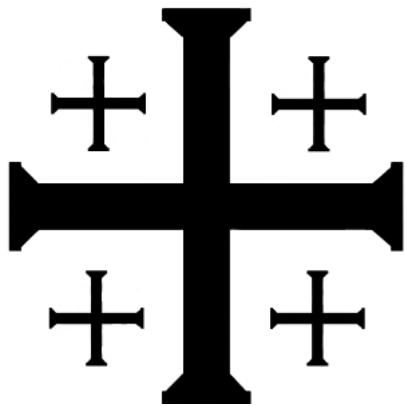


Chief Kalu Kalu Ogba
(ANYANWU OF ABIRIBA)
1930 – 2020



IN CELEBRATION OF AND IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF

CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA

(ANYANWU OF ABIRIBA)

SEPTEMBER 29, 1930 – JULY 14, 2020

Those who die without being forgotten gain immortality

For the nameless are like dust

No one shall come to lay flowers by their grave

Only those who earn their names are ever remembered

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1930

Born in Amaogudu, Abiriba to **James and Nwammang Kalu Ogbu**.

1949

Graduates from **Hope Waddell Training Institute, Calabar** with a **Cambridge School Certificate**.

1955

Graduates from **Trinity College Dublin** with a **Master of Arts (M. A) in Modern History and Political Science**.

1958

Earns a **Bachelor of Letters (B.Litt.) In History** from St. Catherines College at the **University of Oxford**.

1960

Registered as a **Barrister at Law** by the **Society of the Inner Temple** and called to the English Bar.

Called to the Nigerian Bar. Becomes the **32nd lawyer in the history of Port Harcourt** city and begins private legal practice at Aggrey Road.

1963 - 1964

Becomes temporary head at **Dr. N.B. Graham-Douglas'** chambers. Later attains the same position at **Justice C.A. Oputa's** chambers.

Elected President of the **Bende Youths Association**, the most powerful youth organization in the Eastern Region at that time.

Becomes litigation counsel for **Irving and Bonnar**, Nigeria's oldest law firm which was founded in 1917. Does not lose a single case.

1966

Represents the second accused, Mr. Samuel Owonaru, in the infamous case of the **STATE VS JAMES ADAKO BORO & TWO OTHERS**.

1967 - 1970

During Nigeria's Civil War, serves under Dr. Ifegwu Eke in the **Biafran Ministry of Information**.

1970 - 1975

Serves as Chairman of the **East Central State Marketing Board** under the East Central State administrator, Mr. Anthony Ukpabi Asika.

July 1975 - February 1976

Serves as **Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice** for the East Central State under Colonel Anthony Ochefu.

February 1976 - March 1976

Serves as **Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice** for the East Central State under Lieutenant Colonel John Atom Kpera.

March 1976 - February 1977

Becomes the first **Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice** of Old Imo State — comprising of today's Imo and Abia — under the leadership of Rear Admiral Godwin Ndubuisi Kanu, making him a founding father of Imo state.

February 1977 - July 1978

Serves as **Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice** for the Old Imo State under Admiral Adekunle Shamusideen Lawal.

July 1978 – October 1979

Serves as **Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice** of Old Imo State under Brigadier General Sunday Ajibade Adenihun.

November 1979

Returns to private legal and business practice.

1980

Becomes a founding member of the **Abia State Movement** led by Dr. Michael Okpara.

Serves on the 22 man **Central Executive Committee** of the Abia State Movement as a **National Legal Adviser**.

Abia State is created 11 years later, by the General Ibrahim Badamosi Babangida administration, thus making him a founding father of the state.

1981 –

Appointed sole legal counsel (Eastern Nigeria) for **NAL Merchant Bank, the Leventis Group of Companies, the Nigerian Bottling Company** and **Ashland Oil** (known today as **Addax-Sinopec**). Up until the end of his life, does not lose a single case for any of these clients.

1983

Appointed as the **very first Chief** in Abiriba history, in recognition his service to Abiriba while in government, and his numerous land case victories for Abiriba which greatly increased it's size and power. Chieftaincy titles in Ihitteoha, Orlu and Ebem-Ohafia would follow in later years.

1984

Successfully defends all high ranking Imo State government officials and eleven companies indicted during the Honorable Justice **Nnanna Wachukwu Commission of Inquiry**.

1985 –

Appointed company director for **Leventis Motors Ltd, Consolidated Breweries Plc., Victoria Beach Hotels and Geosite Surveys Limited**. Appointed Chairman of the **Nigerian Yeast and Alcohol Company** in Bacita, Kwara State.

1992

Wins **election petition** for Chief Ogbonnaya Onu, thus confirming him as the first democratically elected Governor of Abia State.

Appointed sole legal counsel for **Golden Guinea Breweries Plc.** Does not lose a single case for the company.

1996

Becomes a member and sitting bencher of the **Abia State Judicial Service Commission** alongside Honorable Justice Ukatta and five others.

Successfully defends HRH Eze Onu Egwu and several others falsely accused during the infamous **Otokoto Head Hunters Saga**.

2005

Becomes **Cock of the Imo State bar**.

2014

Receives **Award of Excellence** from his colleagues at the Owerri and Ohafia Bar Association.

July 2020

Dies in Owerri after a short illness.

PART I

ORIGINS

Chief Barrister K.K. Ogbu, legal luminary and the first Attorney-General of Imo State, died on the 14th of July, 2020. He was 89 years old and only two months shy of what would have been his ninetieth birthday.

He was born on the 29th of September, 1930 in the village of Amaogudu, Abiriba. His parents were the late Mr. James Kalu Ogbu and the equally late Madam Mercy Akunna Nwamang Kalu Ogbu. In an age without hospitals or modern medicine, the delivery took place in a tiny mud-walled kitchen in the family compound, Ndi Oji Ukwu. Kitchen births were the norm in those days as there were no western trained doctors in much of Igboland. This lack of modern clinics meant that childhood mortality rates were astonishingly high. K.K was himself the second surviving child of his parents, after seven of his siblings had previously died at childbirth.

He was given the name Kalu, which was the most common name for boys in Abiriba. It was derived from Kamalu, the pagan god of thunder and warfare worshiped by the Abiriba people. Abiriba itself was a kind of black Sparta, a highly militaristic society in which warfare was constant and seemingly unending. Since sacrifices were made to Kamalu before each war, warriors would promise to name their first sons after him should they return home, alive, with the head of at least one foreign enemy.

Many did, and the name proliferated throughout the Kingdom.

ANCESTRY

His lineage can be traced to the "Ndi Mkpa Kamalu" clan from the village of Apangu in Item.

His grandfather, Eleanya, was a highly skilled hunter. As a result of his great skill, he was given the nickname "Ogbu" (sharpshooter) by his contemporaries. "Ogbu", would in the course of time, replace "Eleanya" in reference to him. It has remained the family name to this day.

In Ogbu's time, Abiriba was a society of two halves. On the one hand, you had the Abiriba-Ammon, made up of the adventurous, enterprising and well-off citizens who lived in the townships. And on the other hand, you had the Abiriba-Ulo, made up of citizens with missing teeth, who rarely left the kingdom and knew very little of the modern world.

Ogbu was an Abiriba-Ulo. He lived with little concern for technology, the outside world and other troubles far from home. He had two wives and a large number of children, who thought the world of him for regularly providing them with servings of meat from the daily hunt.

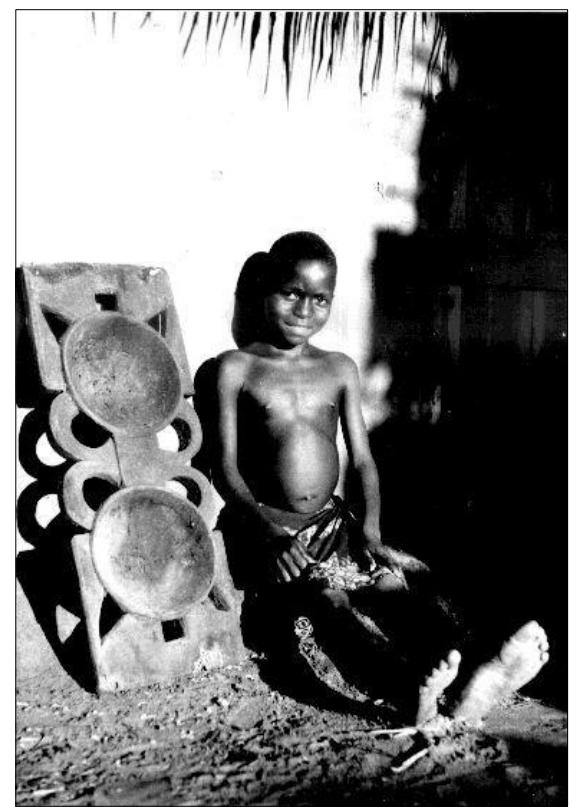


Photo by G. I. Jones, depicting an Abiriba youth sitting next to a food bowl, from around the time of K. K's birth in the early 1930's. Abiriba was famous across much of Igboland for its craftsmanship and metalworks. It was also notorious for constantly waging war on neighboring communities

© Úkpuru

From his first wife, Nwami Ukwu, he would have five children, Nnenne, Olla, Oduenyi, Kalu and Igwo.

But with the onset of British colonial rule in Nigeria, there came a growing realization that there was more to life than hunting, war dances and sorcery. Previously unknown consumer goods flooded into the country, and a host of new professions such as entrepreneurship, teaching, policing and office work suddenly became possible. Parents who wanted a better life for their children, therefore sent them away as apprentices to township traders known as "Onye Uzu". Some of these children would be as young as five years old before being sent away. They would be called "Nwanta Uzu" by their new masters. These masters fed, housed and trained them to become successful traders in their own right. This training sometimes took decades to complete and still exists in Abiriba to this day.

Seeing the writing on the wall and desiring the very best for his children, Ogbagba would send away his first son, Kalu, to become an apprentice to an "Onye Uzu" at a young age. Kalu was extremely curious, extroverted and wildly

ambitious. He was determined to not remain an Abiriba-Ulo like his father and, as a result, he would end up toiling away as a miserable apprentice under an abusive master for many years.

When he came of age, he made the decision to pursue his own destiny, rather than waste away his youth on others. He therefore bought himself a canoe, which was in those days used to smuggle consumer goods into Eastern Nigeria from neighboring Fernando Po. He then proceeded to load it with smuggled goods, sold them all and kept the proceeds to himself.

This action, considered to be notorious at the time, drew the ire of the powerful Abiriba-Ammon, as it was in effect, a unilateral declaration of independence from his master. He was therefore ostracized and forced into exile. Luckily for him, he received an invitation from his close friend, Mr. Henry Ndukwe Ume, to come to Calabar, which was at the time, the capital city of British Nigeria. It was the right place for an ambitious man such as he, as he was freed from the suffocating shackles of tradition, culture and social class.



Abiriba life in the late 1920's. This photograph depicts a masquerade called Ngbagba Ikoro with the chorus and band. Already, some of the natives can be seen wearing T-shirts, which in those days came from the UAC group. The times were changing, and K. K's grandfather, although an Abiriba-Ulo, wanted a better life for his children.

© Úkpúrú

Kalu quickly got into the palm oil trade, becoming the very first Abiriba man to trade in Calabar. Palm oil, at the time, was a highly sought-after commodity. It was primarily used

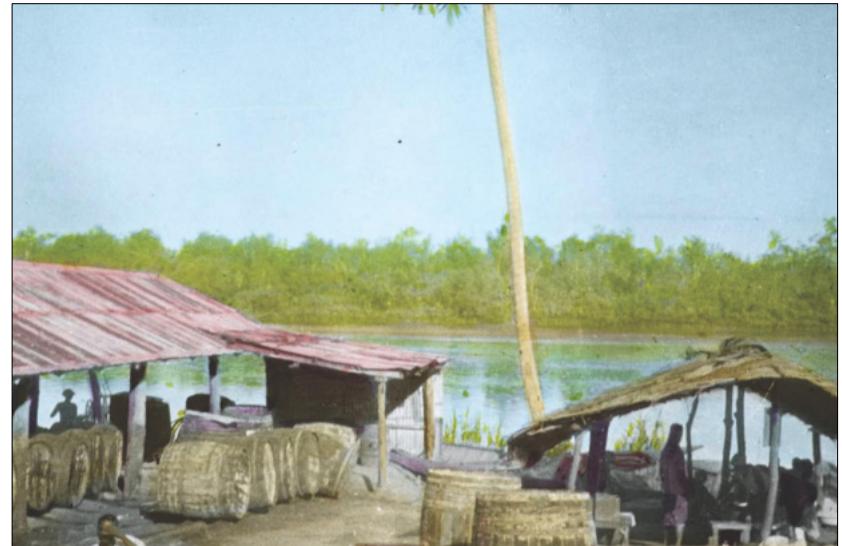
as a lubricant for industrial machinery before the discovery of engine oil. It was also, and still is, a major ingredient in the manufacture of soap.

While Kalu had made satisfactory financial progress in the palm oil trade, he continued to search for his big breakthrough. A golden opportunity would arise following the introduction of paper money by the British colonial government in 1918. The general consensus in Calabar at the time, was that paper money was inferior to sterling coins. It tore easily and was difficult to protect against termites, cockroaches and everything else under the sun. There was a huge revolt against it. As an act of protest, the citizens of Calabar were willing to exchange their one pound paper notes for a mere shilling which was only one-twentieth of its value. Sensing an opportunity, Kalu quickly became something of a coin collector. He sold off many of his assets, converting the proceeds to sterling coins.



A colorized photograph from 1930's Calabar showing a canoe of the sort which K. K.'s father would buy and trade with, abandoning his apprenticeship and earning the ire of the powerful Abiriba-Ammon. He would be ostracized by his community and exiled to Calabar.

© University of Southern California Digital Library



A colorized photograph from the 1930's showing the palm oil trade in Calabar. K. K.'s father would achieve financial independence through this trade following his exile from Abiriba. He became the very first Abiriba man to trade in Calabar, lighting a torch for thousands of his fellow kinsmen who would follow his lead.

© University of Southern California Digital Library

He also chose to accept only coins as a means of payment for his palm oil business. Each day at the close of business, he would then exchange these accumulated coins for paper money, raising his daily income by an astonishing percentage. This state of affairs would continue for a while. Luckily for him, the British did not bend to the demands of the locals and paper money remained legal. His foresight, risk-taking and willingness to action had paid off, quickly making him one of the richest men in Calabar.

With the proceeds from his successful currency speculation, he would make an enormous investment in the stockfish trade. This was a fortuitous choice as stockfish was in great demand in those days, and did not require refrigeration. It was imported, almost half-way round the world, from Norway and Iceland. In early 20th century

Calabar, it was even used as currency by both the British and the local population as it was relatively durable and did not rot under the capital city's hot and humid climate.

A further investment would follow in the building materials trade. Calabar was growing and needed new schools, hospitals and private homes. He focused on the importation of cement and iron rods from the United Kingdom. It was a roaring trade, bringing him even greater wealth than before.

He would later turn his attention to the importation of sugar. The growing middle class in Calabar was drinking a lot more tea and Ovaltine. As a result, local demand for sugar soared alongside the number of diabetes patients.

He made his residence at No 10, Eyo Lane in the Duke Town portion of Calabar. One of his neighbors was His Royal Highness, King Ephraim Adam Duke. King Duke was a fantastically wealthy and opulent monarch who owned the tallest building in Calabar. His palace had been prefabricated in England and shipped to Calabar where it was reassembled to the astonished eyes of the King's rivals. This building inspired Kalu to construct, in 1923, one of the very first storey buildings in Abiriba history. This house would later be described by Dr. Francis Akanu Ibiam, the second western trained Igbo doctor, who lived and worked in Abiriba for a portion of his life, as the most beautiful house in the Kingdom. It is a testament to the quality of the materials used in its construction that, even after a jealous attempt to burn it down during the civil war in 1968, it remains standing to this day and does not leak water.

Business success brought Kalu into close association with the Europeans of Calabar. He was nicknamed "Enyi ndi Beke" (Friend of the whites) by the locals and he would on occasion wear exquisitely made European suits. His close association to the white man led to him becoming, at a now unknown date, one of the first Abiriba converts to Christianity.

He generously aided Presbyterian missionaries in Abiriba by building them a place of worship and providing free utara (the Abiriba term for fufu) to anyone who attended it. A common refrain by Abiriba villagers at this time was "Ka anyi ga Churchi



K. K.'s father, the business tycoon Kalu Eleanya with his first son, Eleanya Kalu Ogba. Always exquisitely dressed, he would change his name to James Kalu Ogba following a baptism by Presbyterian missionaries. This photograph was heavily damaged during the civil war, but was restored with the help of photography experts from the Netherlands in 1992.

Kalu Ogba ebe a na elo utara" (Let us go to Kalu Ogba's church where we can eat free fufu). In this way, he had become a fisher of men just like James, the apostle of Jesus. He was therefore baptized with this name and would be known as James Kalu Ogba until the very end of his life.

Although he was a devoted Christian, he was never able to convert his parents or his sisters to the faith. They would all die happily as pagans.

James would however emulate the wealthy Jewish King, Solomon, by marrying eight wives. This was considered a rather measly sum for a man of his means, in a time when monogamy was synonymous with poverty. But he did not always rely on money to sway women to his side. He had a rather sweet tongue and was sometimes known as "Oji ire efe nkwu" (One who cuts down trees with his tongue). One of his brides would come from the Aro affiliated village of Ishiagu, famous for its traditional pottery, its lead and zinc mines and its crushed rock industries. This match was likely made because of the close military relationship between the Aro and Abiriba peoples, who both shared a warlike nature and a love of conquest. Her name was Mercy Akunna Nwamang and she came from very good stock as she was a lineal descendant of the legendary Aro trader, Nwafor Oji Oti Nkpang. Oti Nkpang's Ogbuka clan owned the highly successful Eke Market in Ishiagu and as such were not given to the twin vices of begging and laziness.

They would have four children. K.K himself, Ada, Ola and Nwanne.

Unlike the majority of children born in that era, every single one of James' Kalu Ogba's children knew the exact date of their birth. This was mostly thanks to a man named Mr. Wilfred, one of the educated clerks James had hired to help him run his business. Wilfred was a Yoruba tribesman with terrifying tribal marks on both cheeks, but he had a



An antique hiding in plain sight, James Kalu Ogba's Abiriba home was completed on the 10th of October, 1923. In its heyday, it was widely acknowledged as the most beautiful house in Abiriba. The late Dr. Francis Akanu Ibiam, Igbo land's second western trained medical doctor, was mesmerized by its then incredible beauty. He spent a great deal of his time in its upper balcony, after he arrived Abiriba in 1935, to open the Presbyterian Mission Hospital.

© Abiriba's very own Philip Akwari

kind heart.

He recorded birthdays, deaths and weddings in a series of files and notebooks which have all been well preserved and remain in existence to this day.

It has to be said that James never forgot where he came from. He was proud of his Abiriba roots and mostly wore exquisitely made traditional clothing. He was also famous for his "Ekpe" drumming and singing. He was so good at this that he became known among the locals of Calabar as "Ekpiri Owo Enem Uyo Iquo" (The little man with the delightful voice). In spite of his great wealth, he was never boastful and remained humble. His humility can easily be

seen from the numerous letters he wrote to Abiriba community elders, who sometimes owed him tons of money. The tone of these letters was never haughty, never demanding and never humiliating.



James Kalu Ogba's wife and K. K's mother, Mercy Nwammang Akunna Kalu Ogba. Raised as a Roman Catholic, she was a member of Ishiagu's famous Ogbuka clan. Her famous ancestor, Nwafor Oji Oti Nkpang was so wealthy that he was given the title of Ogbuka-Aku, meaning "he who breaks open riches".

His great wealth was to be the glue which would reconcile him with the previously antagonistic Abiriba-Ammon. In 1927, his village, Amaogudu, sought a loan of one hundred pounds to hire an Oron lawyer, Barrister Esin, for a land appeal against the Nkporo people. Being a lawyer in the 1920's must have been great fun, as a hundred pounds in those days was an enormous amount of money, enough to buy a hundred thousand balls of akara. The Amaogudu community had embarrassingly had asked foreign villages and tribesmen for this sum, but their request was rejected.

They were however told that one of their very own might be able to help them. They were then directed to James who gleefully obliged them. The lawsuit ended in an Amaogudu victory in 1932 at the court of the Assistant District Officer, Bende Division. This victory endeared him to the very same people who had previously ostracized him. They had won Mkpodu land, which was at the time, Amaogudu's largest piece of real estate. As a token of their appreciation, his jubilant kinsmen therefore promised James and his descendants multiple plots of farmland on Mkpodu land until the end of time.

From that point on, James would begin to make a number of important contributions to the Abiriba community. He would lend the community money on many occasions, as can be seen from his many business documents which are still in existence. He would also forgive a large number of debts from the poor and the destitute. Alongside his earlier mentioned close friend, Mr. Henry Ndukwe Kalu Ume (the father of Chief Kalu Ndifa), he would also become the co-founder of the A.Y.C.A (Abiriba Young Christians Association) which is known today as the A.C.I.U (Abiriba Community Improvement Union). This organization has done so much for the Abiriba community by generously funding its social and economic development. It has also provided a voice and a sense of identity for Abiriba citizens in foreign lands.

In retrospect however, it is quite possible that James' greatest contribution to Abiriba was the simple act of migrating to Calabar to trade and succeeding. In the pre-colonial era, trade was limited in much of eastern Nigeria as a result of the slave trade and the numerous inter-ethnic conflicts which were raging at the time. These conflicts petered out with British rule, leading to a more fluid movement of people, goods and services. Much like bees flock to honey, James' wealth and success attracted a mass exodus of ambitious Abiriba youth, seeking their own fame and fortune in the capital city of Calabar. Many would succeed and the ripple effects of their success would lay the foundations for the enormous political and financial muscle which Abiriba enjoys to this day. The wealth and exposure of Abiriba traders residing in Calabar would lead to a growing need for literacy and amenities in the Kingdom. Roads, schools, hospitals and numerous magnificent buildings would go on to be financed and constructed in later years.

All this, because of the bravery and ambition of a single Abiriba hero ■



The extrovert

James Kalu Ogba is seen here in the official Abiriba-Ammon regalia of the 1930's. Although a devoted Christian, he made the wise decision to enjoy his relatively short life here on earth, while hoping for the best in the afterlife.



The Dapper Tycoon

James Kalu Ogba was one of the best dressed Abiriba men of his day. In this photograph, he can be seen wearing an outfit typically reserved for lawyers from the 1930's. It was taken after a famous Amaogudu Supreme Court victory he had financed between 1927 and 1932. After paying the then massive sum of a hundred pounds for this victory, he insisted that his son K.K would become a lawyer, often muttering the phrase, "We need a lawyer in the family" to friends and family alike.

Fun fact! The puppy in the photograph isn't real, and is actually made out of wool.



A man of many worlds

Following his exile from Abiriba to Calabar, James Kalu Ogba would not only learn the Efik language, he would also begin to somewhat dress like the locals. Here he is seen in a mixture of Abiriba-Ammon and Efik regalia. He is also holding a sterling silver topped staff which once belonged to His Royal Highness King Ephraim Adam Duke. It has since become a family heirloom, passed down from one generation to the next. In addition, he was known for his Ekpe singing and drumming and would introduce elements of the Efik Ekpe to his hometown Abiriba.



James' Kalu Ogba's second wife, Mercy Akunna Nwamang came from the famous Ogbuka clan of Ishiagu. Following her husband's death in 1943, she would go through fire and water as a young foreign widow. She however refused to abandon her children to a succession of cruel step aunties, choosing instead to carry out her motherly duties with great love and devotion. Her Christian name, Mercy, would turn out to be prophetic. All those who knew her will readily testify to her compassion for the downtrodden. She was extremely generous, giving away the bulk of the provisions her children sent to her in aid of the downtrodden and the destitute. Her kitchen was a sort of Mecca for the hungry, even though she knew that some of those she was feeding were poor because they were allergic to work.

Chief Eleanya Kalu the father of J.K.Ogba
died on the 28th May 1927

No note in
existence

She is born 13th of September
1926. I reached here on 22nd
second of September 1926 to see
my daughter.

J. J. K. Oba.
Ima Ogudu Town
Abiriba.

27.9.26.

Elenya Kalu was born on
10 P.M or Sunday, that was
2nd day of December 1928.

X Hau Kalu Eleanya was born on 29th
September, 1930.

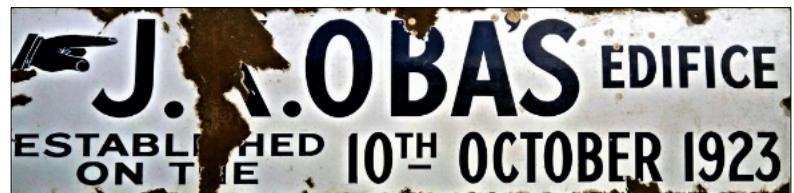
Mercy Oba Kalu was born on 25th
April 1953. June
Ada Kalu was born on 25th 1931

K.K's unofficial Birth Certificate

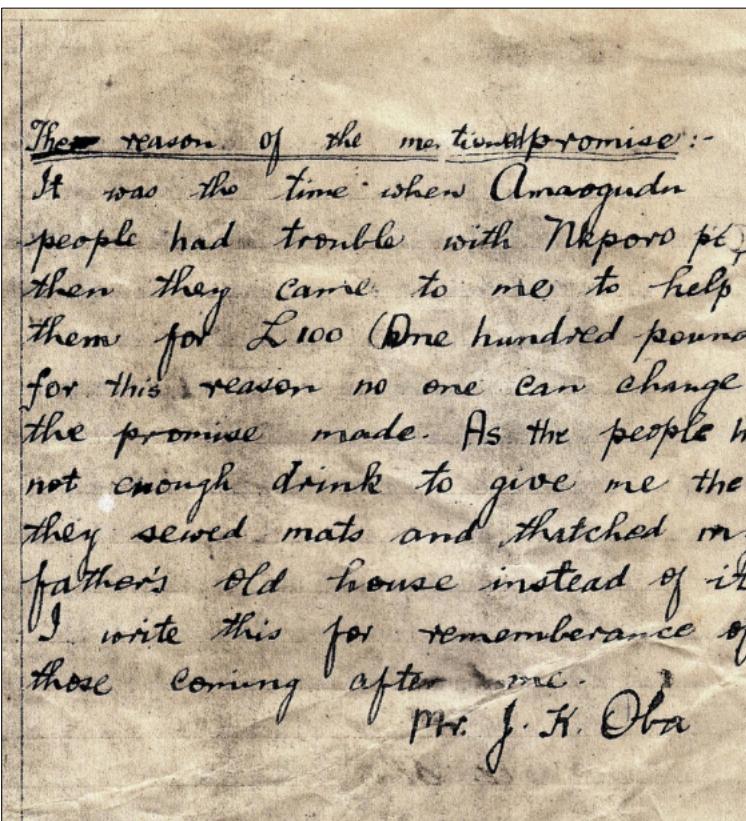
This document, from James Kalu Ogba's archives shows the birth dates of some of his children, including K.K who is identified as Kalu Kalu Eleanya. He later became known as Kalu Kalu Ogba in honor of his grandfather who had been nicknamed "Ogba".

These birth records were kept by James Kalu Ogba's dedicated Yoruba clerk, Mr. Wilfred. K.K would meet his mixed race grandson many decades later in a Lagos courthouse.

Mr. Wilfred also recorded deaths in the James Kalu Ogba household. Here we have a document showing a death record for K.K's grandfather, Eleanya Kalu, who died in 1927, three years before K.K was born.



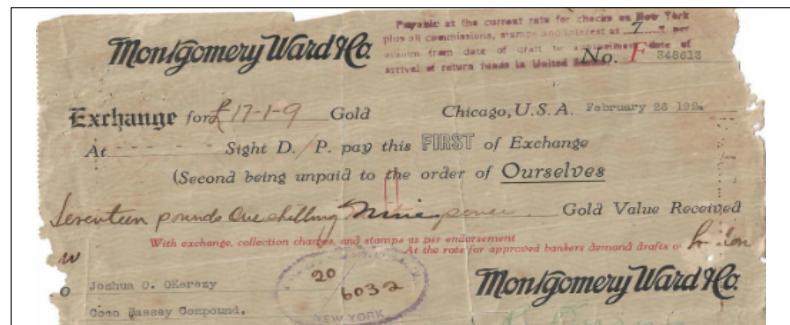
Above The signboard for James Kalu Ogba's Abiriba home still exists, and will be a hundred years old in October 2023. His home is described as an edifice, which it was in 1923. But the term would sound preposterous to many of today's multi-millionaires living in oversized mansions.



Left Another antique from James Kalu Ogba's Abiriba home. This mahogany desk with a marble tabletop will also turn one hundred in October, 2023. It is remarkably well preserved, which is somewhat unsurprising as mahogany is a top tier construction material.

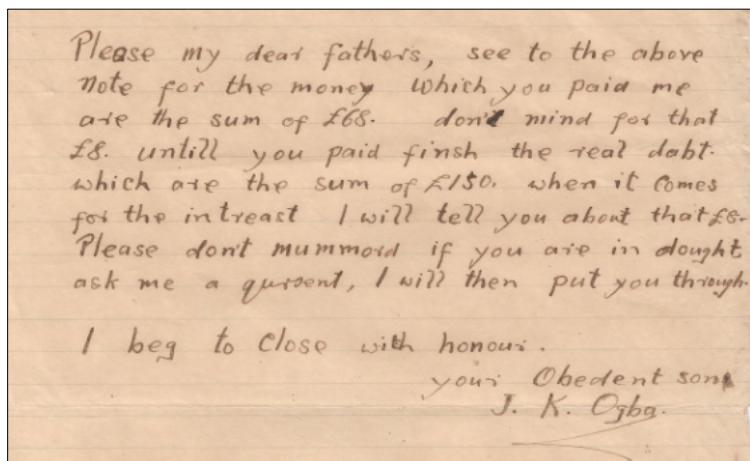
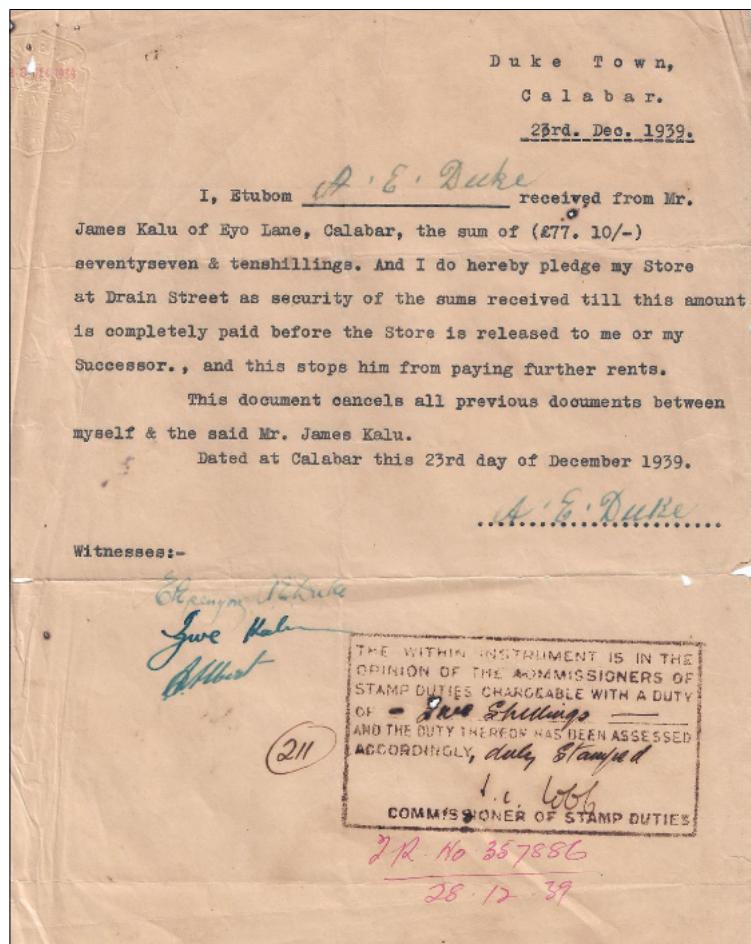
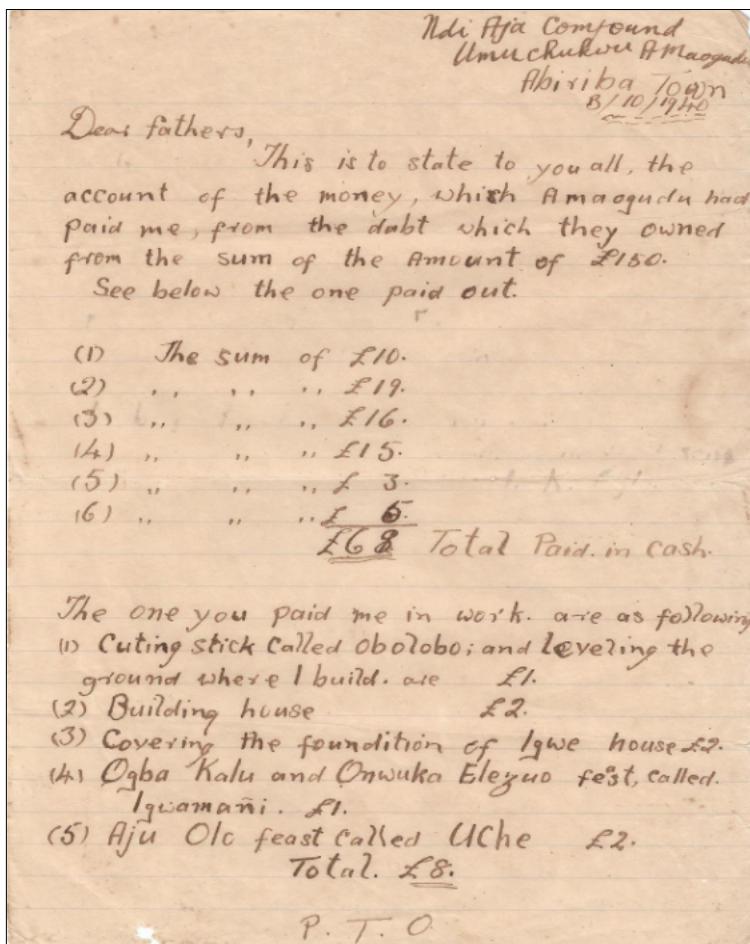
Left — James Kalu Ogba writes to his descendants

Between 1927 and 1932, James Kalu Ogba financed a court case against the Nkporo people for the possession of Mkpodu land. It ended in a Supreme Court victory for Amaogudu. He and his descendants were then promised multiple plots of farmland in the Mkpodu area until the end of time. But the people of Amaogudu did not keep their promise. And they probably never will.



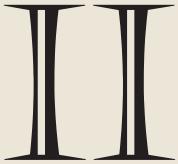
Above A February, 1924 cheque for seventeen pounds, one shilling and nine pence from James Kalu Ogba's archives. The company premises was located at No. 28 Coco Bassey Street in Calabar.

Note the amusing Europeanised spelling of Okoroezi.



Above Right Even the great and mighty monarch, His Royal Highness Ephraim Duke borrowed money on occasion from James Kalu Ogba. In this document from 1939, he is seen requesting the sum of seventy-seven pounds and ten shillings. James' younger brother Igwe Kalu serves as a second witness to the transaction in 1939.

Above Left and Bottom Left – More borrowing
James Kalu Ogba did not only finance Amaogudu's Mkpodu court case, he also lent money on occasion to the community. Here he is politely requesting the balance on a loan for 150 pounds. Incredibly, he never charged any interest on his numerous loans to the community.

PART 

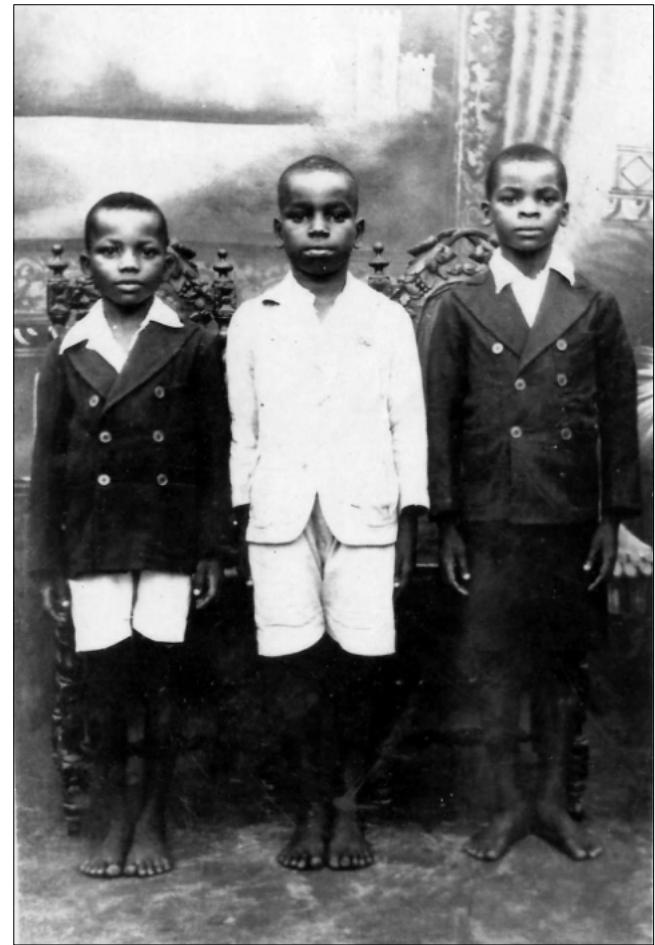
EARLY YEARS

K.K spent his early years in Abiriba with his mother Nwammang. Much of his time was occupied in constructing toy cars, wrestling and practicing marksmanship with the aid of the catapult. At the age of four, he was enrolled at the Presbyterian Infant School in Abiriba, where he spent most of his time sleeping rather than studying. Sensing that his son had shown very little interest in the local school, his father enrolled him two years later at the Duke Town School in Calabar. This school was however, greatly overcrowded. A close friend of the family, Mr. Okereke Uche, therefore suggested his enrollment at the neighboring Hope Waddell Training Institute.

Hope Wadell had been founded in 1895 by missionaries from the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland. One of these missionaries was the well known Mary Slessor, who was famous for leading a successful campaign to abolish twin infanticide in Calabar. The fact that many of the teachers at this school were British greatly added to its prestige. The boys at Hope Wadell, learning from the colonists themselves, were drilled in excellent oratory, diction and penmanship. They were also encouraged to play a wide range of sports, especially cricket, table tennis and football. A little known fact is that a former teacher at the school, the Reverend James Luke, was responsible for introducing the game of football to Nigeria.

The school itself, was at a considerable distance from K.K's home at Eyo Lane. Six miles away to be exact. This meant that he had to undertake a daily journey of fifteen thousand steps, twice a day, from the age of seven. To help mitigate the suffering involved in this endeavor, he was given half a penny on each day of school. This was enough to buy him five balls of akara, for which he would be eternally grateful, as the food served at Hope Waddell itself was a gastronomic and nutritional disaster. Not a single egg, not a drop of milk, nor even a slice of bread was served during his twelve years at the school. K.K would, in his later years, ascribe this nutritional deficiency as the source of his average height.

In his early years at Hope Waddell, he became very successful academically after reading the Book of Solomon. Upon learning that Solomon had asked God for wisdom instead of wealth, he knelt down and recited a similar prayer. His reasoning was that with wisdom he could gain enormous wealth, but if he were to be a fool, even he and his money would soon be parted. In what he would later recall as the first miracle of his life, this prayer actually worked. He soon ranked as a top three student in his class,



Photograph from 1939 showing an eight year old K.K, pictured first from the left, in his Hope Wadell school uniform. He is pictured with his half-brother Eleanya and cousin Okebe. In those days, the majority of children, and as a matter of fact, the majority of adults, did not own or wear any shoes.

becoming the favorite of his teachers, and the envy of his classmates.

At the age of nine, he drew a map of the world in color, inserting all state capitals and major ports in the diagram. This began what would turn out to be a lifelong interest in history, politics and current affairs. Amazingly, even in his old age, he could redraw this very same map from memory, and recall the capital cities of most of the world's countries.



Founded by Scottish missionaries in 1895, Hope Waddell Training Institution would produce a long list of notable alumni such as Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe, Dr. Francis Akanu Ibiam and Abiriba's very own Prof Anya O. Anya. It had a friendly rivalry with the neighboring Duke Town School, whose students referred to its initials, H.W.T.I as "Here we Train Idiots". The students at Hope Waddell retaliated by referring to Duke Town School as Donkey Training School.

outclassed academically by much younger students, and this state of affairs sometimes led to bullying. On one occasion, K.K decided to fight back against the bullies. He persuaded one of his older classmates, Emmanuel Mills, that he knew the national anthem of Sayam (known today as Thailand). It was supposedly sung to the tune of "God Save the King" and the words where "O WATANA SAYAM" repeated until the end of the original tune. An unsuspecting Emmanuel Mills went along with this fib, and continued his recitation until it was revealed to him that he was actually saying "OH, WHAT AN ASS I AM", repeatedly.

K.K's divinely backed run of academic success would come to an abrupt end after his father, James, died following a short illness in September of 1943. James had received a telegram informing him that his younger brother Igwo had fallen ill, and was dying from a mysterious illness. Because of strict fuel rationing during the second world war, he had to undertake the journey to see his "dying" brother on foot and by ferry rather than by car. On his return home, he developed a high fever and asthma after being soaked in heavy rainfall near Uzuakoli. This would, unfortunately

At the age of ten, he began his first consulting business, by writing rudimentary business letters for illiterate Abiriba smugglers, then trading from Fernando Po in Equatorial Guinea. They would their gratitude by generously rewarding him with canned sardines and rice.

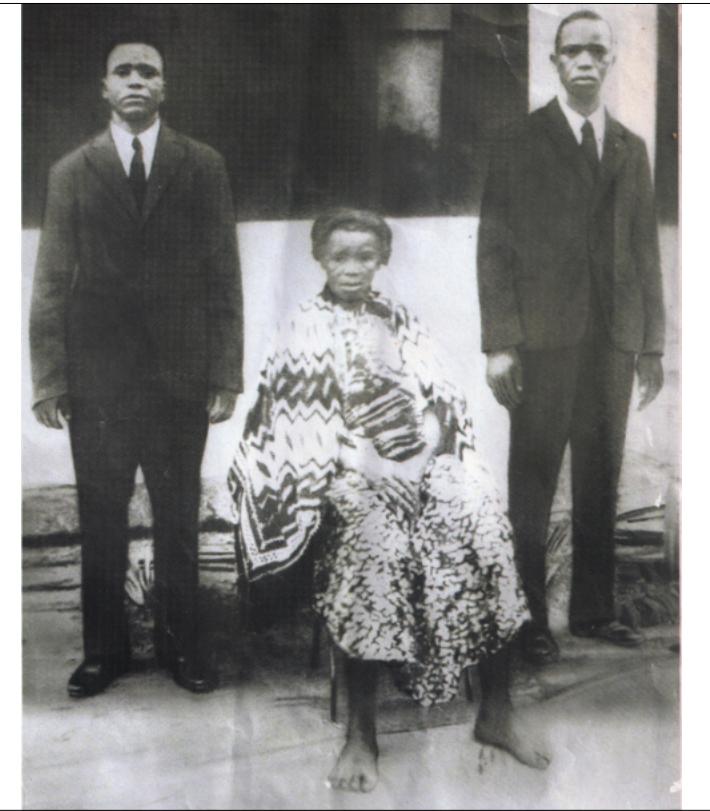
During K.K's school days, an elementary six graduation certificate was enough to guarantee employment with the government, church missions and local businesses. Elementary six graduates also had the opportunity to go on to higher studies after which they could become much sought after lawyers, doctors and engineers. This led to the awkward situation where quite a few of K.K's classmates were much older than he was.

They did not always take kindly to being

lead to his untimely death, at around the age of fifty, only four days later. K.K was only twelve years old at the time. He was deeply scarred by this turn of events and would fall into a deep and lasting depression for many years afterwards. He thought the world of his father and would miss him terribly.

As K.K and his older brother were underage, his uncle, Igwo, the only full-blooded brother of his father, James, now took over his father's estate. Earlier in life, Igwo had been rescued by James from an extremely harsh apprenticeship at Uzuakoli under his paternal uncle. Discipline among the apprentices was spartan. They were subjected to many long hours of work with no pay and very little food. Punishments for infractions were usually quite severe, with whippings and starvation being quite common. Igwo was himself visibly nutritionally deficient and always on the verge of death. His older brother, James, after amassing a measure of wealth, therefore recalled him to become his

apprentice in Calabar. He was registered in the infant department of the Duke Town School where he turned out to be a hardworking and intelligent pupil. Without repeating a single class, he passed all of his examinations from Infant One to Elementary Six. He then sat for, passed and obtained the Elementary Six School Leaving Certificate. He and his older brother James were incredibly close. This meant that Igwo, upon learning of the death of the older brother who had rescued him from his apprenticeship hell, sent him to school and launched him into a successful business career, now became gravely ill. He would be bed-ridden for two years during which the affairs of the family business were greatly reduced. In the meantime, K.K no longer received his daily stipend of half a penny. He was forced to supplement his diet by foraging for wild fruits and palm kennels during school breaks alongside fellow classmates from poorer homes. He also raided the guava, mango and cashew trees on the fences of European houses.



James Kalu Ogbu with his mother, seated in the middle, and younger brother Igwo Kalu, standing to the right. At the time this photograph was taken, Igwo had only recently been rescued by his older brother James from a very harsh apprenticeship at Uzuakoli. He is clearly emaciated and malnourished in the photograph, with his sunken cheeks and prominent laugh lines being clearly visible. Things would change however, and he would come to be known as the wealthy Ete Igwo by most Abiriba citizens in later years. Their father, Ogbu, was available for this photograph but declined to take part, as he believed the camera flash was a magical European blood draining device.

With the defeat of Italy, Germany and Japan in 1945, competent European doctors were released from the British Armed Forces, with many posted to the colonies. It was one of these, who had been posted to St. Margaret's Hospital, Calabar, that was able to diagnose the mysterious illness which plagued his uncle Igwo, as high blood pressure. He was given medication to control this and was therefore able to resume his business affairs to

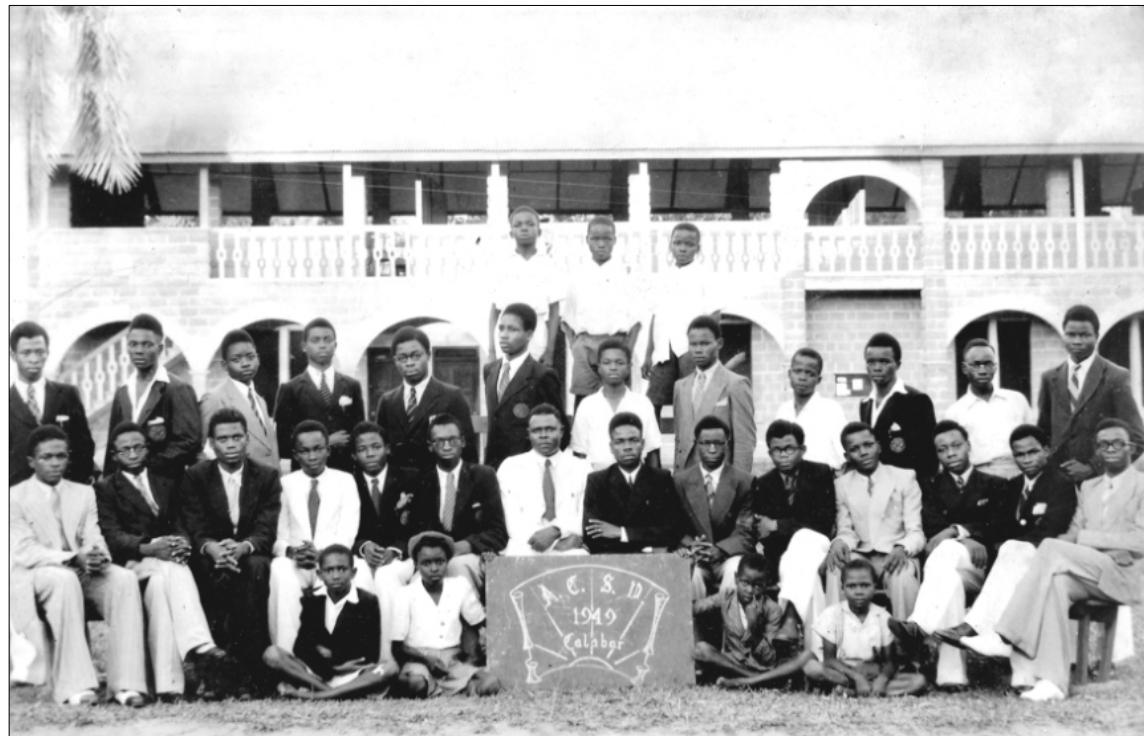
great success. Being a very kind and honest man, and being grateful for the loving way in which K.K's father had treated him, he then took over K.K's upbringing and treated him like his own son.

K.K slept in the same L-shaped bedroom as his uncle's first son and the two boys would often be seen wearing matching outfits. They would also, on occasion, be picked up from school in Igwo's brand new Ford Limousine, drawing the attention of teachers and fellow students alike.

All would have been well and good except for the fact that Igwo was a polygamist with many wives. In typical step mother fashion, these wives saw K.K as a threat and treated him horribly. Not only did they give him less food than their children, he also had to frequently endure the indignity of having his meals served beside the family dustbin. He was also physically and mentally abused for every minor infraction. His mother, who might have been a source of positive reinforcement and support during this period, was stuck in Abiriba. This ultimately meant that in spite of the kindness of his uncle, the emotional scars from his father's early death were never truly healed.

Regardless, he would soldier on until his final year at Hope Waddell. There were no universities in Nigeria at the time and the general expectation of his teachers was that he would end up in private business or as a clerk at UAC.

But an earlier event which had taken place in 1945, and it's consequences, meant that a very different future had already been plotted out for him. Back then, a then unknown Abiriba businessman in Calabar, Ikwan Onwuka, surprised the entire community by sending the son of his childhood friend, Echeme Emole to Britain for a law degree. Echeme Emole returned to Nigeria in 1952 as the first Abiriba lawyer to a grand reception. Within two years, he would become the first Abiriba citizen to be honored with a ministerial appointment under Dr. Michael Okpara's government.



K.K's Hope Waddell graduation photograph from 1949. He is seated, fourth from the right in a grey blazer. Most of the boys at the school were Efik or Ibibio, but a rather large continent came from a wide range of West African countries including Ghana, Sierra Leone and Senegal.

Barely two months after this, K.K's uncle, Igwo, would be continuously taunted by his camp followers and townsfolk, who proclaimed that Ikwan Onwuka was wealthier than he was. He would respond by sending his nephew, Kalu Nwokeka Oji, to study medicine at the Royal College of Surgeons in Dublin, following which he would go on to become the first western trained doctor in Abiriba history.

As K.K's final school exams drew near, his uncle Igwo, made it known to his teachers at Hope Waddell that he intended for him to study law at Trinity College, Dublin. His teachers advised against this, insisting that he would be better off as a clerk, and would never make it as a lawyer. K.K, who secretly desired to become a doctor like his cousin Nwokeka Oji, was himself left out of the conversation, as young people did as they were told in those days. This meant that he had very little choice but to go along with whatever plan had been laid out for him. It was later revealed by his uncle, Igwo, that his father James, recalling the then enormous sum of a hundred pounds he had spent on Amaogudu's Nkporo victory, would often say that a lawyer was needed in the family and that he hoped his son K.K would become one. The only problem now was passing his latin exam without which, in those days, it was impossible to gain admission to the top British and Irish Universities. Latin, a notoriously difficult language, was barely spoken in Nigeria and he had not really paid much attention to it in class. So K.K, who had somewhat given up on God following his father's death decided to get down on his knees once more and pray for luck and divine guidance. To his lifelong astonishment, another miracle would occur and he would pass his Latin exam with aplomb. The stage was now set for him to study law in the United Kingdom ■

HOPE WADDELL OLD STUDENTS ASSOCIATION


CAC/IT/ NO 41033
**HOPE WADDELL
OLD STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION**
NIGERIA

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Ex-Officio II

HW/NAT/125

November 6, 2020

The family of Late Chief K.K.Ogba,
Attn: Chizoba Kalu-Ogba

LETTER OF CONDOLENCE

On behalf of the National President, members of the National Executive Council, and entire members of our Association, HWOSA, I write to commiserate with you on the demise of your dear Father and our fellow Howadian, **Chief K. K. Ogba**.

Chief K. K. Ogba was no ordinary Howadian, his accomplishments during his lifetime is a testimony to what our great school stands for and its impact in the society.

We are very proud of this great Nigerian and are consoled that his legacies will stand the test of time.

We therefore console you our dear sister, his family, community and the entire members of the Association to take solace in the fact that his good works while on Earth are not in vain.

May the soul of this great Howadian find rest in the bosom of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, Amen.

In Spe Gloriae Dei!


Dr. Abraham Anlak
National Secretary

In Spe Gloriae Dei

**“No
Ordinary
Howadian”**

Below K.K, seated, third from the left, with fellow members of the Hope Waddell Old Students' Association, Owerri Branch Executive in 1982.



EZE OGO, DR ANAGHA EZIKPE**EZE OGO DR. A. EZIKPE OFR.**

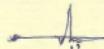
Eze Ogo Amanta
ENYI ABIA

TRIBUTE TO A BOSOM FRIEND

On August 2020, my bosom friend Kalu Kalu Ogba Esq. popularly known as KK" passed away. We were so close all through our growing days. He was very courageous and zealous. The clarity and dignity with which he carried himself cannot be over emphasized. I will miss his fierce dedication to doing what is right, his words, sense of core values, his counsel and friendship.

One of his beliefs in life was the importance of being authentic with people. I always admire how he never judged or forced opinion on anyone but offered valuable and truthful advice that I surely miss, He always kept his sense of humour He was a very dedicated and intelligent legal practitioner. His practice flourished with fame over the years and I am very proud of him. He was a wonderful father to his children and laid a strong foundation for them. He tried with all his heart to live but God called him and he had to go, my hope is that you rest in peace knowing that your family will be fine.

Adieu My Bosom Friend!



Ezeogo Dr. A. Ezikpe IHIE ABIA, OFR.



Left K.K with Ezeogo Dr. Anagha Ezikpe in the late 90's. A childhood friend he knew for more than eight decades.



Left Chief Ndukwe Kalu Umeh, also known as Ndifia, is K.K's oldest friend. His father, the late Chief Ndukwe Kalu Umeh invited K.K's father, James, to Calabar following his exile from Abiriba. Without this invitation, James Kalu Ogba might have amounted to nothing, and it is possible K.K himself would not even have been born. Pictured here with K.K and his wife, Nena, at an event in 2002.

A TRIBUTE TO MY BOSSOM CHILDHOOD FRIEND

Our friendship can be traced back to the friendship bond of our fathers, the late Chief James Kalu Ogba and the late Chief Ndukwe Kalu Umeh, both of blessed memory.

My humble wish, Ogbo (as we fondly called each other), is to bear in mind that the physical death is not the end of life's existence. Life continues in a new level of experiencing!

My humble gift to take on your onward journey is:

**"LONG FOR THE LIGHT
FERVENTLY STRIVE TOWARDS IT JOYFULLY!
NEVER GROW WEARY!"**

Our loving thoughts accompany you on your journey.

CHIEF KALU NDUKWE, THE EGWUENA OF ABIRIBA AND FAMILY

EYEN ETE UWA

A TRIBUTE TO A MAN OF SINGULAR COURAGE, LAWYER K.K. OGBA ESQ.

It was 7:30pm on the 20th of July, 2020 when the baby of the house said that Princess informed him that you had passed on to belong to the ages. Implying that we had on Tuesday, 14th July, 2020, missed and lost you permanently. The shock was because no one had hinted of ill health. The nerve-chilling news was later confirmed by no other than Okuru Oburu Ogwu ya Onwonya - your in-law Chief Ogbusuo.

The mind went back to the mid-1940s when we bathed together in Usumani with Eleanya Igwo during those far and between Decembers you visited Abiriba on holidays. But December, 1949 was when you surrendered your check shirt to me, upstairs at Ndi Ejia.

Instinctively, you kindly and magnanimously permitted my personal effects to be shipped from Lagos, to be kept in your place at 25 Potts Johnson Port Harcourt in 1967 (during the Nigeria/Biafra Conflict). A letter from the Abakiliki Provincial Administrator's Office authorized their removal to Abiriba. Lawyer, at no stage can I lose sight of your family's benevolence to me and my siblings, even if it tantamount to making a song of it.

Your appointment as one time Attorney-General of Imo State brought the first set of tarred roads inside Abiriba. You also weathered through personal and family challenges, which exemplified forbearance and courage of immense dimensions. A few years back, I reviewed events with your late younger sister Nnekwu (Nwanne Ezikpe). I doff my hat Lawyer, for God's grace upon your life which produced that uncanny tact that saved you from that danger of confrontation with bandits, for we would have mourned much earlier. It was equally God's grace which bestowed the tact to remove Kalu Omega (Dr. Oji) from his residence to Ugwu Oba, for his daughter late Ola to be buried quietly and save Doctor the trauma of collapsing or on a milder scale, feel marooned or boxed in to a corner. I shared in your heart-burden of losing Igwo and six younger sisters seriatum, which in that courage, you bore with fortitude.

It is not easy to be a capable and successful family head. So lawyer, we are constrained to accept that death has canceled our passion and imposed reality. We only pray that your rest in perfect peace in His bosom. Adieu and God bless you till we meet on the resurrection morning.

Eyen Ete Uwa.

In the northern frontier of ancient China, there lived a man who was particularly skilled in raising horses. People knew of him and called him Sai Ong -- literally "Old Frontiersman." One day, for some unknown reason, his horse got loose and ran off into the Hu territory beyond the Great Wall. The Hu tribes were hostile towards the Chinese, so everyone assumed the horse was as good as lost. Horses were very valuable to the people living at the frontier, so they regarded this loss as a great financial setback. They visited Sai Ong to express their sympathies, but Sai Ong's elderly father surprised them by remaining calm and unaffected. Much to their puzzlement, the old man asked: "Who says this cannot be some sort of blessing?"

Months later, the horse returned to the stable with a companion -- a fine steed of the Hu breed. It was as if Sai Ong's wealth had suddenly doubled. Everyone came by to marvel at the new horse and to congratulate him, but again his elderly father showed no great emotions. He said "Who says this cannot be some sort of misfortune?"

Sai Ong's son enjoyed riding and took the new horse out for a ride. An accident occurred, causing him to fall badly and break a leg. Again, sympathetic people came to console the family, and again they saw the grandfather remained as calm as ever. Just as before, he told them: "Who says this cannot be some sort of blessing?"

Three months later, the Hu people amassed and crossed the border into China. All the able-bodied young men were summoned into the army to take up arms in defense. Fierce battles ensued, resulting in heavy casualties. Among the inhabitants of the northern frontier nine out of ten men died.

Sai Ong's son did not go into battle because of his broken leg. As a result, he was spared that terrible fate, and his family survived the war intact.

Thus, blessings may turn out to be misfortunes, and misfortunes blessings. They change from one to the other endlessly, and the workings of destiny have a truly fathomless depth.

This story comes from the ancient Chinese classic, the Huainanzi. After the death of his father, K.K had assumed that the world had ended. His grades suffered greatly, he was mistreated by his step-aunties and the only one who cared for him in Calabar, his uncle Igwo, became horribly ill. But just as in the case of Sai Ong, things would get better for.

This teaches us that every dark cloud has a silver lining, and conversely, the silver lining frames a dark cloud and to this day, when something "bad" happens to the Chinese people, they will say: "Sai Ong loses horse, who knows if it isn't a blessing".

PART



A DECADE ABROAD

After a journey of many months, K.K arrived in the United Kingdom in August, 1950. He came through the port city of Lagos, and sailed aboard a ship named the S.S Hogan. He soon set off for Ireland, where he enrolled at Trinity College, Dublin, to study Modern History and Political Science.

Trinity was Ireland's oldest university. It was founded in 1592 by Queen Elizabeth the First, and was modelled after the universities of Oxford and Cambridge. It is a sister college to St John's College, Cambridge and Oriel College at Oxford. To this day, a graduate from Trinity can exchange his degree certificate for one from Oxford or Cambridge, without the need for further examination.



The Campanile of Trinity College Dublin is a bell tower and one of its most iconic landmarks. It was designed by Charles Lanyon, sculpted by Thomas Kirk, and finished in 1853. It is 30.5 meters high. The main college grounds are over 47 acres and contain a wide range of buildings, both ancient and modern.

system has great value as it ensures deep understanding, and teaches the students to speak up in public, argue in a civilized manner and think critically.

But it wasn't always all work and no play. The college calendar was full of formal and informal social events. There was the Trinity Ball, the Trinity Regatta, and numerous banquets and tea parties to attend. K.K, not wishing to be seen as a clown, quickly threw away the show socks trousers he had made at Idowu Master Tailors in Lagos. They might have been classy back home, but certainly not at a place like this. It was at this point that he began to learn the art of proper dressing. It wasn't too difficult, as Trinity was filled with prominent members of the upper classes who took their fashion choices very seriously indeed. He would achieve great success in his fashionista endeavour, earning a mention in the college magazine, Trinity News, as "the suave Nigerian".

The royal roots of Trinity meant that over time, a series of truly grand and opulent buildings would be erected across its forty-seven acre campus. With its grand chapels, massive libraries and state of the art research facilities, it was truly a sight to behold for a young K.K. Hope Wadell was impressive in its own right, but it did not come anywhere close to being as grandiose as this.

Similar to Oxford and Cambridge, the teaching at Trinity is built around the tutorial system. In this system, two to three students meet weekly with a highly accomplished academic known as a tutor. They are then expected to orally defend, analyse and critique the ideas of others in their tutorial group, as well as their own. The possibility of cheating is nil. This

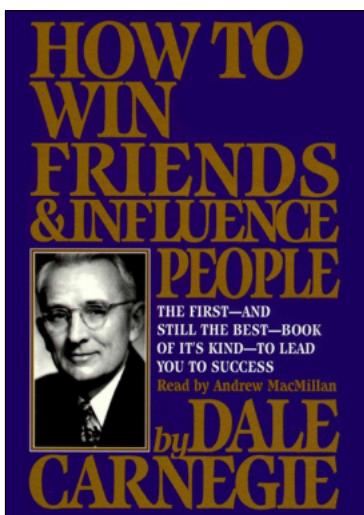
While many of his fellow Nigerian students retreated into an ethnic bubble, K.K threw himself into the social life of Dublin with gusto. He was happy to be finally freed from the social and financial constraints he had faced at boarding school. In his quest to make new friends, he was greatly aided by reading the book, "How to win friends and influence people" by Dr. Dale Carnegie. A particularly close friendship he would make in his time at Trinity was with Bambos and Andrew David, who would go on to run the

Leventis Group in later years. They would become his housemates at

No. 30 TCD, introducing him to an exotic diet which included such culinary delights as Halloumi (Cypriot sheep's milk cheese) and Souvlakia.

Away from the college itself, K.K would spend some of the happiest years of his life with the people of Dublin. The Irish people were exceptionally friendly, and there was no noticeable racism whatsoever. This was probably because the Irish had only recently become independent from Britain in 1921, and might have felt some affinity for foreign nationals still living under the colonial yoke.

While at Dublin, K.K took up a wide array of summer jobs to earn additional income. One of his favorite summer jobs was strawberry picking. While performing his duties, he would meet and socialize with foreign students from around the world. A great number of friendships, love affairs and marriages would be consummated on the strawberry fields of Ireland. But that is another story altogether.



How to win friends & influence people
A classic book on making yourself likable, winning people to your side and changing behavior without causing resentment. This amazing book has sold over 30 million copies worldwide since it was first published in 1937.

K.K would give away hundreds of copies to friends and foes alike during his lifetime.



Founded in 1592, the Library of Trinity College is the largest research library in Ireland. As a result of its historic standing, it is a copyright library, which means that publishers in Great Britain and Ireland must deposit a copy of all their publications there, free of charge. It consequently receives over 100,000 new books every year. At the moment, it contains over five million books.

In 1951, he would become a member of the College Historical Society. It was established in 1770 by the philosopher Edmund Burke and is the oldest surviving student society in the entire world. Prominent members have included Jaja Wachuku, Edward Carson, Douglas Hyde and Bram Stoker. The society has also had a long history of hosting international figures, intellectuals and personalities including Sir Winston Churchill, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Ted Kennedy and many others too numerous to mention here.

Mr. Ogba gave his last and as it happened his best speech. In what was the highlight of the debate he praised the Americans for the fair deal they had given to the Colonies.

After a slow start, K.K would have a highly successful career at the College Historical Society, which was also known as *The Hist.* Here, in a June, 1954 excerpt from the college magazine, *Trinity News*, he is described as having made the best speech of the night.

Colonialism was a hot topic at the College Historical Society in the 1950's as the demand for independence grew in strength across the colonies of the British Empire.

© Trinity News Magazine Archives

an overwhelming disaster. He was fidgety, forgot major portions of his speech and ended up being laughed at by the audience. But he never gave up. He spent a great deal of time learning and practicing the art of public speaking in front of his bathroom mirror. He also registered for elocution classes. There were many benefits to this. Firstly, elocution classes taught him to pronounce his vowels, consonants and diphthongs properly. This made his speech clear and easy to understand. Secondly, he was taught how to stress certain words and when to use pauses for dramatic effect. Thirdly, he learnt how to breathe properly in order to increase the power of his voice. And finally, he learnt good posture, as good posture is necessary for correct breathing and vocal power.

He still needed to work on his confidence however. Luckily for him, he came under the influence of the then famous French polymath, Gustave Le Bon, who had dabbled in psychology. Le Bon discovered that repeatedly writing and saying the words, "I CAN AND I WILL", gave him and his followers an

The main business of the society is chamber debating, which is not dissimilar to the style of debating found in Britain's parliament. It may be unfamiliar to many Nigerian politicians as it does not involve screaming, cursing and crude insults going back and forth. As a result of its focus on debating, the society has produced a large number of politicians, with many of its former members ending up in parliament. Further activities at the society include essay writing and public speaking.

Seeking to improve his public speaking, K.K would make his first speech at the society in 1951. It was, however, a disaster. He forgot major portions of his speech and ended up being laughed at by the audience. But he never gave up. He spent a great deal of time learning and practicing the art of public speaking in

S.R.C. ELECTION RESULTS

The following were elected to the various faculties:

Classics, Ancient and Modern Literature, Mental and Moral Sc. and Divinity: J. W. Williamson, T. J. G. Bennett.
Commerce & Economics: D. Ritchie, Miss Joan May.
Engineering: A. J. Jennings.
Experimental Sc. and Mathematics: J. R. Fletcher.
History: L. Bernstein, **K. K. Ogba**.
School of Physics: C. B. Burke, B.A.; A. M. McCurdy; D. Golding, B.A.; E. E. Holland.
Modern Languages: Miss Joy Livermore, M. J. R. Allan, R.

In November 1953, K.K was elected to the History faculty of the Students Representative Council at Trinity College, Dublin. He was the only African to be elected in that year

© Trinity News Magazine Archives

enormous confidence boost. K.K repeated these words day in, day out, until confidence in public speaking came naturally to him. He became a regular speaker at the College Historical Society, and his speeches became a frequent topic in the college magazine, Trinity News.

Seeking to further improve his skill in essay writing, K.K was advised by his tutor to read the editorial section of the Times newspaper everyday. He followed this advice for many months, and it finally paid off in dramatic fashion when, in 1952, he was awarded the Book Prize in Composition by the College Historical Society. He would win this award once again in 1953.



Charles-Marie Gustave Le Bon was a French polymath who dabbled in anthropology, psychology, sociology, medicine and physics. His self-hypnosis technique of repeatedly saying "I can and I will" greatly boosted K.K's confidence, aiding him to achieve so much during his university career.

© Wikipedia

His efforts in public speaking would win him prizes too. In early 1953, he received a Marked Thanks in Oratory at the College Historical Society, repeating the feat a year later in 1954. But the biggest prize of all would come in late 1953, when he was awarded a Silver Medal in Composition at the College Historical Society. He was the first non British or non Irish person to ever win this award, and up until the end of his life, it would remain for him, a grand achievement. In November of 1953, he would go one further, by being elected to the history faculty of the Student Representative Council (S.R.C) at Trinity College. He was the only African to be elected as a member in that year.

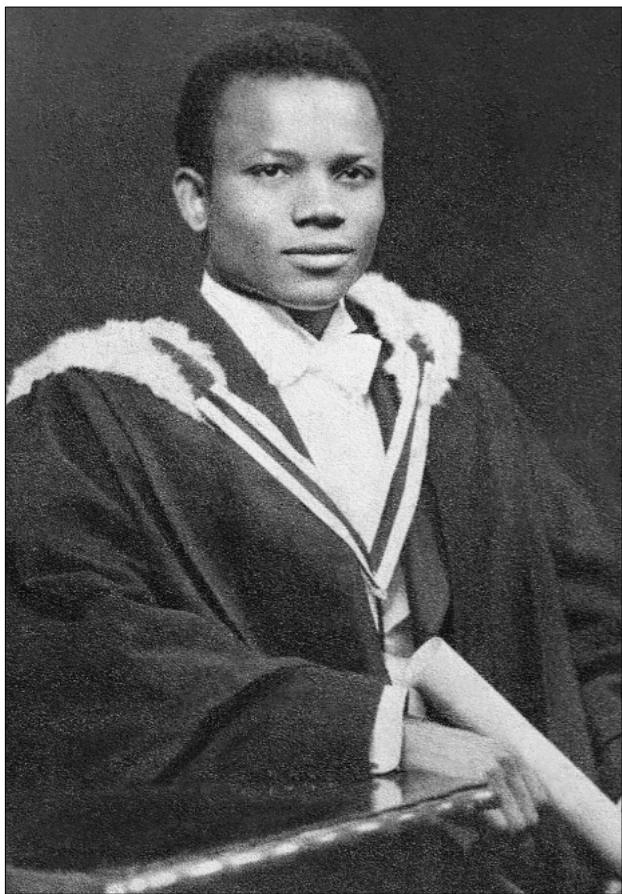
He would end his highly enjoyable and successful time at Trinity with a Bachelor of Arts, followed by a Master of Arts in Modern History and Political Science.

He then proceeded to St. Catherine's College at the University of Oxford. During his time there, it was known as the St. Catherines Society, and it was the the youngest college of the University. Oxford itself needs no introduction. It is one of the oldest universities in the world, being founded almost a thousand years ago in 1096 A.D. It is so big that it does not have a main campus, and its buildings and facilities are scattered throughout the city of Oxford. Studying there was a bit like being in Harry Potter without the magic. It also has a very intimidating body of alumni, which includes twenty-eight prime ministers of Britain, many former and current heads of state around the world, famous artists, scientists, economists, writers and possibly, every other permutation and combination of human endeavor under the sun.



Written in late 1952, K.K's essay would, in 1953, receive a Silver Medal in Composition at the College Historical Society. He was the first African to ever win this award. But he was not the first Nigerian to do well at the Hist. In the 1940's, Jaja Wachukwu received a Silver Medal for Oratory.

To prevent prejudice of any form, competition essays were typed and signed off with a pseudonym. K.K's chosen pseudonym was Lorenzo il Magnifico, in honor of the renaissance era Florentine statesman who was his personal hero at the time.

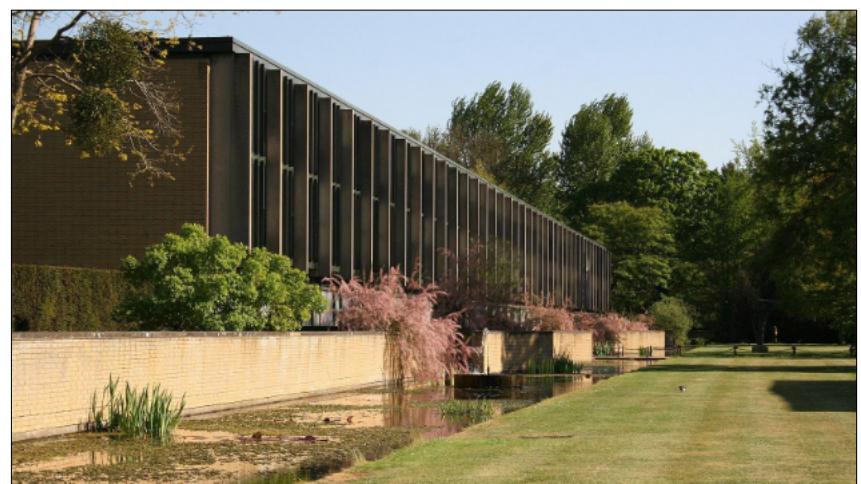


K.K's Trinity Graduation Photograph from 1956. Many documents and photographs from his time at the school were sadly lost following the carnage of the Nigerian Civil War.

