



# ChangeMakers: 100 Nigerians Leading Change 2023

EDITED BY

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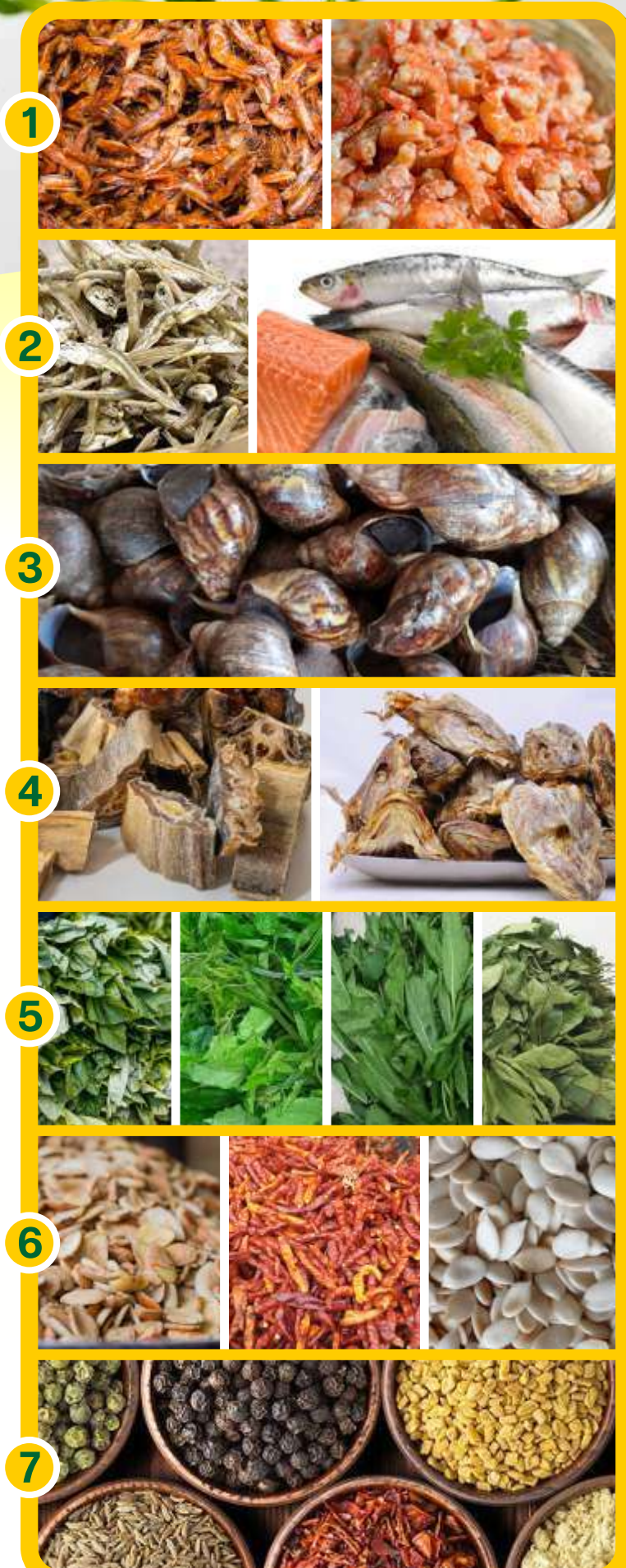
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# Preface

PrefaceNigeria is our collective patrimony. We must therefore do the needful to preserve it. We believe that Nigeria deserves a better deal than it currently has, especially in terms of leadership.

There is, however, a rainbow of hope across the horizon of Nigeria typified in the selflessness, sense of patriotism, and resilience of the average Nigerian.

Spread across the country are distinguished men and women who make a difference in their corners and have, in the process, impacted the larger society. It is these outstanding men and women we are celebrating as Changemakers.

Like meteors, these outstanding men and women illuminate the atmosphere with their incandescent ideas and creative work, thus smouldering away the dark cloud that had hitherto enveloped Nigeria. They represent a streak of light in a country darkened by corruption and other perennial problems. It is their inspirational stories of change that are documented in this compendium.

Each year, 100 outstanding Changemakers are selected from the array of hundreds of thousands of others leading transformational change. These are men and women working assiduously towards a better Nigeria; a Nigeria where the hopes and aspirations of all citizens will be met. They are the arc of hope of a desired future.

This biographical compendium is part of our modest efforts to contribute to identifying outstanding personalities with potential for leadership.

Listees in the Changemakers biographical compendium were selected after very rigorous scrutiny. Some of them already enjoy rare media reviews and reportage. Others may not be well known but they are by no means, less phenomenal.

This book is not just a collection of profiles of top personalities. It offers essentially, fundamental critical lessons for readers as each story has an inspirational value. The key premise is that people can get inspired by the profiles in this book, like all other of our biographical publications, to better their lives.

Most of the stories and photos are courtesy of third party sources most of which are internet-based. We want to formally acknowledge these sources. They include the CNN, BBC, Wikipedia, The Guardian, Thisday, BellaNaija, and several other news portals too numerous to mention. Just in case we have omitted any source, it is by no means intentional. We deeply respect intellectual property.

We want to congratulate all those who made the list of this book of records.

Kammonke Abam & Tammie  
Kammonke  
May 2023



## Criteria for Listing

The foremost consideration in determining possible listees for “Changemakers: 100 Nigerians Leading Change” is the extent of an individual’s reference value based on the evidence of the initiative by the individual to provide creative solutions to problems, and in the process, inspire change. Such action must be something that distinguishes him or her from the vast majority of her contemporaries.

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# ChangeMakers: 100 Nigerians Leading Change 2023



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## *Abah* **Abah, Betty**

Betty Abah is a women's and children's rights advocate and founder and Executive Director of the Centre for Children's Health Education, Orientation and Protection (CEE-HOPE). The organisation works with at-risk children and young people and recently women especially in informal and marginalised communities in Nigeria. She trained originally as a journalist working with leading Nigerian media organisations namely Newswatch and Tell Magazines (Nigeria), and at the Rocky Mountain News in Colorado, USA. She also worked with the Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth

Nigeria on environmental justice campaigns before starting CEE-HOPE in 2013. Abah holds a BA in English and Literary Studies from the University of Calabar (1999) and an MA in Literature in English from the University of Lagos (2012). Her journalism and human rights activism work have earned her several awards and recognitions from local and international groups including the Alfred Friendly Press Fellowship in USA (2006), the John's Hopkins University, USA (2010). In 2019 she was selected as Human Rights Defenders Fellow at the University of York, England. Abah is the author of

several books including 'Sounds of Broken Chains', 'Go Tell Our King (poetry collections) and 'Mother of Multitudes, the Biography of Prof. Ebele Eko'. She is a regular social justice and media commentator. In recent years she has produced several social justice-based short films and other advocacy multimedia productions. She hails from Benue State.



*Achakpa*

## **Achakpa,** Dr. Priscilla M.

Dr. Priscilla M. Achakpa is the founder/Global Lead of the Women Environmental Programme (WEP) a regional Women-focused organization with headquarters in Abuja, Nigeria. A gender expert and development practitioner with over 25 years. She has held many positions at the National and International levels working with a wide range of development actors, government, UN, CSOs, and feminist networks in the area of gender, environment, and climate change. A recipient of several awards including the Albert Ballin Awards, Ashoka Fellows, ECO Ambassador, Channels TV Nigeria, and Deutsche Welle, a public

broadcasting institution formed under the German Government and Climate Change Warriors –Vogue Magazine, USA December 2015. Priscilla spent several years with Savannah bank (1989-2001) rising to the position of Assistant Manager before joining Abuja Catholic Ecclesiastical Province, Caritas, Justice and Peace/Health as the Executive Secretary in 2001, Partnership Specialist/ Officer-In-Charge, United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) 2019-2020, Nigeria and was the National Coordinator, Water Supply and Sanitation Collaboration (WSSCC) from 2012-2019 and from 2021 to 2022 she served as the Special

Adviser to the Honorable Minister of Environment, Nigeria. Priscilla has delivered various presentations and speeches at different international trainings, forums, and conferences as well as participated in several working group meetings. An author and co-author of several publications.

Priscilla is Passionist about gender and the environment especially in helping the most vulnerable and disadvantaged group in society. She has a beautiful daughter and several other children.





# *Adebisi-Abiola* **Adebisi-Abiola,** **Bilikiss** *Abiola*

Bilikiss Adebisi-Abiola is an entrepreneur who founded the Lagos-based recycling company 'Wecyclers'. She is currently the Director General of the Lagos State Records and Archives Bureau (LASRAB) and Managing Director of the Lagos State Parks and Gardens Agency (LASPARK). She is also a member of the Board of Trustees of the Lagos State Employment Trust Fund. In 2012, she co-founded Wecyclers, a company that collects recyclable rubbish from households in Lagos. When the business started, Adebisi would take out a tricycle to do collections to find out more about her new business. Once the rubbish is sorted, her company sends SMS back to the

household, informing them of how many points they have earned for trading in the rubbish. These points could be converted for food, cleaning products, or cellphone minutes. The company works in partnership with the Lagos Waste Management Authority. In 2017, Adebisi stepped down as the CEO of Wecyclers to become the Managing Director of the Lagos State Parks and Gardens Agency (LASPARK). In her new role, she will be keeping open space in Lagos State attractive and carry out tree planting. She is currently the Director General of Lagos State Records and Archives Bureau (LASRAB).



## Adefemi Miss, Adeola

Adeola Adefemi is an award-winning teacher and facilitator who is passionate about promoting quality education for children, especially marginalized ones in her community. She currently teaches the English Language at Oke-Odo Senior High School, Alimosho.

Adeola Adefemi started her teaching career in a school labeled “low-performing,” following years of poor performance by students in external and regional examinations. As an innovative teacher, Adeola understood that extracurricular activities, after-school classes, and competitions can help to boost students’ academic performance. Thus, she launched the EVERY CHILD COUNTS campaign, creating subject-associated clubs that students joined based on their interests. To build confidence in her students, she also encouraged them to engage in inter-school, state, and national competitions after months of intensive training and mentorship. Within a year, Adeola’s school had won over 30 competitions, and in two years, the school won the African Top School Award for exceptional academic performance.

Adeola also launched the CHILD NOT BRIDE campaign to address the problems faced by the girl child in society. By using stage plays and poetry, she was able to effectively depict the dangers of these practices and emphasized the need for them to be stopped. The campaign also helped train girls in entrepreneurial skills that would help them sponsor themselves through college if other funding options were not available.

In a career spanning over nine years, Adeola’s students have won over 103 states, national and international competitions, including the Commonwealth Day Inter-School Competition, United Nations Poetry Competition, BRF Essay Competition (United Kingdom), Blooming Mind National Writing Competition, Teenage Festival of Life and the World Water Day Competition. Currently, the pass rate of her students has risen from 24% to 88%. Lots of them are on national and international scholarships, about six were allowed to travel to the United Kingdom on an educational tour for winning the Be Road-Friendly Essay Competition, while sixty students received

commendation letters from the state government.

Adeola completed a bachelor’s degree from Olabisi Onabanjo University and other degrees/certifications from the University of Sussex and Saylor Academy. She is a Fullbright Fellow, a Certified Microsoft Innovative Educator, and a member of the Young African Leader Initiative (YALI). In recognition of her efforts in education, Adeola has received numerous awards including Outstanding Teacher of the Year 2019, Maltina That One Teacher 2019, JCI Outstanding Young Person in Nigeria 2019, Ten Young Persons in Nigeria 2019, Lockdown Teacher 2020, Fulbright Teaching Excellence and Achievement Award 2020, Lagos State Best Teacher 2021, and most recently, on the 2022 World Teachers’ Day, she was announced as The Best Teacher In Nigeria.

Courtesy: [refinedng.com](http://refinedng.com)



## Adejugbe-Williams, Dr. Badewa T.

Dr. Badewa Adejugbe-Williams is a Specialized Academic Instructor, Educational Therapist/Professional (ET/P) and Multicultural Educational Specialist. She is the Chief Executive of Ladama Consultancy LLC (USA and Nigeria), founder of the Royal School of Educational Therapy Foundation, Nigeria. She is the Chair of the Nigeria Diaspora Summit Initiative and the Chair/Coordinator of the Nigeria Diaspora Investment Summit. She is the Co-Chair the Emergent African Forum in the United States and the co-founder of the Association of Female Agripreneurs, Nigeria.

Dr. Adejugbe-Williams earned her Doctor in Education degree from Capella University, a Master's Degree in Educational Therapy and an Educational Specialist credential from California State University, Northridge. She earned another Master's Degree in

Multicultural Education and a Multiple Subjects Teaching Credential from California State University, Dominguez Hills, USA. She is a member of the Association of Educational Therapist (AET), Council for Exceptional Children and Division of International Special Education & Services, International Learning Disabilities Association, Learning Disabilities of America, and International Dyslexia Foundation amongst others. Beyond these, she has worked extensively in the Entertainment Industry. She has presented academic papers on film, Special Education and multicultural educational practices and has served under numerous committees for the presidency and several nonprofits.

She was the General Manager of the Abuja Film Village International (AFVI) Limited, an initiative of the Federal Capital Territory Administration. She served as the

General Manager of AFVI Ltd from 2008 to 2021.

For the past 5 years, she has coordinated the Nigeria Diaspora Investment Summit which has attracted diaspora Nigerians to invest in Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and also in Public Private Partnership projects in Nigeria.

She has conducted over a dozen free capacity building workshops for service providers and parents of Persons with Neurodevelopmental Disabilities, especially on inclusive education and for societal inclusion of persons with disabilities. Her foundation, in partnership with medical providers and hospitals offered free health care to over 300 residents of the FCT in 2019.



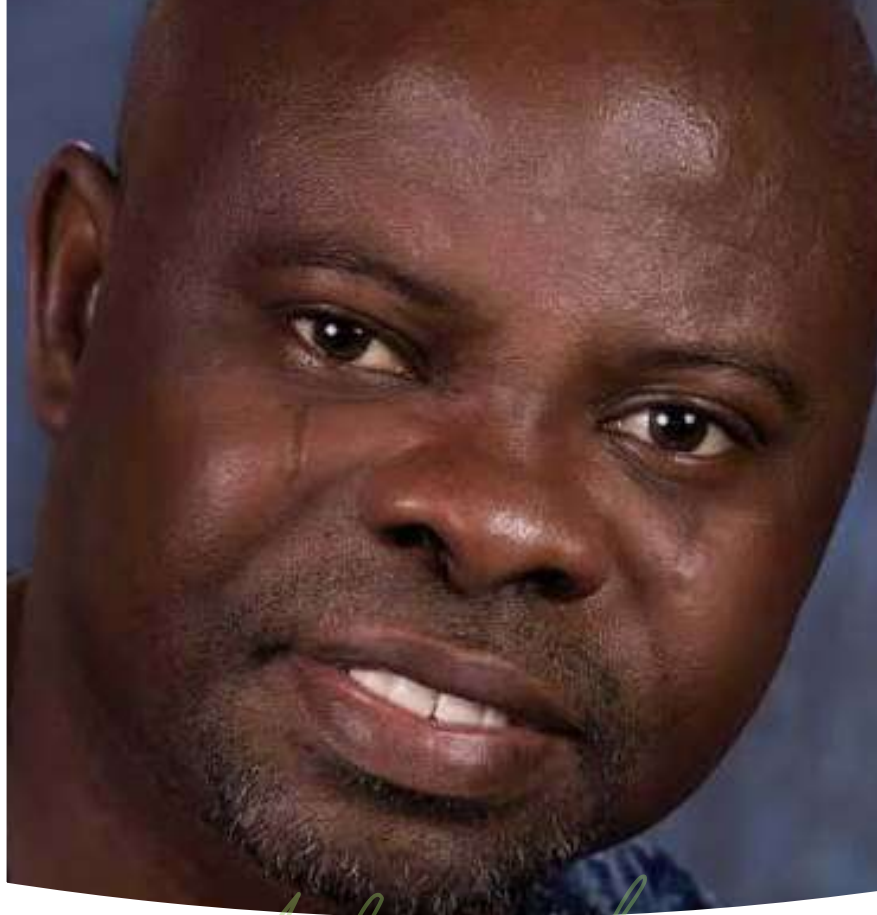
## *Adekunle* **Adekunle,** Silas

Silas is a robotics technology entrepreneur and inventor. He was previously Co-founder and CEO of Reach Robotics, which created MekaMon, an entertainment and education platform that combined Robotics, AR and gaming. MekaMon was launched with Apple and the company generated millions in revenue and raised millions in venture capital.

Silas is now co-founder and CEO of R.I. which is developing a quick and secure device and data platform for

industrial automation and IOT. He is also Co-founder and CEO of Awarri, a company focused on enabling robotics and AI in Africa, starting with education.

Silas, who studied at UWE Bristol, graduated with First Class Honors (BSc) Robotics Technology and has an Honorary Doctor of Technology. Courtesy: Forbes



*Aderinto*

## Aderinto, Professor Saheed

Professor Saheed Aderinto, Founding President of the Lagos Studies Association, is the author of *Animality and Colonial Subjecthood in Africa: The Human and Nonhuman Creatures of Nigeria* (Ohio University Press/New African Histories Series, 2022), *Guns and Society in Colonial Nigeria: Firearms, Culture, and Public Order* (Indiana University Press, January 2018), and *When Sex Threatened the State: Illicit Sexuality, Nationalism, and Politics in Colonial Nigeria, 1900-1958* (University of Illinois Press, 2015), which won the 2016 Nigerian Studies Association's Book Award Prize for the "most important scholarly book/work on Nigeria published in English language."

Professor Aderinto has edited and co-edited a number of books, and his work has appeared

in leading Africanist and specialist journals including, the *Canadian Journal of African Studies*; *Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History*; *Journal of the History of Sexuality*; *Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History*; *History in Africa: A Journal of Method*; *Frontiers: A Journal of Women's Studies*; *Africa: The Journal of the International African Institute*; the *Journal of Social History*; and the *Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth*, among others. Currently, Professor Aderinto is writing a book and making a documentary about the history of Fuji, an African music and popular culture.

Courtesy: Florida International University



*Adetola*

## **Adetola,** Dr. Olusesan. A.

Dr. Olusesan. A. Adetola graduated with honors in 1984 from the College of Medicine, University of Lagos. He has a post graduate fellowship in Family Medicine. He is a Director in Foundation Preventive Clinics, a firm of medical examiners, Preventive and Personal Physicians. The firm has a strong bias for Judges, Tax officers, Accountants and Church leaders/pioneers. At multiple retreats, seminars and management meetings, he has provided health talks and health checks. He has provided health enlightenment and guidance at multiple pre-retirement programs. He has provided multiple health enlightenment, for Youths, Men and

Elders of RCCG at provincial and regional levels. He is a certified Sunday School and Workers-in-training teacher and Chairman of the Medical advisory group in the Central Parish of the Redeemed Christian Church of God Abuja. He has diligently mixed faith with health care. He specializes in the Prevention and Management of Hypertension, Diabetes and other lifestyle diseases. He is passionate about health, productivity, averting premature and sudden death. He is currently a visiting lecturer and Consultant to the National Judicial Institute and the Supreme Court of Nigeria.



