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## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

The management and entire staff of China Civil Engineering  
Construction Company (Nigeria Ltd.) CCECC,

*Heartily Felicitate with the*  
Governor of Ekiti State,

**His Excellency,**  
**MR. BIODUN ABAYOMI**  
**OYEBANJI**

And the good people of Ekiti State on the occasion of second anniversary  
of his impactful and people oriented administration in the state.

We are impressed by your giant strides in facilitating rapid development  
of Ekiti State in the past two years laying a solid foundation in  
infrastructure, agriculture, job creation and shared Prosperity.

Our best wishes for you on this special occasion is for  
good health and outstanding success in all your endeavours in years  
ahead.

Congratulations your Excellency

Signed:  
Management.



## BUREAU OF COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

SPECIAL  
ANNIVERSARY  
EDITION







**KOPEK**  
Construction Limited



*Hurray!!!*

The staff and management of  
**KOPEK CONSTRUCTION LIMITED**  
*heartily congratulate*

**HIS EXCELLENCY,**  
**MR. BIODUN ABAYOMI OYEBANJI**  
Executive Governor of Ekiti State

on the second anniversary of his administration.  
We are proud of your giant strides in building a  
new and better Ekiti State.

No doubt, the past two years of your remarkable  
administration has brought significant and  
positive change to Ekiti State and we are proud  
to be associated with the moving train

We join other well meaning individuals,  
corporate organisations and groups in wishing  
you happy celebration.

**Signed:**  
Management



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**RUDY CONSTRUCTION NIGERIA LTD.**

Building and Civil Engineering



*Happy Anniversary*

We sincerely felicitate with

**HIS EXCELLENCY,**  
**MR. BIODUN ABAYOMI OYEBANJI**  
Executive Governor of Ekiti State

on this special occasion of second anniversary of his  
administration.

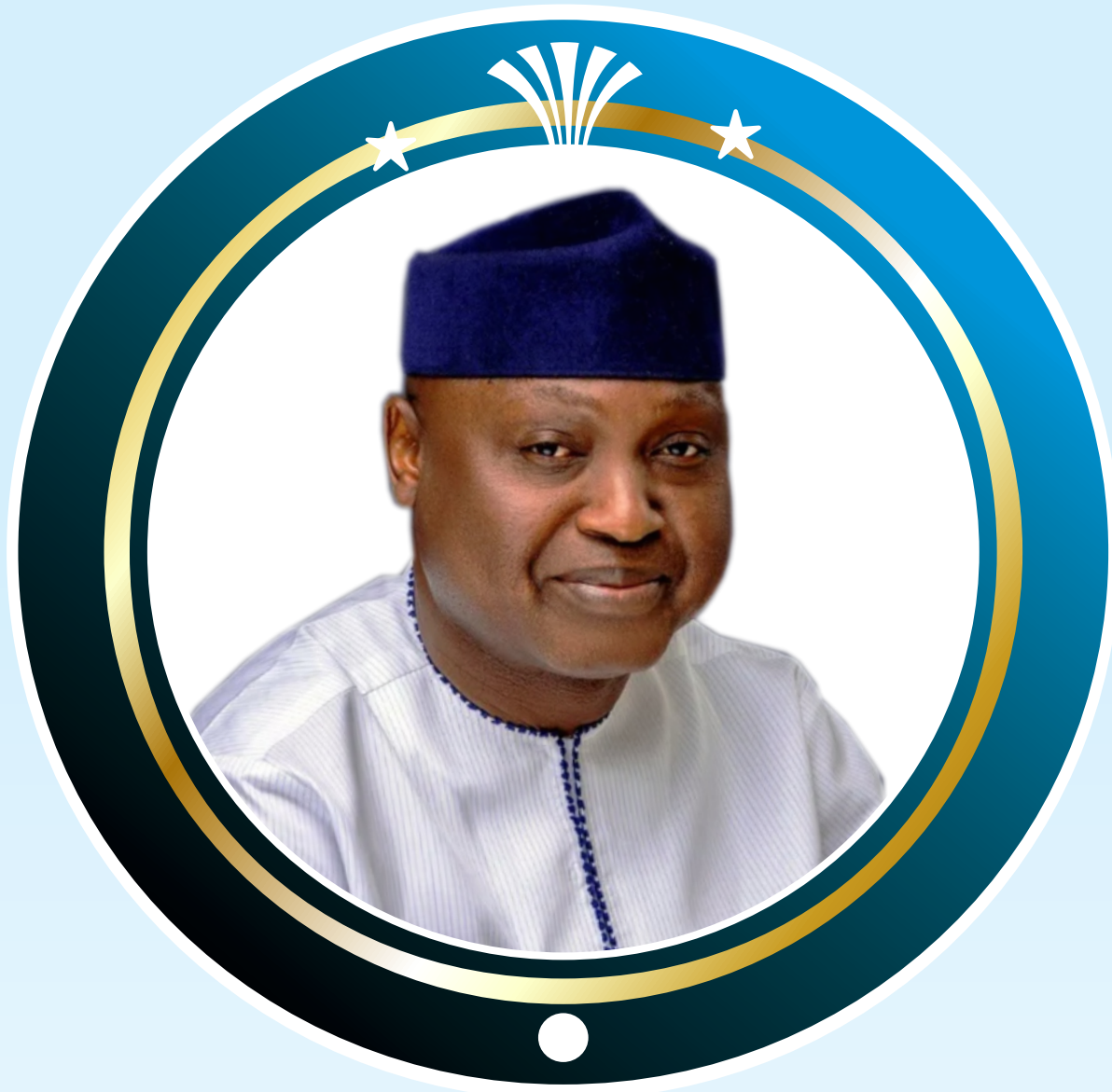
We are proud to be a partner in progress in your  
determined efforts to transform the physical  
landscape of Ekiti to an enviable heights. As you  
progress in this journey of selfless service to the good  
people of Ekiti State, we wish you more success,  
fulfilled dreams and best of luck.

**Happy Celebration**

**Signed:**  
Management







**His Excellency**  
**BIODUN ABAYOMI OYEBANJI**  
Ekiti State Governor



**Her Excellency**  
**CHIEF MRS. MONISADE AFUYE**  
Ekiti State Deputy Governor





**RT. HON.  
STEPHEN ADEOYE ARIBASOYE**

Speaker, Ekiti State House of Assembly



**MRS. MARY OSO-OMOTOSO**

DG Bureau of Community Communications





## ← For the Record →

*The idea behind publishing this attractive anniversary magazine did not come from the customary annual hollow rituals of printing for commemorating epochal events in the society alone, but it was a product of deep reflection and extrapolation by the producers of the copy with the mindset of feeding the public about the incredible phenomenal changes enjoyed by the good people of Ekiti in the past two years under the leadership of Governor Biodun Abayomi Oyezanji.*

*We have been able to establish the unassailable proof that Governor BAO is in the right side of history in the reckoning of an average Ekiti person with his spectacular performance in the past two years. This is without prejudice to his wide acceptability and the goodwill he is currently savouring among the low and the mighty in the State and even beyond.*

*Even as many may readily doubt the audio-visual contents spewed out daily by the new media, the bulk of this magazine's contents contained raw, unedited pictures of Governor Oyezanji's adventures in the governance of Ekiti State traversing every nooks and cranny 'doing good'. The publication has exposed Mr. Governor as unpretentious 'Peoples Governor' as he has displayed uncanny originality in his dealing with Ekiti people since he assumed office two years ago, a true reflection of his home grown trademark. He is well at home with all manners of people as members of his primary constituency.*

*No one does it better, Mrs Mary Oso-Omotoso, the energetic D.G, Bureau of Community Communications Ekiti State, who is our able partner in this remarkable project of profiling her boss in good light to Ekiti kete, has done a yeoman's job in bridging the communication gap between the people and their elected leaders thereby giving a new name to democracy as practiced in the old Greek city states.*

*As a walking encyclopedia of rural communities, Mary Oso has elevated her office to be a first point of call and go-between the people and their amiable Governor, a task she does so seamlessly and expertly that is now yielding the fruits of better understanding, cooperation and stable polity in the state.*

*Many thanks to various contributors to this great work who have spared their time to celebrate Mr. Governor with praises and précised words of encouragement to steer him to do more. They cut across the various strata; elder statesmen, royal fathers, clergy, union leaders, politicians and ordinary man on the street.*

*Our appreciation also goes to those who have celebrated Mr. Governor by placing congratulatory adverts on her second anniversary inside this unique publication.*

*As the only surviving community newspaper in Ekiti today, EKITI STANDARD Newspaper is glad to fulfill one of our core mandate of celebrating outstanding Ekiti persons who have distinguished themselves in service delivery and exemplary leadership. We believed that the cap fits Governor Biodun Abayomi Oyezanji, the undisputed man of the moment. One can only wish him happy anniversary celebration. So long, good luck.*

**Lekan Adejuwon**  
Editor







## Governor BAO has earned the trust of Ekiti people

- DG Community Communications

**Who is the DG, Ekiti State Bureau of Community Communications?**

The Director-General Office of Community Communications, Ekiti State, is Mrs Mary Oso-Omotoso, award winning media professional, a politician, a grassroots/community developer who is more interested in ensuring that we right any wrong in the society.

**This office was created about two years ago precisely at the inception of this administration, what are the set goals that the office aims to achieve?**

The goals and objectives of this office are simple and very clear; to ensure that the activities of Governor Biodun Abayomi Oyelekan are well projected to the good people of Ekiti State, to ensure that opportunities in government are taken to the people at the grassroots in terms of access to the right information at the right time because we are ensuring that we run with the vision of Governor Biodun Abayomi Oyelekan for the people of Ekiti State. The vision is to ensure all-inclusiveness, the vision is to ensure we bridge communication gap and this we have been doing in the office of Community Communications.

**Members of the public are seeing your office as a special brand in this administration being the first port of call to connect with the office of Mr. Governor. How have you been able to achieve this within a short space of time?**

That's like a commendation for us in the office of Community Communications and we are grateful for that commendation if that is the way people perceived us. However, when we came onboard, we set clear objectives for ourselves following the briefs from Mr Governor himself that all he's interested in was to make sure

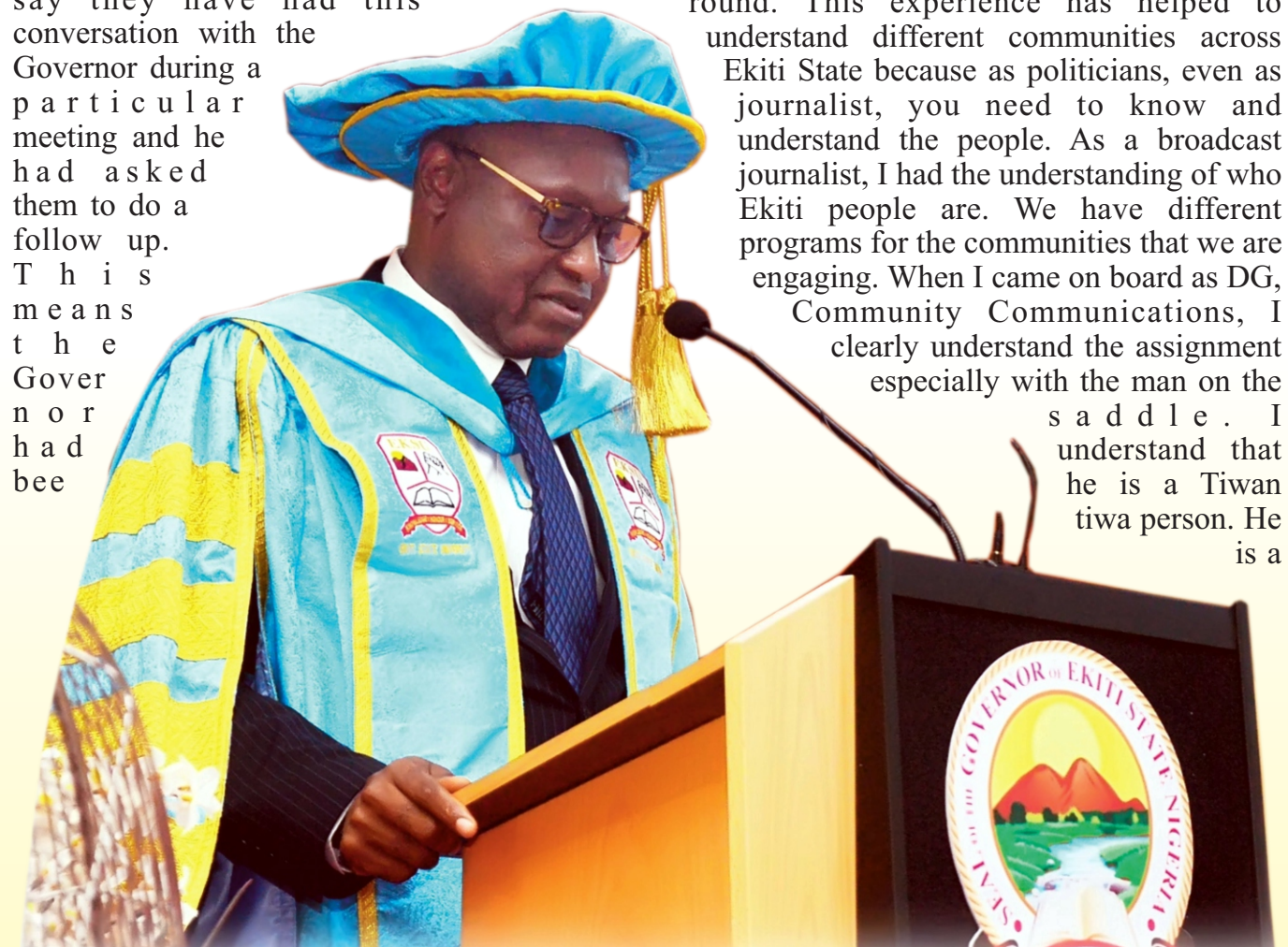
have to do more because the acceptability is there, the street credibility is there. What else do we want to do that the governor does not possess? I mean the qualities of a grassroots. So, we tried to build on all these qualities of Mr. Governor ensuring that as he is connecting with the people, we are sustaining the unique connection between him and the people through continuous community engagement activities and through visits to various communities. The Governor's campaign in 2022 was a very unique one because he wasn't going to communities and different local governments to climb podium to say- Please vote for me, I will do this and that, no. he didn't do that, rather, Governor Biodun Abayomi Oyelekan was engaging different groups, different associations, different communities, different stakeholders and personalities. He was able to understand the people knowing the people has helped him to know what they want. So the people don't really need to

agitate for Mr. Governor to know what they need. This has helped in planning his priorities and setting them right for the people. Since the Governor cannot be everywhere at the same time, our office has also been building on the relationship that the Governor

that we bridge communication gap between the government and the people and that every nook and cranny of Ekiti State feels the impact of his government. And so, knowing the kind of person the governor is-a 'Tiwantwa Governor' and a Governor who is a grassroots politician, we know that we



had established between himself and the people when he was campaigning. We are sustaining this relationship for the government. That is why you see every now and then, you would see people coming to office of Community Communications for one request or the other or to say they want to appreciate the governor. They see us as a go-to office for feedback and requests, and that is something that gives us joy in the office of Community Communications because it tells us that Mr. Governor is connecting well with the people. A lot of people would come and say they have had this conversation with the Governor during a particular meeting and he had asked them to do a follow up. This means the Governor nor had been



n communicating. He is reaching out and making himself available and I always say to people that Governor Biodun Abayomi Oyelekan might happen to be the most accessible Governor in Nigeria. We can see from the quantum of request that we get from the communities and people of Ekiti State and the results that followed all these requests.

**You are known to have travelled across various communities in Ekiti State in the past two years. What are those things that inspire**

**and motivate you to be that vast in taking up the huge task in the first instance?**

This is my state. I'm from Ado Ekiti and all my life I've been an Ekiti girl. But you know I served in the last government. We designed different community engagement activity programs towards the tail end of that administration and we were able to move round, though not all the communities as we are doing now. In the 2018 campaigns, we moved round. During the Buhari-Osinbajo campaign, we also moved round. This experience has helped to understand different communities across Ekiti State because as politicians, even as journalist, you need to know and understand the people. As a broadcast journalist, I had the understanding of who Ekiti people are. We have different programs for the communities that we are engaging. When I came on board as DG, Community Communications, I clearly understand the assignment especially with the man on the saddle. I understand that he is a Tiwantwa person. He is a





for our activities as a team. We were able to know people more and their needs more because of the relationship that has been in existence between them and the Governor. This has helped us a great deal in planning our community engagement activities. We map out different stakeholders from different communities and different groups. We have categorized people into different communities. So when we mentioned a community in this office, we do not necessarily mean an autonomous community but we mean a community of young people, a community of women, a community of the vulnerable, orphans, artisans and so on. We have this categorization such that when we are communicating with them, we have crafted messages for each of the communities. The messaging for a group of young people is quite different from a group of widows.

