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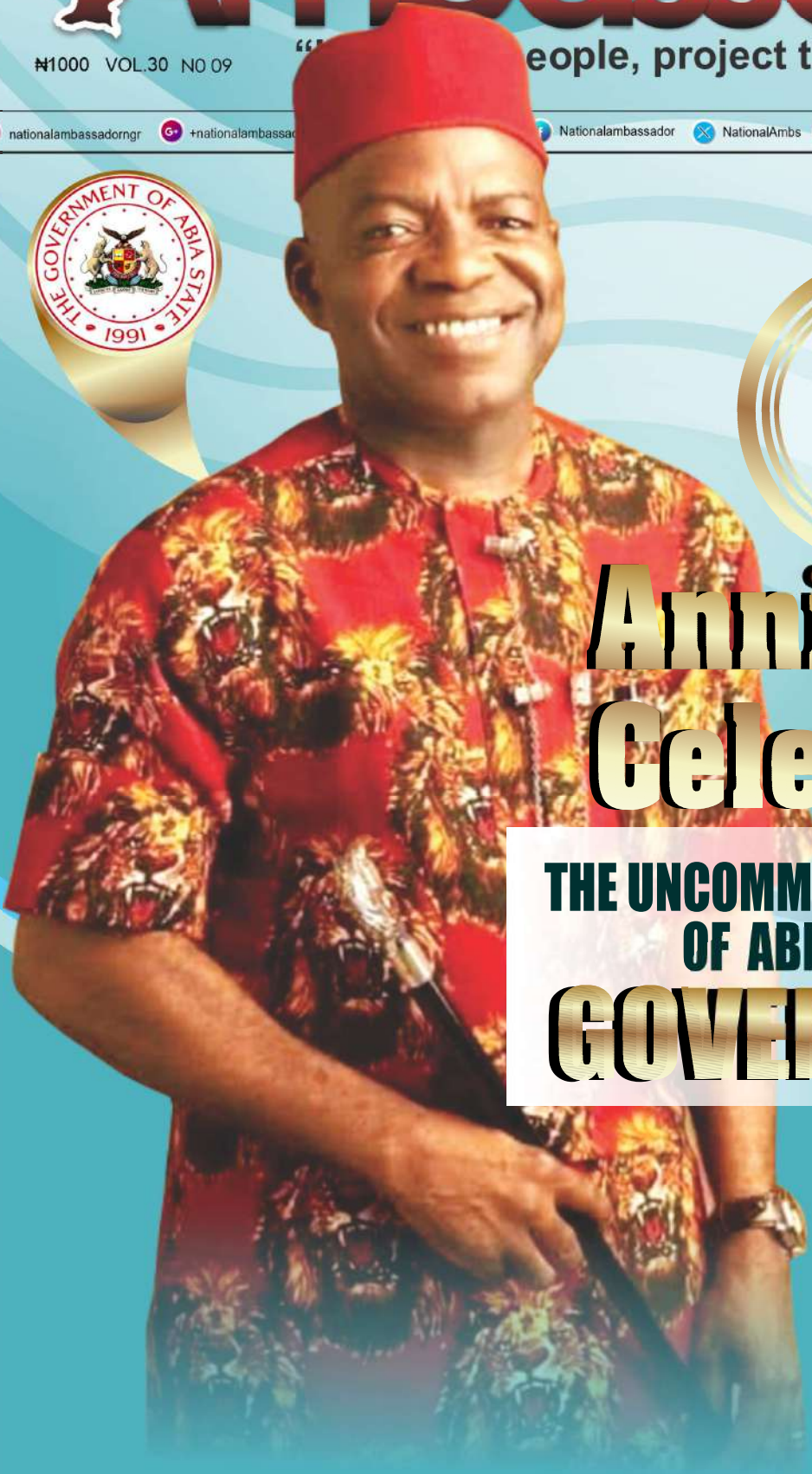
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**3<sup>RD</sup>**

## Anniversary Celebration

**THE UNCOMMON TRANSFORMATION  
OF ABIA STATE UNDER  
GOVERNOR OTTI**



**EDITORIAL:**

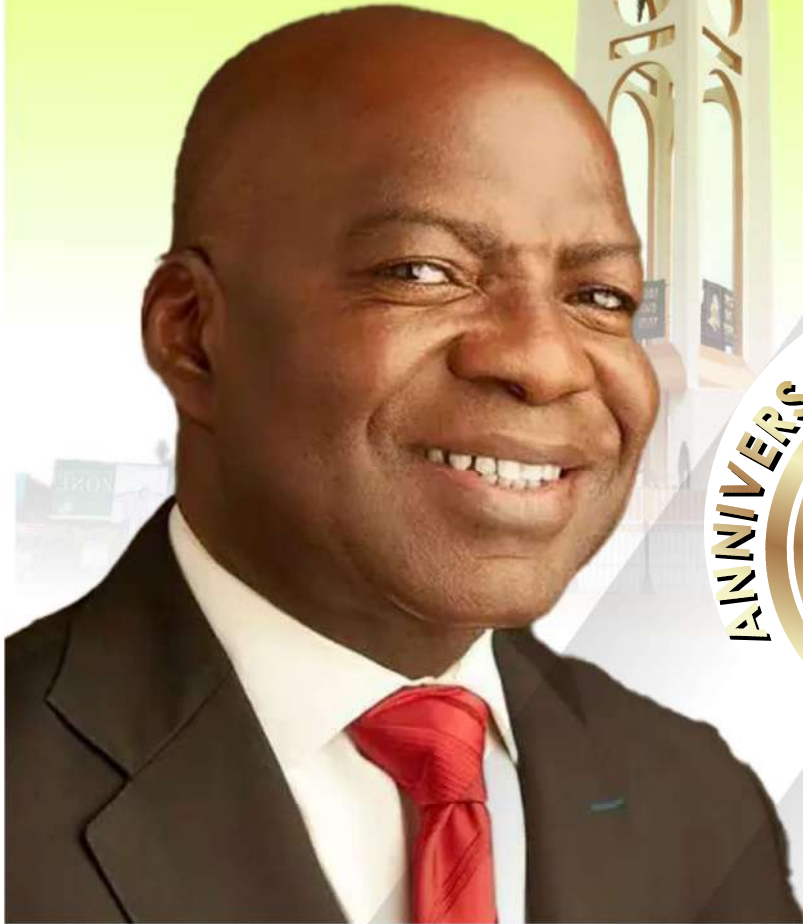
**Gov Otti's 3rd Anniversary: Reform, Renewal And The Imperative Of Continuity**

# U. O. O. NIGERIA PLC

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## GOODWILL MESSAGE

The Board, Management and Staff of U.O.O Nigeria Plc. Congratulate the People's Governor, Dr. Alex Chioma Otti OFR of Abia State on the celebration of his 3rd years in office. we wish you more years of progress, our beloved governor.

SIGNED  
**Management**



MGZ PG. 02



— HEARTY —  
**CONGRATULATIONS**  
 TO YOUR EXCELLENCY,  
**DR. ALEX CHIOMA OTTI, OFR,**  
 ON YOUR REMARKABLE THREE YEARS OF  
**IMPACTFUL AND PURPOSEFUL LEADERSHIP**



*Your Excellency,*

On behalf of my family, the appointees of Your Excellency and the entire workforce of Government House Umuahia, I heartily congratulate you, the First family and indeed all Abians on the auspicious occasion of your 3rd year anniversary as the Governor of Abia State.

Over the past three years, your administration has continued to redefine governance not just in Nigeria but in the whole of Sub-Saharan Africa through visionary leadership, integrity, courage and unwavering commitment to the welfare of Ndi Abia. Your bold reforms, infrastructural renewal, prudent management of public resources and people-oriented policies have restored hope, confidence and dignity of Abians across the State, Nigeria and the international community.

Indeed, your government has become a shining model of transformational leadership, driven by competence, transparency and a genuine passion for service. From road infrastructure and healthcare delivery to education, security and economic revitalization, the positive impact of your administration is visible and deeply appreciated by Abians and and non Abians alike.

As you mark this significant milestone, we celebrate your resilience, dedication and remarkable achievements in building a new Abia founded on excellence, accountability and sustainable development.

May the Almighty God continue to strengthen, guide and grant you greater wisdom as you advance the noble task of transforming Abia State and launching Abians as a people to the next phase of visible and undeniable prosperity.

Congratulations once again, Your Excellency, on this memorable 3rd anniversary in office.

Signed



*Signed* ▶

**Pastor Caleb Ajagba, Ph.D**  
 Chief of Staff to the Governor  
 Abia State.





# LABOUR PARTY (LP)

**Motto:** Equal Opportunity and Social Justice

National Chairman: Distinguished Sen. Nenadi Esther Usman

National Secretary: Hon. Iheanacho Obioma

27TH MAY 2026.

## Congratulations TO AN INDEFATIGABLE NATIONAL LEADER OF OUR DEAR PARTY

His Excellency

### DR. ALEX CHIOMA OTTI, OFR

on the occasion of his

# 3<sup>rd</sup> ANNIVERSARY

IN OFFICE AS GOVERNOR OF ABIA STATE.



Your Excellency Sir,

**From Promise to Performance: Celebrating Three Transformative Years of the Rebuilding Abia Vision**

A historic moment in the transformation journey of our dear State is marked as Your Excellency, our dear Governor, celebrates three remarkable years in office as the Executive Governor of Abia State.

On this special occasion, I heartily congratulate Your Excellency - an embodiment of excellence, a visionary leader, reformer and servant of the people whose courageous and people-oriented leadership has redefined governance and restored hope to millions of Abians across the State.

In just three years, Your Excellency, your administration has become a standard example of purposeful leadership, fiscal discipline, transparency, accountability and inclusive development. Through your commitment to good governance, Abia State has witnessed unprecedented infrastructural renewal, socio-economic transformation and institutional reforms that have directly impacted the lives of ordinary citizens.

One of the most defining legacies of your administration remains the historic delivery of over 414 quality road projects spanning more than 860 kilometers across the State, powering the mobility economy, reconnecting communities, boosting commerce, improving and saving lives and opening new frontiers of development for our people. Beyond infrastructure, your government has rekindled public confidence in leadership through reforms in education, healthcare, security, sanitation, workers' welfare, digital governance and social services.

Your Excellency, your administration has proven that leadership anchored on competence, integrity, preparedness and genuine love for the people can truly transform society within a short period. Today, Abia State proudly stands as a model of responsive governance and sustainable development in Nigeria.

For me personally, having the opportunity to be part of the new Abia history, a history defined by legacy, sustainable impact and good governance, remains one of the greatest honours of my life. Your leadership inspired a generation of young political actors and renewed faith in public service as a tool for societal transformation.

Your Excellency, as you mark this historic third anniversary in office, I pray for greater wisdom, strength and divine guidance upon your Excellency, your family and cabinet members.

On behalf of my family, the Abia political family and the National Secretariat of our great Party, the Labour Party, I salute and celebrate Your Excellency's extraordinary leadership, courage and transformational accomplishments.

I look forward to greater victories ahead in the 2027 elections.

Congratulations once again, Your Excellency.