# Adeyemi-Levites

## Adeyemi-Levites, Dr. Dami

Dr Dami Adeyemi-Levites, ACCA, CEO at Heala Tech, is using his entrepreneurial skills to integrate healthcare in Nigeria. Back in his student days, Dr Dami Adeyemi-Levites ACCA had no plans to become a finance professional, still less an entrepreneur. He was already on course to become a medical doctor when he started to have doubts.

The decade since has seen him qualify with ACCA and, in 2021, co-found Heala Tech, a start-up in the fast-growing Nigerian healthtech space, with two others who share his aspirations. The business launched in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic, on the back of a softening in attitudes to virtual healthcare. 'In the past, patients in Nigeria, as in many

countries, expected to see a doctor in person,' Adeyemi-Levites says. 'The pandemic changed that narrative. Now people are more willing to visit a doctor online.'

Using technology, the firm aims to bridge the gaps between individuals and healthcare providers – pharmacies, hospitals, dental centres and the like. Patients, meanwhile, can download an app that enables them to check symptoms, access 24/7 medical support and take control of personal health records.

Adeyemi-Levites exhibits huge enthusiasm for his 'vision'. He says: 'I want to solve big problems, which you can't do as an employee. I want to build something where the decisions I make will spiral down to every healthcare seeker out there. As

a doctor helping one patient at a time, it would take more than a lifetime to make that sort of impact.'

In a nation with some of the world's worst health statistics, the move towards integrated healthcare is key to improving access to medical services. Nigeria, which is set to become the world's third-most populated country by 2050 (after India and China), has an average life expectancy of 54 – the fifth lowest in the world – while the country accounts for 20% of maternal deaths globally.



## Adigwe, Obi Peter

Obi Peter Adigwe, director-general, National Institute for Pharmaceutical Research and Development (NIPRD), has received productivity awards for the 2019/2020 session.

The award was conferred on him by President Muhammadu Buhari at the Aso Rock Presidential Villa last Thursday.

Adigwe beat thousands of contenders to emerge the first prominent healthcare chief executive to clinch the highly coveted award.

Officials at the Ministry of Labour and Employment indicate that Adigwe emerged tops following a vigorous evidence-based selection process that reviewed hard-work, excellence, innovation and productivity output from 2017 to 2020.

Recall that in 2017 and 2018, Adigwe had, as executive secretary of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Group of Manufacturers Association

of Nigeria (PMG-MAN) led advocacy efforts to reverse the insidious Common External Tariff (CET), which threatened the entire Pharma Industry.

Along with S. Okey Akpa, the president of the West African Pharma Manufacturers Association, he conceptualised the Medicines Security Concept, which laid the foundation for drug and vaccines manufacturing initiatives that have taken centre stage following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Earlier, he had made his mark by designing and implementing the robust and comprehensive advocacy plan that led to the ring-fencing of local manufacture for several main categories of medicines in the 2016 National Fiscal Policy.

Analysis shows that this landmark intervention led to double digit sectoral growth in the indicated areas, as well as inflow of millions of dollars of new investment, and the

creation of thousands of direct and indirect jobs in the sector.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Adigwe's maverick performance as Director General of the National Institute for Pharmaceutical Research and Development (NIPRD) led to Nigeria's emergence as a leading scientific authority in evidence-based policymaking. Notably, he led the team that provided the first international categorical analysis on the COVID organics preparation which then underpinned decision making that saved countless lives and conserved millions of dollars.

Adigwe also convened the first National Scientific Advisory Committee (NSAC) for verification and validation of phyto claims. The output from the team of close to two dozen erudite and eminent professors is now openly sourced and underpins international objective analysis in the sector.

Courtesy: [businessday.ng](http://businessday.ng)





## Agbakoba, Dumebi

They say when you realize what your vocation in life is, you never stray from it, no matter what age you were when you made the discovery. This was very much the case for Dumebi Agbakoba, who had the vision to be a creator and entrepreneur from a young age. So, as she got older, the opportunity to chase the vision came into view, and she powered ahead to make it a reality.

After attending no less than three universities, studying Fashion Business at University of the Arts London, Business Administration at the University of Plymouth, and a multitude of disciplines at London College of Fashion, she then moved forward to gain professional success in the difficult arena of publishing, something which many have not been able to achieve on this level. Working primarily as a Publisher and the Editor in Chief of Side View Magazine, she managed to gain the respect of the publishing industry as a whole and went on to achieve her goals with Side View magazine, which aimed to educate readers and offer them an outlet to read about cultural and social issues, on top of imaginative editorials that never swayed into the realm of bland.

Dumebi doesn't do bland – in any

form! If there is one thing that she does well, it's passion – no matter what the project, she works with a level of passion that is quite unlike any other, always ensuring she employs her keen eye for detail to tip projects to that next level that takes them from good, to mind-blowing.

Despite working as part of the media, she forever clung on to her first love; food. Now ready for a fresh challenge, she is transitioning into the role of a private chef, maximizing on her natural flair for cooking that she had from a young age, and her ability to cook dishes that don't just tickle the taste buds but absolutely ravish them. Bringing with her a wealth of discipline that has been gained from years of professionalism in an industry that takes no prisoners, she combines a natural talent that is well trained in the kitchen, with methodical practice and a spark that stands out from everybody else. A mother of four with the ability and drive to juggle her career with her children, she is constantly experimenting with exciting new recipes and strives to deliver something that is not only technically brilliant but tastes amazing, too. Aromas, textures, nostalgia, layers, scents, sensations, moreish tastes, and a dash of just

knowing what works all go into her cooking, with her talent as a chef steadily maturing.

Dumebi draws her inspiration from so many different mediums and is a diverse and dynamic chef; her ability to bring something real to the table makes her a success, and she invests in different cultures and ways of life in order to develop menus that are stimulating and stunning. With a variety of cuisines cooked, twisted, and experimented with; her beloved Nigerian background comes to the forefront and she combines traditional cooking with street food concepts to entice people to try something that they may not have tasted before. Just like when you discover your vocation in life and it sticks, your first love never leaves you either; Dumebi has been fortunate enough to maximize on both. Fast forward to 2018, with a love for event planning, she has added on the Chef Dish Food festival to her repertoire. A quarterly food festival which was aimed at promoting the bustling food and drink industry of Nigeria. When she is not working, you can catch her eating, cooking, or out having ice-cream with her kids. Courtesy: [dumebiagbakoba.com](http://dumebiagbakoba.com)



*Agbiboa*  
**Agbiboa,**  
Daniel E.

Daniel E. Agbiboa is Assistant Professor of African and African American Studies at Harvard University. Professor Agbiboa earned a PhD from the University of Oxford and an MPhil from the University of Cambridge. Professor Agbiboa's research and teaching focus on how state and nonstate forms of order and authority interpenetrate and shape each other, and the spatialization and materialization of mobility, power, and politics in contemporary African cities. He is the author of *They Eat Our Sweat: Transport Labor, Corruption, and Everyday Survival in Urban Nigeria* (Oxford University Press, 2022) and *Mobility, Mobilization, and Counter/Insurgency: The Routes of Terror in an African Context* (University of Michigan Press, 2022, Winner of the Lee Ann Fujii Best Book Award and the ISA Peace Best Book Prize); co-author of *People,*

*Predicaments and Potentials in Africa* (Langaa RPCIG, 2021); and editor of *Transport, Transgression and Politics in African Cities: The Rhythm of Chaos* (Routledge, 2019). Professor Agbiboa's publications appear in leading journals including *Public Culture*, *Current History*, *Journal of Modern African Studies*, *African Affairs*, *African Studies Review*, *Third World Quarterly*, *Review of African Political Economy*, and *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*. Professor Agbiboa is a Member of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, Fellow of the Wilson Center, and Member of the MIT Seminar XXI. He is a recipient of the H.F. Guggenheim Distinguished Scholar Award.



## *Agboola* **Agboola,** Babatunde

For this Abuja-based furniture maker, marrying creativity and functionality is what defines his products. You cannot but notice Babatunde Agboola's streak of curios designs and knack for perfection. He is the wood guy who is concerned with perfect finishing with each design. Babatunde is a gifted cabinetmaker, overflowing with ideas and creativity. Babatunde Agboola who plies his trade in the name of Solution Concept Furniture and Design quietly get things done without drawing attention to himself. No drama. No self-promotion. He is just satisfied delivery contentment to his numerous clients. One significant thing about him is that he under-promises and over-

delivers. He is also committed to keeping to time. It's a rare attribute for any business person. A talented designer whose thinking is as philosophical as it is imbued in his craft, Babatunde can also reproduce or as someone put it, "xerox" any design from any catalog brought to him. Sometimes, he ornaments his work with hand-carved detail, thus reimagining the space in the home to the warmest welcome. The philosophy of excellence of this forward-thinking creative designer is what inspires his coterie of staff to reach ever higher in their creation of beautiful, individual bespoke and sustainable furniture



## Aig-Imoukhuede, Mr. Aigboje

Mr. Aigboje Aig-Imoukhuede is an investor, banker and philanthropist with a track record of major accomplishments in both for-profit and not-for-profit initiatives within Nigeria and beyond. As co-founder of the Tengen Family Office, Aig-Imoukhuede oversees a multibillion-dollar portfolio of investments and businesses in banking, finance, insurance, technology, real estate and energy, while through the Aig-Imoukhuede Foundation and its subsidiaries, the Africa Initiative for Governance and the Aig-Imoukhuede Institute, Aigboje and his wife, Ofovwwe, manage a significant family commitment focused on building Nigeria's next generation of government leaders, helping transform public sector effectiveness, and improving access to quality primary health care.

He is chairman of the board of trustees of the Financial Market Dealers Association (FMDA) and led the establishment of the FMDQ securities exchange. He was appointed founding chairman in 2013. He was elected president of the Nigerian

Stock Exchange council in 2013, becoming the first African to earn the privilege of chairing two national exchange platforms. As president of the exchange, he championed its demutualisation, which was successfully completed in 2021. Aig-Imoukhuede is a flagbearer for financial market reform in Nigeria and serves as chairman of Enterprise NGR, a Nigerian financial and related professional services advocacy group. He was appointed a member of Oxford University's Blavatnik School of Government International Advisory Board in 2017.

In the impact philanthropy space, his contributions towards universal health care for all Africans led to his appointment in 2011 as the first African co-chairman of the New York-based GBC Health, a private sector coalition against HIV, malaria and tuberculosis (GBCHealth). As a board member of the Aliko Dangote Foundation, he facilitated a partnership that birthed the African Business Coalition for Health (ABCHealth).

In 2012, together with Aliko Dangote and Jim Ovia, he co-founded the Private Sector Health Alliance of Nigeria (PSHAN), and as vice-chair of Global Citizen Nigeria, he co-founded the Nigeria Solidarity Support Fund (NSSF).

He is the author of *Leaving the Tarmac: Buying a Bank in Africa* (Red Door, 2020), a memoir that recounts how he and Herbert Wigwe bought Access Bank in 2002, one of the smallest and most crisis-prone banks in Nigeria build it into one of the biggest and strongest banks in the country. He has also authored other publications, including *Nigeria's Fourth Republic: Economy and Opportunities Beyond Politics*.

Aigboje is married to development specialist Ofovwwe and has four children, Ohiozoje, Aima, Morenike and Renuan. He is an ordained minister of the Promised Land Ministries.

Courtesy: coronation.ng



*Ajani* **Ajani,**  
Taiwo

Taiwo Ajani holds a Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) degree in Business Management from The University of Jos, Plateau state and a Masters of Business Administration (MBA) from Strayer University, Piscataway, NJ USA.

He is a Professional member of the Institute of Chartered accountants of Nigeria (ICAN) and a Chattered Tax Practitioner, (CITN).

Taiwo Ajani is the Pastor of the Catalysts Church of Central Parish. A Parish of The Redeemed Christian

Church (RCCG) of God, Abuja, Nigeria.

His passion is seeing every Nigerian youth take full advantage of the ever-increasing multidimensional knowledge of our time to better themselves, become outstanding leaders in the market place and to stand firm as worthy ambassadors of morality and righteousness in our nation's polity.

He organizes the Catalysts Church monthly youth empowerment session called "The Catalysts Roundtable

Discussion"; a monthly no hold barred discussion which vividly exposes the dynamics and demands of an all-round successful living to youths, by drawing on the experiences of time-tested invited professionals. Taiwo Ajani currently heads the Corporate Planning Division of the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS). He is married to Oluwakemi Ajani. Their union is blessed with Toluwalase, and Esther Ajani.



*Ajayi* **Ajayi,**  
Morenike MBE

Morenike Ajayi is the Director of Corporate Services at Gravesend Churches Housing Association and Founder, Career Nuggets.

Morenike received an MBE in the Queen's New Year's Honours List 2022. She was recognised for her services to race equality and inclusion. As founder and CEO of social enterprise Career Nuggets, Morenike has helped further career opportunities for the BME community by providing mentoring,

networking, workshops, events and more.

All this is done on a voluntary basis.

In addition, she is presently the Treasurer and a trustee at London Youth.

Morenike has won multiple awards and is a chartered accountant, executive producer, TV presenter, author and motivational public speaker.



## *Ajaero* **Ajaero,** Comrade Joe

Joe Ajaero is one of the few committed labour activists in the country. He was, this year, ejected the President of the Nigeria Labour Congress. The former general secretary of the National Union of Electricity Employees (NUEE), won on consensus vote at the 13th NLC national delegates conference in Abuja. Ajaero takes over from Ayuba Wabba, who took office in 2015.

Born on December 17, 1964, in Emekuku Owerri-North, Imo State, Ajaero has a rich background in the

media and has been a prominent figure in the NLC since 2011. Ajaero marks a new chapter for the NLC and the country's labour movement. The NLC will be looking to Ajaero to provide the leadership and guidance needed to tackle the challenges facing workers in Nigeria.

Ajaero is committed to pursuing the interest and desires of workers and Nigerians. He promised that his leadership would speak for the millions of Nigerians and also seek a platform to lift them out of poverty.

He said his leadership will pursue a new national minimum wage law that will take into consideration the objective reality of the socio-economic situation, and expand its reach to capture more workers. He said the wage review law will be addressed through the national labour advisory council, to ensure that all loopholes exploited by employers on making workplaces more decent, are blocked.



## Ajilore, Jeremiah

Jeremiah is the Founder/CEO of Ubuy Services, a platform that provides professional service solutions to individuals and businesses all over Nigeria.

Ubuy Services is a local service marketplace that connects local professionals to customers in need of their services across Nigeria. It is headquartered in Abuja and was created to solve one major problem in Nigeria: the unemployment rate in the country.

Local professionals need customers to grow their business and customers need local professionals for their everyday tasks and projects. So, Ubuy Services was developed to bridge the gap between these parties and connect customers and professionals across Nigeria. Ubuy Services is set to help thousands of skilled individuals in Nigeria grow their businesses and millions of Nigerians get their tasks done without stressing.

Since launching in June 2019, Ubuy

Services has been focused on making easy the process of finding local professionals across Nigeria, enabling local professionals to grow their business at speed and scale and ensuring safety for both pros and customers.

Ubuy Services was founded to limit the struggle associated with unemployment in the country and to help Nigerians especially the youths earn a good living, even while they are not gainfully employed and also help Nigerians get their daily tasks done without having stress and difficulty getting the right hands or falling victims of fraud.

One unique feature of the platform is its user-friendly interface and its focus on the quality and vetting of its pros and customers. In order to ensure the safety of its customers and pros, Ubuy Services has a strict verification process.

There is a 99% insurance that users can not be taken advantage of by the

other party. The mobile app is readily available on playstore and can be used by only customers for now. With the Mobile app, customers can search for local professionals within their vicinity, post their tasks/projects, view portfolios of potential pros they want to hire and document their transaction details for future references.

On the website, pros and customers can set up their accounts, customers can post their task and pros can bid for tasks/projects. Once a job is completed customers get to rate the performance of the pros. Ratings help to improve pros status and move them up the bar. This gives the pros more visibility and builds trust for the pro. To connect with plumbers, stylists, legal professionals, web designers, writers, makeup artists, tutors, etc anywhere in Nigeria.





*Akinpelu*  
**Akinpelu,  
Solape**

Solape Akinpelu is a business leader and gender-finance expert. She is the Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder of HerVest, a fintech company that offers inclusive finance options to women in Africa. The company offers convenient solutions for target savings, provides goal-oriented savings, impact investing, and credit options for women farmers and women-led SMEs in Nigeria. With a membership of over 40,000, HerVest is committed to enhancing women's lives by providing access to financial services

and promoting financial inclusion. The goal is to create an inclusive platform that empowers women and enables them to achieve their financial aspirations with ease.

In addition to her work with HerVest, Solape is the Global Co-Chair of Marketing for the Women in Tech Global Movement and Country Manager for Nigeria, an international organization with a double mission: to close the gender gap and to help women embrace technology.

Solape is also the Chairman of Technology at the Nigerian-British Chamber of Commerce, where she fosters technology trade and investment between Nigeria and Britain. Through her efforts, Solape has contributed to the growth of the technology industry in Nigeria and helped strengthen the country's economic ties with Britain. Courtesy: [refinedng.com](https://refinedng.com)



## *Ajilore* Akpera, Henrietta Efa

Sixty-year-old Henrietta Efa Akpera is the village head of Akai Efa community in Calabar Municipality of Cross River State. She is from the Efa Royal House in Calabar. She attended Holy Child Convent School, Edgerly Memorial Girls Secondary School, all in Calabar, and School of Catering and Hotel Management, Kano State. She obtained a HND.

She is the second woman to be coronated the village head in Calabar.

The first was an elderly woman in Ikot Uduak when Henrietta was a little girl. She got NDDC to intervene with a primary school. With block support from House of Reps member Eta Mbora, LGA chairman Donatus Etim and ministry of education, she also facilitated the building of a secondary school now. With support from Dr. Betta Edu, then director general of Primary Health-care agency; Dr. Asibong Inyang, former Commissioner for

health; and Sen. Gershom Bassey, she facilitated the citing of a functional and equipped healthcare centre. She also approached the former Chief Judge of the state, Justice Michael Eden, and today, her community has customary and magistrate courts.

Courtesy: Daily Trust



## *Ajilore* Amusan, Tobi

Tobi Amusan is a Nigerian track and field athlete who specialises in the 100 metres hurdles and also competes as a sprinter. She is the current World, Commonwealth and African champion in the 100 m hurdles, as well as the meet record holder in those three competitions. Amusan became the first ever Nigerian world champion and world record holder in an athletics event when she won the 2022 World Championships 100 m

hurdles gold medal, setting the current world record of 12.12 seconds in the semi-final, followed up by a wind-assisted 12.06 s in the final. She won back-to-back Commonwealth and African titles in 2018 and 2022 in the 100m hurdles and is also a two-time African Games champion in the event.

