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Hon.Tunde Ayofe Reacts as Public Appeal Seeks Support for Dedicated Mother Identified at Governor Adeleke's Campaign in Edunabon

Alatunse Announces Another Intervention, Moves to Support Injured Campaign Worker in Ife

Kano Political Commentator Ibrahim Khalil Dan Shagamu Killed at Home

North Korean Leader's Daughter Believed to Have Younger Sibling — Seoul

ACCORD PARTY
ONENESS & PROGRESS
IFE NORTH CHAPTER, OSUN STATE, NIGERIA.
14, Akalako Street,
Ojude Oruku,
Ipetumodu.
Tel: 07038566420.

PEOPLES DEMOCRATIC PARTY
POWER TO THE PEOPLE
IFE NORTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT CHAPTER
Market Road, Ipetumodu.

9th Sep

Your Ref: Date: 09/09/2026.....

Ibukun Babarinde
Adeyemo James
Ige Gbenga
Akinlolu Ademola
Areoye Ayo
Oluwale
Claude
Adekunle
Mallam
Hon. Oluwale
Sheriff

Accord Party And Pdp Suspend Members For Anti-party Activities In Osun

OGBENI CHARLES

To:
Hon. Odeyemi Oluwale
Councillor Representing Edunabon Ward 1
Ife North Local Government

Through:
Hon. Sunday Bisi
State Chairman, Peoples Democratic Party (PDP),
Osun State

Through:
Hon. Adesoye Oyewole
Chairman, Peoples Democratic Party (PDP),
Ife North Local Government Chapter

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION

I write to formally notify you of your suspension from the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), with immediate effect and pending further review, over your involvement in digital activities, publications and engagements considered prejudicial to the interests, image, unity and discipline of the Party.



Tinubu: D'Tigress Players Receive \$100,000 Each as Presidential Rewards Are Fully Redeemed



Accord Party stakeholder promises official party backing for the Edunabon mother spotted nursing her baby at Governor Adeleke's Ife North rally.

Politics Desk

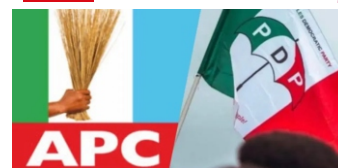


Alatunse Declares Constituent 'Wanted' After Spotting Mother Feeding Baby Under Scorching Sun at Ife North Campaign

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Enough is Enough": Ijesa Youths Hit Streets, Initiate Process to Recall Senator Fadahunsi Over Alleged Inciting Remarks

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Osun 2026: PDP Candidate, APC Legal Team Deny Filing Petition Against Adeleke's Victory

Politics Desk



2027: Ajagunnla Finally Emerges PDP Candidate for Osun Central

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POLITICS

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Your conduct on digital platforms is considered capable of undermining the leadership and its collective interests.

Consequently, you are hereby directed to desist from further digital publications, engagements or activities capable of undermining or bringing the Party into disrepute, pending further directives from the appropriate Party organs.

This decision is taken in the interest of party discipline, unity and the protection of the integrity of the Peoples Democratic Party.

You are expected to abide by this directive and remain guided by the Constitution and its collective interests.

OSOGBO, OSUN STATE — The political atmosphere in Osun State has grown increasingly tense following a wave of heavy disciplinary actions by major political parties. Both the Accord Party and the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) have swung the axe, suspending multiple members and local government figures over allegations of anti-party activities, disloyalty, and conduct capable of damaging party unity.

are accused of participating in underground maneuvers and activities deemed "inimical to the unity, discipline and interests of the Accord Party."

The state leadership has barred the 11 members from representing or engaging in any activities on behalf of the party while investigations are ongoing. Furthermore, the party warned that other leaders suspected of providing covert backing to the

PDP Cracks Down on Digital Dissent

Meanwhile, the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in the Ife North Local Government chapter turned its attention to the digital landscape, slamming a strict suspension notice on Hon. Odeyemi Oluwole, a serving Councillor representing Edunabon Ward 1.

In a suspension order dated September 9, 2026, authorized by the Ife North PDP Local Government Chairman, Hon. Adesoye Oyewole, and routed through State Chairman Hon.

Accord Party Drops the Hammer on 11 in Ife North

In Ife North, the Accord Party state leadership moved swiftly to clean house, announcing the immediate suspension of 11 high-profile members. The affected individuals include Ibukun Babarinde, Adeyemo James, Ige Gbenga, Akinlolu Ademola, Areyoye Ayo, Oluwabusayo Adeniyi, Claudius Adeyemo, Adediran Kehinde, Mallam Isiaka, Hon. Niyi Odunlade, and Sheriff Lamidi.

According to an official directive issued on September 9, 2026, and signed by the Osun State Accord Chairman, Pastor Victor Akande, the decision followed an indictment by the Ife North Accord Stakeholders Forum. The suspended politicians

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7. Claudius Adeyemo
8. Adediran Kehinde
9. Mallam Isiaka
10. Hon Niyi Odunlade
11. Sheriff Lamidi

SUSPENSION FROM THE ACCORD PARTY, OSUN STATE CHAPTER

Following a report received from the Ife North Accord Stakeholders Forum regarding your alleged involvement in activities considered inimical to the unity, discipline and interests of the Accord Party, you are hereby suspended from the Party with immediate effect, pending investigation and determination of the matter.

You are therefore directed to cease all activities, representations or engagements on behalf of the Party during the period of your suspension.

The Party is also investigating reports that some leaders may have provided support or backing to the suspended members. Upon conclusion of the investigation, any person found culpable will face appropriate disciplinary and/or legal action in accordance with the Party's constitution and applicable laws.

Please be guided accordingly.

Pastor Victor Akande
State Chairman,
Accord Party, Osun State Chapter.

suspended members are also under close surveillance and risk severe disciplinary or legal consequences if found culpable.

PEOPLES DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDP)
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This decision is taken in the interest of party discipline, unity and the protection of the integrity of the Peoples Democratic Party.

You are expected to abide by this directive and remain guided by the Constitution, rules and lawful directives of the Party.

Kindly accept the assurances of my regards.

Hon. Adesoye Oyewole
Chairman, PDP
Ife North LGA.

Sunday Bisi, the councillor was penalized for unauthorized online conduct. The party leadership stated that Hon. Oluwole's digital activities, publications, and social media engagements were blatantly prejudicial to the image, collective interests, and disciplinary code of the PDP.

The ruling party maintained that the councillor's online footprint possessed the capacity to undermine party leadership and create unnecessary public disaffection. Consequently, he has been ordered to immediately cease all further digital publications or public engagements capable of bringing the party into disrepute pending a comprehensive review.

As both political camps tighten their internal mechanisms, political watchers note that these developments signal a zero-tolerance stance against internal sabotage as parties gear up for future political contests in the



Enough is Enough": Ijesa Youths Hit Streets, Initiate Process to Recall Senator Fadahunsi Over Alleged Inciting Remarks

ILESA, OSUN STATE — The political landscape of the Osun-East Senatorial District has been thrown into a state of intense turbulence following a massive street protest

staged by a coalition of youth groups, students, and concerned constituents in Ilesa. The demonstrators openly demanded the immediate recall of Senator Francis Fadahunsi from the National Assembly, citing inflammatory rhetoric and what they termed sub-par legislative performance during the recent electoral cycle.

Carrying placards with inscriptions reading "Enough! We don't want Senator Francis Fadahunsi to represent us at the National Assembly in Abuja,"

The protesters marched through major commercial hubs including the Enuwa roundabout, Isokun, and the central Market Square before terminating their procession at the palace gates of the Owa-Obokun of Ijesaland.

The Genesis of the Crisis and Security Interrogations

The protest serves as a physical escalation of weeks of brewing anger linked to a controversial video that circulated across social



media platforms prior to the August 15 governorship election in Osun State. In the footage, Senator Fadahunsi was captured making remarks during a political meeting that opposing factions and youth leaders heavily criticized as a call to violence.

Following intense public outcry and petitions, the lawmaker was invited to the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of the Osun State Police Command in Osogbo, where he was grilled by

detectives before being granted bail. While the senator and his supporters maintained that the video was doctored and that his words were taken completely out of context by political opponents, the explanation failed to quell public agitation.

Moving from Streets to Constitutional Action

Addressing journalists during the demonstration, the leader of the coalition, Comrade Olorunfemi Olatunji, expressed deep disappointment with the senator's representation. Olatunji stated that the street protest was only the opening phase of a comprehensive strategy to strip the lawmaker of his legislative mandate.

"We, under the aegis of the Coalition of Youth and Students with Concerned Citizens of Osun East Senatorial District, are opposed to the reckless statement made by our Senator before the election,"
Olatunji stated.

"This protest is the first stage of our actions. We are recalling him back home; we are still going to Abuja. All the necessary lawful actions to recall him have been put together which we will start in a few days. We have filed the petition and we are following it with action."

Adding his voice to the agitation, the Chairman of the National Youth Council of Nigeria (NYCN), Comrade Akinbode Olakolupo, called for an impartial and transparent security investigation into all allegations of political intimidation, threats, and violence tied to the electoral process in the zone.

Lawmaker Fires Back, Dismisses Protesters as Sponsored Detractors
Reacting swiftly to the

development, Senator Francis Fadahunsi dismissed the protest and the threat of a recall as a politically motivated charade orchestrated by disgruntled individuals.

