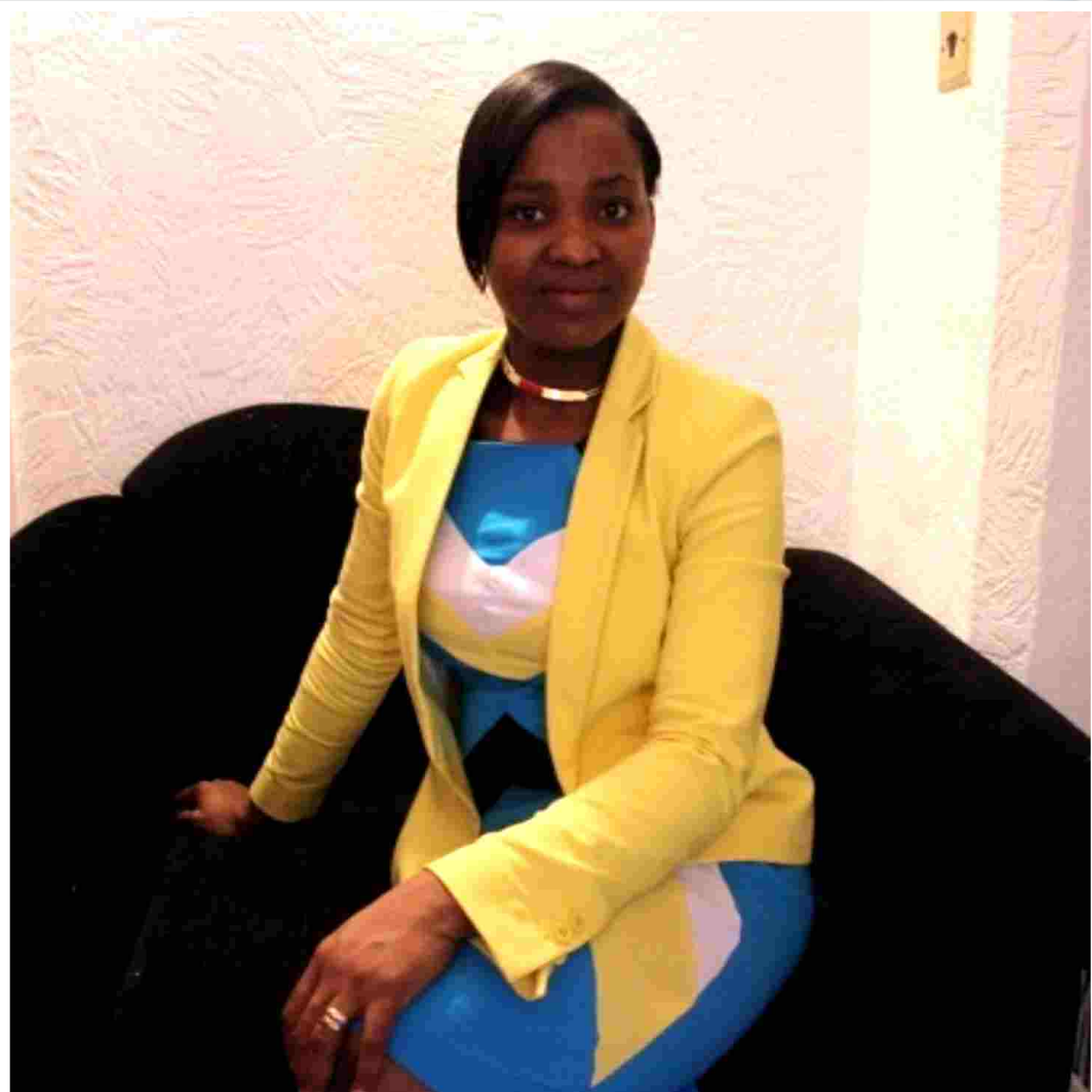


A pictorial synopsis

of

Olasubomi Iginla Aina's

service to humanity.





A pictorial synopsis

Olasubomi Iginla Aina's

service to humanity.

INTRODUCTION:

This document is the pictorial synopsis of Olasubomi Iginla Aina's humanitarian endeavours. It has been carefully used to showcase some of the notable projects (local, national and international) designed, Funded and coordinated respectively by Olasubomi Iginla.

The images in this document reflect many of her involvements but not all. Majority of the projects in this document were purely inspirations she received while attempting to resolve an identified problem, she coordinated majority of the projects as a team leader. Olasubomi also had to personally fund some of the projects.

Most of the pictures used have been properly captioned with titles and write ups which provides more details on the project and her role/involvements.

All glory to God Almighty for His great grace.

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PRIMARY SCHOOL FORMATION.

Meeting with community leaders in Ikahare Island August 2017



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service to humanity.

Olasubomi Opened a Free school

Registration of pupils / parents meeting 23rd December 2017



**Opening of a New Free school in Ikhare Community
(An isolated Island dominated by citizens of Nigeria, Republic of Benin, Togo and Ghana).
Funded by: Olasubomi . The only FREE school in Ikhare community.
Date: 09-01-2018.**

The King of Osolu Kingdom welcomes
Olasubomi and her team to the kingdom.



New school and the new intakes



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service to humanity.

Olasubomi and the Lightup team at the opening ceremony of the new school at Ikhare community



Travelling in a boat to Ikhare community
09-02-2018.



VISIT TO CALAIS JUNGLE FRANCE

Olasubomi funded this trip and donated food and toiletries. May 2016.
Olasubomi visited France to meet children and families



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MTBO: Mentored and Trained By Olasubomi



Youth Opportunity Fund and Youth Capital Fund

Young people, youth organisations and youth groups have changed for the better as a consequence of receiving funding from the youth opportunity and youth capital funds. Since 2016 over £3,162,836 have been distributed, by young people, to both statutory and voluntary organisations across the London Borough of Croydon. These include - Croydon Multi-sportage Youth Centre, Victory Youth Project, PPA Jetts Chess/Reading School, Chaverson, Croydon Youth Theatre Organisation and many many more.

YOF/YCF has been a realiser to people that young people generally know best what they want and need so far as positive activities are concerned - and they have also shown that they are more than capable of taking control of the resources underpinning those activities.

An excellent reason for the Youth Opportunity and Youth Capital Fund points to children in terms of achievement!
For more information call Aina on 020 8710 1182

Croydon Detached Team Summer Parks Programme

The sun is shining, the grass is green and the sky is blue . . . where would you most like to be in Croydon when it's such a great day? In the parks of course!

The Detached Team are coming to bring some fun your way in local parks from 24th July - 26th August 2015. There'll be a 'Wipe-Out' style inflatable, a street artist who will get you making your own art piece, DJ workshops, team art, jewellery making and different sports to take part in. There'll also be people from Cosmetics and Drop in who you can talk to about careers, sexual health, counselling, drugs and other stuff. We are also doing trips to Chelsea Football Stadium, Young Drive, Bush Tours (London and Thorpe Park



→ Amongst the 15 youths selected by Croydon Council to represent Croydon Youths on Yof & Ycf, 5 of these youths ~~was~~ had been mentored and trained by Olasubomi Aina via Lightup Foundation.

A pictorial synopsis

Olasubomi Iginla Aina's

service to humanity.

Ripple Effect

Peter Farkas, a Lightup Foundation member, (He renounced membership with the gang after joining lightup). **Olasubomi personally worked with Peter he received mentoring and counselling from Olasubomi** which he later used to the benefit of other young people in the community.

Peter's back from the brink

BY the age of 13 Peter Farkas was dealing drugs, carrying knives and had seen his best friend bleed to death in his arms.

There seemed little hope of him turning his life around.

But two years on he has turned his back on gangs.

The reformed "angry young man" from West Croydon is one of 12 youths behind a project called Light Up Foundation. Its idea is for role models like Peter to help pull other troubled teens back from the brink.

He says Croydon's disaffected youngsters will listen to him - because he has "got the T-shirt".

He said: "I'm not some naive young do-gooder, or an old member of the establishment trying to preach to young kids that gangs and weapons are not cool."

"I've been in that world so deep that no one believed I could get out."

"The fact that I am making a fresh start is proof that there is hope, no matter how bad your life is."

Peter believes his "rage" stemmed from an horrific house fire in Dennett Road, when he was seven.

He doesn't remember much about the incident except that he was in a coma for three weeks at St George's Hospital in Tooting and was subsequently in and out of hospital for four years.

"I was resentful and angry

because no one gave me any answers," he explained. "I had terrible scars and pain."

"There was also a part of me that felt if I can survive that then I can survive anything, which made me dangerous."

Peter became part of a 50-strong gang of 15 to 20-year-olds from Croydon when he was just eight.

His "fearless streak" made even the oldest members treat him with respect.

□ The fact that I am making a fresh start is proof that there is hope, no matter how bad your life is □

"After a while I started hanging out with just the older members - they didn't consider me young as I made up for my age with attitude."

"But that's when things started getting heavy. I was held at gunpoint a couple of times, I was carrying knives and I was involved in fights."

"I was smoking weed and dealing skunk (a strong form of cannabis) which brought in up to £600 a week."

Peter was already "knee-deep" in gang culture, but he

admits "things went really bad" when his 13-year-old best friend, also in the gang, died in a drive-by shooting.

Recalling the tragedy, which took place when Peter was 13, he said: "All I remember seeing was a car whizzing past."

"I sensed something was wrong so I tried to tell him to run away, but next thing I heard two shots, and he was on the ground. I grabbed him, but he died in my arms."

"That boy was like a father figure to me - my parents were divorced when I was three and my dad died when I was five."

"He kept me out of real trouble, but now he was gone."

"I lost the plot. I bought a gun for £250 and used it to threaten people. One dodgy look from a person in the street and I'd mug them."

His mum Christina and sister Katlian, now 21, tried to help, but he admits he was "impossible" to control.

But luckily for Peter, a loving relationship was the catalyst for breaking down his "emotional barrier".

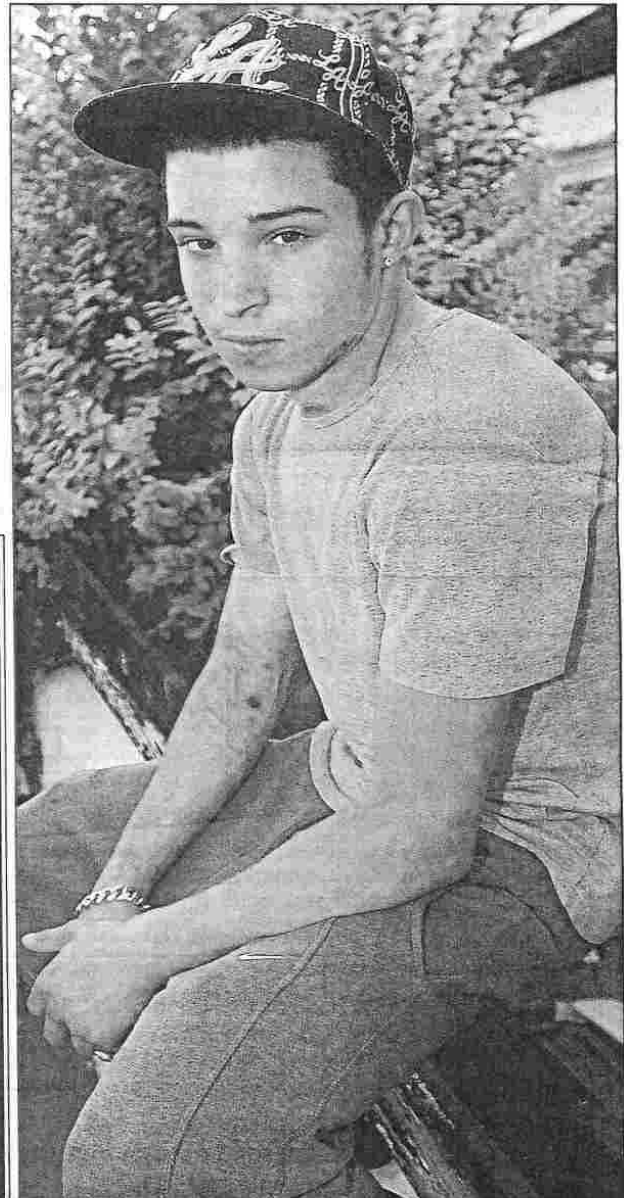
He said: "I met this great girl last year and for the first time I started opening up to her about my issues."

Thanks to Peter's newfound openness, he listened when sister Katlian suggested he sign up to the Light Up Foundation.

He said: "I'm so pleased I'm involved in the project."

IN a bid to drag children out of gangs and away from a life of crime an ingenious new project has started in Croydon.

ALINE MASSIF, in a special two-page report, meets the people involved in the scheme, including a teenager who knows better than most the dangers of becoming a gang member.



BAD BOY GONE GOOD: Former gang member Peter Farkas wants to help troubled teenagers transform their lives. Photo No: CCR812528690042 by Simon Turnbull

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AND £100 TRADE IN FOR YOUR OLD TV*

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*Kicks in-store for full terms and conditions. Promotional dates: 1st July 2009 - 31st August 2009. Qualifying models for Free Blu-ray players are: TX-L15V10, TX-L15V10, TX-L15V10, TX-L15V10. Qualifying models for £100 Trade-in are: TX-P42C105, TX-P42C105, TX-P42C105, TX-L15V10, TX-L15V10, TX-P42V10, TX-L15V10 and TX-L15V10.

Panasonic Store at Croydon
Centrale Centre, North End Mall
Croydon CR0 1TY
020 8667 1551
croydon@panavision.uk.com

freesat HD

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Sale must finish 31st August 2009

A pictorial synopsis
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 service to humanity.

Biola Aderibigbe is a Lightup Foundation member and Olasubomi personally worked with him, he received trainings, mentoring and counselling from Olasubomi which made him a role model to other young people in the community, Good enough to be published in the newspapers.

Downloaded 01/07/2012
www.lightupfoundation.org.uk
Advertiser: Friday, August 26, 2009 13

We can show kids what life could be like

A 100% FINANCED teenager who has been awarded the title of Light Up Foundation's "Young Ambassador" has been chosen to be a "mentor" for young people who are struggling with their lives in the city.

The former model is Miss Chidinma Nwagwu, who has been named "Young Ambassador" for the year. She is a former model who has been named "Young Ambassador" for the year. She is a former model who has been named "Young Ambassador" for the year.

"I want to show young people that there is a better way of life. I want to show them that they can be successful and happy. I want to show them that they can be successful and happy. I want to show them that they can be successful and happy."

"I want to show young people that there is a better way of life. I want to show them that they can be successful and happy. I want to show them that they can be successful and happy. I want to show them that they can be successful and happy."



A young boy looking thoughtful, wearing a dark sweater with a white collar.

Idea came from knife-crime youths



A group of young people, some in school uniforms, posing for a photo.

The idea for the foundation came from a group of young people who were involved in knife crime. They wanted to show other young people that there is a better way of life. They wanted to show other young people that there is a better way of life. They wanted to show other young people that there is a better way of life.

Wedding Fair

at the Croydon Park Hotel
 6th September 2009
 Open 11.00am - 3.00pm
 No Entry Fee

Come along and see our Wedding Experts who include: Make-up, Wedding Photography, Flowers, Stationery, Wedding Cakes, etc.

Don't miss out on our Wedding Fashion Show this Year

Lots of expert advice to help you plan your wedding.

For more details contact Michael or Beth, 020 8680 9200

www.croydonparkhotel.com

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MOTIVATIONAL TRAININGS FOR MUSLIM YOUTHS

Motivational Trainings and Counselling April 2015.



Olasubomi providing support for Muslim youths

Olasubomi Designed Motivational Trainings and counselling for Young Muslims

Date: 08-12-2014

Venue: 109-117 Cherry Orchard Road
Croydon.CR0 6BE.



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Article on the good work Olasubomi is doing

Shining a light on young lives

Foundation aims to steer youths away from crime

EACH week we celebrate the hard work of unsung community groups. This week Ross Lidbetter learns about an organisation empowering youngsters in Croydon

WHEN Olasumbomi Aina came to Croydon, she wanted to give something back to the borough's youth. She arrived in England four years ago with her Lightup Foundation project, which she had set up in Nigeria in 2001. And she estimates the project has helped around 300 young people in the borough already.

Mentoring

Lightup provides counselling and mentoring to youngsters, aiming to steer them away from crime and give them self-confidence.

And last month it opened a multi-purpose centre, in Union Road, West Croydon, which provides a space for the



COMING ON IN LEAPS AND BOUNDS: Youths from the Lightup project

CPH/20100831B-004, C by Paul Marjoram

borough's youth to hold meetings, use computers, sing and dance among other activities.

Explaining how Lightup is making a difference, Olasumbomi said: "We had a girl who came to Lightup and she



was so shy. "She didn't want to be known and didn't believe she could do things in life.

"But now she has been able to discover the potential she has inside. She had two training sessions in leadership and motivation with us and she was one of the main youths leading the group that organised the opening of the centre."

Facilities

Other young people are organising events there and registering people who want to use its facilities.

Olasumbomi added: "It is like a proper working office and it is giving them a different experience."

But it's not just from inside a building that the youths are working. Olasumbomi explained: "Some of our youths go out into the community and talk to other youths about antisocial behaviour and gun and knife crime.

"They will sing and dance on the street

POSITIVE PROJECT: The opening of the multi-purpose centre in Union Road, West Croydon

CPH/20100831B-012, C by Paul Marjoram

and when they have the crowd's attention they will talk to them.

"They'll tell them the importance of volunteering and not being part of a crowd causing antisocial behaviour."

The project has helped youths aged from 13 to 25 and part of the idea is that they can then mentor each other.

"These youths are good and have the ability to make a very positive change in the world," Olasumbomi added.

The work of Lightup has received the backing of Croydon Central MP Gavin Barwell.

After attending the opening of the centre on August 31, Mr Barwell said: "Young people often get a bad press but this was a reminder that most young people are decent law-abiding people with talent and energy and our job is to help them make the most of that talent."

Olasubomi Designed the Lightup Youth Multi-purpose centre Project . A popular and very successful project. Lightup Multi-purpose Centre project. Official Opening Ceremony of the Lightup Youth Multi-purpose Centre By the Mayor of Croydon Date: 31-08-2010.