In 2015, Amusan took gold in the 100 m hurdles at the African Junior

Championships and the same year, as an 18-year-old, secured her first title at the African Games. In 2021, Amusan became the first Nigerian athlete to win a Diamond League title as she took the 100 m hurdles trophy, breaking the then-African record held by Glory Alozie in the process.[7] She retained her title in 2022.



## *Silas* Arayomi, Tomi

Tomi Arayomi received the Lord Jesus at the age of 15 and began ministry at 16 years old serving as a pastor under Foundation Faith Church. He served there and planted over 10 churches on university campuses UK wide whilst studying law at the University of Hertfordshire.

He was later recognised for his apostolic and prophetic anointing and was commissioned under Christian International by Dr Bill Hamon and Dr Sharon Stone in November 2010. Tomi has since been featured on mainstream media including BBC, Revelation TV, the Times Malawi, TBN, Channels TV, where he has been recognized for his national and personal prophetic accuracy. Tomi is a governmental prophet and has had the privilege of consulting prophetically with leaders of nations in their homes at the United Nations and in Parliament.

In 2019, a few months before the UK

went into lockdown, Tomi was led by the Lord to relaunch RIG Nation which he had originally founded in 2007.

RIG stands for Restoring Issachar's Generation, a mission-based on 1 Chronicles 12:32: "The sons of Issachar who had an understanding of the times to know what Israel ought to do." The ministry's vision is to restore the apostolic and prophetic ministry back into the Body of Christ and to equip this generation to be in a position and condition for use by God.

In April 2020, Tomi launched Pioneers Church as an online church which together with other training and social commentary programmes, has attracted an international audience of over 100,000 subscribers on RIG Nation's YouTube channel. During the lockdown, Tomi filmed over 100 training videos which now form the basis of the RIG Nation's School of Apostles and Prophets and in June 2021, launched apostolic

centres in London, United Kingdom and Lagos, Nigeria.

At the start of 2022, Tomi heard the Lord calling for crusades to be held across Africa and in other continents also. Recognising a deep sense of urgency the Lord had placed within his spirit, Tomi launched the first crusade in Warri Kingdom, Delta State, Nigeria, in February 2022, followed quickly by a crusade in Benin City and with a schedule each month in other nations and continents.

Tomi is the author of twelve books, the most recent being "Eat, Sleep, Prophecy, Repeat" and "The Cosmopolitan Christian". Tomi and his wife Tahmar have three beautiful sons, Harvey, Perez and Silas. After hearing a word from the Lord, the family recently relocated to Nigeria from the United Kingdom. Courtesy: The Guardian



*Ayebae* **Ayebae,**  
**Dr. Fidelis**

Dr. Fidelis Ayebae, is the MD/CEO of Fidson Healthcare Plc. Fidson Healthcare Plc is a leading pharmaceutical manufacturing company in Nigeria. Founded in 1995, the company has relentlessly pursued its goal of becoming a leading player in the pharmaceutical landscape in Nigeria and West Africa.

Fidelis Ayebae graduated from the Mainland Institute of Technology in 1976 with a Diploma in Civil Engineering. He obtained Advanced Diploma in Business Administration from the University of Lagos in 1999. He is an Associate of the Chartered Institute of Administration and

also a member of the Nigeria Institute of Management.

After working in various capacities in a number of organizations, including Citibank Limited, he started as the Founder and Pioneer Chief Executive Officer at Fidson Healthcare Limited in 1995. He is also the Chairman and Director of many other companies. He has attended many courses, both locally and internationally including banking operation, organisation development skills, selling skills e.t.c.



## *Bilesanmi* Yusuf

Yusuf Bilesanmi, a Nigerian engineer who has won the One to Watch Award at the Africa Prize for Engineering Innovation for his creation of “ShiVent”, a low-cost, non-electric device ventilator that is efficient in its use of oxygen.

He is a 37-year-old Nigerian who came from a humble background. He had his first degree at Lagos State University where he studied Law before he switched paths later to science and engineering.

ShiVent is a low-cost, non-electric, and non-invasive ventilator for patients with respiratory difficulties. Explaining how it works, he said, “ShiVent does not require electricity, it is easy to install, non-invasive, and oxygen-efficient, and our belief is that it will help save lives when more expensive or oxygen-intensive technologies can’t get to patients.



## Bubayaro, Muhammad Yakubu

Muhammad Yakubu Bubayaro is the Chief Executive Officer of Bunkasa Agri-tech, an indigenous Agriculture and food solution provider in Nigeria. Bubayaro hails from Karaye in Kano state, he is an alumnus of the prestigious Barewa College Zaria, Kaduna and British Chattered Institute for Information Technology.

After his training in information technology at British Chartered Institute for IT (BCS), he ventured into Agri Services and technology. He equipped himself with other training and knowledge Agriculture sector towards finding solutions to challenges militating against the sector.

Born and raised in Lagos, he was one of the trainers under GEMS4 programme sponsored by DFID - UK Aid in 2013 --2018 expansion of Tomato production and capacity building for actors in the value chain in Nigeria.

Furthermore, he was also certified as a GHP ( Good handling Practice) trainer for Tomato farmers in Kano and Kaduna under GEMS4.

Based on his achievements and

contributions to the vegetable value chain, he was appointed as the Agric tech Advisor to Mile 12 International market, Lagos which happened to be the largest market and highest vegetable off-takers in West Africa.

As the CEO of Bunkasa Agric tech, he has initiated several Agric Support Services in vegetables and allied food information system which focuses on closing the annual seasonal gap, Climate change mitigation, and price instability by educating farmers through technology on adoption of new improved seeds, introduction of Plastic crates against the traditional raffia basket, solar power cold chain/storage towards reducing postharvest losses, improve hygiene and ensuring food safety.

Bubayaro, via Bunkasa, has also partnered with other players in the sector such as, IITA, IFPRI and IFDC to introduce a model called Plastic Crate Rental Service( PCRs ). The model is structured to take the burden of capital-intensive procurement of plates crate off the poor local and small-holder farmers. The PCR is designed to add value to Tomato and other vegetables value chain, increase the profit margin of

farmers and more importantly create more job opportunities for logistics/ market players.

Bubayaro, whose impact in the food-chain sector has earned him a nomination among the Changemakers: 100 Nigerians leading transformational change 2023. Based on his achievement in food and agribusiness sector, Bubayaro was awarded the Daily Trust Unknown Heroes, 2023.

In commemoration of International Youth Day, 2023 Bubayaro was featured as success story by the International Fertilizer Development Centre (IFDC), Washington, DC. Bubayaro was also honoured with Excellence Agribusiness Recognition Award, titled: African Food Survival Ambassador (AFSA), 2022 at University of Ibadan, by Golden Sphere Agricultural Foundation in collaboration with Save an African Child Agricultural Foundation.

He is listed in the “Changemakers: 100 Nigerians Leading Change”, 2023, owing to his extraordinary impact in making and providing leadership in his sphere of influence.



## Chima Chima, Prince Williams

Prince Chima Williams is the Executive Director, Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth Nigeria; 2022 Goldman Environmental Prize (Green Nobel Prize) Winner for Africa; a member of the International Executive Committee of Friends of the Earth International; a Solicitor and Advocate of the Supreme Court of Nigeria with over 20 years of litigation experience in the areas of human/environmental rights; an international legal consultant with host and home country litigation expertise and the Principal of CHIMA WILLIAMS & ASSOCIATES.

He is an environmental/human rights lawyer/activist committed to the protection of citizens rights to a healthy and conducive environment believing that environmental right is the superstructure upon which all other rights are built, he actively campaigns for a globally enforceable environmental and human rights standards by all business operators to ensure respect for the environmental and human rights of local community people.

He creates awareness, enlightens, mobilizes and trains both community

people, civil society actors, media practitioners and lawyers on issues of environmental/human rights and access to justice in Nigeria especially when it comes to getting justice against multi-national corporations, and practicalizes his theories through the use of the courts both at host and home country levels, regional and international instruments and mechanisms in securing the rights of citizens and protection of their environment. These has led to the victory against Shell in the case of Jonah Gbemre V. Shell where the court ordered an end to gas flaring; victory of Four Niger Delta Farmers/Fishermen against Shell at the Court of Appeal in the Hague, culminating in Shell compensating the three communities with Euro 15m; Settling out of Court with ENI/NAOC in a case brought by the Ikebiri King on behalf of the Kingdom in Milan, Italy and settled the first ever successful OECD First Instance Complaint from Nigeria and by the Italian NCP to solve a close to 50 years flooding situation in Aggah Community etc.

In recognition of Chima's efforts and contributions, he has received awards and recognitions including:

Appreciation for contributions to sustainable development in Nigeria by CSR.in.Action; Award of Excellence in recognition of unequalled contribution to human development & youth empowerment by NAESS, UNIBEN/UBTH 2011; 2022 Goldman Environmental Prize (Green Nobel Prize) for Africa; Energy Security Ambassador Award of Excellence in Recognition of Exemplary Commitment Towards an Energy Secure Nigeria by IEHSE October, 2022; listed among Nigeria's top 100 Environmental Professionals on Impact, Practice, Advocacy by Environment Africa Magazine in 2022; conferred with the Eco-Ambassador Award in recognition and deep appreciation of his commitment and services to humanity through the promotion of a safer and eco-friendly society by Rotary Club of Yenagoa, December 2022 and in February, 2023 was awarded Doctor of Laws (LLD) Specialising in Human Rights (Honoris Causa) by London Graduate School in collaboration with Commonwealth University College, Cotonou, Benin Republic.





## Chukwumerije, Dike

Dike is a Nigerian Spoken Word and Performance Poetry artist and an award winning author. He has eight published books to his name including the novel, *Urichindere*, which won the 2013 Association of Nigerian Authors (ANA) Prize for Prose Fiction and a poetry theatre production - *Made In Nigeria* - currently touring the country. He was born in Lagos, and had his primary and secondary education in that city, before moving north to Abuja where he studied Law at the University there. His interest in writing and Poetry came as a child from his elder brother, Che Chukwumerije, an avid poet and musician, and from a childhood friend, Onesi Dominic, who both shared their poetry with him. He was also heavily influenced by his father, Uche Chukwumerije, who published a pan-africanist magazine, *Afriscope*,

from the 1970s into the early 1980s, and by his mother, Nwoyibo Iweka, a gifted and natural storyteller, who helped him see magic in every day things.

He is a member of the vibrant Abuja-based literary group, the Abuja Literary Society (ALS) and the host of the group's Book Jam and Poetry Slam. He has won several poetry grand slams in Nigeria including the maiden edition of the African Poet (Nigeria) Grand Slam competition. Since 2013, he has hosted and directed the annual Night of the Spoken Word (NSW) performance poetry event. as part of a movement to insert performance poetry into Nigeria's mainstream pop culture He also hosts weekly Open Mic performances which include a mix of acts from readings of short stories by their authors to musical performances, poetry and spoken

word acts.

He also speaks at workshops for amateur writers.

He is Nigeria's most prolific Performance Poet with three successful Performance Poetry videos, a live Poetry show (NSW – Night of the Spoken Word) now in its 5th year, and a theatre production (the *Made in Nigeria Poetry Show*) that had been successfully staged seven times – in Abuja, Lagos, Enugu, Benin – between September 2016 and May 2017.

His shows are now among the most anticipated events in Abuja, creatively fusing entertainment and a call for re-awakening of national consciousness.



*David* **David,  
Ethel A.**

Ethel A. David, is the President and CEO of Premier Health Systems Inc. (PHS), an organization she started from scratch, with zero dollars. From a humble beginning, she had worked as Residential Counselor and Program Manager in the group homes for individuals with disabilities. Her story represents passion to purpose. A biochemistry graduate from Edo State University, Ekpoma in Nigeria, her vision, hard work, commitment and

determination gave birth to this Agency. Over the last eight years, PHS has specialized in rehabilitation services to individual who cannot independently care for themselves. It has established itself as a relevant service provider in Massachusetts community serving individuals who have trauma and acquired brain injuries.

Courtesy: [alltimepost.com](http://alltimepost.com)



## *Ebri* **Ebri Jr, Clement**

Clement Ebri Jr. emerges as a prominent figure in the information technology landscape, epitomizing the perfect fusion of a software engineer, entrepreneur, and technology consultant. Born into a family of prominence, Clement's roots can be traced to Cross River State, Nigeria, where his father, former Governor Clement Ebri Sr., and mother, First Lady Veronica Ebri, nurtured his innate drive for excellence.

Throughout his academic career, Clement showcased an unwavering determination to excel in all aspects of life. As a student, he balanced rigorous academic pursuits with athletic and entrepreneurial endeavors, exhibiting exceptional prowess in the wrestling arena and in managing an export business for

vehicles. This multifaceted experience cultivated the foundation for Clement's journey as a technology virtuoso.

Upon entering the professional world, Clement swiftly transformed his app development venture into an extraordinary success, amassing over one million users for his mobile games. As a result, he garnered global recognition, establishing fruitful partnerships with numerous Fortune 500 companies and fostering opportunities for both investment and philanthropy.

Clement's relentless drive and impact in the technology sphere did not escape the attention of prestigious organizations. In recognition of his remarkable achievements, he was awarded the University of North

Florida's Black Alumni Achievement Award in the category of technology for the 2019-2020 academic year. As a testament to his unwavering commitment to growth and innovation, Clement continues to leave an indelible mark in the technology industry by providing businesses worldwide with cutting-edge technological solutions while simultaneously contributing to his community through various philanthropic and volunteer initiatives.

The story of Clement Ebri Jr. serves as a powerful reminder of the boundless potential that arises from dedication, hard work, and an unyielding passion for one's chosen field.



*Edun* **Edun,**  
Mr. Oluwole A.

Mr. Oluwole A. Edun had over thirty four years of progressive career in the Federal Civil Service of Nigeria which culminated him becoming a Director in 2009. Although he was in the Public Sector, he has a Private Sector disposition of result orientation and excellence in service delivery.

He started his career as one of the pioneer staff of the Central Planning Department of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in 1980 after graduating in Agricultural Economics from the University of Ife (now O.A.U) in 1979. Apart from Universities of Ife and Olabisi Onabanjo University, he is also a product of Universities of London, Bradford and the Global Training Consultancy Institute, all in England. Mr. Edun as a young Officer started showing exemplary diligence and in 1991 midwifed a World Bank Assisted Project for his Department under the World Bank MSADP III Programme. This Assistance attracted 1.0m USD which helped in establishing a number of lofty projects, including the Nigeria Agricultural Statistics and Data Bank

Project which was then one of the pioneers in the Federal Civil Service. Despite the fact that he was a low ranking Senior Officer, he was made the Project Coordinator between 1991 – 1994.

In 1995, he was appointed a Special Assistant to the Hon. Minister of State, Agriculture. By the time he became a Directorate level officer in the year 2000 (i.e Assistant Director) in the Ministry of Agriculture, he has become so entrenched in the Sector both within and outside the Ministry. At a time he had a working stint with IFDC (An American Agricultural Inputs Development Company).

In 2006, by which time he has become a Deputy Director, he was appointed a Technical Advisor to the one time Permanent Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, who eventually became the Head of Service of the Federation. In 2008, he was among those head-hunted to start the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs as Deputy Director (Policy and Planning).

In 2011, he was deployed as a Director to head the Office of the Millennium Development Goals (Presidency) under the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President (OSSAP) on MDGs.

On the final curve of his career in the Federal Civil Service, he was in late 2011 deployed as a pioneer Director of Planning, Research and Statistics to the then newly created Ministry of Communication Technology where he was involved among many other things in crafting a National Policy for Communication Technology in 2012/2013. During his time in this ministry, he acted as the permanent secretary (PS) on a number of occasions especially during a three-month period when a substantive PS was yet to be posted. He was also a board member of the Galaxy Back Bone company which is a parastatal of the Ministry.

He is presently the Managing Partner of Refstren Consult Ltd. A Management, Training, Agricultural and General Consultancy Firm.



## Eko, Teyojesam

Teyojesam Eko is a highly skilled legal practitioner with about 20 years of experience in the profession spanning across litigation, banking, law journalism, real estate and maritime law.

Called to the Nigerian Bar in 2003, she holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Administration and a Master's degree in International Maritime Law. She is an expert in corporate commercial law, especially with regards to Charterparty agreements and all forms of legal drafting and conveyancing.

Teyojesam started building her career milestones in the legal sector, cutting her teeth with the law firm of Y. C. Maikyau & Co., before transiting into banking. She forayed in that sector excellently for eight years before returning to her first love, corporate legal practice. She is the Founding Partner of The Metro Lawyer, a leading player in the legal blogosphere. She also sits on the Board of several companies and

organisations and acts as company secretary/legal adviser to a number of corporate bodies; including TML News & Media, Stripes of Africa, Euphrates Homes, Fajodd-4 Properties and Hotels, Asarya Petrochemicals, Oakridge Management Consulting, Integrated Projects Solutions, JD Leisure Centre, etc.

She is also a member of the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA), serving on several committees of the association over the years, both at the branch and national level. She is presently a member of the Digital Committee of the association.

Whenever Teyojesam is not working, she engages in charity and community development services. As the Chairman of the Boards of Trustees of the Elder Mrs. Regina Arikpo Widows' Foundation and the Exquisite Royal Pearls Club of Ugep (ERPCU), she has been actively involved in giving back to her local community- Ugep, Cross River State;

especially to widows, orphans and indigent young Ugep girls with no hope of a decent education or acquisition of life skills.

She recently led an ERPCU environmental project in partnership with the Global Green Grants Fund (GGF), USA; where 500 trees were planted in the community to minimize the harmful effects of climate change. She saw a need for this intervention because, from August during the Ugep New Yam festival where a particular species of trees is uprooted as part of the culture to showcase male virility, to the daily cutting down of trees to give space for buildings as a result of the population growth in Ugep; more often than not, these trees are not replaced or replanted.

Teyojesam is a Federal Road Safety Corps Special Marshal and has been a Children's Church minister for over 18 years.



