



**BUILDING THE FOUNDATIONS OF A
NEW SOCIAL ORDER:
THE FIRST PROGRESS REPORT OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF KADUNA STATE**



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INTRODUCTION

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INTRODUCTION

When the history of this country comes to be written, Monday 1st October 1979, shall surely go down as a significant watershed. For it was on that day that thirteen years of military rule came to an end and new democratically elected civilian governments took over. It was a day on which every Nigerian was looking forward to the future with a mixture of anxiety, trepidation and excitement.

Perhaps, nowhere was this anxiety and excitement as high as in Kaduna State, where the operations of the new democratic government promised to be particularly interesting in view of the differing political composition of the executive and the legislature. But the in-coming Governor, Alhaji Abdulkadir Balarabe Musa, started on a bright note of optimism and hope, when after he was sworn-in at Murtala Mohammed Square on that day, he said in a speech "We are commencing a new era, an era of hope, of renewed vision, and of progress".

One year has rolled by since this vision of progress was set out by the Governor. One year may not be much in the life-time of a government even if it is elected only for a term of four years. But one year after such a significant watershed in the life of a nation, provides a convenient juncture at which stock can be taken of what has been achieved so far and what problems have been encountered.

This report, the first annual progress report produced on a government of Kaduna State, attempts to document the progress made and the difficulties encountered by this first democratically elected government of the State, in its efforts to build the foundations for a new social order. This is particularly necessary in view of the myth in some quarters that development in this State is at a standstill because there is a so-called "political stalemate". The report attempts to set out the conditions in the State when this government took over; the major policies it committed itself to pursuing and the progress made in these areas. It finally gives a factual account of the major activities of each ministry, parastatal or unit of the government.

From these three sections of the report and from the specific and concrete data in the second and the third sections any genuinely interested person, within and outside the State, can judge for himself, whether it is true that the government of Kaduna State has been at a standstill, or whether it has achieved more and has laid the foundations for achieving more for the people, than any other government in the country. The report covers both progress made in terms of physical and material development and also progress in the development of the human person. This is an aspect which is always neglected or merely covered up with cliches and generalities in the assessment of the performance of governments in this country.

It is hoped that this report will be of use not only to people in this State, but also to people in other parts of Nigeria, Africa and the world. Kaduna State has a population of six million, larger than many sovereign States. It has great strategic economic and political importance for this country. This is not just because it was the former capital of the Northern Region, but