

■ Abia Judiciary Marks Commencement Of 2023-2024 Legal Year

■ Abiriba Community's Day of Glory in Aba

NATIONAL Ambassador

N500 VOL. 22 NO. 091

"Uplift the poeple, project the nation"

SPECIAL EDITION

NOVEMBER 30TH 2023

[nationalambassadorng](#) [+nationalambassadorng](#) [Nationalambassadorng](#) [Nationalambassador](#) [NationalAmbs](#) [nationalambassadorng@gmail.com](#) [www.nationalambassadorng.com](#)

NIGERIA: The Crisis Of Nationhood



Abia's Harvest of Projects



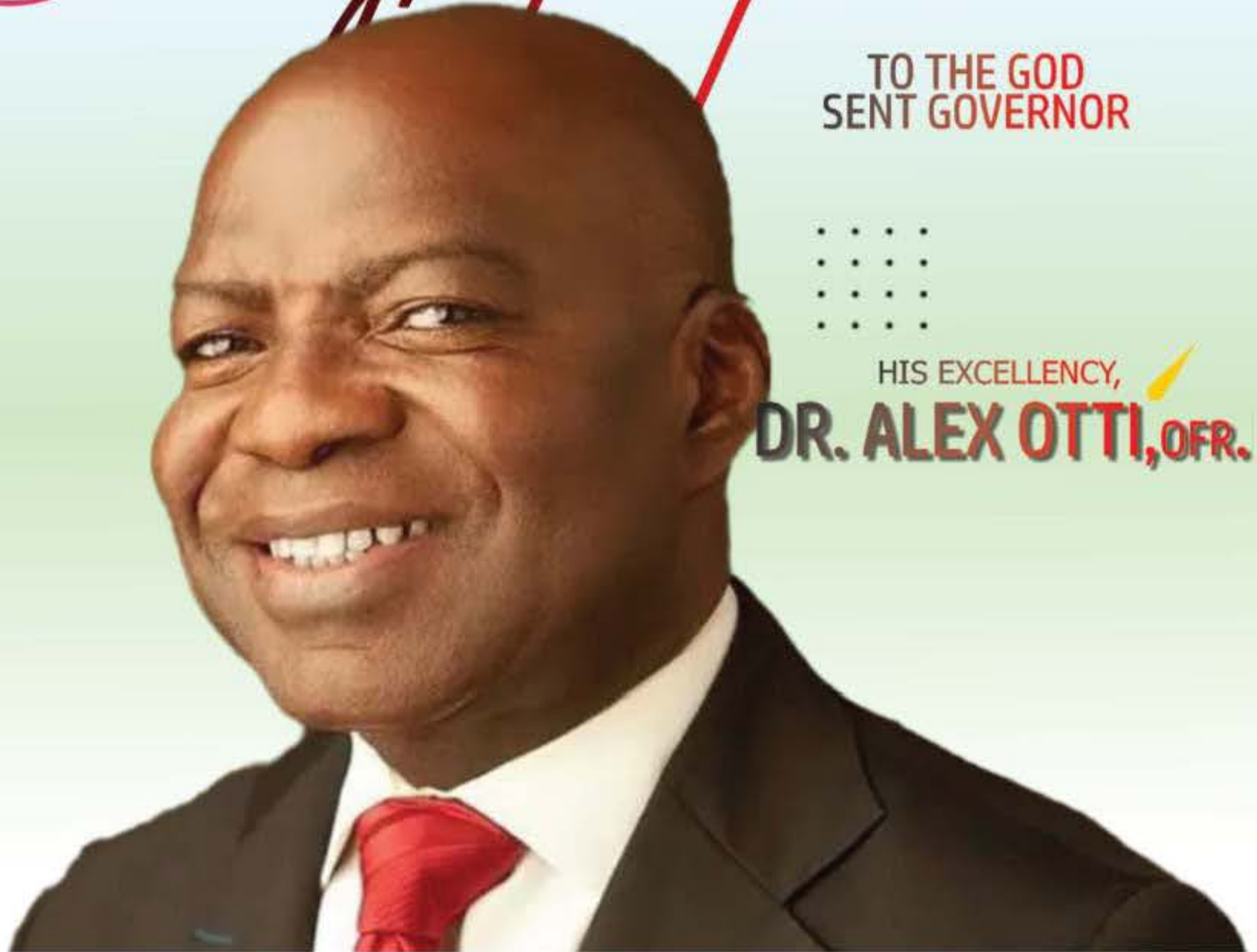
ABIA STATE OIL PRODUCING AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (ASOPADEC)

Winners Way, Ogurube Layout, Umuahia
OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN



congratulations

TO THE GOD SENT GOVERNOR



HIS EXCELLENCY,
DR. ALEX OTTI, OFR.

I, Venerable Dr. Joshua Ogadinma Onyeike, the General Manager, Abia State Oil Producing Areas Development Commission (ASOPADEC), on behalf of my family, Management and Staff of the Commission heartily rejoice with the God sent Governor of Abia State, His Excellency, Dr. Alex Chioma Otti, (OFR) on his meritorious victory at the Governorship election tribunal.

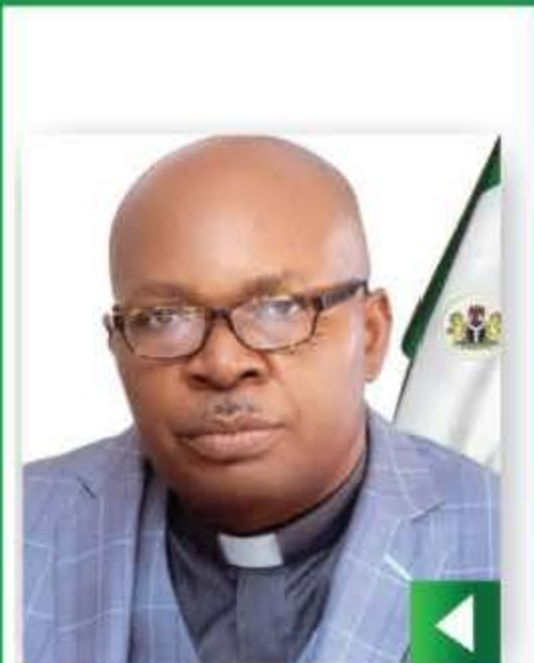
Your Excellency, your victory is a landmark and historic one. Abians are indeed, very happy with your emergence as the Executive Governor of the State. Your policy trust of rebuilding Abia and bringing sanity into the system has endeared you to the people and we urge you to sustain these noble innovations.

It is necessary to place on record that within few months in office, you have made laudable feats to reposition the State for economic and infrastructural development. You have reconstructed roads, revamped the health care sector to stand the test of time, established the Abia Innovation Industrial Park at Owaza to accelerate the transformation of the oil rich Communities of Ukwa Land and rekindled the hope of civil servants through regular payment of salaries.

Your administration is, indeed on course and we are solidly in support of your strides. Ride on Sir and may God guide and protect you.

Joshua Ogadinma Onyeike
Ven. Dr. Joshua Ogadinma Onyeike
General Manager, ASOPADEC

BRAVO



Contents

- From The Editorial Suite** 4
- Nigeria: The Crisis of The Nation State** 6
- Abia's Harvest of Projects** 10
- Corporate Supplement**
Total Support Energy Group 17
- Abia Judiciary Marks Commencement of 2023-2024 Legal Year** 19
- Gov. Otti's UNN Outing** 22
- ASEPA in the Vanguard of The fight Against Filth** 24
- Burial of Prof. Joseph Irukwu** 26
- Nzuko Arochukwu Women: Abia Governor's Wife pledges support** 28
- Abiriba Community's Day of Glory in Aba** 29
- His Eminence Eze Eberechi Dick Celebrates The New Yam Festival In Style** 31
- Afara Community Under The Throes of Erosion Menace** 32
- IHSD in The Frontier of Humanity** 33



Editorial Board

GM/EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Jones Nnanna Ike

EDITOR
Kingsley Ugorji

NEWS EDITOR
Johnny Okeke

ASST. NEWS EDITOR
Chukwuemeka Egejuru

HEAD, OPERATIONS DEPT.
Ihedinachi Okpara

HEAD, COMMERCIAL DEPT.
Mary Ehumadu

HEAD ADMIN
Nkiruka Okoronye

HEAD ACCOUNTS
Obisike Promise

ICT
Mike Iheadindu

ICT CONSULTANT
Prince Blessing Lazarus

EDITORIAL CONSULTANTS
Obike Uko
Chike Emelike

PRODUCTION CONSULTANT
Nwakaego Ofomata



PUBLISHED BY:

Abia Newspapers & Publishing Corporation
Nnamdi Azikiwe Secretariat Road, Government Station Layout, Umuahia

OUR MEDIA HANDLES

+234-8107148390 nationalambassadorng@gmail.com +nationalambassadorng
nationalambassador NationalAmbs nationalambassadorng
www.nationalambassadorng.com NationalAmbs
<https://news.google.com/publications/CAAqBwgKMJrmiwsw0aPrAg?ceid=NG:en&oc=3>

From The Editorial Suite



The lingering Problem of the crises of the Nigeria Nation State caught our attention after the recently celebrated 63 years anniversary . Since peace and security is the foundation of all meaningful development, we decided to take a shot at and in the process proffered solutions that is both novel and have real prospect of working. like all other write ups that emanate from our stable, the story is incisive and brings fresh insights into Nigeria 's quest to have a peaceful society. We believe it will delight our discerning readers who really wish Nigeria to move forward.

Since May 29th 2023 when the first Class Economist and Ex Bank Czar Dr. Alex Otti mounted the saddle as the Executive Governor of Abia, the story of that once beleaguered State has continued to change for good. The state is increasingly occupying the number one newspaper headlines for its harvest of projects. In this edition, we devoted a section to highlight some of those most important projects that has either been commissioned or flagged off. It is also accompanied by Dr. Otti 's UNN outing where he delivered a hair raising lecture on the issue of subsidy removal with the theme "Fuel Subsidy Removal; Dealing With The Opportunities And Harnessing Opportunities"

Still on Abia, both members of the Bench and Bar recently had an elaborate outing in celebration of the Commencement of the 2023 / 2024 legal Year. We bring you the glitz and glamour that characterized the event.

And not to be left out where two events of equally memorial proportion. The Abiriba community had a very glorious day in Aba when they launched their 700-million-naira ultra-modern plaza and motor park. We went beyond the launching to bringing you the glamour of the event. There is also o His Royal Majesty 's Eze Eberechi Dike 's New yam celebration.

The package is indeed a bumpy one and it 's all intended for your delight.

Happy Reading

Jones Nnanna Ike
Editor-in-Chief

CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly known and addressed as Miss Umesi Roseline Ifeoma, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS KALU ROSELINE IFEOMA. All documents bearing my former names remain valid. The general public should please take note.
MRS KALU ROSELINE IFEOMA

I, formerly known and addressed as Miss Epiri Deseree Bemonovie, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS GODSWILL DESEREE BEMONOVIE. All documents bearing my former names remain valid. The general public should please take note.
MRS GODSWILL DESEREE BEMONOVIE

I, formerly known and addressed as Miss Nnanna Chinaza, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS EZEIGBO CHINAZA HOPE. All documents bearing my former names remain valid. The general public should please take note.
MRS. EZEIGBO CHINAZA HOPE

I formerly known and addressed as Ise bright Ukandu, now wish to be known and addressed as Ise Bright-tony Maduabuchi. All documents bearing my former names remain valid. The general public should please take note.
ISE BRIGHT-TONY MADUABUCHI

I, formerly known and addressed as Miss Iheke Louisa Ijeoma, now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs Agharanya Louisa Ijeoma. All documents bearing my former names remain valid. The general public should please take note.
MRS. AGHARANYA LOUISA IJEOMA

CORRECTION OF NAME

I formerly known and addressed as Ude Glory Ezinne, during the time I did my Bank Verification Number(BVN) as my name instead of Ude Ezinne Ndubuisi, Now I wish to be known and addressed as Ude Ezinne Ndubuisi as my official documents as contained in my credentials and other official documents. The general public should please take note.
UDE EZINNE NDUBUISI

NATIONAL Ambassador

PUBLISHED BY:
Abia Newspapers & Publishing Corporation
Newsk Azikiwe Secretariat Road, Government Station Layout, Umuahia

REGISTRATION OF INCORPORATED TRUSTEE'S

Newspaper Publication For Registration of Incorporated Trustee's Name: **Household of Hope and Victory Ministry**
Names of Trustee
Pastor Ndubuisi Okezie Okeh
Pastor Abraham Isogie
Aims and Objectives (1) The Advancement of the global ministry of the Kingdom of God (2) Global Soul Winning for Christ*The public is hereby advised to notify The Registrar General of the Corporate Affairs Commission within 28 Days if there is any complaint*

Special Edition

MASSIVE DISCOUNT

We urge you to maximize our low advert rate, and discount, we are offering to our advertisers and clients to promote your products/business



Our advert rates are:

