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Farewell to  
the "Striker" PG.17



Otedola donates  
building to  
university PG.10



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# Echoneews

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# Lagos 2023: Sanwo-Olu Returns

By Rasaq Adebayo

In the next few hours, Lagosians and especially the All Progressives Congress (APC) members and supporters are set to go into jubilation as they expect their governorship candidate, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu to be officially declared winner of the 2023 gubernatorial election by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

Though the result of the election is yet to be officially announced by the Commission, indications from the results recorded in the polling units across Lagos State have indicated the victory of the ruling party. Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu is leading with a landslide over his contenders in the election. The tension in the party was suppressed when the results started coming in in favor of the party on Saturday from various polling units. Initially, the result of the presidential election which favored the Labour Party in Lagos had put the ruling party on its toe to re-strategize on winning tips hence, it changed its campaign dimension and embarked on massive consultation.

**Election**  
Although Saturday's election was postponed to Sunday in 10 killing units in the Victoria Garden City (VGC) around the Lekki area of the state due to a hoodlum threat to disrupt the exercise as announced by Lagos Resident Electoral Commissioner (REC), Segun Agbaje, it was observed that the exercise was peaceful in the state. Agbaje made the announcement when he addressed reporters at the VGC, corps members

deployed as the ad-hoc staff was hesitant to enter the estate as they alleged that they were held hostage in the February 25 Presidential and National Assembly elections.

According to Agbaje, voting materials were set up in front of the estate on Saturday but the estate residents claimed that hoodlums might disrupt the process, so they did not feel secure and could not cast their votes.

The INEC Commissioner explained that he was in the area alongside his team because the situation was difficult for security agents to contain.

Apart from a few areas where minor violence was reported, our correspondent who monitored the election across the state on Saturday said the exercise was peaceful, without complaints by voters. The INEC officials were on the ground as early as 7:30 am with their materials in many polling units, commenced the exercise early, and also concluded on time.

**APC's campaign strategy**  
While the 15 canvases in each ward continued with their job in their various places, the governor also embarked on wide consultation, meeting people one on one in their various locations.

Governor Sanwo-Olu met businessmen and women in Lagos and visited churches to canvas for their support for his re-election while reassuring the stakeholders of the state's commitment to growth. He also met with the victims of the Akere Market fire incident with huge financial support to ease their suffering.

The governor donated N100 million to traders in the burnt Akere Motor Parts and Allied Dealers



Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu

Association (AMPADA) market in the Ajegunle area of the State.

He also laid the foundation for a new market building.

Speaking during his visit to the burnt site of the Akere market, Sanwo-Olu said the efforts by the Lagos State Government were to help alleviate the plight of the traders who lost goods and cash in the fire when the market got burnt.

He said: "A week or less ago we promised to come back here to give immediate support to the people who were affected by the unfortunate incident. This is not politics, it is just a coincidence that it is a political season.

"I am happy to be here to lay the foundation for the new market building. Now it is a story building and a small compensation that will alleviate the suffering and loss of our traders here. It is for us to make a clear stand that we are not about ethnic or religious division. We are a

government that is people-centered and working to make things better for them, no matter what party or where they come from.

"As long as they are law-abiding, keep to laws guiding the environment, and respect the heritage of where they do business, they will always be accommodated.

"This will also send a clear message to people who want to divide us that we won't let a small number disunite a large number of people. We won't give them a space in Lagos and our government."

Governor Sanwo-Olu also urged Lagos residents to come out and vote massively for him on Saturday, noting that the 18 percent vote cast during the presidential election is not a good representation of the Lagos population.

Speaking earlier, the Chairman of Ajeromi-Ife Odun Local Government Area, Hon. Fatai Ayoola thanked Governor Sanwo-Olu for keeping to his promise of

helping the people.

He promised that the people in the council would reciprocate the good gesture by voting for Governor Sanwo-Olu during Saturday's governorship poll.

He said: "True to your word you are here today in Ajegunle to compensate the marketers for their loss and also lay the foundation for their new market. We thank you and wish that your efforts will be rewarded in Saturday's election.

"We assure you that in Ajegunle we will do all within the ambit of the law to canvass for you because you have done so much for us. You rebuilt the Obafon and Mbakadoso roads. You also help us build Maracana Stadium for our youths.

"We are grateful and we would forever remain grateful for your stewardship and leadership that you have shown to the true people of Ajegunle."

Also speaking, the Market Chairman, Mr. Izuchukwu

Uba, assured Governor Sanwo-Olu of the trader's support in Saturday's gubernatorial election.

Traders at the market thanked Governor Sanwo-Olu for the good gesture promising to come out en masse on Saturday to vote for him and all APC candidates.

Political observers said the traders jeot to their promise which they said led to Sanwo-Olu's victory at the Saturday poll.

Former Ekiti State Governor, Ayo Fayose, also campaigned for Sanwo-Olu, calling on Lagos residents to re-elect the Governor on Saturday.

Fayose who was joined by Governor Sanwo-Olu at the local wings of the Murtala Muhammed Airport spoke to taxi drivers at the airports and urged them to come out in large numbers and vote for the All Progressives Congress (APC) candidate in the March 18 governorship poll.

"Sanwo-Olu is our candidate. Let us all come out on Saturday to re-elect him," Fayose urged the Airport taxi drivers.

"Sanwo-Olu is our candidate. Let us all come out on Saturday to re-elect him," Fayose urged the Airport taxi drivers.

Apart from all these, another strategy used by the party is to task the canvassers in each ward to call potential voters and woo them to support the party. This campaign strategy did wonders especially in Ejigbo where the former Commissioner of Information and Strategy, Kehinde Bamigbetan led the campaign and mobilized more people to do the job. This was coupled with a door-to-door campaign the party continued till election time.

# Lagos 2023: Sanwo-Olu Returns

Continued from page 2

## Other Parties' Support

In a buildup to the election, no fewer than nine political parties, under the umbrella of the Alliance of Registered Political Parties (ARPP) declared support for the re-election of Governor Sanwo-Olu.

They include Young Progressives Party (YPP), Action Democratic Party (ADP), All Peoples Party (APP), Zenith Labour Party (ZLP), Allied Peoples Movement (APM), Social Democratic Party (SDP), People Redemption Party (PRP), New Nigerian Peoples Party (NNPP), and All Peoples Party (APP).

The governorship candidate of YPP, who doubles as the leader of ARPP, Mr. Ajayi Adebayo, explained that the parties decided after a thorough analysis of the performance of the APC in Lagos State.

He noted that the governorship candidates of APP, Adeyemi Abiola, ZLP, Adenipekun Adekunle, APM, Kupoluyi Funmi, and ADP, Ishola Bamidele, had stepped down their governorship ambitions to declare their support for Governor Sanwo-Olu.

Adebayo added that they cannot sacrifice the various landmark achievements of the Sanwo-Olu administration on the altar of bitter politicking, adding, "the governor's consistency as a progressive democrat is worthy of due commendation, and continuity is key."

The parties said Sanwo-Olu had delivered on his social contract with the people of the state through his THEMES mantra.

Though Accord Party candidate, Hakeem Olaogu Dickson, was expected to declare his support for the APC, he did

not do so until about 24 hours before the election. He finally officially declared his support for Sanwo-Olu on Friday, a day before Election Day.

## APC's Victory

Indeed, based on its homework and efforts geared towards the mobilization of the voters, the party was so confident of its victory at the poll.

Speaking to journalists after casting his vote at polling unit 105 at Onalwa Mimo Street in Ejigbo, an APC leader in Ejigbo LCDA, Hon. Kehinde Bamigbetan said his party would coast home with victory with a landslide.

Apart from the party's campaign, he noted that the record of achievements of governor Sanwo-Olu spoke for him at the poll, saying Lagosians want continuity of redevelopment of the state.

He said: "I don't have any doubt in my mind that APC will win the election. Our governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu will be voted for by the majority of voters in Lagos. And I also believe that our candidate for State House of Assembly in Oshodi-Isolo constituency II, Hon. Ladi Ajomale will also be elected. So I believe that this time, 'Eko maa soro, Lagosians will speak through their votes. This time around, people have woken up and seen the reality of the situation. It has been realized that people need to be revived, recharged, re-educated, and re-enlightened for them to play their historic role at this juncture in the politics of Lagos State. I believed that by the time we see the votes and INEC announces the result, it should be double what happened last time."

Bamigbetan also commended the INEC for improving on its logistics, saying: "I must commend the INEC, the evidence



available is that they have learned from the error of the past, and this time, we have a better more coordinated arrangement. The officials had arrived as early as 7:30 am, the exercise started immediately and it went on well."

