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Nigerians Take The Lead Role As Top Immigrant Business Owners In Canada

By Jaygbes Napoleon Ogbole

Black Immigrant business owners in Canada face various challenges. This can range from limited access to funds to start or grow their businesses, lack of representation, and systemic barriers that limit their ability to compete and grow. These challenges make it difficult for Black business owners to compete and succeed.

MR. Jaygbes Napoleon Ogbole is an Entrepreneur. He is currently the spokesperson for The Nigerian Canadian Association GTA (www.ncagta.com), he is responsible for Community Economic Development at BIPOC Foundation (www.bipocfoundation.org), and the Country Head of Africa's Young Entrepreneur (www.ayeorganization.com).

Mr. Ogbole stated that addressing these challenges

requires a range of policy and systemic interventions. The government of Canada introduced various initiatives to support Black business owners. These include the Black Entrepreneurship Program, a \$221 million initiative aimed at helping Black business owners, immigration policies to attract skilled immigrants, including entrepreneurs, research and data collection on Black business owners in Canada.

Indeed, the government of Canada recognizes



Jaygbes Napoleon Ogbole

the achievements and contributions of Black immigrants and their communities to make Canada a prosperous country.

The study "Black Business Owners in Canada," part of the Analytical Studies Branch Research Paper Series (Catalogue number 11F0019M) by Statistics Canada was released February 22, 2023, examined the socioeconomic characteristics of Black business owners in Canada and compared them with the characteristics of White Canadians and people from other racialized groups.

■ Immigrant Business, see page 25

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Remarkable Mother's Awards and Gala Event
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Editorial

Will The Government Fulfil The Promises Made In The 2023 Budget?

"I have never been more optimistic about the future of our country than I am today. Budget 2023 will deliver new, targeted inflation relief for the Canadians who need it most; stronger public health care, including dental care for millions of Canadians; and significant investments to build Canada's clean economy. At a challenging time in a challenging world, there is no better place to be than Canada," Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Chrystia Freeland said during the presentation of the 2023 budget.

Though we have seen the government 'walk their talk,' making promises by politicians and successive governments is as old as man. It is a common saying that paper work is different from reality and until a government fulfil what they have penned down and hoped to do, one cannot be too sure of what the outcome would be.

It is noteworthy to state that going by the paper work, Budget 2023 addressed key issues that if implemented, will surely launch the nation to the next level and make life easier for the citizens. Reacting to the budget, a release by the Ontario government projected that "through the new Grocery Rebate, Budget 2023 delivers targeted inflation relief for 11 million Canadians and families who need it most, with up to an extra \$467 for eligible couples with children; an extra \$234 for single Canadians without children; and an extra \$225 for seniors, on average. The government also takes action to crack down on hidden junk fees and predatory lending, lower credit card transaction fees for small businesses, and help Canadians keep more money in their pockets.

"To strengthen Canada's universal public health care system, Budget 2023 delivers \$198.3

billion to reduce backlogs, expand access to family health services, and ensure provinces and territories can provide the high quality and timely health care Canadians expect and deserve. In Budget 2023, the government also introduces a new Canadian Dental Care Plan, to benefit up to nine million Canadians and ensure that no Canadian has to choose between taking care of their health and paying the bills at the end of the month.

"Budget 2023 makes transformative investments to build Canada's clean economy, fight climate change, and create new opportunities for Canadian businesses and Canadian workers. This includes significant measures that will deliver cleaner and more affordable energy, support investment in our communities and the creation of good-paying jobs, and ensure that Canadian workers are able to produce and provide the goods and resources that Canadians and our allies need.

"With a responsible fiscal plan that will see Canada maintain the lowest deficit and the lowest net debt-to-GDP ratio in the G7, Budget 2023 will help to build a Canada that is more secure, more sustainable, and more affordable for people from coast to coast to coast".

Explicitly, the 2023 federal budget is proposing spending to make life more affordable, encourage investments in green energy, provide improved health-care services and roll out the next stage of the federal dental care program. It also offers targeted funding for students, workers, science and defence.

For instance, the federal government is rolling out a number of small measures to help

Canadians that amount to about \$3.3 billion in new spending since the fall economic update. The measures are meant to take the sting out of the cost of living as rising interest rates and inflation hammer family budgets.

Most crucial among them is the so-called "grocery rebate," a one-time hike to the GST rebate which will provide up to \$467 for families, \$234 for singles and up to \$255 for seniors, at a cost of \$2.5 billion. The budget also proposes to spend \$4 billion over seven years, starting in 2024-25, to implement a co-developed Urban, Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy.

The government earmarked \$3.6 billion in new spending in 2023-24 for health and dental care. Also, the budget offers an additional \$250 million over three years to establish an Oral Health Access Fund starting in 2025-26, with \$75 million annual funding after that. The program is meant to target gaps in vulnerable populations. It is germane to also add that the budget puts up \$359.2 million over five years to tackle substance abuse by providing better supports, a safer supply of drugs, better data on substance abuse and supervised injection sites. The budget offers \$158 million over three years, starting in 2023-24, to the Public Health Agency of Canada to support the implementation and operation of the Suicide Prevention Line, as well as \$36 million over three years for reproductive health.

On Green investments, some of the promises made include providing \$6.3 billion over five years to fund the Investment Tax Credit for Clean Energy, which will offer a credit of 15 per cent for

investments in non-emitting electricity, natural gas fired electricity generation and energy storage. It also stated that the Investment Tax Credit for Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage will cost about \$520 million over five years and is available to businesses that invest in storing carbon dioxide or use it in other industrial processes.

Needful to note that the budget will provide \$2.8 billion as a part of the Band Class settlement, which will compensate 325 bands that opted into the Gottfriedson Band Class litigation to address the collective harms cause by residential schools. The budget provides \$171 million to ensure First Nations children have access to health-care services under Jordan's Principle. Both the Band Class settlement and the Jordan's Principle money have been booked in for the 2022-23 fiscal year.

More so, the budget is also offering \$1.4 billion to the Canadian Space Agency so it can continue participating in the International Space Station until 2030. The agency is getting an additional \$1.2 billion over 13 years so it can contribute to building a lunar utility vehicle.

Remarkably, to cope with foreign interference, Budget 2023 proposes \$49 million over three years to help the RCMP protect Canadians from harassment and intimidation by foreign governments. It promises \$13.5 million over five years starting in 2023-24 and \$3.1 million ongoing to Public Safety Canada to create a National Counter-Foreign Interference Office.

While these promises may be juicy, until they are fulfilled, they are just mere paper work. As an independent paper that is committed to holding government accountable, we hope that the FG will see to the implementation of these promises.

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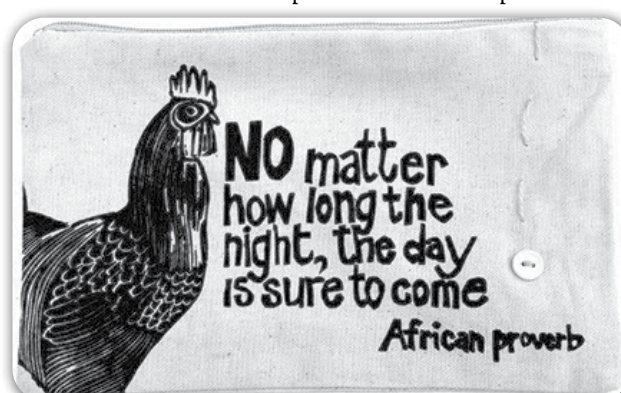
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HEALTH AND WELLNESS

5 common ailments you can treat at the pharmacy

(NC) When a condition feels like “not that big of a deal,” it can discourage us from getting treatment, especially if that means waiting a few days to see your doctor. But that’s a mistake – even when an illness seems minor, it still deserves care.

Your treatment options also just got wider: Ontario pharmacists are now able to offer OHIP-covered assessments and treatments for a variety of minor illnesses. Here are just a few examples:

ALLERGIES

The itching, sneezing and runny noses plaguing people suffering from allergies are just their immune systems kicking into overdrive. In more severe cases, the allergic reaction can include shortness of breath, coughing or even vomiting. While there are many over-the-counter allergy medications available at your pharmacy, your pharmacist can now prescribe stronger treatments if needed.

URINARY TRACT INFECTIONS

UTIs affect one in every two women in Canada, though they can happen to anyone. Often UTIs are treated with an antibiotic, and before 2023 only a doctor or nurse practitioner could prescribe them. Now you can get a diagnosis and the antibiotic prescription from your pharmacist.

COLD SORES

Cold sores are not dangerous but can be irritating or embarrassing – and they’re contagious. They spread skin to skin, even when sores aren’t visible. They often go away on their own in

a couple of weeks, but there are highly effective antivirals you can take orally or apply to the sores to get rid of them much faster.

PAINFUL PERIODS

This is one of the most common conditions in gynecology, affecting as many as 90 per cent of people with periods. The pain is caused when a cramping uterus presses on the blood vessels around it. When that happens, it can limit oxygen to surrounding muscles, which causes pain. Fortunately, there are many treatment options available, both prescription and over the counter, that your pharmacist can recommend.

HEMORRHOIDS

From a bit itchy to incredibly painful, hemorrhoids can range in severity. Drinking water, getting enough exercise and eating a diet high in fibre can prevent and improve the condition, but you can also connect with your pharmacist for assessment – there are various creams and treatments they can prescribe or recommend.

Now, you don’t need to make a doctor’s appointment or visit a walk-in clinic to get treated for many of the health issues you deal with the most. Talk to your local pharmacist to take advantage of these new services. They’re also available at all Rexall pharmacies. Find out more at rexall.ca/prescribing.

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How to get school-aged kids to take care of their teeth

(NC) As parents and guardians, we are responsible for the overall health and well-being of our children, which includes their oral health. Once our children are old enough to hold a toothbrush, we should teach them how to brush and clean between their teeth, even if we (the adults) still do most of the work.

By age 7, most children will be capable of taking care of their own teeth, but may need occasional gentle reminders to:

1. Brush twice a day for two minutes reaching all tooth surfaces, using a pea-sized amount of toothpaste that contains fluoride.
2. Clean between the teeth every day using floss, soft picks or a small interdental brush.
3. Choose water over fruit juice or pop.
4. Eat healthy snacks, such as apples,



raw vegetables, cheese and plain yogurt.

Children ages 9 to 12 may need extra support as they begin to experience physical and emotional changes that can increase their risk for cavities, gingivitis and bad breath.

Scheduling regular dental hygiene appointments is also important. Your child’s dental hygienist will make sure that they are using proper toothbrushing techniques and making healthy

dietary choices. They may also recommend treatments such as fluoride varnish or dental sealants (a thin coating painted on the deep grooves of molars) to prevent cavities.

In some cases, the dental hygienist may refer your child to an orthodontist for a check-up to see how their face and jaws are growing, how their teeth are closing together and if anything may affect how their teeth will function in

the future. If you don’t have private dental insurance to cover the cost of these vital services, you may be eligible for the Canada Dental Benefit.

Helping children learn these skills when they are young gives them the tools they need to become healthy thriving teenagers and sets in place long term healthy habits.

Find more tooth tips for kids and pre-teens at dentalhygienecanada.ca/kids7-12.

4 facts about best-before dates that can save you money

(NC) We’re all feeling the pinch of inflation, with rising prices and interest rates. Here are four simple ways you can use best before dates to save money.

1. KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A BEST BEFORE DATE AND AN EXPIRY DATE

Did you know that expiration dates and best before dates are not the same thing? An expiration date is the last day a food is safe to eat.

Expiry dates are required on only a small number of foods, such as infant formula and meal replacements.

Best before dates are about food freshness, quality and how long they should last unopened, not

about food safety.

2. TASTE BEFORE YOU WASTE

There’s a common misperception that after a package of food has passed its best before date, it’s no longer safe to eat. Best before dates indicate when a packaged food will be at its peak in terms of flavour and nutrition. If stored properly, most food is perfectly edible beyond the best before date on the label. Open the package and give it the “sniff test” or look for mould or other signs of spoilage. Otherwise, using something beyond its best before date is perfectly fine and can help reduce your food waste.

3. KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR “ENJOY TONIGHT” SALES

Studies show that Canadians love best before dates, and for good reason. Buying food that is close to or past its best before date can result in significant savings. For example, if you buy a tub of yogurt the day before the best-before date, your local grocery store may offer you up to 50 per cent off.

4. MORE FOODS

INCLUDE BEST BEFORE DATES THAN REQUIRED BY CANADIAN LAW

Canada exempts fresh produce and requires best before dates on fewer foods than some other countries. The food industry can still choose to put a best before date, many do, which often results in sales when the date approaches. So, keep an eye out for savings.

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SAGA Foundation Launches Multi-Billion Naira Free Medical Equipment and Supplies In Ila Orangun, Osun State



By Dele Akitilo

In line with its vision to add value to society by helping immigrants and youths in Canada with skill development, education, and mentorship while promoting access to quality healthcare delivery in developing nations, Shola Agboola Goodwill Ambassador (SAGA) Foundation, launched the multi-billion naira

free medical equipment and supplies.

The event took place recently at State Hospital, Oke Aloyin, Ila Orangun, Osun State and was attended by the Executive Governor of Osun State, Senator Ademola Adeleke, the Orangun of Ila, HRM Oba Wahab Kayode Adedeji Oyedotun, Secretary to the Osun State Government, Alhaji Teslim Igbalaye, Chief of Staff to

the Executive Governor of Osun State, Alhaji Kazeem Akinleye and dignitaries from Ila Orangun, Osun State, Nigeria, United States of America and Canada. The event was hosted by Rev. Bunmi Jenyo (JP).

