

**INAUGURAL / VALEDICTORY SPEECH**  
**BY HIS EXCELLENCY**  
**ARC. MOHAMMED NAMADI SAMBO**

**At the Occasion of His Swearing In Ceremony**

**At Murtala Muhammed Square Kaduna**

**As The Executive Governor of Kaduna State**

**On Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2007**

- Your Excellency Senator, Dr. Ahmed Mohammed Makarfi the out-going Governor of Kaduna State.
- Your Excellency the out-going and incoming Deputy Governor of Kaduna State. Mr. Patrick Ibrahim Yakowa
- The Chief Judge of Kaduna State Her Lordship Justice Rahila Cudjoe
- Your Highness The Emir of Zazzau Alh. Dr. Shehu Idris the Chairman Traditional Council of Chiefs in Kaduna State. Your Highnesses All traditional rulers here present
- All out-going and incoming elected members of the National and State Houses of Assemblies
- Members of the Military, Para-Military, Police and other Security Agencies
- Members of the Diplomatic corps
- All Government functionaries
- My good friends who have traveled from far and wide
- Other distinguished guests
- Members of all Media Organizations
- Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

It is again Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2007, a unique day statutorily set aside after every four years of democratic rule to usher an incoming democratic Government to take over from its predecessor. Today marks an important milestone in the history of our democratic evolution being, a day that a smooth transition from one civilian regime to another is progressing across and in the entire country. The Jinx which has hitherto held us captives overtime has finally been broken.

Having attained such a feat it is important, therefore for all of us to thank Allah (SWT) for guiding Nigeria and Kaduna State all these years to this memorable epoch making

and solemn oath taking ceremony which we have just witnessed, thereby sustaining the gains of history and moving democracy to the next level in Kaduna State and Nigeria as a nation.

When in 1999 at his swearing in as the Executive Governor of Kaduna State His Excellency Senator Dr. Ahmed Mohammed Makarfi and our Leader had this to say "it is another opportunity for Kaduna State to build and strengthen the culture of democracy, promote the rule of law, good governance and lay a fresh foundation for sustainable development and that the new political dispensation was founded on my firm belief in the virtue of democracy as a way of promoting the quality of life and enhancing our people's general well-being" little did he know that his achievements will be monumental and worthy of emulation by all lovers of Kaduna State.

He has during his period made significant strides in the areas of peaceful and harmonious co-existence, infrastructural development, and above all enhancing the quality of life of the citizenry. All these are virtues positing as challenges to which we accept, to not only sustain on the achievements recorded but to consolidate and even surpass them in the times to come.

I wish to also thank the entire people of our dear State for the high level of maturity and understanding you displayed during the just concluded electioneering campaigns, which culminated into a peaceful, free and fair general elections. I must particularly thank members and officials of our great party the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) for all the support you gave me which assisted immensely towards my emergence as the Governor of the State. I should equally thank other political parties for rallying round me immediately after my victory at the polls. It is pertinent at this juncture therefore to call on members of other political parties and in fact all citizens of Kaduna State to come on board so as to move Kaduna State forward. We can only ensure development if we co-operate, work as a team and create an atmosphere that is devoid of any acrimony.

On my own part, I intend to run an open government that is peaceful, fair orderly and development oriented, founded on the concept of equity, fairness and justice. The details of my plan of action and blue print will be contained in my address to the people of the State in my maiden broadcast.

Your Excellencies, My Lords, Your Highnesses, Community and Religious Leaders, Members of the Business Community, Members of the Military, Para-Military, Police and other Security agencies my friends and well-wishers and the good people of Kaduna State, it is incumbent on me to seek for your support and co-operation as I assume the servitude of the State at this crucial period of our democratic consolidation.

I wish our Leader His Excellency Senator Dr. Ahmed Mohammed Makarfi fruitful deliberations in the Senate and thank you all for finding time to grace this occasion, I pray that God will guide you safely back to your respective destinations.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS.