



Dangote Refinery to provide free fuel delivery to marketers nationwide **Pg 2**

Atiku, Obi condemn Benue massacre, call for swift action **Pg 6**



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Dangote Refinery to provide free fuel delivery to marketers nationwide

By Friday Omosola



The Dangote Petroleum Refinery has unveiled a new initiative that will see petrol and diesel delivered at no cost to fuel marketers, distributors, and major consumers throughout Nigeria.

The refinery, located in Lagos, confirmed in a statement on Sunday that the programme is set to launch on 15 August 2025.

To facilitate the scheme, the company has acquired 4,000 newly manufactured tankers powered by Compressed Natural Gas (CNG).

“In addition, the refinery will offer a credit facility to those purchasing a minimum of 500,000 litres—allowing them to obtain an additional 500,000 litres on credit

for two weeks, under bank guarantee,” the statement read.

The company added that it has also established several CNG booster (daughter) stations across Nigeria and deployed more than 100 CNG-powered tankers to ensure efficient and wide-reaching fuel distribution.

“This strategic programme is part of our broader commitment to eliminating logistics costs, enhancing energy efficiency, promoting sustainability and supporting Nigeria’s economic development.

“It is expected to revitalise previously inactive petrol stations, thereby driving job creation, stimulating small and medium-

sized enterprises (SMEs), increasing government revenue, improving fuel access in rural and underserved communities, and strengthening investor confidence in Nigeria’s downstream petroleum sector.

“This pioneering effort marks a major milestone in our vision to revolutionise Nigeria’s energy sector.

“Dangote Refinery is dedicated to ensuring that no place is left behind. Our goal is to provide equitable access to affordable fuel for all Nigerians, regardless of location, making energy more accessible and sustainable for everyone, wherever they may be,” the refinery stated.

THE NEW DAILY PRIME RATE CARD

PUBLIC NOTICE COLOUR

PRODUCT COLOUR

EFFECTIVE FROM DECEMBER 1, 2024

SIZE	TOTAL RATE
FULL PAGE	372,500.00
HALF PAGE	213,000.00
QUARTER PAGE	106,500.00
14X2	118,000.00
10X6	261,585.50
10X5	255,238.00
10X4	206,890.50
10X3	179,608.00
9X6	254,977.00
9X5	225,738.00
9X4	193,500.00
9X3	166,223.50
8X6	225,368.50
8X3	106,934.50
7X4	180,173.50
6X4	100,434.50
6X3	82,750.00
6X2	52,499.50
5X6	123,749.50
5X5	110,000.00
5X4	76,833.00
5X3	66,875.00
5X2	42,916.50
4X4	60,166.50
4X3	36,499.50
4X2	29,333.50
3X3	28,000.00
3X2	17,400.00
2X2	13,000.00
2X1	8,600.00
1X1	4,400.00

SIZE	TOTAL RATE
FULL PAGE	329,868.50
HALF PAGE	192,500.00
QUARTER PAGE	100,000.00
14X2	109,500.00
10X6	242,500.00
10X5	237,500.00
10X4	192,500.00
10X3	171,000.00
9X6	232,500.00
9X5	206,000.00
9X4	177,500.00
9X3	150,000.00
8X6	216,000.00
8X3	98,500.00
7X4	164,002.00
6X4	94,010.50
6X3	78,500.00
6X2	47,500.00
5X5	100,000.00
5X4	61,500.00
5X3	57,819.00
5X2	40,379.50
4X4	55,000.00
4X3	31,000.00
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3X2	17,260.00
2X2	12,945.00
2X1	8,630.00
1X1	4,315.00

POLITICAL COLOUR

SIZE	RATE
CENTRESPREAD	1,200,000.00
DOUBLE SPREAD	885,000.00
FULL PAGE	420,000.00
HALF PAGE	213,250.00
QUARTER PAGE	115,012.50

POLITICAL BLACK & WHITE

SIZE	RATE
CENTRESPREAD	1,050,000.00
DOUBLE SPREAD	745,000.00
FULL PAGE	315,777.50
HALF PAGE	184,700.00
QUARTER PAGE	95,222.50

CORPORATE BLACK & WHITE

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HALF PAGE	142,787.50
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10X6	217,830.00
10X5	192,305.50
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4X2	22,350.00
3X2	16,763.00
2X2	10,877.00
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1X1	2,795.50

SPECIAL POSITIONS

2X6 FRONT PAGE	700,000.00
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4X6 FRONT PAGE	2,250,000.00
5X6 FRONT PAGE	3,350,000.00
10X6 FRONT PAGE	8,250,000.00
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CENTRE SPREAD COLOUR (PRODUCT)	929,000.00
CENTRESPREAD B&W	800,000.00
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DOUBLE SPREAD HALF COLOUR	432,881.00
DOUBLE SPREAD STRIP COLOUR	144,294.00
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CENTRE SPREAD HALF PAGE B & W	550,000.00
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DOUBLE SPREAD HALF B & W	425,000.00
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HALF PAGE FRONT	5,500,000.00

PUBLIC NOTICE BLACK & WHITE

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HALF PAGE	164,178.00
QUARTER PAGE	84,641.50
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10X5	201,600.00
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9X3	112,875.00
8X6	179,368.00
8X5	143,500.00
8X4	93,500.00
8X3	82,434.50
7X4	111,173.50
6X4	82,434.50
6X3	59,250.00
6X2	40,000.00
5X6	98,749.50
5X4	65,833.00
5X3	49,375.00
5X2	32,916.50
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3X2	19,750.00
2X2	13,000.00
2X1	6,500.00
1X1	3,292.00

PRODUCT BLACK & WHITE

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QUARTER PAGE	70,950.00
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9X5	168,191.50
9X4	N/A
8X6	N/A
8X3	N/A
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6X4	65,000.00
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5X4	42,825.00
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2X1	5,439.50
1X1	2,700.00

ALLURE RATE

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10X5		295,625.00
Half Page		225,000.00
EVENT		250,000.00

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SIZE	RATE	7.5% VAT	TOTAL
PHOTO NEWS PAGE 2	50,000.00	3,750.00	53,750.00
PHOTO NEWS (3X3)	30,000.00	2,250.00	32,250.00
PHOTO NEWS (4X4)	53,333.30	4,250.00	57,583.30
PRESS RELEASE (4X4)	30,000.00	2,250.00	32,250.00
EVENT COVERAGE	100,000.00	7,500.00	107,500.00
FEATURES	200,000.00	15,000.00	215,000.00

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Tinubu orders security chiefs to enforce peace in Benue, tasks Alia with reconciliation efforts

By Friday Omosola



President Bola Tinubu has issued fresh directives to security chiefs to implement his earlier instructions aimed at restoring peace and stability in Benue State, following renewed violence that has claimed several lives.

In a statement by Bayo Onanuga, his Special Adviser on Information & Strategy, Mr Tinubu reiterated his commitment to ending the cycle of bloodshed in the state, describing the killings as ‘inhuman and anti-progress.’

In response to the latest reprisal attacks, security and intelligence agencies, including the police and military, have been deployed to the state to coordinate operations and stabilise affected communities.

The president also urged Benue State Governor Hyacinth Alia to urgently convene reconciliation and dialogue sessions among farmers, herders, and local communities to address longstanding grievances and promote peaceful coexistence.

“The latest news of wanton killings in Benue State is very depressing. We must not allow this bloodletting to continue unabated. Enough is now enough,” Tinubu said.

“I have directed the security agencies to act decisively and arrest perpetrators of these evil acts on all sides of the conflict and prosecute them,” he added.

Mr Tinubu also warned political and

community leaders against making inflammatory remarks that could further inflame tensions, urging them to help de-escalate the crisis and rein in provocateurs.

He called on Mr Alia to rise to the occasion and lead peacebuilding efforts across the state.

“This is the time for Governor Alia to act as a statesman and immediately lead the process of dialogue and reconciliation that will bring peace to Benue,” Mr Tinubu said.

The president emphasised that genuine peace is achievable if leaders work together with fairness, justice, and mutual respect.

APC North-East stakeholders clash over omission of Shettima in 2027 endorsement

By Damilola Olufemi

A summit organised by the All Progressives Congress (APC) for stakeholders from Nigeria's North-East ended on a tense note Sunday in Gombe State.

Delegates from the six states of Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba, and Yobe gathered for the meeting, which featured addresses by Governors Mai Mala Buni of Yobe, Babagana Zulum of Borno, and Inuwa Yahaya of Gombe. The governors commended President Bola Tinubu's leadership, particularly acknowledging his support for the North's eight-year presidency, and collectively threw their weight behind his bid for a second term, urging northern voters to return the favour in 2027.

Shettima's name excluded
However, tensions flared when APC North-East Vice Chairman, Mustapha Salihi, concluded his remarks by endorsing Tinubu as the party's sole



candidate for 2027, failing to mention Vice President Kashim Shettima. The omission sparked protests from some attendees, who demanded that the vice president be included in the endorsement.

Attempts by Governor Zulum to pacify the crowd did little to calm the growing

unrest. The situation escalated until security personnel stepped in to restore order.

Later, APC National Chairman Abdullahi Ganduje addressed the gathering, offering separate praises for both Tinubu and Shettima, which eventually helped defuse the tension.

This controversy comes just weeks after 22 APC governors unanimously endorsed Tinubu for re-election on May 22, 2025, without publicly mentioning Shettima in their declaration.

Meanwhile, Borno South Senator Ali Ndume distanced himself from the endorsement, cautioning that such public declarations might not guarantee electoral success. "Ipity Tinubu," Ndume said, drawing parallels to former President Goodluck Jonathan, who, despite winning the backing of 22 governors in 2015, lost his re-election bid to Muhammadu Buhari.

FCTA to construct new electoral commission headquarters in Abuja

By Friday Omosola

The Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) has finalised plans to construct a new head office for the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) in Abuja.

The proposed structure will be located in the Maitama area of the capital city.

Lere Olayinka, senior special assistant on public communications to FCT Minister Nyesom Wike confirmed this in an interview with journalists.

He disclosed that President Bola Tinubu is expected to commence the building project next week.

Back in May, Mr Wike announced that Mr Tinubu would commission already completed developments and initiate fresh ones across the FCT in commemoration of his second year in



office.

Some of the projects under the FCTA's oversight include the recently refurbished Abuja International Conference Centre (AICC), new bus terminals at Kugbo and Mabushi, and the Apo-Wassa Road project.

Additional infrastructure works include the N16 interchange and a network of roads linking Maitama, Katampe, and Jahi; the inner northern expressway stretching from Ring Road 3 (Idu to Kubwa Road); the CN8 route from N5 (Obafemi Awolowo Way) to the Court of Appeal; the N20 flyover along the Kubwa road corridor; and the road linking Life Camp junction to Ring Road III.

Further ongoing projects are the Kabusa-Takushara and Kabusa-Ketti access roads, an access route in Giri District, a 15km stretch from the A2 Junction on the Abuja-Lokoja Road to Pai in Kwali Area Council, and roadworks in Ushafa, War College, and near the army checkpoint in Bwari Area Council.

Atiku, Obi condemn Benue massacre, call for swift action

By Damilola Olufemi

Former Vice President and 2023 PDP presidential candidate, Atiku Abubakar, has expressed deep sorrow over the recent massacre in Yelwata, Benue State, where scores were killed, and urged Nigerians to demand accountability from their leaders.

In a statement posted on his X account Saturday night, Atiku described the killings as yet another grim reminder of the worsening security situation in Nigeria.

“I am deeply anguished and shocked by the devastating news of the fresh attacks in Benue State, where over 100 innocent lives are feared lost. These killings, once again targeting defenceless communities, underscore the escalating insecurity crisis facing our nation,” he stated.

He said the anguish of those left orphaned, displaced, or widowed by the attacks is beyond words. “My thoughts and prayers are with the families and communities who have suffered unimaginable loss. As a nation, we must pause and reflect on the mounting human toll of this senseless violence,” Atiku added.

