



Socialist Bulletin

A Monthly Publication from Socialist Labour

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WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

We are living in difficult times, but there is always something more we can do. If we are more active in our trade union branches it is more likely that our trade union will take action. We can't win without action. If we are actively involved in building solidarity for strikes they are more likely to be victorious.

The news about inequality and poverty continue to be bleak. Nigeria is said to have the highest rate of unemployment in the world. People spend more on food than any other country according to a recent survey. After the devastating increase in petrol prices even higher prices are being threatened.

The government is still threatening war against the people of Niger despite widespread opposition. The government resorts to widespread bombing, including destroying oil tankers in the Niger Delta, with the resulting environmental devastation. Wike threatens demolitions in communities across the FCT.

But it need not be like this, if we are active another world is possible. We need to get organised and work with other comrades in our trade union branches. There are many strikes in different unions that need our solidarity. These can act as an inspiration and encourage action to achieve the particular demands in our workplaces and trade union branches.

The threatened attack on Niger shows that the government has plenty of money. It is just a question of political will. If we are more active in our trade unions we can build a formidable movement that is able to force the government to change its priorities.

- If the Federal Government can afford war or sanctions, it can afford fuel subsidy!
- If the Government can afford war or sanctions, it can afford to fund public universities properly without tolerating increased school fees!!
- If the Government can afford war or sanctions, it can afford to pay a decent minimum living wage that matches the rate of inflation!!!

We all need to attend more meetings of our trade union branches. We need to argue for regular calls for action from our officials and for full support when this is taken. Some states have started announcing palliatives. We need to ensure that these are extended and implemented quickly. Federal workers in ministries received a N40,000 increase early this year, this needs to be extended to all public sector workers.

We need a massive movement across the labour movement demanding a substantial increase in the minimum wage now. The International Labour Organisation says that increases should be annual, but we have only had one increase in the last 12 years and many states have not implemented even this increase.

The governments are inflicting un-necessary hardship on all of our families. This is not acceptable. We can make a difference if we work together. Solidarity and unity can ensure that our strikes are successful.

For more on organising in trade unions see:

<https://ivavalleybooks.com/2023/04/06/unity-and-solidarity-how-we-can-win-strikes/>

Visit: socialistlabour.com.ng

No War or Sanctions Against Niger!

No war or sanctions against Niger!

We, the undersigned, oppose any war or sanctions, such as electricity disconnection, that would affect ordinary people in Niger negatively.

We oppose any form of imperialist interference or domination in Niger.

We believe that:

- If the Federal Government of Nigeria can afford war or sanctions, it can afford fuel subsidy!
- If the Government can afford war or sanctions, it can afford to fund public universities properly without tolerating increased school fees.
- If the Government can afford war or sanctions, it can afford to pay a decent minimum living wage that matches the rate of inflation.

The Tinubu led Federal Government can not teach anybody about democracy. It is up to the people of Nigeria to deal with Tinubu. Similarly, the people of Niger must deal with their military government.

We demand the Federal Government switches the electricity back on for the people of Niger.

While we oppose military coups in principle, we understand that the only effective and sustainable antidote against coups is the sensitivity of a government to the wellbeing of ordinary people and the implementation of inclusive socio-economic policies, as opposed to hardship-inducing policies.

To show your support for the above statement click on the following link:

<https://chng.it/j7g4jvpbVG>

NLC issues press statement against the war: Listen To The People, NLC Tells ECOWAS Leadership

On 13th August the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) issued a press statement that said in part: “we are advocates of democracy and will do all that is necessary to promote and preserve it. However, what will preserve democracy in our territories will not be the threat or use of military force against sovereign nations but the observance of the core values and rules of democracy. It is up to our Presidents or political leaders to do the needful.

It is in consideration of these that we join other organisations and respected voices in saying No to War!”

