

2018 Osun State Governorship Election



Things To Know

September 2018



Centre for Democracy & Development
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Political Structures

Osun State is one of the States in Nigeria located in the country's South Western region. It has three senatorial districts, nine federal constituencies, 26 State House of Assembly Seats and 30 Local Government Areas. Each Senatorial District has ten local government areas.

6th Governorship Election in History of State

Osun State was carved out of the old Oyo State on August 27, 1991, by the military regime of Ibrahim Babangida. The first democratically elected Governor of the State, Isiaka Adeleke, took office in January 1992 and governed till November 1993, when the military junta of Babangida dissolved all political offices, after the annulment of the June 12, 1993, Presidential election. The September 22, 2018 Governorship Election in Osun State would, therefore, be the sixth to be conducted since the creation of the state in 1991. The poll to be held by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) will usher in a successor to Governor Aregbesola whose tenure ends on November 6, 2018. Osun is an off cycle elections as a result of a post-election litigation arising from the widely condemned 2007 elections. The elections was overturned by a decision of the Court of Appeal sitting in Benin, saw Rauf Aregbesola declared the rightful winner of the elections after three years of legal battle.

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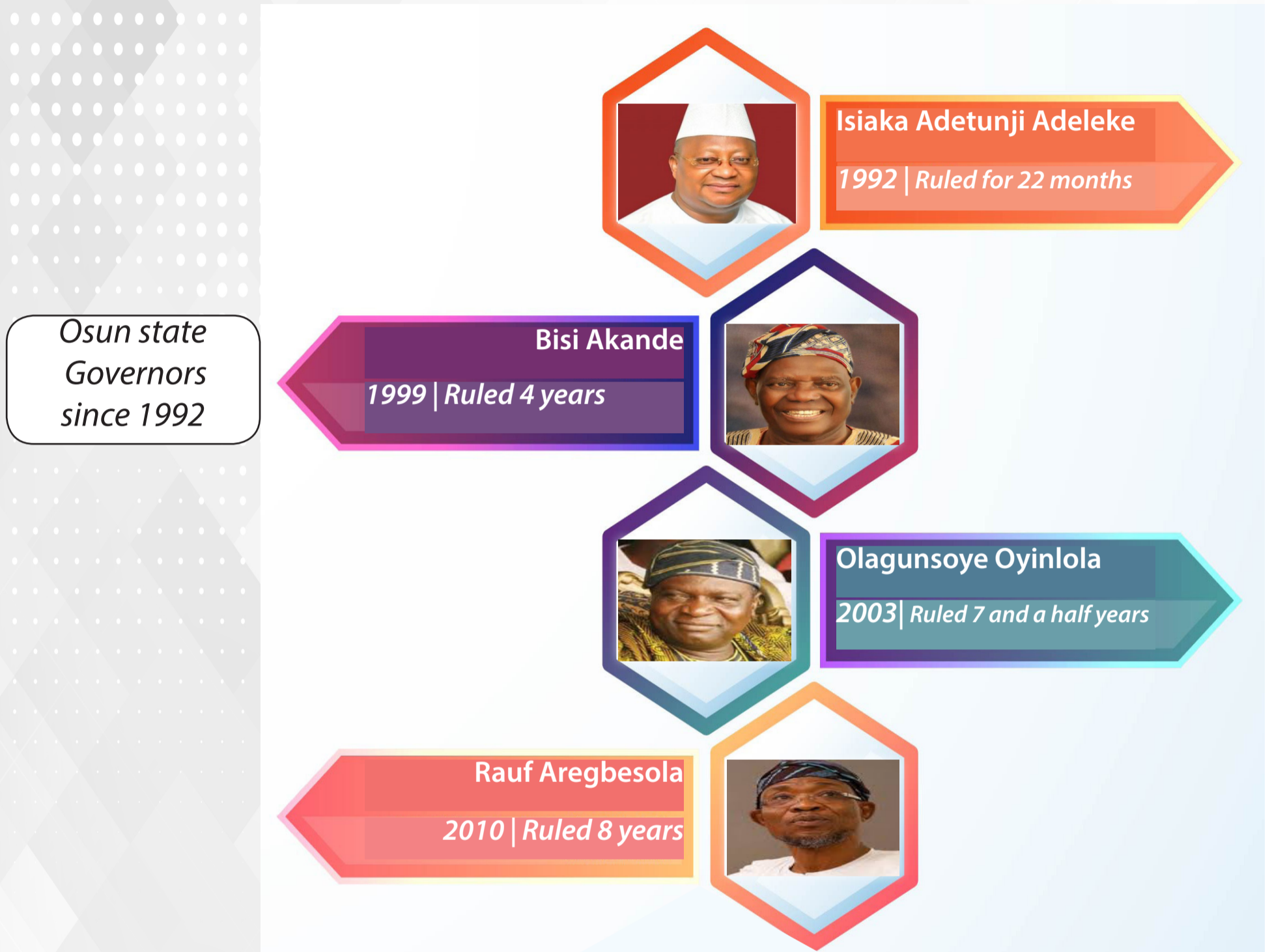
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Former Governors and their Deputies

