

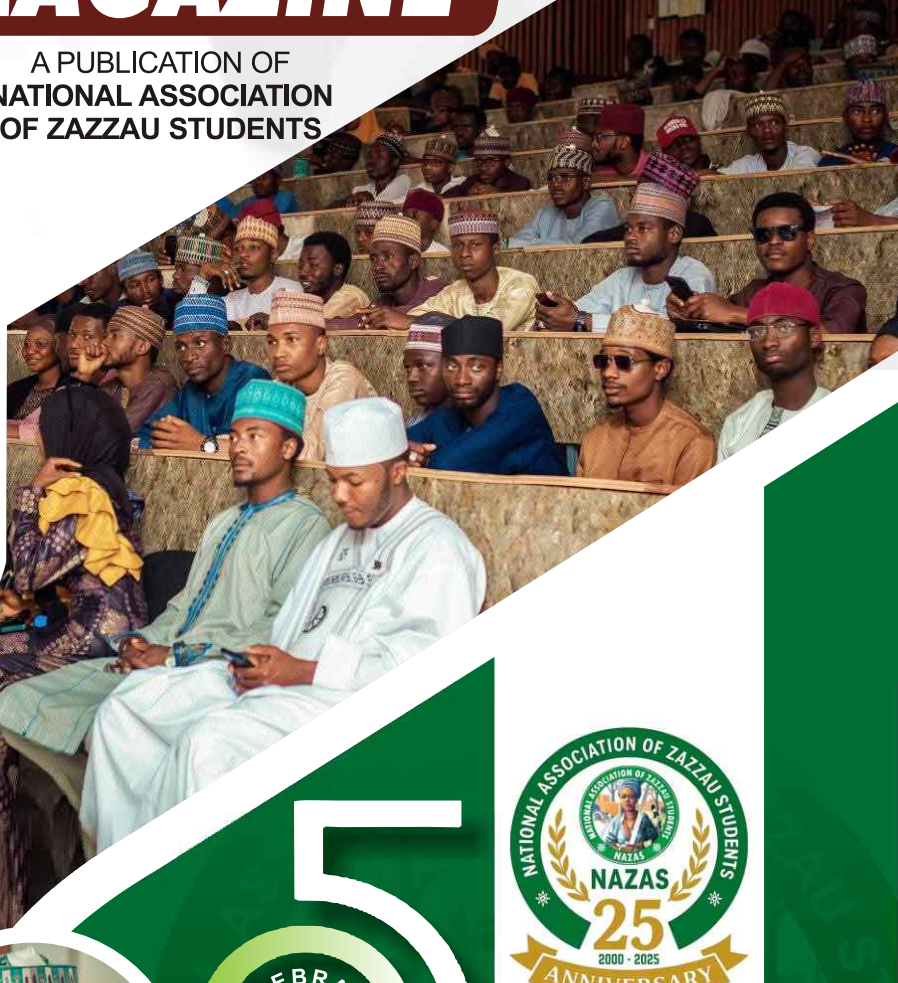


BAZAZZAGIYA

MAGAZINE

A PUBLICATION OF
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF ZAZZAU STUDENTS

NAZAS



But one thing that is consistent in leadership trend is your ability to be consistent, to be honest and to be upright.
- Hon. Ahmed Maiyaki



CELEBRATING



25 YEARS

ANNIVERSARY
2000 - 2025

INSIDE:

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POEMS

PHOTO SPEAKS

PARLIAMENT AND EXCOS





Senator Uba Sani

GOVERNOR
KADUNA STATE



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS
Amb. Ahmed Nuhu Bamalli CFR.
EMIR OF ZAZZAU

REMARK FROM THE **President**

As we mark the 25th Anniversary of the National Association of Zazzau Students (NAZAS), I am filled with deep gratitude—first to Allah, then to the generations of leaders, alumni, partners, and students who have carried this Association from a small idea into a strong, enduring community.

Twenty-five years is not just a measure of time; it is a measure of sacrifice, vision, and unwavering belief in the potential of Zazzau students. Those who came before us built a foundation rooted in unity, identity, and service. Today, we honor them by continuing the work with renewed commitment.

This anniversary is more than a celebration—it is a reminder of who we are and what we stand for. It challenges us to preserve our heritage while embracing the responsibilities of the future. It invites us to reflect, to grow, and to recommit ourselves to the values that define NAZAS.

Throughout the past months, I have witnessed the resilience and brilliance of our students across institutions, the passion of our alumni, and the generosity of our stakeholders. Together, we have revived structures, strengthened relationships, and reignited the spirit of service that NAZAS represents.

Our programs for this anniversary—from the Amb Ahmed Nuhu Bamalli CFR Unity Football Tournament, to the Lecture, to the Outreach and Dinner—are intentionally designed to highlight where we started, where we are, and where we are going. The launch of this special edition of the Bazazzagiya Magazine is one of the proudest aspects of our celebration. It preserves the voices, stories, history, and dreams of our people.

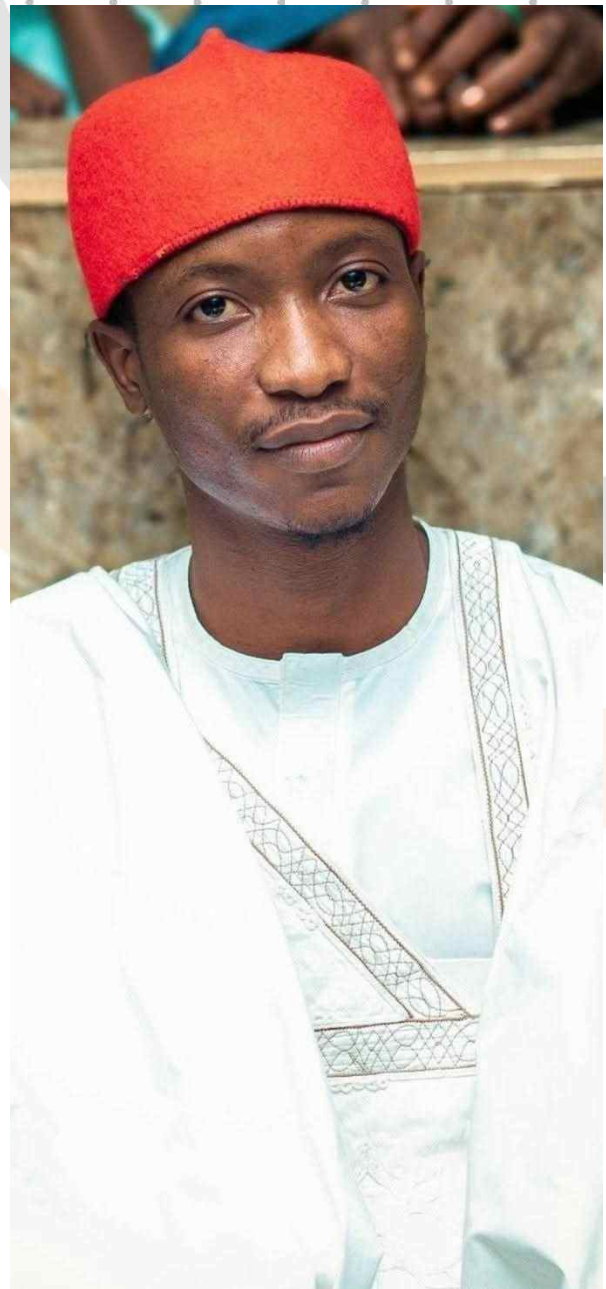
As we look ahead, the future of NAZAS depends on one thing: each of us playing our part. We must keep building, keep contributing, and keep inspiring those coming behind us. Leadership is a journey, and every generation must leave the Association better than it met it.

To all who have supported us—our Emir and Grand Patron, our alumni, institutions, public officials, and every student who believes in NAZAS—I say thank you. May Allah reward you generously.

To the next generation of leaders, I leave you with one message: Preserve the past. Serve the present. Build the future.

NAZAS at 25 is not the end of a story; it is the beginning of a new chapter.

Honoring the Past, Empowering the Future.



ABUBAKAR
ABDULKADIR

PRESIDENT, NAZAS

REMARK FROM THE

Editorial Desk

Welcome to this special edition of Bazazzagiya Magazine, a publication born from the heart of Zazzau, shaped by the voices of its students, and guided by the values that make our community unique. In these pages, we celebrate knowledge, creativity, leadership, and the never-ending pursuit of growth.

Bazazzagiya is more than a magazine it's a mirror of who we are and a window into who we aspire to become. As students living in a world that moves faster than ever, we stand between the weight of our history and the promise of a digital, innovative future. This edition reflects that balance, capturing stories of resilience, brilliance, and transformation across Zazzau and beyond.

Within this publication, you will find thought-provoking articles, inspiring interviews with leaders shaping our society, and contributions from young minds eager to make their mark. Every page carries the effort of the writers, designers, photographers, and the entire editorial team who worked tirelessly to bring Bazazzagiya to life.

Our aim is simple: to educate, to inspire, and to strengthen the bond that unites us as students and as sons and daughters of Zazzau. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to our partners, schools, businesses, and supporters who continue to believe in the potential of our association.

As you journey through this edition, may you discover ideas that challenge you, stories that motivate you, and voices that remind you that the future of Zazzau and indeed Nigeria is in capable hands.