A pictorial synopsis
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Olasubomi hosting MP Gavin Barwell, the Mayor of Croydon and her husband at the Opening ceremony of the Lightup Multi-purpose centre



Olasubomi training young people at the Lightup Multi-purpose Centre Date:12-06-2010



Lightup Multi-purpose Centre project



Lightup youths performing a dance



Olasubomi organised several trainings at the Multi-purpose Centre.



A pictorial synopsis
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Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
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**Community Volunteering organised by Olasubomi
Youths campaigning against drug abuse and Anti-social behaviour**



**Olasubomi Coordinated several youth development trainings in Newham.
Youth Development training for Newham youths**



A pictorial synopsis
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Olasubomi with young People campaigning against Drug abuse.
Project Coordinated by: Olasubomi Community volunteering



Organised by Olasubomi
Inter-School Debate Following the London Youth Riot. Date: Feb 1st 2013.



Olasubomi's work with school drop outs

Olasubomi (Lady in Pink shirt) Working with Secondary School Drop outs (Alt School Croydon).



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 service to humanity.

**The Lightup Youth Multi-purpose centre.
 Newspaper providing information on the facility.**

Radical plans for £250 million redevelopment greeted with caution

Regeneration man has a towering dream for town

By Ian Austen
 ian.austen@thisismedia.co.uk

FOLLOWING a massive rethink, radical plans for redeveloping a major part of East Croydon have left the drawing board.

And this time Craig Marks, boss of developer Menta, is hopeful his new proposals will go a long way towards placating local opposition and giving regeneration a shot in the arm.

Menta caused uproar after proposing a development, comprising mainly housing, including four tower blocks, one of which would have been 45 storeys high.

And while the new £250 million scheme still contains a landmark 50-plus-storey block, the other three large towers have disappeared.

Mr Marks withdrew the initial proposals a year ago on the day they were due to be considered by Croydon's planning committee.

Controversial

He wants a less controversial new scheme.

In the last fortnight Menta has been testing the water, through two public consultation exercises and a presentation to the council's strategic planning committee.

Mr Marks says the initial reaction has been considerably more positive, although he accepts concerns about the height of the main tower - which would be between 160 and 180 metres tall - remain.

Hostility has waned with new plans in pipeline

HOSTILITY to Menta's plans appears to have eased somewhat.

In the trimmed-down new scheme the number of homes has been reduced from 1,100 to around 500 and more open space has been included.

Addiscombe's Labour councillor Sean Fitzsimons, who organised a large protest campaign against the first application, said: "I am not happy but I am not as unhappy as I was with the original scheme."

"I am pleased that the number of towers and the amount of housing has been reduced but my main concern is the height of the remaining tower."

"I also remain concerned about how the infrastructure of the area in terms of schools and doctors' will be affected."

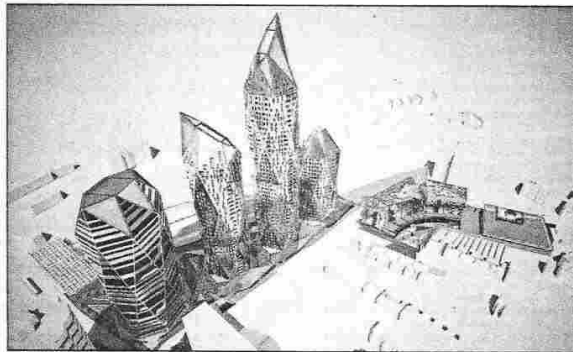
Croydon's tallest tower

IF Menta's main tower is approved and built at its proposed height of between 160 and 180 metres - it would easily become Croydon's tallest building.

It would be almost twice as tall as the recently built Altitude 25,



VISION: Craig Marks hopes the development can match Croydon's aspirations



NO MORE: The original Menta plans for four towers have been discarded

The overall scheme, which encompasses an area around Cherry Orchard Road, Cherry Orchard Gardens and Billinton Hill, envisages providing around 500 one, two and three-bedroom apartments.

They would be spread between the main tower block and an up to 14-storey building on the site of vacant former council flats in Cherry Orchard Gardens.

Also included is a 180-room hotel - a new element to the

scheme - a gym, restaurants, shops, community facilities and open space.

A key element will also be an extension of a bridge which is part of the masterplan for regenerating East Croydon.

The bridge, which would link East Croydon station to Lansdowne Road, would, under his scheme - Mr Marks promises - be extended to provide a new link for Addiscombe residents to both the

station and the town centre.

He said: "The original scheme was ambitious, perhaps a bit over-ambitious."

"I was beguiled by the possibilities for Croydon's future and I remain beguiled by them."

Mr Marks believes the new proposals have dealt with local objectors' fears that a "wall of development and monolithic mass" would have been created by the original four towers.

Menta will look hard at the responses from the initial consultations to submit a planning application around Christmas.

If planning permission is granted work could start in 2012 and take four years to complete.

What do you think of the new proposals? Write to Letters, Croydon Advertiser, 3rd Floor, Jessop House, 100 Plumworth Road, Croydon, CR0 1XX or e-mail newsdesk@croydonadvertiser.co.uk

IN BRIEF

Postal worker theft charge

A POSTAL worker from Thornton Heath has appeared in court charged with stealing 30 items belonging to the Royal Mail.

Richard Johncock, of Parchmore Road, appeared at Croydon Magistrates' Court last Friday.

The 44-year-old is charged with stealing 30 "postal packets" in Mitcham containing £45 between January 1 and March 25. He is also accused of stealing three postal packets containing John Lewis and Marks & Spencer gift vouchers in Mitcham on March 24.

Johncock faces a further charge of breaching his duty as a postal worker by opening postal packets in the course of their transmission on March 20.

He was released on unconditional bail and is due back in court on July 30.

Rail crimes

NETWORK Rail has released details of crimes committed on Croydon's railways during the last financial year.

At East Croydon station there were two reports of trespassing on the track, while a bicycle, road cone and metal pole were thrown on the line.

There were four incidents of stones being thrown at trains at South Croydon and two at West Croydon station. A youth went on the line at Norwood Junction and graffiti was scrawled at Norbury and Purley stations.

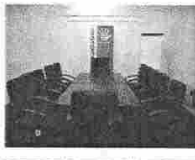
A brick was thrown at a train at Thornton Heath, while at Riddlesdown there was trespassing, stone throwing and a plastic barrier thrown on the tracks. A suitcase was thrown on the line at Selhurst and a trampoline was left on the track at Sutton.

LightUp Youth Multi-Purpose Centre

LightUp has recently opened a Multi-purpose centre for youths. Youths can now benefit from our free facilities and have the opportunity to give back through community volunteering and empowering other youths with useful skills gained from LightUp trainings.

Services provided at the LightUp multi-purpose centre

1. Volunteer opportunities for youths to gain work experience while serving their community
2. Counseling for youths derpsih, Conflict Management, Self-development and
3. Youth mini office to be run by interested youth volunteers
4. Training activities on (LeaEntrepreneur skills).
5. Free training room, conference room and facilities available for interested youth projects within Croydon.



To use our facilities, please contact us at:

2 Union Road, West Croydon CR0 2XU
 Tel: 0208 664 3858, 0600 0435395
 Mobile: 07838547924
 Fax: 0208 665 1422
 E-mail: admin@lightupfoundation.org
 Website: www.lightupfoundation.org



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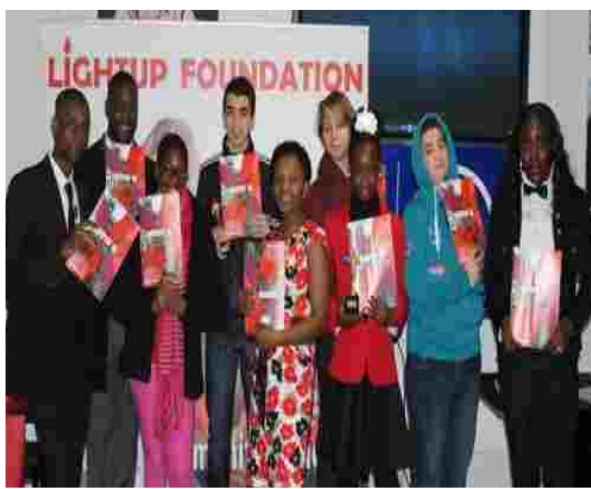
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**Olasubomi saved this project from failing.
Young Heritage Ambassadors (YHA) Project.
Inspiration by Olasubomi Iginla Aina.**

OLASUBOMI'S SERVICE TO THE BOROUGH OF HARINGEY
First Youth Heritage Magazine in Haringey launched by the Mayor of Haringey.



YHA Project Exchange Tour
Haringeyyouths visit Croydon borough.



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YHA Project

Haringey youths interview MP David Lammy



YHA Project

Haringey youths Tour Tottenham High street. Date: May 31st 2013.



YHA Project

Haringey Library research on Heritage buildings in Haringey.

Group A Haringey Now and Then Library Research of the Tottenham High Road

Date: 01-06-2013

Bruce Castle Museum

Haringey Culture, Libraries and Learning



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Olasubomi Designed the Heritage Project. **YHA Project**

Haringey group. Tottenham Research with the Royal Institute of British Architects
Venue: The Headquarters of The Royal Institute of British Architects
British Architectural Library, 66 Portland Place London. W1B 1AD. Date: 02-07-2013



YHA Project

Documentary Preparation Training for Haringey group. Date: 29-06-2013. London Academy of Media Film & TV



Young Heritage Ambassadors (YHA) Project. Inspiration by Olasubomi Iginla Aina.
First Youth Heritage Magazine in Croydon Produced. Youths distributing magazine on the high street
By the Croydon group.



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YHA Project

Project designed and coordinated by Olasubomi.

Croydon Local Studies Library and Archives Service Central Library Katharine Street Croydon CR9 1ET

Date: 01-05-2013



YHA Project Croydon Group Tour of the Croydon High street Croydon High street Date: 04-05-2013



YHA Project

Croydon Group Research with the Royal Institute of British Architects

Venue: The Headquarters of The Royal Institute of British Architects British Architectural Library

66 Portland Place London. W1B 1AD Date: 27-04-2013



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YHA Project

CROYDON GROUP Project Designed by Olasubomi
Documentary Preparation Training Date: 12-04-2013
London Academy of Media Film & TV 1 Lancing St London Borough of Camden, NW1 1NA.



YHA Project

Launching of Magazine in Croydon Date: Saturday the 30th of November 2013.
Venue: St Mary's Catholic High School Woburn Road Croydon CR9 2EE



YHA Project

SPECIAL INVITATION BY THE MAYOR OF CROYDON TO HONOUR THE PROJECT PARTICIPANTS
Date: 21st January 2014
Venue: Mayor's Parlour Town Hall Katharine Street Croydon CR9 1XW
Project Participants received badge from Mayor for a job well done



A pictorial synopsis
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**Lightup work. Young Heritage Ambassadors project (YHA) .
A concept developed and coordinated by Olasubomi For Haringey Borough**



The Mayor of Haringey, Olasubomi and the owner of the oldest business on Tottenham high street

Olasubomi and the Haringey group carry out research at The Headquarters of the Royal Institute of British Architect. (RIBA)



**Lightup work. Young Heritage Ambassadors (YHA) Project
A concept developed and coordinated by Olasubomi. Croydon Group**



A pictorial synopsis

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service to humanity.

YHA Project

Croydon youths interview MP Gavin Barwell.



2014/2015

Olasubomi Visits Schools in Nigeria. let's talk project.
Motivational and Counselling Sessions to support young people.
Project concept designed and funded by Olasubomi

Olasubomi in school uniform addressing the students

Venue: Gladys High School. Alapere Ketu. Lagos state Date: 21ST July 2014



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Olasubomi in school uniform addressing the students

Date; 22nd July 2014

Venue: STA International Schhol. Jibowu Lagos state



Olasubomi in school uniform addressing the students

Date: 21ST July 2014

Venue: Mate Secondary School. Doyin Omololu, Alapere. Lagos state



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Olasubomi in school uniform addressing the students. 2015. Let's talk project



Olasubomi in school uniform addressing the students



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Olasubomi in school uniform addressing the students 2015. Let's talk project



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Olasubomi in school uniform addressing the students 2015. Let's talk project



A pictorial synopsis
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Olasubomi in school uniform addressing the students 2014. Let's talk project

Date: 22nd July 2014

Venue: Brainpoint Branded School, Ebute metta. Lagos state



Olasubomi during Counselling Sessions



Olasubomi in school uniform addressing the students 2014. Let's talk project

Date: 24th July 2014.

Venue: Greater Love Model College. Iseyin. Oyo state



A pictorial synopsis
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Olasubomi in school uniform addressing the students 2014. Let's talk project

Date: 24th July 2014

Venue: Enkule Grammar School. . Iseyin. Oyo state.



Olasubomi during Counselling Sessions



A pictorial synopsis
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service to humanity.

Olasubomi in school uniform addressing the students 2014. Let's talk project

Date: 25th July 2014

2 Schools merged together.

St John Catholic Grammar School Koso, Iseyin and St John Catholic High School Koso, Iseyin. Oyo state



Olasubomi in school uniform addressing the students 2014. Let's talk project

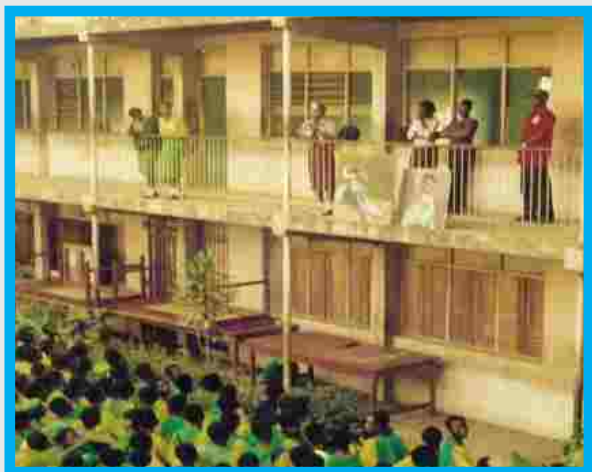
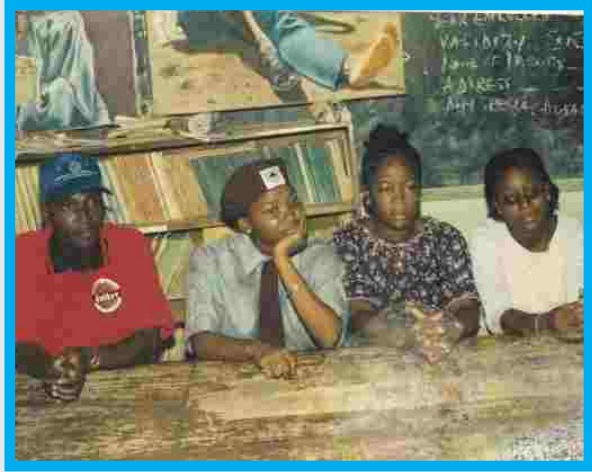
Date: 25th July 2014

Venue: Baptist High School.



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

LET'S TALK SURULERE GIRLS SECONDARY SCHOOL 2008
Olasubomi in school uniform. Motivational Session and Counselling



Anglican Girls Grammar School LET'S TALK 2008



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
 service to humanity.

OLASUBOMI CREATES AWARENESS ON THE LEVEL OF YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT



OLASUBOMI AND THE NIGERIAN UNION OF JOURNALIST CAMPAIGNING ON JOB CREATION IN NIGERIA. Olasubomi with a microphone addressing the press

COMPASS LABOUR MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 2010

PAGE 34

election

TRADE Union Congress (TUC), has called for seriousness and courage of all stakeholders to ensure that the 2011 general election succeeds. It also urged all to assist the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to succeed, adding that it is wrong to identify problems affecting INEC without proffering solutions to them.

TUC President General, Comrade Peter Basile, made this disclosure when the National Administrative Council (NAC) members, Central Working Committee (CWC) and the National Executive Council (NEC) of the labour centre visited the INEC chairman, Prof. Atahiru Jaja in his Abuja office.

Basile said that there are serious issues to address concerning the forthcoming election. "If the present voter's register can still be used in spite of its accepted inadequacy which may impact negatively on the election, what does it take to prepare a new voter's register? "Will any remedial effort not affect the circle of elections?"

He also demanded the creation of a unit within INEC that will be charged with the responsibility of spear heading pilot programmes to test the ability of new or emerging technology to better serve uniformed and overseas citizens," he stated.

He, however, stressed that the congress has observed that during election campaigns, many churches, mosques, universities, hospitals, social service providers, and other section organisations are concerned about the extent to which they can discuss issues of importance in the campaigns or interact with candidates for public office.

towards the coming election need an appraisal and closer examination.

"We have also followed with keen interest complaint that bothers on the issue of compiling a new voter's register due to time frame while opting to use the existing voter's register, which many interest groups are opposed to.

"This type of controversy may truncate the entire process if care is not taken with the resultant effect being another vicious circle caused by a comedy of error," he said.

According to him, "We welcome a recent statement by the Nigerian Communications Satellite (NIGCOMSAT) that it is capable of producing a comprehensive biometric voter's registration data for the country before December this year and therefore urge INEC to look into this claim without further delay."

Congress also calls for the enactment of an appropriate legislation that would cover all categories of disenfranchised Nigerians of voting age residing outside our shores such as military men serving on peace keeping missions and other overseas based eligible voters.

"We also demand the creation of a unit within INEC that will be charged with the responsibility of spear heading pilot programmes to test the ability of new or emerging technology to better serve uniformed and overseas citizens," he stated.

He, however, stressed that the congress has observed that during election campaigns, many churches, mosques, universities, hospitals, social service providers, and other section organisations are concerned about the extent to which they can discuss issues of importance in the campaigns or interact with candidates for public office.

Group makes case for youth employment

PIGUEDED by the level of unemployment in the country, a non-profit making organization with branches in Cameroon, Nigeria and the UK, Light-Up Foundation has planned to hold a conference on the August 11th, 2011.

The conference is geared towards bringing hundreds of youths together, identifying with their respective skills and linking them up with organisations that might need them for employment.

