

J-K GADZAMA LLP

NEWSLETTER VOL 11, NUMBER 9 (JANUARY - MARCH 2016) ISSN NO: 1598_8289.



Hon. Justice Centus Chima Nweze (Justice of the Supreme Court of Nigeria) at the Nigerian Bar Association Abuja Branch (Unity Bar) November Monthly Meeting/8th J-K Gadzama LLP Annual Lecture which held at J-K Gadzama Court on Friday 6th, November, 2015



Editorial

Welcome to the 1st quarter of 2016. As we usher in a new year, we are mindful in retrospect of certain profound events that have occurred within the legal circle and the nation's political landscape.

As a radical departure from the past, we are elated to have more lawyers winning political/elective positions in the country. For the very first time, we have a lawyer and a reputable senior member of the Bar in the person of his Excellency Professor Yemi Osinbajo, SAN, GCON as the Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

This is a colourful feather to the cap of the legal profession. We also parade a host of Governors. They are: Alhaji Mohammed Abdullahi Abubakar as Governor of Bauchi State; Hon. Aminu Waziri Tambuwal as Governor of Sokoto State; Rt. Hon. Simon Bako Lalong as Governor of Plateau State; Mr. Nyesom Wike as Governor of Rivers State and Hon. Henry Seriake Dickson who was re-elected as Governor of Bayelsa State.

Similarly, within the last quarter of the year 2015, the country witnessed a quantum leap in the number of learned members of the Bar in the President's ministerial cabinet. Legal icons like Abubakar Malami SAN (Minister of Justice & Attorney General of the Federation); Babatunde Fashola SAN (Minister of Power, Works and Housing) Lai Mohammed (Minister of Information); Aisha Jummai AlHassan (Minister of Women Affairs) James Ocholi SAN (Minister of State, Labour and Employment); Dr. Ibe Kachikwu (Minister of State for Petroleum) amongst others made the list and are holding sensitive portfolios.

Still on elections, the Country witnessed an unprecedented occurrence in its political realm. This was the sudden demise of Prince Abubakar Audu, the Governorship candidate of the APC, before the conclusion of the Kogi state Gubernatorial election,

on 21st of November, 2015. This is the first time in the course of a democratic transition that a validly nominated candidate of a political party will die after an inconclusive election but before and without participating in the supplementary election. His death therefore ignited several Constitutional issues like: who will inherit the votes cast in his favour and whether it is legally permissible for his running mate, the Deputy Governorship candidate, to substitute the deceased as the Governorship candidate? There have been several legal arguments and opinions with respect to this emerging lacuna which are all subjudice. We do hope that our laws are reviewed to accommodate situations of this sort.

You will find in this edition a keynote address titled "Observance of Human Rights in Times of Conflict" delivered by the Learned Silk, Prince Adetokunbo Kayode, CON, SAN, FCI Arb (UK) a former Minister of Defence. This paper was delivered during the Nigerian Bar Association Workshop which held on 30th November, 2015 in Maiduguri, Borno State, Nigeria.

In another development, the firm hosted the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA), Abuja branch (Unity Bar) monthly meeting for the month of November, 2015. The firm also utilized the platform to give its Annual Lecture for the year 2015 with Hon. Justice Centus Chima Nweze (JSC) as its Guest Speaker.

The Firm hosted a Call-to-the Nigerian Bar reception in honour of Madu Joe Gadzama Esq, the son of the Founder/Principal Partner. The Firm also celebrated one of its former staff, Her Worship Fatima Ibrahim Bukar, who is now a Magistrate in the Federal Capital Territory by hosting a cocktail party in her honour. The two events were marked by a great turnout of distinguished guests and excellent wining and dinning.

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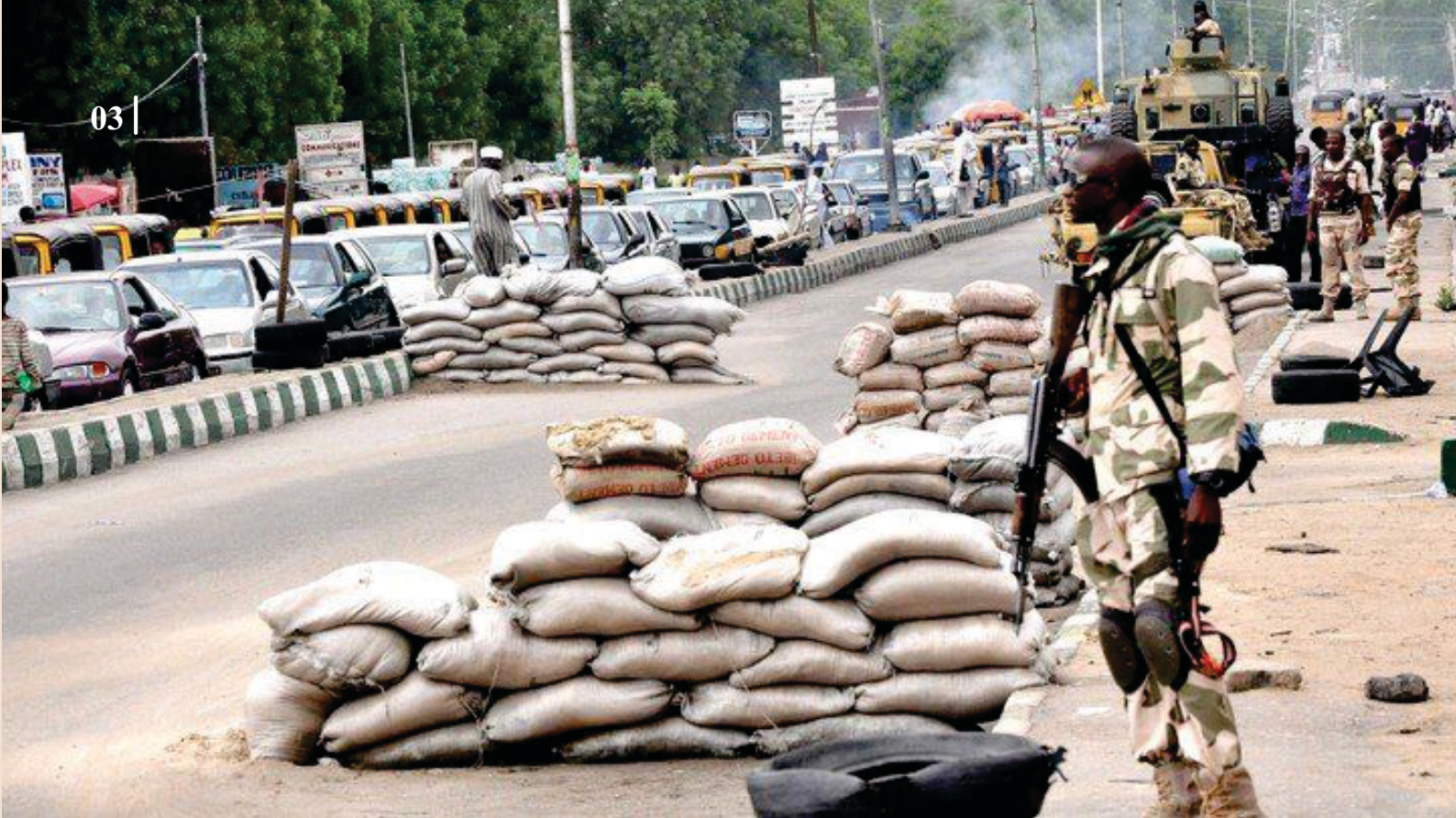
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OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN TIMES OF CONFLICT

A KEYNOTE ADDRESS DELIVERED BY
PRINCE ADETOKUNBO KAYODE, CON, SAN, FCI Arb (UK)

AT THE

NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION WORKSHOP

WHICH HELD ON 30TH NOVEMBER, 2015 IN MAIDUGURI, BORNO STATE NIGERIA.

