



# The Unique Model Magazine

...promoting unique personalities

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Chief Okwara lands at the local airport after the historic Enugu meeting, carrying a new mandate - "Igbo man anywhere is my responsibility.



## NNA NDIGBO IN LAGOS

'A New Beginning': Ohanaeze President Okafor Returns Power To LGAs, Markets; Vows Partnership With Lagos State



Pastor James Ajibola Mwanishi, Mansional Chairman at the event

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"I PROMOTE IGBO CULTURE ANYWHERE I GO": EZE NJOKU LAUDS HONEYLAND COLLEGE CHAIRMAN, MANAGEMENT, VOWS TO FUND IGBO LANGUAGE TEACHERS



Eze Njoku



'Eze Ikenna Hails Chief Okafor: He Will Serve Ndigbo With Remarkable Results'



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**2026/2027 Academic Session**



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**into JSS 1-3 & SS 1-2**



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## Editorial



### Catching Them Young: The Time To Curb Societal Menace Is Now

By Felix Mbata, Editor-in-Chief, The Unique Model Magazine

Open any newspaper or scroll through any online publication today, and the headlines bleed: kidnapping, drug trafficking, armed robbery, cyber fraud, cult clashes. The pattern is unmistakable. Data from security reports and court dockets point to a painful truth — nearly 80 percent of perpetrators are youths. Young Nigerians are trading their strength, talent, and future for crimes that end in handcuffs, prison sentences, or the grave.

At *The Unique Model*, we are alarmed. These are not just statistics. They are our sons, daughters, brothers, apprentices — the very people meant to inherit Nigeria. If we lose them to crime, we lose our future.

Yes, we commend the Nigeria Police Force, NDLEA, and other law enforcement agencies for their work. But we cannot outsource crime prevention to uniforms alone. Security begins at home, in the palace, in the pulpit, and in the classroom. It is everybody's business.

#### This is why we are making a direct appeal:

- 1. To Traditional Rulers:** You are the custodians of our values and the first authority at the grassroots. Use your influence. Summon parents. Tell them to call their children to order. A word from the palace still carries weight.
- 2. To Religious Leaders:** You see families every week. Preach beyond the pulpit. Let your sermons address drugs, fraud, and violence. Remind our youths that evil has a price, and that price is their destiny.
- 3. To Parents:** Charity begins at home. Know your children's friends. Ask how they fund that lifestyle. Teach language, culture, and dignity before the streets teach them something else.

The earlier we act, the more futures we save. Delay is dangerous.

#### INSIDE THE MAY 2026 EDITION

We did not just diagnose the problem in this edition. We spotlighted leaders and institutions that are part of the solution:

- 1. Chief Livinus Okwara** - meets Ohanaeze PG Senator Mbata, Outlines Vision as Nna Ndigbo in Lagos

#### 2. Chief Leonard Okafor, \_Oba

**Ojoto\_**, in his first interview as President, Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos State. He unveils a bold plan: return Ohanaeze to all 57 LGAs, make Alaba, Ladipo, and Balogun formal branches, and “renegotiate with our landlord, Lagos State” for partnership, not conflict.

#### 3. Honeyland College, Ipaja, celebrated its 2026 Cultural

**Day** themed \_“Our Culture, Our Pride”\_ — a vibrant festival that attracted the crème de la crème of society. Parents, royal fathers, and community leaders showered encomiums on Chairman Pastor Ajibola Alayande and management for using culture to instill identity, unity, and discipline in students. Yeye Bobaselu of Ajasaland hailed the chairman as “detrribalized” for honoring all tribes, proving that schools can raise children who code and still speak their mother tongue.

**4. Iche High Chief Njoku** mobilizing Ndigbo for civic participation through APC, and cushioning hardship with palliatives for Igbo stakeholders.

**5. A royal model of investment:** An Eze Ndigbo who built an Igbo school with his own money, pays teachers from his purse, and now partners with Honeyland College to fund Igbo language teachers — proving culture survives when leaders spend on it.

**6. A chorus of royal endorsement** for Chief Okafor from Eze Nicholas Njoku of Ejigbo, Eze Ferdinand Ikenna Onuegbu of Ojo, Eze Christian Nwachukwu — now Patron of Ohanaeze Lagos — Eze Arinze of Ikate Surulere, Eze Emmanuel Oparachukwu, and others.

These stories prove one thing: leadership is not a title. It is action. When a school like Honeyland uses Cultural Day to teach pride and values, when an Eze funds Igbo education, when Ohanaeze returns to the grassroots — we are catching them young, and for the right reasons.

This edition is rich, relevant, and worth keeping for posterity. Read it. Share it. Discuss it. The Unique Model remains committed to publishing stories that educate, entertain, and inform — and to holding up a mirror to society when it matters most. Thank you for your trust.

Thank you for reading.

*Felix Mbata* Editor-in-Chief

The Unique Model Magazine May 2026



*At The Unique Model Magazine, we spotlight individuals who embody excellence, inspiring others through their remarkable achievements. We share their stories to motivate and empower our readers to strive for greatness.*

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Chief Okwara lands at the local airport after the historic Enugu meeting, carrying a new mandate - "Igbo man anywhere is my responsibility."



# Chief Livinus Okwara *Meets Ohanaeze PG* Senator Mbata, Outlines Vision as Nna Ndigbo in Lagos

## NNA NDIGBO IN LAGOS

Felix Mbata, Lagos state

**C**hief Livinus Okwara, Igbo visionary leader, philanthropist, and unifying force for Ndigbo worldwide, held a one-on-one discussion with the President General of Ohanaeze Ndigbo Worldwide, Senator John Mbata, during the recent Ime-Obi meeting. The encounter confirmed his standing as an ardent elder in Ohanaeze and set the tone for his continued role in bridging Ndigbo with host communities across Nigeria. As Chairman of Rimax Computer Institution and Vocation Centre and SS Semion and Louisa College, Chief Okwara's influence extends from youth empowerment to advocacy for Igbo interests at state and federal levels.

