



KW-IRS
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INFRASTRUCTURE FUND, KWARA (IF-K) For Development of Kwara State

ALHAJI (DR) ABDULFATAH AHMED
EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR, KWARA STATE

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&
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INFRASTRUCTURE FUND, KWARA (IF-K) FOR DEVELOPMENT OF KWARA STATE

In today's world, the functions of the tax system include, but extend beyond the traditional role of generating revenue for the government. It has become obvious that the goal of revenue generation is not necessarily to be achieved through raising taxes alone. This is because more often than not, taxes and other government resources fail to meet the cost of public infrastructure and services. The government is thus now required, more than ever before, to put in place some other measures that can bring about the mobilization of revenue for the required developmental agenda. The revenue mobilization drive extends beyond increasing total revenue collection but also devising ingenious strategies for funding and financial management of government revenue. It is in this wise that the Kwara State Government did not just revamp and reform its revenue service, but also introduced the Kwara Infrastructural Development Fund (IF-K) as its own ways of ensuring that the revenue mobilized are judiciously utilized for infrastructural development of the State.

The significance of the reform of the internal revenue service by the State Government is captured in the responsibility of funding the IF-K as clearly

described in the operational process of the Fund. The Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) as the agency of government established by law to collect revenue on behalf of the Kwara State Government is thus saddled with the responsibility of financing infrastructural developmental projects of Kwara State starting with setting aside of the sum of N500 million naira monthly from the total revenue collected for the State.



Presentation of signed document at the launch of IF-K

At the official launch of the IF-K on Tuesday, 25 September 2016, His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Kwara State, Alhaji (Dr) Abdulfatah Ahmed, affirmed that the *'establishment of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) have tripled the Internally Generated Fund (IGR) of Kwara State and have positioned the State for development and progress'*. He went further to state that *'the Infrastructure Fund Kwara (IF-K) is established for the infrastructural development of the State and would not have been a reality if not for the proactive move of his administration to institute the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) an establishment that have saved the State from financial collapse'*. Dr. Abdulfatah Ahmed in his submission at the occasion announced to the delight of all present that *'the days of abandoned projects are over in Kwara State with the introduction of IF-K'*.

What this has done is to put the KW-IRS and its activities at the centre of the development of the State, and assure the residents of Kwara that their taxes will be put to judicious use for the benefit of all and sundry. It is therefore safe to say that in Kwara State, it pays to pay your tax as we continue in pursuit of our vision *'to mobilize revenue for the strategic development of Kwara State'*.

“
Dr. Abdulfatah Ahmed in his submission at the occasion announced to the delight of all present that *'the days of abandoned projects are over in Kwara State with the introduction of IF-K'*.
”



Muritala Awodun, PhD
Executive Chairman
Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS)



The Era of Abandoned Projects Is Over In Kwara State

The Diamond Inter-Change Fly Over was officially flagged off by His Excellency, The Executive Governor of Kwara State, Albaji (Dr) Abdulfatab Ahmed on 26 September 2016 at Geri Alimi.

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Alhaji Abdullahi
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The Executive Chairman with members of Microfinance Bank Association

WE ARE READY TO PARTNER WITH KW-IRS – MICRO FINANCE BANK ASSOCIATION

Fareedah Abdulwahab

A

six team member of the Microfinance Banks Association in Kwara State visited Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) on Tuesday 23 August, 2016.

The team was led by Chief Olushola Olaniyi Richard. Other member of the team include, Mr Funsho Alabi, Alhaji M.Kamaldeen, Chief J.T Adeyemi, Alhaji Babatunde Ahmed and Mrs S. E. Owolabi. The members were received by the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Director Admin and Corporate Affairs and Director Tax Assessment and Audit.

Chief J.T Adeyemi in his opening remarks expressed joy over the establishment of KW-IRS. He stated that it is a welcome development for the progress of Kwara State. Chief Adeyemi noted that the essence of the courtesy by his team is to see how the Microfinance Banks Association of Kwara State can partner with KW-IRS. Chief Olushola Olaniyi Richard attested that tax administration is wearing a new face with the establishment of KW-IRS and he is happy to be a part of the family of the Microfinance Banks Association in the State. He expounded that Microfinance Banks will add to the development of the state. Chief Olushola Olaniyi Richard further



Mrs Adenike Babajamu, Director, Operations & Process address everyone present



Members of the Microfinance Association

noted that operational activities carried out in microfinance banks is different from that of the commercial banks; the essence of establishing Microfinance banks is to assist the active poor who cannot take loans from commercial banks.

Chief Olushola Olaniyi Richard lamented on multiplicity of taxes and high rate of tax imposed on them by tax impersonators, and pleaded with KW-IRS to find a way of putting to halt operations of tax impersonators and also ensure effective deduction and remittance of taxes collected. Mr Funsho Alabi advised KW-IRS to educate Kwara State residents on how to pay their taxes. He noted that Kwara residents are craving to fulfil their civic responsibilities to the State by remitting their taxes as at when due. He however, pleaded for a reduction on the rate of the taxes imposed on Kwarans.

The Executive Chairman KW-IRS, Dr Muritala Awodun warmly received the team of the Microfinance Banks Association of Kwara State. He assured them that the KW-IRS was established to serve residents of Kwara State. Dr. Awodun however emphasized on the need for companies as well as individuals to carry out an assessment. The EC, KW-IRS, stressed that the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) in a way to avoid litigation gives room to the Right of Objection as provided for by the law as one of the rights to be enjoyed by tax payers if raised at the right time.

Dr Awodun assured the Microfinance Banks Association members present that KW-IRS and Microfinance Banks in Kwara State are partners in progress. He added that the administration of Dr. Abdulfatah Ahmed is true to his words for the growth and development of Kwara State, thus the establishment of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) for proper collection, monitoring and growing of the State's revenue. He explained that as a body in charge of revenue collection for the State, the State Government has empowered KW-IRS to recommend to the government on pressing needs of the people so that the government can address such needs in no time with the revenue collected. He further briefed them on infrastructure fund committee set up by the State Government to plan for new and upcoming projects in the State.

The Director Tax Assessment and Audit, Mr Nuhu Olaide in his contribution appreciated the visit made by the Microfinance team to the Corporate Office of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS), and noted that taxation is not arbitrary and there is

room for reconciliation wherever required. Alhaji M. Kamaldeen, team member, was grateful to the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS for all his guidance, encouraging words and assistance. He assured the management of KW-IRS that there will be huge compliance by microfinance banks in Kwara State with the demands of KW-IRS.



Members of the Microfinance Association



KW-IRS Staff



A member of the Microfinance Bank signing the visitor's book



Executive Chairman presenting souvenir to the Chairman of Microfinance Bank Association in Kwara State

GOVERNANCE IS A COLLECTIVE EFFORT – DR. MURITALA AWODUN

AbdulHakeem AbdulRahman

Residents of Royal Valley Estate on Tuesday 23 August 2016 paid a courtesy visit to the Management of Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) at Revenue House. The purpose of the visit was to pledge support to the Service. Present at the meeting included the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr. Muritala Awodun, Director, MDAs, Mr. Segun Olaniyi and Director, Admin and Corporate Affairs, Mrs. Adenike Babajamu.

While addressing the KW-IRS management, the President of Royal Valley Estate Residents, Dr. Abubakar expressed his heartfelt apology on behalf of the Royal Valley Estate Community for their uncooperative and uncompromising attitude towards KW-IRS staff who were recently assigned to carry out Property Enumeration exercise in the Estate. He stated that the negative reaction came out of the fact that Royal Valley Estate Community were not pre-informed through their Executive and it is rather difficult for the Royal Valley people to ascertain the authenticity of the visit and mission of the KW-IRS staff deployed to that community to enumerate properties at the aforementioned Estate. He stated that Royal Valley Community understands that tax payment is an obligation and are ready to comply. He therefore apprised that the community is committed to giving the necessary support to the Service.

In his welcome address, Dr. Awodun appreciated the visiting team for their sacrifice to have a round table discussion with the management. He described the earlier attitude of the community as what is never strange despite the fact that the estate occupiers are

elites. He reiterated that as part of its social responsibilities, KW-IRS is part of every community, for it feels exactly what the people feel, and it has without reasonable doubt bridged the gap between the government and the people. He also noted that the assignment given to the Service must be done with a human face which has been its practice since inception.

Dr. Awodun acknowledged the responsiveness of the Kwara State Government to establish the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) with mandates to block all revenue leakages, advise on the judicious use of the mobilised revenue and positively influence the government in terms of social and economic policies. Speaking further on the government's commitment towards the infrastructure development in the State, he explained that few weeks ago the government set up a committee called Infrastructure Development Fund Committee which is saddled with the major responsibility of creating a programme funding plan for all ongoing and new projects across the State. He added, "Governance is not a one-man thing, it is a collective effort".

The Executive Chairman however challenged the residents to explore their elite status to solve their problems where he described Royal Valley Estate as a middle class community that should not be looking for help but rather should be helping others. He further decried the negative attitude of the community for not making the best use of its available resources having realised that the solutions to most of their problems lie in their



Executive Chairman, addressing the visiting team



Executives of Royal Valley Estate

hands, saying that the community is part of the 10% that will give 90% of the Service' target which is enough reason to solve their problems by themselves because the KW-IRS Community Impact Program is focussed on the needs of the 90% that will only give 10% of its target. He stressed the need for all to keep abreast of other types of taxes apart from Personal Income Tax (PIT) because development of the State depends on them; hence, paying taxes gives the people moral justification to challenge the government.

Commenting on the Executive Chairman's observations, the Vice President of Royal Valley Estate Resident, Mr. Kazeem Saad stated that the outlook of the estate only deceives the people and makes them believe it is meant for the rich who have the capacity to cater for all their needs but the actual percentage of the rich within the estate is insignificant. He therefore pleaded with the Service on behalf of the community to improve their living conditions through its Community Impact Program, and specifically requested for the provision of a standard transformer that will adequately feed the estate as lack of power supply is a peculiar problem encountered by the estate people for the past few years. He concluded with a pledge that they would carry out a proper enumeration exercise to ascertain the number of occupied housing units within the estate which would give them an insight into what figure the Service gets from the community and they would appropriately collect Land Charge and Tenement Rate on behalf of KW-IRS.



KW-IRS Management & staff



Presentation of Souvenir by the Executive Chairman



President, Royal Valley Estate giving his comments to the Management of KW-IRS



Executive Chairman in a group photograph with the members of the Market Traders Association

NO NATION CAN SURVIVE WITHOUT MARKET TRADERS -DR AWODUN

Fareedah Abdulwahab

The Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) led by its Executive Chairman, Dr. Muritala Awodun met with the Kwara State Market Traders Association on August 25 2016. In company of the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS was the Deputy Director, Informal Sector, Mr. Lekan Rotimi, Director, Admin & Corporate Affairs, Mrs. Adenike Babajamu, the Special Adviser on Labour Matter and Student Affairs, Comrade Bisi Fakayode, Iyaloja General, Alhaja Adenike Abdulkareem Lambe, Babaloja General, Alhaji Tunde Jimoh, and other market traders. The purpose of the meeting was to promote unity among market traders and also an avenue for traders to seek clarification on matters not clear to them.

In his welcome words, Dr Awodun expressed his profound appreciation to the Special Adviser to the Executive Governor, of Kwara State on Labour Matter and Student Affairs, Iyaloja General, Babaloja General and all those present. He stated

that the market cannot be sidelined in the development of a nation. He noted that most of the top placed individuals in Nigeria today were raised from market money. He admitted that he also falls into that special category because his parents were marketers and he was raised in the market.

Dr Awodun added that no nation can survive without Market Traders; he expounded that at the initial commencement of operations, the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) October 2015, the first point of contact by the Service was to the market traders. He added that serious attention and empathy should be given to Market Traders because they get their income from their pain and sweat. He further explained that multi billionaire in Nigeria like Dangote, are successful with support from market traders who are at the bottom of the chain. The Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, elucidated on the Market Traders Law enacted 2 years ago. He stated that the law has made the market sector more relevant and attention would henceforth be given to the

market people. Dr. Awodun however illustrated that KW-IRS conducted several meetings with the heads of the various association and afterwards, a token of N1,500 was agreed upon as Personal Income Tax for traders annually.

Expressing his intense appreciation to the market sector for their contributions towards the drive to increase the Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) of the State, the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS stated that the present administration is not just interested in collecting revenue from its populace but will also ensure that revenue collected are used for the development of the State. He further assured the Market Traders that the government of Dr. Abdulfatah Ahmed is true to his words for the growth and development of Kwara State, hence the establishment of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) for efficient collection, monitoring and growing of the State's revenue. He stated that as a body in charge of revenue collection for the State, there is a need for KW-IRS to ensure that money collected from a particular place gets back to that place through positive projects that will positively affect such environment.

Dr. Awodun further enunciated on the Community Impact Project (CIP) which is one of the strategy designed by KW-IRS to impact Kwarans. He emphatically stated that the Community Impact Programme (CIP) is designed to go round the 16 local governments across the State. He made a list of some of the places where KW-IRS have positively affected through its Community Impact Programme (CIP) which are: construction of perimeter fence at the Kara market of Ajase-Ipo, evacuation of refuse dump at Alapa market, reconstruction of burnt shops at Baboko market, donation of ultra modern public toilets at Ago Market, donation of 5 million naira for the roofing of the reconstructed shops that were razed by inferno at Offa, to mention but a few. Dr. Awodun stated that the Service did not even wait for the communities impacted to comply with the demands of the Service before they were affected. He assured the market traders association that KW-IRS is going to do more developmental projects in all the 16 local governments of the State but appealed to the Market Traders Association to play their part by regularly paying their taxes.



