



IGBO TRUMPET

MAGAZINE



Team Eze-Akajiugo Edition... Vol 1 No. 2 September 2024

IGBO-UKWU CELEBRATES 2024 NEW YAM (IWA-JI) FESTIVAL IN A GRAND STYLE!



THE GIANT STEPS OF EZE-AKAJIUGO'S ADMINISTRATION!



HIS LORDSHIP, BISHOP SAMUEL EZEOFOR, ANGLICAN BISHOP OF AGUATA DIOCESE VISITS IGBO-UKWU, DEDICATES A NEW CHURCH

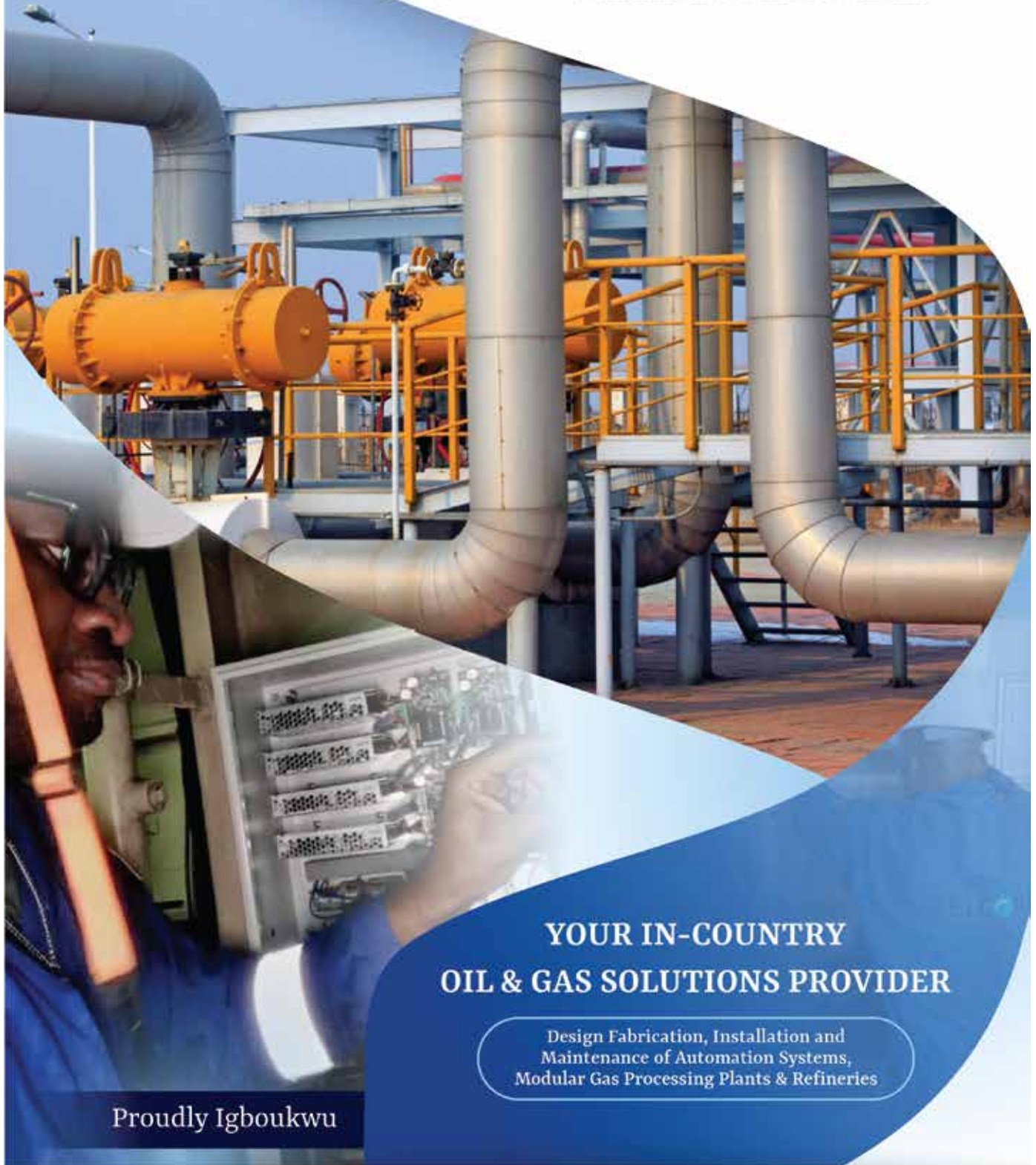


INTERVIEW:
IGBO-UKWU NATIVES IN THE DIASPORA ARE MAKING US PROUD!

INSIDE: Interviews, Special Events, Health News, Opinions and many more

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IGBO TRUMPET MAGAZINE

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MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD, IGBO TRUMPET MAGAZINE!



On behalf of myself and the entire members of the Editorial Board, I welcome you to this 2nd edition of our 3-seasons community Magazine. As you navigate through the pages, you will see for yourself that this is a juicier and much more improved edition than the first edition that was largely a 'photo-book', according to the feedback we received.

However the Board feels that the 'photo-book' journalism strategy was deliberate because it helped us re-jig and foster cross-sectional bonding as well as restore that forlorn Igbo-Ukwu kindred spirit! Again, a single picture tells more than a million stories than mere words put together. Besides a growing number of more readers today have shorter reading spans sieving through very long articles but prefer pictorial evidences and exhibits. We all love beautiful photos! On the whole, we are happy to bring joy and happiness back to town as the beat goes on!

This edition has more intellectual articles, rich in ideas with scintillating and fascinating contents across all segments and shades of our community life. This year's New Yam (Iri-Ji Ofuo) Festival which held between 2nd and 3rd August, 2024 was second to none in our recent history! Indeed Igbo-Ukwu won! Thank you and please receive more flowers of love from us! Our promise is that it can always get better and better with time! We will always listen to you and together we all move to the tops and utmost good of our community.

I salute the doggedness and resilience of my team, both the Editorial Board and Executive Team members who sit on top the apex leadership of Igbo-Ukwu's administration and governance. Thank you!

Eze-Akajiugo Sir Dr MCK Ubah, Esq.
Executive Team Captain & Chairman, Editorial Board.

Arinze Okamelu, Esq.
Editor-in-chief

Mr. Ifeanyi Ohazulume Ijezie.
Editor & PA to the PG of IDU on Mass Mobilization and Enlightenment.

IGBO-UKWU CULTURAL HERITAGE OF NEW YAM FESTIVAL

IWA JI IN GRAND STYLE (IWA JI 2024)



The New Yam Festival is an annual event in the Igbo-Ukwu Culture in particular and Igbo culture in general.

On 2nd of August 2024, HRH IGWE ALEXANDER AZIKE ONEDIBE IDU 3 OF IGBO-UKWU, the three quarter Chiefs Chief Mike Nduka (Oji 3 of Igbo-Ukwu) Chief Onyeka Nnabugwu (Alor 2 of Igbo-Ukwu) Chief Nnamdi Ifeakor (Odu 3 of Igbo-Ukwu), the entire Idu Cabinet, merit Chiefs, Nze na ozos and Umuada of Igbo-Ukwu ancient Archeological kingdom turned out in symbolic regalias to celebrate the 2024 annual new yam festival. Traditional dances and masquerades took to the streets of Igbo-Ukwu in a vibrant display of rich cultural heritage and acrobatics to mark the 2024 New Yam Festival which is a key part of the tradition of Igbo-Ukwu people in southeastern Nigeria.

This traditional spectacle is part of the annual New Yam Festival that marks the beginning and end of the farming season in Igbo land. It was a celebration of life, common accomplishments, shared culture, and the community's well-being.

The ceremony began with a collective prayer by His Royal Highness, followed by the community partaking of freshly harvested yam. The tubers are roasted, dipped in palm oil, and washed down with

the local brew.

Over the past decade, the festival has transcended geography, being celebrated with equal vigour by the diaspora.

Yam has cultural connotations in Igbo-Ukwu mythology.

"Every year, Igbo-Ukwu puts a strong statement forward: that we are extremely proud of our culture and our way of life.

The New Yam Festival is special to us Igbos in general and Igbo-Ukwu in particular because it represents an assurance of the reward of hard work. We spend months toiling and cultivating, and now we rejoice because we have a bountiful harvest," Many planted their yams but are not alive to harvest it, therefore those of us that lived to see the harvest has every reason to celebrate the harvest.

The festival surrounding yam, a staple food of the region, is the most significant cultural activity in Igboland — a trademark event that cuts across communities represented by over 30 dialects, is domiciled by the Federal Government in Igbo-Ukwu with the approval and building Yam House in Igbo-Ukwu an annual celebration of New yam festival by the Mbido Igbo Association.

In the mythology of the Igbo people, the earth (called Ala in the Igbo dialect) is a powerful goddess, a ruler of the underworld, and custodian of fertility.

Legends have it that Mother Earth gifted the Igbo people in the form of a rich harvest of yam. No wonder then that yam plays a critical role in the mythical Igbo palate. It is believed to have been served to kings, help lift curses, and presented as sacrifices in local polytheistic beliefs.

Harvesting a rich yield of yam is also symbolic, signalling that the year will be fruitful for other crops to be harvested in the course of the season.

During the New Yam Festival, investors, good deeds and other accomplishments within the community are also recognised. Chieftaincy titles are given to deserving individuals if approved by IDU, especially entrepreneurs who have built industries and created opportunities for the locals.

"Traditionally, the festivities should be on native Igbo soil, but most Igbos who build a life elsewhere don't usually come back. So, the festival has morphed substantially in its characteristics for it to be celebrated anywhere in the world,"

In the Igbo culture, failure to celebrate the annual event is regarded a grave offence, or



an act of ingratitude that is believed to affect one's prospects of having a good year.

Like many African cultural events, the New Yam Festival swims against a powerful tide of challenges.

There is concern over western influences affecting New Yam Festival celebrations. Westernisation is making slow but steady inroads into African cultural trademarks. Many teens in the cities have heard of festivities like the New Yam Festival, but as much as they follow eurocentric entertainment world, interest in yam festival is dwindling.

IGBO-UKWU AS THE CRADLE OF IGBO CULTURE AND CIVILIZATION IS DETERMINED TO UPHOLD AND PRESERVE THIS CULTURE OF NEW YAM FESTIVAL IN ITS PURE AND ORIGINAL FORM!

In line with the resolve supra, Igbo-Ukwu Development Union introduced the 1st-ever Table Tennis Tournament in this 2024 Festival to make it memorable and spectacular.

The President general of Igbo-Ukwu Eze-Akajiugo Sir Dr MCK Ubah and the entire team Eze-Akajiugo was on ground to celebrate the new yam festival. The 3 quarter Chairmen lead their respective quarters to the Occasion, IDU Women wing, various companies and foundation both locally and internationally were all present to celebrate the 2024 new yam festival.

In this years festival, Rev. Fr. Philip Okoye presented a lecture on the philico method of yam cultivation while Prof. Uchenna Nwosu presented yam in bag method of yam cultivation.

The Climax of the was the presentation of a brand new car gift to the Ocheze, the wife of Idu 3 by Hon Chinedu okoye popularly known as Ajiboye. The car gift which was attracted by the President-General EZE-AKAJIUGO SIR DR MCK UBAH in fulfillment of his promise. Recall that on the day he was elected Eze-Akajiugo promised that his administration will gift a car to The Idu 3, his wife and a bus for the Idu cabinate.

The 2024 New yam festival attracted many Dignitaries and Government functionaries

too numerous to mention. Notable among them are, Hon. Engr Dom Okafor FNSE (EZECHINYELUGO) Member Representing Aguata Federal Constituency at the 10th House of Representatives, Mr Valantine Ozigbo, Dr Greg Ezeilo (Ezeugo Okenwa okamuta) Chairman Anambra Internal Revenue Service, Dr Chibueze Ofobuieke (Ezeakunne) T.c Chairman Aguata L.G.A, Chief G.C Umeanuka Ezeohamadike and Barr Toochukwu Ejeziem (Legislative aide to Hon. Engr Dom) , Nze Eze-onyebuchi Okoye (CEO Golden talis group, the Importer of Gucci Red wine and Gucci gold) Prof Uchenna Nwosu (Odenigbo Igbo-Ukwu) Chief Eric Nwobi (Okeide Igbo-Ukwu) Chief Chris Ikechi Ezeh (Ugwumba Igbo-Ukwu) Chief Pius Adimuo (Ezeogbogu) Dr Ik Muo (Ezechikwado) and a whole lot of other Dignitaries too numerous to mention.

The New yam Festival ended in praises without any negative stories.

IFEANYI OHAZULUME IJEZIE (MEDIA AIDE TO THE PRESIDENT GENERAL ON MASS MOBILIZATION AND ENLIGHTENMENT)

AUGUST 2024 NEW YAM FESTIVAL: IGBO-UKWU WON... TO GOD BE ALL THE GLORY!





TEAM EZE-AKA JIUGO'S GIANT STRIDES: PROMISE TO THE PALACE OF IDU III & CABINET OF IGBO-UKWU FULFILLED!

TO GOD BE ALL THE GLORY!



TURNING IGBO-UKWU INTO AN INVESTMENT HAVEN BY ICHIE EZECHIKWADO IK. MUO, PHD, FCIB.



Ichie Ezechikwado Ik. Muo,
PhD, FCIB.

1) Introduction

Igbo-Ukwu is a large town and indeed, with a population of about 73,000 (2016), the largest in Aguata LGA and one of the largest communities in Anambra State. It has also assumed a semi-urban status with an intimidating influx of people from far and near who see it as their own obodo-oyibo. But while others are flocking into Igbo-Ukwu and making financial fortunes therefrom, our citizens are on exodus to the so-called cities where those who are already entrenched are finding things tough while freshers would only be lucky to secure squatting spaces. One of the reasons why our young ones still troop to the cities (apart from faulty orientation) is that the economy of the Igbo-Ukwu still leaves a lot to be desired while some facilities are yet to reach optimal levels in quantity and quality. The focus of this treatise is on the need and strategies for attracting solid investments into Igbo-Ukwu- investments that would further elevate the economic fortunes of our town, increase its attractiveness to our young ones and indeed other credible youths and also attract other life-supporting facilities to the town.