## Eneyo Ugwem

Ugwem is Nigerian-American engineer, inventor, and entrepreneur, currently serving as the co-founder and CEO of SHYFT Power Solutions (formerly known as Solstice Energy Solutions), a venture-backed, award-winning energy technology company. The company is a bi-product of her research as a former Stanford MS/PhD student in Civil & Environmental Engineering. Prior to Stanford, Ugwem worked as an Environmental and Regulatory Risk Advisor for infrastructure projects throughout South Asia, Africa, and the Americas. She graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Ugwem has been recognized as Forbes 30 Under 30 in the Energy, Climate & Capital Media's Ten to Watch and Women of Renewable Industries and Sustainable Energy Honors, among other recognitions. She's one of the early black, female founders to have raised over one million dollars in venture capital. Ugwem has been a speaker at the World Bank State of the African Union Forum, Global Climate Action Summit (opening prior to former U.S. Vice President Al Gore), and Ceres. In addition to energy technology, Ms. Eneyo addresses topics of diversity, equity, and inclusion in tech, hardware start-ups. Her work with SHYFT Power

Solutions is pioneering the use of AI, industrial IoT, and integrated software to build the electricity grid of the future by intelligently managing and integrating distributed resources like solar and batteries into the grid. Forbes marked SHYFT (Solstice) as one of the "Top 60 Women-Led Tech Companies Around the World Shaking Up Tech." Headquartered in Oakland, California with a subsidiary in Lagos, Nigeria SHYFT Power Solutions is ensuring that the future of energy can deliver resilient, clean, and affordable energy to all.

Courtesy: [gravityspeakers.com](https://gravityspeakers.com)



*Enabulele*  
**Enabulele,**  
Dr. Osahon

Dr. Osahon is a Chief Consultant Family Physician/ Consultant Special Grade I, a Fellow of the West African College of Physicians (FWACP), Fellow of the Nigerian Medical Association (FNMA), and holds a Masters degree in Health Planning and Management (MHPM). He has special interest in Primary medical care, Family care, Health system development, Health advocacy, Professional leadership and Medical ethics.

Over the last two (2) decades, Dr. Enabulele has committed himself at home in Nigeria, across Africa, and

Internationally, to the advancement of the medical profession, strengthening of healthcare systems, medical ethics, as well as promotion of the well-being, rights and autonomy of physicians. Since the year 2006 when he first attended a World Medical Association (WMA) General Assembly during the 57th WMA General Assembly held in Pilanesberg, South Africa, Dr.Enabulele has actively participated in several Council sessions, Committee meetings and General Assemblies of the World Medical Association.

His work at the international level is centered on a strong resolve and commitment to work with his colleagues around the world to engender better health care across the globe and promote the ideals and objectives of the WMA, particularly as it concerns medical ethics, physician well-being, the rights and autonomy of physicians, and Universal health coverage.

Courtesy: [wma.net](http://wma.net)



# Epelle, Jake

Jake Epelle believes Nigerians with albinism are on the verge of overcoming age-long social stigma and inequalities, thanks to the advocacy efforts of the United Nations and of his organisation which works to empower persons with albinism and educate society on albinism related issues in Nigeria and the world.

A few months after The Albino Foundation began its operations on the 5th of May 2006, he sensed a strong urge to passionately embark upon an aggressive advocacy campaign with enormous zeal to correct the negative impacts of

several years of discrimination and stigmatisation. He is determined to confront the lingering abuse and disregard for respect and dignity of life that he have witnessed as a person with albinism, and ensure that No individual with albinism will have to go through same experiences in my lifetime.

With God on his side, little education and less than an average income and no hands-on experience in social sector, he aunched the foundation whose vision is “a society with equal opportunities for persons with albinism.” With the support and help from close family and friends who are

sympathetic towards my plight, I stepped out to achieve the foundation’s mission”.

Looking back, after years of hard work, commitment and determination to see attitudinal change within society, focused policy drive and mainstreaming of albinism into various Government programmes and projects, he can beat his chest and say that this present and future generations of people with albinism will never be the same again.





*Eyinfunjowo* **Eyinfunjowo,**  
Rahmat

Rahmat is the Co-Founder/Co-CEO (Operations) at Nourishing Africa where she leads the company's membership engagement activities and internal business operations.

Rahmat has spent the past 3 years on consulting projects in the agriculture sector, providing project implementation and advisory services on key agricultural value chains in Nigeria including cocoa and cassava. Rahmat has provided business development services to a tech start-up in Northern Nigeria, helping to raise funding from a World Bank sponsored program; worked with

smallholder farmers on a cocoa sustainability project across Southwest Nigeria; and provided backstopping support for a pioneer early generation seed enterprise in Ibadan, Nigeria.

Rahmat holds a Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture with a specialization in Soil Science and Land Resource Management from the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria.



## Eze, Jerry Uchechukwu

Jerry Uchechukwu Eze is the Lead Pastor of Streams of Joy International. With one too many evidences, Streams of joy is beyond a church but an unprecedented revolution, a movement breaking limits, ravaging long standing systems and structures, crossing lines and taking the world by storm with currently over 15 branches spread out through Africa, Canada, The United States, The United Kingdom in just 8 years since her inception.

Pastor Jerry Eze is also the convener of the largest, ever growing online prayer meeting – NSPPD [New Season Prophetic Prayers & Declarations] that is attended by thousands across all social media daily and very famous for incredibly notable creative miracles and strange acts of God springing forth from all

corners – Barren women carrying their babies, The blind seeing, the lame walking, cancer, sickle cell and other terminal diseases being kicked out and even the dead rising!

The Impact of this Global prayer platform has indeed been massive, the evidences are undeniable, bringing the entire world to a standstill and catching the attention of renown global institutions such as the CNN amongst many others who have gone as far as rating Pastor Jerry's YouTube Chanel as number 1 in the world with factual statistics and the 2nd Most viewed Ministry in the World. It is also ranked as the Most watched Live channel in Nigeria [Leading in all parameters: Daily, weekly and monthly]. The Channel with the Most Live Viewers in Nigeria. [Leading in all parameters: Daily, weekly and

monthly] amongst many others. As they say, Pastor Jerry's level of influence through the NSPPD is a phenomenon worthy of in-depth study, this manner of success in the use of Social Media to advance a cause is completely unprecedented. Indeed, What God Cannot do, does not exist.

Asides His widely acclaimed best selling devotional, Pastor Jerry Eze has written other life transforming books such as:

- Streams of Joy Daily Devotional (Best Seller)
- Supernatural Parenting
- Am I making a mistake?
- My Night Thoughts Volumes 1-4
- Resplendent Relationships



## *Falana* **Falana,** Folarin

Folarin Falana better known by his stage name Falz, is a rapper, songwriter and actor who began his career while in secondary school after forming a group called The School Boys with his friend before his professional career as a music artist began in 2009. Falz became more well-known after releasing the song "Marry Me" featuring vocals from Poe and Yemi Alade.

He currently owns an independent record label called Bahd Guys Records. He released his debut album Wazup Guy in 2014. His second album Stories That Touch was released in 2015. He released 27 in 2017, and his fourth studio album Moral Instruction in 2019.

Thereafter, he has released several hit songs.

During the 2023 elections, he was a strong voice for increased participation and youth involvement in Nigerian politics, as well as other issues like voter apathy and electoral malpractice.

The trained lawyer and musician crowned his activism in the 2023 elections by satirising the elec



## *Folawiyo* Tunde

Tunde Folawiyo, a scion of the famous Folawiyo family in Lagos Nigeria, is the Chairman of Global Citizen Nigeria. He has been honored with various positions that allow him to implement a variety of initiatives to promote the success of the African youth. With his work as a Goodwill Ambassador and his involvement as a member of the Duke of Edinburgh's World Fellowship, a global network of philanthropists focused on encouraging youth development, Tunde Folawiyo has made great strides in fostering tomorrow's leaders.

Folawiyo is an authentic philanthropist. He understands the value of working with others to achieve set objectives. Compassion, collaboration, and cooperation are the fulcrums of his actions.

Babatunde is also the Chairman/Chief Executive Officer of the Yinka Folawiyo Group, a conglomerate with interests in energy, agriculture, shipping and real estate. The oil exploration firm, Yinka Folawiyo Petroleum, owns a 60% participating interest in the Aje Oil and gas field on OML 113 offshore Lagos. This is the first producing field outside of the Niger-Delta in Nigeria. Tunde founded Folawiyo Energy Limited, a subsidiary of the Yinka Folawiyo Group in partnership with Glencore Energy, which has successfully run a World Class petroleum storage facility with a capacity to store 66,000 MT of petroleum products. He is Chairman of YFPower Limited, ENYO Retail & Supply Limited, a fuels retailing and renewable energy products company. ENYO operates eighty-five (85) plus fuel retail stations across

eighteen (18) states in Nigeria.

Tunde served as a Non-Executive Director of MTN Nigeria, the premier GSM provider in Nigeria for 18 years from 2001-2019, was a Non-Executive Director of Ecobank Mali for 5 years from 2000 to 2005 and Access Bank Plc where he retired meritoriously after his statutory 12-year term.

He is the Honorary Consul of Barbados in Nigeria. He is a fellow of the Duke of Edinburgh's World Fellowship and a member of the Global Advisory Board of the African Leadership Academy, a pan-African institute dedicated to developing and mentoring new generations of African leaders.



## *Fatai -* **Fatai-Banwo,** *anwo* **Khadijat**

Khadijat Fatai-Banwo is much more than a breast cancer survivor; to many she is seen as a breast cancer hero. Khadijat was diagnosed with HER2-positive breast cancer in 2010, at age 41. Today, as a 10-year cancer survivor, she is a strong supporter and a shoulder to lean on for other women diagnosed with cancer. She is also one of the leading voices in advocating for cancer care to become a national health priority in Nigeria.

Khadijat is a loving mother of 3 and sadly lost her husband just 7 days after undergoing surgery for a radical single mastectomy. Khadijat's cancer diagnosis changed her entire life, especially as she was faced with many treatment challenges in Nigeria,

where access to healthcare is limited. In 2013, Khadijat and her team started Project PINK BLUE (PPB), an initiative that is focused on educating the community on breast, cervical, womb, and other gynecologic cancers. PPB provides free cancer screenings, navigation for patients with cancer, and training for nurses, and raises funds to support indigent patients with cancer in their communities. Khadijat has spearheaded fundraising activities for numerous patients with cancer in her community. Most recently, she and her team raised funds for 3 indigent patients with cancer. Khadijat was instrumental in the development of the first Breast Cancer Navigation and Palliative

Program at PPB, and she helped to secure a grant from the Union for International Cancer Control. She works as the Breast Navigator at PPB, her second career after working for the Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS in Nigeria (NEPWHAN). Her experience at NEPWHAN and her cancer diagnosis compelled Khadijat to care for patients with cancer, caregivers, loved ones, and their families. Khadijat is also a certified patient navigator at George Washington Cancer Center in Washington, DC, and has co-authored several cancer-related abstracts and research articles. Courtesy: [conquer-magazine.com](http://conquer-magazine.com)



*Gbadegehin* **Gbadegehin,**  
Tariye

Tariye is the Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, ARM-Harith Infrastructure Investment LTD. An investment professional with over 20 years' experience in finance, principal investments, and infrastructure, Tariye has mobilized over US\$3 billion of capital for infrastructure projects across the African continent.

Tariye is a member of the Advisory Council of the Millennium Challenge Corporation in Washington D.C., and the Advisory Committee on Infrastructure for the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investing (PRI). She is also the co-chair of the steering committee

for the Voluntary Carbon Markets Integrity Initiative launched by the UK Government and the Children's International Investment Fund.

Her global experience includes roles at the Africa Finance Corporation, the International Monetary Fund, the Boston Consulting Group, & Price Waterhouse Coopers. Tariye holds a bachelor's degree in Economics from Amherst College, and an MBA from the Harvard Business School.



*Gidari*

## **Gidari – Wudil,** Engr. Tasiu Saad

*Wudil*

Engr. Tidari-Wudil is a man with passion for the development of young engineers, and protection of the dignity of the Nigerian engineer. He has served at various levels in Jos, Bauchi and Maitama Branches. He served on various boards and in committees at the NSE National level. He has been on COREN and NBTE accreditation teams.

Engr. Tidari-Wudil superintended the Engineering Bureau Service Department and Board (Engineering Manpower Bureau, Cost Indices and Infrastructural Score Card Committee, Accreditation Committee). He was the pivot of the implementation of the Computer Based Test for NSE corporate examination. He also championed the creation of the Energy Audit Study Group. The EBS Board under his leadership introduced the Engineering Product Endorsement Scheme which

is yet to be approved by Council. He has excellently represented the NSE President on several occasions and chaired Council meeting for some moment holding brief for the President.

Born on the 12th September, 1962 at Wudil, in Kano State, he is the current President of NSE. Engr. Wudil holds a Master of Engineering in Electrical Engineering (Power & Machines) and Bachelor of Engineering in Electrical Engineering (Power & Machines) from Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi. Currently, Engr. Tidari-Wudil is a PhD student at the Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University Bauchi.

**Working Experience**

Engr. T. S. G-Wudil is a Fellow of the Nigerian Society of Engineers since May, 2013; a Senior Member, Institute of Electrical and Electronics

Engineers (IEEE), New York, USA; Pioneer Chair of the Power & Energy Society, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Nigeria Chapter; Member Nigerian Institute of Management; Member Association of Energy Engineers (AEE); and a Professional Member, American Society of Safety Engineers, ASSE. Professional Registration and Certifications

Engr. Tidari-Wudil was registered with COREN in 2001 and is the first Nigerian Engineer to be Certified Regulatory Specialist. He is also Certified Public Private Partnership Specialist both from Institute of Public Private Partnership (IP3) Washington DC. He is Certified Energy Manager, CEM(R)



## *Hamirah* **Hamirah,** Yali

Hamirah is a talented and versatile individual with a passion for creativity and collaboration. As a graduate of the University of Calabar, Yali has worked as a social media and community manager for a range of local and European brands, helping them to tell their stories and maintain a strong brand image. Additionally, Yali is an accomplished photographer and content creator, with a keen eye for detail and a commitment to delivering high-quality results.

As an ALX alumni and certified virtual assistant, Yali is dedicated to lifelong learning and growth. With a natural talent for leadership and collaboration, Yali is a

creative force to be reckoned with, always seeking out new opportunities to inspire and empower those around her. Whether through her work in the tech world or her love of art and good food, Yali is committed to making a positive impact on her community and helping others to see the light.

Overall, Yali Hamirah is a dynamic and accomplished individual with a bright future ahead of her. With her diverse skills and passion for excellence, she is sure to achieve great things and make a lasting impact on the world around her.





## Igini, Mr. Michael

Although he studied law, which would have ordinarily paved the way for him to become a judge, nature seems to have charted a different course for Mike Igini. It happens that in his new calling as a Resident Electoral Commissioner, Igini's learning and exposure seem to have prepared him to adjudicate in the affairs of men. What is more, he was students union president during the tumultuous years when Nigeria's Ivory Tower Iron Lady, Prof. Grace Alele-Williams, presided over the University of Benin, Benin City. So, in a sense Igini had seen the worse of recalcitrant administrators and did not bend or bow.

By nature of its structure and business, the job of presiding over elections in Nigeria is akin to that of a law court, where the judge must be impartial, but must do and be seen to do equity. Therefore, like Caesar's wife the electoral commissioner must

be above suspicion. But in the life and times of Igini, it could be said that though suspicion might abound, wearing the shield of integrity becomes his strength and song.

Against the background of recent national elections in Nigeria, the person of Igini comes off as metaphor of the nation's quest for rebirth and renewal.

Emboldened by his focus on purpose, Igini was able to stand face to face with his challengers and traducers to boldly declare: "If there is any, just one politician, who can come forward publicly that I sat with him or her to do anything for him or his party to win election, he should tell Nigerians."

Igini's message to Nigerians ring true, because as he said, "if we create deprived families, we harvest desperate and unethical citizens." In

Igini therefore could be found the public officer as a defender of the dispossessed and deprived citizens.

By insisting that votes count, Igini cast himself as an electoral shepherd dog to chase corner-cutting politicians back to the people.

But it was in his preparation for the job and determination to toe the path of moral rectitude that Igini triumphed against the forces of retrogression. With his yeoman's job in Akwa Ibom State, Igini has spread a national backcloth to put the last election in perspective, because he allowed himself to be used as a guinea pig of integrity. He may not attain further heights in the consideration of corrupt politicians, but in him is an example for the willing ones to walk in the steps of integrity!

Courtesy: The Guardian



## Ikeji, Linda

Linda Ikeji started blogging in 2006 but only became an active blogger in 2007. It took her five years to build her career and ever since, she has been raking in her millions. Her site is one of the most visited in the country, with thousands of visitors from all over the world. She is currently the highest paid blogger in Nigeria, this has earned her the title “Queen of Blogging” in Nigeria.

In August 2012, Forbes Africa described her as a success and a case study for the business of blogging. She earns over 20 million naira monthly from online advertisement, with thousands of followers on Twitter and Facebook likes. Linda Ikeji’s blog won the best entertainment blog as well as the Nigerian blog of the year in the 2012 Nigerian blogger awards.

Linda’s blog – LindaIkeji.Blogspot.com was declared the Outstanding Blogger of the Year and Best Gossip and Gist Blog in 2014 Media Board Awards. She was interviewed by BBC in 2012 in London which is a worthy recognition for her efforts and achievement in blogging. Linda was quoted by CNN in an article about Jaden and Willow Smith’s Interview.

In 2019, she was named African Media Personality of the Year. The award was conferred on her at the African Achievers Awards which held in the UK.



## *Irabor* General Leo

General Leo Irabor has, since assuming office as Chief of Defence Staff upped the ante. His performance has proved that gallantry and military success is not what is discussed on the pages of newspapers but more a matter of strategy. He has quietly prosecuted the war against terror in Nigeria with huge success.

General Leo Irabor, like many heroic war generals in history, is a true war commander and defender. He has shone light in the dark recesses of the terrorism and banditry that has enveloped Nigeria in the last 10 years or thereabout. Before he became the 17th Chief of Defence Staff in January 2021, he served as Theatre Commander of Operation Lafia

Dole, which later became Operation Hadin Kai. Before his assumption of office as CDS, the country was swallowed in insecurity. Businesses and particularly farming suffered greatly in the North East, and a lot of people lost their source of livelihood. In the South East and South South, there were sad tales of criminality. To God's glory, the General Irabor-led administration as the Chief of Defence Staff ushered in solutions to many of these malaises, and he is still working.

General Irabor has reasonably cracked down on the security crises that were perpetuated by Boko Haram, the Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP), kidnappers, and

other kinds of threats to the collective peace of the Nigerian people. Under the leadership of General Irabor, many security and intelligence services were organized. He authored gender policy for the Armed Forces and built a very healthy relationship between the Nigerian Army and other countries' armed forces. This is spectacular. Some of those countries are the Niger Republic, Chad, etc. Through his intervention, so many abducted citizens have gained freedom from the hands of their captors. This is a significant feat.



## *Ishoka* **Ishoka,** Dr. (Mrs.) Betty

If there is one person that is concerned about Nigerian women, and in fact, women of African descent all over the world having beautiful hair while maintaining their health, it is Dr(Mrs) Betty Ishoka, the National President of NIGERIAN ASSOCIATION OF HAIRSTYLISTS & COSMETOLOGISTS.