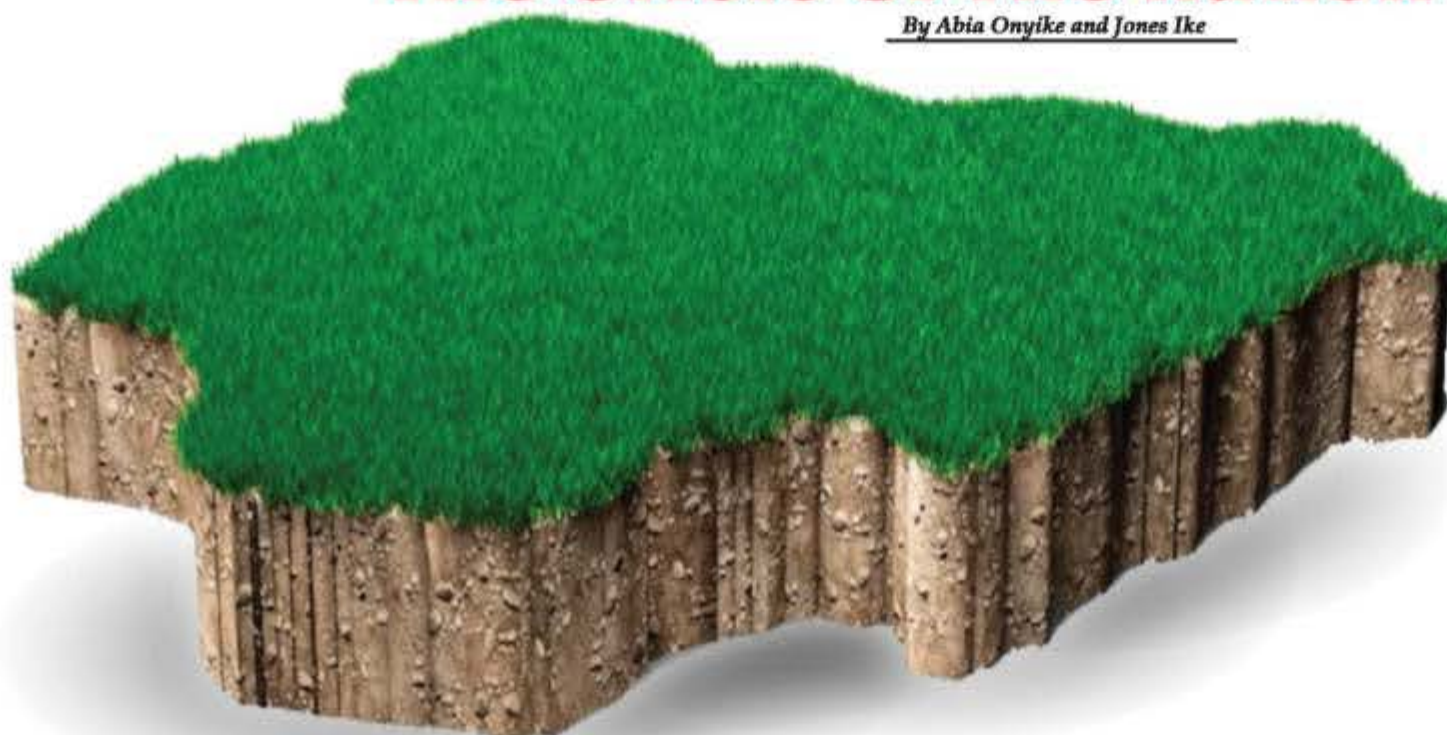
- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ FULL PAGE COLOUR - ₦ 350,000.00
- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ FULL PAGE BLACK AND WHITE - ₦ 250,000.00
- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ HALF PAGE COLOUR - ₦ 200,000.00
- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ HALF PAGE BLACK AND WHITE - ₦ 150,000.00
- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ QUARTER PAGE - ₦ 100,000.00
- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ CHANGE OF NAME - ₦ 7,000.00

For Further Enquiries
 08107148390

Cover Story

Nigeria: The Crisis Of The Nation State

By Abia Onyike and Jones Ike



Nigeria recently celebrated her 63 years as an Independent state, after she gained independence in 1960 from Great Britain. Such ritual has over the years degraded into a sad reminder of opportunities lost and a journey into what is becoming an increasingly uncertain future.

This sad state of affairs cannot be properly understood nor an effective resolution found without recourse to the nation's political history especially the proper understanding of the forces that shaped its formation as a nation and the other dynamics that have continued to determine its subsequent developments. The creation of Nigeria as a Federation of disparate ethnic nationalities is a direct fall out of the 19th century European imperialism and rivalry. It was to avoid wars amongst the European powers over their colonial possessions and the scramble for Africa that actually led to the Berlin Conference of 1885-1885. It was at that conference that they arbitrarily partitioned the continent amongst themselves and the area that was to later become Nigeria was conceded to Britain.

Afterwards, there was another process of amalgamation of ethnic nationalities which took place in 1914, bringing together the Northern Protectorate, the Southern Protectorate and the Lagos Colony to form Nigeria. The fundamental essence of such rivalry amongst the European powers was to exploit the areas and keep it as an undeveloped territory meant for the supply of raw materials and agricultural products as well as the market for the consumption of European manufactured goods.

The new nation went through another 86 years of direct colonial rule by the British Crown before Independence was granted in 1960. The problems of Nigeria today are the same type of problems

suffered by all the States that came into being as result of that Berlin Conference namely: underdeveloped territories for the export of raw materials and agricultural products as well as markets for the consumption of imported industrial goods, lack of autonomy for the federating units and rivalries amongst ethnic nationalities.

Amongst all the States that have their roots in the Berlin Conference of 1885, Nigerian has a unique peculiarity. Its arbitrary creation in 1914 was such that it was populated by several numbers of disparate ethnic and cultural nationalities with three major ones whose rivalries and struggle for the control of the central power have since become a major source of instability for the nation. The Nigerian situation was not helped by the alliance which the British colonialist forged with the Fulani ruling class in the North which led to the undermining of critical state institutions in the prelude to Independence. Such undermining of critical state institutions enabled the British to foist the conservative Fulani ruling class in the North as the inheritors of central power in Lagos. This action of the British also contributed in sowing the seeds for future political instability in the new nation.

The educated nationalists led mainly by Southern intellectuals who fought for Independence were quite very naïve in noticing this Anglo-Fulani Alliance or perhaps they were blinded by their petty rivalries or undue quest to enjoy the perquisites of office which the departing colonialists left behind. They also did not question the character of the Lugardian State which the departing colonialists left behind.

The regional rivalry amongst the competing ethnic groups was to generate

an early crisis beginning from 1962 that led to the jailing of the Action Group leaders and the incarceration of several others. Such repression was to throw the entire South West region into a political crisis which generated a chain of other events that culminated in a three-year civil war.

The Nigerian civil war that lasted between 1967-1970 has been recorded as the bloodiest war ever fought in the African Continent. The resolution of that war was such that it enabled the heirs to the Northern ruling class to assume the complete control of the Nigerian State with the Yoruba elite as a junior alliance/partner.

Another important character of the Nigerian State that emerged after the war was, that the new Northern military dominated ruling class restructured the Nigerian federation in ways that ensured the structural domination of the North over the other competing regions. Such restructuring was achieved through States and local government creation exercises, skewing up revenue sharing formulas, recruitment into the security and public service arms of the national government etc.

Equally, another noticeable character of the post war Nigerian State was that, it was constituted in manners that ensued a structural marginalization of the core Igbo areas which falls roughly within the South East Region, as well as a deliberate neglect of the South East region in the siting of Federal Government sponsored heavy industries like Steel Plants, Paper Mills, Refineries, Dams, Petrochemical Plants, Tertiary Educational Institutions, Airports among others.

Again, most of the military administrators posted to the East during the military era administered the region like conquered territories and were not

interested in its economic development. Such state of affairs led to the abandonment of the several developmental projects that were initiated and built by the defunct Government of the Eastern Region led by Dr Michael Okpara. (The Eastern Region under the Okpara administration was in early 1960's reckoned with by the World Bank as the fastest developing region in the Third World with its then GDP consistent growth of over 9%).

The Post war South East also got the least number of states and local governments during the various state creation exercises, which was done mostly by military fiat.

Its indigenes were also discriminated against in recruitments and promotions in sensitive federal government establishments. All these issues form the basis of the complaint of marginalization by the Igbo ethnic group against the Federal Government.

It is the inadequate resolution of these complaints that has informed the emergence of secessionist agitators since 2004. The mismanagement of such agitations by the Federal Government has metamorphosed into a current full scale insurgency in the region since 2015 when General Muhammadu Buhari came into power as an elected President and took a hardline approach in the resolution of the imbroglio.

More fundamentally however, is the fact that the new ruling class that emerged at the conclusion of the Nigerian civil war was not a productive one. It clearly lacked ideas and the political will to build a modern developed nation state. It continued to maintain the pattern of the political economy inherited from Colonial Britain which sought to keep Nigeria as an underdeveloped territory for the export of industrial raw materials/agricultural products and as a dumping ground for the consumption of industrial manufactured goods.

The post war Federal governments effort to achieve industrialization in the 1970's through the policies of import - substitution and transfer of technology failed to achieve results, due to foreign exchange constraints, corruption and macro-economic policy shortcomings.

All these problems were to be compounded by the shortfalls in oil earning beginning from the early 1980's which informed the political instability of that period that started with the coup against the civilian government of President Shehu Shagari in December 1983 and later the palace coup that swept away General Muhammadu Buhari in 1983.

Continued on the next page

Cover Story

Nigeria: The Crisis Of The Nation State

Continued

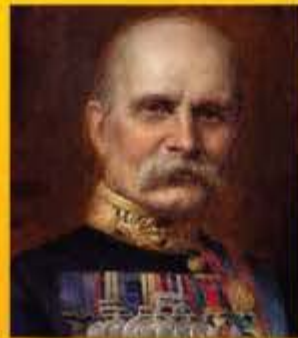
The General Ibrahim Babangida government which sat on the throne from 1986 to 1993 abandoned any pretense for an industrialization drive in favour of full scale *laissez faire* economic policy that found expression in an ill-conceived, ill-implemented Structural Adjustment Program (SAP). The haphazard manner that attended the implementation of the deregulation and privatization component of the programme led to the grinding of several of the heavy industries that were built in the 1960's and the 1970's. These heavy industries were meant to drive the industrialization ambition of the country. The situation compounded the unemployment rate thereby skewing up the unemployment figures as well as the poverty rates in the country. Since then, Nigeria's unemployment figures have always been on an upward swing.

Babangida's poor record in the economic sphere was compounded by the political crisis which his regime plunged the country into when he annulled the June 1993 elections that was believed to have been won by Chief Moshood Abiola of the Yoruba ethnic group. His hurried enthronement of an Interim National Government led by another Yoruba businessman, Chief Ernest Shonikon did not douse the tension raised by the suspicion of continuous Northern domination of central political power through the use of "proxies".

The shoving aside and takeover of power by the then Chief of Army Staff, General Sani Abacha only worsened the matter and generated a political crisis that was to last for another five years.

Gen. Abacha upon the announcement of his palace coup in November 1993 was initially supported by the bludgeoning anti-annulment groups with the hope that he was ascending the throne temporarily in order to restore Abiola's mandate. Such hope was dashed when he dissolved all the democratic structures in the country and took series of other measures that entrenched his stay in office as a full-blown military dictatorship. Such actions generated an anti-thesis in the formation of an anti-annulment opposition groups who coalesced under a common umbrella called the National Democratic Coalition (NADECO).

The Abacha years (Nov.1993-June 1998) were marked by the long political crises which the country endured as a result of the struggle which NADECO waged to restore Abiola's mandate from the iron grip of General Sani Abacha. The period



is also reckoned with, as the worst in the economic and political history of post-civil war Nigeria. Many political leaders particularly from the South West were killed, injured, detained, jailed or driven into exile by the Abacha regime. Nigeria then continuously recorded negative economic growth rates. It also became a pariah state on account of several sanctions imposed by the International Community. Corruption in public office became much more endemic with the Military Head of State and his top lieutenants being the leading lights in that negative direction. In fact, the corruption and inefficiency that characterized the operations of the Ministries and Parastatals during those periods were such that an AD-HOC Agency called The Petroleum Trust Fund (PTF) was created to discharge most of their functions.

The Political crises of that era ended dramatically when both Chief Moshood Abiola and General Sanni Abacha died in 1998 under mysterious circumstances.

The General Abdulsami Abubakar regime that took over the reigns of power following the demise of Gen. Abacha quickly reached a rapprochement with the leading opposition groups in the country and a short transition program was drawn that restored democracy in

1999.

However, one of the major pitfalls of such a hurried transition program had since emerged to be the imposition by the military establishment of an ill-conceived constitution that was hurriedly drawn by a few men led by an obscure right wing legal scholar, Prof. Auwala Yadudu, who was for several years, a legal consultant to the military bureaucratic oligarchy. The 1999 constitution has since become more of an albatross for civilian democratic rule rather than an asset. All efforts made to amend the constitution had always been scuttled by hegemonic forces that benefit from its defect.

President Olusegun Obasanjo that took over the reigns of power from the rump of the military junta led by Gen. Abdusalami Abubakar and his civilian cohorts did not prepare much for civilian take over. The consequence was that between 1999 and 2003 when he was running for a second tenure, there was not much on ground to show for the four years spent in office. He survived a near revolt within his ruling PDP to win a second term.

By the time, he was inaugurated for a second term, Nigeria was having a heavy debt of nearly \$40 billion and an economy that was rudderless. It was to

stem this tide that led to the appointment of a renowned Harvard trained Economist and World Bank Executive, Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala as the Finance Minister and the Chairman of the Economic Council.

Dr. Iweala's entrant into the Federal Executive Council dramatically changed the system of governance. She and other brilliant minds that served in the Council helped the government to package a reform programme called, The National Economic Empowerment Development Strategy ("NEEDS").

The major component included a package that dealt with the debts over hang which led to the cancellation of substantial part of the foreign debts owed by Nigeria. The debt cancellation was a major plus for the Obasanjo regime and it enabled the government to attend to domestic needs that were neglected for several years.

Other components of the "NEEDS DOCUMENT" included the introduction of fiscal responsibility bill which was passed into law in 2005. This law which in common parlance is known as "due process" dramatically improved the system of governance thereby making the Ministries and Parastatals to work again.

Continued on the next page

Cover Story

Nigeria: The Crisis Of The Nation State

Continued

Another very important component of the "NEEDS DOCUMENT" was the war on corruption that was launched with the establishment of two anti-corruption agencies; the Economic and Finance Crimes Commission (EFCC) and the Independent and other anti-Corrupt Practices Commission (CPC). There was also the Independent Power Plant (IPP) component. This programme sought to deal with the age long energy problem through the provision of an intermediate power programme which led to the construction of several gas-powered plants majority in areas that had abundant gas supply. Its abandonment by the President Yardua's regime is still counted as one of the root cause of the current energy crises in the country.

There was also a major reform of the public service with its highlight being the introduction of a new pension system.

The NEEDS package seemed to have worked well between 2004-2007. The Federal Government System up till date is still anchored on the "NEEDS Document" with minor adjustments. The major defect of the "Reform Program" was the less than an average interest in science and technology inspired industrialization.

Another major defect was the observable shortcomings in the implementation of some of the major components, for instance, the execution of the privatization component was marred by allegations of corruption, favoritism and other malpractices that undermined the policy. A notable example was the privatization of the Ajaokuta Steel Complex that was handed over to a company which had unscrupulous characters as its masterminds who damaged the quest for Nigeria's industrialization drive by engaging in a massive asset stripping of the complex.

Other problems associated with the programme included the non-adoption of the "NEEDSDOCUMENT" by many of the state government who preferred the military inspired old ways of running their state governments that enabled them to spend the funds accruing to their states in arbitrary manners.

The then Czar of the newly established anti-corruption agency, The Economic & Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), Mallam Nuhu Ribadu had a running battle with state governors over the pilfering of



their state treasures, By the time their second terms were over, most of them were guests of the courts over theft of public funds. Some of them were eventually convicted and jailed for theft of public funds running into billions of naira.