The Unique Model Magazine learned that the Ime-Obi meeting gave Chief Okwara an opportunity to engage with Igbo leaders who share his vision. Senator Mbata acknowledged his commitment and stated that he would be invited to join Ohanaeze delegations on visits to traditional rulers, governors, the President, and other dignitaries. Senator Mbata also affirmed that he has no objection to Chief Okwara serving as Nna Ndigbo of all Igbos in Lagos, provided the Igbo community in Lagos accepts him.

Chief Okwara attributes his position to verifiable impact rather than rhetoric. He said his work has ensured that Ndigbo in Lagos maintain a sense of belonging with their host



community and other tribes, which he considers essential for peace and progress. His interventions include requesting amnesty measures similar to those granted in Rivers State to ease challenges faced by Igbos in Lagos. Through Rimax Computer, he has organized free training programs for Ndigbo and other tribes, particularly youths. He consistently advocates for federal and state-level programs that benefit Ndigbo and maintains that authorities respond positively when requests follow proper channels.

On national development, Chief Okwara expressed support for President Bola Asiwaju Tinubu, citing projects that benefit the beyond. He highlighted the rehabilitation of the Niger River and Calabar road corridor, improved road links to South Eastern states, and work on the Benin-Ore-Lagos route. He noted that the ongoing Shagamu-Benin road construction further demonstrates progress. Contrasting past and present, he said roads left incomplete under the PDP are now being finished under the APC-led government. He believes these projects,



**Chief Livinus Okwara, arrives the Ime-Obi auditorium in Enugu with his Son Uzor Okwara**

alongside improved state roads, create opportunities for Igbo youths when leveraged through partnership with the federal government.

His message to Ndigbo is centered on belonging, hard work, and peace. He reminded them that Igbos are present in nearly every state, often second only to the



## Pictures speak



TEE CAPTURE

host community in population and enterprise. This presence, he said, makes it possible for an Igbo person to contest and win political positions anywhere in Nigeria. He urged Ndigbo to treat host communities with kindness, as peace protects their wealth, businesses, education, and access to contracts.

Conclusively, with recognition from Ime-Obi and Ohanaeze leadership, Chief Livinus Okwara steps forward as Nna Ndigbo in Lagos with a clear mandate. His approach combines peace with host communities, advocacy for infrastructure and economic inclusion, and patience for sustainable progress. From free youth training at Rimax Computer to lobbying for Igbo amnesty, and from supporting federal road projects

to promoting mutual respect in the diaspora, his leadership reflects a father's responsibility on a national scale. Pictures taken at the meeting captured the moment, and Chief Okwara pledged to remain active in Ohanaeze affairs at the national level going forward.



TEE CAPTURE



## Pictures speak



TEE CAPTURE



# Ichie High Chief Njoku Distributes Palliative Care, Rallies Igbo Support for APC



Ichie High Chief Anselm Njoku

*Felix Mbata, Lagos state*

Ichie High Chief Anselm Njoku, the Lagos State Coordinator for Ndigbo in the Renewed Hope Ambassadors, has thrown his weight behind President Asiwaju Bola Tinubu's re-election bid in 2027, rallying Igbo leaders and groups to support the APC. In a gathering of 57 Local Government Coordinators and various Igbo organizations at his office, Njoku emphasized his commitment to APC and distributed palliative care to grassroots members.

Ichie Okunamiri 1 of Ibeku Mbase Imo State, is also Anatuanu of Igboland, Dike Dinamba of Rivers State, and Akeweje of Alausa Lagos State

The event, which aimed to kick-start the Renewed Hope Ambassadors among Ndigbo in APC, featured a diverse range of Igbo leaders and groups, that pledged to work together to ensure APC's victory in 2027." List below:

**RENEWED HOPE AMBASSADORS (NDIGBO LAGOS): Present are:** 1.57 LGA/LCDA Political Leaders & Coordinators. 2.. Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos represented by Chief Emmanuel Ubah. 3. IGBO Speaking Community Lagos represented by Chief Sunday Udeh-President General. 4. Igbo Market Associations are represented by High Chief Carmilus Amajuoyi-President of Alaba International Market. 5. Igbo Town Unions are represented by Chief Chris Ekeocha - President General.

6. Igbo Market Women Association represented by Hon Nelly Okafor. 7. Igbo Female Lawyers Lagos represented by Barr Carol Mbah. 8. Igbo Youths represented by Comrade Jude Onyeabor. 9. Igbo Women Association Lagos represented by Chief(Dr.Mrs) Jane Chioma Okoro. 10. Ndi Ndu(Ndieze) represented by: (A) Eze Uche Dimgba(Patron); (B) Eze Christian Nwachukwu (Patron). The Vice Chairman of Amuo-Odofin LGA, Hon Maureen Ashara and the Vice Chairman of Ojo LGA, Hon Chimezie Emerem were also present as highest Igbo political leaders in government today in Lagos State.

I am thrilled to see everyone here today, committed to supporting our president and the APC," Njoku said. "We are doing this to kick-start Renewed Hope Ambassadors among Ndigbo, and I'm proud to announce that the palliative care handed over to me by the coordinator of Lagos state, the chief of staff of the governor of Lagos, Tayo Akinmade Ayinde, has been distributed to all local governments and groups."

