

Mimiko calls for masses-oriented programmes as Ondo marks June 12 with talks on sustainable democracy

Hope in the power inherent in being passionate about the country and determination of those in authority to initiate and complete the right course of action that would banish extreme poverty remain two unforgettable lessons of June 12, the Ondo State Governor, Dr. Olusegun Mimiko has said.

Governor Olusegun Mimiko in a statement in Akure on Sunday said more than the rituals of annual celebration, the initiation of the right programmes by governments across the tiers that would restore the hope of the people in the country and forge greater unity among the people would further ingrain the lessons of the aborted election for Nigeria and Nigerians. The Governor who said the cardinal point in the campaign of Bashorun M.K.O Abiola, the winner of that election, was hope, hence the insistence of the Ondo State government in symbolically identifying with those who the society considers as almost hopeless by ensuring that projects that would bear positively on them are uppermost on the minds of those in positions of authority.

“Around us, on our streets and neighborhoods, there are Nigerians who for one reason or the other have lost hope. Institutions that cater for these set of Nigerians must therefore receive the consistent attention of government as well as the affluent in the society so that those who roam the streets in despair can be encouraged to take advantage of the succor provided by such care-giving institutions. No time is more auspicious for such than the anniversary of one great event that resurrected the hope of all Nigerians, the June 12, 1993 election,” Mimiko said.

In the State, the anniversary would be rounded off later in the evening with a Commemorative Round table discussion with the theme *‘June 12 and Sustainable Development: The Ondo State Perspective’* is to hold at the government house grounds with human rights activists such as Dr Bayo Abirisade, media practitioners and select opinion holders in attendance later in the evening. The retired Anglican Bishop of Akure, Bishop Bolanle Gbonigi would chair the occasion while Prof femi Mimiko, Vice Chancellor of the Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba Akoko would be the lead discussant at the commemorative round table.