**RT. HON. IHEANACHO OBIOMA**  
National Secretary, Labour Party

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*Heartfelt Congratulations*  
 TO HIS EXCELLENCY  
**DR, ALEX CHIOMA OTTI, OFR**  
**ON THE 3RD ANNIVERSARY OF**  
**TRANSFORMATION**  
**IN ABIA STATE**



Three years ago, Abia began a new conversation with destiny. A weary land found fresh footsteps. Hope returned to the streets. And governance once again acquired a human face.

Today, as Your Excellency marks three remarkable years of purposeful leadership, we celebrate not just projects commissioned, but confidence restored... not just roads rebuilt, but a people reborn.

From Aba to Ohafia...  
 From Ukwu to Arochuku...  
 The evidence stands like daylight that cannot be hidden. Roads abandoned for decades now breathe with life. Public institutions are awakening. Discipline has returned to governance. Transparency now sits at the table of leadership. And Abians once ashamed to speak of home now speak with pride again.

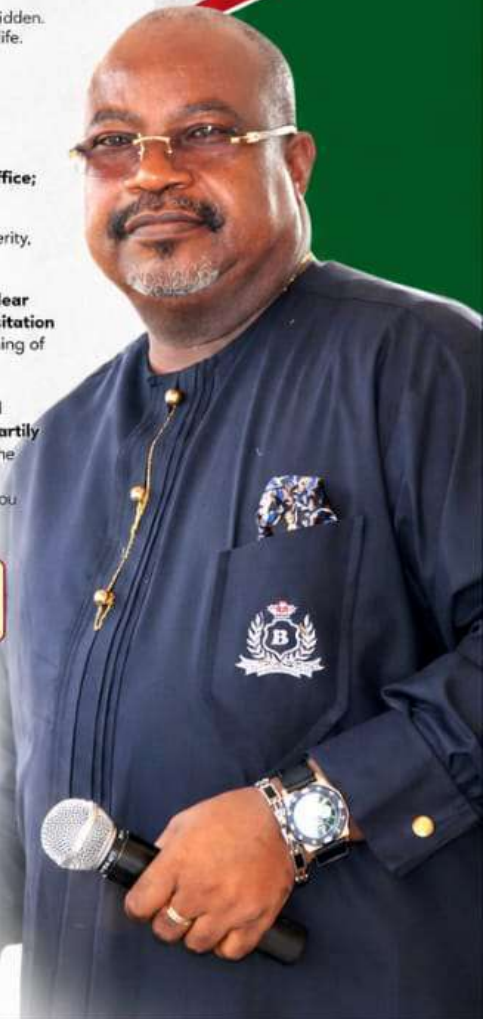
Your Excellency, you did not merely assume office; you confronted history. You challenged the culture of impossibility. You proved that government can work when sincerity, courage, and vision walk together.

As one who has witnessed the journey of our dear State through many seasons, I say without hesitation that your administration has redefined the meaning of leadership in Abia State.

On behalf of my family, friends, associates, and supporters across Abia North and beyond, I heartily congratulate you on this milestone and pray that the Almighty God will continue to grant you wisdom, strength, divine protection, and greater grace as you continue the noble task of rebuilding our State.

“ The people have seen the difference. The land itself bears witness. ”

**Congratulations,**  
**Your Excellency.**  
*Abia is rising.*



HIS EXCELLENCY  
**DR. ALEX CHIOMA OTTI, OFR**  
 GOVERNOR, ABIA STATE

*Courtesy:*  
**CHIEF DR. DAVID OGBA ONUOHA BOURDEX,**  
**MFR, OON**  
 Mayor Emeritus, Ohafia LGA  
 --- Ugo'Ena" Nde Abiriba Enachioken



# CELEBRATING THREE YEARS OF PURPOSEFUL LEADERSHIP AND TRANSFORMATION IN ABIA STATE

I, Chief Mrs. Oriji Okwara Emele, the Managing Director of Bluegiraffe Development Ltd, heartily congratulate **His Excellency, Dr. Alex Otti, OFR**, The Action Governor of Abia State, on the successful celebration of your **3rd year anniversary in office.**

Over the past three years, your administration has continued to bring positive changes and visible development across Abia State. Your leadership has given the people renewed hope, confidence, and a stronger belief in good governance. Many residents can now see and feel the impact of your policies and commitment to the progress of the state.

Your remarkable achievements in the education sector deserve special recognition especially the establishment of Smart Schools. The renovation and rebuilding of schools, improvement of learning facilities, encouragement and support for teachers, and your dedication to providing quality education for children have shown your deep concern for the future of Abia State.

These efforts are already creating better opportunities for young people and laying a strong foundation for long-term development.

Your administration's focus on transparency, accountability, infrastructure, and human capital development continues to inspire many citizens and investors.

The positive transformation taking place in different sectors is a clear sign of purposeful and people-oriented leadership. We are particularly very proud to be associated with this success story.

As you mark this important milestone, I pray that Almighty God will continue to grant you wisdom, strength, good health, and greater grace to continue your good works for the peace, growth, and development of Abia State.

**Congratulations once again on your 3rd year anniversary in office.**

HIS EXCELLENCY  
**Dr. Alex Otti, OFR**  
The Action Governor of Abia State

SIGNED:

*Oriji Okwara Emele*

**Chief Mrs. Oriji Okwara Emele**  
Managing Director  
Bluegiraffe Development Ltd





# Hearty Congratulations

TO

HIS EXCELLENCY

## DR. ALEX CHIOMA OTTI, OFR GOVERNOR OF ABIA STATE



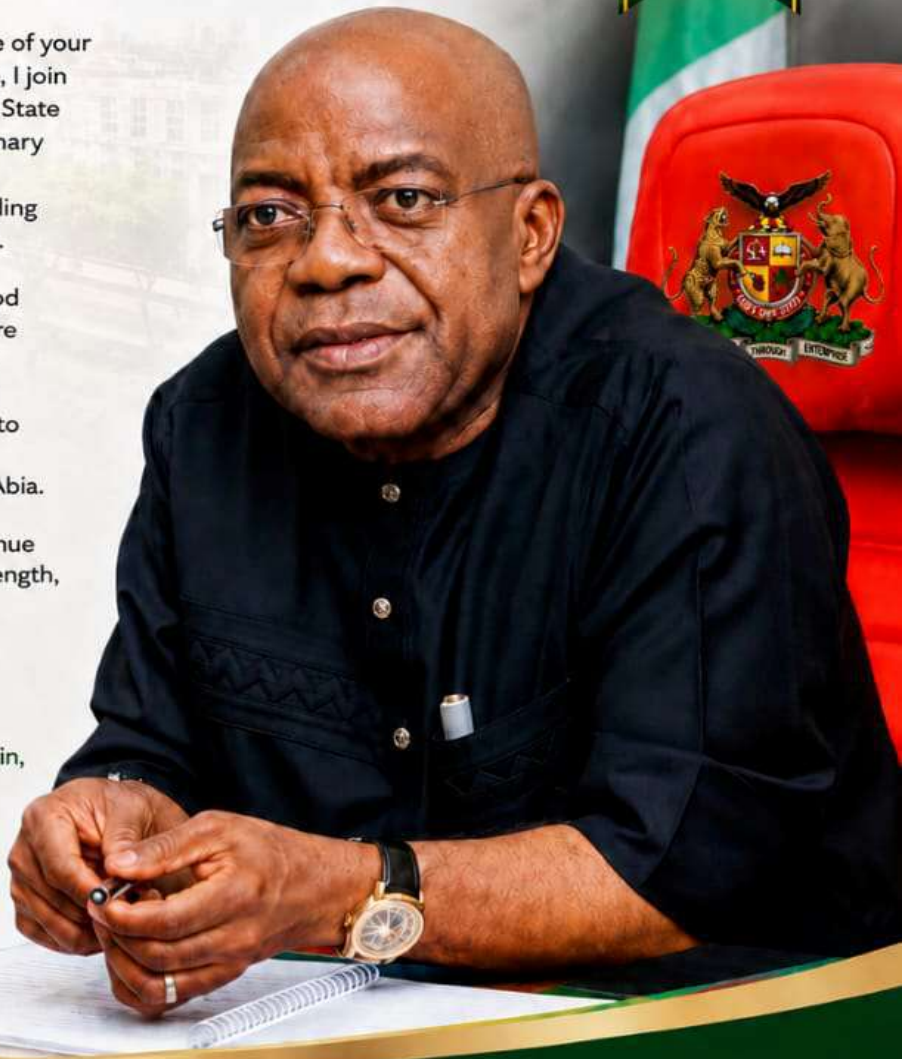
On this special milestone of your 3rd Anniversary in office, I join the good people of Abia State in celebrating your visionary leadership, unwavering dedication, and outstanding service to our dear State.

Your commitment to good governance, infrastructure development, economic growth, and the welfare of our people continues to inspire confidence and bring hope for a greater Abia.

May God Almighty continue to grant you wisdom, strength, good health, and divine guidance as you steer Abia State to even greater heights.

Congratulations once again,  
Your Excellency!

Happy 3rd Anniversary!



from  
**Arc. Chiemela Uzoije**  
Hon. Commissioner for Housing  
Abia State



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# Governance As Dignity: The Abia Renewal Under Alex Otti

**F**or many citizens of Abia State, the past three years represent more than a political anniversary. They symbolize the return of hope, dignity, and public confidence after decades of governance failure that left deep scars on the State and its people.

That is why the administration of Governor Alex Chioma Otti, OFR, is increasingly being viewed not merely through the lens of infrastructure and projects, but as a broader effort to redefine the meaning and purpose of government in Abia State.

Abia occupies a deeply personal place in my history. From my childhood years in Aba to my early legal education connected to institutions in this State, Abia contributed immensely to my formation. It is therefore meaningful to witness a moment in which the prospects of the State now inspire optimism instead of despair.

For nearly twenty-four years after Nigeria's return to civil rule in 1999, Abia became a tragic example of governance disconnected from the people. Public trust collapsed. Infrastructure deteriorated. Civic order weakened. Institutions lost legitimacy. Enterprise suffered. Hope gradually disappeared.

The experience was not merely one of poor governance. It was what the Spanish language describes as *desgobierno* — "un-government" — a condition where leadership abandons responsibility and public institutions lose their moral and functional purpose.

During those years, governance became detached from the legitimate will of the people. Political power was sustained not through public trust but through manipulation and impunity. In such an environment, the interests of citizens naturally became secondary.

The consequences were devastating. A State historically associated with enterprise, discipline, and innovation became identified with infrastructural collapse, insecurity, and institutional decay. Aba, once one of the most vibrant commercial cities in West Africa, struggled under the weight of neglect and failed leadership.

This is why the significance of the current administration goes beyond roads, bridges, and public buildings. The deeper achievement lies in restoring belief that government can once again work for the people.