She has continued the legacy of previous leaderships in the promotion of made-in-Nigerian products and this has significantly changed the face of professional hairdressing and

cosmetology by not only being the users of the products, but also being able to dictate the quality and presentations of the products through serving of analysts consultants to our manufacturers.

She has facilitated regular interactions through meetings, manufacturers' seminars and demonstration and exchange of ideas and expertise. This has fostered the improvement of not only the practice of the profession but more particularly in understanding the manufacturers prescribed steps of product usage for

optimum results

Unknown to many people, the professional training of hairdressing and cosmetology has been accepted by the National Board of Technical Education (NBTE), through the activities of NASHCO with the first NASHCO president, Mrs. E.Osinsanya JP, serving on the board. The association prepares the components of the curriculum dealing with the theory, practice, and related studies in cosmetology.



## Isichei, Dr. Christian

In Jos, Nigeria, a city often rocked by violence where poverty levels are high and AIDS runs rampant, Dr. Christian Isichei's Faith Alive hospital shines like a beacon of hope. For the past 18 years, Christian has been committed to providing free health care for Jos's poor. Since starting the hospital with just \$333, this Haggai International alumnus has grown his vision from a staff of one to approximately 150; from a four-room apartment to a three-floor hospital complex. And he's still not done.

"I desire to plant free hospitals, clinics, and social services as vehicles of the Gospel in other parts of Africa," he says. "I dream of another Mayo Clinic in Africa, starting here in Nigeria." Christian credits his Haggai

International training with providing the skills he needed to accomplish the next phase of his life.

"I've set goals, accomplished and even surpassed almost all of them, and I'm setting even more goals," he says.

Included in those goals is mentoring. "I've taught formal and informal mentorship classes. I mentor about 600 medical students and others yearly."

His extraordinary life story has inspired a book: *Faith Alive: Stories of Hope and Healing from an African Doctor and His Hospital*, written by Erika Nossokoff. The book details the amazing stories surrounding Christian and his staff – all pointing back to His faith and the evidence of God working among the patients.

The hospital is just one facet of Christian's focus, though. His foundation also provides skills acquisition classes, such as sewing, catering, and computer skills, along with school scholarships and transitional living housing. In addition, he has launched an HIV/AIDS monthly support group, a Celebrate Recovery program, and a daycare center.

He says, "Our mission statement is, 'to serve humanity by expressing God's love through compassionate, voluntary services and the provision of free holistic health care and social services for improved quality of life.'"

Courtesy: [missionfinder.org](http://missionfinder.org)



Itodo

## Itodo, Samson

Samson Itodo is a community organizer and development practitioner with 13 years of experience in elections, parliamentary strengthening, constitution building, youth development, and community organizing.

He led the movement for the reduction of age limits for running for public office in Nigeria. He has facilitated legislation and policies on constitutional and electoral governance, civic engagement, public accountability, and national development. He also provides strategic policy advice to parliamentary committees, electoral commissions, political parties, and international donors. Under his leadership, Yiaga Africa has emerged as a leading civic organization promoting political inclusion, electoral integrity, and public accountability in Africa through citizens' engagement, data, technology, and policy advocacy. He has initiated numerous democracy and citizens' engagement projects in Gambia, Ghana, Sierra Leone, and Ethiopia. Itodo is invested in building the next generation of leaders with the requisite capacity, character, and competence to transform Africa.

Itodo previously served as lead consultant for International IDEA on the development of a strategy for mitigating electoral and political violence in Cameroun, Guinea, Ghana, Rwanda, and Zimbabwe. He also served as Research Facilitator for United States Institute for Peace (USIP) on Transparency and Accountability movements in Nigeria. Itodo also served on the National Assembly's institutional reforms committee to design a strategic framework to strengthen Nigeria's National Assembly. He is currently engaged as a member of the steering committee for the preparation of Nigeria's Medium-Term Development plan (2021 - 2025) and Nigeria's Agenda 2050. He is the co-chair of the Focal Group for the Nigerian Youth Investment Fund, a fund established by the government of Nigeria to fund youth enterprise and innovation. The impact of his work earned him recognition from international and local organizations. In 2018, he was appointed by the Gates Foundation as a Goalkeeper and honored by the National Democratic Institute (NDI) Washington DC as 2018 Rising Democracy leader in Africa. He is the

winner of the popular The Future Africa Award Young Person of the Year 2018 award and the Leadership Newspaper 2018 Outstanding Young Person of the Year award. He is a fellow of the prestigious Archbishop Desmond Tutu Leadership program. In 2017 and 2018, he was recognized amongst YNAIJA's ten most powerful names in advocacy and 100 Most Influential People in Nigerian Politics. He is a fellow of the Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance at the University of Cape Town; International Visitors Leadership Program of the US Department of State, Swedish Visitors Leadership Program, European Union Visitors Program (EUVP) and the UK International Leaders Program. In March 2020, he was recognized by the United Embassy in Nigeria as a Nigerian Star for his achievement and service. His work has been featured by local and international media stations such as Aljazeera, CNN, BBC, RFI, CCTV, SABC, etc. He holds a bachelor's and master's degree in Law and he has a Master of Public Policy candidate at the University of Oxford Blavatnik School of Government.



*Johnson* **Johnson,**  
Yvonne

Yvonne Johnson is the Co-founder/CEO of Indicina – a FinTech infrastructure start-up focused on Africa. Yvonne Johnson is a strategic thinker with a demonstrated ability to influence change by leveraging innovative solutions. She comes with over a decade of leadership experience supporting executive management on strategy within Financial Services. Most recently, Yvonne led the Strategy team of a Tier 1 Nigerian banking group. She received her MBA at the Kellogg School of Management where she graduated on

the Kellogg Dean's List and was a recipient of the Donald P. Jacobs International Scholarship. At the Bank, Yvonne led the Strategy function for the Commercial Banking Group including its local and international subsidiaries. Notably, she led the efforts in defining a Digital Finance strategy for the Bank including the launch of its first ever innovation hub. An Honors graduate of the University of Toronto, her previous work experience includes Merrill Lynch Investment Banking, Diamond Management & Technology

Consultants as well as Community Lab in New York, where as Director of Process & Execution strategy, she worked directly with the CEO of this non-profit organization to define their overall implementation strategies and negotiate partnerships with local development agencies. Yvonne is also an early stage investor/adviser in Pan-African technology start-ups, notably Andela and Flutterwave. Courtesy: [theplatformnigeria.com](https://theplatformnigeria.com)



# *Liman* **Liman, Blessing**

39-year-old Blessing Liman has been praised as the first female captain in the Presidential Air-fleet. Blessing who was enlisted into the Nigerian Air Force in July and was commissioned on 9th December, 2011 hails from Zango Kataf, Kaduna. She was on the SP-24A set of pilots and they were referred to as the Knight of the Air. She was commissioned as a Combat Flying officer alongside 126 others who finished the direct short service course 2010/2011 Cadets of the 325 Ground Training Group at the Nigerian Air Force Base, Kaduna. Vice president, Yemi Osinbajo recently praised her in

commemoration of International Woman's Day. "I had a conversation with Blessing in her cockpit after the flight and I am delighted to note that Blessing is now one of five female pilots in the Nigerian Air Force and one of two that fly the President and I. Blessing is now also the first female captain in the Presidential Air-fleet. "Capt. Liman and the five other female pilots are great examples of what is possible when we are intentional about providing equal opportunities for women everywhere. And all speak to "Gender Equality in Roles" – the theme for this year's International Women's Day. "Women make up half of our population in

Nigeria, but today discriminatory practices and old thinking mean that a significant percentage of half our population, possibly the smarter half(!) is not contributing as much as they can to our national prosperity. We can change that story. Happy International Women's day." Courtesy: Gist Mania





## *Madubuko* Madubuko, Chika

Another sector in the Nigerian startup space where techpreneurs are changing the game is health care. In 2016, Chika Madubuko launched her health care technology company, Greymate Care, after a member of her family fell ill. The company provides on-demand care for vulnerable patients.

"Greymate Care was born out of personal pain, which was finding a caregiver for my grandmother when she was sick. It was pretty gruesome in my family then because my mom and sister would try to balance their own lives trying to move her between both houses, you know, trying to find a caregiver," Madubuko told CNN.

According to Madubuko, Greymate Care now manages over 1,000 caregivers, all of whom are trained in food hygiene, principal

care, health and safety, and emergency first aid.

It works as an online platform where patients in need of care can select the type of services they require and be matched with the appropriate caregivers.

For Madubuko, Greymate Care's origins are personal. While studying at university in England, she volunteered in a hospital as a caregiver. "I learned to be a passionate and a very efficient caregiver," she said. "And today I tell people that I am the best person to run Greymate Care because I have been on the supply side where I was a caregiver and demand side where I needed care."

Courtesy: CNN



*Malo*

## **Malo,** Ms. Ifeoma

Ifeoma Malo is an organizational management expert with over 23 years' experience, building and directing organizational policy and strategy in energy and large scale utility markets, public health, bio technology, leadership, change management and infrastructure finance. She is the Co-Founder/CEO, Clean Technology Hub Nigeria. Ifeoma Malo was previously the Country Director for Power for All where she drove the market and community development campaign for decentralized renewable energy in Nigeria through the initiation of participatory in-country regional programs and activities. She was also the Senior Technical adviser to Nigeria's Honorable Minister of Power and provided senior strategy advisory to advance electricity access, built communities and livelihoods and provided a more stable,

sustainable and secure energy future across Nigeria. Ms. Ifeoma is a Caux Scholar, African Leadership PIA Fellow, Desmond Tutu Fellow, Crans Montana New Leader Fellow, Acumen West Africa Fellow and also the Global Leadership Academy-We Africa Network. She is a Commonwealth Leaders Scholar-CSC Leaders. She is also a member of boards that include: Greenpeace International, Access to Energy Institute (AE21), Extractive 360 and Norrenberger Financial Service. Clean Technology Hub Nigeria is a pioneering hybrid hub for the research, development, demonstration and incubation of clean and green ideas and technologies in Africa, and their validation for commercial-stage development. The Hub was founded in 2016 and is located in Abuja, with virtual hubs spread across the country.



## *Mande* **Mande,** Nura

Nura Mande, a policeman, was reported by an online newspaper, Katsina City News, to have returned 800 dollars belonging to a female pilgrim in Katsina State, that she lost; and on account of that heroic act, the online newspaper doled out N250,000 to him.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) recalls that a female pilgrim lost the money at the Katsina Hajj camp while preparing for a trip to Saudi Arabia for the just concluded hajj. The money was presented to Mande at the Police Headquarters in Katsina by a member of the State House of Assembly, Alhaji Ali Abu-Albaba, on behalf of the newspaper. Abu-Albaba said that the newspaper

decided to honour the police Constable for his honesty and integrity.

“Not everyone can find such money at a place where no one was looking, and return it to the owner.

“We are presenting this money and the certificate to him so that it can encourage his colleagues and other members of the public to always remain honest

“If he had taken the money and did not return it, because no one was seeing him, God had seen him and he must account for it someday.

“But due to his honesty and good character, he has now generated respect for himself and the entire police force, because many people

have been commending him,” he added.

Abu-Albaba recalled that a hajj seat had been paid for by the policeman by another person, to perform the 2023 pilgrimage.

He urged other well-meaning Nigerians to honour people around them who display positive characters.



*Mbamalu*

## Mbamalu, Cynthia Onyinye

Cynthia is a dedicated human and gender rights advocate and a development practitioner. A lawyer by profession with an LLM in Comparative Constitutional Law from the Central European University (CEU), she specializes in human and women rights advocacy, youth leadership development, constitution building and elections. She is passionate about gender rights and democratic governance and believes in promoting inclusive and participatory governance to achieve sustainable development and democracy. As a co-founder of Yiaga Africa, she has dedicated the past 16 years to development work specifically targeted at building sustainable democracies, promoting political inclusion and human rights. She manages the Annual Democracy Camp for teenagers with over 2000 beneficiaries and the Youth Organizing School for young people

in Nigeria and West Africa on how to organize for Policy Advocacy and Civic Engagement with about 280 beneficiaries. She is also one of the leaders of the Not Too Young to Run movement, the Ready to Run campaign and the #RunToWinNG initiative committed to promoting young men and women political leadership and democratic participation. Currently, serving as the Director of Programs for Yiaga Africa, she leads on the engagement with the Legislature on Electoral Reform and Constitutional review for a gender-sensitive Constitution and Laws that promotes women's political inclusion and gender equality in Nigeria. She is also committed to legislative advocacy for an effective legal framework to respond to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Nigeria. She provides mentorship to a cohort of young female politicians and young women under different

initiatives. □ □ Cynthia Mbamalu has participated in several election observation missions and studies internationally and nationally. She leads on the #WatchingTheVote project which is a data and tech-driven movement of citizen observers committed to promoting electoral integrity. □ □ She is an alumna of the; Harvard Kennedy School of Government Executive Program on Leadership, Organizing and Action, Central European University (CEU) on Constitution-Building in Africa, the University of South Africa (UNISA) on Management of Democratic Elections in Africa and the University of Cape Town on Leading in Public Life; Women, Influence Power Programme.



*Ndubuisi* **Ndubuisi,**  
Belle Anne C.

In the last three years, Bella has been working to strengthen US-Nigeria relations through public and cultural diplomacy. She has strong interest in developing the capacity of adolescents to impact their world. She has spent most of her professional career working with young people especially in building their leadership capacity and forging a career path. She also serves in an advisory capacity to youth led CSOs. She enjoys singing; find languages fascinating; and loves to interact with and meet new people. She also gets a kick out of writing and had her first foray into journalism working as a project

manager for Metropole, an Abuja-based lifestyle magazine.

EDUCATION: M.A.

International Development Studies; Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, B.Sc. International Relations, French; Lincoln University, Pennsylvania

SERVICE IN HUB Current: SHAPE-UP Mentoring

(#AbujaSUM) Manager, Past: Curator (2014-2015); Global

Shaper since October 2012

Courtesy: [abujaglobalshapers.org](http://abujaglobalshapers.org)



## Nduka-Oyom, Ada

Ada Nduka Oyom is a Developer Relations and Community Expert. She is the Founder of She Code Africa, a non-profit organization that is focused on empowering young girls and women in Africa through technical skills.

As founder of She Code Africa, Ada is dedicated to empowering women and girls across the continent to pursue careers in technology by providing training, mentorship, and networking opportunities to help them achieve their goals.

She Code Africa has grown rapidly since its inception, and has become a leading voice in the technology industry in Africa. The organization has trained thousands of women in coding, data science, and other technology skills.

She Code Africa has also partnered

with tech companies like Facebook, Google, and GitHub to provide mentorship and internship opportunities for women in technology.

One of the key initiatives of She Code Africa is its coding bootcamps, which provide intensive training in programming languages such as Python, Java, and JavaScript. The bootcamps are designed to help women and girls acquire the skills they need to succeed in the technology industry, regardless of their educational background or previous experience.

She Code Africa also offers mentorship programs, which connect women with experienced professionals in the technology industry who can provide guidance

and support as they navigate their careers. In addition, She Code Africa hosts networking events, hackathons, and other community-building activities that help women and girls connect with each other and build a supportive network.

Ada's vision for She Code Africa is to create a world where women and girls have equal access to technology education and career opportunities. She believes that by empowering women in technology, we can unlock the full potential of the industry and drive innovation and growth across the continent.



*Ndume*

## Ndume, Senator Ali

One politician, especially from the North, who does not prevaricate or equivocate to be politically correct is the senator representing Borno South Senatorial District in the National Assembly, Ali Ndume. In a country where playing to the gallery has become the norm, Ndume is a lone voice in the wilderness. He is always blunt when he discusses the security situation of the country.

Even as a chieftain of the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC), Ndume does not always fail to take on President Muhammadu Buhari when the need arises. Recently, he wondered why the president does not always directly address the nation on security matters as it is done in advanced democracies, rather than issuing statements through his media advisers.

In 2003, Ndume was elected to represent his people of Chibok/Dambo/Gwoza Federal Constituency in the House of Representatives on the platform of All Nigeria People Party (ANPP): a position he occupied from 2003 – 2011. On the inauguration of the sixth (6th) Assembly in 2007, he was unanimously elected as the Minority Leader and served creditably

In December 2010 barely 100 days to 2011 elections Ndume decamped to the PDP. He was elected to the Senate for Borno South, Borno State, Nigeria in April 2011 running on the People's Democratic Party (PDP) ticket. He decamped to All Progressive Congress and In 2015, he was re-elected under the platform of the All Progressives Congress (APC) having defected to the party in the build up to the general election.



## Nwachukwu, Captain Paul Adamu

He literally lives his life for others. In Abuja, his house is perpetually a beehive of activities. His office is no less. It's like pilgrimage also for tons of people who come looking for one kind of help or another. In his neighbourhood, it is common knowledge that Captain Paul Adamu Nwachukwu is a destiny helper. Helping the vulnerable is his second nature. Across the length and breadth of Abuja, testimonies of those that have benefited from his philanthropy abound.

A retired captain whose has amassed over 20,000 flight hours, Captain Paul, as he is popularly known, does not like to see people distressed. He has a heart to solve problems to the extent of his limits. A God-fearing man, Captain Paul seeks to do as much good to people he meets as possible. To him, every man is a brother and every woman is a sister who is welcome to his home or office anytime because he is willing to share all he has because life, to him, is vanity and it's only worth it when you

share with fellow human beings. Born to a Fulani mother from the ruling emirate, and to an Abia father, Captain Paul embodies the true Nigerian spirit. Captain Paul Adamu Nwachukwu is a personification of a detribalised Nigerian. He has imbued in himself the qualities similar to the symbol of justice ( the blind woman with the scale and a sword ready to dispense justice fairly, equitably and based on the weight of evidence before her.) The hallmark of Fairness. Creed, race, colour are immaterial to Captain when he interfaces with his fellow human beings. He is a mentor to so many and a groomer of children from cradle to adulthood (the godfather figure). Adamu is simple, light hearted and cheerful. You cannot come to him sad and go back in the same mood, even his aura and softly spoken words will lift your spirit. Captain Paul loves and relates with people across all socio- cultural divides and connects with their cultures and customs as though he

was born into them. No wonder he is an idiolect/ multi-linguist. He's a man that savours his relationships. His relationships are enduring and last for decades. For instance, his path with Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu crossed over 30 years ago and both of them have maintained that relationship till date. Captain Paul was, at that time, the sole importer of MUSSO JEEP made by Ssangyong Auto Industry powered by Mercedes Benz in South Korea. When Asiwaju was running for the Governorship of Lagos in 1998, Captain Paul supported his ambition with two of those Korean-made jeeps for his campaign. Significantly, over 25 years after, the cars are still parked in Captain's Abuja house. For those who have known him for decades, they simply look back and say "they have been friends with a living angel" and God bless the day that they met him."





