

ATTRAC^TIONS

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INTERNATIONAL MONTHLY MAGAZINE

...building Bridges Across Cultures And Peoples

Nigeria Mourns Former President Buhari

■ *Remembering the Man who Chose “Integrity” as his Watchword*



Late Former Nigeria's President
Gen. Muhammadu Buhari, Retd. (1942-2025)



Trump and his Trade Wars



Nigeria's President Tinubu

WORLD CLUB CUP

When Chelsea Challenged and Dutifully Conquered

DIEGO JOTA

Pains of a Broken Future



ALSO IN THIS EDITION

- Life's Growth Series
- Laurels “n” Lashes
- Fitness from the Kitchen



ATTRAC^TIONS INTERNATIONAL MONTHLY AIM MAGAZINE



Our Mandate

...Our Commitment

Our Mandate is to Continuously Strive to Bridge Cultural and Geographic Boundaries Through the Sharing of News, Creative Ideas, Skills, Education as well as Entertainment and Sports via Our General Interests Platform.

OUR COMMITMENT

Our Commitment is to, at all times, remain committed to the Above Mandate, While Sticking to the Time-honoured Virtues of Pure Journalism, including Factual, Objective and Balanced Reportage that Continually Embraces Factuality and Shuns Sensationalism

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Professionalism, Integrity, Factuality and Timeliness

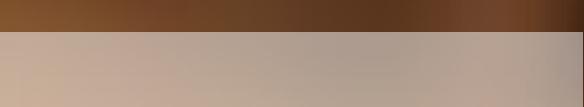
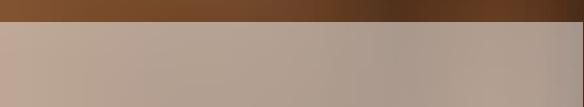
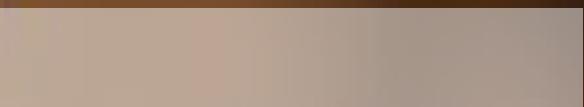


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CONTENTS

09

Nigeria Mourns Former President Buhari

07 Israel, Iran, America and the Rest of Us: 12 Days of Listlessness and Lessons

10 Former PDP National Chairman, Ex-Minister Audu Ogbeh is dead

15 DIEGO JOTA
Pains of a Broken Future



12 True Story Of How UK-Based Nigerian Nurse Arrested After Partner's Rape Allegation, Faces 17 Years if Convicted

27 Trump and His Many Trade Wars: How Far So Far?

24 Echoes of Nigerian Community Summer Fest-Toronto 2025: When Tradition Met Glamour

46 Plumptre: I Show Them my Dad's Picture When Teammates Question my Nigerian Roots

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EDITORIAL

Attractions Magazine: Back, Better and Stronger

Yes, we are back, better and more committed to the idea of carrying out the three-fold ministry of informing, entertaining and educating you, our ever-committed reader.

As we did before now, the whole idea of putting out this magazine has always been calculated to bring out a better you for what you know and for how you feel.

With an array of our writers we are returning in stronger dimensions and harder punches. Sure, you thought right, we have added more writers, columnists and columns to spice up your month after month.

Our solemn promise, like a lover willing to mend fences for good, is never to leave you high and dry again. We will always be here for you and to together explore and exploit the Digital Highways with some of the new hands and faces you will get to meet.

If you have not, as it were, kept faith with our Leadership Series with the Master of the House himself, our dear Publisher/Editor-in-chief, Mr. Finbars Aruwonye, I bet you do not know what you are missing and are, therefore, in for a big revival.

Down the line, you will understand why some folks make progress in business, while others don't. Is it not surprising that some countries have made the moon and other such bodies their places for relaxation while others are still struggling to learn the best ways of planting maize?

Is it still in doubt why a famous Leadership coach always insists that everything rises and falls on Leadership? Tell me who your leader is and I could guess what future awaits you.

Here, you will be on a constant journey and training for Leadership. Again, thanks to Mr. Finbolo, as we call him here, Leadership issues will be broken in such micro pieces that swallowing them up in a jiffy will be easier done than said!

Mr. Finbolo remains the only Leadership Engineer and Networker I know across the world. Only God knows how he balances those two opposing strains of professionalism. That is hardly our problem here. All we need to do is to relax and follow.... It's a real long walk, if you ask me. Good a thing it promises excitement and fun.

Yes, we are still packed full of stories across the world, odd renditions that will last long in the memory after you have read them.

There are tidbits on Sports, Academics, Travels and Tourism as well as tips for dressers, corporate practitioners and just anything and anyone. A perusal through the pages will get you believing in us for next month and always.

Please, keep faith with us in this renewed era of fresh commitment to the things that will make you laugh...and, of course, cry, if need be.

You are welcome on board.

Man Who Mistakenly Bought An Entire Street For \$5000 Cries Out As City Allegedly Takes it From Him

Ohio, USA

An American man has claimed ownership of an entire street, insisting he bought it for the sum of \$5000 (N7.6 million).

The man, known as Jason Fauntleroy, lives in Ohio, and the street in question is located in Trenton.

According to a story published in January by The Daily Mail, Fauntleroy claims to have bought the street at a Butler County Sheriff's Office auction.

However, he has alleged informed that the city is about to take the street from him, a move that does not sit well with him.

He said, per WCPO :

'They shut me out. They blocked my calls. It's hard to even get through anybody.'

Trenton City Manager, Marcos Nichols said they were taking the streets because of how Fauntleroy is behaving and the conversations he was having.

Nichols insisted that it was not clear how Fauntleroy ended up becoming the owner of the whole street.

He said:

"I'm not sure how that occurs, other than it was a private drive that was created through a homeowner's



association. The homeowner's association was responsible for maintaining that property and upkeeping it."

Nichols stated that the overall aim was to convert the private drive into a public roadway that the city can start maintaining.

The city is reportedly taking the street through what is called Eminent domain, which means that a government can take over private property and convert it for proper use.

However, if such takeover happens, the private owner of the property is to be fairly treated.

Fauntleroy claims he has not been fairly treated by the city, claiming it was because he could not afford an

Family Cries Out After Discovering Their Missing Daughter has Been Living with 'African' Tribe in Scotland

The family of Kaura Taylor, a missing Texas woman recently discovered living with a self-proclaimed "African" tribe in the Scottish Highlands, says they fear she has been manipulated by the group's leaders, a couple who call themselves King Atehene and Queen Nandi — and are growing deeply concerned about her well-being.

Taylor, 21, now goes by the name "Asnat, Lady Safi of Atehene" and lives in the so-called Kingdom of Kubala, a claimed patch of forest near Jedburgh, Scotland. She reportedly serves as a handmaiden to Queen Nandi.

attorney.

His words:

'Treat people fair, do honest work. Don't just take advantage of someone because they don't have the means of getting an attorney.'

She showed off the acre of land, solar inverter, flat screen smart television, iPhone and other things she spent her money on.

Many hailed the young lady and inquired more about her source of income as a tech professional.

According to the lady, she was torn between acquiring a wig or the land, and she later chose to go for a piece of land.

Social media users who came across the video on the TikTok app stormed the comments section to congratulate her.

Iranian Multiple Husband Murderer Dies by Execution, After Revelations Saying:

"In order to inherit their wealth, I married elderly men, gave them pills and alcohol, and watched them slowly die."

Tehran, Iran

In a terrifying series of killings, the woman who is now known throughout Iran as the "black widow" allegedly confessed, "I married old men, gave them pills and alcohol, and watched them die slowly while collecting their money and property."

Kolsum Akbari, 56, was scheduled to be executed on August 14, 2025, according to a Jerusalem Post story, after being charged with poisoning at least 11 elderly husbands nationwide during a 22-year period.

Akbari seemed to have financial motivations. Authorities said she would receive dowries and property from her deceased husbands. She allegedly targeted males with chronic illnesses over the years, making their deaths seem natural. Official investigations stated that Akbari used sedatives, diabetes medications, blood pressure medications, and industrial alcohol to kill her victims in silence. She allegedly tried suffocation when these techniques didn't work.

According to reports, the murders started in 2000 and continued until 2023, when 82-year-old Gholamreza Babaei passed away. Because Akbari

regularly moved between locations, making it difficult for authorities to link the fatalities, and because the men she married were already elderly and fragile, the pattern of deaths went unnoticed for decades. When Babaei's son became suspicious, she was overthrown. He learnt that a woman with Akbari's name had almost poisoned a friend's father. Following the police notice, a more thorough investigation showed how many offences Akbari had committed. Akbari allegedly confessed during questioning, stating, "I don't know how many I killed.

"Thirteen or fifteen individuals, perhaps. I can't recall precisely."

Human rights organisations, however, raised concerns about the means by which Iranian officials might have forced her to make the confession through torture, threats against family members or even coercion. As Akbari awaited death last week, her case provoked anger and morbid fascination throughout Iran, drawing attention to concerns about elder care, justice, and the weaknesses taken advantage of by those who want to commit murder for financial gain.

"She went missing in May. But she wasn't missing at all, she left to go live with these people," Taylor's aunt, Vandora Skinner told The Independent.

"It is very stressful and difficult. It breaks our heart. We're overly concerned about Kaura, but she doesn't think anyone is concerned about her," her other aunt, Teri Allen, added.

Taylor, a single mother to a one-year-old, left Texas on May 25 and entered the UK on a six-month tourist visa. Relatives only learned of her new life after she vanished, leaving a cryptic message saying she and her daughter "had to get out and explore a little bit."

Allen described her niece's upbringing as "very sheltered and protected." She added, "She was brought up in church, but not their religion. Not this thing that they got going. It's a bunch of hogwash."

According to reports, Taylor first connected with the "kingdom" in 2023 via a Facebook group linked to a high school acquaintance.

The Kingdom of Kubala is led by Kofi Offeh, an opera singer from Ghana who calls himself King Atehene, and his wife Jean Gasho, a mother of seven who goes by the name Queen Nandi. The group claims to be descendants of a lost Hebrew tribe returning to reclaim land allegedly taken from their ancestors over 400 years ago.

Taylor has defended her decision to stay with the group, claiming she fled abuse at home. In a Facebook post dated August 20, she wrote:

"Yes, I'm very happy with my King and Queen. I was never missing. I fled a very abusive, toxic family who abused me sexually since I was a child! So you don't go 'missing' to your abusers."

Scottish Borders Council confirmed it is "working with Police Scotland" regarding Taylor and the group, saying it has provided "advice and information about housing options and other support services."

Taylor's family hopes she will return to Texas when her visa expires in November.

Publisher's Desk: LIFE'S GROWTH SERIES



Israel, Iran, America and the Rest of Us: 12 Days of Listlessness and Lessons

I have today elected to discuss here what concerns us all; what touches on the very fabric of our global existence, diplomacy and the use of kinetic powers to foist supremacy, to mediate peace and to bring a fragile order in an already charged world.

Before I start out here, let me confess my inadequacy for the topic I am about to discuss, to explore and to dwell on.

But who is more qualified than those who bore the unfortunate brunt of actions meditated upon at the Pentagon, at Israel's Knesset and deep down the rock bellies of Iran to discuss the 12-day anxious moments that gripped our world a few days ago?

I guess everyone who witnessed and felt what we all witnessed and felt in those 12 Days of Gory Images of the reality of our current globe.

To that extent, we all are eminently qualified to speak on whatever touches on our shared humanity. That is if you ask me.

We were all partakers of the heart aches, the rising blood pressure arising from the gory images of missiles, drones, fighter jets, rising costs of energy and the possibility that anything could go awry anywhere, however far removed from the theatre of the conflicts anyone thought they were.

We saw it all from our sitting-rooms, office spaces and even bedrooms!

Everything left such a sour taste in the mouth that one sometimes wondered why someone would elect to return humanity to the age of bombs and kinetic powers on what diplomacy may well be the answer.

Make no mistake about it, to jaw-jaw remains superior to war-war, apologies to the original owner of those words.

Again, the reality is that in those 12 Days of Storm, the world lost 12 years of progress!

According to experts in the matters under consideration, in just 12 days, Israel and Iran used or lost over USD100 Billion.

The United States used or lost about 14 of its B2 57 Mass Ordinance Penetrators (MOP) bombs. This is apart from other bombs from tomahawks. I am told that each stealth bomber that undertook the mission to Iran's Fowdar, Natanz and Esfahan has a price tag of USD2 Billion!

Imagine if the almighty US had lost one of those bombers said to be just 19 in their stock. With the irreplaceable human lives, the cost of such a loss could have, to say the least, been gargantuan.

Lessons from the 12 Days of Gory Images of Listlessness

If anyone asks me what lessons we have learnt in that 12-day show of shame and force in the Middle East, I do not have to even think to say the world has lost everything!

We lost peace.

We lost technology.

We lost lives, and in their numbers, if the world will negate the numbers you were fed from popular TV networks while the storms raged.

We lost conscience.

We lost our shared humanity and the we-feelings that have always made us empathize with our kind.

But more importantly, we saw the breaking of man's invincibility in Iran, in Israel and even in the United States!

The central lesson, if you ask me about that 12-day war, remains the fact that God is still God, no matter how wise or powerful man gets in his own eyes.

If you doubt this, please review Iran's internal security network, its military professionalism and armaments and juxtapose those with the efficacy or lack of it of the so-called Israel's Iron Dome and the ongoing bickerings on the results of the B2 bomber's mission in Iran...and let me know what you think.

Until next month, everyone of us lost something in the 12-day Middle East war, what did you lose?

Finbars

Secretary General, _Muslims and Christians Initiative for Good Governance and Peaceful Globe_

Global Titbits

Germany Going Nazi Again, Ben Gvir Says as Country's Foreign Minister Heads to Israel

Jerusalem/Israel

The German Foreign Minister was recently in Jerusalem for official meetings with Israeli officials, including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar.

Both leaders are coalition partners of Ben Gvir, who heads the far-right Otzma Yehudit Party.

Wadephul clarified that his position reflected broader European sentiment.

"In view of the open threats of annexation by some in the Israeli government, a growing number of European countries are ready to recognize a State of Palestine without previous negotiations," he said in a statement.

Ben Gvir, along with many members of his Party, is a vocal proponent of annexing parts of the West Bank, a stance shared by several members of Netanyahu's right-wing coalition government.

Critics say such moves would end any possibility of a two-state solution and isolate Israel further on the global stage.

The sharp rebuke by Ben Gvir signals deepening tensions between Israel and Germany over the future of the peace process and Israeli policies in the West Bank.

Wadephul's visit included tough discussions, as Germany balances its historical responsibility toward Israel with increasing European frustration over settlement expansion and lack of progress toward peace with the Palestinians.

Woman Commits Suicide by Jumping 15,500ft from Plane Just Hours after She Broke up with Boyfriend

County Durham, United Kingdom

An inquest has ruled that a skydiver who plunged 15,500ft to her death in County Durham, United Kingdom, took her own life just hours after ending a relationship with her boyfriend.

Jade Damarell, 32, died instantly after hitting the

ground at Wrefords' Farm in Peterlee without deploying her parachute.

Responds After FG Urged Canada to Retract 'APC Is a Terrorist Organization' Comment

Abuja, Nigeria

Nigerian lawyer and human rights activist, Prof Chidi Odinkalu took to his official X account on Friday, August 15, 2025 to react after a court in Canada declared the All Progressive Congress, Nigeria's ruling APC a terrorist organization.

According to a Nigerian Newspaper, PUNCH, the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness said the All Progressives Congress and the Peoples Democratic Party, PDP, were implicated in political violence, democratic subversion and electoral bloodshed.

Reacting to the report, the Federal Government criticized the Canadian government for condemning an entire Party because of the offense of one or few people.

Here is what FG said:

"The Federal Government of Nigeria, therefore, calls on the Canadian authorities to immediately retract this erroneous designation".

Reacting to the report, Chidi Odinkalu said the administration of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu thinks Canadian courts are like Nigerian courts.

According to Chidi Odinkalu on his official X account:

"These guys mistake Canadian courts for their Nigerian counterparts."

Indian Man Kidnaps Three Students, Blames Abduction on Nigerian Citizens

Shimla, India

In a shocking incident, a 43-year-old Indian man, Sumit Sood, was arrested for kidnapping three Class VI students from Bishop Cotton School (BCS) in Shimla, demanding ransom in Bitcoin while falsely claiming a Nigerian gang was behind the abduction, according to a Shimla police report on

August 13, 2025.

Sood, a BCS alumnus and debt-ridden engineer, allegedly orchestrated the kidnapping to alleviate financial losses from a fire that destroyed his apple orchard and a Rs 15 lakh deficit in share trading.

On Saturday, August 9, Sood lured the students, from influential families in Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, and Haryana, by posing as a fellow alumnus offering them a ride.

He then drove them to his remote three-storey house in Kokunala, 60 km from Shimla, where he held them captive.

Using a virtual number via the TextMe app to spoof a California-based phone number, Sood contacted the parents of two students, claiming a "Nigerian gang" had kidnapped their children and threatened harm if the ransom wasn't paid in Bitcoin or if authorities were alerted.

Shimla Superintendent of Police Sanjeev Gandhi revealed that Sood meticulously planned the crime, stealing his father's licensed pistol, using a car with a fake Delhi number plate, and avoiding CCTV by taking the Bemlo-New Shimla road.

He even urinated in a bottle while waiting four hours near the school to avoid detection. Police rescued the unharmed students on Sunday evening after tracking Sood's Hyundai i20 to Kokunala, following a tip from a local resident.

Items seized included the pistol, a meat chopper, rope, and tapes.

During interrogation, Sood admitted to researching over three dozen websites and news channels to monitor whether the abduction had been reported.

He had initially targeted another student but abandoned the plan due to the student's sturdy build.

On Tuesday, police recreated the crime scene with Sood, who identified key locations, including where he blindfolded the students and changed his car's number plate. He faces charges and will be produced in court on Wednesday, August 14, 2025.

The school principal announced stricter outpass protocols, barring students from leaving campus without adult supervision, citing the incident as a wake-up call for safety measures.

Cover Story

When Nigerians and the World Mourned Late Nigeria's President, Retired Gen. Muhammadu Buhari (1942-2025)

Remembering the Man Who Chose "Integrity" as His Watchword

The bell finally tolled for Nigeria's former President, Muhammadu Buhari, soldier, politician, farmer and different things to many, on that fateful Sunday afternoon, July 13, 2025, at a London hospital, bringing to a close an era that was marked by many vicissitudes of life, career, leadership and sheer character of a man whose rise to the apogee of life escaped the thwarting of a humble background.

In this cover story stitched together by our Managing Editor, Nkem Anyata-Lafia, using various field and electronic reports garnered by our reporters and correspondents in Nigeria and across the globe, we x-ray in this maiden paper edition the myth, the message and the mystery surrounding the enigmatic being known as MUHAMMADU BUHARI, who, to different individuals and ethnic nationalities meant different things.

Born to very humble parents, Ardo Adamu and Hajiya Zulhatu, at rural Daura in present-day Katsina State, Buhari rose above his humble beginnings and within a life span of 82 odd years brought to bear diverse impacts on the history of Nigeria and, indeed, mankind, which can hardly be equalled by any one individual Nigerian in recent history.

Not known to have demonstrated a strong quest for even leadership around which his life revolved all through his public service history until his passing a few weeks ago, the late Nigerian leader seemed to have been chosen by leadership itself rather than the other way round.

His personal history, being replete with privileged positions that more or less "came" on their own, Buhari's life's trajectories seemed to be some kind of a pre-destined reality that happened to him at different defining moments even before he, sometimes, could realize the imperatives of such reality.

He seemed, in all intent and purpose, to be a mere pawn on the chessboard of Nigeria's milito-political history that some critics have continued to argue that he most times had no agenda about the various positions he occupied or "that rather occupied him" in life as either a soldier or a politician.

Yet, in spite of differing opinions on the above assertion, many are wont to find a common ground in the general belief and reality that the late Nigerian phenomenal leader was a puritanical gentleman, whose Spartan lifestyle was not given to the primitive pursuit and craze for the kind of filthy lucre that characterises the lifestyle and negative leadership philosophy of an average member of the Nigerian political class.

As a former Federal Commissioner for Petroleum and Energy, a trailblazer at that, and Military Governor of the whole of what is today Nigeria's Northeast Geopolitical Zone, Buhari was neither swayed by what many Nigerians usually refer to as "the conquests" of official positions nor was he known, even at death, to have possessed any oil wells nor maintained any foreign bank accounts.