**What are the successes recorded through those communities as the DG Community Communications in the past two years of this administration?**

The Governor's successes are our successes. So far, this government has been able to do something significant and spectacular and that thing is to earn the trust and confidence of the people. Don't let us forget that this attribute came from Governor Biodun Oyebanji's personality. He would tell you- this is what I would do, this is what I won't do and this is what I cannot do. In the cause of the conversation, if anything is



going to change, Governor BAO will tell you this is going to change for this reason(s) I may not be able to do it. But hardly would he say anything and not follow through. This is the kind of leader that the people want. They want a leader who would communicate with them in a manner that would help them to understand governance and give them hope. Even in communities where we have not touched we designed a program-**Community Tour** specifically for communities that have not been touched by government and guess what? By the time we visit those communities, they showed understanding and appreciation for our ability to visit them even when it is not electioneering period. Their reaction shows trust saying that with the level of work that this Governor is doing he will soon get to them. That was success story for us. Based on that, you could see that when the nationwide protest was going across Nigeria, Ekiti State did not experience any protest because the people trust the Governor. They believe in the Governor and Mr Governor has been communicating effectively with the people not taking anyone for granted at all. Where the Governor needs to stop his convoy, steps down from his vehicle and listens to a

15 year-old boy, or an 80 year-old woman, the Governor does so. It is not common. This is a success story for us. Stability in the political atmosphere in Ekiti State, peaceful co-existent among religious leaders, ethnic groups is success story for us as well.

**What of physical achievements if any?**

On the physical achievements, they have been awesome. Talk about road, we just embarked on projects tour where the people on that tour were marveled at the level of work done so far. We got to Isinbode-Ara-Ikole road and they were marveled at the speed of work ongoing. The residents themselves became advocates for BAO. We got to Itapa-Ijelu-Omu road. They were equally marveled seeing the wonderful job. We got to the Special School for the Physically Challenged Students which the Governor has turned around massively. There is a Therapy room, the Hostel accommodation all wearing a new look. People who knew the state of the facility before expressed shock at the transformation that has happened. We also visited the ongoing rehabilitation of the General Hospital, Ijan- another fantastic job being done there. Is

it the Ring Road? Is it the Ilawe-Ikere Road or Igbara-Ikere Road? In fact, when we had a stop over there, people started to ask questions wondering if they can ever have a very sincere Governor like BAO who has sincerity of purpose in his deeds and actions. When a Governor tells you, this is what I can do and this is what I cannot do you should take him for his word. He walks his talk all the time. These are some of the things that opposition parties around here find very difficult to comprehend because some of them who had been in power before knew how they have been doing it. But the man in power at the moment is not doing that because his own style of leadership is quite different. He's embracing all the stakeholders who are critical to Ekiti development irrespective of party affiliations. We have members of opposition serving the state in this present administration. That is why you hardly find strong opposition in Ekiti State because the man at the saddle believes that Ekiti belongs to all of us regardless of any political affiliations. He has brought every stakeholder together in Ekiti State. This is another success story for us. I remember Governor BAO often says that he has handed the affairs of Ekiti State into the hands of God who provides all it takes to run it. That is why he hardly complains about anything since he assumed power. So when people asked him questions how he has been doing it he says it is by God and the support of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu. This is yet another success story for us at the Office of Community Communications. A lot of infrastructure projects are going on in the state as we speak in terms of road network because no State can develop economically when the roads are terrible. If we want to attract investors, we have to show that we are ready for investment. Good road is one of the things that a good investor will look at. Also, electricity we have local governments in Ekiti State that have been in darkness for 10 to 16 years. Governor BAO ensured restoration of electricity in those communities and he hasn't stopped.

**Going forward, as the government of Governor Biodun Oyebanji is two years old in office, what are your plans and programs for the coming year?**

Of course every year we have our work plan. We

review our strategies, we improve on them, I and my team, we sit down and review our work plans and build on activities that we may have noticed that is really helping the communities to get well connected with the government. So we do that every year and we are going to do that this year. As for post second year anniversary, Ekiti people should expect more and I believe it is going to be commissioning of many projects because we have a lot of projects ongoing. The investment that Mr. Governor has pumped into agric sector, Ekiti people will begin to harvest the good result from the investment in the not too distant future. It has started already. There is a farmer in Awo-Ekiti who has been flaunting his harvest of maize. He said he was supported by Governor BAO's agric intervention and we can see the products in tons of maize he harvested in Awo Ekiti. He said he still have hectares of farmland waiting to be harvested ditto for cassava.

**You appeared to have deep rapport with various communities in Ekiti State who thronged your office for one request or the other on daily basis. Can you in specific terms tell us some communities that have benefitted from the government through your engagements?**

We can see the ongoing construction of Faglo-Olorunsogo from Bawa junction, we can see Ikingbisin road amongst others. The Governor has engaged some of these communities during campaigns, so he knows some of their needs. Most of the time they engaged the Governor, talk to him directly as the Governor is available to everyone. We have communities in flood prone areas that requested for dredging of their waterways, we have communities that have gotten transformers. So we have a lot of government interventions in many communities in this state. Don't also forget that Governor BAO is a community development champion. He won an award in this area because he believes that if a state must develop, attention be paid to communities around it. Mr. Governor pay serious attention to community needs in this state.

**It is a known fact that most governors in Nigeria only do well during their first two years and spend the remaining two years of**





**their four-year tenure doing politics of second term. I could recollect that your office of recent had been besieged by calls from different groups and communities for BAO to run for a second term. What message are those calls sending to the public in view of the fact that the Governor is only two years in office?**

I could recall that it was around 3 months of my assumption of office that we went for coverage of one particular road construction at Basiri Road in Ado Ekiti. People around the area were already shouting 4+4 without being induced. You see, what the people need is their leader that they voted for.

Once you make yourself available, listen to their concerns, they would always trust you. They would not want you to go. That is what we are seeing in Governor BAO. We have not coerced or compelled anyone or group to say 4+4, but the good work of Governor BAO that people are seeing are speaking for him already. He has not come up to say I want to run, but the people are only saying this to ring it in our ears that they want the Governor again and it is because of all these works that are ongoing. People love development. If you are a fake person or you are just deceiving people, the people are the ultimate judge. This is almost two years in office, you cannot pretend for this long and the people of Ekiti will not get you. You can't do that. We have seen that the tempo at which we campaigned

with is still being maintained. The communities that we visited during election, we are still going back to them. We did not leave them. So, it is not that we are waiting for the first two years then, after politics will begin. What then happens to governance? Government continues because it is four year's contract he signed with Ekiti people when he was



campaigning in 2022. So, after the second anniversary, the Governor will continue to serve the people. This is not about leaving the responsibility of governance and face politics. He is a leader who understands the responsibility that Ekiti people had placed on his shoulders. He's delivering the dividends of democracy to the people without the distraction of second term politics.

**A new policy was recently announced by the governor in reaction to the fuel price hike where categories of Ekiti workers are allowed to work from home. Some people are already insinuating that the Governor announced this policy of relief to workers as he may not be able to pay the N70000 minimum wage recently approved by the Federal Government. What is**

**your take on this?**

Firstly, Governor BAO is a workers' friendly governor. Before now, he rolled out free buses for workers and students. Before now, he has paid workers salary arrears in Ekiti State apart from the wage award he approved and so, when we were discussing the wage award, there was a dialogue by a committee he set up. This is a Governor who doesn't take decision alone. So he set up a committee and they both arrived at something to be of benefit for both parties-the workers and the government. Now again, Federal Government has approved certain amount of money as minimum wage, the best thing to do is to use the same template-call the critical stakeholders, dialogue with them then let us arrive at a point that would be beneficial to both parties. Remember Ekiti State has a large number of her populace who are not government workers, all this would have to be put into considerations. So, declaring work-from-home for workers is a welcome development considering the hardship that workers experienced before getting to their places of work even though some of them ply free shuttle buses provided by Government. So this would be a relief for them. He's workers' friendly governor and a welfarist Governor. He would never do anything that would harm the welfare of Ekiti workers. That, I believe so much.

**As a woman who has a family to take care of but you are always on the road and sometimes work late in the office. What gives you the strength and if I may ask, how has the work load not affected the home front?**

Thank you very much. This is a question that I always receive especially when I'm addressing a gathering of women and the reason for the question is not far-fetched because I'm a woman, nobody will ever ask a man if his job is not affecting his home. This is because a woman is expected to maintain the home front as a wife, as a mother and as a role model. So much is expected from a woman and personally I'm someone who is always focused, I'm a goal getter. I don't get distracted at all. You may say I'm in my own world. However I set my priorities, I'm a person of process and structure. I like to structure things around me, I'm a very organized person when it comes to my activities. I don't like it when I don't know what to do in the next 10 minutes. So every day of my life, I know what I want to do and know how to do it. I think ahead as a deep thinker because you have to be strategic in your thinking. This office has exposed me to a lot of things. I've met different people even as a broadcast journalist, I've worked with and met different people including VIPs in the course of my profession. So coming into politics, the experience from the establishments where I have worked has actually helped and still helping me. Striking a balance between my work and the home front is all thanks to the husband I have because from the outset, we both agreed that I am doing politics together. He is not into politics but I'm in to it but based on the agreement that we both had, he's a man who has shown understanding. Because I'm a focused person and I always organized myself and put structures around me to help me function well, I don't have any clash of interest between my work load and the home front. I'm a family woman who keeps the home front going. In fact in my daughter's school, when I made calls to her teacher or the HM and I asked specific questions, he would ask me how I placed attention to those things because of my very busy schedules because other parents don't even ask the kind of questions that I asked. I manage my time very well. That is why I have different times for different activities.

**Now that you have confessed to be a politician, what is your political ambition after this office?**

The only ambition if I'm allowed to say it as the DG Community Communications is BAO 2026. Give me BAO 2026, I'm okay. Because when you have a leader like Governor BAO in Nigeria (as confirmed by the Vice President) in other states in Nigeria, things will be better. If you have someone like this Governor, the best thing to do is to throw all your support for that man and that is all I'm doing and continue to do here. He's a man who is not emotional or sentimental about his decision and policies, a man who is very calm and firm. He knows how to do something right at every given time even if its going to hurt him.

**Finally, what is your message to the communities you have touched in Ekiti about Governor BAO's second year in office?**

My message to the communities we have touched and those we are yet to touch is that Governor BAO knows about you. He knows he still needs to work and do more after this second anniversary of his administration. He's working and he's working s hard but he knows he still needs to put more and he is doing it. He is a man that we all should trust and have a strong belief in. my message to all communities in Ekiti is to continue to believe in Governor Biodun Abayomi Oyeboji. He's a man you can bank and bet on him, he would never disappoint you.

**Thank you for your time.**  
You are welcome





# Governor Biodun Oyeibanji

## is God-sent to Ekiti State - Olojudo

**As the Chairman, Ekiti State Council of Traditional rulers, what would you say are your observations of the present administration led by Governor Biodun Abayomi Oyeibanji in the past two years since he came on board?**

My observation is quite positive. I see a government of somebody who has experience and one who understands Ekiti. They used to say that BAO is home grown. His administration in the past two years has been very good. His handling of the economy and the needs of the people has been awesome. And most importantly the peace and progress in the state is commendable. Everybody is calm because there is a level of confidence that a decent person is in charge and even if the largesse is not coming to you now, the confidence that the

Governor is fair has risen the hope that it would come definitely soon. That gives a lot of people confidence to relax. His touch has been everywhere. Oyeibanji has united everybody even past administrators and by extension, the whole of Ekitiland because he understands us especially in terms of peaceful co-existence. He has achieved. You know the country generally has been very bad when it comes to security but the measures he took concerning the security is yielding positive result. The Kabiyesis were the ones who advised him about the Agro-marshall outfit that the farmers have to be in peace. People have to be confident to go to their farm without the fear of being kidnapped. He took that step by setting up Agro-marshall and since that time we've not heard of anybody been molested on the farm and you will see the impact of that on our agricultural input very soon. That is why you would see a lot of people in the bushes now farming, growing crops and everything. That in itself is a very positive thing because food security is very important. Then again, the police are doing well because they are motivated by the government. Life is generally hard in Nigeria

though, we know that, but despite this, Ekiti has been peaceful. You can see during the last nationwide protest, Ekiti did not take part because we have no reason to protest because we know that the person who is in charge is doing well. Governor Oyeibanji has exercised so much common sense in governance that everybody is confident that things would be okay.

**How has the Governor BAO in the past two years, impacted on your primary constituency which is the traditional institution because in the very recent past, the institution has been facing infighting and one crisis or the other, what is your take on this?**

Yes of course. Governor Oyeibanji understands the set up of Ekiti. He was the Secretary of the Committee for the agitation for the creation of Ekiti State. So, he understands like I said. He was there at the beginning, so he knows. Infighting that we had in the traditional council was the elevation of people who were not at par before and making them the boss. That was why we protested. The past administrator did not understand this. The Governor knows. So when he came onboard, he appointed me and all the Obas in Ekiti were happy because they know that the right person is there. You cannot go and put somebody who is traditionally under me to make

him my boss and expect me to cooperate. The previous administrators were doing that and that was why there was infighting. There is no way we would agree with it. Even if we agreed, our people would not agree. There are other aspects where the Governor has impacted on the traditional institution in terms of raising our sitting allowance befitting our status. We are happy with him. Let me put it this way that there are other aspects we want him to step into but we know the economic situation in Ekiti now. People are asking for food. So we cannot be fighting over car. We cannot ask his Excellency to buy cars for us when the people in town are asking for palliatives. It will not be right if Kabiyesis are fighting over cars. We understand that it is not his fault even though we are still expectant, there are a lot of things we want His Excellency to do for us for instance, there has been no improvement in the stipends and allowances of the Obas since Ekiti State was created until BAO's arrival.

**That reminds me that some traditional rulers in Ekiti confided in me that the issue of changing their cars was long overdue as a state policy which has not been implemented by previous administrations and that the last one was done many years ago...**

**Cuts in..** Yes precisely 2013. I am the Chairman of the Council and I am on the Governor's side and I know he's facing so many problems now. If he has the money, why not?, But I cannot confidently ask him to buy the cars for us now because I know the economic situation in the country. Even people on the street will not be happy if they hear that His Excellency is spending 3 to 4 billion naira to buy cars for Kabiyesis. People will stone us. So I cannot confidently ask him to buy cars for us but I know if he has money and the money is surplus I know he would do the right thing because I know BAO is a very decent person who understands Ekiti.

He knows us individually. He knows that some Kabiyesis' cars are not good. The cars that were bought 11 years ago cannot fare better. Many of the engines have knocked. Many of Kabiyesis are spending their money on repairs which is not good enough. But one thing I know is that if BAO has the money he would definitely do the needful so, I don't need to put any pressure on him.

**In the past two years what would you say have changed in Ekiti since the assumption of office of Governor BAO?**

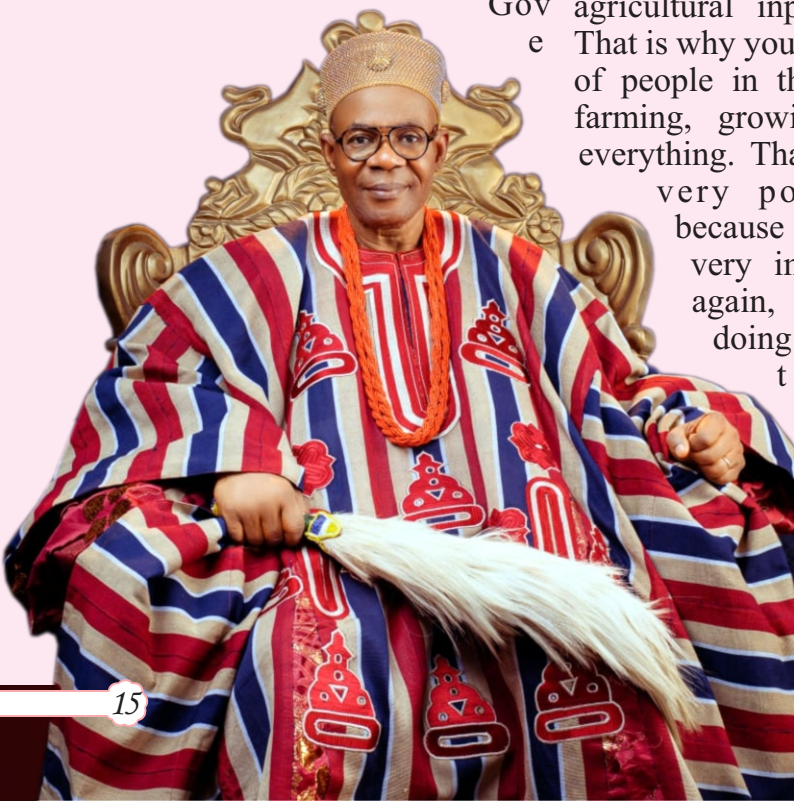
The atmosphere has changed. Anybody that enters Ekiti now will know that we have peace.

