



«Douala doit devenir “le port”  
de Référence du Golfe de Guinée»

**S.E. Paul BIYA**

Douala, le 06 Octobre 2011.



Port Autonome de Douala  
Port Authority of Douala



**Performance - Attractivité - Compétitivité**



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Authorization N° : 542/2023/DR/C19/SAAJP

ISSUE 25

\$5 | 3600CFA | N5000

# NAIJA DIA SPORA

ISSUE 25

Authorization N° : 542/2023/DR/C19/SAAJP

SPECIAL  
EDITION

\$5 | 3600CFA | N5000

...Bridging the divide



**Hate Speech, Xenophobia**  
An aberration in Cameroon



The unyielding journey  
of **Bola Ahmed Tinubu**



**IT'S 10 YEARS OF IMPACT, COLLABORATION  
AND GROWTH OF DIASPORA COMMUNITIES**



**6** AFROBEAT ARTIST  
MAKING WAVES  
GLOBALLY IN 2023



**ABAYOMI OLONISAKIN'S**  
LEGACY OF DIPLOMATIC  
EXCELLENCE IN CAMEROON



For a clean Douala

# IT IS FORBIDDEN TO THROW WASTE ON THE GROUND

under penalty of SANCTIONS



**Douala Clean City**  
it's possible

## What are the risks if failure to comply with these urban cleanliness measures? ?

- Anyone caught in the act of searching through bin bags is liable to a fine of **25,000 FCFA**.
- In addition to this penalty, you may be required to pay the sum of **FCFA 10,000** as an individual and **FCFA 40,000** as a corporate body for any other violation of the decree, in particular for:
  - Failure to use refuse bags for depositing or abandoning waste;
  - Non-possession of an approved trash spaces and bins;
  - You risk criminal and civil prosecution as well as the obligation to remove waste dumped on public rights of way and places;
  - You risk having the assets used to commit the offence sealed and seized, as well as the closure of your premises and establishments;
  - The removal at your expense and risk of

## What can I do to help keep my city clean?

- I love Douala, so its cleanliness is my concern! What about you?
- Let's fight against insubordination and change our behaviour for good to improve our living environment:
- Respect the days and times when the sanitation services come and go, and put your bins away after collection;
- Put your household waste in the bins... and not on the ground;
- Don't throw your waste out of your car or house window;
- Don't transform green spaces, playgrounds, or the frontage of your homes into waste bins;
- For Douala to become the cleanest city in 2021... LET'S ACT!

## Why and how can I contribute for the Cleanliness of Douala?

- A clean city is the one in which our health and that of our children is not threatened;
- A clean city is the one in which the population lives in harmony with its environment;
- A clean city is a source of pride for its inhabitants, an economic and tourist attraction.

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## Publisher's Note

**A**s we draw near to the close of this year, amidst celebrations and the festive Yuletide season, we find ourselves at a significant juncture in our journey. We reflect upon the tapestry of events, experiences, and emotions that have woven our present reality.

Among them, we pay tribute to the indomitable Bertrand Mbouck, the visionary team at MTN Cameroon, the dedication of Onyengubo Jonathan Thomas, and the tenacity of Nigeria's First Lady, Oluremi Tinubu, alongside many others. These individuals exemplify the immense potential within Africa's embrace.

Within the pages of this edition, you'll discover a diverse array of articles that reflect the multifaceted nature of our global landscape. From the corridors of power in Nigeria to the monumental inauguration of the Dangote Refinery in Lagos, our pen has diligently captured moments that will resonate throughout history. Interviews with luminaries, thought-provoking features, and insightful segments await your exploration, including the newly introduced French sections where we translate our features and present key articles in French. This expansion reflects our commitment to evolving and extending our reach across Africa.

This special edition would not have come to fruition without the steadfast support and encouragement of organizations and individuals who share our vision. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Ministry of Communication Partnership, the Nigerian High Commission, Consulate General of Nigeria in Douala and Buea, and the Office of the Governor of the Littoral Region. The unwavering support of partners such as UBA Cameroon, Dangote Cement Cameroon, Port Authority of Douala, Socatral, MTN Cameroon, MRS Corlay Cameroon, Dozass Auto, FONIC, Asky, and Airpeace has been instrumental in our journey.

We also pay a special tribute to the

vibrant Nigerian community in the Diaspora, particularly in Cameroon, as well as the Cameroonian community, for their boundless enthusiasm and unwavering support.

"In celebration of our remarkable 10-year journey, we are thrilled to announce the inauguration of our 1st Annual Symposium with the theme 'DIASPORA AND NATION BUILDING: CHALLENGES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND PROSPECTS.' This symposium aims to foster meaningful conversations and insights into the pivotal role of the diaspora in shaping the future of our nation. Additionally, we are delighted to introduce an award and gala ceremony, a night of recognition and celebration. This gala will be dedicated to honoring individuals and businesses that have not only withstood the test of time but have also made substantial contributions to the growth and development of our nation.

Here's to a decade of timeless storytelling, impact, growth, and collaboration, and to the countless chapters that await in the journey ahead.

With gratitude and anticipation,



**Ismaila Adegbola**  
CEO/PUBLISHER

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## NAIJA DIASPORA MAGAZINE EXPANDS ITS HORIZON

Chronicles of Nigerian Excellence in Chad

In a world that's increasingly interconnected, the contributions of the Nigerian diaspora community resonate far beyond the shores of Nigeria. Naija Diaspora, as the name suggests, stands as a beacon of this global influence, striving to shed light on the remarkable endeavors and positive impacts of Nigerians in countries around the world. At the helm of this endeavor is the creative director and chief editor, Mr. Ismeal Adegbola, whose commitment to showcasing the extraordinary accomplishments of Nigerians abroad knows no bounds.

Recently, the Naija Diaspora Magazine team embarked on an exciting journey to Chad, a country in Central Africa, through the warm embrace of the Embassy of Nigeria in Chad. This visit, filled with camaraderie and shared enthusiasm, marked the beginning of a significant chapter in the magazine's history.

The journey commenced with a courtesy visit to the Nigerian Embassy in Chad, where the team was welcomed with open

arms. This initial interaction exemplified the spirit of unity and collaboration that Naija Diaspora Magazine aims to promote. The warm ambiance of Chad, coupled with the reception at the embassy, left an indelible mark on the team and set the stage for what promises to be an extraordinary endeavor.

Excitingly, the Naija Diaspora Magazine team is now gearing up to launch its operations in Chad. This strategic move underscores the magazine's commitment to expanding its footprint and exploring the diverse accomplishments of Nigerians in every corner of the globe. Chad, with its vibrant culture and friendly government, offers a promising platform for Naija Diaspora Magazine to further its mission.

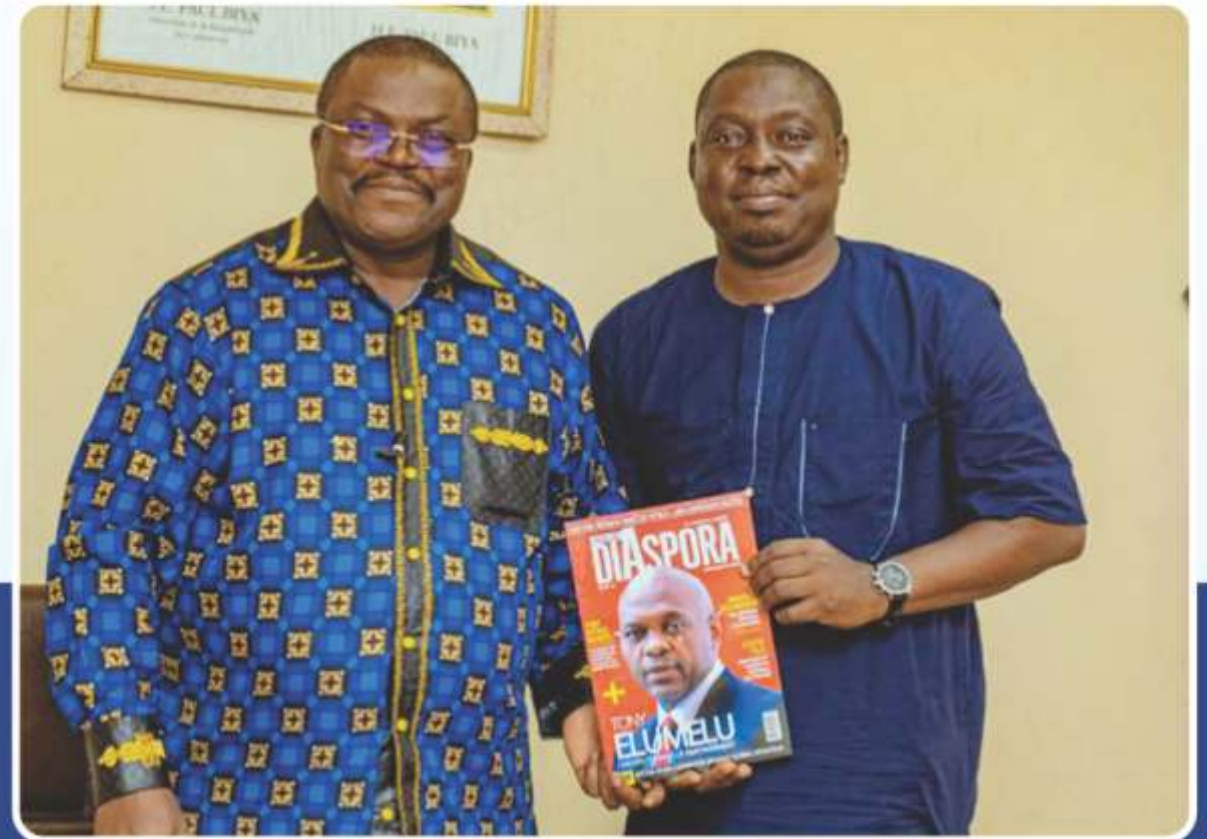
Speaking of the warm nature of the Chad government towards Nigerians and foreign diplomats, it's evident that Chad is a country that values innovation and welcomes constructive policies. The receptiveness of the Chadian government to new ideas and ventures bodes well for Naija Diaspora Magazine's future in the country. This open-minded approach creates an encouraging

environment for the magazine's initiatives to prosper.

As Naija Diaspora Magazine continues its global odyssey, it envisions a future where it traverses from country to country, unraveling the incredible impact of Nigerians worldwide. The magazine's mission transcends borders and encapsulates the unity, determination, and achievements of Nigerians across the diaspora. Through in-depth features, thought-provoking articles, and captivating stories, Naija Diaspora Magazine strives to bridge the gap between cultures, inspire collaboration, and foster a sense of pride in the global Nigerian community.

Naija Diaspora Magazine's foray into Chad represents a significant milestone in its mission to spotlight the exceptional contributions of Nigerians worldwide. With the support of the Chadian government, this endeavor promises to be a resounding success. As the magazine sets its sights on expanding to more countries, it continues to be a powerful advocate for Nigerians in the diaspora, celebrating their positive impact on the global stage.

## 10 YEARS OF IMPACTFUL SERVICE!



Congratulations to Naija Diaspora Magazine on reaching a remarkable milestone—10 years of impactful service!

Your dedication to fostering unity and creating a global impact in Africa is truly commendable.

Here's to a decade of excellence, and may your future endeavors continue to inspire and connect communities worldwide.

Cheers to a decade of making a difference!

**H/E SAMUEL IVAHA DIBOUA**  
GOVERNOR OF LITORAL REGION, CAMEROON





# ABAYOMI OLONISAKIN'S

## Legacy of Diplomatic Excellence in Cameroon"

**I**n the ever-evolving world of diplomacy, the remarkable Ambassador Abayomi Olonisakin stands as a beacon of change, transforming Nigeria's standing within Cameroon through his exceptional diplomatic prowess. His tenure has not only rewritten the playbook for bilateral relations but has also fostered regional cooperation and championed initiatives that put people at the heart of diplomacy.

Appointed by President Muhammadu Buhari in 2021, Ambassador Olonisakin was welcomed to Yaounde as Nigeria's Ambassador-Designate, setting the stage for a transformative journey.

In recognition of his exemplary leadership and unwavering dedication, the Nigeria High Commission recently celebrated Ambassador Olonisakin's tenure with a grand Cocktail event, marking the end of his service in Cameroon. His departure left a lasting legacy that inspired a send-forth ceremony organized by the Nigerian community in Cameroon.

The send-forth ceremony, held at the residence of the Nigeria High Commission in Yaounde on October 25, 2023, was a remarkable affair. Dignitaries from both nations, including the Representative of the Cameroon Minister of Foreign Affairs, members of the Diplomatic Corps, and the Consul General of Nigeria in Buea, came together to honor Ambassador Olonisakin's exceptional legacy.

In his heartfelt speech, Ambassador Olonisakin expressed gratitude to former President Muhammadu Buhari for appointing him as an Ambassador following his retirement as Chief of Defense Staff in Nigeria. He also praised President Bola Tinubu for the opportunity to serve in the new government. With deep sincerity, Ambassador Olonisakin emphasized the importance of dedication, loyalty, and commitment in making a



difference in the service of one's fatherland. He expressed his appreciation for the excellent working relationship between Nigeria and Cameroon, extending his gratitude to President Paul Biya for a very symbiotic relationship. Ambassador Olonisakin's parting words resonated with the audience, as he highlighted the peak in Cameroon-Nigeria relations and urged the over 4 million Nigerians in Cameroon to uphold lawfulness and sustain the cordial relations between both countries.

Cameroon's President, Paul Biya, added to the honors by conferring the rank of Grand Officer of the National Order of Valour upon Ambassador Olonisakin during a state dinner. This recognition underscored the invaluable work he did to strengthen the bilateral relationship between Cameroon and Nigeria, leaving an indelible mark on diplomatic history.

Throughout his life, Ambassador Olonisakin has lived calmly and symbolically, demonstrating exemplary

leadership since his days as Chief of Defense Staff from July 2015 to January 2021. Despite the challenges faced by the Nigerian Army during his tenure, his superiors consistently regarded him as a reliable and trustworthy officer, valuing his words and guidance. His track record and experience making him an indispensable asset in providing effective leadership and security defense expertise, both in Nigeria and Cameroon. His leadership style and dedication have earned him widespread recognition and admiration, making him a beacon of hope for many in the region.

His tenure as Ambassador has been marked by a steady rise in Nigeria's global profile. His proactive and innovative

approach to diplomacy has garnered admiration from the international community, further enhancing Nigeria's reputation as a responsible and forward-thinking regional power.

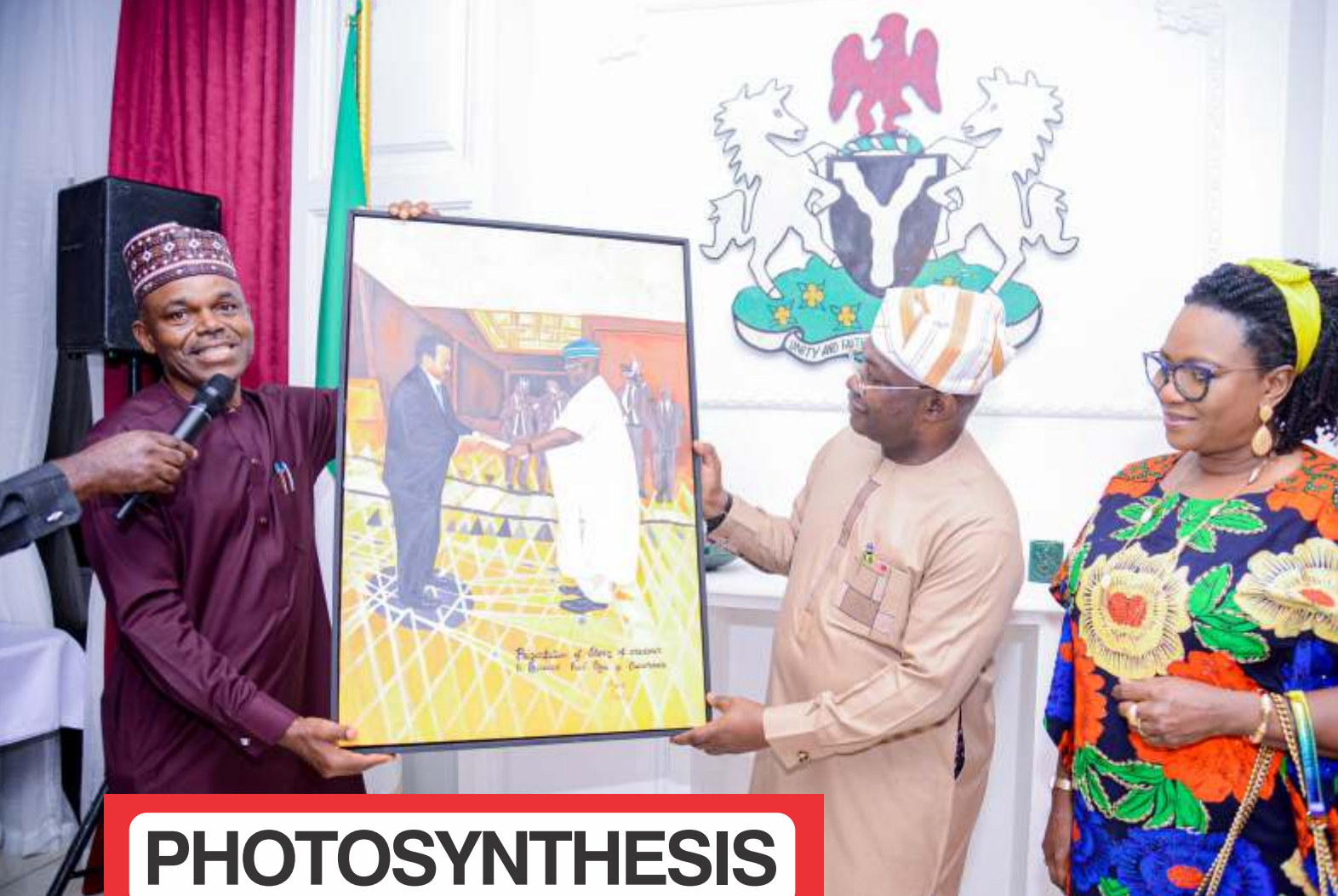
Additionally, his commitment to fostering regional security cooperation has resulted in joint efforts to combat extremist elements to ensure stability in the region. Nigeria and Cameroon now stand shoulder to shoulder in addressing common security threats, exemplifying the power of diplomacy in building partnerships for peace.

Ambassador Olonisakin's exceptional diplomacy has played a pivotal role in elevating Nigeria's standing on the world stage. By building strong bridges of understanding and cooperation, he has opened new avenues of collaboration and strengthened ties between Nigeria and Cameroon.

As he continues to foster unity, peace and progress, the future holds great promise for the enduring friendship between these two African nations.

**Throughout his life, Ambassador Olonisakin has lived calmly and symbolically, demonstrating exemplary leadership since his days as Chief of Defense Staff from July 2015 to January 2021.**





## PHOTOSYNTHESIS

# Top dignitaries at Ambassador Olonisakin's end of tour in Cameroon

In appreciating unprecedented tenor, the Nigeria High Commission honoured Ambassador Abayomi Olonisakin who served as High Commissioner with a cocktail to end his duty of tour in Cameroon.

The Nigerian Ambassador was described as a team leader who bequeathed a laudable legacy to Nigerians in Cameroon who, in turn, organised a send-forth ceremony in his honour.

The send-forth ceremony included a remarkable speech by the Ambassador, goodwill messages from Home base officers, Nigerian Community and

invited guests, held at the residence of the Nigeria High Commission Yaounde, on Wednesday, 25th October, 2023.

Representative of the Cameroon Minister of Foreign Affairs, Members of the Diplomatic Corps in Cameroon, Representative of the Consul General of Nigeria, Buea, Home based and local staff of the Nigeria High Commission and Defense Section, members of the Nigerian Community, Eze Gburu Gburu of Ohanaeze Ndigbo of Cameroon, Eze Jonathan Onyengubor, UBA Cameroon and Asky converged paif glowing tributes and bid him

farewell.

Olonisakin acknowledged former President Muhammadu Buhari for finding him worthy to serve as Ambassador after retiring as Chief of Defence Staff in Nigeria.

The Ambassador also eulogised President Bola Tinubu for allowing him to be part of the new government as an Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Cameroon President, Paul Biya decorated Olonisakin with the rank of Grand Officer of the National Order of Valour, appreciating the departing envoy for exceptionally lifting the long-standing diplomatic ties between Cameroon and Nigeria several notches higher.

Olonisakin was decorated at a state dinner organised by the Minister of External Relations, Minister Jejeune Mbella Mbella, on behalf of President Paul Biya.













# HATE SPEECH, XENOPHOBIA

## An Aberration in Cameroon

**T**HE world is moving spherically to curb some immorality in its society, especially in the case of racism, xenophobia, and hate speech. These habits are not limited to a region, but it is becoming challenging to countries that failed to deal with it lawfully. The Republic of Cameroon has taken drastic action to overturn hate speech, xenophobia, and racism as an aberration in the country.

In common language, "hate speech" refers to offensive discourse targeting a group or an individual based on inherent characteristics (such as race, religion or

gender) and that may threaten social peace. Hate speech is "any kind of communication in speech, writing or behavior that attacks or uses pejorative or discriminatory language with reference to a person or a group on the basis of who they are, in other words, based on their religion, ethnicity, nationality, race, colour, descent, gender or other identity factors."

It is often employed in the promulgation of conspiracy theories, disinformation and denial and distortion of historical events such as genocide. Countries all over the world are required to prohibit the most severe forms of hate speech that constitute incitement to violence, hostility or discrimination, or incitement to genocide or other violations of international law.

In joining the force to prohibit hate speech and xenophobia, Cameroon's Minister of Communication, Rene Emmanuel Sadi, the President of the National Commission for the Promotion of Bilingualism and Multiculturalism, Peter Mafany Musonge, and the Minister of Territorial Administrations, Paul Atanga Nji, had declared priority measures whereby such individual threats would be restricted in Cameroon.

A mounting number of attacks on immigrants and other minorities have raised major concerns about the connection between inflammatory speech online and violent acts, as well as the role of corporations and the state in policing speech. Analysts say trends in hate crimes around the world echo changes in the political climate, and that social





media can magnify discord. At their most extreme, rumors and invective disseminated online have contributed to violence ranging from lynching to ethnic cleansing.

Violence in “the name of religion” is often manifested through targeted attacks on individuals or communities, acts of extremism or terrorism, communal violence, State repression, discriminative policies or legislation and other types of embedded structural violence. Incidents involving hate speech, negative stereotyping, and advocacy of religious or national hatred have resulted in killings of innocent people, attacks on places of worship and calls for reprisals. Such violence also disproportionately targets religious dissidents, members of religious minorities, converts or non-believers.

The response has been uneven, and the task of deciding what to censor, and how, has largely fallen to the handful of corporations that control the platforms on which much of the world now communicates. But these companies are constrained by domestic laws. In liberal democracies, these laws can serve to defuse discrimination and head off violence against minorities. But such laws can also be used to suppress minorities and dissidents.

The Cameroon government has not only read the riot act on the prohibition of hate speech but also discussed the impact of the individual threat on society and emphasised the need for immediate action to combat it during a press conference in the country's capital, Yaounde recently.

In backing the recent measures of the Cameroonian government, social scientists and others have observed how social media posts, and other online speech, had inspired acts of violence:

In Germany a correlation was found between anti-refugee Facebook posts by the far-right Alternative for Germany party and attacks on refugees. Scholars Karsten Muller and Carlo Schwarz observed that upticks in attacks, such as arson and assault, followed spikes in hate-mongering posts.

In the United States, perpetrators of recent white supremacist attacks have circulated among racist communities online, and also embraced social media to publicize their acts. Prosecutors said the Charleston church shooter, who killed nine black clergy and worshippers in June 2015, engaged in a “self-learning process” online that led him to believe that the goal of white supremacy required violent action.



The 2018 Pittsburgh synagogue shooter was a participant in the social media network Gab, whose lax rules have attracted extremists banned by larger platforms. There, he espoused the conspiracy that Jews sought to bring immigrants into the United States, and render whites a minority, before killing eleven worshippers at a refugee-themed Shabbat service. This “great replacement” trope, which was heard at the white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, a year prior and originates with the French far right, expresses demographic anxieties about nonwhite immigration and birth rates.

The great replacement trope was in turn espoused by the perpetrator of the 2019 New Zealand mosque shootings who killed forty-nine Muslims at prayer and sought to broadcast the attack on YouTube.

In Myanmar, military leaders and Buddhist nationalists used social



media to slur and demonize the Rohingya Muslim minority ahead of and during a campaign of ethnic cleansing. Though Rohingya comprised perhaps 2 per cent of the population, ethno nationalists claimed that Rohingya would soon supplant the Buddhist majority. The UN fact-finding mission said, “Facebook has been a useful instrument for those seeking to spread hate, in a context where, for most users, Facebook is the Internet.”

In India, lynch mobs and other types of communal violence, in many cases originating with rumors on WhatsApp groups, have been on the rise since the Hindu-nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) came to power in 2014.

Sri Lanka has similarly seen vigilantism inspired by rumors spread online, targeting the Tamil Muslim minority. During a spate of violence in March 2018, the government blocked access to Facebook and WhatsApp, as well as the messaging app Viber, for a week, saying that Facebook had not been sufficiently responsive during the emergency.

In educating its citizens and migrants, Cameroon officials highlighted the importance of freedom of expression and the responsibility that comes with it. Hate speech, they emphasized, is not only harmful to the targeted individuals or groups but also to society as a whole.

Cameroon's Minister of Communication, Rene Emmanuel Sadi said: “From this perspective, it goes without saying that the fight against hate speech must be perceived as an absolute priority towards safeguarding democracy and the Rule of Law, and preserving the values of peace, unity and living



together.”

He went on: “That is the reason why the International Community has made it a common cause and is calling for an all-round mobilisation against hate speech on a global scale.”

#### The effects of hate speech

Hate speech not only causes harm at the personal level and can incite violence, it is an attack on inclusion, diversity and human rights. It undermines social cohesion and erodes shared values, setting back peace, stability, sustainable development and the fulfillment of human rights for all.

The West African country also noted that hate speech can take many forms, including verbal and written communication, as well as actions and symbols that promote hatred or discrimination, which they had noticed to have become rampant, especially amongst various tribes and communities in the country.

In the same vein, Peter Mafany Musonge of the bilingualism commission reinvigorated Cameroonians to embrace living together, as prescribed by the Head of state, President Paul Biya.

where they appeared first.

- Challenge: One way to tackle hate speech is to spread your own counter-speech to make sure hate is not the dominant narrative. You can undermine hateful content with positive messages that spread tolerance, equality and truth in defense of those being targeted by hate.

- Support: Taking a public stand for, and extending solidarity to, people who are the targets of hate speech demonstrates that rejecting hate is the responsibility of every individual.

- Report: Most online platforms and communities have rules to keep user discussions respectful and will let you easily report hate messages to administrators or moderators. Read social media platform guidelines and tips to protect users from harassment and hate speech. For more serious cases – which may constitute incitement to violence, harassment and/or threats prohibited by law – notify organisations fighting hate speech and/or file a complaint with police (or the public prosecutor). Some countries have online tools to make reporting hate speech easier.

- Educate: You can help raise awareness of hate speech - online or offline - simply by engaging with your family and friends in conversations about how hateful content can harm societies. Advocate for responsible behaviour and share public campaigns and educational resources.

Minister Sadi on his part outlined several measures that the government intends to take to combat hate speech. These include strengthening existing laws and regulations related to hate speech, increasing public awareness about the harms of hate speech, and promoting positive values such as tolerance and respect.

Taking the floor, Territorial Administration Minister, Paul Atanga Nji, emphasised the importance of holding perpetrators of hate speech accountable for their actions, and announced that the government would be taking legal action against individuals and organisations found to be engaging in hate speech.

Further highlighted by the Francophone country, was the important role that the media can play in combating hate speech. They called on media organisations to promote responsible journalism and to avoid sensationalising stories that could inflame tensions, if not face the consequences as stated in the constitutional law.

In May 2019, the United Nations Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech was launched highlighting that a disturbing groundswell of xenophobia, racism and intolerance is being observed around the world. Social media and other forms of communication are being exploited as platforms for bigotry. Public discourse is being weaponised for political gain with incendiary rhetoric that stigmatises and dehumanises minorities, migrants, refugees, women and any so-called “other”.

This is a bigotry act that occurs in all societies, whether offline or online. It can sometimes be hard to assess when a comment is meant as hate speech – especially when expressed in the virtual world. It can also feel overwhelming to try to deal with obviously hateful content.

However, there are many ways you can take a stand, even if you are not personally the victim of hate speech. And you can make a difference.

- Pause: Refrain from making any hateful comments yourself and/or relaying such content. Whether online or offline, we should all act responsibly to stop the spread of hate and misinformation. Check out the United Nations #PledgeToPause campaign to find out why it's important to take a moment to pause before you share content online. Learn how to do this responsibly – whether you're forwarding a message, retweeting a story or watching a video in your feed

- Fact-check: In the digital world, it's common to come across misinformation and harmful content, but it's relatively easy to verify content you find is reliable. To detect false and biased information, including hate speech propaganda, be sure to check the content's origin with the help of search engines, fact-checking tools and other reliable sources. You can also download images and run them through image search tools to find out





# Discours haineux et xénophobie

## des aberrations au Cameroun

**L**e monde tout entier se met ensemble pour combattre certains fléaux dans sa société. Au rang de ses fléaux, nous avons le racisme, la xénophobie et le discours haineux. Ces habitudes qui ne se limitent pas uniquement à une région, deviennent un défi pour les pays qui n'ont pas pu les combattre sur le plan légal. La République du Cameroun a pris des mesures drastiques en vue de combattre le discours haineux, la xénophobie et le racisme en tant que des aberrations dans le pays.

Selon le langage courant, « discours haineux » fait référence à un discours insultant dirigé contre un groupe ou un

individu sur la base de ses caractéristiques inhérentes (telles que la race, la religion ou le sexe) et cela pourrait mettre la paix sociale en péril. Le discours haineux « correspond à toute forme de discours, de narration ou de comportement s'attaquant à ou utilisant un langage péjoratif ou discriminatoire contre une personne ou un groupe sur la base de qui ils sont, ou encore sur leur religion, ethnicité, nationalité, race, couleur, descendance, sexe ou sur d'autres facteurs identitaires. »

On l'utilise souvent dans la promotion des thèses de complot, de désinformation, de déni et de déformation des événements historiques tels que les génocides. À travers le monde, les pays sont tenus d'interdire les formes les plus graves de discours haineux qui engendrent la violence, l'hostilité, la discrimination ou qui engendrent le génocide ou toutes autres violations de lois internationales.

En associant leurs forces pour combattre le discours haineux et la xénophobie, le Ministre de la communication du Cameroun, Monsieur Emmanuel SADI, le Président de la Commission nationale pour la promotion du bilinguisme et le multiculturalisme, Monsieur Peter Mafany Musonge et le Ministre de l'administration territoriale, Monsieur Paul Atanga Nji, ont pris des mesures prioritaires en vue de restreindre de telles menaces individuelles au Cameroun.

Le nombre accru d'attaques contre les immigrants et d'autres minorités a suscité de vives inquiétudes quant à la relation existant entre l'envolée des discours haineux en ligne et les actes de violence, ainsi que le rôle joué par les entreprises et l'État en matière de contrôle du discours. Selon les





analystes, les tendances de crimes motivés par la haine à travers le monde apportent des changements dans le climat politique et surtout selon eux, les médias sociaux peuvent exacerber la situation. À leurs niveaux les plus extrêmes, les rumeurs et les invectives véhiculées en ligne ont engendré de la violence allant du lynchage jusqu'au nettoyage ethnique.

La violence « au nom de la religion » se manifeste souvent à travers les attaques ciblées contre les individus ou les communautés, les actes d'extrémisme ou de terrorisme, la violence collective, la répression de l'État, les politiques ou lois discriminatoires et d'autres types de violence structurelle intégrée. Des incidents impliquant les discours haineux, les clichés négatifs et le plaidoyer de la haine religieuse ou nationale ont donné lieu à des tueries de personnes innocentes, aux attaques contre les lieux d'adoration et aux appels aux représailles. De telles violences ciblent également et ce, de manière disproportionnée, les dissidents religieux, les membres de minorités religieuses, les convertis ou les non croyants.

