

The Voice

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**“START YOUR SAVINGS
AND INVESTMENTS
JOURNEY TODAY”**

— ALFRED MATHU

**THE VOICE ACHIEVERS AWARD
2026 | HILTON KENSINGTON, LONDON**



The Church needs to step out in order to step in
4Pillars Community Church

✦ "a Church where everybody is somebody" ✧



- Pillar 1 Word of God
- Pillar 2 Fellowship
- Pillar 3 Breaking of bread
- Pillar 4 Prayer



*Pastor Roel & Ida Van Rooij
Senior Pastor
4Pillars Community Church
Almere*



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Happy New Year 2026 to you all.

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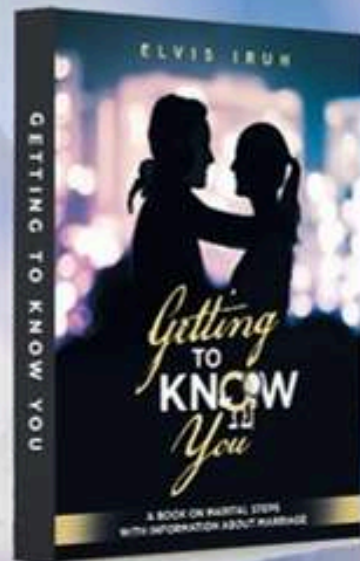
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GRAB YOUR COPY NOW

Getting to know you written by Pastor Elvis Iruh Pastor Felix Asare wrote the foreword



We can organise an event or program together or invite me during your activities to speak on this subject.

Send me an email at elvisiruh@gmail.com

Tel No: +31684999548

Or visit my website at www.elvisiruh.com

BEFORE MARRIAGE: FOR THE UNMARRIED

Many are afraid to get married yet they want all that is destiny for marriage like sex, companion, love, children. Yes, it is possible to have marriage and enjoy it to the fullest but before that happens; you need to be properly prepared. This is one gift I have received and with over 15 years' experience, I can say I have something to add to your relationship and support you to build it into a joyous marriage.

I work with young men and women, even older person who desire a relationship that would lead to marriage.

How do you start?

How do you build such relationship, grounded a true Godly foundation.

What are the possible obstacles ahead so you don't go into a relationship blindly?

(Godly relationship is not a blind date)

What does words like commitment & dedication in a relationship means?

Tools to help you improve communications and many others things to know.

I am willing to partner with your church, cell group, youth ministry to work with your future couples and you all would be happier for it.

FOR THE MARRIED

Do you want to spice up your relationship in your marriage?

Marriage is supposedly to last for a life time – not boring and not tiring.

Let me support you in building a healthier marriage that would last you for a life time

I have been working with couples with my world selling book – Getting to know you.

Some of the topics:

How do we keep our marriage fresh as early morning bread!

How do we bond in our relationship and nothing comes in between the two

Conflict management in marriage as it would occur from time to time

Enjoying intimacy in your marriage

Coping with children in marriage

Knowing each other better and any other question you may have.

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THE VOICE MAGAZINE

The Voice magazine is editorially independent although we enjoys the support of our readers, advertisers, subscribers, non-governmental organizations and individuals of like minds; however, the magazine publishers are in no way affiliated to any of these bodies or to any other publishing institution or political interest or group.

The Voice magazine strives to foster awareness among the African audience and bridge the widening gap between Africans and the rest of the world in news gathering and dissemination.

The Voice is published digitally online except on demand, we print hard copy. If you want to receive a copy, send us your email address.

On the Editorial board are Pastor Amb. Elvis Iruh, Jonathan Mgbejume, Sandra Iruh-Monsels, and Henry Oduenyi

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(For the Publisher's book)

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OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The Voice News Magazine has been published in the Netherlands by Stichting Paddi Europa since August 1999, with an online format available for worldwide distribution since 2016.

The publication is registered with the Chamber of Commerce in Amsterdam and aims to serve as a vital link among African readers in the diaspora.

The Voice News Magazine provides objective information and organizes the exchange of opinions among African people both on the continent and abroad. It strives to foster a complete understanding of the African continent's challenges and brings information to help address those issues.

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'DISGRACE FOR AFRICA': SENEGAL -AFRICAN CHAMPION; MOROCCO -CAF CHAMPION!

With recent decision of African Football Confederation (CAF) to award them finals to Morocco on a board room decision after Senegal had won the finals played in Rabat over two months ago is being received globally as a joke and something that has brought disrepute to football on the continent. It was well known that Morocco were bad losers, they never truly accepted their fate with their penalty miss and eventually losing the final to Senegal. A well deserved victory under the circumstances they had to play-against and hostile crowd, biased officiating and clear injustice by both VAR officials and the four match officials in that final. I could imagine if Morocco had suffered the same fate as Senegal, after a good goal was disallowed and two minutes to the end of the match; a penalty is awarded against Morocco; hell would have been let loose on the referee and match officials, in fact the fans would have invaded the pitch to stop the match.

Where were VAR officials, the referee and match commissioner who allowed the game to continue to a conclusion?

Senegal has reacted with anger and dismay after their national team was sensationally stripped of its Africa Cup of Nations title in favour of tournament hosts Morocco. African football authorities said Senegal was "declared to have forfeited the match" after a protest walk-off during the final.

Senegal football federation slammed the decision to strip the country of its Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) title and give it to Morocco, calling the move a "disgrace for Africa" as their country demands an investigation.

The Confederation of African Football (CAF) sensationally stripped Senegal of their title, citing regulations about leaving the field, which players did near the end of the final two months ago.

"If this law was applicable, it should have been applied immediately and the cup should have been awarded to the Moroccans", doing it now after the cup has been handed to Senegal is a move that has brought CAF into total chaos and no one knows the end of this saga. It is an act of sheer disgrace for Africa as Morocco seem so desperate to win at all cost even if it means boardroom politics.

With the news ricocheting across social media and the airwaves, fans are now waiting for the results of a promised appeal by Senegal's football authorities.

Senegal's government additionally called for "an independent international investigation into suspected corruption within the CAF's governing bodies".

Several Senegalese players walked off the pitch in protest during the final in Rabat on January 18 when the hosts were awarded a penalty late in second-half stoppage time. Earlier Senegal had scored what was later adjudged a good goal but was ruled foul by VAR and the centre referee.

After Senegal's players were coaxed back onto the pitch by captain Sadio Mane, Morocco missed the penalty kick. Pape Gueye then scored in extra time to give Senegal a 1-0 victory. CAF said that having studied an appeal by Morocco, "the Senegal national team is declared to have forfeited the match" and the result was "officially recorded as 3-0" in favour of Morocco. "I started by laughing and being surprised at the same time, because it really shocked me that two months later they took away Senegal's victory". This is not good for the image of Senegalese news outlets were unanimous, with headlines such as "Big Continental Farce", "Joke of the Century" and "Unprecedented Scandal" were major headlines making mockery of the decision of CAF.



...Continued on Page 7

WAITING FOR APPEAL

Senegal's football authorities said they will appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), condemning what they said was an "unjust, unprecedented and unacceptable decision". However, Senegal fans maintain that even if the team is stripped of its trophy, it is still the victor in the eyes of spectators globally. "We played and we won", Senegal supporter Khola Diouf said in Dakar, pointing to Morocco's missed penalty in the final moments of the game as the opportunity to compensatate them adding that "the whole world is witnessing and knows that Senegal deserves the cup".

The CAF Appeals Committee justified its decision by applying Articles 82 and 84 of the AFCON Regulations. They state that if a team "refuses to play or leaves the ground before the regular end of the match without the authorisation of the referee, it shall be considered (loser) and shall be eliminated for good from the current competition". THIS is the final and not a qualifier for God's sake! Our humble advise is for CAF to step back and just accept the victory of Senegal and let bye gone be bye gone.

Welcome to the month of April, so many things happening around the war; we do not want to bore you with report of Israel/USA war against Iran despite its impact is being felt globally. We call for reasoning to stop this war. Enjoy your edition and looking forward to seeing you all next month. God bless you.

Editor-in-Chief
The Voice magazine

THE FAMILY OF **EKHATOR /OTOGHILE OF OKOKHUO AND EKONOBORÉ**
VILLAGE IN OVIA NORTH EAST LGA
EDO STATE.

Cordially request the presence of Mr/Mrs/miss
[Redacted Name] **to the**

BURIAL CEREMONY
Of Our Beloved Wife, Mother, Sister, Aunty, Grand Mother, Great Grandmother and Mother-in law

LATE MRS. OGHOMWENOTITI ÁGNES OMOSEFE EKHATOR
19th April 1930 - 28th Jan 2026.

96 years

BURIAL ARRANGEMENTS

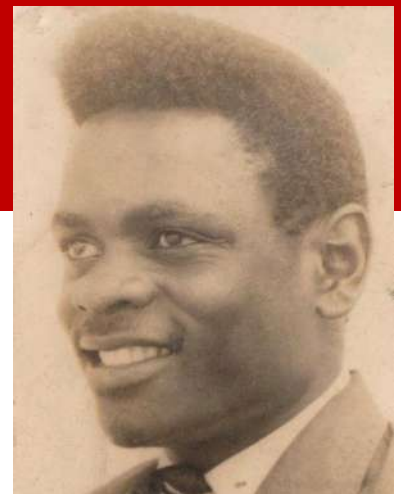
Thurs. 9th April 2026
by 2pm Service of songs at her residence/Family Rites

Body leave hope mortuary at IGUE-IHEYA off Benin Lagos Road Edo State.
To her residence, 2nd IHEYA lane off Urubi Street Benin City.

Saturday 11th April 2026.
12pm Social dance, D'afrique continental hotel and suites; 175 Benin Auchí road Eyan Benin City.

RSVP: HON. EKHATOR JOSEPH 08033562480, 08151686465

TRIBUTE TO UNCLE SAM: SAMUEL ALIEMEKE IRUH



The father of the publisher of The Voice magazine, Pastor Elvis Iruh

ABOUT OUR DADDY

Uncle Sam as he was popularly known and called by family members, friends, associates and peer groups was born 2nd January, 1938 at Owa-Alero town in Ika North East Local Government Area of Delta State. He was named Samuel Aliemeke Iruh.

He had his primary, secondary and tertiary education in Benin City, Ikire, Ibadan and Lagos respectively. He was an alumnus of Nigeria Institute of Journalism (NIJ) and the London School of Scientific Salesmanship, London, United Kingdom.

Work wise, he had moved around a little bit. He had worked with Standard Bank, (Now First Bank PLC), Ibadan, Fatima College, Ikire, Timi Agbale Grammar School, Ede, Midomer Motors, Ebute Metta, Lagos, Central Packages Nigeria Limited, Ikeja and anchoring his working career at T-CAS Nigeria Limited where he retired as Support Services Manager in 1996. Since then he had been a Columnist in the Voice magazine (First African Magazine published in the Netherlands) writing Africa short story series. (Tales by Moon Light).

Uncle Sam as a boy and young man engaged in general sports of which he excelled in Athletics, Table Lawn Tennis, and Football. He later became a football coach where he coached several Secondary schools to enviable heights an anchoring that career at Pepsi Football Academy where he received meritorious service award.

