

NIGERIAN TRACKER NEWS

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Gov. Yusuf assures compensation, relocation of property owners at Tal'udu Overpass project



Kano State Police Command Busts Female-Led Syndicate of Thieves, Arrests Five Suspects

Retired Police Officer Laments N40,000 Pension After 35-Year Service

Peter Obi Meets Former President Obasanjo in Lagos



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In a significant breakthrough, the Kano State Police Command has dismantled a female-led syndicate of thieves with the arrest of five suspects. The principal suspect, 19-year-old Shamsiyya Adamu, a resident of Brigade Quarters Kano, was apprehended on December 21, 2024, following numerous reports of stolen mobile phones in the Unguwa Uku Quarters of Kano.

Throughout 2024, the Kano State Police Command received multiple reports from residents of Kano Metropolis about a young woman involved in stealing mobile phones from residential houses. These reports indicated that Shamsiyya Adamu was aided by a tricyclist and a cybercriminal in her operations. In response, the State Commissioner of Police, CP Salman Dogo Garba, raised a special intervention squad which successfully arrested the principal suspect in December.

The syndicate, led by Shamsiyya, specialized in stealing mobile phones from residential houses, using a tricyclist and a cybercriminal to facilitate their operations. The suspects would deceive housewives, steal their mobile phones, and swindle money from their victims' bank accounts.

The arrested suspects include:

1. Shamsiyya Adamu: The 19-year-old principal suspect and leader of the syndicate.
2. Idris Yusuf: A 23-year-old tricycle rider who aided in transporting the principal suspect to commit crimes.
3. Al'asan Dahiru: A 24-year-old suspect who specialized in disposing of stolen items for the principal suspect.
4. Abdulmajid Haruna: A 27-year-old suspect who specialized in buying stolen properties. Six mobile phones were recovered from him.
5. Salim Auwalu: A 21-year-old suspect who specialized in swindling money from victims' bank accounts.

So far, six mobile phones have been recovered, and efforts are ongoing to recover more stolen phones. Thirty complainants, including 29 females and one male, have lodged complaints against Shamsiyya, who has confessed to stealing their mobile phones on various occasions in 2024. Anyone with a complaint against the suspects is encouraged to contact the investigation team at 08032617800.

Signed:

SP Abdullahi Haruna Kiyawa, ANIPR, MNISMA
Police Public Relations Officer

For: Commissioner of Police, Kano State Command



Retired Police Officer Laments N40,000 Pension After 35-Year Service

Esther Marcus, a woman who claims to be a retired Deputy Superintendent of Police from the Nigeria Police Force, has shared her experience of being underpaid after 35 years of service

In the now-viral video, Marcus, who claimed to have joined the force before clocking 16 years, disclosed that after retiring in 2018, she received N1.7 million as her gratuity and was subsequently placed on a monthly pension of N40,000

Voicing her frustration over what she called the “dirty contributory pension scheme,” she said, “My name is Esther Marcus, a retired DSP of the Nigerian Police Force. I retired on November 1, 2018. I just want to use myself as a case study. It’s applicable to every other police officer under this dirty contributory pension scheme.

After serving for 35 years, though I joined the Nigeria Police Force at a very young age, I escorted a friend; unfortunately, she was not selected, but I was chosen because I was tall, even though I was not yet 16 when I joined the Nigeria Police Force.

And when I retired in 2018, I waited for over a year before I was given N1.7 million... after 35 years. Then, after waiting for another three months, they started paying me N40,000 as my monthly pension after giving me N1.7 million after serving for 35 years. And that applies to every other policeman and policewoman who retired under this dirty scheme called the contributory pension scheme. That’s what we’ve been going through.”

According to her, the Federal Government’s responses to their pleas have been largely ignored, despite multiple public hearings on the issue.

Marcus added, “This struggle has been ongoing for over 10 years now because when I retired in 2018, there was a police retirees’ meeting. They started it in 2017 or thereabouts, and all our cries to the Federal Government have been met with deaf ears. It’s not an insult, but that’s the truth.

“They are aware of what we’re going through. They’ve held about three or four public hearings on this case. But when the Army was retiring, the DSS and other paramilitary forces — there was nothing like a public hearing.”

Marcus also highlighted what she saw as inequality within the police force, claiming that senior officers like the Assistant Inspectors General (AIGs), Deputy Inspectors General (DIGs), and the Inspector General (IG) have been exempted from this pension scheme.

