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# CAMPUS Today

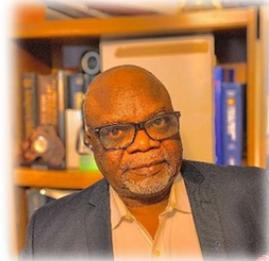
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## Meet Dr. Amarachi Oriaku



## Dr. Obinna Ubani-Ebere Making Waves~~~~~



**Dr. Obinna Ubani-Ebere**

Dr. Obinna Ubani-Ebere, former Associate Professor of Business and Finance. He taught at Barber-Scotia College, Franklin University, and Wilberforce University before transitioning to health care management and consulting at southwest Medical Clinic. He is an administrator and principal partner at Flashpoint Risk Management, LLC. He holds certifications in internal control auditing, fraud detection, and anti-corruption management from industry organizations.

He holds a B.S. from Alabama A & M University, an MBA from Morgan State University, and a PhD in International Affairs and Development from Clark Atlanta University.

Dr. Ubani-Ebere is active in community organizing and has led community organizations such as NNAUSA and NUA, advocating for accountability and integrity in public leadership. He authored books on Self-Serving public leadership and Governance: The Paralysis of African Countries; Integrity and The Need for Better Governance in African Countries. He loves and appreciates authentic cultural music.

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# Obafemi Awolowo University Spits Fire!



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**OBAFEMI AWOLOWO UNIVERSITY, ILE-IFE**

**Ref. No. R/DCA/C/IB/XVI/12/266**

**Date: 13/06/2025**

### DECISION EXTRACT

In view of the contemporary trend of events in the university, any student found guilty of violation of the following Dress Codes in the University risks rustication for one (1) semester:

MISCONDUCT	SANCTION
Sexually Provocative Dresses	Rustication for one (1) semester
Backless Clothes	Rustication for one (1) semester
Transparent Wears	Rustication for one (1) semester
Off-shoulder Clothes	Rustication for one (1) semester
Bomb Shorts	Rustication for one (1) semester
Tattered Jeans	Rustication for one (1) semester
Dread Locks	Rustication for one (1) semester
Faring for Male/Cowries for Female	Rustication for one (1) semester
Micro/Mini/Skimpy Dress	Rustication for one (1) semester
Sagging for Male/Female	Rustication for one (1) semester
Hair Braiding for Male	Rustication for one (1) semester
Nose, Mouth, Eye, Extra Rings	Rustication for one (1) semester
Unconventional wearing of face cap	Rustication for one (1) semester
Tattoo/Indelible markings for male	Rustication for one (1) semester
Crop/Jump Tops	Rustication for one (1) semester
Multi-coloured braid for Female	Rustication for one (1) semester
Haircuts with inscriptions	Rustication for one (1) semester
T-shirts with obscene inscriptions depicting immorality, hooliganism, etc.	Rustication for one (1) semester
Heavy Make-ups	Rustication for one (1) semester
Rumpled and dirty clothes	Rustication for one (1) semester
Hair plaiting or weaving by male students	Rustication for one (1) semester

In addition to the above, any student found guilty of violation of the following Dress Codes in the university risks rustication for two (2) semesters:

MISCONDUCT	SANCTION
Coloured Hair Styles	Rustication for two (2) semesters
Hair Braiding for Male	Rustication for two (2) semesters
Spangled Hair Style for Male	Rustication for two (2) semesters
Unwelcome touching, kissing and hugging of opposite sex	Rustication for two (2) semesters
Massaging or sitting on the lap opposite sex	Rustication for two (2) semesters

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Editorial Desk: Dr. Edward Agbai; Mrs. Patience Agulanna, MS

## Something is Very Wrong With The Igbos!

South Africa doesn't like them. Ghana doesn't like them. Kenya doesn't like them.. You find them everywhere you go! Is it that they do not have a homeland? You hear 'Nigeria' , 'Nigeria', 'Nigeria' in countries around the globe. They are very loud. They pursue money into the deepest of holes. They stuff their monies into the deepest of holes. They make the money. They spend the money. Oftentimes, they appear in casual clothes. They look like nothing is working for them, . You don't have an idea how much money they have in their accounts.

## Something is Very Right With The Igbos!

Igbos, especially, their men constitute the weakness of girls around the world. Girls and women from the above three countries not only like the Igbos; those daughters of Eve love the Igbos and want them. Something must be right with them. One would have expected them to remain in their businesses, but they rear up their ...heads in the area of education and still do well there! It may appear that they are competing with others, but on a serious note, they are almost leading the rest of their competitors. What shall we do with them?