While speaking during the event, the Orangun of Ila lauded the project and thanked Shola Agboola, the Founder/CEO of SAGA Foundation for coming through for

residents of Ila Orangun and Osun State in general. The Monarch also enjoined other people to emulate the gesture.

In his opening remarks, Shola Agboola thanked Senator Adeleke for gracing the event. He also thanked Oba Wahab Oyedotun and other dignitaries for their presence. He thanked the Canadian government, the Government of Manitoba and International

Hope Canada for the provision, coordination and arrangement of the equipment and supplies. He also appreciated the support of His Eminence, Archbishop Benjamin Samson Mustapha and Rev. Bunmi Jenyo.

He stressed that the deplorable state of healthcare system he witnessed as a young boy growing up in Nigeria, which led to the demise of his father,

spurred him to develop a healthcare support initiative which led to the launch of the multi-billion naira medical equipment and supplies at Ila Orangun. He extended an invitation to anyone who wishes to partner with the Foundation in advancing this humanitarian endeavour.

Check out images of the launch above.

\$10M worth of vehicles recovered by Peel police during months-long investigation

By Dele Akitilo

78 vehicles worth more than \$10 million have been recovered by Peel police in the Greater Toronto Area after a months-long investigation.

In a media release, Peel police said many law enforcement agencies that worked together with border services officers and investigators from Canada Border Services Agency took part in the investigation, named Project R&R.

During a recent news conference in Mississauga, Det. Trevor Oldham, who was in charge of the investigation said: "The focus of the project was organized auto theft across GTA into Quebec and extended into safe ports overseas."

Oldham said the recovered vehicles were stolen from Mississauga, Brampton as well as other cities

and were transported to Port Montreal to be exported to their final destination — which in most cases was United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Peel police said the investigation commenced after a pattern was discovered in connection with the theft of luxurious like Range Rovers. It then quickly expanded to other makes and models.

The release said: "Over 25 containers were intercepted and held at various locations and ports including Brampton, Montreal, Germany, and Spain. Many stolen vehicles were destined for the United Arab Emirates."

Oldham added that the vehicles were targeted by the suspects during the early hours of the morning when their owners were asleep.

Peel police Chief Nishan Duraiappah said auto thefts are

one of the greatest concerns of residents in Peel region.

Duraiappah said: "In the first two months of 2023 here in the Peel region alone, our officers have seized and recovered over 500 stolen autos. In 2022, 2,400 stolen autos were recovered."

The release stated that seven arrest warrants were executed in Peel last December which resulted in the arrest of four suspects.

A 29-year-old resident of Mississauga was charged with 15 counts of theft of motor vehicle, six counts of possession of property obtained by crime and one count each of fraud under \$5,000 and use of an unauthorized debit card.

Another 29-year-old suspect from Mississauga was charged with theft of a motor vehicle, possession of property obtained by crime and possession for purpose of traffick-



ing.

Also, a 44-year-old suspect from North York, was charged with four counts of possession of property obtained by crime while a 48-year-old suspect, a resident of Aurora, was charged with four counts of possession of property obtained by crime and one count of fail to comply with the release order.

Police feel the arrest of these suspects busted a "well-organized and well-funded" crime group.

Police said the investigation is ongoing, with further arrests and charges anticipated.

Anyone who has useful information related to this matter is asked to call investigators at 11 Division

Auto Unit at 905-453-2121, ext. 1133.

Also, information may be left anonymously by calling Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), or by visiting peelcrimestoppers.ca.

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2023 Budget: FG earmarks juicy funding for Black communities

...To invest \$45.9 million to create Mental Health Fund for Black public servants

By Stanley Ugagbe

The Prime Minister Justin Trudeau-led federal government has unearthed plans to tackle some challenges affecting Blacks in the nation.

This development was contained in the 2023 budget presented by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Chrystia Freeland.

In the budget, titled "A Made-In-Canada Plan: Strong Middle Class, Affordable Economy, Healthy Future," the government outlined its plan to build a stronger and more resilient economy for everyone.

It included significant measures that the government has put forward in the 2023 Federal Budget to support Black communities from coast to coast to coast.

To continue empowering Black-led and Black-serving community organizations and the work they do to promote inclusiveness, the government said it is investing \$25 million in funding for the Supporting Black Canadians Communities Initiative (SBCCI).

The federal Budget also pledged support for a more equitable, diverse, and inclusive Public Service.



Chrystia Freeland

According to the budget, \$45.9 million will be invested over three years, starting in 2023-2024, to create a Mental Health Fund for Black public servants and establish dedicated career development programs, including to prepare Black public service leaders for executive positions.

In order to address wrongful convictions and make sure the criminal justice system is fair and equitable, federal budget propose to provide \$83.9 million over five years, starting in 2023-24, and \$18.7 million ongoing to Justice Canada for the independent Miscarriage of Justice Review Commission.

Reacting to the budget, the Ontario government said the Budget 2023 makes transformative investments to build Canada's clean economy, fight climate change, and create

new opportunities for Canadian businesses and Canadian workers. "This includes significant measures that will deliver cleaner and more affordable energy, support investment in our communities and the creation of good-paying jobs, and ensure that Canadian workers are able to produce and provide the goods and resources that Canadians and our allies need".

With a responsible fiscal plan that will see Canada maintain the lowest deficit and the lowest net debt-to-GDP ratio in the G7, Budget 2023 will help to build a Canada that is more secure, more sustainable, and more affordable for people from coast to coast to coast, the government said.

"I have never been more optimistic about the future of our country than I am today. Budget 2023 will deliver new, targeted inflation relief for the Canadians who need it most; stronger public health care, including dental care for millions of Canadians; and significant investments to build Canada's clean economy. At a challenging time in a challenging world, there is no better place to be than Canada," Freeland said during the budget presentation.

Foot Locker to close 400 stores in North America in yet another setback to retail shopping

By N.Ugoh

Famous American sportswear and footwear retailer, Foot Locker, has announced around 400 mall stores will be shuttered within the next three years. The announcement is another major blow to the mall retail sector as other big brands keep adapting to changing shopping habits and the anticipated reduction in consumer spending.

While making the announcement, Foot Locker said it plans to close "underperforming" outlets across North America to transform its retail portfolio.

In a press release, CEO Mary Dillon said: "We are entering 2023 with a focus on resetting the business — simplifying our operations and investing in our core banners and capabilities to position the company for

growth in 2024 and beyond."

At an investor day event, Tony Aversa, Senior Vice President of Global Store development said the planned closures represent around 10 percent of Foot Locker's total sales.

He added that the company's focus will now be on higher performing locations, "new store concepts" and its outlets in Western Europe and Southeast Asia.

He said: "These new concepts allow us to stay focused on our core consumer, while also acquiring new (ones)."

He added that the company will have about 400 new concept locations — including play-focused outlets — by 2026, up from approximately 120 this year.

Currently, Foot Locker operates around 2,700 stores globally, including 87

outlets in Canada. With the addition of the new concept outlets, the company will still have about 300 fewer stores in 2026 compared to this year.

The email requesting further information on the expected closures and the number of affected Canadian stores and employees was not immediately responded to.

Foot Locker is one of many major retailers that have announced store closures recently as the retail sector encounters growing economic headwinds and a fast-changing consumer base.

Nordstrom announced recently that it would close its six Canadian department stores and seven Nordstrom Rack shops while Bed Bath & Beyond, another American retail chain, announced in February that it would leave Canada.

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Controversial transgender teacher no longer works at Oakville school

By N.Ugoh

Reports have indicated that the controversial transgender teacher who wore prosthetic breasts to Oakville Trafalgar High School, no longer teaches at the school.

According to sources, the teacher, Kayla Lemieux, is not currently assigned to Oakville Trafalgar High School but she is still employed by the Halton District School Board (HDSB).

Sources revealed that Lemieux's last day at the school was February 28, though the HDSB has not officially confirmed the information.

Lemieux's dress has garnered global attention over her exaggerated breasts, tight clothing and a long blonde wig that she

started wearing to the classroom since the start of this school year. Prior to that, she was recognized as male teacher Kerry Lemieux, a shop teacher at Oakville Trafalgar.

The school has gotten bomb threats from people who are not happy with Lemieux's appearance and the board's support for her right to dress as she wants.

The height of the situation was when an American-based newspaper, the New York Post, recently printed photos of Lemieux dressed in men's clothing. Lemieux has made it known that the man in the photos is not her.

Meanwhile, HDSB trustees argued with their staff during a recent meeting over policies concerning the conduct of teaching staff, an issue that has been



raised since the Lemieux controversy began.

Director of Education, Curtis Ennis, and his team were questioned by the trustees over their inability to impose dress codes and codes of conduct under the existing policies. Board staff stated that teachers are in contract negotiations, as such, they cannot alter the current working conditions.

Jagmeet Singh Backs Public Inquiry into Alleged Chinese Election Interference

By N.Ugoh

Jagmeet Singh, the leader of the New Democratic Party (NDP), has expressed his commitment to protecting democracy in Canada during a recent press conference which took place in Winnipeg.

When asked about

what he thinks about the launch of a public inquiry into the suspected Chinese intervention in Canadian elections, Singh stressed the importance of protecting the democratic processes of Canada.

He said his major objective was to make sure that the integrity of Canadian elections remains

intact and that any plan to undermine it must be thoroughly investigated.

Singh made these remarks at a time when there are growing concerns over foreign interference in Canadian politics and the need for tighter measures to protect Canada's democratic institutions.

YOU & the LAW

Kyari's petition to drop charges dismissed by court

By Dele Akintilo

The Federal High Court in Abuja has dismissed an appeal filed by Abba Kyari, a suspended deputy commissioner of police, requesting to have the allegations against him dropped.

Judge Emeka Nwite dismissed the motion on the grounds that, in accordance with the Federal Republic of Nigeria's Constitution and the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) Act, the court has the only authority and jurisdiction to consider drug-related issues.

According to the Judge, Section 251 of the Constitution grants the court the authority to hear the charge and make a decision.

Kyari had informed the court that the charges levelled against him were premature and insisted that the NDLEA ought to have let police exhaust its internal machinery before it instituted the action.

He told the court that the Police had already begun looking into the charg-

es levelled against him and had produced an interim report.

Kyari made it known that he could only be charged in court once the police had concluded their internal investigation.

He stated that similar to the way National Judicial Council (NJC) sanctions judicial officers, the Police Service Commission (PSC) has the authority to investigate and penalize incompetent police employees in accordance with the Police Act and Regulations.

The judge asserted that the authority of the Federal High Court does not exceed that of the Police Service Commission.

Kyari and four IRT officers — ACP Sunday J. Ubuwa, ASP Bawa James, Inspector Simon Agirgba, and Inspector John Nuhu — were accused of conspiring to sell 17.55kg of cocaine in front of the Federal High Court in Abuja.

Also, they were accused of conspiring to tamper with 21.35kg of cocaine that had been taken from two convicted drug dealers and of trafficking cocaine.

Sonia Weeps As Ekweremadu, Wife Found Guilty Of Organ Trafficking

By Dele Akintilo

Nigerian politician and lawyer from Enugu State Ike Ekweremadu, and his wife, Beatrice, have been found guilty of organ trafficking in the United Kingdom.

A jury found that the 60-year-old Ekweremadu, his 56-year-old wife, and medical "middleman" Dr. Obinna Obeta, 50, were guilty of a conspiracy to bring a young man to Britain to give his kidney to the politician's sick daughter.

Local reports have it that the Ekweremadus' 25-year-old daughter, Sonia, who has a serious kidney condition, wept in court as she was cleared by the jury, which deliberated for nearly 14 hours.

It could be recalled that the victim, a 21-year-old street trader from Lagos, was brought to the UK last year to provide a kidney to Sonia for an £80,000 private transplant at the Royal Free Hospital in London.

The donor was offered up to £7,000 and the promise of a better life in the UK, the prosecution claimed. It was alleged the defendants tried to convince medics at the Royal Free by pretending he was Sonia's cousin when, in fact, they were not related.

It was gathered that when he was rejected as unsuitable, the Ekweremadus transferred their interest to Turkey and set about finding another donor.

In their defense, the Ekweremadus, who have an address in Willesden Green, north-west London, and Dr Obeta, from Southwark, south London, denied the charges against them.

The Ekweremadus set about finding a donor, enlisting the help of Dr Obeta, a



Ike Ekweremadu, 60 (right), his wife Beatrice, 56, and Dr Obinna Obeta, 50, who were accused of treating the man and other potential donors as 'disposable assets'. Pic: Met Police/PA

former medical school classmate of Ike's brother Isaac "Diwe" Ekweremadu, who remains in Nigeria.

Recall that in opening addresses at the Old Bailey in February, lawyers for the defendants insisted they believed the donor, who cannot be identified, was acting "altruistically".

Martin Hicks KC, for Ike Ekweremadu, told jurors: "Be alive please to the possible cultural differences between this country and that of Nigeria, particularly to altruistic donation."

He said: "We say the issue in this case is simple — did there exist an agreement to exploit (the donor) in the way the prosecution allege and if so who was a party to it?"

It was stated that the former Deputy Senate President's case is that Dr. Obeta had spoken to Ekweremadu's medically trained brother Diwe in the autumn of 2021 and had offered to help find Sonia a prospective donor.

According to Hicks, Ekweremadu's only communication was through his brother Diwe and he relied on the "medical knowledge and standing" of the doctors involved.

While talking to CTV Toronto recently, the child's mother, Faridah said: "It's emotional, it's unbelievable."

