all four could be contested in a heavyweight fight for the first time. A percentage split of the money the fight could generate is said to be agreed between the pair. But there are wider issues to iron out such as where the fight will take place - which will, in turn, impact the level of money made - as well as how rival broadcasters can work together.

FC Robo emerge champion of Notayo's Cup

By Saheed Afolabi

FC Robo were crowned Champions of the maiden edition of the Notayo's cup competition. Ayo Cole scored the solitary goal of the match for FC Robo in the 40th minute while Waris Arowolo, the center back of FC Robo, was sent off in the 76th minute for pulling the top of the striker of Success FC who was through on goal. Success FC started the match on a good note by creating clear-cut chances but the chances were left begging for goal as they were squandered off the goal post. Ayo Cole gave his team the lead in the 40th minute, taking his tally in the competition to 5 goals in 4

matches. FC Robo continued pressing Success FC but unfortunately had a goal ruled out for offside in the 49th minute. The captain of FC Robo wasted a great chance to double the lead of his team through a free header

close to the goalie of Success FC. Ayo Cole was a thorn in the flesh of Success FC defenders as he was adjudged the best player on the pitch of play. The center half player of FC Robo was given his marching

order in the 76th minute for pulling the jersey of the opposing striker who was through on goal. The death of the match was terrific as both teams battled hard to take home the day which was eventually won by FC Robo with a lone goal.

Ghetto Light FC crowned champion of Prince Gas Cup U15

By Saheed Afolabi

Yakub Shamsu scored a clinical poacher's goal in the first half as Ghetto Light FC defeated Sharp Strikers via a solitary strike to lift the Under 15 Prince Gas Cup in their debut season in the competition. Ghetto Light FC defeated the

eventual 3rd placed team, Dynamous FA, in the semifinal through a penalty shootout, while Sharp Strikers also defeated Living Legends via penalty shootout to advance to the final. After some interchange of attack by both finalists, centre forward Abolomope Hammed linked up with poacher Yakub Shamsu, who finished off the

Sharp Strikers defense with a clinical goal. The first half ended in 1 - 0 as Ghetto Light FC snatched an early lead to the break. Sharp Strikers came into the second half like a team possessed but Ghetto Light impressive goalkeeper, Rahmon Kehinde, kept making saves upon saves to deny the Sharp Strikers.

Maulud Nabiyyi: Cleric seeks more support for Islam

By Damilola Kushimo

The Chief Imam of Istijaba Central Mosque, Okota, Isolo Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Alhaji Abdul-Akeem Ariyo Ajaramokewu has called on the faithful Muslims and political leaders in the community to do more to contribute to the course of Islam.

He made this call while speaking with ECHONEWS, saying promoting the religion and upholding the doctrines of

the Islamic religion as taught by the holy prophet would bring about peace in the society.

Talking about the Maulud Nabiyyi celebration organised by Ahababu Muhammaediyah As-Solatiyah Worldwide and Markaz Hulumin Walimohani Lita'limil Arobiy Wal Islamic in the community recently, the cleric explained that the celebration has become more important in the society to complement the knowledge the Muslims have about the life, times and doctrines of Prophet Muhammad whose birth was

celebrated through Maolud Nabiyyi.

According to him, no one can claim to be a true follower of the prophet without contributing their quota, in their capacity towards the growth of Islam.

He, therefore, charged all leaders in the society especially the political leaders to emulate the leadership pattern of the prophet if the society and even the nation as a whole are to move forward as desired.

His words: "As we all know, Maolud is all about commemorating the birth of

Prophet Muhammed (SAW). The prophet is Allah's messenger whom Allah sent to the whole world to teach them good deeds. It is therefore expected that we focus on educating the people more about the attitude, morality, and other virtues of the Prophet.

"When we are talking about Nigeria especially our politics, we are not so religious or let me say upright in our practices but, by looking up to prophet Muhammed (SAW), if our politicians can emulate his political ideologies, Nigeria will

greatly turnaround for good. The Prophet is a leader that laid good examples for the whole world, and as I said, if our leaders can emulate him, Nigeria will be greater.

"Coming to our immediate community here, our people are trying just that I'll like to encourage all Islamic faithful here in Ago to try as much as possible to contribute more to the way of Allah. They should contribute their wealth and time to the course of the religion. That's the only way religion can move forward. They can't say

they love the prophet without spending their wealth on his religion; the only person that loves the prophet Muhammed (SAW) is the person that spends their money and wealth on the religion."

