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**Nigerian students in UAE Universities debate on
Nigeria economy**

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University of Wollongong in Dubai
American University of RAK
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In this EDITION

COVER STORY - UNIVERSITY EDUCATION IN AFRICA

Africa is witnessing an exodus of her youths who could not get admission into universities in their home country. This trend has been extended to Asia and Middle East countries. In this edition we examine the factors responsible for the exodus. Start from **Page 4**

NIGERIAN STUDENTS IN UAE UNIVERSITIES INTERCOLLEGIATE DEBATE COMPETITION

Nigerian students in UAE universities debate on solution to Nigerian Economy. It was keenly contested between 4 universities. Stories and pictures from **Page 8**

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University education in Africa



In Africa of old, education experience was strictly set up to prepare the young for society in the community. The schooling system pre-European colonialism consisted of groups of older people teaching aspects and rituals that would help them in adulthood. Education in early African societies teach such things as artistic performances, ceremonies, games, festivals, dancing, singing, and drawing. Boys and girls were taught separately to help prepare each sex for their adult roles. Every member of the community had a hand in contributing to the educational upbringing of the child. The high point of the African educational experience was the ritual passage ceremony from childhood to adulthood. There were no academic examinations necessary to graduate in the African educational system. With the advent of western education which was one of the products of colonialism, schooling was no longer just about rituals and rites of passage, but earning an education that would enable Africans to develop their countries

in line with modern dictate. The beginning of the twentieth century witnessed an exodus of African youths to Europe and America for educational pursuits. These generation of Africans returned back to their various countries to chart the course of a new nation and struggle for independence. The likes of Dr Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana, Dr Nnamdi Azikiwe of Nigeria, Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, Nwalimu Julius Nyerere of Tanzania later emerged President of their various countries.

In the early years of Africa's independence, the question of education particularly higher education was at the heart of nationalists who were at the vanguard of the struggle for independence. Kwame Nkrumah was assembling young Ghanaians and taking them to Europe and America to acquire higher education.

In eastern Africa, the renowned Tom Mboya was at the heart of the great airlift of 1960s. It was assumed then as now that Africa

could not realize its potential in the absence of education. In the words of Mobutu Sese Seko of the Democratic Republic of Congo, the priority of priorities was education. Today African countries can boast of over 30 universities both public and private in all fields. Yet many African students still have to travel to other part of the world before they can have university education. This attest to the fact that the continent cherish western education which is the main source of knowledge, skill and scientific expertise.

As at December 2010 there are over 21,000 Nigerian students in the UK, 19,000 in US and other places in the Western world. The trend has also moved to Asia and Middle East with over 5,000 Nigerian students in Malaysia, 7,000 in China, 3000 in Japan and about 2000 in UAE. With over one million student completing their Secondary education in June 2011 and the lack of enough place for them in Nigerian based universities, there will continue to be a serious upsurge of Nigerian students.

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seeking university education outside the shores of the country. The situation in most other African countries is not very different from what obtains in Nigeria. Having been educated in UK, USA, and Canada, African parents give priority to British and American universities as choice for their children university education. This scenario have changed in recent time due to the strict immigration policy of both United Kingdom, USA and Canada. With the encouragement and liberal immigration policy of Asian and Middle East countries, couple



with the availability of UK, US universities in the region, it is now attractive to African students. In recent time, United Arab Emirates has become an emerging destination for African students due to its discipline society. Many European and North American universities have established its campuses in the country to cater for expatriate workers children at highly competitive rate compared to what they normally charge in their home country. This has turned out to be of substantial benefit to students from Africa whose parents will ordinarily send to UK, USA, or Canada. 🇺🇦



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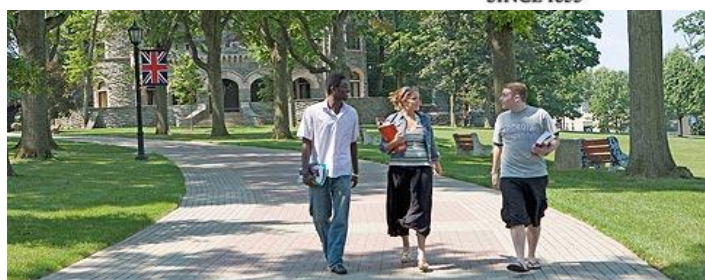


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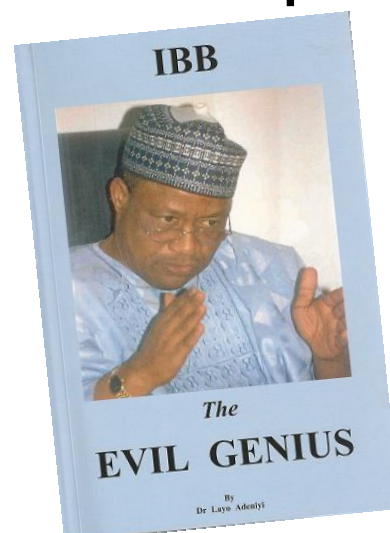


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Nigerian students in UAE Universities debate on Nigerian economy

by our Correspondent

Nigerian students in UAE universities had debate on the most important segment of the nation's economy that should be given priority and immediate attention. The debate organized by Dubai branch of Titlas Inc and sponsored by the Nigerian Business Council in UAE was held under the patronage of the Nigerians In Diaspora Organisation, NIDO, UAE chapter. The debate session was in 2 Groups, A and B. In Group A was American University of Ras Al Khaimah represented by Abubaker Muhammed Abubaker, and Bello Sayadi Abubaker who both spoke on Agriculture as the most important sector for Nigerian Economic growth and University of Wollongong in Dubai represented by Fountain Nnajioka Abani and Olayinka Daniel Oreoluwa both of who spoke on importance of rural development in Nigerian economy. Group B had Canadian University of Dubai represented by Fareeda Mahmoud Aliyu Shinkafi, Maryam Adamu Abdullahi and Vivian Oluwakemi Obembe who spoke on Importance of Transportation for Nigerian development. Skyline University College Sharjah represented by



From left Edward Kogbara, and I.A. Paragalda officials of the Nigerian Embassy Abu Dhabi, Prof Goma Tanko, Mr Debo Ajayi, Dr Sola Olude, and Mr Alexander Ejiogu, all of NIDO- UAE



Alhaji Abdulrahman Oladapo Ashimi, Vice President of Nigerian Business Council UAE, reading his welcome address.

