



# ONDO SOUTH SENATORIAL RACE HEATS UP



- Jimoh Ibrahim's Ward-to-Ward Tour in Pictures
- Agbo Ajayi battles legal hurdles, begins campaigns



Agbo Ajayi During Campaign



Jimoh Ibrahim (middle in face-cap & T-shirt) during ward-to-ward campaign

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# EDITORIAL PAGE

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## MATTERS ARISING

**Mo ki dede ghan tu'li t'oko o. A kuu mura odon 'ye wa dedede yi. A bawa n'ayo. Ee ni ba election lo o. Amin Jesu.**

We are now fully deep in the political stratosphere as the presidential, senatorial and assembly elections are barely two months away.

The one that concerns us is the Presidential, Senatorial, Rep and Assembly elections. Many of us make the mistake of assuming these elections are not important, suggesting that it is the governorship election that is important. That is very wrong. Why we think like that is because we have not taken enough effort to guide the Assembly, Rep and Senate representatives that we have produced right.

And of course, many of them did not have the right exposure. So when they got to Akure or Abuja as the case may be, they simply did not know how to impact the community positively.

By the foregoing statement, I am not saying some of our past Assembly, Reps and Senators have not performed well. The thing is collective. It is not about blaming. It is about working together to attain success. In my profession, we call it AGENDA SETTING. You blame this Senator or that Rep for not performing. Performing how? Did he or she present an Agenda or Manifesto before you or you are simply voting PDP or PDP or my village person? If the contestants have not come up with Agendas, have we asked them to present one?

Oh, we know that on paper the Assembly man, Rep and Senator are to go there and make laws. That's why they are called 'lawmakers'. Besides that, they perform what is called 'Oversight Functions' – scrutinizing what the Governor or President and their cabinets and parastatals are doing. That is the dejure function. The defacto function is much more important.

Flip to the United States or Britain and see how lawmakers perform the function. Even our Councillors here most of them do not even know what it is to be Councillors. You cannot blame them. It is our duty to enlighten them. If we to say we have umbrella body like *Ikale Central Organization*, ICO, the organization can hold workshops to enlighten contestants who do not know.

They complain everytime, “there is no money” to do the job. Nooooo. It's not all about money. It is not about distributing cutlasses and pepper grinding machines. How many people will you be able to reach with that, even if you are a millionaire? In the UK and USA, the closes politicians to the people are the Councillors and Assembly men. Then the

Reps and Senators. We are not saying welfare packages aren't good (if you can get them), but lawmakers can do a lot more. They are very influential people and outside government they can get lots of things done.

Let me give you examples. I see a lot of things on the platforms of community developments associations in *Ikale* – Igbotako, Aye, Irele, Ilutitun etc. They advertise jobs. They ask for people who have certain qualifications for jobs. They organize visits to government officials on empowering medical personnel in their communities. They do health safety awareness campaign. The Councillor or Senator or Assembly man should be the progenitors of all these. It won't cost them a dime but availability and commitment!

But what they do is to go there and come back with big cars and police escorts and the build mansions. Quite okay. Why not? Sebi dem dey collect fat salaries. But it should not be at the expense of their duties. And it is largely because of their ignorance. Or may be their perception.

Well, I know that members of the community also carry a huge part of the blame. They will not let these Honourables be. They would inundate them with all sorts of requests from “my father died” to “I am giving out my daughter in marriage” down to “I have not eaten since yesterday.” Where will he get the money?

But, in my opinion, it is left for the Honourable to draw the line. One way out is to use your influence to get legitimate contracts (forget about the theory that it is morally wrong). Then use the profit from this to carry out welfare programmes for the people. The second way out (which can be combined with the first) is to damn the beggars and work for the community. When Hon Yomi Sheba was in the National Assembly in 1999, there was no money there, so to say. So he did not have much to share or give. But Sheba was always available to follow any *Ikale* man to anywhere.

Some even used his little space as Apo Village as their lodge. He was a good assembly man to the core. The challenge he had the last time was coming back for the same position 20 years after. We should give younger ones a chance.

I do not think that it is because Jimoh Ibrahim has excess money to waste that he is undertaking ward tours. He is going round 66 wards or so in Ondo South! Dr. Ibrahim is exposed. He knows the minimum standards from these jobs. You just have to visit your constituents, and also consult opinion leaders. You have to make a promise or an agenda. You must tell the people what you would do if they vote for you. Vote for you, for what nah? Haba!

This is what we are trying to do in *Ikale News*: To enlighten both the voters and the contestants on these issues. And to showcase those who are doing the right things. We have not collected a dime from any contestant and we will never write stories on their candidacy. We will collect money if they want to advertise. But for editorial support, no way. It is our duty to the community. We will collectively benefit. While the Jimoh Ibrahim Campaign Group has a proper and vibrant Media Team, we have had to be begging other candidates to give us information on their campaigns. And they will come around and say we are partial to Jimoh Ibrahim. Hmmm, we are thorough professionals o. But we cannot manufacture news and photographs. We will do anything we can, through development communication to ensure things are done right.

Let me give you an example. From Erekiti, entering Igbotako the two famous towns are almost cut off now by the legendary Gbaagba River. That is the job of an Assembly man...to rally round to fix. He does not have to spend his money. It could be local, state, federal, philanthropists, clubs whatever, his job is to run around and rally people to fix the disaster waiting to happen temporarily and then permanently.

So let us vote wisely in this parliamentary elections. Let us go out and campaign for those who will do the job. As far as I know, most of the candidates under the APC and PDP are wonderful. Let scrutinize them and vote for the better candidates ignoring political party affiliations. It is politicians that stick to their party's candidates by all means, not the general populace.

*Ikale News* plans a special edition in January on the candidates. It will be in printed version. It is the least we can do to fulfil our mandate: “For Community Development” Watch out.

**Till then, a ka hedo o.**



**Bolu John Folayan, PhD**  
CEO & Founder



## OPINION

# My Journalistic Mission To Abuja...30 Years Ago



**Inside Stuff With  
MARTINS OLOJA**

All glory for this milestone must be to the Lord; For He is worthy of my praise; No man on earth should give glory to himself; All the glory must be to the Lord!

There is indeed a time for everything. Though it is a time to lament about the state of anomie in the land today, it is also a time to thank God too for how far He has blessed us in the city and in the field. As for me and my household, it is a time to thank God for ordering my footsteps to Abuja, the nation's capital where I was appointed Editor of the city's premier newspaper exactly 30 years ago. I recall as if it were yesterday that it was in December 1990, Alhaji Bukar Zarma, the publisher of "Abuja Newsworld" promoted me Editor of the premier newspaper set up in 1988 in the Federal Capital Territory.

The story of the first newspaper in Abuja is not about my promotion three decades ago. It is a significant story about how the founding fathers of Abuja and pioneer investors and promoters of enterprises in the nation's capital once made conscious effort to promote Abuja as a unity (and unifying) capital of the complex federation.

General Yakubu Gowon claimed he had surveyed the Abuja site before his mission to Kampala in 1975. Bishop Mathew Kukah, (PhD) had confirmed that background in a book before the claim. General Murtala Muhammed dreamed and proclaimed it on February 3, 1976. General Olusegun Obasanjo actualised the Murtala's great dream. President Shehu Shagari threatened to relocate there in 1980.

General IBB legalised it on Thursday December 12, 1991. Before then, a former Editor, "New Nigerian", Bukar Zarma had in 1988 set up the first newspaper in the Territory without a soul then. I was the pioneer Lagos Bureau Chief of the newspaper with our

first office at Norman Williams Ikoyi Lagos. From there we relocated to 12 Oko-Awo Close, Opposite Eko Hotel Victoria Island, Lagos. We moved from Victoria Island to No.10 Thorburn Avenue Sabo, Yaba Lagos. It was from the Yaba office, Alhaji Zarma called me to fly to Abuja in December 1990 as Editor of "Abuja Newsworld". I could recall that Nigeria Airways flight to Abuja in December 1990 cost me only N250 (two hundred and fifty naira).

As I had noted in 2016 when I wrote a piece on the possibility of our Abuja becoming a toxic federal capital, not many young people would know why I have always been very passionate about Abuja affairs. The nation's capital is actually my second home.

