

Satech FC emerge champions of Mushin Challenge Cup **PG.4**

I have no plans to decamp - Remy Shittu **PG.3**



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## LAGOS COMMUNITIES EDITION

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# Isolo LCDA/Residents tango: Court fixes Oct 6 for hearing

Abolaji Adebayo

**A** High Court sitting in Ikeja has fixed Wednesday, October 6, 2021 for hearing of a case between residents of Adebisi Omotola and Isolo LCDA.

Also joined in the suit are Oshodi-Isolo Local Government Area, Lagos State Commissioner for Physical Planning and Urban Development and the Lagos State Building Control Agency.

The residents are asking the court to determine the legality of the shopping complex the Isolo LCDA built on a piece of land which they claim belongs to them.

The residents under the aegis of Adebisi Omotola Residents Association had written to the court to challenge Isolo LCDA and three defendants over their claim of ownership of the piece of land and the legality of the one-storey shopping complex.

Although the complex was built by the council during the tenure of former chairman, Hon. Shamsudeen Olaleye, the new chairman, Otunba Adebayo Olasoju has promised to convert it to a primary school.

While other residents commended the new council boss for the conversion plan, it appears that residents of the immediate streets are yet to come to terms with the new development.

As reported by ECHONEWS, earlier this year when the local council was about to embark on the construction of the shopping complex, the Landlords of Adebisi Omotola Street threatened to protest against the plan claiming that the government was encroaching on their land.

The Chairman of the Landlords and Residents Association, Pa Edmund Thompson, told ECHONEWS that they would carry out a peaceful protest if the local council went ahead with its plan to take over the piece of land on the street and put up the proposed shopping complex.

The association had earlier petitioned the council and copied other concerned bodies on Wednesday, February 24, 2021, but was surprised to see the council put up another fence around the land.

"We've petitioned the council over its proposed plan on the piece of land. The land does not belong to the council, it belongs to the community. The person it compensated does not own the land because he never acquired it. He was only helped with it and



The Complex on the piece of land

allowed to do his carpentry work on the land. It was out of the magnanimity of the community that Olonade had remained on the land after he erected building on it. It was only meant for him to carry out his carpentry work. At first, when he put up structure there, I called the attention of the community to it and we all decided to leave him. We didn't know anything more about it. How he got the approval from the state for the structure, we didn't know.

"The portion of land is an open space that belongs to the community. We chose not to take laws into our hands when we

noticed the act of encroachment by the local council authority and that was why we wrote a petition against it and copied the governor, the council, commissioner and the police.

"The land as a whole belongs to Mr A. A. Kasumu whom we all bought our portions from. It doesn't belong to the council, it belongs to the community. We are just fighting for the safety of this community. Our interest is peace and security. The community is the freeholder of the land. All landlords in this area have conveyance, we bought this place before the land use act.

"We want the state to intervene and not wait till the council takes a step further. If the council does not keep away from the land, I've decided to call the landlords both women and men to protest if it moves any move by force," the association had explained. But the council claimed to be the rightful owner of the piece of land and that it had compensated the self-acclaimed owner, Alhaji Olonade. The council claimed that it served Olonade quit and removal notices last December, giving him a two-month grace which elapsed in February this year.

After the February date, the council put up a temporary fence but it was reportedly removed by the land owners.

However, the council rebuilt the fence and started construction work.

Reacting to the claim, the then council chairman, Hon. Shamsudeen Olaleye (Shammeh), explained that the land belongs to the council, claiming that it is a government setback and it has compensated the self-acclaimed owner.

Olaleye said after compensating Olonade, he was given time to evacuate the land.

He challenged the community to go to court if the landlords have evidence to support their claim.

His words: "If they feel they have the Certificate of Occupancy, they should go to court. The land is a government setback, it is government-owned. What seemed to be an issue about it has been resolved. The man that claimed to be the supposed landlord has been duly compensated. If the community feels that they own the piece of land they should present their evidence."

Thereafter, the residents took bold step to challenge the local government in court but their plan to sue the local council over the ownership of the landed property in May, 2021 was unsuccessful due to judicial workers' strike.

Amidst the controversy, officials of the Lagos State Building Control Agency on April 27, this year served a contravention notice on the site.

