

...NOT IN THISDAY STYLE? THEN YOU'RE NOT IN STYLE

THISDAY **Style**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2025



JIM OVIA



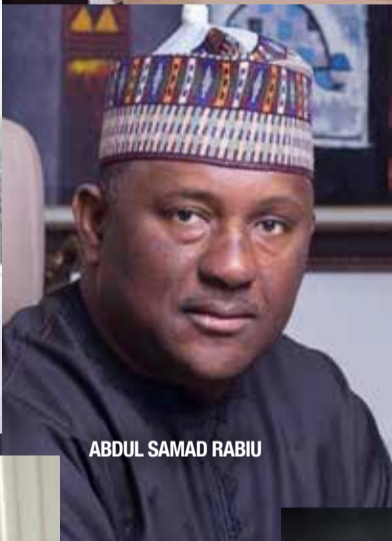
BENEDICT ORAMAH



AIGBOJE AIG-IMOUKHUEDE



MOHAMMED INDIMI



ABDUL SAMAD RABIU



PRESIDENT BOLA TINUBU



DELE FAROTIMI



MIKE ADENUGA



MELE KYARI



JOHN TANIMOLA OBARO



SEGUN AGBAJE



ADEMOLA ADEYEMI BERO



NGOZI OKONJO IWEALA



ALIKO DANGOTE

THISDAY @ 30

WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH...
THE TOUGH GET REWARDED



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COVER NOTE



Turning 30 is no small feat, and when a legacy of trailblazing journalism, innovation, and resilience accompanies it, the milestone becomes even more extraordinary. Our very own THISDAY, Nigeria's foremost newspaper of record, has reached this remarkable juncture, celebrating three decades of shaping narratives, challenging norms, and influencing change in Nigeria and beyond.

From its humble beginnings as a weekly publication on January 22, 1995, THISDAY quickly evolved into a daily newspaper, defying conventions and setting new standards in Nigeria's media landscape. Known for its vibrant colour printing and thought-provoking back-page columns, THISDAY transformed not only the aesthetics of Nigerian journalism but also its substance. Over the years, it has become the go-to newspaper for Nigeria's business, political, and diplomatic elite, offering unparalleled insight and balanced reporting. But THISDAY's story isn't just one of journalistic excellence; it's a testament to resilience, adaptability, and a relentless pursuit of innovation—qualities that have allowed it to thrive in an ever-evolving media landscape.

COVER



EXECUTIVE EDITOR
KONYE NWABOGOR 0811847087

DEPUTY EXECUTIVE EDITOR
OLUFUNKE BABS-KUFEJI
0811847086

SENIOR DESIGNER
MATHIAS ARCHIBONG 07054965500

CONTRIBUTORS
AYO LAWAL
BUKOLA AMOBOYE

PHOTOGRAPHER
TY BELLO

DIRECTOR, PRINT PRODUCTION
CHUKS ONWUDINJO 08077092196

EDITOR'S LETTER



EXECUTIVE EDITOR

30 Hearty Cheers

Isn't it amazing to think about how far we've come? THISDAY—our very own national treasure has just turned 30!

For three incredible decades, THISDAY has been more than just a newspaper; it's been a voice, a platform, and a witness to the stories that have shaped Nigeria and the world.

Looking back, it's impossible not to marvel at the audacity of its beginnings. In 1995, THISDAY emerged with a bold vision: to elevate Nigerian journalism to a standard that could compete globally. And oh, how it delivered. From incisive political coverage to hard-hitting business analysis, arts, and entertainment, THISDAY has been the newspaper of record for Nigeria's elite, the go-to source for decision-makers and influencers, and, importantly, the trusted companion of everyday Nigerians seeking clarity in a noisy world.

But this milestone isn't just about celebrating the past. It's a reminder of the resilience and adaptability it takes to thrive in an ever-evolving media landscape. The last three decades have brought unprecedented shifts in how news is consumed—print to digital, breaking news to in-depth analysis, clicks to credibility—yet THISDAY has navigated these changes with an unwavering commitment to integrity and quality. That resilience is part of what we're celebrating this week.

To mark this incredible journey, we're going big (as we should). The highlight? A glittering award ceremony tomorrow, January 27, themed "When the Going Gets Tough... the Tough Get Rewarded!" It's more than just an event. We're honouring individuals and institutions that, like THISDAY, have faced challenges head-on, weathered storms, and emerged stronger. Resilience isn't just a word; it's a mindset, and this celebration is our way of saying thank you to those who embody it in the most inspiring ways.

While this anniversary is a proud moment for all of us at THISDAY, it's also a time to appreciate you, our readers. Whether you've been with us from the very beginning or joined us along the way, you are the reason we've been able to do what we do. Your engagement, loyalty, and feedback have been the fuel that keeps us moving forward. Together, we've proven that journalism—good journalism—matters, and it can make a difference. And for that, we are extremely thankful.

So, here's to the next 30 years of shaping narratives, inspiring change, and rewarding resilience. Here's to more stories that challenge us, unite us, and remind us of what's possible when we refuse to back down. And here's to continuing this incredible journey together, hand in hand.

Love,
Konye



COVER

THISDAY @ 30

WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH...
THE TOUGH GET REWARDED

Turning 30 is no small feat, and when a legacy of trailblazing journalism, innovation, and resilience accompanies it, the milestone becomes even more extraordinary. Our very own THISDAY, Nigeria's foremost newspaper of record, has reached this remarkable juncture, celebrating three decades of shaping narratives, challenging norms, and influencing change in Nigeria and beyond.

