CONFERENCE PAPER

NO.3

WRITING AS FEEDBACK OF READERS' RE-ACTIONS: ARE THEY MEANS FOR INCULCATING LITERACY HABITS IN INDIVIDUALS? A STUDY OF THE NIGERIAN SITUATION.

BY

Joseph S. Aliyu, PhD
Institute of Education
Ahmadu Bello University,

And

Hannah M. Daudu PhD
Institute of Education
Ahmadu Bello University,
Zaria

A paper presented at Reading Association of Nigeria (RAN) 12th Bi-enniel Conference Held at Makurdi 18 - 21st August 2010

WRITING AS FEEDBACK OF READERS' RE-ACTIONS: ARE THEY MEANS FOR INCULCATING LITERACY HABITS IN INDIVIDUALS? A STUDY OF THE NIGERIAN SITUATION

"Some books are to be tasted, others be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested: that is, some books

done for several studies have revealed that in such places as the following, little or no evidence of reading is manifest:

- Departure lounge in the airport
- Waiting rooms in the banking hall or hospitals or clinics
- Staff rooms in schools and colleges
- Visitors waiting rooms in public offices
- Students common rooms in higher institutions
- And other reception centers in public places.

The absence or near absence of reading materials in the above mentioned places are symptomatic of one thing: the low level of actual reading practices among Nigerians. At the institutional level the low level of reading and writing skills has been bemoaned by researchers. In the words of Oyetunde and Umolu (1989)

> Unfortunately, there is abundant evidence that the written language skills of children finishing primary school are grossly inadequate (See Abe, 1983; Aliyu, 1983; DuBey, 1983; Omjuwa, 1985). As far back as 1969, Tiffen suggested that English instruction during the first two years of secondary school in English-speaking African countries should be of a remedial nature in order to compensate for a poor foundation at the primary level.

According to the above researchers and other, the problem with the cultivation of the skills of reading and writing especially among the literate members of the Nigerian population is caused by a multiplicity of factors. They include the disappearing culture of early literacy among Nigerians, the invasion of the Nigerian home by other distracting features like the Television and Global System (or Standard) for Mobile (GSM) and computer games. In addition most Nigerians are not thoroughly versed in any of the indigenous languages and as a result have very unstable control of language which could later on be built upon. To quote Oyetunde and Umolu again;

> The problem of a poor foundation at the primary level is compounded by the fact that the readability levels of most of the textbooks used in the schools are above the class levels for which the texts were intended (Ltim & Umoh 1983; Jegede, 1985). This means that such texts are likely to be too difficult even for good readers. All these problems are worsened by that fact that children are expected to read and write in a language which is not their mother tongue and which many of them have not mastered to the degree necessary for secondary school work.

THE CURRENT TRENDS IN NIGERIA

In recent years the reading and writing attitudes among Nigerian have taken a dive for the worse Observers content that most Nigerians spend little time on reading. They claim that the new culture now is that of money making. Some avail that even the leaders and members of the political class hardly read to familiarize themselves with what members of the public or their own electorates have to say about them. According to Julius Adewale Adelusi-Adeluyi (August 14, 2010, The Guardian) non reading leads to backwardness and the tendency to become outdated. According to him,

> Problems stated about one or two generations ago, as a result of the changing values in the society. I think the problem started in the late 70s, and certainly from the early eighties of the last century.

According to Adelusi-Adeluyi, refreshing and updating one's horizon should be paramount. In his words

> I am more interested in getting ideas, because ideas don't die. And if you remove areas of ignorance, as a person, you know more about yourself and your knowledge will set you free.

Adelusi Adeluyi goes further to lament the excess crave for money especially among the youth. According to him,

> Somehow, especially after the civil war, he says, he discovers that in some part of Nigeria, young boys don't want to read again. They are only interest in making money. Money he laments is now what people respect, not knowledge. Whereas, a good nation must invest in knowledge of its people.