My journalism career grew luxuriantly like yam tendrils in the rainy season, thanks to my relationship with the capital, which began about 32 years ago when Alhaji Bukar Zarma established the first newspaper there as I was saying.

I was pioneer Lagos Bureau Chief from 1988 to 1990 when I was promoted Editor of the newspaper. Abuja is the place my colleagues (Bureau Chiefs) including the dangerously hardworking Yusuf Ali, the ever clean Sam Akpe, never-say-die Yomi Odunuga, among other notable Bureau Chiefs and Editors named me, "The Dean" of the Bureau Chiefs' community in Abuja while some others outside journalism would call me "The Mayor of Abuja".

There is nothing extraordinary about the sobriquets other than my long-standing experience as a reporter, writer and editor in the 44 years old "capital of the federation" as the letter of the constitution names it.

This background is germane to the points at issue today in Abuja and indeed Nigeria where religion and ethnicity have

become political tools in the hands of our politicians. I would like to use this background to trigger some rhetorical questions later about where rains began to beat us as a nation. We are talking about a nation where the bogeyman called the national question is threatening the security of the nation again, no thanks to some emerging political mismanagement of the complex federation by some Abuja-based political leaders and their inner-circle men.

Here is some background that will help us: When the newspaper civilization kicked us in the face in Abuja in 1988, there was a good country where religion and ethnicity did not play so much overt role in interpersonal relationships, let alone in recruitments into public and private enterprises. As I had once recalled here, then Alhaji Zarma, who hails from Borno state shaped the business plans of publishing the first newspaper in Abuja with Alhaji Hassan Adamu Wakilin Adamawa, from Adamawa state. They are both Muslims.

But the striking element in the story in 1988 in Abuja was that Alhaji Zarma, who advertised the vacancies for journalists in a national newspaper then did not consider religion and ethnicity when he hired very resourceful journalists from different parts of the country.

One thing was clear then: he never asked any candidates their states of origin. And so coincidentally, all the senior editors and most reporters recruited from the North and South were Christians.

This is the evidence: Mr. Nick Dazang (Christian from Plateau) was the pioneer Editor (He is now Director of Voter Education and Publicity Independent



# OPINION

**INSIDE STUFF**
*With Oloja Martins*


National Electoral Commission, INEC); Mr. Jackson Ekwugum (Christian from Delta State) was News Editor, Mr. Dennis Mordi (Christian from Delta State) was Chief Sub Editor; Mr. Samm Audu (Christian from Kaduna State, and a relation of the late Professor Ishaya Audu) was Sports Editor; Mr. Skekwogaza Wasah (Christian from Abuja) was Features Editor, Martins Oloja, (Christian from Ondo State) was Lagos Bureau Chief. Other notable names in the newsroom then included Shok Jok, (Kaduna South) Camillus Eboh (Akwa Ibom) Moji Olaniyan, Moji Olajide, (now Moji Ekwugum), Alex kabba, (Delta state) Emmanuel Obe (Rivers State) etc, all of them Christians. It was a great house of pan-Nigerian journalists.

It is significant to reveal here that when Professor Humphrey Nwosu's National Electoral Commission was releasing the June 12 election 1993 results piecemeal then and Chief M.K.O Abiola was in the lead and it was clear the Egba wealthy politician was going to beat Bashir Tofa from Kano, the publisher, Zarma was quite upbeat about imminent return to democracy through a free and fair election. And when the result was suspended, he was very sad. Only young Nigerians would not recall that the Abiola campaigns for president was run on a Muslim-Muslim ticket of Alhaji M.K.O Abiola & Alhaji Babagana Kingibe. It was incredible that Christians in the country did not raise any eyebrow anywhere after the Jos remarkable primary that produced the solid ticket.

In fact, Alhaji Zarma did not know my state of origin until long after the newspaper was shut down by the military junta then in the wake of the June 12, 1993 crisis in the country. It should be noted that at that time, the Chairman of the Abuja City Press Limited, Publishers of "Abuja Newsday", Alhaji Adamu was the Chairman of National Fertilizer Company of Nigeria Limited, (NAFCON).

I met him several times in Lagos, Port

Harcourt, Kaduna and Abuja. He never asked even once where I hailed from. What is more, at that time, General Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida (IBB) was military president (Head of State) and most of the prominent officers in the then presidency were Professor Jerry Gana, Professor Omo- Omoruyi, Professor Jonah Isawa Elaigwu, Professor Sam Oyovbaire, etc. These were Christians, among others who were quite visible in government then, although they were still in Lagos. But Professor Omo Omoruyi was then in Abuja as DG of the Centre for Democratic Studies (CDS) before the historic movement to Abuja on December 12, 1991.

The point really is that as a young Nigerian, I have seen the good part of the country even in Abuja where it is now becoming increasingly difficult to associate with it as the

capital of the federation. I succeeded Nick Dazang in 1990 as Editor in Abuja and I can recall that Abuja was gloriously promoted as a great city, a unity capital. In fact, our newspaper's masthead carried a motto: 'A great paper for a great city.'

Besides, the FCT administration we were covering then had a lot of Christians, Muslims and free thinkers alike from different parts of the country. There was a sense in which one could say then that even the military leaders in Nigeria then made everyone to have a sense of belonging unlike now when the current leaders run Abuja as if it were one of the core northern states.

In Abuja today, both the Minister (and minister of state) FCT and the Executive Secretary of the FCDA hail from the North (Adamawa, Kogi and Niger states) and all of them are Muslims. This is not what the founding fathers advertised to us. And Abuja was not run like this in the beginning. The atmosphere then was so conducive in the nation's capital to the extent that even the land administration department then had a code of conduct in plots allocation to states. In other words, if Plot 25 in Garki was allocated to a citizen of Anambra state, for instance, Plot 26 would be allocated to a citizen of Adamawa, and not to another allottee

from Anambra or any south-eastern state. That was what led to naming Abuja "Centre of Unity" when the Federal Road Safety Corps came up with various slogans for the 36 states and Abuja then.

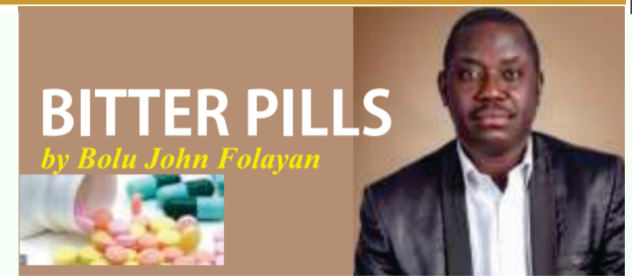
It is quite tragic today in this very toxic country where a Muslim-Muslim ticket had won a free and fair election that no political party even in the nation's capital can organise a convention that would produce a Christian-Christian or Muslim-Muslim ticket for president as we did in 1993. This is a sad commentary on today's politician and their toxic politics. It is really catastrophic that the nation's capital that Justice Akinola Aguda (from Ondo state) recommended as a "Centre of Unity" through a Presidential Panel he headed in 1975 has become a dangerous "Centre of Disunity". In Abuja a few months ago, a Christian and former deputy governor from Nasarawa state was nominated as Chairman of National Population Commission. His name had been submitted to the Senate for conformation. There was a scoop in a newspaper that some powerful political leaders in Abuja would not like a Christian to be Chairman of National Population Commission and so the nomination of a Christian from Nasarawa state would be cancelled. It was cancelled and replaced with a Muslim from the same Nasarawa state – before our very eyes. How would Nigerian leaders who executed this atrocity against Christians and our Constitution sleep well? Why do they run Nigeria, a delicate federation carelessly this way as if tomorrow would not come?

My anniversary message to our leaders in Abuja at this time is that they should take interest in running Abuja as Nigeria's 'Centre of Unity'. The dream is being destroyed by unlawful change of the original plan. They should study the Murtala's proclamation speech on February 3, 1976. The people in power today should be careful not to fall on to the dark side of history of Nigeria's development. That is my message for our leaders in Abuja as I dedicate my 30th anniversary as Editor of "Abuja Newsday" to the glory of God!



## BITTER PILLS

# Senator Jimoh Ibrahim, PhD OFR, (Part 2)



In this column last month, I published the first of this two-part series: *Senator Jimoh Ibrahim PhD, OFR*. Reactions have been tremendous. While some believe that I exhibited candor in the article, a few others felt that I over-praised the aspiring Senator. Well, I have told as many of them as I could to write their own opinions. I have written mine and will conclude it in this piece. It is MY view. Those who missed the first part can log on to [www.ikalenews.com/October2022edition](http://www.ikalenews.com/October2022edition). Meanwhile enjoy the second part of the article.