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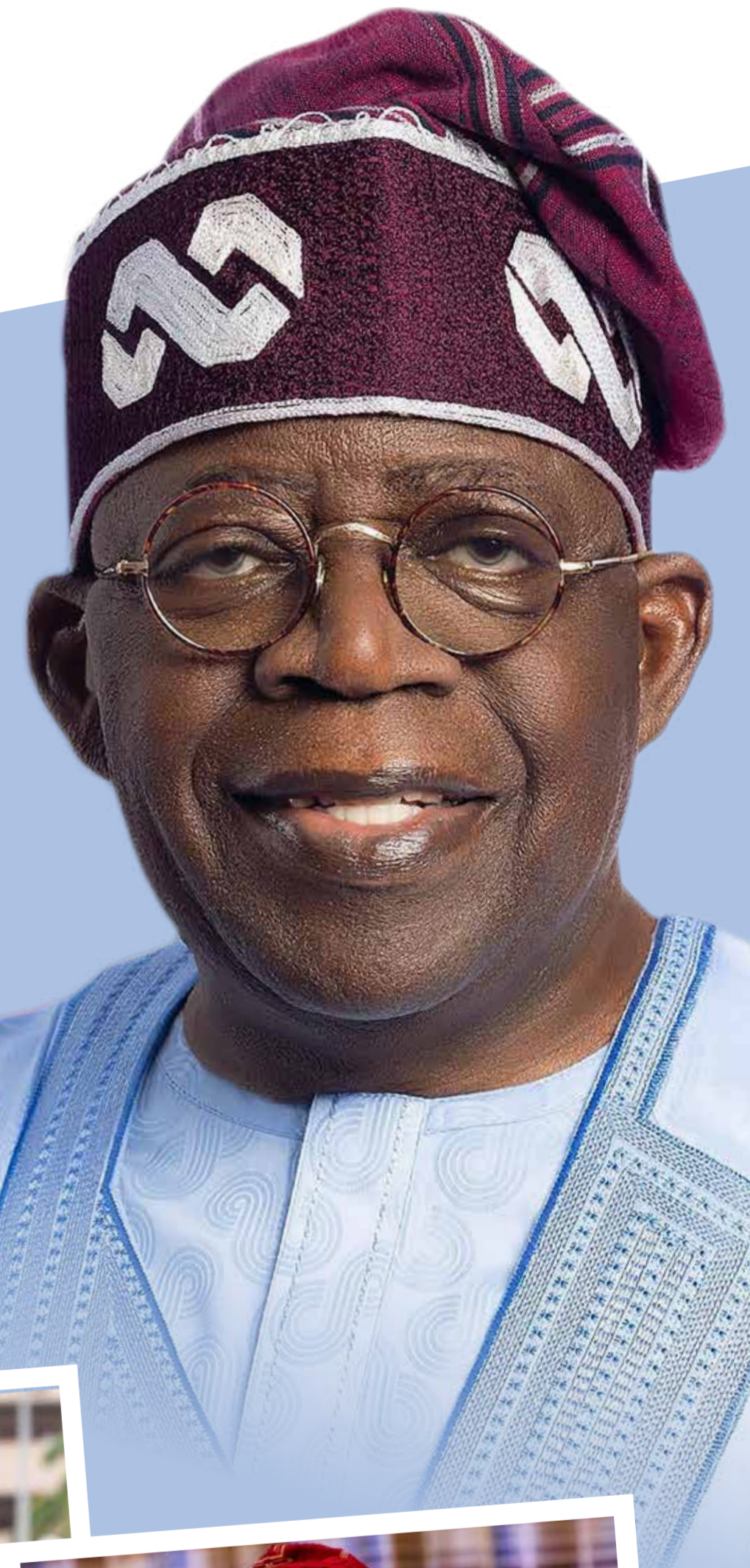
As our iconic publication commemorates its 30th anniversary, we are pulling out all the stops to honour not just its achievements but also the visionaries, institutions, and game-changers who embody the spirit of resilience and excellence. At the heart of these celebrations is an exclusive award ceremony set to take place on January 27 aptly tagged "When the Going Gets Tough... the Tough Get Rewarded!"—a fitting tribute to those who have stood tall against the odds to make an indelible impact. With the first presentation kicking off in Davos, Switzerland, the global stage underscores the significance of this milestone. The awards aim to shine a spotlight on individuals and institutions who exemplify toughness and resilience in their respective fields, mirroring the core values that have propelled THISDAY to the pinnacle of Nigerian journalism. This is not merely an awards ceremony; it's a celebration of courage, vision, and determination—qualities that have shaped Nigeria's journey through the years.

Here's to the next 30 years of shaping narratives, inspiring change, and rewarding resilience.

THISDAY MAN OF THE YEAR

PRESIDENT BOLA AHMED TINUBU

President Bola Ahmed Tinubu emerges as THISDAY Man of the Year for 2024, a recognition of his unwavering resolve and bold reforms aimed at transforming Nigeria. Despite significant challenges and widespread hardship, Tinubu has pressed forward with tough decisions, including subsidy removal, naira floating, and financial autonomy for local governments. His tax reform bills have sparked controversy, but his determination to reshape the economy remains steadfast. As ECOWAS Chairman, he has tackled regional instability with measured diplomacy, exemplifying thinking leadership. While his reforms could benefit from greater inclusion and execution finesse, Tinubu's courage and resilience have cemented his place as the most consequential Nigerian of the year.



COVER

THISDAY WOMAN OF THE YEAR

DR. NGOZI OKONJO-IWEALA

Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Director-General of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), solidified her position as a global trailblazer in 2024. Under her leadership, the WTO achieved historic trade agreements that fueled global economic recovery, prioritizing developing nations. She championed equitable vaccine distribution and advanced climate-resilient trade policies, ensuring marginalized economies accessed vital resources. Her unwavering advocacy for women's empowerment in global trade has inspired initiatives supporting female entrepreneurs worldwide. Known for her commitment to fairness, innovation, and unity, Okonjo-Iweala's transformative achievements make her a deserving recipient of the THISDAY Woman of the Year 2024 title.



TITANS OF THE YEAR



BENEDICT ORAMAH – Financing Nigeria at a critical time

Under the leadership of Prof. Benedict Oramah, Afreximbank has provided vital financing to Nigeria during challenging economic times. The bank participated in a €2 billion facility for the Bank of Industry, a \$650 million financing for Oando's acquisition of oil assets, and a \$200 million facility to support BUA Industries' expansion. These strategic interventions have supported sustainable development, energy acquisition, and industrial growth. Oramah's commitment to bolstering Nigeria's economy highlights his remarkable leadership in Africa's financial landscape.



ALIKO DANGOTE – For Dangote Refineries & Petrochemicals

Alhaji Aliko Dangote, President of the Dangote Group, is celebrated as the visionary behind Nigeria's first private refinery. Inaugurated on May 22, 2023, the Dangote Petroleum Refinery, a \$19 billion investment, is the world's largest single-train refinery with a capacity of 650,000 barrels per day. The refinery aims to end Nigeria's dependence on imported petroleum products, conserve foreign exchange, and create jobs. It is designed to meet 100% of Nigeria's refined product needs and generate surplus for export, boosting the country's foreign exchange earnings. This game-changing project highlights Dangote's pivotal role in Nigeria's economic transformation.