The full press statement is available from:

<https://www.nlcng.org/listen-to-the-people-nlc-tells-ecowas-leadership/rect-taxation-in-nigeria-1927-1928/>



Niger, Junta is fuelled by anger against a “sick democracy”



The coup leaders in Niger are capitalizing on the resentment of Nigeriens over the previous government’s nepotism, corruption and attacks on freedoms.

The sumptuous villas stretch as far as the eye can see. Residences so large that it is difficult to count the number of doors and windows. Built in a district located on the western outskirts of Niamey [think of Asokoro]. In a country where the minimum wage for workers barely exceeds 45 euros [N37,800] per month, the identity of the owners is no mystery to anyone.

“These are those who have had power for more than ten years,” Mounkaila Halidou,

secretary general of the Nigerien Confederation of Labour (CNT) [the second biggest trade union centre in Niger] responds straight away. All this construction was undertaken by civil servants with money stolen from the State. Nigeriens have even given the neighbourhood a nickname: “Qui n’a pas vol?” [Who has not stolen?].

‘The stifling of our rights’

Resentment runs deep and, despite having been one of former president Issoufou’s closest confidantes, General Tiani is capitalizing on it. During his televised address on national television on August 2, the leader of the coup did more than just denounce the overthrown government’s security record. He spelled out “the problems, which have now become endemic, of widespread corruption and impunity, mismanagement, the embezzlement of public funds, partisan tribalism, the infringements of democratic rights and freedoms, the manipulation of the state for the benefit of private and foreign interests, schools in crisis and the collapse of the healthcare system.”

The arguments put forward to justify the coup may be biased, but the evils described are a reality buried beneath a veneer that is peeling away as more and more people speak out. For Western powers, starting with France, Niger looked like an “example for democracy,” as Emmanuel Macron put it in 2020. “What kind of democracy are they talking about? We, Nigeriens, have experienced nothing but the suppression of our fundamental rights, and have seen corruption and illicit financial enrichment reach new heights for over 10 years,” said Elhadji Idi Abdou, deputy coordinator of the NGO Alliance for Peace and Security.

The ‘PAC’ system

This nepotism of the deposed government has been dubbed the “PAC” regime by the people of Niger, for “parents, friends [‘amis’ in French] and acquaintances [‘connaissances’].” President Issoufou’s son, Mahamane Sani Mahamadou, is an example of this. After serving as his father’s chief of staff for a time, he was promoted to the strategic position of minister of petroleum and energy the day after President Bazoum came to power. In 2022, he was one of Niger’s richest serving politicians, according to a report by the audit office. He declared assets of €1.8 million.

That year, Niger’s public spending watchdog counted nine other millionaires, declaring fortunes ranging from €1.2 million to €15 million. All belonged to the ruling party or a party that supported it.

Financial scandal

Nigeriens remember the Ministry of Defence affair, the biggest alleged financial scandal of the Issoufou era. It was revealed in February 2020, after the release of a report by the defence inspectorate on the audit of its public contracts. The document mentions undelivered security equipment, overpricing and a shortfall of more than €115 million between 2017 and 2019, at a time when Nigerien soldiers were falling by the dozens in battle, facing jihadist groups.

This is one of the main criticisms levelled at the French government by Maman Sani Malam Maman, secretary general of Moden-Fa Lumana, Niger’s main opposition party. “As far as France is concerned,” he said, the military in power is illegitimate, but a president who represents a system that has put his opponents in prison, muzzled his people and stolen money as well as elections is legitimate simply because he is defending French interests.”

Selective Condemnation of Military Governments

Western governments and ECOWAS condemned the recent coup in Niger, but in contrast they supported the military coup in neighbouring Chad in April 2021. They also ignore democratic deficits in Nigeria, Cote d'Ivoire and Senegal.

Opponents of the coup in Niger claim to be supporting the principle of democracy, but they did not take the same position in Chad two years previously. When the long-time president of Chad, Idriss Déby, was killed, allegedly on the battle field, on 20th April 2021, the presidents of France and Nigeria both attended his funeral. Macron, the French president said at the time: "France will never allow the stability and integrity of Chad to be called into question".

