

JANUARY 12, 2025 | RAJAB 12, 1446AH

# NIGERIAN TRACKER NEWS

*Nigerian Tracker Weekly Bulletin: Volume 1 Issue 2*

## As Barau, Kano State Government Compete in Offering Scholarships, Can Barau Unseat Kwankwasiyya in 2027?



**Atiku Condemns APC's  
Inflammatory Remarks  
Against Peter Obi**



**Kano State Government  
Welcomes Court of Appeal  
Judgment on Emirate  
Council Dispute**

[www.nigeriantracker.com](http://www.nigeriantracker.com)





## ***As Barau, Kano State Government Compete in Offering Scholarships, Can Barau Unseat Kwankwasiyya in 2027?***

*By Senior Political Editor Abbas Yushau Yusuf.*

Senator Barau I. Jibrin, the Deputy Senate President, has been in the headlines since assuming office, proposing initiatives and policies that will win over his senatorial area, Kano North and the state at large. Despite the Kwankwasiyya Tsunami that swept the 2023 polls in Kano, Senator Barau Jibrin scaled through and won his election. Can this be attributed to past projects he completed for his constituency? ?

keen political observers understand that after emerging as the Deputy Senate President, Senator Barau Jibrin has come up with another strategy which was employed by the Kwankwasiyya political movement when it clinched power in the 2011 general elections in Kano which is offering foreign scholarships to the sons and daughters of the less privileged in the state.

Below is the breakdown of the recent scholarships offered by Senator Barau Jibrin to Kano indigenes as released by his Special Adviser on Media and Publicity, Ismail Mudaahir.

“One week after sponsoring 70 students for postgraduate scholarships abroad, the Deputy President of the Senate, Senator Barau I. Jibrin, is set to offer scholarships to 300 students to pursue Master's degrees in Nigerian universities.” the statement reads

“Through the Barau I. Jibrin Foundation (BIJF), 70 students selected from across the three senatorial districts of Kano State departed the country via Malam Aminu Kano International Airport (MAKIA) for India on December 29th, 2024.”

In addition, the Deputy President of the Senate, who is also the First Deputy Speaker of the ECOWAS Parliament, announced that 300 students will benefit from his domestic postgraduate scholarship program this year.

To this effect, the foundation opened applications for "postgraduate domestic scholarships for the 2025/2026 academic session."

“The foundation, dedicated to fostering academic excellence and providing educational opportunities to deserving Kano State graduates, aims to support 300 outstanding graduates from recognized universities in pursuing their postgraduate studies at selected universities across the country”.

Secretary of the Postgraduate Scholarship Committee of the BIJF, Maikudi Lawan, PhD, said the program offers a unique opportunity for academic growth, research, and human capital development in various fields of science and technology, which will empower the country's next generation.

He said the programs include: M.Sc. Artificial Intelligence, M.Sc. Robotics Technology, M.Sc. Cyber Security, M.Sc. Data Science, M.Sc. Information Technology, M.Sc. Software Development, M.Sc. Mineral Exploration, M.Sc. Hydrogeology & Environmental Geology, M.Sc. Oil and Gas Operations, M.Sc. Applied Geophysics, M.Sc. Metallurgical and Material Engineering, M.Sc. Climate Change Management, M.Eng. Mechatronic and M.Eng. Intelligence System.

He added that six universities, Bayero University Kano, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, University of Ibadan, University of Lagos, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, and University of Nigeria Nsukka, have been selected for the program.

Every political observer in Kano can attest to the success of Kwankwasiyya movement's politics of offering scholarships to the sons and daughters of the less privileged. For example, when the NNPP national leader, Engineer Rabi'u Musa Kwankwaso, bounced back as Governor for the second term in 2011, he came up with foreign scholarships for Kano indigenes who had a minimum of second class upper degrees. when such laudable project was announced many people then didn't believe it was going to happen.

The Kwankwasiyya Government sequentially sponsored 501, 502, and 503 set of students on foreign scholarships sent abroad on different batches to study in different fields. This set of people sponsored by Engineer Rabi'u Musa Kwankwaso's administration traversed many parts of the world, including India, Cyprus, Egypt, Turkey, Jordan, and other parts of the world.

