

Issue Number . 15, **NOVEMBER 2021**

A-CHOICES

The African Lifestyle Magazine

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TRAILBLAZER**

taking Ghana's Fashion Market by Storm

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ABOUT US

A-CHOICES -The African Lifestyle Magazine

A -CHOICES magazine is an online African lifestyle magazine for ordinary-ed-ucated reader in English. It is not entirely about entertainment but covers other broad topics including business and economy(market) arts & culture fashions, personality stories, sports, etc. It is a channel through which we celebrate African achievers at home and in the diaspora. A-CHOICES hopes to entertain, empower and inspire Africans around the world.

Write for Us

We're accepting submissions from writers, thinkers, makers, scholars, and readers of online publishing and editorial work. We re currently accepting submissions for our next Issues . We accept submissions on a rolling basis, and generally don't close sub-missions until halfway through a given issue, so there are no set closing dates.

We do not accept work that has been previously published o blogged.

Please send submissions to achoices@a-choicesmagazine.com

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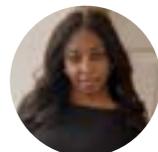
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EDITOR'S LETTER



Welcome to the November issue of A-CHOICES Magazine where we celebrate all that we love about Africa and Africans. Since its inception in 2020, A-CHOICES Magazine has always been about celebrating the best of Africa. On the cover of our November edition is model, TV presenter, documentaries film maker, designer,activist Amal Fashanu who has never been quiet about prejudice in the fashion industry, racism in football etc. The perfect designer handbag is one of the best investment buys that you can make.

Once you find the right one (or two!), it can instantly update everything from downtime denim to more formal attire,and will quickly become the most frequently used accessory in your daily wardrobe rotation.

The beauty of a stand out designer bag is that they're innately versatile, so you never have to worry about what to style them with. In fact,this is all the more reason to add an investment bag to your collection—It's the ultimate go-to accessory, no matter your personal style.

The culturally diverse area of Western Africa has been known for their dynamic taste in fashion ever since the colonial times. Inclusive environment in these regions present new designers with opportunities to express themselves in a manner of limitless confidence. One such designer in recent times has come out to be **Amal Fashanu**, daughter of the legendary footballer John Fashanu. Her introduction of designer bags steeped in core cultural prints have taken the markets by storm.

Amal Fashanu being one of the core television personalities in the UK has used her reach to help introduce a positive image of Western Africa to the rest of the world through the introduction of this new fashion brand. This initiative hopes to spark a creative and artistic revolution in the continent so that a designated platform can be provided to the people of Ghana to be able to showcase their abilities to the whole world. The second leg of the launch will be holding in Nigeria mid-next year!

Remember that A-CHOICES is everything Africa,we celebrate lifestyle and;we zcelebrate African achievers. Don't also forget you can advertise with us,we promise to deliver. You can catch up with us at www.a-choicesmagazine.com for exciting articles and lots more.

Thank you

A-CHOICES

Amal Fashanu Storms Ghana



By: **Gbenga Teejay Okunlola**
London, UK

The culturally diverse area of Western Africa has been known for their dynamic taste in fashion ever since the colonial times. Inclusive environment in these regions present new designers with opportunities to express themselves in a manner of limitless confidence.

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The core product of this new fashion company is designer bags made from both Calf and embossed leather which is a natural resource of high quality in Ghana. The different textures of leather that can be made range from a milky smooth touch to a hard scaled crocodile feel. This has been used extensively in the new designer bags being made in Spain for the second leg of the launch in Spain. One such bag in this category is the Blacked Out Edition Metise Mini which is an all day, multipurpose bag for female essentials. The bag has been compartmentalized in 9 cm by 22 cm space that provides easy use in both business and formal scenarios. This approach of minimalistic design made with purely natural products is the hall mark of the designer brand under Amal, which has been well reviewed by critics all around.

In a historical perspective Amal Fashanu has been a fairly relevant figure in the entertainment industry of today. Her resume includes being a famous television presenter, fashion designer and equality campaigner. In 2012, Amal was invited by the Prime Minister, David Cameron, to take part in a summit discussing the issues around equality in football. She is a host of over five documentaries for the BBC, Channel 4 and has a degree in Communication and Media Studies from Brunel University in London.

The Amal Fashanu foundation is aimed at targeting tertiary and senior high school students who have a passion for globalising their fashion creative works and also encourage them to develop their sense of fashion and entrepreneurial skills.

Speaking to BEATWAVES in an interview, Amal Fashanu said her foundation would seize the opportunity to educate students on the importance of ethical fashion, which encompasses a range of issues from sustainable production practice, eco-friendly issues, moral business practices, and others.

She also added that the foundation, which will be launched this year, would help support the African child to be fashion-oriented to meet the global standard and compete with other brands on the international market.



HOW TO ACTUALLY WORK ON YOURSELF



By: **Naomie Macanda**
Senior Writer
London, UK

Okay, so you're sitting there and thinking, I'm ready -its time.

Time to work on myself, time to find myself. I'm going to try and find out who I am and fall in love with that person. But how do you do it? How do you actually work on yourself? And how do you know if working on yourself... is working?

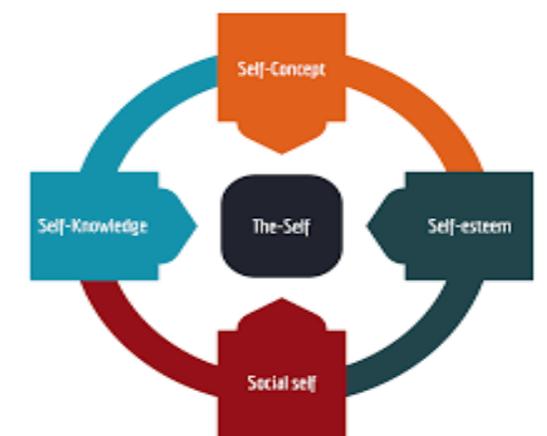
One way a Social Psychology discusses working on yourself, is building a strong sense of self. This is done by figuring out what your values, beliefs and truths are. Taking away other peoples' opinion when it comes to matters you care about and exploring it for yourself in order to gain your own opinion or perception of things, for example – religion. Where do you stand on it, if you were to have a discussion with yourself?

1. Stand alone. Living an authentic life although desirable is harder than it sounds and not achieved by many. An authentic life means looking within and becoming self-aware and making decisions based on your life and what's good for you as supposed to waiting for others to make the decision for you and going with what has worked for others. Especially when it comes to life changing decisions. Getting to know what you actually want, will start a pathway to how to get there. But you have to know what you want.

2. Get to know yourself. When you are trying to create a strong sense of self, it is vital to stay in conversation with yourself. How are you feeling? How has something affected you? Making notes of what changes your mood, delving deeper into your habits and the reason for them. But also constantly checking in and observing changes, staying grounded and having a grasp of your thoughts and feelings.



3. Embrace challenges. Every challenge is another opportunity for you to see who you are and gives you an opportunity to change who you are. When coming across an adversary, it is a new way to explore all the different ways you can present that are in line with the new you. They also give you an opportunity to explore the new you once you have gone through a challenge and acted in the way that align with your developed sense of self



In recent socio-cultural debates around the world, there have been significant campaigns that have induced the concepts of global inclusivity in both business and domestic settings. Issues with regards to gender equality and black lives matter have gained traction in recent times and have resulted in a long term awareness campaign that has been spread globally through the connectivity of social media. Amal Fashnau being an avid advocate of such inclusivity has developed this platform to help provide a positive image to the culturally diverse area of Western Africa. Through her platform, people can now showcase their skills to the globe in a much more profound manner. There are definitive positive results of such engagements as high octane events such as the Met Gala of 2021 had a black designer representation of more than 30% for the first time since its inception.

In the open world market of today, competitive edge is key for long term success. Entrepreneurs like Amal Fashnau advocate for equity in opportunity for all races from around the world. This creates an aura of structural social change that can result in the sustainable development of the human race. Proper representation of these indigenous communities through global platforms like these can provide a conceptual shift to standards of beauty and entertainment, which is necessary for an equitable global wealth distribution moving forward.

4. Applications are not only for your phone! The real work when it comes to working on yourself is applying everything that you have learned. To stop buying food you don't like, to not seeing people who leave you feeling uneasy to spending time reading those books you actually want to read to improve your grammar. Every time you make an observation, whether it's your reaction your thoughts or feelings, its important to write it down, make an action plan to combat or amplify it and then APPLY it. Actions birth new habits.

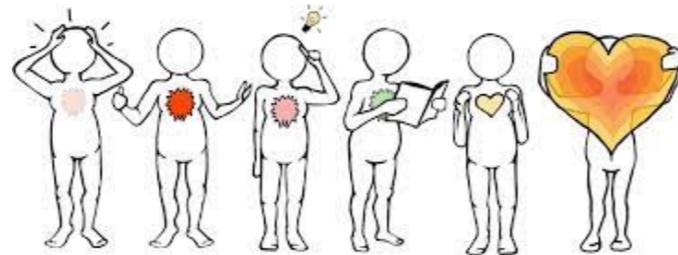
5. Value yourself. There will be no sense of self if you do not value yourself. Value yourself does not necessarily mean you are above others, but it means that you recognise that you are your own person with your own hobbies and passion and you choose to embark on those thing that nourish you over other things. However, valuing yourself does not mean not acknowledging flaws, or that you are above others.

Building a strong sense of self is not easy and will not happen overnight. Subconsciously we have created the person we are through the experiences of life and other learned behaviour. However, intentionally figuring out who you are and who you want to be and making steps towards that is a lifelong project that needs to be worked on a little every day. It's important to take your time when embarking on this journey. There is no time constraint. It's better to take your time and sit down with yourself and make a decision, than to rush something and end up regretting it later and having the added baggage of error as well as change.

Another important factor to remember is to be kind to yourself. When you observe yourself without judgement, you make better decision as though decisions are not fuelled with disappointment, but rather empathy. Mistakes will happen, inevitable, but again showing compassion in your observation, will produce a better outcome that can be used to better yourself.

Creating a sense of self will not be the same for everyone. For one it may be counselling, for another it may be self-reflection, for some it may be a reset, however it works for you, there are three contributing factor that need to be addressed self-image (how one views oneself), self-esteem (how one values oneself), and the ideal self (the person one wants to be). This was developed by humanistic psychologist Carl Rogers who worked on the sense of self.

Although having a sense is about the inner and outer self, most of the work starts within and starts with yourself. You have to want to work on yourself. Have to want to change who you are for the better. You have to want it. You also have to be incredibly honest with yourself. The definition of honesty on Google is "free of deceit; truthful and sincere". What stands out for me there is free



It's easier to just prod along, when someone else is leading its easier for us to just receive information and trust someone to be right, because then we don't have to go and do the research, we don't have to make the decision, we can just implement and follow. However, this work, which brings about greater joy and inner peace is uncomfortable and hard at first and second. Meaning it gets easier but not straight away.

However, we must also acknowledge that although getting to know yourself and becoming a better version of yourself can defiantly be started by yourself, there are cases and many situation were help is needed in different forms, weather its specialist help or spiritual help and we should not be afraid to seek that help.

The Malawian,Carribean business consultant sexual predator with an MBA



By: **Anonymous**
London,UK

This story was told as a way for an anonymous victim to find their voice and to warn about demons in fine educated, and seemingly gentlemanly clothes.