ABDUL SAMAD RABIU – Investing across Nigeria

Abdul Samad Rabiou, Chairman of BUA Group, has significantly impacted Nigeria's industrial landscape through investments in manufacturing, agriculture, and infrastructure. BUA has expanded into steel production, flour milling, and edible oil processing, breaking monopolies and driving innovation. The group, which produces over \$2.5 billion in revenue, plans to increase cement production to 11 million metric tons by 2025. Rabiou's bold investments and vision have solidified his legacy as a transformative figure in Nigeria's economic development.



MELE KYARI – Restoring the Refineries

Mele Kyari, Group CEO of NNPC, has revitalized Nigeria's refining capacity and bolstered oil production. Under his leadership, the Port Harcourt refinery reached a 70% production milestone, while the Warri refinery resumed operations at 60% capacity. Kyari has also ramped up oil production to 1.7 million barrels per day and tackled oil theft in the Niger Delta. His efforts have transformed NNPC into a profit-oriented enterprise, earning him recognition for transparency and operational efficiency.



COVER

TITANS OF THE YEAR



DEMOLA BERO
– Creating a National Oil Major

Ademola Adeyemi-Bero, founder and CEO of FIRST E&P, has advanced Nigeria's oil and gas sector through innovation and strategic leadership. With over three decades of industry experience, he has increased production levels and drilled new wells, contributing to Nigeria's Decade of Gas initiative. Recently appointed Chairman of OPEC's Board of Governors, Adeyemi-Bero is building a sustainable, integrated oil and gas business while driving local industry growth.

MOHAMMED INDIMI

– Ramping up Oil Production

Mohammed Indimi, Chairman of Oriental Energy Resources, is a key player in Nigeria's oil sector. His company recently unveiled a \$315 million Floating Production, Storage, and Offloading (FPSO) vessel, set to boost oil production by 30,000 barrels per day. Indimi's investments not only enhance Nigeria's oil output but also stimulate economic growth and create job opportunities, underscoring his significant contributions to the industry.



AIGBOJE AIG-IMOUKHUEDE

– Banking beyond Nigeria

Aigboje Aig-Imoukhuede transformed Access Bank into a pan-African financial powerhouse, spanning over 20 countries and three continents. His leadership expanded the bank into pensions, insurance, and asset management, driving financial inclusion and sustainable growth. Beyond banking, his philanthropy and mentorship have inspired a new generation of African leaders, cementing his legacy as a visionary and economic innovator.



MIKE ADENUGA
– Ramping up oil production

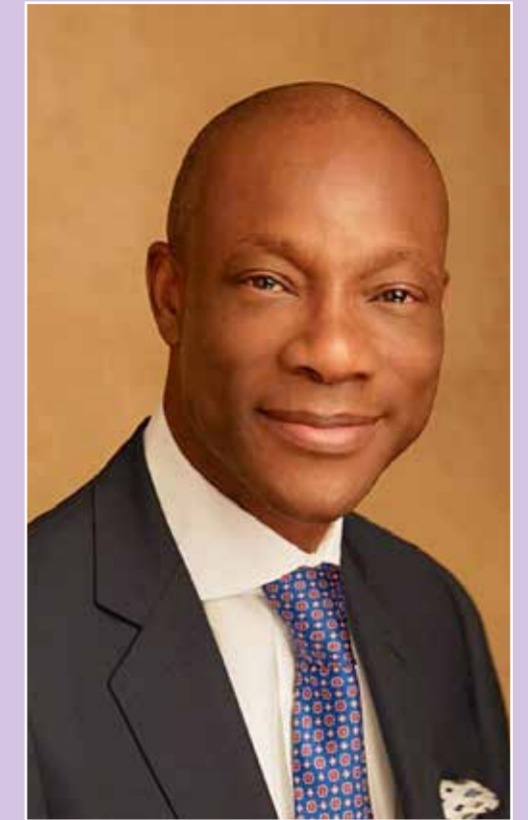
Through Conoil Producing, Mike Adenuga has consistently driven growth in Nigeria's oil production. As one of the earliest local upstream operators, Conoil has maintained remarkable financial success and operational excellence. Adenuga's strategic investments in infrastructure have positioned his company as a vital player in the oil and gas sector, contributing to Nigeria's energy landscape.

TITANS OF THE YEAR



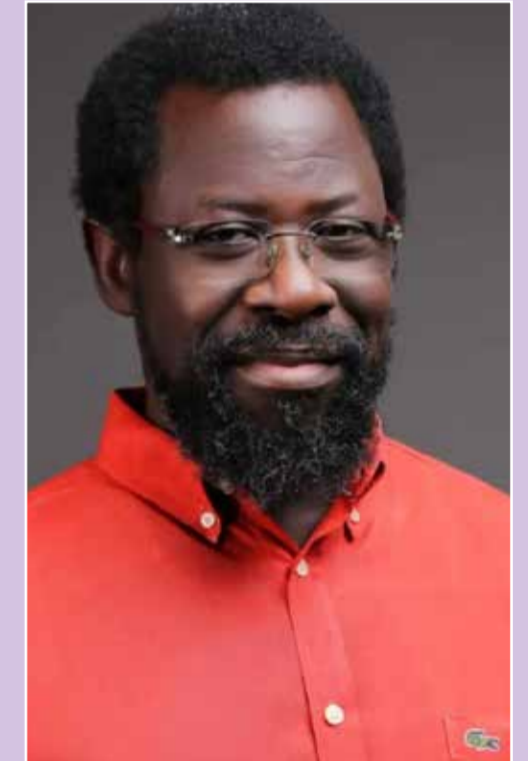
SEGUN AGBAJE
– Driving shareholder value

Segun Agbaje, CEO of Guaranty Trust Holding Company (GTCO), has redefined banking through innovation and diversification. Transforming GTBank into GTCO in 2021 allowed expansion into payments, pensions, and asset management. Under his leadership, GTCO's share price surged, reflecting market confidence. Agbaje's focus on customer satisfaction and innovation continues to drive shareholder value and industry leadership.



