



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 21 May, 2008

1. The House met at 2.45 a.m. Mr Speaker read Prayers.
2. Votes and Proceedings:
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 20 May, 2008.

By unanimous consent, the Votes and Proceedings were adopted.
3. Announcement:
(i) **Visitors:**
Mr Speaker:-...: announced the presence in the Gallery, of Staff and Students of Loyola Jesuit College, Gidan Mangoro, Abuja.
4. **Jurisdictional/Constituency Tasks/Orders:**
Mr Speaker directed as follows:

- (i) Hon. Kayode Amusan {Abeokuta North/Obaḡemi-Owode/Odeda Federal Constituency): Looming Strike Action by Doctors at the Federal Medical Centre, Abeokuta to protest un-conducive working conditions.

Order: Initiate a dialogue between the Doctors and the Management of the Hospital to avert the impending strike action,

- (ii) Hon. Asadu P. Oziokoja (Nsukka/Igboeze South Federal Constituency), Hon. Tony Madwatte (Chairman, Committee on Army) and Hon. Farouk Lawan (Chairman, Committee on Education): Agitation over recent plans by the Military to reclaim 745 hectares of land which houses a primary, secondary and a Federal Tertiary Institution in Echara Community in Nsukka Local Government Area, Enugu State.

Order: Relevant Committees to visit the Echara Community assess the situation and report back to the Honourable Speaker:”

- (iii) Hon. Farouk Lawan (Chairman, Committee on Education): Planned nationwide strike by the Nigerian Union Teachers over non-implementation of the teachers salary scale.

Order: Initiate a dialogue to arrest the impending strike.

- (iv) Hon. Babagana Tijjani (Bama/Ngala/Kalabalge Federal Constituency): Recent outbreak of Measles in Kala Balge Local Government of Borno State that claimed the lives of two Children.

Order: Urgently visit the affected area and alert the Local and State Health Departments.

- (v) Hon. Donald Egbcrihin (*Southern Ijaw Federal Constituency*): Reports of looming crisis between the Women of the Perematiri Community and the Shell Petroleum Development Company over an oil spillage that occurred two weeks ago due to activities of militants in the area.

Order: Liaise with the Community/Women Leaders and the Shell Petroleum Development Company with a view to finding a lasting solution to the matter and report back to the Honourable Speaker.

5. **Petitions:**

The following petitions were received and referred to the Committee on Public Petitions:

- (i) Hon. Mohammed Ali Ndume (*Damboa/Gwoza/Chibok Federal Constituency*), from Na'omi Haruna, praying the House to prevail on the Nigeria Police Force to comply with a Court Order in suit no. FHC/MC/CS41/98 and to re-instate him;
- (ii) Hon. Habeeb Fasinro (*Eti-Osa Federal Constituency*), from Chief O. O. Joshua, seeking the intervention of the House in the unjust delay in the payment of his National Housing Fund contributions and to grant the other reliefs in his petition;
- (iii) Hon. Habeeb Fasinro (*Eti-Osa Federal Constituency*), from 1,388 families in Government High Rise Building in Lagos, praying the House to investigate the unjust sale of the Houses by the Federal Government and to grant the reliefs sought in the petition;
- (iv) Hon. Tsegba Terngu (*Gboko/Tarka Federal Constituency*), from Credible Engineers Limited, seeking the intervention of the House in the unwholesome allotment of shares by Intercontinental Bank and to grant the reliefs in their petition;
- (v) Hon. Hon. Akindahunsi Titilayo (*Ekiti South/West/Okere/Orun/Isele Federal Constituency*), from Green and Scented Limited, protesting against the non-payment for a landscaping contract executed for the Federal Ministry of Housing and Environment and to grant the reliefs in their petition;
- (vi) Hon. Kayode Amusan (*Abeokuta North/Obafemi Owode/Odeda Federal Constituency*), from Omoniyi Alaba Ogutuga, praying the House to intervene in his unjust and wrongful dismissal from the service of the Nigeria Railway Corporation and to re-instate him;
- (vii) Hon. Overah Owofekohwo Joyce (*Okpe/Sapele/Urwie Federal Constituency*), from the Okpe/Sapele/Urwie Federal Constituency seeking the intervention of the House in the unjust and forceful acquisition of the Ikereguma family land at Jeddo, Okpe Local Government Delta State by the Shell Petroleum Development Company and to grant the reliefs sought in the petition.

6. **Matter of Urgent Public Importance:**

Rising on Order VIII, Rule 4 (1), Hon. Patrick A. Ikhariale, drew the attention of the House to the plight of some Communities in his Constituency whose only access road had been cut off by recent heavy flooding and erosion in the area. He urged the House to debate the matter as one of urgent public importance.

Question put and agreed to.

Matter to stand over till the next Legislative Day.

