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Shammeh leads G8 in fight for Isolo next chairman

A new dimension to the race for the next chairman of Isolo Local Council Development Area has emerged with the coming together of likeminds to work for a consensus candidate to be the next helmsman

Led by the incumbent chairman Shamsudeen Olaleye, the group of eight likeminds is determined to do everything possible to secure the ticket of the ruling All Progressives Congress for the candidate and ensure his victory in the local government elections next year.

An impeccable source disclosed to Echoneews that the likeminds who came together to achieve this objective also include former member of the House of Representatives, Hon. Akeem Muniru, former vice chairman of Isolo LCDA, Chief Mojeeb Adams, former Executive Secretary Hon. Segun Jubril, current secretary of the APC, Engineer Tubosun Oyegoke.

They are seeking the blessing of Pa Imran Taiwo, one of the members of the influential party organ, the Governor's Advisory Council and member of the House of Representatives, Engr. Ganiyu Johnson.



Hon. Shamsudeen Olaleye



Hon. Akeem Muniru



Hon. Emmanuel Olojede

Echoneews could not confirm if both had consented to the agenda as at press time as there were indications that political forces interested in another candidate were putting pressure on Pa Taiwo to work with them and promising his son, Taoheed the office of the Secretary to the Local Government.

Mr. Taoheed Taiwo is the former executive secretary of Oshodi-Isolo Local Government and former Special Adviser on Chieftaincy Affairs in Ejigbo Local Council Development Area.

However, the alliance's crucial test will be how to choose a consensus candidate.

Both Chief Mojeeb Adams and Hon. Muniru have their eyes on the plum seat.

Others are Hon. Kola Olojede, Alhaji Saheed Olanrewaju and Hon. Aderibigbe

Hon. Olaleye favours the emergence of the incumbent secretary to the local government, Emmanuel Oloyede to be the next chairman.

The chairman, who comes from Ishagatedo ward is believed to

be backing the campaign for the next chairman to come from Ilasamaja ward because it will give Olojede, who is from the ward, advantage.

Last week, Engr. Oyegoke led a delegation of Ilasamaja community leaders to Hon. Shammeh to reiterate the case for the next chairmanship candidate to come from the ward.

The chairman responded by advising them to be prayerful and united in their quest to achieve their aims.

Pundits see the visit as a deft

move to step up the campaign and rally the influential persons in the ward behind Olojede.

Another hurdle the team must scale is the controversy over the clamour of indigenes to have one of them on the seat.

Adams and Muniru are yet to resolve who between the two of them should be put forward as candidate while a fresh contender, Taheeb Aregbesola, is said to be waiting in the wings. Although there are feelers that Hon. Johnson, if he consents to work with the alliance, will root for an indigenous candidate,

indecision of Adams and Muniru may pave the way for Olojede to coast to victory and nail the indigenes' cause.

Such a scenario will make the intra-party struggle for the ticket a straight bet between Olojede, the SLG and Adebayo Olasoju, the incumbent vice chairman.

As exclusively reported by Echoneews, Olasoju is being backed by Fuji maestro Chief Ayinde Anifowoshe popularly known as KWAM1.

The highly influential musician has been able to gather the support of political heavyweights such as the former chairman of the APC in Lagos State, Chief Henry Ajomale, grassroots political strategist, Otunba Jide Oni and their followers behind the ticket.

The support of the former state party chairman is very significant because he commands the loyalty of the party's ward chairmen and councillors, enough foot soldiers to give whoever he backs a generous headstart.

Considering the fact that elections are still months ahead, it is too early in the day to foreclose switching of lanes on the road to victory.

Akala, 2018 Lagos husband of year winner turns 80

Toasts to good health marked the 80th birthday ceremonies of Deacon James Akala held amidst much fandare recently. Akala, who came into stardom two years ago on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Lagos State when he and his wife emerged the couple of the year started his education at the African Church Cathedral Bethel School, Broad Street, Lagos. He later proceeded to Baptist Academy Obanikoro and Yaba College of technology for his higher degrees. He worked and retired with Nigerian Pools Company, a division of the Federal Ministry of Finance.

Deacon Akala, a justice of the peace, married Elizabeth Kafaru in July 1967. The marriage is blessed with children, among them is the wife of the secretary of Ejigbo LCDA, Deaconess Oluyinka Fregene.