To examine critically, the promptings responsible for reactions or non reactions among Nigerians, some study of selected newspapers articles was recently carried out. These newspapers were examined to see how much contribution comes from the readers of the general public. This was done by identifying and

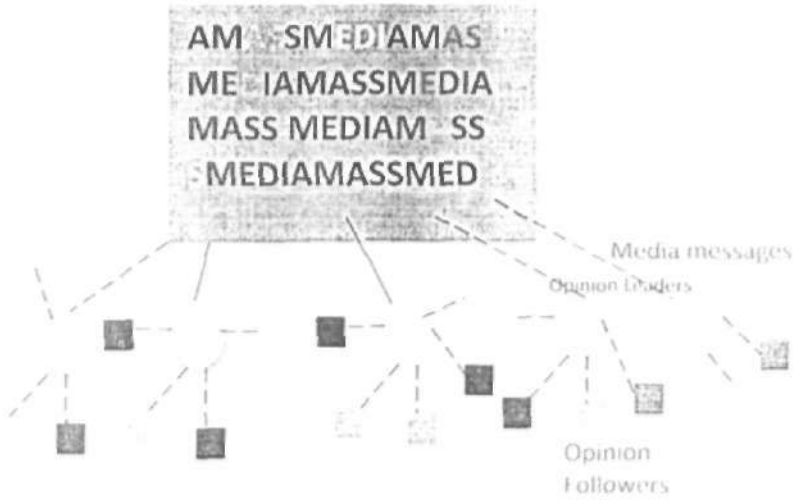
categorizing the types of responses from interested readers to maintain a central focus in the study, some pertinent questions were raised. These included the following;

1. What do people engage in writing regarding important development within their socio political, socio cultural and politic religious environment?
2. How do they feel about their leaders and the perceived type of leadership provided?
3. What type of statements do they employ to vent their own feelings

Computing Theories of Communication

Several theories of communication especially in the area of mass communication where critically appraised to identify the most relevant for the Nigeria communication landscape. **The mass society theory, the magic bullet theory and the limited effects theories**, Lazarsfeld (1941) were all compared.

Figure 1 Mass media as channels of Feedback



(Adopted from Stanly J. Baran: Introduction to Mass Communication: Media literacy and Culture, McGram-Hill higher education 2002)

In the context of the Nigerian situation, it was found that the Limited effects theories of Lazarsfeld were probably the most dominant among those theories that could be identified as underpinning the situation in Nigeria. This is because they represent the roles played by the following in triggering public

debate or discussion: Individual differences, social categories and personal relationship. One of the ways through which Nigerians attempt to reduce to content the discomfort inflicted by certain occurrences is to talk loudly or write boldly given that their own standpoint as regards contentious issue. Sometimes the audacity reflected through outburst of writing could surprise even the greatest pessimist. In attempting to appraise some of the written contributions of "aggrieved Nigerians" data were collected from newspapers and further analysed to allow certain observations and generalization to be made. In the tables that follow the data from the newspapers have been summarized.

Summary of Article type(for details see appendix 1- 4)

Article Type	Table 1: Outright Complaint	Table 2: Positive Counsel/Article	Table 3: Rebuttal	Table 4: General Comments
Percentage of total	18.8%	37.6%	17.1%	26.5%

Content.

Not unexpectedly, many of the readers' write-ups centre on political themes particularly those which irk the contributors.

Most of them concentrate on some lingering political issues that have attracted serious individual or group attention.

Some of the issues include the following.

- Desertification
- Human/Child Trafficking
- Settler versus- Indigene
- Incumbency Factor
- Marginalization
- Resource Control
- Zoning

- Will Jonathan run?
- Where is Mr. President?
- The Problem with Plateau State
- 3rd Term/ Term Elongation
- Cocaine Carriers
- Nigerian lawmakers and the Cost of Running Democracy
- INEC and Credible Elections
- Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and Crime control
- Football in Nigeria and National Honour
- The Carnage on our Roads
- Rebranding Nigeria
- The Collapse of our Education System

Style of Presentation

Most of the writers employ highly loaded and emotive words to express their viewpoints. Typically, this occurs when the writer is making an Outright Complaint. It should be acknowledged here that numerous write ups are submitted as Short Telephone Messages or via E mail. In this regard ICT or Information Communication Technology has become a dependable vehicle of communication.

