



**FlexiSAF**  
FOUNDATION

# News Letter

July - September  
Issue  
2023



**Highlight**  
Goal  
Keepers  
2030

Back to School  
Back to Life

## Goalkeepers 2030!



Our Executive Director, Mrs. Amina Abubakar, has been nominated to join the Goalkeepers Community, an initiative by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, uniting global leaders dedicated to driving positive change in their communities.

The Goalkeepers community represents diverse changemakers, both emerging and renowned, from various backgrounds and cultures, all committed to achieving the 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development by 2030.

We wholeheartedly believe our Executive Director is well-deserving of this nomination and take pride in her unwavering commitment to making a positive impact!

We extend our best wishes to her as she continues to be an inspirational force, leading change on this extraordinary journey!

## Lasting Connections: Team bonding event 2023



We came together for an unforgettable day of camaraderie and collaboration at our Team Bonding Event 2023. From start to finish, we immersed ourselves in a series of exciting challenges that not only tested our teamwork, but also provided us with hours of pure entertainment.

As we competed in various games and activities, the laughter and camaraderie that filled the air were truly remarkable. It was a day of fun and games that brought us closer together and allowed us to unwind and let loose with our colleagues.

While it was all about games, this event served a valuable purpose – to strengthen our team spirit. We may have been in the midst of friendly competition, but the bonds we formed and the memories we created will continue to inspire us in our future endeavors.

In retrospect, our Team Bonding Event 2023 was a day of pure enjoyment, reinforcing the idea that sometimes, all it takes to build a stronger team is a bit of friendly competition and a whole lot of fun.

## Courtesy visit from Nurture Roots Foundation

We recently hosted our partners, Nurture Roots Foundation, to discuss the progress of our joint initiative. In 2019, we began our journey in Rugga Community Wuye, providing digital learning opportunities for children. Thanks to their support and collaboration with British Telecoms, we introduced Computational Thinking. Today, we're excited to share that our partnership is stronger than ever, and we're gearing up to expand our impact to more communities and schools in 2024. Stay tuned for exciting developments!



## International Day to Protect Education from Attack



We were honored to attend an event hosted by the Federal Ministry of Education to mark the International Day to Protect Education from Attack, under the theme: "Implementing Safe Schools Policy for all."

Hon. Dr. Yusuf Tanko Sununu, the Honourable Minister of State for Education, delivered a powerful speech emphasizing the critical importance of raising awareness about attacks on learners, teachers, and educational institutions. He underscored the need to protect the right to education in regions affected by crisis and violence. The Hon. Minister stressed that safeguarding education from both natural and man-made disasters is a collective responsibility, vital for our nation's development.

He passionately articulated that the safety and security of our schools directly impact national progress. Together, we can conquer all challenges by creating secure and conducive learning environments, contributing to our nation's growth and prosperity. He called on everyone to commit to providing our youth with the opportunity to learn without fear, ensuring the sustainability of national development.



## International Day of Charity



Our AccLearn kids celebrated the International Day of Charity with remarkable acts of compassion and community spirit. They willingly shared their snacks with local children, and some even took it upon themselves to beautify the surroundings of the community palace by sweeping.

Their actions go beyond simple kindness; they provide valuable lessons that will stay with them throughout their lives. They are learning the importance of empathy, the joy of giving, and the impact of collective efforts in making the world a better place.

We witnessed the future philanthropists of our world in action, and it fills us with hope. Let's continue nurturing these seeds of kindness and watch them grow into mighty trees of compassion.



# Twitter Space with Connected Development (CODE)

In a recent highlight, our Executive Director, Mrs. Amina Abubakar, had the honor of participating in an enlightening Twitter Space event hosted by Connected Development. The topic of discussion was 'Championing Change: Reflecting on the Girl Child Education Project.' As Mrs. Abubakar aptly stated, "One of the most significant indicators of societal progress is the empowerment of its girls and women." The conversation was deeply engaging and offered valuable insights into the transformative power of educating and empowering girls.

The poster features a central Twitter logo and logos for MALALA FUND and CODE. The event title is 'Championing Change: Reflecting on the Girl Child Education Project'. The date is August 25th, from 6:00pm to 7:00pm, at the venue @Connected\_dev. The host is Zaliha A. Lawal, Deputy Director of Programs at CODE. The speakers are Hamzat B. Lawal (Chief Executive CODE & Founder, Follow The Money), Amina Abubakar (Executive Director FlexISAF Foundation), Dr. Jamila Dahiru (Commissioner for Education, Bauchi State), and Mustapha Shehu (State Project Coordinator, Adolescent Girls Initiative for Learning & Empowerment (AGILE) Project Katsina State).

