
Dr. Kayode Fayemi Files Gubernatorial Petition before Ekiti Tribunal in Grand Style

By Paul Olatoye

May 11, 2007

In a carnival atmosphere reminiscent of his gubernatorial campaign, Dr Kayode Fayemi , AC gubernatorial candidate for the April 14 election, formally filed his legal objections to the last gubernatorial election in Ekiti State at Ado Judicial complex by 3:45 PM today Friday May 11. He made his grand entry into the court complex along with his deputy Mrs Funmi Olayinka and lawyers led by Kabir Akingbolu from Femi Falana Chambers. Expected to eventually appear for him is the following consortium of lawyers: Yusuf Ali SAN, Niyi Akintola SAN, Chief Ashaolu SAN, Femi Falana Esq, Dele Adesina Esq, Aikhumagba Malik Esq, Kabir Akingbolu Esq, Gabriel Udoofi Esq, and Tajudeen Akingbolu Esq.

Dr Fayemi and Mrs. Olayinka appeared before the tribunal secretary Mr. Dauda Alkali Subairu. They promptly deposited a 50-page document detailing the chilling, shocking and horrendous fraud committed by INEC and the PDP against Ekiti voters and the Action Congress (AC) represented by the Fayemi/Olayinka duo on April 14. There were also 147 pages detailing witnesses, audio tapes, photographic pictures, and satellite area images, which prompted the tribunal secretary to comment that Ekiti State and in fact Nigeria was in for the first in kind "Hollywood" Technicolor court case in our election history. He assigned the petition number EKS/EPT/G/7/07, extracted a filing fee of N4,350.00 and a deposit (refundable if and when the petitioner wins) in the amount of N5,000.00. A N2,000.00 publication fee was also paid.

Dr Fayemi addressed the restive party supporters and the press after the filing, outlining what he had just done and why. He thanked all those who came out in support of reclaiming the people's mandate and stated that he was humbled by the continued support of the generality of Ekiti citizens despite the brazen activities of the fraud perpetrators. He promised to continue to do his utmost best to be their worthy ambassador. He advised party faithfuls to be law-abiding and to maintain confidence that justice will surely prevail before the Election Tribunal.

Dr Fayemi was forced to parade from the Court Complex through the streets of Ado Ekiti, all the while hailed as the "Peoples' Governor". This brought out the young, and the old along the route, some of who were raining curses on all those involved in stealing their votes which reduced the voting strength in Ado to a mere 14,000 from 110,000, the largest voting population in the State. The impromptu dancing through the streets paralyzed commercial activities through Okesha, to market area, and ended at AC Party Secretariat on Ikerre Road. The carnival atmosphere led some onlookers to prematurely (but presciently) think that the court had already awarded victory to the Action Congress gubernatorial team.

Pictures follow.

**PICTURES TAKEN AT GUBERNATORIAL PETITION FILING AT ADO-EKITI
BY DR. KAYODE FAYEMI (May 11, 2007)**



The precincts of the court house....



The crowds welcome Fayemi and mill around the court grounds.....



Fayemi and Olayinka speaking with the Tribunal Secretary....then signing the petition



Tribunal secretary wondering at the mountain of technicolor evidence



Standing (in red tie) is Mr. Kabir Akingbolu, Esq Mr. Paul Olatoye and Chief Akin Fasae were also in attendance....



The procession from the court house was long and cheering...



All the way to the party secretariat.....