Executive Chairman, Dr. Awodun addressing the gathering



Director, Admin & Corporate Affairs, Mr Lekan Rotimi making a comment



Special adviser on Labour Matters and Student Affairs, Comrade Bisi Fakayode making a comment



Market Traders members



Market Traders members

TAXPRENEURSHIP:

Innovative Strategy for Revenue Mobilization in a Recession

“ It is therefore significant to note that the tax authorities must become not just aggressive tax collectors but adopt more of innovative strategies designed and directed towards making tax payment more convenient for the tax payers and also more attractive. ”

Recession is described as a natural break or downturn which could occur willingly or unwillingly, while depression is the downturn as a result of failed system or sub-system. In both cases, it is obvious that there is a downturn in economic activities, i.e productivity, employment, etc. However, the causes or reasons for each of them are obviously not the same, hence the need to distinguish them. A question of great importance among macroeconomists is what makes output decline or grow more slowly. It is obvious that whatever will cause labour, capital or productivity to fall could potentially cause a decline in output, or at least a decline in its rate of growth.

For example, a massive earthquake, war or civil strife could reduce output by destroying vast amounts of physical capital. Similarly, a deadly epidemic or something seemingly non-economic as religious strife could reduce output by decimating the labour force or increasing tension among employees of different faiths and thus reducing their collective efficiency. Where the body of man, a machine, an organization or a nation fails to observe the required recess, nature will have its way and naturally adjust to observe the recess.

Revenue mobilization or collection of taxes by agencies saddled with such responsibility is seen as a conventional service and mostly treated as such. However, we know that all over the world, the issue of tax is fundamentally faced with resentment and people tend to make every move to avoid and avert its payment even during boom talk less of during recession. The case of Nigeria is even more pathetic as tax payment is hugely concentrated to the formal

sector. The formal sector employees and employers (institutions) that are in the eye of the tax man have also devised numerous means with subtle connivance with the tax experts to evade and avoid tax payment in most cases.

It is therefore significant to note that the tax authorities must become not just aggressive tax collectors but adopt more of innovative strategies designed and directed towards making tax payment more convenient for the tax payers and also more attractive. The case of having arrears that continue to cumulate every year is one major area that requires creative and innovative solutions that will be more acceptable to both the taxpayer and the tax collector. This is particularly so as the nation enters into economic recession and the financial and business climate are getting tougher by the day.

As much as it is a must to pay tax, it is also important to ensure that the taxes are paid as at when due and the process of payment are convenient for all. More importantly is the fact that tax authorities could introduce incentives such as interest and penalties pardon if and when payments of liabilities are paid within specific stipulated time period, rebates are granted for prompt payments within the period of demand notices, appreciations and acknowledgements are shown for taxpayers voluntarily complying, etc.

The days of conventional tax methods are over as the tax authorities of the 21st century must be ready to learn new strategies and be ready to apply such new approaches for as long as such innovative strategies will bring about improved revenue mobilization.

OUT OF THE OLD AND IN WITH THE NEW

An Interview with Old BIR staff who are now KW-IRS Staff

Habibah Aiyelabegan



Mr Sunday Agbana



Mr Bolakale Imam

The Kwareve News Team in its continuous strive to bring you well-rounded opinion through interviews sought out KW-IRS staff who used to be with the defunct Kwara Board of Internal Revenue (KBIR) for an insight into first-hand comparative experience. These two staff were interviewed individually to ensure independence of responses.

Kwareve News: Can we meet you?

Mr Agbana: I am Samuel Sunday Agbana, I'm a Senior Manager at the Directorate of Tax Assessment and Audit, KW-IRS. In the days of defunct BIR, I was in charge of number plates under the Directorate of General Revenue (DGR) which comprises of other Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), charges, collection points, as well as the Tax Identification Number (TIN).

Mr Imam: I'm Bolakale Ibrahim Imam, I'm with the Directorate of Tax Assessment and Audit (TAA) of KW-IRS. I'm a Senior Manager, who is the Head of Department (HOD) Employment Revenue Centre otherwise known as PAYE (Pay-As-You-Earn). In the old BIR, I was as an Assistant Director who headed the Information and Investigation Unit (IIU) and was responsible for collating data of all ministries in terms of the revenue aspect.

Kwareve News: Thank you. Now let's look at the old Board and the new IRS, What are the changes

you have observed in the mode of operations of KW-IRS compared to the old BIR?

Mr Agbana: One of the changes I observed is the corporate office structure. Under the BIR, there were dilapidated structures as compared to the new KW-IRS. In fact, the offices used to discourage tax payers. Another is the punctuality of KW-IRS staff as compared to the days of BIR is also a change I observed. In KW-IRS, by 8am everyone is seated going about their daily activities, as compared to BIR where staff do not comply with the slated 8am working hours. In terms of operation, there also is the issue of Direct Bank Lodgement (DBL). Here at KW-IRS you hardly see tax payer making cash payment. In the old system, it was a mixed practice and that did not give the system room to be most effective unlike what we have now. Change also borders with the mode of operation. There was a bureaucratic system in the old BIR which we are used to and this did not allow us to be effective. There is no practice of bureaucratic system in KW-IRS, one can get things done accurately and in a very timely manner.

Mr Imam: Summarily, the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) is a private driven environment relative to the old BIR which operated with the civil service structure. As a private driven environment, the power of the Service rests on autonomy in two ways. First is administratively; the Executive Chairman (EC) is directly responsible to the Executive Government of Kwara State, Dr. Abdulfatah Ahmed, unlike the BIR where the Chairman has to go through the Honourable Commissioner, Ministry of Finance before he can get requests to the Executive Governor. Secondly, there is financial autonomy in KW-IRS; which also used to be routed through the Ministry of Finance to the Executive Governor. These bureaucratic bottlenecks did not make old BIR to perform as much as KW-IRS is now performing. With this full fledge autonomy, the sky is the limit for KW-IRS as we have witnessed unprecedented Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) recorded in the first 6months which has not happened in the history of Kwara revenue office. Kudos to KW-IRS for achieving the aim for which the Service was set up.

Recently, the management team went into retreat and that retreat will be an impetus to the improvement of IGR in the sense that at the retreat, everyone was able to express his or mind and hindrances are tabled before other directorates so that brilliant ideas may be offered.

What do you think about the new payment methods, especially in terms of the use technology?

Mr Agbana: The new payment methods are ok. Apart from the rural area where there may not be access to banking facilities. But here at the state capital, the new payment methods is very effective and is yielding the desired results.

Mr Imam: What we had in the defunct BIR was only DBL. In the past, it was cash only, and money is tempting. With what KW-IRS inherited, what we have is an improved DBL relative to the old BIR practices. At the Old BIR, staff would collect and take it to the bank. But now Revenue staff don't even lay hands on cash. The BIR did not use POS, and this is one of the strategies deployed by KW-IRS to check leakages. Electronic methods adopted by KW-IRS have gone a long way to curb revenue leakages; these are the things that accounted for the improved IGR.

What is your perception of performance of the old BIR compared to KW-IRS?

Mr Agbana: My perception will be of two sides. One, an extent, the old BIR performed to the desired level of where they have gotten the support in terms of infrastructure at that point in time. So the input is commensurate with the output. The second side of my

perception is that at KW-IRS, with the type of infrastructural support given to KW-IRS, we have better technology, better equipment, better cooperation, better processes, so it has enhanced better performance and even the result is noticed. This is also seen in terms of the staff recruited. At least all the staff recruited are graduates and that's a huge starting point.

Mr Imam: What I can say accounts for improved performance is the weekly report done by directorates at weekly management team meeting. When reports have to be presented, it beholds on the head of directorate to give an impressive report. It is a welcome idea which accounts for improvement. More so is the monthly Field Feedback/Training whereby any directorate that performs excellently is rewarded. There is competition, a healthy one since it is geared towards the overall goal of organisation. Recently, the management team went

into retreat and that retreat was an impetus to the improvement of IGR, everyone was able to express his or mind and hindrances were tabled before other directorates so that brilliant ideas could be offered. When resolutions are reduced to a communiqué and followed to a certain level, it will go a long way to improve IGR. We are able to trace back where we have defects and what has to be done to improve performance.

What is KW-IRS doing differently from the old BIR that you observe is yielding positive results?

Mr Agbana: That is our feedback mechanism. This is in terms of taking feedback from staff and reporting even our collection on regular basis. It has helped to improve some of the lapses in the old Board. The other change that is yielding positive result borders on the way the staff are managed. Like when you want to go on leave, you are free, once you just apply, the approval will come immediately you make the request. So there is no bureaucratic bottleneck. Externally, the forum created by KW-IRS where stakeholders are engaged and feedback obtained has been yielding positive result.

Mr Imam: In the defunct BIR, we had one collection directorate: Enforcement and Collection. At KW-IRS we have three revenue generating directorates, High Net-worth Individuals & Corporate Organisations (HNI), MDA & Informal Sector. There was nothing like Informal Sector in the old BIR; it is the first of its kind in the history of Kwara State. This is one of the factors

that have given positive results. There also is capacity building through the training programme where we are asked to imbibe the spirit of SHIRT (Service, Honesty, Responsibility, & Trust which has been the guiding principle of every staff.

So also is performance bonus which would motivate staff to put in their best. In the old BIR, there was nothing of sort, we earned peanuts and there were no motivations even as an Assistant Director. And the basic remuneration adopted by KW-IRS is good compared to the civil service. I was confirmed and promoted recently. In the old BIR, one must first be confirmed before promotion and for confirmation; you have to wait 2 years. As such, I wasn't expecting that you can have confirmation and promotion the same day. It is great when one's hardwork is recognised and appreciated. So what else would you say you want? When people are motivated, it insulates them from corrupt practices.

The radio jingles have created awareness about KW-IRS and its activities. At the Informal level, resident were not informed about about tax issues until KW-IRS came onboard. The five Es of the Community Impact Program (CIP) which are: Environment, Education, Enterprise, Employment and Environment have also impacted positively on Kwarans. For example, the ultra modern public toilet donated to Ago market brought about a lot of reactions, someone said to me that the toilet is very beautiful. KW-IRS has been able to shape and depict the image of the Government in good light. These are some of the moves that have resulted into beautiful performance by the Service.

What would you have done differently at the old BIR?

Mr Agbana: That will be the issue of Direct Bank Lodgement (DBL). Directing all taxpayer to the bank to make their payments would have been better for the Board.

Mr Imam: Once revenue is dwindling you strategise. But no matter the level of strategy in place it is killed by bureaucracy characterised in civil service so it will not have a head way. You will not even be well funded to execute the strategy. Strategising is always just a window dressing one not usually implemented with the old board.

Let's go to you now specifically; I'm talking about you coming aboard KW-IRS. Many old BIR staff

chose to stay within the Ministry of Finance, but you're one of the few who joined the reform. Can you share with us what informed your decision, what convinced you to join KW-IRS?

Mr Agbana: For me, two things informed my decision. One thing is that, you know the Government says the old BIR is not efficient and they want to transform to the point of effectiveness and efficiency. Some of us who had joined the Service earlier before this time and have witnessed the progressive trend of IGR want to see and experience what will happen at KW-IRS that will make it different from the old system. Secondly, it is believed that people in the civil service are unable to work in pressure driven environment and I wanted to see what that entails, or what makes the public service different from private agencies in terms of how we drive our activities, and those challenges that cannot make a civil servant work in the pressure driven environment. The challenge was a motivation. I wanted to experience how private agency functions and why a civil servant cannot fit in.

Mr Imam: We can see less than 2% of the defunct BIR staff here. The reason is that people are risk averse. But from academic knowledge, I believe the higher the risk, the higher the return. It is good to be a risk taker rather than an averter. As at then, there were rumours that the way the revenue will be driven is not for "people like us". So I summoned the courage since everything boils down to taxation, I was ready to take challenge. I wanted to have a taste of private sector driven environment so I can combine the quality of both (private and public) to gain a strong capacity building for myself and join the winning team.

What were your expectations coming into KW-IRS?

Mr Agbana: One thing that I expected was just the normal flow of activities, i.e. the way the activities will flow unhindered, the transition without any vacuum from the old system to allow the new system to continue. Another expectation was to see the trend, the way the IGR will grow thereby giving an increase as compared to the old Board. The other expectation was just the staff motivation. In the old board, when we talk of staff motivation, it was completely zero. I was expecting to see staff being motivated and encouraged to give a better performance that will justify the existence of the new system.

The five Es of the Community Impact Program (CIP) which are: Environment, Education, Enterprise, Employment and Environment have also impacted positively on Kwarans.

I must confess in those BIR days, we were not able to lay hands on how to write letters and proposals, this is where we have access. Then (days of BIR), everything was submitted to the Ministry of Finance and they dictated the tone of operation. But with the autonomy, one is able to gather experience. Invariably, expectations are being met.

Mr Imam: I was made to realise that at KW-IRS, there is power to hire and fire, which is a fear many have. I must confess, when they said we are to resume by 8am everyday... at the old BIR, punctuality was not as high but I had made up my mind that I will face challenge. I had to adjust my personal schedule. As a HOD with the BIR, who would question my resumption time? But for KW-IRS, I have decided that on no occasion shall I come late and I have been able to break the jinx of lateness. I leave the house latest by 7am daily. After all, it is said that one must do the job of others how one would do one's own. Even at training, we are made to realise the need to imbibe the acronym of SHIRT. When you are in the midst of younger ones, you would not want to be the subject of ridicule, so you must imbibe. I must confess, joining KW-IRS has reformed me. That is just it. At the end of the day, one will retire and having gained experience from public service and private, one can combine this for a firm and transform from tax administrator to tax practitioner. In the course of examining records here, you are able to learn more. So it is an avenue to further development and thinking outside the box.