The workers are happy. Government is paying salaries on time. They are paying our palace staffs regularly. We traditional rulers get paid every month. Before he came, we were owed three months by the previous administration. But when he came in, he paid the backlog and he has not failed to pay our stipends every month. We are asking for more even where we have inequalities. We know he's very intelligent because he understands

Ekiti. He is somebody you don't need to preach to because even before you ask, he has done it. I believe that with BAO in the saddle, things will continue to improve. That is why most of us are of the opinion that the next six years, he would be there. He would have stabilized and it would be difficult for anybody who comes to reverse our gains. That is why all of us are behind him including my humble self.

**What are those things he has put in place physically in the last two years that has changed the narrative in Ekiti State?**

For instance, we have a new Chamber. We were in one room in the old Governor's Office before. Although, the previous administration was planning a new chamber for us but when he





came, he modified the plan and built it expressly and to the best taste. So, I started my tenure as the first Chairman in the new chamber. We are dignified every time we have our meeting in the new ultra modern council chamber. He has done very well for us the Kabiyesis minus the issue of cars though not his fault. Besides that, he's doing many roads. The Ado-Ifaki road which had been abandoned since Segun Oni left is going through tremendous rehabilitation. He is doing it now. If I want to go to Ado now, I should be in Ado within 20 minutes. For me, that road is the backbone of other roads in Ekiti State because of the strategic importance of the road. He is doing it now and the road is very smooth. They have almost completed it. Even if he does only that road, it is enough for me. He has done many other roads across the three senatorial districts. But like Oliver Twist, there are many other roads in Ido/Osi that I will want him to do like Ido-Ipere road. That road is very bad as well as Ido-Igede Road also. If that road is good, Igede to Ido here is 15 minutes. So, I want him to look at these two roads. The road from Ido to Otun is still very good. It was constructed by General Olurin and still very good but it needs some touches. Let me also tell you that there are certain things that gives peace in Ekiti State; the workers are no longer complaining, teachers are no longer complaining, the pensioners are no longer complaining. This



Until you need it urgently, you won't appreciate the importance. Private people have airports in the civilized countries. So what is too much for an airport serving 3 to 4 million people? So, it is a very good project and I'm happy that BAO is facing it and Baba Afe too is spending money on it. By the grace of God, that airport will soon be operational.

**What is the level of support given to Governor BAO by the royal fathers in the state?**

The best way to support the Governor is to make sure that our towns are okay and well administered and the people are happy and feel comfortable where they live. That is the first way to support the Governor. The other support is if every Kabiyesi looks after his town and there are no agitations or restiveness, I think the Governor would be happy. For me as the Olojudo, I looked after my town and also my domain to ensure there is peace. That is the best way I can support his government. I'm not a member of his cabinet I'm not a Commissioner or Special Adviser, I'm only Kabiyesi the Olojudo. My responsibility like every other Kabiyesi is to look after our towns and provide an environment by which people can live in peace and to prosper. **One of the cardinal programs of Governor BAO is in the area of agriculture and food sufficiency that would ensure shared prosperity for all. How is this program yielding**

**results in various communities in Ekiti State?**

To the best of my knowledge, the Ministry of Agriculture is helping us as volunteer to each Kabiyesi. They said any Kabiyesi who can guarantee 5 hectares, they will clear it for free, They will help you with inputs so that you can do your farming. What else can you ask the government to do? They carry some of the youths from here, they went to Oke -Ako, they went to Ise-Ekiti, they cleared the bushes for the youths to do farming and they gave them inputs to plant cassava. And they have promised to off-take the cassava when the crop is due for harvest. It is not as if you are looking for buyers, rather, it is a ready-made market just to encourage the youths in farming. Now, we know that no matter the amount of cassava planted in Ekiti, government would buy it. Sometimes if garri is expensive in the market, everybody goes to the farm to plant cassava. So, the following year, there is cassava glut. Nobody is buying cassava and because of that, people are discouraged from planting cassava the following year and then you have scarcity again. But if the government is buying the cassava from the people, no matter the quantity of cassava you grow, it's not going to waste that government is going to buy it and turn it into garri, store the garri to release in time of scarcity. Cassava is one of the cheapest crops to grow on earth. 6 inches stem, put it in the ground and go back in the next 9 months you will harvest. I expect that next year, garri is going to be surplus. Even me as

the Olojudo, I have about three thousand heaps of cassava. I promised my wife that next year, she is not going to buy a single grain of garri. So these are the things that people need. I have a farm where I planted tomatoes. I've been eating my own tomatoes and we are selling too. As a matter of fact, I have sold more than one million Naira worth of tomatoes this year. So I don't have any reason to complain that tomato is expensive. Every Ekiti man should be able to do that. I was a sailor. I didn't farm for more than fifty years. I can go back to farm. I have corn in my farm. If you look at that garden over there, I have chickens growing there. I have geese and the corn on the farm is used to feed them. So, in a nutshell, we have to be creative because the opportunities are there.

**On a final note as Governor BAO is marking his second year in office, what would be your kind words or advice for him?**

The kind words I have for him is just to greet him well done. He's more experience than I am. I've never being a governor. He has been Chief of Staff. He has been SSG and all those offices in government. That is what I mean by saying he's more experience than I am. All I can say is to pray for him for good health to carry on in what he's doing. He's God sent to this state for he was carefully planted by God Himself just like Moses in Pharaoh's palace. He grew up there and he's doing well. I can only encourage him and tell him that most of the Obas in Ekiti are behind him and encourage him

to do more and lastly by the grace of God, his second term is guaranteed.

**Kabiyesi on the lighter mood, you are 70 years of age this month, three scores and ten, but you don't look your age. You looked younger and agile than people of your age. What is the secret behind this?**

I was 70 on 9/9 (September 9) there is no secret. I was born well. I inherited good things from my parents and then I don't deceive myself. I copied good character from people I had lived with. I know in life, you create your own paradise and you live in it or you create your own hell and struggle in it. God has helped me to create a little paradise in which I live. I live peacefully. My wife is good, my children are good. The people of the town understand me because I am honest with them. Nobody bothers me. The town is well administered. My chiefs are good. I told them what I want. They know what I want. They have to be honest. When they come here with a problem, we solve it without any bias. I do exercise. I don't send people on errands. If I want water from the fridge, I'll go and take it by myself. If I feel my stomach is swelling up, I would fast. All this little tips keep me agile. The rest, God is there to take charge.

**Happy birthday Kabiyesi.**  
Thank you very much



# ROYAL BLESSINGS

The Ekiti Council of Traditional Rulers

*Heartily felicitates with our*  
OMOLUABI Governor,

## His Excellency Biodun Abayomi Oyeibanji

on the occasion of his second anniversary  
as the Executive Governor of Ekiti State.



We express our profound appreciation to God Almighty for choosing a thoroughbred home grown and progressive Governor to pilot the affairs of our dear state at this point in time.

Your coming to the saddle of power in the past two years had been sufficiently remarkable, rewarding and exemplary as your footprints of selfless service in infrastructure upgrade, Agric revolution, rural integration and development of human capacity for shared prosperity has changed the narrative of Ekiti among the comity of states in the country.

You have dignified the status of Traditional institution in Ekiti State as all Kabiyesis are proud of your respect, humility and reverence for the royal stools.

Indeed, the last two years of your administration has been testimonies of good governance, physical development and economic recovery.

As one of the founding fathers of creation of Ekiti State, you have been able to unite all Ekiti kete irrespective of creed, class and political affiliations as one indivisible entity.

As you are celebrating your second anniversary in office, we sincerely wish you more successes in the years ahead praying for more wisdom and good health to be able to steer the ship of our dear state to the promised land.

### **HAPPY CELEBRATION**

**Signed:**

**HRM, Oba Ayorinde Ilori-Faboro,  
The Olojudo of Ido-kingdom  
Chairman, Ekiti State Council of  
Traditional Rulers.**



## Governor Oyeibanji is a Prosperity Sharer, We Are Proud of Him

-Ekiti APC

**T**his publication is in commemoration of Governor Biodun Oyeibanji's second year in office. As a critical stakeholder in the ruling party, what would you say are the gains of this administration in two years?

Let me start by saying that I am speaking on behalf of the Acting Chairman of our great party. Hon. Olusola Elesin. I can assure you that whatever I say now is his position. I'm speaking but I have his permission to speak on his behalf. Now, talking about the gains of Governor Biodun Abayomi Oyeibanji in the last two years in office, let me say confidently that the Governor started his administration on a positive note and has continued that way since then without wavering, as a prosperity sharer. He believes in sharing prosperity, that everybody should be well-off. And so far, he has sustained that tempo. He has shown capability that he is, indeed, an *afenifere* man. Is it in terms of project benefits? Is it in terms of individuals who he had been supporting in their chosen career? Is it in terms of communities that hitherto were in the dark and he brought light to them? Is it in terms of construction of roads, making roads passable to different homesteads and communities, even farmsteads? Is it in terms of ensuring that companies do not go moribund? Is it in terms of ensuring that there is no out-of-school-children? Is it in terms of ensuring that the different professionals, artisans from various sectors can hold their own and have a sense of belonging in the state? Is it in terms of market women or transport unions? Mention any area of endeavour that you know Ekiti for, you will surely see the touch of Governor Biodun Oyeibanji. You will see his show of empathy towards them. And when you see individuals who were struggling to survive and their concerns get to Governor Biodun Oyeibanji, he would not pretend not to hear their hues and cries. He would always stand up and support them. Despite doing this, he remains a humble governor who respects all. When you look at our traditional rulers, Gov Oyeibanji has listening ears for them. If you call Biodun once, he would



**Segun Dipe**

answer you twice. There is nothing that can say that his town or community is in need of one thing or the other and he is able to put a call through to Governor Oyeibanji and would say that the governor had not listened to him, or had not supported him. Bye and large, Oyeibanji has listening ears and he has doing acts. That is my explanation of him being a prosperity sharer.

**In practical terms, what are those physical structures or manifestations of Governor Oyeibanji's achievements in the past two years?**

First Let us talk about electricity. The fact that some communities were deprived of electricity for years and he came and restored their light is a strong manifestation of his performance in office. One area that Mr. Governor has been showing enough concerns in Ekiti is in making the roads motorable. We should not deceive ourselves, we don't have enough resources to start charting new roads, but this particular Governor has taken it upon himself to ensure that existing roads that were hitherto not passable become passable. In fact, he's been expanding them. If you look at the adjacent road, beside Faglo Filling Station in Basiri, Ado Ekiti, you will see his touch. He's not just doing them as



palliatives, rather, he's putting concrete and permanent structures on them, making sure that these roads are worth the standard and he's not mincing words or actions about his intention to make sure that Ado-Ekiti particularly becomes a worthy capital city. He has really done well. And when you go to the hinterlands, you will equally see his touch on the roads. Again, when you look at our business investments, you will see that the governor has been able to attract investors. If you look at Ikogosi, you will appreciate what he's able to do, giving the companies to investors and they have been able to improve on them. Look at our various investments as a state, he has been able to invite investors to take them to the next level. These are all physical manifestations. Of

course, you may think that this does not matter, but it matters to those who are benefitting from it. I'm talking about the pensioners. You've seen how he has given life to these pensioners in the payment of their pensions as and when due, and those being owed gratuities, he has brought the payment to a reasonable level. Recently, he injected money running into billions into payment of gratuities and pensions and when you look at workers in the state, I can tell you that they have a new lease of life. It is a given that they get their salaries as and when due. Not only their salaries, but loan facilities and the deductions on cooperatives made over time, he's been able to balance them up. He has given life and hope and sense of belonging to every Ekiti person, not minding the class or where



that person has come from. And one thing again is that he doesn't brag about doing all these. He's doing it seamlessly as if it is his natural assignment and he doesn't even like people praising him for doing them. He would just tell you that 'Look, it is my job. I don't have to give excuses. I'm here to live up to the expectations of Ekiti people'. When you look at all these practical and physical manifestations, you cannot but commend him that we have a governor who has listening ears and doing acts. Also, the fact that we had a smooth transition to him from his predecessor, His Excellency, Dr. Kayode Fayemi and the cordiality and conviviality have remained smooth, is a pointer to his Omoluabi nature. BAO is a respecter of relationships and a fulfiller of promises.

**Recently, a number of group, associations and community leaders were clamouring for Governor BAO for second term- 4+4 all over the place. As a party man, do you think the time is ripe for such at a time, whereas the Governor only marked his two year in office?**

The Yoruba have a saying that 'Lati okeere ni oloju jinjin ti nm'ekun sun.' Meaning that someone who has a deep eye socket would start his cry from a distance, in order to attract peoples' attention that he's really crying. The type of politics we play in Ekiti is that of people jostling for positions. Even within our party, people would want to contest election, which is normal anyway. But when you have somebody who is working, there is a saying that

you don't change a winning team. You don't change a winning formula also. When you see somebody who is performing, whose integrity is tied to it, you cannot but tell others that this person, legitimately, statutorily, constitutionally and otherwise, is qualified, competent and capable to run for a second term. Let us realize that we are not going to start gambling with the second term. For us as a party, we won't want to encourage our members to start spending unnecessarily, knowing that we have somebody who is capable on the seat, and the constitution gives him strength to the fact that he should run a second term. He is not statute-barred. If you have somebody working like that and you don't keep telling people that look, this person is not only recognized for a second term, he's not only capable of a second term, we are also backing him for the second term. If you don't say this loud and early enough, jostlers will start emerging and they will flood the whole environment. They will be the same people that will tell you that you should have told them early enough, so they wouldn't have to spend

money or to have commenced gathering support. Even our members, we have to let them know that, look, there is no permutation, there is no gambling, we already have a good person in the saddle, we have a good structure and we have a good system. We can only build on this, rather than creating chaos within the system. We can only say that, yes, this man, the way he's going, we have no option but to support him for second term or to even encourage him to continue. Stability play a crucial role in development. Four years is not enough to realize all his hopes and aspirations for Ekiti. We'll now say, relax, we'll give you enough time to keep pushing, you have enough time, so don't rush things. On his part, knowing that the people have resolved to entrust him with a second term, he would have a long time vision and he would show a long term concern for the people. He will not just do things on the surface, but will make sure that things are

deeply rooted, since he has enough time to realize it. So, we don't want the governor to be disturbed or distracted by unhealthy competition. We want him to be assured that as far as our party is concerned he has enough time to touch every aspect of peoples' lives. Go ahead and continue, we say. Take your time and do it well. So, if you talk about second term, yes, we proudly present it to him and he has no option but to accept it, except he doesn't love Ekiti and the people the way he has said he loves us. But if he indeed loves us that much, he must pay that price, he must take that responsibility of taking us to the next level.

***"He has really done well. And when you go to the hinterlands, you will equally see his touch on the roads. Again, when you look at our business investments, you will see that the governor has been able to attract investors. If you look at Ikogosi, you will appreciate what he's able to do, giving the companies to investors and they have been able to improve on them. Look at our various investments as a state, he has been able to invite investors to take them to the next level."***

**Are you not worried that for the first time in the history of Ekiti State, a sitting Governor, at the middle of his first term in office, is being persuaded to run for a second term, more interesting that a leading opposition figure in the person of former Governor Ayodele Fayose is leading the pack of the people calling for BAO's return after 2026. Don't you see this**

**development as panacea for one party state?**

Not at all. rather I will describe it, using your word- as a panacea for stability in the state. I would see it as opportunity for every Ekiti son and daughter to have a long term vision. Let me tell you how investors think. If I'm coming into a state to invest my money, the first thing I would consider is political stability, economic stability, confidence and trust in government. If I'm aware of the fact that a governor is doing well and he's concerned about building the state, has a long time vision of the state and can sustain the tempo, I would rather see it in a good light that there is no jostling or confusion in the minds of these people, especially when the opposition and the party in government are in sync in terms of thinking that the best thing for the state today as we are is stability. I'm not talking of tomorrow or yester years, the present requires stability and for



you to invest in that stability, you must trust the person in the saddle. You can be sure that he would protect your business. People don't gamble with their lives and careers. If we are not sure of him, we would not say, come out and do the second term. it is not just political. It is economical and structural, it is futuristic. It is something that ensures that Ekiti becomes stable. This is the first time that we would have a governor in the saddle that will be in office back-to-back for another term and we have known the implication of short-termism in the politics of Ekiti State. But now we want to give assurance of an enduring legacy. We want to give assurance of stability in government and stability in development in taking Ekiti to the next level, especially in healthy distribution of prosperity. We have the Tech-Hub, we have the Ekiti Knowledge Zone that is coming up. Imagine another governor coming up without understanding the vision, he will surely drag the wheel of progress backward in the state. I dare say that anybody who is not focusing on BAO for second term now does not love Ekiti. If we have such person who walks his talk, who is sincere and as focused as Governor Biodun Abayomi Oyeibanji, why do we need to change a winning game? We would rather stick with him than going for an "unknown angel" who is going to start afresh. We believe that it is not too early enough for us, but it is realistic to have a Biodun Abayomi Oyeibanji for another term.