K.K hated Mr. Lucas with a passion. But this hatred would eventually take a huge toll on him. He ended up becoming gravely ill, suffering the worst medical crisis in his entire life. He began to experience extreme fatigue and inexplicable anxiety attacks. In desperation, he sought medical help from every doctor he could find. But each and every one of them would run a battery of tests, then inform him that they could find nothing wrong with him. This state of affairs would continue for many months, and he would eventually fall into a deep depression, not knowing what to do, and worrying constantly about the possibility of an early death.

At Oxford, he would meet quite a number of prominent people from Africa. Constantine Bereng Seeiso, the crown prince of Lesotho was a friend. So was the brilliant Ghanian King, Nana Kobina Nketsia IV, as well as Nigeria's very own M.D. Yusuf.

K.K enrolled for a post-graduate degree program known as the Doctor of Letters (D. Litt). Established in 1900, a D.Litt is awarded to candidates who can show an original contribution of the absolute highest quality to the creative or cultural arts. K.K was pursuing a D.Litt in History, with a focus on Nigerian history, but he had the misfortune of being placed under the tutelage of one Mr. Bryan Keith-Lucas. Mr. Keith-Lucas had achieved some distinction by serving as an Oxford city councilor for the Liberal Party. But he was also a racist and an arch-imperialist, who believed that Africans were inferior to Europeans in every way, and had no business whatsoever at a place like Oxford. He rejected K.K's desire to focus on Nigerian History as the area of study for his D. Litt, and chose a much less inspiring topic for him. His reasoning, which he told K.K to his face, was that in his opinion, Africans were too emotional by their nature to succeed in any research that might involve their own country. Mr. Lucas never bothered to read any of his essays, and he frequently used his biro to draw red lines across K.K's thesis without any explanation.



A view of the accommodation and water gardens of St. Catherine's College, designed by the Danish architect Arne Jacobsen. The college has one of the largest undergraduate and graduate intakes among Oxford colleges.

© Wikipedia

But a ray of light would come into his life when he would come across "The Power of Positive Thinking", a book by Dr. Norman Vincent Peale. In this book, Dr. Peale coined the term "psychosomatic illness" to describe inexplicable diseases which originate in the mind from excessive anger and worry. He mentioned how several of his patients had been cured of their eczema, anxiety and other illnesses by simply letting go, forgiving their enemies and moving on with their lives.

K.K, in total desperation, decided to try Dr. Peale's advice. He ceased to further concern himself with Mr. Keith-Lucas, channeling his anger and resentment into more constructive activities. In order to avoid any further contact with his tormentor, he made the decision to abandon his D.Litt, applying instead for

another post graduate degree program known as the Bachelor of Letters (B.Litt). The B.Litt involves the candidate specializing in an area of study relevant to their own personal, professional or

academic development. It is less often awarded today than in previous centuries. Miraculously, and after only a few months of his degree change, the strange illness which plagued him completely cleared up, and his health was totally restored. K.K would remember this incident as God's greatest blessing to him. It taught him the importance of forgiving those who, intentionally or unintentionally, have caused him damage. He realized that holding a grudge sometimes causes more harm to us than to our enemy. This is why it is important to forgive where possible, and to let go and move on with your life. This lesson prepared him for the many trials and tribulations of his later life, teaching him the importance of gratitude, forgiveness, compassion and love, for which he is remembered fondly by many people today. In his final year at Oxford, he took part in the competition to design the national flag of the soon to be independent Nigeria.



The True Flag

While at Oxford in 1957, K.K participated in the competition for the design of the Nigerian national flag. This poorly recreated design gives an idea of what the original sketch might have looked like.

The black represents the fact that Nigeria is the largest and potentially most powerful black nation in the world.

The white represents the hope that an independent Nigeria would be run with honesty and integrity.

The sky blue represents the belief that Nigeria would always aim for the top in all things.

The beehive in the center was to show that the new nation would always be united and disciplined in order to produce honey (i.e wealth) for its people. It would also indicate a willingness to release Nigeria's powerful armed forces to sting any potential enemies to death.

And finally, the palm fronds, like in many cultures, represents peace and victory.

It did not win, losing to the Green white and Green flag we all know and love today.



A young K.K at Oxford doing something he rarely ever does — smile with his teeth showing.

Photo from 1957.

But to his utter dismay, the contest was won by the green, white and green design he never really understood until the end of his life.

K.K would spend his final year abroad at The Honorable Society of the Inner Temple. It was one of the four Inns of Court in London. To be called to the Bar and practice as a barrister in England, it was necessary to belong to one of these inns. He was called to the English bar on the 1st of November in 1960.

His education completed, he was now ready to return to Nigeria. A newly independent nation then filled with great hopes, dreams and aspirations ■

THE COLLEGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN



College Historical Society
— Trinity College Dublin —
FOUNDED 1770

3rd November 2020

Dear Mr Igwe Ogba,

The 251st session of the college historical society extend their sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Kalu Kalu Ogba.

During his time at Trinity, Mr Ogba was an extremely accomplished member of the Hist, receiving the Silver Medal for Composition, and the Book Prize in Composition in 1952 and 1953. In addition to this, he received a Marked Thanks in Oratory in 1953 and 1954.

The Hist are deeply saddened at the passing of such an esteemed member, who holds such a notable place in our Society's history.

Our sincerest condolences,

Brid O'Donnell,
Auditor

On behalf of the 251st Committee of the College Historical Society

@theHist

College Historical Society
Graduate Memorial Building
Trinity College Dublin

www.tcdhist.com

*“Deeply
saddened at the
passing of such
an esteemed
member”*

Below Ted Kennedy speaking at the College Historical Society, also known as the Hist in 1970. The College Historical Society is the oldest student society in the entire world, and K.K would achieve many great things in his time as a member.



ST CATHERINE'S COLLEGE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

“The college is very proud to have had Dr. Ogba as one of our alumni”

Right K.K initially enrolled at Oxford for a Doctor of Letters in History, but his tutor, Mr. Bryan Keith-Lucas hated him and failed every one of his essays without reading them. But those were different times and Britain was a different place. He eventually settled for a Bachelor of Letters (B.Litt). But in their tribute to him, the university refer to him as Dr. Ogba in recognition of what happened during his time there. His biography will appear in the 2020 edition of the college annual magazine, *The Year*.

Below St Cross Church at the entrance of St Catherine's College, Oxford. St. Catz is the youngest college at Oxford and was founded in 1868 when it was known as the St. Catherine's Society. Famous alumni include Benazir Bhutto and J. Paul Getty.



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To the family of Kalu Kalu Ogba

09 November 2020

Dear Igwe Ogba,

I was very sorry to receive the news of your father's passing, Dr Kalu Kalu Ogba. On behalf of St Catherine's College, please accept my deepest sympathies.

Your father joined St Catherine's Society in 1955 to read for a BLitt in History, graduating in 1958. The College is very proud to have had Dr Ogba as one of our alumni, a prominent legal figure in Nigeria.

Yours sincerely,

PROFESSOR THEO A.J. OGUNBIYI AND FAMILY

Professor T.A.J. Ogunbiyi

MA BM BCh (Oxon) FRCS FWACS FMCS FICS.

Medical Consultants Group,
Block D4, Eko Court Complex,
Kofe Abayomi Street,
Victoria Island,
Lagos.

Flat 10B
Titanium Towers,
21, Gerrard Road,
Ikoyi, Lagos,
Nigeria.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF KALU OGBA BY PROF. T.A.J. OGUNBIYI

The news of the death of my friend and mentor, Chief Kalu Ogbu was a great shock to me. Kalu Ogbu my trusted friend passed on peacefully to join his maker in glory. May his soul rest in peace and may God Almighty grant him eternal rest!

I met Kalu in Oxford when he came to The University as a Post graduate student, I was an Undergraduate. I was most impressed by his self confidence and his ability to mix with both younger and older people. We interacted a lot at the British Council in St. Giles. Kalu later invited me to be his flat mate. I was very impressed by his generosity and kindness. He was always ready to teach and always led by example. He believed in eating healthy food. Our flat was always well stocked with Yogurt, fruits of all kinds, all thanks to Kalu, who introduced me and other students to these food items.

Kalu had a great sense of humor. He loved music and the flat was always lively with sounds of classical music to which Kalu whistled magnificently.

Kalu completed his Oxford Degree got his Bar Examinations and returned home, to practice his legal profession. We lost touch during the civil war but got reunited immediately after the war in 1970, when Kalu came to Lagos and stayed briefly with me. It is remarkable that during all this period that we stayed together, we never had a quarrel or got on each other's way. He developed extraordinary entrepreneurial skills and continued to practice his Law with a brief interlude in politics.

He was a very strong family man and a distinguished Abiriba Chief. In Chief Kalu Ogbu we have lost a quintessential gentleman and a distinguished Nigerian. We have lost a leader and mentor who shall be greatly missed.

May his gentle soul rest in peace, and May Almighty God grant His Family the strength to bear the irreparable loss.

PROF. T.A.J. OGUNBIYI AND FAMILY



Left K.K with Mrs. Judith Nwanodi and his daughter Nena at Dike Nwanodi's funeral in 2016. She and her husband knew him for more than five decades.

JUDITH NWANODI AND FAMILY

Our friend since the mid-1950's was the perfect gentleman. Unassuming, kind, hardworking helpful, honest – what more can I say of him as my late husband who knew him as a lawyer as well as a close friend predeceased him in May 2012.

K.K, as we all called him, was our oldest friend from our student days at Oxford. We met in the mid-1950's. At least so far as I can remember, my husband Dike and K.K met in either 1955 or early 1956 while, as I came to Oxford in mid-1956, I met my future husband at a seminar at the end of October, 1956.

Our friendship grew in the 1960's when he came to Port Harcourt and moved into a relation's house on Potts Johnson Street, a few houses from where we had been living since the end of 1959.

He has lived a good life.

The younger generation should emulate him.

One day, a wealthy man went to a neighboring city. There he saw a beautiful mansion that stood three stories tall. He complimented the owner of the house and was given a tour of the place. Together, they got to the third floor where he took in a commanding view of the surrounding city. After leaving, the wealthy man decided that he wanted something similar. He therefore summoned a master mason and described what he was looking for.

"You are talking to the right person", said the mason, "I am the one who built that mansion!"

The wealthy man was pleased. "Great", he said, "Please get started as soon as possible".

The mason assembled a crew and began work. The wealthy man had never been to a construction site before so he visited to take a look. What he saw there baffled him, so he asked the mason: "What is the crew doing?"

"Oh, they are working on the foundation", said the mason.

"Why?", asked the wealthy man.

The mason did not think the wealthy man was being serious, so he decided to humor him since he was footing the bill.

"Because we build the first floor on top of the foundation, of course", he said.

"But why do you need the first floor?", the wealthy man asked.

Now the mason was certain the wealthy man was joking, so he played along.

"Well, we want to build the second floor on top of the first floor", he replied.

"And you need the second floor for what exactly?" the wealthy man asked.

The mason was now very confused, because he could tell that the wealthy man was completely serious. Terrified, he replied, "Sir, obviously we will put the third floor on top of the second floor"

"No! stop" the wealthy man exclaimed. "This is a big mistake, I am glad I am here to clear it up. I only wanted the third floor. You don't need to build the foundation and then the first two floors. That ought to save us a lot of time and money!"

This story by Derek Lin was one of K.K's favorites. It deals with the danger of using short cuts in life. Short Cuts such as Get-Rich-Quick schemes and Diet pills may provide us with temporary solutions to our problems, but in the end, we will be found wanting and exposed as frauds in one way or the other. In order to achieve anything, we must first build the right framework and create the necessary conditions for success and then work hard at it. K.K is famous today for his legal prowess and command of the English language, but he had to work very hard and surmount a lot of obstacles to get to the pinnacle he reached. A journey of a thousand miles always begins with a single step, followed by another and another until the journey is complete.

PART **IV**

RETURN TO NIGERIA

When K.K returned to Nigeria in November of 1960, there was an overwhelming air of hope and optimism in the country. The prevailing fantasy at the time, was that Nigeria would become a great nation, on par with Great Britain and the United States. This would finally, it was assumed, put to rest the myth of black inferiority to the whites.

He would enroll, on the first day of December, 1960, as a Solicitor and Advocate at the Supreme Court of Nigeria. His enrollment number was 952. It was not even up to a thousand, making clear the scarcity of legal practitioners in the new country. Every other academic field of endeavor was faced with this lack, making it rather easy to get a job in those days.

After spending some time with friends and family in Lagos, he returned to his hometown, Abiriba, for the Christmas Season (known locally as Okochi). He noticed that Abiriba, and much of Igbo land had changed dramatically over the years, with many new roads and buildings being constructed. He was met with a heroic welcome, as in those days, there was great competition amongst Igbo communities to produce as many lawyers, doctors and engineers as possible. Being the second lawyer in all of Abiriba history, his reception was therefore truly grand. Throngs of his fellow villagers trooped out to meet him, and he quickly became the toast of the town. He was carried shoulder high by his people, around a great portion of Abiriba town.

Eventually, the excitement subsided, and he was able to meet with his younger sister, Nwanne, who was among the crowd. They had been apart for over ten years, and he could no longer recognize her. She took him to his mother Nwammang, who, not having heard from him for so long, had assumed that he was long dead. He had written her a series of letters while away, but she did not believe they had come from him. In the meantime, she had a surprise of her own. During his stay abroad, she had remarried to an Abiriba man, Mr. Okafor, and had given birth to a daughter named Oyedia.



Nigerian citizens celebrating their country's independence on the 1st of October, 1960. The country was in those days filled with so much hope, so much optimism, so much belief. All this would change in the coming years. In the meantime, K.K would lay the foundations of his long and highly successful legal career in the city of Port Harcourt.
© Adedotun Adegboroye

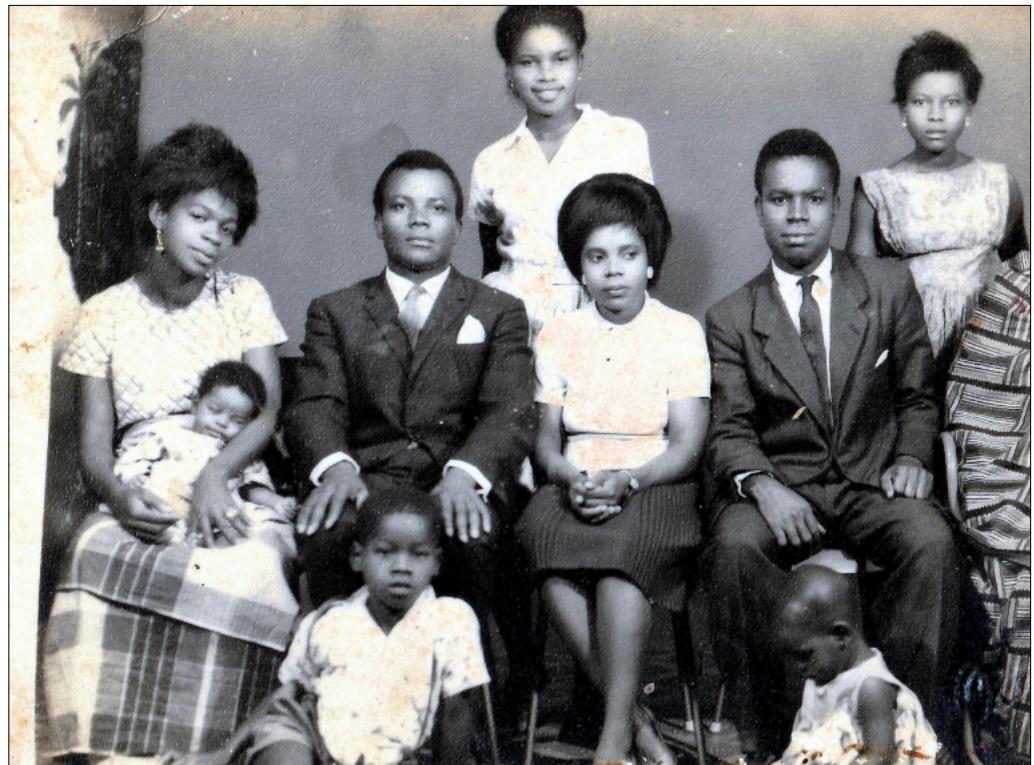
This meant that K.K now had a new sister that he was previously unaware of.

A meeting with his uncle, Igwo, soon followed. Having financed K.K's education abroad, he was pleased to have fulfilled the wishes of his older brother, James, by educating a lawyer in the family. He was also relieved to see that his expenses had not gone to waste, as a great number of his relatives were knuckleheads, and had performed woefully at school. He then made K.K. a director in the family business.

Meanwhile, the Abiriba of December, 1960, was a place of great joy and celebration. It was a ceremonial year, and the Akahaba Age Grade would perform the most colourful "Igwa Mang" ceremony in all of Abiriba history. They would also donate the very first modern hospital to the Abiriba community. In addition to all this, Abiriba would also host the Annual General Meeting of the Igbo State Union. Prominent sons of Igboland such as Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe, Dr. K. O. Mbadiwe and Dr. Mbonu Ojike were in attendance, making this a truly memorable month in K.K's life.

The fun and games soon ended in January of 1961, as K.K now had to leave the comforts of the village in order to earn a living. He chose to relocate to Port Harcourt, as oil had been discovered there, and he felt there would soon be a growing need for legal practice in the city.

Before departing, he met with his uncle, Igwo, to bid his farewell. He was offered, not money, but a handshake, followed by a warning to not disgrace the family name. He then set out for Port Harcourt, eventually registering as the 32nd lawyer in the history of the "garden" city. A few days later, a grand reception, hosted by friends and well-wishers, was held in his honor at the city's Recreation Club. As the event wore on, news spread that a childhood friend on his way to the reception had been involved in a road accident. He had accidentally killed a villager with his car at a crossing and was now being held at the local police station. The mood at the reception immediately turned somber as the death penalty for their mutual friend was a very real possibility.



K.K, seated second from the left with his siblings following his return from Great Britain and Ireland in 1961. The man to his right is his half-brother Eleanya, the first son of his father James, and a highly gifted mathematician. K.K's sister Ada is to his right, while two of his other sisters, Nwanne and Oyedia are standing behind them starting from the left. The woman holding a baby is Eleanya's wife and all of the children in the photograph are his.

But K.K soon offered to help. He bailed out his friend and won the ensuing trial the following morning on a no-case submission, with only two questions. This incredible feat won him great acclaim and the lifelong loyalty of a grateful friend.

But loyalty does not pay the bills. He still had to find some sort of way to earn an income. He therefore made the decision to find employment at a law firm, believing that he would find it difficult to attract clients on his own, as a result of his inexperience.

He decided to narrow down his options. While he was still at the Inner Temple in London, the fame and exploits of two Port Harcourt lawyers, Mr C.A Oputa and Mr. N.B Graham Douglas, had reached him and his fellow Nigerian students. As a result, K.K decided it would be a splendid idea to seek employment with either one of them. But he would end up applying to work with only Mr. Graham Douglas, as his chambers was only a stone's throw away from K.K's flat at Aggrey Road. Mr. Oputa's chambers on the other hand, was over a mile away in Coronation Layout.

Unfortunately, Mr. Graham Douglas would decline to hire him, stating that he already had a junior, who turned out to be his nephew. K.K therefore decided to strike out on his own. He set up his own chambers near his flat at Aggrey Road, and ordered a signboard so large that every passer by knew that he was a lawyer with degrees from Trinity College and Oxford.

Mr. Graham Douglas would however show pity on him. He gave K.K access, without charge, to his comprehensive and well stocked library. He also gave him a free daily ride to the courthouse in his black Mercedez limousine. K.K would end up learning an enormous amount by watching and studying this man, the greatest of the Kalabari lawyers in action.

As the months wore on, Mr. Graham Douglas would come to increasingly rely on K.K for the adjournments of his numerous court cases.

When, in 1963, he was to be away in the United Kingdom, he suddenly called K.K into his chambers. He then announced that he was making him its temporary head until his return, three months later,. Since Mr. Graham Douglas had a large build, and an intimidating personality to go along with it, K.K had no choice but to accept this generous offer. But he was also quite pleased as he considered his selection to be a great honor. This honor however, came with the caveat that he could only adjourn Mr. Graham Douglas' cases, and not argue them.

In Mr. Graham Douglas' absence, K.K, after barely two years of practice, would be offered the position of a magistrate by the much feared Justice Savage. Savage, then the Administrative Judge of the Bar, had lived up to his name, by savaging the pleadings of the younger lawyers. They were absolutely terrified of him.



Even from this hazy photograph, the intensity and intimidating frame of Dr. Nabo Graham Douglas is easy to perceive.

So it was with great trepidation that K.K would politely decline his offer as he much preferred the excitement of litigation to the gravity of a Magistrate's duties.

Mr. Graham Douglas would eventually return months later, with a Ph.d from the University of London. He then announced that he was no longer to be referred to as Mr. Graham Douglas. He was now Dr. Graham Douglas. Every single possession that bore his name now had the "Mr" removed and replaced with "Dr". For adjourning his cases, he would reward K.K with the sum of fifty (50) guineas, which was regarded as a princely sum in those days.

Later in 1963, Messers Irving and Bonnar, the oldest European law firm in Nigeria, would offer K.K a position in their firm. He was to be placed on a then enormous salary of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) a year. In addition to this, he would also be granted a rent free home in the Port Harcourt G.R.A, an annual month's paid leave to the United Kingdom, a car, and full membership as a partner in the firm three years later. K.K would turn down their offer, as it was based on the condition that he would give up his litigation practice for the tedium of drafting leases and other documents. But the firm did not give up on him. They would eventually retain his services for all of their litigation matters throughout the Eastern Region, and the Benue Province of the Northern Region. He would serve with great distinction, not losing a single case for them until the outbreak of Nigeria's Civil War in 1967.

In the same year of 1963, K.K was asked to petition and lead a delegation, to then Minister of Commerce and Industry, Chief Festus Okotie Eboh. This was on behalf of the Second Hand Clothing Importers Association of the Eastern Region. Over zealous campaigners against indecent dressing may not be happy to hear this, but most Nigerians went around butt-naked in the 1950's. However, there had been a great boon in the second hand clothing trade after anti nudity laws were passed by the Federal government in the early 1960's. But the trade was now under serious threat as the duty on second hand clothing had been raised from six pence per pound to two shillings and six pence per pound, thus making the business unprofitable.

As a result of K.K's petition, the Federal Government set up the Chuba Ikpeazu Commission of Inquiry on the second hand



The second hand clothing trade received a significant boost following the Federal Governments enactment of anti-nudity laws in the early 1960's. Following an attempt by government officials to impose exorbitant taxes on the trade, K.K would lead a petition to lower them. His efforts would be highly successful, saving the fortunes of a large number of businesses, many of where owned by citizens from his hometown of Abiriba.

clothing trade. K.K's cross-examination soon revealed that the Nigerian Customs had been using unserviced scales to weigh imported second hand clothing for many years. As a result of his findings, the duty on second hand clothing was slashed by sixty percent (60%) to one shilling only. This revived the trade and assisted greatly in the enforcement of the NO DUTY laws of the former Eastern Region.

Following this victory, K.K would be awarded a lion's share of all cases involving the violation of customs and excise duty laws in Port Harcourt.

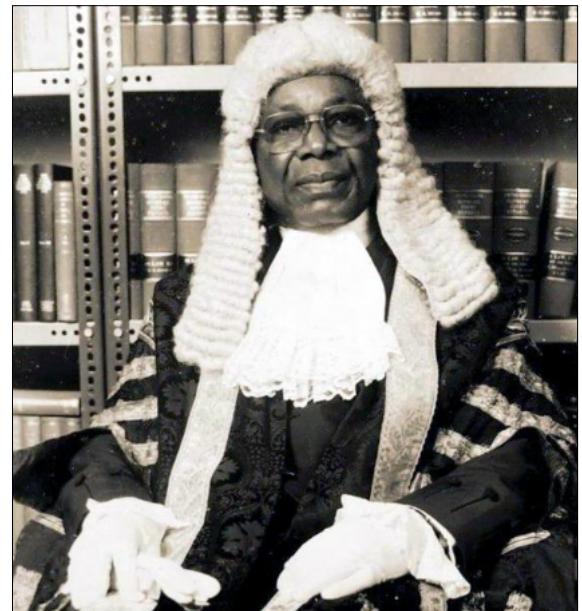
In 1964, Mr. Oputa, with whom he did not have a close social relationship, surprised K.K by inviting him to his chambers. He then asked him to become its temporary head while he was to be away in the United Kingdom for four months. He allowed K.K to fully represent him in court and handle all of his briefs. He also introduced him to a large number of his clients, asking them to pay K.K whatever fees he demanded for his services. As if that was not enough, he further flattered K.K by telling his clients to expect the same level of professionalism as they would from him.

Because of Mr. Oputa's trust and kindness to him, K.K would have daily exposure to the judges and clients at the high court. Many wealthy litigants soon noticed and began to patronize him. He caused a great stir in the courts in those days, as huge crowds from every social class would gather to hear him argue his cases. They were intrigued by this man who won his cases like Mike Tyson won his fights, spoke impeccable English and wore some of the best made suits they had ever seen.

When Mr. Oputa returned from the United Kingdom four months later, he would further surprise K.K by rewarding him with the sum of one hundred and fifty (150) guineas for his services. He did this, regardless of whatever fees K.K had charged his clients.

K.K would never ever forget Mr. Oputa's kindness and generosity to him until the very end of his life.

In 1964, he was unanimously chosen as the new President of the Bende Youths Association. The Bende Division was in those days the most powerful division in Eastern Nigeria, for the simple fact that the Eastern Region premier, Dr. Michael Okpara was an indigene. In addition, Port Harcourt was at the time the Lagos of the Igbos and therefore contained the largest number of Igbo money bags in the country. K.K could have easily exploited his position as President to enter politics via the N.C.N.C party. Many had urged him to do so but he declined, choosing instead to focus on the legal profession.



Mostly remembered by the younger generation as the father of Charley Boy, the late Justice Chukwudifu Oputa was an enormous success in his own right. He achieved greatness in the legal profession as an advocate and later in life, as a jurist. K.K was a one time temporary head of his law chambers in 1964.

© Justice Oputa Foundation

In 1966, he would appear for the second accused in the much celebrated and sensational treason case of "THE STATE VS JAMES ADAKA BORO & 2ORS". This was the O.J Simpson trial of it's time. The public was intrigued by the fact that even though Nigeria had only been independent for six years, it already seemed to be unraveling with talk of secession.

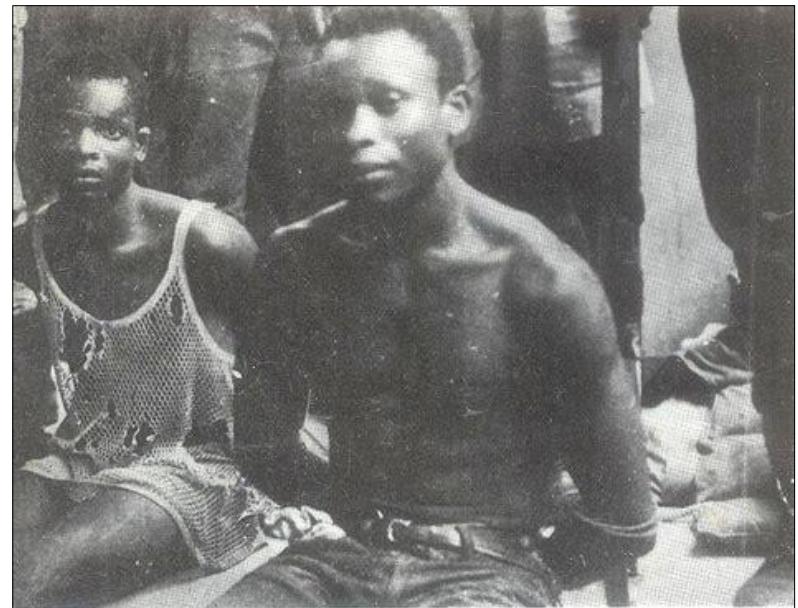
Angered that his Ijaw tribe received very little of the proceeds from their oilfields, Mr. Boro had demanded Independence from the Nigerian state. Numerous and lengthy shootouts between his men and the state security forces soon followed and a massive man-hunt for him was quickly launched. He was eventually traced to the home of his mistress, where he was found hiding under her bed. Her name was Madam Limejuice Bluebottle. He and his co-defendants, one of whom was named Mr. Nottingham Dick, were then charged with treason, an offense punishable by death.

Not wanting to be seen as supporting his secession experiment, no Ijaw lawyer would agree to represent Mr. Boro or his co-defendants in court. Justice Phil-Ebosie, therefore compelled K.K to represent the second accused, Mr. Samuel Owonaru. He told K.K that he was chosen because everyone knew that he was a very good lawyer and that if he defended Mr. Owonaru, no one could accuse the government of picking an incompetent defense counsel to ensure a death sentence.

K.K did not want to defend Mr. Owonaru because the case was effectively unwinnable. Mr. Boro had already made his plans for secession public. He had also militarily engaged with the Nigerian state security forces on multiple occasions. This was effectively an open and shut case and no one doubted that he and his co-defendants would be found guilty. But there was still a great deal of tension on the part of the government as it feared that a death sentence would ignite even more chaos.

Nevertheless, K.K would defend Mr. Owonaru by arguing the following:

- Boro only had a hundred and fifty fighting men, with some reports saying he only had twelve. This was surely not a sane estimate for a war of liberation under any circumstances.
- Even though the "fighting" had lasted for twelve days, not a single member of the state security forces had



Isaac Boro and his men, following their arrest by Nigerian security forces in 1966. The two sides had engaged in a twelve day shootout in which no one from either side had been killed. This fueled speculation at the time that the entire revolution was a farce. Boro and his co-conspirator, Mr. Nottingham Dick, would die fighting for the federal side during the Nigerian Civil War. Mr. Owonaru would however survive, meeting K.K many years later in Port Harcourt, and thanking him profusely for the heroic efforts he had made to save his life.

been killed. The most serious incident that had occurred was the non-fatal flogging of one Inspector Nneji.

- Based on this, an appeal was made for clemency on the basis of insanity.

To boost their appeal, Mr. Boro and his co-defendants appeared in court with unkempt hair, a wild look in their eyes and torn clothing. Nevertheless, their strategy did not work and they were all found guilty. But when Mr. Owonaru, K.K's client, was asked if he had anything to say before his sentencing, he replied:

"My Lord, I have nothing to say except to use this opportunity to thank Mr. K. K. Ogbag for the able way he has defended me"

Deep down, he knew that although he was a condemned man, K.K had done his very best to save his life. An appeal was lodged by K.K at the Supreme Court, following an emotionally charged visit from Mr. Owonaru's relatives. In addition, Justice Phil-Ebosie agreed with K.K's submission that the defendants had not intended to kill anyone. He therefore added a strong recommendation for clemency after finding them guilty as charged.

It was in all likelihood, a combination of the recommendation and appeal that led to their execution being delayed until the civil war, during which Mr. Boro and his co-conspirators were conscripted into the Nigerian army to fight against the very same Igbo who had earlier rescued them from the gallows.

The 1960's were shaping up to be the greatest decade in K.K's life. But a series of events outside his control would lead to a bloody civil war in which millions would die, great fortunes would be lost, and stellar reputations would have to be rebuilt from scratch ■

THE PORT HARCOURT BAR ASSOCIATION



NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION PORT HARCOURT BRANCH

November 30, 2020

Dame Chinwe Kalu Ogba &
The Kalu Ogba Family
Amaogudu, Abiriba
Ohafia L.G.A
Abia State

Dearly Beloved,

ODE TO THE COCK OF THE BAR, CHIEF KALU K. OGBA

Our Branch of the Nigerian Bar Association learnt of the distressing news of the passing away of your dear husband and father, Chief Kalu K. Ogba with mixed feelings; the Bar had taken it for granted that the gentleman so imbued with intellectual energy and physical strength would never bow to the whims of nature and yet he had lived a long and fulfilled life worthy of rest.

Your late husband and father, Chief Kalu K. Ogba was a distinguished lawyer who commenced law practice in 1960, carving a good reputation for himself as a brilliant and relentless advocate at a time when law practice for the few Africans in the trade was a minefield controlled by white men; his brilliance and diligence was awarded with his appointment as the Attorney General of the Old East Central State as well as the Old Imo State.

Chief Kalu's court room brilliance and exploits got him the title of Cock of the Bar of Imo State. As you, your family and the people of Abia State mourn his departure, we urge you to mourn him with the dignity and solemnity deserving of his towering persona. The legal community shall miss his guidance and mentorship but we take solace in the large volumes of brilliant legal arguments he has left us.

May his soul rest in perfect peace.

Yours faithfully,

FOR: NBA PH BRANCH

JOHN IYENE OWUBOKIRI, ESQ.
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K.K began his legal practice in Port Harcourt in January, 1961. He was the 32nd lawyer in the garden city's history.

CHIEF MIKE AHAMBA SAN (UGO LORJI)

M. I. AHAMBA & CO.

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TRIBUTE TO A SENIOR FRIEND AND ICON OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION, CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA

It was one afternoon sometime in 1962. A classmate of ours at Ngwa High School Aba, Jerry Okoro of blessed memory, alerted a few of us that a young barrister who had just returned from England was in the compound to visit him and some other Abiriba students then in the school. In excitement, we rushed out of the dormitory and there standing under one of the ornamental trees that adorned our peculiarly semi-circular entry and exit road was a handsome young man dressed in a dark blue suit, black pair of shoes, a white shirt and a tie to match. He was introduced to us as Barrister K.K. Ogba. Standing there, he addressed us with words of encouragement urging us to be good ambassadors of our respective families. That was my first contact with a man who was later to become my role model in professional decency. He actually left an indelible effect on me after he had spoken to us that day in a smooth flowing English language bereft of high sounding vocabulary.

The next time I came in contact with him was after my Youth Corps Service. It was 1975, and I had stopped at Aba in my journey home from Calabar with the intent of settling there. At that time Chief K.K. Ogba was the Honourable Attorney-General of the then East Central State. The NBA, Aba Branch had an end of year Cocktail Party at Aba Sports Club. He

E.N. Ichie Esq. C.C. Okorosfor Esq (Head of Chambers), J.O. Ugbogu Esq. K.O. Ahamba Esq. O.U. Okafor

was there as the guest of honour; and he addressed the members of the Bar and the guests. Once again I listened to the mastery of the English Language rendered in a manner that for choice of words may be termed 'sweet'. In the course of that speech he made a statement that is hard for any true lover of the legal profession to forget when he admonished those responsible for appointment of Lawyers to the Higher Bench to ensure that the process remained '*a recognition of excellence at the Bar and not a rescue operation for the casualties*'; a spoken desire that has continued to burn in the hearts of court room practitioners in Nigeria. After the creation of Imo State, Chief K.K. Ogbag came to Owerri as the first Attorney-General of the State. It was at this stage that what I later realized existed in a distanced mutual admiration become close in social and professional friendship. K.K. as he was known and called (*not in his presence by we, the junior friends*) was an epitome of legal decency in the true words of learning, honour and nobility, a model of humility, of simplicity in greatness, a true learned friend to every honest lawyer both senior and junior, and a good husband and father.

K. K. loved his colleagues of the Bar, and we all reciprocated fervently in that his presence in any activity of the Imo Bar generated peculiar emotional warmth in the members. Lawyer of the Bar in Imo State always wished and sought for that presence. He will be missed. I particularly will miss this gentleman *per excellence*, my friend in the true sense of the word. But death remains the ultimate essence of life, a fact that cannot be disputed. When and how, no one can say. Yes, some ages are described as 'ripe' at death, and to many this illustrious but locally and nationally under-utilized Lawyer may have qualified for that description at death since he lived above the age of eighty years. But for me, no age

was ripe for Chief K.K. Ogbag to depart from us, from me. One wished that he could have lived on if there was possibility of authority of human wishes overriding the wish of the Almighty God. I submit to the will of God in bidding Chief K.K. Ogbag farewell.

To Chinwe and the children, the extended Ogbag family, and the Abiriba Community I, on behalf of my family and members, present and the alumni, of Iwuoha Chambers urge you to bear this loss with fortitude and faith that there will surely be that glorious morning when Kalu Kalu Ogbag Esq. will reunite with those he loved, and who loved him. Your husband and father ran till death on the track designed for the members of the honourable profession, the path of truth, the path of justice at all times, and at all cost.

Fare thee well my oga and friend. Honestly your death hurts very badly. May the good Lord receive your soul in eternal rest in His Bosom, Amen.



Chief M. I. Ahamba SAN
(Ugo Lorji)



Chief Mike Ahamba (SAN) and his wife, Kate, at K.K.'s "Ime Uche" retirement ceremony in 1992. He met K.K. for the first time in 1962.



Left K.K with another K.K, Chief Kalu Kalu Onuma. A high achiever and one of his closest and dearest friends in Abiriba.

CHIEF KALU KALU ONUMA

"Ogbo", as we fondly called ourselves, and I, had a close relationship. I met him before the war, and we bonded over our shared initials, "K.K.O," and our love for Ebiriba. He is one of the few men that I am proud to call my friend, and in-law.

His legal acumen was unrivaled, and I would never forget his masterful legal representation of a case when I was the caretaker of ACIU. That case, amongst many other things, endeared him to many in Ebiriba.

I didn't know that Ogbo was saying goodbye last year when I visited with him. I will miss him, his candor, his intellect, that infectious laughter, and our friendship.

Ogbo, farewell and go well!

Professor Anya O. Anya

Dame Chinwe Ogba
Chief K.K. Ogba & co
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082-447962, 0805 601 5990

My dear Dame

CONDOLENCES

Over the past few days, I have wrestled within myself as I sought to put some words to paper in consolation at the passing of your much-esteemed husband, my distinguished "Nnam' uku", Chief K.K. Ogba, Anyanwu Abiriba.

He was an extraordinary gentleman and it was our privilege to have known him and shared these shores with him. His dignified poise and carriage made him stand out in any place or any occasion.

It was truly a delight to share moments with him. He was in every sense committed to excellence and most certainly loved and cherished you with a deep passion. He loved your voice; loved his family and was so proud of all of you.

He was in many ways pre-eminent in all he did with his unique and very personal style. He was to many of us the best of the very best a Courtroom legend. We would most certainly miss him but are grateful and appreciative to the Almighty that this great man walked these shores.

As he soars above to his place of eternal rest with the Almighty, we pray that the Lord's comfort and blessings will enshroud his dear family who mourn his departure.

Yours Sincerely,


Professor Anya O. Anya
Odu Ena b'Udemba Abiriba



Left Professor Anya is Abiriba's first Cambridge graduate and holds a PhD in Botany. Here he is seen with his wife as honoured guests at Mrs. Chinwe Kalu Ogba's "Ime Uche" Ceremony in 2010.

MRS. EDNA OBIAKOR Née OKEREKE AND DR. NNENNAYA DUKE Née OBIAKOR

ADIEU, GENTLEMAN AND SCHOLAR

I knew Chief K.K. Ogba through my late husband Prof Edward Kanu Obiakor.

They both attended Hope Waddell Training Institute Calabar, Cross Rivers State and both passed Cambridge school Certificate examination and left for the UK in search of the golden fleece shortly afterwards.

My late husband and K.K as we used to call him returned to Nigeria and settled down in the respective chosen careers:- K.K.as a lawyer in private practice whilst my husband Edward went to work as an a Engineer at UNN. Chief K.K was smart and well-spoken and successfully won a lot of the cases he took on in his role as a lawyer. He was well liked by his clients as well as members of the community he served wherever he was living at the time.

He and my husband were such good friends that we were often his guests at his beautiful home at Abiriba. It was on one of these occasions that I met Chinwe Ogba his wife. Her father was the supervisor of the Anglican mission in the then Eastern region. We rekindled our relationship as I used to go to vacation at her home in Onitsha on some weekends with my younger siblings when she was a young single lady and long before she married K.K. I was a young teacher stationed in the Eastern part of Nigeria at that time.

We looked forward to those trips to Abiriba as we lived in the Western part of Nigeria and Christmas was the best festive occasion to reconnect with friends and family. Eventually we moved to Port Harcourt and this made it a lot easier to visit K.K. at Owerri where his law office was based. During these reunions as I like to recall, My husband and K.K would discuss and reminisce over the youthful student days and friends and escapades from their youth while Chinwe would update me on her family and siblings and other close shared friends. Everyone was happy and relaxed and we would sometimes leave very late at night for the short drive back to Arochukwu, The roads were not so bad then and it was safe to travel. Things have changed for the worse in terms of both the condition of the roads and personal safety and security nowadays.

When he heard of the death of my husband, he was amongst the first set of friends to come and sympathize with myself and my daughter. It was as much a shock to him as it was to us. and During my late husbands' burial, he showed kindness and sympathy and we will never forget his support both financially and emotionally.

We continued the friendship of both families and I tried to visit when I could until I left Nigeria and even then, we kept in touch via telephone calls.

When I had problems in Nigeria, I would phone him to get his sound advice. The last we discussed on the phone was his retirement. His children have all done very well and so it was only fitting that he would want to live a less frenetic life style. He and Chinwe should be very proud of their roles as parents of successful children.

It was a shock to us when we received the news of the death of our dear friend. He will be missed sorely.

He was a kind man, generous and loving husband and father. He was a jovial fellow and his command of English was exceptional. He had a charismatic personality and was one of the best lawyers in the East/Abia /Imo. He loved helping people and was of great help to the all who approached him. His death is a great loss to the community.

Our Lord will say to him " come my son , you have labored but not in vain, come and have eternal rest ". We on earth will say " Go in peace K. K. You have done well. You will be remembered by the life you led, rest in the lord."

To Chinwe and the children and the members of the Ogbag Family, take heart and be happy in the knowledge that he loved you all and though you and his friends and well wishers will miss him, God loves him more. We mourn with you for this great loss. He will remain in our minds and heart never to be forgotten.

May his loving and caring soul rest in perfect peace in the bosom of our Lord.

FAMILY OF ONOWU IYASELE CHIKE OFODILE SAN OFR, AND NWAONONAKU JOSEPHINE OFODILE

ADIEU, GENTLEMAN AND SCHOLAR

The death of Chief Kalu Ogbag has caused grief in our family. It might be argued that as he had been in his 9th decade, his transition should be borne with equanimity. He was however so esteemed and exceptional that his death could not but rouse anguish.

Chief Kalu Ogbag was known in our family as 'KK'. He was for fifty four years a fast friend of our late patriarch's, Onowu Iyasele Chike Ofodile's. He wrote the foreword to our patriarch's autobiography, In His Time, recalling that they first met in a courtroom in 1960. Their bond embraced their wives and children. Celebrations of milestones in our family always featured Chief and Mrs Kalu Ogbag. On many occasions, Uncle KK proved a counselor to our family, a soothing and uplifting voice. When our father's work took him through Owerri, he habitually called on 'KK'. Our father died in 2014. Chief Kalu Ogbag and his gracious wife visited him in his decline. He was swift to come and commiserate with the family after our father's demise, and also hugely supportive at his obsequies, which he attended with his wife.



K.K and his wife Chinwe at Chike Ofodile's Onitsha home. The Ofodiles are regarded as very close family friends by the Kalu Ogbag family.

In later years, our brother Emeka Ofodile SAN called constantly on 'Uncle KK' in Owerri.

Chief Kalu Ogbag was manifestly an Oxonian, erudite and polished, speaking in a captivating, upper-class English diction, personifying the centuries' old phrase, 'a gentleman and a scholar.' Stories survive of colleagues' reactions to Kalu Ogbag's refinement: they ranged from rapture to rancour!

He was of course eminent. His legal practice in the old Eastern Region of Nigeria started in Port Harcourt. Ultimately at Enugu in the 1970s, he became the last Attorney General of the East Central State. In 1976, on the creation of Imo State, Kalu Ogbag became its first Attorney General. He was also a grandee of his traditional community, the Anyanwu Abiriba. When in the attire of an Abiriba chieftain, he oozed such panache as he did in lawyers' robes!

The opening stanza of Alfred, Lord Tennyson's Crossing the Bar might mark Kalu Ogbag's demise.

*Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea...*

Aposite to the end of a luminous life are two lines from Shakespeare's Fidele:

*Golden lads and girls all must,
As chimney-sweepers, come to dust.*



The Onowu Iyasele Chike Ofodile SAN, his wife Josephine and son Emeka Ofodile SAN, at K.K's "Ime Uche" ceremony in 1992. The head of a family of highly successful lawyers, Chief Ofodile became the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice of the Nigerian federation in 1984.

DR E. E. J. OKEREKE (LL.M Lond) (PhD Lond)

It is with great shock and sadness that I received the death of your dear husband, Chief K. K. Ogbu, Barrister — at —Law. Chief K. K. Ogbu was already a well established and brilliant lawyer at Port Harcourt well before the Nigerian Civil War before I returned from London to join the Port Harcourt Branch of the Nigerian Bar Association.

He was my late father's lawyer in Port Harcourt and my father spoke highly of him before I met him. When I first met K. K as I have fondly called him over the years, I was not in doubt that he was an accomplished gentleman by his dressing, speech and demeanor.

We struck a bond and our friendship from the 1960's blossomed over the years until his demise in 2020.

I recall the days we spent at Port Harcourt before the Civil War dancing at the Lido Night Club on Saturday nights as both of us were then bachelors.

At the end of the Civil War, both of us relocated to re-establish our Legal Profession in Enugu, then the Capital of the East Central State.

K. K's intellect was not in doubt. He carried his appointment as Attorney-General of the East Central State over to Imo State upon its creation in 1976.

When in 1984, he was approached by Major General Ike O. S Nwachukwu (then a Brigadier) to be appointed the Attorney-General for Imo State, he declined. He rather chose to recommend me. I was appointed Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice for Imo State without soliciting or lobbying for it as a result of K. K's recommendation and other friends of mine.

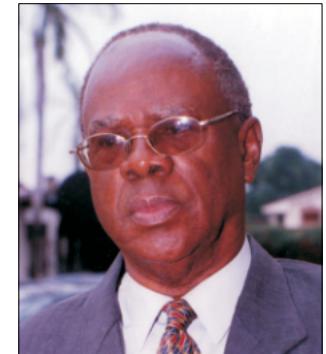
Each time I traveled to Arochukwu, my ancestral home, I usually stopped for hours at his Abiriba Hill Top mansion to exchange greetings.

On Saturday, 9th February 2019, I slept at K. K's residence at Abiriba and returned to Enugu on Sunday 10th February, 2019. We were constantly in touch by telephone as traveling was hampered by bad unmaintained highways in Nigeria, and particularly, between the Okigwe and Owerri highway which became impassable.

I went on vacation to the U.S.A during the summer and returned on the 29th of November, 2019. I kept proposing to visit K.K at Owerri but was kept back by the impassable road between Anara to Owerri.

I feel sad to miss a bosom trusted friend and colleague with whom I have been closely associated with for over 56 years.

On behalf of myself and my immediate family, I send my condolence and pray that the good Lord will grant him eternal rest and give you Chinwe, and the family the courage to carry on and the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss.



A former Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice of the Old Imo State, Dr. E.E.J. Okereke has known K.K and his family for nearly six decades. He also served as a lawyer to K.K's uncle, Ete Igwo Kalu.

A young man went to the holy man desiring success.

"I want to be rich and successful so that I can help people" he said, "Can you perform some magic to help me achieve this?"

"Wait for seven years", the holy man said.

"Will I be rich in seven years" said the young man in response.

"No", said the holy man. "In seven years, you will become used to your poverty"

The story above shows that the real danger in life is not in striving for success. The real danger is in standing still.

K.K worked extremely hard to become a success story during his early years in Port Harcourt. He did not leave anything to chance and worked to earn his stellar reputation. An Oxford or Trinity degree alone was not going to cut it as he could not even get a job at the two chambers of his choice.

But through hard work, he rose to head both of them, albeit temporarily, in less than five years.

PART V

THE CIVIL WAR

In the early hours of January 15, 1966, a group of mostly eastern officers launched a bloody coup to end, as they put it, "corruption in Nigeria". Their attempt ended in failure, but in its aftermath, months of bloody rioting would ensue in the country's middle belt and northern territories. The rioting was directed against the peoples of the east, who were accused by other tribes in the country of seeking to dominate the affairs of the newly independent nation. Federal inaction against the bloodshed soon led to popular talk of secession in the east. This sentiment reached a fever pitch, leading Col. Odumegwu Ojukwu, the eastern region's administrator, to announce it's secession from the Federal Republic of Nigeria on the 31st of May, 1967. He then further announced the birth of a new nation, the Republic of Biafra, declared himself president, put up a flag, and went about the affairs of state as if nothing had ever happened. Multiple rounds of peace talks to reunite the country soon followed, but neither side would make a firm commitment to a peaceful resolution. The stage was now set for the bloody Nigerian Civil War, which would commence on the 6th of July, 1967.

Before the start of the fighting, K.K would receive an offer from Col. Ojukwu, to be made a Lieutenant Colonel in the Biafran Army. This offer was channeled to him by his close friend, Dr. Nwakanma Okoro, who worked at the State House in Enugu.

Biafra needed a competent fighting force as many of it's skilled officers had been killed in the counter-coup of July, 1966. But K.K explained to Col. Ojukwu that he was more familiar with the pen than with the sword, and politely turned down his offer.

In hindsight, his rejection would prove to be wise, as throughout the war, Col. Ojukwu would execute a large number of his army officers for military defeats and suspected treason.

Not willing to join the army, K.K was therefore assigned to the Biafran Ministry of Information. He was placed under the able leadership of Dr. Ifegwu Eke, a Harvard trained mathematician and fellow Abiriba citizen, who K.K had met for the first time in 1965.

As he settled into his new role, he learnt that his former mentor, Dr. Graham Douglas, was in deep trouble with the Biafran authorities. He was the eastern region's Attorney-General, and had disagreed with Col. Ojukwu's plans for secession. Failing to show loyalty to the new regime, he was therefore imprisoned at the Shell Camp in Port Harcourt. But K.K would not forget the kindness Dr. Douglas had shown to him in his early years at the bar. He would end up risking his life on multiple occasions, by smuggling choice wines and groceries to his now captive former mentor. This smuggling operation would continue until Dr. Douglas was later moved to his Abonema



Biafra's wartime leader, Lt. Col. Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu was the son of the highly revered transporter, Sir Louis Odumegwu Ojukwu. He took a liking to K.K as they both had Oxford degrees in history.

Multiple rounds of peace talks to reunite the country soon followed, but neither side would make a firm commitment to a peaceful resolution. The stage was now set for the bloody Nigerian Civil War, which would commence on the 6th of July, 1967.

mansion, and placed under house arrest.

In the meantime, there were more pressing matters to attend to. The first being that the Republic of Biafra was severely under-equipped. It had mounted a military parade with wooden guns, which had prompted the Western Region premier, Mr. Awolowo, to ally his tribesmen with the Nigerian state. It also lacked a strong agricultural base. Even before the war, much of its food had to be imported from the other regions of Nigeria. In addition to all this, it did not possess a single battle ship or anything resembling a naval force. Only a few months into the war, it had become encircled by the Nigerian army and navy. A total blockade on food, weapons and consumer goods soon followed.

The doom and gloom continued, as the overwhelming majority of black African states, fearing internal wars of secession of their own, chose to throw their weight behind the Nigerian state. Col. Ojukwu had once boasted that "no power in black Africa would be able to defeat Biafra". But he soon came to realize that he was at war with more than just the blacks of Africa. Great Britain, Nigeria's former colonial overlord, supported the Federal side as it did not want any oil supply disruptions as it sought to rebuild its economy after the second world war. Egypt, for unknown reasons, also supported the federal side, providing generous supplies of military equipment and fighter pilots. The matter was made even worse when Col. Ojukwu, in an act of folly, declined to accept Soviet support for the Biafran war effort. The Soviets had promised him unlimited weaponry to defend his new nation. One of their emissaries had informed K.K of this offer in a lift, but he was derided as a member of the lower classes and shunned. After Col. Ojukwu's rejection of their help, the Soviets chose not to remain neutral during the conflict, joining the Nigerian war effort in exchange for implementing a number of post-war infrastructure projects which all ended in failure. It therefore seemed as if the war was over before it had even begun. The Nigerian government, bristling with confidence, would describe the coming conflict as a mere police action, which would be over in a few days.



The new nation of Biafra had very few allies and was blockaded on all sides by the Nigerian government. It therefore had to rely on temporary airstrips as shown above to supply it with food, medicine and weaponry. Its propaganda arm played a huge role in drawing sympathy and supplies to its cause.

© Wikipedia

But this impressive array of foes would soon learn a very hard lesson about the power of propaganda. Dr. Eke and his subordinates, including K.K, would mount an epic diplomatic counter-offensive that would help to transform a days long "police action" into a years long civil war. The Biafran ministry of information was so effective that it made the Nigerian army overly cautious. The federal command would repeatedly delay or even avoid quick and easy victories,

as Biafran propaganda spread false rumors of troop numbers and equipment strength.

By continuously saturating the foreign media with images of sick and dying Biafran children, the information ministry would also bring new allies to the Biafran cause, with the Scandinavian countries, global church missions, South Africa, Portugal, France and certain Francophone countries soon providing generous food, military and medical aid.

The ministry also had an electric effect on the people of Biafra themselves. It is on record that crime rates and social division were quite low during the war. There was also low inflation, with food prices remaining relatively stable. And in spite of the misery and horrors of the war, the people were able to maintain a high degree of hope and optimism, believing that their suffering would pay off in the end. This was largely due to the tireless efforts of Dr. Eke and his team, proving once again that the pen was mightier than the sword.

On a foreign trip to raise support for the Biafran cause, K.K bought a large batch of Angolan tobacco from Gabon, a Biafran ally. He would witness a major miracle in his life when he would miss his flight home, and the very plane he was to depart with would be shot down by Nigerian troops at Uli airport.

But his tobacco purchase would prove fortuitous, as it sold rather well in wartime, boosting the morale of the Biafran fighting forces and their overlords at H.Q. With his first profits, he would buy a large goat, eating so much of it that he would be repulsed by the smell of goat meat until the very end of his life.

As more profit flowed in from this purchase, he was able to sustain his extended family and his uncle Igwo, whose importation based business had fallen into disarray as a result of the blockade.

By 1968 however, the new nation of Biafra was militarily on the defensive. While K.K was addressing the court on the 18th day of May, 1968, federal troops suddenly rolled into the city of Port Harcourt. K.K therefore had to flee in a hurry, taking only a small suit case and leaving the vast majority of his personal effects behind. These personal effects included his law library, his school certificates, his photographs, his certificate of call to the English bar and his certificate of enrollment at the Supreme Court of Nigeria. None of these would ever be seen again.

As if that was not bad enough, from 1968, the pace of the war would change dramatically for K.K. He would never again have a permanent address in Biafra until the end of the conflict. He would live a nomadic lifestyle, moving from house to house, and from town to town, in a desperate effort to avoid the war front. But he would meet a



Nigerian troops seemingly appeared out of thin air while K.K was addressing the court in 1968. He fled Port Harcourt with a tiny suitcase, leaving many valuable belongings behind.

© Wikipedia

number of his closest friends, including Joe Irukwu, Cyrus Nunieh and Frank Ellah on his nomadic travels, thus ensuring that this period of his life would not be a total waste. He would also meet his future wife Chinwe, giving her a lift in the city of Aba, although there had been no talk of a relationship at the time.

The last months of the war, would however, be remembered by K.K, as an absolute nightmare. As federal troops closed in and the territory of Biafra contracted, artillery shells fell indiscriminately across the landscape. Everywhere became a civil war front and anyone, including him, could have been killed at any moment. The end of the contest was cataclysmic. Piles of dead bodies, rivers of blood, mass starvation and cases of spontaneous insanity were rampant. This finally brought home to K.K the stupidity and meaninglessness of war. This conflict had saved no one, and it would leave Nigeria in the grip of a generation of

military officers who would, over time, systematically dismantle every single hope and dream of its citizens.

But that was a nightmare for the future. In the meantime, K.K had to rebuild his own life. He attempted to move back to Port Harcourt, but he was told by an Ijaw friend that his name was on a list of Igbo to be killed by the locals. His Port Harcourt home had been taken over by uncooperative squatters and he had also received unnerving phone calls, with a crude voice replying in laughter, "Hahahahahaha", every time he said "Hello".

Abandoning Port Harcourt, he then made an attempt to settle in Lagos. But he was shunned and taunted there by supposedly close friends, who directed their security guards to roughen him up as anti Igbo sentiment was quite high in those days. He was also shadowed by security agents in Lagos, one of whom had been a close friend and fellow student during his time at Oxford.

K.K. therefore abandoned any hope of settling in Nigeria's major cities, opting for his own safety and sanity to return to the more familiar and welcoming Igbo heartlands in the East ■



The sight of starving and malnourished children in Biafra left a permanent scar on K.K's psyche. In 1968, he paid two doctors to treat his then young cousin of an advanced case of Kwashiorkor. But in his later years, this individual would betray the man who had saved his life and repay him with a truly evil coin. No good deed goes unpunished as they say.



As the Biafran army collapsed, chaotic scenes such as this, featuring citizens on foot, carrying whatever they could to get away from the war front, become quite common. From 1968 until the end of the conflict in 1970, K.K would never again have anything resembling a permanent address in the doomed Republic of Biafra.

TRIBUTE WRITTEN BY CHIEF K.K. OGBA FOR HIS FORMER BOSS AND FRIEND, DR. IFEGWU EKE,
FOLLOWING HIS “UNTIMELY” DEATH IN 2004

Although the late Dr. Ifegwu Eke and I are indigenes of Abiriba, I met him for the first time in December, 1965, at one of the celebrations that filled the Abiriba social calendar in the Christmas Season of that year. I was then at the end of the fourth year of my legal practice in Port Harcourt, while he was fresh from Harvard with a Ph.D.

I was immediately struck by his Hollywood handsomeness, his winning smile and his amiable ways. A friendship developed between us immediately. That friendship on my part has survived even his death, although in his last few years the nature of the long illness which ultimately took him away from us made communication between us well-nigh impossible.

With his splendid good looks and charm I believed when I first met him that Dr. Eke was set for a glorious career as a playboy of the Eastern world. In that I was totally mistaken. As I was to find out later, his social charms merely masked a superb intellect, a steely character and an articulate tongue that wore down most opponents in an argument.

It was during the Civil War (July, 1967 to January, 1970) that the debonair, irresistible socialite, Dr. Ifegwu Eke took off the velvet glove to reveal to the world the fist of iron and the fertile mind with which he ran the Biafran Ministry of Information with so much success. He was an unbelievable workaholic. Unlike most of us, hard work seemed to refresh, rather than tire him out.

Those of you who were adults in the civil war years will bear testimony to the brilliance and effectiveness of Dr. Eke's performance as an information commissioner. I believe that any discerning historian of the civil war will agree that he was arguably the most famous Minister of Information in the world during those terrible three years.

In the propaganda war between Nigeria and Biafra, Dr. Ifegwu Eke easily ran rings around his Federal Nigerian counterpart. There was hardly a news broadcast in the international radio network of the time, whether it was the BBC, the Voice of America, the Voice of Germany or Radio France International in which his exploits were not reported. Nor was there a week in which the great newspapers and magazines of the world, including the Times of London, the New York Times, Die Welt of the then Western Germany and Le Monde of France, did not report news issued by the Biafran Ministry of Information.



Dr. Ifegwu Eke was the head of the Biafran Ministry of Information during the Nigerian Civil War and K.K's former boss. He studied at McGill University in Canada where he won the Cherry prize as the best economics student in 1962. He later gained a Ph.D from Harvard in the field of Mathematical Economics. Through his genius application of economic calculus in making irrigation decisions, he was able to save the U.S government hundreds of millions of dollars in dam and other irrigation structure design and construction. In his later years, he fell ill from a mysterious illness which left him blind, but K.K never abandoned him, providing every kind of support to his old friend until his death in 2004.

In my opinion, not as a military expert, but as a graduate of history who has continued to read up on history, the achievements of the Biafran Ministry of Information during the Civil War was at least equal to that of the best equipped, best motivated and best led Biafran Army division. Dr. Eke's propagandas compelled the Federal commanders to look more than once before they took each hesitant leap into Biafran territory. It imposed on them unnecessary caution and delayed for nearly three years the conquest of a small, starving, ill-equipped, totally blockaded army by a vastly superior enemy backed by the air forces of the U.S.S.R and Egypt, the military supplies of the United Kingdom and the diplomatic clout of the O.A.U, the Arab world, Great Britain and the U.S.S.R. In this exploit, Dr. Ifegwu Eke proved once again that the pen is mightier than the sword.

Apart from the pivotal role of the Biafran Ministry of Information under Dr. Eke during the civil war, he won the hearts of all who were close to him during the war by his courage and fearlessness. I can tell of many instances when he displayed those admirable qualities. But perhaps one instance known to every Igbo man and woman who was an adult in January, 1970 will suffice. As the Biafran army and state began to crumble early in January, 1970, and a federal victory became inevitable, many friends advised Dr. Eke to escape to the Cameroons where there were many wealthy and adoring Abiriba businessmen willing to receive and conceal him and minister to his every need.

He was warned that as he had done so much havoc to the Federal Cause he would be tortured and shot if he fell into the hands of the Federal troops. Dr. Ifegwu thanked them for their concern but rejected the advice firmly. He told them that as he was one of those who had encouraged the people to defend Biafra, it was his duty to remain with them in defeat regardless of what the Federal troops might do to him. As you all will recall, Dr. Eke kept his word although in so doing, his police orderly, one Eleanya, lost his life in an incident which nearly claimed his own life as well.

In the pantheon of immortal Biafran heroes of the civil war, you will find very many names such as those of their indomitable leader, Emeka Odumegwu Ojukwu, Alexander Madiebo, Philip Effiong, Onwuatuwegwu, Ogbugo Kalu, Achuzia known by his admirers as Hannibal and by his detractors as "Air Raid". But that list, no matter how short, cannot be complete without the name of Ifegwu Ikpo Urum Eke.

The family of Dr. Ifegwu Ikpo Urum Eke, particularly his children, should hold their heads high as they look back on his monumental achievements. These achievements surpass by far what most men manage to accomplish in a lifetime.

As we gather here today to celebrate his life and his exploits, we pray the Almighty God to grant in him in the after-life, the peace and joy which he so richly deserves.

*Anger is that which allows us to hold on to negativity
It is something within us that makes us dwell on feeling attacked
It is an inflated sense of self-importance*

*When we are unable to forgive others, we carry negative feelings within us wherever
we go
This negativity becomes a burden to us and after a while, it festers and begins to
harm us
We must therefore strive to forgive.*

PART VI

YEARS IN PUBLIC SERVICE

After Biafra's surrender, Nigeria's head of state, General Yakubu Gowon, preached the gospel of "No Victor, No Vanquished" to the foreign press. Quoting Lincoln, he made mention of "binding up the nation's wounds", stating that no medals would be awarded for military service during the war, and that no reparations would be demanded from the defeated Igbos. But his actions would soon speak louder than his words. Through his finance minister, Mr. Awolowo, he confiscated every single Igbo operated bank account in Nigeria, regardless of its value. This caused great misery in the east, with many prominent Igbo businesses, including that of K.K's uncle Igwo, being totally decimated. The family business never again returned to its former glory. General Gowon's government would then offer the paltry sum of twenty pounds as compensation which many Igbos, including K.K, did not bother to collect. In addition, General Gowon's government also seized Igbo owned buildings, falsely labeling them as abandoned properties and severely stretching the dictionary meaning of the word "abandoned". This caused further impoverishment amongst the citizens of the east.

These two notorious actions, meant that K.K soon found himself in severe financial distress. His Biafran currency collection was now totally worthless, and the eight bedroom Port Harcourt home he had completed in 1966, was now being used as a guest house by the 3rd Marine Commando Division of the Nigerian Army. Unable, due to innumerable death threats, to continue his legal practice in Port Harcourt, he therefore moved to Enugu, the capital city of the East Central State.

Barely four months after his relocation, he received an invitation to meet with Mr. Anthony Ukpabi Asika, the then administrator of the East Central State. Nicknamed "Lord Haw Haw" by Biafran radio during the civil war, Mr. Asika was deeply unpopular in the east as he had been on the federal side during the civil war. But he had a good heart and he had understood before the war that Biafra had little to no chance of emerging victorious from the conflict. After the war, he had set about recruiting the very best minds he could find to rebuild the territories of the East Central State. K.K did not personally know Mr. Asika, but he was soon offered the position of Chairman of the East Central State Marketing Board. The last holder but one of this office was the much revered Sir Louis Odumegwu Ojukwu, who was incidentally Col. Ojukwu's father.

K.K's primary role as chairman of the marketing board was to fix prices for commodities such as palm oil, cocoa and rubber which were produced in the region for export. During his chairmanship, the East Central States chief export commodity was palm oil, the very same product with which his father had started out in business.

The marketing board behaved like a cartel, in a similar fashion to today's OPEC. It was created because European merchants would offer to pay the



Mr. Anthony Ukpabi Asika appointed K.K to the Chairmanship of the East Central State Marketing Board in 1970. A superb intellectual, he had a number of brilliant ideas for moving the Eastern region forward following the near total destruction of the civil war. But his government was starved of funds by the federal government in spite of his loyalty during the civil war.

lowest possible prices to individual farmers for their produce. This caused great suffering in the farming industry, leading many into debt. With a marketing board acting as an umbrella body however, the eastern region's farmers could sell their produce as a bloc rather than individually. This meant that they could raise prices by simply withholding supply. They could also flood the market with their produce to quickly get rid of old stock or to drive out competition from other countries and regions of the world.

K.K's other major role at the marketing board was to procure, store and make available high quality seeds to farmers in order to ensure high yields. He also enabled research into studying and finding remedies for plant-related diseases which might affect future yields.

He served from 1970 to 1975, in his role as chairman of the marketing board with great distinction. It is on record that during his time as chairman, Nigeria was one of the worlds biggest palm oil producers and exporters. The situation today could not be more different.

In 1974, Mr. Asika invited K.K to his Lagos guest house and offered him a position in his cabinet. But he declined this offer as it was clear to him that a coup d'etat against the Gowon government was imminent. He feared that in the event of a coup, he might be targeted by federal troops as a member of the previous regime. Mr. Gowon had held on to power for nine years, a Nigerian record, and everyone; the public, the military and the international community had had enough of him.

The highly anticipated coup eventually took place on the 7th of September, 1975, launching General Murtala Mohammed into power. In its aftermath, K.K was recommended by the late Col. Ogugo Kalu and Mr. Joe Irukwu of Ohaneze fame to Col. Anthony Aboki Ochefu, the then military administrator of the East Central State, for the position of Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice. He chose to turn down this offer for personal reasons. But a week later, and in the course of a business trip to Lagos, his name was announced as the Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice for the East Central State. With this FAIT ACCOMPLI, he yielded to the appointment as he did not dare to defy the military governor of his own state.



During K.K's chairmanship of the East Central State Marketing Board, Nigeria was the world's largest producer and exporter of palm oil. The marketing board was also responsible for cocoa and rubber exports.

© Ian Hollaway

Mr. Gowon had held on to power for nine years, a Nigerian record, and everyone; the public, the military and the international community had had enough of him.

His new boss, Col. Ochefu, was a very serious minded and intelligent military officer with a friendly demeanor. He was from the Idoma tribe, which had supplied the bulk of the Nigerian military's fighting forces during the civil war. This meant that two men, who only a few years ago would have attempted to kill each other, were now working together to revive the fortunes of their newly reunified country. They had an enormous task ahead of them. The economic situation of the then East Central State was dire after the civil war. In addition to federally mandated directives to seize the bank accounts and properties of its citizens, the east central state also suffered from totally dilapidated infrastructure, a malnourished population and a deliberately lean budget. In addition to these woes, only nine commissioners were made available to rebuild a war torn region consisting of today's states of Abia, Anambra, Ebonyi, Enugu and Imo. It seemed as if all was lost.

But Col. Ochefu would surprise everyone with his positive attitude to resolving these challenges and his unremitting commitment to hard work. His work ethic was highly contagious and affected K.K positively. K.K felt a deep sense of pride in working to revive Igboland from the ruins of a disastrous war and remembers his years serving under Col. Ochefu with great pride and affection.

To the shock of his numerous admirers, Col. Ochefu would leave the Nigerian army under a dark cloud in February of 1976. He was quickly replaced by Lt. Col John Atom Kpera, whose reign was uneventful as it only lasted for a single month.

During this period, the Late Justice Dan Ibekwe (JSC), then the Attorney-General of the Federation and a fellow Oxford graduate, informed K.K of his impending elevation to the Court of Appeal and his decision to recommend K.K as his successor as the Federal Attorney-General and Minister for Justice. K.K thanked him for his kindness but turned the offer down for personal reasons.

By March of 1976, the Justice Ayo Irikefe panel had recommended the creation of twelve new states in the Nigerian federation. The prevailing thought at the time was that new states were needed to drive social and economic



K.K poses for a photograph during his chairmanship of the East Central State Marketing Board in 1973. He initially declined his appointment by Mr. Asika, protesting that he knew nothing about the Palm oil, Rubber and Cocoa trade. But as a result of Mr. Asika's trust and belief in him, he quickly learnt on the job, greatly helping to boost the yield of the eastern region's then primary export earners for more than six years. His success was living proof of the adage that excellent people will always produce excellent results no matter where you put them.

development, as many smaller communities had felt neglected by the government. The East Central State was therefore split into Anambra state and Imo state, with Lt. Col Kpera being asked to govern Anambra, while a new leader, Navy Lieutenant Godwin Ndubuisi Kanu was chosen to lead Imo State.

K.K, alongside Mr. Emma Adiele, Dr. Richard Asobie and four others were asked to retain their respective portfolios in Imo State. They soon made their way to Owerri, which had been chosen as the new state capital. But upon arriving, they would be totally shocked and befuddled by the dire condition of the town.

Owerri in those days was a glorified village with only one poorly tarred road. The roads were so bad that during the rainy season, flood water would seep into motorists cars, sometimes reaching above their pelvic regions. Bucket latrines, accompanied by a horrifying stench, were in fashion. Private buildings were rare and mostly ancient. In short, the people had gotten used to their poverty and there was an inescapable sense of desolation about the place.

On the night of their arrival, K.K and his fellow commissioners would sleep in their cars or in uncompleted buildings. The civil servants who came along with them, numbering above fifty, would sleep in the old Legislative Assembly Hall like secondary school students. And the first budget of the state was prepared the following morning, under a guava tree.

This was all a far cry from the comfort they had been used to in Enugu. A less determined group would have moaned in agony and fled in disgust, but none of them complained. This was because, in Governor Kanu, they were led by an extremely serious and selfless leader who shared in their privations and was able to communicate a truly grand vision for the newly found state. As Confucius once said, "When the ruler is correct himself, all the people will follow his government. What the ruler does is what the people follow".

This could not be more true of Governor Kanu's government and the achievements of his administration have remained legendary.

In only two years, it would complete the vast Aladinma Housing Estate, build 800 kilometers of new roads, build Owerri's modern drainage system, construct 9 bridges, renovate and expand every single primary and secondary school in Imo while building 13 new ones, establish the College of Technology in Nekede, commission the Imo State Library, increase the daily water supply from five hours a day to twenty-four hours a day, expand the Owerri General



Rear Admiral Godwin Ndubuisi Kanu ran the cleanest and most efficient government in the history of Imo state. He was later redeployed to Lagos where he is still remembered with great fondness for his achievements. Unfortunately his administration did not blow its own trumpet, and many of its achievements would be claimed by later administrations.