Calling for urgent government intervention, he urged authorities to act swiftly and decisively. “I urge the Federal Government and Benue State authorities to launch a prompt, transparent investigation into the attack. The identities of the perpetrators must be swiftly uncovered and justice served.”

Atiku also called for stronger security measures to protect vulnerable communities, noting that, “Necessary resources, personnel, equipment, and intelligence must be deployed to guarantee the protection of vulnerable rural areas.”

He emphasised the importance of engaging with communities to rebuild confidence, calling for “dialogue, traditional leadership, and civil society to restore confidence and foster resilience.”

In addition, he urged immediate support



for the victims. “Compensation and support efforts, including medical aid, trauma counselling, and livelihood restoration, should be accelerated for survivors and bereaved families.”

Atiku concluded, “This assault on innocent Nigerians is not just a local tragedy; it is a national emergency that demands immediate attention and decisive action. I call on all Nigerians, regardless of tribe or religion, to unite in condemning this atrocity. We must hold our leaders accountable and insist on sustainable solutions to the violent tragedies claiming lives across the country. May God comfort the grieving families, heal our nation, and help us reclaim peace and security for all.”

Obi slams govt over Benue killings
Labour Party’s 2023 presidential candidate, Peter Obi, also strongly condemned the killings, describing the attacks as evidence of Nigeria’s growing leadership failure.

In a statement on his X account Sunday, Obi said, “My heart is heavy as I learn of yet another horrific series of killings in Benue of women, children, soldiers, and displaced persons, all senselessly slain. This tragedy has become too common in our national life, and the Benue situation now calls for a national emergency.”

He described the scale of the killings as going far beyond isolated acts of violence, saying: “Over 200 lives have

reportedly been extinguished in a single onslaught, homes burnt, families shattered, communities left in ruin. This is not merely violence. It is a failure of leadership, a stain on our collective conscience.”

Obi criticised government inaction, saying, “The primary duty of any government, federal, state, or local is to protect lives and property. When it repeatedly fails, we must ask: What kind of nation are we bequeathing to our children?”

He further lamented the rising normalisation of mass killings: “Every life lost is a Nigerian life, each one precious, each one irreplaceable. We cannot accept the normalisation of mass killing. It is intolerable.”

Offering his condolences, Obi said, “To the people of Benue, I say: your pain is our pain. The blood of your loved ones cries out for justice. The survival of our people must not be negotiable; it must be urgent, deliberate, and comprehensive action.”

He also called on authorities to take concrete steps beyond mere words. “To all relevant authorities, I say that the time has come to move beyond symbolic gestures to decisive deployment. Let your actions speak louder than visits or statements. A safe, secure Benue is not too much to ask, it is our moral duty, our national duty.”

SERAP urges Tinubu to investigate June 12 annulment, push electoral, human rights reforms

By Adeniyi Yusuf

The Socio-Economic Rights and Accountability Project (SERAP) has called on President Bola Tinubu to establish a presidential panel of enquiry to investigate the unlawful annulment of the June 12, 1993, presidential election and identify those responsible for what it described as ‘deliberate violations of Nigerians’ democratic freedoms.’

In a letter dated 14 June 2025 and signed by its Deputy Director, Kolawole Oluwadare, SERAP urged Mr Tinubu to demonstrate political will by holding perpetrators of the annulment accountable and enacting electoral and human rights reforms to fulfil his Democracy Day commitments.

SERAP specifically asked the President to direct the Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Lateef Fagbemi to prosecute those responsible for the annulment, irrespective of their political affiliation or status.

The organisation also wants Mr Fagbemi to urgently draft and send an executive bill to the National Assembly to amend the Electoral Act 2022—making electronic transmission of election results mandatory and granting every voter access to election documents.

The organisation noted that, currently, Section 74(1) of the Act only allows parties in election petitions to access electoral documents.

SERAP argued that this should be changed to promote transparency and build public trust in the electoral process.

“The right to access election documents should give rise to claims under Section 39 of the Nigerian Constitution and the Freedom of Information Act,” it stated.

Additionally, SERAP urged the President to direct Mr Fagbemi to immediately discontinue all cases involving Nigerians who are being detained or prosecuted solely for peacefully exercising their rights, including participation in protests.

The group stated that such a move would strengthen democratic freedoms and human rights protections.



In his Democracy Day address to the National Assembly, Mr Tinubu reaffirmed his administration’s dedication to the ideals of June 12, including freedom, transparent and accountable governance, social justice, citizen participation, and a society free from oppression.

SERAP welcomed these commitments but stressed that ‘they won’t be enough unless your government demonstrates the political will to combat impunity for the annulment of the June 12 elections and advance Nigerians’ democratic freedoms.’

SERAP also called on Mr Tinubu to direct Mr Fagbemi to prepare a bill amending all laws that suppress free expression, including sections of the Cybercrimes Act, and provisions on criminal defamation and injurious falsehood in the Criminal Code and Penal Code.

These laws, it said, have been weaponised against journalists, activists, critics, and ordinary Nigerians for expressing dissenting views.

The organisation raised concern over the ongoing use of these laws, as well as the



increasing reliance on strategic lawsuits against public participation (SLAPPs) by security agencies and politicians to intimidate citizens.

It described this trend as a threat to free speech and civic engagement.

While acknowledging Mr Tinubu’s recent call on lawmakers to promote civil liberties and broaden the political space, SERAP insisted that “impunity for the annulment of the June 12 elections continues to embolden politicians to subvert electoral processes and deny citizens their rights.”

“We would therefore be grateful if the recommended measures are taken within seven days of the receipt and/or publication of this letter.

“If we have not heard from you by then, SERAP shall consider appropriate legal actions to compel your government to comply with our request in the public interest,” the organisation warned.

SERAP said its appeal aligns with the President’s own stated commitments, the Nigerian Constitution, and the country’s international human rights obligations.

Suspected herdsmen killed 59 in fresh Benue Attack — Gov Alia

By New Daily Primw



Governor Hyacinth Alia on Sunday confirmed the killing of 59 persons at Yelewata, where suspected herdsmen from Nasarawa State attacked the border town.

Addressing journalists at the Government House, Alia said the figures are based on physical headcounts by security agencies working with families of those killed.

Among those killed were military and civil defence personnel who fought to defend Yelewata against the attacks.

Governor Alia also gave some credit to his Nasarawa State counterpart, Abdullahi Sule, who shared some intelligence on the killings which also left one woman dead on the Nasarawa axis.

Protesters in Benue over renewed killings. Sunday, June 15, 2025

The governor gave the details when he received a report from the panel of

inquiry on the militia activities in the Sankera axis and pledged to commit to the appropriate authority and investigate the persons indicated in the report to ensure peace returned to Sankera.

Pope Leo XIV has since condemned the recent killings in Benue, describing the incident as a “terrible massacre” in which mostly displaced civilians were murdered with “extreme cruelty”.

Delivering his remarks before the Sunday Angelus prayer at the Vatican, the pontiff expressed deep concern over the ongoing violence in Nigeria and the suffering of affected communities.

The Pope prayed for “security, justice, and peace” to prevail in the country and offered special intercession for the rural Christian communities in Benue, whom he described as “relentless victims of violence.”

The attack occurred in Yelwata, a border town between Benue and

Nasarawa states, where suspected herdsmen reportedly stormed the community late Friday night.

Angry youths on Sunday stormed the Wurukum food basket roundabout to protest the killing. The protesters converged on the Wurukum food basket roundabout in Makurdi as early as 8 am to demand action over the alleged killing on Saturday in Yelwata.

They were later joined by a social media influencer, Martin Otse, also known as VeryDarkMan.

In a statement, presidential spokesman Bayo Onanuga said President Bola Tinubu has directed security chiefs to implement his earlier directive to bring lasting peace and security to Benue State.

He said on the president’s directive, intelligence chiefs, the police and the military have arrived in the state to direct security operations and restore sanity.

Lagos govt warns residents of flash floods amid heavy rainfall

By Friday Omosola

The Lagos State Government has issued a fresh warning to residents, particularly those living in low-lying areas, to remain alert as intense rainfall continues to batter the state, raising the risk of flash floods in several communities.

In a statement released yesterday, the Commissioner for the Environment and Water Resources, Tokunbo Wahab, revealed that forecasts from the state's weather stations indicated the presence of thunderstorms and widespread convective rainfall with dense cloud cover, as seen in geostationary imagery for today and the coming days.

Wahab explained that the weather imagery translates to very heavy rainfall and flash floods across many parts of the state—an occurrence the government had earlier warned about this year.

He stressed that areas bordering rivers and lagoons are especially vulnerable, with flash floods potentially accompanied by high currents.

The commissioner urged residents



without urgent business outdoors during downpours to remain indoors until the rain subsides, allowing them to assess the situation and prepare accordingly.

Parents were also advised to monitor their children, particularly those currently on mid-term break, to prevent them from playing in the rain or swimming in floodwaters.

Reiterating earlier safety advice, Wahab cautioned motorists and pedestrians against attempting to wade through

floodwaters, warning that such action could lead to vehicles being submerged or individuals being swept away.

He further explained that Lagos, being a coastal state, faces the challenge of rising lagoon water levels during heavy rains, which can result in tidal lock—a situation that hinders the discharge of stormwater from drainage systems.

The commissioner also warned residents against dumping refuse into drains during rainfall, noting that this habit contributes significantly to blocked drainage systems and increased flooding.

He emphasised that there are consequences for such actions.

Wahab assured the public that drainage channels across the state are being cleaned and maintained throughout the year to manage rainwater runoff.

However, he noted that exceptionally heavy downpours require collective efforts from residents and authorities to mitigate their impact.

Wike, ex-PDP govs meet Tinubu in Aso Rock

By Friday Omosola

FCT Minister Nyesom Wike met with President Bola Tinubu yesterday evening accompanied by three former governors from the opposition People's Democratic Party (PDP).

The meeting, which took place at the Presidential Villa in Abuja, featured Wike's political allies and members of the now-defunct G5—a faction that distanced itself from PDP leadership in the lead-up to the 2023 elections.

Among those present were former Ekiti State governor Ayodele Fayose, ex-Benue governor Samuel Ortom, and Okezie Ikpeazu, who previously governed Abia State.

Although details of the discussions were not made public, the engagement is widely regarded as part of strategic efforts toward a potential political reshuffle



ahead of the 2027 polls.

It is worth noting that during the 2023 presidential race, Wike and the G5 resisted the PDP's choice of Atiku Abubakar as its flagbearer, insisting that power should rotate to the South.

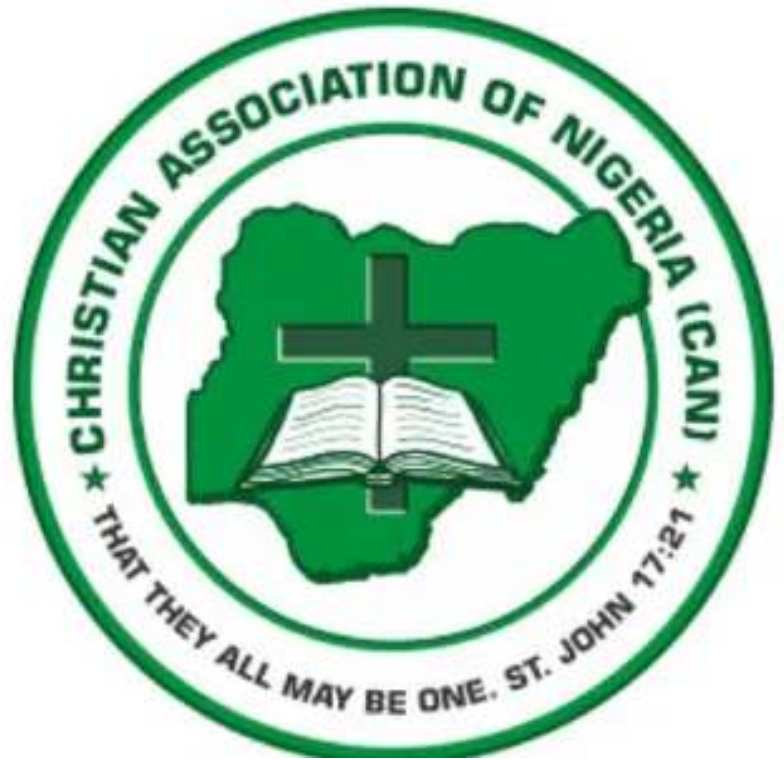
The disagreement led the group to quietly throw their support behind Tinubu, who

contested under the All Progressives Congress (APC).

