

J-K GADZAMA LLP

NEWSLETTER

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R-L: His Royal Highness, Abubakar Ibn Umar Garbai Al-Amin El-Kanemi, Shehu of Borno; Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN; Principal Partner, J-K Gadzama LLP; Chief Wole Olanipekun, CFR, SAN, Principal Partner, Wole Olanipekun & Co.; Hon. Justice Mary Peter Odili, CFR, JSC (Rtd), Chairman, Body of Benchers; Prince Lateef Fagbemi, SAN, Hon. Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice and His Imperial Majesty, Oba (Dr.) Aladetoyin O. Aladelusi, CFR, Deji of Akure Kingdom at the Colloquium and Presentation of Books Commemorating the Silver Jubilee of Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama's Conferment as a Senior Advocate of Nigeria held at the J-K Gadzama Court, Abuja.

Editorial

In this edition of our Quarterly Newsletter is an abridged version of the lecture delivered by Chief Wole Olamiyekun, OFR, SAN, who was the esteemed Guest Speaker at the Colloquium and Presentation of Books commemorating the Silver Jubilee of Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama's conferment as a Senior Advocate of Nigeria, Theme: "The Nigeria of our Dreams: A Call to the Patriots. His lecture delves into the various aspects of the Nigerian Project and patriots of today's Nigeria". Chief Wole Olanipekun, CFR, SAN emphasizes on the need for true federalism and the collective efforts of all Nigerians to join hands and building a New Nigeria.

Chief Wole Olanipekun, CFR, SAN said "It is hoped that this Colloquium will provoke us to dreaming dreams that will match and address not only our present shortcomings but also put us on the crest for future development. A future that will ignite and rekindle hope in our youths and generations to come. With this process in place, war of attrition and transferred aggression by the youths, poor and down trodden against any person or citizen who is generally perceived as an oppressor, be he a civil servant, middle class man or woman, successful Farmer, Lawyer, Doctor or any other professional, would be substantially curtailed". Chief Wole Olanipekun, CFR, SAN concluded that the acclaimed and celebrated successes of our youths in music and sports bear eloquent collaboration of the foregoing testament that our citizens are not lower in status than any other race or nation.

We have a range of exciting and informative features that are sure to captivate our readers. Our Sights and Scenes section brings you the latest happenings from within and outside our firm. Our Photo Speak section brings you a visual narrative of some of our recent events, while our Legal Humor section is guaranteed to put a smile on your face. We also have exciting news from the firm, including updates on our upcoming events and a profile of our staff members who work tirelessly to provide our clients with the highest quality legal services. As always, we are committed to providing quality and informative content that educate and entertain our readers. We hope you enjoy reading this edition of our Quarterly Newsletter.

We welcome your feedback and suggestions for future content. As usual, previous editions of our newsletter can be accessed at: <https://j-kgadzamallp.com/publications/newsletters>.

Paul Ebiloma - Editor

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THE NIGERIA OF OUR DREAMS: A CALL TO THE PATRIOTS

(Abridged Version)

Being the text of an Address presented by

Chief Wole Olanipekun, CFR, SAN

At the Colloquium to mark the 25th Anniversary of
Chief Joe-kyari Gadzama, OFR, SAN, As A Senior Advocate Of Nigeria
held at the J-K Gadzama Court, Abuja



1. PROLOGUE

The letter received on July 14, 2023, appointing me as the speaker for the Colloquium on the theme "The Nigeria of our dreams: A call to the Patriots," is an offer I couldn't refuse, akin to Don Corleone's words in 'The Godfather'. The theme encompasses complex notions - 'Nigeria', our aspirations, and 'patriots'. Who are these patriots in today's Nigeria? What defines them? The organizers rightly acknowledged the theme's complexity, alluding to the contentious 2023 General Elections. They urge unity and a concerted effort to better our nation.