Njoku explained that the palliative care was distributed to ensure that the benefits of APC's governance reach the grassroots level. "We are not just politicians; we are leaders who care about our people," he said. "We want to ensure that everyone benefits from the good things APC is doing.

# Ichie High Chief Njoku Distributes Palliative Care, Backs Igbo Support for APC



“When asked about the Igbo House in Lagos, Njoku was optimistic. “I told our people that President Asiwaju Bola Tinubu is a man with a good heart,” he said. “If we support him and apply for the Igbo Unity House in Lagos, he will support us. The land is going to be there, and every other thing to do with us will be there.”

Njoku cited the president's track record, saying, “You must see, touch somebody before you describe who he is. I have come close to him, and that's why I say he is a man with a good heart.”

The Eze Ndigbo support, such as Eze Uche Dimgba Okpotemba and Eze Christian Nwachukwu, are set to be patrons of Renewed Hope. Njoku also thanked the market leaders, including High Chief Dr. Camilus Nnamdi Amajuoyi, for their support.

High Chief Dr. Camilus Nnamdi Amajuoyi (Uzochukwuwara), president Alaba International Market Association, Electronics, expressed his gratitude to Njoku for the palliative care. “We are happy to be part of this initiative,” he said. “We will work hard to ensure APC wins in 2027.”

Chief Emmanuel Udoagha Ubah (Otunba Ojoto) also spoke, saying, “We are committed to APC and will work tirelessly to ensure our president wins in 2027.”

Njoku reiterated his commitment to APC, saying,

“Lagos is a beacon of Ndigbo, and we must support the owners of the land. We support APC in Lagos state, so that they will also support us in whatever we want them to do for us.”

When asked why Igbo leaders are backing APC, Njoku explained, “In Lagos state, you have the richest Igbo men and women. This is where we made our riches, and from here, we organize other areas where we do our businesses. So, it makes sense for us to support APC and ensure our president wins in 2027.”

The event showcased unity among Igbo leaders and their commitment to supporting APC and Tinubu's vision for Nigeria. With Njoku's leadership, the Renewed Hope Ambassadors is set to make a significant impact in Lagos State and beyond.



Left to right: Prominent APC member, Ichie Njoku, the Vice Chairman of Amuo-Odofin LGA, Hon Maureen Ashara

## Pictures speak



Ichie Njoku, High Chief Dr. Camilus Nnamdi Amajuoyi





Ichie High Chief Anselm Njoku, Ichie Okunamiri 1 of Ibeku Mbaise Imo State, Anatuanatu of Igboland, Dike Dinamba of Rivers State, and Akeweje of Alausa Lagos State.



Ichie High Chief Anselm Njoku, his wife, Chief Mrs. Christiana N. Njoku



## Preserving Culture, Promoting Unity: The Ichie Njoku Legacy

Felix Mbata, Lagos state

**I**n the heart of Lagos, a revered traditional leader stands tall, championing the preservation of Igbo culture and unity among the Igbo in diaspora. Ichie High Chief Anselm Njoku, a man of many titles, including Ichie Okunamiri 1 of Ibeku Mbaise Imo State, Anatuanatu of Igboland, Dike Dinamba of Rivers State, and Akeweje of Alausa Lagos State, is a beacon of hope for a brighter future.

### A Legacy of Authenticity

Ichie Njoku's credentials are impressive, but it's his passion for preserving Igbo culture that truly sets him apart. "Royalty belongs to the owner of the land," he asserts, criticizing those who misuse titles for personal gain. He explains, "I come from a traditional origin. My grandfather was a warrant chief made by Lord Lugard

in 1919. Our ezeship was customized to our family for many years until it was rationalized. I know about traditions, and that's why I'm against it (misuse of titles)."

The South East Council of Traditional Rulers' decision to adopt "Onyendu Ndigbo" and drop "Eze Ndigbo" titles outside Igboland resonates with Ichie Njoku's long-held stance. "It's a step in the right direction," he says. "Nobody should answer His Royal Highness, His Royal Majesty, or Imperial Majesty outside Igboland. It's not our custom and tradition."

### Upholding Tradition and Promoting Unity

As a key figure in reconciling rival factions in Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos State, Ichie Njoku advocates for unity and authentic leadership. He supports the upcoming Lagos State Ohanaeze Ndigbo election,



### Display of Ichie Certificate

Ichie High Chief Anselm Njoku, His Royal Majesty Eze (Dr) Onyekachi Enyinnaya Ukpabi, Igwe Odenigbo Eku Obajiubi Ibeku 1st (Head) of Ibeku Clan on 23rd December, 2024. Left is Christian Njoku, right is Igwe wife.

emphasizing the need for leaders who demonstrate integrity, genuine activities, and a commitment to Igbo culture.

### What qualities should a leader have?

"A leader should have integrity, be active in Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos State programs, and have a second address (work or business location)," Ichie Njoku responds.

### What are your thoughts on the upcoming Lagos State Ohanaeze Ndigbo election?

"The election is a welcome development. We need leaders who will promote unity and authentic Igbo culture. I'm supporting Chief Solomon Ogonna Aguene's leadership, and I believe he will do a great job."

### Promoting Igbo Culture

Ichie Njoku champions the preservation of Igbo culture, suggesting initiatives such as dancing competitions, Igbo Town Hall meetings, beauty pageants, and Igbo Women Day festivals with cooking competitions.



Coronation of Ichie High Chief Anselm Njoku, by His Royal Majesty Eze (Dr) Onyekachi Enyinnaya Ukpabi, Igwe Odenigbo Eku Obajiubi Ibeku 1st (Head) of Ibeku Clan on 23rd December, 2024.

### How can we promote Igbo culture beyond the New Yam festival?

"We should organize events that showcase our culture, like dancing competitions and cooking competitions. We should also bring our women together to deliberate on how to satisfy their husbands and children."