INTRODUCTION

Many violent conflicts are associated with grotesque and terrible violations of human rights. War crimes and acts of genocide violate the most fundamental and broadly accepted principles of human conduct. Today our country is in a serious conflict situation. It is a fact that since 2009, our Nation has been battling with the Boko Haram terrorism and insurgency mainly in, but not necessarily limited to, the North Eastern states of Nigeria. There are other areas of conflict. The resurgence of the campaign for Biafra, the Niger Delta "peace of the grave yard", national kidnaping epidemic, acute lawlessness and violent criminal activities. The Nigerian military has engaged the insurgent group in order to bring its activities to an end. These conflicts have been responsible for the death of thousands of innocent civilians, as well as security and military personnel. The modus operandi of the insurgencies and conflicts have included suicide bombings and incendiary attacks on towns, villages, institutions, schools, national and

international institutions, banks, markets, motor parks, recreation facilities, armed attacks on civilian population, kidnaping, maiming and rape of women and children. This spate of activities is exemplified by the abduction of over 245 school girls in Chibok, in 2014, a sad event, which received global condemnation and opprobrium. But it is anecdotal of the dire nature of the conflict and challenges facing us as a nation.

All these are on one side. There is a flip side. There are allegations, mainly by bodies like Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and even the US Department of State and a few others, to the effect that military and security forces officially engaged in counter terrorism and counterinsurgency as well as other security duties, battling this conflicts, have in the course of their onerous tasks, violated various rights protected under national and international laws.

In this Key Note address I will attempt to set the tone for further deliberation and discussion on basic issues

that arise in conflict situations and why, how and when protected rights may be violated. I will also try to contribute to the conversation as to how our armed forces may be able to avoid the violation of rights or the accusations, sometimes inevitable, of violation of protected rights.

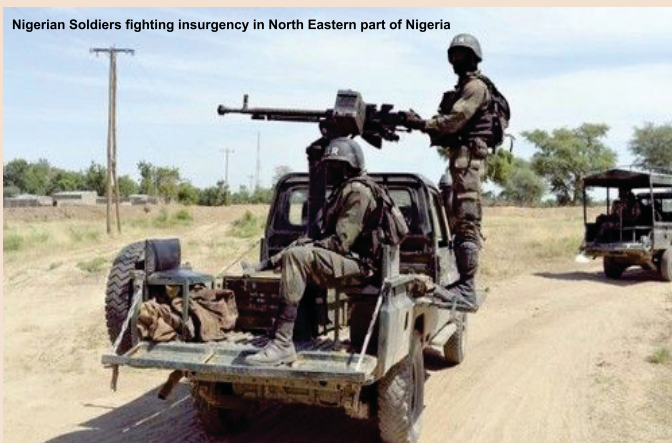
But it is appropriate to start by examining certain basic concepts. Then I will present series of anecdotes to hopefully demonstrate the challenges that we all face: whether as rights activists, observers, public, government, commentators, or security services.

I hope to explore (a) The meaning and nature of armed conflicts, (b) the concept and applicability of Human Rights Laws and International Humanitarian Law in armed conflicts, (c) rights of terrorists, insurgents, "enemy combatants", kidnappers, "prisoners of war" etc., and especially the right to judicial determination of guilt or other wise and finally (d) the duties and responsibilities of Security forces and state actors to these categories of people as well as the civilian populace.

It is assumed that non-state actors (like "Boko Haram" and ISIL) will not comply with national and international norms because they do not accept these norms in the first place. And that is why they are what they are.

CHANGING NATURE OF WAR: War in the conventional sense is an "armed conflict" between nations. But this has changed. Recently we now have "wars among people"; low intensity, asymmetric, formless wars fought using guerrilla, hit and run, opportunistic tactics, hitting soft targets and indeed any targets, children, women, places of worship, the old, the young, and generally without rules or without respecting basic rules of war as known in the past.

The move from "wars between nations" of the second half of the 20th century to the "wars among the



people" at the beginning of the 21st century has been profound. While most armed forces (like Nigeria) were prepared/trained for 'war', high-intensity, major conflicts, they now find themselves confronted with "the new war", unforeseen threats – suicide bombers, car bombs, IEDs. In developed countries, the search for solutions to these new challenges has led to a major or radical change in strategy and tactics of war.

PARADIGM SHIFT: General Sir Rupert Smith published in 2005, the book, *The Utility of Force: The Art of War in the Modern World*. This is a treatise on modern warfare and is a leading authority on the changing nature of warfare. The retired general spent 40 years in the British Army; he commanded the 1st Armoured Division in the First Gulf War and served as General Officer Commanding Northern Ireland at the end of the Troubles. He was motivated to write the book by his experiences in the Balkans. He commanded the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in Bosnia from 1995 to 1996, during which time the Srebrenica massacre occurred. He also served as NATO's Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe, overseeing air strikes against Serb targets.

Smith's thesis, and the central theme of *The Utility of Force*, is that the world entered a new paradigm of conflict towards the end of the 20th century, which he calls "war amongst the people", and that Western, industrialised (conventional) armies are ill-suited to the new style of warfare. The defining characteristics of "war amongst the people" are that conflicts tend to be timeless, more political in nature, and fought between parties that are part of, and amongst, the civilian population rather than between uniformed armies on a battlefield.

Smith states that the advent of nuclear weapons rendered industrial warfare obsolete, but that Western governments and generals refused to acknowledge the new paradigm, which led to several significant defeats in the second half of the 20th century. In his conclusion, Smith argues that military force is only part of the solution in modern conflicts, and that it must be combined with political initiatives which together, will subdue but not necessarily end the conflict.

Also, in *Winning Wars amongst the People, Case Studies in Asymmetric Conflict*, (2014), a distinguished military historian, Peter Kiss wrote "Experience gained in conventional war can often be directly utilized on other fronts, in other theaters, even in other wars. This does not hold true for asymmetric warfare: the social, political and economic conditions

as well as the root causes are unique to each conflict, and so are the tactics and operational principles of the belligerents.

Since the end of World War II a paradigm shift has occurred in armed conflict. Asymmetric, or fourth-generation warfare—the challenge of nonstate belligerents to the authority and power of the state—has become the dominant form of conflict, while interstate conventional war has become an increasingly irrelevant instrument of statecraft. In asymmetric conflicts, the enemy is often a fellow citizen with a different vision for the future of the country—waging war among the people, maneuvering on the borderlines between parliamentary politics, street politics, criminal activity, and combat operations. *Winning Wars amongst the People* analyzes the special circumstances of asymmetric conflicts in the domestic context and seeks to identify those principles that allow a democratic state's security forces to meet the challenge, while at the same time obey their homeland's laws, protect its culture, observe its values, and maintain its liberties, traditions, and way of life.

Using five detailed case studies, Peter A. Kiss explains the fundamental differences between the paradigm of conventional warfare and that of asymmetric warfare as well as the latter's political, social, and economic roots and main characteristics. Most importantly, he identifies the measures a government must take to prepare its security forces and other institutions of state for an asymmetric conflict.

MEANING AND NATURE OF ARMED CONFLICT

It is imperative that we use the term “armed conflicts” like the Boko Haram insurgency as generic concepts for the purpose of this discussion. The event witnessed in our North East region has involved a level of intense but sporadic, asymmetric combat situation and hostilities between the Nigerian Armed and Security Forces and the Boko Haram Group. Some have termed the conflict in the North East as a “war”. That may be so in the general sense. But it cannot be war in the cold conventional sense.

So there is no universally acceptable meaning of armed conflict. The Executive Committee of the International Law Association mandated its Use of Force Committee to prepare a Report to give some sense to the meaning of armed conflict under international law. The Committee relying on Article 2 definition of Armed Conflict by the Geneva Conventions, 1949 identified two characteristics common to all armed conflicts, they are:



1. The existence of organized armed groups under a certain command structure with the capacity to sustain military operations.
2. Engagement in intense hostilities i.e use of military might by the belligerents.

An armed conflict exists whenever there is a resort to the use of Armed Forces of a State against another, or continuous armed violence between State Agencies and organized armed groups, or between such armed groups within a State.

Generally, armed conflicts are classified into two; “International Armed Conflict” (IAC) i.e Armed conflict between the Armed Forces of two states or armed conflict beyond the territory of a party to the conflict, and “Non-International Armed Conflict”(NIAC) such as the Boko haram scenario here in the North East of Nigeria.

It is now generally agreed as a matter of international customary law and jus cogens, that both Human Rights and international Humanitarian Law apply to all armed conflicts; be it IAC or NIAC. As a matter of fact, authors refer to armed conflict as the “trigger” for the observance of human rights and humanitarian Law.

