

# J-K GADZAMA LLP

## NEWSLETTER

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Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN (4th right); Amb. Nwankwo Henry Nkem, President, YOUPAD (3rd right); Austin Kowssi, Vice President, YOUPAD (2nd left); Amb. Paul Kwabana, Secretary, YOUPAD (left); Obioma Daniel Njoku, Nigeria Coordinator, YOUPAD (3rd left); and Etongo Francine (4th left) of Youth Partnership for Africa's Development (YOUPAD) and some members of staff of J-K Gadzama LLP during the presentation of the Thomas Sankara Pan African Prize for Excellence, Hard Work and Contribution to Nation Building to Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN on Tuesday, June 25, 2024 at the J-K Gadzama Court, Abuja.

# Editorial

In this edition of our Quarterly Newsletter is an article by our Founding Principal Partner on the topic “The Nigerian State and the Crisis of Governance: What is the way forward?”. The article discusses the crisis of governance pervading the Nigerian state in light of current realities. It further examines the role of lawyers in upholding good governance and proffers practical solutions to the issues identified and a way forward for all relevant stakeholders.

We have a range of exciting and informative features that are sure to captivate our readers. 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 of legal services. As always, we are committed to providing insightful and informative contents 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 contents. As usual, previous editions of our newsletter can be accessed at: <https://j-kgadzamallp.com/publications/newsletters>.

Chidera Mgbe - Editor

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# The Nigerian State and the Crisis of Governance: What is the way forward?

By



**Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama**, OFR, MFR, SAN, C.Arb  
(Of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister/Life Bencher/Certified Mediator/Regulatory Consultant)  
Founding Principal Partner, J-K Gadzama LLP

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

I consider the topic of this paper to be an outcry necessitated by the challenges faced by our country today, especially as a result of poor governance and a yearning for an assurance of a better tomorrow. The security challenges, corruption and judicial, executive and legislative incompetence are appalling. Two questions that I consider imperative as far as this subject is concerned are “how did we get here?” and “how can we move ahead?”

For the purpose of this paper, I will concentrate on the solutions rather than the problems - which we are all familiar with - with the hope that we will contribute our quota in the fight for the sanity of Nigeria, because, as I have echoed over and over again, *“the lawyer is the mouthpiece, the defender, the ambassador of and the giver of hope to the common man”*. I will attempt to establish the nexus between the Nigerian situation and what Lawyers can do to remedy the problem. The legal profession is a very effective force in the fight against bad governance and should stand up for its objectives as we fight for our dear country.

## **2.0 GOVERNANCE**

Governance has been defined as the act or process of governing or overseeing the control and direction of something such as a country or an organization.<sup>1</sup> It has also been defined as the regulation, restraint, supervision, or control which is exercised upon the individual members of an organized jural society by those invested with the supreme political authority, for the good and welfare of the body politic. Simply put, governance involves the making and implementation of decisions. Governance can be used in several contexts such as corporate governance, international governance, national governance and local governance. Since governance is the process of decision making and implementation, an analysis of governance focuses on the formal and informal actors involved in the making and implementation of decisions as well as the formal and informal structures that have been set in place in that regard.

### **2.1 Indices of Good Governance**

The indices of good governance can be likened to the characteristics of a developed nation. According to the United Nations, good governance has eight major characteristics. It is participatory, consensus-oriented, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient, equitable and inclusive and follows the rule of

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<sup>1</sup> Prof. Fidelis Okpata and Tiben Benz Nwali ‘Security and rule of law in Nigeria’ [2013] 2(3) Review of Public Administration and Management

law.<sup>2</sup> It assures that corruption is minimized, the views of minorities are taken into account, the voices of the most vulnerable in the society are heard in decision-making and the fundamental human rights of all citizens are upheld and protected. It is also responsive to the present and future needs of the society.

## **2.2 Indices of Bad Governance**

Bad governance is the relationship between those who govern and those who are governed.<sup>3</sup> It encompasses a variety of situations from corruption and deceit to the passing of unfair policies. Bad governance is centralized around the idea of not only corruption within a system but lack of transparency and accountability, arbitrary policymaking, disregard for human rights and the cheating of those who are governed.