### What role can Ohanaeze Ndigbo play in promoting Igbo culture?

"Ohanaeze Ndigbo should organize cultural events, support Igbo language and music, and promote Igbo traditions. We should also collaborate with other Igbo organizations to achieve our goals."

### Building Bridges with Yoruba Hosts

Ichie Njoku emphasizes the importance of building cordial relationships with Yoruba hosts, respecting local customs, and participating in community development.

### How can Igbos build stronger relationships with Yorubas?

"We should respect their customs and traditions, participate in community development, and pay homage to their

traditional rulers. We are tenants in their land, and we should be grateful for their hospitality."

**What message do you have for Igbo youths about preserving their cultural heritage?**

"Igbo youths should take pride in their culture and traditions. They should learn Igbo language, participate in cultural events, and promote Igbo heritage. We are proud of our culture, and we should preserve it for future generations."

**A Vision for the Future**

Ichie Njoku's leadership and vision inspire Igbo leaders and the broader Nigerian society. His commitment to cultural preservation, unity, and authentic



Ichie High Chief Anselm Njoku, his wife, Chief Mrs. Christiana N. Njoku

leadership is a beacon of hope for a brighter future.

As we conclude our conversation with Ichie Njoku, we are reminded of the importance of preserving Igbo cultural heritage and promoting

unity among Igbo people. Ichie Njoku's commitment to Igbo culture and his tireless efforts to promote unity and authenticity is a beacon of hope for a brighter future. We thank him for sharing his insights and vision with us, and we are confident that his legacy will continue to inspire generations to come. Ichie Njoku's legacy will live on.



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## Eze Njoku Congratulates Okafor on Ohanaeze Lagos Victory, Counsels Godly Leadership, Vows Never to Abandon Igbo School and Culture



***“If our language dies, our tribe dies” — Eze insists on permanent land for Ndigbo School and Culture***

*Felix Mbata, Lagos state*

**H**is Excellency Eze Ambassador Nicholas Emenike Njoku, *Eziokwu bu Ndu 1 of Abazu, Eze Ohazuru-mee of Ejigbo LCDA and Chairman, Ndi Eze Imo in South West and Diaspora, has congratulated Chief Leonard Okafor (Oba Ojoto) on his victory as President, Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos State, in the 2026 election held in Lagos.*

Speaking exclusively to The Unique Model Magazine, Eze Njoku used the occasion to counsel the new president, renew his personal vow to sustain Igbo School and culture in Lagos, and challenge Ndigbo groups to abandon tenancy for permanent land.

“I congratulate Chief Okafor. My advice is simple: be yourself. The Holy Spirit lives in us and speaks to us daily if we listen. The Bible says the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom. When you fear God, you will take decisions with the fear of God. Knowledge can come from man, but wisdom comes from God,” Eze Njoku said.

He warned Okafor not to be “president of one group,” insisting, “He is president of all Igbos in Lagos. He should work on the unity of everybody. Igbos are billionaires. Most of our previous

leaders focused on politicians and government support, but we can create wealth in Lagos. God gave us what it takes to make money anywhere. We don't need to depend on government support. I wish Chief Okafor success in his tenure.”

***“I Will Not Give Up” — Vow on Igbo School and Culture***

Eze Njoku restated his commitment to Igbo language preservation, a mission sparked by a United Nations publication years ago that projected Igbo language toward extinction. “It struck my mind. I said, how can our language go? If Igbo language is no longer in existence, nothing like Igbo tribe again. It is our language that gives us that full ground to say we are Igbos, legitimate people of Nigeria,” he explained.

To counter that projection, he established an Igbo School in his vicinity, paying teachers, providing uniforms, custodians, and writing materials “with my own money. I haven't asked anyone for money. I am doing it on my own to ensure Igbo language stands and to prove the United Nations wrong.”

The school's permanent site was unveiled last November, but Eze Njoku lamented that



“no significant contribution came up. I am still calling on our Igbo brothers and sisters to come up with their support. I am still struggling to build the place, but I have been doing it alone.”

His resolve remains firm: “It is a project I will never give up. Instead of me to give up, I will sell my properties to ensure the success is achieved. What is worth doing should be well done. It is my principle of life and it is working for me.”

He clarified the motive: “I am not embarking on this project for my name to be glorified or known by anyone. I am backing it to promote our language, our culture, and everything about Ndigbo across the globe.”

Plans are underway to take Igbo teaching global through online platforms. “We are planning to teach Ndigbo globally through online teaching. We have website and YouTube for Ndigbo to log in and learn Igbo language across the globe. We are not only teaching the language; we also teach Igbo culture so that our children will learn.”

He charged other Ezes in Lagos to create space in their palaces for weekly Igbo classes if they cannot build schools. “Parables cannot die. They distinguish us in a gathering with other tribes. Even in the Bible, parables are used to teach people. Wise men and women use parables to express issues.”

On Peace, Unity, and Permanent Land for Ndigbo  
Eze Njoku also reflected on his three-year mediation that ended the rift between Chief Solomon



Ogbonna Aguene and Chief Sunday Ossai in Ohanaeze Lagos. “I wouldn't say I succeeded alone because a tree cannot make a forest. I played my role. I met Chief Aguene, I met Ossai. I invited them not one time. It took me about three years confronting both parties to ensure we have peace, and by God's grace it was successful at the end.”

He explained the sacrifice: “I am an Igbo man. I love progress and peace for Ndigbo in Lagos and beyond because without peace no progress. It cost me a lot — my time, my energy, and talking to them. Let's keep the monetary aspect. I played a lot of roles and God crowned it at the last minute to ensure things work well for Ohanaeze Ndigbo in Lagos State.”