Saleem Usman Dan Agege, Maryam Usman Dan Agege, and Suhayr Wada Mustapha discussing about the importance of security for Nigerian development.

According to the organizers, the initiative is aimed at giving moral support and encouragement to Nigerian Students in UAE in their pursuit of academic excellence. The Nigerian Business Council (NBC - UAE), and the Nigerian In Diaspora Organisation (NIDO - UAE) have been chosen as the Patrons of the initiative in appreciation of the recognition accorded the two organizations by the host government through Dubai Chamber of Commerce, and Nigerian government through the Nigerian Embassy, UAE. In attendance to grace the Debate was Mr Edward Kogbara, Minister Counselor, and Mr Paragalda, Minister Immigration both from the Nigerian Embassy, UAE standing in for the Ambassador, Alhaji Bashir Yuguda. Others were Dr Sola Olude Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Nigerian Business Council, UAE, Mr Alex Ejiogu, Chairman Board of Trustees of Nigerian In Diaspora Organisation, Dr Goma Tanko, Chairman of Education and Scientific



Panel of Judges from right Prof Ishaq Tijani, Dr Yinka Salami (Chairman) Mr Hakeem Sanni, and the Time Keeper Mr Adeoye Oyedokun. .

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Debate Moderator – Dr Francis Danboyi

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Research Committee of Nigerian in Diaspora Organisation, and Mr Debo Ajayi Secretary of the Economic Development Committee of Nigerian in Diaspora Organisation, The Debate was moderated by Dr Francis Danboyi of Emirate Research Institute Abu Dhabi, with Dr Olayinka Salami a medical practitioner in Alain Hospital as Chairman, Panel of Judges which also had Professor Ishaq Tijani of the American University of Sharjah and Mr Hakeem Sanni, Information Technology

Project Manager at the UAE Institute of Training & Judicial Studies, while Mr Adeoye Oyedokun an operation manager with a UAE company as the Time Keeper.

Welcoming guests to the Debate, Alhaji Abdulrahman Oladapo Ashimi of Abu Dhabi Petroleum Institute and Vice President of Nigerian Business Council UAE stressed the need to involve Nigerian youths in the discourse to move Nigeria forward.

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Dr Layo Adeniyi CEO of Titlas Inc, the Debate Organisers

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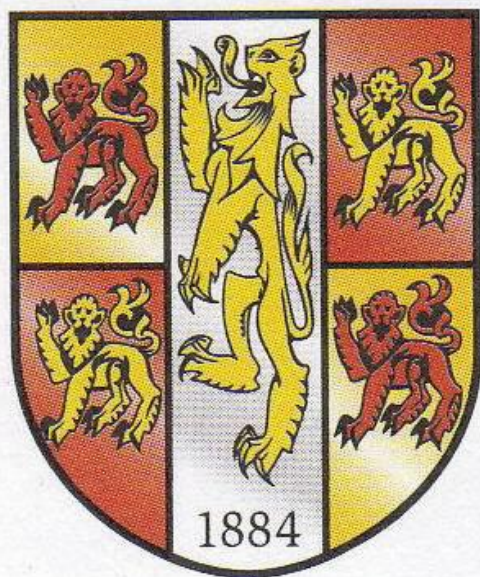
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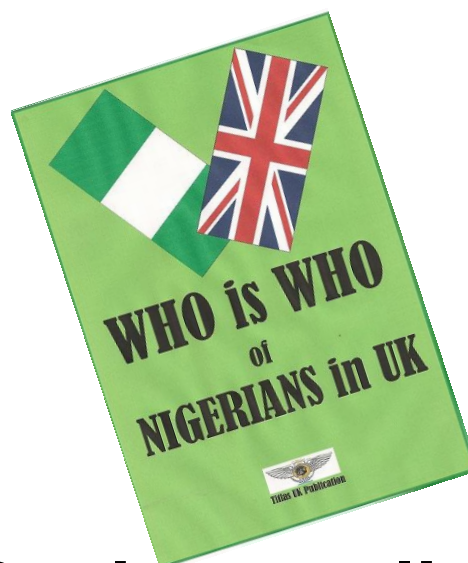
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Fountain Nnajioka Abani, University of Wollongong in Dubai lead speaker

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He lauded the encouragement of Nigerian Embassy in UAE under the leadership of Ambassador Bashir Yuguda for their support and the spirit of patriotism embedded in this initiative by Titlas Inc.

The first team to present their topic was University of Wollongong in Dubai led by Fountain Nnajioka Abani who spoke on the importance of rural development in nation building.



Abubaker Mohamed Abubaker, American University of Ras Al Khaimah lead speaker

He took the audience through the significance of rural development and reminded the audience that the main ingredients of any nations economy has its root in the rural area. He therefore lamented on a situation where the rural area is abandoned to rotten while the urban areas continue to swell only to breed unemployment and crime.

Supporting the lead speaker, Olayinka Daniel Oreoluwa pointed out that the lack of development of the rural area has created in no small way to the rural urban drift. He therefore hint that a rural area with good roads, electricity, portable water, hospitals and primary healthcare centres and schools for the youth in the rural area will increase productivity and

UOWD



University of Wollongong in Dubai

therefore boost the nation's economy The team therefore concluded that there could be no better alternative for the way forward other than Rural Development.

The American University of Ras Al Khaimah team leader, Abubaker Mohamed Abubaker opened his discussion on the importance of Agriculture by reminding the audience that Nigeria has always been an agrarian society whose source of revenue solely survived and thrived on agriculture. He went down the memory lane of Nigeria before the



oil. The groundnut pyramid of Northern Nigeria, the cocoa domes of Western Nigeria, the Coal mining of Eastern Nigeria, Rubber plantation, Palm produce and many other agricultural produce that was used to give free education in the old western region of Nigeria, the



Olayinka Daniel Oreoluwa, University of Wollongong in Dubai second speaker

export that fetched enough revenue to provide education. He therefore charged that Nigeria need to revisit the era in order to make the country a self reliant nation.