## PDP, LP Alliance

As part of their gimmicks to put up a tough fight against the ruling party, the Labour Party governorship candidate, Gbadebo Rhodes-Vivour tried to ally with the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) but the alliance could not hold.

In a chat with ECHONEWS, Rhodes-Vivour said his party was looking at coming together with PDP to form a strong alliance to oust the ruling APC and relieve the party of power in Lagos State.

He said allying with the PDP became necessary and that he was discussing with the leadership of the party to forge a common front against the APC in the governorship election to be held on March 18, 2023.

However, Rhodes-Vivour

was so confident based on the result of the presidential poll in the state, thinking he would ride on the popularity of his party and the success of his presidential candidate.

He was so arrogant that he said the PDP would have to collapse its structure for his party.

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

"We are determined to emerge victorious during the coming Saturday gubernatorial election. We have made plans to ensure everybody comes out to vote. We will not be cheated twice, INEC has promised us that there would be the electronic transmission of the results; they deceived us because that was not what happened during the last election, but we will not be deceived again. So, we are encouraging all our members to come out massively and we have made sufficient security plans to ensure everybody is safe.

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

However, the PDP candidate, Adediran Olajide (Jandor) who had been building his popularity among Lagosians through his Lagos4Lagos scheme refuses to collapse his party's structure for LP. He alleged that Rhodes-Vivour has a court case that might jeopardize their victory.

So, the alliance between the two parties flopped and further delete their power and chance of winning the election.

Apart from that, some leader in the PDP withdrew their support for their candidate due to internal crises still going on in the party.

Consequently, lost the election in so many polling units across the state,

while Rhodes-Vivour also lost to APC even in his polling unit.

## Voters Turnout

Though better than the presidential election, low voter turnout was also recorded during Saturday's governorship election.

Commenting on this, the Ologudu of Ogudu, Oba Najim Akinwumi Fashola said the low turnout could be a result of the cash crisis still being experienced in the country. Meanwhile, he commended the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) for the improvement of its equipment and workforce to have a seamless electoral process.

He confirmed that the election in Lagos State was peaceful and credible, stating that the BVAS worked perfectly in his community.

Though know turnout was observed, the number of voters who came out to vote on Saturday could not be as certain until the result is announced by INEC.

# Jah tips Sanwo-Olu to constitute his cabinet with youths

By Rasaq Adebayo

The member of the Lagos State House of Assembly representing Ifako-Ijaye constituency I, Hon. Adedeji Temitope Jah (ATA) has urged governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu to give the youths the highest quota in his cabinet when he returns as the state governor for his second term.

Jah, who boasted of victory for his All Progressives Congress (APC) party even before the official announcement of the election results, said the youths have to be carried along to be grounded in politics, especially grassroots politics.

He said governance in Lagos would be better if youths are allowed to serve in the next Sanwo-Olu's cabinet.

"How nice would the governance be if youths are Commissioners, SA and SSA's? There is a need for the youths to play their roles in government, therefore, they need to join politics."

The lawmaker said Lagos would have witnessed year's long progression if Sanwo-Olu had not been returned to serve for the second term as the governor of the state. He noted that the governor has done greatly well to deserve his second term in office, assuring Lagosians of more developments in

terms of human, social, and infrastructural development across the state.

"I want to congratulate His Excellency. For I knew he has become a second-time Governor of Lagos State. He never really had a contestant. He never had anybody who was contesting with him. Governor Sanwo-Olu is a silent achiever who has done massively well.

"Out of all other governors have, I think he is one of the best of them. And he has performed fantastically well in terms of infrastructure development be it from the health sector

to the transport sector to the educational sector, he has touched all the aspects of his THEME agenda and I think he is doing very well for himself. So he wasn't really in that contest with anybody. And I congratulate him once again and for the future.

"I know he's coming to consolidate on everything he's done in his first time. And you know, for somebody who came in and completed almost all the ongoing projects that his producers left behind for him, I think he's not going to start leaving a great mark with his legacy project. And I am sure it's going to be

fantastic work. He is a smart governor, he's intelligent, you know, he's a people person.

"He listens to everybody, he takes advice and I think he's an acting governor. So I think we should expect more greatness from him. So yeah the party APC is the ruling party. You know despite all the diversity that we encountered during the presidential election, mather, my mentor, my leader, and my boss matched the President of Nigeria.

"And within the short period of him becoming the President of Niger, we can see a little bit of

difference in the economic policies especially that has to do with the cash."

He also pledged to facilitate more development in his constituency in his second term while highlighting his achievements in the constituency, urging them to expect more in his second coming. Commenting on the last Saturday's election, the lawmaker said the exercise was perfect and seamless.

"First of all, I want to commend the INEC for conducting a perfect election. Their staffs were timely and I think they have mastered how to use

the BVAS. They made the entire voting process good and seamless. So I want to say thank you to them for being proactive in what they're doing and also I think we had a very perfect election though there was still a low turnout.

"If you check you would also notice that there's a bit of low turnout, people didn't come out to vote but I'm certain when the results are out we'll be able to tell the difference between the presidential elections from the governorship election. Two things should never be involved in politics which are religion and ethnicity."



Hon. Temitope Jah

# Bus-Train Accident: 834 Lagosians volunteer to donate blood

Kunle Awosiyan

In response to the call for emergency rescue of the victims of the Bus-Train accident that occurred at PWD, Shogunle axis of Ikeja recently, no fewer than 834 people were ready to donate blood.

Following the incident in which six lives were lost and about 85 others sustained various degrees of injury, there was an appeal to the residents to voluntarily donate blood to rescue the victims.

The data obtained by ECHONEWS revealed that at the end of Day 4, there were 75 requests by the Lagos State medical management; 100 percent of the blood requests were crossmatched; 65.3 percent of crossmatched blood was released for transfusion while 88 percent of released blood were transfused

The data further indicates that if a total of 824 donors were recruited, 271 were deferred while 563 blood was donated.

As earlier reported by ECHONEWS, governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu led in the blood donation, his prompt response to the donation encouraged other political leaders in the state including the former Commissioner for Information and Strategy, Mr. Kehinde Bamigbetan, and others who have also made their donations.

The governor showed that the residents are human and that he laid an example of good leadership for Lagosians to emulate.



## Ologudu of Ogudu congratulates Sanwo-Olu in advance

Kunle Awosiyan

The Ologudu of Ogudu, Oba Najim Akinwumin, has congratulated Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu in advance as he expressed assurance of his victory at poll.

While speaking with ECHONEWS, the monarch said he was sure that Sanwo-Olu would be announced winner of the 2023 Lagos governorship election by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC). He said the traditional rulers in Lagos are solidly behind the governor for his re-election due to his achievements in government.

According to the monarch, the traditional, Sanwo-Olu has done greatly to deserve a second term, saying Lagosians are much interested in continuity.

He noted that many people voted for APC

during the last Saturday election, and that he was optimistic of the party's success hence, the celebration commenced immediately.

"APC is doing fantastically and has good structure. Anybody the party present will surely deliver well and that is why we will continue to vote for any candidate of the party especially in Lagos State.

"I am expecting the result in favor of our governor. In fact, he deserves it. I am sure he has won. APC in Lagos is the party to recon with, no any other party can do it better. We are only expecting more from the party in the state. I am happy that the election was very peaceful, Ogudu was peaceful as well as the whole state. There was an improvement in the conduct of the election this time around."

Meanwhile, the monarch also charges

the President-Elect, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu to be proactive and make sure the youths are well represented in his government.

Oba Fashola, who expressed confidence in Tinubu said there would a change for development once the present-elect assume office.



HRM Oba Najim Fashola, Ologudu of Ogudu,

## Lagos Chief Judge Announces Easter Vacation

Kunle Awosiyan

The Chief Judge of Lagos, Justice Kazeem Olanrewaju Alogba has announced the period between April 7 and April 14 as the Easter holiday for courts in the state.

He made the announcement through a circular signed by the Acting Chief Registrar, T.A Elias, a copy of which was made available to Echonews.

The circular reads in part, "In pursuant to order 49, rule 4(b) of the high court of Lagos civil procedure

rule 2019, the period between Friday April 7th and Friday April 14th 2023 has been approved as Easter Holiday. The courts will resume on April 17, 2023.

However, the circular noted that for urgent matters, each judge will deal with urgent application related to substantive cause as assigned to him or her during the period.

In order words, judge can hear a case of urgent consideration during the period provided that the rule 49 of the high courts of Lagos civil procedure is followed.