After the death of Idriss Déby, his son, Mahamat Déby, became president in conflict with the requirements of the constitution. He was sworn in on 10th October in a ceremony attended by President Buhari.

On October 20, 2022, violent repression of demonstrators demanding the junta's departure in the Chad capital, N'Jamena, left over 200 dead, according to human rights NGOs.

The current military leader of Chad, Mahamat Déby, was on the first delegation to Niger from ECOWAS on 30th July. The former Nigerian military leader Gen Abdulsalami Abubakar led another delegation to Niger from ECOWAS on 19th August.



The three main countries of ECOWAS are Nigeria, Cote d'Ivoire and Senegal. Each of them have huge democratic deficits. We know about the lack of democracy in Nigeria. Some people claim Tinubu settled his parties delegates to become the APC candidate and then settled INEC.

Alassane Ouattara of Cote d'Ivoire won his un-Constitutional third term in the October 2020 presidential elections with 94 percent of the vote, according to the government. 40 of the 44 opposition candidates had been barred. So several parties boycotted the elections.

In the last few weeks the leader of the opposition in Senegal has been arrested and his party dissolved. This is ahead of the elections next year when the current president, Macky Sall was threatening to stand for an un-constitutional third term until a massive uprising by the Senegalese people stopped him.

It is hypocritical for the governments of ECOWAS, Paris and Nigeria to support what was essentially a military coup in Chad and to send current or former military leaders of neighbouring countries to ask the military rulers in Niger to give up their power. France has maintained three times as many troops in Chad than it has in Niger.

Long-term Impacts of Niger Invasion ?

There is a 50 year agreement between Niger and Nigeria for Niger not to dam the River Niger so as not to cause problems for the Nigerian Kainiji and Shiroro dams. In return, the Nigerian Government agreed to sell electricity to Niger that covered around 70% of it's electricity needs.

The Niger Government has been building a Niger river dam at Kandadji near the border with Mali since 2015. It is due to be filled with water from 2025. It is financed with loans from the World Bank, African Development Bank the French aid agency etc with a total project cost of over \$1.25 billion. It includes a 130 MW hydropower plant. It involves the resettlement of 50,000 people in an area suffering from attacks from Islamic militants.

Niger could come back and hit Nigeria hard reducing the flow of the River Niger from their end. Plus there's also the talk about huge problems with the fight against Boko Haram if Niger (whose border covers the entire northern Nigerian border over 1600kms), decides not to cooperate with Nigeria in its fight against this group.

NIGER NEEDS MASS STRUGGLE AGAINST INEQUALITY, NOT A COUP

-Alex Batubo

As in Nigeria, the mass of the population in Niger suffer horrendous poverty. The military coup will not help. It is likely to lead to more repression against the much-needed mass movements against poverty and the other anti-people policies. However, an invasion by ECOWAS led by Nigeria would only make matters so much worse. Many people will celebrate the coup in Niger against one of the most pro-western governments in West Africa. The removal of French soldiers and their possible replacement with mercenaries from the Russian Wagner group will be interpreted as a victory. But this will not help most Nigeriens.



Half the population of Niger exist below the national poverty line. One and five of the population cannot reliably meet their food needs.

Niger is Africa's most important uranium ore exporter (75 percent of the country's total exports) and the fourth largest exporter in the world. Niger's main export partners are France (55 percent of total exports), United States, Switzerland, Nigeria and Ghana. Around a third of the uranium for the extensive French nuclear reactors comes from Niger.

Niger, like all countries, is situated within a global economy and suffers interference from the major imperialist powers, in this case, mainly France. The French Government controls the major export from Niger (uranium) and also the currency. This and the

French army base in Niger means that there is significant anti-French feeling in Niger. Four days after the coup there was a demonstration involving thousands of people against the French embassy.

The working people of Niger do not need a military coup. They do not need the current military 'support' provided by Western governments. Equally they do not need interference from the Russian Wagner group or a possible ECOWAS invasion led by Nigeria. As in Nigeria, we need a mass campaign to increase wages of the working people and increase government spending on health and education and so lead to a reduction in insecurity.

