

HUMANIST RESIDENTS CRY OUT FOR HELP AS EROSION, FLOODS DEVASTATE HOMES, SCHOOLS, OTHERS IN YOBE

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CEO of Neptune Prime, Dr. Hassan Gimba, with the Head of Palestinian Community in Nigeria, Ibrahim Abu Ramzy

Middle East Analyst Condemns Israel over Journalists' Killings, Faults Arab **Nations for Abandoning Palestinians**

- "Israel kills journalists, babies on false terrorism claims" Ramzy
- "Abdel Fattah el-Sisi fuels starvation in Gaza" Ramzy

BY AYUBA AHMAD

Abu Ibrahim Ramzy, head of the Palestinian Community in Nigeria has accused Israel of purposefully killing six Al Jazeera journalists with false allegations of terrorism.

Ramzy said this during an interview exclusive

Neptune Prime Network on August 11, 2025.

He described the killing of the Al Jazeera journalists as a blatant violation of press freedom and international law.

He said, "Because Israel does not want the truth to be spread to the whole world, they bombed iournalists.

He emphasised that journalists are the ones bearing witness to suffering in Gaza, "And if the journalists were Hamas, what of the infants Israel is killing daily? Are they also terrorists?"

He said the suffering in Gaza is severe with babies dying from hunger and mothers dying in their sick beds.

Ramzy described the targeting of journalists as an attack on truth itself, stating that "Benjamin Netanyahu wants to kill the voice telling the truth. You only kill journalists when your enemy is the truth."

In his view, the aim of such action is the suppression of the broader narrative exposing the

humanitarian crisis in Gaza. Ramzy's statement comes amidst growing global outrage over an Israeli air strike on Sunday that killed six journalists in Gaza, five Al Jazeera journalists, including correspondent Anas al-Sharif.

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HERITAGE >>13

GERAWA PEOPLE OF BAUCHI: GUARDIANS OF TRADITION AND KEEPERS OF A MAGNIFICENT HERITAGE





HAJIYA ZULAI: THE POTISKUM **BUSINESSWOMAN TURNING HER HOME** INTO A THRIVING ENTERPRISE

OSHIOMHOLE, KWAM1, **COMFORT: THE CONTROVERSIES** IN NIGERIAN **AIRPORTS AND** THE UNEXPECTED REWARDS

BY SALIM SANI

In the space of weeks, Nigeria's airports have become theatres of avoidable spectacle. Three incidents-Adams Oshiomhole's clash with Air Peace in Lagos, KWAM-1's airport movie stunts in Abuja, and the unfiltered Ibom Air drama involving Comfort Emmanson, have raised the same hard question: when turbulence hits on the ground, does justice travel first class?

Oshiomhole

The Oshiomhole episode set the tone. After Air Peace said the senator's conduct was disruptive at Lagos airport, the Aviation Minister ordered an investigation. Weeks later, nothing public has come out of that probe, no final report, no firm sanction, leaving an aftertaste that status still insulates.

KWAM1

KWAM-1's case felt riskier. At Abuja airport on August 5, authorities said he obstructed a ValueJet aircraft after a dispute over carrying liquid. He was slammed with a no-fly penalty, then in a somewhat astonishing turn of events the Federal Government moved to engage him as an "airport security" or "aviation security" ambassador, while also reducing his ban to one month. For many Nigerians, that pivot read like a

reward wrapped as reform. Comfort Emmanson

Comfort's saga, by contrast, spiralled into public humiliation and criminal charges after an intense confrontation on an Ibom Air flight. She was dragged off the aircraft and her nakedness was exposed on a viral clip, remanded in Kirikiri Prison, then following national outrage discharged by an Ikeja magistrate as the government directed that the complaint be withdrawn. The whiplash from rough arrest to rapid discharge did little to inspire public confidence in the process.

Unexpected Rewards

Then came a decision that elevated public cynicism: offers of cash, a luxury trip,

CONTINUES ON PAGE 3



Comfort, KWAM1

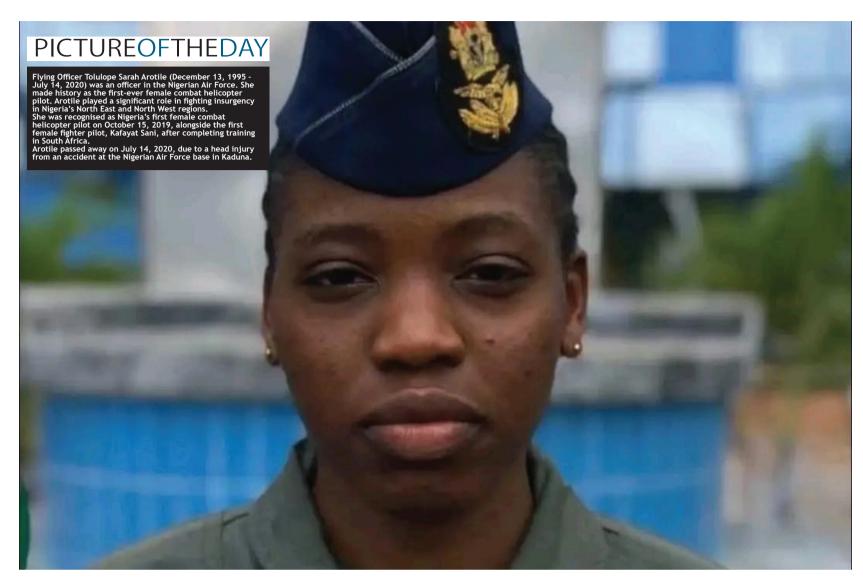
Neptune-World

Man is nothing else but what he makes of himself

Jean-Paul Sartre

The future of humanity will unfold according to the progress made by Africa

Cheikh Anta Diop



RANDOM FACTS

Imam Ali's Letter to Malik Al Ashtar (2)

Malik_al_Ashtar was one of the especial companions of Imam_Ali a.s and one of the powerful leaders of Iraq. He was one of the commanders of the army of Imam 'Ali (a) who was forethoughtful in politics and strong in battle. He participated in the Battle of Jamal and the Battle of Siffin and eventually he was appointed by Imam 'Ali (pbuh) as governor_general in Egypt. However, he was martyred before arriving to Egypt. The famous treaty of Malik al-Ashtar is a letter that Imam 'Ali wrote to him while he was in Egypt.

Part 2

Do not set yourself against God, for neither do you possess the strength to shield yourself against His displeasure, nor can you place yourself outside the pale of His mercy and forgiveness.

He will be regarded as one at war with God until he feels contrition and seeks forgiveness. Nothing deprives man of divine blessings or excites divine wrath against

Do not feel sorry over any act of forgiveness, nor rejoice over any punishment that you may mete out to any one.

Do not rouse yourself to anger, for no good will come out of it.

Do not say: "I am your overlord and dictator, and that you should, therefore, bow to my commands", as that will corrupt your heart, weaken your faith in religion and create disorder in the state. Should you be elated by power, ever feel in your mind the slightest symptoms of pride and arrogance, then look at the power and majesty of the Divine governance of the #Universe over which you have absolutely no control.

It will restore the sense of balance

to your wayward intelligence and give you the sense of calmness and affability.

Beware! Never put yourself against the majesty and grandeur of God and never imitate His omnipotence; for God has brought low every rebel of God and every tyrant of man.

Let your mind respect through your actions the rights of God and the #rights of man, and likewise, persuade your companions and relations to do likewise. For, otherwise, you will be doing injustice to yourself and injustice to humanity. Thus both man and God will turn unto your enemies. There is no hearing anywhere for one who makes an enemy of God himself. at war with God until he feels contrition and seeks forgiveness. Nothing deprives man of divine blessings or excites divine wrath against him more easily than cruelty. Hence it is, that God listens to the voice of the oppressed and waylays the oppressor.

> Imam Ali's letter to Malik al-Ashtar (part 2)

Nothing deprives man of divine blessings or excites divine wrath against him more easily than cruelty.
Hence it is, that God listens to the voice of the oppressed and waylays the oppressor.



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UP&DOWN -

"Our own dead had returned," says a Highland New Guinean on seeing a white man

A Highland New Guinean is shocked to see a white person for the first time in his life, in 1930. Before 1930, Highlanders thought they were the only living people in the world. "We believed our dead went over there, turned white, and came back as spirits. That's how we explained the white man: our own dead had returned."Those were some of his words.

Papua New Guinea is a country in the region of Oceania, in the Pacific Ocean. First settled tens of thousands of years ago, the country's population now numbers 9.6 million.

Due to its harsh geography, consisting of mountains, jungles, and isolated river valleys, the country is now home to 600 different tribes and hundreds of different languages.

According to researchers, early inhabitants are believed to have

arrived in Papua New Guinea about 60,000 years ago from Southeast Asia during the Last Glacial Age period when the sea was lower and distances between islands were shorter.



The powerful lesson of replacing anger with empathy and self-control

In the 1960s, Harvard graduate student Jean Briggs made a remarkable discovery about human anger. At age 34, she travelled beyond the Arctic Circle and lived in the tundra for 17 months. No roads. No heating systems. No grocery stores. Winters dropped below –40°C.

Briggs convinced an Inuit family to "adopt" her so she could observe their life in its natural rhythm. Soon, she noticed something extraordinary: the adults had an almost superhuman ability to control their anger. They never lost their temper.

One day, someone spilt a boiling kettle inside an igloo, damaging the ice floor. No shouting. No blame. Just a calm, "Too bad," before fetching more water. Another time, a fishing line – painstakingly woven for ďays snapped on the very first cast. The only response? "Let's make another one." Next to them, Briggs felt like an impulsive child. So she began asking: How do Inuit parents teach their children this emotional mastery? One afternoon, she found her answer. A young mother was playing with her angry two-year-old son. She handed him a small stone and said, "Hit me with it. Again. Harder." When he threw it, she covered her eyes and pretended to cry: "Ooooh, that hurts!"

NEWS

Middle East Analyst Condemns Israel over Journalists' Killings, **Faults Arab Nations for Abandoning Palestinians**

Support from Christian nations Ramzy has accused Israel of being not only an enemy to Muslims but also a threat to Christians, internally and worldwide, warning that the Zionist ideology does not recognise the existence of Palestinians, regardless of faith. Ramzy stressed that radical Zionists "do not differentiate whether you're a Muslim or a Christian," describing their agenda as one that denies Palestinians any right to live on the land.

"They are enemies of humanity," Ramzy said, adding that the oppression in Palestine is a struggle against a political ideology, not just a religious conflict.

Ramzy lamented that the global Muslim population, with large numbers, offers too little to aid

He said, "Look at the 2 billion Muslims on Earth, they're doing nothing. Who is rising today? It is the Christians. You see Australia. London, Holland and all other Christian nations, because they have human feelings."

Arab leaders are complicit -

The Palestinian analyst did not hold back in criticising leaders of Arab nations, blaming them for being complicit. According to him, their fear of political collapse drives their inaction, "The Arab leaders? They don't want Israel to be defeated. Because if the Israelis are being defeated today, they're not going to be in their seat on the second day. Because they are spies for the Americans and Israelis."

Ramzy highlighted that a hefty number of Palestinians are Christians, with deep historical roots in the region, highlighting the long-standing history of Christianity in Palestine, "We have 27% of Palestinians who are Christians. And even in Gaza, we have up to 5,000. We have the UN says 87% of Gaza in militarised zones or under evacuation orders



oldest church that was built over 1,400 years ago in Gaza, and the oldest hospital, which was built about 1,300 years ago."

On the struggle for Palestinian liberation, he added, "The Christians live amongst us. We don't differentiate. Some of them went to prison like us. Some of them are members of different parties of the Palestinian Freedom Fighters.'

Israel targets all religions

He stressed that Israel targets Christians even more than Muslims, and he rejected the notion that Israel represents Christian values, insisting that the Zionist ideology rejects both Moses and Jesus.

"People think the Israelis are Christians, while they are Zionists, this country of today, the so-called Israel, is of Zionists. "They do not even believe what Moses said to them. They don't even accept Moses and his religion or Jesus and his religion, they call Mary a prostitute, and they torture the Christians more than the Muslims in Palestine. So we have to give this awareness to

On correcting the views of those who support Israel, Ramzy alleged that biblical texts have been deliberately altered to foster pro-Israeli sentiment, calling on Christians to critically examine these claims and recognise the manipulation: "They wrote in the Bible for the Christians to start believing in these. But there is no single verse with origin from Jesus on that which says, 'If you

bless Israel. God will bless vou. And those who do not bless Israel. God will not bless them.' There is nothing like that. It's just that they're writing such things for people to start thinking like that." Ramzy commended the unwavering support of the Palestinian cause by far-eastern countries like China and Russia, and also acknowledged the efforts of many African nations.

Abdel Fattah el-Sisi fuels starvation in Gaza

Mr Ramzy has named Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi as the greatest obstacle to the liberation of Palestine in the ongoing genocide by the Zionist state of Israel in the Gaza Strip. Ramzy explained that besides not rendering any form of assistance to Palestinians, Cairo has been pursuing some policies that seriously handicap the struggle of resistance and liberation by the Palestinians.

He gave the example of the restrictions imposed by the Egyptian authorities on the movement of trucks trying to cross the border through Rafa with food items into the Gaza Strip, as well as the harsh treatment of refugees fleeing into Egypt.

Describing President Abdel-Fattah el-Sisi as a "hypocrite and coward" doing the bidding of America and Isreal, the Palestinian representative said the attitude of the current Egyptian leader is in sharp contrast to the courageous and dynamic leadership style of former President Mohammed Morsi, pointing out to a similer situation in 2013 in GAZA, when Morsi's administration actively engaged with U.S. President Barack Obama to seek lasting intervention for Palestinians.

Speaking further, he said the gesture by President Morsi portrayed Egypt as a vocal advocate and outreach point for Gaza's plight.

Airdrop counterproductive

On the dropping of aid from the air instead of the convenience of using the road, Mr Ramzy said that the approach is counterproductive and laced with danger. He said some of the droppings landed on houses, causing destruction and death in some instances, and the food aid that usually gets to the people does not reach up to 1% of what the population can survive on.

Despite the impact of the genocide and the ongoing starvation, he said, "Our people will not relent, we will not surrender because we are confident and we believe that by the will of the Almighty, we shall be victorious and definitely the end will come, oppression can not last forever. Sooner or later, the oppressor will be defeated Insha Allah."



CEO of Neptune Prime, Dr. Hassan Gimba, with the Head of Palestinian Community in Nigeria, Ibrahim Abu Ramzy

Oshiomhole, KWAM1, Comfort: The controversies in Nigerian airports and the unexpected rewards

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and even a job-N500,000 monthly—extended to Comfort Emmanson by a Delta State government aide, turning a question of safety into a spectacle of patronage. In the same news cycle, officials and spectators of the incident touted KWAM-1's recently offered ambassadorial role, believing that the optics are lopsided, that repentance seems to buy soft landings if you are famous, and controversy can be converted into influence.

Justice and Penalties

Across the three cases, the minds of many Nigerians are settling comfortably into a sad conclusion, that the constants are louder than the differences. The rules exist; then enforcement shakes crookedly. Penalties are announced, then negotiated. Investigations are launched, then fade. When a high-profile

appears to bend toward scandal management; when the ordinary citizen is involved, it leans into aggression until public pressure intervenes.

Hanging Aviation Rules

Frankly, this should not be an argument for impunity or public shaming. It's more of a plea for calibration. Aviation thrives on following due processes; protocols, and checklists, consequences that are clear and evenly applied. Same processes protect both the crews and passengers, but they also protect the influential from their own worst impulses. When sanctions feel unfair and redemptions feel transactional, then the safety culture erodes for everyone.

Fairness and Equality To be smart about these situations

and manage future ones better, Nigeria's aviation authorities can still turn this moment

person is involved, the system into a manual and publish the findings on the probe, cite satisfactory penalties for obstruction and crew interference, separate public education roles from ongoing sanctions, and solidify airline and regulator decisions against political manipulations. That is how you rebuild trust, by making fairness consistently reliable.

Aviation Safety

In the end, this isn't about winners or losers. No one benefits when an aircraft is blocked, a cabin crew member is assaulted, or a passenger is dragged on camera. What is being lost, quietly and cumulatively, is Nigeria's reputation for aviation discipline, professionalism and safety. On a global scale, that reputational drag is its own kind of turbulence, and it keeps everyone, VIP and economy alike, flying lower than they should.



Oshiomhole, Comfort, KWAM1

NEPTUNE PRIME WEEKEND 16-17:08:2025

NEWS

BY SALIM SANI



EFCC arrests 47 internet fraudsters, recovers rifle, live cartridges

fraudsters in Edo State have been arrested by the Benin Zonal Directorate of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission.

The EFCC disclosed this in a statement on X handle on Friday, noting that a pump-action rifle and live cartridges were recovered from one of them.

No fewer than 47 suspected internet fraudsters in Edo State have arrest on Friday, August 15, 2025, followed credible intelligence that linked them to fraudulent internet activities.

> "Other items recovered from them include six vehicles, mobile phones and laptop computers.

"They will be charged in court as soon

as investigations are concluded."

It stated that the arrests were made during a sting operation in Abeokuta, the state capital, following credible intelligence linking the suspects to

The agency had arrested 93 suspected internet fraudsters on Sunday in Ogun

internet fraud.

Army relocates special forces training school from Yobe to Nasarawa

The Nigerian Army has relocated its Special Forces Training School from Buni Yadi in Yobe State to Doma. Nasarawa State.

The school, situated at the premises of the Special Forces ommand, will serve as a vital training hub for the army's specialised operations.