*Nwavid*

## Nwavid, Charles

The real estate industry in Nigeria is set to witness massive innovation and uncommon ingenuity with the crop of young and vibrant individuals taking charge of the sector right now. One of these innovators is Mr. Charles Nwavid, CEO of ChaviD Properties Limited. Nwavid's plan is to build 80,000 housing units across the world by 2040

Nwavid Charles is a young entrepreneur who is the Founded & CEO of ChaviD Properties Limited, a real estate development company specializing in building and managing luxury residential and commercial properties in Abuja, Nigeria. He has a degree in Accounting from University of Abuja, Construction Project management certification from Columbia University and has won numerous awards for his contributions to the real estate industry in Nigeria.



*Nwankwo*  
**Nwankwo,**  
Kanu

The legendary footballer is listed here not for his football wizardry but for his philanthropic gestures in the area of health. He is the founder of Kanu Nwankwo Heart Foundation (KHF).

The Foundation helps indigent Nigerian children with heart diseases to obtain life-saving surgeries within and outside Nigeria

Since its launch in 2000 and in pursuit of its vision, KHF has successfully helped 538 children of varying ages get open heart surgeries across the world.

The Foundation is proposing to build and equip an ultramodern Cardiac Centre in Abuja. The project will perform at least 250 open heart surgeries annually when completed.



## Nwaora, **Tochukwu Fabian**

One of the fastest growing sectors of the economy in Nigeria is Real Estate and it has been generating rave reviews from all walks of life. One Nigerian that has continued to make positive impact within and out the sector is 29-year-old entrepreneur and humanist, Tochukwu Fabian Nwaora, CEO, Gianni Capital LLC, Executive Director EFAB Properties, First Generation Mortgage Bank, Top Rank hotel chain and EFAB Petroleum.

The change maker from Nnewi in Anambra State, Nigeria, is a Business Management Professional and a marketing expert with over 7 years of experience in real estate development and hospitality management.

His love affair with real estate started while he was an undergraduate at the university, where he was opportune to have accommodations on and off campus.

According to him, "I started off with subletting my accommodation that was situated off campus because I was hardly ever there and I ended up earning some real cash over time. It was during that period that I realised

the enormous potential that lies in real estate. My academic journey and the fact that my family is well into the real estate business made my journey into the world of real estate a smooth one," he said.

Nwaora who said he enjoys all aspects of real estate from the pre-development stage to the construction stage, from the post development stage to the selling/marketing stages believes that before someone can be hired as an estate agent or broker, certain factors must come into play. "I think the justification for hiring a real estate agent/broker depends on the needs and goals of the seller or buyer as the case may be. Real estate agents/brokers are adept at navigating the real estate market better than anyone else. They usually have extensive market knowledge, professional networks, negotiating skills, and can save time and energy. For instance, a seller/buyer that needs to buy/sell a particular number of units within a short time line and at a set price would most likely need an estate agent because of the skills that I have mentioned.

Also, for well-structured real estate

organisations, the recruitment of estate agents plays an important role in ensuring that the objective of the organizations is achieved," added. Though the nature of the job at Gianni Capital is project based. He revealed that their entire system of working is centered around robust and realistic project plans for real estate projects that they undertake. "With an effective project and administrative management system, we can ensure that at any point in time, the tasks performed are in line with the goals of the project." He explained.

The young and energetic entrepreneur, Tochukwu Fabian said though he's actually a real estate developer, he has acted as an agent a few times. "I would say in addition to the qualities I mentioned earlier, I think my biggest quality is the fact that I have tremendous foresight that enables me identify potential real estate opportunities," he concluded. Courtesy: vanguard newspaper



*Nwiloh*

## Nwiloh, Dr. Jonathan

Dr. Nwiloh has spent close to two decades of his medical career involved in philanthropic and humanitarian services. He is the founder of Global Eagle Foundation, an Atlanta, based NGO that organizes volunteer group of medical professionals that carries out charity cardiac surgeries and also help start and assist new open heart surgery programs in underdeveloped countries. He has received several awards including "Officer of the Order of the Niger" from the President, Federal Republic of Nigeria and the "Anambra Outstanding Public Servant Award" from the Governor in his State of origin.

Dr. Nwiloh has several scientific publications in peer review Journals and is the founding Editor of Nigerian Journal of Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery. He has been in private medical practice in Atlanta, GA, USA for over 2 decades. Dr. Nwiloh is a Knight of Magistral Grace, Order of Malta, the fourth oldest order of the Roman Catholic Church an International relief agency involved in humanitarian works. Dr. Jonathan Nwiloh attended medical school at the University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus. He subsequently pursued postgraduate training in General Surgery at College of Physicians & Surgeons, Columbia University, New York affiliated

hospital and Cardiothoracic Surgery training at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York affiliated hospital. Dr. Nwiloh is certified by the American Board of Surgery, American Board of Thoracic Surgery and Royal College of Surgeons of Canada. He is a fellow of several medical societies including American College of Surgeons and Royal College of Surgeons of Canada. He also belongs to several medical organizations including American College of Surgeons, Society of Thoracic Surgeons and Pan African Society of Cardiothoracic Surgeons. Courtesy: [Joenwilohheartfoundation.org](http://Joenwilohheartfoundation.org)



# Ocholi, Professor Ekundayo

Professor Ekundayo Ocholi is a Professor of Counselling Psychology in the Department of Guidance and Counselling, Faculty of Education, University of Abuja. She holds a Ph.D degree from the Ahmadu Bello University Zaria, 1998. She was Director, Center for Gender Security Studies and Youth Advancement, University of Abuja. She was Head of Department of Counselling and Educational Psychology, and served in many committees of the University at different times, she is presently the National President and Fellow, of the Association of Professional Counsellors in Nigeria (APROCON). She has been a teacher in all her working life, from primary school to

university, working for the development of youths and women, while also helping them harness their innovative and creative talents and channeling their youthful energy positively. As a counselling psychologist, she has helped many youths with abnormal behavior and thinking, gain good mental well-being. As Director of Center for Gender Security Studies and Youth Advancement, she presided over the activities of the Center of which the Center collaborated with so many ministries, agencies and non-government organization for the inclusion of women and youth in governance and particularly, on the giving of women and youth a voice. As a researcher she has conducted so

many local and international researches on women and youth inclusion and empowerment, leading to global recognition and laurels. She is a member of the 100 women lobby group which is a front runner of women inclusion in Nigeria. She is presently a board member of Action Aid Nigeria on a Canada grant sponsoring women voice in Nigeria. As President of the Association of Professional Counsellors in Nigeria (APROCON), she presides over all activities of professional counsellors and relates with the government on their behalf. She is married with four children.



## Ogbe, Nzan

Nzan Ogbe has dedicated his life to becoming a Social Justice Advocate with a goal to advocate for justice and equal rights for all people living with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). The passion with which Nzan has pursued his crusade has illuminated the often dark-clouded ecosystem of people living with autism. He is one of the few parents that are boldly open about their children's autism status.

Nzan is sharing solutions through The Zeebah Foundation, a non-profit organization he initiated to help families cope with and manage any children living on the spectrum by using his own experiences. According to him, Zeebah Foundation was established "to create awareness and share information about autism because children with autism have been unfairly blamed for their families' misfortunes".

Most importantly, the Foundation's advocacy has helped to demystify

autism and brought greater understanding and awareness to the peculiarities of this syndrome. Fear, shame, ignorance and stigma that are typically used to characterise families whose wards are living with autism are greatly reduced as a result of his advocacy and public education initiatives.

He can be referred to as a 'champion of autism awareness' due his charismatic advocacy. He spreads love and encouragement to families with children living on the spectrum. His advocacy has sparked significant interest and change.

Being a doting father of a remarkable, autistic son, and witnessing how difficult it is to fill that role, in addition to being pressured and restricted by a society that has not invested much interest in how to manage children with such challenges has made him empathetic and shaped his aspirations to beam as much light as possible on the developmental

disorder and is helping to get the attention of the relevant stakeholders. Nzan's advocacy has helped disillusioned families find hope. He offers the possibility of a better world, where children living with autism can develop their potential, maximise the opportunities around them, follow their dreams and fulfil their destinies.

On the practical side, his Foundation provides succour, empathy, and physical assistance to vulnerable families with autistic children with special needs.

Understanding the power of informed community action, he advocates for quality care and attention for all children living with autism. He believes that everyone's voice matters and is needed to create a better framework for the world. He is enjoining people of goodwill to join him to create a world which will be better than how we all met it.



## *Ogundele,* Sijibomi

Sijibomi Ogundele is the Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer of Sujimoto Group

Sijibomi can be described as a rose that grew from concrete. Mr. Ogundele, who built his company – Sujimoto Group, in few years into a Luxury Construction behemoth in Africa, focused on building extraordinary luxury edifices in premium neighbourhoods across Africa.

His look may be modest, but his ambitions are taller than the Burj Khalifa. With a current project portfolio of over \$450 million, Mr. Ogundele is not slowing down anytime soon as he has risen above his current environ to start planning projects in the Middle East. Despite the economic barriers and challenges, the 40 year old entrepreneur keeps filling his glass with new and more challenging projects not only in Africa but also in Dubai, Miami and Turkey.

Courtesy: [sujimotonig.com](http://sujimotonig.com)



## Ogundeyi, Oyindamola Honey

Ogundeyi is passionate about using technology to uplift Africa. A serial technology entrepreneur and Founder of Fashpa.com, an ecommerce platform for African Fashion. The platform connects global buyers to small and medium sized fashion brands and artisans across Africa. She is widely recognised as the pioneer of fashion online retail in Nigeria and is one of the Luminaries Shaping Africa's Technology Sector. An internet and brand management expert with over 10 years leadership experience from various industries ranging from management consulting, banking, e-business and telecoms. She was previously Industry Manager at Google, where she was led the development and growth of their commercial business. Before joining Google, she worked at Ericsson as Head of Brand Management for Sub

Saharan Africa and prior to that worked in consulting at McKinsey & Company in Brussels and Johannesburg.

In 2018, Ogundeyi was appointed to Facebook SME Council for Nigeria. In 2016 She was listed by the World Economic Forum as one of the top 10 innovators in Africa as well 10 most influential young Nigerians under 40 in Technology. In 2014 She has was listed by Forbes as one of the Top 10 women emerging entrepreneurs to watch in Africa. She has also been recognised as a One Young World Ambassador, a Junior Achievement Nigeria Ambassador and mentors and leads various women in tech initiatives. She is a graduate of the University of Birmingham, where she received a Bsc Honours in Public Policy, Government and Management.

Ogundeyi is passionate about using technology to uplift Africa. A serial technology entrepreneur and Founder of Fashpa.com, an ecommerce platform for African Fashion. The platform connects global buyers to small and medium sized fashion brands and artisans across Africa. She is widely recognised as the pioneer of fashion online retail in Nigeria and is one of the Luminaries Shaping Africa's Technology Sector. Honey is an internet and brand management expert with over 10 years leadership experience and has worked across Europe & Africa for Google, McKinsey & Ericsson. She is a graduate from the University of Birmingham.  
Courtesy: [live.worldbank.org](https://live.worldbank.org)





# Ogunsakín, Oluwaseun

Tennis sensation, Oluwaseun Ogunsakín becomes the first Nigerian to earn a wildcard to participate in the junior events at Wimbledon Championships. Ogunsakín will also be the first Nigerian to feature at any level of any Grand Slam with the exception of wheelchair events since Toni Mmoh did in 1987 (36 years ago).

The youngster qualified for the 2023 Wimbledon Championships after emerging champion at the African U-14 International Tennis Federation Confederation of

African Tennis (ITF/CAT) Junior Championships held in Lome. The homegrown tennis player was born into a tennis family where his father and coach tutored him since age six and he is currently ranked first in Africa U-14 boys category.

The 14-year old share a similitude (left handed) with Rafael Nadal and told Latifat Adebayo-Ohio that he idolises the tennis legend and wish to meet him someday.

Courtesy: Abubakar Amin



# Ojekwe - Ojekwe-Onyejeli, Mrs. Stella

Mrs. Stella Ojekwe-Onyejeli is a firm believer in the Nigerian project. She is always in the forefront of initiatives that help everyone access quality and affordable social services when they need it, including the most vulnerable, disadvantaged and marginalised groups in Nigeria.

She is the former COO/Executive Director, Nigeria Sovereign Investment Authority. She joined NSIA following a distinguished tenure as Director and Head of Operational Risk & Control at Barclays covering Emerging Markets and Africa.

She served as Vice President and Head of Quality Assurance, Africa at Citibank with direct oversight of the enterprise

risk and control environment in 14 countries across Africa.

She had a decade-long career at professional services firms Arthur Anderson and KPMG in Nigeria and South Africa, providing financial advisory and business assurance services.

Stella was a Federal Government of Nigeria Scholar, and Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria Prize Winner. She is a qualified Chartered Financial and Tax Accountant, who holds a first degree in Chemistry from the University of Lagos. She holds an MBA from Cranfield School of Management in the UK.



Oji

## Oji, Dr. Ejike

He qualified as a physician from the prestigious University of Nigeria in 1980 and after his one-year mandatory youth service to the Nation proceeded to work in Kaduna in a private medical firm (Chasel Hospital), where he distinguished himself as a doctor. While at the university he pioneered and participated in an exchange medical program between 1977 and 1979 at the King's College Hospital Denmark Hill London. In 1988 and 1989 he bagged the physician award of the year twice consecutively. He went on to work for 9 years for an International diagnostic centre in Wiesbaden, Germany called the Duetsche Klinik Fur Diagnostik (DKD) There he distinguished himself as the best external consultant. He has participated in so many leadership trainings, local and international conferences all over Nigeria and outside the country. From 2002 to 2013 he also served as the Country Director of Ipas an international organization where his work took him to about 20 different countries in the world and he won over 30 awards in areas of women's health and rights. Internationally he made tremendous contributions in women's health and rights advocacy. In 2006 he was invited by the Norwegian Government to discuss issues of women's health in Africa, this contributed to the NORAD

partnering with DFID to do the biggest health intervention in Africa PATHs 2 in Nigeria. In 2008 with colleagues he addressed the American Congress for over four hours on issues of women's health and this led to the third executive order of President Obama that led to unlocking of billions of dollars for women's health intervention globally, and Nigeria benefitted from this a lot. In Nigeria while at Ipas he developed deep relationships with and supported nine women groups over an eight-year period. At the moment he is the Chairman of the Strategic Management team of both Association for the Advancement of Family Planning in Nigeria (AAFP) and Coalition for Maternal Newborn Child and Adolescent Health accountability mechanism (C4MAN). These two organizations have over 40 international organizations and CSOs in Nigeria as members. To put issues of women in the public and national spaces he has trained over 600 journalists on issues of women's health and rights. He has the privilege of being the only man on the honors role of (NCWS) National Council of Women's Society twice in a row. Working with colleagues he conceptualized and pushed for the implementation of the Midwifery service scheme in Nigeria. This scheme has reduced maternal mortality by more than 40%. The

Nigerian govt. won two prestigious international awards for this scheme. It has been adjudged to be the best strategy to reduce maternal mortality in Sub Saharan Africa. He also introduced the usage of Misoprostol tablets in the Nigerian Health care system. This drug has been used to save a lot of women lives who otherwise would have died from post partum Hemorrhage a major cause of death. While he was on the saddle at Ipas he made sure that Ipas had programs in 19 different states. Under his watch Ipas developed a comprehensive work with NIMSA to educate and inform young medical students in women sexual and reproductive health and rights issues. Currently he is the President/CEO of Dr Ejike Oji Community Development Foundation. The Foundation is focused on issues that will revitalize the primary Health Care centers in Nigeria and especially Primary Health Care Under One Roof Initiative. He is a member of the CSO support group of the House of Rep. Sub Committee on Revitalizing health care in the country. He is the immediate past Chairman of the Abuja chapter of the Guild of Medical Directors. He is married with Children



*Okoi*

## Okoi, Dr. Obasesam

Obasesam Okoi is an American academic and currently Assistant Professor of Justice and Peace Studies at the University of St. Thomas in Minnesota. He holds a Ph.D. in Peace and Conflict Studies from the University of Manitoba, a Master of Arts in Political Science from the University of Windsor, a Master's in International Public Policy from Wilfrid Laurier University, a Bachelor of Arts in International Development Studies from Trent University, and an HND in Civil Engineering from The Polytechnic, Calabar.

Okoi holds several other prestigious positions, including AATH Jill Knox Peace Fellow, Associate Editor of the African Security Journal, Advisor at the War Prevention Initiative, Senior

Fellow at the War, Conflict & Global Migration Think Tank, and Senior Adviser to the Conflict Research Consortium for Africa. Previously, he has held academic appointments at the University of Winnipeg, Wilfrid Laurier University, and the American University in the Emirates. He has participated in professional endeavors at the United Nations, the World Bank Institute, and the National Endowment for the Humanities program at St. Louis University.

Okoi has received numerous awards for academic distinction and leadership, including the Naylah Ayed Prize from the University of Manitoba in 2017. He was recognized as one of the "Faces of Peacebuilding" by USAID's Research Technical Assistance Center in 2021.

He has contributed to initiatives at the University of Pennsylvania Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, and GovLab, that guided world leaders in their COVID-19 response. He serves as a consultant to organizations, including the German Corporation for International Cooperation, and is a member of the Academic Council on the United Nations System and the International Studies Association.

In 2019, Okoi entered the political arena in Canada to represent the Springfield-Ritchot constituency at the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba, with the goal of making a positive impact.



# *Okolie* **Okolie, Kenneth**

Kenneth Okolie is an experienced business leader in the healthcare sector with a demonstrated background in diagnostic services.

He is the CEO of Synlab. SYNLAB Nigeria is making first-world healthcare accessible. With more than 5,000 tests on offer, SYNLAB has the largest, most comprehensive test offering in Africa. Synlab supports doctors, patients, international organizations and research institutions in ways that were not possible before. Okolie is building a stronger healthcare system in Nigeria through Synlab.

Process Design, Healthcare Management, Critical Thinking & Strategy, Quality Management, and Change Management has accelerated his career.

He is currently leading a team of 300+ people as the Chief Executive Officer of SYNLAB Nigeria, the industry leader in laboratory services in West Africa.

Okolie completed his executive management training at INSEAD Business School in Business Administration and Management, Strategy, and Finance.