Governor/Gender	Deputy Governor	Sex	Year	Party
Isiaka Adetunji Adeleke/M	Prince AdesuyiHaastrup	M	1992	SDP
Bisi Akande/ M	Senator IyiolaOmisore	M	1999	AD
Olagunsoye Oyinlola/M	Olusola Obada	F	2003	PDP
Rauf Aregbesola/M	TitiLaoye-Tomori	F	2010	APC



Former Governors and their Deputies

A total of 48 candidates (see Table 1 below) are in the race for the September 22, 2018 governorship election. Out of the 48 candidates contesting the Governorship Election, only four candidates are women. They are; Mrs Rufai Adebisi Mujidat of the Allied Congress Party of Nigeria (ACPN), Jegede Hannah Taiwo of the Nigeria Elements Progressive Party (NEPP), Ayodele Mercy Tosin of the Restoration Party (RP), and Adebayo Rasheedat of Peoples Alliance for National Development and Liberty (PANDEL). Osun has previously produced two women deputy governors. They are Titi Laoye Tomori and Erelu Obada.

2018 Governorship Election is a Departure from the historical Two-Horse Race

Unlike in previous Osun governorship elections which were two horse races, the September 22 poll will see several political heavyweights slug it out for the governorship position. The vote is featuring five strong political actors flying different flags, they are Adegboyega Oyetola of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Senator Nurudeen Adeleke of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Senator Iyiola Omisore of the Social Democratic Party (SDP), Fatai Akinbade of the African Democratic Congress (ADC), and Adeoti Moshood of the Africa Democratic Party (ADP). It is important to point out that the three candidates who are flying the flags of ADC, ADP and SDP were formerly strong stalwarts of the APC and PDP.