"I met a sexually deviant man. He said he worked as a business consultant for one of the largest petroleum companies in the world. He was paid 60,000 after tax. He is half Malawian, half Caribbean and travels around different countries. He is not based in the countries he is from. He is based in the UK, the Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, London, Cambridgeshire areas. He frequently travels around the country for a good time, he lives with his Malawian Aunt in Bedford. His Father was apparently in the UN and he lived in America as well for some bits of his life. He's about 6 foot, with a circle shaped face, and a normal build I guess and black.

He has an undergraduate degree from Loughborough University and MBA from Warwick University. At first meeting, he seemed like a gentleman. I won't waste more words on that waste of space. I'm not even sure if half of what he said was the truth. Yet I want all women to be vigilant as he does travel across countries, for a good time sometimes. So if you find a guy with a similar story run not walk (unfortunately some details cannot be shared in the article) His name cannot be mentioned for legal reasons but it's similar to the Animal King of the Jungle. His father and mother mistakenly made him think somehow he was a king, though he lacks the grace and majesty, the Kings of pride have.

So one night this wild beast coerced and forcefully demanded a massage when I told him we wouldn't be having sex. This wild beast decided that out of the 3 weeks we had been texting and talking he needed sex right away. Whether he is a jungle animal who is in mating season or just severely mentally repressed is the question. The beast is like some kind of unneutered animal.

He said it was a gift for me, and he had done a lot of research on it. He also said he likes to plan everything in advance. I didn't know it was part of his sickness.After expressing I don't have sex with people I hardly know. He said, "he is a man with needs." "Women only don't like sex because they haven't told the man what they wanted". So he used the sex toy on me coercively and started pouting like a baby when he saw I didn't want his sexual things. Yet he just continued to try and force something I didn't want. When he fingered me his hands felt like a razor. Then this dirty pig decided without permission to take his pants off, something I wasn't comfortable with and he actually even took everything off till it was left with his disgusting penis and decided to sit on me. Then I found the strength to stop him in the act. He was angry like the dirty animal he is.

He said:

"Did you think you were the only one going to get pleasure?"

"It ruins the mood, if you ask before you do these things"

I had never felt so revolted. Thankfully he did not get his biggest wish to penetrate into me forcefully with his penis. I managed to stop him before that. It was clear all along he planned to have sex with me against my will. I hope all the worst things in the world happen to him, from diseases to castration, to long term illness. I hope he suffers before he dies. I've cursed him over and over and over again to have the worse in life and erectile dysfunction. I hope God and the universe answers my prayers.

Romance scammers arrested in Texas for defrauding elderly lonely hearts



By: **Bunmi Johnson**
New York, USA



Elderly lonely hearts are a little bit safer today after authorities in Texas rounded up a gang of suspected fraudsters who had preyed upon vulnerable elderly victims using dating websites such as Match.com, Christian Mingle, J Swipe, and PlentyofFish.

The Northern District of Texas announced that it had arrested and charged 11 individuals who, it was claimed, had used fake names and sob stories to dupe their victims, siphoning tens of thousands of dollars from bank accounts.

Typically, the fraudsters would claim - after building an online relationship with their elderly victim - that they needed funds to pay taxes related to the release of an inheritance, or to pay for overseas travel, or to pay a crippling debt.

According to a report by Catalin Cimpanu at The Record, the arrested individuals are all members of an international organised crime syndicate called Black Axe, which originated in Nigeria.

An Interpol report from last year explains that Black Axe gangs are often involved in prostitution, human and narcotics trafficking, and grand theft, as well as cybercrime.

The 11 alleged "Axemen" indicted by the Northern District of Texas are:

- David Animashaun, 38 – arrested in Dallas–Fort Worth, charged with wire fraud conspiracy
- Oluwalobamise Michael Moses, 40 – arrested in Dallas–Fort Worth, charged with wire fraud conspiracy
- Irabor Fatarr Musa, 51 – arrested in the Eastern District of Texas, charged by the Northern District of Texas with wire fraud conspiracy, money laundering conspiracy

Lifestyle

- Ijeoma Okoro, 31 – arrested in Dallas–Fort Worth, charged with wire fraud conspiracy, money laundering conspiracy
- Chukwemeka Orji, 36 – arrested in Dallas–Fort Worth, charged with wire fraud conspiracy, money laundering conspiracy
- Emanuel Stanley Orji, 35 – arrested in Dallas–Fort Worth, charged with wire fraud conspiracy
- Frederick Orji, 37 – arrested in Dallas, charged with wire fraud conspiracy, money laundering conspiracy
- Uwadiale Esezobor, 36 – arrested in Lubbock, charged with mail & wire fraud conspiracy
- Victor Idowu, 36 – arrested in Los Angeles, charged with mail & wire fraud conspiracy
- Afeez Abiola Alao, 37 – charged with wire fraud conspiracy, money laundering conspiracy
- Ambrose Sunday Ohide, 47 – charged with wire fraud conspiracy

"Crimes like these are especially despicable because they rely not only on victims' lack of internet savvy, but also, their isolation, their loneliness, and sometimes their grief. As the victims open their hearts, the perpetrators open their wallets," said Acting US Attorney Prerak Shah. "The only mistake these victims make is being generous to the wrong people."

At the same time as Northern Texas unsealed the indictments against the alleged romance scammers, the Eastern District of Texas revealed indictments against 23 defendants (including one also charged by their colleagues in the north) for a variety of scams including Business Email Compromise (BEC) fraud.

The indictment alleges that the 23 individuals not only coordinated how to extract money from their victims, but also how to disguise, and launder the funds they stole. It is alleged that US \$17 million was obtained illegally by the gang from at least 100 individual victims, companies, and government entities.

The Eastern District of Texas names those arrested as:

- Kingsley Ita, aka "Baron" "Sifk," 42, of Dallas
- Irabor Fatarr Musa, aka "Fatai" "Head JJ," 51, of Richardson
- S Maryland
- Mathew Okpu, 57, of Temple Hille, Maryland

- Mathew Okpu, 57, of Temple Hille, Maryland
 - Benedicta Atakare, 46, of Temple Hills, Maryland
 - Segun Adeoye, 47, of Pearland
 - Chidindu Okeke, aka "Steve," 28, of Richmond
 - Ngozi Okeke, 47, of Katy
 - Nosoregbe Asemota, aka "Patrick Asemota," 46, of Melissa
 - Chigozi Ekwenugo, 53, of Grand Prairie
 - Bukola Obaseki, 48, of Allen
 - Stella Hadome, 43, of Allen
 - Jequita Batchelor, 37, of Farmers Branch
 - Osaretin Eghaghe, aka "Biggie," 37, of Plano
 - Ejiro Ohwovoriole, 29, of McKinney
 - Isaac Asare, aka "Asarko," 48, of Houston
 - Gold Ude, 44, of Wylie
 - Henrietha Oziegbe, 23, of Lexington, Kentucky
 - Kingsley Oziegbe, 25, of Edinburgh
- If convicted, defendants face up to 20 years in a federal prison.

No-one is immune from being scammed - whether at work or at home. But vigilance and education can play their part in reducing the risk, and preventing the loss of potentially millions of dollars to convincing con artists. And if you have an elderly relative or loved one who might be vulnerable to a romance scammer, be a good friend and make them aware of the fraudsters who lurk on dating sites and trick the unwary into handing over their hard-earned savings.

Anthony Joshua to retain longtime coach even as he shops for new trainers

By: Okunlola Kayode F.
Senior Writer
Lagos, Nigeria

Anthony Joshua says he is getting “new teaching” from a variety of coaches in America but has not split from long-term trainer Rob McCracken.

Britain’s heavyweight star travelled to America to train in a series of gyms after losing his WBA, IBF, and WBO heavyweight titles in a points defeat by Usyk at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium last month.



Joshua says he has expanded his coaching team but has not parted company with McCracken who guided him to two world title triumphs.

Asked if McCracken could remain his trainer, Joshua told IFLTV: “Yeah, and he has to speak to the people I may want to work with and see if he can work with them.

“I had the same conversation with Rob, ‘I want to work with you, but I also want to work with this guy for six months’.

“Rob might tell me, ‘You know what champ, this ain’t working for me. For

the next six months, you do your thing and come and see me after.’

“It’s mature conversations. My life, my health is on the line.”

Joshua said he spent time with some of the most respected trainers in the States as he plans to avenge his second professional defeat in next year’s rematch with Usyk.

“I need to go and get some new teachings from guys that have trained – Robert Garcia trained 13, 14 world champions,” said Joshua.

“They’ve got so many generations of teachings.



Snoop Dogg pays tribute to his mom after her death

Bunmi Johnson
New York, USA



Entertainment



Snoop Dogg's mother, Beverly Tate, has died, the rapper announced on Sunday. In the wake of her death, Snoop has posted a series of photos and videos of his mother on social media, saying, "Thank u god for giving me an angel for a mother."

"Mama thank you for having me," Snoop wrote in another post, a photo of him and his mother. And in another, he wrote: "U taught me how to read and write how to struggle and fight and all the facts of life. Now you finally got ya wings mama."

Snoop's song, "I love my momma," played in one of the posts.

"I hope you bury me instead of the other way around, and I put that on Dogg Pound," Snoop, whose real name is Calvin Cordozar Broadus Jr., says in the song. "I made you cry, you made me smile. I just want to say I love you for life and that's the reason why I'm here now."

At a concert in Boston, Snoop played the song "Stand By Me" by Ben E. King, telling concert-goers that the song is a dedication to his mother. A neon red heart lit up behind him on the stage as the song played.

Tate, an evangelist, has published several books under the name Beverly Broadus Green. Two of her books, "Real Love" and "Real Love II," detail her journey of being a caelebrity mom and what it was like raising four sons as a single mother. She was 70 years old, according to Billboard.

On Monday, Snoop's father, Vernell Varnado, wrote on Instagram, asking fans to "pray for our family." The details of Tate's death have not been released.

In late July, Snoop posted a photo of him and his brothers visiting their mom in a hospital, though they did not specify why she was there.



"She opened up her eyes to c us and let us know she still fighting," Snoop captioned the photo. Tate was pictured lying in a hospital bed and photos of her loved ones were pinned to a board next to her bed.

Black British Entertainment

Entertainment

By: **Naomie Macanda**

Senior Writer

London, UK



With Black History month taking over October in the UK, there have been many highlights of 'Black Excellence' across Britain. One person that stands out with an incredible story is Betty Campbell.

Betty Campbell born Rachel Elizabeth Johnson (November 1934 – 13 October 2017) was a Welsh activist, community leader and educator. Ms Campbell won a scholarship to the Lady Margaret High School for Girls in Cardiff. She later trained to become a teacher and started her teaching career in Mount Stuart Primary School in Butetown, Cardiff, where she dedicated 28 years of putting in practice innovative ideas on educating children, multicultural studies, as well as being heavily involved in the community. Ms Campbell went onto becoming the head teacher of Mount Stuart Primary School, making her the first Black Head teacher in Wales.

Although she had a successful career and made ever lasting impact in the education sector but also for the culture of United Kingdom, Betty Campbell's life was a result of dedication, passion and pure resilience.

