



THE SENATE

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 21st March, 2018

1. The Senate met at 10:42 a.m. The Senate President read Prayers.

2. **Votes and Proceedings:**

The Senate examined the Votes and Proceedings of Tuesday, 20th March, 2018.

Question was put and the Votes and Proceedings were approved.

3. **Announcements:**

(a) **Submission of Report on 2018 Appropriation Bill, 2018:**

The Senate President read a letter from Senator Ike Ekweremadu (*Enugu West*) as follows:



Senator Ike Ekweremadu
Deputy Senate President

21st March, 2018

ANNOUNCEMENT

All Standing Committees of the Senate are expected to submit their respective reports to the Appropriation Committee in Room 224 from tomorrow 22nd day of March, 2018 but not later than Thursday, 29th March, 2018.

(Signed)

Senator Ike Ekweremadu
Deputy Senate President

(b) **All Progressives Congress (APC) Caucus Meeting:**

The Senate President read a letter from Senator Ahmad I. Lawan (*Yobe North*) as follows:



Senator Ahmad I. Lawan
Yobe North Senatorial District
Senate Leader

ANNOUNCEMENT

There will be a meeting of the Senate All Progressives Congress (APC) Caucus with the National Working Committee (NWC) of the Party.

Date: Wednesday, 21st March, 2018

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Venue: Senate Hearing Room 1, White House, National Assembly Complex

(Signed)

Senator Ahmad I. Lawan

Senate Leader

(c) Acknowledgment:

The Senate President acknowledged the presence of the following who were in the gallery to observe Senate Proceedings:

- (i) Staff and Students of Arise and Shine Private School, Dutse, Abuja;
- (ii) Staff and Students of His Excellency International Schools, Bwari, Abuja;
- (iii) Staff and Students of Our Lady of Fatima Private School, New Karu, Nasarawa State;
- (iv) Staff and Students of City Stars Academy, Ado, Nasarawa State; and
- (v) Staff and Students of New Covenant Academy, Garaku, Nasarawa State

4. Privileges of the Floor:

Motion made: That the Senate do invoke Rule 17(1) to admit Senator Ita S. J. Enang, Special Assistant to the President on National Assembly Matters (Senate); and Senator Babafemi Ojudu, Special Adviser to the President on Political Matters to the Floor for the Senate for the purpose of witnessing the Valedictory Session of late Senator Malam Ali Wakili (*Senate Leader*).

Question put and agreed to.

Special Assistant; and Special Adviser accordingly admitted.

5. Valedictory Session:

Demise of Late Senator Malam Ali Wakili (Bauchi South) (12th February, 1960 - 17th March, 2018):

Motion made: That the Senate notes with grief the Demise of Senator Malam Ali Wakili, Mni on Saturday, 17th March, 2018;

notes also that Late Senator Ali Wakili, an indigene of Bauchi State was born on 12th February, 1960. He attended Lere Primary School in Tafawa Balewa Local Government Area of Bauchi State from 1965 to 1972 from where he proceeded to Government Secondary School Damaturu in the then Borno State, from 1972 to 1977, where he obtained his Senior School Certificate;

observes that from 1977 to 1979, Late Senator Ali Wakili attended Bauchi College of Arts and Science and subsequently proceeded to Bayero University, Kano for his Degree Course, graduating in 1982. He also attended the Nigerian Customs Training School, Lagos in 1984 and thereafter rose to the position of Comptroller of Customs in 1996 and retired in 2009;

aware that Senator Ali Wakili, a retired Comptroller of Customs, contested for the Bauchi South Senatorial seat and won during the 2015 elections to represent Bauchi South Senatorial District;

notes that he had Legislative interests in Finance, Revenue, Appropriations, Security, Works, Agriculture and Education. He also had interest in making good legislation, empowerment of the people and good governance by sponsoring the following Bills and Motions: -

Bills:

- Federal College of Education DASS (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018;
- Nigeria Customs Service Act (Repeal and Re-Enactment) Bill, 2018;
- Federal Medical Centres Bill, 2018;
- Federal Polytechnic Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018;
- Nigerian Customs Service Pension Board (Establishment, etc.) Bill, 2018; and
- Compulsory, Free Universal Basic Education Act (Amendment) Bill, 2018;

Motions:

- Pandemic rise of road traffic accidents in Nigeria;
- Urgent need to re-organize and re-position Nigerian Postal Service (NIPOST) for optimal performance;
- Urgent need for value orientation and re-introduction of History as a course of study in the nations educational sector;
- Urgent need to review the implementation status of Nigeria Automotive Industry Development Plan;
- Urgent need to investigate special funds accrued to the federation as provided by the Revenue Allocation Act 2004;
- Urgent need for pro-active steps to nip in the bud the reported outbreak of Monkey Pox Disease in Nigeria; and
- Commemoration of the United Nations International Day for the Eradication of Poverty 17th October, 2017;

observes that the Late Senator Ali Wakili as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Poverty Alleviation, demonstrated intelligence, hard work and commitment in the advancement of legislative process;

observes that the Late Senator Ali Wakili believed in friendship. He celebrated friendship. He was a faithful devotee to the cult of humanity. His love for fellow human beings was extra-ordinary. He had passion for life and lived it to the fullest. He believed in fairness, equity and justice. He never believed in coveting anything that was not his. A friend's problem automatically became his and all his life, he strove to be a friend in need. He would plead to lend a helping hand even when you were reluctant to involve him in your personal problems;

observes also that Late Senator Malam Ali Wakili was a charismatic politician and political leader with passion and flavour that traversed the political spectrum, appealing to all social strata. He was at home with the grassroots as he was with the elite;

notes that Late Senator Malam Ali Wakili was a very generous man who gave his all to the needy, friends and constituents. Thousands benefitted from his social empowerment programmes;

further notes that he was a loyal party member and a team player who was determined to help realize the progressive agenda of the party and the administration in both Bauchi State and the whole country through legislation;

convinced that his death is very painful and a big blow to us all. He is leaving a void in the Senate of the Federal Republic, Bauchi politics and his community in Lere that will be hard to fill. We give thanks to the Almighty God for the fruitful and exemplary life that Late Senator Malam Ali Wakili lived;

we are from God and to Him shall we return;

adieu, Senator Malam Ali Wakili; and

May Allah SWT grant you Aljanatu Fridaus and give your family the fortitude to bear the loss.