Besides, the residents warned prospective buyers of shops in the shopping complex against taking risk.

They claim that only the judgment of the court of law could determine the fate of the property which they believed is theirs.

According to them, the piece of land on which the complex is being built is the community's setback which is outside the council's premises.

They claimed that the council encroached on their land to build the shopping complex without their consent, stating that they are waiting for the court to resume for them to take up the case.

Despite the pleas by new local council administration led by new council chairman, the residents are still forging ahead to challenge the council in court.

The matter has been assigned to Hon. Justice Savage at the Ikeja High Court for Wednesday, October 6, 2021.



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# Olasoju woos residents to pay tax, levies

By Abolaji Adebayo

The chairman of Isolo Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Otunba Adebayo Olasoju, has appealed to the residents and business organisations to pay taxes and levies due to the LCDA to promote development. Olasoju said his government would use the revenue raised to provide infrastructures and services to ensure conducive environment. He had earlier urged the

concerned residents to promptly pay for the renewal of their street names. According to him, while the government is expected to develop the community, residents expected to live up to their civic responsibilities. He said: "It has been said and proven that consistency is one of the factors that turn plans into reality and accelerate success. "The most appreciated significance of this day is its offering of another great week for us as a government to continue with the business of governance; to go on with our giant strides of edging the council area towards "the Isolo of our dream". "As we remain consistently committed to our obligations, as a government, we expect that you also remain consistent with being patriotic residents in your civic responsibilities which include good conduct and prompt payment of taxes and levies."



Hon. Bayo Olasoju

# Beneficiary's mum extols Isolo LCDA free GCE form

By Abolaji Adebayo

Mrs Nimota Adeniji whose child was one of the 200 beneficiaries of the free General Certificate of Education (GCE) forms given out by the Chairman of Isolo LCDA, Otunba Adebayo Olasoju has expressed great relief, saying the gesture came at the right time.

Adeniji told ECHONEWS that she was still struggling to purchase the form for her child when she learnt about the initiative.

"I want to appreciate the council chairman for the free GCE forms. We've been bothered about how to purchase the form before we heard about the privilege. We are immensely grateful to Otunba Adebayo Olasoju," said Mrs. Nimota Adeniji, one of the beneficiaries' parents. Speaking on behalf of the council chairman who was on trip to London, the vice chairman, Hon. Shakir Sadiq Adeola, who presented the forms to the students, explained that the beneficiaries were selected following painstaking compilation of their bio-data through the forms given to the stakeholders in the council

area. He said the councillors, religious organisations, the Community Development Committee (CDC), the Market Men & Women Association, Artisan Associations, and other groups within the council area were given the forms to be distributed to the indigent students in their domains. He promised that more educational programmes will

be rolled out within their first 100 days in office to complement the state government's giant strides in the education sector as he wished the beneficiaries success in the examination. The council leader, Hon. Adeyemi Alarape, confirmed to ECHONEWS that each councillor collected the forms and distributed to the deserved students in the respective wards.



A beneficiary receiving his GCE form

# I have no plans to decamp - Remy Shittu

By Abolaji Adebayo

The former council leader of Isolo LCDA, Hon. Remy Shittu Remy, has debunked the rumour that he is leaving the All Progressives Congress (APC). In a chat with ECHONEWS, Shittu said it was a rumour, saying he would never leave the party despite losing his bid for second term as councillor. He was the only councillor who was not returned in the council area apart from Hon. Idris Agbabiaka from Akinbaye ward who had served his second term. Two factors were reported to have led to Shittu's failure to secure the second term ticket: his aspiration for chairmanship upset plans of the mainstream caucus and his alleged defection from the caucus that sponsored

him. The crisis that rocked the chamber further reduced his chances.. Responding to the allegations, Shittu said he never made any public declaration to contest for the chairmanship. Although he admitted consulting a few leaders when people who commended his achievements asked him to go for the chairman, he said it was only meant to seek their advice. "That could not have been the reason. Though many people in the community saw my achievements and said I was qualified to go for the chairman, I never made any public declaration of that ambition. "I consulted some of our political leaders only to seek their advice. I purchased form for councillorship not for

chairmanship. And I congratulated the new chairman-elect and the councillor who took over from me." Shittu said he had to step aside for another person such as someone stepped aside for him when he was contesting for his first term. He also debunked the rumour that he is planning to travel out of the country, saying he would