At a press briefing in Lagos last weekend, the Executive Director of the foundation, Olasubomi Iginla, said there is no need for "our youths to leave the shore of the country for greener pasture in Britain or United States of America (USA). The truth is, there is no place like home. I live in Britain but Nigeria is my home," she stated.

According to her, since two years of the inception of the project, it has produced over 300 trained youths among whom it has found youths with outstanding achievements.

"In Cameroon we are presently working with the youths on a project tagged "The Entrepreneur." Some of the youths have started producing soap, which they sell to raise funds to

been doing so much. "When I got to the UK we started working with the youths because Light-Up is all about responding to needs of the community where we exist especially the youths. "Here in Nigeria when we started the project we had a food bank project which we took some food stuff to Niger Republic when there was problem there. We fed a lot of people. There are documentaries that can testify to that," she stressed.

The foundation, according to her, has also taken advantage of the crisis and social breakdown among the youths in the UK, most especially the black communities. "We started a programme exclusively for the

L. R. Mrs. Iginla Aina, Sanya Onayode, MD Sanyoyo Media and Lagos State NLJ Chairman, Wafiatu Oba.

A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

ADULT PRISON WORK

IBARA PRISON OGUN STATE ABEOKUTA

Project Funded by Olasubomi and Telliton. 2015.
Donation of Toiletries and funding of inmates bail and transportation.

Items donated



Olasubomi addressing the inmates



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.



ADULT PRISON SHAGAMU OGUN STATE 2015



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

**BOSTAL CORRECTION FACILITY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
ABEOKUTA OGUN STATE.**

December 22nd 2017 Christmas Carol and Talent Show
Funded by Olasubomi.
Inmates in Lightup Shirt



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

PRISON WORK OGUN STATE August 2017
Funded By Olasubomi
Lightup Shirt officially approved as the Prison Uniform.



Olasubomi addressing the young inmates



2016 Young inmates talent show



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

Olasubomi addressing the young inmates.



2015

Olasubomi addressing the young inmates at a motivational
Training and Counselling session



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

PRISON WORK.

KWARA YOUTH PRISON WORK AUGUST 2017

Funded by Olasubomi

Olasubomi addressing the young inmates.



Counselling sessions by Olasubomi



Inter-School debate after London riot



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

BAG OF HOPE

BAG OF HOPE (BOH) PHASE 1

Project Idea By Olasubomi Project Funded By Olasubomi .

Olasubomi and the BOH Team



Olasubomi



A team of surveyors



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

Olasubomi in Yellow attire working with the BOH team and holding a press conference



BOH Team moving the Completed BOH for display

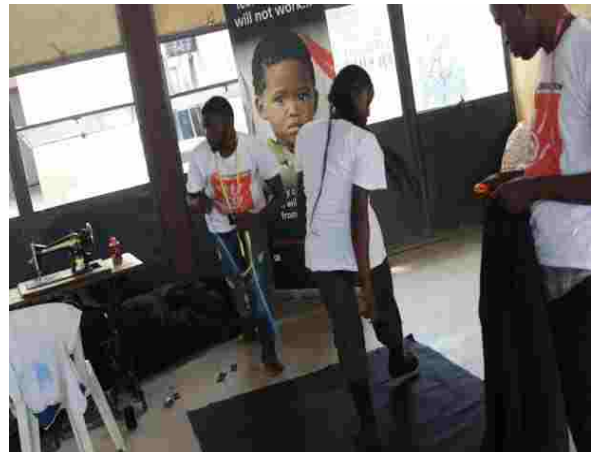


A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

BOH ON DISPLAY



Group Picture



A pictorial synopsis
of

Olasubomi Iginla Aina's

service to humanity.

Olasubomi Funded and coordinated the breaking of the Guinness world record of making the Largest Canvas Bag in the world. To create awareness on child rights.



CERTIFICATE
OF PARTICIPATION

Olasubomi Iginla Aina

**PARTICIPATED IN THE FOLLOWING RECORD EVENT:
The largest canvas bag measures 10.32 m (33
ft 8 in) long, 9.36 m (30 ft 7 in) tall and 2.65 m
(8 ft 6 in) in depth, achieved by Lightup
Foundation (UK), in Lagos, Nigeria, on 1
November 2015.**

OFFICIALLY AMAZING

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Newspaper on Bag Of Hope (BOH)

Boko Haram Iginla-Aina



Buhari

will be smiling faces, which means that the BAG OF HOPE is going to shed light unto the future of the innocent children and put smiles on their faces. So, for every child that participated they will get an award sticker from Light Up to say that they were one of the people who broke the world record. So, immediately, we contacted Guinness World Record that what do we do to be successful and they started guiding us on what to do and what not to do and we started working with the guideline. I can say they have been really helpful and we have been following

Not only in Africa. All over the world now, the refugee crisis is really on the increase, like the Syrian families are trying to enter into the European countries as a result of war. We identify that there are a lot of families with children. So, we will take this bag to some of them in France and other part of the world where we are having children crisis. The children will be made to also design the bag. It is a child-life-care invention and anywhere we have children with dash hopes, we will be there.
How do you get funds to push the project forward?

Well, I have been using my funds for this because we don't have funds in Light Up for this particular exercise but we are optimistic that, immediately we conceived the idea we discovered that it was a novel idea and we can't just stop somewhere saying that we don't have the funds to do it. We said 'let's go and start with what we have, let's make the bag, let's bring the idea into reality to see that this is not a dream any longer but a reality.
Is this the first project you are doing in Nigeria?

We have several initiatives and projects not



Bag of Hope' on display at Lagos Anglican Grammar School last weekend

only in Nigeria. We have had programs in Cameroon, we have had in Niger Republic, we have had in Scotland, and we have had in UK and the Nigeria.

What would you want the wealthy and influential people in Nigeria to do to help this project?

They need to feel other people's pain and you need to assume that you are the one in pain. That is the only way you can appreciate that there is a need that urgently need to be

too can feel the punitive impact. If you can put yourself in the mood and you feel their pain, you will not be compelled by anybody to take an action and not later but immediately. If you can put yourself in that frame of mind, you are one of the people we are looking for to come and support the project. I believe that it is when you give that you even receive more. The Shullamite woman was asked to give her last meal in order to enter into surplus. If as a philanthropist in Nigeria, if God is touching your heart to help this project, you are helping children across the world. Like our banner says 'Tears and Pity will not work...Only care and swift action will save mankind from drowning.' We really need people to help us in Nigeria. Why we take this project back to the UK is because they love this kind of thing. I have been discussing with them and I believe that they will encourage their children to support this great ideas and that we can guarantee.
What is the dream of Light Up Nigeria for children in the North Eastern part of Nigeria who are victims of Boko Haram?

Do you know we had a proposal which we put forward and in fact I had an interview

with Canada TV on this particular project? We planned that as soon as the children escaped or got freed by Boko Haram that we were going to rehabilitate them and few publications in Nigeria carried the report. We said we were going to rehabilitate the girls on their release and we tried to see how we can have access to whoever is in charge of the children, we tried to communicate the minister of women affairs whom we believe was in charge then but we were really frustrated. I was essentially speaking to somebody in the

and he kept insisting that he knows that we are gaining something; that what do we want to give him before he is able to link us to the Minister for Women Affairs? And I was crying when I was speaking to Dele Fanimowo of The Guardian, there was a day I called him and I said 'why will anybody be saying he wanted to gain something?' he said that we should share, that we should put something on the table before he links us with somebody in authority. That we want to help these girls and we don't need anybody to pay us anything. We will come in and we will bring specialists from the UK, in fact we had the head of Aro Child's Psychiatric clinic on board. He was going to lead the Nigerian team here and my husband is a child psychiatric consultant. He was the leader of the UK team and many other volunteers. I said 'can't you understand? We don't need money?' But the guy refused to link us. I tried to link up with Erelu Olusola Obada (Former Minister of State, Defence) she did everything within her power to connect us with this woman (Minister of Women Affairs), she got me her number for us. We called but she was not picking the call, we sent texts but she did not reply.

Coalition to organise a debate for Kogi gov poll

ADEMU IDAKWO, Lokoja

The Coalition for Popular Participation and Credible Election in Kogi State (CoPPCEK) said it had concluded arrangements to organise a debate for all the 22 candidates contesting the November 21 governorship election in Kogi State.

The Coordinator of CoPPCEK, Reverend Father Leonard Odomeja, who disclosed this in Lokoja, yesterday, said that the debate will hold on Sunday, November 8.

Odomeja said that the aim was to make the electorate to have better knowledge and understanding of the candidates and their manifesto.

He listed the Justice Development and Peace Commission of the Catholic Dioceses of Lokoja and Idah, the state chapter of Council

of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) as members of the coalition.

He said that it was the belief of the coalition that the debate will give the candidates the opportunity to explain their programmes to the people and have a better knowledge of all the candidates.

Odomeja expressed the hope that the debate will also assist the electorate to make an informed decision while casting their vote.

He described the debate as the modest contribution of the coalition towards having violence-free, fair and credible governorship election on November 21.

A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

Newspaper on BOH

Please view BOH information below on the right hand side

News 24 Daily Times Nigeria
Monday, November 2, 2015

No Boko Haram inmates in Ebonyi, Umahi insists

acob Ogodo, Abakaliki

■ Ebonyi State Government has expressed displeasure over reports from two national dailies that there was panic in the state over rumoured transfer of some Boko Haram inmates from Ekwulobia prisons in Anambra State to Abakaliki prisons.

Governor David Umahi said he was surprised that almost 48 hours after he addressed a live press conference denying the rumour, the newspapers still went ahead to publish falsehood. He maintained that at the news conference, he unequivocally

stated: "One of the few issues sent me text messages was that Boko Haram prisoners in Anambra State relocated to Abakaliki prisons.

"That was a very bad news for me and I said Father, still help me to overcome this challenge. I started making phone calls but at the end of the day, it turned out to be false news. We need to be very careful because that was capable of disintegrating the state and inflicting fears in our people.

"So, we need to screen information we are get-

ting and one of the journalists said a prison official told him, but that was not cautious. So, there is nothing like that. Our people should go about their normal business. If such a thing were to happen, what were the criteria that would make Ebonyi State qualify to host such high calibre criminals; the prison space is not there; security is not there; and Ebonyi is too small a place and, of course, the governor must be informed as the Chief Security.

"So, I want to tell our people there won't be such, because Ebonyi is not ripe at all to harbour Boko Ha-

ram prisoners and we will not harbour them in Jesus name.

"It is therefore utterly disappointing that the newspapers still went ahead to publish the falsehood. While I agree that rumours, are a verifiable source of information for journalists, rumours must be verified and when not true must be ignored.

"Strangely, one of the newspapers still went ahead to repeat the falsehood in its Sunday (yesterday) edition.

"The story in the two editions (Saturday and Sunday) stated in paragraphs eight and nine,

that the newspaper spoke with the Commissioner in charge of the State Police Command, Peace Abdallah and the Spokesman for the Abakaliki Prisons, Mr. Frank, who said they were unaware of such development.

In Paragraph 10, the same newspaper quoted Anambra State Governor Willie Obiano as saying that the 47 inmates in Ekwulobia Prisons were

taken out of the South East. We therefore ask, Abakaliki no longer in the South-East?

"Going by the statements by Governors Umahi and Obiano, as well as Abdallah and Frank, a discerning mind would know that it was all rumour.

"I hereby restates my call to all residents of travellers to Ebonyi State to go about their normal business without fear.

—R. Chairman, CPMS, Chris Parkes, CEO, Primera Africa Securities Ltd, Lilian Olubi; Executive Director/Chief Risk Officer, Heritage Bank Ltd, Mr. Jude Money and Chairman, Nigeria Economic Summit Group (NESG), Kyari Abba Bukar at the presentation of The Next Titan, a reality TV show in Lagos... at the weekend

Plateau APC chieftain mourns Pwajok

Chijioke Kingsley, Jos

■ The Chairman of the Plateau State Chapter of the All Progressive Congress (APC) Hon. Latep Daban has describe the death of the Peoples Democratic Party's governorship standard-bearer in the state, Gyang Pwajok, popularly known as GNS Pwajok, as a tragedy.

He said no one should rejoice over anybody's death irrespective of party differences.

He stated this at the reunion and the National Convention of Gindiri Old Students Association (GOSA), his alma mater, at the weekend.

According to him, "We are very sad about the

death of Pwajok; no politician in his right mind will celebrate the death of another human being, no matter the differences and the disagreement", he said.

The APC chieftain emphasised that as a Christian and as someone who attended a missionary school he could not bring himself to rejoice over the death of Pwajok simply because of political differences.

He regretted that Pwajok as a vibrant politician died in his prime, saying he would have lived to act as a visible force in a robust opposition to the APC-led government in Plateau State.

Pwajok died in an India hospital a few days ago from a protracted liver disease.

FG to address social security needs of informal workers

Akor Ejumene, Abuja

■ Permanent Secretary Federal Ministry of Labour and Productivity, Clement Illoh, has called on all Nigerians both in the public and private sectors to support the efforts of the Federal Government at providing social security protection to the vulnerable groups.

Iloh, who was represented by the Director of Special Duties, Mr. Felix Ogenyi, made this appeal, in Abuja, at the weekend, while declaring open a stakeholders' meeting on "Addressing the Social Security Needs of the Informal Workers through Co-operative Delivery System".

In his word, "The chal-

our society today cannot be overlooked. A dynamic system to conquer the many constraints to social security delivery can only be attained through both public and private cooperation".

He stressed the need to establish management of social security programmed at meeting the aspiration of people with special needs, households below poverty line, vulnerable and elderly persons".

Iloh added that the Federal Ministry of Labour and Productivity had devised means of addressing the social security needs of the informal workers through co-operative system, adding that every member of the society had a right to social security and entitled to its

realisation through national effort and international co-operation.

He expressed optimism that the stakeholders' meeting would create a stronger social protection system which would have all the requisite tools and technology required to deliver and complement the government's mandate to alleviate the pains of the informal and vulnerable people in the country.

In her remarks, the Director, Social Security/Co-operative Development Department, Mrs. Mojisola Sonubi, explained that over the years, the Nigerian Government at various levels had adopted policies aimed at enhancing the performance of the informal

sector, including entrepreneurship development and international financial assistance stressing that the purpose of the stakeholders' meeting was to further consolidate on the achievements made by using co-operatives as an avenue to meet the social security needs of the informal workers.

She reaffirmed that the fundamental objective of the government according to the constitution was "security and welfare of all people", which meant that the informal sector which accounted for as much as an estimated 57.9% of Nigeria's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) according to the United Nations should en-

UK Foundation set to break Guinness Record with Bag of Hope

Olawale Rotimi

■ A United Kingdom-based non-governmental organisation, Lightup Foundation, plans to set a new Guinness World record by producing a large bag, it tagged "Bag of Hope", in Nigeria.

The bag, however, when finally sewn, would be used to help eradicate myriads of problems facing the needy in developing countries of the world. The bag, when completed, would be the world's largest canvas bag.

The plan was unveiled in Lagos, at the weekend, at an awareness programme, held at the Anglican Girls'

Grammar School, Surulere, Lagos.

The scheme is being carried out under the auspices of the founder of Lightup Foundation, Mrs. Olasubomi Iginla-Aina. Speaking with journalists at the event, Mrs. Iginla-Aina said it was possible for Africa to build a charity purse she called "Bag of Hope", which would draw the support from kind-hearted people across the world, to give philanthropic support for the social recovery and betterment of every wounded soul in the throes of social disadvantage and exclusion in any part of the world, including Nigeria.

A pictorial synopsis

of

Olasubomi Iginla Aina's

service to humanity.

**BAG OF HOPE (BOH) PHASE 2
SCOTLAND BOH DECORATION EXERCISE
Aberdeen Festival.**

BOH Decoration Funded By: Olasubomi Iginla Aina



BOH Decoration Exercises



**St Peters School Aberdeen June 2nd 2017
Olasubomi and the UN Arts Ambassador touring the BOH and creating
awareness on the UN Rights of the child.**



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.



St Peters School Aberdeen June 2nd 2017
Olasubomi and the UN Arts Ambassador touring the BOH and creating awareness on the UN Rights of the child.



A pictorial synopsis
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service to humanity.



ENGLAND BOH DECORATION EXERCISE JUNE 2017

June 1st 2017, International Children's Day.

Olasubomi, UN Arts Ambassador Ibiyinka Alao,
Mayor of Croydon and Deputy Mayor of Croydon
Creating awareness on the UN rights of the child .

Venue: Croydon High street.

Activities:

- Leaflet distribution to members of the public.
- Decoration of BOH patches.



A pictorial synopsis
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Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.



Decoration of the BOH By: Alkhair Primary School : 2017



Horley Infant School
Olasubomi and the UN Arts Ambassador touring the BOH and creating awareness on Rights of the child.



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.



BOH Decoration Exercise



A pictorial synopsis
of

Olasubomi Iginla Aina's

service to humanity.

Meath Green Junior Date:5th June 2017
Olasubomi and the UN Arts Ambassador(Ibiyinka Alao)
touring the BOH and creating awareness on the UN Rights of the child.



BOH Decoration Exercise



Burstow Primary School Date:5th June 2017
Olasubomi and the UN Arts Ambassador(Ibiyinka Alao)
touring the BOH and creating awareness on the UN Rights of the child.
BOH Decoration Exercise



A pictorial synopsis
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Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.



Alkhair Secondary School (Girls) 7th June 2017
Olasubomi and the UN Arts Ambassador (Ibiyinka Alao)
touring the BOH and creating awareness on the UN Rights of the child.
BOH Decoration Exercise



A pictorial synopsis
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Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

Alkhair Secondary School (BOYS) 7th June 2017

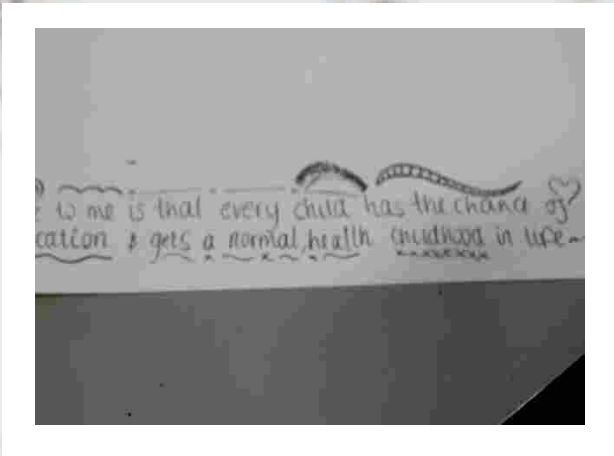


Mary's Catholic High School June 7th 2017.