A committed member of the Baptist Church, he was ordained as a deacon on August, 22, 1997 and was elected the National President of the Men's Missionary Union of the Nigerian Baptist Convention on August, 18, 2000 at the Men's Congress in Benin City. Encouraged by his profile, the Royal Ambassador of Nigeria, a paramilitary organization of the Nigerian

Baptist Convention made him its Life Patron.

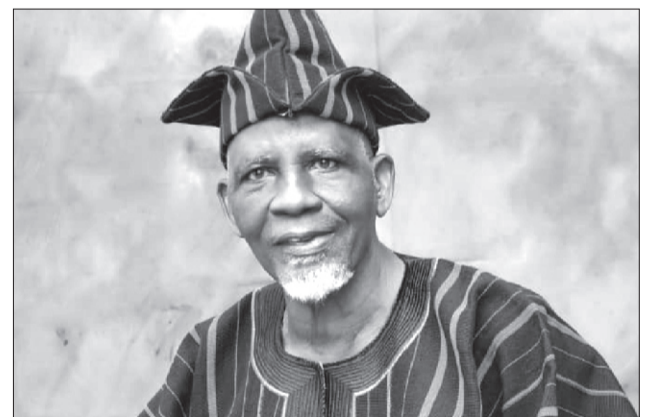
Reflecting on the life of his father, Engr. Olubiyi Akala, his first son described him as a devoted, loving, caring and supportive father.

Also extolling Akala's virtues; the first Vice President of Landlord Association of the Low Cost Housing Estate,

Oke-afa, Mr. S.K. Onilari described as a man known for hardwork, honesty and commitment.

A community leader, Comrade Aderogba Adedoyin praised his ditness and good health.

His words: "At his age, he doesn't use glasses to read. When you talk about Bible, you will tap from his knowledge. He is very accommodating."



Deacon James Akinbayo Adio Akala (JP)

Yayi donates 100 chairs, benches to Ilamose pry school

Member of the Senate representing Lagos West, Senator Solomon Olamilekan Adeola (Yayi), has donated 100 chairs and benches to Ilamose Primary School, Ejigbo ahead of the commissioning of the school.

The 100 chairs and benches represents 13.3 per cent of the 750 pieces of furniture donated to schools across the senatorial district.

Apart from Ilamose primary

school, Abati Primary School at Shasha, and Akowonjo Primary School at Akowonjo Alimosho also got 50 pieces each.

Other beneficiary schools include Community Nursery and primary school, Shibiri Ekunpa Ojo (50); FOA Nursery/pry school 3, Okoko Ojo (50); L.A. Primary School, Mowo Badagry (50); Methodist Primary School, Enuke Badagry (50); Salvation Army Primary School, Ilogbo-Eremi, Badagry (50); Seth Leos Primary School,

Ikoga Badagry (50).

In the list, Comprehensive High School, Ajara Badagry also got 50; Abesan Primary School Abesan Alimosho received 100 pieces; Bereola Primary School, Mushin got 50 while Lai Oyekanmi Primary School, Mushin equally received 50 pieces.

In all, 14 schools benefited from the largesse by the senator in fulfilment of his campaign promises.

The donation of the furniture to the

schools is one of the projects executed by the senator.

As reported by ECHONEWS, Yayi had recently installed solar powered street lights at LSDPC Estate, Ileewe Meta, Isolo.

He also commissioned solar powered borehole water project at Salami Street, Afariogun Ward in Oshodi-Isolo Local Government Area.

"The borehole is one of the projects facilitated by the Senator representing Lagos West.

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2021 chairmanship: Shammeh advises Ilasamaja residents to hope in God

By Damilola Kushimo

The chairman of Isolo LCDA, Hon. Shamsudeen Olaleye (Shammeh), has admonished the residents of Ilasamaja seeking support for the community to produce the next council chairman in 2021 to be calm and put their hope in God. The residents under the aegis of Concerned Citizens of Ilasamaja had visited the council boss to solicit his support for the group's mission of enthroning an Ilasamaja resident as the next council chairman ahead of the 2021 local government election. The group whose membership

is drawn from critical stakeholders of Ilasamaja was unequivocal in its demand that justice and equity support Ilasamaja to produce the next council chairman of Isolo LCDA.

According to the Convener of the group, Engr. Tubosun Oyegoke, the visit was ostensibly designed to solicit the council boss' support. Engr. Tubosun Oyegoke who led the group gave reasons why the position should be zoned to Ilasaja, claiming that the ward has contributed immensely to the political growth and development Isolo LCDA.