**TWITTER SPACE**

*Championing Change:*  
**Reflecting on the Girl Child Education Project**

**AUGUST** 25<sup>th</sup> | **6:00pm** - **7:00pm** | **VENUE** @Connected\_dev

**Host**  
**Zaliha A. Lawal**  
Deputy Director of Programs  
CODE

*Speakers*

**Hamzat B. Lawal**  
Chief Executive CODE & Founder, Follow The Money

**Amina Abubakar**  
Executive Director FlexISAF Foundation

**Dr. Jamila Dahiru**  
Commissioner for Education, Bauchi State

**Mustapha Shehu**  
State Project Coordinator, Adolescent Girls Initiative for Learning & Empowerment (AGILE) Project Katsina State

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## Beneficiary story - The Audacity of Hope: The Journey of Yusuf Muhammad



Once upon a time in Yobe State, there lived a young boy named Muhammad Yusuf. At the tender age of 11, he found himself fortunate to be a part of the Flexisaf Foundation's Scholarship Scheme. Hailing from Jakusko LGA, Yusuf, after the demise of his father, was sent to Tudun Murtala in Kano State to attend a traditional Qur'anic school.

Initially, Yusuf was not included in the list of potential beneficiaries of the scheme. However, fate intervened, and on a Sunday, the 14th of October 2018, as I set out to verify the list of 24 children provided by the Ward Head of Unguwar Gabas, Mallam Saleh Mai Fata, I unexpectedly visited the house of Mallam Abubakar, whose child was on the list. Upon observing the house, an inner voice urged me to question whether a child from such a house could truly be without schooling.

After exchanging pleasantries with Mallam Abubakar, I introduced myself and explained the purpose of my visit, shedding light on my organization and its activities. During our conversation, I discovered that his ward was already attending school, and therefore, there was no need to enroll him in our program.

It was at that moment that I noticed little Yusuf emerging from Mallam Abubakar's house, carrying a bucket of water on his head. I called out to him and inquired about his name. "Yusuf is my name," he replied. Instantly, my mind began contemplating enrolling him in our program, but I knew there were hurdles to overcome due to his "almajiri status." Many promising "almajiri" children had missed out on the opportunity of receiving a Western education due to the reluctance of their traditional Qur'anic teachers, known as "Alarammas," to grant permission. With this in mind, I decided to meet with Yusuf's Quranic teacher, Alaramma Sani Abdullahi.

A week later, I met Alaramma Mallam Sani at his school, where he was busy teaching numerous children simultaneously. We found a nearby shade to sit, and I introduced myself and explained the objectives of my organization. After exchanging pleasantries, I shared my desire to see Yusuf enrolled in school and inquired about his background.

To my surprise, Alaramma Mallam Sani was not only well-versed but also highly knowledgeable. He explained, "Yusuf is under my sole custodianship, and I will gladly enroll him in any school of your choice. Lack of sponsorship is the main hindrance faced by many children here in Tudun Murtala. I currently have close to 80 students, including a graduate with an NCE certificate and secondary school graduates. Times have changed, and I have never discouraged any of my students from seeking a Western education."

Alaramma Mallam Sani's words resonated with me. He acknowledged that the issue of out-of-school children was a pressing concern in Tudun Murtala, a densely populated area in the heart of Kano metropolis. He further explained that many Alarammas were hesitant to partner with NGOs and civil societies due to the lack of a clear purpose.

Time flew, and in September 2018, little Yusuf was enrolled in Primary One at Wisdom International School in Tudun Murtala. With the guidance of his Qur'anic teacher, Alaramma Mallam Sani, Yusuf proved to be a diligent and punctual student. His teachers quickly noticed his academic prowess, attributed to his inquisitive nature and photographic memory. Everything Yusuf learned had to be memorized, just like his Qur'anic verses. For a child who had never attended school before, securing the 18th position out of 45 students in his first-term examination was truly remarkable. However, Yusuf was just getting started.

During his second-term examination, Yusuf astounded everyone with his performance, securing the 4th position. It became evident to his teachers and classmates that it was only a matter of time before Yusuf would top his class. As the School Principal aptly put it, "His performance has put to rest any doubts surrounding his almajiri background." By the end of the third term, everyone eagerly anticipated Yusuf's results, and once again, he achieved an impressive 2nd position in a class of 35 students.