La réponse a été inégale et la responsabilité de décider de ce qui doit être censuré et comment censurer cela a été laissée entre les mains des entreprises qui contrôlent les plateformes sur lesquelles le monde entier communique actuellement. Malheureusement, ces entreprises sont tenues par des lois locales. Dans certaines démocraties libérales, lesdites lois peuvent être à l'origine de la discrimination et de la violence contre les minorités. Par ailleurs, ces lois peuvent être utilisées pour réprimer les minorités et les dissidents.

Lors d'une conférence de presse récemment organisée à Yaoundé, la capitale du pays, le gouvernement camerounais n'a pas seulement lu la loi contre les émeutes en matière d'interdiction du discours haineux, mais a également tenu une discussion relative à l'impact de la menace individuelle sur la société et a mis l'emphase sur la nécessité de prendre des mesures immédiates pour combattre cela.

En soutenant les mesures récentes prises par le gouvernement camerounais, les spécialistes en sciences sociales et d'autres spécialistes ont remarqué que les publications faites sur les réseaux sociaux et d'autres discours haineux



en ligne ont inspiré des actes de violence.

En Allemagne, une corrélation a été établie entre les publications Facebook contre les réfugiés par le parti allemand de l'extrême-droite pour l'alternance et les attaques contre les réfugiés. Les universitaires Karsten Muller et Carlo Schwarz ont remarqué que la montée des attaques, telles que les incendies criminels et les agressions ont été perpétrées suite à l'exacerbation des publications à caractère haineux.

Aux États-Unis, les auteurs des

attaques récentes des suprémacistes blancs ont fait circuler leurs publications parmi les communautés racistes en ligne. Ce qui leur a permis de profiter des réseaux sociaux pour répandre leurs actes. Les Procureurs ont dit que le tireur de l'église de Charleston qui a tué neuf pasteurs et fidèles noirs en 2015, s'était engagé dans un « processus d'auto-apprentissage » en ligne ce qui lui fait croire que l'objectif de la suprématie blanche nécessitait la violence.

Le tireur de la synagogue de Pittsburgh en 2018 était un membre du réseau social Gab dont les règles libérales ont attiré de nombreux extrémistes qui avaient été bannis des plateformes plus grandes. Sur ce réseau social, il a épousé l'idée selon laquelle les juifs avaient pour intention de faire entrer les immigrants aux États-Unis afin de rendre les blancs minoritaires, avant de tuer onze fidèles pendant un culte Shabbat organisé pour les réfugiés. Ce slogan de « Grand changement » que reprenaient les suprémacistes blancs pendant leur manifestation de Charlottesville en Virginie un an auparavant, tire son origine de l'extrême droite française et met en évidence les anxiétés démographiques liées aux taux d'immigration et de naissance des personnes non blanches.

Ce slogan de grand changement a

par la suite été récupéré par l'auteur de la fusillade qui a eu lieu à la mosquée de la Nouvelle Zélande en 2019. Fusillade au cours de laquelle l'auteur avait tué quarante-neuf musulmans en train de prier et avait cherché à publier cette attaque sur YouTube.

À Myanmar, les chefs militaires et les nationalistes bouddhistes se servent des médias sociaux pour déprécier et diaboliser la minorité musulmane de Rohingya en prélude à et pendant une campagne de nettoyage ethnique. Bien que la communauté Rohingya ne représente qu'à peu près 2 pour cent de la population, les ethno-nationalistes ont prétendu que les Rohingya seraient bientôt plus nombreux que la majorité bouddhiste. La mission d'enquête des Nations unies a déclaré que « Facebook a été un instrument utile pour les personnes qui désirent propager la haine, dans un contexte où la plupart des utilisateurs, Facebook c'est Internet. »

En Inde, les bandes de lynchage et les autres types de violence collective provenant dans plusieurs cas des rumeurs véhiculées dans les groupes WhatsApp, ont été exacerbées depuis que le parti nationaliste hindou Bharatiya Janata (BJP) a pris le pouvoir en 2014.

De manière similaire, le Sri Lanka a vu les groupes d'auto-défense se baser sur des rumeurs propagées en

ligne pour attaquer la minorité musulmane Tamil. Au cours d'une avalanche de violence en mars 2018, le gouvernement avait, pendant une semaine, coupé l'accès à Facebook et à WhatsApp, ainsi que l'accès à l'application de messagerie Viber en alléguant que Facebook n'avait pas été suffisamment réactive durant la situation d'urgence.

En sensibilisant ses citoyens et migrants, les autorités camerounaises ont mis l'emphase sur l'importance de la liberté d'expression et sur la responsabilité que cela implique. Elles ont par ailleurs relevé que le discours haineux n'est pas seulement dangereux pour les individus ou groupes ciblés, mais également pour la Jana ta société en général.

Le Ministre de la communication du Cameroun, Monsieur Emmanuel Sadi a déclaré que : « Vu sur cet angle, il va sans dire que la lutte contre le discours haineux doit être perçue comme une priorité absolue pour la sauvegarde de la démocratie et de l'État de droit et pour préserver les valeurs de la paix et du vivre ensemble. »

Il a continué en ajoutant que : « C'est la raison pour laquelle la Communauté internationale a fait de cela une cause commune et lance un appel pour une mobilisation générale contre le discours haineux à l'échelle mondiale. »

#### Les effets du discours haineux :

Le discours haineux ne cause pas seulement les dommages au niveau personnel, mais peut également inciter à la violence. C'est une attaque contre l'inclusion, la diversité et contre les droits de l'homme. Il met en péril la cohésion sociale et



développement durable et la réalisation des droits de l'homme pour tous.

Les pays de l'Afrique de l'Ouest ont également remarqué que le discours haineux peut prendre plusieurs formes, notamment la communication verbale et écrite, ainsi que les actions et les symboles promouvant la haine et la discrimination, dont ils se sont rendus compte de leur caractère rampant surtout parmi les différentes tribus et communautés du pays.

Dans la même veine, Monsieur Peter Mafany Musonge de la Commission du bilinguisme, a exhorté les camerounais à embrasser le vivre ensemble, tel que prescrit par le Chef de l'État, le Président Paul Biya.

En mai 2019, la Stratégie et le plan d'action des Nations unies sur le discours haineux a été lancée et celle-ci mettait en évidence le fait qu'il existe un bassin perturbant de xénophobie, de racisme et d'intolérance à travers le monde. On exploite les médias sociaux et d'autres formes de communication comme plateformes pour le fanatisme. Le discours public est utilisé comme une arme à des fins politiques avec des rhétoriques incendiaires qui stigmatisent et déshumanisent les minorités, les migrants, les réfugiés, les femmes ainsi que ceux qu'on appelle les « autres. »

Il s'agit là du fanatisme qui se produit dans toutes les sociétés, que ce soit en ligne ou hors ligne. Parfois, il peut être difficile de déterminer si un commentaire correspond à un discours haineux, surtout lorsque celui-ci est fait dans le monde virtuel. Cela peut être accablant de faire face à des contenus manifestement haineux.

Toutefois, il existe plusieurs manières pour prendre position, même si vous n'êtes pas personnellement la victime d'un discours haineux. Et vous pouvez faire la différence.

· Marquez un temps d'arrêt : Abstenez-vous de faire tous commentaires haineux et/ou de partager un tel contenu. Que vous soyez en ligne ou hors ligne, vous devez agir de manière responsable afin d'arrêter la propagation de la haine et de la désinformation. Consultez la campagne des Nations unies « #PledgetoPause » afin de comprendre pourquoi il est





important de prendre un temps d'arrêt avant de partager un contenu en ligne. Apprenez à faire cela de manière responsable - que vous soyez en train de transférer ou de retweeter une story ou en train de regarder une vidéo via votre appareil

- Vérifiez les faits : Dans le monde du numérique, il est très courant de tomber sur la désinformation et des contenus dangereux, mais il est très facile de vérifier le contenu que vous avez trouvé est fiable. Pour détecter une fausse information ou une information biaisée, notamment la propagande de discours haineux, assurez-vous de vérifier la source du contenu à l'aide des moteurs de recherche, des outils de vérification des faits et d'autres sources fiables. Vous pouvez également télécharger les images et les faire passer à travers les outils de recherche d'images afin de découvrir là où elles sont apparues pour la première fois.

- Opposez les discours : Une manière de combattre le discours haineux consiste à propager votre propre contre discours afin de vous assurer que la haine ne soit pas l'élément dominant. Vous pouvez également atténuer le contenu haineux en publiant des messages positifs qui prônent la tolérance, l'égalité et la vérité dans la défense des personnes ciblées par le discours haineux.

- Apportez votre soutien : Prendre une position publique pour, et montrer sa solidarité aux personnes victimes de discours haineux démontre que c'est de la responsabilité de tout le monde de rejeter le discours haineux.

- Signalez : La plupart des plateformes et communautés en ligne ont des règles pour garder les discussions des utilisateurs respectueuses et elles vous permettront de signaler facilement les messages de haine aux administrateurs ou modérateurs. Lisez les guides et les astuces de la plateforme du média social afin de protéger les utilisateurs du harcèlement et des discours haineux. Pour les cas les plus graves, qui peuvent constituer l'incitation à la violence, au harcèlement et/ou les menaces interdits par la loi, notifiez les organisations en charge de la lutte contre les discours haineux et/ou déposez une plainte à la police (ou chez le Procureur). Certains pays disposent des outils en ligne qui rendent le signalement des discours haineux plus facile.

- Éduquez les masses : Vous pouvez aider à sensibiliser contre le discours haineux que ce soit en ligne ou hors ligne en vous engageant simplement dans des conversations avec votre famille et amis concernant les contenus haineux qui peuvent

détruire la société. Préconiser un comportement responsable et partagez des campagnes publiques et des ressources éducatives.

Le Ministre Sadi a pour sa part, souligné les nombreuses mesures que le gouvernement entend prendre pour combattre le discours haineux. Ceci comprend le renforcement des lois et des règlements existants relatifs au discours haineux, l'accroissement de la sensibilisation publique à propos des dangers du discours haineux et la promotion des valeurs positives telles que la tolérance et le respect.

En prenant la parole, le Ministre de l'administration territoriale, Monsieur Paul Atanga Ni a mis l'accent sur l'importance de tenir les auteurs des discours haineux responsables de leurs actions. Il a également annoncé que le gouvernement prendrait des mesures légales contre les individus et les organisations qui véhiculent les discours haineux.

Le pays francophone a par ailleurs mis en lumière l'important rôle que les médias peuvent jouer dans la lutte contre le discours haineux. Ils ont exhorté les organisations médiatiques à promouvoir un journalisme responsable et d'éviter les histoires à caractère sensationnel qui pourraient attiser les tensions, sous peine de subir les conséquences prévues par la constitution.

# Celebrating A Remarkable Milestone



*Congratulations on reaching this remarkable milestone, the 10th anniversary of Naija Diaspora Magazine! Your journey has been nothing short of extraordinary. I am grateful to have been a part of one-quarter of these remarkable ten years, which amounts to approximately two and a half years.*

*Watching you and your team grow, evolve, and consistently produce exceptional quality work has been truly inspiring. Everyone who encounters your magazine echoes the sentiment of its exceptional quality. You and your team truly deserve all the commendations and congratulations.*

*As you celebrate this significant achievement, I wish you the very best going forward. I firmly believe that, with your unwavering dedication to nation-building, you will surpass even your own expectations. Your contributions extend not only to Nigeria but also resonate within the broader African context.*

*I congratulate and commend you for all the effort you have invested to reach this stage, and I wish you continued success in the future. Our sincerest prayers are that ND Magazine becomes a household name not only in this continent but beyond.*

*Once again, thank you, and may you continue to prosper and excel.*

**AMBASSADOR LAMI SAUDA REMAWA-AHMED**  
FORMER NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE REPUBLIC OF CHAD





# OLUREMI TINUBU

## The Eloquent Nigeria First Lady

**I**n the pulsating heart of Nigerian politics, where the echoes of ambition and the resonance of change collide, Oluremi Tinubu's career illuminates the path for countless others, defying boundaries and shattering barriers in a realm dominated by men. With grace and resilience, she has carved her name into the annals of history as a leader whose journey represents the essence of equality and empowerment in public

service.

Oluremi Tinubu was born on September 21, 1960, in Ogun State, Nigeria. She hails from a humble background and was raised with solid family values. Education was crucial in her household, and she pursued her academic goals with determination. She attended primary and secondary schools in Lagos before proceeding to the University of Ife (now Obafemi Awolowo University) in Osun State, Nigeria.

Oluremi Tinubu's journey into politics began



*Beyond the political sphere, Oluremi Tinubu's philanthropic endeavors are equally commendable, as she spearheaded community-based initiatives, ranging from healthcare programs to educational scholarships, leaving an indelible mark on the lives of countless individuals.*

when she joined the Social Democratic Party (SDP) during the transition to democracy in the early 1990s. However, it was in 1999, with the return of democracy to Nigeria, that she made her first major foray into politics.

Following her husband's successful election as Governor of Lagos State in 1999, Oluremi Tinubu became the First Lady of the state. During her time in this role, she focused on several key issues, particularly those affecting women, children, and the less privileged in the society. She initiated and supported various programs aimed at empowering women and improving their access to education, healthcare and economic opportunities.

As the first lady, Oluremi Tinubu founded the New Era Foundation, with the mission to establish centers focusing on the all-round development of the youth and to raise public awareness about environmental health and community service.

After her tenure as First Lady of Lagos state, Oluremi Tinubu decided to venture into active politics. In 2011, she contested for a seat in the Nigerian National Assembly and was elected as a Senator representing Lagos Central Senatorial District.

Senator Tinubu's election faced a challenge at the Legislative House Election Petition Tribunal when she was first elected. However, the tribunal later upheld the election in 2012.

In the 8th assembly of 2015, Tinubu was among the 100 senators elected, with only six of them being women, among which were Stella Oduah and Uche Ekwunife, both representing Anambra, as well as Fatimat Raji Rasaki, Rose Okoji Oko and Binta



Garba.

During a closed-door session in the Senate in 2016, Senator Tinubu raised concerns about her safety and requested adequate security from the Inspector General of Police due to an alleged threat of assault by her colleague and fellow party member, Dino Melaye.

She represented the Lagos Central Senatorial District under the All Progressives Congress (APC) banner, having won re-election in the March 28, 2015 elections, continuing to serve the people of Lagos Central. Again, in the subsequent 2019 general elections, she successfully retained her senatorial seat, marking her third term in office, receiving recognition in the same year at the Eko Excellence Awards, sharing the spotlight with prominent figures like Babajide Sanwo-Olu and Tony Elumelu. In

2020, she actively advocated for the establishment of state police as a viable solution to combat the escalating insecurity issues within the nation.

In March 2021, Senator Tinubu presented a bill aimed at reforming the Nigerian Postal Service (NIPOST), seeking to enhance its viability as an entity.

As a Senator, Oluremi Tinubu was actively involved in legislative matters and championed several bills and motions aimed at addressing critical issues in her constituency and Nigeria as a whole. Her focus remained on education, women's rights, youth empowerment and social development.

Oluremi Tinubu has made considerable philanthropic efforts to alleviate the suffering of the less privileged, with a particular focus on



empowering girls and women in her constituency.

Her influence extended beyond Nigeria's borders, as she actively participated in international forums, advocating for women's rights on the global stage. Her contributions in forums like the United Nations further solidified her reputation as a steadfast champion for gender equality, earning her the respect and admiration of leaders worldwide.

Beyond the political sphere, Oluremi Tinubu's philanthropic endeavors are equally commendable, as she spearheaded community-based initiatives, ranging from healthcare programs to educational scholarships, leaving an indelible mark on the lives of countless individuals.

With her strong belief in investing in society's human capital, Oluremi has demonstrated this through her Youth Empowerment and Skill Acquisition Scheme in partnership with the Good Boys and Girls Empowerment Scheme (GBGES), which has successfully empowered 1,172 beneficiaries. Notably, 164 young individuals were trained in

various skills and provided with startup kits, as well as a capital of approximately N40,000 each.

In acknowledgment of her remarkable achievements and contributions to the betterment of society, she received local and international honors. Some of these accolades include the National award of the Officer of the Order of the Niger [OON], fellowships at both Adeyemi College of Education, Ondo, and College of Education, Ikere-Ekiti, as well as being a member of the Board of Trustees of Kings' University, Ode-Omu. She has also been honored with the Ghana Noble International Award for Leadership (2004) and the Gambian Diamond Award for her significant contributions to uplifting people from poverty (2005). Furthermore, she holds many citations and chieftain titles in recognition of her outstanding accomplishments. Her exceptional efforts as a senator earned her the prestigious award for the most impactful female legislator at The Guardian-organized International Women's Day Summit in 2021.

To celebrate her role model status

and impactful contributions, the AFAO/WAWA (Association Des Femmes De L'Afrique De L'Ouest/West African Women Association) named the Oluremi Tinubu Women Training Centre in Gorom, Senegal, in her honor.

With the recent election of her husband, Bola Ahmed Tinubu, as the President of Nigeria, Oluremi Tinubu again steps into limelight as she takes on a new role as the First Lady of the country on July 5th, 2023. Being the wife of the President, she holds a unique position to champion positive causes and play a pivotal role in shaping the country's social and political landscape. However, the internet in no time began to buzz with responses to a viral photo featuring the First Lady, reportedly attending a high-level economic meeting with President Bola Tinubu and Vice President Kashim Shettima.

According to reports, the photograph was captured during a crucial meeting at the Presidential Villa in Abuja, where President Tinubu was in discussion with the Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria, Godwin Emefiele and the Group Chief Executive Officer of Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited (NNPCL), Mele Kyari. The meeting revolved around significant economic issues.

The image sparked curiosity and speculation, drawing widespread attention and mixed reactions from the public and media alike.

On July 14th, First Lady Oluremi Tinubu convened a meeting with the wives of the 36 state governors to formally introduce and familiarize them with the goals and mission of the Renewed Hope Initiative (RHI), which is a project associated with her office and has been established with the primary aim of addressing socio-economic challenges and uplifting marginalized women and children, by providing them with valuable skills, essential healthcare services and educational support, while also promoting entrepreneurship development.

During the meeting, she urged the governors' wives to utilize their positions to make a meaningful impact on the lives of the people in their respective states. She reminded them of the importance of delivering on every promise made during election campaigns, emphasizing the urgency of taking concrete actions to improve the well-being of their constituents.

Oluremi Tinubu continues to demonstrate a commitment to public service, as a vocal and influential personality.



# Heartfelt Congratulations



**A**s the Mayor of Douala, I am thrilled to extend my heartfelt congratulations on your 10th-year anniversary.

The Douala City Council is proud to offer our support, and we applaud your outstanding work in connecting communities and sharing diverse narratives.

**Keep up the excellent work, and we look forward to your continued success.**

**DR. ROGER  
MBASSA NDINE**  
THE DOUALA CITY MAYOR



# BERTRAND MBOUCK

An Innovative CEO, A Passionate King

**P**assions vary and involved individuals pursue them fervently. Among them, Bertrand Mbouck stands out for his unwavering drive towards greatness, soaring to heights uncharted by others. His relentless diligence garners admiration, particularly from those who have witnessed his remarkable achievements since he joined Dangote Cement in 2018. From the outset, his clear mission was to “foster a pan-African identity and securing a position of excellence, performance, and growth”.

The crowning achievement for Mbouck is his role as the esteemed King of Bomakondo, Cameroon. Tasked with overseeing Cameroon's cultural concerns, he strives to promote unity, faith and progress. However, while fully embracing this role, Mbouck realizes that it alone is insufficient to reach his ultimate aspirations. He consistently goes above and beyond, setting his sights on nothing less than the best for Dangote and beyond.

Mbouck has shouldered substantial responsibilities from the a young age. As an undergraduate intern at the Finance Department of the Hilton Hotel in Cameroon's capital, Yaoundé, he had the opportunity to interact with auditors from Ernst & Young.

Born on May 12, 1978, in Marseille, France, Mbouck's journey towards greatness commenced with a solid education, culminating in his graduation from the Catholic University of Central Africa in Yaoundé in 2001. Swiftly recruited by the Big Four firm, Ernst & Young, he began to shine, his "Passion for greatness" becoming an inspiring motto for countless ambitious young individuals.

Mbouck's impact endures, with time refining his accomplishments rather than eroding them. His ongoing successes continue to shine brilliantly.

His achievements continue to shine, as time serves as a polishing force rather than a decaying one. Contrary to stereotypes, Mbouck is not just surrounded by the wealthy; he cherishes genuine connections, extending his generosity to the less fortunate, which has earned him the title "Diligent philanthropist. Consequently, he is adored and revered not only in his homeland of Cameroon but throughout Africa.

Even among scholars, Mbouck requires no introduction. His acumen and business prowess have established him as one of Africa's most astute and discerning individuals. Fueled by an unyielding passion for progress and a flair for excellence, Mbouck has been a driving force in revolutionizing Dangote Cement's position in Africa.





A glance back at his career reveals that he joined the Finnish power plant manufacturer, Wärtsilä, during its establishment of a subsidiary in central Africa, assuming the role of an area business controller. Recognizing the importance of belonging to a professional accounting body, he pursued membership with ACCA. Swiftly after earning this qualification, he ascended to the position of regional business controller, overseeing the finances of Wärtsilä subsidiaries across 28 countries in West and Central Africa.

Engaged in strategic projects and negotiations for Wärtsilä, Mbouck Bertrand discovered his innate talent for high-level strategic negotiation for massive endeavors. To enhance his strategy and management skills, he pursued further education at Harvard Business School. His remarkable capabilities led him to become Wärtsilä's youngest regional CEO for Central Africa at the age of 36.

Inspired by his successes at Wärtsilä, Mbouck envisioned exploring a more competitive and dynamic market where he could fully utilize his primary skill: competitiveness. His journey has always been guided by a sense of destiny and focus, with a genuine concern for the well-being of ordinary people, reflected in his generous and peaceful nature.

Mbouck's leadership revolves around building capacities and developing skills, recognizing that Cameroon's greatest asset lies in its people. The African cement industry is set to experience substantial growth, projected at a compound annual rate of 5.9% until 2029. This expansion is primarily attributed to a multitude of infrastructure development projects

across the region. Within this promising sector, Dangote Cement, Nigeria's largest listed company, stands at the forefront, commanding a significant two-thirds share of the domestic cement market.

As the Regional Director for pan-Africa markets at Dangote Cement, Mbouck holds a crucial role in overseeing operations in nine countries: Cameroon, Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania and Zambia. These countries present immense potential for growth, owing to the ongoing infrastructure development projects in the cement industry.

Under Mbouck's visionary guidance, Dangote Cement

witnessed remarkable growth, with revenue doubling in the first year and tripling in the second, as he expressed in his interview with ACCA. His dedication and unwavering determination to achieve objectives set him apart as a highly driven and ambitious leader.

In an extraordinary event, Mbouck was recently enthroned as the King of Bomakondo, Ndom Subdivision, in the Sanaga Maritime Division, Littoral Region. The coronation, marked by unprecedented excitement, gathered influential personalities and a massive crowd. Notably, his father, Mbombog Mbouck Guillaume, who was the former traditional ruler, decided to hand over the throne to him while still alive, making it a rare occurrence in the Littoral Region's history.

Mbouck's journey to leadership, both in the corporate world and as a traditional ruler, exemplifies his exceptional character traits, marked by energy, determination and an unwavering resolve to achieve his ambitions, as he considers the best interest of his followers, colleagues and staff alike. His story continues to inspire and captivate those who encounter it, just as the distinguished tradition of Cameroon's past leaders.



# CELEBRATING A DECADE OF BRILLIANCE



**N**aija Diaspora Magazine has been a beacon of unity and global influence.

*Congratulations on 10 years of fostering connections and making a positive impact worldwide.*

*Your commitment to excellence shines through, and here's to many more years of transforming lives and bridging gaps across the diaspora!*

**HRM BERTRAND MBUOCK CEO**  
CEO/MD, DANGOTE CEMENT CAMEROON



# BERTRAND MBOUCK

Un PDG innovant, un roi passionné

**L**es passions sont diverses et les individus concernés les poursuivent avec ferveur. Parmi eux, Bertrand Mbouck se distingue par sa volonté inébranlable d'atteindre la grandeur, en s'élevant rapidement vers des sommets que d'autres n'ont pas atteints. Son zèle implacable lui vaut l'admiration, en particulier de ceux qui ont été témoins de ses réalisations remarquables depuis qu'il a rejoint Dangote Cement en 2018. Dès le départ, sa mission claire était de "promouvoir une identité panafricaine et d'obtenir une position d'excellence, de performance et de croissance".

Le couronnement des réalisations de Mbouck est son rôle en tant que roi estimé de Bomakondo, au Cameroun. Chargé de superviser les questions culturelles du Cameroun, il s'efforce de promouvoir l'unité, la foi et le progrès. Cependant, tout en assumant pleinement ce rôle, M. Mbouck se rend compte que le rôle à lui seul ne suffit pas pour qu'il atteigne ses aspirations ultimes. Il se surpasse constamment, ne visant rien de moins que le meilleur pour Dangote et au-delà.

M. Mbouck a assumé des responsabilités importantes dès son jeune âge. Etudiant occupant une place de stagiaire au département financier de l'hôtel Hilton à Yaoundé, la capitale du

Cameroun, il a eu l'occasion d'interagir avec les auditeurs d'Ernst & Young.

M. Mbouck est né le 12 mai 1978 à Marseille, en France. Son parcours de vers la grandeur a commencé par une solide éducation, qui s'est achevée par l'obtention d'un diplôme de l'Université catholique d'Afrique centrale à Yaoundé en 2001. Rapidement recruté par le cabinet Ernst & Young, il a commencé à briller, sa « passion pour la grandeur » devenant une devise inspirante pour d'innombrables jeunes ambitieux.

L'impact de M. Mbouck perdure, le temps donnant une meilleure image de ses réalisations au lieu de les saper. Ses succès continuels brillent toujours de mille feux.

Ses réalisations continuent de briller, le temps servant à les polir plutôt qu'à les dévaloriser. Contrairement aux stéréotypes, M. Mbouck n'est pas seulement entouré de riches ; il chérit les liens authentiques et fait preuve de générosité envers les moins fortunés, ce qui lui a valu le titre de « philanthrope diligent ». Par conséquent, il est adoré et vénéré non seulement dans son pays d'origine, le Cameroun, mais aussi dans toute l'Afrique.

Même parmi les érudits, Mbouck n'a pas besoin d'être présenté. Sa perspicacité et ses prouesses en affaires l'ont établi comme l'une des personnes les plus astucieuses et les plus perspicaces d'Afrique. Animé d'une passion inébranlable pour le progrès et d'un sens





de l'excellence, M. Mbouck a joué un rôle moteur pour ce qui est de révolutionner la position de Dangote Cement en Afrique.

Un coup d'œil sur sa carrière révèle qu'il a rejoint le fabricant finlandais de centrales électriques, Wärtsilä, lors de l'établissement d'une filiale en Afrique centrale, où il a assumé le rôle de contrôleur d'entreprise régional. Reconnaisant l'importance d'appartenir à un organisme professionnel de comptabilité, il s'est inscrit à l'ACCA. Peu de temps après avoir obtenu cette qualification, il a accédé au poste de contrôleur régional, supervisant les finances des filiales de Wärtsilä dans 28 pays d'Afrique de l'Ouest et d'Afrique centrale.

Engagé dans des projets stratégiques et des négociations pour Wärtsilä, Mbouck Bertrand a découvert son talent inné pour la négociation stratégique de haut niveau pour des projets de grande envergure. Afin d'améliorer ses compétences en matière de stratégie et de gestion, il a poursuivi ses études à la Harvard Business School. Ses remarquables capacités l'ont conduit à devenir le plus jeune directeur général régional de Wärtsilä pour l'Afrique centrale à l'âge de 36 ans.

Inspiré par ses succès chez Wärtsilä, M. Mbouck a envisagé d'explorer un marché plus compétitif et plus dynamique où il pourrait utiliser pleinement sa principale compétence : la compétitivité. Son parcours a toujours été guidé par un sens du destin et de la concentration, avec un souci sincère pour le bien-être des gens ordinaires, qui se reflète dans sa nature généreuse et pacifique.

Le leadership de M. Mbouck s'articule autour du renforcement des capacités et du développement des compétences, reconnaissant que

le plus grand atout du Cameroun réside dans sa population. L'industrie africaine du ciment devrait connaître une croissance substantielle, avec un taux annuel composé de 5,9 % jusqu'en 2029. Cette expansion est principalement attribuée à une multitude de projets de développement d'infrastructures dans la région. Dans ce secteur prometteur, Dangote Cement, la plus grande société nigériane cotée en bourse, occupe une place de premier plan, avec une part significative de deux tiers du marché national du ciment.

En tant que directeur régional pour les marchés panafricains de Dangote Cement, M. Mbouck joue un rôle crucial dans la supervision des opérations dans neuf pays : le Cameroun, le Congo, l'Éthiopie, le Ghana, le Sénégal, la Sierra Leone, l'Afrique du Sud, la Tanzanie et la Zambie. Ces pays présentent un immense potentiel de croissance, en raison des projets de construction d'infrastructures en cours dans

l'industrie du ciment.

Sous la direction visionnaire de M. Mbouck, Dangote Cement a connu une croissance remarquable, son chiffre d'affaires ayant doublé la première année et triplé la deuxième, comme il l'a indiqué dans son entretien avec l'ACCA. Son dévouement et sa détermination inébranlable à atteindre ses objectifs font de lui un dirigeant ambitieux et très motivé.

Lors d'un événement extraordinaire, M. Mbouck a récemment été intronisé roi de Bomakondo, dans l'arrondissement de Ndom, dans le département de la Sanaga maritime, dans la région du Littoral. Le couronnement, marqué par une excitation sans précédent, a rassemblé des personnalités influentes et une foule massive. Parmi ces personnalités son père, Mbombog Mbouck Guillaume, le précédent chef traditionnel, qui a décidé de lui céder le trône de son vivant, ce qui constitue un fait rare dans l'histoire de la région du Littoral.

Le parcours de M. Mbouck vers le leadership, tant dans le monde de l'entreprise qu'en tant que chef traditionnel, illustre ses traits de caractère exceptionnels, marqués par l'énergie, la détermination et une volonté inébranlable de réaliser ses ambitions, tout en tenant compte de l'intérêt supérieur de ceux qui s'intéressent à sa carrière, de ses collègues et de son personnel. Son histoire continue d'inspirer et de captiver ceux qui la rencontrent, tout comme la tradition distinguée des anciens dirigeants du Cameroun.



# Celebrating a decade of UNWAVERING COMMITMENT



Congratulations to the dynamic team at Naija Diaspora Magazine and Mr. Ismail Adegbola, the Editor-in-Chief, on a decade of unwavering commitment to continual improvement. Over the years, you've consistently elevated the standard of content, shining a spotlight on the remarkable endeavors and value-added contributions of Nigerians in the diaspora.

This celebration is a tribute to the undeniable fact that Nigerians are exceptional individuals, making significant strides worldwide. It's more than just a celebration; it's a recognition of the giant leaps Nigerians take globally, Cameroon, ranking third in hosting the largest number of Nigerians, stands as a testament to the commitment and value that Nigerians bring to the international community.

I take immense pride in the magazine, in Ismail, and in the broader narrative it paints about the Nigerian diaspora. It's not just a magazine; it's a bridge connecting nations and fostering a sense of pride and value. I strongly believe that the Nigerian government should throw its weight behind this commendable initiative. As we applaud the achievements of the past decade, I am confident that the next 10 years will see Naija Diaspora Magazine soaring even higher, continuing to be a beacon of excellence and a showcase of the impactful contributions of Nigerians around the world.

Cheers to a decade of success and to many more milestones ahead!



**JUDE ANELE**  
CEO / MD UBA CAMEROON



# AMBASSADOR LAWAL BAPPAH

An Embodiment of  
Diplomatic Experience

**A**mbassador Lawal Bappah, mni, the Nigerian Consul-General to the North-west and South-west regions of Cameroon with residence in Buea, is an embodiment of diplomatic experience, having served in different capacities and in different countries as a trusted and dedicated diplomat of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for many years. Apart from being a diplomat, Bappah has demonstrated the worth of experience in his capacity at every duty.

His appointment as Consul General has been a blessing to Nigerians under his consular jurisdiction as he has facilitated lots of well-being acts, from both the Cameroon government and the Nigerian government; as he serves to ensure every Nigerian in his jurisdiction lives under the stipulated laws and orders.

Before his current appointment in Cameroon, this distinguished career diplomat had served in different countries, including Kuwait with concurrent accreditation to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Qatar, Ghana, Morocco and China.

