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# OODUA News

Championing the cause and unity of the Yoruba race

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## FG ready for dialogue with Boko Haram sect if...

- Gives condition for reintegration
- Vows total war against insurgents



From right Chief Richard Akinjide, SAN, Erelu Olusola Obada and Uwensuyi Edosomwan Charles — all Confab members discussing after a sitting during the week.

**PRESIDENT** Goodluck Jonathan has reiterated his administration's determination to use all available options in handling the threat of terrorism in the country, including dialogue, de-radicalization, rehabilitation and reintegration of members of the dreaded Boko Haram that renounce terrorism and embrace peace.

insurgents, and to ensure their de-radicalization, rehabilitation and reintegration into the broader society," he said.

The president shared his thought with parents and guardians of the abducted Chibok girls, assuring them that the security operatives are working round the clock to ensure the safe release of the girls and reunite them with their families.

This was made known by the president during his Democracy Day broadcast to commemorate 15th year of uninterrupted democratic governance in Nigeria.

President Jonathan also enumerated some of his achievements in office, which include high national economic growth rates, steady improvements and expansion of national infrastructure including airports and roads, the restoration of rail transportation, the efficient implementation of a roadmap for improved power supply, a revolutionary approach to agricultural production, as well as advances in education, sports, youth development, healthcare delivery, housing, water supply and other social services.

"For our citizens who have joined hands with Al Qaeda and international terrorists in the misguided belief that violence can possibly solve their problems, our doors remain open to them for dialogue and reconciliation, if they renounce terrorism and embrace peace.

My government, while pursuing security measures, will explore all options, including readiness to accept unconditional renunciation of violence by

The president paid tributes to patriots who made the sacrifice for the restoration of democracy in the country, noting that he ordered a low-key celebration in deference to the current mood of the nation while enjoying the citizens to protect the gains of the Fourth Republic.

## 2015: PDP 'll flush out Ajimobi — Alleluyah

**THE** Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) is poised to flush out the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) administration in Oyo State, the Senator representing Oyo North Senatorial District, Sen Hosen Ayoola Agboola (aka Alleluyah) has said.

Speaking through his Chief Media Officer, Mallam Adebayo Muritala, the Deputy Chief Whip of the Upper Legislative Chambers said Senator Ajimobi had been running a government

without a human face thus compounding the suffering of the people.

The senator faulted the governor's urban renewal policy whereby many houses and shops were demolished to give way for road dualisation but compensation was never paid to those who were displaced.

"Nobody is faulting urbanisation project if compensations are paid. People were not driven out of old Gbagi market until the new Gbagi market was ready and in the same vain people were not sent out of Dugbe until Alesinloye market was ready. These were good precedent for the government to take a cue from.

Senator Agboola accused the governor of running propaganda that education remains

his topmost priority but in reality nothing tangible was being done to promote qualitative education in the state.

He recalled how former Governor Rashidi Ladoja's 30 pupils per class education project which was strictly upheld by the immediate past governor, Otunba Adebayo Alao-Akala was thwarted by the Sen. Ajimobi administration.

The Senator noted that during his 1,000 days in office interactive session with newsmen, the governor promised to finish and commission all road projects by April noting "this is May ending, Iseyin, Oyo, Ogbomoso and parts of Ibadan are yet to be completed."

"The masses of Oyo State are tired of the apparent misrule of the incumbent administration which has refused to put smiles on their faces and are ready to vote it out," he declared.



President Goodluck Jonathan



Governor Abiola Ajimobi

Meanwhile President Goodluck Jonathan on Thursday vowed total war against terrorism as the country's security forces stepped up efforts to rescue more than 200 schoolgirls kidnapped by Boko Haram Islamists 46 days ago. (Continued on page 5)