During the school's annual Speech and Prize-giving Day, the crowd erupted with joy when Yusuf's name was called to collect his prize. His story as an Almajiri boy with no prior exposure to Western education had become known throughout the school. His teachers, Alaramma Malam Sani, and his employer, Mallam Abubakar, joined in celebrating his remarkable achievements. Little Yusuf was truly living his dream of attending school, and when asked about his aspirations for the future, he confidently answered, "I want to become a doctor."

In my interview session with Malam Saleh Mai Fata, the Ward Head of Unguwar Gabas in Tudun Murtala, I shared the latest developments in his community, including Yusuf's progress. Malam Saleh expressed his concern about the alarming number of out-of-school children in their community. He acknowledged that despite the government's efforts, their densely populated area was still educationally underserved. He emphasized the importance of civil societies and NGOs contributing their share to address this issue. Malam Saleh recounted previous encounters with other NGOs who had come to partner on out-of-school children but had not followed through.

The story of Yusuf Muhammad is a testament to the audacity of hope and the transformative power of education. Through the collaboration between the FlexiSAF Foundation, Alaramma Mallam Sani, and the determination of Yusuf himself, an Almajiri boy overcame barriers to access education and showcased his remarkable capabilities. His journey serves as an inspiration for others and highlights the significance of collective efforts in ensuring every child's right to education.

Written by: Abbanbello, Kano Project Manager

## We won a prestigious grant award!



The FlexiSAF Foundation has been selected as a recipient of an esteemed award from the U.S. Department of State to support a project titled “Activism That Yields Results: Building The Future Now” under the Foundation’s Young Education Advocates program (YEA).

The proposed project entails an interactive workshop that aims to provide a platform for young activists and changemakers, to delve into a dynamic approach to activism.

Our vision is to inspire these young activists to become more intentional about their advocacy while nurturing a passion for history. We aim to equip them with the knowledge, skills, and resources necessary to amplify their voices and bring about positive social change within their communities and beyond.

We are deeply grateful for the support of the United States Government towards our initiative.

## Humanitarian Awards Global 2023 Nomination

We are thrilled to share that our esteemed Executive Director, Mrs. Amina Abubakar, has been nominated for the prestigious Humanitarian Awards Global 2023. Her nomination is in recognition of her outstanding efforts as a dedicated advocate for Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4) – Quality Education.

Mrs. Amina’s unwavering commitment to our mission and her exceptional contributions have truly set her apart. Her dedication to driving positive change and making a significant impact in the humanitarian community has earned her this well-deserved recognition.

We invite you to join us in supporting our Executive Director by casting your vote. You can vote for her remarkable contributions by simply dialing \*800\*1111# on all networks or through the link: <https://www.humanitarianawardsglobal.org/vote/?code=1892>

# Nigerian Youth Parliament's International Youth Day Celebration



We had the privilege of attending the International Youth Day event organized by the Nigerian Youth Parliament under the theme "Youth Empowerment For Sustainable Development; Unlocking Potentials, Driving Change." This gathering brought together experts, thought leaders, vibrant youth, government representatives, and key stakeholders for insightful discussions on various aspects of youth empowerment for effective leadership. Distinguished leaders and change-makers graced the event, contributing to insightful discussions and igniting valuable insights into youth empowerment and the unlocking of their immense potential. Overall, the event was both enlightening and impactful, reaffirming our dedication to future participation in similar youth-focused initiatives.