Across Abia today, visible signs of renewal are evident:

- urban regeneration projects in Aba and Umuahia;
  - extensive road rehabilitation and reconstruction;
  - improved public services;
  - clearing of salary and pension arrears;
  - investments in healthcare and education;
  - cleaner urban environments;
  - improved transportation and energy infrastructure.
- In just three years, the administration has completed

or commenced nearly 500 roads covering more than 1,000 kilometres across the State. Strategic projects such as Port Harcourt Road in Aba, the Umuahia-Uzuakoli-Abiriba Road, and Aguiyi Ironsi Boulevard have significantly improved mobility and commercial activity.

Yet infrastructure alone does not define progress. Physical projects can deteriorate if the institutional and civic foundations required to sustain them are absent.

The true foundation of development is intangible. It is located in the imagination and confidence of the people — in their belief that the future can be better than the past and that public institutions can serve collective interests rather than private ambitions.

That is why Governor Alex Otti's most significant achievement may well be the restoration of dignity and hope to a people who had almost given up on both.

His administration appears driven by a philosophy that sees governance not merely as administration, but as a moral responsibility anchored on public trust, human dignity, and purposeful leadership.

This aligns remarkably with the spirit of Nigeria's Constitution, which provides that government exists primarily for the welfare and security of the people and that "human dignity shall be maintained and enhanced."

For years, Abians experienced the opposite. Governance diminished dignity instead of protecting it. Today, however, there is growing evidence that government once again cares about the ordinary citizen.

Three broad qualities appear to define the current administration:

- clear diagnosis of problems;
- coherent long-term strategy;
- and a crystallized value system.

The administration's strategy is evident in deliberate investments designed to reposition Abia as a productive enterprise economy.

Its priorities are clear:

- mobility and connectivity;
- energy and productivity;
- education and human capital;
- healthcare and social infrastructure;
- and public sector reforms.

The transformation of transportation infrastructure is already improving rural-urban integration and facilitating commerce. Improved road networks are reconnecting communities and stimulating economic activity.

Energy investments, especially around Aba, are helping industries recover productivity while also improving safety and reducing crime.

The administration's broader logistics and trade ambitions — including the proposed Azumini-Obeaku Seaport, Inland Dry Port, and Inland Waterways

## Governance As Dignity: The Abia Renewal Under Alex Otti

Corridor — demonstrate a vision that extends beyond immediate politics

toward regional economic competitiveness.

Education represents another major pillar of the administration's reforms.

By allocating approximately 20 percent of the State budget to education, the government is making a strong statement about the centrality of human capital to long-term development.

Public schools are gradually regaining competitiveness. Free and compulsory basic education is expanding access. Smart schools are emerging. UBEC counterpart funding obligations are being fully met.

Similarly, the healthcare sector is witnessing strategic investments focused on integrated and preventive care.

The administration has expanded health insurance coverage, upgraded hospitals and primary healthcare centres, recruited healthcare workers, and introduced targeted support systems for vulnerable citizens.

Particularly notable is the work of the Abia State Commission for Disabled Persons, which is supporting inclusive education through the deployment of therapists across the State — an initiative that has become a model nationally.

Collectively, these efforts reflect a broader understanding that governance must first protect and enhance human dignity.

This idea is deeply rooted in Igbo philosophy and civilization. The Igbo worldview places high value on dignity, equity, wisdom, enterprise, and self-worth.

Historically, the people of this region rebuilt themselves after the devastation of the Nigerian civil war through resilience, communal effort, innovation, and entrepreneurship. Cities such as Aba, Onitsha, and Nnewi became symbols of post-war economic ingenuity and self-belief.

Unfortunately, decades of poor governance interrupted that trajectory and cost the region valuable years of development.

What is happening in Abia today therefore carries significance beyond the State itself. It raises an important possibility: that the South-East can become a model for governance, enterprise, and innovation in Nigeria.

The region may be geographically small, but that limitation can become an advantage if it embraces excellence in governance, productivity, and institutional accountability.

Nigeria may never hand any region progress freely, but regions can command national respect through performance and competence.

Governor Otti's administration presents a challenge to the people of Abia and indeed the South-East: whether they are prepared to sustain and protect the foundations now being laid.

This responsibility cannot rest on one individual alone. Sustainable progress requires collective ownership, civic vigilance, and electoral accountability.

As Nigeria gradually approaches another election cycle, Abians understand perhaps more clearly than most Nigerians the consequences of leadership disconnected from public legitimacy.

A government that emerges without the genuine consent of the people rarely feels obligated to serve them. That lesson is painfully familiar in Abia's political history.

Encouragingly, the current administration has attempted to institutionalize development through a legally backed twenty-five-year development framework. This provides continuity beyond electoral cycles and reduces the risk of abrupt policy reversals.

The development plan focuses on:

- economic growth and resilience;
- human capital development;
- sustainable industrialization;
- digital transformation;
- healthcare and social infrastructure;
- institutional reforms and transparency.

Still, important opportunities remain ahead.

Abia must strengthen its professional services sector in law, finance, medicine, real estate, technology, and consulting to complement its industrial ambitions.

The State also possesses the potential to evolve into a regional hub for commercial dispute resolution and knowledge-driven enterprise.

Its growing concentration of universities presents opportunities for research, innovation, digital learning, and knowledge economy development.

The diaspora community equally represents enormous untapped potential. With improved governance and institutional credibility, diaspora investments can become a major catalyst for economic transformation.

Security remains another critical area requiring sustained attention. Encouragingly, improved safety has restored nightlife, business confidence, and industrial activity in many parts of the State.

Still, security must remain a long-term regional priority supported by intelligence-sharing, coordination, and social stability initiatives.

Three years into this administration, much has been achieved, but much more remains to be done.

Yet for the first time in many years, Abia appears to be rediscovering itself.

Hope is returning. Confidence is returning. The people are beginning to believe again in the possibilities of governance founded on legitimacy, competence, and care.

Ultimately, however, the future of these gains depends on the people themselves.

Abia now stands at a crossroads:

whether to consolidate the foundations of renewal and dignity,

or to return to the failures of the past.

The choice is clear.

The sustainability of this transformation will depend not only on policies and projects but on the willingness of the people to defend accountable leadership, protect democratic legitimacy, and ensure that Abia never again descends into the era of "un-government."

For perhaps the greatest lesson of the last three years is this:

when government genuinely cares, society begins to heal, hope returns, and dignity becomes possible again.



## Discourse

# DIGNITY, PUBLIC WELFARE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Being The Text Of A State Broadcast By Governor Alex C. Offi, OFR,  
To Mark The 3rd Anniversary Of His Administration

1. Umunnem ndi Abia, friends of our dear State, men and women of goodwill, I bring you joyful greeting as we mark yet another epoch in the continuing evolution of our land as a development frontline. Permit me to begin on a note of profound gratitude to the Almighty God to whom this State and its people are wholly dedicated. This day presents us a special opportunity to reflect on how far we have come, appreciate ourselves for the modest strides, and make a conscious decision to face the future with courage. Indeed, we have come a long way but the road ahead is still far, our journey is only just beginning. For all its shortcomings and imperfections, democracy has provided us a genuine vehicle for accelerated development. Better than all other alternatives, the freedom to choose our leaders, which is democracy's ultimate advantage, has given us the leverage to take our destiny in our own hands.

2. On this day 3 years ago, a new era opened for us, as a government elected by the popular will of the people took the reins of leadership. From the very minute we took our oath, the task of charting a new course for the State kicked off in earnest. We hit the ground running from the very beginning because the promise of restoration could wait no longer. We were resolute in our resolve to push things into motion because we understood the weight of public expectation on our shoulders. Barely 24 hours after our inauguration, we were in the streets of Abia, leading the refuse disposal effort, not minding the heavy downpour. By refusing to be held back by an inclement weather, we sent out a clear message that the era of making excuses for failure was over. Ours is far from a perfect administration but even the most fervent critic cannot but acknowledge that on the most critical measures of progress, Abia, in the last 3 years, has turned the corner.

3. With the successful execution of more than 400 road infrastructure projects covering over 800 kilometres, it is safe to say that our journey into the transformation of our road networks as a major driver of prosperity across urban and rural communities has



started. In the next few months, 82 other roads stretching over 200 kilometres shall be delivered and opened for public use. Our road infrastructure investments are carefully spread in ways that leave no part of the State behind; we are as mindful of the expectations of the Aba industrial and trading community as we are conscious of the wealth of resources that quality roads can open up in our agrarian centres. The timely completion of Port Harcourt Road in Aba, Aguiyi Ironsi Boulevard in Umuahia and the 67-kilometre Umuahia-Uzuakoli-Abriba-Ohafia Road offers a telling example of the balance of our outlay. The quality of work on the new bridge over Igu River, adjacent

to the historic Omenuko Bridge, point to the joy of restoration and the place of memory in our evolution. This same testimony is what you get from regular commuters at Ohanku Road in Aba, a road that lay in ruins for decades. The dualization of the 5.95-kilometre road leading to Abia Tower from Onuimo Bridge, now named Uma Ukpai Way, and the completion of the 11.5-kilometre Nunya- Eluama Road, now known as Ndubuisi Kanu Road amongst hundreds of other projects, stand as abiding testament to the measure of progress the State has witnessed in the last 36 months.

4. In addition to building durable, aesthetically-appealing roads, this administration has also recorded decent strides in quality healthcare delivery through sustained investments in personnel, infrastructure and the consistent supply of quality drugs and medical consumables. In the last 3 years, we have recruited close to a thousand healthcare professionals, from consultants to health technicians. The new employees have been posted to tertiary, secondary and primary health facilities to support the wellbeing of our people in the urban and rural communities. In pursuit of the compelling vision of setting the pace in public health delivery ecosystem, we have consistently earmarked 15% of our annual budget to the sector. This outlay has enabled the retrofitting and functionalisation of 277 and over 120 primary health facilities respectively. The general

# DIGNITY, PUBLIC WELFARE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

hospitals in Obingwa, Okeikpe, Ikwuano, Arochukwu and Ohafia have been retrofitted and supplied with relevant equipment to meet the New Abia service standard. In the same vein, we have also made good progress in tertiary health services following the resuscitation and expansion of the service framework at the Abia State Specialist Hospital and Diagnostic Centre here in Umuhia. Our projection is that over the next few months, the ongoing construction and remodelling projects at the Abia State University Teaching and Amachara General Hospitals shall be completed to further expand the tertiary care space. In the New Abia, the first measure of wealth is the health of the people. It is for this reason that we are pulling all the stops to set standards that align with our outlook for the sector.

5. Education is at the centre of our long-term development plan as documented, legislated upon and signed into law. The logic is that while our investments in physical infrastructure answer to the economic and social needs of the present, prosperity in the future will require a mass of enlightened and highly skilled population. In order not to be caught unawares by the demands of the new age economy, we had made it a convention to allocate no less than 20% of our annual budgetary provision to the education sector. It has been 3 years of consistency and the results are beginning to manifest as predicted. Just recently, I was at the Abia State University Uturu to commission several projects including hostel facilities and a 5MVA power substation. While in Uturu, we also flagged off the construction of a combined 10, 000 bed hostels for male and female students, new faculty buildings for the faculties of law and agriculture, a university cafeteria and kilometres of internal roads. Decent infrastructure turnaround is also happening at the Ogbonnaya Onu Polytechnic Aba and the College of Education (Technical) Arochukwu. In Aba and Arochukwu, we have completed the restoration of several residential facilities, lecture halls, intra-campus roads, sports complexes and other significant infrastructure projects. The more fundamental development happening in the tertiary education space is the recruitment of hundreds of quality personnel to instruct and mentor our students in their chosen fields of learning. We recently launched an initiative to stamp out the evil of extortion within the institutions. In the basic and secondary education sub-sector, I mentioned last week that we have not moved at the pace we wanted nevertheless, appreciable progress has also been recorded with particular respect to staff training following the recruitment of 5, 394 teachers last year. We are currently concluding the process of adding another set of 4, 000 new teachers to further boost the quality

of learning in our public schools. The addition of new teachers became imperative following the jump in enrolment by over 150% in the last academic session.

