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PERSONAL

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EDITORIAL

THE URGENT NEED FOR SOBER REFLECTION

The nature and spate of weird events in the country in recent times have been agitating the minds of conscious intellectuals, students and peasants. The need to reflect over current strange happenings such as the criminal and deliberate burning down of the lion building, NCR, NICON, FCDA Abuja (Accounts department) and NET Buildings (to mention a few) with the intent to cover up fraud and financial mismanagement underscores the birth of this magazine - The MALABITE.

Without suggesting the utopia, we are convinced that the unprecendented rate of corruption, executive theiving and embezzlement of funds which pervade the socio-economic system today can no longer be explained 'superstructurally'. The issue is clear, these are all manifestations of the basic contradiction of the status quo - and it's time we searched for the cause of these problems infrastructurally.

It's not the intent of this maiden issue to champion anarchism but to condemn arson, oppression, exploitation, repression and all the untold immorality inherent in the present society.

Finally this publication is one of the innumerable contributions towards the total emancipation of the oppressed and victimized students in all institution of higher learning in Nigeria.

We hereby congratuate all the matriculating students.

Long live Unical
Long live Malabites

SAM ADINDU
(Director of Research)

EDDY IKPONMOSA IGHARO.
(Editor-in-Chief)

NET FIRE INCIDENCE AND THE HISTORICAL ~~ROLE~~ RESPONSE OF UNICAL STUDENTS

In the early morning hours of January 27, 1983, it was no longer rumour that the 37 storey Nigerian External Telecommunication - NECOM HOUSE - an architectural showpiece commissioned on September 1, 1979 had been reduced to sheer carcass of concrete by gutted inferno on Monday January 24, 1983. This incidence which attracted a two hour delay of president Shagari's visit to India and Pakistan and subsequently claimed death tolls is an obvious continuity of a series of coverage of fraud and financial mismanagement in the country.

It should be recalled that a similar fire incidence ostensibly to conceal the embezzlement of scholarship fund had taken place in the accounts department of the Federal Ministry of Education in 1980, the same day the National Cash Registry was burnt down for a similar reason. The Imo State treasury, the Gongola State Ministry of Agriculture and the accounts department of FCDA Abuja were set on fire. The commonality of these fire incidences is a consipicous denominator: Theft. In Gongola State Agric. department it was ₦1.9 million, a mean amount when contrasted with the ₦21 million reportedly established missing from the coffers of the FCDA Abuja. The lion building fire incident is also not unconnected with fraud at Federal Ministry of External Affairs.

The net fire disaster may have generated a sympathetic nationalistic feeling, fear and anxiety to the extend of almost controverting the efficacy of our political economy. Nigeria is a peripheral capitalist system otherwise dibbed "Mixed Economy". The rules of capitalism apply everywhere the system operates. Capitalism composes the law of concentration, the law of capitalist growth, the law of surplus value and the law of competition all configurating into the intensification and perpetuation of the uneven

DO YOU KNOW?

1. That the fundamental prerequisites for initiating and sustain. love affair with females on campus is not universal? Do you know that In the Duke Town Campus, a lousy volkswagen jalopy and a bunch of cripsy Naira might do, whereas in malabo, regular supply of meal tickets is fast giving ways to financial ability to a fairly consistent supply of a considerably handsome wrap of hot Suya? In both cases, a courageous ability to manipulate is constant while expenditure of precious time is a non-factor. (QED)

2. That Professor's quarters cost ₦90,000 in Unijos.

3. That Unijos is understood to have given professor Ali Mazrui a contract of ₦3 million in order to enhance the image of the university with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC).

THE FRUSTRATION OF THE PEASANTS

I was hungry, and you formed a committee to investigate my hunger;

I was homeless, and you filed a report on my plight;

I was sick, and you held a seminar on the situation of the under-privileged;

You investigated all aspects of my plight and yet I am still hungry, homeless and sick.

T. L. V. Ulbricht.

POSTSCRIPT

This magazine is strictly for internal consumption only - EDITOR