“The AIGs, DIGs, and IGs have exempted themselves from this dirty contributory pension scheme. They only left the Commissioners of Police downwards; they are the ones suffering it,” she said. read more:

<https://nigeriantracker.com/2025/01/04/retired-police-officer-laments-n40000-pension-after-35-year-service/>



Gov. Yusuf assures compensation, relocation of property owners at Tal'udu Overpass project

Governor Abba Kabir Yusuf of Kano state has assured government readiness to compensate owners of properties affected by the multi-billion naira Overpass project under construction at Tal'udu area of the metropolis.

In the alternative, Governor Yusuf also disclosed plans to allocate new layout to the residents who are affected by the construction free of cost and outside of the compensation money that would be given to them. Governor Yusuf gave the assurance during a meeting with stakeholders and leadership of Tal'udu communities at the Government house in Kano

A statement by Spokesperson of the Governor, Sanusi Bature Dawakin-Tofa, said Governor Yusuf had invited the stakeholder for a dialogue over their claims and development interest of the state.

"All of you would be reasonably compensated in cash through your designated bank accounts, we will also agree with you on the time frame for you to move out of the project site and would also give plots free of charge as many of you may want to build another houses

According to the statement, Governor Yusuf explained his administration's Urban renewal drive to meet global standard of a mega city. He stressed plan to set an infrastructure performance bar at high level to meet the status of most populous city in Nigeria.

The Governor recalled the multi-layer critical infrastructural project at Tal'udu along side the Underpass Bridge at Kofar Dan'Agundi, both in Municipal and Gwale local government areas were flag off in 2024 to enhance free flow of vehicular movements.

Besides, the Governor posited that capital project costing about N30 billion were intended to achieve multiple purposes of urban beautification, decongestion of traffic and urban renewal.

Earlier, Chairman of the Community Association, Alhaji Abba Aminu Imam expressed delight over government acceleration of development as spread across the state.

The leader of the community however appealed to government to facilitate the settlement plan of members of the community whose properties were affected by the ongoing construction.

Meanwhile, Government has constituted an adhoc committee to revisit the ongoing settlement and compensation plan for the Tal'udu community. Read more:

<https://nigeriantracker.com/2025/01/03/gov-yusuf-assures-compensation-relocation-of-property-owners-at-taludu-overpass-project/>



Peter Obi Meets Former President Obasanjo in Lagos

Labour Party presidential candidate in the 2023 election, Peter Obi, has paid a courtesy visit to former President Olusegun Obasanjo, as part of his New Year engagements.

This visit comes after Obi met with former military president General Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida in Minna, Niger State, and former President Goodluck Jonathan in Abuja.

Obi shared photos from the meeting on social media platform X on Friday, expressing his gratitude for the opportunity to discuss national issues with Obasanjo.

He wrote: “Yesterday, I travelled from Abuja to Lagos to visit a father figure, Leader, and Former President of Nigeria, His Excellency Olusegun Obasanjo, to wish him a happy new year and also deliberate on issues of national concern.”

Obi praised Obasanjo’s fatherly words of advice and kind guidance, noting that the former president remains one of the leaders under whom Nigeria saw tremendous growth



KAYI Microfinance Bank Accelerates Digital Financial Inclusion in Rural Northern Nigeria

KAYI Microfinance Bank is at the forefront of expanding digital financial services to underbanked communities in Northern Nigeria, particularly through its Grassroots Engagement and Empowerment Programme. By focusing on Tsangaya (Almajiri) schools, which traditionally provide Islamic education but often struggle financially, the bank offers a model that fuses financial literacy, technological tools, and community-based enterprise. This practical approach to financial inclusion aims to unlock the economic potential of marginalized populations while respecting local traditions and educational structures.

Central to this model is the provision of a five-million-naira grant package for each participating Tsangaya school. This funding covers the cost of Point-of-Sale (POS) machines and training in both financial literacy and business management. read more:

<https://nigeriantracker.com/2025/01/04/bridging-the-gapkayi-microfinance-banks-innovative-community-engagement-initiative-using-tsangaya-almajirischools-as-a-model-in-northern-nigeria/>



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RATTAWU Freedom Radio Chapter Mourns the Passing of Alhaji Shehu Muhammad Dalhatu

The Radio, Television, Theatre and Arts Workers Union of Nigeria (RATTAWU), Freedom Radio Chapter, has extended its deepest condolences to the management, staff, and the entire family of Alhaji Shehu Muhammad Dalhatu, who passed away on January 3, 2025, in Madina, Saudi Arabia.

