

# **A BRIEF CHRONICLE OF KATSINA STATE FIRSTS**



**KATSINA STATE HAS RECORDED MANY FIRSTS,  
FROM MEDIEVAL TIMES TO DATE, WHICH CANNOT  
BE COMPARED TO ANY OTHER PART IN THE PRESENT  
STATES OF NIGERIA. THIS BOOKLET GIVES A GLANCE  
OF SOME OF THE FIRSTS RECORDED BY KATSINA AND  
DAURA OVER THE LAST 1,000 YEARS OF HISTORY**

**THIS BOOKLET CONTAINS VERY BRIEF  
INFORMATION ON THE GREATNESS OF  
KATSINA AND DAURA, AS EXTRACTED  
FROM FOUR BOOKS AUTHORED**

**BY:**

**Prof. Sani Abubakar Lugga, MFR, FNIM  
The 5th Waziri of Katsina**

**This Booklet relates in very brief terms, the Greatness of Katsina and Daura Kingdoms, the present two Emirates, the defunct Katsina Province and today's Katsina State. These two Kingdoms/Emirates led Hausaland and Northern Nigeria in several developmental areas.**

**The first Royal Palace was built in Daura in 910 AD. The first Ancient Islamic University was built in Katsina in 1493 AD that produced Muslim Scholars of international repute the type that were not produced in any Kingdom in Hausaland. Katsina Province produced the First College which produced the first set of leaders in Northern Nigeria in 1921; produced seven Ministers at the same time, produced the first Modern Islamic University in Nigeria, the first Pharmacy School, the first Treasury, the first Sports Club, the first Northerner to hold Military Political Office, the first Hausa/Fulani to become an Army General, the first Northerner to broadcast on an international radio station, the first Northern Civil Engineer, the first two Northern Chartered Accountants, the first female Hausa Doctor, the first Hausa/Fulani Inspector General of Police, the first Northern Veterinary Doctor, the first Northern Permanent Secretary, the first Emir to officially visit England, the first modern day Emir to perform the Hajj by Sea in 1921, the first West African to travel for the Hajj in a motor vehicle in 1929, the first two Northerners to become Lawyers, the first Northerner to become Chief Justice of Nigeria, the best Polo player in Africa, the best Polo team in Nigeria, the first Minister to move to Abuja from Lagos, the most famous sports gallery in Nigeria, etc, etc. Despite sharing a common boarder for over 1,000 years of organized settlements, Katsina and Daura were the only Kingdoms not to have fought any inter-communal wars between them.**

**THIS BOOKLET ON KATSINA STATE  
IS EXTRACTED FROM FOUR  
BOOKS AUTHORED BY:**

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**Sha'aban 1446 AH  
February 2025 AD**





The image shows the exterior of the Fadar Daurama building, a traditional structure with a central arched entrance and two side entrances. The central archway is decorated with a red geometric pattern and the text "FADAR DAURAMA" in blue. The building has a reddish-brown facade and green doors and windows. The central entrance is flanked by two side entrances, each with a green door and a green window. The central archway is decorated with a red geometric pattern and the text "FADAR DAURAMA" in blue. The building has a reddish-brown facade and green doors and windows. The central entrance is flanked by two side entrances, each with a green door and a green window.



**THE FIRST HAUSALAND SARAKUNA (KINGS) WERE  
THE GRANDCHILDREN OF BAYAJIDDA WHO RULED  
THE SEVEN HAUSA STATES AROUND 990 AD.**

Prince Bayajidda and Queen Daurama gave birth to the famous “Seven Hausa States”, which were founded by the sons and grandsons of Bayajidda. In addition to these Seven Senior Hausa States (Hausa Bakwai), there were the Seven Junior Hausa States (Kanne Bakwai) that were established by the sons of Karbagari, the son of Bayajidda and his slave-maid, Bagwariya.

The Seven Senior Hausa States (Hausa Bakwai) were: Daura, Kano, Katsina, Zazzau, Gobir, Rano and Biram (Hadejia). The Seven Junior Hausa States (Kanne Bakwai) were: Zamfara, Kebbi, Yawuri, Gwari, Kwararrafa, Nupe and Yoruba.