Supporting the motion, Bello Sayadi Abubaker from the same university gave the example of China and USA whose agricultural production plays significant role in sustaining its



Bello Sayadi Abubaker American University of Ras Al Khaimah second speaker

growth. Concluding, Bello Sayadi argued that giving priority to agriculture is the only solution to Nigeria economic growth.

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American University of Ras Al Khaimah and University of Wollongong in Dubai teams Listening to the rules of the debate from the Moderator, Dr Francis Danboyi

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Vivian Olukemi Obembe, Canadian University of Dubai lead speaker

In group B, Canadian University of Dubai took on Skyline University College Sharjah to argue the importance of transportation for Nigerian development against the importance of security in nation development.

Miss Vivian Oluwakemi Obembe leading the Canadian University team insisted that there could be no meaningful development in any country where transportation is not given prime position in its development planning.

The second speaker from the same university, Miss Maryam Adamu Abdullahi pointed out that every aspect of development require transportation be it road, rail, sea, or air. Equipments have to be moved from one place to the other, and this could only be done with enduring means of transportation.



Saleem Usman Dan Agege, Skyline University College Sharjah lead speaker

Miss Fareeda Mahmoud Aliyu Shinkafi the third speaker from Canadian University of Dubai reminded the audience that moving security men and apparatus to locations require transportation. She then challenged anybody who could provide any meaningful development without transportation.

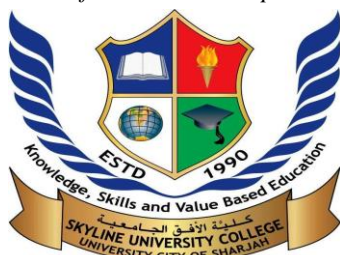
Skyline University College team led by Saleem Usman Dan Agege started his argument on the premise that



It is only a secured society that can develop. Saleem gave a comprehensive analysis of what security mean. He explained that it is not only protection against armed robbers that is security. Listing



Maryam Adamu Abdullahi Canadian University of Dubai second speaker



what include food security, health security, social security and many others. He then insisted that Nigerian government should first tackle the issue of security in all its ramifications if development will be achieved.

Miss Suhayr Wada Mustafa who was the second speaker from Skyline University College catalogue what must be done to ensure that Nigeria is a safe nation for both local and foreign investors. Miss Suhayr insisted that Nigeria



Suhayr Wada Mustafa, Skyline University College Sharjah second speaker



Fareeda Mahmoud Aliyu Shinkafi Canadian University of Dubai third speaker

should borrow leaf from UAE where security is given the highest priority, hence everybody is scrambling to be in UAE.

To support the motion, another speaker from Skyline University College, Miss Maryam Usman Dan Agege warned that a situation where Nigerians are running away from their country due to insecurity is a clear testimony to the fact that no foreign investor would want to put his or her money in an unsafe country. She argued that Nigeria being a blessed nation with inexhaustible mineral resources will be haven for foreign investors if security is given priority attention in the country's development planning. Miss Maryam then concluded by saying that Security is the most important ingredient for



Maryam Usman Dan Agege Skyline University College Sharjah third speaker

for Nigerian development.

With the fierce arguments and points proffered by the two teams in Group A, and the two teams in Group B, Dr Olayinka Salami's panel of Judges had herculean task to determine winners.

From Group A, the American University of Ras Al Khaimah gave University of Wollongong in Dubai a close shave. The audience were strongly divided as to which is the

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Skyline University College Sharjah and the Canadian University of Dubai teams responding to questions from the audience and members of the high table.

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most important and should be given priority over the other. American University of Ras Al Khaimah insist that Agriculture feeds the nation and fetch foreign exchange, thereby making the country self sufficient. But the University of Wollongong in Dubai team reminded the audience that origin and base of agriculture is the rural setting, and an underdeveloped rural area can not yield good agricultural produce. With this argument, University of Wollongong in Dubai team emerged winner in Group A.

Deciding a winner in Group B was equally tasking. The Canadian University of Dubai team challenged the audience and the panel of judges to explain how security could be provided without transportation. The team demanded to know how Police men, soldiers and other security arms will be transported to their duty posts. Arguing against transportation, the Skyline University College team reminded the audience that effective transportation only thrive in a safe society. A country where kidnapping, armed robbery, bomb explosions and other security vices cannot provide effective transportation system. With the submission that nothing could be done without transportation, Canadian University of Dubai emerged winner in Group B.

The final session of the debate was exciting with University of Wollongong in Dubai on the topic "Importance of Rural Development" slogging it out with Canadian University of Dubai on the topic "Importance of Transportation for Nigerian development". When a winner could not be decided, the panel of judges resolved to ask a member of each team a personal question. The first salvo went to Fountain Nnajioka of University of Wollongong who was asked to tell the audience what he would do to his country if given an opportunity. To this question, Fountain Nnajioka catalogue his love for his country and what he has been doing to co-students in campus. He therefore promise to do more if given an

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The finalist teams, Canadian University of Dubai and University of Wollongong in Dubai waiting for the final result to be announced by the Panel of Judges. (A curious moment)



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opportunity in future.

Same question went to Miss Maryam Adamu Abdullahi of Canadian University of Dubai. Maryam said she would want to restructure Nigerian financial system, and that her plan is to study Financial Management at the Master degree level so that she can perform the same feat as the current Governor of Central Bank of Nigeria, Malam Sanusi Lamido. The panel of judges asked her what she will do if she is appointed a Minister. Maryam said her priority would be to give Nigeria a financial direction. She received a standing ovation and was nicknamed Minister. With this, Canadian University of Dubai emerged the winner of the debate.





Representative of Nigerian Ambassador, Mr Paragalda presents the Nigerian Business Council trophy to winning team, Canadian University of Dubai.



Alhaji Muhammed Bawa, Director General of the Nigerian Trade Centre Dubai presents the second runners up prize to University of Wollongong in Dubai team.





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Agrarian society producing cotton, millet, sorghum, rice, livestock, peanuts, sheanuts, maize and other agricultural produce. There is also mining, agricultural processing plants, brewing and bottling, light industry. Its main export centres on cotton, gold, livestock, peanuts, shea nut products.