On recurring litigation among Ndigbo, he backed conflict resolution committees but cautioned: “The issue is getting good people to handle it. We don't want people that create problems to come and settle the same people. Conflict resolution should be handled by people of high integrity who will not compromise.”

He then posed a blunt question to Ndigbo groups: “I am fully involved in Igbo Speaking Community and Ohanaeze Ndigbo. The two groups have no quarter plot of land in Lagos State. I asked the question the day they were conducting election. We were in Enugwu Hall. They said they paid money to use the place. I said, 'Is it not a shame to you people, to be renting hall?' The groups can generate money, but the issue is transparency. If we have transparent leaders to give account of money, we can do what we want.”

Eze Njoku's message to Chief Okafor, Igbo School, and Ndigbo





in Lagos is unified: victory is not the end, it is a mandate for permanence. To Okafor — lead with God's wisdom and unite all. To Igbo School — build a legacy on owned land, not borrowed space. To Ndigbo groups — end the era of renting halls; own land, build identity. As

Chief Okafor assumes office and Eze Njoku refuses to quit, one principle binds them: culture without land is folklore. Culture with land is a future. For Ndigbo in Lagos, the time to buy, build, and belong is now.



## EZE NJOKU: ICON OF PEACE AND INTEGRITY - IAWPA ROYAL FATHER AND LEADER

*Felix Mbata, Lagos State*

***A Beacon of Hope in Lagos: Eze Ambassador Nicholas Emenike Njoku, Eziokwu bu Ndu, Champions Harmony and Truth***

Meet Eze Njoku, a revered leader and Royal Father of the International Association of World Peace Advocates (IAWPA), who has dedicated his life to promoting peace and love in his community and beyond. As a symbol of integrity, he's instrumental in fostering harmony among Igbo leaders, including brokering peace between Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos leaders, and empowering women while upholding biblical values. His unwavering commitment to truth has earned him recognition as a true peace builder and a blessing to Nigeria and the world.

With a name that means 'Truth is Life', Eze Njoku has been exhibiting the love of peace and truthfulness for over 10 years, even before he was crowned Eze. His passion for promoting peace and love has earned him respect and admiration, including an APPRECIATION AWARDS for his outstanding contribution from groups and leaders in Nigeria and international.



As a leader, Eze Njoku is known for his accommodating nature, hatred for liars and troublemakers, and commitment to truth. He's a contented man who can't be bought over with wealth or material possessions. His vision for peace has made him a prominent figure in Igbo Community.

In a recent interview, Eze Njoku emphasized the importance of promoting women's rights with the fear of God, saying, "Fear of God is the beginning of wisdom... men and women cannot be of the same equal, they cannot be of the same level of right in a family." He believes in empowering women while maintaining the headship of men, citing biblical principles.

As the Royal Father of IAWPA, Eze Njoku plays a significant role in promoting peace and appointing new ambassadors. He recently officiated the 2026 International Women's Day celebration, where he appointed new ambassadors and emphasized the importance of peace and harmony.

Eze Njoku's efforts in promoting peace and love have made a significant impact, and his integrity has earned him a reputation as a trustworthy leader. As he continues to champion peace and truth, he remains a blessing to Igbo Community, Nigeria, and beyond.



## LAW OF PEACE: BARRISTER SEIDU EMBRACES IAWPA MANTLE AS PEACE AMBASSADOR

Felix Mbata, Lagos state

In a resounding endorsement of the power of peace and women's empowerment, Barrister David Adinoye Seidu, a distinguished lawyer and conflict resolution expert, has been appointed a new ambassador of peace by the International Association of World Peace Advocates (IAWPA) Lagos state chapter. This prestigious recognition comes as the world celebrates the 2026 International Women's Day, with the theme 'GIVE and GAIN'.

Barrister Seidu, a stalwart advocate for peace and harmony, was drawn to IAWPA's mission because of its unwavering commitment to promoting humanity. "Peace is something as human we are expected to pursue... I've been craving to be a peace ambassador, and I'm happy I was appointed," he says, echoing the sentiments of many who've witnessed his tireless efforts in conflict resolution.

As a seasoned lawyer, Barrister Seidu's duties often involve mediating disputes and finding amicable solutions. His passion for peace is matched only by his dedication to empowering women, whom he believes are an integral part of society. "Women are able-bodied, smart, and powerful," he emphasizes. "We must recognize their importance and abilities, and work towards creating a more inclusive and equitable world."

The appointment has galvanized Barrister

Seidu's resolve to promote peace and women's empowerment. "I'll continue to resolve disputes, extend a hand of fellowship, and serve humanity," he pledges. His vision is clear: to harness the power of peace to transform individuals, communities, and society at large.



Barrister Seidu praises the organizers of the event, saying, "I appreciate them and encourage them to keep recognizing members of society who've distinguished themselves." He also lauds the women in his life, particularly his mother, sister, wife, and daughter, who've inspired him to be a better person. "They're the reason I keep going," he says, dedicating his work to them and all women.

The IAWPA event was a testament to the impact of collective effort in promoting peace and women's empowerment. Barrister Seidu's appointment is a shining example of what's possible when individuals and organizations come together to champion a common cause.

As he embarks on this new role, Barrister Seidu's message is clear: "Giving opens doors of improvement... There's a lot of gain in giving." His commitment to peace, women's empowerment, and humanity is an inspiration to us all.

# EMPOWERING WOMEN, ENRICHING NIGERIA

By Felix Mbata, Lagos State

As the Lagos State Director of the International Association of World Peace Advocates, I, Ambassador Owolabi Owolowo, am honored to share the highlights of our International Women's Day Celebration 2026. The event, held on March 6th, 2026, brought together distinguished guests, respected leaders, esteemed women, and gentlemen to recognize the extraordinary strength, resilience, and impact of women across Nigeria and the world.