***Continued on page 2***





*Continued from page 1*

By the time Governor Kwankwaso finished his second term in 2015, most of the students sponsored had already returned from their studies. Many analysts believed that this life changing opportunities offered by his administration was one of the reasons for the unconditional loyalty of many of the beneficiaries and their families to the the Kwankwasiyya movement.

This among other things was one of the reasons that gave Dr. Abdullahi Umar Ganduje an easy ride leading him to win the 2015 governorship election with a landslide. however, the relationship between Dr. Abdullahi Umar Ganduje and his former boss and political ally deteriorated over time and currently do not see eye to eye due to political differences .

In 2019, the Kwankwasiyya Governorship candidate, Engineer Abba Kabir Yusuf, won the Governorship election in the first round by defeating incumbent Dr. Ganduje, whom they accused of abandoning their programs in which he was the grand Deputy commander of the Kwankwasiyya movement in 2015. it is becoming apparent that Engr. Abba Kabir Yusuf who is the current governor of the state will continue on the legacies laid by the leader of the movement including the sponsoring of students on foreign scholarships.

A lot of people are of the opinion that the current strategy employed by Senator Barau I. Jibrin in offering scholarships to the indigenes of Kano, including the less privileged, is a sign that the Deputy Senate President is eyeing the Kano Governorship seat in the 2027 general elections. Will this be a plot to dislodge the Kwankwasiyya Government under the NNPP led by Governor Abba Kabir Yusuf in the coming elections?

**Abbas Yushau Yusuf**

CE/Editor-in-Chief

**Emmanuel Onoja**

Editor South

**Jabir Idris**

Graphics Designer

**Contact:**

**+234 806 926 4025**

**Email:**

**editor@nigeriantracker.com**

**Website:**

**[www.nigeriantracker.com](http://www.nigeriantracker.com)**



## ***Professor Gwarzo Celebrates Governor Yusuf on 62nd Birthday, Describes Him as a Visionary Leader***

The President of MAAUN Group of Universities Professor Adamu Abubakar Gwarzo has congratulated Governor Abba Kabir Yusuf on the occasion of his 62nd birthday describing him as a visionary leader who dedicated his life to the service of the people?

In a statement he signed, Professor Gwarzo said " All gratitude to Almighty Allah for sparing our lives in good health to witness this auspicious anniversary on your birthday.'

The modest achievements you recorded so far in the areas of education, health, and infrastructure indicate your passion and commitment to the development of Kano State.

Your tireless efforts to serve the people of Kano have remained exemplary to other governors and will serve as a lasting legacy that will not be forgotten. Kano is indeed fortunate to have you as a governor ". He said

Professor Gwarzo who is the founder of Maryam Abacha American University of Nigeria, Niger, Franco-British International University Kaduna and Canadian University of Nigeria situated in Abuja prays to Almighty Allah to guide the governor in the discharge of his responsibilities and to grant him many more years in good health and service to humanity





## ***Rep Abubakar Kabir Abubakar Donates Over 9 Million Naira (9,640,000) to Bichi Indigent Science and Technical Boarding School Students as They Resume to School?***

BOOn Saturday, the Kabir Abubakar Bichi Foundation, under the chairmanship of Dr. Habibu Usman Abdu, inaugurated the support of a 20 thousand Naira stipend each to students who are indigenes of Bichi. The event was held at FCE T Bichi.

t's a tradition maintained by Rep Abubakar Kabir Abubakar to support indigent students from Bichi when they return to boarding school during every term and after vacation.

In his remarks during the occasion, Rep Abubakar Kabir Abubakar urged the students to dedicate themselves to their studies and pledged to continue helping them.

Abubakar Kabir Abubakar said very soon he will renovate 8 secondary schools in his constituency and pledged to sponsor indigenes of the area, mostly women, to Egypt and Saudi Arabia for their tertiary education.

“Our aim is to ensure we get more engineers and doctors, and the renovation of the schools is to make sure students and pupils are not sitting on the floor. We don't want to see any roof wiped out from classes, and the hostels renovated because the dignity of students is to make sure they sleep comfortably,” said Rep Bichi.

Rep Bichi said the federal government has also allocated over 1.5 billion for the renovation of Dawakin Tofa Science College and GSS Bichi will also be renovated. He noted that Dan Cin Cin Secondary School is also included.

