

The Sun Shines at Media Merit Awards

ERIC DUMO and TUNDE RAHEEM, Sun News Online.

The Sun, Nigeria's highest circulating newspapers, shone like a million stars last weekend at Akure, the Ondo State capital as three of its journalists carted away trophies at this year's edition of the prestigious Nigeria Media Merit Awards (NMMA).

Features Editor, Mr. Tope Adeboboye won the Abubakar Imam's Prize for Features Writer of the Year for the third time, Contributing editor, Maurice Archibong went home with the Culture and Tradition Reporter of the Year Award while Eric Dumo of the newspaper's Magazines Desk, clinched the Bashorun Abiola's Prize for Sports Reporter of the Year.



Vincent Maduka presenting the Excellence Award at the NMMA grand award ceremony in Akure to Dr. Olusegun Mimiko

Cartoon Editor, Albert Ohams, Correspondent, Sam Otti and Jubril Musa

(who recently left the services of the newspaper) were runners-up in the glamorous event held at the Gani Fawehinmi Arcade in the Ondo State capital. The event, which brought together some of Nigeria's finest journalists and media veterans, had all the spark it needed to go down as one of the most organised, well attended and widely covered media ceremony in the country. Now in its 20th season, the annual event has been reputed for providing journalists across the country with a virile platform to showcase their talents.

A total of 45 awards were handed down at the event with 11 of those coming from the electronic media. Other notable winners include Wale Alabi of The Nation who went away with the Brand and Marketing Reporter of the Year prize, Ololade Olatunji, Newspaper Reporter of the Year, Education and Industry Reporter categories, Adejuwon Soyinka of Tell, Human Rights Reporter of the Year, Print Journalist of the Year while Uffot Emmanuel is Investigative Reporter of the Year.

In the broadcast category, Deji Bademosi of Channels Television was named TV Reporter of the Year, Usuh Chambalain from same medium, was TV. Presenter of the Year while the Africa Independent Television was named TV Station for 2011. Sika Baridon of Radio Rivers won Radio

Reporter of the Year while Susan Titilayo Bamigboye of Voice of Nigeria won Radio Programme of the Year.

Extolling the relevance of the award, chief host of the historic event, Dr. Olusegun Mimiko, executive governor of Ondo State, said the media profession is among Nigeria's most vibrant arm. He noted that such a huge recognition would spur journalists to be more dedicated in the pursuit of their stories. The ceremony would be hosted by Cross Rivers State next year.