## Northern and Western Nigerians love The Igbos!

People in other countries of the world hear about Nigeria. Many of them love things about Nigeria. Many of them do not know that Nigeria is deeply differentiated through tribal and ethnic demarcations, thus, Igbo, Yoruba, Hausa. While other tribes exist, the dominance of the three mentioned here is beyond description. The enterprising attitude of the Igbo People drew the attention of the other two tribes who are responding to that attitude with every fiber of their being. The love they have for the Igbo People transcends words.

# Is The Contact Still Solid?

There are some contacts you have not seen for years. You do not know if they are still solid contacts. Things change. People change. Things change people. People change things. It is unknown which or what factor would be at work while you both are far one from the other. The next time you meet, there is no telling what you will give or receive in terms of vibes. After such long absences from one another, did you change? Did you change things? Did things change? Did things change you? Oftentimes, factors that come to play and disrupt existing flows. The society in which you live can be a factor. Your career can be a factor. Your living quarters can be a factor. Your new attitude to life can be a factor. What impression did you think when you received a message after 20 years from your secondary school best friend and classmate after? The high energy you both shared during your secondary school days was so unprecedented that nobody would

dare imagine that communication between the two of you could get cold. Here you are, 20 years after secondary school, no contact. You don't even know where your best friend went, what he was doing, or even whether he was alive. All of a sudden, you receive a message from him. You are well aware that the world has changed in more ways than one. People are getting estranged everywhere. Families are being torn apart. Marriages and lower-level relationships are stuffed with so much doubt and mutual suspicion. Where are you going to start or restart this reunion? Do you pretend you did not receive the message? Do you pretend you do not recognize the name? Do you make yourself unreachable? Deep inside, you are a strong believer in value. You believe in the power of humanity, You believe that a tree cannot make a forest. You believe in Ubuntu. Here you are with a message in your face, unexpected, mixed feel-

ings, etc. Questions run wild in your heard...., "Is this guy still the way I knew him?" What is times have changed him? What if he has changed time? What is he has become a better person than I knew? What is he has become a worse person than I knew him to be? Will he be begging me for help? Will I be begging him for help? Is there a crystal ball around that can navigate me through this 'wildcard' junction? Anything can happen in a person's life over a long period. Good people sometimes become criminals and vice versa. Therefore, people are usually unsure of who is returning into their lives after many years, even spouses. First rule of engagement, "if you are not sure, don't do it!" On the other hand, some individuals are risk-takers. If you can risk a person, then, plunge in..., then, WYSIWYG.

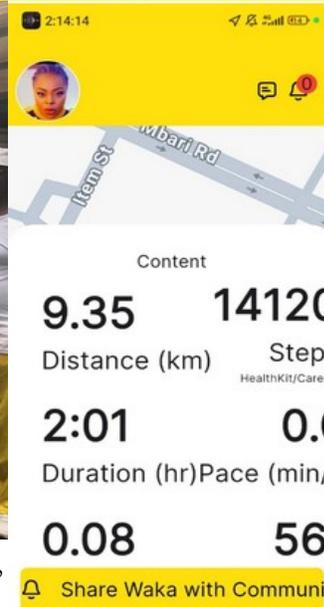
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## Waka-ing...



Group Waka in Uyo. Kicked off at Eme Inn, Brooks St, Eme Inn, opposite Cardinal Ekanem Seminary's gate.



She is Waka-ing

### Waka Community International Foundation

www.wakacommunity.com will be 4 years old on September 1, 2025

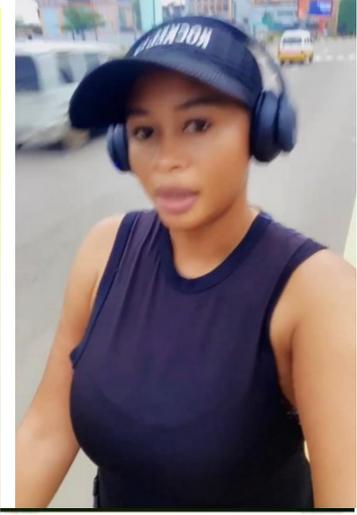
How do you intend to celebrate this milestone of our health and wellness advocacy efforts and impact, as your show of support? Together Everyone Achieves More



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**4**  
**YEARS OLD**



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## Waka Community International Foundation

*"...waka mek sens..."*

# Vintage Mrs. E.O. Odinamadu - By Le Bucheron - Franklin

## She opened the gates of learning when war had locked every door.

When the dust of the Biafran War finally settled in 1970, what remained across Eastern Nigeria was a landscape of silence, shattered homes, burnt books, and children robbed of their futures. It was in this broken world that a quiet heroine named Mrs. E. O. Odinamadu rose, not with celebration, but with determination, chalk in one hand and courage in the other. She was not a soldier. She was a teacher, a leader, and the first indigenous principal of Queen’s School Enugu, and in the wake of war, she rebuilt a generation.