Okolie's skillset in Business



*Okon*

## Okon, Emem Bridget

Emem Okon is a feminist activist, grassroots mobilizer and a development consultant. Emem began her journey of women organizing and human rights advocacy in 1997. She is currently the Founder and Executive Director of Kebetkache Women Development and Resource Centre, a women's rights organization based in PH Rivers State. Emem Okon is one of the Founding Trustees of WoMin African Alliance, a regional alliance of CSOs working on women and extractives in Africa. WoMIN is headquartered in Johannesburg, south Africa. Emem Okon leads a process of building a grassroots women-led eco-feminist movement in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria. She has been consistent in hosting a convergence to mark Niger Delta Women's Day of Action for Environmental Justice every Dec 17 since 2017. Her contributions to the environmental justice campaigns in Africa earned her the recognition of the Women International

Centre in the United States when they gave her the Sisterhood Award in 2012. She was also honoured with Justice Builder of the Year 2019 Award by the NCMG in Nigeria. Emem Okon has coordinated many networks and alliances in the south south geo-political zone of Nigeria including the West African Network for Peace building (WANEP), the Gender and Constitutional Reform Network (GECORN) among others. Emem is an Alternate Member of the Governing Council of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP), the institution with the responsibility of implementing the recommendations of the UNEP report in Ogoniland. She is a Deaconess in Royal House of Grace International Church. Emem Okon is a Rotarian. She was the Charter President, Rotary Club of Port Harcourt Eco, the second Rotary Club in Africa that is particularly focused on environmental protection and conservation".



## *Okwuosa* **Okwuosa,** Sir Emeka

A philanthropist that sponsors medical mission in his community, Engr. Emeka Okwuosa is a seasoned engineer, administrator, entrepreneur and a visionary with over 33 years of experience in engineering in the following areas: maintenance and operations, teaching, wireline logging and interpretation, seismic acquisition, processing and interpretation, pipeline engineering, procurement and construction (EPC), project management, drilling and drilling services.

In a Voice of Nigeria report, “Twenty-four open heart surgeries have been successfully carried out within two weeks of free medical outreach organised by Sir Emeka

Okwuosa Foundation and Dame Irene Okwuosa Memorial Hospital, Oraifite, Ekwusigo Council Area, Anambra State, in collaboration with Vincent Obioma Ohaju Memorial (VOOM) Foundations, USA.

During the two weeks free Medicare, the team of doctors also treated twenty-five critical heart related ailments, while over seven hundred people suffering from various ailments also received treatment and counselling. Authorities of the Federal Ministry of Health were also on ground to see things for themselves.

Sir Emeka Okwuosa Foundation

(SEOF), Engineer Emeka Okwuosa said his aim of establishing the cardiology hospital was to make a difference, bridge the gap in medical health delivery and to immortalize his late mother. Emeka is the founder, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of several companies that operate in the oil and gas industry in Africa.



*Olawande* **Olawande,**  
Pastor Daniel

Pastor Daniel Olawande is the Founder and Principal of Flaming College, a mentorship platform to raise, build and equip people for all round effectiveness. He is the President of the Flaming Youth Empowerment Initiative, a NGO with the mandate of empowering the next generation with the tools needed to navigate life and emerge as beacons of hope. With Daniel Olawande as President, The Purpose Discovery Nation, an e-learning platform, guides people through purpose discovery, development and deployment. His assignment of revival, spiritual awakening and transformation to nations is being spread through several platforms like Fire In My

Bones, a weekly program aired on Dove TV, Youth Aflame conference (YAC), a conference for young professionals, Awakening the Giant Within Conference- with the vision of raising 360 degree leaders, The Young Ministers Retreat (YMR) – a 72 hours end of the year retreat for all believers and young ministers with the mandate of raising a burning generation who will emerge as kingdom ambassadors in every sphere of human endeavor.





# Olori Atuwatse III

Olori Atuwatse III is the Queen of the Warri Kingdom, a lawyer, social entrepreneur and wife of Ogiame Atuwatse III, current ruler of the Kingdom of Warri, and the 21st Olu of Warri. She is also the daughter of Nigerian business magnate, investor and philanthropist Captain Hosa Wells Okunbo. After his coronation in August 2021, the Olu of Warri bestowed a new title on his wife, calling her Olori Atuwatse III, now her official title.

Olori Atuwatse III has been involved in several endeavours targeting women and children, including the

Captain Idahosa Wells Okunbo Stem Innovation Centre, which she established in honour of her father. She has also initiated several intervention programs for the poor in Delta State, including a 2022 visit to the Ureju Community, an oil rich slum suffering the effects of environmental degradation and Iyara, another slum community. Olori Atuwatse III is also an advocate for children's rights, particularly the empowerment of female children. She has endowed hundreds of children with scholarships, including a 2022 scheme for 100 children from the Nana Model Girls College Warri,

Warri, Delta State. Under her health initiatives, Olori Atuwatse III has promoted access to free healthcare, especially for the poor, and in December 2021, launched the Wuwu Ore medical and welfare outreach, focused on women, children and the elderly. A second edition of the program was held in Ugbolokposo Community, in the Delta state in April 2022.



# *Olutoye* **Olutoye,** Dr Oluyinka

Born in Nigeria and trained in the U.S., Dr Oluyinka Olutoye is a famed pediatric surgeon known for successfully conducting a sacrococcygeal teratoma — an operation where the baby was taken out of the uterus for 20 minutes during the five-hour procedure to remove the tumour and was then put back inside for the remainder of the gestation period before being delivered alive without any incident.

For his contribution to global society, Olutoye was recently conferred the prestigious Nigerian National Order of Merit (NNOM) Award for 2020 by president Muhammad Buhari, alongside two other individuals.

Olutoye is an alumnus of Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria, where he obtained his medical degree in 1988 and a PhD in anatomy from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA, in 1996. He later completed his residency in general surgery at the Medical College of Virginia Hospitals, Virginia Commonwealth University, and his fellowship in pediatric surgery at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine in Philadelphia.



*Onyechi* **Onyechi,**  
Mrs. Nonyem

Nonyem Onyechi the Acting Executive Vice Chairman/Chief Executive of the National Agency for Science and Engineering Infrastructure (NASENI). She was previously the Director of Planning and Policy Analysis (PPA) at NASENI Headquarters and occupied this position for seven (7) years. She is a seasoned and astute civil servant with professional experience of thirty-one (31) years having worked at the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology (FMST) for two (2) years and subsequently in NASENI for Twenty-Nine (29) years. She is well grounded in the development of science, technology and innovation policies and have demonstrated satisfactory skills and best practices in its formulation and implementation of the mandate of

NASENI. Mrs. Onyechi is also of proven integrity, transparency and accountability which earned her the highly coveted NASENI Merit Award as the Best Performing Director in 2018. NASENI has over the years made significant strides in the fabrication of machines and equipment for many sectors of the Nigerian economy especially in the areas of agriculture, water, industry, transport, defence and entrepreneurship development. NASENI has manufactured agriculture equipment as well as Research and Development (R&D) outputs that have helped farmers boost their productivity thereby creating more jobs and adding value to the economy.



## *Oseni* **Oseni,** Rufai

Rufai is an eclectic OAP with multiple interesting personalities who is famous for his sharp, hot, witty and down-to-earth engagements with his interviewees.

Rufai Oseni is a co-host on Arise TV's breakfast programme. He is a global speaker, thought leader, investor and technology enthusiast who mentors business startups across the African continent.

Mr Oseni has worked for JFM Radio in Warri Unique FM in Ilesa, Gold FM in Ilesa, Ogun State television as a Sports Analyst, Ogun State Radio as a presenter, Osun State Government and Inspiration FM.

His other engagements include being an analyst on African Issues for the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), an analyst on small business and economy for TV Continental, and a facilitator for the Nigerian Bar Association conference in 2021. He has also facilitated training for top management staff of Microsoft and Nielsen group.



# Osiberu, Jadesola

Writer, director and producer, Jadesola Osiberu is the Chief Executive Officer of Greoh Studios. A Computer Systems Engineering degree holder from the University of Manchester, she's also an alumna of Pan-Atlantic University, where she studied Media and Communications.

In September 2022, Osiberu's Greoh Studios signed a three-year deal with Amazon to develop and produce original scripted TV series and feature films. In 2018, she headlined Nollywood Film Festival in Scotland. In 2017, Osiberu wrote and directed *Isoken*, a film about the challenges faced by unmarried female

professionals amidst pressure from family, as well as romantic interracial relationships in modern Nigerian setting.

For her directorial role, she won Best Director at the 2018 Africa Magic Viewers Choice Awards (AMVCAs) and got an Africa Movie Academy Award for Best Director nomination. With her feat in the industry, following *Isoken* (2017), *Sugar Rush* (2019), *Brotherhood* (2022), her latest film, *Gangs of Lagos*, is currently streaming exclusively on Amazon Prime Video.

Through her films, she strongly

makes the point that African and Nigerian stories being told on a large scale are the only way we can be humanised as a people, because the world is largely dominated by stories about Americans.

“When there are no specifics, people tend to be generalised. So, I believe our stories need to be told to encourage foreign interaction with who we really are to avoid us being reduced to poverty and fraud.”  
Courtesy: The Guardian



# *Osimhen* **Osimhen,** Victor James

Victor James Osimhen is a professional footballer who plays as a striker for Serie A club Napoli and the Nigeria national team. Considered one of the best strikers in the world, he is known for his elite finishing, strength and athleticism.

Born in Nigeria, Osimhen began his senior career in Germany at VfL Wolfsburg in 2017. Following a season and a half at the club, he moved to Belgian side Charleroi on loan in 2018–19, before moving to France at Lille. He made his European football debut with the French club during the 2019–20 UEFA Champions League. In 2020, Osimhen transferred to Serie A club Napoli for a club-record fee of

€70 million. He won the Serie A Best Young Player award in the 2021–22 season.

Osimhen won the Golden Boot award at the 2015 FIFA U-17 World Cup, which Nigeria won. He made his senior international debut in June 2017 and played at the 2019 Africa Cup of Nations. He is currently the ninth all-time highest goalscorer of the Nigeria national team.

Courtesy: Wikipedia



*Osowobi* **Osowobi,**  
Oluwaseun Ayodeji

Oluwaseun Ayodeji Osowobi is the Executive Director, Stand to End Rape Initiative (STER), an NGO that provides support services to survivors of sexual violence. She also leads policy advocacy and behavioural change communication towards issues of sexual and gender-based violence in Nigeria. In 2019 she was the second Nigerian woman to be named to Time 100 Next list, and she was the Commonwealth Young Person of the Year for that same year. She recently unveiled The Scorecard Report, the outcome of a research project by the Stand to End Rape Initiative (STER) in collaboration

with TechHer, which measured state-by-state SGBV response and prevention mechanisms in Nigeria. These indices include coordinated management and capacity for SGBV response; effectiveness of the criminal justice system; adoption of laws and policies; financial support system for SGBV prevention and response services as well as community engagement and awareness efforts. The Scorecard Report rates all states based on data collected and validated from relevant government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) responsible for preventing and

responding to SGBV in Nigeria. These included the Ministries of Justice, Women's Affairs and Health. Data was also sourced from government-owned Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCS) and state universities. It has also been launched just as states head to the polls to pick their next governors.



## Oyedele, Taiwo

Taiwo Oyedele is West Africa Tax Leader at PwC Nigeria and a member of PwC Global Board for Leadership Development. He is also the Chairman of PwC Nigeria Ethics Committee. Taiwo is an alumnus of the Gordon Institute of Business Science, South Africa, the London School of Economics, Yale University and the Harvard Kennedy School. He is currently the only African on the ACCA Global Governing Council. He is a contributor to the annual Doing Business report of the World Bank. He is the author of “The Top 50 Tax Issues in Nigeria”, “Insights on Taxation and Fiscal Policy”, and the Nigeria Transfer Pricing chapter of the International Bureau of Fiscal

Documentation (IBFD) publication.

Taiwo is the Founder and President of Impact Africa Foundation, an organization that mentors and sponsors the education of young Nigerians. One of Nigeria’s most sought-after public speaker, he has appeared frequently on Channels TV, NTA, TV Continental, Silverbird TV and CNBC Africa. Taiwo is a fellow of the Nigeria Leadership Initiative and a member of the Corporate Governance Society Nigeria. He is also a guest lecturer at the University of Lagos, Babcock University and the Lagos Business School.





*Pate*

## **Pate,** Prof. Muhammad Ali

Prof. Muhammad Ali Pate is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. The Gavi Board announced the appointment of Pate as the incoming CEO of the organisation and he will be officially starting the role on August 3.

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance is a public-private partnership that helps vaccinate half the world's children against some of the world's deadliest diseases.

Pate served as Nigeria's minister of state for health between 2011 and 2013 and is a proven global health leader with experience and significant contributions at the national and international levels. He is a physician, trained in both internal medicine and

infectious diseases, and has worked in both the private and public sectors including the World Bank.

During his time as a minister, he led an initiative that revived routine vaccinations and primary health care in Nigeria, chaired a presidential taskforce to eradicate polio and also introduced new vaccines into the country.

"During his time as the executive director of the National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA), between 2008 and 2011, he introduced the midwives service scheme, which increased skill birth attendants in rural areas and reduced infant and maternal mortality rate," says Muyi Aina, a public health

professional.

"Pate also pushed for the use of technology such as mobile health to improve healthcare delivery and empower patients. He also established a global coalition of public and private partners to support health system improvement as the minister of state for health. Prof Pate has worked in all spheres of public health and will replicate the same in Gavi."

Chair of the Gavi Board, Professor José Manuel Barroso, said Pate was selected following a yearlong recruitment process and will bring a wealth of experience to the role.



*Peterside*  
**Peterside,**  
Elvis

A Professor of Pediatrics and Neonatology at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, Peterside works as a consultant at one of the best children's hospitals in the world, the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. For his medical strides, in 2020, Peterside was named America's Best Physician by the US National Consumer Advisory Board



## *Plumptre* Plumptre, Subomi

Subomi Plumptre is working to bring financial prosperity to the African & Diasporan middle class through her role as co-founder of Volition Cap (Nigeria) and Volition Blue (USA). She believes this social group is critical to driving economic growth in Africa, and designed a fund management model that leverages traditional African cooperatives and remittance investing. Her innovative approach earned her a license from the Nigerian Securities and Exchange Commission, making her one of few female CEOs in the asset management industry.

Before her entrepreneurship journey, Subomi was a respected brand and

marketing expert with over 20 years of experience. She reached the pinnacle of her career as a Director at Alder Consulting where she curated Africa's first research-based social media and brand reports. She was team lead on high-level projects, including the rebranding programs of the Federal Ministries of Education, Foreign Affairs and Mines & Steel Development, as well as marketing campaigns for GTBank and First Bank.

Subomi has published a White Paper on African and Diasporan wealth gaps, and two books about social media. She is an Adjunct Faculty member at the University of Lagos,

where she teaches entrepreneurship. Subomi is a CSC Leader, Forbes Business Council member, GIFEW Award winner, TEDx speaker, Nigeria Leadership Initiative board member and Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) mentor. Her foundation, The Subomi Plumptre Trust, was created to address challenges in education, health and culture.

Subomi actively blogs at [subomiplumptre.com](http://subomiplumptre.com) and has composed two music singles. She is well traveled and maintains an open curiosity about new cultures.



*Popoola-Mordi*  
**Popoola-Mordi,**  
Mrs. Bunmi

Mrs Bunmi Popoola-Mordi was recently appointed Executive Director of Human Resources & Corporate Services of Total Nigeria Plc. Bunmi is a law graduate of Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, a member of the Nigerian Bar Association and a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators. She also has a masters degree in Corporate Law, an MBA in Oil and Gas Management and an LL.M in Petroleum Law and Policy.

Bunmi has over 25 years diverse working knowledge and experience harnessed across several professional sectors. Her career has cut across legal practice, banking, financial services,

Company Secretarial Practice, business development and Corporate Governance Practice. Bunmi joined Total Nigeria Plc in 2011 as Legal Affairs Manager and Company Secretary. In 2015, she was appointed General Manager Human Resources and Corporate Services (responsible for Human Resources, Legal, CSR, Corporate Communication, Insurance, Investor Relations and the Archives whilst still retaining the role of the Company Secretary).

In 2019 Bunmi was appointed Executive General Manager Total Country Services, an entity providing services to the marketing/distribution, exploration and production Total Companies in

Nigeria. She supports the teams in partnering with the business towards attainment of corporate and social goals.

She has achieved a remarkable feat by transitioning from a Legal Affairs Manager/Company secretary role to an Executive director position in the same multinational organization.

Her story is a great example of what can be achieved when we have a clear vision, set our minds to it, and work hard towards our goals.



## Rafsanjani, Auwal Musa

Auwal Musa Rafsanjani, a graduate of Political Science from the Bayero University has toed an unusual career path since his childhood days. His passion for Nigeria informed his commitment for a better society where every citizen will be treated fairly and equally. This often occupies his mind. You may conclude that his life revolves around activism as he sleeps, breaths, and eats activism. His passion for humanity has taken him round the globe where he has met with world leaders and other philanthropists working on Africa's development. He is the Executive Director, Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC)

He was inspired by the late Aminu Kano as a child. In his lifetime, Aminu Kano was inspiration to many people because he was against injustice and fought for the downtrodden.

Rafsanjani attended Bayero University Kano to study Political Science. Here, he met the likes of Professor Attahiru Jega who was his teacher and other people of like minds. He became unstoppable. While in his first year at

the institution, he enrolled in the Student Movement. Later, he was elected into the Students' Government Union of Bayero University as one of the executives. In 1992, he became the Assistant-General Secretary of National Association of Nigerian Students' (NANS). In addition to student activism, he was a member of Women in Nigeria (WIN) a political organisation, and though a supposed women gathering, issues such as women marginalization, exploitation, gender equality and development of women were advocated for by male and female members.

