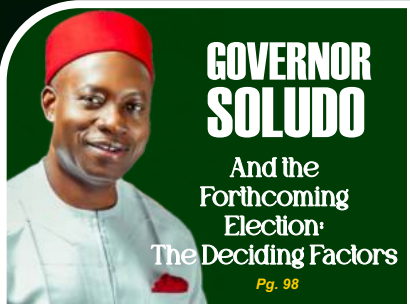

GOVERNOR SOLUDO

And the Forthcoming Election: The Deciding Factors

Pg. 98

Cornucopia: Anambra 2025 And **Dr. Nonye Soludo's** Perspective

Pg. 148

ODOGWU'S

Impactful leadership in One year as second term Chairman, NUJ Anambra state council

Pg. 55

The-WatchDog

A Publication of NUJ, Anambra State

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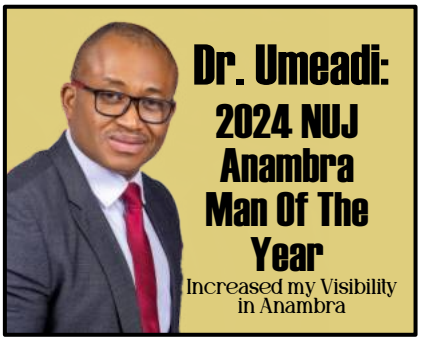
2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year: BPP BOSS

Arc. Okey Ezeobi'S

Larger than Life Image In Anambra

Pg. 45



Dr. Umeadi:

2024 NUJ Anambra Man Of The Year

Increased my Visibility in Anambra

Pg. 28

ANAMBRA'S BEST:

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- A journalists's 30 years Odessy Pg. 92
- Ugly tales of election in Nigeria Pg. 118

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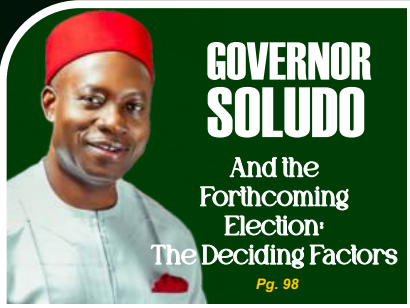

GOVERNOR SOLUDO

And the Forthcoming Election: The Deciding Factors

Pg. 98

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Pg. 28

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- Ugly tales of election in Nigeria Pg. 118

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On his well-deserved recognition as the2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Yearby the Nigeria Union of Journalists, Anambra State Council.

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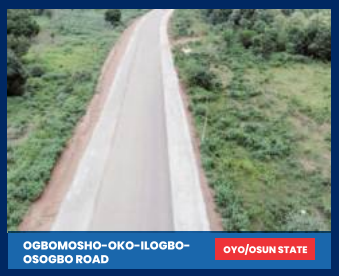
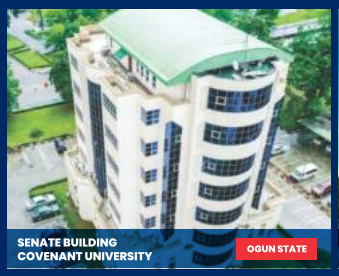
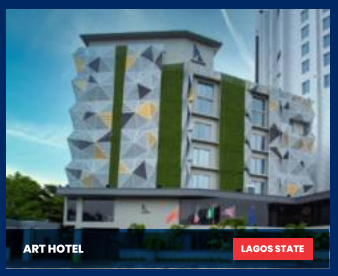
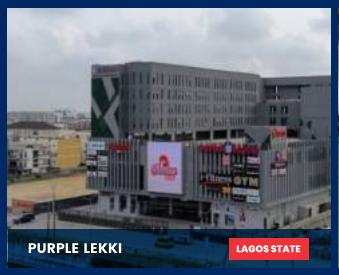
Your dedication continues to set a high standard for public service, inspiring many across the state and beyond.

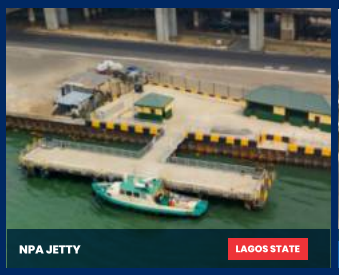
Congratulations once again on this remarkable milestone!











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May this achievement spur you and pave the way for continued excellence in all your endeavors.

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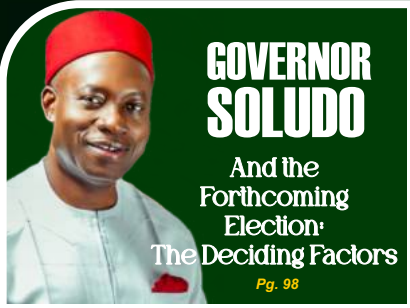

GOVERNOR SOLUDO

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Pg. 98

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Pg. 28

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- A journalists's 30 years Odessy Pg. 92
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We join the Nigeria Union of Journalists, Anambra State Council, in celebrating Arch. Okey Ezeobi on his well-deserved recognition as the 2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year.

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We wish you greater success in your future endeavors and continued service to humanity.

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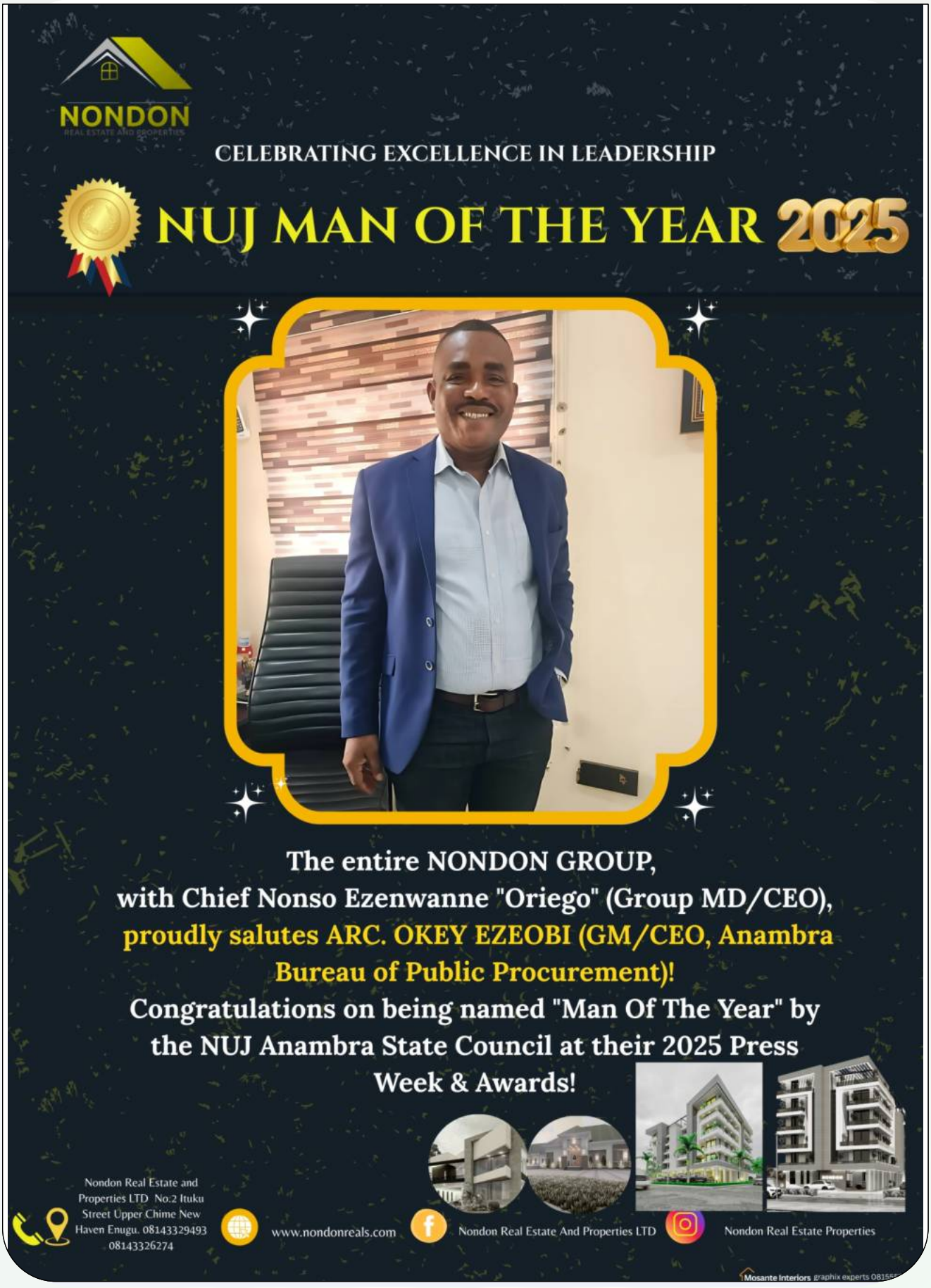
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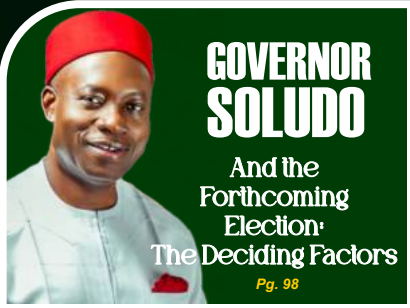

GOVERNOR SOLUDO

And the Forthcoming Election: The Deciding Factors

Pg. 98

Cornucopia: Anambra 2025 And **Dr. Nonye Soludo's** Perspective

Pg. 148

ODOGWU'S

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Pg. 28

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A publication of NUJ, Anambra State

Editorial Suite

Every year, each State Council of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) across the 36 States of Nigeria with the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) celebrates a Press Week. As could be seen from the name, the event is a week mapped out to celebrate media Practitioners. It is usually marked by a series of events which the members organize to showcase their talents and hobbies. It is expected to be a period of unique annual reunion for all the chapels making up the State Council of the NUJ to converge at a place to mingle, merry, socialize and celebrate journalism practice as well as the ethos of the noble profession.

The 2025 Press Week of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Anambra State Council is combined with the state council's Man of the Year Award and other Special Awards Ceremony. The Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu led Executive of the NUJ in Anambra State Council has remodeled the award through the introduction of a rigorous and transparent selection process involving online voting for the person that will be nominated as the NUJ Man of the Year. This innovation has brought more credibility and popularity to the Man of the Year Award particularly and the other Awards by the NUJ Anambra State Council, generally.

This year, the NUJ Anambra State Council has scheduled the award event to be held within the Annual Press Week of the union. So, as the official publication of the union in Anambra State, the editorial board of The-WatchDog opted for a special edition of the magazine at this period, to add to the glamour and glitz of the epoch-making event.

Arc Okey Ezeobi, a silent achiever, industry leader, renowned architect, philanthropist, technocrat, and astute administrator, won the 2025 NUJ Man of the Year that has become the most coveted award in Anambra State. The big story of the magazine was on the life of the man who has lived a biblical stipulated silent as well as exemplary humble life and continues to be quiet in all his excellent deeds.

Also, in an interview with one of our reporters, the 2024 NUJ Man of the Year Award Winner, Dr Umeadi, revealed how the prestigious award has brought wider visibility, popularity and even more credibility to his graceful personality. In addition, this special edition features our exclusive interview with His Royal Majesty Igwe (Prof) Benjamin Okeji, Traditional Ruler of Omasi, (Akpuite Kingdom) and Deputy Chairman of Anambra State Council of Traditional Rulers, who has spent about 27 years on the throne. The royal father shared his experience as a community leader and advised parents to monitor their wards more closely this time.

Equally significant is one of our interviews which covers the over 30 years of exciting journalism experience of Mr Uzoma Nzeagwu who has worked with the Guardian Newspaper in Nigeria. Mr Nzeagwu popularly called Dede Uzoma has some thought-provoking advice to journalists about professional conducts and good character to exhibit for career progress and peaceful existence of the Union.

Besides, there are educative feature stories and opinion articles from the best writers in the NUJ Anambra State Council. Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu's signature opinion piece christined 'Cornucopia' is published in this edition with focus on Her Excellency, Dr. Mrs. Nonye Soludo's activities in Anambra State.

In the feature stories, there is an insightful article by Mr. Emeka Chiaghanam about the ugly tales of elections in Nigeria. The writer of the piece exposes some unpalatable incidents that are regularly obtainable in the Nigerian politics making the expected dainty game to be often dirty.

The above and many other wonderful contributions are stories that you would appreciate to give your time. You would be happy to have a glance at the avalanche of goodwill messages that were used to adorn the pages and provide a sort of comic relief to the reader of this edition.

Meanwhile, you need to know that the winner of the Prof. Chinyere Stella Okunna Award for the Best Ethical Journalist in 2025 shall be unveiled during the Press Week event. The NUJ Anambra State Council remains ever grateful to Prof. Okunna, who is famous as the first female professor of Mass Communication in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Overall, the great aesthetics used in this edition, with the content mentioned and the unmentioned ones are pieces that would make you glad to peruse this special edition of the NUJ Anambra State Council's The-WatchDog Magazine. Best wishes as you read the publication.

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Table of Contents

ARC. OKEY EZEOBI'S PROFILE 7
DR. JESSIE IFEOMA'S PROFILE 11
BIOGRAPHY OF CHIEF NWAKAEZE 13
SOLUTION COMES TO ANAMBRA ROAD TRANSPORTATION... 16
ONE-ON-ONE WITH WITH DR. NELSON OMENUGHA 24
APRIL CONGRESS COMMUNIQUE 26
NUJ MAN OF THE YEAR INCREASED MY VISIBILITY AND POPULARITY IN ANAMBRA STATE - DR. UMEADI 28
MARCH CONGRESS COMMUNIQUE 44
ARC. OKEY EZEOBI: MANY VOICES SAY ONE THING ABOUT ONE MAN 45
CELEBRATING ONE YEAR OF IMPACTFUL LEADERSHIP OF COMRADE ODOGWU EMEKA ODOGWU PhD. 55
HOW GOV. SOLUDO FUNDS HIS TRANSFORMATIONAL PROJECTS - ARC. OKEY EZEOBI 61
OMASI COMMUNITY EXISTS IN ANAMBRA TODAY BECAUSE OF ME - IGWE BENJAMIN OKEJI 65
MY VISION IS TO BUILD EDUCATIONAL HUBS... DR. MENUBA 68
I WATCHED MY PARENTS DIE IN ABJECT POVERTY - CHIEF NWAKAEZE 72
NO WHERE IN THE WORLD PEOPLE PRACTICE RATIONAL LEADERSHIP - UZU OKAGBUE 81
ARC. EZEOBI: FROM A SHOELESS BOY TO A PHILANTHROPIST 82
SOLUDO AND THE FORTHCOMING ELECTION: THE DECIDING FACTORS 98
WHAT WE ORDERD VS WHAT WE GOT... 105
UGLY TALES OF ELECTIONS IN NIGERIA 118
CORNUCOPIA: ANAMBRA 2025 AND NONYE SOLUDO'S PERSPECTIVE 130
SOLUDO'S ANCISRO MAKES SOCIAL IMPACT FAST 143
SWITCH FROM ERA TO ERA 160
NUJ NEC MEETING COMMUNIQUE 163
PROF OKUNNA BOOSTS PROFESSIONALISM IN JOURNALISM 198
GOODWILL MESSAGES

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

"JUSTICE DEFERRED: The Denial of DCG BU Nwafor and the Wounds That Still Bleed"

By Jimoh Olusegun

Dear Editor, I wish to use this medium to draw more public attention to a serious injustice to a woman.

DCG BU Nwafor, a highly respected officer from Anambra State, stood as the next in line to succeed the current Comptroller-General of the Nigeria Customs Service, Bashir Adewale Adeniyi. Her record is exemplary, her service unblemished, and her rise through the ranks marked by diligence, discipline, and distinction.

However, in a deeply disappointing turn of events, DCG Nwafor has now been denied this well-deserved elevation following the recent one-year tenure extension granted to CG Adeniyi just days ago. Her retirement looms in October 2026, and with this maneuver, the door has been quietly but deliberately shut on her legitimate opportunity to lead.

Instead, DCG KI Adeola is now positioned as next in line after Nwafor's retirement. A succession plan that feels less like meritocracy and more like a calculated bypass of justice.

This is not how to heal a nation. This is not how to build trust in the aftermath of the Buhari years, which many Nigerians rightly recall as a season of division, selective appointments, and wounded national spirit.

This is not how to ensure respect and acceptance for my Yoruba ethnic nationality.

As Thomas Paine once warned: "A long habit of not thinking a thing wrong gives it a superficial appearance of being right."

The civil war ended nearly sixty years ago, yet the ghost of that conflict still haunts our institutions. The continued marginalization of the South East this time embodied in the denial of an Igbo woman's rise in the Customs hierarchy, sends a dangerous message to millions who still believe in equity, unity and national inclusion.

Sadly, many Igbos within the APC have chosen silence, even complicity, when it comes to injustice cloaked in procedure.

How can a nation truly move forward when merit is sacrificed at the altar of politics and ethnic manipulation?

DCG BU Nwafor deserved better. Nigeria deserves better.

True unity requires more than rhetoric. It demands action fairness, representation, and the courage to do what is right, even when it's politically inconvenient.

Let history remember this moment. Not as another quiet betrayal, but as a call to conscience.

Jimoh Olusegun
Ilesha, Osun State, Nigeria

Arc. Okechukwu Ezeobi: Winner NUJ Anambra 2025 Man of the Year

The Beginning of Arc. Ezeobi's Journey

By Emeka Chiaghanam

In the ever-evolving landscape of architecture, governance, and human development, Arc. Okechukwu "Okey" Ezeobi stands as a rare blend of technical brilliance, visionary leadership, and unshakable integrity. With roots grounded in the humble village of Umudala, Nanka, in Orumba North LGA of Anambra State, his journey from the classrooms of Lagos and Enugu States to the commanding corridors of public service reveals a man who has mastered the art of building, both structures and societies.

Arbridged Education Record

Okechukwu's educational journey began at Anglican Primary School and Emmanuel-High Primary School, Ogudu, Lagos. He proceeded to Aguda Grammar School, where his passion for design and structure began to crystallize. His academic path later took him to the prestigious University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus, where he earned both his B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Architecture, graduating as the best student in both degrees. Furthering his academic portfolio, he secured a second master's degree in Project Management from the University of Lagos and sharpened his leadership and business acumen through programs at Lagos Business School.

The Architect as Innovator

From the outset of his professional journey, Arc. Okey Ezeobi demonstrated a bold commitment to innovation. After stints with renowned design firms like AB.DT Partnership (Ibadan) and Design Points (Lagos), he founded Dwellins International Ltd, a company that evolved from a two-man startup into a multi-disciplinary powerhouse in architecture, construction, project management, interior design, and bespoke furniture manufacturing.

Under his leadership, Dwellins defied economic downturns and a global pandemic to remain an inspiration of creativity and resilience. Ezeobi's flair for transformative design was perhaps best illustrated in his groundbreaking redesign of the Oceanic Bank Benin-3 branch, where he challenged convention by eliminating obstructive structural columns in favour of

Arc. Okey Ezeobi

a clean, open, and functional banking space. Despite initial resistance, the success of the project transformed industry standards and became a template for all subsequent Oceanic Bank branches.

A Builder with a Social Heart

Beyond blueprints and buildings, Ezeobi's most enduring legacy may lie in his unwavering commitment to social equity and youth development. He introduced a corporate apprenticeship scheme within Dwellins, providing free training, stipends, and hands-on carpentry experience to young people from low-income backgrounds. Over the years, this initiative has empowered scores of youths and attracted partnerships with NGOs and development agencies.

His generosity is not confined to the workplace. Arc. Okey has consistently supported his hometown with meaningful interventions, from sponsoring borehole projects and constructing access roads to offering scholarships that have elevated many indigent students from primary school to the university level.

Contd on Page 18

GOVERNMENT OF ANAMBRA STATE OF NIGERIA
MINISTRY OF POWER AND WATER RESOURCES

Dept:

Our Ref: MPWR/CC/T/115

Your Ref:.....

MINISTRY OF POWER
AND WATER RESOURCES
P.M.B. 5031
Awka.

Date: 24th July, 2025

Arch. Okey Ezeobi,
GM/CEO,
Anambra Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP).

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RECOGNITION AS THE 2025 NUJ ANAMBRA MAN OF THE YEAR

It is with immense pleasure that I extend my heartfelt congratulations to you on your well-deserved recognition as the 2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year. This prestigious award is a testament to your exemplary leadership, dedication to public service, and outstanding contributions to the development of Anambra State.

Your work at the Bureau of Public Procurement has set a high standard for transparency, efficiency, and accountability, reflecting your unwavering commitment to excellence. This honor by the Nigeria Union of Journalists is a fitting acknowledgment of your impactful service and the respect you command across the state.

I am confident that this award will further inspire you to continue your remarkable work, and I look forward to celebrating this milestone with you at the ceremony on August 28th, 2025.

Once again, congratulations on this remarkable achievement. May it herald even greater accomplishments in the years ahead.

Best wishes,

Engr. Julius Chukwuemeka
Mr Commissioner

BIOGRAPHY OF HON. THANKGOD CHIBUIKE ANAGO

(Okenwa Abogu | Onye Olu Obodo)

Recipient of NUJ Anambra 2025 Most Outstanding Mayor Award

By Emeka Chiaghanam

Hon. ThankGod Chibuike Anago, popularly known as Okenwa Abogu or Onye Olu Obodo, is a distinguished community leader, grassroots mobilizer, and transformational administrator with a strong reputation for people-oriented governance and service delivery.

He was born into the reputable family of Late Chief James Anago Echetabu and Ezinne Uduafor Florence Anago of Irunnebo Kindred, Amaezike Village in Mgbakwu, Awka North Local Government Area, Anambra State.

FAMILY LIFE
Hon. Anago is happily married and blessed with children. His family values are rooted in humility, compassion, and dedication to societal good.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND
Hon. Anago began his academic journey at Central Primary School, Mgbakwu, and proceeded to Community Secondary School, Mgbakwu, both in Awka North LGA. He later earned a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy (Second Class Upper Division) from Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka.

He holds a Master of Arts in Social and Political Philosophy, and an additional Master's Degree in Public Administration and Management. He is currently awaiting the final defense of his PhD dissertation in Philosophy. Hon. Anago has also attended several prestigious leadership and professional development courses both locally and internationally.

POLITICAL AND LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE
A dynamic and charismatic leader, Hon. Anago's political journey began as the President of the Students' Union Government (SUG) at Nnamdi Azikiwe University from 2007 to 2009, where his tenure left a lasting legacy of impactful leadership.

He served as Senior Special Assistant to former Governor Willie Obiano on Inter-Party Matters and later on Youth Mobilization and Empowerment, where he demonstrated strategic capacity in fostering political inclusiveness and youth empowerment.

On August 10, 2023, he was appointed Transition Committee Chairman of Awka North LGA by the Executive Governor of Anambra State, Prof. Charles Chukwuma Soludo, CFR, where he demonstrated exceptional leadership, transparency, and community development.

Subsequently, on September 28, 2024, he was elected and sworn-in as the Executive Chairman (Mayor) of Awka North Local Government Area, following a highly competitive local government election.

PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES UNDER HIS ADMINISTRATION
Under his visionary leadership, Awka North LGA has witnessed remarkable development. Notable projects and initiatives include:
Road Construction Projects:
Asphalted a Circa Road in Amansea (Completed)
Asphalted Ezi-Okpokolo Irunnebo Road with spur to Holy Cashew, Mgbakwu (Completed)

Hon. ThankGod

Concrete drainage project for erosion control, Ebenebe (Ongoing)
Reconstruction of Ugbenu-Ime Bridge
Road rehabilitation and palliative work in Achalla, Urum, Amanuke, Mgbakwu, Isuaniocha, and Amansea

Education and Health:
Distribution of school supplies across all primary schools in the LGA
Renovation of classroom blocks at:
Central Primary School - Abogu Primary School
Unity Primary School
Free education for over 50 students across Awka North
Renovation and upgrade of Primary Health Centers across communities
Water and Energy Projects:
Solar-powered borehole at Central School, Mgbakwu
Resuscitation of borehole and reticulation of pipe-borne water at Awka North Secretariat
Solar-powered street lighting across strategic points and communities
Security and Infrastructure:
Procurement of operational security vehicles and gadgets
Renovation and re-equipping of Chairman's office, conference hall, and administrative buildings at the LGA Headquarters, Achalla
Ultra-modern Oye Market in Urum (Ongoing)
Healthcare and Community Welfare:
Free periodic medical outreach across Awka North communities

LEGACY AND PHILOSOPHY
A Philanthropist of Repute, Philosophic Plutarch, and Intellectual Administrator Par Excellence, Hon. ThankGod Chibuike Anago is driven by a passion for inclusive governance, grassroots development, and empowerment of the underserved.

He remains steadfast in his mission to deliver the dividends of democracy and foster a better future for the people of Awka North through accountability, transparency, and transformative leadership.

MOTTO:

"Onye Olu Obodo" – The One Who Works for the People!

HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS!

We, at **Luscious Meadows**, join family, friends, and well-wishers in celebrating Arc Okey Ezeobi, on the occasion of your grand confirmation as the

2025 NUJ ANAMBRA MAN OF THE YEAR

Your unwavering commitment to good governance, exemplary leadership in the public space, and the integrity you bring to every sphere of influence continues to set you apart as a beacon of excellence. This award is truly deserving and long overdue.

We are proud of you, Sir!
With sincere regards,
Luscious Meadows Team

ARC. OKEY EZEOBI

Luscious Meadows is a trusted name in Build & Sell, offering premium real estate development tailored for comfort, style, and long-term value.

Dr. Jessie Ifeoma Udoka Menuba

Recipient of NUJ Anambra 2025 Visionary Humanitarian | Global Philanthropist

By Emeka Chiaghanam

Dr. Jessie Ifeoma Udoka Menuba is a remarkable force for good, an internationally respected humanitarian, philanthropist, and trailblazing entrepreneur whose legacy continues to reshape lives across continents. Her academic portfolio reflects her intellectual breadth, holding a BSc in Nursing, a BS in Chaplaincy, an MS in General Psychology, a Th.D (Doctorate in Theology), dual Ph.Ds in Humanities and Divinity, and an honorary Doctorate of Divinity as a bishop.

Driven by a divine purpose, Dr. Menuba is the visionary founder and CEO of multiple global-impact organisations, including Queentovah Unlimited Solutions Inc., Queentovah Helping Services, Queentovah Cares Foundation, Queentovah Finest Jewelries, and the soon-to-be-launched Queentovah Limited Solutions in Nigeria.

Princess Dr. Jessie

86 Awards, Unshaken Compassion, and Unmatched Impact

Over the last two years alone, she has received 86 prestigious awards worldwide, including the profound honour of being named the "Mother Theresa of the 21st Century" by the Catholic Laity Council of Nigeria, Awka Diocese, an accolade symbolising her deep-rooted compassion and commitment to human dignity. From Nnamdi Azikiwe University, where she was declared the first and only Patroness of the Entrepreneurship Department, to receiving national honours from Trinidad and Tobago for Public Service and Women's Development, her accolades speak to a lifetime of transformative impact.

Dr. Menuba's philanthropic reach is monumental: she has personally funded housing, education, medical care, and financial empowerment for thousands, without soliciting donations or external support. She remains passionately committed to uplifting the homeless, the sick, and the underserved, providing not just relief, but sustainable hope.

Devoted Builder of a Better Tomorrow

She is currently pioneering the development of the first International Centre for Entrepreneurship and Apprenticeship at Nnamdi Azikiwe University, aimed at empowering students to become job creators and innovators in Africa and beyond.

A woman of faith and fortitude, her guiding mottos are: "It is good to be good" and "God is my strength."

Dr. Menuba hails from the Royal Oliobi family of Nimo in Njikoka LGA and is proudly married to Rtd. Air Commodore Ifeanyi Udoka Menuba of Amawbia, Awka South LGA, Anambra State, Nigeria.

OTENKWU
Group of Companies

First gate by Ugwu Nwasike, Importers Zone, Building Materials, Ogidi, Anambra State.

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kenfaithglobal33@gmail.com
Plot 575 Anambra Luxury Place
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08036709241

GWO_GWO
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Your selfless service has positively touched countless lives. This NUJ outstanding community service award is a testament to your character and commitment. "Congratulations "

Congratulations
HIGH CHIEF HON.
EMENIKE ANTHONY
NWAKAEZE

BIOGRAPHY OF NWAKAEZE EMENIKE ANTHONY

Recipient of NUJ Anambra 2025 Most Outstanding Mayor Award

By Favour Edeh

Chief Emenike Nwakaeze

Nwakaeze Emenike Anthony was born on 21st July 1976. He began his education at Progressive Primary School in his hometown, Awba Ofemili, Awka North LGA, Anambra State. After completing primary education, he proceeded to Onitsha for apprenticeship under Mr. Gilbert Obiora at No. 38 Ozomagana, Odakpu, Onitsha.

After successfully completing his apprenticeship, he established his own business and began to grow steadily. With dedication and hard work, he thrived in his trade. After a few successful years in business, he got married to the love of his life, Mrs. Nwakaego Emenike Nwakaeze, in April 2007. Their union is blessed with five lovely children — two boys and three girls.

Throughout his life, Anthony has been known as a strong, focused, and ambitious man. He believed that hard work was the key to success. Starting with a small workshop, he remained determined to grow and achieve greater things. He later went on to establish several companies including:

- **Tonnell Chemicals Industries Ltd**
- **Uba Chemical Industry Ltd**
- **Nwakeze Global Chemical Limited**
- **Muna. E. Ventures Ltd**

His determination and leadership also earned him the trust of his community. He was elected as the President General (P.G.) of his community, serving from 2001 to 2004. During his tenure, he worked hard to bring development, meet the needs of his people, and maintain peace and unity in the community. His efforts earned him respect and recognition from both the people and local government authorities.

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Congratulations to A VISIONARY LEADER

ARCH. OKEY EZEOBI

On behalf of myself, Hon. Peter Odirachukwuma Ezekeli (Sympathy-De-Mayor), Publicity Secretary, APGA UK Chapter, I proudly congratulate our illustrious son of Nanka, Arch. Okey Ezeobi, GM/CEO, Anambra Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP), on being honoured as Man of the Year by the Nigeria Union of Journalists, Anambra State Council.

This well-deserved recognition is a testament to your exceptional leadership, integrity, and dedication to public service. You continue to inspire not just our hometown but the entire state and beyond.

May this honour propel you to even greater heights, with more achievements and victories ahead. Keep making Nanka and Anambra proud!

More wins, Sir!

Signed

Hon. Peter Odirachukwuma Ezekeli
Publicity Secretary, APGA UK Chapter

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Congratulations

HON. DR.
THANKGOD CHIBUIKE ANAGO
MAYOR AWKA NORTH LGA.

We wish to emphatically congratulate the Mayor, Awka North LGA, Hon. Dr. ThankGod Chibuike Anago on his emergence as the 2025 NUJ ANAMBRA MOST OUTSTANDING MAYOR OF THE YEAR at this year's Press Week and Man of the Year Awards ceremony in commemoration of the 70 years anniversary of the Nigeria Union of Journalists; NUJ.

This award is a testament to your transformative and innovative leadership skills in championing development and progress across the ten communities in Awka North LGA. Your work and achievements across Awka North Council Area speak for itself and have left an indelible mark on the sands of progressive leadership.

On behalf of my family, friends, and my team, we thank the leadership of the NUJ Anambra State for finding you worthy and express our profound joy and fulfillment in identifying and celebrating with you this day.

We hope that this award motivates you to give more to your people (we ndi Mgbakwu and Awka North at large).

Signed

Chief Angus Chinedu Aaron
Ubasinachi Ozor Arambunonu
Mgbakwu, Igweship Aspirant.

Solution Comes to Anambra Road Transportation

The Anambra State Government has partnered OMAA Motors to enhance more convenient and cheaper road transportation in the state.

By Uche Kalu

GOVERNOR SOLUDO

In line with Governor Chukwuma Soludo's vision to transform Anambra State into a livable homeland, modeling Dubai and Taiwan through the transformation of different sectors of the economy, the state government has partnered with transport mogul, Mr. Chinedu Oguegbu, CEO of OMAA Transport company. This collaboration aims to alleviate the transportation challenges in the state, enhancing the overall quality of life for residents.

In an exclusive interview at his office, the company's Operations Manager, Mr. Dickson Obonyano, revealed that the partnership with the state government stemmed from the founder's desire to contribute to making Anambra State a livable homeland. As a son of the state from Igbo-Ukwu, the founder aimed to make a meaningful impact in Southeast Region, particularly Anambra State.

Mr. Obonyano explained that O'Link, a division of OMAA Motors, was floated in Anambra State in February 2025 with a vision to revolutionize the transportation system. The goal is to instill a culture of punctuality and bus scheduling among the people, ensuring that buses depart from point A to point B at designated times, thereby changing the existing transportation narrative in the state.

He highlighted that O'Link buses are equipped with advanced security features, including cameras, tracking devices, charging ports, and air conditioning, to ensure a comfortable and safe journey for passengers. According to him, "O'Link is a solution to Anambra State's transportation challenges," adding that a control room monitors bus activities in real-time to guarantee efficient service delivery.

The Manager further explained that the company is currently in its pilot phase, which began in February. Following this phase, they will collect and analyze data, including passenger numbers, pricing, and system functionality, to submit to the state government. This data will inform future improvements and optimization of the transportation system.

According to Mr. Obonyano, "O' Link is committed to revolutionizing transportation in Anambra State by providing a comfortable, affordable, and secure experience for commuters. With amenities like air conditioning and charging ports, our fare from Awka to Onitsha is ₦800, offering exceptional value.

"By setting a new standard, we aim to drive healthy competition among transport operators, ultimately reducing transportation costs for the benefit of Anambra State citizens. This aligns with Governor Soludo's vision of fostering a competitive environment that brings relief to commuters.

"Presently, we're in the pilot phase, operating on the Awka-Onitsha route. However, we plan to expand our services to Ekwulobia, Nnewi, and other towns in Anambra State. Our operations include scheduled bus services, vehicle hire, and other transport solutions, leveraging our fleet while utilizing spaces provided by the state government," he stated.

Contd on Page 20

GOVERNMENT OF ANAMBRA STATE OF NIGERIA
ANAMBRA STATE BUREAU OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT
Address: No 1 BPP Road, Behind Old Government House, Awka
www.bpp.an.gov.ng | admin@bpp.an.gov.ng

Arc. Okey Ezeobi,
GM/CEO,
Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement,
August 18, 2025

Dear Sir,

CONGRATULATIONS AS THE NUJ ANAMBRA STATE COUNCIL 2025 MAN OF THE YEAR

The Management and Staff of the Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement heartily felicitates with her General Manager/Chief Executive Officer; **Arc Okey Ezeobi** on his meritorious nomination as the Nigerian Union of Journalist (NUJ) Anambra State Council 2025 Man of the Year.

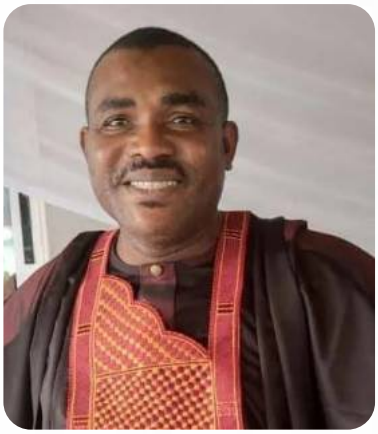
This nomination and award roundly resonates across the State and beyond because of the sterling footprints that you have made across various fields spanning your towering rank in the practice and teaching of Architecture in Nigeria; an outstanding entrepreneurial spot in the Nigeria's corporate world; a human capital developer through immense but quiet philanthropy spanning decades and a burgeoning spot in the public service space.

The work you have done at the Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement in so short a time speaks volumes about your integrity of character; unyielding commitment to due order and a sagacious capacity to deliver results even in very challenging circumstances.

The Bureau joins your family and true friends and fans across the globe to celebrate you as you step out to receive the very coveted award as the **ANAMBRA STATE NUJ 2025 MAN OF THE YEAR (MoY) Award** on the 28th day of August at the prestigious International Convention Centre, Awka.

Congratulations!!!

Dr. Okoye A.C
Head,
Dept of Capacity Building & Operations
ANSBPP, Awka



INTENTIONALITY, VALUE & PASSION

Arc. Okey Ezeobi's Profile... Continued

Contd on Page 7

Recently, he launched a multi-million-naira revolving loan scheme for women and artisans to address emergency financial needs and foster economic independence at the grassroots.

Public Service: Integrity in Action

In 2018, Arc. Ezeobi took his expertise into the public sector when he was appointed Special Adviser on Community Project Implementation by then-Governor Willie Obiano. He supervised the landmark initiative where each Anambra community received a ₦20 million development grant. His role in the State Tenders Board and subsequent consultancy for the Bureau of Public Procurement set the tone for a rising profile built on transparency, excellence, and trust.

In April 2022, Governor Chukwuma Charles Soludo appointed him GM/CEO of the Anambra State Bureau for Public Procurement (ANSBPP), a role he has filled with distinction. Under his stewardship, ANSBPP saved the state over ₦10.4 billion in capital project costs within his first year, demonstrating fiscal prudence and efficient project vetting. Even more notably, the bureau won a $2 million World Bank grant, a global endorsement of its responsive, transparent, and innovative procurement practices.

Thought Leadership & National Impact

Arc. Ezeobi's influence extends into academic and professional circles. He is a Professional Fellow of the Emergency, Crisis, and Disaster Management Institute of Nigeria and serves on the board of the Centre for Disaster Risk Management and Development Studies at the University of Port Harcourt. He is also a member of the Building Collapse Prevention Guild (BCPG) and a certified Health, Safety, and Environment (HSE) Specialist currently undergoing training in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED).

In 2021, he was nominated as Anambra State's representative on the Architects Registration Council of Nigeria (ARCON), a testimony of his professional integrity and technical excellence.

Mediation, Philanthropy & Community Diplomacy

Whether resolving intra-community conflicts or mediating between state policies and town union concerns, Arc. Ezeobi has consistently brought clarity, empathy, and lasting resolutions to complex local challenges. He is particularly committed to eradicating youth restiveness, which he sees as a product of systemic neglect. His philosophy is simple yet powerful: "The most effective cure for insecurity is opportunity."

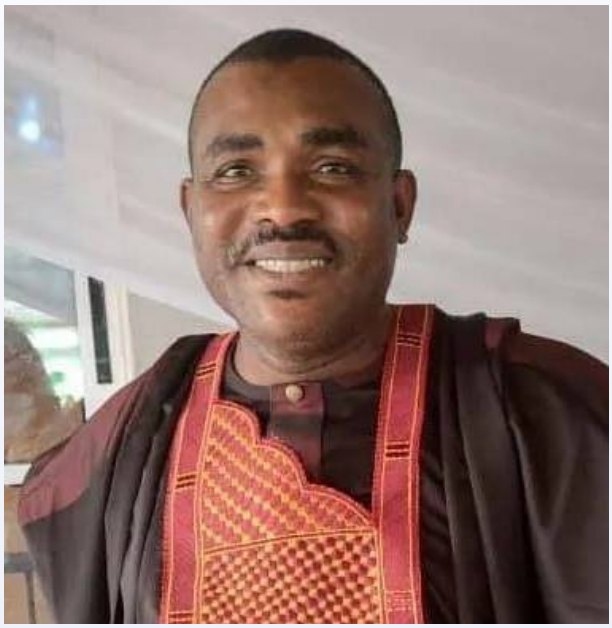
By providing vocational training, funding community projects, and leveraging his relationship with Governor Soludo to benefit his hometown, Arc. Ezeobi has emerged as a critical development conduit for Nanka and surrounding communities. His contributions have elevated the town's visibility in state-level policy discussions and secured infrastructure that will serve future generations.

A Life Built on Values

In all his endeavours, whether sketching architectural plans, reforming procurement systems, or mentoring youths, Arc. Okechukwu Ezeobi operates with a quiet dignity, strategic clarity, and a deep sense of responsibility. Married to Ogor and a proud father of three, he balances family life with a career defined by excellence, empathy, and visionary impact.

Final Blueprint

Arc. Okechukwu Ezeobi's story is that of a man who constructs more than buildings. He constructs trust, opportunity, and legacy. In a country yearning for competent leadership and authentic impact, he remains a shining example of what it means to build with both head and heart.



Arc. Okey Ezeobi

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Congratulations MUM

Congratulations to you Mum for your remarkable journey of strength, justice, wisdom, grace, love and faith in God, you're an inspiration and a blessing to many, I'm confident that your future endeavors will bring even a greater impact of upliftment in your life and others.
May the Lord continue to strengthen you for this new season, may his wisdom guide your decisions, his grace sustain you and his anointing empower you to fulfill his divine mandate, bringing more glory to God in Jesus name, Amen.
Love you Ma

Your son
Aaron Joseph

Hearty Congratulations

PRINCESS DR. JESSIE IFEOMA UDOKA

I, Iyom Ocheze Theodora Oliobi happily extend my sincere and heartfelt congratulatory message to my sister-in-law, Princess Dr. Jessie Ifeoma Udoka Menuba, a trailblazing, extraordinary woman of grace and boundless generosity.
Your selfless commitment to alleviating people's suffering and unwavering dedication to humanity have left indelible marks on countless lives.
Your philanthropic deeds, driven by a deep sense of purpose and love, resonate far and wide.
I commend the NUJ Anambra State Council for finding you worthy of this award -2025 Philanthropist of the 21st Century.

May your legacy of service and compassion inspire generations to come.
Congratulations once more.

Solution Comes to Anambra Road... Continued

From Page 16

Governor Charles Soludo

Mr. Obonyano revealed that O'Link has a vehicle manufacturing factory in Umunya, Oyi LGA, Anambra State where they assemble vehicles from start to finish. The factory produces various models, including the T6 and 2.7m, among others. Notably, their vehicles are also part of the state governor's convoy, showcasing their quality and reliability.

The Operations Manager disclosed that after the pilot phase, O'Link plans to introduce a debit card system, similar to the Lagos State BRT model. This card will align with the federal government's cashless policy, allowing users to recharge funds and have fares deducted automatically with each journey. According to him, this initiative aims to modernize Anambra's transportation system, bringing it in line with global standards.

Mr. Obonyano added that O'Link plans to onboard other motorists who wish to register their vehicles with the company in alignment with their standards, allowing them to operate under the company's framework. However to maintain high professionalism, the company adopts a rigorous recruitment process, where applicants submit online applications, undergo thorough screening, and are personally vetted by the CEO before being hired.

"With a focus on sustainability, OMAA Motors is dedicated to producing energy-efficient vehicles that utilize hybrid technologies, specifically targeting CNG-powered and electric cars. This initiative is particularly timely, given Nigeria's pressing need to shift from PMS to more environmentally friendly options like CNG and electric vehicles," he emphasised.

GOODWILL MESSAGE

CONGRATULATIONS TO A MOM WITH A HEART OF GOLD

I heartly felicitate with my mom, Princess Dr. Jessie Ifeoma Udoka-Menuba on her very deserved award as the 2025 NUJ Anambra Philanthropist of the 21st Century.
This prestigious award no doubt was attracted by your philanthropy, hardwork and commitment to making the world a better place for people, giving equal education opportunities to the downtrodden through scholarships, helping the vulnerable widows, orphans and the aged.
A mother with three Doctorate Degrees plus others. Infact, your ability to balance academic excellence with family responsibilities is truly admirable and inspiring.
We are who we are today because of you. You are abundantly blessed.
Keep doing good.

Your daughter
Dr. Krystal James
Forensic Scientist

CONGRATULATIONS TO MY GRANDMA,

PRINCESS DR. JESSIE IFEOMA UDOKA-MENUBA,
THE INDOMITABLE ACHIEVER

I, your grand-daughter, Queen-Tovah Jessie Joseph wants to honor and celebrate a grandmother who has touched my heart in ways that words can hardly express.
You are more than a grandmother to me; you are my guiding light, a source of strength and wellspring of love. From my earliest days, you filled my world with laughter, wisdom, and the warmth of your presence.
Your stories, rich with history and life lessons, taught me the value of perseverance, hardwork, kindness and humility.
You are reaping the fruits of all your good deeds.
I thank the NUJ Anambra State for giving you the 2025 Philanthropist of the 21st Century. A goldfish has no hiding place, keep doing good.
May God continue to increase your resources to enable you to touch more lives.
Ad multos annos!!!

PROFILE OF HIGH CHIEF EMENIKE ANTHONY NWAKAEZE (ODAA OPUO AWBA OFEMILI)

Recipient, NUJ 2025 Outstanding Community Service Award

Chief Emenike Nwakaeze

Rising from the Rubble:
A Story of Survival and Grit

From the ashes of adversity, a phoenix rose, and today, that phoenix is known as High Chief Emenike Anthony Nwakaeze, the man fondly called Odaa Opuo Awba Ofemili. A symbol of resilience, courage, and servant leadership, High Chief Nwakaeze's life story is a vivid portrait of triumph over hardship, and an inspiration to generations across Anambra State and beyond.

Born in 1975 to the humble family of Chief and Lolo Nwakaeze of Enugwu village, Awba Ofemili, in Awka North LGA, High Chief Nwakaeze was orphaned at a young age — losing his father in 1987 and his mother in 1992. Poverty defined his early years, forcing him to interrupt his primary education and live with his aged grandmother in a leaking mud house that often left him ill. In fact, he tragically recalls that his mother once died due to the family's inability to afford a common Panadol tablet for him.

Yet, hardship became his teacher, and determination his closest ally.

Though he missed formal schooling between 1986 and 1988, he returned to complete primary education and later joined the pioneer class of the Community Secondary School in Awba Ofemili in 1992, driven by sheer determination.

When it became clear he could no longer fund his schooling, he turned to adult education in Onitsha and completed his studies while working tirelessly.

The Forest, the Fire, and the Fortune

At just 15, the young Anthony made the bold decision to live alone in the forests, surviving by fishing and farming, a chapter that tested his will to live. He narrowly escaped death after a terrifying encounter with a giant python, an incident that eventually led his uncle to take him to the city, launching a journey that would change his life forever.

In 1992, Odaa Opuo arrived Onitsha and began his apprenticeship in the car paint business. After five years of learning, his master handed him just ₦1,000 following a devastating fire outbreak at Onitsha Main Market. From this meager beginning, he would go on to build Tonnel Car Paint Nigeria, a leading name in the automotive paint industry, with operations reaching across Africa.

Today, High Chief Nwakaeze is the MD/CEO of Tonnel Car Paint, and the sole exporter of the brand to several African nations. His company stands not only as a business empire but as a beacon of hope for countless young Nigerians whom he has mentored, empowered, and established in the trade.

A Legacy of Leadership, Impact, and Empowerment

A man deeply rooted in community service, Chief Nwakaeze served as President General of Awba Ofemili Town Union, where he personally funded road palliatives and lobbied for the successful re-award and completion of major road projects in Awka North LGA. He declined a second term to focus on his expanding philanthropic work and business endeavors.

A passionate advocate for education, he founded a scholarship scheme supporting students in secondary and tertiary institutions nationwide, a noble response to the educational hardship he once faced.

High Chief Nwakaeze's trailblazing impact has earned him numerous awards and recognition both locally and internationally. Yet, he remains a man of deep humility, unwavering faith, and unmatched commitment to humanity.

He is happily married and blessed with wonderful children.

It is with great pride and admiration that we present to you the NUJ 2025 Outstanding Community Service Awardee — High Chief Emenike Anthony Nwakaeze (Odaa Opuo Awba Ofemili), a man whose story reminds us that greatness is not born of comfort, but forged in fire.

AWKA NORTH LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

ANAMBRA STATE
OFFICE OF THE LEADER AND COUNCILLOR
REPRESENTING AMANSEA WARD
TEL:08035069240

Our Ref:..... Your Ref:..... Date:.....

Congratulations
HON. THANKGOD CHIBUIKE ANAGO

THE LEADER OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF AWKA NORTH
RT HON MICHAEL EKEMEZIE (OSIKE AMANSEA)

On behalf of the leadership of the legislative council, Awka North Local Government Area, the good people of Amansea, family, friends, and well wishers, I wish to congratulate Hon. ThankGod Chibuike Anago, Mayor Awka North, on his emergence as the winner of 2025 NUJ Anambra Most Outstanding Mayor of the Year.

Truly, it is a well-deserved award! Your hard work and dedication have truly paid off, and this recognition couldn't be more fitting, given your numerous achievements so far, as the Mayor of Awka North LGA.

We wish to also join millions of ndi Anambra to celebrate the remarkable achievements of the leadership of the NUJ, Anambra Chapter ably led by Dr. Odogwu Emeka Odogwu.

Congratulations!

Best regards.

Rt. Hon. Michael Ekemezie (Osike Amansea)
Leader of Legislative Council, Awka North LGA.

HON MICHAEL CHUKWUGEKWU EKEMEZIE (OSIKE AMANSEA)

ONE-ON-ONE WITH DR. NELSON OMENUGHA:

NUJ ANAMBRA 2025 OUTSTANDING YOUTH MENTOR OF THE YEAR

Dr. Nelson Omenugha

In recognition of his firm commitment to youth development in Anambra State, the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) has honoured Dr. Nelson Omenugha, Special Adviser to Governor Chukwuma Soludo on Youth Empowerment Programmes, as the Outstanding Youth Mentor of the Year 2025. Omenugha, a former Students' Union leader, is a passionate advocate of youth mainstreaming in critical sectors of the Nigerian society.

Ahead of the official award presentation, Dr. Nelson Omenugha, in this exclusive interview, reflects on his journey so far. While sharing his vision for the youth, he also speaks on what lies ahead.

The award, which shall be presented by the Comrade Emeka Odogwu PhD, led NUJ Anambra State, holds special meaning for Dr. Omenugha. This, he revealed, is because, not just that the award is prestigious, but because it comes from a professional body close to his heart. As a committed member of the NUJ, UNIZIK FM Chapel, Dr. Omenugha has maintained a strong relationship with the union, which has followed his exceptional contributions to youth development over the years.

"This award means a lot to me," he began.
"It is not just a recognition, but a reminder that people are paying attention to the little things we do to make lives better," Omenugha said.

Mentorship Rooted in Passion

Fondly called Nnanyelugo Na Nnobi, Dr. Nelson Omenugha sees mentorship not as a job, but a calling. Whether in government or at the grassroots, he has always worked towards ensuring that young people who are gifted are quickly linked up with opportunities that match their skill set. Beyond mentoring, Dr. Omenugha has played critical roles linking multiple young people with important individuals who require their talent.

"All my life, I have had the privilege to interface directly with the youth. It's been insightful. Do I have regrets? None. Were there challenges? Absolutely. If I had more resources or opportunities, I would have done more. But within my limits, I gave my all," Nelson said during our interview.

For him, youth engagement is deeply personal. His mission is to be a bridge and pathfinder, helping young people navigate life's complexities with courage and clarity.

Soludo's Vision and the Youth Agenda

When asked about the broader youth focused direction of the Soludo-led administration, Dr. Omenugha pointed to several impactful initiatives that go beyond the popular One Youth, Two Skills programme.

Contd on Page 28

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Congratulations to DR. NELSON OMENUGHA

The Young Professionals Hub (YPH) of the Nigeria Institute of Public Relations (NIPR) heartily congratulates our esteemed National Vice Chair, Dr. Nelson Omenugha, on his well-deserved recognition as the Most Outstanding Youth Mentor of the Year by the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Anambra State Council. This award is laudable, and we commend NUJ for the choice to celebrate you through this recognition.

We appreciate your dedication to youth empowerment, exceptional leadership, and remarkable youth mentorship, which has continued to inspire the next generation of change-makers. Your commitment to fostering capacity, values, and opportunities for young people resonates deeply with the ideals of YPH-NIPR.

We are proud to celebrate this achievement with you and confident that you will continue to set the pace in youth mentorship and nation-building.

Once again, congratulations, Dr. Omenugha. The future is indeed brighter because of leaders like you.

Signed

Barr Chimdi Neliaku
Chair, Young Professional Hub,
Nigeria Institute of Public Relations

NIPR
Professionalism & Excellence

COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE NIGERIA UNION OF JOURNALISTS (NUJ), ANAMBRA STATE COUNCIL, APRIL CONGRESS HELD ON APRIL 3, 2025 AT THE GODWIN EZEEMO INTERNATIONAL PRESS CENTER, NUJ SECRETARIAT COMPLEX, AWKA, ANAMBRA STATE

The Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Anambra State Council, held its April Congress under the leadership of the Chairman, Dr. Odogwu Emeka Odogwu. The Congress deliberated on critical issues affecting the state and the union and adopted the following resolutions:

1. Congress frowned at the activities of some disgruntled elements in the correspondents chapel of the NUJ always stoking crisis for the.wrong reasons, and described the kangaroo and purported election by correspondents chapel led by Chuks Ilozue as a charade, null and void and of no effect. The leadership led by Chuks Ilozue was warmed not to parade itself anywhere as leaders of a chapel under NUJ or risk the consequences thereto.

2. Congress urged Ndi Anambra to disregard the misinformation, negativity and propaganda allegedly emanating from the Correspondents' Chapel alleging that the state chairman of NUJ, Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu PhD has been suspended as the chapel has no such rights.

3. Congress unanimously passed a vote of confidence on Dr. Odogwu Emeka Odogwu as the chairman of the NUJ Anambra State Council as a leader with excellent qualities,and as well passed a confidence vote on his executive. The motion was moved by Dr. Stanley Onunkwo, chairman of Information Chapel and supported by Prof. Chinyere Stella Okunna, member of Angel Network chapel and NUJ Matriarch Anambra/National NUJ Icon as supported unanimously by Congress.

4. A Caretaker/Rescue Committee was constituted to restore order within the Correspondents' Chapel and strengthen Union's unity. The committee, with a three-month mandate, comprises of two sets of people- the first three to face administrative aspects of the chapel as they are all members of the chapel and the second to ensure peaceful process is followed in restoring peace to the chapel:

Caretaker committee
- Comrade Tochukwu Ifejika (Chairman)
- Comrade Okechukwu Onuegbu (Secretary)
- Comrade Uzoma Nzeagwu (Member)

Whereas Rescue Team committee
- Comrade Dennis Ekemezie (Member as a veteran)
- Comrade Dr Stanley Onunkwo (Member information chapel)
- Comrade Dr Obiorah Edogor (member Unizik chapel)

Contd on Page 32

PAUL-B NIG. PLC.

We finish with great care!

RC. 169347

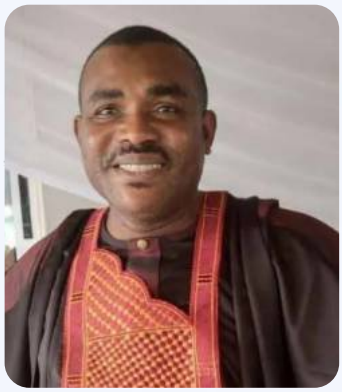
CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

The Board, Management and Staff of **Paul-B Nigeria PLC.** congratulates Arch. Okey Ezeobi on your award as the 2025 Anambra NUJ man of the Year.

Your indisputable recognition for this award further confirms the positive marks you have made not only in your professional field, but also in shaping narratives that uplift inspire and empower humanity. The impact resonates far beyond the drafting table you have built not just structure, but legacies.

As you step out for the award today, may the Almighty God continue to bless and be gracious to you, most immensely and abundantly, even as you extend your contributions to the nourishment of mankind.

We are proud to associate with you.



Signed:

Engr. Paul Enidom
Chairman/CEO

For and on Behalf of Management and Staff of **PAUL B – NIG. PLC**

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NUJ Man of the Year increased my visibility and popularity in Anambra — Dr. Umeadi

A Canada based medical doctor, Dr Chinedu Anthony Umeadi (Agunaechemba Abagana) was the NUJ Man Of The Year 2024. He is a consultant Physician, Academic, Politician, Community leader and Philanthropist.

By Favour Edeh

His choice as the NUJ Anambra Man of The Year, 2024 was largely determined by the people through a transparent process. In this interview with NUJ Anambra WatchDog crew, Umeadi revealed the significance of NUJ award to some individuals and personalities, especially how the award made him gain more visibility in the society. **Excerpt:**

Since 2024 you have been in the news for winning the 2024 NUJ Anambra Man Of The Year Award what does the NUJ award mean to you, and why is it significant?

It is a significant honour to be honoured by the Nigeria Union of Journalists NUJ Anambra state Council as a man of the year in Anambra state. So, the recognition and honour mean a lot to me.