2) Why should Igbo-Ukwu bother about investments

Investment ordinarily refers to the commitment of resources (land labour, capital, entrepreneurship, social networks, ICT) into economic ventures with the expectation of satisfactory returns. What is satisfactory is a function of many factors but the returns should at least be able to cover the cost of capital and leave something as a risk premium for the investor. It is related to savings in that what is invested is what has been saved. It

is also important to note that the investor does not necessarily have to be the owner of the resources; he/she may source funds for the financial markets (OMO: Other peoples' money) so as to convert his business plans into reality.

Investment is important because it leads to the effective utilization of savings to create wealth primarily for the investor and ultimately for the society. It is the investor-as the risk bearer- who benefits from his investments. But there are other consequential positive externalities. In the process of investment, he offers employment to people and those people spend the money in the local economy. Since the business is an open system, it sources some inputs from the locality thereby oiling its macroeconomic wheels. Some infrastructures are also constructed or attracted in the process. It is these positive externalities that make it strategically important for Igbo-Ukwu to encourage investments in the town especially from our sons and daughters who are already investing their resources elsewhere. In doing so, those areas benefiting from the investments enjoy the various benefits while Igbo-Ukwu is denied of those benefits.

There are already several investments situated in Igbo-Ukwu, which directly benefit the owners and generically benefit the town. Ide Jerry Okonkwo is an Igbo-Ukwu based distributor of Nigerian Breweries brands. For the year ended 2006, his company was the biggest distributor for NBL throughout Nigeria. Of course when the announcement was made, Igbo-Ukwu was prominently mentioned and that was an intangible benefit. But Ide Jerry offered employment to people-direct and indirect; he made it easier for our people to buy NBL products from Nkwo rather than going to Nnewi or Onitsha and his company spent most of its earnings in the local economy. Even though there may be some negative externalities-like when delivery trucks create temporary traffic hiccups-, the investment was of immense benefit to the town.

The Igbo-Ukwu Microfinance Bank, owned and managed by us and for us, is another example. While similar banks are struggling to meet the previous capital requirements, ICB surpassed that long ago and is among the most capitalized in the country. It thus easily qualified to transform into state wide micro-finance bank, with branches here and there. The shareholders also receive better dividends than they do from several quoted companies. The bank employs our people, and oils

the local economy by its spending and its lending activities. As part of its CSR, it contributed to the Igbo-Ukwu Coronavirus Relief Fund, the renovation of our Divisional Police Office and the last Strategy Session organized by Optimal Consultants at CharelyGate. The same goes for Union Bank. But I must reserve the greatest commendation for Apex Hospital, which was the first meaningful business-yes, hospital is a business-to be situated at in Igbo-Ukwu and today, one of the most modern in Anambra State and still operates from Igbo-Ukwu. Apex-IgboUkwu has birthed an ultramodern multidisciplinary hospital, with an operational ICU at Awka. And in June 2024, it birthed the Apex School of Nursing, also located in Igbo-Ukwu. We all recall how its embalming services promoted the Igbo-Ukwu brand to the high heavens in those days.

Other investments at home by our people include CharleyGate Hotels(Charly Egbudom), Kojo Motors(Ikenna Oguegbu) Paschaline farms(Ezeakonobi Asjay Umeobi), Bekilo Farms(Chief Jude Osude), Anochemical Group(Chief Ezenwagu Okafor) Niger Opticals(Chief Chika Muonanu) and LandMark Hotels& Event Centre. Investments do not have to be extra-large. Sunday Adibe and Ide Eddy Osunkwo are running wielding 'industries' capable of timely delivery of iron-based structures of any specification; Work & Pay runs a furniture making complex at Ogbo-Osisi while Ide Ezesuokwu and Udonwu's palm oil mills are creating value in palm processing and optimisation

These are examples of successful investments in Igbo-Ukwu; they are examples of the returns, which the town can derive from such investments even though the direct benefits go to the owners/risk bearers. They are also indicators that well thought-out/managed investments can succeed in the town. We note that the manufacturing establishments have not done so well like Linah Bakeries (Chief T Umeweni), Ricco Furniture(Chief Eric Nwobi) and the Igwe Feeds (Igwebuikwe Social Club). However, many of the businesses that survived and are still booming have proved that Igbo-Ukwu has a favourable investment climate; that it is an enviable investment destination and that those who dare would surely win.

3) How do we encourage investments?

Generally, encouraging investments is a macroeconomic issue that falls within the realms of the government policy responsibilities: Provision of roads, light, water, security and other infrastructure, provid-

ing tax incentives, granting direct financial supports or subsidized loans, and providing information support. These are ways through which the government-Federal, State and Local- encourage investment either generally or in specific sectors/areas of the economy. But Igbo-Ukwu as a community through the instrumentality of the Igbo-Ukwu Development Union, and our prominent sons and daughters at home or in the Diaspora, can also do a lot to encourage investments in our town. We can and we should and these are some of the necessary steps:

* Awareness building: Deliberate and sustained efforts should be made to create awareness on the need and justification for investing in Igbo-Ukwu. Potential investors should be approached as individuals and in groups with convincing explanations as to why it is imperative and that it is a worthwhile effort. Successful investment efforts and the need to be patriotic should be the unique selling propositions

* Provision of incentives: industrial parks, assistance in the search for land and communal recognition for investors are some of the options

* Adopting the “Nnewi Strategy : The Nnewi strategy is the practice whereby everybody who does every business-especially importers- uses Igbo-Ukwu as the head-office. Dealers in search of those merchandise will thus follow the merchant and his merchandise to Igbo-Ukwu. We may start by encouraging our people to establish branches of their enterprises in the town. This is indeed a local variant of the think home philosophy once espoused by late Okwadike Ezeife

* Provide useful and usable information on the businesses that are likely to be successful in Igbo-Ukwu. Businesses that relate to palm oil, and cassava, drinking water and reception facilities are typical examples.

* Provision of infrastructure-to the best of our ability: roads, extension of electricity poles, security. These are essential if we sincerely desire to attract investment. Earlier in 2024, the Ihuowelle Community committed about N13m to save the St. Michaels-Amichi Road from erosion

* Liaison with the Government: the town should liaise with the various tiers and organs of government to support our efforts in this direction

4) Back to Igbo-Ukwu Vision 2010

On Saturday, 13th August, 1999, the citizens of Igbo-ukwu worldwide took their collec-

tive destiny in their own hands by initiating a strategic development agenda for the historic town. Tagged Igbo-Ukwu Workshop on Development (Igbo-Ukwu Vision 2010), the initiative was aimed at moving the town forward using the universal strategic planning model of finding answers to where we are, where we will be, where we should be and how we would get there. The distinguished assembly, working through the committee system, ascertained the current developmental status of the town, created a vision of what Igbo-ukwu would be by 2010 and specified actions needed to achieve the desired results

The recommendations that are relevant to investment included construction and regular maintenance of roads, with gutters and catchment pits to ensure all-season roads, adequate town planning and a comprehensive professionally designed master plan of Igbo Ukwu and the establishment of community Town-Planning Authority, itemization of necessary facilities to facilitate investments, establishment of land bank; Merit Awards to indigenes and non-indigenes as commensurate with hard-work/performance, adequate security, establishment of Industrial estates. It not only policy options-at times with appropriate costing-for the town, it also indicates areas that constitute investment opportunities in the town which any investor can profitably exploit

5)And Then The IRR

At the Annual General Meeting of 29th December, 2017, the Igbo-Ukwu Development Union unanimously resolved to convoke a strategic retreat to review the past, contemplate the present and plan the future of our dear town. The IDU, there and then, appointed a Retreat Director to provide technical expertise for the retreat and a10-man planning committee, to drive the process. Termed the IgboUkwu Renaissance Retreat (nnukwu ogbako pulu iche maka itughali uche etui IgboUkwu ga-esi di mma) it was attended by about 80 compatriots and held at Dannic Hotel, Enugu, on 23rd-25th February, 2018 while a comprehensive report, with actionable recommendations was presented to and accepted by IDU on 31/3/18. Some of the outcomes from IRR that are relevant to this discourse include the golden advice by Senator Uche Ekwunife that we should get our people into elective positions and thus use government money to develop IgboUkwu because there was a limit to what private resources could do. Well, Engr Dom Okafor is there and the initial steps are encouraging. Others include the establishment of Chamber of Industry, Commerce and Agriculture; formation of Industrialisation Committee, formation of

cooperatives, establishment of Land banks and prioritization of tourism,

6) The New Nkwo Project

The proposed modernization of Nkwo is the largest investment driver in Igbo-Ukwu by nd'Igbo-Ukwu and their neighbours. The buildings, as designed and at today's cost, are worth up to N10bn with indescribable impact on the domestic economy in terms of supply of labour, materials, and government attention. Beyond the direct economics of the construction, it will lead to significant relocation of our people who are being driven literally away from Lagos and other places. Even if they do not relocate fully, they will at least open branches at home so as to oversee their investments. The project is in limbo due to local politics and other unknown factors but I pray that we make hay while the sun shines,

7) Conclusion

It is in our collective interest to ensure that investments are attracted to Igbo-Ukwu. The primary benefit of any investment will ordinarily accrue to the investor but the town benefits from the macroeconomic impact of those investments in the community. We should therefore take steps to encourage these investments including creating awareness, provision of infrastructure and incentives and liaison with tiers and agencies of government. But we should not reinvent the wheel. We already have the Vision 2010 & IRR documents, which articulated the development challenges and strategies for the town. The recommendations of these two documents are still valid/relevant today . There is thus need to revert to that document.

Finally, our entrepreneurs should remember that while it is true that the Igbos believe that ebe onye bi ka ona-awachi, nothing can take away the critical importance of aku luo uno! However, aku luo uno is NOT only physical. The berthing of Centre for Communal Leadership and Civic Education, Bronze Business School and Optimal Consultants in Igbo-Ukwu is also quintessential Aku-luo-Uno. We are expecting our Lawyers, Accountants, Architects and other professionals to open shops at IgboUkwu; that is part of the investments that we crave

While submitting the IRR report at Amaehulu on 31/3/18, I declared that with our collective commitment, IgboUkwu shall be GREAT again, and even GREATER than before! I still stand by that optimistic declaration.

Ik Muo is the Director General, Center for Communal Leadership and Civic Education(C_CLACE), Igbo-Ukwu

CHURCHES AND OTHER RELIGIOUS WORSHIP CENTERS

AS STAKEHOLDERS AND PARTNERS IN OUR COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESS:
A NOTE OF APPRECIATION!



IFEANYI OHAZULUME IJEZIE

Seven great months have rolled by since the inception of Team Eze-Akajiugo as your servant leaders in the apex leadership of Igbo-Ukwu Development Union, IDU, precisely on the 30th of December, 2023! So far, so sweet!

We therefore use this opportunity to salute and appreciate the leadership and curates of all the churches and other religious worship centers across our community for their fervent fasting, prayers and dedication of their time to all our events and programs particularly whenever we invite them over to join us, however short the notice. We wish to place it on record that we deeply appreciate you and do not take you for granted!

We recall with profound respect, admiration and gratitude the presence of the apex leadership and curates of the two major churches in Igbo-Ukwu, the Venerable Emma Nwankwo of the Holy Trinity Church, (being the Headquarters of the Igbo-Ukwu Archdeaconry); the Vicar/Parish Priest of Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church Igbo-Ukwu, the Very Fr. Charles Umeoji and that of St. Barnabas Anglican Church, Rev'd Victor Ezedinachi (PP) during our very first day in our IDU Secretariat at the Igbo-Ukwu Post Office Block, Nkwor Igbo Market Igbo-Ukwu. We are and will continue to remain

eternally grateful to you all. We hope that in future we shall involve other leaders of our various religious worship centers in Igbo-Ukwu maka odinma Igbo-Ukwu!

We must categorically and unequivocally state that the church and indeed our entire religious worship centers play vital roles as agents of education, socialization and moral cum spiritual development of the members of our community and indeed every society of humankind. This role and its impact in the overall development and progress of our community cannot be over emphasized.

First, the Church was God's idea, and as such, it helps us pursue godliness and prioritize Him. It's because of the Church that we learn the truth about God and join together to disciple others to come to know Him as well. The Church serves as our moral and spiritual compass and moulder.

The Church can support people who are going through difficulties, whatever background they may come from. Often the Church will seek to work with other religious groups to help keep peace and harmony in the community as religious leaders still have some influence in the areas that they work in.

Again, along with creating social programs and serving as a foundation for community volunteers, churches also improve the educational success of students and provide training and skills that promote civic engagement.

Without much words, the church and other religious worship centers serve as strategic and formidable partners in community leadership and development. We cannot do it well without the church. For instance Preaching and teaching the Word of God and celebrating the holy feasts, festivals like Christmas or Easter

and the other blessed sacraments with the members of the community strongly reinforce and strengthen the spiritual and social foundations of our beings as a people of God under the canopy of a town called Igbo-Ukwu. Members of the Church can visit the sick and needy in the community or organise fundraising activities to encourage community spirit e.g. food banks. We can go on and on!

It's therefore on this note that Team Eze-Akajiugo salutes and appreciates all the churches and other holy centers in Igbo-Ukwu. Daalu nu! Thank you very much for standing solidly behind us. Please continue to stand with us, pray for us and be joy with us as we journey ahead into the years and beyond.