The effects of bad governance on the Nigerian state cannot be overemphasized. Weakening economy; rising insecurity and violent conflicts threaten Nigeria's progress and cripple the efforts that have been made in time past. The issues driving the country's multiple conflicts, including farmer-herder violence, deepening regional divides, armed banditry and the Boko Haram insurgency need to be addressed urgently. There is significant work to be done by multiple stakeholders in improving national, state and local security governance.

## **3.0 THE WAY FORWARD**

Having identified the Nigerian problem, we need to ask ourselves, what next? I advocate for good governance which entails upholding the rule of law, curbing the insecurity bedeviling our country and promoting national development.

### **3.1 Upholding the Rule of Law**

According to Honourable Justice Oputa, J.S.C., the rule of law presupposes: (i) that the state is subject to the Law; (ii) that the Judiciary is a necessary agency of the Rule of Law; (iii) that Government should respect the rights of individual citizens under the Rule of Law; (iv) that to the Judiciary is assigned, both by the Rule of Law and by our Constitution, the determination of all actions and proceedings relating to matters in dispute between persons, governments or authority."

The government must be ready and willing to make decisions no matter how hard, and formulate policies and programmes that are of practical and positive

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<sup>2</sup> *ibid*

<sup>3</sup> Dele Adesina, SAN "Rule of Law: Panacea for Good Governance" (Full text delivered at the Nigerian Bar Association, Calabar Branch Law Week, 31st January, 2020)

advantage and benefit to the people. They must formulate and implement policies and programmes that will enhance the standard of living of the people. On the other hand, the people themselves must be civil, law-abiding and ready to hold the government accountable from time to time. Rule of Law is very key. It is not just a solution for good governance; it is also the basis for any true and functional Constitutional Democracy. Where the Rule of Law operates, there can be no room for impunity, little or no discretion, no room for dictatorship, arbitrariness, authoritarianism, abuse or misuse of power. The duty, therefore, is on all of us first as Lawyers and second as citizens to hold the government accountable for the defence, protection and promotion of the Rule of Law and good governance. If we fail to do this, we are to blame ourselves and not anyone else.

It suffices therefore to say that sound legislation and the legal profession are critical to the well-being of the nation. Upon deep reflection, one wonders why a country bestowed with so much manpower and enormous resources has been unable to harness and deploy these huge material resources and human endowment into rapid development and prosperity to mitigate agitations leading to insecurity. The prevailing situation is posing a big risk to the unity of this country. The stability of any nation is premised upon the existence of certain core features such as the policy of the rule of law without compromise, transparency, accountability, and due process in governance. These elements are the cornerstone of any civilized democratic state.

### **3.2 Upholding Human Rights**

Human Rights are the foundation of any society, and their disregard will lead to a total breakdown of law and order. According to Ogunwumiju, JCA (now JSC), the importance of fundamental rights to the citizenry cannot be over-emphasized. They are rights that are not only basic to humans, but they also form the bedrock for a free society devoid of forces of unbridled aggression, oppression, repression and authoritarianism.

They have been entrenched in Chapter IV of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) due to their sacrosanct nature and importance.<sup>4</sup> In Nigeria, as with all developing democracies, there are several reports of violation of human rights across the country which undermines democracy and good governance. Although fundamental human rights have been entrenched in the Nigerian constitution, there are several challenges to its enforcement by

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<sup>4</sup> J.U Ofoegbu 'The Place of Human Rights in Nigeria's Democracy' (November, 2014) 10 < [10.4314/og.v10i1.4](#) > Accessed 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

citizens. The institutions put in place to guard the rights of citizens face similar complications with other institutions in the country. These complications include lack of funding, infrastructure and political support. If these institutions are empowered, it will go a long way in ensuring that the citizen's fundamental human rights are upheld, ultimately safeguarding democracy and good governance.