Faridah has alleged many instances of rac-

ist behaviour toward her and her son at the school prior to the January incident when according to her, her son was locked in a closet-sized room for 30 minutes.

In a recently issued written statement, TDSB said it will investigate the reports as soon as possible and it will take "the required steps on each action reported."

Faridah said at a certain time during the

continued on p(25)

University of Saskatchewan cleaner gets to keep job after stealing cleaning rags worth \$5

The University of Saskatchewan has lost an appeal in the case of a worker it fired for stealing 10 cleaning rags worth about \$5.

The university fired Jerry Julimon, a cleaning staff employee, after it determined he was responsible for the theft. The termination was grieved by the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), and it won the case — the arbitrator substituted the termination with a six-month suspension.

The arbitrator also ordered that Julimon's suspension would remain on his record indefinitely.

The university appealed that ruling, arguing the arbitrator erred and his decision was unreasonable.

In short, the university said there was evidence of additional thefts that made continued employment impossible — including an alleged admission that Julimon and other staff would sometimes take garbage bags to use as raincoats without asking permission and on some cases took cardboard boxes.

But the court found the arbitrator considered relevant evidence in making his decision in this case.

The court also rejected an argument from the university that the arbitrator placed "unwarranted emphasis on the value of the property stolen" and failed to consider the gravity of the misconduct.

It dismissed the university's application to have the ruling quashed and awarded the union and Julimon costs against the university at the column 2 level.

For more information see University of Saskatchewan v Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 1975, 2022 SKQB 49 (CanLII)

Source: hrlawcanada.com

Kyari's petition to drop charges dismissed by court

By Dele Akintilo

Three staff of a Toronto elementary school are being investigated after a six-year-old Black student was allegedly isolated separated from his peers and confined to a closet-sized room in January.

The Toronto District School Board (TDSB) confirmed recently that staff learned about the incident of "serious acts of anti-Black racism at John Fisher Junior Public

School" last week and because of the incident, a principal, vice-principal, and teacher have been removed from the property and put on home assignment.

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REFLECTIONS ON RELATIONSHIPS

What is expected of a woman in marriage?

Dear Agatha,
I wish to know more about a quote you used; 'A woman who doesn't know what is expected of her as a woman or wife.' Exactly what is expected of a woman in a marriage-bound relationship?

What are the dos and don'ts of a relationship? Please I really need help.

Lynda

Dear Lynda,
Relationship is a chain of exquisite threads; with each strand, embedded with its peculiar complications that must however be harmonized, if the chain is to stay appealing and firm.

For it to be in perfect shape, every member of must first grow the determination to remain within the family fold.

As with every organization; one party has to learn to work extra hard for its unity and sustainability. Usually, it is this selfless member of the group that holds the chain together. Without a hook, no matter how beautiful a chain is, it remains unwearable.

This is the role of a woman in a relationship; whether dating or married. She is the one who has been equipped by Mother Nature to play the role of the cement in a relationship. Apart from being the woman, wife and mother of the relationship; she is the public relations officer, the politician, the front desk person, the ambassador, minister of home affairs, the teacher, the moral barometer of her family, the trouble shooter between all parties that make up her family, the

prayer warrior and intercessor between God and her family. She is also the shocker absorber, the think tank of the family. So the role of the woman goes beyond cooking and house keeping.

Therefore, if a woman isn't proactive, her family suffers because she has to think for everybody to make the wheels of the home rotate very well. So as a girlfriend, you have to go beyond frivolities to reality. While every woman would be a girlfriend to a man at one time or the other in her life; not every woman will be a wife or remain married because of the qualities required to keep a home.

A woman in a relationship, no matter her marital status, must be patient, selfless, tolerant, understanding, supportive even when she doesn't completely agree with her mate, be funny to encourage every member of the family to relax and build wonderful memories they will take away into their own homes. She also has to be firm when the need arises and still have time to be a woman by being romantic to remain relevant in the life of her man.

She must know without sentiments, who comes first in her scale of preference always. Most women, once married often make the costly mistake of neglecting their husbands once they begin to have children by transferring all their affection, attention and care to the children, leaving their husbands in the cold. This is why most men find solace in the comfort of another woman's bosom. Unfortunately, once a woman makes the

mistake of sweeping her husband into the waiting arms of another woman more desperate to have him than his wife, it becomes difficult to wean the man of the warmth of this other woman because she is giving him the attention and services the woman at home is neglecting to do.

Every wise woman must know that without the husband, there will be no children or home for that matter. Therefore, she must keep the husband as her focal point of attention because if the man decides to stray; the entire family goes into crisis. Besides, the children will one day leave the home to begin families of their own. If she failed to carry her husband along when she was nursing the children, she will have problems integrating with him after the children go away.

This is why so many women, advanced in age are unhappy and grouchy at that important time in their lives when they should be enjoying the company and companionship of their husbands. Too late, most women who forgot to prioritize their affection while growing their children wake up one morning to find out, they have lost their husbands to other things like women, drinks, friends and social outings.

A wise woman must never forget the reason she left her family to become a member of another family: her man on whose authority and influence, she became a wife and mother. No matter how busy she gets, she must make out time to be wife and friend to her husband. She must learn to prepare

her home for the second honeymoon-when all the children would have left her nest to begin lives of their own.

No matter how busy she gets with the children and task of sustaining her family, she must always celebrate her man with everything that makes her first a woman and then a wife. She must constantly upgrade her looks to remind the man of the woman she was when they met thereby keeping alive the flame of their passion as well as give him her unconditional respect as his wife. A woman who makes the habit of disrespecting her man or has mastered the habit of nagging him at the slightest opportunity leaves the man with no choice but to find other sources of happiness.

A woman must make her home, a wonderful oasis for her man to come to anytime. Her role as wife doesn't begin and end in the kitchen or bedroom. It is all encompassing. When she is not around for a day; the whole family must miss something tangible about the woman of the house. When a mother leaves home and nobody misses her absence, she has completely lost it.

Many career women have developed the habit of using money to buy the affection of their children and husbands. Money is good in a marriage but, isn't the essential ingredient that oils its wheel of progress. As the homemaker, cradle builder and bridge between father and children, a woman must give all of herself to her family without reserve. She must be the one both

the children and husband come to when they have issues. Wisdom demands she must put herself in the position to be a problem solver to all of them, else friends of her family members, will take over her position and destroy her home through wrong advices and influences.

Taking into cognizance that nobody is perfect; that we are all flawed from the manufacturer's table, a woman who wants to remain a wife must never do or say anything that will make anybody disrespect her husband. Even when she has reasons to be extremely upset with him, she should refrain from engaging her man in a war of words when there is an audience; the children inclusive. Every matter between the two of them should be argued and resolved in the bedroom; where she has the right to say whatever she likes to him without reservations.

A good woman and wife is also the one who knows how to project positively the image of her husband among his friends and family. She is also the kind of woman who knows how to wiggle her way out of issues involving her in-laws. The truth is, every wife will become a mother-in-law and sister-in-law one day. What she wouldn't want the wife of her son or brother do to her, she shouldn't dish it to her own in-laws either. As long as humans exist, there will always be issues. Once the daughter-in-law recognizes the fact that she too, isn't perfect, the easier it becomes to gloss over the many faults of her in-laws.



Agatha Edo
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If a woman can accommodate the imperfection of her own mother and other females in her own family; there is no reason why she should not understand the defects in other people. This is because without the efforts of the mother-in-law on the man she came to marry, she won't have a home and the children she loves so much. Difficult as it is to love certain people, every woman must make the effort to love her in-laws for both the peace of her mind and the well-being of her husband as well as the children whose family the in-laws she is fighting are.

A wise wife and mother must make whatever sacrifice is required to insure the future of her own immediate family through prayers. Sometimes, it isn't always convenient to wake up at certain hours of the night to pray, but most marital battles are fought and won on bent knees and not through fighting or nagging.

Therefore, to make a marriage work, takes the quintessence of the woman; it is either that or nothing. The magic of marriage; is for a woman to stay in relationship with her man at all times, no matter the temperature of the day.

Some effective ways to deal with stress

By Stanley Ugagbe

In Genesis 3:19, God told Adam that he would need to sweat before he eats. That implies that he would need to toil he eats and labor comes with stress. So, stress is as old as man.

Though technology is making life easier, the average human goes through everyday stress. It is even worse when we are under pressure to do certain things and we start to feel out of control.

Though certain situ-

ations may seem very difficult, compounding our stress, there are some measures you can put in place to protect you from dangerous stress levels even as you tackle more challenges.

Below are some practical ways to prevent stress.

You need to identify the sources of stress in your life. It is often said the when you identify the root cause of a problem, solution will come. What is causing your stress? It can come in diverse ways. For instance, stress can spike when we either fail to meet challenges

or when challenges overwhelm us. A demanding job can cause stress, but so does procrastination. Your habits, attitudes, values, and personal growth, or lack thereof, can cause stress when they fail to align with what is happening in your life. You need to make a conscious effort to fix the issue otherwise your stress levels will remain outside your control.

Experts believe that a stress journal can help you identify the source of stress in your daily life and help you understand how you

deal with those sources. You can also use a stress tracker on your phone. With time, you will map out what you need to work on and how to make changes.

To tackle stress, you need to alter the situation by changing the way you communicate and operate in your regular life, talking about your feelings rather than stewing in silent emotions. Compromise to find a middle ground when others accept to make changes and have a balanced schedule to cater to all aspects of your life.

Also, adapt to the stressor by reframing problems and stressful situations to cater to you in productive and positive ways. Get some perspective about the stressor and focus your energy where it is productive. Compromise to find a middle ground when others accept to make changes and have a balanced schedule to cater to all aspects of your life.

To avoid and tackle stress, you need to have a better personal time management. This is because poor time allocation can activate stress. If you are run-

ning on limited time, you will not be able to stay calm or focused and you will resort to unhealthy coping to keep yourself together and your commitments. Avoid careless commitments, have your priorities straight, share responsibilities, and break down tasks into manageable steps

More importantly, you need to learn to relieve stress immediately. Stress usually shows when it has lingered for a while from daily situations. Learn to get relief the moment a stressful event happens. Let it out!

Simon Ekpa opens Biafra Liaison Offices in Vatican, France, and Israel



By N. Ugoh

Simon Ekpa has announced the opening of Biafra liaison offices in Vatican, France, and Israel. He has also announced his plan to open Biafra liaison offices in Gabon, Mali, Haiti, Ivory

Coast, Tanzania, and Zambia soon.

In a statement, Ekpa repeated his earlier declaration that the Biafra Liberation Army would engage all Nigerian forces wherever they sight them starting from that day.

He made it known that

Biafra was working towards liberating its people, representing Biafra's sovereignty and interests worldwide, engaging in international relationships and diplomacy with governments, states, nations, and organizations, organizing for the security of Biafrans' people, properties, and land, obtaining diplomatic recognition for the sovereign state of Biafra, and negotiating trade and other economic activities on behalf of Biafrans.

Recall that Simon Ekpa was recently arrested by the Finnish government before Nigeria conducted her presidential election. He also declared the total activation of the Biafra Government in Exile and pledged that there would be no going back on the separation of Biafra from Nigeria.

Six States approach Supreme Court to nullify INEC's declaration of Tinubu as president-elect

By Dele Akintilo

Six states, Adamawa, Akwa-Ibom, Bayelsa, Delta, Edo, and Sokoto, have approached the Supreme Court over the conduct, collation, and announcement of the recent presidential and National Assembly elections in what seems to be a replay of the ongoing lawsuit over the move by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to prohibit the use of some denominations of old currencies.

The candidate of All Progressives Congress (APC), Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, was declared the winner of the presidential election which took place on February 25 and the president-elect based on that election.

The states, however, want the Supreme Court to revoke that declaration. The plaintiffs filed the lawsuit against INEC's declaration of Tinubu in an originating summons marked: SC/CV/354/2023.

The suit was filed by the Attorney Generals of Adamawa, Bayelsa, Delta, Edo, Sokoto, with Attorney General of the Federation as sole respondent.

According to the suit filed on February 28, by their lawyer, Prof Mike Ozekhome, a Senior Advo-

cate of Nigeria (SAN), the officials and agents of the federal government and INEC, failed to transmit the collated result as stipulated by the provisions of the Electoral Act, 2022; the INEC Regulations and Guidelines for the Conduct of Elections 2022; and the INEC Manual for Election Officials requiring transmission of the results by the use of Bimodal Voter Accreditation System (BVAS) in an egregious breach of the relevant provisions of the Electoral Act, 2022; the INEC Regulations and Guidelines for the Conduct of Elections, 2022; and the INEC Manual for Election Officials, 2023.

They are seeking "A declaration that the entire results of the Presidential Election conducted on the 25th of February, 2023 announced by the Chairman of INEC at the National Collation Centre, Abuja, in flagrant violation of the provisions of Sections 25; 47(2); 60 (1), (2), (4) & (5); 62; 64(4) (a) & (b); 70; and 148 of the Electoral Act, 2022, governing the 2023 nationwide general elections, particularly paragraphs 38 of the INEC Regulations and Guidelines for the Conduct of Elections, 2022; and paragraphs

2.8.4; 2.9.0; and 2.9.1 of the INEC Manual for Election Officials, 2023, for the conduct of the Presidential Election, were invalid, null and void, and of no effect whatsoever.