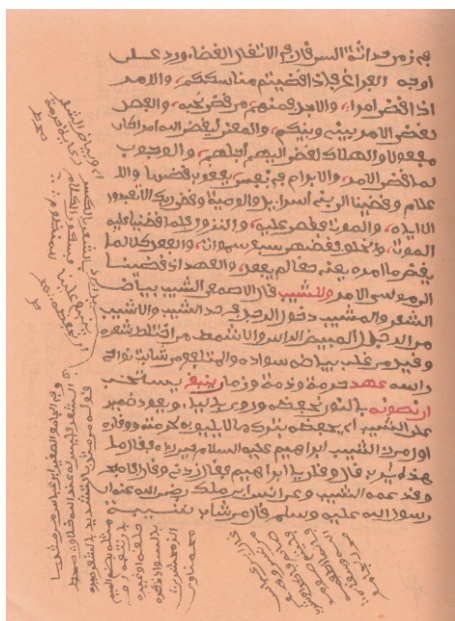
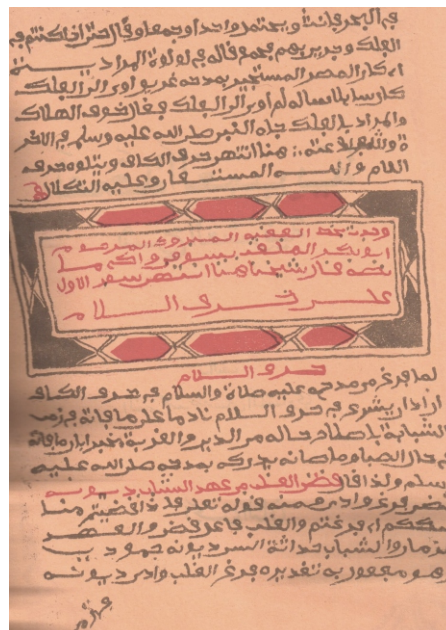
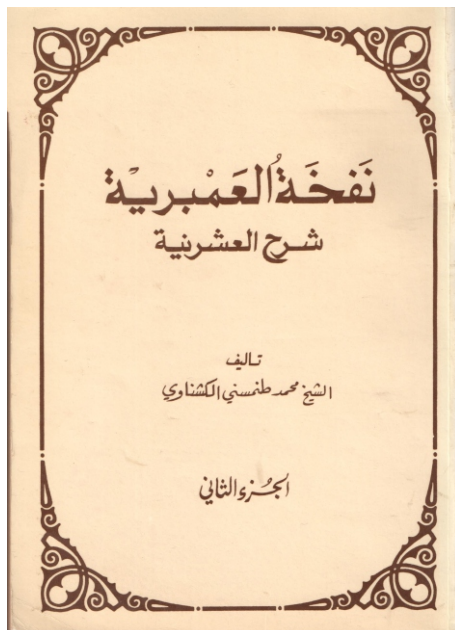
## **KATSINA: CENTER OF EDUCATION IN HAUSALAND**

**THIS IS THE STILL STANDING MINARET OF THE FAMOUS GOBARAU MASJID AND ISLAMIC CENTER, KATSINA, THE EQUIVALENT OF TODAY'S FORMAL UNIVERSITY. IT WAS THE GREATEST AND THE OLDEST IN HAUSALAND THAT WAS BUILT IN THE YEAR 1493 AD UNDER KING MUHAMMADU KORAU OF KATSINA. THAT CENTER WAS AFFILIATED TO TIMBUKTU AND IT WAS ONLY SECOND TO TIMBUKTU IN WEST AFRICA**