His life was an altruistic display of simplicity and egalitarian humanism. He lived a life that related with the common people and, like America's Jefferson, the people saw him as "one of us!"

It was this simplicity that held for him a magnetic pull on the hearts of the people, the grassroots, everyday people in whose hands lay the power to always choose him as their leader, a fact, which on more than three occasions was thwarted at the electoral polls (despite aiding others to various elective positions, especially in his traditional Northern and Central



Nigeria enclaves) by the system which he was seeking to correct until eventually when he assumed the Nigerian Presidency in 2015, thanks majorly to the consummate meekness of a President Jonathan who against enshrined characteristics of the everyday Nigerian politician, opted for statesman dignity rather than challenge an obvious electoral defeat!

The story of Muhammadu Buhari is one which will continue to occupy our socio-political and historical consciousness and realities for a long time. His leadership style, personality and the character he chose as a personal principle, in spite of whether one sees him as a leadership failure or success, will continue in the years ahead to be subjects of history, political discourses and standards for moral code in leadership positions and national guiding philosophy.

As the sun set on those 82 years of impacts on the fields of soldiering, politics, animal husbandry and other areas of no less importance and strength by which the late leader was well-known, the purposeful nature of the life of the former Fulani soldier and Statesman can be conspicuously evidenced by the scope, depth and dimensions of tributes paid to him at his demise by all segments of society, including political leaders, technocrats, business people, the hoipolloi and even musical entertainers across the world.

Facts Of His Life

Contnd on pg 37

Former PDP National Chairman, Ex-Minister Audu Ogbeh is dead

Abuja, Nigeria

Former three-time Minister, Chief Audu Ogbeh, is dead, a statement issued this Saturday morning by the family said.

"It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved husband, father and grandfather; Chief Audu Ogbeh. He passed away on the 9th of August 2025 at the fulfilled age of 78.

"He departed peacefully, leaving behind a legacy of integrity, service, and dedication to our nation and community. We are comforted by the many lives he touched and the example he set.

"Details of the funeral arrangements will be communicated in due course. We thank friends, colleagues, and well-wishers for their

prayers and support during this time. We will appreciate some privacy at this time while we mourn the loss of our patriarch," the statement obtained by Attractions International Monthly

The passing of the elderly statesman coincided with the publication of an interview in which he lamented the turn of things in the country and expressed fears about the future of the country. "I'm scared of the future," Audu Ogbeh said in the exclusive interview by Weekend Trust, a Nigerian tabloid.

A former University lecturer, Chief Audu Innocent Ogbeh was a distinguished farmer.

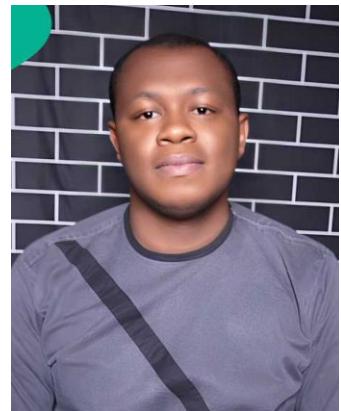


According to Weekend Trust: "He became a politician in 1979, when he was elected into the Benue State House of Assembly, where he was the Deputy Speaker.

He later served as a Minister three times, under Presidents Shehu Shagari and Muhammadu Buhari. He was also the Chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party

(PDP) between 2001 and 2005 under former President Olusegun Obasanjo. So he has been a constant fixture in Nigerian politics. In the interview, Ogbeh, who was the Chairman of the Arewa Consultative Forum (ACF) until recently, spoke on his experiences in politics and business."

Pastor Releases Worrying Prophecy about Davido's Wife, Chioma, 15 Days after Her White Wedding



Pst. Swieve



Chioma

Pastor Swieve C. Christian of Spheric Assemblies Inc. has shared a worrying prophecy about Davido's wife 15 days after her white wedding to the singer in Miami. The Pastor, who went viral for accurately prophesying about VeryDarkMan's arrest, posted on Facebook that Chioma should be prayerful.

According to the Pastor, a certain force

has been employed to scatter Chioma's marriage or cause problems in her marital home.

He said the problems might come in the form of anger issues over something Davido did, adding that a woman paid for it. He wrote:

"The Chioma of Davido should be prayerful, a certain force has been employed to scatter her marriage or bring issues, it will start like someone(her) having anger issues over the deed of his man, a woman paid for this."

SHOCKING: "Today Will Be Her Last Lie Past" Pastor Murders Wife During Sunday Service In Uganda.

Jinja, Uganda

A peaceful Sunday morning at New Life Gospel Ministries in Jinja, Eastern Uganda, turned into a nightmare that no one will ever forget.

Church members had come expecting prayer and worship, but instead witnessed a horrifying tragedy that has shocked the entire country.

According to police, Pastor Peter Okello, 56, arrived at the church like he always did—dressed in his usual religious robes. What no one knew was that under his robes, he was hiding two sharp knives. At first, everything seemed normal. Pastor Okello sat quietly at the front of the church, showing no signs of anger or distress. Then suddenly, without saying a word, he stood up and walked towards his wife, Pastor Grace Okello, who was also a co-founder of the church.

To everyone's shock, Pastor Okello pulled out the knives and began attacking his wife in front of the entire congregation. Worshippers screamed, cried,

and ran in all directions. Grace was stabbed multiple times right at the altar. Though some people rushed to help her, it was too late—she died on the spot. Moments later, Peter turned the knife on himself, cutting his own throat and dying shortly after.

The couple had been married for over 20 years and had built the church together. But police now say there were ongoing conflicts between them, mostly about leadership roles in the church and property ownership. A note found at the scene, believed to be written by Pastor Okello, accused his wife of betrayal and stated, "Today would be the last day of her lies."

Both bodies were taken to Jinja Regional Referral Hospital for postmortem exams as police continue with investigations. The church has been closed off while forensic experts gather more evidence.

This terrible incident has left many Ugandans in shock. It has also sparked important conversations about domestic violence, especially among religious leaders



and couples. Religious leaders in Jinja have strongly condemned the act and are urging couples who face relationship problems to seek help rather than turning to violence.

For the members of New Life Gospel Ministries, what was supposed to be a holy Sunday service will forever be remembered as the day their church became a crime scene. This tragedy reminds us of the importance of mental health support, open communication in relationships, and conflict

Orlu Zone Cultural Day Celebrations Wind Up in Toronto With A Call on Members Not to Lose Sight of Home, Emphasis on the People's Uniqueness Also Brought to the Fore

By Finbars Aruwonye

Toronto, Canada

President of the Orlu General Assembly, Toronto, Canada, Mr Uche Ukachukwu, has reminded members of the organization of the importance of remembering where they come from and the power of coming together to celebrate what makes them unique.

The highly respected leader, who stated the above in Toronto, Canada, on the occasion of the celebration of the 2025 edition of Orlu General Assembly's Cultural Day, informed that it is through such events that the future generations of Orlu people can be inspired to cherish and preserve their rich heritage.

While calling on the people of the Zone to be one another's keepers, Chief Ukachukwu added that the essence of Igbo migration and networking with other races of the world was to gain the necessary financial strength, education, ingenuity as well as the experience and exposure to better our home country and people.

"We are a unique people. Every Orlu man is hard working. We abhor criminal activities and every act of indecency that has the potential to bring shame on us and our families.

"Therefore, despite being abroad, we must never forget where we are coming from. Everyone of us must bear in mind their home and remember that you are here as the light of that family that is praying for your

success and safe return home someday.

"I call on us all to be true Orlu sons and daughters wherever we may be in this country and no matter what field of endeavour we may be engaged in. We all know the hallmarks of true Orlu people. Let us display those virtues here at all times and in all circumstances to the pride of our home country and people," the President stressed.

The OGA 2025 Cultural Day event was characterised by a remarkable display of indigenous ideals, songs, fun and local delicacies.

The theme of this year's celebration: "Uplifting the Less Privileged Youth in Orlu Zone Through Skills Acquisition Training," spoke directly to the realities of what is today confronting the Zone in Nigeria and highlighted the place of self-development for gainful employment and lifelong livelihoods.

The theme enjoined the youth of Orlu Zone in Nigeria's Imo State to move beyond the issues of insecurity and violence, which have characterised the Zone in recent times, to learn vocational skills that ensure sustainable living and personal comfort.



Among the dignitaries that participated in the well-attended event were the Governor of Imo State, Nigeria, Sen. Hope Uzodinma. He was represented on the occasion by the Honourable Commissioner for Culture and Tourism, Hon. Jerry Egembu. Also in attendance were the Vice President of Clarion Shipping West Africa Ltd., Mrs Bernadine Eloka, and the Chairman of Jecmek Int'l Ltd., Chief John Chukwu as well as the Royal Father of the Day, His Royal Highness, Eze Remmy Maduwube, whose royal presence added traditional colour to the August event.

The event featured cultural dances, friendly parleys, pleasantries and the display of nostalgic movements that reminded one of home by traditional Igbo masquerades of Southeast Nigeria.

Nigerian Cleric in Toronto, Canada, Recognized for Community Impact Programmes Receives SANKOFA Royale Award for Services to Humanity



Canadian mayor honours Nigerian cleric

Toronto, Canada

A Nigerian Pastor, Apostle Peter Ugochukwu Dike, has been recognized in Toronto, Canada, for his high impact service to humanity.

In an event organized recently in Brampton, Saturday, August 9, in recognition of the high impact of Pastor Dike's service to his community through the Food Bank Program and the teaching of the Holy Bible, the

Nigerian-born cleric received the SANKOFA Royale Award for his service to humanity.

The Award by the Canadian Aid Program celebrated Pastor Dike, the Lead Pastor of Nations Transformation Ministries International, Toronto, Canada, as a change-maker in his constant quest to use the platform of his Ministry to reach out to many in lack and pain across Canada, North America, and Africa.

The Award is carried out annually in recognition of service to humanity.

Lifestyle

Amid the Rising Cases of Unexpected Deaths from Shape-Seeking Medical Procedures, Beauty Therapies Across the Globe, Woman issues warning after becoming paralyzed from Botox "It's the worst decision I've ever made," she says.

Goodhope, Georgia, USA

A mother-of-three was left paralysed after her routine Botox top-up.

Amanda Wolaver, 33, from Goodhope, Georgia, thought she was slowly dying when she started having severe headaches that left her unable to move and made her housebound for months.

The sales director had gone for her routine anti-wrinkle injection in her face to smooth out her crow's feet, eleven lines and forehead, and went to sleep early because she had developed a migraine.

But the next morning, she had to go to the hospital as she "couldn't function or string sentences together".

A CT scan in 2023 showed her symptoms had "nothing to do with the injections" even though she would eventually find that not to be the case.

Amanda went on to have spinal tap surgeries and had a heart monitor implanted to find the cause, with doctors suspecting MS or an autoimmune disease.

She could not do anything or leave the house and became wholly dependent on her husband, Josh, 39, as strong smells or loud noises would trigger her dizziness.

"It was the worst decision I've ever made. I couldn't be the mother I wanted for my three children," she admitted.

The mother of Landen, 16, Braxton, 11, and Havyn, five, said she was unable to walk, move or drive.

In the end, she had to spend more than £22,000 in March 2025 on tests for an MRI to confirm she had experienced TIA

strokes - temporary disruptions of blood flow to the brain - and was suffering from iatrogenic botulism, a rare condition where toxins attack the nervous system and cause paralysis, according to the NHS. This was caused by botulinum neurotoxins, which are the active ingredient in the neurotoxins Botox and Dysport, which the mother had been injected with for the first time.

Dysport is an anti-ageing compound with the same ingredients as Botox, but is said to have longer-lasting effects. "That knocked me back," the mother said, "to be told I had suffered from multiple small strokes in my brain made me think that this would eventually kill me."

Two years on, she still is not fully recovered and is waiting for time to detoxify her body, as there is no specific treatment.

Ms Wolaver changed her diet completely to manage her symptoms, cutting out caffeine and soda, as well as having her breast implants removed to let her body detoxify fully.

She hopes that by sharing her story, she highlights the risks of Botox so that the same thing will not happen to others.

"I learned the cost of beauty the hard way," she said, and admitted she had finally embraced her wrinkles.



True Story Of How UK-Based Nigerian Nurse Arrested After Partner's Rape Allegation, Faces 17 Years if Convicted

London, United Kingdom

A Nigerian nurse identified as Mr. Tolu, who is based in the United Kingdom, has been arrested following allegations of rape levelled against him by his British partner.

According to an account shared by a Nigerian lady, the arrest followed a series of disagreements between the couple. She narrated that their relationship began to deteriorate after repeated arguments, including one sparked while watching a Nigerian film. The woman allegedly made disparaging

comments about Nigerians, which Tolu corrected.

Friends of the nurse reportedly advised him to end the relationship after further disputes, warning that the situation could escalate. Eventually, Tolu decided to part ways with his partner despite already having a child with her. The lady claimed that after he officially became a nurse and purchased a house in the UK, tensions resurfaced, leading to the allegation of rape. The case has since been taken up by British Authorities

Extending Frontiers of Surgery: How Dr. Olutoye Took Unborn Baby out of the Womb, Operated and Put it Back in

When Dr. Oluyinka Olutoye walked into the operating theatre at Texas Children's Hospital in October 2016, he wasn't just preparing for another routine procedure.

He was about to perform one of the rarest and riskiest surgeries in modern medicine — removing a foetus from the womb, performing life-saving surgery and returning the baby to continue gestation.

It sounds like the stuff of science fiction. But for Dr. Olutoye, a Nigerian-American pediatric surgeon and global medical pioneer, it was a delicate, calculated operation driven by skill, science and the sheer will to give a baby a chance at life.

The patient was a 23-week-old fetus diagnosed with a sacrococcygeal teratoma — a rare, fast-growing tumor at the base of the spine. If left untreated, the tumor could have caused heart failure before birth. The unborn child's life hung in the balance.

"This wasn't a matter of waiting. The tumour was growing rapidly, and it was drawing blood away from the baby's body. We knew we had to intervene early," Dr. Olutoye said in a later interview.

Together with a multidisciplinary team of 20 specialists, Dr. Olutoye performed what is known as foetal surgery — a complex and high-stakes procedure where the baby is partially delivered, operated on while still attached to the placenta, and then returned to the uterus for the pregnancy to continue.

The surgical team opened the mother's womb, carefully exposed the foetus, and removed the tumor in a painstaking operation that took hours. Once the surgery was complete, the baby was placed back into the womb and the incision closed. Remarkably, the fetus resumed gestation as if nothing had happened.

The baby was later delivered naturally at 36 weeks — healthy and thriving.

The surgery drew international attention not just for its medical

brilliance, but for its emotional depth.

"She was born twice. Once for surgery and again into the world," said one nurse who was part of the surgical team.

For Dr. Olutoye, the moment was not about glory but about possibility — proof that what was once unthinkable could now be life-saving.

Dr. Oluyinka Olutoye's journey began in Nigeria, where he developed an early passion for Medicine.

After moving to the United States, he pursued pediatric surgery with a focus on foetal and neonatal conditions. His deep expertise and calm under pressure have earned him international recognition, but he remains humble about his accomplishments.

"I've always believed medicine should push boundaries — not recklessly, but with responsibility and hope," he once said.

In 2019, Dr. Olutoye was appointed Surgeon-in-Chief at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Ohio, becoming the first person of African descent to hold the prestigious position.

His work continues to inspire young doctors around the world, particularly in Africa, where his story is hailed as a symbol of what's possible through education, dedication, and purpose.

While fetal surgery remains a rare and highly specialised procedure, the successful outcome in this case has opened doors to new approaches in treating congenital conditions before birth.

"Every time I see a healthy child that we helped save in the womb, it reminds me why we do what we do," Dr. Olutoye said.

In a world often dominated by grim headlines, Dr. Olutoye's story serves as a reminder that Medicine is not just science — it is also courage, compassion and the pursuit of miracles.



"My baby was born twice" - Operated Mother

The surgical team opened the mother's womb, carefully exposed the foetus, and removed the tumor in a painstaking operation that took hours. Once the surgery was complete, the baby was placed back into the womb and the incision closed. Remarkably, the fetus resumed gestation as if

Ukraine's Electronic Warfare Against Russian Drones is so Chaotic that its Own Are Getting Caught in the Crossfire

With too many drones in the air and only so many radio frequencies, Business Insider has explored the place of technology in wars, particularly, the ongoing Russia -Ukraine War, and has revealed that, Ukrainian soldiers sometimes accidentally jam their own drones trying to stop Russian ones.

"There are too many drones and only so many frequencies. Friendly jamming happens, sometimes as an accident, sometimes in panic," the media title I recently learnt.

Dimko Zhuktenko, a drone operator with Ukraine's Unmanned Systems Forces who has operated strike and reconnaissance drones, told Business Insider that his unit was recently the victim of friendly electronic warfare, or just EW.

He said it's something that often happens with the big reconnaissance drones that both sides use because many of Ukraine's drones "use the same frequencies that enemy drones

use." That's been the case, for instance, with Russia's Zala recon and strike drones and Ukraine's Shark reconnaissance drones.

"When friendly EW tries to jam Zala, it also jams Shark," he said.

Ukraine uses the Shark to identify targets that other Ukrainian weaponry can then destroy, including Russian artillery convoys, and Russia uses its Zala to identify Ukrainian targets and attack Ukrainian assets like tanks and artillery.

The Shark drone is developed by Ukrainian company Ukrspecsystems, and its newest version has a range of 260 miles, while the Zala is made by Russia's Zala Aero.

The huge volume of drones used in Russia's invasion of Ukraine has resulted in an electronic warfare battle, with jamming and more flooding frequencies with noise, cutting connections, and confusing enemy drones, frustrating operators attempting to use them for strikes and surveillance. It's fuelled new developments in EW, as well as efforts to get around electronic warfare, such as fiber-optic drones and AI-enabled systems.

Zhuktenko said there are so many drones in the sky that Ukrainian soldiers have to try to coordinate when they fly drones, to try to avoid the accidental jamming of their own side's drones.

In a single one-mile stretch of the front line, there might be more than 60 drones in the sky, he said.

In his area, a roughly three-mile section, there might be around three large Russian reconnaissance drones in flight at any given time. There's a lot of other stuff in the air though, and that can make it hard to tell what belongs to which side.

Zhuktenko previously told BI that it can be so difficult to tell the drones apart that infantry soldiers sometimes panic and jam everything with their electronic warfare systems. He said: "They literally click all of the frequencies to be jammed because they're scared."

Another Ukrainian drone operator, who previously spoke to BI on the condition of anonymity, said the confusion sometimes causes soldiers to try to shoot down every drone they see.

As Western militaries look to adopt small drones in new ways, concerns about

Contd on Pg 40

Justina Azuka Makes History as First ADC Female Candidate to Win Election

Onitsha, Nigeria

Spouse of slain lawmaker in Nigeria's Anambra State, Justina Azuka has been hailed across the State for her victory over the weekend in the bye election, which took place in Onitsha North 1 State Constituency of the State and across Nigeria.

Election pundits emphasize that the people of Onitsha North 1 have written their names in the sands of time by electing Justina Azuka as the first female candidate to win an election under the African Democratic Congress (ADC).

In a statement issued shortly after the polls, the Justina Azuka Campaign Organization expressed profound gratitude to the constituents for their

overwhelming support, patience and peaceful conduct during the election.

"Your remarkable turnout and commitment to democracy reflect the resilient spirit of our people," the statement read.

Special appreciation was also extended to former Anambra State Governor, Mr. Peter Obi, whose inspiration and support were described as instrumental in the campaign's success.

Regardless of the political outcome, the campaign organization emphasized its appreciation for the trust and encouragement shown by the electorate, noting that the election has once again demonstrated that democracy is alive and thriving in Onitsha North 1.



Justina Azuka

Nigerian Governor Appoints Chinese as Economy Adviser



Bauchi, Nigeria

Bala Mohammed, Governor of Bauchi State in Northeast Nigeria, has announced the appointment of a Chinese national, Li Zhensheng, as his Economic Adviser.

The Governor announced the development while signing the Memorandum of Understanding with the China Global Promotion Cooperation Research Centre in Bauchi on Wednesday.

According to The Punch, one of the leading newspapers in Nigeria, the Governor explained that the move was to position the State as a rising hub of international cooperation and accelerate investment, infrastructure development and

bilateral collaborations across sectors in the long-term partnership.