Ajaramokewu, therefore, encouraged fellow Muslims to remain faithful to Almighty Allah, urging them to improve on their finance, religion, and health.

He assured that Allah will bring about a great restoration in this new year if only they remain hopeful on Him.

Ilasamaja Town Hall ready this month - Balogun

By Damilola Kushimo

The Site Engineer, Engineer Nurudeen Yusuf Balogun handling the ongoing construction of Community Town Hall in Ilasamaja area of Isolo Local Council Development Area (LCDA) has assured that the project will be completed by the end of this month.

The project is one of the three projects approved by the Lagos State Government under the Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu Ward Projects to be supervised by the councillors representing the wards.

The project was proposed by the councillor representing the ward, Hon. Akeem Adeyemi (Alarape) and was unanimously accepted by the community.

It started in December last year and is expected to be completed this month.

The edifice is on Araromi Street; one of the well-known entrances to the community from Oshodi-Apapa Expressway, to replace the abandoned Customary Court building which has not been in use for almost a decade following the collapse of a part of its fence.

Alarape explained that the site was chosen for the project to make it useful for another project following the collapse of its fence.

He informed that the Hall

would be world-class standard fitted with installations with the capacity to accommodate hundreds of people.

"When completed, we expect that this infrastructure will be at least 300 persons in capacity, bigger than what it was before. It wasn't a hall before, it was a customary court, a very small one but was abandoned when the fence collapsed, a lot of lives were lost. For that reason, it was left unused."

The councillor explained that the community went for the town hall to have a place where community leaders could always discuss issues of communal interests for the growth and development of the community.

He added that the desire to find a lasting solution to the unnecessary roadblock some



Site of the ongoing project

residents always have to deal with during any social event in the community also made the

project more important for the residents.

A community leader, Mr.

Akeem Tiemiye who is known as Pelebe, commended Alarape for proposing the

project, saying the community had been agitating for such a developmental project.

Why my people in Ondo made me a chief- Ikugbayigbe

By Damilola Kushimo

A councillorship aspirant in Ajao Estate Ward, Adeolu Ikugbayigbe has described his recent installation as a chief as evidence of his impact on his community.

Ikugbayigbe was recently conferred with the title of Olowodasha of Osoro, Ondo State

Assuring that the chieftaincy will not affect his constitutional obligations to his constituents, Ikugbayigbe said it would

rather strengthen him to be up and doing should he get elected in the forthcoming 2021 local council polls.

"We all know that some chieftaincy titles are hereditary and others are bestowed on individuals for their great roles. The honour of being conferred with this chieftaincy title is an attestation to my impactful nature in society. I felt so honoured and lifted most especially because it was unexpected.

"About my aspiration, as

you've asked, all hands are on deck. We are leaving no stone unturned. I don't feel challenged by any aspirant at all but, I have the clear understanding that it is a competition and I need to give my best to it and give my best to my constituents if elected. Both chieftaincy and councillorship activities cannot affect each other. It's about responsibility and it will make me better and stronger. It's a test of faith and I'm convinced that I'm good to go," he said.



Hon. Adeolu Ikugbayigbe

Obey party rules, stakeholders urge new APC interim caretaker C'ttee

By Saheed Afolabi

The newly inaugurated members of the interim caretaker committee of the All Progressives Congress (APC) party, Oke-Afa Ward have been urged to respect the constituted authority and do their jobs diligently. The committee was recently inaugurated to oversee the party's activities at the ward level following the directive by the party leadership to dissolve the elected executive members of the party ahead of its next conventions. The APC Treasurer, Ejigbo LCDA, Wasiu Atinsola, urged the newly appointed caretaker committee to respect the constituted authority of the party and be steadfast in promoting the party in Oke-Afa ward.

Admonishing the committee, the Secretary to the Local Government (SLG) of Ejigbo LCDA Paul Fregene appealed to the members to mobilize people to join the party to ensure victory during the coming local government elections and other subsequent elections, so that the party can continue to

deliver the dividend of democracy.

He also pleaded with the caretaker committee to show total loyalty to the party and abstain from anti-party activities.

The chairman of the committee, Mr. Oluwaseun Dejo, in a chat with ECHONEWS, said he was satisfied with the decision of the party to cut short their tenure as elected officials of the party and appointed them as caretaker committee.

According to him, it is the party that gave him the platform to serve as an executive member of the party, saying the decision was in the best interest of the party.

He pledged to move the party forward by mobilising residents of Oke-Afa ward to



APC Oke-Afa ward interim caretaker committee taking oath of office

register and prepare for elections.