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*His Excellency Blaise Compaore
President of the Republic of Burkina Faso*

reduction programs for highly indebted poor countries. Real gross domestic product (GDP) growth, which has historically remained steady, is projected to increase from 3.2% in 2009 to 4.4% in 2010 and 4.7% in 2011. Burkina Faso is recognized as a good development performer and partner. From 2008 to 2009, annual assistance amounts have more than tripled to \$1.3 billion and annual per capita assistance was estimated in 2009 at \$81.

In the government resolve to improve its economy it is developing its mineral resources, particularly gold, improving its infrastructure, making its agricultural and livestock sectors more productive and competitive, and stabilizing the supplies and prices of food grains.

As earlier mentioned above, staple crops are millet, sorghum, maize, and rice. The cash crops are cotton, peanuts, karite (shea nuts), and sesame. Livestock, remain one of the major export while serious attention has been accorded gold export with 7.8 tons exported in 2009; it is projected that up to 20 tons could be exported in 2011. To date, Burkina Faso is Africa's largest producer of cotton, which is a

major export and in a good year accounts for over half of the value of all exports employing 17% of the population. In 2010, almost 80% of the cotton planted in Burkina Faso was grown from genetically modified seeds. Manufacturing is limited to cotton and food processing (mainly in Bobo-Dioulasso) and import substitution heavily protected by tariffs.

Some factories are privately owned, and others are set to be privatized. Burkina Faso's newly-written investment code has helped to promote foreign investment. In the International Finance Corporation's (IFC) Doing Business 2010 report, Burkina Faso ranks at 147 out of 183 countries, up from 155 in 2009 and 164 in 2008; this improvement reflects the country's successful efforts to create an environment conducive to business growth. Recent reforms include the adoption of a labor code in May



*Hon Laurent Sedogo
Minister of Agriculture & Water Resources*
2008, improving the process to transfer property, the elimination of commune authorization requirements, the creation of a one-stop shop to facilitate construction permits, a decrease of the corporate tax rate from 35% to 30%, and a decrease on dividend taxes from 15% to 12%. Foreign investors, particularly in the mining sector can be guaranteed quick return on investment. For additional information on Investment Opportunities in Burkina Faso, contact any office of Titlas Inc in London, Miami, Dubai, or Tokyo



Rwanda Coffee revenue grows

Export revenues from the Rwanda's Coffee is expected to increase by about 14 percent in 2011. According to survey, the profits are projected to rise from US\$56 million in 2010 to US\$ 70 million in 2011. Rwanda Coffee Development Authority has confirmed. The Authority plans to reach the target production of 22000 metric tonnes. In 2009 it was 16000 tonnes. Figures from the Authority indicate further that the country's green coffee production increased by 21.8 percent in 2010.

According to Alexander Kanyankole, the Director General of Rwanda Coffee Development Authority he explained that the projected increase in export revenues is due to improved quality of Rwandan coffee as well as higher prices on the world market. Harvesting which mainly produces the Arabica variety is done from March to July.



*His Excellency Paul Kagame
Rwandan President*

In 2010 the country realized about 51.3 percent increase in total coffee revenues. The coffee authority also said that the

cherry farm-gate, the price a farmer is paid per kilo of produce increased from 145 Rwf per kilo to 195 Rwf per kilo. Mr Kanyankole said that he is optimistic that this will increase farmers income and therefore encourage them to take care of coffee plantation to increase their yields. Rwanda Coffee Development Authority targets US\$100 million in foreign exchange earning in 2012 hoping to produce about 35000 tonnes through wider planting and improved farming techniques. Coffee prices on the world market are expected to remain firm because there is a general shortage of coffee in major coffee producing countries. Rwanda exports more than 98 percent of its crop in form of green beans.



Nigerian Central Bank Governor, world best



*Mallam Lamido Sanusi Lamido
Governor, Central Bank of Nigeria*

Mallam Lamido Sanusi Lamido, the Governor of Central Bank of Nigeria, has been adjudged the world best Central Bank Governor. According to Banker magazine, a publication of the Financial Times of London. The magazine noted that Sanusi has performed creditably well in the last 18 months in office to salvage the Nigerian economy. The Banker Magazine noted in its 2011 January Edition, which was distributed at the World Economic

Forum Davos Switzerland.

During Sanusi's tenure he implemented reforms that have put Africa's most promising market back on the map for investors globally. The Editor of the magazine, Brian Caplen noted that few candidate names can generate an overall consensus on judging panels and yet, when it came to finding the best global central bank governor of the year, Sanusi was chosen unanimously. Caplen stressed that Sanusi embarked on a radical anticorruption campaign aimed at saving 24 banks on the brink of collapse and pressed for the managers involved in the most blatant cases of corruption to be charged and, in the case of two senior bankers, convicted. "Despite the big challenge of facing up to powerful people who held considerable sway in the country, Sanusi never looked back and got

the support of the public as they were made aware of the scale of corruption, which made the public to support the change he promoted", Caplen said.

Two months into his governorship, Sanusi embarked on the bailout of Afribank, Intercontinental Bank, Union Bank, Oceanic Bank and Finbank and dismissed their chief executive officers in a move designed to show that banking is no longer business as usual but institutions that must serve the economy as a whole.

Another key reform of the banking sector introduced by Sanusi has been to limit the tenure of bank CEOs to a maximum of 10 years. They will have to leave office at the end of their term regardless of their record. This policy has already led to change of leadership at UBA, Zenith and Skye banks.

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Nigerian Central Bank Governor, world best

Caplen added that the reforms initiated by Sanusi have been seen as necessary to sanitise the banking industry and that observers have argued that, had these reforms not been initiated, Nigeria would have entered into another round of banking distress.

"The implementation of stricter disclosure policy by the CBN has also led to a culture of greater transparency in the sector", he said. The magazine noted that the reforms of Sanusi are to enhance the quality of the Nigerian banks, establish financial stability in the system, provide enabling and healthy financial-sector evolution as well as ensuring that the financial sector contributes to the real sector rather than just serving the banking sector alone.



