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Tinubu, Ambode Reconcile

By Rasaq Adebayo

It was the climax of the party put together by the Nigerian governors forum at the State House, Marina, Lagos to honour President Bola Tinubu who was visiting Lagos for the first time after his inauguration into office.

Thanking his hosts for the honour, President Tinubu paused, looked in the direction of the seat of former Lagos State Governor Akinwunmi Ambode and thanked him for making time to attend the event.

His words: "I am glad to see Ammbode, thank ypu, Akin, very good."

The president's statement was like a soothing balm for many associates and supporters of Ambode who had been in political limbo since the tragic governorship primaries of the All Progressives Congress in 2018.

Very confident that his four year performance in office would earn him a second term, the former governor had put all hands on deck.

His resolve initially received booster from President Tinubu, his mentor, then regq regarded as the National Leader of the party.

Like a storm from nowhere, a groundswell of opposition suddenly gathered momentum from the ranks of the party apparatchik who feared that the governor had assumed too much political power due to the shift of Tinubu's



Mr. Akinwunmi Ambode with President Bola Ahmed Tinubu

attention to ensuring the party, which had assumed power for the first time at the national level, fulfilled its promises to Nigerians.

A litany of allegations of running the administration without carrying along party leaders and introducing policies which hurt party stakeholders were used to persuade the national leader to withdraw his support from his hitherto favourite protege.

To add sauce to the tales, there were stories of an imminent plot to overthrow the dominant leadership caucus over which the national leader presided over and instal a new ruling organ that would reverse the legacies of the Tinubu

tendency.

Overwhelmed by the resolve of his associates and footsoldiers, the national leader voted for the views of the majority of his advisers and opted for Babajide Olusola Sanwo-olu.

For Ambode, whose pioneer foray into politics hit the governorship, the biggest prize of all, the sudden turn of events was a trauma too shocking to bear. The long

knives of betrayal by erstwhile allies and confidants was too much to bear. They had cut his flesh without a drop of blood.

In response, a man who was naturally reticent and taciturn returned to his favourite inner self, wondering what sort of human species

politicians were.

As the successor took office and began running the new administration, the principle of continuity that has guided governance from the Tinubu administration to Babatunde Raji Fashola's government prevailed.

Governor Sanwo-olu promised and fulfilled the pledge to complete on-going projects of his predecessor such as the Agege Pen Cinema bridge, the Oshodi-Abule-Egba Bus Rapid Transport route, the Yoruba Centre and Onikan stadium and housing projects in Igando and Sangotedo.

The immediate past Commissioner for Environment, Tunji Bello, following the ousting of Ambode, his former boss, said the main drawback of

the departed Akinwunmi Ambode administration was the government's inability to apply enough emotional intelligence in its dealings.

Bello, who served under Ambode as Secretary to the State Government noted that faced challenges with the top members of the party.

In a message titled 'Time to say goodbye to colleagues on this platform,' Bello provided an insight into the perception of Ambode's administration by top members of his cabinet.

The message, which was shared among

his colleagues on an "internal platform" read: "The exit bell has sounded and it is

time to say goodbye to colleagues. We must seriously thank our Governor, Mr Akinwunmi Ambode for bringing all of us together in the last four years.

"We must praise him for the successful strides in bringing Lagos to the present level. All the accomplishments and success stories of this administration should go to him.

"We should be happy too because we are directly or indirectly part of that success story being his lieutenants.

"We should be happy for the opportunity provided and experience gained. It is not what you can buy on the shelf even if you have all the money. We should also be

Tinubu, Ambode Reconcile

happy and thankful to God for seeing us to the end."

Although he kept a dignified distance from politicians in the state, Ambode co-operated with the party at the national level. He was appointed to chair the south west youth campaign committee.

Ambode was sworn in as the elected governor of Lagos State on May 29, 2015.

However, unlike his two predecessors, he was unable to get the nod of his party, the All Progressives Congress, to contest for a second four-year tenure.

Part of the reasons for Ambode's rejection by the party

was his alleged propensity to run a 'one-man show'.

Meanwhile, since he was ousted in 2019, Ambode has been hibernating, leaving the political scene for four years before his successor, Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu recently made a move to bring him (Ambode) back into the circle.

But how did Sanwo-Olu go about it? He used the 60th birthday occasion of his predecessor, Ambode to make a reconciliation move.

The reconciliation process started when the incumbent governor visited the former during his 60th birthday

recently.

Sanwo-Olu said Ambode dedicated his time to the service of Lagos State as a governor and civil servant.

In furtherance of the reconciliation process, Tinubu, Fashola, and Ambode were together recently at the welcome-back party organised by the state governor in honour of the president.

When President Bola Ahmed Tinubu returned from London to celebrate Eid-el-Kabir in Lagos before resuming his office in Abuja, Sanwo-Olu took Ambode to the President for reconciliation and

reintegration of his successor into the political circle.

Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu and his predecessors, Babatunde Fashola and Akinwunmi Ambode met at the Lagos House, Marina for the first time in over four years at a reception organised by Governor Sanwo-Olu in honour of President Bola Tinubu, who was in Lagos for Sallah celebration.

Though Ambode was silent during the presidential campaigns for Tinubu's election, there are opinions that he may be re-absorbed and given political post in

Tinubu's administration.

This was possible for Sanwo-Olu for his role during the presidential campaign. He had met some presidential aspirants under the APC platform including Sen. Ibikunle Amosun to step down for Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, which he eventually achieved.

Amosun and other presidential aspirants from the South including the Governor of Ekiti State, Dr. Kayode Fayemi, and former speaker of the House of Representatives, Dimeji Bankole, stepped down for

Tinubu at the APC convention held in Abuja.

Stakeholders have lauded Sanwo-Olu for his role in reconciling Tinubu and Ambode, saying it is a gesture to drive development within the party and Lagos State.

According to them, there is a need for such a move to place the party in its vantage and settle all internal crises, especially in Lagos State.

They said the party leaders in the state also need to reconcile all aggrieved party members in local government areas across the state.



Mr. Akinwunmi Ambode with President Bola Ahmed Tinubu

Dispensation of Justice: Lagos passes And Signs 25 Bills Into Laws

Stories By Kunle Awosiyun

In its efforts to speed up dispensation of justice, Lagos State Government has ensured the passage and signing into laws 25 bills in the first administration of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu.

This was disclosed by the state Solicitor-General and Permanent Secretary Ministry of Justice, Mrs. Titilayo Shitta-Bey-Jeje at the just concluded 2023 Annual Conference of the Nigerian Bar Association Section on Public Interest and Development Law (NBA-SPIDEL) held at Citadel Event Centre, Ikeja, Lagos.

She said that a total number of 25 Bills have been passed and signed into law to ensure speedy dispensation of Justice in the State.

The Lagos State Government, through the State's Ministry of Justice, showcased some of its

achievements at the conference, saying that the constant reform of laws in the State is to enhance the administration of the criminal justice system while providing unabridged access to justice for all residents in the State.

"Lagos has always been an innovative State which creates people-oriented laws and policy design to make life better and safer for its people of diverse culture, race, nationality, religion and social status", she said.

She further stated that the State Government under the leadership of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu is committed to enhancing the quality of service delivery of the State judiciary through renovations of various Magistrate and High Court buildings across the State, noting that 10 courts have been fully digitalised, as well

creating an online platform where citizens of the State can visit to access all forms of legal advice. The Administrator-General and Public Trustee of the State, Mr. Jide Oduyebo noted that the Office was established with the statutory responsibility of managing and equitably sharing Assets of Estates of persons who died intestate (without leaving a Will), but, however, AG&PT can act on behalf of the estate of deceased persons who left a Will especially when the Testator makes the agency as the executor of the Will. He emphasised that the agency has the mandate to manage and distribute the assets of the estates to the beneficiaries who have proved their relationship to the deceased in line with the relevant laws of the State

He also revealed that individuals through

the agency can obtain letters of administration in respect of estate under its management, amongst others.

While speaking on the activities of her unit, the Coordinator of the Special Task Force on Land Grabber, Miss. Rukayat Shomade disclosed that over 7000 petitions have been received since the establishment of the agency in June, 2016.

Shomade further stated that 2500 petitions have been treated with about 1500 petitions outside the State's jurisdiction considered to be frivolous, stressing that 10 convictions have been made and 70 petitioners have fully recovered their property.

Participants at the event include Lawyers, Directors, Counsel and other members of the Bar and Bench.

Election Petition Tribunal: Stop Casting Aspersion on Judiciary, Sanwo-Olu Says



Senior Advocates of Nigeria

The Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide Olushola Sanwo-Olu has called on some Nigerians not to cast aspersions on the Judiciary no matter how they feel about the outcome of the legal process and the last general elections. Mr. Sanwo-Olu stated this at the annual conference of the Nigerian Bar Association, Section of Public Interest and Development Law, NBA-SPIDEL with the theme "Post-Election Nigeria: The Judiciary in the Eye of the Storm".

The Governor, who was represented by the Secretary to the State Government, 'Bimbola Salu-Hundeyin, noted that the decision by all parties in the electoral process to explore the legal option is a reflection of the trust and confidence reposed in the judiciary to dispense justice fairly and equitably. He said, "It is however important to emphasise the need for us as citizens, especially we in the political class to accept the judgment of the court in good faith after exhausting the options guaranteed by the constitution. Doing otherwise will amount to running down a key institution charged with the responsibility of upholding the sanctity of the rule of law and democracy".

Governor Sanwo-Olu commended all political parties and major actors that threaded the path of

the rule of law and constitutionalism during the just concluded general elections to seek redress.

He also appreciated the Chairman and members of the NBA-SPIDEL for their steadfastness in protecting the public interest through the annual flagship conference of the Nigeria Bar Association.

Similarly, his counterpart from Abia State, Dr. Alex Otti, who recalled his tortured journey for justice after he was denied his electoral mandate before the last election said money now plays a major role in who gets justice. He urged the NBA to seriously look into the activities of some lawyers whose craving for monetary gains in their practice has undermined their ethical obligation to stand for justice.

In his goodwill message, the former President, Nigerian Bar Association, Dr. Olisa Agbakoba (SAN) and President, West African Bar Association, Mr. Femi Falana, stressed the need for the conclusion of all election petitions before inauguration to uphold the integrity of the electoral process in Nigeria.

The conference was attended by the members of the Bar and the Bench as well as critical stakeholders in Civil Society Organisations. There was a special showcase by the Lagos State Government after various panel discussions.



Lagos State Health Service Commission through its Hospital Transformation Support Initiative (HTSI) team has expressed satisfaction with the level of progress and improvement in medical care at the Ebute-Metta General Hospital. The HTSI team, led by the Permanent Secretary of HSC, Dr. Ademuyiwa Benjamin Eniayewun made this known recently during an assessment visit to the hospital, advising the hospital management to ensure improved service delivery to the citizens. Dr. Eniayewun commended the Medical Director of Ebute Metta General Hospital, Dr. (Mrs.) Onomoare Juliana Olunuga for sustaining the vision of the hospital despite the challenges posed by the ongoing renovation of the facility. He encouraged the Medical Director and

Lagos Health Commission visits Ebute-Metta GH

Stories By Kunle Awosiyan

the entire management team of Ebute-Metta General Hospital as well as other members of staff not to relent in their efforts as the HTSI

expects more from them.