**NOTICE**

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF LAGOS STATE**  
**2023 EASTER VACATION**

IT IS HEREBY STATED FOR GENERAL INFORMATION THAT THE CHIEF JUDGE OF LAGOS STATE, THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE KAZEEM OLANREWAJU ALOGBA, HAS PURSUANT TO ORDER 49 RULE 4 (B) OF THE HIGH COURT OF LAGOS STATE (CIVIL PROCEDURE) RULES, 2019 APPROVED THAT THE PERIOD BETWEEN FRIDAY, THE 7<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2023 TO FRIDAY, THE 14<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2023 SHALL BE THE PERIOD FIXED FOR YEAR 2023 EASTER VACATION.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE COURT WILL RESUME WORK ON MONDAY, THE 17<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2023.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR DEALING WITH URGENT CAUSES DURING THE EASTER VACATION ARE THAT EACH JUDGE WILL DEAL WITH ALL URGENT APPLICATIONS RELATED TO ANY SUBSTANTIVE CAUSE ALREADY ASSIGNED TO HIM/HER. ANY URGENT APPLICATION, THE SUBSTANTIVE CAUSE OF WHICH HAS NOT ALREADY BEEN ASSIGNED, WILL BE DEALT WITH BY THE JUDGE TO WHOM THE APPLICATION IS SPECIFICALLY ASSIGNED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISION OF ORDER 49, RULE 4 (SUPRA) ANY CAUSE OR MATTER MAY BE HEARD BY A JUDGE DURING THE PERIOD OF THE EASTER VACATION WHERE SUCH A CAUSE OR MATTER IS URGENT, PROVIDED THAT THE CONDITION PRESCRIBED BY ORDER 49 RULE 5 OF THE HIGH COURT OF LAGOS (CIVIL PROCEDURE) RULES, 2019 SHALL BE OBSERVED AND COMPLIED WITH.

DATED THIS 13<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2023.

MR. T.A. ELIAS  
AG. CHIEF REGISTRAR

# Akere Market Fire: Sanwo-Olu Compensates Traders with N100M

Kunle Awosiyan

Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu on Wednesday donated N100 million to traders in the burnt Akere Motor Parts and Allied Dealers Association (AMPADA) market in the Ajegunle area of the State.

The Governor also laid the foundation for a new market building.

Speaking during his visit to the burnt site of the Akere market on Wednesday, Governor Sanwo-Olu said the efforts by the Lagos State Government were to help alleviate the plight of the traders who lost goods and cash in the fire when the market got burnt last week.

He said: "A week or less ago we promised to come back here to give immediate support to the people who were affected by the unfortunate incident. This is not a coincidence that it is a political season.

"I am happy to be here to lay the foundation for the new market building. Now it is a storey building and a small compensation that will alleviate the suffering and loss of our traders here. It is for us to make a clear stand that we are not about ethnic or religious division. We are a government that is people-centered and working to make things better for them, no matter what party or where they come from.

"As long as they are law-abiding, keep to

laws guiding the environment, and respect the heritage of where they do business, they will always be accommodated.

"This will also send a clear message to people who want to divide us that we won't let a small number disunite a large number of people. We won't give them a space in Lagos and our government."

Governor Sanwo-Olu also urged Lagos residents to come out and vote massively for him on Saturday, noting that the 18 percent vote cast during the presidential election is not a good representation of the Lagos population.

Speaking earlier, the Chairman of Ajeromi-Ifelodun Local Government Area,

Hon. Fatai Ayoola thanked Governor Sanwo-Olu for keeping to his promise of helping the people.

He promised that the people in the council would reciprocate the good gesture by voting for Governor Sanwo-Olu during Saturday's governorship poll.

He said: "True to your word you are here today in Ajegunle to compensate the marketers for their loss and also lay the foundation for their new market. We thank you and wish that your efforts will be rewarded in Saturday's election.

"We assure you that in Ajegunle we will do all within the ambit of the law to canvass for you because you have done so much for us. You rebuilt the Obafon and

Mbakadoso roads. You also help us build Maracana Stadium for our youths.

"We are grateful and we would forever remain grateful for your stewardship and leadership that you have shown to the true people of Ajegunle."

Also speaking, the Market Chairman, Mr. Izuchukwu Uba, assured Governor Sanwo-Olu of the trader's support in Saturday's gubernatorial election.

Traders at the market thanked Governor Sanwo-Olu for the good gesture promising to come out enmasse on Saturday to vote for him and all APC candidates.

Meanwhile, former Ekiti State Governor, Mr. Ayo Fayose, on

Wednesday drummed support for Governor Sanwo-Olu, calling on Lagos residents to re-elect the Governor on Saturday.

Fayose who was joined by Governor Sanwo-Olu at the local wings of the Murtala Muhammed Airport spoke to taxi drivers at the airports and urged them to come out in large numbers and vote for the All Progressives Congress (APC) candidate in the March 18 governorship poll.

"Sanwo-Olu is our candidate. Let us all come out on Saturday to re-elect him," Fayose urged the Airport taxi drivers. Governor Sanwo-Olu promised to address all the issues raised by the Airport taxi drivers during his meeting with them.



Governor Sanwo-Olu giving out the relieve cheque

# How a soldier slapped me on election duty - 70 year old Mrs. Remi Adegbite

Chairman of the All Progressives Congress, Ilamose ward, Ejigbo Local Council Development Area recounts her ordeal in the hands of the soldiers from Bonny Camp, Lagos who arrested her while on election duty on Saturday.  
Excerpts:



**W**e encountered a patrol vehicle of soldiers in front of Jendol supermarket, near Jakande, Low Cost Housing Estate gate. One of them, who covered his face, asked us to disembark. I identified myself, showed him the tag permitting me to be on the road, and explained our mission. Which party? He asked me. I guess, for clarification. "APC," I replied. "You people want to be president by force" he replied in a heavy Igbo accent. I kept quiet. He moved closer to Wasiu, the rider, and started frisking him. He identified a bulge which when opened turned out to be a charm, an igbadi, a protective device. Wasiu explained that it is meant to ward off evil and not harm anyone. He took offence. He said it was evidence that he planned to disrupt the poll. The next moment, we were ordered into their vehicle and asked to lie face down. They got a distress call from the polling booth at the Low-Cost Housing Estate primary school

and moved us there. Facing down, I heard voices. There was some uproar. I tried to raise my head in case I could see someone I could inform that I have been detained. I saw the vice chairman of the LCDA, Hon. Ayodele from afar and wished he would come closer to the vehicle so I could tell him. One of the soldiers who saw me came charging at me. He

slapped me violently and asked me to take off my tag and face down again. They made more arrests there. From there, we were taken to the Air Force barracks, Oshodi, and asked to write a statement. Afterward, the vehicle took off again. On our way, the soldiers told us that we were on the Third Mainland bridge and that if they wished, they

could shoot us and throw us into the sea. I started praying for divine deliverance. I started praying for my children not to lose me while playing my civic role. We later found ourselves at Bonny Camp, Victoria Island. There, we met many people who were arrested. Most of them spoke Yoruba. The soldiers who arrested us

spoke pidgin. One officer, Major Sanusi took over our case. He interrogated me and set me free. He was the one who asked them to release me. But Wasiu was not released. I don't know what has happened to him. I was the one who hired him to take me round. I am appealing to the Army Commander of Bonny Camp to release Wasiu.



Major General Yakub Yahaya addressing the press

# Lagos Spends Over N600M on 2,500 Lagosians under Sanwo-Olu Listens Initiative-Aide

Kunle Awosiyan

The Special Adviser to the Lagos State Governor on Civic Engagement, Princess Aderemi Adebowale has said that the Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu administration is very passionate about the welfare of Lagosians and has disbursed N600 Million to support 2,500 Lagosians through "Sanwo-Olu Listens" initiative in the last three and half years. Adebowale revealed this during her appearance on "Your View", a magazine programme aired on Television Continental (TVC) on Wednesday, explaining that the Office of Civic Engagement, which is directly under the purview of Mr. Governor, acts as the link between the citizens and the government and bring governance closer to the people, especially the indigent. The Special Adviser said that another important

initiative of the Sanwo-Olu-led administration is the "Mother Infant & Child Health Development (MICH D 2050)" programme, which is a special project that looks at security from the womb. It also supports pregnant women, especially the indigent, in feeding appropriately for the proper development of the foetus, as the formation of lives starts from the womb. Aderemi disclosed that the "MICH D 2050" programme started in 2020 during the COVID-19 Pandemic, stressing that the Lagos State Government was able to reach out to 2000 indigent pregnant women despite the disease and has since extended the gesture to over 5000 indigent pregnant women across Lagos State. According to her, "The Office liaised with the Local Government and Public Health Centres (PHC) and it was discovered that most



Princess Aderemi Adebowale

pregnant women do not come to the PHC till the second trimester of their pregnancy, which is six months into their pregnancy. So we decided to start giving them food packs which contain rice, beans, wheat and all the needed vitamins and

nutrients in pregnancy. This encouraged them in early registration and increased the antenatal attendance from 68% to 98%". She further revealed that all pregnant women that have been enrolled on the MICH D 2050 Programme

also have free access to the ILERA-EKO Health insurance scheme which gives them unrestricted access to the best affordable health care. She averred that the "Sanwo-Olu Listens" Financial Assistance Programme is a social intervention programme of the Office of Civic Engagement aimed at providing assistance to the vulnerable to mitigate their challenges, particularly in the areas of health, unforeseen disaster and accidents, loss of jobs and business empowerment of Lagosians.