# Gender and Education Parity Advocacy Project (GEPAP) Stakeholder Workshop



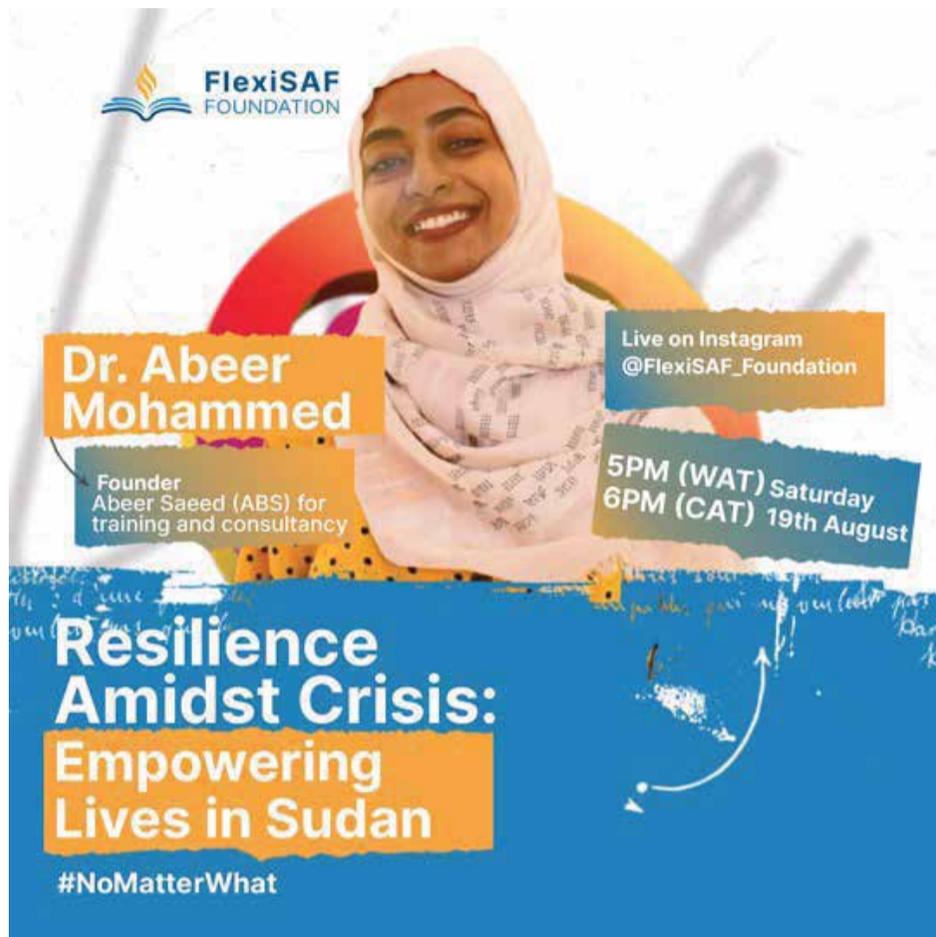
We were honored to be part of the launch of the Gender and Education Parity Advocacy Project (GEPAP) led by Mrs. Rahmat Abdullahi, an alumna of the International Visitor Leadership Programme (IVLP) in the U.S. The event included a stakeholder workshop with over 30 key players from the public and private sectors critical to the development of educational policies and programmes in attendance.

This project has a noble goal—to tackle girl-child education challenges and promote education equality in North Central Nigeria. By empowering young advocates and activists from the region with essential skills, GEPAP aims to foster gender and education equality within their communities.



We are enthusiastic about our role in supporting this initiative and eagerly anticipate the positive impact it will bring to our communities in North Central Nigeria and the nation as a whole.

# World Humanitarian Day in Sudan



On World Humanitarian Day, we had the privilege of commemorating the day with an inspiring individual, Dr. Abeer Mohammed. A pharmacist, dedicated educator, and advocate for youth development, Dr. Abeer Mohammed is also the founder of Abeer Saeed (ABS) for training and consultancy.

During an insightful Instagram live session, Dr. Abeer Mohammed shed light on the challenges that Sudan is currently facing amid a crisis. She also shared remarkable stories of resilience, hope, and unity that have emerged during these trying times.

As we reflect on this day, we're reminded of the strength that communities can find in togetherness and the unwavering determination of individuals like Dr. Abeer Mohammed to make a positive impact. Let's continue to stand together, support one another, and spread hope in the face of challenges.

# Instagram Live Session for International Youth Day: Green Skills for Youth



We hosted an inspiring Instagram live session on International Youth Day with Ms. Chizoba Nzeakor, Founder and CEO of Climate Technology Solutions. Our discussion centered on "Sustainable World Starts with Education - Green Skills for Youth."

Ms. Chizoba Nzeakor delved into the critical significance of green skills in empowering youth for sustainability. Our conversation covered challenges and opportunities in Nigeria, presented impactful solutions, and stressed the importance of bridging technology and education. Key highlights included discussions on collaboration among stakeholders and the future of green skills education.

The session underlined the significance of green skills and education in empowering youth for a sustainable future, aligning with the spirit of International Youth Day.

## Beneficiary Feature: Asma'u's Inspiring Education Journey



Asma'u's journey began at Dougirei Model Academy long before the FlexiSAF Foundation took over her sponsorship. Throughout her education, school fees posed an ongoing challenge for her. It was a rollercoaster, with her mother occasionally managing to cover half of the fees, while other times, payments were nearly impossible. Remarkably, the school administration extended their understanding, recognizing her family's situation, and allowed her to continue attending due to her mother's employment as a cleaner at the school. Despite earning a meager monthly salary, her mother's dedication and connection to the school kept Asma'u's education afloat.