Accordingly resolves to:

- (i) observe a minute silence in his honour;
- (ii) consider naming Committee and Hearing Rooms after Senators;
- (iii) consider an appropriate scheme to support the families of Senators who die in active service; and
- (iv) liaise with the House of Representatives to expedite action in the establishment of National Assembly Museum and Archives to immortalize Members of the National Assembly appropriately (*Senate Leader*).

The following Senators paid tribute:

- (i) Senator Ike Ekweremadu
- (ii) Senator Emmanuel Bwacha
- (iii) Senator Olusola Adeyeye
- (iv) Senator Philip T. Aduda
- (v) Senator Bala Ibn Na'Allah
- (vi) Senator Mohammed D. Goje
- (vii) Senator Suleiman M. Nazif
- (viii) Senator Isah H. Misau
- (ix) Senator Abubakar Kyari
- (x) Senator Olanrewaju A. Tejuoso
- (xi) Senator Aliyu M. Wamakko
- (xii) Senator Ovie A. Omo-Agege
- (xiii) Senator Mohammed Hassan
- (xiv) Senator Danjuma Laah
- (xv) Senator Mohammed A. Ndume
- (xvi) Senator Aidoko A. Atai
- (xvii) Senator Bintu Garba Masi
- (xviii) Senator Bareehu O. Ashafa
- (xix) Senator Abdullahi Adamu
- (xx) Senator Muhammed A. Aliero
- (xxi) Senator Mao A. Ohuabunwa
- (xxii) Senator Andy E. Uba

The Senate President also paid tribute:



**President of the Senate
Federal Republic of Nigeria**

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR MALAM ALI WAKILI

Death is inevitability. Once we are born, we qualify to die. But then we wish that for the ones dear to us, it holds off a little longer, waits a while and tarries much slower.

Distinguished colleagues, I am deeply touched by your words of tribute. Your outpouring of these tributes to a defender of democracy, a defender of the oppressed clearly show how it is important that we must, at all-time prepare ourselves in sacrifice and patriotic commitment to the course of making Nigeria a better place. This is because we do not know and it has not been given to us at all times the fore-knowledge of when and where it may be.

As many of you have fully expressed, Senator Ali Wakili was a passionate Statesman with a strong sense of duty. In my various interactions with him, he never ceased to amaze me with his selfless dedication to service, unwavering support to the cause of a better Nigeria and his unalloyed commitment to the dictates of his office.

In his brief stay with us, he made every day count. His passionate interest and promotion of people-oriented and social welfare legislations, speak to the depth of his humane and selfless nature. This is why we early on in the life of this Senate chose him to chair the Senate Committee on Poverty Alleviation, because he has been most vocal to me about his desire to do something about poverty in Nigeria.

He had that fire in him, that zeal, to create better living conditions for his people and indeed all Nigerians. This is evidenced in the various Awards of Excellence bestowed on him by different organizations during his time with us here, (Arewa Journalists Forum award and ors). He was relentless in fighting for the implementation of poverty alleviation projects and was most outspoken in his quest to return sanity to the system.

Senator Wakili's memory will live long in the hearts of men. He was a selfless leader, a patriotic politician, a rare breed who detested oppression; and was ever ready to stand undeterred, in the face of public criticism to fight against corruption and injustice.

He played his politics without bitterness and shared the mutual respect and earned the admiration of all his colleagues in the Senate.

On behalf of the entire Senate and the 8th National Assembly, I commiserate with his family, constituents, the government and people of Bauchi State over this irreplaceable loss. I pray that the Almighty grants him al Janna Firdausi.

(Signed)

Senator (Dr.) Abubakar Bukola Saraki
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

Proposed Resolution (i):

Question: That the Senate do observe a minute silence in his honour — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (ii):

Question: That the Senate do consider naming Committee and Hearing Rooms after Senators — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iii):

Question: That the Senate do consider an appropriate scheme to support the families of Senators who die in active service — *Agreed to.*

Proposed Resolution (iv):

Question: That the Senate do liaise with the House of Representatives to expedite action in the establishment of National Assembly Museum and Archives to immortalize Members of the National Assembly appropriately — *Agreed to.*

Additional Proposed Resolution:

Insert Additional Proposed Resolution as follows:

“That the Senate do establish an Endowment Fund to cater for the families of Senators who died in active Service” (*Senator Mao A. Oluabunwa — Abia North*).

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

Resolved:

That the Senate:

- (i) observe a minute silence in his honour;
- (ii) consider naming Committee and Hearing Rooms after Senators;
- (iii) consider an appropriate scheme to support the families of Senators who die in active service;
- (iv) liaise with the House of Representatives to expedite action in the establishment of National Assembly Museum and Archives to immortalize Members of the National Assembly appropriately; and
- (v) establish an Endowment Fund to cater for the families of Senators who died in active Service (S/Res/210/03/18).

One minute silence accordingly observed in honour of the deceased.

6. Adjournment:

Motion made: That the Senate do now adjourn till Thursday, 22nd March, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. (*Senate Leader*).

Adjourned accordingly at 1:28 p.m.

Abubakar Olubukola Saraki, CON
President,
Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.