Olasubomi and the UN Arts Ambassador (Ibiyinka Alao) touring the BOH and creating awareness on the UN Rights of the child.



A pictorial synopsis
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Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.



BOH Decoration Exercise



A pictorial synopsis
of

Olasubomi Iginla Aina's

service to humanity.

John Ruskin College.

Olasubomi and the UN Arts Ambassador (Ibiyinka Alao) touring the BOH and creating awareness on the UN Rights of the child.



A pictorial synopsis
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service to humanity.

Copthorne Prep School

8th June 2017

Olasubomi and the UN Arts Ambassador (Ibiyinka Alao) touring the BOH and creating awareness on the UN Rights of the child.



BOH Decoration Exercise



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

Yattendon 8th June 2017

Olasubomi and the UN Arts Ambassador (Ibiyinka Alao) touring the BOH and creating awareness on the UN Rights of the child.



Langshott Primary School

Olasubomi and the First African Pilot to travel all over the world in a solo plane touring the BOH and creating awareness on the UN Rights of the child



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.



Bag of hope briefing
Redehall Preparatory School



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

UGANDA BOH DECORATION EXERCISE

September/October 2016.



NIGERIAN BOH DECORATION EXERCISE

March/August 2017



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

BOH Decoration in Kwara state Prison (Youth Correction Facility Borstal)

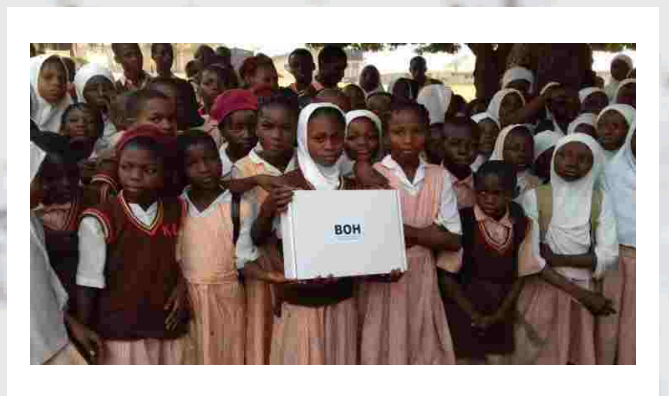
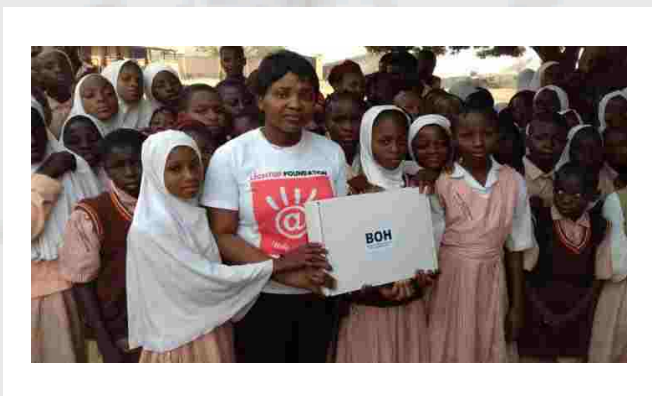


BOH Decoration in Ogun state Prison (Youth Correction Facility Borstal)



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

**Olasubomi Addressing The Children.
BOH DECORATION IN NIGERIAN SCHOOLS**



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

**Olasubomi Addressing The Children.
BOH DECORATION IN NIGERIAN SCHOOLS**

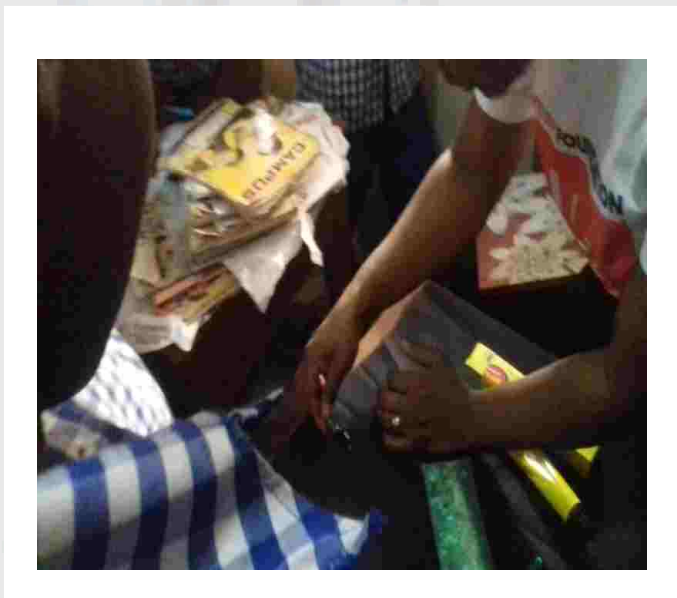
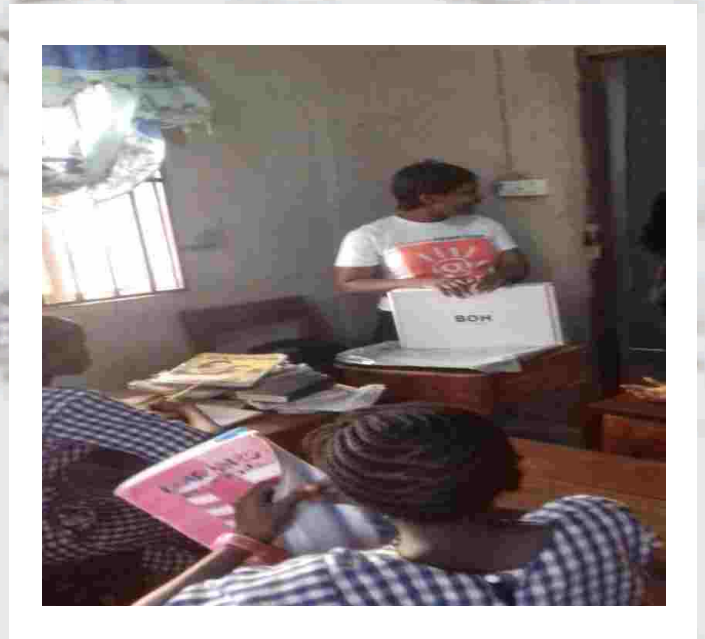
March 2017
Greater Love Model College



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

**Olasubomi Addressing The Children.
BOH DECORATION IN NIGERIAN SCHOOLS**

King David Academy



A pictorial synopsis
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Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

**Olasubomi Addressing The Children.
BOH DECORATION IN NIGERIAN SCHOOLS
Pacelli School For The Blind & Partially Sighted Children**



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service to humanity.

**Olasubomi Addressing The Children.
BOH DECORATION IN NIGERIAN SCHOOLS
Wesley School For The Deaf . March 2017**



**Olasubomi Addressing The Children.
BOH DECORATION IN NIGERIAN SCHOOLS. March 2017**



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

SMALLFIELD & HORLEY COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARTY

Funded by: Olasubomi and Telliton.

Olasubomi has been organising FREE Smallfield and Horley community Christmas party for the past 5 years.

All participants receive FREE wrapped gift from Santa. Free Food, Drinks and DJ Entertainment provided.

December 17th 2017



December 2016



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

**COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDED BY OLASUBOMI.
ALL PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE FREE GIFT FROM SANTA YEARLY,**



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

**Project coordinated by Olasubomi
Training**

Coordinated by Olasubomi. Leadership, Conflict management and Self development training.
Send off ceremony in attendance were **M P Andrew Pelling, Deputy Mayor of Croydon Russell Jackson, Late David Idowu's mother (A gun crime victim)** . August 5th 2009



TRAINING

Coordinated by Olasubomi. Youth development trainings. Date: October 2009/2010.



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

Training of Trainers Project extended to the Croydon Alt School for young people who have dropped out of school.

Organised by Olasubomi.

Date: November 18th 2009

Venue: Open gate West Croydon

Humaira Ahmed



Olasubomi Created Awareness as a MASCOT on Knife and Gun Crime Across London Boroughs.



A pictorial synopsis

of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's

service to humanity.

**Lightup Foodbank Project .
Project Organised and Funded by Olasubomi**

Care of the Mentally disadvantaged.
Ipakoto Mountain Ifo, Ogun state.
Donation of items and food



Lightup Foodbank Project .

Funded By: Olasubomi Iginla Aina **Niger Republic. 2005.**
International Food rescue operation



Queue for food at the Niger Republic Foodbank site.



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
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Olasubomi and another Lightup volunteer with the Royal Family in the state capital of Niger Republic



Newspaper report on Olasubomi's food rescue trip to Niger Republic 2005.
 Foodbank Rescue Operation funded by Olasubomi who sold her inheritance to fund project.
 Olasubomi referred to as Iginla in the article below.

NEWS Spectacular

The Beast in Man

The story you are about to read defies conventional use of language because of its explicit nature but it has to be told because of the beast in man.

George Kepa, a 61-year-old truck driver, was recently caught pants down in Britain bonking a goat at the back of a drinking 'joint'. Police said it was not the first time Kepa was keeping a date with a bearded animal. Three years ago, he was convicted for a similar offence of sleeping with one of the goats in a friend's shed. But this time, however, he escaped with a lighter sentence because the judge felt he had suffered enough humiliation from the enraged public. His lawyer agreed with the judge's lenient look at his client. "The biggest penalty for this man is the embarrassment, the shame and the hard time he had got from members of his community". The prosecutor was not as friendly. "This man took off some of his clothes and entered the goat..." he said as he built his case against him.

Kepa's love for shagging goats is said to be as a result of a medical disorder exacerbated by alcohol and drug addiction. He is currently on a sentence of 18 months supervision for committing an indecent act with a goat.

By FIDEL BAM with materials from the Daily Star of UK

AFRICA NEWS

Time to Lend a Hand

By now, it is stale news to say that many Nigerians are dying of hunger. Truth is, all organised and solo efforts to feed and rehabilitate these people may soon die too. That is where Olasubomi Iginla, chief executive officer, Light Up Foundation, comes in.

A 27-year-old Architecture graduate of the Obafemi Awolowo University, OAU, she was recently in Niger to donate foodstuff.

"We did not work with the map provided by the Nigerian government. We moved up to the desert area called the zero area.

Iginla and the Food Bank project volunteers in Niger

We have designated the Food Bank project to help showcase volunteers and their impact on the community," she said.

With the level of hunger and deprivation she and other volunteers saw there, Iginla said it was imperative to go again with more foodstuff. But there is a problem. "We need people to urgently donate foodstuff and money to us. We also need a truck to carry these materials. We would return the truck to the owner when we come back. I know people are sceptical about donating money to NGOs but they can support us with loads of foodstuff but we also need money to transport the volunteers who are sacrificing their time. It costs a total of N15,000 to transport a volunteer," said she.

She graduated in 2001 as acting president of the OAU Student Union Government. She was formerly the vice president of the union and was also invited last year to monitor the United States presidential election. She had to sell her shares to get the Food Bank Project going.

By FOLASHADE OLADIPO

SILENT BURNER

A pictorial synopsis
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Newspaper report on Olasubomi's food rescue trip to Niger Republic 2005.

■ NIGERIA

A Helping Hand from Nigeria

The Light Up Foundation, an NGO, joins other world volunteers to assist the people of Niger Republic to overcome famine that has ravaged the country

By Modupe Ogunbayo

THE NIGER DISASTER IS generating humanitarian efforts not only among governments of the world but non-governmental organisations also. The Light Up Foundation, a Nigerian non-governmental organisation, NGO, is one of such voluntary groups involved in this effort.

Speaking at the United States Information Service, USIS, last week, Olasubomi Iginla, the chief executive officer of the Light Up Foundation explained the foundation's efforts in providing succour to the malnourished people in Niger. In the wake of the outbreak of the Niger food crisis, Light Up Foundation responded by setting up a Food Bank in that country for distribution to the people. Just as people go to banks to withdraw money, people go to these food centres to get food supplies. This was the foundation's little way of alleviating the sufferings of the people living in the country ravaged by famine.

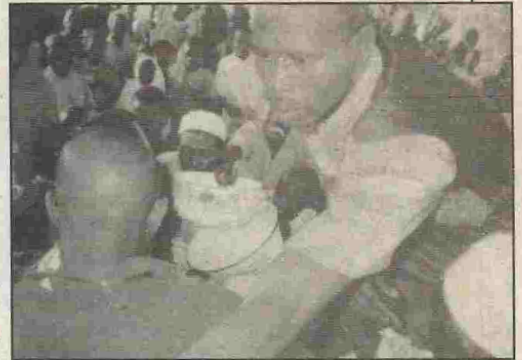
Iginla got the idea of the food bank while in the United States as an observer during the 2004 US Presidential elections. On a tour of the country, she was impressed with the dedication of the old and young to the upliftment of America through volunteer works at a Food Bank centre established for the provision of food to the needy in the society. There, she saw both the young and old volunteers ready to work for their country. Buoyed up by that encounter, she resolved to do same. The Niger famine provided the opportunity for the NGO to help.

One of the obstacles the foundation encountered while supplying aid to the troubled region is the inability to get the proper channel to donate the aids because there was a collapse of the enabling structures that would have facilitated it.

Besides, there was an inappropriate marginalisation of the classes in the country. Widows and spinsters in the country rarely have access to the food and other kinds of aids. These aids were distributed haphazardly.

In their culture, the men are allowed to agitate for benefits not, women. So widows and unmarried women have no men to do this for them. Invariably, the women resorted to pleading with some aid workers including Light Up Foundation to keep their food aids separately from the distributed ones.

Due to the wide spread hunger and poverty in Niger, the foundation has



Food being distributed

planned to go back with more food aids. But the plan is hampered by funds. She pleaded for support in order to be able to take more food items there. ■

WHY OTHERS CANNOT CURE S.T.Ds (SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES) - Dr. (Born Again) Alayaki

I am DR. BORN AGAIN ALAYAKI that you have been reading about in Newspapers/ Magazines and listening to for the past ten (10) years in both the Radio and Television within and outside Nigeria. Alayaki, the sole lecturer on proper diets that enhances good, sound and healthy growth.

Some of his lectures include (1) Revelation of foods that make one older than his/her actual age; (2) Food that resists medication during the treatment of one infection or the other. (3) Three basic soup ingredients that are the major causes of weak erection. Etc .

Knowledge they say is POWER. Dr. Alayaki teaches on what food you ought to eat or not to eat for healthy reasons. More importantly, to people undergoing treatments for one infection or the other, eating certain foods either slow down or absolutely prevent response to medication. Ignorance of this simple fact is the reason why many diseases resist medication and thus endangers the life of the victims.

Therefore, the real problem in the treatment of infections and other diseases is that during medication, many people do not know the type of food to eat or to abstain from during the sickness and medication. This however prolongs their treatment or results in non response to treatment even after using MANPOWER product which originally is supposed to bring perfect healing within days.

Another thing you need to know and abstain from to prevent and enhance quick

treatment of weak erection are three soup ingredients. These three ingredients are the major causes of weak erection. It is therefore advisable that any man that would not want to experience this sickness should abstain completely from eating soups containing any of these ingredient.

Our product Vein Service Pack is very good and essential for all; either to prevent or treat weak erection. It cleanses and strengthens the vein thereby enhancing easy flow of blood. Whosoever is at advantage of knowing and using these medicines can never again have weak erection or related sicknesses. The same applies to our second medicine called SPECIAL TREATMENT. This is also very powerful in the cleansing of STD's from human system, especially Staphylococcus.

For further details, treatment & enlightenment contact or call DR. ALAYAKI on 08033664647.

DR. (BORN AGAIN) ALAYAKI
 NEW STAR TRADOMEDICAL CLINIC

Head Office:
 6, Oremeta Street, Orile Agege,
 Lagos State

Annex Office:
 11A, Lagos Road, Beside Lafenwa Com.
 Bank, Lafenwa, Abeokuta, Ogun State.

Sales Outlet:
 (i) By No. 1, Owode Street, Abule
 Egba B/Stop, Abule-Egba, Lagos.

(ii) Easy Stars Productions
 14, Akowonjo Road, Egbeda,
 Lagos



A pictorial synopsis
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Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
 service to humanity.

Newspaper report on Olasubomi's food rescue trip to Niger Republic 2005.

**LightUp
 to the Rescue**

M. O. O.



During her studies in architecture at Obafemi Awolowo University in Oyo State Nigeria, Olasubomi Iginla became the first ever female president of the university's Student Union. Today this modest 27 year old lady has taken her talents into a higher dimension with the establishment of LightUp Foundation. LightUp is committed to the peaceful co-existence of the people by responding to the needs of the immediate community. Miss Iginla explained that the name 'Light up' was drawn from the glimpse of a lit candle lighting up other candles. As it lit up the others it did not lose its power to illuminate its surroundings. 'I saw Light Up as the best way to express this vision burning in my heart' said Olasubomi. One of LightUp's major projects is called Foodbank, a showcase of volunteerism. Volunteers are needed to assist with the monthly packing, distribution and monitoring of food bags till it gets to its final destination; it selected beneficiaries. A recent operation occurred when Lightup Foundation joined the rescue team in Niger Republic during the famine disaster. Foodbank found out that the farmers tilled stony land, so they had a low harvest after 30 months without rain. Just imagine the situation! It was necessary for the foodbank team to ensure bags of Rice, Wheat, and Garri brought from Sokoto State in Nigeria, were taken to the famine stricken nation. They got there and met the Seriki of Taorrah (the traditional leader) who



People gather for food relief from Foodbank in Niger

also invited the Governor of the state to meet them. He confirmed the famine in the region and appreciated the relief efforts. Foodbank decided to distribute the relief materials directly to the citizens to avoid any confusion. The team met the widows and the singles who complained of unfair treatment. They were not allowed to openly agitate for their rights without their husbands and so had to be treated separately. Olasubomi and the Foodbank team made efforts to visit the United Nations agents working in the area to inform them about commitments from the public and to see to how the materials could be donated more efficiently. The Governor gave Foodbank a van and this assisted the distribution of food. At the end of the exercise food was distributed in 5 villages and in front of the Seriki's palace. We met the Red Cross at the distribution site trying to see how the process could be more effective. There is a need to establish a proper Foodbank relief operation in the region and this requires support from individuals and organisations all over the world. *To support this effort you can contact LightUp Foundation at 12, Samosa Kofala St. Off Federal St, by Obafemi Awolowo Way, Ikeja Lagos State, Nigeria. Tel +234 (0)80233 54725; lightupfoundation@yahoo.com*

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Newspaper article on Olasubomi and how she funded the Niger Republic Foodbank Project with her inheritance.