To read the full article see:

<https://socialistlabour.com.ng/2023/08/01/niger-needs-a-mass-struggle-against-inequality-not-a-coup/>

Financial Crisis? What Financial Crisis?

Despite popular or receive wisdom, the Nigerian economy is not in crisis. Working and ordinary people may be reeling from the effects of the recent neo-liberal measures imposed by the Tinubu government, but rich pickings are still flowing to the elite. The economy has actually grown steadily at around 3% for the last three years. As a result it is expected to double in size over the next 18 years. This is on top of the tripling of the size of the economy over the last 25 years. Unless we change the situation all the benefits will continue to go to the rich elite.



Most Nigerian banks are doing so well that they have volunteered to give their staff substantial pay increases. Polaris Bank, for example, doubled their staff salaries in July. The following graphs shows the rapid growth of the Nigerian Stock Exchange All Share Index, especially since April 2020 since when it has tripled in value, showing the confidence of the private sector in Nigeria.

In the first half of this year the monthly FAAC meetings shared more oil money than any year since 2013. This year they shared 18% more than the first six months of last year. The oil income is expected to grow in the coming months by another 50% due to the ending of the official rate of exchange. Governors have more than enough money for them to follow the banks and give all their staff a decent pay increase.

Tinubu- Weak President

Evidence continues to mount of the weakness of Tinubu's presidency. He failed to send his full list of ministers to the Senate for screening before the 60 day deadline specified in the Constitution. El Rufai was then dropped as a minister after he failed to be screened by the Senate. Tinubu then went on to change the responsibilities of several ministers the day before they were to be sworn in. For more evidence of the lack of effectiveness of Tinubu, see:

<https://www.nationalrecord.com.ng/tinubu-neither-a-successful-businessman-nor-effective-politician-by-alex-batubo/>

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The TINUBU Agenda - Izielen Agbon

Beyond increasing the price of petrol and abolition of the official rate of exchange, Tinubu and his team have other plans for Nigeria and they are not good for the common people. These plans include the following:

- Declare a state of emergency in revenue generation and national security.
- Deepen tax collection by restructuring and automating key revenue generating ministries, departments and agencies:
 - ◆ Identify, map, consolidate and automate the revenue collection function across key revenue generating agencies.
 - ◆ Implement end-to-end automation of all taxes and levies and deploy big data analytics to improve collection.
 - ◆ Institutionalize independent revenue assurance and audit.
 - ◆ Implement tax harmonization to eliminate multiple taxation, improve collection and compliance.
 - ◆ Mobilize the required political will to drive zero tolerance for tax evasion.
 - ◆ Broaden the tax net by creating incentives for transitioning the informal sector players.
 - ◆ Design & implement balanced incentive-linked performance measures to drive the desired behaviour in revenue generating agencies.
 - ◆ Develop and implement a new social contract framework to encourage voluntary tax compliance.
 - ◆ Implement measures to aggressively grow personal income tax at the Federal and Sub-national levels.

These are the recommendations that Tinubu's tax committee will make. Tinubu needs the ECOWAS war on Niger in order to declare a state of emergency in revenue generation and national security as per Chapter 8, Part 2, Section 305 of the Nigerian Constitution. A State of Emergency gives the President emergency powers to rule by presidential decrees for 6 months or a period specified by the National Assembly.

HAS ANYTHING CHANGED IN THE UNTENABLE OLD- STORY OF HIKE IN THE PRICE OF FUEL

-By Biodun Olamosu



Biodun provides the background that we need to understand the recent massive hike in the price of petrol, transport costs and so inflation generally. We all know that as a result we are all poorer than even we were before. This briefing provides the history and background to the struggle over recent years over the price of fuel.

What are the arguments that the governments use to increase the price of fuel? Why are we continually suffering great poverty and reduction in the spending power of our salaries? Why is it that those that looted the fuel subsidy, primarily from within NNPC, have not been arrested? Why is it that fuel marketing across West Africa cannot be organised for the benefit of the masses within and outside Nigeria?