The Chief of Army Staff (COAS), Lt.-Gen Ölufemi Oluyede, revealed this during a courtesy visit to Nasarawa State Governor, Abdullahi Sule.

He said, "The relocation of the school from Buni Yadi in Yobe State to Doma is aimed at providing a much more ideal environment for the training of our Special Forces in the requisite skills and competencies needed for the peculiar nature of their missions."

He said the school would enhance the army's capacity to address emerging security challenges.

"It will also add strategic value to the state and the nation at

large," he said. The army chief commended

the state government for its support of the army, noting that the cooperation the army receives from the government, people, and traditional institutions has been instrumental in sustaining beace in the state.

While appreciating establishment of the special school in the state. Governor Sule said the project will not only enhance national security but also contribute to the socioeconomic development of the

He said, "Peace is the foundation upon which development is built. Because of the relative stability we enjoy, Nasarawa has been able to pursue ambitious projects in agriculture and solid minerals. "Today, we are advancing large-scale rice cultivation, processing over 3,000 hectares, and commissioning one of the largest lithium processing plants in the country. None of this would be possible without the security agencies working hand-in-hand with our communities."



Army personnel

Niger State Government to prosecute boat operators without life jackets

The Niger State Government has vowed to commence sanctioning and prosecuting boat operators who refuse to adhere to the usage of life jackets on their boats.

The State Commissioner of Transport, Hajiya Hadiza Idris Kuta, stated this when she led a delegation to Guni in Munya local government area to condole with the families of the victims of the recent boat mishap, which occurred in

The commissioner revealed that her ministry provided 150 life jackets to Guni boat operators before the incident. Hajiya Kuta expressed her dismay at the reason the passengers who lost their lives in the mishap refused to use the life

She appealed to traditional leaders and especially, the association of boat operators to ensure its usage, assuring that the government will no longer condone anyone caught disobeying the rule.

In their separate condolence messages on behalf of the Niger State governor, Umar Bago, the Commissioner of Lands and Survey, Maurice Magaji and the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management, Mairo Mohammed Mann, urged members of the community to accept the irreparable loss as destiny.

They stressed the need for the community leaders to ensure proper supervision of passengers wearing life jackets and the removal of undergrowth to prevent future occurrences.

The duo assured of Governor Bago's commitment to saving lives and properties of the people, and called for collaboration from all stakeholders in achieving that objective. The families of the thirteen (13) victims

of the mishap were given N250,000, 50kg of rice and maize each, while 50 additional life jackets were given to the association of boat operators in the area.



Bago

OUR HEART

Issues over EFCC's arrest of Tambuwal

Most members of the public were taken aback by the news of last Monday's arrest of Senator Aminu Waziri Tambuwal by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC. There are several reasons why many would be shocked by the news

To the few informed and active political actors, the incident did not come as a surprise because they would have seen it coming. If anything, they would only have been surprised by the timing. Almost two years to 2027, it would appear as rather coming too early.

Those who were taken aback by the fate of Aminu Waziri Tambuwal would have considered the track record of the man from his days as Speaker of the House of Representatives through to his stint as a two-term governor of Sokoto State, 2015-2023.

In both instances, the Rt Honourable Tambuwal was not known nor even rumoured to have stained his integrity by way of sordid financial dealings. Such was his legacy of transparency and accountable leadership at the House of Reps, that he is still being venerated at the National Assembly and, in political circles in the entire country.

The EFCC has said that Tambuwal was invited for interrogation over alleged questionable withdrawals from the public treasury amounting to the tune of 189 billion naira, at various times during his tenure as governor of Sokoto state, 2015 to 2023. He was detained in the custody of the agency before his admission on administrative bail the following day. For multiple, plausible reasons, an overwhelming number of the public have dismissed the action of the EFCC as politically induced by the opposition ruling APC government. In justifying the decision to arrest the former Sokoto state governor, an official of the agency was anonymously quoted in the news media to have rhetorically asked: "Do you know what 189 billion Naira can do for Sokoto state and even the country?". True indeed, it is a hefty amount of money that can be used to accomplish a plethora of projects for the benefit of many citizens.

However, the timing of the EFCC action is patently curious. Why is the action just coming, two clear years after Tambuwal's exit from office? In other words, why does the EFCC seem to be just waking up from a deep slumber to the facts of the alleged impropriety involving, as it is, such staggering sums of money? It depicts a scenario of the agency inadvertently indicting itself of incompetence, or admitting to the more negative perception of rendering itself as a willing, pliable tool for political witch-hunt, intimidation and vendetta.

Those familiar with political developments in Sokoto state will note that the allegations against Tambuwal by the EFCC were the same issues that had been repeatedly raised in the past by political opponents in the state, to set the anti-graft agency against him.

To its credit, the same EFCC in all the previous instances had resisted the ploys to be dragged into the political intrigues as an instrument for enhancing narrow partisan goals. The principled and professional stance of the agency would obviously have resulted from a diligent investigation and the discovery that the allegations were baseless, frivolous and politically tainted.

The crass, absolute lack of logic and rationale to the allegation, is very glaring. The sum of 189 billion Naira withdrawn over a period of eight years, translates to an average monthly withdrawal of 2 billion Naira! Throughout the eight-year stint of Tambuwal as an officer, records reveal that Sokoto state's monthly revenue income hovered around N4 billion on average every month, and the monthly salary wage bills were at about N2.2 billion.

If, as alleged by the EFCC, Tambuwal was syphoning about N2 billion each month, it impliedly goes to mean that the state treasury was always left empty at the end of the day, every month of the eight years. Logically, such a scenario implies that there were no capital projects initiated and executed, while other vital recurrent expenditures were also abandoned throughout his tenure. This is inanity of the highest degree. Certainly, the inanity of the allegation was what informed the decision of the EFCC Sokoto zonal office to dismiss it as a heap of cheap machinations of blackmail and mudslinging.

What then has changed to inform the recent decision of the EFCC to resurrect a case which its operatives had examined and put to rest as dead, a couple of years ago? The only fathomable, logical and plausible explanation for the amazing volteface is the transmutations unravelling on the nation's political landscape. The political stakes are clearly very high and thus, the corresponding frenzied activities by the actors. According to statements by the Sokoto state chapter of the PDP, the travails of Aminu Waziri Tambuwal, are not unrelated to his refusal to accept an offer made a few months earlier by emissaries of the ruling party, the APC, for him to switch over from the opposition camp. Recent events would tend to lend credence to this allegation.

Even as it is close to two years to the next election season, the political gladiators have become unusually agitated, worked up and desperate. At daggers drawn so early in the day, the frightful speed at which the politicians have embarked on the race to the year 2027, portends disturbing omens. One does not need a crystal ball to predict that the "Night of the Long Knives", could be coming sooner than later. We may therefore be merely witnessing the dress rehearsals by the EFCC. Before the others join the fray!

Besides the experience of Senator Aminu Waziri Tambuwal, the EFCC in its other recent actions has further highlighted a picture of its gradual and dangerously steady drift from being a statutory institution for fighting corruption and related financial crimes to becoming a vicious attack dog of the reigning political authorities of the day.

The case of Chief Emeka Ihedioha, former governor of Imo state and that of Senator David Mark, former President of the Senate, succinctly lend credence to the sad unwholesome commentary. The two, who, like Aminu Waziri Tambuwal, are prominent leaders of the budding opposition political party, the African Democratic Congress, ADC, have been similarly targeted by the EFCC on what, perceptibly, appears to be frivolous and trumped-up allegations.

In the case of Ihedioha, for example, the EFCC was reported to have been running helter-skelter, asking government officials in Imo state to assist with any information and evidence of corruption against him during his seven-month sojourn as governor. What then is the agency investigating, if it is just presently, rummaging for reasons to nail him? Why the haste to "invite" Ihedioha before the conclusion of the investigation? Clearly, the sums are not adding up.

The EFCC is "investigating" Senator David Mark's eight-

year tenure as Senate President, 2007 to 2015, ten years after he left that office! For goodness' sake, what image of itself is the EFCC projecting by this whimsical, blatant display of infantile chicanery? What is happening to what otherwise, ought to be a respectable and awe-inspiring institution? Surely, there is a need for an urgent and critical self-appraisal by those presently at the helm of the EFCC to check the rapidly declining confidence of Nigerians and the rest of the

In response to the barrage of unflattering comments on its recent assaults on members of the opposition political parties, ADC in particular, the EFCC has, expectedly, dismissed such opinions as: "self-serving, diversionary and idle"

In the words of its chairman, Ola Olukoyode, "If I am not condemned for investigating both former and serving APC governors and ministers, I should not be condemned for also investigating opposition figures. Fraud is fraud. Corruption is corruption." Good talk, even though not a few would interpret Mr Olukoyode's retort as the expected posturing of an ensnared Chief Executive in a tight corner.

Be that as it may, the EFCC does not appear to have achieved much in defending itself against the stacks of allegations of partisan and selective justice and of embarking on a course of "intimidating opposition leaders ahead of the 2027 elections."

Surely, the EFCC needs to, and must do much more than it has done so far, to repudiate and acquit itself of the scathing accusation of the ADC that the agency's apparent interest in "long-concluded tenures of opposition politicians", while ignoring, "fresher, well documented cases involving APC members, is indicative of selective justice."

The"invitation" and the one day incarceration of Senator Aminu Waziri Tambuwal, the invitation to Emeka Ihedioha and the frantic search for evidence of corruption against him from officials of Imo state as well as the declared intention to "invite" Senator David Mark for questioning over his tenure as Senate President, ten years after leaving the Senate, all portray the EFCC as being more focused on the leading lights of the opposition parties in the country.

One does not have to be a "self-serving and idle" member of the opposition to align with the opinions that accuse the Olukoyode's EFCC of brazen and palpable partisan disposition towards the APC. The grounds for the damning verdict are crystal clear.

For instance, not a few pundits believe that former Delta state governor Ifeanyi Okowa has been covered with the protective coat of immunity from further "investigation" and, "invitation" by the EFCC due to his jumping from the boat of the PDP to that of the APC.

corruption are a coterie of the leadership and members of the National Assembly, who hitherto were guests of the EFCC and are not known to have been cleared of the multiple weighty allegations of fraud and corruption against them. At the end of the day, the inevitable verdict that its leadership will not find palatable is that recent actions of the EFCC have portrayed it as fast veering off the tracks of an anti-corruption institution, into a pack of hounds barking, harassing and threatening to pounce on individuals perceived as threats to

Similarly seen to be now safe and free from the sins of

However, while baring its intimidating fangs to threaten and browbeat members of the opposition to fall in line, by tacitly or, openly embracing the APC, the leadership of the EFCC and, the puppeteers pulling the strings from behind the scenes, must be alerted to the potential dangerous consequences of their actions.

First, those currently calling the shots at the EFCC must avoid playing too much to the gallery to the point of total ruination of the agency as a respectable body with the crucial responsibility of fighting the cancerous malady of corruption and fraud.

This demands that Mr Ola Olukoyode must begin to walk his talk that: "Corruption is corruption and fraud is fraud." This, in other words implies the admission that some of the recent actions of the EFCC under his watch fell off the mark of due diligence and transparency

of due diligence and transparency.

Very pertinently, both members of the ruling party and those of the opposition should be conscious of their roles as strategic stakeholders in the peace and stability of the country and, significantly, in the historic voyage of nurturing and entrenching the culture of democracy in the country. Intimidating opposition political parties into silence or squeezing them out of existence altogether is tantamount to

that stage, democracy gives way to dictatorship, autocracy and totalitarianism.

Alternatively, the society is overtaken by the whirlwind of anarchy which inevitably is a path leading to the greater catastrophe of statelessness. Read, Sudan and Somalia.

obliterating the defining spirit of multiparty democracy. At

catastrophe of statelessness. Read, Sudan and Somalia. Thus translating to mean that, the transient benefits would eventually turn out to be a phyrric victory.

EDITORIAL TEAM

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Floods submerge residential areas in Yobe



Flooded houses

An early morning heavy downpour in Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State has submerged eleven residential areas following severe flooding.

Preliminary report and

spatial analysis conducted by the State Emergency Management Agency, SEMA, indicated areas affected to include Old prison, Filin mashe, Unguwar makafi, Unguwar jaje bakin kwari, Afghanistan and Tsangaya.

Other areas are Karofi, Bayan Garejin Dan Juma, Jigawa bayan, Makarahuta and Tandari.

Although no loss of life has been recorded as of the

time of filing this report, a detailed assessment by SEMA is still ongoing. According to the agency, the state government will

According to the agency, the state government will ensure that life-saving support and protection are provided to the victims.



Thug

70 gang members renounce crime in Gombe

As part of activities to mark International Youth Week, Youth O'Clock Nigeria, Gombe State Chapter, staged a high-level town hall meeting in partnership with key stakeholders, where about 70 repentant thugs, popularly known as yan kalare, dropped their weapons and embraced peace for the overall development of Gombe State.

Held at the Council Chamber of Gombe Local Government on Friday, the event brought together traditional and religious leaders, youth and women groups, security agencies, and civil society organisations to address the deep-seated challenges confronting young people in the state.

Speaking at the event, the Commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs,

Colonel Abdullahi Bello (retd.), commended Youth O'Clock Nigeria for its community service and foresight in convening the meeting.

He urged the repentant youths to uphold discipline, honesty, and trustworthiness, "embrace vocational skills, and shun drug abuse to safeguard their lives and protect the dignity of their families," the commissioner added. On his part, Chairman of Gombe Local Government Council and ALGON Chairman, Sani Haruna, reaffirmed his council's readiness to partner with Youth O'Clock Nigeria in giving youth matters

priority attention.

He assured that the local government would provide support by creating opportunities to improve their livelihoods, urging

the reformed youths to become responsible.

Haruna added, "Become lawabiding citizens and resist being used by politicians for selfish interests."

Emir of Gombe and Chairman of the Gombe State Council of Emirs and Chiefs, Alhaji Abubakar Shehu-Abubakar III, expressed profound joy over the youths' decision to renounce crime and embrace peace.

The Emir pledged the unwavering support of his palace to the mission of Youth O'Clock Nigeria in youth development.

Represented by Dr Sani Jauro, Shehu-Abubakar promised to assist the reformed youths through the Northeastern University Community Development Initiative, "providing them with livelihood opportunities to improve their lives and those of their families," he added.

Also speaking, the Gombe State Commissioner of Police, CP Bello Yahaya, represented by the command's Public Relations Officer, DSP Buhari Abdullahi, reaffirmed their commitment to collaborate with individuals and organisations to secure lives and property across the state.

Similarly, the State Commandant of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, Jibrin Idris, represented by Gombe Divisional Officer, Muhd Danjuma, lauded Youth O'Clock Nigeria for bringing stakeholders together, advising that such engagements should be held quarterly to enable continuous dialogue between youths and stakeholders for problem-solving.

NITDA, Bauchi inaugurate Digital Literacy Plan for youth empowerment, innovation

Bauchi State Government, in partnership with the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA), has launched the Digital Literacy and Skills Framework, also known as the DL4ALL Bauchi Initiative, to equip residents with 21st-century skills and position the state as a hub for digital innovation.

Literacy which for competer and so informat literacy, creation, and col and prob The program across the partnership with the National Literacy which for the National Information Technology and so informat literacy.

for digital innovation.
Speaking at the launch in Bauchi, Governor Bala Mohammed described digital literacy as a "fundamental right" and part of his administration's strategy to prepare youths and civil servants for the global economy.

"With the right skills, people can now create sustainable value from anywhere — even from their own homes," he said. "We will empower our youth, strengthen institutions, and enable our entrepreneurs to succeed globally.

"Beyond literacy, we are committed to producing an army of experts in advanced digital skills to drive innovation and economic diversification."

The governor noted that his government's investments in infrastructure over the past six years aim to open up the economy and connect the state's youth to global markets.

Representing NITDA's Director-General, Kashifu Inuwa Abdullahi, the agency's Director of the DG's Office, Dr. Ayodeji Eniola, praised Bauchi for "taking a bold step towards ensuring the state is not left behind in the global digital revolution."

The DL4ALL Bauchi Initiative aligns with NITDA's Strategic Roadmap and the National Digital Literacy Framework, which focuses on six core competencies: device and software operation, information and data literacy, digital content creation, communication and collaboration, safety, and problem-solving.

The programme will run across three strategic areas: Informal sector: Training artisans, traders, and other workers, with 7,101 Digital Literacy Champions already reaching more than 267,000 Nigerians.

□ Workforce readiness: Equipping public servants, graduates, and job seekers with employability skills, with a target of five million workers trained nationwide. Education sector: Integrating digital skills into schools, with a new Basic Education Digital Skills Curriculum set to roll out in September 2025 and 3,600 teachers to be trained.

Inuwa described Nigeria's

youthful population as its

"greatest resource" and said Bauchi's human capital and location give it "enormous potential to become a hub for digital innovation and economic transformation." The Director-General of Bauchi State's Bureau for ICT and Digital Economy, Malam Hayatudeen Babamaji, said the launch marked "a bold agenda for the state's digital future," with plans to become a secure, inclusive, and competitive tech hub in

Northern Nigeria.
The event drew senior officials, tech leaders, development partners, and lawmakers, signalling what organisers described as a major step in bridging Bauchi's digital skills gap and boosting job creation.



Mohammad

NORTH-EAST

BY GIFT LUCKSON GIFTLUCKSON@NEPTUNEPRIME.COM.NG

Bauchi governor appoints Chinese national as economic adviser

Bauchi State Governor, Bala Mohammed, has appointed a Chinese national, Mr. Li Zhensheng, as Economic Adviser to the state government.

Mohammed made the announcement on Thursday during signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the China Global Promotion Cooperation Research Centre in Bauchi.

