

Dear Editor

WEEP NOT FOR TINUBU, BUT NIGERIA

Call it what you will, what happened at CHATHAM HOUSE LONDON recently was a complete charade... The BOLA TINUBU handlers fumbled, and bungled it big time... They showcased him like a packaged invalid. It would have been better to present him as a brilliant politician and administrator, warts and all, who's capable of independent thoughts. No man is perfect. His gaffes would have been more pardonable and acceptable... He was expected to sell his own vision and mission...

But what we saw yesterday was a theatre of the absurd. It brought back memories of our great President ALHAJI UMARU MUSA YAR'ADUA and how he mysteriously disappeared from radar and some of his aides governed by proxy. I was one of those who led the ENOUGH-IS-ENOUGH protest against the YAR'ADUA cabal in Abuja in 2010. What was unacceptable then is even more unacceptable now with benefits of hindsight. Our country should be placed above friendship.

Truth is the problem of Nigeria is often aggravated by the voluptuous ambitions of some acolytes who wish to remain eternally relevant in the corridors of power at the expense of the long-suffering nation.

All those around TINUBU yesterday knew the bitter truth but chose to fool Nigerians. One of them was heard in a viral video telling TINUBU to dance to the popular song BUGA by KIZZ DANIEL because

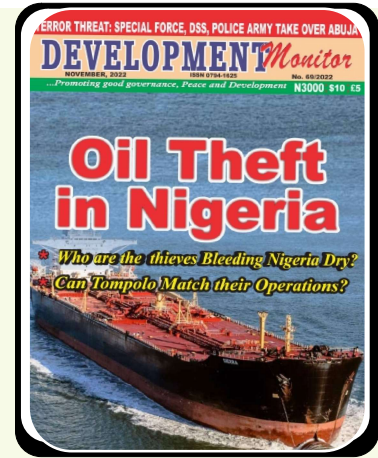
"that's what the youths want to see..." and lo and behold TINUBU instantly transfigured into an accomplished choreographer...

Very sad, and unfortunate, that whenever we think Nigeria can never

sink deeper into the abyss, something occurs that jolts us out of such assumptions and complacency... I was with MUHAMMADU BUHARI the day he visited CHATHAM HOUSE seven years ago. He was solid and charismatic. He needed no one to prompt him. He answered questions eloquently and intelligently to the best of his abilities. That's what TINUBU was expected to accomplish yesterday. What he did instead was like inviting helpers to sit a JAMB exam. It is horrifying to watch some respected intellectuals like NASIR EL RUFAl and KAYODE FAYEMI as they struggled to window dress TINUBU on a much-hallowed global stage.

In conclusion, please, weep not for TINUBU but for NIGERIA...

By Dele Momodu



Dear Editor

Nigeria will be great again

PD did not give Atiku ticket. He bought it with money. Even the southerners could not resist his Dollar. And that is the capacity the party needed. His choice of candidate was based on whom he can control or manipulate. He knew that he will not be able to control Wike. BAT bought his ticket with money and threat. There was need to keep to agreement, else the cat will be let loose. And his choice of candidate was based on who is ruthless enough to champion the Northern muslim votes. The supporters of the above two are the long-term structures that have kept us in the dark while the world is making progress. And they want the evil to continue. They use their structures to collapse the national structures. And they are boasting about those structures even to our faces. Obi picked Labour Party ticket based on his integrity, financial prudence and outstanding leadership prowess. And he went for Datti who

possess similar qualities. He needed someone who will look into his eye and say no. Because he acknowledged that he doesn't know it all. He believes in team work. And his supporters are the people without structures, the downtrodden, the poor masses, the beggars and the labourers, those that are cursed to Labour till death, those that the structures are trampling upon. He is not standing for himself. He is standing for the masses. He is not the one contesting. The masses are contesting t h r o u g h

h i m .

He is not standing for any specific tribe or religion. He is standing for all tribes and religions. He is the hope of the common man. With him, Nigeria will be great again.

Prof Usman Yusuf
Former CEO, NHIS