### Before the War: Educator with Vision

Before the Biafran War began in 1967, Queen’s School in Enugu was one of the most prestigious institutions for girls in the region. It was known for its academic excellence, discipline, and legacy of nurturing future leaders. At that time, most school leadership positions were still held by British or foreign nationals.

*This story is received from Tiktok and received from family sources.*

and curative solutions even if they have to lie to the patient. The ethics of medical practice can only be understood by physicians. A non-physician cannot imagine those matters.

Truth, therefore, becomes a big enigma (if an enigma can be big or small). The crux of the matter is what the physician wants to achieve in delivering solutions to patients

Mrs. Odinamadu, already an accomplished Nigerian educator, rose steadily through the ranks. Her appointment as the first African principal of Queen’s School marked a turning point in the indigenization of education in Nigeria.

### During the War: When Schools Closed, She Waited

When the war broke out, schools were shut down. Queen’s School Enugu, like many others, became a ghost of itself, its classrooms emptied, its libraries abandoned, its blackboards silenced.

But Mrs. Odinamadu did not flee. She remained in Biafra throughout the war, watching as children became refugees, teachers became nurses, and the dream of education slipped away.

### After the War: The Rebirth of Learning

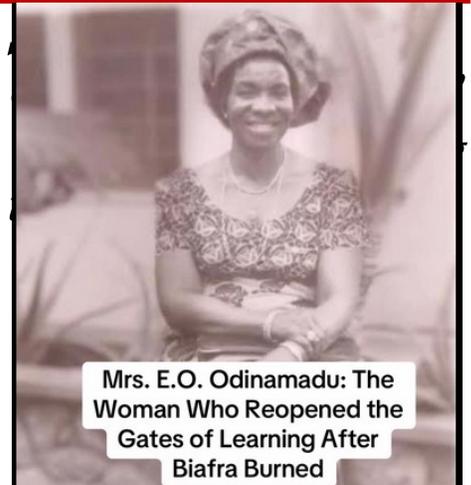
In 1970, the war ended. And with barely any resources, Mrs. Odinamadu returned to the gates of Queen’s School, not to grieve what was lost, but to rebuild what could still be saved.

She reopened Queen’s School Enugu, becoming a mother figure to war scarred girls, many of whom had lost homes, parents, and hope.

She recruited teachers, repaired classrooms, and encouraged traumatized children to return to school.

She oversaw the restructuring of the curriculum, helping the girls rediscover not only knowledge but also confidence. Under her guidance, Queen’s School became a beacon of hope for postwar Eastern Nigeria, producing some of the most brilliant women the region has ever known.

collected honey from the hive. Physicians can hurt you as well as heal you. Physicians can kill you as well as keep you alive. Physicians hold in their hands the mantra of “Prevention is better than cure”. Testimonies abound showing many believable and unbelievable occurrences associated with physicians. However, gain some and lose some.



Mrs. E.O. Odinamadu: The Woman Who Reopened the Gates of Learning After Biafra Burned

### Leadership in Healing

Mrs. Odinamadu’s heroism was in her quiet authority, her unshakable belief in education, and her ability to mother an entire school back to life. She understood that “A generation denied education is a nation sentenced to repeat its sorrow.”

So she fought not just to reopen a school, but to rebuild the minds of a broken people.

### Legacy: The Matriarch of Post War Education

Today, her name may not appear in history textbooks or on national monuments but the legacy of Mrs. E.O. Odinamadu lives in every girl who walked through the gates of Queen’s School after the war and found hope.

She was a healer of minds, a builder of futures, and a symbol of what it means to rise after the fire.

### In Her Name, We Remember

“She restored the light in a land that war had dimmed.”

“She stood between the ruins and the rising sun.”

“She did not rebuild walls. She rebuilt women.”

told the truth, whether they lie or not. Physicians and lawyers must know the truth from you because they will find out if you lie.

A physician can impregnate the wife of an impotent husband to save the marriage. I am not saying that they do, but simply saying that they could do so a desperate problem requires a desperate solution.