However, the major inhibitor to the continued and full implementation of the reform programme in Nigeria was its chief promoter, the then President Olusegun Obasanjo. Firstly, the sharp differences over policy matters between him and his then Finance Minister Dr. Iweala led to the latter resigning from the Federal Executive Council sometime in 2006. Most importantly President Obasanjo's failure to hand over to a successor who could advance the reform programme led to the hijacking of the instrument of the state by the group of governors who were fundamentally opposed to the "Reform Programme".

At the political level, two very important events occurred that were to impact the nation fundamentally during the post President Obasanjo years. The

first was the introduction of the Islamic legal system in most muslim dominated parts of the North starting with the North Western State of Zamfara whose Governor and chief promoter was Alhaji Sani Yerima. Such introduction was sternly opposed by the Christians.

Even though the Federal government took a lukewarm attitude towards its introduction, it generated an anti-thesis in the South as it led to the rise of various agitation movements in the region. In the South South zone, various militant groups emerged demanding for greater control over oil resources. In the South West Zone, the Odua People's Congress (OPC) emerged fighting for greater autonomy or what they called true federalism. In the South East Zone, the Movement for the Restoration of the Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB) led by Chief Ralph Uwazurike emerged to demand for the restoration of the defunct Sovereign State of Biafra. In later years, a breakaway and more radical factions of MASSOB emerged. The most renown being

the Nnamdi Kanu led Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB).

The Yardua/Jonathan Presidency that won the 2007 presidential election thus came into the scene with a lot of baggage that were carried over from the Obasanjo era. Matters were made worst by the ill health of President Yardua which worsened with the passage of time.

The Yardua Presidency was majorly a victory for the forces that resisted the Obasanjo-Ngozi Okonjo Iweala reforms.

When eventually they came into power, several important aspects of the reforms were either discarded, watered down or reversed. One of the components of the reform programme that suffered greatly under this period was the anti-corruption war. Most of the people who either managed the Yardua campaign or funded it were people who were either directly or indirectly hit by the anti-corruption war.

The ascendancy of the Yardua Presidency thus became an opportunity for them to fight back. The anti-corruption boss himself, Mallam Nuhu Ribadu

who was eventually hounded out of office once stated that "if you fight corruption, corruption will fight you back". By the time of President Yardua's death in 2010, much of the gains made in the fight against corruption had been rolled back. The anti-corruption agencies became so weakened that they became known as toothless bulldogs.

President Goodluck Jonathan that came in the aftermath of Yardua's death was not different in any fundamental sense.

By the time of his defeat in the 2015 presidential elections, most indices of Nigerian development were on negative trajectories. President Buhari's eight years in office (2015-2023) was not remarkably different from the PDP years.

On the other hand, his mismanagement of the economy reduced Nigeria to be the poverty capital of the World just as well as his discriminatory policies, Fulani irredentist agenda and brutal suppression of dissidents reduced Nigeria to a killing field and the blossoming of all manner of armed groups.

Incumbent President Ahmed Tinubu who came into office on May 29th 2023 amidst a most contested and controversial election could be said to be in office at a most challenging period in the nation's history. The crises of the Nigerian nation state is at a boiling point and could be said to have come full cycle.

63 years of self-rule has not led to genuine national development in Nigeria. The economy is still in terrible straits. The national resources are largely siphoned abroad through servicing of debt obligations, money laundering, medical tourism and imports. The domestic currency has been so decimated that its current exchange rate is more than N1000 Naira to one Dollar. The economy has gone turpsy turvy while insecurity has gone haywire. The educational and health institutions are in dire straits.

Continued on the next page

Cover Story

Nigeria: The Crisis Of The Nation State

Continued

In-fact most top members of the ruling class prefer travelling overseas for their health

checks just as they send their wards abroad for quality education. The severe problems of Nigerian federalism have been neglected for long. The demand for the reconstitution of the Nigerian state either through a National Conference or a Constitutional Conference has been jettisoned and abandoned. Even in the face of violent insurgencies threatening to overrun the security agencies, nothing serious is coming from the political class. Islamic terrorists in the North are still fighting to impose an Islamic State in Nigeria while the agitation for the restoration of Biafra is still on. Bandits now control large swathes of territories in North West. Ritual killers, kidnapers and other sundry criminals makes life very difficult in the South West while oil thieves and bunkers hold sway in the South-South. Nigeria is indeed bleeding in all fronts and the kinetic approach being deployed to deal with it seem not to be working well enough.

Sometimes, those in power assume that nothing will happen. The Nigerian leaders often say that Nigeria is indissoluble, "Nothing Mega" (An Igbo slang which means nothing will happen) to the State. But they forget that Nigeria is only 63 years and yet wobbling as it is. The federation is chaotic and crisis-ridden. The ruling political class have so far feigned ignorance of the history of nation states. They have so far failed to learn from the past history of empires and nation states

that flourished and collapsed. The Roman Empire for instance is regarded as the greatest in history and antiquity.

It existed for 2,200 years and still yet ceased to exist. It was founded in 753 B.C. as a city state before it expanded into a big empire with it's territories covering several parts of the world.

The State of Carthage, located on the Eastern side of the Tunisian Lake was one of the most powerful trading hubs in the ancient Mediterranean. It was eventually destroyed by the Romans during the third Punic war in 146 B.C., when it was liquidated with it's population and rubbles buried under the Mediterranean Sea.

The Ottoman Empire existed for over 500 years before its collapse at the conclusion of the first world war in 1918. At its peak, the nation consisted of territories in Eastern and Central Europe, North Africa, and parts of Asia.

The Balkan Federation of Yugoslavia lasted for 62 years and collapsed shortly after Tito's death. Even the Soviet Union which sprouted from the Bolshevik revolution of 1917 disintegrated into sixteen Independent States in 1991 after 72 years of its existence. Czechoslovakia split into two republics, namely: Czech Republic and Slovakia.

In the case of Nigeria, Prof. Ben Nwabueze, has warned that it is wrong to aver that a state which originated from such "monstrous circumstances of arbitrary partitioning", from the Berlin conference and the 1914 amalgamation can be indissoluble. We are into 24 years of civilian democracy and the political class has done

nothing to get rid of the 1999 Constitution which was imposed by the Military Establishment. The legitimacy of the 1999 Constitution has always been a source of contentious arguments and controversies because of the way it came into being.

We recall that in 2007 and 2009 there were lawsuits in the Lagos and Abuja Divisions of the Federal High Court "on the grounds of fraud and forgery, seeking for the termination of its operations and the immediate initiation of a transitioning that would distill the successor constitutional arrangements". The suits were instituted by the arrowheads of the Pro-National Conference Organizations (PRONACO), including Chief Anthony Enahoro, Prof. Wole Soyinka and Dim Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu, amongst others.

It was only the governments of former Presidents Olusegun Obasanjo and Goodluck Jonathan that made feeble efforts at organizing Constitutional Conferences which were scuttled by hegemonic forces that were bent on keeping Nigeria on the way it is presently constituted.

The new Government of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu should be encouraged to act differently. Beyond manifesting early signs of Yoruba triumphalism in pursuit of ethnic arrogance through its takeover of the commanding heights of the national economic and military Institutions, President Tinubu who was one of the leaders that fought the Abacha regime under the NADECO platform should be encouraged to move towards the direction of resolving the substantive issue of an unbalanced federation and the national

question which the engine rooms of the current crises of Nigerian nation state are

Modern Economists have proven the efficacy and huge advantages that accrue to States with huge landmass and populations if it is well harnessed. Such States like USA, China, Brazil, India and Russia owe part of their success story to the proper management of their diversity and size. Nigeria could do same. Nigeria has from the beginning of the Lugardian State being a showcase of an example of a state whose diversity and huge size has been undermined thereby producing the crises of the nation state.

The issue of insecurity in Nigeria should be addressed using both kinetic and non-kinetic approach. The first step in the non-kinetic should be dialogue with dissenting groups. It will cost less and wisdom demands that. The resolution of the crises of the nation state is a key foundation for any meaningful progress towards building a peaceful, prosperous and modern Nigeria. The latent hope for a new Nigeria has always been with us. The realization of Nigeria's potential as the hope of the black man is still possible. It requires hard work, fresh and new political engineering. Luckily there are still redeeming features. The electoral process though greatly flawed still manages to throw up politicians who can still be counted to make fundamental contributions in redeeming the nation.

President Ahmed Tinubu originated from an activism background whose struggles for an equitable and just federation in the 1990's is well recorded in history. Mr. Peter Obi, Dr Alex Otti of Abia State, Sanwo Olu of Lagos State, Pastor Eno of Akwa Ibom State, Engr Seyi Makinde of Oyo State and Gov Diri of Bayelsa State are just some of the brilliant and experienced minds who should be encouraged to step up in the direction of resolving the crises of the Nation State.

the end



Ajaokuta Steel Complex: Symbol Of Nigeria Failed Industrial Policy

Abia's Harvest of Projects

Abia's Harvest of Projects

The Abia State Government under the leadership of Dr. Alex Otti has continued to maintain its trail blazing role in the construction and establishment of projects that are very critical to the Socio-economic well-being of the State. This last quarter of 2023 witnessed a harvest of such projects as could be attested to by the commissioning/flag off of the following projects namely:

1. Commissioning and re-opening of Abia Specialist Hospital/Eyecare Umuahia and Amachara General Hospital



By Amarachi Uzoukwu

The first of such commissioning was on the 27th of September with the re-opening of the rehabilitated and re-equipped Abia Specialist Hospital Aba Road Umuahia and the Amachara General Hospital.

Governor Alex Otti's had used the occasion of the commissioning to reiterate his administration's commitment to fully revitalize the State's Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Healthcare Institutions in other to ensure that citizens have access to quality healthcare.

The Governor also stressed that the decision to place emphasis on improved access to healthcare was informed by the

need to ensure that the citizen have access to quality healthcare in their various communities which would considerably eliminate the need for residents to travel outside the state for medical care.

Dr. Otti also said that the State Government was focused on reducing the burden of disease prevalence in the State, provision of resources for appropriate strategies and multi-disciplinary intervention to improve population health/sanitation and described the rehabilitation of the hospitals as a strategic move by the government to restore the confidence of the people in Public Healthcare Institutions.

Governor Otti equally used

the occasion to state that the government had instituted a mechanism that would ensure that an effective maintenance culture would be enthroned in the health sector especially in the management of the hospitals and noted that plans are underway to set up a wholistic mechanism for sanitizing drug distribution in the state.

Governor Otti in the same vein vowed to prioritize the welfare of healthcare personnel by ensuring timely payment of salaries and other legitimate entitlements while calling for improved customer relationship between healthcare workers and patients.

Governor Otti also revealed that the government and the

leadership of the Healthcare Unions were engaged in discussions on coming up with better incentives package for Health Care Workers and expressed his believe that the package would not only reduce the Japa Syndrome but will attract health care Professionals from the diaspora into the Abia Health Care System

In her own address the State Commissioner for Health, Dr. Ngozi Okoronkwo announced that plans are on for further improvements in the health sector. According to her "we are just getting started with our plans for the health sector and as we roll out our plans, before the end of the first tenure of this administration, you will see a

truly transformed health sector".

Earlier, the Chief medical Director of the Hospital, Dr Francis Agu commended the State Government for the massive reform being executed in the health sector and noted that the reform had yielded significant improvements in healthcare delivery service in the state.

Some of the rehabilitated projects in the hospital includes the eye care center, the completion and enhancement of the general out patient department, the accident and emergency department upgrades as well as the expansion and modernization of two major theatres amongst other initiatives.

Photo Gallery Of The Commissioning Ceremony



Gov Oti flanked by his deputy, Engr. Ikechukwu Emetu at the commissioning ceremony of Amachara General Hospital



Gov Oti with his deputy- Engr. Ikechukwu Emetu, exchanging ideas at the commissioning ceremony.



The Presiding Bishop cutting the tape at the commissioning Ceremony



Some medical/ health officers explaining some points to the Governor during tour of facilities at the Specialist Hospital



Gov Oti flanked by the SSG Prof. Kan Kain, Commissioner for Health, Dr Ngigi Okoronkwo (R), the Deputy Governor, Engr. Ikechukwu Emetu (L) cutting the tape to commission the rebuilt/ reequipped Aho Specialist Hospital, Umuahia.



The Gov acknowledging cheers from the enthusiastic crowd at the commissioning ceremony.



The Governor, Dr Oti (5th left), Engr. Ikechukwu Emetu (4th left), Dr Okoronkwo (2nd right), Dr. Betty Obasi (r) and some management staff of the hospital



Gov Oti with some government functionaries that attended the commissioning ceremony.



9. A reequipped theatre of the hospital.



10. One of the wards/ theatres at the hospital.



14. Entrance view of the Amachara General Hospital Umuahia.

Abia's Harvest of Projects

2.

Gov. Otti Flags off 6-Lane Road Expansion Project (Okpara Square - Ossah - Abia Express Tower)



Gov. Otti (L) with Mazl Otumchere Oti, the Commissioner for works at the ceremony



Gov. Otti flagging off the project



Work in progress at the project site



By Amarachi Uzoukwu

Dr. Alex Otti recently flagged off the construction of a 3.5-kilometer, 6-lane expansion road project, (Okpara Square – Ossah- Abia Express Tower) aimed at enhancing the development of Umuahia, the State capital.

The six lane expansion project is expected to be constructed to high structural standards, incorporating drainage systems and side walks on both sides with approved stone base specifications to include a 200-millimeter base and a 40-millimeter wearing course, among other requirements.

Speaking during the flag off ceremony held at Okpara Square Umuahia, Governor Otti assured of more developmental projects for Umuahia, the capital city and emphasized that the six lane road expansion work would continue from Abia Tower up to the Onuimo axis of the State boarder with Imo State. In his own words, "The other good news is that by the time you get to the Tower from here, we would have completed this phase and given out the contract for the road to continue beyond the Tower into

Onuimo and it is going to be the same specifications; six lanes with walkways and drainage system".

Governor Otti expressed belief that the project would enhance the aesthetics value of Umuahia and establish its rightful status as the capital city.

The Governor who acknowledged the challenges faced in reaching the milestone, emphasized that the state government had persevered in conducting the necessary assessments.

He underscored the government's principle of avoiding undue hardship to its citizens, noting that funds for compensation for the affected 130 claimants were secured before the commencement of demolition ahead of the expansion work.

Governor Otti also disclosed his administration's plans to kickstart the construction of various roads, including Imo River, Owerrinta, Umuene, Obikabia to Ukegbu, Ikot Ekpene, and Aba roads, with the aim of decongesting Aba and improving

traffic flow.

