

ISSN-2052-1979

BOSS NEWSPAPER



Vol. 5.55

www.thebossnewspapers.com

A publication of Ovation Media Group

EXCLUSIVE

The Legacies of Legendary Footballer, **JOHN FASHANU**



EVENT

FEATURE



**Olori Yetunde
Tejuoso
Celebrates
Classy 70th
Birthday**

**Heightened
Tension As
Osun Holds
Governorship
Election**





Unlock Dubai's Finest Property Opportunities



10 Yrs Golden Visa



Free Air Ticket



5 Star Hotel Stay



Chauffeur from Airport
to Dubai Trips



Discover premium real estate opportunities in one of the world's most dynamic cities. From luxury residences to high-return investment properties, Dubai offers the perfect balance of lifestyle, stability, and long term growth. Invest with confidence and secure your future in a globally connected destination where opportunity continues to thrive.



Office No. 1202, Tameem House,
Al Barsha Heights, TECOM,
Dubai, UAE



+971 50 653 1232



+971 4 513 9666



www.profoundrealtors.com



info@profoundrealtors.com



Olori Yetunde Tejuoso Celebrates Classy 70th Birthday

By Ruth Akpan

Photos: Photos: Koya Adegbite and Ken Ehimen

Seventy years of life, wrapped in grace, enriched by service and illuminated by the warmth of a generous heart, deserved nothing less than a celebration of thanksgiving. For Olori Yetunde Oluwafunmilayo Tejuoso, the elegant wife of the Osile of Oke-Ona Egbaland, His Royal Majesty Oba Adedapo Tejuoso, her 70th birthday offered a beautiful opportunity to pause, reflect and give thanks to God for a remarkable journey.

Seven decades had brought her through different seasons of life, leaving behind a rich tapestry woven with faith, family, compassion, philanthropy, friendship and service. And when the time came to mark the extraordinary milestone, she chose not merely to celebrate her age but to celebrate the God she believes has sustained her journey.

Rather than beginning with the glamour of a birthday party, the landmark birthday commenced on a deeply spiritual note at the African Church Cathedral of St. James, Abeokuta, where family members, friends, associates, church dignitaries and well-wishers gathered for a thanksgiving service in her honour.

Within the imposing



walls of the cathedral, the atmosphere was one of reverence and quiet joy. The celebrant, resplendent in her elegant ensemble, carried the serene dignity

of a woman who had come to acknowledge her Maker for the gift of life and the privilege of witnessing seven memorable decades. For Olori Yetunde, the

service was the heart of the celebration.

The sanctuary soon came alive with worship as melodious hymns and songs of praise filled



the cathedral. Voices rose in unison as the congregation joined in worship, transforming the birthday thanksgiving into an uplifting celebration of God's faithfulness.

The worship session created an atmosphere of spiritual reflection. From the solemnity of the opening prayers to the joyful rendition of songs of praise, the service provided the celebrant and everyone present with an opportunity to look beyond the festivities and reflect on the blessings that had accompanied her journey.

There were moments when the atmosphere became intensely emotional, particularly as the congregation sang familiar Christian hymns and offered praises for the celebrant's life.

The music, prayers

and worship blended beautifully, creating an experience that was both celebratory and deeply devotional.

Prayers also occupied a

significant place in the thanksgiving service.

With 70 years now behind her, prayers were offered for continued strength, divine protection, sound

health, wisdom and greater fulfilment in the years ahead. The congregation also prayed for her family, her royal household and the various spheres of influence in which she continues to make a difference.

There was a particularly poignant quality to the prayers because they represented more than birthday wishes. They were petitions for the grace to continue serving humanity, nurturing relationships and leaving behind an even more enduring legacy.

The spiritual significance of the celebration was further underscored by the homily delivered by the Archbishop of the Egba Province, The Most Reverend David Oyekunle Akinremi.

Speaking on the importance





of thanksgiving, the Archbishop emphasised the need for individuals to recognise God's faithfulness and acknowledge the blessings that have accompanied their lives.

His message was particularly appropriate for a woman celebrating seven decades.

He reminded the congregation that thanksgiving should not be restricted to moments of abundance or triumph. Rather, it should be an expression of a grateful heart that recognises God's presence through every season of life.

The sermon encouraged everyone present to cultivate an attitude of gratitude, appreciating the gift of life and acknowledging the divine grace that makes every

milestone possible.

One of the most touching aspects of the thanksgiving service was the tributes session in honour of the

celebrant.

Those who spoke about Olori Yetunde described a woman whose elegance is matched by warmth,

whose royal status has never diminished her human touch and whose generosity has made her a source of encouragement to many.

Tributes celebrated her philanthropic spirit, compassion and willingness to extend a helping hand to those in need. Speakers reflected on her ability to combine dignity with accessibility and refinement with genuine concern for people.

Her generosity, they noted, has not always been loud or publicised. Much of it has been expressed through personal gestures, encouragement, support and quiet acts of kindness. The service was concluded with hymns and prayers for the celebrant and her family.

Following the spiritually





uplifting service at the African Church Cathedral of St. James, the celebration moved into a more colourful and convivial phase at the Olusegun Obasanjo Presidential Library (OOPL) Event Centre in Abeokuta.

The transition from cathedral to reception was seamless. The solemnity of worship gave way to the warmth of social celebration as guests gathered to honour the septuagenarian royal celebrant in grand style.

The venue provided an elegant setting for the occasion, with an impressive ambience, beautifully arranged spaces and festive décor, befitting a celebration attended by royalty, political heavyweights, business leaders and

prominent members of society.

The calibre of guests at the reception was a testament to the wide circle of

relationships surrounding Olori Yetunde and the esteem in which she is held.

Among the distinguished

personalities who graced the occasion were the Deputy Governor of Ogun State, Engr. Noimot Salako-Oyedele; the Secretary to the Ogun State Government, Mr. Tokunbo Talabi; former Governor of Ogun State, Chief Olusegun Osoba, accompanied by his wife, Chief Mrs. Aderinsola Osoba; and Chief Mrs. Bola Obasanjo.

Also in attendance were billionaire businessman, Alhaji Tajudeen Akanni Okoya; Aare Dr. Kola Oyefeso; and Ogun State PDP Governorship Candidate, Hon. Oladipupo Adebutu, alongside numerous other distinguished personalities.

Their presence added considerable prestige to an already grand occasion and reflected



the celebrant's extensive network across royalty, government, business and society.

The ceremonial cutting of the magnificent 70th birthday cake injected another burst of excitement into the reception, as Chief Mrs. Olufunso Amosun and the Deputy Governor of Ogun State, Alhaja Noimot Salako-Oyedele, joined the celebrant for the symbolic ceremony. Amid applause and cheers, the celebrant cut her cake, marking seven decades of life, grace and divine preservation.

Hospitality, as expected, was an important part of the grand affair.

Guests were treated to an impressive selection of sumptuous delicacies, complemented by an assortment of exotic drinks, ensuring that the culinary experience matched the grandeur of the occasion.

When the legendary juju maestro, Chief Ebenezer Obey Fabiyi, took centre stage, the reception assumed an entirely different energy. The atmosphere became increasingly animated as guests danced, sang along and celebrated the woman whose milestone birthday had brought them together. FAITH Band also added a vibrant dimension to the entertainment, keeping the celebration alive with energetic performances.















OSUN

DECIDES

2026

— **AUGUST 15** —

Heightened Tension As Osun Holds Governorship Election

By Eric Elezuo

Finally, August 15 is here with the people of Osun State, marking the end of days of tension and heightened insecurity as the countdown to the 2026 governorship election to either retain the incumbent governor, Senator Ademola Adeleke, for another four years, or find a replacement among the 14 other candidates jostling for the position, across party divide to occupy the Bola Ige Government House as governor for the next four years.

Osun has 2,339,233 registered voters, but 1,906,390 of them, representing 81.50 per cent, who collected Permanent Voter Cards (PVCs), are eligible to participate in today's poll. They will vote in the 3,763 Polling Units (PUs) spread across the 332 wards of the 30 local government areas in the South-west state.

On the surface, a total of 15 parties are on the ballot for the off-cycle election, with the incumbent, Ademola Adeleke, whose first term ends in November, seeking a fresh mandate on the ticket of the Accord Party.

However, two of the candidates; Adesina Adeyemi-Doro of the All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA) and Simon Adewale of



APM, had announced their withdrawal from the contest. While Mr Adeyemi-Doro declared support for the All Progressives Congress (APC) candidate, Bola Oyebamiji, Mr Adewale is backing Governor Adeleke. However, both the APM and the APGA will still be on the ballot for the election.

The other contenders for the governorship seat, according to the records of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), are Najeem Salaam (ADC), Olanrewaju Farinloye (AA), Esan Olajide (AAC), Adeagbo Opawoye (ADP), Clement Adesuyi (APP), Masilo Adeleke (BP), Taofeek Adeleke (NNPP), Saliu Oyelami (PRP), Ogunsakin Olalekan (YPP), Adefemi Adesuyi (ZLP), and Francis Olugbenga (SDP), who

was added to the list on Wednesday courtesy of a court judgement.

But beyond the quest to wrestle power through the ballot paper and box, a lot of shenanigans have played out in the past days especially between the ruling Accord Party and its major rival, the APC. Each has accused the other of fomenting trouble in the state as the race for the governorship seat heats up with accusations and counter-accusations of premeditated killings.

During the week, Nigerians reacted to a public call by a chieftain of the APC, who is also a serving Senator representing Osun East Senatorial District, Senator Francis Adenigba Fadahunsi, to members of his party to 'kill Accord Party members' wherever they are seen. Stakeholders have argued that the call amounted to the highest level of

impunity and incitement, demanding the senator's arrest, prosecution, and possible imprisonment.

The mutual suspicion between the two major parties in the state form the mood into which today's election has been entered.

With a retinue of policemen and NSCDC officers on ground, the average Nigerian hope that the election will be rancor free, but with the no confidence vote placed on the security agencies by the ruling party, one can only guess what the outcome will be.

In a few hours, the voting process will be over, and all eyes will turn to the INEC, who can either announce results based on the votes cast, or produce something completely alien to the election. If the former happens, Nigerians will have their hopes restored

in the electoral process, but if the later occurs, the fears of Nigerians will be alloyed, and the

distrust in institutions of government, democracy and electoral process will continue.

Whether Adeleke with remain the landlord of Bola Ige House, or a new landlord will be declared.

The answer is just a few hours away.

Osun Poll: Accord Party Lawmaker, 146 Suspects Arrested — Police

Police operatives from the Federal Bureau of Investigation -Intelligence Response Team have arrested the lawmaker representing Irewole/Isokan State Constituency in the Osun State House of Assembly, Abiola Ibrahim, in Ikire for allegedly harbouring about 146 suspected mercenaries.

A viral video showing policemen confronting the lawmaker and the large group of individuals whom Ibrahim said were voters.

The Osun State Police Public Relations Officer,

DSP Abiodun Ojelabi, confirmed the arrest during a telephone interview with The PUNCH on Saturday. Ojelabi said, “He was arrested in Ikire for harbouring suspected mercenaries. He was arrested with about 146 people.

Over 100 individuals found at a private residence with Osun lawmaker.

“FBI-IRT arrested him. He is in their custody. He was arrested in the early hours of Saturday.”

Footage of the interception showed uniformed police officers interrogating Ibrahim at the residence



regarding the presence of the dozens of people gathered on election day. When questioned by officers on site, the lawmaker insisted that the individuals gathered were registered voters present to participate in the election.

“They are voters for the election happening today,” Ibrahim stated in

the video.

“Some of them are, some of them are indigenes from outside. I did not hire them. I did not promise anything. Voting is their choice. I’m not their agent,” he said, identifying himself as a member of the Accord Party.

Osun Poll: No Intimidation, Adeleke’s Wife Urges Residents To Vote

The wife of the Osun State Governor, Ngozi Adeleke, has urged eligible voters across the state to come out and exercise their franchise in the ongoing governorship election. Ngozi made the call on Saturday shortly after casting her ballot, assuring residents that voting was peaceful at her polling unit.

She urged those who were yet to vote to leave their homes and head to their respective polling units, stressing that participating

in the election was their civic responsibility.

“As you can see, there’s no intimidation of any kind,” she said.

The governor’s wife also appealed to Osun indigenes to take part in the electoral process, saying there was no rancour or fighting at her polling location.

“I’m saying it authoritatively to every Osun indigene that there’s peace, everything is going on peacefully. There’s no rancour, there’s no fight. There’s no intimidation of



any kind,” she said.

She added, “Please, wherever you are, as long as you’re an electorate, please leave your house. Go to your polling unit and vote. That’s your civic right.”

Her appeal came as voters turned out across the state for the governorship election.

Earlier, Governor Ademola Adeleke, who is seeking re-election on the Accord Party platform, had cast his ballot at Ward 02, Polling Unit 009, Abogunde Compound, Ede North Local Government Area.

The election is being conducted across the state’s 30 LGs.

Osun Poll: APC National Secretary Commends INEC's Logistics, Voters' Turnout

The National Secretary of the All Progressives Congress, Senator Ajibola Basiru, has commended the Independent National Electoral Commission for the hitch-free deployment of materials and personnel for Saturday's Osun State governorship election. Basiru, who voted at Ward 7, Unit 3, in Osogbo Local

Government Area, noted the timely deployment of election materials and personnel to polling units across the state.

He also commended voters for arriving at polling units early, describing the turnout as an indication of the people's commitment to democracy.

"I commend INEC for the timely deployment



of election materials and personnel to polling centres across the state.

"I also commend voters for turning out in large

numbers to participate in the electoral process. The turnout is an indication of the people's commitment to democracy," he said.

Osun Poll: Davido Queries Delay In Uploading Results To INEC IReV

Afrobeats singer, David Adeleke, popularly known as Davido, has queried the delay in the uploading of results from Saturday's Osun State governorship election to the Independent National Electoral Commission's Result Viewing Portal. In a series of posts on his X account on Saturday, the singer called on the electoral body to ensure transparency and provide timely updates on the election results.

"INEC, it is now 2:33 p.m., yet no result has been uploaded to the IReV portal. What is the delay? Nigerians deserve transparency and timely updates," he wrote.

Davido also urged voters to remain at their polling units until their results had been uploaded to the IReV portal and to ensure that figures were entered on the electronic EC8A result form.

"Make sure your polling unit results are uploaded



on IReV in your presence and make sure the figures are entered on eEC8A (electronic EC8A). We will follow our votes bumper to bumper!" he said.

The singer further asked voters to take photographs of their polling unit result

sheets and send them to a WhatsApp number shared in his post.

"Don't leave your polling unit until it is being uploaded on the IReV, protect your vote now," he added.

Osun Poll: Ex-Minister Laments Slow BVAS Performance

Former Minister of State for Police Affairs, Alhaji Jelili Adesiyan, on Saturday complained about the slow performance of the Independent National Electoral Commission's Bimodal Voter Accreditation System at his polling unit. Adesiyan, who voted at Unit 8, Ward 6, Lagere

Idiose, Ode Omu, expressed concern over how long it would take the large number of voters on the queue to cast their ballots, given the performance of the machine.

The former minister said, "The exercise is peaceful here. There have not been any problems, only that the BVAS is very slow.



"In this place, we have almost 1,000 people who registered, most of whom are on the queue to vote. Up to now, past 2pm, the number of those who have voted, from the

information I gathered, is still under 200.

"There are some of our elderly people who are here. The BVAS is not capturing some of them."

Osun Govt Drags Fadahunsi to Court over “Kill Accord Members” Threat

The Osun State Government has approached the High Court of Osun State seeking an order compelling security agencies to investigate Senator Francis Adenigba Fadahunsi over his alleged threats against members and supporters of the Accord Party ahead of Saturday’s governorship election.

The suit, marked HOS/M.157/26, was filed on August 12, 2026, at the Osogbo Judicial Division, three days before the August 15 election.

The Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice, Oluwole Jimi-Bada (SAN), filed the application seeking an Order of Mandamus against the Inspector-General of Police and the Commissioner of Police, Osun State Command. Fadahunsi, who represents Osun East Senatorial District, was listed as the person affected or interested party.

The government said its action followed a video circulating on social media in which Fadahunsi was allegedly captured addressing a political gathering in front of the Owa Obokun’s Palace in Ilesha on August 11.

According to the court documents, the senator allegedly made statements interpreted as calls for violence against members



of the Accord Party.

The government said a transcript and translation of the speech showed Fadahunsi allegedly directing supporters to attack Accord members wherever they encountered them and making threats against their families.

The court filings also alleged that the senator instructed his supporters to chase Accord members out of hotels where they were found and made derogatory comments about the party’s yellow caps.

The government further alleged that Fadahunsi threatened that the election would not hold if Accord members resisted the actions of APC supporters. The Attorney-General is

asking the court to compel the police to investigate the video and determine whether the alleged statements constitute criminal offences under applicable laws.

The government is also seeking an order directing the police to preserve, authenticate and conduct a forensic examination of the complete video to establish whether it has been altered or edited.

Other reliefs sought include compelling the police to take preventive measures to protect Accord candidates, members and voters from intimidation or harassment before, during and after the election.

The government also wants the police to ensure

that registered voters and Accord supporters are not prevented from accessing hotels or other locations during the electoral period.

It further asked the court to order the respondents to submit a report on compliance with the court’s directives within 48 hours of the orders being granted.

In the supporting affidavit, Nurudeen Kareem, Special Adviser to Governor Ademola Adeleke on Legal Matters, said Accord members had expressed “reasonable and legitimate concerns regarding their safety and security before, during, and after the forthcoming election.”

The government argued

More Trouble for Francis Fadahunsi As Amnesty International Vows to 'Name, Shame' Osun Senator in 150 Countries

Amnesty International Nigeria says it will use Francis Fadahunsi Senator as an example of political impunity by naming and shaming the Osun East lawmaker across the 150 countries where the organisation operates over his alleged inciting remarks ahead of Saturday's governorship election.

Isa Sanusi, country director of Amnesty International Nigeria, made the disclosure on Channels Television's Sunrise Daily on Thursday while reacting to a viral video in which Fadahunsi, an All Progressives Congress (APC) senator, allegedly directed supporters to kill members of the Accord Party.

Sanusi said the organisation would intensify its campaign for accountability against the senator, arguing that political leaders must be held responsible for statements capable of triggering violence during elections.

"We are going to use him as an example. We have had so many terrible politicians say terrible things ahead of the election," Sanusi said.

"But this one is exceptional, a situation where somebody came out on record, saying 'kill



them wherever you find them'."

His comments come as tension remains high ahead of the August 15 Osun governorship election, with political parties and civil society groups raising concerns over the potential for inflammatory rhetoric to translate into electoral violence.

The Osun State Police Command summoned Fadahunsi on Tuesday following the controversy and questioned him for about two hours on Wednesday.

Amnesty International Nigeria had earlier condemned the senator's alleged remarks, describing them as reckless and warning that authorities have a responsibility to prevent

advocacy of hatred that amounts to incitement to hostility, discrimination or violence.

Sanusi said the organisation would continue to push for legal and political accountability, stressing that the use of inflammatory language by politicians should no longer be dismissed as campaign rhetoric.

"I believe that that person does not deserve any peace again, because advocacy of hatred is a crime under international law as well as Nigerian laws," he said. "Therefore, we are going to use this man as an example to show that the impunity by Nigerian politicians cannot continue and we cannot tolerate it again."

The controversy has added to growing scrutiny

of political conduct ahead of the election, particularly as authorities face pressure to prevent campaign statements from escalating into violence.

Amnesty said Fadahunsi must be held accountable if investigations establish that his comments amounted to incitement, while urging relevant authorities to enforce existing laws against hate speech and election-related violence.

The organisation's position places additional pressure on security agencies and political leaders to ensure that Saturday's poll is conducted peacefully and that politicians are held accountable for statements that could threaten lives or undermine the electoral process.

that the police have a statutory responsibility under the Police Act 2020 and the 1999 Constitution to prevent crime and maintain public order.

It maintained that waiting until violence occurs before investigating an alleged public threat would undermine the preventive role of law

enforcement.

“The Applicant believes that waiting until actual violence, deaths, or injuries occur before investigating an alleged public instruction to kill political opponents would amount to a dereliction of duty,” the government said.

The Attorney-General

also clarified that the suit was not asking the court to determine Fadahunsi’s criminal guilt, stressing that such a determination would require a proper criminal trial.

Rather, the government said it was seeking to compel the police to carry out their statutory responsibilities and take

appropriate preventive action.

With the election scheduled for Saturday, the government said “time is of the absolute essence”, warning that failure to act on the alleged threats could expose residents to “irreparable harm, loss of life, and widespread civil unrest.”

EU-Backed Group Deploys 843 Observers for Osun Election

The European Union-Supported Election Observation Group has deployed 843 observers across Osun State for Saturday’s governorship election, as part of efforts to independently assess the conduct of the poll.

The group, comprising the Centre for Media, Society, the International Press Centre, the Nigerian Women’s Trust Fund, the Kukah Centre and Yiaga Africa, disclosed this in its preliminary statement on the election on Friday in Osogbo, the state capital.