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MUSTAPHA SANI

Chairman, Editorial Board

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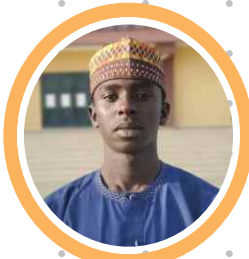
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Senate President
Kubau Local Government



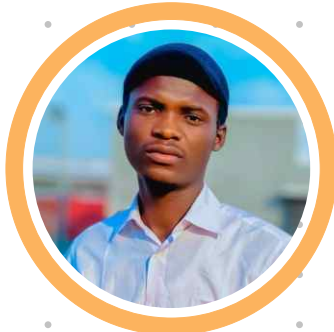
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Makarfi Local Government
(Leader of the Senate)



Sen. Umar Nasir Gawuna
Kaduna South LG
(Deputy Senate President)



Ashiru Hussaini Hayin Ojo
Sabon Gari Local Government
(Clerk of the Senate)



Abdulmajid Idris
Igabi Local Government



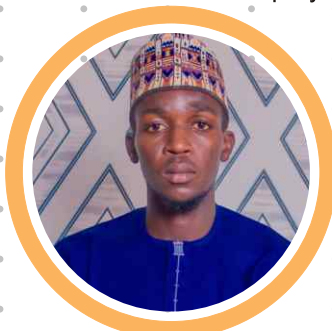
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Zaria Local Government



Musa Lawal Kudan
Kudan Local Government
Deputy Senate Leader



Nazifi Abdullahi Ahmad
Ikara Local Government
Chief Whip



Auwal Abdullahi
Senator represent kaduna North
Mace Bearer

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1. Ahmed Maiyaki ABU SAMARU
2. Salisu Kakeyi ABU SAMARU
3. Engr Musa Muhaamed Tukur PhD BUK
4. Iliyasu Balarabe BUK
5. Engr Lawal Y Lawal ATBU
6. Jubril Idris BUK
7. Bello Wakili BUK
8. Muktar Lawal (Late) ABU SAMARU
9. Bashir S Kudan (Dan Iyan Kudan) ABU KONGO
10. Hon Mahmud Lawal Esq ABU KONGO
11. Ahmed Yahaya Lere (Madaucin Lere) ABU SAMARU
12. Bar Mustapha Haruna ABU KONGO
13. Bar Mustapha Nuhu Bamalli ABU KONGO
14. Bar Ahmed Rabiu ABU KONGO
15. Mahmud Aboki ABU SAMARU
16. Munawwar Ibrahim Kudan FUT MINNA
17. Qs Aliyu Bambale FUT MINNA
18. Dr Aminu Kwasau (Late) UDUSOK
19. Abubakar S Galadima (Magajin Garin H/banki) BUK
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27. Mal. Muhammad Aliyu UDUS
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31. Mal. Yusuf Lawal ATBU

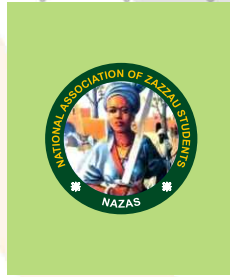
PAST PRESIDENTS



Hon. Ahmed Maiyaki
2000-2001



Late Mukhtar Lawal
2001-2002



Bashir S. Kudan
2003-2004



Ahmad Yahaya Lere
2005-2006



Mal Umar Yahaya
2006-2007



Aliyu Shehu Zaki
2007-2008



Hamza Ja'afar Ishaq
2008-2009



Usman Ahmed Danbaba
2009-2010



Musa M. Lawal
2010-2011



Abdulraheem Mahmud Dogara
2011



Bashir Abdullahi
2011-2012



Bashir Abdullahi
2012-2013



Abubakar Aminu
2013-2014



Fahad Aliyu Gongola
2014-2015



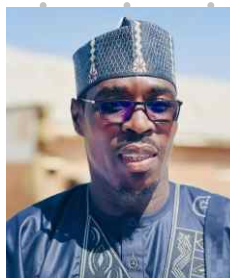
Ahmad Ladan
2015-2016



Mukhtar Hussaini Sambo
2016-2017



Nurudeen Sunusi Shehu
2017-2018



Sa'eed Shehu Bako
2018-2019



Umar Suleiman Doko
2019-2021



Ahmad Abubakar Tijjani
2021 - 2022



Ahmed Ibrahim Mohammed
2022-2023



Mubarak Suleiman Ikara
2023-2024



Abubakar Abdulkadir
2024- Date

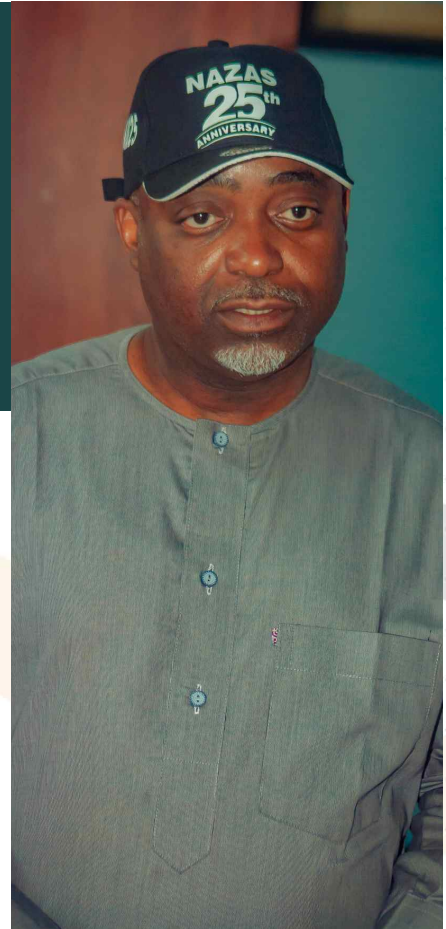


ONE ON ONE

Interview

WITH THE

HON. COMMISSIONER OF INFORMATION, KADUNA STATE
HON. AHMED MAIYAKI



Bazazzagiya :

we would like to know who is honorable Ahmed Maiyaki and would like to like you to give us a brief background about yourself and how your early experience shaped your interest into student and community leadership.

Hon. Ahmed Maiyaki : Okay. Good afternoon, gentlemen. My name is Ahmed Maiyaki. I am the honorable Commissioner in the Ministry of Information, Kaduna State. I was born in Zaria in 1979. I started my early educational career in Kaduna. I did my primary and secondary school in Kaduna and then I went back to Zaria to do my first degree in Mass Communication in the year 1999. I graduated in 2004. Started my media career almost immediately. I started with the Market magazine. Later I worked with Radio France International as the pioneer staff who started Radio France in Picawa and Suburban. From then I also went into media and communication consultancies. I've consulted for a number of UN systems like the WHO, World Health Organization, like unicef, like fit, as well as other government agencies like

NEMA and the Bureau for Public Procurement. I got into government as a spokesperson and Director General Media and publicity in 2013 and I worked till 2015. Afterwards I went back to the universities. I did my Masters in Mass Communication in the same amount university and got back to government as an advisor to the Governor at the time on community Relations. I served till 2022 and then I also got back to government in 2024 as the managing director of Kaduna State Media Corporation.

I served till the July of this year when I was appointed as the Hon. Commissioner for Information, Kaduna State, having been scrapped by the previous administration. So we are back in the ministry working with his Excellency the Governor as a member of the State Executive Council.

Bazazzagiya :

Okay, We'd like you to take us back to the very beginning. What's really inspired the formation of the national association of Zazzau Students NAZAS. And what were the problem that you people were trying to solve back then that leads to the formation of

NAZAS?

Hon. Ahmed Maiyaki :

Okay, now, before the formation of NAZAS, there was Zazzau Forum because it started with the, the chapter in Samaru campus. In Samaru we started the Zazzau Forum. And then in Congo, some of our friends also started Zaria Student Association. At a later time we harmonized the group into one forum with me as the first founding president for summer having established the forum in ABU. And then we decided to also establish it across other other institutions. We Encourage our friends in Bayero University, Kano, in Tafawa Balewe University, in Bauchi, in uUDUS, You know, that led to the spread of the forum across campuses. And having done this



in the year 2000 exactly, you know, we felt okay, we have done much at the time in the year 2000, I was only in 200 level because I got to ABU in 1999 and we got some huge gap that existed at the time. Students from the northern part of the state, or I would say the Zazzau geopolitical zones are not really active in the Kaduna State Students Union at the time. We have what we call KADSSU, which I believe still exists, is a group or an association or union of Kaduna State students from across the 23 local governments. But then many times you find people from the northern part of the state not involved in KADSSU activities. So there was that non challenged involvement or participation in the activities of KADSSU. Apart from KADSSU, at the national level, we have what we call NAKASS, which is the national body of KADSSU. Participation to them was very weak. And so we decided to come together. Beyond just encouraging people to participate in the activities of KADSSU, we realized also there was also the need to support the educational development in the Emirate. At the time there was a challenge of students being able to pass their O levels exams. at the time there was no NECO, there's only WAEC. So a lot of of young students from the Zazzau part of the Kaduna State are not able to participate and get their minimum of 5 credits for entry into university. So at the time, we partner with ZEDA to encourage evening classes and extra moral classes. we got a number of us who were students but are also

very, brilliant to be teaching in these extra moral classes at no cost. Just to be able to also encourage the young ones to do exams and get entry into university. And then of course the other reasons stems to ensuring that we unite ourselves. At the time the motto was **mutual integration for development**. We needed to integrate mutually among ourselves to bring in people that will support each other academically and also even financially. His Royal Highness, the late Emir supported us tremendously. Personally, I've been to his place a couple of times and we got the support from him. He supported us. And when we took the idea that we want to establish in all the campuses across the federation and establish the national body, he gave us all the support. The Matawallen Zazzau, who was the Director general of NTI National Teachers Institute, now is the chairman of the local government service board also gave us his support because at the time he was working as a staff in ABU in Student Affairs Department. And he gave us the support. ***The Late Walin Zazzau, late Lawal Sambo then was also alive. We got every support from them. And for the first time, I'm sure some of you are seeing the traditional Durbar that takes place in ABU. We brought the Durbar to the students. We started the Durbar in Zaria. We brought more than hundreds of horses. I think the Late Walin Zazzau gave us 50 horses at the time. And the Emir gave us also almost the same number. We got close to 300