Governor Otti expressed confidence in the construction company's capabilities, describing it as a reputable international firm capable of successfully delivering the project and expressed gratitude to the traditional rulers from the Ossah communities for their support in advancing the government's plans for expanding and enhancing the road infrastructure.

The Commissioner for Works, Engr Don Otumchere Oti in his remarks said the project which marks another milestone of the present administration would be the first six lane project in Abia state and added that the Governor has by this move etched his name on the annals of history.

Engr Otti listed the approved stone base specifications to include a 200-millimeter base and a 40-millimeter wearing course, among other requirements.

"This is the highest structure of any road you can find in this country and we believe that this road is going to stand the test of time", the Commissioner further assured.

Abia's Harvest of Projects

3.

Gov. Otti Flags Off Port Harcourt Road Reconstruction



By Amarachi Uzoukwu

In a significant step towards fulfilling his campaign promise, Abia state Governor, Dr Alex Otti has flagged off the reconstruction of the 6.8 kilometer Port Harcourt Road in Aba with a promise of renewed prosperity and infrastructural development in the state.

The Port Harcourt road Aba, which was constructed in the 1980's during the administration of the late Sam Mbakwe, was once a bustling hub for economic activities but had fallen into disrepair and abandonment since the past two decades because of neglect by previous administrations.

Governor Otti had earlier on April 27th 2023, led representatives of Julius Berger, a reputable civil engineering company on an inspection tour of the Port Harcourt road Aba to get a general overview of the scope of work to be done and other fundamental details that would guide the technical designs and specifications for the reconstruction work.

Speaking during the flag-off

ceremony, Governor Otti, amidst the enthusiastic cheers of a massive crowd, in a speech titled "Building On A Solid Rock Of Excellence", expressed his unwavering commitment to restoring the road to its former glory.

The Governor regretted the decline of the road in the 1990s and its subsequent neglect by previous administrations, emphasized that the reconstruction was not a mere political gesture for short-term gain but a holistic effort to restore the road's durability and economic significance.

He pointed out that his administration enlisted the expertise of Julius Berger Plc in order to ensure the highest quality delivery.

The Government expressed belief that the reconstruction of Port Harcourt Road, Aba will

drive economic rejuvenation and open up the city for economic development and for investments to thrive. In his own words, "I am glad that we are taking yet another strategic step in fulfilling one of my major campaign promises which is to permanently break the jinx of Port Harcourt Road Aba and revive the long-abandoned economic activities along this corridor, activities that once gave Aba a set of peculiar advantages, starting from the early 1980s when our revered leader, Dee Sam Mbakwe, Governor of Old Imo State, constructed this road to feed into the expansion of the booming oil industrial complex in Port Harcourt".

He pledged to complete the payment to Julius Berger on schedule to avoid any setbacks arising from delayed payment

adding that the project has a delivery timeline of 18 months. "My expectation is that whatever needs to be done to meet the target would be done, including working round the clock. On our own part, we have set up a robust financing structure to see that we complete the payment on schedule to eliminate any setbacks arising from payment delays", Otti said.

Governor Otti who expressed gratitude to the people of Aba for their patience and commitment to genuine change, urged them to cooperate fully with the construction team, assuring that the short-term sacrifices would lead to long-term benefits for the economic nerve center of the state.

The Governor said that his administration's ambition is to

reset the fundamentals of the city by improving economically significant roads, waste management, and various social infrastructure as well as creating a conducive environment for businesses to thrive, job creation and poverty reduction and assured the people that his administration was dedicated to delivering on his electoral promises adding that the forthcoming months would witness a significant transformation in the city's infrastructure and economic landscape.

In his remarks, the Group managing Director Julius Berger Nigeria Limited, Dr Lars Richter said that the company would deliver the project based on specification, describing the project as another milestone for the four months old administration of Governor Alex Otti.

He commended Governor Alex Otti for his commitment to the infrastructural revolution of the state and thanked him for making Julius Berger part of his rebuilding agenda of the state

I am glad that we are taking yet another strategic step in fulfilling one of my major campaign promises which is to permanently break the jinx of Port Harcourt Road Aba

Photo Gallery of the Flag-off of PortHarcourt Road



Abia's Harvest of Projects

4. GOV Otti Performs Abia Industrial Innovation Park Ground Breaking

...Promises Massive Economic Dev, Job Creation



Stories by Amarachi Uzoukwu

Dr Alex Otti has also performed the ground breaking for the Abia Industrial Innovation Park (AIIP) at Owaza Ukwu West Local Government Area of the state with a promise of massive economic development of the state among others.

The project situated on over 1000 hectares of land in the three oil rich communities of Owaza, Uzuaku and Okohia will house manufacturing concerns such as technology innovation center, modern vehicle Assembly plant, Power generation plant, LNG & CNG tank farms as well as Haulage and Ware housing facilities.

Others include, an agricultural storage and processing facilities, modular refinery, Mini seaport, sports kits and equipment production facility as well as a carbon neutral residential estate.

Speaking at the ceremony, Governor Otti described the event as a watershed moment in the economic history of Abia State noting that the AIIP was conceived to serve as a launch pad for Abia's economic rejuvenation.

The Governor noted that Abia would leverage on the many advantages of the project, including the oil and gas deposits, nearness to Aba and Port Harcourt cities, abundance of skilled labour and a secure environment for smooth and uninterrupted production and other industrial activities.

"All necessary approvals will also be sought for the designation of the Park as an Export Processing and Free Trade Zone. AIIP is poised to make history as the first cluster in Nigeria, where LPG, CNG, Jet fuel, PMS and Diesel production tank farms will be co-located with other supporting infrastructure for more efficient and commercial production of our own made-in Nigeria liquid fuel. "This will help eliminate the liquid fuel scarcity problems in the country", he said.

According to him, what his administration has done in the last few months was to build trust amongst stakeholders; assuring that they would henceforth proceed with speed and ensure that the massive goodwill the project has garnered would be sustained and accomplished within a very reasonable length of time, promising to disappoint critics who see the project as another white elephant project.

In his words, "Our vision is clear and our goal direct: we want to responsibly harness the abundant oil and gas reserves within Ukwu land for the economic development of the communities within, the state and the regions connected to this project location."

He emphasized that the project would create jobs opportunities, with local businesses empowered while multiple channels of economic expansion would be established for entrepreneurs

within and outside the immediate community and clarified that the Industrial Park project was different from similar ideas and proposals presented by previous administrations in Abia which did not see the light of the day, assuring that his government would hit the ground running to achieve timely completion of the project.

The Governor who noted that Ukwu land has suffered untold neglect in the past decades promised that "the Abia Industrial and Innovation Park shall exploit the oil and gas wealth in Owaza to drive the socio-economic development of Ukwu land and assured the host community that his government would keep to its own part of the bargain.

He used the opportunity to disclose that his administration was working on several proposals to set up agro-processing hubs in all LGAs of the State focusing extensively on products that each LGA has comparative advantage.

In his address, Deputy Speaker, Federal House of Representatives, Hon. Benjamin Kalu, emphasized that the AIIP project embodies the essence of progress, innovation, and economic development adding that it is a transformative journey aimed at sustaining economic growth, generating employment opportunities, and positioning Abia State as a hub for innovation and industrialization.

Kalu pledged his commitment to collaborate with the Governor, regardless of political affiliations, and assured that the federal government would partner with the state to ensure the sustainability of industrialization initiatives such as the AIIP project which is in line with its renewed hope agenda.

The Deputy speaker emphasized that the economic and trade policy reforms by the federal government was aimed at creating a favorable business environment, designed to stimulate investments and unlock the nation's potential which he said aligns with the Abia State government's project led by Dr. Alex Otti. In his own words "

"We understand that a conducive legislative framework is critical to the success of initiatives such as the AIIP. Our legislative agenda is centered around creating an environment that encourages innovation, entrepreneurship and sustainable development.

"We are actively working on bills and policies aimed at promoting SMEs and ease of doing business that will attract both local and foreign investments",

Kalu while commending Governor Otti for his commitment to improving the lives of Abians, emphasized that Abia State's industrialization would not just be a dream but a well-thought-out strategy aligned with national goals of self-sufficiency and economic prosperity.

He noted that the partnership between federal and state governments and all stakeholders involved in the project was a testament to their collective commitment to progress.

In their separate remarks, the Representatives of Shell Petroleum, Mr Osagie Osumbo, Executive Director Total Energies, Mr Obi Imeremba and the Representative of Oil and Gas Free Trade Zone, Mr. Morgan Umahi extolled Governor Otti for the laudable

initiative. They were all in agreement that the AIIP will be a melting point for industrialization and development of Abia state with its enormous potentials.

They gave assurances of their support and collaboration with the Abia state government in other to ensure its early realization . They projected that the project would witness an influx of investors to the zone.

The Commissioner for Petroleum and Mineral Resources, Prof. Joel Ogbonna in his own remarks said that the park would provide limitless investment opportunities that would impact all sectors of the state's economy and called on "all hands to be on deck", adding that collaborative efforts of stakeholders would play a significant role in the actualization of the project.

The Chief Executive Officer of AIIP, Mr. Chinedu Onyeizu, said that the park would serve as a strategic business environment that would lay a solid foundation for a renewed Abia and added that the park would accelerate economic development of Abia in line with the policy thrust of the government to promote creation of generational wealth and massive industrial advancement.

Also, the Executive Secretary of Nigerian Local Content Development and Monitoring Board, Mr. Simbi Wambote, said that manufacturing remains the only way to reposition the economy. He asserted that "This project is well thought out and this will give Abia its rightful position as a manufacturing hub".

"We will work with you 'hand in glove' to share our knowledge and experience with you to ensure that it is a success," Wambote said

The highlight of the occasion was the flag off by Gov Otti of the Total CNG Project which is being built by Total Support Energy Group.

Abia Innovation Industrial Park



1. Gov Otti flanked by National Assembly members from Abia State delivering his address at the inauguration of AIIP projects at Ukwue



2. Gov Otti, Engr. Ikechukwu Emetu and others, standing still for the Nigerian National Anthem at the AIIP project flag off



3. The Governor set to lay the foundation stone of AIIP project



The game changer and trailblazer, Dr Otti arriving the venue of the AIIP inauguration



Dr Otti (2nd right) being assisted by Deputy Speaker, (FIR) Hon Ben Kalu (1st right) and others laying the foundation stone of the project



Sen Darlington Nwokoche and Hon. Nmerighi the Hon Deputy Speaker at the Occasion



Total Nigerian PLC Top official, Engr. Onwuka Orok, Hon. Lukman Uhara (SSA, State House of Assembly Matters), Engr. Emynosa Okereke (LNG Boney) and Mazi Jones Ika (GM ANPC) at the event



Some Traditional Rulers at the Event



4. Deputy speaker, Hon Ben Kalu (with mic) and flanked by his colleagues in the National Assembly, making a speech of AIIP inauguration.



Deputy Chief of Staff Mr. Chinedu Ekeke, Com. for Information Prince Okey Kanu and Special Adviser (IGR) Mazi Chimereme Okoigbo Putting heads together at the event



Mazi Jones Ika the GM Abia Newspapers and publishing Corporation with Mazi Ugochukwu Okoro for the Special Adviser (Project Monitoring and Evaluation)

Corporate Supplement

TOTALSUPPORT ENERGY GROUP

Thirty-three years ago, we set out from being Schlumberger Engineers, to overturn some strongly held views about local companies in the Nigerian Oil industry. Schlumberger was naturally our first client seeing that the owners of the group are largely Schlumberger Alumni. Within 6 months of operation, we had put out performance statistics that exceeded all the locally & internationally accepted standards. Our superiority in performance & cost effectiveness justifies our persistence.

TECHNIQUE: We know that investment in superior technique in both management & maintenance of our equipment/facilities results in measurable savings to ourselves and our clients

CLIENTELE & PARTNERSHIPS: Because we are committed to what we do, ... we tend to also have very committed and serious-minded clients. These includes blue-chip companies like Schlumberger (33+yrs), Shell(23yrs), NLNG(20yrs), MTNN (9yrs), DUFIL PLC(12yrs); Ariaria Int'l Market (3yrs).

We have also strategically partnered with world-class companies to ensure efficient, safe and timely project delivery. These include Kelley Group Inc, GE (General Electric), Agrekkio; Cryosys Inc., Mesa NG Solutions; Atlas-Copco, Gaumer Process, Bison NZ,

PERSONNEL: Our personnel remains our most valuable asset. From our drivers to maintenance & operations/management team, you will find a cohesive and responsive group of young, experienced and willing-to-perform personnel.

FIELDS OF INTEREST: Clean Energy production, optimization, utilization & Management; Engineering Audits; Gas-Process & Clean-up; Logistics; Safety; Personnel & Equipment Optimization.

PERSONNEL & COMPANY HEADCOUNT

THE GROUP Headcount as at end of end of Q1-2023 is 192 comprising mostly engineers and technicians working mainly at client sites.

AFFILIATIONS

We also tap into the pooled resources of the Gerson Lehman Group: Council of Energy Advisors - Association of leading Electrical Engineers, Petroleum Geologists, Consultants and Energy Professionals who collaborate part-time with investment professionals to promote business innovation and investor education.

FOUNDING VALUES AND PRINCIPLES:

Totalsupport Energy Group is a principle-centered group, founded on the following values:

- The highest ethical standards, unparalleled professionalism.
- Unmatched performance.
- Outstanding value, lasting relationships, Passion, Trust.

As the company owners are on the front line of the project team and client interface, customers are assured that their projects receive the highest level of attention in the Group.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ubani Nkaginieme - PhD.

President - Totalsupport Energy Group

- Education: Electrical Engineering(UNN; Harvard)
- Schlumberger Certified Professional Engineer
- Lead-Engineer of The Gershon Lehrman Group & Council of Energy Advisors - Association of leading Electrical Engineers, Petroleum Geologists, Consultants and Energy Professionals who collaborate part-time with investment professionals to promote business innovation and investor education.

WORK: Schlumberger 1981-1990

Totalsupport Ltd 1990-To Date

Professional Affiliations: IEE, NSE, GFE, SPE Donald Duttlinger. Donald Duttlinger, Non-Executive Director



FAT AI CRYOSYS-COREWORKS

Don Duttlinger became Executive Director of Totalsupport in July 2001. Prior to joining Totalsupport, Duttlinger also served as onshore operations & training manager for Mobil Producing in West Africa from 1994-1997.