Hon. Remy Shittu

disappoint his supporters and fans if he does that. "All what people are saying about are rumo nowhere, we shall all build this nation." Meanwhile, the former council leader said he will continue with all his programme such as youth empowerment and US-sponsored mentorship of school children and creative programme for out-of-school girls which he facilitated based on his relationship with US Embassy as one of International Visitor Leadership Programme (IVLP) Alumni Association in Nigeria. He also confirmed his good relationship with the newly elected council officials and especially Hon. Yusuf Agbabiaka, who succeeded him, saying he is willing to offer advice if invited.

# OIERL: MS Success defeat Unstoppable FC to top group A standings

Satech FC emerge champions of Mushin Challenge Cup

By Saheed Afolabi

By Saheed Afolabi

**M**S Success FC returned to form by defeating Unstoppable FC 2-0 at Eko Boys High School Mushin. Goals from Emenike Micheal and Michael Ikechukwu secured the hard-fought win for MS Success FC who played their heart out. Emenike Micheal gave MS Success the lead with a clinical header to take control of the game in the first half. Expectedly, MS Success FC controlled the game in the first half but had chances squandered away that should have been converted to goals. Jesujide Abayomi of Unstoppable FC got a golden chance to equalize for Unstoppable FC in the 50th minute leaving only the goalkeeper to beat but he blasted his effort off the goal post. Unstoppable FC returned to the



MS Success VS Unstoppable FC

second half like wounded lions and had loads of chances to bury the game beyond their opponent but fired them off the goal post, which brought out anger in their coach at the substitute bench.

Unstoppable FC got another chance from close range to put the ball inside the net but the headed ball was sent across the crossbar. MS Success midfielder Dovi

Francis tried a curling effort which went inches off the goal post in the 63rd minute. Unstoppable FC leftback, Yakubu Azeez tormented MS Success FC defense with dangerous crosses

which his team failed to connect with. Michael Ikechukwu scored a late goal to double the lead of MS Success FC which also secured the win for his side.

The maiden edition of the Mushin Challenge Cup came to an end with glitz and glamour as Satech FC emerged champions of the competition.

A total of 10 teams participated in the first stage of the competition where 4 teams progressed to the next stage of the competition which is the Super 4.

The like of FC Brave, eventual champions Satech FC, CTL and Divine FC made their way to the Super 4 of the competition to contest for the ultimate prize.

The Super 4 was done in a group format where the team that accumulated the most points emerged champions of the tournament.

Divine FC knocked off FC Brave 1-0 in the first match, while Satech FC defeated CTL with a slim win (1-0) to get 3 points each.

Satech FC got a 6-point lead in the group by defeating FC Brave 1-0 to take a 2-point lead at the group summit, while Divine FC failed to catch up on the league leaders by taking a point against CTL FC to have 4 points.

FC Brave finished the group with no point after losing their last game against CTL FC 3-0 with CTL, having a total of 4 points from 3 matches.

In the final group game of the Super 4 between Satech FC and Divine FC was a tough game as Divine FC on 4 points needed a win to have 7 points to emerge winner, while Satech FC on 6 points needed at least a point to have 7 points to also emerge champions of the competition.

A drab first half ended in a stalemate 0-0 with both teams failing to find the back of the net.

The second half was a war on the pitch of play as both teams were at their best to make sure they carried the day.

The match ended in a goalless draw which ultimately favoured Satech FC to finish top of the table standing on 7 points from 3 games and emerged champions of the maiden edition of the Mushin Challenge Cup.

## Jogo Talent Hunt: Billionaire FC skip past Kings FC

By Saheed Afolabi

**T**he 2nd edition of the Jogo Talent Hunt kicked off in style as it witnessed sport personalities in Oshodi who came out to give their support to the competition.

The opening match of the competition was between defending champion Kings FC and Billionaire FC.

The game lived up to expectations as both teams played with attacking flair. Billionaire FC defeated Kings FC with a lone goal in the game.

Billionaire FC dominated possession in the first half which amounted to numerous chances for the team but they could not convert them as the first half ended in a stalemate.