So are your expectations being met?

Mr Agbana: Yes, my expectations are being met.

Mr Imam: In fact, I must confess in those BIR days, we were not able to lay hands on how to write letters and proposals, this is where we have access. Then (days of BIR), everything was submitted to the Ministry of Finance and they dictated the tone of operation. But with the autonomy, one is able to gather experience. Invariably, expectations are being met. This is coupled with the calibre of people I attend management team meeting with. Most Directors, especially the EC, have managerial acumen and the way they handle issues is admirable. They are role models in capacity building. They handle issues maturely. This includes the female directors as well. You can derive a lot of wisdom from their tact; kudos to the Directors of HNI, Alhaja. Iyabo Abubakar and Admin, Mrs Adenike Babajamu in absentia.

Are there ways your expectations could be even better met?

Mr Agbana: In any system there's always room for improvement, room to make progress. Staff can be better motivated for an enhanced performance. One, staff training i.e. capacity building, two, performance bonus and three, staff welfare. One of the ways to improve IGR public awareness campaign and

enforcement. Because I believe, even though we are making the awareness in the media, it is not still enough. Some people are still being very recalcitrant. So we still need to make more public enlightenment campaign and where it is expedient, carry out enforcement action. For now, the flow of activities is better but I will advise that there should be synergy among the various directorates in the system. So that the issue of this is TAA, this is HNI, MDA, OP, etc. will not arise. There should be synergy and cooperation among the various directorates of the Service.

Mr Imam: Gurus in taxation like Mama Tejutax and Prof. M. T. Abdulrazak could be brought in more. One can further benefit from them. When Prof MT came, there was an old believe I had about issuing Tax Clearance Certificate to companies and he was able to clarify it and we have adopted the system. We used to operate on mentality but he explained his opinion based on legality. It was an eye opener. Also the PAYE workshop we organised for employers, it will be good if it can come up twice in a year. When delivering a paper and questions are posed and you benefit from the intelligent questions. Such further enhances one's capacity.

Tell us, do you have any regrets?

Mr Agbana: Not at all. I have no regrets whatsoever.

Mr Imam: Why I don't have regrets is that the practice in the old BIR centred on taxation and what we are doing is nothing different from generating revenue and handling tax matters. When you have instincts and interest, you'll be able to work. If the job has to do with taxation, no regrets for me. I'm getting better interpretation of the law other than how it was used in BIR. For example, PITA becomes a book to go by, like the Qur'an to me, and Bible to Mr Agbana.

What is your advice to KW-IRS?

Mr Agbana: I advise that in the new KW-IRS, each directorate should come up with its work plan to avoid overlapping functions. Like TAA having work manual separate from HNI, Informal Sector, ACA, etc. so that all these things would be incorporated into one KW-IRS work manual.

Mr Imam: In spite of the autonomy we were given,

my advice is that we hold it in sanctity so it is not rubbished. The idea of the 5 Es of the Community Impact Program should be kept. It will always bail us out. The question normally asked by people is what has Government done? We should also play an advisory role to the Government, though we are not the executor, since we are to serve residents, the Management should always ask Government to keep promises so as not to relent on the revenue profile we have built for it

A challenge I have identified within KW-IRS is on the vehicles. We are yet to have sufficient vehicles to be aggressive in the tax drive. Every department should have its own. For instance, its one thing to raise assessment it is another thing to follow up to ensure that tax payers are abiding by the content of supervision. That's the audit part.

What is your advice for residents of Kwara from your experience then and your experience now?

Mr Agbana: Tax is a civic and compulsory obligation that they owe as a duty to the State Government so they should pay their tax as at when due.

Mr Imam: Christian or Muslim, the two religions support payment of tax. Kwarans should ensure that in line with this religious believe, they should try as much as possible to play their part and pay their tax. It is the first line of charge of every individual's income. Those that are self-employed are the major challenge. For God's sake, just pay. There are countries without oil that are surviving, taxation is their real instrument. If we can imbibe that culture, it will save us from the recession our country is faced with due to the drop in oil revenue and this is seriously affecting the state in the country except for states like Lagos State that has imbibed the tax culture long before now.

What is your message in terms of trust and utilisation of revenue?

Mr Agbana: One, tax payers can now verify the

genuineness of any documents obtained from KW-IRS even from the KW-IRS website. Two, the Government should also have dedicated project that can be pointed at as projects conducted with tax payers' money and label it appropriately. Three, the Community Impact Project (CIP) is really impacting the lives of Kwara residents.

Mr Imam: If you look at present crop of KW-IRS staff, everyone is a graduate. This was not so with the defunct BIR, until about 3 years to the extinct board where most of the recruits that joined the Service were not graduates. In the new IRS, there was a reliable recruitment process with the essence to scrutinise and measure whether candidates can deliver. At KW-IRS, it is believed that every staff recruited is trainable. Even the residents of Kwara can see the impact of the training in their daily interactions with KW-IRS staff. I keep on emphasising that our 5 Es because this is a signal that Kwarans can repose confidence in KW-IRS. We are just starting and not yet at our peak, yet we can point at achievements by the Service such as, tax clubs and Community Impact Programme (CIP). We are partners in progress with the Executive arm of Government. I must however say that KW-IRS is not doing it alone; these are Government projects since we are its agents. Whatever we do should be seen as dividend of democracy and pointer that when we reach our peak we'll do more so people should keep confidence in KW-IRS.

Any final words?

Mr Agbana: I wish the establishment success and long life. Thank you.

Mr Imam: Thank you.

Thank you very much, sirs.

At KW-IRS, it is believed that every staff recruited is trainable. Even the residents of Kwara can see the impact of the training in their daily interactions with KW-IRS staff. I keep on emphasising that our 5 Es because this is a signal that Kwarans can repose confidence in KW-IRS. We are just starting and not yet at our peak, yet we can point at achievements by the Service such as, tax clubs and Community Impact Programme (CIP).

OFFICIAL LAUNCHING AND SIGNING OF THE INFRASTRUCTURAL FUND KWARA (IF-K)

Yetunde Elegboja



Executive Governor, Kwara State, Alhaji AbdulFatah Ahmed signing IF-K



Recitation of National Anthem

Having conceptualized a design for the realization of a new Kwara and the financial framework to achieve this dream, the Executive Governor of Kwara State, Alhaji. (Dr) Abdulfatah Ahmed made two bold executive steps after his re-election and swearing in ceremony May 2015 by signing into law the establishment of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) which lay to rest the existence of the former Board of Internal Revenue (KBIR) and also the signing into law the Kwara State Private Public Partnership bills of which

Private Public Partnership (KP3) is to create the strategic framework to achieve the infrastructural developmental project aspirations of the state while the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) is to provide the financial structure to achieve the creation of the new Kwara which according to His Excellency is intended to be a project that will be ongoing even after the completion of his tenure which is gradually wrapping up and on Tuesday, 25 September 2016, the Infrastructural Fund Kwara (IF-K) was officially launched in the State.

In his opening remarks, the Director General, KP3 and the Economic and Financial Advisor to His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Kwara State, Alhaji. (Dr). Abdulfatah Ahmed, Mr. Yomi Ogunsola expressed appreciation to His Excellency for the confidence reposed in him and his team as well as the opportunity given to them to be a part of the change achiever of Kwara. Mr. Yomi Ogunsola made a quick reflection into the year 2013 when His Excellency was re-elected and the charge His Excellency gave to him and his team on the need for a system to be created for the development of Kwara State.

The KP3 boss further itemized the task given to him and his team by the Governor Abdulfatah to find solution to: How Kwara will remain viable as a state in lieu of the economy reality our nation is faced with which is reflective on the states, How Kwara will survive in the worsening scarcity, How Kwara will emerge stronger and lastly, How Kwara having survived the present odds will never go back into any form of financial constraints and lack of infrastructural development. To achieve this, Mr. Ogunmola admitted that, a review on the state IGR and a private partnership driven environment is the only solution to the present state challenge. Using the Integrated Health Centre in Turkey as an example, Mr. Ogunmola briefed that as much as 1.4 billion naira of private partnership funds brought about the Integrated Health Centre project achievement for Turkey. Coming down home, he used Lagos State as an example where private partnership has brought about the 5 billion naira worth street lights project in Lagos, provided the Light Rapid Transit (LRT) and a lot more projects.

To further assure dignitaries present of the infrastructural developmental magic the Intrafund Kwara (IF-K) can deliver, Mr. Yomi Ogunmola announced to all that in the course of the week, an MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) was signed with the contractors. He excitingly stated that the contractors are now **“Partners”** because they have agreed to work hand in hand with the Kwara State Government towards the development of Kwara. The DG, KP3, Mr. Yomi Ogunsola revealed that all that is witnessed today could not have been possible if not for the efficiency of the State House of Assembly that without much ado signed to law the bill passed by His Excellency, Governor Abdulfatah on the establishment of Infrastructure Fund Kwara (IF-K) haven seen the benefits enveloped in this strategy for the development of Kwara.

Mr. Yomi Ogunsola expounded on the



Partners, dignitaries present at the official launch of IF-K



Royal fathers at the official launch of IF-K



Mr Yomi Ogunsola, D.G, Kp3 giving a background into the establishment of IF-K



The Hon. Commissioner, Ministry of Finance, Mr Banu making a comment



Presentation of signed document at the launch of IF-K

Infrastructural Fund Kwara (IF-K) project which is a scheme set up by the state to contribute money towards developmental projects by saving 500 million naira monthly from the Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) from the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) which is the only assigned revenue collection agency for Kwara State. The KP3 boss further stressed that this development gives assurance to partners (contractors) that their moneys will be paid. Mr. Yomi Ogunsola noted that the Infrastructure fund Kwara (IF-K) project have gained the confidence of the private sector, have given partners (contractors) opportunity to do their work because of the infrastructural seed capital of 500 million naira monthly for projects of 300 million naira and above.

In an interview clip that was shown on the occasion, the Director, Admin & Corporate Affairs Directorate of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) confirmed that the IF-K concept agrees with the vision of KW-IRS which is *Mobilizing Revenue for the Strategic development of Kwara State*. In his own opinion, Engr. Babatunde affirms that the Intrafund Kwara concept will control the problem of pricing that messes up projects. He is of the opinion that pricing will be current because there is already money on ground to purchase materials almost immediately

after quotation is sourced for. He further stressed that Intrafund Kwara will also control the purchase of substandard materials by contractors all in a bid to manage fund due to increase in prices of the materials initially quoted for.

Giving his spectacular speech, the Executive Governor of Kwara State, Alhaji. (Dr) Abdulfatah Ahmed congratulated Kwarans on the official launch and signing of the Infrastructural Fund Kwara (IF-K) which is the scheme put in place by the state government through its Private Public Partnership (PPP) unit which is under the directorship of Mr. Yomi Ogunsola. His Excellency affirmed that, the signing into law of KW-IRS have tripled the Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) of the state thus the Private Public Partnership (PPP) unit of the state have institutionalized public private relationship. Dr. Abdulfatah explained that the Infrastructural Fund Kwara (IF-K) is established for the infrastructural development of Kwara State by setting aside 500 million naira monthly to service 300 million naira worth of projects and above. His Excellency further revealed that the Infrastructural Fund Kwara project have no state interference has trustees who are from selected financial institutions have been assigned as trustees for the IF-K funds. He gave the list of the trustees as, Investment One, Guarantee Trust Bank (GTB) and Sterling Bank.



Governor Abdulfatah Ahmed signing the IF-K mandate



Director, Legal, monitoring and Enforcement with Director, Admin & Corporate Affairs at the event



Dignitaries present at the official launch of IF-K

The Executive Governor of Kwara State, Dr. Abdulfatah Ahmed further articulated on the Irrevocable Standing Payment Order (ISPO) legally provided for IF-K which makes the scheme free from state interference and that the trustee will only pay contractors (partners) upon the issuance of Certificate of Project Conclusion by the partners. His Excellency however noted that, the funds will be financed through the 5 billion naira seed fund and 500 million naira monthly from the IGR. He added that additional non-IGR funds from the Federal Government and Global Development partners will also be added. Governor Abdulfatah however assured that there shall never again be any case(s) of abandoned project in Kwara State. He further assured that once the rains are over, major projects in roads, energy, education and health will commence in the state.

The amiable Governor of Kwara State further stated that a total of 1.7 billion naira have been disbursed as the states commitment to pay all outstanding contractors debt while the balance to be paid from IF-K is 9.4 billion naira. He conversely stressed that a total of 5.8 billion would have been pumped into the Infrastructural Fund Kwara (IF-K) in 10 months. Governor Ahmed without wasting time announced the Diamond Inter-Change Fly Over which he said will be commissioned the day after IF-K launch, 26 September 2016 and the Asphalt plant a week after the flag off of the Geri-Alimi fly over.



The Executive Governor of Kwara State, Alhaji Abdulfatah Ahmed in a group photograph with the Director Kp3, Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, SSA Government House and partners during the official launch of IF-K

KW-IRS PLAYS HOST TO ILORIN EMIRATE DESCENDANTS PROGRESSIVE UNION (IEDPU)

AbdulHakeem AbdulRahman

The management team of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) headed by its Executive Chairman, Dr. Muritala Awodun on Monday 19 September 2016 played host to delegates of Ilorin Emirate Descendants Progressive Union (IEDPU) at its Revenue House. Present with the Executive Chairman were Director, Admin and Corporate Affairs, Mr. 'Lekan Rotimi, Director, Informal Sector, Mr. Segun Olaniyi, Director, HNI and Corporate, Alhaji N. O. Muhammed, Director, Operations and Process, Mrs. Adenike Babajamu, Director, MDAs, Alhaja. Iyabo Abubakar and Director, Legal and Enforcement, Dr. Isaac Gbenle.