"It is a fact that since the formation of the old Oshodi-

Isolo Local Government till today, Ilasamaja ward has not been considered for council chairmanship, House of Representatives positions in spite of our overwhelming population and political landscape.

"With 44 polling booths, Ilasamaja has always successfully delivered the votes for APC. Other wards with less population and polling booths have had opportunity to produce candidates for elective positions. Therefore, for the sake of justice, equity and fairness we should be accorded the opportunity to produce the next council chairman of Isolo,"

he added.

He therefore appealed to the council chairman to support the mission being one of the critical stakeholders.

Responding, Olaleye thanked the group for honouring him with the visit even as he confessed not being deaf to the clarion call for Ilasamaja to produce the next council chairman.

He, however, noted that only God enthrones, admonishing that the group should put their trust only in God to realise their mission.

He, therefore, advised leaders and other stakeholders in Ilasamaja to embrace the path of unity and cohesion, adding



Isolo LCDA chairman with the concerned citizens of Ilasamaja

that having many aspirants from Ilasamaja will not serve the group's interest.

He advised them to rally round one aspirant.

Olaleye also admonished the group to also reach out to other political wards to solicit support from leaders and

stakeholders of the party.

The council boss received a delegation of the amalgamated Community Development Associations (CDAs) from Ilasamaja led by the Vice Chairman of Isolo CDC, Alhaji Semiu Rahman a few months ago on the same mission.

The Chairman of Unitti Community Development Association (CDA), Hon. Kamorudeen Lawal popularly known as Deen, has commended the residents of Asala Street for contributing to upgrade the street and provide streetlights. He charged residents of other

CDA commends residents for contributing to upgrade Asala Street

streets under the CDA to emulate the good gesture, urging them to take the development of their street as their priority.

He said residents of each street have to complement and sustain government's work in their areas.

Lawal, one of the Asala residents and also the Chairman of Asala Residents' Association, explained that the money realised from the donations by few residents in his street was expended on the sustainable development that cuts across couples of

infrastructures in the community so far.

He said: "These obvious developments you're seeing: the solar-powered streetlights, the palliative on the roads, gutters and culverts and other forms of development that will be carried out soon are the

result of individual and collective efforts of few residents of the streets and we are hoping to do more to ensure that Asala Street becomes a model for the other nine streets

under the CDA and beyond."

He, therefore, called for more support and cooperation from other residents and business owners on the street to execute other proposed projects.

I am not challenged by any aspirant - Larry Kay

By Damilola Kushimo

As the 2021 Local Government polls draw closer with the political atmosphere gradually getting heated up, the councillor representing Alagbeji Ward of Isolo Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Olanrewaju Kayode also known as Larry Kay has expressed his confidence and readiness to return to the hallowed chamber.

He said he is not intimidated by any other aspirant who may want to challenge him at the poll, expressing his confidence that his achievements would stand and pave way for him.

In a chat with ECHONEWS, Kayode, who is the Chief Whip of the council, emphasized that he is confident of getting the party's return ticket and win the election thereafter.

"Excellent account of stewardship since I became the

councillor since 2017 is enough to earn me a return ticket and the people's mandates. I am not challenged by any aspirants who have shown interests. Everyone is free to contest and it will be more interesting to have more aspirants on board, that's the beauty of politics," he boasted.

Highlighting his achievements so far, he said: "All glory to God, I have done an excellent work for my ward. I have facilitated series of developments and programmes to my ward from the local and state governments and I have been responsive on personal level as well.

"In addition, the state government will begin the renovation of Alabe Street very soon. Hundreds of residents benefited from the stimulus packages organised by the local and state governments during the lock down, more than a thousand benefitted when Knorr organised its own.



Hon. Olanrewaju Kayode

"As you know, Alagbeji is the most peaceful ward in the council area. I am confident of massive support from residents of the community by the time I launch my campaign team, we are only waiting for LASIEC to come up with their timetable for the election before we can do

anything as an incumbent political office holder. Let's not forget that the party's decision is supreme and I have confidence in the decision of the party leadership. Should the ticket go otherwise, I will support anybody to the best of my capacity."

Johnson to speed up bridge completion

By Damilola Kushimo

The member representing Oshodi-Isolo Constituency II at the of the Federal House of Representatives, Hon. Ganiyu Johnson has promised to facilitate the speedy completion of the five pedestrian bridges along Murtala Muhammed International Airport Road.