### **3.3 Curbing Insecurity**

It is not in doubt that the issue of insecurity is generally a global phenomenon and a major impediment to the realization of a nation's growth and development. This is to say that insecurity is not limited or peculiar to Nigeria but is a global challenge that is rapidly stunting the development and progress of a nations' core productive and sensitive sectors - particularly developing nations like Nigeria. Security entails stability and continuity of livelihood, predictability of relationships, feeling safe, and belonging to a social group. This is done generally by upholding the national law and defending against internal security threats. Those responsible for internal security range from police to paramilitary forces, and in unexceptional circumstances, the military.

Although it is not within the mandate of the judiciary or the legal profession to address this issue, one can ask; how can we be of help? Where are our children who are being abducted from schools? From available statistics, Nigeria is the third most terrorized nation in the world, out of over 195 countries, and with the recent developments, we are gravitating towards the top spot. Why us? Since time immemorial, the preservation of life is one of the fundamental essences of law and a major factor that has remained a clear distinction in modern society. The need to have and achieve comfort, orderliness, and harmony is a thematic concern for any society, therefore, makes the issue of security every man's business and it is only through the collaboration that encompasses several disciplines particularly the lawyers, that Nigeria can successfully combat the plague of crisis and insecurity.

Justice is not linear. It is a three-way traffic: justice for the accused, the victim, and the society. As ministers in the temple of justice, the lawyer must contribute to ensuring the speedy disposal of cases in the most efficient way possible while ensuring that parties are brought to book where need be. This is especially important in security-related cases. The tradition of delay tactics and suppression of evidence must be nipped in the bud. Lawyers must say no to criminal elements who have devised rather ingenious ways of laundering stolen monies through lawyers.

Lawyers should sensitize the general public on the ills of crime and punishment for same. They must rise to their responsibility as consultants in the temple of Justice, educating the public about their freedom, rights, legal processes and encouraging them to be law-abiding.

### **3.4 Promoting National Development**

National development can be described as the overall advancement or a collective socio-economic, political as well as religious advancement of a country or nation.<sup>5</sup> This is best achieved through development planning, which can be described as the country's collection of strategies mapped out by the government. The Nigerian nation is blessed by enormous human and natural resources. As a nation, we would project that the exploitation and utilization of these resources will enhance the development of the Nigerian nation but despite the exploitation, sales and generation of revenue, and other forms of utilization of these resources, the Nigerian nation is bedeviled by serious crises of development.

Two years after Nigeria's independence, the first National Development Plan policy was formulated between 1962 and 1968 with the objectives of development opportunities in the health, education and employment sectors as well as improving access to these opportunities.<sup>6</sup> This plan failed because fifty percent of the resources needed to finance the plan were to come from external sources, and only fourteen percent of the external finance was received. The collapse of the First Republic and the commencement of civil war were also factors that disrupted the plan. After the civil war in 1970, the second national development plan of 1970 to 1974 was launched, the priorities of the plan were in agriculture, industry, transport, manpower, defense, electricity, communication water supply and provision of social services.

The third plan, covering the period from 1975 to 1980 was considered more ambitious than the second plan. Emphasis was placed on rural development and efforts to revamp the agricultural sector. The fourth plan 1981 to 1985 recognized the role of social services, health services, etc. The plan was aimed at bringing about improvement in the living conditions of the people.

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<sup>5</sup> Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN "Security, Education and National Development" (Full text delivered at the NBA Calabar Branch 2022 Law Week, 7th April 2022)

<sup>6</sup> Ibid n 7

Now, the 2020-2025 national development plan of Nigeria includes the following objectives;

- i. Economic diversification
- ii. Investment in infrastructure
- iii. Security and good governance
- iv. An educated and healthy population
- v. Poverty alleviation, and
- vi. Economic and social development across states

National development is a concept that largely depends on economic, social and political development of a country. Therefore, all-round development of a nation is compulsory for it to achieve national development. Generally, the nations of the world can be classified into developed, developing and underdeveloped. Most countries in Africa including Nigeria fall into the classification of developing nations. Typically, a developed nation is characterized by the availability of basic amenities, high income per capita, high gross domestic product, high level of security, high literacy level, high human development index, more food supply and produce amongst several other factors. Without a doubt, Nigeria falls into the category of a developing nation due to the inadequacy of basic infrastructure and amenities, high level of insecurity, lack of access to quality education and medical facilities, and low income per capita amongst other indices which contribute to it being described as developing. It is safe to say that as a country, we have not successfully addressed the root factors impeding us from attaining national development.