According to him, the move is aimed at positioning Bauchi as a rising hub of international cooperation, with the long-term partnership expected to accelerate investment, infrastructure development, and bilateral collaboration sectors such as agriculture, education, healthcare, manufacturing, mining, oil and gas, and trade facilitation.

outlines MoU The framework cooperation, with specific project agreements to be developed on a case-bycase basis.

"As part the deal, a Bauchi State Representative Office will be established in China to oversee project implementation and ensure timely delivery," the governor stated.

Mohammed explained that



Mohammed and Zhensheng

the partnership aligns with the diplomatic framework between President Xi Jinping of China and President Bola Tinubu of Nigeria, designed to strengthen relations at both national and subnational

"This agreement is not

just about infrastructure—it's about transforming lives. We are opening Bauchi to the world," he said, adding that the collaboration would boost foreign direct investment, create jobs, enhance skills, modernise key sectors, and improve Bauchi's global visibility. In his remarks, Zhensheng, who is the Chairman of the China Global

Promotion Cooperation Research Centre, pledged the Centre's commitment to mobilising global resources to support Bauchi's economic transformation.

"We are committed to helping Bauchi achieve sustainable growth, modern infrastructure, and improved livelihoods," he



Flood

NOA urges Adamawa residents in flood-prone areas to relocate

Richard Dangari, director of the National Orientation Agency (NOA) in Adamawa, has advised residents in flood-prone communities to relocate to safer areas to avoid flood disasters

Mr Dangari gave the advice in an interview in Yola on Thursday.

He said that based on the Nigeria Meteorological Agency's prediction, Adamawa is among the states expected to experience flooding. Mr Dangari, therefore, stressed the need for people to heed the safety advisory.

According to him, some parts of the state have started witnessing flooding, hence the need to advise the people to take precautions before the situation gets out of hand.

"It is good for those in such

areas to relocate with their properties now to avoid any disaster that might lead to loss of lives and property.

"The agency is always doing its best on sensitisation on the need for the people to be on alert, hence the need for safety," he said.

Mr Dangari also urged residents to adopt good environmental habits, especially in the way they

handle waterways, saying that they should stop dumping refuse into the waterways to avert blockages.

He called on the government to be proactive in evacuating refuse before it becomes a hazard to the people, as well as in clearing the drainage systems.

Mr Dangari further urged community leaders to double their efforts in sensitising their subjects to minimise the imminent disaster that might cause havoc in their respective communities.

Man faces trial for assaulting female doctor in Yobe

A patient, Ahmed Usman, 40, is set to face trial at the Chief Magistrate Court 1 in Damaturu, Yobe State, over allegations of assaulting a medical doctor, Fatima

Umar Gamsa, at the General Sani Abacha Specialist Hospital. The case, scheduled for hearing on August 19, has been confirmed by the Chairman of the Association of Resident Doctors, Yobe State Branch, Dr. Umar Aji.

Aji said the association had reported the case to the police and was awaiting the court's verdict.

"The case is now before a court, and the association will not say anything pending the outcome of the court verdict," he emphasised.

The suspect is currently remanded at the Potiskum Correctional Service pending

the hearing of the case.

Confirming the case, SP Dungus
Abdulkarim said the matter is before
the State Chief Magistrate Court 1
Damaturu, for hearing. "We have
already handed the case to the court
for determination on a date fixed for

for determination on a date fixed for hearing," Dungus confirmed.

The Chief Magistrate Court 1 registry confirmed that the case had been adjourned to August 19 for hearing, with the accused remanded in custody pending the hearing date.

A hospital management staff member, who wished to remain anonymous due to a lack of authority to speak on the matter, provided insight into the incident. According to the staff member, "The patient, Ahmed Usman, was scheduled for a review with the doctor on duty. However, when the doctor called out his name, he was not present, and the folder was set aside while the next patient was attended to.'

He continued, "After the day's work, the patient became agitated, feeling he had been overlooked. In a shocking turn of events, the patient went outside, cut a branch from a tree, and used it to assault the doctor.

"Hospital security personnel intervened to control the situation, and the incident

was reported to the police."
Efforts to speak with Gamsa were unsuccessful, as she was on a bed rest leave recovering from the incident.

The doctor was advised to allow the court to determine the case, as it is now a matter of legal proceedings.



CUSTOMS & NEMARYAM SULAIMAN Maryam Sulaiman@neptuneprime.com.ng

NCS holds consultation with stakeholders on review of licensing rates for Customs agents

mandate under Sections 103 to 107 of the Nigeria Customs Service Act, 2023, and in furtherance of ongoing reforms to strengthen professionalism and regulatory efficiency in the freight forwarding the Nigeria sector, Customs Service (NCS) has commenced consultations with stakeholders on a planned review of licensing renewal fees for Licensed Customs Agents.

This was disclosed during a high-level stakeholders' engagement with executives of the Association of Nigerian Licensed Customs Agents (ANLCA), the National Association of Government Approved Forwarders Freight (NAGAFF), the Africa Association of Professional Freight Forwarders and Logistics of Nigeria (APFFLON), and Customs Consultative Committee (CCC), held at the NCS Headquarters, Abuja, on Thursday, 07 August 2025. This meeting marks the first in a series of consultation sessions to be held with industry players ahead of the planned implementation.

The licensing of Customs Agents remains a critical component in safeguarding the integrity of Nigeria's cargo clearance process. planned review realities, including the value of exchange rates, address operational demands, and ensure that only agents who meet the Service's compliance, competence, and integrity requirements continue to operate within the system. This initiative is aimed at promoting accountability, streamlining processes, and enhancing the quality of service

delivery in the sector.
The Service emphasises that the review forms part of broader modernisation efforts targeted repositioning the NCS to meet the evolving needs of international trade and border management. It is expected to create a more transparent, predictable, and efficient licensing regime that will ultimately benefit legitimate operators and the trading public. The new licensing structure is scheduled to take effect from January 2026, following the conclusion of stakeholder consultations. Furthermore, Licensed Customs Agents who comply with the new licensing structure will enjoy access to premium facilitation measures, including faster processing timelines, improved engagement channels with Customs officers, and enhanced integration with the Service's upgraded is intended to reflect digital platforms. This



Customs CG

compliance-driven incentive is designed to encourage adherence to professional standards while discouraging sharp practices.

The NCS reassures stakeholders

feedback from industry associations, individual operators, and relevant government agencies will sures be carefully considered its before the finalisation

commitment to an inclusive and implementation of Abdullahi Maiwada PhD, process and notes that the review. The Service reiterates its dedication to fairness, transparency, and the promotion of a secure, competitive, and efficient trading environment in

mnipr, mniia Assistant Comptroller of Customs National Public Relations Officer For Comptroller-General of

Flood: 140,228 affected, 49,205 displaced in 21 States – NEMA

has said 140,228 persons have contingency plans been affected and 49,205 displaced by this year's flood in 21 States of the country.

The data by the Agency also indicates that 191 deaths have been recorded, 239 injuries sustained and 94 persons missing.

The States that have recorded deaths are Niger with 162, Adamawa with 26 and Borno with one.

The updated 2025 flood dashboard by NEMA, released on Sunday, also indicates that 52 Local Government Areas (LGAs) of the country have been affected.

According to the data from the Agency, children are the most affected. The data reads: "62,393 children, 43,531 women, 28,505 men, 5,799 elderly, and 1,887 disabled persons have so far

The National Emergency been affected by this year's flood. Management Agency (NEMA) Flooding: NEMA, states make

NEMA urges evacuation as floods threaten lives in Imo local govt

2025 flood: 165 dead, 82 missing, 119,791 affected in 19 states - NEMA

"Also, 10,663 houses and 9,454 farmlands have been affected by the floods".

The State with the highest number of affected persons and displaced persons is Imo with 28,030 affected persons and 15,107 displaced persons.

Other states mostly affected are: Rivers, Adamawa, Abia, Delta, Borno and Kaduna.

The 21 states affected are: Abia. FCT, Adamawa, Akwa Ibom, Anambra, Bayelsa, Borno, Delta, Edo, Gombe, Imo, Jigawa, Kaduna, Kano, Kogi, Kwara, Lagos, Niger, Ondo, Rivers and Sokoto States.

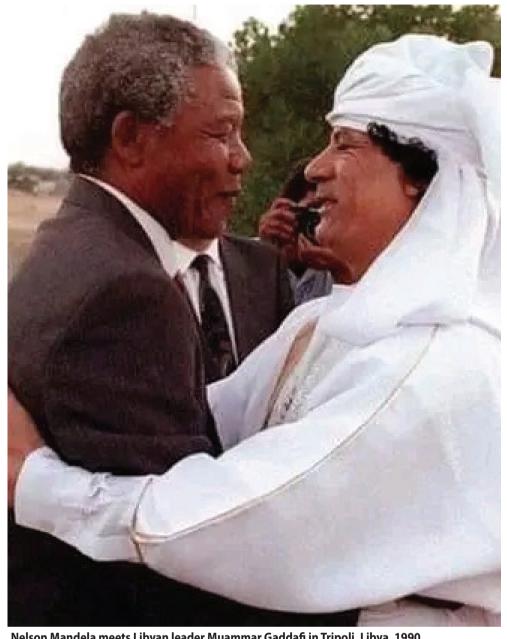


NEMA Officials

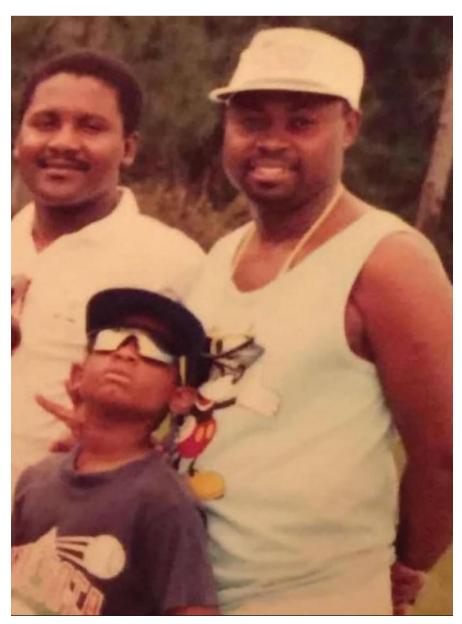
PRIME PHOTOS By Maryam Umar Maryam Umar@neptuneprime.com.ng



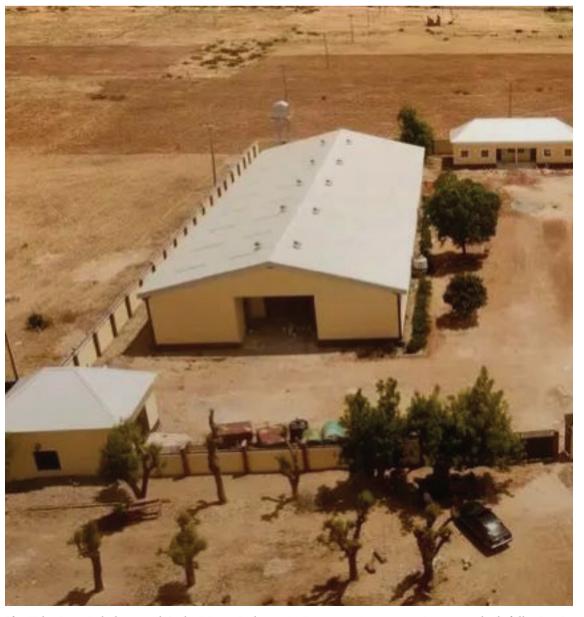
Dr Agnes Sewande Savage was a Nigerian-Scottish medical doctor who was the first female medical doctor with West African heritage to qualify. She graduated from the University of Edinburgh with a first-class honours degree in medicine at the age of 23 in 1929. She was born in 1906 and died in 1964.



Nelson Mandela meets Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi in Tripoli, Libya, 1990



A picture of young Davido with his business magnate father, Adedeji Adeleke, and billionaire businessman Aliko Mohammad Dangote



The Yobe State Polythene and Sacks Woven Industry in Damaturu is now wearing a new look following its reconstruction and upgrade by the Governor Mai Mala Buni-led administration

PRIME1OMENT

BY ALIYU ASKIRA

Pop icon Madonna has made an appeal to Pope Leo XIV, urging him to visit the blockaded Gaza Strip amid a starvation crisis that has sparked international

"You are the only one of us that cannot be denied entry," the U.S. singer wrote on social media platform X late on Monday.

"We need the humanitarian gates to be fully opened to save these innocent children.

"There is no more time," she added.

Marking the 25th birthday of her son Rocco Ritchie on Monday, Madonna also announced plans to donate to humanitarian organisations working in Gaza.

"I feel the best gift I can give to him as a mother is to ask everyone to do what they can to help save the innocent children caught in the crossfire in Gaza,"

A United Nations (UN) agency said late last week that "acute malnutrition among children in Gaza has reached the highest levels."

In July alone, nearly 12,000 children, less than five years old were identified as acutely malnourished, with another 2,500 found to suffer from severe acute malnutrition.

According to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), this is the most lifethreatening form.

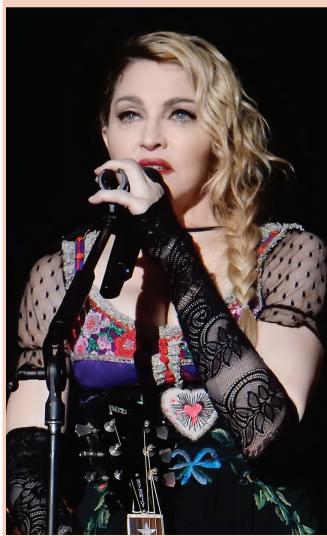
Israel controls access roads to Gaza and has sealed off the coastal area.

Very little aid got into Gaza from March through May, when Israel began allowing deliveries using a controversial private system that bypasses traditional UN agencies.

Under pressure from allies, Israel recently began permitting larger convoys into the territory, as aid

airdrops take place overhead.
On Sunday, Irish rock band U2 issued a stinging critique of the Israeli government's actions.

"We know Hamas are using starvation as a weapon in the war, but now so too is Israel and I feel revulsion for the moral failure," frontman Bono wrote.



Madonna

Madonna urged Pope Leo XIV to visit starving children in Gaza "Many Nigerian artists are into internet fraud" - MI Abaga



MI Abaga

Nigerian rapper, Jude 'MI' Abaga, has alleged that some music stars in the country were being funded by internet fraud.

MI Abaga, in a recent podcast interview, claimed that some artists rely on proceeds from cybercrime, popularly known as 'Yahoo Yahoo,' showing the lack of proper funding structures for the creative sector.

"There's a lot of controversy when people talk about 'Yahoo Yahoo' because a lot of artistes, that is the funding that they have," he said.

"What I'm trying to say is that it's an indictment on our country that we have such talented musicians and that the major funding for the industry comes from the West and this other industry.

"It shows that something is wrong. Hopefully, we can

do better. Think about it, let's even say I'm a 'Yahoo boy', I'm not, but let's say I was and I just made N100 million. Okay, I'm now a criminal who made N100 million but still don't have to give it to an artiste, I can blow it however I want, or I can put it in real estate.

"What I'm trying to say is that the fact that it goes to artistes and that is one of the major ways that artistes can get investments into them. Like there's no place else, it happens to be other young people who just happen to have money.

"Society will criticise the method of legal money, but what is relevant is that there are other young people who have money and are just trying to help because they're seeing their talented friends, and that is a statement about Nigeria," he added.

Female singers are not respected in Nigeria - Tems

Grammy-winning Nigerian Afropop singer, Temilade Openiyi, popularly known as Tems, has said women are not given due respect in the music industry.

Tems, who made history as the first Nigerian female artist to win a Grammy in 2023, spoke in an interview with the BBC, which

started trending on Tuesday. She reflected on the early years of her career, revealing that it was difficult for her to be taken seriously as a woman in the male-dominated industry.

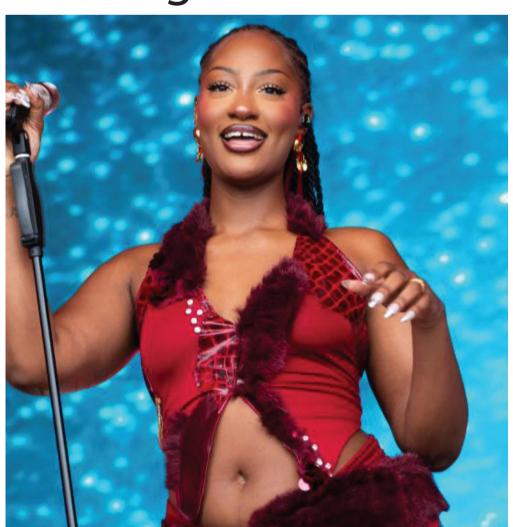
She said, "I realised that there's always a cost. There's always a price that you pay. And a lot of those prices I wasn't willing to pay and there weren't a lot of options.' Afropop has gained global recognition over the past decade, with Nigerian stars like Burna Boy, Davido and Wizkid — often referred to as the "Big Three" dominating the scene.

Female artists such as Tiwa Savage and Yemi Alade have also spoken about the gender-based barriers

Tems has herself been at the centre of online criticism, earlier this year responding to negative comments about her body after a performance video went viral on X.

She wrote, "It's just a body, I will add and lose weight. I never once hid my body, I just didn't feel the need to prove or disprove anyone. The more you don't like my body, the better for me actually.

Speaking about her plans to empower women, Tems unveiled her new platform, The Leading Vibe Initiative, which she said is aimed at creating opportunities for young women in the music industry.



Tems

"I promised myself that if I get to a place where I can do more, I will make this initiative for women like me and maybe make it easier for women to access platforms and access a wider audience and

success," she said.