Duttlinger began his petroleum career in the wire-line division of Schlumberger Technical Services in South East Asia, working on exploration and production projects from 1982-89.

Duttlinger earned an MBA degree from Louisiana State University specializing in International Business in 1991, and a BS degree in Construction Management Engineering with a major in Electrical Engineering from Purdue University in 1981. He has been a licensed professional engineer in Texas since 1992. Duttlinger is a member of AAPG, HGS, SEG, SPE.

Mary Bassey Executive Director

WORK: NNPC: 1998-2001

Totalsupport Ltd: 2001 To Date.

B.A History and International Relations with a Masters in Business Administration(MBA) - Marketing An member of the Chartered Institute of Personnel Management(CIPM). A certified counsellor from the London Institute of Counselling.

Patrick Aneji - CPA Executive Director

Totalsupport Ltd: 2016 To Date. Certified Public

Accountant

ADVISORY BOARD

Totalsupport Energy Group has a stellar Advisory Board. These include: Kehinde Durosimi-Etti (Former Group-MD Skye Bank Plc), Chima Ibeneche -(Ex-MD, NLNG); Eyo Ekpo (immediate past Commissioner at NERC), Prof Tony Ibe (Distinguished Professor Of Electrical Engineering); Ikechi Anozie(Recently retired HSE GM - TotalEnergies)

Between 2000 and 2005 Totalsupport had grown to become a major player in energy production and logistics support with special focus and bias for the Nigerian Oil & Gas sector.

In 2005, Totalsupport Group took a strategic forward-looking decision to focus on clean energy production, management and distribution.

We intend to become the top African Clean Energy Company with a very special and primary focus on Nigeria, starting with the Niger-Delta region.

In line with above strategic decision, we have since the end of 2005 streamlined our operations and focused our investments in new Modular Clean Power and Fuels projects.

In pursuit of above new focus, we have committed equity investments, and will continue to invest in new, viable, sensible, environmentally-friendly projects as in the summary list below



LNG Vaporiser Skid

RECENT TOTALSUPPORT PROJECTS

2014-2016

- Delivery Of Captive IPPS For Schlumberger Facilities.
- Delivery Of Captive IPP For University Of Port Harcourt
- Ongoing Strategic Logistics Partnership With Nigeria Railways
- Ongoing Due-diligence & Supervision For Shell Cdm Projects

2017-2023

- Ongoing IPP Development For Federal Universities(energize Education)
- Ongoing IPP Development For Large Markets(energize Economies)
- Ongoing Strategic Logistics Partnership With Nigeria Railways
- Ongoing Flare-Gas-to-Power & Fuels For OML-26 Cluster Communities
- Ongoing Flare-Gas-to-Power & Fuels For OML-56 Cluster Communities
- Just Delivered Ariaria Int'l Market IPP & Energy Solutions
- Ongoing 774 Power & Fuels-islands Project
- Ongoing 2000 Cell Sites Power Projects
- Ongoing Flares-out Project For Heirs Holding Oil & Gas -(HHOG) For Their Agbada, Obigbo, Umuechem & Nkali Flow-stations
- Just Delivered IPP For Idongesit Nkanga Secretariat, Uyo, Akwa-ibom State
- Ongoing Power & Fuels Islands For 18 LGAs In Akwa-Ibom State
- Ongoing CNG & LNG Mother Stations At Uyo & Ikot-Abasi In Akwaibom State
- Ongoing IPP For 1004-estates Victoria-island, Lagos

Totalsupport Energy Group



Hon Minister of State Tempre Silva inspecting our Containerized CNG Refueling Station



LNG Cold Box Column Under Construction



GTM Trucks At Dufil Daughter Station



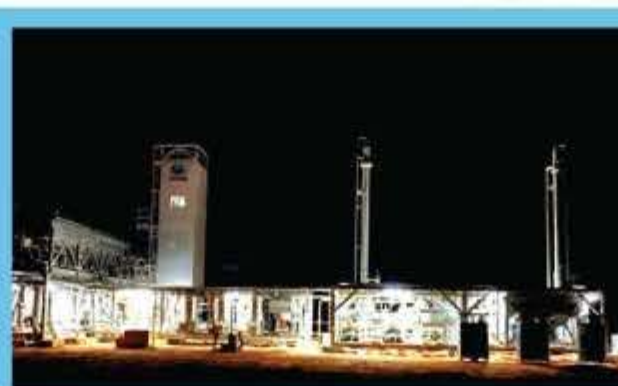
FAT At Gaumer Process



Train-1 Will Process up to 10MMSCFD



Totalsupport Mesa 350kw Flare-Gas Gens Delivered To Midwestern-Kwale



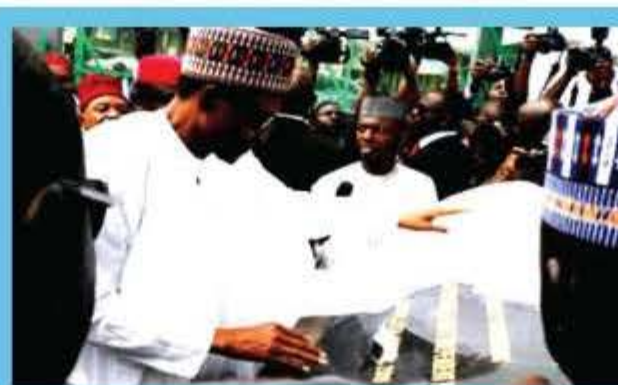
40,000 Gallons/day LNG Plant Being Tested



NGEP Power (CNG, LPG, LNG, ELECTRIC CHARGING) ISLANDS



Ariaria Int'l Market IPP Abu



President Buhari Commissions Ariaria Int'l IPP Abu on 29th Jan 2019



Customized MESA 350KW Mobile Gasgens

Features

Abia Judiciary Marks Commencement Of 2023-2024 Legal Year

By Chinyere Nwachukwu/Kelechi Eme-Ogidi



Abia Chief Judge, Hon Justice Lilian Abai And Other Senior Justices And Staff Of The State High Court At The Legal Year Commencement

It was glitz and glamour as legal luminaries both within and outside Abia State stormed God's own State for the celebration of the commencement of 2023/2024 legal year on Thursday, October 5th, 2023 in an elaborate ceremony that included a Church Service held at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Chapel Umuahia, a Special High Court Session and a Cocktail/Dinner Party. The theme of this legal year celebration was "Independence Of The Judiciary: A Gateway To A Free Democratic Society".

The customary celebration of the commencement of the legal year remains a very important calendar of events in the Judiciary as it affords them the opportunity to take stock of how it has fared in the preceding years, examine its roles and public perception. It also affords the stakeholders in the administration of Justice in the State, particularly, the members of the Bar, the rare opportunity to remind Judicial Officers of the need for them to remain incorruptible, impartial and courageous in the discharge of their duties.

The commencement of the 2023/2024 legal year celebration was kick started with a Cocktail/ Dinner Banquet Party held on the eve of October 5, 2023.

The event was attended by Gov. Alex Otti and his wife, Lady Priscilla Otti, Chief Judge of the State, His lordship, Justice Lilian Abai, President Customary Court of Appeal, Hon Justice Okey Nwamuo, Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, Barr Ikechukwu Uwana, the immediate past Chief Judge of the State, Hon Justice Kalu Arisa Ogwe, Judges of the Federal and State High Courts, visiting Judges from Anambra and Imo State and former Chief of Army Staff, General Onyeabo Ihejirika.

Other attendees included the Secretary to the State

Government, Prof. Kenneth Kalu, Chief of Staff to the Governor, Pastor Caleb Ajagba, members of the State Executive Council, Chairmen of the different Bar Associations and Judges from various jurisdictions.

Governor Otti while speaking at the banquet party congratulated them on the commencement of the 2023/2024 legal year and expressed optimism that the new year would come with greater things for the Abia Judiciary. He also commended the existing relationship between the Executive and Judiciary arms of government while urging them not to relent in their support for the present administration.

Gov Otti also used the opportunity to give a brief scorecard of his administration's effort in piloting the affairs of the state while pledging commitment to take Abia to greater heights and noted that quite contrary to unscrupulous media reports, Abia State under the present administration is safe and habitable for citizens and investors alike to do their legitimate business.

At the well-attended Thanksgiving Church Service held at Queen Elizabeth Specialist Hospital Chapel Umuahia,

the Chaplain, the very Rev. Ernest Onyeukwu noted that people that worship God, live well and are different from others.

Preaching on the topic "Worship His Majesty", Rev Onyeukwu, who said that David celebrated the greatness of God and was honoured, reminded Christians that outside God, they might have crisis and enjoined all to recognize the supremacy of God in all their undertaking.

Other activities in the church service included a special intercessory prayers offered for the Judiciary as well as thanksgiving to God by members of the Judiciary in the State.

In a vote of thanks, The Chief Registrar, His worship, Mrs. Victoria Okey-Nwokeukwu on behalf of the Chief Justice thanked God for a successful legal year.

At the formal opening of the 2023/2024 held at the High Court of Justice Umuahia, the Chief Judge, His Lordship Hon. Justice Lilian Agbai inspected a guard of honour mounted by the Nigeria Police Force.

In her address, Justice Agbai reiterated that an Independent Judiciary still remains the greatest asset of a free society anywhere in the world adding that it remains the cornerstone of a democratic society and a safeguard for the freedom and rights of citizens under the rule of law. She maintained that Judicial Independence and Integrity must be a priority in the fight to secure human rights at the domestic level.

The Chief Judge further said that an Independent Judiciary serves as a vital pillar of justice in a democratic society as it helps to maintain checks and balances in the democratic system.

She used the opportunity to x-ray some of her achievements within her short period as the Chief Judge to include staff training, relocating the library unit to a more suitable location within the High Court premises and with better equipment, renovation works as well as giving a face lift to the Child Day Care Centre, provision of internet connectivity within the premises of the High Court etc.

Justice Abai also commended the Abia State Government for commencing steps towards implementing the provision of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 as altered on financial autonomy to the State legislature and Judiciary and for the timely intervention of His Excellency Governor Alex Otti in the Provision of five new SUV's to five Judges who have no official vehicles allocated to them since their appointment several years ago.

Justice Abai equally enumerated some of the challenges facing the Abia Judiciary to include poor and decaying infrastructure, lack of modern facilities and urged the Abia State government to do more to ameliorate the situation. In his own speech, Gov.Otti represented by the Attorney

General and Commissioner for Justice, Mr. Ikechukwu Uwanna stated that the ceremony calls for a reflection on the performance of the Judicial Officers in the past year and also an opportunity for projections into the new year with a resolve to upholding the integrity of the bench as well as ensure justice to all without fear or favour.

Mr. Uwanna said that the Abia State Government was engaging stakeholders towards ensuring that the bill for the financial autonomy of the judiciary was domesticated locally while appealing to Judiciary Association of Nigeria (JUSUN) not to embark on strike again and further assured that the issue of pension and gratuities for retired judges would soon be a thing of the past while pledging unalloyed support to the judiciary.

In their separate speeches, the Chairmen of Nigeria Bar Association, Aba, Umuahia, Ohafia, Isiala Ngwa and Ukwu branches all chorused the fact that the New legal year ceremony was unique, introspective and restated that the importance of an Independent Judiciary in a democratic society cannot be overemphasized. The NBA Chairmen also stated that the Judiciary can only play the role of the "last hope of the common man" satisfactorily if the system remains incorruptible and outside the influence of other powers and authorities.

They further opined that for the Courts to be effective in delivering justice, the general public must have confidence in its ability to do so and that this confidence can only be built when there is Independence of the Judiciary and they all re-commit themselves to upholding the principle of justice, equity and the rule of law.

Photo Gallery Of Legal Year Ceremony



The judges in a procession arriving during the thanksgiving service



Top echelons of the Abia Judiciary at the special court session to mark the commencement of legal year



Judges and lawyers at the church service



The chief judge taking salute from the Nigerian Police Force



Nigeria police contingent on parade entertaining the crowd



The elegant Abia State Chief Judge, His Lordship, Justice Lilian Abai,



Judges in a group photograph after the church service



Time for thanksgiving



Prayer time for the judges



Judges at the church service to mark the event



Worshippers at the service



Cross session of judges at the service



The Chief Judge (right), Mrs Abai, the President Customary Court of Appeal, Justice Okey Nwamwo and the clergies at the church service

Photo Gallery Of Legal Year Ceremony



Member of the bench at the thanks giving service



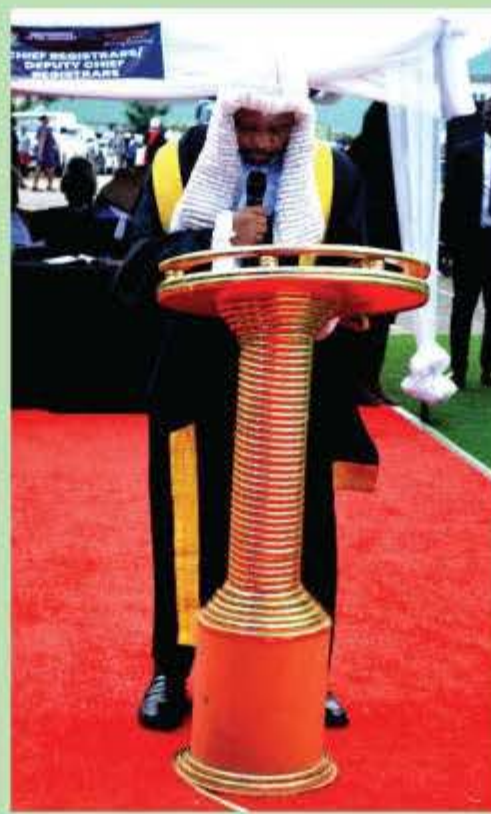
The Attorney General & Com. for Justice Barr. Ikechukwu Uwanna (r) at the Church Service



Rev Ernest Onyeukwu praying for the Judges



Chief Justice Abai with Chief Registrar His Worship, Mrs. Victoria Okey-Nwokeukwu