Ms Campbell's father died in World War 2 in 1942. Her mother worked as an illegal bookmaker to financially sustain them. Betty's love of books started from young, also inspiring her dreams of becoming a teacher. Although those dreams were trampled on from very early on, as Ms Campbell's teachers would constantly tell her that a working class black girl would not be able to obtain such positions due to "insurmountable" problems. This often reduced her to tears, however it also made her more determined to follow her dreams.

Ms Campbell's dreams quickly came to a halt when she was 17 years old, as she fell pregnant whilst studying her A-levels. She left school as a result and later on married her husband Rupert Campbell in 1953. In 1960, she had enrolled to the Cardiff Teacher Training College, which was not easy as Ms Campbell had 3 children to look after as well. However, she was determined to make it work, as it was the first time the training college was accepting female teachers and she was one of only 6 female students admitted. When she finally became a teacher, the hardship did not stop. She was often met with teachers who would look down on her as well as other parents. "They hadn't seen a black teacher before. It was as if you could do a job, but if you're black you weren't quite as good."



Ms Campbell took a trip to the US, where she learned about anti-slavery activists like Harriet Tubman as well as learning about the civil rights movement. This inspired her to not only continue on her path as a teacher and become great for of change in the educating sector, but it also inspired her to try and implement black culture in her studies. When she became Wales' first black head teacher in the 1970's she implemented teaching about slavery in the curriculum as well as teaching about black history and the apartheid. In one of her speeches, Ms Campbell states "I was determined that I was going to become one of those people and enhance the black spirit, black culture as much as I could" and so she did. Ms Campbell helped to create Black History Month, a month to celebrate black history, bring to the front black history and educating others of incredible black people from our history, not knowing she would become an amazing black historical figure herself.

Campbell did not just stop with the teaching in the classroom, but she also taught her community. She did not stop just at black history and culture, as the town she lived in was a multicultural town, Butetown, she also conducted workshops on the origins of the citizens of Butetown. Campbell's impact on society did not stop in her community. Under her leadership in Mount Stuart School became very well knowing across the whole of the United Kingdom. Her teaching methods as well as her curriculum became the teaching template for multicultural education. She was invited to be part of the Paul Hamlyn Foundation Commission on Education, which published a number of research papers on education. In 1993, it published the book "Learning to Succeed" where practice examples from Mount Stuart Primary School were cited.

This also prepared her for her next role as a member of the Home Office's race advisory committee. In 1998.

Nelson Mandela's invited her to meet him on his only visit to Wales as a member of the Commission for Racial Equality. In 2003, she was awarded an MBE for services to education and community life. Her awards or recognition did not end there as she also received a lifetime achievement award from Unison Cymru's Black Members' group, for her contribution to black history and Welsh education in 2015.

In 2019 the BBC ran a Hidden Heroines campaign to shine light on women who have had an enormous impact on society through different contributions. Five women were shortlisted: the poet and teacher Cranogwen (Sarah Jane Rees), the suffragette Lady Rhondda (Margaret Haig Thomas), the political organiser Elizabeth Andrews, the writer and anthropologist Elaine Morgan, and activist and educator Betty Campbell. The winner would have a statue of them in front of the BBC studios. The vote was a public vote and on the 18th January 2019 it was announced that Ms Campbell had won the vote. Her statue was unveiled on the 29th September 2021. It was set to be installed in 2020, however due to Covid-19 restrictions there were delays. The statue now proudly resides outside the BBC Wales Studio in Central Square.

The BBC also has a documentary on the life of Betty Campbell. Betty Campbell: Statue for a Heroine which is a must watch for inspiration as it really bring about her remarkable achievements in such hard times.



Ms Campbell life is exactly the types of history we should be taught about. Her resilience in the face of challenges, gives us strength to fifth out own little battles an also showcases us where we have come from. Her motivation to keep going and be a force of change beyond even her own dreams, highlights the importance of believing in yourself. The many different sectors she worked in, from being on the council to working with the home office, showed the range of lives that can be positively affected when given the opportunity. Her story should not only be one for inspiration, but also a template for working hard and continuing to strive even when all the odds are against you.

Thank you Ms Campbell.



Taribo West: Arsenal legend Henry picks Nigerian as toughest opponent of his career

By: Collins Edward
London, UK

Sports



The former France international admitted he endured a torrid time against the ex-Super Eagles defender during his active days

Former Arsenal and Barcelona striker Thierry Henry has picked Nigeria's Taribo West as the toughest opponent of his career.

The World Cup winner is the Gunners' all-time goal scorer and was renowned for wreaking havoc on defences for club and country during his professional career which spanned over two decades. Henry has pitted his wits against some of the world's best centre-halves and full-backs during his active career, but he claims that the former Super Eagles star gave him his most difficult examination. Pressed to name the hardest opponent he has faced, the current Belgium national team assistant coach said on CBSS Sports Golazo:

"Toughest as indirect opponent? Or just a guy you don't like to play against? Paul Scholes.

"For direct opponent, I would go back in the days - Taribo West.

"Because [at Auxerre], they did man-marking. He followed you everywhere, even in the dressing room."

During his spell at AS Monaco, the Frenchman came up against West who was representing AJ Auxerre.

Following Henry's move to Juventus, he came up against the defensive lynchpin again, who was plying his trade at Inter Milan having joined the Italians on a four-year contract in June 1997.

Although West won two Coupe de France titles and one Ligue 1 diadem with Auxerre, the Olympic gold medallist had disclosed that his deal with the Diplomats was signed "without knowing the content and conditions binding the contract".

"I played in Auxerre for free," West said at Footballers Connect, a conference aimed at educating aspiring footballers.

"I was playing under a contract for five years without knowing the content and conditions binding the contract.

"After the third year, Arsenal, Juventus, Glasgow Rangers and Sevilla Betis came for me.

"I went to the coach starting that I wanted to leave but he sat me down and showed me my contract terms with Auxerre. I saw the details of what I had signed. Where my fellow defenders were earning as high as 120,000 French francs, I was going home with 3000 French francs.

"I wanted to set Auxerre on fire that day. Immediately, I called my manager who was turning me left and right [while] enjoying himself in Senegal."

Before drawing the curtain on his career in 2007, the Nigerian also represented AC Milan, Derby County, Kaiserslautern, Partizan, Al-Arabi, Plymouth Argyle and Iranian side Paykan.

I am doing skits to break out of stereotyped 'bad boy' roles – Charles 2pac Okocha



Entertainment

By: **Ibukun Babatunde**
Port-Hacourt, Nigeria

Popular actor, Charles Okocha, better known as Igwe 2Pac, has revealed that he is deliberately doing skits to let people know that he could break out of his 'bad boy' role which had become synonymous with him.

In an interview with SUNDAY SCOOP, Okocha said, "At some point in the industry, I was being stereotyped as I was being given only bad boy roles. I knew that I could do more than that but in the industry, they tend to give you one particular role once they know that you are good at it. I had to infuse comedy into my acting because I wanted to be distinct and also put a smile on people's faces. Back then, if you are cast for a role, you become a star automatically. Even when the film is not yet out and you are still filming, people would

start giving you the attention of a celebrity. Then, hard work is more vital and you get roles based on merit. Presently, if you are a producer, you can choose to give your friend or relative a lead role.

"I do not intend to retire soon because acting is a passion for me and I still want to do it for a long time. The journey has been good and I can't complain. When you start up any profession, it is not always easy because you have to get it rough the first time. But with God on your side, blessing your hustles, one will get there. I know many persons whom I started with in this industry and only a few of us are still active. Also, my career got a push when I met Teco Benson, a notable Nollywood producer. He knew me because we stayed on the same street in Aguda, Surulere area of Lagos."



The actor fondly called Igwe 2Pac also shed more light on a viral video that showed him harassing a man for going out with his teenage daughter. He said, "When my daughter gets to the age a man can approach her, why would I stop it? But when she is a teenager, it is totally unacceptable. But I would prefer that it is done the right time to avoid embarrassment."

The actor fondly called Igwe 2Pac also shed more light on a viral video that showed him harassing a man for going out with his teenage daughter. He said, "When my daughter gets to the age a man can approach her, why would I stop it? But when she is a teenager, it is totally unacceptable. But I would prefer that it is done the right time to avoid embarrassment."



SAVAGE'S LEAKED TAPE



Amid the wide streams of Tiwa's hit single "Somebody's son" she revealed that she is being blackmailed by an unknown person with a leaked video of her and her new man making out. She made this revelation in an interview she granted an American OAP, Angie Martinez of Power 105.1. She said "it's a tiny clip but it's me and it's going to be out there forever. There are probably going to be memes."

Owing to the trending video, the hit star said she is aware of the implications it might cause her but she is an adult and she was doing something natural.

She further explained that the video was accidentally posted on Snapchat by her lover who deleted it after he realized his error but a stalker got hold of the video before it was taken down. In her words, "I am not going to call it a sex tape but it's a tape between me and the person I am dating right now... It is not from someone working closely with me. What happened is that the person made it on snap and he posted it by accident, but he quickly deleted it."

Entertainment

By: **Kangmwa Gofwen**
Lagos Bureau Chief



"However, someone got it before he could delete it. It is a very short video but it is me. It is going to be out there and I can just imagine the memes. I just found out yesterday, I could not sleep last night."

The singer also revealed that the said video was made last month and the person has since been trying to extort money from her but she was not ready to allow anyone blackmail her for doing something that is natural she said. "I am that crazy I could put it out myself, you are not making any money off me..." she added.

Tiwa, 41, said she tried to manage the situation but to no avail. She said "we tried to stall them but I later decided that I am going to own the narrative. I am not ashamed of it; this is someone I am dating, I am not cheating so is he, we are grown-ups."

"I cannot believe this is happening to me. I feel for my fans because they will have to keep defending me. I can switch off my phone or have someone run my account so I do not see all that, but my fans will feel the need to protect me. I will like my fans to ignore it."

The video has continued to generate widespread reactions on several social media platforms and true to her words, several memes have emerged from the said video.

Reacting to the video, popular Instagram blogger Gistlover said there was no sex tape, the singer just made up the blackmail story to promote her single 'somebody's son'. Responding to the allegations Tiwa on her Instagram story wrote "you hate how I was able to control the narrative and get ahead of a story before it consumed me, and how I'm able to joke on stage about something you thought should destroy me and make me feel ashamed."

Before the video surfaced online, Tiwa had made jokes about it on stage in an event organized by Lagos state government.

Tiwa had told her 13million fans to let it go and not bother to defend her, she recounts that she has a good relationship with her fans.

The 41-year-old singer is not the first Nigerian celebrity to be blackmailed, and will certainly not be the last.

In honour of black history month

By: **Akosua Darko**
London, UK



Entertainment

"History, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be unlived, but if faced with courage, need not be lived again." Maya Angelou

The aim of life is to encounter defeats yet never be defeated or reduced by them. Life is full of ups and downs and lessons learned. It's also full of hurts and betrayals from people as well as the love of others. It's tough, is fun and it's heartbreaking all at once. We can only learn to live it well when we learn to just be ourselves and love ourselves. As Maya Angelou said "you are enough, you do not have to prove anything to anybody", "never make someone a priority when all you are to them is an option", and "if you don't know what you're here to do, just do some good." Try to do right as Maya Angelou would say it gives you more satisfaction than deviousness. It makes you at peace with your soul. It also makes you able to love yourself, to feel good about who and what you are and gives your purpose. Selfishness, wickedness, envy and everything associated with an evil heart makes one battle with their soul constantly and brings an inferiority complex, shame and deep insecurity.