In her words, "The 'Sanwo-Olu Listens' Financial Assistance programme depicts the other side of Mr. Governor that many people do not know. As a person, he is compassionate and also loves to reach out to people, especially the indigents and those at the grassroots, this is why he pushes programmes such as this through various

Ministries. It is open to all Lagosians, you don't need a referral and in the last three and half years we have spent over N600 million helping 2,500 Lagosians live a better life. "EKO CARES is also another initiative that is solely aimed at eradicating extreme poverty. Under this programme, we have distributed fast-moving consumer goods worth N20,000 per person to over 6,500 so that they can sell and make instant profits", she added. The Special Adviser stated further that the State Ministry of Wealth Creation & Employment, The Office of Sustainable Development Goals, Ministry of Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation also have similar programmes which reflect some of the efforts of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu, geared towards engaging Lagosians in governance and empowering the less privileged.

## Train-Bus Accident: Lagos Awaits Case File To Prosecute Driver

Kunle Awosiyan

The Lagos State Government is set to prosecute the driver of the bus involved in the train crash of last Thursday. Disclosing the name of the driver as Mr. Remi Osibanjo at the weekend, the state Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, Mr. Moyosore Onigbanjo (SAN) said that the ministry is waiting for the driver's case file to begin the process of prosecution. In a statement released by the Justice Ministry Director of Public Affairs, Mrs. Grace Alo, the commissioner said that the driver is still in the

custody of the police.

The driver is with the police at the Nigeria Railway Corporation Division, Ebutte-Metta, according to the statement.

The statement says that the driver was arrested on Thursday and was detained for further investigation by the Railway Police Command Headquarters, Ebutte-Metta, Lagos.

"The Commissioner of Police, Railway Police Division has taken over the investigation of the accident," it said.

According to the statement, the bus involved in the collision has also been retrieved and sent for a thorough



examination at the Lagos State Vehicle Inspection Service Office (VIO), while the State Ministry of Justice awaits both reports from the VIO and

the Police regarding the cause of the accident for necessary action.

Whilst informing that the Ministry commiserates with the victims of the

accident and the families of those who lost their lives to the tragic accident, the commissioner assured members of the public

that upon receipt of the case file from the police and the report of the VIO, the office shall not hesitate to prosecute any person(s) found culpable.

# Sanwo-Olu's Re-election: Group Intensifies Free Wifi For Lagos Youths

Kunle Awosiyan

The Lagos of Our Dream (Project LOUD) in conjunction with some members of the All Progressives Congress (APC) are intensifying free mobile WiFi across the state in support of the re-election bid of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu.

The APC members - Hon Adedeji Adebayo (State), Hon Hammed Adeola and Mr Idrees Yakub, in a statement said their decision to embark on statewide free mobile WiFi especially for the youth was in recognition and support of the various landmark projects of the Governor.

"We are proud to associate with the developmental initiatives of Mr Governor in all parts of the state.

"Since assumption of

office, Mr Governor has brought his experience, expertise and outstanding academic and professional qualifications to bear on governance in Lagos State.

"He (Sanwo-Olu) has initiated key programs that are youth-centric, especially in supporting innovation, startups and entrepreneurs to grow and blossom through grants, soft loans and employment.

"As young people, we are encouraged by the opportunities being provided for the youths by the Sanwo-Olu-administration and in our small way, we are supporting the re-election of Governor Sanwo-Olu to continue his transformational and positively impactful projects across all sectors and sections of the state," they said.

They urged young people in the state to



Free Wifi Branded vehicle

massively vote for Governor Sanwo-Olu on Saturday and all APC candidates in the House

of Assembly election. According to them, doing so will engender consolidation of the

achievements so far by the current administration and help to further accentuate

more initiatives that would result in better outcomes for the youths and the state at large.

The Chartered Institute of Personnel Management (CIPM) has donated relief packages to the Bus-Train accident victims through the Lagos State Government, as part of its effort to support and bring succour to those who suffered injuries in the mishap. Speaking during the presentation of the donated items to the State Government at the Public Service Office/Office of the Head of Service, the Registrar of the Institute, Ms. Toyin Naiwo, FCIPM, noted that the relief packages are to show solidarity and support to the Government, as well as to provide relief to the staff who sustained various degrees of injuries during the accident. Naiwo, who expressed the

## Institute of Personnel Management Donates To Lagos Bus-Train Accident Victims

Kunle Awosiyan

Institute's sadness over the event, condoles the families of those who lost their lives in the accident, praying that God would grant them the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss and the soul of the departed eternal rest.

She also commiserated with the Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu; the Lagos State Head of Service, Mr. Hakeem Muri-Okunola, the entire Body of Permanent Secretaries and all MDAs affected by the accident.

The Permanent Secretary, Public Service Office, Mrs.

'Sunkanmi Oyegbola, FCIPM, who received the delegation on behalf of the State Government expressed appreciation to the CIPM for identifying with the Lagos State Government during this trying period.

Also speaking, the Permanent Secretary, Civil Service Commission, Mrs. Boladele Dapo-Thomas thanked the Institute for the donated items to support the bus-train accident victims.

She added that the gifts would provide relief to the injured staff who have already been discharged and those who are still receiving treatment at the

State General Hospitals, reiterating that the present administration of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu is very appreciative of the Institute's kind gesture. Maintaining that the incident had changed the

perception of the entire civil service on certain things, Dapo-Thomas prayed for the families of the victims, saying that God repose the souls of the dead and grant quick recovery to the injured.

Some of the donated items include Table Water, Tissues, Peak Milk, Milo Drink, Sugar, Lucozade Boost, Glucose, Close-Up Toothpaste and Toothbrushes among others.



# How I sponsored 2 executive bills as first time lawmaker - Kasumu

By Motola AbdulGafar

**A** member representing Ikeja constituency II at the Lagos State House of Assembly, Hon. Adedamola Kasumu (ARK) has recounted his achievements so far as a lawmaker.

According to him, he is the only first term lawmaker in the 8th assembly to have sponsored two executive bills that were passed into law.

He boasted to be a silent achiever who does not like to blow his trumpet, the nature, he claimed a not appreciated by he people even when he provided empowerment initiatives.

"My benevolence has impacted lives of constituents especially as it relates to health, education and empowerment assistance."

Meanwhile, Kasumu charged his constituents to be enlighten about the primary function of a legislator, saying it is just to make laws.

He said he has made it a habit to go beyond that boundary to ensure that he strengthens his tentacles by making sure that youths are carried along since he assumed the role as their representative.

"As a lawmaker, I have facilitated the admission

of 27 students into Lagos State University and 65 youths into Lagos State civil service between 2015 and 2018.

"I have also sponsored about 100 students for JAMB and also sponsored two members of my constituency to US and Scotland for leadership programmes and spent over N25 million during Covid-19 for constituents."

The lawmaker, who regretted to be an introvert, said henceforth, he will announce his achievements to the public, saying as a silent achiever, many people don't know what he has done in the constituency.



Hon Kasumu

## Oba Oladega lays foundation for PHC construction in Agboyi-Kute

By Edith Igbokwe

**H**is Royal Majesty, Oba Monsuru Oladega has laid the foundation of a 40-bed Primary Healthcare Center (PHC), which he facilitated in Agboyi-Kute Local Council Development Area (LCDA).

The project was facilitated by the monarch through the office of the Special Assistant the the Lagos State Governor on Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Mrs. Orelope Adefulure.

The project, which commenced in March 2023, is scheduled to be completed in May, this

year..

The monarch appreciated the Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu and Agboyi-Kute LCDA chairman, Hon. Dele Oshinowo for making various projects in Agboyi-kute a reality.