The issue of our Senator in Ondo South in 2023 is not something we can toy with. We are not running for governor. So it is only Senate, Reps and State Assembly that we have. And like I have always said, if we get our issue of representation right, we have a lot to benefit. Chief Olu Akinfosile that is our hero forever, represented us in House of Reps! If we get it right a Senator can turn things around for better for us. So, it is not a matter we allow sentiments to overwhelm us over.

I stated in the first part of my article on Jimoh Ibrahim's candidacy that if we analyze Ibrahim very well, most of the criticisms against him regarding his vying for Senate would fall flat. My argument was that for someone who has never used Ikale Slot to get into positions, but who achieved all he has achieved by dint of hard work and God's favour, he has done well to deserve to serve us in the Senate. I went to mention just a few of this many things I know that he has done for Ikale people. Those who have represented us at elective and appointive levels should come and share with us the things they did for the community and

let us compare. Oh, Jimoh is a billionaire? So, is it a tea party to become a billionaire? How many billionaires has Ikale produced? And did they use Ikale Slot to get there? So, we should take and appreciate whatever they are able to give back to the community. It is a voluntary thing. Giving is not about being a millionaire or billionaire: Anybody can give! We all should give.

I said in the article that the major area Ibrahim needed to work more on is in helping his siblings, classmates and other members of the community in need. Yes, you made it by yourself but God blessed you. This thing called success is not just about working hard o. Hmmm. The Bible says

**“kii se fun eni ti o n wa kiri tabi ti o n tiraka, sugbon bi ko se eni ti Oluwa fun”!**

If we say we won't vote for Ibrahim because he has not been a great philanthropist, we will be committing a fallacy. The idea that it is only the rich who should or can give is not correct. All of us must give. I am not defending him on this. I am told he has started working better on that. Giving is relative. I know Ibrahim gives. The thing is, he should not be doing “gba maa pa mi”. He should help people genuinely – transform lives totally. May God give him the grace to do this. We can compare what those contesting against Jimoh Ibrahim in terms of what they have given to society and we will see that Ibrahim is far, far ahead. The reason why the poor are poorer is because they don't give. They think what they have is little, so they can't give. That is wrong.

Most of the other arguments smack jealousy, to be sincere. Please, **“a'an je ja selewin, ja tu ohan mo”**. Jimoh Ibrahim is eminently suitable to represent us in the Senate from next year! **“A'an mama jeja mu usu we**

esun o.”

**I like to state very clearly that my endorsement of Jimoh Ibrahim is not an endorsement of APC or its presidential candidate. I am supporting Ibrahim for Senate and Dr. Sola Jimoh of the PDP for State Assembly. Yes. And this is because I know that they will perform. That they are siblings should not be an issue at all.**

I have been a journalist in this country for over 35 years, at community and national levels. The major raw material a senator needs to succeed are: i) Love for the Community and 2) Influence.

A representative must have deep love for his or her community. That was what propelled Chief Olu Akinfosile to do all that he did – road, telecommunications, employment for our people. When people do not love the community, they have no genuine interest in developing the community. They just put boreholes and electric poles here and there; buy pepper grinding machines and Okada for people here and there. That is all. , to bNo matter what if a political representative does not really love the community, he or she won't do anything for the community.

I know Jimoh Ibrahim like the palm of my hand. He loves Ikaleland and Ikale people passionately. That is the truth. I have nothing to ask from him for writing this. It is just the truth of the matter. Rather, I am writing this because I love Ikale and and I want don't want Ikale and Ondo South generally to miss the opportunity we have in electing Jimoh Ibrahim to represent us in the Senate. If he has offended people, let them just forgive him and push up for this position. He will achieve quite a lot there. I know what I am saying. He has tremendous influence at home and abroad. He is stupendously rich. What else does one need in the Senate to



**BITTER PILL**

continuation of Senator Jimoh Ibrahim, PhD OFR, (Part 2)

succeed? Let's even forget his splendid educational qualifications, including a PhD from one of the world's best universities! The only thing that I know we need to do to make Ibrahim work for Ondo South if he wins is candor: Tell him the truth! Wealthy people often do not know the true state of things around them. They need people to hammer them the truth from time to time and they would change. In Ibrahim's case, people love so much to tell him to go on, when he is not doing the right things.

I mean, we are not saying you should be rude to someone but for God's sake, tell him the truth! There was a big man in Igbotako who turned me into an enemy because I told him he did the wrong thing. I have no apologies to make for him as I from the deepest of my heart have nothing against him. Even when I was working for Jimoh Ibrahim, in the

open, I would do my "Yes Sir". But whenever we receded to our enclaves as childhood friends, I would tell him the truth. I noted that he was always valued that, even though he might not say so openly.

**OHIWIN**

Look, a need "ohiwin" ni Senate yii. Ibrahim is an *ohiwin panbele*. In Ikale, we use "ohiwin" to mean a mad person. But pejoratively, it has a positive meaning: Someone who does not care whose ox is gored. I cannot imagine a Senator Jimoh Ibrahim warming the bench in the Senate. Ko possible nah. I cannot imagine him not chairing a Committee that would be of benefit to us in Ondo South. I cannot imagine him not asking for and getting what belongs to us from Nigeria!

And it is not by shouting at the Senate o.

**Erun orofu ee jo namunamu.** When



Jimoh will be talking in the Senate, it is money that will be talking. Is this not Nigeria? You don't get things done at that level, without having the "carriage". The Senate President is GCFR. The next category to CFR is OFR. Jimoh got that close to 10 years ago, one of the youngest Nigerians to bag that award. Unless he is cautioned, the paraphernalia of office of Senator Ibrahim will match that of the Senate President. You need all of those to operate at a pedestal to get results, not as a matter of thing proud. That is how Nigeria works. We need an Ohinwin to send to that National Assembly, full of Ohinwin people. We don't need a gentleman there at all.

**IDEAS**

Ibrahim is a highly creative person. He is always full of ideas. Give him position in public office, you will be shocked what he will make of it. He used to joke with me that "Look, many of these people do not know how to use public office. If you make me Special Adviser to the President on Youths or Religious Affairs... anything... you will be shocked how I will use that office for public good." Go and check his record as chairman of Corporate Affairs Commission. He turned the place around for good. His only failure in that office was that he did not use it for the benefit of his constituents! When he left the place, all the money he saved, the next chairman used it for his own people. I believe he has learnt his lesson in those areas. The Ibrahim that I know will not depend on National Assembly money to do all that he wants to do. He will generate more money outside the box through that office and will be surely impact the people.

**NETWORKING**

A Senator can only perform to the extent that he can network with his colleagues and top power brokers. A senator who



*Jimoh, Ibrahim Folorunso*



# OPINION

continuation of Senator Jimoh Ibrahim, *PhD OFR*, (Part 2)

waits by the table for crumbs to fall is not the kind of Senator we need. When he went to collect his nomination form, Ibrahim took pictures with the President of Nigeria, his party's national chairman, Speaker House of Reps, Presidential candidate of his party. Who else needs to be photographed with? And when Presidential Campaign Council was inaugurated, he was appointed a member in LEADERSHIP and STRATEGIC position. You will have that kind of person in your community and you will be lamenting you don't have a candidate? Whatever, we don't like in him, let us do our best to remove. In politics, you don't get perfect people in those places. Is Tinubu the best we have? Is Akeredolu the best we have? So, why should Jimoh Ibrahim be perfect before we can elect him. Sometimes, I wish he does not have certain traits and character. But I have found that the best way is just to face him, tell him the truth and make him better. Jimoh Ibrahim knows people o. Oh, he does! Across Nigeria! Let us try him out for this Senate. We have more lose than him, if he loses the election. Let us use what we have to get what we want.

## NETWORTH

Often, one's net-worth determines his or her network. Ibrahim is very wealthy. I personally won't hero-worship anybody for his or her wealth. **Nini owo, wahala ni; aini owo naa, wahala ni.** You have money and you don't have money, the wahala is about the same. Poor people won't believe that. But I have just said the truth. Sometimes, when you see the wahala rich people go through, you would prefer not to be rich sef. But in this matter of Senate o, it is not for the poor.