horses on campus. We rode on them and there was the Durbar. I think I can share some of the pictures because I still have them. It was when we brought it back and it became an activity. Then every student in ABU started to emulate. Now I'm seeing it everywhere, even KASU, they are doing the Durbar. But it was the Zazzau Students Forum that brought about the Durbar. And for us, we wanted to promote our cultural heritage. We rode on the horses, we had dinner, we had lectures. At the time, the Minister of Petroleum, who also was from Zaria, Omar Dambo, was the Minister of State. Petroleum, you know, participated and a number of people. The current governor Malam Uba sani then was a comrade. He also participated. So it was a long thing that we brought people together and everybody was happy. Because at the time, I am sure we have reduced that significantly. There has been a challenge of bringing unity among Zagezage. You know, there was this myth that people say we (zazzagawa) are working against each other. But then in that forum, through Nazas and Zazzau forum, we saw the possibility of bringing ourselves to God together. We saw the possibility of coming together to do quite a number of things. And interestingly, those of us who did this together, I would say 25 years down the line, Alhamdulillah, you know, God has continued to strengthen us, has continued to, to lead us as long as what we're doing was for the objective that I have stated. You know, many of us, you know, I've had



opportunities to either work in the state level and across all boards. The current Deputy governor of the Central bank was part of the struggle. And today he's the Deputy governor of Central Bank. We had members in the National Assembly. We have now currently members in the State Assembly. Abubakar Buba, who is a commissioner of environment. We're all together and we still find ourselves relating together. He just came for us to discuss, you know, something of great interest to the state. And you know, the way you are working right now, if you do it with all sincerity, I want to assure you it will take you to places. We did it at the time and today we are still relating, we're still part of government. We're the ones, you know, who are playing very critical roles in government today. So it all depends on how you want to do it.

Bazazzagiya :

Okay, thank you very much, sir, who were the key people in the early discussion and formation of, nazas and what role did they play in making the idea a reality?

Hon. Ahmed Maiyaki :

Well, a number of people played very critical role in the formation of Nazas. One of which is the Commissioner of Environment. We have Mukhtar Lawal. Mukhtar Lawal is late. He's a pharmacist. He was a pharmacist and he is the. The younger brother to the current governor Malam Uba sani. He was also very prominent because when I left as the president of Samaru chapter,

he became the president of the chapter in. In Samaru. We have Salis who works with the speaker as his senior legislative aid at the moment. We have Umar yahaya who also played very key role. We have Samaila Sulaiman who I said to you is a senior counselor to the Governor. We have Mahmoud Lawal who is a brother to Mukhtar Lawal who is a member of the State assembly and Chairman House Committee on Education. He also played very critical role. We have quite a number of people that participated in the formation of the national body from across the institutions. All the names I have mentioned. There is also Iliyasu Balarabe who is currently the Deputy Chief of staff to the speaker in the National Assembly. At the time he was in Bayero University, Kano. Samaila Sulaiman was in Atbu Bauchi and a number of them from across the institutions. There is Yusuf Saleh who currently is a permanent Secretary in the Civil Service Commission in Kaduna State. And, quite a number of them occupying various offices. Some are still in the university. There's Daihru Umar who currently is an associate professor. Matawallen Zazzau who is a professor now at the time though not a student as a lecturer. He had served as the Director General of NTI and now he's the chairman of local government Service board. He also played a very key role. And of course the late Emir, His Royal Highness Dr. Shehu idris also may his soul rest in peace also played very key role in

supporting us in providing guidance in providing all the support that we needed in forming the national body. And fortunately enough, I was also the first president of Nazas, having established the forum in Samaru and later the national body that have representation across institutions in the country.

Bazazzagiya :

Okay, can you tell us why you were chosen or nominated to become the pioneer president

Hon. Ahmed Maiyaki :

Well, it was not nominations, it was elections. Because for the forum, we're in the constitution drafting committee. When the formation was predicated at the time, people who started the formation of the forum, you know, at caretaker level, some of them, like Jibril maigwari, the son of his Royal Highness the Emir of Birnin gwari, there's engineer Ibrahim Balarabe. Now he is one of the leading consultants in AcreSal, a World bank project. They were our seniors, started the project with some of us at the time. Like I said, I was in 200 level. So we started with the constitutional review and then part of the recommendation was to do election. The caretakers, operated in, I think a period of about three months. And then it was a decision to say, okay, let's do an election instead of just saying we are nominating people. So I was validly elected. We had a debate night. There was a debate night. We brought out the things we wanted to do for the forum.



Malam Ahmed yahaya, who currently is in no mobile as a lecturer, contested against me and I defeated him and became the president for the Samaru chapter. And then of course, that led me into leading the stewardship continuously. And then when we also established a national body, even though I was also coordinating at the time, election also happened and I became the president. Because at the time, the zeal was to bring our people together. The zeal is to leave a legacy. And honestly, I'm profoundly happy that today, after 25 years, I still have people who are leading the same association. Maybe if we had done that with personal motives of enriching ourselves, the forum will have ended at the time. But because we had genuine intention to unite our people and ensure that we come together for the benefit of everyone. No personal benefit. That is why 25 years down the line, Nazas is still alive.

Bazazzagiya :

How did your experience as Nazas pioneer president influence your later journey in governance and prepare you to for your role as a public servant?

Hon. Ahmed Maiyaki :

for me, right from time, even before going to Abu, I have always wanted to be a journalist. And I became a journalist right from school. I wanted to be a leader. And God led me to becoming a leader.

So the qualities or the attributes of a leader is clear right from time. But one thing is consistent

in leadership trend is your ability to be consistent, to be honest and to be upright. Nobody is a saint, but then you should be able to demonstrate some abilities to show those good qualities of a leader. And my participation in Zazzau Forum led me into participating in KADSSU, led me into participation in NAKASS, I've participated in quite a number of activities, I had contested as SUG president in ABU, and that continuously, you know, encouraged me to participate in the act of partisan politics. And today I am what I am because God has made it happen. Not because I am more powerful or more experienced than other people. But what I will insist is that you should remain principled and consistent and honest. The moment you are God will lead you into becoming whatever, whatever you see people become in life. It's possible that you can become substitute. It is not a rocket science. It is, you know, something that is inherent. It's something that once you're able to do it and demonstrate that ability. I just gave you the story of what someone did in a past. And what happened to him? He took this refrigerator some 20 years ago and this is what happened to him. And if I'll be on any table that will decide or nominate people into leadership positions, I will not support him. Because I know sometimes we don't get things and will not ask ourselves why do we think we are not getting this? It's because there's somebody in one cycle who knows something that you have

done as little as coming to this office and someone gives you a bottle of water. And I decide, okay, I'm giving you six bottles of water, because you are six. And then one of you will hide one in the pocket. You get out and say you have only four bottles or five bottles for him. He would think he is smart. But among yourselves, you know that he was not honest, that what you had was more than four bottles. So for any reason, if there is an opportunity for him to become anything, those of you who he cheated or she cheated, let me not be specific about whether he's a man or a lady. You know, whoever plays what he thinks he is smart. Those of you who are, who have that experience will not nominate him or support any process that gives him the opportunity to lead people. Because, you know, if she gets that opportunity or he gets the opportunity, he will abuse the opportunity. So that is the way it works. I remember in one of the times there was an effort by NANS to do a mobilization in Kaduna because Kaduna Polytechnic had increased school fees. At the time, the school fees they were paying was 1300 and it was increased to about 5000. So Nan said they were coming to do demonstration. That was in 2001 or 2002. At the time, I was the Caretaker chairman of NAKASS. So we had a responsibility to ensure that the demonstration didn't happen. Because at the time, we just came out of one of the conflicts in Kaduna, one of the crisis, ethno religious crisis. And we're very careful we don't have another demonstration



hijacked by criminals leading to another conflict. At the time, the governor of Kaduna was Makarfi, Senator Makarfi. He called me to his office to say, okay, he wants me to go and meet NANS leadership. This is money I should go and take to them so that they don't come. I said, excellency, yes, I can take this money, give it to them, but that will not end the issue because people will still agitate. So, okay, what do you want? So, Excellency, I want you let me call the NANS leadership. If it is the money, give it to them yourself. But I want you to call them, let's have a conversation. They are demonstrating because there was an increase in fees. So let's call. Though Polytechnic is not owned by Kaduna State. It's owned by the federal government, but you can mediate. Let's call the rector of Kaduna Polytechnic, call NANS and of course that will solve the problem. He said okay. He sent for at the time one Dr. Isah was the rector. I remember very well. You know, he was invited. We invited the leadership of NANS and myself. We sat down because the reason why NANS wanted to do demonstration was because of the increase in school fees. And in that meeting, Makarfi reached out to the President, President Obasanjo and the Minister of Education. And the hike in fees was reviewed. So that solved the problem with, with NANS because they wanted to demonstrate because of the fees. Okay, we have reduced the fees. So there was no reason to do any demonstration. So it was a win

win. The student got what they wanted. The leadership of SUG from Kaduna Polytechnic and NANS had what they wanted. What they wanted was a review in fees. So it actually solved the problem.

Bazazzagiya :

Okay, the last question, sir. What message do you have for the current NAZAS administration and maybe the incoming administration, since this administration is coming to an end, reflecting at your vision that you have back then, 25 years ago?