Having addressed various aspects of the Nigerian Project, I contemplate if I can bring a fresh perspective. My recent discourse on "Beyond the Pandemic: Creating an Evolving New Normal" examined our 'abnormal normal' and proposed a 'new normal', drawing global parallels.

Upon receiving the invitation, I pondered if I could enhance or offer a fresh perspective given my prior work on similar themes. I believe a scholar or practitioner should always seek new insights. Hence, I opted to tackle the topic from various angles, while still referencing my previous submissions.

2. NIGERIA AS A NAME: WHAT IS THE MEANING AND HOW WAS IT DERIVED?

Historical figures like Awolowo, Azikiwe, and Sagay have variously critiqued Nigeria's nationhood. Awolowo deemed it a mere 'geographical expression' housing diverse ethnic groups. Azikiwe termed it a 'marriage of convenience,' while Sagay saw it as a union yearning for federal restructuring.

The origin of the name 'Nigeria' is worth scrutiny. Lord Lugard's imposition of this name, meaning 'Niger Area,' was not by popular request. It carries colonial connotations, yet we retain it due to unique circumstances. Comparatively, nations like Ghana, Burkina Faso, and Zimbabwe embraced names reflecting their heritage upon independence. The UK, comprising England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland, illustrates unity with shared symbols.

It's time to shed the imposed label 'Nigeria' for a name reflecting our identity, chosen collectively and imbued with pride, aligning with the theme of this Colloquium. The French named their colony 'Niger,' questioning our distinction from Nigeriens. Let's reclaim a name that embodies our aspirations and heritage.

1947, Chief Obafemi Awolowo stated that Nigeria is a mere geographical expression, lacking a unified national identity. He identified ten main ethnic groups, emphasizing their distinctiveness. Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe saw Nigeria as a "political, social, and economic marriage of convenience," while Professor Itse Sagay believed it comprised many nations oppressed by a unitary system. The amalgamation of Nigeria in 1914 was not voluntary, and Lord Lugard imposed the name 'Nigeria' without consent, reflecting a negative perception of the country. This name, carrying historical baggage, still persists due to unique circumstances.

3. THE PARTITIONING OF AFRICA CONSIDERED

The Bible states that God created humanity in His image, without discrimination based on race or ethnicity. Ethiopia, the only African country mentioned in the Bible, demonstrates an ancient and enduring existence. It appears 37 times in the scriptures, emphasizing its historical significance. Unlike modern nations like Britain or France, Ethiopia predates them. The Queen of Sheba's visit to King Solomon in Jerusalem further underscores Ethiopia's ancient connections. Until 1974, Ethiopia's constitution mandated emperors to be descendants of Solomon and Sheba's union. This changed with Haile Mariam's overthrow of Emperor Haile Sellassie. The narrative prompts reflection on Africa's historical trajectory and its encounters with colonial powers.

4. PARTITIONING OF AFRICA

The Berlin Conference of 1884 convened by Otto Von Bismarck aimed to resolve disputes over African control. It led to the arbitrary division of Africa into 50 countries, disregarding local cultures and regions. This imposed map disrupted Africa's natural order, favoring European expansion at the expense of indigenous societies. Walter Rodney's "How Europe Underdeveloped Africa" eloquently depicts this colonial legacy. Post-conference, major colonial powers claimed extensive territories: Britain from Cape-Town to Cairo, France in West and Central Africa, Belgium in the Congo, Portugal in Mozambique and Angola, Germany in Namibia and Tanzania, Spain in a small area, and the U.S. in Liberia. Africa's resources fueled European development, while the continent grappled with the aftermath.

5. THE 'ELEPHANT' CALLED NIGERIA

Nigeria, spanning 923,768 km², comprises 300+ tribes, diverse cultures, and languages. Its creation served colonial interests in expanding their empire and securing resources. Colonial policies fueled division and mistrust among regions. The nation's formation is traced back to British colonial rule, starting with the cession of Lagos in 1861. Various

sovereign states existed before British consolidation. The amalgamation led to Nigeria's emergence in 1914, under British authority. Nigeria gained independence in 1960. Its amalgamation lacked a blueprint for harmonious coexistence, differing from Europe's approach to nationhood. The colonial legacy still shapes Nigeria's challenges. Pre-independence demographics highlight regional disparities. Understanding this historical context is crucial for seeking solutions to current issues.