7. **Matter Requiring Urgent Attention of the House:**

Hon. Igo Aguma drew the attention of the House to the Call for Tenders by Ministries, Departments and Agencies for projects only as presented by the President in the 2008 Appropriation Bill and not as passed by the National Assembly. He stated that this was a blatant violation of the Appropriations Act, 2008.

Committee on Finance ordered to look into the matter.

8. **Presentation of Reports:**

(i) ***Committee on Employment, labour and Productivity:***

Report of the Committee on Employment, Labour and Productivity on the Crisis of Unemployment in Nigeria.

Order read; deferred.

Committee ordered to present its Report in fourteen (14) days.

- (ii) **Joint Committee on Privatization and Commercialization and Power and Steel:**
Report of the Joint Committee on Privatization and Commercialization and Power and Steel on the Sale of Ajaokuta Steel Company in Kogi State to Global Infrastructure (Nig.) Ltd.

Order read; deferred. , Committee ordered to present its

Report in fourteen (14) days.

- (iii) **Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness:**
Report of the Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness on the Influx of Chadian Refugees into Gamboru-Ngala in Borno State.

Order read; deferred. ;

- (iv) **Committee on Banking and Currency:**
Report of the Committee on Banking and Currency on the Excessive Interest Rates/Charges on Loans/Services and Other Unethical Practices in the Nigerian Banking Industry.

Order read; deferred.

Committee ordered to present its Report in twenty one (21) days after the scheduled Public Hearing.

9. Honouring a Worthy Nigerian in Death:

*Motion made and Question proposed,
The House:*

Notes that the democratic tenets which we are enjoying today came through the sweat, pain and even supreme sacrifice of some notable Nigerians;

Aware that late Nationalist Senator Abraham Adesanya, is a co-founder of our modern democracy;

Further aware of the death of this great man on the 27th of April, 2008 at the age of 85 years;

Further notes that this great democratic icon, in the course of struggle for democracy almost lost his life through assassination;

Observed that our current democratic sojourn would be strengthened by bestowal of Honour on deserving Nigerians whose efforts watered our democracy;

Concerned that this great Nationalist died with no honour done to him while we enjoy our democratic dividends;

Resolves to:

Condole Mr President, Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation, Alhaji Umar Musa Yar'Adua, GCFR, Governor and people of Ogun State, and the family of Late Senator Abraham Adesanya and also to urge Mr President to consider late Senator Abraham Adesanya for a befitting posthumous National Award (Hon. Akeem Arole Fancy and 12 others).

Debate,

Amendment Proposed:

Insert a new Prayer (it) as follows:

"Hold a Joint National Assembly Validatory Session for the late Distinguished Senator Abraham Adesanya and further extend a Post Humus Awards to such other Elder Statesmen as late Professor Chike Obi, late Sunday Awoniyi, late Chief Elian and late Chief Cyprian Ekwensi" (Hon. Mohammed Ali Ndume).

Question that the amendment be made, put and agreed to.

Main question as amended, put and agreed to. The House:

Noted that the democratic tenets which we are enjoying today came through the sweat, pain and even supreme sacrifice of some notable Nigerians;

Aware that late Nationalist Senator Abraham Adesanya, is a co-founder of our modern democracy;

Further aware of the death of this great man on the 27th of April, 2008 at the age of 85 years;

Further noted that this great democratic icon, in the course of struggle for democracy almost lost his life through assassination;

Observed that our current democratic sojourn would be strengthened by bestowal of Honour on deserving Nigerians whose efforts watered our democracy;

Concerned that this great Nationalist died with no honour done to him while we enjoy our democratic dividends;

Resolved to:

- (i) Condole Mr President, Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federation, Alhaji Umar Musa Yar'Adua, GCFR, Governor and people of Ogun State, and the family of Late Senator Abraham Adesanya and also to urge Mr President to consider late Senator Abraham Adesanya for a befitting posthumous National Award;
- (ii) Hold a Joint National Assembly Valedatory Session for the late Distinguished Senator Abraham Adesanya and further extend a Post Humus Awards to such other Elder Statesmen as late Professor Chike Obi, late Sunday Awoniyi, late Chief Elian and late Chief Cyprian Ekwensi **{HR. 24/2008}**.

10. A Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Postal Service Act, 1992 and to Provide for Other Matters Appertaining Thereto, 2008 — Second Reading:

Motion made and Question proposed, "That a Bill for an Act to Amend the Nigerian Postal Service Act, 1992 and to provide for Other Matters Appertaining Thereto, 2008 be now read a Second Time" *{Hon. Folake Olunloyo-Oshinowo}*.

Debate:

Question that the Bill be now read a Second Time, put and agree to.

Bill read a Second Time and referred to the Committee on Communications.

11. Adjournment:

That this House do now adjourn till Thursday, 22 May, 2008 at 10.00 a.m. *{Hon. Tunde Akogun}*.

Adjourned accordingly at 4.28 p.m

Dimeji Sabur Bankole
Speaker