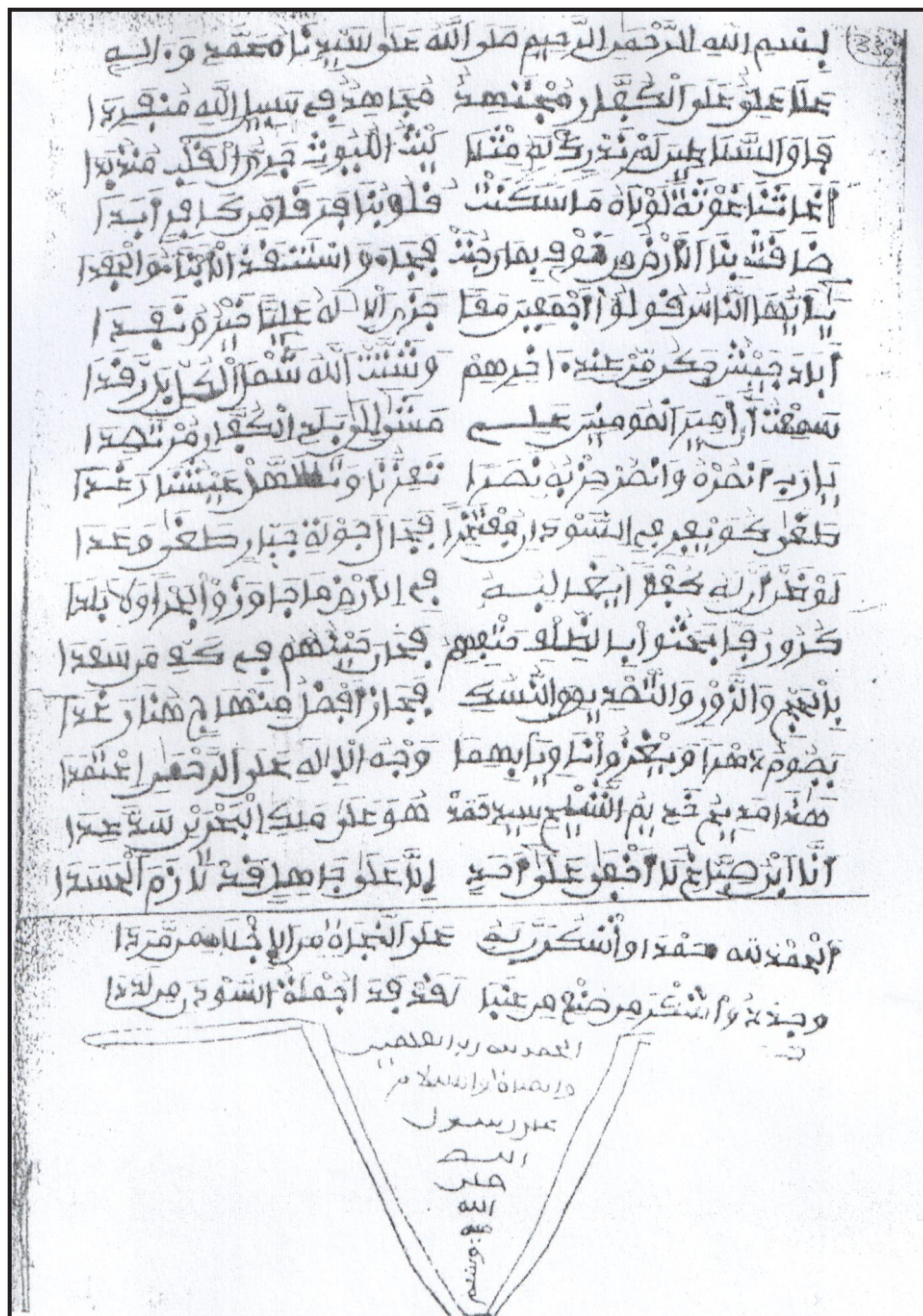


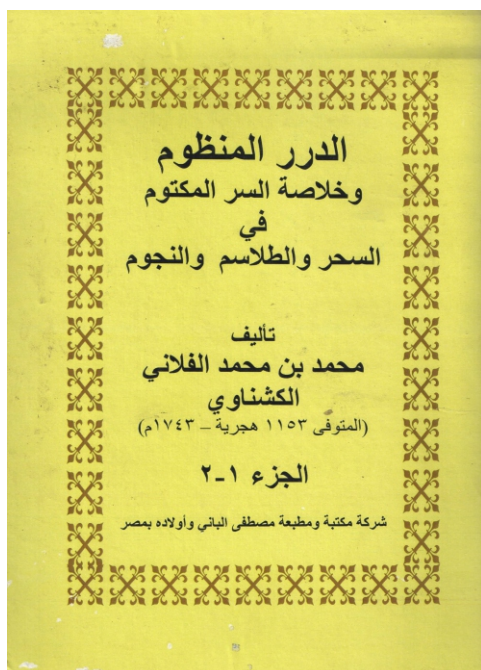
THE FIRST SCHOLAR TO PROPAGATE ISLAM TO YORUBALAND AND TO WRITE MANY BOOKS THAT ARE STILL IN USE, INCLUDING THE ONE ON THE HISTORY OF THE YORUBA, WHICH IS THE FIRST MENTION IN WRITING OF THE YORUBA TRIBE, WAS THE KATSINA SCHOLAR SHEIKH ABU-ABDULLAH MUHAMMAD BIN MASANI BIN GAMIHI BIN MUHAMMAD BIN ABDULLAH BIN NUHU AL-BARNAWI AL-KASHINAWI, KNOWN AS DAN MASANI (1595-1667). BELOW IS A COPY FROM HIS FAMOUS BOOK ON THE COMMENTARY OF ISHIRINEEYAT BY SHEIKH ALFA ZAZI