What happened to the money that was budgeted for the four state owned refineries in Port Harcourt (2), Warri and Kaduna? Who looted all this money as the refineries are yet to be operating? Why is it that the Government has invested so much in the Dangote refinery? Will the price really fall when it eventually comes on stream? Did the price of cement fall when Dangote entered the market?

The Government and its corrupt supporters have provided their side of the story. This briefing provides the counter arguments to this propaganda. We need to read and understand the history of the struggles over the benefits of the oil reserves. This will arm us with the confidence that together we can win and stop the rampant looting that has characterised the oil industry for so long.

The full briefing is available from: <https://socialistlabour.com.ng/2023/08/04/has-anything-changed-in-the-unable-old/>

African Alliance of Trade Union Executives met at the Transcorp Hilton

Joe Ajaero's address to the African Alliance of Trade Union Executives indicates one of the problems that we face. Yes, the West is to blame for the historic underdevelopment of Africa, but it is not enough to just blame the West for African poverty. Ajaero made almost no mention of the role of the local ruling classes and the strikes that are necessary to fight them. He just provided a 'left' gloss about taking over the commanding heights of the economy, but provided no strategy about how to achieve such goals. And the meeting was held at the Transcorp Hilton!

<https://www.nlcng.org/welcome-address-by-president-of-the-nlc-at-the-african-alliance-of-trade-unions-executives-meeting/>

Student loan???... No go area

-Na instituionalised way to commercialise and privatize public universities

-Govt wey no gree use money fund education but get money to lend students (through their cronies) to pay money wey same govt won increase. No b ment???

-The conditions to get d loan na DIE, go read am yourself.

-If you no begin pay the debt after 2 years of NYSC, na jail straight be dat. Reason am na!

-Even students wey take student loan study for US (where dem for copy am), dem dey spend dem entire life to pay Gbese. Even Barrack Obama no pay hin own finish until he become president,

-Our govt no see beta policy copy from Oyinbo but na ones wey go make life difficult for us dem saby copy.

-If govt talk say dem no get money to fund education, tell them to reduce cost of governance.

Students at Unilag and other universities are organising to fight back against increases in tuition fees, hostel charges and others. Students Solidarity Group Against Fee Hike –

#RevertFees

#FeesMustFall

#SaveUnilagStudents



Interview with Ndongo Sylla



This interview, undertaken last year, by Leo Zeilig a supporter of Socialist Labour, is now more relevant with the threat of war in West Africa and the protests in Niger against the French Government. It provides a far-reaching discussion about French imperialism, the CFA franc, structural transformation and radical social movements across Africa. Ndongo Sylla is a Senegalese writer and activist based in Dakar:

<https://roape.net/2022/09/13/economics-and-politics-for-liberation-an-interview-with-ndongo-sylla/>

Another article by Ndongo argues for a development strategy based on the mobilization of domestic resources, in particular, for a programme of full and decent employment:

<https://edi.bard.edu/research/notes/for-a-full-and-decent-employment-in-africa-the-role-of-a-job-guarantee>

Ndongo Sylla was one of the speakers at the Socialist Labour public meeting at the end of August.

Training on Class Struggle Trade Unionism

The Rosa Luxemburg Foundation is supporting Organizing for Power, some excellent training for trade unions and their local and national leaders. The lead trainer, Jane McAlevey is politically very good and believes in the need for class struggle trade unionism.

Organizing for Power - Core Fundamentals is a six-week intensive training programme composed of weekly sessions divided into lectures and practice time, plus campaign assignments that organizing groups are expected to complete on their own time. Over these six weeks, you will strengthen your knowledge and practice of leadership identification, semantics, one-on-one conversations, charting, and structure tests. Initial talks are also available from the website. Trade unionists can join the formal training sessions or watch individual talks.