DELE FAROTIMI
– The trial and criminalisation of free speech

Dele Farotimi, a human rights lawyer and activist, has become a symbol of resilience against systemic oppression. Detained for 21 days in 2024 over alleged defamation tied to his book, he exposed the weaponization of Nigeria's legal system against dissent. Farotimi's commitment to truth and accountability underscores his fight for governance and social justice in Nigeria, even amid significant personal sacrifice.



JOHN TANIMOLA OBARO
– Advancing payment systems

John Tanimola Obaro, CEO of SystemSpecs, revolutionized Nigeria's payment systems with the Treasury Single Account (TSA) policy using the Remita software. Since 2011, this innovation has enhanced transparency, blocked financial loopholes, and saved billions for the government. Obaro's dedication to advancing financial technology has cemented his legacy as a pioneer in the digital transformation of Nigeria's economy.



LIFETIME ACHIEVERS AWARD



**FORMER PRESIDENT
GOODLUCK JONATHAN**

Goodluck Jonathan made history in Nigeria's democracy by conceding defeat to Muhammadu Buhari in the 2015 presidential election, a first for an incumbent president. Known for introducing electoral reforms under his Transformation Agenda, he ensured free and fair elections, even at his own expense. Since leaving office, Jonathan has remained a key advocate for democracy, working with ECOWAS to resolve political crises and promote stability in the region.

**BIODUN
SHOBANJO**

Biodun Shobanjo, Chairman of Troyka Group, is a pioneer in Nigeria's advertising and marketing communications industry. He founded Nigeria's first PR consultancy, The Quadrant Company, and established media independents All Seasons Media-com and Media Perspectives. In 2015, he partnered with Publicis Groupe, creating Insight Redefini Group. Under Troyka, he also built successful ventures like Optimum Exposures and Halogen Security, employing over 20,000 people nationwide.



**AMINU BELLO
MASARI**

Aminu Bello Masari, Chairman of the Tertiary Education Trust Fund, has a storied political career. He served as Katsina State's Commissioner for Works, Housing, and Transport, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Governor of Katsina State for eight years. Appointed by President Tinubu in 2024, Masari brings decades of public sector expertise to his current role, focused on advancing education in Nigeria.



**ATEDO
PETERSIDE**

Atedo Peterside, founder of Stanbic IBTC Bank, is a visionary leader in Nigeria's banking sector. Establishing IBTC in 1989, he grew it into a profitable institution before stepping down in 2017. He also founded Anap Business Jets and the Atedo N.A. Peterside Foundation. After decades of reshaping Nigeria's financial industry, Peterside exited banking in 2024 to focus on other ventures.



LIFETIME ACHIEVERS AWARD

**FOLA
ADEOLA**

Fola Adeola, co-founder of Guaranty Trust Bank, revolutionized banking in Nigeria with technological innovations. Serving as GTBank's pioneer CEO for 12 years, he set the foundation for its success. Adeola also founded the FATE Foundation to support entrepreneurs and is an advocate for financial literacy and corporate governance, leaving a lasting impact on Nigeria's financial sector.



**UDOMA UDO
UDOMA**

Udoma Udo Udoma, Chairman of Seplat Energy, is an accomplished lawyer and former Senator. He founded Udo Udoma & Belo-Osagie, a leading law firm, and served in pivotal roles such as Nigeria's Minister of Budget and Planning and Chairman of the Corporate Affairs Commission. Known for his expertise in governance, Udoma has shaped Nigeria's corporate and public sectors.



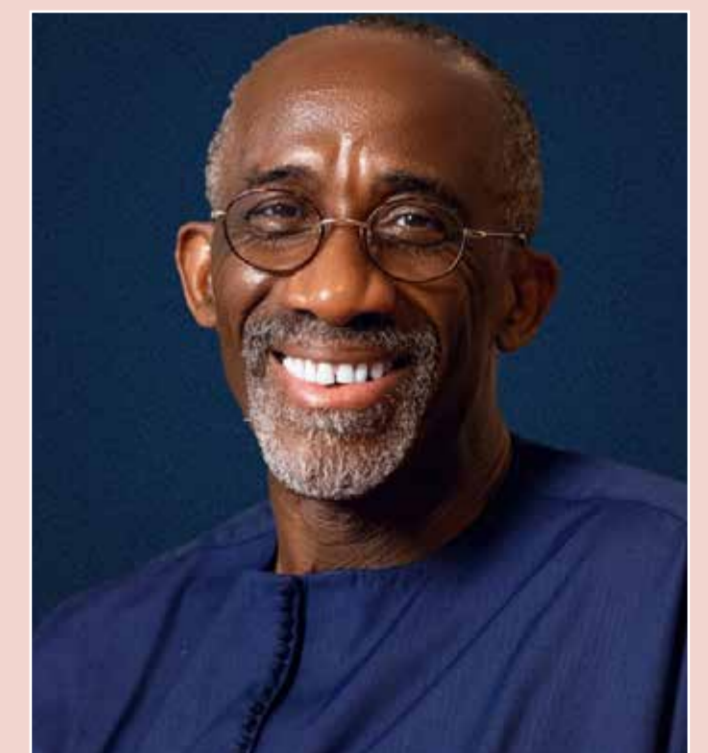
**CHRIS
OKEKE**

Chris Okeke, Independent Non-Executive Director of Seplat Energy, co-founded Ajumogobia & Okeke, a leading law firm, and served as Nigeria's Ambassador to Brazil, Bolivia, and Paraguay. With extensive board experience at companies like Cadbury and Indorama Petrochemicals, he has also advised international organizations such as the UK's DFID and the IFC, cementing his legacy as a legal and corporate strategist.



DAVID MARK

David Mark, a retired brigadier general and seasoned politician, served as Nigeria's Senate President from 2007 to 2015, making him the longest-serving president of the Senate. A member of the PDP, he represented Benue South for two decades and was previously Niger State's military governor and Minister of Communications. Mark remains an influential figure in Nigerian politics.



HAKEEM BELO-OSAGIE

Hakeem Belo-Osagie, Chairman of Metis Capital Partners, is a renowned entrepreneur with a legacy in Africa's business landscape. Formerly chairman of Etisalat Nigeria, he also served as Special Assistant on Petroleum and Energy. A Harvard lecturer and Forbes-listed businessman, Belo-Osagie has brokered major transactions and remains influential in Africa's economic development.