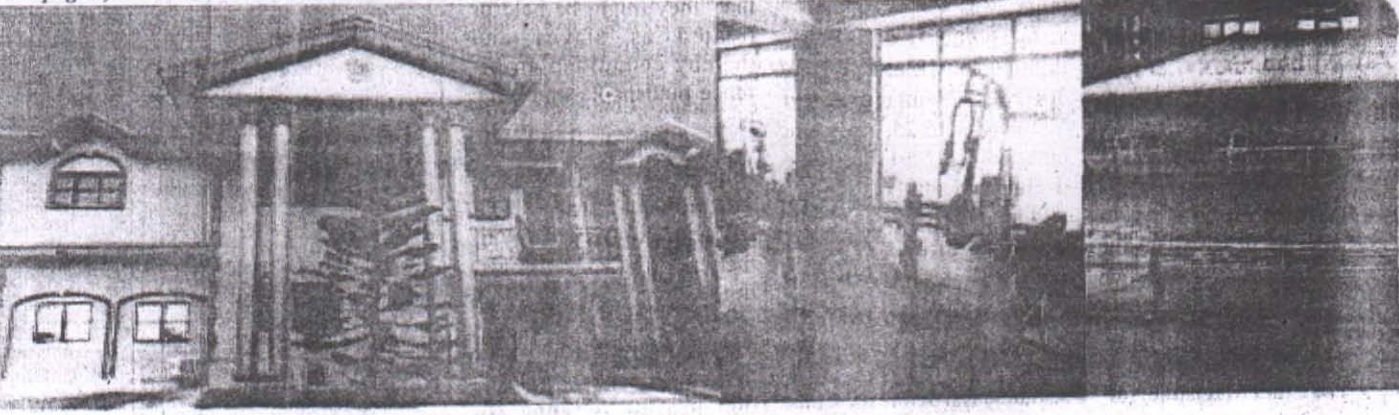
Confab can't solve our problems — Pg 11

Guber aspirants, others call for peace in Oyo — Pg 3

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# News

## 2020: Oke-Ogun 'll produce next governor

**THE** Minority Leader, Oyo State House of Assembly, Hon. Adekunle Tunji Rafiu has said that it is the turn of Oke-Ogun to produce governor for the state.

He stated this in an interview with newsmen in his office, in Ibadan last Monday.

According to him, Oke-Ogun region is long overdue to produce governor for Oyo State but has always been marginalised.

"It is the turn of Oke-Ogun to be governor in the state. If by error we miss it in this 2015, I know by 2020 we will produce governor for the state," he declared.

Speaking on the recent tenure renewal of local government caretaker chairmen by the state governor, Hon. Rafiu said the House only approved three months in office for the council chairmen saying, if election did not hold, the ones who have spent three years in office would be replaced.

Commenting on the delay in conducting council polls in the state, the lawmaker representing Saki West State Constituency, said it was caused by the OYSIEC case.

He said for OYSIEC to perform creditably, it has to be independent both financially and in other areas.

"If we want a free and fair election in the state, OYSIEC should not be under the state government.

Hon. Rafiu said he had been an apostle of au-

### —Lawmaker

tonomy for the House of Assembly, adding that lack of autonomy for state Houses of Assembly has always affected their oversight function.

He said he would continue to clamour for autonomy for both House of Assembly and local government.

Speaking on the chances of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in the 2015 elections in the state, the legislator boasted that the party would return to power in the state.

He said the party had done it well before, just as he assured that the PDP will do it again.

On the Chibok girls' abduction issue, Hon. Rafiu said the federal government still need to take drastic measure to rescue the girls.



Hon. Adekunle Rafiu

## Ifa worshippers organize prayer for abducted girls

**THE** International Council of Ifa Religion recently organized prayer for the divine intervention for the release of the over 200 abducted Chibok girls from Borno State.

Speaking in Ibadan at the event held at the NUJ Press Centre last Thursday president of the council, Professor Idowu Odeyemi said it was time the religion was given its attention as it was capable of helping to rescue the abducted girls.

Professor Odeyemi who stated that Ifa religion had contributed to the social economic development of Nigeria, added that the one day prayer organised was for the peace of the country and the release of the abducted girls.

"Nigerians should em-

brace Ifa religion in solving the myriad of problem in the country since the Islamic and Christian religions have not been able to do this," he submitted.

"All we have to do is move closer to the religion by government at all levels giving due recognition for Ifa as it is capable of helping to solve the problems," Professor Odeyemi added.

He noted that the Ifa religion should be patronized so that Nigerians can see what the religion was capable of doing.