# Save Our Daughter from Breast Cancer!

Nneka Molokwu, one of the smartest, kindest, funniest people I know received devastating news that no 30-year old ever imagines: she's been diagnosed with HR+, HER2- breast cancer. After making a few jokes, her go-to coping strategy, she began a myriad of doctors' appointments and consultations. It quickly became clear to her (and her entire support system) that this is going to be a long road, with her treatment plan requiring chemo, surgeries, and radiation. As we help Nneka navigate this road, we are hoping to support her in any way we can.

Short of being able to erase her diagnosis, we are aiming to make all of life's responsibilities as manageable as possible to help her maintain her positivity and humor through this grueling process.

We are hoping to raise enough money to help her pay for medical bills that her insurance doesn't cover, supplement her monthly expenses when she inevitably has to take time off work, and allow her to pay for things to make this road a little less bumpy! Please consider donating to help our girl!

Donate at the link below. Also post it to your social media:

[https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-nnekas-battle-against-breast-cancer?attribution\\_id=sl:011a7dc5-722a-4fd6-bdd6-](https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-nnekas-battle-against-breast-cancer?attribution_id=sl:011a7dc5-722a-4fd6-bdd6-)

**SUPPORT OUR DAUGHTER'S FIGHT AGAINST BREAST CANCER**

Please consider making a donation to support our daughter's breast cancer treatments.

Every contribution counts, no matter how small

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS AND SUPPORT!

Support Nneka During Cancer Treatment



## Personalities



**Ada Ukwu Ibuzo**  
Professor Veronica Nnoma Robinson  
University of North Carolina, Charlotte.  
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**Barrister Ogechi Queen Agbai**  
LLM, Ms, B.L, LL.B  
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**Dr. Agnes Williams**  
Faculty  
University of Calabar  
Nigeria

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# Powers and Functions of The Nigerian National Assembly

The legislature in Nigeria, as in most other democracies in the world, is the arm of government charged with the responsibility of law making and oversight functions over executive bodies and authorities. Its basic responsibility is to make laws for the peace, order and good governance of the Federation. The 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria vests Legislative Powers of the federation in a bi-cameral National Assembly consisting of a Senate and a House of Representatives.

The Legislative powers of the National Assembly can be classified into three;(a) Expressed powers by the constitution;

Express powers are those powers of the legislature that are specifically and directly provided for in the constitution. These powers totalling over 111 (One Hundred and Eleven) are itemized under the Constitution and form the basis for the exercise of all other powers of the legislature.

(b) Implied powers arising from extensions of the provisions of the Constitution;

These are necessary or ancillary powers of the legislature. For example, Section 89 of the 1999 Constitution empowers the legislature to procure all such evidence, written or oral, direct or circumstantial as it may think necessary or desirable, and examine all persons as witnesses whose evidence may be material or relevant to the subject matter. (c) Assumed, powers as a result of Laccunae in the Constitutional Provisions: The assumed powers are rights claimed by the legislature which though not tenable as rights, are not unconstitutional, since there is no provision in the constitution prohibiting them.

The legislative powers of the Federal Republic of Nigeria shall be vested in a National Assembly for the Federation which shall consist of a Senate and a House of Representative.

See Section 4(1-9) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The National Assembly shall have power to make laws for peace, order and good government of the Federation. See section 4(2) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

### What Is A Bill

A Bill is proposed law drafted by the Executive or by Lawmakers, to be debated and voted upon in the legislature, and if passed by that legislature, to be enacted into force by laid down Constitutional procedure. A Bill has to go through several stages to become an Act of the Parliament.



**Barrister Professor Mike Nwosu, Ph.D.**

### What Is An Act

An Act is a law passed by Parliament. It is a Bill that is passed by both Chambers of the National Assembly and assented to by the president. Once an act is enacted, it can be only changed by passing another Act. Therefore, an Act can either create a new law or change an existing law.

### Where do Bills come from?

Bills can be private member Bills or Executive

Bill.

### (a) Private Member Bill:

Any person or organization within Nigeria may initiate a law. This may only be presented to the House or Senate through a member of the National Assembly in his or her own name.

### (b) Executive Bill;

The Executive is a major source of legislative proposals. The formulation of the contents of these proposals is the responsibility

of Ministers, with the assistance and advice of Civil Servants.

While Ministers determine the scope and content of Bills, Civil Servants are responsible for working out the details.

### How Bills Are Considered By The National Assembly.

The process of law making generally requires a long period of deliberation and consideration of the many interests and implications of the Bill.

All Bill are numbered or marked according to their chamber of origin. For example, a Bill from the House of Representatives is marked (HB), House Bill. While the one from the Senate is marked SB (Senate Bill). An Executive Bill is marked "Executive" printed on the title page of the Bill. It is printed tiny and to the right hand side of the page.