The second half came out lively as Billionaire FC intriguing passes came out positive for

them when they took a valuable lead through a clinical finish.

Kings FC pushed hard to get an equalizer in the game but they failed by woeful finishing as Billionaire FC took a deserved lead to the second leg of the encounter.

The second game of the

competition also witnessed exquisite showing of great footballing skills as Jagaban FC beat BetaPlus 1-0 also to take the driving seat of the two legged encounter.

Both teams showed great attacking threat but Jagaban FC carried the day with a slim win.

## I am contesting to lift LSFCA status - Ikpo

By Saheed Afolabi

**L**eaders of Alimosho football coaches council, Moses Ikpo, in an exclusive chat with ECHONEWS has stated his reasons for contesting for the chairmanship seat of the Lagos State Football Coaches Association (LSFCA).

Ikpo said he has seven-point agenda which would benefit the affiliated football coaches across the councils in the state.

The agenda, according to him, include welfare of the affiliated coaches, grassroots support, revenue generation, job creation, pension scheme and stewardship assessment, reiterating his determination to

fulfill electoral promises if elected chairman.

"The first thing, I think the coaches' body need at this time is a paradigm shift. That is changing from the old ways we used to operate to a new way, especially now that we are in the digital age.

"I have noticed over the years that the association has, more or less, been ostracised from the scheme of things, particularly when it comes to being recognised as a key stakeholder in the decision making process in the Nigerian football sphere. Due to the way we have been perceived as a body without a clear-cut vision, coaches are hardly rated, consulted or given their dues as a relevant team player in the development of football in

Nigeria which I believe if I am elected, things would change for better.

"My administration intends to do much more than just talking. I will be ready to put in place arrangements that would see the coaches' body affiliated with the Health Management Organizations (HMOs) to enhance healthcare delivery at a subsidised rate. And in the area of job security, we shall ensure that a policy of no-contract, no-work is initiated and vigorously pursued to protect our coaches from heartless employers who have taken the practice of use-and-dump coaches to new levels."



Moses Ikpo

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## Traders, customers lament high cost of foods

By Motolani AbdulGafar

**T**raders and customers are lamenting the increase in the prices of foods and school items.

Many parents are struggling to get few necessary items for their children who just resumed the new school session as higher prices hinder their plans to provide for their children's needs.

While the customers are reluctant to pay higher prices, traders lament that they could not increase the prices even to make their own gains.

A market survey conducted by ECHONEWS in the markets across Oshodi-Isole LG revealed that the prices of major items needed by the students have increased by more than

almost 100 per cent in some instances.

For instance, a sachet of Milo, which sold at N50 had increased to N65 when the school resumed on Monday, while a school bag that was initially purchased at N1,500 is now sold at N2,900 and more that M3,000 in some places.

A cereal store owner at Ejigbo Market, Mr Frank Chibuzor, revealed that as at the time he restored his goods last week, a carton of Milo sachet has increased from N9,000 to N11,300, saying he purchased 100 cartons at the rate of N1,130,000 instead of N900,000 he used to but it before.

He explained further that a carton of Dano that was sold at N6,700 has increased to N8,900 which has

automatically reduced the number of cartons he ordered.

He said many of the traders were forced to sell at the same rate they bought the goods due to the persistent complaints from their customers.

He added that some of them have also been forced to sell pieces instead of the wholesale they normally sold, saying refusal to sell pieces would result to long stay of goods in store.

Also commenting on the current market situation, Mrs Elizabeth Austin, a school bag trader, disclosed that children's school bags earlier sold at the rate of N1,500 are now sold at about N3,000.

She noted that although the hike in prices had begun since the inception of the pandemic, the prices have kept increasing.



Food Stuff Market

She noted that the sales have drastically reduced this new school session.

Mrs Rita Emanuel, a second-hand shoe store owner in her own perspective stated that most buyers were consistent in pricing school shoes and later

end up not purchasing any while claiming they will polish existing children shoes since they can not afford to buy for a child without buying for others as it will cause jealousy and enmity among their kids.

Mrs Omolola Shittu, a parent

told ECHONEWS that the economic situation has affected the purchasing power of many people.