In a statement issued through his Special Adviser on Media, Pastor Sam-Segun Progress, the lawmaker argued that no genuine constituent aware of his infrastructural footprint and legislative interventions would champion such a cause. The media office highlighted his developmental contributions, pointing to the installation of transformers to boost community electricity supply and

the facilitation of over 400 job opportunities for youths across the Ife-Ijesa zone.

Furthermore, opposing regional bodies such as the Ijesa Intellectuals have similarly criticized the recall push, arguing that the agitators underestimate the strict constitutional requirements mandated by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) for recalling a serving senator.

As the political divide widens between grassroots youth

coalitions and the federal lawmaker's camp, the path toward a formal constituency recall sets the stage for a protracted legal and political showdown in Osun-East.

Ijesa Group Rejects Recall Call Against Senator Fadahunsi

This report provides background context on the ongoing political debates, contrasting views, and community reactions surrounding the Senator's performance and the recall threats.



THE RENEWED HOPE 2.0

FOR THE CONTINUITY OF GOOD NIGERIA



VOTE

**ASIWAJU BOLA
AHMED TINUBU -GCFR**

FOR SECOND TERM AS THE PRESIDENT OF NIGERIA

Courtesy: Otunba Olagoke Oladosu

A Book Should Be Written About
2026 Osun State Governorship
Election And Be Titled

WHEN GOD FAILED THE OPPRESSOR

• GBOYEGA BOLADALE

POLITICS

The APC Years in Osun, the Promises, the Contradictions and the Political Reckoning of 2026

This is an analytical opinion feature. The headline is used as a political metaphor, not as a claim about divine judgment.

There are moments in the political history of a state when an election becomes more than a contest between candidates. It becomes a referendum on memory — on what the people endured, what they gained, what they lost and what they believe should never happen again.

For Osun State, the story of the All Progressives Congress (APC) is one of such political chapters.

From 2010, when Rauf Aregbesola assumed office, through the four-year administration of Gboyega Oyetola between 2018 and 2022, the APC controlled the affairs of Osun for 12 consecutive years.

It was a period of ambitious infrastructure, education reforms, social intervention and attempts at fiscal restructuring. But it was also a period marked by salary controversies, pension obligations, political disagreements, public protests, internal party divisions and an increasingly difficult relationship between government and sections of the electorate.

The ultimate political verdict came in two stages.

First, in 2022, Ademola Adeleke defeated the incumbent Oyetola.

Then, in August 2026, despite returning to the state

with another candidate, the APC again failed to reclaim the Government House in Osogbo.

The question now is not simply why APC lost.

The bigger question is: what happened during those 12 years that made the party's hold on Osun eventually collapse?

THE BEGINNING: THE AREGBesOLAYEARS



The APC's Osun story effectively began with Aregbesola's victory in 2010.

His administration entered office with a strong reform agenda and pursued large-scale programmes in education, youth

empowerment, infrastructure and social welfare.

The administration introduced programmes such as O-YES, a youth empowerment scheme, Opon Imo, an electronic learning initiative, and O-MEALS, the school feeding programme. It also embarked on extensive road construction and other infrastructure projects.

For supporters, these programmes represented an administration willing to think beyond conventional

governance.

But there was another side.

Osun's financial difficulties became increasingly visible, particularly in the payment of workers' salaries. The administration introduced a modulated salary arrangement under which some categories of workers received less than their full monthly salaries. Between June 2015 and December 2017, workers on Grade Level 14 and above received **half salaries**, while those on **Levels 8 to 13 received 75 per cent**.

For many workers and pensioners, the experience became a defining memory of the APC years.

A government could point to roads, schools and social programmes.

But a civil servant who could not receive a complete salary had a different way of measuring government performance.

And politics, ultimately, is often judged at the point where government policy meets the dining table.

OYETOLA: A DIFFERENT APC, SAME POLITICAL FAMILY



In 2018, Oyetola inherited the APC structure and the enormous expectations that came with it.

His emergence was itself controversial.

The 2018 governorship election was initially declared inconclusive

after the margin between Oyetola and Adeleke was narrower than the number of cancelled votes. A supplementary election was subsequently conducted, after which Oyetola was declared winner. The process generated intense political controversy and accusations from opposition actors about the conduct of the election.

Oyetola's government attempted to distinguish itself from some of the policies of its predecessor.

One major change was the return to full salaries for workers.

His administration also sought to address pension obligations, invest in healthcare and reduce dependence on fresh borrowing. It reversed some of the controversial school reclassification policies of the previous administration, including changes involving school structures, uniforms and names.

The administration also pursued infrastructure.

Perhaps its most visible legacy was the Olaiya Flyover in Osogbo.

Official Osun procurement records show that the flyover project was awarded at about **₦3.108 billion**, with the procurement record identifying the project as a 2021 budget item.

The project became one of the most recognisable physical symbols of the Oyetola administration.

But even with these achievements, the government could not escape the financial consequences of the preceding years.

The political argument over salaries and pensions did not disappear simply because full salaries resumed.

The unpaid obligations accumulated over previous administrations remained part of the state's political conversation.

THE DEBT QUESTION

This is where the APC narrative becomes complicated.

Supporters of the party have consistently argued that the administration inherited a difficult financial situation and worked to stabilise the state.

Critics, on the other hand, have argued that the APC years left behind substantial financial obligations.

When Adeleke assumed office in 2022, his administration said it inherited significant salary, pension and deduction liabilities from the preceding APC administrations.

In 2024, the Osun State Government announced the payment of about **₦1.69 billion** comprising cooperative deductions and another tranche of inherited half-salary obligations. The government attributed the liabilities to the previous

administrations of Aregbesola and Oyetola.

But the figures have always been politically contested.

Adeleke's administration had put the inherited salary and pension burden at about **₦75 billion**, while Oyetola, in his farewell statement, said he left about **₦14 billion** in the state's operating account and maintained that his administration did not take a loan during its tenure.

That disagreement illustrates one of the central problems in assessing the APC years:

Osun's political parties have often told the same financial story from completely different sides of the ledger.

THE POLITICS INSIDE THE POLITICS

Perhaps the biggest weakness of the APC in Osun was not necessarily the absence of projects.

It was the inability to maintain political cohesion.

The relationship between Oyetola and Aregbesola deteriorated during the period after Oyetola became governor. What began as a political family gradually developed into competing camps.

The consequences were serious.

By the time the 2022 governorship election arrived, the APC was no longer presenting itself as the united political machine that had defeated the PDP in 2018.

The internal disagreement became part of the election.

And Adeleke capitalised on it.

In the 2022 election, Adeleke defeated Oyetola, polling about **403,371** votes against Oyetola's **375,027**, according to figures reported from the election.

The APC had lost the state after 12 years in power.

2022: THE PEOPLE SPEAK

Elections are not always straightforward judgments on whether a government was good or bad.

They are often combinations of several things — performance, personality, party structure, internal divisions, economic conditions, campaign strategy, voter sentiment and the desire for change.

In Osun in 2022, all these factors appeared to converge.

- **Adeleke offered voters an alternative.**
-
- **Oyetola carried the burden of incumbency.**
-
- **The APC carried the history of 12 years in government.**
-
- **And the electorate made its decision.**

For APC supporters, the defeat was not necessarily proof that the party had failed completely.

For its opponents, it represented a rejection of the party's record.

For many voters, it was simply time for another government.

That distinction matters.

Because democracy does not require voters to prove that a government was completely bad before voting it out.

Sometimes, *“we want something different”* is enough.

THE SECOND CHANCE THAT NEVER CAME

Four years later, the APC returned to the battlefield. This time, the party presented Bola Oyebamiji as its candidate for the 2026



governorship election.

The contest became another major political test.

- **Could APC recover from its 2022 defeat?**
- **Could the party rebuild its grassroots structure?**
- **Could it convince voters that its return represented a new chapter rather than a return to the past?**

The answer from the ballot was capital **NO**.

The Independent National Electoral Commission declared incumbent Governor Ademola Adeleke the winner after he polled **511,067 votes**, while APC candidate Bola Oyebamiji received **444,815 votes**.

Adeleke won by **66,252 votes** and carried 19 of the state's 30 local government areas, while Oyebamiji won 11.

The result was significant.

The APC had not only failed to recover the state. It had lost the opportunity to present itself as the preferred alternative after four years of opposition.

SO, DID APC DO NOTHING IN OSUN?

Absolutely not.

That would be an inaccurate reading of history.

The APC governments left physical and policy footprints across Osun.

The Aregbesola administration expanded youth empowerment, education interventions, school feeding and infrastructure programmes. The Oyetola administration restored full salaries, worked on pension obligations, invested in healthcare and delivered projects including the Olaiya Flyover.

But governments are not judged solely by what they construct.

They are also judged by **how people experience government**.

A flyover can be physically impressive.

A school can be beautifully constructed.

A youth empowerment programme can produce beneficiaries.

But if workers are struggling with unpaid salaries, pensioners are waiting for their entitlements, or citizens feel excluded from government, the political value of those achievements can diminish.

That was one of the contradictions of the APC years.

2027: Ajagunnla Finally Emerges PDP Candidate for Osun Central

Politics Desk



OSOGBO, Osun State — Senator Olubiyi Fadeyi Ajagunnla has finally secured the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) ticket to contest the Osun Central Senatorial District election in 2027, according to political commentator Diran Odeyemi.