However, despite the efforts, circumstances took a turn recently. Unable to meet the financial demands, Asma'u had to face the unfortunate reality of dropping out of school. The financial strain proved to be overwhelming, and her family reached a point where sustaining her education was no longer feasible.

Asma'u's father is a retired Gatekeeper who finds himself without a current source of employment. The challenges the family faces, coupled with the economic pressures, created a complex situation that led to this difficult decision.

While Asma'u's educational journey hit a temporary pause, the FlexiSAF Foundation, recognizing the potential in her determination, was able to enroll her in school through the Foundation's sponsorship program. The sponsorship program is the conventional back-to-school program where a good Samaritan supports a child or children get quality education through the Foundation. With this newfound support, Asma'u was able to reclaim her spot in school, defying the odds that had once threatened her journey.

The FlexiSAF Foundation continues to strive to make quality education accessible, ensuring that beneficiaries like Asma'u can overcome obstacles and pursue their dreams in the face of adversity.



# National Digital Literacy Framework Launch



We were invited to the launch of the National Digital Literacy Framework by the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA) Nigeria.

This groundbreaking initiative aims to build a digitally literate Nigeria where all citizens can improve their lives and contribute to the nation's development.

The National Digital Literacy framework will bridge the digital divide and foster inclusive growth across Nigeria.

It was an honor to be among passionate change-makers and policymakers committed to advancing digital literacy in our nation.

Digital literacy is not just about using technology; it's about embracing its potential to improve lives, education, and employment opportunities!



# Inspiring Instagram Live Event for World Youth Skills Day 2023

We hosted a successful Instagram Live event in celebration of World Youth Skills Day where we had the privilege of delving into the theme of 'Skilling teachers, trainers, and youth for a transformative future' with our passionate guest speaker, Ms. Onyinye who is an enthusiastic teacher.

Throughout the event, Ms. Onyinye highlighted the significance of equipping young minds with essential skills and the role of educators in shaping the next generation of leaders and change-makers. The engaging discussions and meaningful contributions from our community members made this occasion truly impactful.

For those who couldn't join us live, the recording of the event is now available on our Instagram page. We invite you to watch it and catch up on the enlightening conversation.



## Seminar on the Nigeria Learning Platform (NLP)

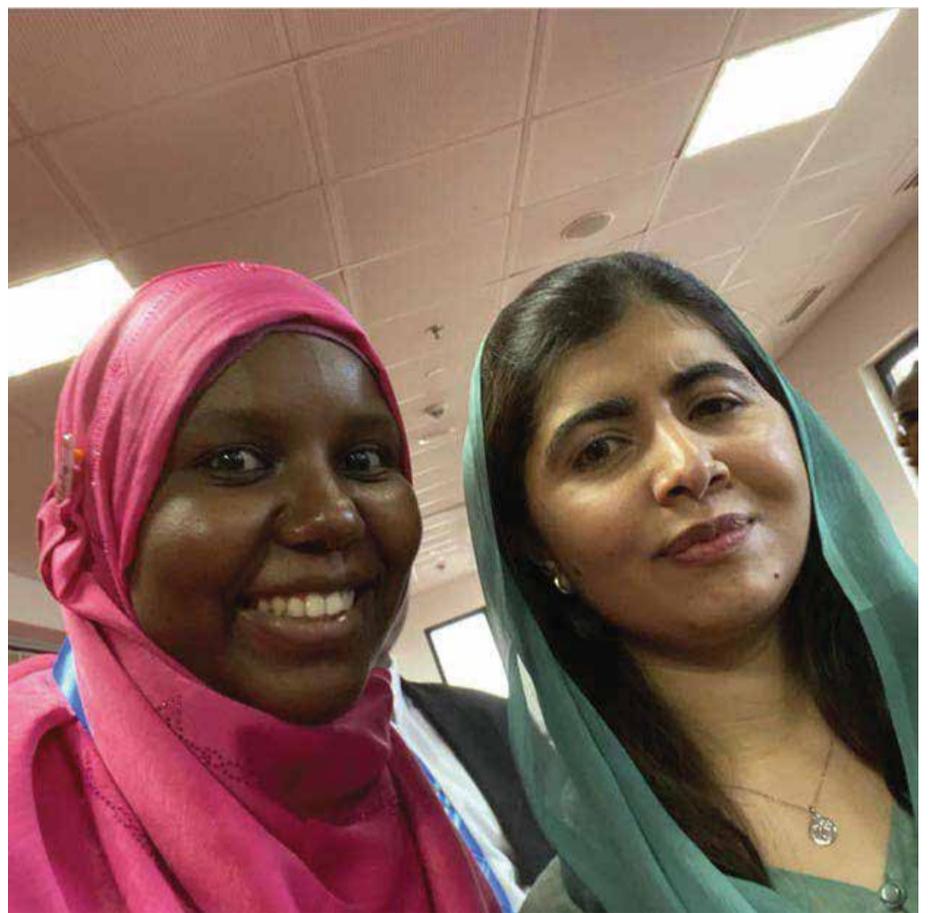
In March 2022, FlexiSAF Foundation had the privilege of attending the launch of an incredible Digital Learning Platform called "Nigeria Learning Passport" (NLP). Powered by Microsoft, NLP is a remarkable platform that offers free access to a wide range of educational materials and resources. With over 15,000 curriculum-mapped materials available in local languages, it serves as a valuable resource for learners, teachers, and parents. Currently, NLP is being utilized by an impressive user base of 280,000 individuals across 18 states in Nigeria.