The agreement is expected to have an impact in the areas of agriculture, healthcare, mining, education, manufacturing, trade, oil and gas. He explained that the MoU highlighted the framework for the understanding. He stressed that a specific project agreement would be developed based on the development.

Governor Bala further disclosed that parts of the deal were to have a Bauchi State representative office in China, where project implementation would be overseen and timely delivery would be ensured.

Wike Again Clashes with Makinde and Others Over Ibadan Hosting National Convention

Ibadan, Nigeria

The crisis rocking the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) seems to have escalated as the controversy over the venue of the Party's convention has deepened internal divisions within the opposition party, with stakeholders expressing differing positions ahead of the exercise.

It could be recalled that the PDP has announced that it will hold its National Elective Convention in Ibadan in November.

However, the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) and chieftain of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Nyesom Wike, has insisted that no valid decision has been taken by the National Executive Committee (NEC) to hold the exercise in Ibadan, the Oyo State Capital.

Wike made this known during an interview on Politics Today, a Channels Television programme

anchored by Seun Okinbajo.

When asked if he was opposed to the reported Ibadan convention, the former Rivers State governor said he was not aware of any such decision, adding that as a NEC member, he had not been informed or invited to any meeting where such a resolution was taken.

"NEC has not met. If they say, oh, we are meeting tomorrow and all that, fine, but NEC has not met," Wike stated.

He also queried the credibility of those claiming that the NEC had already approved Ibadan as the venue of the PDP National Convention, stressing that any such pronouncement without NEC's approval was invalid.



"I am not aware of any Convention holding in Ibadan. As a NEC member I have not been told and nobody has invited me for NEC meeting, for me to say that NEC has held a meeting. If few people who work as a team say they have held a NEC meeting, okay so be it" Wike said.

Political analysts said with the FCT Minister's comments, given his significant influence in PDP, the Party is still experiencing considerable leadership turmoil which could impact PDP's capacity to offer effective opposition. This casts doubt on the legitimacy of the planned November National Elective Convention in Ibadan, with stakeholders holding divergent views amidst escalating controversy within the Party.

Remembering Diogo Jota, the Young Portuguese Whose Death Cut a Deep Scar in the Heart of the World

By Nkem Anyata-Lafia

As the English football side, Liverpool, filed out to resume a new season in the Premier League early September one notable face was conspicuously absent.

Alongside his 26-year-old younger and only brother, Andre Silva, Diogo Jota had been consumed in that ill-fated car crash which snuffed dear life out of the only two children of the same parents somewhere near Santander in Spain.

The world had mourned and the football community had sorrowed over the passing of one who had left an array of promises, wishes and a future that had dangled before the eyes of the world but never came.

Diogo Jota was a Portuguese professional footballer who played as a forward and winger for Liverpool FC and the Portugal national team.

He was born on December 4, 1996. Jota's life was tragically cut short in a car accident on July 3, 2025, at the age of 28, less than a fortnight after formally consummating his marital vows with his girlfriend of many years from childhood.

He left behind his aged parents, a young family and his famous friendship with team mate, Ruben Neves!

Before that ill-fated July date, Jota, whose real names were Diego Silva, had had an outstanding career that had witnessed many highlights and attracted patronage from Clubs in Europe and his home country.

The trajectory of his career was, indeed, spectacular; and the goals garnered over the places he showcased that career were even greater pointers to the great future that lay ahead.

Career Highlights

Liverpool FC

Jota joined Liverpool in September 2020 from Wolverhampton Wanderers and made 182 appearances, scoring 65 goals and providing 22 assists.

During his time with the Reds, he won several titles, including the Premier League, FA Cup, and Carabao Cup.

Portugal National Team

Jota represented Portugal 49 times, scoring 14 goals and winning the UEFA Nations League twice.

Other Clubs

Before joining Liverpool, Jota played for Pacos de Ferreira, Porto, Atletico Madrid, and Wolverhampton Wanderers.

His Legacy Lives on

Jota's untimely death sent shockwaves through the football world, with tributes pouring in from fellow players, coaches, and fans. His Liverpool teammates, including Darwin Nunez and Jurgen Klopp, paid heartfelt tributes to



the talented forward. The Portuguese Football Federation also mourned his loss, describing him as a champion.

Personal Life

Jota was married to Rute Cardoso and had three children. Tragically, his brother Andre Silva, also a footballer, died alongside him in that car accident. The football community and, indeed, the entire globe, came together to pay respects to Jota and his brother, with a minute's silence observed during Women's Euros matches featuring Spain vs Portugal and Belgium vs Italy.

In recognition of the great achievements and fond memories the young Portuguese had left behind at Liverpool FC, the Club has immortalized Jota's number 20 jersey, and a commemorative T-shirt has been launched in his memory, with proceeds going to support a grassroots football programme in his name.

Jota will be fondly remembered for the achievements he left behind and, unarguably, for the promise of the great footballing future his skills held out in the hearts and minds of millions of people across the globe before the sudden jolt of that fateful July night.

Before that ill-fated July date, Jota, whose real names were Diego Silva, had had an outstanding career that had witnessed many highlights and attracted patronage from Clubs in Europe and his home country.

Benefits of Two Presidencies: Report Says The Trump Family Has Raked in An Astonishing \$3.4 billion over his Two Presidencies

Washington, USA

President Donald Trump and his family may have made billions off his two Presidencies, a new report claims.

According to The New Yorker, Trump and his family have pocketed an estimated \$3.4 billion thanks to his two terms as president. Its tally includes profits from cryptocurrencies, the president's MAGA-branded merchandise and his Mar-a-Lago estate.

The outlet estimated that, thanks to Trump's two Presidencies, the family has made \$2.37 billion from cryptocurrency; \$339.6 million from financial ventures; \$270.8 million from hospitality; \$116 million from media; and \$277.7 million across other sources, including his private jet, legal fees and merchandise.

In response to this report, White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt told The Independent, US Tabloid: "The claims that this President has profited from his time in office are absolutely absurd — in comparison to what he could have made if he didn't have to deal with the fake news and corrupt political opponents, the President has lost hundreds of millions of dollars to serve this country."

"The American people love him precisely because he is a successful businessman, not in spite of it," Leavitt added. "The Trump Family is highly respected for always conducting their dealings by the book, unlike past Presidents, such as the Biden Crime Family. President Trump has always practised integrity and transparency, which is why he is and has been forthcoming in sharing his financial disclosures."

A greater part of the Trump family's estimated earnings have come from various cryptocurrency ventures, according to The New Yorker. This includes an estimated \$385 million in profit from the coins \$TRUMP and \$MELANIA, which he launched just before Trump took office in January, according to the outlet.

The Independent has reached out to the Trump Organization and Trump Media for comment without any response.

While the President has embraced cryptocurrency, so have his allies. About one in five of Trump's high-level appointees hold significant assets in cryptocurrency, according to a July analysis by The Washington Post.

At the time, White House spokesperson Harrison Fields said these figures reflected the success Trump's picks had in the private sector and insisted there were no conflicts of interest.

In addition to his cryptocurrency ventures, The New Yorker also estimates Trump has made an estimated \$27.7 million from his Trump Store merchandise. The outlet noted that Trump is the first Presidential candidate to run a private online store, which competes with his campaign to sell MAGA merchandise.

The New Yorker's total included an estimated \$1.3 million



USA President,
Donald Trump

from Trump's "God Bless the USA" Bibles and \$2.8 million from Trump-branded watches. These figures were previously reported in Trump's 2024 financial disclosure report, which was released in June. Trump reported more than \$600 million in income on the form, according to Reuters.

The New Yorker estimates Trump's Presidencies have also generated an extra \$125 million in profit from his Mar-a-Lago estate in Florida. This estimated extra profit came, in part, from Trump's own campaign events at the club, as well as events held by other GOP candidates, organizations and high-profile figures, the outlet reports.

In its estimate, The New Yorker also included an estimated \$100 million from supporters' contributions that Trump reportedly used to pay for legal fees. While a political campaign fund can't be used for a candidate's personal legal battles, a loophole allowed him to convert campaign funds into political action Committees, which are subject to looser restrictions, the outlet claimed.

This cash funded his defense across several cases, including Trump's historic hush money trial last year, according to the report. In that case, a Manhattan jury found Trump guilty of 34 counts of falsifying business records to cover up a payoff to adult film star Stormy Daniels during his 2016 campaign. Trump has denied any wrongdoing and is appealing the conviction.

A judge sentenced Trump in January, granting him an "unconditional discharge" and handing down no penalties or fees. As a result, Trump is the first-ever criminally convicted President to occupy the White House.

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Holistic Investigation Coming

— Senate Vows To Probe High-Profile Airline Incidents Involving KWAM 1, Others

Abuja, Nigeria

The Senate has vowed to carry out a holistic investigation into recent high-profile airline passenger incidents that have raised questions about operational standards, passenger rights, and the overall discipline within Nigeria's aviation sector.

In a statement in Abuja by the Chairman, Senate Committee on Aviation, Senator Abdulfatai Buhari, APC, Oyo North, the Senate emphasised that these developments demand immediate and coordinated action to protect the integrity of the sector and restore public confidence.

According to Senator Buhari, the Senate is carrying out the action in exercise of its constitutional powers by engaging key regulatory bodies, operators, security agencies and public interest groups to establish the facts, review existing procedures, and ensure that any necessary corrective measures are swiftly implemented.

The Committee has assured Nigerians that it is maintaining active oversight and will drive the process toward enforceable solutions that prevent a recurrence of such incidents.

Senator Buhari said, "We will not allow procedural gaps or lapses in enforcement to undermine safety, professionalism, or public trust in our aviation system. The Senate Committee on Aviation will ensure accountability at all levels."

Recall that recent stories focused on a disruption at Abuja's Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport involving Fuji musician King Wasiu Ayinde Marshall, popularly known as KWAM 1.

It was reported that KWAM 1 allegedly attempted to board a ValueJet flight to Lagos with a liquid substance (later identified as alcohol) and refused to comply with security procedures. The incident led to a confrontation with airline



staff, including a security officer and the flight captain, and ultimately resulted in KWAM 1 being escorted off the plane by aviation security.

Also, recall that a Nigerian domestic carrier Ibom Air had recently placed a travel restriction on Comfort Emmanson for assaulting members of the airline's Uyo-Lagos flight crew at the Lagos airport on Sunday.

The airline, in a statement then, said the unruly passenger won't be permitted to fly on any of its aircraft again.

"The passenger was removed from the ramp and taken into custody by FAAN security and handed over to the Nigeria Police Force for further investigation," Ibom Air said then. The event has been resolved between Ms Emmanson and Ibom Air. It is, however, left to be seen what the Senate does with the case when the National Assembly resumes later this month.

In a statement in Abuja by the Chairman, Senate Committee on Aviation, Senator Abdulfatai Buhari, APC, Oyo North, the Senate emphasised that these developments demand immediate and coordinated action to protect the integrity of the sector and restore public confidence.

“You Have No Right to Hold My Passport,” Natasha tells immigration officials



Abuja, Nigeria

A brief but tense incident occurred at the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport on Thursday, July 24, 2025, when immigration agents momentarily confiscated Senator Natasha Akpoti-Uduaghan's foreign passport, according to an article published by The Sun Nigeria...

Witnesses at the event said the Kogi Central Senator maintained her composure and insisted that the seizure had no legal justification.

"This was never approved by the court. My passport is not yours to keep," she declared. The event happened early in the morning on Thursday when Senator Akpoti-Uduaghan and her husband, Chief Emmanuel Uduaghan, arrived at the international terminal of Abuja's Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport where travellers and airport employees were drawn to the altercation after immigration officers detained her passport without providing a valid justification.

Sources at the airport said that the Comptroller General of Immigration issued the order to hold the Senator's travel document, purportedly following the Senate President's directives. During the wait, Chief Uduaghan was seen making several frantic phone calls. The Senator was able to clear immigration before boarding her flight for departure after her passport was returned without explanation after the few minutes of confusion.

In Warsaw, Carney Deepens Canada's Defence, Trade Ties with Poland

Warsaw, Poland

Wilson Center fellow at the Global Europe Program Dimitris Tsarouhas talks about Prime Minister Mark Carney's efforts to deepen ties with major EU countries.

Canada and Poland struck a new strategic partnership on trade, defence and energy on Monday, as Prime Minister Mark Carney continued a five-day trip to Europe.

After making a surprise visit to Kyiv for Ukrainian Independence Day on Sunday, Carney travelled to Warsaw for a meeting with Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk. Later Monday, he flew to Berlin, where he held meetings with German Chancellor Friedrich Merz before ending the trip by visiting Canadian troops stationed in Riga, Latvia.

Carney and Tusk said they've agreed to work more closely in areas such as defence, aviation, cybersecurity and clean energy. The two nations will start holding annual bilateral meetings and work to encourage industrial partnerships in those sectors.

Carney said the Polish partnership will drive European demand for Canadian exports and solidify Canada's defence presence in Europe.

The Prime Minister's Office announced Monday that Canada will be the lead country at a large defence industry expo in Poland next year. That news comes after Canada and Europe signed a deal in June that opens the door for Canada to participate in the Re-Arm Europe program, a massive new defence spending policy by European nations, which should allow Canadian companies to bid on contracts.

Carney touted the partnership with Poland and wider co-operation with Europe as integral for meeting Canada's goal to quadruple the pace of defence spending by the end of the decade.

"We learned much from the Prime Minister, from his government, including the importance of pulling our full weight in NATO," Carney told the media.

"It will take us a few years to reach Polish levels of commitment, but it's possible and we've made that commitment."

Poland expects to spend close to five per cent of its GDP on defence this year, well above the current NATO target of two per cent. The country has rapidly increased its defence spending since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022.

Canada has never met the two per cent target but Carney said in June he intends to increase the defence budget to meet the target by the end of this fiscal year.

Supporting Ukraine is part of that plan, and Carney reaffirmed Canada's resolve to back Ukraine against Russia during his visit with President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in Kyiv that Sunday.

In a speech during Ukraine's Independence Day celebrations, Carney urged international partners to ramp up support for Ukraine at a critical juncture in its war with Russia.

Tusk said in Polish that he felt Carney's resolve after watching the Canadian Prime Minister speak with Zelenskyy the day before.

"I understand the readiness of Canada, of Poland, and of our European partners to keep helping Ukraine during the war and after the war. We will be co-operating closely in this field with Canada," he said, according to a translation provided by the Prime Minister's office.

Before meeting Tusk, Carney received a demonstration from Canadian Armed Forces members stationed in Poland as part of Operation Unifier, which provides training to Ukrainian soldiers.

He told assembled members that their training is "essential for any future security guarantee" in Ukraine.

On Sunday, Carney did not rule out sending Canadian troops to Ukraine as part of a possible security guarantee to secure a peace deal in the war with Russia. But he has not clarified what that could look like. He said conversations with allies for a postwar Ukraine are still unfolding.

At a joint news conference with Carney in Warsaw, Tusk ruled out the possibility of Polish soldiers entering Ukraine after the war is over, but will organize logistics at the border to help the war-torn country and protect the Europe-Russia border.

Defence Minister David McGuinty told reporters, Monday, before Carney's meeting with Tusk that the shape of Canada's role in sustaining an eventual peace in Ukraine is still up for discussion.

"When (Prime Minister Carney) was speaking, he was speaking in the context of a whole series of possibilities, and that's very difficult to pre-judge. We'll see how this evolves over time. But we are hopeful that peace will come," McGuinty said.

The Prime Minister also met with Poland's newly elected president, Karol Nawrocki, before heading to Germany for a meeting with Chancellor Friedrich Merz on Tuesday.

Catherine Godin, Canada's Ambassador to Poland, said the strategic partnership between the nations reflects a "mutual appetite" for more bilateral trade, particularly as U.S. President Donald Trump wages his global tariff campaign.

"The scope of what we can do together is only growing," she told reporters in Warsaw.

"Frankly, the importance of Poland is growing. Now it's the fastest growing economy in Europe, so we need to take Poland into account."

Poland has been one of the fastest-growing economies in Europe over the past decade, and has taken on increasing geopolitical importance since Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine.

Marcin Gabrys, Chair of Canadian Studies at Jagiellonian University in Krakow, said Poland has "very solid foundations" in its relations with Canada, and wants more co-operation in sectors such as nuclear technology, with both countries signing an agreement in January for projects like small modular reactors.

A 2017 trade deal between Canada and Poland has doubled trade of goods between the countries, but Gabrys noted there is now a trade deficit for Canada, with Polish companies sending more goods and investment into Canada than vice versa.

"There are a lot of opportunities in terms of economic co-operation," he said, including in critical minerals, and ties through Poland's large diaspora in Canada.

Much of Canada's recent engagement with Poland has surrounded Ukraine, from Ottawa's resettlement programme that brought thousands of Ukrainian women and children to Canada through Poland, to collaboration on bolstering the defence of NATO countries bordering Russia.

Craig Lord, The Canadian Press



Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney met Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk and President Karol Nawrocki in Warsaw on 25 August, agreeing to create a standing bilateral group aimed at deepening cooperation in defence, aviation, cybersecurity and clean energy.

Nigerian Minister of State, Foreign Affairs, Bianca Odumegwu-Ojukwu Pays Diplomatic Visit to Ghanaian Counterpart

...Eases tensions, deepens ties

Amid the row merely against indigenous Igbo people living in Ghana and in a move seen as both timely and strategic, Nigerian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Amb. Bianca Odumegwu-Ojukwu, paid a diplomatic courtesy visit to her Ghanaian counterpart, Hon. Samuel Okudzeto Ablakwa, following a recent wave of tension triggered by protesting Ghanaian youths over alleged social crimes committed by foreign nationals in their country; including Nigerians.

The visit, which was at the directive of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, was part of a fact-finding and peace-restoration mission aimed at dousing rising diplomatic concerns and reaffirming Nigeria's commitment to the long-standing socio-economic relationship with Ghana.

At the heart of the visit was not only a diplomatic gesture, but also a royal presence, as Bianca brought a charming and calming touch to the tense atmosphere where the Igbo diaspora traditional institution in the Republic of Ghana was mischievously painted in a negative light by paid Ghanaian bloggers who were sponsored by alleged Igbo businessmen and some Ghanaian political leaders envious of the growing public profile of the leader of the Igbo community, HRM Eze Dr. Amb. Chukwudi Jude Ihenetu (Ezeigbo Ghana).

Discussions between the Nigerian Foreign Affairs Minister, Bianca Ojukwu, and her Ghanaian counterpart—Hon. Samuel Okudzeto—were robust, constructive, centring around peace, unity, mutual respect, bilateral economic relationship and the historical proximity of the two countries. The Ghanaian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ablakwa, expressed appreciation for the Nigerian government's prompt response to address the rising tensions and concerns over the safety of Nigerians in Ghana, even as President John Dramani Mahama has reaffirmed Ghana's unwavering commitment to ECOWAS protocols, assuring member-states that there will be no room for xenophobia.

In the light of above, the Nigerian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Bianca Ojukwu, in return extended appreciation to the people and government of Ghana, including security agencies for the maturity and restraint they exercised in the face of what could have escalated into a diplomatic impasse.

Her presence and words helped bridge the emotional gap that had started forming between citizens on both sides, particularly as protesters had begun to voice their displeasure over the incident. The visit, observers say, has significantly reduced the tension in the air, with many seeing it as a show of goodwill and shared royal responsibility.

Beyond addressing the incident, both countries used the moment to reaffirm their commitment to protecting each other's nationals, strengthening diplomatic cooperation, and cherishing the enduring friendship that has defined Nigeria-Ghana ties for decades.

The visit by Amb. Bianca Odumegwu-Ojukwu has not only restored calm but has also opened a renewed chapter of royal

diplomacy—one that recognizes the cultural connections both nations share and the power of dialogue in healing divides.

After meeting with the Foreign Minister, Mr Abalakwa, Amb. Odumegwu-Ojukwu also met President Mahama and, thereafter, held a town hall meeting with the Nigeria community in Ghana

At the meeting, she said the Eze Ndigo title is purely ceremonial and a means of bringing Igbo outside Igbo land together.

She equally added that it is a general phenomenon as Eze Igbo could be found in major countries of the world and any time they travel home, they are loyal and submissive to the substantive king of their communities.