ENCOUNTER

NEBO: UNN's cutting edge VC

By EMMA NZOMI WU

For Professor Chinedu Ositadimma Nebo, his coming to the University of Nigeria could not be described as an accident. After a prosperous career with the Enugu State University of Science and Technology (ESUT) in the course of which he rose to the exalted position of Deputy Vice Chancellor, he got the nod of the senate of UNN on June 2, 2004 to assume duty as Vice Chancellor of the country's premier university.

The Udi, Enugu State-born academic cum cleric not only saw his appointment as a call to duty, but also a challenge. For Nebo, there was no better way to return the lost glory of UNN than to make the institution one of the best in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) learning. To achieve this, he went into a pact with some foreign and indigenous partners and this laudable effort yielded instant fruits, which can today in the world standard ICT parks located at the Nsukka and Enugu campus of the institution.

The ICT parks marked the commencement of e-learning programme in UNN. With the e-learning programmes, all the graduates of the country's first indigenous university will be IT competent and compliant. The products of UNN will also be properly equipped to compete favourably with graduates of Universities from the advanced countries of the world in this era of globalisation.

The amiable and tireless vice-chancellor did not stop at that as he went ahead through with the support of corporate bodies to install an underground fibre-optic cable network connecting all the faculties and departments in UNN. With the network believed to be the first of its kind in the history of Nigerian universities authorised persons within split seconds can access all information on staff and students.

While also material engineering

expressed his resolve to make UNN the best university in Nigeria and Africa in general. "The days of strikes and students unrest is over" Nebo chimed in.

And to make UNN the preserve of the best the VC recently introduced the Post-JAMB screening exercise for candidates seeking admission into the country's revered citadel of learning. "This will help stem the tide in the past when mercenaries sit for University matriculation exams for prospective undergraduates of the school" he told journalists recently. In what seemed to be the endorsement of this policy, the Minister of Education Mrs Chinyere Obaji recently at a meeting of stakeholders of the university system directed all federal universities to queue up behind UNN by conducting Post-UME test for those seeking admission into the citadels of learning for the next academic year.

However the innovator of the policy described his bold initiative as a return to the past. In Nebo's words, "we are only trying to return to what used to be obtainable in the past, when the individual universities conduct tests for students who wish to study under them. Such policies according to the seasoned academic and man of God would help bring back sanity back to the educational system in Nigeria. "We have been able to curb the menace of cultism and exam malpractice within the past few months of our stay here and our target is to totally eradicate such vices from the institution" Nebo also hinted newsmen.

But all these achievements in the opinion of the VC can only be consolidated if the government is able to settle outstanding salaries and allowances of work-



Nebo, the relatively lean, possesses at its disposal, the plight of UNN pensioners in his opinion leaves much to be desired.

She sold her shares to feed the hungry

By JERRY AMAH



It sounds a bit like life in the camp of the early Christians shortly after the Lord departed. Olabunsumi Giwa, an architecture graduate of Obafemi Awolowo University (OAU) Ile-Ife sold her shares in Nigerian Breweries to feed the hungry. Olabunsumi did this while serving as a National Youth Service Corp (NYSC) member in Taraba State.

What inspired this charity work, according to her, is the food crisis ravaging Nigeria's neighbour Niger Republic, where millions of people are starving due to famine. In order to facilitate her long-held desire to reach out to the needy, she initiated some NGOs which she christened "Light Up The World", and which, according to her, is a means of lighting up dark souls in the world. She also runs the National Orientation for Volunteer Action (NOVA) as well as the Food Bank. The last was initially conceptualised as a means of distributing food to the less privileged in Nigeria as well as widows and orphans.

She said the Nigerian project had to be suspended when she realized that the Nigerian situation was not as terrible as the human catastrophe in Niger Republic. This situation evoked her sympathy and

desired. What a way to restore the dignity of man.

assistants as the ration she and her group took was not enough. "The situation in Niger is very bad. It is a very poor country with a deteriorating human situation having been in a lousy standard before, and now that standard is lower and as such is really getting on the people. We distributed food in five different communities namely, Gari Afarra, Gari Isa, Gari Idr, Gari Megini and the Sariki palace.

"When we got to Gari Afarra, we felt that there was no famine there because the whole community looked abandoned, but within five minutes after the head of the community informed them of our presence and where to assemble to get their food we were shocked by the large crowd of starving people we saw. They were so many and so couldn't allow us to do things in order due to the few volunteers and limited resources we had."

With the proceeds from the shares being exhausted and with millions of hungry mouths yet to be fed, Olabunsumi and her organizations said they urgently requires help from the government, NGOs and the general public. Also needed are professional volunteers such as medical doctors and other medical personnel to assist them in this rescue mission.

"We need more help from the public. It does not necessarily means it must be money because many feel...

A pictorial synopsis
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Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

**Olasubomi working with the USIS on Security Project in Nigeria.
Lightup Collaboration with the USIS.
Project Funded by the US Government.
Public Awareness on Security in Nigeria.**



**Lightup Foundation Collaborating with the USIS
On security matters.**



A pictorial synopsis
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Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

As a result of Olasubomi's tireless effort towards the development of Women and youths in Nigeria, she was selected by the US government to represent Nigeria in the US.
Year: 2004



United States Department of State

This is to certify that

Ms. Olasubomi Iginla

*participated in the
International Visitor Program
of the
United States Department of State
“Citizen Participation in a Democratic System”*

May 27 – June 17, 2004

Washington, D.C.

W. Charles Moore

Director

*Office of International Visitors
Bureau of Educational
and Cultural Affairs*

A pictorial synopsis
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Olasubomi with other participating dignitaries from different other countries
A Presidential Aspirant from Uganda represented Uganda, Secretary of state for Colombia
represented Colombia amongst others. Olasubomi was the youngest country representative.

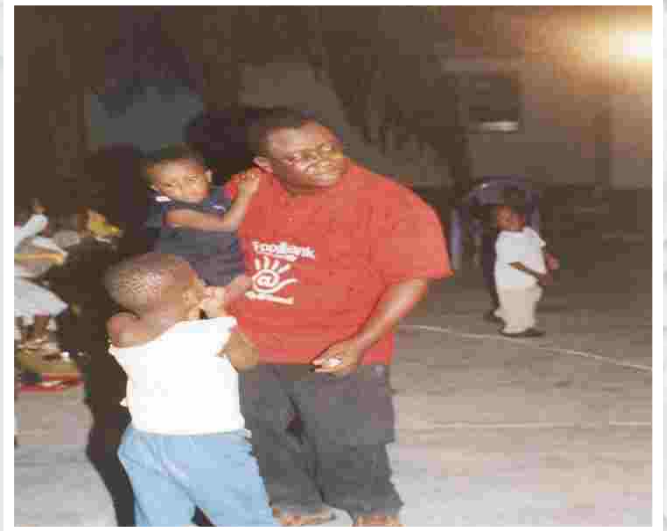


FOODBANK PROJECT

Olasubomi has since been funding and organising Care programmes for the SOS orphanage home from 1996, even before she set up Lightup Foundation.
Caring for the orphanage children in Nigeria SOS Isolo. 2006.



A pictorial synopsis
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Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.



Brain In The Bush Project.

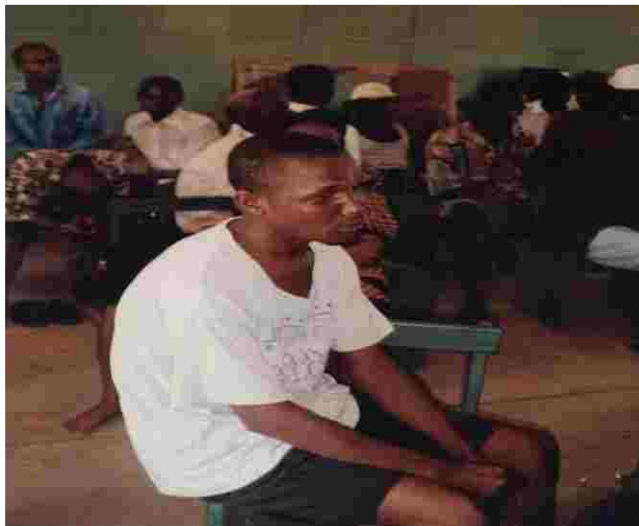
Funded By: Olasubomi Iginla Aina.

A Lightup project that seeks to locate and expose hidden talents. 2002

The Motivational tour to the Visually Impaired youths in Lagos state.

Project Beneficiaries

Olasubomi in cap kneeling in front to take group picture



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

Olasubomi organised and funded Brain in the Bush Badagry. Badagry Women Supports Project. 2002



The inauguration of the National Women Peace Group NAWOPEG. 37 Focal Persons to represent 36 states in Nigeria and the Federal capital territory Abuja. Olasubomi, the youngest and most active Focal person for NAWOPEG in Nigeria.

Picture showing minister congratulating Olasubomi
Women Affairs minister recognising all the
37 Focal Persons.



Picture showing President Obasanjo congratulating Olasubomi.
The Nigerian President (Olusegun Obasanjo) Inaugurating the National Women Peace Group (NAWOPEG). Focal persons at the Presidential Villa Aso-rock Abuja.



A pictorial synopsis
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service to humanity.

Project Funded by: Olasubomi

Olasubomi organised several peace meetings with women leaders in Lagos state.

The deputy governor of Lagos state (Senator Kofo Buknor), the first female professor in Nigeria (Professor Anlele Williams), Wives of Kings, President of Nigerian market women etc.

Olasubomi worked with women stakeholders at different levels in Lagos state to spread the message of peace.



Group Representing Hausa tribe in Lagos state.

Group Representing Market women in Nigeria



Group representing Yoruba tribe in Lagos state



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

Olasubomi addressing the rally



Project Funded by: Olasubomi

Peace rallies: Organised by Olasubomi for women and youths in Lagos state. 2002
Creating awareness on Pece in Lagos state.



Women rallying to create awareness on the essence of peace even in the rain.



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

OLASUBOMI DESIGNED THE ENTREPRENEUR PROJECT EXECUTED IN CAMEROUN:

The Young Entrepreneur project is aimed at equipping young people with entrepreneurial skills in a bid to combat poverty in Africa. We worked with the students of Bondia Grammar school Cameroun. They successfully produced and sold medicated soap. This project was indeed a great motivation for the students.



A pictorial synopsis
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Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

**A reflective Project Funded and organised by Olasubomi.
Remembering the 1st year anniversary of the September 11th 2001 attack in the US.
Date: September 11th 2002**



A reflective Project Funded and organised by Olasubomi.

2002 Lagos armoury explosion. At least 1,100 people died and 20,000 people displaced.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2002_Lagos_armoury_explosion

Ikeja Nigeria Bomb Blasts: January 27th 2002, the first year remembrance of the Ikeja bomb blast.

Olasubomi leading a solidarity rally



Olasubomi addressing the project participants

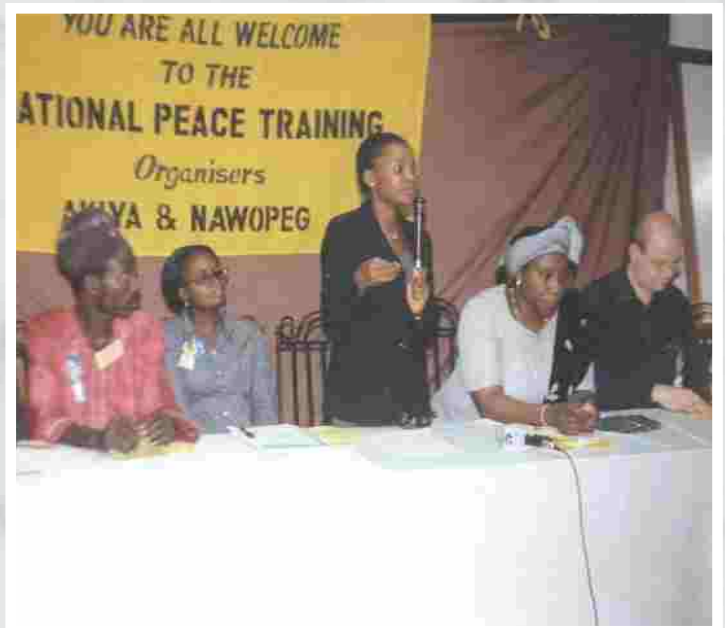
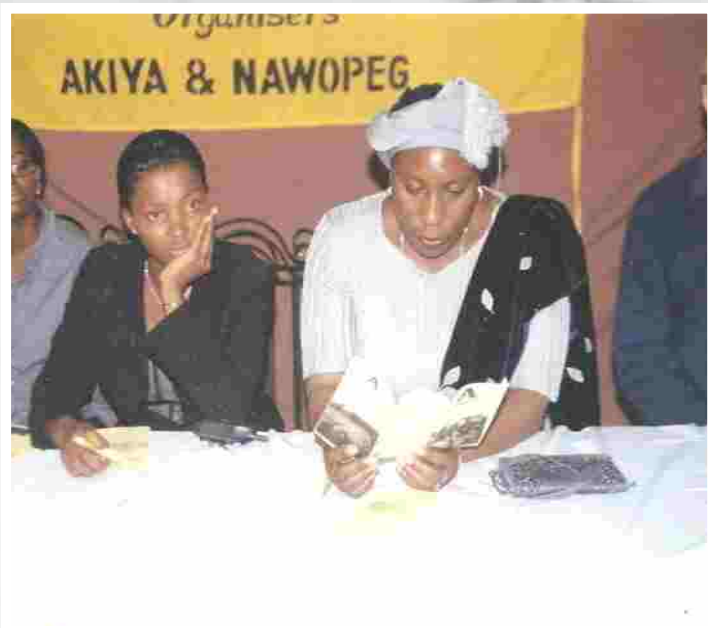


A pictorial synopsis
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service to humanity.

Olasubomi led the NAWOPEG Team to the Switzerland Ambassador to Nigeria. On Peace Lessons to learn from Switzerland (the then most peaceful place in the world



Peace Trainings organised for stakeholders in Lagos state. organised by Olasubomi and funded by Iyabo Obasanjo (The first child of the then Nigerian President) representing AKIYA INC.



A pictorial synopsis
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Olasubomi training the trainers i.e. stakeholders from different work sectors in Lagos state



A pictorial synopsis
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 service to humanity.

Newspaper article on Olasubomi peace work.
 (Olasubomi in the Picture below with the name Miss Iginla)

4

The Comet Tuesday, December 10, 2002

City & State

A search for smooth path to peace

THAT the the populace is nursing fears over possible insecurity during forthcoming elections next year, is perhaps no exaggeration. Even at that, not a few enterhooks as to the ghost of ethnic religious distrust have not been finally laid. Efforts at an enduring solution to the puzzle have however become thrust of an on-going crusade, particularly at the grassroots level.

Last week, Nigerians, various categories, gathered in Lagos for a orientation towards peace through mutual conflict resolution. The venue was Centre Point, Elephant House Plaza, Moshood Abiola (formerly Ikorodu) Road, Anthony. And it was a "peace training" session organised by the Lagos State Peace and Incentive Commission, a governmental organisation (NGO) being coordinated by Dr. Obasanjo-Bello, President Olusegun Obasanjo's first daughter and National Women Peace Group (WOPEG) which Miss Olasubomi Iginla as coordinator.

With the enthusiasm shown towards the programme by all in attendance, it was clear that the Nigerians have embraced "jaw jaw" for living differences in lieu of "war-war".

Among the participants were the organisers' coordinators, Hafsat Abiola, coordinator of Kudirat Initiative for Democracy (KID); Dapo Oyedele, United Kingdom representative of

boundary issues when a new council was created, we got in touch with all the party involved on the need to resolve their differences without exchanging blows. It worked," she said.

Rallies involving members of all ethnic groups in the society, according to her was successfully held, pledging that her group would not rest on its oars.

Virtually every participant, notably Obasa, Oyewole and Otuboye stressed the need for war against injustice, poverty, youth unemployment, bad leadership, lack of respect for dictators of the constitution and families' apathy to the upbringing of their wards.

The political class was particularly urged to be God-fearing, shun greed, insensitivity to the plight of the poor, and make itself accessible to the people they swore to serve.

While the electorate were told to vote in the "right people" in the next elections, youths were also advised not to allow themselves to be used as tools for political thuggery.

Miss Abiola who lauded the programme lauded the destruction of lives and property that greeted the recent riots in Kaduna.

She preached mutual understanding among ethnic and religious sects in the country, saying: "Without peace, we cannot move forward as a nation".



**Miss Abiola*



**Miss Iginla*

By Dada Aladelokun, Staff Reporter

It was not entirely a talk-show as the participants were grouped and taken through practical aspect of conflict resolution. The session was anchored by Iginla, an architect.

Various relationships that exist among people, organisations and particularly between government authorities and diverse bodies in the country were ex-rayed and everyone actively contributed to the discourse.

It did not end at that. Various conflict management styles were also discussed and how they should be adopted to ensure peace in the polity across all facets.

Earlier, Dr. Obasanjo-Bello, in her opening

By Dada Aladelokun, Staff Reporter

Jalogo (Operations); Joshua Tidi (Business); Toyin Olajumoke (Marketing) and Ignatius Metich (Sales).

Radiant in UGL-marked T-shirts and Fez to match, the managers ran up and down as in work days, to satisfy the customers.

The chairman, in his address, assured that the company, having been nominated by International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) 9001:2000, was poised to broaden its operations and improve on product quality to satisfy its customers

By Dada Aladelokun, Staff Reporter



Monarch pleads with govt

SINCE May 9, when he mounted the throne of Ewuland, a Lagos community, Oba Sikiru Adesina Kuti has been nursing a grudge against the Federal Government.