In the Spirit of Partnership "aka nri kwocha aka ekpe, aka ekpe akwocha aka nri". On Sunday 4th of August 2024, Eze-Akajiugo Sir Dr MCK Ubah was at All Saints Anglican Church as the Distinguished Chairman of the day for the Dedication of her Church Building, Workers Quarters, Hall And Launching Of N100M Vicarage Project By His Lordship, The Rt. Rev. Dr. Samuel Chukwudi Ezeofor, Jp Amb. P.

The Special Guest Of Honor at the Occasion was Prof. Chukwuma Soludo CFR, Governor Of Anambra State.

While Hon. Engr. Dom Okafor FNSE Hon. Member Rep. Aguata Federal Constituency was the chief guest of honor.

To say the least, the event was quite colorful and memorable with the presence of His Royal Highness, Igwe Ejikemeuwa Alex Azike (Idu 3 Of Igbo-Ukwu) as the royal father of the day.

Other notable dignitaries are; Hon Somto Udeze (Speaker Anambra State House of Assembly), Hon Tony Muobike, (Member Representing Aguata 2 Constituency), Dr Chibueze Ofobuike (T.c Chairman Aguata L.G.A), Chief G C Umeanuka Ezeohamadike, Hon Pius Adimuo Ezeogbogu, Arc Christian ikeh, Barr Kingsley Ezibe, Sir Robinson Anagboso etc.

It all ended in praises as team Eze-Akajiugo continues to enjoy a mutually cordial and symbiotic relationship with all the churches in Igbo-Ukwu as Strategic partners in community leadership and development.

IFEANYI OHAZULUME IJEZIE (MEDIA AIDE TO THE PRESIDENT GENERAL ON MASS MOBILIZATION AND ENLIGHTENMENT)



GOODWILL MESSAGE

Hon. Bro. Leo & Bar. (Mrs) Azuka Ogbonnia

We felicitate with Team Eze-Akajiugo as their leadership takes gigantic steps to put Igbo Ukwu on this great path of progress.



EROSION DEVASTATION IN AGUATA: EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

A Looming Threat to Lives and Livelihoods



ARINZE OKAMELU, ESQ.

Editor-in-Chief, Igbo Trumpet Magazine



Aguata Local Government Area of Anambra State is facing a growing environmental crisis as severe erosion continues to wreak havoc on the region. This once-serene landscape is now marred by gaping gullies, which have become a common sight across many communities. Erosion, a persistent menace, threatens not only the physical environment but also the very fabric of life in Aguata, including the historic town of Igbo-Ukwu.

The scale of devastation is staggering. Gaping gullies have formed in several communities, cutting off access roads, swallowing homes, and rendering vast tracts of farmland unusable. Areas like Ekwulobia, Uga, Ezinifite, Umuchu, and Igbo-Ukwu have been particularly hard-hit, with residents living in constant fear of losing their properties and, worse still, their lives. The situation has reached a point where some families have been forced to abandon their ancestral lands, leaving behind everything they have worked for over the years.

In Igbo-Ukwu, for instance, the destruction is widespread. From Umunono in Obiuno to Ihuwele in Ngo Igbo-Ukwu to Umudege in Ihite, all three quarters are affected. Urgent intervention is needed, as some families and their land are almost on the verge of extinction. Umudege seems to be the worst hit, with families living in constant fear at the sound of rain. A recent visit to Obi Okeke's compound was an eye-opener. The hapless Mr. Obi Okeke, like other affected members of Umudege

community, couldn't contain his frustration and helplessness when he took the President General of the Igbo-Ukwu Development Union (IDU), Ezeakajugo Barr. MCK Ubah, and the Honourable Member representing Aguata in the 10th National Assembly, Hon. Dom Okafor, on a tour of his compound. "This erosion is destroying our homes and ancestral lands," laments Mr. Okeke. "So much money is being pumped into this place to contain this erosion, but to no avail."

Farmers, who form the backbone of Aguata's local economy, are among the worst affected. With farmlands being washed away or rendered inaccessible, agricultural productivity has plummeted, leading to food insecurity and loss of income for many households. "Even the little we manage to plant is often swept away by the floods," says Mr. Willie Okafor, a resident of Umunono, Igbo-Ukwu.

The erosion crisis is also taking a toll on infrastructure. Several roads in the area have collapsed or are on the brink of collapse, making transportation within the LGA a daunting task. Schools, markets, and healthcare facilities have also been affected, as the gullies encroach on these vital community assets. This has further compounded the challenges faced by residents, particularly in accessing essential services.

Local authorities and environmental experts have attributed the erosion

problem to a combination of factors, including deforestation, poor land management practices, and climate change. The situation has been exacerbated by the region's topography, characterized by loose, sandy soils that are easily eroded by heavy rainfall.

Despite the severity of the crisis, efforts to address the erosion problem have been slow and inadequate. While the Anambra State Government has undertaken some intervention projects, such as the construction of drainage systems and erosion control measures, these efforts have not been sufficient to stem the tide of destruction. Many residents are calling for more urgent and comprehensive action, especially by the Federal Government, to tackle the root causes of erosion and to rehabilitate affected areas.

Community leaders in Aguata LGA, including Igbo-Ukwu, are appealing to the federal government and international organizations to step in and provide the necessary support to combat the erosion menace. They argue that without immediate intervention, the region could face an even greater disaster, with entire communities at risk of being wiped off the map.

As the rainy season intensifies, the fear among residents grows. The question on everyone's lips is: How much longer can Aguata withstand the relentless onslaught of erosion? For the people of this once-thriving region, the stakes have never been higher.

By Arinze Okamelu, Esq.



**Hon
Nzukwe
Uwaezuoke**

SERVICES

1. Deputy Speaker Onitsha South legislature 2015 - 2016.
2. Elected Councilor for Bridge head ward3, Onitsha South. 2014 - 2016.
3. 1st Vice President, IDU.
4. Current Special Assistant to the Governor of Anambra State.
5. Chairman, Umudege Development Union 2019 - 2023.
6. Treasurer, Anambra State Councilors Forum 2014 - 2016.
7. Chairman, PDP Bridge head ward3 2021 - 2023.
8. Chairman, Umudege Onitsha Branch 2011 - 2017.
9. Chairman, Trinity Friends Club 2013 - 2019.
10. Secretary, Umudege Onitsha Branch 2004 - 2011.
11. Secretary, St Martin Catholic Church Bazaar Committee 2003 - 2006.
12. Secretary, Wetuobi Social Club 2006 - 2017.
13. Fin-sec, Housing Estate phase 2 Community Fegge, Onitsha 2002 - 2004.
14. Fin- sec, Umuokezughu Kindred, Umudege Igboukwu 2004 - 2006.

CHANGING THE SPORTS DYNAMICS IN IGBO-UKWU



Sports industry is a serious business. Sports and life are too inseparable things. Waking up every morning, raising our hands, walking round the compound etc, are all parts of sports. Whenever we talk about sports, people tend to always narrow it down to only an organized set up.

Today, in all parts of Igbo-ukwu community, there are deliberate efforts and consciousness of people to appreciate and key into the sports circle. Igbo-ukwu Football Association since 1959, when the Association was formed, have been helping out to organize the youth of the ancient city to engage in competitive football. Many stakeholders of the community have since keyed in and became part of the success story through participation, administration, sponsorship and Fan base. For over four decades now, Professor Okenwa Nwosu, have continued to promote the value of sports through the "Run for Life Campaign" initiative. Today, not only has the wave of 'running for life' concept been embraced by the community, it is now growing into a global brand. The beauty of the ingenuity is that members of the nuclear family of the initiator are now the great ambassadors that lead in the promotion of this healthy living programme that advocate the need for us to walk and exercise.

Engr. Ikenna Okonkwo through the ACOMEF Foundation has nurtured a super variety that engage the secondary school children across Aguata Local Government Areas into healthy sporting competitions. Nze Ifeanyi Azike (Omeudo) through his wonderful inspiration organized the Igbo-ukwu Marathon and the recent Igbo-ukwu New Yam Festival Table Tennis competitions. Ihuowelle Community in 2023, came up with the football matches to mark their Mass Return. During the recent New Yam feast, Umudege Community organized their own Football tournament to help build unity among their kindred groups.

Mr. Chukwudi Ezeife (Zaifa) in a great twist sponsored the Community Shield cup which helped to integrate the Villages

into a healthy football competition. This strategy by IFA was a deliberate effort to utilize the Village set ups to fill the gaps of the Igbo-ukwu Development Union (IDU) Branches that were falling short of producing teams that participate in the December football competitions. The list will be endless if I go on to mention names of sponsors of our football events, the cup donors and award sponsors.

A lot of competitions have also been recorded in different communities of Obiuno, Ngo and Ifite Quarters. Many groups, including the religious bodies and schools have also organized one sports or the other as a way to encourage unity and promotion of healthy competitions among the members. Needless to dwell on the inherent benefits and values of sports to the life of individuals and the community. The beauty about many of the activities mentioned above are that they venture into varieties of sports ranging from Volleyball, football, table tennis, Athletics etc.

A visit to the home of Chief AB Ezenwanne (AB Expellers), Ezeakajiugo Sir. MCK Uba (Current President General of IDU) and others, shows that there are individuals that had built private courts for Lawn, Table Tennis etc, for recreation and otherwise. Hon. Engr. Dom Okafor (Member, representing Aguata Federal Constituency at the House of Representatives) in



August 2024, also showcased the Badminton Tournament for the entire constituency. The Youth Social Club of Igbo-ukwu as far back as the 90s and due to the milestones recorded by the community in sports circle, conceived the idea and started the construction of the Stadium in Igbo-ukwu.

When I saw the promotion of the Table Tennis event during the 2024 New Yam Festival, I had to put up a call across to Nze Ifeanyi Azike (Omeudo) and suggested if there could be a way the event could also be expanded in future to accommodate the students and pupils of schools within the community. Glad to report that he instantly accepted to look into the issue for future editions. This indeed brings me to the essence of the topic 'Changing the Sports dynamic in Igbo-ukwu.

The first aim of making such suggestion is that if we make a deliberate effort to get our kids to play in the organized Table

Tennis competition, we should have built a good platform to grown future champions for the State, National and International events. Formation of more Community Sports based Associations for Table Tennis, Volley ball etc, can unfold the magic that complements the effort of the Igbo-ukwu Football Association (IFA).

The world watched with keen interest the recent Olympic events in France and the absence of any medal for our dear country. If we pause a little and forecast the future, we can as well imagine where our sports would be if we build it around discovering, developing and supporting stars that can challenge the world in the next twenty years. The work can start today. Yes, if we can have people that participate in the Igbo-ukwu Marathon, the ACOMEF competitions, the IFA leagues, the Table Tennis events etc, we can as well build stars that can be future sports ambassadors of the community and Nigeria at large.

With numerous sporting events that go on in the archeological city, Igbo-ukwu Community has not only proven itself as a community that has capacity to organize sports competitions, but has willingness and potential to invest and tap into the economy of the sports tourism.

The Igbo-ukwu Female Team in the recent time also shock Anambra state with their exploit in the Female Football competition in the Idemili South Super Cup Competition, proving that there are also hidden targets among our female gender. During the interaction with the Coach of the female football team, I got the hint that some organizations are already planning the possibility of organizing a massive competition in Igbo-ukwu. Without a blink of an eye, I asked the coach to inform the organization that Igbo-ukwu will be willing to host the competition as this is the road to the Sports tourism development.

During the meeting of the President General of Igbo-ukwu Development Union (IDU), Ezeakajiugo Sir. MCK Uba and members of the Igbo-ukwu Football Association, on the 2nd of March 2024, one of the key take homes of the discussion was the consensus on ways IDU, the individuals, groups and organizations can make deliberate efforts to be part of the Sport business. Once we are able to do this, we would have placed our foot on the car pedal and driven into the speed lane of Changing the Sports dynamics in Igbo-ukwu.

Emeka Igwilu
President,
Igbo-ukwu Football Association
18/08/2024

GOODWILL MESSAGE

WELCOME BACK THE IGBO TRUMPET MAGAZINE!!

Ndi Igbo-Ukwu, we believe that 'square pegs being in squares holes' is the only progressive way to go without fail. We must deliver the needed dividends for our community! Do your very best, Team Eze-Akajiugo because God is with you and loves Igbo-Ukwu greatly! Go for goal!



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INTERVIEW:

Igbo-Ukwu Indigenes in the Diaspora are committed to the Development of Igbo-Ukwu"- Nze Eze-Ezinwanne Chuks Okoye



Nze Eze-Ezinwanne Chuks Okoye

Nze Eze-Ezinwanne Ezeohamadike Chuks Okoye, is a man whose influence transcends borders. Hailing from Ihuofor in Obiuno, Igbo-Ukwu, Chief Okoye is a successful businessman based in South Africa, though his heart remains deeply rooted in Nigeria. A founding member and the pioneer chairman of the Igbo-Ukwu Development Union (IDU) South Africa Branch, Chief Okoye continues to play an active role as a patron of the association and leader of the Igbo-Ukwu community in South Africa. As one of the prominent figures of the Igbo-Ukwu in Diaspora, Chief Okoye shares his journey, the association's contributions to Igbo-Ukwu, and his passion for sponsoring the annual Igbo-Ukwu Football Competition in this exclusive interview. Read excerpt below:

(Q) How did you come to be one of the leaders of the Igbo-Ukwu community in the Diaspora?

I think my leadership role stems from a combination of respect and responsibility. I have been living in South Africa for quite some time, and as one of the founders of IDU South Africa, and the pioneer Chairman, perhaps my contributions have proven my worth. Am sure that is what must have endeared me to members of Igbo-Ukwu in the Diaspora to accord me

one of their leaders. It's an honour to be so recognized.

(Q) In which countries do your members reside?

Igbo-Ukwu in Diaspora is an umbrella body of any bona fide Igbo-Ukwu indigene living outside Nigeria, and who wishes to join us. We have members spread across Europe, Asia, America, and many other parts of the world.