Now, I will proceed to talk about the observance of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law in Armed Conflicts. I will start with Human Rights Law, even though both are intertwined and overlapping.

HUMAN RIGHTS LAW

International Human Rights Law is reflected in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights treaties. It is also covered by Chapter 4 of our Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 as amended. These rights have become part of international customary law, binding on all States, whether or not the State is party to the treaties or not. The observance of the freedoms guaranteed thereunder are obligatory and applicable in time of peace and during wars, armed conflicts or hostilities. Core universal human rights treaties include, amongst many others:

- **International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and its Optional Protocol.** This treaty safeguards the economic, social and cultural rights of people such as right to livelihood, right to enjoy social amenities, right to practice and enjoy cultural practices and heritages.
- **International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its two Optional Protocols.** Right to Vote and be voted for, right of association, Right to Protection by the State etc are to be safeguarded by the treaty. The rights guaranteed under these international treaties have been domesticated by all the countries in the world, either by enshrining the rights into their Bill Of Rights or Constitutions. Nigeria has incorporated the core of these rights into (Chapter Four of) the Constitution of Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999.

The take-away here is that these rights are obligatory, guaranteed and enforceable by the State, with some level of exceptions. These rights must be respected and cannot be derogated from, by any person or group.

It flows therefore that in armed conflicts, actors or belligerents must observe the human rights guaranteed internationally and those contained in the Constitution or laws of the State(s) participating in the armed conflict.

Non-observance of these rights could result in dire consequences for the culpable party, be it the State, its Armed Forces or members of insurgency/armed group (like Boko Haram) or be it an individual. The Human Rights Committee and Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights monitor the observance of

these rights by States and regularly report to the UN Security Council, who in turn takes appropriate action in that regard. International Criminal Court and other International Tribunal may try persons for rights abuse in time of peace or particularly in time of conflicts.

Based on daily reports of what we know and Reports by international NGOs, it is firmly established that the Boko Haram insurgents, on a daily basis, violate human rights of the people of the North-East, including vulnerable women and children. Right to life, Freedom of Religion, Right to raise a family, etc mean nothing to the insurgents. They kill, maim, rape, kidnap, abduct, cause chaos, public disturbance and create fear in the minds of the populace. They are also liable to be tried for war crimes and genocide

A compilation of some of the Attacks carried out by Boko Haram include:

September 7, 2010: Raid on a prison in Bauchi, Nigeria, freeing over 700 inmates.

June 2011: Boko Haram's first suicide bombing takes place at a police station in Abuja.

Christmas Eve 2010: Bombings of churches during Christmas services kill 32, (Jos and Maiduguri).

August 26, 2011: Suicide bombing of the United Nations headquarters in Abuja kills 23 people in one of the deadliest attacks in the U.N.'s history.

December 25, 2011: Attacks on five churches in response to Christmas celebrations kill about 40 people. Attacks struck Madalla, Jos, Gadaka and Damaturu.

January 2012: Attacks across Kano kill about 185 people.

April 2012: Car bomb near a church in Kaduna holding an Easter service kills about 40.

July 2012: Suicide bombing of a mosque in Maiduguri that fails to kill the most senior imam in Borno but kills five Muslims.

February, 2013: Kidnapping of seven French citizens in Cameroon. Released two months later after payment of ransom

August 11, 2013: Massacre of 44 Muslims during prayers at mosques in Konduga.

September 29, 2013: Massacre of 44 teachers and male students at a college in Gujba.



November 2013: Kidnapping of a French priest in Cameroon. Released six weeks later after payment of ransom

February 15, 2014: Storming of Christian village in Izghe, Cameroon, killing 106.

February 26, 2014: Attack on a college in Buni Yadi kills 29 students.

"One killed as suspected Boko Haram female suicide bombers strike in Nigeria". ABC. 24 October 2015. Retrieved

AP (30 October 2015). "Nigerian military: 338 captives rescued from Boko Haram". Philadelphia Sun. Retrieved 2 November 2015.

IMPACT OF BOKO HARAM INSURGENCY ON NIGERIA: *One may ask what has been the Impact of Boko Haram on the North and Implications for Nigeria in general and Northern Nigeria in particular. The impact on NIGERIA is mainly to expose the public safety challenges and force government to divert scarce resources into security enforcement rather than into socio-economic development. But in the North, the impact has been traumatic and debilitating:*

LOSS OF LIVES: *Boko Haram's attacks have undermined public safety across the region and scarred its economy and development. Thousands of lives have been lost during the insurgency. The attacks increased during the first three months of 2014, with almost daily killings, bombings and destruction of schools, homes and businesses. According to Amnesty International, at least 1,500 people were killed in that period. Several weeks earlier, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) reported that more than 1,000 were killed and 249,446 displaced (one in five of the total population) since January in Borno, Yobe and Adamawa states.*

EDUCATION: *In Borno state, the attacks had destroyed 882 classrooms as of August 2013; in Yobe state, all schools were shut from June to September 2013. On 6 March 2014, the Federal Government closed five Federal Colleges (also known as unity schools) in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states, ordering their estimated 10,000 students to relocate. Parents, fearing attacks, have withdrawn thousands of children from schools, in a region already perceived to be the most educationally backward in the country. Economic activities have been similarly disrupted. In September 2012, the insurgents destroyed more than 25 GSM masts and base stations in Maiduguri, Potiskum, Bauchi, Gombe and Kano, setting back*



efforts to improve telecommunications in the region.

IMPACT ON RELIGION: *Boko Haram's attacks have also deepened religious and regional fault lines, reversing some of the country's hard-won gains in building national unity and stability. Its assaults on churches and mosques have been relentless.*

Humanitarian Challenge: *Now, the Nigerian State, (and the international community has a duty to assist Nigeria) to protect Nigerians, Nigerian territorial integrity, and all who reside therein, to subdue, arrest and prosecute these insurgents for the gross human right abuses they have committed against the country and the people.*

On its own part, the Nigerian Armed forces, by training and doctrine is expected to observe the principles of human rights, even in war situation. In fact, in conventional warfare/conflict situation, both side of the conflict have abiding duty to and usually are committed to observance of human rights. But in our circumstance, while the Nigerian State is obliged to and do endeavor so to do, usually the non state actors (like Boko Haram) do not feel obligated to comply.

This puts the state actors (our armed forces) in a quagmire. How do you prosecute a "war" using a parameter different from that of your enemy. Should a soldier, in defence of his father land fight with a hand tied behind his back? How does he survive? How does he defend himself? This is where the inherent contradiction lies.

CATCH 22: *The armed forces are obliged to prosecute a conflict following basic tenets of human rights rules against violent opponents who do not recognize or feel obligated to comply with any rule of human rights protection. There is an element of "catch 22". If you don't comply with human right norms you could/would be sanctioned. If You do, you may be*

killed or may continue to endanger the people you are obligated to protect! My submission is that compliance with the international human rights norms is extraordinarily difficult in the new armed conflicts. The current human rights norms were designed to be obeyed principally in conventional conflicts. The impunity by which ISIL and Boko haram, for example, are operating in today's world may require the authorities to rethink the processes and procedure for the applicability of extant international customary laws of war.

And there are serious challenges ahead, unless something is done fast!

OBLIGATION TO PROTECT RIGHTS: *By training all Armed Forces including Nigerian Armed Force are obliged to comply with the basic tenets of protection of human and humanitarian rights in all conflict situations. If they commit abuse of human rights whilst engaging insurgents, appropriate disciplinary options are open to the leadership of the Nigerian Armed Forces and the Nigerian State has a duty to bring such member(s) of the military to book. If the state fails or is incapable of prosecution, then the International Criminal Court (ICC), may prosecute the offenders.*

Agencies such as the Nigerian Human Rights Commission, United Nations Commission on Human Rights, and Amnesty International need to do more in investigation and documentation of human rights abuses and their perpetrators in the armed conflict in the North East. They need to assist the international community and the Nigerian State in the fight against human rights abuses, and its prevention.

We shall now proceed to examine the observance of international humanitarian law in armed conflicts and the issues therefrom.

INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW: *You will recall that I have stated earlier that armed conflict is a “trigger” for the observance of international humanitarian law. This is so because these set of*

norms apply only to war or armed conflict situations. The observance of rules of international humanitarian law in armed conflicts is obligatory and non-negotiable. The essence of International humanitarian law is to alleviate the suffering caused by war and armed conflicts; to protect the vulnerable and weak during conflicts. The source of these norms are customary international law, jus cogens (peremptory norms), and largely the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their two Additional Protocols prepared by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), to safeguard the humanitarian rights of civilians, non-combatants, the wounded, sick, shipwrecked and prisoners of war against abuse by belligerents.

The “laws of war” are classified into two. Jus ad bellum is the set or principles that govern the necessity or justification for the use of force in wars or armed conflicts. Jus in bello is the maxim representing international humanitarian law principles applicable to the conduct and prosecution of warfare or armed conflict. Jus in bello is the set of rules that we seek to apply to the conflict in the North East.

As I mentioned earlier, the Geneva Conventions of 1949 outlined the principles governing the application of International humanitarian law. There are four Conventions with two additional Protocols. I charge us to direct our deliberations and discussions to shedding more light on the principles in the Conventions. The Conventions are:

- The Hague Regulations respecting the Laws and customs on land;*
- Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and sick in Armed Forces in the Field;*
- Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition the Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea;*
- Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War;*
- Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War;*
- Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts; and*
- Protocol Additional to the Geneva*



Conventions and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Conflicts.

There are other Conventions dealing with the use of nuclear, chemical, biological, unconventional weapons and mines in the prosecution of armed conflicts.

At this point, I will proceed to discuss the Rights, and prosecution of Prisoners of War in relation to the insurgency in the North East. There are certain clarifications that must be made as we proceed. We may ask the question:

Who is a prisoner of war (POW)? *Generally speaking, a prisoner of war is a person or group of persons who have openly used arms and carried out military operations in an armed conflict, and persons who supported the armed group and their affiliates. These class of persons are referred to as combatants or belligerents in armed conflicts and when they are captured or where they surrender to the other party, they become Prisoners of War.*

It is important to look at the Geneva Convention Relative to the treatment of Prisoners of War. The treaty described Prisoners of War as persons belonging to certain categories who have fallen into the power of the enemy. These categories include:

- *Members of the Armed Forces of a part to the conflict including other militias or corps forming part of such Armed Forces.*
- *Members of militias, groups, or corps belonging to resistance movements, or a party in the conflict. But for this class of persons to qualify as Prisoners of War, they must be commanded by a leader, have a distinctive insignia recognizable at a distance, must have carried arms openly and must have conducted themselves in line with laws and customs of war.*
- *Persons who accompany the Armed Forces of a participating party.*
- *Members of crews of a party in the conflict*
- *Inhabitants of an occupied territory who take up arms against the occupier without any form of leadership.*

- *Persons belonging or having belonged to the Armed Forces of an occupied territory.*
- *Persons taking no active part in the hostilities, including members of armed forces who have laid down their arms and those placed hors de combat by sickness, religion or faith or other classification.*

The Convention and its Additional Protocol provide for the rights of Prisoners of War. These rights include the following:

- *Violence to life, murder of all kinds, mutilation, torture, e.t.c are prohibited from being applied to prisoners of war;*
- *Prohibition of hostage taking of prisoners of war;*
- *Prohibition of humiliating and degrading treatments leading to derogation of personal dignity;*
- *Prohibition of summary sentencing and execution without the pronouncement of a competent tribunal;*
- *Care for the wounded and the sick POW;*
- *POWs have the Rights to be humanely treated;*
- *Death or endangering the health of a POW is prohibited;*
- *Women POW must be treated with due regard to their sex;*
- *Rights to be questioned in the language they understand;*
- *The detaining party must provide shelter, clothing and food to POWs; and*
- *POWs are entitled to trial before a competent tribunal.*

I have given the broad outline. Other discussants may surely do justice to the matter in some more detail.

It is noteworthy that a prisoner of war is obliged to provide personal and official details when questioned by officials of the detaining party. If he willfully refuses to comply he/she is liable to a restriction of the privileges accorded to his rank or status as a prisoner of war.

In the circumstance, the Nigerian State and its agents are obliged to comply with the principles of international humanitarian law and the Geneva

Conventions. We could say that the insurgents in the North East who are captured or who surrender are qualified for the status of POW. They are a group under some hierarchical leadership who are carrying arms openly, with a distinctive insignia and who continue to carry out relentless military operations of warfare against the Nigerian State.

Conversely, members of the Nigerian Armed Forces are also qualified for the status of POWs where they also surrender to, or are captured by the insurgents. But we know that the Boko Haram does not respect or observe any principles of human rights or international humanitarian law.

It is the duty of the Nigerian State and all of us to ensure that the human rights of innocent civilians caught in the crossfire of this conflict, and who are now refugees or Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), are protected. They are generally regarded as victims in the conflict.

But this is easier said than done. The Boko Haram type conflict, as most asymmetric conflicts, the non state actors are hiding "among the people" using the people as human shield. So it is very difficult to avoid civilian, non combatant casualties. This is why intelligent, dedicated and specialized training and moderation, help to avoid mass casualties that may be termed genocide or war crimes or human rights violations. But to avoid criminal sanctions it is better and indeed mandatory to respect human rights.

Recently the Court of Appeal in the UK had to consider the issue of compliance with International human rights law. It was in the case of SERDAR MOHAMMED and others V Secretary of State for Defence, 2015 EWCA Civ., 843. The Court held that the UK Armed forces breached both the Afghan Law and Article 5 of the ECHR, by detaining a suspected Taliban Commander longer than the 96 hours permitted by ISAF policy. The Secretary of Defence was therefore potentially liable at both public and private law for failure to make arrangements for extended detention



and to put in place such procedural safeguards as were required by international human rights law. The Court also held that the defence of "act of state" was not available either in public or private law claims.

So in order to avoid civil liabilities, both side to an armed conflict, especially the state has to strive to comply with human rights norms

The U.S. Leahy Laws: Another advantage a state may obtain from observance of human rights in conflict situations is that it may enable the Country engage and enjoy international support and assistance to tackle and quell the insurgency and armed conflict.

In the US, there is the LEAHY Law. Since the 1990s, the Leahy Laws were enacted as "common sense laws" that prohibit the United States Government from arming or providing military training to security force and police units abroad who have been credibly alleged to have committed gross human rights violations.

The Leahy laws cover strategic and tactical assistance, equipment, and training. The U.S. requires investigation of allegations of human rights violations by military and security forces, including police. These investigations are called: "Human Rights Vetting."

The applicability of the LEAHY laws, within the context of the management of the Boko haram insurgency was the topic of a House of Representatives hearing held in 2014. U.S. Rep. Chris Smith, Chairman of the Africa and global human rights subcommittee observed:

"Boko Haram has significantly accelerated its acts of mass murder and abduction in Nigeria, requiring a more robust and effective response from the Government of Nigeria and friends like the United States.....If individuals or elements of a larger force are guilty of human rights violations, entire battalions or regiments can be tainted unless the guilty are identified and separated out from those forces that are innocent of such crimes".

"The Leahy laws allow for the re-creation of 'clean' units. On the surface, it would seem that such a policy is clear and possible to implement. Unfortunately, it seems not to be so simple in practice. The Leahy laws are necessary components of a prudent human rights policy, and today's hearing is intended to find out whether there are legitimate obstacles to their implementation, ...Where they exist, we seek to

identify these obstacles and eliminate them.” Despite its noble intent, there is a negative side to these provisions. Cumbersome, time consuming validation and vetting of local national forces ensure that a rapid response to emergency training requirements will not occur.

“We cannot engage and professionalize a force if it has committed or has been accused of committing actions we find objectionable. Of course, that means that we will not have the opportunity to insert ourselves in professionalization efforts for the force in question or help eradicate that behavior or action we find objectionable or rapidly help in moments of crisis.”

So even in the US, it is understood that conflicts and human rights violation and rights observance in conflict situations, come in differing shades of grey. So a dynamic and creative interpretation had to be given to the LEAHY laws. The Committee concluded that "Nigeria provides an example of the challenges U.S. policymakers face in building foreign counter terrorism capacities. By many accounts, developing countries like Nigeria that are struggling with terrorist threats may desperately need the specialized skills and support that U.S. security assistance is designed to provide.