The two texts below make a direct complaint to the Plateau State Governor in a language that could pass for confrontational, unambiguous and fully loaded with venom. Some key phrases include:

> "Your Unwillingness or inability to resolve the problem in your LGA (Jos-South)... is a big set-back for you and a stain on your government

The writer does not stop there rather he goes for further specification by claiming;

"You and your brother Gbong Gwong of Jos, Da Jacob Gyang Buba, brought the unpopular chairman..."

The words selected are penetrating and within the Nigerian Socio Cultural context, insulting. This is simply because the writer does not go for euphemism or umbrella terms such as Nepotism and Favoritism. He says in addition to the above

"Because he is the brother in-law to your SSG"

These comments of the cited letter imbued with or so it seemed some air of authenticity, essentially through the insertion of the name of the purported writer with his phone number to both (Daily trust, July 23, 2009, pg 12).

All seemed so clinical and conclusive until a rebuttal was stumbled on in the August 5, 2009, p 15 of the same Daily Trust. Here, the writer claimed to be the real Hon. Pam Davou. He too invoked equally evocative words such as

"purportedly sent in"

And went on to add

"I view the write-up as misleading and an impersonation of my person aimed at smearing my person... and I never sent the message."

The writer took some trouble to assuage the emotions and pride of the leaders by pleading

"I implore all who come across the write-up to disregard and see it as an attempt to sow confusion and too cast aspersion on our esteemed leaders".

Two important points are brought to the fore by the accusation and counter accusation. Leaders vilified by some have their own source of support elsewhere. This probably reminds me of the expression: Even the louse has its own friends.

Secondly, the editors to most of the newspapers sampled remarkable courage in presenting balanced accounts. This is commendable especially where matters that generate enormous passion and name calling are being openly discussed.

The modest exchanges carried out by interested readers provide them with the tools and media to navigate new routes of literacy. Through their efforts some of the contributors have received encouragement to engage in greater challenges of writing more sophisticated articles.

The Intimate Style

Some of the write-ups are intimate and conversational in tone and presentation. Such a style makes the article reader friendly. Equally, it substantially creates a rapport between the writer and the reader. Its stylistic variation makes it a potential model for other would-be writers. Many Nigerians today get captivated by motivational talks and write-ups. Consequently, presentations that appear in the dialogue form, breathe the following qualities on the writing and suggest authentic literacy characteristics:

i- The air of immediacy

ii The assumed or perceived familiarity

iii. The sense of verisimilitude

iv The applicability of the subject matter and its discussion

v The unique sweep and orientation of the presentation.

With regard to the above qualities several of the articles under the category of positive counsel or Advice manifest robust language. They are enriched in terms of vocabulary selection, precise statements and punctuated with a myriad of questions-yes/no types, rhetorical, hoe and why varieties. The sample given below is representative of the reflective write-ups. They manifest practical literacy skills.

> **Men, as our wives and children celebrate us today as fathers, what kind of a father are you?**
>
> - **Are you a real father or ceremonial father?**
> - **Do you show love to your children?**
> - **Do you meet their expectations as a father?**
> - **Do you care about your family?**
> - **What are your lifestyles?**
> - **What are you teaching your children?**
> - **Can your children model after you?**
> - **What kind of a father are you in the society?**
> - **Do you behave like a father?**
> - **What about our place of work?**
> - **What type of a leader are you?**
> - **Can people come to you when they are in need?**
> - **Are you a father only to your biological children?**
>
> **How do you treat those children living with you? - I mean your house girls, houseboys, security guards, drivers, cooks, stewards, etc. Do you treat them as human beings like yourself who are created by the same God?**
> **Men, Father's Day is for sober reflection on our standing as fathers and mentors to our children and others. This is not the time for dining and wining only, but to also re-examine yourselves and make amend wherever you are doing it wrong so that, it shall be well with you. Remember that, sooner than later, we shall all appear before God on his judgment seat.**

In some of the general write ups the tone is urbane measured and transparently inoffensive. The choice of soothing words and the build up of the sentences suggest a decidedly polite presentation. Some of such articles confirm that even in anger or distress, writing could be done with some beauty. They remind us if the ever-green beauty in carefully chosen words and also point back to Bacon's words that

> **Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed and some few to be chewed and digested.**

Such writings could be read over and again as they radiate literary elegance and uniqueness. They also inculcate practical literacy traits/habits in contributors.