Speaking at the event, the Executive Director of Yiaga Africa, Samson Itodo, said the observers would monitor, document and report on the electoral process in line with the principles of independence, impartiality and non-partisanship.

Itodo said; “the election was of significant national importance as it would provide another opportunity to assess the implementation of provisions of the electoral

legal framework and offer INEC, security agencies, electoral stakeholders and the public further insight into preparations ahead of the 2027 general election.” He said, “the group acknowledged INEC’s declared operational, technological and logistical readiness for the election, including the deployment of election materials and personnel.” The EU group also noted that INEC had increased the number of Bimodal

Voter Accreditation System devices following technical challenges identified during the mock accreditation exercise, with additional devices provided as backup.

On result management, however, the group called for greater clarity on the electronic transmission and backend validation of polling unit results.

It urged INEC to make the result transmission process more transparent and verifiable, including

providing clearer information on the backend validation process and the use of electronic result sheets.

The group also called on the Commission to ensure smooth electronic transmission of validated polling unit results and maintain adequate live backup of election data to prevent disruptions during accreditation and counting.



60th Posthumous Birthday: Family, Friends Celebrate Herbert Wigwe

Family members, friends, colleagues and associates of the late former Chief Executive Officer of Access Bank, Dr Herbert Wigwe, have celebrated his 60th posthumous birthday. Wigwe, who died on February 9, 2024, would have turned 60 on Saturday (today).

A statement made available on Friday said Wigwe left behind a legacy spanning banking, education, healthcare and youth development in Nigeria and beyond.

Before his death, Wigwe had risen to become one of Africa's leading financial executives, widely known for his role in the transformation and expansion of Access Bank.

The statement said, "Beyond banking, he devoted considerable attention and resources to building institutions, supporting young people and creating opportunities for disadvantaged communities.

"To his family, friends and associates, Wigwe was also a mentor and a firm believer in the ability of people to achieve more when given the right opportunities.

"As Co-CEO of Access Bank and later Access Holdings, he played a major role in the growth of the financial institution from a Nigerian bank into



a financial services group with operations across several countries."

According to the statement, Wigwe's ambition was not simply to build a successful Nigerian bank but to develop an African institution capable of competing with leading financial organisations around the world.

"His influence also extended beyond Access Bank. As Chairman of the Bankers' Committee, Wigwe participated in discussions on major issues affecting Nigeria's banking industry and economy.

"He worked with government officials, regulators and other business leaders, believing that the private sector had a responsibility to contribute to national development and help find solutions to the country's social and economic challenges.

"Wigwe's belief that business success should make a difference in society was reflected in the establishment of The HOW Foundation in 2016," the statement added.

It added that through the Foundation, Wigwe supported programmes in education, healthcare, mentorship and youth development.

"Its interventions included educational support for disadvantaged children, programmes in Makoko and for Almajiri children, medical scholarships and specialist oncology training. The Foundation also supported the adoption and rehabilitation of 25 primary healthcare centres in Rivers State.

"One of Wigwe's most ambitious projects was Wigwe University, which reflected his strong belief in the power of education to transform Africa.

"His commitment to developing a new generation of African leaders also continues through initiatives such as the Fearless Leadership Series and the Wigwe Venture Lab," it added.

The statement said Wigwe encouraged young Nigerians to think boldly, challenge convention, take responsibility and create solutions.

"As family members, friends, colleagues and associates mark what would have been his 60th birthday, Wigwe's story remains one of ambition, institution-building, philanthropy and service. His legacy is increasingly being measured not only by what he achieved during his lifetime but also by the institutions he created, the opportunities he provided and the people he inspired," it added.

Abiodun Urges Traditional Rulers To Prioritise Development Of Your Domain

The Ogun State Governor, Dapo Abiodun, has called on traditional rulers to prioritise the development of their domains and partner with the government to achieve rapid development at the grassroots.

Abiodun made the call in a statement on Saturday during the official installation and presentation of the instruments of office to the Alaye of Imobi Land, Oba Fatai Olatunji Balogun, in the Ijebu East Local Government Area of the state.

Represented by the Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, Ganiyu Hamzat, the governor emphasised the state government's commitment to fostering industrial growth and attracting high-value investments for the collective benefit of the people.

Abiodun said, "There is no doubt that as a responsible government, our administration has always recognised the roles of our royal fathers in advancing peace and driving rapid development across the state.

"I urge our royal fathers to continue to support the determination of our government to drive development across the state. I also encourage the



people of Imobi to become proactive champions of the state government's investment initiatives, ensuring that progress thrives within their community and beyond."

Speaking at the event, the Chairman of Ijebu East Local Government, Dr Oluwadare Kehinde, congratulated the new monarch and highlighted the shared responsibility of leaders and citizens in driving societal growth and development.

The council chairman emphasised the importance of harnessing resources for progressive leadership, urging Oba Balogun to remain committed to advancing the development of Imobi Land and the state at large. Also speaking, the Obiri of Aiyepe, Oba Adebisi Okubango, advocated an inclusive reign in Imobi Land, noting that such an approach would be essential to earning the loyalty, trust and cooperation of the people.

In his acceptance speech, Oba Balogun expressed gratitude to the state government and pledged his commitment to transformative leadership in Imobi.

It was gathered that the installation of Oba Balogun marked the culmination of a traditional process that dates back to the tenure of the late Awujale and Paramount Ruler of Ijebuland, Oba Sikiru Adetona.

According to stakeholders, the Imobi Obaship Committee commenced its activities with the support of Oba Babatunde Olaogun Ogunlaja, the Aladeshonyin of Noforija and Paramount Ruler of Odo-Noforija, who led the committee to the late Awujale.

The late Awujale subsequently endorsed Oba Abdul Fatai Olatunji Balogun and constituted a five-man committee of revered traditional rulers in Ijebuland to deliberate on the Imobi Obaship.

The committee was chaired by the Orimolusi of Ijebu-Igbo and Paramount Ruler of Ijebu-Igbo, Oba Lawrence Jaiyeola Adedeji Adebajo. Stakeholders noted that despite criticisms and doubts expressed by some individuals during the process, the eventual confirmation and installation of Oba Abdul Fatai Balogun by the Ogun State Government brought the process to a successful conclusion.

With the installation completed, stakeholders appealed to all Imobi indigenes and residents to put aside their disagreements and work together for the development of the community.

The people were urged to shun conspiracy, hypocrisy, disunity and non-cooperation while embracing unity, cooperation and collective responsibility under the leadership of the new Alaye.

Quarter 1 2026: Lagos, Abuja, Rivers, Delta Lead States with Highest Debt Increase

Nigeria's subnational domestic debt rose in the first quarter of 2026, driven largely by a 106.43% increase in borrowing by the Federal Capital Territory (FCT). Data from the Debt Management Office (DMO) show that the combined domestic debt of Nigeria's 36 states and the FCT rose to N4.52 trillion by March 2026, from N4.36 trillion in December 2025.

This represents a 3.74% increase, or N163.25 billion, during the three-month period.

The FCT recorded the biggest increase, with its debt stock rising sharply from N188.86 billion to N389.88 billion, effectively more than doubling in three months. The top 10 jurisdictions accounted for N3.09 trillion, representing 68.35% of the total subnational domestic debt stock.

What the data is saying

The ranking below compares the 10 states (including the FCT) with the highest domestic debt stocks as of March 2026.

10. Enugu — N120.03 billion

Enugu recorded a domestic debt stock of N120.03 billion as of March 2026, down from N157.60 billion in December 2025. This represents a 23.84% decline, the largest reduction among the top



10 jurisdictions reviewed. 9. Cross River — N132.30 billion

Cross River's debt stock stood at N132.30 billion, compared with N137.36 billion three months earlier.

The figure declined by 3.68% during the quarter.

8. Niger — N140.69 billion

Niger recorded N140.69 billion in domestic debt at the end of March, slightly below the N142.67 billion recorded in December.

The state's debt declined by 1.39% during the period.

7. Bauchi — N154.45 billion

Bauchi's debt stock stood at N154.45 billion, down marginally from N156.05 billion in December 2025. This represents a 1.03% decline over the period.

6. Edo — N172.37 billion

Edo recorded a domestic debt stock of N172.37 billion, rising sharply from N91.18 billion in December.

The 89.04% increase was the second largest among the states reviewed and pushed Edo into the top six most indebted jurisdictions.

5. Ogun — N200.75 billion

Ogun's debt stock declined to N200.75 billion from N227.47 billion in December 2025.

This represents an 11.75% reduction during the quarter, although the state remained among Nigeria's most indebted jurisdictions.

4. Delta — N213.85 billion

Delta recorded N213.85 billion in domestic debt as of March 2026, down from N248.83 billion at the end of 2025.

The state recorded a

14.06% decline.

3. Rivers — N362.43 billion

Rivers remained Nigeria's second-largest state debtor, with a domestic debt stock of N362.43 billion.

The figure declined by 4.32% from N378.81 billion in December 2025. However, the sharp increase in FCT debt pushed the territory ahead of Rivers in the overall ranking of states and the FCT.

2. FCT — N389.88 billion

The Federal Capital Territory recorded the biggest increase in domestic debt among the jurisdictions reviewed, with its debt stock rising from N188.86 billion in December 2025 to N389.88 billion in March 2026.

That represents a 106.43% increase, which

is effectively more than double the FCT's debt stock.

The increase lifted the FCT from fifth place at the end of 2025 to second place by March 2026, overtaking Rivers, Delta, and Ogun state.

1. Lagos — N1.21 trillion Lagos remained Nigeria's most indebted state, with a domestic debt stock of N1.21 trillion as of March 2026.

However, its debt declined slightly from N1.22 trillion in December 2025, representing a 1.18% reduction.

Lagos accounted for about 26.64% of the total N4.52 trillion domestic debt owed by the 36 states and the FCT.

Why the FCT's debt increase stands out

The FCT's 106.43% increase is particularly notable because it occurred alongside a significant improvement in the territory's revenue generation.

FCT Minister Nyesom Wike said in July that the territory's internally generated revenue had increased from about N9 billion per month to more than N40 billion within three years. He attributed the improvement partly to the FCT's removal from the Treasury Single Account (TSA), which he said provided greater financial flexibility for revenue generation and infrastructure development.

The minister also said the FCT generated a record N262 billion in internally generated revenue (IGR) in 2024

He also defended the territory's infrastructure spending, saying about 70% of projects completed during the administration were projects that had been awarded and abandoned for about 15 to 16 years.

This provides important context around the FCT's rising debt stock. The

increase in debt does not, by itself, indicate financial distress. The more important question is whether the additional debt is being supported by stronger revenues and deployed towards projects that can deliver lasting economic value.

Other states with notable debt increases

Beyond the top 10, several states recorded significant increases in domestic debt during the first quarter of 2026:

- Borno: up 107.40%, from N42.64 billion to N88.44 billion.

- Yobe: up 21.73%, from N81.00 billion to N98.59 billion.

- Benue: up 5.24%, from N107.23 billion to N112.85 billion.

- Kaduna: up 3.80%, from N84.64 billion to N87.87 billion.

- Nasarawa: up 2.82%, from N26.41 billion to N27.15 billion.

What this means

2 The concentration of debt also remains significant. Lagos alone accounted for more than a quarter of total state and FCT domestic debt, while the top 10 jurisdictions accounted for more than two-thirds.

3 The concentration is particularly striking at the top of the ranking. Lagos' N1.21 trillion domestic debt is more than three times the FCT's N389.88



Nigeria's subnational domestic debt increased by N163.25 billion, from N4.36 trillion in December 2025 to N4.52 trillion in March 2026.

1 The increase was not uniform across the country. While FCT, Borno and Edo recorded sharp increases, several of the largest debtors including Lagos, Rivers, Delta, Ogun and Enugu, reduced their outstanding debt during the quarter.

billion and more than 10 times Enugu's N120.03 billion, highlighting the wide gap between the country's largest debtors and the other states.

With state and FCT domestic debt now above N4.5 trillion, changes in borrowing, debt repayments and internally generated revenue will show how well subnational governments are managing their finances.

State Police Bill: FG Extends Deadline, Seeks More Consultation

The Federal government has extended the deadline for the submission of memoranda and position papers on the proposed National Policing Bill to Friday, August 21, 2026, as part of efforts to broaden public participation.

The extension was announced on Thursday by the Presidential Working Group on the National Policing Bill, which said interested individuals, institutions and organisations now have until 5:00 p.m. West Africa Time on the new deadline to submit their recommendations on the proposed legislation.

In a statement signed by the Chief of Staff to the President and Chairman of the Presidential Working Group, Femi Gbajabiamila, the committee said the additional time was approved to ensure that stakeholders have adequate opportunity to make comprehensive and technically sound contributions capable of strengthening the proposed law.

According to the statement, the Working Group remains committed to developing a National Policing Bill that reflects broad national consensus through an inclusive consultation process involving professionals, institutions and citizens



from across the country. “The Presidential Working Group is committed to ensuring that the process of developing the National Policing Bill benefits from broad consultation and the informed perspectives of Nigerians and relevant stakeholders,” the statement said.

Gbajabiamila explained that the proposed legislation is designed to establish the operational, administrative, institutional and funding framework required for a more effective policing architecture capable of responding to Nigeria’s evolving security challenges.

He said the Bill is expected to strengthen professionalism, improve accountability, modernise policing operations and provide stronger safeguards for the protection of citizens’ rights while addressing

longstanding institutional deficiencies within the nation’s law enforcement system.

The Presidential Working Group stressed that the complexity of policing reforms requires extensive public engagement and expert input before the legislation is finalised.

According to Gbajabiamila, issues requiring careful consideration include sustainable funding mechanisms, command and control structures, recruitment and training standards, operational jurisdiction, inter-agency coordination, accountability systems and safeguards against political interference or abuse of policing powers.

“These considerations underscore the importance of robust stakeholder engagement in developing a framework that is effective, accountable,

sustainable and responsive to the peculiar security needs of communities across the federation,” he added.

The Working Group encouraged legal practitioners, civil society organisations, security sector professionals, state governments, professional bodies, academics, policy experts and interested members of the public to take advantage of the extended consultation window by submitting memoranda and position papers exclusively through the official National Policing Bill portal before the new deadline.

It also expressed appreciation to stakeholders who had already made submissions, describing their contributions as vital to producing a credible and implementation-ready legal framework.

The Working Group

disclosed that, upon completing the nationwide consultation process, it will prepare a final implementation-ready draft of the National Policing Bill for submission to President Bola Tinubu.

Following presidential review and approval, the Executive Bill will be transmitted to the National Assembly for legislative consideration as part of

the Federal government's broader security reform agenda.

The committee is expected to present the completed Executive Bill package to the President on September 3, 2026.

The National Policing Bill is one of the flagship initiatives of the Tinubu administration aimed at overhauling Nigeria's policing system amid persistent security

challenges, including terrorism, banditry, kidnapping, organised crime and communal violence across several parts of the country.

The public consultation process officially commenced on August 3, 2026, when Gbajabiamila announced the launch of the National Policing Bill portal and invited stakeholders to submit memoranda within

an initial two-week consultation window.

Security experts have long argued that Nigeria's existing policing framework requires comprehensive legal and institutional reforms to improve operational efficiency, enhance accountability, strengthen cooperation among security agencies, and promote community-oriented policing.

Atiku Drags Tinubu to Court over Certificate Forgery, Eligibility to Contest 2027

Former Vice President Atiku Abubakar on Friday filed a suit at the Federal High Court, Abuja, challenging the qualification of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu to contest the 2027 presidential election over alleged forgery of an NYSC certificate.

Atiku, who is the presidential candidate of the African Democratic Congress (ADC), personally appeared at the court registry to depose to an affidavit in support of the suit.

The suit was instituted by Atiku and the ADC against President Tinubu, the All Progressives Congress (APC), and the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

It is anchored on Sections 137(1)(j), 139(1)(a)(i), and 285(14)(c) of the 1999 Constitution, as well as provisions of the Electoral Act, 2026.



At the heart of the case is Section 137(1)(j), which disqualifies anyone who presents a forged certificate to INEC from contesting for President.

The plaintiffs are asking the court to determine whether Tinubu and the APC should be disqualified from the 2027 election over allegations that the President submitted an NYSC discharge certificate bearing the name "Tinubu Bola Adekunle" to INEC for both the 2023 and 2027 elections.

According to Atiku's affidavit, the name on the certificate is different from

"Bola Ahmed Tinubu," and the document was not obtained by the President. Speaking after taking the oath, Atiku said his personal appearance was to show seriousness.

"I came here personally because the issues before the court go to the heart of our Constitution and the integrity of the office of President... I have therefore put my name, my signature and my oath behind the facts we are presenting to the court. Now it is President Tinubu's turn to answer them," he said.

The suit also asks INEC to produce Tinubu's Form

CF001 submitted for the 2023 and 2027 elections.

Atiku said he had applied for certified true copies of the form but got no response before filing.

"This is precisely why we have gone to court. We are not asking Nigerians to decide this matter on social media... We are asking the institution holding the records to produce them and the judiciary to examine the evidence and pronounce on it," Atiku stated.

"If the certificate belongs to Bola Ahmed Tinubu, let that be established before the court. If 'Tinubu Bola Adekunle' and 'Bola

Ahmed Tinubu' are one and the same person for the purpose of that certificate, let the evidence establish it."

Beyond the certificate, the ADC and Atiku are also challenging aspects of the Electoral Act, 2026, which they argue restrict pre-election challenges to a candidate's qualification. They contend that no law can override the Constitution.

"Can an Act of the National Assembly be used as a shield against an express provision of the Constitution?... Our position is that the Constitution remains supreme," Atiku said.

Among the reliefs sought is an order disqualifying Tinubu and the APC from participating in the 2027 presidential election if the court upholds the plaintiffs' case.

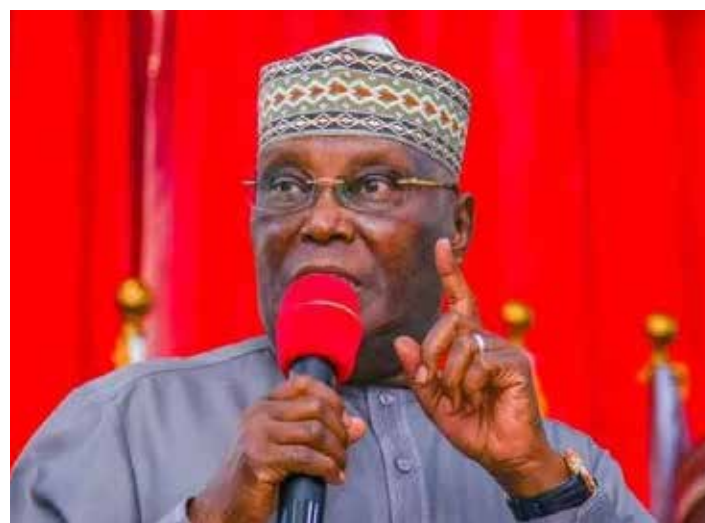
"Nobody should misunderstand what is at stake. Nigerian graduates cannot complete NYSC documentation with one identity and simply ask employers to ignore discrepancies... The Presidency is not an immunity certificate against constitutional scrutiny," he added.

Atiku further urged INEC to demonstrate neutrality by making the relevant records available to the court.

"The 2027 election must begin with clarity about the qualification of those seeking the Presidency. Nigerians should not be

asked to vote first and investigate later," he said. Lead counsel, Joseph Onu Silas, Esq., said the legal team was confident the case would help deepen Nigeria's electoral jurisprudence.

"This is not about privilege, personalities or presidential power. It is about one Constitution and one standard for every Nigerian. Nobody is above the Constitution



— not Atiku Abubakar, not Bola Tinubu, and certainly not the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria," Onu said.

Lawyer petitions EU over Tinubu's qualification, cites 'subversion of constitution'

Relatedly, a renowned Nigerian lawyer, Kalu Esq., has submitted a petition to the European Union in Brussels, alleging that President Bola Ahmed Tinubu subverted constitutional order ahead of the 2027 general election.

His remark was shared on Facebook Friday by Paul Ibe, Media Adviser

to former Vice President Atiku Abubakar.

Kalu, who spoke at the European Commission headquarters, said the petition seeks the EU's intervention to "help restore constitutional democracy in Nigeria."

He accused President Tinubu of submitting false academic credentials to the Independent National Electoral Commission, INEC, and failing to state

false certificate to INEC, the Independent National Electoral Commission, you will not be qualified to run election and he has submitted forged documents, forged certificates to INEC that made him not to be qualified to run for the 2027 general election," he stated.

Kalu further alleged that because "they have captured all the power in Nigeria," the President has "imposed himself on Nigeria, thereby subverting the provisions of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as amended, which is a mini-coup, a sub-coup against the people of Nigeria."

He said the purpose of his visit to Brussels was to formally submit the petition to the EU and solicit support for the restoration of constitutional governance in Nigeria.

"Good afternoon all and good afternoon to the whole world. I am here at the European Commission to submit a petition to the European Union concerning the subversion of constitutional order in Nigeria... So, I'm here to submit the petition to the EU to help restore constitutional democracy in Nigeria," he said.

As of the time of filing this report, the Presidency and INEC have not responded to the allegations.

the primary and secondary schools he attended.