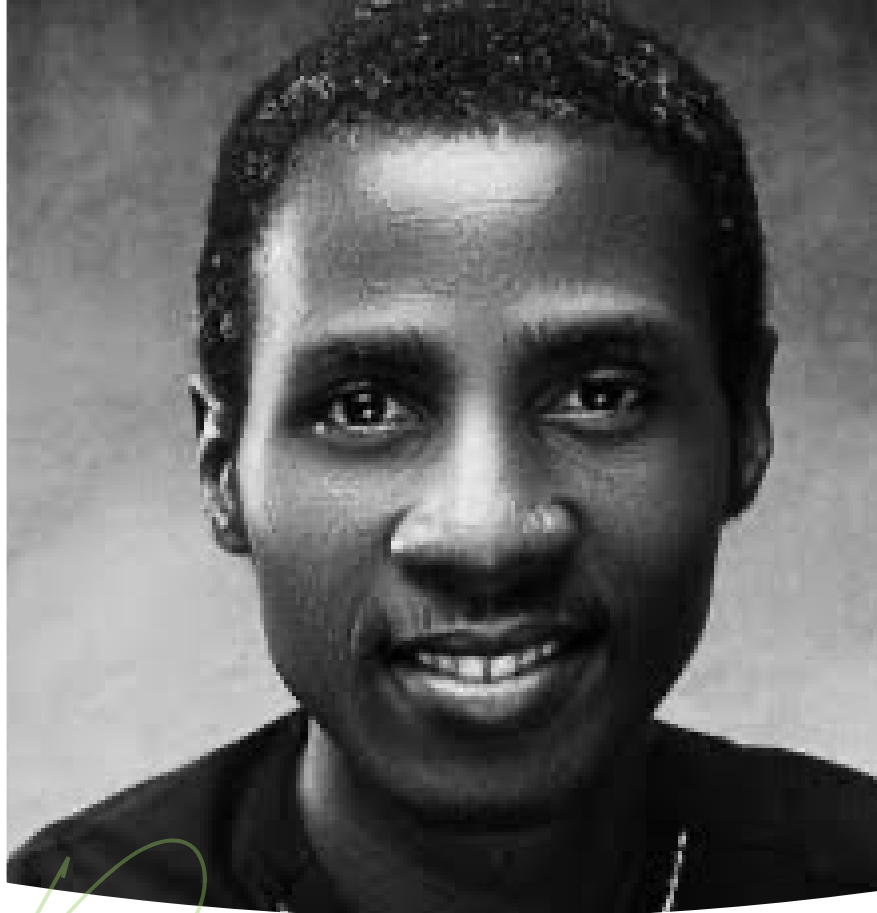
He was part of the group that formed Campaign for Democracy (CD), an organisation led by the late Dr. Beko Ransome Kuti, Democratic Alternative led by the late Dr. Alao Aka Bashorun, and also a member and coordinator of United Action for Democracy (UAD) led by Mr. Olisa Agbakoba, SAN. Unperturbed by constant harassment and intimidations by the government and its agencies, he balanced academics with activism just as his other colleagues. In fact, they excelled in

their studies because with activism, they had better understanding and approach to studies.

After graduation from Bayero University, Kano in 1994, he launched out fully by establishing the Centre Society Advocacy Centre (CISLAC). Prior to that, he was learning the ropes under the establishment. He had his youth service under the Community Action for Popular Participation (CAP), a human rights organisation which was organised by progressive minds led by the late Emma Eze Azuh as Executive Director. He was the first Programme Officer in Abuja in 1995. He was with them till 2001 when Center for Democracy and Development, led by current governor of Ekiti State, Dr. Kayode Fayemi who was the executive director, invited him to join the organisation in the Abuja office. He was there till 2005.

At some point, he served as the head of the Transition Monitoring Group (TMG), which mobilises Nigerians to demand positive change in the electoral process.

Courtesy: ThisDay



*Reis*

## Reis, Femi

Femi Reis is a cloud security administrator and cybersecurity researcher with over a decade experience in implementing early adoption of business technologies in small and medium enterprises in emerging economies.

His work focuses on developing tools and resources for knowledge optimization in the technical and business domains of information technology and cybersecurity. He consults for organizations in diverse industries to help them use technology as a critical component

for policy implementation.

His current research is in the area of early integration of information security in elementary curriculums in Africa. He has published several books and learning resources that are used by aspiring cybersecurity professionals around the world. Outside of work, Femi spends time giving talks and stirring unconventional conversations around issues that many see but few discuss



## Rhodes-Vivour, Gbadebo

Popularly known as GRV or The Hopeful Nigerian, Gbadebo is an architect, a businessman and a politician.

He was the gubernatorial candidate of the Labour Party for Lagos State in the 2023 gubernatorial election, running head-to-head with the incumbent governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu

He had his first degree in Architecture from Nottingham University and a Masters degree from the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston. He ventured into Politics in 2017 by contesting for Chairmanship of Ikeja Local Government under KOWA party. In 2019, at 35, he won the ticket of the People's Democratic Party to contest the Lagos West Senatorial seat. Gbadebo is a strong believer in Nigeria's future and he devotes himself to developing

fellow young people to take on the mantle of leadership.

Rhodes-Vivour is the convener of the civil society group, Nigerians Against GMO, an Anti-GMO advocacy group fighting against the proliferation of Genetically Modified Foods in Nigeria.

In 2017, he alongside Nnimmo Bassey, led a 2,000-man march to the Senate to lend a voice in the fight against environmental degradation. He also campaigns for the inclusion of history as a subject in Nigerian school curriculum.

Courtesy: ynag.com.ng and Wikipedia



## Shasore, Olasupo

Popular Nigerian Legal Practitioner, Historian and Writer Olasupo Shasore, has joined the growing list of Nigerians putting the country on a global map, following the production of his book titled “A Platter of Gold” into a docu-series by Netflix; a global streaming platform. The docu-series titled “Journey of an African Colony: The Making of Nigeria” is described as a goldmine by the writer. Responding to the successful production and narration of the book, Olasupo Shasore expressed gratitude for a well-deserved recognition and for being a part of such a valuable project. According to Olasupo Shasore, the book

centres around the unsaid facts about the slave trade up to the independence of Nigeria, and it can be enjoyed equally by any race, sex or gender.

The former Attorney General of Lagos State while appreciating the streaming platform for accepting the book amongst other globally recognized ones stated that this achievement spotlights Nigeria across the globe in addition to making the country proud through his legal career strides worldwide.





# Tometi,

## Ayo

Ayo Tometi formerly known as Opal Tometi, is a Nigerian-American Yoruba human rights activist who also works as a writer, strategist, and community builder. She helped establish the Black Lives Matter movement (BLM) and has for nine years served in various capacities in the Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI) — the nation's first organisation dedicated to advancing the rights of immigrants of African heritage. Tometi uses BLM to draw attention to the racist injustices that black people contend with. In the

beginning, she was a vocal supporter of human rights causes in her small-town neighbourhood. She has advocated for the advancement of racial justice, migrant rights, and human rights throughout the world.

Additionally, Tometi has managed cases for victims of domestic abuse. She was included in Time Magazine's 100 Most Influential People of 2020 and the BBC's 100 Women announced in November 2020



## *Uchenna* Uchenna, Joshua Emmanuel

Joshua Emmanuel Uchenna is a Certified Biochemist, an international diabetes educator and advocate and a certified environmental health and safety provider from the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health and Safety, United States of America. He is also a graduate of Word of Faith Bible Institute (WOFBI), a spiritual training school of the Living Faith Church (A.K.A Winners Chapel International).

He is the Founder and the Board of Trustees chairman of THE PJOSH DIABETES FOUNDATION; a registered Non-governmental/Non-profit organization in Nigeria dedicated to curbing the high

mortality rate of Africans due to diabetes.

He is also a member of the Blue circle voices of International Diabetes Federation, a global advocacy arm of IDF. He is currently the Leader of the Gilead Medical Unit of The Living Faith Church (Winners Chapel International) Aba Headquarters.

His passion for diabetes advocacy has inspired him to dedicate himself entirely to the diabetes community not only in Nigeria or Africa, but globally. His outreach provides blood glucose testings and other conditions that are associated with diabetes, education about diabetes for people

living with diabetes, families and caregivers, and facilitating the availability of diabetes supplies for those in need. His tireless work is significantly improving the outcomes for people living with diabetes, by reducing the complications and deaths, identifying the many undiagnosed persons living with diabetes in Nigeria and beyond, so they can benefit from earlier management, and ending the stigma so often unjustly imposed on people living with diabetes.

Courtesy:

[pjoshdiabetesfoundation.org](http://pjoshdiabetesfoundation.org)



Ude

## Ude, Chioma

Determined, genius, selfless, successful, generous, innovative, and kind hearted are some of the few words that can be used to describe Chioma Ude.

From a young trade Executive, Chioma Ude, one of Africa's most influential woman has over the years grown to become one of Africa's business leaders and successful media executives. Popularly known as the first lady of Africa media, Chioma is the Founder and Executive Director of AFRIFF (Africa International Film Festival), a film festival that has grown to become the most vibrant in Africa. Chioma is a tireless trojan, leader, producer and philanthropist.

An ardent film lover and commentator, In 2010, Chioma founded the Africa International Film Festival (AFRIFF). a world class showcase that presents a complete immersion into the world of film

making with participation from local and international, actors, directors, scriptwriters, cinematographers, sound engineers, musicians, editors, light engineers, students, equipment manufacturers and businessmen.

From inception, she has tremendously grown the fortunes and reputation of AFRIFF as Africa's most vibrant film festival experience. Going into its 10th edition, AFRIFF is firmly set in the international circuit of festivals and is continuing to attract tremendous international interest and support.

Chioma strongly believes in the training and empowerment of young individuals, especially young women. She believes in the selfless ideology that a generation of skilled and educated youth will foster a brighter and greater Africa. AFRIFF has trained over 10,000 young adults in gratis, in Film and Television master classes during the festival with facilitators from Europe, Asia, Africa

and America, thereby empowering a young generation of media executives.

In 2021, Chioma achieved another milestone by partnering with Khadija Alami, co-owning one of the biggest film studio in Africa, the OASIS Studio, situated in Ouarzazate, Morocco. Oasis Studio is projected to become the new destination for Africa/Nollywood productions, thereby making quality films and controlling our narrative while accommodating film production executives and distributors from all over the world.

Chioma Ude is poised to develop the Africa film industry to a level where the products compete favorably with their contemporaries all over world; provide a growth opportunity for these film industry professionals to eventually export their products to the world.



## Udeochu, Sunday Philip

Sunday Philip Udeochu is a Poverty Researcher, Business Development Service Professional (BDSP), and a Digital Entrepreneurship Promoter/PLUG.

Born on April 13th, 1975, in Lagos Nigeria, Mr. Udeochu had his primary and secondary education in Command Children School Kaduna and Oduduwa Secondary Lagos respectively, and, obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry from the University of Ibadan in 1997. He served (NYSC) in Osun State in 1998 and moved back to his city of birth, Lagos, where he eventually secured his first job as a Sales Representative, marking the beginning of his career. For over 18 years, Mr. Udeochu has supported thousands of lowly Nigerians to sustainably climb out of

poverty through entrepreneurship, however, in 2018, he decided to explore 'digital' spaces, by creating an online group on Facebook called Portfolio 9 (Community) or 'P9' for short.

Portfolio 9 (Community), which today, is arguably Africa's largest 'Digital' Entrepreneurship and Empowerment Platform (DEEP), has as its mission, to deliver entrepreneurship to the 'digital doorsteps' of economically disadvantaged populations in Nigeria and Africa (particularly women and youths), leveraging social media and technology; helping them to start, run and grow small business enterprises so as to become economically self-reliant and sufficient.

In 4 years, Mr. Udeochu, together

with his team, has grown and groomed P9 into a highly impactful assembly/home of nearly a million entrepreneurs/Small Business Hopefuls (SBHs), who connect, share experiences and learn together.

In the year 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic, Mr. Udeochu, through P9, was able to "virtually" supply and sustain learning support to members of P9 community, and in the process, gained local and global recognition, including META.

Today, the grassroots movement, known for its unique SLOGAN – "Think Bigger, but Start Smaller", has evolved into a tremendous force transforming the lives of ordinary Nigerians and Africans for good.



*Ugwu*

## Ugwu, Amb. Dr Prince Edozie

Prince Dr. Edozie Ugwu is the pragmatic Chairman of the National Association of Nigerian Traders. He has shown tremendous leadership and used his good offices to elevate the critical role traders play in the economic value chain in Nigeria. In the process, a lot of recognition is accorded traders in Nigeria, bringing them to the top of national agenda discourse. For instance, through the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) chapter of the National Association of Nigerian Traders, he has been working assiduously to ensure that every member trader becomes a landlord in FCT. He is working through an estate development company to ensure that each trader under the association becomes a landlord of his house in the FCT.

Abuja is the pilot for this house ownership scheme and the proposal is to build a 500-unit housing, and once they are satisfied with the project in Abuja, he hopes to take it to other states.

He has also led the advocacy for the

welfare of traders in Nigeria. For instance, he called for the inclusion of traders in the TraderMoni loan disbursement exercise

The disbursement was part of the current administration's drive to empower over two million petty traders across the country through a commercial loan scheme tagged the TraderMoni scheme.

Prince Ugwu is a firm believer that our hero's past shall not be in vain. He signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the group, Nigerian Fallen Heroes Project, to honor our heroic and gallant soldiers and mobilized over 20,000 traders from every city in Nigeria to participate in Armed Forces Remembrance Day celebration some years ago.

He said the partnership is to ensure that the campaign to honor Nigeria's fallen heroes, as a mark of respect and support for their loved ones is taken to the grassroots.

Under the administration of Amb. Dr. Edozie Ugwu ( HE) has partnerships with SON, FCPC, NAFDAC, and VIO in making sure that standard goods are maintained and sold in all the markets in FCT and Suburb.

The administration is furthermore arranging the building of over seven hundred and eight shops (708) in Apo to ensure that traders are not thrown in disarray bc of the road construction going on at the Apo metropolis.

Amb. Dr. Edozie Ugwu is one man that's committed to the welfare and well-being of traders which also includes the fact of making sure that traders are law-abiding citizens, this made him go all out in making sure to arrange for Covid 19 alleviation fund, Agmeis loan to subtle the financial challenges of traders and other grants to mention but a few.



*Umeh* **Umeh,**  
Nonye Henrietta

Nonye Henrietta Umeh is a multiple award-winning women's leader, body safety expert, anti-GBV campaigner, author, Child and Women's Rights Activist. She is the Project Manager of Powered Voices, a community-based organisation (CBO) focused on raising awareness on sexual gender-based violence (SGBV) and HIV-related abuses. The CBO educates, supports, and provides resources for the masses to create healthier families and strengthen communities. The University of Maiduguri graduate is the Founder of Body Safety Academy, a social impact organisation (SIO) focused on eradicating child abuse in our world through e-learning, media advocacy, and outreach campaigns. She is a licensed Physiotherapist and a Fellow of YALI

RLC, a programme that equips young African leaders with proficiency and resources to facilitate change in their countries. □ Henrietta has won several awards for her work, including the 'Most 20 Outstanding Women Leaders' in 2021 by YALI RLC Alumni (Nigerian Chapter) for her immense contribution towards ending gender inequality and advancing SRHRs in Nigeria. She also won the FIGHR Prize of Peace, a Legacy award in the category of Outstanding Giving to Women in 2022, and other notable awards.

She started Body Safety Academy for children to be empowered with body safety education. She wants every child to be confident and aware of his or her basic human rights. Her aim is

to make every child understand NO ONE has the right to harm them in any way. She wants them to know they have a VOICE and it's powerful. She teaches them how to use their voices against the powers that seek to keep them downtrodden and in bondage. She wants every child to be free from abuse. She wants every child to have the knowledge, skills, and resources they can use when they need help.

Courtesy: The Guardian



*Umeonyiora*

## Umeonyiora, Emmanuel Ikechukwu

Emmanuel Ikechukwu Umeonyiora has become the first official Igbo Language lecturer at the University of Oxford. This will be the first time that the Igbo language will be taught in an Ivy League school in the diaspora. This achievement is remarkable because, according to a 2006 UNESCO report, the Igbo language falls on the 'endangered' list and may be extinct in 50 years. Thus, the appointment of Ikechukwu Umeonyiora as the first Igbo language lecturer provides an opportunity for the preservation of this language and will spark an interest among people across the globe



## Umoru, Cynthia Mosunmola

Cynthia Mosunmola Umoru is creating a step by step process to incent young people to take up farming, and for schools, governments, and businesses to provide the kinds of next generation services and products to move them through the process.

Cynthia is focusing on ways to get a new generation of young people interested in and successful at modern agriculture. Understanding that many young people are driven to succeed, especially in recent times as the country's newer wealth is so often on full display—on the streets of Lagos and on TV screens—Cynthia is concentrating on opening the eyes of many of the brightest and most entrepreneurial minds from the urban and peri-urban areas to the options that exist beyond the few fields that they currently understand to be the only roads to financial success. She does this by exposing them to the modern agribusiness she started in

college and from which she has found great success. Cynthia also gets them started on the path to their own successful agribusinesses. And for those whose interests have already been peaked, Cynthia provides the quality training missing in the general sector, to really help modernize their venture. She is also engaging schools, governments, and businesses to recognize the absence of infrastructure to participate in modern agriculture, especially for youth. With the goal of creating an enabling environment for interested youth to succeed, she is assisting these institutions to recognize the importance of shifting their curriculum to incorporate a more business-oriented understanding of agriculture, as well as provide the programs and services that can assist youth through each step of the process of launching and scaling a 21st century agribusiness.

While Cynthia moves forward in

getting other parties to play their part in building a new crop of agricultural business entrepreneurs, she has decided to formalize the training she has provided to date, into the formal venture, Abira Agribusiness support project. Services will include Agricultural Entrepreneurship Development, Accounting and Financial Management, Financial Brokering, Technical Training, Strategy Development, and Product Development.

She has secured interest from two banks that will provide loans to the successful graduates of her training program who will go on to manage this business. To date, Cynthia's outreach and training activities have been supported by her private venture, Honeysuckles PTL Ventures. However, as she expands, she is pursuing grants from foundations and government.

Courtesy: [ashoka.org](http://ashoka.org)





*Victor-Laniyan*

## Victor-Laniyan, Omobolanle

Omobolanle Victor-Laniyan is the only West African on the team that developed the Global Principles for Responsible Banking, a set of principles that banks globally signed on to. About 30 of them developed the principles, which has now been adopted by the banking industry globally and is shaping the way they do sustainability. The Global Principles for Responsible Banking was released by United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI).

Before then, she initiated a concept and led the development of the Nigerian Sustainable Banking Principles, which is a set of principles

that today is adopted by all banks operating in Nigeria, including the Central Bank of Nigeria.

In the manufacturing sector, she did a couple of things. For instance, she initiated the toll free lines where consumers would call if they had a complaint on a product. What was more important was the fact that the organisation was willing to listen to consumers, to take action with respect to complaint, to look at the trend of the complaint and see if there was anything they could do to have better consumer experiences with their products and services.

She is an executive member of the

Access Women Network (AWN). An advocate for youth and women empowerment, she mentors and chairs Women in Development and Sustainability, a not-for-profit organization, which primarily utilises mentorship and customised education to support the development of women. A change maker in the field of sustainability and communications spanning various industries including manufacturing, media and the financial sector, she has pioneered many notable sustainability-focused initiatives placing Nigeria on the global map.  
Courtesy: The Guardian



*Yesufu* **Yesufu,**  
Aisha

Aisha Yesufu is a change-driven and impact-led Nigerian Socio-political Reformer, Civic & Community Development Crusader, Public Speaker, and Educator who consistently demands for good governance; fight for justice, fairness and equity; and lend her voice in support of women safety and empowerment (SDGs 16 and 5). She is a business woman who teaches financial literacy to empower people to be financially independent and also have a voice to demand for good governance.

Aisha Yesufu's outspokenness and zeal

to stand against injustice is innate, and can be traced back to her childhood in Northern Nigeria where speaking up as a female was unheard of. At age 4, Aisha Yesufu was already standing up against injustice. Her father tells the story of how she went to him while in Nursery school to demand he be the one to take her to school as the neighbour who helped take her to school was being hostile.



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