



# Dr. Rabiu Musa Kwankwaso

## *Civil Engineer, Statesman, and Founder of the Kwankwasiyya Movement*

*Dr. Rabiu Musa Kwankwaso is a prominent Nigerian civil engineer and one of the most influential political figures in Northern Nigeria. A charismatic leader known for his populist appeal, he has held several of the nation's highest offices, including two terms as Governor of Kano State (1999–2003, 2011–2015), Minister of Defence (2003–2007), and Senator for Kano Central (2015–2019).*

### **The Kwankwasiyya Vision**

*As the founder of the Kwankwasiyya movement, Dr. Kwankwaso has cultivated a massive, loyal following centered on the ideals of social welfare and mass education. His leadership style is characterized by a blend of soft-spoken charisma and radical reform, making him a central pillar of contemporary Nigerian politics.*

### **Educational Transformation & Social Welfare**

*During his second tenure as Governor, Dr. Kwankwaso placed education at the forefront of his policy agenda, viewing it as the ultimate tool for poverty Alleviation:*

- **Universal Free Education:** Upon assuming office, he declared education free at all levels, a policy that continues to impact the state today.
- **Nutritional Advocacy:** He was a pioneer in implementing the School Feeding Programme, designed to increase enrollment and support indigent pupils.
- **Global Capacity Building:** His administration sponsored hundreds of students for postgraduate studies abroad on government scholarships. This "Kwankwasiyya scholars" initiative has created a highly educated professional class that remains the backbone of his political base.
- **Infrastructure Investment:** He oversaw the large-scale construction of school facilities and significant investment in teacher training across Kano State.

### **National Service and Defence**

*Beyond the state level, Dr. Kwankwaso's tenure as Minister of Defence saw him overseeing the modernization and strategic positioning of the Nigerian Armed Forces, further cementing his reputation as a versatile administrator capable of handling high-stakes national security portfolios.*

### **Core Philosophy**

*Dr. Rabiu Musa Kwankwaso operates on the principle of "Red Cap" Populism, a philosophy rooted in the belief that leadership must be visible, accessible, and directly beneficial to the masses (Talakawa). His ideology focuses on:*

- **Human Capital as Power.** He believes that the true wealth of a nation lies in the education of its youth. His "Total Education" model posits that the state is responsible for a citizen's development from primary school to postgraduate specialization.
- **Self-Reliance and Identity.** Through the Kwankwasiyya movement, he promotes a sense of collective identity and discipline, encouraging followers to be self-reliant and politically conscious.
- **Direct Intervention:** His philosophy favors large-scale, state-led interventions—such as mass weddings and scholarship schemes—to address social vulnerabilities, ensuring that governance is felt at the household level.
- **Infrastructure for the People.** He maintains that physical infrastructure (roads, bridges, and schools) is only useful if it serves to unlock the economic potential of the common citizen.



# Transforming *Kano*



## **TWO UNIVERSITIES ESTABLISHED**

Established Kano University of Science & Technology (now Aliko Dangote University) and Northwest University now Yusuf Maitama Sule University).



## **230+ SECONDARY SCHOOLS BUILT**

Built over 230 secondary schools, including technical, Islamic, and international (French & Chinese) institutions.



## **FREE EDUCATION FOR ALL**

Introduced free education at all levels, alongside free uniforms and school feeding.



## **2,600+ FOREIGN SCHOLARSHIPS**

Awarded 2,600+ foreign scholarships across 14 countries.



## **26 TRAINING INSTITUTES ESTABLISHED**

Set up 26 training institutes, empowering over 360,000 youths and women.

# Transforming *Kano*



## 120+ PRIMARY HEALTHCARE CENTRES BUILT

Built and commissioned 120+ primary healthcare centres across Kano State.



## EXPANDED ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

Expanded access to healthcare in rural and underserved communities.



## STRENGTHENED HEALTH WORKFORCE

Strengthened the health workforce through recruitment and training of medical personnel.



## SPONSORED HEALTH WORKERS' TRAINING

Sponsored health workers for local and foreign training programmes.



## UPGRADED HOSPITALS & MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS

Upgraded and improved hospitals and medical institutions statewide.



## FOCUSED ON MATERNAL, CHILD & PREVENTIVE HEALTH

Focused on maternal, child health, and preventive healthcare systems.

# Transforming *Kano*



## **INTRODUCED FINANCIAL DISCIPLINE & STRICT BUDGETARY CONTROL**

Established fiscal discipline and ensured strict control of state spending.



## **REDUCED WASTE & IMPROVED EFFICIENCY**

Reduced waste and improved efficiency in public expenditure.



## **PRIORITISED CAPITAL PROJECTS OVER RECURRENT SPENDING**

Focused on capital projects that drive long-term development.



## **EXPANDED INVESTMENT IN KEY SECTORS**

Increased investment in education, infrastructure, and healthcare through strategic budgeting.



## **STRENGTHENED INTERNALLY GENERATED REVENUE (IGR) SYSTEMS**

Implemented reforms that boosted IGR and improved revenue collection.



## **IMPROVED ACCOUNTABILITY & TRANSPARENCY**

Implemented policies that promoted accountability and transparency in governance spending.

# Transforming *Kano*



## 3 MODERN SATELLITE CITIES

Built 3 modern satellite cities to decongest Kano and drive urban expansion.



## 3,000 HOUSING UNITS DELIVERED

Delivered about 3,000 housing units for public purchase.



## 1,500 HOUSES FOR THE VULNERABLE

Constructed 1,500 houses for rural poor and flood victims with free allocation.



## FREE SCHOOL FEEDING

Introduced free school feeding (first in Nigeria at the time).




## YOUTH & WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Large-scale empowerment programs through training institutes, benefitting thousands of youths and women.

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 @OK2027Movement