6. In addition to the extensive investments in formal education, we are also keen on supporting other channels of youth development. In the past 3 years, we have trained thousands of young people on critical ICT skills from software engineering and AI integration to Cybersecurity using platforms like the TechRise skills development initiative and similar programmes. In addition to training and skills acquisition, we have moved further to incentivise innovation by earmarking funds in excess of N300 million to support technology-driven enterprises across the State. Our overarching vision is to give the young dreamers every necessary support to thrive, compete and find fulfilment in a world where knowledge is the ultimate capital.

7. Still on youth development and empowerment for value creation, the administration has taken an active interest in sports development, from grassroots sports activities to international sporting exposure. We are investing in the sports ecosystem with the singular intent of expanding the platform for self-expression because sports, beyond its recreational value, has grown into a major economic stronghold, opening channels of generous earning by sports professionals, investors and millions of other stakeholder groups. The just-concluded Abia SOCCERFEST tournament which began in the 184 wards before the final showpiece in Umuhia a few days ago, attest to our conviction that sports represent an excellent vehicle for community mobilisation and exposure. In the last 3 years, we have institutionalised state-wide sports tournaments for students in secondary and tertiary institutions. The intent is to purposely direct the energy of our young people, pull them away from unhealthy recreational activities and give the extraordinarily talented ones the platform to begin their ascent in the world of professional sporting.

8. We declared an emergency on waste management minutes after we took the oath of office on this day in 2023. I am glad to report that within the intervening period; the tempo has remained as high. After the evacuation of 2, 997 truckloads of garbage in the first few weeks, we have since moved methodically to set up a structured system to guarantee round-the-clock effective waste management. In addition to the prompt evacuation of solid waste, the State environmental protection agency, ASEPA, has significantly raised the bar by developing appropriate mechanism for managing industrial and household effluents, inventorisation of dumpsites to track threats and other novel initiatives to keep the environment safe.



# DIGNITY, PUBLIC WELFARE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

9. The transport sector is another front where the administration has effectively changed the old narrative. Our network of quality roads, the recently commissioned bus terminal in Umuahia, the electric buses that ply major inter and intra-city routes, the 70 bus shelters, lay-bys and similar infrastructure investments have not only improved the daily commute experience of tens of thousands of people, they have made our roads safer and raised the appeal of our urban centres. Through our development initiatives in the sector, thousands of jobs have been created as new investments arrive to meet demands arising from the shift in appetite. The most impressive development for us is that the turnaround in the road transport ecosystem has led to a significant reduction in the cost of regular commute, when compared to other places. Even then, we are not unmindful of the difficulties that confront many fixed income earners in their commute to work; we shall continue to make interventions in the hope that normalcy would return in a short time.

10. In the power sector, significant gains have also been recorded by the administration. Abia, I am glad to report, has continued to build on the gains of the larger reforms in the national power ecosystem. We are currently ramping up investments in the sector, from alternative to conventional energy resources, to systems and structures that drive investments, job creation and industrial growth. Our efforts have led to the restoration of electricity in several communities that were previously disconnected from the grid owing to vandalism or infrastructure inadequacy. In the next few months, scores of other communities would have their electricity supply challenges resolved. We are working round the clock to support the capacity of private sector players in the energy space to deliver improved value for household and industrial consumers. Recall that we had already made a major acquisition that is intended to improve supply frequency in the Umuahia ring-fenced district. I am convinced that before the end of the year, we shall reach significant milestones in that regard. It is, however, encouraging to observe that several manufacturers have since picked the signal. Quietly but optimistically, they are setting up plants in different parts of the State to take advantage of the progress we have made in the electricity market.

11. In the agricultural sector, we are moving away from the old fixation with subsistence farming to an enterprise-oriented, technology-driven model. Our approach is data-enabled. In the last 3 years, we have done a comprehensive mapping of our agricultural assets, built a robust-data base of farmers and developed a holistic framework that is transforming the outlook to agro-investing, financing

and management of small-holder farmers. Expectedly, Abia has become an attractive investment destination for multinational corporations with significant sums already committed in the agro value chain. As I said a few days ago, the days of playing small are long gone; while we shall continue to support small holder farmers with inputs and training, we are more invested on how to make the most of our agro-assets to create jobs and achieve food security.

12. Umuahia, permit me to also report that a significant turnaround has been recorded in the management of our land assets. We have holistically digitised the lands documents management system to improve transparency and process integrity. The mapping of the State has also been recently concluded. The target is to improve precise spatial data records and reap the body of benefits associated thereto. Our Cs-of-O in 30 days policy has greatly improved the value of our real estate. In the area of housing development, I am happy to announce that we have concluded arrangements for the flag off of the Civil Service Commission Pocket Layout Estate in Umuahia. Projected to be delivered in the next 12 months, the estate would improve the supply of residential homes in Umuahia as well as draw in capital and skilled professionals to the city.

13. In addition to the development of physical infrastructure, the State has prioritised the welfare of civil servants and retirees in absolute fidelity to the promise made at the inauguration podium on this day 3 years ago that never again will our civil servants and retirees take to the streets to ask for their monthly entitlements. Through the introduction of a robust health insurance programme, the administration has made it easy for its workforce and their dependents to access affordable healthcare, including surgeries without worrying about the cost. Additionally, we have made training and retraining a regular feature in the civil service. May I reiterate that we acknowledge the economic difficulties that fixed income earners face amidst the strong headwinds from forces outside our direct control. As earlier indicated, we shall continue to evolve initiatives to mitigate the impact on our people. I am, however, pleased that today in Abia, every legitimate employee of the State Government gets their entitlements as and when due; the certainty has made it easier for households and businesses to plan.

14. The administration has successfully engineered a shift in the approach to women empowerment. Through special intervention programmes supervised by various ministries, departments and agencies, hundreds of women have been supported to set up business clusters and take advantage of economic

# DIGNITY, PUBLIC WELFARE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

support programmes of the State Government and its network of partners. The government remains particularly mindful of women and girls in its recruitments, appointments and targeted interventions in agriculture, ICT, small and medium enterprises development and household support initiatives. Just recently, the Office of the First Lady commissioned 35 units of residential buildings across the 17 local government areas for indigent mothers. Efforts have also been intensified to protect the girlchild from all forms of assault; the recent launch of the Nchedo Sexual Assault Referral Centre speaks to our commitment in this regard.

15. What has distinguished our administration, in addition to the modest gains in infrastructure development; is the way we respond to the weak and vulnerable in our midst. Considerations for persons with disabilities form a critical thrust of all government policy frameworks. Our free basic education programme and continuous investment in the sector are intended to offer children from economically-disadvantaged background the chance to fight for a better future through learning and skills development.

16. Security was a major challenge in the State 3 years ago, several communities were held hostage as kidnappers, armed robbers and an assortment of different criminal groups set camps in the forests from where they launch sporadic attacks on innocent Abians. The situation today is entirely different for the simple reason that we take the security of the people as our primary obligation as the Constitution envisaged. Through effective support to security agencies, we have been able to reassert control. We do not have a perfect situation yet but there is no ambiguity on the preparedness of the administration to do what it must to keep the peace and security of our State.

17. One novel initiative we have taken to improve security and peaceful co-existence is the integration of the stakeholder model to our governance framework. Deliberate steps have been taken to bring traditional rulers and other community leaders, persons of influence, heads of town unions, youth and women groups to the decision-making table, regularly engaging with them to build consensus on development priorities. We shall continue in this regard especially as we move closer to the peak of the electioneering campaigns. In our book, it is fine to disagree but we must reject every invitation to disorder and conflicts.

18. Part of the reasons we have made remarkable progress in the last 36 months is a firm commitment to fiscal responsibility. Our record of expenditure per capita on capital investments is about the highest in

the country and still, we have managed to liquidate the stock of public debts by 60% from 2023 figures. We are ranked by independent observers as one of the leading states on fiscal sustainability, accountability and transparency. We shall continue to strengthen the fiscal responsibility outline and commit more resources to assets that yield long term social and economic benefits. As I have consistently maintained, there is so much to do with funds that we cannot spare a dime for frivolities.

19. Let me conclude on a note of profound gratitude to members of the State Executive Council, especially the Deputy Governor, Engr. Ikechukwu Emetu, FNSE, for all the hard work and sacrifices of the last 3 years. The smiles on the faces of Ndi Abia, as we saw during the recent marathon of project commissioning exercise across the State, tell a thousand stories in faith and optimism for the future. At any rate, we must never lose sight of the fact that there is still so much to be done. Commendations are also due to members of the State House of Assembly led by the Speaker, Rt. Hon. Emmanuel Ihuoma Emeruwa, for being worthy representatives of the 24 state constituencies. May I also thank members of the State Judiciary ably led by the Chief Judge, Honourable Justice Lilian Abai, for their commitment to unbiased, fair and fearless interpretation of the provisions of our laws. I would also like to take a moment to extend profound appreciation to the leadership of the 17 local government councils, the councillors and everyone in a position of public authority in the State. Each arm and tier of government is clearly independent but it is also true that we are serving the same community of people. I am glad that in the New Abia, public service is underpinned by a certain sense of duty. It is my conviction that the new culture of accountability would continue to find generous expressions in our disposition and response to the needs of our people.

20. Let me on a final note, thank you, umunne m ndi Abia for your relentless support and enthusiasm. We do not take your goodwill for granted. As I said on the floor of the State House of Assembly in December 2023, the opportunity to serve our people at this time is the greatest privilege of our lives and we shall never forget the sacrifices that made it happen. In the same vein, permit me to remind us to remain diligent in the discharge of our civic obligations; pay your taxes as and when due, keep the environment clean and support the law enforcement agencies to protect our communities through the supply of useful and timely information. This is our State, let us build it together.

21. Thank you for listening and may God bless you.



# From The Editorial Suite

Jones Nnanna Ike



## GOV OTTI'S 3RD ANNIVERSARY: REFORM, RENEWAL AND THE IMPERATIVE OF CONTINUITY

Three years after assuming office as Governor of Abia State, Dr. Alex Chioma Otti, OFR, has significantly altered the governance narrative of a state that, for decades, symbolized institutional decay, infrastructural collapse, and administrative lethargy. The difficult task of restoring public confidence in government and rebuilding the foundations of development has, within a relatively short period, become a visible reality in Abia State.