"A declaration that the fundamentally flawed electoral process through the non-uploading of the results of each of the 176,974 Polling Units nationwide, in respect of the presidential election and National Assembly Elections held on Saturday, 25th February 2023 were not in accordance with the provisions of Sections 25; 47(2); 60 (1), (2), (4) & (5); 62; 64(4)(a) & (b); 70; and 148 of the Electoral Act, 2022, governing the 2023 nationwide general elections, particularly paragraphs 38 of the INEC Regulations and Guidelines for the Conduct of Elections, 2022; and paragraphs 2.8.4; 2.9.0; and 2.9.1 of the INEC Manual for Election Officials, 2023, for the conduct of the presidential election.

Also, plaintiffs filed another application requesting an order for abridging time for parties to file and serve responses for and against the suit.

Meanwhile, no date has been fixed for the hearing.

Carpenter's Union member gives George Brown college \$100,000 scholarship



By N. Ugoh

Recently, the President of George Brown College, Dr Gervan Fearon attended the event organized by Afroglobal Television in partnership with the Carpenters' District Council of Ontario, The Painters'

Union, The Plumbers' Union and other partners.

The event honoured the No. 2 Construction Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, that featured Black Canadians in the military of Canada during the First World War.

During the event, a

scholarship endowment of \$100,000 was made to George Brown College to support youth that are pursuing training certification, diploma or degree studies in the construction industry or labour studies. It was spearheaded by Chris Campbell of the Carpenter's Union.

Nova Scotia bans TikTok on government-issued mobile devices

By N. Ugoh

Nova Scotia has banned TikTok, a Chinese video-sharing platform, from all government-issued mobile devices.

The province announced the ban the app in a recent news release.

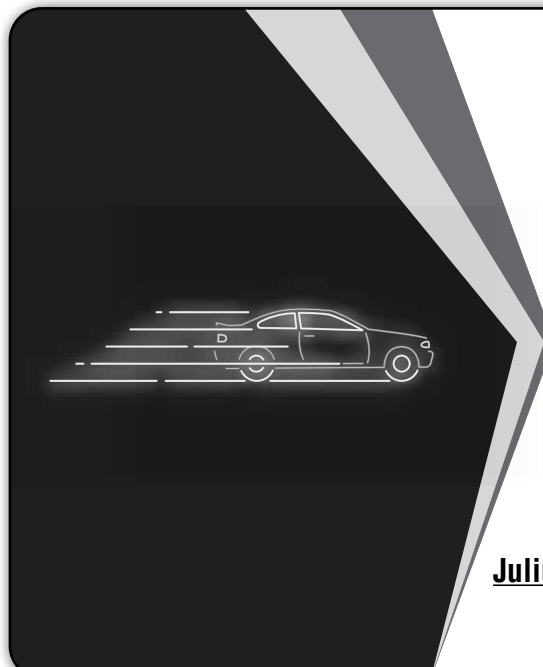
Nova Scotia becomes the second province to ban the video-sharing platform

in Canada after Quebec.

The statement read: "On a mobile device, the TikTok application's data collection methods provide substantial access to the contents of the phone, making those who have



downloaded the application more vulnerable to surveillance."



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FOOD & RECIPES

What's the truth about best before dates?

(NC) We've all had that moment when you reach into the fridge for the container of yogurt, jar of pizza sauce or bottle of mustard and notice that the "best before" date on the package has passed. Does that mean you need to toss it in the garbage? No, not necessarily.

Best before dates appear on most food products that have a durable life of 90 days or less. There are some exceptions, including fruit and vegetables.

You should be aware that there is a key difference between a "best before" date and an "expiration date."

Simply put, a best before date indicates the timeframe when a prod-

uct will be at its tastiest and freshest. After that date, the product may still be edible, but might not look or taste quite as good.

By contrast, an expiration date is the last day that something can safely be consumed. Expiration dates only appear on a small number of products, including infant formula and meal replacements.

It's important to note that best before dates only apply to products that have been stored properly, such as refrigerating dairy products and avoiding extreme temperatures for pantry items.

Other products, such as canned goods or dried pasta, may also

have best before dates, but those are not actually required, and they're usually a year or more out from the packaging date.

An unopened container of yogurt might be safe to eat days or even weeks after the best before date if it has been properly refrigerated. But a month or more after that date, maybe not.

When you do open the package, look for signs such as a funky smell or the presence of mould. By doing this instead of immediately tossing the product out, you can help reduce food waste.

Find more information on food safety at inspection.canada.ca.

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- 1 cup mint leaves + additional ½ cup sugar
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- 1/8 tsp. salt

1. Cook mint, sugar and ½ cup

2. Blend mint syrup with remaining ingredients until smooth; transfer to pan.

Cover; freeze 6 hours. Cut into 1" chunks; blend until smooth. Transfer to pan. Cover; freeze 2 hours.

- WW

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CHARTER PRESENTATION Ceremony

HERBERT EHEBHA PMJF
CHARTER PRESIDENT

Installation of Other Club Officers For 2022/2023 Lions Year,
 Induction of New Members cum Fund Raising

Sunday April 30th, 2023. **Happy Hour: 4:00pm**
Event Proper: 5:00pm

Pine Point Banquet Hall
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Gate Fee:
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Lions Club International is the world's largest humanitarian service organization, founded in 1917 in Chicago, Illinois, USA. With almost 1.5 million volunteers, Lions is strong and reliable. We are like minded men and women who are committed to helping other to live better lives and to help make the world a better place for everyone. We strive to make a difference around the planet, serving in over 200 countries and geographical areas. Our over 48,000 clubs are helping others and making communities better while having fun.

Toronto Nigeria Lions Club is one such club with a Nigerian flavor and vibes. It might excite you to know that this is the first ever all Nigerian Lions Club outside Nigeria. Membership in this club is open for Nigerians and friends of Nigerians living in Canada. It is an added space and opportunity for us to express ourselves, travel around the world, learn, utilize our gifts, meet new people, lead and project our home country positively.

Having a Nigerian nationality club in a cosmopolitan areas like Toronto is over due. Nigeria is one of the largest black community in Greater Toronto Area and therefore, has the capacity to sustain an exclusive Lions club. We are members of Lion District A711 which has been adjudged as the most

diversified Lions District in the world. We are glad to be named among other couple of countries and geographical areas that has done what we are doing right now.

As part of a compassionate community, we intend to collaborate, cooperate and/or partner with other clubs and corporations to respond to local and global challenges with kindness and care. We look to beautiful things happening to us as we serve humanity with fun and friendship.

This is indeed a historical moment, hence a formal launch, an inauguration event known as 'Chartering' has been scheduled for April 30, 2023. This event is expected to attract the creme de la creme in the Lions and Nigeria community in the Greater Toronto Area and its surroundings. The venue of the event is Pine Point Hall, 15A Grierson Road, Etobicoke, Ontario. The event will start with a happy hour at 4.00 pm.

The ceremony will involve the formal presentation of Charter Certificate, induction of new members, installation of club officers and fund raising event in a convivial environment. Other side attractions has been planned to make the evening a memorable and fun filled one.

Herbert Ehebha
 Club President
 6478072872
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Kunle Lawal



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Emmanuel Kusika



Edmonton Shepherd
Venerable Superior Evangelist
Michael Bakare



Minister Arojah



Sarah Dee



Ayo Mother Parish Host Choir

CCC AYO MOTHER PARISH (HOST)
Shepherd: Venerable Superior Evangelist Kunle Lawal
3339 Dunda Street West
Revival Dates:
5th & 6th May, 2023 | 7pm - 9pm
Revival/Mega Praise Date:
7th May, 2023 | 10am

CCC CALGARY MODEL PARISH
1420 - 40th NE, Calgary, (Unit 1)
Revival Dates:
29th April, 2023 | 7pm - 9pm
30th April, 2023 | 10am prompt

CCC GATHERING OF THE SAINTS PARISH
Shepherd: Venerable Superior Evangelist Michael Bakare
123 Avenue North-West Edmonton
Alberta T5L 2Y6
Revival Date:
28th April, 2023 | 7pm - 9pm

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Family dinner table talk tips

(NC) Anyone who has kids knows how hard it can be to get everyone to put down their phones, enjoy each other's company and have a good conversation with a meal. Fortunately, there are a few tricks parents can try to help their children ditch the "ums" and "I don't knows" and spark an engaging chat.



TALK ABOUT YOURSELF

This may sound counterintuitive, but like most other behaviours you want your child to adopt, you have to walk the talk. Or in this case, talk the talk. So be a good role model and avoid putting them on the spot by sharing something about your day, a weekend activity you're looking forward

to or a funny thing your co-worker said. Don't be afraid to be vulnerable - this will encourage little ones to be too.

MAKE IT A GAME

Turning the conversation into a game is a great way to break the ice, especially on a night when no one is feeling too chatty. The glad-sad-mad game is a great for kids (and adults) of all

ages, where everyone shares one thing that made them glad, sad and mad that day. Another good one is "would you rather?" Younger kids will love questions like "would you rather be a T-rex or a raptor?" and older ones will enjoy ones that are a bit deeper, like "would you rather go on vacation to the rainforest or a snowy destination?"

LOOK TO THE FOOD

You'd be surprised how many conversation starters are right on your table - you can talk about where the food came from, what's in season and even new recipe ideas everyone would like to try. If your kids show interest in how food gets onto our plates, encourage them to learn more about the science of agriculture. Food starts with research, and scientists use game-changing technology to help farmers improve and protect crops and produce food in an environmentally friendly way.

Kids can meet Canadian scientists, discover their work and see how their research impacts us at agriculture.canada.ca/fields-science.

50 Ways To Avoid Being Scammed

By: Funmi Adeshina



1. Never share personal information with strangers.
2. Use strong and unique passwords for all accounts.
3. Keep your software and operating system up-to-date.
4. Don't click on suspicious links or download attachments from unknown sources.
5. Research the company or individual before making any financial transactions.
6. Watch out for phishing scams, especially through email or text messages.
7. Use a reputable antivirus and anti-malware software.
8. Be cautious of unsolicited offers or requests for money.
9. Never send money to someone you don't know or trust.
10. Check your bank and credit card statements regularly for any unauthorized charges.
11. Be wary of deals that seem too good to be true.
12. Use secure payment methods, such as credit cards or PayPal.
13. Don't give out your Social Security number unless absolutely necessary.
14. Check the website's security before entering any personal or financial information.
15. Avoid public Wi-Fi when making online transactions.
16. Always log out of your accounts when finished.
17. Don't trust caller ID, as scammers can spoof phone numbers.
18. Don't respond to robocalls or automated messages.
19. Use two-factor authentication whenever possible.
20. Be suspicious of job offers that require upfront payment or personal information.
21. Ignore requests for wire transfers or prepaid debit cards.
22. Be cautious of pop-up ads or offers on websites.
23. Use a virtual private network (VPN) when using public Wi-Fi.
24. Report any suspicious activity to the appropriate authorities.
25. Don't sign contracts or agreements without reading them thoroughly.
26. Use reputable sources when researching products or services.
27. Be skeptical of investment opportunities that promise high returns with little risk.
28. Don't give out your banking information to anyone.
29. Don't let anyone pressure you into making a quick decision.
30. Use a password manager to securely store and generate strong passwords.
31. Verify charities before making donations.
32. Don't share your credit card information over the phone unless you initiated the call.
33. Be wary of free trial offers that require payment information upfront.
34. Check for reviews or complaints before making a purchase from an unknown seller.
35. Be cautious of unsolicited tech support offers.
36. Don't trust unsolicited investment opportunities.
37. Don't give out personal information in online surveys or quizzes.
38. Use social media privacy settings to control what information is shared.
39. Don't give out sensitive information over social media.
40. Be cautious of rental scams, especially on vacation rental websites.
41. Use a credit freeze to protect against identity theft.
42. Be suspicious of emails claiming to be from government agencies or law enforcement.
43. Use a password-protected screen saver when leaving your computer unattended.
44. Be wary of job offers that require payment for training or equipment.
45. Don't give out personal information to enter contests or sweepstakes.
46. Use a spam filter to block unsolicited emails.
47. Don't trust emails claiming to be from a friend or family member in distress without verifying their identity.
48. Be cautious of loan offers that require upfront payments.
49. Don't give out personal information to telemarketers.
50. Trust your instincts and be skeptical of anything that seems too good to be true.



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ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

Video of Barrie police knocking on TikToker's door and demanding he takes a breathalyzer goes viral

By Dele Akintilo

TikTok content creator, Micah Colbert, recorded his encounter with Barrie police — and it became the viral video he had always wanted to make. It all began when the 20-year-old Colbert's door was knocked on around 7 p.m. recently.

WHEN he opened the door, he saw a police officer who was demanding to conduct a breathalyzer test on him after OPP got a call from a motorist about a suspected impaired driver.

Colbert had not been drinking but he was driving on Highway 400 about 20 minutes earlier when his car hit a windy patch and was seen swerving in and out of lanes.

The OPP patrols the highway and sent a complaint to Barrie police once Colbert's vehicle exited the Highway.

While talking to Simcoe.com, Colbert said: "Other than that, I'm a good driver.

I really am." Colbert was in agreement with what looked like an uncommon house call.

He however had his own

request: He asked to film the incident with his phone and the police officer agreed.

The two-minute, 43-second recording starts with the officer demonstrating the testing procedure.

Towards the end, more police can be seen approaching the door Colbert asks:

"Do you guys need all these people here?" The initial officer answered that one of his fellow officers was in training, and backup is normal protocol in cases of suspected impaired drivers, "just in case things go squirrely."

Colbert took the test, scored a "0" and began to celebrate.

The officer asked Colbert whether he was using his phone while driving and Colbert said no.

The officer shook his hand



and walked off. Colbert closed the door and said he is "literally shaking, quaking in my boots. Get them out of my freaking house. That's disrespectful."

In an interview, Colbert said: "My lungs were hurting.