The Nigerian Consul General has been honoured in different capacities for his relentless efforts and magnanimous attitude in carrying out his duties diligently. He was recently honoured by the Coalition of



Willing Lawyers (CoW) and All Africans for Africa in Cameroon for enhancing a peaceful relationship between the people of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the people of the Republic of Cameroon living in the North-west and South-west regions of Cameroon. The laudable activities of the Consul-General had also led to his being conferred with a chieftaincy title of "Eyólé of Buea" (Peacemaker) by His Royal Highness Chief Etina Monono of Great Soppo, Buea in the South-west of Cameroon.

Setting the record straight, the CoW applauded the Consul General for constantly educating Nigerian nationals in Cameroon about their civic responsibilities to the country they reside in; to be law-abiding, and also for his laudable role in the repatriation to Nigeria of aged, sick and stranded Nigerians as well as ex Nigerian prisoners in Cameroon. These gestures have distinguished the class of His Excellency Bappah who always preaches and duly operates on the rule of law.

As an experienced diplomat who has had opportunities to ensure sanity and peace in different countries, he deemed it fit as part of his duties in Cameroon to extend his Consular tour to communities in Bakassi.

Communities like Kombo Itindi, Idabato and Bekumu where there are over 100,000 Nigerians came out to cheer the Nigerian diplomat with celebrations in the communities, seeking opportunities to express their joy and good feelings. The intention of the Consul General was to extend hands of friendship and brotherhood to every Nigerian in the communities. During the visit, he urged Cameroonian authorities to offer more social amenities and adequate security protection to both Cameroonian and Nigerian communities in Bakassi.

The Nigerians in Cameroon have seen Ambassador Bappah as a reputable and reliable diplomat with maximum experience and the ability to do more. He is undoubtedly a trustworthy person with self-respect and an exemplary leader with a large heart.

Ambassador Bappah's technicality played out again when the Federal Government, through the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), donated relief materials to over 5,000 Nigerian refugees in Bakinjaw, Messanga Ekol and environs in



Akwaya Sub-division, Manyu Division of South-West Region of the Republic of Cameroon in May 2023.

In 2022, the Chief of Bakinjaw, H.R.H Linus Ukpam Agwa reported to the Consulate-General of Nigeria about the influx of over 7,000 Nigerians who fled inter-tribal conflicts between Fulani herdsmen and Tiv farmers from Kwande Local Government Area of Benue State, Nigeria, into Bakinjaw, Messanga Ekol and environs.

As a team player, the Ambassador sponsored a team, comprising the President of Nigerian Union in Ekok, Cameroon, Chief Kalu Itam and the Union's Secretary to Bakinjaw for on the spot assessment of the situation. The team successfully undertook the assignment and confirmed the presence of about 6,811 Nigerian refugees in Bakinjaw, Messanga Ekol and environs.

His Excellency Bappah's formidable team in Buea expeditiously forwarded its report to relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) in Nigeria and



*Apart from being a diplomat, Bappah has demonstrated the worth of experience in his capacity at every duty*

requested immediate relief materials for the displaced Nigerians in Bakinjaw, Messanga Ekol and environs.

As a result, the NEMA dispatched a two-man team, led by its Director of Relief and Rehabilitation to the Consul-General, to reassess the requirements of the Nigerian refugees and to ascertain the best route to deliver the relief materials to them.

To whom much is given, much is expected; Ambassador Bappah ensured that people's will was done. NEMA dispatched three-trailer loads of relief materials from NEMA depot in Jos, Plateau State to Bakinjaw. The relief materials included food items such as thousands of bags of rice, beans, cartons of indomie noodles, sugar, milk, salt and non-food items like floor mats, clothing for women, men and children as well as first aid and basic medications.

Jubilation and celebration erupted in the villages. Kings and leaders were delighted with Bappah's level of capacity. The distribution of the relief materials was a huge success. Majority of the refugees expressed their gratitude for the support received as could be seen in the attached letter addressed to the Consul-General.

The seasoned diplomat took over as Consul-General to the North-west and South-west from Honourable Ibrahim Mohammed Bashir in 2021 after the latter's completion of his three-year tour of duties.



# L'ambassadeur LAWAL BAPPAH

incarnation  
de l'expérience  
diplomatique

**A**yant servi à divers titres et dans différents pays en tant que diplomate fidèle et dévoué de la République fédérale du Nigeria pendant de nombreuses années, l'ambassadeur Lawal Bappah, mni (membre de l'Institut national), consul général du Nigeria dans les régions du Nord-Ouest et du Sud-Ouest du Cameroun avec résidence à Buea est une incarnation de l'expérience diplomatique. Outre son statut de diplomate, M. Bappah a démontré la valeur des expériences acquises dans l'exercice de chacune de ses fonctions.

Sa nomination en tant que Consul général du Nigeria dans les régions du Nord-Ouest et du Sud-Ouest de la République du Cameroun a été une bénédiction pour les Nigériens sous sa juridiction consulaire, dans la mesure où elle a facilité de nombreux actes de bienfaisance, tant de la part du gouvernement du Cameroun que du gouvernement du Nigéria, en veillant à ce que chaque Nigérien sous sa juridiction vive dans le respect des ordres publics établis.

Avant sa nomination actuelle en tant que Consul général du Nigeria au Cameroun, cet éminent diplomate de carrière a travaillé dans différents pays, notamment au Koweït, avec accréditation simultanée auprès des



Émirats arabes unis (EAU) et du Qatar, du Ghana, du Maroc et de la Chine.

Le Consul général du Nigeria a été honoré à différents titres pour ses efforts incessants et son attitude magnanime dans l'exercice diligent de ses fonctions. Il a récemment été honoré par la Coalition of Willing Lawyers (CoW) et All Africans for Africa au Cameroun pour avoir renforcé les relations pacifiques entre le peuple de la République fédérale du Nigeria et le peuple de la République du Cameroun vivant dans les régions du Nord-Ouest et du Sud-Ouest du Cameroun. Les activités louables de Son Excellence le Consul général lui ont également valu de se voir conférer le titre de chefferie d'«Èyólé de Buea » (artisan de la paix) par Son Altesse Royale le Chef Etina Monono de Great Soppo, à Buea, dans la région du Sud-Ouest du Cameroun.

Remettant les pendules à l'heure, la CoW a félicité le Consul général pour avoir continuellement sensibilisé les ressortissants nigériens des régions du Nord-Ouest et du Sud-Ouest du Cameroun à leurs responsabilités civiques à l'égard de leur pays de résidence, au respect de la loi, ainsi que pour le rôle remarquable qu'il a joué dans le rapatriement au Nigeria de Nigériens âgés, malades et bloqués, ainsi que d'ex-prisonniers nigériens au Cameroun. Ces gestes ont permis de distinguer la classe de Son Excellence Bappah, qui ne cesse de prêcher et de mener ses activités conformément à l'État de droit.

En tant que diplomate expérimenté qui a eu l'occasion de veiller au maintien de la santé et de la paix dans différents pays, il a jugé bon, dans le cadre de ses fonctions au Cameroun, d'étendre sa tournée consulaire aux communautés vivant à Bakassi.

Des communautés comme Kombo Itindi, Idabato et Bekumu, où vivent plus de 100 000 Nigériens, ont acclamé le diplomate nigérien en organisant des célébrations dans chacune d'elles, dans le but d'exprimer leur joie et leurs bons sentiments. L'intention du Consul général était de tendre la main en signe d'amitié et de fraternité à chaque Nigérien dans les communautés. Au cours de sa visite, il a exhorté les autorités camerounaises à offrir davantage



d'équipements sociaux et une protection adéquate aux communautés camerounaises et nigérianes de Bakassi.

Les Nigériens des régions du Nord-Ouest et du Sud-Ouest du Cameroun ont vu en l'ambassadeur Bappah un diplomate réputé et fiable, doté d'une expérience considérable et capable de faire plus. Il ne fait pas de doute que c'est une personne digne de confiance qui se respecte et un leader exemplaire au grand cœur.

Le savoir-faire et le sens pratique de l'ambassadeur Bappah se sont à nouveau manifestés lorsque le gouvernement fédéral, par l'intermédiaire de l'Agence nationale de gestion des urgences (NEMA), a fait don de matériel de secours à plus de cinq mille (5 000) réfugiés nigériens de Bakinjaw, de Messanga Ekol et des environs dans l'arrondissement d'Akwaya, département de la Manyu de la région du Sud-Ouest de la République du Cameroun, en mai 2023.



**M. Bappah a démontré la valeur des expériences acquises dans l'exercice de chacune de ses fonctions.**

En 2022, le chef de Bakinjaw, S.A.R. Linus Ukpam Agwa, a signalé au consulat général du Nigeria, à Buea, dans la région du sud-ouest du Cameroun, l'afflux de plus de sept mille Nigériens ayant fui les conflits intertribaux opposant les bergers Fulani et les agriculteurs Tiv de la zone de gouvernement local de Kwande, dans l'État de Benue, au Nigeria, à Bakinjaw, Messanga Ekol et dans les environs.

Adeptes du travail d'équipe, l'ambassadeur a parrainé une équipe composée du président du syndicat Nigerian Union à Ekok, au Cameroun, Chief Kalu Itam, et du secrétaire du syndicat à Bakinjaw pour une évaluation sur place de la situation. L'équipe a mené à bien sa mission et a confirmé la présence d'environ six mille huit cent onze (6 811) réfugiés nigériens à Bakinjaw, Messanga Ekol et dans les environs.

La formidable équipe de Son Excellence Bappah à Buea a rapidement transmis son rapport aux ministères, départements et agences (MDA) concernés au Nigeria et a demandé des fournitures pour secourir immédiatement les Nigériens déplacés de Bakinjaw, de Messanga Ekol et des environs.

En conséquence, la NEMA a dépêché une équipe de deux personnes, dirigée par son Directeur des secours et de la réhabilitation, auprès du Consul général, afin de réévaluer les besoins des réfugiés nigériens et de déterminer le meilleur itinéraire pour leur livrer le matériel de secours.



# HONOURABLE TAJUDEEN ABBAS

## A Speaker with incredible capacity

**T**he emergence of the 10th Speaker, House of Representatives, Honourable Tajudeen Abbas followed the pattern of Senate President, Senator Godswill Akpabio on the same Tuesday, June 13, 2023 the lawmaker representing Zaria Federal Constituency mounted the top seat.

This followed a whirlwind of political spectacle, relentless campaigning, and intense horsetrading. Godswill Akpabio, the “uncommon” former governor of Akwa Ibom state, has ascended to

the throne of the senate president, wielding the gavel, while Tajudeen Abbas, claimed the mantle of leadership in the house of representatives.

Akpabio and Abbas were anointed by the All Progressives Congress (APC) as its preferred candidates for the positions. Taking lessons from past experiences, the ruling party took every necessary measure to ensure its nominated candidates are elected.

Abbas was elected in an “openly declare” ballot system, having scored 353 votes out of 359 to defeat fellow contenders, Ahmed Wase and Sani Jaji, who polled three votes each.

The ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) had earlier favoured

and consequently put forward Abbas and Honourable Benjamin Kalu as Speaker and Deputy Speaker.

Despite this decision of the ruling party to present the duo for the position, other contestants, particularly the G-7 group, had vowed to continue in the contest for the speakership seat.

But about three days before the contest, Honourables Muktar Aliyu Betara and Yusuf Adamu Gagdi dropped their ambition, after meeting with President Bola Tinubu and Vice President Kashim Shettima.

Honourables Ahmed Wase and Sani Jaji, however, went on to contest for the position.

The process commenced before 10:00 a.m., as the Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly, Kamoru Ogunlami, alongside the Clerk of the House of Representatives, presided over the session.

Birthered into royalty, Abbas was

born three years after Nigeria gained independence on October 1, 1963, into a ruling family in the Zazzau Emirate nestled in the ancient city of Zaria, Zaria LGA of Kaduna state.

He holds the traditional title of Iyan Zazzau. His great-grandfather was an emir in the Zazzau Emirate. He comes from the Mallawa dynasty of the emirate. Meanwhile, his mother hails from Dutsen Kura in Malumfashi LGA of Katsina state.

By the dictates of the longstanding

tradition, Abbas finds himself within the sacred order of succession. He is in line to ascend the illustrious throne as the Emir of Zazzau.

From tender years, little Abbas radiated an aura of exceptional greatness, embodying the rare qualities of a child predestined for the zenith.

Abbas was enrolled at the LEA Primary School, Lemu, Zaria, where he obtained his first school leaving certificate (FSLC). Continuing in his pursuit of knowledge, he went to the Government Secondary School in Makarfi, where he acquired the West African Examination Certificate (WAEC) in 1978.

With an insatiable hunger for academic excellence, he obtained a Grade I certificate at Kaduna Teacher's College in 1981. Abbas then proceeded to Ahmadu Bello University in Zaria where he studied accounting and bagged a diploma in 1984.

His academic odyssey continued unabated as he obtained a B.Sc in business administration from Ahmadu Bello University in 1988. He bagged an M.Sc in business administration from the same institution in 1993. Abbas went further to get a PhD from Usman Dan Fodio

University in Sokoto.

He also obtained another B.Sc in Business Administration Management from Usman Dan Fodio University.

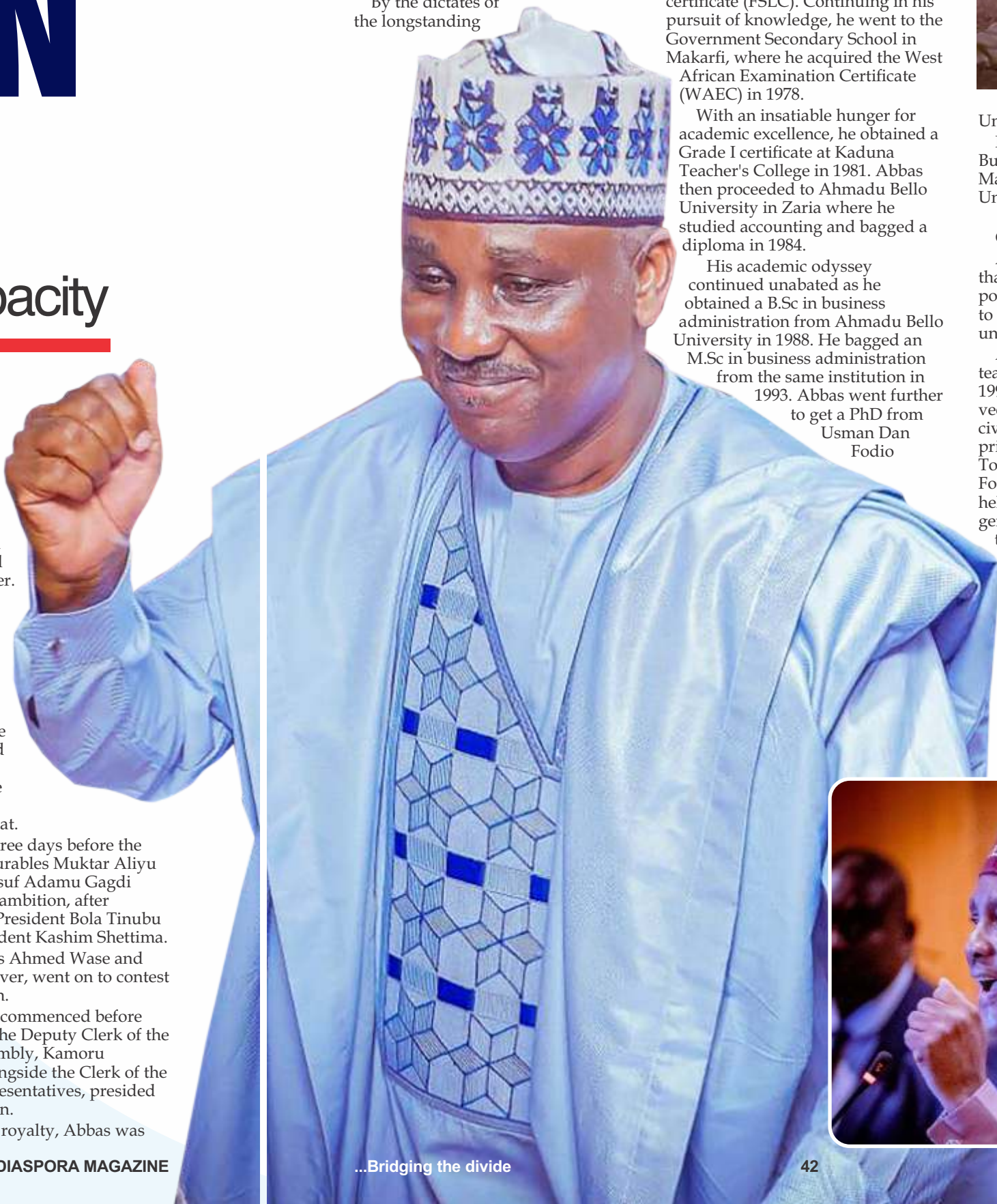
### CAREER IN CIVIL SERVICE

Abbas' journey is a captivating tale that saw him blossom from the position of a primary school teacher to an esteemed senior lecturer at the university.

Abbas was a primary school teacher from 1981 to 1988. In June 1998, Abbas decided to temporarily veer away from the familiar path of civil service. He delved into the private sector, joining the Nigerian Tobacco Company (NTC) Plc in Jos. For three years and three months, he held the esteemed position of a general manager, navigating through the complexities of the industry.

Abbas later joined the Nuhu Bamalli Polytechnic in September 2001, where he lectured until June 2005.

A month after, Abbas embarked on a new chapter at the Kaduna State University. With determination and dedication, he ascended the ranks, reaching the pinnacle of a senior lecturer, a testament to his







profound knowledge and commitment.

Yet, just when his academic career seemed to have reached its zenith, the allure of politics beckoned. In 2010, Abbas made the audacious leap into the unpredictable murky waters of politics, bidding farewell to the halls of academia.

#### PARLIAMENTARY VOYAGE

Abbas and his colleagues  
Abbas was first elected to the federal house of representatives on the platform of the now-defunct Congress for Progressive Change (CPC) in 2011.

In a stunning display of support, he triumphed once again in the 2015 elections, this time on the platform of the All Progressive Congress (APC). Abbas took on multiple roles as a member of various committees within the hallowed green chamber.

He was the deputy chairman of the house committee on legislative compliance between 2011 and 2015. Following the inauguration of the house in 2019, he was appointed to chair the committee on land transport.

Tajudeen was also saddled with other legislative ad hoc assignments in the lower legislative chamber. In 2019, he was appointed as the treasurer of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (African chapter).

He was a member of the governing council of the Nigerian Institute of Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS) where he represented the north-west geo-political zone from 2019 to 2023.

Abbas was the APC Kaduna caucus leader in the house of representatives, a position he held since 2019. In 2021, he was appointed the chairman of the house of

representatives sub-committee on the constitutional review conference for the north-central.

Despite the numerous roles he handled, Abbas did not take a back seat in delivering his core constitutional mandate of lawmaking. He sponsored several bills and motions. The lawmaker is described by his colleagues as a "silent achiever".

During his four years stint in the 9th lower legislative chamber, he sponsored 74 bills; out of this extraordinary tally, over 18 received presidential assent.

Until recently, many Nigerians were oblivious of his remarkable achievements as Abbas humbly shied away from the limelight.

In recognition of his exceptional legislative achievement, OrderPaper Nigeria, a news media organisation dedicated to reporting parliamentary affairs, recently bestowed upon Abbas an award for being among the top performers in the 9th national assembly.

#### MAN OF MANY FIRSTS

In the course of his career, Abbas has had the golden chance to blaze the trail, sculpting a formidable

bedrock for those after him.

He is the only federal lawmaker from the north-west geo-political zone who has thus far sponsored an unprecedented 74 bills. He is also the first since the return to democracy in 1999 to have sponsored such a number of bills and remains the first to have over 20 signed into law.

Abbas was the pioneer head of the Department of Accounting and Finance, Nuhu Bamalli Polytechnic, Zaria. He also pioneered the Department of Business Administration at the same institution.

The legislator was the pioneer head of the Department of Accounting at Kaduna State University.

Aside from the fact that Abbas was the anointed candidate of the APC, he was also the preferred candidate of Femi Gbajabiamila, his predecessor.


Speaking during an interview, Abbas said the 10th national assembly won't be a rubber stamp under his watch.


With Abbas ascending the throne of the number four seat in the country, all eyes are fixed on him, as he orchestrates the symphony of the green chamber over the course of the next four years.



# What an

# AMAZING JOURNEY!





*The Naija Diaspora Magazine has established itself as a credible and reliable source of up-to-date information within a very short time. It has over these years done commendable work in bringing to its readers information, reports, opinions and reliable news, including about activities of Consulate General of Nigeria, Buea and the other two Nigerian Diplomatic Missions in Cameroon.*

*We thank and commend the Naija Diaspora Magazine for our long-lasting collaboration and wish it greater successes in times to come.*

**AMB. LAWAL BAPPAH, mni**  
CONSUL GENERAL OF NIGERIA,  
BUEA, CAMEROON





# THE LION OF LAGOS

## Unyielding journey of Bola Ahmed Tinubu

**A**s Nigeria stands at a critical juncture in its history, the emergence of Tinubu as a prominent figure rekindles hope for a brighter future. His visionary leadership, unifying spirit, economic expertise and commitment to democratic ideals all point to a leader who can steer the nation towards progress and prosperity. As with any political journey, challenges and criticisms lie ahead, but it is crucial to acknowledge the potential he holds in inspiring a nation to rise above its current struggles. His renewed prominence may just be the catalyst Nigeria needs to usher in an era of hope and transformation.

In the realm of Nigerian politics, few names have commanded as much respect and admiration as Bola Ahmed Tinubu. Often referred to as the "Jagaban," his political acumen and leadership have left an

indelible mark on the nation's political landscape. As he emerges once again as a prominent figure in the country's affairs, there is a palpable sense of renewed hope among the masses.

The mention of Bola Ahmed Tinubu's name invokes strong reactions across Nigeria's political landscape. Some view him as a beacon of hope, a visionary leader with the potential to drive the country towards prosperity. Others, however, see him as a symbol of continued despair, representing the entrenched issues and challenges that have plagued Nigeria's political system for decades.

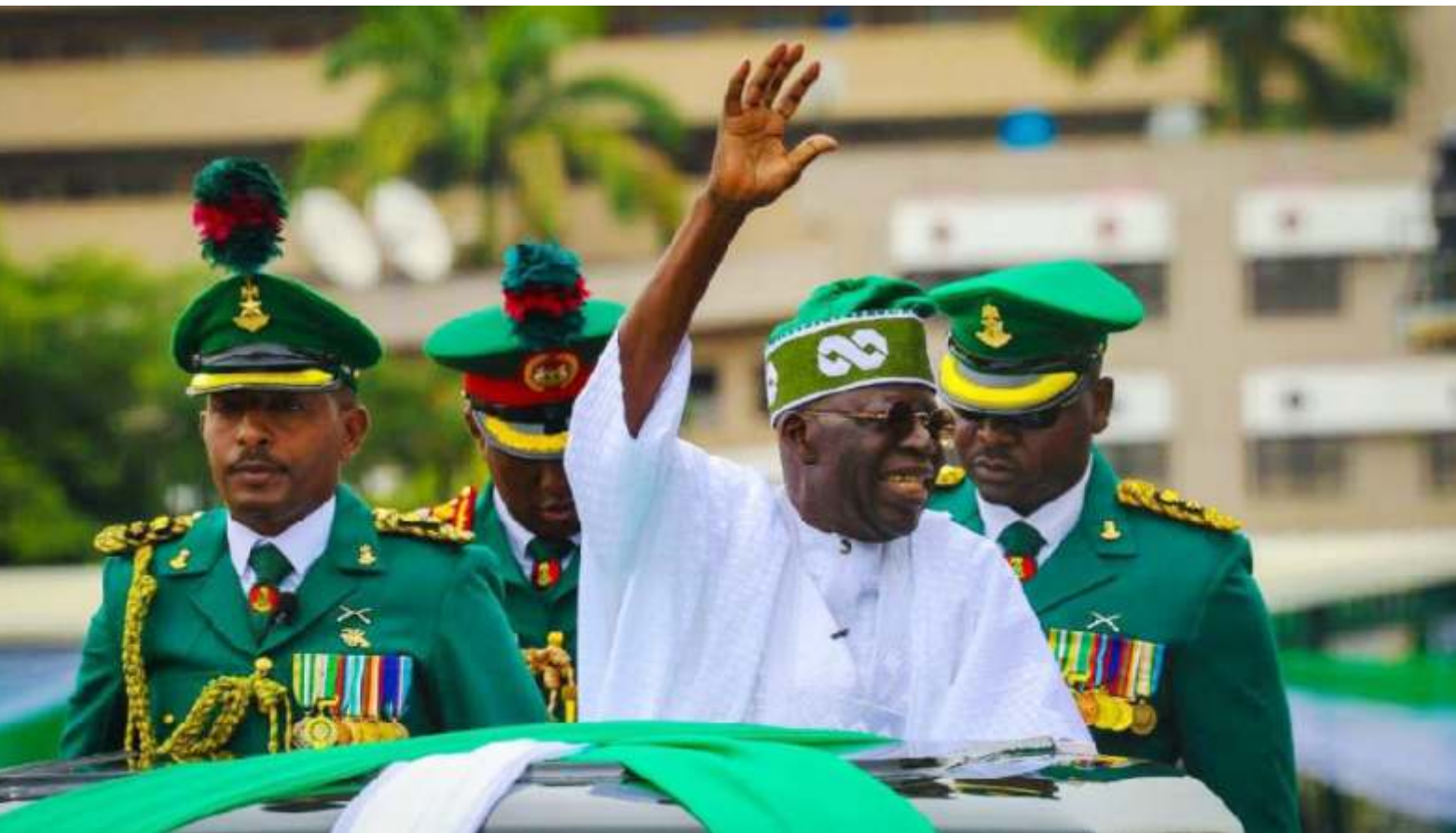
Proponents of the political icon argue that his leadership style combines strategic thinking with a deep understanding of economic policies. They believe that his experience as a successful businessman gives him an edge in crafting policies that can spur economic growth and attract foreign investments. Many Nigerians see him as a unifying figure, capable of building bridges between diverse ethnic groups and

fostering a sense of national identity.

On the other hand, detractors point to allegations of corruption and cronyism that have plagued his political career. Critics argue that his vast influence and control over key institutions in Lagos and beyond have contributed to a lack of accountability and transparency within the system. They claim that his brand of politics perpetuates the age-old problem of political patronage and favors certain elites over the broader interests of the people.

Like any prominent figure in politics, Tinubu has faced criticism and challenges. Critics have pointed to concerns over the concentration of power, allegations of political maneuvering, questioning his influence on national affairs. While these concerns should not be taken lightly, it is critically essential to recognize that no political figure is without flaws. Instead, it is vital to assess his potential impact on the nation's future and consider the positive strides he has made in promoting development and unity.





Bola Ahmed Tinubu's journey to prominence began long before his stint as Governor of Lagos State from 1999 to 2007. It was during his tenure that he displayed his visionary leadership, transforming Lagos into a modern metropolis. His pragmatic approach to governance and strong focus on infrastructure development earned him the moniker "The Builder of Modern Lagos." Under his watch, the city witnessed significant advancements in transportation, urban planning, and public services.

His journey in politics is a tale of humble beginnings, determination and strategic acumen that eventually propelled him to become a key player in Nigeria's political scene.

Born on March 29, 1952, in Lagos State, Nigeria, Bola Tinubu's early life was shaped by the values of hard work and dedication. He attended St. John's Primary School, Aroloya, Lagos and later proceeded to the Government Teachers' College, now known as the Lagos State College of Education. Tinubu continued his education at the Richard J. Daley College in Chicago, United States, where he studied Accounting.

His political awakening can be traced back to his involvement in various student unions during his time in the United States. These experiences exposed him to the power of collective action and advocacy, igniting a passion for social and political change upon his return to Nigeria.

Following Nigeria's transition from military rule to democracy, he joined the

**Critics argue that his vast influence and control over key institutions in Lagos and beyond have contributed to a lack of accountability and transparency within the system**

National Democratic Coalition (NADECO), a pro-democracy group that played a significant role in the struggle against military dictatorship. As a prominent member of NADECO, Tinubu actively participated in campaigns for the restoration of democratic governance in Nigeria.

Tinubu's decisive moment came in 1999 when Nigeria returned to democratic rule. He ran for the position of the Governor of Lagos State under the banner of the Alliance for Democracy (AD) and emerged victorious. His victory marked the beginning of his tenure as the first civilian governor of Lagos State in the Fourth Republic. During his tenure as governor, he implemented various

reforms and policies that contributed to the development and modernization of Lagos State, with his focus trained on infrastructural development, improved healthcare, education and job creation initiatives, earning him the nickname "The Jagaban of Lagos" (a Yoruba term for leader or champion).

Tinubu's political strategy was marked by his ability to build alliances and create a strong political base. He cultivated relationships with key stakeholders, traditional rulers and grassroots leaders, thereby expanding his influence within the South Western community of Nigeria and beyond.

His success as governor of Lagos State positioned him as a significant political force within Nigeria. He founded the Action Congress of Nigeria (ACN), which later became part of the All Progressives Congress (APC), a major political party that successfully challenged the dominance of the People's Democratic Party (PDP) in the 2015 presidential election.

One of the hallmark traits of statesmanship is the ability to build alliances and coalitions for the greater good. Tinubu's political acumen lies in his capacity to create strong and diverse alliances, bringing together politicians from different regions and backgrounds. A true scholar at heart, he values diverse perspectives, engaging with individuals with various ideologies.

He scholarly mind sets him apart as a visionary leader. This skill has played a crucial role in shaping the political

landscape of Nigeria and contributing to democratic stability in the nation.

Tinubu's journey reflects the complexities and opportunities that exist within the nation's political sphere. His legacy continues to shape Nigerian politics, and his story serves as an inspiration to aspiring politicians, showing that with dedication and vision, anyone can rise from humble beginnings to become a driving force in the nation's progress.

Tinubu emerged winner of the the 2023 Nigerian presidential election. Official results showed that the 70-year-old veteran politician got 37% of the vote, his main rival Atiku Abubakar of the People's Democratic Party polled 29%, and Labour Party's Peter Obi 25%.

His path to the presidency was certainly not without hurdles; nevertheless, his remarkable economic prowess stood as a testament to his importance in driving economic growth and infrastructural development.

Despite the controversies surrounding his victory, his track record in economic management is widely acknowledged and held in high regard. His demonstration of exceptional economic judgment as he spearheaded the implementation of pro-business policies that spurred the implementation of pro-business policies that attracted investments during his tenure as governor of Lagos state, is considered an asset in addressing Nigeria's longstanding economic challenges.

While the efforts of previous administrations' to eliminate petrol subsidies sparked protests and strong



opposition, President Bola Tinubu's administration however took the step of removing fuel subsidy in Nigeria, following his inauguration on May 29. The non-functioning state of Nigeria's refineries has resulted in a continuous dependence on imported refined petroleum. The importation of fuel puts a strain on the local currency, while the subsidy primarily benefits the political moguls, creating opportunities for arbitrage and illicit transportation of petrol to neighboring countries.

The government faced a challenging dilemma, as it had to choose between continuing the subsidy and exacerbating an unsustainable fiscal deficit or bracing for potential social and economic unrest by removing it. Nevertheless, the subsidy had to be eliminated as

decided by the administration. This could result in annual savings of around N7 trillion for Nigeria, which could then be redirected towards vital infrastructure, education and healthcare projects.

It is no surprise that on 9 July 2023, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu assumed the chairmanship of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), succeeding President Umaro Sissoco Embaló of Guinea Bissau. Nigeria's vast experience and leadership position in West Africa make President Tinubu's appointment crucial for addressing the current challenges facing the sub-region. His previous achievements in economic management and his ability to make tough decisions for the greater good are likely to play a significant role in guiding ECOWAS towards a more prosperous and stable future.

Although the role lacks executive powers, the chairman holds a strategic position for closer collaboration with the president of the ECOWAS Commission. It is the president who possesses the authority to execute the decisions and policies of the regional body.

As Nigerians look to the future, they hold hope that President Tinubu's administration will usher in a period of growth and improved living standards for all citizens. While challenges undoubtedly lie ahead, with perseverance, collaboration and effective governance, there is every reason to believe that President Tinubu's tenure will pave the way for a brighter and more prosperous future for Nigeria and its people.