The Director of the Medical Services Department of HSC, Dr. Olugbenga Oyekan also thanked the staff for supporting the MD for

the notable achievements visible within the hospital.

He urged them to do more as nothing short of standard and quality healthcare delivery is expected from the

Hospital.

The Hospital's Medical Director, Dr. Olunuga, appreciated the HSC team for the visit and their words of encouragement, noting that the hospital would

not have recorded any meaningful achievement without the support of her team comprising of the Heads of Departments and Units, among others.



Hospital Ward

Prioritise the safety of attendees, Lagos Govt Tells Event Centres

The Director-General, Lagos State Safety Commission, Mr. Lanre Mojola, has called on all event organisers in Lagos to prioritise the safety of attendees by taking proactive measures to mitigate risks. He said that event owners and organisers planning to host gatherings with more than 250 individuals are required to register their events through the Safety Commission's website: and obtain an Event Safety Permit. "This permit demonstrates their commitment to the well-being of their guests and their dedication to creating a secure and enjoyable experience", he said. Mojola stated that the Commission had

implemented comprehensive safety guidelines and protocols, adhering to international best practices to mitigate potential risks associated with large gatherings.

"These guidelines encompass crowd management, emergency response planning, usage of pyrotechnics, fire safety measures and more. These measures aim to prevent accidents, injuries and fatalities," the DG noted.

According to him, event planners and organisers are mandated to engage Safety Marshals to ensure strict compliance with safety standards at all events.

He said the presence of two Safety Marshals per 500 guests, proof of ambulance services and medical retainer-ship with a certified hospital

are non-negotiable requirements for large events and concerts.

The DG expressed appreciation for the collaboration of various associations and stakeholders, such as the Association of Venue Owners Lagos Nigeria (AVOLN), the Association of Professional Party Organisers and Event Managers of Nigeria (APPOEM) and ILEA Nigeria among others, with whom the Commission had been actively engaging over the past months to ensure the utmost safety at all events in the State.

"We cannot overemphasise the importance of event safety, especially during the upcoming Sallah Celebration. We urge all event owners and organisers to prioritise the



An event centre

well-being of their guests and the community by ensuring their events do not cause any environmental nuisance to the general public", he stated.

He reiterated that the Commission remained dedicated to promoting responsible socialising and ensuring the safety of

all residents and visitors in Lagos State.

In his words, "By working together with event stakeholders, the Commission aims to foster an environment where events are planned and executed responsibly, without compromising public health or safety". "Additionally, adhering to

the assigned occupancy limit of any event venue or facility is crucial. The Lagos State Safety Commission will actively monitor compliance to ensure that safety guidelines are followed. For all emergencies, please call 112 or 767 for prompt emergency response", Mojola said.

Fear Grips Lagos Motorists Over Vehicle Ownership Certificate

By Kunle Awosiyun

Aftermath of Sallah celebration in which many Lagos residents stayed indoor to unwind, the new vehicle licensing policy is creating fears to many Lagos motorists and car owners. Those who spoke to Echonews said they were confused by the new policy and that it would make the government transport officials to extort them the more. To those who spoke to Echonews, the new idea is to tactically force motorists who had not renewed their vehicle lincences to do so and also ensure that a third person vehicle owner change his number plate when applying for change of ownership certificate. "You may think this is just N1000 certificate as said by Lagos government, it is a strategy to force those of us who have been carrying old number plates inherited from the first owner to change to new one. This is going to be too much. To get a new number plate is about N60,000 now" a cab driver, Dada Opeyemi said. During the Eid-el-Kabir holidays, the state Ministry of Transportation announced the commencement of an annual renewal of proof of ownership certificate for vehicles registered in the state. The Permanent Secretary of the ministry, Engr Abdulafiz Toriola said that the new rule is in compliance with the communique of the federal government

Joint Tax Board, after an emergency meeting held on May 9, 2023. Our correspondent who went to the streets to interview some car owners and commercial buses operators observed that most of them were worried. They complained bitterly about the new procedure, saying it would subject them to fresh punishment in the hands of the officials of the state traffic management authority, LASTMA and those of the Vehicle Inspectorate Office. "If LASTMA or police arrest you now, the first thing they will ask for is the ownership certificate even when government has not started the implementation," Opeyemi said. It was gathered that many motorists did not obtain change of ownership paper from the first car owner who sold the vehicle to them even after they had perfected other papers. However an official of the Lagos Licensing office, Alausa Ikeja (names withheld) told Echonews that the only costly vehicle document now is the insurance, which is about N16,000 for small cars while the vehicle licence itself is about N3000. However, she said that many motorists evaded the insurance and would not even bother to do change of ownership but would prefer to renew the older documents that carried the names and particulars of the first owner. According to her, this culture is causing a lot of database challenges to trace traffic offenders



because information only goes to the first owner who had since disposed the vehicle to a third party, whose datas were never captured by the licensing office. However, a motorist, Mr. Tola Oguntoyinbo told our correspondent that Lagos State Government had made vehicle registration more difficult for car owners in the past. He said, "Before now, we did change of ownership by simply swear to affidavit and get police report even when the vehicle papers still bear the particulars of the first owner (the seller) but today with change of ownership paper, Lagos will not agree unless one is ready to change the whole registration completely and get a new number plate." But to Toriola the Permanent Secretary, Lagos Ministry of Transportation, the new procedure is aimed at ensuring real-time tracking and

maintaining the integrity of vehicle records on the National Vehicle and Identification Scheme (NVIS) database. Toriola said the renewal process is part of the government's commitment to keeping accurate and up-to-date records of vehicle ownership, which is crucial for effective traffic management, law enforcement, and public safety, reiterating that the renewal process will ensure national integration of data. The Permanent Secretary added that the Proof of Ownership Certificate serves as valid proof that a vehicle is legally owned by the registered individual or entity and will contain vital information such as licence plate number, model and year of manufacture, in addition to the owner's name and address. He said the document will be issued at the point of renewing vehicle

particulars at a minimal fee of One Thousand Naira Only(1000). According to join, the procedure will aid in the minimization of car theft and recovery of stolen vehicles, getting vehicular population nationwide, verification of vehicle documents regardless of issuing State, and enhance national security amongst other benefits. He stressed that by ensuring accurate records and documentation, Lagos State aims to create a safer and more efficient transportation system, urging all to comply with relevant authorities for seamless implementation of the process. Speaking, the Lagos State Sector Commander of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) Babatunde Farinloye said the implementation is in line with the FRSC Establishment Act of 2007, to regulate and enforce all road safety

management procedures through robust database, expressing the willingness of the Agency to ensure smooth execution of the procedure. To the General Manager, Motor Vehicle Administration Agency (MVAA), Mrs. Lape Kilanko, the initiative aligns with the Agency's vision of gathering reliable and accurate databases which will aid its operations. A transportation expert and the Group Managing Director of Temply SYC Ltd, Prince Segun Obayendo stressed the significance of this procedure in addressing the issue of stolen vehicles that are currently untraceable. He emphasised that with this initiative, interstate vehicles can be easily verified and captured in the Lagos State database. He also highlighted the role of data in the success of the Intelligent Transport System.



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2023**

Lagos State Health Management Agency Wins National Award

The Lagos State Health Management Agency (LASHMA) has received the 2023 State Government Health Insurance Scheme of the Year Award from the Nigeria HealthCare Excellence Award.

Receiving the Award at the EKO Hotel and Suites, Victoria Island, the General Manager of LASHMA, Dr. Emmanuella Zamba commended the Nigeria HealthCare Excellence Award for deeming it fit to reward the Lagos State Government and the Agency with the award. She said that LASHMA would not relent in its efforts in ensuring that it realises the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) mandate of the Lagos State Government and not leave anyone behind including the vulnerable.

The General Manager commended the Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu, for the support given to the Agency and his dedication towards the realisation of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in the State. Dedicating the award to the Enrollees and Health Providers under the Lagos State Social Health Insurance Scheme, she thanked everyone who has contributed to the success story of LASHMA.

Earlier, a member of the Advisory Board, Nigeria Healthcare Excellence Award, Mr. Oladapo Rasheed Olawale congratulated the Lagos State Health Management Agency (LASHMA) on the award. He said that LASHMA won the award having fulfilled the criteria which included the number of new enrollees or a percentage increase of new enrollees, new health financing packages and models.

Others were the geographic spread of enrollees within the State, the percentage number of citizens registered with the State Health Insurance programme and the State Health Insurance with an automated Health insurance platform for access and management.

Top officials of LASHMA that were at the event include a Board Member, Comrade Olurotimi Awojide; the Director, Admin and Human Resource, Mrs. Olufunke Longe; Head of Departments – Business Development, Mr. Olatunji Rotimi; ICT, Mr. Sefiu Oladejo and Finance, Mrs. Aramide Ojo.



At the presentation of the award

Lagos Opens Eko Haven – Shelter for Survivors of Domestic Violence

The Lagos State Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency (DSVA) has opened the "EKO HAVEN", a shelter for survivors of domestic violence as part of the State Government's commitment to ensuring holistic support is provided to survivors of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV).

Executive Secretary of DSV, Titilola Vivour-Adeniyi, in her address at the opening of the facility, revealed that the Shelter located in the Ikorodu axis of Lagos, is a 30-bed space capacity to provide immediate shelter services to high-risk survivors of domestic violence.

She said opening the shelter was the State Government's prompt response to the burgeoning demand to ensure the preservation of life, safety, stability, empowerment, and subsequently the reintegration of survivors back into society.

According to her, the establishment of Eko Haven is in keeping with the DSV's statutory mandate of establishing shelters across all Divisions of the State.

She said, "With this intervention, we hope that survivors in abusive relationships would find the courage to break the culture of silence, speak up and speak out with the assurance that help is just a CALL away, Asides from providing accommodation, health, psychosocial support as well as livelihood, support would also be integrated and made available for survivors through Eko Haven".

"Our compassionate staff would offer comprehensive support to help survivors address their trauma through empowerment activities, personal and legal advocacy and in-house psychosocial support. The shelter is hosted at a confidential location with on-site security precautions and a gated entry".

She gave assurance that any victim or survivor of domestic violence should realise that they are not alone and that help is accessible, saying "Please reach out to us on 08000 333 333 or at our office located at Nobel House, Plot A, Otunba Jobi Fele Way, Central Business District. Alausa".

Lagos Taskforce Reads Riot Act To Squatters, Environmental Degraders

The Chairman of the Lagos State Environmental and Special Offences Unit (Lagos Taskforce), CSP Shola Jejeloye has said that the Agency will do all it takes in ensuring that environmental degraders scattered across various parts of the State are either brought to book or made to leave the State.

He made this declaration today at Lekki Coastal Road where the Agency carried out a cleanup exercise after serving squatters in the area several notices to evacuate the axis.

