



**Best funding opportunities of the week!**

**Study FREE in the USA**

**Let's start by wishing you guys a very, very productive year 2013!**



### **NOW? AN IMPORTANT NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE**

Regardless of what your New Year resolutions were, here is something fun and serious you OUGHT to add to your list:

*The aim of this little exercise is to make sure that by the end of this year, each and every one of our students has applied to at least one scholarship – as we said over and over in the past, the future is the result of actions you take today. Here's another thing we said over and over in the past: remember that having a scholarship application "on the back burner" at all times is a splendid idea. What do I mean by that? – keep on applying to scholarships: that way, if one doesn't work, you will find rest knowing that you have something else on the way. Avoid the common mistake of applying for one scholarship only and then just sitting there and waiting. Scholarships are fierce competitions; if the one you are waiting for comes out negative, and you have nothing else to look forward to the negative impact on your psyche can be devastating.*

#### **OK, enough chit-chat, HERE IS THE EXERCISE:**

Step 1. Go to this address (it's our scholarship search engine's): <http://helpforafricanstudents.org/scholarships-for-african-students/>

Step 2. Playing around with various criteria, find yourself 2-3 great scholarships (governmental fully-funded ones are the best)

Step 3. Read this article at least 3 times - people love it!

You ask me there is no better place than the USA to study abroad. It is the country of the world with the highest number of universities (thousands) that offer a great flexibility in its program. All sorts of doors are opened to you. One can embrace a career in nearly any field – government, business, law etc.. – this regardless of your undergrad training – examples: [biological sciences](#) and [physics](#).

The biggest drawback when it comes to the United States of America is Moneyyyyyy!!!! Oh yes; unfortunately the tuition in American universities is of the most expensive in the world.

**Is there hope?** Oh yes! There is good news for students of some of the poorest countries in the world. The USA government and some other men and women of goodwill (NGOs) have come out with ways to help these students enjoy the delicacy of the American educational system without suffering the cost and later on, use what they learned to help lift their nations: funding opportunities to study free in the US. There are plenty such opportunities out there.

#### **Where do you find them?**

1. US government/NGO launch scholarships: They are on the internet – try our database (we have managed to track many down and gathered them here) – here are some of the best

**USA Fulbright Scholarships for International Students**

Step 4. APPLY – Apply to those scholarships

*IMPORTANT. Be rigorous in your choosing of what scholarships to apply for; scan eligibilities and others conditions and apply only when you are fully eligible—otherwise you might spend time, money and energy on an application that might end up not be considered at all. There are so many options out there—choose the one that fits you first.*

### Joblessness after Graduation Series- Tips to reduce chances of this happening to you.

Truth being said, there are thousands of African students heading towards joblessness after graduation as we speak - The good news is, in most cases, something can still be done - Providing advice is the aim of our "joblessness after graduation series".



Avalanche D.

As we mentioned over and over during the past year, a single piece of information you stumble upon can mark the difference between you succeeding or failing in life. Information is vital. Let's talk fields of study this year!

**How much do you know about your field of study/neighbor fields? What are the job opportunities for someone with your profile? Have you ever wondered if a neighboring field of study would offer you better job opportunities?**

Would you like some advice? Would you like to hear from those who have gone before you and managed to be successful in their career?

**IF your answer is YES**, you will love our upcoming newsletter series. As we mentioned in our previous edition, starting this month, edition after edition, we will be going over various fields of study and providing advice to students.

This month we start with the field of law (**whether or not you are a Law student this concerns you** - you would be amazed at how interconnected fields of study are).

Science students for instance should pay attention to the fact that some of the highest paid scientists on this earth are patent attorneys. If throughout the year, the floor will be given to our volunteers now spread across Africa; these volunteers will interview African professionals and role models at the zenith of their careers.