6. CONSTITUTIONAL FAILURES

Nigeria's constitutional journey has seen shifts from Clifford's Constitution (1922) to Macpherson (1951) and Federal Constitution (1954). Post-independence, the 1960 and 1963 Constitutions allowed regions relative autonomy, but the 1966 coup disrupted stability. Military rule followed, alternating with brief democratic spells and imposed decrees. The 1999 Constitution, though labeled federal, centralizes power, contradicting true federalism. This model grants excessive authority to the Center, diminishing states' roles. It's a departure from federalism's core principles. Nigeria's unique federalism emphasizes central control over devolved powers. The late Chief Obafemi Awolowo advocated for federalism rooted in linguistic and national identities. Identifying problems is one thing, but meaningful action is vital. Nigeria grapples with diverse challenges, from insecurity to economic woes and institutional failures.

It is often said that when a problem is identified, that problem is half-solved, having been properly diagnosed. That theory appears not to apply to Nigeria, as we know the root of our problems, but are scared of finding or executing the solutions to them. We continue to play the ostrich, and keep on being hypocritical. In the process, our problems get more compounded by the day, whether in terms of insecurity, economic retrogression, decaying educational system, collapsing infrastructure, deteriorating health-care system, youth unemployment, poverty- which breeds hunger, anger, frustration, restlessness, loss of faith-in-the-system leading to massive exodus (JAPA); brain-drain syndrome; democratic epilepsy, monumental corruption, leadership deficit, relentless borrowing syndrome, institutional failure, etc.

7. SECURITY OF THE CITIZENRY

The 2023 General Elections in Nigeria have been notably intense and divisive. The aftermath, especially regarding the Presidential Election, has witnessed heightened acrimony and bitterness. This contrasts with historical precedents in the United States where even close elections led to unity after verdicts. The need for reconciliation across divides is evident. Nigeria should not deviate from this common practice. The current state of Nigerian politics emphasizes ethnic and regional allegiances, highlighting the urgency for meaningful restructuring. While the Abacha regime attempted some level of restructuring, it's crucial to address the concerns of South-South, North-Central, and North-East regions, ensuring inclusivity and fair representation.

This will pave the way for a true Federal system, as Nigeria's present arrangement leans towards a unitary structure. Returning power and autonomy to the States, anchored within a restructured geopolitical framework, is essential for lasting unity and progress.

8. ENACTMENT OF GOOD GOVERNMENT AND GOVERNANCE

In August 2023, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu emphasized the duty of his appointed Ministers to serve Nigeria above regional or ethnic interests, acknowledging the pervasive existence of these concerns. Reflecting on Nigeria's past, when regional economies thrived and basic services were accessible, reveals a time of prosperity and unity. Martin Luther King's dream of a united, character-focused nation resonates with the dream for Nigeria. Imagining a future where education, healthcare, and leadership exemplify excellence, and where citizens prioritize the nation over personal interests, is essential. President Tinubu's statements on reviving the economy and addressing youth unemployment are promising, but the administration must also confront systemic challenges and past expenditures. Addressing the debt crisis and instilling confidence in governance will be crucial.

In summary, it is crucial to prioritize serving Nigeria's interests above regional concerns. Reflecting on past prosperity and unity can inform a vision for the future. President Tinubu's statements hold promise, but addressing systemic challenges and past expenditures is essential. Confronting the debt crisis and instilling public confidence in governance are crucial steps forward.

