



L R C N *Bulletin*

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NLA FCT CHAPTER PAYS A COURTESY VISIT TO LRCN REGISTRAR/CEO

The Nigerian Library Association (NLA), FCT Chapter EXCO paid a courtesy visit to the Registrar/CEO of LRCN, Ms. Victoria Okojie in her office in Maitama, Abuja on Thursday October 20, 2011. The delegation was led by the Chairman Mr. Bonny Chukwu, accompanied by seven other members. The visit was to felicitate with the Registrar/CEO on the confirmation of her appointment as the pioneer Registrar/CEO of the Council and her recent election as the Chair of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Africa Section. The delegate also used their visit to formally introduce the newly elected NLA, FCT EXCO members.

The call was also an avenue for the NLA, FCT Chapter President to tap into the Registrar/CEO pool of knowledge and experiences on NLA affairs and its management. It is worthy of note that the Registrar had held various positions in the NLA at state and national levels. She was also a two time national President of the Association.

Addressing the Registrar/CEO, The leader of the delegation Mr. Chukwu raised the concern of non-payment of dues by members of his Chapter. He also briefed the Registrar on the 50th Anniversary of the Nigerian Library Association to be hosted in Abuja by the chapter. In addition, the EXCO congratulated the Registrar/CEO and the LRCN staff for organizing a memorable and hitch-free

second and induction ceremony for registered librarians. The Chapter EXCO solicited for LRCN to enforce its mandate of prosecuting non-registered individuals practicing in libraries within the FCT through its Disciplinary Investigation Panel.

In her response, the Registrar/CEO thanked the EXCO for paying her a second visit, when she was acting and now as the pioneer Registrar. She commended Mr. Chukwu and his team for their hard work and commitment in building a robust NLA Chapter in the FCT. She reminded them of the herculean task ahead of them as regards the forthcoming golden jubilee of the NLA and solicited their unalloyed commitment to making the celebration a successful one in 2012.



The Registrar/CEO in group photo with the NLA FCT Chapter EXCO Members

Ifaka Q. Inazu - PSD

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PLOW OR BULLDOZER?

Plow and bulldozer are farm equipment. Plow gathers all the shafts and weeds and sifts them in order to fertilize the farm for the plantations. Bulldozer on the other hand, clears the path in order to achieve the same purpose of fertilizing the ground for the plantations. One of these equipments copes with others to achieve its purpose while the other does not care whose oz is gored in order to achieve its goal. We have these two groups in our homes, offices and society. I can assure you that by the time you finish reading this piece, you would have discovered your category.

As we work or live together as a team or family members, every unit is important. In a team, other members wait for one another. Have you ever seen a forest before? It is made up of small, medium, big and very large trees. Tolerance is what keeps the family together. In the office, we tolerate one another; the phrase "phd" should not be practiced among LRCN team members for instance. Oh, what do I mean by 'phd'? It simply means pull him/her down. It is an ugly practice where every member of the team is trying to please the boss; by reporting or complaining about others; pardon me, I don't want to use 'gossip'. It is commonly done in an environment where employees are not goal-oriented. No target. No result. What is your KPI (key performance indicators). Imagine a situation where a member of the team succeeds (scores a goal for example, positive minded colleagues will celebrate with him/her). See Nigeria's first world cup goal by Rashidi Yekini, you will understand what I mean. In 1994, Samson Siasia refused to pass a ball to the same Rashidi Yekini against Argentina, who won that match because of lack of team spirit in the Nigerian Players. The Super Eagles had never been the same since then. I stand to be

corrected. In every high performing organization, there are suppliers and customers. The suppliers get the input for others (customers) to deliver, at the end of the day, result is what is important. Goals have been delivered on time. It has even been argued that team work does not bring out the best in individual. Bible scholars will tell you that God used only 300 men to fight a war with an army of 32,000 men (Judges 7). There must be a message that God was passing to us. The result of the team is always an average. Whether you buy this submission or not is left to you. Average is the midpoint between the very best and the very poor. It is not encouraging to the very best employees. It has also been argued that members of the team may cheat to succeed; check out Argentina versus England football match, where Maradona scored with his so called "hand of god" which gave victory to Argentina. If that is too old, what about Thierry Henry's of France goal against Ireland? On the other hand, watch golf as a game, no cheating, and the integrity of the players is there. It is an individual effort, where you play against your past records; you want to reduce your "handicap". The player does his/her thing and followed up the ball's position (remain focused).

