***In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, The Merciful***

**Muslim Scholarship Fund in Nigeria**

[<http://www.msfnonline.org/images/msfnlogo.jpg>]

**Our Mission**: To assist financially handicapped but academically sound Nigerian Muslims from poor homes to achieve their educational objectives only in Nigeria

Since inception of the scheme, there have been over 100 beneficiaries. We can do much more & we will, in sha Allah (SWT) with your help

# **“Those who spend their wealth (in Allah’s cause) by night and day, in secret and in public, they shall have their reward with their Lord. On them shall be no fear nor shall they grieve.” (Q2:274)**

# **“The Prophet (PBOH) was reported to have said, "He who removes from a Muslim one of his difficulties from this world, Allah will remove one of his difficulties on the Day of Resurrection." (Sahih Muslim)**

# **Contents**

1. Background
2. Goals
3. Scheme Coverage
4. Structure of MSFN
5. Categories of Membership
6. Organizational Setup
7. MSFN Partnership Fees
8. Qualifications for MSFN Scholars
9. The MSFN Scholarship Scheme
10. Funds Collection and Management
11. Appendix

## **Background**

The Muslim Scholarship Fund in Nigeria (MSFN) was established in 1999 in response to the economic hardship in Nigeria which makes it difficult for most people to afford good education. MSFN is registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission Federal Republic of Nigeria as an NGO (CAC/IT/NO 62493) Because of the difficult economic situation, some Muslims are being lured into other faiths as one of the means to get education, job, and general advancement in life etc. In addition, there has been a decline in community spirit and support due to the economic hardship fostered by the self-first (nafs) attitude and policies of successive governments. This situation is clearly NOT Islamic and needs to be corrected.

A Muslim should safeguard his dignity, develop self- reliance, and be far removed from dependence on others. Essential industries and professions are not merely permitted by the Islamic Sharia; they are in fact an obligation on the Muslim community. Such obligations are termed "obligations of self-sufficiency" (fard kifaayah). This implies that the Muslim community must include among its members people engaged in every essential science, industry, and profession in numbers sufficient to meet the need of the Ummah and the society in general. If there is a shortage of qualified persons in some field of essential science or industry, the entire Muslim community is blameworthy, especially those in positions of authority. The MSFN scheme is geared towards inculcating a greater community spirit in the recipients, fulfill our duties as the vicegerent of Allah, and hopefully in the society at-large.

The Universal Basic Education (UBE) program of the Federal Government is expected to relieve the financial difficulties at the primary and junior secondary school (JSS) level. Hence, there is the need to develop a scholarship scheme to cater for the senior secondary and tertiary levels. The MSFN scheme is therefore aimed at these levels.

## **Goals**

MSFN scheme serves the following main purposes among others:

* Alleviate the financial hardship of needy Nigerian Muslim students.
* Encourage participation in community service by young Nigerian Muslim students.
* Upgrade educational status and expertise among Nigerian Muslims in all fields of human endeavor.
* Seek knowledge to fulfill worship as vicegerent of Allah.
* Moral and economic upliftment of Nigerian Muslims.

## **Scheme Coverage**

The scheme currently covers some parts of the country as outlined in the appendix. When fully operational, it would cover all nooks and crannies of the country.

## **Structure of MSFN**

* MSFN is built around those who contribute to it.
* A contributor to the MSFN is called a partner.
* MSFN partner status is renewed annually
* The minimum contribution is reviewed periodically by the assembly of MSFN partners.

## **Categories of Membership**

a. Partner: An MSFN partner is a Nigerian Muslim who has paid the minimum annual contribution to the MSFN.

b. Associate Partner: An associate partner is a Nigerian Muslim whose financial resources is not adequate to pay the full minimum annual contribution.

c. Donor: A donor is a Muslim individual or organization who donates any amount to the MSFN from legitimate earnings (halal).

d. Direct Sponsorship: An MSFN partner can sponsor **specific** student(s) through the MSFN scholarship scheme. The beneficiaries will be automatically awarded the scholarship if they meet the requirements for qualification. All interested Muslims/Islamic organizations are hereby enjoined to join us in achieving our stated goals.

## **Organizational Setup**

* 1. The Assembly of Partners

The assembly is the highest decision-making organ of the MSFN. All partners who have duly paid their contributions for the year are automatic members of the assembly. The assembly is responsible for the election and removal of the board of trustees and coordinating committee (or any member thereof), as the case may be.

