HIGHLIGHTS ON SOME OF THE CURIOUS QUESTIONS I HAVE RECEIVED ON EDUCATION AND REORIENTATION

MUHAMMAD SA'IDU JIMADA

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INTRODUCTION

In the name of Allah, the Creator, the True, the Light, the Holy, the Guide. Perfect and complete peace and blessings, be upon Muhammad (SAW), his household, the fore leaders and all of those who sincerely strive on the same course of guidance.

I have reproduced most of the questions I privately received from readers of my writings, with the highlights in response. I have restricted these to only those that were written because I found them to be more concerning and really committed, to the subject.

I am responsible for the order of presentation.

I believe they will welcome the collation and publication of these, for the benefit of all, without my listing their names. Moreover, some of the questions were asked more than others.

I have closed the questions and my responses with a statement on our poverty challenges to this education for Reorientation.

I hope readers will find this topping effort **refreshing,** especially for those who have cared to read the main materials.

May Allah accept and bless our efforts, in our interest, in this world and in the hereafter.

Muhammad Sa'idu Jimada **JP**

THE CHALLENGE AND SUBJECT OF LEADERSHIP IS NOT NEW. WHAT IGNITED YOUR INTEREST AND SUSTAINED YOUR PASSIONATE COMMITMENT?

Leadership will be an attraction to anyone who **cares** about **why and how** things get done or have been effectively, efficiently and satisfactorily done. As a student of society and development, we were not satisfied with the way things were in the eighties. We understood that there were seeming causative factors. But the dynamics of History compelled the realization that the different characteristics of the contemporary history then, were more related to the **Driving Principles and Discipline of the Leadership.** Thus, the cries of **underdevelopment scholars** were really superficial.

Colonialism/Capitalism and Socialism were more true. Our colonialism was like an external relationship principle and discipline against an internal set of principles and discipline. Our neo-colonial experience was therefore from a victim of the first to a **refashioned victim of the first, without any consciousness of OUR INTERNAL PRINCIPLES AND DISCIPLINE.**

With time it increasingly became clearer that, **every seeming real progress was like what was really externally permitted or convenient.** Thus, the gradual and consistent degeneration and increased resubmission to the **external conveniences.** For instance, in Education, the **DAY AND AFTERNOON sessions** were introduced into **JUNIOR AND SENIOR** Secondary Schools system. Teacher Education was shifted upwards. Primary Education was abandoned and the administration became a conduit pipe for enriching public servants. In public service, **side private businesses evolved with its legal permission beginning with medical and legal practices.** The other services sectors developed corruptive modalities of operation.

The production of goods with priority for food and drinks, as the **determinant and driver of services, was abandoned.**

Today, we have become **bottled or imprisoned** in the **making of our history without our principles and discipline.** Today, the garbage of professionals or technocrats **regardless** of individual or National Identity **coming to our rescue is the fashion.**

I have been part of this process with **a difference of being a conscious observer and relating it to the requirement for a DIFFERENCE.**

I am a full product of collective Identity and Discipline **as a Muslim**. I went to public schools. They were the best and set the standards. My schooling and education were catered for concurrently. My engagement in public service was not different. I therefore believe in the collective.

While I have no strong objections to the private, I am absolutely satisfied that, the collective is superior, **by principle, for our safety and prosperity**. The first reason is our experience in this country. And my kind explanation is that, the private became burdened before **any** responsible maturity. In the climes where they **appear to be serving, the institutions of public responsibility are on watch, monitoring and intervening, against derailment to SELFISHNESS.** The three percent that may become **the owners of the country, grow up so, by gradually infiltrating the making of the public institutions, structures and services.**

The public still calls the shots in our case and without its patronage, the private sector is almost doomed. This is what really makes us **a developing country.** Indeed, the private sector is more of a parasite.

Thus, the idea of a public leader calling on the private to take up responsibility or share responsibility with it, is most irresponsible. It rests on dark ignorance or hypocrisy of our history.

We are all unfortunate witnesses and victims of the consequences of privatization of key public assets economically. The consequences in respect of the education and health sectors are blind only to the beneficiaries of corruption. If public and private partnership is sincere, why the change in the mode of executing the Lagos-Calabar project? Market business owners and 2023 government in Kaduna state will testify to the destructive consequences of Nasiru Markets project.

If we must get things right, public leadership must be the priority target. And politically, the leadership of the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, must be our greatest focus.

WHAT DO YOU UNDERSTAND TO BE THE REAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CORRUPTION CHALLENGES BEFORE US AND THE SUMMARY SOLUTION?

Most of those entrusted with public security and welfare that are well secured, have been grossly dishonest in managing the trusts. The indicator is that they cannot justify their **post service** status costs with a triple value of all their entitlements, while holding the trust.

Most of those who were not accounting officers but share similar safety and well-being, were goodly collaborators in aiding the ability of the first class. These may be by official role or by invited support. This is where private practitioners are involved.

All of those who were not opportune like either of the two classes sacrificed part of their commitment **time** meant for the service **added to** personal resources, for belonging to this class. The drive was, if trustees were abusive of the trust they had manipulated accounting for, they were free to help themselves, because the life after service does not discriminate. And they are **rarely** in the books for corruption.

The indicator for the three classes combined is the meaningless percentage impact of a welfare policy like housing by mortgage, for public servants. Indeed, most of those who can benefit are either in the first two classes or the third along with indebtedness.

In relation to corruption, it depicts a failed system of service to the very trustees. As a result, the generality of citizens pay increasingly by losing more and more services even as the trustees sharpen, grow and develop the informal processes of serving themselves optimally.

The best indicator for this is that, members of the top strata of the civil service are increasingly more oriented towards preparing for comfortable departure than keeping and building the service.

Service by consultancies is the best subtle meeting point and twisting procurement processes is the better legal stamping means of corruption. While these are scientific means for overcoming internal inadequacies, the use they are put to and the results are often largely negative, because it cuts across small to gigantic works and services.

The dilemma of our history is cultured by ALL parties to the corruption. The bureaucrats, the politicians, the private sector sponsors, collaborators and drivers, as well as the citizens, ADMIT THAT CORRUPTION IS EVIL AND MUST BE DONE AWAY WITH. The proof is in the increasing records of petitions,

investigations, probes, prosecutions, suspensions, dismissals, sentences, anti-graft institutions, etc. Truly, institutions, laws and policies have been restructured to enhance safety of resources and productivity alongside the FIGHTING against corruption.

Ironically, the attractions to **these concerns have been fading, because the worst accused are increasingly off the hook.** In fact, they can bounce back into the service or politics.

The naive thinks and believes that corruption fights back when you fight it. The truth is that the setting to fight corruption is wrong. Corruption cannot be alive without people who drive it, consciously or unconsciously. And when it grows or matures into a system, **a member can really not be a fighter.** You can only appear to be so if you have the status or security not to be questioned. This is why those who **genuinely act against it either fall to be its victims, get easily reassigned to be irrelevant, accommodated to increase resources to serve corruption, along with commendations and awards or briefly tolerated to leave.** The proof is that such anti-corruption actions are never sustained. Indeed, the actions or responsibilities will be **reformatted** to better serve corruption. Check the roll of **National Award recipients, you will wonder, why the impact of their inputs have not made any difference. And you will see rascals who were later questioned or have escaped or freed from questioning, increasingly making the list.**

This is why corruption has been increasing, from the point of our resources management. We are more and more into debts. Our budgets have been multiplying. More questionable persons have been entrusted with our governance. More number of persons who have been questioned, have not been processed to the end.

This is why technocracy alone cannot guarantee service.

The real challenges are therefore of two phases. But the factor is the same. The trustees and their staff constitute one phase. They are a continuous necessity for making history. We cannot decide that since the civil service is problematic, it should be closed down. On the contrary, it should be drastically reformed. The revert status should be between **the size of closing it down and the size of operational necessity,** to retain it. And this is absolutely feasible, as painful as it will be.

The second phase is the leadership that is similarly continuous but in a different character. Apart from reducing it drastically, what is retained must be very discouraging for normal attraction. This is even more feasible and less painful. For example, you can have a sole administration of an organization without a board, as a transitory strategy. And the superiority of this strategy is indicated by the failure of human capital investments to march transformation of the service machinery. **It is easier to get fewer leaders that can be probed and checked for sanctions than one seemingly supported by gangsters for guidance, that will be safe or easy to sanction.** The history of audits and Senate Committee on Finance **questioning is enough.**

But these will not be meaningful, without the educational transformation of the entire Polity for the supportive orientation necessary for a consistent society. It is for instance meaningless to be hammering the civil servants and the leadership, while the increasing number that escapes with corruption services the polity for security and welfare. The pervasive experiences of having local communities, leaders along with Senior Advocates, giving ‘moral’ support and defence, to questionable leaders is the indicator that the polity is part of the problem and must be part of the solution.

This necessary drastic option is justified by the insufficiency of the best reforms by Abacha and Obasanjo. The introduction of non-accountable duty tour allowances, pension boards, contributory pension, procurement act and service compact with all Nigerians were undoubtedly good steps. But duty tour has become a safe means for modest thieving, pension boards have not ceased from being corrupted, procurement processes and SERVICOM have been rubbished. Only the contributory policy is least affected. The President had borrowed funds from National Pension Commission, for Governance.