Would you wish to share with us the impact of the NUJ award on your credibility or influence?

Of course I have said it earlier that it is a thing of honour to me being NUJ man of the year. People now respect me more, some people now start checking me up, reading about me, trying to find out why I emerged the NUJ Man of the year 2024. Surely, it increased my visibility and popularity in Anambra state and across the media world. It puts me on the good books of most people because I emerged NUJ Man of the year because of my charity work. People are now more aware of the charity work I have been doing and how I have been supporting my people and community.

Are there new things we should know you shall embark on or you are planning to do about your NGO or aspirations you have, moving forward motivated by the award's success?

Dr. Chinedu Umeadi foundation is a foundation that has been going on for over six years now. We support people in education, carry-out programmes, treat people free. We do health outreach programmes and support people in poverty. We have an ongoing quiz competition, some people were thinking that what I was doing in 2023 during which I contested for senate in Anambra Central through the Young Progressive Party was for politics. That gesture will not end. It will continue every year. The next event is already happening and was just concluded. We only have the finals of the quiz competition coming up. The award presentation ceremony is coming up too. So it will not end there, we will continue our charity programmes. What the award has done to me encouragement , it is a part at the back. Which means to continue with the good work we are doing. Just as I will say that everything depends on the resources available to me. So long as God continues to bless me with funds, I will continue to expand what we are doing through Dr. Chinedu Umeadi foundation.

How has receiving the NUJ award contributed to your personal growth or professional development or societal influence?

Contd on Page 31

ONE-ON-ONE WITH DR. OMENUGHA... CONTINUED

From page 24

"I believe in the value of people. A greater Anambra is only possible when we build greater individuals. We must live for others. That is the only way to build a meaningful legacy," Omenugha reiterated.

Speaking against child labour, he issued a firm warning, emphasizing the government's zero tolerance stance and its commitment to upholding the rights and dignity of every child in Anambra State.

A Humble Giant
Despite the accolades and growing public profile, Dr. Omenugha remains grounded. His humility, clear sense of purpose, and passion for young people shine through.

"This award from the NUJ is not just going into my trophy shelf," he said with a smile.
"It will be in my citation, my CV and in my heart. It is a call to do more, and I am grateful, while I welcome the challenge."

One of Anambra's brightest young person, Dr. Nelson Omenugha stands not just as a public servant but as a true mentor.

One who continues to illuminate the path for thousands of young people across the state and beyond.

"We have the Solution Innovation District (SID), the Youth Education and Entrepreneurship Programme, massive investments in agriculture and more," he explained.
"Over 80% of recent employees in the state are young people. This is no accident. Governor Soludo believes that the future of Anambra lies in the youth and he is investing deliberately in that future," Omenugha explained.

Furthermore, he emphasized that these programmes are not just about training but about building a generation of job creators, innovators, and responsible leaders.

Dr. Nelson Omenugha

Advice of the 2025 Governorship Elections
As Anambra gears up for the 2025 elections, Dr. Omenugha offered candid advice to young people:

"Your future is in your hands. God won't serve anyone breakfast in bed. You have to rise and work hard. Politics can be a profession, but it must not be your only source of livelihood. Let it be a platform to serve not to survive."
More so, he urged youths to prioritize personal development and to step into leadership with vision and preparation.

A Life of Service
Regardless of where he finds himself, Dr. Nelson Omenugha life's mantra remains clear: "To live is to serve." From his service in at the University, to his service in government, his roles in the church and community; his impact extends far beyond political appointments.

RC 1302576

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7th August 2025

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR AWARD AS THE MOST OUTSTANDING NUJ MAYOR OF 2025

On behalf of the entire management and staff of **Obamark World Travels Limited**, I write to express my heartfelt congratulations to you, **Hon. Chief Thankgod Chibuike Anago**, on your well-deserved recognition as **The Most Outstanding NUJ Mayor of the Year 2025**.

This honour not only speaks volumes about your exceptional leadership, but also stands as a testament to your unrelenting passion, visionary governance, and unwavering commitment to the growth and progress of Awka North LGA. You have indeed proven yourself to be **ONYE OLU OBODO** in both word and deed.

Your achievements within a short period have echoed far beyond the boundaries of your jurisdiction touching lives, inspiring confidence, and redefining leadership at the grassroots. We at Obamark World Travels are proud to identify with your leadership excellence and historic milestones.

As you bask in the joy of this prestigious award, may it inspire even greater dedication to duty, more people centered initiatives, and impactful developmental strides. We are confident that the years ahead will bring more success stories, enhanced peace, and visible transformation for the people of Awka North under your stewardship.

Once again, congratulations Your Worship! Please accept the assurances of our highest regard and continued goodwill.

Yours faithfully,

Obamark World Travels RC. 1302576 Limited

Solomon N. Nwachukwu (OBJ Mgbakwu)
MD/CEO
OBAMARK WORLD TRAVELS LIMITED

DR. UMEADI'S VISIBILITY... CONTINUED

From Page 28

Of course it has contributed to my personal growth and professional development. It is an accolade that people get and this one is the greatest of them all. Anything that has to do with the whole state is a big one. The Nigeria Union of Journalists is a great body, they are media people. So if the media people say you are the man of the year, that is a big honour. It has been added to my CV where people see it. So, to me, it is an honour to my professional career. What it has added is that I do some extra things outside my profession and my own people, people from Nigeria and across the globe, people in my community, people here in Canada and Nigeria recognise what I do. It is a simple description that I am an honourable man and I do a lot for the society at large.

What are your words of encouragement to NUJ Anambra State council under Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu PhD?

My words of encouragement to them is to keep up the good work they are doing. They are doing a good job. They are honourable and transparent people. I encourage them to continue what they are doing without fear or favour and not to change anything. Let them continue bringing everybody into what they are doing. Let them remain transparent as transparency remains the biggest honour in what one does, being honest to people. If you are doing your selection process, let it be open. You guys are really doing a fantastic job. Keep up the good work.

What's your political ambition like in this dispensation and what informed the decision?

I am currently the leader of Young Progressives Party, YPP in Anambra state. My focus now is to put my Party in order, making it a formidable party and a strong platform for people that want to contest election in Anambra state. For now, that is my role in politics. I will make statement when I want to make statement regarding what is happening in our community. What is coming up now is gubernatorial election and we are all watching closely to see how that goes in terms of politics of the future, I am still watching and observing and will get to make a decision on what to do next. I contested for senate in Anambra Central during the last general election. I still have an eye on that but yet to make final decision. At the right time, I will make it public.

You are into human empowerment and educational promotions, what informed that in your NGO and what's your vision going further? And what have you done so far ?

I had always been a person who helps people. That has been my hobby as a human being, starting from when I was in Primary school, secondary school when I always share my things with people. I always feel bad when I see other people suffering. Any little I had in those days I share it with people. When I got into the university I was involved in different groups and associations, trying to ensure fairness and equity . It is always very important to me, seeing people being treated unfairly upsets me . Then I went into being a medical doctor, training as a doctor on its own is a charity work because it's a way of helping and supporting people and that is exactly what I do. So, when I started earning some money, I decided I will be setting aside some of my funds for supporting the less privileged in the

Contd on Page 34

APRIL CONGRESS COMMUNIQUE... CONTINUED

From Page 26

5. Congress urged members to refrain from filing frivolous petitions intended to cause disunity in the union and writing jaundiced, malicious and pedestrian stories laced with lies, and propaganda emanating from envy, pettiness and jealousy specifically advising Tony Okafor from Agulu formerly of Punch, but now with New National Star/Razor online to desist from such activities.

6. Congress condemned the unprofessional conduct of some members whose actions undermine the integrity of the journalism profession and warned them to desist from acts that will ridicule the union and it's members before the right thinking public.

7. Congress commended the executive committee for their dedication while condemning the cyber bullying and defamation stories targeted at the leadership of Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu led executive and the union.

8. Congress considered the Vice Chairman of NUJ, Comrade Betty Onuchukwu innocent of anti Union activities staying through the scam and so called purported election charade by Chuks Ilozue of Daily Independent Newspapers as orchestrated by Kelvin Ekediegwu of Radio Nigeria who was the chairman of credentials committee and his cohorts for championing unconstitutional and illegal acts in the chapel.

9. Congress dismissed allegations and suspension rumours against Comrade Dr. Odogwu Emeka Odogwu's leadership as false, senseless and baseless.

10. Congress reiterated it's solidarity to the Odogwu led administration and reiterated that no individual or chapel is above the union and reaffirmed it's commitment to the unity of the union with its Chapels and urged members to remain committed to professionalism, legally accepted acts and ethical journalism.

11. The union commended Governor Chukwuma Soludo for his commitment to addressing public concerns, particularly his efforts to curb the alleged illegal activities of Agụnechemba security outfit by setting up a monitoring committee to overseer the activities of Agunechemba security outfit.

12. Congress commmeded the Prof Soludo led administration for prompt payment of gratuity to retired workers and urged the Governor to prioritize the payment of outstanding gratuities and entitlements to retirees of the Anambra Broadcasting Service (ABS), which has been pending since 2017, as the retirees shall be eternally grateful to him.

13. The union applauded Governor Charles Chukwuma Soludo for the ongoing construction of the new Government House and Lodge, recognizing it as a significant infrastructural achievement.

14. Congress called on residents, especially children, to exercise caution during the rainy season to avoid being washed off by flash flood, and emphasized the importance of proper waste disposal and flood prevention measures to avoid blocking the waterways. Congress advised that families dig up catchment pits to reduce the flow of flood for a safer environment.

Contd on Page 32

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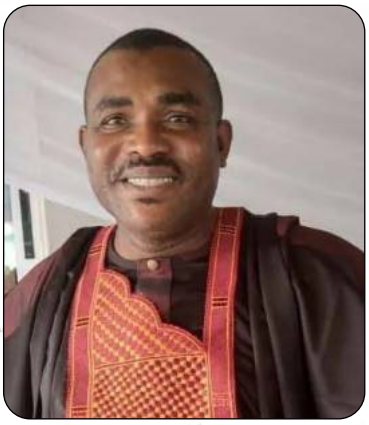
ZENITH

Monday, August 11, 2025



Arch. Okey Ezeobi

GM/CEO,
Anambra Bureau of Public Procurement,
Anambra State.

Dear Sir,

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

The Management and entire members of staff of Zenith Bank Plc write to congratulate you Arch. Okey Ezeobi, the GM/CEO, Anambra Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) on your NUJ Platinum Man of the year Award.

This award demonstrates your Hard-work, Service to Humanity and Professional Competence which you have demonstrated over the years.

We therefore wish you God's guidance, protection and wisdom as you engage in this Award.

Once again, accept our hearty congratulations.

Yours faithfully

For:**ZENITH BANK PLC**

Chukwunonso Chinwuko
Relationship Officer

Christian Ejiofor
Branch Head

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DR. UMEADI'S VISIBILITY... CONTINUED

From Page 31

society and that is what I have continued to do hoping that more money will continue coming my way so that I will continue supporting people and when I do this, I always expected that there will be other people who will be looking at me and see what I do and will be able to inspire them so that they can also join me in supporting others.

Recently you celebrated your golden age, as a fulfilled medical doctor, what will be your focus going forward?

In June this year, I climbed to the 5th floor of my life, getting to the 5th decade of my life. I thank God for His kindness and blessings on me over the years. I have done my best as a human being, worked hard, done everything I was taught to do by my good parents and good people around that trained and nurtured me into a full adult, God fearing and a man who is respectful to the rule of law. I thank all of them and I am grateful.

As I am getting into the 5th decade of my life, the most important thing I ask of God is a continued good health which is the most important thing to me in my life and God has been faithful and good to me. With good health So far, I have been able to work hard, make good amount of money to be able to take care of myself and support people.

As I get into the 5th floor, I can say that I have done well over half of my life. I will now start winding down, hoping to retire from active medical service in the next few years and focus more on services to humanity and getting involved in governance in Nigeria and contribute in making our place a better place in whatever capacity I can. I have a foundation which I am already using to support humanity. We will continue expanding that and do more work.

I also hope to get into some political position. I have contested before but it didn't work out and I will be going back again. I am interested in making Anambra state a better place and I will do that in whatever capacity I can.

My focus going forward for the remaining of my life is supporting my community, humanity and help to make my Anambra state and Nigeria better. I have mentored younger people for quite some years now since I became a consultant in medicine and I will continue to do that. I will continue to do that not just in the medical field but in other areas of life. These are my focus in life and I thank everyone who have supported me over the course of my life. I remain grateful.

Ref N0: 111-SFC/00/162/250620

*Your Ref:*_____ *Date:* 30th July, 2025

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE FOR ARC. HON. OKECHUKWU INNOCENT EZEOBI

Zhongtian Construction Nigeria Limited Celebrates Arc. Hon. Okechukwu Innocent Ezeobi, FNIA

For Your Recognition as the **2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year**

Your unwavering commitment to excellence, institution-building, and community empowerment has set a remarkable standard for leadership. This recognition not only celebrates your achievements but also inspires future generations to embrace visionary service.

Congratulations, Arc. Hon. Ezeobi!

Signed
Zhongtian Construction Nigeria Limited

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

Park Vega Waterpark Limited heartily congratulates ***Arch. Okey Ezeobi***, the esteemed GM/CEO of *Anambra Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP)*, on his well-deserved recognition as the *2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year*.

Your visionary leadership, integrity, and outstanding contributions to public service and good governance have set a remarkable standard. This prestigious award is a testament to your dedication and impact on Anambra State and beyond.

We celebrate this milestone with you and look forward to your continued excellence in service. Once again, congratulations!

Signed:
Engr. ORJI Ikechukwu
Park Vega Waterpark Limited

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Park Vega Waterpark, Nmordi Street- Ewuru,
KM 68 Benin-Asaba Expressway, Agbor,
Delta State Nigeria.

APRIL CONGRESS COMMUNIQUE... CONTINUED

From Page 32

15. Congress expressed gratitude to Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Chukwuma Okoye, Deputy Speaker of the Anambra State House of Assembly, (Mkpuluobi Amawbia) for sponsoring the NUJ April Congress. Congress appreciated his other promises for a robust relationship with the union.

16. The union commended the Political Adviser to Governor Soludo Dr Alex Obiogbolu for his solidarity to the union and sponsorship of the March Congress and urged him to continue to partner with the NUJ in many fronts.

17. Congress commmeded the Chairperson of Association of Women Journalists, NAWOJ, Anambra State Chapter, Comrade Tochukwu Ifejika for maintaining peace in the association against all odds.

18. Congress appealed to all politicians and political parties to ensure peaceful party Congress and primaries devoid of rancour, acrimony ,blood letting and outright killing as the political parties select their candidates for Anambra State Governorship election.

Compiled by the communique Drafting Committee:
- Comrade Emeka Chiaghanam- Chairman
- Comrade Ifeanyi Okonkwo- member
- Comrade Chidinma Ajemba- Secretary

E-Signed:
Comrade Okechukwu Onuegbu, PhD
Secretary, NUJ, Anambra State Council
08061506936

Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu, PhD, JP
Chairman, NUJ Anambra State Council

GOODWILL MESSAGE

CARDINAL INTERNATIONAL HOTEL

Your Ref: ..... Our Ref: ..... Date: .....

CARDINAL INTERNATIONAL HOTEL

Congratulates NUJ ANAMBRA STATE

Cardinal International Hotel proudly congratulates Arc. Okey Ezeobi on his well-deserved recognition at the 2025 Press Week and Man of the Year Awards of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Anambra State Council as the Man of the Year.

This prestigious honour is a reflection of Arc. Ezeobi's unwavering commitment to service, leadership, and the upliftment of society. His achievements and integrity stand as an inspiration to many, reflecting the values of purpose, excellence, and dedication that our state and nation so dearly need.

As one of the leading hospitality brands in Anambra, we deeply appreciate leaders like Arc. Ezeobi, whose vision and impact cut across community development, professional excellence, and humanitarian service. Honouring him today is not just a recognition of personal accomplishment but a celebration of the power of selfless leadership to transform lives and institutions.

We commend the NUJ, Anambra State Council, for consistently spotlighting men and women of influence whose contributions strengthen the fabric of our society. By bestowing this Man of the Year' award on Arc. Ezeobi, the union has once again affirmed its role as a true partner in promoting excellence, accountability, and positive transformation.

We urge all honourees, particularly Arc. Okey Ezeobi, to remain steadfast in their exemplary journeys of service. Such recognition comes with renewed responsibility, and we are confident that Arc. Ezeobi will continue to inspire and lead by example.

On behalf of Cardinal International Hotel, we extend our warmest congratulations to Arc. Okey Ezeobi and salute the NUJ for sustaining this noble platform of recognition. We are proud to associate with this celebration of excellence and wish both the awardee and the media council continued success, growth, and relevance.

62 Melock Avenue GRA Ifite Awka, Anambra State. cardinalinternationalhotels@gmail.com
www.cardinalinternationalhotels.com 08034007786, 09040483445

ANAMBRA STATE OF NIGERIA

ORUMBA SOUTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, UMUNZE

Office: Orumba South Secretariate, P.O. Box 225, Umunze
Email: orumbasouthlocalgovernmentarea@gmail.com

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN

Our Ref: ORSLG/082/5.3 *Your Ref:* ..... *Date:* 18th July 2025

Goodwill Message to Arc. Okey Ezeobi

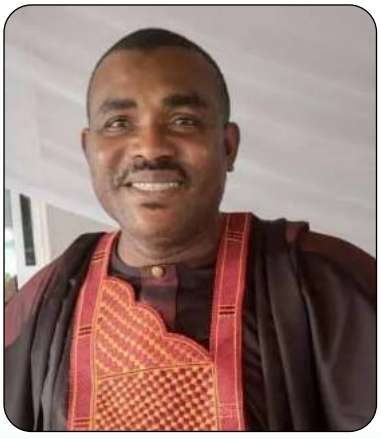
On behalf of the entire Orumba South, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to you, Arc. Okey Ezeobi, on your emergence as the NUJ Anambra State Chapter Man of the Year. This honour is not only well-deserved but a resounding endorsement of your integrity, dedication, and exceptional service to our dear state.

Your transformational leadership as the Managing Director of the Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement has set a new benchmark for transparency, accountability, and due process in governance. Your tireless efforts in institutional reforms and value-driven procurement practices have contributed immensely to the efficient use of public resources and inspired a culture of excellence in public service.

It is no surprise that your impact has been recognized by the pen profession — a body that values truth, service, and credibility.

May this honour propel you to greater heights as you continue to serve with vision, diligence, and purpose.

Congratulations once again, Sir!



Hon. Shedrack N Azubuike

Mayor of Orumba South

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END Of NUJ ANAMBRA STATE COUNCIL CONGRESS HELD AT GODWIN EZEEMO INTERNATIONAL PRESS CENTRE, AWKA ON THURSDAY, 5TH JUNE, 2025

The Nigerian Union of Journalists (NUJ) Anambra State Council, led by Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu PhD at the end of its June 2025 Congress held at the Godwin Ezeemo International Press Centre, Awka, Anambra State resolved as follows :

1) The Congress commended the Anambra state Governor, Prof Charles Chukwuma Soludo on the various infrastructural developments across the three geopolitical zones in the state and called on the state Government to tackle the menace of flooding usually experienced in some areas of the state after rainfalls. The Congress also requests the contractors handling various road projects to critically look into the after effects of their works by ensuring that flood water is properly channeled.

2) The Congress commended the Anambra State Government for establishing the Electricity Regulatory Commission (ERC) for improved power supply in the state, calling on the EEDC to improve power supply to households in some parts of Anambra state. The EEDC were also urged to ensure that all households in the state are metered and ensure considerable bills for those unmetered so as to aid enhanced power supply.

3) The Congress commended Prof. Chinyere Stella Okunna for her vision and innovation in initiating and kick-starting the degree and diploma awarding programme in Journalism and related Media studies at Paul University Awka geared towards ensuring that members of the NUJ are awarded certifications in line with their practice and sphere of human endeavour. The Congress also commended Prof. Okunna and other founding members of the Media Standards and Complaints Council of Nigeria (MSCCN) for their efforts in sanitising media practice and promoting ethical and standard practice.

4) The Congress congratulated the newly elected EXCO of the UNIZIK FM Chapel under the leadership of Mrs Chika Nnabuife and urged them to revitalize and enhance the visibility of the chapel through her programmes and activities.

5) Congress commended the Chairman, Moment FM chapel, Federal Polytechnic, Oko, Comrade Ugochukwu Onuigbo on his heroic emergence as the most hardworking staff of the Federal Polytechnic, Oko

6) NUJ also congratulated Comrade Mmaduabuchi Onwumelu, Acting Chairman of Fides Media Chapel on his appointment as the Special Adviser on Youth Development to Idemili North Mayor, Hon. Stanley Nkwoka.

7) Congress commended Dr. Odogwu Emeka Odogwu led NUJ in Anambra state for their steadfastness, unwavering commitment in prioritising members welfare, calling on others who foment trouble in the union to close ranks and join hands with Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu led executive in moving our dear union forward.

Signed:

Comrade Francis Ekpone of Moment FM
Chairman, Communiqué Drafting Committee

Comrade Dr. Ikenna Nwokedi
Vice-Chairman, UNIZIK FM Chapel - Secretary, Communiqué Drafting Committee

Comrade Ngozi Okekearu
NTA Awka Chapel
Member, Communique Drafting Committee

GOODWILL MESSAGE

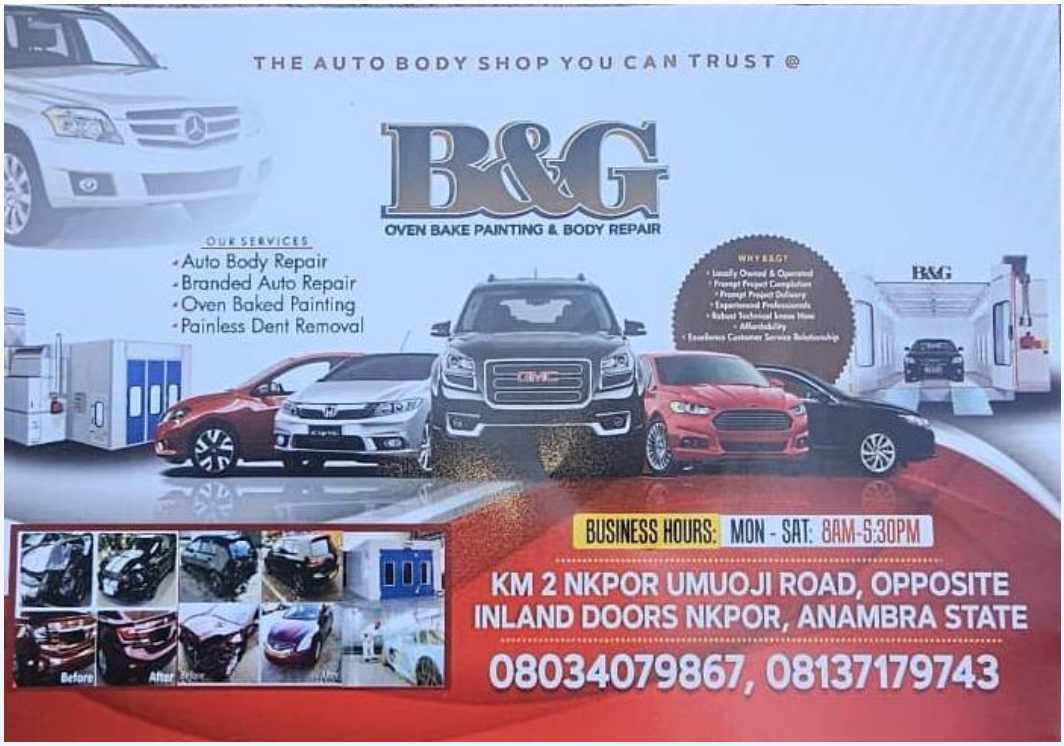
Congratulations

HIGH CHIEF HON.

EMENIKE ANTHONY NWAKAEZE

B&G - OVEN BAKE PAINTING AND BODY REPAIRS .

Wish to congratulate Mr Anthony Emenike Nwakeze. Your dedication to others is truly inspiring serving, congratulations on this well deserved recognition for your outstanding community service award. Big congratulations Odaopue 1 of Awba Ofemili.



Meet Dr. Nelson Obinna Omenugha:

Championing Youth, Innovation, and Social Transformation

By Abigail Mbah

Visionary Beginnings: A Leader on a Mission

Dr. Nelson Obinna Omenugha is an inspiring figure in Nigeria's emerging generation of transformational leaders. A serial social entrepreneur, academic, and thought leader, he is best known for his dynamic engagement in youth advocacy, policy development, and renewable energy innovation.

With a clear vision for a prosperous, inclusive, and sustainable homeland, Dr. Omenugha is passionately rewriting the narrative of youth involvement in nation-building.

Service with Substance: From Campus to Cabinet

He currently serving as Special Adviser to the Governor of Anambra State on Youth Empowerment Programme, Dr. Omenugha brings a rare blend of academic excellence, real-world impact, and unyielding passion for change. His journey, marked by visionary courage and humility, continues to inspire thousands of young Nigerians and beyond.

Born on 15th May 1990, Nelson was imbued early in life with strong family values, moral clarity, and an unwavering belief in purposeful leadership. These principles laid the foundation for his remarkable ascent into public service and academia. A lecturer at the Department of Mass Communication, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, he is deeply committed to grooming the next generation of thinkers, communicators, and change agents.

Blazing Trails in Academia and Student Leadership

Nelson's leadership journey began during his undergraduate years. In a groundbreaking feat, he was elected President of the Students' Union Government at the tender age of 19, becoming the youngest and first-ever second-year student to hold the office. Leading over 33,000 students, his administration won eighteen commendation letters from the University Management Committee for creativity, discipline, and far-reaching reforms.

Nelson graduated top of his class, earning a B.Sc. in Mass Communication and winning the Vice Chancellor's Best Student Merit Award (2011/2012).

Driven by an insatiable appetite for knowledge and global exposure, he went on to obtain multiple postgraduate degrees: a Master of Arts in Strategic Marketing Communications from the University of Greenwich, London, and a Master of Science in International Marketing Communication Strategy from ESCEM Business School, Poitiers, France. He later earned his Ph.D. in Media and Communications from Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University (XJTLU), China, becoming a Doctor at just 29 years of age.

During his doctoral programme, Nelson served as a student ambassador for the African community, and also took on roles as a research assistant, teaching assistant, and production assistant, all while contributing meaningfully to academic development.

Powering Progress: Youth, Innovation & Clean Energy

Beyond the classroom, Nelson's passion for societal transformation is demonstrated through his work as the Convener of Youths Earnestly Seek Solution (YESS); a powerful youth-led sociopolitical movement mobilising young people to actively participate in creating a thriving Anambra and Nigeria. *Contd on Page 49*

SOLUTION EYE

Raising Consciousness On The SOLUTION Project

solution_eye
07031514913
Solution Eye
@solution_eye

Our Ref:..... Your Ref:..... Date: 11th July, 2025

Congratulations

The entire Management Team of SOLUTION EYE, heartily Congratulate ARCH. OKEY EZEOBI the MD/CEO Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement BPP, on the occasion of his decoration with the Award "NUJ Anambra Man Of The Year".This is one Award well deserved, and we wish you the very best in your endeavors.

Solution Eye
Raising Consciousness On The SOLUTION Project.

Once again, CONGRATULATIONS!

Hon. Lion Tony Ezeigwe Rlli Fipma
Host, SOLUTION EYE

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF THE MARCH 2025 CONGRESS OF NIGERIA UNION OF JOURNALISTS,NUJ, ANAMBRA STATE COUNCIL PRESIDED OVER BY THE CHAIRMAN, COMRADE ODOGWU EMEKA ODOGWU PHD, JP.

At the conclusion of the NUJ Congress held at Godwin Ezeemo International Press Center, NUJ Secretariat complex, Awka, on March 6th, 2025, the Congress presents the following resolutions:

1. The Congress lauded the partnership the union enjoyed with the Anambra State Sector Commander of the Federal Road Safety Corps, FRSC, Anambra State command, Sector Commander Joyce Nnennaya Alexander leading to a well organized training workshop organized for Anambra journalists on safety, emphasising that the training would have a profound impact on media practitioners in the state and, by extension, the general public through enhanced reportage.

2. The Congress commended the Anambra State Governor, Prof Charles Chukwuma Soludo's developmental milestones in the state, appealing to him not to relent in turning the state around to be a destination for the world.

3. The Congress also commended Governor Charles Chukwuma Soludo on his fight on crime and criminality in the state and urged him not to relent until normalcy returns to Anambra State, even as the Congress lauded Mr Governor for his 3 years anniversary in office where he and his team have committed to human capacity building and prosperous state.

4. Congress commended Governor Charles Chukwuma Soludo for gradually but deliberately and strategically opening up all corners of the state with construction of massive hundreds of Kilometers of roads for strategic connectivity and economic growth of Anambra State. Congress urged the Governor to open up Mgbakwu Polytechnic through Ezu Bridge through Ebenebe road to connect

people from Awka North 2 easily to Achalla, the headquarters without going through Awka. Congress advised that the link road between Ifite Awka to Isu Anaocha be connected to save the traffic at rush hours at Goodwill junction Okpuno.

5. The Congress urged Governor Charles Chukwuma Soludo as a lover of human capital development and in the spirit of one Anambra,one people,one agenda to re-establish a newspaper organization to replace the defunct National Light Newspapers and employ at least 100 journalists of different cadre to start up a new digital newspaper industry with prospects in Anambra State, as no journalist has been employed in the last 3 years of his administration in Anambra State. Thus, journalists are left behind in honing their trade and student journalists on industrial attachment are also left behind, creating a big vacuum in the profession.

6. Congress appreciated Governor Charles Chukwuma Soludo for clearing a good number of pension and gratiuities owed workers since he came on board but appealed to him to consider the plight of workers of the defunct National Light Newspaper that were owed six years leave allowance as a mark of leave no one behind mantra of APGA.

Contd on Page 47

Arc. Okey Ezeobi: Many Voices Say One Thing About One Man

It is said that when two or three people bear witness to something, it can seldom be false. Arc. Okey Ezeobi is a man who does not blow his trumpet like some people who have the privilege of helping others.

By Obiorah Edogor

Granted that Architect Okey Ezeobi serves people in strict compliance with the biblical injunction of one not allowing his or her left hand to know what the right hand is doing while giving alms. Many people who have encountered him keep attesting to his altruistic nature. The massive agreement of various people who know the man is quite overwhelming.

Thus, it becomes necessary to examine the personality he exudes from his community- Nanka, Anaocha, Local Government Area of Anambra State. The reason for such a venture is based on the age-long maxim that 'charity begins at home.'

Consequently, the views of some people from Nanka were sought to ascertain their perception about the Anambra State born Architect of international repute.

An elder statesman from Nanka and a former chieftain of Ohaneze Ndi Igbo, Chief Damian Okeke-Ogene, described Architect Okey as a man who is ready to serve others. "He is a very honest young man. He has been able to galvanize Nanka youths to participate in seminars where they are empowered with useful skills, that is not buying motorcycles or wheel barrows for them as other people do elsewhere. Architect Okey is also helpful to Nanka Town Union with his wealth of experience and exposure."

Arc Okey Ezeobi's exploits in life resonates with the traditional ruler of his hometown, HRH, Igwe Godwin Ogochukwu Ezeilo, Obunanka of Nanka, who describes his nomination for the NUJ Anambra 2025 Man of te Year Award as highly commendable.

According to Igwe Ezeilo, Arc Okey has consistently distinguished himself in public service, having served meritoriously under two successive administrations in Anambra State.

From his impactful role as Senior Special Adviser to Governor Willie Obiano on Rural Development to his current position as the Managing Director of the Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement under the visionary leadership of His Excellency, Prof. Chukwuma Charles Soludo CFR, He has shown unwavering commitment to excellence and fiscal responsibility.

Through his efforts, the government is achieving more with less, an integral part of the Solution Agenda.

Igwe Ezeilo further said that among the best brains Governor Soludo, a renowned technocrat, assembled to drive transformative change in Anambra State, Hon. Okey Ezeobi stands out among them as a testament to competence, diligence, and deep knowledge. "As an architect and international businessman, his works speak for him. He is meticulous in his dealings, guided by integrity, and driven by a passion for community and national development", the traditional ruler concluded.

Another stakeholder of Nanka Community, Engr Ifeanyi Okoma, the Honourable Commissioner for Works, Anambra State simply observed that "Arc. Ezeobi is a highly dependable, reliable, and honest man. He is dedicated, hardworking, and full of human kindness. He is a God-fearing man and very outspoken." The Commissioner went on to commend the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Anambra State Council for nominating Arc. Okey as the 2025 Man of the Year, noting that, "he deserves the honour."

In a similar vein, the Chief Medical Director (CMD), Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University Teaching Hospital, (COOUTH), Awka, Dr Joe Akabuike, described Arc. Okey Ezeobi as a man that is well known for his hard work and excellence in public service and administration. Dr Akabuike, noted that Arc. Ezeobi is a silent philanthropist and community development enthusiast.

Dr. Akabuike went on to observe that the choice of Arc. Ezeobi as this year's NUJ Man of the Year is due and expected, stating that "the awardee is a vibrant young man who is very honest in his dealings and who has committed his life to the betterment of human society through his selfless-services." The Chief Medical Director of COOUTH added that the awardee through his charity Foundation has helped a lot of people by sponsoring interested candidates to acquire higher education.

Meanwhile, a young lady, Mary Uju Nwankwo captured Arc. Okey Ezeobi's modest lifestyle in service to people and the community.

Contd on page 48

MID-EAST CONSTRUCTION

98 Mingi Estate.
Trans Amadi Industrial Layout.
Port Harcourt. Rivers State.
Tel: 0806 333 3133, 0703 135 5386.

GOODWILL MESSAGE

The Managing Director and entire staff of **MID-EAST CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED** happily felicitate with **ARC. OKEY EZEOBI** as he bagged the prestigious NUJ Award of "**Winner of 2025 Anambra Man of the Year**" after thorough session both online and offline by the Public and Members of the Nigerian Union of Journalist, NUJ, Anambra Council.

We at **MID-EAST CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED** are happy to identify with you on this laudable achievement and pledge to give the Anambra State Government our best services in the construction industry.

Congratulations our GM/CEO, Anambra Bureau of Public Procurement, BPP.

Long live Arc. Okey Ezeobi
Long live the Anambra State Government

(Sgd.)
Engr. Jaeque Afara
Managing Director

info@mideastnig.com www.mideastnig.com

ROADS HIGHWAYS BRIDGES DAMS DRAINAGE HOUSING COMPLEXES DESIGN CONSULTANCY WOODCRAFT & DECOR

MARCH 2025 CONGRESS COMMUNIQUE... CONTINUED

From Page 44

7. The Congress appealed to Anambra State Government to as a matter of urgency construct a pedestrian bridge at Regina Ceali junction Awka to avert accidents at that junction and ease the stress pedestrians go through while trying to cross the road.

8. Congress frowns at the overzealous acts of some members of the Agunechemba security outfit and urged the Governor Charles Chukwuma Soludo led administration to ensure human rights are not infringed on as the security outfit carries out it's duties.

9. The Congress requested the Independent National Electoral Commission, INEC to stop denying the constituents of Anambra South senatorial zone their rights and privileges since the demise of their Senator. Congress therefore asked INEC to announce a date to conduct the Anambra South Senatorial election for a replacement for the former senator representing the zone, late Senator Patrick Ifeanyi Ubah.

10. In the spirit of International Women's Day celebration, Congress commended Nigeria Association of women Journalists, Anambra State chapter led by Comrade Tochukwu Ifejika as Chairperson for projecting Anambra women achievers but advised women to be intentional and deliberate in uplifting other women and girls at every opportunity to ensure none is left behind.

11. Congress recognized the unwavering and unprecedented support and solidarity from the wife of the Anambra State Governor and Founder of Healthy Living with Nonye Soludo, Dr. Mrs. Nonye Soludo to her husband's efforts in turning Anambra to a healthy,lovable, liveable and prosperous state with her nutrition, hygiene, mental health care, reproductive health, physical fitness and emergency basic life support unprecedented successes in the last three years. Congress urged her to continue to empower Anambra women, girls , children and the weak with her healthy living activities particularly the healthy living with Nonye Soludo free cervical cancer screening treatment, free cleft lips and palates surgeries, Statewide free Rotavirus, Measles and Polio vaccination, Inauguration of 800 Healthy Living clubs in primary and secondary schools, and free distribution of 3.8 Million insecticide treated nets, among others.

12. Congress appreciated Hon Afam Ogene, member representing Ogbaru federal constituency for the solidarity he showed the union immediately after our election by hosting the Congress to a funfare in celebration of a hitch free election and as a mark of his continuous identifying with his professional members.

13. Congress announced that the 2025 press week of the NUJ shall be in August against the November usual date sequel to the 2025 Governorship election in Anambra billed for November,2025.

14. Congress commended the impressive all encompassing development focused driven leadership, the Acting Vice Chancellor of Nnamdi Azikiwe University Awka, Prof Joseph Ikechebelu is implementing at the university currently and urged him not to relent for the good of students and staff of the university, the state and the nation.

Communique Drafting Committee:

Comrade Uche Kalu
Comrade Joseph Egbeocha
Comrade Chizoba Njaka

E-Signed:
Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu, PhD
Chairman, NUJ Anambra State Council
08060750240

Comrade Okechukwu Onuegbu, PhD
Secretary, NUJ Anambra State Council
08061506936

Many people, the same opinion on Ezeobi ... Continued

From page 45

According to Mary Nwankwo "Arc. Okey Ezeobi is somebody that reaches out to help people without announcing to the world like many politicians or content creators do."
She went on to observe that"Arc. Ezeobi is the kind of person that believes in human capital development. He devotes resources in building people to become self-reliant." In her own words, "I am a beneficiary of his generous efforts to build young people. But I have not heard him mention that he helped anyone." I believe that even his immediate family members do not know most of the things he does for people," Mary Uju Nwankwo concluded.

For Rev Canon Ifeanyichukwu J. Ezekiel, who is the PG of Nanka, "Okey Ezeobi is a man of exceptional integrity. I think this expression best describes him. Very Humble, accommodating and focused on his assignment to Anambra State Government. Hon. Okey Ezeobi is a man so endeared to our people, the good people of Nanka. He deserves the award as he has won a place in the heart of humanity within his immediate space and beyond. Congratulations to Him for the honor.

Chief Arc. Uganeme Chukwuemeka (Nka n'uzu of Nanka), the CEO Solugans and associates engineering services Ltd, the national leader of Igbo bu ofu progressive association, has this to say about Arc Okey Ezeobi: "Hon. Arc. Okechukwu Ezeobi is one of the most honest rich young men in Umudala Village, Nanka. As a hardworking leader he has empathy, tolerance, kind heart, jovial spirit and fear of God. His lifestyle of integrity and accountability earned him a lot of respect both in his profession and society at large.He is transparent, flexible in dealing with his fellow human beings, and had single handedly repositioned our community to an economic hub via his numerous skillful contributions towards bettering lives of the poor"

According to Chief Chukwuemeka, "Choosing to give him an award will also pave ways for NUJ to gain from his intellectual capabilities. Before he came down to Anambra State to render services to humanity, he has been a very successful and a well known Architect in the Federal Republic of Nigeria. He owns Dwellings international Ltd an architectural/ luxurious furniture firm in Lagos Nigeria". For Prof. Poly Emenike, PhD, MON (Odenigbo Nanka) CEO Neros Pharmaceuticals Limited, " It gives me great pleasure to celebrate Hon. Arc. Okechukwu Innocent Ezeobi, a man whose works continue to speak volumes and open doors of honour.

In his words: "My first encounter with Arc Okey Ezeobi was through the impressive house project he executed for Dr. Anayo Edeimobi, the brother of our dearly beloved late Prof. Dora Akunyili. When we learned that the masterpiece was the work of an architect from Nanka, we set out to find him. That search led us to a man of exceptional talent and vision.

Chief Damian Okeke-Ogene, Vice President Ohanaeze Ndigbo World-wide

It didn't take long before he was brought home to Nanka, where he went on to design and construct the iconic NEROS Sports Stadium, a structure that has since stood as a symbol of excellence and innovation".
Odenigbo Nanka further remarked that "Hon. Okey Ezeobi is a man whose remarkable contributions are quietly impactful yet profoundly enduring. The Nigerian Union of Journalists, Anambra State Council, made a wise and worthy decision in recognizing him. His service as the Managing Director of the Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement, under the administration of His Excellency, Prof. Chukwuma Charles Soludo has further revealed his unwavering commitment, creativity, and integrity in public service. He is indeed a professional you discover not by noise but by the undeniable evidence of his work. I wholeheartedly congratulate Hon. Okey Ezeobi on this well-deserved honour and pray that God will continue to grant him wisdom, strength, and vision to keep excelling in service to our people.

Chief Peter Ebele Chinedu (ONWA NANKA) CEO, Chipet International Limited, also lent his voice in extolling the exceptional lifestyle of Hon Arc Okey Ezeobi: "This recognition bestowed upon Hon. Arc. Okechukwu Ezeobi is truly well-deserved. He is a man of practical intelligence, uncommon integrity, and commendable modesty. Rather than making noise, he allows his achievements to speak for him, earning the respect of many within and beyond his immediate community" .
According to him, Hon. Ezeobi's contributions to public service are remarkable. Through various roles, he has demonstrated competence, dedication, and a results-oriented approach to governance and development.

Contd on page 49

GOODWILL MESSAGE

From,

HON. ENGR.
IKECHUKWU OKAFOR
NUJ MOST INSPIRING YOUTH LEADER

I sincerely extend my gratitude to the Nigeria Union of Journalists Anambra State Council for this distinguished recognition.it is a privilege to be recognized by this respected and influential body whose work continues to shape public discourse and promote the Values of truth, integrity and professionalism. This award is truly inspiring and I receive it as a renewed call to serve with greater commitment and purpose.

The NUJ has over the years remained a pillar of truth, accountability and professional excellence on our society. Your work not only informs and educates but also strengthens the foundations of our democracy.

I Wish to specially acknowledge the distinguished dignitaries who have honoured this occasion with their presence .In particular, I extend my deepest respect to His Excellency, Prof Charles Chukwuma Soludo, The Executive Governor of Anambra state and Her Excellency, Dr Mrs. Nonye Soludo, whose leadership continues to inspire our People. I also recognize the esteemed members of government, traditional rulers, and all invited guests for gracing this celebration of excellence and service.

This award is truly inspiring and also a call to do more. I appreciate my family, friends, supporters and well-wishers who have supported me, I promise to keep building,and keep serving in excellence.

Dr. Omenugha's Profile... Continued

From Page 42

Policy Influence: Shaping the Future from the Frontlines
His journey includes impactful stints in public service. During his National Youth Service Corps (NYSC), Nelson served at the Nigerian Electricity. Regulatory Commission (NERC) in Abuja, where he contributed research and strategy inputs toward the unbundling of the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN) and the rollout of prepaid electricity meters. For this, he received a commendation letter for excellent service.

His subsequent appointments include Personal Assistant to the Hon. Commissioner for Education, Anambra State, where he facilitated policy engagement with national education bodies, and co-implemented the Education for Employment (E4E) initiative. He later served as Special Assistant (Research & Strategy) at the Awka Capital Territory Development Authority (ACTDA), contributing significantly to the State's urban renewal plan.

Nelson's strategic intellect was recognised again in 2019, when he was appointed into the Anambra State 50-Year Development Plan (Vision 2070) Committee. As Secretary of the Climate Change sub-theme, he co-authored visionary proposals to transform environmental liabilities into tourism assets, advocating for a clean, green, and resilient Anambra. In 2022, he was also a key contributor to the Anambra Gubernatorial Transition Committee, particularly within the Youth Development taskforce.

A Global Voice, A Local Heart
His achievements are not confined to Nigeria. On 13th January 2015, Nelson became the only Nigerian and African among ten finalists of the Unilever Europe Future Leaders League, a prestigious competition that gave him hands-on experience in sustainable business practices.

He has since engaged with several global platforms, including the UN ECOSOC Youth Forum (2022) and the World Bank Group Youth Summit in Washington, DC. At these summits, Nelson contributed to conversations around education (SDG4), gender equality (SDG5), environmental sustainability (SDG14 & SDG15), and global partnerships (SDG17).

Nelson has travelled to over 18 countries in pursuit of knowledge, global exposure, and youth advocacy, broadening his worldview and sharpening his capacity to lead.

Throughout his journey, Dr. Nelson Omenugha has embodied the qualities of a servant leader, always rooted in integrity, excellence, and service. His multifaceted contributions to academia, public policy, youth development, climate action, and social entrepreneurship continue to leave an indelible mark across institutions and communities.

Today, as Special Adviser to the Governor, he remains focused on building a robust pipeline of youth leaders, accelerating innovation, and turning challenges into opportunities for sustainable development in Anambra and beyond.

Nelson is not only a scholar and strategist but a symbol of hope for a new generation, proof that with passion, purpose, and integrity, young people can lead, serve, and transform the world.

Under his leadership, YESS has become a vibrant platform that channels youthful creativity, civic engagement, and progressive thinking.
Nelson also chairs Smartclick Consult Ltd, a socially responsible consultancy firm focused on the application of renewable energy technologies for smart, sustainable living. Through Smartclick, he spearheads solar energy innovations that directly address Nigeria's persistent power challenges, designing, installing, and maintaining transformative clean energy solutions, while also building capacity through training and education.

Many people, the same opinion on Ezeobi ... Continued

From page 48

Uju Mary Nwankwo

His works reflect a deep commitment to service, community upliftment, and impactful leadership.

Beyond his professional and public roles, he remains a generous philanthropist and a true lover of humanity. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to him on this exceptional honour and wish him continued strength of mind and body to carry on with his noble service to society.

Ken Okoli, Asatu Youths President who hails from Nanka expressed his joy on the nomination of Hon Arc Okey Ezeobi, as NUJ Man Of The Year Award, 2025. In his words " Okey deserves the award that's why I personally voted for him and even mobilized our people to also vote for him during the process. He loves his community, Nanka and has his people at heart. We love him and constantly support everything he does for community and humanity" .

Uche Nkeonye, a former youth leader in Nanka, also joined in commending NUJ for the choice of Hon Arc Okey Ezeobi as NUJ Man Of The Year, 2025. He describes Arc Okey Ezeobi as a man of the people and I strongly believe that Governor Soludo gave him the Bureau of Public Procurement appointment based on his impeccable track records.

Indeed, the NUJ Man of the Year 2025 is known in his hometown as a true son of the soil who has helped to empower many, yet unannounced!

No doubt his stellar achievements and selfless services to humanity earned him this prestigious award. May the blessings that follow givers never elude him! Congratulations, Hon Arc Okey Ezeobi.

Dr Joe Akabuike, Chief Medical Director, Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University Teaching Hospital, (COOU), Amaku, Awka South Local Government Area, Anambra State

Congratulations to

DR. NELSON OMENUGHA

GOODWILL MESSAGE

The leadership and members of Youths Earnestly Seek Solution (YESS) heartily felicitate with our Convener, Dr. Nelson Omenugha, on his well-deserved recognition as the NUJ Anambra Most Outstanding Youth Mentor of the Year.

This award is a resounding testament to his tireless commitment to youth empowerment, leadership development, and value-driven mentorship. His passion for nurturing the next generation of leaders continues to inspire us and reaffirm the belief that with vision, dedication, and integrity, our youths can shape a brighter future.

We at YESS are proud to be associated with his remarkable journey and service to humanity. May this honour propel him to even greater heights in his mission to transform lives and communities.

Congratulations, Mentor Extraordinaire!

YESS

YESS Anambra!

Signed
YESS Think Tank

ANAMBRA STATE OF NIGERIA
DUNUKOFIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT
Office: Local Government Secretariat
Along Enugu/Onitsha Expressway, P.O. Box 94, Ukpo, Anambra State.
Email: Dunukofia24@gmail.com

Our Ref: ..... Your Ref: ..... Date: .....

Dear Arch Okey Ezeobi,

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GM/CEO ANAMBRA BUREAU OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT ON YOUR WELL-DESERVED NUJ AWARD.

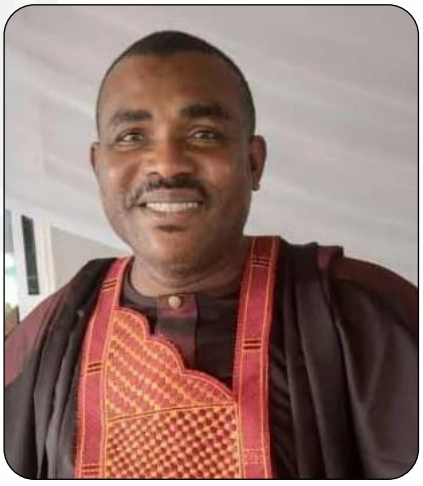
On behalf of my family, and entire good and homogeneous people of Dunukofia Local Government Area, I write to extend my heartfelt congratulations on your well-deserved prestigious recognition and award of the 2025 NUJ ANAMBRA MAN OF THE YEAR.

Your dedication and commitment to public service, hard work, and exceptional accomplishments have truly set you apart, and shall continue to earn you higher and giant recognitions.

This award is a testament to your commitment to excellence, and we are proud to celebrate this significant milestone with you. May this achievement inspire even greater success in all your future endeavors.

Congratulations and warm regards!

Mr. Chijioke .C. Ozumba Esq.
Mayor,
Dunukofia Local Government Council



COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE END OF THE JULY CONGRESS OF THE NIGERIA UNION OF JOURNALISTS (NUJ), ANAMBRA STATE COUNCIL, HELD AT THE GODWIN EZEEMO INTERNATIONAL PRESS CENTRE, NUJ SECRETARIAT COMPLEX, AWKA, ON THURSDAY 3RD JULY, 2025.

The Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Anambra State Council, held its monthly congress on 3rd of July, 2025, at the Godwin Ezeemo International Press Centre (NUJ Secretariat Complex), Awka, Anambra State, under the chairmanship of Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu, PhD,JP. Following robust deliberations on key issues affecting the union, the state, and the nation at large, the following resolutions were reached:

1 Congress observed that the number of candidates and political parties showing interest in the November 2025 governorship election in Anambra State is a good opportunity for voters to benefit from the multiple alternatives obtained in any multi-party democracy. The robustness of the ongoing electoral debate was once more in display as the congress interacted with the All Progressives Congress (APC) candidate, Prince Nicholas Ukachukwu, represented by Chief Dozie Ikedife Jnr, the APC South East Organizing Secretary.

2. Congress emphasized the need for members to prioritize attendance to the Union's monthly meeting, as being present at meetings is key to their active membership and entitlement to certain privileges which membership affords.

3. Congress advised younger journalists to cultivate the habit of regular reporting and writing in order to horn their craft and attain excellence. It emphasized the need for self-respect and professionalism among journalists, urging members to maintain a high level of modesty and conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on the profession.

4. Congress extended condolences to the Chairman of the NUJ Anambra State Council, Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu, PhD, JP, for the passing away of his father, late Chief Samuel Agunwa Odogwu, and observed a minute silence in honour of a former colleague, late Comrade Paulson Okeke.

5. Congress registered its displeasure at the attitude of some contractors doing shabby jobs in the State in the face of scarce availability of resources, warning that such conduct sabotages efforts to build a better society. It calls for a stop to such unpatriotic acts, emphasizing the need for government supervisors and evaluation teams to desist from conniving with greedy contractors to execute poor quality jobs on public infrastructure and utilities.

6. Congress appealed to the Government of Anambra State to immediately intervene in the persistent flooding at Ngozika Estate as millions of naira worth of property is currently submerged in water. It frowned at the improper channeling of flood water in some roads which exposes residents to more harm, calling for measures to redeem the anomaly.

7. Congress re-affirmed the time-honoured responsibility of journalists to act as the society's watchdog in their role as the Fourth Estate of the Realm which obliges them to hold the three arms of the government accountable for a better society.

8. Congress approved that the Union should take stock of the conditions of roads done by the administration of Governor Charles Chukwuma Soludo in the last three and a half years as well as document a list of contractors used by the government to allow for effective monitoring of accountability and compliance with standards.

9. Congress commended the Anambra State Government led by Prof Charles Chukwuma Soludo and its agency, Awka Capital Territory Development Authority (ACTDA) led by Chief Osita Onuko, Ife Igbo for their efforts in giving Awka a befitting capital and ridding the streets of the capital city of hawkers and beggars, urging for sustenance of the measures.

10. Congress expressed excitement about the transformation of Ekwulobia town by the Soludo-led government in three years, thus giving the people something to smile about once more following the earlier displacement of homes and businesses that was necessary to make way for the infrastructure development.

11. Congress urged for downward review of fees payable for accessing the facilities in the Fun City, observing that the current prizes are quite high and out of reach of many low and middle income families.

12. Congress appreciated the Special Adviser to Governor Soludo on Youth Empowerment Programmes, Comrade (Dr.) Nelson Obinna Omenugha, for his donation of a brand new sound system to the Union for its meetings. It further appealed to all others who pledged one thing or the other to the Union to kindly redeem them.

NUJ Chairman with Hon. Jude Akpua (Member Anambra State House of Assembly) and others

DATUM

GOODWILL MESSAGE

We join the Nigeria Union of Journalists, Anambra State Council, in celebrating Arch. Okey Ezeobi on his well-deserved recognition as the 2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year.

Your visionary leadership and outstanding contributions to public procurement and governance continue to inspire excellence and accountability. This award is a reflection of your integrity, dedication, and positive impact on society.

We wish you greater success in your future endeavors and continued service to humanity.

Congratulations!
Datum Construction Nig. Ltd

ONE YEAR OF ODOGWU'S IMPACTFUL LEADERSHIP

It is almost one year since Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu returnedas second term Chairman, NUJ Anambra State Council. He has recorded some remarkable feats as captured in this piece

By Ukpa Ewa

As Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu, PhD marks one year in office as the second term Chairman of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Anambra State Council, his leadership stands out as a clear testament to transformation, vision and inclusivity.

Elected for the first term, January 2021 and re-elected for a second term in January 2025, Dr. Odogwu has redefined unionism in Anambra through active engagement, transparency and a deep commitment to the welfare of Journalists and other media workers in the state.

His administration has continued to breathe new air into the Council, ensuring that the Union is not just functional but flourishing.

A NEW DAWN FOR UNIONISM

Dr. Odogwu came into office with a clear mission: to restore unity, empower Journalists and build a structure that reflects the dignity of the profession. In the past four years, he has made significant strides.

One of the most defining moments of his leadership was his intervention when the state government shut down the National Light Newspaper. His negotiation skills and strong leadership ensured that the affected Journalists were absorbed into various state ministries, an act that reflected both the strength and value of the Union under his watch.

WELFARE AND ENGAGEMENT AT THE CORE

True leadership is measured by how it touches lives and Odogwu's leadership has consistently prioritized members' welfare. Whether it is celebrating achievements or standing with bereaved members, his presence is constant. He revived the culture of regular monthly congresses, each marked with high attendance, member engagement and incentives that keep morale high.

He has ensured regular and improved remuneration for the Union's staff, an issue that had long been a source of dissatisfaction. Salaries of secretariat Staff were increased three times and paid consistently and working conditions have improved significantly.

Photo News: Governor Charles Chukwuma Soludo of Anambra State with Labour leaders during the 2025 Workers Day celebration at Alex Ekwueme Square,Awka
Chairman of NLC, Comrade Humphrey Emeka Nwafor right and chairman of NUJ Anambra State Council, Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu PhD left among others

INFRASTRUCTURE AND INSTITUTIONAL GROWTH

Under his leadership, NUJ Anambra Secretariat has undergone critical transformations. While the Council had been grappling with infrastructural neglect, Dr. Odogwu has steadily pushed for upgrades. One of the major legacies associated with him is facilitating the Godwin Ezeemo International Press Centre, an iconic structure he helped to attract through his influence and network even before becoming the Chairman of the Council. He has steadily improved on the structure like drilling a borehole, perfecting the sewage system, overhead tank and reticulation of the water in the compound as well as fixing the stair case rails among others. He is focusing on attracting investors to help the Union fence for the compound, renovate the building, among others.

Contd on Page 58

CONGRATULATORY & GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM ANAMBRA PATROITS FOR SOLUDO (APS) ORN &S LGA CHAPTERS TO OUR CONVENER, ARC OKEY EZEOBI.

APS Orumba North & South LGA Chapters and APS Stakeholders heartily extend our warmest Congratulations to our esteemed Convener, Arc. Okey Ezeobi, GM/CEO ANAMBRA BPP, on his being honored by NUJ ANAMBRA STATE COUNCIL with the prestigious award of the "2025 PLATINUM NUJ ANAMBRA MAN OF THE YEAR" AT THE ICC AWKA ON AUGUST 28TH, 2025".