Odeyemi made the claim during an interview on the Morning Spring programme of Western Spring Television on Wednesday, September 9, 2026, while discussing the emerging political landscape ahead of the 2027 senatorial contest.

According to him, Ajagunnla has now emerged as the PDP candidate, positioning him for another bid for the Osun Central Senate seat.

Ajagunnla's political journey towards the 2027 contest has been marked by movements between political camps and an intense struggle for the PDP senatorial ticket.

In the middle of 2025, Ajagunnla defected from the

PDP to the All Progressives Congress (APC), reportedly in an effort to secure the party's platform for a second term.

However, after the anticipated political arrangement did not materialise, Ajagunnla made a dramatic return to the PDP.

His return subsequently intensified the contest for the PDP senatorial ticket, particularly between him and Hon. Ibraheem Adekunle, as both camps sought the party's endorsement ahead of the election.

The development has added another layer to the political contest in Osun Central, where several political interests are positioning themselves ahead of the 2027 election.

Odeyemi's declaration on the Morning Spring programme is coming amid growing attention to the emerging candidates and political alignments within the senatorial district.

However, the formal status of any candidate ultimately depends on the outcome of the party's officially recognised nomination process and relevant electoral procedures.

With the 2027 election approaching, the battle for Osun Central is expected to attract heightened political activity as parties and aspirants intensify their mobilisation across the district.

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parties and aspirants intensify their mobilisation across the district.

An indigene of Ila Orangun, Omipidan previously served as the Chief Press Secretary to former Osun State Governor, Alhaji Adegboyega Oyetola, after his appointment in August 2019. Contemporary reports also identify him as a native of Ila Orangun.

During his tenure as Oyetola's spokesperson, Omipidan was a prominent voice in defending the administration and commenting on political developments in Osun. He has also remained publicly active on issues concerning the APC and the political direction of the state.

His latest declaration effectively places him among politicians positioning themselves for the 2030 Osun governorship contest, although the election remains four years away.

With the message "The Time Is Now," Omipidan appears to be signalling the beginning of a political mobilisation around his aspiration, particularly within Osun Central and his home base in Ila Orangun.

The 2030 contest is expected to generate considerable political realignment in Osun as aspirants across the major political parties begin to position themselves for the race.



Accord Party stakeholder promises official party backing for the Edunabon mother spotted nursing her baby at Governor Adeleke's Ife North rally.

EDUNABON, OSUN STATE—Following viral campaign images that captured a mother nursing her child under the scorching sun during Governor Ademola Adeleke's recent rally in Ife North, prominent Accord Party stakeholder Hon. Tunde Ayofe has reacted to calls aimed at providing financial support for the woman, identified as Mrs. Akinniyi Oyebimpe Tenifola from Edunabon.

The viral moment was initially brought to light by political analyst Tomiwa Babalola (famously known as Alatunse), who launched a public search to locate the mother after photos surfaced showing her active participation at the campaign venue despite demanding weather conditions.

Moved by her loyalty and sacrifice, Babalola offered a cash gift to appreciate her commitment to the movement and urged residents of Ife North to assist in making direct contact with her.

Reacting through a post shared on his official Facebook handle, Hon. Tunde Ayofe acknowledged the heartwarming gesture while emphasizing the need for proper administrative verification through local party channels.

"We will surely verify from the leaders before taking her matters to those that matter within the Accord Party for support..." Ayofe stated in

his post.

Ayofe praised the woman's resilience, highlighting how her dedication reflects the grassroots passion surrounding Governor Adeleke's leadership. He further noted that once local leaders confirm her details, steps will be taken to ensure she receives further backing and attention from key party stakeholders.



Osun 2026: PDP Candidate, APC Legal Team Deny Filing Petition Against Adeleke's Victory

The aftermath of the August 15, 2026 Osun State governorship election has taken a fresh turn, following the denial by the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) governorship candidate and the All Progressives Congress (APC) legal team that they filed petitions challenging the victory of Governor Ademola Adeleke.

The development followed the appearance of two petitions before the Osun State Governorship Election Petition Tribunal sitting in Osogbo, reportedly challenging the outcome of the election.

One of the petitions, marked EPT/OS/GOV/01/2026, reportedly listed the APC governorship candidate, Asiwaju Munirudeen Bola Oyebamiji, and the APC as petitioners, while Governor Adeleke, the Accord Party and the

Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) were listed as respondents.

A second petition, marked EPT/OS/GOV/02/2026, reportedly listed the PDP as the petitioner against INEC, the Accord Party and Governor Adeleke.

However, the APC legal team has disowned the petition attributed to the party and its candidate.

A senior member of the APC legal team, Adekunle Adegoke, SAN, said the party's lawyers had advised Oyebamiji and the party leadership against challenging the election result at the tribunal.

According to him, the decision followed consultations after the election and was intended to prevent further political tension and promote peace in the state.

Adegoke also pointed to Oyebamiji's public decision to congratulate Adeleke after the election, questioning why the APC candidate would subsequently authorise a petition challenging the same result.

He therefore described the petition attributed to Oyebamiji and the APC as unauthorised, stressing that it did not emanate from the recognised legal team of the party.

In a separate development, the PDP governorship candidate, Adebayo Adedamola, also denied filing or authorising any petition against Adeleke's victory.

Adedamola reportedly said he had endorsed Adeleke ahead of the election and had no reason to subsequently challenge the governor's victory at the tribunal.

He further stated that neither he nor his counsel had filed any petition

and that he was unaware of any decision by the PDP to challenge the election outcome.

The conflicting claims have raised questions over the ownership and authorisation of the petitions reportedly displayed before the tribunal in Osogbo.

Governor Adeleke was declared winner of the August 15 governorship election after polling 511,067 votes, while the APC candidate, Oyebamiji, secured 444,815 votes.

The latest development is expected to generate further political and legal interest in Osun as attention shifts to the tribunal and the question of who authorised the petitions reportedly filed over the election.



Alatunse Announces Another Intervention, Moves to Support Injured Campaign Worker in Ife

ILE-IFE, NIGERIA — Political stalwart in the Ife Federal Constituency and Head of the Youth Campaign Council for the region, Hon. Tomiwa Babalola Alatunse, has pledged financial compensation and support to a campaign worker injured during political activities for Governor Ademola Adeleke.



RENEWED HOPE GREATER NIGERIA



VOTE

P R E S I D E N T

**ASIWAJU BOLA
AHMED TINUBU**

FOR SECOND TERM

COURTESY: OTUNBA OLAGOSKE OLADOSU

The commitment followed a viral post on X (formerly Twitter) by user @isolatrg, who shared pictures displaying noticeable facial injuries sustained on the campaign trail in Ile-Ife. In his post, the supporter recounted his sacrifices for the party and appealed for job opportunities and a chance to rebuild his life during the governor's second term.

Responding publicly to the post, Hon. Alatunse expressed sympathy for the victim's plight and announced an immediate personal intervention.

"Hello my brother gm. Sorry to hear about the unfortunate incident during the campaign for @AAdeleke_01," Alatunse wrote. "As the head of the youth campaign council in Ife federal, I'd like to compensate you in my own little way. I'll reach out via dm. Please keep on keeping on, don't be discouraged!"

Hon. Alatunse committed to private outreach via direct message to coordinate personal financial support for the victim, emphasizing that his position leading the youth campaign council drives his responsibility to care for party loyalists. The prompt outreach reassures campaign volunteers that local leaders are paying attention to their welfare and sacrifices on the ground.

This gesture reinforces Hon. Alatunse's reputation as a responsive leader committed to the welfare of grassroots supporters across Osun State.



Alatunse Declares Constituent 'Wanted' After Spotting Mother Feeding Baby Under Scorching Sun at Ife North Campaign

Hon. Tomiwa Babalola Alatunse, a political stalwart in Ife Federal Constituency, has appealed to members of the public to help identify and locate a woman spotted feeding her baby under the scorching sun during a campaign rally in Ife North.

Alatunse made the appeal after going through photographs from Governor Ademola Adeleke's campaign visit to Ife North, where he noticed the woman among the large crowd of supporters.

According to him, the woman's commitment and sacrifice caught his attention, particularly as she cared for her baby while actively participating in the campaign activities.

He said he intends to personally appreciate the woman by presenting her with a cash gift as a token of recognition for her dedication and sacrifice.

"Please, if you know her or have any information that can help us

locate her, kindly reach out. Let's find this amazing woman," Alatunse appealed.

He further called on residents of Ife North and members of the public who may recognise the woman to assist in connecting her with his team.

The search is now on for the woman whose touching moment at the campaign rally has captured public attention.