An example from This Day of July 22, 2009 is partially reproduced below:

... I was allowed to go in without any stress... the police ordered someone who was close to the door out. It would not have been a problem if he had done that politely... I was fished out from behind to get out... in a very humiliating manner... I decided to put this down in writing when I watched Michael Jackson's memorial the night I suffered this humiliation. I was surprised but it triggered something in me, that in Nigeria, we don't do things the right way. ... Little things defeat us. Every Nigerian should understand by now that developed Nations are beginning to identify with countries that show promise. Some Nigerians feel raped because Obama chose Ghana. No! The jealousy will get worse when Ghana starts exporting oil next year. Then we will bite our fingers and see how things we feel don't count are things that actually matter.

Conclusion

From the readers' contribution to newspaper articles, it can be seen that most write ups are indeed indicative of yearnings from some sections of the community. Most contributors, in relying on varying stylistic options, confirm the elasticity and functionality of language. Many of the writers exude promptings and potentials in the area of literacy development. The newspapers themselves have demonstrated some amount of fair-mindedness. However it was difficult through the reported survey to gauge the success or failure of the newspapers in the following areas:

a. Criteria, if any, that was used for selection of article.

b. The amount of editorial carried out on each received write up

c. The factors considered in determining the distributional spread of the themes and sub-themes.

d. The distance from adherence to the in-house editorial style of each paper.

Finally, the main features traceable in the analyzed write-ups were seen as diagrammed below:

Figure 2: Facets of Feedback



REFERENCES

Francis, B. (1966): Francis Bacons Essays London: Aldine Press, Letchworth

James, C. and Micheal G. (eds) (2005): Mass Media and Society London: Hodder Education.

Julius A. A,(August 14, 2010): The Septuagenarian Bookworm, The Guardian Newspaper. Pg 21

Oyetunde T.O and J.J. Umolu (1989): *The Teaching of Reading and Writing in Junior Secondary Schools: An Appraisal*: pg 43: Nigeria Educational Forum: a Journal of the Institute of Education, A.B.U. Zaria Vol. 12 No.1.

Stanley J. Baran (2002): Introduction to Mass Communication: Media Literacy and Culture USA: Mcgraw Hill Companies, Inc.