Following Mr Tinubu's victory, Mr Wike was appointed Minister of the FCT, a move that signalled deepening ties between the former Rivers State governor and the APC-led administration.

CAN to Tinubu: Declare total war on killers in Benue

By Damilola Olufemi



The Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) in the 19 northern states and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) has called on President Bola Tinubu to launch a full-scale offensive against criminals wreaking havoc in Benue state.

The association also urged the federal government to put an end to the renewed Boko Haram attacks in Borno state.

In a statement issued on Sunday from Kaduna, northern CAN appealed to the president to take firm and urgent steps to stop the ongoing violence and devastation.

The statement, signed by Sunday Oibe, secretary-general of northern CAN, strongly condemned Saturday's deadly attacks in Benue, stressing that the continued assaults by suspected herders were no longer tolerable.

On June 14, suspected herders reportedly killed more than 100 residents in coordinated assaults on Yelewata and Daudu communities in Guma LGA of

Benue.

These attacks came barely 48 hours after 25 people were murdered in Mtswenem and Akondoyough Bawa communities in Makurdi LGA.

According to reports, many of the victims were internally displaced persons (IDPs) and farmers, with some said to have been burnt alive in makeshift camps.

CAN expresses concern Oibe expressed concern that the security situation appeared to be deteriorating just when many believed the security forces had subdued the criminal elements.

"We urgently call on the federal government to take decisive and comprehensive action to stop the killings and restore peace and security," Oibe stated.

"We urge the President to urgently declare total war against these criminals and direct security agencies to neutralise the threat within a clear and enforceable time frame.

"Should the situation prove beyond the capacity of Nigeria's security forces, the government should seek international assistance to halt the killings and abductions."

The association also encouraged Benue residents to remain united and collaborate with security agencies to put an end to the killings.

"Likewise, the menace posed by Boko Haram and associated terrorist groups must be decisively checked to prevent further loss of lives and abductions," the statement added.

"The sovereignty of our nation and the safety of its citizens depend on a robust and unwavering response from all security apparatus.

"We call on the government and security agencies to marshal all necessary resources and resolve to eradicate these threats without delay."

How to live like a christian in today's world

By Olaoluwa Vincent Ajayi



In a world saturated with conflicting messages, cultural confusion, and moral ambiguity, the timeless question remains: How should a Christian live? As more people search for purpose and truth amid societal shifts, the desire to understand what it means to live a Christlike life has surged. At the heart of Christian living are core values, spiritual disciplines, and community engagement that reflect the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.

This report explores the central pillar of Christian living and key subtopics shaping faith-based lifestyles globally, offering not just inspiration but practical steps for believers and seekers alike.

How to Be Godly?

Godliness is about living in alignment with God's character and His expectations for human

behavior. It is an active pursuit of righteousness, rooted in grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit. The Bible, in 1 Timothy 4:8, says: "Godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come."

To be godly:

- Prioritize daily prayer and immersion in Scripture
- Practice honesty, compassion, and forgiveness
- Stay away from activities that contradict Christian values
- Be a positive reflection of Christ in all relationships

Living a godly life does not mean achieving moral perfection but committing to spiritual growth and repentance.

How to Live in Jesus?

Jesus said in John 15:5: "I am the vine, you are the branches... apart from me, you can do nothing." Living in Jesus means having a living, dynamic relationship with Him that influences every area of your life. It's about staying spiritually connected, receiving grace, and walking in love.

This includes:

- Trusting Jesus in daily decisions
- Embracing humility and servant leadership
- Bearing the fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22–23)
- Walking in obedience to His commandments

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Living in Jesus transforms your identity and anchors your values, helping you navigate life with purpose and peace.

How to Live for God?

Living for God goes beyond belief—it's about commitment. As Romans 12:1 teaches, Christians should present themselves as "living sacrifices, holy and acceptable to God." This means surrendering self-centered ambition in exchange for God's divine plan.

Key ways to live for God:

- Serve in your church and community
- Honor God in your work and lifestyle
- Share your faith with love and truth
- Develop spiritual disciplines and resist worldly influences

A life lived for God makes eternal impact.

Scriptures on Discipleship

Discipleship is central to Christian living. Jesus's final command in Matthew 28:19–20 was to "Go and make disciples of all nations." Discipleship is a lifelong journey of learning, growing, and helping others follow Christ.

Scriptures to study:

- Luke 14:27 – Bearing your cross daily
- Acts 2:42 – Devotion to teaching and community
- John 8:31 – Continuing in His Word

Discipleship is a process that requires patience, accountability, and spiritual maturity.

What Is Discipling & What Does It Mean to Disciple Someone?

To disciple someone means to mentor and guide them in their spiritual journey. This can happen

through Bible study, prayer partnership, or simply being a Christlike example.

Discipling involves:

- Teaching sound doctrine
- Encouraging spiritual growth
- Challenging areas of weakness in love

Discipleship multiplies the Kingdom by helping others grow strong in faith.

Faith-Based Sweatshirts and Lifestyle Identity

Faith-based apparel like sweatshirts and hoodies are a creative way believers express their faith in public. Clothing with messages like "Faith Over Fear" or "God Is Greater" opens doors for conversation and evangelism.

Benefits include:

- Reinforcing your spiritual identity
- Supporting Christian designers and ministries
- Wearing your values with pride and boldness

Faith fashion is more than style—it's a statement.

How Long Should a Christian Date Before Marriage?

Christian dating is rooted in purpose, not trial and error. While Scripture doesn't give a set timeline, wisdom and spiritual readiness are key. Dating should lead to marriage and be conducted with prayer and guidance.

Consider:

1. Clear boundaries and accountability
2. Premarital counseling with pastors or mentors
3. Focusing on spiritual compatibility and shared values
4. Dating that honors God produces healthy, lasting unions.

Christian Community Life

Believers are not called to isolation but to fellowship. Hebrews 10:25 urges Christians to not neglect meeting together.

Elements of vibrant community life:

- Weekly worship and small groups
- Serving in local outreach and missions
- Encouraging and uplifting one another

Christian growth thrives in connection, not isolation.

Christianity's Moral Code

The moral code in Christianity is not about legalism, but about love and holiness. Jesus simplified it in Matthew 22:37–39: Love God and love your neighbor.

Core moral values include:

- Integrity
- Sexual purity
- Forgiveness and grace
- Generosity and humility

These values form the ethical compass for Christian living.

To live like a Christian in today's world is to follow Christ radically and lovingly. It is a daily walk of faith, grounded in Scripture, strengthened by prayer, and supported by community.

Whether you're rediscovering your faith or starting anew, this pillar—how to live like a Christian—serves as a spiritual guidepost. With intentional living, godly relationships, and unwavering trust in Christ, you can navigate the complexities of life while reflecting heaven's values.

Stay connected with New Daily Prime's Faith Desk for more teachings, resources, and inspiration on how to live boldly for Christ in 2025 and beyond.

Bishop David Abioye: Age, biography, impact on global church

By Olaoluwa Vincent Ajayi



Bishop David Abioye is not just a senior pastor; he is a symbol of spiritual depth, leadership excellence, and unwavering faith. As the First Vice President of Living Faith Church Worldwide—popularly known as Winners Chapel—he has dedicated more than three decades to ministry alongside Bishop David Oyedepo, serving as one of the most respected Christian voices in Nigeria and across the globe.

In a time when many are searching for authentic voices of faith and clarity in a noisy world, Bishop Abioye stands tall as a model of consistency and godliness.

Who Is Bishop David Abioye?

Bishop David Abioye is a founding member and the current resident pastor at Goshen City, the Northern Nigeria headquarters of Living Faith Church located just outside Abuja. He is known for his humility, powerful teachings, and pastoral

care that cut across all age groups.

A mechanical engineer by training, Bishop Abioye left a promising academic and professional career to pursue his divine calling. His decision to walk away from secular success and embrace ministry full-time remains one of the most powerful testimonies of total surrender to God's will.

Today, he leads tens of thousands in weekly worship and speaks to millions through television, conferences, books, and digital platforms.

How Old Is Bishop David Abioye?

Born on March 11, 1961, Bishop David Abioye is 64 years old as of 2025. Despite his age, his energetic preaching style, combined with a deeply pastoral heart, continues to endear him to both youth and elders. It's no surprise that terms like "how old is Bishop Abioye" and "Bishop Abioye messages" consistently rank

among top Christian search queries in Nigeria.

His birthday celebrations are not merely about cutting cakes or taking pictures; they are annual opportunities for thousands of believers to reflect on spiritual growth, integrity in leadership, and commitment to divine purpose.

Teachings and Messages: Faith, Family, and Leadership

At the core of Bishop Abioye's ministry is a deep desire to raise godly leaders, spiritually grounded families, and faith-driven individuals. His messages are widely recognized for being both practical and doctrinally sound.

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Key Focus Areas in His Messages:

- **Faith:** Encouraging believers to walk in unwavering trust in God.
- **Godliness:** Calling for a return to holiness in personal and public life.
- **Family:** Teaching on marriage, parenting, and Christian home-building.
- **Leadership:** Developing capacity in believers to lead with excellence, humility, and purpose.

His message titled “Preparing for Marriage” remains one of the most downloaded MP3s among Christian singles and youth groups in Nigeria. In it, Bishop Abioye outlines foundational biblical principles for building a successful Christian marriage, tackling topics such as emotional maturity, purpose-driven relationships, and sexual purity.

Ministry Role and Influence

Bishop Abioye plays a crucial role in shaping the spiritual direction of the Living Faith Church Worldwide, also known as Winners Chapel International. As the First Vice President, he works closely with Bishop Oyedepo to ensure that doctrine, ministry growth, and leadership development remain aligned with the church’s global vision.

Through his leadership at Goshen City, the ministry has expanded rapidly,

drawing worshippers from across Nigeria and West Africa. The Goshen facility also hosts the Word of Faith Bible Institute (WOFBI), where Bishop Abioye frequently lectures on topics related to vision, godly living, and ministry ethics.

Books and Publications

Bishop Abioye is also an accomplished author. Some of his most influential books include:

- “Courage for Conquest”
- “Stewardship: The Pathway to Honor”
- “Making the Most of Opportunity”
- “The Lifestyle of Faith”

These books are used widely in discipleship classes, home fellowships, and leadership training across several denominations, not just within the Living Faith Church.

Digital Presence and Global Reach

In the digital age, Bishop Abioye’s teachings have transcended physical gatherings. His messages are streamed globally through platforms like YouTube, Faith Tabernacle online, and Gospel Faith TV. Social media platforms are flooded with inspirational quotes, short sermon clips, and testimonies tied to his ministry.

Millions engage with his content weekly, many of them young people seeking direction and spiritual grounding in a

rapidly changing world.

Legacy and Future Impact

Bishop Abioye’s life remains a testimony to servant leadership in ministry. While some pursue titles and status, he consistently demonstrates humility and focus on kingdom work. His mentoring of emerging pastors and young leaders ensures that his legacy will outlive him.

He is often described by those close to him as a “pastor’s pastor” and a “father in faith.” The success of his spiritual children, including those now leading their own churches and ministries globally, reflects his impact.

At 64, Bishop David Abioye continues to run his race with unwavering faith and focused passion. As a voice of wisdom, discipline, and spiritual clarity, he remains one of the most trusted leaders in modern Christianity.

Whether through his books, sermons, or personal mentorship, Bishop Abioye stands as a beacon of light—shaping lives, strengthening homes, and building the church of tomorrow.

For continued updates, messages, and exclusive insights on Bishop David Abioye’s teachings and leadership journey, stay tuned to New Daily Prime.