Tems attributed her rise to staying "authentic" and "audacious" despite industry pressure to change. "Even when people tell you to change your sound, change

your style, you look at them and you say: 'No'. If it meant me not being signed, I was okay not being signed. I went to a couple of places that didn't sign me and I was okay with that," she stated.

NEPTUNE PRIME BUSINESS



Consumers celebrate as food prices drop in Dawasa Market, Yobe

BY KASIM ISA MUHAMMAD,

KasimIsa@neptuneprime.com.ng

The prices of key grains such as beans, millet, sorghum, and red beans have dropped this week at Dawasa Grains Market in Yobe State, offering relief to households and traders who have struggled with high food costs in recent months.

Maize is now selling between N37,000 and N36,000. Millet has dropped from N40,000 to N36,000. Sorghum prices vary depending on the type; the small-load variety is now N27,000 to N28,000, down from N31,000. The "Kwakwai" type of sorghum, known locally as Dawa Kaura,

has dropped from N40,000 to N37,000.

White beans have increased from N65,000 to N73,000. Large red beans have slightly dropped from N83,000 to N80,000.

Melon is priced between N44,000 and N45,000, with a variant selling for N50,000 to N52,000. Polished rice is N125,000, while the price for broken or processed rice varies. Groundnuts range from N120,000 to N150,000.

Other sorghum varieties range between \$\Begin{array}{c} 35,000 \text{ and } \Begin{array}{c} 41,000, \text{ depending on quality and source.} \end{array}

From the buyers' perspective, the drop in prices, especially for

staple grains like maize, millet, and sorghum, has come as a welcome relief.

Many consumers affirmed that the reduction will allow them to buy slightly more food with the same amount of money, helping households manage expenses effectively.

Traders, however, say that while lower prices may attract more customers, profit margins have become smaller due to transport costs and the rising prices of other goods.

"At least people can afford to eat better now," one grain seller remarked, "but for us traders, the market is still tight because fuel and loading costs have not gone down."







MILESTONE

BY MARYAM SULAIMAN MaryamSulaiman@neptuneprime.com.ng

Nigerian tech pioneer bags award of excellence in technology innovation

Information Technology and cloud security expert Samad Akanbi Toyin has been honoured with the Outstanding Award of Excellence in Technology Innovation of the Year at the 10th African Icon Awards, held at the Nicon Luxury Hotel, Abuja.

The African Icon Awards celebrate exceptional changemakers driving progress across the continent. Ambassador Abraham Lawal, Project Director, commended Akanbi's pioneering work, saying he "exemplifies the spirit of leadership and innovation that this award seeks to celebrate."

Akanbi, who holds a Distinction in MSc Cloud and Network Security from the University of Bolton, UK, and a BSc in Computer Science from Kwara State University, Nigeria, ĥas over six years of experience in secure infrastructure design, network optimisation, and enterprise IT service delivery.

Certified in cybersecurity by the International Information System Security Consortium (ISC)², as well as AWS, Microsoft, and Cisco, Akanbi is a member of several international engineering and computing bodies. He remains committed to bridging advanced technical solutions with real-world applications while mentoring the next generation of tech professionals.



Akanbi



Dr Daru

Reowned Nigerian-American plant ecologist honoured for revolutionary research

Assistant Professor of biodiversity science and for his extensive professional and institutional service across continents.

From shaping the future of ecological research to mentoring students, Daru's influence is widely felt in both academic conservation communities.

"He is a passionate educator and mentor, and is committed to promoting biogeography to individuals historically marginalised populations," said Dr. Marta Jarzyna, a macroecologist and Vice President, Public Affairs Communications

Professor of Biogeography Society. at Stanford At Stanford, Daru serves University, Dr. Barnabas on the Jasper Ridge H. Daru has gained Biological Preserve Faculty recognition for Advisory Committee, careers. contributions to the Biology Graduate Daru's editorial experience Committee, Admissions and the Promotion Committee for lecturers, where he is helping to shape science leadership and inclusion within academia.

He also helps organise the department's Biology Seminar Series, which has brought global attention to emerging topics in plant ecology and biogeography. Before joining Stanford, Daru held several leadership roles at Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi, including positions on key search committees for the Dean of the College of Science and new faculty recruitment.

International He also contributed to

outreach programmes like Island Day, aimed at encouraging high school students to pursue science

spans several leading journals. He has served as Reviewing Editor for eLife, Associate Editor for the American Journal of Botany, and Guest Editor for the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B, one of the oldest scientific journals in the world.

He is also a frequent peer reviewer for top-tier publications including Nature, PNAS, and Trends in Ecology & Evolution. As the world grapples with accelerating biodiversity

loss, scientists like Daru are at the forefront of integrating data, policy, and education for a sustainable future.

HERITAGE BY SALIM SANI

Gerawa People of Bauchi: Guardians of Tradition and Keepers of a Magnificent Heritage

The Gerawa people, also known as Gera or Fyandigeri, have for centuries maintained a quiet but foundational presence in Bauchi State of Northeast Nigeria. Though not large in number, their history, traditions, and language reveal a culture both distinct and deeply rooted in respect and hard work.

History and Language

The Gerawa people trace their ancestry to Sudan, from where they journeyed through various regions before settling in some parts of Bauchi. Their arrival was more than just migration, it was foundational.

They speak the Gera language, a member of the Chadic branch of the Afro-Asiatic family. Known locally as Fyandigeri, the language was once widely spoken across over 30 villages.

However, Hausa increasingly dominates education, tradition, and commerce. The gradual erosion of the language represents a deeper cultural displacement, threatening the survival of a people who have contributed significantly to Bauchi's legacy. **Culture and Tradition**

The Gerawa's culture is layered with ancient rites and communal governance. Each subgroup is led by a Nallo (ruler), supported by a council of elders who guide decisions and mediate disputes. Upon a Nallo's death, members of the royal family are presented to the community, who elect the next leader through a traditional

Cultural expression finds its form in Kokawa (traditional wrestling) and Dambe (boxing), two arts that align the Gerawa with other Hausa-influenced communities of northern Nigeria. Their ceremonies feature the Dodo, a masked spiritual figure embodying ancestral forces, who dances at important festivals and rites of

unique naming and postpartum ritual. When a woman gives birth, she stays in her husband's house for seven days. After the naming ceremony, both mother and child are sent to her maternal grandparents' home for two years, serving both spiritual and practical purposes, including population control and early childcare support.

Economy and Occupation Traditionally, the Gerawa are

knit family compounds built from mud and thatch. With time, modernisation reshaped their occupational structure. Today's Gerawa include and entrepreneurs, reflecting a

corn, and maize, and raising cattle across the fertile plains of Bauchi. Their compact villages, protected by hedges or walls, house tightly

doctors, engineers, civil servants, community in transition. Yet, the heart of their economy remains deeply rooted in the soil, with seasonal rhythms dictating daily

resources such as

land, adding untapped economic potential to their traditional base. Marriage and Spirituality

Marriage among the Gerawa is not merely a union of individuals, but of families and traditions. Boys aged seven to nine undergo circumcision and spend a month in seclusion, led by elders and spiritual figures in preparation for manhood. Upon return, a sevenday feast welcomes them back into society.

At 17, a boy's father seeks a bride, initiating a five-year courtship where the young man labours on his future father-in-law's farm each discipline, responsibility, and family bonds. Only after this and the payment of a bride price does the wedding take place, followed by elaborate feasts and rituals marking the couple's transition into married

life.

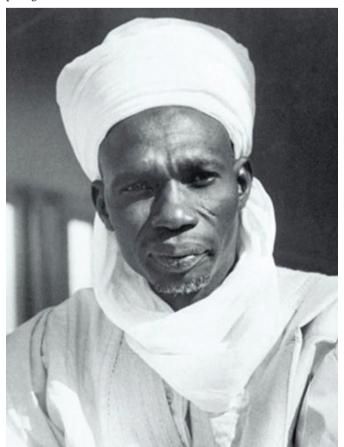
While Islam is the dominant religion among the Gerawa today, remnants of their traditional belief in 'Kpa', an invisible supreme being, still linger. Families often designate a physical symbol, such as a stone or tree, to represent Kpa, offering prayers and sacrifices through community priests. The Dodo also serves a

spiritual function, praying for rain, protection, and community well-being.

Sir Abubakar Tafawa Balewa

Despite being one of Nigeria's minor ethnic groups, the people are pillars of historical relevance and cultural depth. From their sacred traditions to the intellectual legacy of Sir Abubakar Tafawa Balewa, Nigeria's first Prime Minister and a proud Gerawa son, the tribe's contributions to national identity are indelible. Yet, with their language fading and traditions at risk, the story of the Gerawa is no longer just one of pride, but of preservation.







HISTORICITI

BY JESSICA MBAMAH

The lasting influence of the ancient city of Tangier in Morocco

Tangier is an ancient city in Morocco with a rich history spanning nearly 3,000 years, marked by influences from various civilisations.

Tangier was originally a Phoenician trading post, it later became a key Roman settlement and has since been shaped by Carthaginian, Vandal, Byzantine, and Arab

Its strategic location at the Strait of Gibraltar has made it a vital port and cultural crossroads. The city's unique history includes a period as an International Zone (1923-1956), attracting diplomats, writers, and artists.

Remarkable History

Tangier's ancient history began with the Phoenicians, who established it as a trading post in the 5th century BC. The city later came under Carthaginian and Roman rule, during which it flourished as a centre of trade and commerce. This rich history shaped Tangier's unique cultural identity.

From the 18th century, Tangier served as Morocco's diplomatic headquarters. The United States established its first consulate in Tangier during George Washington's tenure as president. In 1821, the Legation Building in Tangier became the first piece of property acquired abroad by the U.S. government, a gift to the U.S. from Sultan Moulay Suliman.

In 1828, Great Britain blockaded the port in retaliation for piracy. As part of its ongoing conquest of

neighbouring Algeria, France declared war over Moroccan tolerance of Abd el-Kader; Tangier was bombarded by a French fleet under the Prince of Joinville on 6 August 1844. What little of its fortifications that were damaged were later repaired by English engineers, but the French victory at Isly near the disputed border ended the conflict on French

Cultural Beliefs

Tangier is a city rich in diverse cultural beliefs shaped by its history as a crossroads between Africa and Europe. It's a blend of Berber, Arab, European, and African influences, with a strong emphasis on hospitality, religious beliefs and traditions, and a unique connection to wellness practices.

The people of Tangier are known for their warmth and hospitality. It's customary to touch your right hand to your heart after shaking hands or saying thank you as a gesture of sincerity.

Tangier's spiritual beliefs have been shaped by its diverse history and cultural influences, including:

Islam: The dominant faith in Tangier, it is characterised by the rich Islamic heritage embedded in the city.

Sufism: Tangier has a strong Sufi tradition, with many influential Sufi saints and mystics.

Cultural syncretism: The city's strategic location has led to the blending of different spiritual traditions, including African, Arab, and European

influences

Trade and Economy

Tangier's economy is heavily influenced by its strategic location as a major port and its growing industrial sector. It's a vital hub for trade between Europe and Africa, particularly with the Tanger Med port, a major logistics and industrial centre.

The city's economy is diversifying, with strong growth in automotive, textiles, and other industries, as well as a thriving tourism sector.

Tangier plays a crucial role in facilitating trade between Morocco and Europe, particularly for automotive parts, agricultural products, and other goods.

Crafts and Monuments

Tangier's crafts and monuments reflect its rich cultural heritage, featuring traditional crafts like handicrafts, textiles, and pottery, alongside historic monuments such as the Medina, Kasbah, and American Legation Museum, which showcase the city's architectural and cultural diversity.

By the early 21st century, Tangier was undergoing rapid development and modernisation. **Projects** include tourism projects along the bay, a modern business district called Tangier City Centre, an airport terminal, and a football stadium. Tangier's economy is set to benefit greatly from the Tanger-Med









ROOTS

BY GIFT LUCKSON GiftLuckson@neptuneprime.com.ng

Cupido Kakkerlak: From slavery to moral, spiritual influence

Cupido Kakkerlak was a Khoisan man (likely

from the Nama or Khoikhoi people).
The name Kakkerlak ("cockroach") was a nickname given by colonists, reflecting how degradingly enslaved and indigenous people and indigenous people were often labelled.

He lived during the late 18th and early 19th centuries at the Cape.

Enslavement Conversion He worked as a labourer

and had been under colonial servitude. In the early 1800s, he came into contact with German missionaries from the London Missionary Society (notably Dr. John Philip and Johannes Theodorus van der

Kemp). converted Christianity, taking the name Cupido at taking baptism.

Work as a Preacher After conversion, he began preaching the

Christian gospel among fellow Khoisan and slaves.

He was recognised as one of the first indigenous evangelists in

South Africa. He helped In 1800, probably as spread Christianity in the rural frontier, where missionaries struggled to

Death

Cupido Kakkerlak died in 1826, but by then he had gained respect for being a dedicated Christian preacher despite his humble

origins. Legacy

Cupido Kakkerlak is remembered as one of the earliest African evangelists in South Africa.

His story shows how an enslaved or marginalised person could rise to a position of moral and spiritual influence in a colonial society that otherwise denied African

people dignity.
Cupido Kakkerlak's story provides a concrete example of the Khoi experience under the impact of colonisation at the beginning of the nineteenth century.

During his first forty years or so he lived on Boer farms, learned skills, sawyer's accumulated a little property and reared a

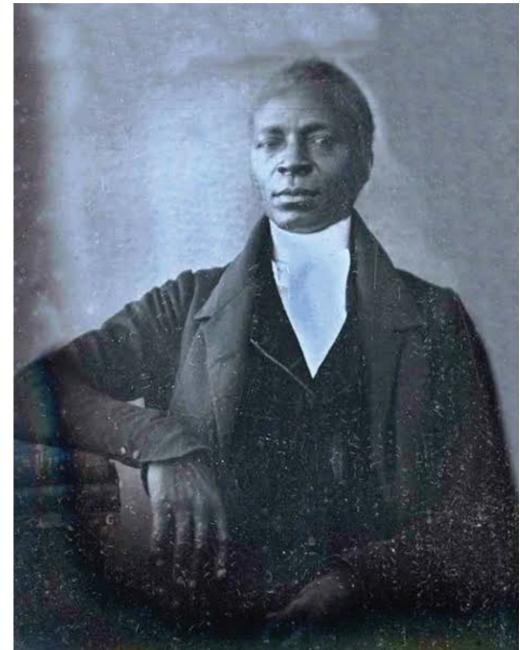
a result of frontier disturbances at the time, he went to the village of Graaff-Reinet. There, in 1801, he met missionaries of the London Missionary and Society converted.

Casting his lot with the mission, he moved with his family to Algoa Bay and was based at Bethelsdorp until 1815. During this period, he practised his trade as a sawyer at the same time as he gained prominence in mission work.

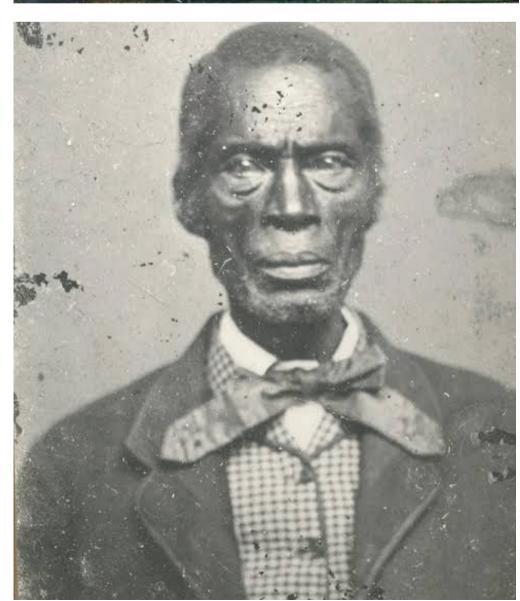
In 1813 he served John Campbell's 'travelling director' during a trip to the interior that lasted almost nine months.

Campbell's proposals - that several new stations be established - made heavy demands on mission personnel and other resources.

Six 'native assistants' were appointed, one of whom was Cupido. In 1817, after a short sojourn among the Griqua, he undertook a mission to the still nomadic Kora near the Harts River.







OLDIES !

BY KASIM ISA MUHAMMAD

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Hajiya Zulai: The Potiskum Businesswoman Turning Her Home into a Thriving Enterprise

In Potiskum, Yobe State, where commerce thrives in markets and roadside stalls, there exists a quieter yet equally powerful form of business, the kind that operates from the heart of the home. One such enterprise belongs to 55-year-old Hajiya Zulai, a woman who has successfully blended her passion for trade with the comfort of home-based operations. Growing up in a well-to-do family, she enjoyed the privilege of quality education and exposure, but instead of following the more conventional career paths, she chose to build her own business from within her household. Today, she is widely known in her community for her firewood trade, food processing ventures, and the array of goods she sells without ever needing a shop in the market. Neptune Prime sat down with her to discuss her journey, challenges, hobbies, and personal tastes. Neptune Prime: Hajiya Zulai, many people in Potiskum know you as a successful businesswoman, but how would you describe yourself to someone meeting you for the first time?

Zulai: I would say I am a determined and contented woman who loves to work with her own hands. I believe in dignity through labour. I have been in business for many years, but I prefer to run my operations from home because it allows me to manage my time, look after my household, and still contribute financially. I am also someone who values honesty in trade. My customers trust me, and that is something I work hard to maintain.

Neptune Prime: Could you walk us through the kinds of businesses you operate from your home?