Hospital from 80 beds to 250 beds with modern facilities and equipment, employ over 6,500 graduates, establish the Imo Sports Council and renovate the Owerri Sports Stadium, establish the Imo Broadcasting Service and the Government Printing Press, plant over 800 hectares of rice, plant over 300 hectares of maize, greatly expand ADAPALM, distribute over 300,000 day old chicks to poultry farmers, produce over 12,000 tonnes of animal feed per annum, plant 800 hectares of cocoa, renovate many other industrial and agricultural concerns, and many other achievements too numerous to mention here. It achieved all this and more with a stingy budget, one governor and nine commissioners. Unlike today, there were no deputy governors, deputy commissioners, special assistants or special advisers available.

In this government of high achievers, K.K, as the first attorney general of the old Imo State, would set up, from scratch, the legal framework under which Abia, Ebonyi and Imo state still operate to this day. Being the chief legal adviser to the government, he would also represent it in all legal matters, overseeing all public prosecutions and helping to ensure that the Governor Kanu administration would be remembered as one of the cleanest in the history of the old Imo State.

One of the most important tasks of an attorney-general is the recommendation of judges and other public officials. As the old Imo State did not inherit a Chief Judge from the East Central State, K.K would recommend his former mentor, Mr. C.A. Oputa, for the position. He did so with a clear conscience as Mr. Oputa was highly qualified, being the only candidate with three university degrees who also had a highly successful practice at the bar spanning over a decade.

K.K also led negotiations on the important matter of land acquisition. A lot of land was needed by the new state as it sought to build new roads, schools, hospitals, agricultural projects, industries and public utilities. Thankfully the people of the old Imo state were mostly cooperative in this endeavor, greatly aiding in the success and growth of their homeland.

He also represented the state at the Federal Executive Council and handled negotiations with the federal government. This would prove crucial in 1976, when the Justice Mamman Nasir Committee on Boundary Adjustments was set up to determine boundaries for the newly created states of the federation.



This small but very important building served as the Imo State Executive Council Chamber from the creation of the state in 1976 up to the 30th of September, 1979 when the army handed over the Government of the country to elected civilians. The government officials who worked in this humble building were devoted to their work and to the people of Imo State. . not making excuses about their working conditions

The Governor Kanu administration discovered that Egbema, a border community between Imo State and Rivers State, had been annexed by the Federal Government during the civil war, and had been joined to the territory of Rivers State. This was done by the Federal Government for two strategic reasons.

The first was to deny the Igbo states oil revenue which would have greatly aided in their economic development after the civil war. And the second was to deny Igboland access to the sea via waterways, on the suspicion that Col. Ojukwu or his successors might someday decide to reignite their secession bid.

The ruler of Egbema, known as the Nze Obi was His Highness, Eze S. N. Uzor. He had sworn fealty to the Government of Rivers State. But thanks to K.K's tireless and excellent diplomatic maneuvering, he was able to bring the Nze Obi, alongside seventeen (17) village chiefs, to Enugu for negotiations. After three days and three nights of intense discussions, K.K would succeed in bringing the Egbema community into Imo State. He was to later repeat this very same feat with the Asa community in today's Abia State.

If he had chosen to do nothing, Imo and Abia would today not have access to waterways leading to the sea. They would also not have been classified as oil producing states and would have missed out on decades of development assistance from the Niger Delta Development Commission and its many predecessors. This would have cost both states billions of naira in lost revenue from oil and gas sales.

K.K would also play a role in deciding the original Owerri master plan. Governor Kanu had fully intended to turn Owerri into a world class city. As a result of his aim, a competition was held between town planning experts from the United States of America and Switzerland. The Swiss have always had a glorious reputation for efficiency and town planning. It has been said that "Hell is where the police are German, the cooks are British, the engineers are Italian, the administrators are French and the lovers are Swiss". While "Heaven is a place where the police are British, the cooks are French, the engineers are German, the lovers are Italian and the administrators are Swiss". Having been to Switzerland on a number of occasions, K.K leaned heavily in favor of the Swiss town planning firm, Fingerhuth and Partners. This plan was eventually advanced by the team of the Imo State Executive Council, co-ordinated under the late Mr. Emma Adiele, the then Commissioner for Finance and the late Mr. Ogbonnaya Ukelonu, the then Commissioner for Works under the overall superintendent of the governor, the then Naval Lieutenant Godwin Ndubuisi Kanu.

The intention of the master plan was to make Owerri the most beautiful city in Africa. It was to have the best roads,



K.K congratulates his former mentor, Justice C. A. Oputa after his appointment as the very first Chief Judge of the Old Imo State in 1976. Justice Oputa was by far the best qualified candidate for the position.

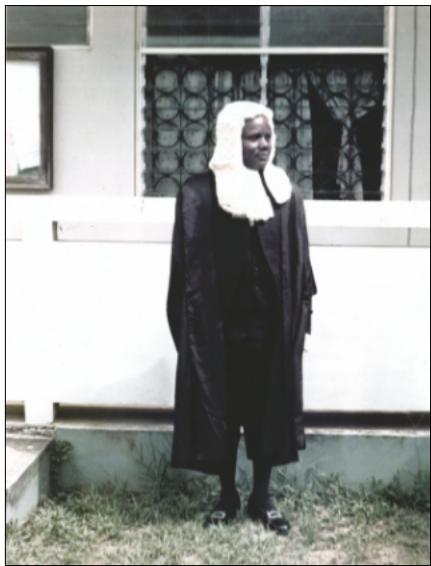
a modern transportation system which included a light rail system and an airstrip, a railway line to Aba and Onitsha, an excellent drainage system, open spaces, beautiful gardens and so on. If the master plan had been followed by later administrations, Owerri today would have looked just like any other modern European city.

Unfortunately it was not to be. Nigeria's new leader, General Olusegun Obasanjo, decided to come to Owerri on a state visit. He was alarmed to see the rapid progress of the city he had helped to completely clobber during the civil war. When the citizens of Owerri met with him at the township stadium, they demanded an increase in the state budget. But this seemingly innocuous request somehow led to a shouting match between them and the head of state. General Obasanjo was greatly displeased by this turn of events. Within three weeks, he would redeploy Governor Kanu to Lagos state, and he would impose a new leader, Admiral Adekunle Shamusideen Lawal, on Imo state.

Admiral Lawal was himself already famous for making the most dubious contribution to the field of traffic management in the

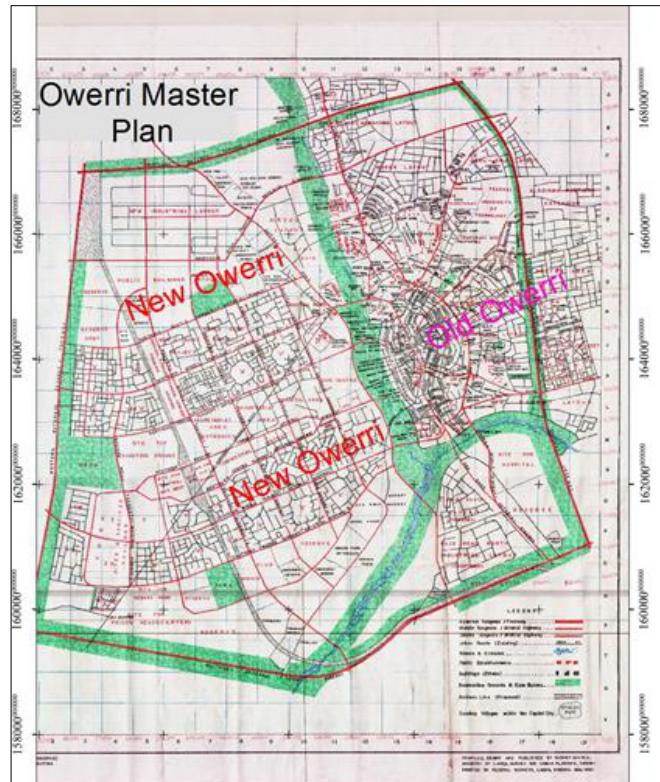
history of Africa. As the previous governor of Lagos state, he sought to reduce traffic

congestion not by building new roads and bridges, but by only allowing even plate numbered cars on the roads one day, and odd plate numbered cars on the next. He lived in Owerri as a bachelor, leaving his wife behind in Lagos. During his tenure, State Executive Council meetings became a rare event and he ruled as if he were trying to undo every single achievement of the Governor Kanu administration. The citizens groaned and complained, but the author of all this misery ate and drank, chatted and smiled as if nothing was going on. In their agony, the people of Owerri cursed and hexed him, sending his name and his photographs to shrines and demons across the nation in a desperate bid to be rid of him. In the last ten weeks of his rule, not a single State Executive Council meeting was held. He was later recalled by General Obasanjo and would die mysteriously in London in 1980.



K.K poses for the camera in his Attorney-Generalship garb in 1976.

His long overdue replacement, Brigadier General Sunday Ajibade Adenihun was a welcome breath of fresh air. Imo was soon on the move again and new projects were being commissioned in every direction. On a state visit to Lagos, K.K would



The Owerri Master Plan If it had been faithfully implemented, Owerri would have become the Switzerland of the East. But alas, it was not to be.

reunite with Mr. C.J. Kramers who was the Dutch ambassador to Nigeria and an old friend from his university days at Oxford. Mr. Kramers informed him that the United Nations, in partnership with the Dutch government, was building industrial park projects across the developing world. K.K lobbied his old friend, convincing him to bring the project to Owerri. This eventually led to the siting of a United Nations sponsored Industrial Estate at Onitsha Road in Owerri. This project led to a rapid development of that part of Owerri as roads and other infrastructure had to be completed for the project. Unfortunately, when civilian rule was restored, the project was abandoned as a later administration, choosing greed over development, demanded thirty (30) percent of the profits from the industrial estate.

Foreign investors therefore fled, and the entire project subsequently collapsed.

In December of 1978, a delegation led by the late Chief Evans Enewerem and the equally late Chief Collins Obi, offered K.K the opportunity to serve as the Vice Presidential Candidate to Alhaji Shehu Shagari of the N.P.N. K.K was told that his name had already been forwarded to the Northern Caucus of the N.P.N which had given their approval of his choice. He rejected their offer as Federal parastatals were under the Vice Presidency, and he did not want to be cowed into awarding inflated contracts in order to raise funds for the party and to reward party stalwarts. He knew that sooner or later, he would be made to face the music at the usual probes which inevitably followed the change of any regime in Nigeria. It turned out to be a prescient decision as the eventual candidate, Dr. Alex Ekwueme, would end up as a prisoner for eight uninterrupted years. While his erstwhile running mate, Alhaji Shehu Shagari was placed under a mostly enjoyable house arrest by the newly minted regime, Ekwueme would find himself in a tiny squalid cell with six other inmates, who it has to be assumed, did not want to be there. The strain of this ordeal would age him prematurely, with every single hair on his body eventually turning lily white

By October of 1979, Nigeria's military rulers would depart, paving the way for civilian rule. K.K retired from public life as he was not exactly fond of the hustle and bustle of party politics. He also missed his legal practice, having been away from it for more than a decade. Later in the year, he would re-open his legal chambers in Owerri, the capital city of the state in which he was regarded as a founding father ■



K.K taking a short break from work to pose for a photograph during his Attorney-Generalship in 1977.



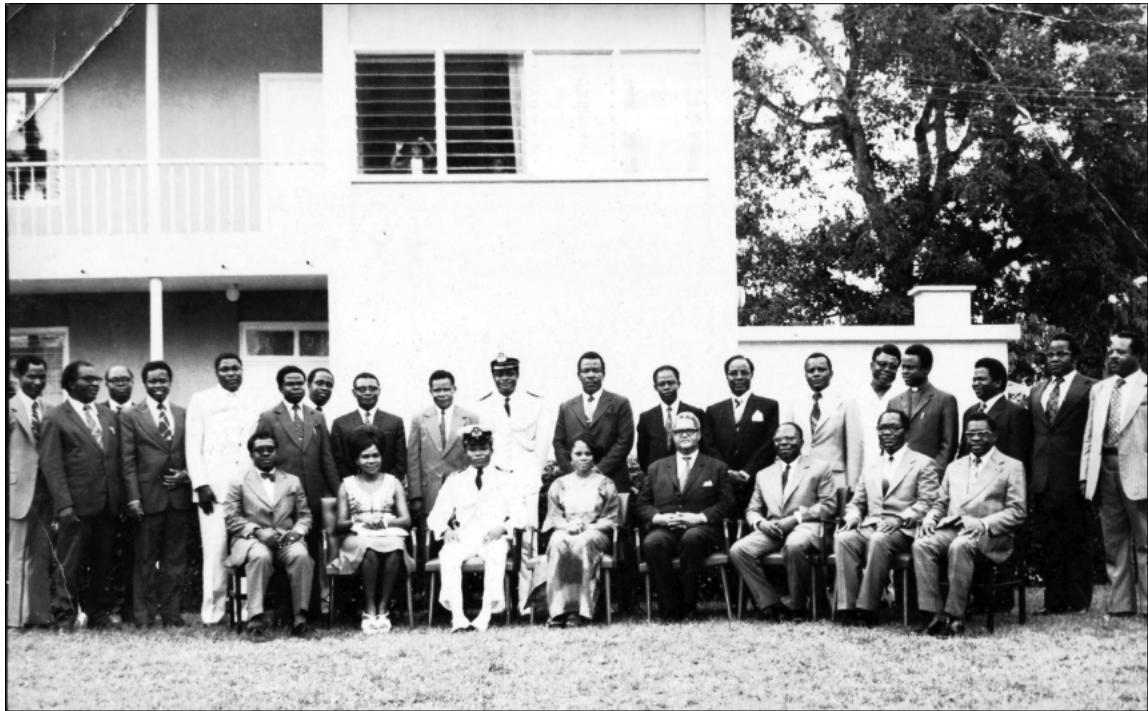
K.K's official portrait as Attorney-General of Imo State taken in March, 1976.



Portrait from K.K's Commemorative Album at the end of his tenure as Attorney-General of the old Imo State in 1979.



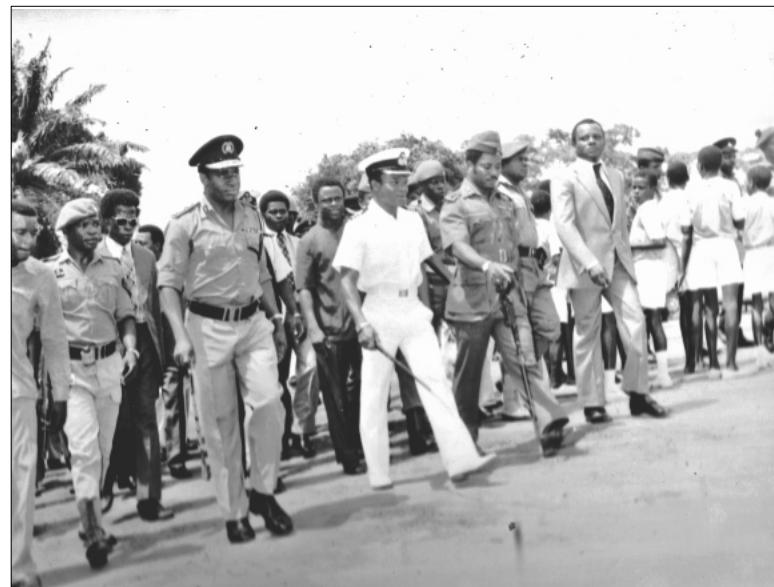
K.K poses with a law book at his home office desk in 1977.



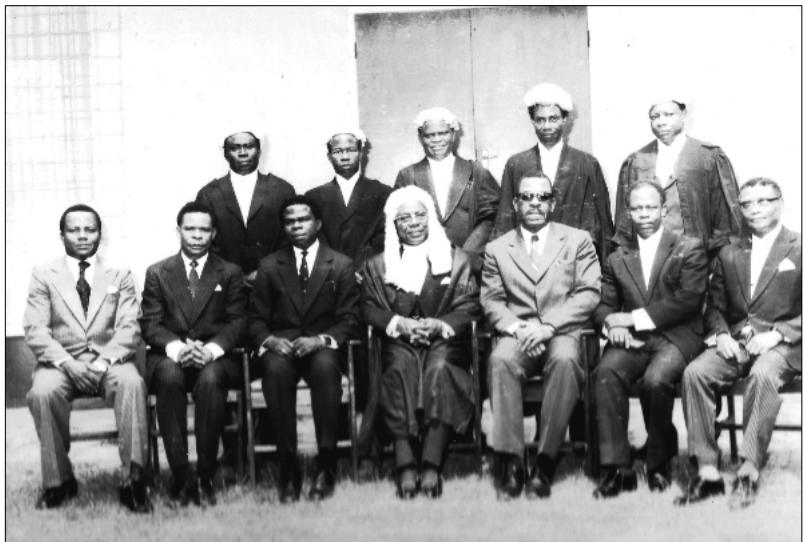
Left During his official visit to Imo State, the Chief Justice of the Federation, the Rt. Hon., Sir Darnley Alexander posed for a group photograph with High Court Judges and members of the Imo State Executive Council. K.K can be seen standing, in the sixth position from the right..



K.K guides Governor Ndubuisi Kanu round a yam barn during the Governor's tour of Arochukwu/Ohaifa Local Government Area in 1977.



K.K to the right with the Military Governor of Imo State, then Commander Ndubuisi Kanu and his Cross-River counterpart, Col. Paul Omu, on a visit to Itumbauzo in Bende Local Government Area.



K.K. seated, extreme left, with Judges of the old Imo State following the swearing in of Justice C. A. Oputa as the inaugural Chief Judge of the state in 1976.



K.K calls on the Eshi of Nkwerre, Chief Ugochukwu, during his tour of the Nkwerre Magisterial District.



K.K at the Justice Mamman Nasir Committee on Boundary Adjustments. Through his heroic efforts, both Egberia and Asa would remain within the boundaries of the old Imo State, ensuring the classification of Abia and Imo as oil producing states.



General Obasanjo visits Owerri. Barely three weeks after his visitor, Governor Ndubuisi Kanu would be redeployed to Lagos and replaced by Admiral Adekunle Lawal.

GALLERY OF HIS YEARS IN PUBLIC SERVICE



A new ruler for Imo Following the redeployment of Governor Kanu to Lagos, Admiral Adekunle Shamusideen Lawal was appointed governor of the old Imo State in February of 1977. He retained all prior commissioners. In this photograph, he and the other members of the State Executive Council are shown in front of the humble Imo State Executive Council Chamber.



K.K joins the Military Governor of Imo State, Commodore Adekunle Lawal on a tour of the Arochukwu/Ohafia Local Government Area.



K.K at a Cocktail Party in honor of the then Chief of Army Staff, Lt-General Theophilus Danjuma at Government House, Owerri. The general had aided K.K at the end of the civil war by ordering the 3rd Marine Commando Division of the Nigerian army to vacate his eight bedroom house in Port Harcourt. This meant that the property was no longer classified as abandoned. K.K later sold it for a large profit, but his close friend, Senator Cyrus Nunieh generously refused to accept a commission on the sale even though it was he who had found the buyer and had, in the first place, suggested asking General Danjuma for help.



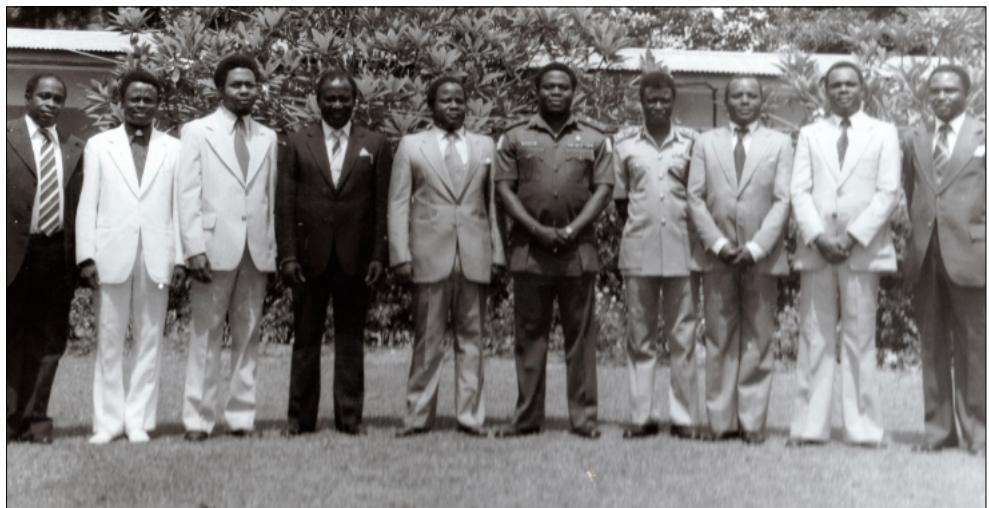
K.K looks on admiringly as Governor Lawal inspects the latest beer products from the state owned Golden Guinea Brewery at Umuahia.



The Long Farewell K.K and Governor Lawal admire a wood carving, one of the gifts presented to the Governor as his departure from office is announced.



Right A new Governor, Col. Sunday Ajibade Adenihun is appointed following Governor Lawal's departure. This photograph shows the Imo State Executive Council comprising of (L-R): Dr. Agom Eze (Works & Housing), Rev.Fr.(Dr.) Ifeanyi Anozia (Industries & Trade), Dr. O. J. Onyike (Local Govt. & Social Development), Mr. H. A. Okwuosa (Health), Mr. E. C. Adiele (Finance), Col S. A. Adenihun (Military Administrator), Alhaji Ismaila Gwarzo (Police), K.K. Ogba (Justice), Dr. M. A. Nwachukwu (Establishments) and Dr. F. C. Obioha (Agriculture). Dr. Roland Asobie (Health) is absent.



GALLERY OF HIS YEARS IN PUBLIC SERVICE



K.K. with the Military Administrator of Imo State, S. A. Adenihun as he opens the Head-quarters of the Imo State Wing of the Boys Scouts Movement.



K.K. addresses participants of the 1979 Imo State Sports Festival at the Owerri Sports Stadium. An avid sportsman, he played football in his youth, switching to the Chinese game of table tennis (ping pong) as he got older.



K.K. speaking to an Odumegwu Ojukwu look-alike at one of the stands of the 1978 Operation Feed the Nation (OFN) programme in Mbaitoli/Ikeduru.



The Commissioner for Agriculture and Natural Resources, Dr. F. C. Obioha, conducts K.K. around various stands during the launching ceremony of the 1978 Operation Feed the Nation program at Egbeada.

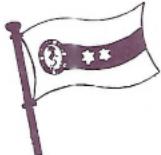


Above Right A bored K.K perfects the "Bullingdon Pose" from the Bullingdon Club at Oxford University. This pose was frequently used by British Colonial Officers and involves looking slightly bored, with the eyes fixed a horizon away from a conversation partner in order to convey contempt.

Above Left K.K and Chief Emma Adiele with the famous 70's comedian, Mazi Ukonu. He must not have been saying something funny here as both K.K and Chief Adiele look mightily displeased.

Left K.K with his former Oxford classmate and friend, Mr. C. J. M. Kramers. He convinced Mr. Kramers to site a United Nations sponsored Industrial Estate at Onitsha Road. This brought development to the area but the project was abandoned after a civilian government gained power and demanded a substantial cut of the expected profits.

REAR ADMIRAL GODWIN NDUBUISI KANU

	REAR ADMIRAL GODWIN NDUBUISI KANU 38, KOFO ABAYOMI STREET, P. O. BOX 72156 VICTORIA ISLAND, LAGOS. Phone _____
October 27 th , 2020	
To & C/o : Kalu K.K. Ogba First Son, For & On Behalf of The FAMILY	
<p><i>Greetings, & CONDOLENCE</i></p> <p><i>Our condolence.</i></p> <p>'Our' is used, in emphasis and all its vista, its ramifications :</p> <p>From February, 1976 until his demise on 14th of July, 2020, spanning 44 (FORTY-FOUR) Years, 'K K' and I interacted spiritually always, physically as and wherever feasible, whenever necessary.</p> <p>Please bear up. It is the way of all flesh. God knows best.</p> <p>By His grace, we shall be at hand at and over the Obsequies.</p> <p>God bless you. bless your All, bless us all.</p> <p>God bless.</p> <p><i>Most sincerely,</i></p> <p><i>RADM</i></p> <p>Godwin Ndubuisi Kanu Admiral</p>	

**“God
Knows
Best”**

Below Rear Admiral Kanu with K.K at the "Ime Uche" ceremony of Mrs. Chinwe Kalu Ogba in 2010.



DR. ONYIKE JAMES ONYIKE, FJW, ENYI ABIA

*Dr. Onyike James Onyike, FJW, ENYI ABIA
Eluama Isuikwuato*

A TRIBUTE TO A COLLEAGUE, BARRISTER CHIEF K.K.OGBA

Grief takes a centre stage when you pay tribute to one who has passed on. This is the case with my colleague, the late Barrister Chief K.K. Ogba, whom I met in 1978 as one of the nine Commissioners of Old Imo State. He was a member of the team that was appointed in East Central State and moved into Old Imo State State in 1976 at the creation of the State as pioneer Commissioners.

He was the Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice from March 15, 1976, and served until September 30, 1979. He was one of the 9 Commissioners of Old Imo State Executive Council, under Rear Admiral N. Kanu (Rtd.), then Ltd. Commander and Military Governor of Imo State. They were the zealous Honourable Commissioners that shined with integrity. These patriots were inspired and had to tackle the daunting task of building and rehabilitating the war torn villages of the State. Their job was also to make Owerri, the State Capital, attractive and these they did with honesty and strategic planning, effectively and efficiently.

Barrister Chief K.K. Ogba was a man of courage, who when, Navy Captain Adekunle Lawal replaced Ltd. Commander Ndubuisi Kanu, and brought development to a halt, spoke inspiringly to his colleagues for collective responsibility. Chief K.K. Ogba many times referred to Navy Captain Adekunle Lawal's ruthless and condescending governance.

Barrister Chief K.K. Ogba, who had early exposure to disciplined teachers, had been embued with unstoppable energy and zeal to study in England. He was called to the Bar. He returned to Nigeria to practice law. He was a man of wisdom, a judicial philosopher of law, whose brilliance and eloquence often showed in law courts. He will be remembered for his charisma, candour and refined behaviour in law courts and out of courts.

May God console his lovely family. May He be their Protector, Provider, Battle Fighter and Advocate in Jesus Mighty Name. Adieu Barrister Chief K.K.Ogba!


**Dr. Onyike James Onyike, FJW
Enyi Abia
29/7/20**

ALHAJI ISMAIL GWARZO**ALHAJI ISMAIL GWARZO**

No. 1 Kutama Road,
Gwarzo,
Kano State
jyh65@yahoo.com
GSM: - 08065496969

Our Ref

Date: 1st December, 2020

The Family of
Late Chief K.K. Ogba
C/O Dame Chinwe Kalu Ogba
Abiriba, Abia State.

My Dear Family,

I received with shock the demise of my good friend, Legal luminary and gentleman **CHIEF K.K OGBA**.

He is gone, but he has left an indelible mark on the sands of time. He will be greatly remembered by his family, colleagues, friends and Abia State for his contribution to the development of his state, his people, humanity and justice. I hold him in high esteem.

May his gentle soul rest in perfect peace. May God give the entire family the fortitude to bear his loss.

Legal giant, rest on my gentle friend.

Adieu


Alhaji Ismail Gwarzo

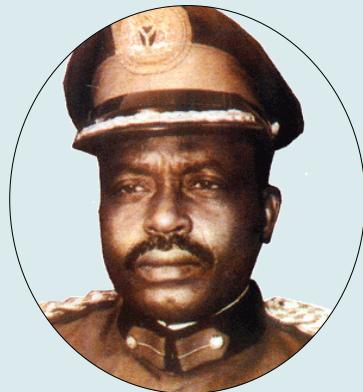
GOVERNORS K.K SERVED UNDER IN THE EAST CENTRAL STATE



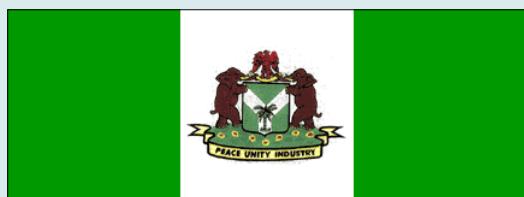
Mr. Anthony Ukpabi Asika



Colonel Anthony Ochefu



Colonel John Atom Kpera



Flag of the East Central State



Rear Admiral Godwin Ndubuisk Kanu



Admiral Adekunle Shamusideen Lawal

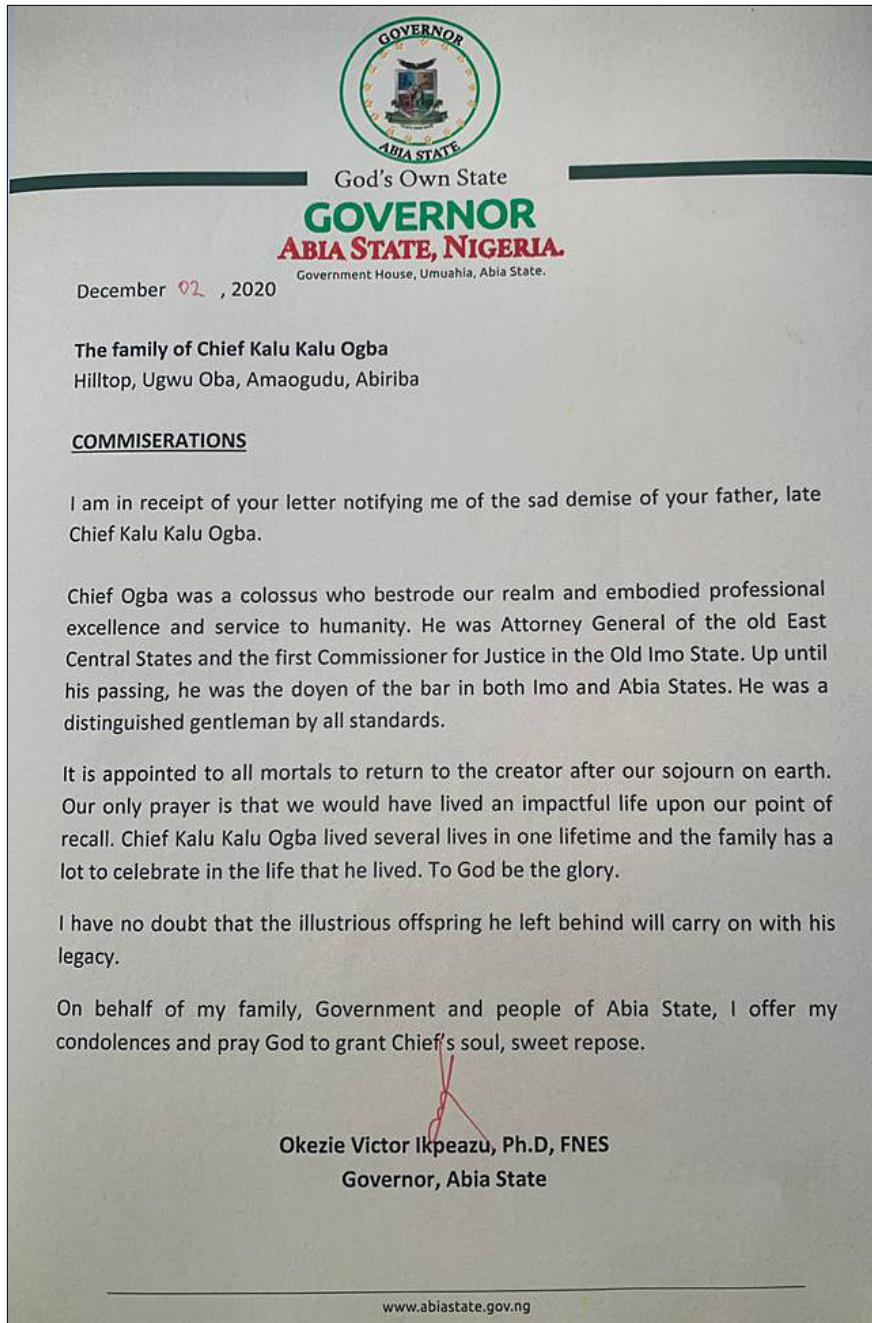


Brigadier General Sunday Ajibade Adenihun



Crest of Imo State

HIS EXCELLENCY, GOVERNOR OKEZIE VICTOR IKPEAZU



HIS EXCELLENCY, SENATOR HOPE UZODIMMA



GOVERNOR
IMO STATE
Nigeria

4th November, 2020

Kalu K.K. Ogba (Jnr)
Chief K.K.Ogba Family
Abiriba,
Abia State

Dear Kalu K.K.,

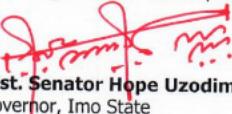
MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE
RE: NOTIFICATION OF DEATH AND BURIAL PROGRAMME:
CHIEF K.K. OGBA

I have received with shock your letter of 19th October, 2020 that conveyed the notification of the death of your dear father, **Chief K.K.Ogba**, who slept in the Lord on the 14th of July, 2020, aged 90 years. My heart goes out to you and the entire Chief K.K. Ogba's family at this time of grief.

Chief K.K.Ogba's good and loving disposition, his forthrightness and zeal with which he served Imo State as Hon. Attorney-General & Commissioner for Justice of old Imo State, would be missed, not just by friends and family, but the society at large. I urge you to be strong. Look unto God for succor and protection.

On behalf of my family, Government and the good people of Imo State, I send our heartfelt condolences to you and the Ogba's family, over the death of **Chief K.K. Ogba** and pray God to grant you the grace to bear this irreparable loss.

May his gentle soul rest in peace, Amen.


Dist. Senator Hope Uzodimma
Governor, Imo State

EASTERN HEARTLAND

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
P.M.B 1107 OWERRI
IMO STATE, NIGERIA
gov@imostate.gov.ng

HIS EXCELLENCY, CHIEF WILLIE OBIANO



Government House, Enugu-Onitsha
Expressway, P.M.B. 5016, Awka
www.anambrastate.gov.ng
www.fb.com/wiwgge

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
OF ANAMBRA STATE

OUR REF: ANGH/HE/2ndT/OBC-3/031

December 1st, 2020

Tribute to K.K Ogba

The news of the passing of Chief Barrister K.K Ogba, a pioneer and great trail blazer who joined his ancestors in July this year at the ripe age of 89 touched me deeply.

Chief Ogba's passing came at a time Nigeria needed his wise counsel and seasoned advice the most. As the Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice of the old East Central State which gave rise to the five states of the South East Region, Chief Ogba put up a stellar service to his country at a very crucial period in history. Again, he rose to his full height as the first Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice of the old Imo State to lay the legal framework for the evolution of the current Imo and Abia States which sprung from the old Imo State.

Not surprisingly, Chief K.K Ogba's record in private practice was no less stellar than his public service. Long before his career in public service, Ogba was a legal counsel at Irving and Bonner, Nigeria's first law chambers (founded in 1917), where he was reported to have won every case he handled until his exit.

Indeed, if life is measured by impact, Chief Barrister K.K Ogba left an indelible mark that will continue to serve as a beacon to successive generations who desire excellence and are determined to work for it. The light of exploits will continue to inspire us all to improve on our best performance.

The thoughts and prayers of the good people of Anambra State are with his beloved family and the people and government of Abia State.

Accept my sincerest condolences.

CHIEF WILLIE OBIANO, B.Sc, MBA, FCA, KCSG
Governor of Anambra State

2nd term in office...delivering the promises for a **Greater Tomorrow**



RT. HON. SIR UDE OKO CHUKWU, FCA, FCTI, Ph.D



His Excellency
THE DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF ABIA STATE
 Government House, Umuahia.

GH/DGOV/PRS/004/222

4th November, 2020

Kalu K.K.Ogba
 No.130 Orlu Road,
 Akwakuma, Owerri,
 Imo State.

Dear K.K Ogba,

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE/TRIBUTE.

I write to sincerely commiserate with you and the entire Chief K.K Ogba family on the transition to eternal glory of Chief K.K Ogba which occurred on Tuesday 14th July, 2020 at the age of 90years.

The Late Chief K.K Ogba was a man of great character, widely respected and admired by those who were privileged to have known and encountered him quite closely. He was a great patriot and an outstanding personality known for his diligence, professional integrity, and fierce loyalty to constituted authority, friends and colleagues.

His record of service both in the private and public sectors spanned from old Eastern Region through defunct Biafra, East Central State to old Imo State. He was the pioneer Honourable Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice of the Old Imo State. Where he brought to bear his enriched legal and judicial experience and expertise on the establishment of solid legal and judicial foundation and framework for the Government and governance of the then Imo State.

Furthermore, his contributions as a community leader and former Bencher and Member of the Judicial Service Commission Abia State among other leadership positions speak to his pedigree, enormous integrity, quintessential professionalism and an intellectualism of national and global repute. The Late Chief K.K Ogba was indeed a man of uncommon courage and character as well as an illustrious and proud son of Abiriba Enachioke.

As his mortal remains are committed to mother-earth on Wednesday, 16th December, 2020 at Abiriba, Ohafia Local Government Area of Abia State, I pray God to rest his soul in peace and grant you all the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss.

Rt. Hon. Sir Ude Oko Chukwu, FCA, FCTI, Ph.D.
 Deputy Governor, Abia State.

BARR. CHIEF ERIC KELECHI IGWE, Ph.D

**DEPUTY GOVERNOR**

EBSG/DG/GH/004/VOL.1/155

26th Nov., 2020

Kalu K.K Ogba
 130 Orlu Road,
 Owerri, Imo State.

CONDOLENCES

I write to convey my condolences to you and the entire K.K. Ogba family on the transition of your beloved father and Patriarch who ascended on the 14th day of July, 2020 at the fulfilled age of 90 years.

Your late father was a hero of service having served the East Central state and later Pioneer Commissioner and Attorney-General of old Imo State.

His track record of commitment to duties and service to humanity continues to reverberate amongst his contemporaries and bureaucratic peers who were impacted by that rare virtue.

As you go through this moment of grief, continue to draw fortitude from the fact that his 90 years on earth were quality years that shall be long remembered and celebrated.

K.K, take heart and do extend my condolences to your siblings.

Barr (Chief) Eric Kelechi Igwe, Ph.D
 Deputy Governor

SENATOR IKE EKWEREMADU Ph.D, CFR



Senator Ike Ekweremadu, PhD, CFR
 (Deputy President of the Senate 2007 - 2019)
 ENUGU WEST SENATORIAL DISTRICT

November 23, 2020

The Late Chief K. K. Ogba Family
 No. 130 Orlu Road, Akwakuma
 Owerri, Imo State
 Email: kaluogbafamily@gmail.com

Attention: Chizoba Kalu Ogba

Dear Chizoba,

Commissions

I received with deep grief the news of the transition of your revered Patriarch, the Late Chief Barrister K. K. Ogba. It is no doubt a huge loss not only to you and the entire family, but also to Abia and the entire South East states.

Nevertheless, we must give God the glory for his life of sterling service to his community, the then East Central State, the old Imo State and humanity at large. He was a consummate public administrator and legal luminary of note. It is also comforting that the Honourable Attorney-General lived to a ripe age, bequeathing legacies that will forever etch his name in gold. There is no doubt that the pages of history will be kind to him.

On behalf of my family and the Enugu West Senatorial District, therefore, I send heartfelt condolences over the huge loss, and also share in the joy over a remarkable life. I equally join you in prayers for the peaceful repose of his gentle soul.

While praying God to grant you all the equanimity as you grapple with the realities of this moment, please accept the assurances of my highest regards.

Sincerely,

Nnam

SENATOR IKE EKWEREMADU, Ph.D., CFR

SENATOR ENYINNAYA ABARIBE



**SENATOR ENYINNAYA HARCOURT ABARIBE
 MINORITY LEADER**

18th November, 2020



Ms Chizoba Kalu-Ogba
 Hilltop – Abiriba

My Dear Sister,

CONDOLENCE

The death of our Elder statesman Chief K.K. Ogba your father at the age of 90 years marks the climax of a giant who impacted on his people and the Nation.

Chief, a colossus and community leader was among the fore-bearers of our country who sacrificed so our today will be better. A rare gem in our world today.

I know age may not blunt the pain of his death to you and your siblings, but be consoled for papa's life is worthy of emulation and that he bequeathed to the world men and women whose strides are resilience further is a testimony of his legacy.

Chief stood for the word of God and the blessed assurance is for him on the morning of call, He will be missed

My family and I join the people of Abia South Senatorial District to share in the joy of Chief K.K. Ogba's life and pray God to give you His grace to endure the pain of the loss.

Jummar
 Senator Enyinnaya Abaribe

SENATOR (DR.) CHRIS NGIGE, OON; MD; KSJI

OFFICE OF THE HONOURABLE MINISTER
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
Federal Secretariat, Shehu Shagari Way, Abuja, Nigeria.

HMO/LAB/Gen/01A/IV

16th October, 2020

Chizoba Kalu-Ogba,
130 Orlu Road,
Owerri,
Imo State.

Dear Chizoba & family

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

Greetings!

I write on behalf of the Ngige Clan of Alor, Idemili South LGA, Anambra State to convey our heartfelt condolences on the passing on to eternal glory of a great Patriarch, your father and husband – Chief K. K. Ogba at the age of 90 years.

Your father was a legal luminary, who always gave his best in his endeavours in the service to his people especially in the practice of Law. He excelled in both public and private legal practices with integrity. This was climaxed during his various calls of duty as Attorney General and Commissioner of Justice of the then East Central State at the age of 90 years.

When we reminisce your father's impressive credentials and achievements in life, one would but give thanks to God Almighty. I urge you, the survivors to therefore look beyond his death and draw strength from the legacies of his inspired life as a great legal luminary, husband, father and community leader.

We pray to God Almighty to reward his good efforts grant his soul eternal rest in his Kingdom and comfort in a special way all of you who are left to mourn his demise. Ndo nu!

Sen. (Dr.) Chris Nwabueze-Ngige, OON; MD; KSJI
Honourable Minister of Labour and Employment

DR. OGBONNAYA ONU

OFFICE OF THE HONOURABLE MINISTER
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

4th Floor, Block D, Federal Secretariat Phase II, Shehu Shagari Way, PMB 131, Abuja, FCT, Nigeria

FMST/HMST/019/Vol.1/61

October 30, 2020

Dame Chinwe Kalu Ogba
No. 130 Orlu Road
Akwakuma
Owerri
Imo State

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

It is with sadness that I write to condole with you on the death of Chief K. K. Ogba, former Attorney General and Commissioner of Justice of the then East Central State at the age of 90 years.

2. He was a great Nigerian, who made invaluable contributions to the development of both Abia State and the nation. Indeed, his good deeds will remain evergreen in the hearts of so many people who share his noble convictions. He distinguished himself in the service of our country in the many positions he occupied. Surely, by his death, we have lost a great man whose good deeds will be difficult to forget.

3. However, I am consoled by the knowledge that he left behind to mourn him, a wife such as yourself who continues to make important contributions to the development of our dear nation.

4. It is my prayer that the Almighty God will grant his soul eternal rest. May He also grant you and other members of your family the fortitude to bear the pain of his loss.

[Handwritten signatures of Dr. Ogbonnaya Onu and Dame Chinwe Kalu Ogba]
Dr. Ogbonnaya Onu
Honourable Minister

BARR. CHRIS EZEM


**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
TO ABIA STATE GOVERNMENT**

Cabinet Office: Government House, P.M.B 7211, Umuahia, Abia State. **Tel:** +234 803 312 8440 | 703 287 5460
E-mail: abiassg.ng@gmail.com

November 3, 2020

Kalu K.K. Ogba
 130 Orlu Road Owerri,
 Imo State.

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

I write to commiserate with you on the demise of your father **Chief K.K. Ogba** at the ripe age of 90 years.

The loss of one's father irrespective of his age is very painful. Late **Chief K.K. Ogba** served the East Central State and the Old Imo State with zeal, diligence, honesty, and patriotism, he was the Hon. Commissioner and Attorney-General of the Old Imo State at creation. He was also instrumental to the establishment of solid Legal/Judiciary foundation with erudite panache and consummate legal professionalism that contributed to the success story of the State. He would be missed by many who are acquainted to him..

But I urge you and all those affected by his death to find solace in the fact that he left legacies that would speak for him especially in raising successful children like you and your siblings.

On behalf of my Family, Management and Staff of Office of the Secretary to Abia State Government, accept our deepest condolences, and may the soul of **Chief K.K. Ogba**, rest in the bosom of the Lord.


BARR CHRIS EZEM
 Secretary to the State Government

UGBALA KENNETH IGWE Ph.D


EBONYI STATE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA
SECRETARY TO THE STATE GOVERNMENT

*Office of the Secretary to the State Government, Cabinet Office, Government House, P.M.B 0020, Abakaliki
 Tel: 08038254177, Email: ssgebonyistate@gmail.com*

EB/SSG/M.86/SUB.111/191

17th Nov. 2020

Kalu K. K. Ogba
 No. 130 Orlu Road,
 Akwukuma, Owerri,
 Imo State.
Condolence Message

It is with deep sadness and heavy heart that I learnt of the death of your father, **Chief K.K. Ogba** who passed away on 14th July, 2020 at the age of 90 years.

Chief K. K. Ogba had shown extraordinary skill in handling different cases especially as the Commissioner and Attorney-General of the then East Central State and the old Imo State, where he was a front-liner in establishing the rule of law among other innumerable contributions to the success story of the South East Zone and Nigeria in general.

His accomplishments live on; the nation will forever remember his contributions to many national legal matters with due respect, as an efficient, erudite and eminent lawyer who devoted his professional life to the service of our nation.

Please accept the assurance of my highest regards and sincere commiserations.

on behalf of my family and staff of Cabinet Office, Ebonyi State, I wish you the inner strength to tackle the challenges of the moment.


Ugbala kenneth Igwe, Ph.D.
 Secretary to the State Government/Coordinating Commissioner

BARR. NNAMDI ANYAEHIE



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
IMO STATE

G/H/COS/S.023/1/12
Kalu K.K. Ogba
No 130 Orlu Road,
Owerri.

8th October, 2020

COMMISERATION

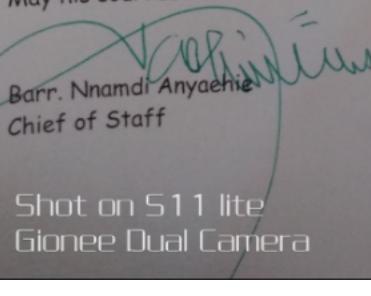
The news of the transition to higher glory of the patriarch of Ogba family and your beloved father, Chief K.K. Ogba was received with melancholy.

Your late father was the Hon. Commissioner/Attorney General in the old Imo State; a legal luminary, he was of the finest quality, an epitome of excellence, a quintessential community leader and a valiant soldier of Christ with immeasurable wealth of experience and wisdom that will be sorely missed by all who came in contact with him.

His demise has left a vacuum and an indelible void that will be difficult to fill.

As we mourn this great patriarch of Ogba dynasty, I pray that the Almighty God will grant you and the entire Ogba family the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss.

May his soul rest in the bosom of the Lord.


Barr. Nnamdi Anyaezie
Chief of Staff

Shot on S11 lite
Gionee Dual Camera

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
P.M.B 1117 DIVERTED
IMO STATE, NIGERIA
TEL: 083-231301, 231344
E-MAIL: imsg@imostate.gov.ng
www.imostate.gov.ng

RT. HON. OKEY ONYEKANMA



IMO STATE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Rt. Hon. Okechukwu Onye Kanma
(Member Representing Mbaitoli State Constituency)

12th November, 2020

The Ogba family
Abiriba, Ohafia LGA,
Abia State.

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

I have received, with a deep sense of sympathy and sadness, the notification of the peaceful transition of your father and patriarch of the Ogba family of Abiriba, Chief Barr. K.K. Ogba. (the Anyanwu of Abiriba).

While we ponder sadly over the transience of human life, let us be reminded that we cannot summon the wisdom of God Almighty to the court of human reasoning.

No doubt, your father was dignified as a legal colossus whose stellar reputation and urban character rubbed off on you all, as your private and public lives have been based with the rare virtues of integrity and excellence.

Your father was a forensic and seminar lawyer, Pioneer Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice of the old Imo State, powerful politician, scholar and statesman who lived a full cycle.

The quintessential jurist was a great mentor and inspiration for my venture into the legal practice, a practice that has proved noble and worthwhile.

On behalf of my family and the good people of Mbaitoli State Constituency, I commiserate with you and the entire Abiriba clan over the death of your patriarch.

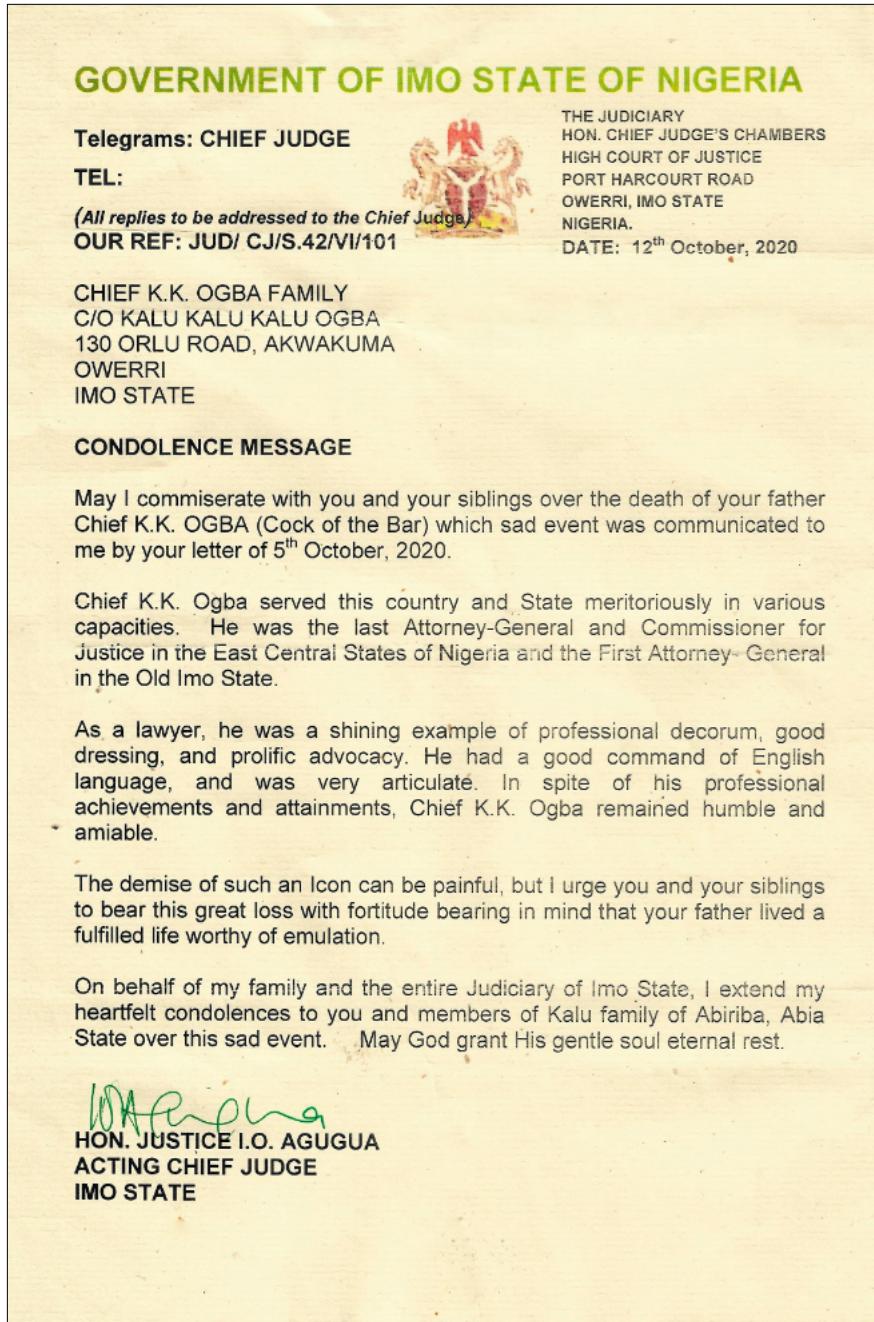
Kindly extend our condolences to the people of Abiriba as they mourn their illustrious son, leader and intellectual colossus.

May the soul of Chief Barr. K.K. Ogba rest in peace, Amen.


Rt. Hon. Okey Onye Kanma

Imo State House of Assembly Complex, PMB 1559, Owerri, Imo State
Tel: 08036259652, 08107299402

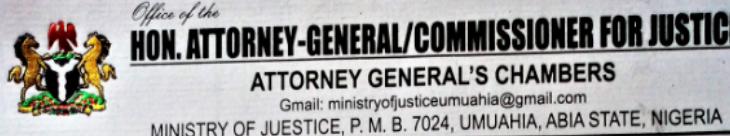
HON. JUSTICE IJEOMA AGUGUA



“A Shining Example of Professional Decorum”



CHIEF UCHE IHEDIWA

1st December, 2020

Kalu K.K.Ogba
K.K.Ogba Family House
Abiriba.

THE EXIT OF AN ICON!

I cannot find words enough to express my heartfelt condolences to you and your family at the passage of your father, Chief K.K. OGBA.

Chief K.K. Ogba's contributions in Nigeria's legal community have placed him on the platinum class; he served as Attorney-General & Commissioner for Justice under five administrations in the East Central States and Old Imo State.

Chief was a lawyer *per excellence*, a political gladiator, a worthy Abian and community leader.

Abia State and indeed the Nation at large have lost a rare legal colossus.

Take solace in the fact that he has secured a place in history by his good legacies.

May God strengthen and console the family.

On the behalf of my family, the Abia State Ministry of Justice, I express our heartfelt condolences at the transition of your dear father, late **Chief (Bar) K.K. OGBA**

CHIEF UCHE IHEDIWA
Hon. the Attorney-General / Commissioner for Justice, Abia State

CHIEF (SIR) C.O.C AKOLISA



**OFFICE OF THE HONOURABLE THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL
OF IMO STATE AND COMMISSIONER FOR JUSTICE**

Our Ref: HAG/S.2/XX

4th December, 2020

DAME (MRS) CHINWE KALU OGBA
CHIEF K.K OGBA FAMILY
HILL CREST LODGE
UGWUOBA, AMAOGUDU
ABIRIBA, ABIA STATE

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE – CHIEF K.K OGBA, ESQ. (THE ANYANWU OF ABIRIBA)

The entire legal world woke up to the sad news of the transition to eternal glory of your husband and our father, a great law Iroko, a legal giant and the former Hon. Attorney General of East Central State and Imo State, **Chief K.K Ogba ESQ**, who passed on to eternal glory to be with the Lord.

Chief K. K Ogba Esq. was a man of renown who bestrode the legal horizon like a great colossus. He came, he saw and he conquered all. He put his foot prints on the legal world where he played as a team player who impacted on the lives of all who came in contact with him, he will be sorely missed by all who knew him; especially the Owerri Bar where he practiced and mentored a lot of us and the Ministry of Justice where he was the foundation Attorney General and Commissioner for justice.

Your Husband and our father has ran a good race and gone the way of all mortals, your consolation should be that a crown of glory awaits him in eternity. I therefore implore you and your entire family to cherish and uphold his legacies as you bear this irreparable loss with fortitude.

On behalf of myself, family, staff and management of the Attorney-General's Chambers and Ministry of Justice, I extend our heartfelt condolences to you, your children, family, the Abiriba Community and the entire Abia State.

May his soul find rest in the bosom of our Lord, Jesus Christ, Amen.

CHIEF (SIR) C.O.C AKAOLISA (KSJ)
**HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL &
COMMISSIONER FOR JUSTICE.**

OBIANUJU NWOGU, Ph.d Law, FCArb**GOVERNMENT OF ANAMBRA STATE OF NIGERIA**

OFFICE OF THE HONOURABLE ATTORNEY-GENERAL & COMMISSIONER FOR JUSTICE

Telephone:



ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S CHAMBERS
MIN OF JUSTICE
CHIEF JEROME UDOJI SECRETARIAT COMPLEX
P.M.B. 5086, AWKA.

Your Ref:

Our Ref:

Date: 1st December, 2020**TRIBUTE TO CHIEF K.K. OGBA**

Legendary William Shakespeare's trilogy surmise on greatness comes to mind in appraising the life time of Chief K.K. Ogba, a distinguished lawyer who had a stellar career in public service and private endeavors before his transition to glory in July 2020. Chief Ogba was an amazing personality; he massaged the triumvirate exposition of Shakespeare on the hallowed concept of greatness. He was prodigious. His career in public service and private undertakings was saddled with huge responsibilities, but with hard work and dedication he excelled outstandingly in them. From his cradle to his grave, he left the footprint of greatness.

Chief Ogba had quality education; bagged Cambridge School Certificate in 1949, Bachelor of Arts in Modern History and Political Science in 1954 followed and later a Bachelor of Letters from the prestigious University of Oxford in 1958. The phenomenal year 1960, our year of independence marked his entry into the law profession that he excelled in with remarkable achievements. Privileged to be called to the bar in two jurisdictions, he registered as a Barrister at Law in the Society of the Inner Temple and later called to the Nigerian Bar on December 1st of the year 1960.

He had a fabulous record in the practice of law. Just like his private legal practice, his public career was profoundly attested to by huge tasks and accomplishments. The years 1967-1978 were the period of his public stewardship. His debut in public service was in 1967 when he was appointed by late Odumegwu Ojukwu as propaganda officer under Dr. Ifeagwu Eke the Minister of Information in the defunct Biafra Republic. This role he

1

Anambra State ... light of the nation

served in till the end of the war in 1970. He was subsequently appointed the Chairman of the Marketing Board by Upkabi Asika the Military administrator of the then East Central State which metamorphosed into the extant five eastern states. This role lapsed in 1975 and Chief K.K. Ogba till the 14/2/1976 became the Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice under Governor Anthony Ochefu. He continued as the Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice of the East Central State from Feb.14, 1976 - March 1978 under Lieutenant Colonel John Atom Kpera and old Imo State under the military administration of Rear Admiral Godwin Ndubisi Kanu.

As the first Attorney General of the old Imo State he was instrumental in setting up the legal framework under which Imo State operates till this day. He was pivotal when the Justice Nasir Boundary Adjustment Commission was set up and ensured that the two oil producing communities of Asa and Ohaji Egbema agreed to remain within the boundaries of old Imo state, which paved way for the classification of Imo and Abia States as oil producing states.

At the end of October 1979 Chief K.K. Ogba went back to a flourishing private practice. He held retainership with several companies. The highlights of his successful rich private practice include Legal Counsel for the following: entire Eastern Region for Ashland oil now known as Addax Sinopec; Nigerian Bottling Company for the entire Eastern Region; Leventis Group of Companies Ltd; Golden Guinea Breweries, Umuahia, Abia State for 22 years from 1992-2014; the defunct NAL Merchant Bank.

Chief in recognition of his stellar achievements was well decorated. He was a recipient of the following awards- Abiriba advancement Group Award in recognition of his contributions and his unwavering commitment to developmental efforts in his community; First Chieftaincy Award (Anyanwu of Abiriba) by king Enachioken of Abiriba; Chieftaincy Award by the Ihitte Oha community Owerri; Chieftaincy Award

CHIEF M. E. EZE, ACArb
**GOVERNMENT OF ENUGU STATE
Ministry of Justice**
Office of the Honourable Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice

by Eze Achalonu of Orlu; Chieftaincy Award Oka Ikpe by Eze Onuoha of Ebem Ohafia and Award of Excellence at the Bar by Owerri Branch of Nigerian Bar Association.

K.K. Ogba was a great man.

Adieu!!!

Obianuju Nwogu, PhD Law, FCArb.
Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice,
Anambra State.

1st December 2020

CHIZOBA KALU-OGBA,

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE
RE: LATE CHIEF K. K. OGBA

I received the news of the demise of your beloved, amiable and dynamic father, Chief K. K. Ogba, the Cork of the Bar of Imo and Abia States with shock and sadness.

Late Chief K. K. Ogba was the Attorney General in East Central State and the first Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice of old Imo State. He was a statesman, a disciplinarian, a peace maker and above all, he was an embodiment of great virtues of love, honesty and compassion. He was meek but not weak. His meekness was drawn from his strength of character. His death is really a great loss to the Government and people of Imo State in particular and the Legal Profession in general.

You and your siblings should be consoled by the fact that his good deeds will not go unrequited by the Almighty God.

As Chief K. K. Ogba journeys to the world beyond, I pray that he will reap the good works he was known for when he was alive. I also pray that those of you he has left behind in his journey to eternity, should take consolation that there is reward for the virtuous.

May I, therefore, on behalf of the entire staff of the Ministry of Justice, Enugu State, commiserate with you and your family on this irreparable loss that is bound to create a vacuum in your lives. We pray the Almighty God to grant Chief K. K. Ogba's gentle soul eternal repose.

Please accept our heart-felt condolences.

CHIEF M. E. EZE, ACArb.
Attorney General & Commissioner for Justice, Enugu State.

HON. JUSTICE ONYEKACHI A. OTISI

Hon. Justice O. A. Otisi, JCA.

Makurdi

.....DIVISION

October 1, 2020

Dame Chinwe Kalu-Ogba,
No 130 Orlu Road,
Owerri.

Dear Aunty,

CONDOLENCES

The news of the demise of your beloved husband, **Chief Kalu Kalu Ogba, Anyanwu Abiriba**, who was a Legal Icon of great repute, was most unexpected.

Chief K.K., as he was very fondly called, lived a very consistent life. He was fiercely devoted to his nuclear and extended families, he deeply loved the Abiriba Community with its traditions and culture, he genuinely cherished relationships with people across the social strata and age divide, and he was committed to the practice of law, upholding the ethics of the legal profession in every respect. Indeed, he belonged to the era when the agelong tenets of the noble profession, grounded in integrity and justice, were not habitually compromised.

There is no doubt that he will be sorely missed, not only by his family, but also by the entire Abiriba Ancient Kingdom, the Bar, Abia State and the Country, in general, as well as by the scores of persons whose lives he impacted. The effusive tributes that have been pouring in on his demise expressively tow the same line to reveal the unwavering nature of his life and demonstrate that Chief KK, unreservedly, mentored everyone that came across his way.

A Hebrew Proverb says:

"Say not in grief 'he is no more' but in thankfulness that he was."

I am persuaded that thanksgiving for his life and times should occupy our thoughts at this time. Please be comforted by the fact that your beloved husband successfully played his divinely assigned earthly role and has returned to his Maker to rest.

My brother, Chijioke E. Emole, Esq. has already written a tribute on behalf of the family of the Chief Echeme Emole, CFR. I adopt completely the sentiments expressed therein. At this point, I can only say: Chief, *Requiescat in pace!*

Yours truly,


Onyeokachi A. Otisi, JCA

HON. JUSTICE KALU O. ANYAH (RTD) & FAMILY**Hon. Justice Kalu O. Anyah (RTD) Family**

34 Hospital Road, Amaekpu, Ohafia, Ohafia L. G. A, Abia State
Email: kaluoanyahj@gmail.com

29th October, 2020.

Dame Chinwe Kalu Ogba
& Family
Abiriba, Abia State.

COMMISERATION

The family of Late Hon Justice Kalu Okpan Anyah of Amaekpu Ohafia is greatly saddened by the death of our great family friend and quintessential gentle man Chief K. K. Ogba. The Late Chief K. K. Ogba who was called Ogbo by our late father and Ogboya by our mother was a great family man and a great relationship builder. The relationship between our late father and late Chief K. K. Ogba was established in the late 1930s in Calabar and remain till the passage of our father in the year 2014.

At the Valedictory Court Session held in honour of our late father at the High Court Umuahia in November 2014 the late Chief K. K. Ogba was the natural choice to speak on behalf of the family. Chief K. K. Ogba was a Lawyer par excellence, he was a First Class State Attorney General of the defunct East Central State and Imo State. He was a great public speaker and had a good command of the Queens English. Chief K. K. Ogba wrote a tribute to our father and seriously warned me not to change his English but that I was at liberty to change date and facts if I found them not to be correct.

HON. JUSTICE DAISY WOTUBE OKOCHA (RTD)

Chief K. K. Ogbu was a complete gentle man, simple, respectable, brilliant and a man of means. He never looked down on anyone no matter the circumstances of his birth. I once asked him why he was not a Senior Advocate of Nigeria, (SAN) he told me he applied once or twice and was not going to do so again. He was not bothered if he was a SAN or not, he pursued his practice diligently and made his mark. He was highly respected within and outside the legal profession.

Chief K. K. Ogbu's death will surely create a vacuum as far as good counsel, wisdom, knowledge is concerned. His patriarchal love and protection will be missed. On behalf of our mother, my siblings we will ensure that the Kalu Okpan Anyah and the Kalu Kalu Ogbu relationship will continue to grow in leaps and bounds.

Please accept our sincere condolences and may his soul receive placid repose.

Anyah Kalu-Anyah
For: The Family of
Late Hon. Justice Kalu Okpan Anyah

Hon. Justice Daisy Wotube Okocha (RTD) FDRI DSSR

Former Chief Judge Rivers State

"TRIBUTE TO LATE CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA SAN ANYANWU ABIRIBA"

ANYANWU ALABALA!!!....and a good man passes on. So is life just like a vapour.

I got to know late **Chief K. K. Ogbu SAN** over 30 years ago when he was recommended to me by late Senator Francis Ellah to do an Estate matter. No sooner I consulted him, it was so easy to tell that he was a good family man with a heart of gold. He introduced me to his friendly doting wife Chinwe, and proudly talked about his five lovely children.

"DEDE" as I always called him passed on at a very ripe age of ninety. As it pleased the Almighty GOD, his allotted time on this earthly plane was four score and ten. GOD added twenty extra years to the three score and ten promised humanity in the Bible. Dede left good and wonderful memoirs for all those who knew him. He always carried a smile on his face radiating joy. He was polished and belonged to a special class of gentlemen who spoke Queen's English. He believed that one should always fear GOD and keep a good reputation.

The WORD tells us that:-

"Blessed are those who die in the LORD for the only rest from their labours... it also tells us that we should not weep as those who do not have hope"

I pray that the ALMIGHTY GOD grants comfort to the family he left behind.

I thank the ALMIGHTY GOD for his good life and I pray that his sweet and gentle soul finds rest in GOD'S bosom.

Adieu Dede, Adieu great one, Adieu " ANYANWU ABIRIBA" IJMN AMEN !!!!!

GEN IKE OMAR SANDA NWACHUKWU, GCMG CFR COM mni fnia

The Ovum

NDI AJALAUKWU

PANEGYRIC ON CHIEF KALU OGBO.

Chief Kalu Kalu Ogbo was an exceptionally gifted person. He excelled as an intellectual, a lawyer, an administrator and in his obligations to humankind. He was great fun to be with especially when he entertained you to classical music and took time to discuss the composers and the background to writing and scoring of each piece and its rendition.

We met in the company of Professor Jomike Ogbonnaya Irukwu. I was then the Military Governor of old Imo State having just taken over from Chief Sam Mbakwe. What struck me was his command of the English language, his urbaness and dress code. I later got to know that he shared my passion for decency, good music, classical et al and of course good gourmet and lovely wine. I also got to meet his adorable and equally civilized wife.

Much later, I visited him and his wife at their country home perched conspicuously on a hill as you drive into Ohafia. We shared great thoughts on Nigeria and how to steer it to greater heights, not the least the role of Ndigbo in it. It is not difficult to guess that that Nigeria we discussed isn't what there is now.

Clearly, all mortals will pass on, but what lives on are your footprints in the sands of time. Chief Kalu Kalu Ogbo left an enviable string of good legacies for which his family and his friends should be proud of. I am certainly proud of him and his legacies.

God give his wife and family succour.

And grant him eternal rest.

Gen Ike Omar Sanda Nwachukwu GCMG CFR COM mni fnia.
Lagos
10th October, 2020.

DR KALU IDIKA KALU OFR

Your passage came as a bolt hitting our sensibilities , primarily because you were , in all essence, the very epitome of " living" .

We thank God for granting you a long and most fulfilled life, but we still feel the pain of your demise because, as insatiable mortals, we craved and wished for more of your genial company as a friend, with your erudite, classy, uprightly truthful, and princely disposition. . You were ALWAYS the perfect gentleman for all seasons!

We can only guess how deep your loss must be to Chinwe , and the rest of the family, including the wider extended family, to which you dedicated your tender care , and lavished so much love and devotion!

A great family man and a true member of the Abiriba community in all its culture and rich traditions. . you were truly a citizen of the modern world , who felt just at home in the most hallowed halls of learning in Oxford, as in other circumstances midst your Ekpe kindred here at home.

Your legal practice spanned decades , and you took on extra legal activities with the same gusto and determination in behalf of friends, families, and most notably in public service to our people and the country , as a Commissioner of Justice , and , by all accounts, you served with unblemished distinction , untainted by the usual Nigerian malady!

Your hallmark in all your relationship was remarkable good taste and upholding the highest standards. . temperate emotions, balanced and considered judgment , even in the most trivial of circumstances!

You were always so kind and gentle . . cultured and scrupulously civil and true to your principles in your associations to an extent that marked you out in every company . . professional or social! We shall miss all of this as there are really no one even trying on

your shoes , to replace the joys they shared with a special e being in our confused universe in these turbulent times!

We ask the family to take heart, and to cherish the irreplaceable moments they shared with a rare breed amongst us!

We must , on our part, from a little remove, express our gratitude to the Almighty for allowing venerable K.K OGBA , a full length of life to live among us!

We are assured his beautiful spirit has been duly received by the company of Saints , to dwell forever in peace with HIS CREATOR ,Aleluia !

ADIEU , GREAT LEGAL MIND ! REST IN PERFECT PEACE!

Your OGBO!

DR KALU IDIKA KALU OFR

*FORMER MINISTER FINANCE. NATIONAL PLANNING.
TRANSPORT*

OCTOBER 21, 2020

BEN AKABUEZE



BUDGET OFFICE OF THE FEDERATION

Office of the Director General

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF FINANCE, BUDGET AND NATIONAL PLANNING

DG/BDT/GEN.CORR/2016/1V/1836 4th November, 2020

Mrs. Chinwe Kalu Ogba

130 Orlu Road
Owerri
Imo State

Dear Ma,

CONDOLENCE

On behalf of my family, I write to condole with you and the entire members of your family (especially Chizoba) on the demise of your patriarch, Chief K. K Ogba. I was privileged to be acquainted with Chief Ogba during his distinguished career in legal practice, public service and the corporate world spanning over fifty years. He was also a highly respected leader in the communities in which he lived and worked.

The late Chief K. K. Ogba evidently lived a life of service to his family, his people and humanity at large. His rich legacy lives on in his children, and all those whose lives he greatly impacted. Our prayer is that his memory shall be blessed.

We share your grief at this difficult time. May the Almighty God comfort you all, and fill the vacuum created in the family especially by his demise.

Yours sincerely,

Ben Akabueze
Director-General

DR. AMECHI ELUMELU

CHEERS TO AN ASTUTE LAWYER AND QUINTESSENTIAL GENTLEMAN

The warm memories of visiting your Chambers to check on my buddies, Chudi Nwokorie and Mike Ellah, then budding lawyers you took under your wings. I remember always looking forward to seeing you all dapper and debonair in your crisp bespoke suits. You are easily one of the most generous, affable and impactful personalities I ever met. I solemnly call to mind a tribute made to Emperor Julian by Libanius, the ancient Greek rhetorician: "O thou that dost fill but a little spot of earth by thy tomb, but the whole inhabited world with admiration". Indeed, a little spot of earth will you fill from now on but the admiration and appreciation of the life you led will forever inhabit the hearts of many of my generation, those before mine and those thereafter. Cheers to one of the most dapper lawyers to ever do it, Cheers to a true philanthropist and Cheers to a congenial mentor. Rest in the Lord's bosom.

Dr Amechi Elumelu
Commissioneer of Police
30th November, 2020

HON. JUSTICE DAISY WOTUBE OKOCHA (RTD)

Telegraphic Address

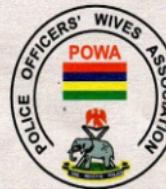
Tel:

info@powanigeria.org
www.powanigeria.org

In Reply, please quote:

Ref No:

Chief K.K Ogba Family
 C/o Chizoba Kalu-Ogba
 130 Orlu Road,
 Akwakuma, Owerri
 Imo State.



OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT
 POLICE OFFICERS' WIVES ASSOCIATION
 POWA SECRETARIAT, NO. 5 DAME PATIENCE
 JONATHAN WAY, BEHIND STATE HOUSE CLINIC,
 ASOKRO, ABUJA, P.O. BOX 11562

25th November, 2020

Date:

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

It is with heavy heart that I write to commiserate with you and your entire family on the painful loss of a Patriarch, Chief K.K Ogba.

Your father was a legal icon, an intellectual titan and an utterly fine gentleman. He was a man driven by his passion for undiluted justice, firmly strengthened by his unwavering integrity and repute. There is no doubt that his loss has left a huge vacuum not just in your family but the society at large.

Chief KK Ogba will be celebrated and remembered for the many roles he played in the course of his life. By his family as an exceptional father, his learned colleagues as a legal luminary, and the communities where he lived and hailed from as a dedicated, fair generous, fashionable and supportive gentleman.

As we mourn the sad departure of Chief KK Ogba, we urge you all to be console by the beautiful memories you have of him and the inestimable legacy he left behind.

On behalf of the National Association of Police Officers Wives, please accept my condolences and May the good Lord console you all and grant your father eternal repose in His bosom.

May his gentle soul rest in peace.


 Hajiya Fatima Julie Adamu
 POWA President

Confidentiality Warning

Unauthorised Disclosure of Information on this Document is against the Official Secret Act.
 Violators may be liable for prosecution.

CSP DR. (MRS) CHINONYEREM LAWRENCE WELLE

Telegraphic Address
MEDFOR CANTONMENT
Telephone Number: +234901 319 9299



THE NIGERIA POLICE MEDICAL SERVICE
MUHAMMADU BUHARI POLICE HOSPITAL
POLICE CANTONMENT,
AREA 11, GARKI,
ABUJA.

October 10, 2020

Chief K.K. Ogba Family
130 Orlu Road
Akwakuma
Owerri, Imo state.

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

I received the news of the demise of the erudite Lawyer – Chief K.K Ogba with great shock. I had just spoken with his physician about 2 hours earlier and we had a very lengthy discussion regarding his management and I was hopeful that he will recover shortly but unfortunately that was not to be. My consolation rests in the fact that he lived a good life dedicated wholly to the cause of Justice, service to humanity and God Almighty.

As a very close friend to the family, I realize how tough Chief K.K Ogba's passing is on his wife and children. He was an incredibly warm, supportive, accessible and committed husband and father who wanted and provided only the best for his family.

The Late Chief K.K Ogba was a renowned former Attorney General of the East Central States and Commissioner for Justice of the old Imo State who was noted for his courage and forthrightness, even when it meant standing alone. I console myself with the fact that his life was one of immeasurable service to his creator, his profession and humanity. I urge members of his family in like manner, to take solace in his many accomplishments, his legacies of hard work, integrity, discipline, and above all, service to God and mankind.

It is my prayer that the kind and noble soul of this outstanding gentleman and legal luminary rests peacefully in the bosom of the Almighty God and may God grant his family the fortitude to bear this irreplaceable loss.

Yours faithfully,
CSP Dr. (Mrs) Chinonyerem Lawrence Welle
Chief Medical Director

**MR. MIKE C. METU****TO THE FAMILY OF LATE CHIEF K. K OGBA
(ANYANWU ABIRIBA)**

This is in loving memory of Legal Icon Chief K. K. OGBA. I knew Chief K. K OGBA as a student in Secondary School, when he came back from the United Kingdom after his Legal qualification. He was known in the then Port Harcourt, as a clean gentleman in character and otherwise. He was also, generally acknowledged as one of the "Brilliant" young lawyers . From our little understanding of Legal practice, he appeared to be one of the best in the city.

Little wonder, why he was made the first Attorney - General of the then East Central state, Nigeria. Late Chief K. K OGBA was not particularly, after his financial rewards in his practice as a legal counsel. There were instances he demonstrated what the legal profession "Pro Bono" services stood for, in which my community was a benefactor.

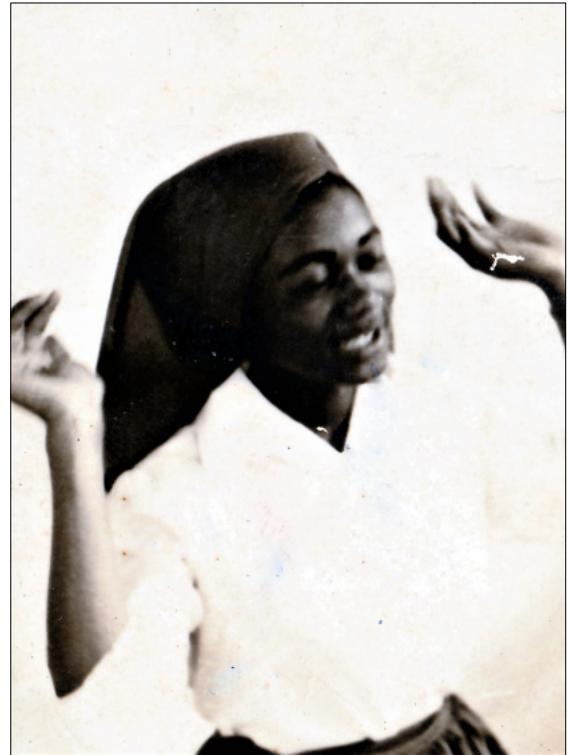
Chief K. K OGBA was truly a symbolic socialite, and enjoyed good classical music, little wonder he was married to a nightingale, his lovely wife Lady Chinwe Kalu Ogba.

The world has surely lost a rare gem, especially the Eastern Nigerian region and the great people of Abiriba.

May His gentle soul rest in the Lord. May God grant his family the heart to bear their loss.

Sincerely,
Mr. Mike. C. Metu
CEO Ochasi Organization Inc
Owerri, Imo State.





After Chinwe's university education, she worried greatly about finding a job. Thanks to the Rolling Stones and other lunatics of that era, most musicians were at the time derided as loose, drug dealing vagabonds who did not have a bright future. She therefore struck out on her own with a group of friends. They sold tickets to their shows and held concerts throughout the eastern region of Nigeria. This tireless self-promotion brought her great fame and she was once acknowledged as Nigeria's Top Soprano by a major newspaper of the time. One of her frequent collaborators from that era is the renown Sam Ojukwu who usually accompanied her on the organ/piano.

Above Left Mrs. Chinwe Kalu Ogbu, née Enemo, was born to the family of Eleazar and Bessie Enemo, who came from the village of Nnokwa in Anambra State. Her father was a well known champion of education, building a large number of schools in co-ordination with the Anglican church. As a result of his church connections, she was exposed at a young age to classical music, in particular the choral music which was used in church services, and she fell madly in love with it. But she did not limit her love of music to the classical kind, focusing equally on the native folk songs which were sung in Nnokwa and neighboring villages. After completing her secondary education at St. Catherine's College, Nkwerre, her father was desperate for her to study History at the university, but she stuck to her guts and enrolled for a degree in Music instead. Incidentally, she would end up marrying a man who loved music and studied History at St. Catherine's College, Oxford. Here she can be seen performing a classical piece in Enugu.



K.K and Chinwe met for the first time in Aba when he gave her a ride home from work during the Nigerian Civil War. At the time, neither of them was invested in a relationship. But with the end of the Nigerian Civil War, two mutual friends of both families, Johnson and Mike Igwe, began making multiple efforts to arrange an introduction between them. Each time they met with K.K, they would tell him there was someone he would really really, in their opinion, love to meet. On meeting Chinwe, they would repeat the same mantra. Johnson and Mike reasoned that since K.K and Chinwe had a mutual interest in classical music, their relationship would be a match made in heaven. Eventually the two would meet up, striking up a relationship which led to a court registry wedding in June, 1973. As they were both short of funds after the war, they chose to not have a big church wedding, opting instead for a champagne party which quickly became the talk of the town in Enugu with a large number of financially strapped copycats following their lead.



K.K (second left) and Chinwe (first right) at the Christening ceremony for their first child, Nena. Their new baby is being held up by K.K's sister Ada, while to her right Olla, another of his sisters, looks on.



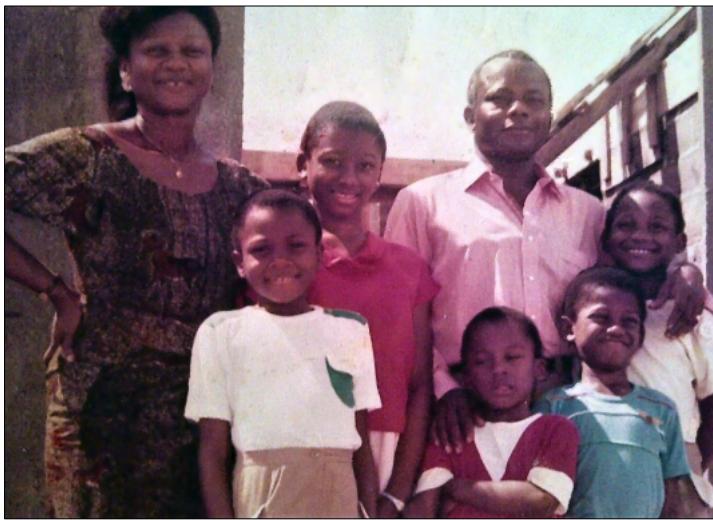
Opposite Left K.K and Chinwe with their daughter Nena and a friend in Enugu. She would be their only child for three years as they awaited a new addition to the family.

Extreme Left K.K and Chinwe at a swearing-in ceremony in 1976. At the time of this photograph, Chinwe was pregnant with her second daughter, Olla. Her birth would bring K.K great luck as he would reap a massive financial windfall on the day of her birth.



Extreme Left In addition to her successful music career, Chinwe also had a highly successful career in broadcasting. She auditioned for a job with Radio Nigeria in the 70's and was given the job on the spot, with all the other candidates being asked to kindly return home. Leaving Enugu with K.K to Imo State, she found a job with the state broadcaster, IBC, later rising to the position of Director of Programmes. She was also famous for hosting "Music Makers", a popular classical music show on the channel.

Opposite Left K.K and Chinwe share a glass of wine during New Year Celebrations at their Abiriba home in 2002. All of their children were away in England at the time so this was a chance for them to get to know each other all over again.



K.K and Chinwe with their five children, Olla, Nena, Igwe, Kalu and Chizor. In this photograph from 1985, they have come to inspect ongoing construction at their Abiriba hilltop home. All of their children can easily stand on their own two feet, and have never been involved in any scandal.



K.K and Chinwe at a church service in 2010. Chinwe, owing to her strong Anglican roots, has always been the more avid church-goer, rising to the position of a Knight in the order of St. Mary, the mother of Jesus. This led to the awkward situation where the couple were referred to as Chief and Dame, instead of Sir and Lady.

TRIBUTE FROM DAME (MRS.) CHINWE KALU OGBA TO HER LATE HUSBAND, CHIEF K.K. OGBA

TRIBUTE TO MY BELOVED HUSBAND, CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA

My dearest Kalu,

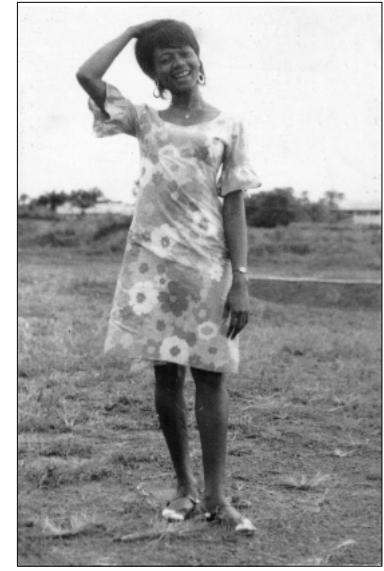
Ours was a union that was destined to be for I never believed that I would ever leave Nnokwa and the multitude of suitors that I had in Anambra to marry an Abiriba man. However, with the mercy and guidance of God, our union survived the test of time, lasting from June, 1973 up until July, 2020. Every time I picked up my pen to write this tribute to you, I became overwhelmed with emotion as I could not figure out a way to write the story of our forty-seven years together in only two pages. I have therefore decided to keep this as simple as I can.

I vividly remember the first time we met, in 1967, during the Nigerian Civil War. I was shopping in the then famous Kingsway Stores in Port Harcourt when I noticed a dark, handsome and impeccably dressed young man wandering through the store. As I went to the cash counter to pay for my purchase I suddenly noticed you standing beside me, offering to pay for my shopping. But as a well brought up daughter of my parents, I refused your offer, not knowing what to make of it.

The second time we met was at Aba, also during the Nigerian Civil War. I was standing by the side of the road, desperately waiting for a taxi to take me home from my makeshift job at the Biafran Ministry of Information. I remember you pulling up and asking if I would like a ride home. I agreed to your offer and we had a short conversation as you dropped me off in front of my house at Howell's Crescent. Before I left your car, you called out to me and said, and I quote, "You have the most beautiful pair of legs I have ever seen". I thought it was the funniest thing in the world at the time and left smiling, thanking you for your kind but strange words as I went my own way.

After the civil war ended in 1970, I needed legal advise and my greatest childhood friend of blessed memory, Mrs. Ezim Okeke, advised me to go and see you. She had heard so much about your legal exploits before the war in Port Harcourt and you were then the Chairman of the East Central State Marketing Board. I knocked on your office door and lo and behold, there you were again. You gave me the legal advise that I needed but as I got up to leave, you asked me if I would like to go out for a drink and we went out on our very first date later that evening.

Before all this, my father's second cousin, Johnson Igwe of the famous GMO Merchant Group, used to tease me, frequently saying "Chinwe, there is one really good friend of mine who has the same taste as you in music and



The young Chinwe who thoroughly mesmerized K.K.

fashion and I think you would make a really good couple". It was long into our relationship that I finally realized that you were the friend he had been speaking of all this while.

As our courtship progressed, we discovered that we both had so much in common. Our tastes in music, food, fashion, the arts and our ideology regarding success in life were so similar. There were also a number of surprising coincidences. You went to St. Catherines at Oxford while I studied at St. Catherines, Nkwerre (a massive step down, I know). You studied history just as my father did and I took history as one of the three subjects of my A-Level examination.

Your degree in history endeared you to my late father and he quickly approved of our union. He did this even though there had been a common perception at the time that Abiriba people were all war dancing cannibals and illiterate traders. When I told my father that I had found the man I wanted as a life partner, the very first question he asked me was "Is he educated?". I said "yes" and began to reel out all of the great schools you had attended - Hope Waddell, Trinity College and, but before I could finish he said "Yes, You can marry him". As an educationist, my father believed that education could solve all problems. That to him was the key.

Like most young couples after the end of the civil war, we could not afford a grand white wedding. We therefore opted instead for a court registry marriage ceremony. But with the little we had, you gave us the most classy and unique wedding reception at the time - a champagne party which became the talk of Enugu town for a very long time. I recall our dear friends, Barrister Onowu and Chike Ofodile, both of blessed memory, providing us with an additional eighteen bottles of champagne on that day. Our English and German friends also chipped in, supplying the small chops for our wedding reception. Looking back, it was such a simple but memorable event.

During our marriage, you MET AND SURPASSED ALL OF MY EXPECTATIONS. As a young girl, I had always hoped for a life partner who would be better educated than I was. A man who was brilliant, polite, well mannered, determined, focused, hardworking, open minded, tolerant, kind, understanding, and clean with a good fashion sense. A man who would love and cherish me. A man who would not use violence towards me or wish to fight me in public. A man who would always stand up for the truth and be just in his dealings with others. A generous man. An honest and incorruptible man. A man who would give me lovely and responsible children. And in addition to all this, a man who would love me and my musical profession, especially my singing career. Kalu, you were all these and so much more.



K.K and Chinwe at the Lagos launch of their daughter Nena's fashion and interior business, Nena Kal Hunter. Kal Hunter is partially the English translation of Kalu Ogbu.

I was so happy to learn that you adored classical music just as I did. You also loved traditional music and dance as well. You always said to me "I am sure you agreed to marry me because I have a lot in common with your father". You were right and my answer always made you smile.

You loved reading so much. I remember one day I had been gossiping with two of my German friends who were married to Nigerian men. They complained to me about their husband's escapades with other women. After listening to their sad stories, I told them that they were lucky as their rivals were far from their homes, while mine was living indoors with me. When they asked me who it was and how come it was that they had never seen her, I replied that my great rival was your enormous library. You were a voracious reader. Once you grabbed a book you forgot everything else around you. My friends did not think this was a serious problem, but I can assure you that they would not have found it funny as a young bride eager for attention.

Kalu, you loved the good life and you lived it to the full. God used you to carry out His will on earth. You were deeply religious, a born again Christian and even though you rarely went to the church house, you always read the bible. You not only knew God's commandments but most importantly, you were able to practice them. Your friends called you Nwa Chi n'emere (He who God does great things for). At other times they also referred to you as Ome mgb'oji na Ome mgb'ojighi (He who helps others whether he can afford to or not). You trusted God absolutely even at the height of adversity. There were many times when I panicked about our financial situation, but even in the midst of our financial distress, you would write post-dated cheques to the needy, and you would always tell me not to worry, Ego g'abia (The money will come). Lo and Behold, like magic, a credit alert would buzz your phone providing us with more than enough money to cater to our needs. I still don't know how you did it, but through your example I learnt that whenever one spends money for a good cause, the rewards are always great.

I really admired the fact that you had control over situations and that, rather than waste your energies on anxiety and worry, you focused your thoughts and your efforts on finding a solution to the problem at hand. I always wondered how you kept your cool, remaining calm no matter what the situation. As a family we have experienced everything from death threats to near financial doom, but in the end you always won the battle without breaking much of a sweat. Many of your decisions and opinions in times of crisis seemed deeply odd, but they were always proven to be right in the end.



The young couple pose for the camera in their then new Owerri home in the early 1980's.

These qualities of yours helped to shape our well brought up children and endeared you to many people who came across you in their lifetime.

Some dark forces from your extended family made me to sometimes regret our marriage but as my father always said to me, "Always, look on to the man you married and ignore all others for they are distractions". Following his advise kept me strong and safe from their venom.

Kalu, towards your last days, you always held my hand to thank me and our lovely children for taking very good care of you in your old age. That was to me a very admirable act, most worthy of emulation.

It is my wish to use this medium to express my love for you and to thank you very much for all the good things you did for me and for our children. You provided for us and taught us to be content with whatever we had and to always look unto God in our time of need. We pray that we will always endeavor to uphold all of your Christian values as we live our individual lives collectively. You will always be in our thoughts and in our midst as we try our best to uphold all of the qualities you held on to dearly during your lifetime.

Kalu we miss you. We will always miss you physically. You have lived a noble life. May God almighty receive your lovely and large soul until we meet again in God's kingdom.

With great love,

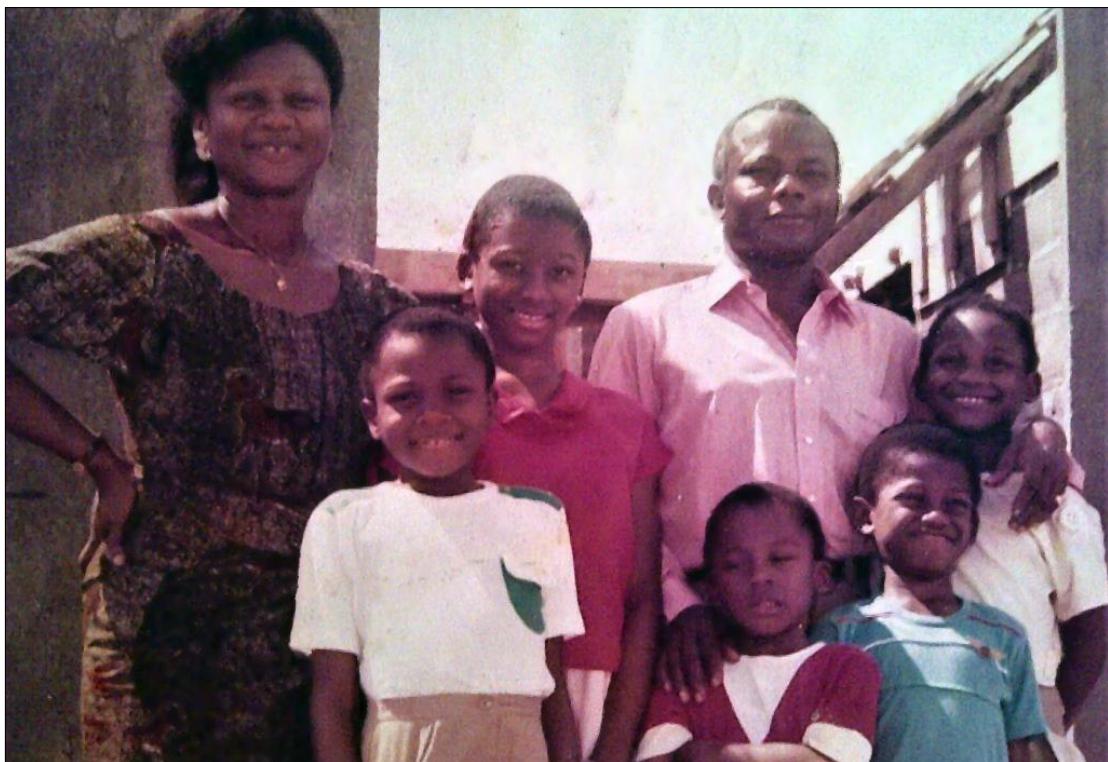
Dame (Mrs.) Chinwe Kalu Ogbu "Eneneb'ejegholu"



K.K with his first child Nena in Enugu. She was named after the eldest sister of his father, James Kalu Ogbu.



K.K and Chinwe with Nena in Abiriba. The family spent practically every Christmas holiday there, typically leaving the city on the 22nd of December every year. They are shown at the home of K.K's uncle Ete Igwo who was still alive at the time this photograph was taken.

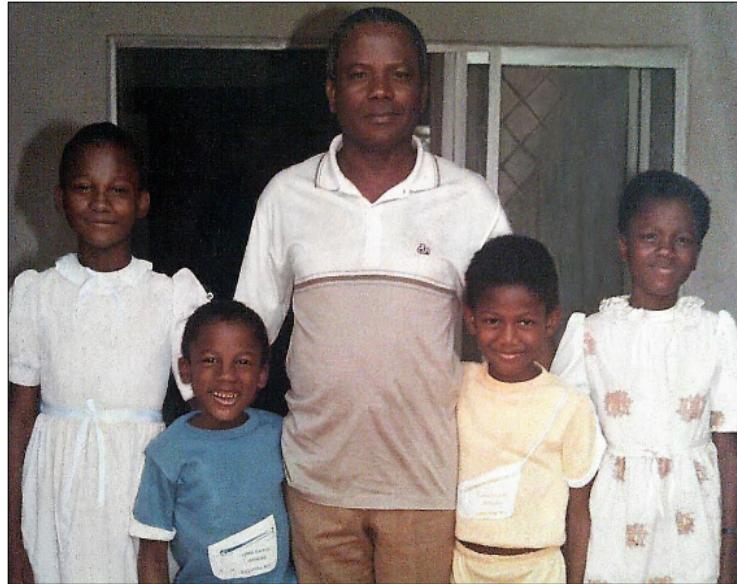


The Massage Army

K.K's five children, from the left, Olla (the second eldest), Nena (the eldest and the first daughter), Igwe (the youngest), Kalu (the second youngest and first son) and Chizor (the third eldest). Here they happily pose for a photograph while inspecting ongoing construction at their Abiriba home.

Interestingly K.K's grandfather also had five children and their names were Nnenne, Olla, Oduenyi, Kalu and Igwo. Quite similar!

GALLERY OF K.K'S CHILDREN

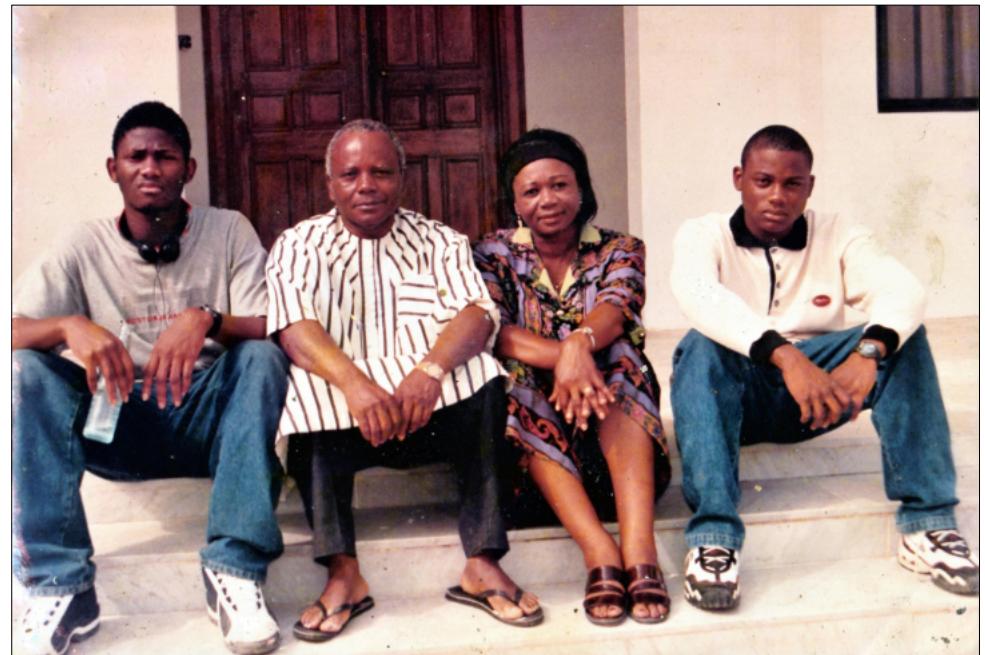


Above K.K with his mother Nwammang and youngest child Igwe in Abiriba, 1997

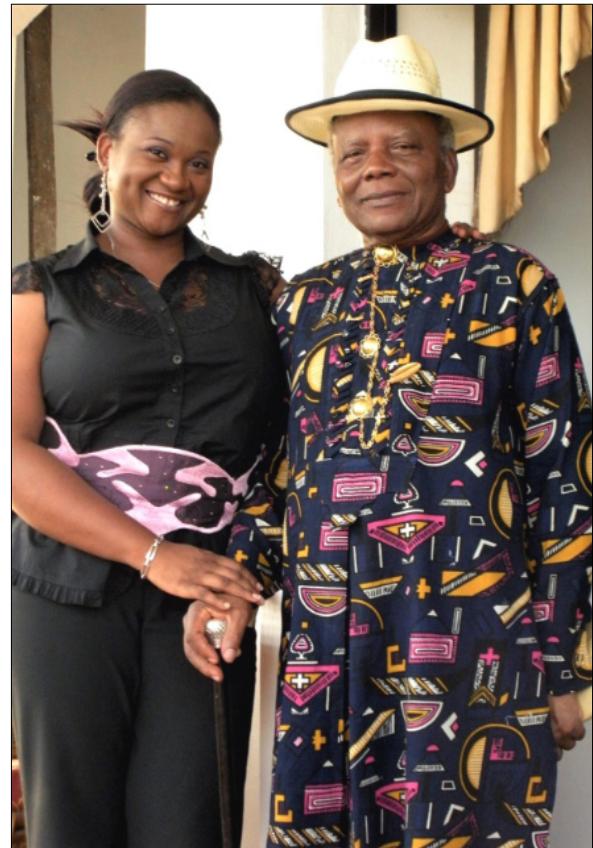
Above Left K.K's children Chizor, Igwe, Kalu and Olla pose for the camera in front of their Owerri home.



Below Left K.K with his sons, Kalu and Igwe in his Owerri chambers which was an extension of his home. The two boys spent a lot of time there in their youth, poring through law books, eating groundnuts and constantly harassing the junior lawyers.



Above K.K, his wife Chinwe and their two sons Kalu and Igwe pose for the camera after spending a weekend in Abiriba. The family typically spent time in their country home to get away from the stress of the city on weekends.



Above and Bottom Left Photographs taken in Abiriba with K.K's daughters. The first picture is with a guest at the extreme left. In the 90's and early 2000's a very popular Christmas party was held at this house and guests came from all over neighboring towns at night. Back then security was not a major issue, with many guests leaving by 4 a.m.

Bottom Right K.K with his wife and children at his 88th birthday celebrations in Owerri.



TRIBUTE FROM KALU, K.K'S FIRST SON AND FOURTH CHILD

Losing my dear father is by far the most painful life altering loss and heart-ripping experience I've endured. Now I am beginning to understand just how naive my existence was before I was forced to confront death's discourteous blow. Even though I knew his death was looming, I didn't know it would come so soon. When I was told he had a few days to live, I walked over to his hospital bed and said, "Dad, I love you, and you've been a wonderful father." And the last words he would ever say to me on earth were, "Thank you my first son. I love you, too."

The pain of losing him will perhaps never leave me. I imagine it will ease with time as I process and get through it, but I don't suspect I will get over it. I take comfort in knowing that he is no longer in pain. That suffering is no longer something he has to endure. He will forever be in my heart until the day it stops beating.



His life, his influence, his energy is inextricably linked to mine and I now take comfort in that. In victory, he shared credit. When he lost, he shouldered the blame. He accepted failure as part of living a full life, but taught us never to be defined by failure. He showed us how setbacks can strengthen. He had an enormous capacity to give of himself. He listened and he consoled. He encouraged and comforted others, but never steered. We tested his patience - I know I did (laughter) - but he always responded with the great gift of unconditional love.

To us, he was close to perfect. But not totally perfect. His childhood friends would always come over to the house to reminisce and tell stories about their youth. They would forget I was in the room

after a few beers and start to tell unedited versions of their lives. And during these sessions, I would always learn some new information about my Dad and his wild side from when he was younger (Laughter). And he passed these genetic defects along to me. (Laughter).

Well Dad, I am going to remember you for exactly that and so much more. And I'm going to miss you. I hope that one day when I die, my children can look back, tell funny stories about me, and talk about how I loved them and their mother. Then, like my father, I will have led a complete life. I love you, Dad. Your decency, sincerity and kind soul will stay with me forever.

TRIBUTE FROM NENA, K.K'S FIRST CHILD

TRIBUTE TO MY SWEET, LOVING DADDY



I had dreaded this day since I was in secondary school. Many times, I thought about what life would be like if my dad passed. The thought of it scared me all the time especially every time a friend of mine lost their dad.

My dad was so proud of me and so happy with me and never ceased to talk about my successes to anyone who cared to listen. He loved and enjoyed everything I did for him no matter how small. He accepted me just the way I was, and was never judgmental. Many times, I asked myself what I ever did to deserve such deep, unconditional love. I loved him so much, I still do and always will.

He was my rock, my backbone, my biggest fan and supporter. We confided in each other, spent so much time talking about different things, sometimes up till about 3am in the morning and he was sure I would tell him the truth about every situation. He encouraged me to tell him the absolute truth even when he was wrong. He was never violent and never hit any of us or my mom. For him, no matter how bad our sins were, he believed that talking to us was enough to get us back in the right track. That method of discipline worked for me and made me love him even more. He loved his job as a lawyer very much and excelled in it. He loved my mom and came straight home after work. He wasn't a gallivanting dad and very hardly ate outside our home.

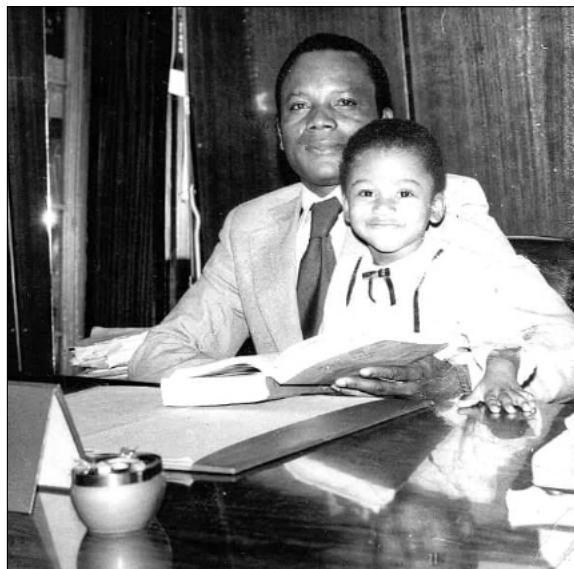
I miss his loving eyes and smile. I miss hearing his voice. Thank God for modern technology, I still have recordings of our phone calls and some videos, that way

our descendants can get to hear our conversations and see what a great father and man he was. My dad, K.K was simply the best!

I have so many beautiful memories of him. When I was small, he would always ask us to massage his feet after work and I would hide behind the curtains forgetting that my tiny feet were sticking out under the hem of the curtains. Sometimes he caught me and burst out laughing. Many times, I played ghost, hid behind the door with a white bed sheet covering my face just to scare him and sometimes I would hide under his bed pinching his feet as he walked by but he was never scared. He always found it hilarious. I used to climb on top of his back to pick his grey hair when he got back from court which to my amazement grew back a few days later. He was a great lover of classical music and played it first thing in the morning while he got ready to go to court. He loved Ping Pong (Table Tennis) and played in the evenings with his junior lawyers and friends. He had such amazing personal hygiene and took that very seriously. Even after long hours of travel, his shirts always smelt so good. The fragrance of his favorite Chanel cologne "Egoist" smelt so edible that I used to sniff his shirts. He brushed his teeth every night before bedtime and went from room to room chasing us all to brush ours. Some of us got frustrated each time we heard that usual knock on the door with his voice asking "Isala eze?" (have you brushed your teeth?) then he would give you one long lecture about the dangers of bacteria while we listened behind the door with one eye open and one eye asleep. Being an adult now, I've figured it's very hard to find men who are that clean.

Dad always made sure he provided enough to enable us eat fruits and vegetables daily. That was compulsory at home. He always said to me: Adannaya, Chineke keeghu mma di egwu, ejitukwa ibu emekasi ya meaning (Adannaya, God made you beautiful, Don't ruin your beauty with excess fat) and he would lecture me on the dangers of excess fat and how it clogs up our organs. He was very health conscious.

Every morning, he ate a bowl of slightly cooked tomatoes, drank a cup of green tea and a glass of freshly squeezed oranges or grape fruit usually plucked from mom's garden and some evenings, he shared a bottle of beer with his junior lawyers or some red wine with mom. According to him, these were very good for the eyes and he read without reading glasses even up until his very last days. My daddy was Super Special in so many ways.



For someone who couldn't care less about fencing his homes, he walked round the whole house every night checking if all doors and windows were properly locked. He did that religiously every single day.

Daddy was so knowledgeable. It was hard to find anything he didn't know something about and I wondered how a person would know almost everything. Growing up, we had a huge library of books and he would ask us to read a book every week and even rewarded us with tea and delicious biscuits. We just weren't made to read the books, but we were also made to narrate what we had read to him and discuss new words we had learnt. I remember this bored me because I was more interested in music, arts and doing more practical things.

When he noticed I was very talented in the arts as a very small girl, he hired an arts teacher "Aunty Grace" who came twice a week to teach me how to

make many different things like greeting cards, dolls, drawing, painting, calligraphy, and lots more. It was the best time of my life as I enjoyed every bit of it. Daddy strongly influenced my taste. He had amazing taste in Fashion and subscribed to some of the world's best fashion and Interior design magazines. They came in the post every month from England and he encouraged me to read the magazines daily and to look at pictures. He advised that looking at the beautiful pictures of homes, garden and fashion regularly would broaden my imagination and allow the ideas to get into my subconscious. That way, it would be part of me. I found that to be true as I got deeper in my Fashion and Interior Design career in Lagos. He told me all the time that I could be anything I wanted to be. With a special papa like my daddy, I had absolutely no issues with self confidence and inner strength.

My loving father raised us to be very content with who we were and what we had, no matter how small. He made us feel so secure. He taught us to work very hard like he and mom did and it didn't matter whether you were a male or female child. We were all encouraged to work hard and he was very proud of every one of his children. He taught us to be humble and insisted on equality at home whether you were a helper or his blood child. To him, everybody was equal. A lot of our cousins and friends told us that they secretly wished he was their dad. He was truly an exemplary father, one that every child would wish for.

Daddy was incredibly kind and generous to all, so generous that sometimes we thought he was crazy. He would have Five thousand in his account and offer someone a hundred thousand and all of us would be screaming. Every time we complained about his excess giving, he told us to emulate him, and said he trusted God to look after him at all times. I experienced God always being there for him. He never hid his account balance like some fathers would. We always knew how much he had and when his account balance was low, he would ask us not to worry, and it didn't take long before clients owing him would pay, or company retainer fees paid, or dividends paid...somehow, a miracle always happened.



Daddy loved and respected God. He was a practicing Christian. He studied the Bible almost every night, made lots of notes and tried to the best of his ability to keep God's commandments. God's full protection was always upon him. God gave him an amazing nearly 90 years on earth with a heart of gold and great love for others. It didn't matter whether they loved and respected him, if they were rich or poor, educated or illiterate, classy or crude, he treated everyone with respect and kindness.

I remember during the football seasons, he would ask our helpers to buy groundnuts, bananas and bottles of coke and

cold beer, and all his staff (lawyers, clerks, house helps, drivers, gardener) would all gather in the living room watching football together. That was my daddy! Every time we came back for Christmas, villagers would visit from as early as 6am waiting to see him. If we complained, he told us it was OK and would see everyone personally, even without having breakfast. Many times, he ordered us to make breakfast for all the early morning visitors and he ensured every one of them left with some financial or verbal help and encouragement. He solved everyone's problems as much as he could. Saying NO to anyone who needed help was totally and utterly unacceptable to him. I learnt from him to leave revenge solely to God as I grew up observing that it was hard to see anyone who hurt him intentionally not being punished by God.



In my whole life, in all my dealings with people, I have never met anyone as kind, loving and as generous as my dad Chief K. K. Ogbu. I'm sure many can testify to this, including his relatives if they agree to be honest. Over a hundred people in our extended family benefited one way or the other from dad. I was shocked the day I made a list. He helped every one of them... paid their school fees, accommodation bills, books, feeding, pocket money, some of them were reportedly living large at university that they were nicknamed "The Prince" because of how comfortable they were as students. It didn't matter if they were his "Ikwu" or not, unlike most people from Abiriba. He also paid their hospital bills, helped some of them with their marriage ceremonies, helped them set up businesses, gave them referrals for jobs, buried their fathers & mothers, gave allowances to their mothers, got many of them to live in our home while they were still in school and at university, gave cash gifts to those who had their 'Uche' ceremonies, helped raise some of their children, helped get them out of trouble when they got in trouble with law enforcement...he sacrificed so much for every one of them. Some turned out grateful in the end, and some turned out very ungrateful. In spite of all, my dad always said that good deeds are never ignored by God.

He also loved our village. He was the second lawyer in Abiriba and did so much for the Abiriba community, winning land cases that expanded the boundaries of Abiriba greatly. Today, many have forgotten and the stories slowly dying off. I hope that someday, his contributions to the Abiriba community would be appreciated.

He always told us we must always keep our hands clean no matter what. These were my father's favorite words and I saw it play out positively in his own life. He was incorruptible in its true meaning and spoke the truth fearlessly and was known for it. He had a fantastic memory even till the last minute, remembering dates, everybody's name, events...he never forgot a thing.

My dad had an amazing sense of humor. One of the funniest things I remember was two years ago when he called me three days before my birthday to wish me a happy birthday. I was surprised and thought he forgot my birth date since he was getting old, but surprisingly, he started laughing on the phone and told me he called three days before so he could be the first person to wish me a happy birthday. It was so funny that both of us burst out laughing for so long.

On my birthday this year, daddy called to wish me a happy birthday and promised me a birthday gift. I was reluctant to accept it knowing that he was an old man and that it was my turn to give back to him. Before I knew it, I got an alert on my phone for N200,000 (Two hundred Thousand naira). It was from daddy, so I called to ask what the money was for and he said that he wanted me to buy myself the best bottle of champagne and the best birthday cake and I thanked him very much and we both laughed about it.

I also remember when I went to study in England and even though I was studying Fashion and Lingerie design, I was forced to study History, Computer Aided Design and Business. These three modules bored me to death cos all I imagined fashion was about was to design, cut and sew. So naturally I did poorly in these modules and had to resit one to enable me progress to second year at university. I was staying with one of my aunties at the time, and when dad came to visit us that summer, she told him how poorly I had done in these modules. She blamed it on my love for beauty and make up more than my studies. I remember the exact words she said to daddy: Nena has cream for eye, cream for nose, cream for hand, cream for neck, cream for leg and so on. As she reported me to my dad, I was in fear of what he would say knowing the sacrifices he made to enable him pay my fees in the UK. To my shock, my dad laughed and told her she needed to see my cosmetic bag when I was in Nigeria and that it looked like a Chemist Shop. My aunty certainly didn't expect that type of response. The next day, dad took me to Harrods (one of the most luxurious stores in the UK) to shop and as we viewed so many items, he asked "Adannaya, can you see all the beautiful, luxurious items in this store?" And I answered "Yes daddy". Then he said "This is the reason you must do well at university so you will be able to afford any of these items you want with ease". He took me to many other luxury retail stores that day and he kept repeating the same words to me. It was surely a tactic that worked for me, far better than scolding and criticism because those words lingered in my head until I graduated. At graduation, I did so well that the Head of my Department asked all students to give me a standing ovation the day results were announced. That made him so proud. That was the type of father my dad was. So loving, so tolerant, so patient, and never used force on us.

God blessed him all the days of his life. Even until the last day of his life, it was so peaceful. He sprung up from the bed and called out to my brother. In his exact words he loudly said "Igwe, and Igwe answered, and then he went ahead and said "I want you to tell the world that I died a very happy man and that I lived "A Good Life". Those were his last words



before he slept and never woke up again. Not many people are blessed to have such beautiful things to say before they die and this made me want to become a much better person in life, even though not one to be taken for granted like he was by some people.

I didn't know how much people loved and revered my dad until his passing. I didn't know he had such goodwill and such a good name which is even bigger and greater than money. Out there, he was known as Chief K. K. Ogba. To me, he was simply "Daddy". I am very proud of who he was. I am very proud to have been a fruit from his loins. I am very proud to have experienced life with him as a father, best friend, teacher, confidant and biggest supporter. I am very happy that he was very happy with all of his children and mom and he thanked us every single day for looking after him in his old age. I am very thankful for the many words of blessings he showered on us daily till his passing.

Ekpo Kamalu Igirigiri, Oji ire efe nkwu, Enyi nde bekee, Ome okpoghu, Okari mma e short knicker, Okari mma e Saville Row suit, Oji akpara aga enyim, Ome mgbe oji ma mgbe ojighi, Oka ikpe, Oje Eweta, Enyi Oha, Ezi mmadu, Kalu b'eme b'eme, Nna m Kalu Ogba, Chief K. K. Ogba as people knew you, K.K as you were fondly called, Papa Nena, Daddy, laa nke oma. Go home and remain in the bosom of our Lord Jesus Christ. I will forever love and miss you, but I am consoled by the fact that one day, as the Bible which you so believed in says, we will surely meet again.

Your Darling First Daughter,

Nena K. K. Ogba (your Adannaya)

TRIBUTE FROM OLLA, K.K'S SECOND CHILD TO MY PRECIOUS FATHER, A BEAUTIFUL MIND

My dearest Dad,

I am typing this from the balcony of your hilltop home in Abiriba your favorite place in the world to be with the uforo oyi (fresh air) blowing against your skin and across your beautiful face. I am barely able to think straight as I type because I struggle to not choke on my tears. It is mind numbing to me that the day I would finally physically let go of you has finally come.

As roles reversed from the caregiver slowly but surely becoming the cared for I really worried about this day. It was always one of my greatest fears that I would be elsewhere to receive a phone call that I had lost a parent.

It is for that and a few other reasons related to my deep sense of belonging to my family that I made the easy decision to move back from England to Nigeria after my studies. Family has always been everything to me and you and mom are the reason my life is shaped this way. You worked very hard to hold up an extended family with never ending emotional and



financial needs balancing that with supporting your nuclear family. It didn't matter to you that you often spread yourself so thinly. You never complained but bore that tumultuous burden with grace and dignity.

Through your eyes Dad, I saw the world as a kind place where one could love and live freely. You always left an open door for anyone who needed you and until the very end you continued to let me and countless other people in through that door. Dii mezi ndi ife ife... (be kind to others always even when you do not have.) It was your favorite thing to say around the house. Bia ibea Olla... duwa ibea..ta anyi kparitu (come here Olla...sit here and talk with me) Bia gworutu (here...have this) It was most joyful for you to share and really you remain the most generous and selfless human I have ever known. You gave of your finances, your time and your emotions to everyone who crossed your path. I have always tried to mirror your life of selflessness and kindness because through you I found that it was the right path to tow in my own life. It is indeed most liberating to be a giver and not a taker.

Dad, you were a humble man with impeccable manners. You had a beautiful mind. You treated everyone the same making sure to leave anyone who crossed your path with an intact sense of dignity. Your friends come from all walks of

life because to you we were all the same and it was you who showed me that really all humans despite the visible differences between us just had a simple need to love and be loved.

You were an honest and upright man who led a dignified life. You simply would not have it any other way. In matters relating to the truth there was no grey matter. Things were either black or white. Through you I found that honesty and always doing the right thing allowed me to roam the world freely without a care. I could never be afraid of secrets that anyone would ever discover about me. The truth really does set one free.

Everyone who knew me knew you even when they hadn't even ever met you because I always talked about you to them. It didn't matter to me that they had never met you. I didn't spare them for long before breaking out into one fabulous story or another about spots of my life with you. I simply could not help myself...(haha). From the time I was old enough to realize that you were my Dad I fell in love with you. Everything about you seemed so special and really it was. You were a big soul. A person who just couldn't be missed by anyone who crossed your path even if they wanted to. You had a glaring aura. You were a spectacular and rare human and you knew it too.

Dad I feel like a ship lost at sea without you in my life. Nothing makes much sense anymore. Life now tastes so bland. I feel like I am missing a body part. Things have simply ceased to be the same. I miss you. I really really miss you. I wish you were still here just so I can see your coy yet super warm smile which you always offered ever so freely once again. I miss the way you always reassured me and boosted my confidence. I miss your love and kindness. I miss the softness of your

skin against my face whenever you hugged me. I miss how generous you were to me. I miss how you cared for me and constantly worried about me. I miss your friendship. I miss your whistling. I miss sharing your intense love of music. We had that in common as music too is my life as it was yours. I miss your long stories about your life exploits. I miss asking our getting to know you questions. I miss arguing about the t.v remote control and how you would bore everyone by watching the news all day long. Hahaahaaa!!!!!! You didn't want a hard life for me and you freely expressed that to me. I miss how you would constantly reassure me of my place in the world. It was you who told me I was beautiful for the very first time in my life and you remained the only one who always reminded me of that. (Olla nwa m ima imataa mma ike) (Olla my child, do you realize you are very beautiful?) You would say to me so many times and in those words I knew that you could not only see my face but my soul. I saw yours too and knew the answers to the whys in your actions. Dad, I miss your witty self and your super intelligent mind and your tales about Edward Carson and Oscar Wilde...Lol. I loved your sarcasm. Lol. That used to really get me making me laugh uncontrollably. Honestly Dad, I really miss your mad sense of humor. I miss your beauuuutiful mind. When Kalu rang me to tell me that you had passed I thought.....what a waste of a human being. I cried so hard and still haven't stopped crying.

Dad you had giant dreams for me and propped me up to see myself for who God really mde me to be and to be fierce enough to get out into the world to face my fears and be the best in whatever version of a good life that I had chosen for myself. My friend Lauretta Parks was sad when I told her that corridors of power had passed. Corridors of power **was our** nickname for you cos I often bored her repeatedly with stories of how you would tell me to work hard and be an upright person so I would one day grace the corridors of power. Haaaahaaaahaaaa!!! It was always your wish that I would excel and one day have my name in shining lights. You loved me and I knew it too.

Dad, there are a million things I could begin to write about you. The way you loved to entertain. The way you traveled the world through your tv set via the travel channel. (Haahaaaahaaaa) Your commitment to your career. Your love for the arts and music which we shared. Your appreciation of great food and how you always very happily gobbled up my concoctions with glee. Lol. How much you loved life and how much you always gave your one God given life your best shot at all times. There are even more than a million things I wish I could still say to you. Things I never got to say to you but the truth is that I am happy that I told you enough times how much I loved you and I am sure that you also knew it. I also did not doubt for a second what I meant to you. You made sure I knew that in your eyes I was perfect. Thank you for holding up my self esteem that way. Dad, you and mom will always remain the best part of my life. I will always be thankful and grateful for the time I had with you. I will miss you forever and hope to see your beautiful smile again when I get to reunite with you in heaven.



Today, I will be singing my goodbyes to you. You told me it was your wish that I never gave up on my singing. You told me that it was truly my square hole. Thank you for opening up to me and letting me know that whoever I chose to be in life was always okay with you.

I love you Dad. I couldn't have wished for a better father. If there will ever be another chance to have you as a father in this world or another I would grab it with both hands and both feet. You were truly the best person that was sent from heaven just for me. (even though I ended up sharing you with the world). Lol. God knows there couldn't have been any other Dad for me.

For you, Dad I will stay committed to all the positive ideals you instilled in me. I will never let you down. I will continue to fight for my life and I will make sure of it to win. You will surely see my name in shining lights from heaven and will keep "this flag" flying until it is my turn to pass the baton to others.

I can and I will. (Gustave le Bon)(One of your favorite things to say) Lol.

Kaaaalu Kalu Ogbag.....

Ekpo Kamalu Igirigiri ogu

Oji ire ife nkwu

Okari mma eeh short knicker

Ome okpogho,

Enyi ndi bekee,

Ome mgbe oji eye mgbe ojighu,

Oji akpaghara aga enyi m,

Ojee weta,

Nwachinaemelu..... May the good Lord hold your beautiful soul in safe keeping for me until we meet again in heaven to part no more. I will always love you my precious papa.

Your most loving daughter, Olla bekee.



TRIBUTE FROM CHIZOR, K.K'S THIRD CHILD

My dearest Daddy!

I have been trying to find the words but nothing comes close to how I feel. I have been reflecting on every moment, every conversation, every laugh, every disagreement, every word of advice and every story that you told. I really wish we had more time Daddy.

I am so grateful to God for my decision on March 20, 2020 when I drove down from Port Harcourt after business meetings. For whatever reason, going back to Lagos without seeing you and Mum was not an option. I ended up spending eleven weeks with you in Owerri during the lockdown. A time I would always be grateful to God for. I kept asking you to bless me. What I didn't realize was that you were blessing me with the gift of your life because you passed away less than a month after I went back to Lagos. I wish we had more time Daddy.

- The month of July has imposed on us, a date we will never forget. The day you went to join your beloved parents in the bosom of our Lord Jesus Christ. But that was not the plan Daddy.
- We were planning a trip to Owerri to surprise you and cheer you back to health. For reasons best known to you, you chose to go to sleep the day before we came. That was not the plan Papa!
- We were planning your big 90th birthday party in December. You were so excited about it and had great plans and a long list of demands. Instead, we are planning your funeral. That was not the plan Daddy!
- We were talking about options for having children. We agreed that you would name all my children. Instead, they will never get to meet their most loving, kind, generous and selfless Grandpa who would have spoilt them rotten albeit against my wishes. That was NOT the plan Daddy!!!!

I write these words from a place of indescribable pain. Your passing throws a daily punch in my gut when I pick up the phone to call you and then I realize that I can't. For every match Arsenal plays or every time Trump says or does something silly, you come to mind. The day Joe Biden was announced President elect of the United States, it was a bitter-sweet moment for me. I was glad that he had won but then crushed because not only had you predicted it, I knew you would have thoroughly enjoyed the drama that ensued. I wished you were here to gloat and remind me, amidst your beautiful smile and infectious laughter that you told me so.





I know you were 90 years old but I honestly thought we still had at the very least ten more years with you. You were just one of those people I never imagined would die because even though you had aged, your memory was way better than mine and you simply never lost your sense of humor.

It is incomprehensible to me that we would come to Abiriba and there would be no one to perform your signature welcome every time we arrived at the Hilltop for the holidays. Excitedly, you would watch us unpack our luggage from the car as you beamed at us with a sense of satisfaction for having successfully blackmailed us all making the journey home.

Unable to contain your excitement, you would shout “Unu aluola”? (Welcome) Once we answered, it would quickly be followed by “Unu futula ogo maanu mma eleghi Abiriba”? (Have you ever seen any town as beautiful as Abiriba?) A question which was usually followed by a chorus of “No Daddy”. We’d all burst out laughing as you would sit and wait for us to come and give you bear hugs.

Ete m, you were the one true love of my life. My defender, my mentor, my special adviser, my confidant, my encourager, my Voltron!! You never ever judged me despite all my mistakes. To you, I was your perfect beautiful Nene who could conquer the world. You were so proud of me and you never failed to tell me. You always taught us to be fearless and to stand by the truth no matter what.

Growing up, I remember going to court with you on a number of occasions and watching you cross examine witnesses. It was always so magical. I would walk on air for days after and tell anyone who cared to listen that my Daddy was the best lawyer in the world.

If the phrase “Positive vibes only” was human, it would be you. You faced insurmountable amounts of pressure and evil from your extended family. Yet you stayed cheerful and hopeful that they would change. Always happy to forgive and move forward and put all your trust only in our Lord Jesus Christ.

You were a very principled man. You didn’t want a part in anything that would put a stain on your integrity and you taught us to live by this example. You loved people and people loved you. I have never seen a more accessible human being. You made yourself available to everyone regardless of their age or social, political and financial standing. You were generous to a fault – an attribute that gained you the nickname “Öme mgbe o ji, ma mgbe ojighi” at home. Meaning, one who gives when he has and when he does not. You were always aware that you were being taken advantage of by one too many unscrupulous and ill meaning individuals. But you always laughed it off with the belief that truly, your reward was in heaven.

Above all, you absolutely loved and trusted God Almighty. You taught us to keep calm and ask God with an assurance that

our prayers have been answered. You also made sure we read and mastered the contents in the book "Power of Positive Thinking" by Norman Vincent Peale – a book that shaped us and instilled in us a great deal of discipline and confidence.

From a very young age, you bought us books and encouraged us to learn everything we could about anything. You stressed the importance of education in one's life and made us promise to achieve much greater accomplishments than you did. You loved us immeasurably and gave us your best in every way possible. You allowed us decide and thrive in our chosen paths. You were always excited to hear about our achievements and you would push for us to do even more. My promise to you today Daddy, is that you will continue to be proud of us even from the other side.

Apart from being an exceptional lawyer, you were an extremely proud and dedicated Abiriba man. You were passionate about the affairs of your hometown. You would do anything in your power that meant that Abiriba was better. Hopefully, Abiriba does not forget and hopefully the future generation is blessed with many more passionate and dedicated youth like you.

I may never in my life, meet a finer gentleman. You lived your life in service to humanity. You helped people and it didn't matter that you didn't know their backgrounds. I remember a story you told us once about a man you saw on your way back from court in Aba. He had been robbed and was injured so badly, his clothes were drenched in blood. Against the advice of your junior lawyers and the driver, you stopped and gave him a ride to a hospital and ensured he received treatment.

Daddy m, you loved and you were loved in return. You came, you saw, you achieved and you bowed out like the champion that you were.

I know your soul is at rest. I know you are dancing with the Angels. I know you will always watch over us. I know that we will make always make you proud and best of all, I know that God has accepted your beautiful soul. Anyanwu Abiriba Alabala!!!

Nna m Kalu Ogbag!

Ete, Ete!

Ekpo Kamalu Igiri!

Enyi Nde Bekee!



O me Okpogho!
 O Kari mma short knicker!
 O ji ire efe nkwu!
 O me mgbe oji, ma mgbe o jighi!

O ka ikpe Ebem!

Anyanwu Abiriba!!!

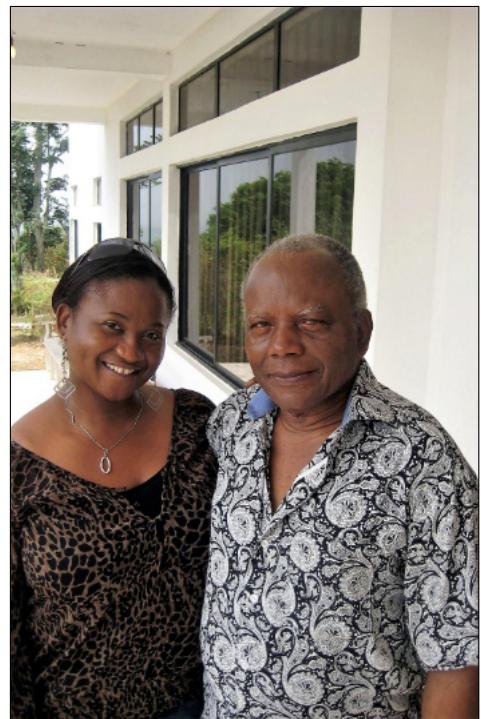
I gbaali la nnu! Gakwa nwa zuru ike!

Love always,

Your Eririmma, Your Odide, Your Nene, Your loyal soldier!!

- Chizobam Kalu Ogba

(Daughter)



TRIBUTE FROM IGWE, K.K'S LAST CHILD

Dearest Daddy,

I do not know if the dead can read, but I have found it comforting to write to you on the assumption that you can.

As I was writing this tribute, I remembered the deep sense of loss and hopelessness that I and my siblings felt after your passing. I recall not being able to eat, not being able to enjoy music and film, and not being able to find comfort in any of the things that had normally brought me joy. But as I went through this phase, the little voice inside repeatedly asked me a simple question; "What would your father have wanted you to do?".

Hearing this voice over and over again, I soon came to realize that I had to somehow carry on living. Because I knew that if you were alive to see me in agony over some issue or the other, you would have asked me to stick my chest out, put my chin up, look upwards and SMILE. Recalling your optimistic attitude to life brought back a flood of memories **from my childhood**.

My earliest memory from that period is of our home in Akwakuma, the sheer size of it, and the wonderful plants and

animals that I was privileged to see on it. I was a lot more adventurous back then. I slept on the grass, climbed trees to pick up fruit and went on the hunt for wild snails at midnight. But as I went through school and made new friends, I soon realized that most people did not live as we did. Many of my classmates lived in much smaller compounds, but their neighborhoods were immense and they had a large number of children their own age to play with. In contrast, our only neighbor was a Unipetrol fuel station with a single petrol pump. And we did not have a fence. They say good fences make good neighbors, but I am guessing you did not put one up as we did not have any neighbors.

Growing up, I would often ask myself why you had chosen to live in such a lonely and desolate part of town. The answer to my question would come, in miserable fashion, following my relocation to the noisy, unplanned, crime-ridden, filthy and unholy city of Lagos, where I would waste eight valuable years of my life. I had a fantastic job in Lagos and I earned more money in my time there than I ever thought possible. But I never truly got to enjoy any of it. In Lagos, I barely had a moment to reflect as my quiet moments were always interrupted by the sound of a generator rattling, or of a lunatic with a boombox passing by. After eight annoying years in that city, I finally understood why you chose to live in Akwakuma. I finally understood why peace and quiet was important to you. And this story of finally understanding the hidden meaning behind many of your actions would repeat itself over and over again. As I got older, I came to understand that although many of your solutions might have seemed odd at the time, sometimes even ridiculous, in the end, they always made sense.

I faintly remember as a seven year old, a guest coming to our home and asking me to hang his jacket on the wall. My response was to cover my nose in disgust, and to inform him that his jacket smelt really bad. As a parent, you were of course horrified by this, but rather than use violence like many frustrated Nigerian parents would, you called me aside, and you explained to me that it was rude and unkind to speak to people in that manner. After our little talk, you then asked me to apologize to our guest, and to shake his hand in honor and friendship. I am grateful that you not only showed empathy to my victim, but that you also showed it to me, the aggressor. That was always your standard approach to conflict resolution. Both sides recognizing each others humanity, shaking hands and moving on with their lives. If you had used violence to solve this problem, our guest and I would have hated each other, and I would have hated you as well. You did not believe in violence. I recall you flogging me only once as I had done something unbelievably naughty, even by my standards. You took out a pair of extremely fluffy slippers and began flogging me with it, but if I am to be honest, it felt like a massage and I wished it was never going to end. And I think you knew this. Looking back on it, your solution was brilliant.

I will always remember the enormous empathy you showed to our guests. As a child, I often wondered why our scruffy, illiterate guests were offered expensive drinks such as Remy Martin and Cognac. Why did I have to greet them with the words, "Good Afternoon, Sir" even though they sometimes looked completely unworthy of the title? Why was every guest, no matter how lowly offered food and drink which could have been saved for more "important" people? Why did I have to refer to every single one of our domestic staff with some honorific or the other? The gardener was called Oga Anthony, The clerk was Mister Ifeanyi and the maids were all called Aunty. Many of my wealthy friends did not do this, but you made sure that we did. Unlike in many households across Nigeria, our domestic staff were never beaten or spoken to

rudely. They were all sent to school or received some sort of external training. They could all sit with us in the living room and watch television. They would frequently receive new clothing, toothpaste and deodorant. They even ate the same meals as we did, with generous servings of meat. This is not considered normal behavior in the Nigerian context.

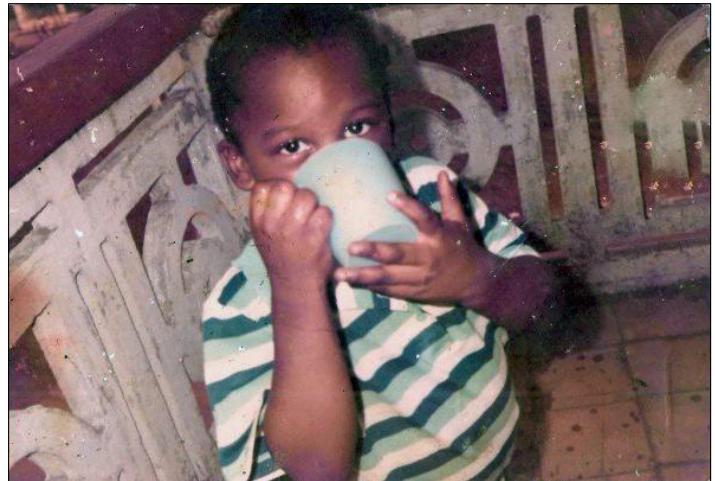
I remember the times when we would ask Fidelis or Okorie to drive us someplace, and you would ask us to let them rest for a while as they had just come back from Umuahia or Aba or someplace else. And you would always ask our domestic staff if they had eaten, if they had slept well, if they needed a break. You paid for all of their medical bills and for their children's schooling even though they would always receive their salary on time. Your example taught me to always practice the golden rule, to always consider others, to always ask myself the simple question, "What if it was me?". Following your death, they would honor you greatly with a long line of our former domestic staff, stretching from as long ago as the 1980's, turning up to pay their respects to you and to console us.

In Mathew 25, verse 40, there is a passage which reads, "And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me! '". You took this passage to heart and unlike the overwhelming majority of Christians, who only practice their religion through noisy, terrible singing and the condemnation and damnation of others, you actually lived the word of God.

By seeing the divinity in others, you were able to ensure that so many people felt welcomed and felt accepted in your presence. For some, these were experiences they had never had before, even in their own homes. You felt a deep sense of satisfaction in offering a pauper a drink or a meal he might only consume once a year, keeping him happy for weeks.

I will always remember the numerous road trips you took for work, to honor old friends at funerals and for social events across Nigeria. As a child I would tag along on many of these trips, and I recall how you would always insist on giving money to beggars on the road. Fidelis and I would try to warn you that this or that fellow had tied his lower leg to his upper thigh, but you would not pay us any attention. And you never gave them 5 naira or 10 so that you could claim that you had done your duty. Your donations were typically in the hundreds or in the thousands, enough to make a difference in their lives for a few days or weeks. You were popular with the beggars and they all knew who you were. And when they would come up to our window, you would ask me to give them money too, but I did not have a lot back then. I am not sure you always understood that.

You also never abandoned your friends. You treated them the same regardless of their financial status. The rich who became poor and the healthy who suddenly became sick were treated the same. At funerals, you were not always the first to arrive since you normally spent hours in the bath, but you would always be the last to leave and you would donate huge



sums to the family of the bereaved. I remember as a child at funerals, always asking you, "Can we leave now?" and you would reply, "Just a little longer". This would go on for hours. Eventually Fidelis or Okorie would have to drop me off at home and you would return home really late, sometimes by midnight.

Your kindness to strangers was not always limited to one off gifts however. I vividly remember one Christmas season, I think it was in 1998, when a red jeep suddenly turned up at our Abiriba home with a cow. The man in the car asked to meet you. He was from another village and he told me that you had paid for his education at a time when his parents were financially strapped. He came to thank you with the cow for this, nearly two decades later. But you did not recognize him at all. After he left, Okorie and I wondered if the cow was poisoned. But then I asked, if so, then how come is it still alive? At this point, Okorie, a master of long tales, came up with an answer. He claimed that there was one man (it was always one man), who received a goat as a gift. He cooked it, ate it and died three days later. And so we therefore decided to wait for three days before killing the cow. As it did not die after three days we killed it off and made many fond memories with its sumptuous meat.

You had a deep love for all mankind and always had something positive to say about people from every tribe, race and country. I remember the times as children, when we would watch Kunta Kinte or read about the latest riots in the North, and in anger, we would all go on a diatribe about how this or that group ought to be killed in revenge, and in those times, you would always be the only voice of reason in the room. You would talk about the immense hospitality of your Northern friends or about a white person who had aided you greatly or about an Indian you had met who was not dishonest. And you would stop us from discussing the topic in anger any further.

By seeing the humanity in everyone you met, no matter how "bad" they were, you taught us that we are all one, and that the word combinations we use to describe people such as friend and enemy, good and evil, success and failure, ally and competitor were simply two sides of the same coin. Everyone is a valuable resource and there is always something to gain from a resource. From a "failure" we can learn to stay in school, from a competitor we can learn to build better products, and from an enemy we can learn to rise above the mud of hatred and division. No one is useless.

In the Tao Te Ching there is a quote:

"Therefore the good person is the teacher of the bad person.

The bad person is the resource of the good person.

Those who do not value their teachers



And do not love their resources

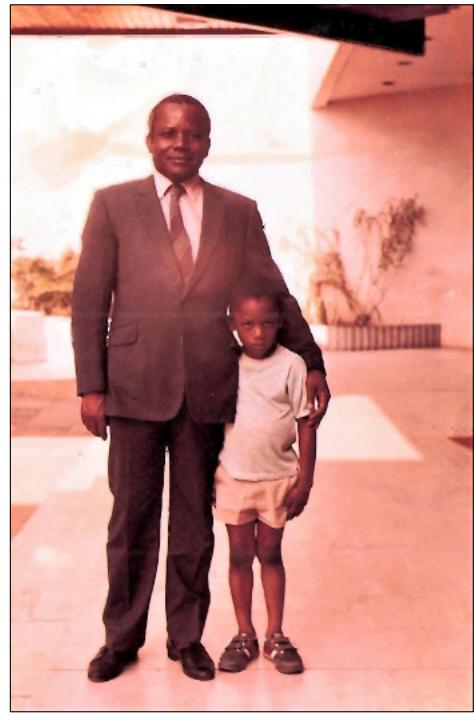
Although intelligent, they are greatly confused"

But Jesus, who you worshipped, took it a step further and questioned why we should judge at all. He expressed this with the immortal phrase: "He who is without sin, let him cast the first stone". You frequently spoke about the three "never C's", never criticize, never complain and never condemn, and you lived it, for the most part, understanding that when you point a finger at someone else, three of your fingers point back at yourself.

Your child rearing techniques are worth studying. I remember how you raised us through positive expectations. You would often say things like, "None of my children steal" in front of our guests. Well? How on earth did you know that? I remember stealing your cashew nuts and mommy's stockfish on occasion, but because of your praise, I never stole anything like money and I have never been involved in any sort of scandal. As a matter of fact, none of your children have ever been arrested, or accused of stealing or of any other crime. One of your proudest moments as a father was speaking to my boss in Lagos, and he said, "Igwe is really honest, even if you give him a million dollars to keep for you, you can come back in 40 years time and he will immediately return your money with interest". That made you extremely proud, it made you feel that you had done a really good job as a parent.

Your great expectations extended to my education. You always called me "the great scholar" and I responded by obtaining all A's, including an A1 in Mathematics, in my final school exams, and achieving a first for my final year university dissertation. I only realized much later that through praise, I was basically being reprogrammed to succeed in the areas you felt were important. You never called me "the great dullard" for instance, even though I was slightly dumb in my early years. You never focused on the bad, always on the good.

You will always have my gratitude for not toying with our education in any way. I feel that I am one of the few who can confidently claim that I learnt vastly more at home than at school. You made us write essays which you graded every week. I remember that in our home, there were thousands of books. There was a bookshelf in the living room, massive bookshelves in your chambers, and even the headboard on your bed had a bookshelf. And it wasn't 5,000 books on one topic. You had books on every topic in the world, from the world religions to science to the law to Adolf Hitler, yoga, taichi and everything else under the sun. At our home there were always copies of Newsweek, Time Magazine, BBC Focus on Africa and House & Garden. You also received foreign newspapers such as The Guardian, The Wall Street Journal and your personal favorite, The Times of London on a regular basis. And before DSTV and satellite television, I remember that we used to receive video tapes with a summary of the latest news and entertainment from the BBC every two weeks. We were enjoying all this while my fellow classmates were being forced to watch Jesus Christ Superstar on IBC for the 10

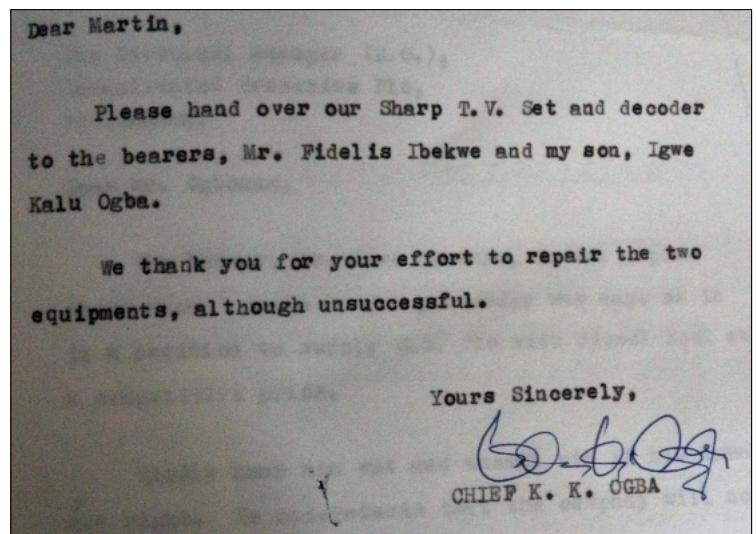


billionth time.

But even though we had a lot of books, we were never given a lot of toys. Sometimes I wasn't sure if I was supposed to be Prince William or Oliver Twist. I would make you a long list of toys and video games to buy but you would come home with only one item from my list which cost 10 pounds. You would do this after buying a Persian rug that cost as much as a car, and wearing a brand new Savile Row suit from Mr. Childs that cost about the same. The whole thing was deeply odd. As a result, I wrote frequent letters to Dr. Odim, Dr. O and Aunty Barbara asking for additional toys. But as I got older I understood that you were trying to teach us that money does not grow on trees, and that a degree of scarcity is important for true happiness. I remember a tale that you showed me in a book, about a Chinese Empress who fled her kingdom during the boxer rebellion. She spent days wandering the countryside in hunger until she met some villagers who offered her a meal of porridge and snail. Because she was royalty and everything she touched had to be appropriate to her exalted position, the villagers told her that the simple meal she was being offered was pearl soup and stewed phoenix eyes. After the war ended, the empress went back to the palace and resumed her opulent lifestyle. She asked for pearl soup and stewed phoenix eyes, but the imperial chefs swore that they had never heard of such things. The empress had failed to create the necessary ingredient to enjoy a good or even a bad meal. And that ingredient was hunger. And I thank you for teaching me that. As a result of your training, I feel that I can survive anywhere in the world and under any conditions.