Davido opts out of 50 Cent's show, says 'Africa must be respected'

By Ifedamola Joseph Fayomi

Afrobeats star David Adeleke, popularly known as Davido, has withdrawn from a highly anticipated joint concert at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium in London.

The event, scheduled for July 3, 2025, was expected to feature American music legends 50 Cent and Mary J. Blige alongside the Nigerian superstar.

The announcement came on Saturday through Davido's Instagram story, where he addressed his decision to pull out of the show. According to the singer, the organisers, Iconic Presents, failed to meet certain critical conditions necessary for him to participate.

Davido expresses disappointment

In his statement, Davido said his withdrawal was not taken lightly. He emphasised that his team had engaged with the show's curators in good faith and had expected professional standards to be upheld. However, certain "key elements required to uphold the integrity and quality" of his performance remained unresolved, prompting his decision to step away.

"I want my fans to know that I was genuinely looking forward to sharing the stage with iconic artists like 50 Cent and Mary J. Blige," Davido wrote. "Unfortunately, things behind the scenes did not go as planned, and I cannot compromise on the standards my team and I have built."

Discrimination and demand for respect

Davido also used the opportunity to call out the lack of respect often shown to African artists in global entertainment spaces. Without going into full detail, he hinted at possible discriminatory treatment and said African creatives deserve to be treated fairly and with dignity.

"I stand for Africa. I stand for every African creative putting in the work and pushing boundaries. We must be respected," he added.

While Davido didn't mention the exact



nature of the issues involved, the tone of his message suggested more than just logistical disagreements; it hinted at broader concerns about how African performers are handled in international productions.

The concert will go on without him – 50 Cent. Despite his withdrawal, the show will continue as planned, just without Davido. Iconic Presents has yet to publicly respond to the singer's announcement or clarify how his absence will affect the concert lineup and ticket holders.

Fans who were expecting to see the award-winning Nigerian artist live on stage have expressed disappointment on social media, with many calling on the organisers to provide more transparency.

Summer show still in the works

Davido did, however, reassure fans in the United Kingdom that he remains committed to performing in London. He announced plans to return later this summer as part of the European leg of his global "5Alive Tour."

"I will be back this summer with an unforgettable show for my UK fans," he promised, offering a glimmer of hope to those who had already made plans to attend the July event.

A stadium with afrobeats history

Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, a 62,000-seat venue in North London, has become a significant location for major music events. It has already witnessed historic moments in Afrobeats, with Nigerian superstars Burna Boy and Wizkid both headlining and selling out the stadium in recent years.

These sold-out shows marked a milestone in Afrobeats' global rise, solidifying its influence far beyond African borders. Davido's planned appearance would have added another chapter to that story.

Fans await further updates

As of now, fans are waiting for further updates from Iconic Presents regarding refunds, lineup changes, or possible replacement acts. Meanwhile, Davido's team is expected to reveal details of his rescheduled London appearance in the coming weeks.

For many fans, the issue goes beyond one concert; it has become a conversation about respect, fairness, and the growing need for equality in how African artists are treated on the global stage.

Read Also: Davido, Chioma mark first anniversary of their wedding, remain Nigeria's most searched couple

Tension peaks as Jarvis, Peller clash deepens

By Ifedamola Joseph Fayomi

Nigerian content creator, Amadou Elizabeth Aminata, popularly known as Jarvis, broke down in tears during a recent live-streaming session, opening up about the emotional strain in her relationship with fellow content creator, Habeeb Hamzat, popularly known as Peller.

The emotional outburst occurred during a joint live session featuring TikTok influencers Sandra Benede and Seun Pizzle. Viewers were stunned as Jarvis struggled to hold back tears while speaking about the issues affecting her relationship.

Jarvis accuses Peller of betraying her trust

Jarvis claimed that Peller has repeatedly betrayed her trust by revealing private details of their relationship during his live broadcasts. According to her, every time she confides in him about personal matters, he ends up discussing them publicly, often in an insensitive manner.

“He doesn’t know how to filter his words when he’s live,” Jarvis said.

“That’s why I’ve stopped telling him personal things.”

She added that she felt exposed and disrespected, explaining that his behaviour had made it difficult for her to maintain open communication with him.

Underlying issues resurface

When asked what triggered the latest disagreement, Jarvis suggested that the issue was more than just a single misunderstanding. She explained that there were long-standing problems in the relationship that had already been discussed privately.

“There are many reasons why Peller is angry,” she said.

“But he’s taking everything online now because he feels it hasn’t been properly addressed in public.”

Her statement implied a growing tension



between their private conversations and how Peller presents their relationship online.

Peller responds with his side

Peller, during his live session, fired back with accusations of his own. He claimed that Jarvis has been secretive and has failed to keep him informed about important plans or decisions.

He defended his actions by saying that he has always been open and honest, and that he expected the same level of transparency in return.

“How can I claim a girl like this?” Peller asked his audience.

“Do you know what she did? I don’t like Jarvis. She wronged me.”

He went on to say that he was trying to forgive her, even though she had already caused him a lot of pain.

“Right now, I’m just helping her get back on track,” he added.

A history of public conflict

This is not the first time the couple’s relationship issues have spilt into the public space. In April 2025, Jarvis publicly criticised Peller and threatened to end their engagement after a heated argument. The incident drew widespread attention on social media.

Since confirming their relationship in 2024, Jarvis and Peller have remained under the constant spotlight of their online followers. Their romantic journey has often been marked by intense drama, frequent livestreams, and emotional highs and lows.

In December 2024, Peller’s surprise proposal to Jarvis went viral, attracting thousands of comments and reactions across platforms. However, their growing popularity has also led to increased pressure and scrutiny, especially from fans who closely follow their relationship.

Social media pressure and public life of Jarvis, Peller

As both creators continue to share parts of their lives online, many have pointed out that the pressure of maintaining a public relationship may be fueling their recurring conflicts. Some fans expressed concern about the toll this is taking on Jarvis, especially after witnessing her emotional breakdown live.

Observers are now wondering whether the couple can resolve their issues privately or if more drama will unfold online.

For now, both Jarvis and Peller remain silent on what the next steps will be. However, their recent outbursts suggest that the tension between them may take more time to heal, if at all.

Alibaba slams comedians over offensive jokes at corporate events

By Ifedamola Joseph Fayomi

Veteran Nigerian comedian, Atunyota Alleluya Akpobome, widely known as Alibaba, has raised serious concerns about the growing lack of professionalism among some comedians in the country.

Speaking during a recent episode of the Outside The Box podcast, the iconic entertainer criticised certain comedians for crossing ethical lines, especially when performing at corporate events.

Comedy without boundaries

Alibaba, often hailed as the “King of Comedy” in Nigeria, did not mince words as he described how some of his younger colleagues continue to embarrass themselves and the industry by telling indecent and insensitive jokes in professional settings.

He disclosed that there are at least three comedians he can no longer tolerate due to their lack of decorum. Without naming names, he accused them of insulting people’s sensibilities, ignoring feedback, and refusing to learn from past mistakes.

“There are about three Nigerian comedians whom I can’t stand. They have no sense of decorum. They insult people and cross boundaries. When you try to correct them, they ignore you. They go to corporate events and make dirty, inappropriate jokes. When you get a report and challenge them, they make excuses or say you’re just jealous,” he said during the interview.

A joke gone too far – Alibaba

Recalling a specific incident, Alibaba narrated how he once sent a fellow comedian to anchor a corporate event. However, he later received a disturbing report from the event organisers. According to Alibaba, the comedian had made an insensitive joke about the company chairman’s wife, who is plus-size.

He shared the exact words used in the



joke:

“If a race happens now and everyone has to carry their wives and run, you can’t carry this woman and run.”

Alibaba expressed shock at the level of disrespect. “That was completely below the belt,” he said. “When I confronted the comedian, he simply brushed it off. He went as far as telling someone that I was only challenging him because he was ‘shining’ and becoming successful.”

Choosing decency over popularity

Alibaba made it clear that comedy should not come at the expense of others’ dignity. He stressed that comedians must learn to balance humour with respect, especially in formal environments.

“Corporate events are not nightclubs,” he said. “You’re dealing with executives, professionals, and family members. It’s important to know your audience and understand the setting. You can’t tell the same kind of jokes everywhere.”

He also explained that while he could easily name the comedians in question, he chose not to, as it could damage their careers. However, he did not hold back in calling them out to do better.

“I won’t mention names because I don’t want to ruin anyone’s career,” he said. “But they know themselves. It’s time to stop telling dirty, lazy jokes and start crafting intelligent, thoughtful content.”

A call for growth in Nigerian comedy

Alibaba’s remarks have sparked conversations across the entertainment industry. Many believe his criticism is long overdue and necessary for the growth of comedy in Nigeria. As a pioneer who helped shape stand-up comedy in the country, his words carry significant weight.

He concluded by urging young comedians to value feedback and strive to improve. “This isn’t about envy. It’s about lifting the industry. If we keep ignoring these bad habits, we’re only lowering the standards for future comedians,” he warned.

With the Nigerian comedy scene gaining international attention, Alibaba believes practitioners must uphold standards, stay disciplined, and ensure their humour uplifts rather than offends.

Bishop Oyedepo Church: Global reach, local impact

By Olaoluwa Vincent Ajayi



Bishop David Oyedepo, founder and presiding bishop of Living Faith Church Worldwide, commonly known as Winners Chapel International, has created one of the largest and most influential Christian ministries in the world. Under his leadership, the church has grown from a small fellowship in Ilorin in the 1980s to a global network of churches and outreach programs spanning more than 150 countries.

At the heart of this vibrant Christian movement lies a deeply rooted emphasis on building spiritually empowered individuals and homes. Family Life Ministries Inc, a vital arm of the church, champions this cause by promoting biblical values within families, mentoring singles, and strengthening marriages.

Bishop Oyedepo Church: Faith in Action

Widely recognized as a visionary leader, teacher, and author, Bishop

Oyedepo received a divine mandate in 1981: “The hour has come to liberate the world from all oppression of the devil through the preaching of the word of faith.” This singular vision birthed Living Faith Church Worldwide, which has since evolved into a spiritual force that blends powerful teaching with practical life application.

From the iconic Faith Tabernacle in Ota, Ogun State—once listed in the Guinness Book of Records as the largest church building in the world—to its satellite churches in cities across Africa, Europe, North America, and Asia, Bishop Oyedepo’s ministry model combines large-scale evangelism with individual discipleship.

Family Life Ministries Inc: Building Strong Christian Homes

Established to support families in navigating the challenges of modern life, Family Life Ministries Inc is an integral department within the

Winners Chapel structure. It was founded and is led by Pastor Faith Oyedepo, a seasoned teacher, author, and wife of the presiding bishop.

This ministry offers:

- Marriage counseling and premarital mentorship
- Parenting workshops and faith-based family retreats
- Singles and youth relationship seminars
- Faith-based materials for restoring broken homes

Its signature events, such as the “Covenant Family Week” and “Marital Breakthrough Conferences,” draw thousands of participants physically and online, helping families build stronger spiritual foundations and deeper emotional bonds.

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Winners Chapel International: A Global Christian Movement

Winners Chapel International represents the global face of the Living Faith Church. It operates over 20,000 churches globally, from major capital cities to rural communities, following a shared doctrine that emphasizes faith, prosperity, holiness, and dominion.

Every branch adheres to a structured weekly calendar that includes:

- Sunday Celebration Services
- Midweek Communion Services
- Covenant Hour of Prayer (daily at 5:30 a.m.)
- Winners Satellite Fellowship (WSF), a home-cell gathering held on Saturdays

International members from the U.S., U.K., Ghana, South Africa, and the UAE have testified to the consistency of doctrine and the tangible presence of God in all services.

The annual Shiloh Conference, the church's largest prophetic gathering, attracts worshippers from over 120 nations and has become a global event of spiritual revival.

Educational and Social Development Impact

The church's influence extends beyond Sunday services. Under the leadership of Bishop and Pastor Faith Oyedepo, the ministry has invested heavily in education, youth empowerment, and humanitarian work.