The residents of Ajao Estate have complained that more people are killed by oncoming vehicles on the expressway while trying to cross as the bridges are not ready for use.

In a "Save Our Soul" cry, one of the residents in Ajao Estate, Mr. Reuben Enoch who is the APC ward chairman decried the incessant rate at which pedestrians are knocked down while trying to cross the 10-lane expressway.

Enoch lamented that delay in completing the five pedestrian bridges following the commissioning of the road last year has caused untimely death

of many pedestrians, noting that a mother of two who recently became a victim met her untimely death last Tuesday on the expressway.

His words: "The delay in completing the pedestrian bridges has caused great damage to us around here. A lot of lives have been cut short. Just yesterday, a mother of two was knocked down and she died immediately just because the pedestrian bridges are yet to be completed for people to use. "We are appealing to our hard-working governor to swing into action before another life will be taken, kindly help us reach out, please."

In reaction, the lawmaker encouraged the residents to forward a written petition to his constituency office for him to take the matter up.

"Please forward a petition to my constituency office for further processing. I will take it up from there, it is a state project," he said.

Ariyoh supports young footballer to pursue dream abroad

By Saheed Afolabi

The Chairman of Oshodi-Isolo Local Government, Hon. Bolaji Muse Ariyoh, has given moral and financial support to a young talented footballer, Samuel Omogoye Aduragbemi, to pursue his dream in Seychelles. Aduragbemi recently secured the opportunity of getting a placement with a club in Seychelles but was hindered to travel due to financial challenge. Presenting the financial support to the young footballer, the council chairman reiterated his administration's commitment to youth development especially through sports, advising the youths to shun antisocial

activities and channel their energy to the development of talents in sports.

Omogoroye Samuel, who was full of appreciation to the chairman for his timely intervention to support his football career in a foreign land, also appreciated the efforts of the councillor representing Igbeyinadun Ward, Hon. Azeez jaiyeola and Special Adviser to the council chairman on Youths and Agriculture, Hon. Saheed Animashaun, for their roles in getting the needed support of the chairman.

He, however, promised to be a good ambassador of Oshodi-Isolo Local Government and Nigeria as he pursues his career with a foreign club in Seychelles.



Hon. Saheed Animashaun, Samuel Omogoye and Hon. Bolaji Ariyoh

Football lovers commend NFF over new Jersey for national team

By Saheed Afolabi

Football fans in Oshodi-Isolo Local Government Area have commended the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) for rebranding the sport kits for the Nigerian national team, Super Eagles. The NFF has announced that the super eagles will launch their

new Nike jersey in October, 2020.

The body disclosed that it is collating people's observation and comments to perfect the designs while the producer of the Jersey is briefed with the details of preferences of the NFF.

The kit sponsor, Nike, said the new kit is hand drawn designs fuses with traditional aesthetic

of an agbada robe with modern football designs.

Commenting on the new Jersey, Diadem Stallions FC goalkeeper, Taiwo Agbaje, said it is a good initiative on the part of the NFF, stating that the new jersey would bring greatness to the national team.

He added that the sale of the new jersey would bring more

revenue to the purse of the NFF to run its administrative functions.

Wasiu Olamilekan said: "I can't wait for the new jersey to be launched in October and I wish it brings glitz and glamour to the national team. This is a good step in the right direction that the NFF has taken under the leadership of Amaju Pinnick."



Afeez Popoola said: "The new jersey is of no significance if we do not improve our players. It is good anyway, we must not be static, there must be change always."

We groom talented youngsters for int'l competition - Ghetto Light FC coach

By Saheed Afolabi

The coach of Ghetto Light FC, Azeez Mustapha, has said that the football club was established with the aim of taking kids off social vices, project their talents and train them to become great international footballers.

According to him, the club is called Ghetto Light FC because the players who formed the team for the club were scouted from the ghettos.

"Ghetto Light FC was founded to take the kids in the ghettos off gangsterism and make them realise that they have got potentials to succeed in life with football and which was why the name of the club is Ghetto Light FC.

"The club comprises of both the male and female players limited only to U17 players. The players



Azeez Mustapha

are picked from the ghettos to project them to the world and for the world to know that there are shining lights in the ghettos. We felt it will be easier to change the narrative by starting with the U17 team before we move to the adulthood and we are one of the few grassroots clubs to have both the male and female teams which are moving very well since we came on board in 2018."