Hon. Ahmed Maiyaki :

Well, for me, I want to first thank the current leadership because what you are doing is very instrumental. What you're doing is very historic. What you're doing is inconsistent with our vision at the time as leaders or founders of Nazas for us, for me personally, I feel very happy that Nazas is still alive and we are still doing what we are doing. What I would advise you as the current leadership, is to maintain this effort. Yes, your tenure is coming to an end, but that's not the end of life. Whatever you do today brings you another opportunity to become something else. So in choosing the next leaders of NAZAS, don't do it because you want to show that you must plant who must be president. Because sometimes I was leading the Forum of Nazas at Samaru in Zaria there was no any deliberate effort by me to say I want to determine who becomes the president. Because for me, whatever you are doing, just be genuine about it. Maybe if we had

brought in our personal interest in who becomes the next president, that may have led to the disintegration of the association because we want to impose our personal needs into the forum. So I will encourage you to support a very good leadership that will keep what you are doing, that will sustain and even expand beyond what you have done. So there will be opportunities, you know, even in the ministry to work with NAZAS because we have the cultural and creative arts department under this ministry. And part of what we have to do is to preserve the cultural heritage of Zazzau as an emirate so we can see how we can work together with you or with the next leadership in strengthening the cultural part, because like I mentioned to you from the beginning, part of the reasons why we established Alhamdulillah, why we established Nazas, was to also promote the cultural heritage of the Zazzau Emirates. And I want to assure you only God knows tomorrow, but do your best today because the only opportunity you have to contribute and make your write your name in gold is today, wait for tomorrow. To take care of itself.

Bazazzagiya :

Thank you very much, sir.

Hon. Ahmed Maiyaki :

Okay.



FOOTPRINTS IN THE SAND OF ZAZZAU

My name is Sadi Yakubu Ishaq, and this is the story of how I almost gave up on education before life itself taught me that every struggle has a meaning. I come from a small village outside Zaria, a place where people dream big but opportunities are few. When I gained admission into the Federal College of Education, Zaria, it felt like the world had opened its doors for me. But I didn't know that walking through those doors would mean facing hunger, loneliness, and sleepless nights. Back home, my parents were proud but worried. My father, a carpenter, could barely afford the transport fare to Zaria. My mother sold groundnuts to help, but there were days she would call me crying, saying there was no money for food. Still, I carried my bag, my dreams, and my faith — and entered the ancient city of Zazzau with hope in my heart.

Chapter One: The Beginning of the Journey My first day at the college was full of excitement. I walked through the campus, reading the motto written on the wall: Knowledge for Service. It sounded simple, but I didn't yet understand its meaning. I met other new students, most of them from towns bigger than mine. Some came with new clothes, smartphones, and confidence. I came with an old bag, a few books, and the fear of failing. Life in the hostel wasn't easy. The room was crowded, and at night, mosquitoes sang their endless song. Sometimes, I slept hungry. Other times, I read under the dim light of my small torch, whispering prayers that my eyes wouldn't close before I finished a page.

Chapter Two: The Struggle

As weeks turned into months, reality hit hard. School fees were due, and I had no money. I tried everything — from washing clothes for people to helping in a small photocopy shop near the school gate. One day, I walked from Zaria city to the main FCE because I didn't have N100 for transport. By the time I arrived, my legs were shaking, but I smiled because I was still standing. Sometimes, I would sit under the tree near the

library and watch students laughing, eating, and chatting. I wanted that life too, but hunger and responsibility kept reminding me that my journey was different. Still, I told myself, "sadiq, your story will not end here." During one examination period, I fell sick. I hadn't eaten well for days, and my body gave up. I remember lying on my bed, staring at the ceiling fan that wasn't even turning because there was no light. My roommate, Umar, looked at me and said, "Bro, don't give up. Remember why you came here." That simple sentence stayed in my heart.

Chapter Three: Hope from Strangers

One morning, while helping at the photocopy shop, a lecturer named Mrs. Amina noticed my dedication. She asked why I wasn't in class at that hour. I told her the truth — that I worked to survive. She smiled sadly and said, "You remind me of myself years ago." From that day, she sometimes gave me notes and even paid part of my fees. Her kindness changed something in me. I started to believe again. I studied harder, spent more time in the library, and avoided friends who wasted time gossiping or complaining. My favorite place became the college mosque, where I found peace and strength after every prayer.

Chapter Four: The Turning Point

In my second year, something remarkable happened. I wrote an essay for a school competition titled "Education as a Ladder of Hope." I didn't expect much, but weeks later, my name was announced among the winners. I received a small prize — ₦20,000 — and a certificate. It wasn't the money that made me happy; it was the feeling that my struggle was finally being seen.

That night, I called my mother. She cried tears of joy, saying, "sadiq, I told your father that one day, your story will make us proud." Her words became fuel in my heart. From that moment, I promised myself that no matter what happened, I would finish what I started.



Chapter Five: Lessons and Light

By my final year, I had changed completely. The boy who once feared failure had become a man who understood struggle. I volunteered to tutor younger students for free, especially those from poor homes like mine. Many nights, I sat with them under a tree, explaining topics and sharing my story.

One of them once asked, “How do you keep going when everything is hard? I smiled and said, “Because giving up doesn’t make it easier. It only erases everything you’ve already endured.”

Chapter Six: The Graduation Day

The day I received my final result, I couldn’t hold my tears. I had passed — not just in my exams, but in life. I went home to my village with my certificate in hand, and the whole compound gathered to celebrate. My father raised the paper high and said, “This is not just Sadiq’s success. This is our family’s hope.”

As I looked around at the happy faces, I thought about every night I slept hungry, every walk under the hot sun, and every time I almost gave up. Each moment was now a footprint in the sand of Zazzau - proof that faith, hard work, and patience never fail.

Epilogue

Today, I work as a teacher, helping children believe that they can rise above poverty. Sometimes, I visit the college and sit under that same tree where I once prayed silently for help. Life didn’t become easy, but it became meaningful.

Whenever I see new students walking through the gate with hope in their eyes, I whisper a prayer for them. Because I know that somewhere in their struggle, they too will find their footprints - deep and shining - in the sand of Zazzau.

Moral Lesson:

Education is not just about books and certificates; it is about courage, faith, and the will to rise when life tries to pull you down. No matter where you come from, your story can inspire others if you never give up.

By Yakubu Sadi Ishaq

Echoes of Zazzau Pride

In celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the National Association of Zazzau Students (NAZAS)

From the cradle of wisdom, where Zazzau stands tall,
Rose a spirit of unity, the strength of us all.

Born from struggle, nurtured by dreams,
We shaped tomorrow with golden beams.

Through the echoes of time, our story unfolds,
Of brave young hearts and hands that hold.

With courage unbroken, we built our way,
Turning darkness to dawn, night into day.

Oh Zazzau! Your children still carry your flame,
In every soul burns your honored name.

Through learning, through service, through every quest,
We strive for greatness, we give our best.

Ku daliban Zazzau, kada ku gushe da kofari,

Rayuwa tana da kalubale amma nasara tana ga mai hakuri.

Kuyi imani da kanku, domin kowane gumi yana da lada, Kowane yunkuri yana da sakamako.

Kuyi alfahari da asalinku — ku ne hasken gobe.

And in this moment, our hearts rejoice, Twenty-five years — a united voice!

Guided by one whose vision inspires, Mr. President Abubakar Barkix, who lights our fires.

With grace he leads, with purpose he stands,
A true son of Zazzau, with gentle hands.

Through him, our bond grows strong and clear,
A future of hope draws ever near.

So here's to NAZAS — our pride, our song,
Twenty-five years, forever strong.

May the next generations rise and say,
“We walked where heroes paved the way.”

Written by Zayyan Saleh

For the 25th Anniversary Magazine of the National Association of Zazzau Students (NAZAS)



PHOTO SPEAKS



PHOTO SPEAKS

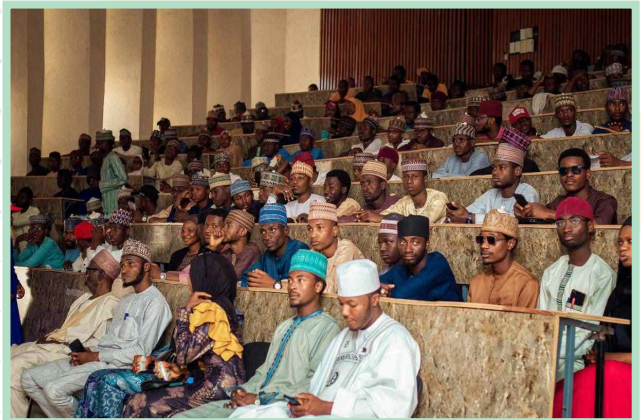
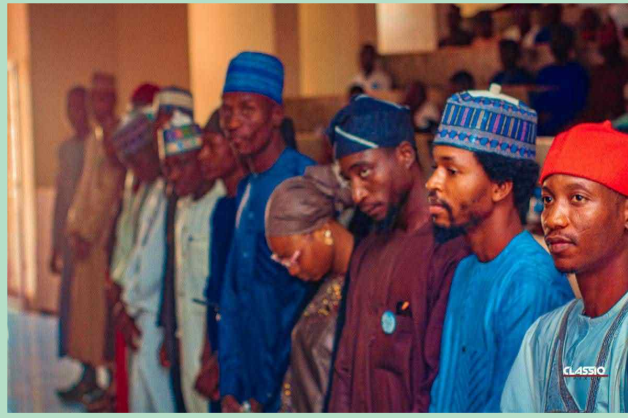