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LIFETIME ACHIEVERS AWARD



YEMI OGUNBIYI

Dr. Yemi Ogunbiyi, an accomplished scholar and publishing magnate, founded TANUS Books, specializing in school textbooks. A former MD/CEO of the Daily Times of Nigeria and a foundation staff member at The Guardian, he holds a doctorate in Dramatic Literature. Ogunbiyi is married to Chief Mrs. Sade Ogunbiyi, lyalode of Remo, and they have children and grandchildren.

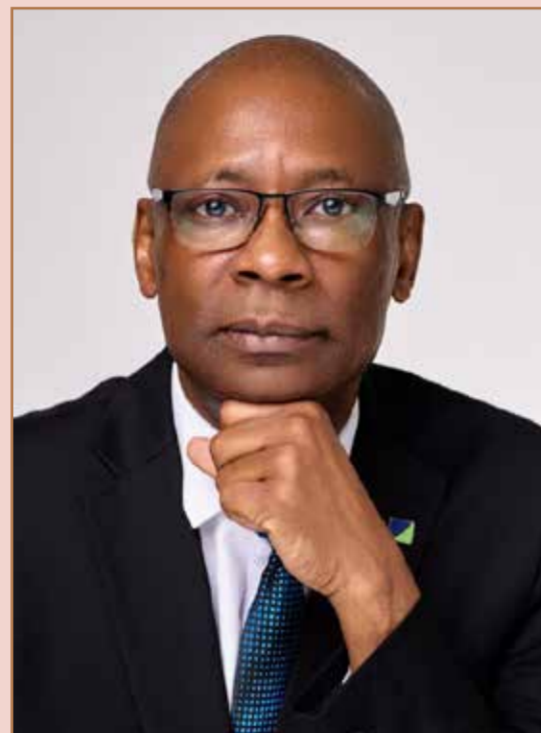


MARTIN LUTHER AGWAI

General Martin Luther Agwai, retired Chief of Defence Staff, is celebrated for leading Nigeria's military and commanding a major peacekeeping mission in Darfur. Recognized for his leadership, the Martin Luther Agwai International Leadership & Peacekeeping Centre was established in his honor to train peacekeepers for modern operations.

MUSTAFA CHIKE-Obi

Mustafa Chike-Obi, Chairman of Fidelity Bank, is a financial expert who introduced the treasury department concept to Nigerian banking. A Stanford MBA graduate, he led AMCON as its inaugural CEO, resolving non-performing loans. Under his leadership, Fidelity Bank has focused on empowering SMEs and startups, solidifying his reputation in the financial sector.



ANGO ABDULLAHI

Professor Ango Abdullahi, former Vice-Chancellor of Ahmadu Bello University and convener of the Northern Elders Forum, is a prominent academic and elder statesman. Recently advocating for Nigeria's restructuring, he supports replacing the presidential system with a parliamentary one, marking a significant shift in his stance on governance.



MOHAMMED HAYATU-DEEN

Mohammed Hayatu-Deen, founder of Alpine Group, is a renowned economist and banker. He transformed FSB International Bank into a commercial success and developed notable projects like the Ado Bayero Mall. A leader in economic development, he is celebrated for his contributions to Nigeria's financial sector.



LIFETIME ACHIEVERS AWARD

HERBERT WIGWE

Posthumous

Herbert Onyewumbu Wigwe CFR (15 August 1966 – 9 February 2024) was more than just a banker and businessman; he was a visionary who reshaped Nigeria's financial landscape. As the Group Managing Director and CEO of Access Bank Plc, one of Nigeria's top-tier banking institutions, Wigwe left a legacy of innovation, leadership, and excellence. His journey to the helm of Access Bank began in 2002 when he joined as Deputy Managing Director, rising to the role of CEO in January 2014, following his long-time collaborator and friend, Aigboje Aig-Imoukhuede. Together, they transformed Access Bank into a powerhouse in Nigeria's financial sector.

Before Access Bank, Wigwe honed his expertise at Coopers & Lybrand and later at Guaranty Trust Bank, where he demonstrated an exceptional knack for banking and finance. Known for his strategic brilliance, Wigwe was a driving force in expanding Access Bank's influence across Africa and beyond.

Tragically, Herbert Wigwe's life was cut short on 9 February 2024 in a helicopter crash in the United States. He was en route to Las Vegas to attend the highly anticipated Super Bowl LVIII championship when the accident occurred. His untimely passing sent shockwaves through the global banking and business community, leaving behind a legacy of ambition, transformation, and an indelible impact on Nigeria's economy.