He said the club encourages players to be educated, saying secondary school certificate is

the minimum requirement for any player to be qualified as a team member.

He added that the club enrolls those without secondary school education into schools and monitor their academic activities, noting that they might not be opportune to sign contract with foreign clubs without secondary school certificate.

Highlighting their achievements so far, Mustapha said: "We won the Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu Cup to cement our place as an

elite club at the grassroots.

"Though it has not been easy convincing some parents to allow their children play football, they are convinced with my personality and qualification as a graduate of Lagos State University (LASU). We also invite parents to come and watch their kids play to see the progress they have made."

However, Mustapha appealed to the government and other wealthy individuals in the community to support the club, saying it is funded by only his family and friends.

He added that the club is outstanding as it gives monthly awards to its exceptional players to motivate them to continue to give their best while hoping to produce players for the U20 national team and also export players to foreign leagues in the next five years.

We've improved boxing at the grassroots - Balogun

By Saheed Afolabi

The coach of Champion Boxing Club in Oshodi, Shamsudeen Balogun, Agbaje, Taiwo Abiodun, Afolabi has confirmed significant improvement on boxing in Oshodi facilitated by some other veteran coaches such as Wasiu Bisiriyu and Joe Mensah. He also attributed the improvement of the sport to Senator Opeyemi Bamidele who built the boxing club when he was the Commissioner for Youth and Sports in Lagos State and the Chairman of Oshodi-Isolo Local Government, Hon. Bolaji Muse-Ariyoh who has been supporting the club financially.

He therefore urged the local government and are now state and national Champions in

different categories which include both male and female.

According to him, boxers such as Idowu Abiodun, Taiwo Agbaje, Taiwo Abiodun, Afolabi Shittu, Mutiat Adebayo and Modinat Adeniji, who are now state and national champions in their respective categories, started their careers at Champion boxing club in Oshodi.

Balogun, who is among the Lagos State boxing coaches to train boxers at the coming national sports festival which will hold in Edo State, emphasized that boxing at the grassroots has improved tremendously and it is now more competitive.

He therefore urged the local government not to relent in its support to promote boxing at the grassroots, saying the the young ones should be nurtured at grassroots to become future superstars.

TRIBUTE TO OUR DAD!

Our father was our biggest fan and our greatest role model. We could call him at any time and he always had a solution to our problem. Life is different without him, but we are grateful we got to call him our dad.

Our dad is our hero. He was the most courageous and resourceful man we know. We never questioned if he loved or cared for us because he made it so obvious. We know the pain of losing our Dad will perhaps never leave us. We imagine it will ease with time as we process and get through it, but we don't suspect we will get over it.

How can we? How can we get over a person who has been there since before we were even aware of ourselves? His life, his influence, his energy is inextricably linked to ours and we now take comfort in that. We take comfort in knowing that our Dad is no longer in pain. That suffering is no longer something he has to endure.

Our Dad, Asiyambi Oyin Gbolahan (GASCO), will forever be in our hearts until the day it stops beating. And we are grateful that we are becoming a more fully realized human being, a more caring, compassionate, and empathetic person because of our Dad. Still, we would forfeit any wisdom for the sake of having him back.

Dad, We really miss you. You were a good man, you advised us and did your best to provide for us.

You also tried your best in helping others.

We are saddened that death took you away, but God said in all things we should give him thanks. Your death left a scar in our hearts but your legacy will remain with us. We miss you

Dad...Farewell

Mr Abiola Gbolahan
For The Family

Hon.
ASHIYANBI OYIN
GBOLAHAN

76

Years

CREM to support 2 million students to improve literacy

By Abolaji Adebayo

The Center for Research in Enterprise and Action in Management (CREM) has renewed its commitment to improve and increase literacy level among Nigeria citizens.

According to the research center, apart from giving scholarships to students in universities across the country, it also trains and educates people to improve the literacy level in the society.

Speaking during a programme organised by CREM to commemorate the 2020 International Literacy Day with the theme "Literacy Teaching and Learning in the Covid-19 Crisis and beyond" held at Grooming Center in Ejigbo, the organization's Chief Operation Officer (COO), Mr. Martins Ndigwe, said based on the low level of literacy in the country, the Center, with the support of Grooming Center, has embarked on initiatives to support 2 million Nigerians to be literate for the next five years.