Dr. Awodun welcomes the delegates of the Ilorin Emirate Descendants Progressive Union (IEDPU) and apologised for the belated nature of the visit. The Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr. Muritala Olakitan Awodun added that the Service could have called for a meeting with the Ilorin Emirate Descendant Progressive Union (IEDPU) much earlier but many things were militating against it. Dr. Awodun stressed that the motive of establishing the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) was basically ascribed to the State Government's responsiveness to look inward, considering the



President, IEDPU and Executive Chairman, KW-IRS



KW-IRS Management Team



Executive Chairman, addressing IEDPU delegates



Members of the IEDPU delegates



Executive Chairman presenting souvenir to the President, IEDPU

challenges of the recent times after the State had for many years been negligent in making the best use of most of its resources in boom years of oil price.

Dr. Awodun further emphasised one of the mandates of the Service which is to block all forms of revenue leakages so that revenue that are adequately and appropriately collected by the Service gets to the coffers of the government. This he says calls for reorganisation and rearrangement if great results should be achieved, hence, the need to collaborate with the Local Governments on revenue collection which according to him the collaboration with the local government will control revenue leakages as well as multiple taxation. Dr. Awodun explained that the Service as part of its advocacy strategies visited all the 16 Local Government Areas in the State primarily to seek support of royal fathers and charge their course for the success of this assignment.

The Chairman, IEDPU, Alhaji Abdul Hamid Hadi who also led the delegates commended the management of KW-IRS for their unalloyed commitment to helping the state in becoming self-sufficient which has particularly manifested in increased Internally Generated Revenue (IGR). He however stated that the purpose of the visit was to ask questions about the new citizenship application form concerning the reduced number of signing stages from four to two, as he felt if they had been earlier consulted, they would have advised the Service appropriately. He added that all the four signing stages are very important and from his experience as the Chairman of his own Area Development Association, he has seen and stood against many anomalies.

In his response, Dr. Awodun stated that the Service agreed to centralise the process even though they tussled with the problem of who would support the new system which has been designed to end the exploitative attempts at every stage of signing. It was also learnt that some people after the whole application process of citizenship would realise that they had spent about N6,000 and even more in some cases. He however expressed his displeasure at the how some councillors put politics into play to the disadvantage of the people from opposition party.

One of the delegates of the Ilorin Emirate Descendants Progressive Union (IEDPU), Alhaji Yahaya Arijio noted that the Citizenship Certificate is a vital document when it comes to even distribution of various opportunities and benefits for citizens of a particular locality so the Service as an authority should be extremely careful about its issuance of the citizenship certificate to those who are entitled to it. He stressed that IEDPU is a formidable body of stakeholders that is prepared to support KW-IRS in giving no room to porosity of citizenship certificate issuance. He added that citizenship certificate by constitution makes anyone who has stayed for 10 years in a locality a true citizen of that locality.

Dr. Awodun further stated that the Executive Governor of Kwara State, Alhaji Abdulfatah Ahmed disowning the Local Governments saying that the State Government has continued to demonstrate its high sense of responsibility and responsiveness by giving out 10% of its Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) to the Local Governments aside from their allocations from Federal Account.



KW-IRS Management Team in a group photograph with IEDPU delegates

Ink In My Pen



The ink in my pen
Like fuel flowing through the engine
My power, my strength, my inner voice
As blood running through the human veins
The ink in my pen
Directing my thoughts
Pouring unreservedly the unspoken truth of reality
Inscribing in the hearts of man the reality of our time
Sincerely but unbelievably true
The ink in my pen
Writing history; an unspoken tale of survival
Drawing, painting pictures in the heart of men
The calamity, uncertainties and holocaust
That must be avoided
Directing all towards a personal responsibility
To change and do things differently
Not changing the change but being the change
Not condemning others but reforming oneself
Not passing the blame but taking the blame
By accepting personal responsibility
and taking consciously guided steps
Towards becoming the change we all want to see

INSIDE NEXT ISSUE

 KW-IRS
KWAREVE News

- Joint Press Conference between KW-IRS & Joint Revenue Committee (JRC)
- KW-IRS conducts a joint Press Briefing with the Ministry of Information
- National Association of Kwara State Students (NAKSS) return in appreciation to the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS
- Exclusive Interview...
- Community Impact Programme
- KW-IRS kick starts the 1st Annual Tax Club Quiz Competition in Kwara State
- Feature Article: Personal Income Tax Collection, Process and Procedure.

HEAR ME OUT

Hello!

Some consultants came to my shop with a demand notice from KW-IRS. I want to confirm if there is any payment in that respect by KW-IRS and if the consultant is genuine.

Mayowa from Tanke

Dear Mayowa,
Thank you for making this important information available to us. Demand notice is a legal document used to demand for payment from any revenue Service after proper assessment which is done by enumeration on properties. It is only unfortunate that you did not provide us with the name of the consultant that served you the demand notice so we can guide you on whether the consultant is genuine or not. I suggest you bring a copy of the demand

A column just for you! Views to air, concerns to voice, questions to ask? Let's hear you out.

notice issued to you to our Corporate Head office for proper guide.

Thank you.

I have tried to access your website several times without any success using www.kwirs.com. Are you sure your website is functioning?

Nasiru

Dear Mr. Nasiru,
Let me seize this medium to inform you that there was an omission in the address you entered everytime you made an attempt to visit KW-IRS site. The correct address is **www.kw-irs.com**.

Thank you.



MOUTH ODOUR AND BAD BREATH:

WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT

Fareedah Abdulwahab

Mouth odour and bad breath could be said to have occurred when the mouth discharges obnoxious smell. Also known as *Halitosis* or *malodour*, **mouth odour** is caused by bacteria that possess the tongue or hides in the mouth.

In most cases, mouth odour occurs only for a short time but if not controlled, it becomes a stubborn issue to deal with. It is however important to note that, everyone sometimes experience cases of bad breath and this can be observed in a situation whereby an individual is fasting, while sleeping or even when an individual have not talked for some hours. These are examples of partial mouth odour and it occurs when the mouth has been shut for a long time.

Has it ever occurred to you that tooth brushing and dental floss are no outright solutions to bad breath and mouth odour? This is mainly because most cases of bad breath are caused by bacterial that hides on the gums and tongue – NOT the teeth. Bad breath is not a stench that is notable from the physical appearance of a carrier but can only be perceived when the victim opens his/her mouth to talk. People avoid a mouth odour patient because nobody want to stand the stench that accompanies a mouth odour patient. A mouth odour patient can lose confidence and friends easily. Everybody has nasty breath at some point, like when you get out of bed in the morning. It is therefore important that you look out for yourself every morning before you step out. Some causes of mouth odor include trapped food particles in the mouth. When food remains in the mouth, it becomes a reproduction ground for bacteria that can cause bad breath. Other causes of Halitosis include smoking, diseases, dry mouth, poor hygiene and dental problems.

Here are few ways to cure bad breath - hopefully for good.

- Ø **Brush and Floss:** The action of brushing your teeth is more significant than the type of toothpaste you use. Your mouth contains millions of bacteria. In fact, there are probably more bacteria settled in your mouth than there are cells in your entire body. Start by keeping your mouth clean. Brush your teeth thoroughly at least twice a day, and floss once a day. In addition, Replace your toothbrush every 2 to 3 months. This will help remove the food trapped between your teeth, as well as the food trapped in the gum line.
- Ø **Baking Soda:** Baking soda is an incredible antidote for bad breath, it changes the pH (acidity) level in your mouth, which results in a less welcoming atmosphere for odour-causing bacteria. Add some

baking soda on your toothbrush, brush with it, and then rinse with water. Alternatively purchase toothpastes that already contain baking soda

- Ø **Brush The Tongue** - When you are brushing your teeth, also brush your tongue. The tongue is covered with thousands of tiny hairs that can trap bacteria and lead to mouth odour and bad breath.
- Ø **Drink Water** - If your mouth is dry, drink plenty of water. Try swooshing it around in your mouth for at least twenty seconds to loosen any food particles the bacteria can feed upon.
- Ø **Avoid Smoking:** If you looking for the best remedy to help fight bad breath and mouth odor stop smoking. Cigarette lovers have a high chance of experiencing bad breath and mouth odor. Smoking also lead to dry mouth which allows for halitosis.
- Ø **Eat Fruits:** Make it a daily habit of eating fruits daily especially those that contain vitamin C. They help in fighting bacteria that causes mouth odor. Also eat veggies like carrots.
- Ø **Avoid Spiced Food:** Food that contain spice like garlic, ginger etc. also cause the mouth to smell. If at all the food must be consumed brush your teeth after eating to get a fresh breath.
- Ø **Lemon:** The acidic component of lemon helps to kill bacteria growth in your mouth. The beautiful smell of lemon masks bad breath away. Wash your mouth well with lemon water twice a day to get rid of bad breath.
- Ø **Mint:** Mint is a good mouth fresher for everyone. You chew mint flavor chewing gum in your mouth to fight the odor. It also helps to refresh the breath.

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The Era of Abandoned Projects Is Over In Kwara State:

DR. ABDULFATAH AHMED

EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR, KWARA STATE

Fareedah Abdulwahab



Diamond-Split prototype

The Diamond Inter-Change Fly Over was officially flagged off by His Excellency, The Executive Governor of Kwara State, Alhaji (Dr) Abdulfatah Ahmed on 26 September 2016 at Geri Alimi. In attendance on this special occasion were Members of the State House of Assembly, Honourable Commissioner for Works and Transport, Honourable Commissioners, Senior Special Assistants to the Governor, Special Assistants, Local Government Chairmen, Former Grand Kadi Shariah Court of Appeal, Members of the State Security Council, Royal Fathers, Chief Imam of Kwara State, Religious Leaders, Captains of Industries, Manufacturers, Representatives of Unions and Association, Gentlemen of the Press, amongst others.

In his opening address, Honourable Commissioner for



Executive Governor, giving his speech during the flag-off of the Diamond Split Interchange Fly Over

Works and Transport, Mr Aro Yahaya commended the effort of His Excellency, Alhaji (Dr) Abdulfatah for the brilliant innovation for the erection of a first class road network in Kwara State which is the Split Diamond Inter Change Fly Over for. The Honourable Commissioner further explained that the construction of the overhead bridge will reduce

congestion on the roads. He also attested that the fly over bridge will be a gate way to Southern Nigeria. The commissioner revealed that the road will lead to major establishments in Ilorin such as Ilorin International Aviation College, Ilorin Airport, Cargo Terminal Building, State General Hospital to mention but a few. The Honourable Commissioner for Works and Transport added that the Split Diamond Interchange is a convergence for four arterial roads that is, Airport road, Asa Dam road, Umoru Saro road and Dr. Saraki Way.

Mr Aro Yahaya, added that the project when completed will not only decongest the chaotic traffic situation on the road but also add more aesthetic value to the ancient city of Ilorin. He added that interim alternative arrangement has been made to ease the inconveniences the execution of the project may cause for road users. Such alternative routes include Airport – Egbejila- Asa Dam Road, Hajj Camp Road- Dr Olusola Saraki Road to mention just a few. Engr. Aro Yahaya explained that the Split Diamond Inter Change Project has been awarded to Messrs Duravil Engineering Ltd and Bal Engineering Ltd at a contract sum of Three Billion, Seven Hundred and Sixty Eight Million, Nine Hundred and Nineteen Thousand, Three Hundred and Ninety – One Naira and Forty Nine Kobo (N3, 768,919,391.49) after due process was followed for the execution of Federal Government Project by the State Government.

Honourable Commissioner for Works and Transport, Mr Aro Yahaya however expounded that the project is divided into three sections which are, Section 1 : The Split Diamond Inter Change (Under pass), Section 2: Widening of the Road to the Junction of Saw Mill Garage, Section 3: Widening of the Road from Saw Mill Garage to General Hospital. He added that the Section 1 of the project is awarded with a contract sum of Two Billion, Nine Hundred and Thirty Million, Eight Hundred and Forty – Seven Thousand, Two Hundred and Fifty – Two Naira and Six Kobo (N2, 930,847,255.06). Engr. Aro Yahaya guaranteed Kwarans that the project will not be abandoned and the state government will mobilize the needed resources to ensure its completion within the stipulated 18 months.

Mr Bashir Lawal, the project coordinator, BAL Engineering Ltd, one of the companies contacted for the erection of the Split Diamond Inter-Change Fly Over, introduced the project to all present and assured of the competence of BAL Engineering to

deliver. He stressed that a lot of factors have brought about the need for the fly over. He made reference to Eyekonrin Geri- Alimi which was upgraded to double carriage in 2004, but according to findings carried out 4,350 vehicles passes per hour on that route, hence a need for immediate expansion and creation of alternative. He added that in order to reduce tension on the road, to reduce delay and also improve the economy there is need for fly over bridge. Mr Bashir Lawal commended the administration of Alhaji (Dr) Abdulfatah Ahmed for bringing development into Kwara State and for constructing the first ever Diamond Inter change Fly Over in Kwara State. He explained that the roundabout looks like diamond and it will be well protected.

The Executive Governor of Kwara State, Alhaji (Dr) Abdulfatah Ahmed in his speech assured Kwarans that the era of abandoned projects is over in Kwara State. Dr. Abdulfatah emphatically stated that Kwara State will maintain old projects and new project will also be established for the infrastructural development of Kwara State. The number one citizen of Kwara further detailed on the efforts of his administration to ensure that infrastructural



Honourable Commissioner for Works, Alhaji Aro Yahaya, and Executive Governor, Alhaji Abdulfatah Ahmed



Chief Imam of Ilorin, Alhaji Sheikh Imam, Solihu Muhammad Bashir

development doesn't end in Kwara even 3-4 administration after his present administration which is gradually ending.

