

Nigerian Presidential Election Update

Sunday, January 22, 2023

Thanks to **Akinwale Falodun** for an Update, given below:

With barely 5 weeks to the Presidential elections, political intrigues and new coalitions, among the 4 major parties are being reported.

We have seen mass mobilization among the spouses of the presidential candidates. Senator Oluremi Tinubu, wife of APC flag bearer Senator Ahmed Bola Tinubu was in Owerri, Imo State, South Eastern Nigeria, mid last week to canvas for votes for her husband and the APC flag bearer. The women were in Owerri for strengthening awareness about the new technologies, being deployed by INEC, for conduct of the election. (The Bimodal Voter Accreditation System (BVAS), will be used nationwide for Voters' Accreditation, for the first time.)

Margaret Obi, spouse of Peter Obi of the Labour party continued with her town hall meetings where she urged Nigerians to stop complaining, to take their destiny in their own hands and use the coming elections as a golden opportunity to make a right choice. She noted that women account for about 49% of the voter's strength and can easily make a change with good voter's education.

The campaign train of PDP moved to Mina trade fair complex in the state capital on January 21, 2023. It was a mammoth crowd that welcomed Atiku Abubakar and the party's senior hierarchy to Niger State, North Central Nigeria. "The Power state" is the Niger State's acronym, since it has 3 Hydro Electric Power Stations that serve the whole country. The State is also home to two former Military Heads of State.



Atiku in Mina, Niger State

The PDP flag bearer promised to complete the Baro Dam project and make it available to farmers for irrigation purposes. His party will create employment and assist the state in infrastructural development, he concluded.

Peter Obi of Labour Party met with traditional rulers of Southern Kaduna, North Central Nigeria on Saturday, 21 January, 2023. The State has never known peace in recent years with several blood shedding incidents, due to activities of political bandits and kidnappers. He met with the leaders in Kagoro, Kaura Local Government Area and promised to tackle the root cause of the unrest which, according to him, is corruption at the federal, State as well as the local government levels.

On Thursday, 19th January, 2023, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu was at Mallam Aminu Kano Triangle in Jigawa State, North West Nigeria in company of party men and women. The crowd that welcome Asiwaju was overwhelming and in his words; don't allow the jackals and hyenas back come February 25, 2023. He told the party faithful to vote for him; Asiwaju Tinubu, and all APC federal candidates. APC has done so well across Jigawa State in the last seven and half years, that it deserves to be returned to government house, Dutse he told the cheering crowd.



A Presidential political rally in Jigawa state, North West Nigeria

Another major event of the week was the Peace Accord Meeting, chaired by former head of state General Abdusalami Abubakar held in Abuja on Friday 20th January, 2023 between political parties and civil society. The meeting had in attendance all the major presidential candidates, except that of PDP. PDP was represented by the Vice-Presidential candidate Gov Okowa of Delta State, South South Nigeria. The meeting deliberated on infractions by some parties against the peace process. The spokesperson of the Committee, John Momoh of Channels TV, assured of efforts to address violations against the peace accord signed last year, 2022.