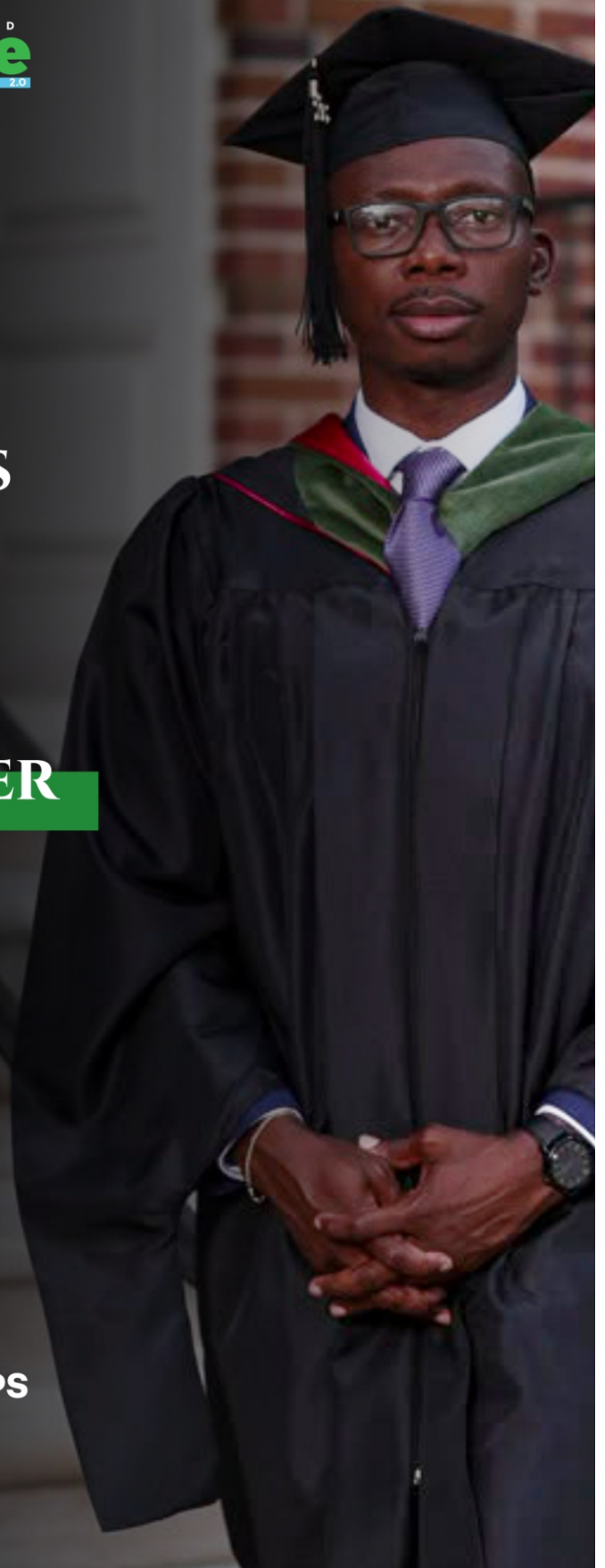
Babatunde Shuaib
Owokoniran
(BSO) WISDOM. WASTE. PROGRESS.



WALKING ACROSS THAT STAGE AT A WORLD-CLASS INSTITUTION IS NOT JUST THE END OF A CHAPTER

It is proof that your discipline
Was greater than your doubts.
You didn't just earn a degree;
You built the mindset to
Conquer whatever comes next.

**Hon. Babatunde Shuaib
Owokoniran (BSO) B.Pharm, MSPS**
FOUNDER, GROWTH FOUNDATION



THE Security, Crime & Justice Desk



Police Arrest 16 Suspects in Delta, Recover Guns, Stolen Car

The Delta State Police Command has arrested 16 suspects in separate operations across the state, recovering firearms, ammunition, a stolen vehicle and substances suspected to be illicit drugs.

The arrests were disclosed by the command's spokesperson, SP Bright Edafe, in a statement on Thursday.

According to the police, eight suspects were arrested during a raid on a suspected cult gathering at Aragba-Orogun by operatives of the Command Anti-Cult Unit, Ozoro.

The operation, which followed intelligence about a planned cult meeting, reportedly led to a search of one of the suspects' residences, where a pump-action gun and one

live cartridge were recovered.

In another operation on September 8, operatives of the Okpanam Police Division arrested a 30-year-old man identified as Collins Dunkun over an alleged extortion attempt at a construction site.

Police said the suspects allegedly disrupted construction activities, seized workers' tools and demanded ₦700,000 before allowing work to continue. Six other suspects reportedly fled the scene.

A locally made single-barrel pistol and one cartridge were subsequently recovered, while efforts were ongoing to apprehend the fleeing suspects.

The command also said five suspects were arrested at an incomplete building in King Zanga, Ugbuegwai Community, Warri, following intelligence about suspected illicit drug activities.

Substances suspected to be Indian hemp, Codeine, Colorado, Rizla, SK and Canadian Loud were reportedly recovered during the operation.

In a separate incident at Ekpan, two suspects, identified as 41-year-old Destiny Suleman and 21-year-old Samuel Ejiro, were arrested after operatives traced a stolen brown Toyota Camry to the New Era area of Jakpa Road.

The vehicle, with registration number BEN-572BT, was reportedly stolen in Benin City on September 7.

The police said the suspects were intercepted during an intelligence-led operation, leading to the recovery of the vehicle.

The Commissioner of Police in Delta State, CP Samuel E. Erale, reiterated the command's commitment to tackling cultism, illegal possession of firearms, extortion, illicit drug activities and other forms of criminality across the state.

He urged residents to continue providing useful information to the police, assuring that the command would sustain proactive operations aimed at preventing crime and dismantling criminal networks.

The suspects remain in police custody as investigations continue.



Nigerian Government Reportedly Enters Secret Ceasefire with Boko Haram Faction, Bringing Lull to Northeast

ABUJA — The Nigerian government has reportedly established a clandestine ceasefire agreement with the Boko Haram faction led by Bakura Doro. According to a report by The New Humanitarian, the arrangement has brought a noticeable period of relative calm to parts of northeastern Nigeria over the past three months.

Sources with close contacts among senior members of the insurgent group revealed that the truce has been active since June and is currently under consideration for an extension.

The development is closely linked to behind-the-scenes negotiations aimed at securing the freedom of over 300 civilians who were abducted in March from Ngoshe, a community located in the Gwoza Local Government Area of Borno State. The hostages were subsequently released in June following talks involving intermediaries, government representatives, and the faction.

While the ceasefire has noticeably reduced insurgent activity and attacks in communities surrounding Ngoshe, it has also sparked controversy. Reports surrounding the negotiations claim the arrangement involved a multi-billion naira financial settlement, an allegation that federal authorities have strongly denied.

Officially, the Nigerian government maintains a strict policy against negotiating with proscribed terrorist organizations or paying ransoms, frequently emphasizing military strategy and force projection to curb the nearly two-decade-long insurgency. Defense and government spokespersons have largely declined to formally comment on the alleged secret accord.

Security analysts have expressed mixed reactions to the reported development. While temporary truces can offer immediate relief to besieged communities and facilitate hostage rescues, experts caution that such arrangements risk serving as tactical respites that allow extremist groups to regroup unless tied to comprehensive, long-term peacebuilding and accountability frameworks.

Furthermore, observers note that the ceasefire is limited in scope.

It does not encompass the rival Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP), which remains active and continues to launch offensive operations against both military outposts and civilian settlements in the region.



NDLEA Intercepts NNPC Branded Fuel Tanker Carrying 2,145kg Cannabis in Ondo

The NNPC branded 20,000-litre tanker, allegedly carrying fuel to Jos, was intercepted along the Akoko/Lokoja Expressway after its driver reportedly fled into the bush

The National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) has intercepted a NNPC branded 20,000-litre fuel tanker allegedly conveying 2,145 kilogrammes of cannabis concealed in a specially constructed compartment in Ondo State.

Operatives of the NDLEA intercepted the tanker along the Akoko/Lokoja Expressway in Ondo State on Friday, September 4, 2026, during a drug interdiction operation.

According to the agency, the tanker, marked MKA 960 XC, was loaded with legitimate fuel cargo reportedly destined for Jos, Plateau State. However, operatives discovered 165 bags of cannabis, commonly known as skunk, concealed in a false compartment within the vehicle.

The NDLEA said the driver allegedly refused to stop when operatives attempted to intercept the

tanker. He subsequently abandoned the vehicle at a church premises in Ugbe Akoko and reportedly fled into a nearby bush.

The agency said its operatives later conducted a search of the abandoned tanker and discovered the concealed cannabis weighing 2,145kg.

The NDLEA further alleged that the tanker had previously been involved in attempts to evade interception during drug enforcement operations.

The seizure formed part of a wider series of operations conducted by the agency across several states, during which various quantities of illicit drugs, including cannabis, tramadol and methamphetamine, were recovered.

The latest interception underscores the growing use of unconventional methods by drug traffickers to conceal and transport illicit substances, as law enforcement agencies intensify efforts to disrupt the supply chain of controlled drugs across the country.

The NDLEA said investigations into the abandoned tanker and efforts to identify and apprehend the fleeing driver are ongoing.



2027: Don't Portray Insecurity as Religious War, Minister Urges Clerics

Mohammed Idris calls on religious leaders to promote peace and avoid narratives capable of deepening religious divisions ahead of 2027.

ABUJA — The Minister of Information and National Orientation, Mohammed Idris, has urged religious leaders across Nigeria to avoid portraying the country's security challenges as a religious war, warning that such narratives could further undermine national unity ahead of the 2027 general elections.

Idris made the call on Wednesday while delivering a keynote address at the grand finale of the 2026 Synod of the Charismatic Bishops Conference of Nigeria and the International Communion of Charismatic Archbishops, Bishops and Apostles at the National Christian Centre, Abuja.