She said despite increase in the prices of goods, there has not been any increment in the salaries of many workers.

## Youths harp on welfare package for the masses

By Motolani AbdulGafar

**T**he youths under the aegis of Estate Youth Parliament (EYP), Low-Cost Housing Estate, Ejigbo LCDA have called on the governments at the federal, state and local levels to see to the well being of the residents.

They claimed that well being

of the people should be the priority of the governments, saying the dividends of democracy should be measured first with the level of people's well being which include food security, healthcare and security.

Speaking to ECHONEWS, the president of the group, Yusuf Adeyemi, said many people are suffering from hunger, adding that there is no good

healthcare while they face insecurity.

He said the priority of the governments at all level at this time should be on food, security, health and other welfare packages for the people.

He explained that the dividends of democracy should be accounted for from the well being of the masses and not majorly on the

administrative part of governance.

He stated that to determine how transparent any democratic government is, an evaluation of how the government has been transparent, responsive and accountable to the masses should be considered.

He noted that good governance is being hindered due to lack of regards for the

democratic principles as enshrined in the Nigerian Constitution.

He described a democratic leader as one who gives back without self-demanding interest from the administration.

"Well, I must note the efforts of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu during the EndSARS period as he visited some communities to ease

the riot tension and also aligned with the established EndSARS inquiry panel that has been progressive. This has shown accountability as some victims have been well compensated."

Meanwhile, he advised the governments from local level to federal to re-strategise and strengthen all sectors to boost development in the communities.

## Ejigbo LCDA embarks on palliative road rehabilitation

By Motolani AbdulGafar

**E**jigbo Local Council Development Area (LCDA) has embarked on repair of the damaged portions of the Eco Bank - Ile-Iwe Junction Road, Fadu, Ejigbo.

The road which is a big carrier for traffic and heavy duty trucks, is a link road between NNPC and Idimu Road

The repair will serve as palliative to ease vehicular movement while waiting for full reconstruction of the road which has become an eyesore.

The local government said it has to intervene as the road has become a death trap due to very large potholes, making it

difficult and unnecessarily stressful for commuters to ply.

According to the local council Department of Works and Infrastructure, which is supervising the work, the 760msquare long road is to be partially rehabilitated, using semi rigid pavement.

"The plan is to scarify the bad portions of the road, refix the base and lay interlocking stones. Scarification involves the removal of the damaged artwork which had led to the failure of the asphalt. Work has however started at the Eco Bank Junction.

"The proposed duration for the work is two weeks, but has unavoidably been extended to

three weeks due to the delay in getting the interlocking stones.

The procedure is to book and then wait to be supplied. Thankfully, some of the stones have been supplied, however more are expected," a statement from the department said.

Besides the delay in supplying stones, it noted that control of traffic because of road users has been a bit challenging.

Meanwhile, the Council Chairman, Hon. Monsuru Bello (Obe) has appealed to the residents and commuters to cooperate with the workers to complete the job in time.

He further encouraged people to keep their environments clean



Ecobank Ile Iwe junction, Ejigbo

and dispose refuse properly, so as to avoid silted drainage and

flooding whenever it rains. In a related development, Jubril

Olabisi Road, Ejigbo, is also currently being rehabilitated.

# Court dissolves marriage in husband's absence

By Edith Igbokwe

**A** Customary court sitting at Oshodi-Isolo Local Government Secretariat has dissolved the marriage between one Mr. Akeem Tijani and his wife, Mrs. Titilayo Tijani in the absence of the husband. The petitioner, Mrs. Tijani had filed to divorce her husband, for failing to play his roles as husband and father to their four children. Mrs Tijani also claimed that their marriage lacked the love to sustain it, adding that her husband constantly fought neighbours. She told the court that her husband refused to work, adding that he always incurred debts which she had to settle always.