Sir, it is indeed a well-deserved honor, recognition, and a testament to your tireless efforts, dedications, and commitments to excellence. Your contributions have undoubtedly made a lasting impact, and we're thrilled to see your hard work acknowledged.

Excellently, we're honored to celebrate your achievements and look forward to your continued leadership and service. This recognition serves as an inspiration to us all, and we're proud to have you as a part of our community.

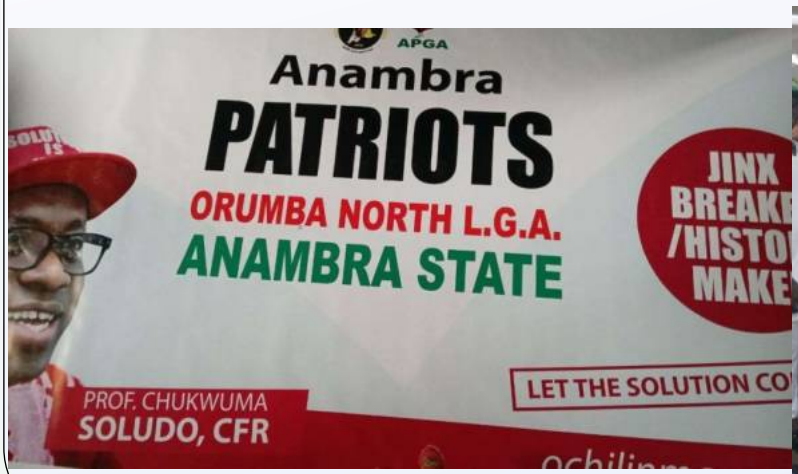
We wish you the best as you receive this esteemed honor and look forward to your continued success and triumph in all your lives endeavors.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

ANAMBRA PATRIOTS FOR SOLUDO (APS ×3)
OCHIRIMMA GA ACHI OZO.

Signed:

1. Hon. Christian Onwuamaeze, Coordinator Orumba North LG APS, and
2. Mr. Solomon Nkwoemezie, Coordinator Orumba South LG APS.
   (For and on behalf of APS Orumba North & South LGAs)



NZE BASIL E OSUOKWU
FOUNDATION
(Education-Scholarship, Health, Youth and Widows/Women Empowerment)

TRUSTEES:

Nze Bazil E. Osuokwu
(Founder)

Chief Jude Osude
(Chairman BOT)

Prof. PVC Oloye
(Secretary BOT)

Ichie Ezechikwado IK Muo PhD
(Member)

Engr Onuora Nnabugwu
(Member)

Nono Nkechi A. Osuokwo
(Proprietress)

Comrade Cletus Udoye
(Project Co-ordinator)

Celebrating 20 years of touching lives

FelicitationsTo Arch Okey Ezeobi, 2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year

The founder, Nze Basil Elochukwu (Ezeomennyiliora) and Nono Nkechi, Osuokwu, and their family, together with the Board, Management and beneficiaries of Nze Basil E Osuokwu Foundation felicitate with Arch Okey Ezeobi, General Manager & Chief Executive Officer of Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement on his well-deserved emergence as the ***2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year***. The award which comes up on August 28, 2025 under the auspices of Nigerian Union of Journalists, Anambra State Council, is an outcome of a painstaking online and offline selection process, involving the general public and members of Anambra State NUJ.

As we congratulate you on this award, we also urge you not to relent in your efforts lay a solid foundation for a sustainable procurement process in Anambra State.

Congratulations and God bless

Motto: KNOWLEDGE IS WEALTH & POWER

Address: St Michael's Catholic Church, Ihowelle Village, Ngo Igbo-Ukwu, Aguata L.G.A Anambra State-Nigeria. **Tel:** +234 803 327 0824
E-mail: nzebasileosuokwu@yahoo.com, **Website:** www.nzebasileosukwufoundation.org

ODOGWU'S ONE YEAR OF IMPACTFUL LEADERSHIP... CONTINUED

From Page 55

As he journeys into his second term, expectations are high for the completion of a befitting secretariat, including fencing, landscaping and general upgrades to match the growing prestige of the Council. That is a tall order, but trusting God as always something shall happen soonest.

A VOICE BEYOND THE WALLS

Odogwu has not only focused on internal affairs. His diplomacy and partnerships with public and private stakeholders have raised the visibility and relevance of the union. Today, NUJ Anambra Council is recognized not only across the country but across the world for its vibrancy, arguably the most active Council in Nigeria. His administration is engaging in training journalists, promoting media literacy, sensitizing reporters on ethical practices and encouraging professionalism in news reporting.

THE MAN BEHIND THE OFFICE

More than a Union leader, Dr. Odogwu is a crusader, teacher, mentor, passionate media practitioner, and a field Marshal when it comes to News hunting and reporting. Described by colleagues as a "goal-getter," "a man of the people," and "a leader of quintessential quality," his personality is rooted in humility, integrity, and a deep understanding of the role Journalists play as society's watchdogs.

Odogwu is kindhearted, humane and unassuming. Yet, he is a misunderstood personality. People afraid of his guts and successes always mobilize against his interests like those witnessed during his elections and leadership, yet God always being with him, he triumphs.

For those who once doubted his capacity, many have had cause to rethink their positions acknowledging not just his results but the consistency with which he delivers them.

There has been gang up against his administration to pull it down even by people his administration has helped. Some journalists have traveled across four coastal countries for tour and training under Odogwu's led administration.

LOOKING FORWARD

As he steps into the second year of his second term, there is a collective call for unity among members and renewed support for his administration. There are challenges ahead, but with the same tenacity and passion that have marked his first term in office and in the last one year, many believe the best is yet to come.

Dr. Odogwu Emeka Odogwu has proven that when leadership meets vision, the results are transformational. NUJ Anambra State Council today is stronger, more respected, and more united , thanks to his dedication.

May his next two years in office continue to elevate the Union and Journalism profession in Anambra State and beyond.

Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu, PhD, JP, Odogwu Amanuke Ji Di Ebube, Ebube Awka-North, an award winning journalist is the man to watch. May his days be long to continue to serve humanity in all ramifications.

Ewa is of the ministry of Information Chapel of the NUJ Anambra State Council and the Personal Assistant to the NUJ Anambra State Council Chairman.

NUJ Chairman

NUJ Chairman with Dr. Nonye Soludo and other members of the Union after a function

Congratulatory Message

I, **Engr. Anayochukwu Charles Orjiako** *MNSChE*,
The Executive Chairman of Ihiala Local Government Council,
on behalf of my family and the entire good people of Ihiala local
government area of Anambra State

Felicitate

ARCH.
OKEY EZEOBI
GM/CEO, ANSBPP

on his meritorious emergence as

THE 2025 ANAMBRA MAN OF THE YEAR

Congratulations!

Signed:

Hon. Engr. Anayochukwu Charles Orjiako *MNSChE*
Ihiala LG Secretariat, Ihiala, Anambra State, Nigeria

ANAMBRA STATE GOVERNMENT
IDEMILI SOUTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Onye Nkem,
Arc Okey Ezeobi (fnic)
Nwachinemelu N' Umudala

GM/CEO
Anambra State Bureau of Public
Procurement Awka

Congratulations

A TRANSFORMATIONAL, VISIONARY LEADER WITH STRONG COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

I bring you Solution Congratulatory Greetings on your award by the Nigerian Union of Journalists (NUJ) Anambra State council as "The 2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year".

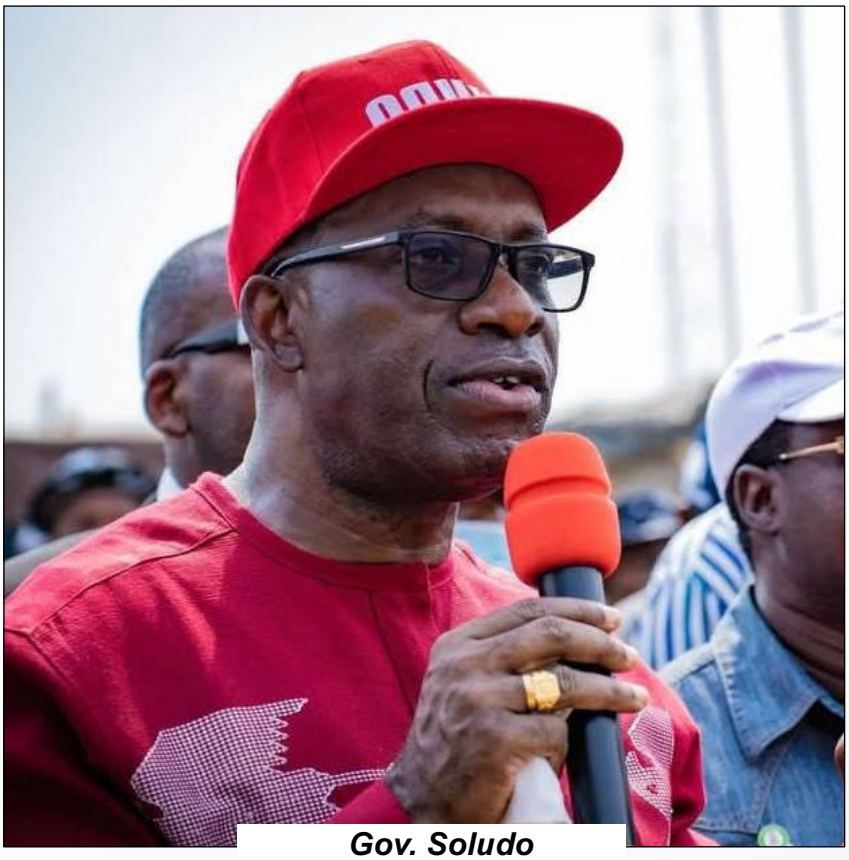
Your transformational contributions to governance and public sector reforms in Anambra State anchored on integrity, professionalism, due process, transparency and accountability has earned you this meritorious award

This amazing accomplishment is just one step to a more greater heights. I am personally super proud of you Sir. Congratulations!

HON. MRS. AMAKA OBI
IYOM, IFE-ABATA IDEMILI
MAYOR IDEMILI SOUTH L.G.A

How Gov. Soludo Funds His Transformational Projects...Arc Okey Ezeobi

After his overwhelming victory as the NUJ Anambra State Council's Man of the Year, Architect Okey Ezeobi, the GM/CEO, Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement hosted a team of journalists from the state council, led by Odogwu Emeka Odogwu, NUJ Anambra State Chairman, for an in-depth interview in the Architect's office, at Government House, Awka. In the interview, Arc Ezeobi spoke about his growing up, building his private business, giving back to society, his involvement in government and his thoughts on Governor Chukwuma Soludo's government. "I'm a man helped by God," he says, and when you hear his story, you won't doubt it for a second.



Gov. Soludo

By Emeka Chiaghana

Q: How did you emerge as the GM/MD of the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP)?

Okey Ezeobi: My appointment was quite unusual, almost surreal. I was driving from one project site to another in Abia State, where I was constructing a 100-bed hospital, when I received a call. The voice on the other end asked for my CV. Initially, I was puzzled. As an employer of labour and a consultant architect, I wasn't actively looking for employment. But the caller was persistent, phoning me four or five times while I was still en route between Isi-Alangwa and Enugu.

Since I was driving, I called and told my wife what was happening and asked her to prepare and send my CV. Without even reviewing it, I forwarded it to the caller. Weeks later, I reached out to ask if they were recruiting a professional architect of Anambra origin, as I am a Fellow of the Nigerian Institute of Architects.

To my surprise, the caller congratulated me: that then-Governor Willie Obiano had appointed me as a Special Adviser. I waob. My reaction was lukewarm, I evens stunned. I hadn't applied for any j told my wife that these politicians were probably just looking for attention.

The next day at work in Lagos, the same caller phoned again: "Okey, where are you? The Governor has been trying to reach you." I explained that I didn't have the Governor's number. The caller insisted I come down to Anambra. My wife persuaded me to honour the invitation, saying that any governor who appoints someone he doesn't know must genuinely mean well.

I attended the EXCO retreat in Awka organised by the state government, planning only to thank Governor Obiano and return to Lagos that same day. I sat by the door, a stranger in the hall, waiting for a chance to say thank you and leave. But the retreat captivated me.

Speakers like Prof. Chukwuma Soludo, former acting chairman of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC, Ibrahim Magu and Fela Durotoye spoke. Their words resonated well with me. I postponed my return flight. That day, I saw a different kind of political leadership. It changed me and my perception of political positions. That's how I accepted Governor Obiano's appointment.

After my tenure with Governor Obiano, I returned to Lagos. Then, one day, I received a call from Professor Chukwuma Soludo. He had become Governor and wanted me to head the BPP. I told him, frankly, I wasn't interested. I preferred my private life. I left his house thinking that was the end of it.

Contd on page 61

Soludo's Transformational Projects...Arc. Okey Ezeobi

From page 61

Soon, calls started pouring in. From prominent people in my community. From elders. Prominent figure like Chief Damian Okeke-Ogene, the Mbuze of Nanka, went as far as saying that turning down such a position was unthinkable, jokingly adding that Nanka people will bury me alive for rejecting such a privilege to serve the state. Even a woman I have never met called and said in our Nanka dialect, "We know God has blessed you, but our poor need you. Go because of us." That call struck a deep chord. I discussed it with my wife, and she said maybe it was God's will. I called Governor Soludo back and apologized. He was pleased I had reconsidered. Days later, my appointment was announced.

Q: Any regrets about taking the job?

Okey Ezeobi: None whatsoever. This is the best political job in the world, and it's because I work for a rare leader. Governor Soludo never interferes. In three years, he's never called to ask me to award a job to anyone. Not once. Every contract in Anambra is usually through a competitive bidding, and we always secure the best value.

Under this administration, Anambra became the first state to win a $2.5 million grant from the World Bank for transparent procurement practices. We've saved billions. That's how Governor Soludo funds his transformational projects. No contract padding. No political pressure. Just transparency and results.

In just three years, he has completed over 500 kilometers of roads. He initiated the first-ever road dualization in the state, spanning over 70 kilometers. His results dwarf the combined efforts of the last three administrations. That's the kind of leadership I'm proud to serve under.

Q: What changes have you introduced to the BPP, especially regarding transparency and accountability?

Okey Ezeobi: Everything we do is online. Every project, every price. We encourage the public to scrutinize us. For instance, when we awarded a solar streetlight contract in Awka, people questioned the pricing. I told them: if you can do it cheaper, it's open. No one came forward. That's transparency.

Q: Can you highlight key reforms and milestones at the BPP under your leadership?

Okey Ezeobi: One case stands out. A man won a borehole project purely on merit. He didn't believe it was real. He thought it was a scam. It took several calls before he accepted the offer. That's the new Anambra. No lobbying. No bribery. Just qualification and merit.

We've also become a continental model. The World Bank asked Liberia and Gambia to study Anambra's procurement system as a template while setting up their own institutions. That's not just a win for us; it's a win for Africa.

Q: Public procurement is key to good governance. What challenges have you faced enforcing due process?

Okey Ezeobi: Documentation. Many qualified contractors are excellent in execution but lack proper tax records. We insist on compliance. You can't access taxpayers' money if you don't pay tax. It's non-negotiable.

Another issue is bid pricing. We don't award contracts to the cheapest bidder, but to the most responsive. For example, if cement is selling for ₦9,000 and someone quotes ₦7,000, we know they're likely to come back for variations. We factor in taxes, overheads, and profit margins. Contractors now understand we want realistic pricing. That's why there are no abandoned projects in Anambra. We pay promptly. No contractor is owed. Ask around.

Contd on page 70

HON. THANKGOD CHIBUIKE ANAGO

Mayor, Awka North Local Government Area

Ongoing construction of Ultra-modern Oye market in Urum

Reticulation of pipe-born water at the Council headquarters

Construction of Circa bypass road
connecting Enugu-Awka Express road with old Awka-Enugu road
Amaowelle Village, Amansea

Construction of Irunebo Ezi-Okpokikolo road, with spur to
Holy Cashew Junction, Amaezike Village, Mgbakwu
Awka North Local Government Area

Renovation of Central Primary School, Mgbakwu

Renovation of Aborgu Community Primary School, Mgbakwu

Installation of Solar Street Lights at Mgbakwu

Free medical Outreach in Awka-North

Distribution of Writing Materials to Schools
Across Awka-Niorth LGA

Installation of solar powered street Lights
at strategic locations at the Council headquarters

PROJECTS EXECUTED BY
HON. THANKGOD CHIBUIKE ANAGO (Mayor, Awka North LGA)

Better Awka North

ALL PROGRESSIVES GRAND ALLIANCE

APGA

Motto: **Be Your Brother's and Sister's Keeper**
Anambra State Headquarter: Read 2 House 1, Abuja Estate, Opps. Govt. House, Awka
E-mail: anambraapga@gmail.com

AWKA NORTH

7th August, 2025

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO THE CAPACITY MAYOR OF AWKA NORTH!

The leadership of the All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA) in Awka North, together with the good people of our dear LGA, heartily felicitates and celebrates our revered Mayor, Hon. ThankGod Chibuike Anago, PhD, fondly known as "Okenwa Aborgu" and "Onye Olu Obodo Awka North", on his well-deserved emergence as the 2025 NUJ Anambra Most Outstanding Mayor of the Year.

This is not just a personal achievement but a collective victory for the entire people of Awka North. We are immensely grateful to the Almighty God for this great honor bestowed upon our Mayor.

This award stands as a solid testament to the visionary, dynamic, and people-oriented leadership style of Hon. Anago — a man whose legacy of excellence dates back to his tenure as the Best SUG President of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka. He has consistently demonstrated sagacity, humility, and proactive leadership in all spheres, most especially in the continuous transformation of Awka North.

The leadership of APGA in Awka North is proud of this milestone. We remain unwavering in our support for you and your administration, as you steadily lead our people towards progress and prosperity.

Our heartfelt prayer is that God will continue to strengthen and uplift you. May your reign bring greater glory to our land, and may the sky be your starting point!

As a party, we say: Your reward for great work... is more work!

CONGRATULATIONS!
CONGRATULATIONS!!
CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Signed:

Hon. James Onwuka
LG Party Chairman
0806 442 0804

Chief Amaechi C. Obiesili
LG Party Secretary
0803 686 2389

OMASI COMMUNITY EXISTS IN ANAMBRA TODAY BECAUSE OF ME ---IGWE BENJAMIN ONUKWUBE OKEJI

By Njide Ezeonyejiaku

Igwe Omasi shares thoughts with the NUJ Chairman, Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu, and NUJ WatchDog Magazine Editor-in-Chief, Obiorah Edogor and the Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Njideka Ezeonyejiaku. The traditional ruler speaks tough on diverse issues of public importance and matters concerning his people of Anambra North Senatorial Zone in particular. Read through as we navigate his numerous contributions to the growth and development of Omasi, Ayamelum Local Government Area, Anambra North Senatorial Zone, and Anambra State in general.

HRM, Igwe Benjamin Onukwube Okeji of Omasi has paid his dues as a community leader, having served his people in various capacities, such as the former Chairman, Ayamelum Traditional Rulers Council; former Secretary, Anambra North Traditional Rulers Council; Deputy Chairman, Anambra North Traditional Rulers Council, and currently doubles as Chairman, Anambra North Traditional Rulers Council as well as Deputy Chairman, Anambra State Traditional Rulers Council.
Excerpts:

What would you say are the major developmental strides you have attracted to your community since your ascension to the throne of Omasi Kingdom?

Since the inception of my reign in Omasi more than 24 years ago, there has been remarkable progress in my community, Omasi in Ayamelum Local Government Area. Before my ascension to the throne of Omasi, we had no tarred road, and no electricity, but all that has changed. Nbody from the community had ever vied for Governorship of the State nor been the Secretary to the State Government, SSG, but we have witnessed all that under my reign.

So, under my watch as the Traditional Ruler of Omasi, someone from the town has become the Chairman, Eleme Petrochemicals, a Subsidiary of the NNPC. We used to have a few university graduates in Omasi. Today, we now have hundreds of university graduates from the community.

Before I became Igwe, we had just one storey building in Omasi. Now we have a countless number of upstairs in my community. We had no parish before I came on board. Now we have two parishes, namely, St. Andrew's Catholic Church and St. Paul's Catholic Church Omasi. Mr. Paul Odenigbo, the former SSG, Anambra State single-handedly built St. Paul's Parish Church for our people. I got a friend of mine, known as Udo Jesus from Amichi to build the Anglican Church in Omasi. I also took him to Umueje to build another church from foundation to its completion.

Contd on Page 66

Igwe Omasi interview continued

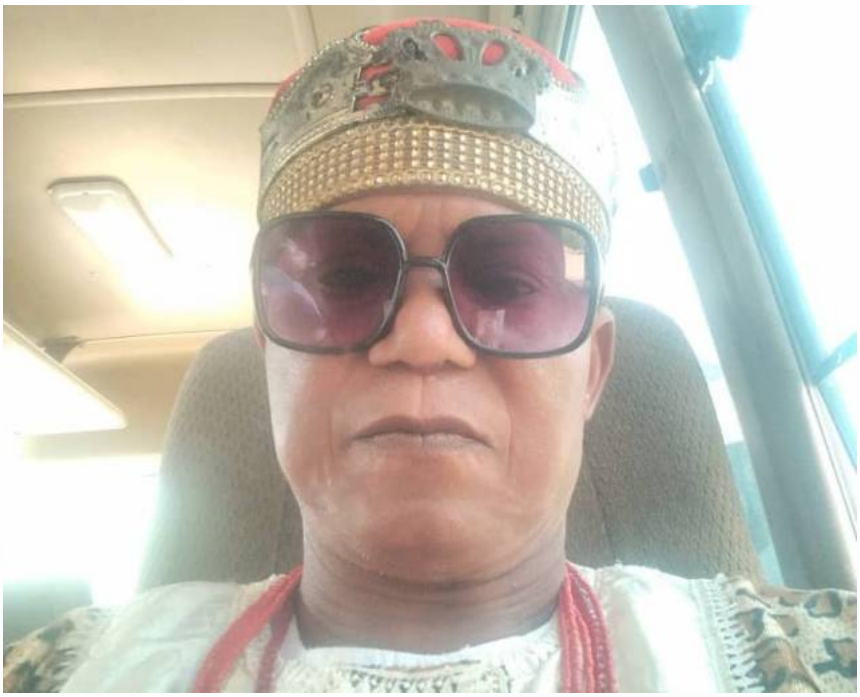
From Page 65

Igwe, you have indeed shown that you are devoted to the church, yet deeply rooted in tradition and culture. What gave you such a unique background?

I am close to God. When I was young, I lived with Mr. Lawrence Okeji, the Head of the Christian community in Omasi. He introduced me to the Christian faith at an early age. I was the President of the Junior Presidium of Legion of Mary in Omasi; member, St. Anthony of Padua Society; member, St. Jude Thaddeus Society; a chorister and a Choir Master from 1972. So, I am a devoted Catholic. But you know, a destiny child begins to manifest the traits from early childhood. There is no prominent man in Omasi that I did not serve. I was like a general servant to all. I derive joy in helping and serving people.

In terms of Igbo culture and traditions, I will say that God endowed me with that knowledge. I indulge in every good aspect of Igbo culture. Remember, the church is not against the culture and traditions of Ndigbo. All the Church is against is evil practices, such as killing of twins and selling of human beings as slaves. Such things are no longer obtainable, thanks to Christianity.

Before I became Igwe, we had just one storey building in Omasi. Now we have a countless number of upstairs in my community. We had no parish before I came on board. Now we have two parishes, namely, St. Andrew's Catholic Church and St. Paul's Catholic Church Omasi. Mr. Paul Odenigbo, the former SSG, Anambra State single-handedly built St. Paul's Parish Church for our people. I got a friend of mine, known as Udo Jesus from Amichi to build the Anglican Church in Omasi. I also took him to Umueje to build another church from foundation to its completion.



Igwe, you stated that you had been the chairman of Ayamelum Traditional Rulers Council. Tell us how you assisted the Council Area to ensure that the warring communities in the area were at peace?

I started when we were in Uzo Uwani LGA, in the old Anambra State. Then, we were 8 communities in Ayamelum and 8 communities from old Anambra formed Oyi LGA. So we came back from Uzo Uwani to form Oyi LGA. While in Oyi, I was a member of the movement for the creation of Ayamelum LGA, though I was still very young. Our chairman then was Prof. Gabriel Atuanya from Nando, while Justice P. A. C. Obidigwe (former Chief Judge of Anambra State) was the secretary, and the financier was Paul Odenigbo. I have been part of the overall peace and development of Ayamelum till date.

Now in Anambra North Senatorial Zone where you have also served in different capacities, how have you facilitated development in the zone?

Since I became Igwe Omasi, I have always been involved in everything happening in the zone. You know our people are warriors. Anywhere crisis erupts, I join in peace missions. When Aguleri people killed ....Ayekans..... when Orient Petroleum was established, I was instrumental to the peace mission with Igwe Alex Edozieuno of blessed memory. All my life, I try to bring peace to warring groups. For example, between Omor and Umumbo; Omor and Igbakwu; Ifite Ogwari and Omasi, to mention but a few.

I have been a progressive championing peace movements all my life. On the 19th of April, 2025, the Crown College of Nigeria Bishops awarded me a Professorship on Mission Development (Honouris Causa).

So, what can the people of Omasi specifically count as what they have gained from your leadership?

I will start by telling you that my people are still living in Omasi today is, largely because of me.

Contd on Page 74

ANAMBRA STATE PEOPLE
IN ENUGU (ASPE)

Motto: Light of the Nation

Tel: 08033398053, 07039842880

Our Ref:..... Your Ref:..... Date: 8th July 2025

Amb, Chief, Patroness,

Chaplain, Bishop, HRH, Princess,

Dr Jessie Ifeoma Menuba (nee Oliobi)

RE WINNER OF 2025 NUJ ANAMBRA PHILANTHROPIST OF THE 21ST CENTURY AWARD.

We, the people of Anambra State citizens resident in Enugu, under the umbrella body of Anambra State People In Enugu (ASPE), heartily felicitate with you, our Patroness; Amb, Chief, Patroness, Chaplain, Bishop, HRH, Princess, Dr. Jessie Ifeoma Menuba (nee Oliobi) on winning the 2025 NUJ Anambra Philanthropist of the 21st century Award.

This award is a clear testament of your numerous selfless services, philanthropy, and dedication in championing the cause for the poor and less privileged in our society.

Indeed, ASPE is proud of you.

High Chief Peter Adimorah,
President.

Comr. Eugene Nwachukwu,
Secretary.

MY VISION IS TO BUILD EDUCATIONAL HUBS, EMPOWERMENT CENTRES ACROSS CONTINENTS... DR. MENUBA

Ambassador, Dr. Jessie Ifeoma Udoka Menuba (née Oliobi) is a consultant, international businesswoman, a philanthropist and Nigeria Union of Journalists 2025 Philanthropist of the Century Awardee. She is a long-standing advocate for grassroots development and an accomplished scholar with multiple Ph.D's and a dual degree.

By Favour Edeh

Dr. Udoka is also the founder and CEO of Queentovah Unlimited Solutions Inc, Queentovah Helping Services, Queentovah Cares Foundation, Queentovah Finest Jewelries, and Queentovah Limited Solutions.

In this interview with the WatchDog Magazine crew, the internationally recognised Philanthropist bares her mind on what sparked her desire to float many foundations across the world. Excerpt:

Can you briefly share your journey into philanthropy?

My journey into philanthropy was born out of deep conviction to give back and uplift the less privileged. Growing up, I witnessed inequalities and hardship that stirred something in me . As I progressed in my career and settled in America, I realized that true fulfillment comes not from success alone but from using one's success to elevate others. My desire to give back grew stronger.

At what stage did you realize you had to start a foundation, and what sparked your passion to float many foundations across the world?

The realization came after years of informal giving. I was constantly approached by people needing help—young people, single mothers, struggling families, widows, and widowers. At one point, I asked myself, "What if there's a structured way to scale this impact?" That's when I formalised my efforts and launched my first foundation. The passion was sparked by seeing how even small interventions could transform lives. That joy pushed me to expand globally.

What inspired you to focus on youth employment and family empowerment as a core mission of your foundation?

Youth represent the future, and families are the bedrock of any society. I noticed that unemployment and unstable family structures were among the biggest causes of poverty and social decline. By focusing on youth employment and empowering families, we are tackling issues at their root, equipping people to rise above dependence and create sustainable change.

Are the resources from your businesses or from charity organizations across the world? And have these efforts paid off? What impact have you seen so far?

Primarily, the funding comes from my family's wealth and businesses. My children and I have always reinvested a part of our profits into social work. We have never asked or accepted any donations or charitable funding from anyone except family members.

Our results have been overwhelmingly positive. Thousands of families supported, youths gainfully employed, and many communities transformed.

What personal values drive your charity to the extent of supplying 800 bags of rice at intervals, among other empowerments?

Compassion, accountability, God, and my faith are my guiding principles. I believe that when you are in a position to help, it becomes a moral duty. The decision to supply food and other resources is not just about charity but about dignity, ensuring no one sleeps hungry under my watch.

Many philanthropists faced hunger and deprivation at their earliest stages. Was this your case? Let's hear your story.

Absolutely. I know what it means to lack. In my early days, I faced many struggles, financial limitations, gender bias, and even skepticism about my dreams. But those trials taught me resilience. I worked multiple jobs, studied tirelessly, and held on to my faith. That experience has made me empathetic and grounded, and it fuels my drive to help others.

Contd on Page 77

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Congratulations

HON. DR.

THANKGOD CHIBUIKE ANAGO

Congratulations on your well -deserved award !! your hard work and dedication have truly paid off, and I couldn't be happier for you.

CHIEF GEOFFREY UDEH

NNABUENYI O F ISUANIOCHA,AWKA NORTH L.G.A. ANAMBRA STATE.

HACO MODERN ENTERPRISES
DEALING ON INDUSTRIAL MATERIALS SUCH AS BEAM,ANGLE, U CHANNEL, PLATE, IRON ROD AND PIPE E.T.C.
HEAD OFFICE: 745B, OPPOSITE ZENITH BANK BRIDGE HEAD MARKET ONITSHA.
BRANCH OFFICE : KILOMETER 235 DSD ROUND ABOUT WARRI,DELTA STATE.
CONTACT NUMBER:08037768322, 07019933966

CONGRATULATIONS TO HON. (DR) THANKGOD CHIBUIKEM ANAGO (OKENWA ABOGU)

It is with great joy and pride that I, Hon. Mrs Scholastica Onwugbufor, Deputy Mayor of Awka-North LGA, extend my warmest congratulations to Hon. (Dr) ThankGod Chibuikem Anago (Okenwa Abogu) on receiving the Award for Outstanding Performing Local Government Chairman in Anambra State, presented by the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Anambra State Council.

This honor is not merely a title, it is a testament to your unparalleled performance, a record second to none in the history of our State, and indeed Nigeria. You have far exceeded the expectations of Ndi Awka-North and Anambra State at large. The endorsement by over 1,000 members of the NUJ Council is proof that your dedication and commitment have changed the narrative of leadership in Awka-North.

You are a leader who truly cares for the welfare of your people, a captain who steers with compassion, and a servant-leader whose works will be remembered for generations. Your achievements inspire hope and pride in all of us.

Once again, congratulations, Okenwa Abogu, the pride of Awka-North!

Signed

Hon. Mrs Scholastica Onwugbufor
Deputy Mayor, Awka-North LGA

Soludo's Transformational Projects...Arc. Okey Ezeobi

From page 62

Q: Governor Soludo envisions Anambra as a smart, livable, prosperous homeland. What gives you the most hope?

Okey Ezeobi: Let me give you a real example. An Anambra indigene living in Port Harcourt recently came home and was shocked. He traveled from Uga to Ekwulobia and didn't even realize it, because the roads were that smooth. In just three years, communities that were once isolated are now connected. The Amawbia-Ekwulobia dual carriageway, Agulu-Okija road, and access from Awka to Umunze now take a fraction of the time.

This progress gives me hope. If this is what we can achieve in three years, imagine what Anambra will look like in eight.

Q: How would you assess the level of cooperation your bureau receives from other MDAs in achieving Governor Soludo's vision for Anambra?

Okey Ezeobi: Let me use this analogy: Jesus once said, "I only do what I see my father do." In the same way, every organization or state functions in alignment with its leader. Governor Soludo sets the standard. If you can't keep pace with his vision, you'll naturally fall behind. Every MDA has had to rise to the challenge, sharpen its processes, and align with the Governor's policies. That's the only way he wants the job done.

Q: What strategic innovations or digital reforms have you introduced to improve procurement processes and curb corruption?

Okey Ezeobi: One major reform we introduced was centralized project monitoring. Previously, individual agencies conducted separate inspections, often leading to inconsistencies and loopholes. I insisted on joint monitoring. Everyone inspects together, seeing, measuring, and signing off on-site in front of the contractor.

This eliminated corruption, minimized negotiation attempts, and drastically cut inspection times. Contractors appreciate the transparency.

Q: Recently, President Tinubu introduced the "Nigeria First" policy, mandating local procurement. Is Anambra adopting this? Also, what is the status of the railway project Governor Soludo announced in 2023?

Okey Ezeobi: Railway development isn't a short-term venture. Planning alone takes 4–5 years. Governor Soludo recently informed President Tinubu during his visit that we now have a full railway master plan. In fact, my own home in Nanka is on the proposed rail line and will be demolished. My wife and I accepted this as our sacrifice for progress.

As for "Nigeria First," the President said "Nigeria First," not "Nigeria Only." There are areas where only Nigerians can deliver. We follow that principle. For example, when we sought a payment solution for Fun City, Awka, an Anambra indigene presented a solid proposal. I said, "If he's qualified and his product meets our standards, give him the opportunity." That's localizing national policy at the state level.

Q: In a digital era, how important is timely dissemination of procurement information? How do you ensure bidders get timely updates?

Okey Ezeobi: It's absolutely crucial. Anyone interested can simply visit the Anambra Procurement website. Every opportunity available for bidding is published there in real time. We ensure it's continuously updated so no serious bidder is left uninformed.

Q: The Solution Lens initiative launches tomorrow (May 15, 2025). Is your bureau integrated into it?

Okey Ezeobi: Absolutely. The Solution Lens is a digital platform designed to enhance transparency and citizen engagement in governance. Everything related to the Solution Lens passed through the BPP. We're fully involved in its rollout and implementation.

Contd on page 101

GOODWILL MESSAGES

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRINCESS DR. JESSIE IFEOMA UDOKA-MENUBA

Congratulations On Your Recent Success !! You Truly Deserve It !!

Signed

High Chief (Sir) Michael Nnamah (Nze Obiozo Amawbia)

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRINCESS DR. JESSIE IFEOMA UDOKA-MENUBA

From the depths of my heart, I proudly rejoice over your award as "the Philanthropist of the 21st Century bestowed upon you by the NUJ Anambra State Council.

This proves the belief of everyone that you are a good woman with a heart of gold worthy of emulation and recognition in the society.

May God continue to lift you to greater heights.

Signed
CHon. Gladys Edi
Ada Eze-Akaa Di Iche
(Mkpulumma Amawbia)

GOODWILL MESSAGES

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRINCESS DR. JESSIE IFEOMA UDOKA-MENUBA

Congratulations On Landing This New Merited Prestigious Award !! You Have Made A Significant Impact.

Signed

Nze Olisa Nwosu

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRINCESS DR. JESSIE IFEOMA UDOKA-MENUBA

Today, we gather to rejoice, celebrate, and to give honour to whom honour is due, a remarkable personality, philanthropist of the highest order. It is therefore with great pleasure that I, Chief, Sir and Lady Ezeudo Emma Nwokoye (JP) joyously congratulate our wife, PRINCESS DR. JESSIE IFEOMA UDOKA MENUBA.

Signed

Chief Sir Ezeudo Emma Nwokoye (JP) and Family

"I WATCHED MY PARENTS DIE IN ABJECT POVERTY..."
CHIEF NWAKAEZE

High Chief Emenike Anthony Nwakaeze (Odaa Opuo 1 of Awba Ofemili) is a successful business man based in Onitsha, Anambra state. He is a renowned importer of car paints in Nigeria.

A community leader and the immediate past President General, Awba Ofemili Town Union in Awka North Local Government Area of Anambra state. Odaa Opuo was nominated for an Outstanding Community Service award by the Nigeria Union of Journalists, NUJ, Anambra State Council for his unwavering commitment and contributions to the growth and development of his dear town, Awba Ofemili, especially in the area of human capital development.

In a media chat with journalists at his Nkwele residence, High Chief Emenike Anthony Nwakaeze shed lights on his background, life encounter, growing up and his regrettable experience of watching his parents die in penury. WatchDog Magazine reporter, Oguocha Chukwuewbuka was there. **Excerpts:**

You were recently nominated for an award by the NUJ for your contributions to the development of the society, what does this award mean to you?

The award meant everything to me. I am highly honoured, and overwhelmed with joy that a respected body like Nigeria Union of Journalists spotted my little contributions to the society. It will surely spur me to do more.

During your tenure as President General of Awba Ofemili community, Prof. Soludo promised to transform Awka North through road infrastructure, has this promise been fulfilled?

Our Governor, Prof. Chukwuma Charles Soludo is a man after our hearts in Awka North. I can't stop thanking him for fulfilling his campaign promises to the good people of Awka North. I thank him bountifully. He's the only politician I know that makes a promise and fulfills it. He constructed Amansea-Ebenebe-Ugbenu-Ugbene-Awba Ofemili road with nylon coaltar. He built a road that will last over twenty years. They are part of my legacy as the former PG of Awba Ofemili.

I want to thank him also for the recent launch of new security outfit in Anambra called Agunechemba. Since Mr. Governor launched Udogachi security outfit, those who said we won't enjoy peace in this state are now on the run. I pray for God's blessings on him and I want to enjoin him not to relent on his good works to Anambra state.

I also want him to hear our cry at Awba Ofemili. It's unfortunate that at this age and time of economic hardship, people's houses were raised down. In the entire 179 communities in Anambra state, it's only in Awba Ofemili that houses are burnt. So, I'm pleading with His Excellency for immediate intervention. Awba Ofemili community is bleeding and begging for help. Our people are not happy with what is happening. If anyone is telling him that Awba is happy, that person is not telling him the truth.

I want to also appeal to His Excellency to kindly consider the Ebenebe- Mgbakwu road that leads to Achalla, the headquarter of Awka North. The contractor handling the Okpuno- Urum-Isuaniocha-Amanuke road should expedite action on the road.

Also, the second phase he promised the good people of Awka North, that is Awba Ofemili to Umeolum in Ayamelum local government area should be fulfilled.

I wish to also appeal to President Bola Almed Tinubu to look at the issue of Forex in Nigeria. It affects traders adversely. Exchange rate is our major problem in business. Government should please reduce the amount we pay as tax, it's too much. When you sum up the expenses you make, you add it to your products, which hikes the prices of everything. I am pleading with our president, the rise and fall of dollar is really disturbing, please whatever that can be done to arrest the urgly situation of this country should please be done.

Contd on Page 77

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Congratulations

HON. DR.

THANKGOD CHIBUIKE ANAGO

I felicitate with you the people's Mayor Awka North LGA of Anambra State for your deserve award, may God almighty bless you and also replenish your pocket in Jesus name amen.

Hon Paschal Afam
President General Of Isuaniocha Awka North LGA Of Anambra state

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Congratulations

HON. DR.

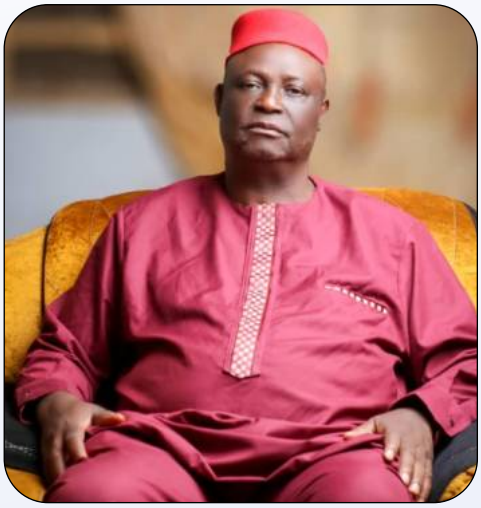
THANKGOD CHIBUIKE ANAGO

We the members of IPF Felicitate with you Onye Olu Obodo for your well deserved award. It is as a result of a work well done and we pray, may God almighty bless you and increase your coast to doing more work in Jesus name amen

Bravo

Hon. Jidendu Richard Afamefuna
IPF Secretary
Councilor Isuaniocha Ward

Signed



IPF President
Bro Kenneth Ezeani

Igwe Omasi interview continued

From Page 66

You know we live in a border community. Our major challenge is our dispute with Enugu State about Omasi Farm Settlement. The Omasi Farm Settlement comprises 10,381 Acres of land for rice mill, acquired by Eastern Nigerian Government under the leadership of M. I. Okpara in 1962. It was gazetted in 1962. There was a clause in the gazette asking any community whose land is inclusive of the farm settlement to indicate interest within 6 weeks which Eziama Adani indicated; we did and Iga community who had been our tenants for a long time also indicated interest. So the three communities were compensated over the land. Thus, 6,453 Acres was given to Omasi; 1,975 Acres was given to Adani; while 1,977 Acres was given to Iga in Enugu State. I was instrumental to the peace now in the community with our neighbouring communities in Anambra and Enugu States.

Omasi and Ifite-Ogwari dispute was settled by me.

Our dispute with Iga from 1991-1993 was also settled by my special intervention and Hon Simeon Okafor, a former House Member from Ifite-Ogwari.

We built a Health Centre when I was the Secretary of Omasi Community as a self-help project from 1985-1986. I also attracted Cotton Wooden Gas Refinery that gave us Artisan water in Omasi, which is the best .....water industry..... in Ayamelum. It was funded by Chief Cletus Ibeto (Omekannaya na Nnewi). Also worthy of note is a 2,006 Hectres of land given to Anambra State Government during Chief Willie Obiano's regime for agricultural purposes. Also, Excel Farm led by Chief Emeka Okwuosa of .....SAB.....Oil Ltd has been partnering Omasi for cassava and tomato production for export since 2014. Although I am not an island, I am working with other people to ensure that Omasi today is great.

What is your vision for Anambra North following their felt desire?

Our desire is to live in peace in land because our zone is principally warriors.

My vision is to entrench a permanent peace in the area before I leave office as the chairman of Anambra North Traditional Rulers Council comprising 7 LGAs.

For Anambra State politics, how are you galvanizing the zone to key into the upcoming State government election in November, 2025?

I am calling for civility and orderliness across all political divides. I want to warn against political hooliganism and brigandage. I want to charge all security agencies to be at alert to ensure that hooligans do not hijack the process.

Let's look at the increasing moral decadence among our youths, what would you say about the high rate of moral bankruptcy among today's youths?

What we see today is not how it used to be in our own time.
People say that the problem is due to the high unemployment rate after graduation, but it is not true.

There are professional courses like Medicine and Law which the graduates can commence practice on graduation, while others can pursue other areas according to their interests and flair, but most youths prefer easy and quick money without hard work. As parents, we have to do our best to stop this sad trend.
Our colonial masters brought hard drugs which our youths abuse. Parents should monitor and guide their children to become useful members of the society, else there will be no future for our youths. Over 2000 youths, boys and girls, are now in psychiatric homes due to hard drugs. I call on NDLEA, community leaders, the Church, and parents to join hands to put a stop to this trend. Hard work pays, and there should be no food for a lazy man.
Our girls are worse in their crave for nudity. Girls derive pleasure in appearing naked in public. This is an abominable trend that must be checked before it is too late.
"Are we cursed or are we the cause" as our former Governor Peter Obi used to say. Ndigbo are known globally for their exceptional talents and hard work, but lately, we have lost it.

Contd on Page 83

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LITIGATION CLERKS:
EMELIE MARYANN
ENEKWECHI UKAMAKA

Our Ref: ..... *Your Ref:* ..... *Date:* 22nd July, 2025

Princess, Dr. Jessie Menuba,
CEO/Founder,
Queen Tovah Cares Solution,
U.S.A.

HRM,

HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS
RE: AWARD OF PHILANTHROPIST OF THE 21ST CENTURY

Congratulations on being recognized as the philanthropist of the 21st century by the Prestigious Nigerian Union of Journalists (Anambra State Chapter) arguably the most formidable and ebullient fact finding union.

Your Highness, your tireless and selfless effort to support those in need have not gone unnoticed this award is a testament to your hard work and commitment to philanthropy throughout Nigeria, Africa and the Caribbean.

We further submit that your trend of philanthropic work and out pour of love make a shinning example of what it means to make a difference in this universe and also to make it habitable for human race to thrive in. We here at Anyafughalia Chambers are truly inspired by your stride and commitments towards alleviating the hardship of others when it is brought to your attention. Imperative to point out that your course, navigation and voyage knew no bounds as we recall that you single handedly digitalized our law firm and provided state of the art facilities to see that lawyers in this firm and the support staff are aligned to the 21st century digitalization.

We identify and celebrate with you on attaining this deserved feat. We herald your passion and determination to see that humans are comfortable as the globe continues to rotate on its axis. Definitely these have led you to this moment of triumph.
Collectively we hail thee saying:

"Viva Philanthropist of the 21st Century"

.....
Michael U. Okoye Esq.

.....
Chris Uduadimma Esq.

.....
I.L. Ofordile Esq.

.....
C.K. Egoigwe Esq.

.....
Paschal Nwogor Esq.

.....
Victor Ezenwa Esq.

.....
Michael Nwune Esq.

.....
Emelie Maryann
(Litigation clerk 1)

.....
Enekwechi Ukamaka
(Litigation clerk 2)

AWKA NORTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

SUPERVISORY COUNCILORS AWKA NORTH

Our Ref: .....

Date: .....

Your Ref: .....

CONGRATULATIONS TO ONYE OLU OBODO

We heartily join millions of friends and well-wishers to congratulate Hon. Chief Dr. ThankGod Chibuike Anago, Mayor Awka North Local Government Area, on the remarkable Award for the Most Outstanding 2025 NUJ Mayor of the year. As the Local Government supervisors, Awka North Council Area, it is an honor and privilege to have witnessed firsthand your passion and dedication to developing and changing the narrative to a purposeful leadership in Awka North.

On behalf of Awka North Local Government Supervisors, our team members and the entire Department in Awka North Local Government Area, we reaffirm our commitment and solidarity in continuing the tremendous work under your leadership.

We assure you of our unalloyed support, solidarity and loyalty; we therefore, implore you to keep soaring aloft like an eagle in the firmament of Havens, and always fix your eyes upon the glories of the sun for the Almighty God is with you.

Congratulations, Onye Olu Obodo!

For: **Supervisory Councilors**
Awka North LGA,
Anambra State

"Some beneficiaries of my scholarships are now..."

From page 68

How do you ensure sustainability in your business while still maintaining a strong social impact?

Sustainability comes from balance and strategic planning. I treat my businesses and foundations like ecosystems, which support the other. I reinvest wisely, monitor impact, and ensure that every effort is scalable. This way, I create lasting value in both economic and social spheres.

Can you share a transformative story of some people or communities whose lives changed significantly through your foundation?

There are families that I gave scholarships to, and the recipients are now engineers, doctors, student nurses, registered nurses, law students, medical students, farmers, tailors, chefs, accountants, and many more.

One that stood out is a homeless widow from Haiti. I met in a park in New York, 2022. I took her to live with me and opened a restaurant for her, selling Haitian-American food and drinks.

Today, she owns two restaurants, a boutique, and she is in the process of buying her first home in New York.

In doing your worldwide charity and particularly in Nigeria, do you collaborate or partner with any known organization?

No, I do not.

What advice would you give to young people who have dreams but lack the resources or confidence to pursue them?

Start with what you have. Dreams don't require permission to begin. Have faith in God, be disciplined, and seek mentorship. It's okay to start small. Just don't stay small. Believe in yourself even when no one else does. ***Contd on Page 78***

"My mother never took ordinary Panadol even for a day"

From page 72

Would you mind sharing your life experience with us?

I am an indigene of Enugwu village in Awba Ofemmili. My father is an indigene of Awba, my mother is an indigene of Awba. I went to school when my age mates were going to school. I left school after sometime for appretiship due to loss of parents. My father died September 9th, 1987, at the age of 97 years. My mother died 21st March being Wednesday at the age of 48 years. My mother is the second wife of my father, I'm the last born of the two wives. The fact that one"s mother is a second wife does not demean the person. I made my father's name known around the world.

I went for apprenticeship on July 9th, 1992 after the death of my mother. I grew up at my maternal mother's place, that's where I stayed and experienced the sufferings of life. I had no mother, I had no father. I was born in 1975, I'm fifty years old this year. Then, we had nothing, we live in a mud house built for my mother.

We were four from our own mother's place, that same house

that was built for her, was where she gave birth to all her four children. We all squat in that one room mud house. I normally fall sick during raining season and I cry when ever it rains. It rains inside our house just the same way it rains outside. There was no help my father was old and blind.

The most annoying was that my uncles were all doing very well, but none of them ever paid my school fees but God blessed me with intelligence. I was then our class monitor in 1986 when I was in primary three (3). Nobody does better than me in my class, monitor was given to the most intelligent. Then school fees was fifty naira, it was paid installmentally, in the middle of the term, first term and second term we paid twenty-five naira, third term we will pay the remaining twenty five naira, but my mother couldn't afford the money that time.

I stopped school in 1986, because of poverty I dropped out of primary school. I didn't attend school from 1986, 87 and 88.

It was in 1988 that my mother fell sick. It got so bad that she messes up her body. It was only me and my grandmother that took care of her. She never took ordinary Panadol even for a day.

Contd on Page 78

Only regret in life is that I can't help everyone - Dr. Menuba

From page 77

How do you measure success not just in profits but in lives changed and communities impacted?
My yardstick is impacting how many lives have improved, how many children attend school, and how many youths are now employers themselves. Numbers matter, but stories and testimonies matter even more. That's the success that lasts.

Looking ahead, what's your long-term vision for your business and your mission to build a better society?

My vision is to institutionalize impact, build educational hubs, empowerment centers, and sustainable development programs across continents.

I want a legacy of hope that will outlive me and continue to bless generations.

Any regrets? What are the challenges encountered so far?

Regrets? Perhaps only that I can't help everyone. But challenges have been many—bureaucracy, skepticism, and even health scares. Still, each obstacle has refined me and deepened my resolve.

What are your feelings about the Philanthropist of the Century Award by NUJ Anambra State Council in relation to other awards you have?

It means the people acknowledged and valued my work.

I once lived inside the forest while growing up - Chief Nwakeze

From page 77

How then did you survive life after your parents demise?

After the death of my mother, I had to wake up and make a decision, I constructed a small house with grasses at a forest, called Odori forest. That was where I relocated to cater for myself. At that forest, I yielded to fishing as a means of livelihood. At the Age of fifteen years, I lived inside the forest. At every Nkwo market day, I will take my catches to nkwo market and use the opportunity to see my grandmother.
When I was in that bush as a fisher boy, I never touched anything that doesn't belong to me. There was a day I would have died without any trace of my lifeless body. That was on July 1st, 1992. I ferried on a boat to a place close to Aguleri.

I observed unusual movement of fishes in droves. Such mass fish movement is a sign of movement of super powers underneath the water.
So, when I encountered such thing, I left the river and diverted into a nearby bush. As I proceeded deep into the forest, I found myself in a bread fruit plantation, I didn't know I was at Amanuke community. I was under that breadfruit tree when something fell and made a heavy sound. I thought it was a ball of a bread fruit, unknown to me that it was a big python.

I checked my time, it was around 3:15 am. I had a rubber watch I do wrap with a nylon round my wrist which I use to monitor time then. I proceeded towards that direction where the sound came, I saw a long thing lying on the ground,

I though it was a tree at the sight, I proceeded with my boat, almost close, I pointed my head light, found out that it was a heavy python. I didn't see the head nor the tail. I was so scared but I neither moved forth nor back because my father thought me how to be courageous in life.

Contd on Page 78

GOODWILL MESSAGES

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRINCESS DR. JESSIE IFEOMA UDOKA-MENUBA

Congratulations on your well -deserved award !! Your hard work and dedication have truly paid off, and I couldn't be happier for you.

Signed

Chief Emeka Onwuzuligbo (Ogwuiga Amawbia)

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRINCESS DR. JESSIE IFEOMA UDOKA-MENUBA

Please accept my sincere congratulations on this new milestone. You have been an inspiration to me and the society at large.

May God continue to enlarge your coast, keep on protecting you and your family.

Congratulations.

Signed
Chief Mrs Cecilia Anaekwe
Ada Eze-Akaa Di Iche
(Ugogbe)

GOODWILL MESSAGES

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRINCESS DR. JESSIE IFEOMA UDOKA-MENUBA

This New Phase Of Your Life Is A Well- Deserved Reward For All The Hard Work You've Contributed Over The Years.

Congratulations !!!

Signed

Chief Emeka Onuorah (Kaliaozo Amawbia)

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRINCESS DR. JESSIE IFEOMA UDOKA-MENUBA

Wishing You Continued Success !! I Know You Have Done Your Best, And Nobody Could've Done More

Signed

Ozo Edozie Akpunuonu (Ugogbuzuo Amawbia)

Igwe Omasi interview continued

From Page 74

Let's build a better society we can be proud of. I will continue to commend former Governor Willie Obiano for the International Cargo Airport in Umueri, where our people can export and import their goods.

What is your charge to the electorates as Anambra goes to polls to elect their Governor?

I want to urge the electorates to support the incumbent Governor, Prof. Charles Chukwuma Soludo, CFR, who is doing well. He has set many development projects in motion and he needs to complete what he started.

However, I want to call on our leaders at all levels to raise the minimum wage paid to the workers. Let the workers be paid a living wage that can take them home.
In the case of incessant borrowing by the Federal Government, they should desist from borrowing to avoid bequeathing perpetual debt to the next generation.

I also wish to appeal to the incumbent administration in Anambra State to patronise indigenously manufactured vehicles as official vehicles in Anambra State. This will help to reduce unemployment and promote local industries. Let's encourage indigenous productions to help ourselves.

What is your take on this tendency to hold traditional marriages outside Anambra State?

That is abominable to say the least. It does not make room for progress. Marriages are cultural unifiers that connect people of different cultures. We should celebrate our children's marriages in our homesteads so that visitors will come to our places and see how or who we are.

Lastly, this trend of Ndigbo installing Ezeigbo in Lagos, and other places, should it be encouraged?

That trend is really an aberration. It is not ideal and should not be encouraged for any reason. The right thing is to install leaders, such as president or chairman of Ndigbo wherever they settle. The concept of kingship has become so watered that everyone desires to be king anywhere they are.

Thank you for your time, Igwe. We appreciate the insights you have shared with us and wish you well on the throne of Omasi.

Thank you.

Igwe Okeji

NO WHERE IN THE WORLD PEOPLE PRACTICE ROTATIONAL LEADERSHIP... HON. OKAGBUE

Uzuegbuna Okagbue is a Nigerian politician, an entrepreneur, community leader, a Philanthropist and humanitarian. He is the Deputy Governorship candidate of the Young Progressive Party (YPP) in Anambra state

He was the Chief of Protocol and Deputy Chief of Staff to the immediate past Governorof Anambra state, Chief Willie Obiano.

Hon. Okagbue, YPP Deputy Governorship Candidate

In this interview with the Nigeria Union of Journalists, NUJ, Anambra state council led by the chairman, Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu PhD, Hon. Uzuegbuna Okagbue said his principal and YPP flag bearer in the November 8 governorship election in the state, Dr. Paul Chukwuma will address insecurity and introduce programmes and activities that will bolster the economy of Anambra state if elected.

He dismissed the concerns of citizens over the zoning arrangement in the state, saying that competence should be guiding principles and not zoning.
Excerpt:

Why do Nigerian politicians see electioneering as a period to attack or discredit their opponents instead of wooing voters?

Our approach to this gubernatorial election is issue based. You may not have heard of any kind of insulting or abusive words coming out of YPP camp or statements that is demeaning or trying to castigate anyone. We are not in the race for name calling. In fact, I can talk for the next two hours without mentioning Prof Soludo or his administration.

Our campaign is not based on personal attacks or discussing individuals but discussing the failures of this government and presenting ourselves as alternatives to Ndi Anambra and residents here.

What areas of administrative failure have you observed in this present administration?