(Q) What was your experience like as the pioneer chairman of IDU South Africa?

It's both interesting and challenging. The formation of IDU South Africa in 2001 was a significant milestone as a few of us came together and said there was need to get an assemblage of Igbo-Ukwu indigenes in south Africa, which we did, and I was privileged to be elected as the pioneer chairman. Watching the union grow has been immensely rewarding. My tenure as patron after stepping down has allowed me to continue guiding our association toward progress.

(Q) Have the members of Igbo-Ukwu in the Diaspora been connecting with Ground Zero?

Yes, they have been connecting, and I deeply appreciate their support. Watching the union grow and seeing Igbo-Ukwu indigenes in the Diaspora connect with our roots has been immensely rewarding. Together, we've achieved much for our community.

(Q) What are the primary goals, aims, and objectives of Igbo-Ukwu in the Diaspora and what has been their contributions to the town?

Our association serves as an umbrella body for all Igbo-Ukwu people in the Diaspora. Our main goal is to unite with our fellow indigenes and contribute to the growth, progress, and development of Igbo-Ukwu. We are committed to bringing positive change to our hometown. Our contributions are visible; for instance, we are work-

ing on the "Lighting Up Igbo-Ukwu" project, which aims to install street lights throughout the town. We also plan to enhance Igbo-Ukwu's security architecture.

Maybe I should add this, IDU South Africa sponsors Primary Schools' Football competition in Igbo-Ukwu every Easter to engage the youth in sports and foster positive development, besides the contributions of Igbo-Ukwu in the Diaspora.

(Q) Can you tell us more about your annual sponsorship of the Igbo-Ukwu Football Tournament?

Then annual Igbo-Ukwu football tagged Ezezinwanne Ohamadike cup is sponsored by Ezezinwanne Ohamadike Foundation. It is an extension of the Eze-Ezinwanne Ohamadike Foundation's activities, which has long been dedicated to uplifting the less privileged, empowering individuals, and alleviating poverty. The football tournament sponsorship began when the Igbo-Ukwu Football Association (IFA) approached us a few years ago, and we've been committed to it ever since. We believe in nurturing young talents and providing opportunities for them to excel.

(Q) What advice would you like to offer to Ndi Igbo-Ukwu and Ezeakajiugo's leadership?

To whom much is given, much is expected. Ezeakajiugo's administration has demonstrated quality leadership, and I encourage them to continue on this path. Igbo-Ukwu is blessed with immense human capital, and it's crucial to harness this potential by bringing everyone on board. I have faith in Ezeakajiugo's ability to do even more for our community.

CHURCH DEDICATION OF ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH IGBO-UKWU

BY HIS GRACE BISHOP SAMUEL EZEFOR, LORD BISHOP OF AGUATA DIOCESE (4/08/2024).



CHURCHES AND OTHER RELIGIOUS WORSHIP CENTERS AS STAKEHOLDERS AND PARTNERS IN OUR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESS: A NOTE OF APPRECIATION!

Seven great months have rolled by since the inception of Team Eze-Akajiugo as your servant leaders in the apex leadership of Igbo-Ukwu Development Union, IDU, precisely on the 30th of December, 2023! So far, so sweet!

We therefore use this opportunity to salute and appreciate the leadership and curates of all the churches and other religious worship centers across our community for their fervent fasting, prayers and dedication of their time to all our events and programs particularly whenever we invite them over to join us, however short the notice. We wish to place it on record that we deeply appreciate you and do not take you for granted!

We recall with profound respect, admiration and gratitude the presence of the apex leadership and curates of the two major churches in Igbo-Ukwu, the Venerable Emma Nwankwo of the Holy Trinity Church, (being the Headquarters of the Igbo-Ukwu Archdeaconry); the Vicar/Parish Priest of Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church Igbo-Ukwu, the Very Fr. Charles Umeoji and that of St. Barnabas Anglican Church, Rev'd Victor Ezedinachi (PP) during our very first day in our IDU Secretariat at the Igbo-Ukwu Post Office Block, Nkwor Igbo Market Igbo-Ukwu. We are and will continue to remain eternally grateful to you all. We hope that in future we shall involve other leaders of

our various religious worship centers in Igbo-Ukwu maka odinma Igbo-Ukwu!

We must categorically and unequivocally state that the church and indeed our entire religious worship centers play vital roles as agents of education, socialization and moral cum spiritual development of the members of our community and indeed every society of humankind. This role and its impact in the overall development and progress of our community cannot be over emphasized.

First, the Church was God's idea, and as such, it helps us pursue godliness and prioritize Him. It's because of the Church that we learn the truth about God and join together to disciple others to come to know Him as well. The Church serves as our moral and spiritual compass and moulder.

The Church can support people who are going through difficulties, whatever background they may come from. Often the Church will seek to work with other religious groups to help keep peace and harmony in the community as religious leaders still have some influence in the areas that they work in.

Again, along with creating social programs and serving as a foundation for community volunteers, churches also improve the educational success of students and provide training and skills that promote civic engagement.

Without much words, the church and other religious worship centers serve as strategic and formidable partners in community leadership and development.

We cannot do it well without the church. For instance Preaching and teaching the Word of God and celebrating the holy feasts, festivals like Christmas or Easter and the other blessed sacraments with the members of the community strongly reinforce and strengthen the spiritual and social foundations of our beings as a people of God under the canopy of a town called Igbo-Ukwu. Members of the Church can visit the sick and needy in the community or organise fundraising activities to encourage community spirit e.g. food banks. We can go on and on!

It's therefore on this note that Team Eze-Akajiugo salutes and appreciates all the churches and other holy centers in Igbo-Ukwu. Daalu nu! Thank you very much for standing solidly behind us. Please continue to stand with us, pray for us and be joy with us as we journey ahead into the years and beyond.

In the Spirit of Partnership "aka nri kwocha aka ekpe, aka ekpe akwocha aka nri". On Sunday 4th of August 2024, Eze-Akajiugo Sir Dr MCK Ubah was at All Saints Anglican Church as the Distinguished Chairman of the day for the Dedication of her Church Building, Workers Quarters, Hall And Launching Of N100M Vicarage Project By His Lordship, The Rt. Rev. Dr. Samuel Chukwudi Ezeofor, Jp Amb. P.

The Special Guest Of Honor at the Occasion was Prof. Chukwuma Soludo CFR, Governor Of Anambra State.

While Hon. Engr. Dom Okafor FNSE Hon. Member Rep. Aguata Federal Constituency was the chief guest of honor.

To say the least, the event was quite colorful and memorable with the presence of His Royal Highness, Igwe Ejikemeuwa Alex Azike (Idu 3 Of Igbo-Ukwu) as the royal father of the day.

Other notable dignitaries are; Hon Somto Udeze (Speaker Anambra State House of Assembly), Hon Tony Muobike, (Member Representing Aguata 2 Constituency), Dr Chibueze Ofobuike (T.c Chairman Aguata L.G.A), Chief G C Umeanuka Ezeohamadike, Hon Pius Adimuo Ezeogbogu, Arc Christian ikeh, Barr Kingsley Ezibe, Sir Robinson Anagboso etc.

It all ended in praises as team Eze-Akajiugo continues to enjoy a mutually cordial and symbiotic relationship with all the churches in Igbo-Ukwu as Strategic partners in community leadership and development.

IFEANYI OHAZULUME IJEZIE (MEDIA AIDE TO THE PRESIDENT GENERAL ON MASS MOBILIZATION AND ENLIGHTENMENT)

HIS GRACE BISHOP SAMUEL EZEFOR, THE ANGLICAN BISHOP OF AGUATA DIOCESE SHARES SOME GOOD MOMENTS WITH EZE-AKAJIUGO SIR DR MCK UBAH WHILE THE ARCHDEACON OF IGBO UKWU ARCHDECONRY VEN. EMMA NWANKWO LISTENS WITH RAPT ATTENTION.



DIOCESE OF AGUATA
(Where Jesus is Lord)

The Priest, PCC, Deacons, Flowering Committee and extra members of
ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH IGBOUKWU
Charitably Share you

DEDICATION OF HER ULTRA MODERN CHURCH BUILDING, WORKERS QUARTER, HALL & LAUNCHING OF N100M VICARAGE PROJECT

By His Excellency
THE RT REV DR SAMUEL EZEFOR JP Amb.P
Bishop Diocese of Aguata

DATE: Sun 4th August 2024
VENUE: All Saints Church, Igbo-Ukwu
TIME: 10.00am

STYLISH ATTIRE OF THE DAY!
The Royal Family
Spice, Khmer and Ankara - Overall
All of it!

CHAIRMAN: Sir Emmanuel Nwankwo, (Pastor, Diocese of Aguata)

QUESTIONS OF HONOUR:
Dr Chibonso Okorobio (Member, House of Assembly) (To Chair)
Mr. Peter Okeke (Member, House of Assembly) (To Chair)
Mr. Peter Okeke (Member, House of Assembly) (To Chair)
Mr. Peter Okeke (Member, House of Assembly) (To Chair)

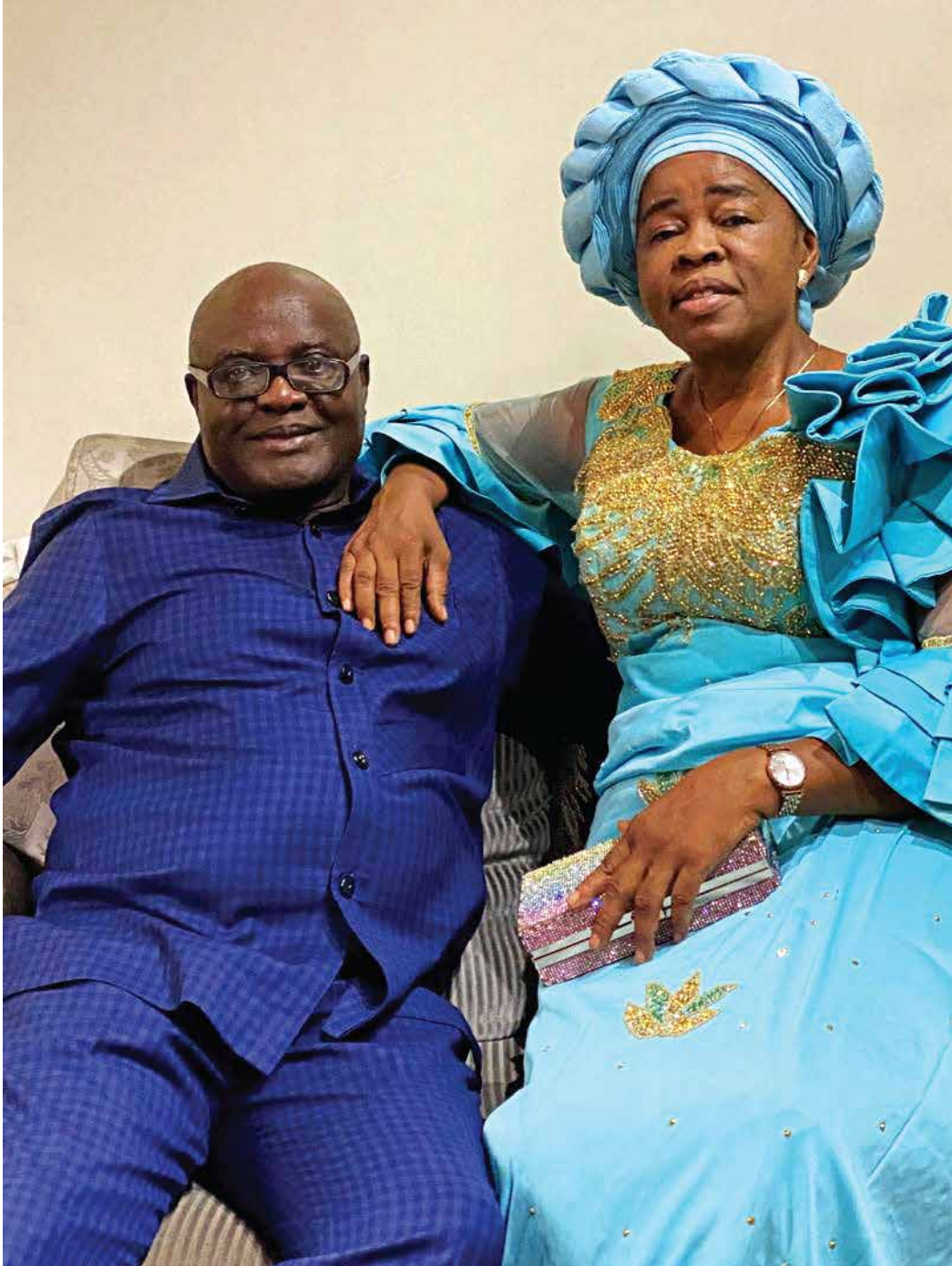
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CHURCH DEDICATION OF ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH IGBO-UKWU



FELICITATIONS!



Ofuluzo John & Njideka Emetu

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FELICITATIONS!



FELICITATIONS TO IGBO TRUMPET MAGAZINE POWERED BY TEAM EZE-AKAJIUGO FROM AKUDO IGBO UKWU AND FAMILY....say we are solidly behind you!

Still on Igbo-Ukwu 2024 New Yam (Iri-Ji Ofuo) Festival...Homage to Igwe Igbo-Ukwu by Some VIPs



Eze-Akajiugo Joins ASATU at its Government Secretariat Headquarters Awka Government House on the 6th of July, 2024 amidst pomp and pageantry

ASATU, the peer review association of PGs of the 179 towns or Communities that make up Anambra State, is an exclusive body of only President-Generals of each Town's apex leadership. It's located inside the State's seat of power, otherwise called the Government House at Agu Awka.