9. WHAT TOUCHES US OURSELF SHALL BE LAST SERV'D

We gather here today to celebrate Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, OFR, SAN, on his 25th anniversary as a Senior Advocate of Nigeria. He was called to the Bar in 1986 and became the 140th Nigerian to attain the Silk in 1998. Chief Gadzama holds a unique position in the legal field, excelling as both a courtroom lawyer and solicitor, and making significant contributions to arbitration and mediation.

I've personally known and worked with Chief Gadzama since 1998. He's distinguished himself with attributes such as diligence, respect for colleagues, and a formidable legal prowess. During my tenure as NBA President, Chief Gadzama's support was unwavering, especially during challenging times when I faced opposition from the government.

In 2004, he played a crucial role in defending the Nigerian Labour Congress against a Federal Government appeal. Additionally, when the ABA President visited Nigeria, Chief Gadzama stepped in as my representative when I was initially excluded from the event.

Chief Gadzama has been a resilient contender for the NBA presidency, displaying commendable sportsmanship even in the face of defeat. His law office stands as a testament to his legal acumen and success. He's not only a legal giant but also a mentor, scholar, and outstanding advocate.

10. EPILOGUE

In this presentation, I'd like to emphasize the importance of dreaming the right dreams. Joseph in the Bible, as the first dreamer, faced challenges but eventually saw his dreams come true. Similarly, Martin Luther King's dream materialized with Barack Obama's presidency.

China's recent achievement with a \$15 billion bridge exemplifies how dreams can be turned into reality. Minister Dave Umahi, an astute dreamer, transformed Ebonyi State, demonstrating that wise resource management leads to significant progress.

Umahi's commitment to quality infrastructure should be a blueprint for our nation. Just as China built a bridge to withstand 300 years of floods, Nigeria should aim for roads that last a minimum of ten years.

This colloquium encourages us to dream dreams that address current shortcomings and inspire future generations. By fostering hope and opportunity, we can mitigate animosity and resentment among the populace.

The accomplishments of our youth in music and sports demonstrate that Nigerians are capable of achieving great heights. From Burna Boy's Grammy win to Asake's mesmerizing performance at the London O2 Arena, our talent knows no bounds. Shakespeare's words ring true: "If music be the food of love, play on..."

Chief Wole Olanipekun, CFR, SAN, LL.D., D.LITT., FCI Arb., FNIALS

SIGHTS AND SCENES

From the Colloquium and Presentation of Books commemorating the Silver Jubilee of Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama's conferment as a Senior Advocate of Nigeria held at the J-K Gadzama Court, Abuja on Friday, 1st September, 2023



Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN, Shettima Ilmuye of Borno welcoming the His Royal Highness, Abubakar Ibn Umar Garbai Al-Amin El-Kanemi, CFR, Shehu of Borno



L-R: Fmr Governor of Bauchi State, H.E M. A. Abubakar and Prince Lateef Fagbemi, SAN, Attorney General of the Federation and Hon. Minister of Justice



Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN and H.E Simon Bako Lalong, Hon. Minister of Labour and Employment



L-R: His Imperial Majesty, Oba (Dr.) Aladetoyin O. Aladelusi, CFR; Prince Lateef Fagbemi, SAN; Hon. Justice Mary Peter Odili, CFR, JSC (RTD); Chief Wole Olanipekun, CFR, SAN; Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN and His Royal Highness, Abubakar Ibn Umar Garbai Al-Amin El-Kanemi



A cross section of guests



Chief Wole Olanipekun, CFR, SAN delivering his lecture



L-R: Hon. Justice Mary Peter Odili, CFR, JSC (RTD) and Chief Wole Olanipekun, CFR, SAN



The celebrant Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN giving the vote of thanks

SIGHTS AND SCENES

From the Colloquium and Presentation of Books commemorating the Silver Jubilee of Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama's conferment as a Senior Advocate of Nigeria held at the J-K Gadzama Court, Abuja on Friday, 1st September, 2023



Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN Presenting a plaque of appreciation to Hon. Justice Mary Peter Odili, CFR, JSC (RTD)