One of the greatest gifts you ever gave me was the total erasure of superstition from my mind. You simply did not believe in voodoo and juju which you derisively called "mumbo-jumbo". So many charlatans have turned up at our home. I remember the "holy prophet" who claimed that God had told him in a dream that if you did not hand over half of our Owerri land to him, you would die in three days (he gave you plenty of time to think it over it seems). We all laughed at his stupidity. I was only 9 years old at the time and I even got into an argument with him when he said that women should not be allowed to become priests. I wonder where he is now. And then there was your highly educated friend, who wore a large juju protection belt under his Savile row suit, asking you if you had gotten yours. When you told me the story I couldn't believe it, but I soon burst out in laughter, thinking that it was the funniest thing in the world.

Speaking of protection, I want to thank you for teaching me how to deal with people who choose to become my enemy and seek to do me harm. You taught me to simply ignore them, and that when I did so, they would do everything in their power to regain my attention and in the process, make many fatal mistakes. This strategy has never failed me. But I also want to thank you for teaching me to keep an open door to those who repent. As the ancient Chinese saying goes, "The enemy who becomes your friend will last. The friend who becomes your enemy will also last".



Following your death, a group of your relatives and never do wells, all hailing from Abiriba, somehow managed to assemble their seven IQ points in an attempt to defile your legacy and steal your property. They will all go the way of the dodo, meeting the same fate as every other low-life scum who has chosen to fight against you in the past.

Moving away from the scum of the earth, I would like to thank you for writing so much. While conducting research for your funeral book, we found so many letters, so many notes and drawings by you. You made our job so much easier. As a historian, you understood that those who do not write down their exploits are lost to time forever. This is why many Europeans have alleged that we, the African peoples do not have a history. As I searched the internet for data on your old mentors, Dr. N.B. Graham Douglas and Justice C.A. Oputa, I noticed that I could barely find any of their photographs. Dr. Douglas did not even have a wikipedia page. I know that it is for reasons such as this that you so desperately wanted to publish your book. To keep some sort of record about your life. Not to worry Daddy. I have already compiled all of your manuscripts and we, all five of us, will find some way to publish your book. It will be done, I promise you.

If only you had learnt to use the computer and the internet as I had tried to teach you, then perhaps, your book would have been completed a lot earlier. But you were terrified of computers. You never figured out how to use the TV remote control and you always relied on somebody else to make phone calls on your behalf. I think you would have learnt so much on the internet. But who knows? Maybe it was all for the best. The internet is a crazy place. You might have ended up trying to kill off the coronavirus with an onion like Mom, or become a chief priest of the Nuwaubian Nation of Kemet. You grew up in a time when books were well researched and authoritative, but I am not sure you would have understood that the internet is nothing at all like the Cambridge University Press.

Daddy, I have to go now or this book will cost us a fortune to print. I just want to say thank you for everything. Thank you for being yourself and for never changing. Thank you for our long and happy years together. Thank you for the honor of making me the very last person you ever spoke to before leaving this world. I will always be proud to call you my father. I wish you all the best, wherever you are.

With great love,

Your last child and precious Omodim,

Igwe.



K.K'S SISTERS AND NIBLINGS



Extreme Left K.K's sisters Olla (extreme left) and Ada (the eldest, second woman from the right) pose for a photograph with their half-brother Eleanya and his wife and children in 1961.

Left K.K's sister Olla poses for a photograph. She worked in the medical field as Nurse, rising to a high position in her profession.



Extreme Left K.K's sister Oyedia in the middle, third woman from the right, poses for a photograph during a traditional ceremony.

Left K.K's siser Nwanne in her youth. She studied Chemistry in the United Kingdom, retiing as a school principal.

ELDER MRS. GLORY URE ALIOMA

ADIEU, DEAR BROTHER

As we were growing up and before I could recognize you, (I being the last child of our father), you had gone to Hope Waddell Training Institute for your secondary education at Calabar. From there you went to London to study Law. You did excellently well and that gave you the ability to practice Law there for some years before coming back after eleven years you left home. No wonder you spoke so well and argued authoritatively in court.

You told me you never lost a case in court. You were a Lawyer to many indigenous and foreign companies. Some communities in Abiriba and other places regained their land cases at court through you. Many people used to come to court on the days you had cases in court, just to hear you speak and listen to how you argued out your cases.

You did very well by using your wealth to train many people and cared for the widows. You even asked my husband to allow you train my last child but he refused knowing that your hands were fully loaded and that he could train his children comfortably without much stress. Myself and others used to enjoy some of our holidays in your house at Port Harcourt.

I thank God that when i noticed some questionable events in our families I called your attention and that of others in the family and we agreed on a family deliverance, which was done in 2002, at Abiriba.

The news of your demise came to me suddenly because I had just phoned you to inquire about your health and you told me you were getting better.

You died at a good old age and your wife told me you died peacefully.

Adieu brother.

ELDER MRS GLORY URE ALIOMA. (The only surviving sister).

KELECHI UKOHA EMESON

Death is inevitable, it is a journey that everyone must take. Often times we wish death wasn't a part of life, we wish we just stay alive on earth with our near and dear ones not dying. But unfortunately, we cannot. Our prayers is that we fulfill our days on earth and grow old before our time is up.

You touched so many lives by your selfless and countless acts of kindness, always giving and never expecting any favors in return.

I still remember vividly the joyful countenance he always exhibited whenever he saw us, the cheerfulness in him, the unending generosity that was his unique identity. What a wonderful uncle you were - a loving brother to your sisters, the world's best dad. The good memories remain with us knowing the ability you impacted into my life. All the good things that you taught me. You are such an intelligent and intellectual man, A great historian and story teller. You stressed the importance of education and hard work in life to become a great person.

We are all blessed for having known you, for having loved you and been loved by you. To have called you our uncle, my brother, my father. I say this with so much pride and gratitude to God almighty. We are a blessed family indeed.

Your loving and caring fatherly role will continue to linger in my humble heart.

May your soul rest in the bosom of the almighty

ADIEU ANYANWU OF ABIRIBA.....

ADIEU OKA IKPE EBEM.....

From your nephew, Kelechi Ukoha Emeson.



OJUKWU KALU OGBONNAYA

TRIBUTE TO A GREAT AND LOVING UNCLE

It is hard to believe that you are no more. The news of your death came to me as a shock. I kept asking God, "Why now?". You should have waited a little longer.

Uncle, you have left a void in the family that will and can never be filled. You lived a fulfilled life, touching so many lives through your selfless and countless acts of kindness. You did a lot of good things, changing people's lives and never expecting any favors in return. You were always there for the family, no matter what.

You always emphasized the importance of giving, forgiveness and most importantly acknowledging God in all we do. A perfect and straightforward gentleman, very intelligent and full of wisdom. Lessons I learnt from you, advice I got from you, I promise to always keep.

Uncle, you were and will always be an inspiration to me. I vividly remember your loving and caring nature, your words of encouragement. I am really blessed and grateful to God that I had you as an uncle.

I thank the Lord for your life and bid you farewell until we meet again to part no more on the resurrection day.

Your Nephew,

Ojukwu Kalu Ogbonnaya

EBERE OGBONNAYA

TRIBUTE TO THE WORLD'S GREATEST UNCLE

He was such a great father to I and my siblings. He was such a great father, so strong, bold, brilliant.

You supported the whole family, your death is such a huge loss to our family, friends and to the entire country.

No words can describe the way I feel today as I write this tribute.

You made me who I am today, you instilled core values into my life. You made sure I never lacked in life. Even when I went wrong you scolded and forgave me. Daddy your death came as a shock to me. I could not sleep on that day as I was so uncomfortable. Never knew that God had called you to rest. It was a huge shock which am still in. I have so many good memories of you that I will cherish forever. We were planning your birthday this December. You told me that you wanted everyone to come celebrate you on that day. You told me that I will make all type of delicacies on that day. Hmmmm ...

You always said you wouldn't die, but would live to fulfill God's promises. You said that you were strong and that nothing would happen to you. The house is so empty without you daddy, Christmas is so quiet without you, your smile and love to us all. I have not been myself since your death, the shock is too much. This life is empty. Emeka will miss you so much. This day should be a celebration of your birthday, but God choose it to be your journey to heaven. Today you sit in the arms of the angels in heaven. Your spirit will always live on in my heart forever.

Words have failed me ooo. But I find solace in the lord that you died a happy and great man. You died a fulfilled man. You taught me how to forgive people, show love despite how deeply the hurt me. You showed love to everyone who came close to you. You were a giver. You taught me to give and never expect anything in return. Nobody will ever replace you in this world. Your name has been written in gold and I am proud of that. With tears I raise my hand to salute you and I want everyone to stand and salute you. Rest in peace daddy we will meet on the resurrection day to part no more.

I LOVE YOU DADDY.

GOODBYE TO THE BEST FATHER/ UNCLE IN THE WORLD.

GOODBYE TO THE ANYAWU 1 OF ABIRIBA

GOODBYE TO THE BEST LAWYER IN THE WORLD

REST IN PEACE DADDY.

EBERE OGBONNAYA

I LOVE YOU DADDY.



Ebere with her cousin Chizor

UCHENDU KALU OGBONNAYA

TRIBUTE TO MY DEARLY BELOVED UNCLE

An Owerri based and Oxford university trained legal practitioner, an old boy of the prestigious Hope Waddel Training Institute in Calabar, the cock of the bar has taken his last bow here on earth.

My dearest uncle, mentor and role model has taken his last bow on earth, the 15th day of July 2020 will not be easily forgotten in my lifetime, when Ojukwu rang me on the phone to tell me about your departure from this planet called earth. I was speechless for about 3 to 5 minutes not that I did not hear him clearly but was shocked that it was not meant to be because I spoke with you on the phone some days before that day and you never mentioned to me that you were ill which you were not but rather you only advised that I stay indoors and apply the medical/safety measures to avoid the deadly disease called corona virus. I had to ring Ojukwu back on the phone to be sure of what he had just mentioned to me, which he reconfirmed but because of how I felt I had to call Kalu my cousin, your first son to confirm the information which he also did.

Uncle your death is indeed a devastating one to us your loved ones but my only consolation each time I remember you is that you died a great and a good man.

Truly our dearly beloved family, Ikwu Nwami-ukwu, Abiriba community, Eastern Nigeria, Nigeria Bar Association, your friends and well wishers have all lost a great man, a giver, a historian, a peace maker, a philanthropist and above all, a God fearing man.

I am grateful to God for making you a part of my life.

It is hard and painful to accept the fact that you have truly taken your last bow here on earth and that you will never be seen or your presence be felt any more,



but my only consolation each time I remember that you are no more is that before you took your last bow you requested that the world should be told that you died a good and a happy man.

Uncle the last time I had a telephone conversation with you, you told me that we should prepare towards your 90th birthday celebrations in Abiriba, you even went ahead in telling me that it will be a great ceremony, that people will come from all over the world to grace the occasion. Uncle does it mean you were really referring to your funeral? Well! I am only happy and consoled like I said earlier that you died a happy and good man.

Many here will testify to your generosity and care for the have nots.

I am indeed happy to have you as my dearest uncle simply because of the love, care and protection which you lavished on my siblings and I, even during your last days here on planet earth. Secondly, that throughout your long life here on earth you never embarrassed us with a single scandal unlike most people of your caliber do and are still doing. All who came across your path and those who heard about you but did not have the opportunity to meet you in person will also testify to this.

Uncle, we your loved ones will always keep the legacies you left behind and we will forever cherish such legacies.

As I bid you farewell today, my dearest and one in a million uncle, I pray that God in Heaven will grant me all those virtues of yours that I admired during your lifetime here on earth and always wished to acquire.

Farewell My One in a million uncle

Farewell the cock of the bar

Farewell the Anyanwu 1 of Abiriba

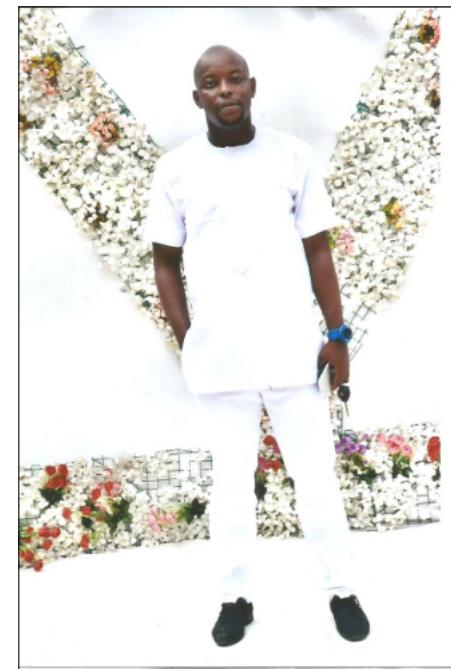
Farewell the icon of the bar.

Farewell the oka ikpe 1 Of Ebem Ohafia

Till we will meet on that resurrection morning to part no more.

Your loving Nephew

Uche



CHUKWUEMEKA VICTOR OTTAH

TRIBUTE TO MY GRANDPA

My mother told me that when I was born you, you saw me and said he is so handsome. You brought warmth, happiness, wisdom and love to me and every soul that has met you. I am grateful for having had a grandfather like you. Your death has brought us great sadness,because you have always been there to love us and fix us when we are not feeling okay. Even if the pain I feel after losing you cannot be measured. I believe that the brightest shinning star above my head is you assuring me that you are in a better place now. I will never erase you in my mind, and I promise to hold you in my heart till the day we will meet again in heaven. It's been long since I saw you, but I am grateful that the memories of you that I hold are those of your presence. You went to be with the lord so soon,how I wish I was given the opportunity to say GOODBYE, I loved spending time with you, you always took me to every occasion you attended. I always felt on top of the world. I remember your grey hair and your heart which is made of gold. I promise to keep with me the memories of the two of us and how lucky I have been to have had such an amazing grandpa like you. You did so many great things in life, one of the things that you are always proud of is raising such a beautiful and lovely family. We all miss your presence. As you go to be with the lord I promise to carry along what you loved the most, waking up early to enjoy the sunrise. I promise to be a great man like you who has a heart of gold, gives unconditionally and loves family so much.

You are a role model in my life as nobody will replace you in my heart and soul and the great love I have for you. Your heart that is made of pure gold has stopped beating, one of the most hardworking hearts has been put to rest, that is one way of God showing us that he is interested in only the best. Even if we search the entire universe we are sure that we will never find someone as loving and caring as you. You were the best teacher, but you did not teach me how to live my life without you.

Throughout my life I will treasure your memories and your smile. I miss your hugs, love and being happy, even though I know that the sun will still rise tomorrow, it won't shine as bright as before without you.

I love you so so much. I will miss your pure love, understanding heart and wisdom. Today I stand and promise you that I will never disappoint you.

GOOD BYE TO THE BEST LAWYER IN THE WORLD

GOOD BYE TO THE MOST HANDSOME GRANDFATHER IN THE WORLD

GOOD BYE TO MY HERO

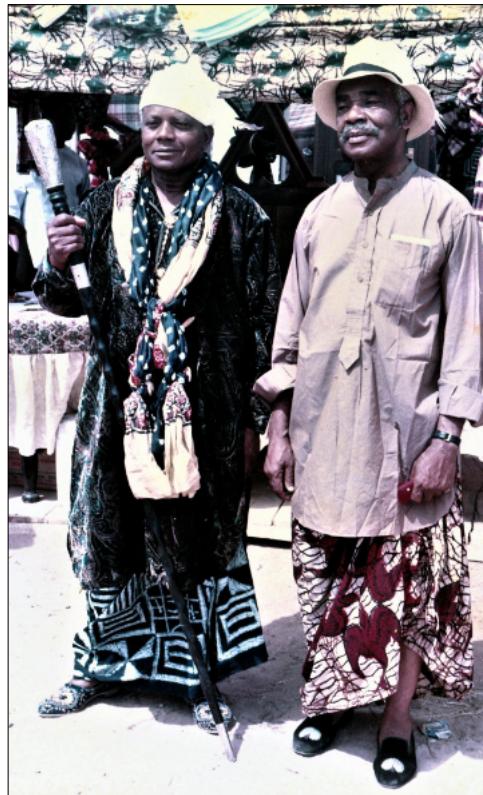
GOOD BYE TO THE BEST GRANDFATHER IN THE WORLD.

REST IN PEACE GRANDPA. WE WILL MEET TO PART NO MORE.





K.K standing at the extreme right, at Affi and Ehi's wedding.



Extreme Left K.K with his wife Chinwe in Abiriba alongside his niece Olla Oji at the extreme left. His daughter Nena and a young Zoe-Alexandra Attat stand next to each other.

Left K.K with his favorite cousin, Dr Kalu Nwokeka Oji (popularly known as Dr. O) at his "Ime Uche" ceremony in December 1992. After studying at the Royal College of Surgeons in Dublin, Dr. Oji became the first western trained medical doctor in Abiriba history.

BOB INA KALU UGAH

Death is not the end, it's just a separation, Uncle/ Chief K.K. Ogbag, you may not be present with us anymore but your memories will forever live with us, you are a good Uncle with a good heart, you contributed to my life in a different positive ways, thank you for being there for me, thank you for being my uncle, now I say rest on, rest on, rest on Uncle and may your soul rest with the Lord, Amen.

From Bob-in-a Kalu Ugah (U.S.A)

CHINYERE KALU UGAH-UTUK

Abiriba ka! Amangogudu ka-o!!

I'm using this forum to celebrate elegance (nganga) in the person of our beloved brother, husband, and father, the blessed man of God - Ezi Eze, ogbo nnaya, Kalu Kalu Ogbag. You were the quiet, clear-headed, and steady hand, the one with the strength of a bull and the gentleness of a sheep, the human anchor and my Englishman. The one to whom our ancestors deemed worthy enough to steer the ill-equipped ship through choppy waters amidst stormy hails.

Lawyer, I thank God for you. I give thanks to the Almighty for shepherding you in wisdom, loyalty, patience, and humility. Thank you for showing us the way of excellence. Thank you for pointing us to a tiny glimpse of the heart of God in Christ. A very heavy load was placed on your shoulders and you DID NOT shrug it off. You relied on God's benevolence to see you through and, for that trust in the Omniscience, you were rewarded here on Earth with a true helpmate in Chinwe, and four prosperous children, among other blessings. You did all that you could and were allowed to do, and for that, I say, "Bravo!" Well done, Jesus' good and faithful servant. I'm sure you have entered God's eternal sabbath.

Ete, thank you for forgiving us of any and all our misdeeds and misunderstandings. Thank you for the good thoughts you had for us and the prayers you made on our behalf.

Chief, continue to rest in the Lord, who will not allow your family to be in want. Amen.

Nde ikwu, ka nu!

With love and respect

Chinyere Kalu Ugah-Utuk



K.K, second from the right at Effi and Ehi's wedding

CHIEF BOB IGWE UGAH

Death is a necessary end, and today I thank God to have given us (late) Chief, K. K. Ogbah, the Anyanwu of Abiriba, fondly referred to all in the family as “ Lawyer ”.

Uncle “ lawyer ” besides his Oxford University Education as a lawyer, former Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, East Central State, first Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, Imo State, was a family man, who loved and cherished his family and extended families.

His lovely wife, Mrs Chinwe, and the children, Nnenna, Ola, Chizor, Kalu and Igwe were not just his family but Uncle Lawyer’s care givers. They cared for all his needs as well as gathered by his bedside, very adamant not to give up on him when things seemed gloomy. They wanted to be sure that he was comfortable and did not die alone at the end.

My uncle, being a very private person in life, did it his way by sleeping away quietly.

Experiences in life have taught me that in life, nothing lasts forever. When life’s door closes, it will be time to move forward, which is a good thing because we often won’t move unless circumstances forces us to. Also tough times reminds us that no pain comes without a purpose. We move on from what hurts, but will never forget what it taught us.

The family is going through some difficult changes right now, we also know that, this is a journey everyone of us will eventually have to take. The good thing here is that, my Uncle “ lawyer ” would pride himself for raising hardworking, motivated children to carry on his legacy.

My lovely uncle, my dad and my friend, I am wishing you a farewell journey as you continue to rest on the bosom of our Lord.

Chief, Bob Igwe Ugah. (as Eze Inyimoka Abiriba, Boston, Massachusetts, USA.).



IGWE KALU UGAH (SENIOR)

When the news of your demise got to me, I took time to say a simple prayer- May your soul rest in perfect peace. Amen.

You were a gentle man to the core. Your words were your bonds. You never meddled in mediocrity. You were a forthright man, a truthful leader and an astute solicitor for the rights of the oppressed. I can describe you further as a powerful man with a quiet strength, always ready to hear the people's complaints and willingly preferring the suiting advice and lending

your shoulders to give succor.

Oh! The good man is gone, who will step into his shoes? Who will wear his feathers?

Indeed, you were the Anya anwu na chara oha (the sun that shines for all.) You were the Okpe deih deih (the gentle barrister, that always obtains legal winnings and restores rights to the threatened). The great and illustrious son of Abiriba. The Chairman erstwhile, East Central State Marketing Board, The Commissioner for Justice erstwhile East Central State Judiciary, The Commissioner for Justice former Imo State Judiciary. You never aspired to be a Judge, because you enjoyed your legal practice, fighting for the rights of the threatened ones, otherwise you could have been one. You played your role as the family head of k k Ogbas dynasty and the leader of Ndi Nwami Ukwu family.

Excuse me Sir, thou man of integrity, dignity and honor; as you depart from us on this side of life, considering your numerous excellent meritorious deeds, you deserve a Twenty one gun salute---- GBOOM × 21

A rare gem is gone -- A treasure is lost.

Adieu Daddy

Igwe kalu Ugah (snr)



NWOKEKA IKECHUKWU OJI (I.K)

TRIBUTE TO A GREAT GENETLEMAN AND LEGAL LUMINARY

Late Chief Kalu Kalu Ogbas, "The Anyanwu" of Abiriba Kingdom was indeed a great personality, a renowned lawyer of over six decades, a product of the Inner Temple Court of London, a former and the last Attorney-General of old East Central States, former Attorney-General and Commissioner for justice of the old Imo state.

He was indeed a man of enormous achievements, an eloquent speaker and an encyclopedia of histories.

I knew him as Uncle Lawyer and a Father.

This role he started playing back in the day when his cousin, my Father Late Dr Kalu .N. Oji traveled to England for his Specialist Course in the Sixty's.

My Siblings and I were so fond of him due to his Kindness and Love towards us. We therefore took him as our second Father, and He indeed took us as his children also.

As children, my siblings and I had the privilege to have lived with him in Port Harcourt in the early Sixty's. At this period we stayed with Uncle Lawyer in his Port Harcourt residence, every weekend we listened to the sweet melodies of Mozart , Beethoven, Handel and Chopin.



K.K and Chinwe with Nwokeka and Efere on their wedding day

Adieu my friend and Father.

From Nwokeka Ikechukwu Oji

EFERE NWOKEKA OJI

If one was to look up the image of the perfect gentleman, the image of the late Chief Kalu Kalu Ogba will pop up. The late Chief Kalu Kalu Ogba " Uncle lawyer" as we all callrd him was not only a kind, gentle and sweet soul, he was also a legal heavy weight, a former Attorney general and Commissioner for justice of the old Imo State.

I still remember the day I was introduced to him by my Husband Ik, the way he took me in as his daughter and the kindness he showed me. We related very well and he even had a nickname for me "mma Efere".

The love he had for our family was so palpable and our children were so fond of him.

Whenever we were to visit him you could see their faces lit up with excitement a testament to the kind of person he was.

When ever he visited, we would sit and he would tell us history including that of my late father and what he did during

He also took us around town on weekends especially Kingway stores where he would buy us ice-cream,cakes and other delicacies. He was indeed a wonderful Uncle and Father to us.

I cannot express here how sad I feel knowing I have lost an Uncle,a father , a friend, and worst of all knowing that I cannot see or talk with him ever again. He was my Hero.

All I can say is Uncle Lawyer, may the Angels from the realms of glory lead you safely home.

Adieu Uncle Lawyer,Anyanwu of Abiriba, erudite Lawyer and finally

the civil war.

His command of the English language was second to none and the way he spoke with so much grace was a sight to behold.

We love and miss him but God loves him more and we know he is resting with the Lord.

Adieu Anyanwu Of Abiriba, Adieu uncle lawyer, rest in perfect peace with the saints triumphant.

Efere Nwokeka Oji (mma Efere)

DR. KALU OJI (JUNIOR)

One of the earliest memory I have of Uncle Lawyer is the both of us sitting on the balcony at his Abiriba home, discussing history and geopolitics, I must have only been 8 years old.

Every time we were to visit him, my brothers and I were always full of excitement, we loved him. He was so kind, soft spoken, so charismatic and full of grace. There was never a dull moment with Uncle lawyer.

I could spend the whole day listening to him because of his wise words and the knowledge he had.

He was an inspiration to me and a role model. I still remember his soft smile, the way his face lit up when my brothers and I were around.

Uncle lawyer was a great man and has left a great legacy.

I know he is in a better place resting with the Lord.

Adieu Chief Kalu Kalu Ogbagba , Adieu Uncle lawyer.

Dr Kalu Oji Jr.

ATTAI BASSEY

It is with a heavy heart but with gratitude to God for the life of our uncle, a great noble man whose memory I pay this tribute to, with sadness yet with a huge sense of admiration. Uncle Lawyer (as you were fondly called by members of my maternal family),you impacted the lives of many. Your love for family, far and wide was second to none. You were kind,

generous and appreciative of all your friends and family. You always had a space in your heart and home for everyone. I cannot fail to thank you for the love and care that you extended to my late mother (Eka Atai) who you took as one of your blood sisters. You offered her support in ways too numerous to mention. You were very liberal and approachable, a mediator, intelligent and rational in your ways. You were the leader of the family; the family's Historian. Your death is painful. There is none who can fit into the shoes you have left behind. We will hold on to the memories we have of you, to love one another and live by the lessons of life that you taught us through your exemplary life. I join hearts with your dear wife and children to mourn your loss but to also celebrate your life, We surrender to the will of God who has called you home for greater service above. Uncle Lawyer, may your sweet gentle soul find solace in the bosom of the Lord. Greet my mother, Ma Adi and my grandparents Ma Atim and Ete.

FROM ATAI - UK

ZOE ALEXANDRA ATTAT

A warm smile; a caring embrace

You had the longingness to do good at all times even when
it wasn't convenient.

Anyanwu n'ututu, sleep on.

A loving heart who trained my dear mother
Nnenne Igwo Kalu and my uncle Eme Igwo Kalu at
University in England and trained all her siblings
when they lost their father and did so much more for them;

A listening ear who never sent his relatives away without solving their problems;

An educative mind which had soothing words to fit every situation that came your way.

Anyanwu n'ututu, sleep on in God's perfect peace.

Adieu Uncle Lawyer.

Zoe Attat

EMMANUEL OJI

Chief K.K Ogba was a good man and I loved him dearly, He was a favorite cousin to my late Grandpa and he extended that love to us, growing up I looked forward to visiting him because it was always a good time gisting with him .

Uncle LAWYER as he was fondly referred to by close family members was the best host his doors were always open to welcome visitors and he attended to all equally without discrimination ,indeed he was a man with a big heart and a man after my heart who tried to the best of his capacity to carry everyone along.

He lived an elegant and colorful life , he was a man of Justice and a man of Integrity who was highly informed in different aspects of life , A perfect gentleman and legal luminary.

Uncle LAWYER always encouraged me to chase my dreams and advised me to be honest in everything I do .

It's truly an honor for me to have met a man like chief in my life time and a greater honor to be related to him

He left very Big shoes to fill , rest now legend until we meet to path no more fond memories of you are forever alive in my heart .



UKO OJI

On behalf of my siblings...the news of Uncle ('Lawyer') Chief K.K. OGBA's demise was very painful and sad today hear, it immediately led me to a recollection of moments shared in his presence from the time we were young children up until the last time we met him. It was always a thrill and exciting to hear he was coming to visit us in London, I know for sure my father (Late - D.R. K.N. Oji) would be looking forward to his arrival, being able to spend time with his brother, close friend and dare I say his eyes and ears within Nigeria.

Uncle was always a very compassionate, family orientated and upstanding gentleman, who was very proud of his Abiriba heritage.

As for some of our children who were privileged to meet him, the aura he carried left them also feeling proud to know he was their Great Uncle.

Our beloved Uncle Lawyer it is a comfort to us all, rest assured you have now rightfully joined your Maker in the kingdom of Heaven and indeed here on earth you truly did live a 'Good Life'.

Farewell Uncle, Rest in Perfect Peace!

NNANA OJI



Tribute to a
distinguished and
diplomatic Mogul..
CHIEF, KK OGBA.

FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS....GUNSHOT SALUTE!!!

When i heard of your depature, all i could think about was the great loss of a great entity. But I smiled because i still also remembered the good times we shared by your balcony when you told stories of history and how we got enlightened about our roots and heritage.

You will always remain a symbol of Honour, Integrity, Wealth and Courage...

Rest on Old Champ!!!

Your great wise words of advice will forever guild my path.... rest in the bossum of PEACE! GREAT VIRGO\$\$\$\$

Nwokeka Nnanna Oji

Ast,Dir SCSN ,

Lagos state chapter

Student chemical society of NIGERIA

FGN/1407/CHM/SCSN





Above Left A portrait of K.K's father-in-law, Mr. Eleazar Obiakonwa Enemo. Following a degree in history, he received a scholarship to earn a Diploma in Education from the University of Southampton. In the scholarship exam, he obtained the first position, beating out a horde of candidates from across West Africa. In 1948 when K.K was still a student at Hope Waddell, he wrote a book, "The Social Problems of Nigeria" which was published by the Cambridge University Press. A champion of female education, he built a large number of Anglican Schools for girls across Igbo land. In appreciation of his service to mankind, he was awarded an M.B.E (Member of the British Empire) by the Queen of England in 1958.

Left K.K was blessed with the very best of in-laws. Strong believers in education, they are a family of hard workers, full of decency and striving. Not one of them is interested in waiting for wealthy relatives to die in order to steal their property and cause a nuisance at their funeral. They stick together, always helping each other out in times of distress, with even the least among them making some sort of contribution to the common cause. Here they can be seen with K.K during his "Ime-Uche" ceremony in 1992. As always, they provided him with enormous support during this event.



Above K.K with his in-laws at the funeral service for Bishop Uzodike in 1998. Here he is seen with, from Left to Right, Mr. Emeka Enemo, Mr. Alex Enemo, Barr. Ifeanyi Enemo, Mrs. Ifeoma Okoroma, and in second position from the left, Professor Edwin Okoroma.



M11346

HEAD OF CHAMBERS:
CHIEF KALU K. OGBA
 M.A (Dub) B.LITT. (Oxon) B.L
 of the Inner Temple, London

Our Ref.....
Your

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19/12/2017

My dear fellow Librarians,

I had no idea that kindness has the power to stun just as wickedness until you made your fabulous offer to me on Sunday, October, 22nd this year. I was truly stunned by your kind offer, so stunned that until now I was not able to draft a suitable letter of thanks to both of you.

Chinwe will tell both of you that I have been the only source of the funding for the education of my vast extended family. From my father's only brother of the full blood, the late Chief Igwe Kalu Ogba alone, I inherited forty-one children from eight different mothers. Numerous cousins of both sexes from other parents would easily bring the total of those who have been the beneficiaries of my generosity to more than eighty. Each one of them has profited from a university education in Nigeria, in Britain or in the United States. Although some of them fell by the wayside but many others have graduated and are working in one of the three continents – Africa, Europe and America – with their families.

We are now in another Christmas season. I shall be surprised to receive a greetings card from a single one of the beneficiaries of my kindness, let alone presents.

At my Abiriba hill-top residence this Christmas my extended family will visit me in droves only for food, drinks and money. Also for the settlement of never ending disputes among them. But certainly not to show any gratitude for all that I have, with God's help, been doing for them over the years.

Your magnanimous October 22nd offer therefore came as a complete shock. Once again I am very grateful and thank you with all my heart.

I believe that in the eyes of God the all important thing is the spiritual value of your offer, not necessarily the financial amount involved.

Solicitors & Advocates: CHIEF K. K. OGBA M.A (DUB): B.LITT. (OXON) B. L.; E. A. OZARA ESQ. LL.B (HONS) UNN; B.L.; U. OGWUMIKE ESQ. LL.B (HONS) (UNN) B.L, C.S. EMELE ESQ. LL.B (HONS) (IMSU) B.L

Above In 2017, K.K's in-laws surprised him by offering to place him on a monthly salary, as the eldest amongst their family. While he turned down their offer, he lamented the paucity of generosity from the multitude of relatives he had trained and done so much for, the vast majority of whom did not bother to gift him with even a pencil. On one occasion he received a used half empty bottle of perfume from a man he had trained in England as a Christmas gift. But his in-laws were very different indeed.



Above K.K in conversation with Sir. Emma Uzodike (C.P.A) (second from left) and Hajiya (Mrs.) Uzo Ibrahim (first from left) during his sister, Ada's funeral in 2016.



SIR EMMA AND PROFESSOR LADY NKIRU UZODIKE

A SHORT TRIBUTE TO OUR BROTHER-IN-LAW AND FRIEND – CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA

Aptly given the title, “Anyanwu” by his people, Chief Kalu Kalu Ogbu was indeed and in fact the light of Abiriba Kingdom and its environs.

He received his higher education at the Universities of Dublin and Oxford both of which rank amongst the most prestigious places of learning in the world.

Upon finishing his studies, he felt no desire to make the white man’s land his permanent abode but decided that returning home to impact his people with his knowledge was a non-negotiable option. This armed with his excellent degrees in Law and the humanities; he came back to Nigeria to set up practice in the oil city of Port Harcourt.

Socially and professionally, Anyanwu always stood out with his impeccable dressing amplified by his impeccable command of the English language. That he was an outstanding lawyer is an understatement as many of his past trainee lawyers bear testimony of his thoroughness and efficacy in the preparation and presentation of his cases in court.

K.K, as he was fondly called by his peers and others close to him, was amply qualified to be conferred the highest title in the legal profession, but unfortunately he existed in a society that quite often rewards mediocrity at the expense of merit. A society where corruption reigns supreme in every facet of life and honor is often given to the undeserving. However, absence of titles did not detract from his recognition as possessing one of the finest legal minds in his profession.

At one stage in his career, he suspended his lucrative practice to answer to the call to serve his country. He was appointed the Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice in the former East Central State and Old Imo state respectively. Throughout his service and its completion, he displayed unusual honesty and integrity. Here was a proud man who would rather remain poor than to embezzle public funds. What a rare breed!!!

Anyanwu was a devoted husband, a caring and loving father and a mentor to many others who had the privilege to interact with him in his lifetime. He loved, cared for and lived for his extended family, whom he almost always put first even before his own nuclear family. Unfortunately, he was never appreciated by most of them until the very end.

As a brother-in-law, he was very kind and generous, very much humble and down to earth. There was no event, funeral, marriage and other celebrations that he failed to attend in our family. He had those special communication skills that



enabled him to engage both high and low, educated and uneducated in conversations that made everyone relaxed and comfortable around him. That apart, he was so well read, learned and versatile. He could talk passionately and tirelessly for hours on end about any subject you care to raise until you begin to look for a means of escape.

Anywanwu, we mourn your passing with our sister Chinwe, our resourceful nieces and nephews Nena, Olla, Chizoba, Kalu and Igwe, your other blood relatives, the Enachioken of Abiriba, members of his cabinet of which you were one and the entire Abiriba community. The light of Abiriba dimmed by your demise but by virtue of the legacy you left behind, the light will surely brighten again at the end of the tunnel.



May God Almighty grant you peace and joy as you enter into the realm of his glorious majesty having lived a long and purposeful life. May He protect and defend your wife and children as they continue their journey on earth.

Rest in peace our dear brother and friend. We pray that we all will meet again on that resurrection day at the feet of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ, Amen.

Sir Emma & Professor Lady Nkiru Uzodike

SIR DR. OBIORA AND LADY PROFESSOR IFEOMA ENEMO

TRIBUTE TO A SPECIAL IN-LAW AND A GREAT MAN, CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA

A great man in every respect, standing tall before your equals and contemporaries

A good, contented and kind man in every way, caring for every one

A gentleman in every sense, with all humility and no pretense whatsoever

A generous man, as though he had it all to give away

A genius in more ways than one, your work speaks for you; the erudite, knowledgeable and quintessential lawyer per excellence; highly accomplished

It was just a normal phone call to Igwe your second son to inquire about your health condition; before we could finish the pleasantries, he exclaimed, "Uncle, my Daddy is gone." Apparently, someone had walked in and broken the sad news to him! That was so shocking and hurting because it never crossed our minds that the end was anywhere near you. Painful news indeed.

Chief, you were a worthy son and an influential member of the Abiriba Kingdom. You were equally an exemplary in-law of Enemo family of Nnokwa; always there for us, kind, generous, helpful, giving moral and financial support and wise counsel. Even though you were referred to as our in law, you were in truth, more than that; you were our father and friend. You shared many priceless moments together with us- happy and not so happy. We shall sorely miss you; your amiable personality and unique spirit. However, we take solace in the belief that you are resting in the bosom of the Lord. We sincerely cannot thank God enough for your fulfilled and well gratified life which is worth emulating; your great achievements, indelible impacts made, lovely family you have left behind as a great legacy, longevity, and graceful departure. Thank God for our lovely sister, Dame Chinweude Kalu Ogbag for being a great, caring and loving wife to you.

To our lovely and amiable nieces and nephews we can boldly say to you that your Daddy lived a good life. He was a great man, a perfectionist with unparalleled command of English, who cared for the wellbeing of all who came across him. Let us therefore join the rest of the world to celebrate this colossus and rare gentleman as much as he deserves. In that way, I am sure, he will be happily rested in the bosom of the Lord.

To our lovely sister, Dame Chinwe, we say ndo o. God gives and God takes; let His name be praised. Though we would wish for our loved ones to stay around forever, the reality remains that we all have a limited time on earth. God bless you abundantly for being a good and caring wife to this great man. It is well with you.

Chief, your in laws-the Enemos', Nnokwa town, the former East Central State and the Legal Profession in Nigeria and the world over shall never forget you in a hurry.

Rest on great in law, legal luminary and law legend, till we meet to part no more.



From Left Sir Dr. Obiora and Professor Lady Ifeoma Enemo with K.K and a retired judge.

Sir Dr Obiora & Lady Prof Ifeoma Enemo

BARR. IFEANYI AND UCHE ENEMO

TRIBUTE TO OUR IN-LAW AND BENEFACTOR, PAPA NENA

I have written one script after another about you Papa Nena. But each time I go through what I wrote, it becomes clear that written words can never capture in detail your quintessential and sterling qualities. You were the kind of man that

God creates once in a generation; I will never forget the unconditional love you showered on me, my wife, and my children.

A booklet will not be enough to put down what Papa Nena contributed in my life right from 1974, when I stayed in his house as a first-year Law student. Since I have concluded that I cannot find the words, I will sum up and state that he was a true, resolute, and practical Christian throughout his life on Earth. He;

- I. Restored the poor, the fainthearted, the sick, and downtrodden and gave succor to them.
- II. Laboured and toiled without seeking rest nor reward.
- III. Loved his neighbour and all others even more than himself; giving generously to all the needy.
- IV. Never rendered evil for evil throughout his stay on earth.

Blessed be the name of our God Most High for your life. I pray God to give your family the strength and means to overcome the vacuum which your absence will cause.

From Ifeanyi and Uche Enemo



Barr. Ifeanyi Enemo, first from the left with K.K., Chinwe and Mr. Alex Enemo

HAJIYA UZO KHADIJA IBRAHIM

TRIBUTE TO MY DEAR BROTHER-IN-LAW

Dear Uncle K.K,

If anyone had told me that my trip to Abiriba this year would be for anything other than your 90th birthday party, I would have looked them in the eye and laughed out loud. We were all set to come and celebrate with you, whine, dine and dance to God's goodness in your life while you would tell us old stories.

Writing this to me is bitter sweet. Bitter, because I have lost a beloved brother-in-law who by all accounts was an erudite jurist, a fountain of knowledge, a selfless human and above all, a fine gentleman. Sweet however, because your life was lived in full service to God, humanity, family and our great nation, Nigeria.

You were blessed with an incredible mastery of the English language and your love for classical music and the ability to hold captivating conversations meant that we would talk for hours on end every time we sat together. As always, you had the jokes and back stories.

You loved your job, you loved your community and you loved your wife and children immeasurably. We all loved and respected you. Our children all loved and adored you and our family will simply not be the same without you.

We will miss your warm smile and infectious laughter but we are assured that you are resting peacefully in the bosom of the Almighty. While I am comforted by the fact that our darling Jamila gets to enjoy the company of her dearest Uncle K.K above, I can assure you that we will be a crutch for your dear wife – Chinwe and your beautiful children – Nena, Olla, Chizoba, Kalu and Igwe. You were very proud of your children and I am certain that your legacies will live on through them, being the solid men and women with unshaking values that they are.



Sleep well my dearest in-law. You truly lived a good life and we know for sure that you left us a very happy and fulfilled man.

Hajiya Uzo Khadija Ibrahim

Your dear Sister-in-Law

CHINELO NGWUDO

TRIBUTE TO A RARE GEM – CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA

When a great man passes on, it is very difficult to find the right words to express one's feeling. It is still like a dream that you are no more.

Your performances, contributions and achievements towards everybody that came across you will remain indelible in one's mind. The virtues you instilled in people around you would continue to guide them.

Death is a reminder that human life is not forever; it can end at any point in time.

Chief K.K. Ogbag had so much concern for the tears of the needy and did everything within his power to put smile of the faces of the needy. He found great joy in giving and sharing his blessings. When my mother had eye problem he and his wife assisted her a lot both financially and using their car to convey her from Awka-Etiti in Anambra State to Abak in Akwa Ibom State where she was operated. What a great assistance.

Though you are gone, you will never be forgotten, your memory will ever remain green in our minds.



Sleep well, Aunty Chinelo

May God give your nice family divine consolation, protection, direction, long-life and more prosperity in Jesus name,
Amen.

May your gentle soul rest in the bosom of our Lord.

Adieu Papa Nena

Adieu our great in-law

Chinelo Ngwudo (JP)

DR. CHRIS AND MARTHA UZODIKE

TRIBUTE TO MY UNCLE CHIEF K.K. OGBA

It was with great sadness that I received the news of uncles death. I did not realize that the end was that close even though I was aware of his illness. What a sad and painful loss.

I have known uncle since I was a child and I remember how calm and soft spoken he was. He made us all so relaxed around him. The few times I spent with him, was one full of laughs and lots of teasing.

Uncle spoke with a great command of the English language and had a passion for classical music. He always emphasized and encouraged us to read different types of books so as to enrich our knowledge. He also had a great sense of humour and i wont forget his whistling while at the gents.

He will be missed dearly and may his gentle soul rest in eternal peace.

Martha, Chris and the kids.



RAKIYA IBRAHIM

Uncle KK Ka

Ka- was our greeting! the simple greeting that started my Abriba journey, how time flies...

Where do I start? So many memories, the good, the bad and the ugly. The bad and ugly in terms of the carnage the teenage us carried out. We were not bad but fearless and curious with fine taste. You were one of the few people that did not automatically assume I was guilty before charged. I'm sure you figured out I was the main protagonist when it came to scheming our next adventure. I think you were a rebel in the closet which is why you generally turned a blind eye at our escapades. That spirit of adventure is still very much alive in me today.

I remember our first and only disagreement was around how short my skirts and shorts were, constantly watching and making noise on the MTV channel. You feeling embarrassed that we (I) in particular would go into your chambers in work hours dressed inappropriately. Unfortunately for you, my biggest fan mama (my beloved grandma) was my solicitor for the case, needless to say, I won my case..... so, the super short skirts and shorts continued until I grew out of them. As for the music, I managed to get you to watch a few of the videos to your utmost horror..

I remember the year you made me read the book the power of positive thinking, I have gifted a number of people that book as an adult. I bought one this year 2020 didn't get to read it as I gifted it to my cleaning lady who I thought would benefit from reading it.

I have fond memories of holidays home and away and our long chats. I managed to escape giving you foot massages as you met your match for talking..

As I sign off, you will be pleased to know that I still understand Abriba, can't speak anymore.

RIP my uncle

Lots of love

Rakiya



SANI IBRAHIM

Uncle KK as fondly called by all was a man of not many words but left you pondering on the few words he dishes out to you. Every conversation we ever had was a learning point in my life, where he served me with statements that have stuck.

Growing up, one of the highlights of the year was traveling down to Abriba for the Christmas celebrations with my cousins and especially looking forward to those tough conversations that I will be subject to. The most interesting part of the holiday for me was watching him transform from giving me pep talks articulately in the queens English, to being that traditionally grounded man speaking in the deepest of dialects where I could not pick out anything he said. I recall him

asking me one morning why I always watch in amazement when he speaks his Abribia dialect, and I said its because I wanted to try to pick out what he was saying. He then said so what have I learnt so far, I said so far its “uncle Ka” and with a smile he said “great that’s a good start”. Afterall all my cousins say “Daddy Ka”

As a young man you always wanted the easy way out of everything, but Uncle KK always gave you the right way out not the easy way out.

Uncle KK is who exactly what we used to know lawyers to be. Deep thinking, fair and a teacher to all. He let me know that wealth is not what you see in the bank but your ability to satisfy everything you set out to achieve. When I first visited the hill top mansion, I was wowing myself out, when he said in his usual few words, “this is just years and years of planning”

These are a few of many things I can say about uncle KK, but I have held on to his words of wisdom and also in my own way have tried to be one of few words too.



BARR. EMEKA OKOROMA

You walked with such Elegance. You spoke with the utmost Eloquence. You dressed so Impeccably, it was almost regal.

There was nothing about you I did not admire. You were the personification of what it meant to be referred to as a ‘learned gentleman’. These attributes of yours undoubtedly influenced me in making my career decision and for that I remain eternally grateful.

Even though your demise is a difficult one to accept, I am thankful for the life you spent and the strides you made while here. You were a giant amongst men and will be incredibly missed by those that knew and loved you.

May God almighty comfort those you left behind; your lovely wife, wonderful children and entire family.

Adieu Dear Uncle. May your gentle soul Rest In Peace.

Emeka Okoroma, Nephew



OKECHUKWU OKOROMA

In a year where the world seems to be falling apart, the news of your passing was met with shock and disbelief and further added to the untold sadness that has become synonymous with this dreadful year 2020.

Uncle Kalu it was a privilege to have known you. Anyone that ever came across you or even spoke with you, knew they were in the presence of greatness. Whenever we would visit your family home in Owerri, it was always a highlight to visit you in your office and just listen to you speak.

Your achievements, both in your professional and personal lives are things to aspire for. Indeed you left an indelible mark in this world.

You may be gone physically but the memories we have of you will live forever in our hearts. I know without a shadow of a doubt, that you are in a better place.

Rest on dear Uncle. You will be greatly missed.

Okey Okoroma (Nephew)



DR. IJEOMA OKONKWO

Uncle KK,

I choose to celebrate you. Dignified man, Intelligent man , Inimitable, Full Of life, Eloquent!

Thank you for your kindness, for your hospitality, for letting us stay at your home while boarding in Secondary school. I will always be grateful, there was never a moment I felt out of place, it felt like home, I felt welcomed all the time. You just had the ability to make a person feel at ease, you exuded warmth, you made people feel like they were important.

Thank you for your generosity, thank you for your thoughtfulness.

Thank you for sitting with me in the living room while I flipped channels on the TV, you showed genuine interest in whatever it was I was watching. One day, I tuned into WWE , you listened intently as I explained why I liked the Undertaker and Ultimate Warrior. I don't know how you managed to keep a straight face and nod like I was discussing something important.



That was one of your gifts, no discussion felt stupid.

I remember how you often got me to read pages of a book out to you, and encouraged me to sound out my consonants, Uncle, you really tried.

The world will miss a great personality, a hardworking man, a father, a giant in his profession.

Your Spirit lives on and you will always be fondly remembered.

May the Almighty keep you safe and in perfect Peace.

Rest in Power Sir.

BARR. UJU ENEMO

I had difficulty writing this Tribute because my mind just wouldn't accept my present reality. Uncle KK....,the one man in my life that gave the word "Uncle" a deeper meaning GONEEEEEEE!!!! "sighs".

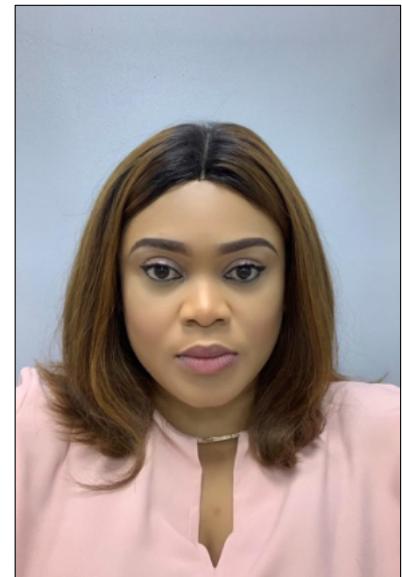
Uncle, you embraced I and my sisters (the Feddy Owerri crew) as your own. Your home was home to us, 'Owerri and Abiriba' alike. Coming to your home was our favorite past time as kids. Who wouldn't want to visit a generous and engaging Uncle like you, knowing that you must go back home smiling.

I worked so hard to get my Law Degree because I knew I had a favorite genius "Learned Senior Colleague Uncle" that would be super proud of my accomplishments. I idolised you my dear Uncle KK. To me, you were and will forever be a lifetime and beyond.

Because words and thoughts were created to conceal truth, they are not potent enough to express my real and true emotions. Because Death means something different to me, I refuse to reduce memories of you to mere INK on paper. That will be acknowledging that you are no more and saying my goodbyes.

However, I choose to live and trudge on, knowing that you are still here with us in spirit.

Always and Forever Uncle KK. Rest Well.



DR. CHINWE ESORO (NÉE ENEMO)

Uncle KK!

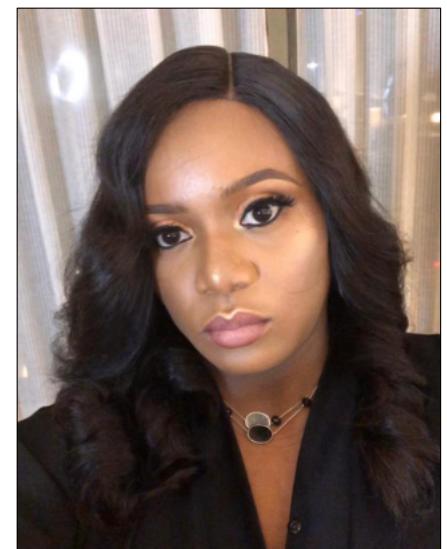
A legend! A great man! I celebrate you uncle because you lived a life that was full of Joy, content and happiness. Anytime I think about you I remember how humorous, intelligent and humble you were. I remember the invaluable wisdom and the stories you shared with me. Listening to you tell stories of your life journey was truly a tremendous time of blessing, one which cannot be forgotten. Your stories and words of advice hugely shaped my view on life and my career. Your courage, drive and sense of humour is something we will always carry with us.

I remember my secondary school days in FGGC Owerri and how you and Aunty Chinwe always made me feel at home anytime I visited (announced or unannounced). I considered myself very lucky to have gracious and kind people that cared so much. I was always looking forward to visiting because I learnt new words from you, you were so eloquent, and I constantly listened to you with great admiration.

Uncle KK your name and legacy has been carved in our hearts and etched in our minds. You are gone but never forgotten.

Rest Well Uncle, Rest well.

Dr Chinwe Esoro (Nee Enemo)



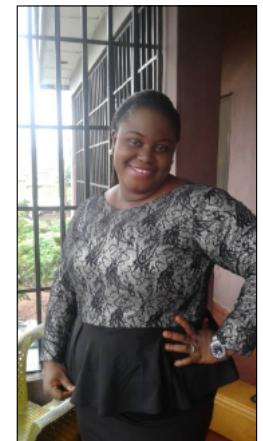
BARR. (MRS) OGECHI CHINEZE NWANKWO (NÉE ENEMO) AND SIBLINGS

I write this tribute on behalf of my siblings of Barr & Barr Mrs Ifeanyi Enemo Family to convey our heartfelt condolences to our dear Aunt and Cousins on the death of their father and Patron, Chief K.K Ogbag.

I remember vividly when we were little how Uncle K.K would always visit us at our home whenever he was handling a case at Onitsha. I remember clearly that he was such a loving man with broad smiles and always gave us monetary gifts.

I remember that his kind disposition continued into our adulthood on occasions when I visited his hometown, Abiriba on some festive occasions. His lovely smile and kind nature will calm a storm.

His death came as a shock to my siblings and I because we never heard he was gravely ill. We thank

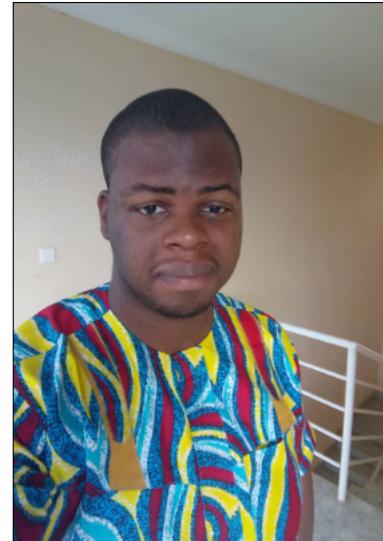


God for his long and eventful life. He will be greatly missed by all. We pray the Lord grants his soul eternal rest.

Adieu Uncle K.K

God loves you more.

Barr. Mrs Ogechi Chineze Nwankwo (Nee Enemo)



OBIAMAKA ENEMO

It is with deepest sorrow and sadness that I write this tribute to my dear uncle. You were a great uncle ;humble ,kind hearted ,gentle,loving ,generous , caring and soft spoken .

I remember like yesterday how you would light up my mood Everytime we spoke on the phone and Everytime I saw you .

I remember when I said you were the most handsome uncle,I meant it and I still mean it till this day .

While I mourn,I also take comfort in the fact that you are in a better place and I would forever cherish every single moment I spent with you.I miss you uncle.



You would always have a special spot in my heart my “handsome”uncle. Farewell uncle KK,until we meet again.

Your niece, Obiamaka

THE FAMILY OF LATE SIR (CHIEF) JOHNSON I. IGWE (IDE-AWKA ETITI)

TRIBUTE IN HONOUR OF OUR IN-LAW AND LONG-TIME FAMILY FRIEND

The family of Late Chief Sir J.O. Igwe (Ide Awka-Etiti) wishes to commiserate with our sister, Dame Chinwe Kalu Ogba, on the death of her husband, Chief K. K. Ogba (Anyanwu Abiriba). The news of his death came as a surprise because he did not show any signs of weakness or illness when he came for our father's burial, nor did we hear of any sickness to warrant his demise.

Our late father had been his long time friend from the point they met immediately after the Civil war in Lagos, when Igbos were recovering from the brutal effects of the war.

Our Father informed us that the plot of land where we live now in Lekki was made available to him through one of Chief K. K. Ogba's friends. Fate had it that he married our sister and cousin which blossomed that friendship.

He was an erudite lawyer and fine gentleman. We pray that God accepts his soul into eternal repose, and give his children the strength to overcome his absence.



Chief IK I Igwe (Ide-Omeluora) for the family.



Left K.K's uncle Igwo, widely known among the Abiriba people as Ete Igwo. Ete is a honorific similar to Sir or Master. He suffered greatly under a harsh apprenticeship at Uzuakoli. But after K.K's father attained a measure of wealth, he was able to terminate his younger brother's apprenticeship and send him to the Duke Town School in Calabar. Even though he was an older student, he breezed through the Standard Six curriculum, not failing a single class. In those days, a Standard Six degree was no joke so this was quite an achievement. James Kalu Ogba not only paid for his education as he was his only brother of full blood, but he also paid for the education of all of his half-brothers as well, showing great benevolence to the rest of the family. Igwo was later made his apprentice, helping his older brother to run his vast and successful business. Igwo was renamed as Igwo Kalu Ogba instead of Igwo Kalu, following the then Abiriba custom of renaming an apprentice trader after his master rather than his father.

James would die following a visit to a then unwell Ete Igwo, after which Ete would inherit his vast wealth. As a result of his business acumen, discipline, thrift and integrity, the family business would continue to thrive. Ete Igwo was so honest that Abiriba traders would give him full deposits for future consignments of stockfish, trusting him completely to honour their agreement. This was unheard of at the time.

In 1947, Ete Igwo became the first African to ever purchase a brand new motor car for his personal use. He bought a long, sleek, ash coloured Ford Limousine which the locals of Calabar had never seen before. They would all yell "OYOYO" (meaning magnificent) every time he cruised by them in it. Throughout his life, he would continue to own American limousines of different makes, changing each of them every two years regardless of how new they still looked.

He was a great philanthropist of education, donating the then massive sum of 400 pounds sterling for the construction of the Enuda High School in Abiriba. He also donated more than anyone else to the ACIU overseas scholarship fund.

He was also the first Abiriba man to have shaken hands with a reigning sovereign of the British Empire when he was invited, in 1956, to meet with the Queen of England in Enugu.



Bottom Right Built in 1954, this magnificent edifice was owned by K.K's late uncle, Ete Igwo. It was built on land that was originally owned by K.K's father, James Kalu Ogba. During the Annual General Meeting of the Igbo State union in 1960, Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe, upon seeing this house described Abiriba as the "Small London" of the East.

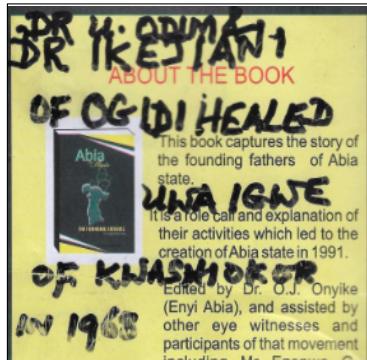
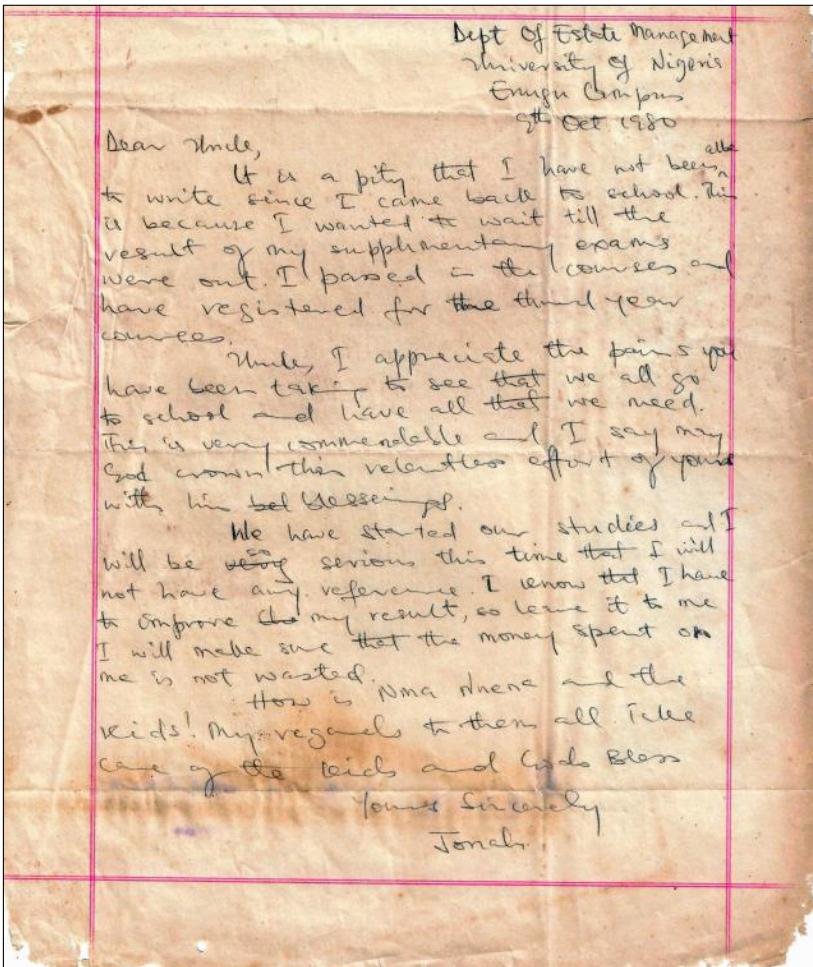
It was the first house in Abiriba history to have been built with cement blocks, which were wildly expensive in those days. It was also the first Abiriba house to have electric lights, which were powered by a diesel generator. It is 52 feet high with each of the first three floors being 15 feet high. Although the houses of many famous men who lived in the time of Ete Igwo have all fallen into disrepair and ruin, this house remains standing as a result of K.K's generous funding over the years to keep it upright.



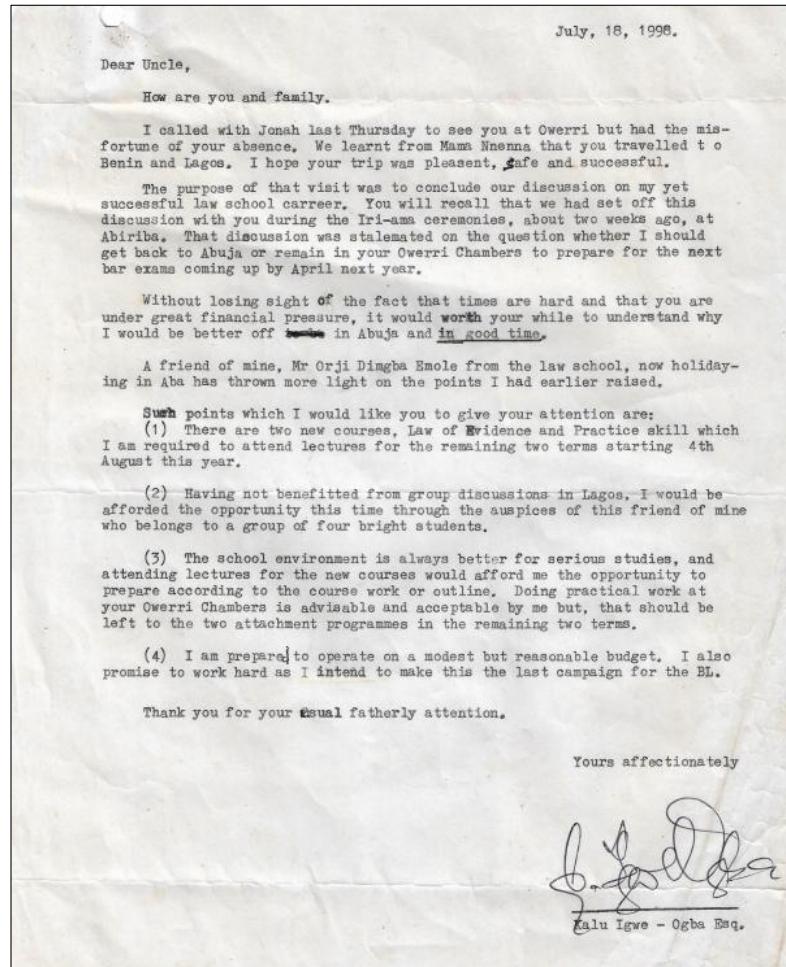
Above K.K at the funeral for his Uncle Ete Igwo. K.K had saved his life earlier in the conflict by arranging for his flight from Calabar, alongside his numerous wives, concubines and children to the relatively safety of Abiriba. Following the end of the Nigerian Civil War, Ete Igwo's business was mostly decimated. It had not done any trading during the war as a result of the blockade and by the end of it, every Igbo citizen, regardless of their wealth and status was given the insulting sum of 20 pounds to carry on with their lives. In addition to this, huge swathes of Ete Igwo's properties in Calabar and Port Harcourt were seized by the Federal Government and declared to be abandoned. As Ete was getting on in years by this time and no longer had the same virility as he did in his youth, he was unable to quickly rebuild his business. He delegated many business activities to his close relatives but they would end up stealing him blind. In desperation, he asked K.K to open an account into which all proceeds of the business would flow into, ensuring that the business would begin growing again. K.K did not want to be involved in the family business as he already had a successful career by the end of the war, becoming Chairman of the marketing board and rising to the position of Attorney-General by the time of Ete's death in 1976. But he chose to help out his great uncle in any way that he could. The very first car K.K bought, a peugeot 503 from Chika Brothers was for his uncle. He also placed his wives on a salary while Ete was still alive, even though they had all maltreated him in his youth. Ete's children, and they were many, would all come to stay with him for long holidays before and after the civil war, and they would leave with expensive toys and new clothes at the end of their stay. Following an examination cheating scandal involving two of his sons, and leading to the cancellation of the WAEC results of the entire Abiriba WAEC population, Ete Igwo would fall gravely ill from shame. He would never recover. His dying words, to his numerous wives, concubines, children and relatives was "Peace, Peace, I want you all to live in peace". It was to be anything but.



Bottom Left and Right K.K paid for the entirety of Ete Igwo's lavish funeral. It was his way of giving back to the man who had done the honourable thing by paying for his education after his father's death. He never took this for granted. It was the first funeral with a police band. The casket was a beautiful mahogany brass coffin fit for a King of England. It was carried through Amaogudu and Orieakwa to St. Peters Presbyterian church for the funeral.



Above Right In a scribbled note, K.K recalls paying to treat one of Ete's children of Kwashiokor during the civil war. His own father had recommended that he be allowed to die, calling him dangerous and warning K.K that he would make him suffer for his generosity in the future. The boy's name was Uwa Igwe, but many people in Abiriba preferred to call him "Ugha Igwe" (Igwe the liar) or Ugha-Tex as a result of his alleged dishonesty. K.K would in his kind-heartedness pay for the treatment and would even set up the boy in business. But a leopard cannot change its spots and Ete would be proven right, following numerous betrayals by Mr. Igwe.



Above Left A letter of gratitude from one of the children who lived in Ete Igwo's compound dated from October 1980. K.K.'s uncle had willed what remained of his once enormous fortune to him and Dr. Oji as no one else could be trusted to not drink, gamble and fornicate away what little had remained of it following the civil war. Ete had only asked that the first child of each wife be educated and that each wife be given a monthly stipend, but K.K went above and beyond this. Following Ete's death, he paid for the education, weddings, funerals, hospital bills, court and police cases, birthdays and every other financial measure for his uncle's numerous wives, concubines, children, step-children, relatives far and near and hangers on, easily numbering over a hundred people. He also set each and everyone of them up in business. It was a massive burden but he would do it without complaining.

Above Right Dated July 1998, this letter shows that K.K was still providing financial help to Ete's children, 18 years after the first letter from Mr. Jonah. In this letter, an overgrown schoolboy thanks K.K for his "usual fatherly attention". K.K would send three of Ete's children abroad for studies where each would spend at least eight years in study. He bought two cars for his first son. He would also provide funds to send another one, Nnanna to the United States where he resides today. The overwhelming majority of them have never bought K.K even a single handkerchief in gratitude. They have also failed to live up to the family name. It is sad to observe today that among the children of Ete, there are too many who have made little attempt to rise to the eminence of their father in hard work, integrity and worldly achievement.

PART

VII

RETURN TO PRIVATE LIFE

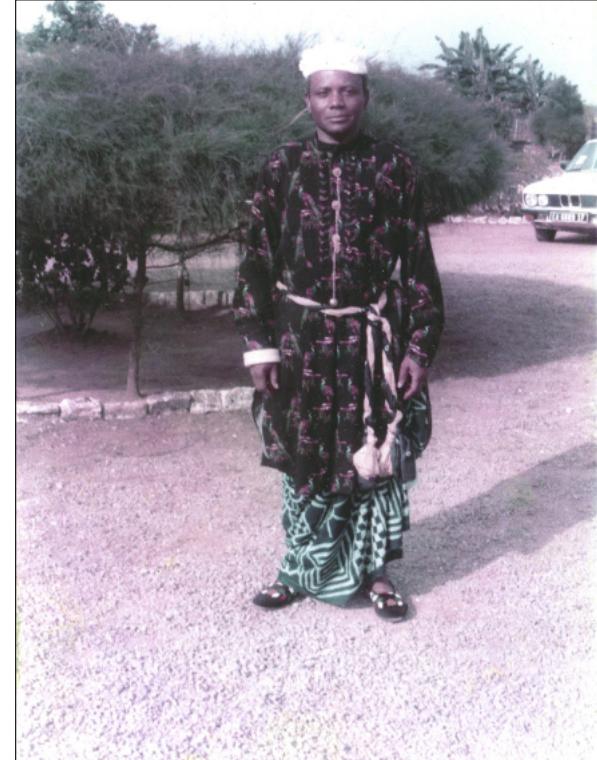
After leaving public office, K.K abandoned the hustle and bustle of city life to relocate to the then sleepy town of Akwakuma. He did this because he wanted as much living space as possible, and this would have been difficult to achieve in the relatively compact neighbourhood of Aladinma, or in the more expensive and high brow area of Ikenegbu.

In those days, Akwukuma was considered to be on the edge of nowhere. It was mostly forest and had only one storey building, which belonged to its king, His Royal Highness Eze Dr. Onu Egwunwoke.

Eze Onu Egwunwoke had been a close friend of K.K's since his student days at Oxford. They had first met when the future king was undergoing a top management course in the United Kingdom, which was sponsored by the Nigerian Tobacco Company (N.T.C). Upon K.K's return to Nigeria, he would in 1963, become the first company lawyer of the Nigerian Tobacco Company's Port Harcourt branch, while Eze Onu Egwunwoke worked there as the company's Personnel Manager.

The king sold K.K a reasonable and fertile expanse of land where his only neighbour was a Unipetrol fuel station with one pump. K.K then set about building his new country home, which was designed by the architectural firm, Rob Moh and partners. It had five bedrooms, two living rooms and an active cocktail bar for friends and family. His wife, Chinwe, focused her energies on planting a wide variety of exotic fruits and vegetables on their new land. To this day there are highly productive mango, cherry, orange, grapefruit, jackfruit, avocado and coconut trees on the property. There was no fence and there were no robberies or trespassers. This was because, unlike some other communities which we shall decline to name here, the people of Akwakuma greatly respected private property. They would over the years show great love and kindness to K.K and his family, and this would be reciprocated by them.

On the 3rd of January, 1979, Eze Onu Egwunwoke was greatly honoured by his selection and installation as the Ezeoha I of Ihitteoha. This was as a result of the Chieftaincy Edict of 1978, which resulted in the merging of Akwakuma with eleven other towns to create the Ihitteoha autonomous community. Following this, K.K would be honored by his close friend, Eze Onu Egwunwoke, who appointed him as one of the first set of chiefs in the new community. Over the years he would play a very active role in Ihitteoha, always available and always ready to aid in peace and development efforts in his newly adopted home.



K.K wearing traditional garb in front of his Akwakuma compound in 1983. He was on his way to his installation as the first chief in modern Abiriba history.

Overleaf: Installation of K.K as Ezeoha I of Ihitteoha, 1979.

In 1980, K.K became a leading member of the Abia State Movement. This was a group led by the late Dr. Michael Okpara, who had a dream to found a new state which would become a reference point in Nigeria. There were 255 members in the Abia State Movement. K.K served as one of three National Legal Advisers in the groups' 22-man Central Executive Committee. The movement achieved its goal, eleven years later, with the new state of Abia being created in August, 1991 by the then President and Commander in Chief of the Nigerian Armed Forces, President Ibrahim Badamosi Babangida. K.K is therefore rightly credited as one of the founding fathers of Abia State.

He re-established his law chambers on his Akwakuma property, right next to his country home. It was a law firm of general practitioners, undertaking all kinds of legal cases with the exception of divorce. There was no signboard and there was no advertising whatsoever. But even though he had not been in practice for over a decade, he had little to no difficulty in attracting clients. While Owerri was not considered to be one of Nigeria's top tier cities, the clients came in droves, from across Nigeria and beyond, and they did not stop coming until the end.

A large number of his blue chip clients came through a friendship he had made during his university days at Trinity College, Dublin. Soon after the end of the civil war, K.K had attempted to return to his ancestral background as a trader, by investing heavily in a large quantity of biro pens from China. He was largely unsuccessful in this endeavor as the pens were unknown to the average consumer, and proved difficult to sell. However, while shopping in Leventis Stores on a trip to Lagos, he suddenly heard someone call out his name excitedly. That someone would turn out to be Mr. Andrew Alkiviades David, who, along with his older brother Bambos, had been his former housemate at Trinity College, Dublin. Catching up after a long conversation, K.K then explained to Mr. David that he was attempting to sell pens from China in order to help recover his finances following the civil war. Mr. David immediately offered to market his pens at the Leventis Stores in Lagos, and he quickly sold a very large number of them.