*(To Be Continued)*

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**\*Business development manager at Reigns I.T Consult Ltd/ ultimeapps.com**  
**\*Director Africa francophone region at African Agribusiness Incubators Network-AAIN**  
**\*Chief Executive Officer (CEO) & Founder at Incubateur réseaux et entreprises agricoles AIRE**  
**\*Director for Policy, Advocacy, and Research at Concerned Africans Youth Forum - CAYF**  
**\*Special Adviser to the Immediate Past President of the International Institute for African Scholars, USA**



**Professor Mike Nwosu**  
 Abuja, Nigeria



**Dr. Dorothy Onoja**  
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Center for Academic Research and Educational Sustainability

# Africanization

**Theme:**  
**Strengthening Curriculum for Technology, Research, Education, and Governance**

**Date: Saturday, August 23, 2025**  
**Time: 12:00 noon – 3:00pm U.S. EST**  
**5:00 pm – 8:00 pm Nigerian Time**

**Zoom Link: [To Be Provided]**

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**Senator Natasha Akpoti... poised!**



## Dr. Kingson Njoku's Trending Book

Dr. Kingson Njoku filed a verbatim report: "Yesterday I had the distinct privilege to present my book: Police Professionals and Leadership: The Interaction Effects to our most Distinguish County Commissioner, Yvette Townsend-Ingram in her Town Hall meeting: Fostering Global Partnerships For Local Growth. Please try to get your copy now at your local Barnes and Noble Stores.

## arry Uba Aid 70s Musicians in



## Nigerian Musicians of the 70s...

Those who enjoyed pop music in Nigeria from the time Nigeria's genocidal war against Biafra ended in 1970 can easily relate to names like Mono-Mono, Hygrades, One World, Semi-Colon, Oriental Brothers, BLO, Aktion Funk Ensemble, Apostles, Black Children, Sweet Breeze, Friimen, Founders 15, Strangers, Funkees, Sweet Unit, Wings, Vibrations, Heads Funk, etc. The world is rallying around them right now. Don't be left out. Play their songs on YouTube. Support them now on GoFundMe:

<https://gofund.me/738e61ff>

## Thoughts:

A man is born. He grows up. Begins to hustle. Becomes rich. Searches for a girl. Marries the girl. Impregnates the wife. Makes children. Hustles to raise them all. Dies without enjoying life. The wife lives another 30 years. The children protect her and give her everything. What use is marriage to men?

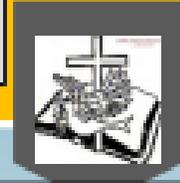


**Mazi Ezihe Ironodi**



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# Who Are These People?



Germany 🇩🇪 Igbo festival

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# Dr. Anastasia Ashi on the Bill!!!

On Wednesday, July 16, 2025, the Choir of the Apostolic Nunciature had a choral presentation to mark two events at The Embassy of the Holy See (Vatican Embassy).

The combo occasion was (a) the Feast of Our Lady of Mr. Carmel and (b) the One-Year anniversary of the Papal Nuncio to Nigeria. For those who might not know, 'The Nuncio' is the Popes representative in Nigeria as well as the Vatican's Ambassador to Nigeria.

Dr. Anastasia Ashi is one of the soloists of the Choir. She has a singing career that spans decades with some intellectual property to her name. Dr. Anastasia Ashi is the Dean of Health Sciences at the Emmanuel University, United States as well as President of the African Scholars Health Organization.



## Roll Call: Cast Your Vote; Don't Ask Questions

- |                     |                    |                   |                  |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Oliver Dike         | Ben Tudumey        | Ugonna Oji        | Okoronkwo Ijeoma |
| Emeka Onyenso       | Chief Owums        | Chidozie Ndubisi  | Gift Oluikpe     |
| Dallas Kingsley     | Anii Hofnar        | Pekos Ekpo        | Chimera          |
| Vivian Nwankwo      | Ema Edison         | Patience Agulanna | Chris Okure      |
| Rhoda Ekechi        | Chinwe Nnorom      | Emmanuel Ukpai    | Kate Mbidoaka    |
| Oji Ufiem           | Barry Uba          | Jerry Jheto       | Iyke Peters      |
| Lynda Branch        | Amarachi Oriaku    | Lorenz Mba        | Ihuoma Nwogwugwu |
| Ezinwanne Onyejiaka | Beatrice Nwoche    | Kalu Ota          | Habiba Ali       |
| Tee Mac             | Hypolite Ikeago    | Ifeoma Ezeigwe    | Winnie Nwogbo    |
| Nkechi Anako        | Mike Okri          | Felix Emelogu     | David Okorafor   |
| Chimnoya            | Temple Eze         | Linda Aguzie      | Ozo Nwobu        |
| Renny Pearl         | Bertha Kanu        | Joel Maduike      | Kez Opara        |
| Sarah Kima          | Walton Arungwa     | Steve Black       | Emma Nwokoye     |
| Femi Oyewole        | Onyekwere Thompson | Jeremiah Esiaba   | Chidi Ogazi      |



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# Ohanku Road, Aba?