OUR DEMOCRACY OR LEADERSHIP HINGES ON DELIVERING SAFETY AND WELFARE AS THE DIVIDENDS INSTRUCTED BY OUR CONSTITUTION. HOW DOES IDENTITY DISCIPLINE CONNECT TO THIS?

Take the challenge of shelter for all citizens. It is **absolutely not impossible** to provide housing for at least ninety percent of us, within **eight years.** But the so-called professionals will require the knowledge and discipline of modesty and making the best use of most of the resources at the disposal of our collective, **as the priority.** This will logically and sensibly call in the knowledge and discipline producing shelter, across the country by different cultures. To ignore this will be a fundamental **misstep.** The evaluation and cumulative use of these will drive the **universal architecture for the different climates in the country.** This will be followed by the required bureaucracy for pooling the physical and human resource required for achieving the goal over a given period, with trial phases. **Loans, Mortgages, Foreign designs, etc cannot be the beginning.** But minus identity discipline, consultancies, budgets and international designs will be the focus. It will be defeatist. Who says everybody needs housing with air conditioners? Who says it is even healthiest?

Take heath. What can beat preventive care as a foundation policy? Why all the **wastes** on cure? Do we not know or can we not deal with water borne disease **drastically in three years?** Why can't we **connect** our agriculture to our health? **Do we need all the mechanical and chemical stuffs along with the voodoo expertise for food security and better health in more than a period of three raining seasons?** Do you not see the madness and foolishness to contract out tree planting in this country? In the state of Israel, a desert, every plant that you see, was planted and is provided with water. Here, plants can grow and some sustained without extra care, but we are budgeting, taking loans and giving contracts, to record achievement. If we make our foods and drinks our medicine, and our medicine our food, then we can admit specialized services **for all.** But doctors can google for treatment and people die for dental surgery. Imagine our rainfalls, where do our monies go for dams and water boards?

Education and electricity are not different. Our schooling system has turned out to be growingly **ineffective, inefficient, irrelevant and not serving, because of its failure to be driven BY and FOR our IDENTITY.** It will take **forever** to provide meters to all consumers of electricity. A phony consumers society has evolved. Poles, cables or transformers **never get serviced or replaced before they give up.** But the cats who bought the system from the public are feeding fat and large as the workers face misfortunes of unprofessionalism, non payments. Not to talk of petroleum products. This is why the easiest conduits are works and services. In Kaduna State, if Obasanjo laughed at Makarfi over the claimed cost of a flyover bridge, at what costs did Nasiru do a better one? Identity indiscipline is the explanation for the mess and price against the safety and welfare of Kaduna citizens.

Our political process is not different. Parties are unable to attract people **with strong identity discipline.** The calibre of **delegates** easily points at the kind of leaders that

can be presented. Why will not all parties **make up** with thuggery, buying of votes and rigging? And it becomes **a partying opportunity for refined bankrupts of identity discipline, specializing in constitutional law.** The bench is faced with **managing what is before it.** The citizens are confused, disappointed, frustrated, with the results, **even though all the processes applicable to democracy have played out.** International comedian observers evaluate and comment or even advise on **required improvements.**

What cuts through all is bankruptcy of the knowledge and discipline for our collective. No leader is thinking of serving **all, from the onset.** You will hear a real ignorant saying; they will provide ten thousand housing units in every state in four years. The houses are the immediate focus and not the citizens. The machineries of Governance will then begin to define optimal use of our commonwealth for **real sharing between the political leaders, the bureaucrats, the contractors and houses to present as proofs. This is sealed by audit reports.** This is sleek thieving not governance.

The point is **non-religious people who have national identity orientation like communists can definitely deliver. Religious people with right knowledge and discipline driving them will do even BETTER, because of the BLESSINGS of Allah that will accompany them.** But neither religious rascals nor hypocrites, can achieve anything, except by chance and at irrational costs.

The **beginning of leadership must be providing FOR ALL FROM THE ONSET.** It is not a favour being done. And must neither be at his wilful pace nor what the present **weak and corrupt** apparatus and systems will permit. **It must be holistic, mostly engaging and not by isolated government.** This will be

transparency. It is not the President doing his thing and asking Governors to do their own. The citizens vote to have their **joint services.**

Certainly, the President has the responsibility for equal attention and alliance with all Governors, to serve Nigeria. It is not a party sided burden.

IT IS CLEAR THAT YOU PERSONALLY KNOW MUHAMMADU BUHARI. BUT YOUR SUBMISSIONS ON HIS LEADERSHIP ARE VERY CRITICAL. THIS KIND OF RELATIONSHIP IS UNCOMMON. PLEASE EDUCATE US.

I believe that it is essentially because the kind of love between us is characterized by a genuine foundation that both of us are sincerely committed to, and the veering away by one party does not destroy the love of the standing party to the other. Both of us believe in Allah and will not totally abandon this consciously. Both of us strongly believe in the Unity and Development of Nigeria as provided for in our 1999 constitution as amended. The difference between us sprouted out of his becoming the president.

Therefore, he knows from his soul that I have neither reason nor benefit to disrespect or insult or slight his person. And no matter the pains he may feel from the miseducation by others, his soul will not admit either denying or dissociating from the absolute correctness of my submissions and genuine love for his person, in this world and in the hereafter.

I am most likely the only one from whom he got certain straight advices, which he ignored and will continue to be his regret, for his refusal to do the things I advised him to do, three years before he left office.

And from 2013 when I sought for him and met him in Kaduna to before his last trip to London, my advices have been in writing.

For example, I advised him to ensure his doors were open to Scholars and Business Magnets, without any of his aides being an obstacle, to be a meaningful and useful leader. That he should form his team, with the party playing the greatest role. That he should strive to convert Tinubu and Atiku to Nigerianism as fellow Muslims and Nigerians. That he should take a second wife before the end of his first term. That his party members need political education for a better Nigeria, before another election. That his acceptance is like seeing the face of Allah and that it is a trial that he needs to pass. That the greatest challenge of the NNPC is leadership, over and above restructuring. How to engage the National Assembly members through the use of constituency funds, to minimize the rascal effects of the leadership, during his first term, etc.

On his part, he moved to have me on board with him, as early as November 2015. He scuttled attempts to misrepresent me by his top aides, in the beginning. He discovered and ignored a rascal recommendation on me by a hypocrite, whose objective was really negative. There was a private courier between us, even though he transformed into a different thing later.

And I understood why his surroundings were firm in disenabling our meeting. It will be scandalous for those who had asked me to ‘do something for the boys’ and later discovered my close relationship with him. Those who were kept away for collecting money to see him and were returned may be sent away again. Those that have been publicly criticized and fell on deaf ears may be checked if I raised the matter, because he may not wish my opinion away.

Over and above this, with time, he got more enveloped into their culture and started enjoying it, with the implications of defending it to protect himself against immediate embarrassment.

ORDINARILY, BUHARI HAS JUSTIFIABLY BEEN CRITICIZED OR EVEN CONDEMNED MORE AND BETTER THAN ANY NIGERIAN LEADER BEFORE HIM. WHAT DISTINGUISHES YOURS FROM OTHERS, THAT CAN BE CLASSED AS THE USUAL NIGERIAN TRENDS?

The basis of my criticisms is clear and consistent. In addition, it offers a desirable solution that all crave for. And the superiority of mine is that it is plain and non-discriminative. No party is covered and the difference in the weight of blame of responsibility can not be denied.

The credentials Buhari assumed office with also entitled him to a special attention, over and above his predecessors. Today, it is evident that the evil commissions of his successor are more of opportunistic excuses on what he inherited.

Most importantly, from my standpoint, Buhari has certain starling qualities that make attending to his governance a necessity, to understand the gravity and scope of our challenges, if we care to transform. As a Muslim, the decent birth of Buhari is not in question or controversial. He was born in goodly wedlock. No one needs to do a research or evaluate fairy tales about this. A whole ward in Daura is related to him. He therefore has the foundation of attracting the blessings and support of Allah. Buhari cannot be associated with grave commitments like taking of anybody's life. Indeed, Buhari cannot be associated with designing to obstruct another person's progress. As much as he has been associated with not minding the support of questionable persons, he cannot be further associated with abandoning such persons

after use. Furthermore, he cannot be associated with personally strategically planting persons in government to continue serving him. Buhari never pretend to be a scholar or rub shoulders with them, by either leading prayer or opening a Mosque.

On asking for the mandate of Nigerians, Buhari had neither record nor allegations of manipulating public machinery to serve self. He had neither been accused by his superiors nor summoned for questioning over abuse of trust and dropped or discharged. There was no expression of the fear of risking the safety of entrusting him with public resources.

Thus, my difference is that I am motivated by some of his inalienable positive qualities, rather than interested in pulling him down.