The more money you have before going there, the better. Ibrahim's wealth will pay way for his success at the Senate.

## YOUTHFUL & ANTI-ESTABLISHMENT

Well, he is now 55 plus. But I can tell you he is useful at heart. Dear Ikale youths, this is your chance o! This is your chance to shape your future for the better. We know how to beat Ibrahim to shape if he becomes Senator, so that he can work for you. The problem of youths is that they do not always get one of their own with the pedigree, to grab these offices. Few youths who had done so, first had to make themselves okay (make money, build houses, buy cars) and by the time they had done that, their term is up; they want second terms to be able to help others. Ibrahim does not need the salary of the senator for himself. Before the primaries of the APC and PDP, I personally spoke to several Ikale youths who are rich and who I know love Ikale very well. They all refused. Ibrahim coming to the race is a huge blessing. He will do great things for youths from IleOlujì down to the creeks of Sabomi and Ugbonla. Go to Ese Odo and see what Kingsley Kuku did for his people. Ibrahim will replicate that and do much more. One of the reasons people don't like him which I will divulge here today is that HE IS ANTI-ESTABLISHMENT.

Ibrahim does not like politicians and so-called elder statesmen, who want to continue to recycle themselves without having anything to show for the community. They were always getting appointments and re-appointments in

the corridors of power. He literally hates them and they hate him. They feel they would not be able to control him if he becomes governor or senator. They would do anything to frustrate him. It's just the same thing Bola Tinubu faced. But were they able to control Senator Bolu Kunlere or Senator Hosea Ehinlanwo?

Now that Ibrahim succeeded in getting the ticket of the APC, I think youths of Ondo South should rally round him and vote for him massively. It is not easy to have one of your own to do these kinds of things. Take advantage. These politicians who like to recycle themselves should just embrace the new age: **Youths lo kan. Egbe kini yi fun Jimoh Ibrahim.**

My conclusion is that all youths in the Ondo South and the elderly should rally round Jimoh Ibrahim. It is not about political affiliation this time. Let us vote for the person who will make that office meaningful to us. I have not seen Ibrahim for years now and I do not intend to see him soon. He is doing what he knows how to do and I am doing mine. But **ajobi pawa po.** We love our communities. We want our people to be better. I am not looking for any personal favour, writing this. But it is not a bad idea for me if I need a Senator to do one or two things for me and I ask him to do it!

Let us forget whatever we have against him and let him be our Senator. He is eminently deserving. E joo. Our position, really, should be underscored by the option that we have. Given the choice that we have, Ibrahim should be our next Senator in Ondo South. If he gets there and is not doing all of these things, call me to the Public Square.

By God's grace, I will recall this publication in four years' time and you will vindicate me. *A ka hedo o.*



## OPINION

# Nigeria @ 62: A Nation or a State?

Dayo Williams



It's public knowledge that every October 1st, since 1960 when Nigeria secured its independence from Britain, has become a ritual of celebrations of some sort. Sometimes the celebrations are loud; some other times they are low-key depending on the mood of the country.

This year's assorted symbolic celebrations across the states and the FCT are no exemption from the ones that were held in the past by successive administrations - be they civilian or military.

By the way, it's the last Independence Day celebration for President Muhammadu Buhari whose second and last term in office expires May 29, 2023. Other things being equal, a new President will be in the saddle come October 1, 2023.

As it is everywhere, Nigerians have a myriad of opinions regarding the status and station of the country 62 years after it became a sovereign nation. That is why they take to their various social media platforms and any other communication channel to express their opinions on the Day whenever it's celebrated or marked.

For this year's celebration, I took my time to check out some of the comments of Nigerians. The comments were a bag of mixed feelings; expressions of lamentations and missed opportunities while some took notice of the gains and progress recorded over the years.

In any case, Nigeria, just like any other country in the world is full of two broad categories of citizens: There are the optimists who believe perpetually in the potential greatness of the country and the gains made over the years despite different challenges and there are the incurable pessimists who believe nothing good can come out of the country because of inefficient leadership and poor governance



system that has become a recurring decimal virtually in every dispensation.

To be candid, as far as I am concerned, it was a good thing our forefathers fought hard to secure our independence from British imperialism at the time they did. There could not have been a better time to take our collective destiny into our hands than the time they did.

I also believe that those who laboured and agitated for the independence of the country -the likes of Nnamdi Azikwe, Obafemi Awolowo, Anthony Enahoro, Ahmadu Bello, Tafawa Balewa and the rest- also had a clear vision from the inception to transform it into a nation, at least going by the commonality of purpose those men and women from different tribes, backgrounds, cultures, religion and other variables

demonstrated during the struggle for independence.

All said and done, 62 years after, it is pertinent to ask whether Nigeria is now a nation bound by a common destiny or a state. Or is the country sandwiched between the two contending terminologies which are sometimes even used interchangeably when and where there's no need for fidelity to distinguish between the two distinct terms?

For denotative clarifications, a nation, as defined by experts, is a group of people with a common language, common religion, history, culture and geographic territory whereas a state is an association of people characterised by formal institutions of government, including laws, permanent territorial boundaries and sovereignty (political independence).



# NEWS

As a matter of necessity, a state must have four basic elements: population, territory, government and sovereignty. For a state to be a state, all four elements must operate or exist concurrently otherwise, the statehood is incomplete. Contrarily, a nation is a group of people who have a strong sense of unity and common consciousness.

Going by the aforementioned definitions, it is safe to say that all the tribes that makeup Nigeria - over 300 - could therefore be described as nations -shared culture, language, and history, among others - existing within a territory. Against this background, it is only logical to say that Nigeria is a state of many nations (tribes, ethnic groups). Little wonder some scholars and public intellectuals prefer to define Nigeria as a nation-state while some call it the Nigerian state.

But all hope to make Nigeria a true and organic nation even though tribes and tongues may differ is not lost. All that is needed is unity and a common

consciousness premised on justice, equity, fairness, equality and inclusion but it has to start from the leadership cadre and then trickle down to the citizenry in a seamless top-to-bottom formation.

At all times, political leaders, including all the managers of the country's socio-political institutions, especially at the national level, must demonstrate and engender inclusion, justice, fairness and impartiality in all their transactions as far as governance and leadership are concerned. That way, the citizens will have an abiding faith in the country that all citizens are equal regardless of their tribe, religion and ethnicity.

However, in a situation where clannishness and ethnic chauvinism are demonstrated within the leadership space, it becomes pretty difficult for discerning citizens to have confidence in the nationhood of the country. This perhaps may explain why there are occasional ethnic agitations because some sections of the country feel they have been deliberately left out in the

scheme of things.

As the preparation for the 2023 general elections begins to gather momentum, I will like to encourage all Nigerian citizens eligible to vote to ensure that they cast their votes for only candidates who have a demonstrable and evidence-based record of being blind to ethnic chauvinism, tolerant of others, a unifying factor and non-discriminatory imbued with a high sense of justice and fairness into various offices. That way, the country may begin to prepare its way to transit into a true nation rather than its current state of many nations where there is mutual distrust on the bases of religion, ethnicity, political participation e.t.c.

Happy Independence Day celebrations to you all!

Adefeko is the chairman Export Group NACCIMA.



*Nigerian children attend independence day celebrations in Lagos in October 1. PHOTO: Pius Utomi Ekpei/AFP*



# POLITICS

## Jimoh Ibrahim commences tour of 66 wards in Ondo South

....takes off in Ile Oluji/Okeigbo, Says; He will empower the people



**D**r. Jimoh Ibrahim CFR, billionaire business mogul and Ondo South Senatorial district All Progressives Congress, APC Candidate on Thursday began campaign tour of wards across the district, ahead of 2023 general elections.

Moving round four wards at Ile Oluji, the APC candidate told the people the he decided to start his campaign by visiting them ward by ward so that he could familiarize and interact with them one on one basis. He noted that Ile Oluji holds strong significance to him as the good people of Ile-Oluji gave him overwhelming vote support during the primary and he won't expect less from them at the February 2023 polls with a promise that he will return with gratitude as well as giant fulfillment of his electoral promises for them.