Not long after this act of kindness, K.K would repay Mr. David in dramatic fashion. Mr. David's Leventis Group had been awarded the sole rights to market and manufacture Coca-Cola products in Nigeria. They soon formed a company which they named the Nigerian Bottling Company. But they needed large tracts of land in order to host their factories and offices throughout Nigeria. Using contacts and connections he had made during his time in government, K.K would help to secure over 50 acres of land in Ikeja and an equally large area in Imo state for the Nigerian Bottling Company. When Mr. David and the Leventis Group made an attempt to pay him for his efforts, he declined, leading Mr. David to state that if only there were three people like him in the federal government, Nigeria would become a great country. He had done his patriotic duty, by helping to ensure a smooth entry for a group of foreign investors, who over the years would provide thousands upon thousands of jobs to the Nigerian people.



The Abia State Movement was set up in 1980 by Dr. M. I. Okpara. His dream was to create a state which would serve as a reference point in Nigeria. The group had 255 members with K.K serving as National Legal Adviser in its 22-man Central Executive Committee. Abia would be created, with heavy northern support, in August 1991 by the then Nigerian Head of State, General Ibrahim Badamosi Babangida.

Following this, he was made the company lawyer for the Leventis Group in the Lagos zone and the entirety of the Eastern Region.

In 1982, the state owned Eastern Breweries Company would be bought out by the Leventis Group and renamed as Consolidated Breweries Plc. This was a very wise investment on their part as in those days, one of the quickest ways to make a fortune in Nigeria was to become a manufacturer or a distributor of beer. The appetite of Nigerians for beer, stout and ale was insatiable, and the existing breweries simply could not meet up with demand. Consolidated Breweries Plc. would end up becoming a highly successful company, famous for its 33 Extra Larger, Hi-Malt, Maltex Malt, Williams Dark Ale and Turbo King Dark Ale beverages. Through the hidden hand of Mr. David and his brother Bambos, K.K was made a director in the company. He remained in that position until Consolidated Breweries Plc. was bought out by the much larger entity of Nigerian Breweries Plc, which was in turn owned by the much larger Heineken group.

K.K also served as the company's lawyer, representing Consolidated Breweries Plc. in the Lagos and Eastern zones of Nigeria. In a highly successful career, he would win a diverse array of cases involving food poisoning, community disputes, land disputes, taxation, accidents, manslaughter, employee relations and a host of others. He would repeat the same feat as the company lawyer for the Nigerian Bottling Company.

All in all, in service to the Leventis Group, he would serve as a company director for Leventis Motors Ltd, Consolidated Breweries Plc and the Victoria Beach/ Mainland Hotel Group. As a company lawyer for the group, he would successfully represent the Nigerian Bottling Company Plc, Consolidated Breweries Plc, Leventis Motors Ltd and the Leventis Group as a whole for nearly four decades.

In March of 1983, he was appointed as the company lawyer for Ashland Oil Nigeria Company Unlimited. It was a subsidiary of the American oil firm, Ashland Corporation, and it was also the fourth largest oil company in Nigeria at the time. In February of 1983, the Managing Director of Ashland Oil sought K.K out in Owerri on the recommendation of a man whose identity he refused to disclose. He was then contracted to become the sole legal representative of the company for the former Eastern Region of Nigeria, where the bulk of the company's activities were located.

In 1983, K.K successfully defended Ashland Oil at a Commission of Inquiry at which it was accused of burying toxic materials in its Izombe premises. He served the company from 1983 to 1998, winning every single one of their court cases so comprehensively that the plaintiffs did not bother to appeal any of the judgments against them. At the end of his tenure with Ashland Oil, the



K.K.'s close friend and former university house mate, Mr. Andrew David would help him gain a large number of retainers and directorships starting from the 1980's. K.K was held in very high esteem by the Leventis family.



K.K inspects Izombe oil fields with a senior staff of Ashland Oil in the 1980's. Ashland Oil would later be bought out twice and is now known as Addax-Sinopec. K.K did not lose a single court case for the group in over 30 years of service.

Managing Director, Mr. Voltaire, handed K.K a golden handshake of 500,000 naira, describing him as the only gentleman he had met in his five years of service in Nigeria.

After Ashland Oil was acquired by the Addax Oil Company of Geneva in 1998, he would retain his position as Legal Counsel, again winning every single one of their court cases so comprehensively that the plaintiffs did not bother to appeal any of the judgments against them. He would also successfully represent Addax at the Amadi-Obi Comission of Inquiry.

With the acquisition, in 2008, of Addax Nigeria by the Chinese oil consortium Cinopec, he would again retain his position as Legal Counsel and would once again win every single one of their court cases so comprehensively that the plaintiffs did not bother to appeal any of the judgments against them.

This meant that for over thirty years, K.K represented one of Nigeria's largest oil firms in court cases involving everything from oil spills, heat-flare damage, erosion etc, without losing a single case. An astonishing record indeed.

During his return to private practice, K.K also became the company lawyer for the NAL Merchant Banking Group. This company had originally been incorporated as long ago as 1960, when it was known as Nigerian Acceptances Limited. In a highly successful career, he would be retained as the company lawyer until 2006, when the company was merged with four other banks to create Sterling Bank Plc.

But K.K's law firm was not only famous for it's work with wealthy clients. During his years of legal practice in Owerri, he would come to be known by some as the "People's Lawyer". He took up a large number of cases from clients who simply could not afford to pay his fees. Some of these clients would offer bizarre collateral such as yams, oranges and even slave labour, but K.K would instead strike off their debts.

In spite of their penury, he offered them the same level of service and professionalism that his much wealthier clients received. He ran an open office, with the high and mighty mingling with the poor and the destitute. Everyone was offered food and drink, and everyone was treated fairly and politely.

In July of 1983, the then Enachioken of Abiriba, His Royal Highness Eze U. U. Ukiwo the Second, announced to the Abiriba people at the ITU-EYE ceremony of that year, that in order to compete on an equal footing with other communities, he and the other two Kings of Abiriba had decided to introduce the chieftaincy title to the Kingdom. K.K would be greatly honored by his paramount monarch, who announced his name as the very first Chief in Abiriba history, followed by three other Abiriba men namely, Chief Kalu Kalu Onuma, Chief John Okam and Chief Anagh

Ezikpe. Up until that point, no Abiriba man had ever been legally addressed as a Chief. This was in recognition of K.K's contributions to Abiriba during his time in government and the numerous land cases, particularly the Oroni case, which he had won for the Abiriba people.

In December of 1983, General Muhammadu Buhari would launch a military coup, overthrowing the democratically elected government of President Shehu Shagari. The alleged aim of the coup was to combat corruption, which had spiraled out of control under civilian rule. In aid of the Buhari governments' anti-corruption crusade, the Justice Nnana Wachukwu Commission of Inquiry was set up to probe all those who were alleged to have defrauded the Local, State and Federal Government of their assets.

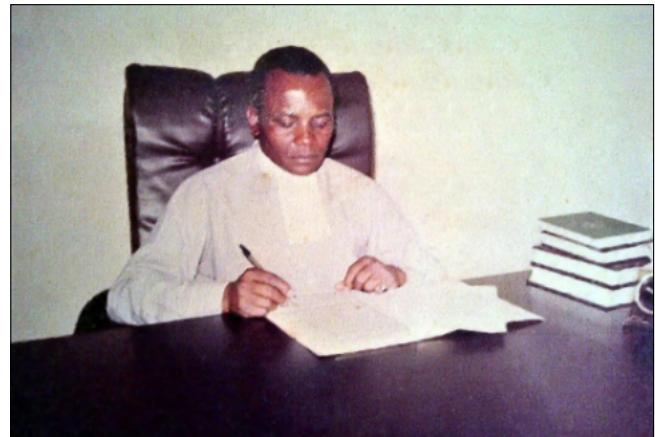
K.K would represent eleven clients at this commission, including the late Dr. Cajetan Duruji, the German firm Dr. Eng. Trapp of Wessel, Copro S.A of Switzerland, NAL Merchant Bank and Dr. Enoch Anyanwu, the Secretary to the Imo State Government. The overwhelming majority of the defendants at this notorious Commission were sent to jail after being subjected to nasty insults and savage abuses. Clearly, the presumption of innocence before guilt had not yet taken root in the Nigeria of the time. But in a show of his legal prowess, K.K would successfully defend every single one of his clients. They were all cleared of wrong doing, saving them vast sums of money and sparing them jail time. In gratitude for saving an employee of theirs, who had made three unsuccessful attempts on his own life in Nigeria's squalid prisons, Dr. Eng. Trapp of Wessel, West Germany gave K.K a Swiss made Omega watch. It was worth an arm and a leg, and it would remain one of his most prized possessions until the end of his life.

In 1984, K.K was approached by Major General Ike O. S. Nwachukwu (then a Brigadier) to once again become the Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice for Imo State. He declined this offer, recommending instead the highly qualified Dr. E. E. J. Okerere, who was awarded the position.

In 1985, he declined an offer to be made the Chairman of the Niger Cement Company at Nkalagu. This was because he had already bought land to build his country home in Abiriba and did not want to be accused of using cement from the factory to complete its construction.

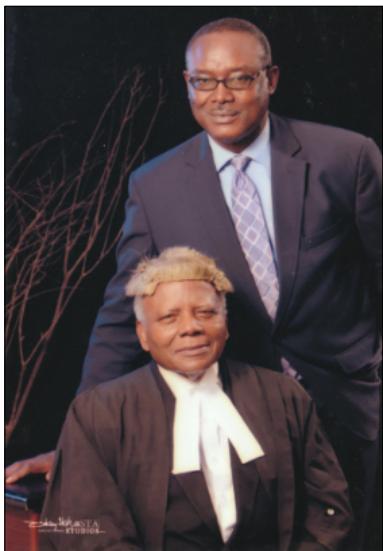
Regardless, he continued to have success in the business world. In 1986, he was appointed a director of Geosite Surveys Limited, an oil surveying and prospecting company based in Port Harcourt. He was also made the Chairman of the Nigerian Yeast and Alcohol Company in Bacita, Kwara State by the General Ibrahim Babaginda administration.

Another traditional title soon followed with a chieftaincy being awarded to him by the revered "Igwe" of Orlu, His Royal Highness, Eze Acholonu, capping quite a triumphant return to private life ■



K.K hard at work at his Owerri chambers in the early 1980's. He had a habit of writing and re-writing his briefs, over and over again to achieve the desired effect.

PHOTOS OF K.K'S FORMER JUNIORS AND AFFILIATED LAWYERS



Far Left K.K poses with Barrister Chukwuemeka Ibeaziako at a studio shoot in Owerri in 2017.

Opposite K.K served as Chairman of the Occasion at Barr. Robert Nnana Kalu's wedding. Here he is seen with the celebrants and his close friends, Chief Uba and Mrs. Kalaria Obasi.



Far Left K.K served as chairman at one of the weddings of his former junior, Barr. Chudi Nwokorie, who later became a judge.

Opposite K.K in the centre, alongside his former junior Barr. Ogwumike (first from the left), and some junior lawyers at the Owerri courthouse.



Left K.K alongside his wife Chinwe, Barr. Chukwuemeka Ibeaziako and the late Barr. Ejindu Ozara, his longest serving junior, at the funeral of his close friend and former Attorney-General of the Federation, Chike Ofori (SAN OFR.) in 2014.

BARR. OBIORA OBIANWU ESQ., SAN**CHAMBERS OF OBIANWU OBIORA ESQ., SAN**

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Phone: 08037239427, 08107076530

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24th October, 2020.

KALU K.K. OGBA
FAMILY OF CHIEF K.K. OGBA
 130 Orlu Road,
 Owerri.

Dear Sir,

I received the sad news of the transition to the great beyond of **CHIEF K.K. OGBA** with considerable consternation because I had been to see him in Owerri in the company of my learned brother Silk F.C. Offodile Esq., SAN, just a few months before he passed on. My shock was borne out by the fact that he did not exhibit any signs of any debilitating ailment which was capable of swiftly terminating his sojourn on earth. I kept in touch with him via the telephone and had no inkling of what lay ahead

But then the good Book makes it clear that;

*"To everything
 There is a season and a time
 To every purpose under the heaven;
 A time to be born, and a time to die;
 A time to pluck up that which is planted,
 A time to weep, and a time to laugh;
 A time to mourn, and a time to dance."*

*Authorised Version Bible
 Ecclesiastes 3 v 1,2,4.*

This is a time to dance in celebration of the life and times of this legal colossus, suave, debonair, the quintessential gentleman. Born into affluence, having received the best of British education and through hard work and integrity, achieved considerable success in the profession of law, he remained humble and humane, never exhibiting any of the regrettable excesses of your average Nigerian "big man". Their vulgarity and opulence which are really a reflection of their deep seated short

comings were an anathema to him. He chose to live a simple life. The loss is immense but his legacy remains.

His dear wife **DAME CHINWE KALU OGBA**, children – **NNENNA, OLA, CHIZOBA, KALU** and **IGWO**, his extended family, the Abiriba Community, ought to walk with their shoulders held high for he really was no ordinary man. To you and all his friends and well wishers all over, I would remind you of **DON BLANDING'S "A JOURNEY ENDS"**

*"I have seen death too often to
 Believe in death.
 It is not an ending –
 But a withdrawal –
 As one who finishes
 A long journey.
 Stills the motor,
 turns off the light.
 Steps from his car
 And walks up the path,
 To the home that awaits him."*

And so be it with **CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA, ANYANWU OF ABIRIBA**
 (1930 – 2020)

Yours Faithfully

O. A. OBIANWU ESQ., SAN

MICHAEL E. ELLAH ESQ.3rd December 2020**CHIEF KALU KALU . OGBA THE GREAT AS I KNEW HIM.**

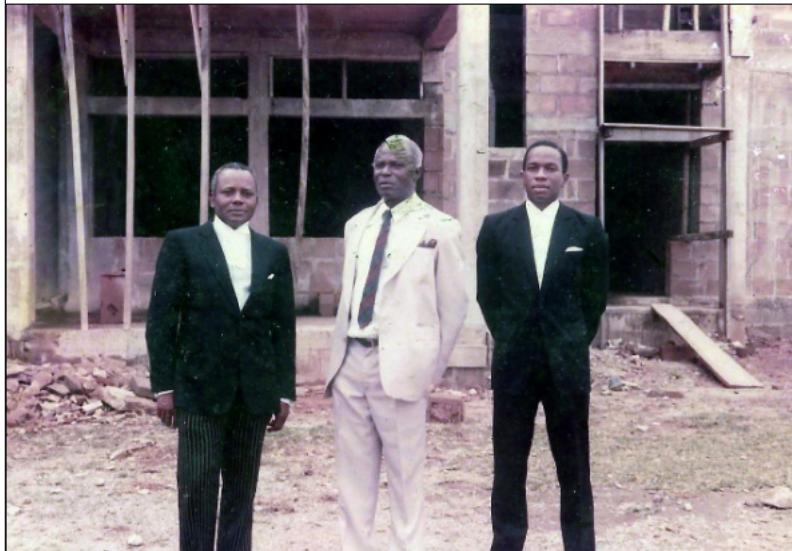
Chief Kalu Ogba and my father Francis Ellah were friends to the extent that they shared a house in Biafra. Naturally upon my having been called to the Bar in 1984 I became a junior lawyer working with Chief Kalu Ogba in his Chambers in Owerri in 1985

There were three of us, Dr. Emmanuel Duru, Chudi Nwokorie Esq. (who later became a Judge) and myself. Chief brought us into legal practice teaching us efficiency, hard work and patience, Honesty and cross examination (which was his specialty).

He was a wonderful man well educated at the best Universities in the world; Trinity College Dublin and Oxford University; he was a great lawyer and a good family man, a gentle man full of kindness and a colossus in his time, Rest In Peace Chief Kalu Ogba.

We will all miss you, you where a great son of Abiriba.

Michael E. Ellah Esq.



Barr. Michael Ellah is the son of one of the Ogba family's closest family friends, the late Sir. Frank Ellah. Here, a young Michael, first from the right, is seen in front of K.K's then uncompleted Abiriba home possibly around 1985.

BARR. ROBERT NNANA KALU ESQ. AND FAMILY**ROBERT NNANA KALU, ESQ**

ADDRESS: No. 46-48 Okpu-Umobo Road Telephone: 08033205958

Email: mnananakalu03@yahoo.com

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF K.K. OGBA, MY OGA AND HERO

The saying "They don't make them like this anymore" aptly applies to Chief K. K Ogba. Before I became a Young counsel in his Chambers, rumour was rife that he won his cases because he belonged to a Secret Society of Lawyers and Judges. This is far from being the truth, because in actual fact, it was through a great intellect and hard work.

Chief K. K, apart from his first couple of years in practice, never had a signboard advertising him as a lawyer. Satisfied individual clients and corporate organizations were always his referees. Whether it be him representing the Eastern Breweries PLC in the customary court, Ibadagbo, the Nigeria Bottling Company at the Magistrate Court, Owerri both in Imo State, Ashland Oil at the High Court in Calabar and NAL Merchant Bank, Onitsha, the Court of Appeal in Port Harcourt and the Supreme Court, Lagos and later Abuja, he gave his best to his clients; but his strong suit was in the art of cross examination, a deep understanding and use of English Language, History and reading very widely. I dare say, he never lost any case against any Senior Advocate of Nigeria (SAN) in the East or West.

I remember quite vividly, when a Senior Advocate boasted in court before a high court judge in Orlu, "My Lord, after Chief K.K Ogba finished entertaining you with his Oxford English. I shall entertain you with the law", and he went on to quote an authority from the Nigerian Weekly Law report. Chief K.K Ogba borrowed the same authority and read it further down ,towards the end to see the exception to the rule. Chief K.K Ogba promptly told the court (to the Senior Advocate's embarrassment) by saying "My Lord, as you can see, I can not only entertain you with my Oxford English but also with the Law."

Chief had many parts to him. He was an adviser to so many institutions and companies and confidante to many entrepreneurs and businessmen and he did not come cheap in terms of professional fees as he treated both young, old, rich and poor with the same courtesies. He was a giant in the court room and that attracted its fair share of envy and jealousy.

One story which sums up his essence was when, in the early 1980s, he visited Paris, France and Yaounde, Cameroun, in company of the promoters of Eastern

BARR. UZOMA OGWUMIKE

Breweries Plc, makers of 33 Beer and Malt. Chief Dr. Jerome Udoji as Chairman, introduced himself as former secretary to the Eastern Region government (1960–1966), the promoter of the Udoji award after the Civil War and President of Manufacturers Association of Nigeria etc; Chief Augustine Ilodibe alias Ekene Dili Chukwu introduced himself as the biggest transporter in Nigeria owning a fleet of 4000 vehicles. Chief K.K Ogbà was momentarily tongue tied and bewildered at this line of introductions. But being a great thinker on his feet, he quickly told the host that he was a lawyer and former Attorney General of East Central State, Imo State and the owner of 4000 books.

His modesty was disarming. He never boasted of his Trinity College, Dublin or University of Oxford Education. He was generous to a fault, even for those he met for the first time, having some contempt for money.

He often gave out more than he should at weddings, Ime-Uches, Burials etc. inspite of the weight of the responsibility he carried. He was a proud Abiriba man and wished he will die in his Osu-Ugwu residence, enjoying the Ekpe and Okonko Atang Dances. He whistled to his classical music especially Mozart and Beethoven whilst taking his bath and often came out smelling nice in his favourite Armani roll-on and deodorant till his next bath. He truly lived the good life.

He feared no man, as he kept his hands and heart clean. I, personally wish he had finished his biography for he has a lot to say about the experiences in Igbo Land and the Nigerian State. He had a lot a say about the South East and South South regions of Nigeria. He lived a happy and dramatic life and had a fair sense of humour. His life was a theatre in motion. He loved his family greatly and did all to make them happy and contented.

Although he was not a regular church goer, he read his Bible and prayed to his God. Many would ask "If he was that good, why wasn't he made a Senior Advocate (SAN)". The short and simple answer is his decency. He applied twice or thrice from cases arising out strictly from his chambers and never borrowed cases from other senior lawyers or Ministry of Justice to qualify even when they were offered. He did not want to play the Nigerian game.

I pray God grant his soul eternal repose and I urge the wife and children to always remember his reputation.

Robert Nnana-Kalu Esquire and Family

UZOMA OGWUMIKE

Ogwumike's Family Compound

Umuowa Obakpo Ishi Ubomiri

Mbaitoli Local Government Area, Imo State.

Date: 20th October, 2020

TRIBUTE TO MY PRINCIPAL IN CHAMBERS

"There is a time for everything
and a season for every activity
under heaven. A time to be born
and a time to die": Ecclesiastes 3:2.

At the fullness of the time set by God for an event, the curtain draws.

Today we have gathered once more as we normally do when our loved ones die to pay our last respect to my departed boss and principal in chambers, Chief K. K. Ogbà, the Anyanwu of Abiriba in Ohafia Local Government Area of Abia State.

Chief as we respectfully called him was not only a father to his biological children, but to all who came across him.

It is indeed a difficult task to write a tribute for Chief as words may not be enough to describe this fine gentleman and his life endeavours.

Admittedly, there is no better age or time to lose a parent more especially an irreplaceable father of good faith like Chief. Chief's death is devastating in its impact on us all. An amiable father, a free handed giver and a father-General of our time.

Great men and women are rare to come by, but when by chance and luck you meet one in your life's time, you are lucky. Those that met and interacted with Chief K. K. Ogbà will surely attest to this fact. Chief's

BARR. CHUKWUEMEKA IBEZIAKO ESQ., FC ARB.,

kind words and advice were priceless, they resonates each time, but these are words that endures and last forever.

Each time I was with him he would not allow me to go easily. He would remark, "Stay little longer, why do you want to go so soon Mr. Ogwumike". After about an hour, I will repeat my request of going, he would say "Okay, come tomorrow at 12:00 noon, greet your wife for me. Though he lived a full life, it is difficult to take my mind off him. There was never a dull moment with Chief. Stories upon stories on life experiences and human endeavours. O' what a world we are in. O' Chief you were indeed great.

In his life time his name rang bell and his imprints are there for all to see.

In the legal profession where he will be most missed he was a legal giant and a consummate lawyer. His coinage of English words in legal profession are remarkable and in use always i.e "He made a heavy weather".

As Christians, we are not weeping as one who has lost hope, because from the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ Chief is not dead. As Christ said "I am the resurrection and life, whosoever believes in me shall not die". Chief is alive with our Lord.

Today, I have come to do a difficult task. As I bid Chief farewell, I enjoin his immediate family, relations, friends, workers including myself to take hearts as God Almighty will give us the fortitude to bear this irreparable loss.

I believe He, not only heard me, He granted my request.



UZOMA OGWUMIKE.

Chukwuemeka C. Ibeziako, Esq., FC Arb.,

Ochoko Chambers,
Federal Mortgage Bank House,
No. 4, Tetlow Road,
P. O. Box 1513,
Owerri.
Imo State.

E-mail:emekaibez@yahoo.com

Tel: 0803 343 0009

September 16, 2020

Kalu K. K. Ogbu,
No. 130, Orlu Road,
Owerri.
Imo State.

My dear Kalu³,

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

The rueful news of the passage of your delectable and superlative Dad, **CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA, Anyanwu of Abiriba**, into eternity has left me embroiled in boundless sorrow and perplexed by the complexities of human existence. I truly desired that he could live exceptionally far beyond a Century and sail into immortality with glee in the gaze of all persons cherished in his pristine heart.

The finality of the effluxion of his mortal life is akin to being rudderless in the expansive coast of life given the immutable deprivation of his paternal guidance, incisive moral lessons, professional intendance and mentoring. Though my personal sense of loss, sorrow and grieve are profound and humongous in scope, content and latitude, I earnestly make no pretensions of full perception of the severity, but can only contemplate the depth and magnitude of the palpable desolation of yourself, your dear Mom, and siblings. You must all feel inestimably depressed by his passage.

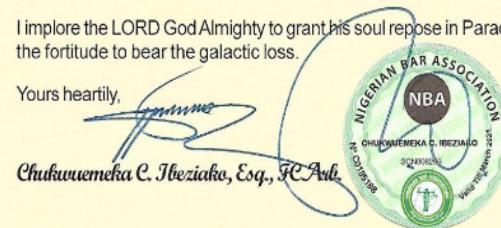
I am privileged to have been keenly nurtured in his extensive and elaborate adversarial adventures in the Legal Professional traversed with artful dexterity. I am gratified that his suave personality, flawless oration in English Language, sublime and confident demeanour are lavishly embellished in yourself and your siblings. I am also immensely thankful that his passion, courage and indomitable spirit in the vocation of Law did not suffer diminution by the disdainful elusion of the deserved honour of *Senior Advocate of Nigeria*. Strikingly, in spite of his monumental attainments he epitomised exquisite humility and lived a devout life of real reverence for the LORD God Almighty in Christ Jesus.

In truth, I am bereft of fitting words to console you knowing his phenomenal position in your family. Nonetheless, accept the heartfelt condolences of myself, my wife, Chioma and our twins to your entire family.

I implore the LORD God Almighty to grant his soul repose in Paradise and bestow upon you all the fortitude to bear the galactic loss.

Yours heartily,

Chukwuemeka C. Ibeziako, Esq., FC Arb.



DR. CHIOMA EMUKAH AND FAMILY
A TRIBUTE TO A LEGAL LUMINARY (A HERO)

Big Daddy, as I fondly called him, a million words cannot paint enough pictures of you or describe your selfless service to God and humanity. He was a an astute and forensic Advocate at the Bar, an erudite and well grounded scholar in legal practice to the admiration of all and sundry. This is really a devastating loss of a treasure of inestimable value I had the privilege of spending wonderful and memorable times with him and his beautiful and elegant wife (Auntie Chinwe Ogba of International repute) I will definitely miss those amazing moments, sumptuous meals,readily available Banana and groundnuts, amazing gifts, stories laced with life lessons and principles. I love his uncommon peace, humor, beaming smile and he loved his wife and children beyond words. He really impacted positively to my success story, he encouraged me greatly when I got admission to do a Masters Degree in Law in the United Kingdom(UK), he gave me books, he never ceased calling on phone, teaching, answering and solving questions on legal issues, even in his absence he instructed that I should be given access to his library, I will not forget the instructive Bible Quotation he told me to learn off heart, PSALM 37: 8-20. He was indeed a good man, very honest, with a heart of gold, his name is synonymous with INTEGRITY. He was strict, fair and an incorruptible lawyer and has left a great indelible footprint in the very sands of the our time. Thank you big Daddy, Chief K.K Ogba (ANYANWU N'ETIRI OHA) for your unflinching fatherly love and Care. To his beloved beautiful wife Auntie Chinwe Ogba, his awesome children, Kalu, Igwe, Ola, Nnenna and Chizoba, I urge you to bear the impact of his irreparable glorious departure though painful with fortitude and thank God Almighty that he lived well, enjoyed robust good health, got himself prepared for the triumphant matching of the Saints and exited peacefully at what we consider a privileged blessed age of 89.

Amiable & Adorable Big Daddy, great Lawyer of our time, may your impeccable lovely and gentle Soul rest in perfect peace in Christ Jesus. AMEN.

Dr Chioma Emukah & Family
 (Your Young Lawyer as he fondly called me)

DAN ASOLUKA, K.K'S LONGEST SERVING CLERK

**TRIBUTE BY MR. DANIEL ASOLUKA
 (CLERK TO CHIEF K.K OGBA)**

I came to know my boss, Chief K. K Ogba in 1992 when I was employed as a clerk in his prestigious chambers, Chief K.K Ogba & Company, precisely 28 years ago.

He is very gentle, kind hearted generous and accommodating and easily accessible to all and sundry no matter your status inspite of his exalted position as the former Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice of East-Central State and of the old Imo State, comprising Imo and Abia States (presently Chief K.K Ogba is the Cock of the Bar) Imo State.

Chief K.K Ogba as my boss has salvaged me from many horrible financial crises each time I beckoned on him for assistance and has always treated me like a son. Since my working life, I have never come across such a caliba of a person as a boss. His professionalism and expertise is exceptionally beyond description. His command of the English Language and experienced in law cannot be equalled.

His chambers is one of the best in the whole of Imo State and his name spread like a burning fire throughout Igbo land and beyond even though he operates his chambers without a sign-board for decades yet, clients beseech his office on a daily basis.

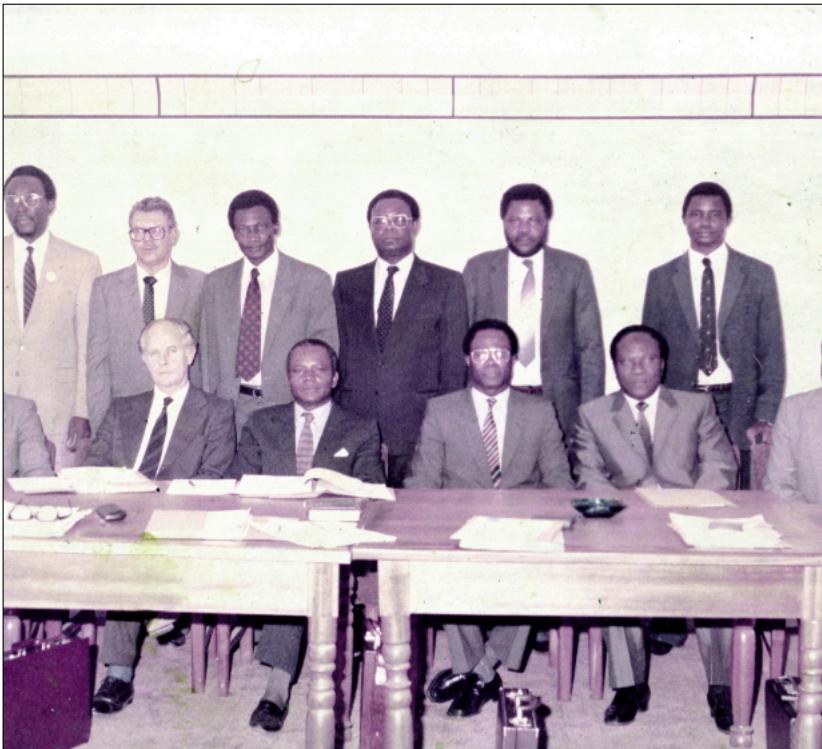
I came to work one early morning to be told by his family that chief had been rushed to the hospital and hospitalized. Although for some couple of years now, Chief had been operating his chambers from his private residence in Akwakuma owing to health crises from where he attend to all his legal matters but little did I know that this time he would not come back home again as has been the case before.

This news of his demise kept me dumb founded and devastated because I know a vacuum has been created both in my life and the entire family which cannot be filled other than himself alone.

I pray that God in his infinite mercy will grant the wife and children the courage and fortitude to bear this colossal loss caused by the demise of their father and to accept him in his bosom hence no mortal lives forever.

May the soul of Chief K.K Ogba and Souls of all the faithful departed rest in perfect peace. Amen.

Adieu Chief K.K Ogba



Above K.K poses with corporate colleagues before a meeting.

Opposite K.K at a board meeting at Iddo House, the Leventis Group Headquarters building in Lagos.



Above Partying in the North, K.K shares a meal during his chairmanship of the Nigerian Yeast and Alcohol Company in Bacita, Kwara State. Unknown to many, K.K had a long list of prominent northern friends including the late M.D Yusuf who he met at Oxford and Ismaila Gwarzo, an old colleague from his years as Attorney-General.



Opposite K.K desperately tries to hold back his laughter at a Christmas party hosted by Consolidated Breweries Plc.

THE LEVENTIS GROUP OF COMPANIES



BARRISTER KALU KALU (K K) OGBA

On behalf of the Leventis Family, AG Leventis and Nigerian Bottling Company, we convey our heartfelt condolences to the family of Barrister K K Ogba. Chief Ogba's relationship with the Leventis Family commenced in the 1950s at the Trinity College Dublin (TCD) where he was a roommate with Mr. Andrew David of the Leventis Family. Both left TCD for Nigeria after graduation in the late 1950s. And that relationship flourished with Barrister KK subsequently serving on the Board of a number of companies in the Leventis Group including Victoria Beach Hotels, Leventis Motors, Eastern Breweries and Consolidated Breweries. He was held in high esteem by the Leventis Family and his contemporaries on the Board of the various companies in the Leventis Group.

Barrister KK Ogba's first passion and love was Law. TCD was the veritable institution which produced outstanding attorneys and medical doctors in pre and post independent Nigeria. Some of the lawyers from Dublin chose to remain at the Bar while some of them ascended to the Bench. He chose to remain at the Bar where he carved a niche for himself as a thinker – simply jurisprudence was his calling. In the traditions of TCD he brought and reflected original thought in all the cases he handled. Barrister KK did not limit himself to legal practice, he was a community leader who savoured and promoted the Igbo culture and traditions.

In offering our deep condolences to the family and associates of Barrister KK Ogba, we pray fervently that the Almighty will grant him perfect peace.

Segun Apata

Chairman

NBC

Ahmed Mantey

Chairman

AG Leventis

NIGERIAN BREWERIES PLC.



Nigerian Breweries Plc
RC: 613

HEADQUARTERS:
IGANMU HOUSE, ABEBE VILLAGE ROAD, IGANMU,
P.O. BOX 545, LAGOS.
TEL: (01) 271 7400-20 FAX: (01) 271 7442

TRIBUTE TO LATE CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA

The management and staff of Nigerian Breweries Plc ("NB") deeply commiserate with the Ogba family on the passing away of their illustrious son, uncle, husband, father and grandfather, Chief K. K. Ogba, who until his demise, was a long-standing external Solicitor to NB.

His relationship with NB spanned over a long period of time, and in his capacity as an external Solicitor to NB, he contributed immensely towards ensuring an enduring peaceful co-existence between NB and its host community, Awo Omamma. He was diligent and professional in his service delivery to NB at all times, and we really enjoyed working with him.

As a renowned legal practitioner, he stood for and espoused the beauty of the law, and contributed to furthering the great course of justice. Even as his body gave way to the years, he was ever young and up to date on the subject of law. All these, among others, accounted for his hugely successful legal career. He lived a life well deserving of emulation, and will be remembered for all that he achieved during his lifetime.

Our deep condolences go to his wife, Dame Chinwe Kalu Ogba, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. We pray that his amiable and prodigious soul find eternal repose in the bosom of the Lord.

Uaboi G. Agbebaku

Legal Director

20th November 2020

DIRECTORS: Chief K.B. Jamodu, CFR - Chairman; J. Borruet Bel (Spanish) - Managing Director /Chief Executive; A.O. Aroyewun (Mrs); O. Bickersteth; S. Hiemstra (Dutch); R. Kleinjan (Dutch); N.O. Nwuneli (Mrs), MFR; I.M. Omogul Okauru (Mrs), MFR; R. Pirmez (Belgian); S.L.M. Siemer (Dutch).

GOLDEN GUINEA BREWERIES PLC.



Golden Guinea
BREWERIES PLC
Brewers of Eagle Stout, Golden Malta, and Golden Guinea Lager

RC. 3164

ABA ROAD, P.M.B. 7031
UMUAHIA, NIGERIA
PHONE: 07060868304,
07060920396, 07060974498
08117594540, 08117685329
E-MAIL: Info-ggbplc.com.ng
WEBSITE: www.ggbplc.com.ng

5th November, 2020

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF BARRISTER K. K. OGBA

(1930 – 2020)

The death has sadly been announced by the family, of Chief Barrister K. K. Ogbu on the 14th of July, 2020. He was aged 90.

Indeed, an "Iroko" has fallen. A founding father of Abia State has gone home. An erudite scholar, a distinguished member of the Bar in Nigeria (called to the Nigerian Bar – 1st December 1960), has joined the Saints Triumphant.

May Our Good Lord receive his soul in peace, Amen.

Chief K. K. Ogbu had a splendid and distinguished legal career spanning the Public Service and the Private Sector. His Private Legal Practice included holding retainerships with several first tier Companies in the Oil and Gas, and Food and Beverage Industries including Golden Guinea Breweries Plc, Umuahia Abia State.

Chief K. K. Ogbu was appointed Legal Adviser and Advocate for Golden Guinea Breweries Plc on the 3rd July 1992, and served until 31st July, 2014, a total of 22 years – during which time Chief K. K. Ogbu successfully defended all 38 (thirty-eight) Cases of Golden Guinea Breweries Plc assigned to his Chambers.

A likeable father Figure, Chief K. K. Ogbu was ever accommodating, such that working with him was a great pleasure. Indelibly embossed in our memory is an episode that occurred one hot afternoon in 2002. We (Company Secretary and Managing Director) had been invited to his Hilltop Residence, Ugwuoba, Amaogudu, Abiriba, Abia State to discuss a Golden Guinea Breweries Case. At the end of the discussions, Chief K. K. Ogbu offered a sumptuous lunch followed by some excellent - aroma Coffee, a little over ten minutes later, the coffee has become bland cold – and we had to put our jacket on again. Noticing the

2

surprise on our faces – Chief K. K. Ogbu explained that – Upstairs at this his Hilltop residence, air conditioners are NOT necessary! Come spend a weekend – he said to us! A temperate climate at the heart of the tropics, we thought as we sipped our cold coffee?

Chief K. K. Ogbu, a lover of classical music was our friend, Uncle, legal adviser all rolled into one at Golden Guinea Breweries Plc. Whenever the history of Golden Guinea Breweries Plc will be written, Chief K. K. Ogbu's name will be written in gold!

Rest in peace Chief,

Fare thee well.

May Our good Lord receive the Soul of Chief K. K. Ogbu peacefully in His Bosom. May He grant his amiable wife, children, friends and associates and indeed the people of Abiriba the fortitude to bear the pain of the home-call of Chief K. K. Ogbu.

UDO OGARANYA

COMPANY SECRETARY/LEGAL ADVISER

IFEANYI G. IDIKA

MANAGING DIRECTOR

ADDAX PETROLUEM



Addax Petroleum Development (Nigeria) Ltd
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32 Orluwa Medieval Avenue
P.O. Box 70419, Victoria Island
Lagos, Nigeria
T: +23412000, 2794300
F: 2794633
www.addaxpetroleum.com

December 01, 2020

The Family of Chief Kalu Kalu Ogba
130 Orlu Road
Owerri, Imo State

Attn.: Mr. Kalu Kalu Ogba

Dear Sir,

Re: A Tribute to Late Chief Kalu Kalu Ogba

I had the pleasurable honour of knowing and interacting with Chief Kalu Kalu Ogba, a very courteous, distinguished and honourable gentleman. A brilliant mind, who represented Addax Petroleum in several suits; winning a number of landmark suits for the Company and its predecessor, Ashland Oil Nigeria Company Unlimited. It is noteworthy that Chief Ogba never lost any of the cases we assigned to him; leading to the continued mutually beneficial relationship, which spanned over 30 years. Apart from handling our court matters, Chief K.K. Ogba also diligently and adeptly represented our interest and provided legal representation at several fora. I found him to be a man of integrity, professional per excellence, articulate and eloquent. Every interaction with him, left one with a story to reminisce and to marvel at the depth of his varied and wide knowledge. I will certainly remember him as a man of wisdom and congenial disposition. One occurrence that showed Chief K.K. Ogba up as one, with impeccable ethical standards and integrity was the fact that he formally wrote to Addax Petroleum some years back, conveying his intention to retire from legal practice. He informed that he would not be accepting new briefs from Addax Petroleum, while giving assurances that the pending cases being handled by his firm would continue to be managed till determination. Undoubtedly, this rarity and unprecedented notification, is a standard to follow. For, this act of gallantry, selflessness and professionalism, Chief K.K. Ogba continued to earn our respect and I consider it a privilege to have worked with him.

Indeed, Chief Kalu Ogba carved out for himself, a place of honour in life and death and will surely be missed by all of us at Legal Department of Addax Petroleum. May his soul rest in peace and may his family, friends, colleagues and associates be comforted by the fact that he lived a life of honour, integrity and prestige, worthy of emulation. His legacy will certainly live on forever.

Yours faithfully,

Adenike Esan, PhD
Head, Dispute Resolution & Corporate Governance

Directors

ACCESS BANK PLC.



OWR/OI/ON/27/11/2020

November 27, 2020.

MRS CHINWE KALU OGBA,
130 ORLU ROAD,
AMAKOCHIA, OWERRI,
IMO STATE.

Dear ma,

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE ON THE DEATH OF YOUR HUSBAND, CHIEF K.K. OGBA

On behalf of the Management and Staff of Access Bank Plc Owerri, Orlu road, we write to commiserate with you and the entire members of your family on the death of your beloved husband, Chief K.K. OGBA.

While we share your grief, we implore you to remember with pride the legacies he left behind and take solace in the celebration of his life hereafter.

We pray that God will grant you all the strength and fortitude to bear this irreparable loss.

Please accept our sincere and heartfelt condolences.

For: Access Bank Plc.

EZINNE UKONU
ACCOUNT OFFICER

ODOCHHI NWADIOHA
CLIENT SERVICE MANAGER

Owerri, Orlu Road Branch
Orlu Road, Amakochia, Owerri, Imo State
T +234 7068030761
E info@accessbankplc.com
www.accessbankplc.com

Access Bank Plc RC 125 584
TIN: 00792879-0001
Board of Directors
Chairman: A Awosika
Group Managing Director/CEO:
Herbert Wigwe
Group Deputy Managing Director: R Ogbonna
Directors: P Unoro, A Ogunmefun, J Akpata, A
I Osime, O Nwadike
Executive Directors:
V Etsukwu, G Jobome, H Ambanya,
A Rajomo, C Okoli

CHIEF DR. E.C. IWUANYANWU, CFR, KSC

Chief Dr. E.C. Iwuanyanwu CFR, KSC
AHAEJIAGAMBA NDIGBO

Dame Mrs. Chinwe Kalu Ogba
Hilltop – Abiriba
Abia State.

25th November, 2020

MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE

I wish on behalf of myself, my wife Frances and the entire Iwuanyanwu family to express our deep sympathy to you, the Kalu Ogba family and the entire people of Abiriba.

Your dear husband was a man of great integrity. He was a perfect gentleman who treated everybody with respect and candour irrespective of class. He was one of the remaining founding fathers of Imo State. The History of Imo State cannot be complete without the mention of persons like your husband Chief K. K. Ogba, popularly known as K.K.

Our first contact with Ogba family was through you. Your parents and my parents were prominent leaders of the Anglican Communion. In the 60s, you were a student with us at the University of Nigeria. As a student, you were a very beautiful charming and charismatic young girl then.

When Imo State was created we left Enugu for Owerri. At a time your late husband was Commissioner for Justice and Attorney General of Imo State. The memories of those early days were indeed very happy ones.

Today KK has been recalled by the Almighty God. I pray the Almighty God to give him eternal rest in Paradise. I also join all friends and well-wishers in committing you, your children and the entire family to the hands of the Almighty God.

Yours sincerely,

CHIEF (DR.) E. C. IWUANYANWU, CFR, OFR, MFR, FNICE, FNSE, KSC
(Ahaejiagamba Ndigbo)

LAGOS: 3/3A Abimbola Awoniyi Close, Victoria Island, P.O. Box 54344, Ikoyi, Lagos. ☎ 01-2619848, 2611582
ABIA: 9 Asaba Close, Area 11, Garki Abuja. ☎ 09-2344988
OWERRI: ORIENTAL PLAZA, Okigwe Road, P.O. Box 1045, Owerri-Imo State. ☎ 08034209040
E-MAIL: ahaejiagambandigbo@yahoo.ca WEBSITE: www.chiefdremmanueliwuanyanwu.net

KALU U. KALU CON

Kalu U. Kalu CON

3, Idemili Drive, Independence Layout, Enugu
P.O. Box 107, Enugu
Phone: 08034552888
Email: kaluukukalu@yahoo.co.uk

TRIBUTE TO BARR. KALU KALU OGBA

The news that Chief Kalu Kalu Ogba has passed is so sad: he was truly an ICON of our time and has left us with many precious memories.

Tons of tributes will pour in for K.K. Ogba in his funeral. Most of them will be saying the same thing, namely, he was a most unique gentleman – a very rare species, hard to see the like of again in our society of today. He was quiet (not loud); he was sincere in his behaviour and manners (not rough or eager to join the maddening crowd) and this literally too: thus, when he was a Commissioner in the Imo State Government, he would not go in tow with the motorcade and the sirens, but will work his way through to meet the function at the stipulated place (even if a bit late to get there!!) He will pick up discussions quietly and kindly with those around him in a charming way. To put it simply, KK Ogba had "class" in him and he did not flaunt it carelessly.

Kalu and his hilltop house are memories we will always cherish: classical music concerts at New Year eve in those days and latterly sharing gist with him in one ceremony or another in Chief Emile's Noah's Ark, a little lower down the hill.

It was always a privilege to know that as we pass Abiriba we can drive around that hill and be sure of a welcome at the top.

Chinwe, Nina and her siblings should take consolation from the fact that their husband, and father, Chief Kalu Kalu Ogba was a decent and rare gentleman.

May his gentle soul rest in perfect peace. Amen!

Hazel and Kalu
3RD December, 2020

DR. ALEX OTTI, OFR

Dr. Alex Otti, OFR

5th November, 2020.

Dame Chinwe Kalu Ogba,
150 Orlu Road,
Owerri,
Imo State

Dear Mummy,

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF BARRISTER K.K. OGBA

It is with deep sadness and concern that my wife and I received the news of the demise of your beloved husband, Chief Barrister K.K. Ogba.

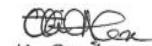
Daddy, as we all used to call him, was a scholar of immense achievements, having earned degrees in Modern History & Political Science from Dublin in 1954 and Bachelor of letters from the prestigious University of Oxford in 1958. A legal luminary, he was called to the Nigerian Bar on the very year of Nigeria's independence. Daddy headed such reputable Chambers as the Opata Chambers and was Legal Counsel at Irving and Bonner, a preeminent law firm in Nigeria where he broke the rare record of not losing a single case until the Nigerian civil war interrupted what was otherwise a burgeoning legal career.

Chief Barrister K. K. Ogba was to join public service in 1967 culminating in him serving as Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice for the defunct East Central State in 1975. When Imo State was carved out of East Central State, he was appointed as the first Attorney General in 1976, a position he held until 1979. He returned to private legal practice and was running his private chambers until death came knocking, in July, this year.

Daddy was a quintessential gentleman, doting father, loving husband and a good man. We consider it an honour and a rare privilege to have been closely associated with him. We have no doubt that we shall meet him again on that resurrection morning. As we bid him farewell, our wish is that we shall encounter his kind again in this generation.

May his gentle soul rest in peace

Sincere regards,



Alex Otti

14B Chief Collins Uchiduno Street, Off Fola Osibo Road, Lekki Phase 1, Lagos
Email: alexotti@mca.com website: www.alexotti.com

HIS ROYAL MAJESTY, EZE RALPH U. OGBONNA



Abia State of Nigeria

His Royal Majesty Eze Ralph .U.Ogbonna

Mr K.K. Ogba. Jnr

Ugwu Oba, Amaogudu

Abiriba, Abia State,
Nigeria.

Oru Onyerubi Palace
Ndoro Oboro,
Ikwuano L.G.A,
Abia State,
Nigeria.

30th October 2020.

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE.

It was with heavy heart and sadness I received the news of the demise of your dear father Chief Barrister K.K. Ogba. KK, as everyone knew him, was a nice man and indeed a gentleman.

I met K.K many years ago. I was introduced to him by the President of the Nigerian Bottling Company (Coca-Cola), Mr Andrew David; both were classmates at the Trinity College Dublin. He was indeed happy to meet me, to hear someone from the Old Bende was the Regional General Manager of a multinational company like NBC and then we became friends. The first house I lived in Owerri was provided by him as my landlord. He was a good man.

I know how you and your siblings will feel to lose a dear father and I share your grief. We must however be comforted that K.K lived well.

On behalf of my family, I send to you, your dear mother Chinwe and the entire Ogba family my condolences and pray God to grant him eternal rest.



PASCAL DOZIE**PASCAL G. DOZIE, CON****TRIBUTE IN HONOUR OF A DEAR FRIEND OF DOZIE FAMILY....BARRISTER (CHIEF) K.K.OGBA**

It is with great sadness and a deep sense of loss but with gratitude to Almighty God that I, my dear wife and children received the news about the transition of a dear friend of our family; Barrister(Chief) K. K. Ogba.

The period of our relationship with him left a long lasting and wonderful impressions on us about him as an honourable and distinguished gentleman of immense brilliance and uncommon wisdom. He was very meticulous and never in a hurry with things of life or when making decisions touching the lives of many.

Barrister(Chief) K. K. Ogba lived a life of service whereas his time and talents were available to all viz:- his nuclear family, relations, kith and kins, the privileged and not so privileged, members of his Abiriba community; he loved so much as reminiscenced during his "UCHE RETIREMENT" traditional ceremony at his home town.

As I, my dear wife and children commiserate with his dear wife, Mrs Chinwe Kalu Ogba and his children, we find solace in his antecedents, humility, distinguished and exemplary lifestyle and have no doubt that Almighty God in His infinite mercy will admit him to PARADISE; Amen.

Adieu; Barrister (Chief) K.K.Ogba

PASCAL G. DOZIE, CON
On behalf of the DOZIES

14A Oba Elegushi Road, Ikoyi, Lagos, Nigeria T: +234 01 6311420 E: pgd@kunoch.com

MR. PATRICK EKE

The late chief k.k Ogba was a man of integrity, a well-respected jurist, a role model, a man of transparency, a mentor, a wonderful workaholic, and a man with a fearless disposition.

He was quite engaging, unassuming, and simple. You hardly would want to leave if k.k engages you in a conversation.

I knew kk well over 20 years ago when he was the legal adviser and a member of the board of Consolidated Breweries plc, my office was then his contact point to the Awo omamma Brewery of Consolidated Breweries Plc.

I still remember Chief Ogba's great exploits in the hey days of recurring land cases between Consolidated Breweries Plc and Awo omamma Community, kk dared all and faced the angry youths and community leaders in all the turbulent reconciliatory meetings and in court sessions.

Quite a lot can be said about this very fulfilled and accomplished legal luminary of our time, the first attorney general of old East Central State, first attorney general of old Imo State who practiced his cherished profession almost until death, He was also a community leader who touched so many lives within and outside his immediate community and environment.

KK was indeed my role model, with his transparency, integrity and honesty, he still lacked nothing and lived a fulfilled life thereby attesting to the fact that those virtues he displayed really pays.

Kk, yes are no more but these legacies you left behind will continue to inspire some of us and generations yet unborn. You were close to me and I enjoyed every moment I spent with you. You were always on hand to write references for me and you were almost doing one for me few months to your demise.

I will indeed miss you but I am consoled greatly when I remember the good life you lived

Goodbye my dear kk

Patrick Eke



Above Left K.K as Attorney-General plants a coconut tree to mark the foundation laying ceremony of the Onarubi Technical Secondary School Abiriba.



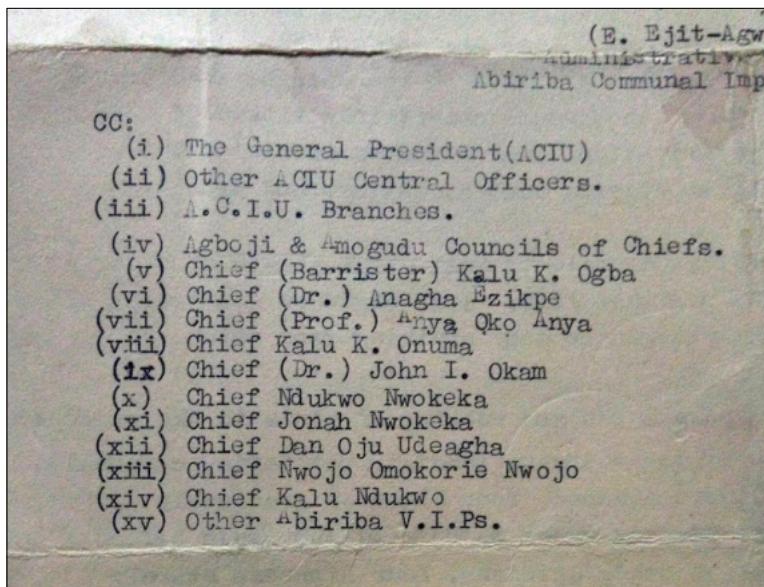
Above Right K.K brings Colonel Sunday Adenihun to Abiriba following the opening of the Abiriba Divisional Library built by an age group.

K.K's service to the Abiriba community began only a month after his return to England. His first ever court case was in defense of an Abiriba citizen who was charged with murder and was facing the death penalty. K.K exonerated the man the very next day, on a no case submission with only two questions. In 1962, he helped to defend and free scores of Abiriba citizens who had been involved in a massive street fight against the locals of Port Harcourt. In 1963, his petition on behalf of the Second Hand Clothing Importers Association (which was mostly made up of Abiriba citizens) was successful, leading to a sixty percent drop on the duty on second hand clothes. This led to a massive financial windfall for the Abiriba community.

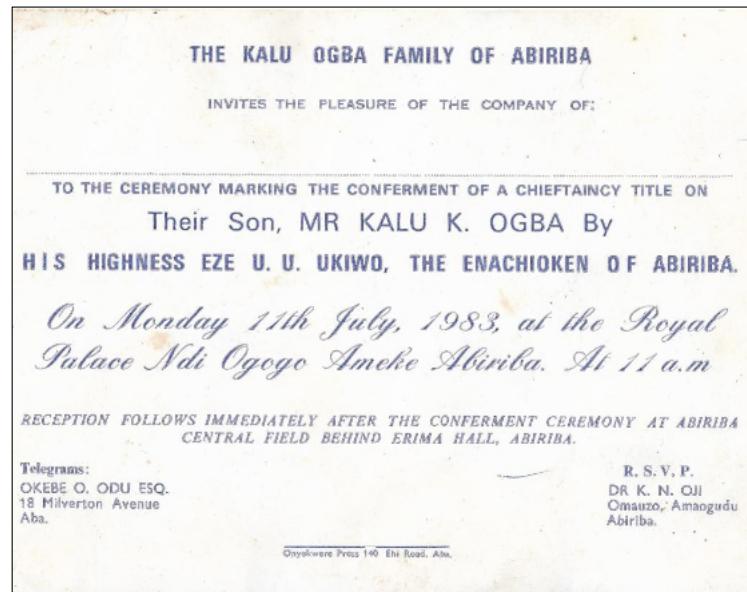
After K.K became the Attorney-General of Imo State, he brought massive development to the Abiriba community through his hidden hand, serving as the voice of the Abiriba people in government. During his time in office, the very first set of tarred roads (over 5 kilometers) in Abiriba were built. This quickly led to Abiriba being classified as an "urban township" by the state government. This meant that drainage systems were constructed, and amenities such as police stations, schools and hospitals were provided to the kingdom. K.K as a member of the Okezie age grade had helped to build the Okezie Midwifery School. But it lacked nurses and equipment and the midwifery school building served no other purpose other than to provide rent free accommodation to snakes, lizards and other lucky creatures. During K.K's time in office, the midwifery school was revived as the government took over its management. An industrious Dutch lady by the name of Barbara Kwast was assigned to its leadership and the Okeze Midwifery School quickly became the best school of midwifery in Imo state. As a member of the Okezie age grade, K.K also helped to fund the construction of the Okezie Township Hall which is still standing to this day. During K.K's time in office, erosion was also tackled in the Abiriba community. The government agreed to provide seedlings for soil management and the control of erosion. Here, a special mention should be made of Chief Mang Obasi, who did not embezzle the seedlings and funds allocated to him by the government like many today, choosing instead to focus on the greater good. The electrification of Abiriba also began during K.K's time in office. If you think the governor did all this because of his love for the Abiriba people, I have a bridge to sell you.

As you are aware, the A.C.I.U. has provided a very valuable and durable Book-of-Deeds in which the names of illustrious sons and daughters of Abiriba who are accepted and acclaimed to be worthy of honour, having distinguished themselves in various fields of endeavour, service, contributions and attainment in the interest - (development, improvement and well-being of Abiriba and her people) - are to be written in "letters of gold" for the present and future generations - for history and for posterity.

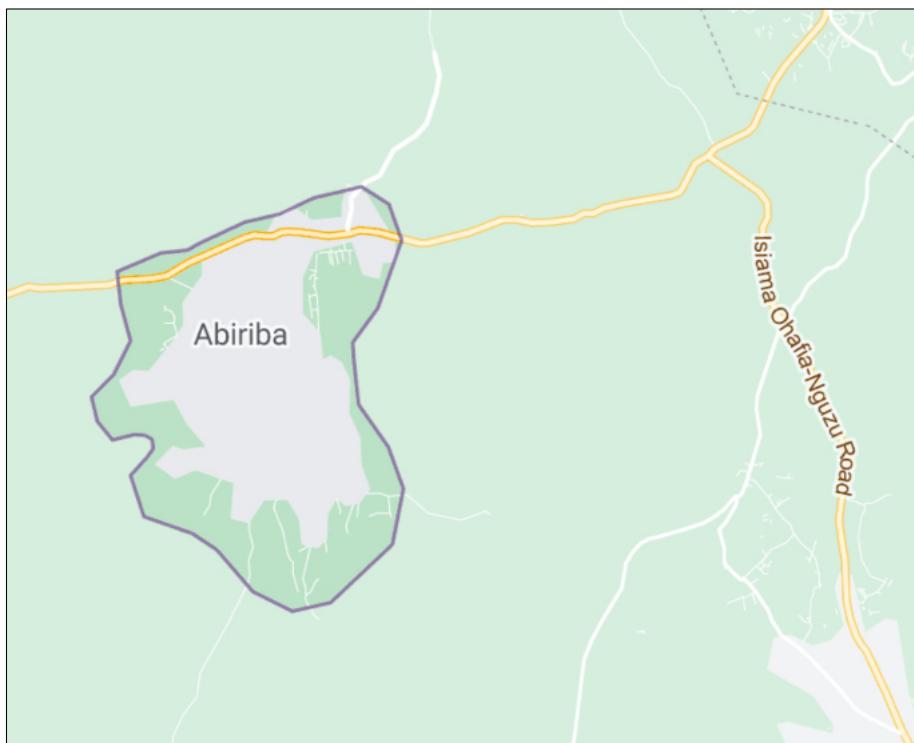
Opposite In 1983, His Royal Highness Eze U.U. Ukiwo II, the Enachioken of Abiriba, announced that in order to successfully compete on an equal footing with neighboring communities, he and the other two kings of the Abiriba triumvirate had decided to introduce the chieftaincy title to the kingdom. There were no chiefs in Abiriba before this. A list of illustrious citizens of Abiriba who had distinguished themselves by their service with regards to the development, improvement and well-being of the community was therefore drawn up by the Abiriba Community Improvement Union (A.C.I.U.).



Above Left When the list of illustrious citizens was finally compiled by the A.C.I.U, K.K's name was found at the very top.



Above Right Invitation card from 1983 to K.K's chieftaincy conferment by the Enachioken of Abiriba, His Highness Eze U.U. Ukiwo II.



Left In old times, a chieftain was appointed to lead his people into war. The spoils of war typically included gold, cattle and women, but the most prized possession from warfare was LAND. It is in this area that K.K would prove most deserving of his Abiriba chieftaincy title. He won over five major land cases for the Abiriba people, and he did it without the need for warfare and bloodshed. One of his biggest land cases involved the recovery of "Oroni" land for Abiriba's Amaeke community. Chief Ikwan Onwuka had approached him for this case which reached the Supreme Court. K.K won the case on merit, recovering over 21 square kilometers of land for the Abiriba community. To put this in perspective, the whole of Igbo land is around 42,000 square kilometers.

K.K also recovered nearly 6 square kilometers of land for the Amamba community against the Umuokwe people of Umuhu. All in all, K.K won five land cases for the Abiriba community against its neighbors. His only regret was not completing the land case victory for the Agboji people, but that will be done also.



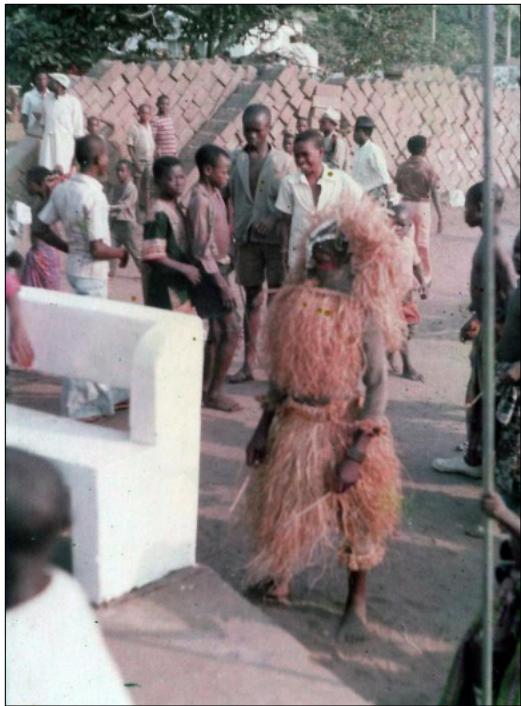
Above Left K.K and Chief Chika pose for the cameras in their Chieftaincy regalia

Above Left – Scary Times
In the second picture, the two are seen admiring a truly terrifying masquerade. They look absolutely calm, realizing that behind it all is a man in a suit having fun. Nothing more, Nothing less.



Below K.K at various events in his chieftaincy garb. Many have forgotten his many good deeds in Abiriba as the stories have not been told by community elders.

THE FIRST CHIEF



Above Right With fellow chiefs at a ceremony in Abiriba

Above Left and Below Right
Festivities from K.K's chieftaincy ceremony

UKPAGHIRI-IN-COUNCIL

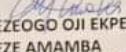


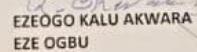
UKPAGHIRI-IN-COUNCIL

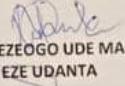
AMOGUDU ABIRIBA

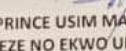
EZE-OTISI AMOGUDU & CO-HOLDER OTISI ABIRIBA ANCIENT KINGDOM
TRADITIONAL HEAD OF AMOGUDU COMMUNITY
Ndi Ebe Royal Compound, Umuechukwu, Amogudu, Abiriba, Abia State, Nigeria.
Tel: 08031278375; 08179708659. E-mail: prince_emeuguru@yahoo.com; hrmememuguru@gmail.com

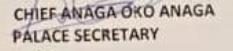
TRIBUTE TO Chief Bar Kalu Kalu Ogba popularly known as Chief K K Ogba, ANYANWU OF ABIRIBA is a great and illustrious Son of the soil of Ndi Aja ancestral clan of Umuechukwu Amogudu Community Abiriba Kingdom. The young vibrant Chief K K was one of the Sons of blessed Memory Late Chief Kalu Eleanya (Ogba). His Father was a successful Big Merchant in Calabar who upon retirement as custom and tradition demanded in those days, voluntarily returned home and handed over the business to his junior Brother Late Chief Igwo Eleanya (Ogba). The young vibrant K K was also handed over to his uncle Late Chief Igwo Ogba to train. He was disciplined and humble to pass through such a tutelage in the hands of his Uncle's wives. He was not rocking shoulder with his Uncle because his father was the founder of their Business, as being experienced in many families today after the death of their loved ones, one of the legacies are litigation over wealth. His attitude, gentility and approach to issues made him to win the heart of his Late Uncle Chief Igwo Ogba who later send him abroad to study Law. His soft spookiness made him to speak Queen's English fluently. Acquiring Big Things is in their Blood. His Great Grandfather owns the largest ancestral compound at Ndi Aja Umuechukwu Amogudu Abiriba. The ANYANWU OF ABIRIBA, Chief K K Ogba was the first recipient of such a title from the three Ezes of Abiriba Kingdom, after leading Chief Rotimi Williams in a Supreme Court matter which they won in favour of Abiriba Community. A core Abiriba traditionalist who until his death is the Head of Matrimonial Family of Ikwu — Umunwami Uku. A front liner and great member of Okezie Age Grade Abiriba that built the ancient Okezie Town Hall and Okezie Midwifery School. A great Achiever who has taken the image of the entire components of Abiriba Communities so high without discrimination. A One time Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice for East Central State and later Imo State, he exhibited his wealth of experience and distinguished himself to the Pinnacle of his legal profession. Rest in peace the Great Man of the People, doyen of Abiriba Unity who believed in the Tripod Communities of Abiriba Kingdom. Adieu Anyanwu Abiriba. On 30th April, 2016, you declared in my coronation ceremony that this might be your last Public Outing. The entire Amogudu Community of Abiriba Kingdom prayed to Almighty God to grant you more years. Yes today we mourn you like people that has faith because our request was granted and we pray God to grant you eternal rest. Signed under the Sealed of all the paramount traditional rulers within the Jurisdiction of Amogudu Community Abiriba Kingdom.

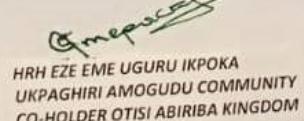

EZEODO OJI EKPE
EZE AMAMBA


EZEODO KALU AKWARA
EZE OGBU


EZEODO UDE MANG
EZE UDANTA


PRINCE USIM MANG DIEKE
EZE NO EKWO UMUECHUKWU


CHIEF ANAGA OKO ANAGA
PALACE SECRETARY


HRH EZE EME UGURU IKPOKA
UKPAGHIRI AMOGUDU COMMUNITY
CO-HOLDER OTISI ABIRIBA KINGDOM



ABIRIBA COMMUNAL IMPROVEMENT UNION


**ABIRIBA COMMUNAL IMPROVEMENT UNION
(A. C. I. U.)**

RC No. 250

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ABA.
E-mail: aciugeneral@yahoo.com;
aciucentral@gmail.com

CENTRAL SECRETARIAT:
ERINMA HALL
P. O. Box 1, Abiriba,
Abia State, Nigeria.

The Chief Kalu Kalu Ogba Family
Amogudu, Abiriba, Abia State

November 12th, 2020

Dear Kalu kk Ogba,

RE: : CONDOLENCE MESSAGE - CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA

The Central Executive Board of Abiriba Communal Improvement Union (ACIU) on behalf of the entire Abiriba people commiserate with you and family on the demise of our amiable beloved illustrious Brethren, Son, Father, Uncle, Brother - Fondly called "Chief KK". How we wish he made it to the centurion age - so close !

Chief Kalu Kalu Ogba of blessed memory sojourn on planet earth was "Veni Vedi Vici" exemplified with great courage, successful mercantilist whose professional acumen shines like a sparkling comet star as a distinguished legal luminary of Queens Counsel heritage. He was a navigational compass to our generational strides for his life milestone achievements' speaks volume. His humanitarian gestures imparted positively on everyone that came across his path. He was a man of strong character and conviction in defense of whatever cause he believes in.

As a distinguished legal icon and a renowned member of the British Bar (Queens Counsel), Chief KK was First Attorney General of East Central State and later of the old Imo State - The Anyanwu of Abiriba Kingdom. He never liked pretends and abhorred ambivalence, a naturalist and a lover of Equity, Justice, Peace and Fair play which attributes propelled him as a great heroic leader that offered pragmatic and populist leadership to our communal benefits. We fervently pray Almighty God grant us the courage to uphold the goodwill and legacies he bequeathed.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. Eke Agbai
ACIU General President

Hon. Agbai Osiri
ACIU General Secretary

AMAMBA COMMUNITY

**AMAMBA COMMUNITY- ABIRIBA**OBU EZE-OGO AMAMBA
NDE EZERA AMAMBA-ABIRIBA

Our Ref: Your Ref: Date:

13th November, 2020

Chief K.K. Ogba Family,
Amogudu-Abiriba,
Abia State-Nigeria.

Dear Compatriots,

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

The Eze-in-Council, the Community Leaders/Elders and entire members of Amamba Community-Abiriba most sorrowfully write to convey our condolence to you on the demise of our most Distinguished Legal Icon-Chief, Barr. K.K. Ogba.

The late Legal Luminary was a great man with quaint-essential character who used his divine wisdom, legal expertise and prowess to defend the cause of justice. We are proud to say that we are beneficiaries of his benevolence. His attainments in life and reputation preceded him, as he was a man of honour.

Above all, he lived a transparent, open hearted, God fearing, purposeful and impactful life. He was a benefactor to the helpless.

He has exited at a ripe nonagenarian age. As nature abhors vacuum, it is therefore our prayer that the Almighty God will encourage his successors to step into his large shoes and defend/uphold the sparkling/crystal legacies he has bequeathed unto this generation.

We share in your grief, please accept our condolences.

Yours sincerely,

Eze Onwuka Mba
Deputy Eze-Ogo

Chief Nduka Agwu Onuoha (FIIA)
Community Chairman/Leader

Chief Odim Kalu Igbanu
Palace Secretary

AGBOJI COMMUNITY PROGRESSIVE UNION


AGBOJI COMMUNITY PROGRESSIVE UNION
*Central Board, Abiriba,
Abia State, Nigeria*

 Obu Kelly, Ndi Okorezi
 Agboji, Abiriba.

ONYE OGU

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

Date: 26/10/2020

The family of
 Late Chief Barr. K.K Ogbagba
 Oru Road, Owerri
 Imo State Nigeria.

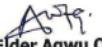
LETTER OF CONDOLENCE

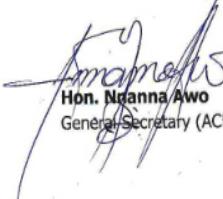
On behalf of EPPA of Agboji, the Eze in Council, Agboji Community Progressive union and the entire Agboji Community, we write to convey our deep condolences to Chief K.K Ogbagba's family, the people of Abiriba and Abia State as a whole on the demise of Chief Barr. K.K Ogbagba.

The late Chief K.K Ogbagba made significant and notable strides in all his endeavors. The intelligent Legal luminary was born into a family of fame. A legal giant by all standards and two time attorney general and commissioner of justice in the East Central State and Imo State respectively, Chief K.K. Ogbagba served in many capacities, such as the Chairman of East Central State Marketing Board. He represented Abiriba in general and Agboji in particular in many land cases. It indeed is regrettable that he did not live to fulfill his promise to live and conclude Agboji land matters. Chief K.K. Ogbagba would be fondly remembered for his amiability and philanthropy to many. A great man of Igbo extract from Abiriba in Ohafia Local Government of Abia State. From whatever angle you look at his life, birth, youthful and active years, all you see is greatness. One of the legends Nigeria had produced, a man with boundless energy, immeasurable intelligence and potentials, a man of honour who had over the years stood by the path of justice, irrespective of whose is gored.

His passing is a great loss not only to you, the members of his family, the people of Agboji, Abiriba and Abia State but to the nation as a whole.

May Almighty God comfort every member of the family and grant the soul of our father Chief K.K. Ogbagba eternal rest. Amen


Elder Agwu Oji Boko
 General President (ACPU)


Hon. Nnanna Awo
 General Secretary (ACPU)

COMMODORE (CHIEF) EBITU UKIWE, GCON, D.LITT (UNN)

Commodore (Chief) O. Ebitu Ukiwe, GCON, D.LITT (UNN), US-NWC, FSS

Plot 181, Kofo Abayomi Street,
 Victoria Island, Lagos, Nigeria.
 Tel: 01-903 2152
 E-mail: bue.practices@gmail.com

December 2, 2020

A Tribute to Chief K.K. Ogbagba

Barrister Chief K.K. Ogbagba, the Anyanwu of Abiriba was born into a very wealthy family in Ndi Ajah, Amogudu, Abiriba. His father was Chief Kalu Ogbagba who made a fortune importing and trading stockfish into the Port of Calabar, South East Nigeria where Chief K.K. was educated at Hope Waddell Training Institute Calabar.

Chief K.K. Ogbagba and his elder cousin Dr Kalu Orji were admired and pampered as privileged children who were sent abroad to England early for further education and training. While Dr Orji studied medicine, Chief K.K. Ogbagba studied law at the University of Oxford, in England.

He returned to Nigeria and practiced law in Port Harcourt until the breakout of the Nigerian-Biafran Civil War in 1967 when he relocated to Owerri.

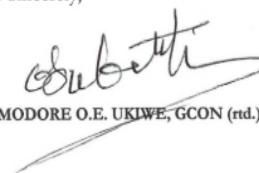
At the end of the war in January 1970, I lived with Chief K.K. Ogbagba in Enugu from where I went to Port Harcourt monthly to register with the Nigerian Military as soldiers who fought on the Biafran side were required to do. While staying with him I ran business errands for him as we spent our days contemplating post war Igbooland and planning our individual and collective reconstruction until I was recalled to the Nigerian Navy in January 1972.