The reservations against him were not damaging. In the case of the Awoists, it was an opportunity for vengeance against his military leadership that cut across Nigeria. They wanted him to apologize. Tinubu helped him to do it by giving one of their own as his running mate. The second was taking the risk of benefit of the doubt by those who misbelief that Nigeria belongs to them, because they have been misdirecting its proper management in their interests for decades. They could only extract a verbal promise from him that, they will neither be exposed for embarrassment or questioned for justice, to give him their neutrality.

But my personal love for him does not extend to equalizing him or making him superior to the interests of collective Nigeria. An example of this is the complexity of his handling the challenge of paying fuel subsidy. Before assuming office, he had questioned: payment of subsidy for what? Shortly after Mele headed NNPC, on a Sallah greeting trip to Daura, he alerted Buhari that the payment figures had quadrupled over the time of Jonathan. He decided to fail in management of our commonwealth for the beneficiaries than burden the citizens. Two rascal associates

of his who are failed businessmen approached him for oil wells, to enable him give his party financial security, he turned volt faced. He only managed to shift the effectiveness of the removal of fuel subsidy to immediately after leaving office.

The only caring truth about this, involving him, is that, Buhari is good but has failed. And this leads us to the challenge of defining why a good man has failed. It affirms the stupidity of expecting a bad man to succeed, without changing. It is even worse in foolishness to welcome any less good man or less evil man to succeed, without dealing with why Buhari failed.

Between us, I am a special friend or brother who loves him for the sake of Allah. And my objective is to attain the utmost gift Allah grants two sincere friends for His sake. One party ignites it. Our path is his leadership. The breakthrough was for him to accept his burden as I sincerely defined, and act, against the immediate pains of criticisms that are less than a physical wound sustained by Martyrs of Badr jihad. He knew, because I had written to him and he read my stand on this. He had even read my letters to a close hypocrite Minister and a daft hypocrite governor, that appeared to love him for his work. It is the most honourable for us.

WE DO NOT KNOW IF YOU PERSONALLY KNOW TINUBU, TO HAVE REACHED OUT TO HIM. WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ABOUT HIS LEADERSHIP?

Having chosen to be opportune to lead us as a Nation and more so, as a fellow Muslim, I did reach out to him twice, before he was sworn in. I used the most reliable and secure means of Speed Post, and to his residence at Lagos. I deliberately avoided his office and Abuja, to minimize the exposure and risk of the ambitious aides he is surrounded by. With this, he is fully responsible for my messages, whether he got them or not. And given his personality I am sure that he got the two.

Before Buhari, I had attempted reaching Mathew Olusegun Obasanjo. I didn't personally reach him. But because of the fairly sane arrangement around him, he got a manuscript and video recording of a lecture I delivered at Islamic Centre, Katuru Road, Kaduna. He was particularly attracted to it because he had records and security reports on me, before him.

After him, I had attempted to reach Goodluck Jonathan through a sister friend, Dr Awosika. She was snubbed by the reliable person that could have enabled it. It wasn't shocking because a brother friend, an insurance underwriter had informed me that from his association with the State House, the President had withdrawn to himself.

My primary interest has been those who have the greatest responsibility for solving our collective challenges.

For Tinubu, I have not been bothered by the warnings of his past Deputy Governor nor the admission of his stubborn character by his bosom friend Wole Soyinka. I simply **ALERTED him about the obvious challenges that unmade Buhari and what Identity challenges he shares with most leaders AND HOW TO OVERCOME THEM.**

It was therefore in his court, before he was sworn in. Now that it is over three years, it is on him to evaluate my submission against his leadership. Nigeria is not the personal or family property of any President, and will be most foolhardy to try to make it. The future is superior to both the increasing past and the present.

YOUR FOCUS FOR REORIENTATION IS PARTICULARLY ON THE MUSLIMS BECAUSE IF OUR IDENTITY DISCIPLINE IS MADE ALIVE THE EFFECT ON CHRISTIANS AND IMPACT WILL MAKE NIGERIA BETTER. WHAT IS THE CHALLENGE WITH MUSLIM LEADERS?

Who are the leaders, by identity to follow?

The Imams that lead believers in daily regular connection with Allah by Salat? They are only the most visible category.

Almost all of them are appointees and a good number have inherited it.

The combination of these origination factors slims down or even closes the prospect of having the possible best fitting person in a community as the leader, **continuously.** This is because grooming grounds or grooming families begin to evolve. The difference from this is where it is organization based, where membership is another obstruction. Where a family leads the organization, it is as challenging as where a traditional ruler appoints one. Hence, it is not surprising where the traditional ruler or founder of an organization opts to lead.

The process has become more mechanical than lively. The leadership of the Ummah in this critical aspect has become more institutionalized. The costs or consequences are for all that care, to reflect on and strive for corrections. The factors that must drive any such corrections will be the competence and most appropriateness of the present appointees or occupants and the process of succeeding the present person.

The culture of resisting the succession of occupants by any persons outside the established circle is the indicator of crave for the position, which is a drawback for considering a leader. It has become modern democracy. This has been responded to, by expanding the scope of institutionalization. Thus, multiple Imams in a Mosque.

There is a need to attend to this subtle development, in the interest of the unity and spiritual strength of the Ummah for a greater flow of the blessings of Allah.

This is the state of our leadership in Salat, which is a reflection of the decadence of the authorities that appoint the Imams. For example, where the appointer is worse

so, because he is neither the best in the community nor by attributes of knowledge and discipline of Islam, but because he is, by family or lineage relation. This critical role of appointing an Imam, that he should be the most fitting, will be shared by others, by cooperation, convention or helplessly. **But this is not because the Muslim community does not know the rules of becoming fit.**

At least for where the two levels of a leader and Imam are for a Muslim community, what can be said to be the Identity leadership role of the ruler? This explains the struggle and lobbying, to fit into the democratic structure, with paying roles. Traditional rulers want express constitutional status.

This best explains the self-inflicted misfortune of the communities of believers, when agents of modern democracy are generated. How can we expect those who form political parties, the members, the delegates, the officials, to be a product and reflection of our identity and discipline? It cannot be, **where anything can go.**

What justifications do they have to expect a leadership that is different from what we have deepened into? And when we say we surrender the affairs to Allah, what do we really mean? This is unfortunately the basis for the growing questionable submission that end times are here and things can only get worse. Really? Along with our inactions.

This is the explanation for the confusion, when an Imam pronounces that a National Muslim Leader has not disappointed us, **even when the citizens are facing increasing pains and rape of their commonwealth.** The Muslims know that it does not include them. And Nigerians know that the reference is not to them. All Muslims and Nigerians know that Tinubu has loads of problems, the ones he inherited, the ones he has chosen for himself and the identity crisis he shares with most Nigerians. And the impacts of these are in nonchalant disregard by the pronouncer.

This is the explanation for the inability or even impossibility of getting not just evident proper execution of zakat by wealthy Muslims, but none of our **so-called** identity leaders can **influence** the sincere and wholesome support of the wealthy, for what will be to the collective benefit of the Ummah and Nigerians. They are also striving or even in competition, for accumulating the materials of this world. This is why a Muslim Leader will initiate his own project and launch it to rake in money. This is why Mosques have generated regular processes for funds to maintain the Houses and personnel.

This is why no Imam can with integrity caution, criticize or correct a traditional ruler or a political leader and expect respectful response. Even when many of them do it, the wrong can be declared to have come to stand.

This is why the most vibrant class of the leaders are either individual preachers or leaders of organizations. But their unity in knowledge is also a challenge.

Every so-called leader is in freedom of a part of our faith to believe in or act on, and not on another. But we all know that, that is not Islam.

DOES THIS MEAN THAT YOU DO NOT RECOGNIZE THE LEADERSHIP OF ANY ISLAMIC LEADER?

That will be arrogant. The worry I have expressed relates to most of those in limelight, especially those that have institutions or structures. And it does not amount to my total condemnation of institutions or structures, **though I have strong reservations about them.**

If you take the office of the Sultan, it has gone through embarrassing transformations. The first Sultan was **not, because of his birth. It was more or coincided with his knowledge and discipline of the *deen*.** The leader, Sheikh

Usumanu ibn Fodio, was not a Sultan. But this qualification degenerated to become ascriptive. Indeed, we experienced a military aid for a switch from the patriarchal line to the matriarchal, to become a Sultan. The justification was that they are not bastards. Along with this degeneration is the constitutional protocol. The Sultan is strictly under the Local Government Chairman. And all Chairmen are answerable to the Governor. A governor of the state **formally streamlined this, by getting the House of Assembly to make it statutory and free the Sultan from the ambition of determining any formal leadership.** Therefore, the Sultan of Sokoto from the outset at the time of Fodio **is not the Sultan of Sokoto today.** What really makes him different from **being the Emir of Sokoto, is the structure of Jama'atu Nasril Islam and the Supreme Council of Islamic Affairs.**

I specifically did an alert letter to the current one on this.