Rep Bichi added that Hagagawa Primary School will be reconstructed in such a way that it will compete with all the private schools where sons of politicians are attending. He noted that six more primary schools will also be renovated, including Chiranchi and Sabonlayi. “We don't want to play politics with education; that is why we are inviting all and sundry to come and help us in uplifting education in the state,” he said.

According to him, apart from 106 teachers manning schools in the area, they have employed 200 more teachers in Bichi, and their screening will soon start. “We are doing this because we have a scarcity of teachers,” he added.

He also thanked members of the committee for the disbursement of scholarships and their dedication to education. The conglomeration of students, which included both male and female, thanked Rep Abubakar Kabir Abubakar for the gesture.



## ***Girls Gate Initiative Hosts Landmark Townhall Meeting on Peace and Security in Kano State***

In the wake of the ongoing Fadan Daba crisis affecting Kofar Mata and surrounding communities, the Girls Gate Initiative organized a groundbreaking Townhall Meeting to address pressing peace and security issues. Themed “The Role of Women in Promoting Peace and Security in Our Communities,” the event brought together community stakeholders, religious leaders, and experts in conflict resolution to deliberate on actionable solutions for fostering lasting harmony

The Executive Director of Girls Gate Initiative, Amb. Huzaifa Jamil Kofar Mata emphasized the urgent need for community-driven solutions during his opening remarks. He stated, “This meeting is not just a conversation; it's a call to action. The safety of our children, the survival of our businesses, and the peace in our neighbourhoods depend on what we do today as a collective.”

<https://nigeriantracker.com/2025/01/05/girls-gate-initiative-hosts-landmark-townhall-meeting-on-peace-and-security-in-kano-state/>





## ***Chairman, Best Choice Hospital, Celebrates Gov. Yusuf on His 62nd Birthday, Describing Him as a Visionary Leader***

Auwal Lawal Muhammad, Chairman of Best Choice Specialist Hospital, has congratulated Governor Abba Kabir Yusuf on the occasion of his 62nd birthday, describing him as a visionary leader dedicated to serving the people

In a statement, Alh Auwal said, “All gratitude to Almighty Allah for sparing our lives in good health to witness this auspicious anniversary on your birthday.”

He praised the governor’s achievements in education, health, and infrastructure, saying they reflect his passion and commitment to developing Kano State.

Lawal commended the governor’s tireless efforts, stating they serve as an exemplary model for other governors and will leave a lasting legacy. He expressed gratitude that Kano has Governor Abba Kabir Yusuf at its helm.

Lawal acknowledged the governor’s efforts to improve the healthcare sector, citing the renovation and upgrading of hospitals, the provision of modern medical equipment, and the training of healthcare personnel. He also praised the governor’s initiatives in education, including the construction of new schools, the renovation of existing ones, and the provision of educational materials.

He then commends the governor for his glorious compassion and selfless dedication to the welfare of the good people of Kano State, whose lives have been positively impacted by his visionary leadership and unwavering commitment to their well-being.

As Governor Abba Kabir Yusuf celebrates his 62nd birthday, Lawal prayed to Almighty Allah to grant him good health, wisdom, and the strength to continue serving the people of Kano State.



## ***River Basin Development Authority ready to support Tinubu’s food security***

The Managing Director of the Hadejia Jama’are River Basin Development Authority (HJRBDA), Alhaji Rabi'u Suleiman Bichi, has reaffirmed the authority’s commitment to supporting President Tinubu’s administration policies on food security, both regionally and nationally.

He emphasized that the HJRBDA has the potential to comprehensively address food insecurity challenges with the support of stakeholders

During a condolence visit from the Apex Fadama Farmers Association leadership, following the passing out of his brother, Alhaji Bichi commended President Tinubu’s timely intervention in releasing fertilizers to farmers for dry-season farming, acknowledging it as a step in the right direction.

The farmers shared their challenges, highlighting multiple taxation as a significant issue. They revealed that traveling from Kano to Lagos, they encounter 39 roadblocks where they’re taxed, resulting in substantial taxation that contributes to the constant rise in food prices.

In response, Alhaji Bichi pledged to support the farmers by engaging stakeholders and taxation experts to address their challenges.