Uncle Sam had belonged to series of voluntary, non-governmental organizations, and human rights group. He was a member of the Boy's Scout Movement of Nigeria, member of people Against Drug Dependence and Ignorance (Stichting PADDI EUROPA), former Chairman of Police Affairs Committee for Defense of Human Rights (CDHR), Special Marshal with Federal Road safety Corps, a Patron of WAI Brigade (War Against Indiscipline) of Nigeria and Chairman of the famous Akise Descendants Union, Lagos Branch and until his death a Patron to the Union. He was aged 88 years after celebrating his birthday on 2nd January 2026.



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His hobbies included among others reading, writing, fishing and crop farming, travelling and sightseeing. After writing a host of articles in the series, the urge to make it into a book for posterity became a great urge hence the book, Tales by Moon Light which is with the press for publication. His collection of stort stories would be published in his sweet memory by the Voice magazine in the near future.

He is survived by a large family of Akise Descendant Union, his children and grandchildren namely, Pastor Elvis Ndubuisi Iruh based in the Netherlands and Publisher of the Voice magazine, Agatha Samuel, a Fashion designer and proprietress of “Creative Edge” Fashion House, Leonard Iruh, an Info Tech Engineer, Victor Iruh, a Sports Psychologist and Fitness Consultant, Mrs. Lilian Akintokun, Food Technologist, Kuzi Iruh, a Music maker, Author and writer based in South Africa; Ugonne Mercy Iruh, a Nurse and Beautician and Henry Agabajama-Iruh. His Grandchildren are Risper Isioma Iruh; Ese Akhidenor, Osemudiam Akhidenor, Favour Akhidenor, Deborah Iruh, Esther Iruh, Emmanuella Iruh, Excellence Iruh, Evidence Iruh, Nifemi Akintokun, Samuel Korede Akintokun Ginika Akintokun and Omara Iruh, Victoria Iruh . Also survived by Mrs. Sandra Iruh (Daughter-in-law), Mrs. Maureen Iruh (Daughter in Law), Mrs. Elizabeth Deola Iruh (Daughter in Law), Mr. Ayodeji Akintokun (son-in-law)

Uncle Sam by all indications had lived up to his billing in the community he lived and had displayed such transparent honesty and sense of fair play to all and sundry. He has since been buried at his Opelu compound where he lived and died according to his last wishes

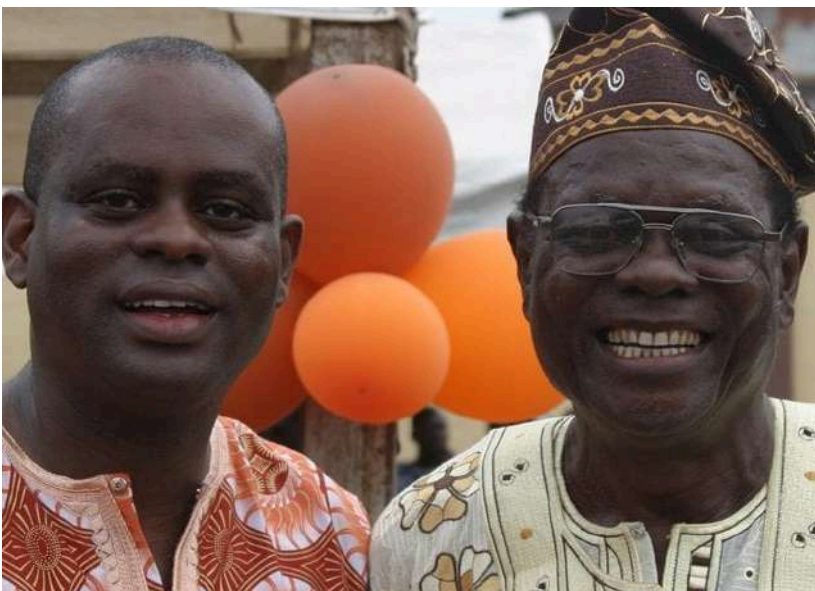
May his Soul Respect in perfect peace of the Lord.

The children has agreed to celebrate his life with a celebration of life party on 6th March 2027 and followed by a Thanksgiving service on 7th March 2027 to bring a closure to a remarkable life of Uncle Sam Iruh

Signed

Pastor Ndubisi Elvis Iruh

Eldest Son for the Siblings



THE ENTREPRENEUR'S CORNER: FROM VISION TO VALUE

Identifying Customer Needs in a Crowded Economy

Opening Reality

Small and medium-sized enterprises account for the majority of employment in developing economies, yet many struggle to grow beyond the early stages. According to the World Bank, SMEs contribute significantly to job creation but often face structural challenges that limit their sustainability.

One of the most common challenges is the difficulty of identifying genuine opportunities in a market that appears already crowded, yet a closer look often reveals unmet needs, inefficiencies, and frustrations that represent hidden opportunities for entrepreneurs.

Looking Beyond Trends

Entrepreneurs sometimes make the mistake of pursuing trends rather than solving problems. A business idea becomes popular, and suddenly many people attempt to replicate it without carefully examining whether the market truly needs more of the same.

In today's fast-moving business environment, entrepreneurs are constantly surrounded by activity—customers walking in and out, phones ringing, orders being processed, suppliers demanding attention, and social media messages arriving every minute. In the midst of such busyness, many entrepreneurs make a critical mistake: they focus on running the business rather than understanding the problems their customers truly need solved.

Successful entrepreneurship begins not with the product, but with the problem.

Why Problems Matter More Than Ideas

Many businesses begin with a strong idea: a product someone is passionate about, a service they believe the market needs, or a concept inspired by personal interest. However, the marketplace does not reward ideas alone. It rewards solutions.

An entrepreneur may design an impressive product, but if it does not address a pressing customer need, it will struggle to gain traction. On the other hand, a simple solution to a real problem can quickly gain loyal customers and grow sustainably.

This principle has been widely discussed in entrepreneurship research. Scholars such as Peter Drucker emphasized that the purpose of a business is to create a customer, and that businesses grow when they understand what customers truly value.



*Josephine Asemota
The Entrepreneur*

Seeing Opportunities Hidden in Daily Interactions

Ironically, the best opportunities to identify customer needs are often hidden in everyday business interactions.

Customers constantly reveal their needs through:

Complaints

Questions

Repeated requests

Frustrations with existing services

Suggestions for improvement

Yet many entrepreneurs overlook these signals because they are too busy focusing on daily operations or trends.

For example, a restaurant owner may hear customers repeatedly asking for faster service during lunch hours. A fashion designer may notice that clients struggle to find affordable but elegant attire for specific occasions. A small retail shop may receive constant requests for home delivery. These recurring patterns are signals pointing to unmet needs.

Entrepreneurs who listen carefully begin to see opportunities where others see inconveniences.

Observation: The Entrepreneur's Silent Tool

One of the most powerful tools for identifying customer needs is simple observation.

Observe how customers behave when they enter your business.

Observe what questions they ask before making a purchase.

Observe where they hesitate or express confusion.

Sometimes the problem customers face is not even the product itself but the experience surrounding it—waiting time, accessibility, clarity of information, convenience of payment, or reliability of service.

Entrepreneurs who cultivate the habit of observing customer behavior gain insights that no market report can fully reveal.

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Listening Beyond Words

Equally important is the ability to listen beyond what customers say directly. Often customers describe symptoms rather than the real problem. For instance, a customer who complains about price may actually be expressing concern about value, quality, or trust. Understanding the deeper issue requires patience and curiosity.

Turning Insights into Value

Identifying a problem is only the first step. The real transformation occurs when entrepreneurs design practical solutions around these insights. This may involve: Improving service delivery; Adjusting product features; Introducing new services; Simplifying customer experiences and leveraging technology to remove barriers. The goal is not merely to sell something, but to make life easier, better, or more efficient. But real opportunity rarely lies in imitation. It lies in understanding what customers are trying to accomplish and where they encounter obstacles.

Creating Value Where It Is Missing

When entrepreneurs identify a genuine customer problem and design a solution that removes that difficulty, they create value. And where value is created consistently, sustainable businesses can emerge. This is why the journey from vision to value begins not with products but with understanding people.

Reflection Questions

What recurring questions or complaints do customers bring to your business? frustrations do people encounter in my business? Which services are slow, unreliable, or inefficient? What task are customers trying to accomplish that remains difficult? How can a solution reduce that difficulty?

Closing Insight

Opportunities remain hidden because no one has taken the time to understand the customer's problem.

“Change begins with an idea, but economic transformation is built on value”- Josephine Asemota

Next Edition

In our next edition, we will explore how a promising idea can be transformed into a viable business model.

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INTRODUCING ALFRED MATHU TO A GLOBAL AUDIENCE: A PLATONUM FINANCIAL ADVISOR

Need a financial expert to speak to your audience on all subjects concerning insurance and financial matters, we have a good recommendation for you. A man tested and certified as a leading Financial advisor in Kenya and a stalwart of the insurance industry. Following his long, dedicated and professional experience, Alfred Mathu has risen to become a reputed corporate business leader.

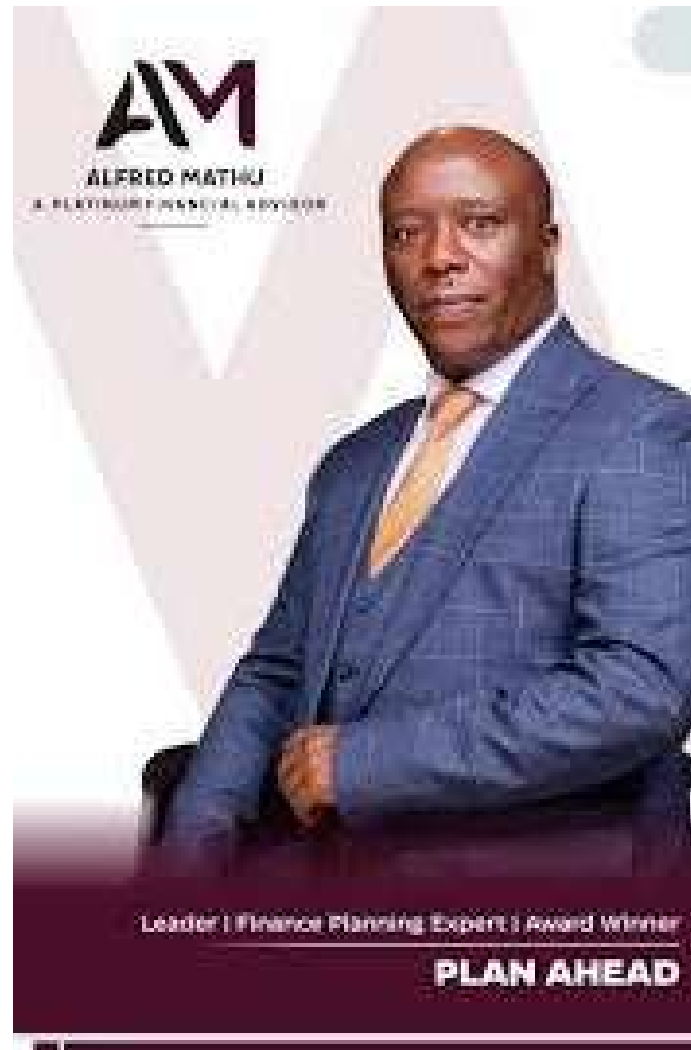
He is an acclaimed financial planning expert who has ascended to senior leadership positions and currently provides financial consultancy services to individuals and corporate investors in Kenya and beyond.