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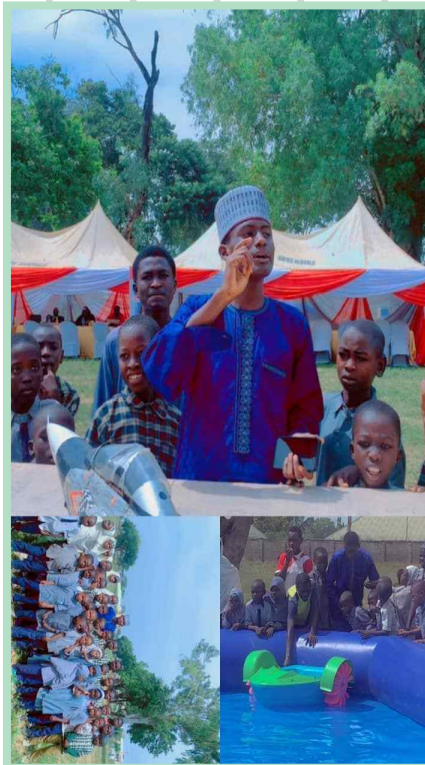
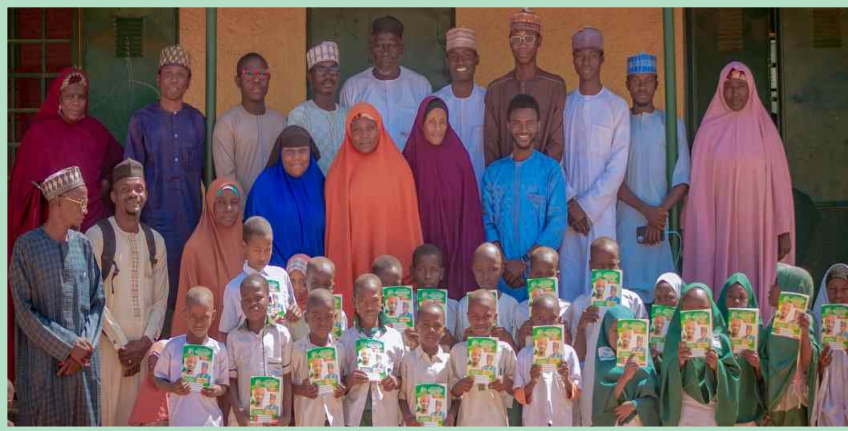




PHOTO SPEAKS



PHOTO SPEAKS





MY EXPERIENCE IN NAZAS

By ASHIRU HUSSAINI HAYIN OJO

Senator Representing Sabon Gari Local Government and Clerk of the Senate

Joining the National Association of Zazzau Students (NAZAS) National Body remains one of the best decisions I have ever made as a student. Before joining, I had heard so many positive things about the association, its recognition, integrity, and consistent record of producing individuals who are deeply committed to community development and leadership.

From the very first day I attended a NAZAS meeting, I felt a strong sense of belonging, unity, and purpose. It was inspiring to see new faces, students from different corners of the Zazzau Emirate Council gathered together with one shared vision: to serve and uplift the student community.

My journey in NAZAS began as a regular member who simply wanted to connect with fellow students from the Zazzau Emirate, especially those from my Local Government Area, SABON GARI. However, as I became more active, I began to understand the deeper mission of the association, to represent, protect, and empower students academically, socially, and culturally.

During my experience in NAZAS, I observed that many students, even from their secondary school days, often struggle to understand their career direction. This observation motivated me to create an initiative aimed at guiding young students toward making informed choices. Consequently, I organized the First Career Insight and General Orientation Programme in the history of Sabon Gari Local Government, themed "CHOOSE THE RIGHT COURSE FOR A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE."

The programme, held on 17th July 2025 at Government Commercial College Hall, Hayin Ojo, Sabon Gari Zaria, brought together students from over eight public secondary schools. The goal was to enlighten them on how to choose the right course of study and to equip them with the knowledge needed to avoid the challenges of unemployment after graduation.

One of my proudest moments in NAZAS was participating in several scholarship outreach

programmes. I successfully secured full scholarship opportunities for four less privileged girls to study Public Health (as elite) (not at Elite) International College, where they are now pursuing their National Diploma programmes.

Additionally, I collaborated with other student leaders to facilitate annual free JAMB registration and Computer training for over 300 students in Sabon Gari Local Government, generously sponsored by Mallam Hassan Rilwan. I was also privileged to attend the Scholarship Scheme Programme sponsored by Hon. Sadiq Ango

Abdullahi, where he awarded ₦50,000 each to over

1,000 students in Sabon Gari Local Government.

Through these impactful activities, NAZAS earned me (a) great respect among students within and beyond Sabon Gari local government. It also helped me (to) (If not the verb should be in past form connect ced) with academics, scholars, community leaders, NGOs, and development-oriented associations, expanding my network and exposure to leadership at various levels.

NAZAS has also been instrumental in shaping my leadership abilities. Through Workshops, Seminars, Conventions, planning sessions, and teamwork with dedicated colleagues, I learned the values of discipline, humility, and sincere service. Leadership, I realized, is not about titles or positions, it is about commitment, integrity, and the willingness to serve others.

As National Association of Zazzau Students (NAZAS) celebrates its 25th Anniversary, I am proud to declare that I am a true product of this noble association. The experiences, friendships, and lessons I gained through NAZAS will remain part of my life's journey forever and ever.

Long live NAZAS! Long live the spirit of Zazzau! Service, Unity, and Excellence.

Shaping the Future Through Science and Technology.

By: Abdullahi Umar, Mechanical Engineering (100 level)



Zaria: Where Innovation meets tradition.

Science and technology have become the heartbeat of global development, influencing how nations solve problems, create opportunities, and improve the quality of life. For Nigeria and especially the historic city of Zaria, embracing innovation and research isn't just a choice anymore; it's a necessity.

In today's world, the link between science, technology, and economic growth is undeniable. Countries that invest in research, digital infrastructure, and tech education are leading in health, productivity, and living standards. Zaria, known for its academic excellence and vibrant youth population, continues to stand out as a hub of learning and innovation, contributing to this global transformation.

The Power of Science

Science is more than experiments and microscopes, it's a way of thinking, questioning, and finding solutions to everyday problems. From improving farming techniques to developing better healthcare systems and protecting the environment, science provides the foundation for sustainable growth.

In Zaria, scientists, researchers, and students are constantly pushing boundaries. Efforts in biological sciences, chemistry, and engineering are helping address national issues like food security and climate change. For instance, local studies on sustainable agriculture are already making a difference in nearby rural communities, proving that science doesn't only live in labs, it thrives wherever there's curiosity and purpose.

Turning Ideas Into Impact

If science helps us understand the world, technology helps us change it. From mobile phones to renewable energy, technology transforms discoveries into tools that make life better.

Across Zaria, young innovators are diving into coding, robotics, and software development, turning ideas into real-world solutions. Tech clubs, startup communities, and student-led projects are springing up, showing that the next wave of Nigeria's tech revolution might just

rise from this city.

Zaria's growing tech scene is a reminder that innovation isn't limited to big cities, it can thrive anywhere passion and creativity meet opportunity.

Challenges and the Road Ahead

Of course, progress never comes easy. Zaria, like many Nigerian cities, faces hurdles, limited funding, outdated equipment, and weak links between research and industry. But within these challenges lie immense opportunities.

The rise of digital learning, increased government focus on technology, and the emergence of tech startups across Nigeria have created an environment ripe for innovation. By strengthening collaborations between schools, industries, and local entrepreneurs, Zaria can turn its intellectual capital into a powerful engine of national growth.

The Youth, Zaria's Greatest Asset

No story about Zaria's progress is complete without mentioning its youth, energetic, creative, and driven. The city's young minds are not just students; they are inventors, problem-solvers, and future leaders.

Through hackathons, science fairs, and innovation challenges, they're proving that the spirit of discovery is alive and well. The next big breakthrough whether in agriculture, medicine, or digital technology could easily come from a determined young person in Zaria with a bold idea and the will to see it through.

Engineering the Future

Science and technology are not distant dreams; they're the keys to a better tomorrow. With its rich history, educational strength, and passionate youth, Zaria is uniquely positioned to lead Nigeria into a future built on innovation and creativity.

The tools are here. The talent is here. All that's needed is support, collaboration, and a shared vision. Because the future isn't something we wait for it's something we engineer.



DAUDA KAHUTU RARARA:

A LEGACY WORTHY OF UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

By:

Abubakar Basiru [Teacher]
abubakarteacher6569@gmail.com



From an almajiri sleeping under bridges to becoming one of the most reputable and influential political musicians in Nigeria, Dauda Kahutu Rarara's life journey is truly a story of resilience, reinvention, and cultural impact. His journey is one to inspire, and one that deserves recognition from academic institutions in Nigeria and abroad.

Yet, the mere suggestion of awarding Rarara an honorary doctorate has sparked heated debate among Nigerian students and academics alike. "Many argue he". It suppose to be (many argument) is undeserving because he never earned a formal diploma, never sat in a university lecture hall, and built his legacy far from academic corridors. Critics even ridicule the idea with the Hausa phrase "za ayi wa boko fyade" which loosely translates to "education is being violated."

Yet, from time immemorial, people have been recognized for their hard work, dedication, and contributions to society. For instance, in 1988, Alhaji Dr. Mamman Shata received an honorary doctorate from the prestigious Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, in recognition of his immense contributions to national development and Hausa culture. Similarly, Nigerian artist, Innocent "2Baba" Idibia, was honored with a Master of Arts in Music by Igbinedion University in 2016 for his contributions to music and youth development. Multiple reputable biographies confirm that he did not complete his tertiary education, having dropped out of IMT Enugu to pursue music. Peter "Mr. P" Okoye was also honored. According to a Punch report in June 2021, he received an honorary doctorate from ESCAE University in Benin Republic.