His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Kwara, Alhaji. Abdulfatah Ahmed further educated Kwarans of the Infrastructure Fund Kwara (IFK) which was designed specifically to fund infrastructural projects of 300 million naira worth of contract and above in Kwara State. The money which is monthly removed from the monthly collections by the Kwara State Board of Internal Revenue (KW-IRS) on behalf of the state government. He conversely appealed to Kwarans to continue to ensure the payment of their tax so that more developmental projects can be established in Kwara. The governor noted that the Split Diamond inter Change Project in Geri Alimi is financed with tax payers money. He however affirmed that his administration is transparent and will give full support to the residents of Kwara State.



Dignitaries at the event



Dignitaries at the event



Mr Bashir Lawal (BAL Engineering Ltd)



The Governor unveiling the Diamond Inter Change Flyover



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

KW-IRS VISION

By: Doyinsola Akande

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Z | U | H | B | J | Z | E | K | M | A | J | F | D | V | M |
| D | S | C | T | R | Q | G | O | U | Z | R | L | P | O | U |
| Z | E | J | K | B | E | B | G | Q | W | L | A | T | H | E |
| M | X | V | J | H | I | H | V | T | W | Q | X | W | Q | E |
| B | P | P | E | L | G | D | V | B | S | O | N | I | K | K |
| F | L | X | I | L | Q | X | P | C | E | G | S | P | I | R |
| X | F | Z | W | C | O | X | K | S | T | J | T | V | O | Q |
| J | E | T | Y | U | O | P | I | Z | A | O | R | F | Z | K |
| F | Y | X | H | R | O | J | M | M | T | X | A | R | Z | C |
| R | T | V | L | B | J | W | A | E | S | V | T | C | Y | L |
| Y | T | A | B | M | A | S | O | P | N | E | E | W | R | A |
| E | U | N | E | V | E | R | A | M | N | T | G | J | G | C |
| Z | H | Y | C | F | H | G | L | P | F | O | I | P | Y | S |
| Q | X | V | E | E | S | F | S | Q | K | K | C | P | B | F |
| B | R | P | I | U | L | V | O | Q | U | P | V | X | Q | D |

Instructions: Search up, down, forward, backward and diagonal to find the Sixteen (16) hidden Local Government Areas in Kwara State

MOBILIZE
REVENUE
FOR
THE

STRATEGIC
DEVELOPMENT
KWARA
STATE

Send your solutions, your name and phone number via email to press@kw-irs.com with the subject: Puzzle Solution to Volume 2 Issue 10

Solution to Kwareve News Issue 9 Crossword Puzzle

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N | D | C | D | Z | N | O | D | A | W | A | U | S | I | Z |
| E | S | E | W | N | I | R | O | J | S | I | X | G | | |
| Q | N | U | R | A | A | O | B | O | P | U | J | O | K | |
| R | T | P | K | E | E | N | O | M | U | B | K | H | E | |
| Z | K | X | A | B | A | A | D | O | E | S | L | J | | |
| X | C | A | I | N | S | T | F | X | E | Z | F | H | | |
| N | X | S | M | E | T | U | D | U | I | D | H | G | | |
| L | N | G | A | Q | X | B | L | E | Z | F | N | S | C | |
| Y | F | S | F | H | W | O | P | Q | S | H | L | B | | |
| T | H | A | K | L | T | G | D | H | E | D | H | F | | |
| S | U | B | K | J | M | A | M | U | C | F | B | O | U | |
| Q | F | R | K | G | N | P | O | N | G | J | L | E | O | J |
| D | F | F | O | H | T | J | N | I | K | K | R | Z | G | |
| T | H | K | Z | X | B | U | E | O | K | A | Z | Z | A | R |
| S | V | P | A | S | B | R | R | D | U | L | M | O | J | P |

- ASA
- BARUTEN
- EDU
- EKITI
- IFELODUN
- ILORINEAST
- ILORINSOUTH
- ILORINWEST
- IREPODUN
- ISIN
- KAIAMA
- MORO
- OFFA
- OKEERO
- OYUN
- PATIGI

Congratulations to Issue 9 winners:

- 1st Prize: Oluwashola Ojegenbro
- 2nd Prize: Soliu Mohammed Lanre
- 3rd Prize: Dele Ayangbola



Nasir Muhammad

Nasir Muhammad is a staff of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) who is deployed to serve under the directorate of Operations and Process. Nas, as he is fondly called is a very versatile staff who works with a lot of energy, humility and dynamism.

His ability to multitask and his excitement at resolving challenges as moved him from the Helpdesk to the post of a web administrator. Nasir Muhammad deserves this great recognition for the value he has added to the directorate of Operations and Process and his tireless contribution to the Service in general. Congratulations Nasir!!!

Taxpedia

Faridah AbdulWahab

ROAD TAXES

Road taxes are tax levied on an individual or business for the use of a vehicle on roads located within the city or state. Road taxes are also known as Vehicle Excise Duty. The Joint Tax Board defines Vehicle Excise Duty Tax “as any compulsory charge that provides legitimate authority to road users”.

Compulsory Road Taxes includes: Registration of motor vehicles, Purchase of number plates, Vehicle License, Learners permit, Hackney Permit, Change of Ownership, Drivers License and Renewal of Drivers Licence.

The Federal Road Safety (FRSC) is responsible for the issuance of drivers' license and collection of the speculated fee for drivers licence as well as number plate charges. While the State Board of Internal Revenue is responsible for issuance and fee collection for Hackney Permits, Proof of Ownership certificate, Registration fees, Road Worthiness certificate, Vehicle Identification Tags, Vehicle License and Vehicle and Motorcycle Plates.

Reference

Somorin, Teju (2015) *A Concise Review of Different Tax Types*, Chartered Institute of Taxation Nigeria. (CITN), CITN-TEJUTAXNo2

ONE THING THAT IS CONSTANT IN LIFE IS VALUE, DISCOVERING IT IS ANOTHER: DR. MURITALA AWODUN

Yetunde Elegboja

A group of young, dynamic, adventurous and enterprising youths led by its association President, Mr. Abideen Olasupo, a fresh graduate of the department of Chemistry, University of Ilorin paid a courtesy visit to the Corporate Office of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) to formally introduce their association to the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr. Muritala Awodun and the management team of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS). The essence of the visit was to acquaint the Service with their activities and form alliance with KW-IRS on its Community Impact Programme. In attendance with the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS was the Director, Admin & Corporate Affairs Directorate, Mr. Lekan Rotimi and some staff of the Corporate Unit of the Directorate of Admin & Corporate Affairs.

With the President, Brain Builders Association, Abideen Olasupo on the visit were, Jimoh Nurah, 400L Law student, Abimbola Ridwanullahi 400L student of anatomy, Ijiaya Hakeemah 400L Law student, Mustapha Ahmed 400L Mass communication student and Ologuntere Abdul Azeem 400L Law student. Executive members of Brain Builders Association (BBL) in Kwara State.

Abideen Olasupo gave a brief into the establishment of Brain Builders Association (BBL) which was established in the year 2004. The BBL president gave a

line out of the achievements of Brain Builders Association which includes: Career Imposition, a programme set up to check student capacity, one year Entrepreneurship sponsorship which BBL did in association with Self Reliance Advancement Programme (SEAP) where a token of N50,000 was given to young entrepreneurs with a convincing proposals to start up proposed business, Workshop with an organization in Germany on Plant a Tree Initiative; a project that encourages tree planting in view of the global warming that the world is face with, Ending Sexual Harassment, a programme done in partnership with USA org in 2014, Girl child Education, Health projects among others.

The President, BBL, Abideen Olasupo applauded the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) under its pioneer Executive Chairman, Dr. Muritala Awodun stressing that the impact of the Service in the state have gone a long way to bring back hope to Kwarans especially through the Community Impact Programme (CIP) initiated by the Service. He commended the reconstruction of the 40 burnt shops at the Baboko Market by the IRS, the patching of roads by the Service, the clearing of markets, donation of ultra modern toilet facilities among others. Abideen further gave kudos to the management and staff of the Kwara IRS on the outstanding collection results recorded by KW-IRS in less than a year which is far above what the old board collected in the whole of 2015 calendar year. He affirmed that the Brain Builders Association (BBL) is thrilled about this performance and that the association can boldly say that KW-IRS have made Kwarans proud.

The young orator further tabled the request of Brain Builders Association (BBL) to the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, asking for alliance with KW-IRS on some key projects which are tenable under the five Es adopted by the Service for its Community Impact Programme (CIP) the five Es which are: *Education*,



Group photograph of KW-IRS management team with the Executives of Brain Builders Association

Environment, Empowerment, Enterprise and Employment. He corroborated his points by stating that some of the projects conducted by BBL flows in the direction of the five Es set aside by KW-IRS. The young graduate without hesitant itemized some of the projects conducted by the association in recent times which he broke down as: Education, this the BBL association carried out in Kaiama, where the people from that community were sensitized on the importance of educating the girl child. Mr. Abideen without much ado spoke about the school debate Brain Builders Association is planning to hold in secondary schools, he stressed that this goes in the direction of the Tax Club initiative of KW-IRS and pray for an alliance between BBL and KW-IRS also in that direction. Other areas solicited for alliance with the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) by the Brain Builders Association (BBL) are tied to the area of Environment and Education. The association through its president further proposed to KW-IRS for BBL to create a social media platform on behalf of the Kwara IRS and also manage it using the host amount of followers the BBL social handles have. He proposed the page as #Track Kwara IGR @twitter or #Follow Your Money @twitter.

Rounding off the speech from the Brain Builder Association, Ijaiya was of the opinion that as a group of young graduates and undergraduates, the Brain Builders Association (BBL) can do a lot in spreading the gospel of tax to Kwarans, their friends and parents. She further appreciated the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr. Muritala Awodun and the Director, Admin & Corporate Affairs for the warm reception received by the association.

As a youth passionate individual who always extol the coming together of young men and women for the purpose of advancement and a mind set of impacting their community, the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr. Muritala Awodun expressed full appreciation to the president of Brain Builders Association (BBL) and his team members. He congratulated these young achievers stating that they have been able to discover their value. Dr. Awodun further buttressed his point by saying that one thing that is constant in life is value, discovering it is another. He however admonished the BBL team to remain focus and ensure that they pursue their dreams and life admiration to the last because they have the clear potentials of making it in life.

Dr. Awodun assured the BBL team that KW-IRS will do its best in supporting BBL on possible areas as convenient by the Service. Dr. Awodun nevertheless stressed that the Community Impact Project (CIP) conducted by the Kwara State Internal Revenue

Service (KW-IRS) is not the primary assignment of the Kwara IRS but the need for the Service to persuade and patronize the people brought about that initiative so as to bridge the gap by addressing people's problems. Dr. Awodun affirmed that revenue collection is not an easy task and require a lot of strategy, diplomacy and determination.

Dr. Awodun reiterated the importance of adding value which according to him was one of the reasons that necessitated the putting together of the Community impact Programme (CIP) which would not have been achievable without the consent of His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Kwara State, Dr. Abdulfatah Ahmed. The Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, stressed that there is truly the need for the provision of infrastructures such as good roads, clean and running water system, standard medical facilities, electricity, etc in the state. He however persuaded Kwarans stating that if the residents of Kwara cooperate with the demands of KW-IRS by playing their part through the payment of their tax, Kwara will achieve all this in no time. Rounding off his statement, the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, further charged the BBL members not to be too political in their dealings. He said political sponsorship might lead to the extinction of their association.



Executive Chairman, Dr. Awodun addressing members of Brain Builders Association (BBL)



Executives of Brain Builders Association (BBL)



Mr Lekan Rotimi, Director, Admin & Corporate Affairs



The Executive Chairman presenting a souvenir bag

MAGAZINE ENDORSEMENT



Mr Billy Adedamola Managing Director,
National Pilot Newspaper endorses KWAREVE News



Alhaja Adenike Abdulkareem Lambe,
Iyaloja General, Kwara State endorses KWAREVE News

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CONTENT

LAYOUT/
DESIGN

PRINT
QUALITY

ANY OTHER
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KW-IRS

KWARA STATE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Hereby advise the general public to pay their taxes, levies and rates to the following **Kwara State IGR Accounts** only at any branch of the respective banks listed below

| LIST OF IGR COLLECTION ACCOUNTS | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| S/N | BANK NAME | ACCOUNT NUMBER |
| 1 | DIAMOND BANK | 0072365510 |
| 2 | ACCESS BANK | 0004063946 |
| 3 | ECOBANK | 4822068065 |
| 4 | FCMB | 0897529151 |
| 5 | FIDELITY BANK | 5030063684 |
| 6 | FIRST BANK | 2029378380 |
| 7 | GTB | 0034886758 |
| 8 | HERITAGE BANK | 6003071503 |
| 9 | SKYE BANK | 1790106140 |
| 10 | STANBIC IBTC BANK | 9201637207 |
| 11 | STERLING BANK | 0049380670 |
| 12 | UBA | 1019295290 |
| 13 | UNION BANK | 0018799797 |
| 14 | UNITY BANK | 0025014446 |
| 15 | WEMA BANK | 0122584028 |
| 16 | ZENITH BANK | 1010522867 |
| 17 | KEYSTONE BANK | 6010010789 |
| 18 | JAIZ BANK | 0002241278 |

| | BANK | ACCOUNT NAME | ACCOUNT NO |
|-------------|------|--|------------|
| TSA ACCOUNT | GTB | KWARA STATE CENTRAL REVENUE COLLECTION ACCOUNT | 0199648356 |

Signed:

Muritala Awodun, PhD

Executive Chairman

KWARA STATE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Corporate Head Office: 27 Ahmadu Bello Way, Ilorin Kwara State

Email: info@kw-irs.com

Website: www.kw-irs.com

Telephone: 0700MYKWIRS (07006959477)

Mobilizing Revenue for the Strategic Development of Kwara State

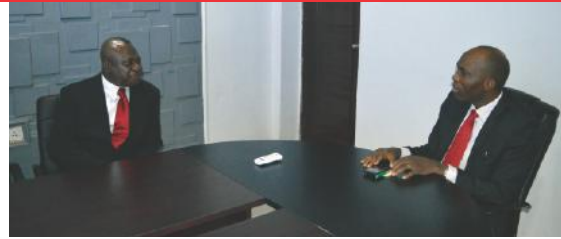
THE EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN, KW-IRS MEETS WITH THE MANAGING DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PILOT NEWSPAPER

Yetunde Elegboja

The Executive Chairman, KW-IRS paid host to the Managing Director, National Pilot Newspaper, a daily tabloid that is resident in Ilorin, the state capital of Kwara State on 4 October 2016. The essence of the visit is to further strengthen the existing relationship between the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) and the National Pilot Newspaper and also strategize on steps that would be beneficial to the two parties.