The exercise which was led by the Chairman kicked off at about 3 am and lasted several hours. He warned squatters present to vacate the large expanse of land which had already been marked as an alternate route by the State Government.

"This is a complete exercise which has been replicated in other parts of the State like Owode and Waterworks. I gave them a seven-day notice and warned them that it would not be business as usual but they thought it was a joke. It is clear now that the State Government means business", he stated.

Jejeloye also assured of the sustenance of the exercise, stating that the Agency would ensure that the axis would become a pindown point with patrol vehicles stationed on both ends to prevent anyone from inhabiting there any longer.

"With this action of ours today, it will be noticed that criminality on our highways, especially Lekki - Epe Expressway would reduce drastically. The perpetrators of traffic crime make use of these shanties as their take-off point but with this new development, it will be a thing of the past".

Jejeloye assured residents that plans are in the pipeline by the State Government to take proper possession of the Road and construct something meaningful and beneficial to all Lagosians.

He urged Lagosians to report anyone involved in activities that could be harmful to the environment and appealed to residents to join hands in ensuring that Lagos State is safe, secure and habitable for all.





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Lagos Govt, British High Commission, Others Collaborate On Mitigating Challenges In Waste Management

Stories By Kunle Awosiyun

Representative s of Lagos State Government, the British Deputy High Commission, C40 cities and other stakeholders over the weekend met to collaborate on effective ways of getting major stakeholders' buy-in and ensure the development of a robust policy document that will translate into a cleaner and healthy environment statewide.

Addressing the validation workshop, the Permanent Secretary, Office of Environmental Services, Gaji Omobolaji Tajudeen said the meeting is about prioritising Climate Action and reducing Green House Gas GHG emissions in the waste sector, through the management of organic waste in the State.

Speaking at the Protea Hotel, Alausa venue of the event, he added that Lagos State is in extensive city engagement with C40 Cities and UK AID and has carried out a Needs and Gap Assessment for the Waste Sector in the State through a consultant, Messrs. Geo-Orbit.

He recalled that the initial draft report was presented earlier in the year after incorporating various views, opinions and recommendations, adding that it became worthy to have a validation workshop to obtain sign-off from the



Disposing Medical Waste

decision makers towards creating a workable action plan to drive a pilot project which the State can duplicate and expand overtime.

Gaji said the findings of the Gaps and Needs Assessment undertaken by an environmental consultant are being laid bare at the validation workshop for more discussions and suggestions in order to improve the waste management system in the State.

"It is my expectation that this assessment will assist the State Government to successfully achieve a diversion of organic waste from landfill, create jobs from recyclables and also reduce the Greenhouse Gas Emission from the current 25% to a lower percentage

ratio", he said.

While thanking partners from C40 Cities for facilitation of technical assistance through the Climate Action Implementation (CAI) Africa Programme, Gaji said the initiative would come in handy in developing the state's capacity to effectively implement the Lagos Climate Action Plan.

He urged all participants to actively share their insights and experiences, stressing that it is only through collaborative efforts that innovative solutions to address the gaps in our waste management system can be achieved.

In a goodwill message, the Head of Prosperity, British Deputy High

Commission, Lagos, Mr. Kris Kamponi commended the high level of enthusiasm demonstrated by all stakeholders at the workshop.

He noted that the British Deputy High Commission is delighted to be identified with the efforts towards improving the management of organic waste in Lagos State.

In his presentation, the C40 City Adviser, Maximum Ugwoke lamented that Africa has been disproportionately impacted by Climate Change.

Noting that Lagos is developing a mainstreaming strategy on how to manage organic waste, Ugwoke disclosed that optimising energy use in buildings can

deliver between 20 to 55 per cent of cities' emissions reduction.

In his presentation, the Consultant, Dr. Femi Adegoke mentioned that organic waste are Municipal Solid Waste fraction and a policy focused on facilitating the reduction and management of organic waste should be put in place.

He added that this will cover generation and source segregation, collection and transportation, and disposal with diversion from landfills targets covering short, medium and long terms.

He said building on the outcome of this study, especially identified gaps and needs, requires a

deliberate and critical analysis of existing legislation to be carried out by the State waste regulators in conjunction with stakeholders.

He, therefore, called for the review of existing laws and policies in the development of regulations, guidelines and standards to support source reduction of organic waste, source separation of organic waste, separate collection and transportation, treatment, recycling and Landfill operation amongst others.

Present at the workshop were environmental enthusiasts, environmental consultants and government officials amongst others.

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Lagos Partners Jobberman to Train 500 Youths on Employability Skills

Stories By Kunle Awosiyani

The Lagos State Ministry of Wealth Creation and Employment has promised that it will continue to use wealth strategies to promote and sustain entrepreneurship and employment through the effective use of wealth creation strategies and resources for the benefit of the residents. The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry, Dr. Biodun Onaye made the promise at the weekend during an Employability Training Programme organised by the State Government in conjunction with Jobberman, held at the Adeyemi-Bero Auditorium, Alausa-Ikeja. Jobberman is a Nigerian-based job portal and career platform that lists candidate job applications for

employers and helps connect people looking for jobs with companies hiring. He explained that the event was aimed at providing a free employability training programme that will expose youths to various employability programmes such as soft skills, job interviews and challenges of unemployment in the State, thereby ensuring that the youths are engaged and are not left behind in the scheme of things. Dr. Onaye reiterated that Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu remains unrelenting in the quest to enhance the leadership and employability skills of our youth by connecting them to professionals that would help shorten the learning curve and assist in accessing the sectors and disciplined expertise. The Permanent Secretary said, "Let me commend

JOBBERMAN for the great initiative to train the youths in Lagos State. I am aware that this training will expose the participants to how to write good Curriculum Vitae, Cover Letters, prepare them for interviews, How to properly do job searches, Salary Negotiations, Emotional Intelligence and Teamwork". He maintained that the qualities of bringing up new ideas and putting them into reality are imperative for the future workplace as it aids in building a well-balanced life and career, saying that this is a view that JOBBERMAN is committed to. The Director of Employment in the Ministry, Mrs. Folashade Alabi revealed that the participants are about 500 drawn from the five divisions of the State, namely Ikorodu, Epe, Badagry, Lagos Island

and Ikeja. Speaking during the training session, Senior youth engagement consultant with Jobberman, Oladoyin Kolawole, expressed confidence in the participants, saying that they have a better advantage to secure their dream jobs. According to her, the participants have been exposed to how to comport themselves during job interviews and what employers of labour expect from prospective job seekers. This is in addition to training them on emotional intelligence, management of self and others. She advised prospective job seekers to register on Jobberman's website as job seekers so that the organisation can easily contact them whenever there are vacancies that match the information provided on the website.



Youths at the training

Widows Pains: WAPA Advocates Support For Victims Rights



Nigeria widows

The Lagos State Ministry of Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation (WAPA) has called for respect for widows' rights which is been eroded by harmful traditional practices, adding that it's an abuse of the fundamental rights of women. The call was contained in a statement released by the Permanent Secretary of WAPA, Mrs. Oluyemi Kalesanwo to raise awareness about the challenges faced by widows worldwide as well as acknowledge the resilience and strength of widows in surviving their predicament. She said, "The Ministry of Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation stands in solidarity with widows all over the world, hence, we acknowledge the unique struggles faced by widows, including social isolation, discrimination and economic hardship". While recounting gruesome activities

requiring change across the metropolis, Kalesanwo reiterated that widows are often subjected to harmful traditional practices, such as forced marriages and depriving them of inheritance, which violate their human rights and perpetuate gender inequality. These practices can also expose them to health risks, such as HIV and other sexually transmitted infections". She explained that the Ministry of Women's Affairs and Poverty Alleviation was committed to promoting the rights of widows, protecting them from violence and abuse, and providing them with the support they need to live fulfilling lives. The Permanent Secretary averred "We encourage all stakeholders, including civil society organisations, faith-based groups, and the private sector, to join us in this effort. Let's give widows around us a helping hand".

Lagos, UN Information Centre Organise LASSMUN 2023 Assembly

Lagos State Education Districts in collaboration with the United Nations Information Centre has organised the 2023 Lagos Secondary Schools Model United Nations (LASSMUN) Assembly for students at Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA), Victoria Island, Lagos.

Speaking at the event, the Lagos State First Lady, Dr. (Mrs.) Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu, who was the Special Guest of Honour at the occasion, expressed her happiness and joy of participating in the assembly.

She noted that the assembly was a learning platform to expand the frontiers of education and designed to empower students in the State with life-changing knowledge and skills.

"It is commendable that this collaborative initiative between the Lagos State Government through the six Education



Districts, and United Nations Information Centre (UNIC), has been sustained in the last four years as a learning tool for public speaking, consensus building, tolerance and International Relations", she stated.

The First Lady emphasised that the Students-led, Student-centric and Student-focused global initiative

was targeted at exposing the Students in Lagos State to information and knowledge that would enhance their capacity towards finding solutions to developmental issues confronting us as a State and a Country.

She urged all the Stakeholders to continue to implement initiatives that would reinforce the strategic position of education in fostering a

better world for all.

Earlier in her welcome address, the Tutor General/Permanent Secretary of Education District II, Mrs. Anike Adekanye, who was the Chairman of the occasion, disclosed that the Administration of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu upholds the partnership with the officials of the UNIC to ensure that it adds to its

achievements in educational facility renewal, methodological reengineering, human capital reinvention, rewarding and inspirational tourism for students achievers and upgraded technological-driven learning, among other innovative achievements in the education sector which have become most impactful, directional,

realisable and a sustainable venture.

She thanked the First Lady for honouring the invitation despite her tight schedule, just as she appreciated her for fully participating in the fourth session of the conference.

In his remark, the Representative of the United Nations Information Centre, Mr. Seyi Soremekun congratulated the Representatives of the Students in the States who participated at that Assembly on the opportunity and privilege they had to express their views on some of the vital current issues of the 21st century.

He advised them not to engage in vices that would damage their future, adding that the platform has made them become Ambassadors and they should portray themselves as good Ambassadors of the Centre to the public.

Lagos Goes Digital To Improve Health Service Delivery

Lagos State Government is embracing digital transformation to improve health services for its residents, the Permanent Secretary, Lagos State Ministry of Health, Dr. Olusegun Ogboye has said.

Ogboye, who disclosed this recently at the Third Africa Digital Health Summit which was held at the Eko Hotel and Suites, Victoria Island Lagos, noted that the key thrusts of the State's digital strategy for improved health services revolves around supporting patients in making the right healthcare choices and provide them with options.

The Permanent Secretary, who was the keynote speaker at the summit, added that Lagos digital strategy also enables the people who care for patients, to understand them while providing safe and personalised care.

Speaking on the topic, "Digital Transformation of Health Systems: The Role of Collaboration and Partnerships", Ogboye noted that Lagos digital strategy creates an environment where healthcare providers and patients can use and benefit from innovative technologies.

"The key thrust of our digital strategy is such that preserve the patients' trust in the healthcare system

and protect their rights and information", he said

Ogboye in his presentation opined that Africa's digital health landscape is evolving rapidly, with innovations and advancements changing the way we approach healthcare delivery, access, and quality.