### **3.5 Fighting Ignorance**

As we already know, the educational sector is a very crucial one in any nation because it is a major investment in human capital development, it plays a critical role in the long-term productivity and growth at both micro and macro levels of our economy. According to National Policy on Education, education is an instrument par excellence for effecting national development. The purpose of education in modern times is wider in scope than in preliterate societies. Education now shapes politics, culture, family, and economy among others. As society is dynamic and constantly changing and growing, education must follow suit. Laudable positive changes most often are effected through the educational system of a country.

Despite the significance attached to education, its planning, implementation and administration have been very poor in Nigeria. The sector is bisected with myriads

of problems which include but are not limited to poor funding and thus poor educational infrastructures, inadequate classrooms, teaching aids (projectors, computers, laboratories and libraries), paucity of quality teachers and a poor/polluted learning environment. In addition to these inadequacies, our school system is bedeviled with numerous social vices such as examination malpractices, cultism, hooliganism and corruption. For meaningful development to take place in Nigeria's educational sector; the government needs to re-address the issue of funding. Private educational investors, teachers, parents/guardians and students/pupils need a reorientation towards achieving the goals of education. Also, education must be made affordable for all and sundry. The current monopolistic approach to knowledge acquisition must be changed.

In attesting to the fact that our educational system is inadequate, the former Minister of Education, Professor Raqayyatu Rufai advocated for reform of the education system as a means of curbing security challenges confronting Nigeria.

The Minister canvassed for a total overhaul of the curriculum at all levels of education intending to provide recipients a kind of education that focuses on the development of the mind, soul and body, taking into cognizance the need of the country. However, as it stands, there has been no improvement made to the educational sector.

Let us now look at the role of Education in National development, to identify the particular areas where they both will help in the evolution of our nation.

- a. Increasing Production
- b. Development of Human Resources
- c. Promotion of Social and National Integration
- d. Synthesizing Cultural and Scientific Values

### **3.6 The Role of the Bench**

The rule of law is enforced by the Courts through the interpretation of the law and decisions on disputes and questions brought before it and the enforcement of the fundamental human rights entrenched in the constitution. This is a very sensitive role and it is pertinent that the judiciary is independent at all times; a judiciary completely independent of the direction in which the political winds are blowing. The rule of law is effective when it is impartially and effectively applied. Court decisions have to be obeyed without question. This is the problem in most

developing countries. For example, it was reported that Late Dr. Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana dismissed a judge for giving bad judgment against the government.

The doctrine of rule of law presupposes equality before the law and this is important as the concept of rule of law is the bedrock upon which any modern democratic society rests. No arm of Government, or its Ministry, Department, Agency, Functionary or Appointee must be seen to be above the law. The need for the obedience of Court orders by all and sundry, no matter how highly placed, cannot be overemphasized. The reality as of today - that some persons pick and choose at will, Court orders which are to be obeyed and those not to be obeyed - is worrisome, disheartening, and unacceptable. We must all be reminded that our judiciary plays a similar role to that of a mother in our democracy and should be respected at all times. This respect must also be reflected in the funding of the judiciary. Not only is it imperative that adequate funds be made available, but also crucial that access to such funds be unhindered by any other branch of government.