## **Gov. Yusuf assigns new commissioners with portfolios**

Kano State Governor, Alh. Abba Kabir Yusuf has assigned new portfolios to the seven newly appointed Commissioners.

Shortly after taken oath of office and allegiance, Governor Yusuf urged the new appointees to serve with dedication, integrity and humility to salvage present administration's high expectations from the state citizens.

A statement issued by Governor's spokesman Sanusi Bature Dawakin Tofa on Monday said 13 Special Advisers and 6 Permanent Secretaries also took oath of office.

According to the release, Governor Yusuf tasked the Commissioners to foster team spirit and work in synergy to deliver expected results.

He explained that the choice of the new set of state executive council members were duly considered to accelerate his administration's vision centred on good governance, sustainable development, and well-being of the citizens.

"I remain fully committed to fulfilling my campaign promises. These appointments therefore reflect our determination to identify and empower individuals who will help us implement policies and programmes that make a tangible difference in the lives of our citizens."

"Over the past months, we have worked tirelessly to address pressing issues, including infrastructure development, education, healthcare, security, empowerment and employment generation for the citizens.

"Today's appointments and the creation of the Local Government Service Commission further demonstrate our resolve to build a more efficient and people centred government," Governor Yusuf maintained.

He further charged the appointees to serve the citizens with their best abilities via working hand in hand with each other to ensure effective service delivery.

He assured the present administration would do everything possible to transform the lives of its citizens positively.

In the new portfolios, the former Chief of Staff, Alhaji Shehu Wada Sagagi, is assigned to Ministry of Investment, Commerce and Trade; AbdulKadir Abdulsalam, former Accountant General now commissioner in charge of Rural and Community Development while Ibrahim Abdullahi Waiye is deployed to Ministry of Information and Internal Affairs.

Governor Yusuf further directed Dr. Gaddafi Shehu Sani to manage the newly established Ministry of Power and Sustainable Energy; Dr. Dahiru Hashim commissioner for Environment; and Dr. Ismail Aliyu DanMaraya now in charge of Finance while Nura Iro Ma'aji assumed the ministry of Procurement and Project Monitoring.

On the Special Advisers, Governor Yusuf said Yusuf Jibrin Oyoyo appointed as Students matters., Prof. Tijjani Muhammad Naniya (Emirates Council), Sani Musa Danja (Youths and sports), Barr. Aminu Husaini Sagagi (Justice and Constitution matters) Sani Adamu Yola (Local Government Project) and Dr Ibrahim Musa (Health Services and personal physician to Governor).

Earlier, the state Commissioner of Justice and Attorney General, Barr. Haruna Isa Dederi administered the Oath of Office for the appointees before the state governor.

In their separate vote of thanks, Commissioner Sagagi, Special Adviser, Dr. Ismail Lawal Sulaiman and Permanent Secretary, Aminu Bashir promised to institutionalised government policies in their respective offices to ensure the vision and mission of Governor Yusuf led NNPP administration are achieved.







## ***Murtala Sule Garo Calls on Former Governors, Political Leaders to Unite for Kano's Progress and Development***

The Deputy Governorship Candidate of the All Progressives Congress (APC) in the 2023 elections and former Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, Murtala Sule Garo, has called on Kano's former governors and political leaders to set aside their differences and work together for the betterment of the state.

Speaking at a dinner and award night organized by the 8th, 9th, and 10th Kano State House of Assembly Forum, Garo emphasized the critical role unity among leaders can play in accelerating the state's development.

He stated, "It is disheartening to see states like Zamfara—less developed than Kano—where former governors set aside their differences to attend events and contribute to the state's progress. Here in Kano, former governors rarely come together to discuss and address issues affecting our state."

Garo urged former governors to rise above political affiliations and personal differences, adding, "I am appealing to our former governors to collaborate and work closely for the singular goal of moving Kano forward. The collective effort of our leaders is essential to achieving the development our people deserve."

He further stressed, "If they truly have the interest of Kano State at heart, I urge them to unite. Development cannot happen in isolation. Political leaders must demonstrate their commitment to the growth of our state by working hand in hand, regardless of political differences. Unity is the foundation for lasting progress, and this should be their priority."