Maya Angelou was sexually assaulted as a child, and had careers as varying as a prostitute, a pimp, a cook, a lecturer, writer, dancer and motivational speaker. She suffered many heartbreaking moments yet she was never deterred, neither was she ashamed of herself or her story.



She also made many mistakes and grew from them, turning them into great testimonies. When she was raped as a child, she thankfully told others about her experience, the rapist was jailed but released and was murdered, and Maya said she thought her uncles killed him. I can't say that was a bad outcome. Yet Maya felt responsible for the rapists death. Thinking if she hadn't spoken he would still be alive. So she decided not to speak again.

Many of us decide to hide our pains and abuses or what we are doing through. Thinking silence will make it go away. Afriad of judgement, the power of our voices, looking dramatic, being seen as weak or not

easy to be around. Sometimes unfortunately we may have people around us who have chosen not to see our pain as valid and we allow them to wrongly silence us.

Maya for a long time continued to swallow her pain, her shame for something she didn't do. Until her grandma introduced her to a woman who told her she had to speak again, because speaking was the only way for Maya to live again. She told Maya she needed to let her voice be free and told her to speak poems out, Maya began to read and to speak, thank God she did.

Maya shows us that if we allow our voice to express our authentic stories, no matter how painful they are, no matter how taboo they may be, no matter how much people may not want to listen and no matter the consequence. If we live and speak our truth we will find healing. History no matter it's wrenching pain, if we have the courage to love again, to speak again, to live again, will not destroy us. Silence and being scared of so called 'dirty linens in public' and other people's voices doesn't heal. Neither does minimising the pain or acting like the attack on your person was no big deal. No Maya says accept, embrace that what happened was terrible and terrifying. Yet as a 'caged bird' sings longing for freedom, the expression of an authentic voice is the way to heal. There is nothing wrong with anger, as anger is a catalyst for change. The only thing wrong is bitterness as

unfortunately that only kills the host. Even if it may harm the perpetrator the victim does not deserve that pain. As Maya said "the wisest thing to do" is to be on your side." If you are not good to yourself how can you expect others to be good to you.

I hope the words of this wise unshakable woman teaches us to swing through life with more ease, and "live us though life was created for you." We must repeat to ourselves daily "I must undertake to love myself and to respect myself as though my very life depends upon self-love and self-respect", because our quality of life does.

I've also added a poem about my roots in honour of black history month.

Kete hema

Kete hema
Daughter of those who crawl before they conquer.
Black as coal
Bold as a cockroach lying upward
Symbolising the asante's who laugh at surrender.
Fight against the tides of life until their last breath.
When two rams go head to head
The champion emerges
In the spirit of my forefathers
Competitiveness to be the best
Confrontation for what I deserve flows in these bones.
My ancestors dance to the Kete dance so I would never forget.

Leopardess

Manso queen
They say my other people Akyems
Love to drag a quarrel
Raised to believe we are the best
We deserve the best
Sure we also demand the best.

The leopard is measured
Graceful
Looks calm
Is shy

The leopard is the best hunter
The leopard will rip you with it's claws.
The leopard is powerful.

I am an Akyem. Named after the great warrior Okyem.
Call me child of the leopard,
Graceful, sweet, resourceful with sharp unforgiving claws.

With a ridiculous level of confidence.
Sometimes like the leopard, I can be anti social and give you attitude.
I'll make it with or without you,
Trust me.
I'm a solidatory creature.
You may not understand the mysterious me.
Yet the Akuapem in me
Is a home for those I choose.
Called Ofie my Akuapem people are warm,
Polite
Respectful
Friendly

All Ghana calls them home.
They never discriminate against people.
Unless ofcourse they lack manners.
Oh and you'll enjoy my laughter
My play
If I deem you worthy.
Don't you know I'm also a child of La.
Of Ga ancestry.
Of those who are the people of fire and dance and laughter.
Who hoot at hunger.
My thirst for a full life
Is hereditary.

Somewhere far up my family tree
Long long long ago
A fox from the Ewe tribe made her way into my multi Ghana history story.
The Ewes keep to themselves
Filled with a rich history and culture
Where they can trace themselves all the way to their original ancestors.
They call themselves foxes
Due to their cunning
Resourceful
Creative nature.
I guess though far up in my family tree,
These characteristics still found me.

It's black history month!!

Tupac detective calls for arrest of Keffe D over rapper's death



Tupac

YouTube channel The Art Of Dialogue to mark the 25th anniversary of Tupac's killing in Sin City last month. It's the latest of several shows, documentaries and a book he wrote in which he's admitted he was an accomplice.

HUNTED

Tupac Shakur was murdered in a hail of Glock bullets fired into a BMW driven by Knight on the Vegas strip. In the 25 years since, Metro Police has not arrested a single person in relation to the case. Now in the 15 minute video, Keffe D - sometimes spelled as Keefe D - explained how he and a group of Crips gang members hunted down Knight and Tupac following the MGM Hotel brawl.

Entertainment

By: Seyi Awoleye
Los Angeles, Ca USA

A former detective on the Tupac murder case has said Keffe D should finally be arrested after giving yet another bombshell interview confessing to his role in the famous killing. Compton Crip Keffe D Davis, 57, gave a blow by blow account of how Tupac was shot dead on the Las Vegas strip on September 7, 1996. He said he gathered up a group of Crips gangsters to avenge the beating of nephew Orlando Anderson by Suge Knight and Tupac at the MGM Hotel. And ex-LAPD detective Greg Kading feels the latest video posted on YouTube contains several clear reasons for Keffe to face arrest and potential prosecution for conspiracy to murder. Kading said he finds it "unfathomable" why detectives investigating the case haven't questioned him. Keffe gave the interview to little known



Kefee D

Keffe recalled how they spotted the rapper hanging out of the window waving to fans in Knight's black BMW. After chasing them to the junction of Flamingo and Koval, Keffe said Anderson took charge

of the gun. He says Tupac appeared to reach for a gun when he saw his attackers, but Anderson was already lined up for the kill shots. "We just pulled up to the stop light, they was making a right, there was about 17 cars," he said. "We just pulled up in the gutter lane and seen their a**, and that first shot hit Big Boy (Suge Knight) in the head, I thought he was dead, like damn he's dead." Once that windshield was shot out, pfff, it was over with after that. He also shot down claims that Knight, who was driving the car, tried to shield Tupac. "He didn't use him as a shield, the man was shot in the f**king head," "Once that windshield was shot out, pfff, it was over with after that." After getting away Keffe boasted how the four men behind the killing "started drinking and s***." Keffe even admits

hiding the murder weapon. "I left it (the gun) on the tyres of one of the cars in the parking lot," he said. The next morning the gang left Vegas. Several people have contacted the homicide detectives at Las Vegas Metro Police Department about the new interview - but as yet nothing has happened. Keffe's new video - his most coherent "play by play" account yet - comes after reports revealed that detectives have expressed no desire to close the Tupac case.

ARREST HIM

Keffe has already confessed on tape to former LAPD cop Kading about his role in the murder, although that confession is not admissible. However as Kading and the task force pushed forward, his chief pulled the plug on him solving Tupac's murder and he was told to pass all his information on to Las Vegas





"There is adequate probable cause to arrest Keffe D on conspiracy to commit murder charges, based on his numerous public confessions. It would then be a decision of the District Attorney's office to determine if the evidence is strong enough for prosecution," he said.

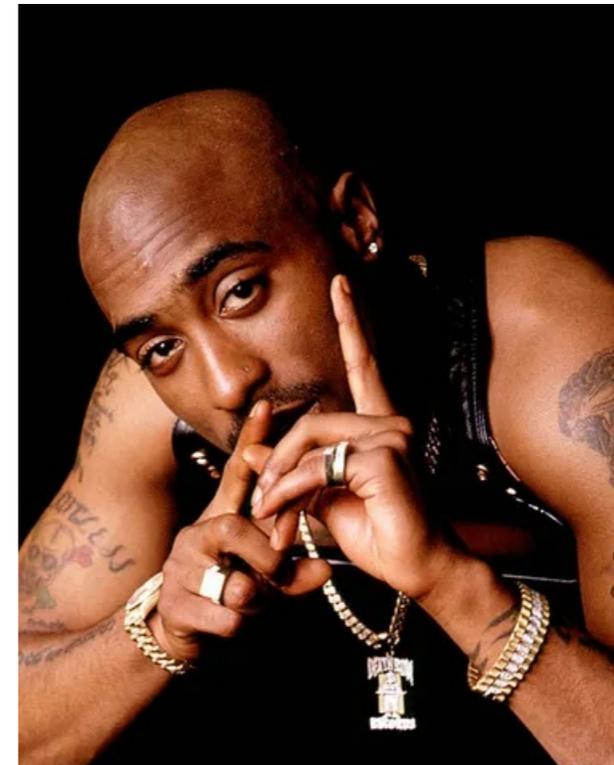
"The police department can absolve itself from their responsibilities by arresting Keffe D and putting the responsibility on the DA, where it belongs."

Kading feels that that this new video could be enough, without Keffe taking the stand, to move forward with a criminal trial.

He added that it's "embarrassing" for Las Vegas Metro Police to have ignored Keffe's admissions all these years.

"He's making a mockery out of the justice system and the public perception is that Tupac's murder case is of little interest to the LVPD," he said.

"The optics on it are horrible. For history's sake and for the sake of their own reputation, they ought to arrest Keffe D, clear the murder case and place the burden of responsibility onto the shoulders of the DA's office. It's that simple."



#EndSARS: ONE YEAR LATER, WE REMEMBER

Politics

By: Kangmwa Gofwen
Lagos Bureau chief



20th October 2020 will go down in history in the minds of many Nigerians as the day peaceful protesting Nigerians were massacred by the government.

#EndSARS began as a social media campaign and later into street protests all over the country in October 2020, the protest was triggered by the excesses of the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS); The unit of the police notorious for the cruel handling of suspects.

Though the core of the protest was police brutality and other extrajudicial activities of the police force as a whole, it became a platform for young Nigerians to

put forward other demands bothering security, corruption, the welfare of citizens and, the economy.

Without a structured leadership, the protesters came up with five demands from the government. The demand included good welfare for police officers, the release of arrested protesters and, compensation for families of those who died under police brutality.

They also demanded that an independent panel be set up to investigate and prosecute allegations of police unlawfulness and, the psychological evaluation of officers of the disbanded SARS



before they are reintegrated into any other unit of the force.

It is a year already since the Lekki toll gate shooting yet, the government is denying what happened on the night of 20th October 2020; the Lagos state government on that day declared a 24-hour curfew due to take effect at 4 pm of that day.

The deadline was not feasible due to the horrific traffic in Lagos hence it was moved to 9 pm, however, armed military men were deployed to the Lekki toll gate, venue of the Lagos #EndSARS protest; at about 6:50 pm the soldiers opened fire on peaceful #EndSARS protesters.

These young Nigerians were determined to lay down their lives just to press down the demands of the #EndSARS movement and for the



betterment of the country. sadly they were faced with the very reason they were on the streets; holding the national flag and singing the national anthem they died by the bullets of the government.

Arguments are still ongoing as to whether there was a massacre at the Lekki toll gate or not; Amnesty International insists that at least 12 people were killed, the Lagos state government said only one person was killed and, the federal government said no one was killed.