I never blew so fricking hard for something. How can they prove I'm driving my vehicle? (Someone else) could have been driving and swerved into

another lane.

And what if I was drinking alcohol after I got home? I would have been in handcuffs."

The video was posted some days ago to the social media platform and has generated over 1.7 million views and 206,000 likes.

While talking about the visit, Peter Leon, the spokesperson of Barrie Police, said this particular

kind of follow-through during an investigation doesn't happen always, an officer can show up at a suspect's home and request a breath test.

He said:

"Traffic and road safety is a priority of the Barrie police and when a report of impaired driving is received, it is taken very seriously.

Our investigations utilize various investigative techniques, which can include attending a residence for the necessary follow-up."

He said no charges were laid in the incident. Colbert said he was surprised by the number of police that came to his house but he doesn't blame the officers involved.

He said: "I love it so much. The attention this has given my platform, it's great for me and my business.

I just hope something more can come out of it than just the story that happened.

He said anyone in the same situation should comply with a police request and be "sweet as pie" and respectful.

Police issue Portable 72-hr ultimatum to report himself over alleged assault

By N.Ugoh

Ogun State Police Command has issued Nigerian singer, Habeeb Okikiola, popularly known as Portable, a 72-hour ultimatum to report himself to the nearest police station over an alleged assault.

The state's Police Public Relations Officer, Abimbola Oyeyemi, confirmed the development in a recent statement.

Oyeyemi said Portable had been told to submit himself to the police or risk being arrested.

Also, he confirmed that Portable's father had begged on his son's behalf and promised to bring him to the station.

Two viral videos reportedly went viral revealing the artist cursing some officers of the Force in Ogun state over the alleged arrest of his workers for no reason.

Oyeyemi, however, explained that the police made effort



to arrest Portable following a petition by a young man alleging the singer alongside his aides had beaten him to stupor.

Oyeyemi said: "On receiving the petition, an invitation letter was sent to him five times but he refused to appear at the police station.

Again, an invitation letter was sent to him through his father; he still did not come to

the station.

"The police did not want a breakdown of law and order so his arrest was to be effected on Tuesday and now he started with all series of videos, saying all sorts of things.

His father has been begging but we have told him that if Portable refuses to turn himself in between now and Friday, he will be arrested."

Tyler Perry, P. Diddy and Byron Allen enter into race to buy BET network

By N.Ugoh

Famous rapper, and entertainment mogul, Sean Combs, also known as Diddy, has joined Tyler Perry and Byron Allen to show interest in buying Black Entertainment Television (BET).

Diddy's move came amid reports that Paramount Global is being put up for sale. Recently, Variety reported that "sources" close to Diddy he's "exploring the opportunity to purchase BET as a part of his strategy to build a Black-owned global media powerhouse."

Another source however added that he's not talked with Paramount about it — though report has it that BET is not in talks with anyone yet, including Tyler Perry and Byron Allen.

Already, Diddy owns the REVOLT network, a multimedia company established in 2013 which produces television

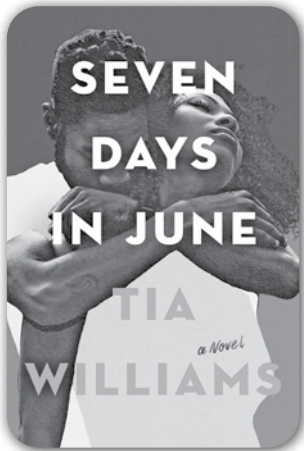


and digital long-form series. Currently, the channel reaches 80 million households and has 42 programs including Yung Miami's Caresha Please, N.O.R.E.'s Drink Champs and Jim Jones' Weather Report. It was gathered that Diddy is highly interested in BET returning to being a Black-owned brand, which he feels will be "better for the business, for the culture and for building wealth in the Black community."

BOOKS

"It's not that I don't like people. It's just that when I'm in the company of others – even my nearest and dearest – there always comes a moment when I'd rather be reading a book." - Maureen Corrigan
Akim Aliu: Dreamer

Seven Days in June



By Tia Williams

A REESE WITHERSPOON BOOK CLUB PICK!

The book centres on Eva Mercy, a single mom and bestselling erotica writer who is feeling pressed from all sides and Shane Hall, a reclusive, enigmatic, award-winning novelist, who, to everyone's surprise, shows up in New York.

Drama started when Shane and Eva meet unexpectedly at a literary event, sparks fly, raising not only their buried traumas, but the eyebrows of the Black literati. What no one knows is that 15 years earlier, teenage Eva and Shane

spent one crazy, torrid week madly in love.

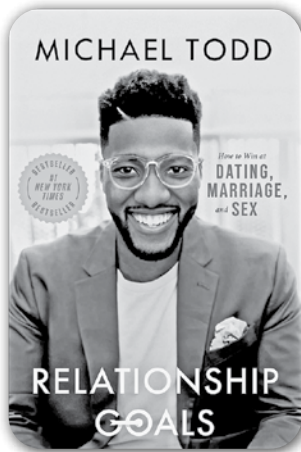
Interestingly, while they may be feigning not to know each other, they can't deny their chemistry - or the fact that they've been secretly writing to each other in their books through the years.

Remarkably, over the next seven days, amidst a steamy Brooklyn summer, Eva and Shane reconnect - but Eva's wary of the man who broke her heart, and wants him out of the city so her life can return to normal. Before Shane disappears though, she needs a few questions answered...

Without mincing words, the book is a hilarious, romantic, and sexy story of two writers discovering their second chance at love.

Jodi Picoult, #1 NYT best-selling author of *The Book of Two Ways* and *Small Great Things* describes "Tia Williams' book is a smart, sexy testament to Black joy, to the well of strength from which women draw, and to tragic romances that mature into second chances. I absolutely loved it."

Relationship Goals: How to Win at Dating, Marriage, and Sex Hardcover



By Michael Todd

It is an inspiring guide to finding lasting love and sustaining a healthy relationship by getting real about your goals—based on the viral, multi-million-view sermon series about dating, marriage, and sex.

Often times, we usually envy those who publicly seem to be having the happiest of relationships and marriages. Meanwhile, most times, they may not be as they seem in the public.

In *Relationship Goals*, Pastor Michael Todd digs deep to give you good news and real-life ideas for making the most of your most important relationships. Take a look at

what it means to choose intentional dating over recreational dating

how to move on from mistakes you've made in the past

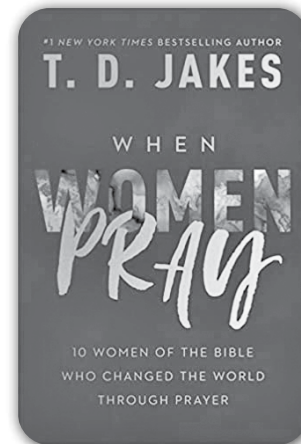
why love gets stronger after marriage

what the Bible has to say about sex (hot take: it's more sizzling than you think)

why the best friendships have God at the center

The book is a practical guide on how to win in your relationship, marriage etc. It is hinged on God's principles and the truth is God's got the best relationship goals of all for your life.

When Women Pray: 10 Women of the Bible Who Changed the World through Prayer



By T.D. Jakes

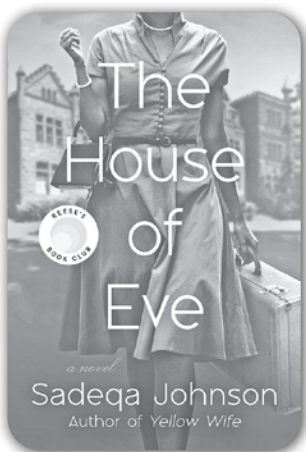
The book harps on the power that lies in women's prayers. Truth is, in a time when women carry more influence than any other generation, the power of prayer has never been more important to remind us that we do not have to bear our crosses alone. We need no soothsayer to remind us that we

need prayer to stand guard over our hearts and minds and over the hearts and minds of our families.

All over the globe, women today are shattering glass ceilings and forging new paths in the world. The author believes that what Happens When a Woman Prays is a clarion call for women to continue their progressive march of empowerment by dreaming like their daughters and praying like their grandmothers.

Using the lives of 10 prayer-filled women of the Bible, Bishop Jakes emphasizes the life-changing power that women have when they find their identity, their strength, their healing, and their voices in Christ. It is a recommended read.

The House of Eve



By Sadeqa Johnson

It is a daring and redemptive novel set in 1950s Philadelphia and Washington, DC, that explores what it means to be a woman and a mother, and how much one is willing to sacrifice to achieve her greatest goal.

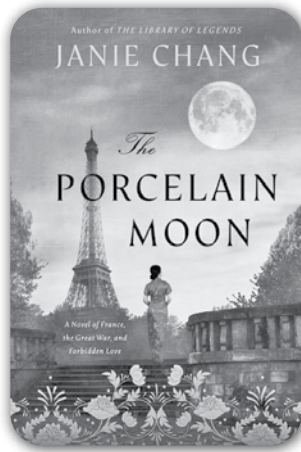
The story centres on two persons who have to take a drastic decision that will shape their lives. 1950s Philadelphia: 15-year-old Ruby Pearsall is on track to becoming the first in her family to attend college, in spite of having a

mother more interested in keeping a man than raising a daughter. However, a taboo love affair threatens to pull her back down into the poverty and desperation that has been passed on to her like a birthright.

On the other hand, Eleanor Quarles arrives in Washington, DC, with ambition and secrets. When she meets the handsome William Pride at Howard University, they fall madly in love. However, William hails from one of DC's elite wealthy Black families, and his parents don't let just anyone into their fold. Eleanor hopes that a baby will make her finally feel at home in William's family and grant her the life she's been searching for. Things may not seem as she thinks because having a baby—and fitting in—is easier said than done.

With their stories colliding in the most unexpected of ways, Ruby and Eleanor will both make decisions that shape the trajectory of their lives. You sure want to know how things turn out between them.

The Porcelain Moon



By Janie Chang

Drama started when in the final days of the First World War, a young Chinese woman, Pauline Deng, runs away from her uncle's home in Paris to evade a marriage being arranged for her in Shanghai.

However, to prevent the union, she needs the help of her cousin Theo, who is working as a translator for the Chinese Labour Corps in the French

countryside.

Meanwhile, in the town of Noyelles-sur-Mer, Camille Roussel is planning her escape from an abusive marriage, and to end a love affair that can no longer continue.

Friendship started when Camille offers Pauline a room for her stay. Things take a new twist Pauline uncovers a perilous secret that Camille has been hiding from her. As their dangerous situation escalates, the two women are forced to make a terrible decision that will bind them together for the rest of their lives.

Remarkably, *The Porcelain Moon* is a tale of forbidden love, identity and belonging, and what we are willing to risk for freedom. You will get value for the time invested in this book.

A Death at the Party

By Amy Stuart

In this day-long thriller, a woman prepares for a party that goes dreadfully wrong—for fans of Ashley Audrain and Lisa Jewell.

The host, Nadine Walsh's summer garden party is in full swing. The neighbors all have cocktails, the catered food is exquisite—everything's going according to plan.

Trouble begins when Nadine—devoted wife, loving mother, and doting daughter—finds herself standing over a dead body in her basement while her guests clink glasses upstairs. What happened? How did it come to this?

Earlier that morning, Nadine is in her kitchen, making last-minute preparations

before she welcomes more than a hundred guests to her home to celebrate her mother's birthday. But her husband is of little help to her, her two grown children are consumed with their own concerns, and her mother—only her mother knows that today isn't just a birthday party. It marks another anniversary as well.

Nevertheless, Nadine will focus just on tonight. Truth is everyone deserves a celebration after the year they've had. A chance for fun. A chance to forget. However, it's hard to forget when Nadine's head is swirling with secrets, haunting memories, and concerns about what might happen when her guests unite. You need to find out how things played out.