I have personally known Late Grand Qadi Mahmoud Gumi, during my university days. I am conversant with his teachings, some of the books he wrote in Hausa and the Qur'an translation. He was undoubtedly a knowledgeable and highly disciplined person and **leader.** He **earned the respect of all.** His greatest challenge was institutions, like Fodio. From the position of a Judge and adviser, he made efforts for **the principle and struggle against innovations, along with respecting the structures in place like Fodio did, but short of transforming the rotten attributes they were building up.** This was worsened by their fitting into the growing democratic system. The cancer of knowledge and discipline bankruptcy or secondary to birth became pervasive and deep. After him, the **escapist institution of Izala** came into being. The name of the principle became **pronounced** but the knowledge and discipline became **chequered** by attributes of institutionalization. We now have Supreme Council, National Council of Ulama, etc. **But none of them has impacted on our leadership like Mahmoud alone did.** Obasanjo got Gumi, to

decide on the concept of Shariah in the constitution. Gumi did not only collect the meagre sum from the Federal Government for a National Mosque in Abuja, but **he enabled the befitting value by simply engaging Late General Shehu Yar'adua.** Which scholars can do the same or something similar with Aliko, Umar Mutallab, Ahmed Bola Tinubu, Atiku, any Governor or Senator, today? Ibrahim Babangida told of how a note from Gumi, slipped into his uniform, **changed his intent to oblige institutionalization of monogamy in Nigeria.**

The combination of the Sultan, the Councils and Izala can never achieve anything close to this leadership traits **in the present course.** The *barakah* of Allah is the clear difference. The indicators are the **choice of which Izala (between Kaduna and Jos) by the Sultan.** What **attention** to give to Tariqa or steps to **accommodating** it. And the idolization of **certain views or interpretations by Gumi.** Examples are mode of greeting elders and drinking of Qur'an writing. Some of the Izala scholars have raised above this, but **the institutionalization is the huddle.** Fortunately, Gumi had severally admitted not knowing something, when asked. Gumi never claimed to be infallible. And where is the blessing of differing between scholars? But the cart drivers of our sheep make name out of it and foment hatred, divisions or crisis.

Between the Izala and Tariqa, it is noteworthy that Gumi had pronounced that, active participation in democracy is more important than Salat. This is evidently so because of the critical status and role of leadership in society. Sheikh Dahiru Bauchi later pronounced that it is better to support a Christian who will **not label them as unbelievers, over a misguided Muslim leader who will do so.** The real challenge is neither the leaders nor Islam **but the knowledge and discipline orientation of all of us.** The consequence is that majority of us are led like sheep.

In the case of Sheikh Dahiru Bauchi, I met him through Late Alhaji Ahmadu, who was junior brother to my boss, Dr Umaru Sanda Ahmadu. I have listened to his Tafsir of the Qur'an. He undoubtedly stands out as a pure example of a **knowledgeable and disciplined leader.** He **consistently** stuck to the clear lifestyle of **constant Zikr and Du'a** and the Orientation of understanding and approaching issues, based on the Qur'an, the Hadith, the consensus of scholars and his choice, that was always Maliki. It was his personal knowledge and character embodiment that made him a leader, **not any institution or organization.** May those who are blind to his mark in history make similar or better mark, to the benefit of the Ummah before they die.

As a non-scholar, I believe that the Ummah will do better by having the scholars return to the tradition of these two men. No scholars should be afraid of **losing out anything, because the affair is entirely belonging to Allah alone.** Islam and the Ummah is not better or strengthened by **awards, appointments or organizations.**

YOU HAVE URGED BELIEVERS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF *ISTIKHARA* IN MAKING ELECTORAL DECISIONS. CAN YOU THROW MORE LIGHT ON THIS?

This is a Sunnah of Rasul (SAW). It does not serve **in isolation of what is understandable, what is intelligent and Du'a.** This is why scholars never fail to point out that **you do not have to dream for guidance.** The whole affair and process is **living.**

I am not a scholar. Scholars have been brushing it. It needs to be taught like the Prophet (SAW) used to do. Learning and sharing enhances the Iman.

For example, Rasul (SAW) taught that whoever **asks to lead is not suitable because he may be left to be on his own, without the help of Allah.** This is because the attribute of the **Mulk** by Allah is jealousy guarded. A believer must not **even** bear

Malik as a name. It is disgusting. And we have chosen for ourselves **asking to lead along with defence** as the standard mode. In this circumstance, **we will be foolish and worse off, to consider a desperate seeker.** Whoever presents such a person is ignorant and harmful. And we are many and resourceful enough to produce, encourage or even force **the best among us,** to lead us.

Therefore, when you hear of a **consensus candidate,** it really does not mean anything in particular. It can be **the best who has been invited and presented like Late Shagari.** It can be the one **subtly imposed like Obasanjo, through pardon.** It can be one **powerfully anointed like Yar'adua and Goodluck.** It can be **a Self-Imposter.**

It will also be most unintelligent to consider any person who is strongly known to be a thief, even if he has not been caught or has been ignored, or one who has oppressed and manipulated citizens, to lead or guide. No one needs to dream this.

Luckily, the democratic process provides a relief window. Citizens do not only have to vote a presented leader; **they need to vote enough.** And not by the fraudulent interpretation of Abuja votes as superior to the votes of any state. Any associate of such stand **can do anything because he is not straight.**

Believers are required to live with *Istikhara* along with Du'a and their Intelligence **constantly.** And Du'a is the **sword** of the believers.

WHAT FORMS OR KINDS OF CHALLENGES DID YOU FACE, IN PURSUIT OF YOUR INTEREST AND COMMITMENT?

With academicians, they are largely unable to think outside their holes of authority. He thinks you have brought him a thesis to evaluate. He is either looking for or asking for content page, chapters or reviews. The fairer ones will be suggesting

the same. The worst ones are **ever too busy** to attend or revert to you, **after accepting to support, with a commentary on selected materials.** They were doctors of philosophy in their fields or professors.

You can imagine a primary academician who is a secondary administrator excusing himself that he has files to clear, to a regular administrator of training institutions for twenty-five years.

This was critically eye opening for me, because it revealed that those respectful ones that I reached out to, were only goodly schooled. It is like the sacred terms of admitting or adopting a material by a Nigerian into the curriculum of a school. The same champions may for instance have studied Shakespeare without appreciating that the United Kingdom didn't apply such terms to admit it. This is not Education. If the works of Plato, Aristotle, Marx, Kwame, Awolowo are submitted for evaluation today, they will be thrown out by those who have not contributed anything to society.

If professors of knowledge are to be professors of our identity discipline, it will be different. This is why Kissinger, an academic with the identity of United States made a fair political adviser and secretary to the government. This is why some countries refer to their universities of discipline for policies of governance. The baboons here refer to institutions outside Nigeria.

With Islamic Scholars, those who are certified or known as learned and are looked up to for guidance, I reached out to some. The standard request remained the same. To support me with a commentary on my submission. It consistently failed; even when I asked for a Foreword statement for a work, it eventually failed after a followed-up promise of a year or more.

This is radically opposed to my previous experiences. For instance, I never personally met Late Justice AbdulQadir Orire while he was alive. I sent him a material to work on. He did and sent it to me through his daughter who was posted to Zaria on National Service. The same with Late Justice Naibi Sulaiman Wali. This generation of leaders is largely a big challenge to progress.

Traditional rulers make up another category of persons people look up to. With the exception of one who also doubles as a scholar, in the eastern part of this country, the others I reached out to were dead or hypocritical in the consciousness of their identity. The exception was unable to do me the favour but he kept communicating. Ordinarily, one would think that since they mostly assumed their offices by ascription, ignorance or daftness can be confronted. However, even in my being very selective of the outstanding, the results were embarrassing. I was particularly pained in the case of three. In their case, except the easterner, I simply requested them to use the materials for the benefit of their people.

The other scandals were political leaders. And in this case, I am restricting myself to presidents and governors. The scope was wider but I effectively reached only those that are intelligent and can be related with on the kind of subjects I have written on. The best I got was a false firm promise to commit resources in the project. Neither this category nor that of Traditional rulers was considered for knowledge support or contributions. There was one ambitious one who showed interest in writing a statement in support or launching them. I affirmed that he was unsuitable and the TRUTH does not require fanfare or advertisement bill boards.

There was the category of professionals in their fields who have shown or have been associated with collective justice. My requirement of them was largely to even share

my ideas, to learn from them. They were largely avoiding because they are more committed to matters of here and now.

The challenge of faintly or hypocritical levels of support is apparently wide. If leaders who should take responsibility for our transformation are these characterized, one can appreciate the burden of being different and indeed what likely support a willing and open public leader can get.

My learnings from these are three. The first is that, for the academics and scholars who have knowledge to share, without losing what they know, because it really belongs to Allah and therefore free, their hesitation is the proof of how stingy man can be, if he is to be the whole owner. The second is that, for those who hold political authority, they can be unmindful of the fact that the robe is a special opportunity to represent an attribute of Allah, to sustain and expand what is good for all or correct whatever will hinder it, for collective appreciation and rewards. The same applies to those endowed with material resources. And with the exception of the first group, the others are more temporary and wither away either by being lost, taken away or diminished by superior developments. The third is the Consciousness of Identity that can collapse. If any of them didn't have me in their consciousness as **the one** they will be supporting, but Allah, and for their own good as well as the society, the results would have been consistently positive. So, it is not enough to be a Muslim, a Muslim academic, a Muslim scholar, a Muslim Traditional head, a Muslim holding a political office or a Muslim professional. Truly, knowledge of Islam is not sufficient, UNTIL THE CONSCIOUSNESS DRIVES HIS LIVELIHOOD. That is the required discipline.