He noted that Governments play a crucial role in setting policies, allocating resources, and creating an enabling environment for digital health solutions to thrive.

The Permanent Secretary added that by collaborating, sharing best practices, and harmonising regulations, Government can create a

conducive ecosystem for innovation and ensure that digital health initiatives are aligned with the needs and priorities of our populations.

He also noted that collaboration between healthcare providers and technology developers is essential to design, implement and scale up digital health solutions that are user-centred, evidence-based and contextually relevant.

"Co-creation and co-development of digital tools, such as telemedicine platforms, electronic health records, and health information systems, can ensure that they address the unique challenges faced by

healthcare professionals and meet the specific needs of the communities they serve", he stated.

The Permanent Secretary outlined, improved patient care through advance digital transformations as one of the benefits of leveraging technology in healthcare.

Others, according to him, are enhanced efficiency of healthcare providers with digital tools, patient education and reduced medical errors through interactive platforms and lower healthcare costs through streamlined processes.

According to the convener of the summit, Dr. Niyi Osamiluyi, the Africa Digital Health Summit is a

platform for fostering dialogue, knowledge sharing and inspiration, bringing together policy makers, healthcare professionals, researchers, technologists, entrepreneurs and innovators to collectively explore the limitless potential that digital transformation holds for Africa's health systems.

Osamiluyi, who is the Chief Executive Officer of Premier Medical Systems, added that the summit will serve as a catalyst for collaboration, partnerships and transformative action, propelling the African continent towards resilient and equitable digital health systems.

Coker Aguda LCDA Boss Promises More Infrastructures

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Coker Aguda Local Council Development Area, Hon. Rasaq Olamilekan has promised to execute more projects as he bagged the award of outstanding chairman. The award was given at the Rootswatch National Award 2023 held at the National Merit House, Abuja. Olamilekan got the award based on several developmental projects he has executed which cut across several categories in his local council area, which the organisers of the award said they took time to scrutinise and found worthy of being awarded. Speaking on the award, the council chairman said he wished to attend the occasion without any proxy but could not due to other official assignments in which he was entangled. He appreciated Rootswatch Magazine

for counting him worthy of the award among other local council chairmen in Nigeria. Some of his projects that attracted the award include presentation of new security patrol vehicles to Nigeria Police, presentation of brand new 500KVA transformer to residents of Coker Aguda LCDA, organising free web design programme for the youths, reconstruction of Orile Iganmu Primary Health Centre, construction of Celestial Cottage Road, construction of Emokpaire Drainage and Road, reconstruction of Taiwo Williams Street, Aguda, and construction of Yisa Oroki Street. Other projects done by the LCDA boss include construction of Soloki Road, construction of

Ojuolape Street, construction of Falohun Street, construction of drainage at Ago-Egba, construction of culvert at Hassan Idowu, construction of culvert at Alice Tinubu Street, reconstruction of Community Road, construction of Brown Close Road, construction of culvert at Adefowope Street, reconstruction of culvert at Savage Street, construction of culvert at Karimu Street, rehabilitation and furnishing of supervisory councilors office, desilting of drainages on Rasaq Gbadamosi Street, Peace Estate, Arikewuyo Street, Alli-Olanipekun Street, Ogungbesan Street, Opeloyeru Street, Abu Street, yearly presentation of free JAMB and GCE forms to the less privileged in Coker Aguda LCDA, organising one-day sensitisation and breast



The award, medal and generator set gifted to the chairman of Coker Aguda LCDA, Hon Rasaq Olamilekan by Rootswatch Awards for emerging best chairman on infrastructures

cancer screening for women, palliative works on over 15 streets in bad condition, reconstruction of collapsed fence at L.A. Primary School, organising free summer coaching for primary

and secondary school students, distribution of school bags to all the students during the Spelling Bee competition organised by Coker Aguda LCDA, and organising children party yearly for the

students and wards. The chairman of the Rootswatch Editorial Board, Prince Bayode Ojo reiterated that awards of recognition are meant to serve as an encouragement to the awardees for their hard work.

Apatira Bags Award On Education And Infrastructure

By Saheed Afolabi

The award, which was designed to showcase the impactful achievements and reward excellence in grassroots governance, was conferred on him at the Rootswatch National Award 2023 which was held at the National Merit House, Abuja. Speaking at the ceremony, Apatira, who was represented by his daughters, Miss. Aishat and Faizal Apatira, applauded the Rootswatch Magazine

for recognising his administration's commitment to infrastructure and education and other numerous people-oriented programmes, describing the award as a challenge to do more. Furthermore, the council boss said his administration would continue to focus on technical and vocational education as one of the ways of engaging the youths positively, Earlier, the chairman

of the Rootswatch Editorial Board, Prince Bayode Ojo, had hailed the council boss and other awardees for standing tall among their colleagues, saying the award was a duty call for more development for their people in their local government areas. According to Ojo, the group is proud to reckon with the council boss who does not view investment in education as a burden but as a responsibility because of its far-

reaching impact on society. Other notable personalities present to receive the award on behalf of the council boss were the Leader of the Council, Hon. Hammed Oladipupo Idris, Supervisor for Works and Infrastructure, Hajia Mariam Balaraba, HOD, Information, HOD, Environment and the Chief Press Secretary to the Chairman, Comr. Balogun Olumide Lukman



Miss Aishat Apatira receiving the Rootswatch Award on behalf of the council chairman of Itire Ikate LCDA.

Orphanage Home Appreciates Donors

By Edith Igbokwe



Orphanage home in appreciation mood

The orphanage and similar childcare Foundation in Agege has appreciated philanthropist's support and assistance in taking care of the less privileged, especially at the concluded Eid-ul Kabir celebration. The management of the orphanage home thanked the donors of food items for making

the orphans feel at home by slaughtering cows on their behalf for the celebration of Eid-ul Kabir. "Over the years, the home has been enjoying philanthropists gesture and we pray that Allah rewards you all abundantly and increase you in health and wealth." The home seized the opportunity to solicit

financial support to continue putting smiles on the faces of the orphans. According to the home, it is never too late to donate, there is still ample time to contribute towards a meaningful cause. The home prayed that Allah blesses all those who contributed towards the orphanage home and makes everything they lay their hands on to be successful.

Female Students Get Sanitary Towels

By Edith Igbokwe



Elite youth Initiative instructor while teaching in Community High school orile-Agege

Female Students of the Community High School, Orile-Agege have expressed their gratitude towards the Elite Youth Initiative for giving them sanitary towels after being educated on puberty hygiene. Hundreds of sanitary pads were given to them.

At the seminar, the students expressed the challenges experienced when they reach puberty stage. The speaker, Lummy Grillo, educated students on how to prevent themselves from contracting infections during their menstrual period. He said the female students should take

their baths regularly and maintain personal hygiene whenever on mensuration. He further noted that cleanliness should be the watchword of female students during the monthly circle flow. Questions were entertained and answers were provided after the education section.

Widows, Aged People Appreciate Orile-Agege Chairman's Food Support

By Edith Igbokwe

Widows and aged people across all the wards in Orile-Agege Local Council Development Area (LCDA) have appreciated the council chairman, Hon. Johnson Babatunde for the gift of food items. The beneficiaries thanked the chairman for counting them worthy of the

opportunities as they prayed for his successful tenure in office. They gave appreciation while receiving the food items at the council secretariat. While addressing the beneficiaries, the Vice Chairman, Hon. Pedro Kafilat Toyin, who represented the chairman, said the gesture was to make

them feel loved and accepted in the community. HOD Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation (WAPA), Mrs. Aliu-Mohammed. O. A and Supervisor for Information and Special Duties, Hon. Olubisi, and members of the executive council amongst others witnessed the distribution process of the food items.



Food support distribution in Orile Agege

Obedience, Self Sacrifice key To Build Better Nation – Lasisi

By Edith Igbokwe



Hon Akinsanya Lasisi

The chairman of the Igando-Ikotun Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Comrade Akinsanya Lasisi, has told the Muslims that total obedience and selfless sacrifice, as demonstrated by Prophet Ibrahim, will help a country undergoing many challenges to emerge better and stronger.

“The unconditional obedience of Prophet Ibrahim to sacrifice his son as commanded by Allah and the teachings

of the Holy Qur'an offers guidance on how a country undergoing many challenges can emerge better and stronger.”

He stated that the faithful would receive abundant blessings

and favour from the Almighty.

He called on Muslims to imbibe the culture of the rule of law, peaceful co-existence, and selfless service so that Igando-Ikotun can emerge as a great

community.

He then charged the Muslim faithful to demonstrate love to their neighbours, promote peaceful coexistence in their various communities, and pray fervently for the country.

Alimosho Students Display Talents In Chess, Scrabble Competition

By Edith Igbokwe



Chess, Scrabble Competition winners

Shobowale Advises Returning Hajjis, Muslims To Imbibe Religious Teachings

By Edith Igbokwe



Ayobo-Ipaja LCDA chairman, Mrs. Bolatito Shobowale

Chairman of Ayobo-Ipaja Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Bola Shobowale has admonished Muslims who went to the Holy land of Mecca for Hajji to embrace all the holy teachings of Prophet Mohammed (SAW) and those they acquired

saying it is to make people around happy and create a peaceful environment for all to live.

She added that the period of Eid-Al-Adha should be used to reach out to the less privileged around and make them happy.

Shobowale also urged the Muslims to continue praying for the nation's leaders to remain focused on the discharge of their duties for the overall interest of the country.

Most importantly, she called for religious tolerance to foster peaceful co-existence, unity, and a prosperous country.

According to her, one of the most important occasions in the Islamic calendar is Eid-al-Adha, which is observed by millions of Muslims around the world.

She stated that the celebration of Eid-al-Adha has marked the end of the hajj or pilgrimage to Mecca.

from the holy land as entrenched in the holy book – Quran.

She urged all other Muslims to practically apply the teachings in their daily dealings with others after the celebration of Eid-el-Adha.

She emphasised the concept of being one's brother's keeper,

Selected primary and secondary school students in the Alimosho Local Government Area have successfully concluded Chess and Scrabble competition organised by Ferscoat International Schools in collaboration with Diamond Chess Service.

No fewer than 22 students from five schools, which include Multigrace Schools, Toysun Schools, Eagles Flight Schools, Ferscoat Schools, and Westminster Schools participated in the Chess competition, while 21 students from seven schools including Multigrace Schools, Toysun Schools, Eagles Flight Schools, Ferscoat Schools, Grace E School, Earlylight Academy, and Westminster Schools participated in the Scrabble competition.

The chess competition ended with Multigrace Schools emerging as champions and Earlylight Academy and Eagles Flight Schools taking second and third places respectively.

For Scrabble, Ferscoat

Schools emerged as the champion while Toysun Schools and Multigrace Schools took second and third place, respectively.

The most outstanding players for the primary school chess competition include Okenla Divine from Multigrace School, Omzopia Alvin from Multigrace School, and Chukwere Bryan from Grace E School.

The most outstanding players for the primary school Scrabble competition include Osunde Osas from Ferscoat School, Sunday Sweetness from Toysun Schools, and Adewunmi Ayomide from Multigrace Schools.

Meanwhile, the chess competition for secondary students brought together 24 students from eight schools, which include Multigrace Schools, Toysun Schools, Elibel Schools, Ferscoat Schools, Doregos, Imperial Lights, Daisy Schools, and Westminster Schools.

For the secondary Scrabble competition, 20 students participated from seven

schools, including Multigrace Schools, Toysun Schools, Doregos, Ferscoat Schools, Imperial Lights, Daisy Schools, and Westminster Schools.

The secondary chess competition ended with Multigrace Schools emerging as champions with 12 points and Elibel, Doregos, and Ferscoat Schools taking the second (10 points), third (nine points), and fourth (nine points) place, respectively.

For the secondary Scrabble, Ferscoat Schools emerged as the champions while Multigrace Schools and Doregos took second and third place respectively.

The most outstanding players for the secondary school chess competition include Faluyi Damola from Multigrace Schools, Ibekwe David from Multigrace School, and Aladesuyi Evans from Ferscoat Schools.

The most outstanding players for the secondary school Scrabble competition include Adebhie Joshua from Ferscoat Schools, Adegbenjo Peter from Multigrace Schools, and Konyinsola Lasaki from Multigrace Schools.

Badagry APC Apex Leader Urges Nigerians To Pray For Tinubu's Success

By Saheed Afolabi

Achieftain of the All Progressives Congress (APC) and Lagos State Governor Advisory Committee (GAC) member, Chief Akinsanya Sunny Ajose (OON) has called on Nigerians to pray for the success of President Bola Tinubu-led administration and Governor Babajide



APC chieftain and Lagos GAC member, Chief Akinsanya Ajose

Sanwo-Olu Ajose, who is also the APC Apex Leader in Badagry, made the call to assure the country of better times under the administration of President Tinubu. He added that the challenges the country is currently facing will

soon come to an end, saying there is no gain without pain. He further advised the new set of young leaders, legislators, and politicians especially from Badagry to be more focused and ensure they put in their best to achieve results

during their time. He called on Nigerians of all tribes, faiths, and political leanings to imbibe the virtue of neighbourliness taught in the holy books to live in peace and harmony, and always be mindful of one another.

Badagry West Council Boss Distributes Books To School Pupils

By Saheed Afolabi

The parents, teachers, and pupils of Badagry West have commended their council chairman, Hon. Henugbe Joseph for distributing educational materials to pupils across different schools in the local council area. Some of the materials presented include over 5,000 free exercise books, textbooks, school bags, etc. According to the council chairman, the gesture is to encourage the pupils to be focused and ensure they have the best education required to make them successful in life. The council boss, who was represented by his Supervisor for Education, Mrs. Remilekun Nutayi,

explained that the donation was also to enhance the level of literacy of the pupils, particularly in the rural areas. He noted that he had constructed buildings in four different schools, with another ongoing construction at Methodist Primary School, Enuke. The council Leader, Hon. Sejoro Matthew, who was part of the distribution team, added that since education is the best legacy, the chairman out of his magnanimity

considering his constitutional responsibility, has deemed it fit to give the primary schools in the area a productive attention. Some of the schools that benefited include St. Peters Primary School, Agonrin, Salvation Primary School, Anlo Boglo, etc. Other cabinet members and councilors present at the programme include Hon. Alli Kareem, Hon. Nathaniel Johnson, Hon. Sule Umar Gogori, Hon. Zosu Philip, etc.



The donated books by Badagry West LCDA boss, Hon Gbenu Henugbe proudly shown by the school kids

Badagry Based NGO Hosts 250 Widows

By Saheed Afolabi



The beneficiaries with Mrs Dorcas Adelaja, the founder of TKWC foundation

In commemoration of this year's International Widows Day, Mrs. Thokunno Dorcas Adelaja, through her Tabitha-Kay Widows Care - TKWC Foundation, hosted not less than 250 widows across communities in Badagry. Adelaja noted that the Foundation's vision came 13 years ago before it was finally established. She said: "Just like Dorcas in the Bible, who after her demise, several widows came to testify about her act of kindness and in line with the scripture,

which gave us a mandate as Christians to show care and love for the widows most importantly, I have taken it upon myself as a covenant between me and God to always reach out to the widows." She appealed to corporate bodies, philanthropists, and related International NGOs for support for the foundation, explaining that the burden of a struggling widow is limitless. Mrs. Beatrice Dansu, one of the participants, appreciated the Foundation for hosting

them, saying she has gained a lot and that her coming was a big relief. Mrs. Dagan Usman, who lost her husband about five years ago, also thanked the Foundation for the gifts and the lectures, explaining that she now has better knowledge about how to retrieve her husband's gratuity that has been held back for years with the help of the lawyer who gave a clearer guide while delivering her lecture. The Tabitha-Kay Widows Care Foundation gifts the widows packs of rice with refreshments.

Epe Ogunmodede Club Charges Elected Lawmakers On Effective Representation

By Nurudeen Adebayo

ALagos social club, Epe Ogunmodede Club, has persuaded the lawmakers representing Epe Local Government to use their offices to good effect and depict the people meritoriously.

The club's President, Omodele Ibrahim, appealed in a statement issued recently on behalf of

the social club to the elected representatives. Ibrahim urged them to use the political mandate given to them by the people of Lagos East Senatorial District, Epe Constituency I, and Lagos Mainland II at large to impact lives and make a difference in their district and constituencies.

"They have been elected

by their constituents to represent them and serve them with honesty, diligence, and excellence. They have been entrusted with a free political mandate that comes with great responsibility and accountability. They must not take this mandate for granted or abuse it for selfish interests. They must use it to impact lives and make a positive difference

in their constituencies and district.

"They must be guided by the principles and values of their party, which are justice, equity, progress, and unity. They must be loyal to our leader,

Asiwaju Bola Tinubu, who has sacrificed so much for the growth and development of Lagos State and Nigeria," he said.

Stressing the importance of transparency,

accountability, and empathy, Ibrahim encouraged the legislators to engage in open dialogue with their communities, actively listen to their concerns and work to address them.

Ibeju Lekki Partners Dell Technology

By Nurudeen Adebayo



Hon Olowa with a Dell Representative

The chairman of Ibeju-Lekki Local Government, Hon. Sesan Olowa has secured a partnership deal with DELL Technology.

He paid a visit to the Technological Company met and had an extensive discussion with DELL's Country Head, Mr. Abimbola Owoye on a possible partnership between the Global Company and Ibeju Lekki Local Government.

Following their discussion, the global tech giant endorsed the proposed partnership in the area of innovation

and digital transformation, saying they were ready to adopt Ibeju-Lekki as a Technology Partner.

This is to broaden the technological stance of the local government as a whole and further prove that the Olowa-led administration is ready to digitally reposition the local government for the benefit of its teeming youths.

The council boss appreciated his management team for the visit, noting that it is important to invest in the capacity building of the people at the grassroots level

to produce qualified and efficient manpower.

He said his administration was interested in the capacity building of its workforce so that the Local Government Area could be among the best transformed and developed cities in Lagos in the nearest future.

Olowa disclosed that the local government is also ready to partner with PSSDC so that its staff can be guided and acquire more knowledge in public service through the experienced and highly qualified personnel at the center.

Shabi Preaches Unity and Peace Among Residents

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The President of Epe Club, Engr. AbdulRasheed Shabi has urged the people of the Epe Division and their leaders to embrace the essence of the Eid-el-Kabir celebration by embodying obedience, tolerance, forgiveness, and engaging in charitable acts.

He affirmed that by adhering to these principles, communities can strengthen the bonds that unite them, fostering an environment conducive to peace, progress, and

collective prosperity.

He said: "Epe Club remains dedicated to fostering a sense of togetherness, instilling hope, and empowering the community towards a better society.

"Through various initiatives and collaborative endeavours, Epe Club will continue to create an atmosphere that encourages dialogue, inclusivity, and the active participation of all stakeholders in driving positive change and sustainable development."

The President acknowledged the significance of the diverse ancestries within the Epe Division as he highlighted the collective strength that arises from unity.

He stated that the community can tap into its immense potential, fostering innovation, and propelling the division towards remarkable progress and growth.

Their presence and support, he believes, serve as a testament to the collective determination to build a prosperous and harmonious Epe Division.



Hon Rasheed Shabi

Benefits Of Banana Peel

By Edith Igboke

Banana is said to be one of the most nutritious fruits with rich vitamin C, E, and other trace minerals – not only in the fruit but also in the peel.

It contains many essential nutrients and may benefit weight loss, digestion, and heart health.

And it has a fair amount of fiber and several antioxidants. One regular-sized banana (126 grams) also boasts, Calories: 112, Fat: 0 grams, Protein: 1 gram, Carbs: 29 grams, Fiber: 3 grams, Vitamin C: 12% of the Daily Value (DV), Riboflavin: 7% of the DV, Folate: 6% of the DV, Niacin: 5% of the DV, Copper: 11% of the DV Potassium: 10% of the DV and Magnesium: 8% of the DV

One banana provides about 112 calories and consists almost exclusively of water and carbs. They hold little protein and no fat.

However, after eating the banana, please stop throwing away the peel. The banana peel is said to be rich in potassium and antioxidants, and it has even more nutrition than the fruit.

Here are some amazing ways of using banana peel.

As a Moisturizer: banana is great when it comes to moisturizing. Even the banana peel does a good job If you have dry skin or dry knees or elbows just rub



the inner part of the banana peel and your skin will be moisturized.

As a Skin Brightener: Not only it will make your teeth white, but also helps your skin brighten. Just rub the inner part of the banana peel on your teeth/ body and leave it till it completely dries for 15 minutes, and wash.

As a Face Mask: give a banana peel mask a try, Just put the banana peel in your blender (after cutting it in small pieces) and mix ½ cup of coconut milk. This mask is high in antioxidants and nutrients and good for your skin.

For Under Eye Puffiness: Looking for something to reduce the puffiness of your eyes?

Just cut banana peels in a shape that will fit under your eye and leave it there for a few minutes. It will help you reduce puffiness.

To Reduce wrinkles – rub the inner part of the banana peel on your skin. You can leave it overnight as it will dry and not be a mess, see the difference in a few days.

To Tighten Pores:

Simply cut banana peels into small pieces and rub them all over the face. Doing this regularly will not only shrink pores, but it will also boost collagen production in the skin as well.

To Treat Sun Damage: Banana peel has a m a z i n g a n t i - i n f l a m m a t o r y properties and can soothe irritated skin

and sunburn. Apply the banana peel on the affected area and sleep with it overnight. Do this three to four times a week.

Apart from these, banana peel is even edible and it is said that if you eat the banana with the peel you get double the nutrition. But remember, as with all home remedies, remember patience is the key.

Bala Zakka Becomes ICAN Ikeja District Chairman

By Nurudeen Adebayo



Bala Zakka

Bala Zakka has been appointed as the 36th Chairman of Ikeja District of The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria. Zakka, who succeeded Mr. Olusesan Okunade as the chairman of ICAN Ikeja District, was inaugurated last week.

"This inauguration serves as a testament to our aspirations to foster a harmonious and unified existence as Nigerians." He appreciated members of ICAN Ikeja District for the confidence reposed in him to pilot the district's affairs for the next year. He pledged that his administration would

promote values of integrity, discipline, networking, and independence. "The recent turn of events provides a clear and compelling demonstration of our aspirations for the desired state of Nigeria," he stated. Zakka stated his unwavering dedication to facilitating adherence to integrity

and discipline. He stressed the significance of accountability, pledging to be available whenever his presence was required. He emphasised that during his one-year tenure, he would exhibit his unwavering dedication to Nigeria, journalism, and effective dissemination of information.

Ikeja Golden Lions Club Donates Eight-Unit Toilet Facility To Baptist School

By Nurudeen Adebayo



Ikeja Lions Club

Ikeja Golden Lions Club has constructed and commissioned an eight-unit toilet facility for Baptist Senior Secondary School, Obanikoro, Lagos.

Speaking during the commissioning of the facility, Lion Aare Lekan Owolabi, the District Governor of Lions Club District 404B2 Nigeria, praised the leaders and members of Ikeja Golden Lions Club for building the facilities for the school.

He said the construction and donation of the facility was a realisation of his vision to increase the impact of the Club on the poor and less privileged in society

through building projects and structures.

Owolabi said the Club has commissioned more than 56 projects since he assumed office in July last year.

He urged the Lagos State government to recognise the contributions of the Club to the development of the State.

He asked the state government to allocate a piece of land to the Club to build its secretariat.

Also speaking at the event, the president of Ikeja Golden Lions Club, Lion Yetunde Balogun, said the Club chose the project after conducting a needs assessment on the

school, adding that the facility would help to improve hygiene among the students.

She stated that the government cannot provide all the needs of students in Lagos State and stressed the need for non-governmental organizations to step in to assist the government to do projects in the education sector.

The Principal of Baptist Senior Secondary School, Mr. Kolapo Okotore said the facility would relieve the challenge of the students.

According to him, before the new facility, the school had just three toilets for about 1,000 students, adding that the Club has brought a new lease on life to the students.

DSVA Organises Mentorship Programme For Students

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The Lagos State Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency (DSVA) has organised its second Queen's Club Meet and Greet Mentorship programme for students.

The event which is an initiative established by the Agency to further ensure the sustainability and continuity of the Queens Club Initiative, has already increased from 300 to 1800 members across schools in the State.

Speaking at the occasion, the Executive Secretary of DSVA, Lola Vivour-Adeniyi said the Agency sought to partner with trailblazers in their respective sectors and prominent members of the society who are committed to child empowerment and community development to have

students who are members of the Queen's Club mentored and positively impacted.

The Chief Executive Officer of Ikeja Electric, Folake Soetan hosted members of the Queen's Club of Ojodu Junior High School, Ojodu Junior Grammar School, and Babs Fafunwa Millenium Senior Grammar School for a one-day interactive mentorship session which took place at the Conference Room of the Ikeja Electric Office at Alausa Ikeja. Folake Soetan as the Mentor for the Day charged the girls to be the best by being committed and driven to achieve their goals. She stressed the need to possess a learning and open Spirit, believe in themselves, and imbibe and cultivate a turnaround personality. She also spoke about the various issues

women face in their careers and shared relevant tips on how to surmount these challenges.

Emphasising that the girls should press on towards their goal irrespective of challenges as these form the ladder in their quest for the golden fleece, Soetan lauded the State Government for its commitment to the Girl-Child and the DSVA for implementing programmes such as the mentorship to sustain the initiative for a greater future with more women impacting their world.

Though it was a meet and greet between the mentor and members of the Queen's Club, also present were Matrons from the concerned Schools.

One of the Queens, Miss Idahosa Jennifer lauded the Lagos DSVA and the opportunity to meet and be inspired by different mentors, assuring that the take-home would be shared with their peers.

Oldies Appreciation Game To Host Sports Festival

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The organisers of the Oldies Appreciation Game and Family Funfair have stated that they intend to create a festival of sports for families and residents of Igbogbo, both at home and in the diasporas, to relax and enjoy timeout with families and friends. The initiative, which commenced about 15 years ago and had three years break, started with only a football novelty match. However, this year's edition has a bumper package like many indoor games, children's activities, novelty matches, and entertainment galore. The chairman, Local Organising Committee (LOC) of the event, Prince Ademola Ogunlewe, and the Head, Media & Publicity, Mr. Tolu Faniyi, were guests on



THE IMPACT platform Thursday evening. Among the games that the 12th edition, which is coming up at United African Methodist Church (Eleja), located at Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu Road, Igbogbo, on Saturday, April 29, 2023, is

featuring are: the Exhibition Match featuring Amputee Federation of Nigeria and Novelty Match with ex-international and other veteran players. "Our intention is to create a sporting festival where people can have fun with their family, and at the same time, take

care of themselves," Faniyi said. Ogunlewe described the event as a multifaceted one, adding that it is a way of appreciating veteran sportsmen and creating relaxation avenues for families and children. "This event is a multifaceted one – an event which addresses multiple needs of the people and the society at large. "For starters, we believe that sports veterans are not being appreciated nor celebrated enough. Many times, we celebrate them by organising memorial matches after their demise or leading the charge when they are medically challenged. "Do we continue this trend or fashion a way out to appreciate them at the right time? We chose the latter for obvious reasons. Second, to say we are living in a pressure cooker in this country is an understatement. We barely have time for free time. Fun time devoid of any compelling duty or responsibility. In this

regard, this event creates an avenue for leisure time occupied by recreational activities which many of us cherish. "In addition, the inclusion of other activities ensures the event is a complete package for friends, families, etc," he explained. For the children's funfair, Faniyi assured parents of maximum enjoyment for the children at the event. "Parents should expect maximum fun for their kids as we will be having games, fun activities, and clowns for them. The children will have a section of the event exclusively dedicated to them with full educational activities also put in place. "We have put in place security to cater for the safety of the children. Caregivers, medical officers, and the monitoring team will be on the ground fully dedicated to the safety and well-being of the children. "We have prioritised the

children's fun park this edition. Registered kids will be going home with gift packs and souvenirs. "There will be a lot to eat and drink for the kids. It will surely be an unforgettable experience for the kids," Faniyi said. Events outlined for the children's fun park include Bouncing Castle, Mountain Climb, Games, Slide, Music, Refreshments, Swimming Pool, and Trampoline. Speaking on the amputee's game, Faniyi said: "We have partnered with the Nigeria Amputee Football Federation to make the sports more popular and also to offer our support to the special people in the community. "We want the spectators to enjoy another kind of football game away from the regular football games. The board of the amputee federation will be on the ground to show solidarity for the programme."

Senator Abiru Donates Tech Innovation Centre To Ikorodu

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The Senator representing Lagos East Senatorial District, Senator Tokunbo Abiru has donated a technology incubation centre to the people of Ikorodu and its environs.

The centre which is called Senator Abiru Innovation Centre (SAIL) was commissioned by the Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu.

The hub, meant to train young people in the latest technological innovations, was the brainchild of Senator Tokunbo in partnership with Co-Creation Nigeria.

Abiru said he had been nursing the idea when he was in the banking sector before he joined politics.

He said when he started his career at Guaranty Trust Bank, GTB, the bank started the idea of real-time online banking.

He said he was worried as a Managing Director



Senator Tokunbo Abiru

of Skye Bank when they did a technology upgrade and discovered that most of their staff could not cope with the new technology.

He added that while people might have a certificate, skill is very important.

"We have a global economic meltdown but there are jobs out there but only that many don't have the skills to do these jobs. That is where SAIL Innovation Laboratory comes in," Abiru stated.

"And I can tell you that those that will pass through this hub and are passing through it, it will be free of charge.

That is our own contribution to the society. And they will be here for six months," he added.

In his remark, Dr. Bosun Tijani, the co-founder and chief executive officer of Co-Creation Nigeria, said: "It is our young people that drive innovation and growth.

"We have to engage and empower them to be able to do this driving. Numerous people are doing amazing things.

"It is what these people are doing that will drive innovation in our community. That is why SAIL Innovation Laboratory is special. Young people in Ikorodu will start to build solutions on Ikorodu."

Ikorodu Student Wins Cancer Inter-State Essay Competition

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Abdulsalam Bada of Oriwu College, Ikorodu Lagos, has emerged overall winner of the Atinuke Cancer Foundation Inter-state Essay Competition.

The competition, aimed at improving knowledge about cancer and access to health care, also had Success Oloyede of Baptist Boys High School, Abeokuta, Ogun State, as first runner-up and Destiny Orako of Eva Adelaja Girls School, Bariga, Lagos State, as second runner-up.

Eight schools competed in the essay writing competition on the topic 'Knowledge Conquers Cancer, Let's Close The Care Gap' and the three students emerged winners after writing the essay on June 23, 2023.

Bada received a sum of N500,000 while the

two other winners got an Android phone and a video/photo camera respectively.

The Founder/CEO, Atinuke Cancer Foundation, Mrs. Tinu Lawal, who was also a cancer survivor, said: "Knowledge, in this context, is moving from the dark days of fear and terror upon receiving a cancer diagnosis to a future of certainty.

"We started last year and we decided to bring the message to the youths because cancer is a scourge that respects no one.

"We feel that if we pass the message onto young adults, they will grow with the knowledge and their generation will have less mortality rate from cancer because they already know what to do, what to avoid, and where to go."

She added that she was impressed by the

performances of the students who participated in the essay.

The President, Nigerian Cancer Society, Dr. Adamu Umar, said prevention is better, safer, and cheaper than cure.

"The advocacy for early detection starts with knowledge, and advocacy has no linear direction and that is the basis upon which we want to catch them young. There is the need to create a legal backing so that there will be compulsory means of educating them on healthy lifestyles so that there will be a reduction in cancer disease in Nigeria."

Also speaking, the Special Adviser on Health to the Governor of Ogun State, Dr. Tomi Coker, advised the students to always eat healthy and natural meals.