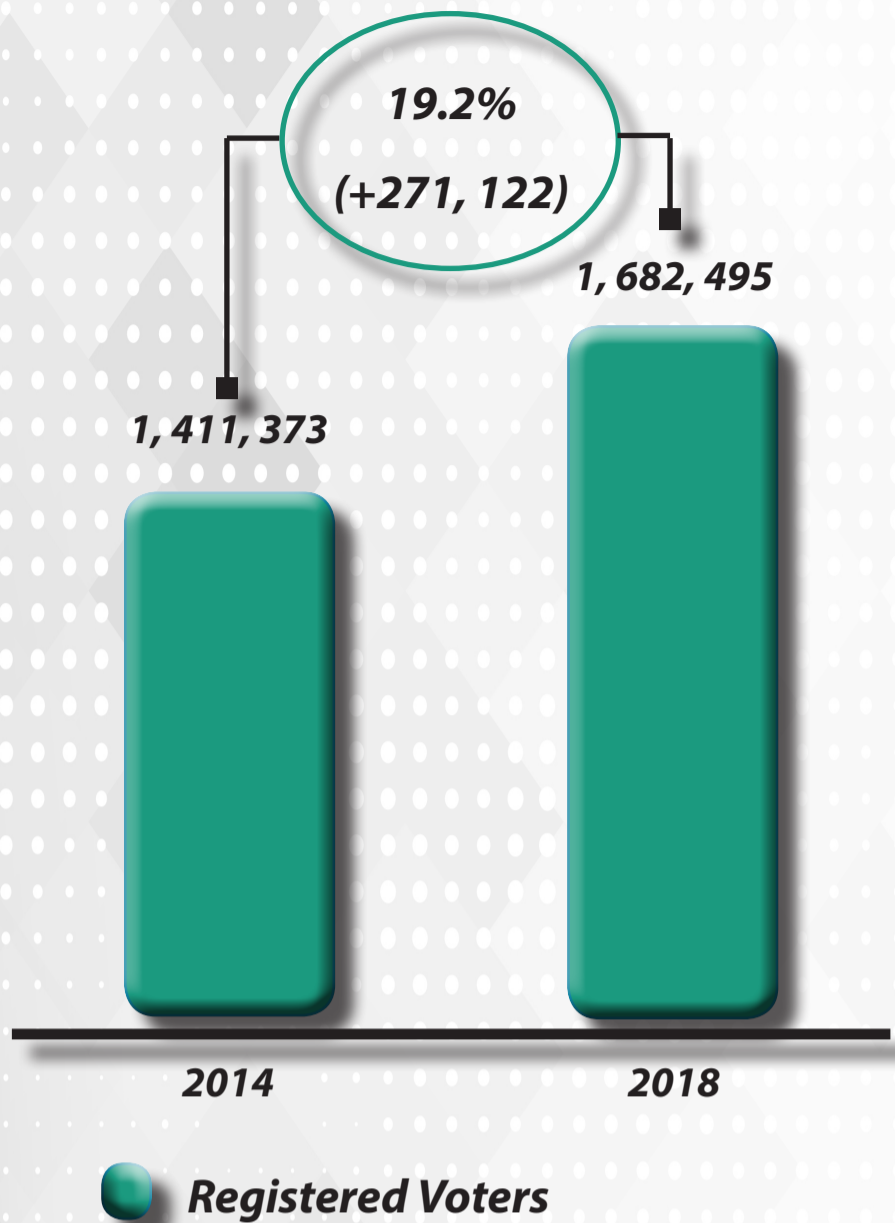


A Contest of South West Political Godfathers

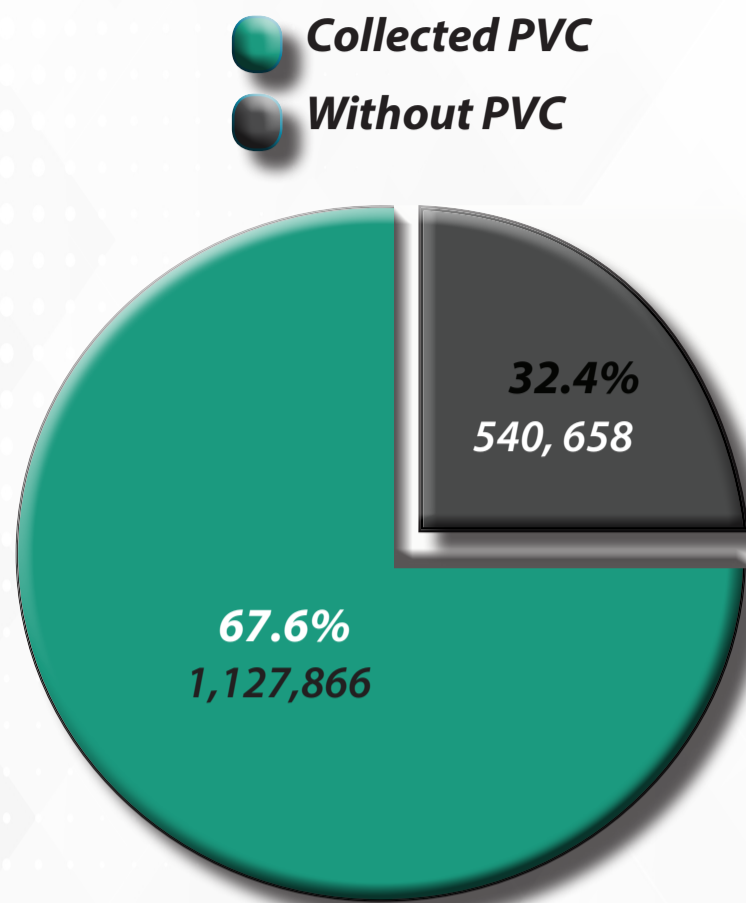
The election is of high stakes to the political parties and godfathers in particular of the South West Extraction. It is a contest between the home-based and out of state godfathers. All the five leading candidates in the election is enjoying the patronage of one Yoruba Elders, groups and movement. For instance, the leader of the Oodua People' Congress endorsed the APC candidate, Afenifere elders have endorsed SDP candidates. The standard-bearer of APC has been widely reported to be the cousin of the APC National Leader and former Governor of Lagos State, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu. The SDP, the platform on which former Deputy Governor, Iyiola Omisore is running, has strong ties to former Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Chief Olu Falae. On its part, the African Democratic Congress (ADC) has strong links to former President Olusegun Obasanjo who has been vocal in his criticism of President Muhammadu Buhari and the APC.