He is angry that the latter has failed to compensate his community for the portion of its land acquired in 1976 for the construction of the Murtala Mohammed International Airport, and the local one.

Early in the week, he let out his displeasure in a chat with *The Comet*, urging the Federal authorities to urgently act on the issue for the sake of justice.

Oba Kuti who described his domain as predominantly agrarian said most of the people from whom the land was taken were farmers who had no other means of livelihood.

"We need the compensation from the federal authorities now. Such money if paid, could be used to uplift standard of education among my people because they too are in need," he explained.

To lend weight to his call, he also appealed to the state governor, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu to help plead with President Olusegun Obasanjo to heed his request.

Oba Kuti who described Ewuland as the gateway to the international community maintained that the land on which the airport was built belongs to Ewuland and not Ikeja, noting that areas such as Shogunle, Onipetesi and Onilekere also fall under his authority.

Within the past seven months of his reign, he said he had taken active steps at moving the community forward. He, according to him, mobilised his people for the recent voters' registration exercise, adding: "I mandated them to prepare for the next elections as it is their civic responsibility."

Gas giant fetes customers

THAT the spirit of the yuletide is waxing stronger as the year inches to an end is perhaps, no debatable.

The mood was shared on December 8 at the factory premises of Universal Gas Limited (UGL) on Ijoko Road, an Ogun state community.

In line with its annual tradition, the company treated its customers to a delightful end-of-year feast and rewarded the outstanding among them.

The spirit of "the customer is king" was the slogan, the company particularly hosted the distributors to thank for their patronage in the out-go-

ings of the year.

The chairman, in his address, assured that the company, having been nominated by International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) 9001:2000, was poised to broaden its operations and improve on product quality to satisfy its customers

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**CHOGM, December 2003, Abuja, Nigeria,
Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting,
Olasubomi Organised a Pan-Commonwealth Project tagged:
“The Nigerian Dream”**

Presentation of Awards to peace builders in Nigeria and also Switzerland been used as a case study for national peace. Project was funded 70% by Olasubomi who finally secured part funding from the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) 48 hours before the event.

Olasubomi giving out the Peace Award to the Switzerland Ambassador to Nigeria at the Commonwealth Project in Abuja 2003



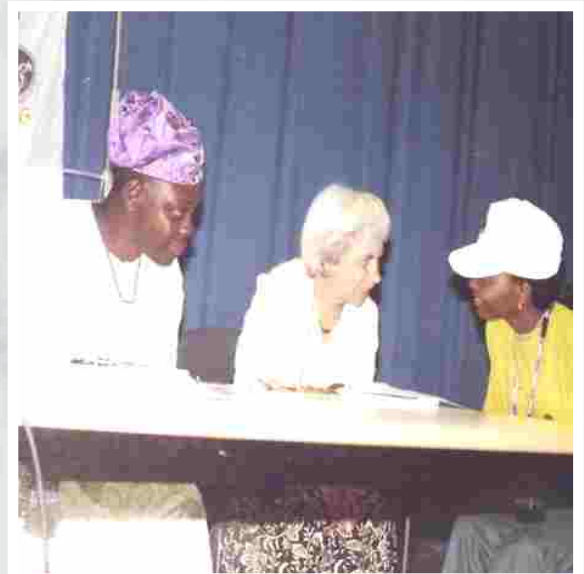
Olasubomi addressing the audience at the Pan-Commonwealth project she organised 2003



Representative of the Group Managing director for NNPC



Olasubomi and Gillian Dare OBE, the first Secretary to the United Kingdom on the High table during the Pan- Commonwealth Project organised by Olasubomi



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

Important dignitaries from different nations and NAWOPEG members



Group picture with Awards recipients only



Olasubomi addressing a Press conference on Peace matters in Lagos state.



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

OLASUBOMI WITH IMPORTANT DIGNITARIES

Olasubomi and former Miss Nigeria Sylvia Edem



Olasubomi at a press conference on Peace



Olasubomi with the Secretary of State for Colombia.



Olasubomi with the first Female Prime Minister For Burundi. Sylvie Kinigi



Olasubomi and the former Deputy governor Of Lagos state Kofoworola Bucknor-Akerele



Mayor in US with Olasubomi and other friends.



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

Olasubomi addressing the Press on Peace work



Olasubomi and Professor Alele Williams the first Female Professor in Nigeria. Professor was a major stakeholder that worked with Olasubomi on the NAWOPEG Project in Lagos state.



Olasubomi with the Mayor of Croydon at the mayor's palour



Olasubomi addressing the Press on Ball Of Hope (BOH)



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

Olasubomi and her University Vice Chancellor Professor Roger Makanjuola. (She was the former Acting-President of the student union)



Olasubomi and her secondary School Principal Mrs Oluyomi Labode. (She was the Former Head girl)



Olasubomi and the Mayor of Aberdeen (George Adam)



Olasubomi and the UN Arts Ambassador (Ibiyinka Alao)



A pictorial synopsis
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Olasubomi and Governor Rep in the US



Olasubomi and a Mayor in Kansas US



Olasubomi, The UN Arts Ambassador and the former Defence Minister Erelu Olushola Obada



Olasubomi and the Erelu of Lagos (Erelu Abiola Dosumu)



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

Olasubomi and Lola Odujinrin the first African Pilot to fly the world solo



Olasubomi and the Former Mayor of Croydon



Olasubomi and the Former Mayor of Croydon



Olasubomi and the Mayor of Haringey



Obafemi Awolowo University work
Olasubomi organised an
Outstanding Freshers one week
orientation Programme



Orientation event organised by Olasubomi



A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
service to humanity.

**Picture below shows Olasubomi ,
the lady with a swollen face and lips after been attacked by military men
during a rally she led to speak against cultism. And the release of cultist.
She narrowly escaped death and a newspaper even reported her dead.**

Olasubomi's picture after a rally against cultism which nearly cost
her life. She was attacked by Military men for defending the student's right.



Olasubomi Iginla Aina's

service to humanity.

Olasubomi's story as the student union president.
View article below with picture name: Subomi Iginla

The Digest

SATURDAY PUNCH, November 1, 2003

Woman's world

yemlakol@yahoo.com

Yemi Kolapo



My travails as a female student union president - Subomi Iginla

When women talk about being better in leadership positions, most men usually regard such talk as mere ranting. Men argue that women are incapable of withstanding rigours associated with such offices. But by the time you are through with Subomi's story, you would understand that some women are made of more steely stuff than even men.

I had the desire to become a student union president even before I gained admission into Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife. When I got into the system, I felt I was never going to realise my dreams because my very close friends discouraged my ambition. They said that such things were not meant for decent people but there was an innermost desire for change burning within me, which made it very difficult for me to be discouraged.

I knew that I had a sincere intention to serve the people but I needed divine support so I declared 21 days of fasting in my year one and two. My family members were not in support of my dreams. They felt that I liked to put myself in trouble always but I knew that I had great potentials to instigate a positive change.

I was almost discouraged because those who did not believe in me and who thought that I would fail surrounded me. My friends mocked me. Some would even taunt me by calling me "Mrs. President" but I regarded such comments as prophetic; so I usually answered saying "at your service ways". I did everything to make sure that I was a model. I was very close to sources of information on campus and to the students as well.

Something happened in my year two that could have discouraged me. Cult guys ruck. They attacked the students' union leaders and killed 5 students including some members of the Students' Union. I was at the mortuary to inspect how many students were killed and who they were.

I was moved to tears at the sight but instead of me getting discouraged, I decided to face the challenge there and then. I said to myself "even if I don't die as a union leader, I would still die one day. What matters most is the impact I have been able to make on the lives of those at come my way.

I decided to contest in my third year. I led a course and that destabilised me. I most thought of giving up my ambition. I did not declare my intention until when was almost late, 9 days to election. That is when my innermost drive resurrected in despite my depressed state.

Time was not on my side and I had to do so many things. I was extremely broke. I sent someone to help get some money from home but they refused to give me



'They shot at me and I fell. The students, who saw what happened at a distance rushed to the press and an evening newspaper carried the news that I was dead'

ever I needed would be sent to me after elections. Because I was starved of funds, I had to go crude and creative with my election publicity, when my mates were displaying beautiful art work that cost so much.

I wrote my surname, IGINLA, with chalk on strategic places on campus. Because I could not afford posters, I printed my name, which means big tree, on paper and pasted it on every tree on campus. I did not feel intimidated by my humble finance. I made a mascot and had it go round campus. There was this rich guy whom I was contesting with, who displayed his manifesto on computer in a beautiful way. It

Hall, that night. I could not but get fascinated myself. Immediately, I went to my room and prayed to God to direct me on the next step to take. Then something came to my mind. I arranged for two students to fight in the quadrangle in a way that would attract students so that I could address them.

I did that and their first fight was right in front of the computer display. Everyone was attracted. People wondered aloud because the two people that fought were known to be best friends. Immediately the large crowd gathered, I moved in to address them and that was it.

ecute displays at other locations. Some lecturers, who were baffled by my strategies had to campaign for me during their classes, even though they did not know me. They were attracted by the fact that I did not spend money on posters.

At last, I won the elections as the Vice president. There were so many challenges. I did my best to support other union executives but I didn't get exposed to the acute female problem until I became the acting President of the Obafemi Awolowo University Student Union. The president misbehaved and I was supported to assume the post.

As the acting president of the union, one of my greatest challenges was when I led the students on a negotiation protest. I knew that I had to be in front because I was the leader. I was at Osogbo High Court to defend the cause of the students. I was already addressing an unusually calm student group who were ready to listen and obey when a crop of soldiers and policemen rounded us up with arms.

They shot continuously at us. The students, including the then NANS president and some union leaders were nowhere to be found. The force men dealt with me on the field. They shot at me and I fell. The students, who saw what happened at a distance rushed to the press and an evening newspaper carried the news that I was dead.

I could remember that before the incident, a man gave me a charm to use in protecting myself against disasters that accompanied my post but I threw the substance into a bush near our hostel and made a covenant with God. I told God that I wanted multiple fold of what it was meant to give me because he is the one who could do that.

I remembered that covenant while on the field and shouted at the policemen that I would not die. They shot at me; I fell, stood up and escaped through the fence. The Vice Chancellor heard about it and immediately instituted a search for me. They did not find me until three days later. The students became sympathetic, felt my absence and thought that they needed to appreciate me. God brought honour upon me in the face of severe trouble. The other parties that were against me rallied round me and gave me the needed support.

Because my service was a selfless one, at the end my tenure, the students and surprisingly, the authorities showed their appreciation. The authorities thanked me for making peace return to OAU.

I was happy that I am a woman, yet I made a mark in the history of Obafemi Awolowo University. Though I did not dis-

A pictorial synopsis

Olasubomi Iginla Aina's service to humanity.

Olasubomi and other student union Officials. In their parliamentary gowns



Olasubomi : Head girl Lagos Anglican Girls Grammar School. (LAGGS), Group picture of the Prefects and School Council members.



Manifesto Night at O.A.U
Olasubomi Contesting for Vice-President of the student Union. Addressing the students



CelebWorld 50

'How I became student union leader by accident'

— Continued from Page 25

Why did you prefer USA to the UK then?
The reason I wanted to go to America was because I represented Nigeria before in the US; the American government invited me because they had read a lot about me in the papers. They have seen me on the TV, and they saw so much respect I have had on children, women and my country in the US. I gave my CV to an official, she looked at it and said, 'You must represent the country; you are the one we are looking for', she didn't tell me anything like that in my earlier meeting with her. 'You have everything but you are too young', I stayed back for one year and American government called me. They sent my name to Abuja among several other names; my name was picked among other names.

They sent my name down to Washington and a year later I was called to represent Nigeria to monitor elections. By the time I got to Washington, I knew the reason why they had serious problem over my age because the secretary of Colombia was representing Colombia; a presidential candidate in Uganda was representing Uganda. I saw the high and mighty and I decided to be quiet because I wasn't to talk. But the few times I needed to talk, I talked sense. We were to monitor the election and the US election and we did so many things and when we came back my orientation changed. I wanted to make sure that every situation in Nigeria, I had a say. I had a say in Nigeria. So, that was what drew my attention to the US until God changed it.

Where did you meet your husband?
I got to the UK and I met my husband. I met a lot of frustrations on my first visit to the UK. I came back with a negative opinion and said 'I will not go to the UK again but I realized that God has given me a direction, that this is where you should go. I have given you that kind, you are going there to possess but you can be sure there are things that were there before you, so you need to conquer. I came back to Nigeria happy, but I realized that there was an assignment. I needed to do because that was the direction of God. When I went back, I realized it was the day that I wanted to be directed from the promised land because that was where my husband was. I got there and I met my husband. His name is Dr. Chibani Osobole Aina, he is a consultant psychiatrist. I have three children, eight years old, six years old and three years old. We have a boy and two girls.

What were the signs that he was the Mr. Right?
God spoke that I was in relationships on falsehood because I had a term that was known in Nigeria. So, everybody wanted to go out with me and I didn't know who loved me. I got into several challenges because of what I considered my own disobedience, even though I loved God that I thank God because God searched my heart to see that I was for Him and He has seen that you should have mercy on me because I would not go into relationship based on my emotion because I am a very emotional person. Eventually when my husband became about an arranged himself. Months before I met my husband, I started to get revelations that my husband was present. I had several ways God spoke to me about Him. God gave me his name in one of the revelations.

There was a day I was fasting and praying. In fact before he spoke to me, I would know what he was about to say and I would say it and he would be so accurate. Now that you know what I want to say? God opened him up to me, and he would tell me everything about himself, everything that he had done and what I must tell you that I had several privileges. There were a lot of things attached to my fasting, the right prayers. There was a day I spoke to God. I said 'God, just use everything to speak to me that He is the man I will marry'. And then he had gone to my pastor to inform him that he had to go and that and the pastor said I should try and be his friend. As we were entering into a time in Perth, we were up to the bus, when a Jamaican guy who was on board, asked us if we were married, he said if we were not, we should go and get married. He didn't even know us.

He said 'I think she likes you' and it was like 'is this man alright?' And that same time, my husband was equally praying about these girls in the church. He was not dating them but they were his friends and he was like 'any of those three could become his wife, they are good Christians. He told me to fast along with him. But as he was speaking, the Holy Spirit was telling me that he was looking for a wife. Unknown to me at that time he had actually told four of us (with the three other women in church) to fast with him, that the only one that was his among us should fast with me. So, on the third day of the fast, the first one walked into the church and he asked her 'Did you fast?' 'No, I forgot'. The second one said 'I forgot'; and the third one gave another excuse. By the time I was entering into the church, he asked 'Did you fast?' And I said 'yes'. And his countenance lightened at me.

When I got home, I was telling a Jamaican lady friend that we lived together what was happening and that felt that this guy was going to call me to say that he wanted to... as I said the words 'yes' and the Jamaican lady said 'Oh, but what you are saying here is just what he is saying'. So, there was a bit of confirmation that God allowed me that he was my husband. Today, you are one and blessed with three lovely female who are God's girls to the marriage. So what is the 'big bag' all about?

I was doing a course in 'Heresy' when this idea of a bag came and it occurred to me that we can actually raise funds with a Bag of Hope that we could make the biggest bag in the world, call it 'Bag of Hope'. Let us come and make it in Nigeria and we can divide it into parts into different countries, get many young people involved in that project and put it full of gold, silver and the background is full of black, silver and all the beads on the bag have different culture representing children from different countries and different backgrounds. The Bag of Hope is going to shed light on the future of the innocent children and put smiles on their faces. So, every child that participates gets an award sticker from Light up to say that they were one of the people that broke the world record. When we contacted Guinness World Record on what to do to be successful, they gave me a guideline on what to do and what not to do and we started working with the public.

Now, I can say they have been really helpful and we have been following their guidelines to enable us achieve the desired success.

—Olasubomi

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Olasubomi Iginla Aina's Newspaper article after she represented Nigeria in the United State.

The PUNCH, Thursday, July 1, 2004 Page 36

Home *Affairs*

'Labour's deregulation'll lead to dictatorship'

Acting Secretary General of the Yoruba Council of Elders, Dr. Kunle Olajide, speaks with SEMIU OKANLAWON on a proposed restructuring of the council



•Olajide

ARE there arrangements to replace Justice Adewale Thompson, the late Secretary General of the council?

That is the internal affair of the organisation. Now I am the acting Secretary General. The highest decision making body of the organisation is the congress. That congress has enormous power to either confirm me as the Secretary General or appoint another person. At the moment, YCE is quite satisfied with what I am doing as their Secretary General but only the congress has the full power to confirm or elect national officers. And the national congress comes up once in a year.

But do you wish to be confirmed?

If it is the wish of the people, I will be too glad to step into the shoes of my boss.

It was learnt that some groups within the YCE are pushing for a change in the outlook of the council so as to accommodate younger people. Are you considering this yet?

Well, to a point, you are correct and to a certain extent, you are not absolutely correct. There is also some thinking in the group that believes that the council of elders should strictly mean a council of elders. But nevertheless, in Yoruba custom, they believe that you must bring youths to understudy you because the youths will ultimately become the elders. So, the age has now been lowered to 40

years. Initially, it was 50 years and above. But key positions of the council in our reformed structure that we are about to present to the congress in October, would still be retained by elders above sixty. We set up a committee that looked into the entire group and came up with a position paper. And the position paper says the age has now been lowered to 40 years. We are thinking of blending the youths with the elderly in the organisation. That is what we are

looking forward to and I guess the congress is going to ratify it.

When is the council planning to implement the proposed restructuring?

We are meeting in October. That is when the congress will meet to ratify the decision of the committee.

The YCE was openly in support of President Olusegun Obasanjo for his second term bid even if the council had not shown any interest in party affiliation. Now a year into his second term, what is the support like now for the President?

Well, I think just as the National Chairman of their political party, the Peoples Democratic Party, said a few days ago, the government has not really got a good control of the economy. In the area of the economy, I think the government is not doing well. Interest rates are rising to the sky. The value of the naira is sliding at a rate that is beyond comprehension. Therefore, they have not gotten the grip of the economy and once the economy is not right, the people are bound to be very unhappy. We have had a lot of theories but the theories are not producing any result.

