

# ZAMFARA;

## Battle of Wits to amuse or to provoke?

**B**attle of wits is a competition or disagreement in which each person involved uses their intelligence and mental ability to beat their opponent. In most cases such battle is expected to evoke a laughter or intended to arouse amusement. But the battle of wits between Governor Dauda Lawal and his immediate predecessor, Bello Matawalle is one of sorts, that tends to provoke anger, resentment and hatred. To many the game is becoming amusing, unreasonable and uncalled for. It has become a theatre of accusations and counter accusation and so everything is becoming not only childish but devoid of wisdom and character.

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Notwithstanding the accusations against him by his successor whether real or perceive, whether imaginary or born out of patriotism or hatred for his person or guts, in the four years he lead his people he made an impact and did all that was humanly possible to make his mark on the sand of time and leave the state better than he met it. At least, he came as a Governor, he saw and within the limits of the resources available to the state and his four years tenure he did his possible best to conquer and only posterity and his people will judge him whether or not he met their expectations.

The incumbent Governor Lawal Dauda has come from an obscure background with less political experience. Not much was known of him apart from his flourishing banking and financial engagements. As soon as he got into the saddle as Governor, he began to cast aspersions and throw stones at his predecessor. This is the first lesson a good politician must learn. You don't throw stones at others especially your predecessor because a political neophyte needs to learn the ropes. This is because it is

when you begin to ride on the saddle that you will begin to understand the rigors and challenges of leadership and what your predecessor went through. It is better to extend your hand of fellowship so that you will begin to learn the intricacies and dynamics of leadership. This is not only an exigency but also needful because you might as well need him when you are cascading down the ladder of politics. Matawalle has played his own part in the last four years in the lives of the people of Zamfara state who are now looking up to Governor Lawal Dauda to do his own bit albeit within the next four years. The people must be tired of the different accusations and the blame game. They are waiting to

see Governor Dauda enacting good policies to change and impact their lives. They are waiting to see him complete the Zamfara Cargo Airport started by his predecessor who probably could not complete the project because of his one-year tenure. They are waiting to see a much better and developed Zamfara state under the current leadership. They are waiting to see Governor Lawal completing all the uncompleted projects initiated by his predecessor because they know that the last four years was too small a time in the life in the life of one administration to all their expectations.

The Zamfara people are waiting for Governor Lawal to save them from the marauding activities of bandits and illegal miners who are having a field day in the state. The people are waiting on Governor Lawal to direct his little time, attention and energy to do the needful instead of engaging in political tantrum and mudslinging by finding fault where none seem to exist. History is replete with fault finders who usually toe the path of mediocrity instead of allowing themselves to be guided by ideas that rule the world. They would rather choose to look backwards to cast aspersions on others. In the same manner the good people of Zamfara state are looking up to their son who is the Hon. Minister of State for defense to make them proud by working assiduously hard in his new position to help curb the high spate of insecurity of lives and properties that pervades Nigeria as a nation. Enough is enough the two parties should sheath their sword. There are more battles ahead to be won and conquered not only in Zamfara State but across Nigeria.