Alfred is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Hisa Africa Insurance Agency Limited. The company is a reputed intermediary for two customer-centric financial giants; Old Mutual Group and The Absa Life Assurance Company Limited.

In recognition of his long record of outstanding performances, Alfred Mathu has been named by the insurance industry in Kenya as the leading financial Advisor, mentor and trainer since 2003.

Mr. Muthu has built a reputation as a trusted voice in corporate leadership rising through key management roles and transitioning into strategic advisory. He is a multi-functional leader who has held several positions including the Chairman, Multi Holdings Investments Company Limited; Chairman, Kuvuna Holdings Limited; MD, Hisa Africa Insurance Agency Limited and former Chapter President , BNI Mavuno.

His consistent performance and expertise have been repeatedly recognized by the Association of Kenya Insurers (AKI), who have named him as a top advisor, mentor and trainer.



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His career reflects a strong focus on sales leadership and financial advisory within the financial services and insurance sector. While at Old Mutual Kenya, Alfred progressed to the role of General Manager, where he was responsible for the development, execution, and tracking of sales and distribution strategies. He also managed stakeholder relationships and oversaw the productivity of the sales force, contributing to the overall profitability of the function.

Prior to this, Alfred Mathu served as a Regional Sales Manager, where he developed and executed strategic sales plans to achieve revenue targets and expand market share. He also led a team of sales professionals, providing guidance and mentoring to optimize their performance. Earlier in his career, as a Sales Manager, he led sales teams, implemented effective sales strategies, and fostered a culture of high performance.

Alfred holds a Bachelor Of Science degree from Moi University and a Certificate of performance-Top Advisor from Uap Old Mutual Group.

In a world where financial guidance is paramount, he stands as a beacon of empowerment, transforming the financial landscape as one individual at a time. As a renowned and respected financial advisor, he has solidified his position as a household name within the dynamic and ever-evolving Kenyan Insurance Industry. His wealth of experience, coupled with an unwavering commitment to excellence, has propelled him to the forefront of corporate business leadership, where he is revered for his strategic prowess and exceptional management skills.

He has been recognized also with several awards including Agent of the year Award received from the Association of Kenya Insurers (AKI) December 2010; Certificate of distinguished service by Managing Director received from Old Mutual Kenya for being the top Retail Affluent sales manager for 13 years dedicated sales service to Old Mutual Kenya; Achievemet in production of Quality Life Assurance Business AKI Agent of the year award and Best agent in Kenya; Top Achievers Award (2018); Top Unit Trust Award; Head of Retail Afluent (Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya); Agent of the year Award and 2024 Top Agent of the Year.

Mr. Mathu seem to have no plan to slow down soon rather, he is reaching out to global audience to share his experiences through speakinhg engagements and participation in insurance programmms.



His expertise includes the following fields:

Personalized Financial Planning

-Personal Contractual & Retirement Savings.

-General Insurance Solutions

-Risk Management

-Wealth Creation & Conservation

-Children Education Investments

-Medical Insurance

-Money Market Funds

To contact Mr. Alfred Mathu, you can reach him via email at

alfalfred.mathu@hisaafricainsurance.com

www.alfredmathu.com

Tel: +254722310584

“When I began my career in 1998, I was earning about KSh 12,000 gross. My net pay was roughly KSh 10,900. Out of that, I committed to investing KSh 3,000 every single month. Every month felt tight. Every month I felt like stopping. And every month my mentor would remind me, “Alfred, keep your eye on the goal.” As I pushed into the market and my commissions began to grow, something powerful happened: my habits were already built. So when income increased, investment increased. By the time I was graduating, I had accumulated enough to buy my first car for KSh 225,000. I did not start with abundance. I started with structure. If you believe you earn too little to begin, I encourage you to watch my Videos on YouTube, they capture the early stage of my journey and I believe it will inspire and motivate some of you. Watch the video and subscribe. And more importantly, start your savings and investments journey today” - Alfred Muthu



HAPPENING MBB MAY 2026 PORT HARCOURT, RIVERS STATE

THEME: My Bride, My Pride

(2 Cort 11: 2)

2 Corinthians 11:2b NLT

...I promised you as a pure bride to one husband—Christ.

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E-mail: missblossombeauty@gmail.com



*Her Majesty Queen Faith Weke
MBB 2025/26*

...Continued on Page 16

Miss Blossom Beauty Pageant 2026 opens Entries for 18 to 35 years Ladies, who desire Mentorship, Direction and Exposure. The pageant is slated for May 2026 therefore entry is open for interested single young ladies. “We are not just a Pageant. We are a Mandate of Reconciliation to young ladies” according to the Chief Executive of the Organising company, Chief Dr. Rev. Tammy Abusi.

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HAPPENING THIS MAY 2026.

MISS BLOSSOM BEAUTY PAGEANT

PORT HARCOURT, RIVERS STATE

THEME:
My Bride, My Pride.
(2 Corinthians 11:2b)
....I promised you as a pure bride to one husband—Christ.

• THE CHRISTIAN PAGEANT.
(Redefining Beauty, as an inward virtue that Blossoms)

20 YOUNG MAIDENS will be competing for the MBB 2026 CROWN.

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+ MENTORSHIP + RELATIONSHIP
+ ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

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EVENT PARTNERS:

The Voice AFRICAN NEWS MAGAZINE, DAVOS BAN, VON AUB, TAMZ CLOSET, DOXA, and others.

Borderless value Concept

A young woman with dark, curly hair is smiling and wearing a gold crown. She is wearing a teal blazer over a white top and a green sash with gold fringe that says "MISS BLOSSOM BEAUTY". The background is a soft-focus floral arrangement.

President Adama Barrow Receives Medical Items For The Gambia

The Gambia Women's Chamber Of Commerce last month sent a high power women delegation to welcome Fatima Trading and her investing partners, the Al-Ataa and Baitul Maal Foundations who were in the Gambia to donate medical equipment to the Government of The Gambia through the Gambia Ministry of Health. The medical equipment worthy of \$400,000 (over D27 million) was officially presented to the President of the Republic of The Gambia , President Adama Barrow during a ceremony held at the State House , Banjul, The Gambia. During the presentation ceremony, Fatou Senghore Tambajang described the donation as a significant contribution towards improving healthcare services in The Gambia. She expressed her sincere gratitude to the Al-Ataa Foundation for their support, stating that this donation would greatly enhance the capacity of health facilities and improve healthcare service delivery across the country.



Ahmed El Agamy, the Director of Baitul Maal Foundation, also expressed deep gratitude to the president for his support of the foundation. He noted that this container of medical items is the first donation made to The Gambia but assured that the foundation would continue to support the country's health sector. Mr El Agamy also commended their partner, Baitul Maal, for their assistance.

Dr Mustapha Bittaye, the Chief Medical Director of the Edward Francis Small Teaching Hospital, thanked the donors for their support, stating that the consignment of medical items meets the hospital's needs.

During the ceremony, the President expressed sincere appreciation for the generous donation and warmly welcomed the delegation. He thanked the donor for the valuable contribution and emphasized that the medicaments would be put to good use and distributed to those most in need. His humble and gracious demeanor was greatly admired by all those in attendance.

President Barrow also thanked the Health Minister and his staff for their exceptional work in the health sector and reassured the donors of his government's partnership and support at all times.



WHAT TO DO WHEN THERE ARE RED FLAGS IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP.



By
Mrs. Uche Ideho
Counselor UC



If you have any relational question or advise, you can reach our counsellor on WhatsApp: +2348050275758

When you start noticing red flags in your relationship, it's important not to ignore them. Red flags are warning signs that something may be unhealthy, unsafe, or disrespectful. Red flags does not suggest your relationship is wrong or you are involved with a bad person, it's a pointer to areas in your relationship you should work on and not ignore.

Some of these red flags could be resolved if properly communicated for a healthy relationship.

Here's what you can do:

1. Don't Dismiss Your Feelings

If something feels wrong, uncomfortable, or confusing, pay attention to that feeling. Your instincts matter.

2. Identify the Red Flags Clearly

Ask yourself:

Are they disrespectful or insulting?

Can I cope with it.

Do they make you feel small, scared, or constantly anxious?

Write them down if it helps you think clearly.

3. Communicate (If It's Safe to Do So)

Calmly express how their behavior makes you feel. Example:

"When you do this, I feel hurt and disrespected."

See if they take responsibility or become defensive and blame you.

4. Look for Patterns, Not Promises

4. Look for Patterns, Not Promises

Anyone can apologize. What matters is: Do they change consistently?

Or do they repeat the same behavior?

5. Set Boundaries

Be clear about what you will and won't tolerate. Healthy people respect boundaries. Unhealthy people test or break them.

6. Talk to Someone You Trust

Since you care deeply about fairness and humanity, don't isolate yourself. Talk to a trusted friend, mentor, parent, or counselor. Outside perspective helps.

7. Protect Yourself

If the red flags include: Threats, Manipulation, Emotional abuse and Physical aggression

Your safety comes first. It's okay to step away. You don't need to "fix" someone at the cost of your peace.

8. Be Willing to Walk Away

Not every relationship is meant to be saved. Sometimes the healthiest decision is to leave early before deeper damage happens.

A healthy relationship should make you feel:

Safe, Respected, Valued and Heard.

Be with someone that makes you feel all these and more.