"Mr President, Bola Ahmed Tinubu, has suspended the constitutional order in Nigeria because of his false academic credentials, which he submitted to INEC for the 2027 general election and he did not state the primary school and the secondary school he attended," Kalu said.

The lawyer cited Section 137(1)(j) of the 1999 Constitution, arguing that presenting a false certificate to INEC disqualifies a candidate.

"Section 137(1)(j) says if you have presented a

2027: Opposition Summit Postponed To August 31

The proposed summit of opposition political parties convened by the G-100 has been shifted from August 18 to August 31, 2026, to allow participating parties to hold further consultations after the National Peace Summit.

The group is urging former Vice President Atiku Abubakar, ex-Anambra State governor, Peter Obi, who are the presidential candidates of the African Democratic Congress and the Nigeria Democratic Congress respectively, as well as other political parties to forge a united front and present a single presidential candidate to confront President Bola Tinubu of the All Progressives Congress in the 2027 election.

According to the group, a fragmented opposition stands no chance of defeating Tinubu in next year's election.

In a statement issued on Friday and signed by ex-chieftain of the All Progressives Congress, Salihu Lukman, the group said the decision followed consultations with the six participating opposition parties and members of the minority caucus of the House of Representatives. According to the group, the participating parties and lawmakers agreed that the opposition summit would be more productive if held after the National Peace Summit slated for



August 18.

The G-100 noted that the intervening period would also provide additional time to refine proposals and frameworks to be presented at the August 31 meeting.

According to the group, its consultations over the past several days with the leadership and principal stakeholders of the six opposition parties, as well as members of the House minority caucus, have been “frank, substantive and encouraging.”

The statement read in part, “We have been particularly encouraged by the seriousness with which the parties have approached these conversations and by the energy behind the deliberations.

“There is a clear recognition across the different parties that this is an important moment for Nigeria’s democracy

and that the opposition must begin to engage one another with greater purpose and structure.”

The G-100 said the consultations had also exposed differences among the parties but stressed that those differences had not prevented discussions on possible areas of cooperation.

“What we have enjoyed most about these consultations is their candour. There are differences, as there should be, but there is also a genuine willingness to listen, to interrogate the available options and to explore practical areas of cooperation,” the statement further read.

The group added that the quality of the discussions had strengthened its confidence that the August 31 summit could produce significant outcomes.

“The quality of the

conversations gives us confidence that the August 31 Summit can be both substantive and consequential,” it said.

The rescheduling comes at a time opposition parties are under increasing pressure to clarify their political direction ahead of the 2027 general elections.

The proposed summit is expected to provide a platform for the parties to examine possible areas of collaboration and develop a more structured approach to opposition politics.

Meanwhile, rather than rushing into the summit, the G-100 said it would use the additional period to deepen discussions with the participating parties and other relevant stakeholders.

The group said further details on the programme and venue of the summit would be announced later.

2027 Hajj: Pilgrims To Pay N7.88m

Intending pilgrims for the 2027 hajj exercise are likely to pay between N7,560,822 to N7,882,822 fares depending on their departure zones, the National Hajj Commission of Nigeria has announced. NAHCON, in a public notice issued on Friday, stated that the fares were approved by the Federal Government after consultations with the Forum of State Muslim Pilgrims' Welfare Boards and key service providers in Saudi Arabia.

According to the commission, pilgrims departing from the Maiduguri/Yola zone will

pay N7,560,822, while those from the Northern Zone will pay N7,672,822. Pilgrims from the Southern Zone will pay the highest fare of N7,882,822.

The Commission said the approved fares were determined after considering prevailing exchange rates and service costs.

NAHCON said intending pilgrims who had already deposited N5m would be required to pay the outstanding balance to complete their registration. This means pilgrims who paid the initial N5m will have outstanding balances of N2,560,822



for the Maiduguri/Yola Zone, N2,672,822 for the Northern Zone and N2,882,822 for the Southern Zone.

The commission also directed new registrants to make payments through their respective State Muslim Pilgrims' Welfare Boards, Agencies or Commissions, or through approved Hajj Savings Scheme participating

banks.

Meanwhile, NAHCON fixed September 26, 2026, as the final deadline for the complete upload of intending pilgrims' biometric data on the designated Nusuk-Masar digital platform.

It also directed states to complete the remittance of all 2027 Hajj fares by December 2, 2026.

N1.5bn Ransom: Kidnappers Free Anambra Businessman, Reverend Sister

A businessman and Chairman of Jezco Group, Chief Joseph Ezeokafor, who was kidnapped alongside a reverend sister by yet-to-be-identified gunmen at Ifite-Awka, Awka South LGA of Anambra State, have been released and has safely returned.

It was gathered that they were released in the early hours of Saturday after being kidnapped and spending several days in captivity under unknown circumstances.

The spokesman for the Anambra State Police Command, SP Tochukwu Ikenga, confirmed this in a statement on Saturday, adding that the command is currently taking necessary

steps to establish the circumstances surrounding their abduction and release.

Ikenga said the command is currently taking necessary steps to establish the circumstances surrounding their release and obtain relevant information that will assist ongoing investigations and the identification of the perpetrators.

He said, "The Anambra State Police Command confirms that Chief J.J. Ezeokafor and a Rev. Sister, who armed criminals earlier abducted at Ifite-Awka, have been released and have safely returned.

"The Command is currently taking necessary



steps to establish the circumstances surrounding their release and obtain relevant information that will assist ongoing investigations and identification of the perpetrators.

"The Commissioner of Police, Anambra State Command, CP Nnanna Oji Ama, while commending the safe return of the victims, further directs intensified intelligence-led operations and manhunt for those responsible for the abduction."

According to him, the ongoing operation involves the police, and other relevant security agencies.

"The Command appreciates members of the public for their support and cooperation and urges them to remain vigilant and provide credible and timely information that could assist security agencies in apprehending the perpetrators," he added.

Korean War: South Korea President Proposes Talks With North Korea

South Korean President Lee Jae Myung proposed talks with North Korea to formally end the long-running Korean War, as Pyongyang deepens ties with Russia while asserting its status as an “irreversible” nuclear state.

The two Koreas remain technically at war because their 1950-53 conflict, triggered by a North Korean attack, ended with an armistice rather than a peace treaty.

Lee made the proposal in his speech at a ceremony marking the anniversary of Korea’s liberation from Japan’s 1910-45 colonial rule.

“Let us put down our intentions to threaten each other and begin discussions to end the long-running war as the directly involved parties,” Lee said in his speech.

“Through this, it may also be possible to discuss effective measures to halt the advancement of North Korea’s nuclear capabilities,” he added.

Lee’s proposal came as North Korea this week denounced upcoming annual US-South Korean military drills, warning of stronger deterrence measures.

Pyongyang has also recently been bristling over Japan’s gradual military build-up in the Pacific — firing off two



missiles in as many weeks after Tokyo pledged to up its defence capabilities with a “sense of urgency and crisis”.

North Korea has repeatedly declared itself an “irreversible” nuclear state since a 2019 summit between Kim and US counterpart Donald Trump in Hanoi collapsed over the scope of denuclearisation and sanctions relief.

South Korea’s dovish President Lee has reversed the stance of his hawkish predecessor since taking power in Seoul in June 2025, offering nuclear-armed Pyongyang talks without preconditions.

In July, South Korea’s unification minister even claimed Seoul had abandoned its campaign

prioritising pressure on the North to dismantle its nuclear weapons, focusing instead on halting the expansion of Pyongyang’s nuclear activities.

The hermetic leadership of North Korea has yet to respond to Lee’s repeated offers, and has instead bolstered military ties with Russia.

Analysts say Pyongyang is receiving financial support, food, energy and military technology from Moscow for supplying troops and munitions for Russia’s war in Ukraine. North Korean leader Kim Jong Un is expected to visit Russia later this year, potentially to discuss further weapons supplies to Moscow.

Washington, Seoul’s key security ally, stations

about 28,500 troops in South Korea to bolster the country’s defences against military threats from Pyongyang.

Colonel Ryan Donald, spokesman for the US and South Korean Combined Forces Command, said this week that North Korea’s deployment to the European war had changed the threat his soldiers may face on the Korean peninsula.

“They’ve taken those lessons they learned there and brought them back to North Korea,” he told reporters as he talked about the 11-day South Korea-US joint exercises due to begin Monday.

“Our training accounts for that threat.”

Taliban Celebrates Five Years In Power With Military Parades

The Taliban government celebrated five years of ruling Afghanistan on Saturday, with flags galore and convoys of military vehicles, while critics decried tightening restrictions in all areas of daily life.

Afghans riding rickshaws and motorbikes decorated with flags drove around Kabul on a day that government spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said “will be written in golden lines in the history of Afghanistan”.

Hundreds of Afghans gathered around a square beside the former US embassy, with men, boys and young girls packed into pickup trucks and waving white Taliban government flags.

Others took selfies and posed for pictures, while new murals around the city declared: “Independence is a sign of dignity, pride and identity.”

Men wearing white or red headbands joined the festive crowd as religious and patriotic music blared, five years to the day since Taliban insurgents entered the city.

Dozens of flag-decorated vehicles and motorbikes drove around the square, while security forces stood in the crowd with AK-47 rifles. Military helicopters flew over the capital.

The authorities will host a cricket match and other



sports events, which girls and women are banned from attending.

Taliban fighters took Kabul unopposed on August 15, 2021, after a lightning offensive that swept across Afghanistan, toppling government forces in the wake of the chaotic withdrawal of US-led troops.

Some of the vehicles abandoned by foreign forces, such as Humvees, were driven in convoy through the city, where there was an increase in the number of checkpoints.

University student Pirooz Mirzaie said this week the government has brought security, infrastructure projects and “plenty of opportunities for entrepreneurs”.

“The biggest challenge for young people is that there aren’t many jobs,” the 20-year-old told AFP beside vendors selling flags.

Mujahid, the government spokesman, said this month that the authorities were

laying the “foundations of the economy” and that patience was needed.

GDP per capita is in decline, due to more than six million Afghans arriving from neighbouring Iran and Pakistan in three years, while the World Bank estimated real growth reaching 4.8 percent.

Although Taliban officials have forged ties with multiple countries, including in Europe, their government is still only recognised by Russia.

Relations with neighbouring Pakistan have plummeted and the two countries went to war this year, exacerbating the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan when people were already hit hard by international aid cuts.

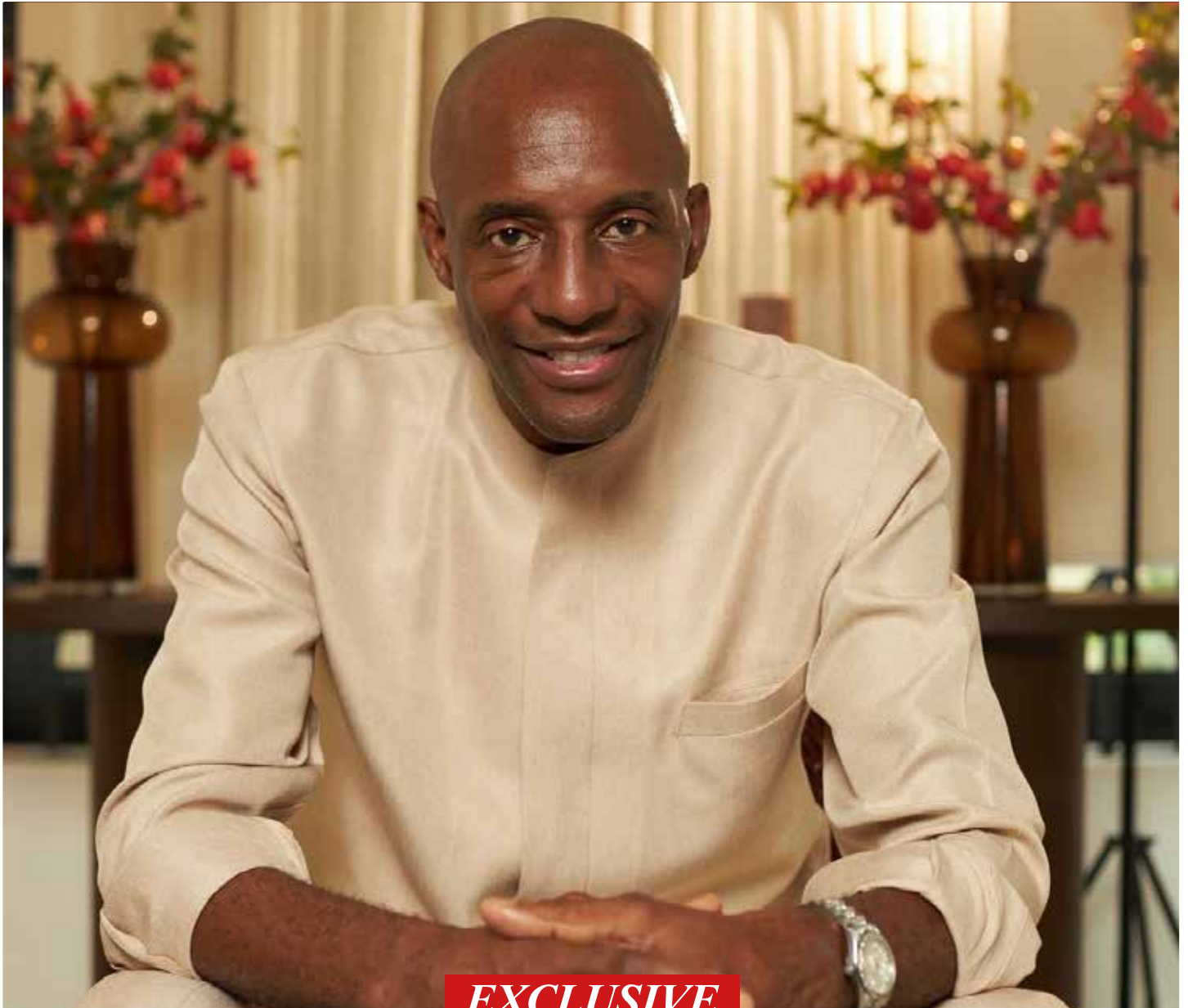
Some countries have opted to limit their relations with the Taliban authorities until there are changes in Afghanistan, where people are suffering “very real harm” according to the United Nations.

Fiona Frazer, the human rights director for the UN mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), told AFP that people have endured the “consolidation of suffocating restrictions that intrude on almost every aspect of their daily lives, and their human rights”.

The Committee to Protect Journalists criticised the authorities’ “brutal repression of the press”, which has seen media workers “surveilled, detained, beaten, censored, or driven into exile”.

Women have been particularly affected by Taliban government measures, being banned from public places including parks and from most jobs, while education for girls beyond age 12 is outlawed.

A 23-year-old woman said she felt a “profound sense of suffocation”, speaking to AFP on condition of anonymity for security reasons.

**EXCLUSIVE**

The Legacies of Legendary Footballer, **JOHN FASHANU**

By Eric Elezuo

The combination of myth and legend of one of Nigeria's foremost footballers, John Fashanu, can only be encountered. His personality looms large, and presents a larger than life image. He was, and still is an enigma, who had triumphed in every field of endeavor, he found himself. His story, revolving round the status of his soccer days, family life, love for his home country, Nigeria, his entrepreneurial acumen and the eye-popping legacies that trail his name, is quite striking. His name is John Fashanu; football star, entrepreneur, wholesome family man, who is the proud father of Amal, and one of the most patriotic Nigerian that has walked the face of the earth. In this no-holds-barred interview with Ovation Media Group, Fashanu laid bare the most intricate parts of his life and existence, cutting across business, sports and television, and bringing to the fore a whole new experience and journey into a world of happiness,

class and patriotism.

EXCERPTS:

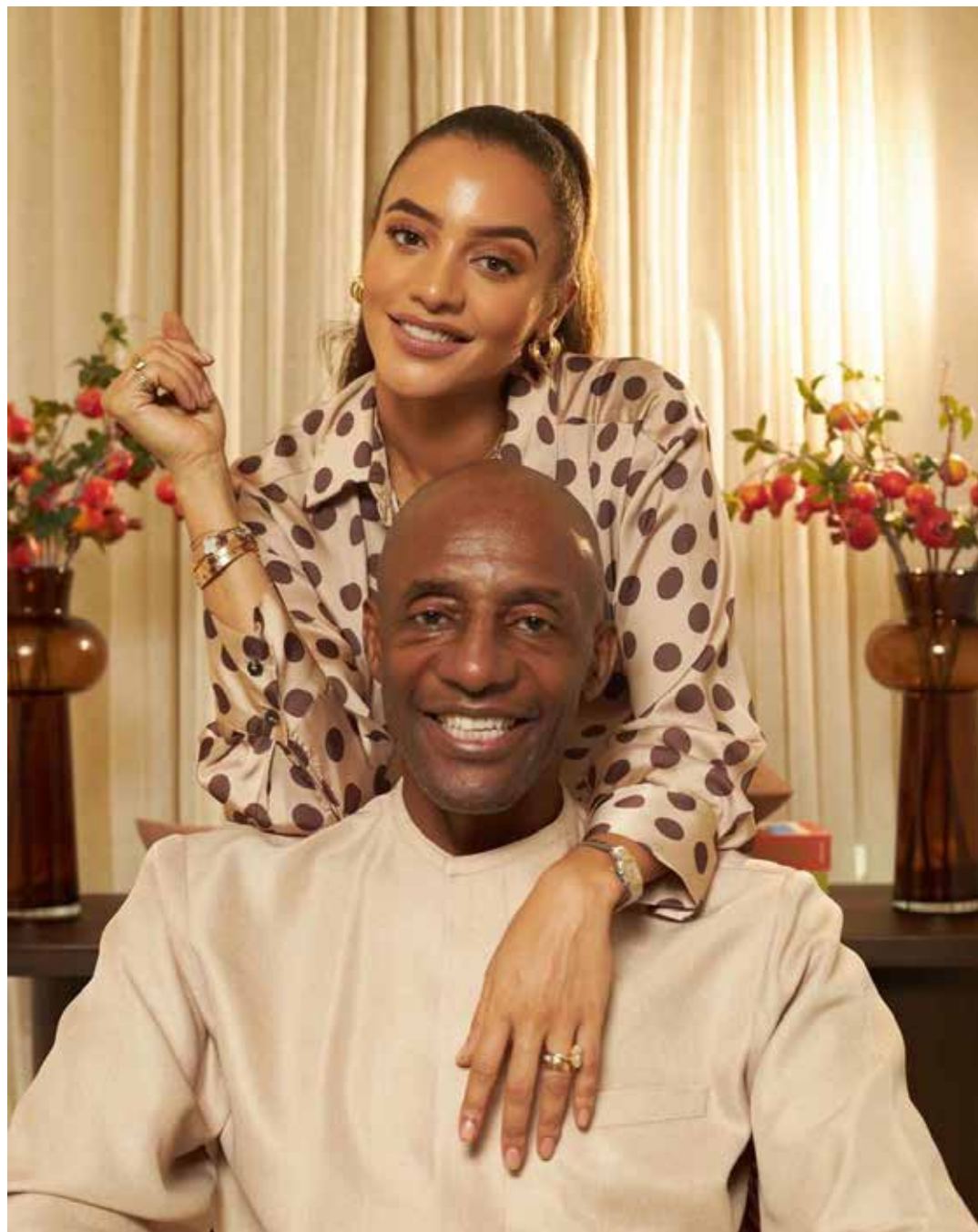
Looking back over your extraordinary career, what defines John Fashanu more – the footballer, businessman, television personality or family man?

I have to be straightforward: above everything else, I am a family man. Football gave me a name, television gave me another platform, and business taught me how to reinvent myself, but family is what gives all of those achievements meaning.

My journey has never been conventional. I was born in London to a Nigerian father and a Guyanese mother, and after my parents separated, my brother Justin and I spent part of our childhood in the care system before being fostered in Norfolk. From those beginnings I went on to professional football, Wembley, England and television.

So when people say “John Fashanu”, they may remember Wimbledon, the FA Cup, the Crazy Gang, Gladiators or even “Awooga!” I am proud of all of it. But when everything else disappears, I am still a father, a brother and a family man. That is the title that matters most to me.

Wimbledon FC became known as the Crazy Gang. What made that dressing room so special? It says it all: we really were



crazy! But underneath all the madness was an extraordinary brotherhood. If somebody picked up a football, everybody wanted to participate. If somebody picked up a drink, everybody participated in that too! We laughed together, fought together, played practical jokes on one another and occasionally drove each other completely mad. But once we walked onto that pitch, we were one.

People remember Wimbledon for the physicality and the personalities – Vinnie Jones, Dennis Wise and the rest of us – but there was more intelligence behind that team than people sometimes give us credit for. We weren't supposed to behave like champions and we certainly weren't supposed to beat the biggest clubs. Maybe that was our greatest weapon: we didn't care what we were supposed to be.

You won the 1988 FA Cup against Liverpool. What do you remember most vividly from that day?