Key institutions include:

- Covenant University (top-ranked in Africa)
- Landmark University (focused on agricultural innovation)
- Faith Academy and Kingdom Heritage Schools (K-12 education)

Through the David Oyedepo Foundation, scholarships are awarded to indigent students across Africa. Community health programs and outreach missions regularly support underprivileged families.

Testimonies from the Faithful

"Family Life Ministries saved my marriage," says Miriam Adetola from Lagos. "The practical wisdom from Pastor Faith Oyedepo gave us tools to

rebuild trust and love."

"Even living abroad, I stay spiritually connected through Winners Chapel Online. Bishop Oyedepo's teachings keep my faith strong," says Adewale Mensah from Houston, Texas.

From its headquarters in Nigeria to its global branches, Bishop Oyedepo Church, through Family Life Ministries Inc and Winners Chapel International, remains a pillar of spiritual authority and societal transformation. With a strong foundation in the Word of God and a holistic approach to human development, this ministry continues to shape generations.

Its success is not measured by numbers alone, but by transformed lives, restored homes, and a growing global community of believers living by faith, integrity, and purpose.

For more insights, testimonies, and spiritual resources from the Living Faith Church, stay connected with New Daily Prime.



Millions join 'No Kings' protests nationwide against Trump's authoritarian tactics

By Elizabeth Jenrola Oso

As tanks rumbled through the streets of Washington on Saturday in a show of military might, millions of Americans across all 50 states staged mass demonstrations against what organisers described as the authoritarian excesses of Donald Trump's administration.

The nationwide protests, branded "No Kings", took place at around 2,100 locations, from major cities to rural communities. The demonstrations were spearheaded by a coalition of more than 100 groups committed to nonviolent resistance, in stark contrast to the heavily militarised response seen in several Republican-led states.

Interest in the protest surged following Trump's deployment of US Marines and National Guard troops to Los Angeles earlier in the week. The controversial move, made without state authorisation, was aimed at suppressing ongoing protests against the administration's aggressive immigration policies, prompting widespread criticism and drawing comparisons to military crackdowns of the civil rights era.

Organisers reported a record turnout, estimating that millions took part nationwide. Over 200,000 marched in New York, and more than 100,000 filled the streets of Philadelphia. Even small towns like Pentwater, Michigan, which has a population of just 800, saw impressive numbers, with 400 residents joining the demonstrations.

Protests largely peaceful

The protests were largely peaceful, though several turned volatile by evening. In Los Angeles and Portland, police declared unlawful assemblies and deployed tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse crowds.

The day's events were also marred by political violence. In Minnesota, two Democratic lawmakers were shot early in the morning, one fatally, along with her husband, in what officials are calling a politically motivated attack. Despite state warnings urging people to avoid public



gatherings, thousands rallied at Minnesota's state capitol, refusing to be intimidated.

One demonstrator, Perry McGowan, carried a sign bearing the names of the slain lawmakers, Melissa Hortman and John Hoffman. "There's way too much gun violence, way too much inhumanity," he said. "We need to push back and restore civility."

In Texas, officials confirmed they had received credible threats against state lawmakers planning to attend a No Kings protest. The state's Republican governor, Greg Abbott, had already mobilised the National Guard in anticipation of unrest.

Florida's Governor Ron DeSantis stirred further controversy, saying drivers could legally run over protesters if surrounded by crowds. "You don't have to sit there and let the mob drag you out of your car," he said.

In San Francisco and Virginia, vehicles ploughed into crowds, leaving several injured. Though most injuries were not life-threatening, the incidents underscored the day's tense atmosphere.

In Los Angeles, where demonstrations outside City Hall began with peaceful vigils and a sea of American flags, tensions flared later at a federal building. Protesters chanted "Leave LA!" at National Guard personnel and reportedly threw objects at the facility. Police declared an unlawful assembly by late

afternoon and used tear gas to disperse protesters.

In Portland, federal agents responded similarly outside an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) facility after protesters allegedly attempted to breach the entrance.

Organisers of No Kings intentionally avoided holding a protest in Washington DC, choosing instead to create distance from Trump's military parade and avoid possible escalation. Instead, DC locals participated in a "DC Joy Day" celebrating community, culture and resistance through unity.

Still, a smaller protest of about 300 people, organised by the group Refuse Fascism, marched to the White House. Among them was Army veteran Chris Yeazel, who criticised Trump's recent partisan speech to troops at Fort Bragg. "This is the nation's capital," Yeazel said. "This is exactly where we need to protest."

Trump had earlier warned that protesters would be met with a "very big force", although the White House later attempted to soften the rhetoric, insisting the president supported peaceful demonstrations.

Asked about the No Kings protests during a White House event on Thursday, Trump said, "I don't feel like a king. I have to go through hell to get things approved."

Trump: It's possible US gets involved in Israel-Iran conflict

By Damilola Olufemi

United States of America President, Donald Trump, has expressed that the country will get involved in the ongoing Israel-Iran conflict and that he would be “open” to Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin being a mediator.

Trump said this while speaking with newsmen on Sunday, and addressing the Iran-Israel conflict.

He said, “It’s possible we could get involved” in the ongoing battle between the Middle East arch-foes, Trump said.

He, however, stressed that the United States is “not at this moment” involved in the military action.

The president added while answering questions from ABC news reporter, “as for Putin being a potential mediator in the conflict, he is ready. He called me about it. We had a long talk about it.”

Israel and Iran exchanged intense airstrikes for the third consecutive day on Sunday, as both sides escalated their attacks, resulting in a growing number of casualties. Israel’s latest offensive targeted Iran’s nuclear and military facilities in an attempt to severely weaken its capabilities, which prompted fresh retaliatory strikes from Tehran.

Meanwhile, diplomatic efforts aimed at defusing the tension took a hit. Oman, often acting as an intermediary on nuclear negotiations, announced that the sixth round of planned talks between Iran and the United States for the weekend had been called off.

Despite the setback, former U.S. President Donald Trump maintained that negotiations were still ongoing. In an interview with ABC, Trump dismissed any notion of a looming deadline. “No, there’s no deadline,” he said when questioned about a timeline for Iran to return to the negotiating table. “But they are talking. They’d like to make a deal. They’re talking. They continue to



talk.”

Trump also suggested that the current confrontation between Israel and Iran might actually accelerate the push for a new nuclear agreement. “It may have forced a deal to go quicker, actually,” he added.

Israel-Iran conflict makes headlines

The Israel-Iran conflict has continued to make headlines in national dailies globally. Israel launched a large-scale missile assault on Iranian military and nuclear targets last Friday, leaving several high-ranking Iranian officials dead and triggering a swift retaliatory strike from Tehran.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed that the campaign would continue “as many days” as necessary, citing Israeli intelligence reports that Iran was nearing a “point of no return” in its nuclear programme. In response, Iran condemned the strikes as “a declaration of war” and unleashed dozens of missiles on Israel later Friday and into Saturday.

As tensions escalate, world leaders have voiced growing concern, warning of the risk that the conflict could spiral into a wider Middle East war.

Key nuclear sites targeted

The Israeli strikes, which began early last Friday—a traditional day of rest and prayer in Iran—continued throughout the day, hitting multiple sites.

One of the primary targets was Iran’s major underground nuclear facility in Natanz, which sustained several strikes according to Iranian state TV. However, the head of the UN’s International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Rafael Grossi, assured that “radiation levels outside the facility remained unchanged.”

Iran reported minor damage at its Fordo and Isfahan nuclear facilities.

The conflict has sparked international alarm, with many world capitals urging de-escalation, fearful that further escalation could disrupt oil supplies and draw more countries into the conflict.

The United Nations Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, called for an immediate halt to hostilities, saying, “Peace and diplomacy must prevail.”

Several Middle Eastern nations — including Israel, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, and Syria — closed their airspace, forcing airlines to suspend flights across the region.

China may lift sanctions on UK MPs as relations with Britain improve

By Elizabeth Jenrola Oso

China is considering lifting the sanctions it imposed on a group of UK parliamentarians and other individuals in 2021, in what appears to be the latest sign of warming diplomatic relations between Beijing and London.

According to two UK government sources familiar with ongoing discussions, the Chinese government is actively reviewing the sanctions, which were originally introduced in retaliation for what Beijing described as “lies and disinformation” surrounding human rights abuses in Xinjiang.

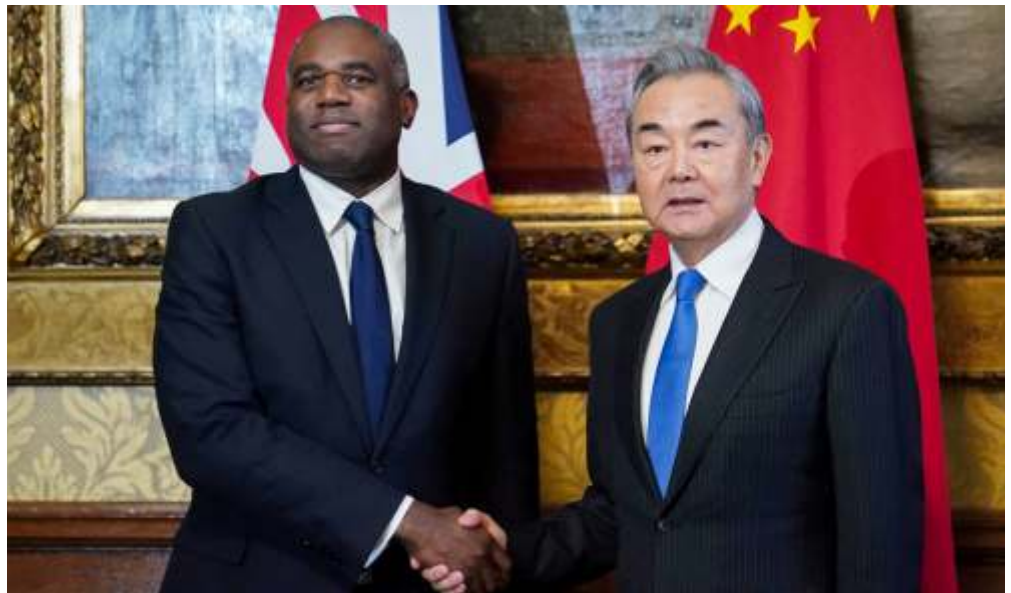
Asked about the potential policy reversal, a spokesperson for the Chinese embassy in London stated: “China has always attached importance to developing relations with the UK. Currently, UK-China relations are showing a positive momentum.

“Exchanges and dialogues between the UK and China at all levels and in all fields will help enhance mutual understanding and trust between the two sides, and will also help promote the continuous development of bilateral relations and practical cooperation, which benefit the two peoples.”

The development follows a week of high-level diplomatic engagements, including visits from senior Chinese officials such as Vice-Premier He Lifeng and Commerce Minister Wang Wentao, who were in London for trade talks. Lifeng met with Chancellor Rachel Reeves, while Wang held discussions with Business and Trade Secretary Jonathan Reynolds.

Separately, Liu Jianchao, head of the international department of the Chinese Communist Party and one of Beijing’s most senior diplomats, undertook a three-day visit during which he met Foreign Secretary David Lammy and National Security Adviser Jonathan Powell. None of the meetings were publicly announced by the UK government.

Liu also took part in a closed-door session with British MPs hosted by the Great Britain China Centre, an arm’s-length government organisation. During the meeting, the issue of China’s sanctions against UK parliamentarians was reportedly raised multiple times. Liu’s



presence, however, sparked criticism due to his association with China’s global repression campaigns.

It remains unclear whether Beijing intends to lift all the sanctions it imposed in 2021 or only some. Among those sanctioned were five Conservative MPs, former party leader Iain Duncan Smith, Tom Tugendhat, Nusrat Ghani, Neil O’Brien and Tim Loughton, as well as two peers: crossbencher David Alton and Labour’s Helena Kennedy. Several of those targeted are prominent members of the Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China.