He said: "Nigeria with over 200 million populations, more than

50 million, cannot read nor write. This means that at present (2020), more than 62.02% are not literate — the possible equivalent of the combined population of the Northern and Southern Nigeria not being able to read nor write. "Our commitment to this initiative has driven us to embark on a determined journey to support 2 million Nigerians through our different channels (instagram, facebook, twitter, linkedIn, onsite) to be literate for the next 5 years leveraging on our Ecosystem and our business school at Ejigbo, Lagos."

Ndigwe identified poor



Ejigbo LCDA chairman, Hon. Monsuru Bello and CREM COO, Mr. Martins Ndigwe with other participants at the CREM Literary Day 2020

governance; inadequate educational facilities; lack of interest in education; high poverty rate and lack of

information as some of the challenges affecting literacy and skills development in Nigeria.

He further noted that in the current world pre and post - Covid-19, ICT and digital platforms are of the greatest

demands, "owing to the fact that we've become a common global village, and we daily interact with electronic devices. "The present Nigerian solution to unemployment and unemployability is the acquisition and sound development of IT related skills: Computer programming; Graphics Design; Digital Marketing; Database Management; e-library Management."

Also speaking, the First Guest Speaker, Mrs. Olaitan Shogaolu, predicted that there would be more dropouts during the post - Covid-19 as many parents might find it difficult to fund their children's education.

Gbolahan, ex-education secretary for burial Friday

The remains of former Education Secretary, Oshodi/Isolo Local government area, Hon. Asiyambi Oyin Gbolahan will be buried in his home town, Kisi, Oyo State on Friday. He died on September 8, this year after a brief illness. According to funeral arrangements released by

the family, the ceremonies will begin with a wake - keep at the Love of Life Baptist Church, Bungalow Scheme, Oke- Afa on Wednesday September 17, this year. It will be followed by a service of songs in Kisi the next day. Speaking about his father, his son, Abiola Gbolahan commented that his late

father was a family man and a patient and devoted member of the All Progressive Party. He will be remembered as a man that loved Godly things and served humanity with humility and God's given talent.

Born Asiyambi Oyin Gbolahan on February 8,

1944, he attended Iseyin Grammar School in Oyo and obtained Grade II certificate in 1972. He later bagged Bachelor's in Geography and Master's in Education Management. He founded Bright Day Nursery and Primary School in Jakande Estate Oke Afa Ejigbo and was the

immediate past chairman of Bucknor CDA. A member of Love of Christ Baptist church in Estate.

The early mourners who visited the family include APC party stalwart, Chief Ogundiya and the secretary of Ejigbo LCDA, Deacon Paul Fregene

Put yourselves together in unity, Shammeh tells Ndigbo

By Damilola Kushimo

The Chairman of Isolo LCDA, Hon. Shamsudeen Olaleye has advised members of Ndigbo in APC (Isolo Chapter) on the need to promote unity and harmony among them.

The council boss gave the advice when a delegate of Ndigbo in APC led by its Chairman, Hon. Emeka West paid him a courtesy visit in his office last week.

West said they came to

appreciate the council boss confidence in Ndigbo by including them in his cabinet as SSAs, SAs and supervisory councillors and seek more support for their people during the forthcoming election.

While appreciating the council chairman for always protecting the Igbo interest in his administration, the Woman Leader of the group, Hon. Ifunanya Ekeke, said he has done greatly for them by giving them opportunity to make them relevant in politics.

"You have done a lot for us and that is why we are always blowing your trumpet everywhere," Ekeke added.

In response, Olaleye appreciated the delegate for honouring him, identifying their support for his election during the last local government polls in 2017.

He noted that the support has helped tremendously in cementing the rare cordial relationship between him and Hon. Jude Emeka Idimogwu, the lawmaker representing Oshodi-

Isolo constituency II at the Lagos House of Assembly.

He, however, advised them to promote unity and harmonise by bringing everybody on board so that Ndigbo would speak with one voice.

"You must harmonise and speak with one voice. Everybody is important in politics because it is a game of numbers, therefore, you must carry everybody along regardless of wherever they are. Preach unity among be another because you belong to the same party," He advised.

Why I'm committed to community development - Obe

By Abolaji Adebayo

The chairman of Ejigbo LCDA, Hon. Monsuru Bello (Obe), has said that developing the community is his priority, saying he is committed to the job as a representative of his people.