Beating them! Liverpool were the giants. We were Wimbledon – the Crazy Gang. On paper, people had already decided how the story should end. But football isn't played on paper. What I remember is the belief among us. Lawrie Sanchez scored, Dave Beasant produced that unforgettable penalty



save, and suddenly this group that everybody had laughed at had beaten Liverpool at Wembley. I can still remember the screaming, the disbelief and looking at my teammates thinking, "We've actually done it." That day taught me something I have carried through the rest of my life: never allow somebody else's expectation of you to become your limitation. For me, the FA Cup medal represents much more than football. It represents the outsider winning.

If you were playing in today's Premier League, how many goals do you think you would score?

Let me be very honest: today's Premier League is far more organised, scientific and technically sophisticated than the football we played.

But give me today's pitches, sports science,

nutrition, recovery, analysis and protection for forwards? I would have enjoyed myself!

My game was about strength, timing, aerial ability, intimidation and making defenders uncomfortable. I wasn't interested in giving centre-halves a pleasant

afternoon. So yes, I believe I could score around 20 goals a season in the modern game. But I would have to adapt, just as today's players would have had to adapt to playing against some of the defenders we faced every Saturday.

Football changes. A

goalscorer's hunger doesn't.

Why didn't you represent Nigeria internationally, and do you have any regrets?

Yes. Looking back, I regret that I never represented Nigeria.

At that stage of my life and career I was coming through the English football system, and eventually I represented England, making two senior appearances in 1989.

But identity becomes more complicated – and sometimes clearer – as you grow older. Nigeria is my father's country and a fundamental part of who I am. At the time there were circumstances surrounding the Nigerian set-up that I wasn't comfortable with, and I made the decision I believed was right then.

Would I make exactly the same decision today,



knowing what I know now? Probably not.

That is one of the beautiful and painful things about getting older: you understand your roots differently. I cannot rewrite the international career I had, but I can spend the rest of my life contributing to Nigerian football in other ways.

If you could replay one match in your career, which would it be and why?

Manchester United against Wimbledon. Old Trafford, Manchester United, that atmosphere – those were the games you wanted as a footballer because they tested your personality as much as your ability.

Scoring against Manchester United is the type of memory that stays in your body. For a striker,

there is a split second after the ball leaves you when everything seems to stop. Then it hits the net and the noise changes.

You spend your career chasing that feeling. People sometimes think footballers remember seasons.

We don't. We remember moments: a goal, a dressing room, somebody's face, a roar from the crowd.

That is one of mine.

Who was the toughest defender you ever faced?

Steve Bruce was certainly one of them.

Playing against Manchester United meant going toe-to-toe with defenders who were physically strong, mentally tough and absolutely unwilling to give you anything. And I respected that.

I was a physical centre-

forward. I wasn't going to spend 90 minutes avoiding contact. If you wanted the ball, sometimes you had to go through somebody to get it. Steve could give it and he could take it.

There was a mutual understanding between players of that generation: today we are going to battle, and afterwards we shake hands.

You have three different black belts in martial arts. How has that shaped your life?

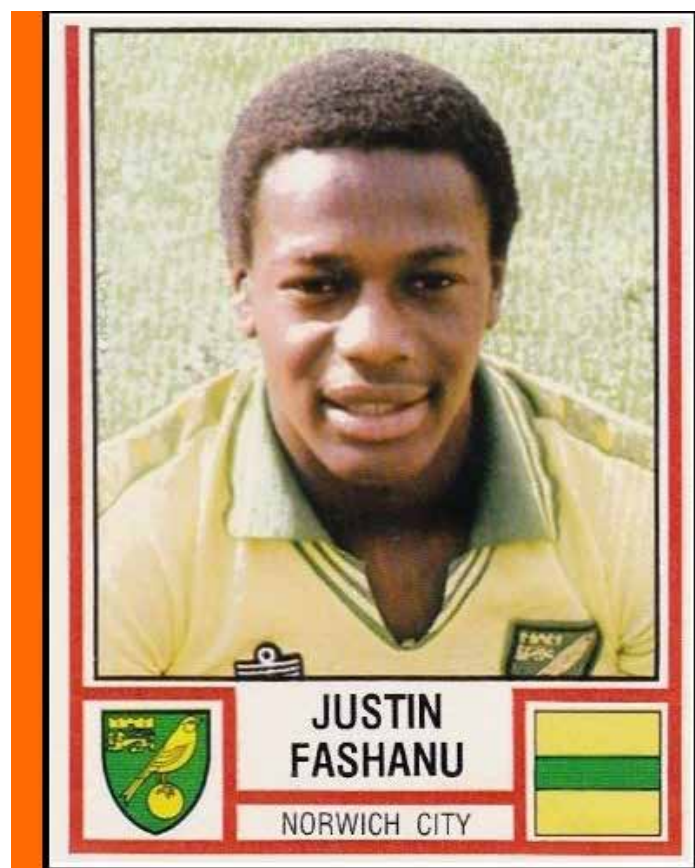
Martial arts gave me something even more valuable than physical strength: discipline.

People hear "black belt" and immediately think about fighting. For me, the real lesson is control. Knowing what you are capable of should make you calmer, not more aggressive.

Of course, during my football career the reputation didn't hurt! If an opponent knew I had a martial-arts background, perhaps he thought twice before starting something. But seriously, martial arts taught me repetition, patience, concentration and respect. Those qualities transfer directly into elite sport. Talent might open the door. Discipline determines how long you remain in the room.

What has been the toughest battle you have fought away from football?

Starting my life again. People look at somebody who has played professional football, won the FA Cup and been on television and assume life simply continues upwards. It doesn't.





Football eventually ends. My playing career finished after my move to Aston Villa, and suddenly you have to discover who you are when the stadium is no longer chanting your name. Then life brings relationships, loss, family responsibilities, business, mistakes and new beginnings.

Eventually I made the decision to reconnect much more deeply with Nigeria. Starting again in the country of my heritage has humbled me. It has also given me purpose. Sometimes rebuilding your life requires more courage than building the first one.

What makes you proudest about your children?

Their independence.

Of course, as a father you want your children to achieve things, but achievement isn't only money, fame or titles. I am proud when I see them

developing their own minds, careers, principles and identities.

My life has been loud. Football was loud. Television was loud.



Public life can be very loud. What I want for my children is the confidence to hear their own voices through all that noise.

I don't need them to become John Fashanu. I need them to become themselves.

What has marriage and fatherhood taught you?

Humility!

Football dressing rooms can convince you that you're a very important person. Family quickly reminds you otherwise.

Marriage and fatherhood have taught me that love is not simply about being the strongest person in the room. Sometimes strength

means listening. Sometimes it means compromising. Sometimes it means apologising.

I jokingly say: always be submissive to your wife and children! But underneath the joke is something serious. The



older I become, the more I understand that relationships cannot survive purely on ego.

You have to know when to lead and when to listen.

What would surprise people most about John Fashanu at home?

Probably how soft I actually am.

People remember the big striker, the Crazy Gang, the martial arts, Gladiators and this strong public character. But that is only one part of me.

Underneath it I have always had what I call a little baby heart. Family can hurt me. Loss hurts me.

Seeing somebody I love suffering hurts me.

Perhaps when you spend your professional life being physically strong, people forget that strength and sensitivity can exist in the same person. They absolutely can.

Who has been your greatest source of strength during the most difficult periods of your life?

My family.

And I must also mention Rachel. May her soul rest in peace.

There are certain people who enter your life and

leave something behind that time cannot remove. I will always remember her as a genuine companion and life partner.

Football teaches you about teammates, but life teaches you that the most important teammates are sometimes the people standing beside you when

there are no cameras, no trophies and no applause. Those are the people you never forget.

Your eldest daughter Amal has been very visible supporting you. What has her support meant to you?

There is no greater joy than seeing your daughter grow into a strong, intelligent and independent woman – and then discovering that she is also prepared to stand beside her father.

Amal has her own life, career, ambitions and responsibilities. So when your adult child chooses to give you her time and support, you don't take that for granted.

Our family has experienced extraordinary highs and very difficult chapters. Amal has also played a role in keeping the wider Fashanu story alive through her work around football and the legacy of my brother



Justin.

For me, there is a simple truth behind it all: blood is thicker than water. Whatever life brings, she is my first daughter and that bond will always be special.

If you had one message for Amal today, what would you say?

Keep going.

Keep being courageous, keep building, keep thinking for yourself and never allow anybody to make you smaller so they can feel bigger.

And remember something very simple: your daddy has always got your back. A father may not always agree with every decision his daughter makes, and a daughter will certainly not agree with every decision her father makes! But real love survives disagreement.

I am proud of the woman you have become.

What does Nigeria mean to you today?

Everything.

Nigeria is no longer simply somewhere my father came from. It is home.

There is something powerful about returning to your roots later in life because you appreciate them differently. I grew up in Britain and Britain gave me tremendous opportunities. I represented England and built my football and television career there.

But Nigeria connects me to another part of myself. Now I look at Nigeria not

simply through nostalgia, but through responsibility. I ask myself: "What can I give back?" That is where I am in my life today.

What does African football still need to reach the next level?

First: zero corruption.

Africa does not have a talent problem. Walk through Lagos, Abuja, Accra, Johannesburg, Dakar or almost anywhere on this continent and you will find young people with extraordinary natural ability.

The challenge is turning talent into sustainable excellence. That means governance, facilities, coaching, education,

scouting, player welfare and accountability. Young African players should not have to believe that knowing somebody is more important than being good enough.

Build a transparent system around African talent and the world will see what Africa is truly capable of.

If appointed to transform Nigerian youth football tomorrow, what would be your first priorities?

Organisation first.

Everybody needs to understand his or her role – administrators administer, coaches coach and players play.

Then I would

concentrate on grassroots identification, proper coaching, education and infrastructure. But I would also teach young footballers something that sounds basic: understand your position.

A talented young player isn't helped by being told only that he is talented. Teach him movement, responsibility, decision-making, nutrition, discipline and what his position requires when he doesn't have the ball.

Nigeria already produces footballers. My ambition would be to build a system that produces complete professionals.

What achievement





outside football are you most proud of?

Gladiators.

When I walked away from football, I had to prove that John Fashanu could exist outside a stadium.

Then Gladiators happened. Suddenly I was standing beside Ulrika Jonsson presenting one of Britain's defining Saturday-night entertainment programmes – and shouting “Awooga!” into millions of homes.

I presented the first five series between 1992 and 1996 and returned for the final series in 1999.

That mattered because it showed me something: you can have more than one life. Football didn't have to be the final chapter. It became the first major chapter.

What misconception about you would you like to correct?

That because I laugh, joke and sometimes allow

people to underestimate me, I don't understand what is happening around me.

I do.

Throughout my career, being underestimated has often worked in my favour. People saw the physical footballer and perhaps missed the businessman. They saw the television personality and missed

the thinker. They saw the jokes and assumed there was no strategy behind them.

That's fine. Never interrupt somebody while they are underestimating you.

What keeps you motivated every morning?

Faith and gratitude.

When you understand where you started,

gratitude becomes very easy.

My brother and I experienced separation and foster care as children. I then had opportunities most young boys can only dream about: professional football, Wembley, England, television and a life that has taken me around the world.

So when I wake up, I try to remember that every additional day is an opportunity.

At this stage of life, motivation isn't about proving everybody wrong. It is about making the time I have count.

What advice would you give your 18-year-old self?

Guard your peace.

Build your confidence before you build your reputation. Don't spend your life competing with somebody else's journey.

I would tell that young John: “There are going to be moments when people



doubt you, misunderstand you, celebrate you and criticise you. None of those things should determine who you are.” Work hard. Embrace the grind. Learn from everybody. And stay in your own lane.

You will get there.

What are your biggest ambitions for the future?

To do more for Nigeria.

I have already had my football career. I have had television. I have travelled and experienced things that the boy I once was could never have imagined.

So the next stage cannot simply be about John Fashanu collecting more things. It has to be about legacy.

I want to help create opportunities for young Nigerians through football – proper development, education, mentoring and pathways that can turn ability into a future.

If my generation has acquired experience, contacts and knowledge and we don’t transfer those things to the next generation, then what was the point?

I don’t just want Nigeria to remember that John Fashanu came home. I want Nigeria to be better because I came home.

How would you like history to remember John Fashanu?

As a complicated, imperfect, larger-than-life man who refused to be placed in one box.

A boy who came through

a difficult childhood and reached professional football. A footballer who became part of one of English football’s great underdog stories and lifted the FA Cup with Wimbledon. A Black British player who represented England. A footballer who crossed

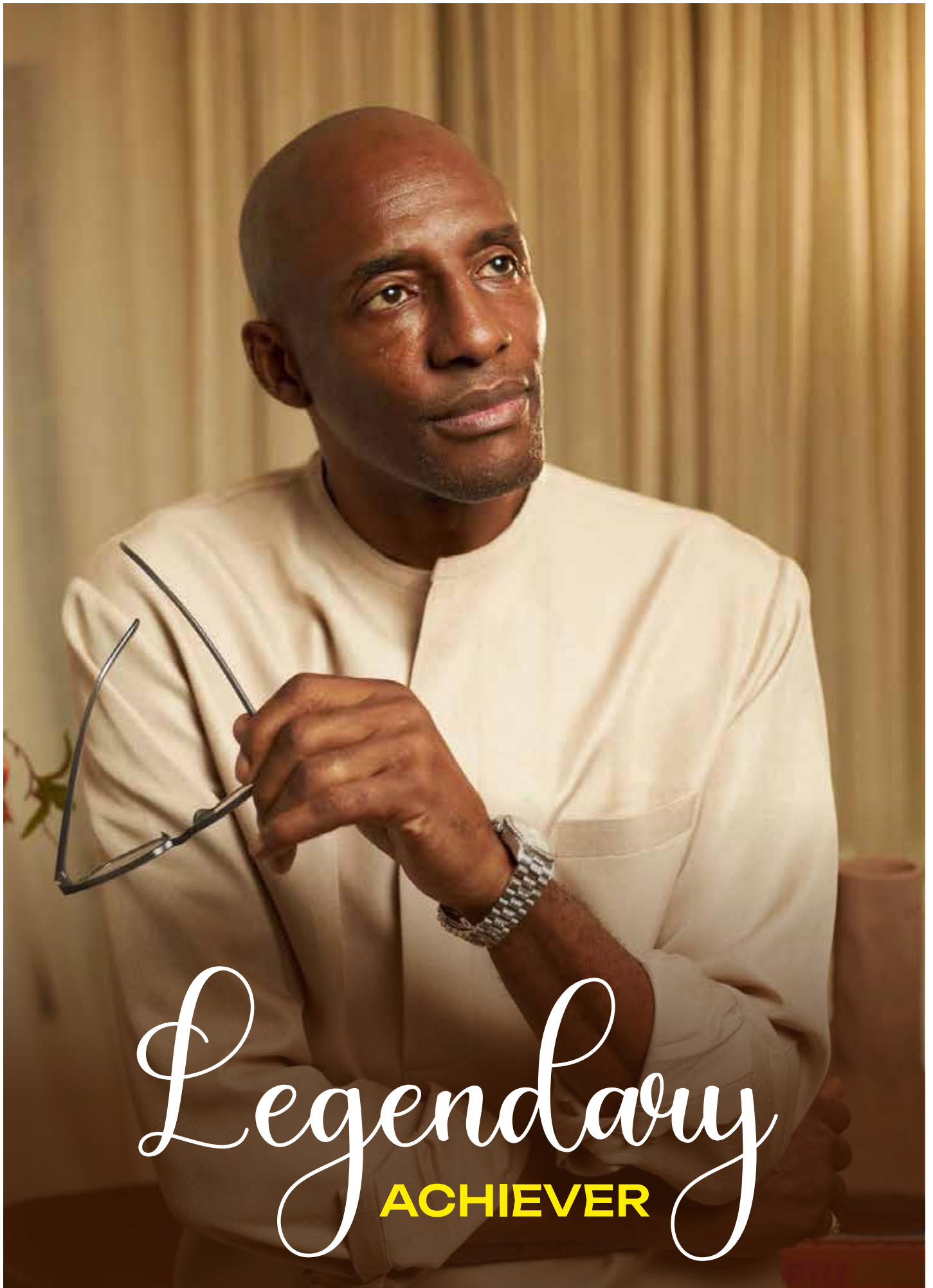
successfully into mainstream television and became part of the Gladiators era.

A Nigerian son who eventually came home. A father. A brother. A man who made mistakes, learned lessons, reinvented himself and kept moving.

History doesn’t need to say John Fashanu was perfect.

I would rather it say: “He lived. He fought. He entertained. He opened doors. He came home. And he left something behind.”





Ayowande Rebecca Ayodele and Ayodeji Rasheed Sanusi Tie Nuptial Knots in Lively Soiree

By Ruth Akpan

Photos: Funmi Ielaba



One ceremony was not enough to tell the story of Ayowande Rebecca Ayodele and Ayodeji Rasheed Sanusi's union. At Marcellina Event Centre, Ikeja, the couple moved from the solemnity of the white wedding into the colour and pageantry of a Yoruba traditional engagement before rounding off the celebration with a lively reception.

The celebrations brought together family members,

friends, associates and well-wishers, who witnessed the different stages of the couple's journey into matrimony. From the exchange of marital vows at the church service to the elaborate traditional engagement and the festivities that followed, each segment formed part of a carefully structured wedding programme.

The white wedding opened the day's ceremonies, with the couple exchanging

their marital vows in the presence of their families and invited guests. The service was officiated by Pastor Ituah Ighodalo of Holy Trinity House, Lekki, who led the couple through the Christian rites of marriage.

Prayers, Scripture readings, exhortation and the exchange of vows formed part of the service, as Ayowande Rebecca and Ayodeji Rasheed formally declared their commitment to one another. The

exchange of wedding rings followed, after which the couple received prayers and blessings for their marriage.

With the church ceremony concluded, the focus shifted to another important aspect of the wedding—the traditional engagement.

Across another section of the Marcellina Event Centre, Yoruba tradition took over, transforming the occasion into a colourful display of



culture, family and ceremonial elegance. The traditional engagement brought together the families of the bride and groom for the formal rites that accompany a Yoruba marriage.

Taking the ceremony through its various stages was Tomisan, who anchored the traditional engagement and coordinated the proceedings as the families observed the Yoruba marriage customs. The familiar pageantry of a Yoruba engagement was reflected in the introductions, greetings, family presentations and ceremonial exchanges. The groom's family came prepared with the required engagement items, which were presented to the bride's family as part of the formal request for her

hand in marriage. The bride and groom also took their place in the proceedings as the different stages of the

ceremony unfolded. The presentation of the couple, the acknowledgement of the two families and the customary acceptance

of the engagement items all contributed to the cultural significance of the occasion.

The richness of Yoruba culture was further reflected in the traditional ensembles worn by members of the families and guests. The vibrant colours, elaborate fabrics and carefully styled appearances added a regal touch to the proceedings, creating the kind of visual spectacle synonymous with grand Yoruba celebrations.

The colourful cultural proceedings eventually made way for the reception, where the formalities of the wedding gave way to dining, entertainment and celebration.

The newlyweds were welcomed into the reception amid applause





and celebration, taking their places as family members, friends and associates gathered around them. Tee-A, the accomplished comedian and master of ceremonies, handled the reception proceedings, bringing his familiar presence and professional delivery to the occasion.

Goodwill messages, music, dining and dancing formed part of the reception programme, giving family members, friends and associates ample opportunity to celebrate with the newlyweds.

One of the much-anticipated moments was the cutting of the wedding cake. Elegantly presented for the occasion, the cake became another focal point as Ayowande Rebecca and Ayodeji Rasheed jointly

performed the traditional cake-cutting ceremony.

Then came the hospitality. Guests were treated to an assortment of meals and

refreshments prepared for the occasion.

Music supplied the rhythm for the festivities, with Divine Music providing

entertainment throughout the reception. The sound of music soon drew guests to the dance floor, where they celebrated the couple through energetic dance steps and lively interactions.

Behind the seamless coordination of the celebration was FTKKconnect Event, the event planning team entrusted with bringing the couple's vision to life. From the arrangement of the various stages of the celebration to the smooth transition between the white wedding, traditional engagement and reception, the planning reflected careful attention to detail and an understanding of the importance of creating an unforgettable experience.











The Oracle

PROF MIKE OZEHOME

CON, OFR, LL.D.

08094777755 (SMS Only)

Ethics in Artificial Intelligence (AI) Governance and Digital Legislation in Nigeria (Pt. 3)

INTRODUCTION

The last two weeks' installment of this treatise covered the following themes: Understanding Digital identity in the Nigerian context; the universality of rights in a technological age; digital rights as human rights; data sovereignty; the impact of the NPDA 2023; the challenges of enforcement and their implications on sovereignty. This week's feature covers a similarly (albeit all-inclusive) field, namely the moral foundation (human dignity) of identity and data rights. Enjoy.

ENFORCEMENT REALITIES AND SOVEREIGNTY IMPLICATIONS (CONTINUES).

This behaviour undermines both national policy directives and the financial sustainability of local data centres. More critically, it exposes national data to external jurisdictions with differing legal standards and potentially conflicting geopolitical interests. The gap between infrastructure



availability and institutional compliance reveals a deeper systemic challenge: without coordinated enforcement, investment in local data infrastructure will remain under-leveraged, and Nigeria's vision for digital sovereignty will be continuously compromised. In these scenarios, enforcing the NDPA's localisation requirements becomes not just a legal matter but an infrastructural and fiscal challenge. Without

domestically controlled data centres, robust encryption standards, and a trained pool of cybersecurity experts, the intent of the NDPA may remain aspirational rather than operational.