Further details of the Organizing for Power training and talks by Jane McAlevey are available from:

<https://www.rosalux.de/en/o4p>

Strikes are uniquely powerful under the capitalist system because employers need one thing, and one thing only, from workers: show up and make the employer money. When it comes to forcing the top executives to rethink their pay, benefits, or other policies, there's no form of regulation more powerful than a serious strike. The strikes that work the best and win the most are the ones in which at least 90 percent of all the workers walk out, having first forged unity among themselves and with their broader community. To gain the trust and support of those whose lives may be affected, smart unions work diligently to erase the line separating the workplace from society.

The above is an extract from Jane McAlevey's book: "A Collective Bargain Unions, Organizing, and the Fight for Democracy", 2021. Her other major book is available for free download:

<https://ivavalleybooks.com/2022/10/04/no-shortcuts-organising-for-power-in-the-new-gilded-age/>

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Climate Change and Food Security

New research has recommended four major policy interventions within the agriculture sector that the Nigerian government could adopt to address the biting hardship of climate change and rising food inflation in the country.

Largely caused by the impacts of climate change, the food crisis has been exacerbated by the removal of petrol subsidies and the effective devaluation of the naira by the Tinubu led government. Climate change has caused flooding, drought and irregular rainfall patterns in many parts of the country. As a result, “precipitation change has resulted in a significant and negative impact on agricultural productivity”.

“Thus, targeted interventions that promote climate-resilient agricultural practices, for instance, investment in water-storage infrastructure and small-scale irrigation systems, are imperative to mitigate the effects of climate change on poorer smallholder farmers.” The research emphasised that “pro-poor interventions that specifically target disadvantaged households” were essential.

Poor rural households required better access to land, irrigation and other inputs. Land grabbing has made the situation worse where large areas are given to companies reducing access by poor people. This may be made worse by Tinubu’s announcement in July that 500,000 hectares of land would be allocated to farmers for cultivation.

The four major policies are:

- water-storage infrastructure and small-scale irrigation systems
- changes in crop mix and agricultural input use
- development of the livestock sector and micro/small enterprises
- pro-poor interventions that specifically target disadvantaged households.

The research is available for free download from:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0921800923001556?via%3Dihub#s0115>

Plateau State Environmental Women Workers



In 2007, Plateau State started a scheme for environmental women workers to sweep the streets, paying them N8,000 a month. This small amount has not been increased since then and even this is in arrears by at least three months. The state is taking advantage of these women who number nearly 5,000.

They are not full staff of the state or local governments and so are not entitled to join trade unions. They also do not receive other benefits like sick pay or pensions. This is for dangerous jobs with no proper protection being provided.

This level of exploitation is spreading to other workers, for example, civil servants in Riyom local government only enjoy 55 per cent of the N18,000 minimum wage!

Other states have similar schemes, some may pay more than Plateau State, but none of them pay the current minimum wage of N30,000:

In at least some of the states these schemes are supported by the World Bank who obviously support this terrible level of exploitation. In Lagos State some disabled people are also employed on a similar scheme and are paid as little as N5,000 which is clearly illegal.

We need the trade unions to accept such women and disabled workers into full membership so that they can collectively fight for their full employment rights and the legal minimum wage. Eugene Manji, NLC chairman in Plateau, said, “except the women decide to come together and form a union and register as an affiliate of the NLC, that is when an action can be taken”.

More details are available from these articles:

<https://www.premiumtimesng.com/gender/611936-special-report-unpaid-salaries-poor-working-conditions-mar-plateau-workers-scheme-for-women.html>

<https://punchng.com/physically-challenged-street-sweepers-seek-pay-rise/>

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Salaries of Street Sweepers in Nigeria



Workers Strikes during August 2023

We need your assistance to ensure that this monthly report is comprehensive. Please submit details of any strikes in your state or community to drewpovey@btinternet.com All these strikes need our support and solidarity. We call on all trade union branches to send messages of support and to organise solidarity visits to any strikes in their localities.