Ibrahim assured the people of good representation that would have tremendous impact on the communities within the senatorial district if elected. He sought the support of the people and asked them to vote for him in the general elections. Addressing the people from ward to ward, Dr. Ibrahim said: "I

decided to take my campaign to your doorstep ward by ward so that I can know you face to face." "We need to interact and familiarize with each other so that I can know those who will vote for me."

This will afford us the opportunity to make your challenges known to me and do my home work on how to fix most of the challenges through a representative interface with Federal ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) when you elect me as your senator in 2023. "I promise that I will give you an unprecedented good representation that would make Federal Government's presence felt in our district.

"Appreciating the APC candidate, the Chairman of APC in Ile-Oluji, Hon. Olasanmiju Akinfolarin appreciated Dr. Ibrahim's decision to meet the people. "Your visit has done us a great advantage as the people have been able to hear from you directly. "They were also able to tell you what they expect from you when you become our senator next year."

This campaign is the beginning of what our party will do when the campaign starts in full." We are embarking on house to house campaign to avail our

people with the action plans of all our candidates including our presidential candidate and our senatorial candidate has laid the foundation today.

"The people can now understand better that he's familiar with their challenges and set to tackle them within his capacity as a federal legislator." In his address, the Ward 3 chairman of the party, Hon. Akinsuroju said the people have great confidence in Dr. Jimoh Ibrahim and have already made up their mind to vote for him at the poll. He said: "Our people have confidence in you sir and have already decided to vote for you during the general elections." It is good you came to see them one on one and heard you reel out what you are set to do when you get to the Senate." Chairmen of Wards 2, 4 and 5, Hon. Akinterinwa, and Hon. Famikola Lasis also commended the APC candidate for visiting the people at the grassroots and making his electioneering promises known to them.

Having visited four wards within the town, Ibrahim will continue his campaign tomorrow at Ile Oluji.

The APC candidate assured the people in all the 66 wards within the Southern senatorial district that he would visit them within four weeks.



# PHOTO NEWS

**B**illionaire business mogul and candidate of All Progressives Congress (APC) for Ondo South Senatorial District, Dr Jimoh Ibrahim CFR and others during his grassroots visits to wards , which he started at Ile Oluji/Okegbo Local government area of Ondo State on Thursday, November, 3 2022. During the ward tour, wards 1, 2, 3 and ,4 all in Ile Oluji were visited as the Jimoh Ibrahim campaign train were welcomed by tumultuous crowd of supporters.





# GALLERY





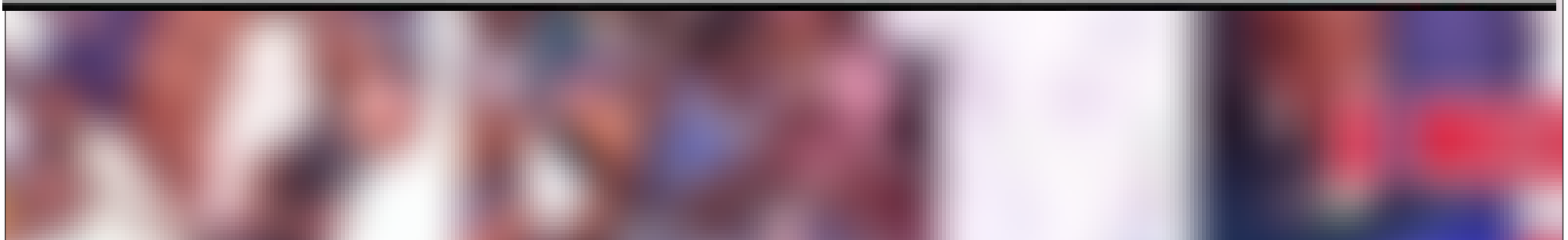
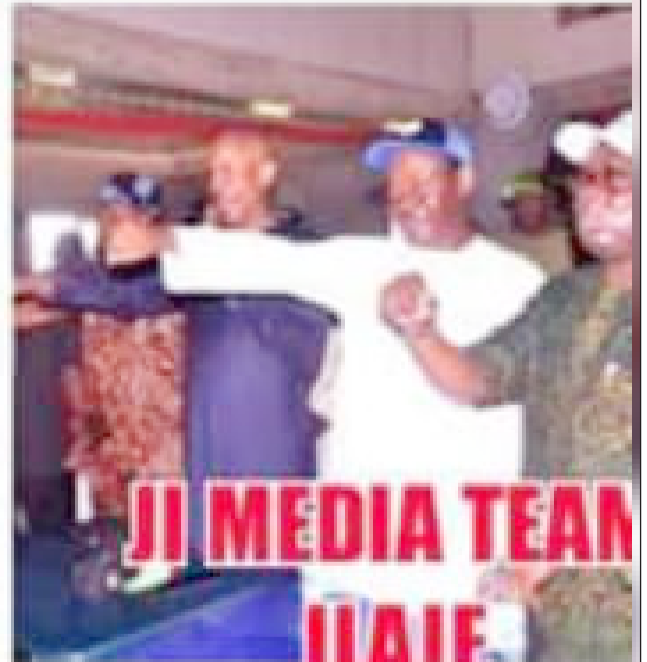
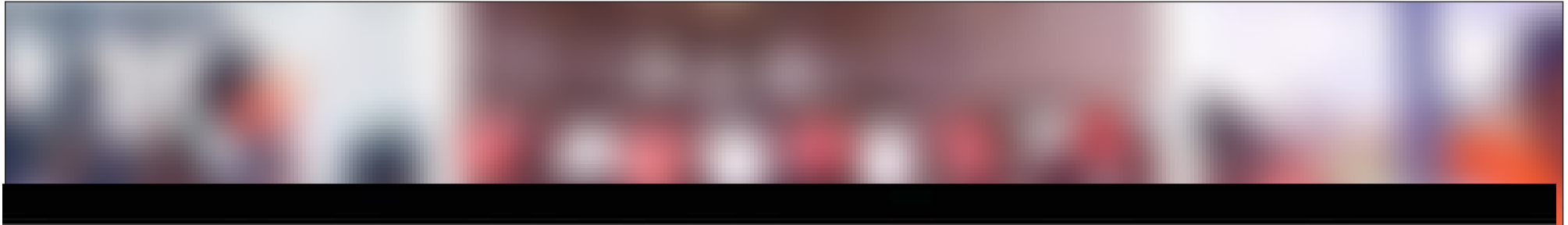
# GALLERY



*APC Chairman And Former Chirman Of Okitipupa LG, Hon. Nike Alaka, (left) Welcomes Dr. Jimoh Ibrahim To Ilu-titun During His Campaign Tour*



# GALLERY





**NEWS**

# “I will overcome my court cases and win the senatorial election.” - Agboola Ajayi

**E**mbattled grassroots politician and former deputy governor of Ondo State, Hon. Agboola Ajayi has affirmed that he would win the various cases instituted against him by his opponents to win February's senatorial elections.

He told reporters weeks ago after a Federal High Court in Akure dismissed the suit challenging his candidature for the [Peoples Democratic Party \(PDP\)](#) for Ondo South senatorial district.

The judge, Rilwan Aikawa, in his verdict delivered via Zoom, said the suit filed by Nicholas Tofowomo, the incumbent senator, was statute-barred because it was filed outside the time provided under the law.

Mr Tofowomo scored 74 votes in the PDP primary to lose his bid to return to the Senate on the platform of the party but Mr Ajayi, who had recently returned to the party from the Zenith Labour Party, where he contested the last governorship election, polled 78 votes to emerge as the candidate to represent the senatorial district.

In suit number: FHC/CS/AK/ 83 /2022 filed on 5th July 5, the plaintiff prayed the court to nullify the former deputy governor's nomination on the grounds that he presented conflicting and questionable academic records for the election. He alleged that Mr Ajayi lied on oath in his form, which he submitted to the Independent National Electoral Commission



*Agboola Ajayi*

(INEC) for clearance for the poll.

Mr Tofowomo said the former deputy governor did not meet the constitutional requirements for contesting the 2023 general election as contained in the interpretation and application of Section 66 (1) (i) of the 1999 Constitution and Section 29(5) & (6) of the Electoral Act, 2022 as well as other relevant laws.

Countering the allegations, Mr Ajayi, through his lawyer, Kayode Olatoke, argued that the allegation of perjury against him was unfounded.

He said the school registrar at the time he wrote his WAEC had sworn an affidavit in 2006, to absolve him of the controversial error about the date of birth on his WAEC certificate.