Moreover, the public sector's own data practices often fall short of the standards set out in the Act. Many government websites and portals lack secure connections or clear privacy notices. In some cases, sensitive biometric data, such as that collected

during national identity registration or elections, has been stored using foreign cloud solutions. This contradiction between legal mandates and actual practice reveals a deeper institutional issue: data sovereignty cannot be legislated into existence without sustained investment in infrastructure, skills, and public accountability. For the NDPA to succeed, it must be accompanied by a national digital policy agenda that promotes

domestic technological capacity, public education, and inter-agency coordination.

At the same time, the issue of data sovereignty is not only legal or technical, it is deeply political. In a global context marked by rising digital nationalism, economic protectionism, and cyber geopolitics, Nigeria's ability to control its data is increasingly

profound implications for public trust. Citizens are more likely to engage with digital services when they believe their data is protected by domestic laws and institutions they can understand and access. Sovereignty, in this sense, becomes not only about independence but about democratic legitimacy and transparency.

In sum, the NDPA 2023

a cultural shift in how both the state and the private sector treat data as not just an economic commodity, but a national asset whose governance is inseparable from Nigeria's sovereignty and democratic future.

HUMAN DIGNITY: THE MORAL FOUNDATION OF IDENTITY AND DATA RIGHTS

1999 Constitution recognises this explicitly in Section 34, which guarantees every individual the right to dignity of person, freedom from inhuman or degrading treatment, and respect for bodily and mental integrity. However, in the digital sphere, these rights are increasingly mediated through platforms, algorithms, and



linked to its ability to shape its future. Sovereign control over digital resources determines the government's capacity to develop homegrown artificial intelligence solutions, improve governance through data-driven policies, and protect citizens from foreign exploitation or digital manipulation. Data sovereignty also has

is a critical and necessary milestone in Nigeria's digital evolution. It lays the legal foundation for asserting national control over data, protecting citizens' privacy, and fostering digital trust. Yet its success will depend on more than legislation. It will require institutional coordination, infrastructural investment, regulatory vigilance, and

At the heart of digital identity systems and data governance frameworks lies a central ethical question: how do these technologies reflect, reinforce, or undermine the inherent dignity of the individuals they claim to serve? In a society governed by liberal democratic values, dignity is not aspirational, it is foundational. Nigeria's

databases. When systems of identity management and data processing fail to uphold transparency, consent, fairness, and accountability, they do not simply create inefficiencies, they risk dehumanising citizens and violating their constitutional protections. A core hypothesis, therefore, is that the design and deployment of digital

identity systems must be judged not only by their technical functionality but by the extent to which they preserve or erode human dignity in practice. In Nigeria, this hypothesis is tested daily. The enforcement of the National Identification Number (NIN) registration process between 2020 and 2022 offers a vivid case in point. Introduced to centralise and standardise digital identity verification across multiple government services, the NIN system aimed to enhance service delivery, improve security, and reduce fraud. Yet the process of enrolment revealed deep systemic inequalities. Across the country, elderly citizens, persons with disabilities, rural dwellers, and economically marginalised groups were forced to queue for long hours often under harsh weather conditions just to be enrolled. Many were turned away due to the absence of documents that the state had not effectively provided access to in the first place, such as birth certificates or formal addresses. These were not isolated incidents but widespread patterns that occurred during a government-imposed deadline under threat of SIM card deactivation. What was intended as a nation-building exercise quickly became a scenario of institutional exclusion. Beyond the logistical

challenges, this scenario exposed a deeper moral failure. Digital identity systems that disregard users' lived realities, illiteracy, geographical remoteness, limited documentation fail not only operationally but ethically. When an individual is unable to access healthcare, education, or a mobile phone SIM because of an identity system that denies

modernisation.

More troubling still is the rise of algorithmic decision-making in critical domains without meaningful oversight. Financial technology platforms in Nigeria increasingly use automated systems to assess creditworthiness, assign risk scores, or determine eligibility for loans. In some cases, these systems scrape data from

consequences, denial of credit, targeting by law enforcement, exclusion from employment yet they often lack mechanisms for appeal, redress, or even explanation. The individuals affected are left without recourse, effectively stripped of their agency in processes that directly impact their lives.

The Nigeria Data Protection Act



them recognition, the harm is not just administrative, it is existential. The experience of being unacknowledged by the state in the digital domain replicates and reinforces social marginalisation in the physical world. In effect, technology that is not inclusive by design risks perpetuating systemic injustice under the veneer of

users' mobile phones, social media activity, and contact lists without fully informed consent. Similarly, predictive policing tools and surveillance technologies, often deployed under national security pretexts, are opaque and rarely subjected to independent audits. The decisions these systems make can have life-altering

(NDPA) 2023 makes a commendable attempt to address some of these challenges. Section 35 of the Act grants individuals the right to object to decisions made solely through automated processing, especially when such decisions have legal or similarly significant effects. This is a step toward restoring some level of agency in

an increasingly automated world. However, the Act stops short of requiring algorithmic explainability, a crucial safeguard in a digital age where decisions made by machines are often inscrutable. Without mandatory transparency in how algorithms are developed, trained, and deployed, accountability remains elusive, and human dignity remains vulnerable.

To genuinely uphold dignity in the digital age, Nigeria's governance model must go beyond the prohibition of harm and move toward the empowerment of digital agency. This means creating systems that do not merely avoid discrimination but proactively accommodate the diverse realities of Nigerian citizens across

gender, class, ethnicity, geography, and ability. For instance, identity systems must include offline verification options for rural dwellers without internet access, accommodate alternative forms of documentation, and be available in local languages. Data governance policies must ensure that consent is not just a checkbox but a comprehensible and meaningful process, particularly for populations with limited digital literacy.

Furthermore, digital inclusion must be approached not only from a technological standpoint but as a human rights imperative. Institutions must embed ethical standards in every stage of system design, implementation, and

evaluation. This includes engaging communities before deploying systems that affect them, conducting regular impact assessments with a focus on marginalised groups, and establishing independent oversight bodies with the authority to investigate harms and mandate reforms. The NDPC, created under the NDPA, has the potential to play this role if empowered with adequate resources, technical capacity, and legal independence.

Ultimately, digital dignity is inseparable from democratic governance. In a society where data increasingly shapes decisions about who gets access to public services, jobs, or even basic recognition, data rights must be treated as an extension of civil

rights. The question is no longer whether Nigeria will digitise, but whether it will do so in a way that enhances justice, participation, and human flourishing. If human dignity is not protected in the design and operation of digital systems, then digitisation, no matter how well-funded or technologically advanced risks becoming yet another mechanism of exclusion and disempowerment. (To be continued).

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

“The end of law is not to abolish or restrain, but to preserve and enlarge freedom. For in all the states of created beings capable of law, where there is no law, there is no freedom”. (John Locke).





ADDING VALUE

WITH HENRY UKAZU



henrous@gmail.com

Love What You Do (Pt. 2)

Dear Destiny Friends,
Last week, we laid the foundation of loving what you do. We discussed loving the topic as it relates to family, career, health, relationship, personal development, purpose and spirituality. Today, we shall be focusing on how loving what you do can be a game changer.

It's instructive to note that in the dictionary of life; when you love what you do and what you do loves you, you are destined for not only success, but also greatness. One may be wondering how this works. Trust me, it is difficult to succeed in a major, or profession one doesn't like.

The journey of life can be challenging, stressful and unpredictable. When one is trying to set up a business, there's bound to be setbacks maybe due to a new policy or meeting up with the requirement, there could challenges of funds; in academics, if one choose a major one likes, despite the associating challenges that may arise, one will still manage to pull through because he that is in him is greater



and stronger than he that is in the world.

Also, in relationships and marriage, if one values friendship, they won't allow their ego to have influence over them. Rather, they will invest time and resources in the relationship. That's why it's always good to place values above physical features in a human body when it comes to settling down for marriage because at the end of the day, the human body features can fade away, but values and friendship will not fade away, rather, it will serve as the binding factor that

keeps the relationship.

One's career is not an exception; one can tell who likes their job and one who doesn't like their job. In workplaces, if one is happy at work, they tend to put in extra hours to get the job done. But when they are not happy with the job, they'll do the bare minimum just to get through.

Let's spend a minute to understand how loving what one does can be a game changer in one's life. Just imagine, one is inspired to write a book, there will be challenges, however,

it is the inspiration and determination of the person that will determine if they will finish strong. But if they are inspired by the wrong source, they might finish weak. Here is the gist, it is your desire to succeed that will outweigh your fear of failure.

Again, imagine a scenario where one is starting a business but has no resources and structure behind him. The fact is that if the person loves what he's doing, it will be hard for the person to give up because their force is internal. I can vividly remember when I



was working on my first, second and third book, I had many reasons to quit, but I refused because I love the work I was producing.

Furthermore, when you love what you do, you'll endeavor to learn something new in addition to spending quality time to improve the work. I say this because rational minds don't invest time and resources in what they don't like. There's a saying, if you want to know a man, give money, women and power. One of them would like to subdue him, but if he's able to overcome them, he is a man.

This principle of loving what you do cuts across all facets of life whether we are taking care of families, academics, religion purpose, health, career, finance and even spiritual life. For families a man/woman who is intentional in building their family,

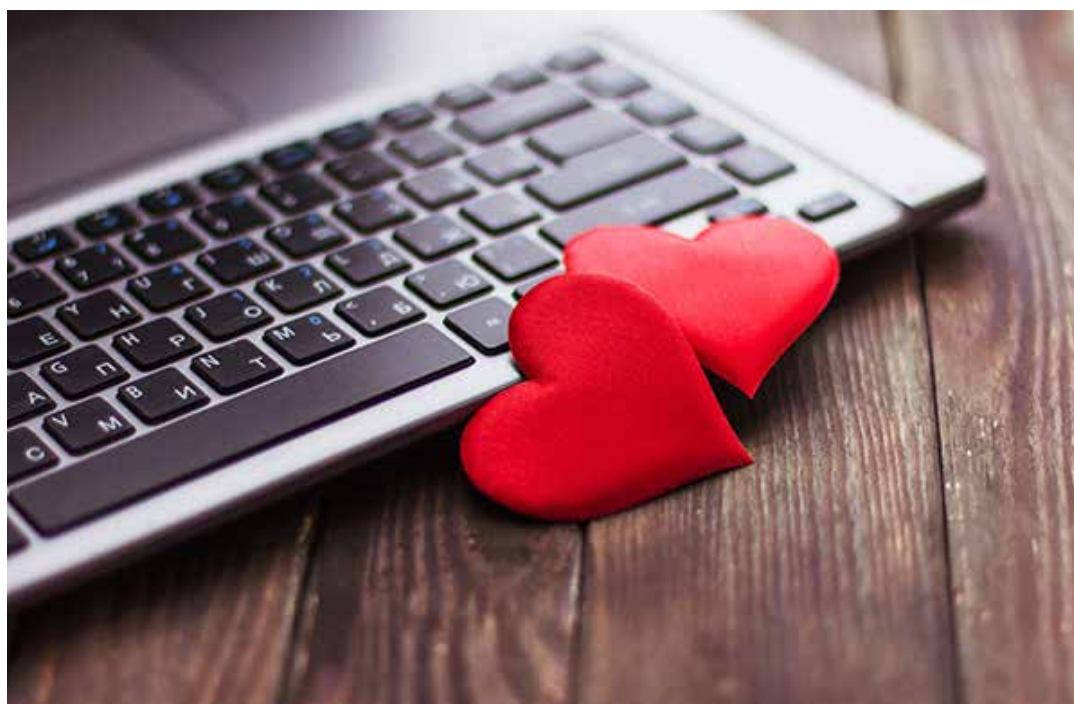
must love their family and loving their family intends sacrificing for the family. For health, if one loves their health, they won't take harmful substances, just because they love their health; they will be intentional in exercising, and in doing so, they must love exercising. For finance, an intentional person must spend time learning about stock,

budgeting and investment. These are avenues to show that they have interest in growing their income. Even in spiritual life, when one shows interest in loving God in truth and spirit, God has a way of coming through for them because they have been tested and trusted. This is simply how life works. Even in relationships if one loves their partner,

there's a high probability they would like to invest time and resources into that relationship.

In summary, endeavor to love what you do because there's a certain level of spiritual strength, blessings and corresponding opportunities that's associated with success, when one loves what they do. This is basically how life works.

Henry Ukazu writes from New York. He works with the New York City Department of Correction as the Legal Coordinator. He's the founder of Gloemi. He's a Transformative Human Capacity and Mindset coach. He is also a public speaker, youth advocate, creative writer and author of *Design Your Destiny* and *Unleash Your Destiny*. He can be reached via info@gloemi.com





VOICE ^{of} Emancipation

- Kayode Emola -

Osun State Election: A Test Case for 2027 General Elections

With the Osun State Governorship election taking place today, the race for the number one spot is heating up between the Adelekes and the Oyebamijis' camp, with each candidate hoping to come out on top. Interestingly, not even the sitting governor is confident about his chances of a clear victory at the polls.

More importantly, the sitting Governor Adeleke, who once flew the flag of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) had long decamped to the Accord Party, making the PDP a ghost party in this election.

Whether Governor Adeleke's new alliance with the Accord Party will give him victory at this election for a second tenure remains to be seen. The resentment by the old guard at the Accord Party against the PDP people, whom they perceive as usurpers, is glaring for all to see. This might be a great thorn in the way for the incumbent Governor. That aside, Oyebamiji is going to get massive support from the Federal



Government as the President would no doubt want to use the Osun State elections to firm up his own hold of power in Yorubaland. This is going to be an election of wits, and everything is on the table.

Whoever wins this election, I hope the loser will concede defeat and allow the good people of Osun State to move on with their lives in peace. That said, if Governor

Adeleke loses the election, then that would mean political suicide for many of the PDP members who decamped with him to the Accord Party. Will they return to the PDP, which is now a shadow of its former glory, or will they consolidate their position in the Accord Party to become a powerhouse in Yoruba?

The same story may not necessarily apply to the All Progressive Congress

(APC) with their federal power machine. Even if they lose, for them, it's still business as usual. The presidency will continue to fund the APC state party structure, and hopes to score some points in the 2027 General elections. For many observers and onlookers, this election will serve as a litmus test for the 2027 presidential election. This will give political analysts the tool to adequately predict what



would happen in the 2027 general elections.

If by some stroke of faith, the Accord Party manages to win the election at the polling unit, but somehow, the APC candidate is declared winner, then the predictions for 2027 are already glaring for all to see. Many observers will know that President Tinubu will be declared winner of the 2027 presidential election even if he loses that election.

That would be an interesting situation for Nigeria as it solidifies the fact that nearly the northern, eastern, and other regions of the country will be more hostile to the president. This will make the case for separation even louder than it has been, if not even physical this time around.

As patriots of the Yoruba Nation struggle, I believe it is the best time to analyse this situation with a laser-focused mind. We should see this coming election as an opportunity to map out a strategy for

our own actions for when the chickens come home to roost, as Nigeria may not remain the same after this election.

My hope and prayer are that at the end of the day, the Yoruba Nation and its

people should come out victorious. If the battle between the politicians from the North and South is what it takes for Nigeria to finally snap, then I hope the rift between them grows even stronger.





The Friend Who is Always There, and Never Real

Somewhere tonight, a young person who feels that no one understands them will open their phone and talk to a friend who always answers. This friend is never too busy. Never tired. Never judges, never argues, never forgets a birthday, and never once makes them feel small. It listens to everything, agrees with almost everything, and is available at three in the morning when the whole world is asleep.

There is only one thing this perfect friend is missing. It is not real. It is an artificial intelligence, and millions of people around the world are now turning to these companions to answer one of the oldest aches of the human heart. Loneliness.

I want to write about this today, gently and honestly, because it is one of the most human questions our new technology raises, and it is coming to our doorsteps in Africa faster than we think.

A loneliness the whole world is feeling. Let us begin with the ache itself, because it is real



and it is vast. Studies now suggest that more than six in ten adults report feeling lonely on a regular basis, with young people among the loneliest of all. This is not a small or shameful thing. It is one of the quiet epidemics of our age, and it is not confined to the West. In our own cities, young people move far from home for work, families scatter across continents, and the warm, crowded village life many of us grew up in grows harder to find.

Into that ache has stepped a new kind of comfort. AI companions, apps built to talk with you like a friend,

a confidant, sometimes even a partner. And here is the honest truth that I will not pretend away. For a lonely person at a low moment, they help. Research shows these companions can bring real, immediate relief. A voice that answers when no one else does. A place to put your feelings when the silence feels too heavy. I would never mock anyone who has reached for that comfort. The loneliness that drives them there deserves compassion, not judgment.

“The loneliness that drives people to these companions deserves

compassion, not judgment.”

But then the research turns. Here is where the story takes a turn that every parent, and every lonely heart, needs to understand. A growing body of careful research has begun to follow these users over time, and what it finds is sobering. One long study followed more than two thousand adults across a full year. It found that the more people leaned on an AI companion, the lonelier they tended to become. Not less lonely. More. Another four-week trial found that light use eased loneliness a little,

but heavy daily use did the opposite, deepening isolation and dependence, and pulling people further from the real relationships in their lives.

Why would a thing that comforts you in the moment leave you lonelier over time? The answer is quietly profound. The AI companion is too easy. It gives without ever asking. It agrees without ever challenging. And in doing so, it slowly reshapes what we expect from connection. As one psychologist put it, real relationships are messy and unpredictable, while these companions are always validating and never argue, creating expectations that no human being could ever meet.

And there it is. A real friend sometimes disagrees with you. A real spouse sometimes needs you when you are tired. A real child tests your patience. That friction, that messiness, is not a fault in human relationships. It is the very thing that makes them real, and that grows us into fuller people. A companion that removes all the friction removes all the growth too and leaves us less able to handle the beautiful difficulty of loving actual people.

“The friction of real relationships is not a fault. It is the very thing that makes them real.”

What this means for us, in Africa

Some might read this and

think it a Western problem, a trouble for lonely people in cold cities far away. I would urge us not to be so sure.

The same phones that carry these companions are in the hands of our young people right now, in Lagos and Accra and Nairobi. The same loneliness is spreading among a generation that is more connected online and more isolated in person than any before it. And we carry an added risk, because our traditional sources of belonging, the extended family, the compound, the church and the mosque, the village that raised the child, are the very things that modern life is straining. If we let them weaken while a synthetic friend fills the gap, we will have traded something precious for something hollow.

This is the moment to remember what we have always known better than most. That a human being is not meant to be raised or held by a machine. That we belong to one another. That the cure for loneliness was never a cleverer device. It was, and remains, presence. The neighbour who checks in. The auntie who calls. The friend who shows up, imperfect and inconvenient and real.

The friend worth having. So let me not end by condemning the technology, because that would be too simple, and I do not believe it. These tools are not evil. For a truly isolated person, a widow with no one nearby, a young man far from home, they may offer a bridge across a hard night, and that is not nothing.

But a bridge is meant to

carry you somewhere. The danger is not that people cross it. The danger is that they build a house on the bridge and never reach the other side, mistaking the comfort of a machine that always agrees for the harder, richer love of people who sometimes will not.

So if you have someone in your life who seems to be disappearing into a screen, do not shame them. Reach for them. Call the young person who has gone quiet. Visit the elder who lives alone. Be the friend who is inconvenient and real, because that is the only kind of friend that truly heals a lonely heart. The machine will always answer. But only we can truly be there. And in the end, being there for one another may be the most human thing we have left to protect.





Panorama

BY DR SANI SA'IDU BABA

✉ drssbaba@yahoo.com

☎ 08054562222 (Text Only)

GLO: A Network of Necessity

There was a time in Nigeria when telecommunication was regarded as a luxury. Owning a mobile phone was a status symbol, and making a phone call was often reserved for special occasions. Today, that reality has changed completely. In the digital age, communication is no longer an option; it is the invisible thread that holds families together, drives businesses, supports education, powers healthcare, and sustains national development.

Imagine a father rushing his pregnant wife to the hospital in the middle of the night. Imagine a university student waiting anxiously to download lecture materials before an examination. Picture a trader in Kano negotiating the price of goods with a supplier in Lagos, or a son working hundreds of kilometres away calling home to check on his ageing parents. In moments like these, every second matters, and reliable communication becomes more than technology, it becomes a necessity.



Especially during the rainy season like in many states of Nigeria currently, when adverse weather can make reliable connectivity more challenging in many places, the importance of a dependable network becomes even more apparent.

This is where Globacom, popularly known as Glo, has evolved beyond being just another telecommunications company. It has become a network of necessity. Thanks to the vision of the spirit of Africa, Dr. Michael Adenuga.

The true value of any communication network

is not measured merely by the number of subscribers it has, but by the countless lives it quietly supports every single day. Every successful bank transfer, every online classroom, every emergency phone call, every business transaction, every virtual meeting, and every reassuring conversation between loved ones depends on one simple thing: dependable connectivity.