**Lastly, what would be your wish for the Governor as he celebrates his second year of**

**his first term in office?**

My wish for our hardworking governor is to continue with his good works. Let him not get carried away with praises. Let him not get carried away even with criticisms. Let him not be distracted by critics who may blame him because of his open embrace of the people in opposition. No. he has that vision. Don't forget he is one of the founding fathers of Ekiti. He has that pioneering mentality and he has a vision of Ekiti of his dream. So, he should not change. He will face criticisms, he will face praises as well, which are the two things that can make people to jelly. When they praise you too much, you will lean on your own understanding. That is why when you see footballers playing entertaining game on the field and they start praising them for their dribbling skills, instead of them passing the ball to the strikers until they lose the ball, it would now dawn on them that they were just running on one spot without adding any value to the success of the team. So, we don't want a BAO that will change. We don't want a BAO that will be discouraged. We don't want a BAO that will be too elated. We want a BAO that will retain his humility and focus and integrity. We pray and wish that he will continue with the tempo with which he started and he will not rest on his oars. He will keep graduating until his good become better and becomes best. He can even still better his best. We are proud of him in our party. I would say as a matter of fact that he's giving us little job to do, because we don't have to fight any opposition except those who are trying to

look for relevance through BAO-bashing, who believe that by bashing BAO, they can have a voice. We are proud of who we have and what we have and we will surely support him for a second term.



## EKITI STATE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY



The Speaker, Rt. Hon. Adeoye Aribasoye; lawmakers of the Ekiti 7th-Assembly; and the entire parliamentary staff congratulate, HIS EXCELLENCY, Biodun Abayomi Oyeibanji and the Deputy Governor, HER EXCELLENCY, Chief (Mrs.) Monisade Afuye, on your 2nd-Year Anniversary as the GOVERNOR AND DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF EKITI STATE.

Over the past Twelve months, Your Excellencies have solidly consolidated on the foundation of the enviable and sustainable legacies you laid during your eventful first year in office that can only be traced to the genuine leadership and the purposefulness of results-driven governance.

Your Excellencies, We are not oblivious of your commitment to people-oriented projects and programmes which have uplifted the lives of many, reflecting a deep sense of service and compassion towards our constituents. The synergy between us (Legislature) and the Executive you lead are part of the strides you have made in fostering unity and development, as well as testament to your vision and unwavering dedication.

As you journey into the third-year in office, we urge you to continue with the ongoing infrastructural development across the state, while praying God in His infinite mercy, continues to protect, strengthen and guide your leadership in its quest to achieve sustainable socio-economic development in Ekiti State.

For these and more, We wish you a happy second-year anniversary of steady strides at sustaining Ekiti core values to keep Ekiti working towards shared prosperity.

Signed  
Division List

| S/N | NAMES                                              | CONSTITUENCY        | S/N | NAMES                               | CONSTITUENCY         |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1.  | Rt. Hon. Adeoye Stephen ARIBASOYE (Speaker)        | Ikole II            | 14. | Hon. Johnson Oyekola BODE-ADEOYE    | Ekiti West II        |
| 2.  | Rt. Hon. Bolaji Egbeyemi OLAGBAJU (Deputy Speaker) | Ado II              | 15. | Hon. Femi FATUNLA                   | Ikole I              |
| 3.  | Hon. Tolulope Michael IGE (Majority Leader)        | Ekiti South West II | 16. | Hon. Babatunde Abiodun FAWEKUN      | Ido/Osi I            |
| 4.  | Hon. Oladele O. OGUNSAKIN (Minority Leader)        | Ekiti East I        | 17. | Hon. Lawrence Babatunde IDOWU       | Ikere II             |
| 5.  | Hon. Bosede Yinka OLOWOOKERE (Chief Whip)          | Efon                | 18. | Rt. Hon. Hakeem Ayodeji JAMIU       | Irepodun/Ifeledun II |
| 6.  | Hon. Ebenezer Oluwayomi AYORINDE (Deputy Leader)   | Ido/Osi II          | 19. | Hon. Temitope Ademola LONGE         | Oye I                |
| 7.  | Hon. Alhaja Maryam OGUNLADE (Deputy Chief Whip)    | Emure               | 20. | Hon. Idowu Sunday ODEBUNMI          | Oye II               |
| 8.  | Hon. Kehinde Anthony ADARAMODU                     | Ekiti South West I  | 21. | Hon. Ademola Martins OJO            | Ijero                |
| 9.  | Hon. Ayodeji Adeyinka ADEGBITE                     | Ado I               | 22. | Hon. Babatunde OKE                  | Ikere I              |
| 10. | Hon. Kareem AGUNBIADE                              | Ekiti West I        | 23. | Hon. Barr. Fakunle Iyabode OKIEIMEN | Ilejemeje            |
| 11. | Hon. Lateef Oluwale AKANLE                         | Ekiti East II       | 24. | Hon. Adeteju OKUYIGA                | Gbonyin              |
| 12. | Hon. Femi Olanrewaju AKINDELE                      | Irepodun/Ifeledun I | 25. | Hon. Babatunde E. OMOTAYO           | Ise/Orun             |
| 13. | Hon. Jacob Adeyemi AWONIYI                         | Moba II             | 26. | Hon. Christiana Abimbola SOLANKE    | Moba I               |



## Governor BAO's Agric Revolution Is On Course.

**Ebenezer Boluwade**

Under the leadership of Governor Biodun Abayomi Oyeboji, we started the agricultural revolution program about two years ago. When we came in, we had meetings with different stakeholders; farmers, agro-traders, the cooperatives and the youths amongst others to be able to understand what are the issues that they have. They told us a lot of things and we came up with 6 agenda that eventually became the items that we are following in the Ministry of Agric and Food Security. I will mention them one after the other. First one is Agricultural Productivity Improvement. Our farmers complained that our yield per hectare is one of the lowest compared with national average. So we came up with the root causes of the problem like the types of seeds they are using, tractors and even the land preparation as. We looked at these issues and came up with agricultural productivity improvement and one of the things we did was to start what we call-Farm Clusters. The idea behind this practice is that our people are choked. Somebody has one hectare, he can't do more than that because that is his maximum capacity whereas his intention was to do more but he doesn't have the wherewithal. So, we came up with cluster farming which actually merged them together and clear land for them free of charge because it is the most expensive aspect in crop production and we started by talking to traditional rulers because they are the people within the localities who owned the land. We got their cooperation and they also went back to their communities to seek their support and as we speak, we have done about 32 clusters in Ekiti. The good thing is that almost all of them are doing fantastically well. I have the pictures to proof this. Some have started harvesting their yams, their maize and tomatoes. We also spoke to the universities like FUOYE,



**Ebenezer Boluwade**

EKSU and BOUESTI all of which are presently having our cluster farms in their institutions. Others are in the localities. Almost every local government you visit now. We have in Ara, Iloro, Emure, Awo and the rest, 32 in all. The Governor said his plan was by 2025, when he will be three year in office, we should increase it to 100. As at this morning we've received at least four so that by the end of the year we'll start the program of clearing the land for the new intake. The reason is that when they come together there is what we called economies of scale. They can produce more, get inputs at lower price and at the end of the day when the crop is ready for harvest, they can harvest at the same time, bring a trailer to pick it so that the cost of moving it to the market is also reduced.

**Do you take security into consideration when planning this program?**

Yes of course. The Governor on June inaugurated what we called Agro-Rangers. We have 300 of such across the State and so each agro ranger can be deployed to farm clusters so as to protect them from any security challenges. We also have anti-grazing and the Amotekun that has special unit for farmers' protection. In addition, we have started tractorisation program last year with 75/25 (Farmers, 75, government 25). But this year, we felt government must increase its own share, so we are doing 50/50 and the last time I checked, we have helped more than 500 farmers that have access to tractorisation and more than 1000 hectares of land have been plowed, harrowed and ridged with just half of the price.

**With all these interventions, what are the prospects for food security in Ekiti State especially in the nearest future?**

Yes by the special grace of God, by the end of next year, we won't have cause to shout 'Ebi n pa wa' in Ekiti State because we should have enough maize, cassava and we are even doing rice. So, on farm clusters, we are opening up more lands into the existing ones so that they can plant more. Then, we are giving our farmers improved seeds. This year alone, we have distributed more than 15000 kg improved seeds of maize to our farmers at subsidized rate. We have done close to 1000kg. I cannot mention the quantity of cassava sticks we have given out, we subsidized up to 50% on agro chemicals ditto, fertilizers which are freely given to farmers courtesy of the Federal Government. In a related development, we have farm settlements and farm centres which dated back to the era of Awolowo. Seven of them in Ekiti includes; Iyemero, Eporo, Orin, Osi all of them have benefitted from our tractorisation and input subsidies including fertilizer distribution. We also looked at capacity building because we need to train our farmers with the new process of farming in the era of climate change where our rain has not been very regular. This (training) we do through our extension services like Fadama and ADP who are moving from one community to the other to assist them. The other program we have initiated is on youth in agriculture and it is divided into three. One, we met some youths and we asked them what do they need and they said they want to do agriculture but they want to do farming that easily within the



*"We looked at these issues and came up with agricultural productivity improvement and one of the things we did was to start what we call-Farm Clusters. The idea behind this practice is that our people are choked. Somebody has one hectare, he can't do more than that because that is his maximum capacity whereas his intention was to do more"*

broilers. We paid about N20million to the transaction. We paid them stipends more than the minimum wage, N60000 each and they went through that process to learn so that today, they can stand on their own to raise birds from day-old to table size. They now know the rudiment and practicality of raising birds and

not only that they were empowered because it is from that seed money that they got their profits. We put them into cooperatives so that every cycle, their money is ploughed back. We gave them their profits. At the end of the whole exercise, we were able to graduate 20 youths from the initial 47. We gave them their seed money and by today, they are standing on their own as poultry owners. They have birds they are raising and they are also helping to train our second batch. The second batch of 83 students started last two weeks and they got their first birds. We are increasing the birds from 10000 to 250000 at Erifun. Today, we are moving it down to other three towns; Ido, Ilupeju and Ikole and we are open to any community that has space to rare birds. We train them, give them birds, and also empower them. So, the capacity today has moved from last year which was 10000 to 25000 and the Governor has said that before the third anniversary, we should have 50000. The good thing at





Erifun is that we have accommodation in place. There are some dilapidated buildings built during the time of Awolowo which we have renovated and equipped with solar power, a well, DSTV and everything to make life comfortable. Now the other side of Erifun is where we have our horticulture that is; tomatoes, pepper, cucumber and the rest. For this category of trainees, we sent them to an organization called Soiless Farmlab to train them for three months on the best way of horticultural farming. So as we speak, we have sent no fewer than 200 youths from Ekiti to this institute in Abeokuta entirely sponsored by Mastercard. While they were there for 3 months, they paid them salaries as they were being trained. What next after their training? We have cleared 20 hectares for them at Erifun. Then there is a dam that has been there for years, we have desilted and piped the dam up to the field where they can operate for dry season farming. So our plan is to expand the place such that all the pepper consumed in Ado will be produced there. The last program I want to make mention is an aggressive move to bring back our youths into agriculture. The Governor launched it around June/July this year and it has employed more than 1000 youths scattered across Oke-Ako, Iyemero, Igede, Emure, Ikere, Aramoko. In

these seven centres, we have no less than 180 youths planting rice, maize, cassava, cowpeas and other crops. Apart from land preparation and supply of quality seedlings, government two weeks ago, donated a bus that would help to take them to the farm from home so that the cost of transportation can be reduced. Our plan is to expand the scope beyond the seven local governments to every local government in the state. Lastly, people say government has no business in doing business, but we say no because, if government don't have interest in doing business, then it can stimulate it, we can bring private investor and streamline the process to ensure that the private investor that would come will not be discouraged. So we have opened all the clusters to off-takers. Even we, as a state needs to be food secured so that when people produce, government buys it as the practice in the developed world. Government will now come in and buy off the proceeds at a particular price, then in the off-season when the price is high, government comes in too and that is what we are looking to do in the coming months. So we are working to get silos and warehouses where we can purchase as much as possible to keep them till during the off season to



avoid another round of border town between us and Kogi and another one in Ado here through World Bank support, we are building a 21<sup>st</sup> century abattoir that can perform dual functions. There is a part that will retain our local butchers who would be performing their duty of cutting the meat to their prospective buyers, there is also the automated section where if you want to do any social functions like burials, marriages, birthdays and other ceremonies, you don't need to kill cow within your house because of environmental pollution, all you need to do is take it to

abattoir where they will help you kill it and cut it to your specification for a fee so that within 30 minutes a whole cow is being killed skinned and cut into pieces everything done in a very clean and hygienic environment.

**Hon. Commissioner, you have all these ambitious programs and policies in the area of agric sector in Ekiti State and yet the public is not in the know what happened in the area of publicity and sensitization?**

We are doing it actually but to be frank with you people don't always believe in government talk because of failed promises of the past. But what we believe as a government is that our work should speak for us. In Erifun, I've brought journalists to see what we have put in place and they were very impressed with what they saw. We have done the poultry for the first year. All the testimonies and evidences were there because the participants and beneficiaries are living witnesses. They can grant interviews like what you have suggested to let the public know that this is not theoretical but practical reality.



# Community Engagements

In this age of information super highway, the role of effective communication cannot be overemphasized giving credence to the stark reality that the world is a global village. In Ekiti State today, one of the salient and unique selling points of the two year-old administration of Governor Biodun Abayomi-led administration is continuous engagement with Ekiti kete using all the paraphernalia of information dissemination available since it is a given that government cannot be everywhere at the same time.

Unlike the practice in the past where achievements and activities of government were often hurriedly choreographed and packaged as campaign strategy to win elections, this government has marked a complete departure from the blast of the whistle by engaging the people and informing them about government actions and intentions. Feedback and responses from the people has paved way for better understanding between the people and government because government recognized the fact that genuine democracy lies in the people's right to know who gets what, where and how.

To this end, the office of community communications was created purposely to fill the gap of alienation suffered by people immediately after politicians came to power and the electorate left in the lurch till the next election cycle. But this office has become the

game changer giving the impression that a new Sheriff is in town.

Mrs Mary Oso-Omotoso the ebullient Director-General, Bureau of Community Communications, by dint of hard-work, uncommon capacity and professionalism candour, has turned the office into a place of comfort for every Tom, Dick and Harry that seeks to know how government is fairing.

As a grassroots developer, Mary Oso is a walking encyclopedia of towns and communities in Ekiti as she knows virtually the remotest village in every local government in the state preaching the gospel of Mr. Governor's Shared Prosperity Agenda.

A goal- getter of no mean stature, Mary Oso with her team of dedicated staff, is surely living to the expectations of communities, associations and groups being connected with the governor.

Her job was enhanced by the expert handling of Information Ministry by Chief Taiwo Olatubosun, brilliant and experienced communicator who has left no one in doubt that Governor BAO is working.

Chief Niyi Ojo's oratorical prowess and composure at the weekly See ti gbo aired on all radio stations in Ekiti completes the community engagement of the administration. The pictures below show snippets from community engagements -courtesy of Office of Bureau of Community Communications







## PROJECTS: BAO's Score Card on Infrastructure

It is no longer news that the Governor Biodun Oyebanji's administration has earned overwhelming accolades by the good people of Ekiti State both at home and in the diaspora over his giant strides in the area of road infrastructure across the state making Ekiti State, a construction site in the past two years.

From Ado-Ekiti, the state capital to the hinterland, the visible touch of Mr. Governor can be seen and felt in the construction and rehabilitation

of roads many of which hitherto, were not accessible by people in the rural communities to city centre. Few roads that readily came to mind include; Igede-Ilawe, Ikere-Igbara-Odo, Ilawe-Ikere amongst other roads which are presently undergoing massive rehabilitation.