Equally speaking, the Women Leader of APC in Oke-Afa

ward, Mrs. Oluwatoyin Onabanjo said she has mobilised more women to join the party and key into the

vision of the APC.

The party Youth Leader, Mr. Babatunde Sanni said youths have been canvassed to join

the party to let them know how progressive the APC is and to also move the party forward in gaining electoral wins.

the party to let them know how progressive the APC is and to also move the party forward in gaining electoral wins.

- 1) Mr. Seun Dejo - Chairman
- 2) Mrs. Yemisi Alashe - Vice-Chairman
- 3) Mr. Toyin Saka - Secretary
- 4) Mr. Ibukun Akindolie - Asst. Secretary
- 5) Mr. Adeola Jimoh - Legal Adviser
- 6) Pst. Moses Owolabi - Asst. Legal Adviser
- 7) Mr. Hakeem Oduyoye - Treasurer

Names of APC Oke Afa Interim Executive Committee Members

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| 8) Lekan Aregbesola - Asst. Treasurer | Asst. Organising Secretary | 17) Alhaja Rukayat O. Muritala - Auditor | Youth Leader |
| 9) Alhaji Isiaka Salami - Financial Secretary | 13) Mrs. E. I. Fagbemi - Publicity Secretary | 18) Engr. Rahman Adewale - Asst. Auditor | 22) Mr. Peter Adegoke - Asst. Youth Leader |
| 10) Mr. Aderemi Adeyoyin - Asst. Financial Secretary | 14) Mr. Idris Kasumu - Asst. Publicity Secretary | 19) Mrs. Toyin Onabajo - Woman Leader | 23) Alhaji Bola Moshood - Ex-Officio 1 |
| 11) Mr. Mustapha Obisesan - Organising Secretary | 15) Mrs. Yetunde Yinusa - Welfare Secretary | 20) Mrs. Esther Ogunsanya - Asst. Woman Leader | 24) Pst. S.B. Ojedokun - Ex-Officio 2 |
| 12) Mrs. Folasade Adebayo - Asst. Welfare Secretary | 16) Mr. Babajide Adekoya - Asst. Welfare Secretary | 21) Mr. Babatunde Sanni - | 25) Mrs. Amidu - Ex-Officio 3 |
| | | | 26) Mr. Ibrahim Agbaje - Ex-Officio 4. |

Two students from Ejigbo Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Maryam Afolabi and Faatimah Salman, have emerged the Winner and First Runner-Up in the Quiz Competition organised by the Lagos State body of the Muslim Students' Society of Nigeria. The competition was part of the body's annual programme, Islamic Vacation Course, which was done virtually and followed by a large audience of more than 500 across the state. At the grand finale of the competition, Maryam Afolabi and Faatimah Salman who both attend Learn With Ease Academy scored 90 percent and 83 percent respectively. To emerge, they beat over 600 participants in Lagos State. According to the organisers, the contest was held in stages as the initially accredited three hundred participants were streamlined to five students who

Ejigbo Students emerge winners of Lagos Quiz

By Saheed Afolabi

contested for the grand finale of the much-coveted competition. Among the five finalists were the two students from Ejigbo whose performances were remarkable and worthy of commendation. While acknowledging the level of performance of the contestants, the President of the Muslim Students' Society of Nigeria, Lagos State Area Unit, Mr. Miftaudeen Sanni, congratulated the winners with emphasis on the representatives of Ejigbo for their stellar performance. He however advised the students to take their academics seriously.

Also speaking about their victory, the Head of the Muslim Students' body in Ejigbo LCDA, Mr. Abdulfatai Akinosho, expressed his gratitude to God



Ejigbo page Winners of Lagos Quiz, Marian Afolabi and Faatimah Salman

as he congratulated the winners for representing Ejigbo well and for positioning their school in front of academic success in the

state. He however appreciated the organisers for creating an avenue for students in the state

to show "the stuff they are made of and what they are capable of doing when it comes to their studies."

He added that it would go a long way in encouraging students to be upright in their studies.

New Year: PSP operator threatens to sue defaulters

By Edith Igbokwe

The management of Excellens Waste Management Service, one of the Private Sector Participants (PSP) operating in Oshodi has threatened to involve the court in retrieving its money from the customers who are defaulting in the payments of their waste bills.

The company had earlier suspended services in 12 areas

of Oshodi which include Alasia Compound at Agege Motor Road, Alhaji Sheu Close, Yinusa Close, Oseni Ewu Street, Sule Close, Ayeni Village, Ayeni Street, Kale Court, Peluola Street, Yemoja Street, Apakun lane, and Bass Street due to the non-payment of the bills.