Throughout his life, Chief K.K. Ogbagba remained a distinguished lawyer and beacon of society. Demonstrating to us all that it is possible to live a long, principled and steadfast life anchored in truth and justice.

My family and I both condole on his passing and rejoice on his celebrated life with the family of Chief K.K. Ogbagba.

May the Almighty God grant Chief K.K. Ogbagba eternal peaceful rest, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Yours Sincerely,


COMMODORE O.E. UKIWE, GCON (rtd.)

CHIEF ONUMAH NKPA**CHIEF ONUMAH NKPA****Commercial & Industrial Services****TRIBUTE TO A GREAT FRIEND, CHIEF K.K OGBA**

KK Ogbag was a man worthy of admiration with many feathers in his cap. To some he was a legal luminary, to others he was an adept communicator and to some others a passionate Abiriba son. To me, KK was a trusted counsellor and a reliable friend who was closer than a brother.

The legal prowess of KK has never been in doubt. He would go a great length to protect the interest of Abiriba representing the Community in several cases none of which was lost. I recall how he fought tirelessly up to the Supreme Court when Oroni was wrongfully occupied by Etitiamma Nkporo. His convincing arguments and oratory skills were simply too brilliant to be faulted by the wise men of the highest court of Nigeria. Abiriba is grateful to him for reclaiming Oroni.

As a trusted counselor and a friend, in spite of his busy schedule, he would spend time sharing thoughts with me. I treasured those moments as these were learning opportunities. The wisdom of his counsel was awe-inspiring. As a great host, he was never in hurry when you come calling, after spending long hours, he would not let you go and when he finally allows you to go, he would see you off all the way to your car even at his old age. Most of all he was a family man loved by his wife and children.

He was friendly to all those who came into contact with him regardless of their status and would not hesitate to share a smile, a laugh or a joke. He was a regular recipient of many gifts which he selflessly freely shared with his friends. He was so loved that the young and old walked a long distance to go and visit him at his Hilltop country home.

KK was a highly cultured gentleman with an uncommon blend of rich British and Abiriba culture owing to his exposure to prestigious Irish and English schools in his early days and his admiration for the diversity and depth of Abiriba and his people. He had a deep sense of community and a great understanding of Abiriba as his home.

KK, you will surely be missed but your legacy lives on.

To encapsulate your life, I will borrow the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson who said "It is not length of life, but depth of life". Indeed yours was a deep life and I say Rest well my friend and so long.

*To laugh often and love much;
to win the respect of intelligent persons
and the affection of children;
to earn the approbation of honest critics
and to endure the betrayal of false friends;
to appreciate beauty;
to find the best in others;
to give of one's self;
to leave the world a little better,
whether by a healthy child,
a garden patch,
or a redeemed social condition;
to have played and laughed with enthusiasm
and sung with exultation;
to know that even one life has breathed easier
because you have lived,
this is to have succeeded.*

Bessie Anderson Stanley



OBASI BROTHERS



OBASI BROTHERS

September 10th, 2020

Chief. K. K. Ogba Family
Owerri, Imo State, Nigeria

Attention: Kalu K. K. Ogba,

RE: CONDOLENCE MESSAGE / BRIEF TRIBUTE
Chief. Kalu Kalu Ogba, QC, Esq
ABIRIBA LOST A RARE GEM

The **OBASI BROTHERS FAMILY** wholeheartedly commiserate with the entire Chief **Kalu Kalu Ogba Family** on the demise of our beloved favorite Uncle and the patriarch of Kalu Kalu Ogba Family. We grew up knowing him as "Uncle KK" in our house, and one of our most favorite uncles as he was a very close family friend to our fathers and age mate of our father (Papa nta), Chief Uba Ekeagbara. Obasi who was his bosom friend from childhood.

Chief Kalu Kalu Ogba was born noble into the family of Chief Kalu Ogba whom along with his brother Ete Igwo, built one of the most successful business empires and the only skyscraper in Abiriba and the environ. The last floor of this historic four story building was home to Uncle KK for so many years. Uncle KK was blessed with a loving, great family and **intellectual capacity** with mastery in **linguistics** and **wordsmith**. A soft spoken man but with a firm voice who travelled to the United Kingdom in the 1950s to acquire the **golden fleece** and returned to Nigeria as a Barrister and solicitor of Queen's Counsel (QC) repute just before the Nigerian civil war started.

After the Civil War, Uncle KK was appointed a commissioner of justice in the East Central State and later Old Imo State where he exhibited exceptional performance in steering the Legal and judicial reconstruction of the badly damaged Igbo land. It was during this era that Uncle KK appointed our father (Papa Uku), Chief Ina Ekeagbara Obasi, as a member of the Rent Tribunal in Aba to help ameliorate the sufferings of the displaced Biafran citizens trooping back into the Enyimba city after the war.

Uncle KK was a chief in Abiriba Kingdom and indeed, merited the honor considering the pivotal role he played in using his legal skills to defend our community in her numerous land disputes with our neighbors. It's obvious that without Uncle KK, Abiriba current Community boarders with her neighbors wouldn't be what we know it today. He was indeed, a front line and distinguished Amogudu and Abiriba community leader of repute.

To Obasi Brothers Family, Uncle KK was more than an uncle. He was our mentor and one of our greatest inspirations. Growing up, our dear great beloved Uncle K.K of blessed memory will most certainly be missed for his wise counsel, wealth of experience in living and wisdom in dispensing facts of life. His service to family and humanity will forever be cherished as we immensely appreciate his sojourned on earth, characterized by his pragmatic nature, cheerfulness, loving caring attitude, kind gesture percepts as an ideal rare gem.

We saw him as a moving encyclopedia well vested and groomed in the legal and judicial processes system; his advocacy prowess is unparalleled, very captivating and awesome watching him performed his oratory art in a court setting. a man of class and high intellect - Indeed the legal profession lost a rare gem and an exceptional Advocate.

He lived a unique adorable life worthy of emulation in modesty, humility, honesty, candor and selflessness which endeared him to family, friends, contemporaries', and relations as an English gentleman. We are all witness to his enormous sense of integrity and commitment to the ideals of a united and progressive family. Yes indeed, Uncle KK will be greatly missed everywhere by family, friends and colleagues. Whenever Uncle K.K sees us and in response to us from "Kaa Uncle" he will say in Efik dialect "Akpan-Nyin Edem Mfo o" and to my brother Agbai "My Learned Friend" with a smile on his face that makes us admire him even more each time that exchange happened. We saw in Uncle KK the true meaning of honor, a word that has lost its meaning in our contemporary Nigeria.

Uncle KK was a very thorough breed who loved his family. His humanity is seen more by his unflinching love for his dear wife and children. His relationship with his family is one that every man who longs for a family admires. When we visit Uncle KK at his luxury hilltop home at the Oba Amogudu, you can't help but admire the healthy intimate relationship that exists in his family and his closeness to nature. You could feel the peace immediately you step into the mansion; and from the balcony of this beautiful edifice, you could see the all new development area in Amogudu and beyond. It is indeed, a beholding site that was crafted by a brilliant mind.

We could recollect the excitement on Uncle KK's face explaining the significance of one of the pictures prominently positioned in his living room. It is the picture of his father in traditional royal regalia holding a unique staff that was given to him by the Obong of Calabar. Watching Uncle KK describe those pictures brings back memory of the achievement and greatness of the old generation of the Abiriba community. A legacy that Uncle KK lived up to exceptionally and has now handed over to the next generation.

As we mourn this hero of our time, we are comforted that Uncle KK lived an exceptional life fulfilling God's purpose for his life. We pray for God's grace upon his dear wife, children - Nina Kal Hunters and her siblings - and the entire family at this time of grief, pain and irreplaceable loss. It's like a big hole is created in your hearts that only the Almighty God can help you all fill over time. And for us, it is with broken hearts that we miss our dear Uncle KK. May the Almighty accept his gentle soul and grant him eternal peace/rest.♦♦♦♦♦

Sincerely,

E. Uba Obasi, (Aku)

For: Obasi Brothers Family



29/31 MCC Road, Obasi Brothers Industrial Complex, Abayi, Aba, Abia State, Nigeria.
E-mail: obasibrothers@gmail.com Tel: 0803-553-1457, 0805-032-7875,

CHIJIODE ECHEME EMOLE

"Anyanwu Alabala": TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA (1930-2020)

"Anyanwu Alabala": TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA (1930-2020)

By Chijiode Eceme Emole

I write this tribute, on behalf of the family of Chief Eceme Emole, CFR, in honor of Chief Kalu Kalu Ogba, Anyanwu of Abiriba, who passed away recently.

My earliest memories of my first encounters with Chief Ogba were informed by his friendship with my parents: my father, Chief Eceme Emole, *Eze Udo* of Abiriba, who was his senior friend; and my mother, Chief Nneji Nwannediya Emole, *Ugwu Diya*, who belonged, with Chief Ogba, to the famed Okezie Age Grade of Abiriba. (The few surviving members of this legendary age grade are currently in their early 90s, including my mother, Ezeogo Dr. Anaghia Ezikpe, and Chief Kalu Ndafia.)

The friendship between Chief Ogba and my parents was an old-fashioned friendship (quite unlike today's very shallow and fair-weather friendships) that lasted for some 75 years; a friendship that demonstrated Chief Ogba's admirable ability to develop and sustain abiding friendships with countless numbers of people regardless of their age or status or background.

I was a beneficiary of Chief Ogba's generous friendship capacity. Despite my being almost three-and-a-half decades' his junior in age, he graciously extended his friendship with my parents to me. He mentored and advised and guided and encouraged and cheered me on. He was one of my principal boosters and cheerleaders; I drank to my fill from his fount of knowledge and wisdom and character and patriotism.

I will forever be grateful to him. At my 50th birthday celebration held in late December 2013 at Abiriba, he, ever the humble person he was (despite his octogenarian status, moneyed and elite parentage as well as his own individual achievements), graciously gave one of the two toasts during the birthday celebration party. (Elder Chief Kalu Uke Kalu, *Ekwueme* of Ohafia, another great octogenarian and senior friend and awesome mentor of mine, gave the second toast.)

Chijiode Eceme Emole

9 September 2020

1

"Anyanwu Alabala": TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA (1930-2020)

In the very early 1980s when I was on Christmas holidays in Abiriba from university in New Orleans in the United States of America, I visited Chief Ogba to luxuriate in and richly absorb the wisdom garnered from being in his company, that are standard fare for any encounter with Chief Ogba; a pleasurable and highly-anticipated practice that continued till our last meeting in his house in Abiriba in late December 2019 – when I and Ekeagbara Uba Obasi visited Chief Ogba a few months before he passed away.

Any visit I had with Chief Ogba in Abiriba often lasted for several hours – suitably endowed with the choicest cakes (baked by Lady Chinwe or Ola) and other delightful culinary offerings; most times, stretching into the early hours of the morning. He would make a point to walk *little you* to the car; and then, effortlessly, continue the conversation at the side of the car – with the car doors usually open. Even when he was already an octogenarian.

On that visit with Chief Ogba in 1984 in Abiriba, Chief Ogba advised me to ensure I subscribed to and read the *New York Times* diligently; he said reading it would greatly increase my communication skills and knowledge. I took his advice and have kept up the subscription till this day. This is just one example of how generous Chief Ogba was with sharing with and mentoring and guiding everyone – especially younger ones.

I have countless other examples, including his unceasing habit of recommending books you should read from his stupendous libraries in (Aria Road) Enugu, (Orlu Road) Owerri and (Hilltop) Abiriba; books on law, history, politics, economics, literature, anthropology, sociology, philosophy -- name it. (He studiously read *Homes and Gardens* magazine published in the UK -- and applied many home-decoration concepts he picked from there in the set-up of his home at Abiriba.)

Chief Ogba was a bibliophile – whose love for books and reading and thirst for knowledge were informed by his world-class education from Hope Waddell Training Institution, Calabar, to Oxford University, England. He obtained a bachelor's degree in literature from Oxford and was called to the Bar at Inner

Chiroke Echeme Emole

9 September 2020

2

"Anyanwu Alabala": TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA (1930-2020)

Temple, London. I recall him telling me that his father, Ete Kalu Ogba, and uncle, Ete Igwo, saw a counterparty's lawyer's brilliance demonstrated in court in Calabar during court proceedings they were involved with in the 1940s; and, thus, decided that Chief Ogba must proceed to England to study law as well. The rest is history.

Chief Ogba's erudition was legendary, informed by his deep immersion in literature in English – amongst his widespread readings. The family must complete and publish his memoirs, which he was enthusiastically working on before he passed on. He told me about several themes he was covering in the autobiography he was writing.

Chief Ogba was, of course, a towering legal light; his legal practice spanned some six decades and was extremely brilliant and successful. He was Attorney-General of the former East-Central State and of the old Imo State, respectively. He loved, and reveled in, courtroom battles and prevailed in countless of such battles and would regale us with stories of his numerous legal triumphs informed by extraordinary, sound preparation.

Genius, the great inventor Thomas Edison said, is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration. It's all about hard work and yet more hard work – plus, most importantly, God's Grace. Dozens of lawyers passed through Chief Ogba's tutelage and are successful today in their own rights. Indeed, he was a lawyer's lawyer. A Barrister's Barrister. (Alas, that Chief Ogba was not, in Nigeria, conferred with the title of Senior Advocate of Nigeria, requires its own cheerless commentary.)

Chief Ogba greatly loved his family and gave of himself for their education and good and welfare. He was particularly devoted to his wife, the cultured and sophisticated musical artist, Lady Chinwe, an operatist; and their children – Nnena, Ola, Chizoba, Kalu and Igwo. He dotted on them. He showered them with immense love and was also a true friend and encourager to each of them. To Chief Ogba, the most

Chiroke Echeme Emole

9 September 2020

3

"Anyanwu Alabala": TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA (1930-2020)

important focus was family ... family ... family ... family. The love and care and success among his family are testament to the excellent parenting job accomplished by him and Lady Chinwe.

To Chief Ogba, "family" absolutely included nuclear as well as extended family – in line with Abiriba tradition. Accordingly, in addition to his nuclear family, Chief Ogba also catered tremendously for his extended family – to his eternal credit and honor.

Chief Ogba was an intellectual humorist – whose wit and sense of irony were deeply pleasurable experiences. The subtlety of his humor was quite finely tuned. To be with him was to be lavishly transported to laugh and smile and echo back his smile and laughter and marvel at his wit with deep pleasure. He was a world-class raconteur, a master conversationalist. His hearty and deep-from-the-belly laughter would lovingly ricochet off of your heart and then return to envelope you with its warmth and empathy and emotional depth.

Long after – years' after -- you left his company, you would retell yourself and others, beautiful, didactic stories that Chief Ogba told you – but only you would do it very poorly this time around. Imitation, even of the poor sort, is the best form of adulation. ("Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery that mediocrity can pay to greatness" – said the literary genius Oscar Wilde.)

Underneath Chief Ogba's soft exterior and demeanor were steel nerves and the courage of a lion. Inside his soft-spoken nature lay a bold heart – and a fearlessness borne of virtue. As the sages of old said, there can be no functioning moral antennae in the absence of personal courage. (Pontius Pilate, anyone?) The latter – courage – informs, and sharpens, and directs, the former – moral antennae. Chief Ogba was boldly courageous in his moral sensibilities that underpinned his actions and utterances and stances over the course of his celebrated life.

Chijioke Echeme Emole

9 September 2020

4

"Anyanwu Alabala": TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA (1930-2020)

Chief Ogba was a pan-Africanist, a Nigerian, Igbo, Abiriba, and Amaogudu patriot. He was a historian; whose historical knowledge informed his Abiriba patriotism – and other patriotisms. He greatly labored for the Abiriba community and was one of the great many high achievers of the community. He was a proud Igbo national – a member of the Greatest Generation of *Ndi Igbo*.

I recall his telling me about the court proceedings in the 1970s regarding the *Oroni* land that was in legal dispute with a neighboring community. Abiriba won the land matter right up to the Supreme Court of Nigeria, with Chief Ogba as principal counsel to the community. He did not charge professional fees for his legal representation; even though the matter wound its way through the courts for several years. I recall him telling me how Chief Nnana Kalu, *Agba Wo Dike Izu* of Abiriba, and Chief Okafor Mang (two other late titans of Abiriba) used to attend court hearings, even in Lagos, regarding the land dispute and greatly supported the prosecution of the land matter in court on behalf of Abiriba, even though the *Oroni* land was ostensibly located in Ameke; a truly patriotic, pan-Abiriba behavior for all *today* to follow.

Despite Chief Ogba's global sophistication, he was at home with – and very proud (as Abiriba people are – sometimes to the studied irritation of some non-Abiribarians -- wont to be) of his Abiriba culture and heritage. He was well versed in the cultural intricacies and history. He spoke the Abiriba language with elegance and literary flair; he possessed many of its idiomatic expressions. His classic sartorial sense was gracefully displayed whenever he dressed in traditional attire – as well as in his beloved custom-made suits. It is a sad lament that the younger generation of Abiriba people may not be as fluent as he was in classical Abiriba language. Let's pray the language does not go the way of the Esperanto language.

Chief Kalu Kalu Ogba, *Anyanwu* of Abiriba, Lawyer's Lawyer, Barrister's Barrister, will forever be remembered for: his centering of his family – nuclear and extended, his kindness, his large heart, his humility, his brilliance, his wit and irony, his humor, his generosity, his empathy, his compassion, his decency, his giving of himself to everyone, his inspiration of so many, his sensitivity, his love of family and

Chijioke Echeme Emole

9 September 2020

5

"Anynu Alabala": TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA (1930-2020)

community and humanity, his (moral) courage and boldness, his fearlessness, his cultural and intellectual sophistication, his broad learning, his intellectual curiosity, his patriotism, his tremendous achievements in law and business and society, his integrity, his honesty, his straightforwardness and plain-spokenness and soft-spokenness, his being a master raconteur, his debonair nature, his humongous friendship capacity, his boosting and cheerleading of others. These will form components of pleasant and unceasing memories of him long after his passing. We are eternally grateful for his tremendous impact on us all who had the privilege to know him.

May the Lord of all Comfort comfort his family. In the words of 2nd Corinthians 1:3-4: "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God."

"Anynu Alabala." The "sun" has slept off. May his soul rest in peace. In Jesus Name. Amen.

Chijioke Echeme Emole

Chijioke Echeme Emole

9 September 2020

6

ELDER U.K. EKE

Faith in God . Determination . Hardwork

Elder U.K. Eke MFR, FCA

September 8, 2020

Dame Chinwe K. K. Ogbu
130 Orlu Road,
Owerri.

Dear Dame,

EXIT OF ONE OF ABIRIBA'S LIMITED EDITION

I received the sad news of Chief's transition with great pain and of a truth, Abiriba, nay humanity has lost a rare gem. On behalf of my family, I extend condolences to his immediate family, Dame Chinwe, Nena, Chizoba, Kalu and Igwo. To his *"ikwu"*, *unu kari obu*. He was truly, a loving husband, a caring father and a benevolent *okwara ikwu*. His life reminds us that modesty and contentment are attainable virtues.

Chief was an iconic Abiriba man and, to the tired traveler, the sight of his well-appointed, white-painted hill-top house announces "welcome to Abiriba". My father was his bosom friend and they belonged to the Okezie age grade- that highly successful age grade that demonstrated what a community can achieve with unity, cohesion and harmony.

Chief stood out. He had presence and exuded confidence, combined with style. He was a gentleman of the highest order. He had a mastery of the English language, matched only by his love for the authentic Abiriba dialect. He was a repository of our history and culture and defended the Abiriba cause. On this point, volumes can be written.

Some of my best days during my stay in Owerri or during "*Okochi*" at Abiriba were the time I spent soaking up his words of wisdom. Each encounter left me wondering why the Nigerian nation missed the opportunity of tapping his wealth of knowledge.

I realised that it was his decision not to be tainted or compromise on principles and so he exited with his integrity intact.

For me, this legacy of impeccable character resonates. After all, "a good name is better than silver and gold". Adieu Chief. You were a great son of Abiriba.

Elder U. K. Eke, MFR

CHIEF (ARC.) EKE ORUADA UDEAGHA

AN EXTRA ORDINARY BRILLIANT HUMAN BEING

Chief (Barr.) K.K. Ogba, the great Anyanwu of Abiriba Kingdom. You were an extra-ordinary human being. In the law court your shone brilliantly – so brilliant as brilliance can be. Your very person and personae exuded the aura of a learned Aristocrate. You will always be my ARISTORATIC LEARNED GENTLEMAN.

You were more intelligent than the intelligensia of your time. Who can equal your eloquence and sagacity at the law court.

There was this regal air of royalty about you; yet you were such a humble human being. You were friends to the high and lowly – to the rich and poor. And that was what made you so admirable, so lovable. As I write, I can't stop the tears flowing down my face. So many unanswered questions. Did you finish your auto-biography as you promised me? You said you wanted to write it personally. You know how close we were. You were my Elderly Senior personal friend. Oh how I miss you and will continue to miss you for a long time.

You taught me to value the culture and tradition of our Abiriba Enachioken heritage. You made me to understand that it is God Almighty that puts the culture and tradition in every society.

I once asked you how come you never lost a case for so many years. You replied that you wait for them at the crossroad of cross-examination; and there the questions you ask will bring the whole case down from the foundation.

You were truly a complete Abiriba man who loved your community and your people wholeheartedly. You applied the fundamental principles of Service Sacrifice and Selflessness as you handled case after case for the people of Abiriba Enadioken. I was there when you stayed up all night to prepare for the Agboji land case even at your old age!!!

You left a bold print in the sand of time. You touched many lives including mine. I learned so much from you. Your legacy will continue to live. And that is what made you so great. You are a great Abiriba man.

Farewell, Chief (Barr.) K.K Ogba.

Rest peacefully- The Anyanwu of Abiriba Kingdom

Goodbye my Elderly Senior friend and Mentor.

We will always remember you.

CHIEF (ARC.) EKE ORUADA UDEAGHA,
CBN PROJECT ARCHITECT
LANDBASE ASSOCIATES LTD.
ABUJA & LAGOS ISLAND



THE ODIM FAMILY

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA (1930 – 2020)

The family of Chief Usim Odim are deeply saddened by the death of Chief Kalu Kalu Ogba, Anyanwu of Abiriba.

During this difficult period of great loss and grief, we wish to express profound condolences to Lady Chinwe, his wife, and to his children, Nnena, Ola, Chizoba, Kalu and Igwo.

The death of Chief K. K. Ogba is an irreparable human loss to all of us. His passing has created a vacuum for his family, his friends, and the Abiriba community.

It is hard to find suitable words to pay tribute to this truly remarkable man. It is fortunate that during his lifetime he had the satisfaction of knowing the esteem in which he was held by those whose lives he touched with his humanity.

He was a man of faith. He was a man of reason. He was a man of peace. And he walked this side of Heaven's Door giving generously of his heart, his spirit and his mind.

As we mourn the death of Chief K. K. Ogba, it is our prayer that the Lord will grant him entrance into everlasting life. Our prayers are offered for the Ogba family. May God grant you comfort and solace during this time of your bereavement. The tie of Christ's love and gift of eternal life binds us forever in our earthly and heavenly life. We part to meet again.

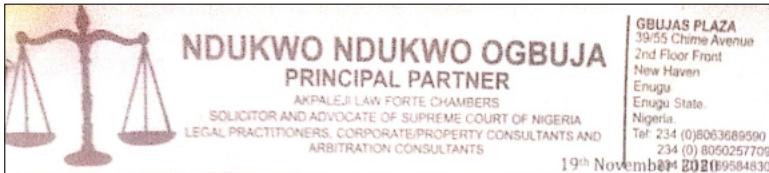
Can we all not now hear K.K.'s whistling of the opening bars of his favourite symphony coming from the other side of Heaven's Door?

May he rest in peace. May his soul through the mercy of God rest in perfect peace and the risen light of Christ perpetually shine upon him. Amen.

[CARLTON ODIM FOR THE FAMILY OF CHIEF USIM ODIM]



ELDER CHIEF BARR. & BARR. MRS. NDUKWO NDUKWO OGBUJA



A QUINTESSENTIAL ICON IS GONE !!!
CHIEF BARR KALU KALU OGBA (1930-2020) 90 YEARS.

Of all the gods, "only death does not deserve a gift" Aeschylus. No one wants to die, even people who want to go to heaven do not want to die, to get there and yet, death is the destination we all share. No one has ever escaped it. It is life's change agent. It clear out the old to make way for the new Steve Jobs.

My Lords, Spiritual and Temporal, here lies a great man of Enachioke Ancient Abiriba Kingdom, lifeless, going to the Court of Justice to defend his personal case with God.

A renowned legal Practitioner, the "Anyanwu Abiriba" the first Attorney General and Minister of Justice of East Central State of Nigeria, immediately after the Civil War. Chief Barr Kalu Kalu Ogbu in his 90 years on earth straddled like a colossus wherever he threaded leaving in his trail significant footprints in the sands of time. Oroni land was a reality, was as a result of his instrumentality.

Chief Barr. Ogbu , had the faith of the hymn writer Horattus Bonar-1808-89, who composed RCH 553, "Thy way not mine of Lord, However dark it be! Lead me by thine own hand choose out the path for me. I dare not choose my lot. I would not if I might, Choose thou for me, my God, so shall I walk aright.

Chief choose to study law and went to Overseas after a stint in business in Calabar Cross River State with Chief Igwo Kalu Ogbu.

On his return, Ameku Abiriba Community led by Chief Ikwan Onwuka approached him to handle the classical land case of "Oroni Land" which Nkporo Community were laying claim as theirs. He then enquired from Chief Ikwan Onwuka how they acquired the land in dispute. They were reluctant to say it was acquired out of conquest of our Abiriba warriors against the Nkporo Community when conquest was still in vogue. When he extracted that fact, he then filed defense in the case, which he won on merit.

In 1970, immediately after the Nigeria/Biafra Civil War, Chief Ogbu was appointed by Kpajie Ukpabi Asika as the Minister of Justice, Attorney General of East Central State of Nigeria , a position he held until about 1974.

After the creation of Imo State, Chief Barr Kalu Kalu Ogbu relocated to Owerri, Capital of Imo State and continued in his legal practice.

He was conferred with the Chieftaincy title of "Anyanwu Abiriba" by Eze U.U. Ukiwo, the Enachioke of Abiriba.

This Icon would be remembered by all, who must have crossed his way to be a Quintessential Icon of truth and fairness in his dealings. When four members of my Egwuena Age Grade, planned to set my house at Oduebe on fire as arson, I briefed Chief to handle the matter, he invited us all in his house and after

LIAISON OFFICE: 175 Cameroun Road, 1st Floor Front, Aba, Abia State, Nigeria
e-mail: ndukwondukwo1@yahoo.com

resolving the matter asked me to drop pursuing the charge against them, that two of them are of their Amogudu Royal family. Chief is of Okezie Age Grade of Abiriba, that built the Okezie Mid-Wifery Centre, Abiriba.

In 2014, Nigeria Bar Association had its Annual General Conference in Owerri, Chief was celebrated by the Nigeria Bar Association as one of the oldest in the legal profession in one of the sessions.

Chief's jovial, humble nature was exhibited when in 2016 he managed to attend my "Ime Uche" Ceremony at Oduebe , Amanta Abiriba, that memory remains with me always.

Last we met in Ohafia High Court 2018 after our matter in Court, he spent almost 90 minutes telling me stories and encouraged me to take my practice serious, which I have towed.

Many of us would miss forever his words of advice and encouragement. We pray God to grant your defense favourably and grant you rest in his Kingdom.

Adieu Anyanwu Abiriba

Adieu Oka Ikpe

May your soul rest in perfect peace.

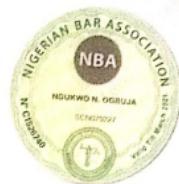


Elder! Chief Barr. And Barr. Mrs. Ndukwo Ndukwo Ogbu
PP: Akpaleji Law Forte Chambers.

Utuenikang ke Atakpa

Nwaeji Eje Mba

Ukoku Oduebe



CHIEF DR. DAVID OGBA ONUOHA BOURDEX, MFR,OON



Bourdex Foundation....changing lives

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KLM 5 ABIRIBA OHAFIA EXPRESS WAY,
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NIGERIA.

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email: info@bourdexfoundation.org

September 7, 2020

Mrs. K.K. Ogba & The Family.
Amaogudu
Abiriba.
Abia State.

Dear Madam,

I have received the sad news of the earthly departure of your husband and father to many Chief K. K. Ogba "Anyanwu Of Abiriba", renowned legal giant, and former Hon. Attorney - General of East Central state and IMO; of his passing into the great beyond.

I feel how weak and fruitless must be any words of mine that would attempt to bequile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming.

But I cannot refrain from tendering to you the consolation that may be found in the knowledge that life on earth is but a minute part of our total existence and that though Chief may have passed on you would one day find him again.

I pray that our heavenly father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement and leave you and the family only the cherished memory of the loved and lost and the solemn pride that must be yours knowing he lived a fulfilled and clean life.

Yours very sincerely and respectfully,

Chief (Dr.) David Ogba Onuoha Bourdex MFR,OON.
"Ugoena" Nde Abiriba.
Bourdex Foundation.
Bourdex Group Limited.

CHIEF NWAKA O. INEM (ENYI-OHA)

Nwaka O. Inem (Enyi - Oha)

📞 :0803 306 6824, 08057867194
Email: chiefnwakainem@gmail.com

▶ Miss Nena K.K. Ogba
Nena Kal Hunter
Owerri

MY CONDOLENCES

It is very hard for me to find the correct words to put down on the passage of your beloved father Chief K.K. Ogba.

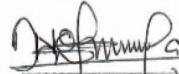
Being of the cherished OKEZIE AGE GRADE of Abiriba, where my father also belonged, I grew to see him as a revered source of inspiration with exemplary character and gentle mien. A fine and thorough bred lawyer with unassuming personality. With a distinguished professional career of many decades, faced with unblemished public service, especially as the Attorney General of Old East Central state, we cannot be less proud of him.

His love and dedication to the progress of our dear community Abiriba is parallel to none. A man that cherish our culture and all it portrays especially our traditional Ekpe dance, and many traditional entertainments.

Kindly accept my heartfelt sympathy on his passage to glory. The almighty God will grant you the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss. You will receive the divine strength, wisdom and resources to carry on the responsibilities his passage will throw-up

Do extend my condolences to your dear mother and the entire family. May his gentle Soul, receive a perfect resting place in our Lord's bosom. Adieu- ANYANWU ABRIBA

Yours Sincerely


Chief Nwaka O. Inem (ENYI-OHA)
11/30/2020

Blk H2 -2
Mutual Alpha Court Estate
Iponri - Surulere
Lagos.

MR. SAM ODU

A TRIBUTE TO MY LAWYER, MASTER AND MENTOR.

With a heavy heart full of sorrow and mixed joy, I write this tribute to remember Chief K.K. Ogba, the Anyanwu of Abiriba. The 14th of July, 2020 was a black day. It was the day this colossus passed on to glory beyond. I cannot forget how good he was to me. He never forgot to show me all the good qualities of life. Sometimes he acted like an apostle. He showed his good humor to everybody that came his way. We will surely be resting in the bosom of the Lord.

Good night, great lawyer.

Good night, Anyanwu of Abiriba.

Sam Odu.

PROFESSOR DIKE

A TRIBUTE TO MY SENIOR FRIEND, CHIEF BARRISTER K.K. OGBA.

Barrister K. K. Ogba was a close friend of my late elder brother and a dear senior friend of our family. I enjoyed visiting with him during my annual trip home from the US. Whenever our car drove past Igbere and I saw his beautiful white house on the hill I would breathe a sigh of relief. I knew then that after a long tedious journey I was back in the motherland and that the occupant of that house always made my visits so worthwhile. I will miss him dearly. And all people of goodwill will miss him because he was a welcome and innocuous bridge between the past and the present.

Since my words will not do justice to the passing of an illustrious great man as Chief Barrister K. K. Ogba, I summoned help from the one and only celebrated African American poet and writer Maya Angelou, 1928 – 2014 who wrote,

WHEN GREAT TREES FALL

When great trees fall, rocks on distant hills shudder, lions hunker down in tall grasses, and even elephants lumber after safety.

When great trees fall in forests, small things recoil into silence, their senses eroded beyond fear.

When great souls die, the air around us becomes light, rare, sterile. We breathe, briefly. Our memory, suddenly sharpened, examines, gnaws on kind words unsaid, promised walks never taken

Great souls die and our reality, bound to them, takes leave of us. Our souls, dependent upon their nurture, now shrink, wizened. Our minds, formed and informed by their radiance, fall away. We are not so much maddened as reduced to the

unutterable ignorance of dark, cold caves.

And when great souls die, after a period peace blooms, slowly and always irregularly. Spaces fill with a kind of soothing electric vibration. Our senses, restored, never to be the same, whisper to us. They existed. They existed. We can be. Be and be better. For they existed.

Goodbye Beloved Senior Friend,

Professor Dike.

EVANGELIST ECHEME NNANA KALU AND FAMILY

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF CHIEF KALU KALU, OGBA.

It was with deep sense of sadness that I received the news of the demise of our father, uncle, confidant, brother, friend, community leader and indeed an exemplary legal luminary CHIEF K K OGBA.

True every mortal must pass through the path of death, but when his death became true I had moments of introspection and realizing more the weakness of mortality.

Chief K K as he was fondly called by all was very well known not just in his very well loved and cherished profession, but in several other facets where he touched the lives of many. A very meek gentleman but with stoic resolve and quick determination in every situation and circumstances.

A father to many a youth and the younger generation, whom he gave unrestricted access to learn from his deep river of Wisdom and witty charisma.

A man that leaves a lasting impression of his positive nature and cerebral content and context in any subject of human reasoning. A very successful lawyer, highly regarded and respected. He indeed loved the legal profession and asserted himself both nationally and internationally.

Very fearless and never gave into mediocrity. Chief K K cherished merit and stood for demonstrable justice.

I had the enviable opportunity to seek his counsel in countless matters and cases and he acquitted himself with prudence and deep insight for which I remain ever so grateful to him.

No wonder many in Abiriba and beyond had great respect and cherished regard for his counsel.

Chief K K, you shall be missed both in Abiriba and beyond, however your steps in the sands of time will not be easily

forgotten.

To your wife, the Children and relations we say take heart and continue to stride on that large shoe Chief has left.

The Lord will surely grant all the family members the fortitude to bear the loss of this great man.

Adieu Chief K K

Adieu Chief K K Ogba

Adieu Anyanwu of Abiriba Kingdom.

You Crossed Our Paths.

Shalom

Evang Echeme Nnana-Kalu and family

CHIEF E.N. EJINDU AND FAMILY

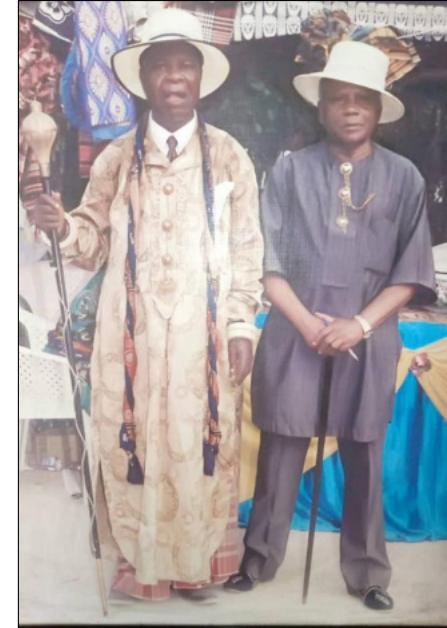


It is with a heavy heart that I say goodbye to an Icon and more over a great man, you lived a life of emulation, though it's hard to let go but the will of God must be done. You touched my life and many others which will never be forgotten till eternity. I pray that your soul will continue to rest in perfect peace. Amen

From Deacon Ogbonnaya Ejindu

DEACON OGBONNAYA EJINDU TRIBUTE TO AN ICON

It was a deep sense of loss that we the EJINDU's Family received the news of your death. As we know, death is an inevitable destiny of a man, we wish that the almighty God will grant you eternal life forever.



AGBAI INA OBASI

ABIRIBA LOST A RARE GEM

We grew up knowing him as Uncle KK in our house, one of our most favorite uncles as he was a very close family friend to our fathers and age mate of our Papa nta, Chief Uba E. Obasi who was his bosom friend from childhood.

Chief Kalu Kalu Ogba was born noble into the family of Chief Kalu Ogba whom along with his brother Ete Igwo, built one of the most successful business empires and the only skyscraper in Abiriba and its environs. The last floor of this historic four storey building was home to Uncle KK for so many years.

Uncle KK was blessed with a loving, great family and intellectual capacity. A soft spoken man but with a firm voice who travelled to the United Kingdom in the 1950s to acquire the golden fleece and returned to Nigeria as a Barrister and solicitor and Queen's Counsel just before the Nigerian civil war started.

After the Civil War, Uncle KK was appointed a commissioner of justice in the East Central State / Old Imo State where he exhibited exceptional performance in steering the Legal and judicial reconstruction of the badly damaged Igbo land. It was during this era that Uncle KK appointed my father, Chief Ina Ekeagbara Obasi, as a member of the Rent Tribunal in Aba to help ameliorate the sufferings of the displaced Biafrans citizens trooping back into the Enyimba city after the war.

Uncle KK was a chief in Abiriba Kingdom and indeed, merited the honor considering the pivotal role he played in using his legal skills to defend our community in it's numerous land disputes with our neighbors. It's obvious that without Uncle KK, Abiriba current Community boundary's boarders with her neighbors wouldn't be what we know it today. He was indeed, a front line and distinguished Amaogudu and Abiriba community leader of repute.

To me, Uncle KK was more than an uncle. He was my mentor and one of my greatest inspirations. Growing up, I saw him as a man of class and high intellect. From 1986 when I returned to Nigeria with a Juris Doctorate degree in law from Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI, each time Uncle KK sees me and in response to my " kaa Uncle", he will say " my learned friend" with a smile on his face that made me to admire him even more each time that exchange happened. To crown it all, Uncle KK was the Chairman of my wedding reception, a position he shared with late Chief Nwojo Omokorie being a double wedding with my late brother Ekeagbara Ina Obasi. I saw in Uncle KK the true meaning of honor, a word that has lost its meaning in our contemporary Nigeria.

I recall when I graduated from Nigerian law school and my father advised me to go do my chamber attachment with Uncle KK. The one week I spent in his chambers in Owerri was one of the most rewarding experience I got as an apprentice lawyer. Again, when I started banking as a legal officer in Progress Bank in Owerri in 1988, I would visit Uncle KK's Chambers just to listen to his inspiring words. Uncle KK was like a moving encyclopedia and well vested and groomed in the legal and judicial processes and system. His advocacy prowess is unparalleled and it was captivating and awesome seeing him performed his oratory art in a court setting. The legal profession has indeed lost an exceptional Advocate.

Uncle KK was a very thorough breed who loved his family. His humanity is seen more by his unflinching love for his dear wife and children. His relationship with his family is one that every man who longs for a family admires. When we visit Uncle KK at his luxury hilltop home at the Ugwu-Oba Amaogudu, you can't help but admire the healthy intimate relationship that exists in his family and his closeness to nature. You could feel the peace immediately you step into the mansion; and from the balcony of this beautiful edifice, you could see the all new development areas in Amaogudu and beyond. It is indeed, a beholding site that was crafted by a brilliant mind.

I could recollect the excitement on Uncle Kk's face explaining the significance of one of the pictures prominently positioned in his living room. It is the picture of his father in a traditional royal regalia holding a unique staff that was given to him by the Obong of Calabar. Seeing Uncle KK describe that picture brings back memory of the achievements and greatness of the old generation of the Abiriba community. A legacy that Uncle KK lived up to exceptionally and has now handed over to the next generation.

As we mourn this hero of our time, we are comforted that Uncle KK lived an exceptional life fulfilling God's purpose for his life. We pray for God's grace upon his dear wife, children - Nena Kal Hunters and her siblings - and the entire family at this time of grief, pain and irreplaceable loss. It's like a big hole is created in your hearts that only the Almighty God can help you all fill over time. And for us, it is with broken hearts that we miss our dear Uncle KK. May the Almighty accept his gentle soul and grant him eternal peace/rest.

Barr. Agbai Ina Obasi

Author: Financial Independence

CHIDI ANYA

These words yet ring true " ... o death where is thy sting" The sheer seeming permanence of death on this side is perhaps the sting . Our very own Uncle KK, Anyanwu Abiriba has indeed gone the way of all mortal men .. he is now with the saints triumphant! His was a life so full of achievement, we mortals who met or knew him and indeed all those called to the bar, all strive with great trepidation to be a fraction of the man he was. He was eminently distinguished, witty, erudite and in every sense of the word, an aristocrat ! He was that quintessential gentleman we all wanted to emulate ... he molded and mentored simply by our observing, listening and seeing his devotion to excellence. Growing up many of us wanted to be like him- reading law and actually practicing as Barrister was our dream. He was eloquent and very fluent in English and in our Abiriba dialect and had such a command of language that kept us spell bound making it impossible to forget time spent with Uncle KK.

He loved his classical music ... little wonder that his beloved wife our Auntie Chinwe is an accomplished operatic singer!

I would forever cherish the time when he asked me to pick him up at Owerri as we had been invited to a meeting with Enachioken and other Ndi Eze , what an honour it was! The memories from that trip would always be treasured as it was as refined as it was refreshing as he regaled me with stories of some of his accomplishments at the bar. He offered me various tit bits on how to win cases even when they were elements of mischief ! He was confident that with the many Abiriba lawyers who had dared to follow in his footsteps that our future was bright and that his work on this side was largely done! He blessed me as he offered his kernel of wisdom, assuring me that our future was bright. I remember, how years ago when I informed him about my decision to read law ... he advised that I read broadly, indeed he recommended that I read the Bible cover to cover and learn from its written word, its deep wisdom and the splendor of the written English language particularly in the King James Version . He was such a teacher and mentor of would be Advocates. His skill in advocacy was legendary. He loved to hone our skills ... his desire and his hope was to ensure that we were the best we could be , he molded us all to the best of his ability.

We love you and will miss all you did and stood for. We will miss your uncommon touch ... those picnics and subsequently dinner dates on the hill listening, watching and admiring you. May we all fulfill our purpose as we all look forward with fondness and expectation, even in your passing to read your much promised memoirs. You left an exceptional Family who will keep your vision and legacy burning bright.

Kaa Chief, Uncle KK ,you are now at rest with the stars where you always belonged, looking down upon us with fondness, kindness and that twinkle in your eyes

Rest on our beloved Uncle KK, Anyanwu Abiriba, till we meet again

Chidi Anya Esq.

(Oko Anya Oko Anya Egburonu)

IREKE ONUMA CHIEF K.K. OGBA : A TRIBUTE

Chief K K Ogbu is dead. He died in the early hours of today. His is a death, announcing the end of a long era. His is a death that points back to a time of myths and memories.

He was of the Okezie Age Grade of Abiriba. Not of AMEKE OR AMAOGUDU OR AGBOJI, but of ABIRIBA. He was educated, but above all LEARNED. He was amongst that illustrious generation of educated Abiriba folks that never lost their common touch. He belonged and participated fully in the dynamics of his age grade and the Abiriba Community.

That was the age grade that had Odim Egworonu Obasi, UBA Ekeagbara Obasi, Oku Manyi, Agwu Kalu Abosi, Anaghia

Ezikpe, Nneji Emole, Agwu Anya, Kalu Ndafia, Ejibe Nduka and many others. They were for me giants while growing up. And from them I learnt loads of great things.

My relationship with K K Ogbag started in 1982. They were gathered at my Uncle, Odum Egworonu's house for their Otú Enyi meeting. And that was the first time I got a closer look at the man whom we read about in school as the first Attorney General of Old Imo State under Ndubuisi Kanu. Shaking his hand was like touching the gods. He was soft spoken but forceful. He spoke his piece and kept quiet. But never felt bothered by the raucous often noisy and loud jokes of his mates. He was at home there as he could be in any hallowed chambers.

On the particular day I alluded to above, he stayed back after their meeting for a private chat with my Uncle. While waiting for my Uncle to come back. We got talking. I was flustered all over. But he quietly inquired what I was doing and when I told him I was in school, hoping then to enter the University, he stretched his hands and shook me and went on to tell me that I must be serious about education, for, he added Abiriba has a need for more educated people. I left him after my Uncle came back.

But that brief chat never stopped echoing in my mind. It served as a stopgap when I questioned things about myself or my Abribaness. He got me seriously looking forward to being better than I was then or hoped to be.

Fast forward to the year 2001. I had completed my education and was now engaged in the public service for the Igbo Nation. In the company of Justice Eze Ozobu, we met again while putting together the Igbo team and papers for the Oputa Panel. When I introduced myself, he not only recognized me as Agbeze's son but asked "Are you not that young chap, Odum's nephew, that usually serves us during our meetings?" I was astounded. And that encounter started my second life with him as a senior friend. The reason we then went to him was both successful and unsuccessful. He refused to be part of the active team of senior lawyers with knowledge of our war experiences that would represent us at the Oputa panel for health challenges. But he promised to give intellectual support as much as he could and that he did. I visited him severally then in Owerri to get his views and collect documents as the case maybe.

Subsequently, over the years I have had recourse to meet and talk with him over a wide range of issues. He was not just an intelligent man, he was deeply learned. He sought for solutions in all issues being discussed. What he did not take was a flimsy excuse to avoid interrogating anything. I came to appreciate a bit more of the burden his educated generation bore for Abiriba. There weren't many of them then. And also not many were lawyers. He at a certain meeting, lamented about a lot of Abiriba lands lost to Ohafia, Nkporo, Igbere communities and several others in the past because we did not have the men to take up the challenges.

His death has closed a door. But like we say in Abiriba, when a door closes another opens. He lived to see a lot of Abiriba men and women become lawyers and successful ones at that. However what's missing today unlike then, is the selfless attachment he and his generation had for Abiriba. They served the community selflessly. Sacrificed sometimes their comfort for the common good. On this score he would be missed.

I spent a better part of the last few years urging him to put pen to Paper. To tell us his story. To narrate his experiences and leave for us a refreshing history of his rich and illustrious life. I am not sure if he did. That would really sadden me if he didn't. For there aren't many of them left and even if there are, not many of them could measure up to his gargantuan height. This tribute and recollection of KK's life should be a wake up call for all our sons and daughters who have retired by having done their mandatory UCHE CEREMONY to know that they owe us their stories. There is a dearth of informed history about Abiriba. They can help fill the gap.

Chief K K Ogbag was a great man. I met him. I learnt a lot from him. I am deeply saddened by his death. But in death he remains a true and patriotic Abiriba man. Our reputation as a people was enhanced by his being our own. Our best tribute and honor to him is to rear that next generation of brave and bold men and women that would promote the image of Ebiriba Enachioken to the world.

Je nke Oma Ezi Nna!

Irèke A Kalu Onuma

Lagos

July 15 2020

ELDER CHIEF ORUADA ARUNSI OCHOR

TRIBUTE TO MY MASTER AND FRIEND CHIEF K.K OGBA "ANYANWU ABIRIBA"

Chief on the 2nd of January 2020, I saw you and you saw me and we waved at each other from each side of the road near Egwuena Girls' secondary school, Abiriba. That was during birthday celebration of your bosom friend Ezeogo Anagh Ezikpe. I was already leaving when you were driving in. Little did I know that was the last time I will see you again physically. The announcement of your death in July, 2020 was therefore most shocking to say the least.

Chief K.K and I have had very friendly relationship for quite some years now – a giant and a lilliputian strongly attached to each other by bond of love and humility.

Chief K.K indeed was a man of many parts – very rich family background, intelligent scholar and a high professional achiever, lover of Abiriba culture and heritage which he defended with passion and above all "very humble".

He has left behind his wife Dame Chinwe Kalu Ogbag, his children and relations. Indeed words will fail me to continue to give credence to this giant of a man than to say that He came, He saw and He conquered in a very big way.

Adieu my humble master and friend Chief K.K Ogbag.

Like Shakespeare puts it – It is sands eyes, sands mouth and sands everything. God knows the best.

R.I.P – Pride of Abiriba indeed Nigeria.

NENA OCHOR
THE LEGEND LIVES

So it's true....

Words fail me...

Penning down this tribute brings to reality the fact that you've actually transitioned big daddy? Alas, God knows best. I've taken time to process a lot of things, and all I can say is: thank God for the wonderful life you lived. I learnt a lot from you daddy: you were zesty, selfless, generous, friendly, kind, supportive, too nice a learned gentleman and father, an indefatigable defender of human rights, down to earth and you looked out for the best in people. You were a beautiful soul in and out; truth be told, heaven gained an amazing soul and I thank God for your positively impactful life.

All I can ever say is: THANK YOU.

Thank you for all you did and all you stood for.

Thank you for treating me like your own child.

Thank you for your kindness towards me and my family.

Thank you for doing all these with the selfless support from your wonderful family whom you loved deeply.

Daddy, you can never be forgotten, and your legacy is a source of comfort to me, as well as a testimony of your benevolent nature.

Sleep well daddy; rest on papa.

Nnenne O. Ochor

OJIUGO EKE INYIMA

THE GREAT IROKO (LEGAL LUMINARY) HAS FALLEN

"Mr death" , you dealt a blow that has devastated the family and left an irreparable loss.

Uncle, you were all it takes to be a pillar in the family. You stood for justice, equity and fair play. But, as it is presently, we have the only option of accepting the divine call that you return Home to our creator. Your unavoidable exit reminds us that the living should not loose sight of the realities of life.

My uncle and daddy, we shall always miss you. But God loves you most.

Rest in the bosom of the Lord till we meet to part no more.

Ojiugo Eke Inyima

UMOH EKE INYIMA

A TRIBUTE TO AN EXEMPLARY UNCLE & FATHER

A GREAT HERO CAME, PERFORMED AND LEFT

My dear uncle, daddy K.k Ogbag, is no more. What a big vacuum!!

I will remember endlessly your words and stories that contributed to my up bringing.

You were compassionate , hard working, caring, fatherly and an Inspiration.

It is difficult to express how dear you were to the family. It is difficult to explain what you meant to me.

Uncle, you left when we needed you the most.

Well, we are in the world and not of the world. We are all in transit.

Daddy, you will always remain in my heart. You will remain my uncle in our next coming.

Rest in Perfect peace.

Umoh Eke Inyima

Learn to give without expectations and to do good even when no one is watching

For even after all this time, The sun never says to the earth, "You Owe Me."

Look what happens with a love like that, it lights up the whole sky.

BARBARA E. KWAST, FRCOG, OON

A TRIBUTE TO CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA

Chief Kalu K. Ogba became known to me in 1976 when The Netherlands Government sent me to Abiriba to make the Okezie Midwifery School operational. This school was built by the Okezie Age Grade before the Biafran War, but had never functioned. In the meantime rules and regulations for the establishment of a Midwifery School in Nigeria had changed and the higher requirements presented a considerable challenge.

Soon after arrival in Abiriba I was privileged to meet the members of the Okezie Age Grade, both men and women. After nine years of work in Malawi, East Africa, the Age Grade system was new to me. Without the dynamic leadership of the Okezie Age Grade of which Chief K.K. Ogba was a member, and their untiring support to the Akahaba Joint Hospital, their dream of opening their Okezie Midwifery School in 1978 would not have happened.

During my three years in Abiriba, Chief K.K. Ogba was Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Imo State in Owerri. His dedication to his demanding work in Owerri and at the same time his untiring commitment Atobiriba was admirable. He was always interested in the progress of the Okezie

Midwifery School and we would meet on occasions during his visits to Abiriba. Kalu was a great support to me in this challenging time of getting the school up and running. I learned much from his wisdom, great tranquility of heart and service to his people. His gift to me of Thomas à Kempis' devotional book: 'The Imitation of Christ' has been a guide for me up to this day.

His wife Chinwe, became a special friend and we shared our love for music when she sang solos of Händels' Messiah, accompanied by me on my piano in my house in Abiriba. I saw their family grow and after I left Abiriba our friendship continued. Vivid memories remain of Chief K.K. Ogba's UCHE Ceremony in Abiriba in December 1992 to which I was privileged to be invited. To witness the outpouring of gratitude for his selfless giving and philanthropic work was overwhelming. In September 2001, Kalu attended my Fellowship Ceremony at the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in London. In June 2011, two of his daughters, Nenna and Olla, visited me in Holland.

For me, Chief K.K. Ogba was an example of leadership by actions and not just words. He, together with his wife Chinwe, was one of my most inspiring friends in my early career.



I am truly blessed, deeply grateful and privileged to have known Kalu and have him as a mentor in Abiriba and friend. I and my brother will always remember him and his generosity of spirit.

May he rest in Peace.

ELLY SOETEKOUW-MEIJER

Dear family of late K.K. Ogba,

Through my good friend Mrs. Barbara Kwast I received the sad message of the passing of your husband and father Kalu K. Ogba.

During the period of January 1976 till December 1979 my (late) husband Dr. Peter Soetekouw and I lived and worked in the Presbyterian Hospital Uburu. As our hospital secretary Mr. K.O.Kalu came from Abiriba and our friend Mrs. Barbara Kwast was working as a director of the new Midwifery school, we were always happy to visit Abiriba. During these visits we were warmly welcomed by your family. We were very much impressed by your father Kalu and mother Chinwe. They told us about the interesting age-grade system in Abiriba that achieved so much.

We are very grateful to have had the chance to get to know your family and to have contact with them.



We like to give you our sincere condolences with the loss of your dear husband and father. That his funeral services may give full tribute to his life and work for you as a family but also for the well being of the Abiriba community.

With warm greetings and remembrances,

Elly Soetekouw-Meijer from the Netherlands

Ka Chukwu gozie gi nile.

THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY OF H.R.H EZE (DR.) ONUEGWUNWOKE

TRIBUTE BY THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY OF H.R.H. LATE EZE DR SYLVESTER ONU EGWUNWOKE (MON) THE EZE OHA 1 OF IHITTEOHA URATTA & THEN CHAIRPERSON, IMO STATE COUNCIL OF TRADITIONAL RULERS TO HIS BELOVED FRIEND AND COUNSEL, CHIEF BARRISTER K.K. OGBA, THE ENYIOHA/OKWUOHA 1 OF IHITTEOHA URATTA AND FORMER ATTORNEY GENERAL & COMMISSIONER FOR JUSTICE, IMO STATE

Okwuruoha, news of your demise greeted us with a rude shock. Howbeit, we chose not believe it until it was confirmed a few weeks ago.

Your enviable relation with our late father stemmed from the United Kingdom where you met while studying Law in the early sixties and our late father undergoing a top management course there by the Nigeria Tobacco Company (N.T.C)

Upon return to Nigeria shortly after, this relationship grew stronger and by dint of your exceptional hard work and practice in the Legal profession, you became the 1st Company Lawyer of the Nigeria Tobacco Company in 1963 in Port Harcourt where our father worked as Personnel Manager. This beautiful accord continued until a brief incident, the Nigerian civil crisis separated you two for three years 1967-1970.

Nevertheless, your bond even grew stronger after the civil war as you not only relocated to Owerri, but with the help of your friend built your country home in Akwakuma, the home of your Bosom friend, H.R.H Eze Dr. Onu Egwunwoke, the then Eze Udo 1 of Akwakuma Community. In 1979 when Eze Dr. Onu Egwunwoke was made the Eze OHA 1 of Ihitteoha Uratta, a larger Kingdom comprising of approximately eleven (11) towns in Uratta, you were among the first set of Ihitteoha Chiefs conferred by your friend Eze Dr Onu Egwunwoke. Together the two of you went through the sadness and joy of life until April 2000 when death separated you two as your friend and our father left us untimely. From then up until your departure, you became a father to us (your friend's family) helping out in wise council, etc now and then.

Okwuruoha, as one time Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice Imo State, you have left and everlasting foot print in sands of time in this country be it at the Federal, State or your own Local Government.

You meant so much to all of us. You were special and that's no lie. You brightened up the darkest and the cloudiest sky. Your smile alone warmed our hearts. Your laugh was like music to hear and I would give absolutely anything to have you well and standing near! We will never forget your love and we hope the hurt of your absence will heal in time.

However, we cannot help but submit to the will of the Almighty God. We know you are now in Abraham's Bosom. You have joined your ancestors and your friend Eze Dr Onu Egwunwoke after 20 years but you will remain forever in our hearts for all your kind deeds to humanity.

Farewell till we meet to part no more.

High Chief Emma Onuegwunwoke
For: H.R.H Eze (Dr) Onuegwunwoke's immediate family



DAVID KALU OPARA



Blessed are the Pure in Heart

A SONG BY TIM HARRISON:
THE LIFE OF KALU KALU OGBA

And I won't feel the flowing of the time when I'm gone
And the pleasures of love will not be mine when I'm gone
My pen won't pour the lyric line when I'm gone...

And I won't breathe the brandy air when I'm gone
And I can't even worry 'bout my cares when I'm gone
Won't be asked to do my share when I'm gone...

And I won't be running from the rain when I'm gone
And I can't even suffer from the pain when I'm gone
There's nothing I can lose or I can gain when I'm gone...

Won't see the golden of the sun when I'm gone
And the evenings and the mornings will be one when I'm gone
Can't sing louder than the guns when I'm gone...

All my days won't be dances of delight when I'm gone
And the sands will be shifting from my sight when I'm gone
Can't add my name into the fight when I'm gone...

And I won't be laughing at the lies when I'm gone
Can't question how or when or why when I'm gone
Can't live proud enough to die when I'm gone...

There's no place in this world where I'll belong when I'm gone
And I won't know the right from the wrong when I'm gone
And you won't find me singing on this song when I'm gone
So I guess I'll have to do it while I'm here

My Dad's Mentor, You were pure in heart
and paid evil with good.
You preached Peace, Love, Forgiveness;
above all, you were Meek, Kind and Generous.
You lived proud enough to die.
You did it while you were here.

THERE'S NO PLACE IN THIS WORLD
I'LL BELONG WHEN I'M GONE
iGUESS
I HAVE TO DO IT
WHILE I'M HERE



ProudlyyourOgboo!
DavidKALUOPARA Snr&Jnr

CHIEF PAUL J. OPARA , KSJI

I am privileged to be associated with the Late Chief Barrister K.K. Ogba as a Good Friend, a Reliable Brother and a Generous Mentor. He was a Fine Gentleman, A very brilliant Lawyer, a celebrity and he lived a very clean and generous life.

All mortals are bound to die to see their maker. As you embark on this creative-bound journey, may nothing hinder you from meeting the God for whom you have lived so well on earth.

As you intercede for your family, remember us too.

"The soul of the faithful is in the hands of God".

Adieu Chief! My family misses you so dearly.

Chief Paul J. Opara, KSJI

LOLO BERNICE CHUKU

A TRIBUTE TO CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA

It is with a deep sense of loss that I mourn the passing away of a great family friend, Chief K.K. Ogba. I sympathize with Chinwe, his wife and all the children.

I pay my tribute to a distinguished gentleman, a former Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice for East Central State, Nigeria. My husband, Chief Humbles O. Chuku had known him very well, loved him and held him in high esteem. He often referred to him as a perfect gentleman. We teased him at home, so whenever he mentioned K.K., we concluded for him with “perfect gentleman.”

At Owerri, Imo State, we became neighbors living at Orlu Road, Akwakuma. We became family friends and visited one another from time to time. His general comportment and elocution bore witness to the fact that he was educated at Oxford University, England.

When my husband was hospitalized at Owerri, K.K. came in the morning, apologizing that he had gone to Ariaria market in search of a pair of pyjamas to buy for my husband, but could not find any. I was touched at how much trouble he had taken for our welfare. He visited and gave me moral support when my husband became very ill and at his death, he was there at Item for the funeral. K.K. and Chinwe sympathized with us.

My family went through a hard time as our Daddy died intestate. K.K. was a pillar of rock to me for he ensured that I never lacked, and he reassured me and told me that as long as he was alive, that I will never be in rags. He gave me financial and moral support.

Now I lost my daughter, Ijeoma Anya by motor accident in 2002 on her way from school at Owerrinta. I want to reproduce an excerpt from K.K.’s letter because it will be my last point of contact with him.

Dear Mrs. Chuku,

I was shattered and speechless by the wholly unexpected news of the death of your dear daughter, Ijeoma Anya. Ijeoma’s death is certainly a heavy blow, not only to you and your children, but also to all of us who have come to love and respect her for her gentle ways, and for the outstanding success with which, with your overseeing help, she was managing successfully to bring up her large brood.

I want you to know that I am with you in this dark hour and that you can expect my utmost co-operation in ensuring for her, a decent funeral. May God bless you.

*Yours very sincerely,
Chief K.K. Ogba*

He did exactly what he said he would do and was also present at the funeral.

At my 80th birthday celebrations in 2010, K.K. was the chairman. Now I only have the pictures for remembrance. Chief K.K. Ogbagha has served the government, the State and the country meritoriously. He was a brilliant light in his hometown, Abiriba and he was also a strong believer in the Lord Jesus Christ. K.K. was a legal luminary who was highly respected in the community.

And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, “Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth, that they may rest from their labours, and their works do follow them.” – Revelation 14:13.



Eternal rest, grant unto him oh Lord and may he rest with Your saints in paradise through the Grace of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Lolo Bernice Chuku
October 2020

OZONMA OBIOZO MBANEFO

Words will not be sufficient to describe Chief K.K. Ogbagha. He meant so much to my family. A friend, a mentor, an adviser, a legal icon, quintessential gentleman with loads of wit and inestimable finesse in architecture and building, intelligence par excellence, a family man. I and family will miss you dearly but posterity will etch your influence on it in the sands of gold.

Journey thee well till we see in the after life. Adieu Ogbuagu

Ozonma Obiozo Mbanefo

Savile Row is a street in the Mayfair district of London. It is famous across the world for its bespoke tailoring for men. The dinner jacket and the tuxedo were both invented by its tailors and it was built as long ago as the 1700's.

Sometimes described as the "golden-mile" of tailoring, it has clothed such dignitaries as Lord Nelson, Winston Churchill and Prince Charles. Owning a suit from this famous street has always been something to brag about, as it typically costs an arm and a leg. But the satisfaction that comes from owning a Savile Row suit goes beyond its cost. Its suits are well fitted, slipping into its owners body like a glove no matter how out of shape they are.

During K.K's university days at Oxford, he desperately wanted to own a Savile Row suit in his never ending quest to master the art of suave dressing. On a visit to London later that year, he paid a visit to the famous street and came across a shop owned by Mr. W. G. Child, a fourth generation Savile Row tailor. K.K asked for his measurements to be taken and for a suit to be made for him, but when he finally asked how much the whole thing was going to cost, he was completely taken aback by the price. He frankly told Mr. Child that he could not afford his suits. At this point, Mr. Child, always a consummate salesman, asked, "Young Man, what are you studying at the University?". K.K replied, "History and Political Science, but I will become a barrister at the end", "Ahhh, Mr. Child said", placing his hand on his shoulder, "I can assure you of one thing. If you buy my suits as a barrister, they will so dazzle the judge and jury that they will win your cases for you". K.K never forgot what he said. He still ended up wearing Savile Row suits on his return to Nigeria but at the time, he could only afford vintage outfits from the famous district.



But in 1976, following a massive financial windfall from the sale of his eight-bedroom Port Harcourt home, he would remember Mr. Child, the tailor he had met so many decades earlier. They would reunite on a visit to London and from that point on, K.K would make every single one of his suits with Mr. Child . Over the years, the talismanic powers the old man had predicted for his suits would seemingly come to pass, as K.K would end up having a very successful legal career indeed.



Not Savile Row

OFFICIAL TRIBUTE FROM K.K'S TAILORS, W.G CHILDS AND SONS

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To the Ogbu family,

It was with great sadness that we received the news of K.K. Ogbu's passing.

We had the pleasure of first meeting K.K. in 1946 and tailored for him over the next thirty years!

Always charming, polite and immaculately dressed, he was one of life's true gentlemen and will be missed by all who knew him.

Sent with our deepest sympathies,

Philip Child

PERSONAL TRIBUTE FROM PHILIP CHILD

Dear Igwe,

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Philip Child and I am the 5th generation to run the family business here in London. My sincerest condolences on the death of your father, who I had the great pleasure of meeting on many occasions and was nothing but a pleasure to deal with and was one of life's true gentlemen who will be genuinely missed. This is very sad news indeed.

It was my Father (Patrick Child) who dealt with KK as we knew him and they got on very well together, often spending many hours putting the world to rights while having tea and biscuits before moving on to tailoring matters. I still have the cutting pattern and records of all the garments that KK commissioned from us and he was a very prolific customer that liked to be well dressed at all times. It comes as no surprise to hear of the great notoriety and success such a clever and charming man achieved in his life and we are delighted to have played some small part in that.

My Father also passed away earlier this year so I fully understand what your family are going through at this time and I would be honored to send a condolence letter or email to be included in his remembrance book. Please let me know which you would prefer and give me the postal address if it is to be a letter.

Sent with deepest sympathies,

Philip Child



PART **VIII**

THE UCHE YEARS

By the early 1990's, K.K had turned sixty. It was now time for the Ime Uche festival, a traditional ceremony of the Abiriba people marking the end of an individual's active community service. During this festival, the celebrant sits in a canopy at his home, and receives gifts and blessings from friends and family alike.

This meant that it was now time for K.K to finally complete his Abiriba country home which had been under construction since 1985. It was designed by Phillip Richard, a French architect in his 20's, who worked as a guest lecturer at UNICAL and was married to a black woman from Francophone Africa. He was tasked by K.K to design "the most beautiful house in all of West Africa". The architect was shocked by this demand, but he was also greatly honored by the challenge. He told K.K that in his home country of France, an architect his age would never even have received a commission to design a store house, let alone a project of this scale and ambition. Toiling away for six months, he then came up with a final design, explaining to K.K that he had pushed himself beyond every creative limit, and could add nothing more.

The design he came up with was simply too complex for the Nigerian construction workers of the 1980's. Artisans skilled in stained glass, masonry, plaster of Paris, wooden ceilings etc had to be imported from Francophone Africa and Europe to implement the design. Luckily for K.K, he was able to find a highly skilled Nigerian furniture maker, the Late Mr. Philip Ubanagu, who was able to faithfully copy the designs K.K saw in famous interior design magazines such as House and Garden, Architectural Digest and many others.

Following a long list of miracles, K.K's country home was finally completed on the eve of his Uche ceremony. The ceremony itself was a resounding success. Guests came from the four corners of Nigeria and from across the world. They brought an uncountable number of expensive gifts and fed lavishly on a wide array of exotic dishes. But the Uche Ceremony would turn out to be anything but a retirement for K.K. In fact, his work with his community would continue at pretty much the same pace as before.

Not long after the ceremony, he would successfully recover land for the Amamba people of Abiriba, at the expense of the Umuokwe people of Umuhu. In 1965, the Supreme Court had granted the Umuokwe possession of this land, but they were not given the title deeds as they had not filed a cross-action to claim it. However in 1974, the Umuokwe, rather than enjoy the Supreme Court victory granting them possession, sued the people of Amamba for the title

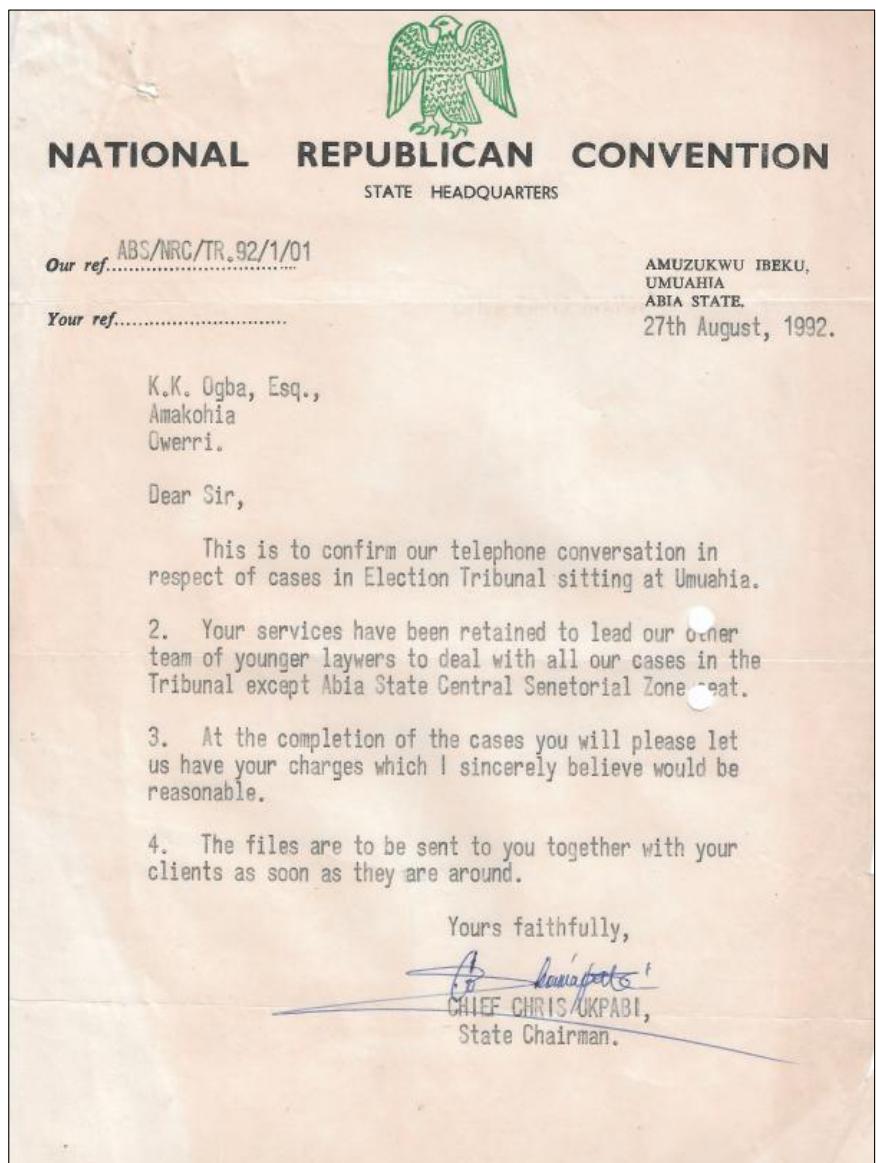


K.K's Abiriba home on completion. It would take him nearly nine years to finish construction.

deeds. K.K was therefore instructed by the Amamba community to defend them against this claim by the Umuokwe.

Unfortunately for the plaintiffs of Umuokwe, their expert witnesses totally broke down under K.K's withering cross-examination. Their lawyers had made one of the most fatal errors in the legal profession, which was to call on a multitude of witnesses to prove the same fact. There is no greater gift to a cross-examiner than the vanity of old and often illiterate witnesses insisting on the right to testify for their community in spite of their inability to read survey plans and their unreliable memories. And so, the people of Umuokwe lost their claim to the land which the Supreme Court had granted them possession of in 1965. It amounted to around 1,400 acres (5.7 km squared), which, in land strapped Igbo-land, was considered to be enormous.

In 1992, K.K was the most senior lawyer who appeared alongside Chief F.R.A Williams for the former governor of Abia State, Mr. Ogbonnaya Onu, in the election petition against him by his opponent, Chief Sam Eke. It is a sad indictment on Nigerian politics that election petitions always follow electoral contests. Nevertheless, K.K and Chief Williams were successful, and the petition against Governor Onu was dismissed. The petitioner, Chief Eke, then appealed to the Court of Appeal. This time, K.K alone was retained to challenge the appeal. Once again, Governor Onu was vindicated as the successful candidate and became the first democratically elected governor in the history of Abia State. K.K's glorious performance at the tribunal led to him being eulogized by each of the five tribunal members. He would also successfully handle all election petition cases for the National Republican Convention (N. R. C) with the exception of the Abia State Central Senatorial Zone seat.



Letter from the National Republican Convention appointing K.K as lead counsel for all but one of its election petitions in 1992.

