

Human Empowerment: Sowore Donates Items To People Of Ese-Odo LG

By **AKINMOLA JOHN**, *Coastal News*.

The caring heart posture of the Executive Governor of Ondo State, His Excellency, Dr. Olusegun Mimiko, was once again demonstrated by the chairman of Ese odo Local Government area of the state, Hon. Sowore Akinwunmi in an empowerment programme held at the local government Secretariat complex on Thursday, the 22nd December, 2011. The people's Chairman's largesse came in line with the state governor's vision and decision to establish an Ondo State where nobody goes to bed with their stomach empty.

The programme began with an opening prayer which was said by Pastor Iwatemi Adure. This was followed by the introduction of guest and dignitaries after which a brilliant keynote address was delivered by the Chairman, who in his address welcomed and appreciated all and sundry who attended the programme. He stressed the Governor's determination to alleviate poverty in the land by donating items that will enhance people's skills and raise their standard of living. Items that were donated ranged from sowing machines to motor circles, barbing clippers, electricity generating sets, video and photo cameras, Yamaha boat engines, a complete boat for water ways transportation, books for students, wheel chairs for the physically challenged, imported armchairs for the royal kings of the local government area, ceiling fans, N50,000 each for selected women across the wards of the local government, and a laptop each for students of Nigerian law school in the local government, among others. All together, the items distributed were worth several millions of naira.

Meanwhile, the traditional rulers expressed their gratitude to the Chairman, and the Governor noting that, "this is the first time the Oba's are remembered in an empowerment of this kind". However, Hon. Sowore vowed to keep delivering the dividends of democracy to the people for as long as he remains in office and assured them that the empowerment programme would continue in phases while he appealed to those who had not benefited from this phase not to see it as the end of the road but to continue to keep the faith and hope for another chance, which according to him will come soon.

In reaction to the caring heart generosity of both the Chairman and the Governor, Mr. Dabo Tosin, who spoke on behalf of the beneficiaries appreciated his Excellency, Dr. Olusegun Mimiko, Governor of Ondo State and the council Chairman for their Kindheartedness, care and concern for the well-being of the people and reiterated the support of both the Apoi and the Izon-people, the aborigines of Ese-Odo local government area of the state for the on-going government in the state saying, "we all are solidly behind the government that cares for the governed". Another physically challenged beneficiary, Mr. Olowodasa Funmilayo in a separate interview admitted he never expected such generous gesture but expressed his profound gratitude to the Chairman for making him and his physically challenged counterparts beneficiaries of the people's government.

The empowerment programme was graced by eminent dignitaries across the local government area and beyond, among whom were His Royal Highness, Oba Adeniyi Ajayi, the Agbayi of Igbotu Land, His Royal Highness, Oba M.A Olasehinde, the Jowe of Imikorogha Land, His Royal Highness, Oba Luyi Obatubosun , the Ibini of Ojuala, His Royal Highness, Oba Dr. F.A Omosegbon, the Niyon of Kiribo, Hon. Bamidele Dada, special Adviser to the governor on political matters,the treasurer of the local govt, Revd. Ikuemola, the director of local govt administration,Mr. Ogundayomi, all the supervisory councilors of ese odo local government among others.