In a chat with ECHONEWS recently, Bello said as an indigenous son of Ejigbo, he could not watch his father's community to be degraded in any form, hence the reason for his commitment to its development every now and then.

"My target is to make Ejigbo one of the best communities in Lagos State. I'm an of Ejigbo, I have to make sure the community is great when I'm in the position to do so. I don't have any other place to go and I can't leave my father's home and legacy to be rotten, I have to do all my beat to upgrade the community.

"People normally see politicians as liars who do not fulfill their promises but I am trying to change that view and let people know that politicians are reliable

members of the society.

"I don't like blowing my trumpet but the evidence is there for everyone to see that in Ejigbo, we don't just say, we do," he said.

Ejigbo, one of the two adjudged most outstanding and performing local councils in Lagos, has witnessed more positive changes with many developmental projects executed by the Bello led administration.

Some of the projects include newly built primary schools, establishment of Digital Art Library/Tech Hub, free distribution of WAEC/GCE forms to students, rehabilitation of the council Secretariat to the national standard, building of the state-of-the-art Town Hall, rehabilitation of schools, roads, primary health centres, etc.

Meanwhile, the council boss said he operates all encompassing governance, adding that his door is open for any resident to make enquiry about their community and table their demands before the government.

SOS distributes relief materials to 268 households in Isolo

By Damilola Kushimo

SOS Children's Village Nigeria (SOS CVN) has distributed food and non-food items to the residents of Isolo to cushion the effect of lockdown on them.

Through its programme tagged 'Covid-19 Emergency Relief Project', about 30 out of 268 projected households were captured last week when the programme was flagged off.

The Programme Director, Mr.

Ayodeji Adelopo, said the programme was aimed at supporting vulnerable families in cushioning the negative effect of the lockdown on their welfare. He explained that the beneficiaries were taken from the already existing Family Strengthening Programme the NGO runs in the community, a platform established to help and support families in catering for their children and getting access to social amenities.

"This is the first phase of the

programme and it is expected to run for ten days and at the end, we would have captured 268 households with 1127 children and youths. The households are categorised based on the number of the family members.

"Households with less than six family members would be provided with 25 kg of rice, 25 kg of beans, 4 litres each of palm oil and vegetable oil, 1kg of salt, 6 pieces of bathing soaps, 900-gram laundry detergent, and 12 pieces of reusable face masks

while households with more than six family member receive 50 kg of rice, 25 kg of beans, 8 litres each of palm oil and vegetable oil and 2 kg, 106 pieces of bathing soaps, 1800-gram laundry detergents and 20 pieces of reusable facemasks, respectively," he explained.

The National Director of SOS Children's Villages Nigeria, Eghosa Erhumwunse, stated that the programme is not a one-off project as it will run for a year.

Residents laud Ariyoh's projects

Residents of Oshodi-Isolo Local Government Area (LGA) are applauding the local government chairman, Hon. Bolaji Muse-Ariyoh for executing three projects within one week and promising more. Last week, the chairman commissioned the solar power to ensure uninterrupted power supply at Ogunlana primary health center. This was in addition to the rehabilitation of Majekodunmi primary health centre in Shogunle. Within the same week, the council boss also flagged off the reconstruction of some roads including Ewenla road promising to complete them

By Edith Igbokwe

soon. Apart from these, Ariyoh also presented new official cars to 15 heads of departments in the local government secretariat. While presenting the cars, the council chairman appreciated the contribution of the HODs and the entire staff to the the council area, urging them to strive for the best while discharging their duties. He specifically commended the HODs of Health and Environmental Services for their historic efforts and roles in combating COVID-19.

He therefore reiterated his commitment to the welfare of the staff and the development of the entire local government area. Meanwhile, the residents have called the attention of the government to the deplorable state of the Ogunoloko Road linking Lemo Street and the damaged culverts on both sides. They said the road/culverts have been abandoned for almost five years since they were repaired by a philanthropist. They appealed to the council chairman to upgrade the road and repair culverts as part of

his ongoing projects. They said: "It has been almost 4-5 years since the road/culvert at Ogunoloko linking Lemo Street was single-handedly repaired by an Individual as it was totally neglected for years till he came to our rescue. "We would like to draw the authority's attention to this said road as it was totally destroyed by a trailer conveying gravel. That spot have become a selling place. "We strongly appeal to the authority to come to our rescue and help repair the road."



