Letters

Contributed by Administrator
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President Goodluck Jonathan should have first begun by tackling corruption before removing oil subsidy. There are too many “big men” thieves walking with their shoulders high on our streets, who ought to be in prison

Still on Jonathan’s New Year Gift President Goodluck Jonathan should have first begun by tackling corruption before removing oil subsidy. There are too many “big men” thieves walking with their shoulders high on our streets, who ought to be in prison. My advice is that he should dissolve the present committee he has appointed to monitor the expenditure of proceeds that would be gotten from the removal of oil subsidy. Those in the committee now are, no doubt, honourable men and women who have done well in their chosen careers, but we need more than that in the matter at stake. The committee should as well consist of men of rare courage like Prof Jega, Festus Iyayi, Femi Falana and others. They are to be found in the academia, other professions, including those in private practice all over the world. Okonofua James, Ekpoma, Edo State. I have a contrary view regarding this fuel subsidy issue. I am not a praise singer and it is too late for me to become one. But I see better days ahead for Nigeria. Goodluck Nigeria. Victor Imah, Iju Ishaga, Lagos State. Those advocating the removal of fuel subsidy imply that an inefficient and unproductive government will become efficient and productive if it has more cash to play with. It is a fallacy because it is the antithesis of a well known truth. Since Jonathan was elected president last April, it is hard to mention any major progressive domestic changes that his government has made. It appears that what Jonathan and his economic team are telling Nigerians is that the reason for the inaction of his administration is the non-removal of fuel subsidy. Since he has now removed the subsidy, my answer to that is, well, let’s wait and see. Peter Egbe-Ulu, Okokomaiko, Lagos State.
Awards of Controversy It is a matter of grave concern that a country that has fallen short of every known index of a progressive nation could find time to honour people who directly or indirectly contributed to the pitiable state of the country. It is a mark of the height of unseriousness. Ndubuisi Onyenandu, Abakpa Nike, Enugu State.
events currently happening in the country today are the same as what happened in 1960 which culminated in the 30-month civil war. Most of the political leaders then, as now, were self-centred and insensitive to the feelings of the masses. Jonathan should not forget the promises he made during the election campaign. The best democracy is the one that is flexible, where the leader can agree to concessions in the interest of the masses. James Effiom, Calabar, Cross River State. Senator Ndume’s Trial I want to say that it is not only Senator Ndume that’s associated with the Boko Haram. All the top politicians in the North are directly or indirectly behind it but will come on air to tell us that they don’t know. Mr. President, do something fast to help the unemployed in the country. I wish Nigeria well. Emeka O. Agha, Suleja, Niger State. Jonathan Should Be More Forthright

I would like to react to Professor Niyi Osundare’s interview captioned: Jonathern should be more forthright.’ I have always admired Osundare as a fine and brilliant scholar and have relished his columns whenever they appeared in Newswatch. However, his postulations in his interview in reference such as: “those who set them up, [private Universities], are people who have stolen money…” has greatly dimmed his wits in the estimation of many of his admirers like me. Also, his claim that President Goodluck Jonathan is not smart enough and needs to defend his PhD, is in the worst possible taste and inordinately arrogant, coming from a self acclaimed rationalist. I hope the good Professor didn’t lose more than his earthly belonging to Katrina. It will be a good pastime for Osundare to find out how many Universities in America are established by “pastors” and religious groups and tell us if he thinks that they all stole money to build them. Is his disposition during the interview an example of the kind of leadership Nigeria needs now? The man of letters should remember that the real problems of governing Nigeria are not the same as writing fictions. Ndu B. Akuchie, It is very instructive that foundational problems to wit, lack of fear of God, greed, selfishness, skewed and crooked economic, social and political policies cum reasonings, coloured with deceit and ethnicity shall one day mar Nigeria. What are our leaders and followers in all walks of life doing to avert this ugly situation engulfing us? V ictor O. S. Imah, Iju Ishaga, Lagos State. The death of Emeka Odumegu Ojukwu, Ikemba of Nnewi, is a great loss that cuts across ethnic and tribal line. It leaves a wound in the heart that will take a very long time to heal. It is true that he loved his kinsmen, Ndigbo, with a passion but we must not forget that his love started nationally when after this graduation from Oxford University, he decided to join the Nigeria Army as recruit. Those factors that prompted the civil war are still with us today and until they are addressed through true federalism structure, all talk about Nigeria being one, united country will remain mere wishful thinking. Stephen Asuquo Udoh, Shomolu, Lagos State.