The failures are glaring. The question everyone is asking is if this administration has not done well then who would replace them? What can the person do? Can they do any better?

So, we have presented ourselves as alternatives and I expect members of the press to be at the forefront of communicating that alternative. I expect you to take away some salient points as against trying to demean anybody that qualifies us to be an alternative.

Why do some people harp so on about Insecurity in Anambra despite the presence and launch of Agunechemba/Udogachi Operatives?

Insecurity has been a problem in this state for the past three years. If you have not lost a family member, you may have lost a friend to violent crime. This place reminds me of Sicillian tale when the Mafia was on rampage in the 60's and 70's.

I guess the journalists were witnesses to the shooting that happened at Ekwulobia where two persons were feared dead and others were reportedly injured.

Moreover, I discovered that conventional security agents are no longer engaged to provide security in Anambra State.
What I see are bandits wearing masks that carry guns in the name of security. The question is who are these security operatives? Where are the security agencies that guide the various state actors within the government, the police, the DSS? Why are we left in the hands of Vigilantes? If those Vigilantes have been confirmed as the best why are they not in the Governor's convoy or with our state actors.

There is a fundamental challenge with the style that has been adopted by this government. They are not ready to empower the conventional security agencies to do what they are doing in other states in our State? Go to Asaba, Delta State or Enugu State you will not find pump-action carrying-mask wearing indvidividuals or vigilantes manning the streets there. The crime there is not as bad and terrible as we see in Anambra State.

Police, DSS are federal agencies but Governor have been receiving security votes. If they are federal agencies the security votes can be used to augment what the Federal agencies receive from federal.

Contd on Page 81

ARC EZEOBI: FROM A SHOELESS BOY, TO A PHILANTHROPIST

Arc. Okey Ezeobi who has bestrode architectural practice as a colossus, impacted positively on people's lives and redefines public procurement process had a low beginning in life.

By Obiorah Edogor

Many rich people in Nigeria today who had humble background are not wont to readily disclose it or prefer to be completely silent on how they started. Some of such people are too pompous to reveal their humble beginnings while others may choose to twist it a bit and cover up when their sojourn in hardship or abject poverty before they became wealthy. The beginning side of their lives were rough and gloomy presenting a sharp contrast to their present opulence.

Obviously the attitude to hide one's humble origin smacks of sheer pride and sometimes arrogance. Some people who are ashamed of disclosing their early life rob younger people working hard to conquer hardship the hope that they could rise from pit to palace as the Holy Writ provides. There is no serious harm if there is any at all in one disclosing that he or she was not born with a silver spoon. History is replete with great people who surmounted the hurdles of their

parental background and shot themselves up to Olympian heights of economic and socio-political relevance in their society.

Architect Okey Ezeobi is undoubtedly one of the men who battled and conquered penury he met while growing up. He is brave enough not to allow the circumstances of his upbringing to define him or hinder his success. He was proud to disclose that "I had no shoes throughout the early part of my primary school life." This was a picture of economic hardship that would have made many a man downcast and unable to smell wealth, but for Architect Okey Ezeobi, the story is different. He embraced education and used it as a weapon to free himself, and many others from the shackles of hardship and poverty.

However, one striking thing about Arc Ezeobi is the high level of humility he exudes as a man who became wealthy by dint of resourcesfulness. He doesn't ascribe his wealth to the magnitude of his hardwork or intellectual achievements. Little wonder, at his office re he was quick to recently tell members of the NUJ Anambra State led by the Chairman, Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu, that, Chinua Achebe said in Things Fall Apart, that "those whose Palm Kernels are cracked for them by a benevolent spirit should not forget to be humble."

Contd on Page 84

"Since last 3years, insecurity has been a problem in Anambra" - Hon. Okagbue

From Page 81

We have seen states collaborate with this security agencies and secure their people. So, why wouldn't this present administration support conventional security agencies to secure this state?

These are questions Ndi Anambra with all its residents will be answering on November 8, 2025.

I just came back from Obosi were some security outfit belonging to the State government wrecked havoc at the Obosi Town Hall because they were not given certain access to operate indiscriminately.

I saw a lady whose son was matchetted with a swollen muscle. If that child was an adult he probably would not be able to use that hand again.The woman alleged that the operatives took N19,000 naira from her purse which fell down as they invaded the place chasing unsuspecting members of the public.

There was another petty trader, a widow who was also traumatized by the unwarranted attack. I later added her as

a beneficiary of my Widows Empowerment Scheme"

For about 10 years now, I have a covenant with God concerning widows because a lot of people don't know what widows are passing through.

My people have tried to give me titles about that and I told them that the widow approach or given succour to widows is not localized to

Umunachi or Anambra that. It long began at Abuja when I was much younger.

How does Insecurity affect the growth of Anambra Economy and the development of other Sectors?

If you don't deal with insecurity there will be no growth. People no longer feel safe to come home for local ceremonies, to bury their loved ones, take chieftaincy titles and conduct traditional marriages which have been what excites our people.

You must have driven from Awka to Umunachi, I don't think you were held up by any traffic showing that there are no economic activities going on at Afo Igwe market. In our days in office, I will personally come down to clear road from the Afor Igwe market to access my house.

Contd on Page 84

THE PALACE OF IGWE OF UMUMBO
HRH, IGWE, S. I. CHIDUBEM JP
THE ABOH I OF UMUMBO
AYAMELUM LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, ANAMBRA STATE, NIGERIA
E-mail: simeonchidubem@gmail.com
Tel: 08034197544
08032917687
08081875939

Our Ref: ..... Your Ref: ..... Date: .....

GOODWILL MESSAGE

CELEBRATING MOTHER THERESA OF THE 21ST CENTURY.

Dr Jessie Ifeoma Menuba, I am so proud to celebrate your stellar achievements today. Your uncommon commitment to social justice and your genuine care for the less privileged people make you a true role model. Also you have demonstrated inspired love for God and humanity. This award of Philanthropist Of The 21st Century is a reflection of your hard work, your passion, and your incredible heart. I must commend the Anambra State chapter of Nigeria Union Of Journalists for bestowing such a befitting honour on you. May the good Lord continue to empower you so can do more for Him and humanity.

Congratulations to you, great woman!

Signed

HRH Igwe (Eze) Ikechukwu Simeon Franklin Chidubem, LLB,Msc, AICMC (Iboborah, Nwandidi) The Aboh 1 of Umumbo
The traditional Ruler of Umumbo community Kingdom,
Ayamelum L G. A, Anambra State, Nigeria

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS
IGWE SIR JOSEPH CHUKWUEMEKA AJODO
EGASHI UKWALLA, ANAMBRA WEST LGA, ANAMBRA STATE
Tel: 08030907124

Our Ref:..... Your Ref:..... Date:.....

GOODWILL MESSAGE

A GREAT WOMAN OF EXCEPTIONAL GENEROSITY

Dr Jessie Ifeoma Menuba, your philanthropic work is a beacon of hope and a testament to the power of giving. Receiving this award of Philanthropist Of The 21st Century from NUJ, Anambra State, is not just an honor for you, but an inspiration to all of us to strive for positive change in our communities. This is not the first time you have been recognized for your love for humanity. It's a way of life for you, little wonder you have already received over 80 awards both in and outside the country.

I am deeply moved by your compassion and dedication and encourage you to keep doing good. The goodwill of thousands of people you have positively affected their lives, will continually speak good things for you before the Almighty God.

Big congratulations to you woman of God!

Signed

HRH Igwe Sir Joseph Chukwuemeka Ajodo,
Egashi Ukwalla, Anambra East LGA.

ARC. EZEOBI...THE SHOELESS BOY... CONTINUED

From Page 82

Perhaps this characteristic sense of humility that Architect Okey Ezeobi demonstrates in words and actions was largely what endears him to people. The staff of the Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) all give testimony of his down-to-earth nature and open door policy. Also, even some people who had worked with him at his private office before he joined public service alluded to his altruism.

As a man who is involved in charity and philanthropy, Arc. Okey Ezeobi does not blow his trumpet in virtually all his services to humanity. He understands the biblical injunction of not allowing one's left hand to know what his right hand does when involving in almsgiving. No wonder, from our enquiries he has offered a reasonable number of scholarships and financial assistances unannounced to many deserving people of various age brackets in his Nanka community and beyond. He is one of the few wealthy people whose humility and sense of humanity is exemplary.

It is no longer news for one to see him dine and wine with his subordinates, young people and anybody who might be considered as belonging to a lower economic, or socio-political status.

All these give credence to the landslide victory he had in the voting that earned him the highly coveted 2025 NUJ Anambra State Council Man of the Year Award. Indeed Arc. Ezeobi has a pleasing personality with a sense of responsibility that every young person should emulate. He has proven that wealth and exalted public office could not make him intoxicated or influence him to denigrate people. Based on his achievements so far, one could say that humility pays, as people will always rally around him as a leader, supporter, mentor, and tutor. Perhaps, this is parts of the secrets of the Nanka-born architect turned public servant.

"Anambra people no longer feel safe to come home..."

- Hon. Okagbue

From Page 82

There is an economy that serves those petty traders, that economy is dead. It is called traditional marriage economy, funeral and chieftaincy economy.

Few years ago, most of the hotels in Anambra would be filled up from Wednesday to Mondays. The traditional marriage economy boosts the local or village economy.

Those holding traditional marriages, chieftaincy titles normally come home to the village and once they come, they will buy tomatoes, pepper, vegetables that will be cooked in ceremonies. These local economy is no longer happening because of insecurity which is a fundamental factor.

Now these local women can't make sales because they are dependent on these ceremonies to make sales but unfortunately as I come back around 8 or 9pm, I see these fresh tomatoes, fruits emptied into the drainages because of poor or no sales.

These women buy the goods, pay Keke to carry it to the market, they end up not being able to sell enough, they throw it away. You need to see the pain that these petty traders and farmers go through because the traditional marriage and and other economy are dead in the state.

"There is a fundamental challenge. Wether the public accepts that or not. We need to get the right people to tackle these problems, it doesn't matter who or from what party the person emerges".

It is a pity that our businesses have crossed the bridge to Asaba.

The state of insecurity in Anambra has reduced the GDP/ per capital income of Ndi Anambra

These are facts you can verify and report it as facts not that YPP said it so that people will not see it as politics.

There is no congestion of roads because people have left the state and economic activities are very low because of insecurity..

Anambra State is running under 10 hours economy while a normal economy grows by running nothing less than 15 hours.

Contd on Page 89

OHANAEZE NDIGBO WORLDWIDE

Office of the Vice President General

No 7 Parks Avenue G. R. A. Enugu
Email: omifelord@gmail.com Tel: 08036680171

The Chairman,
Nigeria Union of Journalists,
Anambra State Chapter.

Dear Sir,

I extend my deepest appreciation and respect to the Nigeria Union of Journalists, Anambra State Chapter, for recognizing Princess Dr. Jessie Ifeoma Udoka Menuba's outstanding philanthropic work with the 'Philanthropist of the Century' award. It's fitting that this honor comes from the fourth estate, known for its watchdog role in society.

I commend your discerning selection of Dr. Tova, whose selfless efforts have positively impacted the less privileged, the downtrodden, and many others. Her humility and generosity are truly remarkable, as she builds homes for the homeless and offers hope to the hopeless without seeking recognition.

This achievement is a testament to your commitment to acknowledging exceptional contributions. Dr. Tova's dedication is an inspiration, and I believe she richly deserves this honor. Thank you for celebrating her remarkable work.

Sincerely,

Mazi Omife I Omife
(Mbuze Mbaukwu)
Vice President General,
Ohanaeze Ndigbo Worldwide.

"Living in the US taught me discipline"

- Dr. Menuba

From page 78

Are there aspects of your life that can motivate young people, having lived in America for over four decades?

Definitely. Living in the United States of America taught me discipline, a global perspective, and the value of hard work. But it also showed me the importance of staying rooted. I want young people to know that you can succeed globally while still making an impact locally.

You have so many degrees. What's the essence?

Education is empowerment. Every degree has added value intellectually and professionally. They are not just paper; they are tools. I pursued knowledge not for status but for service.

Contd on page 87

My father killed lions and caught lions alive"

- Chief Nwakaeze

From page 78

NUJ Chairman with Chief Nwakaeze

Was your father also a fisherman?

No, my father was a hunter, he killed so many lions during his hunting expedition. My father killed a total of twenty four (24) lions and caught six (6) lions alive.

The only thing he didn't kill aside other numerous animals was elephant. He killed the bull, there is no animal he didn't kill. So, what gave me courage was my father's words to me, my father told me: "Never you fear, when you're at the point of death, be courageous.

So, how did you overcome the encounter with the python?

I made up my mind that if that python eventually approaches me, I will strike it with my machete, I was battle ready to fight with the last drop of my blood but at that point, I began to shiver.

When I summoned little courage, gradually and courteously, I began to move backwards, I didn't care about already caught fishes that left the boat, I was mindful of my life.
By the grace of God, I left without being hurt. I arrived home around 5:30am and immediately I left that place, I went straight to my grandmother's place. I didn't go to where I was living in the forest.

Surprisingly, when I got home, the first question my grandmother asked was: "Did that Python hurt you?" I was shocked how she knew what I passed through. She was about 90 years old then. I turned to my grandmother and asked her: "how did you know about the python? She said she dreamt of an encounter I had with a python.

Contd on page 87

"I faced rejection, financial strain and moments of doubt" - Dr. Menuba

From page 87

You have taken many awards and unique titles. Are you trying to surpass the late Prof. Dora Akunyili or is there something else?

Prof. Dora Akunyili was a trailblazer and a woman I greatly admired. I am not trying to surpass her or anyone. I am simply running my own race, driven by purpose, and honoring those who came before by continuing the work.

Would you wish to talk about your challenges before reaching this peak, your family, and lessons therein?

Yes, I faced rejection, financial strain, and moments of doubt. But my family especially my grandchildren and my late son have been my strength.

The lesson is simple: with faith, hard work, and support, you can overcome anything.

As a business tycoon and consultant, how do you cope with all these and still have time for yourself against the threat of stress and other health hazards?

Balance is intentional. I schedule rest, delegate where needed, and maintain my spiritual grounding. Health is wealth, and I prioritize it. Giving back is only meaningful when you are well enough to continue the journey.

"I was given N1000 after serving somebody for five years in 1997" - Chief Nwakaeze

From page 87

It was after that ugly incident that she sent a message across to her son who was living at Ukali. She threatened to curse him if he fails to take me out of the village to a place where I will learn a trade.

This happened on 1st of July but my uncle came home on July 8th, then we left on July 9th.

During my time as an Apprentice at Onitsha, my boss deals on car paint.

Something happened along the line just to worsen my situation. Onitsha Main Market got burnt on May 6th 1997, at that period, I was the senior apprentice, my master went into another line of business in 1994.

There was an apprentice he settled before my arrival but I didn't meet him. So, the guy traveled to Korea, he came back in January 1994 and convinced our master to go into wrist watch business. My master got convinced, he sold everything we had and ventured into watch business, in partnership with his former boy. So, after two weeks that our goods arrived, fire gut main market Onitsha and those affected by the tragic incident and others who were not affected claimed victims so that they can attract help or compensation.

After the incident, our master had a problem, A man who was doing well was reduced to rubbles as a result of the showdown in business occasioned by the fire disaster.

On July 21st, 1997, we were five in number serving him then, the five of us were given one thousand naira each. I wonder what to do with N1000 after being serving somebody for five years. It was another big blow for me. I wonder what I would go to village to do, my parents are late.

It was then that I decided to try my luck again in car paint business. I started marketing Star Flash car paint. It was then a new product by a new company. I was the first person that marketed the paint in Onitsha then.

NUJ Chairman with Chief Nwakaeze

Contd on page 114

GOODWILL MESSAGES

HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS TO MY INDEFATIGABLE MOM

I join the rest of your well-wishers to felicitate with you on this prestigious and meritorious award of the Philanthropist of the 21st Century bestowed on you by the NUJ Anambra State Council.This distinguished award is a proof of widespread importance and recognition of your rare sacrifices, community and humanitarian services globally, especially in Anambra.You have been championing the course of the less privileged for decades and you never turned deaf ears to the cry of others.

Signed
Evette Joseph
Your daughter

CONGRATULATIONS! CONGRATULATIONS!!

I, Hon. Sir Joseph Igwebuike CKSMA, heartily congratulate Princess Dr. Jessie Ifeoma Udoka-Menuba, recipient of the 'Mother Theresa of the 21st Century' award from the Catholic Laity Council of Nigeria, Awka Diocese, on winning the 2025 NUJ Anambra Philanthropist of the 21st Century award. May God continue to grant you the grace, wisdom, and empowerment to inspire those around you with your remarkable personality and philanthropic endeavors.
Congratulations!!!

Signed
Hon. Sir Joseph Igwebuike CKSMA

GOODWILL MESSAGES

TO A PHILANTHROPIST PER EXCELLENCE

Warmest congratulations, Princess Dr. Jessie Ifeoma Udoka-Menuba, on your historic achievement as the 2025 NUJ Anambra Philanthropist of the 21st Century!
Your unwavering passion for uplifting the less privileged and vulnerable widows has touched countless lives, bringing joy and hope. I'm grateful for the blessings God has bestowed upon you, which you've selflessly used to bless others.
Thank you for being a shining example of kindness and compassion. Keep soaring to greater heights, dear lioness. I'm incredibly proud of you!
Congratulations once again!
God is your strength and it's good to be good.

Signed
Regina Igwebuike

RC: 6954933

WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT-GRAPHICS
MOBILE APP DEVELOPMENT
DIGITAL MARKETING-MOCK UPS BRANDING
CYBER CAFE-COMPUTER TRAINING

LANNER TECHUB

Motto: Linking Ideas Through Innovation

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

The Management and Team of iPlanner Tech Hub heartily congratulate Princess Dr. Jessie Ifeoma Udoka Menuba (Nee Oliobi), Ph.D, on her prestigious recognition as the 2025 NUJ Anambra Philanthropist of the Century.

This honour from the Nigerian Union of Journalists (NUJ), Anambra State Council is a glowing testament to your uncommon generosity, unwavering commitment to humanity, and enduring passion for service that has touched countless lives across the state and beyond.

As a tech-driven organization rooted in innovation and impact, we draw immense inspiration from your selfless acts of giving, community development efforts, and your consistent drive to uplift the underserved through education, healthcare, empowerment, and philanthropy.

Your work not only reflects the noblest ideals of service but also ignites hope and progress in every space you touch. You have shown that true philanthropy is not just about resources but about heart, vision, and consistent action.

We celebrate this milestone with you and pray for greater strength and capacity as you continue to lead with compassion and purpose.

Congratulations, Ma. You are a true light in our time.

With great pride and admiration,

NWEKE NNAMDI SAMUEL
CEO/MD, IPLANNER TECH HUB

08160293644

"Rotational leadership does not exist in any part of the world" - Hon. Okagbue

From Page 84

We have seen states collaborate with this security agencies and secure their people. So, why wouldn't this present administration support conventional security agencies to secure this state?
These are questions Ndi Anambra with all its residents will be answering on November 8, 2025.

I just came back from Obosi were some security outfit belonging to the State government wrecked havoc at the Obosi Town Hall because they were not given certain access to operate indiscriminately.

I saw a lady whose son was matchetted with a swollen muscle. If that child was an adult he probably would not be able to use that hand again.The woman alleged that the operatives took N19,000 naira from her purse which fell down as they invaded the place chasing unsuspecting members of the public.
There was another petty trader, a widow who was also traumatized by the unwarranted attack. I later added her as a beneficiary of my Widows Empowerment Scheme"

For about 10 years now, I have a covenant with God concerning widows because a lot of people don't know what widows are passing through. My people have tried to give me titles about that and I told them that the widow approach or given succour to widows is not localized to Umunachi or Anambra that. It long began at Abuja when I was much younger.

How does Insecurity affect the growth of Anambra Economy and the development of other Sectors?

If you don't deal with insecurity there will be no growth. People no longer feel safe to come home for local ceremonies, to bury their loved ones, take chieftaincy titles and conduct traditional marriages which have been what excites our people.

You must have driven from Awka to Umunachi, I don't think you were held up by any traffic showing that there are no economic activities going on at Afo Igwe market. In our days in office, I will personally come down to

clear road from the Afor Igwe market to access my house.

There is an economy that serves those petty traders, that economy is dead. It is called traditional marriage economy, funeral and chieftaincy economy.

Few years ago, most of the hotels in Anambra would be filled up from Wednesday to Mondays. The traditional marriage economy boosts the local or village economy. Those holding traditional marriages, chieftaincy titles normally come home to the village and once they come, they will buy tomatoes, pepper, vegetables that will be cooked in ceremonies.

These local economy is no longer happening because of insecurity which is a fundamental factor.

Now these local women can't make sales because they are dependent on these ceremonies to make sales but unfortunately as I come back around 8 or 9pm, I see these fresh tomatoes, fruits emptied into the drainages because of poor or no sales.

These women buy the goods, pay Keke to carry it to the market, they end up not being able to sell enough, they throw it away. You need to see the pain that these petty traders and farmers go through because the traditional marriage and and other economy are dead in the state.

"There is a fundamental challenge. Wether the public accepts that or not. We need to get the right people to tackle these problems, it doesn't matter who or from what party the person emerges".

It is a pity that our businesses have crossed the bridge to Asaba.

The state of insecurity in Anambra has reduced the GDP/ per capital income of Ndi Anambra

These are facts you can verify and report it as facts not that YPP said it so that people will not see it as politics.

There is no congestion of roads because people have left the state and economic activities are very low because of insecurity..

Anambra State is running under 10 hours economy while a normal economy grows by running nothing less than 15 hours.

Contd on Page 93

Soludo and the Forthcoming Election: The Deciding Factors

By Law Mefor

The forthcoming Saturday, November 8 gubernatorial election throws up interesting issues such as the approval rating of the incumbent, the quality of the opposing candidates, the capacity of the political parties in the contest, adherence to the existing zoning pattern, etc.

The incumbent Governor Charles Chukwuma Soludo, CFR, has arguably the highest approval rating ever of any Anambra State Governor going for re-election. Even many of the opposition party leaders have said as much by stressing that Soludo has done extremely well in the discharge of his duties.
The Minister of Works, Engr. David Umahi, a bigwig of the All Progressives Congress (APC), is on record as stating that Soludo has no opposition whatsoever.

Former Anambra State Governor and an APC leader, Dr. Chris Ngige, pointedly told Soludo in Abuja: "Odenigbo, carry go!" When President Bola Ahmed Tinubu came to Anambra State to commission the Government House and Solution Fun City built by Soludo, the testament of the progressives working together was writ large.
Governor Soludo is indeed soaring as the consensus candidate of Ndi Anambra for the election. His so-called opponents are neither here nor there.

Soludo is solidly backed by Anambra State's only political party, the All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA), and the all-embracing presence is so overwhelming in all the 21 local government areas of the state, including the 362 wards and 5720 polling units. No political party is half as formidable as APGA in the state.

The other candidates and their parties are only busy organising fundraising activities here and there, including from other states. Using their candidatures for the office of the governor to make money seems to be the actual goal, and not running to win. There are no organic roots for these parties. They represent gatherings of strange bedfellows where some characters are throwing their hats into the political ring just to put up facile presences. The extant zoning formula that states that the governor must come from the Anambra South Senatorial Zone stands Soludo in good stead.

Soludo... The Deciding Factors Continued

From Page 90

The re-election of Governor Soludo is, to all intents and purposes, a done deal. Mr. Governor is head and shoulders above the ill-assorted pack of wannabe contenders who are quite anonymous. The record of work of Governor Soludo is intimidating and very unmatchable. It is little wonder then that he has been crowned "Oluatuegwu" (He who is not afraid of duty) across the three senatorial zones of Anambra State. The astonishing dimension to the Soludo revolution in Anambra State is that he achieved the unbeatable feats in infrastructure and human capital development without borrowing one kobo!

Let truth be told: Anambra State has never had it so good. Even so, Soludo insists that he is still on the starting block. His landslide re-election will surely shoot Anambra into the stratosphere of unprecedented development and accomplishments. His challengers have no legs to stand on.

To start from the beginning, Soludo set forth at dawn from the moment of

his inauguration by stepping into the slums of Okpoko and turned the erstwhile forbidden abode into a well-endowed town that is now known as New Heaven, complete with paved roads, a general hospital, streetlights, etc. This is a clear deciding factor in the election that the other candidates can never ever replicate.

Before the coming of Soludo, eight of Anambra's 21 local governments were under the charge of the nefarious "Unknown Gunmen." Soludo sacked the miscreants and brought security all over Anambra State with the introduction of Udo-ga-achi and Agunechemba. There is no way the people of Anambra can agree to go back to Egypt by allowing any unknown aspirant to sneak in from the back door.

With the award of the contract for the construction of the Ekwulobia-Nnobi dual carriageway, Soludo is poised to complete the beltway linking the entirety of Anambra State, involving the four big townships of Onitsha, Nnewi, Awka, and Ekwulobia with interconnecting ring roads. Soludo set the outstanding record of awarding well over 750 km of road contracts, with 500 km already asphalted. Which hopeful candidate can ever dream of beating this feat? The coast is quite clear for a total Soludo electoral victory.

Contd on Page 103

"...In Anambra, what we have is the bottom-mid approach taxation" - Hon. Okagbue

From Page 97

It is good to dualize some places but what happens to those places where the revenue is coming from? Everywhere will get a fair share of development but this development must be very idealistic starting from where the revenue is generated from .

Moreover, you need to know where the revenue is going to come from. The money or revenue is not going to come from petty traders, poor women and widows and barrow pushers. In every society, we have what is called top-mid approach taxation but in Anambra, what we have is the bottom-mid approach taxation. I don't even see them taxing the main people that needed to be taxed. They don't even have access to those top people rather, they tax poor people money

Every civilized society understands the Top -Mid approach to taxation. How much do you think that Keke drivers make? For the purposes of election people are now saying that Soludo said that they should stop collecting revenue from barrow pushers.

The barbaric attitude of revenue collection from the very poor people in the society where these petty traders are harassed, maltreated to pay monies that they have not even earned is disheartening. So because of election, Soludo said that they should stop collecting taxes from barrow pushers. For him to have made that statement, it means that those touts were actually working for the state Government. You can imagine that, how much does barrow pushers make in a day. What kind of insensitivity is that. It is so sad

Are you aware that Part of Gov. Soludo's Scorecard include the construction of over 400 km of roads in the last three years more than what the last administration did in 8 years?

This Government claims they have built over 400 kilometers of roads but it is not a reality. We, Ndi Anambra resident at home need to know the current state of those roads excluding the Airport road built by my former principal, Chief Willie Obiano which this administration just embellished.
Chief Willie Obiano did his best and diversified development. At a point he decided to stop doing roads, flyover and bridges to build an airport which he did in record 13 months and the International Conference Center which are still as he left them.

Contd on Page 103

I HAD ONLY ONE CASE WITH ANAMBRA CP FOR OVER 30 YEARS OF JOURNALISM PRACTICE IN NIGERIA... NZEAGWU

Dede Uzoma Nzeagwu is one of the oldest journalists in Anambra state. He is the state Correspondent of the Guardian Newspaper in Anambra state and has practiced journalism for more than 3 decades.

My name is Uzoma M, C, Nzeagwu ,

TELL US YOUR JOURNEY TO JOURNALISM?

After my graduation in the the higher Institutions, .. I have my bachelors in History/ Education from University of Nigerian Nsukka , having gone through other educations like, National certificate of education from Adeyemi college of education and others .

I later arrived Lagos, .. however before then my father was an exotic reader of newspapers such as Outlook, New Nigerian, Daily Times among Others .

Whenever he finishes reading, he will give us to read , It was then I took interest to read. During my National Youth service corps (NYSC) in Oyo state I started buying and reading newspapers .

When I arrived Lagos ,I ran in to a friend called ..... who told me he read Public Relations from the Nigerian Institute of Journalism, so he gave me the idea and i went there to read for the Post Graduate in Journalism, PGD.

After I started with one newspaper in Lagos called "The Evening".

There were other newspapers, but the major one was "The Diet in late 1990s which was owned by former Governor of Delta state (James Ibori), while Malu Olu was the editor, Shady Ozene was the weekend Editor.

I was in foreign desk as Mr Emeka Madunagu was the Desk editor when Diet folded up. My friend and senior staff in Diet, Mr Eto ..... who later returned to The Guardian, brought me into Guardian before I was later deployed to cover Anambra state sometime in August 2000, and since then i have been reporting for Guardian newspaper till date.

WAS JOURNALISM SWEETER IN YOUR ERA THAN THIS DIGITAL AGE ?

Journalism was good then because we have varieties of newspapers such as Concord , the Evening ,Daily Times, Punch, Vanguard etc, and many of them were in Lagos even magazines such as Newswatch , The News and foreign magazines . It was good then compared to these days, and we find out that we are moving with time .. and as we move there will be some innovations like we have them in present days

ARE YOU MEETING UP WITH THE DIGITAL ERA OF JOURNALISM NOW ?

I may say that i am copping to some extent.To me it is good, quite alright .I have my reservations in this your digital era and the reasons best known to me .

YOUR CHALLENGES IN THE ANALOG ERA?

In the Analog era when I was in Anambra state government house ,we had fax machines through which we asend our stories to our offices, earlier there were typewriters before computer came in .

You have your by-line. What ever you write is allways processed with the fax/ typewriter and published, on like presently somebody can stay any where even under the mango tree ,in a bus or even in an office. Some reporters /writers are not even trained and not reporters or journalists.You will see him sending an event he did not even cover ,may be his vehicle or keke just bypassed near a road crash, but he will start to give his caption "Several dead, Blood flowing". "That is not journalism, and is not a trained reporter .

Other challenges includes: One must have working gadgets to help do your job. Maybe, what you just called 'Olden era' requires that "Once you have your paper and pen, you start writing. Then, before the handset, i-pad and other gadgets were introduced ,You can send your report as a message ,it will be developed as story after given them the necessary information and it will come out a good story .

Now digital is now a one man show and you will type and see the "story trending.

IS THE CORRESPONDENTS' CHAPEL OF OLD AND NOW THE SAME ?

To be candid ,Correspondents' chapel has been the same ,it is made up of human beings. Human beings have their characters ,behaviour and ways of life ,so you can not use the word 'character' to describe them .

They have beeg up and doing.. , If I may be a journalist in my next word , I woukd belong to the correspondents' chapel.

Contd on Page 93

"Seek first the security of lives of Ndi Anambra and other developments will follow" - Hon. Okagbue

From Page 89

People are afraid to leave their house early or come back late because of fear.

Before now, our parents wake up before 6am to find something to buy for your school children but nowadays, people are scared to come out by 6am and before 8pm everyone has gone inside.

Payment platforms all over the world including Nigeria run 24 hours It allows people access to all manner of payments for those who wants to operate non stop. But it cannot happen in Anambra because of insecurity. With insecurity you can never develop the economy optimally.

If anybody doesn't understand what insecurity is doing to our economy which was once vibrant and biggest economy in West Africa, we should have a rethink. They used to say that main market was the biggest in West Africa but not anymore.

Recently I had a late flight that landed at Asaba Airport. At Asaba, 10pm to 12 midnight businesses are still on but as soon as you enter Onitsha, you will see no vehicle on the road.

I grew up in Onitsha, it was not like this. Every Petrol Station my father operated in Anambra ran for 24hours but I came back one day late and by 9pm no Petrol Station was open and we slept in darkness that night.

If you don't address the fundamental challenge of insecurity which government is heavily funded to address, then we are joking in this state

Seek first the security of lives and property of Ndi Anambra, other forms of development would follow.

The only way you can activate development in other areas and make life more meaningful to Anambra people is by addressing insecurity. The moment you address security the people feel safe. Economic activities will bounce back, the informal economy will also bounce back. Development will be massive. Know this, Anambra has people who are very wealthy and goal driven personalities.

Already some roads are built by our illustrious sons while building their houses. The only thing that stalled that aggressive development that was on course few years ago was due to insecurity. The most pressing need in Anambra is insecurity. The moment you address that, you will be marvelled at what other kinds of developments that will spring up without much effort.

Contd on Page 95

"I have mentored many journalists" - Nzeagwu

From Page 92

IN ANAMBRA STATE WHY IS THE CORRESPONDENTS' CHAPEL CREATING PROBLEM FOR THE STATE NUJ EVEN WHEN IT IS A CONSTITUTIONAL MATTER ?.

Coming to a matter with the correspondent chapel ,they are complaining of certain things ,as I told you every one has his own way of reasoning.

The Nigerian union of journalist had their constitution and we must follow it in doing things. If it is followed rigidly ,you must be attending congress ,pay your dues, ,your practice fees or any which the union requested you to pay . If you are not forthcoming ,you can negotiate,for examples when I came here since year 2000. I met Mr Atu .....as state chairman ,They organize some Programmes, Seminars, workshops etc, especially during elections, they have ways of collecting dues from members and so on.

What impact have you created to journalist for the 3 decades ?

Most of the new comers, especially In correspondent chapel, I helped some of them by taking them along to assignments, introduced to prominent prominent persons etc, of which some friends in Chapel accused me for selling out information. .. , let me not mention names . I shown many of them the way to follow even though some have left journalism and Anambra state .

Also , I did my job accordingly. It was funny that I had only one case from one Commissioner in Anambra state in 2005, otherwise I have been doing my job diligently.

Furthermore, I have always respected the authority, individuals and not having any collusion with any one that comes around me here in Anambra state that is why they call me " Dede".

ANY REGRATE IN THAT?

I will mot say that all is rosery ,you talked to somebody whom you see as a friend . It depends on he or she to take that advice,

I don't think i have regrets, counseling any journalist or any body who came to get idea through me, No regret.

Contd on Page 95

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FELICITATION

I consider it an honour to associate myself with you on this auspicious occasion as you are conferred with the 2025 NUJ Anambra MAN of The Year Meritorious Service Award.

Your nomination by friends and well wishers reflect their recognition of your years of selfless service and commitment to humanity.

I have no doubt in my mind that higher heights shall come calling. Do please remain mindful of the fact that true reward for hard work is more work. Keep the good work and faith.

Once again, Congratulations!

Barr (Sir) J. B. C. Obikwelu
For: O'BEN DEVELOPERS

OPPO Reno8 T

"We want to replace this administration" - Hon. Okagbue

From Page 93

There are people with huge capital to invest in Anambra because it is a fertile place for investment. The enabling environment needed is to restore security and you will discover a lot of progress. Who are you building roads for when people are running away as a result of insecurity.

Anambra people are known for coming home to buy land and develop but now who is going to supervise that land. People are afraid that they could be kidnapped with high premium on your head.

Unfortunately, the leadership and economic theory of Prof. Soludo doesn't understand the place of security in economic growth.

Remember that some leaders are comfortable with insecurity so that nobody comes in to challenge them.

Can we say that you and your principal are in the guber race to address insecurity ?

We are not running to replace Soludo but we want to replace this administration. The point is that the potency of any leader is dependent on the team surrounding that leader.The essence of coming into government is because we believe we have something to do better .

Sir Paul and I will not just govern this state, the moment we win, we shall congregate men and women into a formidable team to govern Anambra State.

The truth is that whatever is happening today is not just about Soludo but the administration made up of people laden with certain responsibilities under his leadership.

You cannot blame Soludo alone because if he is not getting it right at the health sector, the commissioner for Health should have had an altercation with him because he is a health professional or we should have heard he resigned if Soludo insists to have his way against what is appropriate. This is because the Commissioner is an expert in that profession and should stand his ground.

Contd on Page 97

"Don't write what will be injurious" - Nzeagwu

From Page 93

ANY ADVICE TO THE JOURNALISTS ?

My advice ,like in journalism .. while at the Nigerian Institute of Journalism , during courses ,we were thought, .. When you are reporting events, you should put into consideration the people that are involved ,you respect humanity. Do not report what could be injurious to the other person even do we were thought to publish and be dam.....

We were asked not to frame up people ,never to write what did not happen, even when you are writing a human angle story ,you have to put into considerations certain things which will not cause injuries.

At times we will report an event and say names with held , If it is a company or establishment or ministry , private institutions, organisations or financial institutions ,At times ,you don't give the names because it will affect the public.

So I counsel the young ones in training that they should put these in to consideration

You don't just write for writing sake because now that we are in digital era, what ever you report in Anambra here will go viral mot only in Nigerian but international .

A little comment may spark up what you don't expect either putting you in trouble or creating crises in your area or community
or even bring collision between your country and another

So let us be serious and know how we report events and we should appear modesty in dressing .
Some men dress like people working in the park while the women dresses to kill because these are set of reporter who go to cooperate establishments ,some do financial reporting, eduction and market

The way you dress can make the person you are about to interview to begin to think about another thing Above all there should be respect for those in Authority like i belong to a correspondent chapel ,the chairman and his executive mus be respected and they will respect you, same with the state NUJ.

You know that an occasion of misunderstanding could lead to quarrel but along the line we see it as comradeship. Like Americans will saw especially in military circle: "They are watching your back .So you protect your colleague .We are all comrades even though some of us are fund of going to reveal who ever publishes a story . They will say " Look at Uzoma he was rhe person that wrote the story".

Contd on Page 97

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HON. ARC. OKEY EZEOBI
MD/CEO
BUREAU OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

On behalf of my family, management and staff of Ferotex Group we heartily rejoice with

Hon. Arc. Okey Ezeobi,
The Managing Director/
Chief Executive Officer
Bureau of Public Procurement

on his confirmation as the 2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year.

Your contribution and achievement over the past years have been outstanding and of great benefit to the good people of Anambra State. We are proud of your administrative excellence and wish you success in the coming years. .

Congratulations !!!

Chief Festus Onu
Chairman, Ferotex Group.

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Nigeria Union of Journalists, NUJ, Anambra State Council Press Week/
2025 Man of the Year Awards

Goodwill Message to
ARCH. OKEY EZEOBI
On the Occasion of the 2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year Award

We extend our warmest congratulations to Arch. Okey Ezeobi, GM/CEO of the Anambra Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP), on his well-deserved recognition as the 2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year.

This prestigious award is a clear testament to your unwavering commitment to public service, excellence in governance, and visionary leadership in procurement transparency and reform. Your dedication to accountability and innovation has not only elevated standards in Anambra State but has also set a benchmark for others across Nigeria.

As friends, partners, and admirers of your work, we are proud to celebrate this momentous milestone with you. May your journey continue to inspire positive change, integrity, and impactful leadership in all spheres of public administration.

Once again, congratulations on this remarkable achievement. The honour is well-earned, and the future remains bright.

ARC. OKEY EZEOBI
GM/CEO Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement/
Chairman, Dwellins International Limited
The Winner
2025 NUJ Anambra Man Of The Year Award

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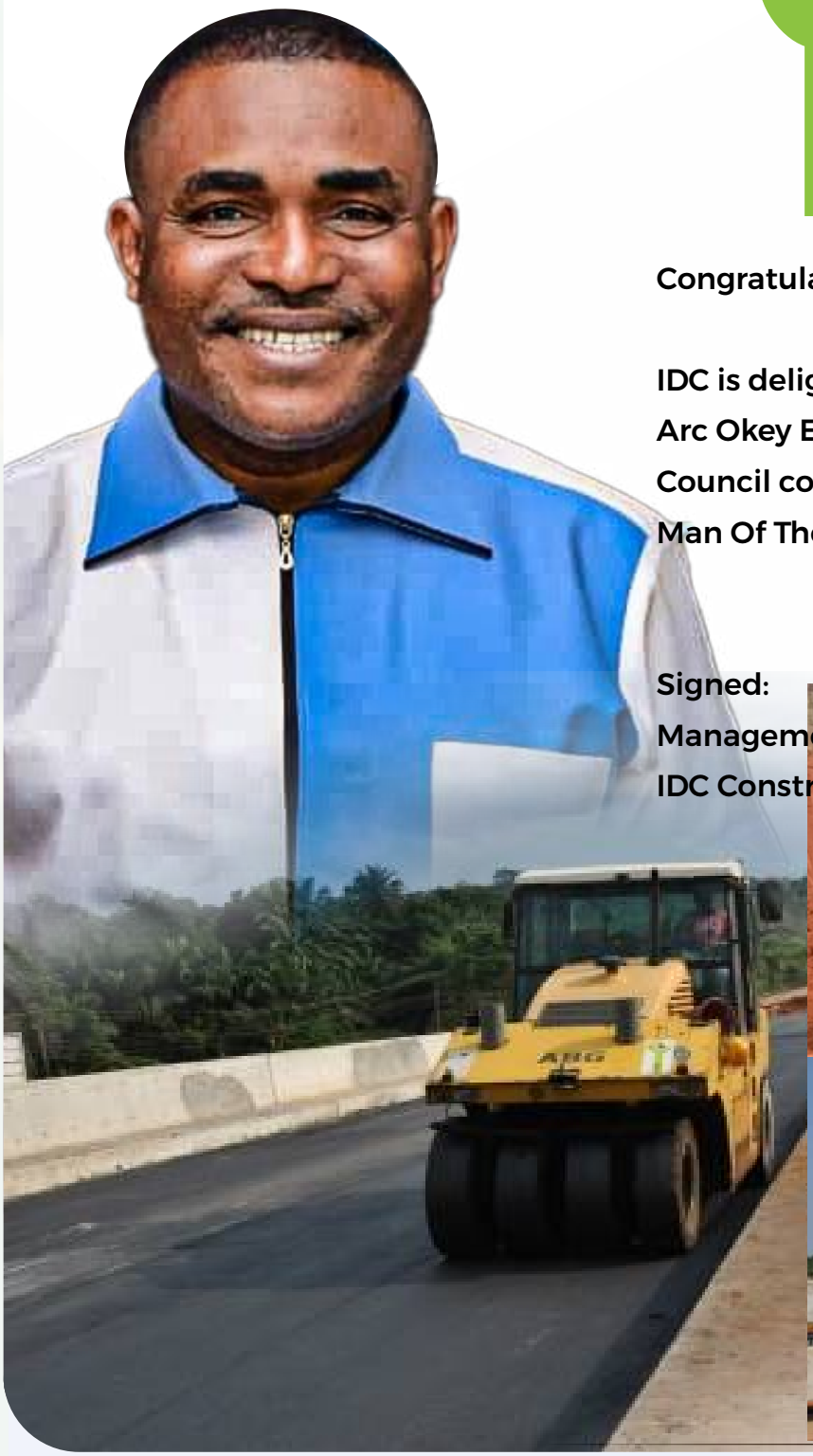
Arc. Okey Ezeobi

Goodwill Message from



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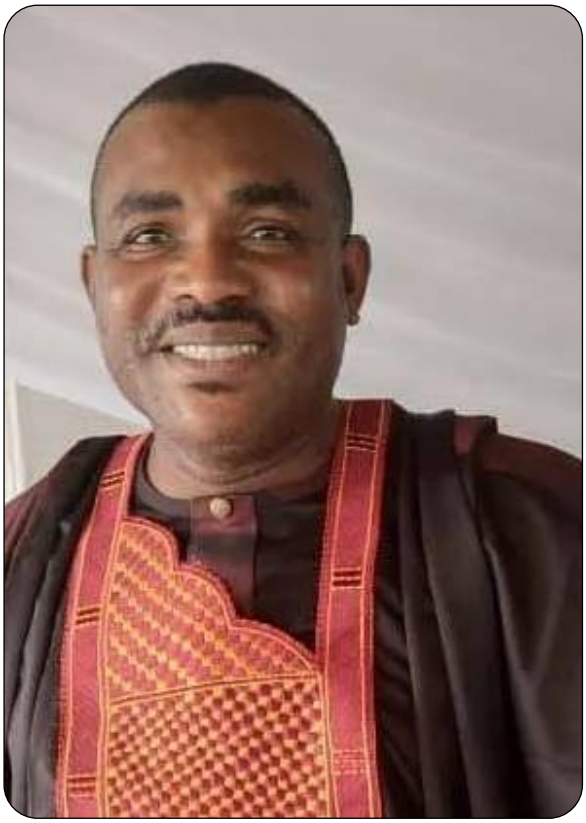
Congratulations BPP Personified

IDC is delighted to identify with you Hon Arc Okey Ezeobi as NUJ Anambra State Council confers on you the prestigious Man Of The Year Award of 2025.

Signed:
Management
IDC Construction Limited

CONGRATULATIONS
TO
Arc. Okey Ezeobi
NUJ 2025 MAN OF THE YEAR



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"We want to replace this administration " - Hon. Okagbue

From Page 95

The Health Commissioner as a Medical Doctor should be held responsible for whatever goes wrong or right in that sector and not the Governor. Likewise, when our Governing team commences, the Commissioner should be bold enough to tell Paul that although he is a professional in the legal profession but not in the medical profession or health sector.

Likewise, if the quality of roads already built are bad why not hold the Commissioner for Works who is a certified Engineer responsible. If you are told to construct a road, shouldn't you know that the road will be tied to your name as Commissioner for works and your generation. If you are a man of integrity you would tell the Governor that you will rather resign than construct a substandard road.

But we have not heard anything like that. Whatever is happening, is a function of his administration not just that Soludo is not giving a listening ear. Let us quit this blame game on an individual.

"The point is that this administration collectively is not leaving up to expectation and we want to replace it"

The question is, while this administration is seen going round the world to present its scorecard, which one has been presented to Ndi Anambra at home and what medium could have been the best medium to present that scorecard?

I don't know of how many states the present Governor visited before he became Governor because I know that I was part of the system that made him emerge as Governor. Now, he wants a reelection and he is going everywhere telling the world of his achievements without telling those at home.

This Administration do not find the residents of Anambra worthy of being presented the scorecard but to those in diaspora.

We need leadership that will cover every aspect of the state and will be based on what the people bring to the table. For instance, I grew up at Onitsha, I cannot bring main market to Umunachi. I will live to see that day as against certain developmental strides that are being done from Awka moving to the south. That I will see Awka road from express to Savoy to Old Market road to main market dualized. I want to see that development.

Contd on Page 103

"Journalists made most of the politicians you see today" - Nzeagwu

From Page 95

YOUR ADVICE TO POLITICIANS; BEEN A JOURNALIST HERE IN ANAMBRA FOR MORE THAN 3 DECADES?

We made this politicians you see today ... no matter who they are. Like we are in election period now ,they will keep on inviting us for an interview because it is through the publication that the public will known them.

We ask them questions and publish. some of them will even want us to package them in a special way more than others .We should be friends ,comrades in arms. Those of them that are lucky and as they are taking up offices, it requires that they should remember that journalist made them. But you find out that once they become what they contest for they will not be accessible again .

They will change their phone numbers, security guards and other officials, even those who campaigned with them will be removed and replaced with new people who did not even known their challenges .

The present government should work with the press , during campaigns I visited the homes of some of this officials ,they gave us audience , they spoke with us ,they are never hostile as they are now.

They were accessible ,they listen ,they corporate and encouraged those who came to package them well ,how come after packaging them they are not reachable again.

They forgot those who made them , who helped them come out from all manner of challenges to now occupy new offices . Those who don't known how they started will now take over. Its' very unfortunate

I remember one of the politicians in the state, though now late , who addresses journalist after mid night .We will be there in his home but as from 1 am he will now come to address journalists, just like many others.

Their phone numbers are no longer reachable again, and you can't see them again.They should rethink and behave well and use what ever office they are holding to improve lives of journalists .They should equally be accountable to people, because the people put them there.

Those of them that are serving in the state and the National Assembly should assist their communities. What ever that is mapped out for community development ,they should use it for that purpose ,empower youths ,widows and the general public.

"The current Anambra State Government taxes the poor..." -Hon. Okagbue

From Page 99

I had to tell him to also stop the construction of this Afo Igwe road bypass that was done to decongest the busy Afor Igwe/ Oyeagu market traffic before it crossed my house so that people will not think I attracted its construction for selfish reasons.

People chase their personal excitement and call their personal excitements progress and development. For instance, the construction of a fun city is a personal excitement.

It is not bad to have a playground but the question is, that playground you have put in place was there a demand for it by the people?

The press should do a research analysis. Set up a questionnaire and know wether the playground is what the people want or now. It is that disconnect with the press that is making them pursue personal excitement saying that they are bringing development of Disney park with waterfalls.

People are looking for ways to generate more revenues .

The revenue you generated is being used to fund things that cannot generate commensurate revenue to develop other places.

I challenge the press to demand for the revenue position of this fun city in the next three months.

Let them tell us how much that playground can generate between now and October. A playground can be in a developed State but did the people demand for a playground. Did the government satisfy the key needs of the people before choosing to build a playground? Who is going to take over its management? Are there backed up deals to it ? Without answers to this questions, the Government cannot say they have done well.

With Respect To Zoning Arrangements Working in Anambra State, Are You Not Concerned that the Governorship Candidates of Other Major Political Parties in the Race are From Anambra South Senatorial Zone?

The point is that we want a functional leadership. A leadership that will speak and act on the challenges not the one that is leaning on extremely trivial senatorial zone.I live for the moment not zoning arrangements or whom to hand over.

Contd on Page 108

Soludo... The Deciding Factors Continued

From Page 99

The anticipated grand re-election of Governor Soludo is the just reward for the leader of Anambra State who broke the jinx with the construction of the ultra-modern Government House and Lodge, now christened Light House. Re-election is the due reward for the doer who delivered the inimitable Solution Fun-City while successfully undertaking the landmark transformation of Awka as a capital city. It is incumbent on Ndi Anambra to spur Soludo on with their quantum of votes to continue his delivery of Awka 2:0 and Onitsha 2:0.

It will amount to an impossible task for any of Soludo's mismatched challengers to travel as far as the riverine Olumbanasaa community in Anambra West Local Government, where Soludo has been the only Anambra State Governor to visit, a historic event that took place on Saturday, November 25, 2023, from atop the waters of the tracherious River Niger.

It is interesting to let the opposition challenging Soludo know that there are also voters in Olumbanasaa! Let them go there to test the waters!

Soludo has been endorsed by the who's who in Anambra State. The three senatorial zones have held grand rallies in support of the employer of 8115 teachers and umpteen doctors and healthcare workers. The people of Anambra State are solidly behind the Solution Governor, who bestowed free education, free antenatal care, the farm-to-feed agro programme, and massive youth empowerment to ensure a prosperous, peaceful, and livable homeland.

While Soludo is saying: these I have done for you without borrowing; his opponents are saying give us the chance to try. That chance shall come in fullness of time: 2029. So, patience!

All the deciding factors are in place for the re-election of Governor Charles Chukwuma Soludo, CFR.

Law Mefor, PhD, is the Anambra State Commissioner for Information.

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Congratulatory Message

It is with immense pleasure that I extend my warmest congratulations to you on being crowned the 2025 Nigeria Union of Journalists Anambra Man of the Year. This prestigious award is a testament to your unwavering dedication, unrelenting passion, and exemplary leadership.

Your effervescent personality, coupled with your razor-sharp intellect and unwavering commitment to architectural excellence, has endeared you to many. As a paragon of virtue and a trailblazer in your field, you have consistently demonstrated a remarkable ability to navigate complex issues with aplomb, showcasing your exceptional acumen and unwavering dedication to the noble profession of journalism.

Your trailblazing contributions in our state Anambra has not gone unnoticed. Your commitment to upholding the highest standards of journalism and promoting truth, justice, and progress is truly inspiring.

Please accept my heartfelt felicitations on this remarkable achievement. May this recognition further fuel your pursuit of excellence and continue to inspire others to follow in your footsteps.

Here's to many more years of impactful service and leadership!

Congratulations once again, sir.

Fabian C. Okoye
Managing Director

"WHAT WE ORDERED VS. WHAT WE GOT":

UNIZIK Mass Communication Students share their experiences in learning

By Favour Ede, Awka

Mass Communication remains a dream course for many students at Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, and indeed across the globe. However, for students of the prestigious department in UNIZIK, the reality of studying the course has fallen short of expectations, as many grapple with infrastructural challenges, limited practical exposure, and general academic frustration.

The department, widely regarded for producing future broadcasters, journalists, public relations practitioners, and advertising professionals, is now being questioned by its own students over the quality of training offered—particularly the lack of hands-on experience that is essential in the field.

Ede Favour, a campus journalist and 200-level student of the department, embarked on a fact-finding mission driven by a troubling observation: many Mass Communication graduates often abandon the profession altogether, ending up in unrelated fields like fashion design, trading, or sales.

Her curiosity led her to speak with fellow students to uncover their challenges. For many, the issues begin with basic infrastructure.

Eze Chidimma, a 200-level student, identified the lack of adequate lecture halls as a major barrier to learning. "Sometimes we have lectures clashing with other levels, especially 100-level students," she explained. "One class has to wait for another to finish before taking their turn. It wastes time and affects concentration."

She also pointed to financial strain as a constant burden. "There are so many assignments, most of which require printing, photocopying, or online submissions—and it's not easy when you're struggling financially," she added.

Sunshine, another student in the department, lamented the overwhelming nature of coursework, especially when it appears not to impact students' grades. "Most of the assignments involve rigorous research, yet you get little or no marks for them," she said in frustration. "It's like we're doing all this for nothing. The system is mentally exhausting."

She also pointed to financial strain as a constant burden. "There are so many assignments, most of which require printing, photocopying, or online submissions—and it's not easy when you're struggling financially," she added.

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Chioma, a 100-level student, raised concerns about the discomfort in lecture halls, particularly the lack of basic amenities. "There are no fans in most of the classrooms," she said. "The heat makes it really difficult to concentrate. It's just not a good environment for learning."

Adeleke ItunuOluwa, a fellow 200-level student, echoed similar sentiments. "We don't have enough lecture halls, and the ones we use are not conducive—no air-conditioning, no ventilation. During the hot season, it's even worse."

Contd on Page 108

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Congratulations

ARCH. OKEY EZEOBI

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to my brother, Hon. Arc. Okey Ezeobi, Managing Director, Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP), on your well-deserved recognition as the NUJ Anambra Man of the Year 2025.

This prestigious honour is a resounding affirmation of your integrity, excellence, and transparent leadership in public service. Your outstanding contributions to procurement reform and good governance in Anambra State have made you a shining example of responsible stewardship and visionary leadership.

As a proud son of Nanka, your achievements have brought immense pride to our community. You have not only distinguished yourself in service but have become a beacon of hope and a source of inspiration for the next generation.

On behalf of myself, my family, and the entire Ezeudo Nanka Foundation, I celebrate you and pray for continued wisdom, strength, and divine guidance as you soar to even greater heights.

Congratulations once again!

Signed

Chief Ebere Nwosu
Ezeudo Nanka

TOBECHUKWU NWEKE SAN, FCIARB (UK)

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08054711111,08177777345
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GOODWILL MESSAGE

I warmly congratulate you, Arch. Okey Ezeobi, General Manager and CEO of the Anambra Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP), for emerging as winner of the keenly contested 2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year.

This honour with which you would be uniquely decorated at the award ceremony reflects your astute leadership and commitment to excellence. It is evident and acknowledged by all who have encountered the services of the Anambra BPP that under your leadership, the BPP is setting standards in transparency and competitive pricing in public procurements, inspiring many in public service.

May this award spur you on to even greater accomplishments in service to our dear state and our nation.

Once again, congratulations!

Tobechukwu Nweke SAN, FCIArb (UK)

"WHAT WE ORDERED VS. WHAT WE GOT"... CONTINUED

From Page 105

The limitations in classroom space and learning conditions have pushed students to other faculties for lectures. Ndulue Chinonso, another 200-level student, recalled a recent experience. "Last semester, we had to use the Management Sciences complex for our classes. It was stressful and discouraging," he said.

Beyond the physical conditions, many students voiced concern over the department's theoretical approach to teaching Mass Communication—a discipline that should be largely practical.

Chinonso described his experience as a classic case of "what I ordered versus what I got." "Mass Communication should be practical. Instead, we spend all our time on theories," he said. "We should be trained to operate studio equipment, handle cameras, produce content, and use editing software. But most of us graduate without touching any of these."

Favour Ede agreed. "Whether it's broadcasting, journalism, PR, or advertising, Mass Communication is a practical field. We should be learning how to write news for TV and radio, how to create blogs, how to report real events. But here, we barely scratch the surface."

She warned that the current system is setting students up for failure. "How do you expect students who never practiced what they studied to survive in the real world?" she asked. "It's no surprise that many graduates of Mass Communication end up in other professions out of necessity."

According to the students, a more hands-on approach to teaching would not only improve their competence but also better prepare them for life after school. "We need a curriculum that aligns with the realities of the industry," said Chinonso.

"That's the only way to reduce unemployment among Mass Communication graduates and ensure we are not just wasting four years of our lives."