SOURCE: AMAZON.COM
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VERBAL REASONING

D) **EXAMPLES:**
 The number 5433127 represents the word 'married'

- (1) What word does 4324 represents? _____
- (2) What number represents the word 'dream'? _____
- (3) What word does 715 represent? _____

ANSWERS ON P(25)

E) Study the words carefully and decide which should come first, second, third and fourth in their order of alphabet

EXAMPLE:

- Dig _____ 3
- Beg _____ 2
- Ace _____ 1
- Zoo _____ 4

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| (1) Eagle _____ | (2) pest _____ |
| Dove _____ | press _____ |
| Hawk _____ | post _____ |
| Canary _____ | pill _____ |
- (3). Country _____
 Continent _____
 Crystal _____
 Cleaner _____

ANSWERS ON P(25)

F) Pick out the general term which describes what the other words are

- 1) hammer panner spade tool hoe
- 2) Stationery pen pencil ruler envelope
- 3) silver gold diamond copper mineral
- 4) minute hour day second time

ANSWERS ON P(25)

H) Carefully study each question and do what is asked for

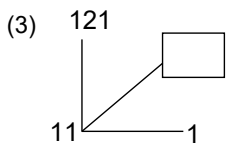
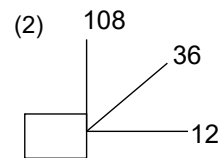
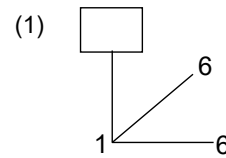
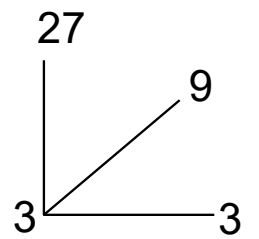
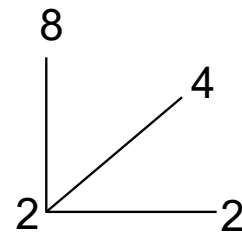
- 1) If KLMN means 'reap' what does NLMK mean? _____
- 2) If FGHJKL means 'saucer' then JHLKF means _____
- 3) If HLGJZTV means 'holiday' then HLGV means _____

ANSWERS ON P(25)

QUANTITATIVE APTITUDE

A) Use the examples given to solve the questions that follows
 HINT: Multiply through

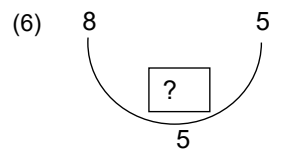
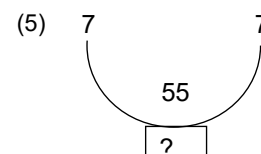
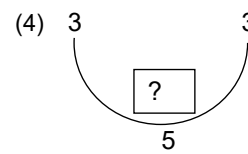
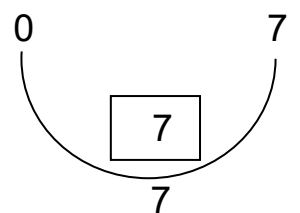
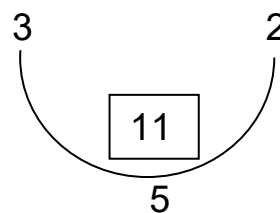
SAMPLE:



ANSWERS ON P(25)

B) Use the examples given to solve the questions that follows
 HINT: Multiplication and Addition

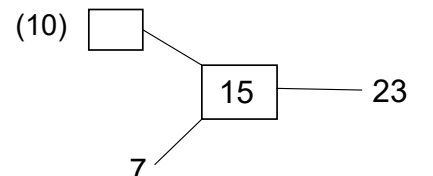
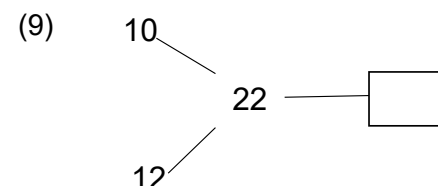
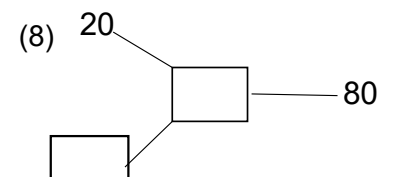
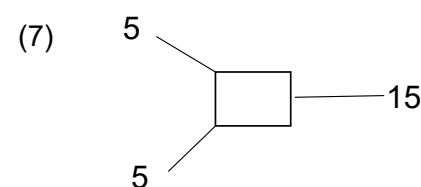
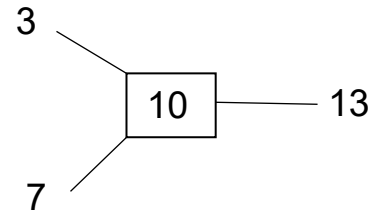
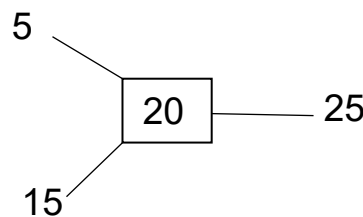
SAMPLE:



ANSWERS ON P(25)

C) Use the examples given to solve the questions that follows
 HINT: Use only addition

SAMPLE:



ANSWERS ON P(25)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Kidnapped US aid worker released in Niger after 6 years

By N.Ugoh

According to reports, an American aid worker that was kidnapped in Niger Republic over six years ago has been released from custody.

Jeffrey Woodke was kidnapped in his Abalak home in Niger in October 2016 by men who laid ambush, killed his guards and forced him into their truck at gunpoint.

He was later driven north toward Mali's border.

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men who laid ambush, killed his guards and forced him into their truck at gunpoint.

He was later driven north toward Mali's border.

Ex-Ghanaian President, Mahama, joins 2024 presidential race



Former President of Ghana, John Dramani Mahama, started his re-election bid by announcing his intention to join the race for the country's next year presidential election.

Mahama was Ghana's president between 2012 and 2017 and declared his presidential campaign bid in an effort to retake Ghana's top office for the third time after he lost the last two elections to current President

Nana Akufo-Addo.

While declaring his ambition, Mahama said with the current economic crisis that hit the country in recent years, the current administration has failed Ghanaians and the situation needed a leader with his calibre of experience.

He said: "Ghana needs experience and not experimentation. Ghana needs a leader who will hit the ground

running on 7 January 2025.

"Ghana needs a leader who will not be given an orientation and excursion through the Flagstaff House, the seat of government.

"Ghana used to be the shining light on the continent of Africa and I am of the strongest conviction that we can attain those heights again. I believe it and we'll lead by example.

"This government has been clueless, and in many ways callous. The unthinkable has happened and our country today is broken on all fronts.

"Ghana is bankrupt. We are saddled with debts we simply cannot pay. We've suffered global humiliation of defaulting on our debts and being downgraded by all credit rating agencies to the lowest level ever seen in our history," he said while declaring his ambition.

UK Identifies 10 People on Watchlist After Violent 2023 Elections in Nigeria

By N.Ugoh

The United Kingdom has disclosed that it has identified at least 10 individuals that exhibited anti-democratic behaviors during Nigeria's 2023 general elections and they have been placed on its watchlist.

The disclosure was made recently by the British Deputy High Commissioner to Nigeria, Ben Llewellyn-Jones, while criticizing a chieftain of the ruling All Progressives Congress, Femi Fani-Kayode,

for his recent comments that were considered to be inciting during a recent interview on Channels TV.

Femi Fani-Kayode had tweeted that the lesson of the 2023 presidential election is that God would never permit a practicing sodomite and his repugnant retinue of perverts, pimps, fraudsters, court jesters, degenerates, monkeys, slaves, and malefactors to lead Nigeria.

Llewellyn-Jones condemned Fani-Kayode's comments and stated that it was wrong for him

to speak on behalf of a party without the party distancing itself from him and cautioning him to stop. He stated that the people who made such comments must be held accountable.

According to the Deputy High Commissioner, the UK government is currently reviewing a list of between 5 and 10 individuals, which is increasing. He however stated that the UK would not publish the names on the list due to legal constraints.



US Ambassador slams Nigerian presidential election for not meeting the expectations of citizens

By N.Ugoh

The United States has stated that the recently concluded presidential election in Nigeria where Bola Tinubu emerged winner did not meet the expectations of its citizens.

Nigerian Canadian Newspaper Canada confirmed that the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) declared Bola Tinubu of the All Progressives Congress (APC) the winner of the election with 8,794,726 votes, while Alhaji Atiku Abubakar of the People's Democratic Party (PDP) came in second with 6,984,520 votes.

On the other hand, Atiku Abubakar of the PDP and Peter Obi of the Labour Party have condemned the election and

plan to challenge the results in court.

In a statement, US Ambassador to Nigeria, Mary Beth Leonard, expressed her dissatisfaction, stating that "the electoral process as a whole on February 25 failed to meet Nigerians' expectations."

Leonard commended Nigerians for their commitment to democracy, but urged them to avoid division and allow the legal process for resolving election challenges take its course.

Also, she urged INEC to quickly tackle the challenges ahead of the March 11 governorship elections and undertake a broader review of the issues that happened during the last elections.



U.S. Mission increase Visitor Visa validity from two years to five years for Nigerians

By N.Ugoh

The U.S. Mission has increased visitor visa validity from 24 months to 60 months for Nigerians that wish to enter the United States temporarily for business and/or tourism.

The development was announced by United States Ambassador to Nigeria, Mary Beth Leonard. While making the announcement, she tweeted: "I'm thrilled to announce that,

beginning March 1, tourist visas for Nigerians will be valid for five years, instead of the previous two-year validity."

The extension allows Nigerians to use the U.S. visa for 60 months to make short trips to the United States for tourism or business purposes before renewing their visa.

The visa application fee which currently stands at USD160, will not increase as a result of the increased visa validity.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Eleanor Jailed For Eight And A Half Years For False Rape And Trafficking Allegations

By Bunmi Akintilo

A young woman has been jailed for eight and a half years for false claims about being raped and trafficked by an Asian grooming gang, including other false claims against other men.

Eleanor Williams, 22, from Barrow-in-Furness, was convicted of nine counts of perverting the course of justice. The judge, Mr. Justice Altham, said her allegations were “complete fiction” and criticized her for showing “no significant signs of remorse”.

Her claims went viral during the lockdown in 2020 after she posted pictures of herself with bruises and a black eye on Facebook.

She posted that she was beaten and made to attend “sex parties” by “evil yet clever” Asian men, mostly Pakistani business owners.

The allegations soon spread far beyond Cumbria and garnered support from more than 100,000 Facebook users. More than 151 crimes were linked to her case according to Cumbria police.



In a letter to the judge on Tuesday, Williams maintained her innocence but said she was sorry and “devastated” at how her Facebook post affected Barrow.

“I understand that it’s your job to believe the jury’s verdict and that’s OK.

I know I have made some mistakes, I’m sorry. I know it’s no excuse but I was young and confused,” she wrote.

“I’m not saying I’m guilty but

I know I have done wrong on some of this and I’m sorry. I’m devastated at the trouble that has been caused in Barrow.

If I knew what consequences would have come from that status I never would have posted it.”

“Some community impact was foreseeable,” he said. But he said the consequences of her lies for the criminal justice system were far-reaching, adding: “There is a risk that genuine

victims will be reluctant as a result of this to come forward,” the judge said.

The false allegations included three young white men, one of whom, Oliver Gardner, who simply asked her for a light.

Jordan Trengove was accused of raping and drugging her knife point. He spent 73 days in prison.

Her wildest allegations was for Mohammed Ramzan, a businessman from Barrow. He told the Preston crown court he met Williams once briefly at a family party.

Williams lied that he was head of an international grooming gang. She said Ramzan had sex with her when she was 12 or 13, and then trafficked her with dozens of other girls.

Trengove, Gardner and Ramzan all considered suicide as a result of being falsely accused. Williams made a list of 60 girls, half from Cumbria and half from elsewhere, who she said had been pimped out by Ramzan’s gang.

One of them, Chloe (not real name), was confused after she was informed that she had been groomed and abused with Williams.

“I had the police round out of the blue.

They said I was named by

Ellie Williams, that I was at these parties in Morecambe and Preston – not the case at all,” said Chloe, now 21. She said she had been on one night out with Williams and, though she knew her to say hi, was not a close friend. “It’s very weird how she mentioned my name.”

According to Chloe, “Everyone had something of Justice for Ellie. Everyone.

And if it wasn’t on you, it was on your car or on the front of your house.” She says she feels “stupid” to have joined the rallies for someone who made up so many lies. “It got very nasty very quickly.”

Trengove had “rapist” spray-painted on his apartment. Ramzan received more than 500 death threats and had to flee Barrow.

A restaurateur, who asked not to be named, said he lost at least £80,000 worth of custom because his name was on the list.

During Williams’ sentencing hearing at Preston crown court, Judge Altham asked if the prosecution was asking him to sentence on the basis that the offences were motivated by racial hatred.

Jonathan Sandiford KC said no, noting the jury had heard evidence of Williams’ “affectionate and emotional” relationship with at least one Asian man.

Tanzania bans children’s books for promoting LGBTQ rights

By Stanley Ugagbe

The President Samia Suluhu Hassan-led Tanzania government has banned a popular series of children’s books from schools in the conservative East African country, on the claim that they violate local cultural norms.

The Education Minister Adolf Mkenda who announced the immediate ban on “The Diary of a Wimpy Kid” books, said the government was monitoring libraries in both public and private schools to make sure they were not on their shelves.

Though, it was not immediately clear what content in the series of illustrated books by US author Jeff Kinney that follow the life of a schoolboy had offended the authorities.

In a statement, the minister also listed other banned books,

including “Sex Education: A Guide to Life”.

Meanwhile, the names he gave for two books actually appeared to be pages from “An ABC of Equality” which included the terms transgender and LGBTQIA.

He said “We are banning these books from schools and other education institutions because they contradict Tanzanian cultural norms and morals”.

According to him, “The books also violate the good practices of bringing up our children”. He

called on parents to inspect their children’s bags to make sure they did not have the books.

Minister Mkenda said they were on a first list of “unacceptable books” and urged the public to report other similar books as part of an ongoing investigation.

It is germane to note that the first book in the “Wimpy Kid series was published in 2007 and since then 275 million copies have been sold worldwide in 69 languages, according to the wimpykid.com website.

There have also been several film adaptations.

Recently, President Hassan met university student leaders and asked them to be careful with some “imported cultures”, without elaborating.

She said “If you are a Tanzanian, live in accordance with our cultures”.

Her comments followed remarks by a senior member of the ruling CCM party, Frank Haule, who claimed that same sex activity was rampant in universities.

“That practice is contrary to our cultures and is prohibited by religious books” Haule emphasized.

Indonesia has the highest number of short people in the world

By N. Ugoh

According to World Population Review (WPR), an independent organization, Indonesia has people with the shortest height among the races across the world.

The sampling and methodology were done by World Population Review (WPR) and have been posted on its official website.

WPR ranked Indonesians in first place with the shortest average height in the world for adults around 158 centimetres.

Bolivia ranks second with an average height of 159 centimetres, Philippines is third with 161 centimetres

while Vietnam ranks fourth with 162 centimetres.

Cambodia is fifth with an average height of 162.5 centimetres while Nepal is sixth with 163 centimetres.

In a post, WPR said: “With migration and the spread of religion, the genetics of Indonesian society is a mixture of different human groups. The genetic data from the research shows that the Indonesian archipelago was once the centre of civilization.