L-R: His Imperial Majesty, Oba (Dr.) Aladetoyin O. Aladelusi, CFR, Hon. Justice Mary Peter Odili, CFR, JSC (RTD); Prince Lateef Fagbemi, SAN; Chief Wole Olanipekun, CFR, SAN and Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN



L-R: His Imperial Majesty, Oba (Dr.) Aladetoyin O. Aladelusi, CFR; and His Royal Highness, Abubakar Ibn Umar Garbai Al-Amin El-Kanemi



L-R: H.E Simon Bako Lalong, CON; Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN and Prof. Maxwell Gidado, SAN



L-R: Alhaji Sale Ahidjo, Danburam of UBA, representing the Emir of Uba, His Royal Highness, Alhaji Aliyu Ibn Ismaila Mamza II; Mohammed Monguno; Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN, Sardauna of Uba and His Royal Highness, Abubakar Ibn Umar Garbai Al-Amin El-Kanemi



Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN, Bobajiro of Akure Kingdom and His Imperial Majesty, Oba (Dr.) Aladetoyin O. Aladelusi, CFR, Deji of Akure Kingdom



The celebrant Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN (6th left); Chief Wole Olanipekun in a group photograph with some guests after the event



L-R: Prof. Amos Gadzama; Comfort Otera Chigbue; Prof. Maxwell Gidado, SAN; Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN and Mrs. Afiniki Hananiyah



WORDS ON MARBLE

“The order of court in an annulled election has no retrospective effect on the tenure and actions taken by the governor before the nullification order. Therefore both the pre-nullification tenure and acts flowing from it are recognizable by law as the valid legal effect of the annulled election. The period spent in office as governor by the person concerned must count as part of his tenure.”

- Adekeye, JSC

“Laws and principles are not for the times when there is no temptation: they are for such moments as this, when body and soul rise in mutiny against their rigor... if at my convenience I might break them, what would be their worth?”

- Charlotte Bronte

The courts exist to do substantial justice not formal and technical justice. Rules of Court dealing with the technical modes of procedure should be subservient to the dictates of justice. If therefore the observance of any rule will produce an obvious injustice, a court of justice will naturally courageous, fearless, incorruptible and visionary judiciary is anarchy. prefer justice to the technicalities the rule imposes.

- Oputa, JSC in Nneji V. Chukwu (1998) 3 NWLR (pt. 81) 184

“When evidence of a witness is so exaggerated that it enters into the realm of flamboyancy or recklessness and petulance or appears as an affront to reason and intelligence, no credibility ought to be accorded it.”

- Fatunbi V. Olanloye (2004) 12 NWLR (PT. 887) 229 at 247 Para C

PHOTO SPEAK



L-R Ms Aicha Boudiaf, Vice President Northern Africa, Pan African Lawyers union (PALU); our Associate Sarah Jeta Atumga; Mrs. Joyce Oduah, Vice President Western Africa, PALU; and Mr. Thomas Dingangoto, Vice President Central Africa, PALU at the 13th Annual Conference of PALU held in Livingstone, Zambia



The session on Mediation: Recent Notable Developments with Mr. Santhakrishnan Ramamurthi, Past President of Commonwealth Lawyers Association; our Associate Sarah Jeta Atumga and Ms. Aicha Boudiaf, Vice President North Africa PALU at the 13th Annual Conference of PALU held in Livingstone, Zambia



Mr. Simbi Wabote and Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN at the Energy Week Golf Tourney of the NCDMB at the IBB Golf Club, Abuja



Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN (4th left); Engr. Femi Adeniji (2nd right) with family and friends at the Ehart Park, Miami, United State of America



Madu Joe-Kyari Gadzama receiving an award of honours, Professional Life Achievement Award on behalf of Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN from the West African Law Students Association (WALSA)



L-R: Musa Isiaka (Secretary, NBA-Abuja); Lamar Joe-Kyari Gadzama; Paul Harris Ogbole, SAN and Afam Okeke (Chairman, NBA-Abuja) during the presentation of the Worthy Ambassador of the NBA Abuja Branch to Lamar Joe-Kyari Gadzama



Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN (left); Chief Adegboyega Awomolo, SAN (2nd left) with other colleagues at the Body of Senior Advocates of Nigeria Award Night for Justices of the Appellate Court



Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN presented with an award on behalf of Hon. Justice Olabode Rhodes-Vivour, CFR at the Body of Senior Advocates of Nigeria Award Night for Justices of the Appellate Court

NEWS

FROM THE FIRM

- The Firm held a Colloquium and Presentation of Books commemorating the Silver Jubilee of Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama's conferment as a Senior Advocate of Nigeria on Friday, 1st September, 2023 at the J-K Gadzama Court, Abuja.
- Our Associate, Onyekachi Eluwa represented our Founding Principal Partner as a Panelist at the African Bar Association 2023 Annual Conference held in Pretoria, South Africa.
- The firm successfully represented the Minister of FCT, the FCTA and FCDA in an appeal worth over \$600M.
- The firm congratulates our Consulting Partner, Prof. Tahir Mamman, OON, SAN on his appointment as Nigeria's Minister of Education. We are confident that his appointment will lead to transformations in Nigeria's education sector.
- In line with our tradition of mentoring future aspirants to the bar, the firm organized its annual moot and mock trial for externs from the Nigerian Law School presided by Hon. Justice Rakiya B. Haastrup.
- Our Associate, Sarah Jeta Atunga attended the 13th Annual Conference of the Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU) held in Livingstone, Zambia from 5th - 8th July, 2023 and moderated the session on "Mediation: Recent Developments."

SIGHTS AND SCENES

From Mock Trial Exercise for the 2023 Set of Externs from the Nigerian Law School held at the Hon. Justice Niki Tobi, CON (Rtd) Moot Court, J-K Gadzama Court, Abuja on Friday, July 21, 2023



A cross section of the externs and guests



Hon. Justice Rakiya B. Haastруп presiding over the Mock Trial Exercise



Daniel Tela, Secretary, Body of Benchers and Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN



L-R: Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN; Hon. Justice Rakiya B. Haastруп and Daniel Tela, Secretary, Body of Benchers



L-R: Lecturers from the Nigerian Law School, Dr. Emmanuel Olowononi; Beatrice Shuwa and Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN



L-R: Gift Zagi, Maryam Mukhtar, Adama Usman, Amina Samaila, Hauwa Barata Ghali, Maryam Muhammed Sani, Zainab Abdulsal, Aisha Bala and Rabiya Jaafar



Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN (3rd left); Hon. Justice Rakiya B. Haastруп (4th left); Mela Audu Nunghe, SAN (2nd right); Dr. Emmanuel Olowononi (4th right); Beatrice Shuwa (3rd right) Daniel Tela (2nd left) with staff, guests and the externs



L-R: Onyekachi Eluwa, Linda Shaljaba, Hajara Sorondinki, Dr. Emmanuel Olowononi, Beatrice Shuwa, Khadijah Mohammed and Sarah Jeta Atumga

UPCOMING EVENTS AND CONFERENCES

- 13th Annual Conference of the Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU), Wednesday, 5th - Saturday, 8th July, 2023, Livingstone, Zambia
- 4th African Arbitration Association (AfAA) Annual Conference, Thursday, 12th October, 2023 – Saturday, 14th October, 2023, Cape Town, South Africa.
- International Bar Association (IBA) Annual Conference, Sunday, 29th October - Friday, 3rd November, 2023, Paris, France.
- Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb.) Nigeria Branch Annual Conference and Gala Nite, Wednesday, 8th November - Friday, 10th November, 2023, Lagos, Nigeria.
- Nigeria Institute of Chartered Arbitrators (NICArb) Annual Conference, Wednesday, 15th November - Friday, 17th November, 2023, Abuja, Nigeria
- 16th J-K Gadzama LLP Public Annual Lecture, Wednesday, 29th November, 2023, Abuja, Nigeria.
- J-K Gadzama LLP Staff End of the Year Party and 9th Christmas Carol, Friday, 15th December, 2023, Abuja, Nigeria