He stated that the nine government projects that are either completed, ongoing, or in prospect will benefit the community at large when actualized.

He assured the residents that the ongoing construction of a motorable bridge around the Estate Community that was delayed by marking building demolition will soon be completed in due time.



PHC foundation in Agboyi-kute LCDA

## LAHA 2023: Why we voted for Okanlawon for second term - Kosofe

By Edith Igbokwe

**T**he residents of Kosofe Local Government have stated the reason why they voted to re-elect Kosofe constituency I representative at Lagos State House of Assembly, Hon. Sanni Okalanwon.

Okanlawon is a candidate who contested for the Lagos State House of Assembly in Kosofe constituency I under the platform of the All Progressives Congress (APC).

According to them, their support for him was based on his deeds and record of achievement which have led to the development of the community, and which they want to continue.

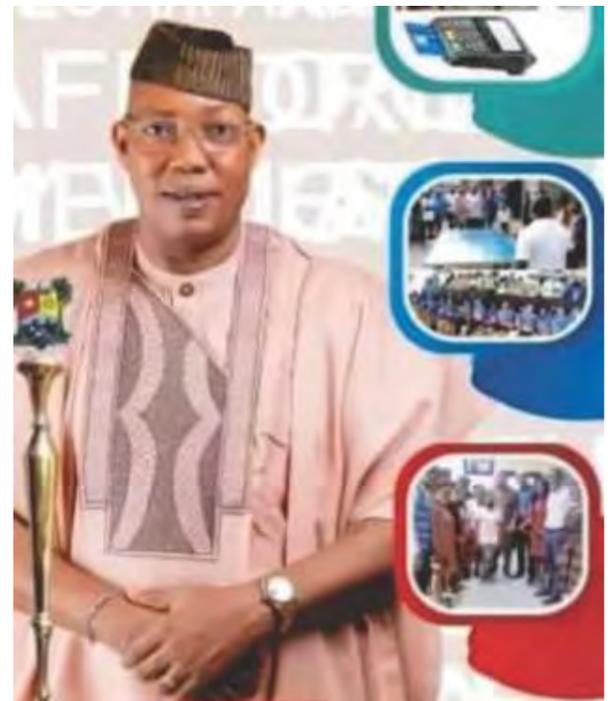
They confessed that Okalanwon's impressive achievements in the last

three and half years have earned him love and confidence in the constituency.

The constituents noted that he has shown dedication to safety and security of his people by establishing the ongoing construction of ultra modern fire service station in Oworonshoki for the people.

They appreciated the roads, drains and bridges he facilitated which have improved transportation system of the community.

The community members also noted that he provided ICT center for five public schools in the constituency as they mentioned his other achievements to include Table tennis Academy for the youths, scholarship and empowerment, free health insurance scheme to tertiary



Sanni Okalanwon

school students among others.

In terms of law making, the community members noted that he has presented two bills in the House which are cooperatives bill and the institute of legislative studies bill, while he

also sponsored and co-sponsored numerous motions.

Hey said Okalanwon's record of achievements speaks for him, which made them give him their support for his re-election during the last election.

**N**igerian born billionaire businessman and philanthropist, Femi Otedola, in fulfilment of his dream to add value to Augustine University Ilara (AUI), Epe and its students, has handed over the completed block of a multibillion naira, Engineering building to the institution. Otedola, who is also the Chancellor of the University, handed over the imposing edifice to the institution in the presence of his mother, Dame Doja Otedola; Proprietor of the institution and Archbishop of the Metropolitan Sea of Lagos, Archbishop Adewale Martins. Others who witnessed the handling over include the monarch of the University town, Alara of Ilara, His Imperial Majesty, Oba (Dr.) Olufolarin Olukayode Ogunsanwo (Telade IV), his wife, Olori Omobolanle; the contractor, Messrs Basil Odumah, an Architect, of KONiN

# Otedola donates engineering building to university in Epe

By Saheed Afolabi

Nigeria Limited; Muiwa Otedola (10dollar); management staff of the University, among others. The Proprietor of the University, however, named the Engineering Faculty building after the donor's mother, Dame Doja Otedola, who was on hand to witness the historic event in view of her unflinching commitment to the University. Otedola, in his speech at the occasion said: "I thank God, that my dream of donating the first block of the Faculty of Engineering building has become a reality. "On the 11th of March, 2018 at the fund raising dinner, organised by the fund raising committee,

chaired by my sister, Dame Sena Anthony, I made the commitment to donate one building of the Faculty of Engineering to the University. "In fulfilment of this pledge, I am extremely delighted to

be also turning the sod today, for the commencement of the building number two of the Engineering faculty complex. "On realising that the first building is one of a four

building complex, during my mother's 90th birthday celebration last year, I increased my commitment to the Engineering complex to the sum of two billion naira. "I hope the construction

period for this building will not be more than two years in view of the envisaged rapid growth of the students of the University with the admission of engineering students in the university."



Augustine University Faculty of Engineering

## Ibeshe community laments poor power supply, seeks Rep Jimi Benson's help

By Saheed Afolabi

**R**esidents of Ibeshe Titun community have lamented over poor power supply in their community, calling on the power Ikeja Electric and member of the House of Representatives in Ikorodu, Hon. Babajimi Benson MHR to come to their rescue. According to them, the ward D town in Igbogbo Baiyeku LCDA has been experiencing poor power supply for the past two years. A resident, Mr. Rilwan Isabajo complained that Ikeja Electric took the transformer to repair, but brought back

another transformer with a lower capacity, which could not supply the entire community like the previous one. "We were automatically placed on light rotation and were informed to source for another transformer to balance our community power supply usage. Ever since then, half of our neighbourhood does not have light due to the rotation. "We were also told that Ikeja Electric requested that the community should construct a slab for the new transformer to be placed on, which they've done but still, we are yet to see a new transformer." The affected streets by the power outage

include Alogba Street leading to AP bus stop, Ajetunmobi Street, Ajelebo Street, Salisu street, Adelegan street, Alhaji KSB kamoju close, Oluwoye community, Abule Ibeshe, Abiodun Ogurinde crescent, all in Ibeshe Titun community. "Whenever we try to engage our CDA leadership on the matter, we end up with no progressive response, and efforts to reach out to Ikeja Electric have also proved abortive. "Businesses are running down and homes are steadily operating on generators alone, for those that have the money.

"Early this year, January 27, we wrote to the office of our federal lawmaker, Hon. Babajimi Benson, on this same matter to seek his support. We

believe that his intervention will go a long way to remedy our challenge," Isabajo asserted. Another resident said that the power shortage

has resulted in daily difficulties for the residents. He added that residents will be greatly eased if the community's request for the transformer is attended to with timely effort. The only functioning transformer (returned by Ikeja Electric) is positioned at Guardian Street.



# Rep Dawodu appreciates Kendoo's effort for his re-election success

By Edith Igbokwe

The House of Representatives Member in Oshodi-Isolo Constituency I, who was re-elected under the platform of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Dr. Bashir Dawodu, has presented his certificate of return to the council chairman, Otunba Kehinde Oloyede (Kendoo) at the council Secretariat office. While making the presentation, Dawodu said the act was to appreciate the chairman for his effort in his re-election success. He said the visit was necessary to show his gratitude to Oloyede for standing firm by him during the time of crisis. "I am here today not only

to present my certificate of return to my brother and council chairman but to also appreciate his efforts towards the success of the election. He is a brother indeed and with his caliber, Oshodi is in safe hands." Dawodu equally advised the upcoming politicians on how to play their cards to be on top. He stressed that there is a difference between politics and governance, saying anyone who mixes them is bound to fail. Oloyede expressed his gratefulness to God for granting Dawodu success at the poll as he charged him to be closer to his people and fulfill his electoral promises to the people. "I am grateful to God and felicitate with my brother



Dawodu displays certificate of return

on his hard-earned electoral victory. This victory is indeed sweet owing to how hard it was to get it. Now that God and the good people of Oshodi have given you the rare opportunity to represent them again, I urge you to daily remember your electoral promises and be closer to your people. May God give you the needed strength, wisdom, and financial support to discharge."