The significance of Governor Otti's administration lies not merely in the projects executed, but in the restoration of governance itself. For years, Abians yearned for purposeful leadership capable of translating public resources into measurable development outcomes. Today, from Aba to Umuahia, from Ukwa to Arochukwu, the evidence of a determined reform agenda is increasingly difficult to ignore.

The transformation witnessed across Abia State within these three years is both tangible and far-reaching. Long-abandoned roads that once crippled economic activities and frustrated residents have received urgent attention. Aba, Nigeria's renowned commercial hub, is gradually reclaiming its place as a centre of enterprise through strategic road rehabilitation, improved drainage systems, and urban renewal initiatives. The governor recognized early that economic revival cannot occur where infrastructure is absent—a principle that has guided interventions across multiple sectors of the state.

Above all, the Otti administration has pursued reforms in public finance management with uncommon discipline. The regular payment of salaries and pensions has restored confidence among workers and retirees who were previously subjected to uncertainty and neglect. This alone represents a major shift in governance culture. A government that honours its obligations, creates stability, boosts productivity, and stimulates local economic activity.

Equally commendable are the administration's interventions in healthcare and education. Across the state, efforts to rehabilitate primary healthcare centres, equip hospitals, and improve access to medical services have renewed hope among ordinary citizens. In education, school rehabilitation, teacher recruitment, and renewed attention to learning infrastructure signal a clear recognition that human capital development remains the foundation of sustainable progress.

Reforms in sanitation and environmental management have also produced visible improvements, particularly in urban centres. Areas once overwhelmed by refuse and

disorder now reflect better coordination and a growing sense of environmental responsibility.

While these changes may appear modest to outsiders, to residents who endured years of neglect, they represent a restoration of dignity.

Importantly, Governor Otti's leadership style has projected seriousness, accountability, and urgency in governance. At a time when public trust in political leadership continues to decline nationally, Abia's experience demonstrates that transparent governance and prudent management of public resources can still deliver tangible results. The administration has shown that leadership is not about rhetoric, but about measurable impact on the lives of the people.

However, while celebrating these gains, it is crucial to emphasize that sustainable development requires continuity. Three years, though impactful, are insufficient to completely reverse decades of systemic decay. Institutional reforms, infrastructural renewal, and economic rebuilding are long-term processes that demand consistency and protection from political disruption.

The greatest danger to reform-oriented governments in Nigeria often arises when policies are abandoned midway due to shifting political interests.

Abia cannot afford a return to an era defined by abandoned projects, unpaid salaries, weak institutions, and lack of direction. The momentum generated under the present administration must therefore be consolidated and sustained beyond immediate political cycles.

Sustaining these reforms requires collective responsibility. Government must continue to deepen transparency, strengthen institutions, and ensure that development reaches rural communities alongside urban centres. Citizens, on their part, must protect public infrastructure, support lawful governance, and demand accountability without descending into destructive partisanship.

Governor Alex Otti's first three years in office have undeniably repositioned Abia State on the path of recovery and growth. While challenges remain, the administration has demonstrated that visionary leadership, fiscal discipline, and political will can indeed transform society.

The task ahead is not only to applaud ongoing reforms, but to preserve and strengthen them. For Abia, continuity of purposeful governance is no longer a luxury; it has become a developmental and political imperative.

# PROLOGUE: ABIA'S STORY OF DECAY, RESILIENCE, AND REBIRTH

By: Jones Ike

**A**bia State is a vital component of Igbo land. The Igbo people are widely renowned for their hard work, resourcefulness, strong sense of social justice, quest for excellence, and deeply rooted republican values. Historically, the region has produced distinguished leaders across diverse fields of human endeavor—leaders whose commitment to excellence and sound values has contributed immensely to the advancement of modern science, technology, medicine, economics, law, and the arts. Through these accomplishments, they brought pride not only to themselves and their families, but also to their region and the nation at large. However, this pride was, over time, punctuated by the poor leadership outcomes of those entrusted with the governance of the state.

Truth be told, Abia State—created in August 1991 from the old Imo State—began its journey under military administration, which did little to advance its development. Indeed, military rule in Nigeria, which lasted for nearly three decades, has little record of meaningful progress to its credit. In comparative terms, Abia's experience under military rule from 1991 to 1999 fell below the national average.

The civilian administration of Dr. Ogonnaya Onu, elected in 1992, offered a glimpse of hope. However, this hope was short-lived, as his government was abruptly terminated by the Abacha coup of November 1993.

In fairness to the military administrations in the state, it must be acknowledged that they maintained a degree of stability in governance. Basic administrative systems—such as salary payments, recruitment processes, discipline, and promotions within the civil service—were upheld with a reasonable level of consistency. This ensured operational efficiency, even though there was little or no progress in infrastructural development.

With Nigeria's return to democratic rule in 1999, expectations were high. The people anticipated not only the continuation of administrative efficiency established under military rule but also a significant leap in infrastructural development and the fulfillment of their collective aspirations. Unfortunately, these expectations were not met.

Particularly high hopes were placed on the youthful and charismatic governor, Chief Orji Uzor Kalu, who won the 1999 gubernatorial election.



His early performance in infrastructure initially raised optimism. However, these hopes were gradually and systematically eroded as his administration devolved into a transactional system characterized by greed, graft, disregard for established rules, and elements of family dominance.

Perhaps the most damaging outcome of this era was the erosion of discipline within the civil service. Favoritism became widespread, with loyalists promoted over more qualified senior officers. Recruitment processes were compromised, and fiscal discipline weakened. These developments laid the foundation for the stagnation and eventual decay the state would experience in subsequent years.

Matters worsened as political tensions escalated. Chief Kalu's confrontational stance toward federal authorities triggered internal crises within the ruling Peoples Democratic Party (PDP). Much of his later years in office were consumed by political battles with influential party members at the federal level, including ministers, legislators, and other stakeholders.

Between 2002 and 2007, Abia State was engulfed in political turmoil, frequently making national headlines.

By 2007, as Chief Kalu exited office, his political structure succeeded in installing his Chief of Staff, Chief T. A. Orji, as governor—despite the latter being under detention at the Kirikiri Maximum Security Prison over allegations of financial misconduct.

Chief T. A. Orji, who contested under the Peoples Progressive Alliance (PPA), was unable to rise above the entrenched culture of mediocrity and inefficiency established by his predecessor. Instead, his administration sustained and deepened the politics of exclusion and the transactional sharing of state resources among a small ruling elite and their associates.

Fiscal indiscipline worsened, budgetary processes were routinely ignored, and transparency in public procurement remained elusive. Even the limited infrastructural efforts initiated during the previous administration were either neglected or abandoned.

By the time he left office, Abia State had entered a phase of widespread deterioration across virtually all sectors.

Amid this decline, a counter-movement began to emerge. A professional reform-oriented group, led by the highly accomplished Dr. Alex Chioma Oti—who resigned his position as Managing Director of Diamond Bank—stepped forward to challenge the entrenched status quo.

His entry into the political arena significantly altered the dynamics of the struggle to reclaim the state from the grip of a long-standing political cabal that had dominated governance since 1999.

In the 2015 elections, Dr. Okezie Ikpeazu of the PDP was declared winner after a highly contested process. However, his administration performed even worse than that of his predecessor. His tenure became widely associated with systemic looting, fiscal recklessness, administrative inefficiency, and severe infrastructural decay.



By the time he left office in 2023, Abia State had acquired the unfortunate reputation of being one of the least developed states in Southern Nigeria.

During the twilight of his administration, both urban and rural infrastructure had collapsed. Roads were in deplorable condition, healthcare systems were largely non-functional, and medical personnel were frequently on strike or leaving the service.

The education sector fared no better. Many tertiary institutions lost accreditation for key programs, while both staff and students suffered from poor infrastructure and inadequate accommodation. Workers, both teaching and non-teaching, were owed salaries spanning several months, and in some cases, years.

Security also deteriorated, as criminal gangs took control of parts of several local government areas.

Urban environments became overwhelmed by filth, with refuse clogging major roads and public spaces.

The worst affected were civil servants and pensioners, who endured irregular salary payments and accumulated arrears. Morale within the public service reached an all-time low.

During this "locust years" period, Aba—the famed Enyimba City and pride of the Igbo people—suffered the most severe decline, degenerating into a severely dilapidated urban center with some of the worst road networks in the country.

Perhaps most troubling was the conduct of the ruling political class during this period. Detached from the suffering of the people, they operated like mercenaries within their own land—exhibiting arrogance, insensitivity, and disregard for public welfare, while the masses yearned desperately for change.

Consequently, Abia State's human development indicators declined sharply, reinforcing its negative reputation.

The turning point came with the election of Dr. Alex Chioma Otti on March 18, 2023. He was sworn into office on May 29, 2023 amidst an ongoing industrial action by organized labor, which had to be persuaded to suspend its strike to enable the new administration to commence operations.

Dr. Otti's victory symbolized the collective resolve of the Abia people to break free from decades of misrule. It marked the culmination of a long and courageous struggle that began as far back as 2015—one in which citizens resisted intimidation and manipulation to usher in a government committed to transparency, efficiency, and accountability.

Three years into his administration, Dr. Otti—who campaigned on a clear vision to restore Abia's lost glory and reposition it as a leading state significant progress toward realizing that vision.

The evidence supporting this transformation forms the subject of the subsequent sections.



# THE INSTITUTIONALISATION OF A SMART, GOOD GOVERNANCE SYSTEM

**R**ight from inception, Governor Otti was intentional about his agenda for the state. His vision and mission were clearly articulated in the opening statements of his 42-page manifesto document, and they read as follows:

**• Vision**

To restore the glory of Abia State and make her a truly number one state in Nigeria—God's Own State.

**• Mission**

To establish a responsive, efficient, and accountable government that will sustainably develop Abia State for the welfare, security, and progress of all Abians.

No assessment of Governor Otti's performance over the past three years can be considered objective or complete without reference to these foundational commitments.

Dr. Alex Chioma Otti envisioned reversing the fortunes of Abia State—from its unfortunate status as one of the least developed states in Nigeria—to a truly leading state. When this vision was first made public, many regarded it as an impossible mission. However, Dr. Otti did not merely present an aspiration; he clearly articulated the vehicle through which this transformation would be achieved.

That vehicle, as outlined in his mission statement, is the establishment of a responsive, efficient, and accountable government capable of delivering sustainable development for Abia State.

Three years down the line, the steady movement toward the realization of this vision has become an everyday reality.

**• MEASURABLE PROGRESS AND KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

Several development indices now suggest that Abia is rapidly overtaking many other states in key sectors. A few practical examples will suffice:

The state's inherited debt burden of ₦192 billion has been reduced by over 60%—a feat unmatched by any other state in Nigeria within a similar time frame.

Within three years, the administration has constructed over 414 quality roads, spanning more than 860 kilometers—another record that stands out nationally.

Over 200 health centers have been constructed and made functional across the 184 wards of the state.

Tertiary institutions have regained accreditation for courses that were previously lost. Public sector buildings are being renovated and retrofitted at a pace rarely seen elsewhere in the country.