Alhaji Shehu Muhammad Dalhatu was a visionary leader whose dedication and commitment significantly contributed to the growth and success of the Freedom Radio Group. His unwavering support and guidance have left an indelible mark on the organization and the broadcasting industry at large.

In a statement signed by Muhammad Lawan Garba, Chairman of RATTAWU Freedom Radio Chapel, the union expressed profound sorrow over the loss of their esteemed father and director. “Inna Lillahi wa Inna Ilayhi Raji’un. On behalf of RATTAWU, Freedom Radio Chapter, we extend our deepest condolences to the management, staff, and the entire family of Alhaji Shehu Muhammad Dalhatu,” the statement read



Prof. Gwarzo Presented With Morgan State University Distinguished Scholarship Award

The Morgan State University in the United States has Presented Professor Adamu Abubakar Gwarzo with a Recognition Award of Distinguished Scholarship, Leadership, and Eduprenurship 2025

The certificate of award and achievement was signed by the Executive Director of Global Partnerships Africa Professor Hakeem I. Tijjani Gwarzo who is the President of the MAAUN Group of Universities founded Maryam Abacha American University in Niger, Nigeria, Franco-British International University Kaduna and Canadian University Abuja was also recognized as the 2025 Distinguished African Eduprenuer an uncommon endowment for Human Capacity Development.

The award coincided with his 47th birthday anniversary. read more:

<https://nigeriantracker.com/2025/01/01/prof-gwarzo-presented-with-morgan-state-university-distinguished-scholarship-award/>



Opinion - 2024: Senator Barau's 15 Outstanding Legislative Activities in 12 months

Fifteen outstanding legislative activities, cutting across major spheres of the country's socio-economic landscape have placed the Deputy President of the Senate, Senator Barau Inuwa Jibrin on the front burner in 2024.

His contributions spanned several key areas, including bill sponsorship, infrastructure development, empowerment initiatives, and scholarship programs from January to December 2024.

Foreign PG scholarship to 70 students

In reverse order, the Deputy President of the Senate sponsored 70 students selected from the three senatorial districts of Kano State to pursue postgraduate studies in AI, Cybersecurity, and Forensic Science, among others, in India.

The beneficiaries, who departed the Malam Aminu Kano International Airport (MAKIA) on Sunday, December 29th, are now in universities in India pursuing their studies in various ICT-related fields.

Among the 109 senators in the country, Senator Barau, who is also the First Deputy Speaker of the ECOWAS Parliament, topped the bills sponsorship chart at the Upper Chamber.

Tallying the figure from the Rules and Business Committee of the Senate, the members of the Senate Press Corps, the umbrella body of all journalists covering the Senate, presented the Deputy President of the Senate with the "Highest Development-Driven Bills Award."

1,000 Motorcycles to Kano Police Command

To enhance policing across the 44 Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Kano State, Senator Barau facilitated 1,000 motorcycles to the Kano State Police Command.

The official handover ceremony took place at the Bompai Police Headquarters, and jubilant celebrations were held among the officers and personnel of the Nigeria Police Force on October 23rd, 2024.

Splashing of motorcycles to players, officials of Barau FC

Following their promotion to the Nigerian National League (NNL), Senator Barau distributed motorcycles to the players and officials of his football club, Barau FC; in October, he splashed motorcycles to the players and officials as part of their rewards. This is in addition to the monetary bonuses awarded to the team.

Renaming of Federal University of Education to Maitama Sule Federal University of Education Kano

Senator Barau's bill for the renaming of the Federal University of Education to Maitama Sule Federal University of Education Kano has scaled through the first reading.

The renaming was in recognition of the contribution of the late elder statesman and diplomat to the development of Kano, the North and the country in general.

Senate Constitution Review Committee Retreat in Kano

Senator Barau, who is also the Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Review of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, led Senators and other stakeholders of the Committee to a retreat in Kano State. This significant gathering brings together key stakeholders to deliberate on critical amendments that will shape the nation's future.

Shuaibu is the Personal Assistant to the Deputy President of the Senate on Print Media. read more:

<https://nigeriantracker.com/2025/01/01/2024-senator-barau-15-outstanding-legislative-activities-in-12-months/>



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