## Residents commend Bamigboye over free medical outreach

By Edith Igbokwe

The residents of Mushin Local Government Area have commended their council chairman, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye for organizing a free medical outreach, especially for the elderly ones. Bamigboye said the medical outreach was important to allow residents to know their state of health and to also provide drugs for them. He added that it will be a continuous exercise till the end of his tenure as he values the health of the residents of Mushin. The medical services offered included Health Education & Counselling, Blood Pressure Checks and Glasses, HIV Screening, COVID-19 Vaccination, Medical Consultation,

Family Planning, and provision of Essential Drugs. Members of the community who attended the medical mission went through various screenings to know their health status. Those with visual deficiencies were given free eyeglasses and medications were administered to patients after the consultation. The entire medical team of Mushin Local Government is led by the Head of Department and Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Kayode Odufuwa, with the Supervisor for Health - Hon. Femi Nuga, and all the various heads of units in the Primary Health Services of the council, were all in attendance, to treat patients at Taniwomo Street location of the exercise.



Mushin Free Medical Outreach

# Discover Why Lagos is the Ultimate Real Estate Investment Destination in Nigeria

By Dennis Isong

**L**agos, the commercial capital of Nigeria, is undoubtedly one of the top property zones in the country. With a population of over 20 million people, Lagos has become a hub for both local and international businesses, making it a hot spot for real estate investments.

Lagos has a vibrant real estate market, with a variety of property options ranging from luxury apartments, duplexes, townhouses, and commercial properties. The city's growing population has increased demand for housing, leading to a rise in the construction of new buildings.

One of the reasons why Lagos is a top property zone in Nigeria is its strategic location. Lagos is situated on the coastline, making it a gateway to other parts of the country and West Africa. The city is home to two major seaports, which are critical to the country's economy. Additionally, the Murtala Muhammed International Airport, the busiest airport in Nigeria, is located in Lagos, making it an essential transportation hub.

Another factor that contributes to Lagos's status as a top property zone is the city's booming economy. Lagos is home to several industries, including finance, technology, hospitality, and



Ikoyi-Lekki Bridge, Lagos

entertainment, among others. The city's economy has been growing at a rapid pace, creating more job opportunities and attracting more people to the city. The resulting increase in demand for housing has made Lagos a prime location for real estate investments.

Lagos has a diverse population, with people from different parts of Nigeria and the world residing in the city. The city's cosmopolitan nature has contributed to the development of different types of properties that cater to people's different preferences and budgets.

The government's

commitment to infrastructural development has also contributed to Lagos's status as a top property zone. In recent years, the government has invested in building and maintaining roads, bridges, and other infrastructural facilities.

These developments have led to an increase in property values and created more opportunities for real estate investors. Another factor that has contributed to Lagos's status as a top property zone in Nigeria is the city's cultural and entertainment scene. Lagos is known for its vibrant nightlife, with

a plethora of bars, restaurants, and clubs. The city is also home to several cultural and entertainment centers, such as the National Museum Lagos, the Terra Kulture cultural center, and the Lagos Theatre Festival.

These centers attract both locals and tourists, creating a demand for short-term rental properties, such as vacation homes, hotels, and serviced apartment. Lagos has a robust rental market, with high rental yields for real estate investors. The city's growing population and demand for housing have led to an

increase in rental prices, creating an opportunity for investors to earn a significant return on investment.

Lagos has seen an increase in the development of luxury properties, such as high-rise condominiums and waterfront villas.

These properties cater to high net worth individuals who are looking for upscale living options.

Lagos's growing number of wealthy individuals has created a demand for luxury properties, making it an attractive location for developers and investors in the luxury real estate market.

Lagos has a well-established legal system and regulatory framework for real estate investments.

The state government has created an enabling environment for real estate investors, with policies that encourage private sector participation in the construction and development of properties.

The Lagos State Land Use Act and the Land Registry Law have also made it easier for investors to acquire and register property titles, providing legal certainty and protection to investors.

Dennis Isong is a top realtor in Lagos.

The possible health benefits of consuming papaya include a reduced risk of heart disease, diabetes, cancer, aiding in digestion, improving blood glucose control in people with diabetes, lowering blood pressure, and improving wound healing.

Papaya fruit is widely known for its taste, nutrition and health benefits but not many people are aware of the immensely beneficial Papaya seeds, that are usually thrown away. These tiny round seeds are actually edible and are good for our health if consumed in a limited quantity. They help in weight management, relieve menstrual pain and possess anti-cancer properties.

They also boost our cardiovascular health and thus are considered as one of the best heart-healthy foods. Papaya seeds are black and have a shiny, wet and slimy covering. If you remove this covering, you can feel the rough black seeds. They are slightly bitter and peppery in taste. You can consume them by drying and grinding.

Health benefits of Papaya seeds

**Powerful Antioxidant:** Papaya seeds are rich in polyphenols, flavonoids, alkaloids, tannins and saponins. They are strong antioxidants.

**Antioxidants protect the body from damage by free radicals, protecting us from a variety of diseases.**

**Healthy Gut:** Papaya seeds are rich in fibre. They regulate our bowel movements, removing toxins from

# Papaya seed usefulness

By Edith Igbokwe

the body and thus maintaining a healthy gut. They are helpful in constipation.

Carpaine present in papaya seeds kills bacteria and parasites in our intestines and thus keep our digestive system healthy.

**Helps in Weight Loss:** Papaya seeds are rich in fibre. They keep our digestion on track, thus helping in the removal of toxins from our bodies. They also help in regulating our metabolism and prevent our body from absorbing fat. This helps in preventing obesity.

**Lowers Cholesterol Levels:** Papaya seeds are rich in monounsaturated fatty acids like oleic acid. These fatty acids regulate cholesterol levels by reducing bad cholesterol (LDL cholesterol).

Papaya seeds are also rich in fibre. Fibre

helps in reducing cholesterol levels in the body.

Thus, consuming papaya seeds helps in maintaining healthy cholesterol levels in our bodies.

**Anti-cancer Properties:** Papaya seeds contain polyphenols that are powerful antioxidants. They prevent our body from different types of cancers.

Papaya seeds also contain isothiocyanate, which inhibits the formation and development of cancer cells.

**Nephroprotective** Papaya seeds protect our kidneys from damage.

**Consumption of papaya seeds ensures the smooth functioning of our kidneys.**

**Maintains Cardiovascular Health:** Papaya seeds protect our hearts.

These seeds are rich in various antioxidants that protect our bodies

from free radical damage.

They also help to lower blood pressure and cholesterol levels, which protects our heart from various disorders.

**Reduces inflammation:** Papaya seeds are proven to be effective in reducing inflammation.

Papaya seeds are rich in vitamin C and compounds like alkaloids, flavonoids and polyphenols. All these compounds exhibit anti-inflammatory properties.

They are thus useful in preventing and reducing inflammation in diseases like gout, arthritis etc.

**Good for our Skin:** Papaya seeds exhibit anti-ageing properties. They maintain the elasticity of our skin and thus prevent the development of fine lines and wrinkles.

**Antibacterial:** Papaya seeds protect our body from bacteria

like Staphylococcus aureus, Shigella dysenteriae, Salmonella typhi, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Escherichia coli, etc.

**Relieves Menstrual Pain:** Papaya contains carotene and this substance is essential in helping the body regulate the production of a hormone known as estrogen. While papaya seeds can help induce menstruation and also increase its frequency, they can also help to some degree in managing menstrual cramps.

**Manage Liver Cirrhosis:** Papaya seeds have also been known to contain the vital nutrients necessary to help manage diseases like Liver cirrhosis.

Consuming 3 to 4 papaya seeds, crushed and mixed with lime juice on a daily basis, can help in the treatment and recovery of liver cirrhosis.

**Cures Food Poisoning:** Research has shown that preparing and consuming an extract of papaya seeds can help to successfully kill bacteria like E.coli, Salmonella, Staphylococcus, etc. which are responsible for most cases of food poisoning.

**Supports Dengue Treatment:** Dengue is a virus transmitted by mosquitoes, it affects the platelets in your blood and begins destroying healthy platelets too. Papaya seeds have been shown to improve platelet counts in animal studies.

Hence, apart from the previous health benefits of papaya seeds, they can also be useful as a support for your dengue recovery.

**May Help With Dandruff Control:** Dandruff usually has a fungal origin, particularly the Malassezia fungus. The papaya fruit and seeds have been

shown to have strong antifungal properties. This may be useful when applied to the hair and scalp and reduce or prevent the development of dandruff. Use a hair pack or scrub that contains papaya seed extract to try this benefit out.

To truly enjoy the health benefits of papaya seeds, you'll need to make it part of your diet. Here are a few simple recipe ideas to do just that:

**Scoop the raw seeds and eat them fresh (1 teaspoon) or store them in the fridge for later**

**Add it to a vinaigrette, salad dressing or smoothie.** This may add a bitter taste, so cut the bitterness with other flavours

**Make a marinade with papaya seeds, lemon zest, cream, lemon juice, chopped garlic and cilantro**

**Clean, dry and bake the papaya seeds, then crush into a powder and add to your favourite spice mix**

**Side Effects of Papaya Seeds:**

Excess consumption in pregnancy may be harmful to the growing fetus.