President Mahama during their meeting had explained that the Council of Traditional Rulers in Ghana is gazetted, but any foreign king in Ghana soil is purely ceremonial noting that Ndigo for 12 years had the ceremony without any problem until now.

In her words: Amb. Odumegwu-Ojukwu said: "I urge you all to come together and avoid rancour. Stop working at cross roads so that you can attain your goals here. she concluded.

In addition to the foregoing, Sen. Osita Izunaso, representing Imo West Senatorial District in the Senate, and Hon. Canice Chigozie Nwachukwu, representing

Oru East|Orsu|Orlu Federal Constituency in the House of Representatives, paid a courtesy call on the Nigerian Ambassador to Ghana, Amb. Dayo Adeoye, reaffirming their support for the promotion of Igbo culture and tradition in the diaspora, giving credence to the annual Igbo New Yam festival, which is part of Igbo anthropology and rich cultural heritage



**Minister of State,
Foreign Affairs,
Bianca
Odumegwu-
Ojukwu**



**Nigeria's
President, Bola
Ahmed Tinubu**

Leader of Palestinian Community in Nigeria Arrested in Abuja by Anti-Terrorism Squad

Abuja, Nigeria

Ramzy Ibrahim Abusafiah, the leader of the Palestinian community in Nigeria, has been arrested by some men believed to be operatives of the Nigeria Police's Anti-Terrorism Squad.

A source close to Abusafiah, who asked not to be named, told FIJ on Monday that the Palestinian leader was picked up from his Abuja residence by the heavily-armed officers on Friday.

"They have not told us his (Abusafiah's) offence. They just came to pick him up at his residence in Abuja," the source said.

"As I am talking to you, we do not know where exactly he has been taken to. All we know at the moment is that he is in detention somewhere.

"The Palestinian Embassy in Nigeria has also not issued any statement on the incident. Nobody seems to know anything.

"All we know is that he is being accused of terrorism related activities. Everything seems strange and vague at the moment."

Born on August 23, 1973, Abusafiah is a Palestinian-Nigerian. He has lived in Nigeria for many decades and also carries a Nigerian passport.

Before his arrest, Abusafiah had been an advocate for peace in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.



On Monday afternoon, FIJ sent an email to the Palestinian Embassy in Nigeria for a reaction to Abusafiah's arrest, but it had not been responded to at press time.

IGP Kayode Adeolu Egbetokun

Nigerian Government Announces Arrest Of Most-Wanted Ansaru Commanders



**Mahmud
Muhammad
Usman**

Abuja, Nigeria

Nigeria has confirmed the arrest of two top commanders of Jama'atu Ansarul Muslimina fi-Biladis Sudan (Ansaru), an Al-Qaeda affiliate in the

country.

National Security Adviser (NSA), Nuhu Ribadu revealed the above during a press briefing in Abuja over the weekend.

The arrests were the result of a months-long counter-terrorism operation conducted between May and July 2025.

The suspects include Mahmud Muhammad Usman, also known as Abu Bara'a, Abbas, or Mukhtar, described as the self-styled Emir of Ansaru, and his deputy, Mahmud al-Nigeri, popularly called Mallam Mamuda.

According to Ribadu, Abu Bara'a coordinated terrorist sleeper cells across the country and orchestrated high-profile kidnappings and armed robberies to fund extremist operations.

Also, his deputy, Mamuda, led the "Mahmudawa" cell around Kainji National Park and had previously undergone military training in Libya between 2013 and 2015.

Both men, who had long been on Nigeria and the international community's most-wanted lists, were captured through intelligence-led efforts involving multiple security agencies.

We Were Just Passionate Girls With Dreams – Rita Dominic Speaks On Nollywood Journey With Genevieve Nnaji

Acc Nollywood actress, Rita Dominic, has reflected on her incredible journey in the movie industry alongside her colleague, Genevieve Nnaji.

According to Naijaonpoint, a Nigerian news platform, the thespian took to her Instagram page on my Thursday to share a photo of her and Genevieve.

Rita Dominic stated that they were just passionate girls with dreams when they started in Nollywood and had no idea that the industry would grow to touch the entire world.

She wrote, "When we started in Nollywood all those years ago, we were just passionate girls with a dream.

"We had no idea the incredible journey ahead or how our industry would grow to touch the entire world.

"To look around today and see how far we've come...it fills my heart with pride. No matter what, we did not walk alone."

The film star and Genevieve have completed 27 and 26 years, respectively, in the film industry, which is a testament to their talent, passion and dedication.

In other news, Nollywood actress Biodun Okeowo, popularly known as Omoborty, has declared that the length

of years spent in marriage does not stop a man from taking a second wife.

Naijaonpoint reports that she made this known while reacting to recent discussions on Instagram about relationships and marriage.

The actress explained that no matter how long a union has lasted, some men may still choose to marry another woman.

According to her, peace of mind should remain a woman's priority, as staying in a troubled marriage because of public opinion is not the best choice.

She added that while some men may go against their vows, there are still those who remain faithful and intentional in their commitment.

Omoborty said that marriage is not just about the number of years shared but about grace, urging women to value their peace above societal pressure.



L: Rita Dominic, Genevieve Nnaji

Trump's Media "Disappearance" Raises Death Rumour

United States President, Donald Trump is currently trending on X following the reports that the American President had died.

Several unverified sources screamed with the hashtags like "TRUMP IS DEAD" and "TRUMP DIED," which dominated trends in politics and political arenas in the last 24 hours.

It was also observed that queries such as "Where is Donald Trump" and "Where is Trump" on Internet platforms are showing growing public unease about Trump's whereabouts.

Reports indicated that the trend which emerged overnight, fuelled by a lack of visible activity from Trump, currently serving his second term as the 47th US President.

The White House released schedules for the weekend indicates no public events were planned for Saturday or Sunday, with only in-town pool call times

set for 8:00 AM EDT. This unusual quiet has amplified speculation, though no news outlets have substantiated the claims.

Posts on X range from alarmed assertions of a health crisis to apparent hoaxes or satire.

"WAIT! Donald Trump wasn't seen yesterday by the White House press pool. He wasn't seen today. Plus he has no public events

scheduled this weekend.

"Basically, Donald Trump hasn't been seen in public since Wednesday. Is something going on with Trump?" An X user, Lucas Sanders, asked.

Another user, Laura Rozen, a journalist said, "Trump has no public events scheduled all weekend. Don't believe he was seen today either."

Rumors may be tied to recent events, including Trump's low-profile status after a busy week of policy actions, such as signing Executive Orders on cashless bail and flag burning, as well as his ongoing legal battles, which include the attempted firing of Federal Reserve Governor, Lisa Cook.

There have been viral videos claiming that "The Simpsons" predicted Trump's death in August 2025 due to a chest illness. However, these videos seem to be manipulated or misinterpreted content.

No official health updates have been released, and Trump's recent diagnosis of chronic venous insufficiency in July has not been linked to any current claims.

The White House schedule for Monday, September 1, also indicates no planned public events, with only an in-town pool call scheduled for 8:00 AM EDT.

So far, neither the White House nor Trump's team has addressed the rumours. The absence of scheduled public appearances could be routine, considering the weekend timing, but it has contributed to the ongoing speculation. Historically, similar unverified claims on social media have often been debunked later.



President Donald Trump

The Last Words of Anton LaVey, Founder of the Church of Satan: A Controversial Look at Why Christianity is the World's Largest Religion

• *Anonymous*

Christianity stands as the world's most widely practised religion, a faith that has endured centuries of persecution and critique. With approximately 2.64 billion adherents, it accounts for nearly a third of the global population. This enduring presence in the Americas, Europe, Oceania, and sub-Saharan Africa speaks to a powerful and persistent appeal, even amidst a modern world of diverse and often conflicting belief systems.

One of the most profound moments of reflection often comes at the end of life. For many, this is when convictions are tested and the search for meaning becomes most urgent. Stories of the final moments of prominent figures, particularly those who publicly rejected faith, have long circulated. These accounts, whether factual or legendary, are often used to illustrate a final, desperate turn toward belief.

For example, stories about the last words of Anton LaVey, the founder of the Church of Satan, have become a subject of great debate. While some accounts claim his final moments were filled with regret, allegedly uttering, "Oh my, oh my, what have I done! There's something very wrong," these reports are highly contested. Those who were present at his death dispute this, stating he was unconscious at the end. Similarly, many of the quotes attributed to historical figures like Voltaire, David Hume, and Thomas Paine—all known for their skepticism or atheistic views—are often questioned by historians. Accounts that claim they expressed fear or a last-minute conversion to Christianity on their deathbeds are frequently cited but lack robust historical evidence.

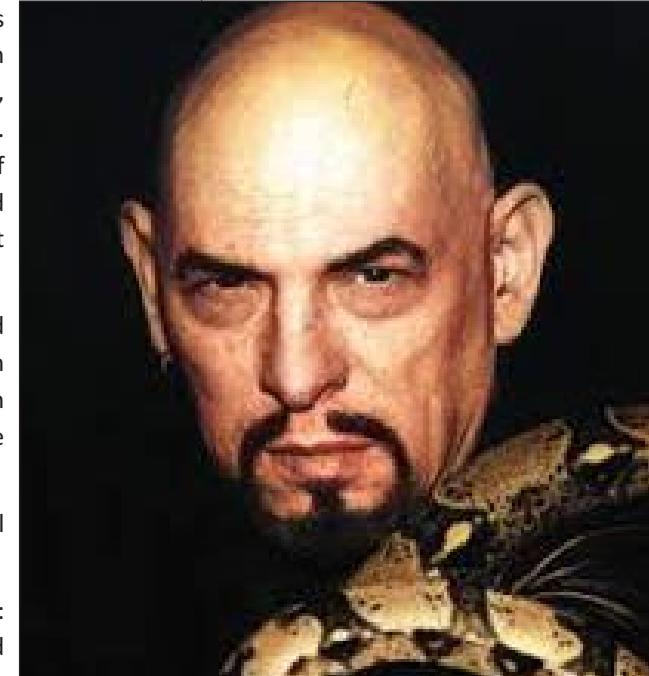
Regardless of their historical accuracy, these stories serve as powerful parables. They highlight a common human experience: the search for salvation and peace, particularly when faced with the unknown of death. The impulse to look for a higher power in moments of ultimate vulnerability is a deeply human one, and these narratives suggest that even those who spent their lives rejecting God may still have felt this impulse.

The Christian faith offers a message of hope and redemption that resonates deeply with this human desire. It teaches that no matter what path a person has taken, there is always a way back to God. As the Bible says in Romans 10:13,

"For everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved."

This message is a cornerstone of Christian belief: salvation is not reserved for the perfect, but is offered to all who seek it. Romans 10:9-10 further clarifies this path, stating, "if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved."

Ultimately, the power of Christianity may lie not in the final words of its critics, but in its promise of an open door—a chance for reconciliation and a new beginning, even in life's final moments.



Anton LaVey

Nigeria's Health Financing: Lessons from Canada's \$32.5bn Tobacco Settlement

By **Robert Egbe**

NIGERIA's decision to earmark SIN taxes—levies on alcohol, tobacco, and sugary drinks—for health financing, signals a firm commitment to prioritising citizens' health. It also aligns with long-standing calls from Nigerian public health advocates and the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The move could not be timelier. Earlier this year, a major investigation revealed that Nigerians spend about N1.92 trillion (roughly \$1.26 billion) annually seeking treatment for non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

Almost 30 percent of deaths in the country are linked to NCDs, with tobacco, alcohol, and sugary drinks among the biggest culprits.

Tobacco use alone fuels a raft of debilitating diseases: Cancers of the lung, mouth, bladder, and colon; heart disease and stroke; chronic respiratory illness like COPD; type 2 diabetes; ectopic pregnancy; and premature, low birthweight babies.

Globally, tobacco kills more than seven million people annually—300,000 in Africa alone. Eight in ten smokers live in low- and middle-income countries like Nigeria, feeding Big Tobacco's multi-billion-dollar profits.

In 2015, the six largest cigarette firms raked in \$62 billion in profits—more than the annual budgets of several small nations.

These resources bankroll relentless marketing campaigns, youth-targeted advertising, lobbying against regulations, and deceptive promotion of so-called "reduced risk" products such as vapes, heated tobacco, snus, and nicotine pouches. Far from solving the problem, these new products hook a new generation on nicotine while undermining tobacco control efforts.

Yet Nigeria's funding for tobacco control remains pitifully low.

In 2024, following persistent advocacy, the government allocated N13 million to the Tobacco Control Fund (TCF)—but this falls far short of the about N300 million minimum required to operationalise it.

If Nigeria is serious about reducing tobacco's deadly toll, it must explore innovative financing tools—including holding the industry itself to account.

In 2024, the Canadian government reached a landmark C\$32.5 billion settlement with three tobacco giants—JTI-Macdonald Corp., Rothmans, Benson & Hedges, and Imperial Tobacco Canada. The payout compensates

provinces, territories, and former smokers for decades of healthcare, social, and economic costs caused by tobacco.

The deal, finalised in August 2025, capped a 27-year legal battle that proved the industry can be held liable for its deception and harm.

The Canadian settlement echoes the United States' historic 1998 Master Settlement Agreement, where four leading tobacco firms agreed to pay \$206 billion over 25 years (with payments continuing indefinitely).

For Nigeria, these precedents offer a roadmap. As WHO's tobacco control chief, Adriana Blanco Marquizo, put it, the Canadian deal has "far-reaching" global implications—demonstrating that Big Tobacco can be forced to pay for its destruction.

Nigeria already has some experience. In 2023, the Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC) fined British American Tobacco parties \$110 million for breaching public health regulations—the largest fine ever issued by the regulator. This shows legal action is possible on home soil.

to be continued

Christ Apostolic Church Slams Pastor Biodun Fatoyinbo on Comments on Apostle Babalola

In response to Pastor Biodun Fatoyinbo's apology and clarifications regarding his comments on Apostle Joseph Ayo Babalola, Christ Apostolic Church (CAC), the church Apostle Babalola left behind, has slammed Pastor Fatoyinbo as worldly and vainglorious.

In a lengthy letter by Professor Ojo Emmanuel Ademola, General Evangelist, Christ Apostolic Church Nigeria and Overseas, the CAC leader undressed the COZA Pastor for his many uninspiring faux pas of the past that gave him away as a man driven rather by worldly passion rather than Christian precepts.

The letter reads:

"Grace and peace be multiplied unto you in the Name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

"We appreciate your recent apology and clarification regarding the remarks about Apostle Joseph Ayo Babalola and his family. We also acknowledge with gratitude your effort to address the concerns of the Christ Apostolic Church (CAC) and the wider Christian community.

"As the General Evangelist of CAC Nigeria and Overseas, my role compels me to address current controversies thoughtfully. It is essential to serve both as a custodian of our spiritual legacy and as a vigilant guardian of our doctrine and moral standards within the Church. Through this more profound insight, I aim to clarify our beliefs and offer guidance for navigating today's challenges.

"On a Personal Reflection on your speech I was taken aback by that recent speech on social media, in which you highlighted arriving at the venue in a private jet that had "never been flown by anyone before" and casually mentioned owning two jets. This was not a reflection of God's grace but rather a glaring display of opulence and worldly extravagance. Such a message only confuses a generation already grappling with the true meaning of spiritual wealth.

"Here we stand, contemplating your journey—a man who, three years ago, faced the weighty and serious allegations of rape stemming from your early years in pastoral ministry. Only through the support of the Church and what many would call the mercy of God could you weather that storm. Without such backing, the powerful feminist movement might have successfully dismantled your position and legacy. You would think that such a significant and challenging history would inspire a sense of humility and reflection.

"In the present moment, you present yourself with arrogance, proudly displaying your wealth and accomplishments, seemingly indifferent to the darker aspects of your history. You dare to challenge the legacy of a man who dedicated his life to devotion, selflessness and the rejuvenation of faithful followers. This stark contrast between your current attitude and the genuine virtues of authentic leadership prompts deep reflection on what it truly means to lead and serve others.

"On the Legacy of

"Apostle Joseph Ayo Babalola, Apostle was a remarkable figure, not only known for performing signs and wonders but also as a devoted vessel of divine purpose. His life exemplified the Gospel's call to holiness, sacrifice and making a lasting impact. His ministry was characterised by a deep commitment to these principles, reflecting a life dedicated to serving God and uplifting others. Let me refer to a quotation of a past era:

" 'In Nigeria and Ghana, remarkable healings and widespread conversions have gained attention, showcasing a powerful movement among communities. This phenomenon is accompanied by generosity and hospitality, with individuals donating land, sponsoring education and providing care for the underprivileged. Notably, these efforts have caught the eye of colonial authorities,



culminating in an invitation for participation during Queen Elizabeth II's visit in 1956, highlighting the significance of these developments on a larger scale.' Therefore, the claim that he "had grace but died poor" misinterprets historical context and Scripture. He resided in a suitable home, drove a top-tier vehicle of his era, and consistently experienced divine provision.

" According to biblical teachings, true wealth is not quantified by financial assets but rather by one's obedience, the legacy one leaves behind and the eternal impact of one's life.

"On the Theology of Wealth and Ministry

"The Gospel provides a crucial warning: 'Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.' — Luke 12:15. This verse serves as a profound reminder that material wealth should not define our existence or value as individuals. Equating spiritual anointing with financial affluence carries a considerable danger, as it risks leading individuals into the sin of Simony. This term refers to the attempt to buy or sell spiritual gifts or favours, a concept that is vividly illustrated in the scriptural account found in Acts 8:18–24. In this passage, Simon the Sorcerer sought to purchase the power to confer the Holy Spirit, showcasing a misunderstanding of the nature of spiritual gifts. When we conflate the true essence of spiritual blessings with the pursuit of monetary gain, we not only distort the original intent of these blessings, but we also jeopardize the integrity and authenticity of our faith. This mind-set reduces the sacred and transformative nature of spiritual anointing to a mere transactional exchange, diminishing its value and commodifying spiritual experiences. Such a perspective can ultimately lead believers away from the genuine relationship with God that these anointings are meant to foster. While God can bless His servants with material provisions, such blessings should never be the sole indicator of divine favour or approval. Instead, we are called to recognise that the genuine treasures of God's Kingdom lie in the intangible gifts of righteousness, peace and joy that come through the Holy Spirit. These elements enrich our lives beyond material possessions, offering lasting fulfilment and purpose."

"On the Question of his children,

"Here we stand, contemplating your journey—a man who, three years ago, faced the weighty and serious allegations of rape stemming from your early years in pastoral ministry. Only through the support of the Church and what many would call the mercy of God could you weather that storm. Without such backing, the powerful feminist movement might have successfully dismantled your position and legacy. You would think that such a significant and challenging history would inspire a sense of humility and reflection.

Echoes of Nigerian Community Summer Fest-Toronto 2025: When Tradition Met Glamour

By Finbars Aruwuonye

In the words of Mr. Tony Ani, a Nigerian citizen who has lived in Canada for over 15 years: "I can authoritatively say that the Nigerian Community Summer Fest-Toronto 2025 is the highest single gathering of the Nigerian community in Ontario, possibly in Canada as a whole."

Without mincing words, Mr. Ani was never alone in that statement.

The above statement characterised the general feeling of Nigerians and their guests, who had travelled from across the whole country and even from Africa to grace this year's edition of the Nigerian Community Summer Fest-Toronto 2025 held on Saturday, August 23, 2025, in Brampton.

The atmosphere had been quite electric with the colourful display of Nigerian cultures typified by food, dresses, masquerades, artefacts as well as the local beads and other cultural accessories that complemented colourful attires and told the story of home and of a people who have migrated from thousands of kilometers across the seas carrying the essence of their beings in both their hearts and hands.

They were all gathered for one reason: to, in unison with one another, share the sheer camaraderie that defines oneness and our shared heritage, values and the common thread that binds one Nigerian to his brother or sister.

The entire preparation processes, planning and execution, one could easily deduce, had

been calculated to score a meaningful point, to drive home an impression in the heart and mind of every participant and guest. The simple message, couched in wordless symbolism of arts, colour, food and dances, seemed to merely be: "This is home, where the heart is." Much of this assertion was, perhaps, captured in the speeches, dances, fanfare and the exhibition of conviviality that drove the events of the Festival in Brampton that bright Saturday.

The day had begun with the Open Remarks of Chief John Chukwu, iconic President and Chair of Jecmec Shipping and Clearing Inc., the company that has for seven years running continued to facilitate and deliver to Nigerians in Canada the yearly event christened the Nigerian Community Summer Fest.