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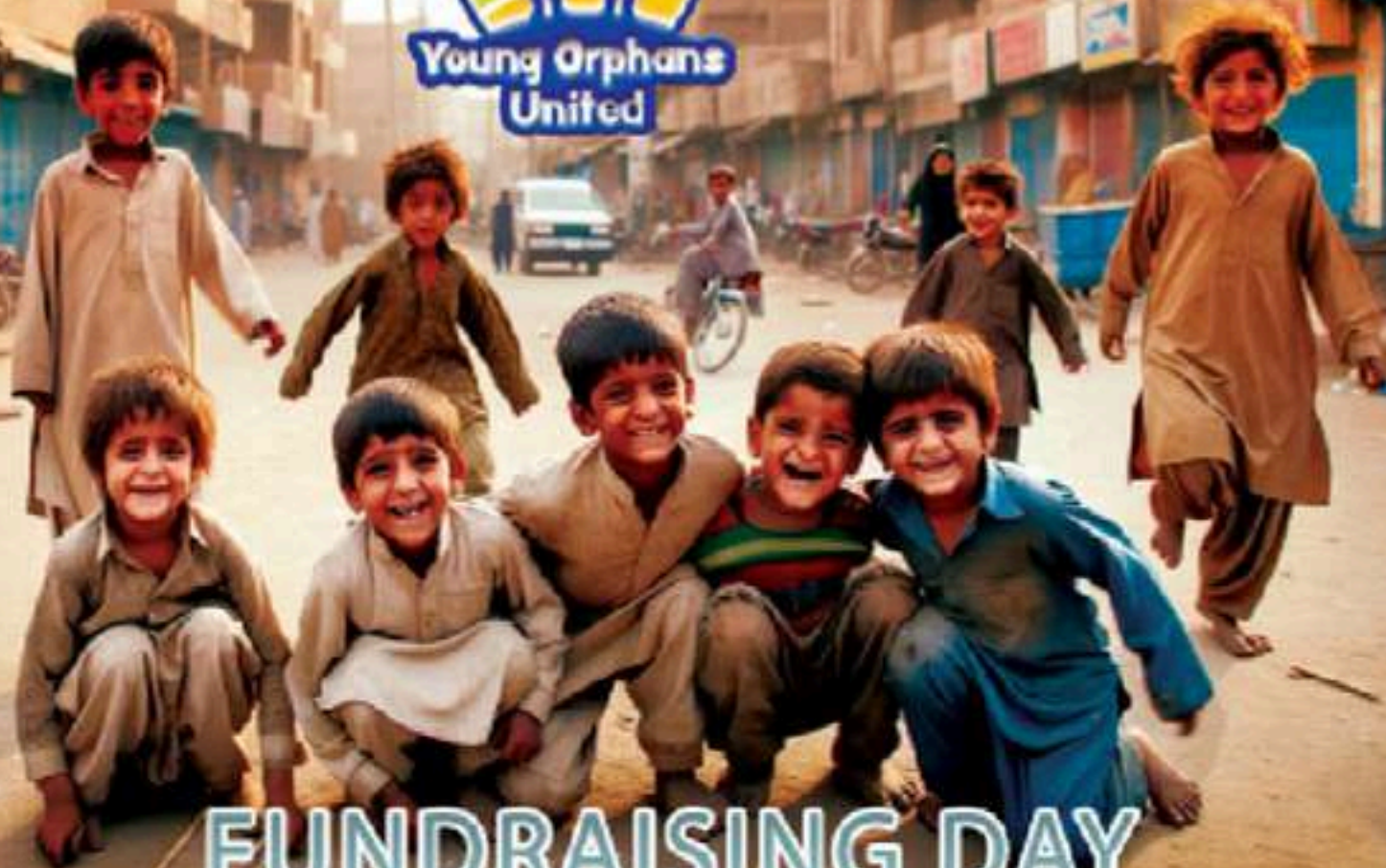
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Founder "Young Orphans United"
Mission-shop Barbeelstraat 12
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Dear Interested Readers,

One of the great problems in the world, and one that concerns me personally, is the countless orphans. Children who sometimes, through tragic circumstances, are given the unwanted status of orphans and in that status often lose all hope of a "normal" life. In many distressing cases we see abuse and exploitation of these children. My hope is that this message will touch your heart. I am writing to share with you an important initiative of Young Orphans United in collaboration with the Overseas Pakistani Christian Alliance (OPCA), with which organization I am also involved. OPCA is committed to providing food, medicine, and care to people in need and has recently launched a new project called YOU (Young Orphans United), aimed at providing shelter and care for homeless children in Pakistan.

The situation these children face is dire. Many are homeless, forced to live on the streets without access to education, food, or basic health care. For these children, every day is a struggle to survive, and the lack of a stable and loving environment only increases their vulnerability.

Young Orphans United and Overseas Pakistani Christian Alliance strongly believe that every child deserves a safe and caring home where they are loved, supported, and able to thrive. This is why we have committed to creating an orphanage through the "YOU" initiative, a place where these children will not only receive shelter and food but also education, healthcare, and the emotional support they need to thrive.

However, to make this dream and vision a reality, we need the support of people with a heart like you. We ask that you consider donating to help us create a safe place for these children. Your contribution, no matter how big or small, will go directly toward securing a physical space, providing essential services and ensuring that each child receives the care and attention they deserve.

By supporting this cause, you are directly helping to change the lives of some of the most vulnerable children in Pakistan. Your generosity not only provides them with a roof over their heads but also the hope and opportunity for a better future.

Thank you for taking the time to read this message. Should you donate, we greatly appreciate your consideration and hope that your donation will help make a profound difference in the lives of these children. Together, we can create a future where every child has a safe home and the opportunity to reach their full potential.

I look forward to hearing from you all, and I am grateful for any support you can offer.

With love,

Farida Brinkman
Founder of "Young Orphans United"

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LET US SERVE YOU ALL YEAR ROUND



Gratitude From Almere City Councillor, Elizabeth Adeloire

With immense gratitude and a heart full of joy, I celebrate the successful conclusion of the Municipality Elections held on March 18, 2026. It was a remarkable and inspiring journey, with over 300 candidates contesting for just 45 seats in the Municipality Parliament.

This process reflected not only the vibrancy of our democracy but also the deep commitment of citizens to shaping the future of our beloved city Almere.

Today, I write with a heart full of gratitude and humility as one of those entrusted with a seat at the table. My name is Elizabeth Adeloire, and I am deeply honored to serve as a newly elected councillor for the municipality of Almere.

This victory is not mine alone—it belongs to a community. It belongs to every individual who believed in this vision, who offered words of encouragement, who whispered prayers, who shared flyers both online and on the streets, and who stood firmly in support throughout this journey. Your faith and dedication transformed what seemed like a daunting race into a shared mission of hope and possibility.

The road was not easy. It was filled with long days, sleepless nights, and countless challenges. Yet through it all, we remained steadfast. Together, we persevered. Together, we rose. And for this, we give all glory and praise to God, whose grace carried us through and ensured that our labor was not in vain.

If there is one powerful lesson I carry forward from this experience, it is the true meaning of community. This journey has shown me that when people come together with a shared purpose, with hope, and with unity, incredible things can happen. The spirit of community is alive, and it is strong.

As we move forward, I remain committed to serving with integrity, listening with empathy, and working diligently for the betterment of all. Let this moment not just be a celebration of an election, but a renewed commitment to building stronger bonds, fostering inclusivity, and nurturing the spirit that brought us here.

To everyone who played a part - thank you. This is only the beginning of what we can achieve together.

NOTE:

Her swearing ceremony with other elected Almere city council officials took place at the municipality house in Almere.

Date: 1st April, 2026

Time: 20:00

Place: Stadhuis Almere

Thank you for your support and prayers, I count your support going forward to serve you with my best abilities.

Regards,

Councillor Elizabeth Adeloire





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RECOGNIZING AFRICA'S TRAILBLAZERS: THE VOICE ACHIEVERS AWARD OPENS NOMINATIONS

By Henry Oduenyi
Managing Editor

The Voice Achievers Award is now open for nominations for its 2026 edition, scheduled to take place Hilton London Kensington Hotel on August 21, 2026. This prestigious award recognizes individuals, organizations, and groups who have made significant positive impacts on the lives of Africans through their professional work or support.

THE VOICE ACHIEVERS AWARD & BUSINESS DIALOGUE
LONDON 2026

Announces

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to nominate an Achiever

NOMINATION CLOSES 31ST MAY 2026

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We invite all Africans, friends of Africa, and the African diaspora to nominate distinguished candidates who have contributed to the continent's growth and development. Your nominations can be submitted via <https://thevoiceachieversaward.com>

In a formal communiqué issued yesterday from its international headquarters in The Netherlands, The Voice Achievers Award organization unveiled the strategic vision for its upcoming cycle. The organization's President, Elvis Ndubuisi Iruh, detailed the core philosophy behind this year's pivotal theme: "Putting Africa In The Right Perspective—Focusing On Mental Empowerment For Economic Inclusion & Growth."

President Iruh emphasized that "Putting Africa In The Right Perspective" is a call to dismantle outdated stereotypes. By showcasing African excellence and resilience, the award aims to reposition the continent as a sophisticated hub for global investment and innovation.



...Continued on Page 28

The organization posits that sustainable development begins with a mindset shift. Iruh highlighted that mental empowerment—defined as fostering self-belief, psychological resilience, and a growth-oriented psyche—is the essential precursor to any tangible socio-economic progress.

The statement argues that when individuals are mentally empowered, they are better equipped to navigate and conquer the barriers to economic inclusion. This theme underscores the belief that a continent's greatest resource is the intellect and confidence of its people, which directly fuels long-term economic growth.

According to Iruh, this thematic focus is designed to serve as a catalyst, urging stakeholders to move beyond traditional aid and focus instead on intellectual and structural capacity building to further propel Africa's developmental trajectory. Let's come together to celebrate and recognize those driving positive change in Africa!

The Voice Achievers Award is a prestigious international recognition platform established by The Voice Magazine (an African news magazine based in the Netherlands) to celebrate individuals and organizations contributing to the advancement of Africa and its diaspora.

The award was founded by The Voice News Magazine, and held its inaugural ceremony in 2012.

It began as a project in the Netherlands to recognize Africans and friends of Africa living there who made significant community contributions.

Since 2012, the awards have taken a global stance, moving beyond the Netherlands to honour trailblazers across various sectors, including business, arts, education, and humanitarian services

Over the years, the ceremony has rotated through international locations, including The Netherlands, Kenya, The Gambia and the United Arab Emirates. The 14th edition, held on November 28, 2025, marked a significant milestone as the first time the main event was hosted in Lagos, Nigeria, at the Eko Hotel & Suites.

Each year carries a specific theme. The 2023 theme was "Harnessing Our Diversity for The Advancement of Africa," while the 2025 theme was "Debunking Notions - Reshaping Mindsets".

The awards are notable for their inclusivity, recognizing everyone from high-ranking diplomats and scholars to grassroots workers like airport cleaners who make an impact in their communities. Notable recipients have included figures like Late Dr. Kenneth Kaunda (former President of Zambia) and various African entrepreneurs and artists.

Organizing Committee, The Voice Achievers Award

Email: info@thevoicenewsmagazine.com

www.thevoiceachieversaward.com (Official Award Site)

www.thevoicenewsmagazine.com (Official Magazine Site)

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FORMAL INVITATION FOLLOWS SOON

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

A Legacy Beyond Title

In a world shaped by constant change, leadership has become one of the most spoken words—yet one of the least understood.

Across continents and cultures, we witness different faces of leadership. Some lead through excellence, setting standards that inspire admiration. Others lead with heart, touching lives through empathy and compassion. There are those who lead through authority, and others who pursue leadership simply for the prestige of a title.

But true leadership stands far beyond all of this.

Leadership is not a word to be spoken lightly.

It is not a position to be claimed.

It is not a moment of visibility or a platform for recognition.

Leadership is a mission.

It is a lifelong commitment one that demands responsibility, integrity, and an unwavering sense of purpose. It is the quiet strength behind decisions, the unseen force that shapes people, and the enduring presence that builds futures.

A true leader does not seek to stand above others, but instead chooses to elevate them.

They create space for growth.

They empower voices.

They inspire confidence.

They cultivate trust.

Because leadership is not measured by how many follow you, but by how many you uplift to lead.

At its core, leadership is the ability to transform vision into reality guided by wisdom, driven by authenticity, and expressed through consistent action. It is not declared through words, but revealed through behavior, character, and intention.

Today, the responsibility of leadership carries even greater weight.

We live in a world defined by diversity of cultures, beliefs, backgrounds, and experiences. Leading in such a world requires more than strategy or intelligence. It requires emotional depth, cultural awareness, and a profound respect for humanity in all its forms.

To lead globally is to understand differences without division.

To embrace complexity without losing clarity.

To unite without imposing uniformity.

It demands humility—to listen before speaking.

It demands understanding to see beyond the surface.

And it demands commitment to serve a purpose greater than oneself.

Leadership, in its truest form, is like an ocean.

Vast. Deep. Ever-evolving.