However, the management said it decided to resume the services in December, 2020 to be fair with the less than 10

percent of customers who paid up their bills till January, 2021 as it concluded to take the matter to customary court.

While waiting for the court decision on the matter, the CEO of the company, Mr. David Oriyomi, told ECHONEWS that the company has decided to embark on selective services as a strategy to serve the few customers who have been paying while ignoring the defaulters.

His words: "My challenge is that once the refuse vehicle enters a particular street, all the residents will rush and bring out their refuse to litter the street especially 'Agboile' areas but I am trying to avoid that mess up. "I have made effort to involve the Community Development Association (CDA) chairmen to speak to their community members to pay up their waste bills to make our services efficient and to avoid cutting

them off from receiving our services which they can't get elsewhere.

"I bought six new trucks through bank loans from Polaris and Sterling bank to improve the efficiency of my services to the community but after servicing them, it is debt that I get in return. It is unfair! How do I cope with the refund to the bank that has the confidence to invest money in our sector despite that the economy is in

shambles, struggling to survive? It should be in our interest to make haste and pay back the loan after the bank has reduced the equity cooperation for us and given us three years period of refund."

He concluded that the company will go to court to retrieve its money as soon as the court resumes in January unless the debtors pay 80 percent of what they are owing before he can start collecting their refuse.

Shammeh commends quality of ongoing project

By Damilola Kushimo

The Chairman of Isolo LCDA, Hon. Shamsudeen Olaleye (Shammeh), has expressed satisfaction with the quality of work being done by the company, Messer Shamtao Nigeria Limited, handling the construction of a one-storey building within the council secretariat.

Shammeh, while inspecting the project, accompanied by his vice, Hon. Bayo Olasoju, the Secretary to the Local Government (SLG), Hon. Emmanuel Olojede, the Council Manager, Mr. Shamsudeen Odeleye, and a host of other management members, commended the site engineer, Engr. Alonge Olaleye and the contractor handling the project for doing a satisfactory job, saying they have given the required quality even though the project suffered delay due to dearth of funds.

The project is an upgrade of the old structure to be rebuilt as a new one-storey building housing an ultramodern event hall, marriage registry, and offices.

According to the council boss, the ultramodern hall and the marriage registry are expected to generate more revenues into the council's coffer while the offices would create more spaces for departments and units to accommodate their staff members.

Since the project began last year, the personnel in the affected offices including the office of National Population Commission (NPC), the office of Lagos State Residents



Hon. Shamsudeen Olaleye during the inspection

Registration Agency (LASRRA), the office of the

Lagos State Neighborhood and Safety Corps (LNSC) as

well as the office of the Community Development

Committee (CDC) have been temporarily relocated to other

blocks within the council to carry on with their works.

See your promotion as a call to do more, community urges DPO

By Damilola Kushimo

The Chairman of Police Community Relations Committee (PCRC), Ago-Okota Division, Hon. Alebiosu has joined other community leaders to congratulate the Divisional of Police Officer (DPO) of the Division, Ladi Tarpaya on her recent promotion as Chief Superintendent of Police (CSP). While urging him to keep his excellent performance, they told him to see her new promotion as

a call to do more for the community in terms of security and good behaviour he is known for.

Tarpaya was recently decorated with the rank of CSP, making her the latest DPO to boast of such rank in Area D and this has attracted commendations from leaders in the community.

While congratulating her, Alebiosu said: "The promotion is indeed so deserved because her performance has been so meritorious and excellent and I'm

sure she will keep up with it. She's a nice police officer. On this new promotion, I heartily congratulate her and pray that God keeps being her guide."

"Her promotion is a testimony to her dutifulness and I'm very happy for her. She's been so diligent in the course of the work and this virtue also reflects in the performance of her men. I wish her more promotions," said Hon. Adeleke Adegboyega, Vice Chairman, PCRC, Area D and the PCRC Chairman of Aswani

Division.

Also speaking, the leader of the council, Hon. Remy Shittu Remy who was among the first political leaders in the council area to welcome Tarpaya when she was transferred to the Division in August 2019 described her performance so far as impressive as he felicitated with her on her promotion.

He said: "Before she was transferred here, we had known her to be a great officer and she has convincingly proven that to is



CSP Ladi Tarpaya

us by being diligent in the discharge of her duties. It is my joy that she is promoted. I say congratulations to her."



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