Just recently Minister for information Lai Mohammed said the massacre story is fake news by Amnesty International and CNN, he said those that made claims of losing loved ones are yet to show up with evidence one year after.

Various states and the FCT set up panels to investigate the crimes committed by the police, up until now, only three states have completed their investigation however, their reports are yet to be made public.

The narratives should have changed one year after but sadly, the situation has gone from bad to worst. Police brutality, extortion, assault, tortures, killings and,

corruption have taken the center stage; yet no victim has gotten justice. In remembering the fallen heroes of the historic 20-10-2020, a memorial procession was organized at the Lekki toll gate yet again, protesters were teargassed, assaulted and, even arrested. Some journalists covering the protest were harassed and arrested.

Just as the #EndSARS protest of last year, the memorial motorcade protest was peaceful without security threats, except for the gridlock motorist experience during the protest.

The #EndSARS protest from last year remains the most peaceful and most organized until hoodlums believed to be government machinery hijacked the protest, thereby wreaking havoc to lives and properties across the country. It is clear that the government has not learned any lessons from the protest, expressing regret, president of the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) in a statement said, "it is regrettable that on the occasion of the anniversary of such a symbolic moment in our nation's history, we do not appear to have learned our lessons as symbolized by the arrest and detention of peaceful protesters exercising their fundamental human rights, and journalist going about their lawful duties at the Lekki toll plaza this morning."



Sadly, the grievances which led to the protest and eventual killings remain fresh and unaddressed; we have not moved an inch from where we were. The Nigerian youths, on the other hand, seem determined and ready to return to the streets without fear.

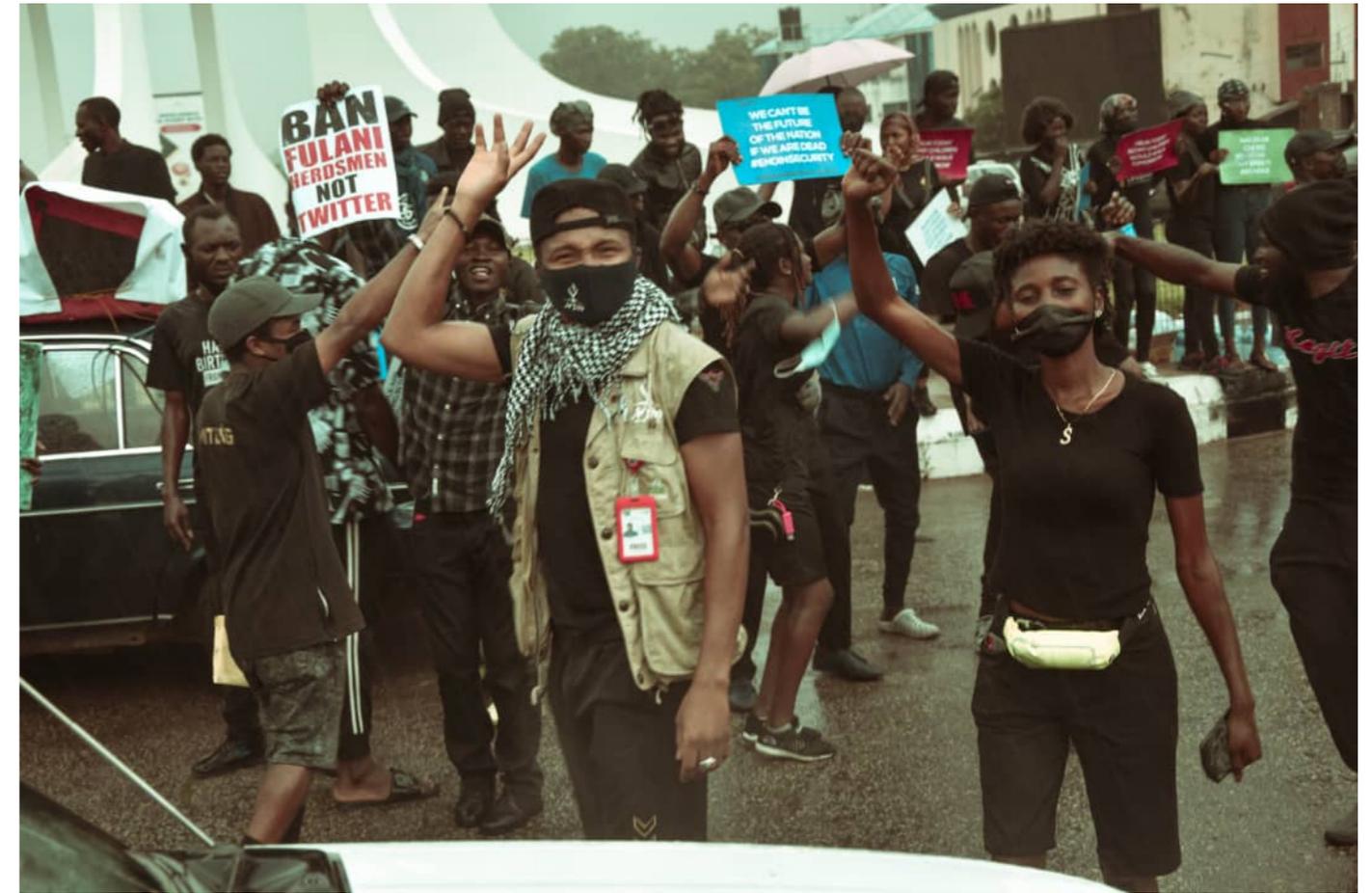
The #EndSARS movement eludes normal protest and constituted part of the problems for the government. The normal trend is, leaders of movements such as this are identified and bribed into abandoning the objective of the movement; the #EndSARS was different and technologically based.

When the government ordered banks to close the accounts used to raise money for medical support, food, and the smooth running of the protest, the organizers and Nigerian youths, in turn, switched to contributing cryptic coins (bitcoin).

In a general context, the current reality of Nigeria is alarming and frightening. More than half of Nigerians are living in extreme poverty. Terrorism, poverty, anarchy, corruption and, negligence by the government are biting the very core of the nation.

The #EndSARS movement was about the rule of law, respect for human rights, respect for the constitution and, a good standard of living for the common man; non of the aforementioned has been achieved.

It is obvious the youths are not tired neither are they ready to give up on fighting for these issues; may the souls of the fallen heroes rest in peace. Lekki toll gate shooting, we remember, we will never forget.



Sudan coup: World Bank suspends aid after military takeover



The World Bank has suspended its aid to Sudan, after the military there staged a coup against the civilian government.

Political leaders were arrested, sparking nationwide protests and international condemnation.

The African Union (AU) has also suspended Sudan from the bloc over the "unconstitutional" seizure of power. The US has frozen \$700m (£508m) in aid.

Sudan's civilian and military leaders had been in a fragile power-sharing agreement for the past two years.

The sudden cut to aid is likely to have dire consequences for Sudan's battered economy, at a time when it was just starting to get back on its feet.

The World Bank and AU moves put further pressure on the coup's leader, Gen Abdel Fattah Burhan, to reinstate the civilian government.

Politics

By: Andrew Collins
London, UK

Gen Burhan was in charge of the power-sharing agreement, and has said the coup was needed to avoid "civil war". He has insisted that Sudan is still moving towards democracy and elections in 2023 - but his reasoning and the sudden takeover have been widely rejected.

The president of the World Bank, David Malpass, said in a statement: "I am greatly concerned by recent events in Sudan, and I fear the dramatic impact this can have on the country's social and economic recovery and development."

In March, Sudan was able to access billions of dollars in grants from the World Bank for the first time in nearly 30 years, after it cleared its arrears. At the time, Mr Malpass said that the country was making some economic progress, after years of being in a deep crisis.

The World Bank has contributed some \$3bn in aid to Sudan to support agriculture, transport, health care and education, among other things, according to Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok.

In a speech last month to the World Bank, he said that changes from the funding "have begun to bear fruits" as the economy showed signs of stabilising. Now, that is at risk again.

The AU tweeted that while it welcomed the release of the prime minister, who was detained on Monday, Sudan will remain suspended from its activities until the civilian government is



reinstated. The state media reported that six Sudanese ambassadors had been removed from their posts by the military.

Those withdrawn included the country's representatives to the US, the European Union and China, all of whom have condemned the army's takeover.

Street protests continued for a third day, with at least 10 people killed after soldiers opened fire on crowds. Troops reportedly travelled house to house in Khartoum arresting local protest organisers.

Trade unions representing doctors and oil workers said they were joining the demonstrations, as did staff at the Sudanese Banking Association.

"We stand firmly against any military action and any form of dictatorship," the association's spokesman, Abdul Rashid Khalifa, told the BBC.

The agreement between civilian and military leaders was signed in 2019 after long-time ruler Omar al-Bashir was overthrown. The power-sharing was designed to steer Sudan towards democracy but has proven fragile with a number of previous coup attempts, the last just over a month ago.



KENYA MURDER: ARMY CHIEF 'APPALLED' AT CLAIMS BRITISH SOLDIERS WERE INVOLVED IN AGNES BRUTAL KILLING.

Politics



By: Clara Mpeza Manda
Lusaka, Zambia



The body of 21-year-old Agnes Wanjiru was found in a septic tank at the Lions Court Hotel in the town of Nanyuki, close to a British Army training camp, two months after she disappeared in March 2012.

The head of the Army has said he is "appalled" by claims British soldiers were involved in the killing of a young Kenyan woman whose body was found in a septic tank.

Sky News reported exclusively on her death at the time, with sources claiming they had seen Ms Wanjiru arriving at the hotel with British soldiers on 31 March that year. According to a report by the The Sunday Times, a soldier accused of the murder has been named by his comrades after he allegedly confessed to the killing. In a statement, General Sir Mark Carleton-Smith wrote: "I am sure you are all as appalled as I am at the recent allegations surrounding the murder of Agnes Wanjiru in Nanyuki, Kenya, in 2012."

He added: "I want you to know I am determined we support the appropriate authorities to establish the facts of the issue as quickly as possible." The paper said another soldier reported the killing to senior officers at the time, but no action was taken. Sources have previously confirmed to Sky News that the UK government had been aware of the incident and the accusations.

A post-mortem examination found Ms Wanjiru died as a result of stab wounds to her chest and abdomen.

There was also evidence she had been beaten, although due to the condition of her body it was unclear whether she had been sexually assaulted.

Witnesses told The Sunday Times that Ms Wanjiru, a sex worker, was last seen leaving the hotel's bar with a British soldier. Speaking exclusively to Sky News at the time, the police chief said his detectives were actively investigating allegations that two British soldiers murdered Ms Wanjiru.

Joshua Lutukai dismissed suggestions his force was not investigating the crime rigorously enough. The initial inquiry stalled, but a fresh investigation was launched after an inquest delayed until 2019 found Ms Wanjiru had been unlawfully killed, The Sunday Times reported last month. It has prompted Labour to call on the government to investigate any possible "cover-up".

A defence source told the PA news agency: "The defence secretary has been impatient with the pace of this, and has directed full co-operation." He has worked with the military police and Kenyans to ensure their investigation is not impeded." High Commissioner to Kenya Jane Marriott said the UK would support an inquiry into the "tragic death" of Ms Wanjiru and "help in any way we can".