PHOTO SPEAK



Our Associate, Onyekachi Eluwa speaking at the African Bar Association 2023 Annual Conference held in Pretoria, South Africa, representing Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN as a Panelist



The Director-General of the Nigerian Law School, Prof. Isa Hayatu Chiroma, SAN and our Associate, Onyekachi Eluwa during the African Bar Association 2023 Annual Conference held in Pretoria, South Africa



Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN with Peter Igbo, Executive Chairman, Peter Igbo (PI) Consult Ltd and former executive director of Nigerian Television Authority (NTA) during a courtesy visit



L-R: Fubara Anga, SAN; Mela Audu Nunghe, SAN and Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN during a courtesy visit



Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN addressing members of the Borno State House of Assembly during a workshop at the Palms Hotel Abuja



Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN with Abdulkarim Lawan, Speaker, Borno State House of Assembly and other members of the State House of Assembly



L-R: Rukayyatu Gurin (Trustee UNIMAID Alumni Association); Prof. Aliyu Shugaba (Vice Chancellor UNIMAID Alumni Association); Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN (Chairman, Board of Trustees UNIMAID Alumni Association) and Mrs. Afiniki Hananiyah (Acting President UNIMAID Alumni Association) at the commissioning of Abuja office University of Maiduguri Alumni Association



Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN with his friend Hon. Benard Mikko at the HSD Golf and Country Club, Governor Douye Diri Golf Lounge, Yenagoa, Bayelsa State

OUR PEOPLE

PARTNERS

1. **Joe-Kyari Gadzama**, OFR, MFR, SAN, FNIALS, FICMC, DipICArb, FNICArb, FCIArb, C.Arb.
Founding Principal Partner
2. **Mohammed Monguno**, ACIArb
Senior Partner
3. **Darlington Onyekwere**, ACIArb
Partner
4. **Madu Joe-Kyari Gadzama**, LL.M (Warwick), MCIArb., MICMC
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5. **Jerry Ombugadu Musa**, LL.M, CDRS
Junior Partner
6. **Oluniyi Adediji**, ACTI, ABR
Junior Partner
7. **Agbo Mark Chidi**, MCIArb.
Junior Partner

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2. Rashidat Banke Obamojore
3. Lamar Joe-Kyari Gadzama, ACIArb., AICMC

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4. Onyekachi Agbonma Eluwa
5. Khadijah Muhammad Abubakar
6. Hajara M. S. Sorondinki
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7. Boluwatife Majek-Owoo
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Hon. Justice Alfa Modibbo Belgore, CJN (RTD), GCON
(Former Chief Justice of Nigeria)

Hon. Justice George A. Oguntade, J.S.C (RTD), CON.

SENIOR CONSULTANT

Prof. Paul Idornigie, SAN, PhD, FCIS, FCIArb, C.Arb

JICAM

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Janada International Centre for Arbitration and Mediation (JICAM) was established in 2015. It is a dispute resolution centre in Abuja, designed to promote a suitable forum for the resolution of domestic and international disputes. It is fully equipped with state-of-the-art facilities. The rules and guidelines for JICAM accommodate both *ad hoc* and institutional arbitration.

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8. Individual HP pro display desktop for Tribunal Secretary/Registrar
9. Wireless tabletop microphones
10. Interactive Digital Display Screen
11. Projector Screen
12. Shelving units
13. High Speed Internet Connection/WiFi
14. 18-Seater Bus
15. 24-Hours CCTV
16. Spacious car park with security



VOX POPULI FOUNDATION

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, FNIALS, FCI Arb. (UK) (of 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 Chief J-K Gadzama, 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.



VOX POPULI FOUNDATION

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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

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

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tweet us @vppfoundcast

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

    J-K GADZAMA LLP

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