Ariyoh presenting official cars to the HODs

Save us from flood, Old-Ewu residents cry to govt

By Edith Igbokwe

The residents of Old-Ewu and Ogunyinka Mafoluku communities in Oshodi-Isolo Local Government Area (LGA) are crying to the local government to save them from the flood in the community.

Both vehicular and pedestrian movements are debarred in the community whenever it rains as residents battle to stride through the heavy flood. The most affected streets include Ilare Close, Muse Oyinbo Close and Tijani kashimawo Close off 7/8 bus-stop, facing the First bank

along Airport Road. Other affected places are Dominican school, Saint Jude Catholic Church and Domino shop in Mafoluku Oshodi. The cause of the flood was traced to the bad drainage system in the community and lack of gutters in some streets, hindering free flow of water.

Affected residents have taken to wearing rain boots when going in and out of their houses to protect themselves. Speaking for the residents, the Community Development Association (CDA) chairperson, Mrs. Durotola Akinyemi said they need the help of the government to fix

the gutters in the community. She lamented: "Flood has taken over our community. We move around in rain boots despite the fact that we cleared the drainage last year yet, we are still experiencing flood. We need the intervention of the government to fix our drainages to save us

from flood. "Just one rainfall, everywhere in the community has turned to a pool and we cannot move in and out of our houses, what will be our fate when the rain continued intensely as predicted by the Nigerian Metrological Services (NIMET)."

A video which portrayed Hon. Bolaji Muse-Ariyoh, the chairman of Oshodi-Isolo LGA sparked a controversy when it went viral recently. A few persons alleged that it was the handiwork of an aspirant determined to succeed the chairman, Mr. Kehinde Almaroof Oloyede aka Kendoo. But Kendoo wasted no time to deny any knowledge of the video, urging his supporters to be decorous in engaging issues. ECHONEWS Editor, Abolaji Adebayo caught up with Kendoo recently and put him on the spot. Excerpts:

Ariyoh is my brother - Almaroof Oloyede

and not build a political arsenal that will throw our community into political disarray. Thanks and God bless." **It is believed that one cannot win election without the backing of some party stakeholders. Who among the stakeholders are backing you?**



Hon kehinde oloyede

Some people see you as playing politics of bitterness when a video where a guy was castigating the sitting Chairman of Oshodi-Isolo LG went viral. Some alleged you knew about it. How do you defend this sir? Immediately my attention was drawn to the video, I instantly released a caveat. I issued a statement against the video immediately. I wrote thus: "My attention has been drawn to a video circulating on media platforms. This is an unhealthy political jab, which is seriously condemnable. We shouldn't use that to create chaos or rivalry among Us. Though the intention

of the producer of the video is out of loyalty or interest. But to me personally, the video is a misrepresentation in content and highly unethical. I'm highly against the use of vulgar language on Hon. Bolaji Muse Ariyoh who happens to be my brother from the same political father. On sighting the video, I called the person in question to order and the video has since been taken down and edited. However, I am surprised that some mischief makers are hell bent on setting us on collision course with my brother. We implore whoever is sharing this video to kindly take it down. We must learn to live in peace

Yea, there's hierarchy in the political circle and I strongly believe and enjoy the backing of all the leaders and associates within the party. They are all wonderful people who laboured for the growth of the party, All progressives Congress (APC). They have been so great to me. **If finally elected the Oshodi-Isolo LG chairman, what programmes do you have for the youths and other categories of people in the local government area?** I was born and grew up in Oshodi and whatever I am today, Oshodi made me. Having worked so hard to bring foreign investors to open up our market in 2003, I am conversant with the terrain and the needs of

my people. Our programmes are very elaborate however, here are few: Health, Education Road infrastructures, Lightening Oshodi environment, SMEs, Vocational Training, poverty alleviation, women/youth in business, the physically challenged and orphanage home scheme, agriculture and sports.

Initially, you aspired for the House of Assembly, why did you change to LG chairmanship? In life, human beings only propose but God is the Alfa and Omega that disposes. Initially, my aspiration was all about the House of Representatives but when our people kept telling me that this is what they want I believe the voice of the people is

the voice of God. And no politician can do without his people. **Finally, how do you plan to win the election next year?** Winning election is all about having true people on your side and I believe they are doing great. However, the master strategist is God. We are taking orders from Allah and I strongly believe we will never fail.



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