The students called on the university management and the department leadership to take urgent steps to reform the program—starting with improved infrastructure, modern equipment, and more practical-based learning modules.This is why the unbundling of the department has become a necessity now.

"It's time to bridge the gap between classroom learning and industry expectations," Ede concluded. "We deserve an education that prepares us for the future we dream of."

"We don't want a leadership founded on myopism..." - Hon. Okagbue

From Page 103

We don't want a leadership founded on myopism. You cannot say it must be on zoning arrangements because even if that zone that must go do not have a capable person yet you still want the zone to produce a candidate even if the person is a clown.

There is nowhere in the world where people practice rotational leadership, it is not a constitutional provision but it is understandable when rotational slots or who becomes the leader is done within a political party. What people pursue in leadership is competence.

You need to have people in leadership who understands what it takes to govern this state. People who understand business, finance, governance and the people of Anambra state. People who are liberal in their thinking, who understand that this state requires a holistic approach of development as against development that are sectional to wherever you come from.

Soludo's Transformational Projects...Arc. Okey Ezeobi

From page 70

When the brochure was complete, the printer asked whose name to put on it. I refused to use my name, and it wouldn't have been appropriate to use the Bureau's either. The printer insisted a name had to be included, so I said, "Just write Anambra Patriots, meaning patriotic sons of Anambra." It wasn't premeditated. It was a spur-of-the-moment decision to reflect the spirit behind the effort.

Once printed, the brochure was distributed across MDAs.

One person who picked it up was deeply impressed and asked the Commissioner for Works who the Anambra Patriots were. The Commissioner said he didn't know, but that I had delivered the brochures. The man, Ejiamatu, a friend of mine, was surprised and slightly upset.
He came to my office and said, "Okey, I thought we were close. How could you create such a fantastic publication and not involve me? That brochure is exceptional—the world should see what the Governor is doing!"

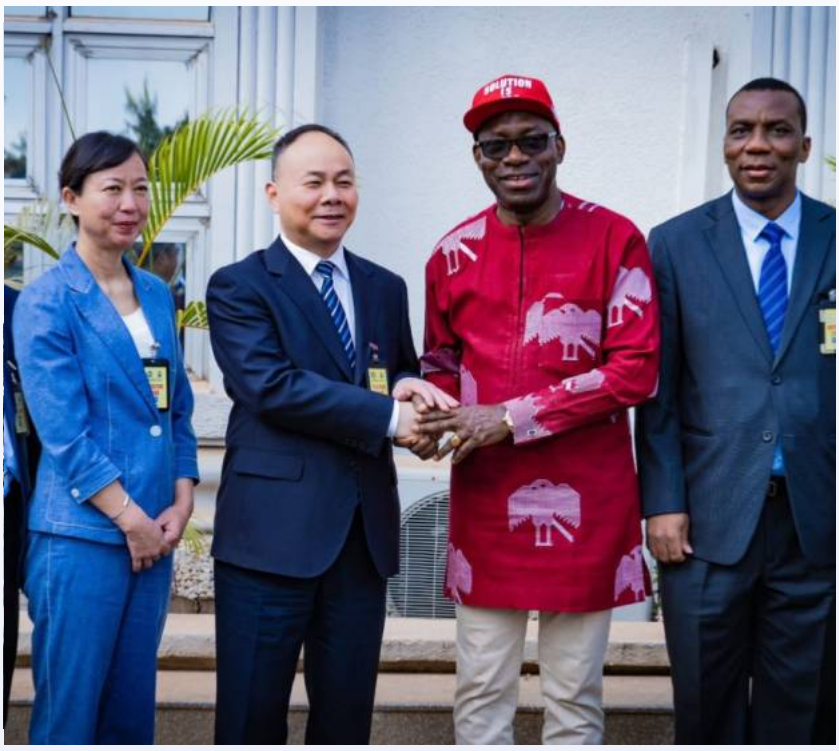
He asked how many people were in Anambra Patriots, and jokingly, but truthfully, I told him, "Just me." He replied, "Not anymore. I'm joining you." That's how we became two.

From there, the movement took off and started gathering momentum. Many people started joining organically. Today, Anambra Patriots has over 7,000 registered members with presence in every ward of Anambra State. As the convener, I meet many of our members for the first time at events—they join because they believe in the vision.

We have not paid a single person to join. People fund themselves because they see what Governor Soludo is doing, and they believe in the movement. Anambra Patriots has grown beyond me; it is now a powerful force working tirelessly to ensure the Governor is re-elected for a second term.

When APGA announced the sale of nomination forms, the Patriots resolved to purchase it for the Governor. They went to Abuja the same day and paid for it. When Governor Soludo visited the party office, the National Chairman told him, "Sir, your form has already been paid for by Anambra Patriots."

We told the Governor, "Focus on governance. Let us handle the campaign." The group called Anambra Patriots has become a self-sustaining movement. No one was paid to join; people bought into the vision on their own. We're also working on branding the state and reconciling aggrieved APGA members. We are at the forefront of reconciliation efforts, working to bring aggrieved members back into the party. Many have shared how they labored tirelessly for APGA, only to feel sidelined in recent times. I recall one elderly woman who told me, "We are not asking for money, just recognition for the sacrifices we made."
Beyond reconciliation, Anambra Patriots is also preparing to embark on another major initiative: the strategic branding of Anambra State, aimed at reshaping its image and showcasing the transformative progress under Governor Soludo's leadership.
President Tinubu recently said, "Governor Soludo knows the way." And indeed, he does. At an EXCO meeting, Soludo declared he would eradicate poverty in Anambra. And from what I've seen, he truly means it, and he has the policies to back it up.



OBA - AGU II OF UMUOBA ANAM

Anambra East/west Local Government Area
Anambra State, Nigeria.

HRM
IGWE SIR G.O EKWEALOR
Igwe's Palace - Umuoba Anam Community, Otu-ocha.
+2347067407570, +2347082675805

Our Ref:..... Your Ref:..... Date:.....

GOODWILL MESSAGE

A WELL DESERVED HONOUR FOR A WOMAN WITH A HEART OF GOLD.

I am deeply honored to celebrate Dr Jessie Ifeoma Menuba on this well-deserved award by the Anambra State chapter of the NUJ. Her tireless commitment to humanitarian and philatropic services has transformed countless lives and inspired a generation. Dr Jessie's legacy of generosity and compassion will continue to uplift communities locally and internationally for years to come. Kudos to you on this prestigious recognition of your impactful work. The Philatropists Of The 21st Century Award aptly speaks volumes of your selfless disposition at all times.
On behalf of members of my royal family, cabinet and the entire people of Umuoba, Anam community, I say congratulations to you Mother Theresa Of The 21st Century.

Signed

HRM Igwe Dr. Sir G.O. Ekwealor,
Agu II Of Umuoba Anam.

OKWAEZE IV
THE OKWAEZE IV OF NDIOKPALAEZE

PALACE OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS
EZE FREDRICK CHIDOZIE OKOLI
The Okwaeze IV of Ndiokpalaeze,
Orumba North L.G.A. Anambra State.

Our Ref _____ Your Ref _____ Date _____

GOODWILL MESSAGE

To A Good Woman

Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition, Dr Jessie Ifeoma Menuba! Your generosity and compassion have made a profound difference in the lives of many. Philanthropy is your way of life because of your deeply rooted love for humanity. People like you are in a very limited supply these days.
I celebrate this special day with you, Philanthropist Of The 21st Century. This unique award, like the proverbial cap, fits you perfectly. I am greatly inspired by your exemplary lifestyle.

Signed

HRH Eze Frederick Chidozie Okoli,
The Okwaeze IV of Ndiokpalaeze, Orumba North LGA.

Gov. Eno Demonstrates Love to Journalists

By Favour Ede,Awka

NUJ President with Gov. Eno

It was jubilation for Journalists working in Awka Ibom State as the Governor Umo Eno of Akwa Ibom State gave out a jeep to chairman of the Nigeria Union of Journalists, NUJ, Akwa Ibom State Comrade Amos Etuk.

Governor Eno didn't stop there as he also presented brand-new vehicles to members of the State Working Committee of the NUJ in Akwa Ibom.

That was in fulfillment of Car Gift Promise To Akwa Ibom Council's State Working Committee,SWC Members of the Nigeria Union of Journalists, NUJ by the Governor sometime last year.

Gov. Eno reaffirmed his administration's commitment to a free and vibrant press as he commissioned the Patience (Kemi) Umo Eno Auditorium at the State Secretariat of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Akwa Ibom State Council.

The iconic structure built for journalists in Akwa Ibom State by the State Government was named in honour of the Governor's late wife, Patience (Kemi) Umo Eno Auditorium.

While inaugurating the facility, Gov. Eno commended the outgoing NUJ State Chairman, Comrade Amos Etuk and the EXCO for being objective in their news report, adding that it has greatly contributed to promoting the image of the State.

"We have promoted Akwa Ibom as a state, and not demoted it. That is what you have done. Governments will come and go, but Akwa Ibom remains constant," the Governor stated.

Contd on Page 113

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GOODWILL MESSAGE TO THE 2025 NUJ ANAMBRA MAN OF THE YEAR-ARCHITECT OKEY EZEOBI.MD- BPP ANAMBRA STATE.

I am truly delighted to extend my warmest congratulations to you on your confirmation as the 2025 Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) Anambra Man of the Year.

This exceptional recognition by the NUJ speaks volumes about your inspiring leadership, your outstanding philanthropic contributions, and your unwavering commitment to professionalism and the principles of good governance. In a pool of distinguished individuals, your selection and confirmation as the honouree is not just well deserved, but a powerful testament to the value of integrity, service, and visionary impact.

You have become a beacon of excellence in your field, a symbol of hope to many, and a source of pride to those of us who are privileged to know you. This honour simply affirms what we have always known—you are a leader whose work speaks louder than words.

May this recognition propel you to greater heights in service to humanity and upliftment of our society.

Congratulations once again!

Barr. Kenneth Chinwuba

Gov. Eno builds secretariate for NUJ

From Page 111

NUJ National President, Alhasan Yahya presenting a gift to the council's SWC from Gov. Eno

In recognition of his service, the Governor announced the appointment of Comrade Amos Etuk as Senior Special Assistant to the Governor on Local Media.

Addressing journalists ahead of the forthcoming NUJ elections, today, the governor urged them to uphold peace, decorum, and professionalism throughout the process.

"My support for you is because of your conduct and the way you've safeguarded the peace of the state. You've not set the state ablaze," he remarked.

Speaking at the event, the State Commissioner for Information, Rt. Hon. Aniekan Umanah, praised the Governor's consistency in delivering on promises, describing the commissioning as an enactment of the "finisher's anointing."

He commended the administration's commitment to press freedom and harmonious engagement with the media.

"Since you came on board, no journalist has been arrested or jailed for any reason. This is evidence of your support for a free press," Umanah stated, urging journalists to reciprocate with responsible journalism.

Also in attendance, the National President of NUJ, Comrade Alhasan Yahya, commended the Governor for his impactful leadership and for appointing journalists to key roles in government. He also acknowledged the contributions of the Information Commissioner in strengthening the media-government partnership.

In his remarks, the outgoing NUJ Chairman, Comrade Amos Etuk, expressed deep appreciation to the Governor for supporting the completion of the auditorium—an effort that began nearly two decades ago under the leadership of Comrade Israel Umoh. He described the event as historic and pledged continued collaboration between the NUJ and the state government.

"Your Excellency, this is the legacy we envisioned. You have been a father to Akwa Ibom NUJ. We assure you that this cooperation will be sustained," Etuk affirmed.

The highlight of the event was the official naming of the structure as the Patience (Kemi) Umo Eno Auditorium, immortalizing the late wife of the Governor and symbolizing the administration's unwavering support for the media.

"In 1999, I started wheel-barrow pushing" - Chief Nwakeze

From page 87

I make between N1000 to N3000 daily then. I was able to save over N1.9 million from the profits. A Dollar was about fifty or sixty naira then. My master later confiscated the money, accusing me of stealing his money.
On 13th January, 1999, I started wheel barrow pushing. I became a wheelbarrow pusher.
After months of another difficult moment, I went to a man called Joseph Nwaatu and told him to tell my master to settle me properly.

The man met him and told him what I said, my master demanded they I be called. I went with my uncle and he settled me with Fifty thousand naira. Normally, I should be settled with six hundred or seven hundred thousand naira to start a meaningful business and pay necessary bills, but I was given fifty thousand naira, and he asked me to leave his house because I was still staying with them then.
I had a humble beginning. I grew my business in such a manner that I bought my Master 4Runer in 2017, I import goods for my boss and today, he has a brand name, I did it for him. I brought him back, designed a brand name for him and got him goods. His wife died

NUJ Chairman with Chief Nwakaeze

in 2013, but before she died, my master had no car. I drove his wife to the teaching hospital with my Pathfinder.
In 2007, a man gave me goods, with an invoice worth over 10 million naira, about seven containers, and I offloaded them, a man who barely knows me. That was how I started Importation in 2010. Then I had enough money.

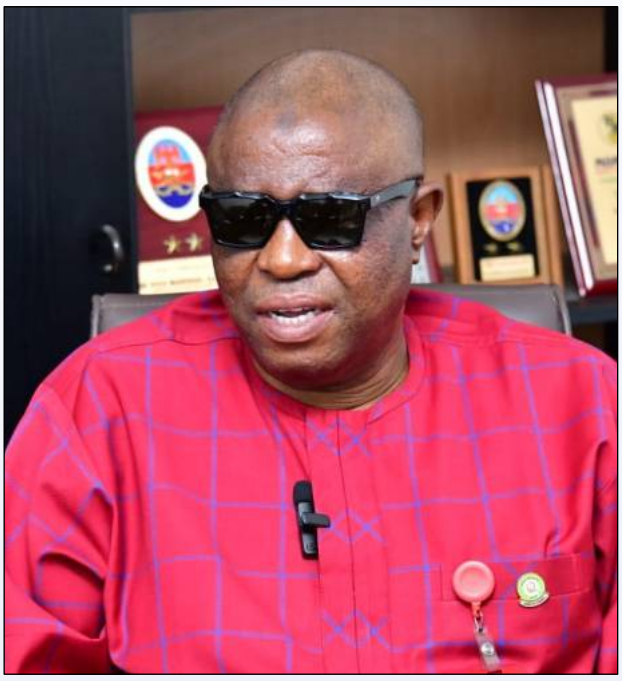
I served as President General (PG) of Awba Ofemili for three years.

What were your achievements as Awba Ofemili President General?

From the creation of the world, when the community called Awba ofemili came into existence, Awba Ofemili had no access road. I personally challenged former Governor Willie Obiano, during a campaign rally at Ebenebe over the state of roads in Awka North , especially the Amansea-Ebenebe- Ugbenu-Ugbene-Awba Ofemili road.
It was the will of God that I became the PG of Awba Ofemili, because I was embittered about the condition of the road. As an individual, I do some palliatives on the road annually especially during rainy season. I told former Governor Willie Obiano that he failed people of Awka North and called on Governor Soludo who came for campaign to prioritise Awka North roads which he did. We remain grateful to him. He is my personal friend and he chose the date I did my house warming here in Nkwere in December 19, 2023, He chose the date himself. The house opening attracted more than thirty thousand people.

COMPULSORY NDLEA INTERGRITY DRUG TEST FOR STUDENTS OF TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS

I want to commend the Chairman of NDLEA Brigadier General Muhamed Buba Marwa and Minister of Education on their bold decision to have Students of tertiary institutions under go compulsory NDLEA Intergrity drug test and I want to urge the Minister to include secondary schools Students. The introduction of this test no doubt will certainly go a long way to curbing incidences of drug abuse among our youths and there by preserving the future generations from self destruction. I urge the minister to have Colleges of Education and faculty of education to commence the teaching of drug education to their various Students. This should be made compulsory.



Signed: DCG Momodu Sule fsi Rtd

GOVERNMENT OF ANAMBRA STATE OF NIGERIA

ANAMBRA STATE INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY AGENCY

Email: ict@anambrastate.gov.ng
Telephone:
Our Ref:.....
Your Ref:.....

Government House
Behind SSG's Office
P.M.B. 5016
Awka.

17th July 2025
Date:.....

The GM/CEO
Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement (ANSBPP)
Awka.

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Heartfelt congratulations to a dear colleague, friend, and brother, Arch. Okey Ezeobi.

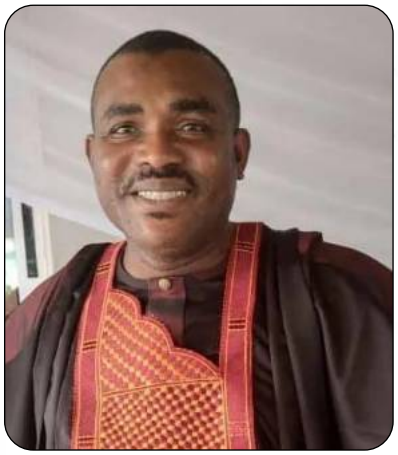
On behalf of myself, my family, and the entire Anambra State ICT Agency team, I extend my warmest congratulations to you, Arch. Okey Ezeobi, on your well-deserved recognition as the 2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year, a prestigious award celebrating outstanding contributions to our society.

Your steadfast commitment to excellence, transparency, and service at the Anambra Bureau of Public Procurement continues to inspire us all. This honour reflects your remarkable leadership, integrity, and dedication to building systems that uplift our community.

I celebrate you today, not only as an esteemed colleague but as a trusted friend whose passion for progress remains exemplary. May this recognition pave the way for even greater opportunities to serve and inspire.

Congratulations once again.

Chukwuemeka Fred Agbata (CFA)
MD/CEO, Anambra State ICT Agency



All correspondence should be addressed to the MD/CEO

NATIONAL FINANCIAL INVESTIGATION | PUBLIC CRY

BLOOD IN THE BALANCE SHEETS

How Nigerian Banks and Online Loan Apps Are Pushing Citizens to the Brink

By Amb. Olufemi OMOTOSO
Strategic Financial Justice Advocate | National Resource Analyst

WHEN BANKS BECOME BURDENS

In what is being described as a "financial war against the poor," Nigerians are waking up daily to outrageous deductions — card maintenance fees, SMS alert charges, stamp duty, and veiled interest surcharges — many of which are unapproved, unexplained, and unapologetic.

Couple this with the explosive proliferation of online loan apps demanding as much as 45% interest in 7–14 days, plus blackmail tactics and psychological warfare, and you'll understand why many Nigerians are choosing death over debt.

VERIFIABLE PROOF | CASE STUDIES

"I Lost ₦2,800 in 3 Days for Holding My Own ATM Card"

Ijeoma A., Port Harcourt, received her monthly salary of ₦64,000 — but within 3 days, she was left with ₦59,200. Charges included:

₦500 Card Maintenance
₦100 Monthly SMS
₦50 Stamp Duty (on a transfer she didn't make)
₦2,000 "Account Maintenance Fee"

"My bank told me it's automatic. I asked — for what service? They said 'it's policy'."

THE DARK SIDE OF LOAN APPS: SUICIDE BY DEBT

December 2023 – Lagos:
David O., a 29-year-old Uber driver, committed suicide after a loan app published his obituary photo to his WhatsApp contacts when he defaulted on a ₦15,000 loan.
Interest: ₦6,800
Deadline: 7 days
Recovery tactic: Public shame, threats, and abuse.

His sister confirmed he had begged the app for a grace period.
They replied: "You'll die in shame. Just wait."

August 2022 – Benin:
A widow was arrested after a loan app used AI-generated photos of her daughter in pornographic settings as a tool of blackmail when repayment was late by 3 days.

DOCUMENTED EVIDENCE
> CBN Circulars vs. Reality
Despite regulatory guidelines issued in 2021 to cap interest rates and illegal deductions, banks and digital loan apps still exploit loopholes.
Nigerian banks charged ₦77.7 billion in account maintenance fees alone in 2023
— NDIC Financial Bulletin (2024)

Over 85 loan apps operate in Nigeria without license or oversight
— FCCPC Report, Jan 2024

Suicide rates linked to debt distress rose 39% in 18 months
— Mental Health Foundation of Nigeria, 2023

GOVERNMENT SILENCE: COMPLICIT OR CARELESS?

> Where are the regulators?
The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), National Assembly Committees on Banking, and the Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC) have all been silent or slow, despite public outcry.

Over 13,000 petitions submitted to CBN Consumer Protection Desk — less than 8% resolved.

Senate Committee on Banking summoned no bank CEO over exploitative deductions in 2023.
⚖️ FCCPC fines only 4 loan apps in 3 years — while over 70 operate illegally.

PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE & FINANCIAL TRAUMA
Experts now warn that Nigerians are slipping into chronic depression, not from poverty — but from systematically induced hopelessness:

Daily deductions without consent

Threatening SMS from digital loan agents
Public defamation, photo manipulation, and family harassment
> Dr. Akin Oladele (Psychiatrist, LUTH):
"This is financial terrorism, not financial services."

CALL FOR NATIONAL EMERGENCY ACTION
1. Immediate Audit of All Bank Charges (2019–2024)
2. Blacklist & Shutdown of All Unregistered Loan Apps
3. Compulsory Licensing and Ethics Training for Loan FinTech Companies
4. Mental Health Compensation Fund for Victims of App Abuse
5. Parliamentary Hearing into CBN and Bank CEO Collaborations on Hidden Charges

FINAL WORD

If the Nigerian government continues its silence, the blood of the victims lies at its doorstep.
The Nigerian people are not asking for favors — they are demanding fairness, transparency, and dignity.
We must stop this national robbery masked as banking before more lives are lost to silent suicide.

> ✍🏻 Amb. Olufemi OMOTOSO
National Development Advocate | Voice for the Voiceless

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REAL ESTATE AND PROPERTIES

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP

NUJ MAN OF THE YEAR 2025

The entire NONDON GROUP,
with Chief Nonso Ezenwanne "Oriego" (Group MD/CEO),
proudly salutes ARC. OKEY EZEOBI (GM/CEO, Anambra Bureau of Public Procurement)!
Congratulations on being named "Man Of The Year" by the NUJ Anambra State Council at their 2025 Press Week & Awards!

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UGLY TALES OF ELECTIONS IN NIGERIA

The pitiable narrative about elections in Nigeria has continued from one season to the other. Even after investing unimaginable resources on training staff and procurement of technologies, violence hasn't reduced in Nigerian polls.

By Emeka Chiaghanam

A boy once brought home his father's campaign poster. It was torn, blood-smeared, and half-burnt at the edges. Someone had scribbled "Thief" over the man's smiling face in black charcoal. The boy didn't cry. He just stood there. Staring at it like he was trying to remember who his father used to be before politics came.

Behind him, tires burned. Smoke climbed the sky. Someone was shouting down the road. You could smell fear mixed with diesel and sweat. Shops were already shuttered. People stayed indoors, peeking through curtains.

That's what elections feel like here.

Not democracy. Not even protest.
War.
You hear it in the clink of machetes hidden under coats. The low hum of idle engines outside polling stations. The murmurs of boys paid to stir things. They call them "area boys," but that's just code for muscle-for-hire. You smell weed in the air. And tension. Always tension.

Women pray louder. Men keep watch. And just like that, voting becomes survival.

How Did We Get Here?

It didn't start today. Or last year. This thing's been cooking for decades.

Back in 1960, we gained independence. There was real hope then. The kind that makes people believe a country can be born new. Men like Awolowo, Azikiwe, and Balewa weren't perfect, but they meant well. You could feel it.

But it didn't last. By 1964, everything was cracking. That year's election was a mess, rigged, chaotic, violent. The Western Region, especially, fell apart. They called it the "Wild Wild West" for a reason. Ballot boxes disappeared. People were attacked for voting. Entire towns burned.

What came next? A coup. Then a civil war.

That's how early we learned the wrong lesson: Power isn't earned. It's taken.

Why All the Violence ?

It's simple. In Nigeria, winning an election doesn't just mean holding office, it means holding the keys to wealth, control, and protection.

A governor has access to billions. He decides contracts, controls state security, and appoints judges. A senator earns more than a U.S. president, seriously. Even a local government chairman controls a budget fatter than some countries' entire GDP.

So when election season comes, people fight like it's the last plate of food in a crowded room.

Stanford researchers found that in countries where state resources are heavily centralized, elections turn violent more often. Nigeria fits that picture perfectly. Everything flows from Abuja. If you win, you win everything. If you lose, you get nothing.

That kind of zero-sum game? It makes monsters.

Blood for the Ballot

2011 was a brutal year.

After Jonathan won the presidency, the North erupted. Riots, burnings, killings. Over 800 people dead, according to Human Rights Watch. Churches torched. Homes flattened. Bodies in the streets. All because some felt robbed. Others felt ignored.

2015 was different. Tense, but better. Only because Jonathan conceded early. If he hadn't? We might have seen another 2011.

But by 2023, it was back to chaos. Thugs were out in full force. Polling units raided. Ballot boxes smashed. People beaten. There were videos of men in suits directing groups of boys with sticks and chains.

Old women got slapped. First-time voters were chased off.
And INEC? Late. Overwhelmed. Sometimes just... absent.
And we still call this democracy?

Contd on Page 122

HON. ENGR. IKECHUKWU OKAFOR: BUILDING DREAMS, EMPOWERING GENERATIONS

By Emmanuel Okonkwo

Engineering Beyond Structures: A Builder of Lives

In a world where many chase personal gain, Hon. Engr. Ikechukwu Okafor stands out as a rare breed, an engineer, entrepreneur, and humanitarian who has chosen to build not just structures, but lives. As the Chief Executive Officer and Head Engineer of Prince Iyke Construction Limited, Engr. Okafor has redefined what it means to be a builder in today's society. For over a decade, he has laid the foundation not only for physical infrastructure but also for youth empowerment, social impact, and transformative leadership.

Having ventured into the construction industry 11 years ago, it was in 2021 that his company became a fully-fledged enterprise. But beyond brick and mortar, his true legacy lies in the lives he has touched. "Construction is special," he notes, "because of the place it occupies in society. It's not just about buildings, it's about shaping futures."

Championing Youth and Seeding a Better Future

Engr. Okafor's passion for youth empowerment is deeply rooted in his belief in their untapped potential. "What inspired me," he says, "was the zeal I saw in young people to succeed. In today's world, it's rare to find youths genuinely interested in legitimate paths. So when I meet one who's eager to learn or add value to society, I do everything I can to help them succeed."

And he has done just that, at scale. From sponsoring startups, building shops, and providing seed capital, to awarding scholarships and paying school fees for hundreds of students, his philanthropic efforts have impacted lives beyond measure. Just recently, he paid tuition fees for 114 students of Memorial Secondary School, Ozubulu. "We have countless testimonies of those we empowered now empowering others," he reflects. "That ripple effect is my greatest joy."

Despite the occasional betrayal or ingratitude, he has no regrets. "I was born to do this," he says with characteristic humility. "Even if some people repay you poorly, the satisfaction of seeing others rise is enough reward."

Recognitions, Beliefs, and a Vision for Tomorrow

His efforts have not gone unnoticed. The Anambra State Council of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) recently honoured him with the Most Inspiring Youth Leader Award, an honour he describes as "deeply fulfilling." More recently, the African Youth Initiative; a pan-African body spanning 36 countries, conferred upon him the prestigious Kwameh Nkrumah Leadership Award as "Inspiration of Hope for Africa's Development" in recognition of his contribution to youth development and national transformation.

His advice to young people? "Engage in something meaningful. Don't stay idle. There are opportunities everywhere, grab one."

A strong supporter of good governance, he praises Governor Chukwuma Charles Soludo for his infrastructural revolution in Anambra. "Governor Soludo is the best governor Anambra has produced," he asserts. "His leadership is transformational."

Hon. Engr. Ikechukwu Okafor is not just constructing buildings, he's constructing hope, one life at a time. His story is proof that with vision, compassion, and resilience, one man can truly make a difference.

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Congratulations
ARCH. OKEY EZEOBI

With a heart full of joy and pride, I extend my warmest congratulations to my dear brother and friend, Arch. Okey Ezeobi, GM/CEO of the Anambra Bureau of Public Procurement, on being named the 2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year.

This honour, bestowed by the Nigeria Union of Journalists, Anambra State Council, is a fitting recognition of your exceptional leadership, your unwavering commitment to public service, and your deep-rooted integrity in managing public resources transparently and judiciously. Your visionary reforms at the BPP have not only redefined procurement standards in Anambra but have also positioned the state as a shining example of accountability and due process.

Okey, you are more than just a public servant, you are a symbol of excellence, a silent reformer, and a man whose works speak volumes. That this award came through a rigorous public and professional selection process only proves what many of us have always known: that your impact is real, your service is genuine, and your legacy is unfolding with grace and purpose.

As you receive this well-deserved honour during the 70th Anniversary of the NUJ, may it inspire even greater heights in y°ur service to humanity and to our beloved Anambra State.

Congratulations once again, my brother. The best is yet to come!

Prince Neville Uchendu
(Mayor Extraordinaire)
Chinyelugo Ogboji

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Congratulations
ARCH. OKEY EZEOBI

Dear Okey,

It gives me immense pleasure to felicitate with you on your well-deserved recognition as the 2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year.

From our early days of friendship to your current role in public service, you have remained consistent- articulate, intelligent, and dependable. I have always known you to be someone who approaches responsibilities with clarity of thought and a strong sense of purpose.

This honour by the Nigerian Union of Journalists is a worthy acknowledgment of your dedication to transparent governance and due process. I am proud of how far you've come and the quiet impact you continue to make in your service to Anambra State.

As always, be assured of my continued goodwill and support. Congratulations once again on this distinguished recognition.

Warm regards,
Chinwe and T.Chuma Ofi

UGLY TALES OF ELECTIONS... CONTINUED

From Page 118

Who Arms the Thugs ?
Let's stop pretending.

These boys aren't just angry. They're organized. Funded. Armed. And not by ghosts.

Politicians recruit them. Some are jobless boys from the street. Others are cultists or gang members, already used to blood. They're given just enough, money, maybe protection, or a promise of a future political favor.

So they do the dirty work. Smash. Intimidate. Kill, if it comes to that.

Then, after the election? They're dumped. Forgotten.

And that's where the real danger begins. Because they don't forget. They don't calm down. They form gangs. Take territories. Start taxing communities. Then violence stops being seasonal. It becomes permanent.

I once saw a police report from Rivers State after the 2019 election. It listed 94 separate incidents of violence. That's not a report. That's a war diary.

This Isn't Service—It's a Throne

Here's the real sickness: Nigerian politicians don't see office as service. They see it as royalty.

A governor isn't a civil servant. He's a king. The senator doesn't write laws. He sits like a godfather, handing out favors. Look at the convoys. The sirens. The worship from followers. The titles, the flowing agbadas, the praise songs.

It's all theatre. Power here isn't about impact. It's about the image.

I remember reading a 2018 interview. A Lagos politician was asked why elections in Nigeria were so violent. He chuckled and said, "Would you hand over a billion-dollar company to your enemy?"

That's the mindset. It's business. It's blood money.

Where's INEC in All This?

INEC is supposed to be the umpire. The neutral judge. But sometimes they look like spectators. Sometimes, worse.

Ballot papers arrive late. Voting machines break. Polling stations open hours behind schedule. Results get "lost" on their way to collation centers. Or, more insulting, numbers come back that don't even make sense.

Like 500 registered voters somehow producing 5,000 votes.

And when questioned? "Technical error." Always.
Try waiting in the sun for ten hours to cast a vote, then waking up the next day to find out your unit's results were canceled. See how long it takes before you lose hope. Or lose control.

When the system fails this often, people stop believing in it. They start reaching for other tools.
Like sticks. And stones.

The People Always Pay

The real tragedy is that the people, the voters, pay the highest price.

I once spoke to a woman in Kogi whose younger brother went out to vote in 2019. They found him in a ditch. Two days later. Stabbed. Stripped. Just 23 years old.

He wasn't a thug. Just a voter.
Another man in Port Harcourt told me his wife, 62 years old, was slapped across the face at a polling station. She wore white lace that day. Came home bloodied.

And yet, these are the same people politicians ignore the moment they win. Until four years later, when they return with ₦5,000, a bag of rice, and wrappers, asking for another chance.

It's insulting. But it keeps happening.

Ethnicity, Religion—More Fuel for the Fire

Let's not lie: elections in Nigeria are also about identity. Not competence. Not plans. It's "our person" versus "their person." Hausa versus Igbo. Yoruba versus Fulani. Christians here. Muslims there. And even within regions, Anambra vs. Enugu, Oyo vs. Lagos.

It's tribal. It's religious. It's raw.

Contd on Page 125

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CONGRATULATIONS TO AN ILLUSTROUS SON

Unbehalf of the Management and staff of MuchMore Oil & Gas Ltd Calabar Cross River State Nigeria,

Hearty congratulations dear son,

HON HIGH CHIEF ANTHONY EMENIKE NWAKAEZE

(Odaa Opuo 1 of Awba Ofemili)

on this meritorious award as the

2025 NUJ ANAMBRA OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

BY THE NIGERIAN UNION OF JOURNALIST ANAMBRA STATE CHAPTER.

It is an honour well deserved.

Dr Nice Mekoh
Chairman/CEO

DR. NICE MEKOH

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Congratulations
HIGH CHIEF HON.
EMENIKE ANTHONY
NWAKAEZE

ANNEX INTERNATIONAL AGENCY LTD, dealers in all kinds of car paint and it's Accessories wish to congratulate Mr. Tony Emenike Nwakeze on his well deserve NUJ outstanding community service award. Hard work pays. You have made us proud.

Signed:

NNEJI ANAYO PETER
08032428603 ,
09067111652

ADDRESS:
66 MODEBE AVENUE ODOAKPU ONITSHA ANAMBRA STATE NIGERIA
Email: annexp2011@yahoo.com

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Congratulations
HIGH CHIEF HON.
EMENIKE ANTHONY
NWAKAEZE

Warmest congratulations on receiving the NUJ outstanding community service award. Your tireless efforts have a profound impact to your community.

Nnabuko Izuchukwu Michael
Izu Big
08035404351.

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Congratulations

HIGH CHIEF HON.

EMENIKE ANTHONY NWAKAEZE

Congratulations on this NUJ outstanding community service award I am so proud of you. Your passion for community service shines through in everything you do. Big congratulations Odaopue 1 of Awba Ofemili.

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Our Ref:_____ Your Ref:_____ Date: 18-07-2025

Queen Ambassador, Dr. Jessie Menuba,
CEO/Founder,
Queen Tovah Cares Foundation,
Nigeria.

Madam,

CONGRATULATIONS
RE: AWARD OF PHILANTHROPIST OF THE 21ST CENTURY.

When the news of this award filtered in, I and my subjects were very happy. More so, it did not come to us as a surprise given your humane approach to the Hausa Community, Amawbia and the world as a whole.

We are equally happy that this award is coming from eagle eyed unbiased Union. Truly Queen, you are a light that cannot be hidden under the bushel as it will still illuminate.

We urge you to continue to be that shining light and Allah in his infinite mercies shall continue to protect you as you have provided for the world through your mission and vision.

Congratulations once more!

.....
Sariki Mahmmud Sani
Sariki Hausawa Community Amawbia.

UGLY TALES OF ELECTIONS... CONTINUED

From Page 122

3. Real Security
Not just numbers. Neutrality. Professionalism. Arrest those who sponsor violence, not just the boys with sticks.

4. Educate the People
Civic education isn't sexy. But it's vital. People need to know voting isn't begging. It's power.

5. Ban Political Thuggery
Not just in words. In action. Crack down. Dismantle the cults. Disarm the gangs. Make it clear: politics isn't war.

And politicians know this. They feed it. They whisper division during campaigns. Churches preach about outsiders. Mosques warn of infidels. On the radio, coded songs play with threats in them.

It's not always loud, but it's always there.
Then someone throws a match.
And things burn.

Why They Spend So Much?
Here's the irony: most politicians spend far more on campaigns than they can earn in salary.

A Senate seat might cost ₦500 million or more. Governorships can hit ₦1 billion. Presidential runs? We're talking billions, and in dollars, not naira.

So why fight that hard?
Because they're not chasing salaries. They're chasing access. To contracts. To government funds. To influence. That's where the real money is.

They call it public office. But in truth? It's a business.

And blood is just the cost of doing business.

Can This Ever Change?
Yes. Slowly. Painfully. But yes.
1. Electoral Reform that Works
The 2022 Electoral Act helped, things like electronic result transmission. But it's not enough. INEC needs more autonomy. Better funding. And real protection from political pressure.
2. Cap Campaign Spending
If we don't track how campaigns are funded, the violence will continue. You want to fix elections? Follow the money.

What Courage Looks Like

I remember a woman in Enugu. She stood in line for seven hours. Didn't sit. Didn't leave. The sun was blazing. Her hands shook.

Thugs showed up. People ran. She stayed.
She cast her vote. And when asked why, she said:
"If I don't try, I die anyway."
That's courage.

It's easy to feel hopeless here. Easy to say "Nigeria will never change." But every small act of resistance chips away at the rot. Every peaceful vote, every video that goes viral, every brave voice, it matters.

Last Words
Elections here feel like war because we've made power too profitable. Too untouchable. Too dangerous to lose.
But it doesn't have to stay this way.

Democracy isn't supposed to be deadly. It's supposed to be dull, even. You vote. You wait. Results come. You accept them. And try again next time.
It shouldn't cost blood.

But it does. Still.
Maybe one day it won't.

Maybe next time, when a boy picks up his father's campaign poster, it won't be torn or stained or used to mop up someone's blood.

Maybe it'll just be a poster.
And maybe that'll be enough.

HON. THANKGOD CHIBUIKE ANAGO (PHD): THE PEOPLE'S MAYOR REDEFINING GRASSROOTS GOVERNANCE IN AWKA NORTH

By Emmanuel Okonkwo

Okenwa Abogu: Rooted in Legacy, Driven by Service

Popularly known as Okenwa Abogu or Onye Olu Obodo, Hon. ThankGod Chibuike Anago exemplifies a new generation of visionary leadership, deeply rooted in community service, integrity, and transformational development. Born into the noble family of Late Chief and Mrs. Echetabu Anago of Irunebo Kindred, Amaezike Village, Mgbakwu in Awka North LGA, Anambra State, his life has been one of purpose, vision, and unwavering service to humanity.

From Campus to Council: A Legacy of Purpose

A devoted family man, Hon. Anago is happily married with children. His educational journey began at Central Primary School and Community Secondary School in Mgbakwu, laying the foundation for an outstanding academic career. He went on to earn a Second-Class Upper Bachelor's degree in Philosophy from Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, where he also obtained a Master's in Public Administration and Philosophy, followed by a Doctorate in Philosophy (PhD). He further enriched his leadership capacity by attending several professional and leadership courses across the globe.

Hon. Anago's leadership path was evident from his university days, where he served as President of the Students Union Government (2007–2009). His tenure remains a benchmark for effective student representation and advocacy, marked by unmatched charisma, strategic thinking, and a genuine passion for people. This early success foreshadowed a lifelong commitment to public service and transformative leadership.

Real Impact. Real Results. Real Leadership

His impact at the grassroots level is both wide and deep. As a two-time Senior Special Assistant on Youth Mobilization under former Governor Willie Obiano, Hon. Anago became a trusted mobilizer of youthful energy and a voice for inclusive governance.

His appointment in August 2023 by Governor Charles Chukwuma Soludo CFR as the Transition Committee Chairman of Awka North LGA reaffirmed his reputation as a capable, people-centered leader.

Following a keenly contested local government election, Hon. Anago was elected Executive Chairman (Mayor) of Awka North LGA on September 28, 2024. Since then, his administration has made tangible strides in delivering the dividends of democracy across the council area.

Leadership That Listens, Builds, and Delivers

Under his leadership, Awka North has witnessed infrastructural renewal, including the completed construction of Circa Road in Amansea and the Ezi-Okpokikolo Irunebo Road with a spur to Holy Cashew in Mgbakwu. A modern market is under construction in Urum, while other interventions include erosion control in Ebenebe, Ugbenu-Ime bridge reconstruction, and extensive road palliatives across Achalla, Isuaniocha, and Amansea.

In the education and health sectors, his government has distributed learning materials to all primary schools and offered scholarships to over 50 students. Renovation of classrooms and upgrades of primary health centers are ongoing across the LGA. Solar-powered boreholes and streetlights, medical outreaches, reactivation of water systems, and the renovation of administrative offices at the Awka North Secretariat are further testimony of his hands-on governance.

Hon. Anago's model of leadership is people-first, transparent, and deeply impactful. He has not only elevated the standard of governance in Awka North but has restored citizens' faith in what purposeful, compassionate leadership can achieve.

In every corner of Awka North, the name Onye Olu Obodo echoes with respect and admiration, a leader not just of promises, but of progress.

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25th July 2025

Tribute to Queen Dr Princess Jessie Ifeoma Udoka Menuba Nee Oliobi

Recipient of the Philanthropist Award – Nigerian Union of Journalists, Anambra State

In a world often defined by fleeting headlines and transient fame, Queen Dr Princess Jessie Ifeoma Menuba stands as a radiant beacon of enduring compassion, purpose, and grace. Her recent recognition by the Nigerian Union of Journalists, Anambra State, as the recipient of the Philanthropist Award, is not merely an accolade—it is a resounding affirmation of a life devoted to uplifting others.

A Legacy of Impact
From the quiet corners of underserved communities to the bustling corridors of policy and advocacy, Queen Dr Princess Jessie has woven a tapestry of hope, dignity, and empowerment. Her philanthropic footprint spans:

- Healthcare outreach that has restored lives and dignity to the vulnerable
- Educational support that has unlocked futures for countless children
- Women empowerment initiatives that have transformed households and communities
- Crisis relief efforts that have brought solace in times of despair

Her generosity is not performative—it is purposeful, strategic, and deeply rooted in empathy.

A Royal Heart in Service
Though adorned with titles of nobility and academic distinction, it is her unwavering humility and relentless drive to serve that define her reign. She embodies the rare fusion of royalty and responsibility, using her influence not for self-aggrandizement, but for the betterment of humanity.

Honoured by the Voices of the People
That this award comes from the Nigerian Union of Journalists—the very custodians of truth and public conscience—speaks volumes. It is a recognition not just of her deeds, but of the narratives she has rewritten: stories of despair turned into triumph, of silence turned into advocacy, of neglect turned into nurture.

A Salute to Her Grace
We celebrate Queen Dr Princess Jessie Ifeoma Menuba Oliobi not just for what she has done, but for who she is—a woman of vision, valour, and virtue. May this award be a stepping stone to even greater impact, and may her story continue to inspire generations to come.

Long may she reign in the hearts of those she has touched.

Chief Chigbo Uzokwelu
CEO

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Heartfelt
Congratulation

To Arc. Okechukwu Innocent Ezeobi, FNIA, on your remarkable achievement as the Nigerian Union of Journalists (NUJ) Anambra State Chapter Platinum Man of the Year Award winner! This prestigious honor is a testament to your outstanding contributions, dedication, and excellence in your field.

We celebrate your achievements and recognize the impact you've made in your Anambra State. May this award be a milestone in your illustrious career, inspiring you to continue making a positive difference!

We extend our warmest felicitations to the Nigerian Union of Journalists, Anambra State Chapter, on your NUJ Week celebrations!

Once more, congratulations to Arc. Okechukwu Innocent Ezeobi, FNIA, on this well-deserved honor!

Best regards,

Ikenna Michael Onuorah, MNIA, PhD, MAARCHES
Principal Partner MIO Shelter Ltd

Cornucopia: Anambra 2025 And Nonye Soludo's Perspective

By Odogwu Emeka Odogwu, PhD

I don't understand this life. I am in pain. Last time, my wife Obialunamma Esther Odogwu passed out even when she went to the hospital herself. She died and I was summoned to sign documents. Something in me refused to yield to the story. I entered where she laid lifeless. Shouted her name, Angel Odogwu! Luck was standing by, and she sneezed from beyond, her stomach ripped open. Poor stitches for a lifeless body. The emergency was activated. Angel Odogwu is alive but permanently disfigured. Child bearing is often associated with tales from from the great beyond.

A beautiful woman who walked herself to the hospital to give birth to a child, but came out wounded for life.

Why the unnecessary drips to deliver quickly? Why not ask her to go home and return? Why not give her bed in the hospital until the baby is ready for delivery.

Luckily, God intervened in an unbelievable way and today Angel Odogwu is pushing though not as usual.

This time, it's my mother. She was walking, and went to the hospital for peculiar foot pains. Tragedy struck. She couldn't work again. And for years my mother was crippled. The foot pains were so bad that she walks somehow and it was for that reason that I went in search of a remedy.

I was referred to an Oji River Specialist on foot diseases, who claims to be working with Police college and from Obosi. I was nearly accused of being a ritualist by my siblings.

Contd on Page 131

Cornucopia: Nonye Soludo's Perspective... Continued

From Page 130

In fact at the zenith of her pains and discomfort, she met His Excellency, then Governor Peter Obi, who wasn't happy with me. He thought I wasn't taking care of my mum, but unknown to him what the most beautiful woman in Amanuke then was suffering from foot pain. She was then known as Queen Queen and her response is 'O mu na-achi'--- I am in charge. Any unknown sickness is witchcraft. Till now, what my mum, Elizabeth Ijeoma Odogwu nee Okoye was suffering from is unknown, and the worst is that the years of sitting in one place had a huge toll on her. It scattered her waist, coupled to child bearing trauma. It's now indescribable.

The sickness of my parents have dealt with me in the last 25 years. My father's first stroke was in 1999. My father, Chief Samuel Agunwa Odogwu (Akunnia N'Amanuke) suffered a stroke four times and survived all manner of ailments including prostate gland disorder. He is now dead. He died of prostate cancer complications at 86 years old this July 2025. He shall be laid to rest on 5th September, 2025. A living but very sick horse is better than a dead horse.

Equate the expenses in the last 25 years moving in and out of Amanuke when a General Hospital built in the early 80's was frustrated by selfish people. For us, we are thankful to God for His mercies. The hospital has been a ghost zone for years. What a shame! Someone said nemesis shall visit all those who ran the hospital aground.

The vision of our forefathers to have a referral hospital in Awka North was killed. Is there any other General Hospital in Awka North, aside Amanuke General Hospital? No! Why can't the government commit and upgrade the hospital as done for other zones? Why is Amanuke's General Hospital in ruins?

It's possible with Nonye Soludo. That's the mantra.

That was Dr. Afam Obidike, Commissioner for Health and others from Healthy Living With Nonye Soludo celebrating the Governor's wife at 55. The Governor also celebrated his 65th birthday!

Theirs, is one of the best blessed families around Igboland in terms of good health, wealth in all currencies, power and unimaginable connections. Their visions have grown exceedingly.

Contd on Page 136

Sagez Nigeria Limited

We are building highways, bridges and roads to connect various communities across Nigeria

The board, management and the entire staff of **Sagez Nigeria Limited** on behalf of all who value integrity, transparency, and visionary leadership in public service, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to **Arch. Okey Ezeobi, the GM/CEO, Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement, BPP** on your meritorious honour as the 2025 Anambra NUJ Man of the Year.

This prestigious recognition is a testament to your unwavering commitment to excellence, accountability, and innovation in public procurement.Your stewardship has not only elevated the standards of public procurement in Anambra State but has also inspired a new generation of public servants to uphold the principles of due process and fiscal responsibility. Through your tireless efforts, the Bureau of Public Procurement has become a beacon of trust and efficiency—ensuring that public resources are judiciously managed for the benefit of all.

As you receive this well-deserved accolade from the Nigeria Union of Journalists, Anambra state, may it serve as a reminder of the profound impact of your work and the respect it commands across sectors. We celebrate your achievements and look forward to even greater milestones in your journey of service.

Congratulations once again, Sir. May your legacy continue to shine brightly.

IGWE NIMO GOODWILL MESSAGE

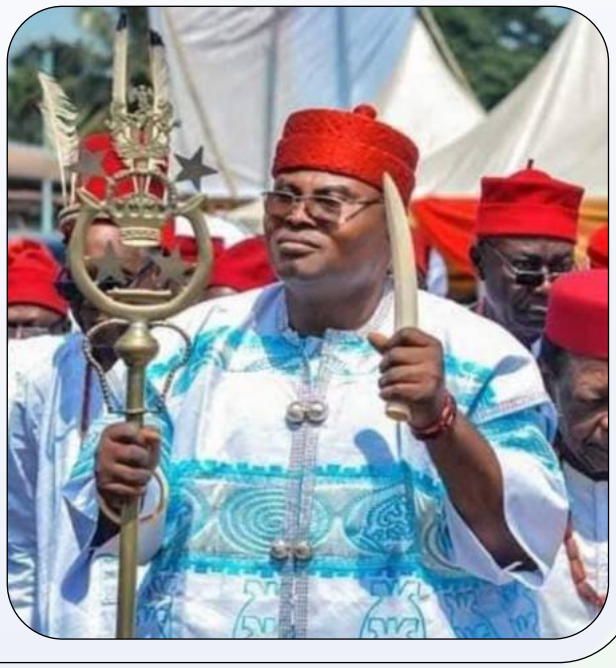
Congratulations to my Dear Sister

PRINCESS DR. JESSIE IFEOMA UDOKA-MENUBA, NEE OLIOBI

On behalf of my royal family, friends, and associates at home and in the diaspora, I join the good people of Anambra State in congratulating my beloved sister, Princess Dr. Jessie Ifeoma Udoka-Menuba (née Oliobi) on winning the 2025 NUJ Anambra Philanthropist of the 21st Century award. Your greatness was always evident, and this recognition is a testament to your dedication, talent, and compassion for the less privileged. You're an inspiration to many, and I pray that God continues to bless your endeavors.

Congratulations on this well-deserved honor.

Signed,
Igwe Maximus Oliobi
Ezeoranyelu I of Nimo Kingdom



NIGERIA'S DETERIORATING LEADERSHIP WOES

Nigerians have been yearning for responsible, responsive and reliable leadership, but none of the recent successive governments could meet the expectations of the people. The critical sectors of the country keep dwindling after empty promises by politicians from different parties.

By Emeka Chiaghanam

A man once tried to cross the River Niger with a bag of salt on his head.

He didn't make it far. The water soaked in. The salt melted away. By the time he reached the other side, all he had left was the empty sack.

That's Nigeria.
Rich. Heavy. Full of promise. But slowly dissolving under the weight of its own hands.

You hear the hum of diesel generators at dawn in Lagos, the choking smoke curling through the cracked windows of a danfo bus. There's a scent to corruption here, burnt plastic, exhaust, and stale sweat. The man beside you is wearing a government ministry badge. He's late for a meeting he'll be paid to sleep through. No one questions it. That's the way things have always been.

But it wasn't always this way. Or maybe it was, and we just didn't call it what it was.

The Beginning of the Rot
The British didn't invent corruption in Nigeria, but they sure didn't mind it.

Back in the colonial days, deals were struck in drawing rooms. Chiefs were paid off with mirrors and muskets. Land changed hands. Power too. The system rewarded loyalty to the Crown, not service to the people. You got ahead by getting close to the white man. And when independence came in 1960, the Nigerians in power didn't change the rules. They just changed the players.

It reminds me of something Chinua Achebe once said: "The trouble with Nigeria is simply and squarely a failure of leadership."

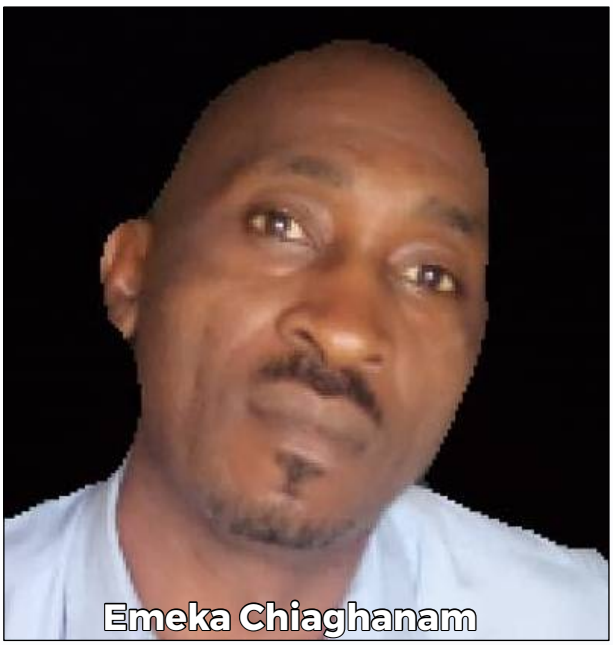
It wasn't that we didn't know better. It was that we didn't want to be better.

Corruption Wasn't Always This Bold
In the early years, corruption was quieter. Greasier. Hidden behind desks in airless ministries. Men in suits pocketed contracts, padded budgets. There was shame then. The newspapers called it scandal. Men resigned. Sometimes.

But slowly, the shame slipped away. What was once whispered in corners became celebrated in churches. A man steals public money, builds a mansion, and the pastor blesses it with holy water. His friends call him "chief." His children post selfies in London. And nobody asks questions because they're hoping for a favor too.
Let's be honest: In Nigeria, success has no moral compass. Only volume.

From Scandal to Culture
By the 1980s, under the military regimes, corruption stopped pretending.

Generals handed oil blocks to cousins. Contracts were inflated 1000%. Ghost workers filled the payroll. The smell of military boots and blood was thick. You couldn't question the men in uniform, not if you valued your tongue.



A man named Sani Abacha came to power in 1993. He stole at least $5 billion, according to U.S. and Swiss investigations. That's a billion, with a "b." His loot became a global scavenger hunt. It's still being recovered today, two decades after his death.

Funny, right? A dead man still stealing from the living.

And yet, Abacha's image adorns calendars in some Nigerian homes. "He gave us roads," they say. "He built refineries." It's like admiring a thief because he left a tip.

This isn't nostalgia. It's sickness.

Stanford Research, Real Pain
A 2015 study from Stanford University concluded that Nigeria loses over $18 billion annually to corruption. That's enough to fund every public university, build 500 modern hospitals, and still have billions left.

But try telling that to the woman selling mangoes by the roadside. She hasn't seen electricity in four days. Her child has malaria. The hospital asked for a "facilitation fee" before treatment. That's code for bribe.

This isn't theory. This is life.
How It Became Normal
You want to know how corruption became normal?
It's simple.

We watched it work.
A young man sees his uncle get rich from customs bribes. He sees his boss drive a Prado, funded by phantom contracts. He watches a governor who looted millions walk free, then win a Senate seat. And he asks himself: What's the point of honesty?

Contd on Page 141

HIGH CHIEF BEN OBI
(Igwe APGA, Mbuze Agulu)
Phone: 08033600983
Email: benobiagulu@yahoo.com

Our Ref. Your Ref. Date.

GOODWILL MESSAGE

TO THE MAN OF PEACE

Hon Okey Ezeobi is an accomplished technocrat with a heart of gold, and now the world gets to see it! Congratulations on winning Man of the Year Award of the Anambra State chapter of NUJ. Your generosity is indeed an inspiration and has created a ripple effects of positive changes.

This Man of the Year award is a beautiful reflection of your kindness and commitment.

I am so thrilled to see you recognized for your amazing work both for government and the people of Anambra. You make a real difference.

Keep it up.

Signed
High Chief Ben Obi.(Igwe APGA),
Mbuze Agulu.

Cornucopia: Nonye Soludo's Perspective... Continued

From Page 131

On her birthday, she chose to be different and continue doing what gives her joy and fulfillment which is serving humanity. She was at the Nawfia Neuro-psychiatric Hospital, Nawfia; Onitsha Correctional Center, Onitsha; St. Charles Borromeo Specialist Hospital, Onitsha; and Iyienu Teaching Hospital Ogidi, spending the day with patients and inmates.

She is dedicated and committed to leaving the world a better place than she met it.

She has long realized that wealth isn't in material possessions, but in the lives we touched and positive impacts we made. She is always thankful to people working with her and others around her. It's always a universal solidarity for her and her husband who has turned 65. Her heart of gratitude is unbelievable particularly to people who can't do anything for her. Her affection is unique, unconditional and excellent in all situations. She paid the hospital bills of over 100 patients at Solution General Hospital, Okpoko without sounding any trumpets.

She believes in Anambra as one people, one agenda and one large family despite the different political affiliations. Her positivity is incomparable, original and powerful.

For me, not minding the public office I occupy as Chairman of the Nigeria Union of Journalists, NUJ, I would have become a 'rebel' according to the media aide to the Governor against so many fronts, but just a chance meeting with her, the bubbles burst and the walls collapsed. Could you believe that?