As contractors are coming in droves to make their visible presence in the state, the Governor in his wisdom, felt there is urgent need for regulation in order to protect local contractors and this

informed the philosophy behind the creation of the Bureau of Local Content ensuring inclusivity, healthy competition and localization of work force. Hon. Olalekan Ijidalé who heads the bureau is committed to the enforcement of Local Content Law for shared prosperity for all.

The taste of pudding they say is in the eating as the exclusive pictures below show the true life story of Governor Oyebanji's tour of duty on inception of roads construction across Ekiti State.











## BAO GAME CENTRE

All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy, BAO Game Centers is an innovative initiative that seeks to provide a decent communal space for people at the grassroots to engage in various games at their leisure.

Beyond its recreational purpose, the BAO Game Center serves as a platform for exchange of ideas and feedback mechanism. In addition, it serves as a proactive measure in crime prevention by keeping people engaged in constructive activities after the day's work especially farming.

While efforts are being made to have the BAO Game Center in all local governments, some have been completed with game kits and other

items given to them. While some are still under construction, some have been completed and commissioned. Such locations include Ado, Ikere, Oye, Ikole, Odo Ayedun, Otun, Ifaki, Aramoko, Ise, and Usi Ekiti, among others.

The BAO Game Center transcends cultural and political affiliations, serving as a communal space that further creates accessibility to governance.

Governor Biodun Oyebanji conceived the initiative during one of his project inspection tours, where he observed that many rural dwellers played games under the trees, which could often expose them to unfavourable weather conditions.







## \*BAO STREETCONNECT\*

To be streetwise is to be people oriented and cosmopolitan.

BAO Street Connect is

another grassroots communication platform designed by the office of community communications and unveiled to reach out more to the people so that information of government activities could be shared with the people in the grassroots.

More importantly, the office tries to leverage on the strong bond of Governor Biodun Oyeibanji with the people on the streets hence, the unveiling of this idea because the governor

streetwise, who already shared fantastic bonds with the people at the grassroots and of the streets.

In addition, the avenue is a vehicle to further spread government information to the people on the streets.

When fully operational the event will held every month and cut across all the LGAs and LCDAs in Ekiti State.

BSC also features games and distribution of gifts to participants, extending the Governor's message of love and unity.







## COMPASSIONATE BAO

Behind a humble and almost harmless mien is a Governor with a large heart, a compassionate and silent philanthropist who gives without noise and in most cases, anonymously.

Governor Biodun Oyebanji, according to sources close to his inner closet has blood flowing in his veins and richly blessed with milk of human kindness that has endeared him to the hearts of thousands of those who depend on him for sustenance behind the scene.

They include; the aged, the sick, orphans, the vulnerable and indigent students from all walks of life who saw in him a good friend in bad times putting smiles on their faces.

A celebrated case was recently reported involving two elderly citizens who lost their sight during a bomb blast in Ado Ekiti while on official duty as drivers to a former Military Administrator in the state. The duo were treated by Mr. Governor's personal physician and adequately rehabilitated.

Report says that a list of monthly beneficiaries of BAO's generosity has surpassed 1000 people drawn from different communities and still counting. They received alerts for their upkeep on monthly basis.

Pictures don't lie....











## ADIRE HUB BERTHS IN EKITI

In an attempt to Oyebanji, develop local industry through fabrics empowerment scheme and training centre, the Governor Biodun Oyebanji-led administration through the office of the First Lady Dr Mrs Olayemi Oyebanji recently launched the Adire Ekiti Hub, to give economic empowerment to the unemployed and widows in the state.

A total of 400 beneficiaries drawn from Ekiti Central and Ekiti South Senatorial Districts have undergone training sponsored by Governor Biodun Oyebanji and his wife in partnership with the Nike Okundaye Art Foundation.

The Adire Ekiti Hub which has

the main building and workshop was commissioned by the wife of the Ooni of Ife, Olori Aderonke Ogunwusi to the admiration of the Governor, the First Lady and other guests present.

The First Lady, Dr. Oyebanji said the Adire Ekiti would benefit the state in the areas of provision of sustainable livelihoods, promotion of entrepreneurship, creation of opportunities for economic empowerment and preservation of cultural heritage in the Land of Honour.

The Governor's wife, who is also the initiator of Widows and Orphans Hope (WAOH) Project, said she envisioned "a

vibrant entrepreneurs and a thriving Adire industry that contributes to the growth and prosperity of Ekiti State."

The beneficiaries are expected to undergo two weeks intensive training on the intricacies of tie and dye at the training facility dedicated for the project which was commissioned by Governor Oyebanji as part of the events of the day.

The building housing the Adire Ekiti Hub was donated by the former lawmaker representing Ekiti Central Senatorial District in the National Assembly and immediate past Special Adviser to the President on Political Matters, Senator Babafemi Ojodu.









# EKITI SPEAKS

## It is difficult to doubt his Integrity - Pa Deji Fasuan

It is obvious that there is complete improvement in the atmosphere generally, particularly in construction of roads that were sadly unbearable before. Also he reacts quickly to public demands to do justice to the environment. This is what I think a good and responsible government should be seeing to be doing which Biodun is doing. Ekiti has always been different from other people. I've been involved in Ekiti politics, so to say, for more than 50 years and I know we are so different because we are honest. We raise honest objections. This governor is openly effective. The immediate past Governor Fayemi did his best too, but this young man responds to public interest so quickly all the time. It is difficult to compare the



Chief Deji Fasuan

young man with other governors because he is completely devoted to the job and few people can doubt his integrity. Generally speaking, we are lucky to have a man like him at this point in time. By nature, he's a very progressive person. I saw this in him when he worked with me as the

Secretary to the Committee for the Creation of Ekiti State. This has shown in the context of his administration. One hopes that he continues like this to be responsive to public interest as he is doing now. I shouldn't be surprised if there is a strong demand for him to run for second term. A lot of people will support him. I thank God that I am alive to witness this transformation in Ekiti. I usually say things objectively and I am happy to be placed in a vantage position to assess the situation objectively. I wish him to continue in what he has been doing and to ignore any form of distractions here and there. He can't afford distractions from people who don't like him. I will advise him to go straight to what he wants to do for the people.

## BAO's Love For Ekiti Pensioners unprecedented - Joel Akinola

His Excellency, Hon Biodun Abayomi Oyeibanji has impacted much in the welfare and wellbeing of Ekiti State Pensioners. Infact, he has adopted us as his parents. He has been paying our monthly pensions, not only regularly but promptly too. He granted a monthly pension award of #10,000 to every pensioner in the State. This has significantly improved the purchasing power of an average pensioner.



Comrade Joel Akinola  
Ekiti State NUP Chairman

outstanding gratuity debts will soon be liquidated.

Bearing in my the health challenges that accompany Pensioners in old age and our poverty state, His Excellency has approved Free Health care services to all Pensioners in Ekiti State. The first in the State. This has made access to good health care services convenient for our vulnerable members.

It is worthy of mention that Governor Oyeibanji paid all the three months Pension Arrears owed State Pensioners and three

out of seven owed Local Government Pensioners. He has promised to pay the balance in due course.

## We knew Governor Oyeibanji as Proper Home boy

- Chief Akin-Fasae

To give an assessment of Governor Biodun Abayomi Oyeibanji is as if you are taking coal to Newcastle, because as far as I'm concerned, I am a BAO Apostle not because he is now the governor. We have been having a very chumming relationship even since he started with Governor Niyi Adebayo. I too was with Governor Adebayo. He started as a Special Assistant. He then rose to the present position because God has said he would become Governor. Four of us were Special Assistants then; himself, Akogun Bunmi Ogunleye, I and the other person who is late now, unlike now when Special Assistants were almost 200. I was deployed to the Assembly, Bunmi Ogunleye and himself were with the Governor, and the other Assistant was with the Deputy Governor. Those of us who knew him know how focused, full of disciplined he was even at a very young age. So, we thank God for his life and I'm grateful to God for I was a participant in his emergence. I'm bold to say that. So, I'm not disappointed. None of us who participated in his emergence is disappointed. We are happy. We knew he was a home boy, a proper home boy who was properly brought up. You know whatever you are and whoever you are, you can't grow up beyond how you are brought up. He was brought up well. I'm happy that he's performing. Some people may be surprised

but I'm not. But I'm happy and glad that he has not disappointed anyone. He is accessible. He doesn't carry the load of governance on his head. I was a pioneering Press Secretary to a Military Administrator and at that time there was no Special Assistants, no Chief of Staff, no- nothing. Two of us were civilians; myself and Gantu, former Permanent Secretary who later became Commissioner. So I was combining so much including the portfolio of the Chief of Staff, portfolio of the Press Secretary and portfolio of the P.A. so, I knew how heavy the load of governance is. Later I became the SAGOV to the then Governor Fayemi. The office of the SAGOV is the office of Mr. Governor. But you'll never find all these lacerations of tediousness on the face of Governor Oyeibanji. He would smile. He would see you and greet you. He's unpretentious. He's aware that the load he's carrying is much because of the way he was brought up, he would carry it with dignity. That is one aspect of him. So whatever that he's doing now is in-built with his build up. Having been a commissioner, a Special Assistant and SSG, he has seen it all in public space, there is no way he would not know that governance is not a joke. He's aware of this. So, he's prepared and because of his preparedness, he's not tired. He was in Edo for the election, before then he was in Abuja. He's always around because

you'll find him at the right place so much that he's never lost in the crowd and because of that, he's aware of the problems at hand especially the grassroots problems. He's aware that not everybody would have access to him, so he has to go to them and to go to them, has to very technical. That was why the office of Community Communications is created. He appointed the young woman who has strength and energy to be moving about to see those people he should see and the lady is doing well. She is my protégé. I was one of the people who brought her up and I'm happy for her. As we are marking two years now it seems as if we have spent ten years going by what BAO is doing in the streets, going by the infrastructure, going by what is happening in education. And again, you can't take Governor BAO for granted. He could be very tough, but he's also very friendly.







## Governor BAO is a refined gentleman.. - Baba Aregbe

An embodiment of humility, character, and native intelligence. He came at a time Ekiti needed a "homegrown" philosopher king to stabilise the polity.

Looking at his performance in the past two years since he came on board, one sees a thoroughbred Ekiti person/leader desirous to make a difference to continue where his former boss, His Excellency Dr John Kayode Fayemi stopped, ending a narrative of a lack of continuity and seeming dissonance in governance. He has been walking his talk in his gospel of shared prosperity for the benefit of Ekiti kete. Massive road construction is ongoing across the state including access roads to farmsteads, workers get paid as and when due, pensioners in the state are smiling to the banks every month in addition to the humongous investment in agriculture to address



Elder Akinola Aregbesola

the needless hunger in the land to mention a few of Governor BAO's interventions in human capital development in the state. Governor Biodun Abayomi Oyebanji will go down in history as a governor who sees Ekiti from the prism of our unique oneness, individuality yet indivisibility and love which has resonated in the peace that we are enjoying as a people at the moment.

May I also use this opportunity to thank these two former governors of the state; Adeniyi Adebayo, John Kayode Fayemi, their wives and the party, APC for choosing an OMOLUABI like BAO for use at this time.

I can only pray him to continue with the zeal and passion he has deployed to drive the ship of our dear state closer to the promised land

## Ekiti is solidly behind Governor BAO - Iyaloja Ekiti State

BAO! BAO! BAO!

He did very well. He worked for Ekiti. There's nobody in this state that does not feel his impact. It's been long that we have seen governors in Ekiti. His own is different. What can I say? good road with drainage up to welfare of the people especially market women. I pray that BAO will attain the place of glory. All Ekiti love BAO wholeheartedly, kabiyesi, the artisans, traders are praying for him to succeed. He doesn't know any money that one cannot spend whenever he comes to our midst. Above all BAO is a great giver. I listened to a testimony from a man in the radio awhile ago where the man claimed that his child needed 1.2m to travel outside the country. BAO paid the money three days to the time of his



Alhaja Abibatu Ogunjobi

departure and many others that have benefited from his generosity. We need peace in Ado and BAO has restored peace in the life of Ekiti market women. I've not seen one person performance until he comes back for a second term. His wife too tried for the widows and market women. Mary Oso is our mother. She is every where and I pray that she stays strong. BAO is coming back because of his good work. He has elevated the status of Ado Ekiti as a place for all Ekiti people. He really tried for Ekiti. His 8 years in office

is not negotiable because there is no one like him for now. May God keep and protect him for us. Thank you.



## Exemplary Leadership of Governor BAO - CAN Ekiti State

Charity begins at home, so says a popular axiom. Even the Holy Bible says in Psalm 11 verse 3 that "If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?" But when the foundation is securely established, the righteous should expect a fruitful and glorious future!

This exactly has been the situation unfolding in the political climate of Ekiti State since the emergence of the "People's Governor", His Excellency, Biodun Oyebanji. showcasing the attributes of Mr Governor on behalf of the Church in an articulate, contrite and expressive way, I will itemize this write up numerically.

### 1. Mr Governor is a visionary leader.

It is only natural that a good tree always produce good fruits. Before his election to the position of leadership in Ekiti State, Mr Governor gave a clear and concise blueprint that will guide his administration in running the affairs of the State. This blueprint, enunciated in 6 cardinal programs include:

- Youth Development and Job Creation;
- Human Capital Development;
- Agriculture And Rural Development;
- Infrastructure And Industrialization;
- Arts, Culture And Tourism, and
- Good Governance.

Since the inception of this administration, Mr Governor has never deviated from the vision and those things he promised the good people of Ekiti State.

### 2. \*He is a man of faith and upright character.\*

This is my first time of seeing a politician who professes his faith openly without minding what his political opponents will say. Mr Governor has literally enthroned Christ in the political landscape of Ekiti State! He is a man of faith, prayer and impeccable character who lives by

what he professes. Mr Governor never toys with prayer; praising God at every given opportunity and deferring to God in his daily decisions. He gave the approval for government's collaboration with Ekiti State CAN during the yearly Universal Week of Prayer which usually held in January; the monthly Ministers' prayer intercession with Government House Chapel; the monthly Elders at the Gate Prayer Forum intercession; the monthly Last Friday Evening of Praise, monthly subvention to Ekiti State CAN. This is the first of its kind in govenance in the State and many others that time and space will not permit me to mention.

We are seeing this as a new and positive trend in the history of Ekiti State.

### 3. \*Consultation and Collaboration with all Stakeholders in Ekiti State.\*\*

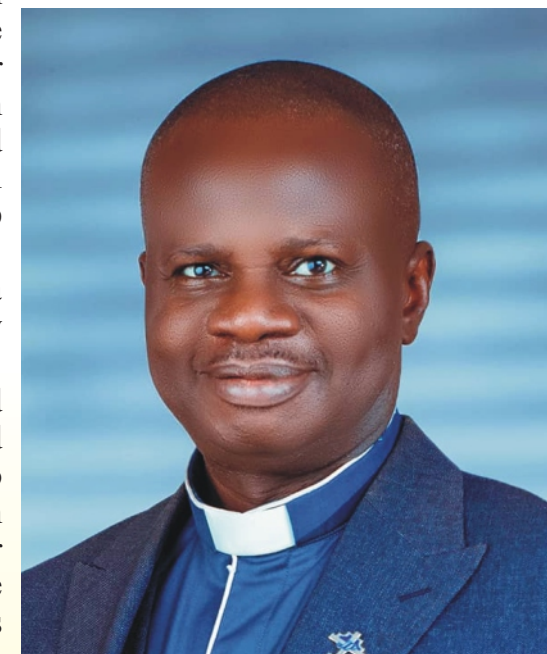
His own brand of politics knows no opposition. He believes in 'politics without bitterness'.

His regular visits to and consultations with

prominent leaders of the state is a major testimony to his participatory leadership style. This has provided the leaders ample opportunity to contribute their best to the development of the State.

### 4. \*Peaceful co- existence among religious, tribal and political groups in the State.\*

The interest of Mr Governor to promote shared prosperity and religious harmony in the State has no equal. He gives every group the opportunity to practise their religious activities without let and hindrance. Even opposing political parties are not exempted from this liberal attitude. Every society, group, organization and establishment is singing the good deeds of His Excellency.



His Eminence, Rev'd Dr. Emmanuel Adeyinka Aribasoye





##### 5. \*Respect for Elders and Royal Stools\*

If we have not witnessed the situation where certain elements disrespect and disregard Elders and Royal Majesties; one may be forced to say, respect for Elders and the Royal Majesties supposed to be the norm. But since political office holders sometimes think they are tin gods; this makes

some of them to disrespect and disregard anybody at any given provocation. BAO, a homebred politician and a man with upright upbringing knows his bounds. The Christian Community in Ekiti State is proud to have someone like you representing us at the helms of affairs in the leadership of our dear State.

One would then not be surprised to hear everyone in the State

clamouring for the second term in office for Mr Governor so he can continue the good works he started, within just two years in office as the Executive Governor of Ekiti State!