The texts of the speech delivered by Yours Sincerely on behalf of the Jecmec Chair read: "Your Excellency, The Premier of Ontario – The Honourable Doug Ford; "Your Worship, Mayor Patrick Brown – Mayor of Brampton; "The Honourable Graham McGregor – Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism; "The Right Honourable Alvin Curling – First Black Speaker of Ontario, longest-serving MPP, and former Minister for Skills Development; "The Royal Father of the Day – Your Royal Highness, Eze Remmy Maduwube (Ukadike II); "Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen. "It is with a profound sense of joy and humility, but also with a heavy heart, that I welcome you all to this historic celebration.



While we are here today to celebrate the rich and vibrant cultural heritage of Nigeria, we also carry with us the sorrow of a recent tragedy.

"We remember the late Mr. Chukwudi (aka Uli), a valued member of our community who recently lost his life in a tragic accident while pursuing his daily livelihood.

May his soul rest in peace.

"This occasion is epoch-making, not just for the festivities, but because the Nigerian Community Summer Fest has entered a bold new chapter.

"What began a little over seven years ago as the vision of Chief John Chukwu, nurtured through the unwavering support of his company, Jecmek Shipping and Clearing, has grown beyond one individual.

"From being carried solely by Chief Chukwu, to being supported by close friends and associates, and now, embraced by the entire Nigerian community here, this event has become bigger than one man — it is now a movement!

"Today, prominent personalities and brands from Nigeria, Canada, and beyond stand with us in celebrating this shared identity and purpose.

From the start, the mission has been clear: To unite Nigerians across tribes, faiths, and backgrounds, and to celebrate our cultural wealth with pride. The strategy has always been to nurture this vision, allow it to grow, and return it to the people — and today, we see that dream of Chief John Chukwu realized.

"On behalf of the Planning Committee, I wish to extend our heartfelt apologies for the last-minute change of venue. Please understand that every decision made was in the interest of ensuring a safe, enjoyable, and memorable event for everyone.

"And so today, we invite you to relax, connect, celebrate, and enjoy all that this special gathering has to offer.

"For myself and, on behalf of everyone who has contributed to making a success of this event, I congratulate you all and thank everyone for coming."

Indeed, the event not only fulfilled its promises of relaxation and fun, but went beyond to provide opportunities for networking, for meaningful and gainful exchanges and expansion of scopes of everyone's operations and for casting further expectations for deeper interactions among brothers, sisters, friends as well as citizens and authorities of the home country.

There were dances from various ethnic nationalities from Nigeria, just as different cuisines were also shared by participants.

Speaking to the August gathering, the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, Graham McGregor said he was impressed with the showcasing of the various aspects of Nigeria's rich cultural heritage and would, indeed, love to see more of the summer event in the years ahead.

While also lending his voice to the event, the Mayor of Brampton, Mayor Patrick Brown expressed delight at hosting the event within his jurisdictions. He also used the occasion to pledge the partnership of the city to the Nigerian community, while expecting that the City would avail the Community of its partnership to facilitate the event in 2026.

It is noteworthy to observe here that in spite of the 11th hour change of venue for the event the attendance and participation in the event remained record-breaking.

While providing insight on how the event was first conceived, the Chief Convenor, Chief John Chukwu informed guests that it was merely an avenue through which he brought friends and associates alike together for summer picnic, which eventually started to grow to become a festival of wide magnitude across the past seven years.

Among participants were traditional rulers, Parliamentarians, officials of Government, the Clergy as well as business men and women. They were richly entertained by popular Nigerian energetic displays, music, dances, masquerades, including the highly revered and popular Ajo Ofia Nnewi from Anambra State in Southeast Nigeria.

*Please, see pictures from the event.



Actor-Politician, Kenneth Okonkwo, Relives Dubai Harrowing Experience

Lagos, Nigeria

Lawyer and Nollywood actor, Kenneth Okonkwo has relived an embarrassing experience which he received in Dubai on account of who he is.

He stated that he once travelled to Dubai and, during security checks at the airport, he was thoroughly searched because the officers had noticed some people pointing at him. He said the officers even removed his stockings to inspect him, but they found nothing suspicious.

Okonkwo said the officer who searched him later approached the people to ask why they were pointing at him (Okonkwo), and they explained that it was because he was a famous Nigerian actor and they were excited to see him.

He said the officer, upon realizing his mistake, felt embarrassed.

Okonkwo said the officer, being respectful, pulled him aside and apologized. He said the officer explained that from the moment he arrived, he had attracted attention because people were pointing at him, and they thought it was a cause for concern.

In Okonkwo's words: "I had this experience in Dubai. When I came down and during the checking, they checked me thoroughly, removed my stockings, they did not see anything. Then the people that were pointing at me started getting closer. So the man now went and looked at them to give him sign and they said, 'Don't you know him? He is one of our African best actors'. The man



felt ashamed. As a cultured country, he took me aside and apologized. He said, 'From the time you came out of plane you have been an object of interest, people were pointing at you and we were thinking that they want to tell us that there is something terrible'."

Saudi Arabia, France, 15 Others, Agree 2-State Solution, Tell Hamas to Drop Their Guns and Give Up Gaza

A United Nations conference jointly hosted by Saudi Arabia and France has ended with a rare and significant joint declaration calling for the disarmament of Hamas, an end to its rule in Gaza, and renewed global support for the creation of a sovereign Palestinian state.

The meeting took place at the UN headquarters in New York from July 28 to 30, and was attended by representatives of 17 countries, the European Union, and the Arab League.

The declaration comes after nearly 22 months of war between Israel and Hamas, which began after the October 7, 2023 attacks that has left hundreds dead and led to heavy Israeli bombardments in Gaza.

According to Gaza's health ministry, over 60,000 people have been killed since then, with over 150 deaths from starvation, mostly children, recorded in the past year.

Reasons Behind the Pressure on Hamas at the centre of the declaration is a call for Hamas to disarm and transfer authority over Gaza to the Palestinian Authority (PA).

This is the first time Arab states like Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and Egypt have openly demanded Hamas's disarmament and removal from governance.

According to Saudi Foreign Minister, Faisal bin Farhan, the move is necessary "to end the war and move forward toward a stable and sovereign Palestinian state."

The document states that both Hamas and Israel should exit Gaza, allowing a transitional administrative body under the PA to take control,

with international support and monitoring.

The Palestinian delegation at the UN had earlier called for such a handover, citing the humanitarian crisis and the political impasse as major threats to Palestinian unity and statehood.

The final seven-page document outlines several steps toward resolving the crisis:

The declaration also condemns the October 7 attacks and states that the only viable solution lies in "ending occupation, ending terror, and securing statehood and coexistence for both peoples."

France's Foreign Minister Jean-Noel Barrot described the outcome as "historic," highlighting that "for the first time, Middle Eastern nations have condemned Hamas by name and openly supported its exclusion from governance."

The United Kingdom, through Foreign Secretary David Lammy, announced it may recognise the State of Palestine in September, depending on Israel's actions concerning ceasefire and humanitarian access.

French President Emmanuel Macron also confirmed that France is prepared to recognise Palestinian statehood at the UN General Assembly in September.

Countries such as Canada, Australia, Portugal, and Finland, which have yet to recognise Palestine, expressed "positive consideration" toward doing so.

However, Israel and the United States did not participate in the conference.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, in response to the UK's position, accused Prime

Minister Keir Starmer of "rewarding terrorism."

He said on social media that "recognising Palestine while hostages are still held in Gaza is appeasement, not diplomacy."

A statement from the Hostages and Missing Families Forum in Israel also criticized moves to recognise Palestine while 50 Israeli hostages remain captive, calling it a "dangerous political failure."

US President Donald Trump commented on the worsening conditions in Gaza, stating that "Gazans are starving." His remarks appear to have shifted the tone within segments of the Republican base, many of whom previously showed support for Israel.

Analysts say Trump's comments, though limited, suggests growing discomfort with the humanitarian costs of the war.

Reports from UN food security monitors confirm that famine conditions are now unfolding in Gaza. On July 29 alone, seven new starvation-related deaths were recorded. Aid deliveries, though increasing, remain inconsistent, with several trucks looted before distribution.

As of now, Hamas has not issued a formal response to the demands made at the conference. However, the group has in the past rejected international calls to disarm, accusing the Palestinian Authority of collaborating with Israel.

Observers say the success of this initiative depends largely on the reactions of Hamas, Israel, and the United States, none of whom were directly represented at the talks.



Bashir Mohammed

Nigeria's Tech Ecosystem: From Hustle to Hub

In 2025, Nigeria continues to assert itself as Africa's foremost technology powerhouse, fueled by its youthful population, expanding digital infrastructure, and a unique brand of entrepreneurial resilience.

From fintech breakthroughs to AI experimentation, the Nigerian tech landscape is maturing and maturing fast!

Fintech: The Crown Jewel Still Shines

Fintech remains Nigeria's most vibrant sector. Startups like Moniepoint, Flutterwave, and Paystack are no longer just local heroes — they are global contenders.

Moniepoint, for instance, is doubling down on agency banking while expanding into SME lending and POS solutions. Flutterwave, after navigating regulatory hurdles in 2023–2024, has regained momentum and is scaling its cross-border payments services beyond Africa.

Nigeria's unbanked and underbanked populations remain a massive market. Yet the new wave of fintechs — such as Eyowo 2.0 and blockchain-based platforms — is focusing on financial literacy, tokenized savings, and localized DeFi innovations.

AI and Big Data: The Quiet Revolution

While Silicon Valley debates the risks of artificial general intelligence, Nigerian startups are embracing AI for survival. Think: predictive analytics for crop yields, AI-driven health diagnostics, and natural language processing tailored to local dialects.

Kwara AI (a pseudonym for this article) is piloting voice-driven AI interfaces for Hausa, Yoruba, and Igbo speakers, aiming to democratize access to services for non-English speakers. Meanwhile, govttech collaborations in Lagos and Abuja are leveraging AI to optimize traffic flows and improve tax compliance.

Infrastructure: Still the Achilles' Heel?

Nigeria's digital infrastructure is improving — but slowly. The arrival of Starlink and other satellite ISPs has expanded rural internet access, especially in underserved regions of the North. However, the cost remains prohibitive for many.

On the bright side, Nigeria's 5G rollout, spearheaded by MTN and Airtel, is gaining pace in major urban centres like Lagos, Abuja, and Port Harcourt. The challenge now is affordability and local content to match bandwidth capabilities.

Edtech and Talent: Exporting Brainpower

Lagos has become a talent factory. Nigerian software developers are in demand globally, and platforms like AltSchool Africa, Decagon, and Ingressive for Good are upskilling thousands in cloud computing, AI, and Web3.

A notable trend? "Work-from-Lagos" — where Nigerian tech talent works remotely for global companies, earning in dollars while living locally. This is causing a positive shift in middle-class growth and consumer spending power.

Policy & Regulation: Cautious Optimism



Nigeria's regulatory environment is often cited as a double-edged sword. The Central Bank's tightening on crypto in previous years stifled some innovation, but recent policy reversals are welcoming clearer guidelines for digital assets.

The proposed Nigerian Startup Act, already passed in 2022, is beginning to bear fruit. Tax incentives, startup labeling, and government-backed innovation hubs are helping reduce friction — though many entrepreneurs still cite "policy unpredictability" as their biggest risk factor.

The Road Ahead: From Lagos to the Continent

Nigeria's influence is continental. Its startups are expanding into Ghana, Kenya, South Africa, and the Francophone region. More importantly, it's exporting its tech culture — a blend of grit, speed, and street-smart innovation.

In the next episode of Series A, we'll explore how Nigerian-born innovations are reshaping East Africa's gig economy and how collaboration — not competition — could define Africa's tech future.

Stay with us at Attraction Media for Africa's new digital chapters, being pioneered by Nigeria and simply driven by creativity and raw talent.

Again, see you for the innovation drive across East Africa with Nigerians on the stirring wheel....

Bashir Morgan

While Silicon Valley debates the risks of artificial general intelligence, Nigerian startups are embracing AI for survival. Think: predictive analytics for crop yields, AI-driven health diagnostics, and natural language processing tailored to local dialects.

My Father Used Someone Else's Ticket On 2012 Dana Air Flight That Claimed His Life – DJ Obi

Nigerian disc jockey Obinna Levi Ajunuma, famously known as DJ Obi, has shared that his father was never meant to board the flight that led to his tragic death, according to an interview he granted to Informationng, a news blog.

Obi's father, Levi Chibuike Ajunuma, a respected figure in Nigerian broadcasting community, who later joined the NNPC, tragically passed away in the Dana Air Flight 992 crash, which occurred on June 3, 2012, in the Iju-Ishaga axis of Lagos State.

During a recent interview on Afropolitan, available on YouTube, the disc jockey disclosed that his father boarded the flight at the last minute, having made a sudden decision to personally handle a work-related task.

He revealed that due to the last-minute nature of the decision, his father had purchased another passenger's ticket and had to settle for an economy seat rather than his usual spot in business class.

He further explained that his father's name was missing from the initial flight manifest since the ticket had been purchased under a different name.

"My dad wasn't supposed to be on that flight but because of the type of person he was, he was trying to be diligent with work and didn't trust the people he left the work with which made him decide to come to Lagos to oversee it," he said.

"His boss was Diezani Alison-Madueke and he was trying to make sure everything was perfect because she had a speaking event in Eko Hotel.

"After everything happened she was upset because if she knew he was making those plans, she would have told him to be on the private jet with her to Lagos.

"Normally, if he wanted to go on a commercial flight, he would have gotten a business class ticket.

"When the crash happened, they couldn't find his name because he had gotten someone else's ticket, it was that last minute effort to make it to Lagos. If he was actually supposed to be on the flight, he would have gotten a business class ticket but he took someone else's economy seat.

"His name didn't come up in the manifest as well. It was at the bottom because he wasn't in the business class manifest."

Obi went on to describe losing his father



as the "most difficult period of my life," admitting that he found it hard to accept the reality of the loss because he saw his father as his "superman."

"That period was the most difficult time of my life. I couldn't comprehend it. He was such a superman in my life. So, what do you mean he isn't coming anymore?" He added.



"That period was the most difficult time of my life. I couldn't comprehend it. He was such a superman in my life. So, what do you mean he isn't coming anymore?"

- DJ Obi

HEALING from The Kitchen

From my title, friends, I know you have already begun to wonder how we can pursue and promote healing from our kitchens. In this new series, as we will get to see, I intend to guide us through various ways by which we can stay healthy, if we are lucky not to be managing any ailments, and how to manage our health challenges through what we eat, drink and even inhale, if we suffer currently the pangs of pain, discomfort and general restlessness that usually accompany such illnesses.

The good news here is: No health challenge is a death sentence once you keep a date with us here with Yours Sincerely, your Health Angel, to learn one or two tricks about your food, drinks, and your general lifestyle, including exercise, rest and what some may not want to hear, supplements!

Continuously, we will look at the health benefits of greens, fruits, different food types, water and everything, to our health!

We will unlearn and learn new things and even relearn what we knew and have forgotten.

Just promise me you will keep an open mind so we can roll together.

Welcome on board as we discuss the seed of one of the most popular delicacies in this part of the world, Ogbono (alias Bush Mango).

Ogbono (Bush Mango) May Aid in the Treatment and Prevention of These Four Health Issues

Ogbono, also known as bush mango, is a highly nutritious fruit native to West Africa. The seeds of the bush mango, often used to prepare a thick and flavorful soup, are packed with nutrients that offer a variety of health benefits.

Scientific studies have shown that consuming Ogbono seeds can help manage several deadly health conditions. Here are four major health problems, according to 9jagist, that ogbono can help combat.

Obesity and Weight Management

Obesity is a growing global health concern that can lead to various other conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, and hypertension.

Ogbono seeds have been found to aid in weight management. The seeds are rich in dietary fiber, which promotes a feeling of fullness, reducing overeating. Additionally, Ogbono helps regulate fat production and reduces cholesterol levels, making it an effective natural remedy for obesity.

Consuming Ogbono soup regularly can help improve metabolism and contribute to weight loss in a healthy and sustainable way.

Heart Disease

Cardiovascular diseases, including heart disease, are among the leading causes of death worldwide. One of the primary risk factors for heart disease is high cholesterol levels. Ogbono seeds contain healthy fats that help lower "bad" LDL cholesterol while promoting the production of "good" HDL cholesterol.

This cholesterol balance helps reduce the risk of plaque buildup in arteries, which can lead to heart attacks or strokes. The anti-inflammatory properties of bush mango further help in reducing the risk of cardiovascular conditions by maintaining heart health

and improving blood circulation.

Diabetes

Diabetes is a chronic condition that affects how the body processes blood sugar (glucose). Ogbono seeds have been shown to regulate blood sugar levels, making them beneficial for managing diabetes. The seeds slow down the digestion of carbohydrates, preventing spikes in blood sugar after meals.

This stabilizing effect on blood glucose levels helps prevent complications related to diabetes, such as nerve damage and kidney disease. Including ogbono in your diet can help diabetics maintain more consistent blood sugar levels, thereby improving their overall health.

High Blood Pressure (Hypertension)

Hypertension or high blood pressure, is another silent killer that



Angela Ngozi Onovo



can lead to severe health complications if left unmanaged.

Ogbono seeds are rich in potassium, a mineral known for its ability to regulate blood pressure by counteracting the effects of sodium in the body. Additionally, the anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties of Ogbono help reduce stress on blood vessels, improving overall circulation and heart function.

Regular consumption of Ogbono can thus aid in maintaining healthy blood pressure levels and reducing the risk of stroke and other hypertension-related issues.

Ogbono, or bush mango, is more than just a delicious ingredient in West African cuisine—it is a powerhouse of health benefits. From weight management to heart health, diabetes control, and blood pressure regulation, Ogbono seeds offer a natural, effective way to manage several life-threatening health conditions.

Incorporating this superfood into your diet may not only enhance your meals but also improve your long-term health.

Keep a date with your Health Angel next month as we unveil the miracles of Date Seed and Others.

Health Angel (Whatsapp Only: +234 803 547 6072)

The good news here is: No health challenge is a death sentence once you keep a date with us here with Yours Sincerely, your Health Angel, to learn one or two tricks about your food, drinks, and your general lifestyle, including exercise, rest and what some may not want to hear, supplements!



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N750 Billion Contract Awarded — Julius Berger To Develop Phase 1 Of Abuja Centenary City After 11-Year Delay

Abuja, Nigeria

After nearly 11 years' lull, the management of Centenary City Plc, Abuja, has awarded a N750 billion contract to Julius Berger to develop infrastructure for the first phase of the Abuja Centenary City project conceived in 2014 as Abuja's flagship urban renewal initiative.

The public-private partnership (PPP) project was conceived during the Administration of former President Goodluck Jonathan at an initial cost of N18.6 billion to mark Nigeria's Centenary. But it was stalled largely due to policy inconsistency under the previous Administrations, as well as a number of other setbacks.

Briefing journalists in Abuja, Tuesday, the Managing Director of Centenary City Plc, Dr. Michael Odenigwe Jr., said all impediments to the full realisation of Abuja's foremost project had been cleared.

According to Odenigwe, the contract-signing ceremony between the Management of Centenary City and Julius Berger last weekend, underscored the resolve to realise the project, which has the potential of changing the face of the capital city in all spheres.

Lamenting that such a visionary project was stalled for 11 years due to policy inconsistency by successive governments, he said, "Whenever there is a change of government, policies don't continue.

"But with the coming of this government, we have conquered the issue of policy inconsistency, because this government knows the economic value of this project.

"Nigeria needs foreign direct investment; our population is growing, and infrastructure is lagging behind."

Odenigwe disclosed that Phase 1 primary infrastructure in the city, which was to cost N750 billion, will be executed in lots, adding that Lot 1 includes the 4.3 kilometre plot access road and the Secondary Infrastructure of The Grove Residences, The Safari Park Residences and The Ridge Villas.

Odenigwe stated that Dar Al-Handasah Consultants (DAR), which coordinated the master plan of the city, was retained to execute the detailed engineering design of the entire project.

He described the project as Abuja's foremost urban renewal initiative, designed to attract international investment and provide a multifunctional lifestyle hub.

Giving further push on why the project was highly needed, he said, "Abuja has nothing concrete to show for tourism at the moment, so the idea of Centenary City is to complement what we have currently and compete with what is obtainable globally."