Table 1: Outright Complaint

1	Daily Trust Newspaper. July 23, 2009 "Impeachment threat is a distraction" by Bashir Dauda, Katsina. (Most of our 'dis'honorable lawmwkers....)
4	Daily Trust Newspaper, July 23, 2009 "Patriotism and the Press" (The way the press promotes our value system should concern every Nigerian...)
12	Thisday Newspaper, July 22, 2009.pg 18. Police is not your Friend by Odoh O., Abuja. "... Most times, the police don't show good examples worthy of emulation..."
16	The Guardian, May 17, 2010. Pg 17. Millionaire Promos and the Youth by Doreen O. Lagos. "The rate at which the three major telecoms networks go about their promos is becoming alarming... no thought is given to the effects these promos have on little children..."
22	Daily Trust, August 5, 2009. "When Yar'adua Wakes Up" pg 14 by Salisu Sulieman. A.B.U. (... tell the slumbere-in-chief that while he was dizzy, madam has been bussy...)
27	Daily Trust, August 5, 2009.pg 15 "Chief Servant Sir" by Mohammed Haji (... the company earlier promised us jobs abroad as part of the agreement. But since we finished our training... nothing has been heard...)
39	The Guardian, July 15, 2009. Pg 14 "No good roads in Ayobo and Ipaja" by Chris Luck, Lagos. (...we do not have good roads and drainage...)
49	The Guardian, July 19, 2009. Pg 28 "Obama on Agriculture" by Gbenga Olowoyeye. (...Dr Abati wrote that he is skeptical of Obama's statement on agriculture and offered a dubious explanation...)
50	The Guardian, July 19, 2009. Pg 28. "ATM fraud I First bank" by Christiana Bhadmus, Lagos. (My savings account with first bank of Nigeria plc... was compromise by a fraudster...)
55	Daily Trust, July 5, 2010. Pg 26. "Time to return to radical Student Unionism" by Nazir A. Galadanchi. (...Rather than for Government to fund free and quantitative education, it continues to starve it more of funds...)
59	Daily Trust, July 1, 2010. Pg 24. 'Police turn Gadi from office" by Yusuf Dingyadi. (...who is the commissioner of police telling this to...?)
60	Daily Trust, July 1, 2010. Pg 24. "Quote me" by Joe Inyali. (...if Mohammed had done a thorough research on HND/B.SC dichotomy issue, he would have found that most HND holders are better than their B.SC holding counterparts...)
66	Thisday, June 26, 2010. Pg 15. "Power stability still a mirage" by Chike Okafor. (...what we want is power supply and not short-lived excuses...)
2	Daily Trust Newspaper, July 23, 2009 "Gov Jang, Please tackle the problem of Jos South LG" by Hon. Pam Davou. (Your unwillingness...to resolve the problem...)
47	Daily Trust July 13, 2009. Pg 13. "Kai MTN" by Jawadu. (...Please refund my #150...)
105	Daily Trust, July 2, 2009. Pg 12. "MTN Fast Link" by Aggrieved Subscriber (...this is becoming fast fraud...)
115	Thisday, August 1, 2010. Pg 24 "Where are the People's Champion" by Dr. Ahmed, Lagos. (...This is anti-people. Regrettably all these are happening in Lagos and the popular voices' who claim to speak for the people have been curiously silent...)

Appendix 2

Table 2: Positive Counsel /Advice

7	Nigerian Tribune, 24 July, 2009 "A call on Delta State Governor" by Bobson Gbinije, Warri. (…sapele is a globally ubiquitous name because of its past glory…)
14	Thisday Newspaper, July 22, 2009 Pg 19. The Cut In Politicians Allowances by Kenneth Homles, Owerri. "… until the war on corruptions is won, any actions aimed at checking the brazen way our leaders misappropriate our funds will yield little or no fruits.... I wish to appeal to the media to continue with what they are doing…"
18	Thisday , July 9, 2009, Pg 18. Towards a United Nigeria by Paul Adujie. New York. "… Why are Nigerians aboard more vigorous in the defense of their ethnic groups, home states, religion or regions, than they would when Nigeria is attacked?"
23	Daily Trust, August 5, 2009 pg14. "The Sultan was right on target" by Salihu M.S. A.B.U. "…in other words despite great natural wealth, Nigeria is poor and social-development is limited…"
38	The Guardian, July 15, 2009, Pg 14. "Obama's Ghana Visit" by Baba Alawoye. (… The truth is that we in Nigeria are paying lip service to fighting corruption…)
40	The Guardian, July 16, 2009, Pg 16. "The Petroleum Industry Bill and Gas Prohibition Act" by peter Esele & John Kolawole. (…TUC strongly believes these bills will definitely change the way business in the oil and gas sector which is the number one revenue earner for the country is run…)
42	Daily Trust July 15, 2009, Pg 14 "Who will serve Nigeria" by Inuwa M. Isa. (…in addition to electoral reform there is also need for sanity and liberty in both the legislative and Judicial arms of Government…)
44	Daily Trust July 15, 2009, Pg 15. "EFCC come to Zamfara" by Lawal Abdullahi. (Please, come to the rescue of zamfara state…)
53	Daily Trust, July 5, 2010, Pg 24 "That presidential hammer on the NFF and super eagles" by Sa'ad A. Zongre. (…all these feats with the exception of the Olympic fold, were achieved by Nigeria's most successful coach ever- Clemence Westerhoff…)
54	Daily Trust, July 5, 2010, Pg 24. "Origins and significance of Fathers' day" by Itua Aikhojo. (…fathers' day celebration was inaugurated in the early 20th century to complement mothers' day in celebrating fatherhood… how do you treat children living with you?...)
56	Daily Trust, July 5, 2010, Pg 26. "Give the man a chance" by Apostle Paul O.O. Kaduna. (…Nigerians should be patient and give president Jonathan a chance to perform…)
62	Thisday, July 1, 2010, Pg 19 "our leaders should apologize to us" by Tola Osunnuga (…many of our political leaders find words of apology hard to utter when in the actual fact they should)
63	Thisday, July 1, 2010, Pg 19. "Still on World Environment Day" by Frank Omoha, Abuja. (…Nigeria should take a cue from how the United States are responding to the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico…)
91	Daily Trust, June 29, 2009, Pg 25. "Zoning: worms are coming out of the woodwork" by Abdulrahaman Mohammed Alfa, Ghana. (…Let Nigerian voters decide who to lead them at all levels of governance, please…)