Number of Registered Voters

The number of registered voters in the State is recently put as at first week of September 2018, 1,682,495. This marked an increase of 271,122 (19.2%) from the 1,411,373 registered voters in 2014 governorship election. The increase at senatorial districts level differs as at September 2018. Although, Osun West has the highest percentage increase while Osun Central has the highest number of registered voters. In Osun West, the number of registered voters increased by 21.4% (from 430,209 to 522,272 voters), while Osun East increased by 17.02% (from 514,698 to 602,275 voters). For Osun Central, the number of registered voters increased by 17.4% from 460,603 to 557,948 voters.



PVC Collection Rate for Osun 2018 Election



Number of PVCs Collected

According to the electoral umpire, 1,127,866 people have so far collected their Permanent Voters Card (PVC) out of 1,668,524 received in the State as at August 2018. This collection rate implies that there are over half a million PVCs (540,658) that have yet to be collected by prospective voters as the clock ticks towards Election Day.

Voting Patterns

The September 22, Osun Governorship election will be interesting to poll watchers on account of the nature of political realignments and how those would affect the patterns of voting. In the previous governorship election in the State, the votes were largely divided among two major political parties. The major political parties have been very strategic and calculating to gather votes beyond their stronghold and senatorial districts by picking their running mates outside their comfort zone. The last governorship election in the State in 2014 was between the incumbent Governor, Ogbeni Rauf Aregbesola and Senator Iyiola Omisore.

Table 2: Distribution of votes during the 2014 Governorship Election in Osun State

S/N	LGA	APC	PDP	TOTAL VALID VOTES	APC % of VALID VOTES	PDP % of VALID VOTES
1	Atakumosa East	9,287	6,294	16,395	56.6%	38.4%
2	Atakumosa West	6,928	5,142	12,575	55.1%	40.9%
3	Ayedaade	12,801	11,255	25,428	50.3%	44.3%
4	Ayedire	7,724	7,813	16,268	47.5%	48.0%
5	Boluwaduro	4,891	5,035	10,175	48.7%	49.5%
6	Boripe	12,723	9,344	23,014	55.3%	40.6%
7	Ede North	15,403	10,427	26,591	58.0%	39.2%
8	Ede South	11,738	7,462	19,933	58.9%	37.4%
9	Egbedore	10,615	7,024	18,144	58.5%	38.7%
10	Ejigbo	17,700	12,495	31,301	56.5%	40.0%
11	Ife Central	9,680	24,555	35,308	27.4%	69.5%
12	Ifedayo	4,225	3,982	8,405	50.3%	43.8%
13	Ife East	13,821	20,831	36,142	38.2%	57.6%
14	Ifelodun	17,447	12,442	30,831	56.6%	40.4%
15	Ife North	8,603	9,841	19,506	44.1%	50.5%
16	Ife South	7,325	12,811	20,971	34.9%	61.1%
17	Ila	10,825	7,916	19,150	56.5%	41.3%
18	Ilesa East	16,106	5,913	22,970	70.1%	25.2%
19	Ilesa West	15,427	5,449	21,641	71.3%	25.2%
20	Irepodun	13,314	7,386	21,401	62.2%	34.5%
21	Irewole	18,328	10,330	29,850	61.4%	34.6%
22	Isokan	9,758	10,028	20,932	46.6%	48.0%
23	Iwo	20,827	15,493	38,377	54.3%	40.1%
24	Obokun	11,696	8,618	20,932	55.9%	41.2%
25	Odo-Otin	11,950	12,902	25,946	46.1%	49.7%
26	Ola-Oluwa	7,927	4,963	15,735	50.4%	31.5%
27	Olorunda	26,551	8,483	36,234	73.3%	23.4%
28	Oriade	12,523	10,214	23,781	52.7%	43.0%
29	Orolu	8,558	6,786	16,070	53.3%	42.2%
30	Osogbo	39,983	11,513	53,387	74.9%	21.6%

Table 3: Senatorial Districts' distribution of votes during the 2014 Governorship Election