Set up and regulated by the Government of the Day, its purpose and objectives are to serve as an apex regulatory body where the Government can interact and interface with the PGs of all the Towns under its administration and control. It's meant to serve for the welfare and interest of each community. It is headed by a central executive body elected from among its members which single tenure is for 4 years. The National President of ASATU presides over its monthly meetings and reports directly to the Governor of Anambra State with oversight function done by the

Commissioner in charge of Ministry of Local Government and Town Unions Matters.

Eze-Akajiugo's first appearance and grand entry into ASATU membership on the 6th of July, 2024 long after his assumption of office was occasioned by series of conflicting dates of meetings as well as other logistic challenges. But now that all that has been successfully cleared, the road to ASATU is now seamless. This first meeting was hosted by the PG of IDU-IgboUkwu, Eze-Akajiugo Sir Dr MCK Ubah and was hugely celebrated by all the PGs present amidst pomp and pageantry. The future relationship with ASATU is bright and clement. Igbo-Ukwu is the Town to beat any day any time. May Eze-Akajiugo's entry and membership bring greater good and upliftment maka odinma Igbo-Ukwu. In God we trust!



Eze-Akajiugo Poses with Hon Barr. Titus Akpudo (Ichaka Egbe Eji Gbu Agu) National President ASATU



ASATU-Aguata Chapter:

Similarly, in a related development, Eze-Akajiugo Sir Dr MCK Ubah also joined the membership of ASATU - Aguata Chapter the following day, 7th of July, 2024 at its regional meeting hosted by Mkpologwu Town. It was another grand entry into its fold as he was also celebrated by his colleagues made up of the PGs of the 14 Towns within the Aguata Local Government Area. It's hoped that Igbo-Ukwu will host the next turn of the ASATU-Aguata

Zonal Meeting at Amaehulu Town Hall on the 8th of September, 2024 at 1pm. May God bless our day in His usual Majesty, Splendor, fullness and beauty! Amen! The Aguata Chapter of ASATU is currently presided over by the PG of Umuona Town, Chief Ken Okoli (Ide of Umuona) who succeeded the PG of Akpo Town, Chief Henry Dim (Akajiofo) after a successful tenure.



Chief Ken Okoli, Ide/PG Umuona Town as well as PG Asatu Aguata Chapter, Poses with Eze-Akajiugo /PG of IgboUkwu during the meeting



IGBO UKWU RECENT PARTICIPATION IN _____ POLITICS & DIVIDENDS OF DEMOCRACY



The new road from Ugwumba Igbo-Ukwu Road Junction to Amaehulu Town Hall Igo-Ukwu built by Engr Dom Okafor in July 2024. To God be the Glory. Team Eze-Akajiugo is grateful to Engr Dom Okafor



TOWN-HALL MEETING IN IKOYI-LAGOS

BY THE HON. REP FOR AGUATA FED. CONSTITUENCY,
CHIEF ENGR SIR DOM OKAFOR, FNSE

DATE WAS THE 7TH JULY 2024



TOWN-HALL MEETING IN EKWULOBIA AGUATA LGA

BY THE HON. REP FOR AGUATA FED. CONSTITUENCY,
CHIEF ENGR SIR DOM OKAFOR, FNSE



CHIEF SIR ENGR DOM OKAFOR IS WELL AT HOME WITH HIS IGBO UKWU FOLKS AND ELITES



Alor 2 of Igbo-Ukwu, Chief Sir Onyeka Nnabugwu, celebrates 2024 New Yam Festival in his Palace in the Umunono Village part of Obiuno, Igbo-Ukwu on the 3rd of August 2024.



"IDU EXPRESSES DEEP CONDOLENCES TO THE UMEIGWILO FAMILY OF NGO IGBO-UKWU, THE Idu-IN-COUNCIL AS WELL AS THE IGBO-UKWU MERIT CHIEFS' COUNCIL ON THE DEATH OF EBUBE-AGU IGBO-UKWU, CHIEF SIR JAMES OKE-ONYIMA UMEIGWILO: THE SHOCKING EXIT OF ONE OF IGBO-UKWU'S COLORFUL MERIT CHIEFS!"



TEAM EZE-AKAJIUGO PAYS CONDOLENCE VISITS TO THE FOLLOWING FAMILIES:

Late Mr Ifeanyi Nkwokaora of Umunono, Barr. Anene N. Umennaka Family of Umuezike Umezota over the death of their Sister, Nurse Monica; Chief Lambert Nkaanyi family over the death of thier sister and finally, the family of Lt. Rev. Ifeanyi Nwankwo of ward 8 Ihumabiam ...all in Obiuno Igbo-Ukwu.



IDU CONDOLENCES:

Painful Passages!



Late Rev.
Ifeanyichukwu Ignatius
NWANKWO



LATE MRS. CHRISTIANA
NNEAMAKA ANYAORAH
(AAGINHE CHI MMAL)



Dr Maureen Uche Onyenakasi
Nee Azike

The Apex Leadership of IDU expresses deep shock over the untimely death of the above named Igbo-Ukwu Sons & Daughters, we pray God to grant their families the fortitude to bear these losses. May their souls rest in perfect peace, Amen! Team Eze-Akajiugo



Mrs Elizabeth N. Okoye



Mr Anthony C. Ezeonwuneme



Nze Sir Sunday Muonanu



Rev Fr. Dr. Isaiah Agochukwu



IDU CONDOLENCES:

To the Umenwa family of ward 11 Ngo Igbo Ukwu
Over the death of Late Nze Sylvanus Umechukwu Umenwa, Father of Mr Dozie Umenwa.
The Deceased was an uncle to HE Nze Goddy and Ebubechukwuzor Emma Umenwa both of
Geneith Pharmaceuticals Ltd, Key Supporters of Team Eze-Akajiugo



TEAM EZE-AKAJIUGO

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9 YORUBA ROAD,
KANO, NIGERIA.
LAGOS OFFICE:
37 SALAMOTU STREET,
ILASA, OPP. IYANA ITIRE
B/STOP OSHODI APAPA
EXP. WAY, LAGOS.
TEL: 08034088903,
08023249270, 08052348093
E-mail: homsidc@yahoo.com

IDU WORKS COMMITTEE: MEN AT WORK!



No Letting Down on Promises made! The IDU Amaehulu Town Hall is getting a befitting Compound Fence Walls and a Security Gatehouse courtesy of a patriotic son of Igbo-Ukwu and strong supporter of Team Eze-Akajiugo. Construction work has begun in earnest through massive development of the project which began late July 2024.

Team Eze-Akajiugo has also begun massive reconstruction of the fallen back-end Post Office

Fence Walls at the IDU Secretariat Nkwor Igbo Market which fences were brought down by heavy downpours last July. Pictures below show parts of the collapsed walls and the new Walls being built at the moment. We can't wait to relocate the IDU Secretariat to Amaehulu Town Hall as soon as the ongoing Project is completed! The Bungalow beside the Amaehulu Town Hall is good to serve this purpose...we hereby propose ahead of time! So help us God!



THE GIANT STRIDES OF EZE-AKAJIUGO'S ADMINISTRATION

The Foundation-laying of Perimeter Fence around IDU Amaehulu Town Hall and Security Gate-House Project





CHIEF ENGR BART NWIBE, fnse, UGO IGBO-UKWU Felicitates with Team Eze-Akajiugo & IGBO TRUMPET Magazine.



TEAM EZEAKAJIUGO AND THE EDITORIAL BOARD OF IGBO TRUMPET MAGAZINE DEEPLY APPRECIATE THE CONTRIBUTION OF CHIEF ENGR BART NWIBE, fnse UGO IGBO UKWU TO BOTH OUR COMMUNITY AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

**KWUENANDU INTEGRITY GROUP,
CONGRATULATES NDI IGBOUKWU ON THE
HUGE SUCCESS 2024 NEW YAM FESTIVAL.**



Members of KWUENANDU INTEGRITY GROUP LGBOUKWU congratulate and rejoice with Igwe Alex Ezeobidike Azike, Idu 3 of Igbo-Ukwu, the President General of IDU, Dr. Barr. MCK Ubah, (Ezeakajiugo), and the entire Igbo-Ukwu citizens on the huge success registered at this year's IRI JI Ohuru ceremony, which happened on the 2nd of August 2024 at the Palace of Idu III IgboUkwu. As we congratulate the Idu on the amazing Grace that has been following him since Installation, we also congratulate the PG on the Good Will of this Administration as he gradually redeems his promises to Ndi Igbo-Ukwu. A good car for the Idu, A good car for Ocheze, are all realities now without touching the IDU purse! All by freewill donations from Patriotic citizen! For the first time in the recent time, lecture on Yam Production featured in our New Yam Festival Ceremony. Lots of thanks to our own Fr. Philip Okoye who presented to Idu, a yam tuber with size that shocked and intimidated every famer present and also delivered a lecture on the New Technology for yam. It is our expectations that the yield of yam come next year will be very high. May God continue to bless him. The PG, on the event of the New Yam Festival had reaffirmed that all his other promises to the town shall all be fulfilled. Ike di na dabam, dabam. Obu ji egbu agwuo, agwo na atawu mmadu! Anyi si ka onye obuna sopuru ibe ya na nke oka eme! All the gifts/ Talents to our citizens are for the greatest good of the town.

We shall all learn that all of us are with diverse Potentials, and we must learn to be patient with every legitimately emerged leader in his areas of weakness (unless the error becomes too much and things are getting off hand) and give maximum support in his areas of Strength so as to harness all that he has in stock for the town before his time runs out. For now, all hands should be on deck in support of Team Ezeakajiugo especially in their areas of strength for the greatest good of our dear town.

Signed

Hon.0 C Gaius Ezeh.

Comrade Dan Onyawue, Secretary

YOUTHS' SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

Town School Igbo-ukwu qualifies to play in the Quarter finals of the Anambra State Solution Initiative Football Match Competition, (Under -12) Dividend of the IDU South Africa Branch cup



The pupils of Town School Igbo-ukwu have qualified to play in the Quarter finals of the Anambra State Solution Initiative Football Match Competition (Under 12 category).

The match which would be played at the Paul's University, Awka would hold on today Tuesday, 4th June 2024. 9am

According to the Games Mistress of the School, Miss. Vivian Okoli, the school have played the several matches and have become victorious and are now going for the Quarter finals to represent Anambra South Senatorial Zone.

The success of this team is as a result of the exposure they have gotten over the years from participation in the Igbo-ukwu Development Union (IDU) South Africa Branch Cup where they also won the 2024 and 2023 editions.

In the present competition, Town School team played against the following schools and have the following results :

Obiuno Primary School Igbo-ukwu Scores (2 -0). Semi Finals against Ngo Primary School Igbo-ukwu: (3- 0) Finals against Central school Igbo-ukwu 0-0 (Penalty: 5 -3)

At the Igbo-ukwu Educational Zonal Level, Town School Igbo-ukwu defeated Central School Ora-eri Scores 0 vs 0 (Penalty: 5 -4) to step to Aguata Local Government Area Level where they defeated Central School Ekwulobia 2 - 0. At the Semi Finals Town School Igbo-ukwu also won Community Primary School Ikenga 3 - 0 and emerged champions after defeating Mbaraoye Primary, Uga 3 - 0 in the finals.

At the ANAMBRA SOUTH SENATORIAL ZONE LEVEL, Town School Igbo-ukwu also won 2-1 against Community Primary School Awgbu and qualified to Represent Anambra South Senatorial zone

The Headmistress of the school, Mrs Nnoje Theresa U. is soliciting support from Igbo-ukwu community and Sports lovers to ensure the school proceeds and plays in the finals at the State level.

The Coach of the team is Mr. Ezebekwu Mmaduka (aka Song) while the Game Master is Mr. Ezeagu Benjamin O.

The President of Igbo-ukwu Football Association, Emeka Igwilo has congratulated the team for flying the flag of Igbo-ukwu very high and attributed their success to the investment of Igbo-ukwu Development Union, IDU Branches and Sport loving Individuals in sports.

*Edochie Nkanebe
Secretary General
Igbo-ukwu Football Association/IDU Sports
Affairs Advisor.*



According to the Book titled "Igbo-ukwu in Sports" written by Emeka Igwilo and published in 1995, there is no record to ascertain how and when sport event started in Igbo-Ukwu, however, the available record shows the history dated to the early days of traditional wrestling which is as old as the town.

The author continued that 'On the history of the modern games, the record shows that entertainment practices have been going on in various events until the middle of the forties when association known then as Igbo-ukwu Youths Association (IYA) developed interest and organized inter-town friendly soccer competitions with some neighboring towns like Amichi, Nanka, Isuofia, Adazi and Awka-Etiti.

The friendly competitions which always took place during the Christmas period went on for many years until 1956 when the association collapsed after accomplishing her postal agency project.

The collapse of I Y A gave room to the formation of teams in the Igbo-Ukwu Progressive Union (IPU) branches. Thus Chief Mike Azike, Mr Willy Mbanefo and late Mr Bertrand Onuzulike organized a team in Onitsha and contacted late Mr Ben Ikegwonu (Tropic Ben) who also formed his own football team at Port Harcourt in 1957. The two teams continued playing inter-branch friendly matches until 1958 when Mr. Joachim Ume(Okafor Aba) produced his own team at Aba in the same development. Mr. Stephen Nwosu(Nwakpiagu) in 1959 formed his own team known then as Amateur Soccer Club of Home Branch made up of teachers and students

With the aim to regenerate the glorious Christmas soccer festival, the writer stated that the aforementioned teams assembled and wrote a letter to late Chief Festus Okoli Onyekwelu for financial assistance to enable them organize the 1959 competition, the late Chief accepted the request but instead of giving the financial help he donated a small silver cup with a winning prize of one pound one shilling (two naira ten kobo) with the utmost aim of promoting peace and unity among the indigenes through sports. This gesture immediately inspired the teams to form a soccer ruling body known as Igbo-ukwu Football Association(IFA) in 1959.