EMMANUEL IWUANYANWU

Posthumous

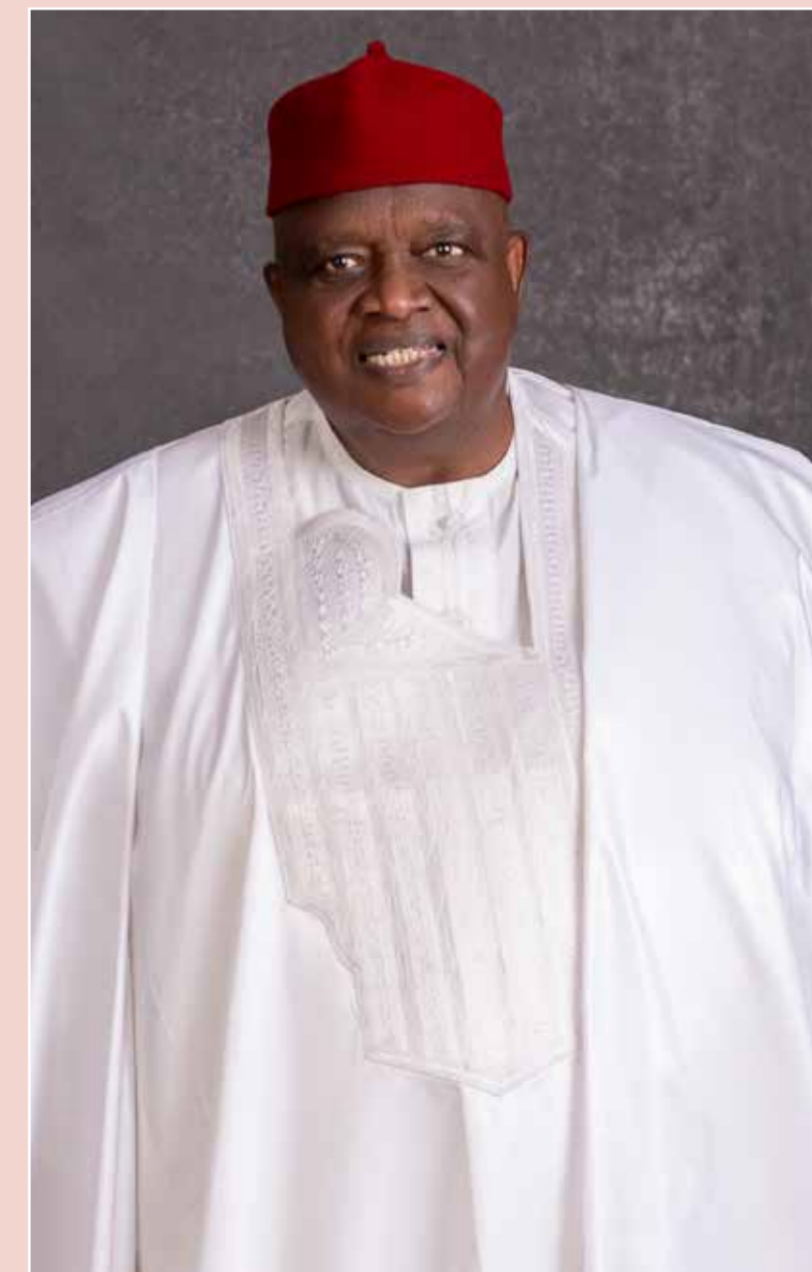
Emmanuel Chukwuemeka Iwuanyanwu (September 4, 1942 – [date of passing]) was a man of extraordinary influence, ingenuity, and passion—a Nigerian politician, businessman, and philanthropist who etched his name in the annals of history. Widely regarded as one of the wealthiest and most impactful Igbo figures in Nigeria, his journey was marked by resilience, innovation, and an unwavering commitment to progress.

After surviving the challenges of the Nigerian Civil War, Iwuanyanwu resumed his education at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, graduating in 1971. His career began humbly as a pupil engineer at the Nigerian Construction and Furniture Company, where his brilliance and innovative mindset quickly propelled him to the role of site agent. His groundbreaking design for a barge using empty engine oil drums showcased his genius and earned him his certification as a registered engineer in 1972.

Iwuanyanwu's entrepreneurial spirit led him to establish Hardel, a construction company founded in partnership with two Americans. Eventually, he acquired the company outright, renaming it Hardel and Enic Construction Company. Under his visionary leadership, the company evolved into a conglomerate spanning over 20 thriving enterprises.

His business empire included Enic Advertising Ltd, Magil Industries Limited, National Post Newspapers, Sunrise Insurance Brokers, Oriental Shipping Lines Limited, Paradise City Hotel Calabar, Oriental Airlines, and the iconic Daily Champion newspapers. Each venture bore his hallmark of innovation and excellence, cementing his reputation as a trailblazer in Nigeria's corporate world.

Beyond his business pursuits, Iwuanyanwu was a tireless philanthropist and statesman whose influence touched countless lives. His legacy is one of determination, foresight, and a relentless drive to uplift others, a testament to the boundless potential of human endeavor.



COVER

LIFETIME ACHIEVERS AWARD



ENIOLA FADAYOMI

Eniola Fadayomi, Chairman of Africa Prudential Plc, is a seasoned lawyer and corporate leader. With a career spanning public and private sectors, she has championed governance and stakeholder management, earning recognition as an influential figure in Nigeria's financial industry.



ALOMA MARIAM MUKHTAR

Aloma Mariam Mukhtar, Nigeria's first female Chief Justice, broke barriers in the judiciary and championed reforms to strengthen transparency. Known for her integrity, she earned the GCON honor, cementing her legacy as a trailblazer in Nigeria's legal history.



LADY MAIDEN IBRU

Maiden Ibru, Chair and Publisher of The Guardian Newspapers, has upheld the publication's legacy of journalistic excellence. A staunch advocate for press freedom, she has successfully navigated the challenges of the media industry while supporting initiatives in education and healthcare.



HAJIA MARYAM INNA CIROMA

Hajia Maryam Ciroma, former Minister of Women Affairs, championed gender equality and women's empowerment. A founding PDP member, she strengthened political participation for women and improved agricultural risk management as MD of the Nigerian Agricultural Insurance Corporation.



DAISY DANJUMA

Daisy Danjuma, Vice Chair of South Atlantic Petroleum, is a lawyer, entrepreneur, and former Senator. She contributed significantly to women's rights and national development during her Senate tenure and remains a key player in Nigeria's oil and gas sector.

SPORTS PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR

D'TIGRESS
-Rewrote Basketball History at Paris 2024

Nigeria's national women's basketball team, D'Tigress, made history at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games by becoming the first African team to qualify for the quarter-finals in basketball. Their remarkable journey was highlighted by a stunning 79-70 victory over world No. 5 Canada and an electrifying 75-62 win over No. 3 Australia, marking their first Olympic win in 20 years. Led by the indomitable Ezinne Kalu, the team showcased resilience, skill, and determination, cementing their place as trailblazers for African basketball.

Though they bowed out in the quarter-finals to world No. 1 USA, D'Tigress put up a spirited fight, leaving a lasting impression on the global stage. Their performance not only elevated Nigeria's profile in basketball but also inspired the entire continent. Having already secured four consecutive Afrobasket titles, this Olympic feat was a testament to their readiness for the world stage. Head coach Rena Wakama's leadership earned her the Best Coach award at the Women's Olympic Basketball Tournament. The D'Tigress' achievements are a proud milestone for Africa and a beacon of hope for women's basketball.