I will like to submit that whether you are choleric or melancholy in nature, we must learn to tolerate others. We are not the same; if not, 3 out of 4 humans will not be needed on planet earth, or in LRCN. We need each other to succeed. If you win your arguments all the time, you may have lost all your friends, colleagues and family members.

Olufunmbi S. Oyebanjo - Accounts

LRCN BULLETIN

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EDUCATIONAL QUOTES

- "The society owes itself the responsibility of **education, Education** is much more than a luxury".
- "A good teacher must know and follow the rules. A good pupil must be an exception in all rules".
- "A civil society is at the heart of liberal **education**. The act of teaching is at the heart of a liberal **education**".
- "To be able to entertain a thought without accepting it, it is the mark of an educated mind".
- A man's future in life is determined by the direction of the **education** he has acquired.
- What a man needs to turn him around when he is going down the wrong road is **education**".
- Motivation is not a replacement for **education, Education Empowers**.

HAMSET A. U. - PSD

IMPACT OF LRCN ON 'BRING BACK THE BOOK' CAMPAIGN

It is a common fact that, anywhere the word Library/Librarian is mentioned, what readily comes to mind is; a place where books are kept/a worker in a Library. Following this observation, the "Bring Back the Book" project of President Jonathan would be actually successful if Librarians play a major role in the initiative.

As part and parcel of its mandate, the LRCN has amongst others, the responsibility of effecting a drastic improvement in the current image and perception of library services and practice as well as making effective publicity of the relevance of library and information service practitioners in Nigeria's socio – economic environment. There would not be a better time or opportunity for realizing this than in 'Bring Back the Book' scheme.

In one of its promotional programs called 'Making an Idea Work', a one day summit organized by Committee for Relevant Arts (CORA) held at the Banquet Hall, Eko Hotels and Suites, Victoria Island, Lagos on 17th January, 2011. The Bring Back the Book project tagged the summit "When Mr. President wants to Bring Back the Book: So What Is To Be Done Now?" Mr. Orono Douglas, a Senior Special Assistant on Research, Documentation and Strategy to the President reiterated the number one Citizen's commitment to making reading not just a part time but the preoccupation of everyone. In the words of the President, "those of us doing something about the book be encouraged to create a process that would keep the conversation going on".

According to Ofeimun, one of the resource persons at the summit, that "...for book industry to thrive, Nigerians should be interested in those units that are supposed to make books work but are not well managed ", adding that "those charged to manage them should be held responsible".

Another resource person, Jeremy Wheate, debunked the idea of bring back the book; because the problem is not lack of books in the country, books are already here. It is rather a problem of Nigerians not reading the right books. "What Nigerians read are questionable, as most times they read either religious or school texts or motivational/self – help materials on wealth accumulations". He argued that rather than bringing back the book, what Nigerians should be advocating is Bring Back the Nigerian/African Book. This call for full commitment of Authors, Publishers, Book Vendors as well as Librarians to overturned the

situation.

Recently, the National Book Trust Fair Committee (North) organized 2011 Book Fair in Abuja. The keynote address was made by the Registrar/CEO, LRCN, Ms. Victoria Okojie on the theme of the fair 'Bring Back the Book Challenges, Prospects, and The Way Forward'. In her address, she expressed the commitment of LRCN in partnering with other organizations like the NBTF to the provision of library services in Nigeria. According to her, "you cannot improve on reading culture where there is nothing to read or the environment necessary for effective reading is non-existence. LRCN is committed to ensure improved standards of library service provision in all types of libraries in the country. To do so, the Council has the mandate through its enabling act (12 of 1995) to, among other responsibilities; pursue the attainment of professional excellence by determining who are Librarians, the standard of knowledge and skills required for registration and practice, guidelines for accreditation and minimum standards for libraries and maintenance of professional discipline among librarians all over the country. There are obvious avenues for LRCN to collaborate with NBTF to improve reading and reading culture in Nigeria".