Above is the brief on how the Igbo-ukwu Football Association was born. This Association has not only stood strong as a formidable body, it has also proven its mettle as an admirable administrative organ that has also supported the growth of other sports. To ensure that the town enjoys the benefits of sports in every society.

Some of these benefits include using sports as a fulcrum to build unity, bonding and togetherness. Sports helps to Improve mental health, emotional balance and fitness. Sports provides avenues for kids to make new friends, teamwork and develop leadership skills. Sports keeps youths busy, out of crime and social vices etc.

Among the donors of the 1st Position Cups for the Christmas competitions in Igbo-Ukwu from 1959 to date include :

1. Chief F.O Onyekwelu Cup (1959 - 1995
2. Nosco Cup(Niger Optical Service Co. Nig. LTD) 1996 - 2002

3. Ezeakudo Cup(Chief Christopher Okonkwo) 2003 - 2009
4. Kotraco Cup(Nze Christian Okoli-Udeafor) 2010
5. Ikem Uzoezie Cup(Hon. Ikem Uzoezie) 2011-2014
6. Amara Iheme Cup(Mr. Amara Iheme) 2015
7. Ugo Igbo-Ukwu Cup (Engr. Bart Nwaibe) 2016 - 2019
8. (Covid-19 disruption) 2020
9. Eze-ezinwanne Ohamadike Cup (Nze Chuks Okoye) 2021 - date

Other Football Competitions In Igbo-ukwu and Sponsors also include :

1. IDU South Africa cup (Primary School) -Easter
Sponsor: IDU South Africa Branch
2. Zaifa Inter Community Cup – Easter -
Sponsor: Mr Chukwudi Ezeife(Zaifa)
3. Eze-eseghaozo Ezeakaomajideaku cup (Primary School)- August : Sponsor: Nze Onyebuchi Okeke
4. ACOMEF - Sept-Oct. Sponsor: Engr Ikenna Okonkwo
5. Eze-ezinwanne Ohamadike Igbo-Ukwu League Cup – December. Sponsor: Nze Chucks Okoye
6. Ezeugo Okenwa Super-4 cup- January 3rd. Sponsor: Nze Dr. Greg Ezeilo

The space cannot allow us list all the sponsors of different sports in Igbo-ukwu but posterity and history shall never forget them.

Edochie Nkannebe
Secretary Igbo-ukwu Football Association
20/04/2024



IDU YOUTHS' EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM
MY PASSION FOR THE LESS-PRIVILEGED
 BY NKECHI UDEGBOKA



Nkechi Udegboka, fondly known as Ada Africa, is from Ihuowelle Ngo Igbo-Ukwu. Nkechi embodies the essence of a passionate changemaker committed to empowering women and youth, particularly those in vulnerable and underserved communities. She is one of the 1000 Mandela Washington Fellows that participated in the prestigious fellowship in America in 2016, and since then, has continued to shine brightly in her field. With a strong academic foundation in Business and Entrepreneurship from Northwestern University, Chicago, USA, and a certificate in Entrepreneurship Management from Pan-Atlantic University, her expertise spans a wide range of developmental skills, including journalism, women and youth empowerment, leadership, management, and sustainability. Nkechi's work goes beyond theory—she's an Empowerment Strategist, Project Manager, Counselor, Creative Writer, Designer, Enterprise Developer, and Leadpreneur. Her unwavering dedication to creating positive social impact is evident through her collaborations with organizations like Whispering Hope Africa Initiative (WHAfrica), where she provides capacity building and training to improve lives. In this interview she reveals more about her work and her passion for Africa. Enjoy excerpt below:

What influenced what you do?

My passion for empowering women and youth with disabilities, particularly those in underserved communities, stems from my own background and experiences of

working with people living with HIV (PLHIV). Witnessing the challenges faced by these groups firsthand motivated me to dedicate my work to creating positive change in their lives. It all started by standing with the neglected and stigmatized - working as Couple/HIV counselor, I came in contact with PLHIV, who had given up hope in life - on marriage, career, business, education, human rights etc. They faced discrimination and stigmatization even from families and healthcare workers; expulsion from school; faced loss of jobs, businesses, family disintegration etc. Their plights ignited my passion; their predicament touched me and, thus, moved me to seek for more skills on how to upturn the potentials in them and transform their lives.

What informed your setting up Ada Afrika Initiative?

It wasn't intentional or planned setting up Ada Africa brand. After I started traveling the world with the HIV work, I realized the values, organic goodies and raw talents that abound in Africa. What I was seeing in developed countries are what we can do better here with stable power supply and good governance. I also started making and wearing African cultural wears to those countries and talked about opportunities and talents in Africa. That got some oiyobos to me and in some cases they beg to have the wears. The high point was when they nicknamed me Ada Africa in 2016 shortly before our town hall meeting with the then President Obama in Washington DC,

telling me that I brought Africa to America. I showcased and promoted Africa in everything I wore and did. I am not an African because I was born in Africa; I am an African because Africa is born in me. This disposition got many Americans interested in visiting Africa and in what we do. They got in touch and I have brought one Canadian and two Americans to Nigeria afterwards. Presently, empowering persons with disabilities to craft and showcase fashion accessories with signature of Africa to the world.

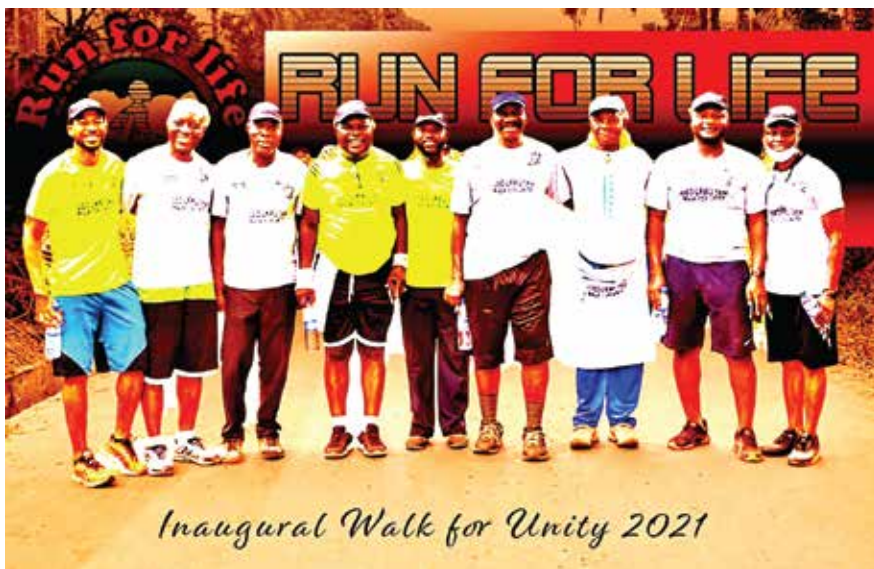
What is your message for the youths?

Acquiring a degree or certificate is not enough. Youths must learn the art of converting their education/knowledge into tangible skills and value. A Zulu proverb says, "You make a living by what you are handed (given); you make a life by what you hand out (give) i.e. givers and takers. Youth should be more of givers than takers. Not necessarily giving money or financial values but could be anything positive. Zig Ziglar says, "You can get everything you want in life, if you could help other people get what they want. 'Paying it forward' has always driven me. I do not wait to make money before I help my community or people because what I do for free or a little fee, mostly bring back big fees later.

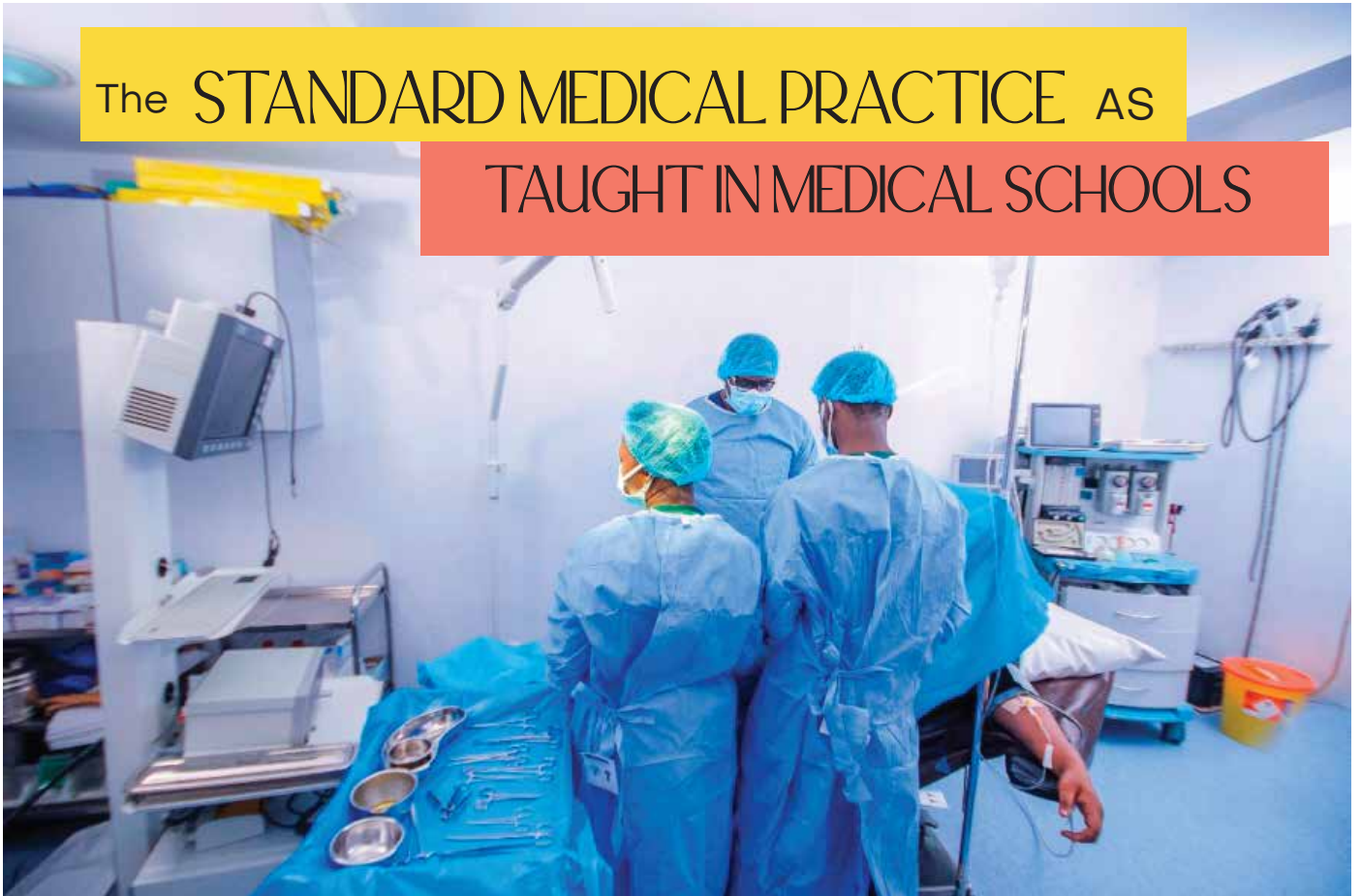


IDU YOUTHS AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

Table Tennis Competition as part of Year 2024 New Yam Festival



The STANDARD MEDICAL PRACTICE AS TAUGHT IN MEDICAL SCHOOLS



An illness does not suddenly occur just like that. Every illness has a history which, may be long or short. The standard medical practice begins with asking for the chief complaint (CC) of the patient, how and when it began, and progressed to the instant. This is called the history of the present illness (HPI).

The patient's past medical history (PMH) and surgical history, if any (PSH), are next obtained.

In some cases, the family medical history (FMH) may also be required.

Depending on the information so far obtained, the dietary and drug medication histories, including allergies, may also be obtained.

Phase 2 is the physical examination (PE) that begins with checking the vital signs (VS), namely blood pressure, rate of heartbeat (pulse), and temperature. Sometimes, the number of breathing per minute may also be counted.

Phase 3 is the physical examination proper, which is looking you over undressed and palpating or feeling various parts of your body with hand and palm to check for pain, swelling, lumps, color changes etc.

Phase 4 is to write down and review the findings. Sometimes, the correct diagnosis

can be made at this level. At other times, the findings may suggest more than one possible cause, in which case we list all possible causes of the symptoms based on the findings. This list is called differential diagnosis (DD).

Phase 5 is testing to differentiate from the list, confirm the suspected diagnosis, or assess the extent of the disease. Testing is especially required where more than one disease can produce the same findings of the physical examination performed. For instance, swollen legs may be a sign of heart failure, kidney failure, liver failure, or even venous insufficiency. In these conditions, fluid in the body collects in the legs for different reasons, and the treatment must be very different for each condition.

The test may take the form of blood, urine, sputum stool, spinal fluid, or any appropriate body product. It may also require taking some form of body imaging picture such as x-ray, CT scan MRI, etc.

Still not there? It may come to looking inside the suspected organ using a series of lens and mirror arrangements called scopes: laparoscope for female and belly organs, colonoscope for the colon, laryngoscope for the throat, ophthalmoscope for eyes, otoscope for the ears, etc. This form of test may include biopsy or taking a small bite of tissue from the suspected area to

make or confirm a diagnosis.

Phase 6 is the treatment phase, based on the above 5 phases. The treatment starts with information and education of the patient, followed by counselling, medications, or surgery as may be deemed appropriate.

Phase 7 is the followup – to be sure that the treatment worked as expected, and make any adjustments that may become necessary.

The aim of medical school study is to know about diseases, how their symptoms and findings can sometimes resemble one another on the surface, what tests to perform to tell them apart, and how to prevent or treat them. A medical doctor is trained to be a walking encyclopedia of diseases, for if one does not know about a disease, one will neither be able to make that diagnosis nor treat it appropriately. The specialist proceeds further to study a particular system of the body in far more detail.