In my welcome address, I emphasized the significance of the 2026 theme, "Give to Gain", highlighting the importance of women's contributions to nation-building, leadership, and progress. "When women give their time, they gain influence. When women give their knowledge, they gain legacy. When women give love, they build unity. When women give courage, they achieve victory."

I challenged women to give their talents, voice, leadership, and excellence, assuring them that "when you give your best, the world gives you recognition. When you give value, you gain relevance. And when you give impact, you gain honour."

The celebration was a testament to the power of women's empowerment, recognizing the remarkable women who have given selflessly and gained greatness. We celebrated young girls with bold dreams and unstoppable determination, and every woman pushing forward despite challenges.

As we move forward, I urge everyone to commit to giving more support, collaboration, and opportunities, so that together we may gain a future filled with equality, prosperity, and peace.

In conclusion, let us carry the spirit of giving every woman and girl the courage to continue pushing boundaries, breaking barriers, and achieving greatness. Let us continue to support and uplift each other, fostering a world where women can thrive and reach their full potential.

Thank you, and may God bless our women, Lagos State, IAWPA, and the Federal Republic of Nigeria.



Ambassador Owolabi Owolowo



Ambassador Owolabi Owolowo dancing with his wife at the event



# EZE CHRISTIAN NWACHUKWU CONGRATULATES OBA OJOTO AS NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENT

KINGSLEY EBERE

Eze Dr Christian Uchechukwu Nwachukwu, a renowned Igbo Community leader, has sent a congratulatory message to Chief Leonard Okafor (Oba Ojoto) on his victory as the newly elected President of Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos State.

P.M.EXPRESS reports that the election, held on 6th April, 2026, was a significant milestone for the organization, and Oba Ojoto's emergence as president marks a new era of leadership.

In his statement, Dr. Nwachukwu, who has served in various capacities in Ohanaeze, including the Elders/Stakeholders Council of Ndieze in Lagos State, described the election as "free, fair, smooth, colourful, and peaceful".

He praised the electoral committee led by Mr. Calistus Odoemena for conducting a successful election, which reflected the will of the people.

Eze Nwachukwu described the election of Oba Ojoto as a right step for Ndigbo because he will bring his wealth of experience as former Alaba International market leader to unite and restore peace in Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos State.

He congratulated Oba Ojoto and his team, including Nze Edwin Egboka (Eze Eziokwu) as Deputy, Chief Princess Nkem Igwe as Women Leader, and Chief Mike as Secretary.

Eze Nwachukwu, who is also Ochi Agha in Obodoukwu town in Imo State, extended his congratulations to Chief Solomon Aguene and Chief Sunday Ossai for promoting peace, enabling the election to take place.

He urged other members of the executives to

support and show loyalty to President Oba Ojoto, avoiding bickering that could hinder the progress of the leadership.

Nwachukwu emphasized the importance of unity and cooperation in Ohanaeze, appealing to all members to pray for the success of the new administration. He noted that the new leadership has a big task ahead, to unite and restore peace in Ohanaeze.

The congratulatory message from Nwachukwu is a significant endorsement of Oba Ojoto's leadership, reflecting the confidence of stakeholders in his ability to lead Ohanaeze's forward. Oba Ojoto's presidency is expected to bring stability and progress to the organization.

As Ohanaeze Ndigbo moves forward, the leadership of Oba Ojoto is expected to build on the organization's strengths, promoting unity and cooperation among members. Dr. Nwachukwu support and guidance will likely play a significant role in shaping

the organization's direction.

The new leadership has a challenging task ahead, but with the support of members, they are expected to succeed.

His appeal to members to pray for the success of the new administration is a call to action, emphasizing the importance of collective effort in achieving Ohanaeze's goals.

Dr. Nwachukwu's congratulatory message has set a positive tone for Ohanaeze Ndigbo's future, emphasizing unity, support, and cooperation. The organization looks forward to a bright future under Oba Ojoto's leadership.

*Culled: P.M.EXPRESS*



# OHANAEZE NDIGBO CONFERS EZE CHRISTIAN NWACHUKWU AS PATRON IN LAGOS STATE



KINGSLEY EBERE

Top Igbo community leader, Eze Dr. Christian Uchechukwu Nwachukwu, has been conferred with the honour as the Patron of Ohanaeze Ndigbo, Lagos State Chapter.

P.M.EXPRESS reports that the honour was bestowed on him by the President of Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos State, Chief Leonard Okafor, popularly known as Oba Ojoto, during the group's General Assembly meeting held in Surulere, Lagos.

The well-attended meeting drew prominent Igbo traditional leaders, community stakeholders, market leaders, men and women, as well as members of Ohanaeze Ndigbo from various Local Council Areas across Lagos State.

The atmosphere was festive as cultural troupes performed traditional Igbo music and dances to welcome guests. The event also featured prayers for peace, unity, and the progress of Ndigbo in Lagos.

While conferring the title on Eze Nwachukwu, who is also known by his traditional title "Ochi Agha" of Obodoukwu town, Chief Okafor described him as a man of integrity whose contributions to the Igbo cause have been consistent and impactful.

Oba Ojoto explained that Eze Nwachukwu was found worthy of the award because of his outstanding leadership qualities, philanthropy, and unwavering passion for the welfare of Ndigbo in Lagos State and across Nigeria.

He noted that the Grand Patron title is reserved for individuals who have demonstrated selfless service, defended Igbo interests, and invested personal resources in community development, conflict resolution, and youth empowerment.