Eshilokun Reveals Social Pact With Constituency, Dissolves Campaign Council

By Saheed Afolabi



Hon Wasiu Eshilokun Sanni

The newly sworn-in Senator for Lagos Central Senatorial District, Okanlomo Wasiu Eshilokun Sanni has unveiled his social pact with the people of his constituency at Eko Club, as he expressed his appreciation to the members of his campaign council, party leaders, and all strategic stakeholders that contributed to his success at the February 2023 Senatorial election. The Senator, in the company of his wife, Alhaji Bilkiss Eshilokun Sanni, and children, hosted stakeholders that supported his campaign at an appreciation party where the Wasiu Eshilokun Sanni campaign council was officially dissolved. At the event, the

Senator expressed his appreciation to President Bola Ahmed Tinubu and his wife, Remi Tinubu for their mentorship and support of his political growth over the years. He particularly

appreciated Senator Remi Tinubu for the legacy of good representation and impactful programmes that "I intend to inherit and build upon". He also expressed his appreciation to his

immediate family for standing by him, the State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, and his deputy, Dr. Obafemi Hamzat, as well as APC GAC members, led by Prince Tajudeen Olusi, who

was physically present. Eshilokun also thanked members of his campaign council for their dedication to the cause. He commended party leaders, traditional rulers, executive and political appointees, different trade unions, market women, different professional and religious bodies, the youths, the physically challenged, and community development associations in the Senatorial district for supporting him. He was also grateful to those that financially supported his campaign. Further into the events of the afternoon was the official launch of his manifesto as contained

in a booklet titled 'Sustaining a Legacy of Excellence, My Social Contract with the People of Lagos Central Senatorial District'. He promised to always be guided by the tenets of his social pact with his people. Thereafter, members of the Wasiu Eshilokun Sanni Campaign Council were recognised and presented with certificates of participation. The party, graced by lots of dignitaries and political icons, heads of governmental agencies, House of Assembly members, Chairmen of Local Governments, Lagos white cap chiefs, members of the Eshilokun family, and many other stakeholders, ran late into the evening.

Badru Promises Improved Welfare To Constituency



Dr Enitan Dolapo Badru

The member representing Lagos Island Constituency 1 in the House of Representatives, Hon Dr Enitan Dolapo Badru has promised to improve welfare in his constituency. The politician made this known while speaking to the Press as he highlighted his plans for the residents of Lagos Island Constituency 1. Hon Badru vows to make his people economically independent and successful in their trades and businesses. The HOR member said

he will improve the standard of living in his constituency and make them happier. He added that he will continue to sponsor people-oriented policies and continue to move motions in the house. "I want to make my people economically independent and successful in their trades and businesses to improve their standard of living and make them happier. "Like in the past, I will sponsor People-centric bills and continue to move motions on the floor of the Federal House of Representatives."

Be Hopeful In Tinubu's Govt, Ikorodu Vice Chairman Tells Nigerians

By Nurudeen Adebayo



Hon. Folashade Oba

MTN, Huawei, LSETF Partner Isolo LCDA To Train SMEs On Digital Skills

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Telecommunication giant, MTN, and leading technology company, Huawei in conjunction with Lagos State Employment Trust Fund (LSETF) and Isolo LCDA have organised a training for the business owners in the council area on digital skills. The council chairman, Hon. Olasaju Adebayo reiterated that partnership with organisations in the execution of human-centric programmes and projects for the betterment of residents in the council area remains cardinal to his administration. Olasaju made the statement when he addressed beneficiaries of a training held at the multipurpose hall at the council secretariat. Olasaju, in his short address, lauded the multinationals for

making Isolo LCDA one of their destinations, adding that the doors of the council area remain widely opened to individuals and companies who desire to partner with the council in undertaking impactful programmes and projects. The programme featured exquisite training on digital marketing, social media, and Fintech maximization such as Monday.com, MOMO PSB as well as website to grow businesses. Speaking on why Isolo LCDA was among the four council areas selected across the state for the exercise, General Manager, Service Management & Governance MTN, Mrs. Ude Enebeli, explained that the council area is a big business hub that can't be overlooked for such an initiative. She explained that the program has become

important to support the council authority's efforts in helping artisans and SMEs utilise the abounding benefits of social media and the internet, as well as mobile banking via the usage of Momo App – an MTN-powered Payment Service Bank. Other highlights of the programme were the distribution of devices such as Laptops, Inverters, and power banks among others. Enebeli corroborated Olasaju's call on residents to make the most of the training and devices to improve their various business ventures. A female beneficiary, Mrs. Funmi Oguntayo who smiled home with a brand new laptop appreciated the organisers and the council administration, promising to deploy the knowledge and device gained to diligently promote her business.

The Vice Chairman of Ikorodu Local Government and National Chairman of the Association of Local Government vice chairmen of Nigeria, Hon. Folashade Olabanji-Oba, has sent a message of love and compassion to Muslims celebrating Eid-el-Adha. She encouraged Muslims to celebrate with each other, to be kind and compassionate towards one another as she reminded them that Eid Adha is a time to reflect on their faith and to give thanks for His blessings. Olabanji-Oba also spoke about the new government of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu and assured Muslims that the government would meet their expectations soon. She stipulated that Nigerians will truly be glad of the choice they have made in Tinubu's Presidency. She said the government will eventually satisfy the needs of all Nigerians. She said: "While we thank Allah for His grace and protection over all of us and our communities, the season requires us to rebuild our faith in God and submission to Him,

as may be expressed in retaining outstanding relations with fellow humans, enjoining decent and discouraging evils and mischief. "We must also participate positively in the growth of our community at all times. "I am using this medium to urge everyone to join hands with the new government at all levels to keep the joint values of being one another's helper and to develop the state and the country for the benefit of all", she asserted. Her message is sure to uplift and encourage Muslims during this important annual celebration.

Seyi VibeZ To Host Free Show In Ikorodu July 9

By Nurudeen Adebayo



Nigerian artiste, Seyi VibeZ is set to delight his fans with a free show scheduled for July 9, 2023, at Ikorodu Town Hall.

It would be recalled that the Nigerian musician released an album recently titled 'Till Thai Kingdom Come' and has made tickets available for

free. Seyi VibeZ via his Twitter account shared that it has been three years since his last show in Ikorodu, saying he is long overdue for a homecoming. He tweeted: "It's been 3yrs now and I can't wait to vibe with y'all once again. Attendance is Free for all my fans." Meanwhile, dotboyswag10 a tweeter user said: "This place is about to be overcrowded." Pelebs also said: "I will be there, no matter what." Meanwhile, Rough Dollar said: "Giving back to the streets. You a king bro."



Dr. John Randle

John Randle was born on 1 February 1855. His father, Thomas Randle, was a liberated slave from an Oyo village in the west of what is now Nigeria. His father later moved to Lagos and set up a successful business as a haberdasher. Randle's birthplace of Regent, Sierra Leone was a settlement of liberated slaves from various parts of West Africa and as far afield as Mozambique. He was educated at the missionary school in the village and then at the Church Mission Society grammar school in Freetown. He became a "dispenser" at the Colonial Hospital in 1874. He moved to Accra, then on the Gold Coast, where he saved enough to pay for formal medical training at the University of

Edinburgh in Scotland between 1884 and 1888, graduating with a gold medal in materia medica. Randle and his fellow-student Obadiah Johnson obtained positions in 1889 as Assistant Colonial Surgeons in the Lagos Colonial Hospital. At the same time, Randle practiced privately, treating most of the European traders of Lagos, particularly the Germans.

In November 1890 Randle married Victoria Matilda Davies. His wife's father was the wealthy James Pinson Labulo Davies and her mother was Sara Forbes Bonetta, a Yoruba princess whom Queen Victoria had arranged to have adopted and educated at the queen's expense.

Queen Victoria had given Matilda Davies the name Victoria at her christening, had bestowed an allowance of £40 for life and had given her a solid gold christening set. The queen donated the material for Matilda's wedding gown.[4] Dr Sodeinde Akinsiku Leigh-Sodiye (1865–1901) was godfather at the 1893 christening of Randle's son Romanes Adewale. Randle resigned from the Colonial Service in 1892. He was angry that as an African he was given about half the salary of a European with the same training, and that he was being required to serve as a doctor in locations far from Lagos. Gilbert Thomas Carter, Governor of Lagos in 1891–97, said of his resignation, "My past experience of native doctors ... does not

encourage me to place much faith in their aptitude for this profession..." Randle withdrew his resignation, but asked for an increase in salary to £500 per year.

Randle was dismissed from the service in September 1893 for his persistent refusal to make tours of duty to the British military outpost at Ijebu Ode. He devoted himself to private medical practice, in which he was highly successful. He served patients from all levels of society, providing free treatment to the poor. Randle was successful in treating yellow fever and guinea worm infestation.

Randle acquired large landholdings in Lagos and a significant shareholding in the

Bank of British West Africa.[6] He became active in the politics of the Lagos Colony.[6] In 1890 Randle was a member of a committee that invited the pan-Africanist educator, journalist and politician Edward Wilmot Blyden to Lagos to support them in their dispute over the Niger Mission, where most African ministers had recently been suspended on openly racist grounds. On 2 January 1891, at a meeting attended by Governor Cornelius Alfred Moloney, Blyden proposed an independent African Church with Bishop Samuel Ajayi Crowther as its head.[8] Randle may have supported the journalist John Payne Jackson when he founded the Lagos Weekly Record in 1891. In 1899 Governor Sir William MacGregor made Randle a "provisional member" of the Legislative Council.[4] In 1908 Randle and Dr. Orisadipe Obasa founded the People's Union, open to Lagos residents of all religious and ethnic backgrounds. The

People's Union was a political association rather than a political party. Key members of the People's Union other than Randle and Obasa included conservatives such as Sir Kitoye Ajasa, Dr Richard Akinwande Savage and Sir Adeyemo Alakija. The Union fought the Water Rate Act, which they said would bring piped water only to Europeans. In 1911 People's Union members toured Yorubaland to agitate against the proposal by Governor Frederick Lugard to declare all land to be the property of the government. Randle and Obasa may have gone to London to press their case.[1] The government dropped the proposal.

Before World War I (1914–18) Randle was approached by Richard Akinwande Savage and Casely Hayford about holding a West African conference. He was enthusiastic about the idea, and was elected chairman of the Lagos committee for the conference in 1915. Nothing could be done during the war



When the war began, Randle became superintendent of the Nigerian Overseas Comfort Fund, which tried to ensure that Nigerians serving abroad were recognized and that their material needs were supplied. In 1915 Lugard again tried to introduce the Water Rate in Lagos, and accused the People's Union of sedition and of "threats of agitation. The Chief Imam (Lemomu) of Lagos supported the water rate, as did Alli Balogun, a wealthy Muslim who was associated with Randle.

The People's Union backed down and asked only for a "not exorbitant rate." As a result of this capitulation the People's Union lost support from the Lagos elite. Like other West Africans, Randle

supported the war, although some did not. He wrote of them, in recent years the administration of the government ... has not given the people entire satisfaction. The people see the government as not carried on in their interest. But, however painfully true this is, let us not forget the wider principle that we are citizens of the British Empire."

After the war Randle and Orisadipe Obasa founded the Reform Club, which took an interest in politics and education. This seems to have been a continuation of the People's Union under another name. In 1920 Randle was appointed one of the vice-patrons of the Sierra Leonean Friendly Society of Lagos. He built a chapel and two schools in his home town of Regent, and

contributed funds to erect a science building at Fourah Bay College, Sierra Leone and to support science teaching there. The Pan-African conference was held in Accra in 1920 and launched the National Council of British West Africa (NCBWA). By this time Randle and Savage had fallen out and Randle did not attend the conference.