Also sanctioned were Newcastle University academic Jo Smith Finley, who specialises in Uyghur studies, and barrister Geoffrey Nice KC, chair of the Uyghur Tribunal that examined alleged atrocities in Xinjiang.

The 2021 sanctions prohibited all affected individuals from entering China, Hong Kong and Macau, froze any assets held within China, and barred Chinese citizens and institutions from engaging with them commercially.

China’s sanctions

The Chinese sanctions came in response to the UK government’s decision to impose sanctions on Chinese officials implicated in human rights violations against the Uyghur Muslim population in Xinjiang. UK officials have insisted there is no possibility of their sanctions being lifted in response to a gesture from Beijing.

The potential thaw in relations mirrors a recent diplomatic shift in China’s stance towards the European Union. In April, Beijing lifted sanctions on five Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) and the European Parliament’s Subcommittee on Human Rights. That move was widely interpreted as part of a charm offensive to rekindle trade negotiations with Brussels, particularly following the destabilising effects of US President Donald Trump’s tariffs.

Although there is no prospect of a UK-China trade deal on the horizon, diplomatic talks between the two countries are expected to intensify in the coming months. Business Secretary Jonathan Reynolds is being lined up to visit Beijing later this year to revive a major trade dialogue, while Prime Minister Keir Starmer is also being considered for a bilateral trip in the autumn.

Labour, which had previously pledged to recognise the treatment of Uyghurs in Xinjiang as genocide, has adopted a more pragmatic tone in government, signalling a shift towards closer economic ties with China in pursuit of growth.

Meanwhile, Beijing is still awaiting a decision from UK ministers regarding its proposal to build a vast new embassy complex near the Tower of London. The plan, due to be approved or rejected this summer, has attracted scrutiny, with the US government reportedly raising security concerns.

Is Britain ready for World War III?

By Olaoluwa Vincent Ajayi

Less than 48 hours after Israel launched a series of airstrikes on Iran's nuclear facilities, Britain has begun deploying military jets and refuelling aircraft to the Middle East. The move, authorized by Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer, has ignited a fierce national debate over the UK's preparedness for a wider war—possibly World War III.

The strikes by Israel, which targeted key Iranian military and nuclear sites, have drawn mixed reactions across the globe. In Britain, the decision to send Royal Air Force (RAF) assets to the region has raised critical questions: Is the UK truly prepared for war? What are the political and economic consequences for British citizens?

Starmer Orders UK Military Mobilisation to the Middle East
Speaking from his jet en route to the G7 Summit in Ottawa, Prime Minister Starmer confirmed the UK's military movements in response to escalating tensions in the Middle East.

"We are moving assets, we've already been moving assets to the region, including jets, and that is for contingency support across the region," he said, declining to provide further operational details.

The Prime Minister emphasized that the situation is "developing and ongoing," but made it clear that Britain's interests and allies in the region must be protected.

Though the UK was excluded from Friday night's coordinated defence against Iranian missile attacks on Israel, Starmer said the government remains committed to protecting British citizens and interests.

Public and Political Concern Over Escalation

While government officials claim the deployments are precautionary, critics warn that the UK is inching dangerously close to open military conflict—without a clear exit strategy.

A former top British official, speaking anonymously, warned:

"You don't start a war without an execution plan. Britain's involvement at this early stage may have long-term



financial and geopolitical consequences."

Even within Parliament, the move has sparked sharp divides. Some MPs have voiced concern that the public has not been adequately informed of the risks involved in escalating military presence near an active warzone. However, Iran has publicly threatened to target Western military bases, including British facilities in the region. The U.S. and France have also begun repositioning assets in anticipation of broader regional conflict.

Strategic Silence or Political Calculation?

Pressed on whether he had been briefed about Israel's pre-emptive strike on Iran's nuclear sites before it happened, Starmer refused to comment on intelligence matters.

"I'm not going to start answering what goes around on intelligence channels," he told reporters.

This has led to speculation about whether the UK was left out of high-level military coordination or chose to stay neutral in the early stages of Israel's offensive.

Meanwhile, Foreign Secretary David Lammy has been in contact with multiple Middle Eastern nations, including Iran, to encourage de-escalation. Starmer described his own phone call with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as "good and constructive," adding that it focused on "safety and security."

Conservative Opposition: UK Must Stand with Israel

Conservative Party Leader Kemi Badenoch voiced strong support for Israel, warning that appeasement would only embolden Iran:

"Warm words will not stop Iran. If Israel sees Iran developing nuclear weapons, it cannot just sit back. The true escalator is Iran, not Israel."

Her remarks highlight the growing divide between those calling for restraint and those advocating for a more assertive posture in the Middle East.

Economic and Civil Impact

The potential costs of escalation are not just military. Analysts warn that prolonged UK involvement in a Middle East conflict could:

Spike global oil prices and lead to higher fuel costs for British households.

Force an increase in defence spending at the expense of domestic services.

Raise the risk of terror threats on UK soil, especially in urban centers.

There is also growing anxiety over potential public backlash, as the UK electorate may be reluctant to support another military venture in the Middle East.

As world leaders gather for the G7 summit, Britain stands at a strategic crossroads: commit further military resources to a rapidly expanding conflict, or push harder for diplomatic solutions that may no longer be viable.

One thing is clear—Britain is no longer a bystander. With assets on the move and threats looming, the UK must now navigate one of its most volatile foreign policy challenges in a generation.

Stay with New Daily Prime for exclusive updates, expert analysis, and international reactions as this story develops.

Macron condemns Trump's threats to annex Greenland

By Elizabeth Jenrola Oso

French President Emmanuel Macron has sharply criticised Donald Trump's threats to forcibly annex Greenland, during a landmark six-hour visit that made him the first foreign head of state to set foot on the territory since the US president began issuing provocative statements about taking control of the Arctic island.

"I don't think that's what allies do," Macron said upon arriving in the Danish autonomous territory, a visit described by the Élysée Palace as "a signal in itself". His trip, made en route to the G7 summit in Canada, was framed as a demonstration of "France's and the EU's solidarity" with Greenland, whose strategic and resource-rich landscape has drawn renewed international attention.

The French leader called on European nations to take greater responsibility for Greenland, stressing the region's growing geopolitical significance and the need to respect its territorial integrity. "It's important that Denmark and the Europeans commit themselves to this territory, where the strategic stakes are very high and whose territorial integrity must be respected," Macron said.

Trump, who has repeatedly claimed that the United States requires Greenland for national security purposes, has refused to rule out the use of force to secure the territory. His administration's posturing has drawn widespread condemnation in both Greenland and Denmark.

Polls show that while the majority of Greenland's 57,000 inhabitants support independence from Denmark, they overwhelmingly reject any notion of joining the United States. The Danish government has remained resolute, stating that "Greenland is not for sale" and that only Greenlanders can determine their future.

Macron's itinerary included talks aboard a Danish naval frigate with Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen and Greenlandic Prime Minister Jens-



Frederik Nielsen. He was also scheduled to visit a glacier to witness the effects of global warming and to explore ways of involving Greenland in EU development efforts "while respecting its sovereignty". A planned visit to a hydroelectric plant was cancelled due to time constraints.

Speaking ahead of his arrival, Macron said the visit was aimed at curbing further "preying" on Greenland's resources and territory. The French president's trip follows an increasingly assertive US approach to the region, marked by a March visit from Vice-President JD Vance to the Pituffik US military base. Vance criticised Denmark for failing to adequately defend the island, alleging that Copenhagen had neglected Greenland's security.

Pituffik, strategically located on the shortest missile path between Russia and the US, is a vital node in Washington's missile defence network. With melting ice unlocking new shipping lanes and exposing rare earth mineral deposits, Greenland's value on the global stage has soared.

Last week, US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth appeared to acknowledge the existence of Pentagon contingency plans to seize Greenland by force, but he declined to provide further details during a congressional hearing. Meanwhile, The Wall Street Journal reported that American intelligence officials were

investigating Greenland's independence movement and public attitudes toward US involvement in resource extraction.

Denmark, one of Washington's staunchest European allies, has turned to Paris for military support, placing orders for French-made surface-to-air missile systems. Prime Minister Frederiksen has made several trips to France since Trump's Greenland remarks, reinforcing diplomatic ties.

According to Florian Vidal of the Paris-based Ifri thinktank, Denmark sees France, the EU's only nuclear power, as a credible counterweight to an increasingly aggressive United States. "The Trump administration's more aggressive posture makes the French vision of Europe, one that is more autonomous, appear more reasonable for Denmark. From a Nordic point of view, France is a military power that counts," Vidal said.

Greenland's leader Jens-Frederik Nielsen echoed these sentiments, stating in April that American statements regarding the territory had been "disrespectful" and that Greenland "will never, ever be a piece of property that can be bought by just anyone".

"France's support," he added, "has been evident since the first statements about taking our land emerged. It is both necessary and gratifying."

Cambridge university accused of discriminating against white job applicants

By **Fatimah Idera**

The University of Cambridge is facing criticism over its recruitment guidance, which some have claimed amounts to discrimination against white job applicants.

According to internal documents, the university encourages departments to ensure that at least one candidate from an underrepresented group is included in every interview process. If a longlist lacks diversity, for example, if it consists entirely of white or male candidates, the guidance suggests that departments consider re-advertising the position to broaden the applicant pool.

The guidance, known as the diverse recruitment framework, also advises that interview panels should reflect racial and gender diversity and be composed of individuals trained in equality, diversity, inclusion (EDI), and unconscious bias.

Critics argue the policy goes too far. Edward Skidelsky, a lecturer in philosophy at the University of Exeter and director of the Committee for Academic Freedom, called the framework tantamount to discrimination against white applicants.

“This is one of the worst cases we have come across of EDI interference in what should be a purely academic process,” Skidelsky said. “Favouritism towards women and non-whites demeans them and encourages the very prejudices it is intended to overcome.”

Documents seen by The Telegraph show that the framework originally issued in 2019 has been embedded into hiring instructions sent to academic staff involved in recruitment.

The materials explicitly advise panels not to consist solely of white males or individuals from similar career backgrounds. One excerpt reads:

“Try to ensure that more than one candidate from under-represented groups is invited to the interview stage. If the longlist is not diverse, consider re-advertising the position.”

In addition, all panel members are



expected to complete university training on equality and unconscious bias and to reflect on their own biases and the university's diversity goals throughout the recruitment process.

A source familiar with the workings of the university's diversity committee claimed that concerns over the legality of these policies were brushed aside. “When I got there, I discovered it was already off the rails,” the source said. “If you criticise it, you're just seen as a bad person.”

The same source alleged that white and male applicants were at times discouraged from applying for certain roles based on their demographics, though the university strongly denies such practices.

A spokesperson for Cambridge responded: “Every candidate is recruited based on merit. We have no quotas for staff recruitment and strongly refute claims of discriminating against white and male job applicants.”

The university clarified that the framework is intended to encourage broader outreach and inclusive hiring, not to dictate outcomes. They added that use of the guidance is not mandated and that recruitment is ultimately governed at the departmental level in line with university-wide policy.

Some prominent Cambridge academics have also voiced strong objections to the guidance. Professor David Abulafia, professor emeritus of Mediterranean history, described the policies as arrant nonsense, accusing the university's administration of fanaticism.

Professor John Marenbon, a fellow of Trinity College, echoed the concern, stating:

“Academic appointments should be made solely based on academic merit. Academics who do otherwise betray their calling.”

The university's current diversity action plan sets goals for increasing ethnic minority applications to at least 8% for academic and research positions and 30% for professional services roles.

Despite the backlash, Cambridge maintains that its recruitment practices comply with legal standards and are rooted in merit-based hiring. The debate reflects wider national tensions over diversity initiatives in higher education and their impact on fairness and academic independence.

UK Labour criticised over plans to introduce touchscreen assessments for four-year-olds

By **Fatimah Idera**

UK's Education Secretary, Bridget Phillipson, is under pressure over the new Department for Education (DfE) guidance that would require children as young as four to be assessed using touchscreen devices.