**Courtesy of Dr. Alex Otti  
Executive Governor, Abia State**

*By the way, we know some people who lived at No. 201 Ohanku Road Aba. They must be happy now.*

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# Chief Barry Uba Receives Double Recognition!



Chief Barry Uba is a veteran musician whose place in the section of drums and percussions has remained unchallenged over the years. ‘Barry Starrrrrrrr’, as he is fondly called in some music quarters, has received recognitions from other places. Now, the mother of all recognitions has landed like an eagle on the shoulders of Barry Uba.

Chief Barry Uba is co-founder of the Music Elders Forum that has continued to brainstorm the plight of Nigerian musicians who are undergoing overwhelming situations. In one of his characteristically brief comments, he said that the problem of those musicians stemmed from the exclusion they faced in the music industry unbeknownst to them: The musicians did not have access to the copyright protection of their intellectual property all through the 1970s to date. Now that they are getting very old, and some of whom even dying one by one, Barry and his counterparts at the Music Elders Forum are strategizing on the possibility of securing the protection of the literary works of those who are still alive so that their children might reap the rewards of their parents’ musical struggles, even if the parents did not live to see those royalties.

Because those musicians of the 1970s, either due to ignorance or too much trust in the record labels, only focused on making music and performing for packed audiences across the country and sometimes beyond. The record labels handled everything ranging from rehearsals, studio bookings, transport to studios, hotel accommodations, food, fun, and all other incidentals. The musicians, on the other hand were just happy doing what they loved. The record labels probably thanked God for the ‘couldn’t-care-less’ attitude of the musicians in those days.

When the records were released, the musicians were happy to hear their songs on radio. They were happy to be invited to the television stations to mime their soundtracks or perform live to the viewing television audiences. The television stations would give them a one-sheet contract, and they were all too happy to sign away rights they did not know they had. They were happy to see their neighbors hailing, waving, and telling them, “I saw you on TV last night.” That meant the whole world to them. They were vibrant charming young people who did not bother about life and living.

The veteran musician, Chief Barry Uba, remained consistent in sending money to needy musicians, supplying them with guitar strings, and giving them motivational words to keep them going. There is hardly any part of the Nigerian country where the name Barry Uba is not known among musicians, especially those who created the music hype immediately after the Biafra-Nigeria war that occurred from 1967 to 1970.

Barry was drafted into an Army band at sight and mandated to play a show same day. Since he loved music, and especially his darling instrument (the drums) he pounded away his worries while those military people thought they were being entertained by their music group. Chief Barry Uba has since excelled far beyond describable levels in the mastery of his vlon game. Barry is one of the few drummers (among many) who have not torn or broken a drum vlon. That is the mark of a true drummer—sensitivity to the snare, tom, bass, hi-hat, and cymbals.

Chief Barry Uba gathered experience all through the 1970s and to date. He played drums for different Army bands, big bands and names such as The Wings of Aba, The Musketeers, The Apostles Rock Group, Sonny Okosun’s Ozzidi, Fela Anikulapo-Kuti, Dave Matthews Band, Bob Marley, to name just a few. Chief Barry Uba has lived and worked in the Hollywood area of Los Angeles, and has raised a stable and successful family, living with his wife and two daughters who, all, are educated and successful.

Chief Barry Uba is an unassuming free spirit who lives in the hearts of so many people, musicians and non-musicians alike. Barry, De Barry, Uncle Barry, Chief Barry, Barry Starrrrrrrrrr, and all such names are what he hears every single day. His family, friends, loved ones, and well-wishers are calling him every moment. It is even difficult to determine when Barry sleeps (if he does sleep at all).

Every society needs people like Chief Barry Uba. It is clear here that The United States Congress and the City of Los Angeles have, by their actions, confessed that Barry has paid taxes, played music in the City, and contributed to the State’s economy and, by extension, the economy of the United States of America.

Barry.... You are an assets to humanity!