For millions of Nigerians, Glo provides that essential bridge. Students rely on affordable data to access digital libraries, attend online

lectures, and compete in a knowledge-driven world. Entrepreneurs promote their products, receive customer orders, and manage their businesses through mobile connectivity. Farmers obtain market information and weather updates, while healthcare professionals increasingly embrace telemedicine to reach patients beyond the walls of hospitals. In each of these situations, communication is not a convenience, it is an indispensable tool for survival and progress. Interestingly, neuroscience offers another perspective



on why reliable communication matters. The human brain is naturally wired to seek certainty and connection. During emergencies or periods of uncertainty, hearing the reassuring voice of a loved one or receiving timely information can reduce anxiety and improve decision making. Reliable communication therefore does more than transmit voices and data; it supports emotional well-being by reducing unnecessary stress and strengthening social bonds. In many ways, every successful phone call represents not just a technological achievement but also a psychological lifeline.

As Nigeria steadily embraces digital transformation, communication networks have become as important as roads, electricity, and clean water. A nation's economic growth increasingly depends on the uninterrupted

flow of information. Small businesses expand through social media. Young innovators build technology startups from their smartphones. Professionals work remotely. Families separated by distance remain emotionally connected despite living in different cities or even different continents. Glo's reliable network is indeed a necessity!

The future promises even greater dependence on

digital infrastructure. Artificial intelligence, smart agriculture, digital healthcare, online education, electronic governance, and financial technology will all require networks that are reliable, accessible, and affordable. The importance of dependable connectivity will only continue to grow. This is why describing Glo simply as a telecommunications provider understates its significance. Its impact

extends beyond phone calls and internet services. It connects opportunities with ambition, families with hope, businesses with customers, and communities with the rest of the world. Quietly and consistently, it has become part of the everyday fabric of Nigerian life.

Electricity illuminates our homes. Roads connect our cities. Water sustains our bodies. In much the same way, communication sustains modern society. Without it, commerce slows, education suffers, healthcare becomes less effective, and families grow more distant.

In today's Nigeria, a dependable network is no longer a luxury to be admired. It is an essential service to be relied upon. That is why Glo deserves to be recognised not merely as a telecommunications company, but as what millions of Nigerians experience every day, a network of necessity!a



The Architecture of Enduring Impact: How Positive Posterity Walks and Works

By Tolulope A. Adegoke PhD

"We are not the final word, nor the first; we are the crucial comma between what was endured and what is yet to be authored. To walk in victorious posterity is to accept that the soil beneath our feet is borrowed, the air in our lungs is loaned, and the systems we build are merely scaffolding for a cathedral we will never see completed. True victory, then, is not found in the monuments we leave behind, but in the capacity we cultivate in those who will inherit the work. For the future does not begin when we are gone—it begins the moment we decide to act as if we are already guests in it."

Introduction: The Shift from Legacy to Posterity

In the lexicon of leadership and development, the term "legacy" has long been the gold standard. It implies what one leaves behind. However, to speak of "Positive Victorious Posterity" is to engage in a far more active, dynamic, and demanding discipline. Posterity is not a passive inheritance; it is a living entity that we are actively shaping with every decision made in the boardroom, every policy enacted in the legislature, and every culture cultivated within a

community.

To walk in Victorious Posterity is to move with the deliberate intention of ensuring that future generations are not merely surviving the consequences of our actions but are thriving because of the systems we install today. To work in this realm is to engineer solutions that are anti-fragile—gaining strength from the volatility of the future rather than crumbling under it.

This write-up explores the mechanics of this philosophy, dissecting how it functions at the individual, corporate, and national levels to solve the pressing challenges of inequality, environmental degradation, economic instability, and social fragmentation.

Part I: The Foundational Pillars of Victorious Posterity

Before we can apply this concept, we must understand its structural integrity. Victorious Posterity rests on three interdependent pillars:

1. **Intergenerational Equity:** The recognition that the rights of future generations carry equal weight to the rights of the present. This is not a moral nicety; it is a fiduciary duty. When we drain natural resources or



accumulate national debt, we are borrowing from the future's pocketbook without their consent.

2. **Adaptive Resilience:** Victory is not the absence of crisis, but the ability to emerge from crisis stronger.

Posterity-focused systems are built with "slack"—redundancies and buffers that allow for shock absorption, whether that be economic downturns, climate events, or supply chain disruptions.

3. **Semantic Integrity:** The narratives we build today become the operating systems of tomorrow. A culture that celebrates short-term greed will produce a generation of transactional leaders. A culture that celebrates problem-solving and

empathy will produce innovators and healers.

Part II: Impacting Peoples (The Micro Level)

At the individual and community level, the walk of Victorious Posterity is primarily concerned with Human Capital Development. The pressing challenge here is the "Skills Mismatch"—the growing chasm between what educational institutions produce and what the future economy demands.

The Solution: Victorious Posterity works by shifting educational paradigms from "knowledge retention" to "cognitive adaptability." It is about teaching people how to think, not what to think.

Example (Finland's Education Reform):

Finland has moved away from “subject-based” teaching to “phenomenon-based” learning. Students don’t just study history; they study the historical, geographical, and economic impacts of climate change on their specific locality. This walk toward posterity ensures that children graduating today are not memorizing facts that will be obsolete in a decade but are instead solving real-world problems. The result is a populace that is inherently ready to pivot, upskill, and contribute meaningfully to a volatile job market.

· Example (Community Banking in Bangladesh): The Grameen Bank model didn’t just lend money; it walked with communities to build credit history and entrepreneurial skills. By focusing on women and rural populations, it ensured that the posterity of those villages would not be defined by generational poverty but by generational commerce. The victory is visible in the literacy and health outcomes of the next generation, who now have mothers that are business owners.

Part III: Impacting Corporates (The Meso Level)

For corporations, the greatest pressing challenge is the tension between Quarterly Returns and Long-Term Sustainability. The modern capital

market often penalizes long-term R&D in favor of immediate stock buybacks. Victorious Posterity demands a redefinition of the “Fiduciary Duty” to include stakeholders beyond the shareholder—employees, environment, and society.

The Solution: The walk of victory for a corporation involves embedding ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) metrics not as a PR exercise, but as core operational KPIs



that dictate supply chain decisions, hiring practices, and innovation pipelines.

· Example (Patagonia’s “Earth is Now Our Only Shareholder”): Patagonia’s radical restructuring is a masterclass in Victorious Posterity. By transferring ownership to a trust dedicated to climate action, they effectively built a corporate structure that cannot be forced to prioritize profit over the planet. Their work involves using regenerative organic

agriculture in their supply chain, which regenerates soil health. This is a direct intervention to solve the agricultural crisis. They are working now to ensure that cotton farmers fifty years from now have arable land, rather than desert.

· Example (Microsoft’s Carbon Negative Pledge): Unlike “Carbon Neutrality” (which allows for offsets), Microsoft’s pledge to be Carbon Negative by 2030 requires them to remove more

carbon than they emit. This pushes the corporation to invest heavily in direct air capture technology and biochar. By walking this path, they are solving the challenge of “climate techno-pessimism,” proving that heavy industry can be a solution to environmental damage rather than the cause.

· The “Reverse Mentorship” Model: Corporates that work for posterity invert the traditional mentorship dynamic. They pair

senior leadership with junior Gen-Z employees to understand emerging technological trends and social ethics. This ensures the corporate strategy remains relevant to the future demographic it aims to serve.

Part IV: Impacting Nations (The Macro Level)

At the national level, the challenges are systemic: Resource Scarcity, Geopolitical Fragmentation, and Aging Infrastructure. Nations

often operate on a 4-year election cycle, which is antithetical to the 30-year horizon required for infrastructure and education. Victorious Posterity requires the establishment of “Future Generations Ombudsmen” or similar legislative checks that protect long-term interests from short-term political expediency. The Solution: National policies must pivot toward “National Resilience” and “Circular Economies.”

· Example

(The Netherlands' "Deltaworks" and Room for the River): The Dutch are historically known for fighting the sea. However, in their walk toward posterity, they recognized that building ever-higher dikes was a losing battle against rising sea levels. The "Room for the River" program strategically relocated dikes inland, lowered groynes, and created water buffers to allow controlled flooding in designated areas. This is the victory of coexistence over conquest. It solved the challenge of catastrophic climate flooding by designing a landscape that accepts water rather than merely resists it, ensuring the nation's survival for centuries.

Example (Estonia's Digital Governance): Estonia built its digital infrastructure on the premise that government services should be accessible to citizens regardless of geography or time. By creating a secure, blockchain-backed digital ID system, they have solved the challenge of bureaucratic corruption and inefficiency. Their posterity is "digitally native"—meaning future generations will inherit a government that is transparent, efficient, and low-cost, rather than a burdensome bureaucracy.

Part V: The Psychological Framework—The "Walk" To "walk" in this manner requires a

psychological shift from a "Survival Mindset" to a "Stewardship Mindset."

The Challenge: The modern world is riddled with "Doom-scrolling" and "Climate Anxiety." This often paralyzes action. People feel that the future is bleak, so they consume more now.

The Victorious Walk: This philosophy reframes the future as a garden to be tended, not a battlefield to be survived. It requires leaders to exercise "Radical Optimism"—the belief that human ingenuity, combined with ethical constraint, can solve technical problems.

Practice: Leaders must engage in "Reverse Thinking"—imagining the year 2075 and looking back to 2026. From that future perspective, what decision would they wish they had made? This mental exercise

forces leaders to abandon sunk costs and embrace daunting transitions (e.g., moving from fossil fuels to green hydrogen).

Part VI: The Strategic Framework—The "Work" To "work" in Victorious Posterity involves a practical, step-by-step strategic model that I term the "Posterity Matrix."

1. Impact Auditing: We cannot manage what we do not measure. Corporates and nations must develop "Lifecycle Assessment" tools that measure the total cost of a product or policy over a 50-year horizon, not just a 5-year horizon. This includes social cost of carbon, social disruption of automation, and biodiversity loss.

2. Generational Councils: Establish advisory boards comprised of individuals aged 15-25 to review major policy proposals.

Their lack of experience is actually their asset; they are the voice of the future's user experience.

3. Diversified Sovereignty: At the national level, this means investing in domestic food and energy production to insulate the nation from global shocks (e.g., Israel's desalination and drip-irrigation technologies that made a desert nation into an agricultural powerhouse).

4. Ethical AI Deployment: Posterity works when AI is used to augment human potential, not just replace it. Nations must invest in AI that predicts infrastructure decay (bridges, roads) to fix them before they collapse, solving the crisis of aging public assets.

Conclusion: The Intergenerational Contract Positive Victorious Posterity is not a destination; it is a continuous, iterative process of negotiation between the living, the unborn, and the planet. It demands that we view time not as a linear arrow, but as a cycle of renewal. For the Individual, it means becoming a lifelong learner who contributes more knowledge than they consume...*continue reading on <https://thebossnewspapers.com/2026/08/15/the-architecture-of-enduring-impact-how-positive-posterity-walks-and-works/>*



Oando Targets 100,000boepd With 62 New Oil Wells

Oando Plc is targeting production of approximately 100,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day in the medium term, with a development inventory of 62 wells and 55 planned well interventions expected to support the expansion.

The energy company disclosed this in its unaudited half-year 2026 results, saying its immediate priority was to complete a seven-well drilling programme and portfolio-wide well intervention campaign while delivering production of about 50,000boepd in 2026.

Oando's average production rose 16 per cent year-on-year to 42,789 boepd in the first half of 2026, with the company saying its development programme had gathered momentum during the period.

It said two land development wells had been drilled and completed, while another land well was being drilled and a second drilling rig was being mobilised to accelerate activities across its operated portfolio.

The company said it was also carrying out an extensive programme of rig-less well interventions aimed at restoring production, sustaining plateau output and mitigating natural field decline.



Oando's Group Chief Executive, Wale Tinubu, said, "Looking ahead in 2026, our priorities remain firmly centred on completing our seven-well drilling programme and portfolio-wide well intervention campaign while delivering production of circa 50,000 boepd."

Tinubu added, "Beyond 2026, our identified inventory of 62 development wells, supported by 55 planned well interventions, provides a clear pathway towards our medium-term production ambition of approximately 100,000 boepd."

The company's production growth came alongside a reduction in production operating costs, which fell 18 per cent to \$16.83 per barrel of oil equivalent from \$20.62/boe in H1 2025.

Oando said the lower unit cost reflected cost optimisation initiatives,

including reductions in transport, logistics, service and ICT costs, as well as the benefit of higher production across a largely fixed field cost base.

The company maintained its 2026 production guidance of between 40,000 boepd and 50,000 boepd, with capital expenditure projected at between \$90m and \$100m, focused on high-impact, short-cycle upstream activities.

The planned production expansion is expected to build on Oando's enlarged upstream asset base following its acquisition activities, with the company saying its focus was now on converting the increased capacity into long-term value through cost control and cash flow optimisation.

The company's H1 2026 revenue rose 20 per cent to N2.06tn, while profit after tax increased eight per cent to N68.6bn.

Operating cash generated during the period stood at N179.5bn.

Tinubu said the company would also pursue a fundraising and balance-sheet restructuring programme.

He said, "Furthermore, we shall execute an intensive fundraising and balance sheet restructuring programme to optimise our capital structure, strengthen our financial position, improve working capital, enhance financial flexibility and ensure the business is appropriately funded to accelerate growth and maximise long-term shareholder value."

He added, "We have built a resilient operating platform and established a clear roadmap for growth. Our focus is now on translating our significant opportunities into higher production, a stronger balance sheet and superior long-term returns for our shareholders."

Lagos Has \$1tn Untapped Shoreline Asset

The President of the Shoreline Developers Association of Lagos, Lai Omotola, has said Lagos State is sitting on an untapped shoreline asset estimated at \$1tn, urging the government and private investors to develop the coastal corridor sustainably.

Omotola made the call during the inaugural address of the SDAL held recently in Lagos. He described the state's extensive shoreline as a potential eco-friendly tourism and investment destination.

He said investments in shoreline development could generate significant returns, noting that waterfront properties

in Lagos continued to command premium prices because of their strategic locations, infrastructure and lifestyle appeal.

According to Omotola, a 1,000-square-metre plot in Banana Island could sell for as much as N5bn, underscoring the economic value of Lagos' coastal areas.

"There is no amount of investment that goes into shoreline development that cannot be recovered because we are sitting on an unlocked \$1tn asset in Lagos and a future eco-friendly and tourist destination," Omotola said.

He said the state could generate economic opportunities from its



shoreline beyond land reclamation, including fisheries, renewable energy, wind farms, coastal railways, marinas, high-value port logistics and eco-tourism.

The developer called for the establishment of world-class infrastructure, including high-rise buildings, marinas and entertainment facilities, to attract international tourists, businesses and major events.

He said improved

infrastructure will stimulate commercial activities, create employment and increase the state's internally generated revenue.

The SDAL president also advocated a 50 to 100-year master plan for the sustainable development of Lagos' shoreline.

He said the coastal corridor accounted for about 40 per cent of the state's landmass, making long-term planning critical.

FG Approves Tax Waivers For 4,000 Electric Vehicles

The Federal Government has approved tax waivers for almost 4,000 electric vehicles imported into Nigeria in the first half of 2026, as part of a fresh push to accelerate electric mobility despite persistent electricity shortages and inadequate charging infrastructure.

Government data reviewed by Reuters in a report on Wednesday showed that the approvals represented the first batch processed under a new government initiative designed to encourage the adoption of cleaner vehicles through tax incentives and local vehicle assembly

programmes.

The move signals an intensification of Nigeria's efforts to shift part of its transport system away from petrol and diesel vehicles, even though the country's electricity supply remains far below the level required to support large-scale electric vehicle adoption.

The report read, "The Federal Government has approved tax waivers for nearly 4,000 EVs in the first half of this year, government data showed, as authorities push to accelerate nascent EV adoption despite chronic electricity shortages. The approvals reviewed



by Reuters are the first under a new government programme aimed at promoting cleaner transport through tax incentives and local assembly programmes." Nigeria's 2022 Energy Transition Plan targets electric vehicles accounting for 60 per cent of the country's vehicle fleet by 2050. However, the country is still at the early stages of the transition.

Official data on the current number of electric vehicles on Nigerian roads is unavailable, but dealers cited by Reuters estimated that EVs account for less than one per cent of the country's vehicle fleet, translating to only tens of thousands of vehicles.

The government has nevertheless introduced a series of fiscal measures to make electric vehicles more competitive.

NGX Sheds N1tn On Sell-Offs In BUA Foods, Banking Stocks

The Nigerian equities market displayed notable volatility during trading, closing on a downward trajectory. The benchmark All-Share Index retreated to 243,967.09 points, down from Tuesday's reading of 246,723.57.

Overall equity market capitalisation mirrored this decline, shedding over N1.76tn to settle at N157.49tn. Throughout the trading week, the index touched a high of 248,529.75 points on Monday before dipping to its weekly low on Wednesday.

Systemic monetary policy settings provided the macro backdrop for these movements, with the Central Bank of Nigeria maintaining its Monetary Policy Rate at 26.50 per cent. Market indicators across key indices reflected broad-based selling pressure, particularly within large-cap and sector-specific tracks.

The NGX 30 Index contracted to 8,941.01 points, while the NGX Premium Index dropped to 28,733.69. Similarly, the NGX Main-Board Index slid from 11,133.93 points on Tuesday to 10,962.60 points.

Sectoral performance was predominantly dominated by losses, with consumer goods experiencing significant headwinds. The NGX Consumer



Goods Index witnessed a sharp drop, falling to 4,106.48 points from 4,319.51 in the previous session.

A major drag in this sector came from BUA Foods Plc, which suffered a maximum daily loss of 10.00 per cent to close at N760.60 per share, alongside Unilever Nigeria Plc, which dropped 9.97 per cent to end at N131.40 per share. The banking sector also succumbed to moderate downward revaluation, as the NGX Banking Index softened to 2,560.67 points. Key commercial banking institutions recorded declines, including Access Holdings Plc, which fell 3.01 per cent to N27.40, and United Bank for Africa Plc, down 2.15 per cent to N45.45. Zenith Bank Plc recorded a 1.34 per cent drop to close at N124.80, while Fidelity Bank Plc shed 2.27 per cent to finish at N21.50 per share.

Despite the general downturn across major financial stocks,

select banking equities bucked the market trend with strong gains. Ecobank Transnational Incorporated emerged as one of the top performers on the exchange, soaring 9.93 per cent to close at N71.40. Non-interest lender Jaiz Bank Plc and tier-two operator Wema Bank Plc also recorded positive momentum, gaining 2.33 per cent to reach N8.80 and 1.58 per cent to reach N28.95, respectively.

Insurance equities demonstrated resilience, pushing the NGX Insurance Index up to 1,152.13 points from Tuesday's level of 1,144.06. Gains were driven by International Energy Insurance Plc, which locked in a 10.00 per cent surge to N4.40, and Cornerstone Insurance Plc, which rose 6.80 per cent to N5.50. Veritas Kapital Assurance Plc and Sovereign Trust Insurance Plc also added value, gaining 6.25 per cent and 4.21 per cent to close at N1.36 and N1.98, respectively.

Industrial goods and oil and gas counters exhibited mixed-to-stable performance during the daily session. Dangote Cement Plc remained unchanged at N1,034.00, while HBM Nigeria Plc slipped 2.48 per cent to N350.00, drawing the NGX Industrial Index down to 10,457.71 points. In the energy sector, Seplat Energy Plc and Aradel Holdings Plc held steady at N11,363.90 and N1,526.80, respectively, whereas Eterna Plc gained 1.39 per cent to close at N36.50.

In total market trading activity, investors executed 39,031 deals across the equity market, exchanging over 1.45 billion shares. The total value traded in the insurance sub-sector stood out due to heavy volume, primarily led by Fortis Global Insurance Plc, which traded over 853 million shares, and Universal Insurance Plc, which generated a volume of over 251 million shares.

Q2: Briclinks Africa Revenue Hits N163m

Briclinks Africa Plc recorded a top-line expansion for the second quarter ended 30 June 2026, driven by sustained demand across its internet service and telecommunication operations.

The Growth Board-listed telecommunications company generated N163.89m in turnover between April and June 2026, marking a 21.50 per cent growth compared to the N134.89m recorded in the first quarter of the year.

In its corporate report submitted to the Nigerian

Exchange on Thursday, the board of directors reiterated the company's operational focus, stating, "The principal activities of the company continue to be Internet Service Provider."

On the balance sheet, total assets stood at N7.99bn as of 30 June 2026, compared to N8.01bn recorded at the end of March 2026, anchored by substantial property, plant, and equipment assets as well as intangible service licences. Retained earnings expanded to N117.17m, lifting total equity to N127.17m.

Non-current liabilities adjusted slightly lower to N7.85bn following continuous debt repayments on long-term loans, while cash and cash equivalents finished higher at N3.98m against N2.12m at the close of Q1 2026.

The company's cost of sales rose to N107.86m during the second quarter

from N84.28m in the previous three months, reflecting the increased operational scale required to service expanding customer bandwidth requirements.

