In the News

Contributed by Annette Oghenerhaboke
Monday, 22 November 2010

Jerry Gana, professor of geography, former minister of information and national orientation, 65, November 30

Birthdays Jerry Gana, professor of geography, former minister of information and national orientation, 65, November 30. Born in Busu, Niger State, Gana studied at Ahamadu Bello University, ABU, Zaria, in Kaduna State, and the University of Aberdeen, Scotland. He was director-general, Mass Mobilisation for Social and Economic Recovery, MAMSER, minister of information in the late Sani Abacha administration and the first four years of President Olusegun Obasanjo. He was also a presidential aspirant of the People’s Democratic Party, PDP, in the 2007 election. Otega Emerhor, former chairman of the defunct First Atlantic Bank PLC, 53, November 25. Born in Evwreni, Ughelli, Delta State, he studied at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, where he obtained a first class honours in accounting. Emerhor was managing director, Standard Trust Bank. He is the chairman, Heroes Group of Companies and fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria, ICAN. Jetson Chibuisi Nwankwo, former managing director, Nigeria Railway Corporation, 55, November 27. Born in Isiegbu Ozuitem in Bende local government area of Abia State, he was educated at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. Nwankwo had served as a railway district manager, Ibadan, 1996; railway district manager, Bauchi, 1997; railway district manager, Enugu, 1998, and director of operations, Lagos, in 2002. He was the chairman of the Nigeria Railway Institute and member, Union of African Railways Committee on Railway Restructuring and Privatisation. Tajudeen Kareem, chief consultant and chief executive officer of PROEDGE Communications Limited, 50, November 14. He was the general manager, Kwara Television Service, former chief press secretary to the Kwara State governor and personal assistant to the Minister of State for Communications, 1999-2003. Kareem was the head, foreign and diplomatic desk and head, Oyo State bureau for The Guardian newspapers. He is a member of the Nigerian Institute of Marketing and the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations, a fellow of the Certified Institute of Management and an honorary member of the Japan Press Club. Gbenga Olagunju, chartered marketer and businessman, 53, November 29. Born in Okemesi, Ekiti State, he was educated at the Federal Polytechnic, Ilaro and Lagos State University, LASU. He was sales marketing manager, Tell Communications Limited, between 1993 and 2004. He is the chief executive officer, CEO, Endless Possibilities Media Consulting Services. Aliyu Abdullahi, professor of education, 64, November 30. Born in Okene, Kogi State, he was educated at Government Secondary School, Dekina, Kogi State; Ahmadu Bello University, ABU, Zaria, Northern Illinois University, USA; University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA. He was appointed head, department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, University of Ilorin, 1981-1986; professor of science education, 1984 and director, Institute of Education, University of Ilorin, 1986. Abdullahi is also member, Forum of African Science Educational Technology Appointed Oladapo Afolabi, former permanent secretary, Federal Ministry of Education, as the head of Federal Civil Service by President Goodluck Jonathan. Afolabi succeeded Steve Oronsaye, the erstwhile head of service who retired recently. Award Abiodun Olufemi Adesanya, managing director, Degeconek Nigeria Limited, on November 17 bestowed a fellowship award by the Nigeria Association of Petroleum Explorationists, NAPE. Adesanya has over the years demonstrated commitment to the growth of Geosciences in the oil and gas industry. Buried Evelyn Oruma, mother of Wilson Oruma, former Super Eagles player, November 20, at her hometown, Kiagbodo, Delta State. She was aged 77.