# Congratulations on your Monumental Achievement



I have already begun extending my congratulations to you, but I want to emphasize just how commendable your work is. There exists a significant communication gap among Nigerians in the diaspora, both among themselves and with those back in Nigeria and other countries. Your magazine has filled that void, and for that, I congratulate you.

My advice is to expand the magazine's leadership beyond Cameroon so that other nations can follow your example. There's a wealth of stories and achievements within the diaspora community that often go unreported. All too often, people only hear about a few negative incidents, but your magazine is here to share the true and complete narrative.

That is why I was thrilled to learn that you were coming to interview me. Please continue your invaluable work. Surviving the first 10 years is a monumental achievement; it's the testing period that determines whether you will thrive or not, and you have not only survived but thrived. This is a testament to the excellent work you are doing. Accept my heartfelt congratulations."

**AMB. MAMMAN NUHU**

LAKE CHAD BASIN COMMISSION EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

# Celebrating HARD WORK & PATRIOTISM



This is my Congratulatory Message to the Mr. Ismail Adegbola, The Chief Executive Officer and Publisher NAIJA DIASPORA Magazine.

My Dear Brother and Good Friend, As you Celebrate the 10 years of your Magazine, I wish you many more years of this your great Magazine. Continue with your good work of informing, projecting the good image of Nigeria, Cameroon, Nigerians, continue promoting the activities of our Diplomatic Missions in the Republic of Cameroon.

Also, may your Magazine grow from Strength to Strength.



**AMBASSADOR (HRM) QUEEN EFE A. CLARK-OMERU**

CONSUL GENERAL OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA TO DOUALA THE  
LITTORAL AND WEST REGIONS OF THE REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON.





# LE FAUVE DE LAGOS

## Parcours inébranlable de Bola Ahmed Tinubu

**A**lors que le Nigeria se trouve à un moment critique de son histoire, l'émergence de Tinubu en tant que personnalité de premier plan ravive l'espoir d'un avenir meilleur. Son leadership visionnaire, son esprit fédérateur, son expertise économique et son engagement en faveur des idéaux démocratiques en font un leader capable de conduire la nation vers le progrès et la prospérité. Comme pour tout parcours politique, des défis et des critiques se profilent à l'horizon, mais il est essentiel de reconnaître qu'il détient le potentiel pour inspirer une nation à se relever de ses difficultés actuelles. Sa notoriété renouvelée pourrait bien être le catalyseur dont le Nigéria a besoin pour entrer dans une ère d'espoir et de transformation. Dans les milieux

politiques du Nigéria, peu de noms ont suscité autant de respect et d'admiration que celui de Bola Ahmed Tinubu. Souvent appelé le « Jagaban », sa finesse politique et son leadership ont laissé une marque indélébile sur le paysage politique du pays. Alors qu'il apparaît une fois de plus comme figure de proue des affaires du pays, il y a un sentiment palpable d'espoir renouvelé parmi les masses.

La simple évocation du nom de Bola Ahmed Tinubu suscite de vives réactions dans tout le paysage politique nigérian. Pendant que certains le considèrent comme une lueur d'espoir, un leader visionnaire capable de conduire le pays vers la prospérité, d'autres, par contre, le considèrent comme le symbole d'un désespoir persistant, représentant les problèmes et défis persistants qui affectent le système politique nigérian depuis des décennies.

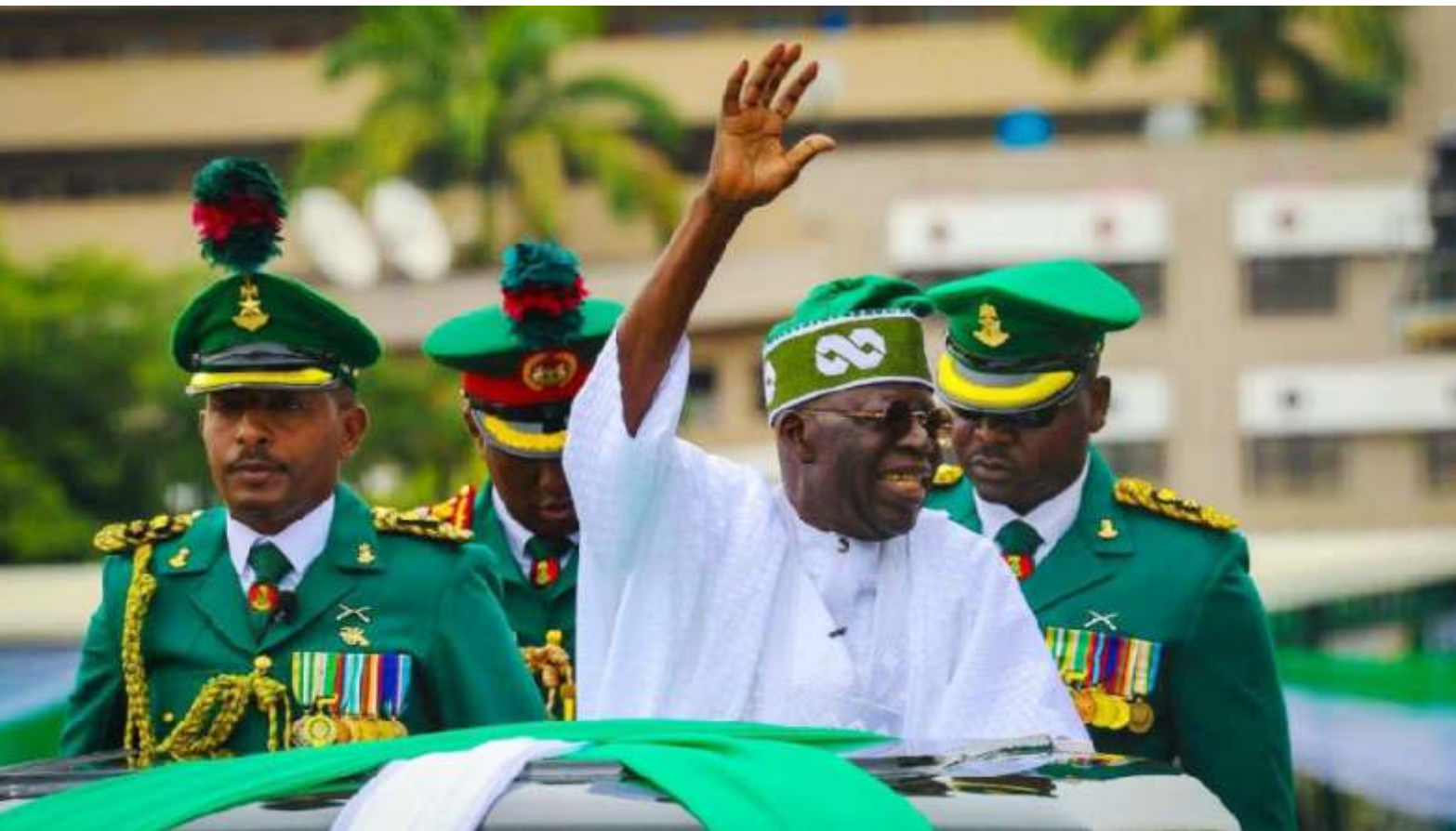
Les partisans de ce grand homme politique affirment que son style de leadership allie réflexion stratégique et compréhension approfondie des politiques économiques. Ils estiment que son expérience d'homme

d'affaires prospère lui confère un avantage dans l'élaboration de politiques susceptibles de stimuler la croissance économique et d'attirer les investissements étrangers. De nombreux nigériens voient en lui une figure unificatrice, capable de jeter des ponts entre les différents groupes ethniques et de favoriser un sentiment d'identité nationale.

D'autre part, ses détracteurs évoquent les allégations de corruption et de copinage qui ont entaché sa carrière politique. Ses détracteurs affirment que son influence considérable et le contrôle qu'il exerce sur les principales institutions de Lagos et d'ailleurs ont contribué à l'absence de responsabilité et de transparence au sein du système. Ils prétendent que son style de politique perpétue le problème séculaire du clientélisme politique et favorise certaines élites au détriment des intérêts plus larges de la population.

Comme toute personnalité politique de premier plan, Tinubu a été la cible de critiques et à dû relever des défis.





Ses détracteurs ont fait état de préoccupations concernant la concentration du pouvoir, d'allégations de manœuvres politiques, remettant en question son influence sur les affaires nationales. Bien que ces préoccupations ne doivent pas être prises à la légère, il est essentiel de reconnaître qu'aucune personnalité politique n'est irréprochable. Au lieu de cela, il est essentiel d'évaluer son impact potentiel sur l'avenir de la nation et de considérer les progrès positifs qu'il a réalisés dans la promotion du développement et de l'unité.

Le parcours de Bola Ahmed Tinubu vers la notoriété a commencé bien avant qu'il ne devienne gouverneur de l'État de Lagos, de 1999 à 2007. C'est au cours de son mandat qu'il a fait preuve d'un leadership visionnaire, transformant Lagos en une métropole moderne. Son approche pragmatique de la gouvernance et l'importance qu'il accorde au développement des infrastructures lui ont valu le surnom de « bâtisseur de Lagos moderne ». Sous sa direction, la ville a été témoin d'avancées significatives dans les transports, l'urbanisme et les services publics.

Son parcours politique est l'histoire de débuts modestes, d'une détermination et d'une perspicacité stratégique qui l'ont finalement propulsé au rang d'acteur clé de la scène politique nigériane.

Né le 29 mars 1952 dans l'État de Lagos, au Nigéria, Bola Tinubu a été façonné dès son jeune âge par les valeurs du travail et du dévouement. Il a fréquenté

l'école primaire de St. John's, Aroloya, Lagos, puis le Collège des enseignants du gouvernement, maintenant connu sous le nom de Collège d'éducation de l'État de Lagos. Tinubu a poursuivi ses études au Richard J. Daley College à Chicago, aux États-Unis, où il a étudié la comptabilité.

Son éveil politique remonte à son engagement dans divers syndicats étudiants pendant son séjour aux États-Unis. Ce sont ces expériences qui lui ont fait découvrir le pouvoir de l'action collective et de la défense des droits, ce qui a éveillé sa passion pour le changement social et politique à son retour au Nigéria.

Après que le Nigéria a opéré sa transition du régime militaire à la démocratie, il a rejoint la National Democratic Coalition (NADECO), un groupe pro-démocratique qui a joué un rôle important dans la lutte contre la dictature militaire. Et, c'est en tant que membre éminent de NADECO que Tinubu a participé activement aux campagnes pour le rétablissement de la gouvernance



démocratique au Nigéria.

Le moment décisif de Tinubu est arrivé en 1999 lorsque le Nigéria est revenu à un régime démocratique. Alors, il se présente au poste de gouverneur de l'État de Lagos sous la bannière de l'Alliance pour la démocratie (AD) et en sort vainqueur. Sa victoire marque le début de son mandat en tant que premier gouverneur civil de l'État de Lagos dans la Quatrième République.

Pendant son mandat de gouverneur, il a mis en œuvre diverses réformes et politiques qui ont contribué au développement et à la modernisation de l'État de Lagos, en se concentrant sur le développement des infrastructures, l'amélioration des soins de santé, l'éducation et les initiatives de création d'emplois, ce qui lui a valu le surnom de « Le Jagaban de Lagos », (un terme yoruba pour leader ou champion).

La stratégie politique de Tinubu a été marquée par sa capacité à construire des alliances et à créer une base politique forte. Il a cultivé des relations avec les principales parties prenantes, les chefs traditionnels et les dirigeants de base, élargissant ainsi son influence au sein de la communauté du sud-ouest du Nigéria et au-delà.

Son succès en tant que gouverneur de l'État de Lagos l'ayant positionné comme une force politique importante au Nigéria, il fonde l'Action Congress of Nigeria (ACN), qui est ensuite intégré au All Progressives Congress (APC), un parti politique majeur qui conteste avec succès la domination du People's



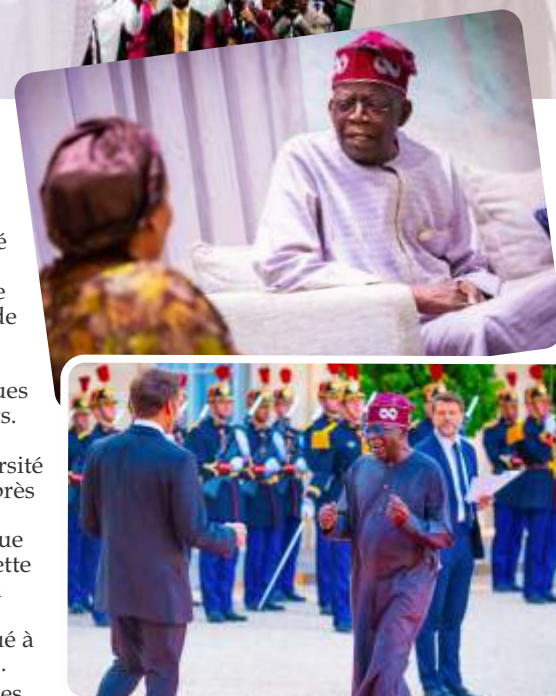
Democratic Party (PDP) lors de l'élection présidentielle de 2015.

L'un des traits caractéristiques d'un homme d'État est sa capacité à nouer des alliances et des coalitions pour le bien de tous. Le sens politique de M. Tinubu réside dans sa capacité à créer des alliances solides et diversifiées, rassemblant des hommes politiques de régions et d'horizons différents. Véritable érudit dans l'âme, il accorde de l'importance à la diversité des points de vue et s'engage auprès des individus aux idéologies diverses. Son érudition le distingue en tant que leader visionnaire. Cette compétence a joué un rôle crucial dans le façonnement du paysage politique du Nigéria et a contribué à la stabilité démocratique du pays.

Le parcours de Tinubu reflète les complexités et les opportunités qui existent dans la sphère politique de la nation. Son héritage continue de façonner la politique nigériane, et son histoire sert d'inspiration aux aspirants politiciens, montrant qu'avec dévouement et vision, n'importe qui peut s'élever des débuts modestes pour devenir une force motrice dans le progrès de la nation.

Tinubu est sorti vainqueur de l'élection présidentielle nigériane de 2023. Selon les résultats officiels, le vétéran de 70 ans a obtenu 37 % des voix, son principal rival, Atiku Abubakar, du People's Democratic Party, 29 %, et Peter Obi, du Labour Party, 25 %.

Son chemin vers la présidence n'a certainement pas été sans obstacles ; néanmoins, ses prouesses économiques remarquables ont témoigné de son importance pour stimuler la croissance économique et



le développement des infrastructures.

Malgré les controverses qui ont entouré sa victoire, son bilan en matière de gestion économique est largement reconnu et tenu en haute estime. Le jugement économique exceptionnel dont il a fait preuve en animant la mise en œuvre de politiques favorables aux entreprises qui ont attiré les investissements pendant son mandat de gouverneur de l'État de Lagos est considéré comme un atout pour relever les défis économiques de longue date du Nigéria.

Alors que les efforts des administrations précédentes pour éliminer les subventions au pétrole ont déclenché des protestations et une forte opposition, l'administration du président Bola Tinubu a toutefois pris la décision de supprimer la subvention aux carburants au Nigéria, après son investiture le 29

mai. L'état non fonctionnel des raffineries du Nigéria a entraîné une dépendance continue à l'égard du pétrole raffiné importé. L'importation de carburants exerce une pression sur la monnaie locale, tandis que la subvention profite principalement aux magnats politiques, créant des opportunités d'arbitrage et de transport illicite de pétrole vers les pays voisins.

Le gouvernement a été confronté à un dilemme difficile, car il devait choisir entre le maintien de la subvention et l'aggravation d'un déficit budgétaire insoutenable, et la suppression de la subvention, qui risquait de provoquer des troubles sociaux et économiques. Néanmoins, l'administration a décidé de supprimer la subvention. Le Nigéria pourrait ainsi réaliser des économies annuelles d'environ 7 000 milliards de nairas, qui pourraient être réorientées vers des projets vitaux dans les domaines des infrastructures, de l'éducation et des soins de santé.

Il n'est pas surprenant que le 9 juillet 2023, le président Bola Ahmed Tinubu ait assumé la présidence de la Communauté économique des États de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (CEDEAO), succédant au président Umaro Sissoco Embaló de la Guinée-Bissau. La vaste expérience du Nigéria et sa position de leader en Afrique de l'Ouest font de la nomination du président Tinubu un élément crucial pour relever les défis actuels de la sous-région. Ses réalisations antérieures en matière de gestion économique et sa capacité à prendre des décisions difficiles pour le bien de tous sont susceptibles de jouer un rôle important dans l'orientation de la CEDEAO vers un avenir plus prospère et plus stable.



# ONYENGUBO

## JONATHAN THOMAS,

EZE GBURU GBURU I

Nigerian Ambassador for Peace Takes Center Stage in the Heart of Cameroon

**A**midst the vibrant cultural tapestry of Cameroon, His Royal Highness, Onyengubo Jonathan Thomas, holds the esteemed position as the head of the Nigerian Igbo community, known as Ohana Eze Ndi Igbo Cameroon. This important leadership role, along with the conferral of the title Gburu Gburu 1- which refers to 'overall head' in literal translation - propelled him to the status of a respected figure and leader, in recognition of his vast influence and impact on the community.

Following his conferment as Eze Gburu Gburu 1 in Tiko and assuming the leadership role of Ohana Eze Ndi Igbo in Cameroon, HRH Onyengubo Jonathan Thomas demonstrated his exceptional organizational abilities by swiftly initiating the establishment of the Assembly of Igbo People in Cameroon.

His first major endeavor was spearheading the inauguration of the Limbe Chapter of Ohana Eze Ndi Igbo, where significant and unprecedented decisions were made. The event received extensive media coverage, with flashy newspaper publications highlighting the proceedings. Notably, one publication grabbed attention, proclaiming that "All

Igbo Community in Cameroon earmarks 110 Million FCFA for the construction of a Civic Center and school in Limbe."

During a press briefing held at the conclusion of the occasion, HRH Onyengubo Jonathan Thomas reemphasized the purpose of the event. He stated, "As you can see, the primary aim is to promote our rich culture and to make our people aware of our heritage. It is essential for them to recognize and embrace our cultural identity. Through this forum, they will also have the opportunity to learn our native language, the Igbo language, and understand that we

have brothers throughout Cameroon who share the same language and heritage." He further elaborated that the executive team established in Limbe serves as the foundation for a longstanding endeavor that has been in progress for several years.

HRH Thomas connects with humanity, touching the lives of both ordinary people and the upper echelons of society. Wherever he goes, his lasting impression is etched in the hearts of those he touches, leaving a meaningful impact.

With greater strides on his philanthropic path, the remarkable humanitarian gesture of the



Nigerian business magnate unfolded when he funded the release of 22 inmates at the Buea Central Prison. This unprecedented act saw him paying the sum of 2.750.000 FCFA to secure the freedom of these individuals. The event took place within the confines of the prison premises, on Thursday April 28, 2016.

During the event at the Buea Central Prison, HRH Onyengubo Jonathan Thomas shared insights into the motive behind his benevolent act, which was geared towards fostering collaboration between Cameroon and Nigeria, particularly in the domains of development. He expressed that his intention was to provide the released inmates with a fresh start in life and encouraged them to grasp the opportunity to reclaim their freedom. He described this gesture as his way of paying tithes, explaining that his belief differs from the conventional notion of giving to a church or pastor. For him, this act of compassion is his offering to God, with the ultimate desire to witness these individuals leaving the prison walls behind to embrace a brighter future.

The occasion witnessed the presence of State Counsels and members of the judiciary from Muyuka, Limbe, Tiko and Buea, towns from which the prisoners originated, indicating the significance of the event and its impact on all communities.

In his advocacy for peace and understanding between the two nations,







HRH Thomas emphasized the importance of unity and cooperation in tackling shared security concerns. In the midst of heightened tensions and crises in Cameroon, he vocalized a powerful message, urging both Cameroonians and Nigerians to place great confidence in their leaders as they confronted the challenges posed by the Boko Haram insurgency.

As a quasi-Cameroonian figure with strong Nigerian roots, his opinions matter and resonates with people on both sides of the border. His efforts as a peace advocate have been instrumental in promoting mutual trust and cooperation during challenging times in the region.

Through his visionary leadership, he has effectively established a thriving platform for economic growth and job creation, particularly in the second-hand clothing industry, as well as other ventures. Additionally, his charitable Foundation focuses on uplifting the less privileged in the Republic of Cameroon. As a result of these commendable initiatives, Thomas has garnered numerous awards and accolades over the years.

In a show of unity, Ambassador Abayomi Olonisakin was honored with a courtesy visit from HRH EZE Thomas Jonathan Onyengubo, shortly after assuming his role as Nigeria High Commissioner, to officially extend a warm welcome to him.

In his address, Ambassador Olonisakin expressed his delight at the positive impact HRH EZE Thomas Jonathan Onyengubo had made on the lives of Nigerians residing in Cameroon. He commended the monarch for his dedication to assisting fellow

Nigerians in their businesses and for going above and beyond to secure the release of those imprisoned. The Ambassador praised him for exemplifying true patriotism and representing the Nigerian community in an exceptional manner. He assured HRH EZE Thomas Jonathan Onyengubo of the Nigeria High Commission's unwavering support and commitment to assisting and representing him appropriately.

In response, HRH EZE Thomas Jonathan Onyengubo showered praises upon Ambassador Olonisakin, acknowledging his impressive credentials, experience and background. He expressed confidence that President Muhammadu Buhari's choice of Ambassador Olonisakin for the position of Nigeria High Commissioner in Cameroon was well-founded. He extended warm congratulations once again and expressed his heartfelt wishes for a successful and fulfilling tenure in the country.

Onyengubo Jonathan Thomas, Eze Gburu Gburu 1, has recently been honored by the President of the Republic of Cameroon, Paul Biya, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to alleviating unemployment among the country's youth.

Through the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, the State of Cameroon acknowledged the

**His efforts as a peace advocate have been instrumental in promoting mutual trust and cooperation during challenging times in the region.**

Nigerian philanthropist and Ambassador for Peace, for his remarkable impact on the country's economy. Particularly noteworthy were his efforts in securing the release of Nigerian nationals imprisoned for minor offenses and facilitating their rehabilitation and empowerment, as well as assisting Cameroonians and nationals from other countries facing similar circumstances.

In a grand ceremony held in Douala, in the Littoral Region of the Republic of Cameroon, Onyengubo Jonathan Thomas was adorned with prestigious Silver, Bronze and Gold Medals. The esteemed honor was bestowed upon him by the Senior Divisional Officer, SDO of Wouri, Benjamin Mboutou, representing the Head of State, H.E. Mr. Paul Biya. This distinguished award ceremony took place on the sidelines of the commemorative activities for the 2023 International Labour Day.

Upon receiving the medals, HRH Thomas expressed his gratitude and acknowledged the State's recognition as a motivating call to further action. He emphasized the significance of being honored on this occasion by the State, particularly through the Labor Minister, highlighting that it serves as a profound reminder to continue striving for economic development.

HRH EZE Thomas Jonathan Onyengubo's continued commitment to making a meaningful difference in the lives of people serves as a beacon of hope and inspiration for the present and future generations in both Nigeria and Cameroon. Through his philanthropic endeavors and dedicated service as a traditional leader, he has created a legacy that will leave a lasting impact on communities far beyond his lifetime.

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## BIG BUSINESSES UPLIFTING COMMUNITIES



In today's interconnected world, the role of big business in creating a positive impact on society has never been more crucial, as it extends far beyond the traditional realms of commerce and profit-making. Societal challenges such as poverty, inequality, climate change and resource scarcity require concerted efforts from multiple stakeholders, including corporations, to bring about meaningful change.

In this context, the notion of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) has gained significant traction, with businesses embracing the idea that they have a responsibility to address social and environmental issues. Cooperatively, businesses can pool their resources, expertise and influence to address complex social and environmental issues more effectively. Collaboration between corporations has the potential to amplify their efforts, leading to transformative changes in communities.

In June, MTN Cameroon, a leading telecommunications company with a strong commitment to corporate social responsibility and community development, launched its highly anticipated Yellow Care Week in Cameroon from June 1st to the 21st under the theme "Empowering Communities to Drive Economic Recovery". This initiative aims to secure high participation levels of MTN staff

in impactful social projects designed to uplift and empower local communities. With a strong commitment to corporate social responsibility, the organization understands that investing in community development leads to sustainable growth and improved lives for all.

Nompilo Morafa, the Chief Sustainability & Corporate Affairs Officer of MTN Cameroon Group, emphasized the significance of their employees' ongoing contributions to society and their commitment to ensuring that the communities we operate in perceive the tangible value our business brings to their lives.

Through Yellow Care Week, MTN employees actively engage in various activities such as educational programs, health camps, environmental conservation and community infrastructure development. The initiative encourages employees to volunteer their time, skills and resources, bringing about positive change. By actively involving its staff, the firm promotes a sense of ownership and empathy, fostering a culture of community service and goodwill. "At MTN, we believe that everyone deserves the benefits of a modern connect life and by resuming our Y'ello Care campaign, we strive to ensure that we continue to strengthen and uplift all of our community members in their pursuit of economic development within each community" - MTN.

In a show of solidarity and commitment to MTN's Yellow Care Week, Dangote Cameroon, a prominent industrial conglomerate, donated 500 bags of cement to support community development projects, playing a pivotal role in constructing infrastructure, schools, health facilities and more. Dangote's contribution demonstrates its dedication to empowering local communities and ensuring sustainable development in Cameroon.

Dangote Cement Cameroon, took to their LinkedIn to express the reason for their donation, being 'Because we are committed to your side for a better tomorrow, Dangote cement Cameroon is committed to MTN Cameroon for the #YelloDays2023'.

The donation of 500 bags of cement not only provides a much-needed resource but also serves as a catalyst for greater collaboration between the private sector and local communities. It showcases how corporations can come together, leveraging their strengths and resources to address societal challenges effectively. The partnership between MTN and Dangote creates a ripple effect, inspiring others to contribute and join hands in community upliftment. In an interview, a stakeholder referred to this partnership as 'the coming together of two African champions to transform Africa'.



The Yellow Care Week initiative, supported by Dangote's cement donation, is expected to have a profound impact on education, healthcare, infrastructure and environmental conservation. Schools and educational institutions can be constructed or renovated, enabling better learning environments for children. Health camps can offer medical services to underserved communities, providing access to quality healthcare. Community infrastructure projects can enhance the overall quality of life by improving roads, sanitation facilities and clean water access. Environmental initiatives can promote sustainable practices, preserving natural resources for future generations.

The alliance between MTN and Dangote holds immense potential to reform the lives of communities in Cameroon. By pooling their resources and expertise, these corporations can create sustainable, long-term solutions that go beyond one-time projects. The direct involvement of MTN employees ensure that projects are implemented with local insights, cultural sensitivity, as well as a deep understanding of community needs.

It is common knowledge that the assembly of various entities in collaborative efforts spur innovation and technological progress,

resulting in solutions that address societal needs and fostering an environment of creativity, where new ideas are nurtured and boundaries surpassed, ultimately benefiting society at large.



The MTN and Dangote collaboration in Cameroon exemplifies the power of synergy and joint effort between big businesses to uplift and empower local communities. MTN's Yellow Care Week, fueled by the active participation of its employees, combined with Dangote's generous donation of 500 bags of cement, has set a remarkable example of how companies can leverage their strengths and resources for greater societal impact.

The cooperation also serves as an inspiration for other corporations to recognize their role in community development and social responsibility. By working together, businesses can address larger societal issues and make a lasting difference in the lives of the people they serve.

Through joint efforts, these firms are transforming communities in Cameroon, paving the way for sustainable development, improved access to education and healthcare, and enhanced living standards. Their collaboration serves as a beacon of hope, inspiring other corporations to recognize their social responsibility and actively contribute to community upliftment. Together, these industry giants are changing lives, one project at a time, and leaving a positive legacy for generations to come.



## LES GRANDES ENTREPRISES SOUTIENNENT LES COMMUNAUTÉS



Le rôle des grandes entreprises dans la création d'un impact positif sur la société n'a jamais été aussi déterminant que dans le monde interconnecté d'aujourd'hui, car il s'étend bien au-delà des domaines traditionnels du commerce et de la réalisation de bénéfices. Les défis sociétaux tels que la pauvreté, l'inégalité, le changement climatique et la pénurie de ressources exigent des efforts concertés de la part de multiples parties prenantes, y compris les entreprises, afin d'apporter des changements significatifs.

Dans ce contexte, la notion de responsabilité sociale des entreprises (RSE) a pris une ampleur considérable, les entreprises acceptant l'idée qu'elles ont leur part de responsabilité dans la recherche de solutions aux problèmes sociaux et environnementaux. En coopérant, les entreprises peuvent mettre en commun leurs ressources, leur expertise et leur influence pour s'attaquer plus efficacement à des problèmes sociaux et environnementaux complexes. La collaboration entre entreprises est susceptible d'amplifier leurs efforts et d'entraîner des changements radicaux au sein des communautés.

En juin, MTN, une entreprise de télécommunications de premier plan, fortement engagée en matière de responsabilité sociale des entreprises et le développement communautaire, a lancé sa très attendue Yellow Care Week au Cameroun, du 1er au 21 juin, sous le thème « Responsabiliser les

communautés pour stimuler la relance économique ». Cette initiative vise à assurer des niveaux élevés de participation du personnel de MTN à des projets sociaux ayant un impact et conçus pour améliorer et renforcer les communautés locales. Fortement engagée dans l'exercice de la responsabilité sociale des entreprises, l'organisation comprend que l'investissement dans le développement des communautés conduit à une croissance durable et à l'amélioration des conditions de vie de tous.

Nompilo Morafo, directeur du développement durable et des affaires générales du groupe MTN, a souligné l'importance des contributions permanentes de ses employés à la société et leur engagement à veiller à ce que les communautés dans lesquelles nous menons nos activités perçoivent la valeur tangible que notre entreprise apporte à leur vie. Pendant toute la semaine de responsabilité Yellow Care Week, les employés de MTN participent activement à diverses activités telles que des programmes éducatifs, des camps de santé, la protection de l'environnement et le développement d'infrastructures communautaires. Cette initiative encourage les employés à donner de leur temps, de leurs compétences et de leurs ressources, afin d'apporter, de manière volontaire, des changements positifs. En impliquant activement son personnel, l'entreprise favorise le développement d'un sentiment d'appartenance et

d'empathie, ce qui facilite l'établissement d'une culture de service communautaire et de bonne volonté.

« Chez MTN, nous pensons que tout le monde mérite les avantages d'une vie moderne connectée et en reprenant notre campagne Yellow Care, nous nous efforçons de garantir que nous continuons à renforcer et à encourager tous les membres de nos communautés dans leur poursuite du développement économique au sein de chaque communauté » - MTN.

En signe de solidarité et d'engagement envers la Yellow Care Week de MTN, Dangote, conglomerat industriel de premier plan, a fait don de 500 sacs de ciment pour soutenir des projets de développement communautaire. Elle a joué un rôle essentiel dans la construction d'infrastructures, d'écoles, d'établissements de santé, etc. La contribution de Dangote témoigne de son attachement à l'autonomisation des communautés locales et à garantir un développement durable au Cameroun. Le groupe Dangote a utilisé son LinkedIn pour exprimer la raison de son don, étant « Parce que nous sommes engagés à vos côtés pour un avenir meilleur, Dangote Cement Cameroon s'engage auprès de MTN Cameroun pour les #JournéesYellow2023 ». Le don de 500 sacs de ciment ne fournit pas seulement une ressource indispensable, mais sert également de catalyseur pour une plus



grande collaboration entre le secteur privé et les communautés locales. Il montre comment les entreprises peuvent s'unir, en tirant parti de leurs forces et de leurs ressources pour relever efficacement les défis sociétaux. Le partenariat entre MTN et Dangote crée un effet d'entraînement, inspirant d'autres personnes à contribuer et à collaborer à la responsabilisation des communautés. Lors d'un entretien, l'une des parties prenantes a qualifié ce partenariat de « réunion de deux champions africains pour transformer l'Afrique ».