It requires the ability to navigate shifting tides, adapt to changing winds, and remain steady in moments of uncertainty. But within this ocean lies a greater responsibility—the discovery of treasures not to be kept, but to be shared.

Because a leader's role is not to accumulate power, but to distribute value.

To give.

To guide.

To leave behind something meaningful.

And from this journey, one defining truth emerges:

A true leader builds legacy—and humanity.

They understand that kindness is not a weakness, but a currency... one that holds lasting value across all borders and generations. Yet kindness alone is not enough. Leadership is the balance of strength and compassion, of patience and precision.

A leader must be:

Soft when empathy is needed.

Strong when decisions must be made.

Patient when growth takes time.

Sharp when clarity is essential.

H.E. Laila Rahhal El Atfani



...Continued on Page 32

And above all, human deeply aware that leadership is, and will always be, about people.

Because in the end, leadership is not about power.

It is about impact.

Not about recognition,
but about responsibility.

Not about the present moment,
but about the legacy that remains long after.

A Question for Every Leader

In a world that needs guidance more than ever, each of us must pause and reflect:

What does leadership truly mean to you?

Not as a title,
but as a value.

Not as an idea,
but as a way of life.

Because the future of leadership will not be defined by those who seek to lead

but by those who choose to serve, inspire, and elevate humanity.

Author

H.E. Laila Rahhal El Atfani

Executive board member GCBL

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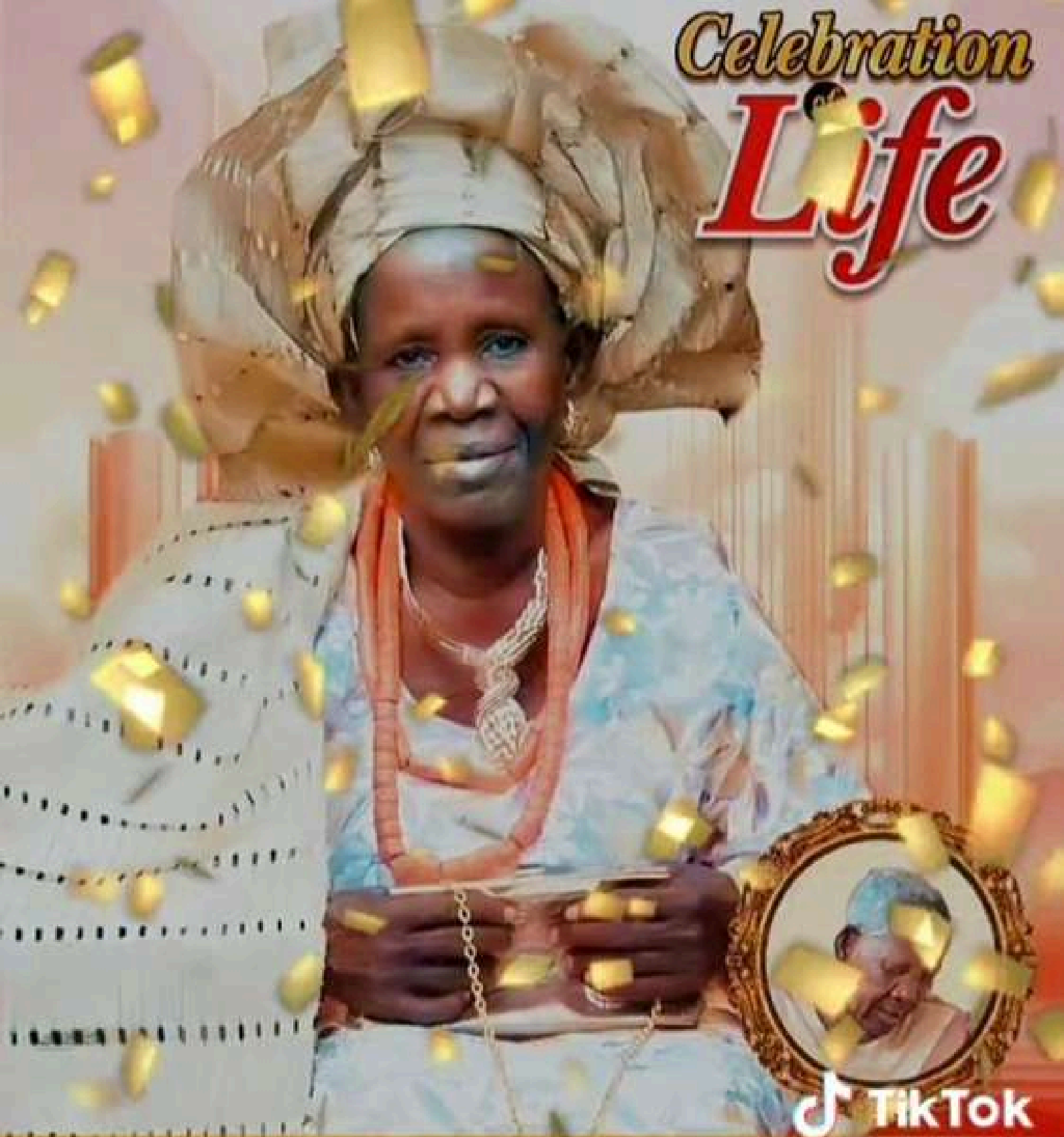
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from Igarra in Akoko Edo LGA of edo State
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mother and grandmother

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January 10, 1947 - February 14, 2026

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Service of songs

Date: Wednesday April 8 2026

Time: 4pm

Venue: St. Kizitos Catholic Church, Iju Station,
Iju-Agege Lagos

Requiem mass

Date: Thursday April 9 2026

Time: 10am

Venue: St Kizitos Catholic Church, Iju Station,
Iju - Agege Lagos.

WAKE

Date: Thursday, April 16 2026

Time: 4pm

Venue: Family residence, Rest House Road,
Igarra, Akoko Edo LGA, Edo State.

Burial Mass.

Date: Friday April 17 2026

Time: 10am

Venue: St. John the Apostle Catholic Church,
Igarra, Akoko Edo LGA, Edo state.

**Interment follows immediately at the Family
residence.**

Thanksgiving Mass

Date: Saturday, April 25 2026

Time: 10am

Venue: St. Kizitos Catholic Church, Iju Station,
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**Reception follows immediately at The
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Warri Kingdom host First Lady, Senator Oluremi Tinubu In Grand Ceremony

The Warri Kingdom witnessed a moment of profound historical importance today as His Majesty, Ogiame Atuwatse III CFR, the Olu of Warri, conferred upon Her Excellency, Senator Oluremi Tinubu CON, the First Lady of the Federal Republic of Nigeria the prestigious chieftaincy title of Utukpa-Oritse of Warri Kingdom.

Today's investiture carried a deeply personal and emotional significance, as this occasion was, in every sense, an official homecoming. Her Excellency, Senator Oluremi Tinubu, proudly traces her maternal roots to the Itsekiri, making her one of Warri Kingdom's most distinguished daughters. In welcoming her home through this investiture, His Majesty Ogiame Atuwatse III reaffirmed the kingdom's enduring pride in her journey, her dedicated service to the Nigerian people, and the grace and dignity with which she has represented Nigeria as its First Lady both nationally and globally. Her Excellency was also decorated with the Royal Order of Iwere (ROI), the second-highest honor within the Warri Kingdom, a rare and exceptional distinction reserved for only the most esteemed sons and daughters and allies of the Itsekiri nation.



...Continued from Page 37



The grandeur of the event was heightened by a remarkable gathering of dignitaries who attended the ceremony. Among those present were His Excellency, Rt. Hon. Sheriff Oborevwori, Executive Governor of Delta State; His Imperial Majesty Oba Adeyeye Enitan Ogunwusi, Ojaja II, the Ooni of Ife; His Royal Majesty Benjamin Ikenchukwu Keagborekuzi I, the Dein of Agbor, along with other respected Royal Fathers, senior government officials, and distinguished guests from across Nigeria.

Warri Kingdom remains a shining example of culture, tradition, and royal excellence, and today's ceremony has added another shining chapter to its rich legacy. His Majesty, Ogiame Atuwatse III, extends heartfelt congratulations to the new Ojoye, Her Excellency Senator Oluremi Tinubu, and prays that the bond between the First Lady and her ancestral kingdom will continue to produce progress, unity, and prosperity for the Itsekiri nation and Nigeria as a whole.







Tinubu Shuns Kemi Badenoch During UK Visit

President Bola Tinubu has ended his two-day state visit to the United Kingdom without a scheduled meeting with the leader of the Conservative Party, Kemi Badenoch.

Tinubu and First Lady Oluremi Tinubu met with King Charles and Queen Camilla, where they spoke on interfaith organisations, and attended a banquet at Windsor Castle.

The following day of the State visit, the Nigerian leader also met the British Prime Minister, Keir Starmer, at 10 Downing Street.

However the long-standing practice for country's leaders on official visits to engage the opposition leader was turned down by President Tinubu and his team. Infact, Mrs.Kemi Badenoch was not formally introduced at the event which was held at St George Hall.

Badenoch, the British opposition leader, despite her Nigerian roots, has publicly criticised Nigeria, with a particular claim that the policemen once robbed her.

Her persistent criticisms of Nigeria had attracted reactions from Nigerians, as she said last year that, "most of my life has been in the UK."

"I know the country very well, I have a lot of family there, and I'm very interested in what happens there. But home is where my now family is. I don't identify with it anymore.

"Most of my life has been in the UK and I've just never felt the need to. I'm Nigerian through ancestry, by birth, despite not being born there because of my parents... but by identity, I'm not really," Badenoch said

Vice President Kashim Shettima reacted to Badenoch's attacks on the country, and cautioned her from "denigrating" Nigeria.

Shettima's outburst was followed by many mixed reactions trailing Badenoch's decision to choose the UK over Nigeria.

However, in the event, which Nigerian Afro beat singer Tiwa Savage attended on Wednesday, Badenoch was not officially recognised by Tinubu and his delegates.

Also present was the British-Nigerian professional rugby player, Maro Itoje.

The 17-member delegation with Tinubu included Senate President Godswill Akpabio; Attorney General, Lateef Fagbemi; Ministers Dele Alake (Solid Minerals), Idris Mohammed (Information), Wale Edun (Finance), Jumoke Oduwole (Industry, Trade and Investment), Hannatu Musawa (Culture), Bosun Tijani (Communications), and Bianca Ojukwu (State for Foreign Affairs).

Also in attendance were the Chief of Defence Staff, General Christopher Musa (retd.); National Security Adviser Nuhu Ribadu; and National Intelligence Agency Director-General Mohammed Mohammed.

The president's trip centred on transforming a long-standing relationship into a modern economic alliance.

Source: Punch





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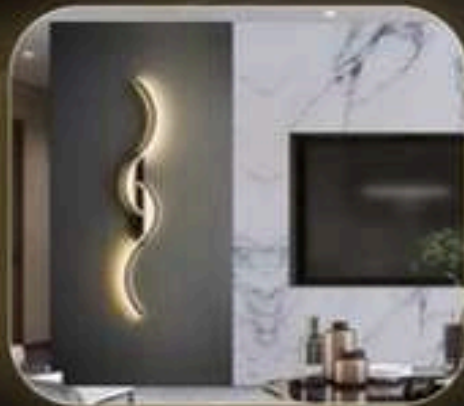
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President Tinubu Welcomes Lebara's Launch In Nigeria, Says Nation's Telecommunications Sector Vibrant.