Internationally, the trend continues, universities have long lined up to honor chart-topping musicians with honorary degrees. As the nature of these ceremonial awards confirms, they do not require dissertations or examinations; instead, they acknowledge cultural impact and contributions. Though recipients cannot technically practice as "doctors," the honor goes beyond titles, it affirms their societal influence. For example, in 1988, Michael Jackson received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Fisk University during the United Negro College Fund Awards. It recognized his outstanding contributions to

music, culture, and humanitarian efforts.

In May 2022, Taylor Swift received an honorary Doctor of Fine Arts degree from New York University, where she also delivered the commencement speech at Yankee Stadium. For someone who never attended a traditional university, this moment symbolized the recognition of her influence as a cultural icon. Her storytelling and business acumen have inspired entire academic courses, cementing her place in academia. Likewise, in 2023, Usher was awarded an honorary Doctor of Music by Berklee College of Music, not just for his commercial success but also for his philanthropy and mentorship of young artists.

In 2025, the University of Cambridge awarded British rapper Stormzy an honorary doctorate in Law for his efforts in expanding opportunities for Black students. This was his second such honor, after receiving one from the University of Exeter in 2022 for his contributions to education philanthropy.

Why then should Rarara be an exception? ✘

Why Rarara should not be on the same path? ✔

(Dauda Kahutu Rarara should be on the same path with the above awardees. Not concerning), coming from a small village barely identifiable on Nigeria's map did not stop him from achieving greatness. He shines like a polished diamond, standing out as the most talented political musician in Nigeria, and indeed Africa. While critics question his bid to be recognized, we cannot overlook his enormous contributions to the academia and society. Today, students from various faculties conduct academic research on his political-praise songs as part of their undergraduate and postgraduate works. This proves his intellectual contribution; his songs are studied by professionals to fill gaps in knowledge, even though he never formally studied in classrooms.

Professor Aliyu Muhammadu Bunza, a renowned scholar of Hausa culture and oral literature at Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto, stated that the political singer truly deserves an honorary doctorate from Nigerian universities. He argued that Rarara has made remarkable contributions to Hausa oral poetry and music, especially by adapting traditional praise-singing to modern political communication. Bunza stressed that Rarara's songs go beyond entertainment; they are forms of cultural documentation and social commentary that reach millions. Because of this impact, he urged Nigerian universities not to ignore Rarara's influence. Instead, they should honor him formally, just as Mamman Shata and more were once honored for their cultural legacy. His argument stressed that Honorary degrees are not about ticking academic boxes. They are about acknowledging excellence, impact, and the power of human stories.



Inspirational & Reflective

Reflections of a Former President: Building the Spirit of NAZAS Through Service and Sacrifice

By **Sir Umar S. Doko Former**
President, National Association of Zazzau Students (2020 Administration)

“Leadership is not about holding a position, but about building people, creating impact, and leaving a legacy that inspires others to continue the journey.”

The history of the National Association of Zazzau Students (NAZAS) is one deeply rooted in unity, sacrifice, and progress. Over the years, NAZAS has become more than an association — it has become a family, a movement, and a platform where ideas grow into action and young leaders are shaped through struggle and service.

Serving as the President of this great association in 2020 remains one of the most memorable and defining chapters of my life struggle. My team and I came into leadership during one of the most challenging times — the COVID-19 pandemic — yet our determination to serve the students of Zazzau remained unshaken.

Despite financial constraints and social restrictions, we carried out impactful projects that touched the lives of students and the larger community. We successfully distributed face masks across 11

local governments to support the fight against the pandemic. We produced and donated exercise books to secondary schools, reaffirming our commitment to education and community development.

In addition, our administration proudly achieved a long-standing dream — the acquisition of a brand-new official car for NAZAS, a symbol of growth, progress, and institutional stability.

However, our journey was not without challenges. Like any democratic structure, we faced disagreements between the Senate and the Executive, even some of my appointees, particularly on financial issues. But those moments taught us valuable lessons about communication, accountability, and the strength that comes from working through differences for the greater good.

Through it all, we learned that true leadership requires patience, integrity, and the ability to listen and forgive. Every challenge became an opportunity to grow, and every misunderstanding a reminder of why unity is the

heartbeat of progress.

As NAZAS marks its 25th Anniversary, I look back with gratitude and pride. The progress we see today is the result of years of selfless service, resilience, and belief in the Zazzau spirit.

To the new generation of NAZAS leaders, I offer this piece of advice:

Lead with vision, serve with humility, and never forget that every position is a platform for impact, not personal gain.

Our legacy as leaders is not measured by what we acquired, but by the lives we touched, the systems we improved, and the hope we left behind for others to build upon.

May the spirit of NAZAS continue to inspire service, unity, and excellence in all of us.

Long Live NAZAS!

Long Live the Spirit of Zazzau!

Comrade Umar S. Doko,
Former President,
National Association of Zazzau
Students (2020 Administration)



UNDERSTANDING CANCER IN CHILDREN

By
Musa Habib,
Bachelor of Nursing Science,
Ahmadu Bello University Zaria

What Is Cancer?

Cancer occurs when some of the body's cells grow and multiply in an uncontrolled way. Normally, cells grow, divide, and die in a healthy cycle. But when this process changes, abnormal cells can form a lump called a tumor or spread to other parts of the body.

Types of Childhood Cancer

Although cancer is more common in adults, children can also develop it. The most frequent types in children include:

- Leukemia – cancer of the blood and bone marrow
- Brain and spinal tumors
- Lymphoma – cancer of the immune system

Bone and muscle cancers

Each type affects the body differently, and treatment depends on the type and stage of the illness.

Treatment and Nursing Care

Treatment may involve chemotherapy, radiation

therapy, surgery, or a combination of these. Nurses play an important role by giving medicine, managing side effects, and offering emotional support to both the child and their family. Our care helps children remain strong, comfortable, and hopeful throughout their treatment.

A Message of Hope

Although cancer can be challenging, many children recover fully and live healthy, happy lives.

Early detection, proper treatment, and compassionate care all make a difference.

Everyone can help by showing kindness, offering encouragement, or supporting hospitals that care for children with cancer. With modern medicine, love, and hope, every child can continue to dream, play, and grow strong again.

About the Author:

Musa Habib is a Bachelor of Nursing Science student at Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, and a Staff Nurse at the Paediatric Medical Ward, Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital. He is passionate about child health, compassionate care, and health education.



WHY NIGERIAN CHILDREN SHOULD NOT HAWK ON THE STREETS

By **AISHA AYUBA**
ZAMANI MERIT SCHOOL SS 3

The streets of Nigeria are filled with the sounds of hawkers and traders each trying to make a living in a country. Among them are children who should be in school and enjoying their childhood, but are instead forced to hawk on the streets, exposing themselves to risks and dangers.

The Risks of Street Hawking

Some risks faced by child hawkers include traffic accidents; children are at risk of being hit by vehicles while trying to sell their products. Physical abuse: children are often beaten or slapped by customers. Sexual abuse: especially girls are vulnerable to sexual abuse by strangers. Malnutrition and poor health due to inadequate food and care.

The Impact on Studies or Education

Hawking on the streets also denies children their right to education. When children are forced to work, they miss out on school and with it the opportunity to acquire knowledge, skills, and a brighter future ahead is lost. When children acquire education, the life of poverty and hardship will be reduced if they really become something in the future. Even though there are some children who hawk and at the same time study, but these kinds of children often perform poorly in school due to lack of time, and they are more likely to drop out of school due to lack of money for their school fees.

Effect of Child Hawking in the Society

Children who hawk in the streets are more likely to be exposed to crimes and may even be forced to engage in criminal activities, leading to an increase in crime rates. Child hawking can lead to an increased number of problems in the society, as it creates a group of uneducated and unskilled children who may require support and help from the government and society. Child hawking leads to loss of future leaders, as talented and intelligent children are forced to drop out of school and hawk on the street, rather than making their dreams come true and contribute to the development of the whole nation.

Child hawking brings about inequality, as it denies children from poor backgrounds to have access to education, making it difficult for them to put a stop to poverty.

The Nigerian government and society have a responsibility to protect its children and ensure they have access to education and safe environments. Laws and policies must be put in place to prevent child labor and ensure that children are protected from danger and risks.

Street hawking is a complicated issue that requires a huge effort to address. As Nigerians, we must come together to protect our children and ensure they have opportunity to grow, learn, and survive in a safe and supportive environment, and also help them in seeing their dreams come true.

“THE EFFECTS OF DRUG ABUSE, THE DANGERS OF DRUG ABUSE: A THREAT TO OUR FUTURE”.

by ZARNA MERIT SCHOOL
FATIMA RANI AMINU
SS 3

As students, we are often face with numerous challenges that can lead us astray. One such challenge is drug abuse, a menace that can have devastating effects on our lives, health and future.

Drug abuse is the use of substances such as marijuana, cocaine, or prescription or medication in a way that is not intended or recommended by a doctor. It can lead to addiction, health problems and even death.

The effects of drug abuse are far-reaching and can impact not only the individual but also their family, friends and community.

Some of the chronic effects include:

Physical Health Problems:

Liver damage or disease
Heart disease or cardiovascular problems
Respiratory issues, such as chronic bronchitis or pneumonia.

Mental Health Problems:

Depression
Anxiety
Psychosis

Academic And Professional Consequences:

Poor academic performance
Decreased productivity
Increased absenteeism

Social And Relationship Problems:

Strained relationships with family and friends

Social isolation

Increased risk of domestic violence or abuse

Financial Problems:

Increased spending on drugs

Decreased income due to job loss or job loss

Financial instability

Legal Consequences:

Arrest or imprisonment

Fines or court costs

Loss of driving privileges

As students, it is essential to understand the dangers of drug abuse and make informed choices about our lives. We must prioritize our health, well-being and future in recognizing relationships that can harm us.

Instead, we can focus on positive activities such as sports, music and art that can help us grow and develop as individuals. We can also seek help and support from friends, adults such as parents, teachers or counselors if we are struggling with addiction or know someone who is.