In this way, it is this genetic plus linguistic investigation that reveals the structure of the Indonesian population, including its influence on body posture, especially height.”

SPORTS



Canada's Gilles, Poirier win world figure skating bronze in ice dance

By Bunmi Akintilo

Canada's Piper Gilles and Paul Poirier settled for bronze medals in ice dancing at the 2023 ISU World Figure Skating Championships. Meanwhile, United States' Madison Chock and Evan Bates won their first world title finishing with 226.01 points.

Italy's Charlene Guignard and Marco Fabbri followed for the silver at 219.85 and Gilles and Poirier earned 217.48 for Canada's sole medal of the competition. Records have it that this marked the first competition in three months for the Canadian Olympians after a wildly successful Grand Prix season, winning both their assignments as well as the Final in December.

Gilles said "This is the best season we've ever had. We medaled at every event we entered and that was really rewarding when we weren't sure we would continue after last season." "We just wanted to put our best foot forward and enjoy every last step of this program," Gilles said. "We've enjoyed doing it every time we've gone out there, so performing it on the world stage after being gone for a few months was so rewarding."

Even though Laurence Fournier Beaudry and Nikolaj Soerensen of Montreal, Que., produced the fourth best free skate, they remained fifth at 214.04. It is germane to note that they had a fantastic season with two international medals including gold at the NHK Trophy Grand Prix in Japan last November.

Soerensen said "We couldn't have asked for anything more. It's really fun, you can have four minutes and 10 seconds where you can really feel you're in the present the whole way. It's such a rare excitement."

Japan's Shoma Uno repeated as world champion in men's competition with 301.14. Junhwan Cha of South Korea took the silver with 296.03 and Ilia Malinin of the U.S. was third at 288.44. Canada's Keegan Messing took seventh at 265.16 and received a rousing ovation from the Japanese crowd as he completed his fifth and final Worlds.

"I'm a little bummed about the two little mistakes I put out there but overall, I feel pretty damn good," said Messing, whose best Worlds result was sixth in 2021.

"I'm skating for an experience, not a medal. I was able to recuperate after my two mistakes and felt I could really grasp the crowd again. I couldn't have asked for a better experience."

Transgender women banned from female events

By Bunmi Akintilo

The World Athletics Council has reached a decision to ban transgender women from female events in elite track and field competitions.

The body, which oversees all international track and field, also announced that it is cutting in half the testosterone level allowed for athletes with differences in sex development to compete in female events.

According to the body, the new rules, which go into effect March 31, could impact athletes such as South Africa's Caster Semenya, a two-time Olympic 800 meter champion who is believed to have an intersex condition that causes her body to produce testosterone at a higher rate than in most women.

It is germane to note that the ban on transgender athletes follows one adopted by other sports, including swimming that bars any male-to-female athlete who have been through male puberty. World Athletics clarified that the policies came after consultations with individual countries' track federations as well as the Global Athletes Coaches Academy, the IOC and "representative transgender and human rights groups," though it did not identify the groups.



In a statement, World Athletics president Sebastian Coe said "We continue to take the view that we must maintain fairness for female athletes above all other considerations".

"We will be guided in this by science around the physical performance and male advantage which will inevitably develop over the coming years."

According to him, the policy will be reviewed "as more evidence becomes available but we believe the integrity of the female category in athletics is paramount."

It is no news that over the past two years, more elite athletes identifying as transgender have entered competitions, the bodies overseeing international sports have

been trying to devise policies for transgender athletes.

Not long after University of Pennsylvania swimmer Lia Thomas became the first known transgender athlete to win an individual national championship by taking the 500-yard women's freestyle event at last March's NCAA Division I championships, FINA, which oversees international swimming, voted to restrict transgender athletes, effectively barring most transgender women.

In another move, World Athletics Council also voted to lift its seven-year doping ban of Russia's track and field federation but said that Russian and Belarusian athletes remain suspended for the country's involvement in the Ukraine War.

Miura, Kihara become Japan's first ever figure skating pairs world champions

By Stanley Ugagbe

Japanese duo of Riku Miura and Ryuichi Kihara have avowed that they wanted to inspire a new generation after becoming Japan's first-ever figure skating pairs world champions.

The duo survived a late slip to hold off Americans Alexa Knierim and Brandon Frazier for the gold in front of an expectant crowd in Saitama, north of Tokyo.

Remarkably, the win gave Miura and Kihara an incredible season sweep, the pair having already claimed the NHK Trophy, Skate Canada, Grand Prix final, and Four Continents titles.

Speaking after their victory, Kihara said he hoped their latest win would usher in a new era of Japanese pairs' success.

He said, "I would love it if boys and girls watching this thought that they wanted to try pairs skating themselves and we get more and more Japanese pairs".

"I hope people will look back in 10 or 20 years' time and say this was

the catalyst for it changing."

According to records, Miura and Kihara took gold with an overall score of 222.16, ahead of Knierim and Frazier in second place at 217.48.

Sara Conti and Niccolo Macii won bronze to claim Italy's first-ever world pairs medal on 208.08.

Miura and Kihara went into the free skate with a whopping six-point lead over Knierim and Frazier, having earned a personal best in the previous day's short programme.

NCNC learned that a fall from the American pair in the free gave Miura and Kihara some breathing space, but a late slip by Miura left the Japanese skaters sweating on the judges' score.

Kihara said, "We didn't know what the score was going to be but I told her to puff her chest and be proud, and just pray for the score".

The pair, who have competed together since 2019, broke down in tears once their victory was confirmed.

"We have some regrets from the free skate but I'm very, very happy," said Miura.



SPORTS

FIFA moving to equalize conditions for women at World Cup – Union

By Marcel Chukwuka

FIFPro, an organization that represents professional footballers around the world, has disclosed that FIFA has committed to providing the same conditions for the players at this summer's Women's World Cup in Australia and New Zealand as the men get at their soccer showcase.



According to the union, that includes FIFA paying for a 50-person delegation for each team (up from 35 at the 2019 women's tournament), as well as providing business-class travel and single hotel rooms for the players.

Speaking with newsmen, FIFPro general secretary Jonas Baer-Hoffmann said that FIFA, after several months of talks, has confirmed: "that all these

conditions will be equalized in this World Cup."

However, there is more work to be done on equalizing prize money, although FIFA has upped the purse for the women this summer. It is no longer news that being treated the same as the men, including travel and resources, has been one of the major asks of the Canadian

women's team.

Sarah Gregorius, FIFPro director of policy and strategic relations, women's football said "The feedback that we got from the players on those experiences and why it's so important to have the option of single rooms was it's very draining being at a World Cup, it takes a lot out of you".

"And the ability to decompress and have time for yourself from a mental well-being and performance perspective is really important. It's really challenging to do that when you have a roommate."

Recall that recently, FIFA announced a \$152-million US fund for this summer's Women's World Cup, which is the first

32-team women's competition, covering prize money, team preparation and payments to players' clubs.

Also, FIFA president Gianni Infantino set a target of equal prize money for men and women at their next World Cups, in 2026 and 2027, respectively.

It could be recalled that the 32 men's teams shared \$440 million in prize money at last year's World Cup in Qatar.

Last October, FIFPro sent FIFA a letter signed by 150 women's national team players from 25 countries, including Canada, asking FIFA for equal World Cup prize money.

The letter also asked for equal treatment and conditions for women's teams at the World Cup.

In a recent statement, Infantino said some of the \$110 million in women's prize money at this summer's World Cup should be dedicated to paying players.

FIFPro has asked FIFA to secure a "global guarantee of at least 30 percent of prize money" that is paid to players.



Tiger Woods denies tenancy agreement with ex-girlfriend

By Stanley Ugagbe

American professional golfer, Tiger Wood has denied allegations that he tricked his ex-girlfriend Erica Herman into leaving his Florida mansion, following their breakup in October 2020.

This was after Herman filed a \$30 million lawsuit against Woods' trust, alleging that she had a five-year oral tenancy agreement with the trust to stay in the house they lived in together for six years.

In their defence, Woods' lawyers denied that any such agreement existed, stating that Herman was merely a guest at the home who had no legal claims as a tenant. Reports have it that in a recent filing, Woods' lawyers said, "During their relationship, Mr. Woods invited Ms. Herman to

live with him as his guest in the Residence."

The added that "Mr. Woods never negotiated an oral tenancy agreement with Ms. Herman.

Nor was there ever a written tenancy agreement between Mr. Woods or the Trust, on the one hand, and Ms. Herman, on the other hand.

Mr. Woods never transferred to Ms. Herman any ownership interest in or rights of possession to the Residence."

Also, the lawyers denied the allegations that Woods left Herman stranded at an airport and kicked her out of the house. In their words, Woods had arranged for Herman to "stay at a local luxury resort" and had provided her with funds that she could use to apply towards a new

residence.

They also criticized Herman's decision to sue Woods' trust rather than Woods himself, claiming that this move was "nothing more than a transparent attempt by Ms. Herman to avoid her contractual obligation to arbitrate and to gain leverage by litigating her disputes with Mr. Woods in a public forum."

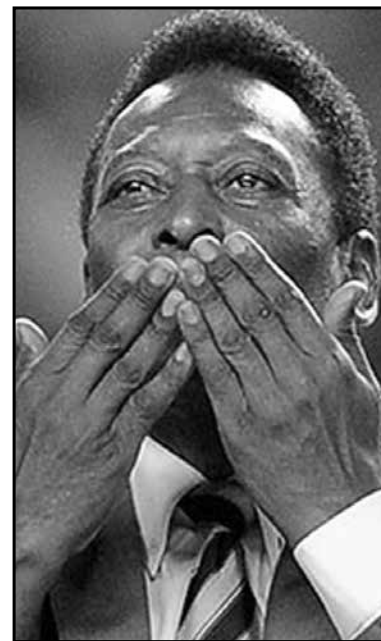
Herman to avoid her contractual obligation to arbitrate and to gain leverage by litigating her disputes with Mr. Woods in a public forum."

Reports have it that in addition to the lawsuit against Woods' trust, Herman has also filed a separate lawsuit against Woodshimself. It was clarified that she is seeking to be released from a non-disclosure agreement (NDA) that she signed in August 2017 when she began dating Woods.

It is germane to note that the NDA prevents her from discussing their relationship publicly.

Percentage of Pele's Assets To Be Inherited By His Widow Revealed

By Stanley Ugagbe



Football legend Pele's Will has revealed that his widow will inherit 30 per cent of his assets.

According to the Will, Marcia Cibele Aoki, Pele's third and last wife, will inherit his mansion in Guarujá, a seaside resort town south of Sao Paulo, where the couple lived, her lawyer Luiz Kignel said.

Kignel said other assets belonging to Pele, who died after battling cancer in late December at age 82, include more real estate and a stake in the Pele brand, adding that a complete inventory had yet to be made.

It was disclosed that the remaining 70 per cent is reserved for Pele's children, including an unrecognised daughter that he may have.

"He indicated the possibility of the existence of another daughter, whose recognition will depend on a DNA test, which could not be carried out (on Pele) due to the pandemic and the state of his health," said Kignel.

Kignel clarified that the woman in question is a Brazilian national and she has taken legal steps to be recognised as Pele's daughter.

It could be recalled that in September 2022, a court in Sao Paulo ordered Pele to submit to a DNA test. The test must now be performed on one of his seven recognized children.

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RELIGION

Are you mismanaging God's resources?

By Pastor Amos Dada
PhD; P.Eng.

"The Lord was very angry with Solomon, for his heart had turned away from the Lord, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice. 10 He had warned Solomon specifically about worshiping other gods, but Solomon did not listen to the Lord's command." 1 King 11:9-10

We tend to focus more on teaching people how to "make it, get to top positions and place of prosperity and wealth. We must balance this by teaching people how to manage wealth and position so that they do not become like Solomon, going from grass to grace and back to grass. Zero to hero and back to zero!

Solomon thought as a king he could do and undo with God's resourc-

es without consequences. He could live a lifestyle he chose no matter whose ox is gored. Sorry, it doesn't work that way. That is why we say God has no favourite, rather he is the God of love, wisdom and justice. He may deliberately choose you and prefer you and give you a position you don't deserve which is what grace is about, but he would withdraw mercy (escaping the judgement you deserve) from you when He chooses.

God favoured Solomon amongst all the children of David to make him king. He appeared to Solomon twice, He gave him stupendous wealth and uncommon wisdom. It was from Solomon we learnt that the fact that you have wisdom does not mean you can use it for your advantage. Solomon wrote over 3000

proverbs, songs and words of wisdom which have helped all mankind of various faiths, but he didn't learn himself.

Solomon went on to marry a thousand women either as wives or mistresses/concubine. I believe one of the most provocative steps he took against God was not only building houses for them even on Mount Olive but worshiping those false gods. "On the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, he even built a pagan shrine for Chemosh, the detestable god of Moab, and another for Molech, the detestable god of the Ammonites. 8 Solomon built such shrines for all his foreign wives to use for burning incense and sacrificing to their gods." 1 King 11:7-8

What the Holy Spirit Taught me this morn-

ing is that God responds. God is watching your activities. God watching how you manage what he has given you. God came with the big stick to wipe sense into Solomon.

God gave him three "continuous lifelong lashes" for the rest of his life! The Bible says God raised three enemies against Solomon.