**Let's start strong with the interview of one of the most important people in Nigeria, the Chief Judge of Kwara State.** This interview was conducted by Ms. Fisayo, one of our brightest volunteer in partnership with Steps to Life...Nigeria (Fela Bright):



**Deadline:** Varies from February to June

**Funding Source:** American Government

**Country of Study:** USA

**Degree Targeted:** Master, PhD, non-degree postgraduate

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### International Fulbright Science and Technology Scholarships



**Deadline:** Varies from March to June, 2012 (Annual)

**Funding Source:** American government

**Country of Study:** USA

**Degree Targeted:** Ph.D

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### The Jennings Randolph (JR) Senior Fellowship



**Deadline:** September 10 2012

**Grant Year:** 2013/ 2014

**Funding Source:** The United States Institution of Peace

**Host Country:** USA

**Target:** Research Grant for Senior Researchers [Read More](#)

### Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Programme for International Mid Career Professionals, USA



**Deadline:** Varies (Annual)

**Funding Source:** American Government

**Country of Study:** USA

**Degree Targeted:** Non-degree program

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### USA scholarship for women from developing countries (\$18,000-\$30,000) -International Fellowships AAUW



**Applications available:** August 1 - December 1

**Application deadline:** December 1

**Funding Source:** AAUW

**Country of Study:** USA

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### Getty Pre- and Postdoctoral Fellowships/GRI-NEH Postdoctoral Fellowships



**Deadline:** Not yet specified for the 2013/2014 (Please visit regularly the program website to check the deadline)

**Academic Year:** 2013/ 2014

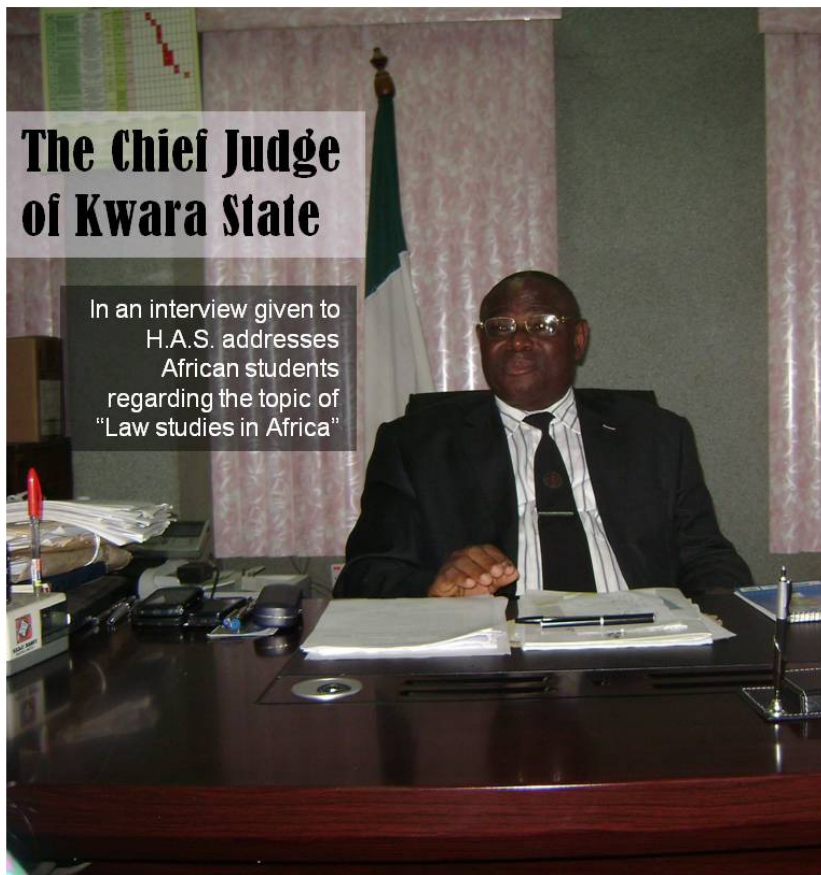
**Funding Source:** The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

**Host Country:** USA

**Degree Targeted:** PhD, Post-doc

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### Distinguished International Scientist



Please join us in expressing our sincere gratitude to his Honourable Justice Ayinla Olatunji Bamigbola.