*His Excellency Pierre Nkurunziza
President of the Republic of Burundi*

Burundi opens up right to use River Nile

Burundi finally appended its signature to water usage from Nile River, providing the Nile Basin Countries with the sixth endorsement which was mandatory to exploit waters from the mystic river. The agreement signed in Kampala, Uganda effectively paves way for the ratification of the long standing Nile Accord, a move likely to strip Egypt of its veto power over rights to the flow from the world's longest river. A 1929 treaty brokered by former colonial power, Britain, granted Egypt a veto over projects that may alter the flow of the Nile. Another 1959 accord between Egypt and Sudan claimed 90 percent of the Nile's flow for the two countries. After a decade of talks, five Nile nations Ethiopia, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya in May 2010 signed a deal that allowed upstream countries to implement irrigation and

hydropower projects without first seeking Egypt's approval. A sixth signatory was needed for the CFA to come into force and once it has been ratified by the six national legislatures, a Nile Basin Commission will be created.

After securing the sixth vital country endorsement, the Cooperative Framework Agreement (CFA) will establish a commission to oversee dam building and irrigation development, effectively stripping Egypt of the veto. "We are happy to join our colleagues in East Africa in signing this agreement," Burundian Water and Environment Minister Jean-Marie Nibirantije says. The Democratic Republic of Congo, which led a campaign for countries to sign the agreement in 2009, plans to sign the accord at an unspecified future date,

says Environment Minister Jose Endundo. The remaining upstream nation, Eritrea, wasn't involved in talks leading to the Accord. The CFA states that the commission will resolve the issue of water security in its first six months of operations. "The move by the government of Burundi has been hailed by Nile Technical Advisory Committee says a member Shillingi Mugisha of Uganda.

Egypt and Sudan have argued their water supply would be dangerously reduced if upstream countries are able to divert the river flow without multilateral consultation. Egypt warned in April 2010 that it would withdraw from the Nile Basin Initiative Convention on Cooperation in the Nile Basin known as NBI, if the seven upstream states signed the accord. Egypt built two very impotent hydroelectric power plants - Aswan Dam (1902) and Aswan High Dam (1967) allowing it better control with the flow all through the year. In January 2011, Egypt and Sudan asked Nile Basin countries to meet to discuss the legal implications of not all riparian states signing the agreement.

While the upstream nations refused to reopen negotiations, as Egypt requested, the NBI had scheduled an extraordinary meeting in January to help ease Egypt's concerns about the pact. According to Ethiopian Water and Energy Minister Alemayehu Tegen, the meeting was postponed because of the political problem in Egypt.

Some projects being considered on the Nile include a 60 to 80-megawatt hydropower plant at Rusumo Falls to serve Rwanda, Tanzania and Burundi, according to NBI. Building the power-generation plant and cross-border transmission lines over the next four years may cost \$350 million. "It's big news for us. We think this is in the interests

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Ghana economy to grow by 13% in 2011

The International Monetary Fund (IMF), has projected Ghana's economy to grow by about 13 per cent this year (2011).

According to the IMF the expansion of the economy will be as a result of growth in the non-oil sector and the start of oil production in the country.

"For 2011, the economy is projected to expand by about 13 percent, broadly evenly divided between growth of the non-oil economy and the start of oil production. The balance of payments is projected to remain in surplus, despite further import growth", said Mr Peter Allum, IMF Mission Chief for Ghana, in a press release.

Mr Allum, who visited the country together with his IMF team from February 16 to March 1, 2011, said it had discussions with government officials for the third and fourth reviews under the IMF's Extended Credit Facility (ECF) and for the 2011 Article IV consultations.

On budget policy, Mr Allum and his mission recommended to government that an additional effort should be made to strengthen the projected 2011 outturn, both to limit near-term financing needs and put the budget on a sounder footing over the medium term.

The IMF mission says Ghana's tax revenues, at less than 14 percent of GDP in 2010, fall well below the average of 20 percent of GDP for lower middle-income countries and discussions with Dr Kwabena Duffuor, Ghana's Finance Minister, focused on how to improve revenue performance, as well as on the government's plans to strengthen expenditure control and develop a comprehensive strategy for



*Dr Kwabena Duffuor,
Ghana's Finance Minister,*

managing arrears and related obligations.

The mission also held talks with Kwesi Amissah-Arthur governor of the Bank of Ghana.

"Discussions with the Bank of Ghana focused on sustaining low inflation and policies to address non-performing loans in the banking sector. Risks to inflation have shifted to the upside, reflecting rising demand pressures, global commodity prices, and easing domestic liquidity.

To consolidate inflation in single digits, policy tightening may be needed in the course of 2011" Mr Allum said.

"During the mission, progress was made in identifying options to further strengthen fiscal



*Kwesi Amissah-Arthur
Governor of the Bank of Ghana.*

Continue from page 23

Burundi opens River Nile

of Burundi and all riparian countries. We believe it's even in the interests of Egypt, as this is the only way we can be in a win-win situation," says Khairy Wael, NBI Executive Director.

The Nile River's average discharge is about 300 million cubic meters per day and Ethiopia is the source of about 85 percent of the water that flows to Sudan and Egypt. But the role played by the Nile in human life and history is much more important. This river is the maker of the oldest civilization recorded. About 5,000 years ago, the Egyptian state emerged on its banks. It is best known as the longest river on the planet at 6,695 km long.

performance and agreement was reached on a range of other policy issues. Continuing discussions will seek to confirm a policy framework that could allow the IMF Executive Board to consider the third and fourth reviews under the ECF together with the 2011 Article IV consultation in May 2011", He added.

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Namibia's cement plant demonstrates EIB's support.

The European Investment Bank (EIB) welcomes the inauguration of Namibia's only cement plant. The Ohorongo facility, the most modern cement plant in Africa located 435km north of Namibia's capital Windhoek. The plant will comply with the same strict environmental and emission control standards as used by sister facilities in Germany. Operation of the Ohorongo plant ends Namibia's reliance on imported cement and will supply demand in Botswana, Zambia and post civil-war Angola.

The European Investment Bank, the European Union's long-term lending institution, will provide over EUR 82 million for the EUR 250 million project in recognition of the Ohorongo plant's expected contribution to local employment and high environmental standards. DEG, part of Germany's KfW

Inauguration of the Ohorongo Cement factory is a pivotal investment towards the strengthening of the industrial sector in Namibia. The factory will support the goals set out in the country's long-term development strategy Vision 2030 for optimal utilization of the country's resources and diversification of its economy.