The above is the difference between modern medical practice and quackery.

*Prof Uchenna Nwosu
Apex Healthcare System Igbo-Ukwu, Awka &
Nkwelle-Ezunaka*

TEAM EZE-AKAJIUGO CONGRATULATES THE APEX HOSPITAL GROUP ON THE FOUNDING OF THE APEX COLLEGE OF NURSING SCIENCES, IGBO-UKWU



ADMISSION! ADMISSION! ADMISSION!!!!

COLLEGE BLOCK (ADMIN) SCHOOL BUSES NURSING LAB

This is to inform the general public of the sale of entrance exam form into the Apex College of Nursing Sciences, Igbo-Ukwu

MORE OF APPLICATION	ENTRY REQUIREMENT
Application Forms shall be obtained at the office of the Provost of the College on payment of a non-refundable fee of Twenty Thousand Naira (N20,000) only.	Prospective Candidate must have a minimum of Credits in WAEC/NECO/ GCE which must include English, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology at not more than two (2) sittings. Candidates presenting NABTES shall not be more than one(1) sitting.

Interested candidates shall make payment in favour of
Acct Name: Apex Specialists Nigeria Limited-Nursing
Acct No: 1310269163
Bank Name: Zenith Bank

Proceed to the College with your E-payment receipt & 2 passport photographs to collect the form

For Enquiries Call: +2349150425813/+2348151852317
Email: apexcolofnursci2021@gmail.com



TEAM EZE-AKAJIUGO VISITS ODENIGBO IGBOUKWU, PROFESSOR UCHENNA N'WOSU IN HIS AKAMA NGO IGBO-UKWU PRIVATE RESIDENCE TO CONGRATULATE HIM ON HIS YET ANOTHER STERLING ACHIEVEMENT. A SERENDIPITY OF SORT?

Apex College Of Nursing Sciences
IGBO-UKWU

Our Staff: 08158583647/0817
Year Ago: 2017
Website: www.apexcolofnursci.com
E-MAIL: apexcolofnursci@gmail.com
Tel: 0902/90156425813

P.O. BOX 81
Igbo-Ukwu
Anambra State, Nigeria

Chd. 01 June 2024

The President General
Igho-Ekwa Development Union
Igho-Ekwa

Dear Sir,

ADMISSION TO APEX COLLEGE OF NURSING SCIENCES AND MIDWIFERY

I am pleased to inform Igho-Ekwa Development Union that Apex Healthcare System has received accreditation from the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria (NMCN) to admit students to its College of Nursing and Midwifery Sciences.

We see this as an opportunity for our sons and daughters to be among the beneficiaries at least from this very revealing field.

The closing date for our supplementary admission is 30 June, 2024. Kindly disseminate this information to all branches of IDEDU.

Attached is copy of the advertisement poster for further guidance.

Trusting
Prof. Uchenna N'wosu
Prof. Uchenna N'wosu, AK, MB, FACOG, FRACS, FRCOG
Medical Director

Apex College of Nursing Sciences Igbo-Ukwu

NURSING COLLEGE ADMISSION!

Forms for Midwifery Department of Apex College of Nursing Sciences Igbo-Ukwu, Anambra State for the 2024/2025 academic session are now on sale.

Interested candidates with five (5) credits in WAEC/NECO or GCE, which must include Mathematics, English, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, at not more than two (2) sittings should pay the sum of twenty thousand (20,000) naira only into the account below:
Apex Specialists (Nig) Ltd
1310269163
Zenith Bank.

Pls proceed to any of the following locations with your bank teller or other proof of payment and two passport photo-

- graphs, to obtain your admission form.
1. Apex College of Nursing Sciences, Igbo-Ukwu
 2. Apex Multispecialty Hospital, off Secretariat Road, Awka.
 3. Apex Hospital, Nkwelle-Ezunaka, along Onitsha / Otuocha Road
- The sale of forms will end on 30th August 2024. Hurry while the sale lasts.
For more info, please call +234 902 758 5554 or +234 705 336 6239

ADDENDUM

Please note that the College of Nursing consists of a number of departments, including the Department of Nursing Sciences and that of Midwifery. February – March yearly is for enrollment in Nursing Sciences Department, while August – September is for enrollment in the Midwifery Dept. Each student gets to sail through both departments before graduation.

TEAM EZEAKAJIUGO AND OBIUNO DEVELOPMENT UNION LEADERSHIP FACILITATE A POSSIBLE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN UNIZIK TEACHING HOSPITAL NNWI AND OBIUNO HEALTH CENTER FACILITY.

On the 17th of July 2024, History was made as Nnamdi Azikiwe University Teaching Hospital Nnewi had its 1st Anniversary of the Commissioning of their Permanent Site as well as Commissioning of Various products by the Hon. Coordinating Minister for Health and Social Welfare, Federal Republic of Nigeria. Prof. Muhammad Ali Pate CON



Igbo-Ukwu Development Union under the auspices of Eze-Akajiugo Sir Dr MCK Ubah, ably represented by the 2nd Vice President Hon Ebere Obodoekwe of Bodos Rentals was on ground, not just to be part of the history but to utilize the opportunity to position Igbo-Ukwu Strategically for on wards, futuristic, progressive, partnership with the teachings hospital and the Hon. Coordinating Minister for Health.*

Kindly recall that In line with the Kindred spirit of Igbo-Ukwu, on 30th of Dec. 2004, Igbo-ukwu Development Union launched a Community Health Care Insurance Scheme which was code named *"IGBO-UKWU COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE AND HEALTH CARE FINANCING SCHEME".

Prof Bryn Adimma was the then Hon. Commissioner for healthy while the scheme was Chaired by Dr. Frank Umeh with Chief Ugochukwu Okaforuzu of Mbido Igbo as the Secretary.

The said scheme was domiciled in Obiuno Igbo-Ukwu Community health center.

On June 16th 2005, Prof. Eytayo Rambo the then Minister of health during the time of Obasanjo as the President came on a working visit to Anambra to inspect the Federal Health Facilities in the State and

with the help of the then Chief Medical Director of Nnamdi Azikikwe teaching Hospital, Prof. R.O Ofiaeli, the scheme was upgraded to, 'NATIONAL COMMUNITY HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEME OF THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF HEALTH.'

Dr. Frank umeh being the Chairman of the scheme then, was engaged by the Federal government to head the Scheme with a term of reference to spread it across the 36 States of the Federation.

That was how a micro Health Insurance Scheme started in Ancient Igbo-ukwu Kingdom, metamorphosed into a macro National Health Insurance Scheme.

Kindly recall also that during the era of 'the 4 Golden Years of Obiuno Community under Eze-Akajiugo Administration', the highly indomitable kindred-spirited NNABUGWU SONS single handedly embarked on a massive infrastructural upgrade of the health Center Facility.

According to Prof. Ugboaja, 'infrastructure alone does not transform to quality health care system' by implication the facility became grossly under utilized after the infrastructural upgrade.

Then, the 'Ohazulume Administration of

Team Eze-Akajiugo came on board.

Against the background supra, On 29th of May 2024, Team Eze-Akajiugo Forwarded a proposal letter to Nnamdi Azikiwe University Teaching Hospital Nnewi seeking a strategic partnership with Tertiary institution so that the can adopt the facility as their extension. The team also Forwarded a letter requesting for a date to meet with the Chief Medical Director.

To this effect and with the help of our own Prof Ejeatuluchukwu Obi who happen to be the deputy Provost of the College of Medicine in the same Nnamdi Azikiwe University Teaching Hospital Nnewi, a meeting date was scheduled and on the 3rd of July 2024, A High powered delegation of Igbo-Ukwu led by team Eze-Akajiugo ably represented by the 2nd Vice President Hon. Ebere Obodoekwe of Bodos Rentals, paid a Courtesy Visit to the Chief Medical Director of Nnamdi Azikikwe University Teaching Hospital Nnewi, Prof Joseph Ugboaja and presented the partnership proposal official. The Chief Medical Director, welcomed the proposal and promised that his team will give it favorable considerations.

Yesterday 17th of July 2024, at the 1st



Anniversary of the Commissioning of the Permanent Site of Nnamdi Azikiwe University Teaching hospitals and Commissioning of projects by the Hon. Minister for Health and Social Welfare. Prof Muhammad Ali Pate CON.

Team Eze-Akajiugo equally lead yet another high powered delegation to to join in the welcoming of the Hon. Minister.

It didn't end there brethren, Igbo-Ukwu development union presented a special gift of Igbo-Ukwu roped bronze pot to the Hon. Minister. A gift he so much appreciated. The facial expression as he reads the boldly written inscription on the tag which reads *"FROM ANCIENT ARCHEOLOGICAL KINGDOM OF IGBO-UKWU IN ANAMBRA STATE" is a testament of his joy at the site of the pot.



The Deputy Provost of College of Medicine of Nnamdi Azikiwe University Teaching Hospital Nnewi, Our own Prof Jatex Obi described our yesterdays outing as

' Very spectacular.... very successful.... and very strategic.....'

On his own part, the Team Captain of Team Eze-Akajiugo, being the PG of IDU himself, could not hold back his own joy and happiness after the ceremony which he monitored online real time from his overseas trip, exclaimed thus:

'Wonderful! I am deeply proud of you all... Igbo-Ukwu's worthy Ambassadors... any day, any time and everywhere! To God be all the glory!'

Indeed, Eze-Akajiugo Sir Dr MCK Ubah is a man of tremendous impact in community governance and leadership! The following pictures complete the story but not without special mentions and appreciation of the following distinguished persons of: HRH IGWE EZEObIDIKE ALEX AZIKE IDU 3 OF IGBO-UKWU KINGDOM, ICHIE FABIAN OKEKE, HON. EBERE OBODOEKWE, PROF. JATEX OBI, DR FRANK UMEH, EZE-OGBOOGU HON JAVIS ADINMUO, JP., COMRADE IZUEGBUNAM JACOB.

And of course the man behind the camera... Ifeanyi Ohazulume Ijezie !!!

*Reported by
IFEANYI OHAZULUME IJEZIE (MEDIA AIDE TO
THE PRESIDENT GENERAL ON MASS MOBILIZATION AND ENLIGHTENMENT)*



JUNE 12:

World Day Against Child Labour; a call to protect and empower our future

Do you remember a time when you saw a child and thought they were the cutest thing you had ever seen? Perhaps you would be lucky enough to get a smile from them. Remember how precious you thought they were. For a moment, their joy is contagious. However, this time, as you look closer, you notice their hands are rough, and their clothes are worn out. It hits you that this child, who should be enjoying the carefree days of childhood, is instead probably working more hours than you in harsh conditions, yet still living in poverty.

Every year on June 12th, we observe World Day Against Child Labour to raise awareness and push for action to end child labour in all its forms. This year, as we think about the progress we've made and the challenges we still face, it's important to remember that the fight against child labour is far from over.

The Scope of the Problem

Though since the first World Day Against Child Labour, child labour has dropped substantially, it is still a huge issue. An estimated 160 million children worldwide are stuck in various types of work that steal their childhood, education, and potential. They don't just work; children often work in dangerous conditions for long hours and are exploited, which takes a serious toll on their physical and mental health. According to Our World in Data, about 16% of children aged 5-17 are involved in child labour globally and the formative years of a child's life are taken from them for the sake of cheaper labour. The rates are even higher in places like Sub-Saharan Africa, where more than 20% of children are working (Our World in Data).

In Nigeria, the situation is dire. A survey conducted by the International Labour Organization (ILO) indicates that among the 5-14 age group, 42.3% are full-time students who are not engaged in any form of economic activity, 35.3% are in school and working simultaneously, and 11.2% are working only. Among the 15-17 age group, a larger proportion of children are working only, at 21.9% of the population of that age. Furthermore, only 24.7% are exclusively in school, and 45.3% are working and in school (ILO). We have a lot of work to do.

The Importance of Education

To combat the throes of child labour,

education is one of our greatest tools. When children have access to quality education, we can break the cycle of poverty that forces families to depend on their children's income. Data shows that in countries where children work longer hours, school attendance drops significantly because they often have to choose between their education and putting food on the table, which makes sense because it's hard to balance work and school (Our World in Data). Governments, NGOs, and communities need to work together to create and enforce policies that prioritize education and support families in need. This way, we can help children escape this terrible dilemma and develop into a skilled and empowered future workforce.

Global Efforts and Initiatives

Over the years, many international initiatives have been launched to combat child labour. The International Labour Organization (ILO) has been a leader in this fight, with conventions like the Minimum Age Convention and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention setting global standards. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially Goal 8.7, also call for immediate and effective measures to end forced labour, human trafficking, and the worst forms of child labour by 2025.

The Role of Communities

Communities play a crucial role in protecting children from labour. Grassroots efforts, including awareness campaigns, local support networks, and community education programs, are essential in identifying and tackling child labour at its roots. Empowering communities with the knowledge and resources to protect their children can lead to sustainable and impactful change.

The Corporate Responsibility

Businesses also have a big role to play. Ethical supply chains and corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives are key in the fight against child labour. Companies need to make sure their products are not made using exploitative practices by doing thorough audits and supporting fair labour practices. Consumers can help too by choosing to support brands committed to ethical practices.

What You Can Do at Home

Like most global issues, the solution may seem elusive and impossible to solve, but

even from home, you can make a difference in this battle.

One simple yet powerful action is to be a mindful shopper. Instead of buying the first thing that catches your fancy, perhaps this time you look into where the products you want are coming from. Unfortunately, the cheapest products, especially clothes, often do not come from ethical places (Fast Company). Search for fair trade products and brands that are transparent about their supply chains and committed to ethical practices. By supporting these brands, you can help reduce the demand for goods produced through child labour.