In recognizing the efforts of the event organizers, Garo commended the members of the House of Assembly Forum for their unity and stressed the importance of preserving it.

"I urge politicians to desist from actions that could disrupt the strong bond among the Assembly members. Instead, we should learn from their example. If such unity continues, I have no doubt that Kano will experience unprecedented progress," he stated.

Murtala Sule Garo's call for collaboration comes at a time when Kano State's developmental needs require concerted efforts from leaders across political divides.

The event, attended by prominent party leaders and stakeholders, aimed to strengthen unity within the APC as it prepares for future electoral challenges.



## ***Assistant Commissioner Daniel Amah Converts to Islam***

An Assistant Commissioner of Police in Kano, ACP Daniel Amah, has converted to Islam

In a post on his verified Facebook page, popular broadcast journalist in Kano, Nasiru Salisu Zango, made the announcement. Nasiru Zango, who made the post in Hausa, said our trusted friend ACP Daniel Amah has accepted Islam.

Nasiru Zango describes ACP Daniel Amah as a kind person. Every detainee will understand that during his days as DPO in Bompai, he used to provide mattresses for detainees and even built a mosque in the division.





## ***Atiku Abubakar Condemns APC's Inflammatory Remarks Against Peter Obi, Warns of Authoritarian Shift***

In a scathing critique, 2023 PDP Presidential candidate Atiku Abubakar has condemned the inflammatory remarks issued by the Publicity Secretary of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Felix Morka, directed at Peter Obi, the presidential candidate of the Labour Party in the last general election. Abubakar described these remarks as a disturbing emblem of the current administration's unsettling strategy in addressing opposition figures. "This threat against Obi, coupled with the prolonged detention of Mahdi Shehu, a prominent voice of dissent, signals a worrisome shift towards an authoritarian governance model, where the rights of opposition voices are being suffocated," Abubakar stated.

Abubakar expressed alarm over the choice of words used by the APC's spokesperson, particularly the ominous suggestion that Obi has "crossed the line." He noted, "Such language, rooted in hostility, has no place in a free society where civil discourse and engagement should reign supreme. A true democracy thrives on the healthy exchange of ideas, where the criticisms and contributions of opposition leaders, like Peter Obi, are seen as vital for the betterment of governance and the promotion of public accountability."

Highlighting the duty of a democratic government to listen to its critics, Abubakar emphasized, "It is not merely the right, but the solemn duty of a democratic government to listen attentively to the voices of its critics, to engage in meaningful dialogue, and to allow space for the articulation of alternative viewpoints. Instead, we are faced with a chilling threat that suggests Obi must 'be ready for whatever comes his way.' What, exactly, does Mr. Morka imply by this? It is imperative that the ruling party provides clarity on this disturbing insinuation."

Abubakar also criticized the crude and disparaging manner in which the APC spokesperson framed Peter Obi's calls for constructive engagement, likening them to a lawless Wild West scenario. "Such reckless and derogatory expressions cannot be tolerated, and it is incumbent upon the APC to issue a formal apology to Obi and the Nigerian people for such disgraceful language," he asserted.

Addressing the case of Mallam Shehu, who remains in detention without any clear explanation, Abubakar added, "The case of Mallam Shehu, languishing in detention without any clear explanation for his continued imprisonment, adds to the growing concern about the erosion of freedoms in Nigeria. If there is anyone who has truly 'crossed the line,' it is the Tinubu administration, whose continuous vilification of opposition figures as mere irritants to be crushed is a dangerous precedent."

Abubakar called for immediate intervention from all men and women of goodwill, urging the Tinubu government to recalibrate its approach to dealing with dissent and opposition. "The time has come to put an end to this stifling of voices that are crucial to the health of any functioning democracy," he concluded.