The updated guidelines, set to take effect next term, mandate that schools conduct statutory Reception Baseline Assessments using digital technology. The change has sparked fierce criticism from politicians, teachers, and campaigners, who argue it risks normalising device use among the youngest pupils and undermining parental choices to limit screen exposure.

In an open letter to Ms Phillipson and Technology Secretary Peter Kyle, critics have called for the immediate withdrawal of the guidance. Signatories include high-profile figures such as Katharine Birbalsingh, often referred to as "Britain's strictest headteacher," Mumsnet founder Justine Roberts, and actress Sophie Winkleman.

"We are united in our deep concern at this retrograde step," the letter reads. "It pushes our youngest schoolchildren, most just four years old, onto touchscreen devices, and implicitly endorses and normalises device use in reception classes."

Under the new system, teachers will conduct one-on-one assessments using digital devices, while children will complete tasks on separate touchscreens. Previously, the baseline assessments involved physical toys and visual prompts like teddy bears to gauge early cognitive and communication skills.

Critics argue that the new approach overlooks growing concerns about the impact of screen time on early childhood development. They argue that, except in cases involving children with special educational needs, digital assessments



can only be inferior to hands-on, interactive models.

The campaigners also warned that the policy undermines the rights of parents who are increasingly choosing to raise their children in screen-free or low-tech environments.

The initiative has drawn cross-party criticism. Shadow Education Secretary Laura Trott described the policy as harmful:

"Testing children as young as four on screens, instead of using books or physical objects, undermines their development. The evidence of lasting damage to children so young is now overwhelming. We must change course and protect childhood."

Trott added that society has sleepwalked into screen dependency among children and urged immediate action to reverse the trend.

The backlash comes as the Conservatives pursue a broader agenda to limit screen use in schools, including proposals to ban smartphones and resist moves toward fully online assessments. Technology Secretary Peter Kyle has also backed tougher protections for children online

and is reportedly considering limits on social media usage, including curfews and daily time caps.

In response to the criticism, a Department for Education spokesperson defended the policy, citing the need to reduce workload for teachers: "Digital assessments reduce the administrative burden on teachers, freeing up their time to focus more on teaching and supporting pupils' learning. These assessments offer a clear picture of children's abilities when they enter reception and help measure progress by the end of primary school."

The DfE added that the assessments are designed to be flexible: they are carried out one-on-one, allow teachers to input verbal responses for children unable to use a screen, and offer paper-based versions when needed.

However, critics remain unconvinced, warning that even optional screen-based assessments for children so young risk shifting classroom norms and eroding the foundations of early years education.

As the policy prepares to roll out, the debate over technology's role in the classroom and in childhood more broadly continues to intensify.

Starmer affirms Canada's sovereignty in response to Trump

By Fatimah Idera

United Kingdom's Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer has affirmed Canada's status as an independent, sovereign nation, in remarks widely interpreted as a pointed response to the U.S. President Donald Trump, who has repeatedly floated the idea of Canada becoming the 51st U.S. state.

Starmer made the comments ahead of a significant diplomatic visit to Canada, where he will be the first British prime minister in eight years to travel to the country. His itinerary includes meetings in Ottawa and participation in the G7 summit in Kananaskis.

The trip comes at a tense moment in U.S.-Canada relations. Trump's continued assertions that Canada should be annexed into the United States claims he insists are not made in jest have strained ties with Ottawa. Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney, a former governor of the Bank of England, has firmly rejected Trump's rhetoric, leading to a notable cooling in bilateral relations.

Sir Keir's decision to meet Carney ahead of the summit signals a strong show of solidarity. The two leaders will hold a private dinner on Saturday evening, followed by formal discussions on Sunday morning.

Speaking before his departure, Starmer said; "Canada and the US are our allies. Canada is an independent, sovereign nation and quite right, too. That's the basis on which I've approached my discussions with all of our partners.

"Let me be absolutely clear: Canada is an independent, sovereign country and a much-valued member of the Commonwealth."

His message aligns with recent remarks by King Charles III, who addressed the Canadian Parliament last month and described Canada as strong and free a reference to the country's national anthem, widely interpreted as an endorsement of Canadian autonomy.

In addition to diplomatic engagement,



Starmer said the UK's economic interests remain central to his international agenda. He emphasized the importance of deepening trade with Canada, stating:

"The interests of British citizens delivering for working people guide me in all my conversations with world leaders. From the factory floor at Jaguar Land Rover to the decks of a nuclear-powered submarine, I'm reminded that decisions taken abroad can have profound effects on life at home."

Bilateral trade between the UK and Canada is currently valued at £28 billion annually. However, formal negotiations for a UK-Canada trade agreement were suspended in January 2024 due to disagreements, particularly over agricultural imports such as beef and cheese. The breakdown occurred under the previous Conservative government, with then Business Secretary Kemi Badenoch leading the talks.

While Downing Street has not indicated that Starmer will seek to revive the stalled talks, there is speculation that he may explore new trade opportunities. A No 10 spokesperson said the Prime Minister would prioritize strengthening the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), to which both nations belong.

This pragmatic approach stands in stark contrast to President Trump's protectionist stance, which has included

slapping tariffs on Canadian goods and claiming in March that "the only thing that makes sense is for Canada to become our cherished fifty-first state."

Following his discussions in Ottawa, Starmer will travel to Kananaskis for the G7 summit, where he will join leaders from the United States, Japan, Germany, France, Italy, and host nation Canada.

The summit is expected to be dominated by escalating tensions in the Middle East, alongside the war in Ukraine and broader concerns over global economic stability. While the list of Starmer's bilateral meetings has not yet been confirmed, there is strong anticipation that he will meet President Trump. The Prime Minister has made a concerted effort to maintain a productive relationship with the U.S. administration.

Relations have been further complicated by Trump's decision to review the Aukus defense pact an agreement involving the U.S., UK, and Australia on joint production of nuclear-powered submarines, seen as a strategic counterweight to China in the Indo-Pacific. The deal was originally unveiled by former U.S. President Joe Biden.

The G7 summit, which runs Monday and Tuesday, will also mark the first appearance by Germany's new chancellor, Friedrich Merz.

Middle East: UK, US, France , Australia rally behind Israel's offensive on Iran

By Olaoluwa Vincent Ajayi

The UK has joined Western allies in expressing support for Israel's military strikes on Iranian nuclear and military facilities—escalating fears that the Middle East could be on the brink of full-scale war. As air raids continue, Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer has deployed RAF fighter jets to the region, calling the move a necessary step to “defend British interests and support regional stability.”

Israel launched a barrage of missile strikes beginning Friday, targeting more than 150 strategic sites in Iran, including nuclear research centres and military command posts. The operation, described by Israeli Defence Forces as an effort to “neutralise an existential threat,” has been met with a fierce response from Tehran. Iranian rocket fire struck cities across central and northern Israel, killing civilians and injuring hundreds.

RAF on Alert: Starmer Signals Strong Support for Israel

In an emergency press briefing, Starmer stated, “Britain will stand by its allies. The deployment of the RAF is a defensive measure to safeguard our people, assets, and interests in the region.”

While stopping short of direct combat involvement, British intelligence officials have been placed on high alert. Sources within Whitehall confirmed that UK forces have reinforced military presence in Cyprus and Bahrain.

The Foreign Office has advised British nationals in the region to register with embassies and avoid non-essential travel.

Macron, Merz, and Allied Diplomacy Efforts

French President Emmanuel Macron reached out to Iranian President Massoud Pezeshkian to call for restraint and safeguard French citizens. Macron also urged Iran to return to the nuclear negotiating table, framing diplomacy as the only path to regional stability.

Germany's Chancellor Friedrich Merz echoed support for Israel's right to self-defence, while appealing to both nations to avoid further escalation. “Iran must not



develop nuclear weapons, but de-escalation is in everyone's interest,” Merz said in a statement.

Canada's Foreign Minister Anita Anand added that diplomatic engagement is the “only viable route to lasting peace,” while condemning Iran's attacks on Israeli civilians.

Trump Warns Tehran: ‘Deal Now or Face Worse’

U.S. President Donald Trump made headlines with his stark warning to Iranian leaders. In a post on Truth Social, he wrote:

“There has already been great death and destruction. But there is still time to make this slaughter—with the next already planned attacks being even more brutal—come to an end. Iran must make a deal before there is nothing left.”

Planned nuclear negotiations between Iran and the U.S. were cancelled Sunday morning, compounding fears that diplomatic pathways may be closing.

Casualties Mount as Missiles Fall

On the ground, the toll is devastating. Iranian retaliation included strikes on Tel Aviv and surrounding areas. In Bat Yam, an apartment block collapse killed six and injured 100. Two children aged eight and

ten were among the dead.

The northern Israeli town of Tamra reported four fatalities, including a mother and her two daughters—all Palestinian citizens of Israel.

Meanwhile, Israeli airstrikes reportedly killed nine Iranian nuclear scientists and several high-ranking military officials and more than 10 Israel has also reported dead as result of Iran retaliatory

International Divides Emerge

Not all global powers support Israel's actions. Russia's Foreign Ministry condemned what it called “unprovoked military strikes” on a sovereign state. China joined in, with Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian calling for the protection of Iran's “sovereignty and territorial integrity.”

Australia has taken a more cautious stance. Prime Minister Anthony Albanese confirmed that Australian military forces would not be involved. Foreign Minister Penny Wong advised Australians in the region to shelter in place.

Italy and other EU members are urging renewed negotiations, hoping to revive the faltering Iran nuclear deal framework.

Israel hits Iran's energy sites as tensions escalate

By Elizabeth Jenrola Oso

Israel has launched major attacks on Iran's energy infrastructure and defence ministry for a third consecutive day, deepening an already deadly conflict. Several Iranian missiles evaded Israeli air defences on Saturday night, striking a refinery and ripping through a high-rise apartment block in Bat Yam, just south of Tel Aviv.

As fuel depots outside Tehran blazed, US President Donald Trump presided over the nation's largest military parade in decades. He later warned Iran that any attack on American interests would be met with unprecedented military force.

Posting on social media, Trump said: "If we are attacked in any way, shape or form by Iran, the full strength and might of the U.S. Armed Forces will come down on you at levels never seen before."

There is little doubt that Israel is hoping for American support in its campaign. US weaponry is the only means capable of reaching Iran's most fortified nuclear sites, including the Fordow enrichment facility buried deep beneath a mountain.

Iran has since suspended nuclear negotiations with the US and labelled Washington a "partner" in Israel's offensive, launched on Friday. However, Tehran has so far refrained from attacking American bases, embassies or other regional interests.

With much of its top military leadership assassinated, and Israel claiming aerial dominance from western Iran to Tehran, the Iranian regime faces what many are calling an existential threat. Several key nuclear sites are reported to have sustained significant damage.

In a possible nod to Trump's reputation as a dealmaker and his campaign promise to avoid foreign wars, Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi indicated Tehran could be open to dialogue. "If Israeli strikes stop, our responses will also stop," he said.

Trump had earlier posted: "We can easily get a deal done between Iran and Israel,



and end this bloody conflict!!!"

The United States is currently working to pass messages to Iran aimed at "calming tensions" with Israel, according to Haaretz, though the effort stops short of formal mediation. Trump is said to have spoken with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Qatar's Emir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, who has been in direct contact with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian since Friday.

G7 leaders en route to a summit in Canada are expected to use the opportunity to urge Trump against further escalation. German Chancellor Friedrich Merz has spoken to Oman's Sultan Haitham bin Tariq Al Said, who was previously scheduled to host US-Iran talks, emphasising the need to halt hostilities and prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons.

Saturday night marked the deadliest phase of the conflict so far for Israel. Despite success in dismantling parts of Iran's missile systems, a wave of over 200 Iranian missiles and dozens of drones breached Israeli defences. At least 20 projectiles landed, causing widespread damage and casualties.

Ten people were killed in Iranian strikes on residential areas, including three children, and more than 200 were injured. Emergency services continued searching on Sunday for four missing persons

trapped beneath rubble in Bat Yam.