Your honor, we want to thank you for taking some time out of your very, very busy schedule to reach out to African students. Because a single piece of information a student stumbles upon can mark the difference between him/her succeeding or not in this life you can understand how invaluable sharing your experience and views on the topic "Law studies in African" is. Instances such as this one are rare, so we want to thank you again.

What to expect from this series? Tons of questions will be addressed:

Law studies - should I consider it? Law studies in Africa today - is it a good idea? What are the do's and don'ts when going for a career in the field of law? What are the job openings? etc.....

OK.....Let's give the floor to Ms. Fisayo Aransiola and Fela Bright:

**Question.** May we know your name, sir?

Answer. I am Honourable Justice Ayinla Olatunji Bamigbola.

**Q.** What is your highest degree?

A. I am a holder of LLB and BL. I attended a course at Nigeria Institute of Advanced Legal Studies in Civil Procedure and Legal Practice as far back as 1994. Since then, I have attended various courses within and outside Nigeria, along with my professional colleagues.

### Collaboration Program Distinguished International Scientist Awards (DISCA)



**Deadline:** January 1  
**Funding Source:** The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

**Country of Study:** USA or in the awardee's home country

**Target:** Research grant for scientists

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### Magaret McNamara Memorial Fund South Africa Grant



**Deadline:** Not yet specified for the 2013/2014 Academic Year (Please visit regularly the program website to check for this deadline)

**Academic Year:** 2013/ 2014

**Funding Source:** The Magaret McNamara Memorial Fund

**Host Country:** South Africa

**Degree Targeted:** PhD

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### The Robert S. McNamara Fellowships Program



**Deadline:** March 31

**Academic Year:** Annual

**Funding Source:** The World Bank

**Country of Study:** In a country other than the recipient home country or country of residence

**Degree Targeted:** PhD

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### Funding opportunities for students of developing countries - The Google Anita Borg Memorial Scholarship



**Deadline:** 1 February 2013

**Funding Source:** Google

**Academic Year:** 2013/2014

**Host Country:** Any

**Degree Targeted:** BS, MS, Ph.D

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### Funding opportunities for Sub-Saharan African students in the USA-The MasterCard Foundation Scholars Program (The University of California, Berkeley)



**Deadline:** Not specified (Contact The University of California, Berkeley)

**Funding Source:** The MasterCard Foundation

**Academic Year:** Annual

**Host Country:** USA

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### Funding opportunities for Sub-Saharan African students in the USA-The MasterCard Foundation Scholars Program (Duke University)



**Deadline:** Unspecified (contact Duke University)

**Funding Source:** The MasterCard Foundation

**Q. For how long have you been in this profession?**

A. I was qualified as a lawyer in 1982.

**Q. What brought about your desire to study law?**

A. I was employed in the Judiciary as a clerk, after my modern school education in 1968. I started work in the judiciary and thereby developed an interest when I read through the records of the court, beginning from summonses to various judicial forms. At that time, I had been doing my private studies all along, until I was enrolled for a Diploma in Law at Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) in 1976. Even then I was the class monitor for the whole Northern region. Through my interactions with my classmates and teachers, I knew I had a flair for law. I was encouraged by my lecturers to come back and study law at the undergraduate level. That was how I returned from the civil service back to the Uni in 1978.

**Q. From what you said—that you had a flair for law—did you have anyone, a relative or role model perhaps, who encouraged you to study law? Or, was it solely your decision?**

A. Yes, I had an uncle then who was a permanent commissioner in the Public Service Commission, Chief S.A Samuel Adeniyi. He is still alive and lives not too far from the High Court. He was the first African Principal of St. Paul's College, Wusasa, Zaria. He is a disciplinarian and educationist par excellence. He was my mentor right from the word, GO! We just discussed this issue yesterday in his house. As soon as I got my letter of appointment as a clerk, he was telling me stories about European and African judges. In fact, I did not understand what he was telling me until now. This is because I did not grasp how he could be comparing a clerk with a judge. He was simply encouraging me to aspire towards being a judge. I also met in court with lawyers in the course of my duties. Another person who influenced me was Prince J.O Ijaodola. He used to visit our area court when I was transferred to Offa. He had no car then, but the way he appeared in court and performed his duties as a counsel was very impressive and inspiring.