President Bola Ahmed Tinubu congratulates Lebara Nigeria on its official launch, describing the milestone as a strong vote of confidence in Nigeria's digital economy and its future as a leading technology and investment destination in Africa.

Nigeria's telecommunications sector is a significant economic driver, with a 5.78 per cent year-on-year growth in Q3 2025 and an overall contribution of over 14 per cent to the nation's GDP.

The President commends the leadership and partners of Lebara Nigeria, including Mrs Teniola Stuffman, the Chief Executive, for their commitment to expanding telecommunications access, creating employment opportunities, and strengthening the nation's digital infrastructure.

He acknowledges that investments of this nature are critical to deepening financial inclusion, enabling innovation, and accelerating economic growth.

President Tinubu also acknowledges the presence and support of the British High Commission, represented by the Deputy High Commissioner, Mr Johny Baxter, whose participation underscores the enduring economic and diplomatic ties between Nigeria and the United Kingdom.

The President states that such collaborations reflect Nigeria's openness to responsible foreign investment and strategic global partnerships.

He also recognises the contributions of the Chairman of the Advisory Board, Otunba Bimbo Ashiru, and advisory board members for their leadership, expertise, and belief in Nigeria's growth potential.

President Tinubu states that initiatives like Lebara Nigeria contribute meaningfully to job creation, youth empowerment, enterprise development, and broader economic diversification.

He reiterates his administration's commitment to fostering a stable, transparent, and investment-friendly environment where innovation and private enterprise can thrive.

President Tinubu wishes Lebara Nigeria continued success as it begins commercial operations and encourages continued collaboration between the public and private sectors to advance Nigeria's digital transformation agenda.

By Bayo Onanuga
Special Adviser to the President
(Information & Strategy)



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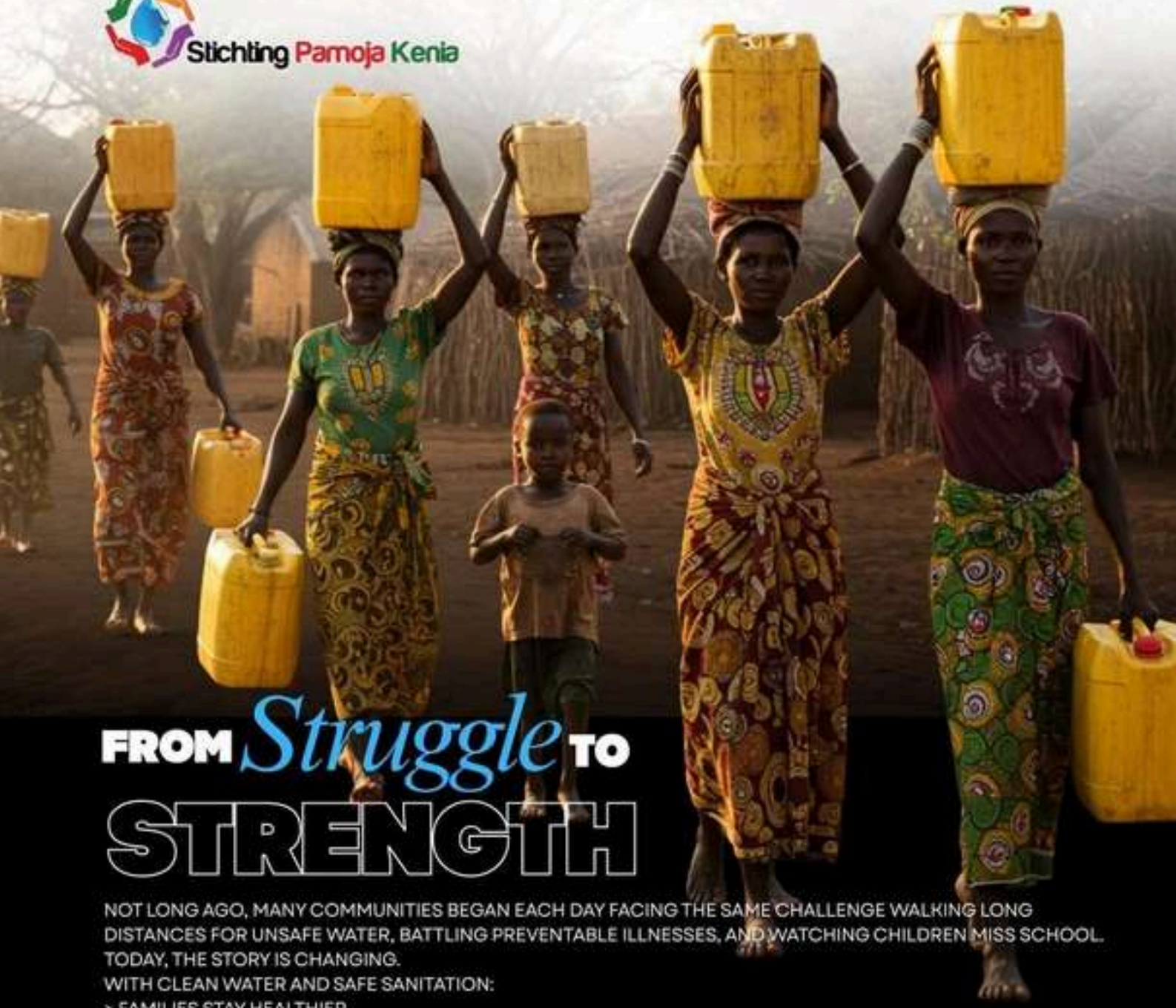
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Ambassador Mohammed Idris Haidara Is New Nigerian Ambassador To The Netherlands

With press release from the Presidency of Nigeria, after nearly two and half years, Nigeria has an official Ambassador posted to the Netherlands. He is Ambassador Mohammed Idris Haidara from Kebbi State. What more do we know about the new Ambassador, he hails from Gwandu, Gwandu local Government of Kebbi state.

Ambassador Haidara is the first son of Malam Idris, the son of Abdullahi Abubakar Audi, the son of Aliyu Haidara the son of Ibrahim Khalil (the 3rd Emir of Gwandu) the son of Abdullahi Fodiyo, Gwandu. Ambassador Haidara attended the Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto from Sep 1990 – Jun 1995 where he obtained Bachelor of Arts - English Language and literature/letters.

He went further to Bayero University, Kano where he studied for Professional Diploma in Mass Communications (Sep 1997 – Sep 1998).

He then went on to obtain Masters degree in International Affairs and Diplomacy, specializing in International Relations and Affairs at the Ahmadu Bello University (Jan 1999 – Apr 2000) and Nigerian Foreign Service Academy for Higher Degree in Diplomacy from 2003 to 2004. Ambassador Dr. Haidara has a Doctorate degree in Public Administration, (Mar 2021 – Aug 2023 at the Lyceum of the Philippines University, Philippines.



He has held several position in the public service as Director for the Asia & Pacific Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abuja (April 2025 to date)

He was Special Adviser to the Permanent Secretary on International Trade, Federal Ministry of Trade and Investment (Oct 2004 to April 2025)

He was Chargé d' Affaires at the Embassy of Nigeria Bangkok, Bangkok, Thailand. (Nov 2023 - Sep 2024). He was minister in charge of Economic Trade & Investment Matters at the Nigerian Embassy in Thailand (Jul 2021 - Oct 2023)

He also served as Acting Director at the Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abuja from Sep 2018 - Jun 2021

He was Minister Counsellor (Security Council), Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations, New York, United States of America (Dec 2013 - Dec 2017).

Senior Counsellor (Human Rights) Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abuja (Aug 2012 - Dec 2013); Counsellor (Security Council) Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations, New York, United States (Aug 2011 - Aug 2012) ; Human Rights Desk Officer, Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations, Geneva, Switzerland (July 2006 to August 2011) and Training and Staff Welfare Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abuja (Feb 2001 to Sep 2003)

Ambassador Haidara's interventions contribute to shaping policy directions and supporting leadership decision-making to strengthen Nigeria's bilateral and multilateral relationships.

(With over two decades of international experience, Haidara contributed to advancing Nigeria's global trade and diplomatic interests.

Haidara's expertise in policy analysis, governmental affairs, and working with international organizations on human rights and international peace and security underpin his commitment to fostering effective partnerships and leveraging opportunities for national development for Nigeria. With President Bola Tinubu confirming his appointment he becomes Nigeria's Ambassador to the Netherlands replacing former Ambassador Dr. Mrs Eniola Ajayi whose tenure ended in 2023.

Congratulations to His Excellency, Ambassador Mohammed Idris Haidara, Nigeria Ambassador to the Netherlands. Nigeria maintains one Ambassador specifically designated to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, who also serves as the Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapon. He awaits the acceptance of his posting by the Dutch King, William Alexander after which he could officially resume duties.



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Vice Versa Media - Ghana Is Now Officially An International Media Partner For Amsterdam Cocoa Week 2026

Under my leadership and alongside our dedicated team, we have taken a bold step forward: Vice Versa Media - Ghana is now officially an international media partner for Amsterdam Cocoa Week 2026 and the first African media platform to secure this role with one of the world's leading cocoa industry gatherings. This was announced in February 16–22 at the iconic Beurs van Berlage, Amsterdam during the Amsterdam Cocoa week.

Not just professional win but personal. As Country Coordinator, it brings to life my vision of leadership: not behind a desk, but in the field—traveling with mentees, listening to their stories, facing real challenges together, and amplifying origin voices authentically.

For the first time, we brought the full Vice Versa Media Ghana team to Amsterdam. We covered Farmers' Day resilience discussions, WINCC - Women in Cocoa & Chocolate's inspiring 10-year milestone on women in cocoa leadership, financial innovation pitches, the vibrant Chococoa Trade Fair, Cacao of Excellence of Excellence awards (Ghana shining bright!), and even a heartfelt visit to the Tony's Chocolonely's office.

The exposure is already opening doors: direct partnerships, global reach, and stronger narratives bridging Ghanaian farms to international boardrooms.

Deep thanks to Henk Bosch and the Amo Program team for believing in and fueling this journey and to Anna Laven, Caroline Lubbers, Mariana De La Rosa and the entire amazing team at Chococoa thank you for believing in our vision.

To leaders everywhere: Let's step out, tag along with your teams, experience the world through their eyes, and lead where the stories lived.



Competition Happens At The Bottom. At the Top, Real Players Collaborate

By Nicholas Mutua Jimmy (Jimmie Nicks)

There is a popular saying that competition is the engine of progress. While that may be partly true, a deeper look at leadership, influence, and impact reveals a powerful paradox: competition is fiercest at the bottom, while collaboration defines the top.

At the lower levels of any field—whether politics, business, activism, or professional life—individuals often operate from a place of scarcity. Opportunities appear limited, visibility is minimal, and recognition feels like a rare commodity. In such environments, people compete aggressively for attention, resources, and positions. Every small win by someone else is perceived as a personal loss. The mindset becomes: if you rise, I fall

This is the battlefield of the bottom.

But as one rises through experience, influence, and maturity, the mindset begins to shift. Those operating at the top understand a fundamental truth: impact multiplies through collaboration, not rivalry.