The new cement plant will be an important addition to cement capacity in the region, enabling the expansion of infrastructure, housing and economic development broadly. In addition, it will provide over 300 direct jobs and provide indirect employment for over 2,000 people in the Tsumeb area, a poor rural district. The plant has been built with advanced, improved technology, featuring not only improved energy efficiency, but also the innovative use of alternative fuel, namely the

encroacher bush, which will supply up to 30% of the cement plant's energy demand; this is being done in a win-win partnership with the local community and indigenous farmers, promoting further local employment and income generation for agrarian community." noted Admassu Tadesse, DBSA's Group Executive responsible for the Bank's financing and investments in Africa.

The Ohorongo plant will have an annual production capacity of 700,000 tonnes and cover cement production from raw material preparation to cement dispatching. The loan will also finance a grinding mill, access roads, railway track and housing facilities for the workforce.

The Ohorongo plant will provide over 300 direct jobs and provide indirect employment for over 2,000 people in the Tsumeb area.



Here you get mouth watering and 'finger licking' authentic African dishes from different corners of the continent prepared and served in a relaxed friendly environment



Nigerian in UK elect new officers.

The sixth annual general meeting of Central Association of Nigerians in UK (CANUK) held in the Hall of the Nigeria High Commission, London elected new officers to run the affairs of the Association. The AGM was Chaired by Minister Akin Oyateru Head Political Affairs of the Nigerian High Commission, London.

In his annual report Dr Mark Abani

He also formally placed on record his appreciation of the support given to CANUK over the years by all the High Commissioners and their staff.

The Financial Secretary Mr Yusuf Tockan and Treasurer Mrs June Douglas jointly presented the financial reports and explained that they had changed to cash based accounting system in line with the last AGM directive.

Professor Oba Nsugbe, QC, SAN



*Chief Bimbo Robert Folayan,
newly elected Chairman of Central Association of Nigerians in UK*

the outgoing Chairman of CANUK outlined the achievements of CANUK in the past year. He congratulated the outgoing Executive for their hard work and wish the incoming Executive well

the Legal Adviser, moved a motion to amend the constitution so as to include a provision for an Advisory Body. To this effect, a committee consisting of Mrs Remi Ayala,

Chief George Nwogu, Dr Dilly Anumba, Mrs Martha Osamor and Mr Ogbu Chinedu was put in place for review within 90 days.

The report of the outgoing executive was adopted on motion moved by Mrs Martha Osamor and seconded by Dr Nnanna Igwe. The Finance report was also adopted on a motion by Dr Ejikeme Uzoalor and seconded by Dr Sunday Popoola.

Mr Osita Chukwulobelu supported by Dr Ife Akintunde moved the motion for the dissolution of the current executive and this was duly passed by the AGM.

This was followed by election of the new executive with Mr Kayode Ogunsola Chairman NIDOE UK as returning officer. The result of the election was as follows; Total votes cast 52: Chief Bimbo Roberts Folayan - 43 votes; Charles Okobia - 9 votes; no abstentions. Chief Bimbo Robert Folayan was duly elected and made his opening address as new CANUK chairman.

Other members of the new executive are: Mr Chima Olugu - 1st Vice Chair; Dr Abiodun Fakokunde - General Secretary Mr Yusuf Tockan - Financial Secretary; Mrs June Douglas - Treasurer; Mrs Remi Aiyela - Legal Advisor; Mr Isaac Namabiri - Welfare Secretary. However the offices of 2nd Vice Chair, Asst Gen Secretary, Social Secretary, and Publicity Secretary could not be filled. The AGM was rounded up with presentation of Certificate of Merits by the outgoing Executives.

African Artists honored in USA

The African Producers USA Award Night organized by Ghawood Angel Productions was recently held at the Hampton Place in Maryland USA to honor African Filmmakers/Producers in the United States. A number of dignitaries including some diplomats such as the Ambassador of Ghana attended the event and

participated in presenting some of the awards to recipients. Amongst the recipients were Oliver O. Mbamara, Bethels Agomuoh, and Felix Nnorom.

The event was in appreciation for the producers who have been pioneering the way for African movies in the USA. Often the focus and accolade are heaped on the stars

of the movies while the producers many of whom have to go through a lot to produce these films are rarely recognized or acknowledged.

Other producers who received awards at the event include Moses Adedeji, Chisom Ozi-Lee, Roy Madu, Tony Abulu, Boyce Ugbo, Kwame Boadu,

Continue on page 28

(AISCE)



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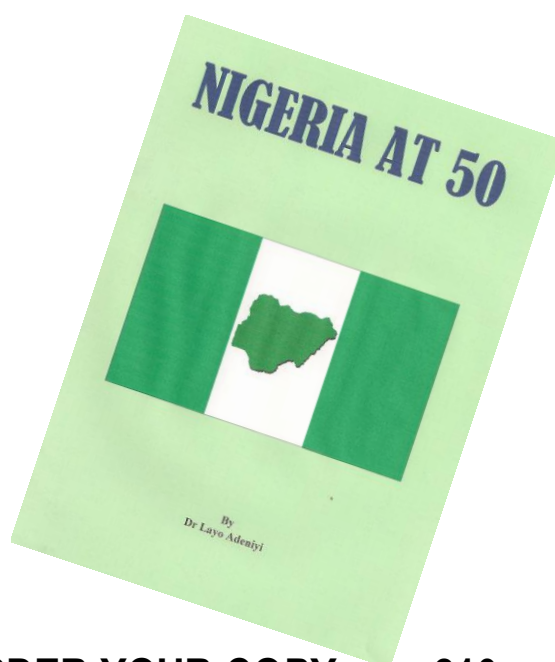
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African Artists honored in USA

Akim Macauley, John Uche, Michael Nwesei, Mohammed Conteh, Augustine Chima, Emmanuel Ijeh, Koby Maxwell, Gifty Adu-Darko, George Okere, Joy Orie, and Nana Ampem who helped put the event together.