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Sad story of Clarence Moses-EL who spent 28 years in prison

Crimes

This is Clarence Moses, a man who was sentenced to 48 years in prison because one woman accused him of raping her in her dream.

In 1988, Clarence was arrested by the police as a rape suspect.

A hospitalized woman claimed she had been brutally raped, by a black man. This woman had returned home drunk and woke up with bruises the next day. With no evidence for how she ended up with bruises or how someone raped her, she accused Clarence of raping her.

More than a day after the assault, while in the hospital, the woman identified Clarence as her attacker, saying his face came to her in a dream.

Clarence Moses-EL was convicted and sentenced to 48 years in prison for raping and assaulting a woman when she returned home from a night of drinking, despite no further evidence other than her bruises and her dream.

Clarence had long claimed he was innocent.

But his efforts to appeal his conviction were unsuccessful, in part because Denver police threw away DNA evidence from the scene, according to reports.

Luckily, in December 2013, while serving his 48-year prison sentence, Clarence received a letter from another man, L.C Jackson.

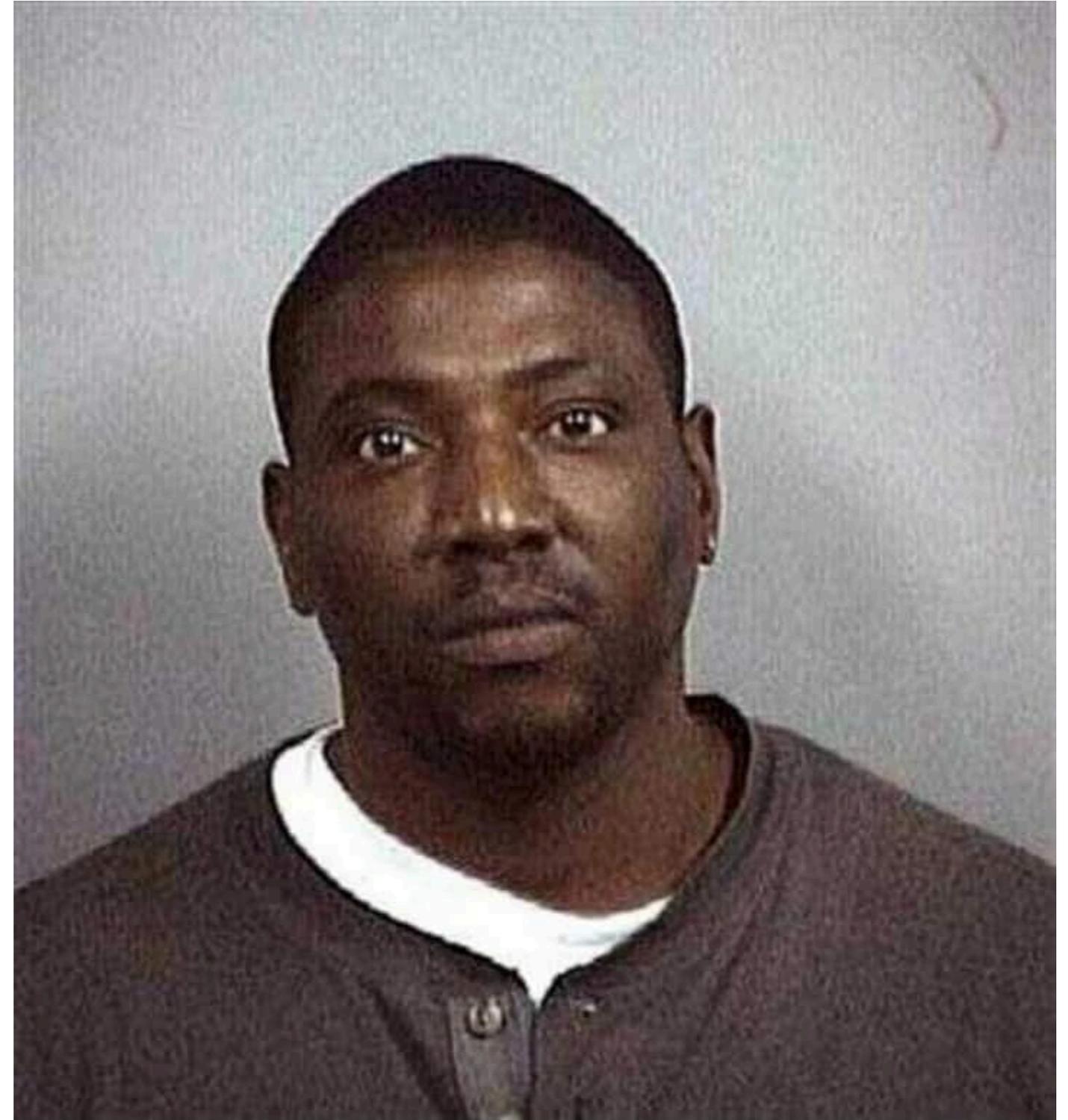
In the letter Jackson said he couldn't believe Clarence had been accused of raping the same woman Jackson " had sex" with the very same night. Jackson wrote:

'I really don't know what to say to you, but let's start by bringing what was done in the dark into the light,' Jackson wrote, according to court documents. 'I have a lot on my heart.'

This confession letter led to a court hearing in July, where Jackson testified that he lost his temper during sex with the woman and hit her in the face. He admitted to it all. Although it wasn't necessarily a rape.

Clarence had already spent 28 years of his 48-year sentence in prison.

Copied from: Apotheosis of Knowledge

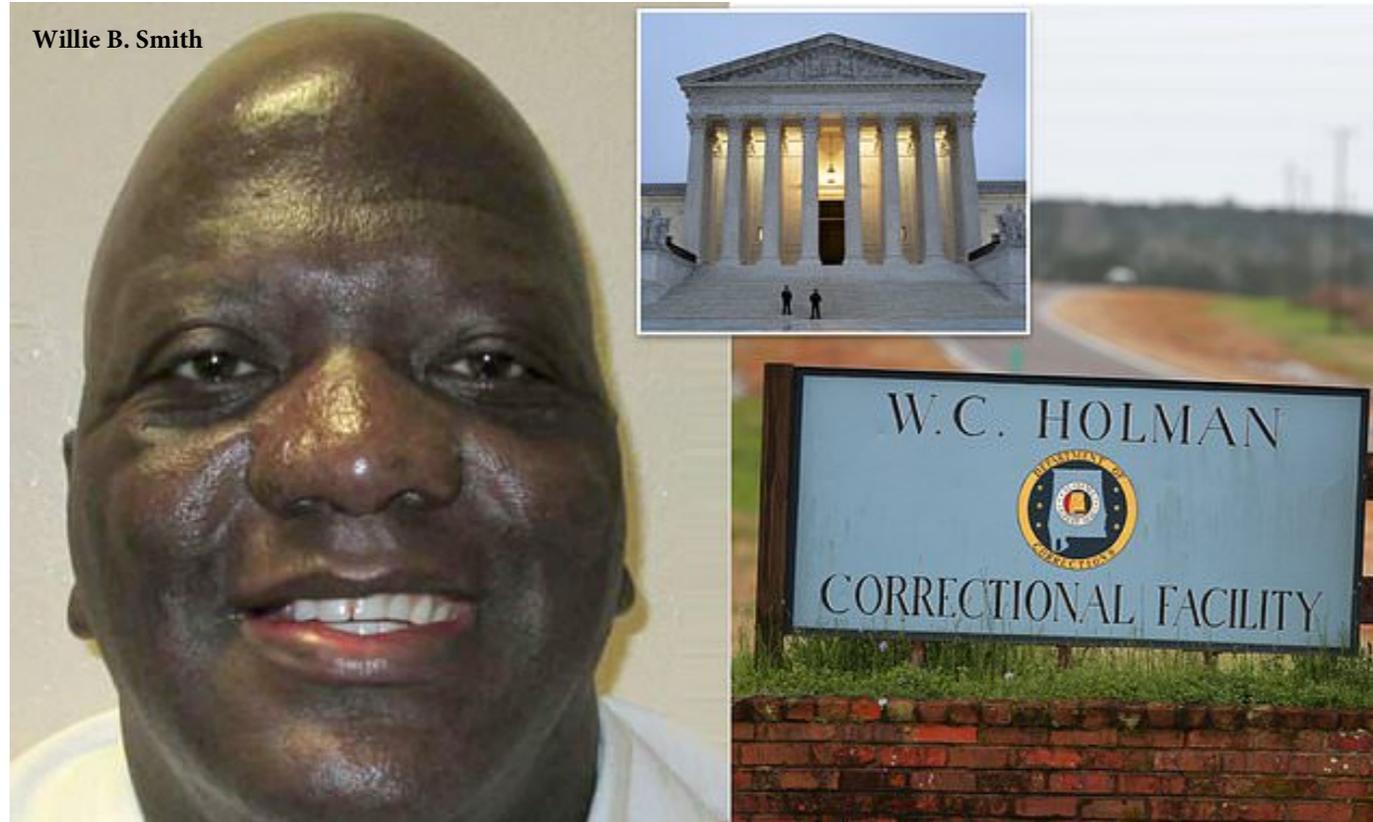


Death row inmate refused final meal and snacked on M&Ms before execution

Crimes

By: **Seyi Awoleye**
Los Angeles, Ca
USA

Willie B. Smith was executed on Thursday 21st October 2021 after he was convicted of kidnapping and murdering Sharma Ruth Johnson in Birmingham, Alabama in 1991.



Willie B. Smith III was executed for the 1991 murder of Sharma Ruth Johnson. An intellectually disabled man convicted of the brutal 1991 kidnap and murder of a woman opted to have snacks instead of a last meal.

Willie B Smith refused breakfast, lunch and a final meal yesterday - the day of his execution.

Instead he decided to eat barbecue chips and M&Ms, washed down with a coke before the US state of Birmingham, Alabama put him to death.

Smith was killed by the state for abducting Sharma Ruth Johnson at gunpoint at a cash machine and then shooting her dead after stealing less than \$100 from her, said prosecutors.

The day before his execution by lethal injection Smith was visited by his spiritual advisor and lawyers, according to prison spokesperson Linda Mays.

The execution took place at around 9.32pm and a press witness said Smith did not give final words, but was accompanied by his spiritual advisor.

In February, the US Supreme Court blocked his execution on the grounds that Smith wanted his pastor present in the execution chamber. But on 17 October, a preliminary injunction seeking to stop his execution regarding his choice of execution method was denied in federal court. Court records show Smith had expressed his desire to be executed by nitrogen suffocation, but the state decline to grant him that mercy. His attorneys had urged the courts to block lethal injection plans, arguing that because he suffered from "significant cognitive deficiencies" and had an IQ of between 64 and 72, that he had been unable to fill out a form requesting the alternative form of death. A trial on his disability claim had been scheduled for 2022 before Judge Emily Marks, a Trump appointee, dismissed the lawsuit on technical grounds, WKBN reports. Governor Kay Ivey said after the execution: "Sharma Ruth Johnson was abducted at gunpoint, threatened while in the trunk of the car, terrorised, assaulted, and ultimately, Willie B Smith brutally killed her. "In that final moment of this young lady's short life, Mr Smith, after learning Ms Johnson was related to a law enforcement officer, made the choice to put a shotgun to her head, stealing this woman's future. "Even after these heinous crimes were committed, Mr Smith made the choice to burn the vehicle to hide his fingerprints. Sharm was the sibling of a police officer "He knew full well he was doing wrong. This was an absolutely horrendous act against Ms Johnson. It is also an attack on our men and women in blue.