In Nigeria, it is well known that domestic staff and apprentices tend to be underage. This too is very much part of the problem. Fortunately, there is something you can do about it. If you know someone who employs a child, or maybe you do, realize you are now a part of the problem. What this child's future will look like is now in your hands. Will they stop working and get the education that they need and deserve? Will they be sent home to be a cog in the wheel again, or will you continue to partake in an inhumane practice that keeps Nigeria a sleeping giant? The choice is yours.

Additionally, spreading awareness about child labour through social media or conversations with friends and family can also contribute to the broader effort to eliminate this practice.

Moving Forward

On this World Day Against Child Labour, let's renew our commitment to ending this grave injustice. It's a day to honour the resilience of children who have faced unimaginable hardships and to advocate for their right to a safe, healthy, and prosperous future. By working together—governments, organizations, businesses, and individuals—we can create a world where no child is forced to work and every child has the opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive.

As a child about to cross into adulthood, I implore you to remember that the fight against child labour isn't only about real statistics and policies; it's about real children with dreams, aspirations, and the right to a better future. Our collective efforts can make a difference, ensuring that every child enjoys the innocence and opportunities they deserve.

By Zara Okoye, a 17 years old and a student at Portsmouth Abbey School, Rhodes Island, USA.

THE AUGUST 2024 PROGRAM EDITION OF EDNA NWOBI DIABETIC CARE FOUNDATION

had very successful diabetes program at Oraukwu town which ended on the 3rd of August 2024. Pictures below speak for themselves



HRH Igwe Oraukwu and his cabinet members pose with Chief Mrs Edna Nwobi (Ugwu Ndike/Noono Okeide Igbo-Ukwu) and her team of Medics.



MEDICAL OUTREACH:

POWERED BY IHITE PRGRESSIVE UNION IPU, LAGOS BRANCH ON SAT. 3RD AUGUST, 2024 AT IGBO-UKWU



Dr Mezie Vitalis Nwikwu
Head Medical Mission



SOCIAL VISITS & CONDOLENCES BY TEAM EZE-AKAJIUGO



REMAKABLE WEDDINGS:

A WEDDING AND SOLUDO AS A UNIFYING FORCE FOR NATIONAL GOOD



Weddings in any society are always occasions of profuse celebrations that bring together families, friends, and well-wishers in shared joy. The happy moments are cherished, and the memories go on.

In a contemporary Nigeria where the socio-political landscape is deeply polarised along regional, ethnic, and religious fault lines, the unifying example of a leader who transcends these divides is not just desirable but essential.

Over the weekend, at the well-attended wedding of Adaora Soludo in Abuja, two prominent voices in Nigeria's political sphere, Vice President Kashim Shettima and Professor Babagana Zulum, the Governor of Borno State, uttered glowing remarks that underscore the remarkable unifying and pan-Nigerian qualities of the Governor of Anambra State, Professor Chukwuma Charles Soludo, CFR.

Governor Zulum, the Chairman of the occasion, spoke highly of Governor Soludo, describing him as a man with a nationalist outlook, brilliant and intelligent. The Borno governor added that his

presence at the wedding, selected to chair the occasion, speaks volumes about Governor Soludo's broad-mindedness and inclusive leadership.

In a country where leaders are often seen through the narrow lens of ethnic affiliations, Governor Soludo's choice of Governor Zulum as the Chairman refreshingly exemplifies his commitment to fostering unity across the diverse ethnic and religious spectrums of Nigeria.

Speaking in similar positive notes, Vice President Kashim Shettima further reinforced this view by noting the profound respect that President Bola Ahmed Tinubu has for Professor Soludo, emphasising the pride the nation holds in his achievements and leadership.

This commendation from such a high-ranking national leader highlights Governor Soludo's status as also a leader of national significance, a figure whose impact extends beyond the borders of Anambra State and South East to influence the lives of Nigerians across the country.

The inferences drawn from these attestations point to Governor Soludo as an exemplar of hope and unity in a deeply fractious nation. His ability to bridge the gaps between regions, tribes, and religions is not only proof of his personal character but also a reflection of the kind of leadership that Nigeria desperately needs. It is in line with the vision of a desired united Nigeria where patriotic leaders prioritise the common good over parochial concerns.

Today, as Nigeria continues to confront its multifarious challenges and finds a way forward, the country would be privileged to have a leader like Professor Chukwuma Charles Soludo at the helm in the future. His demonstrated capacity to unify, his intellectual brilliance, and his progressive vision make him an ideal candidate to lead a nation striving to overcome its divisive challenges.

Indeed, Governor Soludo's example is one that offers a worthy ideal of emulation, a commitment to a Nigeria where unity is not just a promise or lip service but a lived reality.

By Christian ABURIME, Chief Press Secretary to the Governor Anambra State.

MR CHUKWUDI IZUCHUKWU OKOYE (IKEORA) PERFORMS THE TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE OF HIS WIFE KOSSISO



Mr Chukwudi Izuchukwu Okoye (Ikeora) celebrates the traditional marriage rites of his hearthrob Miss Kossiso-chukwu Emenike on the 10th of August 2024. Igbo-Ukwu's top socialites including Ezeohamadike Felix Okoye, Nze Obunike Okoye (Ezeonyemalukwuo), Ezeagunchemba cletus Onyemenam of Amir Group Ltd and Ezeogboogu Hon. Javis Adimuo were present to rejoice with the couple and their families. The bride is the prety daughter of Chief Sir Onubuogu Emenike (Ogugbuoaja of Umuchu) while the groom's parents are Mr and Mrs Godwin Sunday Okoye. The Groom is a Lagos-based estate survayor and a member of Team Eze-Akajiugo. To God be all the glory!

IGBO CULTURE AND TRADITION:

IT WAS FULL OF SPLENDOUR, PANACHE ROYALTY AND MAJESTY DURING THE OZO TITLE-TAKING CEREMONY OF NZE CHUKWUDI & NZE UZOCHUKWU EZIFE ON 10th OF AUG 2024. EZE-UKWUMAKPOLU IGBO-UKWU CHUKWUDI EZIFE IS THE PRESIDENT OF ZAIFA FOOTBALL CLUB



JOINT AGUATA COUNCIL OF KNIGHTS,

ACKL LAGOS MEETING OF 12TH MAY 2024: WORKING IN THE LORDS VINE YARD!

Some Igbo-Ukwu members of the joint Aguata Council of Knights, Lagos ACKL during their Quarter 2 General Meeting held in Lagos recently. Standing from left to right are: Sir & Lady Ejike Ogbonia; Sir Elochukwu Nwankwo of E-Concerns Ltd; Sir David Dike

& Lady Dr Oby Nwobi; Eze-Akajiugo Sir (Dr) MCK Ubah, Esq; Sir & Lady Sunny Ugo Okoli (Sonac). This is another sample of kindred bonding and spirit at work



MEETINGS & OTHER SOCIAL EVENTS BY NDI IGBO-UKWU



BIRTHDAY JINGLES

**DR CHIBUEZE
OFOBUKE
(EZEAKUNNE)**

TRANSITION CHAIRMAN
AGUATA LOCAL GOVERNMENT, 2024

**Happy Birthday
Mr Chairman!**



HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS FROM TEAM EZE-AKAJIUGO AND THE GOOD PEOPLE OF IGBO-UKWU TOWN! On behalf of my Executives and the good people of Igbo-Ukwu Town, I bring you fraternal greetings and felicitations, our dear quintessential leader, Hon. Chibueze Offorbuike on your well deserved re-appointment as the TC (Transition Chairman) of Aguata LGA. Indeed, your re-appointment is a square peg in a square hole! Your footprints in Aguata in the last 2 years are a testament to capacity and good service to the people. Congratulations once more!

Eze-Akajiugo Sir (Dr) MCK Ubah, Esq. A Lagos-based Barrister-at-law, Notary Public & President-General, Igbo-Ukwu Development Union, IDU.



NOTABLE BIRTHDAYS



ENGR FIDELIS EZEN WANKWO (July 3)
A Kano-Based reputable Engineer



DR EMEKA NWUBA, FCA, FCIB (July 15)
National President, OBA-BSSI.



EZUKWU SIR ICP UMEH (August 2)
A Lagos-Based retired Banker
and Businessman



ENGR ABUCHI 'PARAGON' ANYAORAH (August 2)
Secretary-General, IDU

Many Congratulations to to our very remarkable Igbo-Ukwu Folks who celebrated their Birth Anniversaries in the months of July & August 2024 including Engr Fidelis Ezenwankwo (July 3), Dr Emeka Nwuba (July 15), Ezukwu Sir ICP Umeh (August 2) and Engr Abuchi 'Paragon' Anyaorah (August 2). IGBO TRUMPET caongratulates all of them and wishes them many more happy returns.

IGBO-UKWU HIGH-FLYERS AND AWARDS



Arc Okey Ezeh, the President of CIC Igbo-Ukwu also stood out as he was honored by his fellow industry practitioners, the Nigerian Optometrists Association at Ibadan which bestowed an HONORARY FELLOWSHIP AWARD on him. His company, Delly-kay International Ltd is a leading player in optometry and allied medical equipment. This recognition was the first of its kind. Team Eze-Akajiugo rejoices with these great sons of Igbo-Ukwu! Congratulations to you, worthy sons of our land!



Hearty Congratulations as NCDMB's **OBINNA EZEObi** Bags PhD in Communications!

Another Shining Star in Igbo-Ukwu's Corporate Firmament!

The other day - July 12, 2024, it was a sheer oversight on account of my busy schedule to have forgotten the mandatory show of love and commendation to yet another sterling achievement from one of Igbo-Ukwu's rising stars, Dr Obinna Ezeobi of Nigeria Content Development & Monitoring Board, NCDMB. He hails from Ezihu Village, Igbo-Ukwu. I recall during his start-up days, I served as the distinguished chairman of his celebrity wedding in the Festival Town of Lagos with Chief Eric Nwobi (Okeide) as the Father-of-the-Day while the vintage Arc Charles Okey Egbudom served as the sponsor. As a university student, Dr Obinna led one of the most vibrant Igbo-Ukwu Students' Union eras ever. Whither ISU today? IGBO TRUMPET hereby joins our folks to celebrate Dr Obinna as he joins the intellectual club of academic philosophers.. PhD! It isn't easy ooh!

IGBO-UKWU HIGH-FLYERS AND AWARDS

Air Cdr. Ven. Okenwa Okoye gets a new promotion in the Nigeria Airforce



Over the last week up till yesterday- July 14, 2024, Igbo-Ukwu social space was agog with different kinds of celebrations across Nigerian cities and beyond. Apart from Birthdays, there were yet different others ranging from Award of Honors to the ACOMEF chieftain, Engr Ikenna Okonkwo,fnse, academic laurel by Dr Obinna Ezeobi (July 12, 2024) and promotion in the Nigerian Air Force meritoriously earned by our own Air Cdr. Ven. Okenwa Okoye (July 14, 2024 - for Church Thanksgiving), Team Eze-Akajiugo could not have swept under the carpet all these honors done to Igbo-Ukwu by our sons in their various fields of endeavor. An honor to one is an honor to many of us Ndi Igbo-Ukwu! More flowers to you all!

GRAND OPENING OF SOMUNA HOTEL & SUITS EKWULOBIA BY ITS FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT MAYOR IFEANYI OKOYE, A LAOS-BASED INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS TYCOON.

DATE: 7TH JULY 2024





IGBO TRUMPET

MAGAZINE ... the authoritative Voice of ndi Igbo-Ukwu!



Felicitates with



on its successful 2nd Edition. Together we enlighten our community maka Odinma Igbo-Ukwu!



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FELICITATIONS FROM GENEITH PHARMACEUTICALS LTD TO THE EZE-AKAJIUGO LED-ADMINISTRATION OF IDU!

The Board, Management And Staff of Geneith Pharmaceuticals Ltd wish to identify and support Team Eze-Akajiugo in all its well- thought-out strategic action plans to move our dear community forward to the next level! In God we trust!

Signed: Ebubechukwuzo Emma Umenwa and HE Ume-Nnanyelugo Goddy Umenwa.

GOODWILL MESSAGE TO TEAM EZE-AKAJIUGO!



EBUBECHUKWUZO EMMA UMENWA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, GENEITH
PHARMA. LTD
CO-FOUNDER JOHN & LUCY UMENWA
FOUNDATION

I sincerely believe in the unity, peace, progress and prosperity of Igbo-Ukwu and her people all over the world! May God provide you exceeding power to achieve great exploits and move Igbo-Ukwu to the next level in Jesus Name, Amen!



**FELICITATIONS FROM THE PIONEER
PUBLISHER/FOUNDER OF THE IGBO
TRUMPET MAGAZINE**

On behalf of my family, I wish to congratulate the new Chairman of the Editorial Board of the 'Igbo Trumpet Magazine', Eze-Akajiugo Sir Dr MCK Ubah and his Team and more particularly as the untiring executive officers of the apex leadership of Igbo-Ukwu at our Amaehulu Town Hall.

It's my joy that the Igbo Trumpet Magazine has once again lived up to its billing in line with the expectations of its founding Editorial Board which I once chaired as the PG of IDU between 2005 and 2008 to the glory of God! Keep it up!

I also once again use this medium to extend my warmest congratulations to our new digital leadership of the Igbo- Ukwu Development Union (IDU) led by Sir Barr. MCK Ubah (Ezeakajiugo) on their many laudable initiatives since assumption of office. I have no doubt in my mind that this this new administration, adopting the Ohazulume philosophy, will bring fresh ideas, innovation, and progress to our beloved town.

I pray that your tenure will be marked by remarkable achievements and significant growth.
I wish you a fruitful and impactful tenure, filled with accomplishments that will make our town proud.

Sincerely,
Chief Eric Nwobi (Okeide Igbo-Ukwu)



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