Workers' welfare has significantly improved, with salaries consistently paid on or before the 28th day of every month since May 29, 2023.



Beyond these measurable indices, what many now refer to as the “Abia Miracle” is reflected in the lived experiences of millions of citizens who now feel the tangible impact of governance in their daily lives.

• **.THE FOUNDATION:**

**A SMART GOVERNANCE SYSTEM**

This transformation did not happen by chance. It is the result of a bold vision backed by a clear and actionable mission—anchored on the establishment of a responsive, efficient, and accountable government.

Simply put, Governor Otti set out to institute a smart governance system as the instrument for achieving his goals.

Upon assuming office, he embarked on fundamental institutional reforms that have led to the emergence of a smart and effective governance structure. This structure has enabled the rapid transformation of Abia—from one of the least developed states in Nigeria to one of the fastest-growing within just three years.

This remarkable turnaround is what is now widely referred to as the “Abia Miracle.”

• **GOVERNOR OTTI'S GOOD GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE UNVEILED**

• **Merit-Based Appointments**

Professionals with proven track records are appointed to key positions, regardless of gender, class, or ethnicity.

• **Rule of Law**

Governance is driven by due process, legality, and institutional integrity.

• **Leadership by Example**

Governor Otti leads from the front, setting high standards of discipline, hard work, and transparency.

• **Empathy for the Vulnerable**

The government has developed very robust policies that supports the weak and the venerable in the society through institutional mechanism.

• **MDA REFORMS**

Governor Otti has reinvigorated the Abia State Civil Service by: Promoting merit-based recruitment, promotion, and discipline

Restructuring of Ministries for efficiency

Combating ghost workers, absenteeism, and workplace truancy

Regular training and retraining of public sector personnel

• **DIRECT LABOUR MECHANISM**

To fast-track service delivery and reduce costs, the administration introduced direct labour in key ministries such as:

Works

Lands and Housing

Abia State Environmental Protection Agency (ASEPA)

• This approach leverages in-house professionals,

enhances their capacity, saves public funds, and ensures quality project delivery.

These reforms have transformed the workforce into a more efficient and professional service, significantly improving productivity.

Encouraging project execution through direct labour mechanism at minimal cost



**•TIMELY PAYMENT OF WORKERS' SALARIES**

In keeping with the biblical principle, "A worker deserves his wage," Governor Otti pledged during his May 29, 2023 inauguration that salaries would be paid on or before the 28th of each month.

This pledge has been faithfully upheld.

•Previously, salary payments were irregular and arbitrary. Today, salaries, entitlements, and allowances are consistently paid, greatly improving staff morale and productivity—reinforcing a hallmark of good governance.

**•RECOVERY OF GOVERNMENT ASSETS**

Governor Otti has demonstrated strong commitment to accountability by:

Establishing a State Panel on the Recovery of Government Funds and Assets, chaired by Justice Mrs. Duruoha (Rtd)

Commissioning a Visitation Panel for Abia State University in 2024

These efforts are aimed at curbing corruption and restoring accountability in public institutions.

**•FISCAL DISCIPLINE AND FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY**

Strict adherence to budgetary provisions ensures proper utilization of public funds

Transparent payment cycles are maintained

The Accountant-General is mandated to release funds within 72 hours of approvals

**•STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS**

Governor Otti has leveraged both local and international networks to attract investments and support through platforms such as:

Transition Council

Global Economic Council

Security Trust Fund etc.

**•A CULTURE OF HARD WORK**

Governor Otti's legendary work ethic has redefined leadership in Abia. Known to sleep less than four hours a night, he consistently drives government operations forward.

His relentless dedication has inspired his team and established a governance tempo that ensures prompt and efficient project delivery.

**•RESTORING TRUST THROUGH ACCOUNTABILITY**

Public funds are no longer siphoned off. The Due Process Office ensures value-for-money in all procurements, and the culture of looting state resources has been decisively dismantled.

As a result, investors and development partners now see Abia as a credible destination for business.

**•STRICT ADHERENCE TO BUDGETARY PROVISIONS**

The Government runs a system where MDA's adhere strictly to budgetary provisions.

**•INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE**

Governor Otti's administration reflects inclusivity across all zones, communities, and gender lines.

Women now occupy critical leadership roles across key institutions. Positions held by women include the The Commissioners for Tertiary Education, Poverty Alleviation and Social Inclusion, Women Affairs, Accountant-General, Chairman Civil Service Commission, Primary Education Board, Provost Abia State College of Education (Technical) and several other high profile positions.

Women hold approximately 75% of Permanent Secretary positions in the state



**•WEEKLY AND MONTHLY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS**

The administration maintains:

Weekly State Executive Council meetings

Monthly Expanded Executive Council meetings

These meetings ensure collective decision-making, accountability, and timely resolution of challenges with clearly defined execution timelines.

**•CONCLUSION: THE EMERGENCE OF A NEW ABIA**

The New Abia that has emerged through these institutional reforms—collectively referred to as the Good Governance Structure—is not a fluke.

It is the result of deliberate policies, disciplined execution, and a people-centered governance system instituted by Governor Otti.

This transformation has:

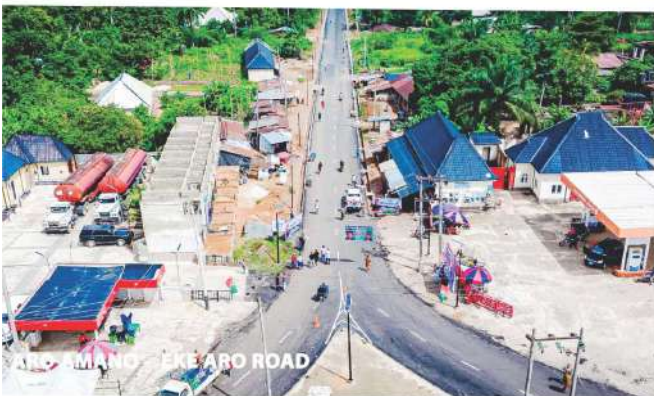
Reawakened hope

Restored pride

Repositioned Abia as a model of transformation

This phenomenon is now widely known as the "Abia Miracle"—the product of which is a truly "New Abia".

# ABIA'S HARVEST



# OF PROJECTS





# SOME PROJECTS FROM GODA



**CONSTRUCTION OF 1.58km AMAEKPU RING ROAD, IN AMAEKPU OHAFIA**



**Reconstruction Of Ezeukwu Failed Bridge With 200m Road Reconstruction.**



**Retrofitting of FRSC regional licence office in Ehem, Ohafia.**



**THE RETROFITTING OF GODA HEADQUARTERS**



**Construction of 1.5km Presbyterian Church Road to Catholic Church Road, Ukwuakwu Ututu (Arochukwu LGA)**



# PROTOTYPE

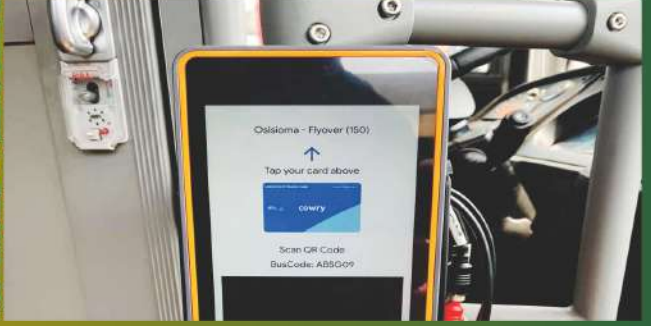


**ABIA AIRPORT SITE**



# SOME PROJECTS FROM MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT

## NNENNA OTI BUS TERMINAL IN UMUAHIA



# SOME PROJECTS FROM MINISTRY OF AGRIC

**HARVESTED RICE AT OWERRINTA RICE CLUSTER BEING BRANDED AND READY FOR DISTRIBUTION**



**WORK PROGRESS AT THE L-PRES FUNDED VETERINARY HOSPITAL PROJECT**



**WORK IN PROGRESS @ RICE PROCESSING MILL  
UMUOBASIUKWU**

**35HA LAND DEVELOPMENT WORK IN PROGRESS**



**GREEN HOUSE FOR HOMESTEAD VEGETABLE FARMING CLUSTER**



**SOME OF THE INPUTS DISTRIBUTED TO AUDA-NEPAD SMALLHOLDER FARMERS**

# SOME PROJECTS FROM TERTIARY EDUCATION

Figure -5 Renovated Hostels A, B, C at ABSU



The New Common Room



5 MVA Power Sub-station to restore electricity to ABSU and surrounding Uturu Community.



Typical Bore Fitted with Solar-Powered, Dry-Run Protected Submersible Pump (2)



Figure 10-14 - Renovated Buildings at ASCETA



Internal Roads at ASCETA



Figure 15-16 - Internal Roads at Ogonnaya Onu Polytechnic, Aba Campus



### SOME PROJECTS FROM MINISTRY OF POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND SOCIAL PROTECTION



**EU-SUSI PROJECT LAUNCH**



**ILO TRANSFORM SP Training for State Social Protection TWG**



**Launch of Nchedo SARC**



**Orientation session for the State GBV Committee**



**Technical Review Workshop on Draft Abia State Social Protection Policy**

# GROOMING THE YOUNG ONES FOR A GREATER ABIA

“The function of leadership is to produce more leaders, not more followers.” – **Ralph Nader**



Leadership has always defined the fate of societies. Nations rise and fall not merely by the abundance of resources but by the quality of their leaders. True leadership goes beyond occupying positions of authority. It is about influencing change, inspiring hope, and creating pathways for others to thrive. The essence of leadership therefore is not confined to today but to the future, moulding young minds who will step into tomorrow with vision, courage, and values.

This is why deliberate investment in youth leadership is not a luxury but a necessity. When young people are nurtured, mentored, and empowered, they carry with them the ideals that safeguard societies from collapse. It is in this light that Governor Alex Chioma Otti, DFR, has charted a bold path in Abia State by establishing the Abia Leadership Academy, a visionary initiative designed to groom young Abians into transformational leaders.

The Academy, which just graduated its pioneer cohort of 250 participants aged between 16 and 20, is more than a programme, it is a movement. In his address titled “A New Pedestal”, Governor Otti reaffirmed his commitment to building future leaders who would uphold values of empathy, integrity, and neighbourliness, describing the initiative as a conscious step to redirect the psyche and mental energy of the younger generation. “We are committed to getting it right with the younger generation. Otherwise, our wider development efforts will be in jeopardy,” he declared.

The week-long training immersed participants in leadership lessons, critical thinking, and futuristic visioning, with each group tasked to imagine Abia in 2045. It was designed not to inflate egos but to elevate visions, preparing these young leaders to think beyond self and focus on community, innovation, and service. Pastor Eno Jerry-Eze, a member of the Academy’s organizing committee, aptly described the initiative as epochal, emphasizing that Abia is not just producing graduates but raising a critical mass of young leaders who believe that change is possible and who are equipped to drive it.