In his welcome remarks, the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS expressed full appreciation for the visit made over to the Corporate Head Office of the Service by the Management of the National Pilot Newspaper which was led by Mr. Billy Adedamola, the Managing Director, National Pilot Newspaper, Mrs. Motunrayo Abdulsalam, Business Manager, National Pilot Newspaper, Mr. Matthew Dennis Correspondent and the Photographer, National Pilot in person of Mrs. Bilikisu Ishaq. With the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr. Muritala Awodun was the Director, Admin & Corporate Affairs, Mr. 'Lekan Rotimi, Director, Operation & Process, Mrs. Adenike Babajamu and Yetunde Elegboja of the Corporate Affairs Unit.

The Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr. Awodun commended the efforts of the management of the National Pilot Newspapers for constant and adequate reporting of KW-IRS events, news beats and activities and for always ensuring that KW-IRS reports are properly delivered. Dr. Awodun however charged the management of National Pilot not to relent in its good works and desist for any form of publication that would blight the good reputation that has been



L-R: Mr. Billy Adedamola, MD National Pilot and The Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr Muritala Awodun

long established by National Pilot. He however commented on the coincidental visit made to the Revenue House by the management of National Pilot Newspapers this day which makes it exactly one (1) year which the him and the management of the Service assumed duty.

In his remarks, the Managing Director, National Pilot Newspaper, Mr. Billy Adedamola expressed profound gratitude to the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS for the warm reception. He gave kudos to the achievements of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) since inception which has drastically increased the state Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) up to the tone of 12 billion naira in nine (9) months. Mr. Billy however congratulated Dr. Awodun and the management of KW-IRS on their one year assumption of duty celebration.



KWAREVE News

Guidelines for Contributions

Subject Matter

Kwareve News is a monthly publication of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service. Articles on revenue and expenditure may be accepted for publication in Kwareve News. Articles on Tax Law, Policy and Administration are especially welcome.

Format

- All articles sent should include the full name of the writer(s) with the first name first. A one paragraph bio-data including organisational affiliations of the writer(s) must also be included.
- All articles must be sent as an attached Word document file.
- Articles should be written in size 12 of Garamond font on a digital A4 sized paper.
- Text should have at least 1.5 line spacing.
- All pages must be paginated and fully justified.
- Where images are involved, they should be pasted within text where appropriate as well as

attached individually as .jpg or .png files. Images attached must be not less than 300 resolution and 2MB.

- Figures, tables, charts, graphs, photographs, etc must be consecutively labelled.
- Submissions must be limited to **3 pages** (including tables, charts, pictures, etc).

Referencing

- All contents (text, diagrams, tables, images, etc) **must not be plagiarised**.
- All contents must be properly references, both in-text and end of text.
- References or bibliography are acceptable.
- The required style is the APA.

Submission

Submissions should be sent to press@kw-irs.com



- Supermarket
- Kitchen
- Wares
- Daily Goods
- Clothings
- Shoes
- Beverages & Wine
- Gifts & Souvenirs
- Perfumes
- Toys



26, Western Reservoir Olorunsogo Area, Off Gari Alimi,
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e-mail: peculiargracemultinational@gmail.com, debbymegar@yahoo.com
website: www.debbymega.com



Driving Economic Growth & Development Through Personal Business

BABATUNDE ANIFOWOSHE



Research has proven overtime that the resources of a nation cannot be equally divided. This allows for the tendency of some people getting richer than others as juxtaposed by “the asset price meltdown and the wealth of the middle class” Edward N.wolff, NYU (2012) .There are various reasons or causes for difference in earnings which borders on inheritance, education and opportunity.

It is observed that the most appropriate way the rich can help their community for the benefit of the less privileged and subsequently help the nation is by creating opportunities for people through the spirit of entrepreneurship. Many of our past top officials in the public and private sectors as well as many successful business individuals have gone without leaving any positive significant legacy behind. The consequence of this cannot be overemphasized because its negative effects is drastically affecting the state of financial freedom of the people in our society, hence, the bad effect on the state of the

economy. Many people believe in acquisition of numerous assets and accumulation of wealth for themselves and their immediate family without putting to cognizance what happens to others.

Prof. Peter Eriki says, *you can be a very successful business man with a lot of assets but if you have not created opportunity to develop a new idea through your business, you are not yet an entrepreneur.* What this simply means is that you should look beyond satisfying yourself and fulfilling your desires to the point of what you can do to make your community better, employ more hands and grow revenue for the government for the development of the state. It is however imperative to know that the saving culture is a welcomed idea but much can as well be done with little that would engender into what generations will live to enjoy





as portrayed by Ann Carns, April 2016 “Savings is very important, but if you can take a little to execute an idea, you'll make a better savings from the returns”. Another benefit is that, more hands would be employed and those employed will become better citizens by remitting the tax due to them to the government.

According to Peter Strope, *Legacy is not leaving something for people; it is leaving something in people.*

people tends to be contented with a portfolio business or one man business concerns when there is an undisputable fact that many individuals have the ability to establish an industry in this state, if everybody looks beyond satisfying themselves and think of helping their community with a calculated risk, then entrepreneurship will become everyone's profession.

There are two major benefits in creating a business that can employ a large number of workforces, the first is that, it will reduce the rate of unemployment and thereby reduce the rate of fraud, robbery, hooliganism, kidnapping, pipeline vandalism, internet scams, insurgency and other economic and societal threats.

Secondly, it will grow revenue for the government

at various levels because all employees are levied with Pay as You Earn (PAYE). Job creations will also increase the collection of Personal Income Tax (PIT) for sole proprietors and business owners of less than five staff members. This will further aid the strategic development of the state and reveal to the citizenry the benefits in paying tax only if the state government plays its own part by judiciously utilizing the revenue collected for the development of the state.

In conclusion, it is obvious that entrepreneurial task might be enormous and contain risk, however, the future has many names: to the weak, it is unattainable, to the fearful, it is unknown, to the bold; it is ideal. You must stand on the path of boldness because the future is better than you think.

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BABATUNDE ANIFOWOSHE is a staff of First Bank Plc, Ilorin

COURTESY VISIT TO EDU LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Yetunde Elegboja

The courtesy visit train of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) can never be conclusive without a visit to the palace of HRH. Alh. Saadu Adukawu Hairu, the Etsu of Lafiagi who is also the Chairman, Governing Council of Edu Local Government Traditional Rulers. The Kwara State Internal Revenue Service on 23 February 2016 commenced the stakeholders meeting round the 16 local governments of the state by making its first sensitization visit to Baruten local government after which the Executive Chairman led his team round 15 local governments and now, the visit to Edu local government which was also led by the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, in company of Mr. Lekan Rotimi, Admin & Corporate Affairs Director, Bello Mohammed, coordinator, Cattle Tax, Mrs. Amosa and other staff of the Service. Dignitaries present with the Etsu of Edu, Alh. Saadu Adukawu Hairu were, The Emir of Tsonga, Alhaji. Dr. Haliru Yahaya, ably represented by Alhaji. Nakordi Suleiman, The Rani of Tsonga, the Emir of Tsaragi, Alhaji. Aliyu Kpatwa, ably represented by Muhammed Saba, the Tsadzq of Tsaragi of the Service and the Chief Imam of Lafiagi, who took the opening prayers as directed by the Etsu of Lafiagi who said that *“God first, is the beginning of success”*.

Having paid reverence to HRH. Alh. Saadu Adukawu Hairu, OFR, the Etsu of Lafiagi, the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr. Muritala Awodun on behalf of the management and staff of the Kwara IRS expressed full appreciation to the Etsu of Lafiagi for the warm reception accorded the KW-IRS team. He nevertheless quickly apologised for the late visit of the KW-IRS team to Edu local



Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr Muritala Awodun at the palace of Etsu of Lafiagi

government. Dr. Awodun explained that this is the fifth time the visit to Edu was scheduled but unforeseen circumstance severally aborted the initial appointments given to the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS). Dr. Awodun without much ado revealed that the visit by KW-IRS team is a courtesy and sensitization one. He however emphasized on the need for the traditional rulers to work hand in hand with KW-IRS for a smooth revenue collection, hence, the development of Kwara State.

The Executive Chairman, KW-IRS

gave a brief into the law that constituted the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) and the defunct of the old Board of Internal Revenue (KBIR) with the intension of the state government to rejuvenate revenue collection in the state. He conversely stated that a focus on Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) is the way out for the government both at the Federal and State level in lieu of the crash in the oil sector worldwide which unfortunately is the major source of income of our nation. Dr. Awodun decried the laxity attitude of citizens in the past towards the monitoring of allocation distributed to states because of the general wrong



The Etsu of Lafiagi, HRH, Alhaji Saadu Adukawu Hairu

notion that federal allocation is money owned by politicians. Dr. Awodun further stressed that such a negative impression would be corrected through tax because the people understands that tax is money collected from the people for a developmental course and the people would require the government to be accountable for it.

Dr. Awodun made reference to the achievement of KW-IRS in eight (8) months where 11 billion naira has been collected. He noted that this is way more than the 7.2 billion generated by the old board throughout the 2015 calendar year. Dr. Awodun however affirmed that the new IRS was able to record commendable results because of the introduction of new process, people and technology in tax collection which have drastically helped in the result recorded by the new IRS. The Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr. Muritala Awodun, further enumerated on one of the core duty of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) which is to give feedback to the government on the pressing needs of the people so that the state government can in no time attend speedily to the need of communities as recommended by KW-IRS.

Responding to the remarks of Dr. Awodun, the representative of the Emir of Tsonga, relayed to the EC, KW-IRS, that there is the need for the Royal Fathers, the State Government and the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) who is the revenue collection arm of the state to observe their limits. The Emir of Tsonga, speaking through his representative, the Rani of Tsonga, Alhaji. Nakordi Suleiman however pledged his support for the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) but sternly warned that KW-IRS should ensure that the support given by the Traditional Rulers is not faulted by their people. The Emir of Tsonga advised the Service to ensure that its activities are conducted in a transparent way and that the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) should eschew every act of corruption. Emir

of Tsongahowever implored KW-IRS to ensure that the state government see to the fact that revenue collected engenders into positive development for the state.

In his remarks, the Emir of Tsaragi, Alhaji. Aliyu Kpatwa speaking through his representative Alhaji. Muhammed Saba, Tsadzq of Tsaragi stated that a tree can never make a forest. He gave kudos to the decision made by the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) for making visits to Traditional Rulers all through the sixteen (16) local governments of the state. The Emir of Tsonga expounded that this decision is a step in the right direction because the task inherited to the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) cannot be achieved without the support of the Royal Fathers as well as the people.

The Emir of Tsonga further called the attention of the State Government through the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) to the fact that large percentage

of residents in the Northern part of Kwara are farmers. The Emir of Tsonga solicited for immense support for farmers in this region. He advised that there can only be optimum result of revenue collection from the northern part of the state only if the government supports the farmers with the provision of fertilizers, provision of pipe borne water, construction of good roads for the easy transportation of agricultural produce, provision of seeds, etc.

HRH. The Emir of Tsonga, Alhaji. Haliru Yahaya also requested the state government not to neglect its people because these are the people the government will still run to when election comes and it will only be in the best interest of the state to attract the trust of these people by keeping to their word and also ensure that life is easy for the people. The Emir of Tsonga again reiterated his support for KW-IRS and assured the Service of support from his community.

Reacting to the address of the



A group photograph of KW-IRS team and the Etsu of Lafiagi



Executive Chairman presenting souvenir to the Etsu of Lafiagi

representatives of the Emir of Tsonga and Tsaragi, Dr. Awodun appreciated the insights of the two Royal Majesties. He emphatically noted that one of the reasons for the visits conducted by KW-IRS to the various local governments is to ascertain the needs of the people which is one of the constitutional duties assigned to KW-IRS in the Kwara Revenue Administration Law of June 2015. The Executive Chairman, KW-IRS enumerated on creation as well as the advantage embedded in the Infrastructural Fund Kwara (IFK) which was inaugurated August 2016. Dr. Awodun further expounded that the State Government in his new strategy for state development sets aside 500 million naira monthly from the Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) as a contribution for the Infrastructural development of Kwara State. With this Infrastructural Fund Kwara (IFK), contractors are now mobilized back to site to restart projects that were hitherto abandoned and also commence new projects.