The most effective leaders recognize that no single individual holds all the answers. They understand that complex challenges—whether economic transformation, gender equality, climate action, or democratic governance—cannot be solved by isolated actors. They require partnerships, shared knowledge, and collective strength.

At the top, real players do not fear each other's success. Instead, they recognize the power of synergy.

When visionary leaders meet, they do not ask, “How do I defeat you?”

They ask, “How do we win together?”

This shift from competition to collaboration is not a sign of weakness. On the contrary, it is a mark of confidence. Secure leaders do not feel threatened by the brilliance of others. They create space for it. They build ecosystems where ideas grow, institutions strengthen, and people thrive.

In politics, this principle is especially important. Societies move forward not when leaders constantly tear each other down, but when they find common ground on issues that matter most to citizens—economic justice, social equity, and accountable governance. The greatest political transformations in history have emerged from unlikely partnerships and bold coalitions.

The same applies in social movements. Progress in areas such as gender equality, youth empowerment, and human rights has always been driven by networks of people and organizations working together toward a shared vision.

The truth is simple: greatness attracts greatness.

Those who are secure in their purpose understand that lifting others does not diminish their own light. In fact, it strengthens it. Collaboration expands influence, deepens impact, and creates lasting legacy.

Meanwhile, those trapped in constant competition often remain stuck in cycles of insecurity and short-term thinking. They spend more energy guarding their positions than building meaningful change.

This is why the journey from the bottom to the top is not only about gaining power—it is about transforming one's mindset.

Real leadership is not measured by how many rivals one defeats, but by how many people one empowers.

The future belongs to those who understand that progress is a collective endeavor. It belongs to the builders, the bridge-makers, and the collaborators.

Because in the end, the truth remains clear:

Competition happens at the bottom.

At the top, real players collaborate—and together, they rise.



House Of Representatives Mourns Passing Of Sir Chamberlain Nnamdi Dunkwu, PhD., KSC

The House of Representatives has received with profound sadness the news of the passing of Sir Chamberlain Nnamdi Dunkwu, PhD, KSC, Deputy Chief of Staff (Legislative) to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir Dunkwu passed away in the early hours of Saturday, March 7, 2026, at the age of 54. He would have marked his 55th birthday on March 21, 2026.

Until his passing, he served as Deputy Chief of Staff (Legislative) to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Rt. Hon. Abbas Tajudeen, PhD, GCON, having been appointed on June 26, 2023. In that capacity, he played a key role in supporting legislative coordination and strengthening parliamentary administration within the National Assembly.

Sir Dunkwu previously served as Special Adviser on Members' Affairs to the Speaker of the 9th Assembly and later as Chief of Staff to the Speaker of the 9th House of Representatives, Rt. Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila. Across these roles, he earned a reputation as a loyal and diligent parliamentary aide who contributed significantly to the effectiveness of legislative leadership.

Beyond the legislature, he was widely respected in Nigeria's sporting community, serving as President of the Nigerian Aquatics Federation (NAqF), where he supported the development of aquatic sports in the country. He was also known for his humility, dedication to public service, and commitment to national development. He was also a Knight of Saint Christopher (KSC) of the Anglican Communion, Asaba Diocese.

Reacting to the loss, Speaker Abbas expressed deep shock and sorrow over the passing of his close aide.

"Dr. Chamberlain was not just my Deputy Chief of Staff, he was a dependable and committed ally who served diligently until his last breath. Chamberlain was full of life just a few hours before his passing when he joined me and my colleagues at the breaking of fast on Friday evening," the Speaker said.

"This is indeed a moment of grief for me, my colleagues, his family, and the staff in my office as we mourn the death of this wonderful human being. This is one death too many! But we take solace in the fact that he lived a life of service to humanity and his country.

"He leaves behind a legacy of selflessness, dedication, sacrifice, and responsibility. We will miss him dearly. My thoughts and prayers are with his family at this trying moment. I pray to the Almighty God to accept his soul," Speaker Abbas added.

The Speaker also visited the family of the deceased to commiserate with his widow and children, urging them to remain strong in the face of the painful loss.

The House of Representatives mourns the loss of a committed public servant whose contributions strengthened legislative administration and parliamentary governance in Nigeria.

The House extends its deepest condolences to his family, the government and people of Delta State, the Nigerian Aquatics Federation, and the broader legislative and sporting communities.

May his soul rest in perfect peace.

Signed: Rep. Akin Rotimi, mnipr
Spokesman, House of Representatives





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From Tolerance To Collaboration



Ghana is often celebrated for peaceful Christian–Muslim coexistence. Yet coexistence is not the same as collaboration. Many people still live their faiths apart, with goodwill softened by silence and deeper engagement left untouched. That is why structured interfaith efforts matter; not as performances of unity, but as practical partnerships that solve real problems.

Ghana is known for its peaceful coexistence between Muslims and Christians, yet many people still live their faiths apart. From shared meals during Eid and Christmas to interfaith statements issued by religious leaders in times of national crisis, coexistence has become part of Ghana’s social fabric.

Scholars like Eric Oduro Wiafe note that this peace is rooted in Ghana’s “inherently tolerant and welcoming social climate” and government policies that protect freedom of worship. Yet, as he observes, this harmony is often more a product of cultural coexistence than active interfaith engagement.

Recently, Ghana’s official National Day of Prayer and Thanksgiving was observed on July 1st, the nation’s Republic Day. It was a public holiday for the country to reflect, give thanks for blessings, and renew its commitment to national prosperity and unity. The observance included prayers from Ghana’s major faith communities: Christian, Islamic, and Traditional religions, promoting interfaith harmony.

At this event, in his speech, President John Dramani Mahama, himself a Northerner and a staunch Christian, is reported to have said, “In Ghana, churches and mosques don’t compete for dominance; they coexist in mutual respect and dignity.”

Written by Efo Korqu Mawutor and Justice Baidoo

Despite Ghana’s long record of peaceful coexistence, many still live their faiths apart. Dr. John Azumah has described the Christian-Muslim relationship in Ghana as a “dialogue of life,” friendly and respectful, but rarely intellectual or theological.

While Christian and Muslim neighbours may attend each other’s weddings or festivals, deeper conversations about faith, cooperation, and shared social responsibility remain rare. As a result, mutual goodwill often coexists with quiet misunderstanding.

This underlines why structured interfaith efforts, like youth mentorships and joint community initiatives, such as the Radiza Foundation Mentorship Initiative, are vital to move Ghana’s religious coexistence from tolerance to true collaboration.

The Radiza Mentorship Initiative July 17, 2025. The conference room at the ALX Hub in Accra buzzed with a warmth that had little to do with the afternoon heat. Rows of eager young faces, all from Sabon Zongo, leaned forward, pens poised, eyes wide with curiosity.

...Continued on Page 62

At the front stood a woman in a calm but commanding poise, her smile both confident and familiar. Her name, Rabiātu Yakubu, founder and executive director of the Radiza Foundation, is now on a journey to changing the narrative of my community.

Around her were mentors, some in hijabs, others in suits. There was Smart Takyi-Nixon, a Christian mentor who had become a favourite among the mentees for his easy laughter and candid advice. Nearby was Tayiba, a young Muslim woman mentor. The mix of accents, faiths, and personalities created a rhythm that pulsed through the room.

For many of the mentees, all Muslim children from various Makaranta [Islamic community schools] in Sabon Zongo, a deprived slum community in Accra, this was their first time outside the community for a formal mentorship program. Some had arrived unsure of what to expect. But by midday, the shyness had melted away. They asked questions, shared their dreams, and debated ideas about what it meant to be responsible citizens.

How did it all start?

For Rabiātu Akibu, the story of the Radiza Foundation began in the narrow lanes of Sabon Zongo, where she was raised by a single mother who taught her resilience and empathy. “I was born and raised in Sabon Zongo, a deprived urban area in Accra,” she recalls. “I am committed to changing the narrative of my community, letting young people believe in their power to change their lives and transform their communities.”

Her vision for the Radiza Foundation grew out of that conviction that young people, especially those from marginalised backgrounds, could rewrite their own stories if given the right support. The Radiza Mentorship Initiative was her way of giving back.

But from the start, Rabiātu was intentional about inclusivity. “I looked for humans,” she says simply. “I didn’t look for Christians or Muslims. I looked for people who believed in what I was doing, and then we were able to work it out.”

For her, coexistence is a lived experience. “Growing up in Sabon Zongo taught me that peace doesn’t mean sameness,” she explained. “It means understanding and respect.”

By creating spaces where Muslim and Christian mentors could work together for a shared goal, Rabiātu hopes to model a new kind of community leadership, one built not on religious identity but on purpose and compassion.

That philosophy guided her as she recruited mentors from different faiths, including Christians like Smart Takyi Nixon, who shared her passion for youth empowerment.

Mentors from different faiths work together

For Smart, stepping into the Radiza Mentorship Initiative as a Christian mentor felt like coming full circle. A communications professional and playwright, he had spent over a decade working in advocacy and volunteering, much of it focused on empowering young people.

“We all need a shoulder to stand on,” he says. “When three people are standing, the one in the middle can choose not to walk. He can rest his hands on the shoulders of the ones on his left and right, and he will go exactly where they are both going.”

That belief in shared strength drew him to Rabiātu’s vision for the Zongo community. “I learned brotherhood from my Muslim brothers,” he reflects. “They gave me food without asking me what type of religion I had.”



Having grown up in a Zongo community himself, Smart saw the project not as a religious outreach but a human one. “Advocacy is not religious-based,” he insists. “It’s about the willingness to hold another person’s hand and say, I will walk you through the stream so you can get to the other side.”

He remembers one small but meaningful moment in the 3-day programme very vividly; the Friday, the 2nd day of the programme, they had to pause the mentorship session so the mentees and Muslim facilitators and mentors could perform their prayers.

To him, “That wasn’t an interruption,” he smiles. “It was respect.”

One of the Muslim mentors on the programme was Tayiba Hellah, a professional teacher. She saw herself reflected in the bright, curious faces of the girls who reminded her of her own journey growing up in Sabon Zongo.

“Most of them have never sat this close to professionals who believe in them,” she says. “I want them to know that where they come from does not limit where they can go.” Working alongside Christian mentors challenged and inspired her in equal measure.

“You realise that despite the differences in ideologies—faith ideologies—these people still respect your faith. I mean, when it’s time to pray, you can go. When it’s time to do something else, you can say, “Oh, I’m fasting, I don’t think I can really do this,” and they understand. And so, you are also able to understand them when they have to do certain things related to their faith. I don’t think I’ve had so many problems,” Tayiba says.

Interfaith harmony, she explains, has always been a way of life in her family. “When my mom travelled to the north and there was nobody to take care of me, it was a non-Muslim woman we lived with who gave me money for classes and food when I returned,” she recalls. “Even now, she still asks my mother and sisters to visit her because she’s alone. My mother has always taught me a lot about coexisting with everybody,” she added, with a smile.

Clear and measurable impacts

Ali Ibrahim is one of the local Imams who supported the programme and provided his students in his ‘Makaranta’ to participate in the mentorship programme. He recognises the impact on his students. “Just recently, when my kids were involved in such an event, I could see numerous changes, and I can see based on their input,” he confirmed to me.