Appendix 3

Table 3: Rebuttal

113	Leadership. July 29. 2010. Pg 15 "National Awards for Sale" by A'iyu. Nassarawa (…What have Gov Doma and Senator Akwashiki done to deserve these hitherto enviable awards?...)
11	Thisday Newspaper. July 22. 2009.pg 18. Ibeju-Lekki and PDP's Regeneration by Olutomiwa. Lagos. "… given the unfolding scenario in Ibeju-Lekki, the state is up for grabs in 2011.… it is a rehearsal towards clinching power from the ruling Action Congress…"
15	The Guardian. May 17. 2010. Pg 17. Babangida and the Nigerian Economy by Omohakpor E. Delta. "… Babangida did not lead Nigerians to the promised land yesterday and he will not do it tomorrow ……"
19	Thisday. July 9. 2009. Pg 18 Separating the Siamese Twins by Josef O. "… if a commissioner commits an act for which he would lose his seat in the house were he a legislator, such a commissioner stands automatically disqualified from the commissionership job"
21	Thisday. July 9. 2009. Pg19 "Shedding Blood to Save Oil" by Olubunmi A.T. Ibadan. "… only an irresponsible government will decide to disregard the values and dignity of the human life and choose to kill her citizens with the view to protect the nation's oil."
24	Daily Trust. August 5. 2009.pg 15. "Stop the demolition of mosques" by Abdullateef T.A
25	Daily Trust. August 5. 2009.pg 15. "Re: God Jang, pls tackle the problem of Jos South" by Pam Davou (… I view this write up as misleading, malicious and an impersonation of my person….)
37	The Guardian. July 15. 2009. Pg 14. "No automatic ticket for Anyone" by Farouk Abdulazeez (… facts in the public domain as contained in the aims and objectives of YFONN which were published in the media, make such assertion baseless and misleading…)
61	Daily Trust. July 1. 2010. Pg 24. "RE: No alternative to zoning" by Ya'us Darazo (…I disagree with Audu ogbe…)
73	Nigerian Tribune. 2 July. 2010. Pg 16. "Prof Jega in an ally of Nigeria's imperialists" by Pius Oyeniran. (… in reality, Prof Jega and the commissioners have been employed by the ruling party… why should Jonathan choose when people ask him to let a non-partisan body choose…)
75	Daily Trust. July 2. 2010. Pg 24. "Jonathan disbands Super Eagles" by Hamza Aliyu (…what is wrong with Nigeria and Nigerians? Who are the PTF to recommend the disbandment of the national team….)
79	The Nation. June 12. 2009. Pg 18. "Ten years of demo-crazy road" by Arinze Alianor. Lagos (… what is the performance of the democracy over here in the last 10 years? Pseudo fight against corruption, lack of transparency …)
116	Thisday. August 1. 2010. Pg 26 "Federal Government and Nuclear Power project" by Bankole Oguntwo (…let us not deceive or delude ourselves. Nigeria is not ready for Nuclear power…)
118	Sunday Trust. August 1. 2010 pg23. "National Assembly we want Oke-Ogun State not New Oyo State" by Koleoso adelowo (… a request was recently presented to the National assembly by some people claiming that Oke-Ogun subscribed to their agitation. Their submission is nothing but a sham and a charade…)