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# The Biafran Music Scene: From the Eyes of a Precocious Teenager

My mom, Ojiefi Nnediogo, would be the first to attest to how so desperately I wanted, in my early teens, to be a drummer. I would use anything including her cooking tripod (oshi- ite in Ibo) as my drum set, clanging especially to the drum beat interlude of the James Brown classic - Cold Sweat. My introduction to Soul Music happened by chance. This took place in Aba at the height of the Nigerian civil war. I was passing by the Ambassador Hotel on Azikiwe Road and I decided, on noticing that the gates of the club had been flung open, to take a peek into what was going on there. I still recall in spite of the years, the exhilarating thrill of walking into a club with a live band performing. It was a life that I never knew existed. It was enchanting and glamorous.

## Sunday Afternoon Jumps.

It was my first time to see a live band perform and I stepped in as the band on stage - the Hykkers – played cold sweat. It was a magical moment that I recount every time with excitement. Attending the weekly Sunday afternoon jump/gig, as it was called, became a routine that I loved and looked forward to. I got to see the top bands in Biafra - Hykkers, Fractions and Admirals - perform. Each band had its style and star – The Hykkers had Pat Fynne the vocalist. Fractions had Jake Solo, the Admirals had Chris Ogali the vocalist - who opened up their cover of Land of One Thousand Dances – with a brief harmonica solo.

*Continued on Page 18*

**After the warhead cruises  
- Poem authored by  
Chidubem Iweka, Eze  
Iweka III, Igwe Obosi.**

The bomb is in the USA  
The layman has no say  
They have it in the USSR  
So Armageddon ain't too far  
A long way from the Colt 45  
To a bomb, none will survive  
Nobody wins everybody loses  
After the warhead cruises..  
(Reflections of Hope - Pg 28.)



**Ambassador Ozo Nwobu**

Although, they performed the same repertoire of songs, each group had a special twist to their rendition. I heard them cover such great songs like; Eddie Floyd's - Knock on Wood, Wilson Picket's – Midnight Hour and Land of One thousand dances. They also covered James Brown's Cold Sweat, I feel Good, Papa's Got a Brand New Bag; Jnr Walkers, Pucker Up Buttercup and How sweet it is to be loved by you, Sam and Dave's Soul Man. Otis Redding's – Fa Fa Fa Fa Fa (Sad song) and many others. Aretha Franklin's –Respect- was beautiful covered by the groups as well as her Save Me. Watching the bands play was and breathtaking. They were all great

performers although, I tipped the Hykkers as the best performing group. With the fall of Aba about the end of 1968, my family relocated right into the hinterland of Biafra to Osina in Orlu. That cut me off completely from the Biafran music scene. The groups I later came to understand relocated to Umuahia the only major city under Biafra's control. My musical interest was kept alive this time via radio. I stumbled, while searching for the early morning radio news for my dad and brother – in-law, Dr. Chineme, onto the Western Nigeria Broadcasting Corporation WNBC's early morning show anchored by Tunji Marguis. With time, the

signature tune to his programme - Soul limbo – by Booker T and the MGs, became time for an escape, albeit temporary, into my private world of bliss and happiness. The show became the major source of new and popular trending hits. I also got to listen to the original versions of all the songs covered by the Biafran groups and more. I also listened to Voice of America programme - African Panorama presented by Yvonne Barkley, which had a music interlude infused into the programme. Let me take one moment to talk about a boy group – The Jets – that had a short but very impressive stint in Biafra. The group was led by Emeka Aseme a prodigio-

us guitarist, who showed his talents quite early in school. Other members of the group included Ogu Amadi, Charles Ninedays, and Nnamdi (Daddy) Onochie. The group lost Ogu, Charles and Daddy in a ghastly motor accident during the war.

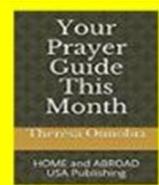
## The End of the Civil War.

By the time the war ended in 1970, Soul music had taken over the Nigerian air waves and music scene. James Brown – Soul brother No. 1 – lived up to that reputation, with great hits like – Black and Proud, Licking Stick, Pop Corn, Mother Pop Corn, Sex Machine. The album James Brown Live at Apollo remains my favourite and a delight to listen to.