Mr Ajayi said the case was filed outside the time allowed under the

law, so the court lacked jurisdiction to entertain the case and that it was a mere academic exercise and a waste of the court's time.

In his ruling, Mr Aikawa, relying on several cases decided by the Supreme Court, held that the date of occurrence was to be used to determine the status of the case and not the date the plaintiff was aware of the case

Mr Aikawa said the date of the occurrence of the cause of action was 9th June and the date the case was filed was 5th July. He held that the case, which was supposed to be filed within 14 days, was filed 26 days after the cause of action.

The judge resolved that the case would not be heard on merit since it was filed outside the time allowed



# NEWS

under the 1999 Constitution and the amended Electoral Act and consequently dismissed the case.

Rumour were all over the District that Tofowomo has instituted another case against the former deputy governor, claiming this time that there were discrepancies in his secondary school certificate results. But his media aide, Allen Sowore dispelled the rumours, saying Ajayi is legally qualified to contest the elections.

In a statement noted that the former Deputy Governor of Ondo State and PDP Candidate for Ondo South Senatorial District respects Senator Nicholas Tofowomo as a brother; recognizes him as a leader and as such counts on his enormous support towards the party's victory in February

Meanwhile, the leaders of the party at national and state levels,

including Atiku Abubakar Presidential Campaign Organization have waded into the matter to persuade all aggrieved persons in the party to work together in a view to ensuring the victory of the party at the 2023 General Elections.

"We are very confident as loyal party members that total reconciliation among the critical stakeholders is achievable." Sowore reassured our correspondent.

Leaders of the party across the senatorial district who spoke to *I kale News* expressed concern that the disputes within the party may cost the party the presidency.

A PDP stalwart in Ode Aye, who does not want his name mentioned, told *I kale News* that the implication of Agbo being disqualified would be heavy on the party.

Said he "We beat APC in this state in the last elections. And we will beat

APC again because the party has failed Nigerians. But we should know that both presidential elections and senatorial elections would hold same day. With formidable candidates like Jimoh Ibrahim and the Jimi Odimayo, we cannot afford to be quarelling. We must settle our differences and plan for the election."

Another top-notch party leader however expressed reservations about the earnest resolution of the disputes.

"It is not as easy as you think. How do expect me to be campaigning for a candidate who has nothing to show for four years? May the newcomers. For me, I will not vote for another four years of failure."

Feelers from the Agboola Ajayi camp stressed that the former Reps was waiting for the Presidential Campaign to be flagged to start his campaign.



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**FEATURE**

# Four Deadly Spiritual Ikale Spells You Must Run From

In 1982, Bolu Folayan (currently publisher of Ikale News) visited home (Igbotako) from Ibadan where he was doing is Advance Levels at The Polytechnic Ibadan. He went to Community Grammar School football pitch to play football. Shortly after the match, he entered adjoining farm near the pitch to pooh-pooh. Eight days later, Kukubaku caught him. He picks up the story from there: I first told my mum and showed him my unusually big lump in the right side of my belly. My mum was afraid and asked me to see my daddy. He too became afraid and asked me if I had sex with anyone till today I wouldn't know the relationship between that and swollen stomach. I told him I didn't have sex with anyone. "My dad gave me some drugs. He was an headmaster and most headmasters in Igbotako were quack doctors in those days. But three days after, the thing was big there. My mum then took me to my grandmother (his own mum). Immediately she (grandma) saw it, she said it must be kukubaku. I began to weep, thinking I would die. "But mama reassured me that it was no problem. She took me to one baba at Sogbon known as Baba Likodimu. The baba took an unripe banana fruit and started peeling it. Five or six fell on the ground and that was what the baba used to determine if it was kukubaku. Of course, it was kukubaku. The Baba prepared some thing in a broken calabash and asked me to get a feather and use that feather to put the oil in my stomach I did that and within 48 hours, the lump disappeared completely." He said. Numerous other Wales have encountered various spells in Ikaleland like the Wale News publisher. Some are severe while others like kukubaku are mild but all of them could lead to death and it is



important for people to have reasonable knowledge about them. Four of the major spiritual spells in Ikaleland are Ayelala, Kukubaku, Magun and Atagba. All of them are associated with idol worship although in origin they were designed specifically for evil doers. Except Atagba, none of the spells can catch you unless you have wronged the person who laid the spell. In the case of the Dr. Folayan, the publisher of Ikale News, he defecated in someone else's farm i He explained: "It was wrong of me to pass shit is a farm. I should have gone into the bush. So the kukubaku was hidden in the farm and I didn't see it. Some people hide the kukubaku while some others >, put at obvious location to warn you. In my case, I didn't see it. It is a small round object like that and as kids when we saw it we ran. So I think kukubaku was a social way of checking sins such as stealing and trespass in Ikaleland. Like someone going to your farm to steal yam, things

like that But now I am covered by the blood of Jesus. It can't catch me even if I shit in another person's farm if it is not deliberate. But if I steal (God forbids) blood of Jesus will not cover that

**Ayelala and Magun are similar in operations**

**AYELALA**

Ayelala as a metaphysical concept has its root from the Ilajes, although experts have agreed that the totality of the "sixteen deities in Yorubaland" actually originated from Ile-Ife, the ancestral home of the Yoruba people, it is widely believed that Ayelala originated from I lajeland. To confirm that its Ilaje is the junction called Orita-Ayelala in Ilaje when moving on the creeks from Igbokoda to Ayetoro. Ayelala worshippers believe that the deity is an agent of Olodumare to punish evil doers in the society for their misdeeds. According to Chief O.F. Omotayo, a



# FEATURE

continuation of **Agenda For The Upliftment Of Ikale- Land**

renowned traditionalist from Ode-Aye, it works such that when a person comes on one or two things that may warrant Ayelala to visit that person, it comes in the form of some lesser deities as a sort of warning. By virtue of this, bodily punishment could come on the person like boils (oghiho), akandon, (wick low), etc. By this, it expects that the person repents from his/her evil deeds failure to do which he/she could be outrightly visited by the main Ayelala. It is also believed that kukubaku is another agent of Ayelala. By the time one's sins becomes

excessive, Ayelala descends on the person and forces him to make true confession of these sins he has committed. In most cases, when total confession is made, without hiding any of the numerous atrocities committed, the person may be taken care of by the traditionalist (such traditionalists are called Alaworo), and Ayelala will forgive (and spare the person's life). But when he (the culprit) still conceals certain sins, he/she will not be spared. In some cases, such culprits grow unusually fatter in stature, especially in the belly and the feet. At critical stages of the attack, the afflicted begins to dry up as Ayelala sucks his or her blood. When the Ayelala victim dies, the corpse must be thrown in to the bush and such a person is not befitting of normal burial.

## KUKUBAKU

Kukubaku is another instrument in the hands of Eledumare to check evil-doers in the society. It is however subordinate to Ayelala as there is unanimity among traditionalists that it runs errands for Ayelala being a

superior god to it. But in any event that a person does certain things that could warrant the visit of Ayelala, it will, in its magnanimity, send any of its messengers to the person as a form of warning. When kukubaku spell descends on someone, appears in form of big boils on whichever part of the body, and for as long as it stays there, there will be no traces of (pus) 'ewo' and if it is there by the time one treats it, it appears on another part of the body. Such boil will defy application of

leads to untimely death. Said Chief Taiye Owate, a community activist: "The intention of kukubaku is not to kill. It is to discourage trespass and stealing or theft. Although some people who do not know how to do it make mistakes and it attacks the innocent, kukubaku is not supposed to attack someone who mistakenly trespasses. Due to inexperience of the person who lays the spell, we have heard of cases when kukubaku catches even the owner of the farm (the person who laid it).



western or traditional medicine except by someone who knows about kukubaku. Ordinarily, when it is detected, it is customary to consult the oracle as to the particular expert or traditionalist to know exactly if it is ordinary boil or a kukubaku. One major effect of kukubaku attack is high fever and soaring body temperature which can lead to death if not treated on time. It is believed that application of western medicine worsens kukubaku often

## ATAGBA

The Atagba spell has origins from traditional worshippers from Delta State, according to Mr Olumowo Sunday of Lumeko of Ode-Aye, most people get acquainted with it through learning. This implies that it is transmissible from generations to generation.

