

Nigeria: Presidential Election-Result Fall-Out

March 17, 2023

Thanks to **Akinwale Falodun** for the following:

Nigeria Presidential and National Assembly Election Validation; What Next!!

The Presidential and National assembly elections in Nigeria were completed on February 25-26, 2023. There have been several congratulatory messages from world leaders to the President elect, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu. President Joe Biden advised the Leaders, who were defeated to use due processes of law to have their issues redressed.

The 3 Presidential candidates, who lost the February 25-26 Presidential election, have continued the processes that will enable them to file for a redress at the appropriate courts in Nigeria for overturning the results in their favour. They have been granted permission to inspect materials used by INEC for the elections.

Note: For Congratulatory messages from World Leaders, please see <https://diqinews360.com/world-leaders-congratulate-president-elect-tinubu/> and <https://diqinews360.com/nigeria-president-elect-nmodi-mbs-uae-congratulate/>.

March 18, Gubernatorial and State Assembly Elections: An analysis of battle (States) zones:

The March 18, 2023 gubernatorial election will not take place in 8 states out of the 36 States of the federation. It is because the incumbent Governors' tenure has not expired in these eight States: Osun, Ekiti, Imo, Ondo, Bayelsa, Anambra, Kogi and Edo states. (The Governors of Ekiti and Osun States, for instance, took oath of office in late 2022.)

It is expected that the Presidential election of Feb 25-26, 2023 may influence the election results of Saturday, March 18, 2023. There are some traditional states always won by a particular Party at every election, since return to democracy in 1999. However, the obedient revolution, that came along with the Feb 25, 2023 Presidential election, may make things difficult for some Parties in their traditional comfort zones.

PDP:

STRENGTH: The Party did very well in traditional states of the North, especially; Adamawa, Yobe, Bauchi, Gombe, Taraba and Kebbi. From South South: Rivers, Akwa Ibom, Cross River States may fall into PDP lap as these are its traditional strongholds. Sokoto and Kebbi are too close to call, based on the results from the Presidential election. The capacity and grassroots support enjoyed by the candidates of APC and PDP will make a lot of difference to the outcome of results of elections of Saturday, March 18, 2023.

WEAKNESS: South Eastern Nigeria which has remained the stronghold of PDP since 1999 fell to Labour Party in the Feb 25, 2023 Presidential election. The Labour Party won with almost 90% margin in Anambra, Enugu and Abia, while in Ebonyi and Imo state, Labour Party recorded a fair result of 75%. Unless a miracle happens on Saturday, 18 March, 2023, it is expected the 3 states of South East, taking part in the gubernatorial election, to fall into Labour Party hands.

The PDP may lose 2 traditional States of Delta and Edo States to the Labour Party. PDP recorded a woeful result in the Feb 25, 2023 Presidential election in the 2 states. Edo State will only participate in the State Assembly election but the Governor will require a majority in the State House of Assembly to function and push His Bills through. On the other hand, it will be difficult for PDP to overrun the Labour Party, which had effortlessly overrun PDP and other parties in the just concluded Presidential election. The Vice-presidential candidate of Atiku Abubakar of PDP is the sitting Governor of Delta State. The PDP structures in the State have also been fractionalized.

Labour Party: The 3 States of South East, where the gubernatorial election are to take place on this Saturday, are expected to fall into Labour Party's lap, because LP recorded over 90% of votes in the just concluded Presidential election of 25-26 February. Unless a miracle happens, the Labour Party should have the 3 States in its kitty.

Nasarawa and Plateau States in North Central Nigeria are expected to elect a Labour Party Governor. The 2 States were traditional APC States. But the Presidential election of February 25, 2023 pointed towards a likely swing of votes to the Labour Party.

Lagos states in South West Nigeria is very difficult to predict. The Presidential election of Feb 25, 2023 gave the Labour Party victory over the traditional Party,

APC in Lagos State. The margin was of less than 10,000 votes. The Asiwaju Bola Tinubu factor, the President elect, may sway the majority votes to the APC candidate.

APC: APC should be able to hold Kwara, Borno, Jigawa and possibly Ogun State in South West Nigeria. APC is widely spread among the six geo political zones of the country, but enjoys only a very slim majority over opposition parties. Many of the states held by APC will witness fierce battle in the March 18, 2023 gubernatorial election.

Lagos State which has remained traditional home for APC since 1999 is contested by Labour Party which had a majority vote in the Feb, 25, 2023 Presidential election.

Ogun state, another State in South West Nigeria, will not be an easy ride for APC, despite having a sitting Governor, seeking re-election. There are three major opposition parties in the state with formidable followership -- Ladi Adebute of the PDP and Bisi Otegbeye of the African Democratic Congress, ADC.

Oyo State south west Nigeria is also hotly contested by PDP and APC. The opposition party in the state had a clean sweep at the Feb 25, Presidential election despite a PDP sitting governor. The major challenger to Engr Seyi Makinde of PDP is the candidate of APC Teslim Folarin, an experienced politician. The race in Oyo state may be too close to call.

Niger State, Benue State and Plateau State all in North Central Nigeria will be a battle zone between the 3 major parties of APC, PDP and Labour Party. The Obedient factor has completely changed the traditional electoral outcomes in the states, especially in Plateau state.

Kano State, North West Nigeria is the only stronghold for NNPP, but will be hotly contested by the APC and the sitting governor.

We hope INEC is able to improve the conduct of the March 18, Gubernatorial and State assembly elections and remove the shortcomings, which afflicted the elections of February 25-26, 2023.