Dr. Awodun further announced to the traditional rulers and the council members present that the state government have reached an agreement with KW-IRS that the Personal Income Tax (PIT) collected in a particular community must be used to develop that particular community. He corroborated his point by charging the Royal Fathers that working towards the realization that Kwara State is developed is one of the reasons why KW-IRS cannot work alone without the traditional rulers because KW-IRS cannot alone ascertain the pressing needs of communities in the state without getting a clue of such needs by the various traditional rulers because they understand their community as well the peculiarity and the needs of their people.

The EC, KW-IRS further illustrated on the array of impact which the Community Impact Programme (CIP) conducted by the Kwara State Internal Revenue service (KW-IRS) have brought to the door steps of Kwarans. He gave a list of such impact which includes, school uniforms donation to some local governments,

evacuation of dirt in markets, provision of ultra modern toilet facilities, patching of roads, provision of pipe borne water, etc. He attests that the visit by KW-IRS to Edu is also with the intention to know the need of the people of Edu and see what the Service can do to solve it.

Pledging his undoubted support as well as given his recommendations to the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, the Chairman, Edu Local Government, Alhaji. Tsonga at first commended the efforts of KW-IRS so far especially the role played by KW-IRS in the collection of revenue on behalf of the local governments, he said the results thus far is commendable. The Chairman, Edu LGA however proposed to KW-IRS the

“Tractor Hiring Scheme” stating that, Edu local government have a total of 216,000 residents and that 93% of this people are farmers while 7% are fishermen. He was of the opinion that if KW-IRS can key into the **“Tractor Hiring Scheme”** by acquiring between 4-5 tractors for Edu local government so that the tractors can be leased out to Edu people at a fee, the revenue recovered from Edu will be highly commendable.

As the saying goes, the biggest masquerade ends the masquerade festival, the Etsu of Lafiagi, HRH. Alhaji. S.K Haliru OFR, expressed his full appreciation to the management

of KW-IRS, the representative of the Emirs of Tsonga and Tsaragi and the Edu LGA council members present. He affirmed that the visit made by the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) will definitely bring about some level of progress and development for the people of Edu. The Etsu of Lafiagi made reference to the groundnut pyramid and cocoa days of the west, where despite the fact that it was during the colonial era, traditional rulers were appointed by the colonial masters to collect revenue on behalf of the colonial masters because the colonial masters understand the supremacy of the traditional rulers and also appreciates the fact that the traditional rulers know their people as well as their community. The Etsu of Lafiagi however suggest to the management of KW-IRS as well as the state government that some lessons can be learnt in that direction.

The Etsu of lafiagi however lamented to the visiting management of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) Dr. Muritala Awodun that Edu local government is not listed amongst the five local governments selected for road construction. He stated that Edu local government is also not included in the list for LGAs set aside for hospital provision. The Etsu of Patigi challenged that it will be difficult for people to comply with the demands of the government if they cannot point at developmental projects provided for them by the state government.



A group photograph of KW-IRS team with Edu LG Chairman and other Council Members

Using *jangali* collection as an example, the Etsu of Lafiagi affirmed that Edu LGA is one of the local governments that is supposed to record a huge revenue for the state in the area of *cattle tax* but the Etsu asked to know how the palace will be able to persuade its people to comply if the community cannot point at developmental projects going on or better still, concluded by the state government for the people of Edu local government. HRH. Alhaji. S.K Haliru, OFR, further decried the delusion of the local governments by the state government; he however advised the state government to look

into this by coming up with better working strategy that will engender synergy between the two arm of government. The Etsu noted that the local government is a very important arm of the government because it is closer to the people and also a quick reach unit for the Traditional Rulers especially in the Northern part of the state where the Emirate system is being adopted.

Further giving his words of advice to the management of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS), the Etsu of Lafiagi, HRH. Alhaji. S.K Haliru, OFR, admonished KW-IRS

to ensure that old and dilapidated buildings are not taxed. He however reiterated his support to the Service stating that the doors of his palace is open to the management of KW-IRS anytime any day to developmental issues as it relates Edu local government because tax collection connotes productivity and development. The Etsu of Lafiagi promised that the palace will do more in sensitizing his people but advised KW-IRS to also increase its advocacy and sensitization pace because to whom much is given, much is expected.



Director, Informal Sector Mr Segun Olaniyi addressing Edu Council members



Director, Admin and Corporate Affairs, Mr Lekan Rotimi, giving his remarks during KW-IRS visit to Edu LGA



Edu Local Government Council Members



Edu Local Government Council Members



KW-IRS inspecting Lafiagi Market

KWARA STATE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE AUGUST FIELD FEEDBACK/ TRAINING

Fareedah Abdulwahab



Executive Chairman, KW-IRS addressing the staff

The Monthly Field Feedback/Training organised by Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) which is an avenue to train and retrain the management and staff of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) as well as a medium to relay to the staff of the Service new information as it relates to the working operations and welfare of the KW-IRS family for the month of August indeed was accompanied with some nostalgic sensation as the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr. Muritala Awodun officially announced to the staff of the Service the reshuffling of all the KW-IRS Directorate from their present directorate to another. The reshuffling exercise according to the Dr. Awodun is to ensure that all the management staff have a knowledge of what is obtainable at the various directorates of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) before their tenure expires.

The Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr. Awodun announced the placement of the reshuffled directors as follows: Dr. Isaac Gbenle, Director, Operations & Process, now Director, Legal Enforcement &

Monitoring, Mrs. Adenike Babajamu, Admin & Corporate Affairs Directorate now Director, Operation & Process, Alhaji Nuhu Olaide Muhammed, Director, Tax Audit & Assessment now Director, High Networth & Corporate (HNI), Mrs. Iyabo Abubakar now Director, Ministries Departments & Agencies (MDA), Mr. Segun Olaniyi, Director, MDAs now Director, Informal Sector, Mr. Lekan Rotimi, Director, Informal Sector now Director, Admin & Corporate Affairs.

Having broke the reshuffling news to the staff of KW-IRS, Dr Muritala Awodun appreciated the management and staff of KW-IRS for their commendable performance towards the revenue drive of the Service which he state is evident in the result recorded by the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) in the last eight (8) months has KW-IRS have been able to collect a total of 11 billion naira against the 7.2 billion naira recorded by the old board in the year 2015. The executive Chairman, KW-IRS, however admonished the Service to double their effort and review their work strategy so that more success story can be recorded by the Service.

Dr Muritala Awodun also suggested to the Directorate of Admin and Corporate Affairs under his new leadership, Mr. Lekan Rotimi to come up with an online methodology of conducting examination for the staff, he added that this will go a long way to keep staff abreast and enlightened them on information about the organisation. He also educated the management and staff on the Community Impact Programme (CIP) carried out by the Service. He advised staff not to be too comfortable wherever they may be serving now and be ready to be moved to any other directorate at any point in time.



Director, Admin & Corporate Affairs
Mr Olalekan Rotimi



Director, Operations & Process
Mrs Adenike Babajamu



Cross section of staff



Head, Property & Tenements
Mrs Omolara Ojulari



Director, MDAs Mrs Iyabo Abubakar and Director, HNIs,
Alhaji Nuhu Mohammed



Staff at the Field Feedback



Staff at the Field Feedback



FINDING SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS IS THE WAY TO WEALTH CREATION: DR. AWODUN

Yetunde Elegboja

As an organization that takes pleasure in every little opportunity to interact with individuals, corporate organizations and associations in the state as the opportunity comes, the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr. Muritala Awodun in company of the Director, Admin & Corporate Affairs, Mr. 'Lekan Rotimi and staff from the Corporate Affairs unit of the Admin & Corporate Directorate on 22 September 2016 attended the Seminar organized by the National Association of Hydrogeologist Association of Nigeria (NAH) where the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr. Awodun was invited to give a speech.

In his remarks, the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr. Muritala Awodun announced to members of the National Association of Hydrogeologist (NAH) that the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) sees every opportunity as one which is for learning and also for interacting because it is always an opportunity for the Service to connect with smaller units. Having commended the executives and members of NAH for seeing the need to organize the seminar for better efficiency and professionalism as it relates with its members, Dr. Awodun stated that the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) is a Service and that the Kwara IRS is established with the primary assignment to serve the residents of Kwara State by mobilizing revenue for the strategic development of Kwara State.

In continuation of his speech, Dr.



The Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr. Muritala Awodun, addressing the Executive Members of NAH

Awodun spoke of the need for the people of this age to take advantage of some of the happenings during the olden days that makes it called the good old days to address some of the issues of these bad days. Dr. Awodun drew the attention of the people at the seminar to the fact that one of the things that made the old days good was the payment of tax. He talked about how important tax payment was as at that time where most of the benefits that we still enjoy even in this age were as a result of the projects embarked

upon in the old with moneys collected from tax payers for the development of the country.

As an icon that advocates for entrepreneurship and painstakingly speak to it anytime and anywhere he is privileged to, Dr. Muritala Awodun wasted no time in talking about entrepreneurship to the members of National Association of Hydrogeologist (NAH). The Executive Chairman, KW-IRS however noted that job creation is not limited to the young but also to



The Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr. Muritala Awodun, giving his remarks



An Executive member of NAH giving his remarks

the old who are not retired. He however affirmed that there can be no tax collection if there are no jobs because tax is only collectable from a living enterprise who is still active. Dr. Awodun further itemized the three categories men fall into when it comes to survival. The categories are: Unemployed, Self employed and lastly the Employed.

Dr. Awodun noted that entrepreneurship comes to play when man is able to identify a particular problem and create a solution to it. The entrepreneurship guru illustrated that God is the number one entrepreneur who identified the problem of creation and sorted it out by putting a solution in place such as the creation of man to oversee to everything created, the separation between night and day, the creation of animal and plants so human being can have food to eat and cloth to wear, etc, Dr. Awodun spoke of the need for people to

learn to take advantage of every problem as they arises. The EC, KW-IRS further stated that solution providers create jobs, value, enterprise and wealth. He charged participants to always see problems as opportunities by thinking of how to solve such problems.

Dr. Awodun further gave guidelines on how problems can be solved. He expounded that to solve problems, the following questions must be asked by a potential entrepreneur: What is the cause of the problem? How can the problem be solved? Dr. Awodun reiterated that solution to problems is the way to wealth creation. He further stressed that a man with one source of income can never get out of poverty because his income is known and he have to plan his needs round his income. He advised that diversified income is key. Saying, "All you have to do is recognise the problems and create values and products towards solving that problem".



An Executive member of NAH giving his remarks



An Executive member and The Executive Chairman, KW-IRS



Cross Section of participants at the NAH Seminar



Cross Section of participants at the NAH Seminar



Lecture delivery by the guest speaker

DO SOMETHING SIGNIFICANT TODAY TO HAVE A BETTER TOMORROW – DR. AWODUN

AbdulHakeem AbdulRahman

The National Association of Kwara State Students (NAKSS) on Thursday 29 September, 2016 organised a Peace and Entrepreneurship Summit at Banquet Hall, Opposite the Kwara State Government House, GRA, Ilorin. The programme which brought together thousands of Kwara State Students in their various tertiary institutions across the country started with the National Anthem followed by an opening prayer.

In his welcome address, the President, National Association of Kwara State Students, Comrade AbdulHafeez Oyedepo expressed his profound appreciation to all sponsors and invited guests present for their commitment towards making the programme a success. He however appreciated the maximum support of the Kwara State Government to the association through its several youth-oriented programs that will considerably prepare all Kwara youths for the nearest future.

In his opening remarks, the Chairman of the Occasion, Alhaji Wahab Babatunde who was ably represented by Comrade Sam Adefila stressed the need for the youth to give priority to entrepreneurship which he described as the only hope of the nation as unemployment will continue to rise if they continue to depend on corporate environment. He called on the government to continue to support entrepreneurship training and development for youths which is a stepping stone to fighting some of the challenges confronting our nation.

Also speaking at the occasion was Ambassador AbdulFatah Yahya Gambari who noted that having a set of youths who could come together to organise such an important youth-driven summit is a clear indication that better future is ahead of us. He explained that Kwara State and Nigeria at large would provide a large number of young and versatile entrepreneurs if the menace of social vices could be curbed.

Alhaji Mahmud Ajeigbe, the Commissioner for



The Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr. Muritala Awodun, delivering his lecture at the NAKKS Seminar

Information who represented His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Kwara State conveyed the governor's apologies for not being able to attend the programme, saying that he would have loved to be part of it but could not make it as a result of urgent matters. He commended the organisers for their innovative ideas to bring up the summit when it could not have come better than this time of economic hardship. He identified diversification and entrepreneurship as the major solutions to Nigeria's problems which dated back to 1960 when there was a boom in the economy from agricultural sector but we failed to save for the rainy day and the consequences are setting in now; so if the country must be self-sufficient again, everyone must go back to farm.

Alhaji Ajeigbe advised the youth to venture into skill acquisition so they do not only depend on academic qualifications and entrepreneurship should be fully explored if they want to be employers of labour rather than being job seekers. He also urged them to make the best use of their ideas and shun all social vices that could impede their dreams from becoming actualities. He called on various tertiary institutions and other stakeholders to use consistent sensitisation and media campaign on the dangers of vices like cultism, prostitution, violence among others as the best tool. He concluded that the youth should meaningfully engage in acquiring one skill or the other when he said,

“Idle hand is the devil's workshop. Leave these social vices and live longer”.