George Fredrick, all the way from Delta State, is a traditional concept, a traditional medicine for attacking fellow human beings. It is a spiritual attack on someone, often someone who cheated or offended a person although there have been cases when innocent persons out of jealousy or envy have been killed through atagba. On the modus operandi, bullets are arranged in a gun while some incantations are recited whereby the person intended to be attacked is mentioned. Then it will be shot and will automatically meet the person. There are numerous kinds of atagba. The most popular is called 'Bojowo', meaning 'going down at sunset' When this kind of spell is invoked and something is not done to heal him or her before sun sets, the person dies. Other type: are lesser severe than 'bojowo'. Meanwhile, in shooting Atagba, the following items are used



# FEATURE

needle(abere) teeth of a snake (preferably cobra), teeth of any other wild animal like (lion, elephant), "eyo owo" (cowries', ikodide, . It should be re-emphasised that the full name of the intended victim must be mentioned in administering the "magical atamatase".

## MAGUN

Magun is not limited to Ikaleland. It is known across Yorubaland as the special spell cast on men and women who commit adultery. For instance, one may have a wife who goes out with other men, in this case to punish these other men for committing adultery or for having this sort of extra-marital affair, it tells on the other man as a sort of punishment.

When applying this, the woman is likely to know that such husband has used it on her. It is not however in the course of extra-marital affair alone that Magun can be applied, it may also be applied when there are disputes between two people; for instance here they are contesting over the true ownership of and, this way Magun

may be laid on the plot by one to the other. The spell is often cast on the woman or a man without her knowing. All she needs to do is to walk over the object in which the magun is placed and the person who engages in sex with her outside her officially approved husband or lover will die instantly. However when someone is affected, there is always a way out depending on the kind of magun spell on the lady. There are two categories of Magun. The first is one that requires the immediate rescue of the victim. This one demands that the affected person be given the remedial medicine within one hour of the attack. Failure to be treated to within this time limit, death is inevitable.

The second category is one that may sustain the person for up to one month without any adverse effect, but where the danger is that the day you try to proffer the remedy, the person will drop dead. However, when it happens and it is detected immediately, the person must be given the remedy (a concoction) to drink so that immediately he sleeps and by the time he wakes up, he would have been set free. It is widely believed in Wale that the origin dates back to the

days of our forefathers from whom most administrators of it inherited it. For instance, Olumowo Sunday lost his dad in 1974 at a tender age but he grew up to know people from all walks of life coming to him for preventive and remedial medicines on Magun. As a matter of fact, when one actually engages in acts that ordinarily may render one a victim, the preventive medicine will actually set one free. In other words, some people have traditional medical insurance against magun such that even when a lady when she has sex with a man who has it on her, he (the man insured) can never be attacked. The opinion of Ikale orthodox doctors is very different from traditional beliefs as far as these spells are concerned.

Many of the Wale doctors who spoke to Ikale News interpret the symptoms ordinarily attributed to kukubaku and ayelala for instance to diabetes and liver infections. They attribute atagba to heart attack or/and high blood pressure. In Part 2 of this Special Report, we will serve you the opinion of our readers and the opinions of doctors and spiritual leaders. Keep a date with Ikale News.



*Magun charm phenomenon*



# IKALE KIDS

## The Importance Of Good Character

How are you and your studies?

Last time we discussed the importance of good character. We explained the need for us to have the following characters that you will find valuable as you grow up. These are , passion, respect,,fairness, humility,honesty and obedience above all others. I hope you were able to pick these characters and have started making use of them. I also told you the story of The snake and the Farmer and how the marabout bird became bald.

Today , I want to tell you a story about the Tortoise and the monkey and like I always say you must pick lessons from it that will help you as you grow up.

### The Tortoise and the Monkey :

Story, story, story,

Long time ago , the Tortoise and the monkey were friends, so one day the monkey was going out and passed by the Tortoise house, they exchanged greetings



and later the Tortoise prayed for the monkey that God will not allow him to be implicated , "may God deliver us from every battle of implication o." .But instead of the monkey to say Amen, he proudly said what kind of prayer was that, I dont fight with people, I go on my way carefully , i mind my business so how will i be implicated. "You better look or think of better prayer points my dear friend", so he went on his way.

The answer the monkey gave did not go down well with the Tortoise ,he thought in his mind , "this my friend monkey is too proud and I'm going to teach him a lesson that he will never forget in his life".

Days after days he was thinking of way to harm the monkey to teach him a lesson because of his response to the prayer he prayed the last time. So he eventually got an idea. He bought plenty of bean cake and soaked it in honey, and was eating it . He purposely passed through the tiger's house and was eating it as he went, he greeted the tiger , the Tiger then asked what he was eating that he was even happy about. So he gave the bean cake he had soaked in the honey to the , tiger , the tiger asked where he got such a sweet food from. I have never tasted such sweet food before, the tiger told the Tortoise.

Do you care to go and get it if I tell you , the Tortoise responded. Of course , it's so sweet and I love it, replied the tiger. Well , this is the monkey's feces , but it's not easy to get and he will be reluctant to give you unless you blow him mercilessly in the stomach that is when he will be able to excrete it. Henhen !!!, that is strange o,the tiger said. That was what i did to get these, please have

these three, more, I will get more for myself again tomorrow .The tiger promised he was going right away. So the tortoise went away satisfied and happy his mission will soon be accomplished.

The tiger went to the monkey's house and begged him to excrete the sweet faeces . The monkey was surprised and told the tiger he did not understand him , how can my faeces be sweet. It's not possible. After much persuasion and petting and the monkey did not answer him, the tiger then remembered what the Tortoise said that it was not easy and that unless He blew the monkey hard on the stomach for it to come out , so the tiger gave the monkey the beating of his life , the monkey cried and begged the tiger, the tiger continued until the monkey's tummy was troubled and the



**Deaconess Omotayo Folayan**

monkey excreted hot faeces, the tiger tasted it but it was not sweet , he continued beating the monkey until he could not excrete again.

"Su didun, oya su didun" "defecate sweet faeces, common, defecate sweet faeces". The stomach was hot and there was no more strength in the monkey , so the tiger left him half dead and went away.

Days later after the monkey had recovered, he was passing by the Tortoise house , immediately the Tortoise greeted the monkey he was just saying amin, amin meaning Amen, amen . The Tortoise wanted to mock him , he now prayed the prayer again.

May God never allow us to be implicated o, Immediately the monkey shouted amin, amin, and since that day anytime the monkey comes across any one he will be shouting amin, amin..

That is the end of our story today. I hope you have been able to pick one or two lessons.

**Lessons:** We should not be arrogant or proud in all our doings, either in words or attitudes. Don't be full of yourself , even if you dont do evil to anyone, some people just hate for just no cause. Even your blessings, or because of your achievements, or people loving you can make them hate you and plan evil for you. Prayer is never too much and no prayer is useless or not necessary.

From the Tortoise side, it is not good to pay evil or avenge for yourself. Believe God who will always avenge for you . And moreover it is not compulsory for people to see things from your own way everytime.

Never fight for yourself or prove a point one way or the other sooner or later the truth will be revealed.

From the Tiger's side, longer throat is not good, be content with what you have and if anyone give you something be satisfied with it and dont ask for more.

Till next month keep being good children, help, your parents, be good to your siblings. Remember if you do good , God is there, if you do bad God is there whatever you do God is there always watching. God bless you. Bye.



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## ARCHIVE

# Close-up with Ikale Nollywood Star Princess Dupe Adetuwo

**Editor's note: this interview was originally published in our September/October 2007 edition, and have been slightly edited**

**A**lthough she looks every bit like a Delta or Ibo babe, theatre and home video star, Princess Dupe Adetuwo : ' a full-fledge Ikale who is always proud to be so identified A princess of the legendary Abodi lineage in Ikoya, she speaks to TINUOLA BAMITALE LIJOFI on acting, royalty p and Ikale development: Excerpts:

*You have been off the late videos and television drama for some time now, what happened?*

It was as a result of the kind of role I play. I have been mindful of the kind of role I play. I don't just want to act to be !mown. Before I appear in any movie, I will like to know how educative, informative and entertaining it is. The story line must be meaningful. People should be able to learn from it. Not just any movie. At the end of every movie, I make sure I sit back and watch it and must derive satisfaction in it. It takes time before you will see me feature in any movie. Actually, I have featured in some soap operas which are yet to be' released. A perfect and good movie takes time to produce; it doesn't come out immediately like that. It takes time. So that has been the reasons I have been off for some time now.