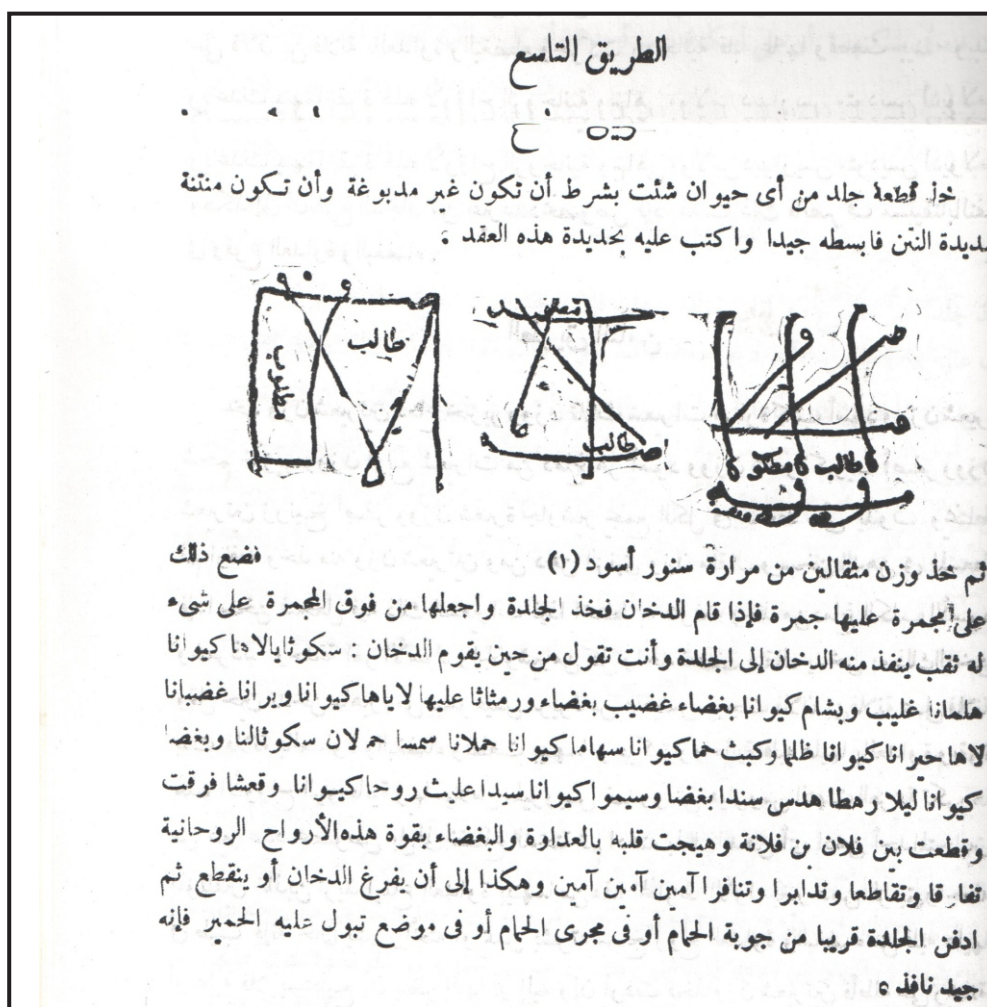


THE FIRST RECORDED POEM FROM HAUSALAND (ON DISPLAY AT AREWA HOUSE KADUNA) WAS BY THE KATSINA SCHOLAR SHEIKH MUHAMMAD BIN MUHAMMAD AL-SABBAGH AL-KASHINAWI KNOWN AS DAN MARNA (1630-1675), WHO WROTE A POEM IN PRAISE OF KING OF KATSINA KARYA GIWA FOR HIS JIHAD ON 24TH SAFAR 1070 AH (10TH NOVEMBER 1659 AD). HIS OTHER POEM WAS IN PRAISE OF SULTAN ALI IBN UMAR OF KANEM-BORNO (1639-1677) FOR DEFEATING THE JUKUN KINGDOM OF KWARARRAFA IN 1668





THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL FAMOUS BOOK FROM WEST ARICA WAS WRITTEN ON ASTROLOGY, ASTRONOMY, MATHEMATICS, ETC, BY A HAUSALAND SCHOLAR FROM KATSINA SHEIKH MUHAMMAD BIN MUHAMMAD AL-FULANI AL-KASHINAWI (1660-1743). THE BOOK WAS WRITTEN IN CAIRO, EGYPT, AND IS STILL BEING USED IN AL-AZHAR UNIVERSITY, EGYPT





## FIRST BOOK ON FIQH (ISLAMIC JURISPRUDENCE)



The First Book On Islamic Jurisprudence That Was Widely Used In Hausaland Was Written By Katsina Scholar Sheikh Abdullah Ibn Muhammad Ibn Abdussalam Al-futi Al-kashinawi Known As Abdullah Thiqah (1741-1802)