**Q. With Prince Ijaodola's influence, did you work as a counsel before joining the bench?**

A. That was after Law School during my National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) at Oshogbo, Osun State. I was working for the Legal Aid Council, covering Oshogbo, Ilesha and Ogbomoso, under the Western Zone. Chief Adeniran was the officer in charge. I was attached to Chief Oladele Oladipo's private chamber. The Bamofin of Ife who has his house in front of Oduduwa College, Ile Ife. He wanted to retain me in his chambers, but I had to politely refuse. I informed him I was sponsored by the Kwara State Government to study and could not abscond after completing my course. We did sign an agreement that after our studies, we would come back and serve Kwara State for a number of years. Thus, I was obedient to that bond.

**Q. If you had not signed the agreement, would you have absconded?**

A. I would have started right in at the chambers. This is because I enjoyed a lot in that Chambers. The things I learned in there for the one year of NYSC, I still use till today. I was also taking cases from that chamber to court. In that year, Justice Babalakin was in Court 1 Oshogbo and Justice Ajileye was in Court 2. This is to show you that within that one year, I achieved a lot in terms of developing myself within the legal practice. It was later that Justice Babalakin went to the Court of Appeal, then to the Supreme Court.

**Q. In the course of our previous interview, it was mentioned that some lawyers cannot even move a simple motion in court. Would you then say that the standard of legal education has fallen? If so, what do you think is responsible for that?**

A. It all depends on the attitude of an individual to what he/she wants to achieve. Right from the start while I was in the Law School, I knew I wanted to make something out of the profession. Back then in school, when they give a principle of law, it could be illustrated with 20 cases. Each of these cases will give you something new. You cannot compare someone who did not read any of these cases and went to the dining hall with someone who went into the library, buried his head in his books and looked for all the cases. So, it depends on your attitude towards that profession and what you want to make out of it. That is why I was commending this HAS initiative earlier on, because if someone knows that the opportunity to advance comes when you are in school, and when you leave school, the opportunity may not come, that person would work hard and make a better use of that opportunity. I did, I thank God for that because up till now, I still benefit from what I learned when I was in school. When you are in school, you will be educated and also allow the university to pass through you. It is not about coming out to say you are



**Academic Year:** Annual

**Host Country:** USA

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### Funding opportunities for African students in the USA - The MasterCard Foundation Scholars Program at ASU



**Deadline:** February 1

**Funding Source:** The MasterCard Foundation

**Academic Year:** Annual

**Host Country:** USA

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### Funding opportunities for Sub-Saharan African students in the USA-The MasterCard Foundation Scholars Program (Michigan State University)



**Deadline:** February 15

**Funding Source:** The MasterCard Foundation

**Academic Year:** 2013/2014

**Host Country:** USA

**Programs:** Undergraduate and professional master's degrees

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2. Universities' scholarships – visit their website; here are a couple of example

### Harvard students from developing countries - PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIPS



**Deadline:** Contact Harvard (varies)

**Funding Source:** University of Harvard

**Academic Year:** Annual

**Host Country:** USA

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### Harvard University International Student Fellowships



