



LGs in Abia: Umuahia, Aba North, Aba South, Arochukwu, Bende, Ikwoano, Isia

Home	News	State	Sports	Editorial	Business	Features	Education	Politics
------	------	-------	--------	-----------	----------	----------	-----------	----------

Monday, April 27, 2009 (NIGERIA) 03 : 40

[World's lowest rates](#)

¢9.9/minute to Nigeria 30 min free on payment - Call now!
www.Rebtel.com/Nigeria

[Flights to Nigeria](#)

Book online and save up to 70% on the price
BudgetWorldTravel.org

[Nigeria Oil Suppliers](#)

Find & Contact Low-Cost Suppliers See why so many businesses trust us
Alibaba.com

Easter: Orji Calls for Prayers for Nigeria

By Igbeaku Orji

In the spirit of the season, Governor Theodore Orji of Abia state has called on Nigerians and Abians in particular to spare time during the Easter period to pray for God's continuous guidance and protection for the country. Governor Orji noted that the greatest message embodied by Easter is sacrifice of the highest kind as exemplified by Jesus Christ who laid down his life that all may be cleansed of their sins and saved and urged Nigerians to imbibe the spirit of sacrifice for the good of the country. The Governor noted that Nigeria had the potentials and capabilities to attain true greatness as a nation considering the enormous blessings that has been bestowed upon her as a nation by God and urged Nigerians to pray for the wisdom of God upon her leaders at all tiers to enable them effectively harness the potentials of the nation and lead her aright. He also noted that the current global economic crisis, which has affected the macro-economic and fiscal projections of Nigeria and her constituent States and Local Governments calls for serious prayers for God to guide Nigeria to withstand the crisis. Chief Orji therefore urged Christians to also remember the poor and the needy in their localities in the course of the celebration and provide for them and give them a cause to rejoice and celebrate the Easter. In the message signed by his Chief Press Secretary, Mr. Sam Hart, the Governor used the opportunity to reaffirm his commitment towards providing selfless leadership to the people of Abia State to enable the State attain her Godordained potentials.

Court Remands Man in Custody for Murder

A43 year old man, Chibuzo Amanze has been remanded in prison custody by an Umuahia magistrate court for allegedly robbing and killing one Chinedu Asoka on January 23, 2009. In the charge, the trial magistrate, Kalu Onuma said Chibuzo Amanze was alleged to have on the said day at Omoba village in Isiala Ngwa South magisterial district unlawfully murdered the victim, Asoka, through a gun shot thereby committing an offence punishable under section 316 of the criminal code cap 70 laws of the federation. Onuma therefore directed the police to forward the case file and inventory of the proof of evidence to the Attorney General of the state for prosecution at the High Court as according to him the magistrate court lacked jurisdiction over the matter. He however, adjourned the case to May 5, for report. In a related development, 23 year old Chidiebere Jumbo and his friend Adimchi Okorie age 24 have also been remanded in prison custody by an Umuahia magistrate court for alleged armed robbery and infliction of grievous harm on their victims. The victims who included, one Mrs. Uzoma Emenike, whom the duo allegedly robbed of a handset and N3000 at gun point, were molested at Abam Ubakala in Umuahia South LGA on February 25, and received deep machete cuts on both hands from the assailants. The two suspects were also alleged to have robbed other women including one Felicia Onuma and Maduabughuchi Michael of handsets and inflicted machete cuts on them. The trial magistrate, Kalu Onuma, ordered that the case file be transferred to the Director of Public Prosecution and adjourned the case to April 17, for report.

Abia Ready for National Cocoa Day

Ahead of the forthcoming 5th National Cocoa Day to be hosted by Abia state, the state government says all is now ready for the event. The event believed to be the biggest national event to be hosted by the state is expected to attract the governors of the 14 cocoa producing states, while Vice President Dr Goodluck Jonathan would declare the event open. Briefing newsmen on the level of preparedness for the event in his office in Umuahia, Abia State Deputy Governor, Comrade Chris Akomas, who is also the chairman of the state Cocoa committee, said the event tagged Umuahia 2009 with the theme 'Cocoa for Health and Wealth' would show case cocoa as the nations second largest foreign exchange earner after oil through exhibition of Cocoa, Cocoa derivatives and technology among others. The Deputy Governor said that the local government Areas of the state that produce Cocoa were being assisted by the state to improve on their production while government was working with the private sector to install Cocoa processing Plant to add value to Cocoa. Comrade Akomas also disclosed that as part of the revenue diversification efforts of the state, Cocoa, rice which is produced in large quantities in five local government areas, Rubber, Cashew and Palm produce were being given priority attention and called on farmers in commercial Agriculture to take advantage of the N200 billion Agriculture bond floated by the Federal government to invest in Agriculture not only for local consumption but export. Also lined for the opening ceremonies is a tour of selected cocoa producing communities in the state including Itunta in Ikwoano Local Government described as model Cocoa village, Agbozu in Bende Local Government where the state has its own plantation as well as the farm of Chief David Onyenweaku whose commercial farms is said to rank among the most modern in the Cocoa world. According to him, the state government would use its percentage share in the package to encourage farmers in the state, adding that the agricultural revolution of Dr Michael Opkara, late Premier of the Eastern Region was not only being resuscitated in the state but would be given more impetus. Commenting on the state security for the event, the Deputy Governor said additional security measures would be taken to complement the existing one to make

the event a memorable one, adding that the Hello Taxi and other transport schemes would be on hand for the number of visitors being expected. He thanked the federal government for giving Abia state hosting right for the Event noting that it would boost the morale of Cocoa and other farmers in the state.

[back to top](#)

Copyright © 2009 the Niger Delta Standard, All rights reserved.