*Tell us the films/TV series you have been doing lately and the plan you have underway?*

I have featured in soaps such as

Zenith on AIT, Edge of Paradise, and is also shown on local televisions, Behind the siege also on by Tade Ogidan is another series I featured in. Some of these senes are on cable television. Another one that will soon hit the airwave is Family Affairs. I am more on TV because I don't just appear on any film.

*What are the basic differences in acting on stage, on TV and in films?*

Acting on state is deep. You can't afford to make mistakes while on acting on stage. You must be careful of what you do. It is all about you and your audience. You cannot cut corners at all. There is no room for editing on stage acting. You must be perfect, that is what makes it deeper than television and in films. But in Television, you can make mistakes and allow to redo again. You will be allowed to perfect your role. In films, you can cheat. Mistakes are allowed in films. You can edit, eliminate what you don't like from the script or the shots you have made.

*Would you encourage young Ikale girls to go into acting as a career?*

Why not, a lot of them have approached me that they are interested in acting. I told them there is more to acting If they really want



to excel in the line, they must go to school and be grounded. They can study any profession in school, it could be any discipline. Once they have all these that become a good take off for them. They will have confidence to express themselves in public. It is also necessary to have formal training in acting. But there are some that are born with it. I remember before I fully joined acting, I make sure that I undergo a-2-year training from William House who taught me the rudiments about acting. This will prepare them for the task ahead as it did for me. But you do not live on acting; you have other things you are doing as a businesswoman? I do not live on acting by the grace of God. I am an interior decorator. It is just that the interest I have in acting - it is very deep. People see me as somebody that is comfortable. I have a house of my own, I have cars and I can take



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care of myself; so why acting? People asked? Acting is a thing of the inside. I am fulfilled while acting. That's why as I told you I take special interest in what a film or script is all about before I consent to star in it. We hear that girls and ladies who are into acting are promiscuous. We hear they sleep with producers and directors to have good roles, what's your experience? I wouldn't say there is no iota of truth in what you just said now Definitely, there is. But it is not all of them that are involved in such act. Actually, I am neither condemning them nor supporting them. Considering the fact that there is no job out there, some of them come into the movie industry because they want to be a star at all cost.

They don't really care about what it takes to get there. A lot of them come in because they are jobless. These are most likely reasons why they engage themselves in sleeping with directors and producers. But you don't think it is ideal..? Like I said, what is good for me might not be good for you. It is a matter of choice. We are different people doing different thing to get the same thing. A lot of them do it to survive. So I cannot really blame them I wouldn't do that.

That is why you can't see me in just any movie. I am mindful of the kind of role I play. I have my integrity and name to protect too. As a beautiful lady, do you mean that producers have not made passes at you? I can't say that. I am a woman. It is natural for men to make passes on you. But it is now left for you to decide whether to do or not. They have actually made passes but here I am still doing well without compromising. Again, it depends on your carriage. I thank God for what He has blessed me with and for a man to think I have to sleep with him to get a role, he will have to rethink. Professionalism is

important in everything.

*How do you handle such toasters - may be other people can benefit?*

How many men do you want to sleep with before you get what you want? I look unto God because He is the author and finisher of my faith. Whatsoever I am looking for, He provides for me. I am comfortable with what I have. If you are professional, conduct yourself decently; infact people will respect you. Then, when you are good on your role, directors will put you in without strings. They too, want their movies to be successful.

*Can you tell us about your childhood days and where you were born?*

I am in my late 50. I was born into the Late Oba J.E Detuwo Ikoya in Okitipupa local government area. My mother Olori Olufunke is alive. I am from a polygamou family where we believe in oneness and unity. My father had I think) 10 wives. But the most interesting part of it all was that though I knew my biological mum, I couldn't tell which was my mother among his 10 wives is. It is indeed a very big family' We ate from the same pot, It was fun growing up with my parents. My father (Kabiyesi) was a friendly father. He would call all the children in the night, telling them different kind of stories such as folk stories, and other sweet and interesting stories. Another interesting aspect then was that, in those days, the king was appointed to handle any conflicts among the members of the community. Each time these were disputes, the case would be taken to the King to make peace. This was as a result of unavailability of court. The king was a peacemaker then. He would be the one to hear cases and give necessary. Judgment that is right to both parties involved. It

amazed me the way Kabiyesi handled them with wisdom. He was indeed a peacemaker. Another one was Iwo Festival where wont were not allowed to participate in any form. Even up till now is still like that. It was really interesting. You went to Manuwa Memorial Grammar School, Odo.

*Can you recall your days there?*

My days in Manuwa Memorial Grammar School were indeed beautiful. It was fun. I could remember vividly then ten the male students took over the whole school because of it brilliancy. After merging the whole arms of the class ether, the male students were always at the top while the female will be struggling to attain 20th or 21" position. After wing about two of three female students, the male would serge again. It was indeed a great competition among dents then. The prefects were disciplinarians. We even respected them more than the teachers. To be in Manuwa, you must a disciplined child, a brilliant child, a respectful child and above all, be tough. Manuwa is a no nonsense school. It used to be the first in Ikaleland during my time. It was highly competitive in Manuwa in those days.

**How did Manuwa prepare you for life?**

By the special grace of God, Manuwa was indeed is a stepping-stone for where I am today. Do you think Ikale girls are really getting more educated? You know in the past, Ikale parent didn't really train their female children. Yes. They are getting educated now. I am sure that our parents then have realized their mistakes. I am really impressed the way our daughters are doing out there in their various professions. How can drama and film be used to promote Ikale culture Actually, I am



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working on it. We are developing the story now. We are going round to ask questions from elders to get facts about the culture of Ikaleland, because it is a sensitive issue. You can't just jump into it like that. I believe anything that is worth doing is worth doing well. To avoid making mistakes, we must try as much as we can to cross the 'Ts' properly. We need facts. That is why we are going in depth. It will take time, but we are coming up very soon. Have you met other stars from our area like Funso Adeolu, Yemi My Lover and Benson Akindeju the producer of Family Ties, the popular Soap Opera? Probably you need to come together and do something in Ondo State and I believe the Governor will support you. What do you think? Benson Akindeju and I workl

together almost all the time. We talk from time to time concerning issues like this Also, Yemi My Lover is a brother. He is always around me. When I did my own movie titled "Tinu Mi Ni Mo Mo" he was there throughout and Funso Adeolu who

is a brother as well, we see ourselves often. We were together in a movie titled "Owo Asela". Actually, I never knew he is an Ikale man until recently. With this kind of cordiality, Ikale should expect a hit movie from us that will promote and project Ikale directly or indirectly. Who is your role model generally? Do you have any Ikale role model? A lot of people have motivated me. I have some people I hold in high esteem. People like Tade Ogidan. He is a professional in this field; a hardcore professional. Do you speak Ikale dialect? Greet Ikale News readers in Ikale dialect if you can speak. An le o aghan omo !kale dede, Id on ti gha ke? Se alaafia angha ni o? Se en je Obe' ta ad pupuru? An ku ise ne. Aseyori dede wa a se ni o N'agbara oloun. Do you plan to join politics sooner or later? If it's God's plan for me to join politics, fine, I will join. Some people have actually called me to come home and join, that they are ready to give me all the support that is required in politics. It is not compulsory for me to join politics. If you want to be a politician, you have to be ready to comprise some things.

Maybe it is not time yet. It's all in the hands of God. Any final words? How do you see Ikale News? I came across Ikale News just about few months ago. I have not been following it because I did not know such thing exists in Ikaleland. Can you believe it? But it's great. I am impressed to see another Manuwa student doing such a wonderful work. I promise from now, I will be a reader of Ikale News. The other time I was in Akure, I bought all the past issues I could lay my hands on. My final word to people out there is that it's not everybody that is into acting that is promiscuous. People feel acting makes one to be flirt. It is what I enjoy doing. I have passion for acting. It is erroneous belief to think that way. Another thing is that, we Ikale people should come together and help ourselves. People should be happy to be identified with Ikale. We should be proud of where we come from. Ikales are good people. Let us come together to help others with our positions, money and other things. Some people hide their identity That is not good at all.



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