The Ladies that Made Nigeria Proud at Paris 2024

- 1 Amy Okonkwo (28) 1.88m
- 2 Pallas Kunaiyi-Akpannah (27) 1.88m
- 3 Elizabeth Balogun (24) 1.85m
- 4 Olaoluwatomi Taiwo (24) 1.78m
- 5 Lauren Ebo (24) 1.93m
- 6 Ifunanya Okoro (25) 1.83m
- 7 Promise Amukamara (31) 1.75m
- 8 Murjanatu Musa (24) 1.87m
- 9 Blessing Ejiofor (27) 1.95m
- 10 Ezinne Kalu (32) 1.73m
- 11 Adebola Adeyeye (28) 1.88m
- 12 Nicole Enabosi (27) 1.83m



COVER

YOUNG GLOBAL LEADERS



OLORI ATUWATSE III

Olori Atuwatse III, the Queen of the Warri Kingdom, is a lawyer, social entrepreneur, and advocate for women and children. She established the Captain Idahosa Wells Okunbo Stem Innovation Centre in honor of her late father and has initiated various programs to support the poor and vulnerable in Delta State. A champion of children's rights, she has provided scholarships to hundreds of children and promoted access to free healthcare. Her welfare outreaches focus on women, children, and the elderly, addressing environmental degradation and poverty in oil-rich communities.



NEYA UZOR KALU

Neya Uzor-Kalu, Chairman and Publisher of The Sun Nigeria, is also the founder of Basecoat Nigeria, a nail salon chain transforming the industry. With a degree in Law and an MSc in Finance from the University of Buckingham, she brings over 14 years of experience across sectors, including banking as a Human Resource Manager. Neya leads The Sun's board with a focus on strategic governance and business oversight while also serving as Vice-Chairman of Sun Heavens Hotels. She empowers women through the OUK Foundation and contributes to achieving key SDGs.

JENNIFER ADIGHIJE

Jennifer Adighije, the Managing Director and CEO of Niger Delta Power Holding Company (NDPHC), is a seasoned engineer with nearly two decades of experience across private and public sectors. She started her career at PHCN, moved to Globacom, and later held key roles at Helios Towers and the Central Bank of Nigeria. A member of the Nigerian Society of Engineers, Jennifer is also a patron of Digi-Tech Empowerment Foundation, bridging digital gaps for vulnerable youths. Before heading NDPHC, she served as Senior Special Assistant to the President.



SHOLA AKINLADE

Shola Akinlade, co-founder and CEO of Paystack, is a trailblazing Nigerian software engineer revolutionizing Africa's payment ecosystem. Paystack, acquired by Stripe for \$200 million in 2020, provides seamless online and offline payment processing for businesses across Africa. Under his leadership, the company has partnered with multiple banks to simplify global payments for African merchants, positioning Paystack as a leader in the fintech space.



FOLAKE AKINDELE

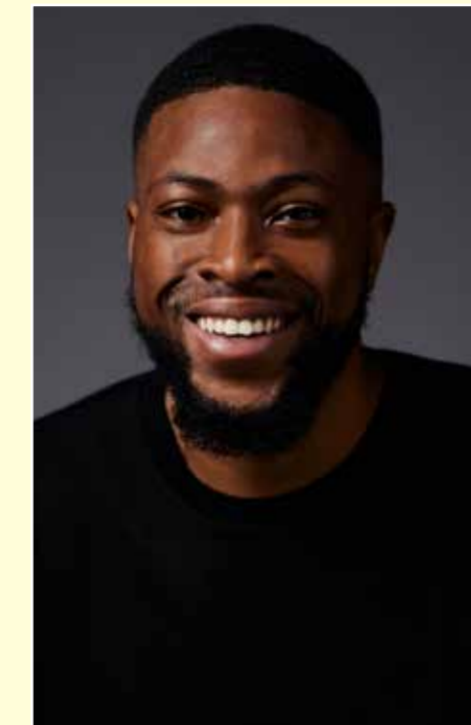
Despite her legal training, Folake Akindele Coker, founder of Tiffany Amber pursued her passion for design, launching Tiffany Amber in 1998, now renowned for its luxurious, culturally inspired creations. Raised in a multicultural environment, her early travels across Africa, Europe, and the Middle East shaped her unique aesthetic. Folake's designs embody modern African elegance, making Tiffany Amber a household name in the global fashion scene.



YOUNG GLOBAL LEADERS

NNAMDI EKEH

Nnamdi Ekeh, CEO of Konga Group, has transformed the company into Nigeria's leading composite e-commerce giant. Armed with a BA in Economics and Politics from the University of Lancaster and an MBA from Oxford, he has successfully introduced innovative sales strategies and expanded Konga's business verticals across fintech, logistics, and travel. His leadership has cemented Konga's position as a key player in Africa's e-commerce sector.



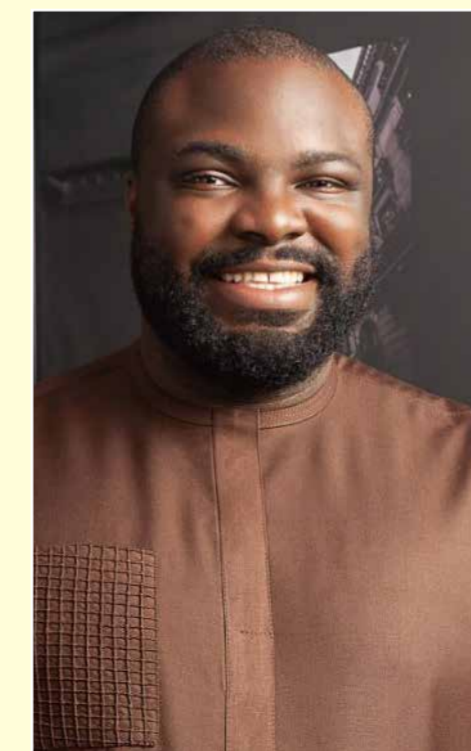
KHALIL HALILU

Khalil Halilu, the 34-year-old Executive Vice Chairman/CEO of NASENI, is driving innovation and industrialization in Nigeria. Since his appointment in 2023, he has increased the agency's investments to \$3.25 billion, launched 35 market-ready products, and unveiled a CNG Engineering and Training facility. Through his 3Cs approach—Creation, Collaboration, and Commercialization—Halilu is fast-tracking industrial growth and supporting President Tinubu's Renewed Hope Agenda.



IYINOLUWA ABOYEJI

Iyinoluwa Aboyeji, co-founder of Flutterwave and Andela, is a serial entrepreneur driving innovation in Africa. His ventures have attracted major funding, including \$24 million from Mark Zuckerberg for Andela and \$15.7 million for Flutterwave. A graduate of the University of Waterloo, Aboyeji has built a billion-dollar platform connecting African businesses to the global economy.



