

# Prof. (Chief) P.N. Lassa, OON

(Professor of Mathematics - Education)

(FMAN, FNAE, FCON, FNATT, FDA, AMU)

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### TRIBUTE TO LATE PROF. CHIMAH EZEOMAH

It was bad news when I heard that Professor C. Ezeomah had passed away. I have known Professor Ezeomah since 1957 when he was attending ECWA Teachers College Grade III in Kaltungo, Gombe State. I was then attending Higher Teachers College Grade II in Gombe Town. Students in these two Colleges used to compete playing football. He played for his college and I played for my college.

After we left our Teachers Colleges, we did not see again until after the Civil war. Professor Ezeomah moved to the North and took appointment as lecturer in Advanced Teachers College, Zaria under the Institute of Education of ABU Zaria. Sometime in 1976 as staff of ATC Zaria, Professor Ezeomah came to apply for money to do research on Fulani Nomads. Since I was in charge of Research, I ask for approval for his proposal and Professor Ezeomah was given ₦10,000 (Ten thousand naira) to conduct his Master Degree (M.Ed) research.

When the University of Jos was established in 1975 Professor C. Ezeomah moved to the Faculty of Education as Lecturer I in 1976. As fate will have it, I was offered appointment in 1979 as Professor of Mathematics Education in the Department of Science and Technology Education, in Faculty of Education of University of Jos. Professor Ezeomah was then working on his Ph.D. on Fulani Nomadic Education. Professor Ezeomah obtained his Ph.D. in 1981.

When the Federal Government established the Nomadic Education Advisory Commission to implement the opening of the National Commission for Nomadic Education, Professor Ezeomah was the only one capable of heading the National Commission for Nomadic Education because of his research and academic qualification. Professor Jibril Aminu then Minister of Education and a Fulani man recommended Professor Ezeomah to head the Commission as Executive Secretary of the National Commission for Nomadic Education.

Professor Ezeomah rose to be a Professor at the University of Jos, Faculty of Education after publishing numerous research works and seminar papers in reputable journals. Professor

Ezeomah was a hardworking and determined individual from his educational background. He moved round seeking for knowledge. He was a detribalised individual. He had worked in various places away from his home town.

He conducted research on the disadvantage group of Nomadic Fulani. He diligently set the National Commission for Nomadic Education on solid foundation. Professor Ezeomah was one of the very good teachers and lecturers in the Faculty of Education, University of Jos. He provided leadership in the Department of Educational Foundations. He endeared himself to his students. We will miss his contribution in the development of Nomadic Education.

May his soul Rest in Peace.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'P. N. Lassa', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Professor Peter N. Lassa (O.O.N)