Let's work together to create a safe and healthy environment for ourselves and our peers. Say no to drug abuse and yes to a brighter future.

Final Message: Drug abuse is a serious topic that requires our attention and action. Let's make a determined effort to ourselves and our community



POEMS

Nigerians are Hopeful!

by Asma'u M. Shehu

Nigerians are hopeful,
We rise each dawn,
with hearts Unbroken,

through Storms may
rage our Spirits-Unshaken,

From Lagos ties to
Kano Stands

We build our homes
with steady hands

We laugh through Pain,
We dance through Sorrow,

for we believe in a
Brighter tomorrow,

In every struggle,
We find our way,

Hope is the Anthem
We sing each day

Nigerians Stand,
Resilient and True

A people fierce,
courageous and New

No matter the darkness,
We ignite the light,

turning despair into
Strength, and fear into light.

We are hope,
We are strength.
We are Nigerian rising high.

The Pen is mightier than the Sword”.

by Hauwa'u Lawal Balarabe

The sword may conquer with blazing might;
But its glory fades after every fight
Steel can break and blood can spill
Yet it cannot bend the human will.

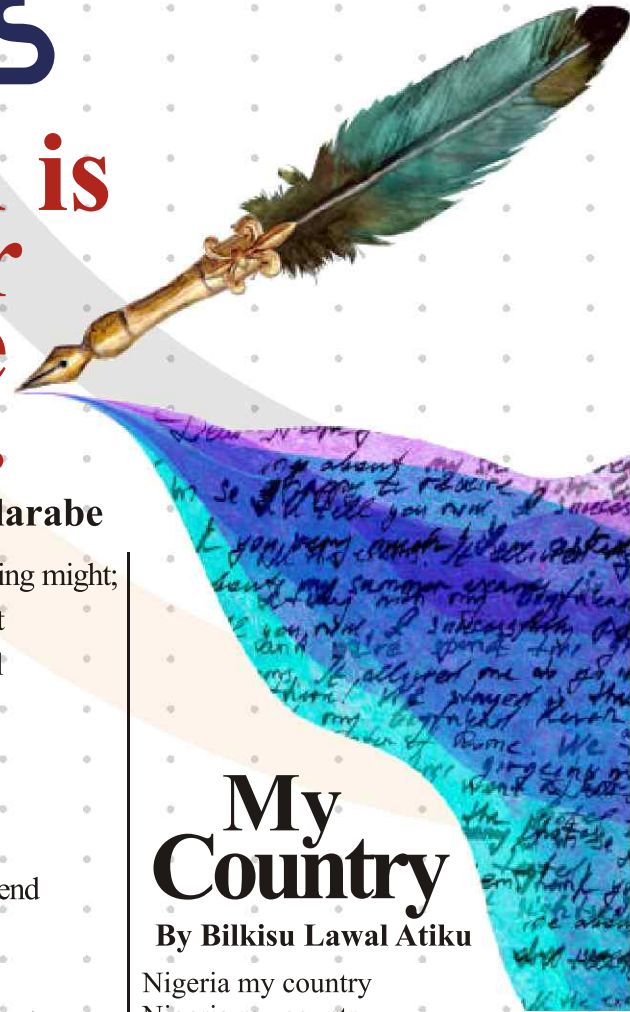
Ink flows softly, with silent power
Changing minds hour by hour
Words can build and words can mend
Heal a nation, or guide a friend.

A sword commands with fear and pain
But the pen inspires hearts and brains
With every stroke, new worlds arise
Truth ascends and ignorance dies.

Battles won by force are brief
But knowledge triumphs over grief
For in the hand of one who writes
Darkness yields to deeper lights.

Lay down the sword, let steel fall still
Let wisdom, not anger command our will
For history shows, and time has taught
The pen outlives the battles fought.

The sword can rest, its battles now done,
The pen's reign begins, its victory won
For in the realm of ideas, it holds sway
The Pen is mightier, today and always.



My Country

By Bilquisi Lawal Atiku

Nigeria my country
Nigeria my country
Where milk and honey Flow
Blessed with greener pasture

Nigeria my country
Nigeria my country
I love to be Part of the great
domain
Endowed and rich in culture
Nigeria my maternal land

Her love is act
But if it brought
It will be lost
for people just after it

Hands should be on desk
To create a better domain
this is Nigeria where the
transmitting is
transmitted. I love my
maternal land.
Sweet Home to be
East, West, South and North
Join together
to build a better NIGERIA



The Apologetic Girl: Why She Needs Empowerment, Not Pity.

By Ugwudike Ikenna Stanley

There was a girl in a certain community called Ihioma, and she is the only child of her parents and on that fateful day, due to so much pain and grief, Ihioma could not hold her voice back any longer and she went straight where her mother and father were discussing in the sitting room and began to voice out her pains in the form of sentences and these are what she said to her parents, mama and papa please forgive me, I know and I have watched you pray asking God for a male child, but unfortunately I came, I am so sorry if I am not your answered prayers, now that I have apologized to you I can now go back to where I came from in peace.

Then she turned back and entered her room, the parents continued their discussion after a while, as usual Ihioma, Ihioma, where is this useless girl, the mother called Ihioma through to her room and found Ihioma on the floor, lying helplessly.

Ihioma is dead.

There is a saying that people don't cherish whatever valuable they had until they lose it.

It is no longer a telestory nor a fiction, that more than 65% of young girls under 18 years of age still suffer abuse, violence, brutality, violation of basic human rights and other inhumane acts, all in the name of culture, sentiments, and discrimination.

I was scrolling through my phone the other day over the internet, then I came across this post about a young girl of 8 years old who bled to death internally through her vagina on her wedding night after being forced to marry a man who is eight times her age.

We need to amplify girls' voices and recommit to working together to build a world where every girl can lead and thrive.

On December 19, 2011, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 66/170 to declare October 11 as the International Day of the

Girl Child, to recognize girls' rights and the unique challenges girls face around the world and 2025 global theme was "The Girl I am, The Change I lead". This theme signifies that girls are not just surviving crises, but they are leading change and preferring solutions in the challenging times.

It is a clarion call to the world to wake up and support the girl child in order to attain her full potential in politics, government, and leadership. It is high time we tap into the strength, and resilience of the girl child.

To protect future generations of the girl child, we must first invest in resources and policies that help prevent the obstacles that most girls face all over the world, such as:

- Habitation problems- most girls don't have a decent home, most of them sleep in the streets and motor parks, thereby exposing them to bad weather conditions, mosquito infestation, sexual abuse and other harms.
- Child Marriage- this has been a major challenge, especially in many parts of the world due to harmful religious practices, parental negligence and abuse of rights of children.
- Menstruation- most African girls can not afford a sterile sanitary pad especially in the rural areas.
- Household Chores- In some cultures, girls are considered to be the servant to the male children in the family settings, for this reason they are considered to do all the domestic chores and serve the male folks, these have caused a lot of stress and burn out on the girl child trying to major up to societal pressure and expectations.
- Gender-Based Violence- some cultures still have it that if the girl's genitalia is not mutilated that she will grow to become promiscuous. Female genital mutilation has also been a major challenge to the overall health of the girl child for more than five decades.
- Conflict and Crisis- Girls experience high rates



of school-related gender-based violence in many crisis-affected countries, including sex for grades, sexual harassment from both teachers and fellow students. Most girls also suffer from discrimination, racism and stigmatization of physically challenged girls and girls who are HIV positive.

•Trafficking-most girls have been so vulnerable to predators and pirates who exploit young and under age girls sexually by using them as commercial sex workers, domestic servants and other harmful activities.

Most girls are lured with the promise of a good job and better living, while they are taken away to far away countries where they have no family members nor relatives.

These in particular have exposed most girls to become victims to sexually transmitted infections, unwanted pregnancies at early age, unsafe and criminal abortions and of course untimely death.

Now let's come down to Africa, then I can ask who is the African Girl and who is the Nigerian girl?

That one is a strong and a sort of indicting question right?

From the short story I told earlier from the beginning of this article, I can boldly tell you that Isioma is an African Girl Child, she is a Nigerian Girl Child.

Africa has been considered to be the land of so many resources, both human and natural resources. Nigeria on the other hand is a country solely enriched in human resources and natural resources as well.

But when you start considering the human resources and the capacity, when you probe more, you will see that the key thing is centered around women.

A child who will become a president, lawyer, or engineer tomorrow must be birthed and nurtured by a woman, isn't it?

That child throughout his lifetime must encounter mothers as teachers in school or as a parent at home by 85%.

This suggests the key role the girl child plays in society, because a girl child will definitely grow to become a mother someday, no she doesn't remain a child forever.

I can't forget that popular saying: that when you train and build a male child you have built a family but when you build up a girl child, you have built a home and the world.

What is the way out?

Our girls should be protected by all means, and all

hands need to be on deck to achieve this as a common goal. I call upon our leaders and stakeholders.

It is high time Africa rise to defend these Amazons, these lionesses.

Girls and women should be considered as a blessing to the world and not a burden or some sexual tool.

Because when you train and harness a girl child, they will grow to become women like her blessed memory Dora Akunyili, Florence Knightingale, Folorunsho Alakija, Oby Ezekwesili, Amanda Azubuiké, Ibukun Awosika Tonto Dike, Iyabo Ojo, Chimamanda Adichie, Funke Akindele, her blessed memory Kathryn Kulman, her Blessed memory Mother Theresa, Michele Obama, these are the women who literally took the world, shook it and changed it for good.

They stood on global stages, addressed nobles and kings, proffered solutions to humanity.

Because, they were intentionally bred and brought up to be great, it is high time parents and family relatives take our girls serious and start seeing the potentials and greatness in them and invest their time, credibility and financial resources in them.