### **3.7 The Role of Lawyers**

*Lawyers are ministers in the temple of justice*, is an age-long aphorism symbolizing great power and even greater responsibility in the scheme of social order, peace, and stability. Verily, there can be no social order or peace without social justice. It is lawyers' ultimate interest that at all times, social justice is attained. The concept of justice is not so trivial a conjecture for it entails certain fundamental tenets such as equity, fairness, access to Court, enforcement of human rights, freedom, and the defense of truth amongst others. This ultimate interest of lawyers has borne credence that beyond their responsibilities to client(s), colleagues and the court is their duty to the society. Lawyers are, therefore, important stakeholders in the security architecture of any state. In addition to their duties as watchdogs in society, lawyers may act as informants, prosecutors and advisers to the government.

Law is a noble profession, and lawyers are believed to be naturally entrusted with nobility. In most instances, they are referred to as custodians of the law; and hence, are influential agents of change having prominent roles as organizers and spokesmen of the society. Lawyers are very essential in every part of our system, and the enormous task placed on the shoulder of lawyers by society requires more than the rhetoric reference as "influential agents of change". It involves determination, diligence, and consistency, and above all, observing the rule of law

as well as promoting and fostering the cause of justice. Society is the lawyer's jurisdiction.

In a nutshell, I have said time without number in the past that:

*"The lawyer is the five senses of the visible body of the common man: the lawyer is the eye, the mouth, the eardrum, the nose and the receptor of the common man".*

The above represents the five senses of sight, taste, hearing, smell and touch ascribed to every human being and it is apt to attribute the same to lawyers as the function of the five senses is synonymous with their roles in the society. In addition, I have equally said that:

*"The lawyer is the mouthpiece, the defender, the ambassador of and the giver of hope to the common man".*

#### **4.0 CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, the situation of the Country is quite frightening as unthinkable happenings continue to grace our headlines as the days go by. It behooves all of us to stand up and fight for our Country's continuous survival and improvement. The importance of good governance and its indices cannot be overemphasized for the development of any country. There are several stakeholders that can play vital roles in the realization of a bright future for Nigeria. This paper has succinctly provided practical steps to be taken in order to fight for the sanity of our dear country, Nigeria.

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## SIGHTS AND SCENES

The Youth Partnership for Africa's Development (YOUPAD) courtesy visit and presentation of the Thomas Sankara Pan African Prize for Excellence to Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN on Tuesday, June 25, 2024 at the J-K Gadzama Court, Abuja



Amb. Nwankwo Henry Nkem, president, Youth Partnership for Africa's Development (YOUPAD) giving the keynote speech



L-R: Jerry O. Musa; Darlington Onyekwere; Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN; Amb. Nwankwo Henry Nkem; Austin Kowssi and Etongo Francine



Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN and Austin Kowssi (Vice President, YOUPAD)



Amb. Nwankwo Henry Nkem (President, YOUPAD) presenting the Thomas Sankara Pan-African Leadership Prize for Excellency to Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN



L-R: Jerry Ombugadu Musa and Darlington Onyekwere



L-R: Obioma Daniel Njoku; Austin Kowssi; Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN; Amb. Nwankwo Henry Nkem; Etongo Francine and Amb. Paul Kwabana



Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN and Amb. Nwankwo Henry Nkem with some Partners of J-K Gadzama LLP



Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN and Amb. Nwankwo Henry Nkem with Partners and Associates of J-K Gadzama LLP



## WORDS ON MARBLE

Each man has to find out why he was created, has to find out how do I achieve my purpose. At the end of creation, how do I make a positive impact on my age, on my nation, on my family. If you do that, you are living a footprint for those coming behind to follow.

- Justice Chukwudifu Oputa

The end of law is not to abolish or restrain, but to preserve and enlarge freedom. For in all the states of created beings, capable of laws where there is no law, there is no freedom.

- John Lock

No man is above the law and no man is below it; nor do we ask any man's permission when we ask him to obey it. Obedience to the law is demanded as a right; not asked as a favor.

- Theodore Roosevelt

Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than the ones you did. So throw off the bowlines, sail away from the safe harbor, catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.

- Mark Twain

Extend to each person, no matter how trivial the contact, all the care and kindness and understanding and love that you can muster, and do it with no thought of any reward. Your life will never be the same.