## ***Former Commissioner Hon. Baba Halilu Dantiye Congratulates Successor Comr. Ibrahim Abdullahi Waiya on New Appointment***

Former Kano State Commissioner of Information and Internal Affairs, Hon. Baba Halilu Dantiye, paid a congratulatory visit to Successor, Comr. Ibrahim Abdullahi Waiya

Hon. Baba Halilu Dantiye, the immediate past Commissioner of Information and Internal Affairs, visited Comr. Ibrahim Abdullahi Waiya, the newly appointed Commissioner, to offer congratulations on his recent appointment

Comr. Waiya warmly received Hon. Halilu Dantiye, expressing profound gratitude for the gesture. He praised Baba Halilu Dantiye as a "kind and gentleman to the core," and acknowledging his enormous contributions and the legacy he left behind

"I appreciate your selfless service to Kano State," Comr. Waiya said. "Your guidance and mentorship would surely be an invaluable asset to me"





## ***Gov. Bala Mohammed Accused of Playing Irresponsible Politics by Tinubu Administration***

The President Bola Tinubu administration has accused Governor Bala Mohammed of Bauchi State of playing irresponsible politics, urging him to focus on governance and addressing the issues facing his state. This statement was made by Sunday Dare, Special Adviser to the President on Media and Public Communication, in a press release dated January 10, 2025.

According to Dare, the Tinubu administration is laser-focused on development and improving the overall well-being of Nigerians. “The focus of this government is on how to build stronger collaborations with sub-nationals and other critical stakeholders on matters that affect the lives of Nigerians,” he stated. Dare emphasized that President Tinubu won an election and secured a national mandate from Nigerians, which he will not surrender to satisfy the palate of pseudo-activists and later-day crusaders. “President Tinubu is a listening leader and also a leader that strongly believes in the institutions of state,” Dare added.

Addressing the Tax Reform Bills, Dare noted that the President was clear that anyone and groups that feel strongly about the matter now before the National Assembly should take advantage of the legislative process. “Attempts to stampede or abort this process must be regarded as undemocratic and self-serving,” he asserted.

Dare questioned Governor Bala Mohammed’s efforts to improve the lives of the people of Bauchi State, who still rank among the most impoverished in Nigeria. “How well are the people of his state faring under his leadership? How well has he as Governor used the increased resources at his disposal to improve the quality of life of his people?” Dare asked. He emphasized that just as President Tinubu has a duty to all Nigerians, Governor Bala has a greater duty and responsibility to the people of his state.

“Constant blustering and playing irresponsible politics will not relieve him of his duty to the people of Bauchi State, whom his leadership has impoverished,” Dare stated. He urged Governor Bala to face governance and stop using President Tinubu to burnish his vanishing image.

Dare highlighted President Tinubu’s focus on revamping the economy and working to turn the economic fortunes of the country around. “He has a four-year mandate to deliver on his promises. Nigerians have started to see the real impact of reforms of the Tinubu administration, and better outcomes will continue to manifest in the lives of the citizens in the weeks and months ahead,” he said.

Dare further reiterated that Governor Bala is playing irresponsible politics and should instead occupy himself with dealing with the many problems of his state. “Ambition is made of sterner stuff,” he remarked.



## ***Kano State Government Welcomes Court of Appeal Judgment on Emirate Council Dispute***

The Kano State Government has expressed profound satisfaction with the recent judgment delivered by the Court of Appeal, Abuja Division, regarding the Emirate Council matter involving His Highness Khalifa Muhammadu Sanusi II and other parties. This was announced during a press conference jointly addressed by the Hon. Attorney General/Commissioner for Justice, Hon. Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, and Hon. Commissioner for Information, Kano State, on Saturday, January 11, 2025, at the NUJ Press Centre, Kano.

“On behalf of the Kano State Government, we express our profound satisfaction with the Judgment delivered by the Court of Appeal, Abuja Division, regarding the Emirate Council matter involving His Highness Khalifa Muhammadu Sanusi II and other parties,” stated the Hon. Attorney General/Commissioner for Justice.

The verdict overturns earlier decisions by the Federal High Court and validates the government’s lawful actions regarding chieftaincy appointments and reforms in the state’s traditional institutions. “This ruling reaffirms the government’s commitment to justice, fairness, and adherence to due process in our efforts to modernize traditional structures while preserving the cultural heritage of Kano State,” added the Hon. Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs.



# CONTACT US

[editor@nigeriantracker.com](mailto:editor@nigeriantracker.com)

&

08069264025



**Nigerian Tracker News**

Nigerian Tracker News is an online-based  
newspaper with headquarters in Kano  
State, Nigeria

[www.nigeriantracker.com](http://www.nigeriantracker.com)

All Rights reserved, January 12, 2025