ABDULLAHI BASHIR HASKE

Abdullahi Bashir Haske is the founder of AA & R Investment Group, a Nigerian conglomerate with interests spanning agriculture, energy, logistics, and ICT. He launched H & W Rice Company, one of Northeast Nigeria's largest rice mills, and Manomi Support Services, managing 15,000 hectares of farmland. Haske's ventures have created over 2,000 jobs while promoting inclusive development in Nigeria's agribusiness and energy sectors.



OLUGBENGA AGBOOLA

Olugbenga Agboola, co-founder and CEO of Flutterwave, is a fintech leader revolutionizing digital payments in Africa. Flutterwave provides seamless payment solutions for businesses across Africa and globally, earning accolades like "Best Technology Platform" and a spot among the "Top 100 Fintech Firms." Before Flutterwave, Agboola honed his expertise at PayPal and Standard Bank, contributing significantly to Africa's growing fintech ecosystem.

COVER

YOUNG GLOBAL LEADERS



TEMS

Temilade Openiyi, known as Tems, is a global afrobeats sensation breaking records and redefining Nigerian music. In 2024, her debut album *Born in the Wild* became Spotify's most-streamed album by a Nigerian female artist, and she earned three Grammy nominations. Tems made history as the first African woman to win Billboard's Breakthrough Award and topped Rolling Stone's Best Afropop Songs list with her hit *Love Me Jeje*.



AYRA STARR

Ayra Starr, afrobeats star and Mavin Records artist, had a landmark year in 2024 with her sophomore album *The Year I Turned 21*. Featuring global collaborations and a Billboard 200 debut, she also became the first Nigerian female artist to surpass 20 million monthly Spotify listeners. Ayra's viral hit *Santa* further solidified her as a global force in the music industry.

TUNDE ONAKOYA

Tunde Onakoya, founder of Chess in Slums Africa, is a Nigerian chess coach and Guinness World Record holder for the longest chess marathon—60 hours in New York in 2024. His initiatives have transformed lives in slums like Makoko and Oshodi, using chess as a tool for empowerment and education.



IBRAHIM BELLO MOHAMMED

Ibrahim Bello Mohammed, also known as IBM, is a 28-year-old Member of the House of Representatives for Birnin-Kebbi, Kalgo, and Bunza Federal Constituency in Kebbi State. The son of former PDP Chairman Dr. Bello Haliru, he is leveraging his youthful energy to drive development and growth in his constituency.



ASUQUO EKPENYONG

Senator Asuquo Ekpennyong, born in 1985, is the youngest Senator representing Cross River South. A financial analyst and former Commissioner of Finance, he chairs the Senate Committee on NDDC. With experience in academia, logistics, and oil and gas, Asuquo has built a career defined by leadership and innovation in governance and business.



NOMINEES

BANK OF THE YEAR



BRAND OF THE YEAR



CEO OF THE YEAR



COMPANY OF THE YEAR



GOVERNMENT AGENCY OF THE YEAR



BANKER OF THE YEAR



GLOBAL BANK OF THE YEAR



NOMINEES

GOVERNOR OF THE YEAR



GOV. BABAJIDE SANWO-OLU GOV. PETER MBAH GOV. SHERIFF OBOREVWORI GOV. UBA SANI GOV. UMO ENO

HOUSE MEMBER OF THE YEAR



HON BENJAMIN KALU HON IKENGA UGOCHINYERE HON. BABAJIMI BENSON

INVESTOR OF THE YEAR



MINISTER OF THE YEAR



DR OLUBUNMI OJO EZENWO NYESOM WIKE FESTUS KEYAMO DR MOHAMMED ALI PATE WALE EDUN

NOMINEES

PHILANTHROPIST OF THE YEAR



PRODUCT OF THE YEAR



TRANSACTION OF THE YEAR



SENATOR OF THE YEAR



ADAMS OSHIOMHOLE ALI NDUME IRETI KINGIBE NATASHA AKPOTI-UDUAGHAN SOLOMON ADEOLA

THE GAME CHANGER OF THE YEAR



BABAJIDE SANWO-OLU DAPO ABIODUN NUHU RIBADU PETER MBAH WALE EDUN



OVERFLOWING JOY SPREADS THROUGH ABUJA

AS MORE WINNERS TAKE HOME SUPER PRIZES

In the *Glo Festival of Joy*
Promo.



From Left, Nollywood Actress Kiekie, Glo's Head of Division, North West, Mr. Kazeem Kaka, Nollywood Actress Ebube Nwagbo, Representative of FCT Minister of State, Maijidda Adamu Kuku, Senator Simon Lalong; Chairman, Senate Committee on Youth Development, Prado Winner Sarah Ilya Madu, a Federal Civil Servant in Abuja, Nollywood Actress Juliet Ibrahim, Senator Yemi Adaramodu & Glo's National Retail Chief, David Maji



From Left, Glo's Head of Division, North West, Mr. Kazeem Kaka, Corps Marshall of the FRSC, Shehu Mohammed, Picanto Winner, Ufot Victor, Special Guest, Sen. Simon Lalong, Sen. Yemi Adaramodu and Glo's National Retail Chief, David Maji



From Left, Rep. of the National Lottery Regulatory Comm. (NLRC), Mariam Imam, Glo's Acting Retail Chief, North Central, Stanley Igbinovia, Hon. Joshua Gana, House of Rep., Tricycle Winner Ireimiya Mallo, Rep of FCT Minister of State, Maijidda Adamu Kuku, Asst. Dir, Consumer Affairs NCC, Moses Iyi



Ufot Victor
WINNER, PICANTO



Ireimiya Mallo
WINNER, KEKE

Sarah Ilya Madu
WINNER, TOYOTA PRADO

"This is too good to be true. I will spread the news everywhere"



Glo's Retail Chief, North West, Fatai Kilani (6th from left) & Nollywood Actress Kiekie with Generator Winners.



Nollywood Actress Ebube Nwagbo (3rd from left), Representative of the National Lottery Regulatory Comm. (NLRC).



Gen. Winners flanked by Glo's Retail Chief, North East, Oyekanmi Olaoye (2nd from left), Glo's Retail Chief, Mid West, James Akpomiemie (6th from left) & Nollywood Actress Juliet Ibrahim (8th from left).



Grinding Machines Winners with Glo's Acting Retail Chief, North Central, Stanley Igbinovia



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RECHARGE AND USE TO START WINNING

POWERING
AMBITION



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