The Council has held Teacher-Librarian capacity building trainings in the North – West and South – West geo – political zones of the country, in which these categories of Librarians have acquired skills in the areas of library management, ICT application to library and the promotion of imbibing reading habits among the school children.

The last induction ceremony of Registered Librarians in Nigeria is another giant stride towards the improvement of love for books among Nigerians. This will make significant impact when the Council begins its continuous education programs for registered members.

Further area for getting the situation better is the development of Teacher – Librarian manual. Its contents will surely stir the users into bringing the President's project to achievement.

Finally, some major activities of LRCN can be hinged on making information materials either textual or electronically accessible to Nigerians in order to attain a greater socio – economic status comparable with the citizens of developed world.

Ayuba A. Garba - PSD

TOP 10 REASONS YOU KNOW YOU'ARE A LIBRARIAN

- You have a student who does a better job trouble shooting the circulation system than the district technician.
- The best way to remind a student about an overdue book is by email.
- You didn't get your last grade class assignment turned in on time because the network was down.
- You have to remind kindergarteners to turn off their cell phone before the story start.
- You have as more polo shirts with computer logons than you do book logos.
- Your index finger has a callous from tapping the smart board.
- You don't talk in the teachers lounge about a project, because it is not tied directly to a state test.
- Your students show you how to get around the district internet filter.
- Your student think both the title Mermaid and Hunch Back of Notre Dame were written by Walt Disney.
- You have 5th grade girls who show more skill at school than you would have ever dreamed of doing on the beach.

KABIRU UBALE - PSD

TIME

I woke up this morning and received a Happy Birth Day text on my mobile phone. The thought that came to mind was Time. Who can define it? Difficult, then I am being reminded that time is relative. To a business person, time is money; a religious person views it from eternity point. Historians consider, it as dispensation. An economics sees time as a means. To an opportunist, time is referred to as chance.

Whatever perspective we have about Time, Time is one of the most prized resources from GOD and the least under our control. Time as a resource is given to every man equally. A scholar put it this way that "Time is like an empty bucket" it is given to everyone of us to use freely as we choose.

In real terms, most people treat time with too much levity and presumption. They imagine that time is limitless and expect it to be available to them always.

Time is one of man's greatest life assets graciously given to us by God to use as we choose. We do not choose to have time. It is exclusive prerogative of God to make available to us. But we have other choices to make how and what to do with time. How we invest our time determines the kind of fortune we get. Come to think of it, we apportion time to all we do consciously or unconsciously not realizing that once such resource (time) is used we cannot recall it again, the rest becomes history. Whatsoever is in our power to do at a particular time let do it as if it is the only time.

Lets be cognizance of the fact that time cannot be hoarded; it must be spent as it is given to you. No one has more than enough to spare. You and I cannot afford to play away a life time opportunity. We have to maximize every moment to play a principal role in our chosen career to find fulfillment, and this fulfillment does not consist in how long but how well. So live to fill your time full; I mean full of productive precious engagement.

JONATHAN JAMES - PSD

DID YOU KNOW?

- Did you know that humans blink their eyes over 5 million times a year?
- Did you know that India is the world's largest producer of Mangoes in 2003 with 12 million tonnes which is 51% of the world's total production?
- Did you know that it is a well-known fact that Camels need negligible amount of water to live but do you know that rat can last longer without water than a Camel?
 - Do you know that Cats are called the lazy animals but they can run at a speed of about 20km/hour, which is 12 miles per hour, when they grow up?
- Did you know that tiny droplets of water that make a Fog are so small that it would take 7,000 million of them to make a single tablespoonful of water?
 - Did you know that half the World's population earns about 5% of the world's wealth?
- Did you know that Three quarters of Fish caught are eaten – the rest is used to make things such as glue, soap, margarine and fertilizer?

MAHMUD M. MUSTAPHA- PSD