Despite higher direct delivery costs, gross profit grew 10.71 per cent to N56.03m, up from N50.61m posted in Q1 2026.



BRICLINKS AFRICA PLC
NIGERIA

NUPRC To Boost Refinery Supply With Crude Swap

The Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission has confirmed the commencement of consultations with relevant industry stakeholders on a domestic crude oil and gas swap arrangement aimed at cutting supply costs and ensuring more crude is available to Nigerian refineries.

The initiative is expected to strengthen compliance with the Domestic Crude Supply Obligation and Domestic Gas Supply Obligation while reducing the need to physically transport crude over long distances to meet supply requirements.

The NUPRC Chief Executive, Oritsemeyiwa Eyesan, disclosed this during a courtesy visit to

the Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority in Abuja on Thursday.

In a statement issued by the NUPRC Head of Media and Corporate Communications, Eniola Akinkuotu, on Friday, Eyesan said the proposed arrangement would allow producers and refiners to optimise existing logistics and supply networks.

She said the commission was consulting relevant stakeholders to develop the modalities for the scheme, which would also involve the Gas Aggregation Company Nigeria Limited.

Eyesan explained that a swap arrangement would enable crude producers with export facilities



to meet the obligations of producers closer to domestic refineries, eliminating the need to transport crude unnecessarily across the country.

The statement read, "The Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission is consulting widely with stakeholders in the industry on the idea of a domestic crude oil and gas swap that would reduce cost and increase availability of products in

the country.

"Once all the modalities are finalised, there would be improved compliance with the Domestic Crude Supply Obligation and the Domestic Gas Supply Obligation. How the swap works is that I have an obligation somewhere and I am close to an export facility. Somebody else has an obligation inland and his own (facility) is close to a domestic offtaker.

UAE Capital Inflows Hit 88%

Nigeria could attract a larger share of investment from the United Arab Emirates if it sustains its economic and sectoral reforms, business leaders have said, as the UAE reported investing \$71.32bn in Sub-Saharan Africa between 2021 and 2025.

Although the UAE did not provide a country-by-country breakdown, Nigeria's capital importation from the Gulf nation jumped 87.8 per cent to \$728.81m in 2025 from \$388.01m in 2024, according to Nigeria's National Bureau of Statistics.

The NBS data showed that Nigeria attracted \$2.08bn in capital from the UAE between 2021 and 2025, rising to \$2.28bn after adding the \$194.51m recorded in the first quarter of 2026.

The development came as the UAE identified renewable energy, infrastructure and digital innovation as priority areas for long-term investment and sustainable development across Africa.

The UAE Minister of State, Saeed bin Mubarak Al Hajeri, said the country viewed Africa as a strategic partner in its economic diversification agenda.

In a recent interview reported by The Nation, Al Hajeri said, "The UAE believes in the importance



of building partnerships that are resilient, strategic, and aligned with long-term national priorities. In this context, the UAE sees its engagement and partnership across Africa as even more essential." He said the UAE had invested about \$71.32bn in Sub-Saharan Africa between 2021 and 2025. He also said the UAE had committed more than \$70bn to renewable and green energy projects across the continent through initiatives including Masdar's \$10bn programme and the Etihad 7 platform.

According to the official, the UAE was also expanding its investments in infrastructure and logistics through DP World and AD Ports Group, as well as through financing from the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development.

He said the investments would improve transport networks, reduce the cost of doing business, expand access to electricity,

create jobs and promote technology and skills transfer across African countries.

Speaking to the relevance of foreign investment in Nigeria, the President of the Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Leye Kupoluyi, said Nigeria's improving economic conditions could strengthen its position as an investment destination for the UAE and other foreign investors.

He said rising foreign reserves, greater economic stability and Nigeria's large youthful population could improve investor confidence.

"Generally, when you look at the world economy, if money is a plant that you have to plant, definitely it will grow better in Sub-Saharan Africa, no doubt. When you look at the return on investment and the growth generally, you know that some of those countries in Europe, which I won't mention, are having negative growth.

When their growth is not negative, it's contagious," Kupoluyi said.

He added, "But you see a country like Nigeria, let's face it, in the last few years, there has been stability; our foreign reserves have grown; those are the things that create confidence in any economy. There is no doubt there is more confidence in the Nigerian economy, actually, for foreign direct investment."

Kupoluyi said Nigeria's demographics also gave it an advantage over ageing economies in other parts of the world.

"Secondly, you know the population is now to our advantage. Why? We have more people like you in Nigeria than me. In other words, the population demography for the youth is more than for the elderly, which means that the environment is vibrant. I think it's just like another one; it's an investment choice," he said.

Protest: Air Peace, United Nigeria Record Over N2bn Loss

Two airlines, United Nigeria and Air Peace, may have lost over N2bn following Tuesday's disruption of flight operations by a coalition of aviation workers' unions, with nearly 100 flights cancelled or disrupted and thousands of passengers left stranded at airports. The unions, which are the National Union of Air Transport Employees, Air Transport Services Senior Staff Association of Nigeria, and National Association of Aircraft Pilots and Engineers, backed by the Nigeria Labour Congress and Trade Union Congress, began picketing the airline in the early hours

of Tuesday.

The industrial action, which was targeted principally at Air Peace over claims by the unions that the airline was the largest shareholder of the TSC debt, grounded the airline's operations at the Lagos and Abuja airports, throwing travel plans into disarray and leaving passengers scrambling for alternatives.

Recall that the unions had earlier issued three stages of warning, threatening to picket airlines that had refused to pay the Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority the five per cent Ticket Sales Charge.

The unions also alleged that some domestic airlines had made it difficult for



employees to freely join trade unions. They added that workers were afraid to even express interest in union membership for fear of discrimination or victimisation.

They, however, described Tuesday's action as a measure of restraint, saying they had given the affected airlines several weeks to resolve their grievances. The dispute also centres on the alleged non-remittance of a five per cent ticket sales charge

meant to fund aviation agencies.

The unions and the Airline Operators of Nigeria have been at loggerheads over the issue, with labour accusing airlines of withholding funds already collected from passengers. The unions said the alleged non-remittance had stalled the implementation of collective bargaining agreements negotiated for workers in aviation agencies.

Caverton Revenue Rises 41% As Quarterly Loss Narrows

Caverton Offshore Support Group Plc recorded a 41 per cent increase in revenue in the second quarter of 2026, while its quarterly loss narrowed by N1.2bn, according to its half-year results for the six months ended June 30, 2026. The Group's revenue rose to N8.6bn in the second quarter from N6.1bn in the first quarter. Its quarterly loss also narrowed to N3.7bn from N5.0bn in the first quarter, representing an improvement of about N1.2bn quarter-on-quarter. For the six-month period, Caverton recorded

revenue of N14.7bn and a loss of N8.7bn. Net finance costs stood at N8.4bn during the period, remaining the principal pressure on the Group's bottom line.

The company said in a statement that its debt restructuring programme remained central to its recovery plan. Operating profit before administrative costs reached N7.3bn, representing a margin of about 50 per cent of revenue.

The Group attributed the performance to cost management measures. Caverton Marine was a



key driver of the business during the period. Through its relationship with Stena Bulk, the Group participates in three Suezmax tankers trading internationally, providing foreign-currency revenue. The relationship is also being expanded through Unity Shipping Worldwide, a joint venture involving the Nigerian National Petroleum

Company, Stena Bulk and Caverton.

The Group's OMIBUS platform, developed with Shanghai-based electric-propulsion OEM Explomar, is also introducing battery-electric passenger ferries to Lagos waterways.

A prototype is already in service, while Caverton has an order from Lagos State for 10 vessels.

Nigeria Hits OPEC Quota For Third Straight Month

Nigeria met and exceeded the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries quota for the third consecutive month in July, despite a four per cent month-on-month decline in oil production, the Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission has said.

The latest production data released by the NUPRC on Wednesday showed that Nigeria produced an average of 1.505 million barrels per day of crude oil in July, slightly above its OPEC quota of 1.5 million barrels per day.

With condensate production put at 170,000 barrels per day, the country's combined crude oil and condensate output stood at 1.67 million barrels per day during the month.

The July output, however, represented a decline from the 1.735 million barrels per day recorded in June, translating to a reduction of about 65,000 barrels per day, or 3.75 per cent.

In a statement signed by its Head of Media and Corporate Communications, Eniola Akinkuotu, the NUPRC said, "Nigeria has for the third consecutive month met and exceeded its OPEC quota of 1.5mbpd. In the month of July 2026, Nigeria produced 1.505mbpd of crude oil and 0.17mbpd of condensate, bringing



the combined daily production to 1.67mbpd." The commission added, "Although Nigeria met its OPEC quota in the month of July, the statistics show that on a month-on-month basis, production fell by 4 per cent."

The decline marked the first monthly drop after production had risen steadily between January and June. Combined crude oil and condensate output increased from 1.459 million barrels per day in January to 1.483mbpd in February, 1.564mbpd in March, 1.663mbpd in April, 1.701mbpd in May and 1.735mbpd in June.

The NUPRC attributed the July decline principally to operational challenges at the Erha and Akpo fields, saying the disruptions affected production during the period under review. "These disruptions constrained production volumes and contributed significantly to the overall reduction in national crude oil output," the commission said.

Despite the setbacks, the regulator said production activities across other producing assets remained relatively stable. "Despite the challenges encountered, production operations across other producing assets remained relatively stable, with operators implementing measures aimed at maintaining production efficiency and minimising the impact of operational constraints," it said.

Daily combined crude oil and condensate production peaked at 1.78 million barrels per day in July, while the lowest output stood at 1.57mbpd. The production breakdown showed that Forcados Terminal recorded the highest average output at 322.34 thousand barrels per day, followed by Bonny Terminal with 303.72kbpd.

Qua Iboe Terminal produced an average of 158.02kbpd, while Escravos Oil Terminal recorded 131.41kbpd. Bonga ranked fifth, with

an average production of 100.23kbpd of crude oil.

The commission said routine production and crude evacuation operations were largely sustained across the sector during the month. It also said stakeholders were focused on resolving the operational challenges, restoring affected production capacity and improving asset reliability. "Industry stakeholders remain focused on addressing the identified operational issues, restoring affected production capacity and strengthening asset reliability to support improved performance in subsequent months," the NUPRC said.

The regulator added that the July performance underscored the importance of proactive asset management, operational resilience and timely intervention in mitigating production disruptions.

SEC Sets 5pm Cutoff For T+1 Equities, Commodities Trade

The Securities and Exchange Commission has fixed 5:00pm on the first business day after a transaction (T+1) as the settlement deadline for equities and commodities traded and settled through the Central Securities Clearing System.

The Commission made this clarification in a circular issued on Wednesday to capital market operators and other market participants as part of the implementation of the T+1 settlement cycle in the Nigerian capital market.

According to the SEC, all transactions in the affected securities must be fully paid for by 5:00 p.m. T+1 to ensure compliance with the standard Delivery versus Payment settlement procedure.

It warned that where a broker/dealer's trading account is not adequately funded to meet its settlement obligation within the prescribed period, the default would be managed in line with the CSCS Default Management Procedure and the applicable transaction settlement guidelines of the relevant exchange.

The Commission also clarified that foreign portfolio investors are not required to prefund their accounts for trades in the Nigerian capital market.

However, it stated that capital market operators facilitating transactions on behalf of foreign portfolio investors must establish and maintain appropriate controls and processes to ensure timely funding and completion of settlements



within the prescribed timeframe.

The clarification follows earlier SEC circulars on the implementation of the T+2 settlement cycle for equities transactions, issued on 3 June 2025, and the transition to the T+1 settlement cycle, issued on 15 May 2026.

The T+1 cycle means that eligible securities transactions are settled one business day after the trade date, reducing the period between execution and final settlement.

The SEC said the transition represents a significant milestone in

its efforts to build a more efficient, resilient, and internationally aligned trading and post-trade environment.

It added that the shorter settlement cycle would improve settlement efficiency, reduce counterparty risk, enhance liquidity, and strengthen the competitiveness of the Nigerian capital market.

According to the regulator, the reforms would ultimately improve the attractiveness of the Nigerian market to both domestic and international investors.

Dufil Supports 200 Sickle Cell Patients

Dufil Prima Foods, makers of Indomie noodles, has supported 200 people living with Sickie Cell Disorder with free essential medication as part of its corporate social responsibility initiative.

The intervention, delivered as part of the company's decade-long partnership with the Sickie Cell Foundation Nigeria, took place during an outreach organised at the foundation's facility in Lagos under the 'Hope Begins with Care'

initiative.

The company said the intervention aimed to reduce the medical and financial burden of managing the lifelong condition while improving the quality of life of affected Nigerians.

Speaking at the event, the Group Corporate Communications and Events Manager, Dufil Prima Foods, Temitope Ashiwaju, described the partnership as a strategic commitment to supporting vulnerable communities. He also stressed the need



for sustained advocacy and public awareness about sickle cell disorder. "More than what we are doing today, I'd like to also let you know that when it comes to advocacy, when it comes to awareness, it should start from you," Ashiwaju said.

He urged beneficiaries

and other stakeholders to play a greater role in educating the public about the condition.

Ashiwaju also highlighted the importance of genotype awareness and compatibility, particularly among young Nigerians making decisions about marriage and family life.

NNPC To Implement New Production Sharing Contract

The Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited has said it is ready to implement the amended Production Sharing Contract framework following the Federal Government's approval of a new incentive regime for deep offshore oil and gas projects.

The NNPC Group Chief Executive Officer, Bayo Ojulari, disclosed this in a post on his official X handle on Wednesday following President Bola Tinubu's signing of the Deep Offshore Oil and Gas Projects Incentives (Tax Remission) Order, 2026.

Ojulari said the new framework would replace years of case-by-case negotiations with a clearer and more transparent regime designed to provide greater certainty for investors in Nigeria's deep offshore petroleum sector.

He said the policy could unlock up to \$50bn in new investment, with the Bonga South West project expected to be the first beneficiary.

"Nigeria Just Made Offshore Oil Investment Simpler and More Attractive. President Bola Tinubu has signed the Deep Offshore Oil and Gas Projects Incentives (Tax Remission) Order, 2026, replacing years of case-by-case negotiation with one clear, transparent



framework."

Ojulari said NNPC Limited would serve as the Federal Government's nominated counterparty and was prepared to implement the amendments to the PSC framework.

"Up to \$50bn in new investment. Bonga South West as the first beneficiary. And NNPC Limited standing as the Federation's nominated counterparty, ready to implement the PSC amendments to bring it to life."

The NNPC GCEO said the policy was expected to translate into increased economic activity, job creation and deeper participation by Nigerian businesses in the offshore oil industry.

"This means more jobs for Nigerians, deeper local supply chains, faster progress toward our 3 million barrels per day production ambition by 2030."

He added that the policy would strengthen Nigeria's

ability to compete for international capital at a time when oil-producing countries were seeking to attract investment into increasingly complex and capital-intensive offshore developments.

"As always, certainty attracts capital. Nigeria is showing the world it's ready."

The latest development forms part of the Federal Government's broader efforts to revive investment in Nigeria's oil and gas sector by providing clearer fiscal and regulatory terms for investors.

Deep offshore projects typically require substantial upfront capital because of the technical complexity, specialised equipment and long development periods involved in producing crude from deepwater fields.

The government has therefore been seeking to improve the investment environment and provide

incentives that can encourage oil companies to sanction major projects that have remained delayed for years.

The Bonga South West project, which is being developed by Shell and its partners, is among the major offshore developments expected to add significantly to Nigeria's future crude oil production.

The project is also expected to support additional spending across the Nigerian oilfield services and supply chain, potentially creating opportunities for local contractors and service providers.

The Federal Government has set an ambition of raising Nigeria's crude oil production to three million barrels per day by 2030, with increased investment in deepwater and other technically challenging assets expected to play an important role.

Union Bank Secures Global Payment Certification

Union Bank of Nigeria has attained certification under the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard version 4.0.1, a global standard for protecting payment card account data.

The certification took effect on August 11, 2026, according to a statement on Thursday. PCI DSS sets technical and operational requirements for safeguarding environments where payment card account data is stored, processed or transmitted.

The assessment covered

the bank's network infrastructure, card issuance, ATM and POS transaction acquiring and payment processing, reconciliation, settlement, chargeback, dispute resolution and retail banking. Union Bank was assessed and certified in the Service Provider category.

Certification followed a year-long assessment involving quarterly reviews and the participation of departmental, business and functional heads across the bank, in partnership with security



firm Digital Encode.

The final independent audit was carried out by CyberCube, an accredited Qualified Security Assessor.

Speaking on the development, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Yetunde Oni, said, "The security of our customers' information is central to everything we do at Union

Bank. This certification reaffirms that our payment systems and processes meet a rigorous global standard, and it reflects the discipline of colleagues across the Bank who work every day to keep customer data safe."

The renewal ensures that the bank maintains continuous PCI DSS certification, in line with the CBN.

Standard Chartered Trains 600 Nigerians In Digital Skills

Standard Chartered Bank Nigeria Limited has partnered with Junior Achievement Nigeria to equip more than 600 young Nigerians with digital skills through a 10-day bootcamp aimed at improving employability and entrepreneurship opportunities.

The Digital Bootcamp Programme will take place across Ondo, Abuja, Rivers and Kaduna states, providing participants with practical training in project management, data analysis, cybersecurity, UI/UX design, IT support and digital marketing.

The initiative targets graduates, National Youth Service Corps members, women and young people from low-

income communities as the partners seek to bridge digital skills gaps and expand access to opportunities in Nigeria's growing digital economy. Speaking on the partnership, the Acting Executive Director, Junior Achievement Nigeria, Olaolu Akogun, said strong partnerships could create lasting impact by preparing young Nigerians for emerging opportunities.

"Strong partnerships create lasting impact. We are proud to partner with Standard Chartered in expanding access to digital skills training for young Nigerians. This investment demonstrates a shared commitment to building a workforce



that is ready for the opportunities of the digital age," Akogun said.

The programme aligns with the Standard Chartered Foundation's focus on improving youth employability and economic participation by providing underserved young people with skills, knowledge and networks needed to participate in the future workforce.

The partnership will also enable Standard Chartered employees to volunteer through the bank's Skills-Based Volunteering programme,

allowing them to mentor participants and share their professional expertise.

The Head, Corporate Affairs, Brand & Marketing, Standard Chartered Bank Nigeria Limited, Joke Adu, said the bank viewed investment in future-ready skills as an important way to support communities.

"We believe that empowering young people with future-ready skills is one of the most meaningful investments we can make in our communities.



Lifestyle

Vol. 5.55

www.thebossnewspapers.com

A publication of Ovation Media Group

ENTERTAINMENT

**Davido Thrills London,
Announces 2027
Stadium Tour**

FASHION

**Carrot Pant:
The Tapered Trend Taking
Over Closets**

**Actress Nana Ama McBrown Celebrates 49th
Birthday Looking Like Sweet 16 (Photos)**

SPORT

Arsenal Is My Home – Arteta

TOPNOTCH

...Celebrity Gist Unlimited

Lost Music Catalogue Taught Me Brand Protection — Justice Obaro

Singer, songwriter, producer and sound engineer, Justice Obaro, has said setbacks in his music career taught him the importance of protecting his artistic identity and understanding the business side of the industry.

Obaro, who began his career under the name “Obas/Obass” before rebuilding his brand under his real name following a setback involving his music catalogue and YouTube channel, said the experience taught him to conduct thorough research before making professional decisions.

Speaking in an interview with Saturday Beats, he said, “One of the biggest lessons I have learnt from setbacks in my career is the importance of doing proper research before making any professional

decision, no matter how small it may seem. Sometimes, one small detail that is overlooked can have serious consequences for an entire career.

“I was fortunate enough to resolve one of the major setbacks I experienced, but it taught me to be more careful and informed about the business side of music. I also learnt the importance of protecting my artistic identity. “If an artist intends to pursue music seriously and professionally, registering and protecting their stage name or brand is extremely important. Where possible, artists should consider trademarking their name, or alternatively choose a distinctive and truly unique professional name from the beginning.”

Obaro, who gained early attention with his debut song, ‘Africa’, in 2006, also recalled how the success of the song exposed him to the importance of professional management.



Davido Thrills London, Announces 2027 Stadium Tour

Nigerian Afrobeats singer, David Adeleke, popularly known as Davido, thrilled fans in London with a successful performance at the Crystal Palace Bowl.

Davido headlined the “Davido & Friends” concert on Friday as part of the Crystal Palace Bowl summer festival series in the United Kingdom.

The outdoor concert featured performances by Davido and other artistes, including Omah Lay, Black Sherif, Gabzy, T x C, Jazzwrlld & Thukuthela, Ecool,

Fola and Mayorkun.

Following the concert, the singer announced two dates for another London stadium tour, signalling his plans for major performances in the UK.

He then shared the announcement on his Instagram Story, with “details indicating that the upcoming tour would take place in London in 2027.”

Davido had earlier described the Crystal Palace Bowl performance as his first-ever festival in the UK and his only outdoor show in London this summer.

The concert attracted fans who gathered to watch him perform some of his popular songs.

NAN reports that the Crystal Palace Bowl performance is an addition to Davido’s growing list of international performances.