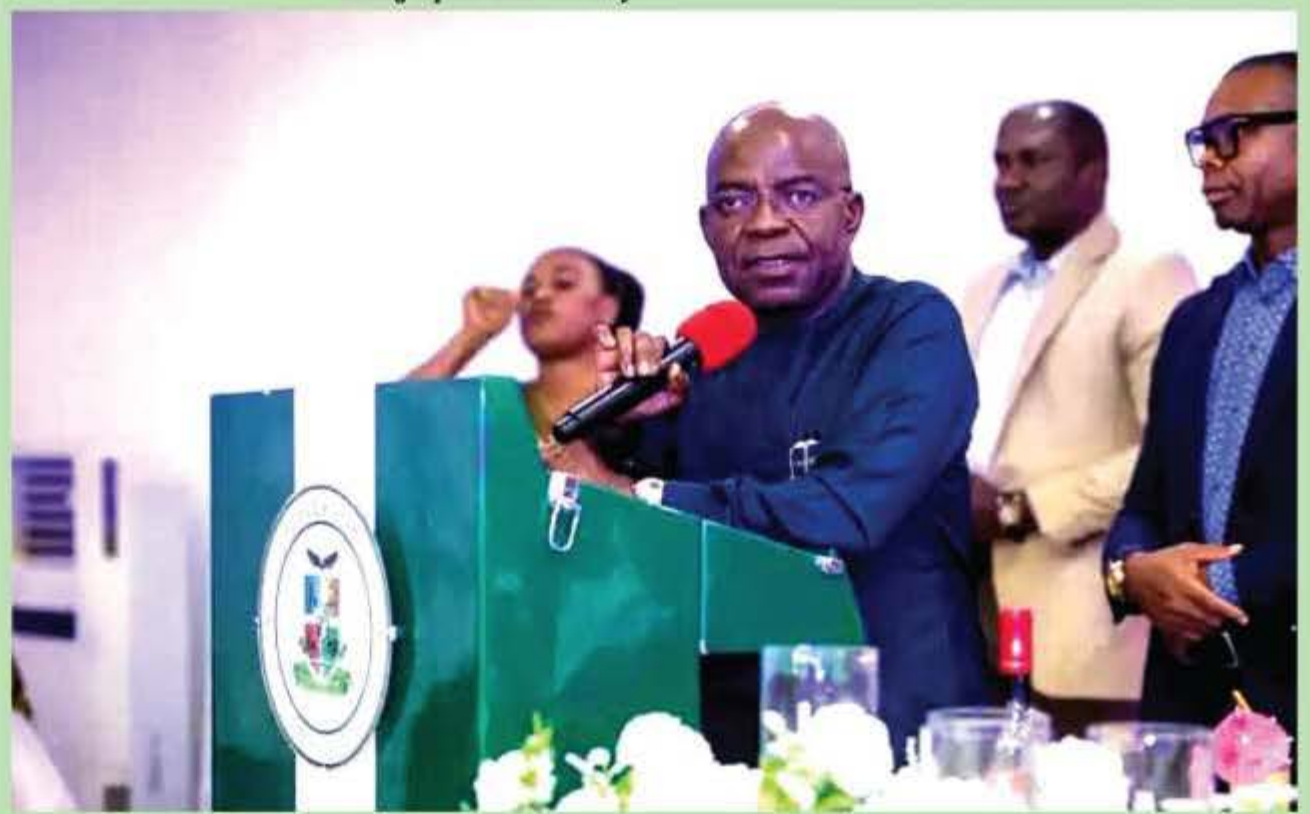
Attorney General Barr. Ikechukwu Uwana making a speech at the ceremony



One of the NBA Chairmen delivering his address



The governor in warm hand shake with some top notches of the state judiciary



Gov Otti making a speech at the gala nite



Gov Otti, Wife and the Chief Judge with others at the gala night



Prayer time before the gala nite



Gov Otti (4th left), Mrs. Otti (5th left), Chief Justice Lilian Abai at the gala nite



Gov Otti & wife (left), Chief Judge Abai at the dinner nite.

Gov. Otti's UNN Outing

GOV Otti Advocates Comprehensive Policy Framework On Impact Of Fuel Subsidy Removal

Stories by Amarachi Uzoukwu

Abia State Governor, Dr. Alex Otti, has shared insights on the contentious issue of fuel subsidy removal by the Federal Government, acknowledging the decision as a step in the right direction.

Governor Otti who was a guest Lecturer at the 63rd Founders Day of the University of Nigeria Nsukka (UNN) made his feelings known in a thought-provoking lecture titled "Fuel Subsidy Removal: Dealing with the Challenges, Harnessing the Opportunities", expressed belief that the decision to eliminate fuel subsidy was long overdue, and should have been implemented years ago.

The Governor, however, highlighted the critical importance of effective policy communication, particularly when introducing reforms that may disrupt established systems and emphasized that transparent and timely communication could have mitigated some of the concerns and resistance raised by citizens concerning the fuel subsidy removal.

He said that the federal government had not done enough to educate the public about the issues at stake and the economic risks associated with continuing the subsidy.

He noted, "One thing I have learnt in communicating policies and plans is that you can never get everyone to agree with your proposals. However, sincere and clear communication using various channels would help on two fronts: buy you genuine public support and give your audience an opportunity to understand your intentions better."

"The removal of fuel subsidy was clearly the right decision and should have been done about ten years ago or earlier but even then, I am of the considered opinion that more could have been done to insulate the public from the anticipated shocks.

See also Gov Otti Flags off Reconstruction of Port Harcourt Road Aba, Promises Economic Resurgence and Infrastructural Development "Being a policy that would introduce shock into the system, I believe it should have been communicated better. I do not think that much was done to properly educate the public on the

issues at stake and the danger continued payment of subsidy posed to the economic health of the country".

Governor Otti also spoke on the misconception that fuel subsidies were primarily government handouts to the poor and highlighted that evidence suggested the poor did not



The erudite guest lecturer & Abia State Governor, Dr. Alex Chioma Otti (DPR) delivering the Lecture



Dr Otti Exchanging views with UNN vice-chancellor, Prof Charles Igwe



Guest lecturer going through his note

benefit as previously believed. He said that Nigeria's universal price subsidy for petrol disproportionately benefits the wealthy, unlike in other developing countries where subsidies often target essential goods consumed by the poor.

Otti emphasized the adverse impact of subsidy-driven imports on

domestic refining investments, as profit-seeking investors struggle to compete with subsidized fuel prices and noted that the lack of investment in local refining has had severe economic consequences, including job losses and hampering the growth of related industries.

He cited examples from other nations, like Angola and Senegal, where governments strategically retained subsidies on essential

products for the poor while reducing others and encouraged a similar approach in Nigeria.

The Governor called for the development of a more comprehensive policy framework to support specific areas of need identified by the World Bank and suggested that measures such as subsidized mass transit, cash transfers, food assistance, and low-interest agricultural loans should have been considered to support the urban and rural poor.

He expressed concerns that the removal of fuel subsidy had exacerbated living conditions for citizens and urged the immediate implementation of robust policies to address rising poverty and unemployment.

Governor Otti who shared several initiatives undertaken by the Abia State government to mitigate the effects of fuel subsidy removal, such as tax holidays for micro, small, and medium enterprises, free medical services, disclosed plans by his administration to mitigate the effects of fuel subsidy removal on Abia civil servants.

"We are presently working on a template to pay transport-support allowance to civil servants starting from this month. Our plan is to raise current salaries by a certain percentage depending on grade levels. The aim is to cushion the harsh impact of the rising inflationary trend on their earnings and support them to provide the basic things for their families", Otti said.

In his address, the Vice Chancellor of the Institution, Prof Charles Arizechukwu Igwe said that the Founder's Day celebration of the UNN is an annual event to commemorate the birth of the first Indigenous University in Oct 1960 by Dr Nnamdi Azikiwe.

Prof Igwe noted that Governor Otti was chosen to deliver the 63rd lecture based on his uncommon achievements which would serve to inspire and motivate the staff, students and alumni of the Institution.

He said the lecture titled, Petroleum Subsidy Removal; Dealing with the challenges, harnessing the opportunities", is intended to create a state for serious reflections and discussions on issues of national and global interest.

The event which was chaired by Professor Elochukwu Amaechazi was attended by the Governor of Enugu State Chief Peter Mbah represented by the Information Commissioner Enugu Mr Aka Eze Aka, the Vice Chancellor ABSU Professor Maxwell Ogbulu, members of the Abia state Executive Council, the Academia, Abia Indigenes in Enugu among others.

Gov. Otti's UNN Outing



Dr Otti (centre), Prof Igwe (left) and others at the event



Guest lecturer displaying the plaque presented to him at the event



Dr Otti with members of the UNN management at the event



The erudite guest lecturer & Abia State Governor, Dr. Alex Chioma Otti (OFR) delivering the Founders Day lecture



Guest lecturer going through his note



Prof. Elo Amuchiazu the Chairman of the event, making his speech



A cross section of guests at the event



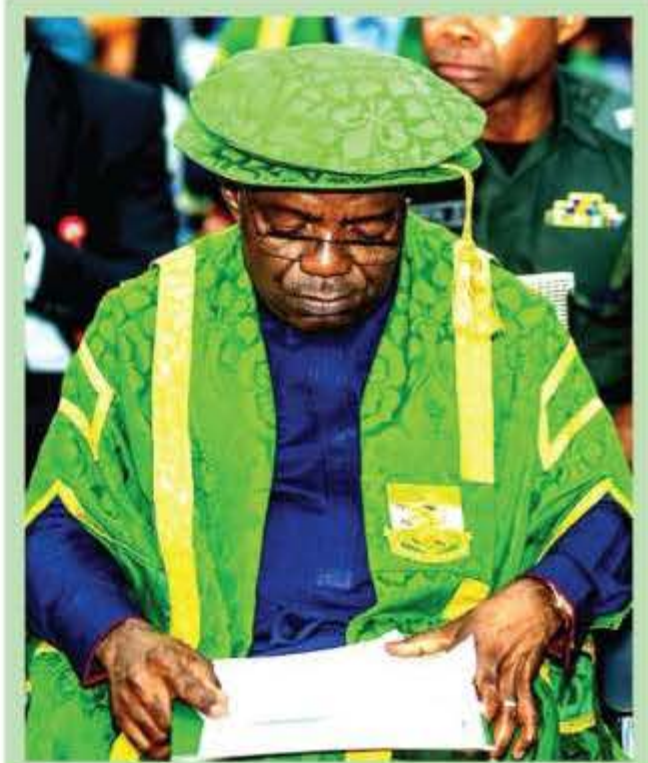
Prof. Igwe the VC UNN delivering his keynote address



A cross section of crowd at the event



Dr. Otti (c) flanked by prof. Ogbulu (VC ABSU) (l) and Top Management Staff of UNN at the Occasion



Dr. Otti Concentrating at the event

A Special Supplement:

ASEPA In The Vanguard Of The Fight Against Filth

By Kingsley Ugorji

In the past, Abia State had the unenviable record of being regarded as one of the dirtiest states in Nigeria. The major cities of Aba and Umuahia wore such badge of dishonor for a long time.

Its major cities of Aba and Umuahia were the reference points for such dishonor tag in the country for several years.

It was such scenario that made incumbent Governor Alex Otti to declare a state of emergency in the sanitation sector on assumption of office

He had followed up that declaration with the setting up of a Special Task Force on Sanitation and Environmental Protection headed by Mazi Ogbornia Okereke

Few months down the line, most objective observers can attest to the new look the State is now wearing in terms of cleanliness. In fact, major parts of both Umuahia and Aba now wear clean looks as a permanent badge of honor.

This is all thanks to the hard work and self-sacrifice of the men and women of the Abia Environmental Protection Agency who toil tirelessly to ensure that the streets of our urban centres are kept clean.

Specifically, the achievements of ASEPA under the leadership of Mazi Ogbornia Okereke can be itemized as follows

i. Revamping and revitalizing ASEPA by getting the Staff on track and in making them aware of their statutory roles of which they are meant to fulfill, which is all about environmental protection.

ii. Putting an enabling environment in place to properly protect the environment of Abia State

iii. Improving waste handling and disposal systems through private sector participation in waste management system. This system does not mean waste evacuation only but an end-to-end waste management system. That is from generation point to collection, disposal, to further processing and conversion for energy and other useful purposes just as it is done in other states and outside the country.

In the words of Mazi Okereke, "It is a business and we are handling it as such. It is for these reason that we are collaborating with the private sector especially those that have the capacity that will assist us to achieve our aim.

Once this new system is completed in place, ASEPA will reduce its waste collection and function roles and be more of a regulatory and supervisory agency that creates the enabling environment for private sector participation".

Recently ASEPA achieved a major milestone in this direction when it handed over the engagement letters to the five contractors that emerged as the successful bidders in its earlier advertised bids for private sector participation in waste management.

Mazi Okereke, while presenting letters to Companies that won the bids for private participation in waste management at the ASEPA Headquarters Umuahia said that the exercise marks a new dawn in the waste management initiative of the present administration and described waste management as a big business, pointing out that the exercise was a good step towards making the state one of the ten cleanest States in the Country.

Mr Okereke recalled that the State Governor, Dr. Alex Otti, OFR had on



MAZI OGBONNIA OKEREKE, GM. ASEPA ABIA STATE

assumption of office declared "A State Of Emergency On Waste", pointing out that since then, the environmental cleanliness of the State has changed for good.

He assured that the State government through ASEPA would supervise and monitor the activities of the companies selected for participation in waste evacuation and management, and also give them the necessary support to do well.

The ASEPA General Manager disclosed that the second phase of the exercise will be rolled out soon and urged the companies to commence work from the 30th of October 2023, pointing out that their performances will be monitored.

The ASEPA General Boss disclosed that the exercise which is a global best practices will equally generate employment opportunities.

Responding on behalf of the Companies that won the bid, the representatives of Clean Green Nigeria Limited thanked the State government for the confidence reposed in them and assured that they would carry out their assignment credibly.

Some of the Companies that received their letters of awards includes -: Easy On Nigeria Limited, Pinnacle Integrated Services, Pec Multi-Concept, Clean Green Nigerian Limited and Povic Chek Cold Limited.

Other Programs of ASEPA includes;

- i. Regular inspection of Industries, Hotel, Eateries, etc to ensure compliance to approved standards and regulation
- ii. Massive tree planting to help curb the effect of global warming
- iii. Putting a system in place to review

educational enlightenment programs like "ASEPA Educational".

ASEPA Educational is a "Catch them young" educational project that is programmed to educate children at an early age to inculcate friendly and positive environmental behavioral trait and create environmental awareness knowledge in them.

The program is aimed at raising a generation that places value and commitment on the preservation and protection of their environment. Its focus is at the primary school level. Environmental clubs will be formed to sustain the structure.

Re-establishment of mobile courts for monitoring and enforcement of offenders

- Engage in training students offering environmental and health related courses in tertiary schools in practicum and demonstrations

- Continuous and aggressive public enlightenment and sensitization of the Abia populace on environmentally friendly habits and practices

- Daily, weekly and monthly clean up exercises in the State.

- Review of Environmental Audit Report (EAR) and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of different companies in the State to ensure compliance to standards and regulations.