Following is the award in picture

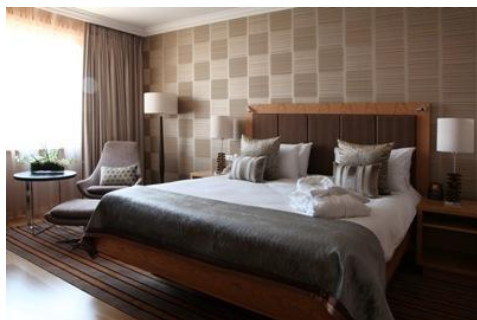


The Hilton Sandton

Set amongst landscaped gardens, the Hilton Sandton is conveniently located in Sandton, the largest and most thriving urban development in Johannesburg, offering easy access to the largest shopping centers, the main banking institutions and Johannesburg Stock Exchange.



The Hilton Sandton boasts 329 luxurious rooms including 35 beautifully furnished suites, six of which have sundrenched terraces as well as suitably configured rooms for the comfort of the disabled. All the rooms feature satellite television, a mini bar, tea and coffee making facilities, fax and modem points, an in-room safe and high speed internet access. In February this year, the Hilton Sandton introduced a new level of revamped deluxe rooms on second and third floors of the hotel. The new deluxe suites, king and twin rooms boast clean lines and dedicated zones aimed at meeting the comfort and functional requirements of the Hilton guest.



The new rooms are ideally equipped with state-of-the-art technology ensuring that the needs of the corporate traveler are met. Multimedia connection options allow guests to project any high definition multimedia interface device or video graphic and stereo audio devices directly onto the television. The Executive Floor features an executive lounge offering guests a unique experience with impressive views across Sandton and Johannesburg. The Executive Lounge is perfect to use as a work space or for relaxation. Guests staying on the Executive Floor can enjoy private check-in facilities, complimentary breakfast, drinks, canapes

and newspapers. The Hilton Sandton is renowned for being the ideal location of host meetings and other corporate events. Situated in the heart of Sandton's business district, the Hilton Sandton can cater for large and small business meetings, focus groups, events, brainstorming and other corporate activities, with nine meeting rooms all equipped with the latest technology, air conditioning panels and adjustable light options.



The rooms are also designed to be configured to fit the requirements of different size gatherings. The ballroom, located on the meetings level is perfect for larger functions and is suitable for banquets and large corporate events as it can host up to 1000 guests. All meeting rooms and the ballroom lead to the outside terrace which overlooks the swimming pool and is ideal for coffee and tea breaks. Dining at the Hilton Sandton can be experienced in both the Sushi and Teppanyaki Bar and the Tradewinds Restaurant. The Sushi and Teppanyaki Bar is the Hilton's best kept secret where outside customers and guests can enjoy a Far Eastern culinary experience with professional Sushi and Teppanyaki Chefs.

These chefs not only provide an alternative dining experience but also offer Sushi lessons to individuals and corporate guests as a fun team building activity. The Tradewinds Restaurant provides guests with a buffet or à la carte menu option with a choice of South African or International cuisine. Additional Facilities at the Hilton Sandton include a pond area, swimming pool with Gazebo Bar offering light meals and tantalizing cocktails. Guest's can enjoy beauty treatments such as the famous "Ozone" detox treatment and make use of the gym facilities at the Hilton's Wellness Centre and Spa, or make use of the complimentary Tennis Court facilities. These chefs not only provide an alternative dining experience but also offer Sushi lessons to individuals and corporate guests as a fun team building activity. The Trade winds Restaurant provide guests with a

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South Africa under apartheid

These groups were split further into thirteen "nations" or racial federations. White people encompassed the English and Afrikaans language groups; the black populace was divided into ten such groups.

The state passed laws which paved the way for "grand apartheid", which was centred on separating races on a large scale, by compelling people to live in separate places defined by race. In addition, "petty apartheid" laws were passed. The principal apartheid laws were as follows:

The first grand apartheid law was the Population Registration Act of 1950, which formalised racial classification



Victim of Apartheid oppression carried

forced removal. Further legislation in 1951 allowed the government to demolish black shackland slums and forced white employers to pay for the construction of housing for those black workers who were permitted to reside in cities otherwise reserved for white people.

The Prohibition of Mixed Marriages Act of 1949 prohibited marriage between persons of different races, and the Immorality Act of 1950 made sexual relations with a person of a different race a criminal offence. Under the Reservation of Separate Amenities Act of 1953, municipal grounds could be reserved for a particular race, creating, among other things, separate beaches, buses, hospitals, schools and universities.



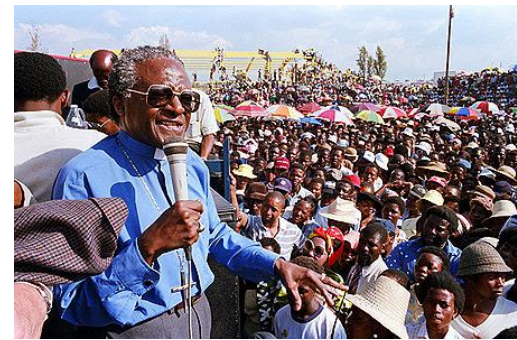
Demonstrating Youths



Nelson and Winnie Mandela

Signboards such as "whites only" applied to public areas, even including park benches. Black people were provided with services greatly inferior to those of whites, and, to a lesser extent, to those of Indian and coloured people. An act of 1956 formalised racial discrimination in employment.

Further laws had the aim of suppressing resistance, especially armed resistance, to apartheid. The



Bishop Desmond Tutu addressing a rally

Suppression of Communism Act of 1950 banned the South African Communist Party and any other political party that the government chose to label as communist. Disorderly gatherings were banned, as were certain organizations that were deemed threatening to the government.

Education was segregated by means of the 1953 Bantu Education Act which crafted a separate system of education for African students and was designed to prepare black people for lives as a labouring class. In 1959 separate universities were created for black, coloured and Indian people. Existing universities were not permitted to enroll new black students.



Oliver Reginald Tambo – ANC leader

and introduced an identity card for all persons over the age of eighteen, specifying their racial group. Official teams or Boards were established to come to an ultimate conclusion on those people whose race was unclear. This caused difficulty, especially for coloured people, separating their families as members were allocated different races.

