



At the swearing-in of new NEC members, (L-R): Dr. Ify Aniebo (Financial Secretary), Mr. Suleiman Yusuf Usman (Deputy Chairperson), Ms. Helen Attah (Deputy Publicity Secretary), Mr. Auwalu Aminu (Treasurer), and Mr. Habib Sani Y'au (Deputy Financial Secretary). Mr. Suleiman Yusuf Usman conducted the ceremony.

## Youth Party Activities

1. The National Executive Committee's Interactive Screening Session for potential NEC members was held in Lagos on Saturday, December 2, 2017.
  - i. Elect new NEC Members, and
  - ii. Amend the Constitution to incorporate the National Working Committee (NWC), Shadow Cabinet Appointment Committee (SBAC) and others.
2. The Third Disciplinary Committee Hearing was held at the National Headquarters, Abuja on Thursday, December 7, 2017 at 9am, wherein some members were expelled/membership revoked for anti-party activities.
3. A National Executive Committee Interactive Screening Session for potential NEC members was held at the National Headquarters on Thursday, December 7, 2017 at 11am.
4. The 5th National Executive Committee Meeting was held on December 7, 2017 at the National Headquarters, Abuja, carry out the following:
  - i. Appeal of Disciplinary Committee's Decision was heard and set-aside in favour of Mr. Anwar Liman.
  - ii. Dr. Umar Mohammad elected Secretary and Mr. Suleiman Yusuf Usman, a member.
5. The Sixth National Executive Committee meeting was held on December 23, 2017, in Lagos.
6. The Second Board of Trustees meeting was held on December 23, 2017 in Lagos and the following decisions were reached:
  - i. Appeal of Disciplinary Committee's Decision was heard and set-aside in favour of Mr. Anwar Liman.
  - ii. Dr. Umar Mohammad elected Secretary and Mr. Suleiman Yusuf Usman, a member.
7. Youth Party went on a recruitment drive at the Culture Custodian Festival 2017 held on 24th December, 2017, at Meadow Hall School, Lekki, Lagos.
8. Induction and Swearing-In of newly elected National Executive Committee (NEC) members on January 6 and 7, 2018. New members are: Dr. Ify Aniebo (Financial Secretary), Mr. Habib Sani Yau (Deputy Financial Secretary), Mr. Auwalu Aminu (Treasurer), Mr. Damilola Adenusi (Deputy Treasurer), Ms. Aisha Modibo (Deputy Policy & Strategy Secretary), Mr. Ifeanyi Nwoye (Deputy Legal Adviser), Ms Tamar Luka (Women Leader), Mr. Ogala Osaka (Ex Officio Member), Prince Adeyanju Adedoyin-Adeleke (Ex Officio Member).
9. INEC Registration status: Ongoing.



## IT IS TIME FOR THE YOUTH TO ACT

- Seni Makanjuola

In the words of Aristotle, 'man is a political animal'. I stumbled across these words, which have stuck with me, while studying for one of my first year modules at the University of Sheffield.

This has made me view life as a political ground where negotiations are conducted on a day-to-day basis. The need to negotiate in order to survive has struck me as the only way to get by in life; but the problem remains if we negotiate based on our personal interests or for the betterment of humanity.

In today's world, most individuals live for themselves; it has become a game of survival of the fittest. The upcoming elections will be very crucial in defining the course in which our country would go. This is why I hope Nigerians will start negotiating for a brighter future for generations to come.

The current situation in the country could as well lead to the break-up of the nation, and if we don't begin to think of ourselves as one big family rather than individuals, Nigeria would become like the tale of the farmer who planted all the crops but never harvested it.

A country blessed with such vast natural resources and even currently ranked as the number one economy in Africa is not even living up to quarter of its potential. So where did we go wrong? How can a country that is seen as the giant of Africa have a significant percentage of its population living on less than one dollar a day?

The first answer to this question is selfishness. The belief that nothing matters except our individual progress is what has led us to our current situation.

Nigerians are savvy at lip service, 'suffering and smiling' as the great Fela called it. Nigerians continue to value short-term survival rather than a better future. They would rather be sad and suffering and be alive, than pursue a cause that, though it may turn them to martyrs, would create a better life for the future generations.

The desire to garner more wealth than one could possibly spend in two lifetimes is the average Nigerian politician's dream.

Politics has become a fast way to get riches than a means to create a better society.

Democracy has brought with it thorns, rather than progress as our nation bleeds everyday. Nigerians have to truly embrace the saying that, 'charity begins at home' and start from our hearts to love our neighbours as we love ourselves in order to move our nation forward.

Secondly, we need to change the framework of our government. The people are ruling us now and/or contesting to rule us are not new faces. They are the same people that have had a hand in bringing Nigeria to its knees. Their thirst for power is greater than the wellbeing of the average citizen.

Why then would they not steer the nation into doom? We have a chance to decide our fate for the next four years in 2019. We can change the hands of power but it is up to us to do the right thing.

Participate in politics in any little way you can. Everyone has a talent; use it to make your country stronger and pull it away from power-hungry and greedy individuals. We should begin to push for those in government who would support our vision for a great nation state and not just accept what they give to us.

There should be a push for a referendum that excludes people who have ruled for a certain number of years from participating. This may sound like the violation of the right to franchise of those involved but at the moment that is the first step to a more prosperous Nigeria.

