

Bankole trial selective

-Youth Group

A YOUTH organisation, the National Committee of Yoruba Youths (NCYY), has described the on-going trial by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) of the former Speaker of the House of Representatives, Honourable Dimeji Bankole, as "selective and vindictive."

The organisation, which is an umbrella body of youth groups of Yoruba origin from the six states of the South West geopolitical zone with the extension to other Yoruba-speaking parts of the country, made this declaration yesterday in a press statement issued and signed by its president and secretary, Comrade Odeyemi Oladimeji and Mr. Femi Lawson respectively.

The group said after a careful and deep look at the manner of the arrest of Hon. Bankole was done and the way his trial is being carried out, it has come to the conclusion that the prosecution of the former Speaker is political and vindictive.

The statement by NCYY reads: 'We have carefully watched events as they unfold in our dear nation

University don blames leadership on nation's woes

A UNIVERSITY don, Prof Solomon Fakinlede has identified leadership problem as a major challenge militating against the growth of public and private organisations in the country.

Fakinlede, a United States of America based Researcher with GoldenCRI regretted that Nigeria found itself at its present situation because, "the people that were leading the public and private organisations in the country lack some of the rudiments of leadership."

Speaking in Akure, the Ondo State capital at the weekend, Fakinlede who is the Executive Director of GoldenCRI said those who take the lead in both private and public institution need exposure for them to make their goals realizable.

To this end, he said GoldenCRI, a centre for research and innovation, has packaged a strategic leadership conference in Washington DC in December, where it expects to bridge some of the identified gaps.

According to him, the centre had concluded arrangements to organise the conference with the theme: Strategic Leadership.

Babatope Okeowo, Akure

Measurable Outcomes in Business Management, Politics, Government Agencies, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics."

He said no fewer than 2000 participants are expected from the African

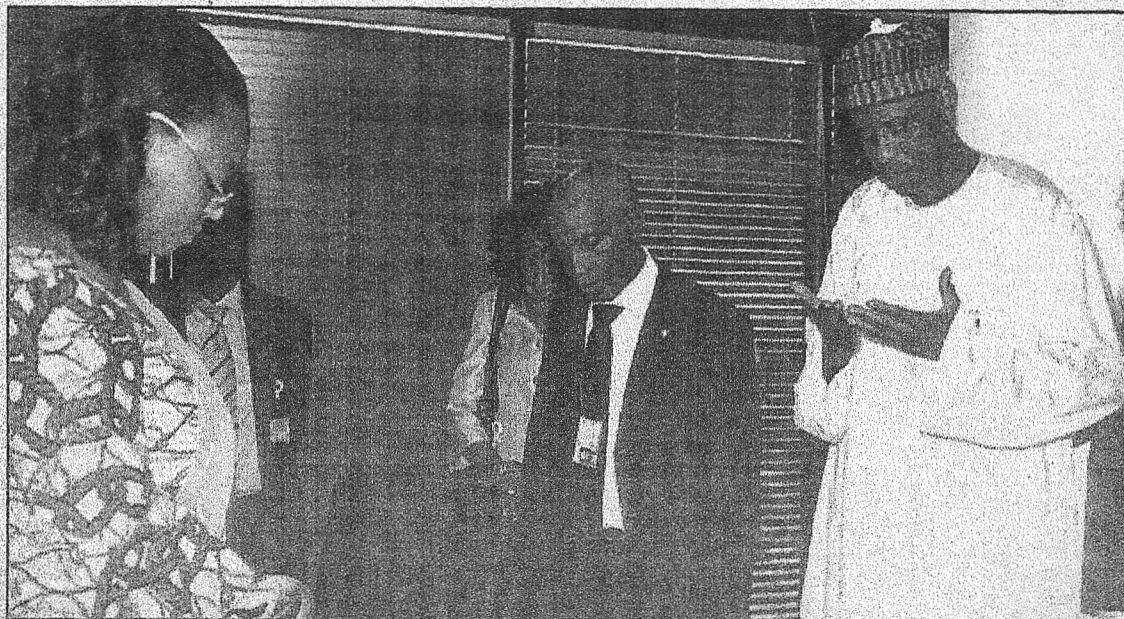
continent to participate in the conference with specific emphasis on Nigeria.

He added that the conference is aimed at developing innovative leadership models in the area of focus that could help in decision making in

public and private organisations.

He said: "We are organising a strategic leadership and measurable outcome in December in Washington DC. The conference is not only for members of the Nigerian community.

"Many American companies that top the chart in income last year participated or sent their leaders to strategic leadership. If we look at the people of Nigeria, we have a big gap, many people in government feel we cannot be like America overnight, we see a gap in maintenance culture; we see a gap in leadership responsibility in Nigeria."



• Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Petroleum Resources, Engr. Goni Sheikh (right), leads officials including heads of Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Petroleum Products Pricing Regulatory Agency (PPPRA) Nigerian Content Development Management Board (NCDMB) in prayers shortly after Mrs. Diezani Alison-Madueke (left) resumed duties as minister at the Ministry's Headquarters.