The Christian community in the State can not face a different direction on this. We have resolved to the line of transparency and prosperity; of righteousness and Godliness, and so shall it be!

#### His Servanthood Position Is Commendable- Inter Party Advisory Council (IPAC).



**Mr. Owoola Daramola**  
Chairman, IPAC Ekiti State Chapter

**M**y name is Owoola Daramola, chairman IPAC Ekiti State chapter.

I visited some of the projects of this administration and was impressed at the level of work covered.

However, I was not surprised because the present governor has gone through tutelage over years. He has served many administration in different capacities and had gained experience over the years.

I appreciate and respect him for one thing, he'd kept his campaign promises some of which is to complete abandoned projects and to pay retirees their entitlements.

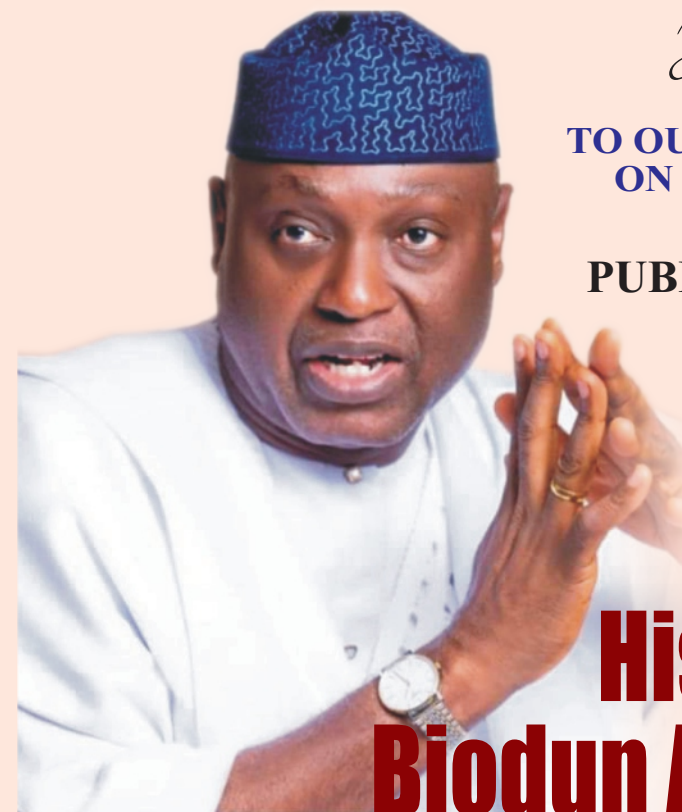
The significant difference between BAO and others is his servanthood position, he did not see himself as a leader, he sees himself as a servant unlike others that made themselves thin God.

BAO should intensify more efforts on agriculture and livestock, these we have comparative advantage over and we are likely to make a headway if all hands are on deck to have a green state.

There must be a developmental blueprint of decades so as to move in one direction.

On political angle, he has set a very good record for us. At IPAC, we have decided to make sure we present credible candidates that would see BAO's achievements as record to break.

## CELEBRATING BAO, THE SERVANT LEADER @2



*Hearty Congratulations*

**TO OUR "SERVANT-LEADER" GOVERNOR  
ON YOUR 2ND YEAR ANNIVERSARY"**

**On behalf of the entire  
PUBLIC SERVICE OF EKITI STATE,  
I extend our hearty**

*Congratulations*

**and utmost respect to our very  
dependable Governor,**

**His Excellency  
Biodun Abayomi Oyeibanji**

on the occasion of your second year anniversary in the saddle as the Governor of Ekiti State, the Land of Honour.

This season marks a remarkable milestone in our journey as a state. Over the past two years, you have consistently demonstrated unwavering dedication to the welfare and progress of Ekiti State Public Servants and the great people of Ekiti State. Your Excellency, your commitment to the unity and peace of the entire state, as demonstrated by your exemplary leadership, yielding palpable results across the six pillars of your administration is commendable.

You have equally provided a level playground within the Public Service extolling meritocracy above all other considerations

As we celebrate your two years of relentless service to humanity, we pray that the Almighty God will continue to endow you with divine health, wisdom, strength, protection and guidance to achieve even greater heights in the coming years.

**Signed**

**Dr. Folakemi Olomjobi**  
Head of Service, Ekiti State.





## BAO, First Home Based Governor in Ekiti - Engr. Toyin Ojo

I want to appreciate God for the life of our Governor because for the first time in the history of this state we have a Governor that is home based, a governor that and knows where the shoe pinches. My assessment of his administration in the last two years is that from Day One, the Governor has been performing so wonderfully. If we are to number in terms of figures, I think they are too numerous for the little space I have for now but I know he has done so much across all the Local Governments in Ekiti State.

Let me start from the area of infrastructures beginning from Ado here. Almost all major township roads have been tarred. Talk of Jimoh Aliu, NTA, GRA third extension, Omisanjana-Adebane, Faglo to mention a few only in Ado Ekiti. The overhead flyover bridge that is ongoing, I believed is going to change the face of Ado as the State Capital. In

the area of electricity, all major towns and communities that had been in darkness for over ten years, the Governor has restored light to those communities and Local Governments. And also there are those communities that have light but epileptic in supply, the Governor has provided transformers to boost the capacity of power generation. In the area of water, Mr Governor has provided solar powered boreholes in all the 38 LGs and LCDAs in Ekiti. There's no council Area in Ekiti the has not benefited from the provision of solar boreholes and they are still functional as we speak. The civil servants including the pensioners receive their salaries and pension as and when due. I'm happy to announce to you that the backlog of arrears that the Governor met, he has cleared them all and no staff is being owed today. Outside Ado now, look at Ado-Ifaki road that has been abandoned for years by previous administrations which started it but could not complete it. Look at the state of the road today from Ado to Ifaki, likewise the

ongoing ring road from Iworoko to the airport. Again all the link roads connecting one town with the other had been rehabilitated and all these happened within a space of two years and to me, we cannot ask for more than these from someone because God has so blessed us with this

kind of Governor. My prayer as he's celebrating his second year in office is that God in his infinite mercy will continue to bless and uphold him, gives him more wisdom and understanding to continue to pilot the affairs of Ekiti State. He's a wonderful man. To me as a council Chairman if I'm to assess him, all my achievements in terms of my legacy Projects I give glory to God and Mr. Governor because if he had not given us the enabling environment to operate, we won't be able to achieve much and today I can beat my chest that I'm one of the best Local Government

chairmen in Ekiti State and this is courtesy of Mr Governor because any project we sent to Governor for approval, he would approve it within a twinkle of an eye. There is no council in Ekiti now that has no two or three projects to showcase. To this end, i can boldly say that all the council chairmen in Ekiti today are having the best of time. We want to appreciate him and we want to pray for him that God will continue to empower him to do more for Ekiti people.

Right now Ekiti is more or less a one-party State. This is because almost all the political parties in Ekiti have adopted the Governor for a second term. I've been in politics for the past 30 years but I've not seen what I'm seeing in this state where a Governor would be in office for only two years by 16th October and look at the arrays of endorsements all over the state, so for me, he doesn't have any opposition.



Engr. Toyin Ojo

## Governor BAO is Round Peg in a Round Hole - Ado North LCDA Chairman

I will say with every sense of humility that Mr Governor in the past two years, has made governance like we have never seen before in Ekiti State because with him, there's transparency, with him there's accountability. He always want to carry his people along in detail. He wants to lay it bare to the people that this is what we have, and this is how it's going to be executed. This is a governor who gives account of his stewardship every six month. He is the type of governor that pays special attention to local content. In other words, he wants us to use our local people to earn their living here. He doesn't want us to bring people from Lagos Aba or Abakaliki to come and dominate the economy of Ekiti. He wants Ekiti money to be regenerated or recycled in Ekiti so that prosperity can be shared. He wants all the people who specialise in their various arts and trade to practice their trade in Ekiti. Let me draw your attention to the state printing press that has long been dead, this governor has resurrected the facility saying that it is needless to be doing our printing jobs elsewhere when we have something in place. He's such a visionary leader. He is one governor that other governors (pardon me to say) need to emulate. He is a round peg in a round hole. He fits the position and office perfectly. He's our OMOLUABI, TIWAN TIWA and a true born Ekiti son of the soil. When I was growing up i heard it severally from my mum that Ekiti people are intelligent people so also Mr



Mrs. Olatokunbo Gbadamosi,

Governor combines all the attributes of intelligence, accountability, humility and God fearing. I take a quick reminder to the praise and worship organized every last Friday of the month. Governor BAO always lead others to the program with his wife entrusting the affairs of the state in the hand of God. That is the kind of Governor Biodun Abayomi Oyebanji is.

On the occasion of his two year in office I want to wish him many, many (emphasis) anniversaries to come because the people of Ekiti are rooting for him. The people of Ekiti love him. He doesn't need too much of noise for many years that I laid emphasis earlier because he's already a market that is sellable. Every body will buy it

including all residents of Ekiti irrespective of their tribe or ethnic origins. And to those of us who are managing the affairs of the grassroots. Governor BAO is a transparent governor in the sense of making every allocation that comes to Ekiti in figures appear before us. We see clearly allocation that is coming from FAC when we go to JAAC. On this note, I stand with every other local government chairman and I wish him a very happy celebration. Long may he live in good health. When he's done his eighth years, he would look back and say, yes, I did my best with the best of my ability like the Yoruba would say "Let it be written about me that I have done my own bit"





I, Chief (Mrs) Engr. Kemi Elebute-Halle

*Warmly felicitates our*

Service-oriented People's Governor,

**His Excellency,  
Mr Biodun Abayomi Oyebanji (BAO)**

**The Executive Governor, Ekiti State**

**As he clocks two years in office.**

I express my gratitude to our leaders in Ekiti for choosing a man like Governor BAO at this time as a people.

Your midas touch in the area of roads construction and rehabilitation in the past two years is unprecedented. You have brought human face to governance through your various interventions aimed at improving the lot of our people.

The ongoing massive investment in agriculture for food security in Ekiti is fantastic and worthy of commendation.

I also appreciate the love and support of His Excellency, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu given to this administration in the past two years in laying a good foundation for the development of our dear state.

Mr Governor is living to the expectations of all Ekiti people by his untiring efforts to bring everyone on board regardless of party affiliations giving a sense of belonging and resonates the fact that Ekiti is one.

On behalf of my family and my teeming supporters, I wish Mr Governor more wisdom, more capacity and good health to be able to realize his dreams for the development of Ekiti State in years ahead.

Congratulations sir.

**Signed;  
Erelu Kemi Elebute-Halle**



**Gov BAO is a man after the heart of God - Ekiti NLC**

When it comes to the assessment of Biodun Abayomi Oyebanji, His Excellency, I give it to him. Ab-initio, I know for sure that he has what it takes to help people like us in Ekiti State and as such from the beginning, we gave it to him that this man would be of help. Somebody like him was at the helms of affairs during the last two administrations. We all know what actually transpired and when he came to the office, I make bold to say that he did not disappoint us. He started with the payment of the implementation of 2020 promotion of workers, 2021 promotion of workers, 2022 promotion of workers in that order. 2023 promotion is also ongoing and immediately it is completed, he has said he was going to pay. That is the type of Governor we have. And then, he has paid about two years arrears of salaries of the core civil servants. Local government staffs are having about four arrears of salaries he has paid them all together with deductions. He has now started the

payment of leave bonus starting from 2017. I was even told that the local governments are about to complete theirs under him. So we are grateful. When we were discussing the issue of palliatives, the Governor promised to give the people palliatives and he did that. In fact, at the last count, he has done it five good times. The one I so much cherished is putting in place luxurious buses in town that convey workers and students free of charge. He has also extended the service to tertiary institutions. Very soon Ekiti State University will also join the train. So, as such, Governor Biodun Abayomi Oyebanji is a man after the heart of God. A man that is ready to help the downtrodden. He has the mind of gold. But in unionism, we don't praise leaders, but if somebody has done well, I don't have alternative option than to say it. And if he has also not done



well, I would likewise say it. It is good to add that before now, gratuities used to be N1million quarterly. When the past government came on board, it was increased to N10million. Governor Biodun Oyebanji has been paying between N650 and N700million quarterly and the last one he paid was N1billion! If he is to continue like this, before this time next year, he would have defrayed the whole backlog. And for those people that have five years and more, they are

now placed on contributory pension so that immediately you retire, you collect your gratuities. This administration has decided to do it in such a way that it won't be accumulating debts and at the same time it would be defraying the debts accrued in the past. On this note I must congratulate His Excellency on his second year in office. I want to wish him well. I want him to focus more on the remaining aspects that are begging for assistance. I know that he was the one that paid consequential adjustments of N30,000

Minimum wage from Level 14 to 17. it was not implemented until he assumed office. In addition to that, negotiation for the N70,000 Minimum wage is ongoing and I want him to implement it in such a way that everybody will benefit maximally from it. Secondly, I know the airport is near completion, he should also ensure that he commissions the airport in due course because it would boost the economy of the state. So we must thank God for what the Lord is doing in our midst and I also want to encourage him not to close his eyes on other areas of importance. On behalf of the entire work force in Ekiti State, I want to wish him well, on his second anniversary in office. I also wish to pray for him that the Lord will be with him and his family, Ekiti State and Nigeria in general. Aluta Continua, Victoria Acerta!





## Gov BAO is direct answer to Ekiti prayers -Ekiti NULGE President posited.

My assessment of Mr Governor in the past two years is fantastically super. I don't even know how to describe him because this is a man who came to the saddle of leadership in Ekiti State when all hope is lost, when local government workers were devastated and frustrated. Before he came on board, we were being owed 6 months arrears and 4 months of unpaid deductions. People had already lost hope. That was why I described local government workers that BAO met on ground as set of frustrated and devastated people. We were hopeless because six months salaries and four months unpaid deductions were outstanding, approximately one year salary. Then, coupled with eight years' unpaid bonus, but to the glory of God as I speak now, successfully, one after the other-BAO has been able to redeem the payment of the six months unpaid salaries. Not that alone, he has also been able to redeem the payment of the four months unpaid deductions. As I speak now, BAO has offset everything that has to do with salaries obligation. He has paid everything. Not that alone, when we were making savings towards the payment of the first tranche of 2017 leave bonus, all of a sudden, without making any effort (effortlessly) and unannounced, BAO went ahead to clear all the 2017 leave bonus. So, quickly the same money we wanted to use for the payment of the 2017 leave bonus, we re-directed it to the payment of 2018 leave bonus. We have been able to pay first tranche now. I may lack words to describe the achievements of BAO in Ekiti, sufficiently, he has been able to change the narrative in Ekiti. He has been able to put smiles on the faces of already dejected local government workers in Ekiti State. The health workers in the local Government were denied their statutory consolidated health salary for close to ten years and in less than one year in office, BAO had implemented the consolidated health salary for the health workers like other health workers in the State civil service. Sincerely speaking, as I always said in many other fora; BAO is a God-sent Governor. Not that alone, he's a direct answer and direct solution to Ekiti problems. Before his



Comrade Oluseyi Babatunde Olatunde (fcpa)  
President Nigeria Union of Local Government  
Employees NULGE Ekiti Chapter

coming on board, each time we wanted to produce governors in Ekiti State, our attention in Ekiti had always been focused on persons in the Diaspora, people in London, Canada, America etc not knowing that what we are looking for in Sokoto is right in the pocket of our sokoto (trousers) we never knew we had a presidential material-in-waiting, somebody who could govern Nigeria is in Ekiti under our roof unnoticed. Not until when providence gave him to us as a Governor. So, sincerely speaking, BAO is wonderful. He's somebody we loved so much because of what he has done for us in the local governments; apart from the ones I earlier mentioned. This is somebody who gave us two Permanent Secretaries within the space of four days. I made the request to him on Friday evening. Saturday was weekend Sunday too was weekend. On Thursday, he made the pronouncement of two Permanent Secretaries from among the local government workers making three Permanent Secretaries in the local government service; quite unprecedented! We have never had it so fantastic and robust like that in the past. Aside this, he appointed Heads of Local Government Administration approximately about 50 of them and gave all of them official cars. So, BAO has done us proud in the local government and we are proud to have him, and like an adage says-One good term deserves another. BAO does not need any campaign. We the people were the ones who will do the campaign. He doesn't need it because he has done it already. The local government in Ekiti State has become the cynosure of all eyes in Nigeria, other states are now copying us. So, I want to appreciate him even as I don't know how to thank him enough. Successfully, he has taken us out of the wilderness in the local government and brought us into the limelight. Before now, some of us were about covering our faces in shame because it looks as if we were rejected. Our case was like a stone rejected by the builders. BAO has now made us the head of the corner. Like I said, his second term is a done deal and walkover by the special grace of God. Oga, does not need to campaign to anybody because his good works are everywhere and already speaking for him