S/N	SENATORIAL DISTRICT	APC	PDP	TOTAL VALID VOTES	APC % of VALID VOTES	PDP % of VALID VOTES
1	Osun East	111,396	109,668	230,221	48.4%	47.6 %
2	Osun Central	150,467	97,290	244,613	61.5%	39.8%
3	Osun West	132,821	85,789	242,559	54.8%	35.4%

The incumbent Governor won in 22 out of 30 local governments with 394, 684 votes while candidate of PDP garnered 292, 747 votes in 8 local governments. Interestingly, none of the two major candidates did garner less than 25% of total votes from each of LGAs in the State. However, Ogbeni Rauf won overwhelmingly, as shown in table 2, in Osun Central and West Senatorial Districts to emerge as the winner of the 2014 governorship election.



Incumbent Governor, Rauf Aregbesola won in 22 out of 30 LGAs at the 2014 Governorship Polls.

The presence of more than two strong contenders this time could push up the numbers of votes, and thereby result in an uptick in participation. The last time out, Governor Rauf Aregbesola clinched to victory in 8 local governments in both Osun Central and Osun West senatorial districts and also emerged victorious in 6 local governments in his region, Osun East senatorial zone. His challenger, Senator Iyiola Omisore got majority votes from his strongholds (Ife East, Ife South, Ife North and Ife Central) all in Osun East senatorial zone and further won two local governments each in Osun West and Central Senatorial Districts.

Party Primaries and Pre- Election Litigations

All Progressives Congress (APC), Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and Social Democratic Party (SDP) are entangled in intra-party crisis as a fallout of the controversial parties' primaries conducted ahead of the governorship election. Many aspirants who participated in APC primary contested its outcome, alleging that the exercise was not free and fair. Mr Kunle Rasheed Adegoke, an aggrieved aspirant, called for an outright cancellation of the exercise and also to stop INEC from recognising the outcome of the primary. He has since filed a case against APC & INEC before the Federal High Court in Abuja. The High Court fixed 13 September 2018 for hearing on the suit.

Dr Akin Ogunbiyi, the closest rival of Senator Ademola Adeleke in the PDP primary election, rejected the outcome of the primary election and subsequently dragged the party and its candidate to court, alleging that Adeleke had forged his senior secondary school certificate and should be disqualified. Ogunbiyi later withdrew his suit following the intervention of the party and had signed a peace pact with Senator Adeleke. Another lawsuit against Adeleke which sought an interlocutory injunction restraining him from parading himself as the candidate of the Osun PDP over alleged forged school certificate was also struck out. However, the Principal of Ede Muslim High School was arrested over allegations of issuing forged school testimonial to Senator Ademola Adeleke as a former student of the school because of a date error.

The factional crisis within SDP also became a subject of litigation as members loyal to Ademola Ishola faction sought for judicial intervention, asking for the nullification of the primary that produced Senator Iyiola Omisore as the party's governorship candidate. They argued that the primary conducted by the other faction was illegal going by the earlier court order, secured by Ademola Isola faction, flouted by Bayo Faforiji-led factional Chairman of the party. Bayo Faforiji-led executives dismissed this claim, stating that Ademola Isola faction is under suspension with his Secretary, Elder Jide Awe, by the national leadership of the SDP in Abuja and that Bayo-led congress was supervised by INEC and national leadership of the party. The case was struck out following settlement out of court by both parties involved.

Politics of Zoning

In the lead up to the elections, zoning emerged as a significant factor; there were lots of agitation that power should shift to Osun West Senatorial District. This is based on the claim that the zone is the most politically marginalised district since the creation of the State in 1991. The clamour for power shift found its way into the political parties. In particular, in the APC, there was a strong clamour for power to shift to the West. It is also believed that the idea of the direct primary was first introduced in Osun state to defeat the progenitor of zoning. The clamour for zoning in the APC was so loud that twelve out of the seventeen governorship aspirants representing the Osun West jointly addressed a press conference rejecting direct primary and claiming it is to prevent them from emerging as Party candidate in the election.

The zoning agitation has been backed by interest groups and traditional rulers towns such as Osogbo and Iwo have claimed marginalisation. For instance, an example is the July rally held by Concerned Iwo Land Youth for Actualization of Iwolokan Agenda.