In his acceptance speech, Eze Dr. Christian Nwachukwu expressed gratitude to Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos State for the recognition. He pledged to continue to use his position to promote unity among Ndigbo and to strengthen the relationship between Igbos and their host communities.

"This honour is not for me alone but for every Igbo man and woman striving to live peacefully and contribute meaningfully in Lagos," he said.

"As Grand Patron, I will work with the leadership to ensure our people are protected, respected, and given a voice."

Several dignitaries who spoke at the event lauded the choice of Eze Nwachukwu, describing him as a bridge-builder who has mediated in market disputes, supported widows, and sponsored cultural programmes that preserve Igbo heritage in the diaspora.

Chief Okafor concluded by calling on all Igbos in Lagos to rally around the new Patron and the state executive to foster peace, progress, and development. He added that Ohanaeze remains committed to promoting the social, economic, and cultural interests of Ndigbo wherever they reside.

*Culled: P.M.EXPRESS*

# 'A New Beginning': Ohanaeze President Okafor Returns Power To LGAs, Markets; Vows Partnership With Lagos State

*At first stakeholders' meeting, Oba Ojoto ends Surulere era, declares Alaba, Ladipo, Balogun as Ohanaeze branches; says "Lagos is our landlord"*

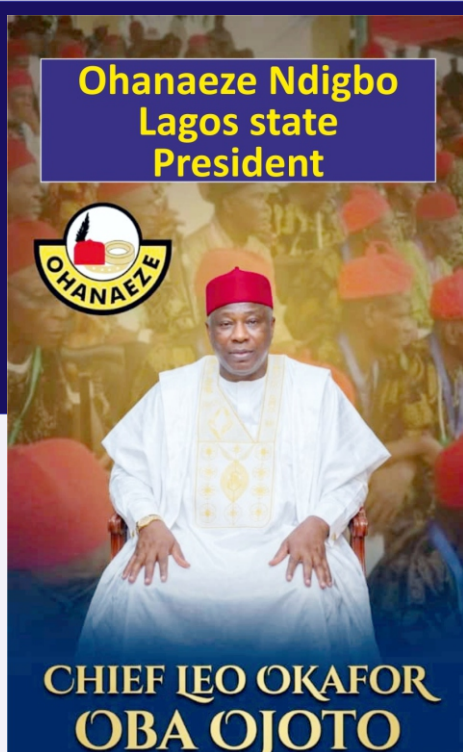
*Felix Mbata, Lagos state*

**C**hief Leonard Okafor, Oba Ojoto, on Saturday declared "a new beginning" for Ndigbo in Lagos as he chaired his first meeting as President of Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos State, unveiling a grassroots restructure that takes Ohanaeze meetings out of Surulere and into all 57 Local Government Areas.

Speaking to *The Unique Model* at Calabar Hall — which he announced would host its "last Ohanaeze meeting" — Okafor said his emergence ended eight years of division after he brokered peace between former presidents Sunday Ossai and president Solomon Aguenue to produce "one single election."

"As at today, Ohanaeze is one," he said. "What I am telling the Igbo Community across the globe is that there is a new beginning in Lagos State."

The meeting drew massive turnout: over 90 percent of Ndieze, past Ohanaeze leaders, women, and youth groups. "They believe the person coming now will transform Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos State," Okafor noted. "They know I can do something great."



**THE RESTRUCTURE: FROM CALABAR HALL TO 57 LGAs AND MARKETS**

Okafor's flagship agenda is returning Ohanaeze "back to the base."

"Ohanaeze is in local government, Ohanaeze is not in state," he told *The Unique Model*. "Every other time we have meetings will be in various local governments. Maybe the next one will be at Ikeja — all 57 Local Governments will converge at Ikeja. The next one may be Ibeju, Badagry. We are going round again, to do Ohanaeze as we used to do it before."

Major markets will now be formal structures: "Alaba will be a branch of Ohanaeze, Balogun will be a branch, Ladipo will be a branch — so that when Ohanaeze speaks, all the Igbos in Lagos will speak."

He announced a Council of Past Leaders as "the highest decision-making body" and "image makers" of Ohanaeze Lagos. "If the government of Ohanaeze fails, they take over until a new government is

formed. If there is conflict, they settle it. Their words should be final.”

### **'WE WILL RENEGOTIATE WITH OUR LANDLORD'**

**On Lagos State relations, Okafor was clear: partnership, not rivalry.**

“We cannot be bigger than our master. Lagos State is our landlord, we are not competing with them,” he said. “We are going to join Lagos and partner with them to make sure there is progress. Lagos State, Yoruba people are accommodating people. They make us feel like this is our real home.”

He defined “renegotiate” as political pragmatism: “You can never be more than the owners of the house... If you are looking for ten councilors in Local Government and they said take three, we keep seven, we will accept. We give our votes. Yorubas are an accommodative tribe.”

The aim, he said, is to “use our numerical strength” through organization. “If we are here with all our numerical strength and we are not organized, everything will become a minority.”

### **RECONCILIATION UNDERWAY**

Okafor confirmed direct outreach to leaders outside Ohanaeze. “I have called Mr. Osewoke personally, I have called Ubochi, I have called Robert. The day I was elected, I did voice mail to

them and they returned my call. We have already engaged each other.”

“I can sacrifice to ensure we get peace. Very soon you will hear that Ohanaeze is one in Lagos State.”

### **CONCLUSION**

For Chief Leo Okafor, Saturday's Calabar Hall meeting was both a funeral and a birth — the burial of “eight years of problem” and the birth of a grassroots, market-driven Ohanaeze that speaks with one voice.

By taking meetings to Ikeja, Badagry, Ibeju, and turning Alaba, Ladipo, and Balogun into Ohanaeze branches, he is betting that power flows up from the people, not down from Surulere.