Some of the monumental features of Abuja include the tallest building in sub-Saharan Africa, which would be constructed, with 150 hectares of land earmarked for an entertainment park to serve those in the movie industry (Nollywood), while 13 branded international hotels are part of the city's configuration.

"We are going to change the landscape of Abuja. This is a destination," he said.

Noting that the federal government had five per cent equity in the project through the Abuja Investments Company Ltd (AICL) as well as a board seat, Odenigwe said the Company sustained a robust relationship with surrounding communities and traditional rulers in

the area, with some amenities provided for the residents.

So far, Odenigwe disclosed, 280 houses had been built for the original inhabitants around the area under the city's resettlement scheme in Gude district, with a target of 857 houses.

He stated that the first phase of the Abuja Centenary City project would generate 50,000 jobs during construction and 250,000 employments when completed.



Other key infrastructure in the city include five-star hotels, luxury residences, the International Commerce Centre, the Centenary International Convention Centre, the Mall of Africa, and a championship golf course.

Odenigwe applauded the FCT minister, Nyesom Wike, for the renewed interest to realise the project and for supporting sustainable development in the capital city while reaffirming the commitment of the management of Centenary City Plc to delivering "state-of-the-art infrastructure and sustainable smart city solutions" in partnership with Julius Berger and DAR.

"We seek to remind us again that Centenary City is conceptualised as the foremost Abuja Urban Renewable Project. And the idea of engaging these reputable companies is to guarantee the development of the city according to the vision reflected in the original master plan."

He stated, "Centenary City Project presents a great opportunity to create value and raise Abuja's profile – to encourage international investment in Abuja. The project is designed to work in harmony with nature."

Odenigwe said the districts and communities were designed to fit in among the natural landscape, offering both an impressive downtown skyline and peaceful suburban living.

He disclosed that while Phase 1 of the project would gulp N750 billion, the total cost of completing the other phases was N2.4 trillion.

Odenigwe added that with adequate funding, Phase 1 will be completed in two years while the entire infrastructure delivery was expected to be completed in four years.

Odenigwe disclosed that Phase 1 primary infrastructure in the city, which was to cost N750 billion, will be executed in lots, adding that Lot 1 includes the 4.3 kilometre plot access road and the Secondary Infrastructure of The Grove Residences, The Safari Park Residences and The Ridge Villas.

How a Grenadian Nurse and a Biafran Brigadier Helped Raise Murtala Muhammed's Children Across Continents

Daughter of Late Nigeria's Head of State Relives the Nigeria of Yesteryears as She Pays Tribute to the Memories of Those Who Saw Them Through Following Murtala's Passing

Hear her:

"This Thursday, we begin the formal funeral rites for Mrs. Joan Eze, a nurse practitioner from Grenada who became family to us in every sense that mattered. She was married to Mazi Anthony Eze of Arochukwu—our dear Uncle Tony—who passed away nearly ten years ago. In remembering her, I find myself drawn back to the piece I began writing after Uncle Tony's death but never finished. It is time to complete it now, and to honour them both.

Aunty Joan was one of many Caribbean women whose families moved to the UK in the post-war years as part of the Windrush generation. They left their islands in search of opportunity—armed with crisp certificates, strong faith, and the courage to build new lives in a country that, I have since learned, often greeted them with indifference—or worse.

"But Aunty Joan, a nurse practitioner, met that world with grace. Her journey from Grenada to the wards of London hospitals, and eventually into our lives, was marked not just by hard work, but by extraordinary generosity of spirit.

"Together with Uncle Tony—who had come to Britain from Nigeria for education—they built a life that would become a sanctuary for us. My siblings and I were children in boarding school in the UK, far from home and the comfort of family. My mother, under enormous pressure and faced with the very real threat of my being married off at the age of sixteen by some of the more traditional members of my father's extended family, made the heartbreaking decision in 1979, to send me to boarding school abroad. It was an act of courage and resilience that laid the foundation for the academic and professional achievements of her and Murtala's children—and now, respectfully, for their grandchildren too.

"At that time, sending children abroad was not the lifestyle statement it is sometimes seen as today. It was a cultural rupture, a sacrifice. And for me, having lost my father at the age of twelve, it was especially difficult. But it was Aunty Joan and Uncle Tony who stood in loco parentis during those early, uncertain years. They became the stability—especially for my late brother Zack and I—in an often unfamiliar world. They showed up when many couldn't; though not related by blood, they became our family in the truest sense.

"If I reflect truthfully, we spent more of those formative years under their care than with many of our own relations. This is not to diminish the love of my father's family—far from it. Their affection remained, even if tempered by geography, circumstance, and the emotional aftershocks of loss. Although I must admit, surprisingly a few felt a quiet grievance, perhaps rooted in unspoken expectations unmet. In time, distance—and differing understandings of duty, entitlement, and memory—reshaped our bonds. But in the rhythms of daily life abroad, it was these two remarkable individuals who were my constant presence—steady,

nurturing, and profoundly parental. I say this not in comparison, but in gratitude—to honour the quiet ways love makes itself known, choosing us even before we realise we need it.

"Uncle Tony was a quiet force. When Zack—spirited, energetic, and navigating the turbulence of teenage



life—once ran up an eye-watering phone bill during a summer holiday in their home, my mother insisted he work to repay every penny. She was fierce in principle. But Uncle Tony quietly paid it. No lectures. Just love. When Zack was later shot by a friend in 1993—a tragedy that shattered our family—it was people like Uncle Tony and General TY Danjuma who held us together in grief. Their comfort was silent, but steady.

"What makes it even more remarkable is that Uncle Tony—our Uncle Tony—had been a Brigadier on the Biafran side. He had proudly commanded the 12th Division in Biafra's armed forces, just as my father had proudly commanded the Second Division as a Brigadier on the Nigerian side. They were both senior officers—each charged with decisive missions, each carrying the burden of war. He and my father trained together at Sandhurst, and indeed their friendship was forged there. But they would one day find themselves on opposite sides of that brutal conflict. And yet, after the war, they chose something greater. They chose friendship. Chose brotherhood. Chose to raise each other's children. That, too, is legacy.

"I began writing this op-ed after Uncle Tony died in 2016, but I couldn't finish it then. Grief swallowed the words. It was his youngest son, Chukwuma Eze, who recently caused me to revive it—almost casually—when he reminded me that it was

L: Aisha Muhammed-Oyeboye, daughter of Nigeria's Late Head of State, Murtala Muhammed

Aunty Joan was one of many Caribbean women whose families moved to the UK in the post-war years as part of the Windrush generation.

Contnd on pg 40

Obafemi Awolowo, Nnamdi Azikiwe, Ahmadu Bello, Tafawa Balewa Aren't Nigeria's Founding Fathers — Pastor Adefarasin

Lagos, Nigeria

Preaching penultimate Sunday, House on the Rock Senior Pastor, Paul Adefarasin has argued that Nigeria's celebrated nationalist leaders cannot be regarded as its true founding fathers.

Instead, he said the country was stitched together in Whitehall boardrooms and shaped by Lord Lugard for Britain's financial gain.

According to Premium Times, Adefarasin, who is scion to a line of clergymen, added that a nation built on such shaky foundations cannot thrive without confronting its colonial legacy and flawed constitution.

Challenging the legacy of Nigeria's celebrated nationalist leaders, Adefarasin dismissed figures such as Obafemi Awolowo, Tafawa Balewa, Ahmadu Bello, and Nnamdi Azikiwe as the country's true founding fathers.

"There was a colonial conquest coming from the Maghreb, the Sahel, and it was interrupted by another colonial conquest of the British. And the British are not, let me say it another way, Awolowo, Tafawa Balewa, Ahmadu Bello, and Azikiwe, they are not the founding fathers of Nigeria in my opinion."

"The founding fathers of Nigeria are some men from Whitehall and a fellow called Tob Goldman, his girlfriend, who named the country, and also Lugard. This nation was created for the business of the British purse so they wouldn't have to bear the bill for the less prosperous and wealthy part of the country," he stated.

This past June, the clergy man was accused of allegedly owning and pointing a gun at the popular tiktok creator known for creating content of expensive Lagos cars.

Mr Adefarasin's remarks also sparked controversy across social media after categorically stating that Nigeria was not divinely created but rather a creation by the British colonial designs for economic gain.

In the same sermon, the clergyman challenged the idea that Nigeria's existence was ordained by God, claiming historical and colonial interests dictated its formation.

He cited The Martyrdom of Man and referred to agreements involving Queen Elizabeth I and the Ottoman Empire, suggesting Africa's territories were divided for foreign advantage.

"Nigeria, I do not believe was created by God. I don't believe it. I believe that Elizabeth the 1st got into a deal with the Ottoman Empire, and they had a deal concerning the Sudan, and those who care to buy the book, buy the book. It's written by a fellow called something, the name of the book is The Martyrdom of Man," he said.

"As far as Africa was concerned, two empires got together and decided that this land would go to the sons of Ishmael. It is self-evident, but let's not go there. This is not a political forum. This is a church and the church has responsibilities to get right what man got wrong. She's the light of the world and the salt of the earth. That's important." Adefarasin said

Furthermore, he questioned the legitimacy of Nigeria's



constitution, noting that it was imposed by soldiers rather than "we the people." Quoting Psalm 11:3, he likened the nation's situation to a building constructed on a weak foundation. "I have no problem with people of any faith being in charge, but they must adhere to the constitution of 'we the people.' And when a constitution proposed to be of we the people and it is not, it's some soldiers who wrote it, you have to question why we obey that constitution," he stated.

He continued, "Nigeria cannot be a solid nation that is properly grounded, going towards her destiny. We started to go, but the Bible says, Psalm 11, verse 3, if the foundation is corrupted, if it is destroyed, what can the righteous do? To build a sustainable building, you have to build a solid foundation. You do a soil test, you do your engineering statistics, you determine what will carry this building and make it last for a long time."

He went on to take a swipe at the government, criticising systemic corruption. He used poorly executed road projects as an example of flawed national planning. He suggested some roads are intentionally substandard to secure repeat contracts, reflecting a lack of fairness and accountability.

He said: "There's a difference between any road and the road that they build that takes you to the Lagos airport. That's a proper road. Why they build roads and resurface them wrongly, I don't know. Somebody suggested to me that it's that kind of road because they want the same contract next year. That means that somebody sitting down somewhere making decisions has no sense of equity and justice. Do you understand? I hope you get me."

**Pastor Adefarasin,
Founder, House On
The Rock Church**

**This past
June, the
clergy
man was
accused
of
allegedly
owning
and
pointing a
gun**

Archbishop who Met with Putin Admits he Made a Mistake by Not Calling for End to Ukraine War

Alaska, USA

An American Orthodox Archbishop has apologized after he met with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Alaska.

Putin and President Donald Trump met penultimate week at Joint Base Elmendorf–Richardson in Anchorage, Alaska, to discuss an end to Russia's three-year-long war in Ukraine.

According to the Associated Press, after their summit, Putin met with Archbishop Alexei, the Bishop of Alaska for the Orthodox Church in America.

The pair greeted each other warmly and exchanged gifts of holy icons. Their seemingly friendly exchange prompted criticism from other church leaders who said Alexei should have rebuked Putin and called for peace in Ukraine.

Now, Alexei has apologized for the meeting.

"Last week, I greeted President Vladimir Putin during the summit in Anchorage in a peaceful spirit of hospitality after three days of Diocesan wide prayer for peace," he wrote on Friday. "Since then, I have heard from many who viewed that moment as a missed opportunity for a rebuke or demand for peace amid ongoing conflict and suffering. Again, I repeat, to all who experienced my actions as a cause of sorrow or confusion, I sincerely ask your forgiveness."

"I accept full responsibility for the confusion and pain my actions caused," he added.

"Our Church continually calls the faithful to prayer, to concrete works of mercy, and to the pursuit of peace and reconciliation for all who suffer."

Two top leaders of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, Metropolitan Antony and Archbishop Daniel, called the meeting "a betrayal of the Gospel of Christ and scandalous to the faithful," in a statement.

"At a moment when the Russian regime is responsible for the invasion of the independent and peaceful nation of Ukraine and for the death of hundreds of thousands, for the disappearance of countless innocents, for the tearing of families apart, and for the deliberate destruction of Ukraine," the pair wrote. "To extend warm words of welcome and admiration to this 'leader' is nothing less than an endorsement of his actions."

According to the New York Times, more than 500,000 deaths and injuries have been confirmed since the February 2022 invasion. Most of the casualties, 300,000,



have been Russian military fighters.

Before he apologized last week, Alexei issued a statement to Alaska Priests defending the visit and explaining why he gifted holy icons to the Russian leader, the AP reported.

"When I expressed gratitude in that public moment, it was not praise for present politics, but a remembrance of the missionaries of earlier generations, who brought us the Orthodox faith at great cost," Alexei said.

"I must be clear: the veneration we give to holy icons is directed not to the one who gives them, but to the Saint or feast they represent," he added. "Even if the greatest sinner were beside me, the honor passes not to him but to heaven itself."

Metropolitan Tikhon of the Orthodox Church in America also issued a statement alongside Alexei on Friday, clarifying that he was not aware that the Archbishop had scheduled a meeting with Putin.

"The encounter to which His Eminence Archbishop Alexei refers in his statement of apology was undertaken on his own initiative and was not authorized by the Holy Synod," he wrote. "The canonical tradition insists that a Bishop do nothing without the knowledge of the Metropolitan; this meeting was arranged without my knowledge."

President Putin of Russia and Archbishop Alexei, the Bishop of Alaska for the Orthodox Church in America, during the summit in Anchorage

"I accept full responsibility for the confusion and pain my actions caused," he added.

NIDEFEST 2025: A Cultural Convergence With Transformative Promise For The Niger Delta

By Nkereuwem James

Uyo, Nigeria

The maiden Niger Delta Festival of Arts and Culture (NIDEFEST), billed for October 28–31, 2025, at The Amphitheatre / Arena, Unity Park, Udo Udoma Avenue, Uyo, is set to be a defining moment in the cultural calendar of the Niger Delta and Nigeria at large. It is an inspired creation of the organizers — PJ Chills and the Crew—hosted by the Akwa Ibom State Ministry of Culture and Tourism under the transformative leadership of Dr. Anieti Udofia, who has not only endorsed but wholeheartedly accepted to host this grand cultural convergence. This decision aligns seamlessly with the A.R.I.S.E. Agenda of His Excellency, Pastor Umo Bassey Eno, Ph.D., in advancing arts, tourism and community development as drivers of unity and prosperity.

NIDEFEST will bring together participating contingents from Akwa Ibom, Rivers, Bayelsa, Delta, Edo, Ondo, Abia, Imo and Cross River States—each renowned for distinctive cultural treasures.

From the rhythmic masquerades of Cross River and the vibrant regatta traditions of Rivers State, to the intricate bronze works of Edo, the canoe and fishing festivals of Bayelsa, the colourful Ekpe and Ekpo societies of Akwa Ibom, the flamboyant dance heritage of Delta, the deep-rooted storytelling of Ondo, and the rich folklore and textile artistry of Abia and Imo—the festival will be a living showcase of diversity in unity.

The foresight of the organisers is matched by the enabling environment created by the Akwa Ibom State Government, offering NIDEFEST the potential to generate both tangible and intangible benefits: boosting

tourism inflows, stimulating local economies, creating direct and indirect jobs, fostering inter-state cultural exchange, preserving indigenous traditions and enhancing Niger Delta's visibility on national and international platforms.

It is, therefore, imperative that relevant State and Federal Government agencies, cultural institutions, tourism boards, and development partners rally behind the host government and the organising committee. Their active support—through sponsorships, policy backing, logistic facilitation, and amplified promotion—will ensure that NIDEFEST achieves its full potential as a regional flagship event.

This is a clarion call to all stakeholders: from Akwa Ibom and her sister Niger Delta States, cultural custodians, corporate organisations, creative professionals, and community leaders. Let us collectively embrace NIDEFEST 2025, participate actively and make the bold regional statement the festival intends. The legacy will not just be four days of celebration, but a lasting testament to Niger Delta's pride, resilience, creativity, and united voice in Nigeria's cultural renaissance.

Hon. Nkereuwem James.



NIDEFEST will bring together participating contingents from Akwa Ibom, Rivers, Bayelsa, Delta, Edo, Ondo, Abia, Imo and Cross River States—each renowned for distinctive cultural treasures.

Davido Celebrates Billionaire Dad Adedeji Adeleke As He Acquires 3rd Private Jet for Family's Hangar

Lagos, Nigeria

The Adeleke dynasty has expanded its luxury fleet, with Afrobeats singer Davido Adeleke, better known as Davido, announcing the acquisition of a third private plane.

According to Legit Naija, Davido broke the news on Sunday, congratulating his wealthy father, Adedeji Adeleke, on his latest purchase.

In a message full of delight, the singer wrote: "Number 3! Congratulations to the dynasty."

This achievement comes just a year after Davido's family added another private jet, allegedly worth \$78 million, to its collection.

The musician, who just celebrated a high-profile wedding in Miami, also showed off the sleek new aircraft.

"Na him Papa own, Fake Lifestyle."

"Na this handler go scatter this country las las."

"He is a rich kid and also making money, that's why many Nigerians don't like him. Congrats to your family."

"Werey say still dey look for logo."

"Nothing beats a jet no 3 holiday, this life funny. Adeleke kuwa laaarge."

"Adeleke money long, doings choke for that family, God abeg no forget

me and my generation ."

"Na why Wizkid fc hate obo be this! Cus na Davido papa tell Wizkid papa make he dey play draft when his mate dey hustle."

"Generational wealth may it locate me and my family."

"When prosperity knocks, may we be there to answer,"

"Person Dey buy PJ like he Dey buy SUV some family are really blessed."

"When money is not a problem anymore, may we live longer in good health kingsliveth. Proud and Happy Son Always Celebrating his Dad's Success and victory over poverty with great energy."

"Well well well I tap into David's papas blessing make my pikin always hail me like this."

"Let the other people swim in their tears."

"David is soo humble for the kind of wealth his family has."

"Adeleke money long oooo."

"Any good thing he did to acquire this kind of wealth, I pray I also do, so I may receive the same blessing. Amen."

"Poor man go soon advice rich man now Congratulations to the adelekes

The singer had showcased the cufflinks during his wedding to Chioma, and many were emotional upon seeing the image.

Netizens were emotional once again when they learned the reason he chose to feature Ifeanyi's picture on his happiest day with his wife.



Davido and Father



Prof. Ademola
Adenle and India's
Prime Minister,
Narendra Modi

Nigeria's Prof. Ademola Adenle Wins Inaugural Global M.S. Swaminathan Award for Food and Peace

Nigerian scholar and sustainability leader, Professor Ademola Adenle, has made history as the first recipient of the World Academy of Sciences – M.S. Swaminathan Award for Food and Peace, a prestigious new international honour presented by the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, during the M.S. Swaminathan Centenary International Conference in New Delhi.

Widely described as a “mini Nobel Peace Prize,” the award was created by The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) in memory of the late Professor M.S. Swaminathan, the “Father of India’s Green Revolution.”

Swaminathan’s pioneering work not only transformed India’s food systems but also inspired agricultural innovations that have benefited millions across the developing world.

Prof. Adenle, who serves as Senior Special Adviser on Agricultural Innovation in Nigeria’s Federal Ministry of Agriculture, was recognised for his groundbreaking contributions to food security, climate justice, and the empowerment of vulnerable communities.

His work spans agricultural innovation policy, biosciences, renewable energy, and public health, with a deep commitment to delivering practical solutions for rural and marginalised populations in Africa and beyond.

“Receiving this award is an incredible honour,” said Prof. Adenle. “As the son of a smallholder farmer, I grew up witnessing the challenges of low productivity and rural poverty. This recognition strengthens my resolve to use Science and innovation to transform agriculture, improve livelihoods, and build a more sustainable future.”

Looking ahead, Prof. Adenle will launch a Women in Biosciences Initiative aimed at boosting rural agricultural productivity

through training, entrepreneurship, and technology adoption. The initiative will also address critical public health concerns—such as malnutrition and waterborne diseases—and combat energy poverty through renewable energy solutions, especially solar power. This work will be implemented in partnership with the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation in both Africa and Asia, advancing the broader mission championed by Prof. Swaminathan of linking Science with social equity.