Yes it is high time, the girl child becomes educated, fed well and her health and sanitary needs becomes something of optimum priority.

It is high time that her mental health and finances are taken into consideration and also met without any prejudice or any string attached.

It is high time our girls are trained in the tech industry and become tech experts in the world of digital communication.

Girl child education reduces inequality because illiteracy is one of the biggest causes of poverty.

Primary education is a lifter for girls, ethnic minorities, orphans, disabled people, rural families and those who are likely to be poor. By providing them education, they become relevant to the nation and its growth.

I will end by calling on the African leaders, the World and their leaders to stand with the United Nation Women on this quest of building a better and promising world for our girls and an enabling environment where there will be no limitations to their dreams and aspirations also insist on implementing the SDG 5: for the achievement of gender equality and empowering all women and girls, because the world is planted in them and for the world to grow, they need to grow first.

God bless Africa! God bless Nigeria.



CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA

by **ISHAQ MUHAMMAD SANI**
ZARIA MERIT SCHOOL
SSS IIIB

Nigeria, the most populous country in Africa, is facing significant environmental challenges due to climate change. Rising temperatures, changing rainfall patterns, and increased frequency of extreme weather events are affecting the country's ecosystems, economy, and human well-being. The impacts of climate change are far-reaching, from droughts and desertification in the north to flooding and coastal erosion in the south.

In northern Nigeria, the desertification of land is threatening agriculture and livestock, forcing many communities to rely on humanitarian aid. The Lake Chad Basin, which supports millions of people, has shrunk by over 90% in recent decades, exacerbating poverty and conflict. In the devastated ecosystem, affecting fishing and farming communities.

Climate change is also altering ecosystems, leading to the loss of plant and animal species, and impacting Nigeria's rich biodiversity. The country's tropical forests, mangroves, and savannas are under threat, putting many species at risk of extinction. Climate-related health issues, such as heat stress and spread of diseases like malaria, are also on the rise.

To mitigate these impacts, Nigeria needs to adopt sustainable development strategies. Investing in renewable energy, such as solar and wind power, can reduce dependence on fossil fuels and decrease greenhouse gas emissions. Promoting climate-resilient agricultural practices, like agroforestry and conservation agriculture, can improve food security and reduce poverty. Protecting and restoring natural habitats like forests, wetlands, and mangroves, is crucial for maintaining biodiversity and supporting livelihoods. Climate-

resilient infrastructure, such as sea walls and flood-resistant buildings, can help communities adapt to extreme weather events.

The Nigerian government has launched several initiatives to address climate change, including the National Climate Change Policy and the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Policy. However, more needs to be done.

Limited funding, lack of awareness, and weak institutional capacity hinder effective implementation. Increasing funding, launching nationwide awareness campaigns, and enhancing institutional capacity can help Nigeria overcome these challenges.

Investing in renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and climate-resilient infrastructure can create jobs and stimulate economic growth.

Nigeria's rich natural resources, human capital, and entrepreneurial spirit are assets that can be leveraged to drive sustainable development. By prioritizing sustainable development strategies, investing in renewable energy, and promoting climate-resilient practices, Nigeria can mitigate the impacts of climate change and achieve a more prosperous future. The country's future depends on its ability to address climate change and achieve sustainable development.

Ultimately, the government, private sector, and civil society must work together to prioritize climate action, invest in sustainable development, and promote climate-resilient practices. By working together, Nigeria can build a more resilient and sustainable future for all. The time for action is now, and the opportunities for sustainable growth and innovation are vast.



HOW TO END EXAMINATION MALPRACTICES IN NIGERIA By Usman Abubakar

Examination malpractice has made a great damage to education in Nigeria, it is one of the major problems we are facing today as it have turn educational certificates into nothing other than just a piece of paper with no great value, it deserved and has also turn does with education into low class level because some with money can buy all they have. But all such thing can be cleaned by removing things the way they suggest to have been, and by doing such means some specialised places is to be government schools and guardians must change the way they treat education.

At first, parents/guardians have an important role to play in stopping examination malpractices in such a way that they will sit over their children so as to make sure that non of them have the mind set of cheating in any examination, and to provide a leisure time for them to be studying because students will have the mind set of cheating when they know nothing about a subject or topic. Parents should also assist their children by making them compete with their friends which will help them burst their brain and ever ready for any exams. And one of the worst mistake parents do is taking their children to a school or examination centre where they cheat or give answer to students. It's also spoils the students' mind set and act defiantly in doing exams him or by themselves.

However, schools or examination centres also help in increasing or decreasing the rate of examination malpractices in our community, because even if a student want to cheat in an examination, if he doesn't get an opportunity, so he will never. Examination centres or schools should put high level of security in three examination halls by inviting well trained invigilators and even installing CCTV cameras if necessary. They should also find a convenient area or suitable for setting examination, with standard power supply, standard sitting arrangement and

standard (Ex corrupt) navigators.

However, the main issue is the government of Nigeria, because they are not doing enough while trying to stop the children examination malpractice in Nigeria. The government's attention is needed in education of the country itself, so as to put more effort in the development of education across the country, because the possibility/tendency of improvement in education is very low. The government needs to put atleast 35% of her budgets on education because education is the only way to save Nigeria, it's the way it is by day but if malpractices continues, the money to spent to education in Nigeria have been distributed, and if education is destroyed, the country workers no more - will collapse.

In conclusion, the only way to end examination malpractice in Nigeria is by having will disciplined teachers, guardians, and also a well responsible government that will put more efforts and dangers of examination malpractice to the country.

GIRL CHILD EDUCATION:

By Ummul-Khairi Sahalu

Teach a girl, and you raise a nation
A spark of light, a transformation.
Behind her class, a world unseen
Dreams waiting, bright and evergreen

Give her a book, she'll open doors. Give
Give her a pen, she'll change the world's score.
From silent corners to shining stages. Her voice
will echo through the ages.

Don't cage her wings, don't dim her light,
for she was born to rise and reunite when
a girl learns, the future grows, hope blossoms
and possibility flows.

Educate her and watch her soar
watch broken system heal once more
A literate girl stands tall with
grace empowered mind unstoppable pace.

let every girl child learn and lead
for she is the light our future seed
Invest in her, stay you will see
the world become what it is meant to be.





Riddles you know

What has to be broken before you can use it? An egg	What month of the year has 28 days? All of them	What is full of holes but still holds water? A sponge	What can you break, even if you never pick it up or touch it? A promise
What goes up but ever comes down? Your age	What gets wet while drying? A towel	What can you keep after giving to someone? A promise	What gets wet while drying? A towel
I shave every day, but my beard stays the same. What am I? A barber	I have branches, but no fruit, trunk or leaves. What am I? A bank	What can't talk but will reply when spoken to? An echo	The more of this there is, the less you see. What is it? Darkness
What has many keys but can't open a single lock? A piano	What is black when it's clean and white when it's dirty? A blackboard	What gets bigger when more is taken away? A hole	What invention lets you look right through a wall? A window
What can't be put in a saucepan? It's lid	What has one eye, but can't see? A needle	What has many needles, but doesn't sew? Christmas tree	What has hands, but can't clap? A clock
What can you catch, but not throw? A cold	What kind of band never plays <u>music</u> ? Rubber band	What has a thumb and four fingers, but is not a hand? A glove	What has a head and a tail but no body? A coin
What is cut on a table, but is never eaten? A deck of cards	What has words, but never speaks? A book	Where does one wall meet the other wall? On the corner	What building has the most stories? The library
What runs all around a backyard, yet never moves? A fence	What can travel all around the world without leaving its corner? A stamp	What kind of coat is best put on wet? A coat of paint	What is the end of everything? Letter g

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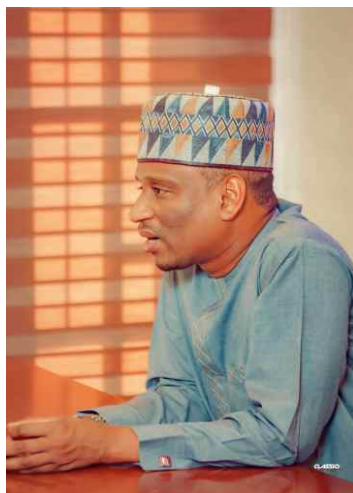
HON. ALIYU IBRAHIM LAWAL

FOUNDER

CAIRO CARE FOUNDATION

Hon. Aliyu Lawal Ibrahim Cairo is the founder of Cairo Care Foundation, a beacon of hope for the youth and community with tireless efforts to empower and uplift those in need is truly making a difference. From education to skill development, your initiative is equipping individuals with the tools they need to succeed. Thank you for being a force for good and inspiring positive change! Keep shining!"

Hon. Aliyu Lawal Ibrahim Cairo, your dedication to public service and community development is truly inspiring. Your tireless efforts to improve the lives of those around you have not gone unnoticed, and we are grateful for your leadership and vision, your philanthropic efforts have made a profound impact on our community. Your generosity and kindness have improved the lives of countless individuals, providing access to education, healthcare, and opportunities for growth. Your selfless dedication to giving back is a shining example of your compassion and commitment to the well-being of others. Thank you for being a beacon of hope and a source of inspiration to us all."





NOTE



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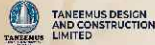


Company Concept

Taneemus Design and Construction Limited was established in 2020 and incorporated in 2023, it is solely intended to inject ideas in Design Building Constructions, Housing and property Development in Nigeria.


Our Design and Construction is based on the concept of creating shelters that meet the dynamics of man's life style through strength, style and security. The company board directors consist primarily of young dynamic minds seasoned in the current global transforming face of the earth to enhance the living condition of mankind





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2025

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