- Re-accreditation of sewage disposal contractors in the State to know how and where they discharge their sewage.



ASEPA Workers clearing the refuse dumps



Some of the ASEPA equipment clearing Abia roads of waste dumps



ASEPA Projects



Mazi Okereke on duty line ensuring a new dawn of cleanliness in Abia State



ASEPA GM and his team monitoring the task of keeping Abia clean



ASEPA men on duty of keeping Abia clean



The General Manager encouraging the staff and other stakeholders in environmental waste not to waver in the task of keeping Abia clean



Mazi Okereke and his team strategizing on how to accomplish the objective



Some of the private Contractors receiving their engagement letters



A successful bidder receiving his letter of engagement



Some of the equipment on duty evacuating refuse waste



ASEPA staff defying the odds to achieve the task



Another private participator receiving his letter of engagement.



The hardworking ASEPA women who sweep and ensure that Abia roads are clean and tidy

Community News

Late Prof Joe Irukwu Laid To Rest Amidst Tributes From Otti, Ohaneze, Others

By Amarachi Uzoukwu & Ngozi Nwaubani



Gov Alex Otti (c) Mrs. Arunma Oteh and Fmr. Gov. Udom Emmanuel

The remains of the former President General of Ohaneze Ndigbo Worldwide, Late Prof Joseph Ogonnaya Irukwu has been laid to rest in his hometown, Amokwe Item in Bende Local Government Area of the state.

Aged 89, late Prof Irukwu was until his death was the doyen of insurance in Nigeria, a seasoned administrator, a legal luminary and an illustrious Igbo son.

The event attracted the presence of former Governor of Akwa Obom state, Chief Udom Emmanuel, Wife of former Governor of Oyo state, Mrs Florence Ajumobi, Former DG, Nigeria Securities and Exchange Commission, Ms. Arunma Oteh, Rt.Gen Ike Nwachukwu, Former Nigerian Ambassador to Augentina, Chief Empire Kanu as well as the President General, Ohaneze Ndigbo Worldwide, Chief Emmanuel Iwuanyanwu.

Others included; Sen Enyinnaya Abaribe, Members of the National and state Assembly, former National Assembly members including Sen Adolphus Wabara, Secretary General, Ohaneze Ndigbo, Amb. Okey Emuche, Secretary to the state Government, Prof Kenneth Kalu, Captains of industries, Traditional Rulers among other distinguished dignitaries.

Speaking at the interdenominational Funeral service held at Jane Egbichi Oteh Mini stadium, Governor Alex Otti, who extolled the life, impactful contributions, and enduring legacy of the late Prof. Irukwu and expressed shock at his untimely departure.

He highlighted the deceased's desire to seeing positive change in Abia but regretted that it was tragically cut short by his passing just one month

after the emergence of the present administration. The Governor acknowledged the deceased's significant achievements in various fields, such as insurance, law, and his leadership within Ohaneze, but stressed that the most profound accomplishment of Prof. Irukwu was his devotion to the Christian faith.

Otti encouraged those in attendance to embrace a spiritual connection with Christ, saying "If you believe you've achieved great success in life but have neglected to sit and pray to God, it's time to reconsider your priorities".

He pointed out that on the day of resurrection, the deceased along with all those who had devoted their lives to Christ, would rise and find eternal peace with God.

While emphasizing that life and death are in the hands of God, Governor Otti urged the Irukwu family to bear the loss with fortitude.

Former President General, Ohaneze Ndigbo Worldwide, Chief Gary Igariwe in his tribute on behalf of the apex Pan Igbo Socio Cultural Group said the deceased was an exceptional leader who distinguished himself in service to the Ohaneze, Igbos and Nigerians at large and prayed God to console the family he left behind.

In his tribute, the President General of the Item Development Association, Sir Onwuka Orji said the late Prof Joe Irukwu trained and mentored a constellation of Item professionals and captains of industry who are excelling so over the word adding that with his passing, a big vacuum has been created in the socio-political landscape if the south east in particular and Nigeria in general.

Also presenting a tribute, a grandson of the deceased, Tobe Irukwu described their grandfather as a strong and caring man who loved his family greatly, adding that he will be missed by all.

In his Sermon, Rev Dr Okey Onuzo who took his text from the book of Matt 13:24 & Numbers 6:22-27 preached on the essence of the love of God in mankind wherein God gave his son to die in order to redeem mankind and added that whosoever receives Christ will have eternal life.



Gov. Otti, Fmr Gov. Udom Emmanuel and Bishop Okpoko during the funeral service

Burial of Joe Irukwu, Fmr Igbo Leader



Gov Alex Otti, making His Speech



Gov Alex Otti, Fmr. Gov. Udom Emmanuel and Gen. Ike Nwachukwu



Gov Alex Otti, (c) and children of the deceased



Gov Alex Otti, with the son of the deceased



Gov Alex Otti (c) Mrs. Arunma Oteh and Fmr. Gov. Udom Emmanuel



Gen. Ike Nwachukwu(c) and others



Gov Alex Otti (1st left) World Bank top notch, Miss Arunma Oteh and Sen Enyi Abaribe at Prof Irukwu's burial service in Iitem.



The Clergy and family members



Ohanaze President (c) Chief Emma Iwuanwanwu in te to te with Sec. Amb. Okey Emuchay



Dignitaries and the funeral Service



Community News

Nzuko Arochukwu Women: Abia Governor's Wife Pledges Support For Women Empowerment

By Chibunna Ikeokwu.



Wife of the Abia State Governor, Mrs. Priscilla Otti, acknowledging cheers from Arochukwu women at the event

The Nzuko Arochukwu Women Wing Worldwide recently marked its mass rally with the theme "Aro youth Quest; Setting The Pace For Arochukwu Development".

The rally which took place at Aggrey primary school Ibom in Arochukwu local government area featured prominent cultural displays, march-past, drama and award presentations to Aro worthy sons and daughters who have contributed immensely to the development of Arochukwu LGA.

Speaking at the event, the wife of Abia Governor, Mrs. Priscilla Otti commended the Nzuko Arochukwu leadership and their passion to improving the lives of women in Arochukwu.

The Governor's wife also said that she came to lend her support to Nzuko Arochukwu Women and to encourage them to step up in the face of the current global economic challenges and make meaningful contributions toward alleviating suffering among women in the society.

According to her, "women are no longer confined to the kitchen. Women are proving themselves nowadays as agents of positive change and are making significant contributions to the progress of our world today" she said.

In his remarks, the chairman of the occasion, Mazi. Kingsley Okoro Kanu, said that women in this modern era are making incredible strides in every facet of life.

He advised the women to have confidence in themselves, work towards self improvement and to extend a helping hand to those in need among them through community initiatives.

Earlier, the President General Nzuko Arochukwu Women Wing Worldwide, Ezinne Chibuzo Onyekwere, said that within a short period of their inauguration, they have been able to sink borehole, renovates the skills acquisition centre, pay school fees for indigent people, distribution of education materials to primary schools in Arochukwu and lots more.

However, "these achievement are not without challenges" she said. Onyekwere therefore called for government and individual support in the area of providing fund, catering and confectionery equipments, standard sized generator, sewing machines and to sponsor students for training among others.



Mrs. Otti making a speech before the presentation of awards



Abia State Governor's wife presenting her address at the occasion



Mrs. Otti admiring one of the plaques from presentation



Mrs. Otti Receiving an award from Ada Mazi Nnenna Okoro as Ezj Ada, Arochukwu

Community News

Abiriba Community's Day Of Glory In Aba

By: *Nwokoma Don*



Members of the Exco in a group photograph

Abiriba Community in Aba, renowned for their entrepreneurial prowess and their well-wishers, Wednesday, September 27th, 2023 will remain indelible in their minds. That was the Day the Abiriba Communal Improvement Union (ACIU), inaugurated her newly elected Executives Officer's as well as the Million-Naira Abiriba Ultra-Modern Motor Park and Plaza.

The event provided the people of Abiriba a golden opportunity to showcase their rich cultural heritage to the general public.

The Ceremony took off amidst the pomp & pageantry that is the hallmark of Abiriba Culture with an official address by the Chairman of the Occasion who called for the unity of Purpose amongst Abiriba indigenes in Aba.

In his own remarks, the outgoing President Chief Nduka Agwu Onuoha recalled the successes and achievements of his administration which included; intervention in politics, security which helped to curb incessant harassment and embarrassment of businessmen in Aba by security agencies, the coordination of an enlightenment campaign and preventive measures during covid-19 as well as palliatives that were offered to reduce the economic hardship suffered by people especially vulnerable groups.

The former president also mentioned as part of his achievements, the reactivation and re-energizing of the Age Grades for effective participation in ACIU Programmes.

The high point of the occasion was the swearing in of the new executives and the handover ceremony. The new executives included Prince Nwabueze. N. Ogbuewu (President), Chief Frank Okafor Ojah (Vice President), Uba Ekeagbara Obasi (Secretary), Felix Kalu Njoku (Assistant Secretary), Chris Agbai Dike (Financial Secretary), Chief Dear-John Igwe (Treasurer), Kalu Onwuka (Pele), Sir Ogba Uguru Achi (Provost 1), Nnanna Ochunkwo (Provost 2).

In his inaugural address, the newly inaugurated President Prince Nwabueze.N. Ogbuewu thanked and appreciated the outgoing Executive led by Chief Nduka Agwu Onuoha (Chidican) for keeping faith with Nde Abiriba and ensuring that the Union didn't collapse within its 16 years turbulent period. He recalled the event of the day as being historic in the sense that it was also a celebration of the unification and coming together of the different factions in the crises that had bedeviled the community in the past.

The President said that he was personally pleased with the fact that the much-desired peace, unity and love which eluded the community in the past have been restored and that the Abiriba community can once again speak with one voice. He also recalled the fact

that Abiriba businessmen have always been in the forefront of the economic development of Aba and it was this fact of being a fore runner in the commercial front that informed their decision to embark on the development of a seven hundred -million-naira Ultra-Modern Motor Park and Plaza which when completed would ease the traveling difficulties encountered by commuters traveling to Abiriba as well as provide jobs.

The Representatives of Governor Alex Otti, Chief Inem Nwaka in his own remarks said that the State Government was working hard to decongest Aba metropolis as well as improve its aesthetics through the establishment of an ultra-modern motor park. Chief Nwaka said when fully functional, all the multiplicity of parks inside the Aba metropolis will be outlawed. He stressed the need for development unions such as the ACIU to take a cue from this development and align their programs and projects with the visions and plans of the State Government in other to have a seamless, evenly and coordinated development of the various facets of the state economy. Chief Nwaka said such action would help to reduce the issue of abandoned projects or the question of such laudable projects as the one the ACIU was proposing being reckoned with as a white elephant project. He counseled that the funds so realized from the launching should be safely kept to acquire a strategic space in the new ultra-modern park being created by the state government so as to be amongst the-first group to achieve a loading bay there.

Chief Nwaka further advised the ACIU Executives to develop programmes that would help to reduce the army of unemployed Abiriba youths as everybody cannot possibly be Importers & Exporters. He also encouraged the new exco to develop themselves technologically by exploiting the opportunities provided by ICT in the globalized world.

The Governor's aide on Trade & Investments also tasked the Union Executives to come up with a comprehensive data on the ecological/erosion menace bedeviling Abiriba community as the government under Dr. Alex Otti was committed to utilizing the resources accruable from the ecological funds to tackle all the erosion challenges that are threatening the various parts of the state. He further tasked the new executives to lead a more united, purposeful, peaceful and progressive ACIU and reiterated the preparedness of the Dr. Alex Otti led Government to partner with the Abiriba Communal Improvement Union in all projects that will be mutually beneficial to both the community and the State.

There was also on display, the rich cultural heritage of the Abiriba Community by such cultural groups like the Abiriba war dance, the Ekpe Society, the Okonko masquerade, the Ogene group amongst various other cultural groups.

It was indeed a day like no other for many Abiriba indigenes and their well-wishers resident in Aba as the memory would likely remain ever green in the minds of those who were lucky to have witnessed it.



The Representative of the Gov. Chief Inem Nwaka Delivering his message



The new President Prince Nwabueze, N. Ogbuewu (C) flanked by other members of the new Executive



Dignitaries at the event



Chief Nduka Agwu Onuoha The fmr. President delivering his farewell Address



The National Secretary General of ACIU, Hon. Ezikpe Oktyi delivering the keynote Address at the event

Abiriba Community's Day of Glory in Aba



Members of the New Exco dancing to the tune of EEkpe



Dignitaries at the occasion



Beautiful women wing of ACIU at the event



Members of the new Exco being sworn in at the event



The Ekpe group performing



Dignitaries at the occasion



The Abiriba War Dance Performing



A group photograph of the dignitaries at the event



The Abiriba Ekpe Cult on Parade



Community News

His Eminence Eze Eberechi Dick Celebrates The New Yam Festival In Style

By Nwokoma Don and Onyema Chinaza



Abia's foremost Traditional Ruler His Eminence Eberechi Dick recently rolled out the drums in celebration of the Igbo Traditional New Year otherwise known as the Iriji Festival (New Yam Festival). The occasion attracted a lot of important personalities in the society including the Governor of Abia State who was represented by the Honourable Commissioner for Petroleum and Mineral Resources, Prof Joel Ogbonna. There was also the Speaker of the Abia State House of Assembly Rt Hon. Emeruwa and the Chairman, Abia State Council of Traditional Rulers His Majesty Eze Linus Nto Mba.

In his speech, The Governor of Abia State Dr Alex Chioma Otti extolled the shining qualities of His Eminence, EZE Dr Eberechi N. Dick, the Traditional Ruler of Ngboko Ngwa Amaise Ancient Kingdom over his continuous upholding of the cultural heritage of his Kingdom especially as it relates to the New Yam Festival. The Governor stated that Eze Eberechi Dick being, one of the foremost traditional rulers in the state who has held various high positions at various levels has continued to be an epitome of dignity as he has not allowed the traditional norms and values to die.

The Governor who was represented at the occasion by the commissioner for Petroleum and Mineral Resources, Abia State, professor Joel Ogbonna, insist that since the yams used for the occasion were not bought from the market, it's a clarion call for our people especially the youths to go back to farm as the current administration in the state is posited to encourage and subsidize farm inputs for real farmers in the state. This is to ensure bountiful harvest and food sufficiency in the state.

Furthermore, the executive governor encouraged the traditional rulers to maintain peace and order in their various communities as it is the panacea for any meaningful development and progress. He made it clear that any community where crime is noticed, the traditional ruler of that community would be made to answer some pertinent questions.