The brilliance of the Abia Leadership Academy lies in its timing. At ages 16 to 20, participants are at a formative stage where values, discipline, and vision can be most effectively instilled. Training them in ethics, innovation, and problem-solving at this stage ensures that they will not only excel individually but also lead responsibly in the future. Participants themselves testified that the experience was life-changing, boosting their confidence, sharpening their thinking, and inspiring them to contribute meaningfully to society. With the Governor’s plan to expand the training to thousands of young people and to send graduates into schools and institutions to mentor others, the Academy is set to ignite a ripple effect of leadership across the state.

Governor Otti’s commitment to grooming leaders is not in isolation. His broader vision for Abia includes reviving industries such as the recently announced acquisition of Star Paper Mill, once the state’s largest employer. By combining economic renewal with human capital development, Otti is laying the foundation for a self-sustaining future where visionary leadership and enterprise go hand in hand.

The Abia Leadership Academy therefore represents a bold departure from the old order. It is a deliberate attempt to ensure that tomorrow’s leaders are not products of chance but of conscious grooming. By catching them young, Governor Otti is sowing seeds of leadership that will blossom across sectors, producing not just professionals but leaders of thought,



policy, and innovation. In the years to come, Abia will be recognized not only for its resilience but also for producing men and women who, having been trained early, carry with them the torch of transformational leadership.

Indeed, leadership is about tomorrow, and with Governor Otti’s vision, the tomorrow of Abia and Nigeria is already being shaped today.

– *Dr. Ebere Uzoukwa is the Senior Special Assistant to the Governor on Public Affairs*

# SOME PROJECTS FROM MINISTRY OF ARTS & CULTURE

## A. Heritage Sites



## B. 50-Man State Band



1. OKEZU ABIA FLYOVER



2. OGBONNAYA ONU POLYTECHNIC



FMC FENCE MURALS



RESTORED ART WORK AT OSISIOMA, ABA



NEWLY RESTORED ART WORK AT FGCG OLD IIMITIAMIA



RESTORED ART WORK AT OCHENDO BYPASS BY IKOT EKPENE, NDUME

## D. RETROFITTING OF MONUMENTS IN ABIA STATE

## SOME PROJECTS FROM ABIA STATE PHCDA



Trained 182 N/Cs on ISS and M/SS



Demolition of the Banamu Penelau



Trained 184 N/Cs on ISS and M/SS



Refurbished of State Walk-in Cold-Room



Demolition of 81 laptops for I/R& Team



Functioning of State Cold Store



Renovated Amocha DHC in Isikwani I/R&



Demolition of State Cold Store



Control of flood at the Banamu penelau



Demolition of 4 11050u vehicles



Renovated Ilimuhaci DHC in Paicima I/R&



Renovated Okafor PHC in Ibafo I/R&



Renovated St. Eugene PHC in Aba North LGA

### Other Activities

- Engagement of 92 midwives
- Trained 184 health care providers on Help Baby Breathe
- Trained 51 nutrition officers on nutrition assessment and reporting
- 1490 frontline health workers were retrained on clinic processes
- Training of Health workers on Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses
- Logistics and Stock Control training for Facility Managers
- Trained all the implementing 184 OICs on nutrition assessment
- Retrained 184 BHCPF facility Data managers on the revised

# SOME PROJECTS FROM MINISTRY OF POWER & UTILITY



# SOME PROJECTS FROM MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVT & CHIEFTENCY AFFAIRS

## JAAC BUILDING COMPLETION AND ACCESS ROADS



# Enriching The Cultural Life Of The State

**ZIGIMA**

*Sir Bright Chimezie*



# Enriching The Cultural Life Of The State

**MUSIC LEGEND**

*Dr. Sir Paulson Kalu*



# Enriching The Cultural Life Of The State

ICON OF FAITH

*Rev. Dr. Uma Ukpai*



# Enriching The Cultural Life Of The State

ICON OF FAITH

*Rev Dr. Uma Ukpai*





# Anniversary EVENT

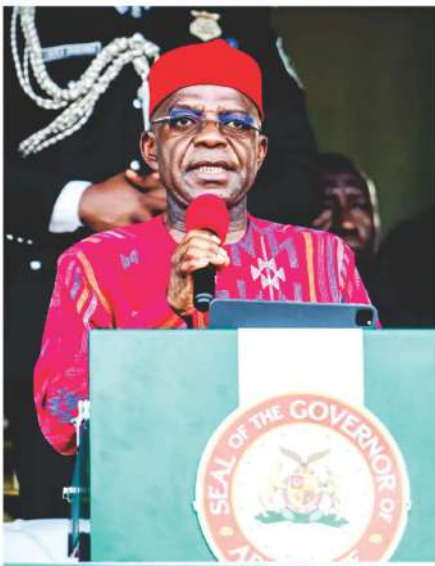
## INTERDENOMINATIONAL CHURCH SERVICE



# ANNIVERSARY **3** RD



# Anniversary CELEBRATION





# Anniversary EVENTS

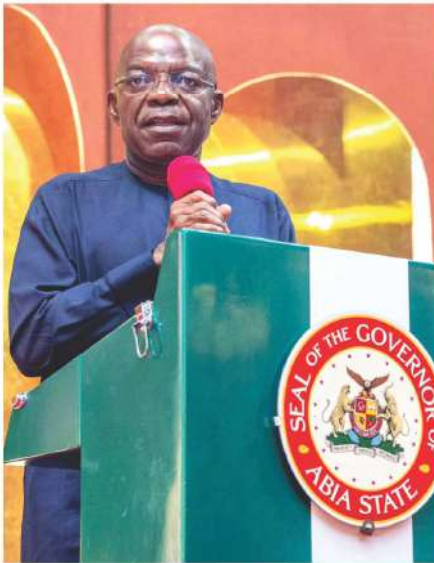
## ANNIVERSARY LECTURE





# Anniversary EVENTS

## BANQUET

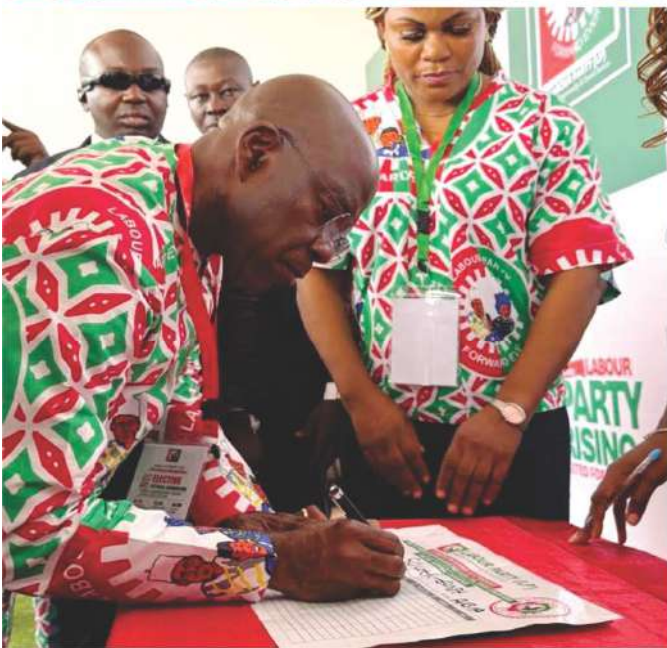


# Gov Otti: A Friend To Children



# A NEW IMPETUS FOR THE LABOUR PARTY

## Photo Perspective on its Successful 2026 National Convention Held in Umuahia



# A NEW IMPETUS FOR THE LABOUR PARTY

## Photo Perspective on its Successful 2026 National Convention Held in Umuahia



# OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN ABIA ARISE MOVEMENT, ABIA STATE.



## A CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO HIS EXCELLENCY, DR. ALEX OTTI, OFR, GOVERNOR OF ABIA STATE, AND THE GOOD PEOPLE OF ABIA STATE, ON THE OCCASION OF THE 3RD YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE OTTI-LED ADMINISTRATION (May 29, 2023 – May 29, 2026)

Dear Governor, Dear Abians,

*Three years ago, a man walked into Government House, Umuahia, carrying a briefcase full of dreams, a heart full of courage, and we suspect, a very strong stomach for the mess he was about to inherit. Today, we pause, clap our hands, and say: You did not run. We are grateful.*

*From the Office of the State Chairman of Abia Arise, we rise, as our name demands, to celebrate*

*and mark third anniversary of the administration of His Excellency, Dr. Alex Otti, OFR, and the team that has worked faithfully alongside him to rewrite the story of our beloved Abia State.*

*Three years ago, things were, let us be polite, complicated. Roads that could double as swimming pools. Salary arrears older than some civil servants' children. A treasury that echoed when you looked inside. But His Excellency came, he saw, and unlike some leaders who see and take a nap, he acted.*

*Today, the story is different. And we must tell it sweetly, honestly, and with no small amount of pride.*

*In three short years, the Otti led government has demonstrated that governance is not magic. It is discipline, planning, and the stubborn refusal to give up on people. Salaries that were once owed in arrears are now paid. Roads that once punished vehicles are being healed. Infrastructure that was once a rumour is now concrete, quite literally. The environment has been reclaimed. Institutions are being rebuilt with care. The dignity of the Abian worker is being restored, one month at a time.*

*This administration did not promise the sky and deliver a ceiling fan. It promised results, and quietly, steadily, it is delivering them.*

*Sir, you once told us that Abia deserved better. You were right. And you had the rare quality that separates speakers from doers. You actually meant it.*

*We have watched you work with the seriousness of a man who knows that behind every policy decision is a mother waiting, a child hoping, and a trader praying. You have carried that weight without complaint, without drama, and may we say, with a calm that sometimes makes us wonder if you sleep at all.*

*Abia Arise congratulates you. Not just for surviving three years in a job that would tire a lion, but for transforming those three years into a foundation that Abians can build on for generations. You are not just a Governor. You are, increasingly, a "proof". Yes, a proof that a Nigerian leader can choose integrity over convenience and that Abia can rise.*

*No farmer harvests alone. Behind every milestone of this administration is a team that showed up, sometimes quietly, sometimes with great noise, but always with a purpose. To the Deputy Governor, the Cabinet, and the entire government team, we salute your service. Abia sees you.*

*To the good people of Abia State, you voted, you waited, you held on when it was not easy. You are the real heroes of this story. A government is only as strong as the people who demand good governance and hold leaders accountable. Abia, you have done that, and the results speak.*

*As we mark this third year, let us not grow weary. The work is not finished. But the direction is right, the foundation is firm, and the future, for the first time in a long while, looks genuinely bright.*

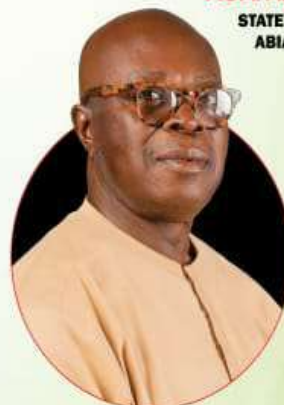
*Three years down. History being made. And if you listen carefully to the streets of Aba, the farms of Isuikwuato, the offices of Umuahia, and the markets of*

*Ohafia, you will hear something that was once rare in this state: Hope. Quiet, stubborn, beautiful hope.*

*Congratulations, Your Excellency. Congratulations, Abia State.*

**ABIA ARISE: ARISE FOR THE NEW ABIA IS HERE**

**HON. NKEM OKORO**  
STATE CHAIRMAN  
ABIA ARISE



*"A people who remember where they came from will always know where they are going."*





MINISTRY OF  
BASIC AND SECONDARY  
EDUCATION  
ABIA STATE

# Bravo to EDUCATION- FRIENDLY

GOVERNOR OF ABIA STATE,

## DR ALEX CHIOMA OTTI, OFR

Three years on, the transformation in Abia's education sector speaks boldly for itself. Through the visionary leadership of His Excellency, **Dr Alex Chioma Otti, OFR**, the AbiaFIRST initiative has restored hope, rebuilt public confidence in our schools, expanded access through free and compulsory basic education, improved teacher welfare, and introduced smart learning for the future.