And the worst that can befall a society is the 'death' of the living Muslim academics and scholars. This is because they have the burden of being the light bearers and

symbols or models of the TRUTH. But they can be a contradiction. A state of darkness with lights in it. More than anyone, they know that knowledge is not to be for sale and that Allah will question every trustee for not helping the needy out. The common drift for all is using religion for self needs, wants and fancies instead of FOR THE SAKE OF ALLAH. The unfortunate and irresponsible use of such competences devoid of consciousness is what generates manipulation of religion.

For those that I have personally met, written to or sent my publications, it will continue to be a trial hanging on them, unless or until they adjust WILFULLY. Allah did not create us for play, rascality or wickedness.

IT IS NOT UNCOMMON TO HAVE INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE COMMITTED TO SOCIETAL TRANSFORMATION TO HAVE SOMEONE WHO GIVES THEM SOME FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO CUSHION BASIC CHALLENGES. WHAT IS YOUR EXPERIENCE?

Well. This is partially right, but not strictly the standard. Where it worked, the supporter **knew, understood and was committed to the course.** It was not like a **favour.** Whatever he did was a dutiful contribution to the course.

I did have a different form of support, in the person of Late Justice Bashir Sambo. We discussed different types of issues with him. He was more knowledgeable, older and more exposed than me.

He voluntarily encouraged someone who had met me and read my writings, to bank roll their production and circulation **for the sake of Allah.** I later got to know this, but he never mentioned it to me. It could have yielded very positive results, **if the person's livelihood and resources were driven by seeking the pleasure of Allah.**

A learned acquaintance of Late Muhammadu Buhari suggested to him, that he establishes a printing facility, dedicated to the production of my books and similar ones **as *Sadaqatu Jaariyat*.** I found this out later.

In the case of Late Santuraki, AbdulRahman Jumare Yahya, he gave me money to print my first publication. He also introduced me personally to Late Sheikh Umaru Sanda of Unguwan Kanawa Kaduna, Late Ambassador Nuhu Mohammed of Durumi, Zaria and Late Magajin Gari, Nuhu Bamali, who was Chairman of Gaskiya Publishing and Printing Corporation, Zaria. There was Mallam Zakari and Alhaji Usman also known as Alhajin Kofa. The latter introduced me to Mallam Ali of Kona. **I learnt/inherited from them.**

Through Mallam Nuhu I met his teacher, Mallam Alu of Unguwan Dankali. Through Mallam Bashir I met Mallam Lawal of Kofan Fada. My neighbour Lamido, a relative of Santuraki introduced me to Sheikh Sani Khalifa. ETC.

Mallam Sani of Tudun Bayin Allah used to call me **Dan Sa'idu Goyon Zaria.**

You also need to appreciate that in my case, I am **not asking for upturning the society.** Everybody is invited, for collective safety and prosperity. The nature of our rottenness is just **worse than what Fodio was confronted with, which was purifying Islamic livelihood from idol worship.** The kind of challenge that engulfed Christianity in the hands of Roman Kings. We are now **largely Muslims but driven by Ignorance, Hypocrisy and Audacity.**

Those who read any of my writings and made written responses by asking questions, commentary or translation remain wonderful. Dr Amina, Professor Maryam, Abdullahi Ahmed Imam, Sulayman Mambo, Joseph Nashakyaa, Kolawole Mohammed, etc.

Of course, I have had benefactors, **but they have no craze for Reorientation of the society.** They simply liked me, respected me, believe that I deserve support. They are like my ATM, in a modest way. My former bosses, seniors, colleagues, friends, **Muslims and Christians.** My family members and relatives supported with **patience and embracing whatever Allah makes out of it.** My creditors are fantastic with understanding.

IN YOUR LETTER, YOU SPECIFIED SOME LEADERS THAT SHOULD LEAD IN THE REORIENTATION EDUCATION. MANY WILL THINK THAT THEY ARE THE FIRST TO REALLY BLAME FOR OUR DELAYED EDUCATION, BECAUSE OF THE CAPACITY OF MOST OF THEM.

People are free to think of whatever. The truth remains constant. I **didn't ask for financial support from majority of them.** Most of them do not have **primary responsibility for the project.** The most suitable was Muhammadu Buhari, followed by Ahmed Bola Tinubu. And I connected with some of them, before the present package got completed. I specifically recall one of them asking me: **when will you finish these your writings?**

Thus, they remain the **most suitable for me to ask for their support,** because I attempted to connect with them out of personal respect, their experiences in the leadership challenges of this country, as Muslims and as a collective responsibility. But there is no compulsion.

Undeniably, they are the most-worthy. I had met or connected with ministers and governors who do not deserve this invitation. One could not even accept my invitation. Another I asked for a Commentary preferred to write a Foreword. There was a Dr Khalid who asked about my tribe, before he could accept my invitation. There was an honoured businessman who I discovered was not driven by knowledge

or love of Rasul (SAW). There was a Zikr man that failed me even after we quarrelled, over his failing me, because I had asked him to comment on what he appears to love most. Businessmen are my least worry because they are really lowest on the ladder. But there was one that I understand to be different. I excuse him because he has done a really **good part for the Ummah**, and may have considered that it is enough.

IT IS CLEAR FROM YOUR WRITINGS THAT YOU DO NOT SEE OR CONSIDER CHRISTIANS AS TOO DIFFERENT IN FOLLOWING THE SAME PATH. DID YOU CONSIDER APPROACHING ANY CHRISTIANS?

That is right. And regardless of what opinions anyone may hold about, they are books or scriptures that Muslims have to believe in, to have originated from Allah, through Prophet Isa (AS). That Allah has chosen to protect the Qur'an unlike the other books does not place us more than observers in that respect. And whether any party accepts or denies it, they are closest to us.

The standpoint of Islam is the Unity of Allah. Muslims and Christians who care, will find attributes or names of Allah that agree in the Qur'an and the Bible. For the benefit of both, **twenty-one** can be found in the Bible easily.

Among the academics, there were responsible Christians. There were pastors among them as well as outside the academia.

So, it was as a matter of principle. While I have no right to take offense as in the case of fellow Muslims, I felt bad with the avoidance of a friend at Covenant University and another who was a Senior official of Christian Association of Nigeria.

But it wasn't a total failure. A Roman Catholic and an Author was forthcoming. For me, it shames the devil.

WE GENERALLY BELIEVE AND ARE INDEED LISTED AS A VERY RELIGIOUS COUNTRY OF MUSLIMS AND CHRISTIANS. WHAT IS THE POSSIBLE ROOT OF THE CONTRADICTIONS BETWEEN OUR RELIGIOSITY AND LIVELIHOOD OR GOVERNANCE CRISIS?

Our religiosity does not drive our livelihood, leadership and governance. This is why you can find a leader declaring that the state he is briefly opportune or challenged to manage, is of his religion. But neither Christianity nor Islam is to be adopted as a real or total state religion. In addition, neither of the religions provides for suffocating even non-believers.

Our religiosity fairly keeps the canons, in the eyes, but do not influence our livelihood. For instance, in the case of Islam, the daily canonical prayers of a Muslim will not be SERVING until it keeps him away from evil against self and others. And a prayer has ten portions of rewards. A portion can be lost by looking around while praying.

We are more into trading worshippers, veiled by the compassions and grace of Allah. For instance, when we pray and plead, we witness and benefit from the response of Allah. Like we prayed for the recovery of Buhari and he beat science to recover.

But have we not been calling for prayers against insurgents, banditry, militancy, etc?

Have we committed even less efforts against corruption, in our family lives, in the economic management of our country?

The greatest indicator is in the commercial relationship between politicians and religious leaders or groups. The common platform is believing in Allah. This is why

Muslims pay Christian Leaders to pray for them. This is why Christians pay Muslim Leaders to pray for them. In majority of cases, the person asking payer does not bother to pray himself and the paid trusts in Allah to answer. And this is why religious leaders have REALLY lost their integrity before political leaders. They are seen as professional service givers.

All of these are related to our religions. They indicate our religiosity. But the summary of all does not make us meaningful religious people.

With religion, we do as it pleases us and Allah is not unappreciative or stingy. After all He grants even without asking, including those who do not believe. But we cannot make Him our servant. He does as He Pleases. And only the CONSCIOUS AND DISCIPLINED get a true taste of His Pleasure.

This means that we are not in a totally hopeless state from recovery. He is forgiving more than He is forbearing. With repentance, we can turn a new leaf, for ourselves.

This is better and more appropriate than the hopeless rascality of even Muslims or Christians, saying that our religion is the problem. Our religion is the best solution for now, if we educate and reorient ourselves.

IN FAIRNESS TO ALL OF US, WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO CONNECT OUR RELIGION TO OUR POLITICAL PRACTICES. MUSLIMS AND CHRISTIANS ARE TOGETHER WHOLLY RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR STATE. HOW CAN THIS BE STRAIGHTENED?