Zulai: My main business is selling firewood in bulk and retail to households and small food vendors. Aside from that, I process and sell local food items like millet flour, groundnut oil, and dried vegetables. I also stock basic provisions such as rice, beans, and spices for neighbours who prefer to buy close to home. Running everything from home means I do not pay shop rent, and customers come directly to me.

Neptune Prime: Why did

you choose to make your business home-based instead of renting a space in the market?

Zulai: I realised early on that shop rent eats into profit, and you also have to spend extra on transportation and daily upkeep. At home, I can use the space I already have without extra costs. I also noticed that many women, especially those cooking for their families, prefer buying from someone nearby rather than going all the way to the market. So, I decided to build my business around convenience for both myself and my customers.

Neptune Prime: growing up in a rich family influence your decision to

go into business? Zulai: Yes, in a way. My parents taught me that wealth is not just about inheritance, but about creating something of your own. Even though I grew up without financial struggles, I never wanted to rely entirely on family resources. My upbringing gave me confidence and a sense of responsibility to work hard.

Neptune Prime: How do you source your goods, especially the firewood?

Zulai: For firewood, I work with suppliers from surrounding villages. They bring it to me in large quantities, and I pay them immediately. For food items, I buy directly from farmers during harvest seasons. This ensures I get fresh products and better prices compared to buying from middlemen.

Neptune Prime: Running a business from home must come with its own challenges. What are some of the difficulties you face? Zulai: The biggest challenge is space. Sometimes, when I stock too much, it becomes hard to store everything neatly. Another challenge is that because it is a home, some customers think they can come at any hour, even late in the evening, which can be tiring. Also, when there is flooding or heavy rainfall, it affects delivery and supply.

Neptune Prime: How do you keep track of your income and expenses?

Zulai: I keep a notebook for daily sales, expenses, and debts. It is not as complicated as an accountant's system, but it works for me. Every week, I check the balance and



Hajiya Zulai

restock.

Neptune Prime: Do you employ anyone to help you?

Zulai: I have two young women who assist me, especially in packaging goods and helping with customers when I am busy. They also learn the trade, which I consider part of giving back to the community.

Neptune Prime: Outside of business, what do you enjoy doing in your free

Zulai: I enjoy cooking, especially traditional dishes like tuwo with miyan kuka. I also like gardening. I grow vegetables like spinach and okra in my backyard.

Neptune Prime: What is your favourite food?

see which items sell faster Zulai: My favourite food is and which ones I need to masa with miyan taushe. I can eat it any time of the

> Neptune Prime: And your favourite colour?

> Zulai: Blue. I love the calmness and beauty of the colour. You will notice that many of my clothes are different shades of blue. Neptune Prime: What role has your family played in your success?

> Zulai: My family has been very supportive. My husband helps with transportation when I need to bring in bulk supplies, and my children assist with errands. Without their encouragement, it would have been harder.

> Neptune Prime: How do you keep your customers loyal?

> Zulai: I am always honest

about prices and quality. If always keep your business something is not good, I separate from household will tell the customer. Also, expenses so you can track I sometimes give small your profit. bonuses, like adding extra firewood or giving a small bag of spices for free.

Neptune Prime: What advice would you give to young women who want to start a home-based business?

Zulai: Start small but start now. Do not wait for a perfect time or huge capital. Use what you have and grow it step by step. Also,

Neptune Prime: Finally, what are your future plans for your business?

Zulai: I want to expand my storage space and also buy a small delivery tricycle so I can supply customers who live farther away. I am also considering adding a section for selling poultry feed because many people in my area rear chickens.



I would say I am a determined and contented woman who loves to work with her own hands. I believe in dignity through labour

HUMANIST

BY KASIM ISA MUHAMMAD KasimIsa@neptuneprime.com.ng



Residents cry out for help as erosion, floods devastate homes, schools, others in Yobe

A torrential downpour on Friday, August 15, has deepened the misery of residents in Hayin Gada and other parts of Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State, destroying homes, displacing families, and cutting off entire neighbourhoods from basic services.

The rainfall, which began late Thursday night and continued into the early hours of Friday, unleashed heavy flooding that swept through several communities. Among the worst-hit areas were neighbourhoods near waterways, where flooding and structural collapse were most severe, including Arikime, Ramin Kasa, Tandari, Nahuta, Boriya, Rugar Fulani, and Unguwar Kuwait.

Other affected communities included Old Prison, Filin Nashe, Unguwar Makafi/ Majema, Unguwar Jaji Bakin Kwari, Afghanistan, Tsangaya Bakin Kwari, Karofi, Bayan Garejin Danjuma, and areas behind Fudiyya Potiskum.

Residents say they are frequently affected by flooding due to the absence of proper drainage systems, leaving rainwater with no route to flow except into people's homes.

The August 15th storm worsened this vulnerability, causing dozens of houses to collapse. In one incident witnessed by *Neptune Prime*,



a building collapsed on a woman, but she miraculously survived.

In Hayin Gada, where erosion had already been eating away at land and homes for over a decade, the latest floods have submerged entire sections of the community. Many residents were forced to flee at night, carrying children and a few belongings through waist-deep water.

A traditional leader, Mai Unguwa Auwalu, said the disaster has now reached an emergency point.

"We are appealing to the government at all

levels to come to our aid. Many homes have been destroyed over the years by erosion, and this latest flood has forced even more families to flee. The water rose so quickly that people barely escaped with their lives."

He explained that the flooding has cut off schoolchildren from their classrooms, with the main bridge to Potiskum now impassable.

Aisha Abubakar, a widow and

mother of five, was one of those displaced.

"The water came in the night. My children were sleeping on the mat when I felt the cold on my feet. By the time I lit my lamp, the water was already halfway up the wall. We ran out without saving anything. Now we are sleeping in my cousin's small room in Mazagane."

Another resident, Malam Mato, said the erosion and floods have claimed homes, roads, markets, and even parts of the community cemetery.

"This year, I saw my neighbour's house collapse into the gully. Children have drowned here before. We cannot bring vehicles into the community anymore, everything has to be carried on our heads from far away."

Chairman of the National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW), Malam Yahaya, lamented that both sides of the community are now affected.

"The bridge that once connected us to the town is gone. The water keeps expanding the gully, and our efforts to stop it with sandbags failed. Sometimes, even with money in hand, we sleep hungry because we cannot reach the market."

The Yobe State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) has deployed officials to assess the damage and provide relief to affected victims, but residents insist that without a lasting engineering solution to address both erosion and flooding, the community will continue to face displacement year

For now, the people of Hayin Gada and other flood-hit communities in Potiskum are left counting their losses, hoping the next rain does not wash away what little they have left.

FEATURES



Use of gender-based laws for political persecution and social manipulation (4)

CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK

By Duru Sandra Chidinma, PhD

NGO Gender Program Officer, Lagos.

Several legal experts and administrators supported the establishment of a Federal Ministry of Men's Affairs to address this imbalance. They argued that men need access to: Legal aid against false

- accusations.
- Mental health services.
- Public sensitization campaigns. • Rehabilitation and reputation-

cleansing mechanisms. Key Pattern: The There is institutional recognition of the gap, but no formal structures exist yet to address it.

Thematic Analysis: Unheard Screams of Men

This study confirms that the misuse of gender-based laws for political, emotional, or reputational manipulation is not isolated. It is a systemic issue embedded in media, policy, and institutional behavior. The victims, of course, men whose voices are often suppressed or ignored represent an emerging category of the unheard, the unprotected, and the unseen.

Their exclusion from policy consideration is both a justice issue and a public administration argument of this thesis:

1. Gender-based laws, while essential, are being weaponized

certain contexts to persecute men unjustly.

Public administration lacks protocols to investigate accusations

fairly or support wrongfully accused men.

amplification Media contributes to social conviction before legal

proof. 4. There is an urgent need for gender-neutral justice mechanisms,

including the establishment of a Ministry of Men's Affairs and

male-

inclusive policy reforms.
DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS,
POLICY IMPLICATIONS,
AND RECOMMENDATIONS This chapter discusses the findings in relation to the research objectives, theoretical underpinnings, and the broader discourse on gender justice, public administration, and policy weaponization. It further identifies the critical policy implications of gender asymmetry in legal protections proposes actionable recommendations, including the creation of a Federal Ministry

of Men's Affairs to correct

The analysis supports the core institutional neglect and foster inclusive justice. Recapitulation of Research

Objectives The key objectives of this

research were to: 1. Examine the misuse of gender-based laws for political

persecution and social manipulation. 2. Investigate the administrative

silence and systemic bias in

false accusations against men. 3. Explore the psychological and socio-economic impact on men wrongfully

accused. 4. Evaluate the role of the media in shaping gendered narratives. 5. Recommend institutional reforms, including policies and ministries.

to protect male victims and ensure equitable justice.

The findings, as discussed in reveal a disturbing trend of gender-policy asymmetry and institutional apathy toward falsely accused men.

Weaponization of Gender-Based Laws

This study affirms that genderbased laws, originally designed to protect vulnerable populations (primarily women), increasingly being weaponized, particularly in political disputes, romantic fallouts, or workplace rivalries. The laws are applied in a context that presumes male guilt and female victimhood, often without due process or balanced investigation.

This aligns with Critical Legal Theory, which argues that laws are not value-neutral and can be co-opted by dominant social narratives or power struggles, here, gender activism with an exclusionary slant.

Institutional Silence and Administrative Complicity Public administrators and legal stakeholders often take preventive actions against accused men, suspensions, blacklisting, or silent dismissals, even before legal investigations conclude. No rehabilitation systems exist for those proven innocent.

This demonstrates how Policy Theory Weaponization manifests not only through the law itself but through administrative interpretation and

enforcement gaps.

Media Amplification and Social Damage

media Mass disproportionately publicize accusations against men and rarely follow up on exonerations. This "trial by media" contributes to long-term reputational and psychological harm. It validates the Masculinist Theory view that public narratives often ignore the suffering of men, reducing them to aggressors in every gender conflict.

Psychological, Social, Economic Fallout

Falsely accused men face depression, broken families, social ostracism, and career destruction. Their trauma remains unaddressed because current gender protection mechanisms offer no avenue for male healing or support.

This affirms the urgent need to frame gender victimization as a human rights issue, not a femaleonly domain.

The Case for a Federal Ministry of Men's Affairs

The absence of a dedicated ministry or department to address men's unique struggles reflects a systemic blind spot in Nigerian public administration. Just as the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs has contributed significantly to female empowerment, an equivalent structure is overdue for Nigerian men, especially in the areas of:

• Legal Aid and Protection from false accusations and genderbased

manipulation.

 Mental Health Support for men facing emotional and reputational collapse.

Policy Advocacy and Sensitization to reframe gender inclusive.

Research and Statistics Unit to collect data on male victimization.

Rehabilitation Reintegration Programs for exonerated men.

This ministry would not oppose women's rights, but complement them, by promoting balanced equity, human dignity, and inclusive governance. Policy Implications

The findings have farreaching implications for law, public administration, media regulation, and gender policy:

 Legal Reform: Current genderbased laws must be reviewed to ensure they include provisions against malicious or false accusations.

Administrative Procedures: Institutions should establish grievance redress

mechanisms for male victims, and not treat every allegation as guilt.

· Media Regulation: Media houses should be held accountable for

biased reporting, and defamation protections must be strengthened.

Gender Funding Equity: NGOs and donor agencies must begin

funding programs that protect and support men, not just women.

Čurriculum Development: Public administration and legal studies should include

modules on male-inclusive gender justice and balanced policy

enforcement.

Recommendations

Based on the findings and implications, the following key recommendations are proposed: 5.6.1 Establishment of the Federal Ministry of Men's Affairs

A dedicated national ministry should be created to:

· Provide legal defense and emotional support for wrongly accused

• Offer psycho-social services and reputation repair programs. Coordinate policy reforms to include male perspectives in all gender-related legislation.

Develop data banks and research on male-targeted injustice.

Policy Reforms for Balanced Gender Protection • Amend gender-based laws (e.g., VAPP Act, Sexual

Harassment Acts) to criminalize false allegations and ensure due

process. Mandate all Ministries, Departments, and Agencies

(MDAs) to develop Gender Equity Units that include protection for male

victims. Sensitization National Campaigns

 Launch public awareness programs on the reality and consequences accusations. "Truth, Not Promote

Assumption" media campaigns, supported by both government and civil

society. Media Accountability Mechanisms

• Set up independent Gendered Media Monitoring Boards under

Nigerian Broadcasting Commission and NUJ. • Penalize media outlets that fail

to retract or correct false reports damaging male reputations. Curriculum Educational

Integration Introduce courses in universities that tackle gender balance, policy

weaponization, and men's mental health. • Promote inter-gender dialogue

initiatives in secondary schools and

tertiary Institutions.

Contribution to Knowledge This study offers original contributions to the fields of:

 Public Policy and Gender Administration, by identifying weaponization trends proposing structural and interventions.

 Legal and Media Ethics, by highlighting the consequences of institutional and media bias.

• Gender Studies, by expanding the discourse to include men's victimhood and dignity.

Governance Innovation, through the proposal of a Ministry of Men's Affairs—a pioneering concept in the African policy space.

Areas for Further Research This study opens up multiple avenues for deeper inquiry:

• Comparative studies on genderbased law abuse across African countries.

• Quantitative analysis of the socio-economic costs of false accusations.

• Media impact analysis on longterm psychological outcomes for falsely accused men.

• Development of genderneutral policy models adaptable to African

societies. Dr DURU Sandra Chidinma, a Nigerian Scholar.

TO BE CONTINUED..

ラ SPOR な S

BY MUHAMMAD KUKURI, MuhammadKukuri@neptuneprime.com.ng



PSG

PSG wins first-ever UEFA Super Cup after defeating Tottenham on penalties

Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) has emerged victorious in the UEFA Super Cup 2025, defeating Tottenham Hotspur in a tense penalty shootout.

The match, which ended in a 2-2 draw after extra time, was decided with a 4-3 shootout victory for PSG at the Stadio Friuli in Udine,

Tottenham took the lead early with a goal from Micky Van de Ven, who headed in a Palhinha shot.

However, PSG mounted a comeback, with Kang-In Lee scoring a stunning goal from outside the box and Goncalo Ramos adding another with a header from a Dembele cross to level the game.

The match went to a penalty shootout, where Nuno Mendes scored the winning penalty for PSG.

Vitinha was a standout performer for PSG, earning a rating of 8.5/10 for dictating the game. Tottenham's Cristian Romero also impressed, receiving an 8.5/10 for his defensive efforts and scoring a superb header. Tactical decisions by Tottenham's manager Thomas Frank earned him an 8/10 rating, though his team ultimately fell short.

PSG dominated possession with 61% and had 13 shots, with four on target, while Tottenham received two yellow cards to PSG's three. The continent has a deadly

The continent has a deadly history of football crowds losing control, with 140 people dying

in a stampede outside a Guinean stadium last year.

The Confederation of African Football (CAF) has fined Kenya — imposing a \$17,500 fine on Monday — and limited the crowd size ahead of their match against Zambia on Sunday.

Being the first time three East African countries of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda are hosting the ongoing African Nations Championship, the historic moment has been overshadowed by long delays over the stadiums' readiness and unruly spectators.

The continent has been marred with reports of football crowds losing control, with 140 people dying in a stampede outside a Guinean stadium last year.

Crowds have stormed Nairobi's Kasarani Stadium without tickets at previous matches involving Kenya, with videos on social media showing people chaotically streaming into the facility being shared — and condemned — widely online.

CAF's disciplinary board said there had been "multiple safety and security breaches" at the Kasarani Stadium, stating that it had "found Kenya guilty and imposed a fine of \$50,000"

In a statement online, CAF warned Kenya must meet safety and security requirements — advising additional security at matches — otherwise the country's games may be relocated "to an alternative venue"

2025 NBPL: Kano Pillars, Gombe Bulls, 2 others to clash in Group B

Kano Pillars Basketball Club has been drawn against arch-rivals Gombe Bulls, Bauchi Nets, and Plateau Peaks in Group B of the Savannah Conference for the 2025 Nigeria Premier Basketball League (NPBL) season, which is slated for 25th August.

An official communiqué jointly signed by league chairman Babatunde Ogunade and Amina O. Amanchi, secretary-general of the Nigeria Basketball Federation (NBBF), confirmed that action in the 2025 NBPL will run from 28th August to 16th November. The 2025 NBPL is divided into four phases: Group, Inter-Group, Playoffs, and Final Four. The sixteen participating teams have been divided into four groups of four teams each, across both the Savannah and Atlantic Conferences (two groups per conference), with matches set to be held at venues yet to be announced.

Still, in the Savannah Conference, Nile University, Nigeria Customs, Gboko City Chiefs, and the Correctional Service will compete in Group A.

Defending champions Rivers Ĥoopers will face Delta Force, Oluyole Warriors, and Kwara Falcons in Group B of the Atlantic Conference, while Group A includes Comets, Police Batons, Lagos Legends, and Hoops & Read.

Each team is scheduled to play six matches against the other three teams during the Group stage (on a home and away basis), with the top eight teams (four from each Group) advancing to the Inter-Group Stage at a central venue

During this stage, each team will compete in seven matches (one against each of the other teams).

The top four teams from each conference (a total of eight teams) will then qualify for the Playoffs Round, which will be conducted in a knockout format.



Basketball

CAF imposes \$50,000 fine on Kenya over safety concerns

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Sports Minister Salim Mvurya said they had assured CAF they would comply with



Football stadium

international standards.

"We have taken a senior security meeting this morning with the senior ranks in our police service, and we have agreed that we will put extra measures to ensure we secure Kasarani and Nyayo stadiums," he told reporters. Mvurya said there would also be increased checkpoints on the roads approaching the stadium.