L'initiative Yellow Care Week, soutenue par le don de ciment de Dangote, devrait avoir un impact profond sur l'éducation, les soins de santé, les infrastructures et la protection de l'environnement. Des écoles et des établissements d'enseignement peuvent être construits ou rénovés, ce qui permet d'offrir aux enfants de meilleurs environnements d'apprentissage. Les camps de santé peuvent offrir des services médicaux aux communautés mal desservies et leur permettre d'accéder à des soins de santé de qualité. Les projets d'infrastructures communautaires peuvent améliorer la qualité de vie générale en améliorant les routes, les installations sanitaires et l'accès à l'eau potable. Les initiatives environnementales peuvent promouvoir des pratiques durables, ce qui permet de préserver les

ressources naturelles pour les générations futures. L'alliance entre MTN et Dangote offre un immense potentiel pour réformer la vie des communautés du Cameroun. En mettant en commun leurs ressources et leur expertise, ces entreprises peuvent créer des solutions durables et à long terme qui ont une plus grande incidence que des projets ponctuels. L'implication directe des employés de MTN garantit que les projets sont mis en œuvre en tenant compte des réalités de la sensibilité culturelle locales, et d'une compréhension approfondie des besoins de la communauté.

Il est de notoriété publique que la réunion de diverses entités dans le cadre d'efforts de collaboration stimule l'innovation et le progrès technologique, ce qui permet de trouver des solutions qui répondent aux besoins de la société et de favoriser un environnement de créativité, où les nouvelles idées sont encouragées et les limites dépassées, ce qui profite en fin de compte à la société dans son ensemble.

La collaboration entre MTN et Dangote au Cameroun illustre la force de la complémentarité et de la collaboration entre les grandes entreprises pour améliorer et donner les moyens d'action aux communautés locales. La Yellow Care Week de MTN, nourrie par la participation active des employés

de cette entreprise, combinée à la généreuse donation de 500 sacs de ciment par Dangote, a constitué\* un exemple remarquable de la manière dont les entreprises peuvent tirer parti de leurs forces et de leurs ressources pour avoir un plus grand impact sur la société.

Cette coopération est également une source d'inspiration pour que d'autres entreprises reconnaissent leur rôle dans le développement communautaire et la responsabilité sociale. En travaillant ensemble, les entreprises peuvent s'attaquer à des problèmes sociétaux plus vastes et faire une différence durable dans la vie des personnes qu'elles servent.

Grâce à leurs efforts conjoints, ces entreprises transforment les communautés du Cameroun, ouvrant la voie au développement durable, à un meilleur accès à l'éducation et aux soins de santé, et à l'amélioration du niveau de vie. Leur collaboration est une lueur d'espoir qui incite d'autres entreprises à reconnaître leur responsabilité sociale et à contribuer activement à donner un nouvel essor aux communautés. Ensemble, ces géants de l'industrie changent des vies, au rythme d'un projet à la fois, et laissent un héritage positif pour les générations futures.



# FADIMATOU NOUTCHEMO

## A TRAILBLAZER'S LEGACY IN AFRICAN AVIATION

**T**HE aviation industry is characterized by consistent innovation and global advancement. However, for numerous African youth, the prospect of contributing to this dynamic arena was obstructed by inadequate access to information and resources. Fadimatou Noutchemo, an illustrious Cameroonian acknowledged this impediment and embarked on a mission to revolutionize aviation in Africa.

Fadimatou Noutchemo has made major contributions to the aviation industry in Africa and globally, not only navigating the skies, but also reshaping the horizons of possibility. The visionary General Manager of Cameroon Afrijet, stands as a remarkable force in this industry. As General Manager of Cameroon Afrijet, she has helped grow the company into a leading regional airline. Established in 2004, Afrijet ascended to become the inaugural airline in the Central African Economic and Monetary Community zone in 2019. Engaging over 250 individuals across numerous African countries including Gabon, Congo, Cameroon, Chad, Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tome and Principe, and Benin. The Gabonese airline commands a fleet of 6 turboprop aircraft constructed by the eminent European manufacturer ATR, providing scheduled flights across Cameroon, Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe, as well as the Republic of Congo.

Nevertheless, her impact goes far beyond Afrijet as a company. In July 2014, Noutchemo founded the Young African Aviation Professional Association (YAAPA) to support and connect young aviation professionals across Africa. Through YAAPA, she facilitates Pan-African cooperation, empowering the next generation and epitomizing African distinction and leadership in the industry. Noutchemo's odyssey, passion and personal attributes have enabled her to construct a platform transforming lives.



She proactively redresses the gap between educational institutions and industry requirements. By promoting awareness and advocating for innovative financial solutions, Noutchemo empowers underprivileged African youth to access superior education and training in aviation and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering And Mathematics) disciplines. Her collaboration with African financial institutions including UBA and ECOBANK reflects her dedication to dismantling fiscal barriers often impeding youth aspirations.

'We want to push for an innovative system where young Africans with the support of Pan-African banks could be capable of having this special loan for education, also meeting the shortage of labor in Africa. We are trying to build bridges between youth institutions, financial institutions and African academies, so that youths can be trained, while the industry recruits them on the continent.'

Moreover, her alliance with the African Airlines Association has unlocked opportunities for aspiring aviation professionals. This partnership has facilitated access to training organizations such as NCAT, Ethiopian Universities and the Price Center, ensuring a steady supply of adept aviation experts on the continent. Her strategic approach of connecting youth establishments, financial entities and aviation institutes is bridging the gap between education and industry requirements, effectively cultivating a new generation of skilled Africans equipped to contribute to aviation sector growth.

Noutchemo is also active with major international aviation events like the Paris Air Show. The renowned air show has been a key venue for aviation developments and announcements for over a century. Noutchemo ensures

Africa has a voice in this global forum. She highlights new technologies, partnerships and opportunities involving African companies at the Paris Air Show. With her diverse efforts, Fadimatou Noutchemo promotes growth, innovation and collaboration across the African and worldwide aviation industry.

In June 2023, the Paris Air Show returns for the first time, post COVID-19. It is the largest air show and aerospace-industry exhibition event in the world till date, organized by Grouperment des industries françaises aéronautiques et spatiales (GIFAS). As she led the African delegation at the eminent Air Show, Noutchemo showcased her leadership on the international stage. Noutchemo's presence highlighted her commitment to exhibiting Africa's potential and fostering global aviation partnerships.

'For the first time in 54 years, an African youth organization was represented at the Paris Air Show this year. Our participation was an opportunity to showcase African aerospace potentials on a global stage

and network with established industry institutions. Accompanying me were youth who, through this experience, were introduced to the expansive aerospace sector. For them, it was a firsthand exposure to the enormity of the aviation industry. The Paris Air Show provided a platform for engaging with numerous other organizations, setting the stage for potential collaborations on our shared trajectory.'

Noutchemo's remarkable journey from General Manager of Afrijet to founder and president of YAAPA exemplifies the strength of vision, tenacity and innovation. Her efforts are not only transforming aviation in Africa but also inspiring African youth to dream big and pursue careers in aviation and STEM fields. Noutchemo's leadership positions Africa's aviation industry to effectively cater to its internal demands, all the while assuming a pivotal role of significance on the global arena. She will undoubtedly continue to impact lives, fostering a brighter future for the continent and its youth. Noutchemo is a trailblazer propelling Africa's aviation industry to unprecedented heights.





# HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS



**BARRISTER NICO HALLE**

**H**earfelt congratulations to Mr. Ismail, the visionary editor of *Naija Diaspora Magazine*! His professionalism, dependability, and creativity have made a significant impact over the impressive span of 10 years. Each encounter with the magazine leaves me in awe of the exceptional content—ranging from economic insights to political analyses and business perspectives.

*Naija Diaspora Magazine* is a testament to its commitment to fostering unity between Nigeria and Cameroon. It brilliantly showcases the incredible qualities of Nigerians—hardworking, peace-loving, and amazing individuals. Celebrating a decade of outstanding journalism, the magazine has left an indelible mark, and my sincere prayer is for its continued growth and improvement, ensuring even greater consistency.

I extend my warm congratulations to Ismail and his brilliant team for consistently delivering top-notch work. Your efforts not only make a mark in the journalism landscape but also play a vital role in projecting the Nigerian community to the world. Here's to another decade of excellence and continuous strides forward!



**Mr. Anselm Dozie**  
CEO Dozass Auto Cameroon

## *Congratulatory Message*



**I**t has been a while since I first got to know you, Mr. Ismail. As I read my Bible day by day, it reminds me that 'by their fruits, you shall know them.' I firmly believe that you are a vessel through which God can work wonders, not only in Cameroon but also in Nigeria, both locally and on the international stage. Your brainchild, this magazine, is a testament to your creative initiative.

I have witnessed the deep affection you hold for your fellow countrymen and for Cameroon as a nation.

With this love and your unwavering dedication, I am certain that you will achieve remarkable success.

Allow me to extend my heartfelt congratulations and prayers for God to bless you with abundant grace, protection, and numerous opportunities in all your endeavors, far beyond what you can imagine, in the name of our Lord, Jesus. Cheers to your journey





# HILDA BACI

## CHASING RECORDS: THE NIGERIAN DREAM

**F**ROM the highest echelons of success to the most humble of occupations, Nigerians have consistently demonstrated an unparalleled drive to overcome obstacles and achieve greatness. When it comes to grit and tenacity, they are revered for their unwavering spirit and unyielding determination.

Nigerian innovators have carved out a space for themselves on the

global stage. From technology titans in Silicon Valley to local artisans crafting unique products, Nigerian entrepreneurs display a firm belief in their ideas, relentlessly pursuing success. Their stories, fueled by sheer determination, serve as beacons of inspiration for aspiring business leaders worldwide.

From the bustling city of Lagos, where dreams and aspirations intermingle with the vibrant chaos of daily life, to the oil fields of the Niger Delta and the green pastures of their Northern cities, one will encounter individuals who have harnessed their

determination to conquer challenges, leaving an indelible mark on their chosen paths, like Chef Hilda who stood out as a shining example of perseverance and dedication. With a heart full of ambition and a talent for culinary arts, she set her sights on undertaking the grandest cook-a-thon the world had ever witnessed.

At 4:00 pm on Thursday, May 11, in the upscale Lekki area of Lagos State, Hilda Bassey's sole focus was ignited as she switched on the cooker. The world record in the cooking marathon loomed large in her thoughts, a goal she had set for herself long before the



traditional recipes passed down through generations. She explored the nuances of local ingredients, honed her culinary techniques, and experimented fearlessly with flavors and spices to create a menu that would captivate taste buds and ignite a sense of pride.

Months flew by, and the day of the Hilda Baci Cook-a-thon drew near. The anticipation in the air was palpable as Lagos buzzed with excitement. Hilda's relentless drive had rallied the support of the nation.

As the event unfolded, the atmosphere crackled with energy. From the sizzling aromas that filled the air to the lively chatter of eager spectators, Amore Gardens transformed into a vibrant mosaic of flavors, stories and shared experiences.

The journey had been arduous, filled with countless sleepless nights and moments of doubt. Yet, She triumphed with the immense support of Nigerian celebrities, influencers, political figures and respected religious leaders. Notable personalities such as Enioluwa and Tiwa Savage, along with reports of Governor Sanwo-Olu's presence, rallied behind Baci at the venue.

Baci received an encouraging tweet from Atiku Abubakar, the then presidential candidate of the People's Democratic Party (PDP), while Vice President Yemi Osinbajo expressed his support through a phone call.

The record-breaking event garnered support from numerous celebrities, including rapper Ice Prince Zamani, Pastor Bolaji Idowu, Spyro, Nancy Isime, and former Big Brother housemates Alex, Thabang, and Tsatsii, who all showed up to offer their backing to Baci.

enthusiasts, to showcase the rich tapestry of Nigerian cuisine. The cook-a-thon did not only celebrate the diverse flavors of the nation but also serve as a platform for promoting unity and community engagement.

Undeterred by the challenges that lay ahead, Hilda embarked on a journey that would test her mettle and push her to her limits, spending countless hours meticulously planning every aspect of the event, from securing the perfect venue to recruiting a team of volunteers who shared her vision.

Hilda's determination knew no bounds. With an unwavering commitment to excellence, she immersed herself in the world of Nigerian cuisine, delving into

enthusiastic crowd rallied behind her in the vibrant heart of Nigeria's bustling commercial city.

Hilda's dream was no small feat. She envisioned bringing together a team of passionate cooks, including seasoned professionals and aspiring



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**Razzl**, un produit de l'**UNION CAMEROUNAISE DE BRASSERIE (UCB)**, est la nouvelle gamme de boisson gazeuse qui explose de variétés de saveurs et de fraîcheur. Entre ami(e)s, en famille, à la maison, en voyage ou en fête(s), profitez du nouveau **Razzl**. Pétillant, vibrant, coloré, rafraîchissant et explosif de saveurs, **Razzl** sublime vos moments précieux, faisant ainsi de chacun d'eux un moment unique. **RAZZL, VIVEZ L'INSTANT.**

**Razzl**, a **UCB** product is the new range of CSD that explodes with variety of flavours and freshness. With friends, family, at home, travelling or celebrating, enjoy the new **Razzl**. Sparkling, vibrant, colourful, refreshing and explosive of flavours, **Razzl** enhances your precious moments, making each of them a unique one. **RAZZL, LIVE THE MOMENT.**

10 YEARS OF  
SUCCESS,  
GROWTH AND  
IMPACT



Congratulations to Naija Diaspora Magazine on reaching the remarkable milestone of 10 years!

This is a testament to the dedication, hard work, and commitment of the entire team in consistently providing a unique insight into Nigerian affairs in the diasporas, from an African perspective.

Over the past decade, Naija Diaspora Magazine has become a trusted source of information on a wide range of topics and stories related to Nigeria, its people, culture, and current events, and a platform that celebrates Nigerian achievements and the experiences of Nigerians living abroad. Here's to another 10 years of success, growth, and impact!



**DR. ELMINE FOTABE**  
Fotabe University of Cameroon (FUNIC)



Ambassador HRM (Queen)

# EFE ALEXANDRA CLARK-OMERU

A Visionary Leader and Dedicated Diplomat

**W**ith a remarkable journey marked by dedication and service, Ambassador HRM (Queen) Efe A. Clark-Omeru, JP stands as an exceptional figure in Nigerian diplomacy. Her illustrious career has seen her hold pivotal roles both on the international stage and within her homeland. Notably, Queen Clark-Omeru's distinguished tenure as Acting High Commissioner at the Nigerian High Commission in Pretoria, South Africa, showcased her Diplomatic prowess. Furthermore, her leadership extended to Heading the Diplomatic Mission in Argentina, among other significant responsibilities.

The profound impact of Amb. Queen Clark-Omeru's efforts becomes evident when considering her involvement with the Littoral and the West Regions. These regions not only house a substantial Nigerian population of over five million but also play a pivotal role in fostering trade and bilateral relations between Cameroon and Nigeria. Amb. Queen Clark-Omeru's contributions have been felt deeply in various capacities, including as a Political, Economic, Trade and Investment, and Multilateral Desk Officer within different departments of

the Ministry and during her assignments abroad.

Beyond her Diplomatic achievements, Amb. Queen Clark-Omeru's personal journey is equally captivating. A union of leadership and heritage, she is married to the Ovie of Agbon Kingdom, Ethiope East Local Government Area of Delta State, HRM Michael G. Omeru, JP, CON with whom she shares the blessing of children.

Amb. Queen Clark-Omeru's character transcends her Diplomatic endeavors, as she is recognized as a devoted philanthropist and an enigmatic presence. Her dedication to the betterment of Nigeria and humanity at large has shaped her legacy. With unwavering commitment, she has woven her years of service into the fabric of the nation and the world, leaving an indelible mark on the realms of diplomacy, leadership, and philanthropy.

In recognition of decades of meritorious services to the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the Nigerian Foreign Service, former President Mohammedu Buhari (GCFR) conferred on her Ambassador-In-Situ in February, 2022. She was also conferred with Justice of the Peace (JP) in May 2023 by the Government of Delta State, Nigeria, in recognition of her Service to Humanity, Social Justices and Community Development.



**B**eing a Woman in a Male dominated Line of work. Can you tell us how you started your career?

I started my career after my National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) at the Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC), Warri, Delta State, Nigeria from 1998 - 1999. I am delighted to say that I joined the Nigerian Foreign Service (Ministry of Foreign Affairs) as a Third Secretary on 13th February 2001 and attended the 16th Regular Course of the Nigerian Foreign Service Academy, from September 2003 - August 2004. I rose through the Ranks to become an Ambassador in the space of twenty-two years in the Foreign Service.

As a seasoned Nigerian Diplomat who has represented the nation in various well-known nations. What aspect of your job do you like the most?

Well, having served in several countries as a Nigerian Diplomat, the most interesting aspect is meeting people of various cultures, being able to interact with people of these countries and your fellow Diplomats from other parts of the world. Having a friendly bond among the people you meet while serving in your host countries, and selling the potentials of my country to them.

How do you fit in family activities given that your career involves travelling a lot?

Having served my beloved country for over 22 years in the Diplomatic Service both in the Ministry and outside Nigeria, my beautiful family has been part of this beautiful journey. My family is always with me as they are used to the type of job I do. They are quite supportive.

As a Queen, has this job given you the opportunity to carry out your royalty preference?

Quite an interesting question. Well, to say that as a Queen and Royalty, that remains in the Palace. As a Diplomat, the job comes first. I have to function as a Public Servant and there is no way you can combine both functions together.

Knowing that you have a lot of things to accomplish, how do you unwind?

I read a lot of great books; I go on vacations with my family when I am on Home Leave. I swim, I do charity works, watch television, mostly news, movies, I admire Nature and listen to music.

You have been in Cameroon for two years, tell us how you feel taking a Diplomatic charge in the country? And what are using missing out here?

I have been in Douala, the Littoral Region of the Republic of Cameroon for over two years now. I would say that been the Consul-General of Nigeria to Douala, the Littoral and West Regions of this great country has been both



pleasant and wonderful.

Overseeing the Consulate General of Nigeria here has been great. Ours is mostly based on Consular Matters between our two brotherly countries. Bilateral Issues are also of importance. There are no issues missing out because Nigeria and Cameroon are brothers and we have millions of Nigerians residing in the Littoral and West Regions of this great country. Most of these Nigerians are 3rd and 4th generations of Nigerians that were born in Cameroon. They are both hardworking and law-abiding citizens.

**Cameroon is a bilingual country with English and French as its official languages and you are in charge of French-speaking compatriots. How do you intend to interact with your French speaking audiences?**

Cameroon is a bilingual country, as you are aware, there are no issues regarding my overseeing of the French-Speaking Regions. Since my arrival, I have been able to express myself in the two official languages, which is a bit of French and English. My interaction with the people in my area of jurisdiction has been perfect and I have been trying to improve in the aspect of the French Language, which is very important. I have previously served in Buenos Aires, Argentina, South America, as Chargé d’Affaire, IA, which is a Spanish country. The whole of South American countries use Spanish or Portuguese as their official channel of Diplomatic communication. It is good to know that most of the Government officials and the citizens of Cameroon that I have interacted with also speak English perfectly.

**Nigerians living in Cameroon have boosted the economy with their various business ventures whilst several companies also keep coming from Nigeria to establish in this country. What is your reaction about this and how do you appreciate business climate in Cameroon?**

Nigerians living in the Republic of Cameroon are doing exceptionally well in their various areas of businesses. They have boosted the economy of this great country. Nigerians in the Littoral and West Regions are mostly into Small and Medium Businesses; they are mostly into import of spare parts from Nigeria, Electronics, Building Materials, Provision and Cosmetics, Food Stuffs. We also have Nigerian Companies that are domiciled and operating in Douala such as Dangote Cement Cameroon, United Bank for Africa, Air Peace Limited, MRS Corlay, Access Bank Cameroon amongst others. These Companies are in fact headed by both Nigerians and Cameroonians with skills. Cameroon as a country is business friendly with Nigeria based on the numbers of Nigerian Companies that are doing business in Douala and other parts of Cameroon. I often say that Douala is like Lagos of Nigeria and



With the Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Geoffrey Onyama, Presenting her with Her Letter of Commission, Conferring on her Ambassador In- Situ, in February, 2023.

Johannesburg of the Republic of South Africa because of its Economic potentials.

Permit me to also say that the religious domain is not left out as there are a number of Nigerian churches such as Dunamis International Gospel Centre, the Redeemed Christian Church of God, Winner Chapel International, Deeper Life Bible Church, etc. established in Cameroon. There churches bring Nigerians and Cameroonians together to worship under same roof, while catering for their spiritual needs.

**You have been moving around your jurisdiction in Cameroon with progress to encourage and ensure sanity among Nigerians in the host country... How will you describe the attitudes of Nigerians in the country?**

My meeting with Relevant Stakeholders in the host country revealed that Nigerians in the Littoral and West Regions are well behaved and are law-abiding and there are no criminal cases recorded against them, if any maybe few. The only problem they have is misunderstanding among themselves and when reported before the Consulate General, it is treated with dispatch. I always appeal to them to be law-abiding to Rules and Regulations of the Host country. On my arrival, I met with the Governor of Littoral Region, H.E. Samuel Dieudonne Ivaha Diboua, the Mayor of Douala City, Dr Roger Mbassa Ndine, as well as other stakeholders in the Region and they all spoke well of Nigerians as serious minded and



The Governor of the Littoral Region, H.E. Samuel D. Ivaha Diboua, Presenting her with her Copy of Exequatur in June, 2022.

business oriented who have been of great economic value to the Republic of Cameroon. Furthermore, my tour of duty to the West Region from 31st May to 3rd June 2022 is another testimony that Nigerians over there are doing well. During my one-one interaction with the Relevant Host Stakeholders, most importantly, the Governor, H.E Awa Fonka Augustine, he applauded and hailed Nigerians in the West Region for the way and manner they conduct themselves.

**What should Nigerians in areas of your command be expecting from Your Excellency as regards their welfare and well-being?**

Apart from the basic Consular Services which includes issuance of Consular cards, Age Declaration, Emergency Travel Certificate, the Consulate General attends to several Consular issues bordering on child and human trafficking, incessant harassment and detention of Nigerians by Host Security Agents, excessive taxation by host authorities, disputes between and among Nigerians, financial assistance to stranded Nigerians, to mention just a few.

The Consulate also covers the Riverine and Hinterland areas in the Littoral Regions such as Manoka Sub-Division, Toubé I and II, Moungangde Village, Tonde Nkam-Yabassi, and Nigerians resident in these areas are mostly Farmers and Fishermen. From time to time, the Consulate General embark on Consular visits in these areas to see how they are faring.

May I also mention that the role of the Consulate General has expanded with the introduction of the E-passport to Nigerian citizens. The Consulate General of Nigeria, Douala, Republic of Cameroon is the only Mission that issues passport in the Central African Region and Nigerians in the Region have been patronizing it.



**The Republic of Cameroon is indeed a beautiful and a great country in the CEMAC Region. Both countries enjoy cordial Diplomatic Relations and we also have great Bilateral Relation. My visits to various government officials in the two Regions have attest to the fact..**

In fact, the Consulate General is committed to render its normal Consular services as well as promote the economic interests of Nigerians in the Littoral and West Regions. We are also committed to promote trade and investment of Nigerian Companies in Douala, Republic of Cameroon.

**Having up to seven million Nigerians in Cameroon means the country really has something special to offer. How do you assess the hospitality of Cameroon?**

We have an estimated seven million Nigerians residing in the Republic of Cameroon and out of this seven million, we have five million of them residing in the Littoral and West Regions. The Republic of Cameroon is indeed a beautiful and a great country in the CEMAC Region. Both countries enjoy cordial Diplomatic Relations and we also have great Bilateral Relation. My visits to various government officials in the two Regions have attest to the fact that Nigerians have lived among their Cameroonian brothers for years. They also affirmed that Nigerians are very hardworking and industrious people who contribute to the economy of Cameroon. The Nigerian Community in the Littoral and West Regions have also confirmed to me that they have lived in harmony with their Cameroonian brothers for years. Also, along the line many of these Nigerians have married Cameroonian women and men, which have produced children. To sum it up, I have lived in Douala for over two years and I can say hundred percent to you that the Republic of Cameroon is indeed wonderful in terms of hospitality to us Nigerians and our Nigerian companies.

Other than the Nigerian National Day on 1st October that brings Nigerians together, could you in your capacity initiate other events that will bring Nigerians together to showcase their culture, food, dances, talents etc.

The Consulate General of Nigeria in Douala, Littoral and West Regions of the Republic of Cameroon is home to over 5 million Nigerians. We celebrate our National Day which draws our Nationals from the two Regions that are under my jurisdiction. I receive several invitations from the Nigerian Union and various State Chapters to participate in their activities, these ceremonies bring them closer. These showcase the rich culture and heritage



of our people through food, music, dressing, etc. The Consulate General has participated in the International Women Day Celebrations and I lead the women during the celebrations since I am a female Consul-General. Also, the Consulate General pays courtesy call on our host authorities to address the issues of Bilateral Relations between the two countries and also visits to Nigerian companies that are in Douala.

Last year, a fundraising for the New Nigerian Union Secretariat took place. Nigerians in the Littoral Region turned out to support the building of the Secretariat. I also led my staff and Nigerians to the foundation laying of the new Secretariat building. The Fundraising of the secretariat was successful due to the efforts of committed Nigerians, our Cameroonian brothers and sisters and Nigerian companies.

In addition, during the African Day Celebration on 25th May 2023, hosted by the Ministry of External Relations (MINREX) Branch Office in Douala, the Consulate General of Nigeria, Douala participated fully, whereby we showcased our rich culture through various traditional dishes (food), music and dances. During festival period such as Christmas, Easter, Salah, we celebrate as one Nation.



# DR. STEPHEN TEMITAYO



Founder/  
Chairman Gtext  
Holdings

**Y**ou are one of the big shots in Nigeria's real estate sector and an acclaimed business coach. However, it wasn't a rosy beginning. How tough was your childhood?

Well about my childhood. I was born in the northern part of Nigeria in Maiduguri. At some point due to our inability to pay house rent, my parents had to move to a village where they bought a land and built one room apartment. The toilet, a pit toilet, was outside and no running water.

**Typical rural setting...**  
(laughs) Yes. And we grew in that neighbourhood. In my teen years we moved to the middle part of Nigeria. And it was here I saw people with a more quality lifestyle. And though we moved there we were still the poorest. The passion for wealth and success started. I was able to read a book called "RICH DAD, POOR DAD" between the age of 17 and 18 and that opened my eyes to the possibility of being wealthy. And that wealth has nothing to do with educational background, but has everything to do with your informal knowledge, training and going

1000 naira. What inspired this journey?

I didn't have a laptop when we started the bulk SMS business. I didn't even have the account. But I used to do training on business while on campus. And a particular organisation said I should send bulk SMS for their conference. So, they gave me 700 naira, I added 300 naira to it and went to a cyber cafe and created an account under another person. I sent the SMS and that was how I got more clients. And later we owned our own website. A laptop also came and we started doing websites for other people. By 2015 we were the largest in Nigeria because we were operating with multinationals, doing hundreds of millions in the same business. We had to continue this business for about seven years before we saw over 100 million naira in transactions. The place of being consistent is key and we also didn't diversify until the business grew big and we had enough liquidity to start employing more people.

**You just spoke about consistency and that brings out the "challenges". The life of an entrepreneur is not easy. What major challenges did you face?**

(smiles) We are still facing challenges. Challenges are the

starting businesses and failing. But today I know better that I didn't have a mentor in my early days and I couldn't even afford the available ones. I kept doing trial and error and that was why those businesses were failing. I have been through hell being an entrepreneur. I have had seasons where my son couldn't go to school because I had a choice to either pay salaries or his school fees. If I don't pay the salary the business is going to be over.

**Of course...**

DR AKINTAYO: So, I had to pay my workers, while my son stayed back at home. I can go on and on. Yes, the challenges were many. But I didn't have an.. There was just no other option. I tried getting a job. I sent 100 CVs. I even told employers not to pay me for six months. But I did not still have a job. So, I didn't really have a choice than to make sure this business I have must work.

**What really kept you going in the midst of the storm?**

Honestly it was the fact that I didn't have a choice. Some people have options and here in Africa you could rely on your cousin or uncle. But in my case my mother was the breadwinner because my father's business had collapsed and he was not able to raise us financially. She died of



through apprenticeship. This was the game changer. I started business as a teenager but it was formally registered 15 years ago. We started as a digital marketing firm doing bulk SMS, E-mail and social media marketing. Eight years ago we expanded into real estate and today we are in four continents of the world.

**You have a very inspiring status, starting a business with**

fruit of champions. And the mindset of entrepreneurs is always to overcome obstacles and challenges. And I faced so many. My mother died in the early days of my entrepreneurship. Many of the businesses failed. I failed in almost 20 businesses. Most of the time we hear only of the successful ones. I even thought it was spiritual because I kept

ovarian cancer about 12 years ago. So, I didn't have who to go to. There was no rich uncle that you could just talk to and he will help you. There was a day after my mom died that we spent over two days with no food and my brother had his pregnant wife. An idea popped in his mind. One of his friends sell vegetables. So, my brother a graduate decided to take



vegetables from him and distribute to restaurants of companies around the town dressed in suit. Then he will pay back later. Imagine a young graduate selling vegetables dressed in suits. He put them in this "Ghana must go" bags and took them to these restaurants. Though these restaurants had their clients they decided to receive supplies from him due to his dressing in suit. For me I had to go from door to door asking people to buy my bulk SMS by signing up for an account with just 500 naira. We didn't really have a choice. If I had a choice I would have given up.

*Eight years later you went into real estate with Gtext Holdings. But let's look at the sector in general. Nigeria is a fertile ground for Real Estate. What factors do you think have caused this boom in the Nigerian Real Estate?*

*Investment, Demand or both?*

Demand is key here. Nigeria is a big country and the next census may give us a population of 300 million people. By size we are not that big because of our small land size. This has put pressure on the demand for Real Estate. More people want houses. The housing deficit of Nigeria is over 20 million. This is a serious problem. But the Nigerians in the diaspora have also been major investors. Because many of them have not had it easy with the mortgage system in the United States and other parts of the world. Sometimes the banks there even sell your house below the market price if you can't pay. Imagine you working for 10 years and all that effort gone. So many Nigerians abroad think that no matter what happens they need to have something back at home. Any emergency can happen I will have to go back to Nigeria. And this has helped the sector in a great way.

*At what point did you realise that Real Estate was the master key?*

DR AKINTAYO: It was when I visited Silicon Valley eight years ago. I went to Silicon Valley, Google campus, Facebook campus, LinkedIn and Apple campus. I was shocked to see that Google campus was bigger than the biggest university I knew in Nigeria. I thought these tech companies will focus on office work. But for them to have massive real estate, it was amazing. I kept crossing Express ways. But I was within Facebook campus. It therefore dawned on me that these are

not just Tech companies. They were major Real estate investments. For example, different cities were bidding to host Amazon's second campus promising tax breaks and other incentives worth billions of dollars. C.E.O once said, "We are not a burger company. We are a Real Estate company." Because he makes more money from Real Estates than selling burger. So, I realised that Real Estate was the backbone of any economy activity. And until we realise this, we are not going to make any headway.

*What policies have the Federal Government put in place to ensure that this sector is viable?*

DR AKINTAYO: In Nigeria we don't have enough positive policies yet and it's across Africa. This is because the political leaders do not know that it's also in their own interest to have the right policies in place. When you look at the growth of any successful nation, Real Estate has been the backbone. America for example has the largest Real Estate market with over \$30 trillion. Dubai is what it is today not because of oil but on the backdrop of Real Estate. They are even bracing up to

build the largest airport in the world that will take about 230 million people every year. And African nation that wants to become great must do same through Real Estate because it is the only asset that is Real. That's why it is called Real Estate because it is tangible. You can't touch FOREX or crypto. But you can touch Real Estate and that's the beauty about it. So, government has a duty to do, starting with good policies. Ancestral families own land. So, coming up with a policy that government is the new owner of land is an issue that needs to be looked into. If I were in such position, the first thing I will do is remove the law. I'd rather let there be a tax on every land. It's not okay that government is the owner of the land and still collects usage tax. This is multiple taxation. We hope to see these laws evolve in Africa.

*For starters going into Real Estate, what should they bear in mind?*

They first need to know that Real Estate is a long-term game, not a short-term game. People come into the sector, take too much loan over leverage and they crash.

ND: Talking about finance,

how friendly are Nigerian banks to Real Estate operators?