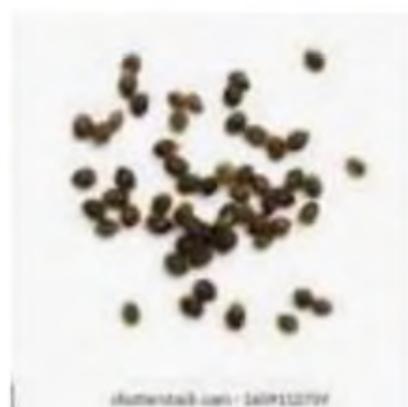
Excess consumption of papaya seeds may decrease fertility in men by affecting the number of sperms.

Excess consumption of papaya seeds may cause diarrhoea.

Eating too much papaya seeds is not recommended for lactating mothers.

**Dosage of Papaya Seeds:**

You should not consume more than 1 teaspoon of papaya seeds per day.



# WAPA Celebrates International Women's Day

Kunle Awosiyan

The Lagos State Ministry of Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation (WAPA) has celebrated the 2023 International Women's Day with the acknowledgements of the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women in the State.

Speaking at the Y2023 International Women's Day celebration event, which hosted women from the 20 Local Government and 37 Local

Council Development Areas as well as women groups in the State, at the Mobolaji Johnson Arena, Onikan, Lagos, the Commissioner for Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation, Mrs. Cecilia Bolaji Dada, stated that the theme: "Embrace Equity", aimed at celebrating women's achievements, by raising awareness and creating opportunities that drive gender parity. She explained that the goal of equity is to change systemic and structural barriers that affect

people's ability to thrive, adding that Equity is a sustainable solution for addressing imbalances in social systems.

Explaining further, Dada disclosed that embracing equity means, "Ensuring that all women, regardless of their background or circumstances, have access to the same opportunities and resources. It means promoting policies and programmes that address the specific needs and concerns of marginalised women, as well as create a level playing field for all". "As we celebrate this International Women's Day, let us commit ourselves to embrace equity in all that we do. Let us work towards creating a world where all women can thrive and fulfil their potential. Let us continue to advocate for gender equality even as we work towards a future where women are valued



and respected as equal members of society", she added

She pointed out that there is a need for a clarion call for gender equality in all decision-making policies, identifying factors such as equal pay and equal distribution of resources, even as emphases are

being placed against all forms of idleness amongst active women within the society. It is only a woman who is self-reliant that can build a peaceful and progressive home.

The Commissioner, therefore, implored women in Lagos State, Nigeria and all over the

world, to continue to celebrate International Women's Day while availing themselves of various opportunities to become empowered and self-reliant, even as they strive to attain leadership positions in their individual careers and professions.

## Lagos Muslim Pilgrims Secretary Embarks On Media Tour

Kunle Awosiyan

The newly appointed Secretary of the Lagos Muslim pilgrims has led some management staff on a courtesy visit to the General Managers of both Radio Lagos/Eko FM, Mr. Jide Lawal and Lagos Traffic Radio Mr. Tayo Akanle.



Onipede

Onipede told his hosts during the visit on Thursday, that the purpose of the courtesy call was to further strengthen the existing cordial relationships between the Agencies. He also sought their assistance in the provision of adequate publicity for the activities of the Board during Hajj and Umrah operations, stressing that he valued the synergy and successes the relationship had recorded over the years.

In his response, the General Manager of Radio Lagos/Eko FM, Mr. Jide Lawal, rejoiced with the Board Secretary on his appointment. He also prayed for his success in his new assignment.

Lawal assured him of his organisation's readiness to partner with the LSMWPB to ensure that the Board achieves the much-expected success in the

forthcoming Y2023 Hajj and Umrah operations.

While at the Lagos Traffic Radio (LTR), the General Manager of the Station, Mr. Tayo Akanle congratulated the Board Secretary on his appointment. He also assured Onipede of the station's continued support of the Board in realising her set goals and objectives. Akanle stressed that the station would assist in promoting the Board's activities through her airwaves to about two million listeners as well as on its social media platforms. He hoped the partnership would move Lagos State to greater heights.

Recall that Mr. Onipede was appointed by Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu as the new Secretary of the State Muslim Pilgrims Welfare Board in February 2023.

## Lagos Public Secondary Schools Receive LEGO Robotic Kits

Kunle Awosiyan

As part of the intervention towards scaling up the gains in the education and technology agenda of the present administration, the Ministry of Education has distributed Lego (Robotic) Kits to 10 public secondary schools in the state.

According to Mr. Abayomi Abolaji, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, the device, a programmable robotic construction kit, gives users the power to build and programme robotics through the intuitive software programme.

Addressing the students during the presentation at the Conference Room of the Ministry at the Secretariat,

Ikeja, the Permanent Secretary, represented by the Director of Basic Education Services (BES), Mr. Adeyemi Adebayo, described the initiative as a way of enhancing the artificial intelligence of students to create a future where complex and evolving challenges can be solved through the robotic system. Abolaji also emphasised the need for the students to explore the talent and

creative mindsets within them to achieve a greater height through technology, just as he encouraged them not to limit their thinking to their preferred careers but explore other areas of human endeavours by thinking outside the box and remain tech-driven.

Earlier, the Director of Science and Technology Department of the Ministry, Mrs. Grace Akinfoyewa stated that the remarkable

wins of Lagos State Public Secondary Schools in over a decade in Robotic competition both at the National and International level are testaments to the deliberate efforts of the government to support the education sector to meet future challenges.

She explained that with the addition of the 10 schools that received the kits today, the state now has 110 public schools with robot kits.



# Judiciary Honours Late Jurist, Olalekan Abdulfatai Yusuf (SAN)

Kunle Awosiyan

The Lagos State Judiciary recently held a Valedictory Court Session in honour of the Late (Chief) Olalekan Abdulfatai Yusuf (SAN), one of the nation's foremost legal practitioners with over three decades legal practice

The event, which took place at the premises of the Ikeja High Court, was attended by Judges of the State High Court, Senior Advocates of Nigeria, the Body of Benchers and

family members amongst others.

The State Chief Judge, Hon. Justice Kazeem Alogba, in his remarks, described the late Olalekan Yusuf as a great jurist who dedicated himself not only to the practice of the profession but also to humanity.

Alogba described the late Counsel for complex legal matters, particularly in the area of land law, the law of secured credit transactions and commercial law, and was a nationally acclaimed

Advocate and transaction expert whose expertise also covered the entire gamut of land law.

While commiserating with the families of the bereaved, the Chief Judge advised the immediate family to ensure the preservation of the good legacy of the late Jurist.

His words: "The late Alhaji Chief Olalekan Yusuf lived an exemplary life and would be fondly remembered for his doggedness, diligence and creative approach towards solving complex legal matters while maintaining the highest ethical standard".

The late Chief Olalekan Yusuf attended the



Valedictory court session

prestigious University of Lagos from 1983 to 1986 where he obtained his LLB and was called to the Nigerian Bar Association in 1987. He established his own law firm which was then known as Olalekan Yusuf

& Co. The law firm is now known as Olalekan Yusuf, SAN & Co.

During his illustrious career, he occupied various sensitive positions. He was the Vice-Chairman of the Nigerian Bar Association,

Ikeja Branch between 1998 and 2000 and also Chairman of the Human Rights Committee of

Ikeja Branch of NBA. He became the substantive Chairman of the Ikeja Branch of NBA between 2000 and 2002.

## Governorship Elections: Courts Suspend All Sittings Till March 21

Kunle Awosiyan

Court across the country will not hear any case except urgent ones until March 21, 2023. This is to allow judges to also perform their civic rights in the Saturday governorship and house of assembly elections.

This was contained in a circular to the judges with the title, "Break for the 2023 governorship and house of assembly election" signed by the

Chief judge of the Federal High Court Headquarters, Abuja, Hon. Justice John T. Tsoho.

The circular directs all the judges to embark on a short break on March 17 and resume on March 21.

It also directs the judges in Abuja, Lagos and Port Harcourt administrative divisions to ensure that a judge is designated to cater for the north, southwest, Southsouth and southeast in case of urgent matter.



The Ojora Royal Family and Council, recently took ownership of the lands housing the Lagos State Liaison Office of the Delta State Government, at Plot 235/237, Moshood Abiola Way (former Apapa Road), Ijora Lagos, through a court order.