Facial Rejuvenation: Actress Uche Ogbodo Admits She's Unhappy With Her Look

Nollywood actress Uche Ogbodo has candidly shared her experience following a recent facial rejuvenation procedure, admitting that she was initially unhappy with the way she looked.

The 40-year-old actress took to Instagram to share a raw video of herself on the first day after the procedure. In the video, Ogbodo revealed that her face was significantly swollen and that she barely recognized her appearance.

"This is day one after my facial rejuvenation. This is a raw video, everywhere is swollen. My whole face is swollen and honestly, I don't know. I look so different. I don't even like

how I look, but I think it's gonna get better. The doctor told me it's gonna get better," she said.

Despite her initial disappointment, Ogbodo explained that her decision to undergo the procedure was not driven by a desire to look perfect. Instead, she said she simply wanted to achieve a fresher and more youthful appearance while remaining true to her natural look.

The actress also expressed hope that the swelling would subside and that her face would eventually settle into the desired result, as her doctor had assured her.



Tiktoker, Peller Goes Bald to Defend Wife Jarvis From Online Trolls

TikToker Peller has shown just how far he is willing to go to stand by his wife, Jarvis, after she faced criticism and bullying over her shaved hairstyle.

Rather than let the trolls have all the fun, Peller decided to recreate Jarvis' bold look by going bald himself. He made it clear that if people were going to mock his wife for her haircut, they might as

well direct the same energy at him.

"If you cut it, I'm cutting it too," Peller reportedly said.

The TikTok star's gesture has since caught the attention of fans, with many praising him for standing firmly by his wife and showing her support in a very public way.

Now that's one way to say, 'We're in this together!'



Singer YCee Rants About the Quality of Dancers in Nigerian Strip Clubs

Nigerian singer YCee has sparked reactions online after criticizing the quality of dancers in some Nigerian strip clubs.

Taking to social media, the singer suggested that strip club owners should invest in dancers with actual pole-dancing skills rather than hiring performers whose routines, in his view, lack the expected standard.

He wrote: "Nigerian strip clubs, y'all would do good to invest in babes that can actually pole dance, as opposed to having a BBL bandit doing Tarzan in the club."



Actress Nana Ama McBrown Celebrates 49th Birthday Looking Like Sweet 16 **(Photos)**





Understanding a Poly Relationship

Poly relationships are more common than you think. Here's a simple, honest look at what they are, how they work, and why people choose them. Relationships today don't look the way they did for our parents. They had strict social rules and dated strictly for marriage. Today, most of what we know about love and relationships comes from movies, celebrities, and books.

We have loose rules and have developed various relationship types, including situationships, open relationships, threesomes, and quiet agreements. Commitment has taken a different form.

At the centre of these new definitions stands a word that's becoming increasingly familiar yet still misunderstood — polyamory. It shows up on podcasts, social media debates, and whispered conversations between curious friends.

It's not polygamy, and certainly not an open relationship. So, what exactly is a poly relationship? How does it actually work? What are the types of poly relationships, and why are more people talking about them?

Types of Polyamorous Relationships

Understanding the various types of polyamory can reveal the rich diversity



of human connections and challenge traditional relationship norms.

Hierarchical Polyamory
In a hierarchical polyamory setup, your partners are typically ranked as primary, secondary, or possibly tertiary. The primary partners are the ones you build a life with—think marriage, sharing finances, buying a house together, or planning a family, much like a married couple.

Secondary partners, on the other hand, usually have more relaxed boundaries since they don't have those big, formal commitments. For some people, this structure is a great way to manage feelings of jealousy and figure out how to divide their time while still maintaining meaningful connections with everyone.

Non-Hierarchical Polyamory

In non-hierarchical polyamory, you don't rank your partners. Instead, every relationship is valued equally for what it brings to the table,

whether it be emotional, sexual, or simply good conversation.

The key here is equality, mutual respect, and lots of negotiation.

Solo Polyamory

Solo polyamory is all about having your freedom, growing as a person, and keeping things flexible. It's a great fit for anyone who wants close relationships without the typical expectations of a traditional partnership.

Relationship Anarchy

Relationship anarchists basically take the idea of polyamory and push it even further, saying that all relationships, whether you're dating someone, just friends, or family, are equally important and should be defined by the people in them.

They reject the idea of having standard rules; instead, they create agreements as they go along for each unique bond. The core of it is prioritising freedom, consent, and just having real, honest connections over what society usually tells us is "normal".

Kitchen Table Polyamory
Kitchen table polyamory is when everyone in the polycule, even your partner's partners, called metamours, gets along really well.

Think of it as being able to hang out easily around a kitchen table. It's all about being open, transparent, and collaborative, so everyone's social and romantic lives mesh together nicely.

Parallel Polyamory

With parallel polyamory, you maintain separate relationships for each partner. Your partners may know about each other, but they don't really hang out or interact much.

It's a good approach if you value your privacy, need your own individual space, or like to keep your different relationship "worlds" distinct.

Polyamory is not one-size-fits-all. Whether hierarchical, solo, anarchist, or community-focused, the key is communication, consent, and clarity.

Carrot Pant:

The Tapered Trend Taking Over Closets

By Ajibade Morakinyo

Carrot pants have earned their place in modern fashion with their distinct silhouette — roomy at the hips and thighs, gently tapering down towards the ankles, much like the shape of a carrot. This flattering cut bridges comfort with sharp tailoring, making it a versatile piece for both casual and polished looks. Originally inspired by vintage European tailoring, carrot pants gained popularity among fashion-forward individuals seeking relaxed alternatives to traditional trousers. Their high-rise waist enhances the figure, while the tailored ankle allows for easy pairing with everything from heels to sneakers.

From boardrooms to brunches, these pants offer a refreshing break from the usual skinny jeans or wide-leg trousers. They are often found in breathable fabrics like cotton, linen, or even structured denim — giving wearers a balance of form and function.

For styling, tuck in a crisp shirt or a fitted top to highlight the waistline, or throw on a cropped blazer for a chic, elevated outfit. Whether you're aiming for elegance or edge, carrot pants can adapt effortlessly to your personal style, proving that comfort and sophistication don't have to be mutually exclusive.









SERMON

- Babatunde Jose -

+2348033110822

Talking About the Revolution: The Rise of the Masses

“The children of the poor you failed to train will never let your children live in peace” – Obafemi Awolowo

Historically, uprisings of the poor have occurred when economic hardship, social inequality, and political neglect converge. A notable example is the Peasants’ Revolt of 1381 in England, also known as Wat Tyler’s Rebellion. It was fueled by socio-economic tensions following the Black Death, high taxation due to the Hundred Years’ War, and local governance instability. While initially seen as a revolt, modern historians often interpret it as a prolonged protest or rising, highlighting the poor masses’ demand for fair treatment and relief from oppressive conditions.

In times gone by, the poor have often been excluded from formal political power, but mass mobilizations have repeatedly reshaped societies. In the 19th and 20th centuries, mass political parties emerged to represent working-class populations, particularly socialist, communist, and



fascist parties. Unlike elite “cadre” parties, these mass parties relied on large memberships, formal enrollment, and ideological discipline to mobilize ordinary people and influence political outcomes, marking a shift from elite-dominated politics to mass participation. The poor have also risen spontaneously in response to crises or injustices. Events such as the 1789 French Revolution, the 2011 Arab Spring, the Occupy Wall Street movement, the 2020 Black Lives Matter and the ‘End SARS’ protests illustrate how millions can mobilize without centralized planning.

Sociologist Benjamin Abrams describes this phenomenon using ‘Affinity-Convergence Theory’, which explains that people mobilize when a cause resonates with their pre-existing dispositions and structural conditions make participation feasible. Despite being the majority, the poor often remain politically inactive and emasculated due to fear, oppression, and systemic control mechanisms. Revolts require overcoming these barriers, building solidarity, and creating a sense of collective efficacy. Media, social networks, and shared grievances can catalyze

this process, enabling the poor to challenge entrenched elites. In modern contexts, the rise of the poor masses can take both political and social forms. Religious bodies, NGOs, and grassroots organizations often play a role in advocating for the poor, providing material support, and empowering communities to engage in civic action.

For example, in Nigeria, religious institutions have mobilized to address poverty, unemployment, and social inequality, emphasizing both practical aid and advocacy for systemic change. But they stop short of being at the vanguard of a people’s

revolt. The prosperity of the elite is the prosperity of the clerics.

The rising of the poor masses reflects both historical and contemporary struggles of marginalized populations demanding justice, resources, and social equity.

“And what is [the matter] with you that you fight not in the cause of Allah and for the oppressed among men, women, and children who say, ‘Our Lord, take us out of this city of oppressive people and appoint for us from Yourself a protector and appoint for us from Yourself a helper.’” (Surah An-Nisa 4:75)

In modern times, the poor masses continue to face systemic challenges. For instance, Nigeria has experienced a deepening poverty crisis, with over 150 million people living in multidimensional poverty, deprived of basic needs such as food, education, clean water, and healthcare. Economic reforms, such as subsidy removals and currency adjustments, have sometimes worsened conditions for ordinary citizens, highlighting the vulnerability of the poor when social safety nets are inadequate.

Religious and civic leaders often advocate for proactive measures to support the poor. For example, religious teachings encourage compassion

and practical support, including food assistance, skills training, and advocacy for policies that prioritize the welfare of marginalized populations. These efforts aim to empower the poor, reduce inequality, and prevent social instability.

The rising of the poor masses, whether through historical revolts or modern advocacy, underscores the critical link between poverty, social justice,



and political stability. Ignoring the needs of the poor can lead to unrest, economic stagnation, and weakened governance, while inclusive policies and community support can foster resilience and equitable development.

The openness of a society, its willingness to permit creative destruction, and the rule of law appear to be decisive for economic development: There is no doubt, it is manmade institutions, not the lay

of the land or the faith of forefathers, neither is it Islam or Christianity that determine whether a country is rich or poor.

What are the constraints that keep us from becoming more prosperous? Is our poverty immutable, or can it be eradicated? A natural way to start thinking about this is to look at what common people are saying about the problems they face and why they need to revolt against the

oppressive regimes. “We are suffering from corruption, oppression and bad education. We are living amid a corrupt system which has to change,” says the people. Following moments of open class warfare in the late 1960s and early 1970s, battles against the political and economic order became fragmented, trade unions were attacked and rendered ineffective, the legacy of the anti-colonial struggles was

eroded and the history of the period was recast by the establishment to undermine its potency.

In the post-‘Cold War’ era, a new phase of protest finally began to overcome these defeats. It was one of these putsches that terminated the rule of Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire, one of the longest standing dictators of the post-colonial era, who ruled that country from 1966 to 1997: A one time ally of the United States, who at the height of their relationship once asked for a plane-load of Coca-Cola for his troops fighting the rebels of the Katanga province.

The global anti-war movement of the new millennium led to the biggest coordinated demonstrations in the history of protest on 15 February 2003, in which millions of people demonstrated in over 800 cities, creating a crisis of democracy around the US and UK-led intervention in Iraq.

In the years leading up to and following the banking crisis of 2008, food riots and anti-austerity protests escalated around the world in what became known in Africa as SAP Riots (protests the IMF induced Structural Adjustment Program). In parts of the Middle East and North Africa, protests achieved insurrectionary proportions, with the overthrow of one dictator after another.

After the Arab Spring was thwarted by counter-revolution, the 'Occupy movement' and later 'Black Lives Matter' gained global attention. While the public urban square became a central focus for protest, social media became an important – but by no means exclusive – organizing tool.

The protestors today are speaking about the corruption of the government, its inability to deliver public services, and the lack of equality of opportunity in the country. They particularly complained about repression and the absence of political rights. People now see their economic problems as being fundamentally caused by their lack of political rights. Today, the army of unemployed youths has discovered its historic mission: 'Vanguard of the coming uprising'.

All the economic impediments they face stem from the way political power is exercised and monopolized by a narrow elite. This, they understand, is the first thing that must change. The 'Lions' of Bourdillon and Queens Drive, Tigers of Malali, Leopards of Minna and other fat cats of the 'Animal Kingdom' must be tamed and chained. Their chokehold on our people is one main reason why we are not making progress. Not being captains of industries or

commerce but a rentier class, and exploiters of the commonwealth, they have no visible investment in the welfare of society: One word describes them, Parasites.

In fact, Nigeria is poor precisely because it has been ruled by a narrow elite that have organized society for their own benefit at the expense of the vast mass of people. Political power has been narrowly concentrated and has been used to create great wealth for those who possess it, such as the owners of the 'Hilltop' Mansions, 'Bullion van' owners and the ubiquitous tax collectors. The losers have been the Nigerian people.

Though Nigeria became independent in 1960, one set of colonial masters were exchanged for internal colonizers. In consequence, the basic structure of society did not change, and we stayed poor.

As we move towards

another general election, fear is that if we do not get it right and the nation succumbs to the 'Charlie Charlie' of the warring elites, we might unwittingly precipitate a rising of the poor massed that would make the past uprisings seem like a scouting jamboree. When the poor have nothing more to eat, they will eat the rich.

Government's ability to safeguard national stability and prosperity rests squarely on its commitment to addressing the needs of the poor and vulnerable. "A country that cannot provide for the poor cannot protect the rich."

We need inclusive governance, accountability, and people-centered development. Ignoring the plight of the majority poor could fuel social and economic instability, undermining peace and security; the government must remain conscious

of its responsibility to reduce poverty, bridge inequality, and ensure that national wealth benefits all citizens.

Our citizens expect more than speeches; they expect action. The survival of our democracy and the stability of our nation depend on how we treat the weakest among us. History has shown nations crumble when the majority feels neglected, and social unrest is never far away when poverty deepens.

The policies of the government, no matter how well intentioned, have produced the opposite of good governance. Good intentions have turned into ashes. The nation is divided and thoroughly frightened. People are suffering... *continue reading on <https://thebossnewspapers.com/2026/08/14/friday-sermon-talking-about-the-revolution-the-rise-of-the-masses/>*



We'll Definitely Bounce Back —Super Falcons Star Babajide

Rinsola Babajide has assured that the Super Falcons will bounce back following their disappointing campaign at the 2026 WAFCON and failure to qualify for the women's World Cup.

Babajide stated this in a post on her official X handle.

"Heartbroken to say the least.

"It really hurts to miss out on a World Cup spot but grateful for the opportunity to represent my country at yet another WAFCON, unfortunately it didn't go the way we'd of liked it to have gone.

"We might be down right now but we'll definitely bounce back, the only way we know how to, the Naija way!

"Time to reset, reflect & work ahead

towards the Olympic qualifiers.

"Thank you to everyone who supported us both in the stands and from home through it all.

"The journey has been real.."

The Super Falcons had their worst outing at the WAFCON after losing to Cameroon 1-0 in the quarterfinals, thereby missing out on automatic qualification to the World Cup in Brazil.

However, the team had another opportunity in the play-in against South Africa but lost 2-1 and will now miss out for the first time since making their debut at the maiden tournament in 1991 in China.



Arsenal Is My Home — Arteta

Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta has assured Gunners fans they do not need to worry about his future, stating that he will resolve his contract situation when the time is right.

In a chat with the club's website, Arteta stated that his clear wish is to remain at Arsenal because he is extremely happy and feels valued.

He noted that the current timeline on his deal is not an underlying issue and promised that an extension will happen organically through the

strong relationship he shares with the board and ownership.

Arteta also expressed deep gratitude for his working environment, signaling total alignment with the hierarchy as they look toward upcoming targets.

"They don't have to worry about any of that, because I want to be here," he told reporters on Friday.

"I am extremely happy. I feel very grateful to work with the people that I work with and when we have the possibility, we will resolve that. And that's it.



Championship Clubs Battle For Okonkwo

Charlton Athletic and Bolton Wanderers have reportedly expressed interest in signing Wrexham goalkeeper Arthur Okonkwo.

Okonkwo's future at Wrexham is uncertain following the arrival of Anthony Patterson from Sunderland this summer.

Patterson is expected to become the Red Dragons' new first-choice goalkeeper, which could see the Nigerian seek a move away from the club in search of regular

playing time.

According to Sports Illustrated, the 24-year-old is expected to leave Wrexham before the end of the current transfer window, with Charlton and Bolton among the clubs linked with his services.

Okonkwo initially joined Wrexham on loan from Arsenal in 2023 before later making his move permanent.

The goalkeeper has made 108 league appearances for Wrexham over the last three campaigns and featured 39 times for the club last season.



Dear CDS, NSA, Your Prodigal Sons, Brothers Have Killed General Braimah

Almost five months since the yet to be explained killing of Brigadier General Musa Uba, another high ranking military officer, another Brigadier General, has been unlive. He was Brigadier General Oseni Omo Braimah, Commander of 29 Task Force Brigade Operation Hadin Kai, Maiduguri Borno State.

The sadness that followed the brutal killing of the Brigade Commander, can almost be touched, dear Nigerians, with special reference to the National Security Adviser, Mallam Nuhu Ribadu, and his counterpart, the Chief of Defense Staff, General Olufemi Oluyede. These men, have at separate fora concassed for the kid gloves handling of terrorism activities, and terrorists. Ribadu, it was, that asked that they be rehabilitated as they are 'our brothers. Oluyede echoed the stand, saying the terrorists was equated to the biblical prodigal son, and therefore should be received with open hands. This he said to justify his latest 'Operation Safe Corridor', designed to welcome 'repentant' terrorists and bandits, and have them reintegrated into the society.

It is still these touted same brothers, and prodigal sons that overran a military base in Benisheikh, reportedly killing 18 soldiers including the Brigadier General. According to the Army, however, the number of deaths was overhyped, claiming that only two officers and two other soldiers were killed in the battle they said the military had the upper hand, and auccessfully repelled the assailants and maintained their positions.

Much as the military agreed that they lost four soldiers, they have failed to produce casualties, or even speak on the number, from the terrorists side, in a battle they said they had the upper hand. It's still had to believe, only that the prodigal sons and brothers snuffed the life of a general, and according to reports, he was caught like a sitting duck.

The prodigal sons with the 'brothers' did not stop there; they proceeded to kill Forest Guard Commander and five others in Kwara, just as they mercilessly hacked to death eight members of the same family in Bokkos, Plateau. The list is endless. Of prodigal sons and brothers. Thanks to the NSA and the CDS.

Someone once said that that the only



mercy a terrorist or bandit deserve is the mercy of God. And it is the duties of the authority to send them to God for such mercy.

Why do we keep handling merciless killers with kid gloves, and turn around to call them sons and brothers. They in turn, are only looking for opportunity to strike again.

These people have gone from being brothers to becoming animals, very dangerous and ugly beasts that have lost the capacity to show, and so should not be shown any mercy caught.

Dear NSA and CDS, you must understand that these people have been extremely radicalised, and can no longer fit into the society of sane beings, and therefore, should be put away permanently. We can't continue to safe corridor to experiment with the lives of Nigerians. No bandit or terrorist is worth rehabilitating, talk less of being integrated into the military. Whoever does that is complicit, and should be treated as an enemy of the Nigerian state.

The NSA and the CDS should begin now to revisit everyone they have ever pardoned or reintegrated into the society for they are part of our problem. They are culpable.

General Uba died saraa, as we say in our local parlance. We should let Braimah die saraa. We must not allow this irresponsibility happen again. I'm not borrowing any words from the president because all his words appear empty, while Nigerians continue in droves, even when the country is not really at war.

Time to jettison this brother, cousin, prodigal son rubbish, and deal decisively with terrorists and bandits.



EDITORIAL TEAM

PUBLISHER/EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Dele Momodu

momodudele@yahoo.co.uk

ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER

Mobolaji Momodu

GROUP EDITOR

Eric Elezuo

erico72ng@yahoo.com

GRAPHICS DESIGNER/ CONTENT ASSISTANT

Ajibade Morakinyo

REPORTER

Ruth Akpan

PHOTO EDITOR

Adekoya Adegbite

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Isaac Edoh-Philip...Abiodun Adekoya

PHOTO JOURNALISTS

Dragan Mikki (UK)...Ken Ehimen Adeyemi
Funmilayo Ben Dzakah (Ghana)

OVATION TV CREW

Ben Osei-Bansah... Babatunde Bolarinwa
Saheed Aderopo... Temitope Ogunleye

WEB DESIGNER/MANAGER

Kwaku Yeboah Darteh

CONTRIBUTORS

Henry Ukazu... Mike Ozekhome SAN
Babatunde Jose... Kayode Emola
Sani Sa'idu Baba

LAGOS OFFICE

67, Oduduwa Way, Ikeja GRA, Lagos,
Nigeria

Tel: +(234)8055069220,

+234(0)8023002090, (4)4543030,

+234(0)8035032618

DIRECTORS

Segun Fatoye, Mobolaji Momodu,

Damola Aderemi, Dele Momodu (CEO)



GLO COLLABO BUNDLE

*The ultimate
voice and data
combo*

*to talk and browse
as you like*



N1,000

20MINS + 1.25GB

7 Days Validity

N2,000

40MINS + 3GB

30 Days Validity

N5,000

100MINS + 12.5GB

30 Days Validity

**To get started
Dial *312# or**

SCAN TO DOWNLOAD THE

GloCafé APP



Unlimited