## THE MOST FAMOUS TEACHER OF SHEIKH USMAN DANFODIO IN HAUSALAND

The most famous Hausaland teacher of Sheikh Usman Danfodio was the Katsina Scholar Malam Kisko of Gambarawa Quarters Katsina (1745-1825), who taught Sheikh Danfodio in the 1790s, before the famous Sokoto Fulani Jihad of 1804





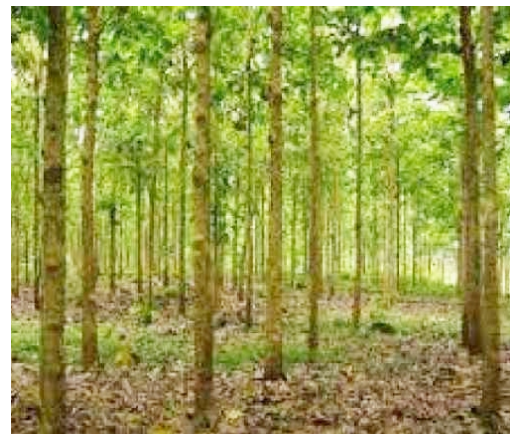
**The first Treasury to be established in Northern Nigeria was at Katsina in 1906/7; and its building still stands near the Emir's Palace.**



**The first Pharmacy School in Northern Nigeria that was called Medical Class was built near Katsina College in 1927.**



**The first Forestry and Irrigation Training Centres in Northern Nigeria were established at Jibia, Kaita, Kafinsoli, Dankama, Kankia and Malumfashi between 1927 and 1930.**



**The first Agricultural Research Centre in Northern Nigeria was the Cotton, Groundnuts, Millet and Guinea-corn Improvement Center at Daudawa near Funtua established in 1920. It was later moved to Ahmadu Bello University Agricultural Research Center, Samaru, Zaria.**