Obasanjo is seeking a deregulated labour with his recent bill to the National Assembly. What is the position on the council on this?

The council has not yet met to issue its position. But I have a position, which is likely to be adopted by the council. It is going to be very unfortunate if the labour is deregulated. Already, we have a weak labour and there is no political opposition now. It is the labour that is leading the civil society, which is keeping the government on its toes. The moment you weaken the labour, you are on your march to full-blown dictatorship and I am not a party to full blown dictatorship. If anything, I think the government should make laws that will strengthen labour.

'Voters need to be more mature'

Dotun Oladipo

OLASUBOMI Iginla, 26, had excitement written all over her as she walked into the newsroom that Tuesday morning. Iginla, Focal Person for National Women Peace Movement, had waited for about one hour expecting anyone on the Political desk to arrive. She wanted to share her experience on a trip to the United States of America for a conference on "Citizens participation in a democratic system." The conference afforded the participants from about 18 countries the opportunity of monitoring the US primary election held on June 18.

So, what was the excitement all about? Iginla said she was shocked by the level of maturity exhibited by the electorate in the days preceding the election. She said that the reasons why some voters opted for a particular candidate sounded so ridiculous when viewed from the Nigerian perspective but that they still went ahead trying to convince others to see reason with them. For instance, she said that some voters were out on the streets campaigning for increase in taxes and urging others to vote for the candidates who believed in such moves. Another issue was that for the change in the Marriage Act to allow for freedom of choice so as to give those wishing for same sex marriage the opportunity of doing so.

Said Iginla, "I was moved most by those campaigning for increase in tax. For goodness sake, that is one issue that people can make a big issue out of in Nigeria. But I then came to the conclusion that these people must have seen what the money going into tax had done for them in the past to opt for an increase in their tax. And they canvassed their position rigorously. The same thing for those who wanted a change in the Marriage Act. They were out there on the streets expressing their opinion freely on issues such as gay marriages and marriages of the same sex generally."

Iginla, a former acting president of the Students Union Government of the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ife-Ife and Executive Director of Organisation for Youth and Women Affairs, said that she was also shocked to learn that some public officers, including mayors, only held such positions on part time basis. She said she was in a city where mayor was earning only \$800 a month, adding that one of the mayors told her he was surprised on being in-



•Iginla

augurated into office to learn that mayors even received salaries. She said whereas the mayor earned little or nothing at times as some donate their salaries to charity, there are civil servants who handle the running of the city and are well paid for the job.

She said, "I was shocked because this is not so in Nigeria. A lot of our politicians here don't vie for public office in order to serve the people. They only go there to see what they can make for themselves. It is such a surprise that we could have people with a heart for service to humanity."

Iginla said her visit to the US had changed her concept of volunteerism as it did not only exist in public offices but to other spheres of life. According to her, there were volunteers to take care of every aspect of life in the US, adding, "I got to a company having 60 workers with 52 of them

being volunteers. In fact, having a certificate on volunteering was a must for some to graduate. The volunteers even impressed me at the Food Bank where the less privileged were given food free. There, you saw old men, even young ones between the ages of eight and 10 who had volunteered to serve the people for free. In fact, I can say the US is as successful as it is today because the people did not see the leadership as the only set of people that should work to make the country grow. Rather, everyone participates for the benefit of the country."

Owing to the experience, she said she wanted to take the concept of volunteerism to a higher level in Nigeria. Her major focus is to establish a food bank for the less privileged.

Iginla, however, faulted the level of participation of Americans in the voting process. She said the turnout for the primary election was rather poor. According to her, those who conducted her team round to monitor the election said the low turnout was a usual characteristic of elections in the US. Iginla said she observed that there were even more elderly people who turned out for the election than the youths while there were more women than men.

The conference, which was held between May 25 and June 18, according to Iginla, afforded her the opportunity of learning from participants from other countries how the democratic institutions in their countries are run. Participants for the conference were drawn from Zimbabwe, Bulgaria, Peru and Pakistan. Others included India, Yemen and Namibia.

She said of the conference, "The US government feels that it is important to invite people from other parts of the world to exchange political views, get a proper picture of what democracy should look like. And we did get that." She said that apart from participants exchanging ideas there were also top political office holders in the US who shared their experiences with the participants on government and governance. The participants also had the opportunity of visiting colleges in the US to learn more about what the students are taught regarding democracy and spoke with experts in e-governance.

For Iginla, this is an experience she would never forget in her life. She intends spreading the good news.

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Olasubomi Iginla Aina's Newspaper article

Saturday PUNCH Page 42 January 18, 2003

Feature



• Olasubomi... girlish but...

SHE'S JUST 24... BUT WHEN SHE TALKS, THE HIGH AND MIGHTY LISTEN

Olasubomi Iginla is not your archetypal domesticated mummy's girl in the house. Twenty four years old to be precise, and orphaned when she was much younger, she finished from the Obafemi Awolowo University in 2001 with a degree in architecture. But while in school, and even after school, she has worked up her sleeves on a terrain that belies her youth.

She is an activist that is meek, compassionate and radical. Sounds contradictory? May be, because, she is many characters embedded in one personage. She looks so girlish she passes for a choir girl in the junior church.

Subomi is exceptionally creative and brilliant but has not quite envisioned a career in architecture in spite of its high societal value. All she wants is to mobilise, not just youths, but market men and women and opinion leaders for popular action. And she does that, despite her diminutive frame, with the gusto of Hercules. One moment she is in her living room playing *Snake and Ladder*, the pastime of her age group, the next moment she is leading a procession of market women in Ikeja or speaking with ethnic leaders in Idi-Araba, or better still, speaking on AIT or LTV programme with hyperactive gesticulations.

With her advocacy, brilliance and parental vacuum, she shares similar fate with her bossom friend, Hafsat Abiola. She remembers a particular event in her life that reinforced her status as a parentless lady. She was one of the 10 recipients for the Award on Intelligence and Good Conduct held at the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs in 1995.

"Other recipients came with their parents but when it was my turn to receive the award I had no one standing as my parent. Then I made up my mind to do everything possible to become successful in life."

Never one for missing out significant events, she is already planning for the forthcoming first year anniversary of the January 27 bomb explosions which killed over a thousand people. Using her platforms, Organisation for Youths and Women Affairs (OYWA) and National Women Peace Group (NAWOPEG), she is launching an emergency squad in memory of the victims, organising training on how to handle emergencies in five strategic areas of Lagos. She says she is negotiating with the United States Information Service (USIS) and Critical Rescue International (CRI) for possible collaboration.

That is a one-off thing; just like the anniversary of September 11 last year, which

This is the story of a young lady activist whose fanatical advocacy makes her an ambassador for peace. SANYA ONAYOADE writes...



• What a rare sight... 24-year-old Olasubomi at a stakeholders meeting with the former vice chancellor of the University of Benin, Prof. Grace Alele-Williams and the ex-deputy governor of Lagos State, Senator Kofoworola Bucknor-Akerele

to the USIS. She went to the American agency with a significant number of 11 people bearing wreaths and memorial cards, and a passionate appeal to the US to refrain from war (with perceived rogue countries) at all costs. That kind of appeal has become her trade mark in Lagos where she is the state coordinator of NAWOPEG, a peace advocacy group inaugurated last

pacifist. Her radicalism at OAU, where she was student union vice-president and later acting president, was legendary for a girl you can rarely find in a crowd of students with average heights.

There was a day she shook the school authorities. The students, as usual, were agitating for a better welfare. But the two days earmarked for the protests in October 2000

of the governing council sent to the school by the Federal Government. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Makanjuola Rogers could not stomach a student action at such a time, and so invited Subomi to a meeting where she was asked to back down. It was a long-drawn meeting with echoes of threats and counter-threats.

She describes what transpired at the meeting: "The VC demanded that I sit down

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Olasubomi Iginla Aina's Newspaper article after she represented Nigeria in the United State.

Monday, July 5, 2004

POLITICSToday

THISDAY, Vol. 10, No. 3360, Page 1

For countries, especially those in the third world seeking to embrace democratic culture, the right place to be is the United States of America. A country that has gradually risen to beat Greece to claim the title of the cradle of democracy. With its over 200 years of democratic experience, successive U. S. governments have not relented in their continuous push for democratisation across the world as Olasubomi Iginla, who was recently a guest of the U S government, in this encounter with Joseph Ushigiale narrates

Democratic Lessons From America



*Iginla

Every year, embassies of the United States' Government evolve programmes directed at pushing for the enrichment of democratic values across the world. Using various criteria, the United States Department selects its participants from target countries to attend the programmes slated for prescribed durations ranging from weeks to months.

This year, the US government, after a painstaking selection process which started last year finally picked Olasubomi Iginla to represent Nigeria.

According to Iginla, the visit was to participate in a programme with the theme: CITIZEN'S PARTICIPATION IN A DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM - and it is basically designed by the US State Department to help other nations have a better understanding of what democracy should be. Its focus is to mobilise the citizens' into getting involved and to remind them of what is expected of them citizens. The programme also afforded all participating nations to learn from each other, democratic values that could help them in their respective countries.

She maintained that out of the 18 countries from where the different participants were drawn only five African countries, Nigeria, Namibia, Zambia Zimbabwe and Uganda were invited. Other non-African countries that made up the team were, India, Pakistan, Colombia, Croatia, Bulgaria, Belarus, Albania, Yemen, Peru, Venezuela, Serbia/Montenegro/Kosovo.

Iginla narrated that "our journey started from Washington where we were received by volunteers, representatives of the government, private and public sector. Here, different programmes were organised for us. For example during our tour of Washington, we were exposed to different professional speakers who dwelled mostly on the theme of the programme.

We moved to other states around the U.S. where we were given the opportunity to interact freely with citizens. We had a feel of their community college, from where most of their political leaders emerged, and had trainings facilitated by a combination of political leaders, city mayors and professors.

At a point, all the participating countries were subdivided into groups and we were sent to different states across the U. S. to monitor the primary elections. I was sent to Bozeman Montana to monitor elections alongside participants from Bulgaria, Kosovo, Peru and Zimbabwe."

Iginla said she came face-to-face with robust discourse by the highly enlightened American people on a wide range of issues. "My observations at the polling station were quite revealing. To start with, I was unable to identify security operatives at the station, I saw that people felt responsible to others in the community and that a disabled could exercise a franchise or delegate civic responsibilities through another person.

more taxes are paid, I was dazzled by the seeming patriotic response from the American citizens, it then dawned on me that the citizens could only do this if they had faith in their leaders and such unwavering faith could only come if they were definitely seeing how the taxes were being utilised."

Iginla said another side of the American society was "how responsive the people were towards the up-keep of their various communities. With these, I came to the conclusion that the possible secret of their success was imbued

in their selfless commitment to their country and communities. Such attributes, I am sure, could also go a long way to assist us here in Nigeria."

She said societal thinking is not a one-way affair, "I saw those who think that the prevailing tax should remain the way it is. I was shocked to discover the matured way people handled their different shades of opinion and was greatly surprised by the calm atmosphere of the polling station which is a sharp contrast to what obtains in Nigeria."

Iginla noted that "people expressed their views freely and maturely," asserting that the experience was far reaching and invaluable. She observed that it is impracticable in Nigeria for people to vote on behalf of the disabled or aged members of their family. "I was later to be informed that people in such categories are usually allowed to indicate the names of those they wish should represent them on the election day."

Iginla also mirrored the rights of the American citizens regarding such key areas as freedom of expression and liberty. "I had the opportunity of meeting Conception, a woman, who since 1981, volunteered to leave the comfort of her home to domicile in front of the White House, the equivalent of Aso Rock Villa in Nigeria.

"She said She migrated from Spain to settle in the U. S. to pursue the major subject of her campaign - global peace. She hopes that her campaign would help in getting the American government to stop its involvement in wars and the use of nuclear armament."

On the woman's choice of struggle, Iginla said "I was really moved by the woman's passion. To me, she symbolizes what I saw as pas-

sion, I was touched especially when she recounted to me on how she got arrested several times and how, with each arrest, she was maltreated by the security officials. From her account, I came to realise that she could not be allowed to remain in front of the White House, but during this time, she must only stand and not lay down. With such provision, Conception told me she has had to, since 1981, always slept standing because if the security agents in front of the White House would not allow any one to lie flat while asleep around the area. She has had to subject herself to the most dehumanizing conditions and treatment, all in the bid to pass on her message to the leaders and all who care to listen."

She said the communal system practised there as exemplified in the food bank, another community based project formed to provide for the unemployed and jobless, inspired her. According to her, 97% of those that were there are volunteers with only about 3% employed as staff. "I met both young and old people actively involved in the volunteer efforts and they all expressed their delight in making life meaningful for others. The lesson is that Nigerians could also be encouraged to get involved in such volunteer efforts for national cohesion."

On the gains of the programme, Iginla pointed out that "for me, it is unquantifiable. There are great lessons from this trip and I feel strongly that the programme has the propensity to inspire future leaders from developing countries and help shape the views for good governance. The organisers have not failed, rather the aim of the project has been achieved, if the responses of participants from their various countries are a yardstick for measurement."

2007: Understanding IBB's Place in History

There is no doubt that the on-going emotive reaction to the touted 2007 Presidential ambition of General Ibrahim Badamosi Babangida, among others leaves much to be desired. The primary goal of public commentary is to beam a searchlight on issues, with a view to providing a clear picture of what is going on in the nation to the uninformed and confused citizens.

However, many commentaries have tended to be media for the distribution of heat rather than being a light to guide the footsteps of both the leadership and followers. In order to remedy this apparent disconnection between what should be (ideal) and what is happening (reality), there is need for a detached commentary. Since adequate appreciation of the past would enable us make reasonable judgment for the future, I think it is imperative that the person of Gen. Babangida be subjected to a close study. Duality of man cannot be denied, thus, the complexity of the phenomenon call I.B.B. becomes obvious. In the circumstance this write up is only out to provoke a rational and fact based analysis of his person. In order to situate the study in a proper perspective, I shall take off with the portraiture of IBB by Margaret Thatcher and Professor Ojetunji Abovade. Margaret Thatcher captures, IBB, thus, "he was a forceful, intelligent man trying to put Nigeria's economy on to a sounder footing and in due course, we hoped, to create the conditions for a restoration of democracy." (Please see p.525 of "The Downing Street Years"). On the other hand, Professor Ojetunji Abovade described him this way ".....Babangida is extremely kind, warm, intelligent and very easy to get along with. Babangida is a gamesman. Even when he feels convinced on an issue and he finds that he is alone or he is not carrying his team with him, he backs out" (excerpts from newswatch, May 16, 1988).

These two character sketches highlight the atomic nature of IBB's personality i.e. a continuing struggle between comradeship and conviction. I shall use the June 12 election annulment as the benchmark to examine this conflict. Many commentators, read the annulment as being in furtherance of an agenda to perpetuate self in office, but I



*Babangida

By Sheriff Koko

Abacha, based on the fact that IBB was in Minna on D-day. It was Abacha that provided the physical backbone to the storm troopers i.e. Umar, Aminu and

Shagaya on the execution of the coup-de-tat. Moreover, in the early days of the regime it was reported in the media, that Abacha took exception to Commodore Ukiwe being referred to as the number two in the administration. This would appear to be a Freudian slip of a conspirator who feels that the pact is being threatened.

It is therefore not incongruous to suggest that the premature retirement of Ebitu Ukiwe was only a removal of a hurdle on the way. Thirdly, I strongly suspect the sideways movement of Gen. Domkat Bai to Internal Affairs was to clear the obstacles on the succession path. Fourthly, the nominal retirement of Admiral Aikomu from the Armed Forces, but continuing to function as the

custodian of the evidence of malpractices provided Kingibe and Nzeribe, but, the plan was thwarted by the networking efforts of Obasanjo, Danjuma and Y'ardua on the need to redeem the integrity of the Armed forces.

On the seventh count, we were all aware that the June 12 election was to be postponed based on the Abuja High court nocturnal judgment, but the U.S.I.S. Director's statement aborted the plan.

Eighthly, I am aware that the last but one meeting of the A.F.R.C was stalemated by Abacha because, in spite of the recommendation of the tripartite agreement of the S.D.P, N.R.C and Armed Forces to have a civilian transition Head of State, Abacha was insisting on a military Interim Head of State.

Moreover, I have to learn that in the course of the Orkar coup, that Babangida from his hideout got a phone call through to Col. Raji Rasaki, fingering Abacha as the coup-leader. It was Rasaki that reassured him that Abacha had contacted Bamaiyi and was mobilizing to counter the coup-de-tat. This suspicion could safely be interpreted to mean that IBB feared that there was a fast forward attempt to unilaterally actualize the pre-arranged succession agreement.

Lastly, why were the political and relative junior service Chiefs retired on the eve of the handover to the Interim Government and the mo senior was retained?

In essence, I strongly suspect that there was a pact between IBB and Abacha, prior to the 1993 coup-de-tat. The subsequent shifting of the terminal dates was only a manifestation of a personal struggle within Babangida on his fidelity to a comrade and his duty to the Nigerian nation. IBB is not strongly disinterested in having another shot at the presidency, if the environment is right. I think if question we should be asking IBB is, that considering his antecedents and the apparent dilemma would it be reasonable to give him a second chance to sacrifice the national interest on the altar of personal consideration or better still may I conclude by quoting Professor Abovade again ".....I would hope that biographers, historians, psychologists would study this man in depth because I

A pictorial synopsis
of
Olasubomi Iginla Aina's
 service to humanity.

Olasubomi Iginla Aina's Newspaper article.

Saturday PUNCH Page 43 January 18, 2003 Feature



* Olasubomi... addressing market women. Inset: Close shot of Olasubomi

the meeting immediately switched to the authorities' side, saying he was not part of the decision to boycott classes for our agitation. I closed my eyes and still stood my ground. But within me I knew this was trouble. I asked myself, what if I was suspended or expelled? I immediately resolved within me to rather rewrite JAMB or travel out than succumb. I told the VC that I could not risk the rage of the students who would stone me if I capitulated. I then asked him, "if you were in my shoes what would you do Sir?" I could see in him that he was really bothered and felt for me. He must have thought of how I was coping because of my size and even told me that most of those at the meeting could father me and so I should obey them."