Speaking in the same vein, Chief Adesina Olatunji stated that there was need for proper coordination and support by every Nigerians so that the abducted girls can be released hence the special prayer done by the body



(From right) Engr. Bola Olowe, President, Grace Leadership Foundation, Prof. Oluyemisi Bamgbose, (Guest Lecturer), Prof. Yemi Badejoko, Chairman Board of Trustees of the Foundation, Architect Olajunji Bolu Chairman of the occasion, Prof. Folu Okunmadewa Vice President BOT of the Foundation and Prof. Emilolorun Aiyelari during the 2nd Grace Foundation Day lecture held recently at the Trenchard Hall of the University of Ibadan.

## Chibok girls' abduction, major setback to national development —Don

By Bode Akinbode

**D**EAN, Faculty of Law, University of Ibadan, Professor Oluyemisi Bamgbose, has said that the recent abduction of over 200 school girls in Chibok, Borno State by the Boko Haram fundamentalists could constitute a major setback to development in the country.

Professor Bamgbose stated this while deliver-

ing the 2nd Grace Foundation Day Lecture entitled: "Child Trafficking Creating A Hopeless Future for the Future Leaders", organised by Grace Leadership Foundation at Trenchard Hall, University of Ibadan recently.

She pointed out that the abduction of the girls had introduced a new dimension to child trafficking in the country, adding that the development if not checked, might have grievous implica-

tions on the country's socio-economic life.

The don, who noted that about 10,000 persons are trafficked yearly in Nigeria, said this has earned the country the status of "source, transit and destination" point for trafficked women and children adding that Edo State ranked top among states where the illicit trade abound.

She however called for concerted efforts by relevant government agencies, Non-Governmental Organisations, religious bodies and parents in addressing the ugly trend so as to give the children a brighter hope for the future just as she appealed to the abductors of the school girls for their unconditional release.

In his remarks at the occasion, the General Overseer, Word Communication Ministry, (WOCOM), Apostle Sunday Popoola, pointed out that despite being

blessed with abundant human and material resources, Nigeria remains in the pathetic situation she is presently as a result of leadership problems.

He prayed that the recent abduction of the school girls will be the "Toker Card" that will bring about the total destruction of the Boko Haram sect.

Chairman, Board of Trustees of the Foundation, Professor Yemi Badejoko enjoined Nigerians to join and support the foundation's quest to raise leaders who will bring about a rebirth and restoration of the country.

Earlier in his welcome address, President, Grace Leadership Foundation, Engr. Bola Olowe explained that the lecture was organised to address and proffer solutions to leadership problem in Nigeria and the world over.

## Northern leaders charged on Boko Haram menace

By Godwin Ngwu

**T**HE Eze Ndigbo nala Ibadan and Oyo State, Eze Dr. Alex Anozie has called on Northern leaders to

work towards the end of the menace of Boko Haram which has caused insecurity in the North Eastern states of Nigeria.

In a release signed by Eze Alex Anozie and made available to Oodua News, the Eze Ndigbo stated that something within told him that the Northern leaders especially the Governors could put an end to the menace of the Insurgents if they wanted to.

He also advocated that corruption should be tackled in the country as this was one of the causes of discontent of the sect even as he noted that injustice should be fought to a standstill in order to quell insurgency in the country.

Dr. Alex Anozie who observed that our leaders should realise that equity and justice should be upheld, said that joblessness should also be fought in order for peace

and tranquility in the country to reign.

He opined that when there was justice and equity there would be peace adding that the youths should be catered for through the provision of jobs for them to check delinquency.

## Purpose of Munerat Foundation explained

**T**HE Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Munerat Foundation, Chief Raheem Taofeek has said that the foundation was established to impact positively onto humanity.

Speaking on Monday, Chief Taofeek said that the foundation which was named after his late mother, was established to help humanity

Chief Taofeek also explained that his foundation had touched many Nigerian in so many

spheres of life from education to sports.

He said he started the foundation 17 years ago



Chief Raheem Taofeek

upon his mother and since then had succeeded in affecting humanity in many different ways.

Specifically, he stated that Munerat Foundation had given out education materials and equipment in primary and secondary schools and tertiary institutions.

Chief Taofeek added that he had also sponsored series of inter-house sports competition besides donating computers equipment to many schools.