



**Arewa Center for
Regional Development
(ACRD)**

<https://www.arewaonline-ng.com/>

e-mail: bjadamu@gmail.com



Kaduna, Kaduna State, NIGERIA

Tel: +234 813-865-3655,

WhatsApp: +16476077032

To: **All Media Houses**

Date: 29th March 2023

PRESS RELEASE:

Kashim Shettima, the Man for all Reasons

It is always good and inspiring to see a detribalized leader who is not afraid to take new initiatives, a team-player who can also stand alone when the need arises, the courage to make a tough decision, the compassion to listen to the needs of his people; and the audacity to change the status quo on democracy, politics and good governance. In Leadership, it is the quality of thinking that gives an edge, an idea that opens new doors, a technique that solves a problem, an insight that inspires and simply helps make sense of it all, an engagement that is a game-changer and competency and ability that transcends cultural and religious barriers, which brings a new constellation of planning, direction and tools of empowerment. Governor, Senator and now Vice-President elect, Kashim Shettima Mustapha has epitomized standings in all these areas including a deep rooted understanding of Nigeria and her complexities; and the credo of equal opportunity for all.

In 1993 presidential elections, Abiola and Kingibe were elected largely on competency rather than religious sentiments. Today, Bola Ahmed Tinubu and Kashim Shettima were also elected primarily based on competency and ability of the duo, rather than ethno-religious considerations. The selection of Kashim Shettima as a running mate by Bola Ahmed Tinubu is a masterstroke because Kashim Shettima is a leader who knows the social, cultural, religious, economic, and political structure of virtually all the 36 States including the Federal Capital Territory (FCT). He has proven to be extremely devoted to the unity of Nigeria. And, as a two-term governor in Borno state, he included Christians and non-indigenes in his cabinet: Kester Oguualili, an Igbo man from Anambra state as his special adviser (SA) on community relations, Christopher Godwin Akaba, an Urhobo man from Delta state as his senior special

assistant (SSA), Lanre Obadah from Kwara State was also a Special Assistant; Victor Izekor from Edo state worked as a Special Assistant, Isa Gusau, from Zamfara State was his special adviser on communications and strategy among several others; and these gentlemen remain close to him today. He rebuilt all the Churches that Boko Haram destroyed in Southern Borno and he never subscribe to the indigene/settler dichotomy. He stood firmly against discrimination against the Igbos, other ethnic groups, and Christians in Borno State. In schools, he made sure that there were no discriminatory policies in school fees, levies, and benefits against non-indigenes. His devotion to the war against terror in Borno State where he resisted Boko-Haram stands him in good faith. His personal and total commitment to the war against terror even in those anxious days remained intact and never fell under the control of Boko-Haram

Kashim Shettima, a quintessential public servant, became the winner of the Borno Central Senatorial District in February, 2019. His two-term in office from 2011 to 2019 as governor was dominated by the deadly Boko-Haram terrorism. That did not dissuade him, he funded 20,000 Civilian Joint Task Force (JTF) fighters for six years in the fight against insurgency/terrorism. His contributions have been acknowledged by the military, security agencies, past and incumbent federal administrations as well as residents of Borno State. His funding of the Civilian JTF was crucial in the fight against Boko-Haram and still plays crucial roles in intelligence gathering, threat of youths' radicalization, easy identification and arrest of suspected insurgents/terrorist and supporting the military in the war fronts.

Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu will not have made a better choice. The former banker, agricultural economist, former Commissioner in 5 Ministries between 2007 to 2011, a two-term governor from 2011 to 2019, sworn-in on May 29, 2011 and re-elected in 2015 under the All Progressives Congress, APC and was recognizably chosen as Chairman of the Northern States Governors' Forum, an umbrella body of Governors in the 19 States in northern Nigeria, driving key changes in the affairs of the forum with focus on promoting northern unity and reviving ailing industries belonging to northern States. As the Governor, and at the height of the Boko-Haram insurgency, Shettima's administration embarked on massive construction of houses in Maiduguri; constructed houses along the four major routes leading to most of the local government areas, which turned out to be the saving grace when the insurgency degenerated to higher level. "We just felt that by engaging the youths through such projects; by diverting their attentions from all sorts of social vices, we will be able to 'immune' them from being co-opted or radicalized into Boko Haram" he said. He also coordinated the temporary accommodation, rehabilitation and resettlement of victims

of the Boko-Haram insurgency. With peace building, Governor Kashim Shettima championed the Reconstruction, Rehabilitation and Resettlement of victims. He also focused so much attention on expansion and remodeling of existing schools and the building of new boarding primary and junior secondary schools to cater for over 50,000 unaccompanied orphans whose parents were killed by insurgents across the 27 local government areas of the State, among much more intervention.

Kashim Shettima, a graduate of University of Maiduguri and the University of Ibadan; and was the North East Regional Manager of Zenith Bank is a highly cerebral, eloquent, competent, courageous and detribalized leader who has succeeded in building bridges, reputation and friendships across the country. He endorses the credo of equal opportunity for all, believes in the government's proper role in the economy, expanding trade and investment because we must be a party of economic progress, not economic reaction. He believes that fiscal discipline is fundamental to sustained economic growth as well as responsible government and citizens must have equal access to healthcare and opportunities that balances governmental and individual responsibility. He firmly believes in efforts to harness the transformative capacity of our abundant human capital and natural resources to build a prosperous and inclusive society, where knowledge, innovation and creativity including the utilization of information and communication technology (ICT) are the ingredients. He also believes in enhancing the role that civic entrepreneurs, voluntary groups, and religious institutions play in tackling Nigeria's social ills, the bold exercise of Nigerian leadership to foster peace, prosperity, unity and democracy and believes that Nigerian citizenship entails responsibilities as well as rights, to give something back to our communities and our country.

The exemplary notion of "riding with the current" or "maintaining the status quo", as is demonstrated by some Nigerian political elite, forsaking Good Governance and one's conscience in exchange for a life of convenience is fast becoming a thing of the past. Consciences are personal moral compasses that help a person tell right from wrong, friends from foes and human progressive development from maintaining the status quo. The man of all Reasons portrays such principles of wisdom and thinking outside the box to be loved by the common people and envied by rivals. Such a person is easily recognizable by his relentless good work and selfless-service. He exemplifies fascination and awe-inspiration, that you know such a person in whom you immediately recognize qualities of preparedness and leadership that go beyond the ordinary. Reading through Kashim Shettima antecedents, one recognizes these qualities right away. One can conclude that the VP pick has the capacity, acumen, ability and political sagacity to effectively deputize and complement

Asiwaju as Vice President. He is, therefore, the Man for all Reasons and all Seasons and like Theodore Roosevelt 1910 said “It is not the critic who counts; nor the man who points out how the strong man stumbles or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat, who spends himself in a worthy cause, who at the best knows, in the end, the triumphs of high achievement and who at the worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring greatly so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat”.

Finally, charismatic Kashim Shettima Mustapha was not chosen by Chief Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Adekunle Tinubu to fill a vacuum; he does not follow where the path may lead he goes instead where there is no path and leaves trail of greatness. You have our collective support and endorsement Our Collective Congratulations Your Excellencies: The President-elect Chief Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu and Vice-President-elect Kashim Shettima Mustapha of Nigeria. With you in Power, Nigeria will be liberated from insecurity, poverty, selfishness and lack of good opportunities...with best regards.

Signed

By Dr. Engr. Baba J. Adamu, Ph.D., Coren Rgt.

Chairman: Arewa Center for Regional Development (ARCD)

ICT Consultant & Certified United Nations (UN) on Global Terrorism
Fmr. Senior Special Assistant (SSA) on ICT to former Nigerian Vice-President
Ach Mohammed Namadi Sambo, GCON, FNIA

<https://www.arewaonline-ng.com/>

e-mail: bjadamu@gmail.com