The Imam expressed strong support for Muslim and Christian youths working together. He sees the religious affiliation as inconsequential to the vision of raising responsible youths from deprived communities.

“Look at the impact. For the religious aspects, you just put them aside. Look at the impact on the generation.” He emphasised that collaboration across faiths strengthens the community: “They are helping us, we are helping them, and together we build. We build a community that all of us would be happy to see.”

Hanif Abdul Kudus is one of Imam Ali’s students who benefited from the programme. He described his experience with the Radiza Mentorship Initiative as transformative. During the three-day program, he learned key skills that he believes will guide his future, including “goal setting, trusting your mentor and helping your community in some dangerous situations.”

Hanif also found a mentor who could specifically help him pursue his dream of becoming an accountant. He said, “I found someone who can help me become an accountant. And it’s a she. She’s a very good person. She has been helping me through my academics.”

Even at this young age, he finds it interesting that non-Muslim mentors are willing to help children like him. “I think it’s very interesting because they were putting the differences aside to bring up teens who are not part of their religion to make good adults.” He added, “Since our mentors are putting the differences aside to bring up the children in our community, I think others can do the same. It’s not really hard.”

His classmate, 17-year-old Bikisu Hussein, agrees with him. She is even more excited that the founder of the programme came from her community. She said, “Being part of the Radiza Mentorship Initiative has been very interesting. I feel proud that someone from my community has been thinking of us, the youth here, to be able to organise a mentorship program for us.”

During the program, she learned essential skills that she believes will shape her future, saying, “I got to learn, I have to prioritise smart goals in my life. And also, I’ve learned to be able to work on my confidence... And I’ve learned that getting a mentor is also a good thing in my life.” She found a mentor, Tayiba, who guided her in her passion for poetry and shared her own challenges.

On the impact of mentorship on her outlook, Bikisu shared, “After getting the mentor, my future is like, I keep dreaming... when I get to where I want to, I still want to go further... my future is already like, it’s not all that stable, but I’ll keep moving forward.”

In a country often held up as a model of religious tolerance, the story unfolding at the Radiza Mentorship Initiative is a powerful reflection of Ghana's broader coexistence. Here, young Muslims and Christians are not merely tolerating one another; they are working side by side, learning, laughing, and sharing meals as they build a future defined by collaboration rather than creed.

For Rabiātu Akibu, the founder of the Radiza Foundation, this harmony is rooted in a simple truth. "If God wanted us to be one religion," she says, "He would have made us one."



This mini-series was proudly sponsored by the Shared Futures Programme of Kerk in Actie. Shared Futures partners with local actors to strengthen interfaith cooperation among young people, helping communities move from coexistence to collaboration through practical, everyday solutions.



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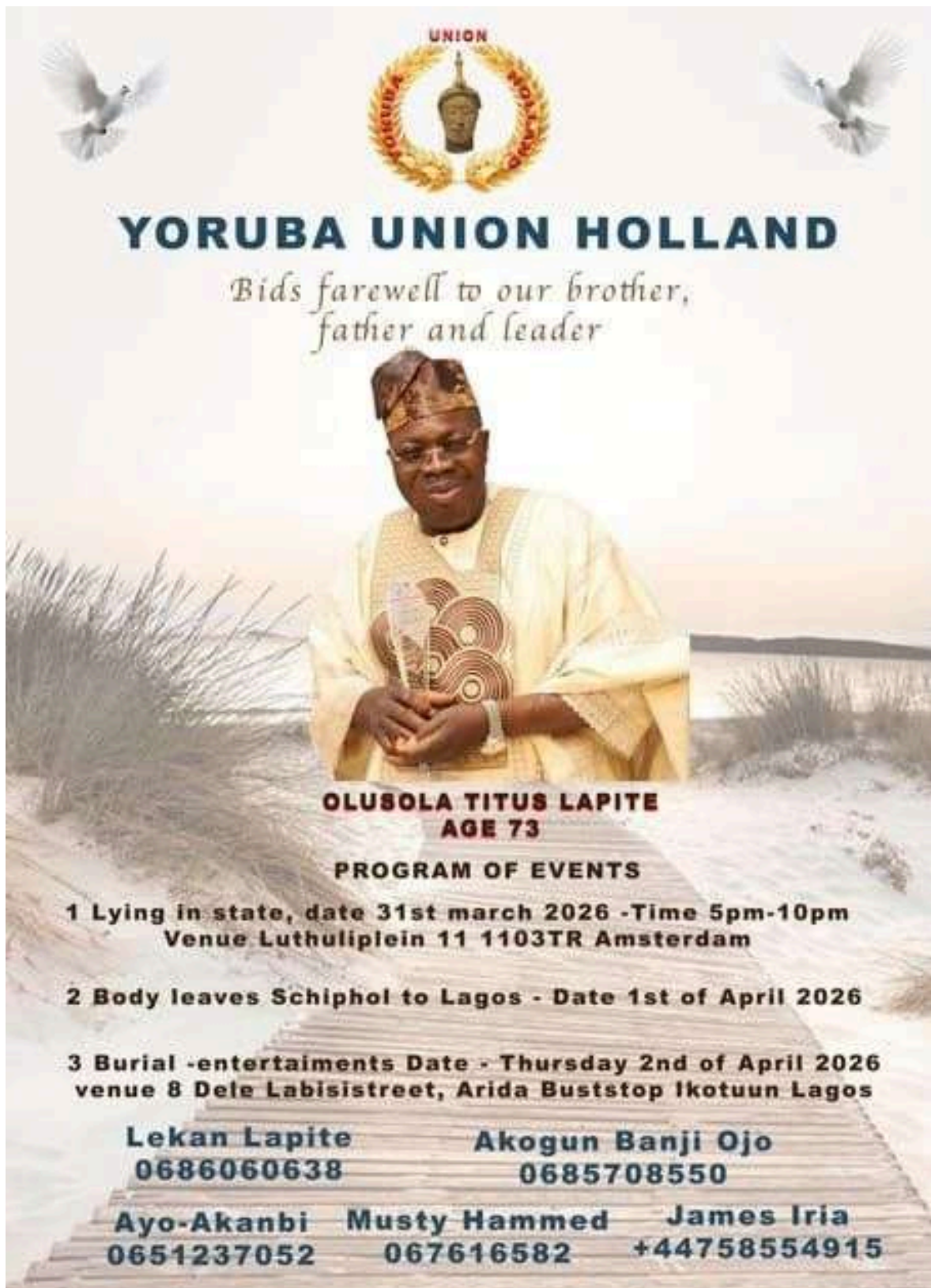
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Transition To The Life Beyond - Elder Shola Titus Lapite

The Yoruba Community in The Netherlands announced and mourned the death of a respected, reputable and humble leader in the community, Elder Shola Lapite, a well known community leader and a professional tailor who was known across the Netherlands and beyond. He recently passed away and there has been out pouring of love on him. His remains has been sent back to Nigeria for burial while different activities are being organised to celebrate his life. Mr. Henry Black of AfricanBlackGold TV paid a special tribute to him which you can watch on his youtube channel via his name - AfricanBlackGold TV. On behalf of the Voice News magazine, we express our deep condolence to his family and friends.

TV Management



YORUBA UNION HOLLAND

*Bids farewell to our brother,
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OLUSOLA TITUS LAPITE
AGE 73

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2 Body leaves Schiphol to Lagos - Date 1st of April 2026

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INTL

presents

A HOLISTIC COMMUNITY WELLNESS OUTREACH

Be a smart entrepreneur, join other Nigerians that are building wealth using community-based Wellness System, Care to know more, ask us...

DATE: 27TH & 28TH MARCH 2026

TIME: 10 AM DAILY

**VENUE: BOLO COMMUNITY CENTRE,
BOLO TOWN, RIVERS STATE**



SPECIAL FEATURES

- Free Product Sampling
- Free Health Check-Up
- Free Detox Products
- Free Consultation

The Complete
Wellness
Line

Enquiries/Seat Booking: 08037144257 & 08033273224

Meet our Team



Host:
Dr. CT Essien-Kambi
Queen of Wellness



Consultant:
Madam Tammy
(The Microphone Tigress)



Be deliberate about your health in 2026

Celebrating the life and time of our Dad. Samuel Aliemeke Iruh.



Born: 2nd January 1938.
Sunset: 7th March 2026.
Aged: 88 years old.



To my amazing Dad, my hero, I want to say thank you Dad. Thank you for being there for us every step of the way. Your guidance, support, and unwavering love shaped me and the rest of us. You watched us become who we are today.

We would forever be grateful. Rest well until we meet again.

Children

Pastor Ndubuisi Elvis Iruh - son
Agatha Samuel - Daughter
Engr. Leonard Bamidele Iruh - son
Victor Nwane Iruh - Son

Mrs. Lilian Akintokun - Daughter
Henry Agbajama - Son
Kuzi Marvin Iruh - Son
Ugo Mercy Iruh - Daughter

**EVERY
SATURDAY**

D'AFRIQUE
FOOD & DRINKS

Fiesta SATURDAY

STARTS 20:00 TILL 02:00

D'AFRIQUE FOOD & DRINKS
NIEUWE BINNENWEG 307A | ROTTERDAM



Signature Parcel Service Ltd is a premier logistics company renowned for its innovative solutions and customer-centric approach.

»» Our Services ««

- Parcel Pickup and Delivery
- Express Delivery Options
- International Shipping

- Domestic Shipping
- Customized Logistics Solutions
- Warehousing and Distribution

- Packaging Solutions and Materials
- Special Handling for Fragile or Sensitive Items
- Reverse Logistics for Returns and Exchanges

- Real-time Tracking and Tracing of Shipments
- Last-Mile Delivery Services

Our Clientele include

Corporate clients:

- Zenith bank PLC ■ University of Ibadan ■ STAC MARINE ■ Prestige Assurance Limited
- FCMB ■ The Polytechnic, Ibadan ■ LIRS ■ Adeseun Polytechnic ■ Zenith Registrar
- National industrial court ■ Foresight Optical Limited ■ Retail Partnerships
- Rinet Group ■ Numerous SME's ■ Individual Customers.

Reach out to us today and Let us satisfy your Logistics need.



D'AFRIQUE
Continental Hotel & Suites

BORN FROM A VISION TO CELEBRATE AFRICAN EXCELLENCE, D'AFRIQUE CONTINENTAL HOTEL & SUITES STANDS AS A SANCTUARY WHERE LUXURY MEETS HERITAGE. OUR STORY IS ONE OF PASSION, CULTURE, AND A RELENTLESS PURSUIT OF PERFECTION.

WE DON'T JUST OFFER A PLACE TO STAY — WE OFFER A FEELING. A FEELING OF BELONGING, OF SOPHISTICATION, OF PRIDE IN AFRICA'S BEAUTY AND BRILLIANCE. EVERY CORNER OF D'AFRIQUE TELLS A STORY, BLENDING CONTEMPORARY DESIGN WITH WARM AFRO-CENTRIC INFLUENCES THAT MAKE YOU FEEL BOTH AT HOME AND INSPIRED.

AT D'AFRIQUE, WE CATER TO THOSE WHO EXPECT THE EXTRAORDINARY — BUSINESS TRAVELLERS, EXPATS, AND HIGH-END LOCALS SEEKING A REFINED ESCAPE, WHERE EVERY MOMENT IS CURATED WITH CARE.



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