Lastly, I would like to speak about the prosecution of Prisoners of War in relation to the prosecution of the members of the Boko Haram group by the Nigerian State. Generally, international law provides for the trial and prosecution of POWs in accordance with the Criminal Laws of the Detaining State and such trial could be conducted in the regular Courts or before a special Tribunal established by the State for such purposes. Persons or POWs who commit such crimes may be subject to criminal trial at the International Criminal Court. The trial of Charles Taylor (former President of Liberia), some Rwandese Generals and the attempt to prosecute President Kenyatta, by the Court, are instructive in this regard.

TRIAL FOR WAR CRIMES: Where such states do not have adequate legal framework for such crimes, special Tribunals may be established by the international court in accordance with principles of international criminal law. Examples of such trials include the trial of Nazi war criminals at the Nuremberg Tribunal and the trial of persons culpable for war crimes and Genocide before the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, and International Criminal Tribunal for former Yugoslavia. In Nigeria significant effort has been made to prosecute captured



insurgents under Terrorism Act 2013. The courts that have jurisdiction are the High Courts of the states and Federal High Court. Some trials have taken place in special High court dedicated for that purpose in order to expedite the processes as well as dispense justice without delay. Even though some trials have taken place in public, the criminal procedure rules applicable permit the court to limit attendees in court as well as take steps to protect witnesses.

The obligations of the Nigerian military in the conduct of their activities in this armed conflict are:

- To strictly observe the rules of engagement as outlined by the Military High Command
- To conform with the provisions of Chapter Four of the 1999 Constitution and other municipal laws on human rights
- To observe the customary international law on human rights, principles of international humanitarian law, Jus Cogens principles on human rights.
- The Military as a part of the detaining party are responsible for the safety, hygiene and medical attention of POWs in the detention camps. We know that the members of the Boko Haram insurgents apprehended by the Military are kept in custody pending investigation and their prosecution.

Thankfully, Nigeria does not operate concentration camps but rather keep these insurgents either in the custody of the DSS or remanded in our regular prisons or in government designated detention Centres (on the order of court). It has been alleged that the detention facilities, where captured Boko Haram insurgents are kept, are unhygienic. This could and should be improved. But we all understand that Nigeria, being a developing

country, is not yet able to fund facilities that may meet American or British standards. In the circumstance, assessment of available detention facilities must bear in mind these constraints and bench mark these with the civilian prisons provided in the society at large. The detention facilities cannot really be fairer than what is available nationwide. Our regular prisons, like in most developing countries are inadequate and congested. The Boko haram detention facilities cannot be better.

TRIAL OF INSURGENTS: Now having been designated by the Nigerian State, as well as at least ten other countries, as a terrorist organization such as Boko Haram has to be treated accordingly. Captured members of the group or those who surrender to armed forces are to be put on trial and prosecuted in accordance with the provision of the municipal laws of Nigeria. They are tried under the Terrorism (Prevention)(Amended) Act, 2013 which clearly prohibits acts of terror, sponsorship of terror and support for terror. They must enjoy the rights guaranteed in the Constitution: right to fair hearing, right to counsel, to defence, and so on.

An armed insurrection by any citizen or group within Nigeria against the Nigeria State is considered an act of Treason. Terror activities committed by members of the group against the State is seen in the same light. The punishment for terrorists under the Terrorism Act, 2013 is death. The State must prove its case against them beyond reasonable doubt to obtain a conviction.

I have seen the critical Reports issued by Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International and other related NGOs on allegations of gross human rights violations and abuses against Nigerian Military. As a former Hon Attorney- General of the Federation and Minister of Justice as well as being thereafter the



Minister of Defence of Nigeria, I can categorically state that the armed forces have demonstrated a high level of compliance with the observance of human rights and humanitarian law principles in the conduct of their operations against the Boko Haram insurgents. The forces have worked under impossible conditions as it is typical in counter terrorism and counter insurgency theaters.

Nobody in Nigeria was prepared for this "war". As shown earlier. Our armed forces, like most, all over the world, are indoctrinated for conventional warfare. Errors may have been made especially in a war among people, where the populace is used as human shield to create an outcome that inevitably, leads to allegations of human rights abuse.

We also have to factor in the exigencies of guerrilla warfare, where the principles of survival and self-defence preponderate.

CIVILIAN JTF: Before I conclude I wish to quickly bring out two issues: the first is the issue of vigilantes, whether the civilian JTF, or any other. We all agree that unless properly thought out vigilantes may exacerbate an insurgency or other anti state activities. The need for vigilantes to observe human rights is also very important And there could be criminal and civil consequences for actions which violate these rights.

Speaking on the subject, Lt. Colonel Sagir Musa, the JTF spokesman, in Maiduguri at one time identified the need for the Federal Government to develop a coherent policy for dealing with the vigilantes, so that it can work with authentic community policing projects while stopping the continued expansion of unregulated armed groups; this also requires demonstrating that the state has sufficient capacity to restore law and order on its own. If the government fails to deal with this issue, militias could spread across the country, triggering more violence and further damaging the rule of law. It should also ensure that state-supported groups like the CJTF are not used for political purposes.

IDPs: The second is the issue of IDPs. IDPS are "domestic refugees". National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) has given the figure of 3.2 million IDPs in Nigeria. This is a third of the population of the three states most affected by the violence. Out of these, 1.5 million people are in need of urgent humanitarian assistance. (Source: "1,000 killed in Boko Haram conflict this year: Nigeria", Agence France-Presse, 26 March 2014.) According to the UN, 70 per cent of them are women and children.

“Humanitarian response gap grows in northern Nigeria”(source: IRIN, 14 March 2014).

These are the direct victims of the consequences of terrorism, insurgency and armed conflicts. They also have enforceable human rights, reasonable living conditions, work, livelihood, education, worship, habitation, freedom from harassment etc. their rights have to be respected and protected.

SUGGESTIONS:

CAPACITY FOR A NEW WAR: *Today's top priority is probably the capacity to anticipate guerrilla operations. That is why intelligence has become so important; human intelligence, of course, but also intelligence that makes judicious use of technology: electronic warfare to intercept communications, etc, and tools to store, analyse and deliver usable information. This will also include paradigm shift in the philosophy of war/conflicts, training, capacity development, tactics. It is actually like the "ancien regime". It has to give way. We have a "new war" which has to be fought in a new way. Short range, mobile and intense kinetics, backed by verifiable intelligence.*

There must be some level of transparency. I have always said that secrecy is not usually security. That is why ICT driven photography is now part of military equipment. It will help to pictorially show the situation the forces had to deal with or react to. So, that when accused of rights violation, it will be possible to show/explain the circumstances as well as provide justification. Self defence and protection of the larger public interest is a total defence to allegations of human rights abuse.

LOGISTICS: *Better protection for soldiers have become essential, given the increase in the number of IED attacks. Improved armoured carriers and fighting vehicles that can resist violent explosions, ways to detect explosives, and devices to detect and jam remote-controlled IEDs are now key components of the defence industry's portfolio and the focus of extensive research and development efforts.*

TRUST OF THE PEOPLE: *Finally, if armed forces are to be deployed for the long haul, they must win the trust of the people. Avoiding collateral damage is therefore a top priority. This is why raw firepower has taken a back seat to precision: missiles, shells and rockets must now strike their targets with metric precision.*

HUMAN RIGHTS AND COMPLIANCE DESK IN CONFLICT THEATRE: *There is need to establish*



specific desks for Human rights compliance. The Desk Officers must have adequate knowledge and competence in law, human rights and international law. I know as a fact that we have enough officers in the services to man these Desks. These Desks may advise theatre commanders, keep records, and engage with stake holders eg. HRW, AI, NHRC etc, to answer their queries and provide necessary information. This will enable the NIGERIA Military avoid issues of human rights violation accusations.

