



NAFEST NEWS

NAFEST.....the festival that unites the nation

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FREE

"WHAT WE HAVE WITNESSED AT THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL IS A TESTIMONY THAT NAFEST IS NOT A JAMBOREE AS PERCEIVED BY SOME"

BELOW IS THE FULL TEXT OF MR. MAIDUGU'S SPEECH AT THE OFFICIAL CLOSING CEREMONY OF NAFEST 2011 HELD ON FRIDAY 28TH OCTOBER 2011 AT 4:25PM

I will like to start by acknowledging the gratitude which we collectively owe to God for granting us journey mercies from our various stations to Calabar and for seeing us through NAFEST 2011 from its beginning to this moment.

What we have witnessed at this year's festival is a testimony that NAFEST is not a jamboree as perceived by some but a serious avenue for talent hunt, skill development, job creation and wealth creation and above all an instrument for promoting national unity and development.

It is in consonance with this therefore, that the NCAC, along with other stakeholders, has made efforts to truly give meaning to the festival as a tool for addressing the challenges of our time. This informed the choice of the theme for this year festival, which is:- **"Nigerian Traditional Music: A Vehicle for Economic Transformation and Unity"**

The spectacular presentations showcased by the various states, FCT, the Local Governments and the NGOs have given us hope that our cultural industries hold great prospects for our national economic growth.

The successes achieved at this festival were made possible by all stakeholders in the sector. At this juncture, therefore, I most sincerely thank His Excellency Dr. **Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, GCFR, President, Commander-In-Chief of**

the Armed Forces, Federal Republic of Nigeria, for his commitment to the development of Culture and Tourism Industry and the Annual National Festival of Arts and Culture (NAFEST).

May I sincerely express our gratitude to **His Excellency, Senator Liyel Imoke, the Executive Governor**, his Executive Council and the good people of Cross River State for their full support towards the



Mr. Mawajim Malgwi Maidugu, Executive Director/ Chief Executive Officer National Council for Arts and Culture and Festival Director NAFEST 2011 delivering the Vote of Thanks at the Official Closing Ceremony of NAFEST 2011

festival which manifested in having the state-of-the-art facilities we have never experienced before in NAFEST. I wish to mention the great support we received in particular from the **Deputy Governor** and the members of the LOC who stood by us and worked relentlessly for the success which we are celebrating today.



A cross section of Dignitaries at the Official Closing Ceremony of the 25th edition of the National Festival of Arts and Culture (NAFEST) 2011 held on Friday 28, October, 2011 at the U. J. Esuene Township Stadium, Calabar, Cross River State.

We wish to thank and extend our appreciation to Her Excellency, the wife of the Governor **Mrs. Liyel Imoke**, for granting audience yesterday afternoon to the children from 33 State (including FCT) that took part in the National Essay Competition. The warmth and motherliness which she extended to these children is sure to make the memory of NAFEST remain with them throughout their lives.

I thank the Honourable Minister, **Chief Edem Duke**, who since his assumption of office has brought in some innovations towards re-positioning the culture and tourism sector to becoming one of the enviable sectors of our national life.

Similarly, I wish to put on record our appreciation to members of the National assembly, particularly **Senator Ahmed Hassan Barata**, Chairman, Senate Committee on Culture and Tourism, and his Deputy for their interest, support and active role in

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National Council for Arts and Culture (NCAC)
The Voice of Arts and Culture in Nigeria



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NAFEST 2011. We look forward to their continued assistance towards the upliftment of the Culture sector.

I want to also express my gratitude to the Honourable Commissioners, Permanent Secretaries and Directors of Councils for Arts and Culture/History and Culture Bureaux from the 36 states of the Federation and the FCT for their unique, rich and colourful presentations. I am very confident that, with our collective resolve, we shall continue to improve and build on the standard we have set at NAFEST 2011.

I want to thank the media who have been very supportive. I urge you to continue to publicize the message of the festival to the national and international communities.

In conclusion, our statistics show that NAFEST 2011 brought together contingents from 33 State of the Federation including Local Governments, NGOs and the academia, with a total of about 5,000 participants. This is aside the spectators that daily tramped into the various venues over the five days period. This is a positive index with respect to our domestic tourism promotion.

May I therefore once more congratulate the Government and people of Cross River State, the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) and the security agencies for successfully managing a programme of such magnitude, especially as throughout the period we did not receive any report of a negative incidence.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, once more, I thank you. I wish you safe journey back to your various destinations and look forward to seeing you at NAFEST 2012.

Thank you and God bless.

Detailed Result for NAFEST 2011

Traditional Wrestling:

Junior Category

- 1st position: **Bayelsa State**
- 2nd position: **Ebonyi State**
- 3rd position: **Borno State**
- 4th position: **Nasarrawa State**

Intermediary Category

- 1st position: **Ogun State**
- 2nd position: **Nasarrawa State**
- 3rd position: **Benue State**
- 4th position: **Lagos State**

Traditional Music:

- 1st position: **Akwa-Ibom State**
- 2nd position: **Borno state**
- 3rd position: **Bayelsa State**
- 4th position: **Benue State**

Drama:

- 1st position: **Benue State**
- 2nd position: **Akwa-Ibom**
- 3rd position: **Ogun State**
- 4th position: **Bayelsa State**

Food Fair:

- 1st position: **Nasarrawa State**
- 2nd position: **FCT**
- 3rd position: **Ekiti State**
- 4th position: **Bayelsa State**

Traditional Furnished Apartment:

- 1st position: **Nasarrawa**
- 2nd position: **Akwa_Ibom**
- 3rd position: **Ogun State**
- 4th position: **FCT State**

Essay Writing Competition:

- 1st position: **Nasarrawa State**
- 2nd position: **Kwara State**
- 3rd position: **Enugu State**
- 4th position: **FCT State**

Best Costumed: **Imo, Cross River and Gombe sate**

Largest Contingent: **Benue State**

Most Behaved State: **Cross River State**

Most Consistent: **Kwara, Lagos and Kastina State**

Minister's Gong: the most culture friendly administration and the speed at which the state prepared for NAFEST 2011 and the peaceful atmosphere in which the event thrived - : **Cross River State**

Hosting State

Gong: Cross River State

Presidential

Gong: Nassarawa State

Overall Winners NAFEST 2011:

- 1st position: **Nasarrawa State**
- 2nd position: **Akwa-Ibom State**
- 3rd position: **Ogun, Bayelsa State**
- 4th position: **Benue State**
- 5th position: **Borno and FCT**



Nassarawa State overall winner 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011