Also in 1992, K.K was appointed as the sole company lawyer for Golden Guinea Breweries Nigeria Plc. Founded in 1962 by the Dr. Michael Okpara administration, Golden Guinea had been conceived as an indigenous competitor to

the foreign beer brands which had overrun the Nigerian market. It achieved enormous success, and became famous throughout Nigeria for its Golden Guinea Beer, Bergedorf Premium Lager Beer and Bergedorf Malta products. But tragedy would strike in 2003, after an enormous fire broke out at it's Umuahia factory, leaving the company in a death spiral of debt and litigation. Through the heroic efforts of K.K and many others, the company would survive this ordeal, and now employs over a thousand people at it's Umuahia plant.

Over the course of twenty-two years, K.K would successfully defend the company against the thirty-eight law suits which were brought against it. He made an exception with one case, involving a boiler explosion that had so dehumanized an employee that he was unwilling to continue the case with a clear conscience. Even though the odds were heavily against the plaintiff, K.K felt great compassion for him, and he advised the company to settle his claim out of court.

In 1994, when a major crisis engulfed the Owerri branch of the Nigerian Bar Association. K.K was unanimously chosen to become the interim chairman of the branch as a caretaker committee which included such prominent lawyers as Professor Ogwurike, was set up in order to resolve the crisis. He would remain in this position for three years until the storm was over.

In 1996, he was appointed by the Governor of Abia State, to serve as a bencher and sitting member of the Abia State Judicial Service Commission. The Judicial Service Commission is an executive body tasked with handling matters relating to the appointment, discipline and promotion of Abia State's judicial officers and their support staffs. It is chaired by the Chief Judge of the High Court of Abia State as it's chairman. Other members typically include the State Attorney-General, the President of the Customary Court of Appeal, Two legal practitioners and Two more persons, who in the Governor's opinion are of unquestionable integrity. K.K would have the honor of serving on this commission for many years alongside the venerable Justice Ukatta and six others.

Also in 1996, the infamous Otokoto riots would break out after a man named Innocent Ekeanyanwu was arrested with the head of a young boy, Ikechukwu Okonkwo. Police investigations revealed an underground crime syndicate which specialized in ritual killing and the sale and procurement of human body parts. Properties which belonged to the suspected killers were set ablaze throughout Imo State, but the rioting soon spiraled out of control. Sensing an opportunity to settle old scores, dangerous and untrue rumors were spread about many individuals who had not been involved in the killings.



K.K as a member of the Abia State judicial Service Commission alongside the venerable Justice Ukatta

K.K's old friend, Eze Dr. Onu Egwunwoke soon became a victim of these baseless rumors. He had earlier been elected Chairman of the Imo State Council of Traditional Rulers, and as a result, had attracted enormous jealousy. As the false rumors about him spread, his palace, petrol station, air conditioners and cars were burnt down by the mob. The rioters then proceeded to destroy property belonging to a former governor of Imo State, James Aneke, and began a march on the residences of former Imo State government officials. Things were clearly spiraling out of control. In response, the Imo State government led by Colonel Tanko Zubairu set up a panel headed by Justice P. C. Onumajuru to investigate the case. K.K successfully defended his old Eze Onu Egwunwoke and another old friend, Dr. Cajetan Duruji from these baseless rumors at the tribunal. While many of the other suspects were recommended for trial, his clients were exonerated and set free.

In 1999, K.K would sue the majority owners of a company, Geosite Surveys, of which he was a company director. They had attempted to sell the business at a dishonest official price, leaving a pittance from the sale to the Nigerian government and the company's Nigerian directors. This scam was led by a man named Michael Cecil Quinn, with whom K.K had worked with decades earlier at Irving and Bonnar. In spite of the presentation of overwhelming evidence to the EFCC and the ICPC, these government agencies, supposedly formed to fight corruption and crime, did next to nothing to resolve the case. It was later revealed by the foreign press that Mr. Quinn had deep connections within certain sections of the Federal Government and that he frequently supplied them with arms and other back end products. He was, in other words, an untouchable. But their inaction would nearly prove fatal to the nation when in 2019, a fraudulent shell company, Process and Industrial Developments (P&ID), founded by Quinn, would be awarded over \$9.6 billion at an international arbitration tribunal. P&ID was a shell company registered in the British Virgin Islands with no operational history. It did not even have a website. It won at the arbitration tribunal after failing to execute a sham contract. This sum was roughly equivalent to one-fifth of Nigeria's foreign reserves. The case remains in court.

After the Uche years, every single one of K.K's five children would move away to England for work and study. This meant that for the first time in a very long time, K.K and his wife Chinwe would finally have themselves to themselves. Or so they thought ■



Francis Cecil Quinn was K.K's former colleague from his days at Irving & Bonnar. After defrauding K.K and other investors of the Geosite Surveys company of huge sums of money, he would turn his diabolical attention on the Nigerian people, setting up a fake company, P&ID which would nearly bankrupt their country.

MR. OKECHUKWU AFUROBI

Twenty seven years ago, we worked on the Abiriba House, and played table tennis on occasion. Then I began to get an appreciation of your class, taste and style. Your spoken English is an art form; lawyers come to court just to listen to you.

Besides being a great lawyer, you are a multi-talented artist. A part of you that does not immediately meet the eye. You are aware of your looks, which age could not dent. In the right mood, you strike an expression I think is a cross between a smirk, and a cool smile, that's only fit for the movies. If there were ever a Grammy Award for whistling to classical music, you would have won it. One thing that never ceased to amaze, is how you toggled seamlessly between Queen's English and perfect Abiriba.

You thought me the art of sharing beeer (with three "e"s and a drawn out "r"); one bottle at a time, poured into two glasses, followed by a lopsided argument on which glass gets the dreg. Then Cheers. After which the next bottle is opened and shared again.

I know you've just gone to see your beloved mum, and would be back in time to finish telling me the story of the legal battle for Geosite.

Goodnight Sir,

Mr. Afurobi



Mr. Okechukwu Afurobi, a close friend of the family is seen here with Chinwe at her "Ime Uche" ceremony in 2010.

MR. PATRICK CHIMA

GOVERNMENT OF IMO STATE NIGERIA

Telegrams: COLLEGE OF OWERRI

Telephone: 08037339245

Your Ref.....

Our Ref.....

(All Replies to be Addressed to the Principal)



GOVERNMENT SECONDARY
SCHOOL
P.M.B. 1006
OWERRI, IMO STATE
NIGERIA

Date:.....

TRIBUTE TO THE HUMANE AND HIGHLY CIVILIZED NIGERIAN

Chief K.K Ogba's family is one family I visited as in-house teacher of the children three times in a week in most weeks of four consecutive calendar years.

I am therefore touched to say something about the head of this ancient family who now have transited to the great beyond.

All through life what he sought for were the attainment of great ideals; and whether they were right or wrong, they must have been issued from nothing but the purest aspirations of the mind. He will long be remembered not just for the political projects he favoured, nor for his legal impacts and numerous contributions; the countless works of charity he undertook, but mostly as a great example, for which history hardly furnishes a parallel of the humane and highly civilized Nigerian.

Chief, you were to me a role model; the last colonial and the first modern Nigerian.

I am therefore led to declare;

Your high moral standard

Your strict personal ethics, though not puritan, absolutely incorruptible

Holding in balance what money can and can't buy

Reaching always for peace amidst clashes of ego in the wider family

Ever persuasive, ever calming, ever statesman

Understanding human frailties yet fascinated by achievers.

Forever ready to respond to distress,

All suddenly, stilled.

Even at a very old age your generosity and works of charity new no boundaries.

I admired mostly:

How memories came flooding

Gushing like broken pipe

Your curiosity and desire to learn new things

Your diametric, questioning mind,

Your vitality and sense of power,

Your unrivalled wit and wisdom,

All suddenly stilled.

The great legal icon and finest English essayist of his own time, I bid you Adieu!

Mr. Patrick N. Chima (ksm)

(Principal Govt. Sech. Ow. 2017-2019)

(kalu kalu (Jnr) & Igwe Kalu in-house teacher)

Mr. Patrick Chima tutored K.K's sons, Kalu and Igwe in Math and English during their secondary school education. Igwe, his student, would achieve A's in mathematics and Further mathematics and an A2 in english. He has now risen to the position of a Principal at Government College, Owerri.

BARR. KEN AHIA, SAN

December 7, 2020.

Ms. Nena Kalu Ogba,
130, Orlu Road,
Owerri,
Imo state,
Nigeria.

My Dear Sister,



Barristers & Solicitors of the Supreme Court of Nigeria
Trademarks Attorneys & Notary Public

CONDOLENCE LETTER FOR CHIEF KALU KALU OGBA, ANYANWU ABRIBA.

I received your notification of the death of your father, Chief K.K. Ogba, Anyanwu Abriba.

I am sure that you must have received numerous tributes and good words about your father and must have heard a lot about him that as a daughter you did not know.

Your late father was an inspiration to a lot of prospective law students and lawyers alike. He was a perfect gentleman and a Legal Practitioner of distinction, well admired, respected and courageous.

Despite the sorrow in your heart for losing a loving father, I know you will be comforted knowing that he lived a good life and left legacies of truth and honour. He died a fulfilled man.

On behalf of my family and Law firm, I pray the almighty to grant him eternal rest and comfort your family especially your loving and wonderful mum.

Yours Sincerely,


Kenneth Ahia, SAN

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Website: www.kenahialaw.com

BARR LUCIUS NWOSU, SAN

A wonderfully Good, Good Man is indeed Gone. A highly cerebral advocate with unpretentious Oxonian accent yet, spoke fluent native Abriba with relish and unparalleled humor. We met severally in court but never had the misfortune of crossing swords in adversarial proceedings. A gentleman par excellence !! The abuse in the award of Silk in some instances led to his principled resolve not to apply. A great admirer of excellence and a man with poetic license. At a ripe and fulfilled age, there was nothing more to add to life, thus , Death indeed had no sting or victory. Good Night “The Cock” of the Owerri if not the Eastern Bar.

Fare thee Well my own epitome of a “Senior “ for real.

My Candid Personal View.

Lucius E. Nwosu.SAN

AWA U. KALU, SAN

To
Chief Mrs C. Kalu Ogba,
Orlu road,
Owerri.



TRIBUTE TO LATE CHIEF K.K OGBA

The news of the departure of Chief Kalu Kalu Ogba to the great beyond came to me as a major shock, because what the Bible commands is that in everything, we should give thanks. I had always given thanks each time I remembered Chief K.K Ogba. I can recount that when I was a very young lawyer, and whenever I encountered Late Chief K.K Ogba, he did not fail to commend my bib and collar. On one occasion, I recall that he always gave me assurance that seeing my demeanour at all times gave him hope that my generation will succeed his. I loved seeing him in a court of law. His diction and elocution were exemplary. His phonetics was something else even though within our profession these ideas in our conversation as lawyers are receding as at. I will not fail to mention a particular story which he repeated to me quite often. It was about an appearance in the High court before a judge who considered himself "of excellent background" because he was educated at the university of London. In the course of address in a very contentious case, the judge interjected and said that "those of us from the university of London would have put it as follows..." Chief K.K Ogba's response was "I am from Oxford!". That was the end of the conversation.

Apart from being educated at the celebrated Oxford University, the career path of late Chief Kalu Kalu Ogba was one that bears repeating. He had experience in the chambers of the late N.B Graham Doughlas who later became Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice. He also had experience as Head of Chambers in the practice of Late Honourable Justice C.A Oputa before his elevation to the bench. The fact that the late Justice Chukwudifu Akunne Oputa later became a justice of the Supreme Court bears eloquent testimony to the quality of the association which late Chief K.K Ogba encountered as a young man at the bar. He also served in the chambers of Irving and Bonner, a foremost law office, before the outbreak of the civil war in 1967. His telling qualities were self-evident, not only before the civil war but during the war itself as well as thereafter.

Consequently, it would not be misleading to assert that the impulse for public service was inherent. Accordingly, He served in the propaganda engine of the defunct Republic of Biafra of 1967 to 1970. After the civil war, the then administrator of the east central state named him as chairman of the state marketing board. His run as

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Ijeoma Nwankwo-Okechukwu (Mrs.) Romeo N. A. Ikeny Esq., Nnamdi Obiefule Adokwu Esq.,
Eremie Chime (Mrs.) (Nze Awa-Kalu), Edobor C. Ahi Esq., C.I.O. Osisioku Esq.,
Nnamdi Awa-Kalu Esq., B.P.A., Folakembo Esq., Chinenye N. Umu (Mrs.),
David Iking Esq., Chinmaka Mba (Mrs) Anthony C. Ugwuonyi Esq.,
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Attorney General traversed the revered office from July 1975 to February 1976 (Under Military Governor Anthony Ochefu) continued under Colonel Arthur Mpera in the same state and he was translated to the same office with the creation of the old Imo State where he served as the first Attorney General between 1976 and 1978. Legend has it that he declined an invitation to serve in the same office as Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice but instead continued to serve in the office as Attorney General and Commissioner of Justice Imo State till October 1979 when civilian rule was restored. He went into private practice and distinguished himself as external solicitor to the then Ashlund Oil (Now Addax Sinopec; Nigeria Bottling Company; Leventis Group of Companies Limited; golden Guinea Breweries Plc Umuahia as well as the defunct Nile Merchant Bank of Nigeria Ltd). It must be recalled that he served as a member of the Body of Benchers for several years and later served meritoriously as a member of the Abia State Judicial Service Commission.

As a celebrated business icon, he served on the board of several renowned companies including Mainland hotel Lagos, Consolidated breweries Plc as well as the Nigerian Yeast and Alcohol Company Bacita. He served as a community leader and committed son of Abiriba and he was rewarded by the Enachioke of Abiriba with the chieftaincy title, Anyanwu of Abiriba. A golden Fish has no hiding place and so he enjoyed the merit of other chieftaincy titles from communities in distant places especially Ihitte-oha in Owerri, Orlu and Eben Ohafia. He received an award of excellence from the Nigerian Bar Association, Owerri branch where he was nicknamed cock of the bar. Late Chief K.K Ogba was indeed a colossus, who has left behind to mourn him a host of admirers (such as my humble self), associates, friends and above all a well-knit family. His widow Chief Mrs Chinwe Kalu Ogba miss him most and I pray that God would grant the soul of the dearly departed eternal rest in the bosom of the Lord. It is my practice in tributes to great men and women to request a singing of the hymn ONLY REMEMBERED which runs as follows.

1

Fading away like the stars of the morning,
losing their light in the glorious sun -
thus would we pass from the earth and its toiling,
Only remembered by what we have done.

Refrain

Only remembered, only remembered,
only remembered by what we have done;
thus would we pass from the earth and its toiling,

only remembered by what we have done.

2

Shall we be missed though by others succeeded,
reaping the fields we in springtime have sown?
Yes, but the sowers may pass from their labours,
ever remembered by what they have done.

Refrain

3

Only the truth that in life we have spoken,
only the seed that on earth we have sown;
these shall pass onward when we are forgotten,
fruits of the harvest and what we have done.

Refrain

4

Oh, when the Saviour shall make up His Jewels,
when the bright crowns of rejoicing are won,
then shall His faithful and zealous disciples
all be remembered by what they have done.

Awa U. Kalu (SAN) FNIALS

BARR BEN ANACHEBE, SAN

He was an epitome of humility, civility, candor and excellence in and out of the Bar. We hardly have his type nowadays. His impeccable diction and serenity stood him out always. May our Creator receive his gentle soul in paradise. Goodnight our Daddy, KK.

Ben Anachebe, SAN

The news of your demise was filtered into my ears by my brother and office manager of Chief. Mr. Daniel Asoluka.

I couldn't believe it initially because I was highly privileged to meet Chief for the second time when Daniel and I attended the burial ceremony of his junior sister at Abiriba. He was very very healthy.

After the burial of Chief's sister, Chief took us round in and out of his mansion and showed us historical pictures of his father and uncle. Sincerely I enjoyed his hospitality at Abiriba.

Surprisingly, when we were coming back to Owerri, Chief gave us transport money which I cannot easily forget throughout my life.

Chief was generous, kind, soft-spoken, peace loving, accomodating. The legacies he left behind cannot be forgotten easily.

Well, the bottom line is, we cannot question God at all because he bringeth and taketh. Death is inevitable.

Finally, I am convinced that Chief is presently dining and wining with the Lord. May the almighty God receive your soul in his bosom.

Rest in Peace, Amen,

Chief Bonn. Odionyenma (Family Friend)

TOCHI EKE-OKORO

I was saddened by the news of Chief KK Ogbas passing. I still remember, back in 1999, when I visited Igwe, Chief's son, who had returned from the UK. Igwe had returned with some admirable N-64 video games. His dad met me, and asked if I already had lunch? I said "No, Igwe hadn't given me anything to eat". Immediately, he asked Igwe to provide some food for me. This was personal to me, and speaks to his kindness and selflessness. I can imagine the positive and unmatched impact he has made in the lives of many. May his soul continue to rest in perfect Peace.

Tochi Eke-Okoro (On behalf of the Eke-Okoro family.)

PROFESSOR EDWIN OKOROMA

K.K and I met in the late 70s at the wedding of one of our brothers- in- law, at which he was the chairman of the reception. His chairman's speech was an enlightenment to me on the family to which I had joined when I married their eldest daughter. Over the years, I observed all the things he said as advice to the new couple. After that wedding and subsequently we got to know each other better. We shared many visits to each other's homes and not surprising we became close. Our wives were not only sisters but also the best of friends

I got to know that KK was a man with class. He came from a distinguished Abriba family, had a well grounded secondary school education at the famous Hope Waddell Institute in Calabar and at Oxford University in England where he read Law which he practiced here in Nigeria with distinction. When Imo State was created from the then East Central State, he with his family moved to Owerri where he served as the first Commissioner of Justice of Imo State. At the end of his tenure, he returned to his private law practice in Owerri but on many occasions he came to Enugu High Court to defend his clients. Almost always he would come over to our home for a visit. During these times we discovered a common interest in classical music. He particularly loved Brahms: A German Requiem and Beethoven's 9th symphony. We never got bored listening to these gems of classical music. I noted, not surprisingly, that he was always whistling one piece or the other of classical music when he was alone.

KK was an epitome of class and distinction which he exuded in whatever he did or said. His speaking was measured and his smiles were unique. He was generous and kind to a fault. I remember quite clearly that it was at his house in Owerri that I learned of my mother's death one early Sunday morning in 1988. I rushed home immediately to confirm the sad news and not too long afterwards he followed to my village home to render some comforting words to my family and gave me a handsome amount of money to start the funeral arrangements.

The world has indeed lost a gem at his passing on to the great beyond. We in the family will miss him dearly and will pray that The Almighty God will grant him eternal rest.

Professor Edwin Okoroma

ROSELIN ADA WILSON

To Lolo, Mrs Chinwe Ogbag and family.

I am sure I was not alone in enjoying the wealth of wisdom of this rare individual, Chief K.K. Ogbag.

I spent days plus evenings with Chief in his antique chambers in Akwakuma, Owerri, Imo State. Lolo Chinwe Ogbag supplied us with sustenance of hot cocoa drinks and teas of different flavours with homemade snacks.

We talked on the meaning of life, the world, the family and his thoughts for his children; being the best they can be in their various endeavors.

We talked about his experiences wherever he had worked and the people he met. We also talked about money, the root of all evils and regrets, and the need to forgive and move on. The list goes on and on and on.

Most of the time, I was a passive listener to this softly spoken gentle old man who hardly forgot any details. I listened to his agreements and disagreements with people big and small. One thing was certain, he had no regrets on his refusal, his dogged stance to never part with his money to a fellow human being for the purchase of something he deserved, something he merited, something he should be called from the roof top to accept.

This brought out to the fore, the standard of principles and integrity of Chief K.K. Ogbag. Chief was an accomplished scholar and gentleman. There is no intellectual book one would not find in his Chambers. There was no good company he did not find himself in. He ate some of the best foods, wore some of the best watches, the best suits, the best shoes. He found himself in the best and the biggest quarters but yet, his humility had no measure. His respect for people, his compassion, his co-operative and community spirit could not be compared with any other. Everything he did, every judgment he made was to perfection. One look at his beautiful Lolo and sweetheart, shows an eloquent testimony of the perfect judgments and choices he made.

Chief K.K. Ogbag's recounted experiences shcanged a whole lot of the way I look at life today. As Eleanor Roosevelt put it, "Many people will walk in and out of your life, but only true friends leave foot-prints in your heart". Chief K.K. Ogbag was that true friend to me.

To Lolo Chinwe and the children, I can only say that there is sadness on your part as well as mine. I hope you will, and can, find the healing power in grieveing for your beloved husband and father. All that lives must die.

To Chief: I did not forget but was robbed of the opportunity to say "Thank you".

For the times spent in your Chambers.

Listening to your brotherly expositions of wisdom

Your teachings on the need for persistent hard work, good judgment and integrity

Need to over-look with humility,

The exuberances of those who think they are important.

Thank you for the numerous times you opened the car door for me to get in.

Also for standing there watching me drive off safelyFor all the simple courtesies I took for granted which I now miss.

Because your life was very well spent, you had a happy death at the ripe age of 90.

Here, I say thank you big brother, the best mentor and true friend.

Fare thee well, on this your lonly journey to meet your maker.

Rest in peace

From Your Friend, **Roseline Ada Wilson**

CHINYERE ANYA (NEE ALBERT)

I came in contact with my uncle on 30th april, 1962 on his return from the uk after his successful studies there. Unfortunately, it was a sad day for me because his return coincided with the death and burial of my father. As he stood by me besides my father's coffin he held my hand and consoled me with assurances that he will do all that my father left undone for me. All the more painful was the fact that I suddenly became an orphan having lost my mother. With the benefit of a hindsight seeing that he fulfilled all he promised, I can without fear of contradiction attest to his uncommon attributes. I was the first member of the extremely large family to live with him in port harcourt. He trained me and paid my school fees from primary school to polytechnic and acted the role of a father until I got married. His integrity is beyond words. Living with him was like being under god's special guidance over me as he was a very strict person to the core. He was exceptionally capable, professional, very humorous and lively. He was gracious and kind hearted. He never went to church but recognized God through the adamantine laws which uphold creation and indeed express the will of god. He departed peacefully with the deep conviction that god was bigger than everyone imagined. This is very consoling for me because that's what really matters and counts in our brief sojourn here. Without recognition of these laws we are lost. To my dad at 90 years, he lived well. May his deeds attract light beings that will help him on his ascent. He lives on.

Mrs chinyere anya (nee albert)



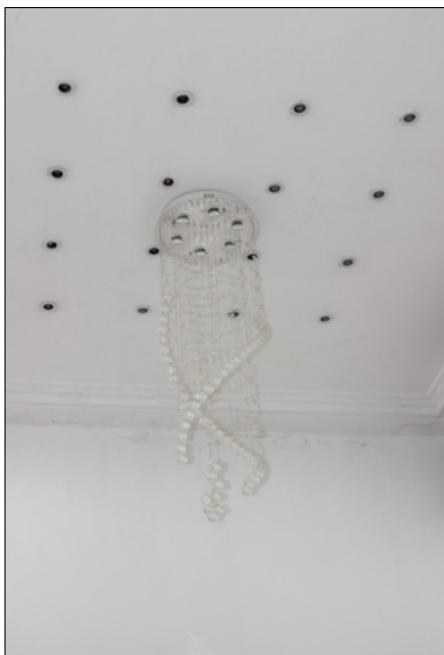
Opposite Page, Upper Left The impressive lighting for K.K's Abiriba house was designed in West Germany. At the time, it was one of only a few private homes with spotlights in its ceiling.

K.K bought a very isolated piece of land in Abiriba for his nuclear family following a financial windfall from the sale of his former Port Harcourt home. In the early years of construction, a leopard and two cobras would be killed on site. He had to buy the land twice, as in Abiriba, land fraud is extremely common and is supported by many influential individuals. An attempt to make him buy the land for a third time would fail woefully.

After settling all land issues he then set about building the house of his dreams. But many Abiriba citizens would taunt him, calling him crazy for building in such a strange and isolated location. K.K was already used to living in isolation in Akwakuma and could not really be bothered by their negativity. His primary concern was in finding a capable architect to design his new home. He had been made honorary chairman of the French Cultural Center in Owerri even though he did not speak a word of French, and using their contacts, he was able to find a young French architect, Phillippe Richard who was then a guest lecturer at UNICAL and was married to a black woman. K.K asked him to design "the most beautiful house in West Africa" and Mr. Richard would give the project his very best

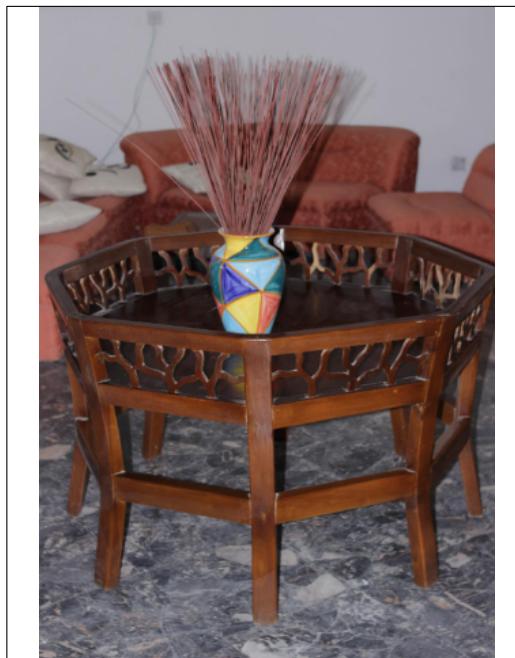


Above The primary requirement for K.K's new home was the implementation of a design concept known as cross-ventilation. It is a natural method of cooling which relies on wind to force cool exterior air into a building through windows and vents. K.K's home has a very large number of windows. For maximum wind power, a German engineer, Mr. Sticht, who built the foundation for the house, held up a feather in the air to check the direction of the wind. He then chose the optimum location of the house based on this. As a result of all this, K.K's Abiriba home has never needed air-conditioning although it does get slightly hot in the afternoons. Early morning and evening temperatures at the hilltop can however be quite cold, with temperatures that can sometimes be described as freezing being recorded.



Opposite The idea of a large wooden front door was inspired by a visit Sonny Odogwu's countryside mansion which was in turn built and designed by Hungarian architects.

K.K's home required the input of skilled artisans from around the world as a result of its then unique and complex design. In those days, the skills and equipment of the Nigerian construction work force was highly limited. But there were also some highly skilled Nigerians involved in the project such Mr. Okechukwu Afurobi, who handled the mapping of the topography thus enabling the construction of a road up the hilltop, and Mr. Chiemeka who did a stellar job with the aluminum windows which are still in a perfect condition to this day. K.K's house was at the time of its construction, the only known building, besides the five star Imo Concorde Hotel to have spotlights in its ceiling as the lighting design was implemented in West Germany.



Although Nigerian workmen played a mostly minor role in the construction of K.K's house, one of the brightest stars of the entire enterprise would be Mr. Philip Ubanagu, a local citizen who was also a highly skilled furniture worker. He was able to faithfully replicate the designs K.K had seen in interior design magazines such as *House and Garden & Interiors* without modern equipment. He would unfortunately die early in 2002, following a brief illness.



Opposite The colors used in the stained glass of K.K's Abiriba home are exactly the same as that of the colored windows in his father, James Kalu Ogba's Ndi-Eja home. His father got the idea for using colored windows from the home of his neighbor, the wealthy King Ephraim Adam Duke. The artwork on the glass is made to resemble a lawyers wig. But it is also reminiscent of a famous Abiriba Ekpe masquerade known as Okonko-Atang.

Below Chief Dr. Nwojo Omokorie spent the night of his Uche ceremony in K.K's Abiriba home. Here he is seen with K.K the morning before the ceremony, enjoying the morning breeze with tea and biscuits.



Below K.K's Abiriba home upon completion

One day, the sage received an invitation from a friend. They had not seen each other for quite a while so the friend invited him over to dinner. The sage went to the address indicated and saw that it was a grand mansion. Apparently, his friend had done quite well recently.

But when he got to the front door, the doorman stopped the sage because he was dressed plainly and seemed unimportant, and he turned him away. Amused by this, the sage changed into his ceremonial robes and went to the mansion again. This time the doorman did not recognize him. But thinking that he was someone important, he led him into the mansion with courtesy.

When dinner began, the sage ate none of the food but kept stuffing appetizers into his pockets. His friend found this most puzzling and said:

"Master, you don't need to do that. We can prepare a bag for you to take home later on. Please relax and enjoy your meal"

The sage told him, "When I came here earlier wearing plain clothes, I was turned away. But after I changed into this robe, I was welcomed inside. Obviously you invited my robe instead of me, so it is only reasonable that the robe should enjoy your food"

K.K kept the door of his home open to everyone. The rich were welcomed and the poor were welcomed too. Everyone was treated with courtesy and respect. And everyone was given food and drink. Because ultimately we are all the same, and fortune and misfortune can come to any of us. Friendships and our interactions with other people should therefore be based on character, not on wealth and possessions.

There are four ceremonies which should take place in the life of an Abiriba male.



The first is the Igba-nnunu. Since Abiriba was for many years a warrior society, it was seen as important to train children from a young age in the art of warfare. The igba-nnunu rite involves a young boy of around the age of five or six shooting and killing a bird with a bow and arrow, all by himself. After doing this, he is then expected to walk round the community with a metal band tied round his waste. He does this with his friends and some slightly older youth. As he walks round the community, friends, relatives and even strangers can call out to him with the words, "Eche Eche Eche", and he will run towards them and recite a long, brain busting poem about his bravery and cunning in shooting and killing the bird. Sand is then poured on his head and he is given gifts of money and food. In recent years, the Igba-nnunu rite has faced many challenges owing to the kidnapping crisis ravaging much of Nigeria. It is now normal to see children perform the rite with a car and armed escorts. Recitation destinations are also now limited to close friends and family as social trust in the country breaks down even further.

© Photo courtesy of Ike Anya, Twitter



The second rite is the Igbu-Isi which is now no longer practiced. In the past, an Abiriba male of marriageable age was expected to cut off the head of a foreign male adversary, skin it and place it in his living room. Without this, it was impossible for him to get married. Because of this requirement, many Abiriba youth became willing volunteers in numerous regional wars under the command of the Aro confederacy.

The Abiriba Ikpirikpi-Ogu war dance was originally performed with three, freshly sliced human heads to intimidate opponents in battle. Cannibalism was also fairly common in those days. Ancient sources say that the human calf is the tastiest part of the body.

There is a famous tale, which is seen as the Romeo and Juliet of Abiriba. In it, a young woman falls in love with a very handsome Abiriba youth, but he is unfortunately not the macho type and is unable to cut off a human head. As a result, they are unable to get married. She therefore cuts off a stranger's head on his behalf. But the village elders find out her deception and they are both sentenced to death.

The British colonial government stopped the Igbu-isi practice in its entirety, so the fun and games have now come to an end. Abiriba has also become heavily Christianized, meaning that the tradition is unlikely to ever return.



The third rite is the Igwa-Mang. This involves an age-grade (a group of friends of about the same age) commissioning a project on behalf of the community. In the past, they also had to go deep into the forest and return with a leopard carcass. The leopards are all dead now so that part of the rite has now been abandoned. K.K's age grade, built the Okezie Midwifery School and the Okezie Town Hall as their Igwa-Mang project.



The final rite is the retirement ceremony, known as the "Ime Uche". This usually takes place at the age of around 60. It involves an individual's final retirement from community service. This means that they can no longer be conscripted to fight Abiriba's wars. They also become exempt from levies for community projects. It is expected that relatives and hangers on will stop asking them for money after this ceremony. That aspect of the rite has of course, never been practiced.

THE UCHE CEREMONY



Above K.K rarely ever got ready on time as he usually spent hours in the bath. Here he is seen in casual clothing just minutes before his "Uche" ceremony is to begin

Below K.K sitting on a throne beside the late Chief Dr. Nwojo. For the duration of the Uche ceremony, the celebrant is largely treated as a King for one day

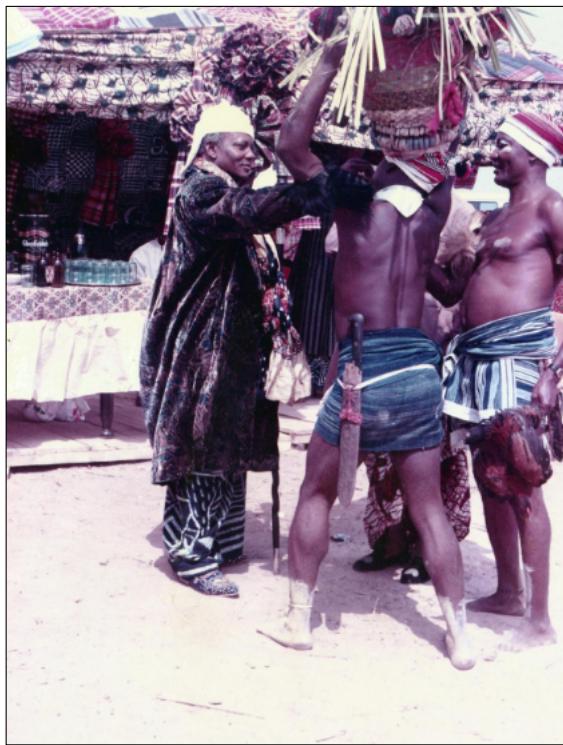


Below Dancers from the famous Ndi Nkwa Umu Agbo (Ladies with the beat) music troupe perform for guests during the ceremony. One wonders where they all are now.



Left The late Chief Obewu Onwuka, successful businessman and grandmaster of Abiriba tradition, helps K.K into his Uche ceremony outfit





Below Left More gifts for the King. Cows, goats, Yams and everything else under the sun.

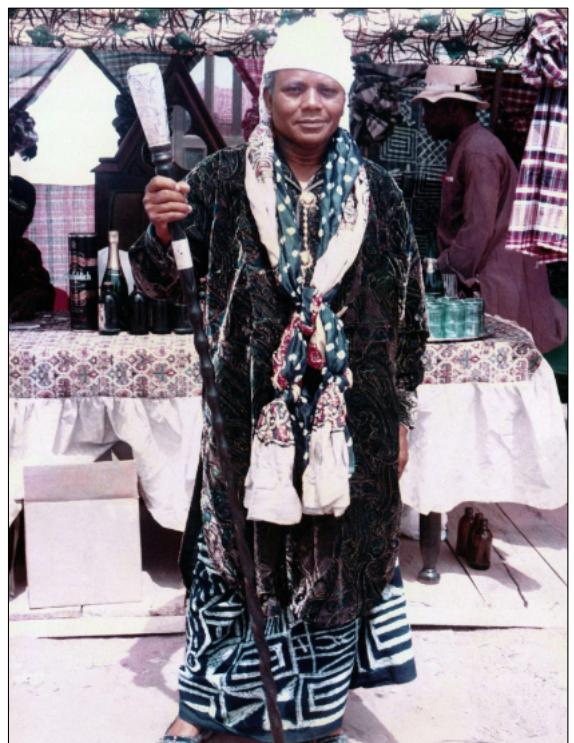


Above K.K's daughter Nena leads a procession of well-wishers bearing gifts for her father.

Above Left K.K enriches members of the famous Abiriba Ikpirikpi Ogu dance troupe. They typically made an appearance at all of his events. His wife, Chinwe, helped to make them nationally famous through her TV and radio broadcasts. This would end up causing deep resentment within the Ohafia community, which claimed the dance as their own.



Far Right K.K poses for the camera in his favorite Uche Ceremony photograph.



PART **IX**

SUNSET YEARS

Even in his 70's, K.K managed to sustain a rigorous pace in his professional life. He did not believe in retirement, which he regarded it as the quickest route to dementia and to an early grave. But there were new challenges. As the digital revolution of the 21st century gathered pace, his chambers increasingly had to modernize in order to adapt to a new age. This meant that the office landline had to be replaced by mobile phones, the typewriter made way for the personal computer, and courier services, such as DHL and its siblings, were slowly phased out in favour of email. Because K.K had grown up in an age in which many of these modern inventions had seemed implausible, he would often struggle to adapt to their use.

His personal life would equally be affected by the digital revolution. His television viewing habits would change dramatically, as the DSTV cable service enabled him to watch previously unavailable channels, such as CNN and the BBC from the comfort of his living room. He had a degree in history and politics, and he was therefore particularly excited by the opportunity to see history in the making, rather than to rely on hearsay as in the past.

Thanks to DSTV, he would also take up a greater interest in watching the game of football. During his schooldays at Hope Waddell, he had been considered by his classmates to be something of a young Pele. But he did not rekindle his interest in the sport by playing it, focusing rather on watching it on the telly. He never had a favorite team, remaining neutral and always rooting for whichever team he saw as the "better" side.

In early 2000, a great honor would come from the Abia State Government, through which he would receive a Millennium Citizen of Excellence Award from UNESCO.

Things were going rather well until tragedy would strike later that year, when his former schoolmate, close friend and business associate, Mr. Andrew David, was diagnosed with lung cancer. In spite of the heroic efforts of his doctors to save him, the disease quickly spread, and his diagnosis soon became terminal. Seeking to round up his affairs, Mr. David invited K.K to his London home, and appointed him as the Chairman of The Andrew David Foundation. He explained to K.K that he considered him to be his closest friend in all of Nigeria, and that he trusted him to run the affairs of his foundation with integrity. Following Mr. Davids death, this foundation would for many years award university scholarships, at home and abroad, to thousands of deserving Nigerian students of every tribe, creed and social class.



It's Party Time K.K hosts an event at home after his children leave for the United Kingdom

With the death of his former Port Harcourt colleague, Justice P. C. Onumajuru, in 2005, K.K was unanimously chosen as the new "Cock of the Imo State Bar". This position has one incumbent, and is given by the lawyers of the bar to a fellow colleague deemed to be most worthy of emulation. A lawyer that everyone, both junior and senior alike, ought to look up to. It has never been handed out lightly, and like a kingship, it lasts for a lifetime, barring some unforeseen incident or the other.

One of K.K's major tasks in this new position, was the writing and presentation of eulogies in honor of his fallen colleagues. This onerous task sometimes deeply saddened him, as he would on occasion have to write about very close friends he would never see again, or young lawyers who had barely begun their careers at the bar.

It wasn't always doom and gloom, however. He would sometimes remember with great fondness, an occasion during which a few silks, led by his old friend, Chief Mike Ahamba, crossed over to him, and insisted that he be seated alongside them. This broke the reigning convention at the bar, but the Chief Judge, and all the other judges of the Imo State judiciary, ignored this breach, and even seemed to be mightily pleased by it. From that point onward, he was expected by both the bench and the bar to sit with the silks during valedictory court sessions, in violation of the court rules.

K.K himself would only make one application to become a silk. He would end up being totally horrified by the amount of lobbying which was involved in the endeavor. The application process' emphasis on Federal Character, and the non consideration of the number of cases won by the applicant, also further contributed to his disillusionment. He would take solace in the fact that in his then 35 years at the bar, he had had a highly successful legal career, in which he had been made an Attorney-General on five separate occasions, been a bencher and member of the Judicial Service Commission of his state, and had won all of the court cases that had been attached to his application form. His final thought was that, a system in which an applicant with his credentials, was passed over for a ten years old at the bar whose father was his junior, could only speak for itself.

Later in 2005, he was honored with a Vocational Service Award from the Owerri branch of Rotary International, an organization with over a million members across the globe. This award was given for, in their own words, "A distinguished career in law, and for outstanding and dedicated service to humanity". This gesture deeply touched K.K, and the award plaque itself would hold a prominent position in his home until the very end.

In November of 2009, he was honored, alongside the venerable Justice K. O. Anya, by the Ohafia Bar Association



K.K's final chieftaincy award would come from the people of Ebem Ohafia in 2012

with an Award of Excellence for his achievements in the legal profession.

A further honor would follow in April of 2012, when K.K was conferred with a chieftaincy title by the ancient and autonomous community of Ebem Ohafia, in the Ohafia Local Government Area. He had won a difficult land case on their behalf, and he was therefore given the title of "The Oka-Ikpe 1 of Ebem Ohafia" (The greatest lawyer of Ebem Ohafia). In a plaque commemorating this honor, His Royal Highness Ezie Ukoha Kalu Ukoha stated:

"This certificate is presented to you by His Royal Highness, the Ezie Ukoha Kalu Ukoha, The Eziogo Ebem, The Council of Chiefs, and The Elders of the Ebem Community in collaboration with the Central Executive Committee of the Ebem Ohafia Development Union in Ohafia Local Government Area, Abia State, in appreciation of your belief in justice for all, under which you fought for Ebem and delivered"

A great honor indeed.

Later that year, his children (Kalu, Nena, Ola, Chizor and Igwe), becoming successes in their own right, would band together to rebuild his Owerri home, which had gotten on in years. They also began to spoil him silly with an innumerable number of gifts. This more than made up for the cruelty of the numerous relatives, numbering over a hundred, that he had trained, fed, treated in hospital and set up in business, and who had, over the years, not bothered to give him even a single handkerchief as a gift. Only a few of them ever treated him with any regard, and many of them are well represented in this tribute book.

In 2014, another honor would follow, as K.K would receive another Award of Excellence, this time from his colleagues at the Owerri bar. He shared this award with the late Chief Dan Njemanze (SAN), a distinguished lawyer and politician, who also had the privilege of being of actual royal blood. His close friend, Chief Mike Ahamba, was on hand to present this award to him. In his closing statement, he said, and I quote:

"Our very own Cock of the Bar (in fact, peacock of the Bar, not because of the pride of the peacock, but because of the beauty of his legal practice), has been a legal icon since September of 1963. Up to this day, he has never and does not have a single sign board of his law office. He is the Cicero of the Bar in the Eastern hemisphere of our country, and he has distinguished himself in different facets of life, particularly in our legal profession. We are immensely proud of him, and today, this testament is being actualized by us giving this unique award to him.

May we all rise and give him a deserving round of ovation"



Even into his old age, K.K would continue in his familiar role as chairman of multiple occasions

K.K was always enormously grateful to receive awards such as these.

Firstly, his Award of Excellence had come from his professional colleagues, who had known him since his relocation to Owerri in February of 1976. It had not come from a remote committee, comprised of those who only knew him by a reputation which may or may not have been true.

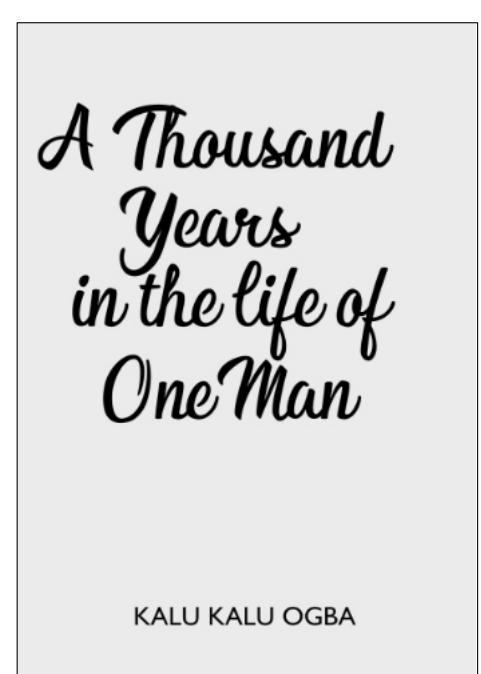
Secondly, unlike many other Nigerian awards, including some honorary degrees and knighthoods, it had not been as a result of a financial contribution on his part. This spoke glowingly on the integrity of the Owerri Branch of the Nigerian Bar Association, especially its chairman, Mr. S. I. Opara and his executive committee.

Sadly, K.K would experience a mild stroke in July of 2016, which affected his voice and his right arm. Vowing to be well again, he undertook an intensive treatment program at a specialist hospital in Enugu with the aid of foreign experts. After only three months of this therapy, he was fully operational and back on his feet. A greater emphasis on rest was however recommended by his doctors. This led him to resign a number of retainerships which he handed over to his current and prior juniors and associates.

Sensing his own mortality, K.K therefore decided to write his autobiography. He reasoned that it was important for him to do so, as he had lived a good and interesting life, and had a duty to record it. The book itself was to be titled, "A Thousand Years in the Life of One Man". This was because he had grown up in an Abiriba village in which the majority of men and women went bare chested, most people lived in mud huts and there was no talk of science and technology. Almost ninety years later, the Americans had landed a man on the moon, computers and the internet were in existence, and each day brought with it the announcement of some upcoming technological wonder or the other. He truly found this state of affairs to be quite remarkable, and felt that he had lived for several lifetimes given all of the changes and wonders that he had witnessed. The leap in development made from the time of his birth to the Nigeria of today, with internet access, airports, skyscrapers etc was as great as the leap made from ancient Britain 2,000 years ago to modern Britain today, and it only took 90 years. For this reason, his book touches on a very wide variety of topics, going far beyond his autobiography alone.

The book itself is largely unfinished, having been hampered by his inability to use the internet in his old age, and by his diminished stamina. But there is however more than enough content from his writings at the present time to edit and construct a publishable book.

One of the most amusing events in K.K's life would occur in August of 2017, when one of his closest friends, the then 87 year old Senator Cyrus Nunieh, turned up at his Owerri home and asked him to be the best man at his wedding to



Initial cover design for K.K's book

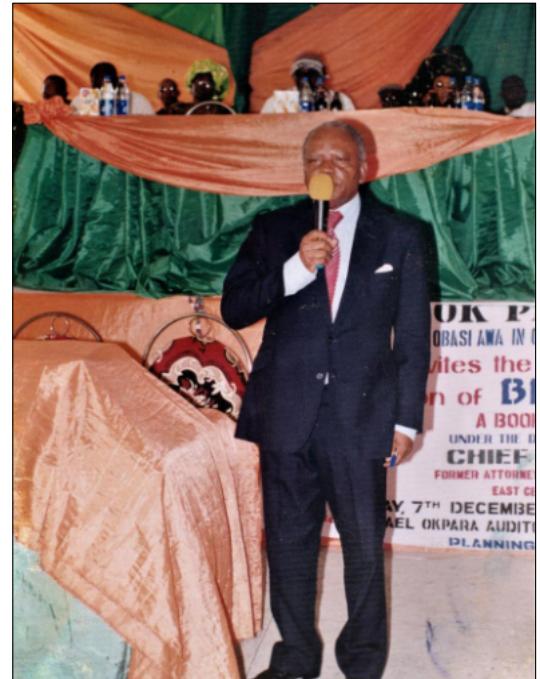
a woman in her early forties. K.K was thoroughly amused at the thought of two old men, who could barely walk, taking a woman less than half their age to the altar. He politely declined to be a part of the spectacle, but wished the bride and groom the very best of luck.

In 2019, K.K would receive another honor, as he was exempted from paying his Owerri Bar Association dues until the very end of his life.

He wasn't very fond of old age, and whenever he was asked if he felt old, he would reply that he felt like a very young man with a lot of health problems. He sometimes lamented about the pleasures he could no longer enjoy as an old man, such as eating sweet fruits as a result of his blood sugar issues, and missing the company of deceased relatives and close friends he would never see again. He also worried about climate change, and the effect that it would have on future generations. But most of all, he worried about Nigeria, its numerous failures, and the terrible direction it seemed to be heading in, with no one brave enough or honest enough to right the ship of the state.

K.K's final years were spent in mostly domestic bliss with his family. In spite of his health issues, his eyesight remained intact and he never had any need to wear glasses. His hearing was also intact, negating the need for a hearing aid. He never used a walking stick. He also retained his superb memory until the very end, never suffering from the dreaded dementia of which he was greatly terrified.

In the end, it was a relatively peaceful life, filled with friends, family and the occasional bout of drama. What more could a man hope for in his old age?



The tireless Chairman of the occasion at a book launch

NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION, OWERRI BRANCH



NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION
OWERRI BRANCH

CORRESPONDENCE

Plot 296, Works Layout, By Milton Hotel, P.O Box 625, Owerri, Imo State. (CHAIRMAN)
51, Onitsha Road, (Opp. NNPC Mega Station) Owerri, Imo State. (SECRETARY)

30th day of November, 2020.

Dame Chinwe Kalu Ogba,
No. 130, Orlu Road, Akwakuma,
Owerri, Imo State.

Dear Madam,

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

The Nigerian Bar Association, Owerri, grieves at the demise of your husband, **Chief K.K Ogba, Esq.** who was till his death, the Cock of NBA Owerri.

Alive, he was the Attorney-General of the old East Central State and the first Attorney-General/Commissioner for Justice of the old Imo State. As an Attorney-General of the State, he set up the legal framework which the State operates currently.

As a private Legal Practitioner, he was a very erudite Lawyer, an astute Solicitor and a very eloquent Advocate, whose both written and spoken expressions simply belonged in the top-drawer.

We urge you to find consolation in the hope of resurrection.

Do accept the assurances of our infinite condolences.

J. I Ogambà, Esq.
Chairman.

Chinedu Agu, Esq.
Secretary.

J. I. Ogambà, Esq. 08033320402 (Chairman) | Eka Onyeforo, Esq. 0803231753 (Vice Chairman) | Chinedu Agu, Esq. 08032548512 (Secretary) | Chigizere Adichinye, Esq. 07030814295 (Joint Secretary)
Chinenye Iweala, Esq. 08036731394 (Treasurer) | Ananchi Okpara, Esq. 08034993602 (Joint Secretary) | Chinenye Collins Iweala, Esq. 08064907408 (Joint Secretary)
Uzochukwu Enwere, Esq. 080336871094 (Publicity Secretary) | J. O. Moses, Esq. 08063050314 (Vice Chairwoman) | Ifeanyi Ujah, Esq. 07061179108 (Legal Advisor) | Desmond Uwagbo, Esq. 08037941632 (Fiscal)

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NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION, OHAFIA BRANCH



NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION
OHAFIA BRANCH

Chief Umeh Kalu Bar Centre, High Court Complex, Ohafia, Abia State
Email: nbaohafia@yahoo.com
www.nbaohafiabranch.org

Condolence to the family of Chief K.K Ogba

The news of the passing on to eternal glory of your dear husband, Chief K.K Ogba has reached us with sadness. On behalf of the members of Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) Ohafia Branch, I commensurate with you, your immediate and extended family in this period of grief.

Our outpouring sympathy is an indication that he was a legal luminary who made his mark on the sands of time. Because of his excellent qualities, he served as attorney general of the old East Central State and honorable commissioner of the old Imo state at creation at various times. Chief Ogba will be remembered for his service, leadership and a beaming light to other legal practitioners.

May your family find comfort knowing that he will be missed by all those who loved and worked with him. NBA Ohafia joins his family to celebrate his well accomplished life.

Sincerely,

Barr Ngozi Ukweni
Chairman, Nigerian Bar Association
Ohafia – Abia States

NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION, ISIALA-NGWA BRANCH

SPEECH DELIVERED BY B. E NWACHUKWU ESQ,
CHAIRMAN NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION, ISIALA
NGWA BRANCH, ABIA STATE ON THE OCCASION OF
THE SPECIAL HIGH COURT SESSION IN HONOUR OF
LATE CHIEF K. K OGBA ESQ. ON THE 14TH DAY OF
DECEMBER, 2020.

My Lord, the Honourable Chief Judge of Imo & Abia States,
 My Lord, the President Customary Court of Appeal, Imo & Abia States,
 My Lords, Judges of the High Court and Customary Court of Appeal of Imo & Abia States,
 The Honourable Attorney General of Imo & Abia States,
 My Lords, the Judges of other Courts present,
 Respected Senior Advocates of Nigeria,
 Learned Members of the Magisterial and Customary Court Bench,
 Learned Colleagues,
 Ladies and Gentlemen.

Today's solemn proceedings formally brings to an end our professional business with our colleague and erudite lawyer, LATE CHIEF K. K OGBA ESQ. whose unfortunate demise is not just disheartening but another cruel blow to the Bar having lost one of her best.

Information made available to us revealed that LATE CHIEF K. K OGBA ESQ. was a student of the following institutions: Hope Waddel Training Institute Calabar (Cambridge School Certificate) in 1949, Trinity College Dublin Ireland (B. A in Modern History and Political Science) in 1954, St. Catherine's College: B. Litt. (Bachelor of Letters) University of Oxford, England, U.K in 1958, Society of the Inner Temple, London: Registered as a Barrister at Law in 1960 and was formally Called to the Nigerian Bar on the 1st of December 1960.

LATE CHIEF K. K OGBA ESQ. started his career in Private Legal practice at Aggrey Road, Port-Harcourt city, he was the 32nd Lawyer in Port-Harcourt City, Rivers State, Nigeria and was loosely attached to N. B Graham Douglas Chambers as temporary Head of Chambers 1963.

He was the Head of Chambers Justice C. A Oputa Chambers in 1964 and the Legal Counsel at Irving and Bonner law firm where he remained until the start of the Nigerian Civil War in 1967.

It is worthy to note that LATE CHIEF K. K OGBA ESQ. served as Propaganda officer in the defunct Republic of Biafra between 1967-1970. He was the Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice in the East Central States and the 1st Honourable Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice for the old Imo State between 1976-1978 and achieved so much while in these offices.

However, after the enviable achievements and career of LATE CHIEF K. K OGBA ESQ. as a Public Servant, he returned to Private Practice in 1979 and remained the head of his Law Firm CHIEF K. K OGBA LAW CHAMBERS. He held several retainership in several Nigerian owned companies already listed on his Bio data. The demised erudite lawyer was a great lover of classical and traditional music, sports and a fashionable dresser to say the least. However, he won several awards from the bar and his community.

It is unfortunate that we lost this erudite and experienced legal luminary when most of us who are young in the profession may need to tap from his wealth of knowledge and experience. We cannot question the will of God.

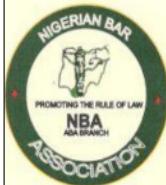
To members of the immediate family, we sincerely commiserate with you over the death of your loved one; we appreciate how painful it is to lose a dear one such as this, we shall continually pray the good Lord to give you the fortitude to bear the loss.

On behalf of the NBA Isiala Ngwa Branch, we join the host of other Saints to pray that the soul of the faithful departed shall have a perfect rest in the bosom of the Lord.

Amen.

B. E NWACHUKWU ESQ.
 Chairman, NBA Isiala Ngwa Branch.

NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION, ABA BRANCH



NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION ABA BRANCH

SECRETARIAT
CHIEF EMAN C. AKWUWU SAN BAR CENTRE
HIGH COURT COMPLEX, ABA.
ABIA STATE.
E-mail: abanba@nigerianbar.org
DATE: 24TH November, 2020

Kalu K. K. Ogba

Sir,

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE RE: CHIEF K. K. OGBA

I received with sympathy the news of the death of your beloved father, Chief K. K. Ogba, which occurred on the 14TH day of July, 2020 at the good age of Ninety (90) years.

There is no gainsaying the fact that Late Chief K. K. Ogba lived a good and fulfilled life. Not only was he an astute lawyer, but he was also a perfect gentleman and a role model to many a lawyer. I was just a few years old as a lawyer when I first met him at his law firm in Owerri sometime in the late nineties. He was always well-dressed, had good diction and also had perfect mastery of English language. He inspired me for sure as I am positive that he did also to many young lawyers.

Your late father was a lawyer who did his work with great diligence and had a great sense of responsibility. We are not in doubt that he brought the same degree of responsibility to his family and was also a great father and family man. We know that he will be greatly missed. Consequently, we have no doubt that a great lacuna has been created in your life as well as that of your family by this loss.

On behalf of myself and members of Nigerian Bar Association, Aba Branch, I pray that the good Lord will comfort you and give you and your family strength to bear the great loss.

Please accept our condolence.

Bertram Faotu
Chairman, NBA, Aba Branch

AM FAOTU (CHAIRMAN), V.C. ONWEREMADU (VICE-CHAIRMAN), CHINEDU FREDERICK NWAOUZUZU (SECRETARY), ARINZE C. CHUKWU (ASST. SECRETARY), EMMANUEL OKPANI (TREASURER), DURU PETER O. (FINANCIAL SECRETARY), EUPHEMIA I. ELEONU (SOCIAL SECRETARY), UCHENNA O. DAVID (PUBLICITY SECRETARY), H. U. UDENSU (WELFARE SECRETARY), JOHN O. JOHNSON (LEGAL ADVISER).

ABIA FOUNDING FATHERS



Founding Fathers of Abia State

Motto
Onye AghalaNwanneya

Address : No 3 Azikiwe Road, Umuahia, Abia State, Nigeria.
Phone: 08169657390 22nd Nov. 2020

A TRIBUTE TO LATE CHIEF BARRISTER KALU KALU OGBA

According to the Scriptures, Man was created in the Image of God and given the injunction: "go into the universe (world), conquer it and take dominion over it". That is, by creation man has all that it takes (powers) to be great. The white man and the developed world do understand this power and have exploited the injunction to create the world they want, through the Agricultural Revolution, the Industrial Revolution and the ongoing Information Revolution.

Late Chief Barrister Kalu Kalu Ogba was one of the rare black men and women, who understood God's endowed power in them and exploited it to conquer their world. Chief K. K. Ogba, or simply Chief K. K, as he was fondly called, realized his great God given talents and utilized them to conquer all odds to become a Legal Luminary and a great man in spirit, in material wealth, in kindness, and in generosity. At the same time, Chief KK used his great endowment to touch and make great differences in the lives of many others far and near.

More specifically, late Chief K. K. Ogba was one of the Legal Counsels and Advocates of the Abia State Movement, and thus a staunch member of the Founding Fathers of Abia State until his death on 14th July, 2020. With the creation of Abia State in 1991, Chief K. K. was very generous with his enormous physical energy, intellectual capacity and professional expertise in his various contributions to the building and development of the new state. He was, among other things: a winning lead counsel for the State Government in many election petitions; the lead counsel to the Golden Guinea Breweries Plc for 22 years; and a member of the State Judicial Service Commission. In all these and all along, Chief K. K. demonstrated eloquently that in your professional capacity you can serve your country, serve your state, and serve your people and humanity satisfactorily and productively without dabbling in active politics.

The above made the death of Chief K. K. a very painful and great loss not only to his family, the Founding Fathers and the good people of Abia State, but also to Nigeria and the world at large. Particularly, by the death of Chief K. K. the Founding Fathers of Abia State has suffered an irreplaceable loss both in numerical strength and in human resourcefulness and capital.

However, we, the Founding Fathers of Abia State, take solace in the fact that Chief K. K. came to the world, conquered the world and dominated it to the best of the ability and blessings endowed him by the Almighty Creator, who has deemed it appropriate now to call him back in Glory to His Kingdom. At the same time we console his bereaved family with the words of St. Paul: Chief K. K. had fought the good fight, he had finished the race, and had kept the faith in the Living God, Who had called him back the day and in the manner it pleased Him.

**RT. REV. CHUKWUMA C OPARAH, Ph.D. JP.
LORD BISHOP, ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF OWERRI**

**CHURCH OF NIGERIA
(Anglican Communion)**
DIOCESE OF OWERRI

Tel: 083431596 (Office)
E-mail: owerri_anglican@yahoo.com
Website: OWERRIANGLICAN.ORG



BISHOP'S OFFICE
1 MISSION CRESCENT
TRANSFIGURATION HILLS
P. M. B. 1063
OWERRI, IMO STATE
NIGERIA.

24 October, 2020

The Family of Late Chief Barr. K. K. Ogba
Through: Dame Chinwe Kalu Ogba
130 Orlu Road
Owerri, Imo State

Beloved,

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We received the news of the home call of your dear husband and father, Chief Barr. K. K. Ogba. We know you will certainly miss his companionship and fatherly advice. We employ you to pick up courage as one who has hope in Christ Jesus (1 Thes. 4:13ff), knowing that our labour here is not in vain.

Be rest assured that he is resting in the bosom of our Lord, and we shall all meet again on that resurrection morning, when we shall meet to part no more.

We pray for the comfort of the Holy Spirit especially at this period of his home-call. We will always remember you and your entire family in our prayers as we join with the good people of Anglican Diocese of Owerri to condole with you and your family.

Your Bishop, Friend & Pastor,

Rt. Rev. Chukwuma C. Oparah, Ph.D. JP.
Lord Bishop, Anglican Diocese of Owerri
&
Mrs. Chidiebere C. Oparah
(Mama Owerri)

MOST REVD DR. MONDAY NWOGU NKEMAKOLAM



**MOST REVD DR MONDAY
NWOGU NKEMAKOLAM** PH.D, M.DIV, DIP THEOLOGY
(AUTHOR)

¶ Imo State: 4 Primate M.N. Nkemakolam Street, Udenwa Estate, New Owerri, Owerri, Imo State
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• +234 803 646 0577, +234 811 112 2713

TRIBUTE TO MY DEAR FRIEND CHIEF BARR. K.K. OGBA

The word that came to my mind when I heard of Chief Barr. K. K. Ogba's death was the good life K.K. Ogba lived. I was very close to late chief K.K. Ogba for over thirty years and I found him to be a true gentle man in word and indeed. As far as I know all mortal men and women must die, and so what matters in this life should be how we lived that life that was given us by God, Late Chief K.K. Ogba was a man of the people. He was, humble, kind, unassuming, intelligent, respectful transparent in service, loving, dedicated to duty and sincere in his ways. He abhorred man's in humanity to man, and never robbed Peter to pay Paul in his life. He was conscious of sin and limited himself to all that will make him miss heaven. And he died a great man. Quoting Melton the blind poet, let me state that "Lives of great men all remind us that we can make our lives sublime and departing leave behind us foot print on the sand of time. Foot prints that perhaps another life's solemn man, a furlong and shipwrecked brother seeing shall take heart again" unquote. Chief Barr. K.K. Ogba is not dead, He is in heaven. He went on transfer to the spirit world. We shall only meet him again when we drop our coat of mortality and put on immortality. And enjoy the promises of good life with him.

In John 14:19 Jesus made an emphatic statement about those who served him well on earth. Those who maintained their loyalty to him and to him alone. He said in John Chapter 14 verse 19". As I live they shall also live", what a joy to all who had served the Lord. They will not taste death. Death will not end their lives. Death will serve as sleep to them, death will be a transfer paper to eternity for them. Death will be a capital stop to their sufferings.

The body pains and suffering, all man's in humanity to man will be ended in death. All the unnecessary gossips and slander will drop with death, those who had served with the Lord will hear a voice calling them after death saying "come and rest you, anointed and obedient servants of the Lord, for you have ran the race well and have won the price". So it shall be with Chief Barr. K.K. Ogba. And to the family I say be faithful to the Lord as you will see the light of the Lord around you no matter the thickness of the night, God is able and he is in control and will reward you if you so live your lives well. Thank you and God bless.

Signed:

Most Revd. Dr. Nkemakolam Monday N.



CATOL, OWERRI



**THE CATHEDRAL OF THE TRANSFIGURATION
OF OUR LORD, (CATOL), OWERRI.**

P.O. Box 31, Owerri
Imo State, Nigeria.

19th October, 2020.
Date:

Dame Chinwe Kalu Ogba
CATOL
Owerri.

Beloved,

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

May grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be multiplied to you and the entire family in fullest measure at this time.

Today, we, the Clergy, Board and Congregation of the Cathedral Church of Transfiguration of Our Lord (CATOL) Owerri, have sorrowfully gathered to bid farewell to our dearly beloved Brother, Father, Uncle, Friend and associate. Chief K.K. Ogba was intellectually rich, but manifestly humble in learning and character. He was as well generous with his love. His death is sorrowful not because he shouldn't have died, nor did God err by taking him, but because we are left with the difficulty of filling the "void" created by his demise.

Chief K.K. Ogba was a long standing member of the Nigeria Bar Association (N.B.A.) Owerri. His legal career spanned an impressive Sixty years (60) during which he maintained a stellar reputation by applying "grit and salt" attention to details on his job. Chief K.K. Ogba was the last Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice in the Old East Central States. Upon creation of the Old Imo State, Chief K.K. Ogba served as the first Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice under several successive governments in Imo State.

He was married in the Anglican Church, and until his death was a practising Christian who firmly believed in God. As he journeys to the mother-earth, we wish to bid him farewell to eternal rest in the bosom of our Lord. Amen!

We would however, like to assure our Sister and wife of the deceased, Dame Chinwe Kalu Ogba, of our prayers for God's grace and comfort to abound for you and your entire family especially at this time, as you will no doubt miss him greatly. However, we know that for those who truly believe the Gospel, "to be with Christ is far better" (Phil. 1:23b). Please accept our sincere condolences and encouragement not to mourn like those who have no hope. (1 Thess. 4:13-18).

Signed
Sir Prof. Ndu Life Njoku
Secretary CATOL Board.

Rev. Canon Innocent C. Agunanne
Vicar/Administrator

CATOL WOMEN'S MINISTRIES



**DIOCESE OF OWERRI
(Anglican Communion)**

**THE CATHEDRAL OF THE TRANSFIGURATION
OF OUR LORD (CATOL) OWERRI
Women's Ministries**



P. O. BOX 31 OWERRI
IMO STATE, NIGERIA
TEL:.....

Date: 3rd Dec. 2020.

Our Ref: _____ Your Ref: _____

Dame Chinwe Kalu Ogba
Chief Kalu Ogba's Hillcrest Lodge
Ugwu Oba, Amaogudu
Abiriba.

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

We deeply wish to express our deep sense of loss and the total submission to the will of the Almighty God on the death of your beloved husband Chief Kalu Kalu Ogba, which occurred on 14th July 2020. Our prayers has been that God grant you and your family the fortitude to bear this irreparable loss.

Your husband was a man of honour and dignity, full of courage and strength during his sojourn on earth. He undoubtably left good legacies to all those that have come in contact with him especially his family members. He will always be remembered for this good memories. We know that words cannot be enough to express our sorrows but our heavenly father hears the panic and the echoes of your heart. May the comfort of God Almighty abide with you and your family at this painful moment.

We therefore implore you to take solace in the words of Eccl 3:1-2 which says, there is time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens, a time to born and a time to die.

We pray that God of all comfort and peace will strengthen you and give the entire family the fortitude to bear this irreparable loss.

Adieu!

Mrs. Victoria Chijwe Agunanne
Vice President/ Vicars Wife

Lady Tessy Illo
General Secretary

CARING FOR FAMILIES WORLDWIDE

RT. REV. JOHNSON C ONUOHA



**CHURCH OF NIGERIA
(ANGLICAN COMMUNION)**
DIOCESE OF AROCHUKWU/OHAFIA

PHONE: +2348102988841, +2347080469935
EMAIL: cro.ohafiaanglicandiocease@gmail.com

*Our Ref.**Your Ref.**Date:* 6th November, 2020

ADDRESS:
Cathedral Church of All Saints, Ugwuovo
P.O. Box, 193, Arochukwu
Arochukwu L.G.A
Abia State, Nigeria.



Dame Chinwe K. K. Ogba

Beloved in Christ,

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

We wish to on behalf of the entire members of the Diocese of Arochukwu/Ohafia (Anglican Communion) convey our heartfelt condolence to your entire family on the demise of your husband, late Chief Kalu Kalu Ogba who has gone to be with the Lord.

Though his fatherly care, love and counsel would be missed by the family, please be consoled by the fact that he lived a fruitful life and left an indelible impact in the sand of time, and also brought up children who are positively impacting the Church and the society.

At this time of bereavement, please be assured of the abiding presence of the Lord and His unfailing love. May the Lord console you and your entire family and grant you the fortitude to bear the loss.

The Rt. Rev. Johnson C. Onuoha
Bishop, Diocese of Arochukwu/Ohafia
Anglican Communion

REV. CHRIS O. ONUMAEGBU

**TRINITY THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE
AFARAUKWU- IBEKU
UMUAHIA**
22nd October, 2020

Bro Kalu,

CONDOLENCE

I offer my condolence to you, your siblings, Ogba family and the entire Abiriba Community. On the death of your father Late Chief Barrister K.K Ogba.

This is certainly a very grave loss to all of us your well-wishers and a particularly challenging incident for you and the entire family, given fond memories and long years you have all shared.

I however encourage you and the rest of the family to find succor in the fact that he lived to the ripe age of 90 years and led a pious life of selfless service to God and humanity. He also acquitted himself most creditably as he bequeathed laudable legacies and offering like you to keep his name and good work alive.

I send my deep condolence to you and the entire family over the sad loss. I share in your sorrow over his death, also in the joy over a life well spent. And I connect with you in prayers for the peaceful repose of his soul.

While wishing you more grace and fortitude as you grapple with the realities of this event.

Please accept the assurance of my highest regards and support always.

Rev. Chris O. Onumaegbu.

COUNCIL OF KNIGHTS, DIOCESE OF AROCHUKWU



Order of Saint Christopher
Order of Saint Augustine
Ladies of Saint Mary

CHURCH OF NIGERIA
(ANGLICAN COMMUNION)
DIOCESE OF AROCHUKWU/OHAFIA
COUNCIL OF KNIGHTS
Cathedral Church of All Saints
Ugwuovo Arochukwu

Dame Chinwe Kalu Ogba,
St. Lukes Anglican Church,
Abiriba

Dear Dame,

OUR CONDOLENCES TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

We received with mixed feelings the passage of your Dear Precious Husband **Chief Barr. Kalu Ogba** to the world beyond. One is that from our human perceptive, He lived a good and fulfilled life and a grateful return to his creator could not but be a thing of joy since that is what we all pray for. However, the loss of a Precious Husband and father could not but be very painful hence We sympathize with you.

As a good Christian and Soldier of Christ You must take heart and accept God's decision with courage. You cannot do otherwise.

Your love for your husband may be so great but God's love for him is greater and take precedence over yours and ours.

May God grant you and the Children the grace to bear this irreparable loss with equanimity. And may the soul of your Husband and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in Peace Amen.

Barr. Kenneth Ogbonna KSC
Secretary

Sir Dave Imoko
President

TRANSFIGURATION INTERNATIONAL NURSERY/PRIMARY SCHOOLS

TRANSFIGURATION INTERNATIONAL
NURSERY/PRIMARY SCHOOLS
CATOL OWERRI, IMO STATE

MOTTO: EDUCATION FOR TRANSFORMATION

Dear Mummy Dame Chinwe Kalu-Ogba

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

Peace, grace and comfort from our God are multiplied for you and your family.

The management, staff and pupils of the Transfiguration International Nurse/ Primary School do condole with you over the Home call of your husband and father Chief K.K Ogba.

Please take heart and may God of love through His son Jesus Christ who conquered death, comfort you, grant you all the serenity of mind and strengthen you by the power of the Holy Spirit now and always.

May He do for you what you and your children cannot do yourself and be present with you beyond your imagination Amen!

Singed

Rev. Can. Innocent Agunanne
Administrator

Mrs. O. H. Egbuchi
Headmistress

K.K was like water.

Like water he resembled the greatest good.

Like water he benefited a multitude of people through his generosity.

*Like water he lived in places the people disliked.
But even then they sought him out and came to him
And they did not stop coming until the end*

*Like a deep pool of water he had a heart with great depth and unseen activity
The more the people got to know him, the more they discovered that there was much more to
him than meets the eye*

*Like water he provided his generosity to everyone with great kindness
Never asking for a reward, and moving on with no strings attached*

*Like water he slaked the thirst of the kind person, as well as that of the unkind person
He did not pick and choose the recipients of the generosity he provided*

*Like water, he reflected his surroundings, and did not hide or change anything in his reflection
As a result, the people came to trust him.*

For they knew that he would tell them the truth when no one else would

*Like water he remained versatile, conforming to the shape of any situation he found himself in
He did not rush into things, taking action only when the situation demanded it*

*Like water he did not contend, and was therefore beyond reproach
Since he did not engage in petty squabbles he was able to be of service to mankind*

K.K was like water

Be like water.



Chief Kalu Kalu Ogbu died on the 14th of July, 2020 after a short illness.

He died peacefully in his sleep, the finest way to die.

His last words were to his last child, Igwe.

Looking straight into Igwe's eyes, he said:

**"Igwe, I want you to let the world know that I lived a good life
And that I was a happy man as I lay dying"**

*How many of us will have the confidence to speak words such as these on our deathbed?
Chief K.K Ogbu could, because he lived a meaningful life.*

*A meaningful life does not mean accumulating money and fame, but being of service to your fellow human beings.
It means helping others if you can, but even if you can't do that, at least not harming them.*

That is how K.K lived his life.

May he rest in perfect peace.

Amen.



Appreciation

The Nwami Ukwu family of Abiriba would like to thank you all for the many expressions of kindness, love and support you have shown us during this period of bereavement. It has been a comforting blessing to each of us. We pray that God Almighty will reward and grant you journey mercies as you return to your homes.

God bless.

**Kalu Kalu Kalu Ogba
For The Family**