An Israeli military official, speaking anonymously, admitted: "In these amounts, hundreds of projectiles, sadly there will be hits. Even the greatest aerial defence system doesn't get to 100%."

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu visited the strike site on Sunday, meeting with first responders and vowing retribution. "Iran will pay a very heavy price for the premeditated murder of civilians, women and children," he said.

Yet, Israel's air raids on Iran have also taken a heavy toll. Dozens of Iranian civilians have reportedly died since Friday, including at least 30 children in a high-rise collapse in Tehran on Saturday. Israel maintains it does not deliberately target civilian areas.

Iran launched about 70 missiles and multiple drones overnight, with Israel reporting greater success in intercepting the slower-moving aircraft. Still, one missile struck a refinery in Haifa, damaging pipelines and forcing temporary shutdowns, though no casualties were reported.

Netanyahu has defended the campaign as a necessary pre-emptive move to counter Iran's nuclear ambitions. "The threat was critical. We had to act," he said.

Nicolas Sarkozy stripped of France's top honour after corruption conviction

By **Elizabeth Jenrola Oso**



Former French President Nicolas Sarkozy has been officially stripped of the Legion of Honour, the nation's highest distinction, following the confirmation of his corruption conviction last year. The decision was outlined in an official decree published on Sunday.

Sarkozy, who led France from 2007 to 2012, becomes only the second former president in history to lose the award, following Nazi collaborator Philippe Pétain, who was convicted of high treason in 1945.

The conservative politician has faced a cascade of legal troubles since leaving office. In December 2023, France's highest appeals court upheld a 2021 lower court ruling that found Sarkozy guilty of attempting to bribe a judge and influence an ongoing investigation into his 2007 campaign finances. As part of the sentence, he was ordered to wear an electronic ankle tag for 12 months, a measure that was lifted earlier this month.

Sarkozy takes case to ECHR

Despite the setback, Sarkozy has taken his case to the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR), seeking to overturn the conviction. His lawyer, Patrice Spinosi, acknowledged the revocation of the Legion of Honour but emphasised that the appeal is still pending.

"If the ECHR rules against France, it would imply reviewing both the criminal conviction and the decision to exclude Mr. Sarkozy from the order," Spinosi said on Sunday.

President Emmanuel Macron reportedly opposed the decision to revoke the award, citing Sarkozy's status as a former head of state. "It is very important that former presidents are respected," Macron argued. However, under the rules governing the Legion of Honour, any recipient definitively sentenced to at least one year in prison must be excluded from the order.

The revocation places Sarkozy among a controversial list of former recipients stripped of the honour, including Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, disgraced Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein, and cyclist Lance Armstrong.

Sarkozy's legal challenges are far from over. In 2021, he was also convicted in a separate case of illegal campaign financing during his failed 2012 re-election bid. More recently, he has been on trial over allegations that he accepted millions in illegal campaign contributions from the late Libyan dictator Muammar Gaddafi. A verdict in that case is expected in September. Prosecutors have requested a seven-year prison sentence. Sarkozy continues to deny all charges.

Despite his legal troubles, Sarkozy remains an influential figure in French conservative politics. However, the revocation of the Legion of Honour marks a significant fall from grace for the once powerful leader.

Controversy erupts as migrant with 42 convictions allowed to remain in UK

By Olaoluwa Vincent Ajayi

A deeply controversial ruling has ignited public debate after a British immigration tribunal allowed a 44-year-old Ugandan-born man, identified only as MW, to remain in the United Kingdom despite his long criminal history and repeated drug offenses.

The man, who arrived in Britain at the age of six and was granted indefinite leave to remain, has amassed 42 criminal convictions over the course of his life. His record includes serious offenses such as robbery, assault, fraud, and drug trafficking, with multiple prison sentences spanning from the late 1990s through to 2017. Most recently, even while appealing deportation orders, he was again convicted of burglary and was awaiting sentencing.

The Home Office, citing his extensive criminal record, initiated deportation proceedings. Officials argued that MW posed a continued threat to public safety and had forfeited his right to remain in the country. However, MW mounted a series of appeals based on human rights grounds, claiming that his removal to Uganda would subject him to severe mental and physical hardship.

Among his claims was that he is gay and would face persecution in Uganda, a country known for its harsh anti-LGBTQ+ stance. While this argument was not upheld by the tribunal—who found no credible evidence that MW would be at risk on that basis—the panel was persuaded by his deteriorating mental health condition and a lack of support systems in Uganda.

MW, who suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder, diabetes, and opioid addiction, was described by the judge as a deeply vulnerable individual. According to the ruling, deporting him would likely lead to a significant decline in his mental well-being, possibly worsening his addiction and rendering him incapable of securing housing or employment in a country he no longer knows.



The court acknowledged that MW had lived in the UK for nearly four decades, and that his ties to Uganda were almost nonexistent. The judge concluded that the public interest in deportation was outweighed by the human rights implications, especially in light of his health vulnerabilities and lack of familial or community support in Uganda. These factors, the tribunal held, made reintegration practically impossible and posed a serious threat to his survival if returned.

Although the Home Office was granted leave to appeal the decision, a higher court later upheld the original ruling, thereby confirming MW's right to remain in Britain. This decision has been met with mixed reactions across the country.

Legal experts and human rights advocates see the ruling as a necessary recognition of the UK's obligations under Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights, which protects the right to family and private life. They argue that even individuals with criminal histories retain fundamental rights, and that MW's physical and mental condition placed him in a uniquely precarious position.

However, critics have strongly condemned the decision, accusing the judicial system of being too lenient and failing to protect law-abiding citizens. Some have argued that allowing a man

with such a significant record of criminal activity to remain in the UK sends the wrong message about accountability and justice. Others believe that it reflects a broader systemic failure to enforce immigration controls effectively.

The case has stirred renewed conversation in political circles about the balance between justice, public safety, and compassion. One former MP publicly questioned whether the government's deportation powers are too constrained by international human rights frameworks, especially in cases involving repeat offenders.

While MW's legal battle may have concluded, the debate it has sparked is far from over. The tension between public security and individual rights continues to test the UK's immigration system—especially in cases that dwell in moral grey areas where the line between protection and accountability becomes blurred.

This case now stands as a landmark in British immigration law, likely to be cited in future deportation appeals involving vulnerable individuals with criminal backgrounds. As the nation grapples with this complex issue, questions remain over how justice and humanity can coexist in an increasingly polarized and high-stakes legal environment.

Seven killed in helicopter crash during Hindu pilgrimage in India

By Olaoluwa Vincent Ajayi

India has been hit by two major air disasters in just three days, resulting in the deaths of over 275 people, including Hindu pilgrims. These tragic incidents have sparked national grief and renewed scrutiny over air travel safety, weather monitoring systems, and regulatory oversight in one of the world's busiest aviation regions. The nation is mourning as questions are raised about air travel safety, weather monitoring, and aviation regulations in one of the world's busiest travel regions.

Air India Disaster: 270 Dead in Take-Off Tragedy

Just three days ago, a commercial Air India flight crashed less than a minute after takeoff from Ahmedabad Airport in northwestern India. The horrifying accident claimed the lives of at least 270 people and has been labeled one of the worst aviation disasters in Indian history.

Investigators are still combing through black box data and flight communication records to determine the cause of the crash. Preliminary reports suggest a mechanical failure or critical pilot error, but conclusive findings have yet to be published.

The flight was headed toward New Delhi and carried both domestic travelers and international passengers in transit. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed condolences and pledged a full-scale investigation, adding, "This is a national tragedy. We owe it to the victims to understand exactly what happened."

Hindu Pilgrimage Ends in Tragedy: Seven Dead in Helicopter Crash

In a separate but equally heartbreaking incident, seven people were killed when a helicopter carrying Hindu pilgrims crashed early this morning in northern India. The crash occurred at approximately 5:30 a.m. local time in a forested area several miles from the Kedarnath pilgrimage route in Uttarakhand state.

The helicopter, operated by Aryan Aviation, was on a routine 10-minute flight from the Kedarnath temple town to Guptkashi, a prominent Hindu religious destination nestled in the Himalayas. Within minutes of takeoff, the chopper lost contact with air control and was later found wrecked in the dense mountainous terrain.

Authorities say the crash is believed to have



been caused by poor weather conditions, including heavy fog and limited visibility, which may have disoriented the pilot.

Pilgrimage Route Under Scrutiny

The Kedarnath temple is one of the most visited shrines in the Char Dham pilgrimage circuit and attracts thousands of Hindu devotees annually. Helicopter services are commonly used to ferry pilgrims across the steep and rugged Himalayan landscape.

This latest tragedy has sparked renewed concerns over the safety of these short-haul flights. According to regional aviation officials, poor weather and unpredictable mountain conditions are often underestimated.

"We must review the operational protocols for all aviation services operating in the Himalayan region," said Uttarakhand Transport Minister Gopal Singh. "Pilgrim safety must be the top priority."

Search, Rescue, and Investigation Underway

Emergency response teams were quickly dispatched to the crash site. Rescue operations were hampered by difficult terrain and low visibility, but all bodies have since been recovered.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has ordered an immediate suspension of Aryan Aviation's services pending further investigation.

"This is not just an unfortunate event—it's a wake-up call," said Anurag Mehta, an aviation analyst based in Mumbai. "India's aviation sector must take a closer look at

regulations, especially for flights operating in sensitive and challenging zones like Uttarakhand."

National Mourning and Call for Reform

The twin tragedies have plunged the country into mourning. Vigils have been held across cities, and families of the deceased are calling for accountability.

Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia announced that both incidents would be independently investigated and that new safety guidelines for weather clearance, pilot training, and aircraft maintenance would be introduced within weeks.

"These incidents, though separate, are united by one theme: the urgent need to strengthen aviation oversight," he said during a press briefing.

Critical Moment for Indian Aviation

India is one of the fastest-growing aviation markets in the world, with thousands of flights daily and an expanding network of private and chartered aircraft. These back-to-back tragedies have ignited a broader conversation about infrastructure, safety, and the cost of rapid expansion.

While the cause of both accidents is still under investigation, experts agree that India's aviation industry must act swiftly to address systemic risks.

As the nation mourns, the message from grieving families, aviation professionals, and political leaders is clear: air travel in India must be made safer—urgently and decisively.

NPFL sets August 22 for kickoff of 2025/2026 season

By Damilola Olufemi



The Nigeria Premier Football League (NPFL) has officially announced that the 2025/2026 season will commence on August 22, 2025, with the final round of matches scheduled for May 24, 2026.

Speaking at a press briefing, Gbenga Elegbeleye, chairman of the NPFL, emphasised the league's commitment to maintaining a stable calendar.

"Today, we are also here to announce that the 2025/26 season will be commencing on August 22, 2025 and will be completed on May 24, 2026," Elegbeleye declared.

"This is to maintain a calendar we have now established from the last season. This is the first time in many years, perhaps since the start of the new era Nigeria Premier Football League in 2005 — 20 years — that a

date for kick-off and ending will be faithfully implemented. That is a commitment we made and a promise delivered."

Elegbeleye hails NPFL just-concluded season

Elegbeleye, who previously served on the Nigeria Football Federation's ethics and fair play committee, praised the standard of officiating in the just-concluded season, which saw Remo Stars clinch their maiden NPFL title.

"I've travelled around the world and witnessed some shocking officiating decisions — something you hardly see in the NPFL. That's why I confidently say our referees are among the best globally," he said.

Highlighting the growing international recognition of Nigerian referees, Elegbeleye added: "At the just concluded U-20 Championship

in Egypt, a Nigerian referee was involved, and another has been shortlisted for the upcoming WAFCON. This shows clear progress."

While acknowledging that improvements are still needed, he appealed to the media to continue playing their role in exposing irregularities and ensuring accountability within the league.

"There's still room for improvement, but we're growing. We also count on the media to help us highlight any irregularities and keep the league accountable," he stated.

In the recently concluded season, NPFL referees awarded a total of 76 penalties across 380 matches, issued 1,380 yellow cards, and handed out 56 red cards.