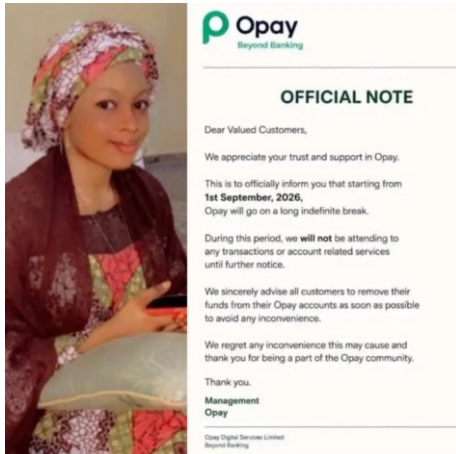
The minister stressed the importance of responsible communication by religious leaders, particularly as political activities gather momentum ahead of the 2027 elections.

He said the Federal Government remained committed to protecting the constitutional right of every Nigerian to freely practise their religion, adding that no citizen should be attacked or discriminated against because of their faith.

Idris noted that Christians, Muslims and adherents of other faiths should be able to worship and live together peacefully.

According to him, Nigeria's security challenges should not be interpreted solely through a religious lens, as terrorists and criminal groups have attacked Nigerians from different religious and social backgrounds.

He warned that presenting



Police Arrest Woman Over Forged OPay Shutdown Notice

The Nigeria Police Force has arrested a 27-year-old woman, Hafsat Abubakar, over the alleged creation and circulation of a forged document falsely claiming that fintech company OPay had decided to shut down its operations in Nigeria.

The arrest followed a petition submitted by OPay Digital Services Limited to the police, seeking an investigation into the origin and circulation of the purported shutdown notice.

According to the police, operatives of the Nigeria Police Force National Cybercrime Centre (NPF-NCCC)

deployed digital forensic techniques to trace the source of the document.

Investigators reportedly linked the circulation of the fake notice to an X account identified as @Hafsat_ER_ABBA, which the police alleged was operated by Abubakar.

The suspect was subsequently arrested by police operatives on September 4, 2026.

The forged document reportedly claimed that OPay would suspend its operations and stop processing transactions and account-related services from September 1, 2026.

The development generated concerns among customers and other members of the public before OPay dismissed the purported shutdown announcement as false.

The fintech company reportedly identified several inconsistencies in the document, including the use of an outdated logo, an incorrectly spelt brand name and a format inconsistent with its official communications.

The police said the investigation remains ongoing and warned members of the public against creating or circulating unverified information capable of causing panic, financial disruption or reputational damage.

The Force further stated that anyone found culpable would be prosecuted in accordance with the provisions of the law.

PRESS TECHNOLOGY

PRESSPOINT NEWS WEEKLY REPORT
| SEPTEMBER 12, 2026



Apple Unveils iPhone 18 Pro and iPhone 18 Pro Max With Major Camera and AI Upgrades

► ELENIYAN AMOS OYEYEMI

CUPERTINO, CALIFORNIA — Apple has officially unveiled the iPhone 18 Pro and iPhone 18 Pro Max, introducing major upgrades in camera technology, performance, battery life and artificial intelligence.

The new devices were announced on Wednesday, September 9, 2026, as Apple presented its latest generation of premium smartphones.

One of the biggest upgrades is the new 48-megapixel Fusion Main camera with variable aperture,

which gives users greater control over lighting, depth of field and image quality. Apple also introduced new Pro controls designed to provide more flexibility when taking photos and recording videos.

Both models are powered by Apple's new A20 Pro chip, which is designed to deliver improved processing performance and support demanding artificial-intelligence workloads. The devices also feature an upgraded vapor-chamber cooling system and a smaller Dynamic Island.

Apple said the iPhone 18 Pro Max offers its longest battery life ever on an iPhone, with up to 45 hours of video playback. The new models are available in four finishes — black, silver, glacier and the new burgundy colour.

The smartphones also come with iOS 27, Apple Intelligence features and the new Siri AI, which the company says will provide a more personalised and capable voice-assistant experience.

The iPhone 18 Pro will start at \$1,199, while the iPhone 18 Pro

Max starts at \$1,299 in the United States. Both models will be offered with storage capacities ranging from 256GB to 2TB.

Pre-orders are scheduled to begin on September 12, with the new iPhone 18 Pro models becoming available from September 18 in more than 65 countries and regions, including the United States, United Kingdom, India, China, Japan and the United Arab Emirates.

Apple's latest launch comes as the company continues to place greater emphasis on artificial intelligence, photography and high-performance computing in its premium smartphone lineup.



OPay Warns Against False Reports, Threatens Legal Action Over Alleged Defamatory Publication
Digital bank demands takedown, retraction and apology from X user over alleged false claims about its operations.

Digital bank demands takedown, retraction and apology from X user over claim that it is going on an

indefinite break

OPay Digital Services Limited has issued a formal warning against the publication and circulation of what it described as false, malicious, libellous and defamatory information concerning the company.

The warning was contained in a letter dated August 31, 2026, addressed to Cute Hafserh, identified by the X username @haifah_er_abba.

According to the letter signed by Akinfolabi Moses Rokosu, Chief Legal Counsel for OPay Digital Services Limited, the company was notified of a publication made on the recipient's X account on August 30, 2026.

OPay alleged that the publication falsely claimed that the company would be going on a "long indefinite break" and allegedly advised customers to withdraw funds from accounts maintained with the digital bank.

The company described the publication as false, malicious, unlawful, libellous and defamatory, insisting that it lacked any factual, legal or ethical basis.

OPay further alleged that the publication infringed on the company's rights and caused reputational and commercial damage to its brand, as well as harm to its business operations.

The company consequently demanded that the recipient permanently delete the publication and desist from further disseminating or publishing it on X or any other platform.

OPay also demanded a clear and unequivocal retraction of the publication and an unreserved apology to the company, with a deadline of 11:59 p.m. WAT on August 31, 2026.

The digital bank warned that failure to comply would lead to appropriate legal action, stating that it would pursue all available remedies.

In a separate public notice accompanying the letter, OPay urged the public to take the warning seriously and cautioned against the continued publication or circulation of false and misleading information concerning the company.

The company ended the notice with the hashtag #OPayIsOkay, signalling its position that its operations remain intact.

EDUCATION



Seadogs Establish Reading Club in Bayelsa Secondary School

NAS launches literacy initiative to promote reading culture and academic development among students in Yenagoa.

YENAGOA, BAYELSA — The National Association of Seadogs (NAS), also known as the Pirates Confraternity, Oxbow Marino Deck, has established a Reading Club at Comprehensive Community Secondary School, Yenizue-Gene/Biogbolo, in Yenagoa, Bayelsa State.

The initiative was part of activities to mark the 2026 International Literacy Day and was designed to

promote reading culture and encourage students to develop interest in books beyond their prescribed school textbooks.

Speaking at the event, the Capoon of Oxbow Marino Deck, Arc. Timiebi Binafeigha, emphasised the importance of literacy in equipping young people with the knowledge and skills required to navigate an increasingly changing world.

He explained that literacy extends beyond the ability to read and write, noting that it also

encompasses areas such as information and communication technology, environmental sustainability and other forms of knowledge essential to modern society.

Binafeigha said the Reading Club would provide students with an avenue to cultivate regular reading habits while broadening their knowledge outside the classroom.

He added that developing a strong reading culture could also improve students' academic performance, particularly in subjects such as

Physics, Chemistry and Biology.