Right. It is not the religion or the two religions but the claimants of the identity.

It is impossible and most contradictory when a solution to ALL is made to serve any selfish purpose, when made to share or compete with anything or others. That is

exactly our self undoing. The inevitable consequences will be inefficiency, ineffectiveness, unnecessary inter and intra conflicts.

Take the wasteful political campaigns we engage in, even if it is without financial misdeeds. We also get a line-up of dreams as promises and assurances. And they always revolve around our basic needs. Health, Schooling, Water, Light, Transport, Roads, etc. Now, security that was taken for granted has joined the list as a priority. The moment a set of creatures are given the mandate, the inefficiencies and even abuses begin to surface and build up.

IF the members of political parties are of their identity knowledge, consciousness and discipline, it is most unlikely that one of them who has been associated with **champion** abuse of the Ten Commandments or Major Sins, will be given their common flag to represent them. However, the stars of the party members may be the champions of these abuses. It is like ordinary believers asking a foremost enemy of Allah to represent Him. But the creature cannot even represent them. And this is strengthened by the seal of the larger polity of believers, who cast their votes for him.

Thus, if there is consistency in beliefs, knowledge, consciousness and discipline of individual identity across the board of JUST THE PARTY MEMBERS, OFFICIALS AND DELEGATES, we will not fail to be served with RESPONSIBLE REPRESENTATIVES. This further means that if by any special design or accident, a responsible representative is presented, HE WILL LARGELY BE UNABLE TO SERVE, BECAUSE THE SUPPORT BASIS IS MORE CONTRADICTORY THAN CONSISTENT.

Accordingly, the communist tradition of a manifesto may not be a principal issue. The moment either a right Muslim or Christian candidate is presented, the polity will

be focused on his Identity Integrity and EXPECT him to PROTECT THEIR IDENTITY WITH DISCIPLINE. All other things will fall into place gradually. For example, across board, the executive, legislature, the bureaucracy, when it comes to ENABLING GOODLY WORSHIP BY THE BELIEVERS, everything will be done to provide WATER FOR CLEANING, POWER FOR PREPARATIONS AND PRAYER. The HOUSING of the children or servants of God will not be attending to with architectural, financial and insurance mechanisms that will make it difficult, FOR MOST CITIZENS TO BE HOUSED WITHIN EIGHT YEARS. The ultimate measure of good leadership and governance will be ENABLING THE CITIZENS WORSHIP WITH EASE, COMFORT AND PROSPERITY. No responsible believer who is a leader will be thinking and admitting commitment to loans as a STANDARD for governance. It will be worse to burden the citizens with frivolous taxes in the name of professional fiscal solutions.

Any professionalism that WILL NOT SERVE IDENTITY DEVELOPMENT is questionable and useless. This is what domestication is all about. Development is not replicating Oxford or Harvard structures, books and facilities content in Nigeria and producing graduates of the same curriculum. That is sheepish. It is similarly not impressive to have Cancer facilities and specialists when and where Water borne diseases are the greatest challenge.

Unless and until our identity knowledge, consciousness and discipline drives our livelihood and leadership, governance or transformation, we will not have a rational, sensible and consistent standard that will serve us. This is why citizens will be unemployed, hungry, sick, out of school, suffering from drug abuse, crimes, etc. and the leader will return from a trip to Dubai, with a vow to replicate Dubai in Nigeria. The cultural orientation, both his mental and material well-being are not related to the reality of his identity. And the fool will be basking in fulfillment.

Our political and livelihood disorganization and disorientation are logical consequences of our isolation of our religion from our livelihood because of identity ignorance or hypocrisy.

For every believer, every leader, livelihood and work are for worship. Worship is not just for followers or a hobby.

YOU HAVE CONSISTENTLY INSISTED THAT VIRTUALLY EVERYONE NEEDS THIS LEADERSHIP EDUCATION AND REORIENTATION TO ENABLE A BETTER NIGERIA. IN THE CASE MUSLIMS, WHAT WILL YOU SPECIFICALLY RECOMMEND FOR THE YOUTHS?

Let me begin by saying that, nothing stops children between secondary and higher schooling levels to fully grasp and understand ALL I have written on Leadership, Marriage and Family. And this will just be by the way. And it can be done individually, with little or no supervision.

Between the same range, what parents, schools and groups or organizations must ENSURE, is the gradual orientation of the youths to KNOW ALLAH, by those who have strived to Know Him and can SHARE BEING WITH HIM. I am recommending MORE than a rote learning of the attributes of Allah.

This is impossible without intermittent connection or relationship between the learning young and the learned and disciplined old. This is what will give inspiration to the young. In our days, youths in secondary schools and up to university level, have invited justices and scholars for lectures or debated issues together and had self funded and managed magazines for sharing the records. These are the kinds of things that topped our curriculum activities and made us.

On the contrary, even at my post retirement age, I recall pursuing a learned Chief Justice of a State to support me with a commentary on a writeup, he never allowed me to meet him or responded.

At this stage, deliberate steps can be taken by participation, select and limited Zikr, *Salatil Nabiyyi* and *Istigfar* should be learned. This should be connected to their daily personal and collective livelihood through decent activities and Du'a. The objective will be to make them Learn, Work right and be Witnesses of Allah's response or trials. The earlier and more it becomes part of them, the more they will be able to face genuine trials, against being really victims of self-inflicted wounds. Allah may even reveal His preferences for decent persons.

And the Ummah is not short of seniors who have seen, heard and experienced enough to share on informal terms with youths, including their teachers. This should be a fallout benefit of Parents Teachers Associations, if there is a responsible identity connection between them.

In this way, they will grow up to be better conscious and evaluative of themselves and others. This will make them better connected to Allah and consequently, better leaders in whatever level they may find themselves.

HAVE YOU RECONSIDERED THE CHALLENGE OF LOW READING CULTURE AMONG THE YOUTHS, WHEN YOU INSIST THAT NEW LEADERS NEED LOADS OF READING?

I will have no justification for such adjustment. It is an absolute truth and requirement, that **right knowledge is the foundation for discipline.** It also grows and develops through time, **strengthening the pillars of what is true and right.** Nonentities can definitely not lead **rightly.**

I am personally **not hopeless** about generating a new set of deserving leaders from among the **youths, the older and children** who are literate to read and understand my reminder and call for Reorientation Education, for a **real and better version of ourselves.** The capacity is there. The ability is enormous. The simple huddle **is to wake us up from slumber.**

Anyone who sticks to what is different **is really a glutton who is after taking advantage of the situation for continuous rape of our commonwealth and oppression.** The person is surely not **interested in our common good, without him.** He is extremely selfish and not selfless. This is the pervasive attribute of indiscipline among our ambitious leaders.

WHAT OF THE CHILDREN, OF PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE, WHO LATER GROW INTO BECOMING THE YOUTHS?

You have been caught up by the growing, developing and transforming **little shirk** we are now inclined towards, even if the worship is neither real nor evident.

People have taken leaders of religious organizations as **religious or spiritual leaders.** People who take their medication in the name of Allah are better than those who just take it. Researchers in the name of Allah couldn't have produced genetically modified objects for agriculture.

You had spoken of youths as an age bracket located between post primary and university schools. As much as they are energetically the most vibrant, have they proven to be those **bearing the process of our history?** Are they the ones in leadership, especially political leadership? The slots they have been opportune to have are no doubt numerous. Have they made a positive difference from the older that are still holding on?

The issue of **identity education and discipline** is beyond what will be tied or subjected to fixations like school curriculum or level of schooling. It is never passed until after death. And it commences from the identity discipline of parties that become a couple.

But for simplicity, let me give this example. Children are introduced to **Purity, Zikr and Du'a.** They are then encouraged **individually** and **collectively** to **connect their** needs, wants and fancies to **the will of Allah.** As history unfolds and they **share experiences,** they get **exposed to the attributes of Allah reflecting in their livelihood as He pleases.** Then they can ask themselves or others **intelligent questions over their experiences and understand their faith better.** This can be done at home by members, at primary, secondary, university levels, at work place or in retirement.

What I have provided for learning and living the attributes of Allah **may therefore be immediately more applicable to youths but not restricted to them, because children with earlier exposure can be cultured with the knowledge and discipline before the older, who had been ignorant and unconscious.**

Do you not see that we are in a state where many Muslims do not start **every of their private, personal, social or functional activities without Basmala?** Muslims and Christians do their activities without opening it with **prayer?** How do you expect the blessings of Allah to flow, how do you expect any restraint from **doing what is wrong or evil, in the name of Allah?** How do you expect Allah to take immediate offense over **audacity?** Is it then not a hopeless dream, to expect any meaningful impact of the National Anthem and Pledge?

Identity Reorientation is a very serious livelihood challenge, beyond mere knowledge and certification or the exclusive or better belonging of any individual or group.

WHAT IS YOUR POSITION AGAINST THOSE WHO POSIT THAT, BEING IN END TIMES, *QADR* MAY BE THE CHALLENGE, WHICH CANNOT BE WISHED AWAY?

