



NAFEST NEWS

NAFEST...the festival that unites the Nation

• Vol.3 • No. 6

• Friday October 16th, 2009

• FREE

EXECUTIVE GOVERNORS GRACE NAFEST 2009

The Official Opening Ceremony of NAFEST 2009 which had the First Lady, Hajija Turai Yar'adau as Special Guest of Honour had four Executive Governors and Five Deputies in attendance.

They were on hand to lend support to the Chief Servant of Niger State Dr. Mu'azu Babangida Aliyu, OON (Talban Minna).

The Governors are Hon. Gabriel Suswam, Executive Governor of Benue State, Alhaji Aliyu Akwai Doma, Executive Governor of Nasarawa State, Alhaji Mamuda Aliyu Shinkafi, Executive Governor, Zamfara State and Kebbi State Governor, Alhaji Sa'idu Usman Nasamu Dakingari.

This is another first in the history of the festival. NAFEST - truly unites the nation.



Hon. Gabriel Suswam
Executive Governor, Benue State

VOX POPULI



Suraju Usman from Kaduna State

I deal in jeweleries, business has been fair. I am satisfied with the level of patronage though it can get better, I am also satisfied with the level of security.

Dr. Kayode Orilonishe - Tradomedical Doctor from Abuja NAFEST has provided a platform for social interaction with people from other states in Nigeria and beyond. I did not pay any money to participate in the festival and so far, business has been good.



Frank Onye - from Lagos and sells clothes

This is the third time I am participating in NAFEST and for this year, business has been good. Everything is in order.



Proprietress, Fingers of God Kitchen.

It is my first time and business has been wonderful.



Osaigbono Deleale - Edo State

I must commend the Governor of this state for this excellent show. It will not be out of place to say this is the best.

Fun And Excitement At Moonlight Games

The Moonlight Game feature of NAFEST '09 has continued to thrill participants and visitors alike, as they watched and listened to Tales by Moonlight showcased by the different states.

Children in particular have had more fun than any other age group, as they troop in their hundreds to the arena within the UK Bello Arts Theatre, Minna to see their mates in colourful costumes and choreographed dances, either telling or listening to a story.

Adults and the elderly have also been relishing memories of years gone by seen in the moonlight tales.



NAFEST '09 Has Achieved Its Objectives - Executive Director/CEO, NCAC/Festival Director, Mr. Mwijim Malgwi Maidugu

Executive Director, National Council for Arts and Culture and Festival Director, Mr. Mwijim Malgwi Maidugu says the 23rd edition of NAFEST has achieved its theme, as it has put food on the table of thousands of Nigerians in Minna, Niger State.

Mr. Maidugu stated this during a parley with journalists. According to the NCAC boss, the festival has lived up to this year's theme: "Culture and the Challenges of Our Time: Cultural Industries and Wealth Creation", as big and small business men and women are counting their gains in Minna township.

"The 36 States of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory are represented in this year's event and by this singular feat, we have recorded 100 percent attendance" he said, adding that the participating States and FCT were involved in the planning process leading to the excellent results the 23rd edition has so far recorded.

"The States and FCT were given the theme and were asked to take it home and select materials that identify with the theme. That way we were able to send a strong message about the materials we were expecting from them and they took time in selecting their art and crafts, dances, costumes, technologies etc".

"As you can see in Minna today, we have a crowd of over one million and what this means is that resources are being moved around, empowering transporters, food hawkers, dealers in textile materials, craftsmen, hotel owners etc", he said.



Mr. Mwijim M. Maidugu
Executive Director/CEO, NCAC and Festival Director

Mr. Maidugu further stated that the calibre of personalities that graced this year's edition; the First Lady, Hajija Turai Yar'adua, State Governors and their representatives, as well as industry players, clearly shows that the festival has grown beyond dance and entertainment.

The 7-Point Agenda of the Federal Government he maintained, are being realized with the content of NAFEST. On the Colloquium, he assured that the papers presented will be published in the near future for the benefit of the core stakeholders in the craft industry.



NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR ARTS AND CULTURE (NCAC)

The Voice of Arts and Culture in Nigeria



RESULTS AT NAFEST 2008

A. Competitive Events

N	Live Presentation/ Interpretation of Theme	Specialized Exhibition	Food Fair	Traditional Music and Dance	Traditional Moonlight Games	Traditional Wrestling (Open)
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TOMORROW'S MENU (Saturday 17th October, 2009)

- 9:00am - Excursion to Tourist Sites in the State
 - 3:00pm - Traditional Wrestling concludes, Venue: UK Bello Arts Theatre, Minna
 - 8:00pm - Film Show, Venue: UK Bello Arts Theatre, Minna
- SUNDAY 18th OCTOBER, 2009
- 11:00am - Closing Ceremony and Award of Certificates and Trophies



NAFEST:
truly unites the nation