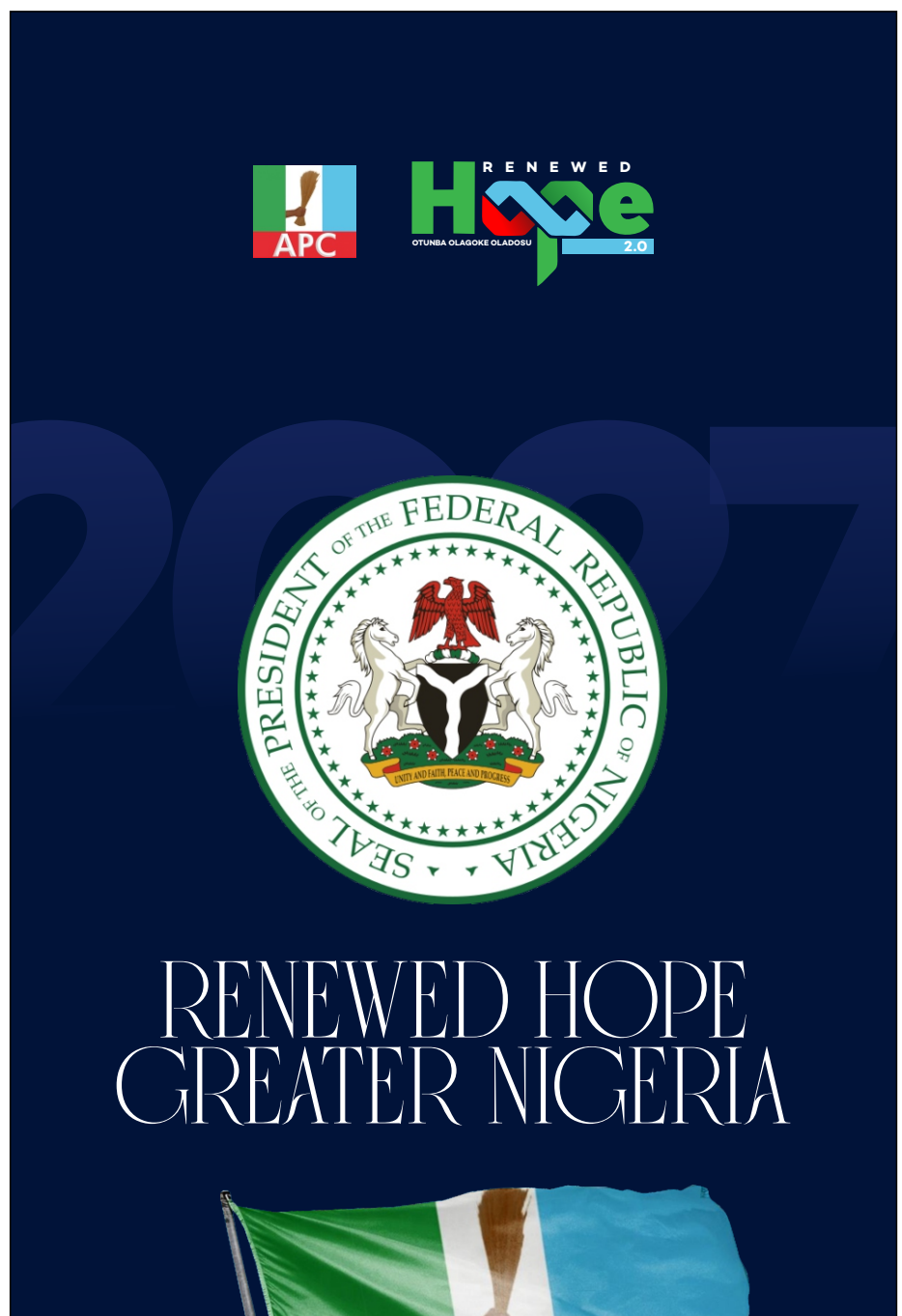
The NAS official called on governments, communities, individuals and organisations to support initiatives that promote literacy and help revive the reading culture among Nigerian youths.

The school management commended NAS for the initiative, describing it as a valuable contribution to the academic development of the students.

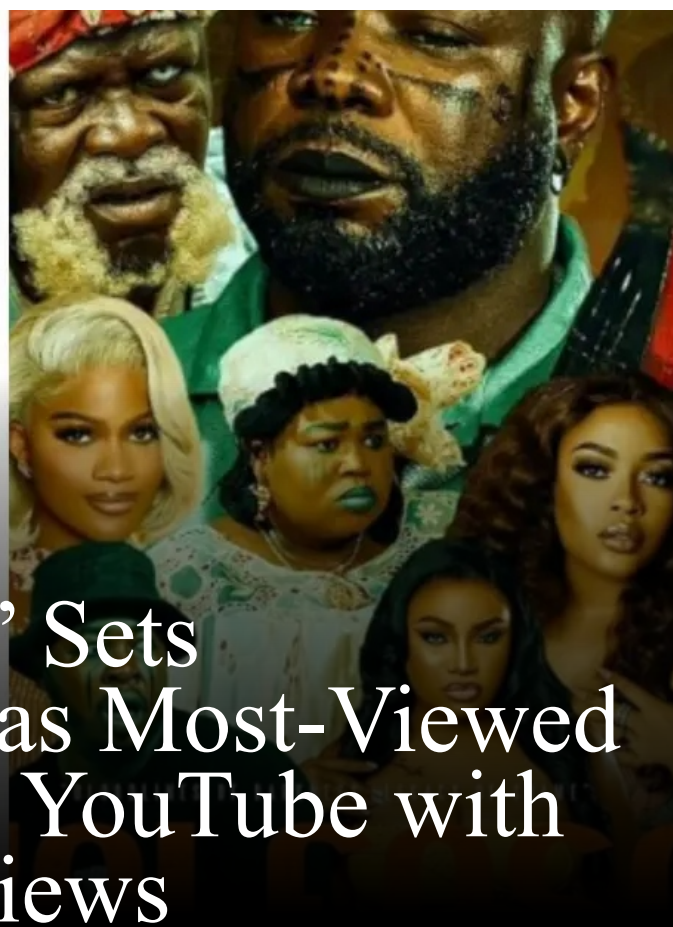
The school's Senior Prefect, Miss Celine Tulagha, who was inaugurated as President of the Reading Club, expressed appreciation for the initiative and said it would provide students with greater opportunities to improve their academic abilities.

The programme featured a book-reading session, interactive discussions and a quiz competition. School bags, textbooks, novels and other educational materials were also presented to students and the newly established Reading Club.

The initiative is part of NAS's broader efforts to promote education and literacy among young people in Bayelsa State.



THE RECORD MARKER



Itele's 'Koleoso' Sets New Milestone as Most-Viewed African Film on YouTube with 141.6 Million Views

LAGOS — Nollywood actor and filmmaker Ibrahim Yekini, widely known as Itele d'Icon, has etched his name in cinematic history. His hit dramatic series, Koleoso, has officially crossed a monumental threshold, racking up an unprecedented 141.6 million combined views on YouTube.

The milestone makes Koleoso the most-viewed African film title on the global video-sharing platform.

Spanning 13 gripping parts released on the official IteleDIconStudio channel, the project has sustained massive engagement since its premiere.

Blending rich Yoruba cultural heritage with intense supernatural elements and compelling family drama, Koleoso has captivated audiences not only in Nigeria but across the global African diaspora. The multi-part storytelling format

has successfully kept viewers hooked, turning each new instalment into an immediate digital event.

Reacting to the historic feat, Yekini expressed profound gratitude to his fans and supporters worldwide, describing the achievement as a collective victory for Nollywood and the entire African continent.

"Koleoso makes history as the most-viewed African movie title on YouTube, with over 140 million combined views across Parts 1 to 13 — and still counting," *Yekini stated.*

Industry stakeholders have hailed the milestone as further proof of the viability of digital platforms for African storytelling, highlighting how indigenous filmmakers continue to leverage streaming services to reach massive, borderless audiences. As viewership numbers continue to climb, Koleoso stands as a defining benchmark for digital content distribution in Nollywood.

**OSUN
CENTRAL
DESERVE THE
BEST**

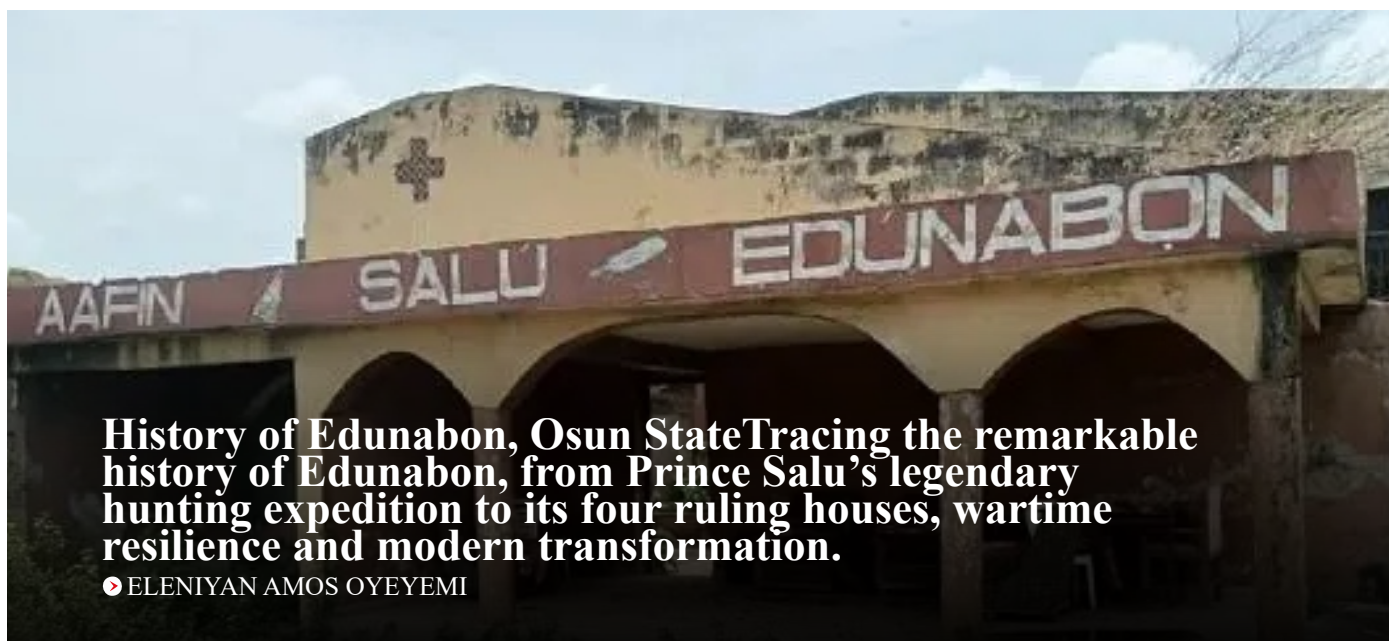
VOTE

**Aare Ganiyu
Ayobami Olaoluwa**
For Senator Osun Central Senatorial District

ASEJERE
NI TIWA 27

PRESS DISCUSSION

ACROSS THE GLOBE

A PRESSPOINT NEWS WEEKLY DISCUSSION
| SEPTEMBER 12, 2026

History of Edunabon, Osun State Tracing the remarkable history of Edunabon, from Prince Salu's legendary hunting expedition to its four ruling houses, wartime resilience and modern transformation.