**Deadline:** February 23

**Academic Year:** Annual

**Funding Source:** University of Harvard Kennedy

**Country of Study:** USA

**Degree Targeted:** Graduate, PhD,

Professional

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a degree holder, but the maturity and confidence is what we need in you when you are practising law. Not only in certificates—many people are interested in certificates alone; that is the problem of the society today. Someone told us a story that someone had a first class degree and he was asked the meaning of someone "kicking the bucket." He said, when he kicked the bucket, the water was thrown away! It was in the board room of a university and everybody laughed. Whilst we were in the law school, one lecturer, Iboronke of blessed memory, was in charge of law school. He said that as a lawyer, even when you see an empty tin of milk when walking, pick it up and read—you will learn a lot from it—things like patents, trademarks and others that are valuable. These days, many have no time. Thank God when I was in the University, I acted in enough time for my studies, because after you have left, and you want to read a book now, people will be knocking on the door that your attention is needed. But, if you do it ahead of time, it will be like you were sowing seeds, and the question is what type of seeds were you sowing when you were in the University? The answer would depend on your understanding of what you are going into. That is why I very much treasure this project, because education is life. Students should understand what they are going into. Not only to earn money to eat drink and party with, but to be able to solve the problems of the community and nation. See us today, that is one of our problems in this country, not being able to solve our own problems.

**Q. Are some of your children lawyers or studying law?**

A. It is only one of them that agreed to study law. I thank God for that.

**Q. You mentioned that only one studied law—were you trying to encourage them all to study law?**

A. Yes, I did. When I looked through their results and pointed out to them that they were good in some courses and should study law, they declined. That is where it stopped. I have learned that it is not wise to impose your choice on anyone. Because even if they studied the Yoruba language, they could do very well in life. What is important is that whatever your hand finds to do, do it very well.

**Q. What have been the rewarding experiences?**

A. I have been a Magistrate, Registrar and Acting Chief Judge. I thank God that I am able to be in a position to help someone that I have never and may never even come across. When you write your judgement, there is nobody there; it is only you and your God. That gives you some spiritual satisfaction. I thank God also for my state. I have been made happy. I am well paid and they look after us. I am a Christian and I know that it is not only if you become a bishop or reverend father that you are serving God. In what you are doing now, you are serving God. By your work you serve God there.

**Q. Do you have challenges or regrets?**

A. Occasionally, when you see people who want to take advantage of the environment and let injustice rear its ugly head, you feel ashamed and say "Look here, this is a house of justice, how can injustice thrive here!" Then you stand your ground.

**Q. What are the personal skills required to succeed in your profession?**

A. I tell lawyers-to-be, those in law school who come here on attachment, that when you become a lawyer in a developing country like ours, you have to become a leader. They should thus assume that leadership role and lead by example. They should put material consideration in the background. The God-given privilege that has brought you thus far is sufficient and should stand out. In this country lawyers are contractors, ministers, practising lawyers, judges, in the parliament etc, etc. They should thus regard themselves as leaders of the society. Where the society is aching, they should be part of the solution and not the problem.

**Q. Would you kindly give advice and parting words?**

A. Education should not stop where you equate it with money. There is much more to education because with education, you can solve your own personal, societal and national problems. That is why I commend your efforts. Because our people should know that not everybody should be searching for a white-collar job, but how do we come to solve our problems. If all the stakeholders would know this, it would be good for Nigeria. That we just don't go to school above-every-other-purpose to acquire a certificate, but to add more value and credibility to the society. In some countries, they think more on what they can do for their societies. We in Nigeria think more on what the country can do for us. We are lacking in credibility, bec

**Harvard students from developing countries - Boustany Foundation**



**Deadline:** 31 May 2013

**Funding Source:** The Boustany foundation

**Academic Year:** Recurrent

**Host Country:** USA

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Presented here are opportunities offered by The University of Harvard. Note that universities across the USA (even in Europe) often offer similar opportunities.