She has captured many things her husband couldn't. She has mobilized many too, even subtly sequel to her disarming humility and unassuming posture. She has not only strength of character but peaceful depth of smart influence and intelligence laced with 'never impossible' spirit.

Her persuasive smartness has added a lot to reduce the number of perceived political enemies of Soludo's administration.

She drives a campaign on so many health issues for a better society including proper and inclusive breastfeeding practices, strategic education, specific vocation for everyone, gender sensitive campaigns, healthy living attitudes, capacity building schemes, sustainable organic farming empowerment via seedlings, bids of cash crops for household gardens, and economic empowerment to mention but a few. All these targeted at good health, wealth creation, sustainable agriculture and economic/entrepreneurial empowerment for a better society.

Contd on Page 138

Cornucopia: Nonye Soludo's Perspective... Continued

From Page 136

Women and children are great beneficiaries with healthy living clubs championing female students empowerment in all ramifications of work, life, home and business. Healthy Living with Nonye Soludo is a blessing for Ndigbo particularly Ndi Anambra. It's apolitical in nature yet focused on anyone interested, for truly she thinks of Anambra State people beyond the surface. She is the real strength behind the solution government that we all see.

Dr. Nonye has a strong faith in her husband's abilities and believes her husband is a servant leader, thus the strong will, maturity, conviction, humility, kindness, compassion, strength of character, integrity, and selflessness that characterized her actions. Her passion, her warmth, and her empathy, is not only outstanding but unmatched in the recent time.

I witnessed several first families in Anambra starting with the then late Governor C.C. Mbadinuju. I haven't been too close to do a comparison between her and the former outstanding First Lady of Anambra, Mrs Margaret Peter Obi. Margaret has a personal touch with most journalists and Union leaders across board. Margaret is compassionate and humane. Margaret was phenomenal to say the least while in government.

I am studying Soludo's wife to do a comparative analysis between the two. It's loading. I shall write soonest.

I neither want to talk about Soludo's tribute to his wife , nor Nonye's tribute to her husband the Governor of Anambra State. It's a story for another day.

Mmiliguluegu Isuofia as she is fondly called is nothing but a child of grace and God's perfect grace is upon her, hence her imaginations are always a reality.

Dr (Mrs.) Frances Nonye Soludo is a true testament of God's unfailing grace and blessings.

She is NUJ Anambra State twin awardee as Voice for the Voiceless in South East and Most Supportive Governor's wife in South East. Even as she has received several other awards including First Lady of the Year Health-Care & Child Support at the 2025 Nigeria Humanitarian Awards.

Contd on Page 140

APGA's Anambra By-Election Victory: Rooted in Democratic Credibility

By Christian ABURIME

The dust has settled on Saturday's by-elections in Anambra State, and the results speak volumes about the political maturity of Ndi Anambra and the growing confidence in democratic institutions under Governor Chukwuma Charles Soludo's leadership, along with President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's progressive disposition. The All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA) did not just win; the ruling party delivered a resounding statement about effective governance and electoral integrity.

Chief Emmanuel Nwachukwu's commanding victory in the Anambra South Senatorial District, securing 90,408 votes against the APC's 19,812, represents more than a numerical triumph. It is a referendum on Governor Soludo's governance impact on his first-term performance. When a ruling party wins by such overwhelming margins in a competitive democracy, it signals that voters are rewarding concrete achievements rather than empty campaign rhetoric.

Similarly, Barrister Mimi Ifeoma Azikiwe's victory in Onitsha North Constituency 1 with 7,774 votes further consolidates APGA's legislative presence in the State House of Assembly, creating a unified platform for continued development initiatives.

These electoral feats go beyond marginal wins squeezed out through political maneuvering to prove decisive mandates that reflect genuine popular support. Perhaps, the most commendable aspect of Saturday's exercise was the seamless collaboration between federal and state institutions. President Tinubu's administration, INEC, and security agencies created an environment where democracy could flourish without the usual disruptions that have plagued Nigerian elections. This bipartisan commitment to electoral integrity deserves recognition and replication in future elections.

The fact that a few opposition figures attempted to create confusion but failed spectacularly speaks to both the vigilance of electoral officials and the political sophistication of Anambra voters. Ndi Anambra refused to be distracted by manufactured controversies, choosing instead to focus on the substantive issues that affect their daily lives.

In terms of responsible leadership, Governor Soludo's visible role in the campaigns pointed to a confident leader putting his administration's record before the people on behalf of the party's candidates.

When a governor actively campaigns knowing that the results will be interpreted as a judgment on his performance, it demonstrates remarkable confidence in his achievements. The wide margins of victory across local government areas validate this confidence and suggest that Governor Soludo's governance model touches base with grassroots constituents.While it might sound presumptuous to view these by-elections as a definitive preview of the upcoming governorship election, the trends are unmistakably positive for APGA and Governor Soludo. The party's ability to mobilise across diverse constituencies while maintaining electoral credibility positions them advantageously for the November 2025 guber election.

More importantly, these results suggest that Anambra voters are developing a more sophisticated political consciousness, one that prioritises performance over propaganda, results over rhetoric, and sustainable development over short-term gains. This is a worthy evolution in political culture.

Indeed, the peaceful, transparent, and credible nature of Saturday's by-elections should become the new normal for Nigerian democracy. When federal authorities, electoral officials, security agencies, and state governments work in accord to protect the sanctity of the ballot, democracy wins regardless of which party emerges victorious.

The people have spoken, and their message is resonant: performance matters, integrity counts, and Anambra is ready to continue its journey toward sustainable development under the proven APGA leadership of Governor Chukwuma Charles Soludo, CFR.

ANAMBRA STATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT SYSTEM

Telephone: EXECUTIVE ANAOCHA

Your Ref:_____

Our Ref:_____

(All replies to be addressed to the Chairman of the Local Government)

08064113080

ANAOCHA LOCAL GOVERNMENT
PMB 1
NENI
DATE: July 27, 2025

GOODWILL MESSAGE TO ARCH. OKEY EZEOBI, GM/CEO, ANAMBRA BUREAU OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT (BPP)

I wish to extend my heartfelt congratulations to ***Arch. Okey Ezeobi***, the esteemed General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of the Anambra Bureau of Public Procurement, on his well-deserved emergence as the 2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year

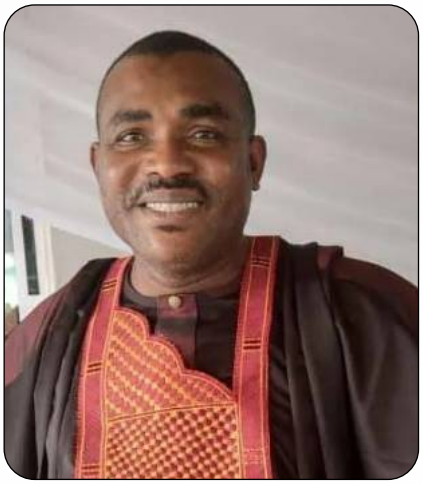
This prestigious recognition, following a highly competitive selection process conducted both online and offline by members of the public and the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Anambra State Council, is a clear testament to your outstanding service, transparent leadership, and unwavering commitment to due process in public procurement in Anambra State.

Your visionary reforms and steadfast dedication to accountability have not only enhanced public trust in government procurement processes but have also positioned Anambra as a model of good governance and fiscal discipline. Indeed, your passion for excellence continues to inspire a new generation of public servants.

On behalf of the good people of Anaocha LGA, I celebrate this milestone with you and encourage you to continue to shine as a beacon of integrity and purpose-driven leadership in our beloved state.

Once again, congratulations on this remarkable achievement.

Hon. Rome Ibekwe
Mayor, Anaocha Local Government Area



Cornucopia: Nonye Soludo's Perspective... Continued

From Page 138

President Bola Ahmed Tinubu recently asked the All Progressives Congress, APC, Candidate for Anambra State, Prince Nicholas Ukachukwu to go and get Anambra for the APC. He, at the same time, assured Governor Charles Chukwuma Soludo of his Progressives partnership, which is APC working in tandem with Soludo's All Progressives Grand Alliance, APGA.

And the Young Progressive Party candidate, Chief Paul Chukwuma together with his running mate Uzu Okagbue are poised to take over as progressives too. Which progressive is taking over? APGA, APC or YPP?

And the people, the real voters are planning their own sabotage sequel to filthy lucre, but who knows either way the hatched plans shall go.

For sure, there will be sabotage either to betray party interest or betray the candidate's interest. Which party is this going to happen? APGA, APC or YPP?

However, there is a fire, unassuming fire nobody is putting in the equation. That fire coming from Nonye Soludo has calmly etched into lives, into associations, into homes, into kindreds and into individuals, getting the huge attention and followership unbecoming of her office. There were no such huge antecedents in the nearest past. She has a real connection with the people. A lot has changed because she is involved. Her connection with the Nigeria'a first lady, Senator Oluremi Tinubu added much vibes to the already existing prowess. Just on August 6th, Soludo' wife, on behalf of the First Lady of Nigeria and National Chairman of Renewed Hope Initiative (RHI), Senator Oluremi Tinubu, CON, handed out N25 million business re-capitalization grant to 500 Anambra women and persons with special needs who are into different petty trades. This is a clear example of progressives working together.

According to her, the grant was made available this time through a partnership between the RHI and the Tony Elumelu Foundation. Whose faces are these women seeing championing this important aspect of the RHI's Economic Empowerment Programme, which is about supporting women traders and small-scale business owners.

Soludo's wife acting for the First Lady of Nigeria is a direct support to the President's wife tireless gesture of compassion. She didn't stop at that as she also handed out a similar sum to another 500 women to bring the total number of beneficiaries to 1,000 in her spirit of giving back to our society because she believes that when you empower a woman, you empower a household, a community, and indeed, a nation. Healthy Living With Nonye Soludo and the Renewed Hope Initiative are partnering for a better society.

Her Excellency, the First Lady of Anambra State and Founder of Healthy Living With Nonye Soludo, Dr. Mrs Nonye Soludo is coming to upstage the equation. It shall be unbelievable but real. Watch out on how, by my bedtime musing.

Contd on Page 157

Nigeria's Deteriorating Leadership... Continued

From Page 134

And so he adapts. Pays his way through school. Pays to pass exams. Pays for a job. Pays to keep the job.

It's not just about stealing. It's about survival.

Corruption in Nigeria isn't just an act, it's a lifestyle. A language. A handshake.

The Price We Pay
But there's a cost.
Infrastructure collapses. Roads crack. Hospitals rot. Education becomes a joke. The young flee, if they can. The ones who stay? They hustle, scheme, kneel, beg, vote for cash, or join the next scam.

You hear it in their voices, strained, cynical, and tired. They speak of "leaders" like ghosts. Distant. Untouchable. You see it in their eyes, those hollow stares during blackouts or in fuel queues under the sun.

There's something heartbreaking about a country that keeps promising but never delivers. Like a father who keeps saying, "Next time, I'll do better," but never does.

Why Is Change So Slow?
You'd think with all this pain, people would demand change. But that's the trick. The system doesn't want change. It eats reformers alive.

Here's the cycle: A man campaigns on "anti-corruption." He wins. He enters the office. The system surrounds him, advisors, godfathers, legacy contracts. He either bends or breaks.

And if he pushes too hard? He's sidelined. Impeached. Or worse.

Even the agencies meant to fight corruption, the EFCC, ICPC, are often politicized. They go after enemies, not allies. One administration's "thief" becomes the next administration's "strategic partner."
You can't drain the swamp if the swamp owns the pumps.

Hope, or a Mirage?
Still, hope flickers.
In 2015, President Muhammadu Buhari came in on an anti-corruption wave. He made some progress. Big names got arrested.
A few were jailed. But the system pushed back, slow investigations, missing files, legal loopholes.

Even Buhari's own circle wasn't immune. "Fighting corruption," he once said, "is like walking through a minefield." He wasn't wrong. But he also didn't finish the walk.
Enter Bola Tinubu. As of now, corruption remains deeply entrenched. Some fear it's even worse. Others say it's simply louder.

And that's the tragedy. In Nigeria, the more things change, the more they recycle.

What Can Be Done?
Let's not pretend it's easy. But it's not impossible either.
Here's what has to happen:

1. Public Shame Must Return
We need to make corruption uncool again. No more celebrating looters at parties. No more honorary chieftaincy titles for crooks. Let the thief eat alone.
2. Justice Must Be Swift and Neutral
The law must bite everyone, not just the opposition. Jail a minister. Jail a senator. Make it hurt. That's how you set an example.
3. Digital Governance
Automation cuts corruption. Estonia went digital, and public sector fraud plummeted. Nigeria must digitize contracts, payments, records. Reduce the human hand in government processes.
4. Civic Education
Most Nigerians don't even know what their leaders owe them. Teach the Constitution in schools. Preach accountability like gospel.
5. Empower Whistleblowers
Protect those who speak up. Give them rewards. Give them safety. Let them feel like patriots, not prey.

The Road Forward
Change won't come with one election, or one strong man. It'll come in drips, slow, stubborn, and grinding.

It'll come when the teacher refuses a bribe for marks. When the journalist exposes a scandal without fear. When the policeman returns a lost wallet. When the voter rejects ₦5,000 for their future.

It's not glamorous. It's not quick.
But it's real.

There's this Yoruba proverb: "The goat that stays in one place watches its mother's blood get spilled."
Nigeria has been still too long. Watching too long. It's time to move.
Reflect On This
I once met a boy in Onitsha. Barefoot. Selling sachet water in traffic. I asked him what he wanted to be when he grew up.
He looked up at me, grinned, and said, "A senator. They make the most money."
He was 9.
That's what we've become. That's what we've taught them.
But we can teach something else. We can tell a different story. Slowly. Firmly. One honest step at a time.

Because leadership shouldn't mean looting. It should mean building. Serving. Protecting.
And the salt that once melted in the river?
Maybe, one day, we'll carry it across safely.
And we'll taste the difference.

GOODWILL MESSAGES

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRINCESS DR. JESSIE IFEOMA UDOKA-MENUBA

A standing ovation for my role model, my aunt in- law, a woman of substance and virtue. Your hard work, determination, commitment, dedication and accomplishments have paid off. It has earned you this prestigious award and honor. Many more to come !!

God bless you Aunty !!

Signed
Dr. Janet Choa Gaskin, MD.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MY MOTHER-IN-LAW

I'm so grateful to have a mother in-law like you in my life. Thank you for being a loving and supportive mother figure.You've always made me feel like a part of the family. Thank you for your warmth and acceptance.

Your wisdom and guidance have been invaluable to me.I admire your strength and grace . Your kindness and generosity are truly appreciated we are grateful for everything you do for this family .You're an inspiration to me.

Signed
Your daughter-in-law
Roxanne Joseph

GOODWILL MESSAGES

CONGRATULATIONS TO MY AUNT

I, Michelle Joseph felicitates with my aunt, Princess Dr. Jessie Ifeoma Udoka-Menuba on her recognition and award as the 2025 NUJ Anambra Philanthropist of the 21st Century.

You are jovial, loving and full of strength for your age. Your life is a huge inspiration, always living for others.

I'm profoundly grateful to God for having you as an aunt. Your life is full of compassion, empathy and a steadfast commitment to aiding those less fortunate.

May God continue to bless, protect, keep you healthy to continue with the assignment he gave you.

Congratulations

Signed
Your niece,
Michelle

HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS TO MY BELOVED GRANDMA

It is with profound joy that I extend my heartfelt congratulations to my beloved grandma, Princess Dr. Jessie Ifeoma Udoka-Menuba as you receive the 2025 NUJ Anambra State Philanthropist of the 21st Century.

I'm so proud to be one of your granddaughters and I learnt many things from you. You are a happy and contented personality, always willing to lend a helping hand. You loved people irrespective of tribe and religion that's why the Catholic Laity Council Awka Diocese gave you the 'Mother Theresa's of the 21st Century award.

Signed
Your grand-daughter
Aliyah Joseph

SOLUDO'S ANCISRO MAKES SOCIAL IMPACT FAST

By Cynthia Igbokwe

September 1, 2025, will mark only the first anniversary of the Anambra State Civic and Social Reformation Office (ANCISRO), established by Governor Chukwuma Charles Soludo. Yet, the agency has already proven so impactful that many could be forgiven for assuming it has been in existence for more than a decade.

Within a few months of its creation, ANCISRO evolved into a major platform for social change and values reorientation in Anambra State. It has championed civic responsibility and promoted social values through remarkable campaigns that drew attention to vital but previously neglected issues. From successfully mobilising Ndi Anambra to participate in the September 27, 2024, local government elections, to dissuading residents from the destructive practice of setting bonfires on tarred roads, to reducing Yuletide traffic gridlocks, noisy street jams, and indiscriminate road blockages, ANCISRO has been effective in driving civic awareness. Since May in particular, the agency has intensified its efforts, rolling out a series of innovative programmes to engage leaders and citizens across the state.

Established under the Governor's mandate to rekindle waning social values, restore positive traditions in contemporary Igbo society, strengthen family bonds, and instil civic consciousness, ANCISRO has in recent months focused strongly on young people and on mobilising communities towards greater civic responsibility.

A major highlight of the quarter was the International Day of the Boy Child celebrated on 29 May with a colloquium themed "Boys Today, Great Men Tomorrow." Organised in partnership with civil society campaigners E-KEEPAS, the event brought together educators, parents, and community leaders to reflect on how best to raise boys into responsible men and future leaders.

In June and July, ANCISRO teams, in collaboration with the Foundation for Attitude Repair (F.A.R.), visited 11 secondary schools in Awka under the theme "The Danger in Popular Trends: Not All You See Are What They Appear."

During the outreach, students were cautioned against get-rich-quick schemes, internet fraud (popularly known as Yahoo-Yahoo and Yahoo Plus), school dropout, teenage pregnancy, Oke Ite, and cultism. The sessions emphasised discipline, education, and hard work as the true path to a meaningful future.

Contd on Page 146

HON. THANKGOD CHIBUIKE ANAGO

Mayor, Awka North Local Government Area

Ongoing construction of Ultra-modern Oye market in Urum

Reticulation of pipe-born water at the Council headquarters

Construction of Circa bypass road
connecting Enugu-Awka Express road with old Awka-Enugu road
Amaowelle Village, Amansea

Construction of Irunebo Ezi-Okpokikolo road, with spur to
Holy Cashew Junction, Amaezike Village, Mgbakwu
Awka North Local Government Area

Renovation of Central Primary School, Mgbakwu

Renovation of Aborgu Community Primary School, Mgbakwu

Installation of Solar Street Lights at Mgbakwu

Free medical Outreach in Awka-North

Distribution of Writing Materials to Schools
Across Awka-Niorth LGA

Installation of solar powered street Lights
at strategic locations at the Council headquarters

PROJECTS EXECUTED BY
HON. THANKGOD CHIBUIKE ANAGO (Mayor, Awka North LGA)

Better Awka North

GOODWILL MESSAGE

From

MACROSE
Pleasant Humanitarian Foundation

On behalf of MACROSE – Pleasant Humanitarian Foundation, we extend our warmest goodwill message to the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Anambra State Council, as you mark your 2025 Press Week and Man of the Year Awards.

This year's event is more than a celebration, it is a reaffirmation of the critical role the press plays in building a just, inclusive, and compassionate society. At MACROSE, our mission revolves around uplifting the downtrodden, empowering the vulnerable, and restoring dignity to lives often neglected. In this light, we recognize the press as a true ally in amplifying the voices of the voiceless and drawing attention to the realities of the underserved.

We commend the NUJ for spotlighting individuals and organizations that have made meaningful contributions to humanity. The Man of the Year Awards is a noble tradition that inspires excellence and encourages a culture of giving, leadership, and empathy.

As we continue to reach out to the less privileged, we look forward to further collaboration with the media in projecting causes that transform lives. We are also deeply thankful to journalists who cover humanitarian stories, advocate for social justice, and ignite societal conversations that lead to progress.

May this Press Week inspire renewed strength, vision, and unity among all media professionals. MACROSE stands in solidarity with the NUJ and salutes every member for their relentless pursuit of truth and positive change.

Congratulations once again, and may your pen never run dry.

SOLUDO'S ANCISRO... CONTINUED

From Page 143

As the November 8 governorship election approaches, ANCISRO has also launched a voter awareness drive to boost participation in the Continuous Voter Registration (CVR). The campaign played a key role in increasing turnout during the Independent National Electoral Commission's (INEC) July registration exercise. ANCISRO's daily sensitisation efforts at registration centres, markets, streets, and motor parks particularly drew the attention of young, first-time voters.

The agency's initiatives have begun to attract interest from civil society groups and non-governmental organisations eager to collaborate and extend civic enlightenment across Anambra State.

Despite being only a year old, ANCISRO has enjoyed strong public reception. Its Managing Director, Chuka I. Nnabuife – a multiple award-winning journalist, Fellow of the Nigerian Guild of Editors, and author of six books – disclosed that the organisation is determined to expand its reach. According to him, ANCISRO will deepen partnerships with civil society organisations and continue to play a pivotal role in fostering socio-cultural awareness. The Office is committed to re-enacting the values that distinguish Ndi Anambra and the wider Igbo nation, while strengthening civic consciousness and encouraging higher democratic participation across the state.

RC. 78165
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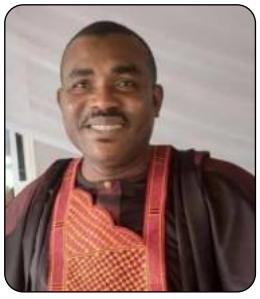
FHA Housing Estate
FCT Abuja
AWKA OFFICE:
Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Permanent Site Dev
08126490840
SITE EQUIPMENT:
Along Ntiejc Umunya Umudioka Ogidi Road,
Dunukofia LGA. Anambra State
ASPHALT PLANT:
Along Odumodo Onitsha express Umunya
Oyi LGA Anabra state

GOODWILL MESSAGE

We, the management and indeed the entire staff of DANIELS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED do heartily, Felicitate with – Arc. Okey Ezeobi, the GM/CEO, Anambra Bureau of Public Procurement – BPP who has emerged as the winner of 2025 NUJ Anambra man of the year award. The occasion of the year awards ceremony – platinum man of the year, is in line with 70 years anniversary of NUJ, scheduled to be held at 11am, on August 28th , 2025 at the International convention Centre, ICC Awka.

We also wish to congratulate NUJ on their 70 years platinum Anniversary.



SIGNED

Engr. Daniel Fuechi Ekene Nkwonta
Managing Director/CEO ***BSc Civil &Environmental Eng. USA – MNSE, COREN Rgtd.***

ANAMBRA BATTLES AGAINST COUNTERFEIT PRODUCTS

By Ukpa Ewa

Recently, In a sunlit hall in the heart of Awka (Anambra State Capital), a quiet revolution began, where experts and stakeholders gathered to raise more awareness about fake and sub-standard products.

At ASUBEB Hall, where government officials, civil society leaders, and grassroots organizers gathered, the air buzzed with urgency. The mission? To tackle one of the most silent yet deadly threats facing Nigerians today, fake and adulterated products.

The campaign, spearheaded by the Anti-Piracy Society of Nigeria (APSON), in collaboration with Healthy Living with Nonye Soludo and the Anambra State Ministry of Health, aims to awaken consumer consciousness and drive united action across communities and sectors

"Say No to Fake, Yes to Originality"
Frank Uduonu, Director General of APSON, didn't mince words. To the packed room, he described counterfeit products as "a scourge", a growing danger infiltrating every home, shop, and market.
"These fake goods do more than harm the economy—they harm people," Uduonu stressed. "They erode trust in institutions and put lives at risk."

Under the campaign's theme—" Say No to Fake, Yes to Originality. Save a Consumer Today"— he emphasized collective vigilance and responsibility.
"In a society where economic shortcuts are often glorified, we must choose integrity," he said, crediting Governor Charles Chukwuma Soludo and Dr. Nonye Soludo for championing the campaign and safeguarding citizens.

Teaching the Young to Choose Right
But this message isn't just for adults. Chukwujekwu Echezona, of the Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC),

introduced a forward-thinking idea: instill awareness in children early.
"Imagine school clubs where children learn to spot expired drugs or mislabeled products. That's how you build lifelong smart consumers," he said.

With over 500 consumer complaints processed this year, Echezona urged vigilance, especially with product labels, expiry dates, NAFDAC registration numbers, and instructions.

Legal Proof, Even for Small Purchases

Barrister Amaka Ezeno offered a practical reminder often forgotten in day-to-day shopping.

"Take pictures. Record videos. Even when you buy a soft drink or a pack of paracetamol, get a receipt," she advised.

She explained how many genuine consumer complaints go unprosecuted due to lack of evidence.

Contd on Page 150

Red Cross Creates Flood Awareness in Anambra

A coordinated effort targets Nigeria's flood-prone communities—offering hope, training, and early action

By Ukpa Ewa

In a quiet hall in Awka, something powerful started to touch the lives of over 400,000 Nigerians facing the brutal force of annual flooding, within Anambra State and beyond.

The Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRCS), Anambra State Branch, officially flagged off an ambitious flood intervention project, thanks to funding from the Italian Government and support from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).

The initiative is part of a broader regional humanitarian response spanning five African countries, but in Anambra, the focus is clear: reach the most vulnerable, prepare them for what's coming, and strengthen communities before the next flood strikes.

A Mission Rooted in Urgency

"This is not just a program," said Engr. Kingsley Okoye, State Secretary of the NRCS. "It's a lifeline for thousands."

He explained that although the project responds to last year's devastating floods, activities will begin in earnest this year and continue until December 2025.
Twelve flood-prone states, including Borno, Bayelsa, Lagos, Niger, and Anambra, were selected for targeted interventions. But in Anambra, Ogbaru and Anambra West stood out. "These areas are ground zero," Okoye stated.
Eight hard-to-reach communities have been mapped out:
- In Ogbaru: Akiliogidi, Oguikpele, Osamala, and Obeagwa
- In Anambra West: Igbedo, Inoma, Ukwala, and Owelle

Contd on Page 150

Ebube Muonso: The Accidental Priest Who Should Have Never Been Ordained?

By Daniel Ezeigwe

True prophets of God have always had one common attribute: they carry grace, and their words are sacred and prophetic. They are neither irascible nor conceited. They give up carnal appetites and speak only under the direction and guidance of the Holy Spirit. God's true prophets are rare, but their words and works carry exceptional resonance. Being a God's prophet keeps one under certain restrictions and high demands. Prophets are God's mouthpiece and conscience. It's often onerous and overwhelming, which is why we have seen prophets rise, fall, and fizzle out. God gives and takes. The holy scripture is awash with perfect instances.

The recent theatrics of the Uke-based Catholic priest, who choose to be adulated as Ebube Muonso, paints an exact instance of a man working under the influence of confusion and emptiness. It's really time for the revered church to call this poor actor to order. I watched a recent viral video where the Uke-based performer threatened and laid empty curses on anyone who dared to vote against his preferred candidate in the just-concluded bye-election for Onitsha North 1 Constituency. Such deliberate madness on God's Holy altar leaves you with the conclusion that God left the man as long time ago. Ebube Muonso is rather a businessman than a priest called by God. His rash and unthoughtful meddlesomeness are rather signs that the Mother Church may have enthroned one more mediocrity.

I find Ebube Muonso's approach to things quite desperate and unwise. Of course, his below average conceptualization of deep knowledge tells you the whole story. His enmity and anger against Governor Chukwuma Soludo's administration began when his brother, who failed as a local lawmaker, was rejected by his own people for seeking another tenure.

Governor Soludo, being a practical realist, stopped every undue patronage that the rabid priest enjoyed from the past government. Ebube Muonso felt like an outsider, having been denied unmerited political and economic privileges. And like a castaway dissident, he went into bed with every opposition just to get back at the governor. When Governor Soludo fails to take notice of his madness, the Uke-based business priest allowed uncaged exasperation to take hold of his soul.

The truth is that Father Ebube Muonso is fighting for attention. He wants to have his pipe back to the dispensing channel. He is desperately seeking Governor Soludo's patronage and attention. He has supported and sponsored candidates of other political parties in a helpless bid to send a message to the governor. In each of these adventures, failures keep reminding him that Soludo's God is very alive than the Uke-based abracadabra.

Rabid priests like Ebube Muonso must be restrained from pulpit if the Holy Church is serious with its image. However, my sincerest empathy goes to the thousands of poor flock who troop into Uke each week in search of salvation in a ministry departed by God.

The Battle Against Counterfeit...

From Page 148

Worse still, counterfeit vendors often have original items ready to swap in when challenged.
"You must slow down and inspect," she warned.

Media, Markets, and Mothers—All Hands Needed
Chairman of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Dr. Odogwu Emeka, pledged full media support.

"The media has a moral duty to amplify this campaign," he said. "We must be the voice that educates and protects the people."
Also lending her voice, Mrs. Esther Onyekesi, Anambra State Woman Leader of APGA, called for grassroots mobilization.

"Let's take this campaign to our markets and communities. Fake drinking water, fake paracetamol, these things are killing our people," she said.

She urged women to always check product labels. "Mothers must inspect before giving anything to a child. What you don't know can harm your home."

A United Front Against a Hidden Enemy

The campaign drew support from far and wide: representatives of the Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON), Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Nigeria Police, Immigration Service, NSCDC, Ministry of Youth Development, town union leaders, and civil society groups.

Barr. Nkiru Mokwe, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Lands, also lent her voice, framing the fight against fake products as both a public health issue and a matter of governance.

A Fight Worth Fighting

This campaign may have launched with speeches and banners, but its real strength lies in what follows—actions taken in markets, pharmacies, homes, and daily lives across Anambra State.

Fake products don't just threaten livelihoods. They threaten life itself.

And now, from Onitsha's bustling stalls to the pharmacies in Nnewi, a movement is taking shape.

Because in today's world, authenticity isn't just a virtue. It's a matter of survival.

Red Cross Flood Campaign...

From Page 148

People at the Heart of Preparedness
The intervention won't just deliver supplies. It's about empowering people.
Fifty community-based volunteers will be trained to lead local sensitization campaigns on: - Early warning systems
- Flood preparedness
- Disaster risk reduction
- Community resilience

"This is where the real change begins," said Prof. Charity Emelle, NRCS State Chairman. "When communities lead, solutions last."

Voices of Support and Synergy
The coordination meeting brought together diverse voices: aid workers, state agencies, local government officials, and media professionals.

Opara StellaMaris, a member of the NRCS National Disaster Response Team, stressed the need for preemptive action.
"Clear your waterways. Move out of danger zones. Prepare go-bags. Know the signs," she urged. "We are losing too many lives because people wait too long."
Adding his voice, Comrade Emeka Odogwu, PhD, Chairman of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), pledged full media collaboration to amplify the campaign.

"Journalists are everywhere. We are the microphone of the people," he said. "We will help take this message into the deepest corners of Anambra."

Fast Facts
- Donor: Government of Italy
- Implementing Body: Nigerian Red Cross Society with IFRC
- Duration: June–December 2025
- Target States: 12, including Anambra
- Target Communities in Anambra: 8
- Volunteers Trained: 50
- Beneficiaries: 400,000+ Nigerians

Media Matters: The Message Must Travel
A strong theme throughout the meeting was collaboration—especially with the media.
"Awareness saves lives," said one community leader. "If a mother in Akiliogidi hears a flood warning early, she can save her children."

The presence of UNICEF, the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), and Anambra Town Unions Council further underscored the importance of grassroots partnerships.

Hope in High Water
Floods will come. That much is certain. But with preparation, they don't have to bring ruin.

As stakeholders dispersed from the meeting, the message was clear: no one is too far to reach, and no voice is too small to matter.

In the swelling tide of climate change, Anambra's communities now have a better chance, not just to survive, but to stand stronger together.

GOODWILL MESSAGES

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRINCESS DR. JESSIE IFEOMA UDOKA-MENUBA

I Just Want To Say How Proud I Am Of You For Being Nominated For Such Prestigious Award.

Congratulations !!

Signed

High Chief Okwudili Okoye
(Arubalu Eze Ama Amawbia)

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRINCESS DR. JESSIE IFEOMA UDOKA-MENUBA

The entire family of HON CHIEF and LOLO Victor Ndubuisi Nwokoye, joyfully extends their heartfelt congratulations to princess Dr. JESSIE IFEOMA UDOKA MENUBA on the momentous occasion of her being honored with the 2025 NUJ Anambra State Award for philanthropist of the century.

Signed
Hon Chief Victor Ndubuisi Nwokoye
(Idejuogwugwu Amawbia)
And Family

GOODWILL MESSAGES

CONGRATULATIONS TO MY AUNT

A round of applause for my Aunt, Dr. Jessie Ifeoma Menuba for her outstanding achievement that made us all proud. Your commitment to excellence and your ability to go above and

Signed

Your nephew
Dr. Keron Gaskin, MD.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MY QUINTESSENTIAL GRANDMA

Big congratulations to my grandma Princess Dr. Jessie Ifeoma Udoka-Menuba on winning the 2025 NUJ Anambra Philanthropist of the 21st Century.

My grandma is the quintessential gentle woman with many outstanding qualities.

I will not try to recount all of them here because time is limited.

My grandma, a bold, earless and courageous Princess, had always been a leading figure and philanthropist.

Signed
Your grandson
Ricado Joseph

KUV HOMES & PROPERTIES

House 15 road 28 Ngozika estate Awka Anambra state

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Celebrates NUJ ANAMBRA STATE

We at KUV Homes & Properties joyfully join the media community in Anambra State in celebrating Arc Okey Ezeobi, on the distinguished recognition bestowed upon him during the 2025 Press Week and Man of the Year Awards organized by the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Anambra State Council.

This meritorious honour as 'Man of the Year' is a resounding testimony to Arc Ezeobi's resilience, brilliance, and ever-relevant contributions to society. The recognition reflects not only his professional excellence and leadership but also his enduring commitment to service and humanity.

At KUV Homes & Properties, we are passionate about providing serene, affordable, and luxurious living experiences to Nigerians. In this mission, we value leaders like Arc Ezeobi whose integrity, vision, and impact mirror the kind of transformative progress we seek to build in our communities. His recognition is a beacon of inspiration for many to emulate.

We also commend the NUJ Anambra State Council for its consistent efforts in honouring men and women of distinction whose work shapes society positively. This synergy between the media and exemplary personalities like Arc Ezeobi is vital for societal growth and collective advancement.

As you celebrate this momentous recognition, we encourage Arc Ezeobi to see this award not only as a celebration of past achievements but as a renewed call to greater service. May this honour further strengthen his resolve to keep making lasting contributions to Anambra State and Nigeria at large.

Once more, congratulations to Arc Okey Ezeobi, to the NUJ Anambra State Council for organizing such a laudable event, and to all the distinguished awardees. At KUV Homes, we are proud to identify with this celebration of excellence and service.

Phone number: **+2348033189065** Email: **Kuvhomes@gmail.com**

COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE NIGERIA UNION OF JOURNALISTS (NUJ), ANAMBRA STATE COUNCIL, APRIL CONGRESS HELD ON APRIL 3, 2025 AT THE GODWIN EZEEMO INTERNATIONAL PRESS CENTER, NUJ SECRETARIAT COMPLEX, AWKA, ANAMBRA STATE

The Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Anambra State Council, held its April Congress under the leadership of the Chairman, Dr. Odogwu Emeka Odogwu. The Congress deliberated on critical issues affecting the state and the union and adopted the following resolutions:

The meeting which was presided over by the National President, Comrade Alhasan Yahya and attended by members of the Central Working Committee (CWC) and Council Chairmen and Secretaries resolved on the following:

In line with the constitutional provisions of the Union, the NEC formally inaugurated newly elected Chairmen and Secretaries of various State Councils who had concluded their elections prior to the meeting.

The NEC endorsed plans to upgrade the International Institute of Journalism (IIJ) to enable it to issue a broader range of professional certificates, thereby strengthening capacity-building in the journalism profession.

The President of the Union emphasized the importance of continuous training and retraining of journalists, particularly in emerging areas such as cybercrime reporting. He advised practitioners to remain ethical, professional, and committed to the public interest.

The NEC condemned the activities of impostors who parade themselves as journalists using counterfeit press stickers and other means of impersonation. It urged security agencies and the general public to remain vigilant and to report such individuals.

NEC mandated the National Secretariat to compile a list of nominees across the Zones to conduct bye-election into the Office of National Auditor.

NEC received some nominations for the vacant Offices for Zonal Trustees and Ex-Officios in the Central Working Committee. Some Zonal leaders has to be given time to consult before coming up with their nominations.

NUJ Chairman during a congress

On national security, the NEC urged the Federal Government to direct security agencies to prioritize the protection of lives and property. It expressed concern over the increasing cases of killings across the country and called on the government to act swiftly.

The NEC further urged the Federal Government to intensify efforts in addressing poverty and unemployment, which are underlying factors fueling insecurity in the country.

Contd on Page 158

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Our Ref: ..... Your Ref: ..... Date: .....

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Felicitates **NUJ ANAMBRA STATE**

On behalf of the Management and Staff of HEMEBS Construction Nig Ltd, we extend our warmest felicitations to Arc. Okey Ezeobi on the occasion of his well-deserved recognition as 'Man of the Year' at the 2025 Press Week and Man of the Year Awards. This honour not only celebrates his personal achievements but also reflects the values of integrity, service, and excellence that he continues to embody in public and professional life.

We equally commend the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Anambra State Council, for providing a credible platform that recognizes men and women of distinction. The NUJ's consistency in celebrating excellence reinforces the importance of leadership, accountability, and contributions that uplift society.

At HEMEBS, we deeply admire the legacy and exemplary qualities of Arc. Okey Ezeobi. His dedication to development, community service, and professional excellence stands as an inspiration to many. His recognition at this year's awards serves as a reminder that genuine impact and selfless leadership never go unnoticed.

Congratulations once again to Arc. Okey Ezeobi, the NUJ Anambra Council, and all those who contributed to the success of this year's Press Week. May this celebration inspire greater service, stronger partnerships, and a renewed commitment to building a better Anambra and Nigeria at large.

HEMEBS Construction Nig Ltd remains committed to building not just roads and structures, but also communities, trust, and enduring legacies.

COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE END OF THE JULY CONGRESS OF THE NIGERIA UNION OF JOURNALISTS (NUJ), ANAMBRA STATE COUNCIL, HELD AT THE GODWIN EZEEMO INTERNATIONAL PRESS CENTRE, NUJ SECRETARIAT COMPLEX, AWKA, ON THURSDAY 3RD JULY, 2025.

The Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Anambra State Council, held its monthly congress on 3rd of July, 2025, at the Godwin Ezeemo International Press Centre (NUJ Secretariat Complex), Awka, Anambra State, under the chairmanship of Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu, PhD,JP. Following robust deliberations on key issues affecting the union, the state, and the nation at large, the following resolutions were reached:

NUJ congress in Session

1. Congress observed that the number of candidates and political parties showing interest in the November 2025 governorship election in Anambra State is a good opportunity for voters to benefit from the multiple alternatives obtained in any multi-party democracy. The robustness of the ongoing electoral debate was once more in display as the congress interacted with the All Progressives Congress (APC) candidate, Prince Nicholas Ukachukwu, represented by Chief Dozie Ikedife Jnr, the APC South East Organizing Secretary.

2. Congress emphasized the need for members to prioritize attendance to the Union's monthly meeting, as being present at meetings is key to their active membership and entitlement to certain privileges which membership affords.

3. Congress advised younger journalists to cultivate the habit of regular reporting and writing in order to horn their craft and attain excellence. It emphasized the need for self-respect and professionalism among journalists, urging members to maintain a high level of modesty and conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on the profession.

4. Congress extended condolences to the Chairman of the NUJ Anambra State Council, Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu, PhD, JP, for the passing away of his father, late Chief Samuel Agunwa Odogwu, and observed a minute silence in honour of a former colleague, late Comrade Paulson Okeke.

5. Congress registered its displeasure at the attitude of some contractors doing shabby jobs in the State in the face of scarce availability of resources, warning that such conduct sabotages efforts to build a better society.
It calls for a stop to such unpatriotic acts, emphasizing the need for government supervisors and evaluation teams to desist from conniving with greedy contractors to execute poor quality jobs on public infrastructure and utilities.

6. Congress appealed to the Government of Anambra State to immediately intervene in the persistent flooding at Ngozika Estate as millions of naira worth of property is currently submerged in water. It frowned at the improper channeling of flood water in some roads which exposes residents to more harm, calling for measures to redeem the anomaly.

7. Congress re-affirmed the time-honoured responsibility of journalists to act as the society's watchdog in their role as the Fourth Estate of the Realm which obliges them to hold the three arms of the government accountable for a better society.

8. Congress approved that the Union should take stock of the conditions of roads done by the administration of Governor Charles Chukwuma Soludo in the last three and a half years as well as document a list of contractors used by the government to allow for effective monitoring of accountability and compliance with standards.

Contd on Page 158

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Congratulations

ARCH. OKEY EZEOBI

NUJ Anambra Man of the Year 2025

On behalf of my family, I write to heartily congratulate you, **Arc. Okey Ezeobi**, on your well deserved recognition as the **NUJ Anambra Man of the Year 2025**.

Your exceptional dedication to public service, your outstanding leadership at the Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement and your unwavering commitment to good governance and the Soludo transformation agenda are truly inspiring.

This honour by the NUJ confirms the impact you continue to make in the public sector and in the hearts of Ndi Anambra.

As the award presentation date draws near, we join your well wishers in celebrating this milestone and pray for more strength, wisdom and greater heights in your journey of service.

Congratulations again

Mr. & Mrs. Chuma E. Ugbana and Family
August 2025

Cornucopia: Nonye Soludo's Perspective... Continued

From Page 140

She is targeting 615,000 votes. How she is going to do that I do not know but she is really working assiduously to achieve that, and surprisingly, quietly. Her mobilization is effectively positive, impactful and phenomenal in outreach. She is at the soul of approximately 12,300 kindred in about 179 communities of Anambra State. She has women. She has youths. She has the elderly. She has leaders of various groups. Her only motivation is to support her darling husband return for a second term. Underrate her exploits at your own peril.

The Anambra State Chairman of APGA, Ifeatu Obi-Okoye understood her scheming better. The National Chairman of APGA, Hon. Sly Ezeokenwa is speechless at her silent exploits. I am keen on my observations but won't spill the beans.

Dr. Simeon Onyemaechi, Managing Director of ASHIA and the Founder of Patriots; the GM/CEO, Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement, BPP,

Arc Okey Ezeobi understood the conspiracy theory and working assiduously to ensure the goal is scored. As the 2025 NUJ Anambra Man Of The Year Nominee, his chances of scoring great goals are possible if he understands the essence.

Nonye has captured institutions, youth associations, new voters who she directly met as they were leaving high schools via her clubs in schools. The magical Nonye Soludo is coming. We shall see her in glory on the eve of the Anambra State Governorship election. Watch out!

Here is where the huge challenge of who becomes the next Governor of Anambra State lies. It's a big challenge.

Prince Nicholas Ukachukwu, Ikukuoma Anambra is plotting seriously too and the YPP duo of Chief Paul Chukwuma and Uzu Okagbue are insistent on grabbing the position. It's going to be tough. I haven't ruled out the influence of other political parties and politicians yet, but I know there is going to be another sabotage and gerry-mandering.

Cornucopia is a weekly column of Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu, PhD.

Odogwu is a known Journalist, Editor, Media & Public Relations Consultant, Media Entrepreneur, Teacher, Lecturer, Motivator, Unionist, Community Leader, Social Analyst and Famous Blogger, as well as Social Media Entrepreneur, Editor-In-Chief and Conversationalist @ www.odogwublog.com among others.
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APRIL CONGRESS COMMUNIQUE... CONTINUED

From Page 153

The Council called on the Federal Government to, as a matter of urgency, reconstruct and rehabilitate critical federal highways across the country that are currently in a dilapidated state.

The NEC also urged the government to provide farmers with adequate agricultural inputs and support to ensure a successful planting season, improve food security, and stimulate economic growth.

NEC deliberated on the report of the Committee set up to investigate the petition of gross misconduct on the chairman and secretary of Delta State Council, Churchill Oyowe and Victor Sorokwu respectively and resolved that they tender an unreserved apology to those directly affected, especially the petitioners within one week. They are to work to ensure that unity returns to the council and report to the National Secretariat on the outcome. They were given one week to achieve these.

The NEC commended the National Leadership for intervening and effecting the timely release of some Journalists in some parts of the country including Ogun, Kwara, and Lagos State who were incarcerated and in the custody of security agents even as he tasked colleagues to work within the boundaries of their ethical provisions.

A vote of confidence was unanimously passed on the NUJ National President, Comrade Alhassan Yahaya Abdullahi and the central working committee in recognition of their visionary leadership and commitment to the growth and unity of the Union.

NEC celebrates the NUJ on the historic occasion of the 70th Anniversary.

Achike Chude
National Secretary
Communiqué Drafting Committee:
Abdulrazak Bello Kaura, Secretary, Zone A) – Chairman

Comrade Tonye Yemoleigha, Chairman, Bayelsa State Council – Member

Comrade Amos Etuk, Chairman, Akwa Ibom State Council

JULY CONGRESS COMMUNIQUE... CONTINUED

From Page 155

9. Congress commended the Anambra State Government led by Prof Charles Chukwuma Soludo and its agency, Awka Capital Territory Development Authority (ACTDA) led by Chief Osita Onuko, Ife Igbo for their efforts in giving Awka a befitting capital and ridding the streets of the capital city of hawkers and beggars, urging for sustenance of the measures.

10. Congress expressed excitement about the transformation of Ekwulobia town by the Soludo-led government in three years, thus giving the people something to smile about once more following the earlier displacement of homes and businesses that was necessary to make way for the infrastructure development.

11. Congress urged for downward review of fees payable for accessing the facilities in the Fun City, observing that the current prizes are quite high and out of reach of many low and middle income families.

12. Congress appreciated the Special Adviser to Governor Soludo on Youth Empowerment Programmes, Comrade (Dr.) Nelson Obinna Omenugha, for his donation of a brand new sound system to the Union for its meetings. It further appealed to all others who pledged one thing or the other to the Union to kindly redeem them.

Communique Drafting committee

Comrade Chizoba Njaka--Chairman
Comrade Joseph Egbeocha -- Secretary
Comrade Tochukwu Ifejika---member
Comrade Uche Osunkwo--- member

E-Signed:

Comrade Okechukwu Onuegbu PhD

Secretary NUJ Anambra State Council

Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu PhD, JP.
Chairman NUJ Anambra State Council
08060750240

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Congratulations

ARCH. OKEY EZEOBI

NUJ Anambra Man of the Year 2025

On behalf of our entire family, we, **Engr. and Mrs. Chukwudi Chikeluba**, heartily congratulate you, **Arc. Okey Ezeobi**, on your well merited election as the **NUJ Anambra Man of the Year 2025**.

You are a good man, a kind visionary leader, a devoted Christian and a shining light whose influence has touched countless lives within and beyond Anambra State. From public service to professional excellence, your name has become synonymous with impact and integrity.

In the field of architecture, your contributions have shaped communities across all states in Nigeria. Your works are legacies and through them, you have left lasting marks in the hearts of many.

As the award ceremony draws near on August 28, 2025, we are proud to join your family, friends and admirers to celebrate this honour that reflects your tireless service and humanity.

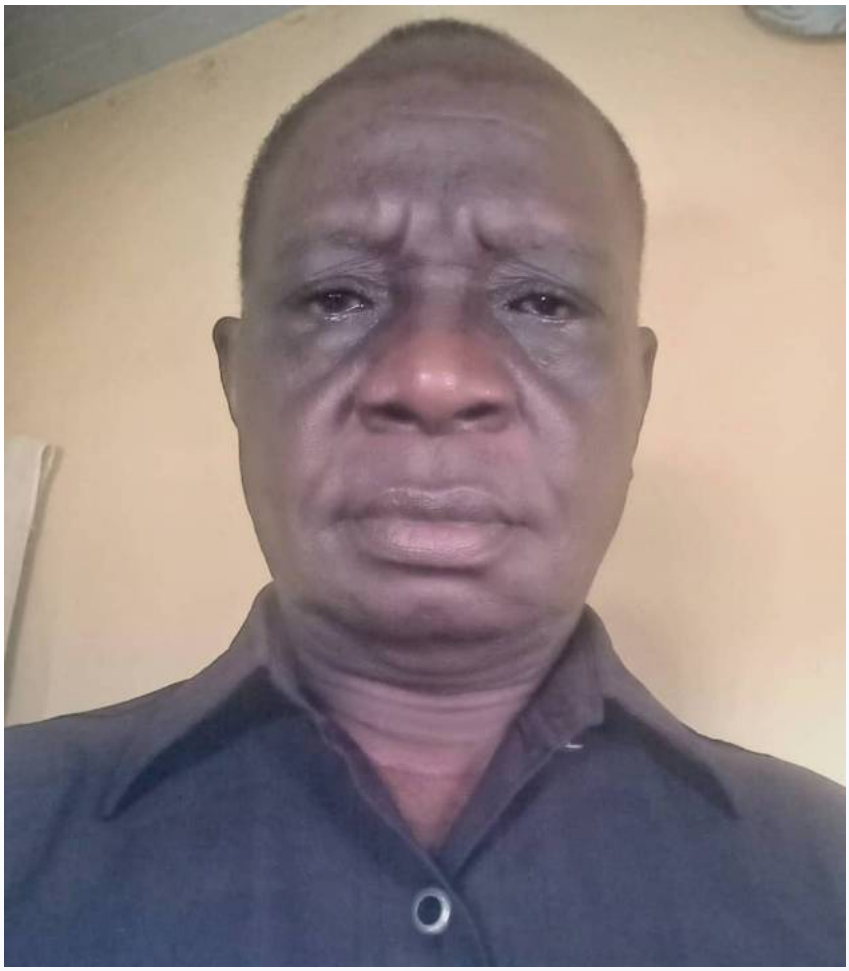
Congratulations Arc. Okey Ezeobi More honours await you.

Engr. & Mrs. Chukwudi Chikeluba & Family
August 2025

SWITCH FROM ERA TO ERA

A Famous Veteran Journalist Who Has Tasted Journalism Practice Shares The Exciting And Challenging Experience Of Moving From The Analog Era To The Present Time Of Digital Media

By Fidelis Nwakwesili



A journey of many miles starts with a step. Growing up, I was always fascinated by stories. In school, I was the kid who would scribble down tales during class, much to my teachers' chagrin. One of my teachers, noticing my interest in writing, encouraged me to join the school Press Club. That's where my love for journalism sparked. I remember spending hours in the school library, devouring newspapers and magazines, analyzing different writing styles, and trying to understand what made a good story tick.

After obtaining the Nigeria Certificate of Education 'NCE', I pursued a diploma course in Journalism with a Correspondence School of Journalism, Accra, Ghana, and the opportunity for me to rob minds alongside seasoned journalists, learning the ropes and soaking up knowledge like a sponge.

Though, I ventured into lecturing at the Institute of Ecumenical Education, Enugu after obtaining my Bachelor's Degree in Educational Psychology, Guidance and Counselling from the University of Port Harcourt. Soon after, I got employed at the Anambra Broadcasting Service, ABS, and at different points during my service, I obtained Masters in Guidance and Counselling, Post Graduate Diploma in Political Science and LL.B. (Bachelor of Laws).

The big bang came when I wrote a commentary on ABS FM Radio that landed me an indefinite suspension during the time of the late Chief Chukwuemeka Ezeife as the Governor of Anambra State. It was saddening! However, I came back when the military took over, more determined because of my penchant for journalism. From there, I worked my way up, covering local events, conducting interviews, and writing commentaries.

During the course of my duty as a reporter, I attended various workshops that put me ahead of my peers; such as Capacity Building Workshop on Civic Journalism for Journalists by Anambra State Ministry of Information- 2007; Workshop on Election Reporting and Monitoring by Anambra State Ministry of Information and Culture- 2007; Workshop on Press Freedom and Responsibility by Anambra State Ministry of Information and Culture- 2008; Workshop on Reporting Development Partnership and Good Governance in Anambra State by Anambra State Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget, in collaboration with Anambra State Committee on Good Governance– 2011; and a host of others.

Contd on Page 167

ANAMBRA STATE
HEALTH INSURANCE AGENCY (ASHIA)

Our Ref: ASHIA/AD/35/68
Date: 5th August, 2025

Arch. Okey Ezeobi
CEO Bureau of Public Procurement
Anambra State

Dear Nwachinemelu,

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

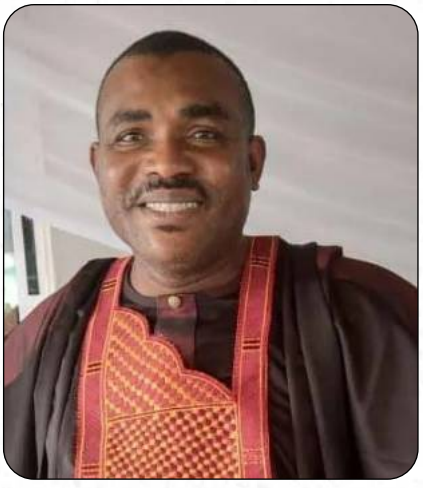
The Management and Staff of Anambra State Health Insurance Agency join the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Anambra State Council, in celebrating Arch. Okey Ezeobi, GM/CEO of the Anambra Bureau of Public Procurement, on his well-earned recognition as the 2025 NUJ Man of the Year.

Your emergence through a highly competitive process is a clear reflection of your exceptional contributions to public service, transparency, and development in Anambra State. This honour, conferred as part of NUJ's 70th anniversary celebration, is a glowing testament to your steadfast commitment to integrity, innovation, and the greater good.

As you receive this distinguished honour, we commend your leadership and dedication, which continue to uplift institutions and inspire many.

Congratulations once again on this milestone recognition!

Dr. Simeon Onyemaechi
MD/CEO



"Good Health for Ndi Anambra, Our Priority"

No 6 Hon. Pete Ibida Street, Abuja Estate
Opposite House Awka, Anambra State. 08036740872
writeashia@yahoo.com
@ashia anambra
@ashiaanambra

GOODWILL MESSAGE

HON. PRINCE ALPHONSUS OFUMELU FELICITATES WITH ARC. OKEY EZEOBI ON HIS RECOGNITION AS NUJ MAN OF THE YEAR 2025

The Mayor of Ayamelum Local Government Area, Hon. Prince Alphonsus Ofumelu, heartily congratulates Arc. Okey Ezeobi, GM/CEO of the Anambra Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP), on his well-deserved recognition as the NUJ Man of the Year 2025, an award conferred by the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Anambra State Chapter.

This honour is a testament to your unwavering commitment to excellence, transparency, and accountability in public service. Your outstanding leadership and dedication to the service of humanity continue to inspire many within and beyond the state.

On behalf of the good people of Ayamelum,
I celebrate your achievements and wish you continued success in your service to Anambra State and Nigeria at large.

Hon. Prince Alphonsus Ofumelu
Mayor, Ayamelum LGA.

COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE END OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (NEC) MEETING OF THE NIGERIA UNION OF JOURNALISTS (NUJ) HELD IN KANO, KANO STATE, ON 12TH AUGUST 2025, AT TAHIR GUEST PALACE HOTEL.

The National Executive Council (NEC) of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) held its meeting on 12th August 2025 in Kano, Kano State, to review the state of the nation and deliberate on critical issues affecting the media industry and the welfare of journalists in Nigeria. The meeting was presided over by the NUJ National President, Comrade Alhasan Yahya.

After extensive deliberations, the NEC resolved as follows:

1. Worsening Insecurity in Nigeria

The NEC expressed deep concern over the escalating insecurity in many parts of the country, particularly in Benue, Zamfara, and Plateau States, among others. The rising cases of banditry, kidnapping, terrorism, and other violent crimes continue to endanger lives and threaten national unity. The Union calls on the Federal Government and security agencies to intensify efforts to restore peace, protect citizens, and prevent the nation from sliding into further lawlessness.

2. Deplorable State of Road Infrastructure

The NEC lamented the hazardous state of federal and state roads across the country, particularly in Delta, Bauchi, Gombe to Taraba, Benue, Rivers, Enugu, and Kogi States. Many of these roads have become death traps, disrupting economic activities and causing needless loss of lives. The NEC urges both Federal and State Governments to take immediate action to rehabilitate critical road networks and ensure the timely and quality completion of all ongoing projects.

3. Unprofessional Conduct of Some Chief Press Secretaries

The NEC noted with dismay the growing incidence of unprofessional conduct by some Chief Press Secretaries (CPS) to State Governors, including hostility towards journalists and obstructing NUJ council leaders from accessing their governors. Such behaviour is unacceptable. The NEC reminds CPS that their role is to facilitate constructive engagement between government and the media, not to hinder it. State Governors are urged to strengthen relationships with NUJ council leaders and journalists, recognising them as partners in progress.