• ELENİYAN AMOS OYEYEMI

Edunabon, formerly known as Odunabon, is a historic town in Ife North Local Government Area of Osun State. The town is situated north-west of Ile-Ife, along the Ife–Osogbo road and around the western boundary of the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife.

The history of Edunabon is closely connected to the ancient heritage of Ile-Ife and the migration and settlement patterns of the Yoruba people. According to the traditional history of the town, Edunabon was founded by Prince Salu, an Ife prince and renowned hunter, around 1549 AD, during the reign of Oba Ooni Lafogido.

Before establishing Edunabon, Salu was said to have embarked on hunting expeditions and established settlements in the northern savannah region. Upon reaching maturity, he left Ile-Ife in search of a suitable place for hunting and settlement.

Before embarking on the journey, Salu reportedly consulted the Ifa Oracle, as was customary in ancient Yoruba society before undertaking major ventures. The oracle instructed him to travel until he found a place where he would encounter an abundance of unripe palm fruits.

Salu and his first son eventually

arrived at a place where numerous palm trees bore unripe fruits. He interpreted the discovery as a celebration or festival of unripe palm fruits, inspiring the name “Odun-Abon,” which over time became known as Edunabon.

Salu initially settled at Bolo Compound, where he established his residence. He eventually died and was buried at Popo.

The Four Ruling Houses

Salu was traditionally said to have had four wives, whose children became the foundation of the four ruling houses of Edunabon.

His children were Akinjole, Isiboni, Akinfajo and Fatokun, respectively. These four names have remained historically significant in the traditional leadership structure of the town.

The story of Isiboni is particularly notable. According to tradition, when Salu's second son was born, visitors from Ile-Ife who came to trade saw the child and were struck by his resemblance to the reigning Ooni of Ife. In their amazement, they reportedly asked in the Ife dialect, **“Yèsí bí Ooni níbí?”** — meaning, **“Who gave birth to the Ooni here?”** The expression was subsequently associated with the child's name, Isiboni.

Isiboni himself was said to have had four children — Ajimajasan, Lamba, Amoloye and Jege — whose descendants continue to form part of the Isiboni ruling house.

Following the death of Salu, tradition records that his first son, Akinjole, ascended the throne. He was followed successively by Fatokun, Akinfajo and Isiboni, forming the traditional rotational arrangement among the four ruling houses.

Akinjole was buried within his compound, known as Osasa Compound.

Akinjole and the Founding of Ejigbo

The adventurous spirit of Salu was reportedly inherited by his first son, Akinjole. Like his father, Akinjole embarked on a hunting expedition and, according to Edunabon tradition, founded Ejigbo before eventually returning to his father's settlement in Edunabon.

This tradition illustrates the historical connections between Edunabon and other Yoruba settlements established during periods of migration, hunting expeditions and territorial expansion.

The Hukuhuku War

One of the most difficult periods in the history of Edunabon was the Hukuhuku War, traditionally dated between 1839 and 1848. The conflict reportedly resulted in considerable loss of lives and caused significant depopulation in Edunabon. Many inhabitants were forced to flee to different towns and villages in search of safety.

However, tradition remembers the ruler at the time, Ode-Aabolode of the Isiboni ruling house, for refusing to abandon his people and the frontage of his home. He reportedly remained in the town until he was killed by the invading warriors.

During the period of the conflict, Oyemiku, one of the sons of Akinjole, and his people reportedly fled to Ile-Ife for safety. According to the traditional account, Oyemiku was eventually recognised and made ruler with the approval of the Ooni of Ife before returning to Edunabon.

Oyemiku is remembered in the town's oral history as one of its longest-reigning traditional rulers, with tradition attributing to him an extraordinary reign of 120 years. While such figures belong to the oral historical tradition and would require independent documentary verification, his place in the history of Edunabon remains deeply significant.

A Legacy of Peace

The people of Edunabon traditionally take pride in the peaceful nature of their community. Following the return of Oyemiku, oral tradition holds that Edunabon experienced a long period of stability and peaceful coexistence.

The people are widely associated with peace, hard work, hospitality and humility. Traditionally, farming and trading were among the major occupations of the inhabitants, with agriculture playing an important role in sustaining families and the wider community.

Edunabon in the Modern Era

Like many Yoruba communities, Edunabon has experienced significant transformation through education and modernisation.

Education has opened new opportunities for generations of Edunabon indigenes, many of whom have distinguished themselves in various professional fields. The town has produced medical doctors, engineers, pilots, bankers, pastors, teachers and professionals in several other sectors.

Despite these changes, Edunabon continues to maintain strong links with its cultural and traditional heritage.

Today, the town remains an important community within Ife North Local Government Area of Osun State, contributing to the social, economic, cultural and political development of the local government and the wider Osun State.

Preserving the Edunabon Story

The history of Edunabon is a story of migration, courage, tradition, leadership, resilience and transformation. From Prince Salu's hunting expedition and the traditional explanation behind the name Odun-Abon, through the establishment of the four ruling houses and the challenges of the Hukuhuku War, to the modern achievements of its sons and daughters, the community has maintained a distinctive place in the history of the Origbo area and Ile-Ife.

However, much of this history exists primarily in oral tradition. It is therefore important for traditional rulers, community leaders, historians, academics, elders and younger generations to work together to document these accounts, preserve historical sites and record the memories of those who carry the community's history.

Edunabon is not merely a town on the map of Ife North. It is a community with a remarkable heritage — a heritage of courage, resilience, peace and progress that deserves to be preserved and shared with the world.



The History of OPay From an Opera-incubated payment platform to one of Nigeria's most recognisable digital financial-services companies

OPay is today a familiar name to millions of Nigerians. Its green branding is seen on POS terminals, in shops, on mobile phones and across communities nationwide.

But behind the name is a remarkable journey — one that began in 2018, when OPay emerged as part of Opera's ambitious expansion into Africa's rapidly developing digital economy.

HOW IT ALL STARTED

OPay was established in 2018 and launched its mobile-payment service in Nigeria in August of that year.

The company was incubated by Opera, the global technology company best known for its web browser. At the time, Opera was looking beyond internet browsing and exploring opportunities in Africa's fast-growing technology and financial-services market.

Opera's then leadership, including its Chairman and CEO Yahui Zhou, played a significant role in the development of the company's African fintech strategy.

However, available corporate records describe OPay as an Opera-incubated venture, rather than identifying one individual as its sole founder.

because the story of OPay is really the story of a technology venture that grew out of a much larger African digital-economy ambition.

THE OPay OF 2018 WAS NOT THE OPay WE KNOW TODAY

When OPay arrived in Nigeria, it was not simply a POS company.

Its ambition was much bigger.

The company wanted to build what could effectively become a digital "super app" — a platform through which Nigerians could access several everyday services.

Its early businesses included mobile payments, money transfers, motorcycle transportation and food delivery.

The strategy was straightforward: use technology to bring services to millions of Africans through their mobile phones.

But as the company expanded, one part of the business began to stand out above the rest.

Payments.

THE AGENT NETWORK CHANGED THE STORY

OPay understood something important about Nigeria.

Millions of Nigerians needed financial services, but not everyone had convenient access to a bank branch or ATM.

The company therefore invested heavily in an agent network.

The familiar OPay POS agent became a bridge between digital finance and communities where conventional banking infrastructure was limited.

The model was simple:

A customer could walk into an

That distinction is important

agent's shop, transfer money, withdraw cash, pay bills or carry out other transactions without necessarily visiting a traditional bank.

That strategy helped OPay grow extraordinarily quickly.

By June 2019, Opera said OPay had more than 40,000 active agents, with daily transaction volumes exceeding \$5 million.

THEN CAME THE BIG MONEY
Investors soon noticed the opportunity.

In 2019, OPay raised \$50 million from investors including IDG Capital, Sequoia China, Source Code Capital, Meituan-Dianping and GSR Ventures.

Later that same year, the company announced another \$120 million funding round.

The message from international investors was becoming clear:

They believed OPay could become a major financial-technology company in Africa.

2020: THE NUMBERS BECAME MASSIVE
OPay's growth accelerated.

By December 2020, Opera reported that OPay's gross transaction volume had exceeded \$2 billion in a single month.

Opera also reported that OPay had more than 2 million wallets with active balances, while its POS network accounted for about 20 per cent of offline payments in Nigeria at the end of 2020.

The company was no longer an experiment.

It was becoming a major participant in Nigeria's financial ecosystem.

2021: OPay BECOMES A UNICORN

Then came the moment that changed the company's international profile.

In 2021, OPay raised approximately \$400 million in a Series C funding round led by SoftBank Vision Fund 2.

The investment valued the company at approximately \$2 billion.

OPay had become one of Africa's major fintech unicorns.

For a company that had only begun its Nigerian journey about three years earlier, the transformation was extraordinary.

OPERA'S EXIT FROM THE CENTRE OF THE STORY

As OPay grew, its relationship with its original incubator naturally changed.

Opera began selling portions of its OPay investment.

By 2021, Opera's ownership had fallen significantly following its partial sale and OPay's new funding round.