1. "Then the Lord raised up Hadad the Edomite, a member of Edom's royal family, to be Solomon's adversary" v14

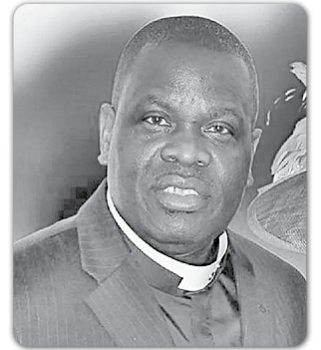
2. "God also raised up Rezon son of Eliada as Solomon's adversary" v23

3. "Another rebel leader was Jeroboam son of Nebat, one of Solomon's own officials." V26.

Beloved are you the Solomon of this generation?

At 25 years you have a doctorate, working with blue chip companies, or your company grew astronomically, your book is number one bestseller, your ministry is number one on Google map, you win all the OSCARS, Grammys, among celebrities you are a celebrity, earning 8-10 figures and now you speak disparagingly against God. You make a mockery of Jesus. Splash your wealth pursuing women, sex, power and position at the expense of God and your soul. It is called mismanagement of position and wealth. Learn from Solomon. Solomon took God for granted. He did not expect God to deal with so harshly. But that is what God of justice will do!

Conclusion: Don't abuse the grace God has given you. You are a man



Pastor Amos Dele Dada
or a woman of wisdom, use it to manage your personal relationships with humans beings and especially God. When people think God is so merciful He will not punish, I remind them yes, he is, but he created hell and heaven and gave you the ability to make your choices. It's time for us to learn how to manage God's resources to please God and not provoke God! Shalom

--
O taste and see that the Lord is good. (Psalm 34:8). I have tasted and found that the Lord is good. I do testify that the Lord is good. Join me to taste him.

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"We will not advance any law against the Christian community" – Israel's PM



Benjamin Netanyahu
PM of Israel
Pic: wikipedia

The Prime Minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu has affirmed that he would prevent the passage of a proposal by a powerful ally in his governing coalition to punish Christian proselytizing with jail time.

Reports have it that the proposal had raised an uproar with evangelical Christians — one of Israel's strongest and most influential supporters in the United States.

It could be recalled that the bill was introduced in January by a pair of ultra-Orthodox Jewish lawmakers, including Moshe Gafni,

who heads the parliament's Finance Committee.

The bill states that soliciting someone to convert their faith should be punishable by one year in prison and solicitation to convert a minor would be punishable with a two-year sentence.

It said "Recently, the attempts of missionary groups, mainly Christians, to solicit conversion of religion have increased".

Though the bill was never advanced, it drew widespread attention in the American evangelical world after All Israel News, an evangelical news site, reported on it.

Reacting to the development, Netanyahu in a Twitter post announced that: "We will not advance any law against the Christian community."

Harping on the development, Gafni said he had introduced the bill as a procedural matter, as

he has done in the past, and there were no plans to advance it.

It was gathered that Evangelical Christians, particularly in the United States, are among the strongest backers of Israel, viewing it as the fulfillment of biblical prophecy, with some seeing it as the indication of a second coming of Jesus Christ and the end of days.

Records have it that Israel has long welcomed evangelicals' political and financial support, and it has largely shrugged off concerns about any hidden religious agenda.

However, it is believed that most Jews view any effort to convert them to Christianity as deeply offensive, a legacy of centuries of persecution and forced conversion at the hands of Christian rulers and because of those sensitivities, evangelical Christians rarely target Jews.

Seven people killed at Jehovah's Witness Hall in Germany

No fewer than seven people have been confirmed dead and dozens of others injured during a recent shooting that occurred at a Jehovah's Witness Hall in the German city of Hamburg, Germany, the police said in a statement.

According to many German media reports, the shooting happened at the Jehovah's Witnesses Kingdom Hall in the Gross Borstel district at around 9 p.m. local time.

The police statement said officers were notified about the incident around 9:15 p.m. and arrived at the scene quickly because they were "coincidentally very, very near."

The spokesperson of Police, Holger Vehren, said after officers got to the scene and saw people with apparent gunshot wounds on the ground floor, a shot was heard from an upper floor and they found a fatally wounded per-



PIC: THE GUARDIAN

son upstairs.

While reporting the shooting, the Bild newspaper stated that seven people were dead and 25 others injured, out of which eight were serious.

The report stated: "It is unclear if the attacker was included in the death toll but police said that several people were seriously injured."

"As news of the shooting emerged, Hamburg police said that a major operation was underway in the GrossBorstel district of the city.

"Several streets were sealed off and the public warned by text message to avoid the

area. Local residents were told to stay indoors and only to use their phones in extreme emergency" so as not to overburden the network," the report stated.

In its statement, police said: "According to initial findings, shots were fired in a church on Deelbögestrasse in the GrossBorstel district.

"Several people were seriously injured, some fatally. The dead all have gunshot wounds. We are on site with a large contingent of officers.

"According to the current state of affairs, we assume that there is one perpetrator."

COVER STORY

Nigerian Take The Lead Role As Top Immigrant Business Owners In Canada

continued from p(1)

December 2021, when the federal government created the Black Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub. This study on “Black Business Owners in Canada” is the first to fill the information gap in identifying business owners in Canada by race. The study, based on the data from the 2021 Census, showed that Black communities represent 4.3% of the Canadian population and are the third-largest racialized group after the South Asian (7.1%) and Chinese (4.7%). The study’s outcome confirmed that Black business owners are generally immigrants and operate in almost all industries.

The top five countries of origin of Black immigrant business owners in Canada based on this report comes from Nigeria (14.2%), Jamaica (12.1%), Ethi-

opia (10.5%), Haiti (10.2%) and Somalia (4.7%). This is an exciting fact that Nigerians represent a large portion of Business Owners in Canada. Indeed Nigerians are often recognized for their industriousness and determination haven faced numerous economic, political, and social challenges over the years, which have forced many Nigerians to migrate and remain resilient in whichever country they relocate.

In the study, most Black immigrants in Canada come from the Caribbean. However, this has changed recently, where 65.1% of Black immigrants admitted since 2011 come from Africa, specifically Nigeria, Cameroon and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Based on this study, Black-owned business in Canada operates in the transportation and

warehousing industry (34.3%) and have the largest number of Black-owned unincorporated businesses, followed by real estate and rental and leasing (13.4%) and professional, scientific and technical services (10.4%).

The study assigned a racial profile to a business to determine the business owner’s race if more than half its shares are held by individuals identifying with a race group (White, Black and other racialized groups). The study reaffirmed that the country of origin could affect the probability of a person becoming self-employed based on existing data from Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB) maintained by Statistics Canada that immigrants from Western Europe or West Asia were likelier to be business owners than

their African or Caribbean counterparts.

For new immigrants and black business owners looking for funding and support, targeted outreach and networking opportunities, do contact BIPOC Foundation. We are mandated to create significant entrepreneurship opportunities for diverse communities, Economic Empowerment, and Financial.

BIPOC Foundation has received \$2.6M in funding from Prairies Economic Development Canada to establish a business accelerator program for Black

entrepreneurs in Western Canada. According to Clement Esene, the Executive Director, BIPOC Foundation exist to strengthen a network of underestimated and underserved entrepreneurs and founders through capacity building and access to resources that will encourage positive economic participation.

BIPOC Foundation is holding the Redefine Conference 2023: Maximizing the Potential of Underrepresented Talents and Entrepreneurs in Canada. This event will occur on April 27-28, 2023, from 10 AM – 2 PM

MST daily online and in person. Registration is now open at <https://www.bipocfoundation.org/events/>

Canada continues to experience labour shortages and has been implementing policies to promote greater diversity and inclusion in the Canadian business landscape. Canada offers a favourable business environment with a stable economy, low business costs, and a highly skilled workforce. There is a wide range of business opportunities across various industries for investors and immigrants.

YOUTH ANSWERS – PAGE 19

A:

QUANTITATIVE APTITUDE

Answers:

- (1) = 6 X 1 = 6, ANS = 6 (2) 12 X 3 = 36 ANS = 3
(3) 1X 11 = 11, ANS = 11

B:

Use the examples given to solve the questions that follows

Answers:

- (4) 3 x 3 + 5 = 14 (5) 7 x 7 = 49; 55 - 49 = 6
(6) 8 x 5 + 5 = 45

C:

Use the examples given to solve the questions that follows

- Answers (7) = 10 (8) = 60, 40 (9) 32 (10) 8

D:

VERBAL REASONING

Answers:

- (1) = AREA (2) = 73245 (3) DIM

E:

Answers:

- | | | | | | |
|-----|-----------|---|-----|-------|---|
| (1) | Eagle | 3 | (2) | pest | 1 |
| | Dove | 1 | | press | 4 |
| | Hawk | 4 | | post | 3 |
| | Canary | 2 | | pill | 2 |
| (3) | Country | 3 | | | |
| | Continent | 2 | | | |
| | Crystal | 4 | | | |
| | Cleaner | 1 | | | |

F:

Pick out the general term which describes what the other words are

Answers:

- (1) = TOOL (2) STATIONERY (3) MINERAL (4) TIME

H:

Carefully study each question and do what is asked for

Answers:

- 1) NLMK = pear
2) JHLKF = cures
3) HLGV = holy

KYARI’S PETITION TO DROP..... – PAGE 8

school day on Jan. 31, the boy was sent to the office. As he waited in the office, another pupil arrived in need of medical treatment.

Her son and the student that needed medical attention knew each other and she disclosed her son asked what had happened.

She said: “That’s when he’s told that he’s being distracting, and [was] led to the room, and locked in the room.”

A photo of the room where the boy was locked was taken by Charline Grant, the co-founder of Toronto-based advocacy group Parents of Black Children. The photo shows a rack of audio-visual equipment, a small desk and a microphone stand.

Grant said: “I went in the room and I locked the door ‘cause I wanted to have a feel of how tiny it is. I can’t even stretch

my arms out, that’s how tiny it is.

“For me, it felt and looks like, imprisonment, solitary confinement, and it’s cruel and unusual punishment.”

While Grant visited the school, she said the principal of the school disputed the boy’s version of the events and instead suggested that he was told to sit on the desk after it had been pulled out of the room, and that the boy was never locked in.

Grant said she and Parents of Black Children are demanding answers, and “just so you know, we believe the child,” Grant said.

Also, Faridah alleged that her son, who is the only Black boy in his Grade 1 class, was made to sit on a desk and was separated from his peers.

She said: “I go to the class, [and] I find out

my son sits alone in the corner. And then I asked the teacher why, [and] they said because he’s very distracting to other kids.”

TDSB in a written statement offered an apology for the negative impact the alleged events have had on Faridah and her son.

The statement read: “No child should experience what has been reported and we apologize for the impact it has had on the student and their family. We are currently investigating and are committed to taking the required steps on each action reported to us. We [...] will support the student and their family in any way we can.”

While talking about her son’s anxiousness to go to school, Faridah said: “It’s going to take a lot of time for my son to trust the school system again.”

IS IT SAFE TO BUY FOOD PRODUCTS ONLINE?



(NC) As more of us are turning to the convenience of online shopping for purchases small and large, one question on many people's minds is: Is it safe to buy food products online?

The short answer is, yes, mostly.

Canada has one of the safest food systems in the world. The Safe Food for Canadians Regulations (SFCR) apply to all food that is imported, exported or inter-provincially traded.

Most Canadian retailers or manufacturers selling directly to consumers

have to abide by those rules. So, if you order food products directly from a retailer, this food likely falls under the SFCR and must meet requirements for safety.

If you're shopping online for spices or other exotic ingredients not readily available at your local grocer, you'll want to use a degree of caution.

If you're not sure about a vendor, do a little research to find out if they're based in Canada and/or are members of any recognized industry associations. If in doubt, err on the side

of caution and stick to trusted suppliers.

You should be aware that some foreign goods are restricted from entering the country. For instance, pork products from abroad have the potential to spread diseases like African swine fever. While not dangerous to humans, it's lethal for pigs. If it's introduced to Canada, it could have significant impacts on our farmers and the economy.

If you suspect someone selling food products online is not in compliance, contact the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

7 DOS AND DON'TS FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL



(NC) While you may be aware of some basic rules and precautions when it comes to food, safety and travel, there are several things everyone needs to know. Here are seven tips to help you avoid potential problems and ensure a safe and stress-free journey.

1. Don't bring plants home. Some plants can carry pests and diseases that can damage Canadian agriculture and the environment. So, leave plants behind – no matter how beautiful they are.

2. Do check requirements for traveling with pets. As soon as you know your travel details, contact your veterinarian. They can help you navigate the pet travel process, which may involve getting a health certificate, updating vaccinations, undergoing testing or even ad-

ministering medications.

3. Don't visit a farm. If you have been on a farm or near wild animals on your trip, it's best to avoid visiting any Canadian farms upon your return for at least 14 days. Make sure your clothing and footwear are clean, so you don't risk spreading diseases to other animals.

4. Do take precautions to avoid foodborne illness. Local cuisine can be a real treat. Just remember to learn about how food is prepared and served in different places so you can avoid any risks to your health.

5. Don't hesitate to ask about allergens. Remain vigilant with food allergens, ask to see lists of ingredients and check food labels. Keep in mind that the labels may not be the same as what you're used to in Canada, so pay close at-

tention.

6. Do declare any food and animal products when entering Canada. Doing this can help prevent the spread of diseases, pests and unwanted species that could mess with our environment and agriculture. Plus, not declaring them could get you a penalty of up to \$1,300 and your items confiscated.

7. Don't pack restricted food. Did you know that certain foods could spread animal diseases like African swine fever? Known as ASF, the disease doesn't infect humans, but it's deadly to pigs and can seriously hurt farms and the pork industry here in Canada. Don't take the risk - leave the pork products off the plane.

Find more information at inspection.canada.ca/asf.

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