- OG Mandino

## PHOTO SPEAK



Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN at the Colony West Country Club, Tamarac, Florida, USA



L-R: Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN; Madu Joe-Kyari Gadzama and Paul Kyari Lassa at the IBB Golf and Country Club, Abuja



Khadijah Mohammed Abubakar (Associate, J-K Gadzama LLP) receiving some golfers at the firm's tent, Hole 8 during the 5th Bar & Bench Golf and 1st Table Tennis Tournament at the IBB Golf and Country Club, Abuja



L-R: Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN; Chief Patrick Chidolue; Hon. Justice Abubakar Sadiq Umar and Sen. Iyorchia Ayu during the 5th Bar & Bench Golf and 1st Table Tennis Tournament at the IBB Golf and Country Club, Abuja



Pupils of Funtaj International School, Abuja on a Study Trip to the firm on Tuesday, 28th May, 2024 in commemoration of the Children's Day celebration



Year 11 students of Funtaj International School, Abuja on a Job Training Exercise at the firm, held from Monday, 3rd June - Wednesday, 5th June, 2024



Our Associate, Sarah Jeta Atumga, Esq. discussing the topic "Democratic Governance in Nigeria: Are Youths Ready to Break the Order" on a panel at the NBA Abuja 2024 Law Week on Friday, 10th May, 2024



Chief Patrick O. Okolo, SAN presenting a gift to our Associate, Sarah Jeta Atumga, Esq. on behalf of the NBA Abuja branch at the NBA Abuja 2024 Law Week



## NEWS

## FROM THE FIRM

The firm sponsored the 5th Bar & Bench Golf and 1st Table Tennis Tournament at the IBB International Golf and Country Club. Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN won the nearest-to-the-pin prize at the 5th Bar & Bench Golf Tournament, which took place on Saturday, 4th May, 2024.

Mr. Gideon Agbede, a graduate of Prince Abubakar Audu University who was called to the Bar in 2020 has joined the firm as Associate. The firm welcomes him and wishes him a pleasant stay.

Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama, SAN was awarded the Thomas Sankara Pan African Prize for excellence, hard work and contribution to Nation Building. The Thomas Sankara Pan African Prize for Leadership Excellence is an instrument of commendation reserved to appreciate great Africans, dedication to practices that promotes the African moral values, corporation and establishment of a culture of hard work and dedication to Africa's development transcending National, Tribal and Religious Barriers.

Mr. Abubakar Ali Kachallah Mohammed, a graduate from the University of West England, called to the Bar in 2024 has been posted to the firm for his one year mandatory National Youth Service Corp Scheme. The firm wishes him a fruitful stay.

# UPCOMING EVENTS AND CONFERENCES

Nigerian Law Society Annual General Conference, July, 2024, Ibadan, Oyo State

Nigerian Bar Association Annual General Conference, August, 2024, Lagos, Nigeria

International Bar Association (IBA) Annual Conference, Mexico City  
15 - 20 September, 2024

17th J-K Gadzama LLP Public Annual Lecture, October, 2024

5th African Arbitration Association Annual International Arbitration Conference  
10 - 12 October, 2024, Douala, Cameroun

Pan African Lawyers Union 2024 Annual Conference Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
16-19 October, 2024

Annual Conference of the African Bar Association, Livingstone, Republic of Zambia  
27 - 31 October, 2024

Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (C.Arb.) Nigeria Branch Annual Conference and  
Gala Nite, 6 - 8 November, 2024, Abuja, Nigeria

# OUR PEOPLE

## PARTNERS

1. Joe-Kyari Gadzama, OFR, MFR, SAN, FNIALS, FICMC, DipICarb, FNICarb, FCI Arb, C.Arb.  
Founding Principal Partner
2. Mohammed Monguno, ACI Arb  
Senior Partner/Fmr. Attorney General of Borno State
3. Darlington Onyekwere, ACI Arb  
Partner
4. Madu Joe-Kyari Gadzama, LL.M (Warwick), MCI Arb., MICMC  
Partner
5. Jerry Ombugadu Musa, LL.M, CDRS  
Junior Partner
6. Oluniyi Adediji, ACTI, ABR  
Junior Partner
7. Agbo Mark Chidi, MCI Arb.  
Junior Partner
8. Lamar Joe-Kyari Gadzama, ACI Arb., AICMC  
Junior Partner
9. Chidera Mgbe  
Junior Partner