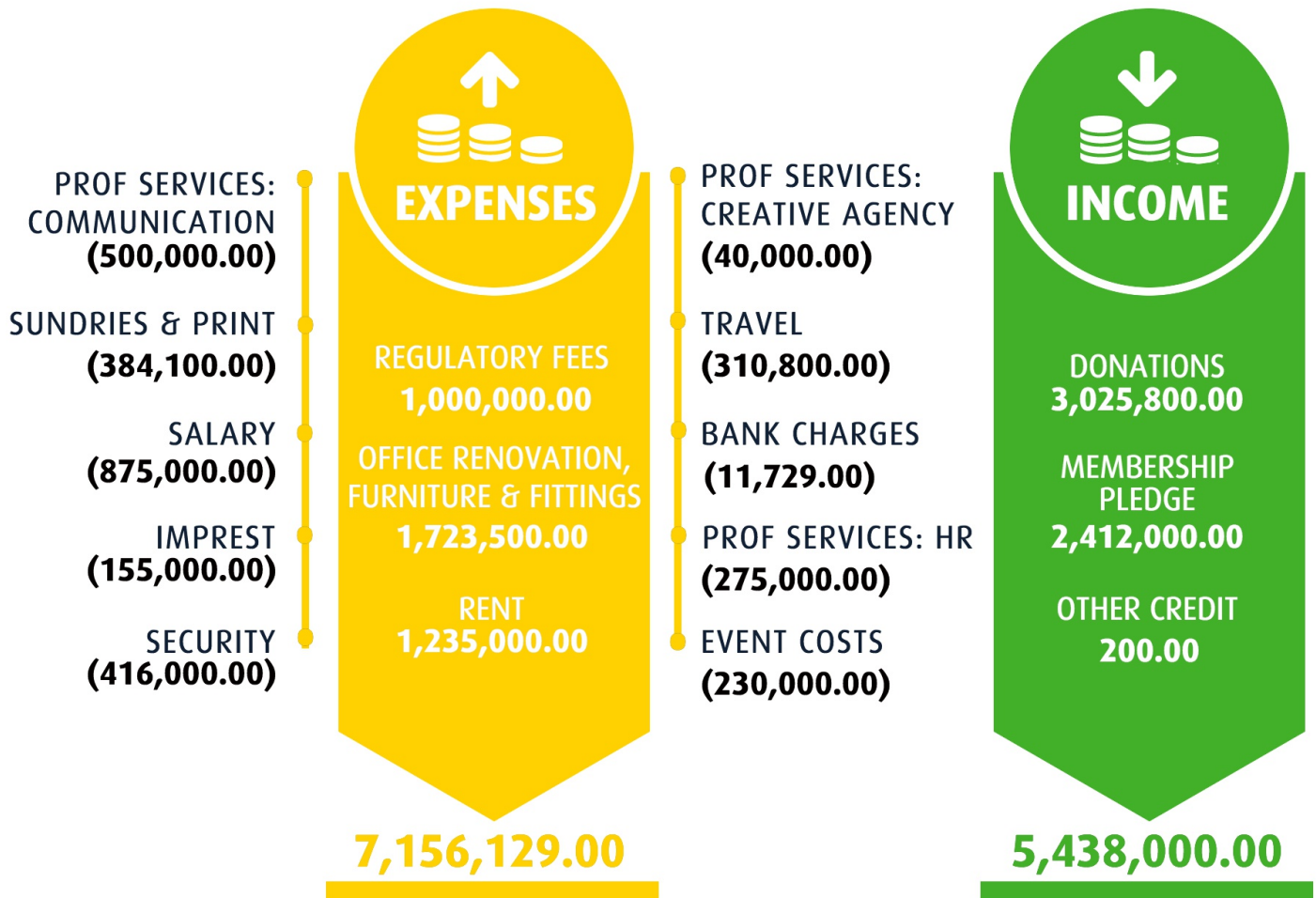
Why didn't you make a difference when you were there? Why should we believe that this time is different? Those are the questions that should be on our lips.

So I urge all Nigerians to consider the points that have been raised here and begin to inspire change in any way possible no matter how little. We need to be at our strongest and also not let our guard down or there would be

no Nigeria for our generation to live in. I ask is it worth it to have all the wealth in the world but a bleak future for your offspring? Let us start to work on our country and not just lament about our problems.

The coming elections are a way for us to voice out our frustration. No Nigerian should think their vote doesn't count; we should all go out to vote. The average young person in Nigeria doesn't vote; this is bad, as the youth are the leaders of tomorrow, and the culture of political participation is one we need to imbibe from a young age. If we are to survive this ordeal in which we find ourselves, we should put in effort to make a difference, no matter how small it is.

# Financials for November 11, 2017- January 10, 2018



**Deficit: 1,500,000**



## Politics: Between Extremes

by Nick Clegg

Reviewed by Zainab  
Olaitan, Research  
Analyst, Youth Party

### BOOK REVIEW

Politics between Extremes is a book written by former Deputy Prime Minister of Britain, Nick Clegg. The book extensively reveals how two Parties (Conservatives and Liberal Democrats) with conflicting ideologies came together to find a middle ground to serve proper governance in terms of party policies.

He argued for politics of 'reason' as against politics of 'unreason', which is based on identity and populism. In today's world, identity politics - where you live, what country you come from, what community you inhabit, what religion you practice - is displacing conventional arguments

about the state, market, tax and spends. Populism - the politics of anger, mob rule (for instance the method Donald Trump used for the 2016 general election in the USA, Nigel Farage, the leader of the United Kingdom Independent Party in the Brexit saga) - is overshadowing politics of reason, which rests on belief in the value of scrutiny and debate.

Politics of reason, therefore, requires an open state of mind not a closed mantra of certainties. The book is an enlightening read as it extensively talks about liberalism in respect of

ensuring civil liberty, reforming lopsided electoral reforms, and educational opportunity for the disadvantaged children, challenging class-based politics.

In summary, the book's argument of politics of reason as against politics of unreason is in coherence with Youth Party's ideology of politics of reason and reform.