While addressing the youth, the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Dr. Muritala Awodun appreciated NAKSS for organising the summit as it came at an appropriate time. He stated that the summit was seen an avenue to build the army for the nation as the youth constitute the army because they are the hopes of the nation on whom the future depends. He urged all to always be conscious of the reality of their dreams when he shared his experience in the university days 26 years ago that some of the things that were hoped for back then are still being hope for, so if there must be a better tomorrow something significant and drastic must happen today and it will at all times pose the question; upon which foundation is our hope built as a nation?

The Executive Chairman explained further that the two keywords from the theme, peace and entrepreneurship are actually what have got missing over the past few decades and thereby affecting the reality of our hopes for the better future. He stressed that with entrepreneurship, the gap between academic curriculum and job could be bridged, adding that all tertiary institutions should be conscious of the fact dynamism rules the world and to fight some of the present challenges of our nation we must use the right skills. He therefore recognised the commitment of Kwara State Government to peace, enterprise and progress as embossed in its logo since its creation, which is part of the reasons the state is known as the State of Harmony.

Dr. Awodun went on to quote Aritopher in his book published in 1984, “The illiterates of the 21st Century will not be those who cannot read and write but those who cannot learn, learn and learn”. He asserted that it is only consistent learning that changes the youth of nowadays from illiterates to literates which also necessitates most employers of labour to look for only the youth who are change mangers, entrepreneurs and value-adders with high innovative capacities. He urged the youths to create enterprises for themselves so that they can forever enjoy peace of mind, because without peace there can never be development, adding that it is only in a peaceful atmosphere that they can create enterprises that will thrive. He finally highlighted some realistic steps to creating a successful enterprise; discover yourself, engage your potentials, develop an enterprise, start up your enterprise from the smallest level and remain committed to whatever enterprise you have created. In his concluding words, he advised the Federal Government to reduce its cos of governance and operation since it is not making more money like in the past.



Hon. Commissioner, Ministry of Information & Communications, Alhaji Mahmud Ajeigbe, Executive Chairman KW-IRS, Dr Awodun and other dignitaries on the high table



A guest giving a speech



The Executive Chairman KW-IRS, Dr Awodun in an interview with NTA



Cross section of participants at the event



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TAX PERSONALITY

Alhaji Abdullahi Abubakar GARBA

President, Kwara State Artisans

A

Alhaji. Abdullahi Abubakar Garba popularly known as Alhaji. Abdullahi Lanky was born in 1954 to the family of Late Alhaji and Alhaja. Abubakar Garba of Galadima's Compound at Gegele Area of Ilorin West Local Government Area of Ilorin, Kwara State.

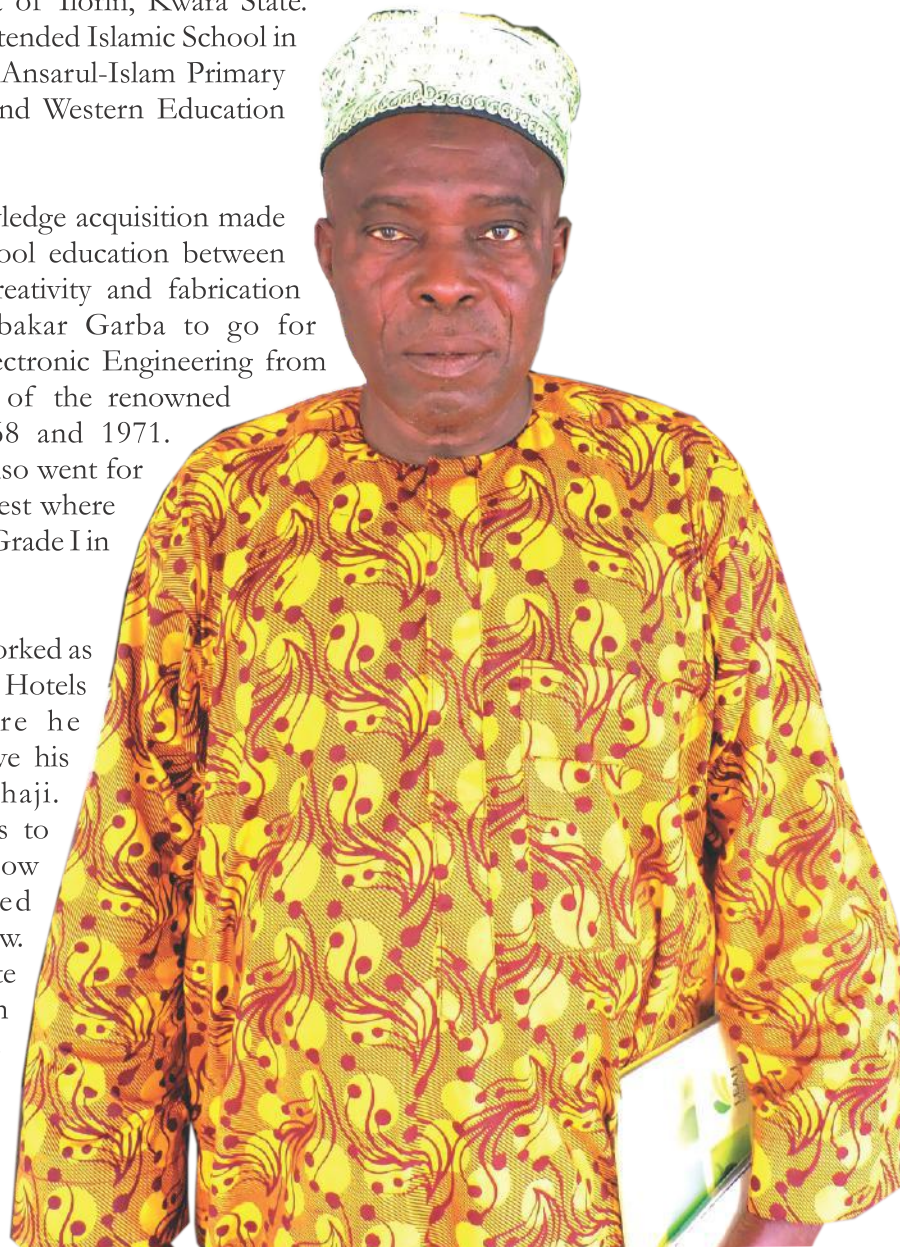
Alhaji. Abdullahi Abubakar Garba attended Islamic School in Osogbo in 1958 and later attended Ansarul-Islam Primary School in Ilorin for both Islamic and Western Education between 1959 and 1966.

His passion for education and knowledge acquisition made him proceed for Post Primary School education between 1967 and 1968. His affinity for creativity and fabrication prompted Alhaji. Abdullahi Abubakar Garba to go for apprenticeship in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from Engineer Saka Olola Babaita, one of the renowned Electrical Engineers between 1968 and 1971.

Alhaji. Abdullahi Abubakar Garba also went for Federal Ministry of Labour Trade Test where he obtained Grade III, Grade II and Grade I in 1971, 1976 and 2010 respectively.

Alhaji. Abdullahi Abubakar Garba worked as an Electrical Technician at Kwara Hotels between 1977 and 1984 where he voluntarily resigned so as to achieve his desire to be self-employed. Alhaji. Abdullahi Abubakar Garba belongs to various organisations such as Show Promoters Club, Kwara United Supporters Club to mention but a few. He was the President, Kwara State Association of Electronic Technician between 1999 and 2001 thereafter he became President, Kwara State Artisans, which he still retains.

He is married to a wife and has five children and many grand-children.





Projects Executed Through The Community Impact Programme (CIP)

AbdulHakeem AbdulRaman



40 Shops constructed at Oja Tuntun



Borehole and Overhead Tank at Oke Ose
Kara Market



Patching of Tanke Road

As the sole revenue collection agency for the Kwara State Government, the Kwara State Administration Law No. 6 has not just empowered KW-IRS to only collect revenue for the state but the law which was signed by His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Kwara State, Alhaji. Abdulfatah Ahmed on 23rd June 2015 has also empowered KW-IRS to get feedback on behalf of the State Government as it regards the pressing needs of the people as an organization that government as in revenue mobilisation and to also advise the state government appropriately on the utilisation of the mobilized revenue with reference to the urgent need of the citizenry as an organization that relates directly with the people both at the grassroots and at the top level.

To achieve this, the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) initiated and adopted the Community Impact Programme (CIP) strategy as a tool to impact the people of Kwara. Running with this initiative, KW-IRS identified five key areas where

Kwarans can be impacted and this led to the setting aside of five areas which are tagged the five Es of Community Impact Programme (CIP) and the areas are: *Education, Environment, Enterprise, Empowerment and Employment.*

As a responsive and responsible revenue agency of the state government, KW-IRS has accomplished several projects with Tax Payers'



Cleaning of Alapa Market



Kitting of pupils with uniforms and school bags

Money. Not only have these accomplishments demonstrated the Service's principle of transparency and accountability but have also built strong confidence and integrity in taxpayers who have fulfilled their civic obligation. With this life-transforming strategy, KW-IRS has impacted on various communities manifesting in different forms like the evacuation of dumps at the Ipata Market abattoir, provision of ultra modern toilet facilities at Ago market, sinking of modern borehole system, , provision of perimeter fencing at the Ajase Ipo Kara Market, inauguration of Tax Clubs in secondary schools across the state coupled with distribution of school bags and books to students, endowment prizes for best graduating students in tertiary institutions such as Landmark University, Kwara State University (KWASU), kitting of primary schools pupils in four different Local Government Areas and a host of others.



Construction of Public Toilet at Ago Market

mobilize revenue for the strategic development of Kwara State but the most interesting part of it is the fact that it is never all about revenue which also brought about the environmental campaign led by the Executive Chairman, Dr. Muritala Awodun on the 27th August, 2016.

The Service extended its hand of Community Impact Programme (CIP) to Irewolede and Tanke Areas as well as Geri-Alimi – Offa Garage Road in Ilorin Metropolis where blocked drainage was completely cleared as a way of controlling numerous cases of potholes on our roads. This will be traced back to the KW-IRS vision which is to



Patching of Tanke Road



Construction of drainage in Kaiama

The reconstruction of the burnt shops at the Baboko market is another massive project conducted by the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) and this particular projects would not have been possible without the support given to KW-IRS by the state government which have brought back hope to victims of the inferno who have lost millions worth of wares to the unfortunate incident.

Furthermore, the Service has been very responsive to the immediate need of the people of Mobalaji – Tolukem Road in Kaiama Local Government Area of Kwara State with the construction of drainage system. The road leads to Kaiama Main Market which have on several occasions witnessed gully erosion in recent times. KW-IRS team led by Mr. Ibrahim Saliu was in Kaiama on Wednesday 28th of September, 2016 to inspect the status of the project.

In an inspection conducted round the market to also inspect ascertain the level of damage caused by the path of the gully erosion, the team visited Alhaji. Bozobo, who is an old dealer of grains in Kaiama Market. Alhaji. Bozo narrated an unfortunate story of a mother and her kid washed away by the rain along the path of erosion. He also explained how it has collapsed economic activities of the whole Kaiama Local Government Area because of the mobility gap of vehicles.

Alhaji. Bozobo further expressed his joy over the necessary intervention of the Service which he described as a new hope of the marketers as the gully erosion situation has threatened their lives for months.



Clearing of drainage at Tanke



Presentation of 5Million to Owode Market, Offa



Borehole and overhead Tank at Alapa Market



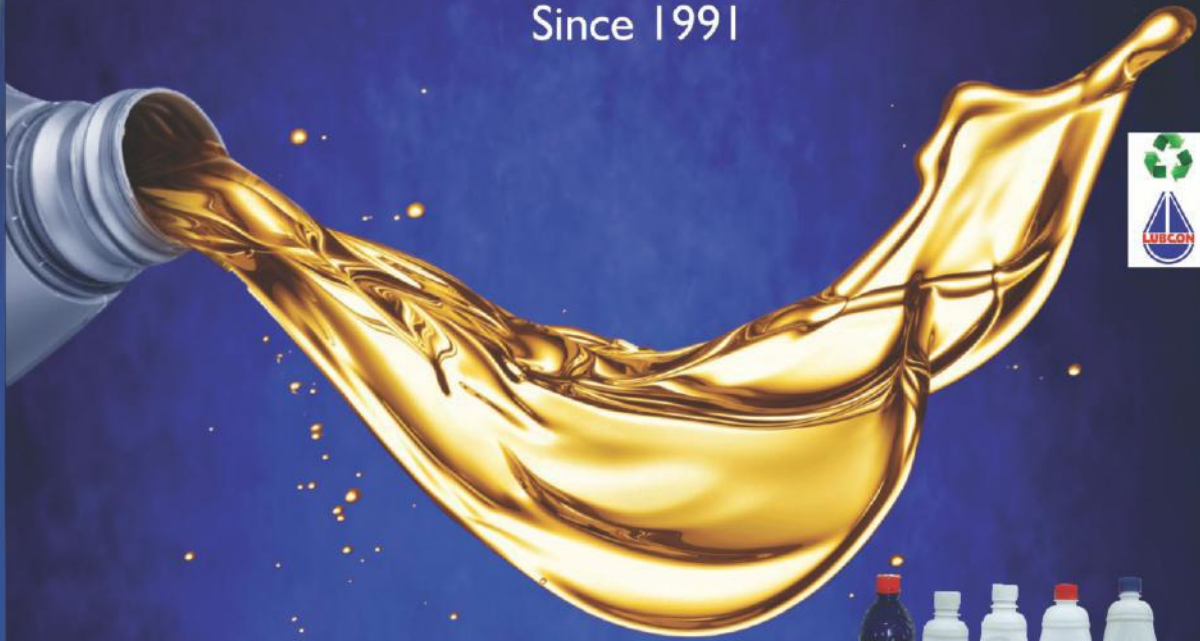
Kara Market fencing and Gate House



Cleaning at Alapa Market

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