"In dealing with this unimaginable and tragic loss, her loved ones have endured years of Mr Smith attempting to avoid due punishment and then a delayed execution earlier this year. "Mr Smith had more time on death row than Ms Johnson had in this life."

The governor added: "The evidence in this case was overwhelming, and justice has been rightfully served. "The carrying out of Mr Smith's sentence sends the message that the state of Alabama will not tolerate these murderous acts. I pray that the loved ones of Ms Johnson can be closer to finding peace." Not everyone has such an Old Testament view of law and order as Governor Ivey. The American Civil Liberties Union strongly argues against the state's right to sentence a person to death, noting that since 1973, over 156 people have been released from death rows in 26 states because of innocence.

Across the US, at least one person is exonerated for every 10 that are executed. The organisation argues: "Capital punishment is an intolerable denial of civil liberties and is inconsistent with the fundamental values of our democratic system.

"The death penalty is uncivilized in theory and unfair and inequitable in practice. "Through litigation, legislation, and advocacy against this barbaric and brutal institution, we strive to prevent executions and seek the abolition of capital punishment."



Sharma Ruth Johnson

Nigerian Government blames Nnamdi Kanu for murder of Akunyili's husband, Gulak, 184 others



A committee set up by the Federal Government has accused leader of the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) Nnamdi Kanu of being responsible for the murder of Chike Akunyili, widower of the former information minister Prof. Dora Akunyili.

The 24-member committee is headed by the attorney-general of the federation and minister of justice Abubakar Malami. Members of the committee include officials from the Federal Ministry of Justice, Federal Ministry of Information, Nigeria Police Force, Department of State Services (DSS), National Intelligence Agency (NIA) and the Defence Intelligence Agency (DIA).

The government further accused Kanu of being responsible for the murder of a former Presidential

Politics



By: **Okunlola Kayode F.**
Senior Writer
Lagos, Nigeria

Aide, Ahmad Gulak, and over 184 others in the South-East. This is according to a committee set up by the President. Major General Muhammadu Buhari (retd.), to investigate Kanu, who is standing trial for terrorism. It said the attacks that were carried out between October 2020 and June 2021 led to the killing of 175 security personnel.

The report read in part, "Acting on the instigating directives of Nnamdi Kanu, IPOB members and #EndSARS protesters attacked and killed many security agents, destroyed several public and private properties, including police stations, public transport buses and other facilities across the country.

"That on October 21, 2020, Nnamdi Kanu through an online call-in radio programme (Radio Biafra), further instigated IPOB members to burn down all police stations and kill government security forces, which was carried out, and security personnel (especially police officers) were killed and public and private properties destroyed.

"That 175 security personnel were killed by IPOB/ESN, comprising 128 policemen, 37 military personnel and 10 other security operatives. Killing of prominent Nigerians: Recently there were gruesome killings of traditional leaders: Obi 1 of Okwudor autonomous community, Eze E. Anayochukwu Durueburuo and Eze Sampson Osunwa of Ihebineowerre autonomous community

as well as the killings of Dr. Chike Akunyili and eight others as well as the killing of Alhaji Ahmed Gulak on May 30, 2021."

The committee found that as a consequence of Nnamdi Kanu's broadcasts, there were 19 attacks on INEC facilities that resulted in the destruction of offices as well as burning of 18 INEC logistical vehicles, several election materials, equipment and ICT gadgets in Abia, Akwa-Ibom, Anambra, Cross River, Enugu, Ebonyi and Imo states.

The Presidential committee stated that 164 police stations and formations, including police Headquarters, Owerri, Imo State were attacked by IPOB/ESN leading to the death of 128 policemen while 144 were injured and 628 vehicles were destroyed.

It said 396 firearms and 17,738 ammunition were carted away during the IPOB/ESN attacks.

"That there were three IPOB/ESN attacks on Nigerian Correctional Service, including the Headquarters of NCoS, Owerri, Imo State where 1,841 inmates escaped. That the Headquarters of the Nigerian Immigration Service, Umuahia, Abia State was also attacked by IPOB/ESN leading to the death of one officer," the report read.



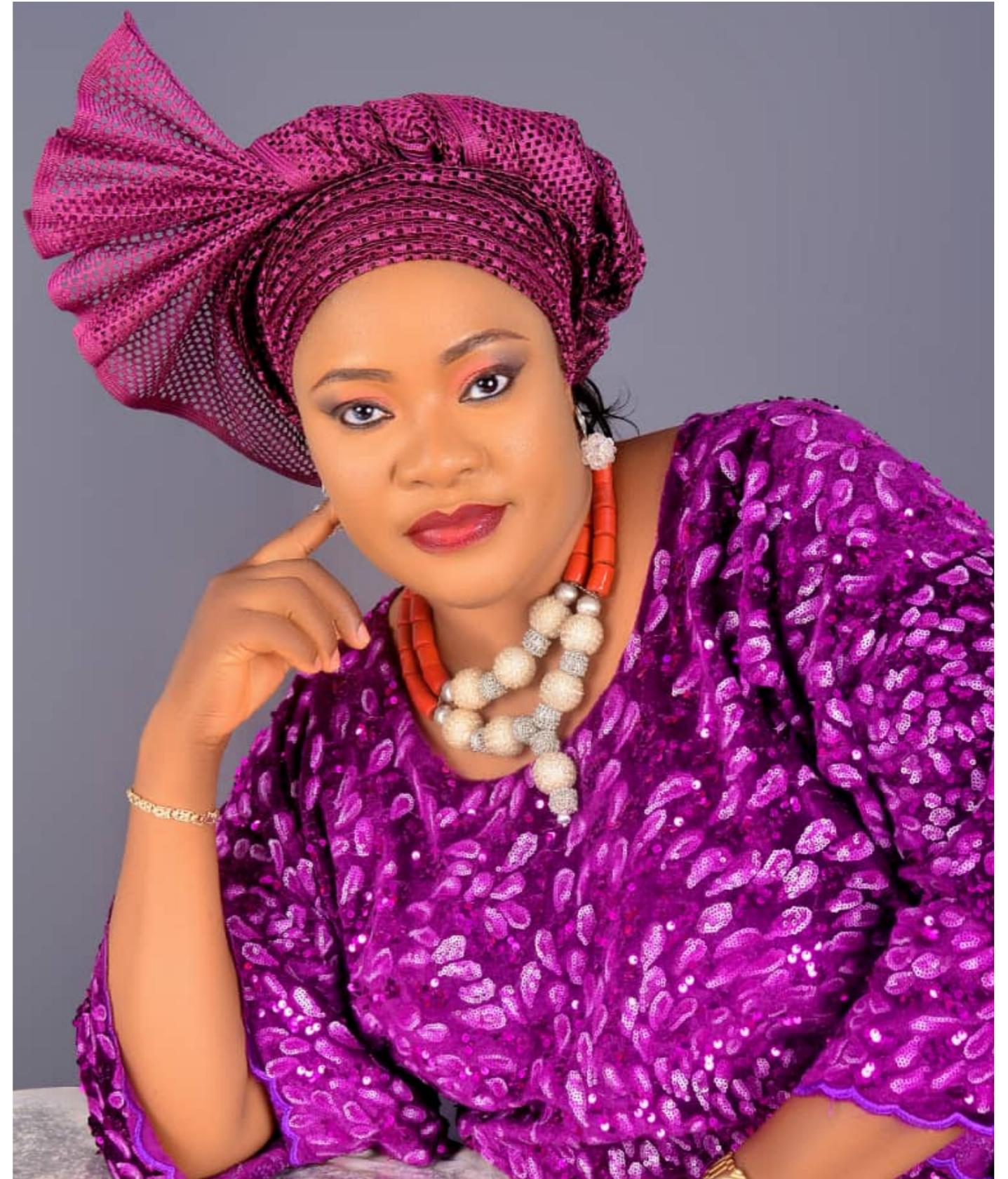
Happy Birthday to a wonderful Sister! - FUNKE

We are so very lucky to have you in our lives! Our dear sister, we hope you have a wonderful birthday, and that the year ahead is full of joy, excitement, and adventure! Sending you lots of love on your birthday. You're such an incredible sister and we are so thankful to have you in our lives.

Lots of Love,

**Teejay, Gani, Kazeem,
Ronke ,Kayode and Toyin**

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Event

Every first day of November is all about my babe, simply **Fati**. Like a *peacock* you adorn my life, continue to shine...

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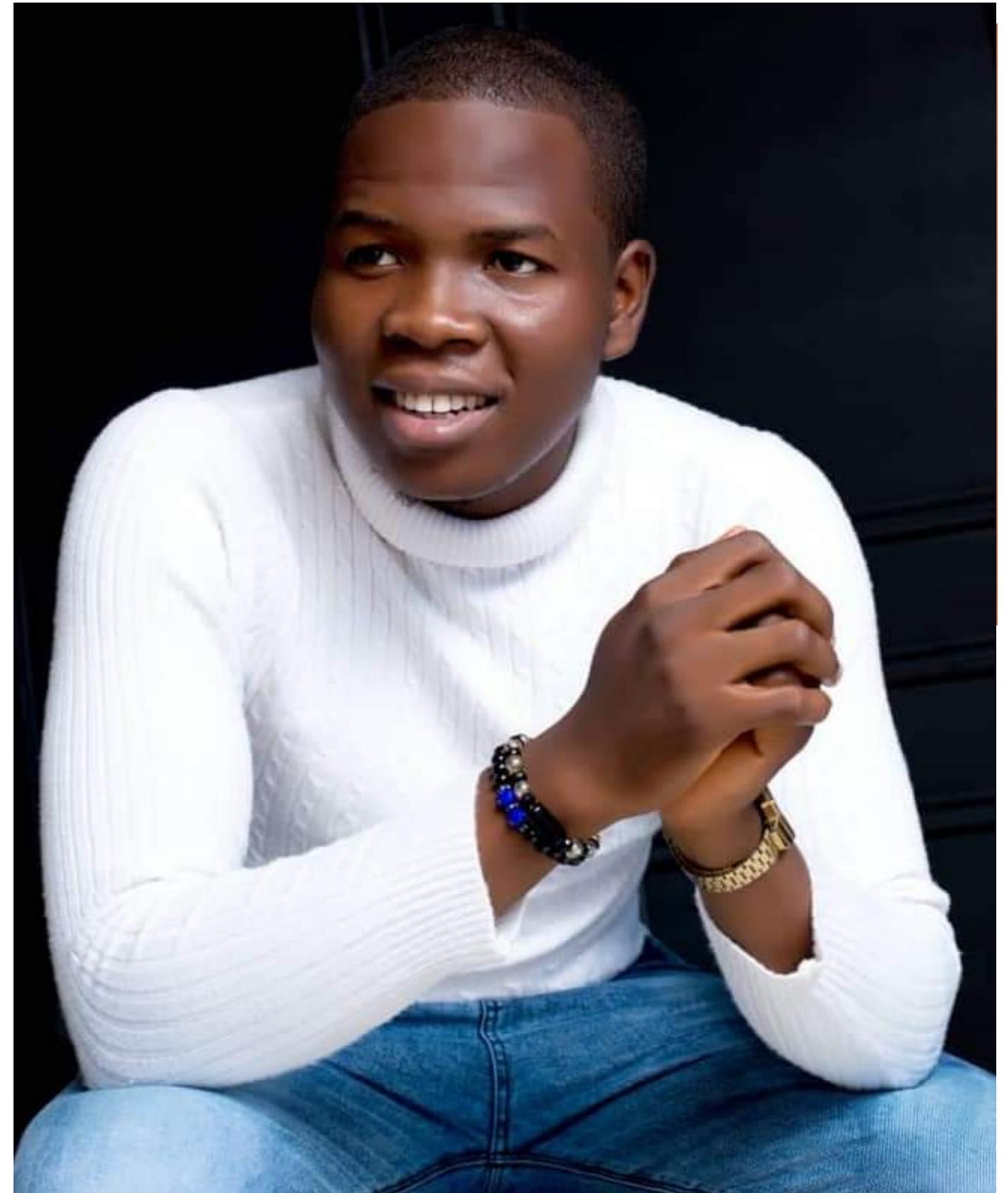


