

CHARACTER : ALH SANI BULA

AGE: 60

4

INT. BULA BUILDING- DAY

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Sani Bula and Uncle Jinjiri are in his office, and Sani seems deep in thought.

SANI BULA

You know...the idea of making Nuhu the next Governor of Kowa isn't at all bad. What better loyalist can there be than your own son?

JINJIRI

Its a brilliant Idea my friend, if only to see Loko lick his wounds.

SANI BULA

Trust me Loko is least of my worries right now. With the way things are going in the company, having access to that N80 Billion Naira Kowa ecological funds over the next four years tops everything right now.

JINJIRI

I guess all we have to do now is encourage Nuhu to run...

SANI BULA

Who says he will be 'encouraged'? Honestly, Jinjiri, you are entirely too indulgent of the boy...and he will be 40 soon!

JINJIRI

He's a good young man, Sani. I think you don't give him nearly enough credit

Sani Bula shrugs in dismissal and taps his finger on his desk, in thought

SANI BULA

It will be quite a task ahead, though...

JINJIRI

Of course, Sani. You would have to see to it that you gain support at every level, and work hard at it. Especially with Loko pushing for his candidate too.

SANI BULA

Yes, I heard. He wants that Jibrin Kankada fellow, doesn't he? I always thought the Jibrin was a dullard, with that long face...kaman rago. (*Like a ram*) Does he have the brains to be a Governor?

JINJIRI

(laughing and shrugging)  
With Loko behind him, the man could be brain dead and it wouldn't matter. It doesn't make it easier that the current Governor and Party Chairman are solidly behind him.

SANI BULA

Hmmmm. And the deputy Governor?

JINJIRI

Well...he seems to be close to the Emir. And with the way he has been overlooked by the party...

SANI BULA

(scheming look)  
...With his political structure intact: all those supporters, wingmen, in place, that could be a good ally.

JINJIRI

You seem to be getting it now, Sani. I can already see you working it out in your head, ko ba haka ba? (*Is it not so*)

Sani Bula gives a sly smile and gets up, pacing the room. He goes to make a cup of coffee for himself at an elaborate tea/coffee service.

SANI BULA

What if...what if we were to find a party

JINJIRI

What party?

SANI BULA

(waves in the air,  
distracted)

Any redundant party can be resuscitated with enough money and members. Anyway, I mean- if we do that and revive a party...perhaps we can get the deputy governor to move to our side with his entire structure...

JINJIRI

(nodding in understanding)  
And then infuse the party with enough power, Ko? But...how would you get him to defect and then hand over the seat to Nuhu to run?

SANI BULA

We offer him something juicy instead: a Ministerial position

JINJIRI

Are you sure he would accept? Besides, he's said to be extremely loyal to ACT party.

SANI BULA

Jinjiri, you should know me by now. When the carrot doesn't work...

Sani Bula doesn't complete the sentence but raises his brows in a meaningful way at his friend, who seems to nod in understanding.

JINJIRI

Hmmm, well, I know you have plenty of 'sticks' at your disposal. But tell me, Sani: what does Nuhu think about all this?

SANI BULA

You act as if his opinion will make much of a difference

JINJIRI

Haba, Sani...

SANI BULA

I'm serious, Jinjiri. Nuhu is my son and my heir, and if he knows what's good for him he will do exactly as I say.

Sani picks up his coffee to drink, signalling the end of the conversation. Jinjiri looks like he accepts what is said.

FADE OUT.