To expand the reach of NLP even further, we were honored to receive an invitation from UNICEF and the Federal Ministry of Education to participate in a one-day seminar aimed at presenting the NLP and engaging in discussions about the challenges and opportunities involved in scaling it nationwide.

Being a part of this event was truly exhilarating for us. It provided an invaluable opportunity to listen to various stakeholders and gather insights on how we can collectively enhance digital learning through the implementation of Nigeria Learning Passport. We are incredibly thrilled and grateful to contribute to such an important initiative.



## Celebrated Malala Day with Malala, Global Leaders and Activists!



We were incredibly honored to have our organization, represented by our Executive Director, as a part of the momentous Malala Day celebration on July 12. The event brought together UN Deputy Secretary-General, Nigerian government leaders, civil society members, and young activists to commemorate this special occasion.

During the celebration, Malala co-hosted the event, emphasizing the importance of collective action in ensuring that the next generation of girls can access education and lead without fear. It was a remarkable opportunity for our organization to stand alongside global leaders and girl-led movements, reflecting on the progress made towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and advocating for transformative long-term investments in girls' education and our world.

Being part of this significant event further motivates us to continue our efforts in making a positive impact on the lives of young girls and women worldwide.

# Strengthening Education for Underserved Communities: A Productive Courtesy Visit with Marben Foundation



We had a courtesy visit from Marben Foundation where we had discussions with the founder, Ms. Dorcas Elisha on expanding education interventions to hard-to-reach areas in the FCT and Taraba states. Both parties recognized the importance of equitable access to education and aimed to make a positive impact, ensuring no child is left behind.

The visit laid the foundation for a comprehensive plan to bring quality education to underserved communities, empowering children and youth for a better future.

# Success Story

## A Glorious Triumph of Hope: Celebrating Ummu Salma's Journey to a Better Future!



Our hearts overflow with joy and pride as we share the incredible news of Ummu Salma's graduation from primary school! Her perseverance, resilience, and unwavering determination have lit up our lives with hope and inspiration.

Ummu Salma's educational journey symbolizes the dreams of countless children yearning for a chance at a brighter tomorrow. With each hurdle she conquered, she painted a vivid picture of possibility and potential, proving that with love, support, and opportunity, young minds can flourish beyond imagination.

Today, as we celebrate Ummu Salma's achievements, let her story be a clarion call for change. Let it echo through the hearts of compassionate souls who believe in the power of education to transform lives. Together, let's unite and uplift even more young hearts, bridging the gap between dreams and reality.

Join hands with us in sponsoring the education of children like Ummu Salma, so they too can taste the sweetness of success and break the chains of limitations. Let us be the guiding light that leads them to a world of endless possibilities, a world where they can shine and create ripples of positive change in their communities.

Together, we can create a brighter future, not only for Ummu Salma but for countless other deserving children. Your support and love can become the catalyst for a lifelong journey of growth, empowerment, and triumph! Let's make a difference, one heart at a time!

Visit the link below to act now!

Donate – Flexisaf

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FlexiSAF Foundation

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Sponsor a child to school today with just

**N5,000** Monthly donation or

**N60,000** Yearly donation

You can visit [flexisaf.org/donate](https://flexisaf.org/donate) to donate, or pay to:

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