4. Vote of Confidence on the Governor of Kano State

The NEC unanimously passed a vote of confidence on the Executive Governor of Kano State, His Excellency, Engr. Alhaji Abba Kabir Yusuf, for his progressive leadership, support for press freedom, and inclusive governance. The Union commended his open-door policy and consistent engagement with the media as a model for other governors.

5. Commendation for the Governor of Gombe State

The NEC commended the Executive Governor of Gombe State and Chairman of the Northern Governors' Forum, His Excellency, Alhaji Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya, for his exemplary intervention in facilitating the payment of outstanding entitlements to former staff of the defunct New Nigeria Newspapers. This humane act has brought relief to affected families and demonstrated his administration's commitment to justice and workers' welfare.

NEC MEETING COMMUNIQUE CONTINUED

6. Commendation for the Governor of Akwa Ibom State

The NEC applauded the Executive Governor of Akwa Ibom State, His Excellency, Pastor Umo Eno, for his unprecedented donation of brand-new SUVs to the eleven members of the State Working Committee of the NUJ Akwa Ibom State Council. This gesture reflects a genuine appreciation of the media's role in governance and serves as encouragement for responsible journalism. The NEC urges other governors to emulate this example.

7. Vote of Confidence on NUJ National Leadership

The NEC passed a vote of confidence on the NUJ National President, Comrade Alhasan Yahya, and his team for their visionary leadership and commitment to improving the welfare of members nationwide.

8 .NEC in session called on Federal and State Governments to ensure proper and full implementation of the 70,000 minimum wage among media Organisations in Nigeria as well as provide welfare packages for Journalists.

9. NEC also warned State Governments to desist from unnecessary censorship of Media Organisations in their respective states.

10. The NEC urged both the Federal and State Governments to adopt a proactive approach and take decisive, well-coordinated measures to avert flood disasters. This includes strengthening early warning systems, clearing drainage channels, enforcing environmental regulations, and ensuring the timely relocation of residents in flood-prone and riverine areas. The Union emphasised that preventive action is far more cost-effective than effective than post-disaster relief and that protecting lives, livelihoods, and critical infrastructure must be treated as a national priority.

Conclusion
The Nigeria Union of Journalists reaffirms its unwavering commitment to promoting press freedom, defending democratic ideals, and upholding the integrity of the journalism profession in Nigeria. The Union calls on all tiers of government and public institutions to partner with the media in advancing national development, transparency, and accountability.

Achike Chude
National Secretary.

Communiqué Drafting Committee

Zare Baba, VP Zone E,
Chairman of the Committee

Mahmood Olayinka Alaya
Secretary of the Committee & Secretary Kwara Council

Umar Sa'idu, Member
Chairman Baúchi State Council.

Comrade Bemdoo Ugber
Chairman Benue Council
Member.

Aisha Ahmed -(Secretary Jigawa Council) Member

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Congratulations

ARCH. OKEY EZEOBI

NUJ Anambra Man of the Year 2025

On behalf of my family, I wish to extend our warmest congratulations to **Arc. Okey Ezeobi**, on your well deserved election as the **NUJ Anambra Man of the Year 2025**.

This recognition comes as no surprise to those of us who have come to know you as a genuinely good man, kind, visionary, humble and deeply committed to service and progress.

Your leadership at the ANSBPP has set a standard for accountability and transparency and your life continues to reflect values that uplift both institutions and individuals around you.

As the official presentation of the award draws near on August 28, 2025, we join your well wishers across the state and beyond to celebrate this honour and pray for greater heights ahead.

Congratulations Sir.

Ichie Gab Nwokolo & Family
August 2025

GOVERNMENT OF ANAMBRA STATE

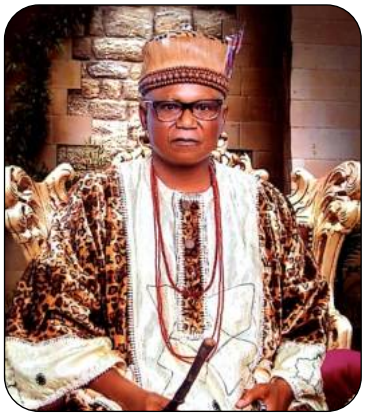
HRH IGWE DR. BENJAMIN O. OKEJI JP

Akpuite Kingdom Palace Omasi
Ayamelum L.G.A Anambra State

- Chairman, Anambra North Traditional Rulers Council.
- Deputy Chairman, Anambra State Traditional Rulers Council.

GOODWILL MESSAGE

CONGRATULATIONS TO AN AMAZING HUMANITARIAN.



May this prestigious award of Philanthropist Of The 21st Century given to you by Anambra State NUJ, be a symbol of the positive change you have already brought and a catalyst for even greater things to come. Dr Jessie Ifeoma Menuba, you believe so much in human capital development and a large number of people both in Nigeria and abroad can attest to that. Your love and care for the downtrodden in the society, transcends unbelievable boundaries and class barriers. You merited this award.
I feel so honored to witness your journey and look forward to seeing the continued impact of your philanthropic endeavors.
Big congratulations to you Dr Jessie Ifeoma Menuba.

Signed
HRH Igwe Dr Benjamin O. Okeji, JP.
(Deputy Chairman, Anambra State Council of Traditional Rulers)
Akpuite Kingdom Palace, Omasi, Ayamelum LGA.

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Bravo

ARCH. OKEY EZEOBI

A resounding congratulations to Hon Arc Okey Ezeobi as NUJ Anambra State Council confers on you the prestigious Man Of The Year Award of 2025. This is an incredible milestone and you truly deserved it because you are naturally wired to ascend great heights in life.
I am proud to be associated with you.
Your love for humanity is legendary and the exploits you are doing in Bureau Of Public Procurement is excellent!
I wish you more of this great recognition.
Congratulations once again.

Engr Uche Akanegbu
Head Dept of Technical Evaluation, Enforcement & Compliance
ANSBPP

SWITCH FROM ERA TO ERA... CONTD

From Page 160

The experience I garnered when I was at the news room in ABS was unprecedented; having worked as an editor, producer of Newspapers in Review and International Review, Radioscope; and was subsequently posted to Anambra State Government House as the ABS Correspondent for 18 years; where I produced and presented the popular ABS programme: “Events from Government House”. While at the government house, I was appointed the Chief Press Secretary to the then Speaker of Anambra State House of Assembly, Princess Chinwe Nwaebili; a position I held till retirement.

Journalism wasn't just a job; it was my passion. For me, journalism wasn't just about reporting facts; it was about telling the stories that need to be told, giving voice to those who need to be heard. Now, there is a paradigm shift in journalism, metamorphosing from analog to the digital era. The differences between old journalism and that of the digital era reflect the evolution of journalism in response to technological advancements and changing audience habits.

Journalism in the old era had its charms. Reporters had more time to dig deep, and stories often unfolded over several days or weeks. There was a sense of craftsmanship in writing for print.

In contrast, the digital era brings instant gratification and global reach. Online news cycles move fast, and journalists can engage directly with their audience.

However, the pressure to produce content quickly can compromise depth and accuracy.

The main differences between old-school journalism and the present digital era journalism are inter-alia:

1. Speed: Digital journalism prioritizes speed, with news breaking online often before traditional outlets can report it. Old-school journalism had more time for fact-checking and reflection.
2. Sources: Traditional journalism relied on established newsrooms and official sources. Digital journalism incorporates social media, blogs, and citizen journalism, diversifying sources.
3. Interactivity: Online news allows for immediate reader engagement through comments and social media discussions. Traditional journalism had limited interaction, mainly through letters to the editor.
4. Content format: Digital journalism includes multimedia content like videos, podcasts, and interactive graphics. Traditional journalism focused on print.
5. Monetization: Old-school journalism often relied on subscriptions and adverts. Digital journalism faces challenges with online advertising revenue and pay walls.
6. Fact-checking: Traditional journalism emphasized rigorous fact-checking. Digital journalism's fast pace can compromise fact-checking, though many outlets prioritize accuracy.
7. Global reach: Online news can reach a global audience instantly. Traditional journalism was often limited to local or regional audiences; except now that some news media organisations are connected to cable networks.

Many veteran journalists have successfully transitioned by combining their experience with digital skills, embracing new technologies and tools, like content management systems and social media. For example, with my experience in television reporting, video editing and packaging, I was able to adjust to digital storytelling techniques, such as video production and podcasting as well as online research methods and fact-checking.

Contd on Page 170

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Congratulations

ARCH. OKEY EZEOBI

NUJ Anambra Man of the Year 2025

On behalf of my wife and the entire **Obiekwe family**, I extend our heartfelt congratulations to you, **Arc. Okey Ezeobi**, on your recent election as the **NUJ Anambra Man of the Year 2025**.

This honour is a well deserved recognition of your commitment to excellence, your integrity as a seasoned professional, your humility and consistency as a devoted Christian and above all, your strength and example as a good family man.

You have remained a beacon of discipline and principle in public service and your leadership at the helm of the Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement continues to inspire confidence and hope in the values of transparency and good governance.

As we look forward to the official presentation of the award on August 28, 2025, we pray that the grace of God will continue to multiply upon you and that your light will shine even brighter in service to Ndi Anambra and humanity.

Congratulations and best wishes.

Chief and Dr. (Mrs.) Charles Obiekwe and Family
August 2025

GOVERNMENT OF ANAMBRA STATE OF NIGERIA

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ADVISER TO THE GOVERNOR ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Our Ref:.....

Your Ref:.....

Government House
P.M.B 5016
AWKA.

Date.....

FELICITATION

I was, and still elated when you, **Arch. Okey Ezeobi, the GM/CEO, Anambra Bureau of Public Procurement, BPP,** emerged as the winner of the **2025 NUJ Anambra Man Of The Year**, after a painstaking, meticulous and competitive selection sessions both online and offline by the public and members of the Nigeria Union of Journalists, NUJ, Anambra State Council, because I am pretty sure that it was a well-deserved honour.

For the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Anambra State Council, a conglomerate of over 1000 practising journalists in the mainstream and new media to have announced you as the **Man of the Year** after such a fastidious process of selection shows that you are a thorough-breed and deserving of this encomium and recognition.

Sir, you have proven time and time again your competence, capacity, character, brilliance, astuteness and unmatched perfection towards the attainment of excellence in all you do.

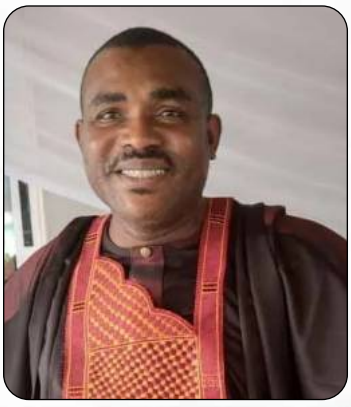
I share this joyous moment with you because you have been exceptionally outstanding in all you do.

Congratulations to you as we look forward to the attainment of greater height for you.

Sincerely,

.....

Hon. Barr. Raph Asha Nnabuife, *IION,*
Special Adviser to the Governor,
Local Government Affairs.



All replies to be addressed to the Special Adviser

SWITCH FROM ERA TO ERA... CONTD

From Page 167

I was also able to build a personal brand through social media and blogs, focusing on niche areas or specialized reporting.

However, the challenges facing analog journalists in the digital era are multifaceted. It ranges from challenges in information gathering, where the vast amount of data available online can be overwhelming. This can make it hard to identify and access relevant facts and data to navigating through unreliable sources; and distinguish between accurate and false information; as private, password-protected websites and databases can limit access to information.

Others are technological, legal and ethical challenges. This is because old journalists need to adapt to new technologies by staying up-to-date with the latest digital tools, social media platforms, and mobile apps to effectively gather and disseminate information.

Data insecurity is another social media quagmire that threatens the protection of data from cyber attack. Old journalists must equip themselves adequately against cyber-attacks, breaches, and other security threats by using encryption, secure file sharing, and strong passwords. They should also be aware of the potential for digital manipulation of information and take steps to verify accuracy.

Analog journalists must be aware of the government regulations, privacy laws and ethical practices of digital journalism. Laws and regulations can limit access to certain information, and journalists must navigate these complexities. Journalists must comply with laws protecting individual privacy and be mindful of the rights of those they investigate or earn themselves law suits. They must also adhere to strict ethical guidelines, ensuring accuracy, impartiality, and independence in their reportage.

Journalists in the digital era are often characterized by their adaptability and speed. They're expected to produce content rapidly, sometimes sacrificing in-depth analysis for immediacy. Social media platforms have become essential tools for news dissemination and audience engagement. However, this shift has also led to concerns about sensationalism, click bait headlines, and the blurring of lines between news and opinion.

In contrast, journalists of the old era were often seen as gatekeepers of information, with a more formal and traditional approach to reporting. They focused on in-depth analysis and investigation, sometimes taking days or weeks to research and write a story. The old-school journalists were also more likely to adhere to strict journalistic standards and ethics.

Some notable differences between the two eras include:

Speed vs. depth: Digital journalists prioritize breaking news and rapid updates, while traditional journalists focus on more in-depth analysis.

Audience engagement: Digital journalists often interact directly with their audience through social media, while traditional journalists may have less direct contact.

Content style: Digital journalists may use more informal language and sensational headlines to grab attention, while traditional journalists stick to more formal reporting style.

The Correspondence Chapel, often a branch of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) is adapting to the digital age by focusing on training and capacity building in digital journalism, particularly in areas like data journalism, fact-checking and multimedia reporting. *Contd on Page 173*

NEKKLINK ENERGY

edmundneke86@gmail.com
Plot 549 Hilltop Neighborhood estate, Awka
+234 803 857 3953

4th August, 2025

Attn: Arch. Okey Ezeobi,
GM/CEO,
Anambra Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP)

Dear Sir,

GOODWILL MESSAGE

On behalf of the Management and Staff of **NEKKLIN ENERGY**, we extend our warmest congratulations to the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Anambra State Council, on the celebration of its 2025 Press Week and the Platinum Man of the Year Awards, commemorating 70 years of outstanding contributions to journalism and nation building.

We heartily congratulate **Arch. Okey Ezeobi, GM/CEO**, Anambra Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP), on his well-deserved recognition as the 2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year. This honour is a testament to his exceptional leadership, professionalism, and commitment to integrity and service.

We applaud the NUJ Anambra State Council for its continuous efforts in promoting credible journalism, upholding democratic values, and providing a strong voice for the people. May this celebration further strengthen your resolve to advance the cause of free and responsible journalism in Nigeria.

We wish you continued success in all your endeavours.

Yours Faithfully,

Nwankwo Edmund
For: **Nekklink Energy**
Managing Director

GOVERNMENT OF ANAMBRA STATE OF NIGERIA

ANAMBRA STATE BUREAU OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

Address: No 1 BPP Road, Behind Old Government House, Awka
www.bpp.an.gov.ng | admin@bpp.an.gov.ng

Arc. Okey Ezeobi,
GM/CEO,
Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement,
August 18, 2025

Dear Sir,

CONGRATULATIONS AS THE NUJ ANAMBRA STATE COUNCIL 2025 MAN OF THE YEAR

The Management and Staff of the Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement heartily felicitates with her General Manager/Chief Executive Officer; **Arc Okey Ezeobi** on his meritorious nomination as the Nigerian Union of Journalist (NUJ) Anambra State Council 2025 Man of the Year.

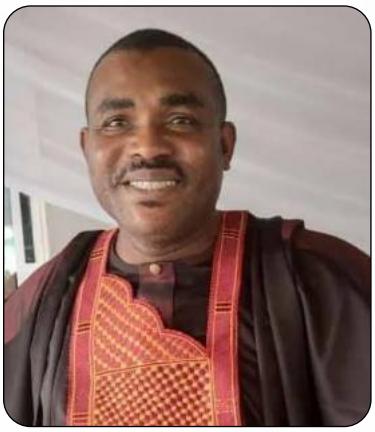
This nomination and award roundly resonates across the State and beyond because of the sterling footprints that you have made across various fields spanning your towering rank in the practice and teaching of Architecture in Nigeria; an outstanding entrepreneurial spot in the Nigeria's corporate world; a human capital developer through immense but quiet philanthropy spanning decades and a burgeoning spot in the public service space.

The work you have done at the Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement in so short a time speaks volumes about your integrity of character; unyielding commitment to due order and a sagacious capacity to deliver results even in very challenging circumstances.

The Bureau joins your family and true friends and fans across the globe to celebrate you as you step out to receive the very coveted award as the **ANAMBRA STATE NUJ 2025 MAN OF THE YEAR (MoY) Award** on the 28th day of August at the prestigious International Convention Centre, Awka.

Congratulations!!!

Dr. Okoye A.C
Head,
Dept of Capacity Building & Operations
ANSBPP, Awka



INTENTIONALITY, VALUE & PASSION

SWITCH FROM ERA TO ERA... CONTD

From Page 170

Considering the differences between correspondence chapel of old and now, I will say that the core purpose of correspondence chapels remains the same: supporting and protecting journalists' rights and interests. Correspondence chapels have undergone significant changes over time.

In the past, chapels were often affiliated with trade unions, providing collective bargaining power. Today, some chapels still exist, but unionization has declined in some areas, which erode that basic foundation for which Correspondent chapel was formed as units in NUJ. Modern chapels now address issues related to digital media, online safety, and new technologies.

Contemporary chapels may include a broader range of media professionals, such as freelancers, bloggers, and social media influencers. With digital communication, chapels can now connect with international networks, sharing best practices and supporting global journalism initiatives.

While traditional chapels focused on labour rights, modern chapels often prioritize issues like press freedom, ethics, and journalists' safety.

As a veteran, I have had a profound impact on young journalists and society for decades through mentorship and guidance and have helped shape the next generation's reporting styles, ethics, and standards.

I have also influenced public discourse through in-depth reporting and thought-provoking commentaries but of course with high standards for journalism, emphasizing accuracy, fairness, and objectivity. Above all, my reportage has informed public policy, influenced elections, and given voice to marginalized communities.

Not only have I inspired young reporters to pursue careers in journalism, I have also motivated others to become journalists.

I don't think as a journalist and veteran that I have regrets; having risen to the rank of a Deputy Director and Chief Press Secretary, I regard these as no mean achievements. However, veteran journalists, like any other professionals, often have regrets and valuable advice to share with younger generations. While specific regrets may vary, some common themes emerge. Many wish they had taken more risks, pursued more challenging stories, or balanced their work and personal lives better.

Here are some key pieces of advice from me as a senior citizen:

·**Be Skeptical:** Question everything and verify facts to ensure accuracy. Don't be afraid to fact-check, even if it means double-checking the most basic information.

·**Let Your Work Speak:** Focus on producing high-quality work rather than trying to promote yourself. Your work will speak for itself, and humility goes a long way.

Write Well: Develop strong writing skills, as they are essential for success in journalism. Practice writing regularly to hone your craft.

· **Maintain Boundaries:** Don't let work consume your life. Set boundaries and prioritize self-care to maintain your physical and mental well-being.

· **Be Kind and Honest:** Treat others with kindness and respect, and always strive to tell the truth, even when it's difficult.

· **Financial Security:** Plan for your financial future, including setting up investments, insurance, and teaching your offspring the same principles.

·**Take Care of Yourself:** Prioritize your physical and mental health from an early age.

·**Pursue Your Passions:** Follow your goals and ambitions, even when faced with obstacles.

·**Learn from Others:** Seek guidance from experienced professionals and learn from their successes and setbacks.

Industry-Specific Advice

· **Journalism's Value:** Remember that journalism can be a fulfilling career, but it's essential to maintain a work-life balance and not let it consume your life 24/7.

· **Diversify Your Skills:** Consider acquiring skills like TV news production, which can open up more job

Life after retirement for a veteran journalist can be quite unique, as many continue to stay active in the field. "Journalists are like old soldiers. They don't really retire; they just fade away when the time comes." They often remain engaged in various capacities, such as writing columns, blogging, or participating in communal services. For instance, there a number of notable Nigerian veteran journalists who continued to work after their retirement from active service.

Contd on Page 176

GOVERNMENT OF ANAMBRA STATE OF NIGERIA

OFFICE OF THE STATE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL/DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

E-mail: chinedu.nwoye@anambrastate.gov.ng
Tel: 08033229809
Your Ref:
Our Ref:

Government House
P. M. B. 5016
Awka

Date: 04/08/25

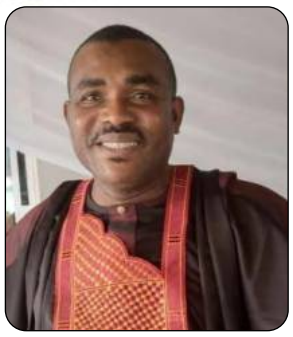
GOODWILL MESSAGE

I write to congratulate you, **Arch. Okey Ezeobi** on the recipient of the prestigious award of Platinum Man of the Year in line with 70years anniversary of the NUJ. I am so proud of you and all that you have accomplished.

You have worked so hard and deserve all the success in the world. This award is no doubt considered after an in-depth evaluation of your immense commendable assistance and invaluable contributions towards the growth of the society and the business community.

In addition, this well deserved award acknowledges you as a proof that society, indeed, rewards selflessness. It's my sincere prayer that our good Lord will continue to grant you good health, greater success and the passion to remain ever so committed to serve God and humanity.

Please accept the assurances of my family best regards.



04/08/25

Hon. Chinedu Nwoye (Glamour)
State Chief Of Protocol/Deputy Chief Of Staff to the Governor of Anambra State

All replies to be addressed to the SCOP/DCOS

Anambra NUJ congratulates New Zone C VP, Secretary, Trustee ...Assures Support To Leadership

By Okechukwu Onuegbu

The Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Anambra State Council has congratulated the newly inaugurated zonal leadership of the Union.

The new leadership, Southeast Zone C of the NUJ is headed by Comrade Ezenwa Adiuku Oguerilam, the Zonal Vice President; Comrade Emmanuel Idam Irem, the Zonal Secretary; and Comrade Ngozi Mbah, the National Trustee representing the zone.

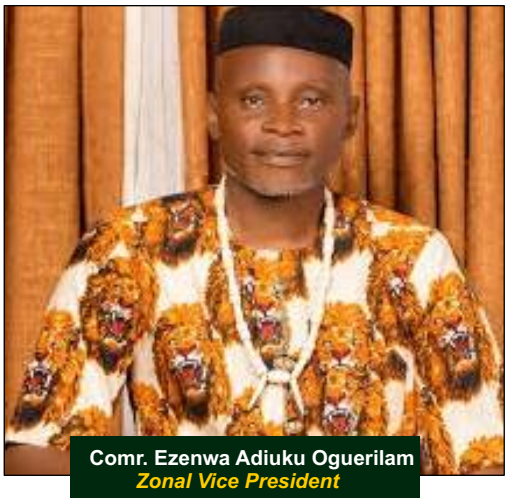
They emerged at by-election and were inaugurated during the 2025 National Executive Council Conference held at Kano, Kano State on August 13, 2025 and presided over by the National President, Comrade Alhassan Yahya. Comrade Ezenwa Adiuku Oguerilam, from Imo State, has been the Zonal Secretary and Acting Vice President since 2024, having also served the Union at Chapel and State levels in Imo State Council.

The new Zonal Secretary, Comrade Irem has served the Union in various capacities, including as Chief Consultant and Editor-in-Chief, Trumpet Magazine, and former Senior Correspondent in the defunct Afikpo Today Magazine. Also, the new National Trustee, NUJ Zone C, Comrade Ngozi Mbah is of the Radio Nigeria Enugu Zonal Station, and former Southeast zonal leader of Nigeria Association of Women Journalists (NAWOJ).

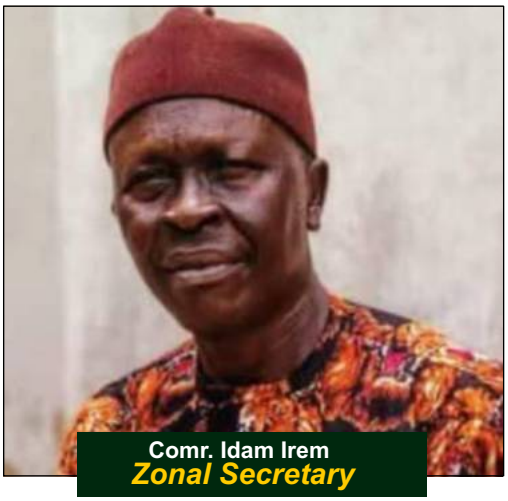
The Anambra State Council of NUJ led by Comrade Dr Odogwu Emeka Odogwu has congratulated the newly elected zonal officers and assured that they would work with them towards repositioning the Union. According to a press statement signed by the State Council Secretary, Comrade Dr Okechukwu Onuegbu, the emergence of Adiuku was good news worth celebrating by all and sundry because he has distinguished himself as a professional journalist and unionist.

His emergence, according to Onuegbu, would promote peace, love, care and welfare of members of the Fourth Estate of the Realm within the Zone C and beyond. Onuegbu also described the new Zonal Secretary as a professional with quality leadership skill, loyalty and support to the Union, expressing optimism that it would promote peace, love, care and welfare of members of the Fourth Estate of the Realm within the Zone C and beyond.

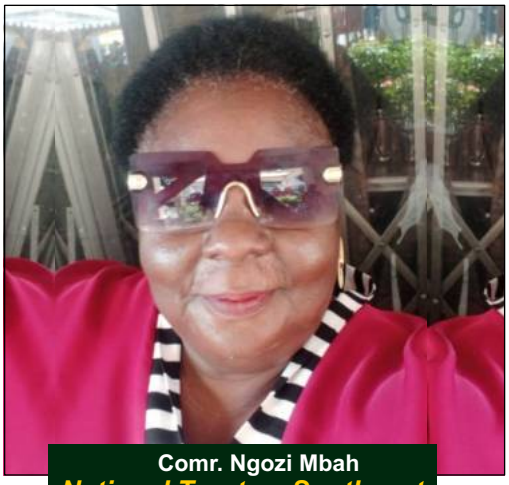
The statement further described Ngozi as a trusted fellow, noting that her appointment as a trustee signifies a new dawn and with the wisdom, professional acumen, leadership qualities, creative ingenuity and expertise, the face of journalism in the zone would and Nigeria at larger, would wear a new look.



Comr. Ezenwa Adiuku Oguerilam
Zonal Vice President



Comr. Idam Irem
Zonal Secretary



Comr. Ngozi Mbah
National Trustee, Southeast

SWITCH FROM ERA TO ERA... CONTD

Contd on Page 173

They include:
· Chief Olusegun Osoba, 85, who still reports;
· Chief Tola Adeniyi;
· Sam Omatseye;
· Dan Agbese;
· Dele Sobowale;
· Reuben Abati.

Many veteran journalists leverage digital journalism to stay relevant. With the rise of social media and online platforms, they can do the following:
· Create and share content on various platforms;
· Build a personal brand through blogging and social media;
· Connect with audiences in real-time;
· Produce and share stories through multiple media platforms.

In retirement, journalists often prioritize family and community engagement. Family becomes a vital focus, providing emotional support, a sense of belonging, and an opportunity to instill values in younger generations.

As for plans for the future, veteran journalists may explore opportunities in:
· **Digital journalism:** creating online content, podcasts, or YouTube channels;
· **Book writing:** sharing experiences and expertise through published works;
· Community service: participating in local initiatives, mentorship programs, or advocacy roles;
· **Mentorship:** guiding younger journalists and sharing knowledge gained over the years.

Overall, life after retirement for veteran journalists is often marked by continued engagement, creativity, and a passion for storytelling.

CHUKWUEMEKA ODUMEGWU OJUKWU UNIVERSITY TEACHING HOSPITAL,
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Chief Medical Director

Dr. Ifeoma Anne Njelita
MB.BS, MPH, PHD, FWACP
Ag.Deputy **Chairman Medical Advisory Committee**

Dr. Nnaemeka Godwin Umedum
MB.BS,(NAU), FWACS (ORL/HNS)
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Our Ref: COOUTH/CMD/31/Vol. I/066 **Date: 4th August, 2025**

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO ARC. OKEY EZEOBI.

This is to extend my heartfelt congratulations to you, Hon. Arc. Okey Ezeobi, GM/CEO of the Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement, on your emergence as the 2025 NUJ Anambra State Man of the Year.

This honour is a clear recognition of your integrity, ingenuity, and proven leadership capacity. As an international businessman and professional architect, your record of delivering quality projects with competence has distinguished you as a man of excellence and a role model in both public service and the private sector.

We celebrate this well-earned milestone with you and wish you continued success, greater achievements, and sustained impact in all your endeavours. Congratulations once more.

Hon. Dr. Joe Akabuike
Chief Medical Director

Anambra First Lady Champions Women's Health and Social Renewal at 2025 Summit

By Daniel Ezeigwe

In a gathering that blended tradition, health advocacy, and women's empowerment, Dr. Nonye Soludo, wife of the Governor of Anambra State, convened the 2025 Women's Health Summit in Awka with a resounding message: women must reclaim their role as moral anchors in homes and communities while safeguarding the health of future generations.

The annual summit, now in its third edition, drew women leaders from across the state, representatives of religious bodies, political groups, market associations, and community organizations. Together, they filled the conference hall with a sense of urgency and unity, as issues of health, cultural values, and women's rights took centre stage.

A Call for Cultural Grounding

In her keynote address, Dr. Soludo urged women to resist uncritical adoption of Western values that undermine indigenous philosophies of family and community harmony. She stressed the importance of embracing cultural systems that clearly define marital roles, highlighting the Igbo worldview where the man is regarded as head of the family and the woman as a supportive partner.

"Conflicts in homes often arise from power struggles and loss of mutual respect," she told the audience. "When women respect their husbands, it invites love, protection, and support in return. Our culture, when practiced in its essence, nurtures peace and balance in families."

Health Advocacy at the Core
Beyond cultural reflections, the First Lady placed maternal and child health at the heart of her address. She passionately promoted exclusive breastfeeding, calling it "the greatest gift a mother can give her newborn." Breast milk, she explained, contains more vital nutrients for growth and immunity than any synthetic formula.

The emphasis on practical health interventions is not new for Dr. Soludo. Last year's summit, focused on nutrition, gave birth to her Healthy Living Pap Initiative, a homegrown response to childhood malnutrition that has since gained traction across communities in Anambra.

Government Commitments and Global Support

The state government reinforced its commitment to women and children's welfare through policy updates delivered by commissioners in health, education, and women's affairs. Initiatives include free education, no-cost antenatal and delivery services, and small trader empowerment schemes.

Contd on Page 179

Dr. Nonye Soludo Champions Women's Health... Continued

From Page 178

International partners also weighed in. Dr. Bonos Mohammed, the World Health Organization's state coordinator, highlighted the upcoming introduction of the Measles and Rubella Vaccine in February 2026, urging mothers to ensure their children's full participation to prevent vaccine-preventable deaths.

Expert Insights: Women's Rights and Safety

A sobering perspective came from Professor Bryan Adinma, a leading gynaecologist, who described Nigeria as "one of the most unsafe places for women to get pregnant and give birth." His remarks echoed the country's stubbornly high maternal and child mortality rates. Other experts, including Dr. Chioma Mbachu and Commissioner Beverly Nkemdiche-Ikpeazu, addressed nutrition and women's participation in politics, respectively, underscoring the multidimensional challenges facing women in Nigeria.

Wellness Meets Sustainability

True to her philosophy of holistic empowerment, Dr. Soludo ensured the summit went beyond talk. Attendees received free health screenings and treatments, along with organic seedlings to promote household gardening and food security, a blend of immediate care and long-term sustainability.

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Mr.Jessy, Mr.Stanley & Mr. Austin
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Nigeria's Rising Stars Dominate Africa Junior and Youth Weightlifting Championship

On a humid Monday evening in Accra, Ghana, as the crowd filled the Ga Mashie Hall inside the Trust Sports Emporium, a new chapter in Nigeria's sporting story was being written. The spotlight fell on a young athlete whose strength and composure belied her age: Florence Olarinoye.

The 18-year-old sensation powered her way to six gold medals at the ongoing 2025 Africa Junior and Youth Weightlifting Championship, adding a dazzling shine to Nigeria's medal count. Competing in the 58kg women's category, Olarinoye clinched three golds in the Junior division and another three in the Youth events, lifting a total of 157kg (71kg in snatch and 86kg in clean and jerk).

Her performance was more than a personal triumph, it was the culmination of years of grit and perseverance.

Already a gold medallist at the 2023 National Youth Games and a silver medallist at the 2024 National Sports Festival in Ogun State, Olarinoye has consistently proven herself as one of Nigeria's brightest prospects in weightlifting.

Her six-medal sweep elevated Nigeria's tally at the championship to eight gold and one silver medal, after fellow lifter Ezenwa Chinaza Cecilia earlier opened the floodgates with two golds and a silver. Cecilia lifted 63kg in snatch, 72kg in clean and jerk, and a combined 135kg, setting the tone for the medal rush that followed.

The victories come at a symbolic moment for the Nigeria Weightlifting Federation (NWF), which just days ago ushered in a fresh leadership team. The Federation re-elected Dr. Ibrahim Abdul Aladi as president following its 2025 Elective Congress, setting the stage for renewed ambition and international visibility in the sport.

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Everyone, a Royalty

GOODWILL MESSAGE

The chairman and the entire staff of Royal Jayoz Hotels Ltd. Lagos Felicitates with Arch. Okey Ezeobi on NUJ Man of the year award 2025.
Sir Feathers to your Caps

Signed:
MD/CEO Royal Jatoz Hotels
Engr. Nnamdi Ignatius Anozie

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AGULU YOUTHS AND THE DEFENCE OF A TREASURE

By Valentine Obienyem

I read the release by the Agulu youths yesterday, and by this morning, no fewer than fifteen people had already forwarded it to me, each expressing delight and pride in its message. Clearly, it struck a deep chord among Ndi Anambra and beyond. The resonance was not in its rhetoric, but in its truth.

Intrigued by the interest it stirred, I reached out to some members of the Agulu youth for clarification. Their verdict was unanimous and delivered with the conviction of men who know the worth of what they hold: "Peter Obi is our big brother." To them, Obi is more than a politician; he is Agulu's identity, a living symbol of rectitude and achievement, a heritage they are resolved to defend. They reason that only a foolish people would allow their treasure to be ridiculed or bastardised. In this, they echo an old wisdom - that to dishonour the noble among us is to diminish ourselves.

Yet, their declaration carried no arrogance. They affirmed that they neither possess the authority nor the desire to bar any man from visiting Agulu. Their message was simpler, nobler: "We know our brother better than you do; do not come to our town only to disparage him." One of them posed a question that lingers in the mind: "Have you ever seen Peter Obi go to the hometown of another Anambra politician to insult their star? Why then should others come to Agulu to insult ours?"

That question is the fulcrum of their grievance. Politics, in its higher sense, is not a gladiatorial contest of slander but a competition of ideas and service. When it descends into insult, it soils not the target alone but the very fabric of civic life.

By rising in defence of Obi, the youths of Agulu were not merely protecting a man, they were affirming a principle: that leadership, wherever it is found, should be respected and not dragged through the mire for transient political gain.

Here lies the grandeur of their statement. It was not parochialism; it was enlightened self-respect. For when a people guard their worthy sons, they declare to the world that honour still has a place in politics. If every community in Nigeria were to show such loyalty to truth and decency, our public life would be richer. Insults would give way to ideas, and slander to vision.

My friend, upon reading my earlier sharing of the release, texted me: "Not necessary. PO is a national phenomenon, no longer Agulu, Anambra, or Igbo property. Do not reduce him to such ethnic enclosure. Can you even tell me the exact community of his rivals—BAT, Atiku, El-Rufai, Amaechi? No. Because their names transcend their villages."

He is right. Peter Obi has outgrown geography; he has become a national presence, even an international one. Yet my friend misses one subtle truth: that while others may be spared the indignity of denigration from their own, Obi is not. Some among his very people labour daily to soil his name, often through willing instruments, with Ejimofor Opara now serving as the vessel of Governor Soludo's strange crusade. Against such relentless erosion, the voices of Agulu's youths become a necessary shield.

And so let the message go forth: Agulu welcomes all, but it will not condone insult to its own. In cherishing and defending Peter Obi, they remind us of an old lesson - that the worth of a people lies not in their riches, but in how they honour those who bring them dignity. Nations, like men, are remembered for their reverence of virtue.

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Congratulations

ARCH. OKEY EZEOBI

NUJ Anambra Man of the Year 2025

CONGRATULATORY AND GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM CHIEF EJIAMATU DAMIAN ENEKWECHI TO THE CONVENER ANAMBRA PATRIOTS FOR SOLUDO AS THE 2025 NUJ MAN OF THE YEAR.

Congratulatons, Arc. Okey Ezeobi, on your well-deserved Recognition!

On behalf of all who admire your integrity, leadership, and service, I extend my heartfelt congratulations on your recognition as the Anambra 2025 NUJ Man of the Year.

This prestigious award is a proof of your tireless effort and impactful contribution the society and humanity at large and your exemplary character in both professional and public life.

You have set a remarkable standard of distinction that inspires many, and this honor from the Nigeria Union of Journalist reaffirms what we've long known- that you are a man of vision, purpose, and outstanding achievement.

May this milestone be one of many in your journey of influence and transformation

CONGRATULATIONS ONCE AGAIN MY GOOD FRIEND!

Signed:

Chief Ejiamatu Damian Enekwechi

Chairman Anambra Patriots for Soludo (APS)

RC 1617263

MIO SHELTER LIMITED

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Off Handmaid Drive, Okukwa, Amansea, Anambra State

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Project Management General Merchandis ...

+234(0)8134123234
mioshelterlimited@gmail.com

Heartfelt
Congratulation

To Arc. Okechukwu Innocent Ezeobi, FNIA, on your remarkable achievement as the Nigerian Union of Journalists (NUJ) Anambra State Chapter Platinum Man of the Year Award winner! This prestigious honor is a testament to your outstanding contributions, dedication, and excellence in your field.

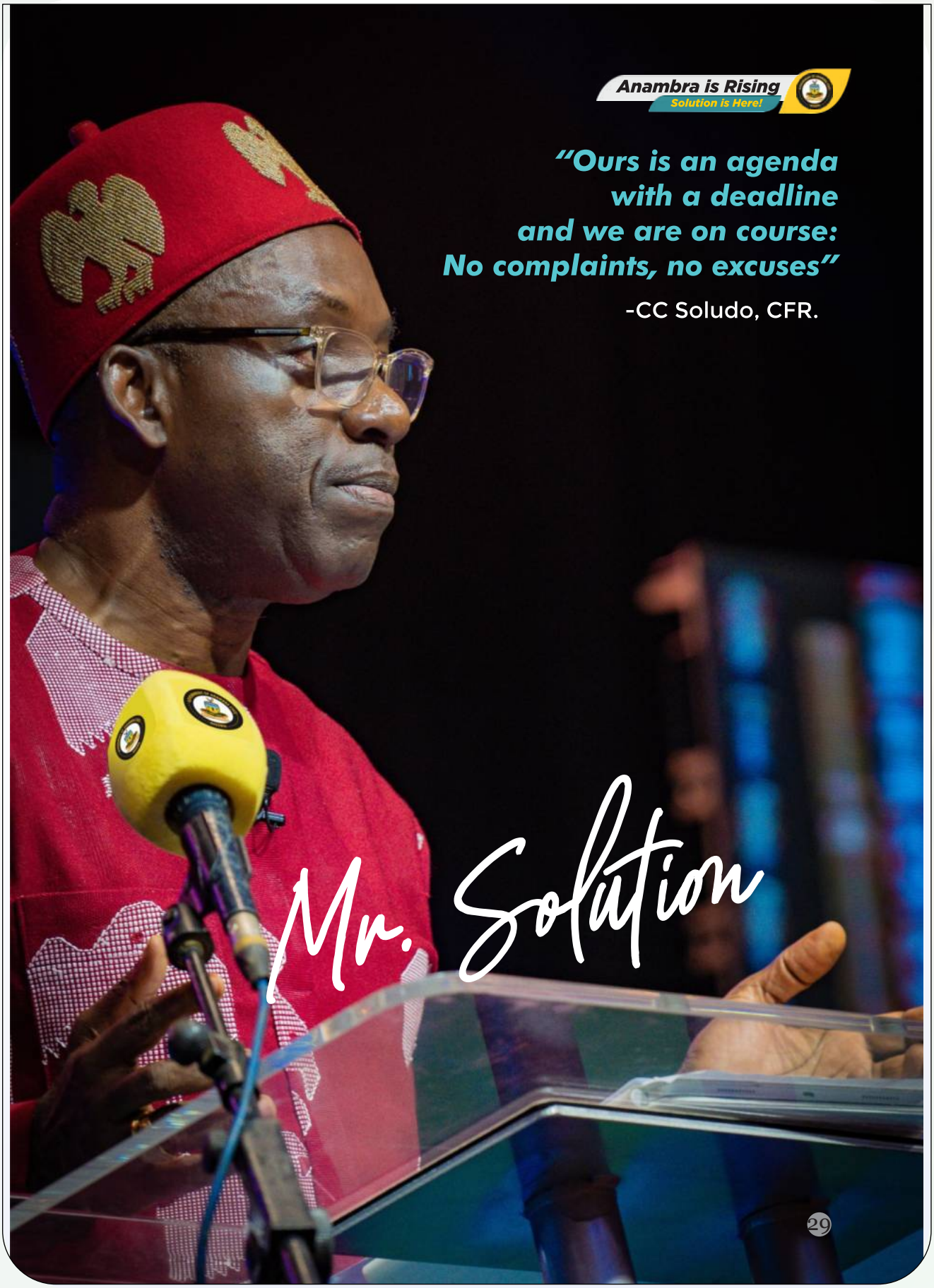
We celebrate your achievements and recognize the impact you've made in your Anambra State. May this award be a milestone in your illustrious career, inspiring you to continue making a positive difference!

We extend our warmest felicitations to the Nigerian Union of Journalists, Anambra State Chapter, on your NUJ Week celebrations!

Once more, congratulations to Arc. Okechukwu Innocent Ezeobi, FNIA, on this well-deserved honor!

Best regards,

Ikenna Michael Onuorah, MNIA, PhD, MAARCHES
Principal Partner MIO Shelter Ltd


Anambra is Rising
Solution is Here!
"Ours is an agenda
with a deadline
and we are on course:
No complaints, no excuses"
-CC Soludo, CFR.
Mr. Solution

Communique issued at the end of August 7, 2025 Congress of the NUJ, Anambra State Council presided over by Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu, PhD @ the Godwin Ezeemo International Press Center, NUJ Secretariat Complex, Awka

The Congress resolved on so many issues including:

*The Congress advised political actors and voters at the Anambra South Senatorial and Onitsha North 1 Constituency by-elections to play the game by the rule and refrain from any activity that will lead to electoral violence or manipulation.

* The Congress welcomed the APGA candidate for Anambra South Senatorial by-election, Chief Emmanuel Nwachukwu, commending him for finding out time to interact with the Council despite the tense electioneering campaign period. He was encouraged to continue to partner the media in the state going forward.

*The Congress also interacted with the Senatorial candidate of New Nigerian Peoples Party (NNPP) for the Anambra South bye-election, Mr Peter Ekwueme, wishing him success in his political aspirations and encouraged him to continue relating with the media.

The Congress welcomed the members of the Anambra Patriots for Soludo (ADS), a political support group for re-election of Governor Chukwuma Soludo. The group founded by Architect Okechukwu Ezeobi and led by Chief Enekwechi Ejiamatu Demain was represented in the Congress by Dr Jude Akpua, Deputy Majority Leader of Anambra State House of Assembly, who enumerated the giant strides of the government and called for the media support in publicising the development.

The Congress commended Governor Chukwuma Soludo's various development projects. The Congress, however, observed the recent deteriorating of security situation in the State. The Congress, therefore, called on the State Government to take urgent action towards arresting the situation.

The Congress sympathised with the former Secretary of the Council, Comrade Rex Okechukwu whose son was gruesomely murdered by some hoodlums at Ogbaru and called on the State government and law enforcement agents to urgently intervene in this by intensifying investigation into the ugly incident to arrest the perpetrators and prosecute them accordingly as ways of bringing justice to the deceased and family.

The Congress raised an alarm on devastating impact of flooding in Anambra State and urged the state government to take proactive measures towards addressing it to prevent any avoidable disaster. The citizenry were equally urged to refrain from indiscriminate dumping of refuse as well as to be cautious while walking or driving under the rainfall to avoid been wash away by the running water.

The Congress also called on governor Chukwuma Soludo to find ways of creating more parks at Ekwulobia roundabout, especially now the town has turned into an urban city. The Congress observed that using one park at Ekwuluobia is causing commuters too much stress in this period the area has received massive infrastructural development leading to influx of people.

The Congress unveiled the 2025 NUJ Man of The Year Award and Press Week activities. The Press Week which is an annual ritual where journalists and other media professionals highlight the importance of journalism and the role of the press in society, begins on Monday, August, 25, 2025 with a Novelty Match between Nigeria Union of Journalists and the Anambra Patriots for Soludo. Other activities heralding the event are tours of the State Government infrastructural projects on Tuesday, August 26, 2025; indoor games holding on Wednesday, August 27, 2025; visit to Amawbia Correctional Centre on same Wednesday, 27; and conferment of the NUJ Man of the Year Award and other recognitions on some deserving members of the society on August 28, 2025.

Congress encouraged Journalists to stand to be counted as watchdogs and moral barometers of the society.

Communiqué drafting committee was led by Comrades- Joseph Egebocha (Chairman), Lawrence Nwimo (Secretary) and Chika Nnabuife (member).
Signed

Comrade Okechukwu Onuegbu, PhD,
The State Council Secretary
Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu, PhD,
The State Council Chairman

Anambra State Road Maintenance Agency

1-5 Works Road, P.M.B. 6029 Awka, Nigeria

The Chairman
Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ)
Anambra State Council.
Sir,

GOODWILL MESSAGE
RE: 2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year – Arch. Okey Ezeobi

On behalf of the entire management and staff of the Anambra Road Maintenance Agency (ARMA), I extend our heartfelt congratulations to Arch. Okey Ezeobi, GM/CEO, Anambra Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP), on his well deserved recognition as the 2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year.

This prestigious Honor is a true testament to your unwavering dedication to Transparency, Excellence, and Innovative Public Service Delivery in Anambra State. Your leadership has inspired many across sectors and remains a benchmark in Service-driven governance.

We also commend the Nigeria Union of Journalists, Anambra State Council, for upholding the tradition of excellence and promoting accountability through this award platform.

As you mark this remarkable achievement during the NUJ Press Week and the Platinum Man of the Year Awards, please accept our best wishes for continued success, impact, and greater accomplishments in the years ahead.

Congratulations once again!

Regards,

Engr. Obinna Nduka
MD/CEO

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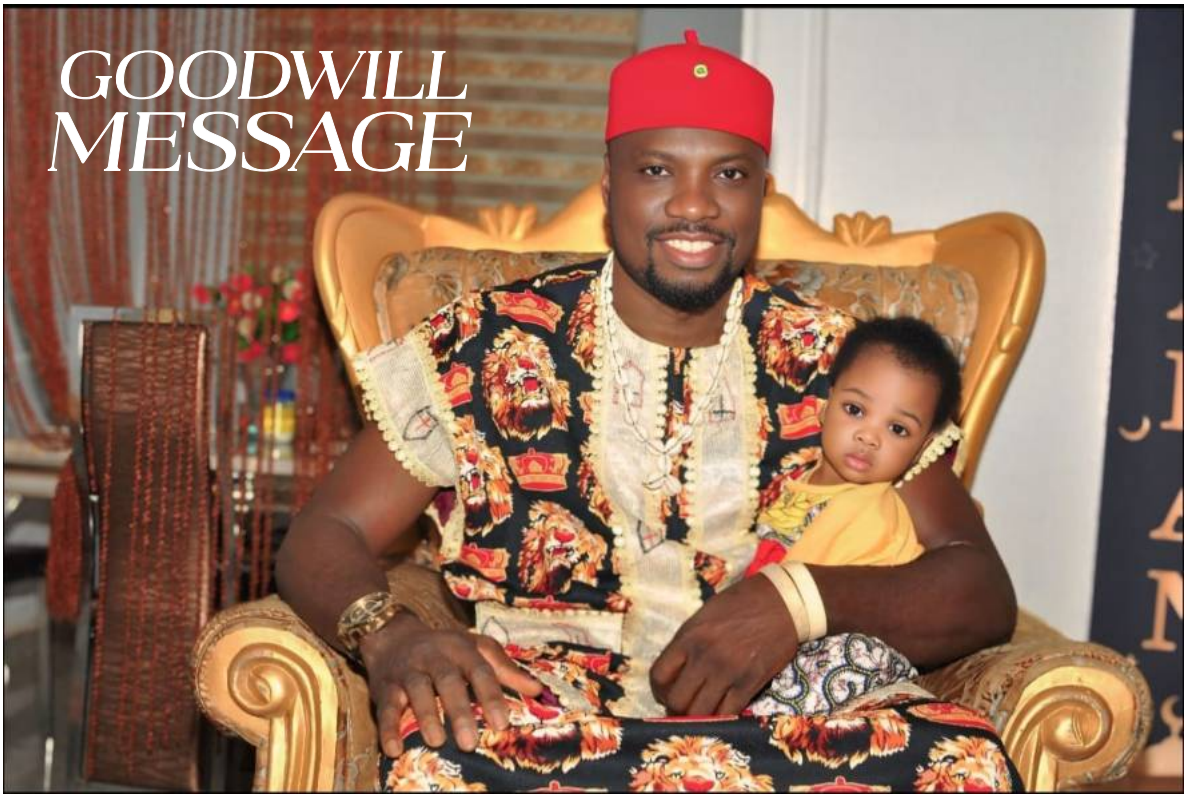
Visit: www.arma.anambrastate.gov.ng



SUPER CONGRATULATIONS TO NUJ ANAMBRA COUNCIL

"I am deeply honored and grateful to have received the 2024 NUJ Most Innovative Entrepreneur of the year award .

Thank you to the Nigeria Union of Journalists(NUJ) Anambra State Council for recognizing my work.

The award was an encouragement to MOTHER SUSSAN CHARITY FOUNDATION and a testament to his success stories.

I'm especially grateful to the Chairman of the NUJ, Anambra State Council, Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu, PhD,JP, for his outstanding commitment and sense of professionalism for making NUJ Anambra State Council conspicuous.

I pray this year's award inspires others to pursue their passions with the same dedication and perseverance.

Congratulations to all NUJ award winners 2025.

Thank you NUJ once again for this incredible honor. I am truly humbled and inspired.

Hon. Oliver N Okennah
(Dikemba Ebenebe)

2024 Most Innovative Entrepreneur of the year

Osunkwo: From Media Hobby to Journalism Enterprise

By Uche Osunkwo

May I very honestly state that before this sudden demand was made that I give a kind of insight into my journey in journalism practice, I had never sat down to articulate and record that part of my life experience.
Therefore, it becomes quite a huge task, but a welcome challenge to me, despite my principled distaste of the attitude of one 'blowing his or her trumpet;' though there is hardly any trumpet to blow in this case, I believe.

Casting my mind back, I can summarize what I recall as my initiation into the business of gathering and packaging information via the print and electronic news media otherwise 'Journalism,' in simple definition.
I had the natural flair for writing and therefore smoothly gravitated to the field right from my infancy.
My earliest interest was excited by my infantile love for what the mass-media put out, because of which, as I can still recall, and being reminded by witnesses of my childhood acts of mimicking, copying and attempting to do the work of journalists.
I used to demonstrate electronic newscasting and programme presentation with tape recorders, and print media news packaging by cutting and pasting pictures and information/messages in newspaper forms.

Meanwhile, my real contact with journalists in action started with excursion visits to media houses like Radio Nigeria, NTA and the Daily Star Newspapers in Enugu, and subsequent participation in media programmes like Children's Opinion, Children's Drama, Children's Quizzes, and writing of short stories and Letters to the Editor for publications.
With this background I eventually moved from what was then my mere hobby to its more meaningful level by engaging in both print and electronic media activities while still in my post-primary and tertiary education career.

Then, in journalism practice, I usually write and broadcast in media outfits as a freelancer, even years after I had come out of school and started after-school engagements.
With my God-given ability and interest in journalism, the sense of fulfilment it has been giving to me and the compensating reality of making something out of my hobby and pastime, I enjoyed freelancing, which I combined with other engagements, till sometime in 2011 when I accepted being drafted as a leading hand in the team that projected Radio UNIZIK 94.1 FM, making the campus/community radio outfit become the BEST CAMPUS STATION in Nigeria in 2013.

That was my full salaried employment as a journalist by a media outfit, in which I served as host-artiste instead of freelancing guest-artiste.
Though I didn't read journalism as a professional course of study, my natural inclination, enriching on-the-job courses and hands-on field exposure have endowed me with the experience I exploit in the diverse aspects of the strategic human endeavour.
In my humble journalistic journey so far, I have experienced how sensitive, crucial and strategic the engagement is to society, and therefore can very confidently say that it should be for the vocationally minded, who can absorb its good and bad.
May I at this juncture express my disgust with the 'anything-goes' attitude that is overrunning the otherwise very noble and respectful engagement.
Greed, particularly, is encouraging the influx of all manner of characters, and exposure of journalism to corrupting influences.
Ideally, journalism is a public thrust and divine mandate that should not compromise equity, objectivity and allied virtues, but this enviable image is now seriously eroded and corroded.
It is very unfortunate that journalism has lost its kind of respect, that verges on fear and dread by mischief!

I have done something and I am still trying my best in this pivot of the Press, Watchdog of society and Fourth Estate of the Realm.

In my journalistic exploration, I traverse, quite reasonably, the gamut of its associated activities successfully.
I news-hunt, report and source worthy stories, write, script, edit, package and publish by ways of print publication and electronic broadcasting.
It is with my exposure that I have not only contributed to several media content in various capacities, but have also established and been running some media outfits.
I have OAUEXPRESS PUBLICATIONS, FAYA MEDIA CONSULT NIGERIA, ECHOWIDE PUBLICITY and VERITY VENTURES NIGERIA.

Uche Osunkwo,
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ucheosunkwo7@gmail.com
08085747162, 08036750752,
08162067154.

Exit OF A Legend
We the entire family of Late Chief Samuel Agunwa Odogwu
of Umudiogo Village Amagu Amanuke in Awka-North LGA
of Anambra State
SPECIALLY INVITE "YOU"
TO THE
BURIAL RITES
Of Our Father, Grand Father, Uncle and Brother
LATE CHIEF
SAMUEL AGUNWA
ODOGWU
(AKUNNIA N'AMANUKE)
86
YEARS
BURIAL ARRANGEMENT
Evening of Songs - Thurs. 4th September, 2025
Christian Wake keep at his compound @ Umudiogo Village Amagu
near Central School Amanuke, Awka North, Anambra State.
Burial Service - Friday 5th September, 2025
7am: Body leaves Apex Hospital Mortuary to his home compound
10am: Burial service at Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Amanuke
near Afor market
Internment follows after burial service in his family compound.
Entertainment follows after at the Central School field Amanuke.
Signed for the Family;
Comrade
Odogwu Emeka Odogwu PhD, JP
(Odogwu Nwa Amanuke Ji Di Ebube; Ebube Awka-North)
Chairman, Nigeria Union of Journalists, NUJ,
Anambra State Council - 08060750240

Why Odogwu Returned as NUJ Anambra Council Chairman

The members of Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) Anambra State Council reelected Odogwu Emeka Odogwu as Chairman, of the Council early this year due to his remarkable performance in the first tenure with his team. By Kasie Abone and Francis Ekpone

In an atmosphere brimming with camaraderie, conviction, and commitment to journalistic excellence, the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Anambra State Council, has re-elected Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu as its chairman. The election, held early this year 2025, was a resounding affirmation of the confidence members repose in Odogwu's leadership, vision, and tireless pursuit of a stronger, more unified union.

Comrade Odogwu, a seasoned journalist, media scholar, and editor with decades of experience, clinched the victory after a peaceful, transparent, and keenly observed electoral process, conducted under the watchful eyes of the NUJ National Electoral Committee and independent observers. His reelection signals a second term mandate to consolidate the gains of his first tenure and push the boundaries of possibility for journalists in Anambra State.

Reason for Renewal of the Mandate

From the outset of his first term, Odogwu Emeka Odogwu laid out an ambitious agenda: infrastructural revival, professional development, and welfare prioritization. Under his watch, the council office saw a facelift, training workshops were consistently organized in partnership with institutions and NGOs, and the voices of journalists across the state became more coordinated and respected.