## Gov. BAO runs an all- inclusive administration - Erelu Kemi Elebute-Halle

Mr Governor is a great man. He is humble and a service-oriented person. I will tell you that I am one of his followers. I used to be one of the strongest opponents of this continuity of a thing and I said it openly during my campaign tours. But I'm saying now that BAO's continuity is really worth it. We want to appreciate all the leaders in Ekiti State for bringing us this service-oriented Governor. Also we want to appreciate Mr. President for choosing the right Governor for us. He is doing well in terms of infrastructure. He is doing well in terms of welfare of the people. We know Ekiti to be a civil servant state, but we are moving from being called a civil servant state, we are now going towards agriculture. Mr. Governor and Mr. President has made that happened. The Governor is partnering with the youths and farmers through the different agricultural programs interventions of his administration. He's giving them incentives to boost their morale. One thing that makes His Excellency Biodun Oyebanji different is that he is looking beyond party affiliations. I was trying to tell some people recently that it has been brought to my notice that some people were given day-old chicks, cassava stems, corn and fertilizers and other agricultural inputs including poultry and piggery. And I was like, how are we going to benefit from all these incentives? As I was ruminating over this, one of my ADP members from Oye said she was given day-old chicks packed in boxes of about 52 pieces inside and in addition she collected two bags of feeds to take care of the chicks for at least three weeks. Simultaneously my party supporters from Moba local government called me to inform me that they too were similarly given the chicks. In fact someone told me that she collected on my behalf and sent the video to me saying that she was

already rearing my chickens. What I'm saying in essence is that Mr Governor is cutting across political parties. He sees himself not just as governor of APC, rather he sees himself as Governor of Ekiti people. A friend of mine recently asked me a question saying; Is this government really working? If you feel it is not working, can you tell me how you think government can work or function both in the state and at the center, (I mean Governor BAO and His Excellency President Bola Ahmed Tinubu). So I threw the question to an elderly person and his response was wonderful. He said; 'We need to start believing in the policies of the government'. What you don't believe, you cannot gain from it and immediately he said this, I looked immediately at a lot of programs that Mr. President has put in place. Let me tell you for free



Erelu Kemi Elebute-Halle

that Mr. President is the first leader that is accountable for the looted money, injected it back into education and he is the first President that is giving education grant. When I looked at the statistics of states that keyed in to it, do you know that states in the north benefitted so much? They have the largest percentage of the people that keyed in to it. I later run through Ekiti profile I realized Ekiti had very low figure in terms of Ekiti people who keyed into it. Guess what-because they couldn't even believe in the policy. When this Governor is talking about people that were empowered in terms of agriculture, I asked my people here in Ado who are close to the seat of government, 'where are you? whereas some people are benefitting massively from this program across board. But unfortunately, some people will not say it out. My advice is that if they are not saying it out, government should speak out. The educational grant that federal government rolled out, do they say only APC





students should apply? The answer is no. it is meant for all the 36 states of the federation. So if you don't believe in the policies of the government, how do you benefit from it? Unfortunately, I'm very sorry to say this that the less privileged people don't believe in anything. They don't want to take any form of risk and every policy program coming from the authorities is a lie to them. That is why the rich will always try everything. That is why the children of the rich are the ones having scholarship awards. So, my appeal goes to Ekiti people especially the youths, before you start blaming the government for anything, please believe in the policies first. If not, you will not be among the game players and when people are playing and they are scoring, if you don't join them, you are going to be in the complainant group. Still on Mr Governor, before I digress, somebody was asking me of recent in Abuja that I should give him an analysis of Governor BAO and I started saying some good things that I know about him and I said he has done this, he has done that... The person now said, has the governor gave you money? I jocularly told him 'I'm yet to see the money alleged to have been given to me, let Mr. Governor bring the money first. But I'm only saying what I knew that before he took over the mantle of power, Ekiti roads were in terribly bad shape. In fact, I would say Ekiti was basically cut off from other states. But within the first six months, he swung into action fixing many of these failed roads and I then began to ask if this man has

programmed contractors before he assumed office. How was he able to achieve this within the short time frame? That is the attribute of a Governor that has passion for the people. He has been able to put in place an aggressive infrastructure edifice in several towns and communities in the past two years. He has been able to empower market women. Of recent, about N1billion grant was earmarked for women empowerment but it took the First Lady serious lobbying and campaign for people to key in to it. What is happening here? Some of these offers are grants. They would be returned if people don't assess it. So please Ekiti women, try to be versatile. When there is a program or policy of the government, I repeat, please go and key in to it first and see if it works. This is why it seems that south western states are always behind when it comes to grants, incentives and government packages compared with our sisters and brothers in the north. So, I want to commend the government of His Excellency, Biodun Oyebanji for doing well. If he doesn't do well I won't hesitate to say it to his face but for now, Mr. Governor is doing very well. I also want to appreciate him for being open minded. I recollect someone was doing program for him recently and I said we need to inform Mr Governor that somebody is doing program for him and he said; 'let people do programs for me, I want to be criticized so that I can know where I'm doing right and where I'm doing wrong. He is a governor that wants to get feedback, I mean raw feedback. Remember that

most of the feed backs or criticisms, (whether positive or negative) is information without payment. People will give you what you need to know without you sourcing for it. If governors in Nigeria can be this open minded, there would be drastic changes in the polity. So, I wish him well. Good health because good health is all what we need to go far in life. I wish him long life (even though, he's not celebrating his birthday) we wish him sound mind so as to be able to carry on the good work he is doing for Ekiti. As one of his followers, we are sure that by the time he finishes this tenure and he finishes very well, we would be ready to say-Mr. Governor, go and do second term and that is what Ekiti people are expecting. I said to some people, this man has done very well and we have not seen any Governor that has done two consecutive terms and that has retarded our progress in Ekiti State. If we can just close our eyes and look beyond selfish interest and appreciate that this guy is doing very well. Let us push him forward again so that there won't be any excuses. Fortunately Governor Oyebanji is not a desperate person. If you ask him if he was going to run for second term, he would tell you; 'Please, don't distract me, let me finish my first tenure and finish well'. We have been having it, I don't want to say, wrongly since the inception of democracy in 1999, we have not had a governor that did it back-to-back. Let us try this one. Ekiti kete, if you feel your son is doing well, the second term agenda that we are saying should be a walk over. So, God bless him.



## Gov BAO is a man of the people -Ado Local Government Chairman

First, I like to thank the organizers of this publication for giving us the privilege to showcase our governor's achievements these past two years in office and to let the whole world know that Mr Governor has been working tirelessly for the progress of this state and for the progress of individuals. As the Executive Chairman of Ado Local Government, my Local Government has enjoyed a lot of dividends from him. We need to thank him for the ways he has been developing Ado Local Government. He is one of the best kinds we have ever seen. He has done a lot within the space of two years, so much that I may not be able to remember them in the course of this interview. In the area of infrastructure, I remembered Mofere which had been abandoned for so many years, Omisanjana down to Ajebandele, he has completed these roads within very short period. The flyover bridge that is ongoing in Ado Ekiti is another big project that would ease traffic within the metropolis and beautify Ado Local Government as a whole. I give kudos to him. Aside from this, he makes sure that other communities in the state are feeling the impacts of his administration. On agriculture, Mr Governor is doing a lot in that area and he has mandated all the local governments to key in to his agricultural policies as one of his 6-point agenda. Just

of recent. He went to Ikere Local Government on bike (okada) which has never happened. He decided to visit the place to see for himself what the people are passing through and to look at the areas he could



**Hon. Bosun Osaloni**

assist them. His administration in the past two years has greatly improved the economy of the state through his shared

*"We need to thank him for the ways he has been developing Ado Local Government. He is one of the best kinds we have ever seen."*

prosperity agenda. Look at culture and tourism. We are all witnesses to his commitment to tap all the tourist potentials in the state. The Ikogosi Warm Springs is now a pride to all Ekiti people because of the government desire to turn it around as a world tourist site.

The other time you saw him at Abanijorin Hill where he led other tourists to climb the site. He not only climbed the hill but he pounded yam there to show the kind of person he is. He is a man of the people and I want to tell you that his second term election is going to be one of the easiest contests we have ever seen in the history of this state. Because the people are already key in to his programs. He doesn't discriminate. He is working with the past governors and other stakeholders in the state, bringing everybody on board to show that he's a man of the people, a well trained and articulate person. He's very close to the traditional rulers most of them seeing him as their true son. Let me also tell you that he has been giving all local governments in the state, tremendous assistance needed for us to operate. His administration is very unique when compared to other governors that we had in the state. So, he has to continue. He should not rest on his oars. I want to tell you that we have not seen anything yet from him because I know he's going to do a lot for us in the state in the next two years that remains. I want to tell you once again that the election of 2026 is going to be the easiest because everybody will rush to cast their votes for him because he has done well.





The entire members and staff of Nigeria Union of Local Government Employees (NULGE) Ekiti State Chapter,

*Heartily rejoice with*  
our God sent Governor,

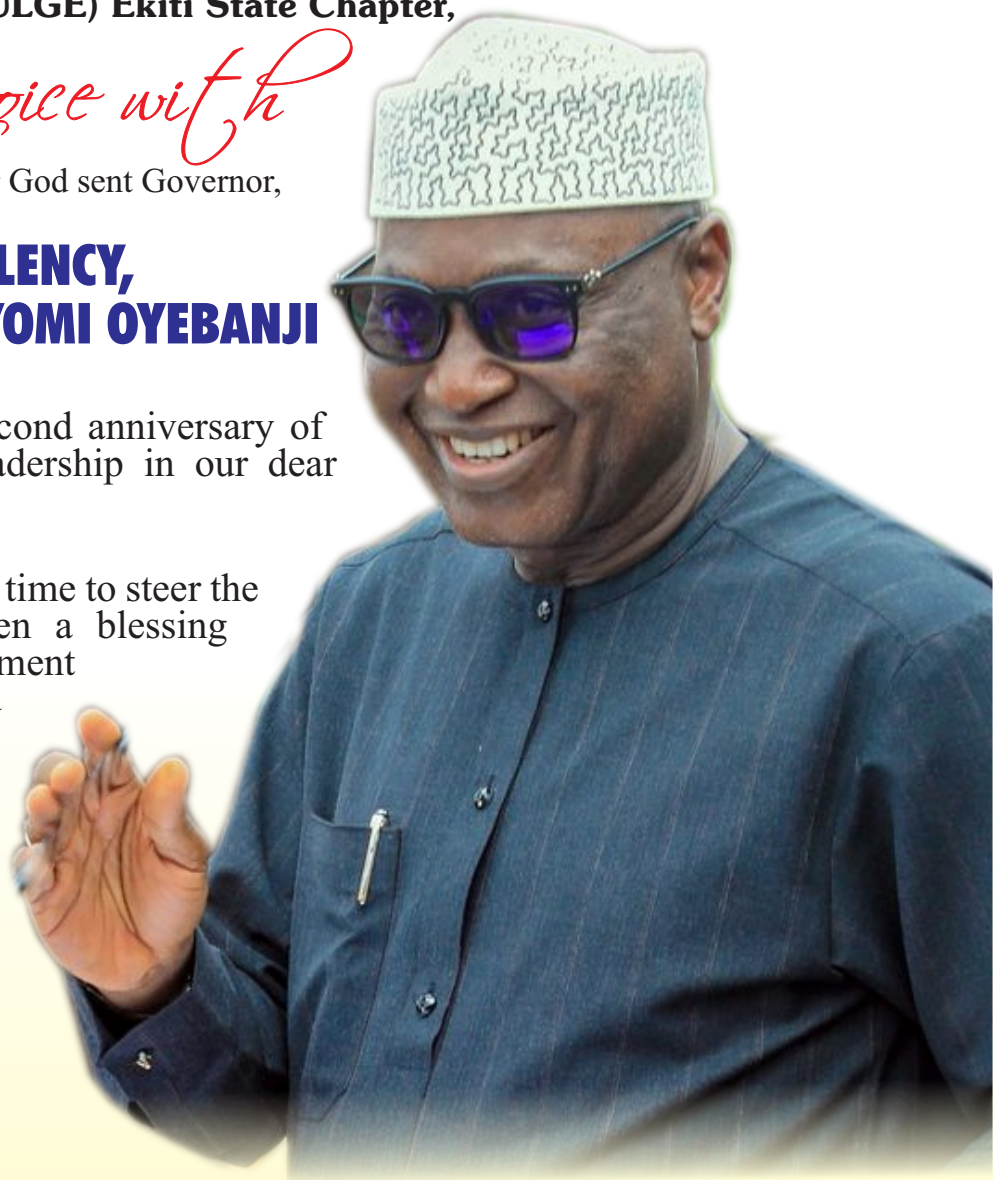
**HIS EXCELLENCY,  
MR. BIODUN ABAYOMI OYEBANJI**

on the occasion of his second anniversary of robust and exceptional leadership in our dear state.

His coming on board at this time to steer the ship of our state has been a blessing especially to Local Government workers who, hitherto had been marginalized and discriminated against.

He has indeed put smiles on our faces, removing our shame and dignified our status as reputable Public servants in such a way that we have never had before.

We are most grateful for his heart of gold and love



**Signed:**

Comrade Oluseyi Babatunde Olatunde (fcpa)  
President Nigeria Union of Local Government  
Employees NULGE Ekiti Chapter

for humanity.

His exemplary performance reminds one of the Scripture that says; "When the righteous is in power, the people rejoice" as his landmark achievements in the past two years resonated well with the good people of Ekiti who are massively clamouring and begging him to offer his selfless service till 2030.



## Governor BAO has Turned Ekiti Around for Good

- DG Bureau of Local Content

There is no doubt that Mr Governor has done extremely well. He has turned the fortunes of the State for good. The last two years of his administration has been one of tremendous testimonies of great achievements for Ekiti State left and right- from agriculture to industrialization to road infrastructure and a lot in other sectors and above all in the area that concerns this office more. Mr. Governor has done something that obviously has turned a lot of things around in this state as we can now see our artisans staying at home after completing their apprenticeship to render their services because the environment is conducive and there is huge patronage now. We can see several billions of naira projects going on in road infrastructures and I can assure you that Ekiti State now has a law in place called Law of Local Content which ensures that every contract executed in Ekiti State must feature 40% indigenous work force. This is what has changed the fortunes of Ekiti artisans within a very short time that His Excellency has come on board as you can see a lot of people are being engaged for one vocation or the other: bricklaying, carpentry, welding... mention it because the Law of Local Content has mandatorily compelled every contractor to have 40% of their workforce as local content and this alone has changed everything as we are getting testimonies everyday. Don't also forget that this is one of the electioneering promises of Mr Governor being implemented. I can say with all sense of responsibility that more than 60% of contracts awarded in the state are being executed

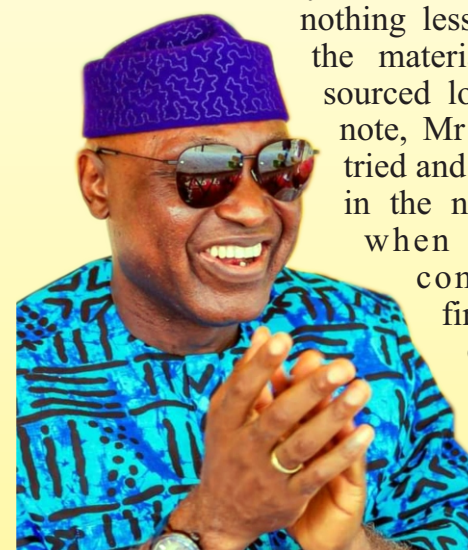
by Ekiti indigenes and nothing less than 50% of the materials are being sourced locally. On this note, Mr Governor has tried and I believed that in the next two years when he will be completing his first term, a lot of changes will take place and if by this trend he continues for the next



**Olalekan Ijidalé**

four years, Ekiti will be sought after as one of the most developed states in the South West. I'm not surprised that when the recent national protest engulfed most states in the country nothing of such took place in Ekiti State which is an indication that Mr Governor is trying and people are seeing it clearly that he is touching every area that is very important to the livelihood of Ekiti people. Yes there is hardship everywhere but the fact remains that we are getting engaged everyday and the government is trying to put everything in place to make life better for the people; good road infrastructures and most importantly in the area of agriculture, Mr Governor has given succour to farmers in terms of incentives and palliatives to ensure that they have robust harvest in the next agricultural season and the problem of no food would have been overcome. So we give God the glory for giving us a man of the people, a man who understands the terrain of Ekiti, who is providing solutions to the problems bedeviling the State despite the paucity of funds.