* 1. The Coordinating Committee (CC)

The co-coordinating committee consists of Regional Representatives (RR) for each of the designated regions as indicated in the CC members list below. Members of the CC have 2-year terms of service renewable for a maximum period of 6 years. The CC is responsible for coordinating the activities of the MSFN and formulating broad policies.

* 1. The Board of Trustees (BOT)

The BOT consists of 7 members, 4 of whom are expected to be based in Nigeria. Elected members of the BOT will serve a term of 2 years, renewable for a maximum period of 6 years. The BOT is responsible for the day to day running of the MSFN.

* 1. Auditor

The fund account is audited annually by an approved auditing firm and communicated to all members of the assembly.

## **MSFN Partnership Fees**

Current minimum annual contributions by partners, according to region or country of residence, are as listed below:

## **Country/Region Amount**

Nigeria ₦ 20,000

Middle East SR 500

Western Europe £100

USA US$ 200

Canada Can$ 150

South East Asia RM 500

Australia/New Zealand US$ 187.5 Africa (Excluding Nigeria) US$ 87.5 Other Countries US$ 87.5

## **Qualifications for Prospective MSFN Scholars**

. Shall be a Nigerian Muslim.

. Shall be registered in (or have received admission to) a tertiary institution or senior secondary school for which he/she is seeking an MSFN scholarship.

. Shall have an acceptable academic achievement.

. Shall be ready to participate actively in volunteer efforts beneficial to the Muslim community.

## **The MSFN Scholarship Scheme**

**.** MSFN shall be operated as scholarship scheme.

**.** The prospective applicant shall provide two guarantors of whom one must be a parent or guardian of the beneficiary to enter into a contract /bond with MSFN.

**.** The scholarship is renewable every year up to the stated duration of the course based on good progress report of the beneficiary.

**.** The scholarship covers the cost of books and all major educational requirements for both categories of beneficiaries, except meals for secondary school students.

## **Funds Collection and Management**

. All monetary transaction with full details is immediately communicated by each regional representative to the assembly, including contributions from partners and donors.

. Two accounts are maintained by MSFN, a central account based in Malaysia to which all funds collected are transferred except funds from Nigeria, which is deposited in the working account. The working account, based in Nigeria, is where funds are transferred periodically for use as when needed.

## **Appendix**

* Scheme coverage

The scheme currently covers nine states, which are divided into four zones as follows:

Zone A: Kwara & Kogi Zone B: Osun & Oyo Zone C: Lagos & Ogun

Zone D: Ondo, Ekiti, & Edo

## Coordinating Committee Members

1. Asia: Br. Taofeeq Thani
2. Europe: Br. Hakeem Johnson
3. Europe: Br. Semiu Gbadebo
4. Finance: Br. Usman Abdulrahman
5. List Admin: Br. Ibrahim Abdulkadir
6. Mid-East: Br. Lameed Babalola
7. Nigeria: Br. Hakeem Raheem
8. North America: Br. Gbolarumi Adebayo

## Board of Trustee (BOT) Members

Br. Semiu Gbadebo (s\_gbadebo@yahoo.com) Br. AbdurRazzak Alaro (aralaro@hotmail.com)

Br. Ayinde Raheem(raheemayinde@yahoo.com) Br. Isiaka A. Balogun (isbalogun@yahoo.com)

Br. Gbolarumi Adebayo([adenurat@hotmail.com](mailto:adenurat@hotmail.com))

Open-6 (Member shall reside in Nigeria)

Open-7 (Member shall reside outside Nigeria)

## **MSFN Working Account (Nigeria)**

Banker: Jaiz Bank Plc, Marina branch, 2/4 Davies Street, Marina Lagos, Nigeria.

## **MSFN Contact Address in Nigeria**

No. 210. Lagos Road, IkoroduLagos States, Nigeria.

To subscribe to MSFN, please contact the list Administrator at: [MSFN-owner@yahoogroups.com or admin@msfnonline.org](mailto:MSFN-owner@yahoogroups.com%20admin@msfnonline.org%20)

For more information on MSFN activities please visit MSFN website at [http://www.msfnonline.org](http://www.msfnonline.org/)