LAISON CONTACTS BY NGOs, CSOs etc: *the representatives of NGOs like TI, HRW, ICRS, NHRC, etc must designate capable field officers to work with the Service, Desk officers to monitor and document complaints. This is as opposed to relying on unsubstantiated allegations and insinuations. It is important that the operating procedure be understood by all to avoid recriminations.*

CHANGE PROCUREMENT STRATEGY: *Another consequence of these new conflicts is the need for a critical policy change in procurement priorities. This has to be done at the highest level of command. The equipment acquisition process has to dynamically evolve to keep pace with new developments, technologies and the emerging needs on the ground.*

CONCLUSION:

In conclusion, I strongly believe that in all armed conflicts, the observance and application of the principles of human rights and international humanitarian is sacrosanct. The international community, world powers, all states must impress it upon all parties to an armed conflict, whether states as well as non state actors alike, to always strive to observe these tenets. To achieve this, I believe the international community and States must do more to enforce the observance of these principles. Prescribing more stringent punishment for the contravention of the rules, and efficient monitoring mechanism for Human rights and humanitarian law observance will go a long way in answering the problems currently being experienced in this area.



FROM THE FIRM

The Firm is glad to announce that Dr. Tahir Mamman, OON, SAN the immediate past Director General of the Nigerian Law School joined the Firm as a Partner in December, 2015. The Firm wants to use this medium to welcome the Learned Silk on board. We also congratulate him on his recent appointment as the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academics) and also as Dean of Law of the Baze University, Abuja. We wish him success in the various roles he has assumed.

The Firm was lined up with a number of activities within the last quarter of the year 2015. As stated earlier, the Firm hosted the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) Abuja branch (Unity Bar) monthly meeting at its corporate headquarters, on 6th November, 2015. It also had its Annual Lecture for the year 2015, with Honourable Justice Centus Chima Nweze (JSC) as its Guest Speaker.

The Firm is embarking on a mentorship scheme which is aimed at impacting Young Lawyers with practical knowledge and advice on legal matters as well as the challenges encountered in the field of practice. The faculty is composed of distinguished legal luminaries who have achieved good success in their practice and who have what it takes to motivate Young Lawyers and foster the purpose of the scheme. The maiden edition of the training will hold in April. Details will be published on the Firm's website in due course.

The Firm also celebrated one of its former Staff, Her Worship Fatima Ibrahim Bukar who was recently elevated to the bench as a magistrate in the Federal Capital Territory, by hosting a cocktail party in her honour.

It was a joyous occasion for the Firm when it celebrated the call to the Nigerian Bar ceremony of Madu Joe Gadzama Esq, the son of the Principal Partner. The occasion was graced with Friends, Family and Well wishers in honour of the new wig to the noble profession.

In another development, the Firm took in twenty (20) corps members for the year 2015/2016, in adherence to the principles of the National Youth Service Corps Scheme.

The Firm congratulates one of its Counsel in Chambers, Ayuba A.S Abang Esq, who got married on the 28th November, 2015 in Jos. The Firm wishes him a happy married life.

As part of the Firm's tradition in imbuing sports into her curriculum, it organized a Table-Tennis competition for members of Staff. The competition was divided into male and female categories. In the male category, Tajudeen Ayeni emerged winner while Jacob Ajene Ogiri Esq, won the second place. In the female category, Racheal Nsefik-Eyo (Miss) emerged winner while Tobi Stephanie Ere (Miss) won the second place.

The year 2015 was a busy year for the Firm. In wrapping the year up, it organized an end of the year party, Award Presentation and Christmas carol on 20th December, 2015 for members of Staff, Clients, Friends and Well wishers of the Firm. The event was lightened by sonorous renditions of Christmas carol by the Abuja International Choir. It was a fun filled event as there was a lot to eat and drink with members of Staff, Family Members and invited guests going home with Christmas packages.

The occasion also marked an award ceremony. As part of the Firm's culture in rewarding hard work and dedication, it rewarded some members of Staff for their exceptional services to the Firm. The categories and winners of the awards were:

- 1. LONG SERVICE AWARD (Longest serving counsel in chambers) - Yamta Yusuf Ali, Esq*
- 2. LONG SERVICE AWARD (Longest serving support staff) - Mr. Sunday Ali Dzarma*
- 3. MERIT AWARD (Most dedicated and hardworking counsel in chambers) - Darlington Onyekwere, Esq.*
- 4. MERIT AWARD (Most dedicated and hardworking support staff) - Mr Nura Sani*

The Firm clocked 25 years in October last year and though the Silver Jubilee should have held in 2015, the Firm has delayed the celebration and intends to do so alongside the commissioning of its corporate headquarters on the 9th of February, 2016.



LEGAL HUMOUR

QUESTION AND ANSWER JOKES.

1. What do you throw to a drowning lawyer?
Answer: HIS PARTNERS
2. What's the difference between a lawyer and a liar?
Answer: THE PRONUNCIATION. Na joke ooo...
3. What do you call a smiling courteous person at a bar association convention?
Answer: THE CATERER.

THE JURY TRIAL

A defendant was asked if he wanted a bench trial or a jury trial. "Jury trial", the defendant replied. "Do you understand the difference?" asked the Judge. "Sure", replied the defendant, "That's where twelve ignorant people decide my fate instead of one".

A WORD PER YEAR.

A man was restrained by a court order from saying more than one word per year or face life imprisonment. If he intends to say two words, he has to wait for two (2) years. One day he saw a beautiful lady that he intends to marry and wanted to say 'WILL YOU MARRY ME'. In order to achieve this, he had to wait for four years. On the fourth year, he met the lady and said
Man: WILL YOU MARRY ME?
Lady: you said!! Please come again.

THE WEALTHY LAWYER.

One afternoon, a wealthy lawyer was riding in the back of his Limousine when he saw two men eating grass by the road side. He ordered his driver to stop and he got out to investigate.

"Why are you eating grass?" he asked one man.

"We don't have any money for food" the poor man replied.

"Oh, come along with me then".

"But Sir, I have a wife with two children!"

"Bring them along! And you come with us too! He said to the other man.

"But Oga, I have two wives and four children" the second man answered.

"Bring them as well!" The wealthy lawyer said.

They all climbed into the Limo and at once on their way, one of the poor fellows says; "Sir, you are too kind. Thank you for taking all of us with you".

The lawyer replied, "My pleasure, the grass in my backyard is about two feet tall"



DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that in the country of Samoa,
it is indeed a crime to forget your wife's Birthday!!!
Not sure what the punishment is though! Any ideas what it could be?

Did you know that in Utah (USA),
birds have the right of way on public highways!
Do the birds know this? Have you ever stopped your car
before to let a bird cross the road? Humm, these laws get stranger!

Did you know that in Zeigler, Illinois (USA)
only the first four firemen on scene will be paid?
What a great incentive for a speedy service!

Did you know that in Nigeria,
it is unlawful to eat while driving. I'm pretty sure you
don't want to get the law officers interested in your food.

Did you know that in Nigeria,
There are twelve (12) fundamental rights guaranteed
by the Constitution. So, how well do you know your rights!!!

PHOTO SPEAK

Nigerian Bar Association Abuja Branch (Unity Bar) November Monthly Meeting/J-K Gadzama LLP 8th Annual Lecture hosted by J-K Gadzama LLP on Friday, 6th November, 2015 at J-K Gadzama Court.



Hon. Justice Centus Chima Nweze (Justice of the Supreme Court of Nigeria) delivering a keynote address at NBA (Nigerian Bar Association) Abuja Branch (Unity Bar) 2015 Annual Lecture.



L-R: Mr. E. C. Ikeji, Yakubu Maikyau, SAN and Prof Paul Idornigie, SAN.



L-R: Prof. Peter Akper, SAN, Gordy Uche, SAN and Samuel Zibiri, SAN.



Some members of the Young Lawyers' Forum



A cross section of participants at NBA (Nigerian Bar Association) Abuja Branch Monthly Meeting, 2015/Annual Lecture of J-K Gadzama LLP

Nigerian Bar Association Abuja Branch (Unity Bar) November Monthly Meeting/J-K Gadzama LLP 8th Annual Lecture hosted by J-K Gadzama LLP on Friday, 6th November, 2015 at J-K Gadzama Court.



L-R: Justice Centus C. Nweze, JSC and some of the Senior members of the NBA Abuja Branch (Unity Bar)



L-R: Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN, Justice Centus C. Nweze, JSC, Agada Elachi Esq, Chief Adegboyega Awomolo, SAN and Victoria Awomolo, SAN.