According to her, the union was contracted on the consent of both families when they started cohabiting without paying any bride prize. Before the hearing, the court gave the couple two weeks for Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), to reconcile the parties but the effort failed. During the hearing, the petitioner stated that the husband was not willing to be gainfully employed, adding that she took the financial needs of the family alone with her micro trading business. She emphasised that her husband was a chronic debtor and that she has always been the one paying for his debts. "When I could no longer bear



the constant visit of the creditors, I moved out of the matrimonial home to be at peace with my children before I filed for divorce," she explained. Responding, the husband,

who accepted that he was not gainfully employed, confirmed that his wife has been the one helping him to pay his creditors and finance the family. He prayed the court not to

dissolve the marriage, promising to change for better and cater for his family. But the situation worsened when he reneged on his promises to turn a new leaf

and stopped attending court proceedings. After many efforts to get him to the court proved abortive, the court finally dissolved the marriage in his absence. The presiding president, Mrs. Adebisi Laditan put all the four children in their mother's care. She asked the husband to always provide the financial needs of the children and warned him not to harass the ex-wife at any point in time. The court gave him the opportunity to take the children out for holidays but must notify the court, when to take and return the children to their mother. The court gave both parties copies of the judgment and urged any aggrieved party to make an appeal within 30 days

## Oshodi-Isolo LG registers new CDA

By Edith Igbokwe

**A** new Community Development Association - Ayowa CDA has been approved by the Oshodi-Isolo Local Government. The new CDA was carved out of Oshodi CDA and comprises four streets -Ishola Anigbajumo, Adeyinka, Agbalaya and Amuda Close. Although created in 2018, the LGA formally registered it when it issued a certificate to the association. With the new one, the local government now has 65 CDAs. Speaking to ECHONEWS, the pioneer chairman, Olusola Dahunsi, said they created the new association to boost even development in the council area. Dahunsi, who was a former chairman of Oshodi CDA, said Ajowa CDA has to be created because the presence of many streets under Oshodi CDA meant many streets were jostling for the few slots given by the local government. This, he said, made the CDA backward because many of the streets could not benefit from the government's largesse. He said many streets have not been benefitting from the developments coming to the CDA

either from the federal, state or local government. Dahunsi claimed that it has been difficult to share developmental projects among the streets under the CDA. He explained that the same project allocation from the governments goes to each CDA irrespective of its size, reiterating that larger CDAs suffer in terms of sharing. Oshodi CDA, which initially comprised 45 streets, had been split into five - OSSAA CDA, Isokan CDA, Afariogun CDA and Aduke Thomas CDA before the creation of the Ajowa CDA. Ajowa CDA was created out of the 13 streets left for Oshodi CDA, leaving nine streets for the Oshodi CDA Chairman, Mr. Nurani Lawal to handle effectively. For the new CDA, Engr Dahunsi was elected the Chairman, Isiaq Zuar - Vice Chairman, Mukaila Agboola - Secretary and Lukmon Adedokun as the Treasurer. While appreciating the government and the residents for the creation of the CDA, Dahunsi acknowledged the late founding father of the new CDA, Alhaji Olaogun, saying he worked tirelessly to ensure the emergence of the grassroots body. He, therefore, called for financial support from the government and the residents to run the association perfectly.

**T**he council leader of Oshodi-Isolo LG, Hon. Rasheed Obasa has promised the residents of Oluleye ward boreholes as his next project. Obasa said the boreholes, which will be in different locations across the ward, are the next project after the ongoing rehabilitation of roads in the community. He said he is facilitating the borehole project from the local government in addition to the road rehabilitation as part of the first phase of developmental projects embarked upon by the council chairman, Otunba Kehinde Oloyede (Kendoo). According to him, the boreholes will be sited at Ajibulu Primary Healthcare Center, Ajibulu Primary School and Oja-Ale, Off Samuel Street. The council leader's ward is the first to benefit from Oloyede's maiden projects in the local council area. One of the streets, Dosunmu Street in Oluyeye ward is currently under reconstruction.

## Expect boreholes next, council leader promises Oluleye ward

Obasa said the provision of boreholes will reduce challenges posed to residents by scarcity of potable water in the ward. While commending the Oloyede led executive for responding to their request on the road rehabilitation, Obasa said it would ease

movements in the community. Meanwhile, as a council leader, Obasa appealed to other communities, assuring them that the development would be spread to other wards. He added that each ward would also have three

boreholes after the ongoing road rehabilitation. With the road rehabilitation and provision of boreholes in all the seven wards in Oshodi-Isolo LG, Obasa explained that great developments will soon be recorded in the local government area.



Hon. Rasheed Obasa



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