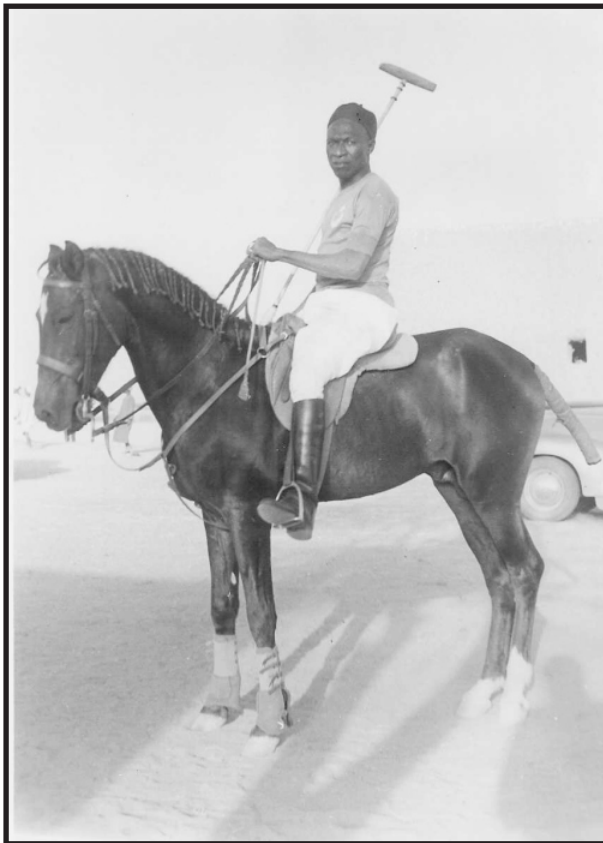




- 1. The first Nigerian to receive an international medal was the Emir of Katsina Muhammadu Dikko when he was awarded the Medal of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, London, in 1920.**
- 2. The first Nigerian Traditional Ruler to officially visit the King of England was the Emir of Katsina Muhammad Dikko in 1921.**
- 3. The first Nigerian to receive the King's Medal for African Chiefs in England was the Emir of Katsina Muhammadu Dikko in 1921.**
- 4. The first modern day Emir to perform the Hajj by Sea Travel in Saudi Arabia was the Emir of Katsina Muhammadu Dikko in 1921.**







**HRH Alhaji Sir Usman Nagogo, Emir of Katsina, was the best Polo player in Africa; whose 1926 handicap +7 is still the African Polo record that has not been broken**

**The 1926 Katsina Polo Team with Nigeria's highest Handicap of +20. From Left: Mr R.E. Beevon, Yusuf Lamba, Usman Nagogo, Mr S.J. Hogben**



**HRH THE EMIR OF  
DAURA ALHAJI  
ABDURRAHMAN**

**As at the time of his death, the longest reigning Emir in Nigeria was late Sarkin Daura Abdul-Rahman who ruled from 1911 to 1966 (55 years).**



**THE WEST AFRICAN RECORD  
OF THE FIRST HAJJ BY MOTOR  
VEHICLE BY THE FIRST WAZIRI OF  
KATSINA, SHEIKH ALHAJI HARUNA,  
IN THE HAJJ YEAR 1347 AH (1929)**

**BELOW IS THE 1927-1932 FORD  
MODEL AA STAKEBED TRUCK THAT  
WAS USED BY WAZIRI HARUNA  
FOR THE HAJJ TRIP**



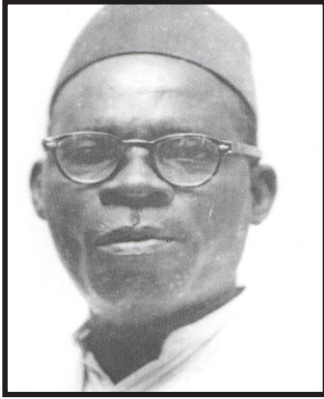
**EMIR SIR USMAN NAGOGO WAS THE FIRST  
NIGERIAN TO BE APPOINTED INTO THE  
COLONIAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IN 1947**