A cross section of the Executives Nigerian Bar Association Abuja Branch (Unity Bar) with Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN in the middle



Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN and Justice Centus C. Nweze, JSC exchanging pleasantries



Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN addressing members of the Abuja Unity Bar

PHOTO SPEAK

The Firm hosted a call-to-bar party for Madu Joe Gadzama Esq, the son of the Founder/Principal partner; on Saturday, 7th November, 2015 at J-K Gadzama Court, below are some pictures of Madu, his Family members, Friends and Well wishers.



Send-off Cocktail Party hosted by the Firm in honour of Her Worship, Fatima Ibrahim Bukar, a former Counsel in Chambers at the Penthouse Terrace, J-K Gadzama Court, on Thursday, 3rd December, 2015.

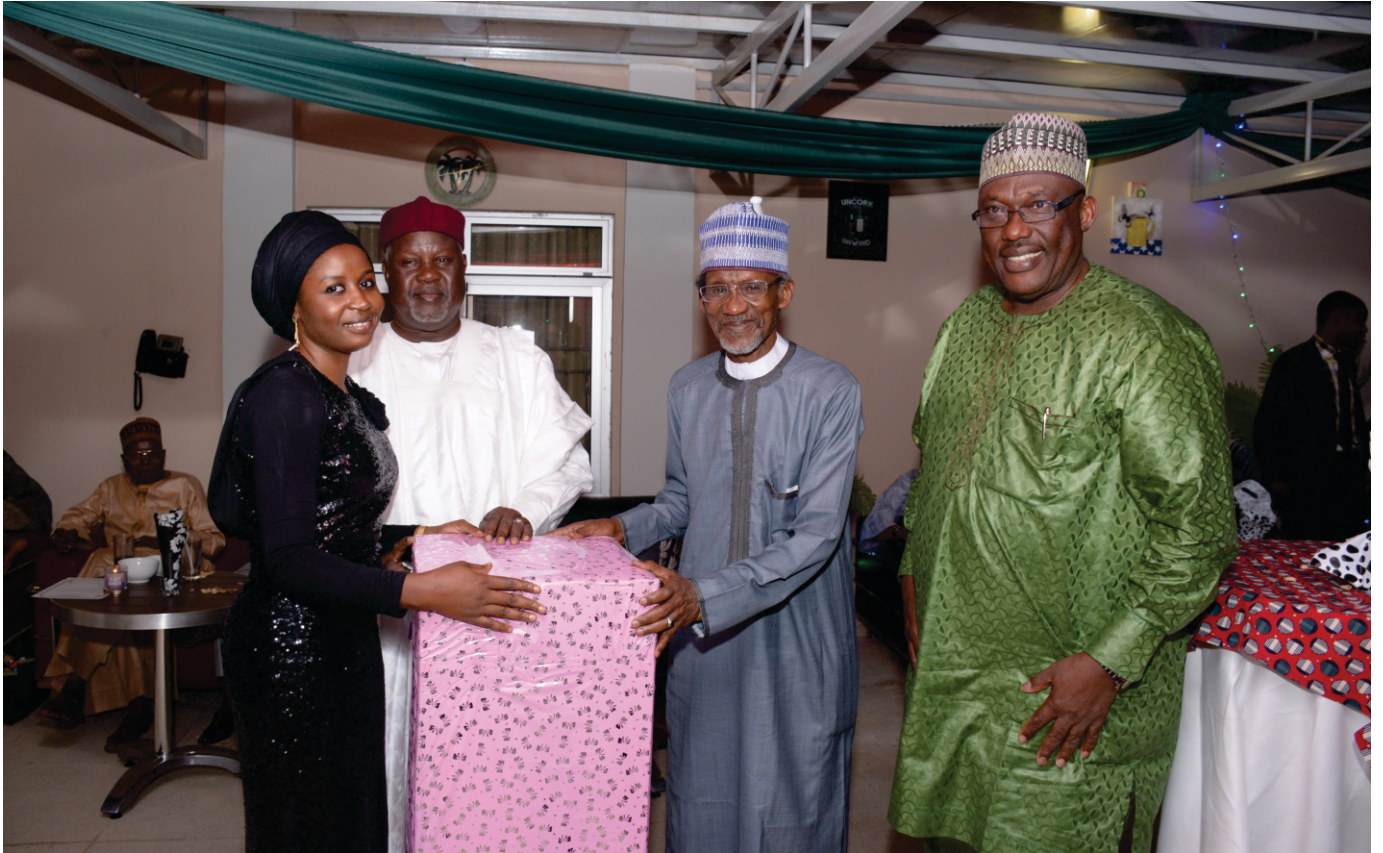


PHOTO SPEAK

Nigerian Bar Association Workshop on Human Rights in Time of Conflict which held in Maiduguri, Borno State, on Monday, 30th November, 2015.

Among the delegates at the occasion were the President of the NBA Augustine Alegeh, SAN, the Attorney General of the Federation Abubakar Malami, SAN, a former Minister of Defence and the Keynote Speaker at the occasion Prince Adetokunbo Kayode, CON, SAN, Chief of Army Staff Lt.-Gen. Tukur Buratai and Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN.





L-R: Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN, Arch Sam Galadima, Commissioner for Housing and Urban Development Plateau State, His Excellency the Governor of Plateau State Rt. Hon. Simon Baku Lalong and Okey Akobundu Esq, during the Governor's Cup Golf Tournament at the Lamingo Golf Club Jos, Plateau State, on Saturday, 19th December, 2015.



L-R: Mrs. Gbgbeto Niki Tobi, Hon. Justice (Prof) Niki Tobi JSC (Rtd.), and Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN on Justice Niki Tobi's 75th Birthday Anniversary which held recently. Hon. Justice Niki Tobi is Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama's Mentor and Former Prof. & Dean of Law, University of Maiduguri.

PHOTO SPEAK



Third from left Mr Charles Brown (President, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators UK); from left to right Mr Femi Rufus (President of Rufus Commercial Property and Arbitration Inc, Toronto, Canada); Miss Stephanie Ere Tobi (General Manager, Janada International Centre for Arbitration & Mediation, Abuja); Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN (Principal Partner, J-K Gadzama LLP and Chairman, Board of Trustees, Janada International Centre for Arbitration & Mediation, Abuja); Mrs Flora Festus-Ifode (Chief Business Officer, VICDONAS international Ltd, Rivers); Mr Paul G.Ngotho (Arbitrator and Chartered Surveyor, Nairobi,Kenya). during a courtesy visit to Janada International Centre for Arbitration and Mediation (JICAM) in Abuja.



L-R: Stephanie Ere Tobi (Miss), Morka Isioma (Miss), Onyedim Chindindu Ugochi (Miss), Mr. & Mrs. Ayuba A.S. Abang, Minta S. Yusuf (Miss) and David Cephas Medugu, Esq all Counsel of the Abuja Office during Ayuba A.S Abang, Esq (Counsel Abuja Office) wedding ceremony which took place at COCIN Church Dadin Kowa Jos, Plateau State on Saturday, 28th November, 2015.

J-K Gadzama LLP 2015 End of the Year Party, Award Presentation and Christmas Carol by the Abuja International Choir on Sunday, 20th December, 2015 at J-K Gadama Court.



Long Service Award (Longest serving Counsel in Chambers) Tunde Onamusi, Esq receiving the award on behalf of Yanta Yusuf Ali, Esq



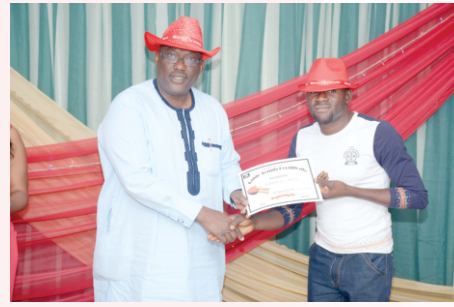
Merit Award (Most dedicated and hardworking Counsel in Chambers) - Darlington Onyekwere, Esq.