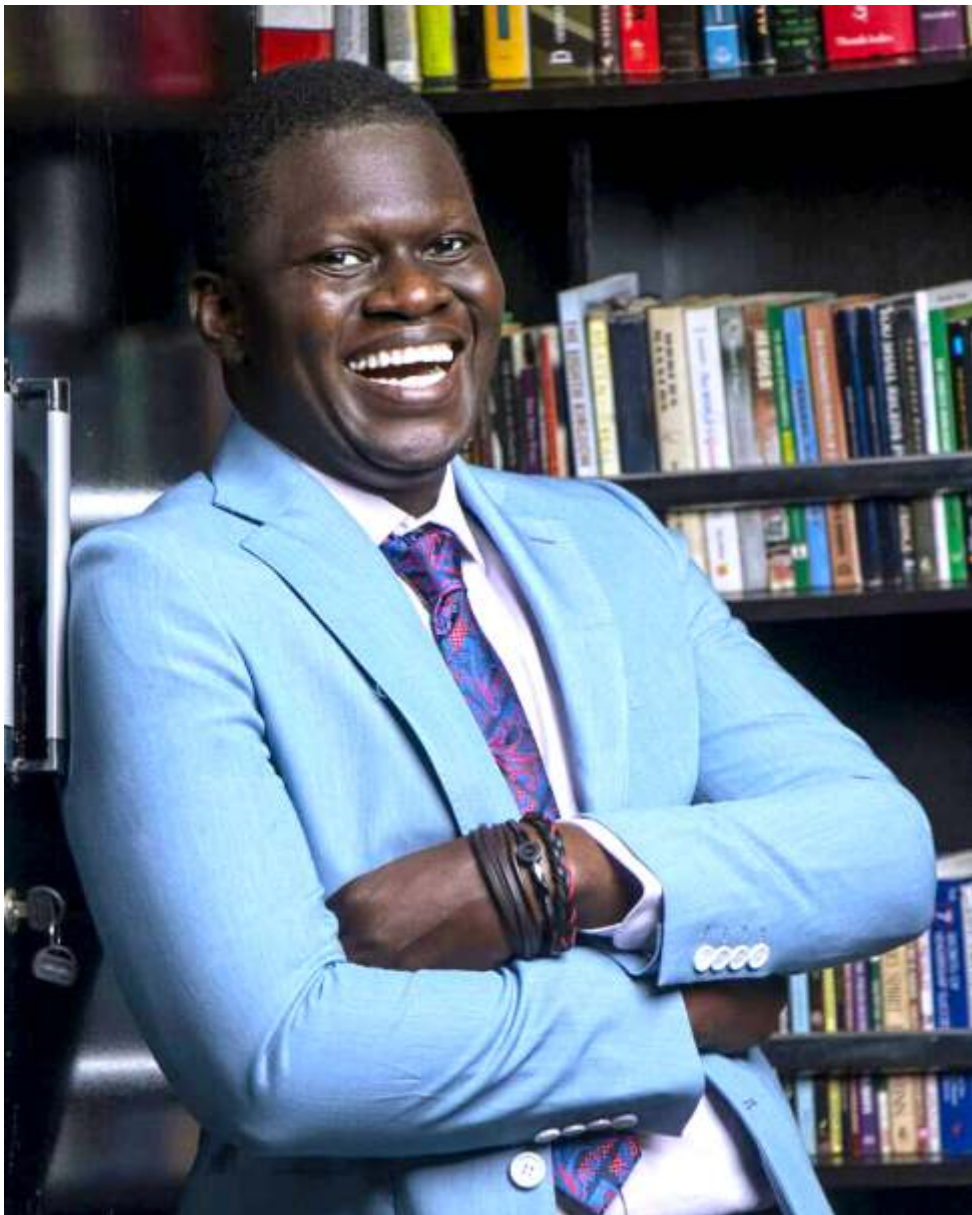
DR AKINTAYO: They are not friendly at all (laughs). Right now, I am thinking of starting a mortgage bank and a commercial bank in the future. These banks leave too much money on the table. Many banks in the West have developed by leveraging Real Estate. The 2008 crisis was caused by the collapse of a Real Estate bank. Our banks are scared of giving out loans and mortgages. And I think it starts with the Central Bank. The Central Bank has to come up with a policy that makes it a guarantee for Real Estate loans. The commercial banks can be powered too. Mortgage banks with resources to handle this situation are not enough. You can empower commercial banks. If someone takes a loan and can't pay, you can sell the property at auction and take back your money or sell it to another institution that the bank may set up. The banking sector must unlock the potential of Real Estate in Africa. In 15 years we (Gtext Homes) have not taken a single bank loan. Not because we don't want to. But the terms are not favourable. If you go for loan, it's almost as if you are selling out your business. The terms alone make you not to pay back. We are leveraging on social capital. We rely on individuals who know and believe in our story. They invest with us and receive returns. This has proven to be better than going to the commercial bank for loans which is unfortunate.

*ND: African countries have depended on their natural resources to power their economies since Independence Oil, Gas, Minerals, Timber and Agriculture. For a country like Nigeria dependent on oil and the call by the government for economic diversification. Do you think Real Estate can be master key to economic boom?*

We just need to check other







naira to do 400km of roads. There are also lots of futuristic action concepts around our projects. We target Touristic and Residential aspects in our estates and we hope to maintain that.

*You are piloting this initiative known as "Smart City Initiative". What is it all about?*

It is all about making everything smart. You can control your home even when you are away from home. The Green part of it is about Renewable Energy, not just grass. We are not going to be connecting our Estates with national grid. We are going to be generating our own electricity. We know that internationally these innovation change. In Dubai the city is already Smart and the energy from the Government. But what we are going to do is brand our units with celebrities. We are having concepts like Ighalo Residence, Davido Residence and other celebrities. We are already talking with some of them. If they agree, they will work with our architect and design the interior according to their taste. And the day the owner is taking the keys of his/her house, the celebrity will hand over the keys.

*Away from entrepreneurship, let's talk mentorship. You have mentored over 15,000 Nigerians and others across Africa. What drives you in this endeavour?*

Well, my vision is to raise 1 million millionaires across Africa before I leave this earth. One of the reasons is because I lacked a mentor when I was starting. When you look at why the private sector continued to grow, it's not just because politicians are incompetent. It's largely because we don't have enough entrepreneurs. Global economies are not driven by government. Jobs are not created by the government. The private sector creates the jobs. So, if you don't unleash the potential of the private sector, Africa will continue to struggle. But if the private sector is allowed to grow, Africa will be more prosperous: an Africa where people have jobs, are self-sufficient and have a great life for themselves. I think that Africans are resilient, they are strong. Just give them an enabling



environment, and they will figure things out. Africans are not asking too much. Give us electricity, good internet and make the law easy and friendly, an idea will blossom. I was shocked to see people here in Cameroon with their Real Estate and they tell me "I learned everything from you through your books." I have seen people having AirBnB and they acknowledge they learn the whole concept from me. This is same in Ghana and other areas I have visited. This means that show an African, give him hope, show him the way, create the environment and he or she will fly.

*You are the founder of the Stephen Akintayo Foundation. What provoked you to come up with the foundation and what activities have been executed so far?*

We realised that a lot of entrepreneurs lack access to other successful entrepreneurs with whom they can scale their businesses. For me it was difficult to meet people who could help me at my level. Those whom I could meet did not do businesses as big as mine. So, they could really tell me that at this level, this is what I have to do. So, I said to myself that we must create and enabling environment, not only to give money. But to enable starters, watch how you run an empire that is bigger than theirs. We began by giving grants of \$5million, that is \$5000 dollars to 1000 entrepreneurs. We took from the Tony Elumelu Foundation and we added more mentorship. These entrepreneurs join my C.E.O Entrepreneurship programme and they are in the same groups with my own mentor C.E.Os. They see us make decisions; I share

my challenges with them. By the time their business gets to my level, they already know what to do. This is helping them to scale. The entrepreneurs also network with each other and see how they can do business amongst themselves. They also have exposure because I promote their businesses on my platform. I travel with them and give them visibility. This year we are focusing on Nigeria because charity begins at home (laughs). From next year we will expand to other African countries. So, Cameroonians, Ghanaians, Kenyans and other African countries can apply. We will also open up to Africans in the diaspora because we also need to empower them. If they grow strongly, they too will empower their brothers here on the continent. The system in the West favours entrepreneurs because it is capitalist.

*What does it take for someone to be part of the initiative?*

They just need to go to [stephenakintayofoundation.org](http://stephenakintayofoundation.org) and apply. Every month there's a different category. So, they check which category is in line with their business and they apply. They can do so months ahead. I am not involved. There's a team who select the top 50 ideas and scrutinise them. The last 10 applicants will pitch their ideas on Instagram LIVE. And an independent judge will pick those to benefit from the grant. This year we are doing 24, next year we are increasing to over 70. So about 10 people will be awarded the grant every month.

*How will the funds for the 5 million for 5 years be raised and how will it be distributed over the five years?*

At the moment Gtext Homes and

25000 Green Expert Home Project are the one sponsoring. However, we are registered in the United States as a Non-profit organisation. This registration is such that people can write off their tax by donating to the foundation. So, we are hoping that from next year we will do a lot of work in the US. And we are expecting donors from the western world. And we will push some campaigns about the foundation and what we do. But this year, we are in charge because my principle is to first use your own funds if you really believe in it and let people see that you are doing it and it's genuine before calling on others to join.

*How viable is mentorship for the growth of entrepreneurship in Nigeria and Africa?*

It's very viable because it gives room for many donors to give funds to help entrepreneurs. There are many donors. But they need genuine programs to support. Donors don't work with NGOs because there is a possibility of fraud. So, they work with established programmes. For example, it is easy to trace the Bill Gates Foundation because it is credible. There's a shift in how philanthropy works.

*You have been vetted into the Forbes Business Council. How has this recognition added value to your entrepreneurial journey?*

This is a club of people whose businesses is over \$1million and above. It gives opportunities to network with other entrepreneurs. It also gives me the chance to write. I have an article every month on Forbes Magazine that teaches and shares value on Entrepreneurship.



# CONGRATULATIONS

**to A TRUSTED SOURCE  
OF INFORMATION**



**C**ongratulations to Naija Diaspora Magazine on reaching the remarkable milestone of 10 years! This is a testament to the dedication, hard work, and commitment of the entire team in consistently providing a unique insight into Nigerian affairs in the diasporas, from an African perspective.

Over the past decade, Naija Diaspora Magazine has become a trusted source of information on a wide range of topics and stories related to Nigeria, its people, culture, and current events, and a platform that celebrates Nigerian achievements and the experiences of Nigerians living abroad. Here's to another 10 years of success, growth, and impact!



**HON. KINGSLEY OKORO**  
CHAIRMAN IMO STATE UNION DOUALA

# Celebrating an **INCREDIBLE WORK**

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to God for the incredible work you and your team have accomplished over the past decade. Naija Diaspora Magazine is a phenomenal creation, seamlessly bridging the gap between our homeland and the host nation. As a community, we wholeheartedly support the positive image you consistently project, showcasing the best of our culture and stories.

May this event be a resounding success, marking another chapter in the magazine's growth. Your efforts extend far beyond personal success; this magazine serves as a beacon for the entire Nigerian community, propelling us onto the global stage. Here's to the continued success of Naija Diaspora Magazine, an embodiment of unity and pride for us all!



**HON. BIC  
OKWUJIAKU**  
PRESIDENT NIGERIA  
COMMUNITY DOUALA







## Beating other African Giants at the **BET Awards**

**T**he shocking reveal of the Black Entertainment Television Awards, popularly known as the BET awards, for the category of Viewers' Choice Best International New Act award, has continuously made a loud buzz all over the internet.

In the blink of an eye, one could easily pick out the possible winner of the BET Viewers' Choice Best International New Act award as the nominees list contained some of the currently most global trending artists,

Including, Werenoi, Camidoh, Pabi Cooper, Libianca, Raye, Flo, MC Ryan and Nigerian's great singer and songwriter, Ahmed Ololade, popularly called Asake who has been topping national and international musical charts in recent times, from one hit song to another, months after months. Many would agree that his nomination for the BET awards was a great stepping stone in his music career as his global recognition journey only just started about eight months ago after the release of his debut album Mr. Money With The Vibe in 2022 which made groundbreaking records across the world. So as much as his fans didn't see his nomination coming, it also

was not much of a surprise for a lot.

However, there can never be a more shocking moment for the crowd than at the 23rd BET award ceremony, which took place on June 25th, 2023. Libianca Kenzonkinboum Fonji, widely known as 'Libianca' was declared the BET Viewers' Choice Best International New Act. The whole public went agog. Libianca delivered the trending song "People" (check on me), a masterpiece which triumphed over Asake (Mr. Money), Werenoi, Camidoh, Pabi Cooper, Raye, Flo, MC Ryan at the BET 2023 for the category of "Viewers' Choice Best International New Act awards".

This announcement posed to be one of the most engaging news in the



history of BET awards as it has had millions of entertainment fans screaming in disbelief, some in excitement, and others in a state of dilemma, considering if it was an unfair or well-deserved win.

The Cameroonian-American Afrobeats singer, Libianca, has been in the music industry as a singer and songwriter since as far as 2021, when she was spotted as a contestant on the twenty-first season of NBC's The Voice with Blake Shelton as her coach who she had chosen over John Legend, Kelly Clarkson and Ariana Grande.

She recently gained a wider range of international recognition after the release of her debut single "People" which is said to have been inspired by cyclothymia and gave her the career breakthrough she needed as it made its way up to No. 1 in the UK Afrobeats chart, No. 2 on the US Billboard Afrobeat chart, No. 2 in UK Official chart and top chart on many other recognized platforms. Let us not forget its notorious buzz on

TikTok and every other social media platform you can think of and now won its way up to BET Viewers' Choice Best International New Act awards.

Libianca, became the first-ever Cameroon music artist to get nominated for a BET award and the first Cameroonian music artist to win a BET Viewers' Choice Best International New Act award. This takes the Cameroon music industry to a whole new level of global recognition in world music and entertainment industry. It's safe to say that Libianca is a force that is currently driving the Cameroonian music industry to the spotlight among other artists.

According to BBC, Libianca wrote the song in November last year, after she had thrown a Thanksgiving party where she "felt invisible".

"I'd been at a low point of my life for at least two weeks and I was just

like, 'I can't take any more of this, There were self-harmful thoughts, over-thinking, really anxious - a bunch of things going on in my head,' she explains over the phone from Paris.

She also told Brooke Bailey during an interview that the inspiration for her song "People" had come from a place of depression as she explained her journey to achieving a groundbreaking song.

- "The inspiration came from my depression. What I was going through at the time was, you know, it was just a very low, low moment. I wasn't feeling, you know, inspired to do anything really. Just wanted to stay in bed, cry my eyes out, shut the world out, isolate, I knew that writing or just going into this studio would make me feel better. The night after I posted the song on TikTok. I woke up, my manager, he's my best friend too, but Metro wakes me up in the morning and he's like, "You have to see this. You have to see this man. You have to see." I'm like, "What's going on?" I'm not a morning person, I wake up and we see videos being done to the sound already and it's already at 80K "Ah, wow," it's like plus 10,000 followers, you refresh it plus another 10K is like, "Okay." And I just froze. I mean, I didn't know what to do."



For a clean Douala

# IT IS FORBIDDEN TO THROW WASTE ON THE GROUND

under penalty of SANCTIONS



**Douala Clean City**  
it's possible

## What are the risks if failure to comply with these urban cleanliness measures? ?

- Anyone caught in the act of throwing through bin bags is liable to a fine of 25,000 FCFA;
- In addition to this penalty, you may be required to pay the sum of FCFA 10,000 as an individual and FCFA 40,000 as a corporate body for any other violation of the decree, in particular for:
- Failure to use refuse bags for depositing or abandoning waste;
- Non-possession of an approved trash space and bin;
- You risk criminal and civil prosecution as well as the obligation to remove waste dumped on public rights of way and places;
- You risk having the assets used to commit the offence seized and sold, as well as the closure of your premises and establishments;
- The removal at your expense and risk of

## What can I do to help keep my city clean?

- I love Douala, so its cleanliness is my concern! What about you?
- Let's fight against inequity and change our behaviour for good to improve our living environment;
- Respect the days and times when the sanitation services come and go, and put your bins away after collection;
- Put your household waste in the bins... and not on the ground;
- Don't throw your waste out of your car or house window;
- Don't transform green spaces, playgrounds, or the frontage of your homes into waste bins;
- For Douala to become the cleanest city in 2030... LET'S ACT!

## Why and how can I contribute for the Cleanliness of Douala?

- A clean city is the one in which our health and that of our children is not threatened;
- A clean city is the one in which the population lives in harmony with its environment;
- A clean city is a source of pride for its inhabitants, an economic and tourism attraction.



www.douala.cm

Pour une ville de Douala propre,

# INTERDICTION DE JETER LES ORDURES AU SOL

Sous peine de SANCTIONS



**Douala Clean City**  
it's possible

## Que risque-t-on en cas de non-respect de ces mesures en faveur de la propreté urbaine ?

- Vous vous exposez à une amende de 25000 FCFA pour toute personne prise en flagrant délit de fautes de sacs poubelles;
- Outre cette sanction, il peut vous être réclamé la somme de 10.000 FCFA en tant que personne physique et 40.000 FCFA en tant que personne morale pour la violation de la règle, notamment pour:
- La non utilisation des sacs poubelles pour dépôt ou abandon d'ordures;
- La non possession d'espaces poubelles et bacs non homologués;
- Vous risquez des poursuites pénales et civiles ainsi que l'obligation d'enlèvement des ordures déversées sur les emprises et places publiques;
- Vous risquez l'annulation ou la saisie des biens ayant servi à la commission de l'infraction ainsi que la fermeture de vos locaux et établissements;
- L'enlèvement à vos frais, risques et périls de tout encombrement irrégulier par les services compétents.

## Que dois-je faire pour contribuer à la propreté de ma ville ?

- J'aime Douala, par conséquent sa propreté m'en fait une affaire ! Et toi ?
- Luttons contre l'insalubrité et changeons définitivement de comportement pour améliorer notre cadre de vie :
- Respectons les jours et horaires de passage des services de salubrité et retirons nos bacs après la collecte ;
- Jetons nos déchets ménagers dans les bacs à ordures... et non par terre ou au sol ;
- Ne jetons pas nos déchets par les fenêtres de la voiture ou de la maison ;
- Ne transformons pas les espaces verts, les terrains de jeux ou les devantures des maisons/d'habitations privées en poubelles géantes ;
- Pour que Douala devienne la Milla plus propre du 237... A BISSONS !

## Pourquoi et comment puis-je contribuer à la propreté de Douala ?

- Une ville propre est une ville dans laquelle notre santé et celle de nos enfants ne sont pas menacées ;
- Une ville propre est une ville dans laquelle les populations cohabitent harmonieusement avec son environnement ;
- Une ville propre est source de fierté pour ses habitants et d'attractivité économique et touristique.



www.douala.cm





# LIBIANCA

## Dame le pion à d'autres grands artistes africains à la cérémonie des BET Awards

**L**a bouleversante révélation faite par la Black Entertainment Television Awards, plus connue sous le nom de BET Awards, pour la catégorie meilleure Révélation internationale choix du public, continue de faire un tollé à travers Internet.

En un clin d'œil, il était possible de facilement choisir le potentiel gagnant de la cérémonie des BET Awards dans la catégorie meilleure Révélation internationale choix du public étant donné que parmi les nominés on comptait certains artistes les plus en

vue du moment, notamment Werenoi, Camidoh, Pabi Cooper, Libianca, Raye, Flo, MC Ryan et le grand chanteur, auteur et compositeur nigérian Ahmed Ololade, plus connu sous le nom d'Asake. Ce dernier est actuellement en tête de tous les charts musicaux nationaux et internationaux, car il enchaîne tube après tube et ces tubes demeurent au top pendant des mois. Plusieurs internautes se sont accordés sur le fait que sa nomination pour la cérémonie des BET Awards représentait un fait historique pour sa carrière musicale étant donné que son voyage de reconnaissance à l'échelle mondiale avait commencé huit ans auparavant après la sortie de son tout

premier album intitulé Mr. Money With The Vibe en 2022. Cet album a battu des records à travers le monde. Bien que ses fans aient été pris de court par sa nomination, force est de noter que cette nomination n'a pas été une surprise pour plusieurs adeptes de la musique.

Toutefois, il ne peut jamais y avoir un moment plus choquant que celui que la foule a connu pendant la 23<sup>e</sup> cérémonie des BET Awards qui s'est tenue le 25 juin 2023. Libianca Kenzonkinboum Fonji, plus connue sous le nom de « Libianca » a été déclarée gagnante de la catégorie meilleure Révélation internationale choix du public à la cérémonie des BET. C'était l'euphorie dans toute la

foule. Libianca a sorti le tube de l'heure « People » (check on me), un chef-d'œuvre musical qui a battu d'autres titres des mastodontes telles que Asake (Mr. Money), Werenoi, Camidoh, Pabi Cooper, Raye, Flo, MC Ryan nommées dans la même catégorie de meilleure Révélation internationale choix du public aux BET Awards de 2023.

Cette annonce s'est avérée être l'une des nouvelles les plus controversées dans l'histoire des BET Awards étant donné que celle-ci a suscité plusieurs réactions avec d'un côté des millions de fans qui criaient leur mécontentement, et de l'autre côté, certains exprimaient leur joie, tandis que pour d'autres ils se sont trouvés face à un dilemme, vu qu'il s'agissait d'une victoire injuste ou bien méritée.

La chanteuse américano-camerounaise de l'Afrobeats Libianca, est dans l'industrie musicale en tant que chanteuse et auteure et compositrice depuis 2021 lorsqu'elle a participé à la vingt-et-unième saison de l'émission télévisée The Voice sur la chaîne NBC avec comme coach Blake Shelton qu'elle avait préféré face aux grandes voix

Elle a récemment connu un succès à l'échelle planétaire après la sortie de son premier single intitulé People dont elle se serait inspirée de la cyclothymie (Trouble caractérisé par l'alternance de l'excitation maniaque et de la dépression mélancolique) qui lui a donné son début de carrière dont elle avait besoin puisque ce single l'a directement propulsé à la première place des charts Afrobeats du Royaume-Uni, à la deuxième place des charts Afrobeat du Billboard des Etats-Unis, à la deuxième place des charts officiels du Royaume-Uni et à la première place des charts de plusieurs plateformes de renoms. N'oublions pas le buzz incroyable qu'elle a eu sur TikTok et sur d'autres réseaux sociaux dont vous pouvez vous imaginer, pour maintenant venir remporter une récompense aux BET Awards dans la catégorie meilleure Révélation internationale, choix du public.

Libianca est devenue la première artiste camerounaise nominée aux BET Awards et la première artiste camerounaise à remporter le prix de meilleure révélation internationale, choix du public. Ceci a permis à l'industrie de la musique camerounaise de s'inscrire dans un nouveau niveau de reconnaissance planétaire dans l'industrie mondiale

comme John Legend, Kelly Clarkson et Ariana Grande.

de la musique et du divertissement. Nous pouvons actuellement dire avec assurance que Libianca, tout comme d'autres artistes, met l'industrie de la musique camerounaise sous les feux des projecteurs.

Selon BBC, Libianca a écrit cette chanson en novembre de l'année dernière, après qu'elle soit partie d'une fête de Thanksgiving au cours de laquelle elle s'était sentie invisible.

À un certain moment de ma vie, j'ai touché le fond pendant au moins deux semaines et je me disais, « c'est trop moi, j'en peux plus. Et à ce moment, j'avais plusieurs choses qui me passaient par la tête, telles que les pensées de me faire du mal, trop de réflexion. Bref, j'étais tellement anxieuse » a-t-elle expliqué au téléphone lorsqu'elle se trouvait à Paris.

Elle a également dit à Brooke Bailey au cours d'une interview que l'inspiration de sa chanson « People » provient de la dépression dont elle a été victime pendant qu'elle expliquait ce qui l'a amené à vouloir réaliser une chanson qui briserait toutes les barrières.

J'ai tiré l'inspiration de ma dépression. Ce que je traversais à ce moment était juste terrible. J'ai vraiment touché le fond. Je ne voulais rien faire. Je voulais juste me coucher dans mon lit, pleurer toutes les larmes de mon corps, crier au monde, m'isoler et je savais qu'écrire ou juste le fait d'aller en studio me ferait me sentir mieux. La nuit après que j'ai publié la chanson sur TikTok, je me suis réveillé le lendemain.





# MIMIE

**Breaking Limit and exploring  
Boundaries of music**



**W**ith the increase in Afrobeats movement and the flourishing music scene in Cameroon, Mimi is swiftly emerging as a formidable presence both locally and on the global stage. Fresh from an exhilarating European tour that saw her delve deep into music exploration, conduct captivating interviews, and foster cross-cultural collaborations, she's poised to bridge the gap between Cameroon's music industry and the vibrant international market. Joining me from the Naija diaspora Magazine Mimi sat down for a candid conversation, delving into her musical journey, personal insights, and aspirations for the future.

**Could you kindly introduce yourself, Mimi?**

My name is Melanie Ngoga, known as mimie . I'm a Cameroonian artist, musician ,actress ,entrepreneur and mother.

**What led you to begin your music journey in the industry?**

I used to work with Stanley Enow , one of the biggest artist here in Cameroon in 2014 , and it's during that period my interest and passion for music grew, that period help me define my path.

**Have there been any global artists who have influenced your style of music?**

Yes of course , I love Rihanna's style, and tenacity, I admire Tiwa savage, Whitney Houston and charlotte Dipanda

**Could you give us an update on your Paris tour?**

Embarking on this incredible European tour has taken me away to enchanting destinations like Italy, Germany, London, Belgium, and France. Every corner holds new discoveries, and even though it's my first European journey, I'm soaking in the learning experience. The most exciting part? I'm currently cooking up a thrilling collaboration renowned artist. This strategic move is bound to ignite my career on the European front and take my artistry to exhilarating heights!

**Let's discuss the relationship between African music and the international market.**

Honestly it's difficult to have a collaboration with others singers , which it's very important for us to grow together, we are African we

need to stand as one in every domains... I'm pushing so to have collaboration with Nigerians or Ghanaians artists, and it's not easy at all. Nigerian artist have cracked the international market , they are known globally, I think we have only one Cameroonian that is recognize out there ... there are many talents in Cameroon but if we don't collaborate with others established African artist out there it might take a while for us to get to the global stage.

**Which artist would you be interested in collaborating with in 2023?**

Interestinly I will like to collaborate with Ruger , taye , Blanche Bailly

**Can you share some insights into your upcoming projects?**

I released my EP four months ago. Currently, I'm planning to release music videos for two more songs from the project. Additionally, I'm in the final stages of completing my album, and I'm eagerly anticipating responses from the artists I intend to collaborate with.



# COMMENDABLE ACHIEVEMENT

TO NAIJA DIASPORA MAGAZINE



I want to express that I had no doubt in my mind when I received information from our Excellency Ambassador. Upon seeing copies of the magazine, I was genuinely impressed by the quality of the print and the substance it contained. I can only offer my heartfelt congratulations and wish you even more grace in your future endeavors.

The progress of societies is fundamentally built on the creativity and energy of individuals like you. Initiatives such as yours, which promote the work of those who strive beyond their native shores, hold great significance. They serve as inspiration and prove that it is not only possible but achievable.

A decade of dedication and hard work is indeed a remarkable milestone, and I believe there are many more decades of success ahead of you. Keep up the fantastic work, as it is not just positive but also the right thing to do. Continue spreading the essential message that transcends the messengers themselves.

I am genuinely impressed by your magazine and have personally gone through some editions, leaving me with nothing but appreciation for your work. I wish you the very best in your future editions and recommend Naija Diaspora to people I know, providing them with an opportunity to connect with their roots and share their messages with the world.

Your efforts are truly welcomed and appreciated.

**MR. KAMAL KAMALUDEEN**  
RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE OF UNDP

A COMPREHENSIVE LOOK AT MEN'S HEALTH

## Erectile Dysfunction, Male Fertility, and Mental Well-being



A crucial area of healthcare that demands our attention is men's health. Men's well-being encompasses multiple facets that contribute to their overall health, as it encompasses a myriad of physical, emotional and psychological aspects unique to the male population. Within this vast domain, three key elements stand out as critical markers of men well-being - Erectile Dysfunction, Male Fertility and Mental Well-being. Understanding and addressing these aspects is of paramount importance, not only to individual men but to the overall health and prosperity of our society.

### Erectile Dysfunction (ED)

Erectile dysfunction, commonly referred to as ED, entails the incapability to achieve or maintain a satisfactory erection for sexual performance. Its prevalence spans the globe, emanating from diverse origins, including physical, psychological, or lifestyle factors. Key focal points include:

**Causes:** ED may stem from conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, obesity, hormonal imbalances, and certain medications. Additionally, psychological elements like stress, anxiety, depression, and relationship issues can contribute to this condition.

**Treatment Options:** Remedies for ED encompass lifestyle modifications like regular

exercise, a balanced diet, and stress management, as well as medical interventions such as oral medications, injections, vacuum erection devices, or surgical measures.

Consulting a healthcare professional is paramount to determine the most appropriate approach. **Communication and Support:** Open communication with one's partner and seeking emotional support from loved ones or support groups can mitigate the emotional impact of ED. Recognizing that ED is a common condition and seeking professional help can yield effective solutions.

### Male Fertility

Male fertility holds significant sway over reproductive ability. When evaluating fertility issues, it is crucial to acknowledge male factors as well. Key points of understanding include:

**Factors Affecting Male Fertility:** Male fertility hinges on factors such as sperm quality and quantity, hormonal imbalances, genetic predispositions, lifestyle choices (e.g., smoking, excessive alcohol consumption, drug use), exposure to environmental toxins and specific medical conditions.

**Lifestyle and Fertility:** Embracing a healthy lifestyle can positively influence male fertility. Elements such as regular exercise, a balanced diet, stress management, avoiding

excessive heat exposure to the testicles and minimizing alcohol and tobacco use can enhance fertility potential.

**Seeking Professional Help:** In cases of infertility, both partners should undergo fertility evaluations. A healthcare professional specializing in reproductive medicine can conduct tests to assess male fertility, recommend appropriate treatments or provide guidance on assisted reproductive techniques.