RENOVATED  
SCHOOLS



DIGITAL  
CLASSROOMS



INCREASED  
ENROLLMENT



STRATEGIC  
REFORMS

From renovated schools and digital classrooms to increased enrollment and strategic reforms, Abia is setting a new benchmark in public education.

On behalf of the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education, I heartily congratulate our indefatigable Governor on this remarkable milestone and reaffirm our commitment to sustaining these gains for the benefit of every Abia child.

SIGNED:

**Elder Goodluck Chinedu Ubochi**  
Honourable Commissioner,  
Ministry of Basic and Secondary  
Education, Abia State



BUILDING TODAY • TRANSFORMING TOMORROW • SECURING OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE





— Heartfelt —

# CONGRATULATIONS

TO YOUR EXCELLENCY,

# DR. ALEX CHIOMA OTTI

**EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF ABIA STATE**

*On the Occasion of His*



The Office of the Chief Executive Officer/Executive Secretary, Abia State Diaspora Commission, heartily felicitates and congratulates His Excellency, Alex Chioma Otti, OFR, the visionary and transformative Executive Governor of Abia State, on the remarkable occasion of the Third Anniversary of his purposeful, people-oriented, historic administration, and its global diaspora community.

Your Excellency, the past three years have undeniably ushered in a new era of responsible governance, strategic leadership, infrastructural rebirth, institutional reforms, economic revitalisation, and renewed hope for Ndi Abia both at home and in the diaspora. Your administration has remained a shining example of visionary governance driven by competence, transparency, accountability, and an unwavering commitment to excellence.

History will forever remember your emergence as the leader who restored confidence in governance and repositioned Abia State from years of stagnation to a fast-rising model of development and innovation in Nigeria.

As you celebrate this historic Third Anniversary in office, we salute your resilience, visionary leadership, and uncommon dedication to the service of humanity.

**We pray that Almighty God will continue to grant you divine wisdom, strength, sound health, and greater grace to sustain the noble vision of building a New Abia that generations yet unborn will be proud of.**

**Congratulations, Your Excellency, on three impactful years of transformational leadership and outstanding service to Ndi Abia.**

*Signed*

**Rev. Dr Annie N. Onu**  
CEO/ Executive Secretary  
**Abia State Diaspora Commission**  
Government House Library Avenue, Umuahia, Abia State, Nigeria





**MINISTRY OF  
TRADE AND COMMERCE  
ABIA STATE**

# Congratulatory Message

The Ministry of Trade and Commerce, Abia State, under the leadership of the Honourable Commissioner, Dr. Mrs. Salome Obiukwu, warmly congratulates

His Excellency, **DR. ALEX CHIOMA OTTI** OFR  
**EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF ABIA STATE**

on the occasion of his

This milestone reflects a remarkable journey of purposeful leadership, bold reforms, infrastructural renewal, and the steady rebuilding of public confidence in governance across Abia State.

His Excellency's focused attention on improving the ease of doing business, strengthening market systems, and expanding trade and investment opportunities has continued to reposition Abia State as a more attractive hub for commerce and enterprise.

We also acknowledge his commitment to inclusive economic growth, which has created broader opportunities for traders, entrepreneurs, and investors, while strengthening confidence in the state's economic direction.

The reforms recorded in public service delivery and institutional strengthening have further improved efficiency, accountability, and transparency across government operations.

As the State continues on this progressive path, the Ministry, together with the leadership and stakeholders across the various markets in Abia State, express strong appreciation for His Excellency's leadership and reaffirms their collective support and commitment, including full solidarity and electoral support as the 2027 election approaches.

Congratulations once again, Your Excellency, and we pray for continued wisdom, strength, and greater accomplishments in service to Abia State.

**Dr. Mrs. Salome Obiukwu**  
Honourable Commissioner for Trade and Commerce, Abia State.



### NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

- Revitalized trade and commerce through modern product grading, export promotion, digital revenue systems, and the Aba International Trade Fair
- Strengthened investment and entrepreneurship with loans, empowerment programs, and support for traders, widows, and single-mother entrepreneurs
- Remodeled key markets including Ariaria International Market and completed 988 shops at Ekeoha Shopping Centre
- Constructed and rehabilitated roads, beautified urban centers, recovered government lands, and built Abia Airport at Nsulu
- Made primary and secondary education free and compulsory; upgraded schools and tertiary institutions
- Funded digital skills training for over 1,000 youths and expanded teacher and lecturer employment
- Improved healthcare facilities and agricultural productivity through modern equipment, inputs, training, and financing
- Ensured security of lives and property, sustained peace, and promoted merit-based governance
- Paid workers' salaries and pensions promptly while improving state economic performance





# Congratulations

ON YOUR



## Your Excellency,

It is my pleasure to join your numerous admirers in congratulating you on the occasion of the third anniversary of your Administration.

Over the past three years, Your exemplary leadership, dedication and commitment to good governance has contributed significantly to the growth and development of our dear State especially in areas of youth empowerment •

Your unwavering commitment on infrastructure, economic development, security and welfare of citizens continues to inspire confidence and hope for a brighter future •

As we celebrate your achievements, we commend your resilience, vision and service to our people.

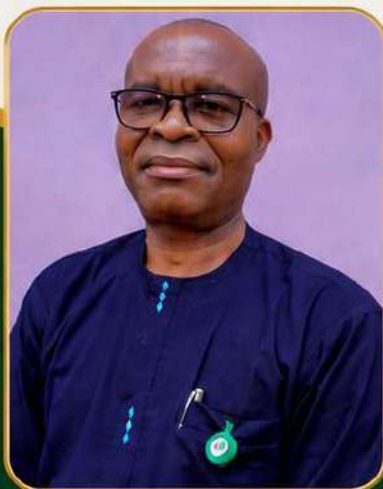
It is therefore our prayer that God Almighty would continue to bless, guide, protect and sustain you with greater wisdom and strength to pilot the affairs of our dear State.

**HIS EXCELLENCY**

**DR. ALEX OTTI, OFR**

**EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF ABIA STATE**

*Once again congratulations!*



*Signed* ▶

**Ishmael .O. Onuoha**

SSA to the Governor on Cooperative Societies  
National Vice Chairman, South East - Labour Party



**AGENCY:**

**Abia State Cooperative Support Scheme**



# GRAVEL ENGINEERING SERVICES LTD



HIS EXCELLENCY  
**Gov. ALEX CHIOMA OTTI OFR**  
THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF ABIA STATE

## *Congratulations*

On your **3<sup>RD</sup>** Years in office.

On behalf of the Management and Staff of Gravel Engineering Services Ltd, I wish to extend my warmest congratulations to you, the very amiable and action-driven Governor, His Excellency, Dr. Alex Chioma Otti, OFR, on your three years of purposeful leadership and dedicated service to the people of Abia State.

Over the past three years, your administration has demonstrated a strong commitment to rebuilding public confidence in governance through visible development and meaningful reforms. Your efforts in road infrastructure renewal, urban transformation, investment in education, improved healthcare delivery, economic revitalization, and strengthening public institutions have continued to redefine governance in Abia State.

Your focus on human capital development, teacher support, and opening the state to greater business and investment opportunities has inspired renewed hope among citizens.

As you mark this milestone, may wisdom, strength, and greater accomplishments accompany the years ahead. May your passion for service continue to translate into lasting progress, prosperity, and sustainable development for Abia State and its people. Congratulations once again on three impactful years in office.

Best wishes for even greater achievements ahead.

Signed:  
**Arch. Uche Jude Uche**  
Managing Director  
Gravel Engineering Services Limited

# *Felicitation*

MESSAGE

On Your

**3<sup>RD</sup>**  
Years  
of  
*Impactful*  
ACHIEVEMENTS



HIS EXCELLENCY  
**Dr. ALEX CHIOMA OTTI OFR**  
THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF ABIA STATE

Comrade Pius Ihekweba Ngoziho (Abacha Ibeku), National Vice Chairman, NURTW Abia State Chapter, on behalf of my family and the entire drivers of Umuahia Zone, warmly felicitate with you—the legacy-driven and pragmatic Governor of Abia State, His Excellency, Dr Alex Chioma Otti- OFR (Chioma Ndi Abia)—on the successful completion of three impactful years of your first term in office.

As Abians and residents across the state mark this memorable day, May 29, 2026, we join millions in celebrating your uncommon achievements and visible transformation across all sectors of human, material, and infrastructural development. Indeed, your administration has redefined governance with results that speak boldly for themselves.

We, the members of NURTW Umuahia Zone, cannot hide our joy, appreciation and deep satisfaction with the giant and historic strides recorded in the transport sector. The massive rehabilitation, reconstruction, and construction of new road networks under your leadership have completely reshaped the socio-economic landscape of Abia State.

Across Umuahia, Aba, and our rural communities, over 140 road projects stand as solid testimonies of purposeful leadership. In Umuahia, notable improvements such as the rehabilitation of Aba Road, Otuka Road, Ikot-Ekpene Road (Phase 1), and the Umuafai-Okwuta Ring Road have greatly enhanced connectivity, eased movement, and boosted commercial activities.

Furthermore, the reconstruction of internal roads within Ehimiri Housing Estate clearly demonstrates your administration's commitment to ensuring that no part of the state is left behind in this new wave of development.

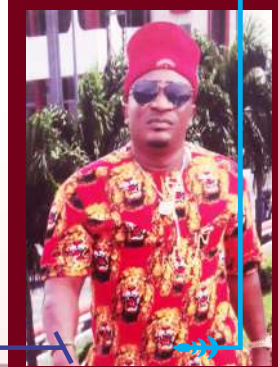
Of special note is the historic construction of the modern bus terminal in Umuahia—a landmark project that will not only improve transportation but also restore dignity, comfort, and efficiency to the daily movement of our people.

Your good works have spoken directly to the hearts of the people. It is therefore not surprising that the good people of Umuahia-Ikwuano have openly and proudly endorsed your second tenure ahead of the 2027 general elections.

Your Excellency, your leadership has rekindled hope, restored confidence, and set Abia State firmly on the path of sustainable progress.

Congratulations, Your Excellency. Keep moving Abia forward.

Signed:  
**Comrade Pius Ihekweba Ngoziho** (Abacha Ibeku)  
National Vice Chairman, NURTW Abia State Chapter.





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