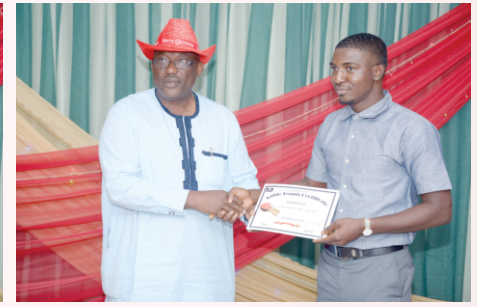
Long Service Award (Longest serving support staff) - Mr. Sunday Ali Dzarma



Merit Award (Most dedicated and hardworking support staff)- Mr Nura Sani



Tajudeen Ayeni winner Table Tennis Competition (Male category)



Jacob Ajene Ogiri 2nd Place winner Table Tennis Competition (Male category)



Rachel Nsefik-Eyo (Miss) winner Table Tennis Competition (Female category)



Stephanie Ere-Tobi (Miss) 2nd Place winner Table Tennis Competition (Female category)



The Abuja International Choir



Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN with Family



Abuja International Choir



Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN with Friends



J-K Gadzama LLP Counsel



J-K Gadzama LLP Support Staff (Non-lawyers)

UP COMING EVENTS

AND CONFERENCES

1. *J-K Gadzama LLP's Official Commissioning of the Corporate Headquarters "J-K Gadzama Court" and its Silver Jubilee Celebration on Tuesday, 9th February, 2016 at 10:00am - 1:00pm*
2. *Nigerian Bar Association National Executive Committee Meeting, Crest Hotel and Gardens, Jos, Plateau State, Wednesday, 17th - Friday 19th February, 2016*
3. *J-K Gadzama LLP 9th Annual Golf Tournament, IBB International Golf and Country Club, Abuja, Saturday, April 9, 2016.*
4. *J-K Gadzama LLP Professional Mentorship and Training for Young Lawyers, April, 2016.*
5. *Bar and Bench 4th Annual Golf Tournament, IBB International Golf and Country Club, Abuja, Saturday 21st May, 2016.*
6. *Nigerian Bar Association 56th Annual General Conference, 19th - 26th August, 2016*
7. *International Bar Association Annual General Conference, Washington DC, USA, 18th - 23rd September, 2016.*
8. *J-K Gadzama LLP 9th Annual Public Lecture, November, 2016.*

PARTNERS

1. CHIEF JOE-KYARI GADZAMA OFR, MFR, SAN, FCIArb (UK).
PRINCIPAL PARTNER
2. DR. TAHIR MAMMAN OON, SAN
PARTNER
3. IGWE BONIFACE ONWUKA, LL.M, MCIArb (UK)
PARTNER/HEAD OF CHAMBERS, LAGOS OFFICE
4. HENRY MICHAEL-IHUNDE ESQ, ACIArb. (UK)
PARTNER/HEAD OF CHAMBERS, ABUJA OFFICE
5. JIDE LANLEHIN ESQ
PARTNER.
6. TUNDE ONAMUSI, LL.M (Lond.), MCIArb (UK)
PARTNER/HEAD OF LITIGATION

COUNSEL IN CHAMBERS

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. JOHN AUSTIN ESQ | 23. AJIBADE AYOJIDE .O. ESQ |
| 2. YAMTA YUSUF ALI ESQ | 24. OKEREKE NNAEMEKA EMMANUEL ESQ |
| 3. JOHN OZOVEHE DEMIDE ESQ | 25. IBRAHIM ALHASSAN ESQ |
| 4. CEPHAS DAVID MEDUGU ESQ | 26. EZE CHIKA .E. (MISS) |
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| 14. EKE ELIZABETH NKECHI (MISS) | 36. EMOCHUMSISI DAVID SABO (MISS) |
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| 16. IBRAHIM DANDIJA ESQ | 38. ESTHER IKPEME (MISS) |
| 17. UKACHUKWU NWAKAEGO ALFREDA (MISS) | |
| 18. ADEOLA ADELAKUN (MISS) | |
| 19. JACOB OGIRI AJENE ESQ | |
| 20. MOLOKWU CHUKWUEBUKA ESQ | |
| 21. NSEFIK-EYO RACHEL (MISS) | |
| 22. NWACHUKWU OBUMNEKE PROSPER ESQ | |

INTERNS

1. PAMELA PIUS (MISS)
2. DETRA ONWUCHEKWA (MISS)

JURIS CONSULT

1. HON. JUSTICE ALFA MODIBBO BELGORE, J.S.C (RTD), GCON
(FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE FEDERATION).
2. HON. JUSTICE GEORGE A. OGUNTADE, J.S.C (RTD) CON.

J-K GADZAMA LLP

Legal Practitioners * Arbitrators * Mediators * Regulatory Consultants

The Management and Staff of
J-K GADZAMA LLP
hereby announce the formal
commissioning of the Firm's Corporate Headquarters
'J-K GADZAMA COURT'
&
SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION

Date: Tuesday, February 9, 2016.

Time: 10:00am

VENUE: J-K GADZAMA COURT,
Plot 1805, Damaturu Crescent by Kabo Way, Off Ahmadu Bello Way,
Adjacent to Garki International Market/Mall, Garki II, Abuja, FCT, Nigeria.

Special Guest of Honour

Professor Yemi Osinbajo, SAN, GCON
Vice President, Federal Republic of Nigeria

Chairman of the Occasion

Hon. Justice Mahmud Mohammed, GCON
Chief Justice, Federal Republic of Nigeria

Special Guest of Honour

Rt. Hon. Yakubu Dogara
Speaker, House of Representatives

Special Guest of Honour

Sen. Ike Ekweremadu, CFR
Deputy Senate President, Federal Republic of Nigeria

Keynote Speaker

Professor Fidelis Oditah, QC, SAN

You can follow us on  J-K Gadzama LLP  @J-KGadzamaLLP  J-K Gadzama LLP

To obtain a card for admittance please call
Tunde Onamusi Esq, on 08116549661 or David Cephass Esq, on 08137134795.

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Telephone: +234 (0) 810 880 5918
E-mail: enquiries@jicam.com
Website: www.jicam.com

Vision

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Mission Statement

To provide a neutral venue for the resolution of both domestic and international disputes; and encourage the settlement of disputes from corporate, domestic, international trade, investment and other transactions.

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For Further Inquiries or Reservation Contact:

Tobi: +234(0)8188055794, Madu: +234(0)8183555888

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Who are we?

The Vox Populi Foundation for Leadership was founded in the year 2010 and was incorporated in the year 2012 by its founder Chief J-K Gadzama OFR, MFR, SAN, FCI Arb. (UK) (Of the Lincolns Inn, Barrister/Life Bencher/CEDR Accredited Mediator). The Foundation is a Non-Profit making institution formed to deepen the understanding of democracy by carrying out structured programmes that promote positive leadership qualities and ideals in the society. This is because we believe that a society can only evolve when the people have the opportunity to contribute to the process of governance and have a voice in the creation of policies and laws that affect them as a people.

How do we do this?!

We sincerely believe the best way to achieve this goal is to pursue initiatives that look at proffering solutions to the issues that interfere with governance. We look at utilizing the immense manpower of youths and able bodied people who are hungry to bring about a change in their society through direct engagement with society in a volunteer signup process, which is one of the mechanisms we intend to employ to secure citizens participation. This process of inclusion we believe will foster and build a common front that will enable people to improve on their understanding of what leadership connotes in their everyday lives and reinforce their commitment towards creating a better society.

Governance

Created with gifts by its founder, the foundation is an independent, non-profit, non-governmental organization, with its own Board. The trustees of the foundation set policies and delegate authority to the Director General and senior staff for the foundation's operations. Zonal volunteer Heads in the 6 geo political zones explore opportunities to pursue the foundation's goals and formulate strategies for action.

Location

The Foundation is headquartered in Abuja. It conducts its activities through an increasing pool of volunteers from across the country.



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Our Vision

to promote, protect and safeguard the tenets and ideals of democracy leadership & good governance in our society.

What is Our Goal?!

to encourage citizens to participate in governance & support a platform that will inspire proactive leadership that will drive the free flow of democratic ideals and social justice.

Sign-up to Join and receive our e-mail Newsletter and Special Notifications
Your information will be kept confidential and used solely for our communications

Required Information

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Email Address: _____@_____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Phone: _____

Upon completing the information sheet, you can detach and send to our address above or you can email us on

info@voxpathulifoundation.org

for further enquiries, call us on

+234 (0) 8156565619 and +234 (0) 8091320558

follow us on <http://facebook.com/voxpathulifoundation>

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This publication amongst many other articles and news from the firm are accessible online on the office website.

www.gadzama.com

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