## SENIOR ASSOCIATES

1. John Echezona Unachukwu
2. Rashidat Banke Obamojore

## VISITING ASSOCIATE

Ignatius Ozoilo, Pg. Dip., LL.M

## ASSOCIATES

1. Sarah Jeta Atunga
2. Adegbemisoye A. Olasubomi, ACI Arb, ABR
3. Onyekachi Agbonma Eluwa
4. Khadijah Muhammad Abubakar
5. Hajara M. S. Sorondinki
6. Simon Tabji Baltai
7. Gideon Agbedo
8. Linda Havi Shaljaba

## JUNIOR ASSOCIATES

1. Asiya Saddique Shehu
2. Racheal Ayorinde
3. Mark Asu-Obi
4. Abubakar Ali Kachallah
5. Fatima Abatcha

## INTERNS

1. Saadatu Ahmed Abdullahi
2. Maryam Joe-Kyari Gadzama
3. Jeremiah C. O. Chigbu
4. Tumta Faith Williams

## OFFICE MANAGER

Sunday Ali Dzarma

## ACCOUNTANT

Fidelis Edache, ACA

## LIBRARIAN

John A. Nwafor, BLIS, MLIS, AESM, ITIL, LRCN (Certified)

## IT PERSONNEL

Bonidefaiye Friday Dayo

Israel Izuchukwu Chieke

## JURIS CONSULT

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, FCI Arb, C.Arb

# JICAM

JANADA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR ARBITRATION & MEDIATION



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.

## OUR SERVICES

1. Appointing Authority
2. Fund Managers
3. Hearings
4. Secretarial/Administrative Services
5. Case Management
6. Video Conferencing (Cisco Webex/Zoom, etc.)
7. Transcription
8. Recording Services  
(360 Systems' New Instant Replay2, Networked Digital Audio, 1000 Audio Cuts at your fingertips, Instant Sound Effect, Instant Music)

## CONTACT US

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Abuja, FCT, Nigeria.

+234 (0) 805 663 9921  
+234 (0) 901 425 8316

info@jicam.org

@JicamCentre    f    @    in    @JICAM

## 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.

## VISION

To become the world's leading client-centric independent and efficient Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Centre.

## OUR FACILITIES

1. Hearing Rooms
2. Conference/Seminar Hall
3. Arbitrators' Retiring Room
4. Claimants'/Respondents' Meeting Rooms
5. Waiting Room/Lounge
6. Food Court (The Dome)
7. Library/Resource Room
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

Offers Professional Design, Printing,  
Photography & Videography.

## OUR SERVICES

- Printing
- Photography
- Videography
- Graphic Design
- Photo Album Design
- Photocopying
- Binding
- Logo Designs
- Poster Designs
- Branding
- Video Editing
- Website Design

### CONTACT US:

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## 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

**ADDRESS:** 1st Floor, Plot 1805, Damaturu Crescent  
by Kabo Way, Off Ahmadu Bello Way, Adjacent to Garki International  
Market/Mall, P.O Box 20304, Garki II, Abuja, Nigeria.  
Telephone: +234 (0) 815 656 5619

### *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@voxpopulifoundation.org](mailto:info@voxpopulifoundation.org)

for further enquiries, call us on

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

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

&

tweet us @vpfoundcast

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Ikoyi, P. O. Box 53155,  
Lagos, Nigeria.

### MAIDUGURI

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Old G. R. A, P. O. Box 112,  
Maiduguri, Borno, Nigeria.

### DUBAI

Sheikh Zayed Road - Dubai,  
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