He also acknowledged many Kenyan football fans would not be able to access the stadium, announcing the establishment of six "fan zones" across the capital.

Fan violence and stadium stampedes across Africa have led to the deaths of hundreds of supporters over the last decade, including in 2020 when seven fans died in a stampede in Kenya.

FAMILY DYNAMICS

WITH
 AISHA AUYO,
 Aisha Auyo@Neptupeprime.com.ng

I Gambled with Love and Lost Everything

Some lessons in life come too late — after the damage has been done and the people we love have walked away. This week's story is a heartfelt confession from a man who had it all but lost what truly mattered, simply because he thought love and loyalty would last forever, no matter how badly he treated them.

Dear Sis Eesher,

I want my story to serve as a lesson for men who take their wives' patience for granted.

I married my wife when I had nothing. She was a virgin when we met — gentle, humble, and willing to grow with me through life's uncertainties. She came from a family that didn't look down on my humble beginnings. In fact, they supported me. Her father gave me my first big opportunity, and her mother once loaned me money to register my first business name.

My wife was the silent engine behind my success. She prayed for me, planned with me, and pushed me to become who I am today. But somewhere along the line, I changed.

Money started coming in, followed by attention... and then other women. I began staying out late, lying, cheating, and disrespecting my vows. I became the kind of man I once swore I'd never be.

She noticed — of course she did. She would say, "One day, I'll leave. I won't argue. I'll just go."

I thought it was an empty threat. I thought she'd always be there. She was too loyal, too forgiving... and I took advantage of that. I stretched her patience, her kindness, and her love until there was nothing left to

Then, one day... she left. No goodbye. No warning.

It's been two years now. She relocated to Canada with our child, without telling me until after she had gone. I have called, begged, changed, and cried in ways I didn't know a man could. But her silence is louder than any insult I've ever heard.

She's not just gone — she's done. Her family calls me occasionally t

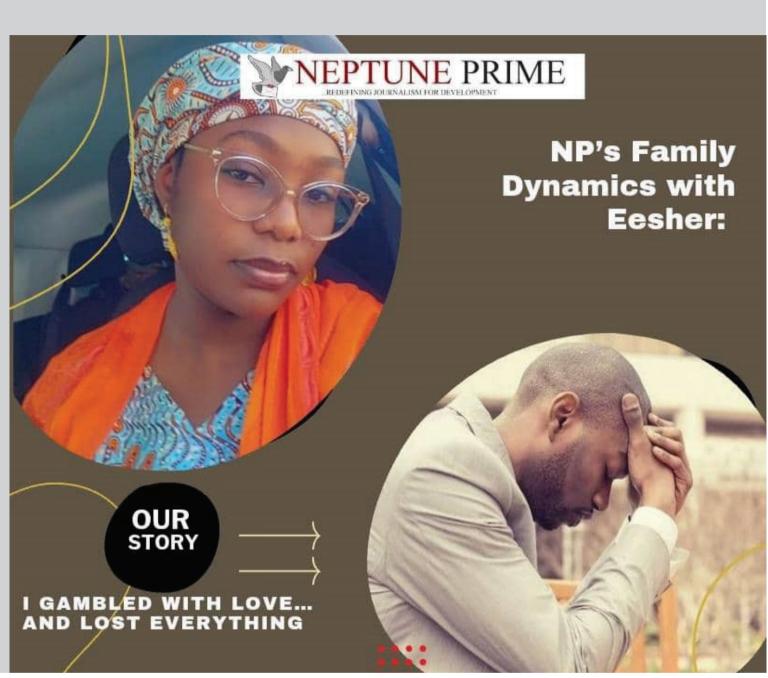
Her family calls me occasionally to come and take my bride price. They no longer respond to me. They have washed their hands off me like I'm contagious. Honestly, I don't blame them

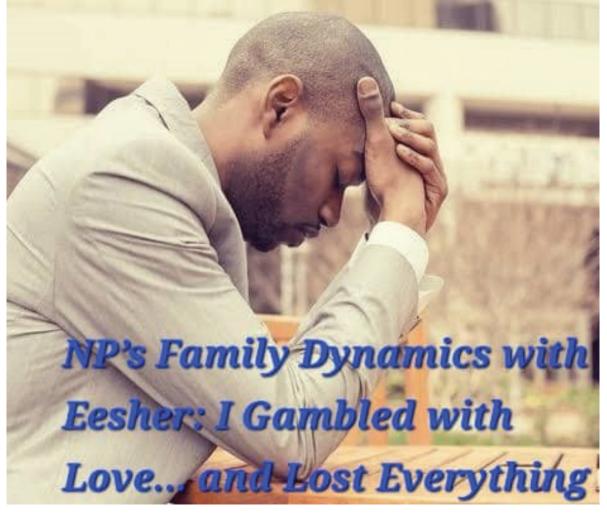
I destroyed my own family. I broke what was whole. I traded peace for pleasure. I gambled with love... and I lost everything.

and I lost everything.

Now I have wealth, but nothing to come home to. I eat alone. I wake up empty. I stare at my phone, hoping for a message that never comes. Of what use is wealth when your home is gone?

To men like me: don't wait until you've lost a good woman to realise her worth. I miss my wife and my child every single day.





My dear brother,

Your honesty today is the courage you should have had years ago. A good woman's patience is not endless; it is a gift that must be cherished and nurtured. When it is abused, it disappears silently — not in a storm, but in a quiet, final departure.

Some losses can't be undone, but they can be lessons. You may never get her back, but you can honour her by becoming the man you should have been — for the sake of your child and for your own soul.

May Allah heal your heart, forgive your wrongs, and guide men who still have good women to never gamble with their love.

With prayers, Sis Eesher.

BY SUSAN MBAMAH

SOCIALS/FASHION

aware of underskirt or patroning such!

due to advanced methods of sewing

Nigerians women replaces panties with tight!

of Nigerians patronise

patronise nature attires

of Nigerians can't live without jeans

of Nigerians still patronise fairly used cloths, bags and shoes

of Nigerians patronise can't dress without jeans

From ancient civilisation to modern runways, scarves have remained a powerful and classic

Historical pieces like the pashmina from South Asia, the keffiyeh from the Middle East, and the mantilla from Spain show how scarves have carried cultural, religious, and social significance

In modern times, Hermès silk scarves have been worn by icons like Grace Kelly, Audrey Hepburn, and Jackie Kennedy, turning them into symbols of timeless elegance.
The Power of Versatility

Scarves come in shapes and styles that allow endless creativity. The square scarf can be folded into a triangle or tied around the neck often seen on Sarah Jessica Parker as part of her chic street

The rectangular/oblong scarf is a favourite of Lenny Kravitz, known for his oversized versions. The infinity scarf has been embraced by Anne Hathaway for casual outings, while Vanessa Hudgens often styles triangle scarves for her signature bohemian looks.

Choice of Style: Bold or Subtle

The fabric and design of a scarf can change the entire mood of an outfit. Printed scarves have been worn fearlessly by Rihanna, pairing them with both casual and bold red-carpet looks.

Neutral cashmere scarves, like those favoured by Victoria Beckham, offer quiet luxury. For evening glamour, beaded or sequin scarves have graced stars like Cher, who often adds sparkle to her stage outfits.

Stories Woven in Fabric

Every scarf tells a story. A cotton bandana may remind fans of Bruce Springsteen's rock-androll style, while hand-embroidered scarves are often worn by Cate Blanchett to highlight artisan craftsmanship.

The dupattas worn by Priyanka Chopra Jonas connect her to her Indian heritage, and pashminas worn by Angelina Jolie during humanitarian visits show their role beyond fashion; carrying cultural respect and personal

More Than Just an Accessory

Whether it's a wool winter scarf like those worn by David Beckham, a synthetic outdoor scarf for hiking like Reese Witherspoon in her adventure film Wild, or a silk fashion scarf as styled by Kate Middleton to complete her polished royal outfits, scarves remain powerful style markers. They adapt to seasons, cultures, and moods, proving that a simple strip of fabric can become a signature of personal identity.

Celebrities worldwide are now showcasing scarves as versatile, seasonless additions to various outfits, with designers experimenting with sizes, fabrics, and styles.

From wearing them as tops to incorporating them into updos, celebrities are demonstrating the scarf's adaptability and chic appeal.

The way celebrities style scarves often inspires trends, with designers and fashion enthusiasts taking note and incorporating these styles into their own wardrobes and fashion lovers constantly trying out new looks to create lasting

Scarf: A casual, timeless accessory in celebrity fashion











TO FEATURE ON OUR FASHION/SOCIAL PAGE! You can send your pictures to neptuneprime2233@

TECHIVORLD BY MUHAMMAD KUKURI MuhammadKukuri@neptuneprime.com.ng

GAMESCIENE

Dubbed the 'sickest ever' video game because players only have one aim - to massacre as many people as possible in a 'genocide crusade', Hatred is the second game in history to get adults only rating.

GADGETADDICT

Obviously inspired by the iPhone's glass touchscreen display, the Iconoclock, which is a wall clock that points out each hour with approximations of familiar app icons. Its crystal face delivers a similar jet black yet glossy background as the ubiquitous smartphone.

Google targets Nigerian children with new Gemini app feature

With its new Gemini app feature, Google targets a young population of approximately 39 million children aged six and

Its new 'Storybook' feature within the Gemini app generates short, narrated stories from user prompts and images, and turns simple prompts and personal images into unique, narrated stories.

According to Google, the launch provides a powerful new creative tool in Nigeria, a country with a rich and deeprooted tradition of storytelling. The need for engaging and accessible educational content is more critical than ever, even as Storybook is designed to help bridge this gap by empowering anyone to create personalised learning experiences.

Reacting to this development, the communications and public Affairs manager for Google in West Africa, Taiwo Kola-Ogunlade, said, "In a country with such a vibrant history of passing down knowledge through stories, Storybook feels like a natural evolution.

"It addresses a real need for parents and educators who are looking for fresh ways to captivate the minds of our



Nvidia

youngest learners.
"The challenge is often making education interactive and personal. Storybook allows you to place a child directly at the centre of their learning adventure, which is key to holding their attention and helping them grasp new concepts.

"Storybook works as a creative partner. You describe a story, add a photo of your daughter and her favourite toy, and it generates a 10-page illustrated tale about them. Or, you can upload a drawing your son made and ask Gemini to bring his creation to life in

"Each book is complete with unique pageby-page illustrations and a narrator's voice. Storytelling is fundamental to how we connect and learn. We wanted to see what happens when you give people a simple way to author their narratives.

"The interesting part isn't the AI, it's the personal expression it enables. A father

can explain his job to his daughter by turning his resume into an adventure, or a family can relive a holiday through a new story. It's a canvas for those small, personal moments that are the foundation of early education," Kola-Ogunlade noted. Google noted that this offers a new creative outlet for Nigerian families, allowing them to craft everything from educational tales about local culture to funny stories for friends and personalised gifts for loved ones.

web update

Elon Musk accuses Apple of favouring ChatGPT on App Store

Billionaire entrepreneur and CEO of xAI, Elon Musk, has accused Apple Inc. of unfairly favouring OpenAI's ChatGPT in rankings on the

App Store and said he may take legal action.

In a series of posts on his social media platform X, Musk said Apple is committing antitrust violations in managing the App Store rankings of AI to the advantage of OpenAI, making it "impossible" for other AI companies, including his own, to achieve to practings.

"impossible" for other AI companies, including his own, to achieve top rankings.

Musk's accusations come after he noticed that neither X, which he claims is the "number one news app in the world," nor xAI's Grok chatbot, ranked fifth among all apps, is featured in Apple's "Must Have" section of the App Store.

"Hey @Apple App Store, why do you refuse to put either X or Grok in your 'Must Have' section when X is the #1 news app in the world and Grok is #5 among all apps? Are you playing politics? What gives? Inquiring minds want to know," Musk posted late Monday.

He further alleged that Apple's actions constitute

He further alleged that Apple's actions constitute an "unequivocal antitrust violation." Musk, who also owns X, SpaceX, and Tesla,

did not provide specific evidence to support his claims but indicated that legal proceedings are

"Apple is behaving in a manner that makes it impossible for any AI company besides OpenAI to reach #1 in the App Store, which is an unequivocal antitrust violation. xAI will take immediate legal action."

Musk's accusations also come amidst heightened tensions between major tech companies over AI

OpenAI's ChatGPT currently holds the top spot in the App Store's "Top Free Apps" section for iPhones in the U.S., while Grok ranks fifth, and Google's Gemini chatbot sits at 57th.

YouTube adopts AI feature to detect minors posing as adults

YouTube has started using artificial intelligence (AI) to figure out when users are children pretending to be adults on the popular video-sharing platform amid pressure to protect minors from sensitive content.

The new safeguard is being rolled out in the United States as Google-owned YouTube and social media platforms such as Instagram and TikTok are under scrutiny to shield children from content geared ior grown-up

A version of AI referred to as machine learning will be used to estimate the age of users based on a variety of factors, including the kinds of videos watched and account longevity, according to YouTube's Youth director of product management, James Beser.

"This technology will allow us to infer a user's age and then use that signal, regardless of the birthday in the account, to deliver our age-appropriate product experiences protections," Beser said.

"We've used this approach in other markets for some time, where it is working well."

The age-estimation model enhances technology already in place to deduce user age, according to YouTube.

Users will be notified if YouTube believes them to be



YouTube

minors, giving them the option to verify their age with a credit card, selfie, or government ID, according to the tech firm.

Social media platforms are regularly accused of failing to protect the well-being of children.

Australia will soon use its landmark social media laws to ban children under 16 from YouTube, a top minister said late last month, stressing a need

to shield them from "predatory algorithms."

Communications Minister Anika Wells said four-inten Australian children had reported viewing harmful content on YouTube, one of the most visited websites in the world.

Australia announced last year it was drafting laws that would ban children from social media sites such as Facebook, TikTok

and Instagram until they turn 16.

"Our position remains clear: YouTube is a video sharing platform with a library of free, high-quality content, increasingly viewed on TV screens," the company said in a statement at the time.

"It's not social media."

On paper, the ban is one of the strictest in the world. It is due to come into effect on December 10.

The legislation has been closely monitored by other countries, with many weighing whether to implement similar bans.



Musk

WORLD NEWS

BY MERCY ADAJE MercyAdaje@neptuneprime.com.ng



Contaminated fentanyl

Contaminated fentanyl drugs kill hundreds of patients in Brazil

The death toll from contaminated fentanyl administered in Argentina's hospitals grew to over 100 on Thursday, the government said, blaming a local pharma lab as outrage grew over the slow response to the crisis.

Since May, the country has been trying to determine how many deaths were linked to bacteria-infected supplies of the drug used in hospitals in four provinces, as well as the capital Buenos Aires.

Ariel Furfaro Garcia, the owner of HLB Pharma group, was the "manufacturer

of the batch of contaminated fentanyl responsible for the deaths of more than 100 people," a spokesperson for Argentina's libertarian President Javier

Milei said in a statement.
Following an investigation, Argentina's drug regulatory agency (ANMAT) had shut down the lab three months before the first deaths from the tainted fentanyl occurred, the statement added.

Furfaro Garcia has previously denied claims that he was responsible, blaming a former colleague for planting the story in the media, according to newspaper reports.

Two weeks ago, relatives of victims protested outside a hospital in the city of La Plata south of Buenos Aires, where the first deaths were reported, demanding "justice for the fentanyl victims."

The latest increase in the death toll

comes just weeks before September 7 legislative elections in Buenos Aires province, which is the most populous in

The vote is considered a prelude to October's national mid-term legislative elections, which will serve as a popularity test of the self-described "anarchocapitalist" Milei.

At a campaign rally in La Plata, Milei accused the followers of his archnemesis, left-wing ex-president Cristina Kirchner, of an "atrocious cover-up" of Furfaro Garcia's involvement in the fentanyl deaths, without providing evidence.

Calling Furfaro a "longtime Kirchnerist associate," he accused his rivals of getting "away with any atrocity."

A probe into the fentanyl deaths first arose from a complaint filed by ANMAT, which had received a report from a hospital that discovered the tainted drug in its supply, an employee of the agency told AFP on condition of anonymity.





Russian military personnel

Russia bans foreign clothing for military personnel

Russian President, Vladimir Putin, extend to fabrics and knitted materials procurement of foreign-made domestically manufactured. 2026.

According to the decree, from military, the decree said. January 1, 2026, all uniforms and Military clothing and gear include by Russian companies whose equipment, and sanitary items. manufacturing facilities are located Such supplies are procured through within the country.

By 2027, the requirement would system.

has signed a decree banning the used in production, which must be

clothing and related gear for the The measure aims to entirely exclude country's armed forces starting in the purchase of foreign-made clothing and materials for the needs of the

other clothing items for the Russian uniforms, insignia, underwear, Armed Forces must be produced bedding, special clothing, footwear,

the Russian state defence order



Famished children

Sudanese women, girls eat animal feed amid intense starvation

Hungry civilians are reportedly eating animal feed as women and girls face a "gender emergency" in war-torn Sudan, UN officials reveal.

Particularly hard hit is El Fasher, where hunger is growing, with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs warning of a deteriorating situation that is putting even more civilians' lives at

UN Deputy Spokesperson Farhan Haq disclosed the alarming shortages of food in the war-torn country on Thursday at the UN Headquarters in New York.

"With increasingly alarming food shortages and spiralling prices, people in El Fasher are reported to be resorting to eating animal feed in what is an increasingly catastrophic situation," Haq

'El Fasher has the highest cost of basic goods nationwide at nearly \$1,000 per household per month, which is far beyond the reach of most families.
"This includes more than \$700 for food

alone, more than eight times the cost of basic food items in other parts of the country, Haq said.