His leadership also ushered in stronger engagement with state actors without compromising press freedom. "We must stand for truth and integrity, even as we build bridges for the betterment of our members and society," he famously said during his first term's inaugural address in the year 2022.

His reelection, therefore, was more than a political process—it was a statement of trust in a man who, despite challenges, has kept the ship of NUJ Anambra State afloat and purposeful.

The Man Behind the Mandate

Odogwu Emeka Odogwu is not just a unionist; he is a media institution in himself. From print to broadcast, from classroom to community service, Odogwu has consistently shown that journalism is not just a job—it is a calling. His academic and professional pursuits have enriched his perspectives, making him an articulate voice on media ethics, development journalism, and human rights.

A fellow of the Institute of Management Consultants and a multiple-award-winning journalist, Odogwu's presence at the helm has inspired younger journalists and provided a rallying point for seniors. His open-door leadership style and firm grasp of NUJ's constitutional framework have positioned the council as a model within the Southeast and beyond.

Looking at the Fate of the Union Ahead

Speaking after his reelection, Odogwu thanked the delegates and members for their support and vowed to intensify efforts to reposition the union. "This is a call to do more. We shall continue to defend the interest of our members, build capacities, improve welfare, and promote ethical journalism. Together, we will continue to raise the bar," he said, drawing applause from a packed hall.

Contd on page 195

URUM DEVELOPMENT UNION URUM

Awka North Local Government Area, Anambra State.
P.O. Box 712, Awka.

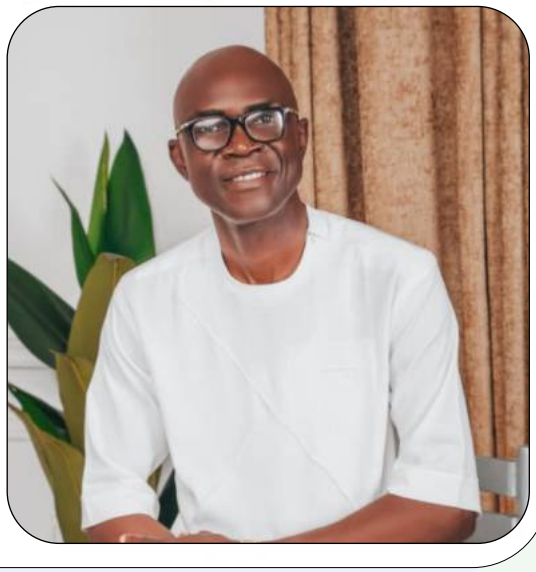
Our Ref:..... Your Ref:..... Date:.....

Urum Community Congratulates Mayor Awka North

The President General and the whole good people of Urum Community, Awka North Local Government Area, Anambra State, wish to use this medium to congratulate our dear Local Government Chairman, Hon. Thankgod Chibuike Anago, on his well-deserved Award as the 2025 NUJ Most Outstanding Mayor of the year in Anambra State by the NUJ Anambra State Council. We rejoice with him in this public recognition of his people-oriented services as a leader and celebrated administrator.

We join all people of goodwill in appreciating the NUJ Anambra State Council for the award to be bestowed on our local government chairman.

This shows that the NUJ Anambra State Council led by Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu PhD JP knows the right people and rewards them to continue their good works for the interest of the society. We believe that this latest honour to our hardworking Mayor would stimulate him to do more.
Congratulations to our dearest Mayor and Leader par excellence!



Signed:

Hon.Sir. Felix Godwin Oranye
President General,
Urum Development Union

Chief Mathew Ekwoanya
Secretary General,
Urum Development Union

LEXTECH ECOSYSTEM LIMITED
Plot A4 Justice Coker Estate
CBD Alausa, Ikeja,
Lagos, Nigeria
contact@lextechgroup.com

LEXTECH

August 17, 2025.

Arc. Okey Ezeobi
General Manager/ CEO
Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement
Awka, Anambra State

Dear Sir,

Heartfelt Congratulations to Arc. Okey Ezeobi — NUJ Anambra State Council 2025 Man of the Year.

The Management and Staff of **Lextech Ecosystem Limited** take immense pride in celebrating with you on the occasion of your meritorious recognition as the **Nigerian Union of Journalists (NUJ) Anambra State Council 2025 Man of the Year**.

This prestigious honour is a shining acknowledgment of your **exceptional contributions to society**—your distinguished career in architecture, your visionary leadership in the corporate world, your unwavering dedication to human capital development, and your emerging influence in the service of the public good.

Your remarkable accomplishments at the **Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement** so far, eloquently affirm your steadfast commitment to due process, and your rare ability to deliver excellence at every given opportunity.

As you stand poised to receive this highly coveted award on **August 28th at the International Convention Centre, Awka**, we at **Lextech Ecosystem Limited** proudly join your family, friends, and countless admirers across the globe in celebrating this well-deserved honour.

May this recognition serve as both a **tribute to your past achievements** and an **inspiration for the greater heights** that lie ahead.

With warmest congratulations,

.....
Emeka O Albert Esq.
CEO, LexTech Ecosystem Limited

Odogwu Returned as NUJ Chairman... Continued

From page 192

Key plans for the new term include expanding the council's digital footprint, deepening collaborations with international media bodies, advocating for the safety of journalists, and securing a befitting NUJ Press Centre in the state.

Reactions and Endorsements

The reelection was greeted with widespread commendation. The National President of NUJ, Alhasan Yahya, in a congratulatory message, described Odogwu's leadership as "visionary and inclusive," urging him to continue being a beacon of professionalism.

The Anambra State State Commissioner for Information and Public Enlightenment, Dr Law Mefor, also praised the outcome, noting that "NUJ in Anambra under Odogwu's leadership has remained constructively critical and strategically cooperative—a balance needed in today's media-society relationship."

Tochukwu Ihejirika, President of NAWOJ attributed Odogwu's re-election to God factor and delivery on his first term campaign promises. In her words:

"First, I attribute his return to the God factor. Secondly, it is a reminder to leaders to remain committed to their campaign promises. The achievements of Odogwu's first tenure were instrumental to his re-election. Despite the challenges and negative distractions he faced, he distinguished himself through remarkable delivery on his mandate. This should serve as a lesson to all leaders — to leave enduring legacies that speak for them even in their absence, whether or not they are seeking re-election."

Dr. Stanley Onunkwo, Chairman of the State Information Chapel and Chairman of the NUJ State Council Electoral Committee, stated "Odogwu's first tenure was outstanding. Having been in the council for many years, I observed a level of vibrancy under his leadership reminiscent of the Tochukwu era. He established numerous committees, about 70% of which have been fully functional, delivering on their mandates. The press centre, once deserted before 2021, became a hub of seminars, workshops, and conferences.

My chapel, which could not even participate in the 2018 election, was reintegrated into the council through Odogwu's inclusive leadership. Many of our members now serve in various committees, including one as his Personal Assistant. Such openness and recognition earned him our full support in the recent election, with members of the Ministry of Information Chapel conspicuously present from the beginning of the election to the end of it.

His tenure has been the most progressive period for the union in recent memory. By 2027, we expect further improvements, including infrastructure upgrades, so that future administrations can sustain the momentum. For us, Odogwu remains the best thing that has happened to NUJ in recent times, and we pray for God to grant him the wisdom to surpass his current achievements."

On his role as Electoral Committee Chairman, Dr. Onunkwo added "what some perceived as disturbances during the election process, I regarded as normal occurrences in any competitive contest including allegations and distractions.

Our approach was to strictly apply the NUJ constitution, assessing candidates based on attendance, contributions to NUJ, and financial standing with the council. Even when disputes arose, we defended our processes in Abuja and ultimately ensured fairness.

We have set a standard for future elections, and we would not want it lowered. A truly successful election is one after which the council remains united and progressive. The outcome of this election, and the broad acceptance of Odogwu's return, affirms that we achieved this goal."

Conclusion

As the dust settles and work resumes, one thing is clear: the NUJ Anambra State Council is not just in safe hands, but in capable, visionary ones. With Odogwu Emeka Odogwu at the helm for another term, the journey toward a more empowered, ethical, and respected journalism community in Anambra continues—with renewed hope and undiluted passion. According to him, "we are building a council that will set standards," the NUJ Anambra State Council Chairman promised.

CHILD RIGHTS REPORTING IN THE DIGITAL AGE: PRINCIPLES AND METHODOLOGIES

OBIORAH I. EDOGOR

CHILD RIGHTS REPORTING IN THE DIGITAL AGE: PRINCIPLES AND METHODOLOGIES

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OBIORAH I. EDOGOR

For copies of this book, please contact
Obiorah I. Edogor, Editor-in-Chief
The-WatchDog Magazine

07068979795
obiedogor@gmail.com

Prof Okunna Boosts Professionalism in Journalism

Recently the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) Anambra State Council was in the news across the country and beyond over an increment to the prize endowed to the council by Prof Chinyere Stella Okunna. The increment is one of the ways Prof Okunna uses to encourage professionalism in journalism practice within Nigeria.

By Obiorah Edogor and Emmanuel Okonkwo

The eroding of professionalism in journalism practice has become a serious source of concern to all media scholars and practitioners. Some attribute the decline in upholding the professional conducts in journalism practice to the influence of social media usage. However while many media scholars and practitioners wail over the poor keeping up to the professional standards in journalism, one media scholar that has put substantial efforts to curb the menace is Prof Chinyere Stella Okunna.

Prof Okunna is currently the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Paul University Awka Anambra State, Nigeria. She has taught Mass Communication and Journalism for over 40 years. She is highly reputed globallly as the first female professor of Mass Communication in Sub-saharan Africa. Taking cognizance of her unparalleled contributions and uncommon passion for journalism practice, the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) Anambra State Council honoured her as the NUJ Matriarch. Having observed the need to encourage professionalism in journalism, she introduced and sponsors the annual 'Professor Chinyere Stella Okunna Award for Ethical Journalism. Since the award was instituted, four persons have won it.

The Professor Chinyere Stella Okunna Award for Ethical Journalism has become a flagship program for the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) Anambra State Council as many journalists jostle to better comport themselves properly and work more ethically to win the prize endowed by the graceful woman and scholar of international repute. Perhaps, the gradual positive change which the award is ushering in the NUJ Anambra State Council has touched the initiator and she decided to have an upward review of the prize as announced recently in the media. The Chairman, NUJ Press Week/Man of the Year Awards, Comrade Francis Ekpone, who made this announcement at a press conference to mark the beginning of the 2025 annual Press Week of the NUJ Anambra State Council, noted that the money endowed for the award had been increased from the initial N50, 000 to N150, 000 and this would take effect from this year, 2025 edition of the award.

According to Comrade Ekpone who is a former chairman of the union in the state, "the award would be presented to the winner at the grand finale of the Press Week cum Man of the Year Award scheduled to be held August 28, 2025, at the International Convention Centre, Awka, Anambra State."

He further revealed that Prof Okunna is spending over N200, 000 for the Award this year, adding that she has also pledged to provide a N2 million naira endowment fund to sustain the award in the future of the council. Comrade Ekpone described Prof Okunna's gesture as a welcome development and commended her with the committee in charge of the award for doing a laudable work so far. Meanwhile, the current Chairman of the NUJ Anambra State Council, Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu, expressed appreciation to Professor Chinyere Stella Okunna for the decision to increase the monetary value attached to the award. Comrade Odogwu noted that the award is steadily making impacts among journalists. "We are glad for this kindness from our Matriarch who is ready to do anything for the progress of responsible journalism practice in Nigeria. We pray God to continue to bless Prof Okunna," Comrade Odogwu concluded.

Prof. Stella Okunna

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Congratulations

ARCH. OKEY EZEOBI

Way To Go!!!

I heartily congratulate a great man, Hon Arc Okey Ezeobi, winner of Anambra State council of the NUJ, Man Of The Year Award. Such recognitions don't come cheap and it's a good pointer to your exceptional personality. If members of the fourth estate of the realm judged you worthy of this award then you are a very special person.

As a Philanthropist and accomplished technocrat, who have touched so many lives in unique ways, you qualify for this special award and more.

I strongly believe in you and pray for greater recognitions in future.

Keep doing what you enjoy doing because God and humanity are watching you!

God bless and keep you for the good works you do.

Felicitations!!!

Mr. Chigozie Igwe
MD/CEO, ALLPEE International Limited.

Anambra's 2025 Governorship Race: Another Men's Affair?

The political activities are lined up towards the 2025 Anambra State governorship election slated for November 8, 2025. From all possible indications, the guberbanatorial election is like skewed to favour the emergence of a male candidate as obtainable in many states of Nigeria. This has become a trend that some analysts have been looking at how to break the jinx or what becomes the solution for a balanced power sharing between male and female in politics.

By Kasie Abone

As the 2025 governorship race gathers steam in Anambra State, one thing hasn't changed: women are still missing from the frontlines.

Sixteen parties. Sixteen flags. Only two dared to field women — and they're the small fry: the Action Democratic Party (ADP) and the Zenith Labour Party (ZLP). The big boys — APGA, PDP, Labour, APC — all lined up behind men.

The glaring question remains: Are Anambra women being systematically locked out of power?

The Concrete Ceiling

Women are welcomed in politics — but only as cheerleaders, not contenders. Barr. Chinwe Okenwa political scientist, calls it "a paradox of participation." According to her "women are allowed to participate, but only as long as they don't aim too high. The moment she declares governorship ambition, everything changes." There will be a question like, 'who is behind her?' She could be simply told to wait for her turn that may wait until thy kingdom come!

Party primaries are the first execution ground. Merit and popularity rarely matter. Deep pockets, godfathers, and shady backroom deals do.

Money, Muscle & Men

Anambra politics is brutally expensive. Nomination forms alone gulp billions of Naira. Add delegate "settlement," campaign logistics, media blitz, and security — a governorship bid easily swallows billions of Naira.

"When a woman enters a political meeting, she's measured by her pocket, not her ideas," says Mrs. Nkem Nwankwo, former party executive. "If she can't outspend the men, she's told to step down for party unity."

And then there's violence. Hired thugs, intimidation at rallies, bloodied campaigns. Many women simply refuse to risk it.

Virgy Etiaba: A Brief, Brilliant Glimpse

In 2006, Dame Virgy Etiaba made history as Nigeria's first female governor — not by election, but by accident of impeachment.

When Peter Obi was impeached, his deputy, Dame Virgy Etiaba stepped in. Dame Etiaba ran Anambra for just over three months before the courts reinstated Mr Obi. She ruled with humility and handed power back without fuss.

It was a shining moment. But nearly twenty years on, no woman has come close to repeating it.

Joy Emordi: Stopped Before Take-Off

Senator Joy Emordi — lawyer, teacher, fighter — twice won Anambra North's Senate seat before courts stripped her mandate in 2010. She also dreamed of the governorship.

"I sat against a man the establishment anointed… I won with a wide margin… but some said no Igbo state had ever elected a woman as senator, let alone governor," she recalled.

Her primaries? Manipulated. Her backing? Undermined. Her finances? Outgunned. She remained active nationally, but her gubernatorial ambition was buried.

Uche Ekwunife: Fearless, But Shut Out

If grit alone could break the ceiling, Uche Lilian Ekwunife would have done it. With over 20 years in politics, she's run for governor three times — coming close, but never clinching the ticket.

Blackmail, character assassination, endless zoning politics — she's survived it all.

Political analyst Ozo Orji sums it up:

"She has everything it takes to govern Anambra, but the system simply shuts her out. Was she too independent to be controlled?"

PRINCE EMEKA KALU
RATTAWU PRESIDENT

Congratulations from NUJ Anambra Council

You are a legend in unionism.

You fought a good fight and God granted you victory.

You broke the jinx as first Igbo man to be President of RATTAWU.

NUJ Anambra is strongly and solidly behind you. Congratulations The Magic Prince!

Signed:
Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu PhD JP
Chairman NUJ Anambra State Council

Anambra's 2025 Governorship Race... Continued

Ekwunife's story is the perfect illustration: in Anambra, courage is not enough. The system is rigged.

Other Names, Same Story

Stella Oduah – Former Aviation Minister, one Senator for Anambra North Senatorial Zone, influence without governorship backing.

Oby Ezekwesili – global voice, presidential aspirant, no traction at home.
Big names, big achievements but sill not "allowed" to play for the state's top prize.

Two Women. Sixteen Parties.
Only two obscure candidates, NRM's Ndidi Christy Olieh and AAC's Ifemeludike Chioma Grace, are flying women's flags in 2025.

Major parties remain allergic to women at the top, worried about donors, godfathers, and "backlash." The irony? Women form the campaign backbone: voters, mobilizers, money-raisers. But when it's time to choose the candidate, they're shut out.

The World Is Watching
Nigeria signed the 1995 Beijing Declaration, pledging 30% women in politics. The UN says, "When women lead, we all win."

Yet in Anambra, it's still business as usual. Two women out of 16 candidates. None from the big four.

Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, WTO Chief, didn't mince words:

"We have never had a woman governor. That has to change. Women must fight, but men must also support. You can't have 50% of your population locked out."

Culture or Excuse?
Igbo women once shook empires, remember the 1929 Aba Women's Riot. But today, tradition is often weaponized against them.

Chief Amaka Nwichita, a traditional leader, puts it bluntly, "we celebrate women as mothers and traders, but not as governors. It's a mindset we must change."

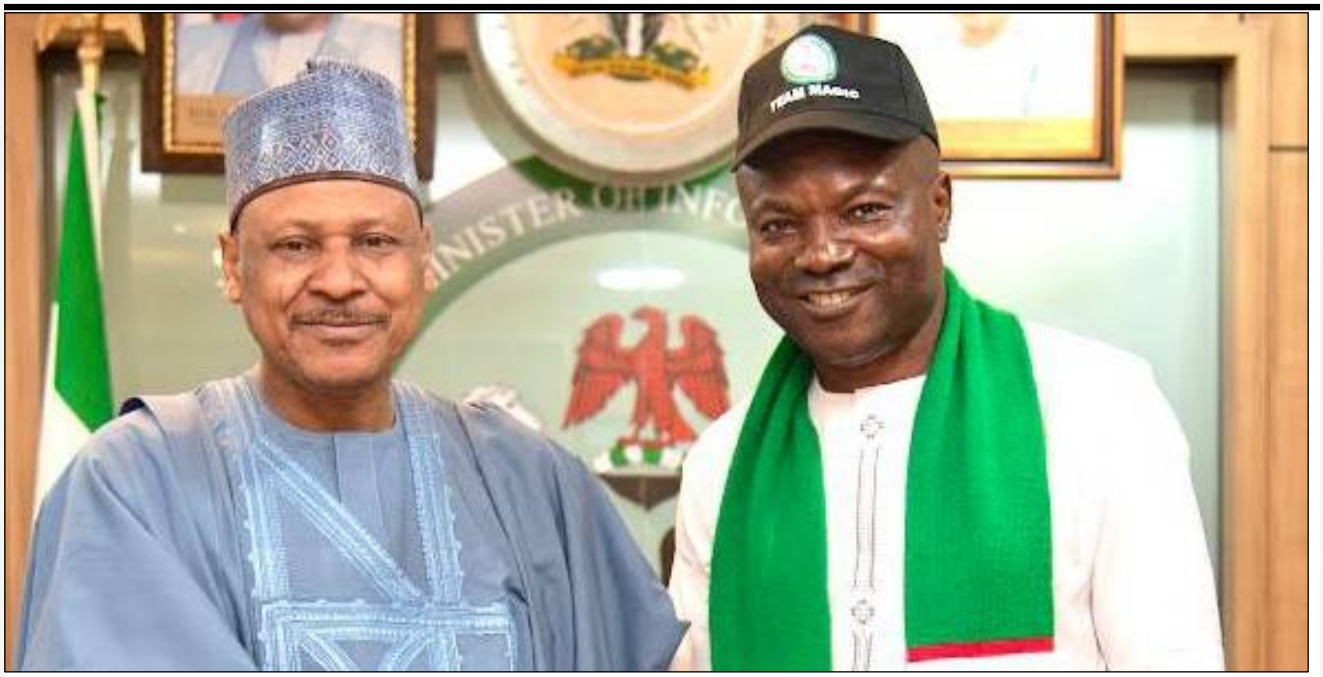
Businesswoman Nkiruka Igwenagu is still sharper, "the idea that women are too weak for certain political offices is not just outdated, it is a tool of oppression."

The Missed Moment
The 2025 election may end with another all-male lineup at the finish line even as a Professor of Political Science and immediate past Dean, Faculty of the Social Sciences, Frank-Collins Okafor, presages that a male candidate would be the next governor of Anambra State.

"As a matter of fact and going by realities on ground as a Political Sciencist, the current governor, Prof Chukwuma Charles Soludo has the greatest chance of clenching back the governorship position at the forthcoming guberbanatorial election in the state. This is because all sides of the coin turn in his favour." While this forecast stands, the debate is louder than ever.

Why are women good enough to vote, to mobilize, to bankroll campaigns — but never to lead? Igwenagu offers a daring solution, "there should be a deliberate rotation of power between men and women. Only then will women get the fair platform they deserve."

Until then, Anambra women will keep knocking. The door is still bolted from the inside. The question is: who will unlock it?



Critical Engagement and Strategic Partnership bw Prince Emeka Kalu RATTAWU President and Hon Minister of Information and National Orientation Mohammed Idris Malagi

NLC ANAMBRA IN PHOTOS

Labour leaders and friends celebrating with NLC Anambra Chairman, Comrade Humphrey Emeka Nwafor during the doctorate convocation ceremony of his wife Dr. Mrs Angela Nwafor at COOU Igbariam recently

Hon Minister of Labour and Employment Mohammed Maigari Gyngyadi

The KWAME NKRUMAH GROW AFRICA YOUTH INITIATIVE presented an Award of Excellence to Anambra NLC Chairman, Sir Humphrey Emeka Nwafor Ksji

This award signifies his proactive performance to public service, doggedness and Comrade per excellent in discharging his vow duties.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

1. Arrival.....9 am
2. Introduction of members of the high table - 10am
3. Opening prayer.....11:05am
4. Presentation of Kola nut
5. Opening remarks by the chairman of the occasion, Chief Primus Odili (Oke Osisi Aguleri)
6. Presentation by the Guest Speaker, Prof. Angela Nkiru Nwammuo, fnipr,
7 . Discussants:
   - Barr. Sly Ezeokenwa, APGA National Chairman,
   - Mr. Christopher Molokwu, MD/CEO, ABS Radio and Television, Awka.
   - Rev. Fr. Dr. Francis Michael Okechukwu Enyosiobi, Parish Priest, St Jude Thadeus Catholic Church, Awka
   - Mr. Chris Azor, Chairman, Anambra Civil Society Network (ACSONet).
8. Questions and Answers

8b. Remarks by Guests
   - Chief Dr. Mrs. Josephine Uzoamaka Aguoji, First female President, Council of Igbo States in America
   - Macrose Pleasant Humanitarian Foundation

9. Declaration of the Winner, 2025 Prof. Chinyere Stella Okunna award for Ethical Journalism by the committee
10. Presentation to winners of football tournament
11. Presentation to winners of Indoor Games
12. Welcome address by NUJ Chairman, Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu, PhD, JP
14. Speech by the National President of NUJ, Comrade Alhassan Yahya.
15. Goodwill message from the Chairman, Traditional Rulers Council, Anambra State, HRH Igwe Chidubem Iweka
16. Remarks by the Hon. Commissioner for Information, Dr. Law Mefor
17. Group Photographs

Part B: Awards

17. Music Interlude

18a. Remarks by the 2024 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year, Dr. Chinedu Umeadi

18b. Appreciation to the 2024 NUJ Anambra Man of the year

19. Citation and award presentation to Dr. Nelson Obinna Omenugha, Special Adviser to Governor of Anambra State on Youth Empowerment.
20. Citation and award presentation to Hon. Ikechukwu Okafor, CEO, Prince Iyke Construction Company.
21. Citation and award presentation to High Chief Emenike Anthony Nwakaeze (Odaa Opuo Awba Ofemili), producer of Tonnel Car Paint, Nigeria.
22. Citation and award presentation to Hon. Dr. ThankGod Chibuike Anago, Mayor, Awka North LGA.
23. Citation and award presentation to Princess Dr. Jessie Ifeoma Udoka, Founder/CEO, Queentovah Helping Services
24. Citation and award presentation to the 2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the Year, Arch. Okey Ezeobi, GM/CEO, Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement
25. Unveiling Vol 1 No 6 NUJ WatchDog Magazine by the Anambra State First Lady, Dr. Nonye Soludo
26. Keynote speech by the Anambra State First Lady, Dr. Nonye Soludo
27. Remarks by Mr. Governor, Prof. Charles Chukwuma Soludo
28. Closing remarks by the Chairman of the occasion, Chief Primus Odili
29. Vote of Thanks by the Chairman, Planning Committee, Comrade Francis Ekpone
30. Closing prayer
31. More Group Photographs
32. Entertainment

.

Part C: Zonal meeting of NUJ

Prof. Chukwuma Charles Soludo, CFR
Executive Governor, Anambra State

Dr. Nonye Soludo
Wife of the Executive Governor, Anambra State

Dr. Law Mefor
Commissioner of Information, Anambra State

Hon. Barr. Theodora Igwegbe MNI
Head of Service, Anambra State

Sir Humphrey Emeka Nwafor Ksji
NLC Chairman, Anambra State

Comrade Alhassan Yahya
National President, NUJ

Comrade Achike Chude
National Secretary, NUJ

Comrade Ezenwa Adiuku
Vice President, NUJ South East (Zone C)

Comrade Emmanuel Idam Irem KSJI
Zonal secretary, NUJ

Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu
NUJ Chairman, Anambra State

Madam Beatrice Chinyemike Onuchukwu
Vice Chairman NUJ Anambra State Council
(BET on BETI.)

Okechukwu Onuegbu, PhD
State Secretary, NUJ Anambra State Council

Comrade Chinyere Ogbuagu
Assistant Secretary, NUJ Anambra State Council

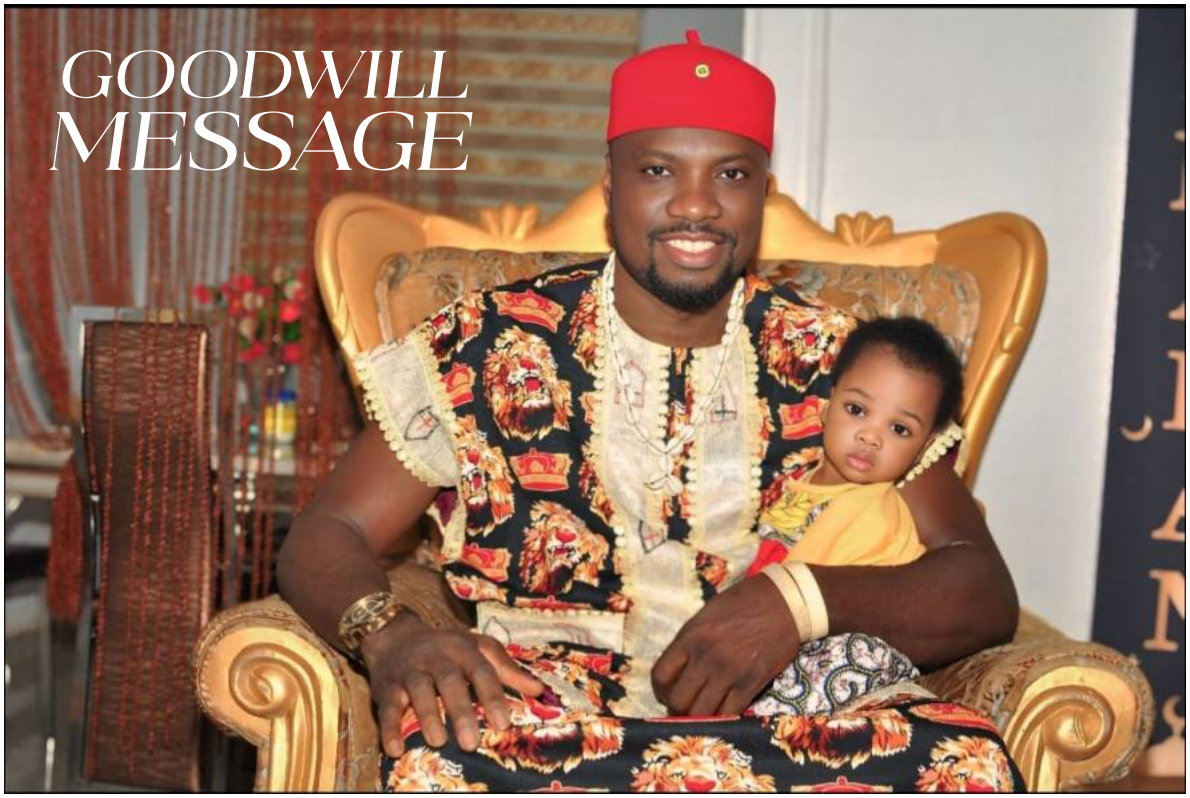
Comrade Chibuzo Obidike
Treasurer, NUJ Anambra State Council

Comrade Grace Onwukwe
Financial Secretary, NUJ Anambra State Council

Comrade Ebele Ezeh
Ex Officio

Comrade Tochukwu Ifejika
Chairperson, Nigeria Association of Women Journalists
(NAWOJ) Anambra State Chapter

NUJ ANAMBRA
MAN OF THE YEAR 2024
DCUF
DR CHINEDU UMEADI
FOUNDATION
Thank you
THE NUJ
FOR THE HONOUR
I will remain a great supporter of yours and will continue to do my best for the great people of Anambra state. It shall be well with all of us.
www.dcuf.org
@dcufoundation
High Chief (Dr)
CHINEDU UMEADI
MBBS, DTM&H, MPH, DCP, PhD, FRCPC, FRCPSYCH
(Agunaechemba Na Abagana)



SUPER CONGRATULATIONS TO NUJ ANAMBRA COUNCIL

"I am deeply honored and grateful to have received the 2024 NUJ Most Innovative Entrepreneur of the year award .

Thank you to the Nigeria Union of Journalists(NUJ) Anambra State Council for recognizing my work.

The award was an encouragement to MOTHER SUSSAN CHARITY FOUNDATION and a testament to his success stories.

I'm especially grateful to the Chairman of the NUJ, Anambra State Council, Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu, PhD,JP, for his outstanding commitment and sense of professionalism for making NUJ Anambra State Council conspicuous.

I pray this year's award inspires others to pursue their passions with the same dedication and perseverance.

Congratulations to all NUJ award winners 2025.

Thank you NUJ once again for this incredible honor. I am truly humbled and inspired.

Hon. Oliver N Okennah
(Dikemba Ebenebe)

2024 Most Innovative Entrepreneur of the year

Arc. Okechukwu Ezeobi: Winner NUJ Anambra 2025 Man of the Year

The Beginning of Arc. Ezeobi's Journey

By Emeka Chiaghanam

In the ever-evolving landscape of architecture, governance, and human development, Arc. Okechukwu "Okey" Ezeobi stands as a rare blend of technical brilliance, visionary leadership, and unshakable integrity. With roots grounded in the humble village of Umudala, Nanka, in Orumba North LGA of Anambra State, his journey from the classrooms of Lagos and Enugu States to the commanding corridors of public service reveals a man who has mastered the art of building, both structures and societies.

Arbridged Education Record

Okechukwu's educational journey began at Anglican Primary School and Emmanuel-High Primary School, Ogudu, Lagos. He proceeded to Aguda Grammar School, where his passion for design and structure began to crystallize. His academic path later took him to the prestigious University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus, where he earned both his B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Architecture, graduating as the best student in both degrees. Furthering his academic portfolio, he secured a second master's degree in Project Management from the University of Lagos and sharpened his leadership and business acumen through programs at Lagos Business School.

The Architect as Innovator

From the outset of his professional journey, Arc. Okey Ezeobi demonstrated a bold commitment to innovation. After stints with renowned design firms like AB.DT Partnership (Ibadan) and Design Points (Lagos), he founded Dwellins International Ltd, a company that evolved from a two-man startup into a multi-disciplinary powerhouse in architecture, construction, project management, interior design, and bespoke furniture manufacturing.

Under his leadership, Dwellins defied economic downturns and a global pandemic to remain an inspiration of creativity and resilience. Ezeobi's flair for transformative design was perhaps best illustrated in his groundbreaking redesign of the Oceanic Bank Benin-3 branch, where he challenged convention by eliminating obstructive structural columns in favour of

Arc. Okey Ezeobi

a clean, open, and functional banking space. Despite initial resistance, the success of the project transformed industry standards and became a template for all subsequent Oceanic Bank branches.

A Builder with a Social Heart

Beyond blueprints and buildings, Ezeobi's most enduring legacy may lie in his unwavering commitment to social equity and youth development. He introduced a corporate apprenticeship scheme within Dwellins, providing free training, stipends, and hands-on carpentry experience to young people from low-income backgrounds. Over the years, this initiative has empowered scores of youths and attracted partnerships with NGOs and development agencies.

His generosity is not confined to the workplace. Arc. Okey has consistently supported his hometown with meaningful interventions, from sponsoring borehole projects and constructing access roads to offering scholarships that have elevated many indigent students from primary school to the university level.

Arc. Okey Ezeobi's Profile... Continued

Recently, he launched a multi-million-naira revolving loan scheme for women and artisans to address emergency financial needs and foster economic independence at the grassroots.

Public Service: Integrity in Action

In 2018, Arc. Ezeobi took his expertise into the public sector when he was appointed Special Adviser on Community Project Implementation by then-Governor Willie Obiano. He supervised the landmark initiative where each Anambra community received a ₦20 million development grant. His role in the State Tenders Board and subsequent consultancy for the Bureau of Public Procurement set the tone for a rising profile built on transparency, excellence, and trust.

In April 2022, Governor Chukwuma Charles Soludo appointed him GM/CEO of the Anambra State Bureau for Public Procurement (ANSBPP), a role he has filled with distinction. Under his stewardship, ANSBPP saved the state over ₦10.4 billion in capital project costs within his first year, demonstrating fiscal prudence and efficient project vetting. Even more notably, the bureau won a $2 million World Bank grant, a global endorsement of its responsive, transparent, and innovative procurement practices.

Thought Leadership & National Impact

Arc. Ezeobi's influence extends into academic and professional circles. He is a Professional Fellow of the Emergency, Crisis, and Disaster Management Institute of Nigeria and serves on the board of the Centre for Disaster Risk Management and Development Studies at the University of Port Harcourt. He is also a member of the Building Collapse Prevention Guild (BCPG) and a certified Health, Safety, and Environment (HSE) Specialist currently undergoing training in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED).

In 2021, he was nominated as Anambra State's representative on the Architects Registration Council of Nigeria (ARCON), a testimony of his professional integrity and technical excellence.

Mediation, Philanthropy & Community Diplomacy

Whether resolving intra-community conflicts or mediating between state policies and town union concerns, Arc. Ezeobi has consistently brought clarity, empathy, and lasting resolutions to complex local challenges. He is particularly committed to eradicating youth restiveness, which he sees as a product of systemic neglect. His philosophy is simple yet powerful: "The most effective cure for insecurity is opportunity."

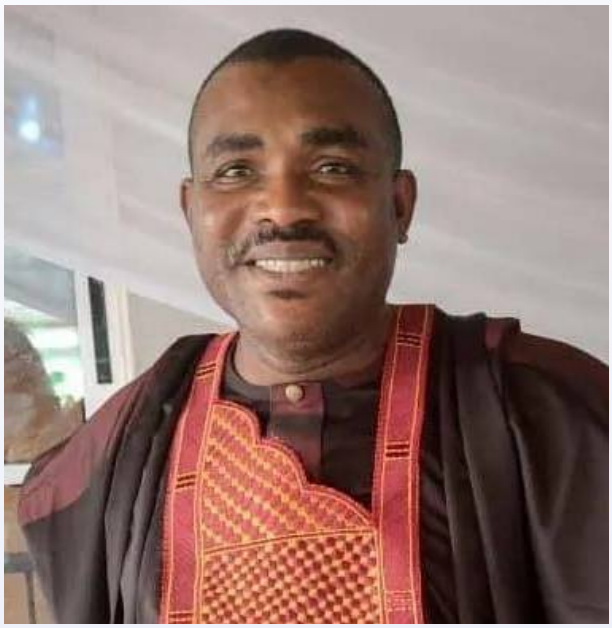
By providing vocational training, funding community projects, and leveraging his relationship with Governor Soludo to benefit his hometown, Arc. Ezeobi has emerged as a critical development conduit for Nanka and surrounding communities. His contributions have elevated the town's visibility in state-level policy discussions and secured infrastructure that will serve future generations.

A Life Built on Values

In all his endeavours, whether sketching architectural plans, reforming procurement systems, or mentoring youths, Arc. Okechukwu Ezeobi operates with a quiet dignity, strategic clarity, and a deep sense of responsibility. Married to Ogor and a proud father of three, he balances family life with a career defined by excellence, empathy, and visionary impact.

Final Blueprint

Arc. Okechukwu Ezeobi's story is that of a man who constructs more than buildings. He constructs trust, opportunity, and legacy. In a country yearning for competent leadership and authentic impact, he remains a shining example of what it means to build with both head and heart.



Arc. Okey Ezeobi

Dr. Jessie Ifeoma Udoka Menuba

Recipient of NUJ Anambra 2025 Visionary Humanitarian | Global Philanthropist

By Emeka Chiaghanam

Dr. Jessie Ifeoma Udoka Menuba is a remarkable force for good, an internationally respected humanitarian, philanthropist, and trailblazing entrepreneur whose legacy continues to reshape lives across continents. Her academic portfolio reflects her intellectual breadth, holding a BSc in Nursing, a BS in Chaplaincy, an MS in General Psychology, a Th.D (Doctorate in Theology), dual Ph.Ds in Humanities and Divinity, and an honorary Doctorate of Divinity as a bishop.

Driven by a divine purpose, Dr. Menuba is the visionary founder and CEO of multiple global-impact organisations, including Queentovah Unlimited Solutions Inc., Queentovah Helping Services, Queentovah Cares Foundation, Queentovah Finest Jewelries, and the soon-to-be-launched Queentovah Limited Solutions in Nigeria.

Princess Dr. Jessie

86 Awards, Unshaken Compassion, and Unmatched Impact

Over the last two years alone, she has received 86 prestigious awards worldwide, including the profound honour of being named the "Mother Theresa of the 21st Century" by the Catholic Laity Council of Nigeria, Awka Diocese, an accolade symbolising her deep-rooted compassion and commitment to human dignity. From Nnamdi Azikiwe University, where she was declared the first and only Patroness of the Entrepreneurship Department, to receiving national honours from Trinidad and Tobago for Public Service and Women's Development, her accolades speak to a lifetime of transformative impact.

Dr. Menuba's philanthropic reach is monumental: she has personally funded housing, education, medical care, and financial empowerment for thousands, without soliciting donations or external support. She remains passionately committed to uplifting the homeless, the sick, and the underserved, providing not just relief, but sustainable hope.

Devoted Builder of a Better Tomorrow

She is currently pioneering the development of the first International Centre for Entrepreneurship and Apprenticeship at Nnamdi Azikiwe University, aimed at empowering students to become job creators and innovators in Africa and beyond.

A woman of faith and fortitude, her guiding mottos are: "It is good to be good" and "God is my strength."

Dr. Menuba hails from the Royal Oliobi family of Nimo in Njikoka LGA and is proudly married to Rtd. Air Commodore Ifeanyi Udoka Menuba of Amawbia, Awka South LGA, Anambra State, Nigeria.

BIOGRAPHY OF HON. THANKGOD CHIBUIKE ANAGO

(Okenwa Abogu | Onye Olu Obodo)

Recipient of NUJ Anambra 2025 Most Outstanding Mayor Award

By Emeka Chiaghanam

Hon. ThankGod Chibuike Anago, popularly known as Okenwa Abogu or Onye Olu Obodo, is a distinguished community leader, grassroots mobilizer, and transformational administrator with a strong reputation for people-oriented governance and service delivery.

He was born into the reputable family of Late Chief James Anago Echetabu and Ezinne Uduafor Florence Anago of Irunnebo Kindred, Amaezike Village in Mgbakwu, Awka North Local Government Area, Anambra State.

FAMILY LIFE
Hon. Anago is happily married and blessed with children. His family values are rooted in humility, compassion, and dedication to societal good.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND
Hon. Anago began his academic journey at Central Primary School, Mgbakwu, and proceeded to Community Secondary School, Mgbakwu, both in Awka North LGA. He later earned a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy (Second Class Upper Division) from Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka.

He holds a Master of Arts in Social and Political Philosophy, and an additional Master's Degree in Public Administration and Management. He is currently awaiting the final defense of his PhD dissertation in Philosophy. Hon. Anago has also attended several prestigious leadership and professional development courses both locally and internationally.

POLITICAL AND LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE
A dynamic and charismatic leader, Hon. Anago's political journey began as the President of the Students' Union Government (SUG) at Nnamdi Azikiwe University from 2007 to 2009, where his tenure left a lasting legacy of impactful leadership.

He served as Senior Special Assistant to former Governor Willie Obiano on Inter-Party Matters and later on Youth Mobilization and Empowerment, where he demonstrated strategic capacity in fostering political inclusiveness and youth empowerment.

On August 10, 2023, he was appointed Transition Committee Chairman of Awka North LGA by the Executive Governor of Anambra State, Prof. Charles Chukwuma Soludo, CFR, where he demonstrated exceptional leadership, transparency, and community development.

Subsequently, on September 28, 2024, he was elected and sworn-in as the Executive Chairman (Mayor) of Awka North Local Government Area, following a highly competitive local government election.

PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES UNDER HIS ADMINISTRATION
Under his visionary leadership, Awka North LGA has witnessed remarkable development. Notable projects and initiatives include:
Road Construction Projects:
Asphalted a Circa Road in Amansea (Completed)
Asphalted Ezi-Okpokolo Irunnebo Road with spur to Holy Cashew, Mgbakwu (Completed)

Hon. ThankGod

Concrete drainage project for erosion control, Ebenebe (Ongoing)
Reconstruction of Ugbenu-Ime Bridge
Road rehabilitation and palliative work in Achalla, Urum, Amanuke, Mgbakwu, Isuaniocha, and Amansea

Education and Health:
Distribution of school supplies across all primary schools in the LGA
Renovation of classroom blocks at:
Central Primary School - Abogu Primary School
Unity Primary School
Free education for over 50 students across Awka North
Renovation and upgrade of Primary Health Centers across communities
Water and Energy Projects:
Solar-powered borehole at Central School, Mgbakwu
Resuscitation of borehole and reticulation of pipe-borne water at Awka North Secretariat
Solar-powered street lighting across strategic points and communities
Security and Infrastructure:
Procurement of operational security vehicles and gadgets
Renovation and re-equipping of Chairman's office, conference hall, and administrative buildings at the LGA Headquarters, Achalla
Ultra-modern Oye Market in Urum (Ongoing)
Healthcare and Community Welfare:
Free periodic medical outreach across Awka North communities

LEGACY AND PHILOSOPHY
A Philanthropist of Repute, Philosophic Plutarch, and Intellectual Administrator Par Excellence, Hon. ThankGod Chibuike Anago is driven by a passion for inclusive governance, grassroots development, and empowerment of the underserved.

He remains steadfast in his mission to deliver the dividends of democracy and foster a better future for the people of Awka North through accountability, transparency, and transformative leadership.

MOTTO:

"Onye Olu Obodo" – The One Who Works for the People!

Photo News

2025 NUJ Man of the year Arc. Okey Ezeobi with Anambra council, Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu PhD, CMD COOUTH Awka , Dr Joe Akabuike and a friend during the wedding ceremony of Dr Akabuike 's daughter

Chairman, NUJ Anambra State Council Comrade Odogwu Emeka Odogwu PhD with National Secretary, Comrade Achike Chude, Vice President of the zone Comrade Adiuke Eze with a cross section of Journalists on tour of government projects on Tuesday 26th August,2025 @ Solution Fun City,Awka

IDC
Construction Limited

"Reward for work well done is the opportunity to do more"

The management and staff of IDC Construction Limited heartily congratulate **Hon. Arc. Okey Ezeobi, The Managing Director/ Executive Officer Bureau of Public Procurement** on his confirmation as the 2025 NUJ Anambra Man of the year.

This award recognizes your tireless efforts, visionary leadership and unwavering commitment to the development and benefit to the good people of Anambra State and society at large.

While praying God to continually imbibe you with wisdom, strength and courage to serve, we hope this award will spur you to win more laurels.

CONGRATULATIONS

IDC CONSTRUCTION LTD.

Infrastructure Development Company
No. 5 Chari Close, off Bobo Street, off Pope John Paul II Street, Maitama, Abuja, Nigeria
Tel +234 (0) 703 671 7628 \\ RC 801962 \\ www.idcnigeria.com

HON. ENGR. IKECHUKWU OKAFOR: BUILDING DREAMS, EMPOWERING GENERATIONS

By Emmanuel Okonkwo

Engineering Beyond Structures: A Builder of Lives

In a world where many chase personal gain, Hon. Engr. Ikechukwu Okafor stands out as a rare breed, an engineer, entrepreneur, and humanitarian who has chosen to build not just structures, but lives. As the Chief Executive Officer and Head Engineer of Prince Iyke Construction Limited, Engr. Okafor has redefined what it means to be a builder in today's society. For over a decade, he has laid the foundation not only for physical infrastructure but also for youth empowerment, social impact, and transformative leadership.

Having ventured into the construction industry 11 years ago, it was in 2021 that his company became a fully-fledged enterprise. But beyond brick and mortar, his true legacy lies in the lives he has touched. "Construction is special," he notes, "because of the place it occupies in society. It's not just about buildings, it's about shaping futures."

Championing Youth and Seeding a Better Future

Engr. Okafor's passion for youth empowerment is deeply rooted in his belief in their untapped potential. "What inspired me," he says, "was the zeal I saw in young people to succeed. In today's world, it's rare to find youths genuinely interested in legitimate paths. So when I meet one who's eager to learn or add value to society, I do everything I can to help them succeed."

And he has done just that, at scale. From sponsoring startups, building shops, and providing seed capital, to awarding scholarships and paying school fees for hundreds of students, his philanthropic efforts have impacted lives beyond measure. Just recently, he paid tuition fees for 114 students of Memorial Secondary School, Ozubulu. "We have countless testimonies of those we empowered now empowering others," he reflects. "That ripple effect is my greatest joy."

Despite the occasional betrayal or ingratitude, he has no regrets. "I was born to do this," he says with characteristic humility. "Even if some people repay you poorly, the satisfaction of seeing others rise is enough reward."

Recognitions, Beliefs, and a Vision for Tomorrow

His efforts have not gone unnoticed. The Anambra State Council of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) recently honoured him with the Most Inspiring Youth Leader Award, an honour he describes as "deeply fulfilling." More recently, the African Youth Initiative; a pan-African body spanning 36 countries, conferred upon him the prestigious Kwameh Nkrumah Leadership Award as "Inspiration of Hope for Africa's Development" in recognition of his contribution to youth development and national transformation.

His advice to young people? "Engage in something meaningful. Don't stay idle. There are opportunities everywhere, grab one."

A strong supporter of good governance, he praises Governor Chukwuma Charles Soludo for his infrastructural revolution in Anambra. "Governor Soludo is the best governor Anambra has produced," he asserts. "His leadership is transformational."

Hon. Engr. Ikechukwu Okafor is not just constructing buildings, he's constructing hope, one life at a time. His story is proof that with vision, compassion, and resilience, one man can truly make a difference.

BIOGRAPHY OF NWAKAEZE EMENIKE ANTHONY

Recipient of NUJ Anambra 2025 Most Outstanding Mayor Award

By Favour Edeh

Chief Emenike Nwakaeze

Nwakaeze Emenike Anthony was born on 21st July 1976. He began his education at Progressive Primary School in his hometown, Awba Ofemili, Awka North LGA, Anambra State. After completing primary education, he proceeded to Onitsha for apprenticeship under Mr. Gilbert Obiora at No. 38 Ozomagana, Odakpu, Onitsha.

After successfully completing his apprenticeship, he established his own business and began to grow steadily. With dedication and hard work, he thrived in his trade. After a few successful years in business, he got married to the love of his life, Mrs. Nwakaego Emenike Nwakaeze, in April 2007. Their union is blessed with five lovely children — two boys and three girls.

Throughout his life, Anthony has been known as a strong, focused, and ambitious man. He believed that hard work was the key to success. Starting with a small workshop, he remained determined to grow and achieve greater things. He later went on to establish several companies including:

- **Tonnell Chemicals Industries Ltd**
- **Uba Chemical Industry Ltd**
- **Nwakeze Global Chemical Limited**
- **Muna. E. Ventures Ltd**

His determination and leadership also earned him the trust of his community. He was elected as the President General (P.G.) of his community, serving from 2001 to 2004. During his tenure, he worked hard to bring development, meet the needs of his people, and maintain peace and unity in the community. His efforts earned him respect and recognition from both the people and local government authorities.

GOVERNMENT OF ANAMBRA STATE OF NIGERIA

ANAMBRA STATE BUREAU OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

Address: No 1 BPP Road, Behind Old Government House, Awka
www.bpp.an.gov.ng | admin@bpp.an.gov.ng

Arc. Okey Ezeobi,
GM/CEO,
Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement,
August 18, 2025

Dear Sir,

CONGRATULATIONS AS THE NUJ ANAMBRA STATE COUNCIL 2025 MAN OF THE YEAR

The Management and Staff of the Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement heartily felicitates with her General Manager/Chief Executive Officer; **Arc Okey Ezeobi** on his meritorious nomination as the Nigerian Union of Journalist (NUJ) Anambra State Council 2025 Man of the Year.

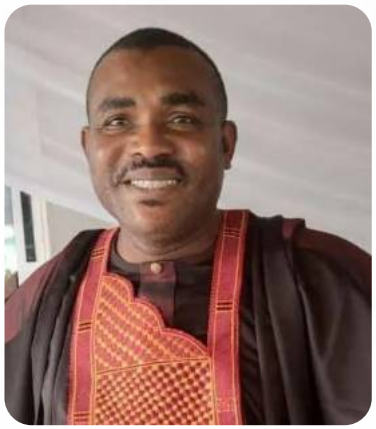
This nomination and award roundly resonates across the State and beyond because of the sterling footprints that you have made across various fields spanning your towering rank in the practice and teaching of Architecture in Nigeria; an outstanding entrepreneurial spot in the Nigeria's corporate world; a human capital developer through immense but quiet philanthropy spanning decades and a burgeoning spot in the public service space.

The work you have done at the Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement in so short a time speaks volumes about your integrity of character; unyielding commitment to due order and a sagacious capacity to deliver results even in very challenging circumstances.

The Bureau joins your family and true friends and fans across the globe to celebrate you as you step out to receive the very coveted award as the **ANAMBRA STATE NUJ 2025 MAN OF THE YEAR (MoY) Award** on the 28th day of August at the prestigious International Convention Centre, Awka.

Congratulations!!!

Dr. Okoye A.C
Head,
Dept of Capacity Building & Operations
ANSBPP, Awka



INTENTIONALITY, VALUE & PASSION

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Congratulations

ARC. OKEY EZEOBI

NUJ Anambra Man of the Year 2025

CONGRATULATORY AND GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM CHIEF EJIAMATU DAMIAN ENEKWECHI TO THE CONVENER ANAMBRA PATRIOTS FOR SOLUDO AS THE 2025 NUJ MAN OF THE YEAR.

Congratulatons, Arc. Okey Ezeobi, on your well-deserved Recognition!

On behalf of all who admire your integrity, leadership, and service, I extend my heartfelt congratulations on your recognition as the Anambra 2025 NUJ Man of the Year.

This prestigious award is a proof of your tireless effort and impactful contribution the society and humanity at large and your exemplary character in both professional and public life.

You have set a remarkable standard of distinction that inspires many, and this honor from the Nigeria Union of Journalist reaffirms what we've long known- that you are a man of vision, purpose, and outstanding achievement.

May this milestone be one of many in your journey of influence and transformation

CONGRATULATIONS ONCE AGAIN MY GOOD FRIEND!

Signed:

Chief Ejiamatu Damian Enekwechi

Chairman Anambra Patriots for Soludo (APS)

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Congratulations

ARC. OKEY EZEOBI

NUJ Anambra Man of the Year 2025

On behalf of the Management and Staff of NBHH Nigeria Limited, we extend our warmest congratulations to the Nigeria Union of Journalists (Anambra State Council) on the occasion of their 2025 Press Week and Man of the Year Ceremony.

We also specially congratulate Arc. Okey Ezeobi, General Manager/CEO of Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement, on his well-deserved award. This recognition is a testament to his exceptional leadership and contributions.

Please accept our best wishes for a successful event.

Sgn,
Management

NIGERIA UNION OF JOURNALISTS (NUJ), ANAMBRA STATE COUNCIL
PRESENTS
2025 MAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS & PRESS WEEK GRAND FINALE
AWARDEES
ARCHITECT
OKEY EZEOBI
MAN OF THE YEAR
HON.
IKECHUKWU
OKAFOR
PRINCESS DR.
JESSIE IFEOMA
UDOKA MENUBA
HON. DR
THANKGOD
CHIBUIKE ANAGO
HON. CHIEF HON.
EMENIKE ANTHONY
NWAKAEZE
DR.
NELSON OBINNA
OMENUGHA
THEME:
"THE MEDIA AND OUR STATE ANAMBRA:
REPORTAGE IN ELECTION YEAR"
CHAIRMAN ON THE OCCASION
CHIEF PRIMUS ODILI
(Okosisi Aguleri)
Former Chief of Staff to former Governor Willie Obiano
THE GUEST SPEAKER
PROF ANGELA NKIRU NWAMMUO
ROYAL FATHER OF THE DAY
IGWE CHIDUBEM IWEKA
Igwe Obosi & Chairman Of Anambra State Traditional Rulers Council
MOTHER OF THE DAY
PROF. CHINYERE STELLA OKUNNA
FNGE, FNIPR, FACCE
SPECIAL GUEST
HON. LAW MEFOR PhD
COMMISSIONER FOR INFORMATION.
ANAMBRA STATE.
DISTINGUISHED GUEST
PROF CHUKWUMA CHARLES SOLUDO CFR
GOVERNOR, ANAMBRA STATE
KEYNOTE SPEAKER
DR MRS. NONYE SOLUDO
FIRST LADY OF ANAMBRA STATE AND
FOUNDER OF HEALTHY LIVING WITH NONYE SOLUDO
HRH IGWE (PHARM)
ALEX UZO ONYIDO
2023 NUJ ANAMBRA
MAN OF THE YEAR
DAME DR. ADA
UMEOJI, OON
2022 NUJ ANAMBRA
MAN OF THE YEAR
DR. CHINEDU ANTHONY UMEADI
(AGUNECHEMBA ABAGANA)
2024 NUJ ANAMBRA
MAN OF THE YEAR
DISCUSSANTS
HON. SLY EZEOKENWA ESQ, APGA NATIONAL CHAIRMAN
MR CHRISTOPHER MOLOKWU, MD/CEO ABS AWKA
REV. FR. DR. FRANCIS M.O. ENYOSIOBI, PP ST. JUDE THADEUS, AWKA
CHRIS AZOR, CHAIRMAN, ANAMBRA CIVIL SOCIETY NETWORK (ACSONET)
COMRADE EKPONE FRANCIS
CHAIRMAN CENTRAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
PRESS WEEK/MAN OF THE YEAR 2025
CHIEF HOST
COMRADE ALHASSAN YAHYA
NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF THE NUJ
THURS. 28TH
AUGUST, 2025
10AM
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER,
ICC, AWKA ALONG AGU-AWKA OLD ROAD
OR OPPOSITE STANEL WORLD, AWKA
HOST
COMRADE ODOGWU EMEKA ODOGWU, PHD, JP
CHAIRMAN, NUJ, ANAMBRA STATE COUNCIL
08060750240

GOODWILL MESSAGE

Congratulations

ARC. OKEY EZEOBI

NUJ Anambra Man of the Year 2025

I happily wish to congratulate Arc.Okey Ezeobi: The GM, Anambra State Bureau of Public Procurement, as 2025 NUJ Man of the year Anambra State.

It is an award well deserved and merited.

Your leadership style in Anambra State Procurement System is top notch with good policy directions and adherence to global best practices via e-procurement processes/online bid opening and awards etc.

Congratulations Sir and more wins

Ezekwo Victor C
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Power and Water Resources