### Mental Health

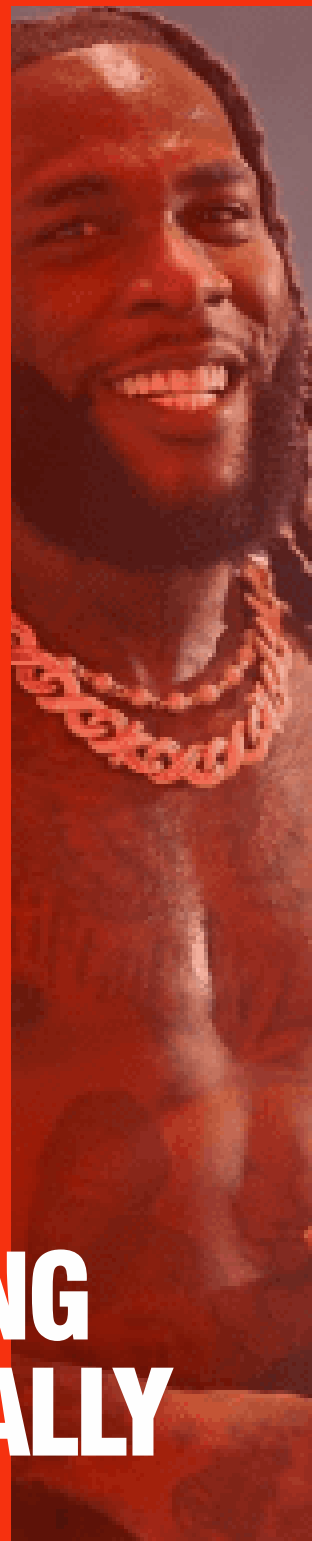
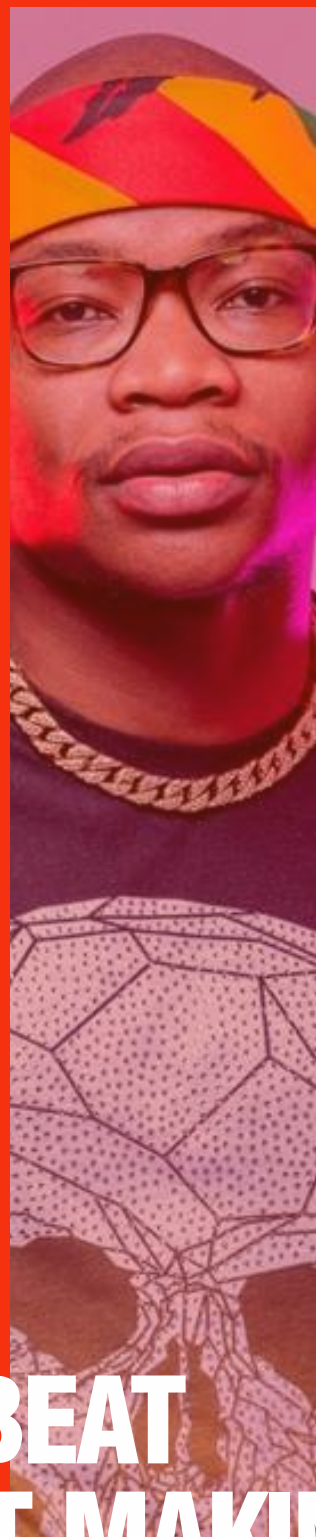
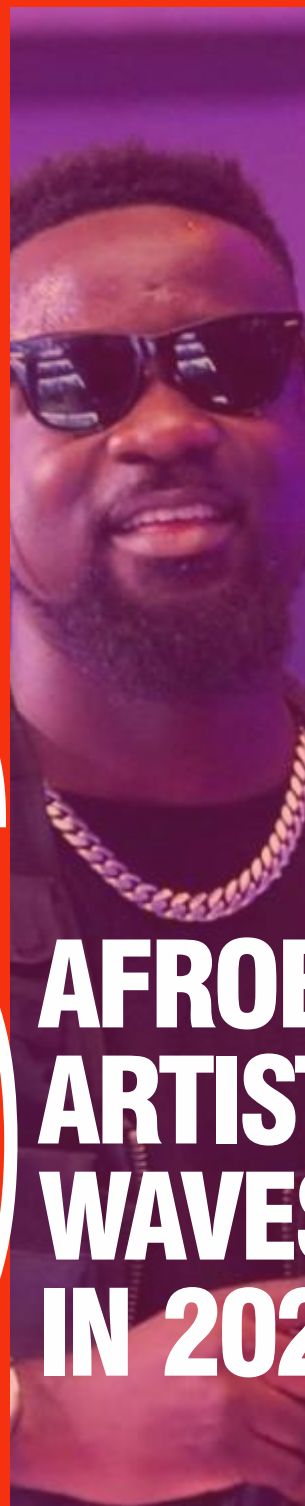
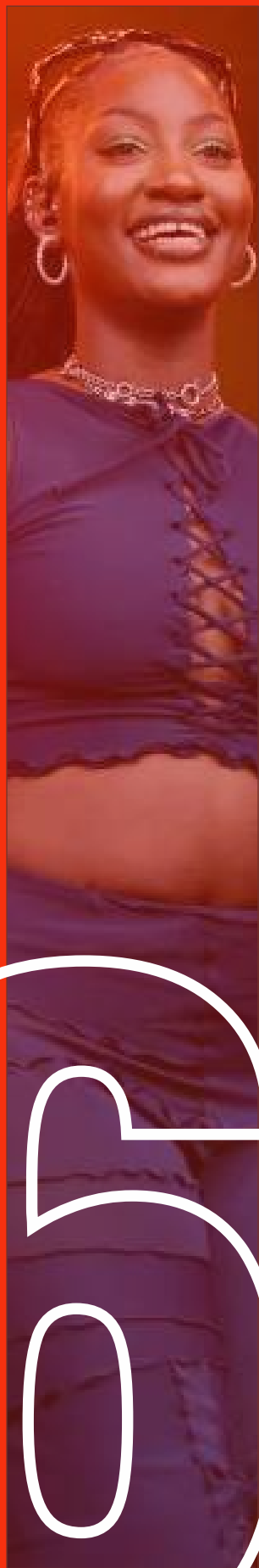
Men's mental health warrants equal consideration as women's, yet they often face distinctive challenges in seeking help. Pertinent considerations include:

**Societal Expectations:** Conventional gender norms may discourage men from expressing emotions or seeking aid for mental health issues, leading to underreporting and insufficient support for their concerns.

**Common Mental Health Challenges:** Men may encounter mental health conditions like depression, anxiety, stress and substance abuse, triggered by factors such as work-related stress, relationship difficulties, financial pressures or societal expectations.

**Overcoming Stigma:** Eradicating the stigma surrounding mental health is imperative. Encouraging candid conversations about emotions, promoting mental health awareness and providing accessible resources can foster a more receptive environment for men to seek support.





# 6

## AFROBEAT ARTIST MAKING WAVES GLOBALLY IN 2023

### Davido

The sensational David Adedeji Adeleke OON, a force to be reckoned with in Nigeria and beyond, gracing the world stage under his professional alias, Davido. Amidst the whirlwind of controversies that occasionally swirl around this remarkable artist, he has steadfastly etched his name among the global elite of Afrobeat mastery. Beyond his musical prowess, Davido's benevolent spirit shines through, as he passionately extends a helping hand to emerging artists, nurturing the very industry that fuels his own meteoric rise.

### Tems

Unveiling the luminous talent of Temilade Openiyi, a captivating Nigerian songstress who graces the world stage as the one and only Tems. Her meteoric ascent found its crescendo through the ethereal collaboration on Wizkid's 2020 masterpiece, "Essence," a chart-topper that soared to impressive heights, even capturing the illustrious number 9 spot on the revered Billboard Hot 100. As her journey unfolds, Tems has garnered an illustrious collection of accolades, including the prestigious Grammy Award, a duet of NAACP Image Awards, a trifecta of BET Awards, and a trio of Soul Train Music Awards, solidifying her presence as an unstoppable force in the music realm.

### Sarkodie

the enigmatic Michael Owusu Addo, a luminary known by the world as Sarkodie. Hailing from Tema, he has transcended the realms of mere rapper and songwriter, emerging as a true musical entrepreneur. His transformative influence upon the vibrant tapestry of the Ghanaian music landscape is nothing short of extraordinary. A tapestry woven with accolades galore, Sarkodie's musical journey has unfurled anthems that are etched into the collective consciousness. His harmonious partnerships with a diverse array of vocal virtuosos have not only enriched his artistry but propelled him to be crowned as the crowned jewel, the richest maestro in Ghana's symphony of music, reigning supreme in the resounding echo of 2022.

### Master KG

Step into the vibrant world of South Africa's musical virtuoso, Master KG. Born

as Kgaogelo Moagi, this musical maestro is the orchestrator behind the globally celebrated anthem, "Jerusalema," a tune that has become an international rhythmic heartbeat. Not merely a musician, but a masterful record producer as well, his creative genius has garnered an impressive collection of 16 coveted awards, accompanied by an astonishing array of over 25 nominations that stand as a testament to his undeniable talent. At a youthful 27, he stands as a luminary with two stellar studio albums to his name, each a harmonious journey through his boundless creativity. His debut opus, "Skeleton Move," released in 2018, elevated him to the zenith of achievement, claiming the prestigious AFRIMA award for the Best Artist in the African Electro realm, etching his name among the luminaries of innovation and rhythm.

### Burna Boy

Burna Boy, renowned as the African Giant, stands adorned with a plethora of accolades, basking in the spotlight of his triumphs. His performances consistently set the stage ablaze, a testament to his unrelenting popularity as witnessed through sold-out arenas. Moreover, his artistic prowess transcends boundaries, evident in his seamless collaborations with a constellation of international musical luminaries.

### Libanca

Embark on a journey into the melodic universe of Libianca Kenzonkinboum Fonji, a radiant star who shines under the mononymous guise of Libianca. Bridging continents with her Cameroonian-American heritage, she emerges as an enchantress of Afrobeats, her musical realm pulsating with rhythm and emotion. Her sonic voyage was ignited by the meteoric "People," a breakout single that captivated hearts and playlists alike. Notably, her musical prowess was unveiled on a grand stage, as she lent her vocals to the twenty-first season of the illustrious American TV show, The Voice, in 2021. The echoes of her talent continue to resonate, carried forth by the winds of recognition. In a resounding testament to her boundless artistry, Libianca stands as the triumphant victor of the coveted 2023 BET Best International New Act award. This monumental achievement places her ahead of a constellation of luminaries, including Nigerian sensation Asake and an array of other African artists, firmly solidifying her place as a rising star on the global musical horizon.





EBONYI STATE UNION, DOUALA

## Congratulatory Message



As a union, we are extending our congratulations to you for your commendable work in the last 10 years and we are proud to be part of the journey so far. Our relationship with you is blossom that is why we honoured you Merit Award in appreciation towards immense support to the Nigerian community in Cameroon, with an honorary chieftaincy title of Nwa Nne Di Na Mba (A brother further afield or a brother in a foreign land) by the Igbo community organized as Ebonyi State Union in Douala. .

Please continue your invaluable work. Surviving the first 10 years is a monumental achievement; it's the testing period that determines whether you will thrive or not, and you have not only survived but thrived. Congratulations once again!



## CONGRATULATIONS



Celebrating the phenomenal 10-year journey of Naija Diaspora Magazine is nothing short of extraordinary. The beginning was met with skepticism and underestimation, but today, the magazine has transformed from a mere idea to a powerful movement. Incredibly, what started as doubt has evolved into a reality that resonates far beyond borders.

Witnessing the remarkable dedication and courage displayed by Ismail and his team to forge ahead against all odds is truly inspiring. It's not just a magazine; it's a force making its mark. In the near future, I am confident that not only ambassadors and government entities, but even world presidencies will acknowledge the impactful work of the magazine.

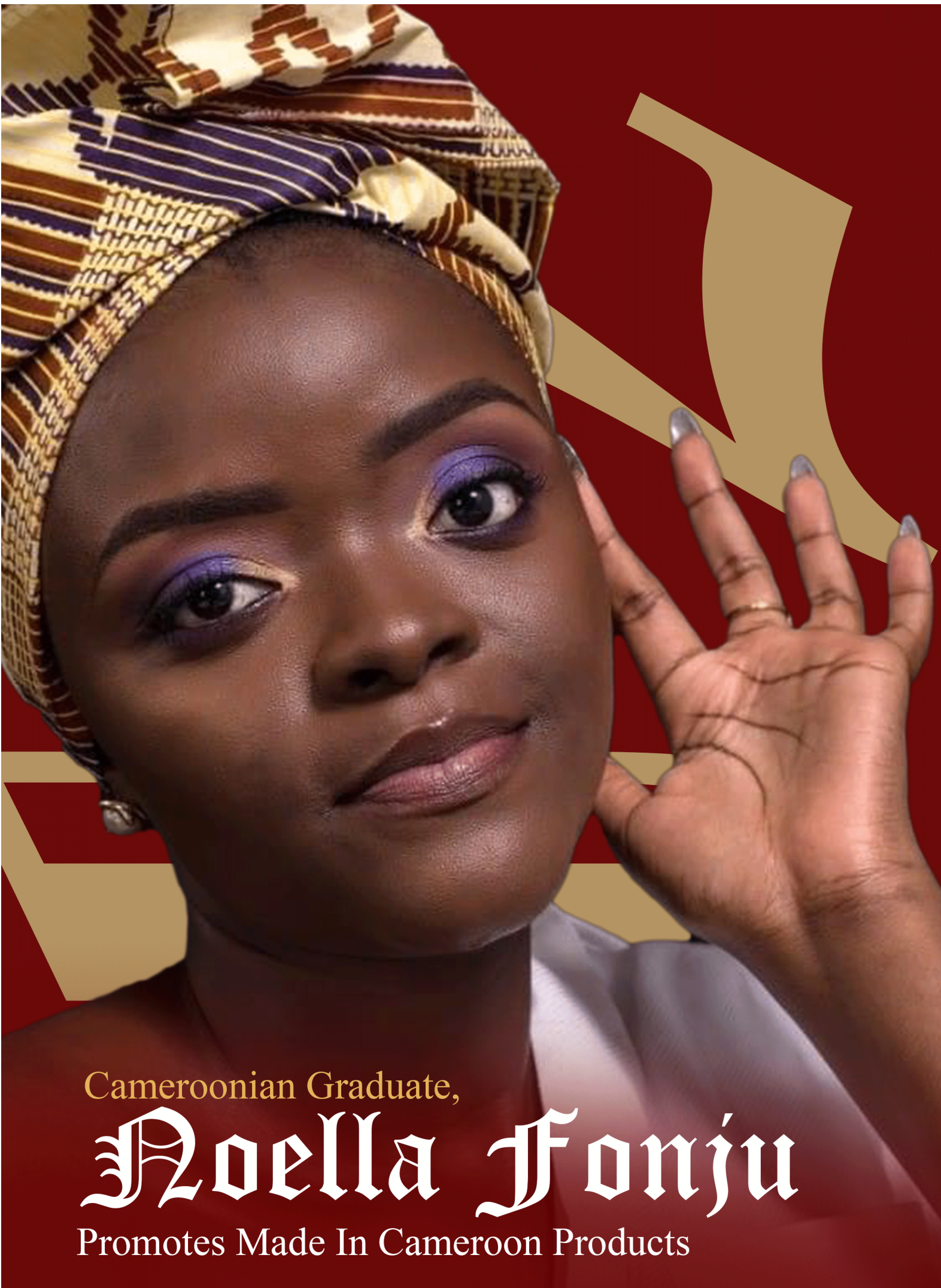
As we celebrate this milestone, I applaud the team's resilience and determination. Keep up the exceptional work of showcasing people's stories in a positive light. Your journey so far is good, and I eagerly anticipate the magazine's continued success as it paves the way for even greater recognition on the global stage. Cheers to Naija Diaspora Magazine's remarkable achievements and the limitless potential that lies ahead!

**UCHE OBIEKWE**

PATRON, NIGERIA  
COMMUNITY DOUALA







Cameroonian Graduate,  
**Noella Fonju**  
Promotes Made In Cameroon Products

## Consistent

with her footwear brand "Fonj" in a country where young people depend on the government to provide jobs, the young graduate in accountancy, NOELLA M.N Fonju, is contributing her share in the promotion of Made in Cameroon products through her craft.

Founded in 2018, Fonj manufactures and retails premium footwear and leather accessories for men, women and children. The shoes and accessories are finely crafted and are of good quality, all designed and locally made.

Based in Nyalla, a neighborhood in Douala, Economic capital of the country, Fonju Noella's Fonj has been serenading like a classic tune. It's increasingly getting admirable from home consumers and even if the goal isn't to compare with other show makers but

tells stories with creativity while empowering other women to be productive. The brands have potential of becoming a center of reference in years to come

Noella's love for fabric and leather has seen her transform almost everything that comes her way. After studying accounting and graduating with a degree from the prestigious Anglo-Saxon University of Buea, Noella would shock her friends, family and her own self when she instead of pursuing a career in accounting, rather decided to embark on shoe-making, which would turn out to be a priceless decision that even a six-figure accounting salary couldn't match. (TFY News reports)

Fonju's brand include styles like; loafers, espadrilles, mules, brogues, Oxfords, sandals, slippers and slides, made with exotic leather, synthetic leather, African prints and patterned fabrics amongst others, "Fonj is our way of appreciating, as well as pushing forward the Cameroonian craftsmanship and Cameroonian artisans.

We customise to suit clients' preferences but with this service, prices are determined by design, colour and size, so they vary," Fonju said.

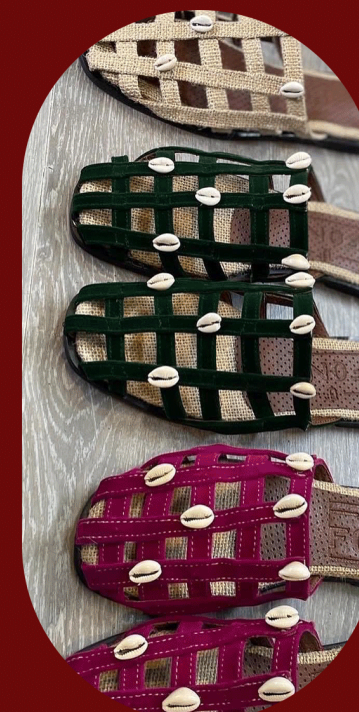
Everything within her service is centered around customers satisfaction. "It is about what our clients want and we make sure that they enjoy the unique shopping experience that comes with custom made," she added.

At Fonj, Noella's team is committed to promoting economic growth, poverty eradication, and gender equality in the community.

With the help of benevolent persons, they offer training program where women gain vocational training in leatherworking and employment opportunities with the company or other companies as the need arises. As our way of reducing pollution and waste, Fonj does repairs and recrafting of old foot wears and leather accessories.

Her ready to wear footwear designs that range from 2,500fcfa to 20,000fcfa. This comes with even more enticing wholesale prices, with good profit margins for distributors.

Undoubtedly, Noella MN Fonju is young, pretty and flawless female Cameroonian shoe maker. Though there are many of her kind in the country, it will remain that she's the founder and creative director of the Cameroonian shoe brand called FONJ.







His Excellency Amb AG Onisakin with the Team Leader, Chief Instructors and staff of the High Commission during the courtesy call of the AFCSC AST 23 delegation to the High Commissioner

## When Armed Forces Command & Staff College Nigeria visit Republic of Cameroon for Study Tour

**T**he Armed Forces Command and Staff College Jaji, Nigeria visited the Republic of Cameroon for Africa Study Tour from 13 – 20 May 2023. The study tour is an important aspect of the College's curriculum for the Senior Course as it affords the students opportunity to conduct on-the-spot assessment of Cameroon in line with the theme of the study. The theme of Africa Study Tour 2023 was "Border Control and National Security in Africa".

The tour afforded the students opportunity to identify the strengths of Cameroon as it relates to the theme with a view of drawing lessons for Nigeria. The Team made up of 49 members comprising a director, chief instructors, directing and support staff as well as 37 students arrived Nsimalen International Airport Yaoundé on 13 May 2023.

The tour commenced on Monday 15 May 2023 with a courtesy call on the High Commissioner of Nigeria to Cameroon, His Excellency,

Ambassador Abayomi Gabriel Olonisakin CFR at the Nigeria High Commission Yaoundé. His Excellency expressed delight and thanked the College for considering the Republic of Cameroon for this year's study tour. The study tour focused on visits to relevant institutions in the Republic of Cameroon that helped address the theme and scope of study. Notably the institutions visited included the Office of the Cameroon Chief of Defence Staff, International War College Yaoundé, Command and Staff College as well as the International School for Security Forces amongst others. The team was adequately briefed and interacted sufficiently during these

visits. The Team had 2 dinner events organized by the Nigeria High Commission and Cameroon Ministry of Defence on 17 and 18 May 2023 respectively. At the dinner organized by Cameroon Ministry of Defence, the Minister Delegate at the Presidency in Charge of Defence, His Excellency Beti Assomo Joseph expressed deep appreciation for the existing bilateral cooperation enjoyed by Nigeria and Cameroon especially in the areas of defence and security. The Team also participated in the air show held at Air Force Base Yaounde on 19 May 2023 as part of the National Day celebration. The Team departed Cameroon for Nigeria on 20 May 2023.



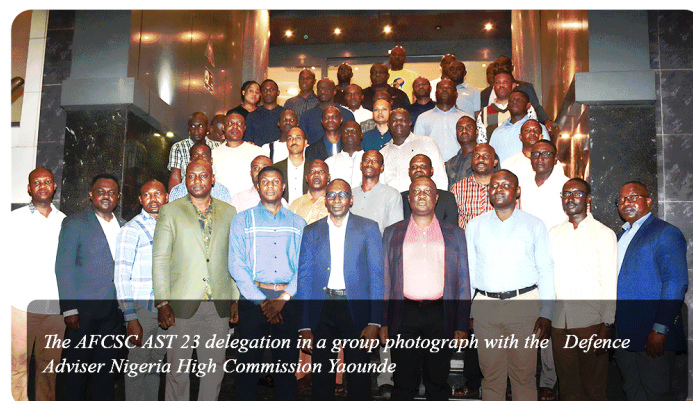
The Cameroon Deputy Chief of Defence Staff flanked by the Team Leader and Team Coordinator, Chief Instructor, Deputy Defence Adviser as well other officers of the Cameroon Defence Headquarters during a courtesy call on the Cameroon Chief of Defence Staff.



The Commandant International War College Cameroon in a group photograph with the AFCSC AST 23 delegation



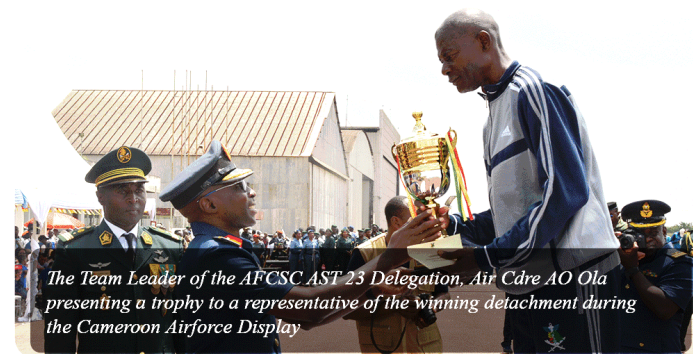
The Team Leader of the AFCSC AST 23 delegation and his team in a group photograph with the Deputy Defence Adviser Nigeria High Commission Yaounde



The AFCSC AST 23 delegation in a group photograph with the Defence Adviser Nigeria High Commission Yaounde



His Excellency, the High Commissioner and spouse in a group photograph with the AFCSC AST 23 Delegation during a dinner at the High Commissioner's residence held in honor of the visiting delegation



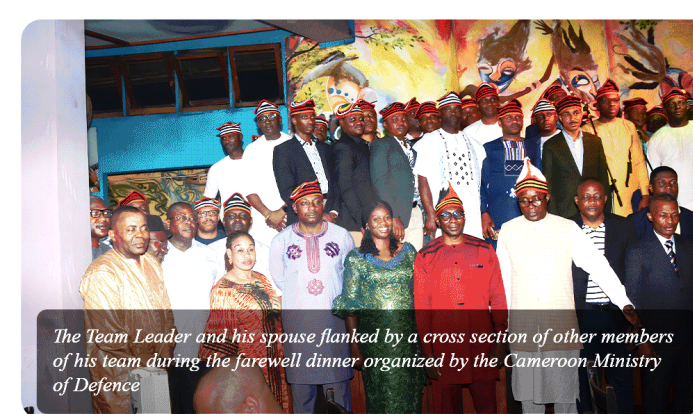
The Team Leader of the AFCSC AST 23 Delegation, Air Cdre AO Ola presenting a trophy to a representative of the winning detachment during the Cameroon Airforce Display



The Commandant and Staff of the Cameroon International School for Security Forces in a group photograph with the AFCSC AST 23 Delegation during the visit to the School



The Director of the Cameroon Museum of Arts and Culture in a group photograph with the AFCSC AST 23 Delegation



The Team Leader and his spouse flanked by a cross section of other members of his team during the farewell dinner organized by the Cameroon Ministry of Defence



## CAMEROON

# Miniature Africa



**C**ameroon, nestled in the heart of Central Africa, is a country with a captivating blend of rich cultural diversity, stunning landscapes and abundant wildlife. Often referred to as "Miniature Africa," Cameroon offers travelers a unique and multifaceted experience, showcasing the continent's essence in a single destination.

With more than 250 ethnic groups and languages, Cameroon is a melting pot of diverse cultures, traditions and customs. The capital city, Yaoundé, and the economic hub, Douala, provide excellent starting points to dive into Cameroon's cultural wealth.

Cameroon's diverse geography offers a plethora of breathtaking landscapes, each with its unique charm.

In the West, the mist-covered peaks of Mount Cameroon, the highest mountain in West Africa, beckon adventurous hikers to climb and witness awe-inspiring views of the surrounding scenery.

Towards the North, the Sahelian region boasts vast savannas and semi-arid landscapes, offering visitors an opportunity to spot magnificent wildlife, and in the East, the dense rainforests of the Congo Basin teem with a rich variety of flora and fauna,

including gorillas, chimpanzees, and exotic bird species.

**Tourism Spots on a Budget**  
Here are a selection of the most distinguished and captivating tourist destinations in Cameroon. These remarkable locales boast accessibility without undue strain on one's financial resources, making them irresistible choices for tourists.

**Mefou National Park:**  
Mefou National Park houses the Mefou Primate Sanctuary, a rescue center managed by Ape Action Africa. With over 300 rare and endangered primates, it's a significant conservation project in Africa, providing lifelong care and rehabilitation for animals rescued from illegal trades.

**Limbe:**  
Formerly known as Victoria, Limbe is a port city with a diverse flora and fauna influenced by its colonial past. The Limbe Wildlife Centre/Botanical Centre offers a close-to-nature experience, rescuing and caring for ill-treated and endangered animals.

**Mount Cameroon:**  
Mount Cameroon, also called the "Chariot of the Gods," is West Africa's highest mountain and an active volcano. A popular destination for adventurers and hikers, the trek offers stunning views, diverse landscapes and encounters with wildlife like monkeys and birds.

**Kribi Beach:**

Kribi Beach, in the southwestern region, boasts long white sand beaches and clear waters. It's perfect for swimming, sunbathing and water sports. Visitors can also enjoy the Chutes de la Lobé waterfall, where they can swim under the falls. Local cuisine and seafood delicacies await at various restaurants.

**Korup National Park:**  
Korup National Park, renowned for its bird species, offers pristine tropical wilderness. Visitors can enjoy lodging infrastructure and spot unique primates like the Nigeria-Cameroon chimpanzee and Perseus's red colobus. Located near the ocean, Mundemba serves as a starting point for tours to the park, where guides often speak the local Cameroonian language.

Cameroon stands tall as a remarkable destination for audacious travelers seeking a blend of cultural diversity, awe-inspiring landscapes and thrilling adventures. From the depths of the rainforests to the heights of its mountains, and from the bustling cities to the serene beaches, the land beckons with open arms, ready to share its enchanting beauty and warm hospitality with all who venture to explore its wonders. As tourism in Cameroon continues to grow sustainably, the country's potential as a captivating and memorable destination will undoubtedly flourish.



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From Humble Beginnings  
to a Visionary Leader

## THE REMARKABLE JOURNEY OF SIR LOVINUS EZEH IN CAMEROON"

Nestled in the heart of Cameroon, a tale of determination and entrepreneurial spirit unfolds. It was October 1996 when Sir Lovinus Ezeh arrived in Cameroon, a man who had served his time in Nigeria but sought greener pastures in this vibrant city.

**H**is journey began not as a business endeavor, but as an opportunity presented by his brother, Uchenna, who introduced him to the local market in Douala. Sir Lovinus saw a need in the market and decided to create solutions by bring some much needed goods from Nigeria and resell them in Cameroon to turn a profit. However, the early days were challenging, as he faced restrictions due to permits and was forced to stay indoors. Despite the initial setbacks, a stroke of luck and a keen eye for opportunity guided Mr. Johnson's path. It was during his time in Cameroon that he stumbled upon Van Gula Jeans, a designer brand that would become a significant turning point in his life. The jeans, known for their diverse colors and designs, caught his attention, and he sensed a rich demand for them in the market.

With unwavering determination, he embarked on a new venture, marking his first breakthrough in Cameroon. Just a year later, he returned to Nigeria briefly, only to come back to Cameroon in September 1998. Remarkably, in less than a year and a half, he had successfully resold his goods and transitioned into an importer. The journey took a monumental turn when he traveled to India and purchased a full container of goods. His business acumen led him to make group age deals, and it was clear that fortune favored the bold. By the age of 24 or 25, Sir Lovinus had already become a multimillionaire.

What he discovered about Cameroon was a revelation. Unlike his native Nigeria, where billionaires

crowded the market, Cameroon provided a unique opportunity for individuals with limited resources to thrive. Here, rich and poor mingled freely, enjoying the same opportunities. This inclusivity made Cameroon a land of promise. In those early days, Cameroon faced challenges, including anti-foreign sentiment and harassment. But by 1999-2000, the country underwent a transformation. The business environment became more welcoming, and Cameroon's reputation as a place of opportunity solidified. Tax systems improved, becoming more efficient and foreign entrepreneurs, like Sir Lovinus, found camaraderie working alongside locals and the Indians.

His vision extended beyond business success. Over the years, Sir Lovinus actively contributed to his community, dedicating himself to human capital investment. His commitment to uplifting the Nigerian community in Cameroon became evident. He passionately advocated for accountability and strived to empower the community, setting his sights on building a Nigerian Community Complex. Through dedication, fundraising, and the support of fellow community members, Sir Lovinus made a significant contribution. Today, a three-story building stands as a testament to their collective efforts. They continue to work towards the dream of enhancing community projects and securing a brighter future for all.

In addition to his remarkable entrepreneurial journey, Sir Lovinus's philanthropic nature shines as a beacon of hope in Cameroon. Throughout his time in Cameroon and beyond, he has been a steadfast supporter of local businesses and

individuals, extending a helping hand to those in need. His commitment to philanthropy goes beyond the confines of the Nigerian community; it encompasses a broader vision of assisting people across Cameroon. Sir Lovinus has not only made substantial contributions to the business community but has also actively participated in initiatives aimed at uplifting aspiring entrepreneurs and people with personal challenges. In recent years, he has allocated millions in humanitarian aid, reaching individuals from all walks of life across the country.

His journey, marked by perseverance and the desire to alleviate the struggles of others, began with his own experiences of hardship. Hailing from humble beginnings, he paid his school fees by selling goods on the streets. This background instilled in him a deep empathy for those facing adversity, compelling him to take action. Today, his philanthropic efforts serve as a source of inspiration and a testament to the belief that true success lies in giving back to the community.

This inspiring journey illustrates how one person's perseverance and vision can impact not only their life but an entire community. His life story is a testament to the power of entrepreneurship, resilience, and the belief that success can be achieved, no matter where you come from.

Sir Lovinus's story is a reminder that opportunities exist for those willing to seize them, and that; above all, the spirit of giving back can transform communities and inspire hope. His journey from a modest beginning to a visionary leader is a testament to the limitless potential that lies within all of us.





QUICK FACTS ABOUT BIRTH OF

# NONUPLET

BY NIGERIAN MOTHER

**T**rending pictures of a Cameroon-based Nigerian mother of Nonuplets (9 babies), Mrs. Obianuju Anthonia Ibeanu, and her children, have continued to elicit reactions on social media. However, only a few details are known about the miraculous birth of these children.

In one of the interviews granted by the Nonuplet mother, when asked if she would like to give birth to more children after the Nonuplets plus the two children she had earlier, speaking in Pidgin, she said, "No, I don tell Pa (my husband) say he go find his own place. Na plenty work, e dey shakala (sic) my head. I no want am again. I don beg God say God take am give people wey wan am abeg."

In this article, there are facts you should know about the babies.

1. The babies were born on March 23, 2023.
2. There are 3 boys and 6 girls.
3. The babies were delivered in Nigeria but have since been relocated to Douala, Cameroon, where their parents reside.
4. The names of their parents are Honourable Anthony and Mrs. Obianuju Anthonia Ibeanu
5. Contrary to rumors that the mother of the babies had been barren for 25 years before their birth, she had previously given birth to twins, making the total number of her children 11.



**NAIJA DIASPORA MAGAZINE**  
10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

## Congratulatory Message

**N**aija Diaspora magazine has been a longstanding presence here in Cameroon for many years. Allow me to share a personal story of how this magazine played a pivotal role. It was a day when we found ourselves stranded at Murutala Muhammed International Airport Lagos, desperately seeking solutions. As fate would have it, someone visited Eric's office and stumbled upon the magazine. When they noticed a familiar face within its pages and realized that the person stranded at that place was none other than the Vice President in the community, the joy was overwhelming. This magazine has not only made an impact here in Cameroon but has also reached across borders. I extend my gratitude to my good friend, Honorable Ademola, for without your tireless efforts, the magazine wouldn't have gained the level of recognition it enjoys today. As you celebrate a decade of success this month, my heartfelt message is one of congratulations and a prayer for continued blessings. Achieving so much in 10 years is truly commendable, and I believe that with God's guidance, strength, connections, and increased publicity, this magazine will reach even greater heights in the next five to ten years, becoming a global platform to showcase the achievements and positive contributions of the diaspora community. I pray that God continues to guide and empower you because, without Him, we can achieve nothing.

**Here's to many more years of success and impact!"**

**SIR LOVINUS EZEH**  
VICE PRESIDENT OF THE  
NIGERIAN COMMUNITY DOUALA



# LEGALLY REGISTERING YOUR BUSINESS IN CAMEROON



In an ever-evolving global market, establishing a business isn't just a choice – it's a strategic imperative, it gives you a competitive advantage, By formalizing your business, you unlock opportunities to stand tall among your peers, attracting investors, customers, and partners. In a world where competition is fierce and opportunities are abundant, registering your business is more than a step – it's a strategic leap towards a thriving future By embracing this process. This principle resonates strongly for Cameroonians and international entrepreneurs operating within Cameroon's borders. Here, we unveil the pivotal pathway to seamlessly register your business in Cameroon, offering you a robust foundation for sustainable growth. The Creation of accompany in Cameroon is done at the CENTER FOR BUSINESS CREATION FORMALITIES (CFCE), which is represented in all regions of Cameroon.