"These steep costs, coupled with the siege and lack of aid delivery by road for over a year, have left thousands facing starvation," he added.

He noted that engagement around the calls from the Secretary-General and the UN Emergency Relief Coordinator for a pause in the area is "more important than ever".

Similarly, OCHA's Director of Operations and Advocacy, Edem Wosornu, who is currently in the country, said the suffering was immense, with people trapped, displaced or returning to face communities in ruins.

She called for unimpeded access and urgent support to reach those on the frontlines of hardship.

Warnings also came from UN Women, the gender equality agency of the UN. "This crisis is a gender emergency," Salvator Nkurunziza, the agency's representative in Sudan, said.

"Displaced women and girls can be subject to the risks of exploitation and abuse, especially during the delivery of aid, where protection mechanisms are weak or absent in some locations."

DID YOU KNOW?

BY VIVIAN OKAFOR

Astronauts grow taller in space

It has been confirmed that tronauts return to Earth, astronauts do grow taller in space, but the change is temporary. In the microgravity environment of space, astronauts' spines decompress, causing them to increase in height by about 3%, or roughly 2 inches (5 centimetres).

While scientists have known for some time that astronauts experience a slight height boost during a months-long stay on the International Space Station, NASA is only now starting to use ultrasound technology to see exactly what happens to astronauts' spines in microgravity as it occurs.

This is because, on Earth, gravity compresses the spine. This height increase is temporary, and astronauts return to their original height once they return to Earth.

In the microgravity of the International Space Station, the constant com-pression of the spine by gravity is absent. This allows the spinal discs to expand, resulting in a tempo-

rary increase in height.

Astronauts typically experience a 3% increase in height while in space, which translates to about 2 inches for a 6-foot-tall per-

This height increase is not permanent. Once astheir spines gradually compress back to their original length due to gravity.

The exact amount of height change can vary among astronauts due to individual differences in body composition and other factors.

Research indicates that the longer an astronaut spends in space, the more pro-nounced the effect on their spine. However, this can also lead to other changes, such as muscle loss and potential back problems upon return to Earth, as the muscles supporting the spine may atrophy from lack of use in microgravity. The weightless environment probably reduced the compression on the discs in his spine, and so he

'grew'.

"In a human spine, the discs are soft: they can get bigger and smaller, and they have elastic properties; the bone is hard. This 'growth' of 2 inches is most likely the result of disc expansion." disc expansion. '

Bone deterioration is possible from this extended trip into space. In a weightless environment, the muscles don't have to work very hard to make the body move. Back on earth, the muscles must be retrained to deal with grav-



Ants get only eight minutes of sleep every 12 hours

Ants are found on every continent on Earth except Antarctica. Within North America, there are many different types of ants, including fire ants, pavement ants, and carpenter ants, just to name a few. Ants are one of the most advanced insect groups and are social insects that live in colonies. Each colony has different types or castes of ants which include soldiers, workers, and queens. Once a colony is mature or very large, male and female winged reproductive ants are produced which may mate in the nest or during swarming.

Ants take short rest periods, totalling around 8 minutes within 12 hours, though it's not in the way humans understand sleep.

Ants exhibit a polyphasic rest pattern, taking numerous short naps throughout the day, rather than one long sleep. These naps can last around a minute each, adding up to several hours of rest in 24 hours. Ants don't sleep like humans. Instead, they have a pattern of taking short naps throughout the day. These naps are typically short, with individual rest periods lasting around a minute or slight-

While each nap is brief, the cumulative effect of these numerous naps can add up to a significant amount of rest time, often several hours.

This polyphasic rest pattern allows ants to maintain constant activity within their colony, ensuring there are always workers available for

Queen ants, for example, tend to have longer and deeper rest periods compared to worker ants.

Some studies suggest that while all ants rest, not all rest periods are the same. Some may involve a deeper state of rest with reduced activity in certain body parts like mandibles and antennae.

Unfortunately, this also means that they can invade your home at any time of day or night.

A recent study of ants' sleep cycle found that the average worker ant takes approximately 250 naps each day, with each one lasting just over a minute. That adds up to 4 hours and 48 minutes of sleep per day. The research also found that 8 per cent of the ant workforce was awake and active at work time.

The fastest ants can run about 900 feet in an hour. So, to travel 2,680 miles, even the speediest ants would need 15,722 hours for the trip. The ant travels 196 inches in 1 minute and can travel 1,372 inches in 7 minutes. To find these distances, we divide the total distance (980 inches) by the total time (5 minutes) and then multiply by the desired time



LIVING LEGENDS

BY ZARA AHMED

Richard Mofe-Damijo, Actor And Producer

Mofe-Damijo (born 6 July 1961), popularly known as RMD, is a foremost Nigerian actor, writer, producer, lawyer, and former journalist.

He was also a Commissioner for Culture and Tourism in Delta State in 2009. In 2005, he won the Africa Movie Academy Award for Best Actor in a Leading Role.

He received a Lifetime Achievement Award at the 12th Africa Movie Academy Awards in 2016. In 2024, he was honoured with the Industry Merit Awards, alongside Iya Rainbow at the Africa Magic Viewers' Choice Awards.

Mofe-Damijo was born in the Aladja community of the Udu Kingdom, Delta State, in the South-South region of Nigeria. He attended Midwest College, Warri and Anglican Grammar School, and was a member of the Drama Club. He studied Theatre Arts at the University of Benin. In 1997, Mofe-Damijo returned to the university to study law at the University of Lagos and graduated in 2004.

After graduating from university with a Theatre Arts degree, Mofe-Damijo appeared in the soap opera Ripples as a po-lice inspector but gained more popularity as villain Segun Kadiri in rival soap Checkmate.

Before then, he had a stint as a writer with the daily newspaper The Concord, and magazines Metro and Quality. Out of Bounds was the first film for which he received a writer/producer credit.

In 2005, at the maid-en edition of the Africa Movie Academy Awards, Mofe-Damijo won the award for Best Actor in a Leading Role. On 5 January 2017, he hosted the

2016 GLO-CAF Awards alongside Nigerian journalist Mimi Fawaz.

On 8 December 2021, he won an award during Ghana's Black Star Honour at the Rhymes on Da Runway.

Mofe-Damijo was appointed as the Special Adviser of Culture and Tourism to the then Governor Emmanuel Uduaghan in 2008, and was Delta State commissioner for culture and tourism from 2009 to 2015.

Mofe-Damijo was married to a journalist/publisher and talk show host, May Ellen 'NEE' Ezekiel, who died in 1996. After her death, Mofe-Damijo married TV personality Jumobi Adegbesan, who later left TV presenting for the corporate world. Mofe-Damijo has five children: two with his current wife and three from his previous marriage.



Chioma Ajunwa, First West African Woman To Win An Olympic Gold Medal

Chioma Ajunwa-Opara (born 25 December 1970), also known as Chioma Ajunwa is a Nigerian former track and field athlete and football player, notable for being the first Nigerian to win Olympic gold at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, and the first black African woman to win an Olympic gold medal in a field event.

She remains the only woman to compete at both the FIFA Women's World Cup as a footballer and the Olympics as a track and field athlete.

Ajunwa was the last of nine children, with six brothers and two sisters. Her father died while she was very young, leaving her mother to support a large family on her own. At 18, Ajunwa, who had been a keen athletics participant during her school years, gained admission into university but was unable to register due to her mother's inability to pay

She opted to train as an automobile mechanic instead, but abandoned the idea following

her mother's disapproval. Ajunwa performed as a track and field athlete and specialised in the 100m, 200m and long jump. She competed at the 1990 Commonwealth Games, winning a bronze medal in the 4×100 metres relay, and competed at the African Championships in 1989 and the All Africa Games in 1991 where she won gold medals in the long jump.

Ajunwa was banned from the sport for four years after failing a drug test in 1992 despite maintaining her innocence.

Following her Olympic gold medal at Atlan ta '96, Ajunwa was given a national award - Member of the Order of Niger (MON) by the then Head of State of Nigeria Sani Abacha, but complained that she was overlooked compared to the Nigerian football team claiming "When I heard of what was given to my brothers in the Super Eagles for winning the Nations Cup, I was amazed because you can see the difference...I'm not envious of anybody but this is the time to express my feelings that I deserve more.

Following the completion of her suspension, Ajunwa went on to become the first West-African woman, as well as the first Nigerian, to win an Olympic gold medal in a track and field event when she emerged victorious in the women's long jump event at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, with a jump length of 7.12 meters (on her first attempt) during the final.

In 2003, she stated in an interview with The Vanguard "I toiled so much for this country, but then I was dumped. That I could be the only individual gold medal winner for Nigeria in over half a century of participation in the Olympics and I could still be treated like a scourge, I couldn't believe it."

Following her victories, Imo State awarded her a chieftaincy title.

At the Nigeria Golden Jubilee Independence Awards on 1 October 2010, when Nigeria celebrated its 50th Independence anniversary, President Goodluck Jonathan conferred special Golden Jubilee Independence Awards on 50 distinguished Nigerians and friends of Nigeria, including Ajunwa, for their contributions to the development of the country.

On Friday, 30 April 2010, Ajunwa delivered a paper on "War against the use of illicit Drugs in Sport" at an Interactive Session experiend by the Athletics Federation

sion organised by the Athletics Federation of Nigeria (AFN).

In the second half of 2010, Ajunwa stepped up her anti-doping activities by starting an integrated campaign aptly tagged 'Compete Fair & Clean'. This personally-financed initiative involves communicating messages directly to athletes and coaches at athletic events. Awareness and Red-flag workshops and seminars are being organised with the Athletics Federation of Nigeria (AFN).

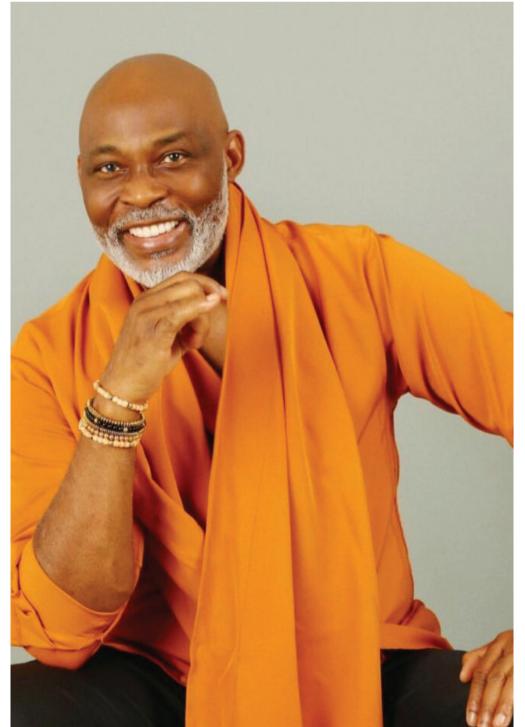
Banners were placed at sporting events and informative publications as well as T-shirts with anti-doping messages were given to athletes and coaches.

As a professional sportswoman, Ajunwa originally played football for the Nigerian women's team and was a member of The Falcons during the Women's World 1991, but as she was constantly benched, her skill was seldom used.

Of her short-lived football career, Ajunwa has stated, "I've not regretted the decision to leave football because I've made my mark in athletics. I could have continued with football but there was a particular coach. He knew then that I was the best player in the team, but he decided to keep me on the bench throughout every match, so I left the team's camp.

Chioma Ajunwa-Opara has triplets, two sons named Joshua and Caleb, and a daughter named Rose. In one interview. she mentioned that she made a promise to God to return them to Him and give a large offering if her pregnancy resulted in a successful birth, which she fulfilled.

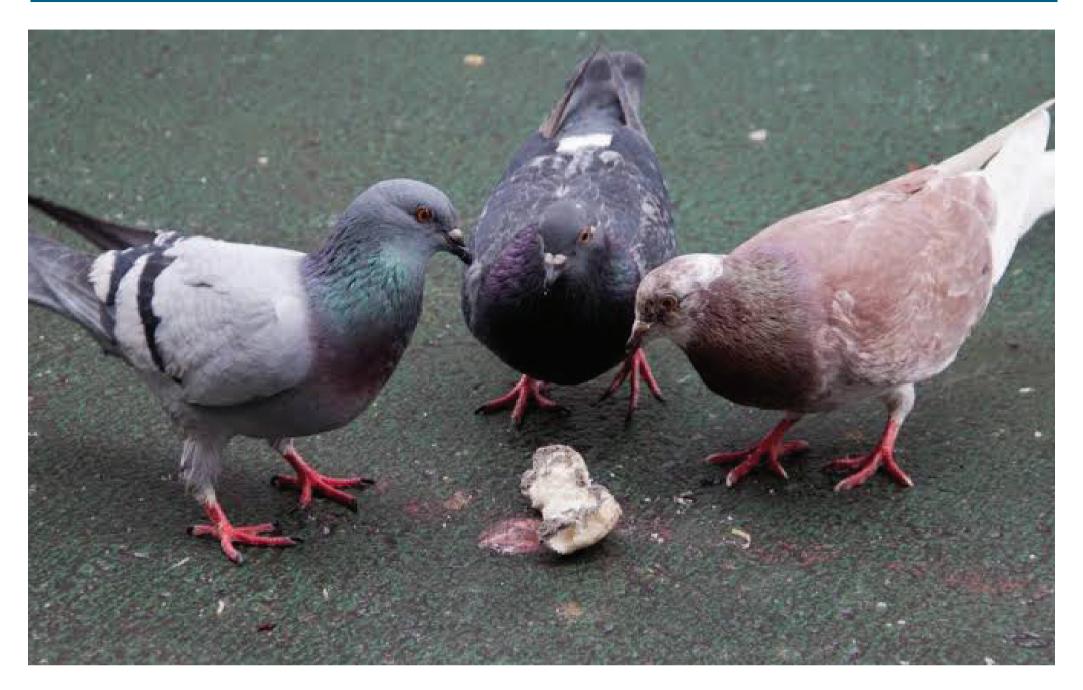
In December 2017, Ajunwa launched the Chioma Ajunwa-Okpara Foundation to discover new Nigerian stars in sports. The Foundation, in collaboration with the Abia State government, sponsored an Under-16 Athletics Championship for Secondary Schools in March 2018.



Mofe-Damijo

ANIMAL WORLD

BY MARYAM UMAR MaryamUmar@neptuneprime.com.ng



Pigeons: More than just birds, they're brilliant companions

These gentle birds aren't just loyal partners— they're brilliant, complex beings. Tucked inside their beaks are tiny magnetic crystals, which act like nature's GPS.

With them, pigeons can sense the Earth's magnetic field and travel thousands of miles with stunning precision. They can also hear frequencies too low for us to detect and read polarized light patterns in the sky like seeing a secret code hidden in daylight.

Their intelligence is no small thing either. Studies have shown that pigeons can count, recognize their own reflections, abstract understand ideas, and even grasp probability—sometimes outperforming young children in cognitive tests. While we see just three colors, pigeons see four, including ultraviolet. That means they see vivid patterns on each other's feathers that are completely invisible to us. When raising their young, pigeons produce a special milk-like substance in their throats to nourish their chicks—something they share with doves, flamingos, and emperor

penguins. And in flight? These birds can cruise at over 60 mph for long stretches.

They also form lifelong bonds with their mates. But just like us, environmental stress can affect their relationships. Their communication is equally layered—they use different coos and calls for danger, love, and territory, and they can recognize the unique voice of a familiar bird even from far away.

History has seen their courage too. During soldiers—even losing a leg.

Sadly, despite all this, forgotten we've connection to them. Pigeons were once our companions, messengers, and helpers—but many were abandoned when we no longer "needed" them. They stayed close to humans in cities, because that's what they knew.

They don't need much some oats, bird seed, clean water. But what they deserve is empathy, not disdain.

Pigeons are not pests. wartime, a pigeon named They are intelligent, Cher Ami delivered a emotional, deeply social message that saved 194 beings. They remember after us. It's time we remember them.







UPON US WILL ALSO BE

ORGANS ESTABLISHED

BY US, BUT THEY WILL

ATTACK EXCLUSIVELY

POINTS THAT WE HAVE

PRE-DETERMINED TO

WE CONTROL THE

4. NOT A SINGLE ANNOUNCEMENT

WILL REACH THE PUBLIC WITHOUT

OUR CONTROL. Even

now this is already being

attained by us inasmuch as

all news items are received

by a few agencies, in whose

offices they are focused from all parts of the world.

These agencies will then be

already entirely ours and

will give publicity only to

ALTER.

PRESS

BOOKS

BY SERGE NILUS

The Protocols of the Elders of Zion (5)

CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK

15. Besides this we shall, with the introduction of the new republican constitution, take from the Chamber the right of interpolation on government measures, on the pretext of preserving political secrecy, and, further, we shall by the new constitution reduce the number of representatives to a minimum, thereby proportionately reducing political passions and the passion for politics. If, however, they should, which is hardly to be expected, burst into flame, even in this minimum, we shall nullify them by a stirring appeal and a reference to the majority of the whole people . . . Upon the president will depend the appointment of presidents and vice-presidents of the Chamber and the Senate. Instead of constant sessions of Parliaments we shall reduce their sittings to a few months. Moreover, the president, as chief of the executive power, will have the right to summon and dissolve Parliament, and, in the latter case, to prolong the time for the appointment of a new parliamentary assembly. But in order that the consequences of all these acts which in substance are illegal, should not, prematurely for our plans, fall upon the responsibility established by us of the president, WE SHALL INSTIGATE MINISTERS AND OTHER OFFICIALS THE HIGHER ADMINISTRATION ABOUT THE PRESIDENT **EVADE** HIS DISPOSITIONS **MEASURES** TAKING OF THEIR OWN, for doing which they will be made the scapegoats in his place . . . This part we especially recommend to be given to be played by the Senate, the Council of State, or the Council of Ministers, but not to an individual official. 16. The president will, at our discretion, interpret the sense of such of the existing laws as admit of various interpretation; he will further annul them when we indicate to him the necessity to do so, besides this, he will have the right to propose temporary laws, and even new departures in the government constitutional working, the pretext both for the one and the other being the requirements for the supreme welfare of the

WE SHALL DESTROY

17. By such measure we shall obtain the power of destroying little by little, step by step, all that at the outset when we enter on our rights, we are compelled to introduce into the constitutions of States to prepare for the transition an imperceptible abolition of every kind of constitution, and then the time is come to turn every

form of government into OUR DESPOTISM.