Appendix 4

Table 4: General Comments

3	Daily Trust Newspaper, July 23, 2009 "Sickle cell, HIV cure" by S.K. Dikko.
8	Nigerian Tribune, 24 July, 2009. Integrity and Leadership by Rev. Tunde Onifade.
9	Nigerian Tribune, 24 July, 2009. On the Apapa-Oshodi expressway by Barth O. Lagos.
10	Nigerian Tribune, 24 July, 2009. Nigeria under Yar'Adua by Jerry Wright. "... prices of goods are skyrocketing... the president has succeeded in earning nick-names like PDP president, Baba Go-slow..."
13	Thisday Newspaper, July 22, 2009 Pg 19. Between St. Augustine and Fela Anikulapo-Kuti by Augustine Togonu-Bickersteth, London. "St. Augustine... An Algerian has been described as the greatest thinker to come out of Africa whereas Fela Anikulapo-Kuti has been described as the greatest musician to come out of Africa..."
17	Sunday Tribune, 3 May, 2009. Pg14. "When a mother Departs with Children" by Shuaib, Abuja.
29	Daily Trust, August 5, 2009,pg 15 "Genealogy of appointments in the Education Sector" by atinuke Olamide, Ibadan. (...if there were fixed tenures as the spin doctor claim, president Obasanjo would not have set any record in seeking 'third term' as Dr Modibbi's two predecessors had a tenure of 24 years between the...)
32	Nigerian Tribune, 16 July, 2009. Pg 14 "Osun: Dawn of a new era" by Senator Ogunwale (... I assure our brothers sisters of my absolute loyality...)
34	Nigerian Tribune, 15 July, 2009. Pg 12 "More troubles for Ogun" by Dr Adeleye, Ibadan.
43	Daily Trust July 15, 2009. Pg 14. "Wither Terrorism in Nigeria" by Zango. (... to show that we are on the same page with America... started looking for terrorist in every corner...)
45	Daily Trust July 13, 2009. Pg 12. "Re: Yuguda and the burden of undue criticism" by Muhammad Usman. (...as far as the current political upheaval in Bauchi state is concerned, history will come to be Yuguda's nemesis...)
57	Daily Trust, July 1, 2010. Pg 24. "Lead poisoning: FG warned Zamfara 10 times" by Kabir Ibrahim Gusau. (...this is not surprising because I am very sure that top government officials benefit from the illegal mining...)
58	Daily Trust, July 1, 2010. Pg 24. "Policeman to hang over Jos Crisis" by Philip (Once again, another plus to our Judiciary...)
64	Thisday, June 26, 2010. Pg 14. "Seven Years of Shekarau" by Sule Y. Sule. (...Malam has endeared himself to the people and restored their faith in government by pursuing a progressive human development agenda...)
65	Thisday, June 26, 2010. Pg 14. "In praise of Ben nzeribe" by C Don. (... what is on joke or exaggeration is that Ben Chukwudi was a most worthy father-in-law...)
67	Thisday, June 26, 2010. Pg 15. "My family's sad story" by Lawal A. Oluwaseun.
72	Nigerian Tribune, 2 July, 2010. Pg 16 "2011: Between Jonathan and the Northerners" by Goddy Odidi. (... it is clear that Mr. president would win the presidential elections in 2011...)
77	Daily Trust, July 22, 2010. Pg 25 "Borno 2011: The case for Dibal" by Abba Kachallah. (...though a Kanuri, A. Sheriff broke the jinx by coming from Dikwa Emirate to win election...)
118	Thisday, July 22, 2009. Pg 19 "Police is not you Friend" by Odoh o. Abuja. (... most times, the police don't show good examples worthy of emulation.)