**Study FREE in China**

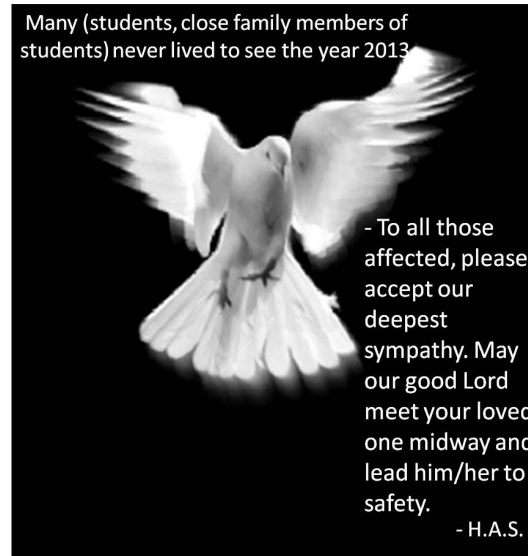
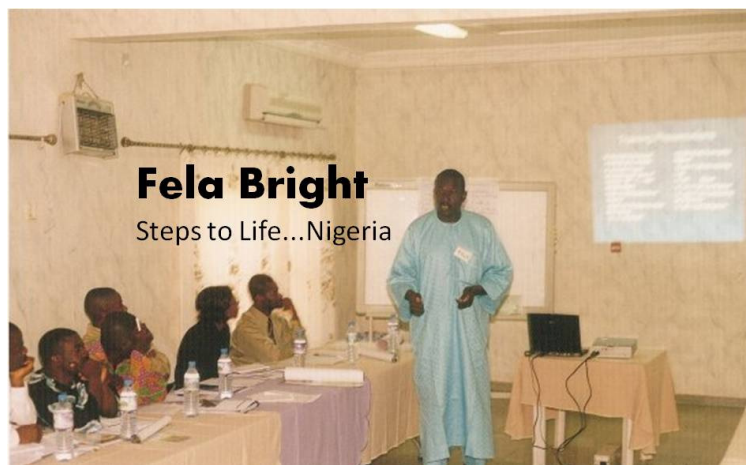


China is an amazing nation. Their government is doing a lot these days to open their doors to foreign students. Do you know for instance that in China there are several universities where you can study completely free? i.e., on government money? [Click here for a list.](#)

**Other nice opportunities this month**

FOR 100s of scholarships - [CLICK HERE](#)

ause people now think only of amassing wealth. Thus, people going into the university should be well-informed. And when they are well-informed of their purpose, already that seed is sown in him or her. When they graduate, they are somewhat prepared to face the challenges of life.



**Special thanks:** We truly want to express our sincere gratitude to Ms. Fisayo and Mr. Fela Bright - Their devotion and passion to help African students through this project have made this interview possible.

Want to join them and our other volunteers in gathering those interviews and gaining some valuable volunteering hours in the process? **Contact us simply by replying to this email**

### Study Abroad - Tipsssssssssss



**GREAT  
UP-COMING  
NEWS: Our  
study abroad  
section will soon  
go live!!!**

**What will its name be? ATLANTIS!**

**Why was Atlantis created?** To raise awareness and to help people understand that unless you take some precautionary measures, the simple fact of going abroad will not obtain you the key to a successful life. Every year, thousands of African students set sail for the West. What many do not know is that the mere transit from a poor nation to one packed with all sorts of opportunities cannot, in itself, CANNOT guarantee a better future.

**There are three possible endings when you set sail abroad for a better education:**

1. You graduate and find a job (permanent or temporary depending on the terms of your visa)-Thereafter, you become so fulfilled in your career that you are free to come and go between Mama Africa and your home country, taking the steps that will lead you to become

a great personality in Africa or globally.

2. You graduate, find a not-so-adequate job—find yourself struggling to make ends meet. Because you are not fulfilled, return to Africa is not an option. At the end of the period of validity of your visa, you go underground (clandestinely), which in itself is a trap that becomes more and more tempting.
3. Things go so wrong (you end / or never end your program and cannot find work) you see yourself forced to engage in bizarre activities such as the sale of blood or organs, prostitution, or forgery just to survive. It is hard to believe, but this is the lives of hundreds of thousands of ex-students in the west. You cannot go back to Africa because of the 'what will people say' factor and—believe me— your situation is worse than before you left Africa because the weight on your psyche is terrible.

## What is H.A.S.?

H.A.S. is an NGO based in the USA. It was created to partner with African students in their daily struggles toward a better education.

Sending out newsletters such as this one, which are loaded with info regarding scholarship offers around the world, is just one of the many ways through which H.A.S. interacts with students on the continent of Africa.

Best Regards and God Bless