The M.S. Swaminathan Award for Food and Peace honours individuals from developing nations whose work brings transformative change to food security, sustainable agriculture, and peace building. In his remarks, Prime Minister Modi lauded the laureates as “beacons of hope” for their dedication to solving humanity’s most urgent challenges.

Prof. Adenle’s achievement underscores the rising influence of African scientists in shaping global sustainability agendas. His policy advocacy calls for climate-resilient farming, equitable technology access, robust rural infrastructure, and financing mechanisms to empower farmers—especially women and youth.

“The Global South faces enormous challenges in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals,” Prof. Adenle noted. “But with investment in Science and innovation, strong partnerships, and inclusive policies, we can accelerate progress. I dedicate this award to smallholder farmers and rural communities whose resilience continues to inspire me.”

This recognition not only cements Prof. Adenle’s place as a global leader in sustainability Science—it is also a rallying call for governments, development agencies, and researchers to work together toward a more food-secure, equitable, and sustainable world.

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Trump and His Many Trade Wars: How Far So Far?

For the entire globe Donald Trump's Trade Wars have been a hallmark of his presidency, with significant impacts on global trade and economies. In these economic wars, Trump seeks to balance trade deficit with countries of the world.

He has, however, failed to use mere economic indices to drive his actions. In an era where some countries of the world are still patronizing Russia's energy market, Trump's reasons for high tariffs for different countries are informed by factors that are even political and social.

Notable of these trade war efforts are:

- *China-US Trade War*: Trump's administration imposed tariffs on Chinese goods worth billions of dollars, citing unfair trade practices and intellectual property theft. China retaliated with tariffs on US goods, leading to a trade war that has had far-reaching consequences.

Tariffs Imposed: The US imposed 34% tariffs on all Chinese goods, which were later increased to 145% on most imports. China responded with 34% tariffs on all US imports, and later increased it to 125%.

Temporary Truce: A 90-day pause on escalating tariffs was agreed upon in September 2025, reducing US tariffs on China to 30% from 145% and China's tariffs in the US to 10% from 125%.

Economic Impact

Global Trade: The trade war has led to a decline in global merchandise trade, with estimates suggesting a 0.2% loss.

US Economy: The tariffs imposed by the US and China have reduced US GDP by 1.0%, with the trade war affecting various sectors, including agriculture and manufacturing.

Tariff Revenue: The US government has collected over \$264 billion in higher customs duties since the start of the trade war, a sum upon which President Trump prides himself on restoring the US' hitherto snailing economy.

Other Trade War Efforts

NAFTA and USMCA: Trump renegotiated NAFTA, replacing it with the USMCA, which aimed to promote fairer trade practices between the US, Mexico, and Canada.

Steel and Aluminum Tariffs: The US imposed 25% tariffs on steel and Donald Trump's trade wars have been a hallmark of his presidency, with significant impacts on global trade and economies.



While these wars go on, much is still left to be seen how these whole wars affect the global economic outlook in the coming years.

When Nigerians and the World Mourned Late Nigeria's President, retired Gen. Muhammadu Buhari (1942-2025)

Contnd from pg 9

Muhammadu Buhari, Nigeria's former military Head of State and two-term civilian President, passed away on July 13, 2025, in a London hospital at the age of 82. His death marked the end of a complex chapter in Nigeria's history, with Buhari leaving behind a legacy shaped by his military rule, democratic governance, and persistent pursuit of power.

Key Events in Buhari's Life and Career

Military Rule (1983-1985): Buhari seized power in a military coup, ruling with a firm stance against corruption and indiscipline, introducing the "War Against Indiscipline" campaign.

Historic Democratic Victory (2015): Buhari became Nigeria's first opposition candidate to defeat an incumbent president, unseating Goodluck Jonathan.

Presidency (2015-2023): Buhari's administration focused on fighting corruption, improving security, and reviving the economy, with notable gains in degrading Boko Haram insurgents. These facts are, however, in contestation, as some his major critics insist that, for a celebrated Army General, Buhari's performance in security can best be described as beggarly.

Health Challenges: Buhari's health became a public concern during his presidency, with extended stays in the UK for medical

treatment, sparking speculation and criticism.

Legacy and Impact

Buhari's legacy is multifaceted, reflecting both the challenges and opportunities of his leadership. His tenure saw significant infrastructure development, including major rail lines and highways, as well as policies targeting oil sector reforms and agricultural development.

However, his presidency was also marked by controversy, including criticism over rising insecurity, perceived nepotism, and a sluggish economy. Despite these challenges, Buhari remains a significant figure in Nigerian politics, symbolizing discipline and patriotic commitment to national rebirth for his supporters.

Reactions and Tributes

Following Buhari's death, Nigeria declared a seven-day national mourning period, with flags flying at half-mast. Tributes poured in from across the globe, reflecting on Buhari's life and legacy as a man who shaped Nigeria's modern history.

His strong voice against injustice and hate, including his famous sense of humour, will be greatly missed by all in the years ahead.

The Public Service Profile of President Muhammadu Buhari (Next Edition)

Buhari became Nigeria's first opposition candidate to defeat an incumbent president, unseating Goodluck Jonathan.

He Was Poisoned, Shot, and Drowned – But Rasputin Still Wouldn't Die

The Strange Case of Rasputin—The Man Russia Could Not Kill

Who Was Rasputin?

Grigori Rasputin was a Russian mystic and healer born in 1869 in Siberia. He rose from a poor village boy to become one of the most powerful men in Russia. His influence came mainly from his close relationship with the royal family, especially Tsarina Alexandra, the wife of Tsar Nicholas II.

Rasputin was believed to have healing powers, and he gained the trust of the royals after helping their son, Alexei, who suffered from a deadly disease called hemophilia. Because of this, he became a trusted adviser in the palace.

Why People Hated Rasputin

Even though Rasputin was loved by the royal family, many Russians hated him. He was accused of being corrupt, a womanizer, and a dangerous influence on the empire. Politicians and nobles believed that Rasputin was leading Russia into destruction.

His mysterious lifestyle and the way he controlled decisions in the palace made many powerful people plot to kill him.

The Night They Tried to Kill Rasputin

In December 1916, a group of nobles invited Rasputin to a secret meeting at Prince Felix Yusupov's palace. They offered him food and wine laced with cyanide poison, one of the deadliest

substances on earth.

To their shock, Rasputin ate and drank everything, and nothing happened. The poison did not kill him.

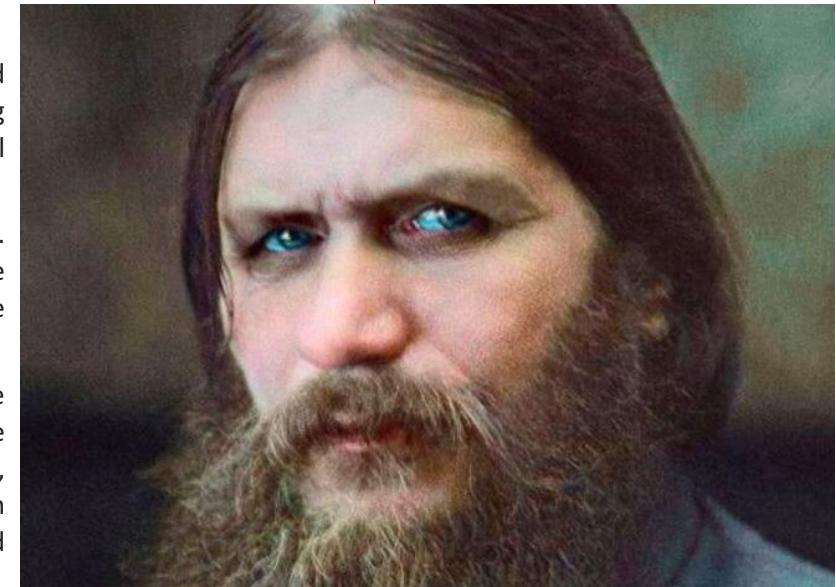
Panic spread among the plotters. They then shot Rasputin in the chest. He fell, but minutes later, he got back up and tried to escape.

They shot him again, multiple times, and finally beat him. Still, he was breathing. In desperation, they tied him up and threw him into a freezing river. Only then did Rasputin finally die.

The strange way Rasputin survived poison and bullets has made him a legend. Many still wonder if he had some special power or if the poison was weak. Others believe his strong body and willpower made him live longer than expected.

His death symbolized the fall of the Russian royal family, as only a year later, Tsar Nicholas II and his family were overthrown during the Russian Revolution.

Rasputin is remembered as "the man Russia could not kill." His story continues to inspire books, movies and documentaries. To some, he was a holy man with healing powers. To others, he was a dangerous fraud who brought down an empire.



To their shock, Rasputin ate and drank everything, and nothing happened. The poison did not kill him.

"I never returned" – Femi Otedola Reveals He Never Completed Secondary School, Nor Obtained University Degree*

Billionaire businessman Femi Otedola has revealed that he did not complete his secondary school education and never obtained a University degree before entering the business world.

The 62-year-old made the disclosure in his new 286-page memoir, *Making It Big*, released early September.

In the book, Otedola recounts his early struggles with academics and how he eventually found his true calling in business through his father's printing press.

He began his education at the University of Lagos Staff School in 1968 but consistently struggled with academics.

He later attended Methodist Boys' High School, Lagos, and then Olivet Baptist High School, Oyo.

Despite several attempts by his parents to improve his

performance by changing schools, he left before completing his A-Levels.

"I managed to remain in school until the Lower Sixth examination was over. And then, I was finished; I never returned for my Upper Sixth," Otedola wrote.

After leaving school, Otedola joined his father's printing company, Impact Press, where he rose to become Managing Director in 1987 at the age of 25. He later worked as a Sales Consultant for the company, attracting major clients and building the confidence to start his own venture.

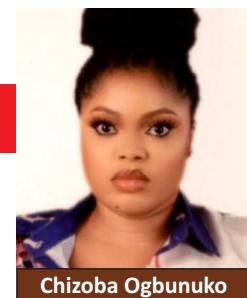
By 1994, he founded Centre Force Ltd. with a capital of ₦10 million. Over the years, he expanded his interests into Oil and Gas, Shipping, Real Estate, and Finance.

Otedola went on to serve as Chairman of Forte Oil before moving into the power sector with Geregu Power Plc. He is now the Chairman of FirstHoldco Plc, one of Nigeria's largest financial services groups.

According to him, his mother, Lady Doja Otedola, initially opposed his decision to leave school, but the choice ultimately paved the way for his business empire.

Femi Otedola, son of the late Sir Michael Otedola, former Governor of Lagos State, stressed in **Making It Big** that his greatest lessons came from practical experience and observing his father, not from formal education.





Chizoba Ogbunuko

Tiwa Savage Speaks On Decision To Freeze Her Eggs, Advises Young Women To Take A Cue From Her

Afrobeat sensation, Tiwa Savage has opened up about her decision to freeze her eggs.

Speaking in an interview with British-Nigerian media personality ZeZe Mills, the award-winning singer revealed that it was a personal step toward securing her reproductive future.

She further explained that while she is unsure if she wants more children, the decision to freeze her eggs was about having the freedom and flexibility to make that choice later.

The mother of one described egg-freezing as a form of insurance, acknowledging the biological reality that female fertility declines with age.

The 45-year-old entertainer, who gave birth to her son at age 34, said motherhood at that stage of her life felt right.

She said she felt more emotionally grounded and financially secure, which made the experience more fulfilling.

Reflecting on that journey, she now encourages other women in their 30s to consider egg freezing not necessarily because they

must have children, but to preserve the option while their egg reserves are still strong.

Tiwa went on to highlight the fact that many women are unaware of how quickly their fertility can decline.

In a world where women are often balancing careers, personal goals, and evolving life plans, Tiwa's openness about reproductive health speaks volumes.

Her perspective reflects a growing trend among women particularly those in the public eye who are choosing to have honest conversations about fertility, planning and autonomy.

While the decision to freeze eggs is deeply personal, Tiwa's message is clear: knowledge, preparation and timing matter.



Tiwa Savage

Hey folks ,in this new edition, we continue with our voyage on trending stories in the world of leisure and free time. I am back again. I am stronger, better and readier to go full blast this time around. I will be serving you hot dishes from across the world from the world of leisure, hospitality and entertainment stables all in this one place. Wait for it, because you asked for it!



Treasure()

Kim Kardashian Identified in List of 8 Women Cristiano Ronaldo Once Dated as the Celebrated Footballer Proposes to Georgina

Cristiano Ronaldo's love life has always attracted global attention, with his name linked to some of the biggest personalities in entertainment, modelling and sports.

Over the years, the Portuguese football legend has dated several high-profile women, from Hollywood stars, reality TV royalty to international

models.

Now, the 39-year-old has taken a big step in his personal life by proposing to Georgina Rodriguez, the Argentine-Spanish model he met in 2016 at a Gucci store.

Georgina confirmed the news of their proposal with an Instagram post, flaunting a diamond engagement ring and writing:

"Yes I do. In this and in all my lives."

As Ronaldo and Georgina take bold steps forward, recall that

Ronaldo first crossed paths with Georgina in a Gucci store in Madrid, where she worked as a Sales Assistant. Their relationship blossomed quietly before going public, and they have since built a strong family together.

The couple shares two daughters, Alana (7) and Bella (2), while Georgina is also stepmother to Ronaldo's other three children.

Their relationship has been steady, often praised for its longevity compared to Ronaldo's earlier attempts at dating. Although the former Real Madrid star had claimed he would marry her when he feels the click.

In this article we look at the eight previous women Ronaldo has dated before proposing to Georgina.

1. Jordana Jardel

Ronaldo's first serious partner as a professional footballer was Brazilian model Jordana Jardel, sister of his Sporting Lisbon teammate, Mario Jardel, Daily Mail reports.

Linked in the early 2000s, the young couple was often spotted at events, but the relationship ended before Ronaldo's move to Manchester United.

2. Gemma Atkinson

In 2007, during his Manchester United days, Ronaldo briefly dated British actress and model Gemma Atkinson.

Contnd on pg 40

Contnd from pg 39

...we continue with our voyage on trending stories in the world of leisure and free time.

Their relationship was short-lived but widely covered by the UK press.

3. Rita Pereira

Portuguese actress Rita Pereira, known for her work in hit telenovelas, was linked to Ronaldo in 2006.

Their fling reportedly ended due to media pressure and Ronaldo's growing fame.

4. Paris

In 2009, Ronaldo was seen partying in Hollywood with American heiress, Paris Hilton.

The rumours of their dating lasted only a few weeks, but it made headlines worldwide.

5. Kim Kardashian

In 2010, Ronaldo was spotted having dinner with Kim Kardashian in Madrid.

While they never confirmed a romance, the

meeting fuelled speculation. Kardashian has since built a billion-dollar empire in fashion and beauty.

6. Irina Shayk

Ronaldo's most high-profile relationship before Georgina was with Russian supermodel, Irina Shayk.

They dated from 2010 to 2015, appearing in campaigns and red-carpet events together before parting ways amicably.

7. Andressa Urach

In 2013, Brazilian model Andressa Urach claimed to have had a brief relationship with Ronaldo while he was still with Irina Shayk. Ronaldo never confirmed the allegations.

8. Bipasha Basu

According to Times of India, Bipasha Basu, the Bollywood actress, was linked to Ronaldo after they were photographed together in

2007.

Basu denied any serious relationship, describing their meeting as friendly.

A new chapter for Ronaldo

With his engagement to Georgina, Ronaldo appears ready to leave behind the days of dating.

Their relationship has stood the test of time, raising a family and pushing through the challenges of global fame.

From Hollywood icons like Kim Kardashian and Paris Hilton to supermodels like Irina Shayk, Ronaldo's dating history reflects his global appeal.

But now, the football legend has chosen Georgina as his life partner, proving that after years in the spotlight, he has found his true match.

Contnd from pg 32

How a Grenadian Nurse and a Biafran Brigadier Helped Raise Murtala Muhammed's Children Across Continents ...

my father who gave him his first bicycle in 1975. That one memory unlocked everything. A small gesture: a bike. But it spoke of something larger—mutual care, belief, responsibility. These friendships were never one-sided. They were deep and sustained.

"My father never spoke much to us, his children, about the civil war. But I came to learn that, even before the guns fell silent, he crossed back into Biafran territory—not for politics, but for people. He searched for my mother's sisters—including her sister, now Senator Ireti Heebat Kingibe—as well as his friends who were trapped behind the lines. He helped them to safety. Gave what little he could to help friends rebuild. He never advertised it. It was simply what needed to be done. That, too, is part of this legacy.

"It was these simple acts of empathy that would matter most in the critical years after his assassination. They became the quiet scaffolding that held us up through the hardest times.

"In those years, in that distant country, they filled the gaps. My mother struggled financially—especially after she had sent me to school abroad. Her businesses suffered under import bans. As a woman who had built a successful trade early on, it was devastating. It took her several years to find renewed success in real estate and, later, in her passion for horticulture. In the meantime, the Federal

Government scholarships promised to us were delayed—and in some cases, never honoured at all.

"But we were never truly alone. Because when systems failed, people did not. Those who surrounded us rallied, especially with emotional support—not out of pity, but because they understood what it meant to belong to one another. Uncle Tony and Aunty Joan, yes—but also Mr. Echi Onyesoh, Mr. Brown Madiebo, and Alhaji Ahmadu Yaro. Men of different backgrounds and tongues, yet united by something deeper: a postwar brotherhood built around my father. None of them related to us by blood, yet each of them stood in the space where love and loyalty lived. These were friendships forged in the aftermath of war—deliberate, resilient, and enduring.

"Indeed, while my father was alive, collectively, their care had extended across boundaries. They supported each other's businesses. Looked after each other's children. They played together. They mourned together. They showed up for each other—for weddings, for naming ceremonies, for hospital visits, for ordinary days—and for unspeakable ones: the sudden deaths, the silences that follow loss.

"Now, almost 50 years to the day since my father became Head of State, I find myself reflecting not just on the weight of his office, but on the quiet decisions that shaped our lives. When each of them died—Uncle Echi

Onyesoh, Uncle Brown Madiebo, Baba Ahmadu Yaro, Uncle Tony, and now Aunty Joan—it felt like losing my father again. Because they were all pieces of him. Of the story we shared.

"This is not just a tribute. It is a testimony to the kind of love that doesn't seek recognition. To the kind of solidarity that carried us across continents. To the kind of friendships that made an exiled child feel at home. In this season of remembrance, I choose not only to recall what was lost, but to honour what was quietly built.

"So in remembering Chukwuma's first bike, I remember that love and friendship are never one-directional. As we bury Aunty Joan this week, I remember Uncle Tony too.

"And I remember—no matter how hard it was at times—we were never alone.

And we never will be.

"In remembering them both, I honour the many people—named and unnamed—who helped support us, and in doing so, helped carry our father's legacy forward", the tribute to Nurse Joanne Eze concluded.

Aisha Muhammed-Oyebode is the eldest daughter of Late General Murtala Muhammed. This piece is a personal reflection on the quiet love, friendship, and resilience that sustained her family in the years after her father's death.

Female Billionaire Becomes World's Richest, Elon Musk Drops to 3rd, Dangote Loses Ground

-Global-

Charlene de Carvalho, the largest shareholder in Heineken, saw an increase in her net worth to become the world's richest person.

According to Forbes' estimations, her net worth rose to \$11.04 trillion on Wednesday, March 5, at the time of writing this report.

She became the first person in the world to have a net worth of \$11 trillion and the first female billionaire to top the chart, although her wealth is linked to her family.

Who is Charlene de Carvalho-Heineken?

Charlene de Carvalho-Heineken's wealth is thanks to her nearly 24% stake in beer giant Heineken N.V., the world's second-largest brewer.

Forbes reports that she inherited the stake in 2002 from her late father, longtime CEO Freddy Heineken. Charlene, her husband Michel, sons Charles and Alexander, and daughter Louisa Brassey all sit on Heineken boards.

As of July 2024, her net worth was estimated at just \$14.1 billion.

Dirk Rossmann and family, second richest

Forbes also reported that Dirk Rossmann is now the second richest person in the world as of March 5.

As of Wednesday penultimate week, Rossmann and his family's net worth is said to stand at a whopping \$670.2 billion.

He owns a drugstore chain, a business he started at 25 years old, with annual revenues of around \$13 billion.

Rossmann has made numerous private equity investments and owns a stake in the German Bundesliga soccer club, Hannover 96.