The once Opera-dominated story was becoming the story of an independent, heavily funded fintech company with a much wider investor base.

THE COMPANY CHANGED DIRECTION

OPay's early dream had been broad.

Transportation.

Food delivery.

Payments.

Digital services.

But the Nigerian market was sending the company a clear message.

Financial services were where the real opportunity was.

The company gradually moved away from the idea of being primarily a general-purpose super app and concentrated more heavily on financial services.

Transfers, wallets, POS services, merchant payments, bills and other financial products increasingly became the heart of the OPay brand.

WHY NIGERIANS EMBRACED IT

The rise of OPay cannot be separated from Nigeria itself.

Nigeria has a huge population, a young digital-savvy population and a large informal economy.

For many people, especially those operating small businesses, the POS agent became their practical connection to the financial system.

OPay's technology gave those transactions a digital backbone.

The company's growth therefore happened not only inside smartphones.

It happened in markets, kiosks, roadside shops, neighbourhood stores and small businesses.

That is one of the reasons OPay became such a recognisable name.

BUT RAPID GROWTH ALSO BROUGHT CHALLENGES

Like other large digital-payment platforms, OPay has had to deal with the realities of operating in Nigeria's financial environment.

Those realities include fraud attempts, fake messages, disputed transactions, cybersecurity threats, agent-related complaints and regulatory requirements.

The larger a financial platform becomes, the greater the consequences when misinformation spreads around it.

A fabricated message claiming that a financial institution has been shut down, suspended or ordered to stop operations can potentially cause unnecessary panic among customers and agents.

This is why official verification matters.

OPay TODAY

OPay has evolved considerably from the company that entered Nigeria in 2018.

It is now primarily recognised as a digital financial-services platform, with services covering areas such as payments, transfers, wallets, POS and merchant services, bills and other financial products.

The company says it operates across emerging markets, including Nigeria, Egypt, Pakistan and Indonesia.

THE STORY IN PERSPECTIVE

The history of OPay is, in many ways, a story about how quickly Africa's financial landscape can change.

In 2018, it was a new entrant with an ambitious digital-services vision.

By 2019, it had attracted major international investment.

By 2020, its transaction volumes had reached billions of dollars monthly.

By 2021, investors valued it at

approximately \$2 billion.

And in the years that followed, it became a household name in Nigeria's digital-payment economy.

OPay's journey from an Opera-incubated fintech venture to a major financial-services platform is therefore not merely a corporate success story.

It is also part of the larger story of Nigeria's transition from cash-dominated transactions toward digital finance.

Statue Of Excellency Performing Governor of Osun State

COURTESY:

**OTUNBA
OLAGOKE
OLADOSU**

COORDINATOR IMOLE
2026 IN DIASPORA



WHAT'S TRENDING

WEEKLY GIST

ACROSS THE GLOBE

A PRESSPOINT NEWS WEEKLY GIST
| SEPTEMBER 12, 2026HERE ARE SOME OF THE STORIES AND CONVERSATIONS
CURRENTLY ATTRACTING ATTENTION AROUND THE WORLD:

Diplomacy Under Pressure: UNGA Opens Amid Shifting Global Power

"Multilateral cooperation faces its stiffest test in decades as delegates seek common ground on security, trade, and economic stabilization."

NEW YORK — Over 130 heads of state, diplomats, and international policy leaders are gathering at the United Nations Headquarters in New York for the high-level general debate of the 81st UN General Assembly. With global economic fragmentation and regional conflicts dominating the agenda, world leaders face escalating pressure to deliver actionable consensus on international

security, humanitarian aid frameworks, and cross-border trade policy.

Global Markets Tighten as Sovereign Debt Costs Surge

"With borrowing costs reaching historic thresholds, governments face diminishing fiscal space to cushion economic shocks."

LONDON — Central banks across North America, Europe, and Asia are recalculating their monetary policy trajectories as sovereign bond yields remain elevated across major economies. Driven by persistent inflation metrics and sustained public sector spending, rising borrowing costs are straining national budgets. Financial analysts warn that prolonged yield pressure will force commercial institutions and enterprise borrowers to adjust liquidity strategies and tighten capital allocations heading into the final quarter.

The Stablecoin Era: Major Banks Enter On-Chain Finance

"Settlement efficiency is moving from days to seconds as regulated institutions integrate tokenized capital into core banking systems."

SAN FRANCISCO — The digital asset landscape reached a decisive commercial threshold this week as leading global payment processors and tier-one banking institutions rolled out enterprise-grade, fiat-backed digital settlement systems. By shifting institutional transactions onto real-time blockchain rails, global enterprises can now execute cross-border settlements instantaneously around the clock. Concurrently, enterprise security officers are deploying Zero-Trust frameworks to protect these high-value digital payment pipelines against sophisticated automated threats.

Re-Routing Global Trade: Supply Chains Pivot to Mitigate Delays

"Just-in-time logistics models are giving way to resilient buffer strategies as freight providers adapt

to longer sea routes."

SINGAPORE — Persistent freight bottlenecks along key maritime corridors and fluctuating fuel costs are forcing global shipping conglomerates to overhaul their international routing schedules. As vessels bypass volatile waterways in favor of longer transit routes, maritime operators and manufacturers are contending with elevated freight tariffs and delayed port turnarounds. Supply chain executives are increasingly abandoning lean inventory models in favor of strategic inventory buffers to ensure continuous operations.

Sustainable Scale: Multilateral Funds Drive Grid Transformation

"Strategic blended finance models are bridging the gap between clean energy goals and real-world infrastructure deployment."

BRUSSELS — A coalition of international development agencies, philanthropic funds, and private equity firms has announced a multi-billion-dollar joint funding initiative targeting clean energy transition and agricultural resilience in emerging markets. By leveraging blended finance tools to de-risk private capital, the initiative aims to build resilient energy grids, expand utility-scale storage installations, and fortify sustainable food production networks across developing regions.

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Of Prosperous, Progressive
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POLITICIAN

OF THE WEEK

NATHANIEL
ODUYEMI

FOR SENATE OSUN CENTRAL SENATORIAL DISTRICT



WHY IS THE ADELEKE'S SO UNITED?

QUESTIONS THAT MANY ARE ASKING AFTER GOVERNOR ADEMOLA ADELEKE WIN HIS SECOND TERM AS THE GOVERNOR OF OSUN STATE



By PressPoint News Desk | PressPoint News

OSOGBO — Governor Ademola Adeleke's return to the Osun State Government House for another four-year term has sparked fresh political discussions across the state, with many asking a simple question: what made the Adeleke political camp so difficult to break?

The August 15, 2026 governorship election provided a clear answer to part of that question. Adeleke, running on the platform of the Accord Party, defeated the All Progressives Congress (APC) candidate, Bola Oyebamiji, polling 511,067 votes against Oyebamiji's 444,815 votes.

But the victory was not built on election day alone. It followed months of political mobilisation, grassroots campaigning, endorsements and strategic alliances that helped the governor maintain a broad support base.

Adeleke's Grassroots Advantage

One of the strongest factors behind



voters. Throughout the campaign period, his administration repeatedly pointed to projects and interventions across different sectors as evidence of performance.

Several groups also publicly backed his second-term ambition. Traditional security organisations, ethnic associations and community-based groups endorsed Adeleke ahead of the election, with supporters citing his performance and grassroots engagement.

The governor also received support from political figures outside his immediate political circle. Even with the complicated political realignments surrounding the election, his campaign was able to maintain a coalition broad enough to withstand the challenge from the APC and other parties.

The Tinubu Factor

Perhaps one of the more interesting aspects of Adeleke's political strategy was his open support for President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's 2027 re-election bid.

Despite being elected on an opposition platform, Adeleke repeatedly reaffirmed his support for Tinubu. The governor argued that his relationship with the President should not be confused with his disagreements with some APC leaders in Osun.

That position gave Adeleke an unusual political advantage: he was able to maintain his opposition-party identity in Osun while simultaneously presenting himself as someone willing to work with the Federal Government.

The Opposition Was Not Without Problems

Adeleke's victory cannot, however, be explained only by his own popularity. The opposition faced its own challenges, including political realignments and competition among parties.

The APC entered the election determined to reclaim Osun, while the ADC also presented a significant alternative. Analysts had described the contest as a battle between Adeleke's grassroots appeal and the APC's federal political strength.

Yet, in the final count, Adeleke's support proved sufficient to keep him ahead.

So, Why Is Adeleke So United?

The answer may lie in a combination of grassroots mobilisation, political alliances, visible campaign structures, personal popularity, government performance and strategic political positioning.

His ability to attract support beyond traditional party lines also played a major role. In the final days before the election, even candidates from smaller parties withdrew and endorsed Adeleke, further strengthening the perception of a broad coalition around his candidacy.

Now that the election is over, the bigger question is no longer whether Adeleke can win a second term. He has already done so.

The question confronting the governor is whether the political unity that delivered victory can now be converted into effective governance, stronger institutions and tangible improvements in the lives of ordinary Osun residents.

For the APC, meanwhile, the result offers a serious lesson: reclaiming Osun will require more than political structures and federal influence. It will require rebuilding a compelling grassroots connection with the electorate.

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With 399 Pages Of **FBI**
Criminal Record Linked To
President Bola Ahmed Tinubu

Should The Record Be Released To The Public?



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