## APPLICABLE LAW FOR THE REGISTRATION OF BUSINESSES

The applicable law is the OHADA Law on Commercial Companies and Economic Interest Groups.

### 1. FORMS OF BUSINESSES PROVIDED BY OHADA LAW

According to Article 3 of the Uniform Act relating to Commercial Companies and Economic Interest Groups in Cameroon, any person,(national or non-national,

individual or legal person) wishing to engage in a commercial activity shall choose a form of company that suits the activity envisaged from among those provided by the OHADA (Organization for the Harmonization of Business Law in Africa) Law. The forms of businesses are:

- Private Company
- Private Limited Company
- Public Limited Company
- Simplified Joint Stock Company
- Limited Partnership
- Economic Interest Group

### 1.1. PRIVATE LIMITED COMPANY (LTD) (SARL)

A Private Limited Liability company is a form of company where the shareholder(s) have limited liability. Shares in a Private Limited liability company shall be personal property and shall not be open to the public.Article 309 of the Uniform Act relating to Commercial Companies and Economic Interest Groups of the OHADA Law stipulates that a private limited liability company may be formed by a natural person or a corporate body, or by two or more natural persons or corporate bodies. Thus a Private Limited Company can be created by a sole shareholder.

A foreigner can equally register a Private Limited Company in Cameroon, however, where a foreigner holds more than 50% of the total share capital he will have to obtain authorization from the minister of commerce before carrying out commercial

activities in Cameroon.

The law of December 14, 2016, to fix the minimum registered capital and conditions for using notary publics in the establishment of private limited companies in Cameroon, reduced the minimum share capital of a private limited company from One Million(1 000 000)Franc CFA to One Hundred thousand (100.000)FRANC CFA.

Shares can be in kind or in cash i.e. shareholders may contribute to the company in the form of money, services(supply of labor), rights on movable or immovable, tangible or intangible(an idea or intellectual property). Contributions in cash must be fully paid up at the time of the formation of the company.The administration and management of a Private Limited company is simple, one or more managers can manage a Private Limited Company. A shareholder can be appointed as the manager of a Private Limited company. Manager(s) can be appointed in the Articles of Association, or subsequently at an Ordinary Meeting.

The appointment of an auditor is not mandatory; however, the appointment of one or more auditor(s) becomes mandatory where the company fulfilled at the close of a fiscal year either two of the following;  
Ø The balance sheet is greater than one hundred and twenty-five million (125.000.000) FRANC CFA;  
Ø The annual turnover exceeds Two hundred and Twenty Five Million

(250 000 000) Franc CFA;

Ø The permanent Staff exceeds 50 persons;

Auditors are elected in the ordinary general meeting of the company at the close of the fiscal year. A Private Limited Company is set up for a period of ninety-nine(99) years, the existence of the company begins on the date it is entered in the Trade and Personal Property Credit Register of the city/town where the desired head office of the Company shall be located.The expiry of the term of the company shall entail its automatic dissolution unless an extension of its life span has been decided upon under the conditions laid down in Articles 32 to 36 of the OHADA Uniform Act.The registration of a Private Limited Company can be done within 7-30 working days.

### 1.2. PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY (PLC)(S.A)

A Public Limited Company can offer shares to the Public, the minimum share capital of a Public Limited Company is Ten Million(10 000 000) Franc CFA. A single shareholder can register a Public Limited Company. A foreigner can register a Public Limited Company. However, certain sectors of activities require a local shareholder to hold shares. The share capital of the Public Limited Company must be fully subscribed for before the date of the signature of the Articles of Association. 25% of the share capital representing cash contributions must be paid upon incorporation and the rest is payable within three years from the date of registration of the company in the Trade and Personal Property Credit Registry. Shares can be in kind or in cash i.e. shareholders may contribute to the company in the form of money, services(supply of labor), rights on movable or immovable, tangible or intangible(an idea or intellectual property). Contributions in cash must be fully paid up at the time of the formation of the company.

The administration and Management of a public Limited company are determined by the Articles of Association at incorporation or by the constituent general meeting. The forms include:  
Ø A public limited Company with a managing director;  
Ø A Public Limited Company with a Board of Directors. The Public Limited Company may be managed and directed by a managing director if the number of shareholders is equal to or less than three(03). The Public Limited Company with boards of directors comprises of:

Ø An administrative Board, the Board of Directors

Ø The general management is assumed by a natural person, in this case, the general manager (or chairman and general manager in the event of the same person holding the functions of chairman

of the board of directors and general manager)

In a Public Limited company with a managing director, the Managing director assumes both the functions of a director and general management of the company. The Public Limited Company shall be administered by a board of directors when the number of shareholders exceeds three (03). The directors may be either shareholders or non-shareholders. Where the articles of association are silence the appointment of non-shareholder directors shall be the responsibility of the ordinary general meeting.

The appointment of auditors is optional where the company does not make a public call for capital but mandatory where it makes a Public call for capital.

The time frame for the registration of a Public Limited Company is two (02) weeks.

### 1.3. SIMPLIFIED JOINT STOCK COMPANY (SAS)

This form of company is recommended for tech startups, it is prescribed in Article 853-3 of the Uniform Act Relating to Commercial Companies and Economic Interest Groups. The simplified joint stock company (SAS) offers a high degree of operational flexibility.

Simplified Joint Stock companies with a sole shareholder whether a natural person or a legal entity are known as Sole shareholder simplified joint stock companies in French Société par actions simplifiée unipersonnelle (SASU). In a Simplified Joint Stock Company, the founding partners are free to determine the share capital and the rules for organizing the company in the Articles of Association. Contributions may be in cash or in kind. At least half of the cash contribution must be paid upon incorporation and the remainder within 5 years.

A chairman however should be chosen to represent the SAS in dealings with third parties.

The appointment of a statutory auditor is not mandatory in SASs, except in special cases.

Dematerialization of assets is now compulsory for Simplified Joint Stock Companies.

It is worth noting that there are three mandatory stages/steps involved in the incorporation of a company in Cameroon.

These stages are pre- incorporation, Incorporation and post-incorporation.

Pre – Incorporation

· This stage requires the shareholders or promoters, those intending to incorporate or form a company to furnish the Notary Public with some personal documents. These documents are Certified copy or copies of National Identity Card or Passport for foreigners  
· Residence Certificate.  
· Certificate of Non Conviction  
· Attestation of bank account to ensure funds derived for incorporation, share capital- shall be immediately deposited in any commercial bank in the

name of the company being formed against a receipt or funds derived for incorporation shall be immediately deposited in the Notary chambers against a receipt as well as provided for by Article 313 of the Uniform Act of OHADA.

Article 313

Funds derived from the payment for shares shall be immediately deposited by the founder, against a receipt, in a bank account opened in the name of the company being formed or in a Notary's office”.

· Copy of minutes by shareholder or promoters intending to Incorporate or form the company. The minute clearly states the form of the company to be incorporated.

The above mentioned documents are deposited before the Notary's Office. Incorporation After these documents have been lodged with the Notary Public the notary now proceeds to set the incorporation in motion. The notary public drafts the standard copies of Articles of Association in the form of Notarial Deed as provided by section 10 of the Uniform Act of OHADA. All the shareholders are required to sign the Articles of Association. The originals of the Articles are deposited at the Notary Chambers. They can only be amended by the same procedure. The Notary submits all the company documents at the front desk of the CENTRE DE FORMALITIES D'ENTREPRISES. The staff registers the company with the TRADE AND PERSONAL CREDIT REGISTER, the tax administrator and the CNPS. The Following Documents are filed with the Registration of companies at the registry of the court of First Instance of the Jurisdiction of incorporation. These documents are:

· Copies Articles of Association  
· Location Plan of the Business Premise  
· Criminal record of the Director of the company or sworn declaration  
· Certificate of Non conviction (not less than 3 months)  
· Declaration of Regularity and conformity, drawn up by the Notary Public and signed by the share Holders or a Notary Statement of subscription and payment in lieu thereof.

· Stamp duty tenancy agreement of the proposed business premises of the Company.

NB: with the recent Finance Law, each page of the Articles of Association bears a Fiscal Stamp of 1500 FRS, the entire Articles are Stamp Duty and registered with the Tax Department.

### POST INCORPORATION

After depositing the documents at the Registrar of companies, a Certificate of incorporation is issued, giving the Company the Legal Personality .The Newly Incorporated Company is published in any legal Journal.



# TRANSFORMING AFRICA



Build with peace of mind

# INCREDIBLE MILESTONE

*Congratulations*



Congratulations to Ismail on the incredible 10-year milestone of Naija Diaspora Magazine!

Your achievement is truly commendable, and I'm thrilled for you. May this anniversary bring even more blessings, progress, and exciting opportunities in the years to come.

I can already sense that the celebration will be spectacular, and I have no doubt that this is just the beginning.

Here's to a decade of success and growth, with the hope that you'll continue to celebrate these milestones for many more years, expanding your influence globally.

Cheers to Naija Diaspora Magazine's 10 years and counting!

**HRH OBA BASHIRU AWEDA**  
KING OF YORUBA COMMUNITY IN DOUALA



Fire. Flavor. Fusion.



## THE NFOR DAIRO BUNGANSA

### CAMEROONIAN MAKING BIG STRIDES IN NIGERIA

Nfor Dairo Bungansa, a name synonymous with culinary excellence, has carved his niche as an award-winning Cameroonian celebrity chef, revolutionizing the art of barbecue and grilling in Nigeria. As the driving force behind Bright Grillz, based in the sophisticated city of Abuja, Nfor has elevated the simple act of cooking over an open flame into a compelling culinary spectacle.

Specializing in high-profile events, Nfor's exceptional barbecue and grilling services have earned him a place in the hearts and taste buds of notable personalities, with testimonials from influencers such as Obi Cubana, Davido and Teni, among others. His ingenious approach to the craft has elevated traditional barbecue into an art form, transcending flavors and enticing palates.

At the heart of Nfor's culinary prowess lies his custom-made charcoal drum grill, a centerpiece that transforms raw ingredients into mouthwatering masterpieces. Whether it's succulent fish, tender beef or delicate prawns, his skillful hands infuse each piece with a symphony of flavors that have left clients in awe. The unmatched taste of Nfor's creations has become a hallmark of his work. With every sizzle and waft of fragrant smoke, he weaves a narrative of tasty delight.

Nfor Dairo Bungansa recently granted an exclusive interview to Naija in Diaspora Magazine, where he shared insights into his culinary journey, revealing his experiences so far and discussing the profound influence of his cultural heritage on his unique cooking style. In the interview, Nfor Dairo Bungansa passionately expressed his commitment to preserving and elevating traditional recipes, while fearlessly experimenting with modern trends, resulting in a harmonious blend of old and new that has captivated taste buds around the world.

Could you kindly introduce yourself?

I am Nfor Dairo Bungansa from Ndu Fons's palace, Donga Mantung division, the north west province of Cameroon.

What motivated your decision to initiate a food business in Nigeria, transitioning from Cameroon?

I come from a family with exceptional culinary skills, sharing a profound passion for cooking. I had not realized the potential of earning from cooking until a person from Douala ignited the idea. He enlightened me about offering cooking and grilling services at events for payment, rather than free.

This sparked the establishment of my fish business in Douala, Cameroon. My clientele largely comprised Nigerians. Observing their fervent enjoyment while dining, I inquired whether grilled dishes were less common in Nigeria. They encouraged me, affirming Nigeria's potential for remarkable profit. One day, I got a call from Obi Cubana, leading to my Nigerian venture. We collaborated to establish Ibiza, later pursuing my own path while maintaining our connection.

Do you infuse Cameroonian essence into your Nigerian culinary dishes?

I primarily prepare authentic Cameroonian dishes. For grilling, some Nigerians familiar with Cameroonian cuisine request it, but to cater to diverse tastes, I created the "Sentimental Sauce" and an alternative grilling style for Nigerians. We offer both strict Cameroonian cuisine and the Nigerian standard. My signature remains the Cameroonian standard, although. Dealing with local suppliers and vendors in Nigeria can be challenging; how do you manage these relationships as a Cameroonian?

In life, creating a distinct impact is crucial. By doing so, you won't have to seek people; they'll seek you. This is my approach.



As a Cameroonian, what has been the profitability of your Nigerian venture, and how do you relate with the locals?

I express my gratitude to Nigeria and its people. They embraced me wholeheartedly, treating me as one of their own. In fact, if I didn't disclose my nationality, it would go unnoticed. My fondness for Nigeria is profound. Their unyielding support, both financially and for my business, has been

exceptional. The camaraderie is profound, and I pray for Nigerians daily. What guidance would you provide to fellow Cameroonians considering business endeavors in Nigeria?

My counsel is to approach new countries, including Nigeria, with humility. Not implying my compatriots lack this trait, I believe humility paves the way for others to seek you out, guiding you to your rightful place. Had I

not embraced humility, Nigerians might not have embraced me and extended their association. As he shared anecdotes from his culinary journey, it is evident that his love for food extends beyond the mere act of cooking; encompassing a deep-seated desire to bridge cultural gaps and foster a greater appreciation for the diversity of flavors that unite us all.







Nigerian Investment Coach,

# Dr. Stephen Akintayo

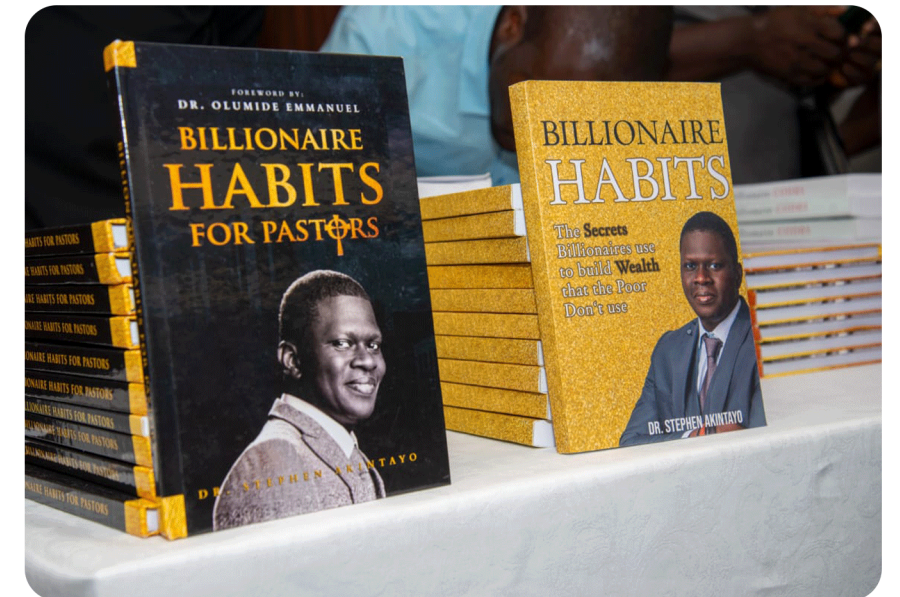
## Impacts Cameroonians With Billionaire Habits

Becoming a billionaire is a common dream that many young Cameroonians share. But the path to achieving it can be daunting and out of reach. However, by studying the habits and practices of successful billionaires, one can be impacted with valuable lessons which, if implemented in our own pursuit, would make the dream of becoming a billionaire not too far from reach.

Captivated by the desire to change their statuses from commoners to billionaire or multi-billionaires, hundreds of Cameroonians turned out at the conference hall of Krystal Palace Hotel in Douala, the economic capital of the Central African country, with their sole motive being to draw knowledge from the rich experience of acclaimed Nigerian investment coach, Dr. Stephen Akintayo. Reputed as Africa's most influential investment coach, the CEO/MD of Gtext Global, the mother company of so many subsidiaries that include Gtext Homes, a real estate company in Nigeria, United Arab Emirates (UAE), the United States of America and the United Kingdom, was a book tour in Douala. His tour, dubbed the "Billionaire Series" also doubled as a motivational session for aspiring billionaires in the country.

Dr. Akintayo, in his discourse, brought to light what makes billionaires different from other people, including some secrets that billionaires know that others people do not. In the one of the five books he has authored, titled "Billionaire Habits", the self-made billionaire magnanimously shares 29 principles that billionaires use to create lasting wealth. He has preferred to call these principles "Habits". In the book, he takes the readers through ways of creating lasting wealth that does not require magical formulas.

"It is about the successful understanding and application of principles."



This is how billionaires create stupendous wealth. The book unearths the relational habits, money management habits, investment habits, business habits, work habits, money-making habits, and multiplication habits of billionaires — all in one volume," he told his audience who include young people that he advised to invest in bankable assets such as real estate and landed property. According to him, land heralds a global movement that will change Africa. "Young people should invest in land because we have to build our nation and no one will do that for us. The value of land increases with time. The lands I bought ten years ago are not of the same price value today. It could be a swampy area or a forest but in the next ten years it will become an estate. That is what I did when I bought my first lands and today I own them in hectares," he said. The investment coach continued: "Notwithstanding, secrets to amass wealth cannot be known unless they are discovered. Successful persons do not minimise the power of mentorship."

"Billionaire Habits" also warrants reading and constant education of self, learning from the strides of mentors without joining the crowd to bash at them when they fail. Billionaires are voracious readers and lifelong learners who are constantly seeking new knowledge and information. Whether it be industry magazines, the news, or just novels, the desire to learn is what makes billionaires so successful.

It is often said that the entourage connection determines how far or fast you can become in life. The Billionaire Series teaches how to connect and keep valuable relationships. Billionaires surround themselves with successful and accomplished people who can provide valuable advice and mentorship. They have a positive and resilient mindset. They are also consistent and live to give back to their community. Giving back to the community is the most important billionaire secret that Dr. Akintayo has written about in his series of billionaire publications.





# MEET MEMBERS OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF NAIJA DIASPORA MAGAZINE



# Happy REMARKABLE 10 YEARS!



**C**ongratulations to Naija Diaspora Magazine on a remarkable 10 years! I am incredibly proud of your achievements in building something substantial from scratch. I am also honored to have been among the early supporters of your vision, contributing what I could to your journey.

**AMB. HADIZA MUSTAPHA, FWC,**  
FORMER HIGH COMMISSIONER OF  
NIGERIA TO CAMEROON







# FROM BARS TO BEGINNINGS

The Inspiring of 13 Lives Regaining Freedom and Embracing Hope

Beams of hope break through the darkness as thirteen prisoners step into a new-found freedom. In a heartwarming alliance, Ambassador Lawal Bappah, Nigeria's Consul General for the North West and South West Regions of Cameroon, alongside the illustrious HRM Chief Jonathan Thomas Eze Gburu, orchestrated the liberation of thirteen Nigerian inmates from the confines of Buea Central Prison in the Southwest Region of Cameroon. The date that marked this remarkable turnaround was Thursday, July 27th, 2023.

Chief Eze Gburu Gburu, an influential figure known for his philanthropy and business acumen, stands as a beacon of support for his fellow Nigerians in Cameroon. In a touching display of empathy, His Excellency the Consul General paid a visit to the incarcerated Nigerians on June 14th, 2023, personally witnessing their conditions. During this visit, a glaring injustice came to light - some prisoners who had served their sentences were still locked away due to their inability to pay fines.

With compassion as his guiding star, he rallied local authorities to improve the inmates' living conditions and release those whose sentences were completed but were still confined due to financial constraints.

The Consul General's reach extended to HRM Chief Thomas Eze Gburu, a well-respected advocate for humanitarian causes, particularly for Nigerians and Africans in need.



Hand in hand, they embarked on the mission to free the thirteen Nigerians. Clearing the financial hurdles that kept these individuals captive, the Consul General and HRM Eze Gburu Gburu achieved their goal on the fateful day of July 27th, 2023.

In a parallel act of kindness, Chief Eze Gburu Gburu extended his support to five Cameroonians trapped by unpaid fines. Thus, the collective efforts of these compassionate leaders set eighteen prisoners - thirteen Nigerians and five Cameroonians - on a path to freedom from Buea Central Prison. Speaking at the release ceremony held within the prison walls, the Consul General reassured the ex-convicts of the love and support they still have from family, friends, and their homeland, Nigeria.

Encouraging them to embrace responsible living and community engagement, he urged them to forge a legitimate and prosperous future.

Ambassador Lawal Bappah took the stage to share the good news that travel documents and transport fares were prepared for the returning Nigerian nationals. Expressing gratitude to HRM Chief Eze Gburu Gburu and all involved parties, he illuminated the cooperation that made this historic feat possible.

In his address, Chief Eze Gburu Gburu advised the former inmates to let go of grievances and seize the chance for a fresh start. He encouraged them to shun paths leading back to incarceration, referring to prison as a

place of correction and learning. He invoked the spirit of Nelson Mandela, who transformed from prisoner to global leader, leaving an indelible legacy.

Addressing a press query, Chief Gburu Gburu revealed that touching lives is his enduring aspiration, a legacy he aims to carve.

Overwhelmed with gratitude and newfound freedom, the ex-convicts fervently thanked Ambassador Lawal Bappah and HRM Chief Gburu Gburu, vowing to steer clear of criminality and embrace a new life of purpose and contribution."





# Celebrating A Decade of Trust



**H**itting the 10-year mark is no small achievement, and your journey is nothing short of impressive. We stand in awe of the exceptional work you've been doing, overcoming challenges with resilience and determination. It's crystal clear that you're not just making strides within Cameroon and Nigeria but are making mark beyond borders.

As you mark this remarkable milestone, my heartfelt prayer is that God continues to bless and uplift you, pushing you to even greater heights. Congratulations to the entire Naija Diaspora Magazine team for their efforts in making this achievement possible.

*Here's to a decade of excellence and to many more years of breaking boundaries and making a positive impact!*

**HRH ONYENGUBO JONATHAN THOMAS**

OHANA EZE NDI IGBO, GBURU GBURU 1 OF CAMEROON

# CONGRATULATIONS



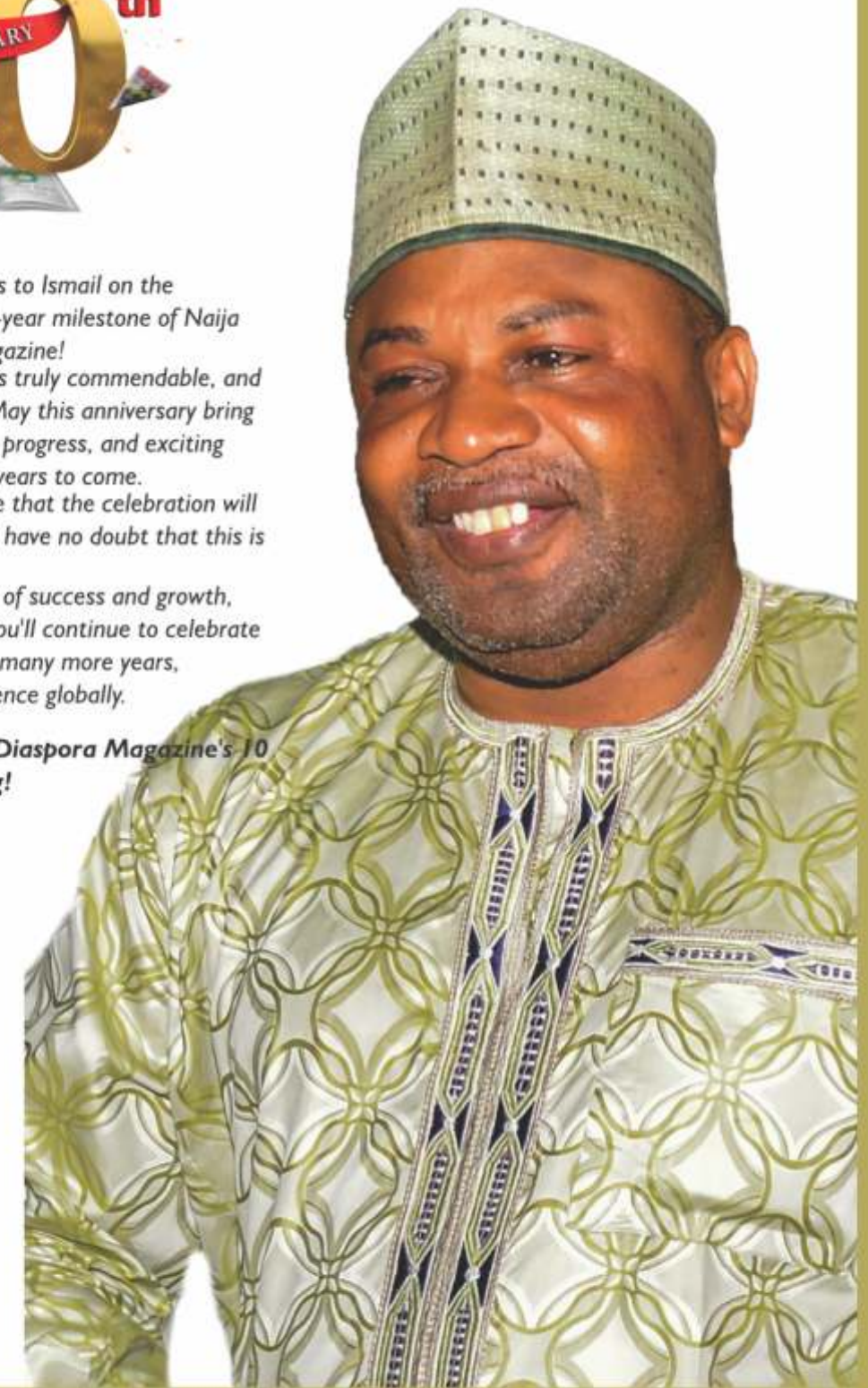
**C**ongratulations to Ismail on the incredible 10-year milestone of Naija Diaspora Magazine!

Your achievement is truly commendable, and I'm thrilled for you. May this anniversary bring even more blessings, progress, and exciting opportunities in the years to come.

I can already sense that the celebration will be spectacular, and I have no doubt that this is just the beginning.

Here's to a decade of success and growth, with the hope that you'll continue to celebrate these milestones for many more years, expanding your influence globally.

**Cheers to Naija Diaspora Magazine's 10 years and counting!**



**DR. AZEEZ MUSTAPHA**

PATRON, NIGERIAN COMMUNITY AND FORMER PRESIDENT NIGERIAN COMMUNITY





## Inaugural **Anambra State** Union Football Tournament Triumphs Amidst Adversity

**O**n the 6th of August 2023, a monumental event took place at St Michel, Terminus, Douala, marking the commencement of the First Edition of the Anambra State Union Football Tournament. Under the stewardship of Sir Emeka Uzoka, Chairman of the Anambra State Union, this tournament emerged as a testament to unity, sportsmanship, and the indomitable spirit of the

Anambra community. The opening ceremony set the stage for what would become an unforgettable showcase of camaraderie and competitive fervor. A true celebration of tradition and athleticism, the tournament kicked off with a Veteran Match at 2:00 pm. The clash between Aguata Local Government Union and Nnewi Local Government Union resulted in a gripping encounter, with Aguata securing victory with a 2-0 score line. Distinguished figures graced the event with their presence, adding prestige to the occasion. Among them

was Mr. Oliva Ochi, Consul 1 at the Consulate General Douala, representing the esteemed Consul General, H.E. Amb. (Mrs.) Efe A. Clark-Omeru. The honorable gathering was further enriched by the participation of key personalities, including: Hon. BIC Okwujiaku, President of the Nigerian Community Douala, HRH Eze Jonathan T. Onyenagubor, Eze Gburugburu 1 of Ohanaeze Ndi Igbo, Cameroon, Sir, Lovinus Ezech, Vice President, Nigerian Community Douala, Chief Alex Nwoye, Vice President 2, Nigerian Community Douala, Chief

Uche Obiekwe, Patron of the Nigerian Community Douala, Chief Innocent Obiorah Odoh, Patron Anambra State Union, Chairmen of Imo and Enugu States Union, Esteemed members of the Anambra State Union, The event also extended its reach to include esteemed guests from Douala and beyond. In recognition of the paramount importance of safety and well-being, the organizers ensured the presence of dedicated medical health and security personnel, assuring attendees a secure environment throughout the event. Despite the inclement weather

characterized by heavy rain, the unyielding spirit of the Anambra community remained unshaken. A testament to their passion for football and unity, a remarkable number of attendees braved the elements, converging to witness the unfolding of history on the lush fields of St Michel, Terminus. The final was held on Sunday 12th of November 2023 @ Bonamousadi Stadium Douala. Oyi Local Government lifted the trophy while Aguta Local Government took the bronze and Idemili Local Government took silver.

The inaugural Anambra State Union Football Tournament stands as an embodiment of shared values, intercommunity collaboration, and the timeless appeal of sport. This event not only etched a significant mark on the sporting calendar but also served as a reminder of the resilience and unity that define the Anambra community. As the tournament concluded its first chapter, it left in its wake a legacy of camaraderie, sporting excellence, and the promise of more remarkable editions to come.







# Ten Years of dedication



**M**r. Ismail, the publisher of Naija Diaspora Magazine, I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to you. It is no small feat to arrive in a foreign land and recognize the importance of documenting events. After all, without events, there can be no history, and the knowledge of our past is crucial for future generations. You have dedicated years to this endeavor, and as you celebrates 10th anniversary, I wish you nothing but success.

Your commitment to uniting people through Diaspora Magazine is commendable. You have invested your time in traveling far and wide, conducting interviews, and capturing personalities in your publications, ensuring that those who couldn't travel still have access to these valuable insights.

Your work is bridging gaps and preserving the stories of icons, and for that, I say, congratulations. I pray that you continue to receive wisdom and encouragement to write more.

**Thank you very much for  
your valuable contributions**

**SIR EMEKA UZOKA**  
CHAIRMAN ANAMBRA STATE UNION DOUALA





In an ever-changing world, companies must constantly reinvent themselves and adapt at breakneck speed if they want to remain competitive and attractive. Needs are evolving, new technologies are being created all the time, sometimes leading to radical changes within organisations. Change can only be positive if it has been properly anticipated and supported. It is therefore essential for any manager to be trained in the various tools and methods of change management. Change Management involves supporting a project to reorganise any entity using a specific methodology. It's with this in mind that Go Ahead Africa Ltd organised on Tuesday 27th June 2023, the 2nd edition of IMPACTALKS Season 5 under the theme: "How to manage change effectively."

### The Training Session Had 3 Main Objectives:

- Better understand the Stakes and Benefits of Good Change Management
- Identify the different stakeholders and the Key Success Factors of Change Management
- Further develop one's skills to better manage Change

The participants had the opportunity to be enriched by the experience of a remarkable Company Captain. M. Richard FOWANG, Managing Director of Colgate-Palmolive Central and West Africa shared with the audience the keys and tips he has implemented during his amazing career to brilliantly lead various changes in order to always remain successful. The Leadership Coach/Trainer, Roland KWEMAIN's brilliant presentation covered both the Dos and Don'ts of effective change management.

### What to do in order to manage change effectively:

1. Explain the change.
2. Develop listening skills.
3. Involve the reluctant.
4. Offer training/coaching.
5. Reward adaptability.

### What not to do in order to manage change effectively:

- 1) Impose.
- 2) Skip steps.
- 3) Communicate poorly or not at all.
- 4) Don't involve your teams.

He ended his presentation with the change equation, which is an essential tool, a quick and simple way of carrying out an initial analysis of the situation. And finally, Coach Roland KWEMAIN closed the session with this two African proverbs:

"The same ugly caterpillars turn into butterflies as the seasons change."

"Even a chameleon's colours are for its survival, not for its beauty."

The 3rd edition of season 5 will be held on Wednesday, 27th September 2023 at Hotel SAWA from 6pm to 09.30pm with M. Jude ANELE, Managing Director-UBA Cameroon as guest speaker under the theme: "The X factor of an excellent manager: the 4 quotients (Emotional, Sociability, Adversity and Spirituality)".

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# Congratulations

## Naija Diaspora Magazine



10th anniversary is an important opportunity to celebrate the magazine's achievements and contributions to the development of our beloved Continent: Mother Africa.

The past 10 years have been filled with memorable moments, successes and challenges, but thanks to the determination and commitment of the NDM team, the magazine has continued to inform and inspire readers all over the world.

I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to the Naija Diaspora team for their hard work, passion and dedication over the past 10 years.

I wish them all the best in the years to come. We definitely have a whole continent to build!

**ROLAND KWEMAIN**

Leadership Coach / PDG Go Ahead Africa / 2010 JCI World President

**DBA**



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