Event

Happy Birthday to **Mr. Akintunde Oluwafemi Samuel.**

We wish you all the best and many blessings

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Event

A very happy wedding anniversary to our *Contributing Editor*; **Mr. Emmanuel Anya** and His beautiful wife **Mrs. Calista Anya**



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Seni Johnson- Happy 16th Birthday

Event



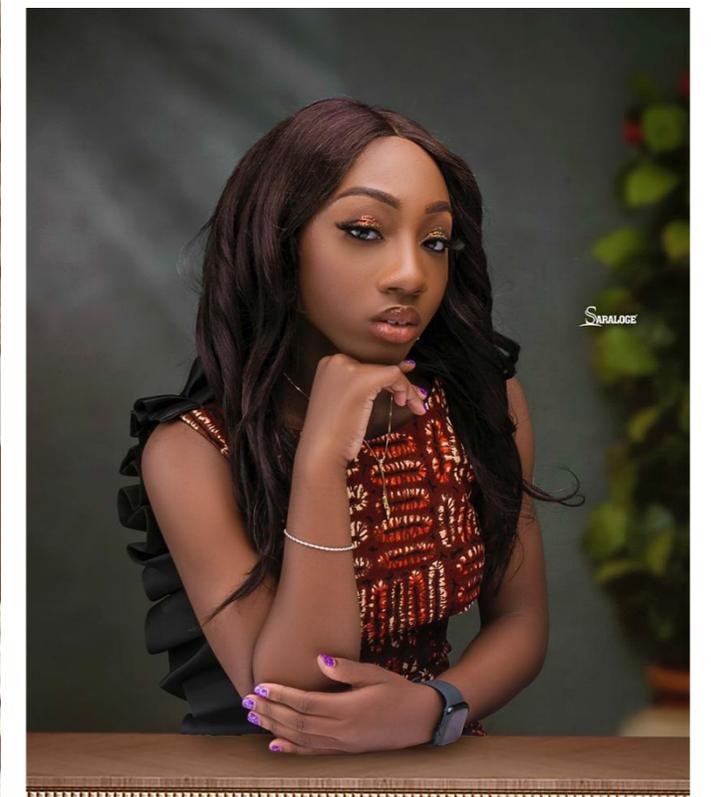
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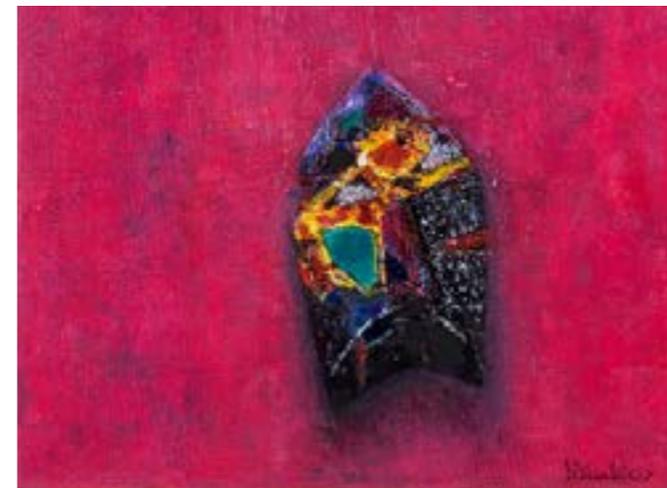
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Services list

1. Digital art space for exhibitions. The service comprises rent of a virtual exhibition art space. It can be used by artists, collectors, and galleries who can exhibit and sell the artworks through the Platform.
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4. Live price index.* The service is designed to show how different art categories that a collector possesses are willing to buy sell globally. It can be used for management decisions related to art, investment decisions, or for the creation of art collection portfolios.
5. Art Investment Consulting. The service comprises the valuation of specific artworks as an investment asset and providing auction estimates.
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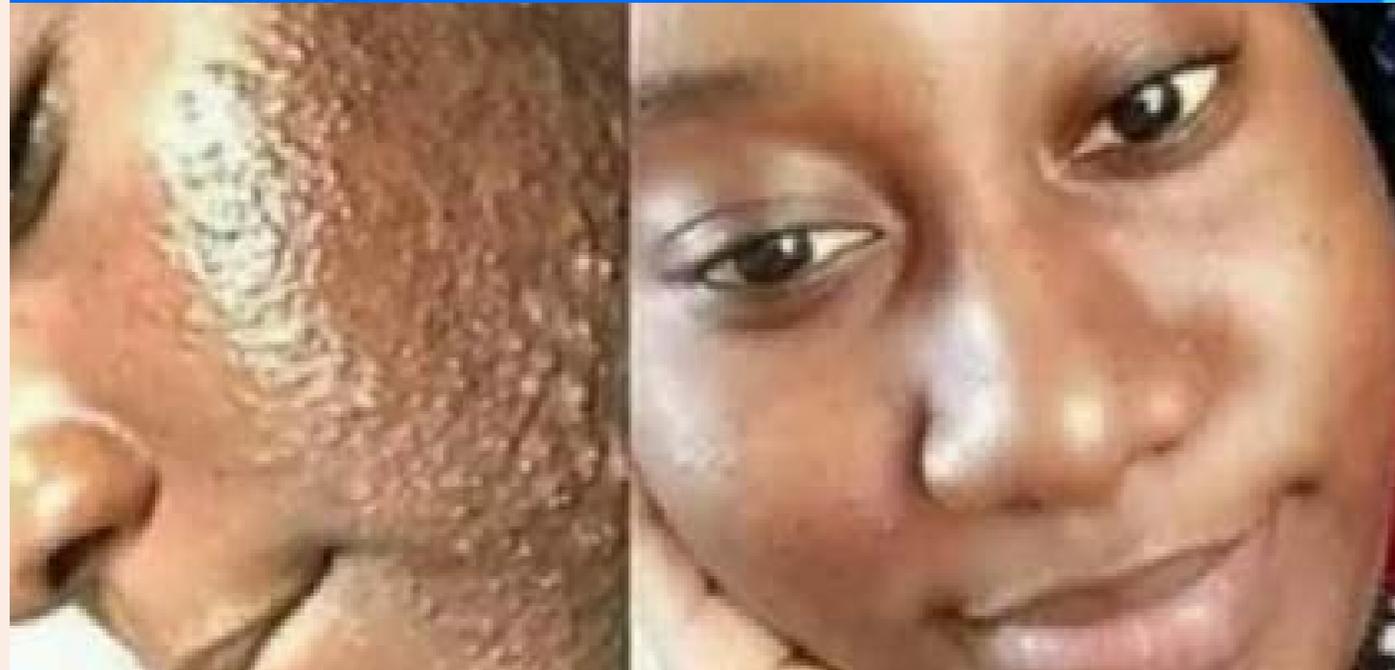
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HOW TO BECOME A BULGARIAN PERMANENT RESIDENT OR CITIZEN BY WAY OF PURCHASING PROPERTY

By: Gbenga Teejay Okunlola & Albena Jones

Although EU citizens can travel and work freely throughout the EU member states, there are still some restrictions in place for those who wish to relocate permanently and for those who are from "third countries", meaning non-EEA countries and people who are not Swiss citizens. Did you know that if you bought a Bulgarian property or business you can obtain permanent citizenship? The recommended way, is to hire a specialist law firm to arrange for immigration and deal with work permit requirements before you arrive. In addition to dealing with your permanent residency needs and work permit issues, a law firm based near your future home can also deal with arranging family permits for non-EU national family members who wish to join you. In this issue we would like to introduce you to such an opportunity. A law firm in Sofia that offer full planning services from buying or renting property, both residential and commercial all the way to assisting you with child care and education if needed.

CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT

Since 2013, Bulgaria's government has offered a immigration program that can lead to long- term residency and, where applicable, to full citizenship. Since that year, foreign investors have been spending more than 500,000 Euros or 1,000,000 BGN on amazing residential properties that represent excellent value for money and in due time they have been enjoying the benefits of being EU citizens without limitations.

Recently many have discovered the beneficial ways to obtain residency by investment is to either start or buy a company that is registered in Bulgaria. There are certain advantages doing this, as Bulgaria has one of the lowest flat tax rates in the EU (10% at the time of writing). Once the legal period of actually living in the country has been met, it is possible for

non-EU residents to apply for full citizenship. If you happen to be from a third country, investing in a Bulgarian business or investing in Bulgarian real estate can provide you with EU nationality and visa free travel throughout the whole territory of the EU. One advantage of choosing Bulgaria is that the investment is 100% refundable, if you purchase, for example, Bulgarian shares on the stock exchange or buy government bonds or similar investment vehicles. Doing so means you gain unlimited living and working rights throughout the EU territory.

It is also possible to acquire permanent residency status by investing more than 1,000,000 BGN in a Bulgarian licensed credit institution for a time of no less than 5 years or by investing at least 6,000,000 BGN in the capital of a Bulgarian company, where shares are not traded on a regulated market. Investors who get involved with large-scale development projects, such as infrastructure for example, are also able to obtain long-term residency rights. If you are planning to invest in Bulgaria, be it in a company formation, a trade representative office, a second residency opportunity for you and family or simply to retire, live and work in Bulgaria, one must consult a specialist law firm about residency, inheritance and taxation issues.

A-CHOICES recommend our legal partners DP Law Firm, who are one of the most reputable and leading multilingual law firms in Bulgaria. To familiarize yourselves review the published company profile in this issue. When contacting them quote ref: a-choices magazine.

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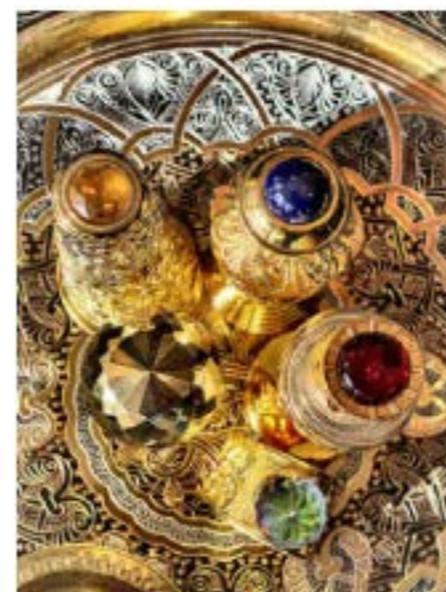


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