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I can't think of any hit that commanded so much air time as - I feel Alright – did at

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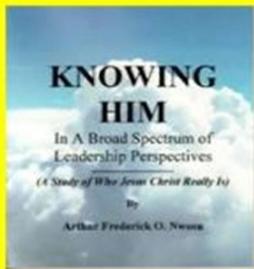
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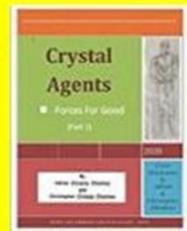
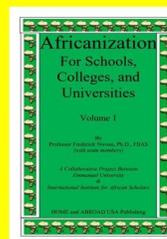
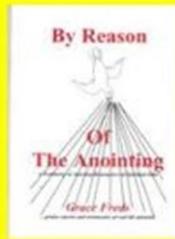
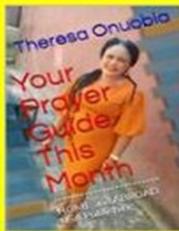
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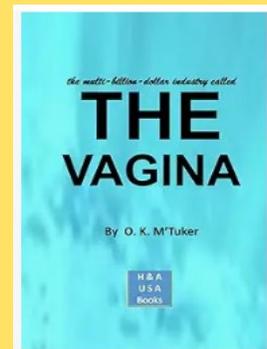
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# Ben Tudumey of the Friimen Muzik Coy...

## Ben Tudumey is one of the most unassuming musicians you will meet.

Many people have waiting (in vain) to hear the story of Ben Tudumey. As closely as you have walked with him, all you know is limited to all you see. You will definitely see him at the rehearsal grounds. You will see him on stage. You will see him the band Toyota Coaster. You will see him gisting, eating, cracking jokes, watching the television, and sleeping. In all these, you cannot extract his story from him. That is why Arthur Freds seized the opportunity of his memoir to drag Ben Tudumey as much as possible. The desire remains to use hooks, lines, and sinkers to pull out those stories.

Sometimes, when you listen to Ben’s keyboard phrases, you think Jimi Smith is intown. At other times, you think Herbie Hancock is on stage. On other occasions, you think you are listening to Billy Preston. It becomes difficult to say that Ben Tudumey plays like Person ‘A’ or Person ‘B’. It does not matter to Ben Tudumey whether or not you notice him.

Ben Tudumey is one of those musicians who sweat on stage. Vocalists characteristically sweat during their performance, especially those into funk, rub-a-dub reggae, hard rock, and a few other genres. **On the most part**, keyboard players don’t sweat while playing at a concert. Friimen Muzik Coy was a funk band. However, they did not have a dedicated vocalist.

All their members were expected to participate in sensing the chorus of the songs. Jimi Henshaw and Ben Tudumey did the lead vocals role. The band often (also) played mild tunes. One that comes to mind is Jimi Henshaw’s composition, “Word of God”, a mild reggae tune. Guess what: when the band is playing that song, Ben Tudumey still sweats. You won’t wonder because his phrases that reveal lots of brain work. He would sit there, moving his phalanges across the spectrum of those five black and seven white enamel bars. When you watched him, he didn’t seem to be doing much work. If you listened to the keyboard lines, you would realize that he was on the keyboard duty post. At the end of the show, you won’t believe he was on that stage.

## The Biafran Music Scene: From the Eyes of a Precocious Teenager By Ambassador Ozo Nwobu (...continued from Page 15)

I can’t think of any hit that commanded so much air time as - I feel Alright – did at that period. Sly and the family Stone’s -Thank you (falettinme be mice elf agin) and Sing a Single Song were equally popular and also got a lot of air time on radio and c. Otis Redding’s - Security – had a very special appeal to the Igbos. Coming from a devastating war, they yearned and wanted security (Security Ka anyi n’acho).

The impact of this genre of music in Nigeria especially at the end of the civil war was profound.

Artists and Musical groups mushroomed all over the place. Geraldo Pino was a major act in Lagos, Segun Bucknor and Joni Hastrup others. In the East Central State, Bob Miga of the Hykkers fame, formed a new group called the Strangers and recorded a mega hit – Love Rock. Jake Solo and others formed the Funkees and recorded – Akula (onyeara). The Hygrades with Goddy Oku, Drago Uboma had – Keep on Moving and In the Jungle. Semi Colon led by Lasbury Ojukwu recorded Slim fit Maggi. Emeka Aseme teamed up with Lemmy Faith to form Action

13 immediately after the war, and recorded - More Bread to the People.

Times have indeed changed. I can’t believe that the sweet soul music of yesteryears is now categorized as old school.

**PS.**

This is also a memorial for friends and musical greats of that period. Drago Ogo Uboma (my cousin) who passed on in 2009. Emeka Aseme who was gruesomely murdered in Oguta in 2013 after his retirement from NNPC. Vin Ik Ikeotuonye of Sweetbreeze fame who passed on this year, 2017. Emeka and Vin were both schoolmates of mine at Christ the King College (CKC) Onitsha.

*Ambassador Ozo Nwobu is on the Board of Trustees of the Music Elders Forum, Nigeria, West Africa.*

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