**BELOW ARE THE MINISTERS OF THE NIGERIAN  
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IN LAGOS IN 1952**

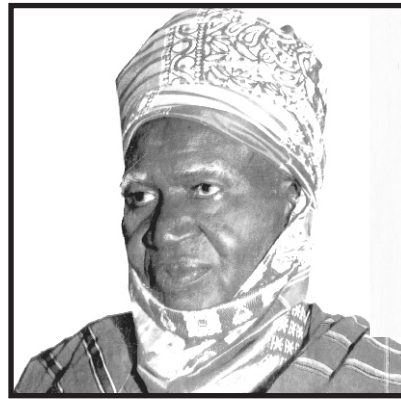


HRH EMIR OF KATSINA ALHAJI SIR USMAN NAGOGO WAS THE FIRST NIGERIAN TO BE APPOINTED A MINISTER IN LAGOS IN 1947. LATER, OTHERS WERE APPOINTED INCLUDING MR. ENI NJOKU; MR. BODE THOMAS; OBA ADESOJI ADEREMI; MR. NWAPA; SIR ABUBAKAR TAFAWA BALEWA; ALHAJI SHETTIMA KASHIM IBRAHIM; MR OKOI ARIKPO; MR. S.L. AKINTOLA; CHIEF A. PREST. THEY ARE SHOWN ABOVE WITH THE GOVERNOR OF NIGERIA SIR JOHN MACPHARSON AND OTHER BRITISH COLONIAL OFFICERS IN NIGERIA IN 1952

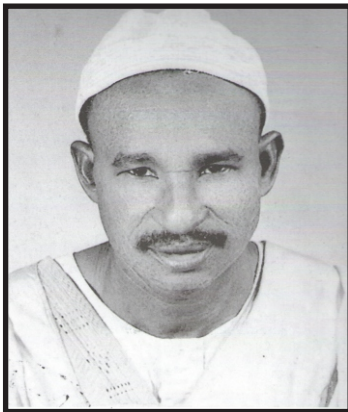




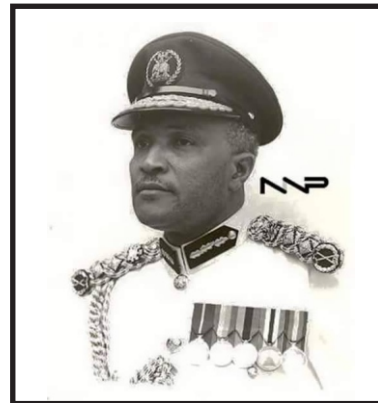
**THE FIRST NORTHERNER  
TO BECOME A PERMANENT  
SECRETARY WAS ALHAJI  
AHMADU KUMASI IN 1960**



**THE FIRST NORTHERN  
RADIO BROADCASTER  
WAS ALHAJI ISA KAITA ON  
BBC SERVICE IN 1941**



**THE FIRST NORTHERNER  
TO BECOME A CIVIL  
ENGINEER WAS ENGINEER  
MAHMUD ARMIYA'U IN 1953**



**THE FIRST HAUSA/FULANI TO  
BECOME INSPECTOR GENERAL  
OF POLICE WAS ALHAJI  
M.D. YUSUF IN 1975**

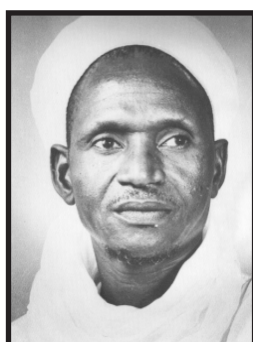
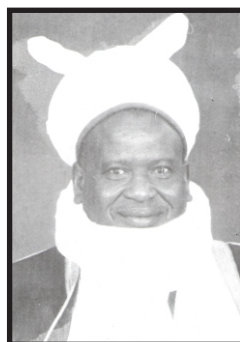


**THE FIRST NORTHERNERS TO BE BECOME LAWYERS  
WERE JUSTICE MUHAMMDU BELLO AND  
JUSTICE MAMAN NASIR IN 1955**

**KATSINA PROVINCE WAS THE ONLY PROVINCE IN NIGERIA WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF SEVEN MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS AT THE SAME TIME IN 1966. THAT RECORD STILL STANDS AS NO STATE IN NIGERIA EVER HAD SUCH NUMBER OF MINISTERS**