Elon Musk loses world's richest title

Tesla CEO Elon Musk has dropped to third place on the list of the world's richest billionaires.

According to Forbes, Musk's net worth stood at \$349.8 billion as of Wednesday penultimate week despite a wealth increase of \$2.2 billion.

Since December 2024, Musk's wealth has decreased by over \$100 billion, primarily due to a substantial drop in Tesla's stock value.

This decline is attributed to various factors, including concerns over Musk's political involvement and its impact on Tesla's market performance.

The net worth of the other top 10 billionaires is as follows:

Mark Zuckerberg - \$223.8 billion

Jeff Bezos - \$221.1 billion

Larry Ellison - \$196.6 billion

Bernard Arnault & Family - \$181.8 billion

Warren Buffett - \$154.9 billion

Larry Page - \$142.1 billion



Sergey Brin - \$135.9 billion.

Nigerian billionaires' net worth

Aliko Dangote continues to lead the list as the richest man in Nigeria and Africa.

Forbes reported that despite recording a \$9 million loss, his net worth of \$23.9 billion makes him the 87th richest man in the world and the only African in the top 100.

Aliko Dangote's recent rise in net worth is largely attributed to his 92.3% stake in Dangote Petroleum Refinery & Petrochemicals.

By building Africa's largest refinery, he disrupted the government's monopoly in the oil sector, reshaping the industry.

The \$23 billion refinery, which began operations in 2024, has significantly impacted both African and global energy markets.

Just weeks ago, the 67-year-old Kano-born billionaire reclaimed his spot among the world's top 100 wealthiest individuals—a position he has held since 2018.

Other Nigerian billionaires' net worth as of Wednesday is as follows:

Mike Adenuga - \$6.8 billion

Abdulsamad Rabiu - \$5.2 billion

Femi Otedola - \$1.5 billion.

Forbes also reported that Dirk Rossmann is now the second richest person in the world as of March 5. As of Wednesday penultimate week, Rossmann and his family's net worth is said to stand at a whopping \$670.2 billion

Also Highlights Education and Innovation as Key Solutions to Irregular Migration

By Nkem Anyata-Lafia

Abuja, Nigeria

As the commemoration of the 2025 International Youth Day gets underway in Abuja,

Director General of the Nigerian Technical Aid Corps, Rt. Hon. Yusuf Buba Yakub has called on the nation's youth to shun irregular migration and to seek lifelong vocational skills that will make them contribute effectively to national development.

Buba, who underscored the vital role of education and innovation in combating irregular migration by Nigerians in a keynote address delivered at the 2025 Educational Summit held, Monday, at the National Human Rights Commission in Abuja, emphasised that a strong educational framework and innovative approaches are essential for providing young Nigerians with sustainable livelihoods, thereby reducing the temptation for irregular migration.

Represented at the occasion by his Special Assistant on Media and Publicity, Nkem Anyata-Lafia, the former federal lawmaker identified the immense risks posed by irregular migration to such migrants and warned that irregular migration carries significant risks, including death by drowning, extortion, police brutality, forced prostitution as well as indiscriminate arrests, and imprisonment without charges.

Speaking on the reasons for such migration, the DG referenced a study by the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) to elucidate the factors driving individuals into illegal migration. These include manipulation and gullibility, misinformation, conflict, political instability as well as economic instability, poverty, and climate change.

While noting the negative impacts of irregular migration, especially on the youth of most developing countries, Dr. Buba provided practical examples of how irregular migration has affected the youth. One of the examples of these, he said, was the high incidence of deaths that have been recorded between North Africa and Italy and Malta, with this route accounting for a significant number of fatalities each year.

The NTAC boss also called attention to notable incidents of irregular migration, stressing that such specific incidents were enough to discourage anyone thinking of migrating to any country the wrong way, while revealing that since 2014 over 28000 deaths have occurred on the Mediterranean Sea on account of irregular migration.

He cited specific tragic events, such as the shipwreck off the coast of Libya in 2011 that claimed 600 lives, the capsizing of the Adriana fishing trawler near Greece with 700 deaths, and the Lampedusa incidents of 2011 and twice in 2013, where a vessel carrying 500 passengers lost 359 individuals on October 13, 2013 alone.

Proffering solutions to the menace called irregular migration, the Adamawa-born politician and technocrat identified continuous education, vocational training and innovation as key to surmounting the challenges, highlighting that the President Tinubu Administration has provided the Nigerian youth with ample opportunities to acquire whatever they need in the identified areas.

Buba argued that, to eliminate the darkness of ignorance, poverty, and the lack of opportunities, it is essential to illuminate one's path with education, creativity, productivity, and innovation for sustainable living and contribution to national development.

On the opportunities the current Administration has provided to Nigerians for result-based education and innovation, the NTAC DG

reiterated the gains of the establishment and mandates of Agencies like NELFund, NOTAP, NTAC, the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) as well as the National Agency for Science and Engineering Infrastructure (NASENI).

He said NELFund and, indeed, other Agencies like it, was particularly created by the President in order to link education to wealth generation and comprehensive national development. He added that the Fund was designed to support youth in pursuing higher education, alongside promoting Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET).

While urging all stakeholders to invest in education as a key strategy for securing Nigeria's development, Rt. Hon. Buba expressed his commitment to pursuing sustainable solutions that empower the youth, citing President Bola Tinubu's 4-D Foreign Policy Initiative as a driving force behind NTAC's efforts.

These efforts by NTAC, Buba explained, were geared towards providing opportunities for educated, young Nigerians to export their technical skills and academic expertise to countries of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific region, assisting our youth to migrate with dignity to those regions and countries of the globe where their competencies are usually valued more than those of others in the same fields of endeavour.

Informing of the collaboration with multilateral institutions and United Nations' system Agencies like the IOM, Dr. Buba revealed to his audience that there exist several opportunities for the transformation of parts of the services of the Nigerian Technical Aid Corps to revenue-generation from exporting the immense technical skills and expertise that abound in our country to other developed nations for a fee.

He also revealed that such plans for the transformation of parts of the services of NTAC, which will help young Nigerians with skills and expertise to migrate with dignity and to bring home the needed remittances as part of the nation's Diaspora, were already undergoing the careful scrutiny of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in conjunction with other Ministries and the National Assembly.

The Summit, which was attended by many dignitaries, including representatives of the Hon. Minister of Youth Development; Chief of the Air Staff and the Executive Secretary of the National Human Rights Commission, also had in attendance the DG of Tinubu Support Group, Dr. Umar Tanko Yakassai as well as Dr. Adaora Onyechere Sydney-Jack, a popular on-air personality and Civil Society feminist activist, among many others, who delivered position Papers on a wide range of topics.

The event concluded with an inspiring call-to-action for various sectors to unite in fostering a new generation of informed, innovative and community-driven young leaders who will contribute to a brighter, sustainable future for Nigeria by prioritising the kind of education, skills training and innovation that will mitigate the risks associated with irregular migration, and empower the nation's youth to thrive within their communities.



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Nigerian Civil War: My miraculous survival after being 'executed' by Nigerian soldiers

The unbelievable story of a 78-yr-old grandfather, who was shot point-blank by Nigerian soldiers during the Nigeria-Biafra war alongside others, but miraculously survived gun shots and the trauma that came with them.

Enjoy the story as garnered by Emeka Mama for Nigeria's popular Newspaper, Vanguard.

A 78-year old grandfather, from Umuabugu Eje, Umuissai, Imufu Enugu Ezike, Mr Thomas Ogbu Nwaojobo, was captured as a young boy and "executed" alongside his elder brother, Lawrence by Nigerian soldiers during the Nigeria – Biafra civil war in 1967. The incident occurred at Enugu- Ezike, in the present Igboezie North Local Government Area of Enugu State.

Both Lawrence and Thomas had their hands tied behind their backs and taken to a deserted compound at Mkpamte, near Ogurute, the Local Government Headquarters.

The soldiers ordered them to lie face down before being shot point-blank, one after the other from the back. Lawrence died instantly alongside other captives but Thomas survived. How?

Two days after he was shot at and taken for dead at Mkpamte, Thomas "resurrected." He was discovered to be alive by an old man who had gone with a hoe to bury the bodies of those executed in a shallow grave. The stench oozing from the execution ground compelled the man to get to the bodies to bury them. He saw that Thomas was alive with his two eyes wide open. The old man then untied his hands. Thomas, however, pleaded with the old man to be checking on him to know when he would eventually die, so as to bury him so that vultures would not feast on his dead body.

Miraculously, Thomas later found his way back to his father's house after crawling and trekking for six days and nights, without food or water. He managed to reach his father's house when parts of his intestines had got rotten but were treated by villagers with herbs and later by a popular chemist who was also later killed by the Nigerian soldiers.

* Fast-forward to Today *

Thomas, now about 78, spoke to Nigeria's Saturday Vanguard on his miraculous escape and life after his "execution" and "resurrection."

Hear him:

"I am from Umuabugu Eje, Umuossai, in Imufu Enugu Ezike, in the present Igbo Eze North Local Government Area, Enugu State. I was baptised in 1959 as a Catholic and was told I was 10 years old then. They said I was born in 1949 or earlier but I should be about 78 years now or thereabout. We were then in the old Eastern Region. Before the Nigeria – Biafran civil war, I was an apprentice at the University town of Nsukka in Enugu State.

"Before the civil war, there was another local war between the people of Enugu-Ezike in the present Igboezie North Local Government Area, and its border town neighbour, Ofante in Kogi State. The war preceded the civil war. During that war, the Ofante people killed our war hero, Ogbu Nwugbabe from Aji, Enugu

Ezike. Ogbu Nwugbabe had what we now call 'Odiesshi', an antidote for dane guns which was in vogue then. It was used in fighting the Ofante war. He was our war Commander.

Ogbu Nwugbabe had killed an Ofante man, whose son was a Nigerian soldier. So, the son of the Ofante man returned home with his military rifle and joined his native people in the battlefield and shot several of Enugu Ezike people, including Ogbu Nwugbabe who, it was believed, could not be killed with any gun. They later brought his headless corpse to the then District Officer, DO, at Nsukka, where it was confirmed that the bullet that felled him was from a military rifle.

" Shortly after his killing, the local war ended and the Nigeria-Biafra civil war started.

"I had then left Nsukka to collect food items from home, since I was living alone as an apprentice. I was learning auto- re-wiring and battery charging at Nsukka. However, after collecting the food items, I came out to Ogurute, the headquarters of the old Igboezie North Local Government Council to board a vehicle to Nsukka but could not get any vehicle because the civil war had started and the Nigerian soldiers had overrun our area. I then trekked to Nsukka which was a distance of over 12 kilometres. I was young then and didn't understand the import of the soldiers at Enugu Ezike abandoning their make-shift barracks and duty posts.



•Thomas Ogbu Nwaojobo



Belgian Mercenary Marc Goosens Killed during a Nigerian attack on Onitsha, Biafra Nigeria Nov 1968

Greenview Hotel And Apartment, Uyo: Where Grandeur Embraces Serenity In The Heart Of South - South Nigeria

Set against the charming backdrop of Uyo, the vibrant capital of Akwa Ibom State in South-South Nigeria, Greenview Hotel and Apartment stands as a majestic fusion of elegance, tranquility and refined hospitality. Surrounded by the peaceful greenery of the prestigious Ewet Housing Extension Estate, and just a short drive from the Victor Attah International Airport, Greenview offers an experience that is both grounded in local character and elevated international standards.

Uyo itself is a city that captivates the senses. Clean, orderly and beautifully adorned with tree-lined boulevards and colourful roundabouts. The city is often described as one of Nigeria's most serene capitals. It is a destination where tradition blends effortlessly with modernity—a place of friendly people, rich Ibibio culture, delicious cuisine, and a growing reputation as a centre for tourism, governance, and enterprise. Within this alluring city, Greenview Hotel and Apartment has carved a niche for itself as the ideal starting point for discovering all that Uyo has to offer.

As guests arrive at Greenview, they are welcomed by a structure that exudes taste and purpose. The hotel's well-appointed rooms—ranging from the cozy Deluxe and elegant Castle rooms to the palatial Royal Suites—are crafted to reflect the richness of African warmth blended with contemporary comfort. Each room is equipped with king-sized beds, flat-screen televisions, split-unit air conditioners, modern bathrooms with water heaters, refrigerators, and large wardrobes. The Royal Suite, a guest favourite, offers expansive living space and elevated luxury for travellers who appreciate the finer things of life.

Greenview's facilities reflect a commitment to both leisure and lifestyle. Whether enjoying a swim in the outdoor pool, sipping a cocktail at the stylish Green Bar, engaging in karaoke or games at the Gee Lounge, or simply relaxing with a massage at the in-house spa, guests are encouraged to make the most of every moment. The hotel's restaurant serves both local delicacies and international cuisine, making dining a delightful cultural journey. Whether you choose Afang soup and pounded yam or grilled fish with vegetables, the meals are served with a touch of class and local hospitality.

Beyond the hotel's gates lies a city waiting to be explored. Uyo is home to scenic attractions such as the iconic Ibom Plaza, the serene Ibom Tropicana Entertainment Centre, and the Godswill Akpabio International Stadium—all easily accessible from Greenview. The city is also known for its cleanliness, low traffic, and calm atmosphere, making it perfect for both business and leisure visits. As the sun sets over the red earth and emerald trees, the city glows with an inviting energy, and Greenview serves as the perfect

retreat after a day of exploration or enterprise.

Importantly, the hotel's location near Victor Attah International Airport ensures easy connectivity for guests



arriving from Lagos, Abuja, or other parts of Nigeria and even Europe, Asia and the Americas. The airport, modern and efficient, offers quick access to the city and is a gateway to the unique charm of Akwa Ibom State.

Security, privacy, and professional service define the guest experience at Greenview. The premises are secured 24 hours a day, and the friendly yet discreet staff ensure that every guest receives personalised attention. Whether you are a solo traveller, a family on holiday, a corporate delegate, or a couple seeking a romantic escape, the hotel provides an atmosphere that is peaceful, luxurious, and authentically welcoming.

In a city known for its gentle pace and cultural pride, Greenview Hotel and Apartment shines brightly as a beacon of what modern Nigerian hospitality can offer. Here, guests do not just stay—they belong. Every visit is a story of comfort, grace, and lasting memories, told within the tranquil rhythms of Uyo.

Greenview Hotel and Apartment is not merely a place to lodge—it is a destination where grandeur embraces serenity, right in the heart of one of Nigeria's most inviting cities.

By Nkereuwem James

Greenview Hotel And Apartment, Uyo

Uyo itself is a city that captivates the senses. Clean, orderly and beautifully adorned with tree-lined boulevards and colourful roundabouts. The city is often described as one of Nigeria's most serene capitals. It is a destination where tradition blends effortlessly with modernity.

After 9 Years of Dating and Cohabiting with 4 Kids, your boy, Cristiano Ronald Finally Pops the Question

So, it turns out Cristiano Ronaldo finally popped the question to his lovely Georgina Rodriguez after nearly 9 years together! They've been making headlines for their romance, and now they're taking the next big step.

Georgina shared the exciting news on Instagram with a stunning photo of her hand adorned with a massive oval-shaped diamond ring. She captioned it, "Yes, I do in this and in all my lives". The ring is estimated to be worth several million dollars, featuring a 10-carat diamond that's truly show-stopping.

The couple met in 2016 when Georgina was working at a Gucci store in Madrid. Fast forward to today, they have four beautiful kids together – Alana Martina, Bella Esmeralda, and twins Mateo and Eva aren't mentioned as twins in all sources, however. Georgina also plays a loving mother figure to Ronaldo's eldest son, Cristiano Jr.

Insiders reveal that the couple is planning a fairytale wedding in Portugal in 2026. The ceremony is expected to

be a star-studded affair, attracting sports legends, A-list celebrities, and influential figures from around the world.

Ronaldo and Georgina's love story is filled with devotion, shared dreams, and unshakable support. They've stood side by side through career highs and personal milestones, from Ballon d'Or celebrations to the birth of their children. With their engagement now official, fans worldwide are eagerly awaiting more details about their upcoming wedding.



Aspiring Teenage Footballer Dies After Being Thrown Into River Over £40 Debt



Verduno, Italy

An aspiring teenage footballer has died after being allegedly thrown into a fast-flowing river over a £40 debt.

According to Mail Online, Abdou Ngom, 13, was allegedly thrown into the Tanaro River in Verduno, Piedmont region, Italy, after he and four boys travelled there from their

homes in a nearby town to spend time at a riverside beach.

The Juvenile Prosecutor's Office in Turin has reportedly charged one of the teenagers with voluntary manslaughter. He is currently confined to house arrest.

Police interrogations revealed he may have acted to take back €50 (£40) Abdou owed him.

One boy told police: 'Abdou said he couldn't swim, but the other guy grabbed him and threw him in the water.'

Despite the good weather on April 21, the day Abdou was allegedly thrown in, the river was treacherous. Rescuers abandoned their search after a week.

Abdou was born in Italy and is of Senegalese descent. He leaves behind his mother, father, two brothers and sister.

His father, Khadim, told local media: 'He dreamed of becoming a footballer and played for Bra first, then for the team in Roreto, Cherasco.'

'But he couldn't swim. Unfortunately, I wasn't home that day, and he left without telling his mum where he was going. Otherwise, we would never have let him go to the river with those friends.'

'I hope this breakthrough in the investigation will at least lead to the search for my Abdou being restarted. I just want them to let us bury his body and have a grave where we can mourn him.'

His family plans to send his body back to Senegal to be buried, once officials find it.

"So good they named him twice"- FIFA celebrates Super Eagles legend, Jay-Jay Okocha

By Pascal Aruwuonye

Zurich, Switzerland

World football governing body, FIFA, has celebrated former Super Eagles star, Austin Jay-Jay Okocha.

The former Nigeria and Bolton Captain is one of the gifted players football has ever seen, and FIFA was quick to acknowledge that.

In a post on its 2026 World Cup page on X, formerly known as Twitter, the world football governing body praised Okocha, who celebrated his 52nd birthday on Thursday.

Jay-Jay Okocha remains one of the greatest players Africa has ever produced, and was duly applauded by FIFA.

"So good they named him twice"- a popular phrase gotten from his moniker (Jay-Jay), but used to quantify Okocha's talents.

Okocha, during his playing career, was a magician on the ball. He was known for his dribbling skills, trickery and set-piece delivery.

Although he did not win a lot of trophies, his talents took him places and made him arguably the most popular Nigerian footballer.

Okocha started his club career in Europe at Borussia

Neunkirchen before moving to Eintracht Frankfurt.

During his time at Frankfurt, he scored one of the greatest Bundesliga goals of all time against German legend Oliver Kahn.

Following his time at Frankfurt, Okocha moved to Fenerbahce, where he spent two years before moving to Paris Saint-Germain for a then-African record fee.

He spent four years at PSG before moving to Bolton Wanderers, where he became a club icon and was named the best player to play at the Reebok Stadium.

Okocha would later go on to have short spells at Qatar SC and Hull City before announcing his retirement.

On the international scene, he was part of Nigeria's golden generation that won the Africa Cup of Nations in 1994 and reached the second round of the FIFA World Cup the same year.

Okocha represented the Super Eagles at three World Cups and holds the honour of scoring the 1000th goal in AFCON history.



Jay-Jay Okocha, one of Nigeria's all-time best footballers

Plumptre: I Show Them my Dad's Picture When Teammates Question my Nigerian Roots



Lagos, Nigeria

Super Falcons defender, Ashleigh Plumptre has revealed that some of her national teammates initially doubted her Nigerian heritage when she joined the squad in 2021.

Born in Leicester, England, Plumptre had represented England at youth level before switching allegiance to Nigeria, courtesy of her paternal grandfather.

FIFA approved her nationality change ahead of the 2021 Aisha Buhari Cup, where she joined the team for a training camp in Austria.

Speaking to Lagos Talks 91.3 FM, Plumptre said her background raised questions among teammates during her first outing with the Super Falcons.

"Everybody didn't really know what to expect from me at first," she said. "They were obviously questioning like, 'So, how are you Nigerian?'"

To clear doubts, the Saudi Pro League-based star simply shows a picture of her father.

"Normally, when I get that question, I just show them a picture of my dad, and they're like, 'Oh, okay,'" she added.

Plumptre has since become a key part of the team, featuring in all but one match at the last Women's Africa Cup of Nations (WAFCON) in Morocco where the Super Falcons emerged ten-time African champions.

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