His Excellency therefore thank God for seeing Dr Dick through the ups and

downs of life over the years he has piloted the affairs of the community and pledged to support his community through various developmental programs of the state Government.

Speaking earlier, Right honourable Emeruwa. The Speaker of Aba House of Assembly appreciated the foremost traditional ruler in not just in Ngwaland but in Nigeria, for his love and resolve to propagate the cultural heritage of the people. He promised that Abia the 9th Assembly will encourage and support him to ensure our traditional heritage flourish even more.

In his homely, the chairman of Abia State Traditional Rulers Council, His Royal Majesty, EZE sir Linus Nto Mba (KSC) from Ihechiowa Arochukwu LGA thanked God for sparing the live of his colleague EZE Eberechi Dick to see and preside over the 2023 New Yam Festival of his kingdom. He praised him for being a man of integrity, wisdom, doggedness, and patriotism. He prayed God to grant him longevity so that younger generation will learn from his wealth of wisdom and experience on his own part, the National Chairman of APC Mallam Ganduje who was ably represented by His Royal Majesty EZE Boniface Igbokwe (EZE NDI IGBO KANO) eulogized the personality of Eze Eberechi Dick, describing him as a bridge builder, a nationalist and friend of the Kano and entire people of the North. He described his interest for culture and agriculture as topnotch and pledged the total support of the people of Kano to the kingdom of Mgboko Ngwa Amaise Ancient Kingdom.

In his key note address, the first son of His Eminence, Prince Bobby Dick appreciated God almighty for the great things he has been doing in the kingdom. He thanked everyone who found time to attend the occasion and wished them well.

Highlights of the event was the slicing (iwa ji) of the yam and the eating by all and sundry. Array of personalities across all tribes and career graced the event. There was also an array of cultural displays at the event.



Community News

Afara community under the throes of erosion menace

By: Kingsley Ugorji



The Afara Community in Umuahia North Local Government stand the risk of being cut off from the rest of the state capital city by a raving gully erosion on the big drainage system close to Aba Road Umuahia.

Also, on the risk of being possibly submerged include the popular Africot hotels on Aba Road and shops at Trinity Road close to Uchenna Bus-Stop, Umuahia.

The gully erosion which has already pulled down one of the shops close to the big gutter on Trinity/Aba Road, may equally consumed the roads, if nothing urgent was done. Already, part of the Trinity Road which leads to Afara from Uchenna Bus stop, Aba Road have caved in and may equally swallow the road and other surrounding buildings.

Reports by our Reporter who visited the site, showed that the buildings and road are under serious threat of collapse from the raving gully erosion.

The Reporter stated that the palliative provided on the big gutter close to Africot hotels wall and Trinity Road have been washed away by the flood exposing the area to possibly being submerged into the gully erosion. One of the residents of the area, Barr. Udochukwu Ogaranye expressed great concern that if remedial measures were not immediately put in place, some of the shops close to the big water channel stand the possibility of being washed away or submerged into the gully.

Barr Ogaranya said that the ever busy Trinity Road is under serious threat as the erosion has eaten some part of it and may be cut it off any time soon. He said that one of the shops caved in few days ago after a torrential rainfall and has caused much damage to the business owners.



Barr. Udochukwu Ogaranye, one of the residents of the area
 Barr. Ogaranya said that the residents have in the past carried out palliative work to curtail the gully but that the ravaging erosion continue to expand.

According to him, the Enugu Electricity Company foresaw the danger some months ago and relocated one of their electricity poles which was close to the shop that got sank and this saved the public around the area from being thrown into darkness.

He appealed to the trail blazing governor of Abia State, Dr. Alex Otti to kindly come to the aid of the community and business owners area being threatened by flood.

Barr. Ogaranya appealed that palliative actions should be carried out on the gully before full rehabilitation to safeguard the buildings and the roads including the popular Aba Road.

Also speaking, a building materials dealer, Samuel Uchechukwu Okoro and generator repairer Mr Ugwumba Samuel said that the Trinity Road always got flooded and overflow int the road and their shops whenever it rains.

They said that due to the high volume of flood on the big gutter, if nothing urgent was done, the gully erosion would wreck more havoc both on individuals and public properties in the area. The residents appealed to the state governor to urgently intervene on the situation to save the road and buildings which are on the verge of collapse.



Special Supplement:

IHSD IN THE FRONTIER OF HUMANITY

The Institute for Humanitarian Studies and Social Development (IHSD) was founded in 2008 and officially Inaugurated on August 12th 2010 at Sheraton Hotel and Towers, Ikeja, Lagos; by His Excellency, Chief Emeka Anyaoku (CFR), Former Common Wealth Secretary General and Member of the Presidential Advisory Council who represented the President and Commander -in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. His Excellency GoodLuck Ebele Jonathan GCFR, colourfully presented the Certificate of Registration of the Institute to the Pioneer President and Council Chairman, His Excellency. Amb. Segun Olusola, (former Nigerian Ambassador to Ethiopia) alongside the Pioneer Registrar Prince Francis Origa.

The occasion was also graced by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), United Nations Fund for Population Activity (UNFPA). Also in attendance was the Deputy High Commissioner of the Canadian Embassy amongst other stakeholders.

The establishment of the Institute aims to:

- Bring benefit across the humanitarian community; to those who find it and those who seek its services;
- Improve the credibility, competence and effectiveness of humanitarian workers, and for donors; it will increase the assurance that their fund will be spent competently.

Yet Again, the overall aim of establishing the Institute is to provide intellectualism and professionalism in the humanitarian/development sector.

The Institute is a dual purpose and multidimensional professional institution that provides both humanitarian education and other humanitarian interventions including coaching and mentorship as well as community development service.

Meanwhile, in the bid to enhance the capacity of humanitarians and development practitioners, our institute since 2010 has in partnership with the United Nations Institute for Training & Research (UNITAR) been conducting Proficiency-Professional Certificate Courses and Advanced Specialization Programs in; Humanitarian-Social Work Services and Child Care.

UN Human Security and Diplomatic Track in Conflict



Resolution amongst others. Over 70- classes (Set) has been conducted; with more than 5120 persons trained as professional humanitarian practitioners.

IHSD also partners with the NYSC to carry out sensitization of Corps Members on Volunteerism at various NYSC camps starting with six (6) pilot states in Nigeria where Corps member have the opportunity to be enlightened on the concept of Humanitarianism.

Volunteerism and Community Development Service. Though this has now been extended to 36 states and the FCT.

So far, Staff of the following government MDA's have participated and benefited from our training programs; the Federal Ministry of Education (NGO unit).

Federal Ministry of women Affairs and Social Development. Federal Ministry of Youth & Sports Development.

Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning National Emergency Management Agency, National Commission for Refugees, Migrants & Internally Displaced persons. National Orientation Agency.

National Boundary Commission, and Border Communities Development Agency. National Centre for Disease Control.

Nigerians In Diaspora Commission. National Primary Health Care System, Nigerian National Merit Award. Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on SDGs. Nigerian Civil Defence Corps among others.

Others outside of Government Institutions include; Nigerian Red Cross Society. AU-ECOSOCC. Jalz Charity and Development Foundation, etc



ABIA STATE COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES AND MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGY, ABA



congratulations
MR. OKEZIE, ALOY E.

The management, staff, and students of Abia State College of Health Sciences and Management Technology, Aba, heartily rejoice with **our efficacious Rector, Mr. Okezie, Aloy E.** on his conferment of the **DISTINGUISHED FELLOW** by the Institute of Humanitarian Studies and Social Development. The award shows a rare intellectualism in your capacity to pilot the affairs of the college to an enviable height. Your charismatic achievements gave rise to your participation in the epoch making event that took place on 13th October, 2023 in Abuja. We the college community are in support and proud of your leadership style and administrative prowess in taking the college to the new educational echelon amongst the comity of higher institutions in Nigeria.

In a similar development, our indefatigable rector was the chairman of the **3rd South-east Environmental Health Registration Council of Nigeria (EHRCON) biennial conference held at Kolping Society Umuahia on 18th October 2023**, where he charged the members of the council to stand to their responsibility in making sure that environmental hazards are prevented with a preservative mechanism that would be friendly and impactful to the general well-being of mankind. In same vein, he implored them to live up to the tenets of educational policy in the country and keyed into the environmental programmes of sanitizing Abia State and beyond. Finally, he appreciated the organisers of the conference for being thoughtful in holding the conference in Abia state.

Bravo and congratulations the potent achiever.

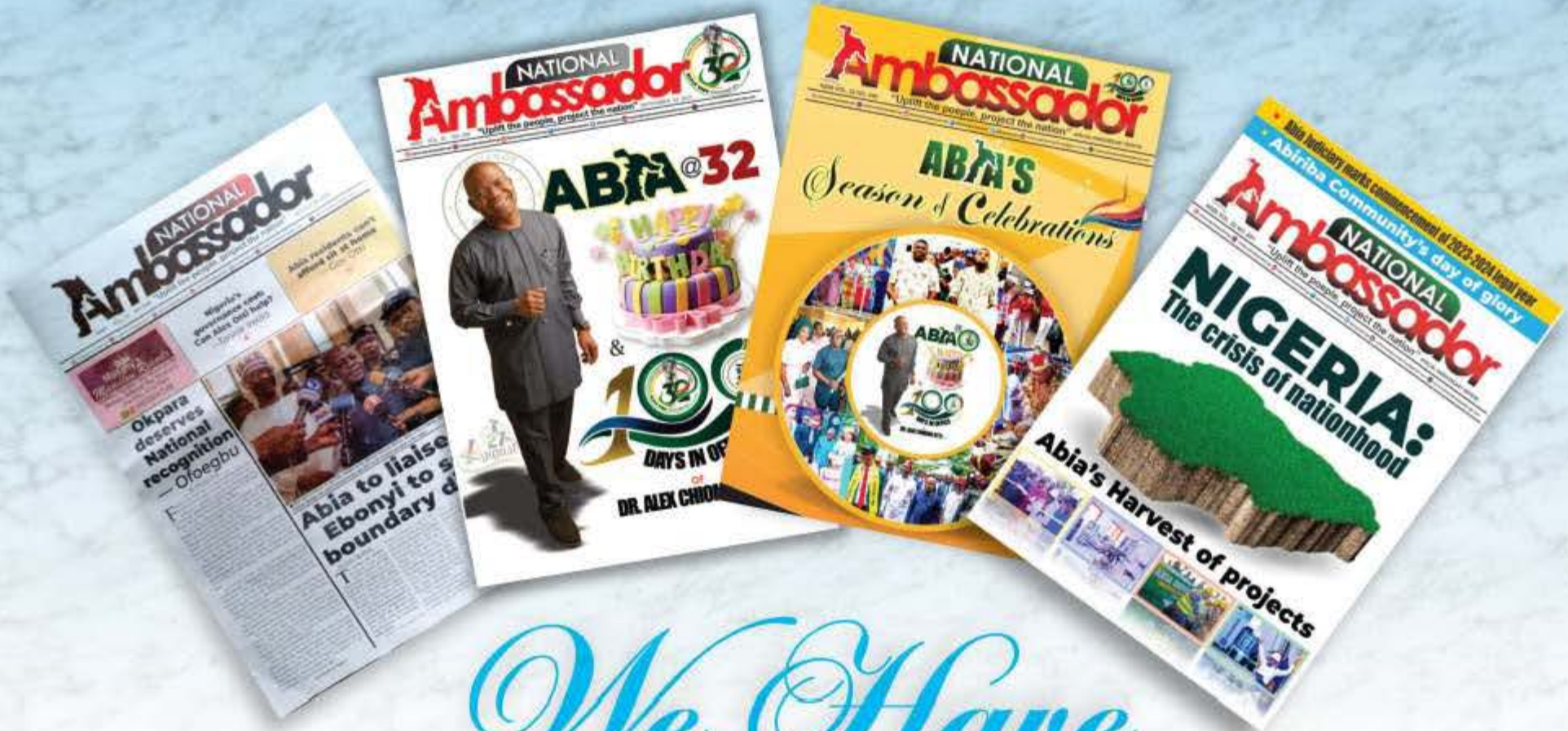
Signed:
IMAGA, Harkins Chidi.
 DEAN SBMT, ABSOCHMAT, ABA.



ADVERTORIAL

“NATIONAL AMBASSADOR” GETTING BETTER AND BETTER

.....



*We Have
The Reach
& Depth*

PUBLISHED BY:

Abia Newspapers & Publishing Corporation

Nnamdi Azikiwe Secretariat Road, Government Station Layout, Umuahia

OUR MEDIA HANDLES

- +234-8107148390
- nationalambassadorng@gmail.com
- +nationalambassadorng
- nationalambassador
- NationalAmbs
- nationalambassadorng
- www.nationalambassadorng.com
- NationalAmbs
- <https://news.google.com/publications/CAAqBwgKMJrmiwsw0aPrAg?ceid=NG:en&oc=3>



NATIONAL Ambassador

N500 VOL. 22 NO. 091

“Uplift the poeple, project the nation”

SPECIAL EDITION
NOVEMBER 30TH 2023

[nationalambassadorgr](#) [+nationalambassadorgr](#) [Nationalambassadorgr](#) [Nationalambassador](#) [NationalAmb](#) [nationalambassadorgr@gmail.com](#) [www.nationalambassadorgr.com](#)



HIS EXCELLENCY,
DR. ALEX OTTI, OFR.

GOD'S WARNING TO ABIANS

Our LORD who appeared to be a grey-hair old man showed me this warning message in a dream and warned me seriously to write it down and circulate it to the entire Abia State. In that message HE SAID, and I quote "I am the Almighty God who exalts men and women to positions of authority or remove them from such positions...."

Therefore ALEX OTTI is my servant, whom I strengthened-the one I have chosen, I have filled him with my spirit and he will do extremely well to Abians for I will be with him always... For a long time I kept silent; I did not answer my people, But now the time to act has come; Lastly, let me warn Abians again, I, the Almighty God says; Whoever tries to destroy the administration of my chosen leader will face the full force of my anger... Let all ABIANS, see, read and hear it loud and clear... I, THE SOVEREIGN LORD, GOD ALMIGHTY have spoken and I will make it happen".

As a servant of God, / cannot always tell people what they want to hear, rather I must say exactly what God told me to say....

GOD'S MESSENGER FROM THE EAST

Evangelist Ezekiel is not a politician neither did I bargain with any politician rather, I am God's Messenger. Therefore I Must do the work of him who sent me. Call Evangelist Ezekiel Acha On 09126357057. If you care to hear more....