**THE PROVINCE WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS IN NIGERIA WAS KATSINA PROVINCE. NO OTHER NIGERIAN PROVINCE OR STATE EVER PRODUCED UP TO SEVEN MINISTERS AT THE SAME TIME, EXCEPT KATSINA (1960-66). THE SEVEN KATSINA PROVINCE MINISTERS WERE THE EMIR OF KATSINA ALHAJI SIR USMAN NAGOGO, WAMBAI OF DAURA ALHAJI MUHAMADU BASHAR, WAZIRI OF KATSINA ALHAJI ISA KAITA, TAFIDA OF KATSINA ALHAJI MUSA YAR'ADUA, JUSTICE MAMMAN NASIR, ALHAJI SHEHU SARKIN MASKA AND ALHAJI USMAN LADAN BAKI.**





**GENERAL HASSAN USMAN KATSINA, WAS THE FIRST NORTHERNER TO HOLD A MILITARY POLITICAL OFFICE, THE FIRST HAUSA ARMY GENERAL AND THE FIRST AND ONLY MILITARY GOVERNOR OF NORTHERN NIGERIA**



**The most famous sports gallery in Nigeria is that at the Emirs Palace Katsina with over 500 trophies garnered between 1921 to date by Katsina Polo and Horse Racing Teams, and other Sports**



**THE FIRST HAUSA FEMALE MEDICAL DOCTOR**

**The first Female Hausa to become a Medical Doctor was Dr. HalimaYalwa Aliyu in 1976.**

## **KATSINA: CENTER OF EDUCATION IN NIGERIA**

**“KATSINA COLLEGE” WAS THE FIRST COLLEGE IN NORTHERN NIGERIA WHERE THE FIRST SET OF NORTHERN LEADERS WERE TRAINED BY COLONIALISTS. IT WAS BUILT IN 1921 ON THE FARMLANDS OF THE EMIR OF KATSINA ALHAJI MUHAMMADU DIKKO AND THE WAZIRI SHEIKH ALHAJI HARUNA**

Some of those trained at the Katsina College included, Prime Minister of Nigeria Alhaji Sir Abubakar Tafawa Balewa, Premier of Northern Nigeria Alhaji Sir Ahmadu Bello, Governor of Northern Nigeria Alhaji Sir Kashim Ibrahim, Minister Alhaji Isa Kaita, Minister Alhaji Aliyu Makaman Bida, Minister Alhaji Musa Yar’adua, Minister Alhaji Yahaya Ilorin, Minister Alhaji Aliyu Turakin Zazzau.





## **KATSINA: THE PILLAR IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY, ZARIA**



Ahmadu Bello University Zaria is the first University in Northern Nigeria. Alhaji Isa Kaita the Waziri of Katsina presented the Bill for the establishment of the University to the Northern Nigerian Parliament in 1961, as the Northern Minister for Education.

He also led it to its first Graduation Ceremony in 1965.

## **KATSINA: PIONEER ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN NIGERIA**



Katsina Islamic University (now Al-Qalam University Katsina) is the first Islamic University in Nigeria, the first Community Owned Islamic University in West Africa and the first University in Katsina State. The establishment of this great University was pioneered by Professor Sani Abubakar Lugga, the 5th Waziri of Katsina, on 1st August 1999. The Waziri also received the University's Licence from the Federal Minister in January 2005

**THE FIRST UNIVERSITY GRADUATE NIGERIAN PRESIDENT WAS PRESIDENT UMARU MUSA YAR'ADUA, GCFR, MUTAWALLEN KATSINA, WHO WAS SWORN IN AS PRESIDENT OF NIGERIA IN 2007**



**THE FIRST ISLAMIC BANK IN NIGERIA, JAIZ BANK PLC, WAS ESTABLISHED BY ALHAJI UMARU MUTALLAB, A SEASONED ACCOUNTANT AND BANKER FROM KATSINA**