Qadr is absolutely true. But it is the reserve of Allah. In relation to us, it can even appear to adjust or change. So, the combination of the truth of *Qadr* and its inevitability really appears only IN THE END. This is why the consistent tradition of Islam is for a Muslim to strive to seek his *Qadr*. And only a fool will ignore preference for Jannah and safety from the Fire. Indeed, we are encouraged to seek by striving, for the highest, the best.

It is therefore foolhardy to recline in self deceit that WHATEVER WRONGS FIT INTO END TIMES. If it fits, is it your RIGHT to ENABLE it or watch and become a goodly victim? It is only fair and just for those who are adamant or neutral and follow suit, to be joined with the enablers of END TIME.

In Islam, those who strive, will find their *Qadr* EASY. This is the difference between the jihadist who eventually committed suicide and the one who only declared faith and died a Martyr. Thus, whoever urges giving in to rubbish will end up to be part of it.

Where is *Qadr* for the greedy scholar who collects a hundred million naira from **a questionable character as a favour** and the character gets involved in public theft and robbery? Is it good conscience that will drive the greedy from not criticizing and calling for the sanction of the hypocrite or oppressor? This may even be worse, where the greedy was required to share with others and he refused. Where is *Qadr*

when the giver tells the collector to find a way to silence the complainants, because he did his part. The two are rascal leaders who are Muslims.

What is *Qadr*, where a Scholar is required to recommend a work that will **enlighten the Ummah that he is leading and he declines because the author is not related to him?** And he tells the lie, that he has actually recommended the work. It will be worse, if the recommendation is to facilitate getting a loan, **which the scholar can personally grant the author. This is the matrix of our religious rascality.**

This is not to dispute that you can face **the challenge of getting and meeting honest people among Muslims,** whereas being a Muslim is supposed to be sufficient to guarantee honesty. But it will be wrong to condone lies telling as **normal** simply because it is pervasive.

WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE IDENTITY REORIENTATION THAT IS THE SOLUTION TO OUR LEADERSHIP AND LIVELIHOOD CHALLENGES AND THE *BARAKAH* THAT APPEARS TO BE A CRITICAL DEFICIT?

It is very simple. Allah is the Creator of all things. He is the Giver of all attributes, capacities and abilities. He is the only one who is absolutely True. Anything and anyone that contradicts Him is false. His Light is the only opener to understanding, by knowledge. And the absolute discretion is His, over the end of every creation. Who can therefore claim right Guidance other than Him?

He has **decided to give a taste of His good to all creations,** regardless of recognizing Him or not. Like sunlight, rains, intellect, wealth, power, etc in different forms. He has **further decided to favour believers more in this world and better in the hereafter, but in a living manner.** As a result, those who believe will encounter **trials** to ascertain their faith, because He is truthful. And **every one who**

patiently perseveres through, will definitely get all that is better in the hereafter. And it is His discretion to grant His pleasure in this world as He pleases. **Believers have only one way to Him. Submission.**

Those in submission **will get His bonuses in this world.** For example, ignorant and believing societies can experience abundant agricultural prosperity, by His blessings. Stubborn societies who reject Him exercise all capacities and appear to be succeeding. But they are really in more servitude and continue to discover that their abundance is even destructive. The records of mechanical and chemical inputs for agriculture have turned out to be destructive of soil value and the nutrients it produces. Extracts are now the resort for supplements. The agriculture in the State of Israel is a good example against the health status of Americans, from what they eat.

So, if believers stick with submission, they will **make achievements topped with *barakah*.** If we don't, the mercy of all is still encompassing **but will be short of His graceful interventions. And the debt of disobedience will be outstanding for payment in the hereafter.**

SOCIETAL CHANGE OR TRANSFORMATION MUST GO THROUGH A TRANSITION PROCESS. IN YOUR CASE, YOU HAVE DISMISSED THE RATIONALITY OF A REVOLUTION. YOUR EDUCATION WILL TAKE AT LEAST TWO YEARS. PEOPLE HAVE CONSIDERED MILITARY RETURN. WHAT IS YOUR POSITION?

Let me begin with the futility of a revolution in our circumstance. In the histories where they have made a mark, the arrow head always has an ideology or paradigm that is capable of explaining the status of the rot and the definite solution to it, in simple understandable terms. This is **beyond criticisms of specific actions.** Very

often the ideological reference is a highly disciplined person. And sub leaders voluntarily submit themselves for even sacrifice as an honour. This cannot be created in Nigeria where the real focus is taking over power to try a different thing, by one creature and his cohorts.

The manipulation of religion is easier, but cannot be used to execute a revolution. It will be easier to have an Osu person to lead Biafra, which is really senseless and out of place, for at least fifty years to come.

For a military intervention, it will be most foolish of any bad performing and oppressive civilian leadership to rule out being overthrown. For one, they do not require anybody's consent or vote to act. Secondly, no amount of good care for the chiefs is a good safety catch. Even with the present arrangement, where the control of troops is close to the president, a coup only requires a crack in the emotional intelligence of the red necks. The superiority of good governance for security over corruption and oppression is absolute and universal.

The suspension of the constitution and the posture of the international community response consequences are really dependent upon the measures of the performance or failures of the ousted government. Moreover, the kind of irrational and self-serving influence of Europe and the United States response to Late Sani Abacha is most unlikely to succeed now. The pronounced powerful Asian and Middle Eastern countries are more interested in good governance that keeps the country stable, than the dress code of the leaders. In fact, they are more militarily oriented.

But, not even the best intentional military takeover can take us out of the woods WITHOUT RE-EDUCATION AND REORIENTATION WITH IDENTITY KNOWLEDGE AND DISCIPLINE OF THE CITIZENS. The only safety guard is good governance. And the first step is for the leadership to accept that it has failed

and change course. Responsible leadership IS NOT AKIN TO DOING A PEOPLE FAVOURS.

As for examples of immediate actions path, I had used the elements of Tinubu Manifesto, to advise him, through two of my letters to him before assuming office. That he didn't get the letters is out of question. He wouldn't have removed the fuel subsidy without proper preparations, he would have been more modest in constituting his team and his priorities would have been different.

SECURITY HAS LONG BECOME A MAJOR ISSUE. WHAT WOULD YOU CONSIDER TO BE THE IMMEDIATE SOLUTION?

The challenges relating to security have been negatively transforming because the operatives who manage it are key parts of the general degenerating governance process.

To have security operatives even suspected to share interests in the extortions by bandits; bandits destroying operatives' facilities; frontline operatives complaining against non-care for their welfare; drafting unripe trainees to the field, only to sacrifice them; involvement in oil bunkering or ordering troops who are on the course of a successful mission, to withdraw, are most damaging.

It is sincerely extremely difficult for any government to manage and expect to attend to and put behind security challenges, with the security operatives having these characteristics. The best immediate actions will be to have a PROFESSIONALLY REORIENTED SERVICES under leaders of integrity and ensuring their timely welfare.

The equipment or skills are not the challenges.

This is impossible, if the president is not very very very and clearly DIFFERENT.

A fair reference will be the status of Late Sani Abacha. If a president will have service chiefs of that integrity, the solution will be through in a maximum of three months. This is because the security agencies run on the culture of regimental command, which makes reorientation and mobilizations easy.

The challenges are therefore surmountable.

Even if the military is to take over, the clearance of these challenges will require an Abacha will, to deal with the challenges. This is why the diversion of creating state police is really a wool to cover the continuation of the present mess. Most of those in support of it are ignorants. And with a combination of mischievous and ignorant leaders determining what path to take, you cannot expect any fast reliefs.

An eye opener is that people intelligently argue that insecurity activities can be cut down with more employments. True. But with more of the resources at the mercy of plunder being used in the course of Supra security agencies creation, support for regular security apparatus and setting aside funds not to be accounted for, you can only quickly expand employment for the service. Economic bearing employments will only dwindle. That is why the witches of taxation and loans are appearing to be the saving grace. And the citizens are the victims.

WHAT SUMMARY EXPERIENCE CAN YOU SHARE?

I actually intend to write it later, by the special grace of Allah, as the MEANING OF ISLAM. I have been favoured to live up to sixty with bonus. This is what even unbelievers can enjoy. As a Muslim, I am grateful to Allah for becoming conscious of the risks of using up the years for just eating, drinking, sleeping, socializing. Some animals and majority of mankind are in this. However, what we top them with is the DIFFERENCE.

On another general level, safety from crimes against others is good. There are people who are still associated with major sins like theft, at sixty and above. Some are in taste of drugs, for pleasure or health. I am happy for not falling into such sins and trapping.

The greatest is recognizing a best ambition or purpose of life and pursuing it, to the best of my ability. As a Muslim, it is to attain the highest and best grade of Jannah. I am grateful to have started this in the nineties. I am more grateful to have recognized that the path to my goal is starting to be admitted into the shade of Allah, on the Day of Judgement, which is very tight. I have appreciated that to be questioned is a big drawback. And one has to use whatever resources Allah grants one, to the best of his ability. And I believe that Allah answered my prayer by giving me a chance.