Aviation security workers, members of National Union of Air Transport Employees (NUATE) started a nationwide strike on 16th August, but the strike was suspended the same day for one week to consider intervention by the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority. The strike was due to some workers only being paid N30,000 a month.

Members of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association (PENGASSAN) of the Shell Petroleum Development Company branch in Rivers State held a three day warning strike from 15th August. They are demanding palliatives due to the increase in the cost of living.

Resident doctors of NARD started an indefinite strike from early on 26th July. The strike was suspended for two weeks from 12th August. The major demands are:

1. immediate payment of the 2023 Medical Residency Training Fund
2. immediate release of the circular on one-for-one replacement
3. payment of skipping arrears
4. upward review of CONMESS in line with full salary restoration to the 2014 value of CONMESS
5. payment of 2014, 2015, and 2016 salary arrears, hazard allowance arrears as well as arrears of the consequential adjustment of the minimum wage.

Resident doctors at the University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital (UNTH), Enugu State, have continued strike action after the end of the national NARD strike. This is over the non-payment of two months arrears of salary and the non-regularise the employment of over 160 doctors employed in 2011.

Members of the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) in Cross River State took strike action for 40 days over the kidnap of their colleague Professor Ekanem Ephraim on July, 2023. The strike was suspended for two weeks following an appeal letter from the governor of the state and advice from the national President of the NMA.

The Benue State chapter of the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) held a 3-day warning strike over the kidnap of their colleague, Dr Asema Msuega. The strike was made indefinite, but then suspended after the victim was released after the payment of a ransom that evening.

The lecturers of the Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo, Ondo State commenced strike action to protest against non-payment of their 13 months' salary on 9th June. Members of the Academic Staff Union of Polytechnic, RUGI-PO chapter, also vowed not to participate in the first semester examinations of the school, on 13th June.

The Colleges of Education Academic Staff Union (COEASU) has directed union members to go to work twice a week from 19th July in view of the current hike in petrol prices occasioned by the removal of fuel subsidy. COEASU is demanding a 200 percent increase in salary of its members. They suspended their previous two month strike in August 2022.



Socialist Labour-JOIN US

The economic, environmental and Covid-19 crises show that society is a conflict between two classes: the vast majority who create the wealth, and a tiny minority who profit from our work. Reform attempts have failed: the only solution is a truly democratic socialist society. The corrupt elite will only give up their power if forced to do so. We need a mass democratic movement to bring about socialism. Events, such as Russia in 1917, the January 2012 protests in Nigeria and the mass uprisings in Sudan and Algeria from 2019, begin to show what we need.

For more details of the basic ideas and policies of Socialist Labour see:

www.socialistlabour.com.ng/about-us/

Join the Socialist Labour supporters WhatsApp group by clicking this link:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/KiOyN3OKGBllvtuh0ycDaU>

We would love to receive letters, comments or suggestions from our readers. We want to hear from you with suggestions for articles for our future editions or questions on any articles in this issue. Please contact us via WhatsApp of 0916 693 3998

We especially welcome news about protests and strikes in your community or town.

Socialist Labour Depends on its Supporters for Finances

Socialist Labour depends on its members and supporters for funds. We need more financial support so that we can be more active, expand and grow. If you are able to make a modest financial contribution that would be really helpful. We would also like all readers of this Bulletin to consider fully joining Socialist Labour by paying monthly subscriptions.

The standard rate is N1,000 a month, with a lower rate of N500 for students or unemployed and N5,000 for higher paid comrades. We can all afford something - every little helps.

Please make your contributions to the following bank account:

First Bank Nig. Ltd. Account No. 3158880328

Account Name: Aborisade Albert Femi

The account is only used for Socialist Labour purposes.

Please join Socialist Labour, by submitting the following details:

Name: _____ **Email:** _____ **WhatsApp number:** _____

State: _____

Workplace address/university/school: _____

Trade union: _____

Minimum suggested monthly subscription levels are:

Employed – N1,000

Well paid – N5,000

Unemployed/student – N500

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