As he's celebrating his second year in office, I wish him long life and enablement to be able to execute all his plans for Ekiti people because I know he has a lot of great plans for the people and I pray that during his time Ekiti people will remember him for good





# I, Comrade Kunle Ashaolu

ON BEHALF OF ALL MEMBERS OF OKADA RIDERS ASSOCIATION EKITI STATE HEREBY

## rejoice with our 'TiwanTiwa' Governor, **HIS EXCELLENCY MR BIODUN ABAYOMI OYEBANJI (BAO)**

the Deputy Governor **Chief Mrs Monisade Afuye** and every member of the state Executive Council on the second anniversary of your unique administration in Ekiti State.

We are proud of your achievements in the past two years in the area of roads construction and rehabilitation which has greatly helped our members to ride on motorable roads thereby reducing frequent road accidents.

We are happy that Ekiti State under your watch is moving forward, the people are happy because BAO is working.

Oga, you are a blessing to Ekiti State at this time because of your love and compassion for the welfare of Ekiti people

We assure you that 4+4 is the number. 2026, No shaking. Let's go there.

Congratulations and happy anniversary sir.



**Signed:**

**Comrade Kunle Ashaolu,**  
Chairman Okada Riders Association Ekiti State



# I, Comrade Sunday Adeola

on behalf of my family and members of Road Transport Employers Association (RTEAN) Ekiti State Chapter wishes our amiable Governor

## **HIS EXCELLENCY MR BIODUN ABAYOMI OYEBANJI BAO**

warm felicitations on the occasion of his second anniversary on October 16, 2024.

It has been two years of service delivery, of good governance and economic growth for our dear state.

Your programs and policies within the short space of time has put smiles on the faces of Ekiti people; the artisans, the teachers, the pensioners and local contractors and an average Ekiti people are proud of you.

We pray that God will grant you more wisdom and good health to be able to execute your good plans for the people till 2030.

UP ROAD....SUPER!

UP ROAD..MATURITY!

UP, UP ROAD..UNITY AND PROGRESS

**Signed;**

**Comrade Sunday Adeola**  
Chairman Road Transport Employers Association RTEAN, Ekiti State.



## **EKITI STATE UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION BOARD**

SUBEB BUILDING, STATE SECRETARIAT COMPLEX, PMB 5321,  
ADO-EKITI, EKITI STATE

# INVITATION TO TENDER

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Ekiti State Universal Basic Education Board (EKSUBEB) has been given approval by the Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC) to commence the implementation of UBEC/SUBEB 2023 projects under the Universal Basic Education Intervention Fund Programme. In view of this, the Ekiti State Universal Basic Education Board hereby invites experienced and reputable contractors to tender for the various construction and renovation works as well as the procurement of the underlisted items under the first to fourth (1st-4th) quarters of the 2023 UBEC/SUBEB Intervention projects in Public Primary and Junior Secondary Schools.

### 2.0 SCOPE OF WORK

#### 2.1 Construction Projects

- Lot 1** - Construction of a Block of Two (2) Classrooms
- Lot 2** Construction of a Block of three (3) Classrooms
- Lot 3** Completion of Construction of 18 Classrooms ( External works)
- Lot 4** Completion of Construction of 12 classrooms (External woks)
- Lot 5** Construction of Water System Toilets with Deep well, overhead tank and Generator.

#### 2.2 Renovation Projects

- Lot 6** Renovation of a Block of Two (2) Classrooms
- Lot 7** Renovation of a Block of Two (2) Classrooms with office
- Lot 8** Renovation of a Block of Three (3) Classrooms.
- Lot 9** Renovation of a Block of three (3) Classrooms with office
- Lot 10** Renovation of a Block of Four (4) Classrooms.
- Lot 11** Renovation of a Block of Six (6) Classrooms with Offices.( storey building).
- Lot 12** Renovation of a Block of three (3) Classrooms ( storey building).
- Lot 13** Repair of Roof

#### 2.3 Water Supply and Sanitation Projects

- Lot 14** Drilling of Modern Boreholes with Generator, Overhead Tank and Fetching Stand.

#### 2.4 Procurement of Furniture Items

- Lot 15(a)** Procurement of Nursery Furniture (Plastic) to ECCDE Centers
- Lot 15(b)** Procurement of Pupils Desk and Chairs (Plastic to public primary and junior secondary schools.
- Lot 15(c)** Procurement of Teachers' Tables and Chairs.

### 3.0 REQUIREMENTS FOR TENDER

Interested contractors must submit with their tenders the following documents:

- 3.1 Evidence of Certificate of Incorporation with Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) including Forms CAC 02 and 07.
- 3.2 Evidence of Certificate of Registration with Ekiti State Bureau of Public procurement expiring Tuesday, 31st December, 2024; visit <https://portal.bpp.ekitistate.gov.ng> for requirements and online registration.
- 3.3 Evidence of Certificate of Registration with Ekiti State Local Content.
- 3.4 Evidence of Company's Income Tax Clearance Certificate for (3) years (2021, 2022 and 2023).
- 3.5 Evidence of payment of Three years Development levies for 2021, 2022 and 2023.
- 3.6 Evidence of current Industrial Training Fund (ITF) Compliance Certificate valid till 31st December, 2024.

- 3.7 Evidence of current Nigeria Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) compliance certificate valid till 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2024.

- 3.8 Evidence of registration with Ekiti SUBEB

- 3.9 Company's Audited Accounts for three years (2021, 2022 and 2023)

- 3.10 Evidence of financial capability to execute the project including reference letter from a reputable commercial bank including willingness to provide credit facilities for the execution of the project when needed.

- 3.11 Evidence of relevant previous work/project satisfactorily executed and this include: Award letters and completion certificates as evidence of executing the projects as well as list of similar jobs handled in the past in terms of scope, size, cost, structure and complexity.

- 3.12 Company profile with the Curriculum Vitae of key staff to be deployed for the project, including copies of the Academic/Professional Qualifications (ARCON, QSRBN, CORBON, COREN, etc);

- 3.13 All documents for submission must be transmitted with a Covering/Forwarding letter under the company/firm letter head paper. Each would-be bidder is expected to pay a non-refundable tender fee of N10,000 for each of the lots.

- 4.0 Tender documents and additional information are to be collected from the Office of the Director, Procurement Department. Interested contractors may tender for more than one lot separately and should note that failure to include any of the requirements above renders the application invalid.

- 5.0 All valid tender documents should be neatly packed and submitted in sealed envelope marked TENDER FOR THE 2023 UBEC/SUBEB INTERVENTION PROJECTS and addressed to:

**The Secretary  
Tenders' Board  
Ekiti SUBEB  
Ado-Ekiti**

Not later than noon on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2024. Late submission of tender documents will not be entertained as the bid opening ceremony will take place the same day at the Ekiti State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB) premises in the presence of all bidders in attendance.

### 6.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

- 6.1 Bids must be in English language and signed off by an official authorized by the bidder;
- 6.2 Women owned and Women-led Businesses are advised to apply as part of EKSG's commitment to create a diverse and inclusive portfolio of vendors
- 6.3 Prospective bidders are invited to note that in line with the affirmative policy of the Government of Ekiti State, qualified Women owned and Women -led vendors shall be strongly considered
- 6.4 All costs will be borne by the bidders;
- 6.5 Ekiti State Universal Basic Education Board (EKSUBEB) is not bound to invite any bidder and reserves the right to annul the procurement process at any time without incurring any liabilities in accordance with applicable sections of the Public Procurement Act of 2007 and/ or Ekiti State Public Procurement (Re-enactment) Law No. 4 of 2020.

**Note:** Contracts originally awarded are not transferable.

**Note:** Further to this, contractors with history of abandoned projects need not apply.

Signed:

**MR AFOLABI ADEBIYI**  
Permanent Secretary, Ekiti SUBEB

[www.ekitistate.gov.ng](http://www.ekitistate.gov.ng)



## Gov BAO is a visionary leader of our time

-Ajoni LCDA Chair

Mr Governor, Mr. Biodun Abayomi Oyebanji has been a very dedicated, committed and visionary Ekiti leader at this time. He has led Ekiti in the past two years with a pragmatic, proactive and purposeful leadership. He has brought us out of poverty line to prosperity looking at his 6-Point agenda which he has judiciously and tenaciously followed to ensure that Ekiti develops. And now you can see the faces of Ekiti workers, the civil servants are happy having him at the helms of affairs in the state. Look at the teachers, look at the teachers, look at the Local Government workers even the political office holders. He gave a bulk of appointments that has reached every the nook and cranny of Ekiti State. Here is a man full of experience that he has added both administrative and political governance together to ensure that he delivers the dividends of democracy to the doorstep of Ekiti people. We are happy to have him leading the state at this time. I'm sure that Ekiti people has enjoyed his productive leadership, his engagement with global agencies, development partners, federal government agencies even Mr. President has confidence and trust in leadership of Governor Biodun Abayomi Oyebanji saying the Governor is one of his political sons in Nigeria today. Truly, I'm proud to have this man of vision, purpose-driven leader that has transformed Ekiti to become a better sphere of governance among south west of Nigeria. He is a leading light among the progressive governors in Nigeria. We appreciate and commend him for this wonderful service he's rendering for the people of Ekiti State at this time. So we want him to continue this leadership style till the next eight years. Governor Biodun Abayomi is a round peg in a round hole. He has served Ekiti people for almost half of his life in governance and we are happy he has not disappointed us. He is meeting the needs and the yearnings of Ekiti people today. From the cross section of Ekiti Obas, the women traders, the youths and the artisans-they all love him even the drivers unions. They loved him. Even the opposition has adopted him because he's doing so well to reach out to the entire Ekiti people. He's a man that is leading not only his party, but he's leading all Ekiti people inclusive of other political parties in the state. So who else in Ekiti is against Mr. Biodun Oyebanji. There is nobody at the moment that can match his pedigree and

performance. So what else do we need than give him all our support and cooperation to continue serving Ekiti people for a second term. if you look at what I'm doing in my LCDA, They are as a result of his inspiration and aspiration from Mr. Governor's ways of leadership. I have domesticated all his 6-pillars of his administration in my LCDA in the area of agriculture, I have given the Governor a complimentary role by capturing accredited, desiring youths in my Ajoni LCDA. About 30 of them have been drafted into youths in commercial agriculture at the Ekiti State agricultural processing zone. We have about 65 acres of land acquired for this project which has been cultivated, ridged and planted. We have herbicides and fertilizers given to the farmers and government supported us with funding to ensure that they supervise and own their farms and by the time of the harvest season, they will reap from these off-takers who would buy from them at the prevailing price rate in the state thereby making these 30 Ekiti youths from Ajoni young millionaires. If they do it well, they'll become perpetual farmers and billionaires in the future. I have also put in place health advocacy program providing health facilities for children from 3 months to 3 years in my LCDA where they were given free food supplements for the period of two years. In the area of community development, we've built about 105 markets so far in different communities within the LCDA amongst other interventions. My wish for Mr Governor as he marks second year in office on October 16, would be a day that Ekiti people should give gratitude to God that we are being led by a God-sent leader. And for us, all we need to do is to pray for him for the Lord to hold him by His right hand and to guide his footsteps in the path of wisdom, more inspiration for him to lead Ekiti aright and by the time he completes his first term, the gift that Ekiti people would have given to him is to elect him again for second term.



## I, Chief Olajide Awe Heartily Congratulate

**HIS EXCELLENCY,  
MR BIODUN ABAYOMI OYEBANJI (BAO)**

for a job well done in the past two years when Divine Providence led to your emergence as the Governor of our dear State on October 16, 2022.

In the past two years of a remarkably rewarding progressive administration, you have brought a new meaning to governance as a thoroughbred OMOLUABI and home grown Ekiti person desirous to break the jinx of politics of bitterness, hatred and under development in Ekiti State.

I am proud to be identified with the level of infrastructure development, massive investment in agriculture, culture and tourism, human capital development and above all, political stability that your administration has brought to the door -step of an average Ekiti person.

Like Ceaser's wife, you have earned yourself dignity, honour and character as an icon of democratic ideals. It is the Lord's doing and marvellous in our eyes.

May the good Lord grant you the wisdom and ability to be able to execute all your lofty dreams for Ekiti State in many years to come.

**HAPPY  
ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATIONS**



**Signed: Chief Olajide Awe  
SAPOL**







In the history of Nigerian politics and politicking, Governor BAO in the past two years, has written his name in the history book as one Governor with handshake across political divides preaching the gospel of Ekiti as one indivisible entity.



## Walking the Talk: Oyelekan's Unspoken Triumphs After Two Years in the Saddle

Femi Esan

In politics, promises are often plenty, but the real measure of leadership lies in the ability to deliver. Governor Biodun Abayomi Oyelekan, in just two years of his administration, has not only fulfilled his electoral promises but has also made significant strides in areas that often go unspoken. While his administration's milestones may not always dominate public discourse, the underlying impact of his governance strategy is unmistakable. With a focus on infrastructure development, human capital enhancement, and economic diversification, Oyelekan has pursued a pragmatic approach to governance, ensuring that policy implementation translates into real and measurable improvements in the lives of the people. This results-oriented leadership has cemented his place as a governor who is more concerned with action than rhetoric, and in doing so, he has garnered the admiration of stakeholders across the state.

One of the most significant, yet understated, achievements of the Oyelekan administration is the peace and stability that have defined Ekiti's socio-political landscape over the past two years. This climate of tranquility is the product of a carefully crafted governance style rooted in inclusivity and stakeholder engagement. Governor Oyelekan has consistently prioritized dialogue, ensuring that all critical actors, ranging from traditional rulers, political elites, civil society organizations, to grassroots mobilizers are actively involved in decision-making processes. Cultivating a

*“With a focus on infrastructure development, human capital enhancement, and economic diversification, Oyelekan has pursued a pragmatic approach to governance”*



governance culture that values inclusiveness, the governor has mitigated potential flashpoints of conflict and created a conducive atmosphere for development initiatives to thrive.

As Governor Oyelekan marks his second anniversary in office, the question is no longer about whether he can deliver but about what more he will achieve in the remaining years of his tenure, having done this much in his first two years. He is a governor that walks the talk quietly, without fanfare, yet effectively. If the past two years are anything to go by, we can only anticipate greater things to come as he continues to lead Ekiti on a path of sustained growth and development.





## Oyebanji's Unfolding Youth-Propelled Agricultural Revolution In Ekiti

By: Odunayo Ogunmola

A silent revolution is presently ongoing in Ekiti State under the watch of Governor Biodun Oyebanji. It is not a revolution of bullets, violence, street protests or use of force to achieve some ends.

It is a revolution of ideas, a revolution of vision, a revolution of dream, a revolution of a paradigm shift that holds the promise for a prosperous future in the state. It is an economic revolution capable of launching Ekiti into the club of self sufficient states in Nigeria.

The Governor is spearheading an agricultural revolution which has the youths as the catalysts of returning back to land to ensure food security, food sufficiency, making the state a renowned hub of agribusiness via its multiple value chains.

This laudable agricultural masterclass that has the youths at the centre portends a win-win situation in Ekiti State. A win for a visionary government led by Oyebanji, a win for the youths involved in the scheme, a win for agriculture as a sector and a win for the people of the state. From time immemorial, agriculture was the major occupation and mainstay in Ekiti land, a prominent component of the precolonial Nigeria, colonial Nigeria, the old Western Region, the old

Western State, the old Ondo State down to the present-day Ekiti State.

But a combination of declining interest in agriculture, limited yields from subsistence farming, overdependence on oil as the major revenue earner in the

provides land to the young farmers, assists them with land clearing and seedlings as well as agricultural extension services among others. It also has an arrangement to buy their products for storage purposes thereby eliminating wastage and ensuring steady patronage.

Before the Bring Back the Youths Into Agriculture programme comes on stream, the Oyebanji Administration had done much work on the Special Agriculture Processing Zones located in Oke Ako and Iyemero.

With this huge and bold step taken by Governor Oyebanji, agriculture will no longer be a pastime or mere vocation but is on the path to becoming a big business as witnessed in developed economies. It is sure

that the success of the very first set of youths in the scheme will attract more of their counterparts to follow suit.

The seed has been sown, it will soon germinate. This agricultural revolution is another masterstroke from the stable of Governor Oyebanji to ensure shared prosperity in Ekiti and to make the state a destination of choice for agribusiness and a famed food basket in Nigeria.

country and the allocation from the Federation Account by the states of the federation, among others had adverse effects on the fortunes of agriculture in the state.

The narrative is changing with the enlistment of 930 young men and women in a scheme tagged "BRING BACK THE YOUTHS INTO AGRICULTURE" which the Oyebanji Administration is carrying out in collaboration with a private investor in agriculture sector, YSJ Farms Limited.

Under the scheme, the Oyebanji Administration



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