Table 3: Elected Governors in Osun State Since 1991 – 2010

Name	Took Office	Left Office	Party	Zone
Isiaka Adetunji Adeleke	January 1992	November 1993	SDP	Osun West
Bisi Akande	May 1999	May 2003	AD	Osun Central
Olagunsoye Oyinlola	May 2003	November 2010	PDP	Osun Central
Rauf Aregbesola	November 2010	Present	APC	Osun East

From the table above, Late Senator Isiaka Adetunji Adeleke who incidentally is the first Executive Governor of the State ruled between January 1992 and November 1993 before his administration was short-lived by military authority. He only governed for 22 months. Chief Bisi Akande followed this from Osun Central, and he spent four years as a Governor. Prince Olagunsoye Oyinlola also from Osun Central ruled for seven and a half years while the current Governor who is from Osun East will relinquish power in November after spending eight years.

As it stands, the PDP candidate Ademola Adeleke, Fatai Akinbade of the ADC, and Adeoti Moshood of the ADP are from Osun West senatorial zone. The APC is fielding Isiaka Oyetola from Osun Central, and Iyiola Omisore of the SDP is from Osun East. It will be interesting to see how this shapes the voting pattern.

Oluwole Ige. Osun 2018: We followed due process in the emergence of our flag bearer SDP factional chairman. Nigerian Tribune. July 20, 2018. <https://www.tribuneonlineng.com/amp/155946/>

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Annex

Table 3: Elected Governors in Osun State Since 1991 – 2010

S/N	Political Party	Candidate	Sex
1	Accord	Julius Olapade Okunola	Male
2	AA	Ogunmodede Adeloye	Male
3	ABP	Oludare Timothy Akinola	Male
4	ACD	Gbenga Afeni	Male
5	ACPN	Rufai Adebisi Mujidat	Female
6	AD	James Olugbenga Akintola	Male
7	ADC	Fatai Akinade Akinbade	Male
8	ADP	Adeoti Moshood Olalekan	Male
9	AGA	Kehinde Olufemi Lawrence	Male
10	AGAP	Adejola Adebayo Rufus	Male
11	ANRP	Alarape Babatunde A.	Male
12	APA	Adeleke Adesoji M. A.	Male
13	APC	Adegboyega Isiaka Oyetola	Male
14	APGA	Oluwatoki Adetokunbo Adedayo A.	Male
15	APP	Ekundayo Ademola Precious	Male
16	BNPP	Olapade Olajide Victor	Male
17	C4C	Ilori Titus Oluwafemi	Male
18	DA	Mutiu Abiodun Ibrahim	Male
19	DPC	Aderemi Aree	Male
20	DPP	Solomon Ayodeji Oni	Male
21	FJP	Babatunde Salako Joseph	Male
22	GDPN	Adetipe Adebodun Abiola	Male
23	GPN	Rafiu Shehu Anifowose	Male
24	HDP	Adedoyin Adegoke Joshua Oluwole	Male
25	KP	Fabiyi Oluseyi Olubunmi	Male
26	LP	Babatunde Olaniyi Loye	Male
27	MMN	Raphael A. Feranmi	Male
28	MPN	Lawal Ganiyu Akanfe	Male
29	NCP	Kamarudeen Kalemi Abiodun	Male
30	NPC	Olaniyi Anthony Fadahunsi	Male
31	NEPP	Jegede Hannah Taiwo	Female
32	NNPP	Adefare Segun Adegoke	Male
33	PANDEL	Adebayo Rasheedat	Female
34	PDC	Kolawole Rafiu Ojonla	Male
35	PDP	Ademola Nurudeen Adeleke	Male
36	PPA	Adedokun Musbau Olalekan	Male
37	PPC	Ifeolu Kehinde Adewumi	Male

38	PPN	Akintunde Adesoji	Male
39	PRP	Badmus Tajudeen Adefola	Male
40	PT	Adegboyega Aderemi	Male
41	RP	Ayodele Mercy Tosin	Female
42	SDP	Iyiola Omisore	Male
43	SNP	Ayoade Ezekiel Adegboyega	Male
44	SPN	Alfred Adegoke	Male
45	UPN	Adediji Olanrewaju Adewuyi	Male
46	UPP	Odutade Olagunju Adesanya	Male
47	YDP	Adebayo Adeolu Elisha	Male
48	YPP	Adetunji Olubunmi Omotayo	Male

* This was culled from INEC "Final List of Candidates for Osun State Governorship Election" retrieved from <http://www.inecnigeria.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/SIGNED-2018-OSUN-STATE-FINAL-LIST-OF-CANDIDATES.pdf> on the 27 August 2018.

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