The second pillar of grand apartheid was the Group Areas Act of 1950. Until then, most settlements had people of different races living side by side. This Act put an end to diverse areas and determined where one lived according to race. Each race was allotted its own area, which was used in later years as a basis

Continue in the next edition

Dutch Queen Beatrix on Royal visit to Qatar

The bilateral relationship between Netherlands (Holland) and State of Qatar received a boost when Queen Beatrix paid a royal visit to Doha in the month of March 2011. During the visit, the two monarchs reiterated the need for further co-operations in the area of Arts, Energy, and general business. Accompanied by Prince Willem Alexander and Princess Maxima the Dutch Royal Monarch inspected a Guard of Honour mounted by Qatari Armed Forces in Her Royal Majesty's Honor. State of Qatar is a fast developing Gulf Region country that has enjoyed advance goodwill in the international business community. Its airline Qatar Airways flies to many African countries.



Dutch Queen Beatrix with Princess Maxima and Prince Willem Alexander received at Qatar Airport by the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani



Dutch Queen Beatrix meets Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani



Queen Beatrix and Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, inspect Qatari Armed Forces Guard of Honor



Dutch Queen Beatrix discusses with Emir of Qatar Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani



Queen Beatrix holds a falcon while Prince Willem and Princess Maxima looks on



Princess Maxima holds a falcon



Prince Willem Alexander look at paintings with Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani

Being big

One fantastic day there were three friends Professor Zee who was usually in the bin for bits for his brilliant inventions, and his friends Jack and Jade. Jack and Jade were getting some parts for his invention. Jack had got a pipe line and Jade had got nothing at all she nearly got tramped on. The humans were massive to them even a 5 year old girl looked like a giant. Jade walked slowly to Professor Zee looking exhausted. "What's the matter with you?" Professor Zee asked. "I ... nearly got tramped by the humans," Jade answered. "You are unlucky," Jack said "a nice boy saw me looking for the bits and bobs and gave me this pipes." Zee started to smile. He took the pipes off Jack. "Hold on," Professor Zee went into the shed.

One hour later Zee had finished. He even painted his invention to a nice purple. "So Professor what does this machine do," Jade asked anxiously. "Well this machine makes us human," the Professor replied. "I don't believe you," Jack answered Professor.

By Adetunji Yomi Adeniyi



"I knew you were going to say that." All in a sudden Professor Zee pressed a button on his watch and out of nowhere the machine came. Professor pressed some buttons on the machine. Suddenly a green laser shot out of a hole. The laser hit Jack all in sudden Jack turned into a 10 year old kid. And then Jade said "lets have a turn," and she to got hit by the green laser and turned into a 15 year old teenager. nowhere the machine came. Professor pressed some buttons on the machine. Suddenly a green

laser shot out of a hole. The laser hit Jack all in sudden Jack turned into a ten year old And then Jade said "lets have a turn," and she to got hit by the green laser and turned into a 15 year old teenager. Jack had a spot on his right hand side on his face, he had a uniform on, like he saw that the humans had when he went to look for a part of the machine. He had some shiny black shoes on, that had a football sign. On the other side Jack liked it the fact that he was a human but he still did not like the uniform. Jade had a small amount of pimples on her face. She had black shoes like ack but her shoes had a flower on them. She had a uniform too but it was not like Jacks at all. She was in secondary school. So she had a tie on and had lots of books in her hand. "Cool, look at me," Jack said while looking at himself. "Am a human," Jade said, "Bye." Jade ran out of the gate and into the big wide world. And so did Jack he ran after Jade. When Jade got to the street she was greeted by loads of people, "this is great," Jade said "I've never been greeted before, because I was a mouse." "I like being a human."

Continue in the next edition

GRAND CENTRAL HOTEL



CHANGE OF NAME

I formerly known as Hellen Mathew now wish to be known as Mrs Hellen Garge. All former documents remain valid. Angolan Embassy London and Home Office to please note.

I formerly known as Francisca Matovu now wish to be known as Francisca Nelso. All documents remain valid. Uganda High Commission, London and Home Office to please note.

I formerly known as Zainab Nasiru Numan now wish to be known as Grace Tale Ojo All documents remain valid. Nigeria High Commission and Home Office to please note.

I formerly known as Felicia Atou now wish to be known as Mrs Felicia Ibrahim. All documents remain valid. Gambian High Commission London and The Home Office to please note.

I formerly known as Victoria Igonaju now wish to be known as Mrs Victoria McAthur. All documents remain valid. Kenyan High Commission and Home Office to please note.

I formerly known as MaryAnn Thomas now wish to be known as Mrs Mary Ann Soriano. All documents remain valid. Zambian High Commission London and Home Office to please note.

I formerly known as Mary Franklin now wish to be known as Mrs Mary Erickson. All documents remain valid. South African High Commission, London and Home Office to please note.

I formerly known as Janet Madichie now wish to be known as Mrs Janet Mwanzia, All documents remain valid. Nigerian High Commission London and Home Office to please note,.

I formerly known as Karen Kutulu now wish to be known as Mrs Karen Francke. All documents remain valid. Sierra Leone High Commission UK to please note

I formerly known as Liza Britinica Papadou now wish to be known as Mrs Liza Willoughby. All documents remain valid. Liberian Embassy London and UK Immigration to please note.

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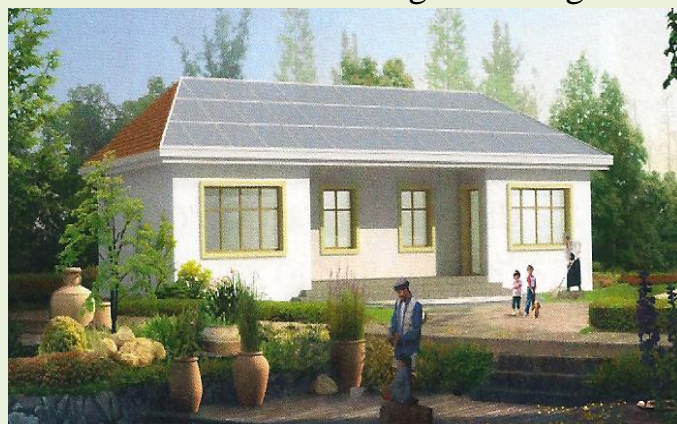
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