Allah makes the living out of the dead and vice versa. I found corruption and standing against it. I was exposed to these at school, at work and in trainings. Then Allah enabled my good friendship with Muhammadu Buhari. And I have written this to Buhari. He understands why my love for him and the character is unique.

I have come to recognize that the collective society is superior to the individual and any group safety and prosperity. I have come to reaffirm that the various levels of leadership propelled by the Collective Leadership remain the tool and safety guard for the general society. I have come to appreciate that the only twin tools that are required for both levels of leadership are **right or relevant knowledge and living it, by conduct.** I am a witness to the reality that, collective safety and prosperity will get easier paddled **if the knowledge and discipline of leadership consistently cuts across the society as relevant.**

I have come to learn that the ideas and required commitment of self and resources for this noble necessity, is often the **interest and duty of a very very very few in every society and generation.** The majority of men are engrossed in eating, drinking, cohabiting, socializing and sheltering. Less are committed to collecting and amassing material resources. Much less are obsessed with wanting to manage the affairs of others, by ascription, by expertise, election, etc. It is the degrees and sharpness of the irrationality, senselessness and irresponsible effects or impact of the struggles between the three that inevitably always generates frustration, confusion, crisis and degenerative processes in society.

Truth is both constant and available to whoever cares. It is not the monopoly of anyone. To **LIVE** requires the deliberate effort of waking up to the truth and understanding it, and to be driven by it.

The more any society is driven by **its own right knowledge and discipline, the greater its humanity, independence, sense of purpose, identity consciousness, discipline, fulfillment and prosperity.** Nigeria is still unconscious and needs to wake up, to overcome its challenges.

For every individual and our collective **TIMELINESS** is extremely critical for most livelihood commitments to be **positive.** History can not be made or driven by chance, at will or convenience, as a hobby or with apathy.

The summary of my experience is that I discovered that Allah is ABLE and SUBTLE as HE is COMPELLING. His COMPASSION is wide. And HIS TRIALS are neither predictable nor calculable. Without His MERCY my goal is not achievable.

A few times, I had wondered like Uzair and Ibrahim (AS), asked like Musa (AS). I felt safe, when I remember Muhammad (SAW) saying that, we have more right to such experience. But I stick to the du'a of the people of the cave and one of Musa

(AS). The du’as of Adam (AS) and Yunus (AS) are constant. There is one taught by Khidr (AS).

THE NATURE OF THE POVERTY CHALLENGES TO THIS REORIENTATION EDUCATION FOR OUR GENERAL TRANSFORMATION

This present attempt is certainly not new or the first, in the world or in this country. Its only peculiarities are the time and our present setting.

The standard perspective for understanding the concept and the basic meaning of poverty is that it **is the continuum between total lack, through insufficiency to irregular availability of basic needs, wants and fancies, for existence and survival.** This is the universal phenomenal nature of poverty. This is an immediate challenge from the time of coming into this world. And it is impossible to meet it without social interaction. This can be between humans, between animals or between men and animals. We have constantly seen mothers and babies, human or animal foster parents.

Everyone is therefore originally poor. In need, to exist and survive.

The individual and collective challenge that is inevitable, **is enabling survival for prosperity on a regular basis, until every and total abilities cease or fail to serve for these, followed by reversal to existence and expiration or death.** We have seen people being born, grow up, developed into maturity with possessions, skills, resources and prospering through all kinds of means, facilities and services, **but have eventually ceased or failed to continue.** The best examples cut across **Prophets, Messengers of Allah, Saints, Scholars, Leaders, Kings, Rulers, the Wealthy, the Rich, the Struggling and the Poor. All men.**

And this poverty challenge **cannot be met by the availability of resources in themselves, like we have abundant resources in Nigeria, evident by the records of our colonial exploitation and post-colonial leadership corruption along with**

neo-colonialism. If mere or ordinary availability grants prosperity, we will not have been **getting poorer and poorer, with the discovery of more resources.**

To be further sure, **it cannot be met by whatever amount of expertise, skills and their engagement with the resources.** This is why we have all arrays of professionals, works and services records in increasing process, **but our poverty is increasing.** The institutions, structures, bureaucracies, laws, rules, regulations and the workings of our professionals have not been serving us, **as much as some new fat cows are appearing among us.**

The implication of these is that, we are all required to participate or contribute in the facets of this basic attention to poverty, **though not sufficient.** And we are no doubt doing a lot, effectively and efficiently. The statistical records of our history is a pointer to this, **as unrealistic as it is.** For example, we have universities and professors on the increase, same with knowledge, **but we have not understood ourselves better for the decades of independence.** We have been expanding and increasing our commonwealth, with our budgets, revenues, appropriations, expenditures and projects, **but our costs of living and the conditions are worsening.**

THE MISSING CONNECTION

Unless and until **a minimum of most individuals and the collective that participate and contribute in the processes that enable survival and prosperity, are driven by common universal ideas FOR COLLECTIVE SAFETY AND PROSPERITY.**

This means that **whatever ideas any citizen can hold, must not have the implication of challenging the immediate and future safety and prosperity of any member.** In other words, as much as we do not have to be a Communist,

Islamic, Christian or Anything Goes society, **we still have the responsibility of a collective outlook that serves all of us.**

The necessary foundation for this, **is to know that one is necessary, to consciously uphold one and pursue it to the best of one's ability.**

In Nigeria, majority of us cannot be strictly and completely denied the **identity of being a Muslim or a Christian.** This means voluntary choice of **LIVING THE QUR'AN AND SUNNAH OR THE BIBLE.** Both faiths affirm complete submission to the truth and rightness of the scriptures. They specifically do not **oppose goodliness in this world but affirming that accountability in the life hereafter is the final determination of LIFE FOR ETERNITY.**

And the simple indicator for this will be the **total rejection of the scriptures as insufficient or misleading.** That is why members kill each other in the name of protecting their identity, **no matter how contradictory it is to be identity.** It is even more evident between Muslims who have the complete and perfected guidance, in addition to the miscreants in the two faiths that **strike from time to time.**

But the knowledge and discipline of these identities **that are common in the universal pursuit and protection of expertise and processes against basic poverty, is on a very low ebb, poor or manipulated.** The indicator is that we have **comfortably or carelessly been part of the degeneration of our general conditions in Nigeria, without qualms.**

In Nigeria today, **majority of us are unconscious and insensitive to our identity knowledge and discipline that is the necessity for our collective safety and prosperity.** In common parlance, we are unconscious or careless about **our purpose in life.** We feel **complete** and comfortable with **only** eating, drinking, moving around, shelter and socializing, **in the immediate.**

The best indicator of this is that, **as much as majority of citizens will agree that we are on a difficult, unpredictable and painful course of history, they will be hesitant in voluntarily contributing to actions towards reversing the situation for the good of all, including themselves.** Some may even outrightly **distance themselves, because of the considered risk of losing their benefits from the present course and the resources sacrifice required of them.** Some may demand, expect or ask for **some tip, because it is a favour they will be granting, by contributing to reversing our conditions.** They cut across ordinary citizens and the elite, with the intellectual capacity to understand and contribute **to connecting what is missing.**

The most **notorious** among them are the bearers of change identity like comrades, progressives, radicals, patriots. Like alarm settings, they snooze **only, for the system to wake up at will or even cancel them.**

What makes the whole state even more concerning is that **majority of the ordinary citizens see their leaders living comfortably with the situation and serving as models for them.** This category also cuts across the poor and the elite. This **apathy** is so pervasive that any invitation to actively participate or contribute to the Reorientation, you are **seen as unserious, a joker, and unrealistic, who is bound to fail.** Disinterest, disbelief, doubt and hopelessness rule and drive them. They are unconscious to their identity and therefore dying gradually and quietly to the value of their capacities.

Unfortunately, the reality we live with is that, **in spite of the increasing humanitarian activities by activists, non-governmental organizations, philanthropists, we are increasingly getting into deeper and wider crises, frustrations, confusion, hunger, poverty. These are the toppings to our regular**

leadership systemic failure. This is simply because majority of us are really unconscious and not living.

Ironically, we never cease to have new Professors, Priests, recipients of National Honours, goodly sounding Titles, Honorary recognitions, **as much as most of them can either be bought or can be traded for mutual benefits.** They cut across those dead, those in active public or private services or retired, **awarded by individuals, organizations, institutions and the governments.**

Muslims and Christians. Majority of those who are physically or materially poor are indeed not the problem or the real challenge to our collective safety and prosperity. It is the literate, the elite and the technocrats, professionals, the experts, who mill the entire society along with the political, traditional, religious, legislative, judicial, bureaucratic, financial and **POLITICAL leaders, that are the problem, because of leading with identity bankruptcy.**

The singular challenge of any volunteers to this reorientation process, to generate a new leadership for our collective safety and prosperity, is to APPRECIATE THE NATURE OF OUR POVERTY TRAPPINGS (majority of believers), WHO MUST BE THE ENGINE TO TRANSFORM OUR PRESENT STATE OF SELF-INFLICTED QUAGMIRES, BY EDUCATION AND DISCIPLINE, FOR A BETTER NIGERIA.

Muhammad Sa'idu Jimada **JP**