Herbert Macaulay founded the Nigerian National Democratic Party (NNDP) in 1922 with the support of leading nationalists such as John Payne Jackson. Governor Sir Hugh Clifford instituted elections in Lagos in 1923. The People's Union was revived under Randle's leadership, and Obasa competed in the election but was not successful. The People's Union and its female equivalent, the

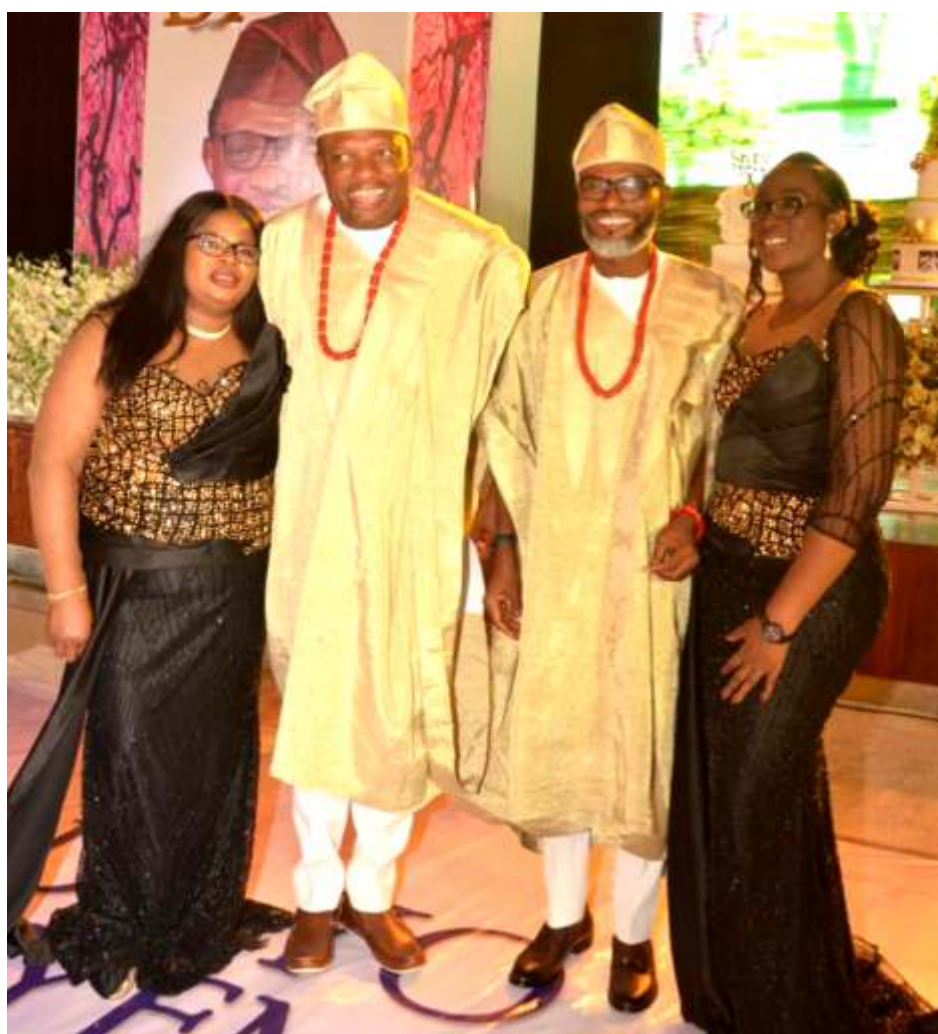
Women's Union led by Mrs. O. Obasa, opposed the NNDP. Although the People's Union favored gradual introduction of reforms while the NNDP was radical, both drew their membership from the Lagos elite. Some professional men with progressive ideas became members of the People's Union, such as the journalist Ernest Ikoli, who was its last secretary, but the People's Union was never a real challenge to the NNDP. In 1927 the People's Union, by now quickly losing members, did manage to block a government proposal for a poll tax and have it replaced by an income tax.

John Randle died on 27 February 1928 and was buried in the rear of the Ikoyi cemetery in Lagos. The People's Union dissolved soon after. In 1940 Randle's remains were moved to

the front of the cemetery as a gesture to acknowledge his achievement. Randle was known for his personal austerity and discipline. Even at the age of seventy he always rode a bicycle. He passionately encouraged many Africans to pursue extensive learning, yet he was accused by some of his own children of neglecting their basic education. He believed in African culture but had the tastes of a Victorian English gentleman, even ordering food from London. He was always true to his principles, and his generous will established his reputation as a philanthropist. He donated his medical and scientific books and journals to Fourah Bay College, and donated money for a professorship and medical scholarships

Guests had a lot of fun at the 50th birthday party of the Johnson twins held Sunday June 25, this year at the ballroom of the Oriental Hotels on Victoria Island, Lagos. Dayo, a lawyer and academic based in the United States and Yemi, a chartered accountant and management consultant based in Nigeria turned out with their second halves and children to thank God for his faithfulness. Various brands of assorted foods and drinks were available to keep guests rocking till the sun came down.

Music from two juju acts and a disc jockey who knew how to make the guests get up and dance ensured that there was no dull moment. It was a great day for their mum as she gave God the glory for nurturing them from birth to greatness.



Nigeria Gets New Basketball Coach

By Saheed Afolabi



New D'TIGRESS coach, Rena Wakama

Tijani Babangida Reveals Secret Of Winning 2024 AFCON For Super Eagles

By Saheed Afolabi



Tijani Babangida

Ex international, Tijani Babangida has revealed the secrets of winning the 2024 African Cup of Nations (AFCON) for Nigeria. The former wing wizard is optimistic that Nigeria

can win the next AFCON in Ivory Coast if the right mentality is being approached by the Super Eagles. Babangida banks on the talented crop of players in the Nigeria squad to win the

AFCON title in Ivory Coast but admits it won't come easy.

"I am very optimistic the Super Eagles can win the 2023 Africa Cup of Nations if they truly approach it with the right mentality.

"The crop of players in the team are very talented and can withstand any team at the tournament. Yes, it won't come easy but I believe we can claim the trophy."

Nigeria sealed a berth at the next AFCON in Ivory Coast after seeing off Sierra Leone 3-2 in Monrovia.

The last time the Super Eagles won the AFCON was in 2013 when the late Stephen Keshi tutored side emerges champions by defeating Burkina Faso 1-0 courtesy of a 39th-minute striker from Sunday Mba.

The Nigerian Women's Basketball has announced a new coach for the team following the departure of Otis Hughley. In a move to re-strategise and rebirth the D'Tigress, the Nigeria Basketball Federation (NBBF) appointed Rena Wakama to be in charge of the team for a two years contract. The NBBF described the appointment of

Wakama as a big advantage to the D'Tigress because of her wealth of experience in the game as a former player and now a coach in the USA.

"Wakama was a 4-year letterman at the University of Western Carolina and played professional basketball in the United Kingdom, in addition to playing for the Senior Nigerian National Team.

Currently serving as an Assistant Coach at

Stony Brooks University in the United States, she has honed her coaching skills while contributing to developing young talents in the basketball powerhouse.

The newly appointed D'Tigress Head Coach, who hails from Rivers State, South-South, Nigeria, holds a bachelor's degree in therapeutic recreation from Western Carolina, which she obtained in 2014, and an MBA from Manhattan, completed in 2019.

Osimhen Deserves African Footballer Of The Year - Waidi Akanni

By Saheed Afolabi



Osimhen

Former Nigerian international, Waidi Akanni has thrown his weight behind Victor Osimhen for the African Footballer of the Year award.

Osimhen took the world by storm by leading Napoli to win the Scudetto title and contributed 26 goals in the process which also earned him the highest goal-scorer award in Serie A.

Former Lagos FA chairman, Akanni said Osimhen had made Africa proud with his

astounding performances in Europe by making history with the Partenopei and therefore deserves the best player in Africa crown.

"You talk about a standout player that made Africa proud in Europe, then the first name that comes to your mind is Victor Osimhen considering his exploits for Napoli and how he guided the team to win the Serie A title.

"He's sure bet to win it because his goals for

both club and country are something that makes him the first choice on the list.

"For me, I think Osimhen has done enough to win the award and should not be denied."

Only Rashidi Yekini, Kanu Nwankwo, Victor Ikpeba, and Emmanuel Amunike have won the prestigious CAF Africa Footballer of the Year award.

Kanu won the individual award last in 1999 to get the nickname Golden Boy of Nigeria Football.

Onome Ebi Optimistic Of Better Outing For Super Falcons At World Cup

By Saheed Afolabi

Nigeria captain, Onome Ebi has said she is ready to lead the team to glory at the FIFA Women's World Cup (FWWC) in Australia and New Zealand. The defense veteran will be making her sixth appearance at the FWWC after making her first appearance in 2007. Ebi believes the Super

Falcons can break its record of reaching the quarter-final stage set in 1999, saying all the team needs is to grab its points at stake.

"It is doable, and it's up to us to grab the chance with both hands and show the world that we are Nigeria and that we're not just there to make up the numbers. I'm ready for the sixth

World Cup, and we're ready as a team."

Super Falcons will be making its tenth appearance at the FWWC and remains the only African team to have the highest appearance at the world cup.

The nine-time African champions will be looking to go past the quarter-final stage it reached in 1999.



Onome Ebi

Chiedozie Ogbene Joins Luton Town

By Saheed Afolabi

Nigerian-born Chiedozie Ogbene is delighted to join newly promoted Premier League side, Luton Town.

Luton acquired Ogbene following the expiration of his contract at Rotherham.

Ogbene described his journey from Ireland to Luton Town as a remarkable one and was glad to join the club.

He said he could not turn down the opportunity to play in the Premier League.

"I'm delighted to be here as a Premier League player, because of my journey and where I've been in the last five-and-a-half years, from Limerick FC and the League of Ireland to Luton Town FC in the Premier League. My former coach said it would be one in 200,000, I guess I'm



Chiedozie Ogbene

that one!," quoted Sport Gigster.

"My journey is special to me. I come from Rotherham United, with whom I spent four seasons and where I achieved some great things with some great people. But to be considered a Luton Town player with an

opportunity to feature in the Premier League was an opportunity I couldn't turn down." The 26-year-old Ogbene had a terrific season with Rotherham by netting nine goals and providing four assists in all competitions.

Sylvanus Okpala Pleads To Peseiro To Use Home-Based Players Against Sao Tome

By Saheed Afolabi

African Cup of Nations (AFCON) 1980 winner, Sylvanus Okpala has urged Nigerian head coach, Jose Peseiro to bank on only home-based players for the country's last AFCON qualifiers in September.

Super Eagles have already qualified for the 2024 AFCON in Ivory Coast but will be playing against Sao Tome and Principe in their last group A match of the qualifiers. Legendary goalkeeper, Okpala said he would like the home-based players to be used in executing the game against Sao Tome considering the country's target had already been met.

"I would like the home-



based players to be used for the match against São Tomé and Príncipe.

"There's no need to invite the main Super Eagles players whether the game will be played home or away.

"Also I expect foreign-based players who have not been regular

in the team to be invited so that they will have the opportunity to play." Nigeria will be making its 21st appearance at the AFCON championship in Ivory Coast.

The Super Eagles have won the African top prize in football three times as they last won it 10 years ago.