The union leader was adamant, but promised the authorities: "Sir, the boycott will start tomorrow and a powerful rally will hold but I promise you peace." She said the rally was one of the most peaceful in the history of OAU and got a commendation from the VC.

NAWOPEG was formed, with the collaboration of Shell (SPDC) in April after a congress which brought together over 200 women from within and outside Nigeria to discuss how women could be a strong force in national peace campaign. The forum had such women like Mrs Sarah Jubril, currently a presidential candidate, Prof. Grace Alele-Williams, former vice-chancellor of University of Benin, women commissioners and leaders.

Subomi was the youngest, in fact, a baby among women; but a coordinator of the most complex among the states. She added a drama to the inauguration in Aso

Rock when President Obasanjo left her out of the state coordinators he inaugurated. The president must have thought she didn't belong in the group of those women achievers. Subomi says: "I had to call the attention of the president to the error when he was about walking away, and immediately he apologised and took pictures with me happily."

Her peace awareness campaign, especially in this warm-up to general elections can't be missed out. She has held meetings with Governor Bola Tinubu of Lagos, the Eze Ndigbo of Lagos, the Seriki Hausawa, the Oloto of Oto, Itshekiri, Urhobo and Ijaw leaders, especially in such ethnically volatile areas like Idi-Araba and Ajegunle; she has held rallies with market women and rural women organisations and organised women's meeting in which Prof. Alele-Williams and former Lagos Deputy Governor, Mrs Kofo Bucknor-Akerere spoke.

With almost a weekly campaign appearance on broadcast stations, Subomi Iginla has collaborated with Akiya, an NGO run by President Obasanjo's daughter, Iyabo, and Hafsat Abiola's KIND. Her group, OYWA, is currently engaged in a counselling programme for secondary schools, focussing on self-discovery, leadership, conflict management and HIV/AIDS.

As much as she derives joy in her activism, funding has become some problem and hopes the situation improves, especially in this election season. "We need so much publicity and enlightenment on peace," she says as she receives a call "summoning" her for a live programme on LTV 8.

One moment she is in her living room playing Snake and Ladder, the pastime of her age group, the next moment she is leading a procession of market women in Ikeja or speaking with ethnic leaders in Idi-Araba

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 Executive Governor, Katsina State.

CHIEF LAUNCHER
 MALAM ISMA'ILA ISA FUNTUA

CHAIRMAN OF THE OCCASION
 HON. JUSTICE MOH'D BELLO, GCON

DATE: Tuesday 21st January, 2003

VENUE: Shehu Musa Yar'adua Centre, Abuja.

TIME: 10am. Prompt

One Year in Mind



We cherish our daily memories of you as a committed and wonderful husband and father. We thank the Almighty God for your life of uprightness and truth. You have left a vacuum in our lives, which only God can fill.

LATE DR. FRANCIS ILORI OGUNDOLA
 Who Answered the Last Call to Glory a Year
 Today 18/1/03

We seize this opportunity to express our thanks and appreciation to Pastors and members of Orita-mefa Baptist Church, Pastor E.A. Adeboye, General Overseer, Redeemed Christian Church of God, Pastor (Professor) and Mrs. Fola Aboaba, Professor G.O. Emerole (leader) and members of U.I Christian Family Fellowship, Brethren both far and near, Committee of Friends; Director and Staff, I.A.R.&T., Staff, University of Ibadan, Staff, Obafemi Awolowo University, ADP, relatives, neighbours and friends too numerous to mention, for their unflinching support and prayers. May God in His infinite mercies bless and keep you all to continue to do His will in Jesus name. Amen.

Frank continue to rest in Abraham's bosom until we meet to part no more.

Fondly remembered by Funso Ogundola and Children

Olasubomi Iginla Aina's

service to humanity.

Olasubomi Iginla Aina's Newspaper article

Page 14, DAILY SUN, Tuesday, August 24, 2004

Woman of the Sun

The amazing lady called Iginla (big tree)



Sumbo's convocation

Well, I have been up all night. Not because I murdered sleep, but because I had to be part of the celebrations for Sumbo's convocation. Sumbo is Folake's first child. But from a very tender age, she had lived with me. Many call her grandma's baby and she had been under my watchful eyes until she went to the university.

At that point, I really missed her and for some months, I kept on dreaming about her. Ironically, the funny girl did not miss yours truly the way I did. I guess she must have been tired of my prudent ways and was just too happy to be out of my reach then. So, I got used to that and then, as suddenly as it all started, Sumbo completed her education in the Ivory Tower.

The first week was very revealing. My girl had really changed. Her dressing habit was appalling to start with. Then she was always chewing gum in the most embarrassing way. The most irritating was that she kept a lot of friends especially males. There was a particular day I sent one of her male friends away at the gate.

I was enjoying the fresh air as usual and I heard him asking for Sumbo from the gate man. "What do you want to see her for? Haven't you people finished your examinations or do you want to look at the past question papers together?" The boy laughed mischievously and had the guts to tell me that he was her boyfriend.

So, I told him that she had travelled. He left but called her almost immediately on phone. Barely five minutes after Sumbo came out to give me a query: "Mama, why have you sent my friend away. After all you know that I am no longer a small girl. I am now a graduate and I know what I am doing."

I washed my hands off the affair and said nothing afterwards. Luckily, Sumbo passed in flying colours when the results came out. "Mama, I have good news for you, she shouted one morning. I was wondering if she had finally decided to marry that rascal when she said: "Mama, I got a first class in school. I was the best in my class. I was really shocked. Does it mean that being too social cannot affect a child's result?"

It was good news indeed. Everyone including Olauwa and her mother was really excited. The clown masquerading as her boyfriend brought a giant card, which was displayed in her bedroom. A date was fixed for the convocation ceremony and we all got prepared. Friends, neighbours and church members all went with us.

We waited and waited until the ceremony was over. It was time to take photographs but unfortunately my headgear was out of place. Folake came to the rescue and when I look at myself on the car glass I was shocked to see a skyscraper on my head. No wonder I could move my head with ease but they all pleaded with me to manage it till the event was over.

It was rice, stew and meat very plenty. My teeth were a disaster because it refused to let me enjoy the well-seasoned meat. Thank God, there was fresh fish and shrimps which became substitutes. By the time we all came back home, we were all very tired except Sumbo and her friends who planned a night party. This was the first time Olauwa was over indulging anyone in this house and I was surprised.

He allowed Sumbo to use the living room for the event and gave her a cheque. I guess he was thrilled that the girl performed very well in school and gave her these incentives to ginger his own children. I went to bed as soon as we came back home but about two hours later I was woken up by the loud disco and rap music. "hahoooh! This was going to go on till the next day. Olauwa went to his friend's place and escaped the noise that yours truly had to cope with.

Well, when I could not sleep I gave myself the assignment of screening those who came in and out of the party. It was a nightmare. I saw all kinds of unscrupulous outfits and hairstyles. The make the girls used made them look like masquerades and I had to talk to one or two of them. They only laughed at my comments and made me look ancient. Next morning, I went to inspect the place and what I saw made me shudder.

Two days after Sumbo came to tell me that her next plan was to travel to God's own country. She said she was excited but I was so afraid. I was scared of the

By ENYERIBE EJILOGU

In Yoruba folklore, the Iginla tree is highly respected and occupies a pride of place. It is usually a very big tree.

Olasubomi, whose great grandfather adopted the Iginla name, is gradually sinking her taproot deeper and deeper into Nigeria's polity and extending her branches. And one day, she will become a giant tree, like the folkloric Iginla tree.

Now, don't make the mistake of describing the baby-woman as a petite lady. At her height of 5-feet-something, Olasubomi Iginla is still a very tall intellectual tree and strategist who knows that you achieve more through persuasion than confrontation. Little wonder then that she had the most peaceful and luminous reign as president of the Students' Union of Obafemi Awolowo University. Anybody that knows how strong the students union of Obafemi Awolowo University is, would not have given Iginla a 1000:1 chance of winning election to become the vice president and then going on to assume the presidency. But win, she did. Incredibly too, she took the decision to run just nine days to the election. Her victory was a classic electoral success case study. It was like a vision that had matured.

The experience she gained as the president of the OAU students' union and from representing Lagos State at a conference of women leaders now stand in good stead. She is the Lagos State coordinator of the National Women Peace Group (NAWOPREG). In this capacity, she was selected by the US State Department to represent Nigeria under the International Visitor Programme and participate in a special exchange programme which was held in May, this year. Iginla, who studied architecture, graduating in 2001, says that it is "an encompassing course" which she easily relates to what she is currently doing. Below, in her own words, she shares her experience, the motivations for her endeavours and vision.

God, an architect
Most of the time people say that God is an architect. An architect is simply a planner. Somebody who sits down to design a structure, how a building should look like. A building could be relative in anybody's context. You can call our society a building. You realize that every factor plays a role to make a building stand. It is a reflection of how the building will look like eventually.

This means that the foundation is very, very important. Therefore, there is a necessity for building to have a foundation, for anything you want to do in life, if it is to last. The foundation involves the kind of material you use. Relating this to what I am involved in, it means that the kind of people I associate with; how I intend to achieve my goal; the knowledge I have about what I want to do; how to get started. All these make up the foundation of whatever plan one has in life.

Grasping to the pillars. The pillars hold the house. There has to be pillars for whatever plan you have in life. Some people see God as the only thing that can make their plans work. Added to this is the involvement of people you are sure have the knowledge about what you want to achieve and share your dreams. These are some of these things you desire, as pillars.

Getting into Student Union Government
I came out nine days before election. I had mused the ambition right from when I entered life, that I wanted to be the student union president. So, I went in as a model. I had to stand, sit and eat like a President. So, this guided everything that I did. I knew that I must not be found in the wrong place. I must not do the wrong thing. I wanted it to be charismatic leadership. Everyone would know that this one deserves to be elected.

Right from my part one, I started going for parliamentary meetings of the Student Union Government. I wanted to know what was going on. I went for congresses and all that. So, when I got to part three, I had problem with one of my courses in mathematics. Mathematics was my best subject. I had "A" in SSCE. I took the course and failed it. I did it again and failed it.



Olasubomi Iginla

didn't know why I failed it. So, I was downcast. Without finding out why I failed it, I knew I would keep failing it.

Just at the very time the Student Union parliament was dissolved the result came out. Usually, one week after the House is dissolved, people would begin to indicate their interest to contest for particular offices. But I was in a quandary.

Now, this was me that had been preparing right from part one. I had been fasting and praying. And God had revealed to me at different times the different strategies I would adopt to win the election. I had everything written in my diary. When the result came out and I failed it was so discouraging. In the first place that is not charismatic. I felt it was not good leadership to fail a course. For this reason I decided not to contest.

However, some people knew that I had been nursing the ambition. They came around to try to get me to contest, promising to support me. I told them I was taking my time. At that time my sister at home had no job. I decided to fast for three days so that one of my sisters at home could get a job. I had already zeroed it in my mind that I wasn't going to contest. On the very day I was going to break the fast, God spoke to me.

As I was going to the fridge to break my fast, something came to my mind, saying, "Subomi, go and contest". This was just nine days to the elec-

tion. In response I blurted out: God, where start? The Lord said: "Start from where I start with you".

As I said, He had been giving me step-by-step guide on what to do. Like a faithless person, I snuffed the moze. You know, like Moses burning bush. God, I don't have money, five kobo I don't have. How will I get more to run the campaign? God answered: "Just go start from where I stopped and see if I will do you". It was so difficult to tell this to my friends because I would look like a fool. Some of them been begging me to contest and I refused. Somehow, I summoned up courage to go and see some of my friends. I told them that I would test. That I don't have money, but I need. How much was chalk? Chalk was N200.00, I don't have the money. My friend bought a pack of chalk for me.

On the morning of the manifesto presentation, I came out of my hall and saw that somebody had written my name "Iginla" on a hanger. It was mounted where people would see later found out that one of friends, an architect student did it. I became a threat to the other contestants. One of them, a lady who was also testing for the office of vice president, by computers and placed in front of every hall in the university. The computers displayed her name, her pictures and her campaign message became intimidated. Stupidly, I began to nag again to God, saying something like: God, see you said I should contest. Look at my competitor. While I was saying this it came to my mind to organise a fight. I remembered one of friends was known in the university as ATT. He had close friend and they were always together. Everybody knew them and how close they were.

I went to ATT and told him my strategy, telling him to feign a loud quarrel with his friend. Right in front of their hall they started quarrelling. People gathered to separate them. It was unable that they could quarrel. In the heat of the quarrel, everybody forgot my co-contestant and focused on the "fight" between him and his friend. When I got there, I began talking to ATT and got them to stop. Next, I addressed students on the need for peace on campus, so that we could achieve it through persuasion rather than confrontation. I talked about the need to remove the influence of money in student campaigns, that people who spend a lot of money to win, will ultimately recover it by embezzling union funds. Even my co-contestant unconvincingly nodded in agreement. On the manifesto, one of my friends cut a whole tree and mounted it in the hall. So, all over, there were symbols of Iginla tree. Even some professors campaigned for me without knowing that I am a lady. I thought that "Contestant Iginla" was a malcontent. These professors supported my candidacy because I was considered the most environmentally-friendly contestant who was not deluging with posters. They felt that it was easier to win with chalk than posters. Moreover, many students that printing laminated posters as some contestants did cost a lot of money. Some contestants even hired jeeps for campaign. So, there were people who were not contestants who spent a lot of money to win. I would turn around to recruit money from embezzling funds. That was how I became as the vice-president. I assumed the office of the position when he had a problem removed. When my tenure as the vice-chancellor congratulated on my achievements.

Vision
I would like the government to pass a law that would encourage young people to become volunteers for community service. This is in the United States. It was one thing I learnt during my trip to the United States. I am still trying to package a proposal to the National Assembly for a Bill in this regard. Under this law, young people from primary schools will be



A pictorial synopsis

Olasubomi Iginla Aina's

service to humanity.

Olasubomi Iginla Aina's Newspaper article

special edition  Young Professionals

by anuoluwapo

Olasubomi Iginla, 26, former student union leader of the University of Ife and an orphan, was the youngest delegate to the recent democracy conference that was held in the USA. Iginla represented Nigeria and the whole of West Africa at the international conference. She shares with us some of

I Have A Vision For NIGERIA... - iginla

TPL: I learnt you've just arrived from the United States, why did you travel?

SUBOMI IGINLA: I was selected by the US government to represent Nigeria in a conference that involved different countries all over the world. The theme of the programme is citizen-participation in a democratic system. The US government actually felt that it's important for them to enlighten other members of the world on what democracy really takes and also tries to show the kind of democracy that operates there in the US. I think we have five African countries, but Nigeria is the only West African country that was invited. So in a nutshell, I think I didn't only represent Nigeria, I represented West Africa, because we have Namibia, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Uganda; and we have other countries like India, Pakistan, Peru, Colombia, and so on.

TPL: Can you share your experience with us?

SUBOMI IGINLA: Waah, the experience was quite explosive, in the sense that, we previewed a lot of things that way back home, we can really pick and learn from... for example, I got to know about other countries, I got to know about the type of democracy that operates in other countries, not only Africa... I realised that most of us have similar problems. Taking the US as a case study, we realised there are so many things that we need to imbibe, one of which I felt... I must tell you, immediately the conference ended, I left the second day because I felt I had to come back home. I wanted to come and implement... I wasn't ready to stay back. I know that there are so many things that I can bring back home and effect a change with and one of this is volunteerism... the spirit of volunteerism is what has made America, what it is today. This is a kind of problem we are facing now and I realise that, a nation that is ready to be responsible for the welfare of its citizens should be ready to see to the up-keep of other people that are not well-to-do, and you'll see that in various activities that they involve themselves with, I saw volunteerism... from childhood, to cradle, to like 10 years old, men and women trying to volunteer for their nation. I saw patriotism, people who were ready to celebrate their country... they will tell you... some of them are of the opinion that, there's no democracy in U.S... and some will tell you there is democracy... you know, a very free society will have freedom of expression... I saw all of that and I saw it as the secret of their success.

TPL: You showed me pictures you took, and I think you are the youngest. How were you able to cope?

SUBOMI IGINLA: Yes, I was the youngest part of the conference... initially that was the barrier that the U.S government had, they were like, I was too young but when they went through my profile, they were like, waah, this is a beautiful profile... and

looking up to... but it's just the age they were like, the girl is too young. So I had to God as usual, I had to tell God, that the mistake devil made is to make me know about this conference and because he has made that mistake, I'm sorry, I'm going to move... So I had to pray and I fasted.

There's this meeting at Abuja, after the nomination, there I was selected as well, and mind you, I was still not the only person, because there's still so many other people that were selected, so Washington was to make the final selection... all the names were sent to Washington and I was the only person they chose to attend the conference. At the end of the day, like the Bible said, the stone that the builders rejected is now the cornerstone, that was what happened.

And I must tell you, I wasn't intimidated in any way, I was the youngest... the Ugandan representative who was the presidential aspirant of Uganda in 2003; the representative of Colombia is the secretary of state; the person representing is a party secretary, you know... we had big and mighty people, but I didn't see myself as a low-key person. I saw myself as... up to the task. I am representing Nigeria, I was there and I was sure God was with me... everything I did, I wasn't alone,

God was always there. It went on fine, and the most surprising thing is that, I usually provided solutions to most of the problems... they didn't even see me as a young person. I think we interacted on the base of a representative of a country, not you're too young or old. I enjoyed myself, I didn't have any problem with anybody...

T P L :
With the

type of work you do, how time for yourself... do you
SUBOMI IGINLA: I do, I actually know I have a great sense of enjoy myself... Usually, I like to work with people, I love meeting that's part of enjoyment travelling, so as soon as I get there, I already embark on love doing, so that I don't miss myself and it's not it's either I'm being delivered a speech or and those are some love doing.

You see, I have a vision for my country, and beginning, God has given me, to an extent, a vision for Nigeria. I look at that revelation from God, a mistake that I'm aware of, been sent by God, an assignment which tells me that I have to be so each time I see that I'm approaching that I'm approaching though I have just



It's not by mistake that I'm a Nigerian, I've been sent by God for certain assignment...

SUBOMI IG