18. The recognition of our despot may also come before the destruction of the constitution; the moment for this recognition will come when the peoples, utterly wearied by the irregularities and incompetence — a matter which we shall arrange for — of their rulers, will clamor: "Away with them and give us one king over all the earth who will unite us and annihilate the causes of disorders frontiers, nationalities, religions, State debts who will give us peace and quiet which we cannot find under our rulers and representatives. " 19. But you yourselves

perfectly well know that TO PRODUCE THE POSSIBILITY OF THE **EXPRESSION** OF WISHES BY ALL THE NATIONS IT **INDISPENSABLE** TO TROUBLE **COUNTRIES ALL** PEOPLE'S THE **RELATIONS** WITH THEIR GOVERNMENTS SO AS TO UTTERLY EXHAUST HUMANITY DISSENSION, HATRED, STRUGGLE, ENVY AND EVEN BY THE USE OF TORTURE, BY STARVATION, BY THE INOCULATION OF DISEASES, BY WANT, SO THAT THE "GOYIM" SEE NO OTHER ISSUE THAN TAKE REFUGE IN OUR COMPLETE SOVEREIGNTY IN MONEY AND IN ALL ELSE.

20. But if we give the nations of the world a breathing space the moment we long for is hardly likely ever to

Protocol No. 11: The **Totalitarian State**

1. The State Council has been, as it were, the emphatic expression of the authority of the ruler: it will be, as the "show" part of the Legislative Corps, what may be called the editorial committee of the laws and decrees of the ruler.

2. This, then, is the program of the new constitution. We shall make Law, Right and Justice (1) in the guise of proposals to the Legislative Corps, (2) by decrees of the president under the guise of general regulations, of orders of the Senate and of resolutions of the State Council in the guise of ministerial orders, (3) and in case a suitable occasion should arise — in the form of a revolution in the State.

3. Having established approximately the MODUS AGENDI we will occupy ourselves with details of those combinations by which we have still to complete the revolution in the course of the machinery of State in the direction already indicated. By these combinations I mean the freedom of the Press, the right of association, Protocols of the Elders of Zion Presented by Hentige Hittie

freedom of conscience, the voting principle, and many another that must disappear for ever from the memory of man, or undergo a radical alteration the day after the promulgation of the new constitution. It is only at the moment that we shall be able at once to announce all our orders, for, afterwards, every noticeable alteration will be dangerous, for the following reasons: if this alteration be brought in with harsh severity and in a sense of severity and limitations, it may lead to a feeling of despair caused by fear of new alterations in the same direction; if, on the other hand, it be brought in a sense of further indulgences it will be said that we have recognized our own wrong-doing and this will destroy the prestige of the infallibility of our authority, or else it will be said that we have become alarmed and are compelled to show a yielding disposition, for which we shall get no thanks because it will be supposed to be compulsory . . . Both the one and the other are iniurious to the prestige of the new constitution. What we want is that from the first moment of its promulgation, while the peoples of the world are still stunned by the accomplished fact of the revolution, still in a condition of terror and uncertainty, they should recognize once for all that we are so strong, so inexpugnable, so superabundandy filled with power, that in no case shall we take any account of them, and so far from paying any attention to their opinions or wishes, we

are ready and able to crush

with irresistible power all

expression or manifestation

thereof at every moment and in every place, that we have seized at once everything we wanted and shall in no case divide our power with them . . . Then in fear and trembling they will close their eyes to everything, and be content to await what will be the end of it all.

WE ARE WOLVES

4. The GOYIM are a flock of sheep, and we are their wolves. And you know what happens when the wolves get hold of the flock? . . .

5. There is another reason also why they will close their eyes: for we shall keep promising them to give back all the liberties we have taken away as soon as we have quelled the enemies of peace and tamed all parties...

6. It is not worth to say anything about how long a time they will be kept waiting for this return of their liberties

7. For what purpose then have we invented this whole policy and insignated it into the minds of the GOY without giving them any chance to examine its underlying meaning? For what, indeed, if not in order to obtain in a roundabout way what is for our scattered tribe unattainable by the direct road? It is this which has served as the basis for our organization of SECRET MASONRY WHICH IS NOT KNOWN TO, AND AIMS WHICH ARE NOT EVEN SO MUCH AS SUSPECTED BY, THESE "GOY" CATTLE, ATTRACTED BY US INTO THE "SHOW" ARMY OF MASONIC LODGES IN ORDER TO THROW DUST IN THE EYES OF THEIR FELLOWS.

8. God has granted to us, His Chosen People, the gift of the dispersion, and in this which appears in all eyes to be our weakness, has come forth all our strength, which has now brought us to the threshold of sovereignty over all the world.

9. There now remains not much more for us to build up upon the foundation we have laid.

Protocol No. 12: Control of the Press

1. The word "freedom," which can be interpreted in various ways, is defined by us as follows

2. Freedom is the right to do what which the law allows. This interpretation of the word will at the proper time be of service to us, because all freedom will thus be in our hands, since the laws will abolish or create only that which is desirable for us according to the aforesaid

is a source of heavy expense

owing to the necessity of

censoring it, will be turned

by us into a very lucrative

source of income to our

State: we shall lay on it

a special stamp tax and

require deposits of caution-

money before permitting

the establishment of any

organ of the press or of

printing offices; these will

then have to guarantee

our government against

any kind of attack on the

part of the press. For any

attempt to attack us, if

such still be possible, we

shall inflict fines without

mercy. Such measures

as stamp tax, deposit of

caution-money and fines

secured by these deposits,

will bring in a huge income

to the government. It is true

that party organs might not

spare money for the sake of

publicity, but these we shall

shut up at the second attack

upon us. No one shall with

impunity lay a finger on the

aureole of our government

infallibility. The pretext for

stopping any publication will be the alleged plea

that it is agitating the

public mind without

occasion or justification. I BEG YOU TO NOTE

THAT AMONG THOSE

ATTACKS

MAKING

what we dictate to them.

5. If already now we have contrived to possess ourselves of the minds of the GOY communities to such an extent the they all come near looking upon program. 3. We shall deal with the the events of the world through the colored glasses press in the following way: what is the part played by the press to-day? It serves of those spectacles we are setting astride their noses; to excite and inflame those if already now there is not a single State where there passions which are needed exist for us any barriers to for our purpose or else admittance into what GOY it serves selfish ends of stupidity calls State secrets: parties. It is often vapid, unjust, mendacious, and what will our positions the majority of the public be then, when we shall be have not the slightest idea acknowledged supreme what ends the press really lords of the world in the serves. We shall saddle person of our king of all the world... and bridle it with a tight 6. Let us turn again to the FUTURE OF THE curb: we shall do the same also with all productions of the printing press, for where would be the sense PRINTING of getting rid of the attacks of the press if we remain targets for pamphlets and books? The produce of publicity, which nowadays

Every one desirous of being a publisher, librarian, or printer, will be obliged to provide himself with the diploma instituted therefore, which, case of any fault, will be immediately impounded. such such measures INSTRUMENT With THE **THOUGHT BECOME** WILL EDUCATIVE MEANS ON THE HANDS OF OUR GOVERNMENT, WHICH WILL NO LONGER ALLOW THE MASS OF THE NATION TO BE LED ASTRAY IN BY-WAYS AND FANTASIES **ABOUT THE BLESSINGS** OF PROGRESS. Is there any one of us who does not know that these phantom blessings are the direct roads to foolish imaginings which give birth to anarchical relations of men among themselves and towards authority, because progress, or rather the idea of progress, has introduced the conception of every kind of emancipation, but has failed to establish its limits . . . All the so-called liberals are anarchists, if not in fact, at any rate in thought. Every one of them in hunting after phantoms of freedom, and falling exclusively into license, that is, into the anarchy of protest for the

PRESS.

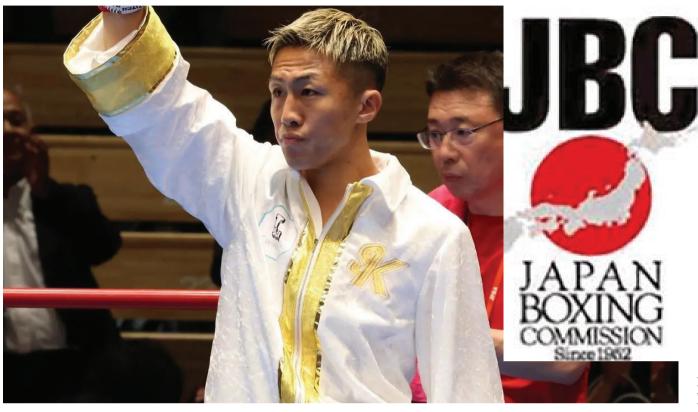
TO BE CONTINUED

sake of protest . . .

SPORTS: BEHIND THE SCENES

BY MARYAM UMAR MaryamUmar@neptuneprime.com.ng

Japanese boxing officials introduce new rules following deaths of 2 boxers



Japanese boxing officials said they would introduce urine tests, stricter rules on weight loss to prevent dehydration and improve medical cover at bouts following the deaths of two fighters.

The new measures were adopted during an emergency meeting of the Japan Pro Boxing Association (JPBA), the Japan Boxing Commission, and gym owners

It was convened after super featherweight Shigetoshi Kotari and lightweight Hiromasa Urakawa, both 28, died days after brain surgery on injuries they sustained in separate bouts at Tokyo's Korakuen Hall on

August 2. The exact cause of the boxers' deaths is to be determined, but dehydration caused by cutting weight rapidly is regarded as a factor in making the brain more susceptible to bleeding, according to the World Boxing Association.

The deaths were regrettable," said JPBA president Shoji Kobayashi. "We gathered today to establish a plan towards zero accidents." measures implemented as soon as possible include urine tests for measuring dehydration and stricter rules on boxers' rapid weight loss, said Tsuyoshi Yasukochi, secretary-general of the JBC.

Ambulances will also be required on site, even for nonworld championship bouts.

"They will partner with hospitals that are equipped to perform emergency surgery for head and other injuries. "There will also be new rules

on how long before a fight sparring must be stopped during training, he said.

Officials decided "to take all measures possible so we do not let the deaths of the two be in vain," Yasukochi added. Kotari collapsed and later died

after going 12 rounds in an Oriental and Pacific Boxing Federation title fight.
The JBC had

already announced all future OPBF title bouts would be reduced to 10 rounds.

"That such an incident occurred involving top-level boxers means we may face arguments that boxing should be halted," admitted Toshiharu Kayama, former Japan welterweight champion and president of the boxing gym Ebisu K's Box. "We, the association and gyms,

want to think and change" the way the sport is contested, Kayama said.

"An accident investigation committee will work to find out the cause of the boxers' deaths later this month and guidance on prevention measures will be updated, Yasukochi said. The JBC and JPBA will also

hold a safety meeting later this month, which will include the organisations' doctors as well as the amateur boxing federation,

Inspiring quotes from famous footballers

Football is not just a sport, it's an emotion. For many people, football is more than just running behind the ball; it's about passion and dedication. It's overcoming about obstacles and pushing yourself to become the best version of yourself. "Success is no accident. It is hard work, everance, learning studying, sacrifice, and most of all love of what you are doing or learning to do." – Pelé "There is no pressure when you are making a dream come true." – Neymar

"I'm not a perfectionist but I like things done well. More important than that, I feel an endless need to learn, to improve by myself." Lionel Messi

"I have never tried to hide the fact that it is my intention to become the best." – Cristiano Ronaldo

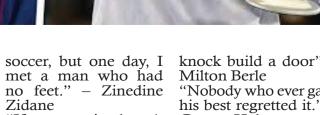
"I don't believe skill was, or ever will be, the result of coaches. It is











Milton Berle "Nobody who ever gave

"If opportunity doesn't George Halas



Neymar, Messi, Ronaldo

between the child and the ball." – Roy Keane "When people succeed, it is because of hard

to do with success." – Diego Maradona

Rooney "I just hate losing and "I once cried because that gives you extra I had no shoes to play

Zidane



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The Arbiter

BY HASSAN GIMBA





Why Yobe 'English' girls deserve their flowers

"If your plan is for one year, plant rice; if your plan is for ten years, plant trees; if your plan is for one hundred years, educate children" - Guan Yiwu.

This quote from Guan Yiwu, an earlier statesman and thinker who lived from about 720 BC to 645 BC, is often wrongly attributed to Confucius. The original quote roughly translates to: "The best ten-year plan is to plant trees; the best plan for the rest of your life is to plant people."
When taken further, the

allusion to planting rice represents the short term; tree planting symbolises investments long-term as trees take a long time to mature. Educating children is all about lasting impact and shaping future generations. Therefore, it is a worthy investment that equips individuals with knowledge, skills, and values that can transform society positively over the long term, come rain or shine.

Education is the only tool known to extricate people and nations from poverty, catapulting them into a class they would only dream of without it. It is also the only antidote against those who want to press you to the ground - those hell-bent on destroying a people, a nation or a legacy.

Iran is a good example. The United States of America and Europe have imposed all manner of sanctions on the nation with the sole purpose of bringing it to its knees. However, the nation's leaders gave everything to the education of their people. While the country may not consistently rank in the top 10 globally, it performs well in certain areas and among specific groups of countries. It ranks second among D-8 countries in terms of the number of universities.

Additionally, Iran is strong in the Young University Rankings, coming third among the featured nations. In some subject

areas, like Computer Science and Engineering, Iranian universities like Sharif University of Technology and the University of Tehran are highly rated.

One can see this not only in the recently concluded "12-Day War" in which Iran not only stood eyeball to eyeball against two nuclear powers, America and Israel, inflicting unprecedented hitherto unimaginable damage on them, but showcased its highly developed missile technology, despite being taken unawares in the

Iran has been at the forefront in research, making inroads and discoveries medicine, space science, communications many other fields.

With this in mind, Yobe State's efforts to provide qualitative education to contribute to the future development of youths, the state, and, by extension, the nation should command some attention.

Three of its girls, Nafisa Aminu, Abdullahi Ruqayya Muhammad Fema, and Hadiza Kashim Kalli, went to a non-governmentsponsored English Language-based competition in United Kingdom and shone like a million stars, dusting about 20,000 other participants from 69 different nations. The beauty of it is not even in the high number of students involved the competition; competition was the multinational, participating countries sent their champions.

The state government sponsored the students competition the TeenEagle Global English Championship, organised by a UKbased non-governmental organisation (NGO). However, competition does not have to be



Dr Gimba

organised by governments to be authentic; whoever deserves wins their accolades.

But, unfortunately, in Nigeria, some people have little regard for anything positive associated with others other than themselves. They will not celebrate you in your time of happiness. They will, instead, turn up their noses when you have achieved glory just because you are not of the same region or religion (again, those two demons buffeting our society) or belong to different political platforms. And so, they will disparage

vou and demean your achievements - just for the sadistic fun of it.

But if we genuinely want to develop as a nation, we must learn to accommodate one another, love and respect one another, have one another's back, hold the hands of our weakest links and haul them up so that we breast the tape together.

In terms of history, Yobe is like a toddler. When a toddler begins to walk, people clap and encourage them as they take faltering steps. The state is the first, albeit from the rear, in almost all aspects of the human development index in Nigeria.

It is in recognition of its deficiencies in education and its toddler status that the state governor, Mai Mala Buni, declared a state of emergency in education, going on to launch an appeal fund complement the government's efforts in boosting education.

Since then, government has built well-equipped many schools, paid scholarships and sponsored academic and medical research (especially relating to kidney diseases that have become worrisome in the state) that would benefit the entire nation. For any national and global competitions in which Yobe State students can participate, the governor makes sure they are Neptune Prime.

sponsored to take part. Even though coming home with glory is desirable to Governor Buni say his primary interest is for the young minds to see other parts of the world and intermingle with those who live there, compare their knowledge with their peers, learn new techniques, gain confidence, establish global network for the future and return with broader vision and the belief that they can conquer the world.

He has also made education at home cheap by subsidising registration for students in the state's institutions. tertiary Yobe State University is very affordable when compared to universities in other states. He recently bent backwards, despite provocations and unreasonable demands, to broker peace in the Yobe State University so that lectures can resume in earnest. All these efforts have not been for nothing, as we see them reflected in the three girls.

For the three young girls, all students of TULIP or Turkish College in Yobe, not only your state but also the entire nation must be proud of you. We must also not forget that their feat was possible because the late Governor Mamman B. Ali had the vision to set up the school, and Governor Buni has the will to provide whatever is needed for its maintenance.

Therefore, from where they are coming, Yobe State and its three girls understanding, need encouragement, support from Nigeria and Nigerians. We should be all-for-one and one-forall. Ultimately, it is Nigeria that matters, and only well-educated people can take our nation to where it matters.

Hassan Gimba, anipr, is the publisher and CEO of



The best ten-year plan is to plant trees; the best plan for the rest of your life is to plant people