This was contained in a statement signed by Omo Oba Oluwatoyin Ojora, a copy of which was made available to our correspondent on Friday.

The statement reads in part, "This was after successfully proving in court that; the lease agreements with the governments of the Old Western Region, Mid-West Region and Bendel State has expired, thus the lands be returned to the

## Ojora Royal Family takes ownership Delta Liason Office



The Statues of Lagos

Kunle Awosiyan

rightful owners. Expect more of this from land owning

families in Lagos State, as they begin to retrieve and take ownership of their lands.

Lagos belongs to its indigenous people. Lagos is not a no man's land! © Apasa Kekeniju"

# Obe bids Farewell to the "Striker"

The over 1,000 sympathisers who thronged the Isuti home of late Deaconness Aduke Mary Bello Obe, mother of the chairman of Ejigbo Local Council Development Area, Hon. Monsuru Bello Obe, listened with rapt attention when he was called to pay tribute to his mother.

Obe stood up, facing the white casket that bore the remains of his 85-year-old mother, who joined the Saints triumphant on Saturday while he was co-ordinating the elections into the governorship and House of Assembly polls.

"My mother is a striker", he began, still too much in denial to talk about her in the past tense. Obe said Deaconness Mary, who decided to switch religion by converting from Islam to Christianity and changed her Muslim name, Tawakalitu to Mary, chose who to send a message she wanted to be delivered immediately. For instance, if she wanted to send Abdrahman, her last born a message, she would first report the matter to Obe, so he could ensure that the message was delivered.

Obe said the late Deaconness was a goal-getter who planned each of her moves meticulously and executed them with precision. "There was no goal she set that she did not achieve," he said, adding, "she had a team comprising her second son, Fatai, her third son, Abdrahman and her junior brother, Pastor Sarafa. All of them will plan and execute the game together."

Obe's account was corroborated by the pastor who conducted the service. Recalling how the Striker convinced her son to give the church a Jerusalem pilgrimage slot, he said Mama put pressure on him to let them go to the chairman together so she could secure the release of the funds. He had to counsel her to allow the church to follow the official procedure for getting the funds.

Even in death, she remained a



Late Chief Tawakalitu Aduke Bello

"Striker". For instance, the burial took place a day after she died because she had said she wanted to be buried as

soon as she died. Second, the funeral undertakers were invited to entertain the audience by dancing with the

casket because she witnessed it one day and told the pastor she would like to have them play at her burial.

Obe is well known for his sympathetic charity. Nobody knew where it came from until a woman came forward to recount how, after a day of selling fish and still having a few left, Iya Eleja (Madam Fish Seller) would give them to her to feed her family rather than take them home.

Despite the fact that the event was announced just Saturday afternoon, a lot of dignitaries made sure they were present by 2pm on Sunday. They include the former chairman, the Lagos State chapter of the All Progressives Congress, APC, Otunba Henry Ajomale; Former Commissioner for Information & Strategy, Hon. Kehinde Bamigbetan, Member representing Oshodi-Isolo II in the House of Representatives, Hon. Ganiyu Johnson, Member representing Oshodi-Isolo in the Lagos State House of Assembly, Hon. Jude Idimogu; Chairman, Isolo Local Council Development Area, Hon. Bayo Olasoju; Chairman, Christian Association of Nigeria, Rev. Oyinlola, Chairman, Parks & Gardens branch, Isolo; Hon. Monsuru Agbabiaka, Council Manager, Ejigbo LCDA, Mrs. Iyabo Ogunyemi; Leader of the Legislative Arm, Ejigbo LCDA and Councillor representing Ila moshe ward Lanre Adebawale; chairman, Parks & Gardens, Ejigbo, Chief Femi Olowu, traditional rulers, dignitaries and captains of industry.

Her remains were lowered to Mother Earth after a solemn Christian service performed by the Apostolic Church.







# Today's Exclusive: Chief Ugorji Marks Another Year

It is the music of the band on the stage that welcomes you to the celebration. Highlife in rhythm and tempo, its echo filled the large relaxation court of the hotel. In front of the band, a table stood, bearing the big size cake prepared specially to celebrate the fact that the most important person in the house was adding another year. Chief Ume Ugorji is standing behind the table

as we arrive, beckoning our team to climb up the stage and join him for a photograph. Ugorji, formerly very active in the business of manufacturing foam and well known for his Surest Foam brand, last December realized the dream of joining the hospitality business in a big way by opening the hotel used as the venue of this celebration, Today's Exclusive Hotel. Sitting on almost one

acre, the 144-room hotel has facilities to keep you for weeks. Its medium sized pool, three common bars and two VIP bars swarm with customers. The traffic excites Ugorji, happy to see his eight-year project blossom.

The dignitaries later retired to the VIP bar to clink glasses and sing Happy birthday.

In his tribute, Bamigbetan praised the celebrant for

demonstrating resilience, consistency, and determination, adding that he was worried that the project was crawling too slowly.

"I often asked him when the project would be completed. I felt he has put in too much and if he didn't start, when would he make his money back? I am glad he proved me wrong."

Speaking on his achievement, Ugorji praised Fidelity Bank for

the facility that enabled him to complete the project. He said although the conditions were stiff, he was able to satisfy them. Ugorji, who holds a master's In Business Administration of Obafemi Awolowo University also thanked Bamigbetan and other dignitaries for their support, "Your support has taken me this far," he said, "I promise you this is just the beginning of greater things."



Celebrant with guests

# Recently restored Aluta Square, Students Union Building, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife.





# Kakay relishes Osimhen's features

By Saheed Afolabi

**Q**PR defender, Osman Kakay is relishing the wonderful features of Victor Osimhen following the striker's goal-scoring wave in Europe. Osimhen is one of the hottest players in Europe presently and recently scored a brace against Eintracht Frankfurt in the UEFA Champions League. Kakay talked about when he first faced Osimhen in a competitive game, he said the game was a crazy one that later ended up in a 4-4 draw. The QPR defender disclosed that Osimhen is so quick, agile, and very difficult for defenders to mark. "To be fair that game

that we played against him, it was a crazy game we drew 4-4," hold Complete Sports. "I remember him just being so fast and agile. Yeah so quick, so I'm not surprised by what he's doing in Italy right now. "Nigeria has a lot of talented players, so yeah he's one of these to watch. With reports linking Osimhen to Premier League giants, Kakay believes England is the next abode for the budding striker. "I think he'll be in England soon as well. Yeah, I think he's a top striker. Let's see where he can go." Osimhen has scored 23 goals this season in all competitions, 19 in the League and four in the Champions League.



Victor Osimhen

## Fausat Balogun Memorial Cup: Peace Ikediuba seals victory for Eletu Queens

By Saheed Afolabi

**P**rince Kazeem Eletu Queens sealed their place in the final of the Fausat Balogun Memorial Cup after edging out SGH Sports Academy Amazons 2-1. Sami Azeez, Faith Jaiyeola, and Peace Ikediuba were on the score sheet in the game. Sami Azeez gave SGH Sports Academy Amazon the lead through a goalkeeping blunder in the 12th minute. It took a moment of individual magic from Faith Jaiyeola as she found the back of the net through a splendid free kick to draw

both sides level in the game. The Amazons had the majority of possession in the game but were wasteful in front of goal-leading. Both sides shared the spoils at the end of the first half. The resumption of the second half showed both sides' willingness to win the game and it took a magical touch from Peace Ikediuba to give Eletu Queens the lead toward the end of the game. Eletu Queens had a player sent in the game but SGH Amazons couldn't take advantage of it as Eletu Queens won the game 2-1 to be through to the final.

## Gift Orban paints Europa Conference League with goals

By Saheed Afolabi

**G**ift Orban has shown that his goal-scoring run of recent isn't a fluke as he scored a hat trick in Gent's 4-1 crushing of Istanbul Basaksehir in the Europa Conference League. Coming up from an impressive showing in the Belgian Pro League as he scored a haul against Zulte Waregem. Despot a slow start to the game, Orban showed his finishing instinct as he scored a fantastic goal in the 31st minute through a counter-attacking move. A minute later, Orban powered on a defensive blunder to score a classic goal to get his brace off the game.

The diminutive forward punished Istanbul Basaksehir with their lackluster defense by firing in a rebound to give a comfortable lead in the game as he grabs his first hat trick. Hugo Cupers later clinch the victory with a massive goal for Gent in the game. Gent has had eight points from six matches in Group F and seat in second position place. Orban now has five goals in the Europa Conference League.



Gift Orban