His message to Lagos State is deference without weakness: “We will partner politically, economically, socially, culturally.” His message to Ndigbo is unity with purpose: “All Igbos in Lagos State should come together now. We already have an umbrella.”

To those who voted him in, he promised results, not rhetoric: “What I will do will surprise them. What we have started today will show their voting me in will not be in vain.”

If Okafor delivers, this “new beginning” may be remembered as the day Ohanaeze Lagos stopped meeting to talk — and started organizing to negotiate.





**Picture of some Ndieze, President General Igbo Speaking Community,  
Former president of Ohanaeze Chief Solomon Ogbonna Aguene  
and others at Secretariat**



Pastor James Ajibola Alayande, Honeyland Chairman at the event



From left: School administrator, Pastor James Alayande presenting gift to Yeye Bobaselu, school principal



Eze Njoku, Alhaji Haruna, receiving gifts from the chairman of the school, Pastor James Ajibola Alayande

## Culture Meets Class: Honeyland College Ipaja Dazzles At 2026 Cultural Day, As Parents, Leaders Hail 30 Years Of Excellence

Exotic cars, tribal royalty, academic awards: How Pastor Ajibola Alayande's Honeyland set Ipaja aglow on April 17, 2026

*Felix Mbata, Lagos state*

The gates of Honeyland College, Ipaja, swung open on April 17, 2026, and Nigeria walked in.

From the swirl of Aso Oke to the grace of Isi Agu, the elegance of Babban Riga to the rhythm of

talking drums, the school compound was set ablaze with color, culture, and class for the 2026 Cultural Day themed "Our Culture, Our Pride."

It was more than an event. It was a festival. Exotic cars lined the premises as proud parents, royal fathers, and community leaders arrived to witness a tradition that has defined Honeyland for over three decades. Students beamed in heritage attire, security was water-tight, and joy hung in the air like confetti — a living proof that at Honeyland,

excellence is not taught in silence; it is celebrated in sound, style, and substance.

For Chairman Pastor James Alayande, a man whose wisdom and commitment to education have become legend in Ipaja, the massive turnout was no surprise. “I am glad that students and their parents are happy with what is going on,” he told The Unique Model, flanked by Igbo, Yoruba, and Hausa leaders who unanimously hailed the school's standard. “This programme will continue with other school activities.”

### THE HONEYLAND DIFFERENCE: WHY AWARDS FOLLOW EXCELLENCE

**Honeyland College isn't just celebrating culture** — it's creating future leaders. The school's DNA is built on three pillars:

1. **Comprehensive Curriculum:** From Science and ICT to Home Economics and Basic Technology, Honeyland equips students for a global future without losing local roots.
2. **Standard Boarding:** Parents sleep easy knowing their children live in safe, secure facilities where hygiene is non-negotiable.
3. **Sound Moral & Academic Excellence:** Character and competence walk hand in hand here.

### The results speak loud. Honeyland's trophy cabinet tells the story:

- Best Junior Secondary School in Lagos State, Education Quality Assurance, Ministry of Education — October 16, 2025.
- Winner, Ilera Eko Standard Health Plan at Lagos State Ekosha Event.
- Triumph at the 9th National International Music and Academic Awards.
- “Future Leaders Speak Out” honors at the Encounter 2025 Debate Competition.

As one parent put it: “Because Honeyland is up to standard, that is why we left our children here. They have what it takes to groom children.”

### HIGHLIGHTS: GIFTS, COOKING, AND UNITY The 2026 Cultural Day wasn't just pageantry. It was

### purposeful.

Chairman Pastor Alayande presented special gifts to all tribal leaders — Igbo, Yoruba, and Hausa — a gesture that drew applause and cemented Honeyland's role as a unifying force in Ipaja. Students thrilled guests with cooking evaluations, turning indigenous recipes into lessons in heritage and home management.

Leaders across ethnic lines were unanimous: “Good things are happening in this school.”

### CONCLUSION –

When the drums faded and the last photo was taken on April 17, one truth remained: Honeyland College is not just a school. It is a statement. A statement that you can raise children who code in Python and cook ofe nsala; who win national debates and recite oriki; who top JSS rankings in Lagos and still bow to greet an elder.

For over 30 years, Pastor James Alayande has watered this vision, and on Cultural Day 2026, Ipaja saw it blossom. Exotic cars may have left the premises, but the pride drove home with every parent.

Honeyland College, Ipaja — where Our Culture is Our Pride, and Excellence is Our Standard. Admissions ongoing. Visit Honeyland College, Ipaja, and see why leaders trust us to groom the future.



**"I PROMOTE IGBO CULTURE ANYWHERE I GO":  
EZE NJOKU LAUDS  
HONEYLAND COLLEGE CHAIRMAN, MANAGEMENT,  
VOWS TO FUND IGBO LANGUAGE TEACHERS**

*Royal Father at 2026 Cultural Day  
says school is foundation for saving heritage —  
Charges parents, tech, and Ezes:  
"Without language, no tribe"*

**Felix Mbata, Lagos state**

***When His Excellency Eze Ambassador Nicholas Emenike Njoku, Eziokwu bu Ndu I of Abazu, Eze Ohazuru-mee of Ejigbo LCDA and Chairman, Ndi Eze Imo in South West and Diaspora, stepped into Honeyland College, Ipaja on 17th April, 2026 as Royal Father of the school's Cultural Day themed "One Culture, Our Pride", he did not come to sit. He came to serve culture.***



**Eze Njoku**

"I feel very glad. I am honoured to be Royal Father today," he told The Unique Model Magazine. "It means what I am representing about Igbo culture and tradition is noticed by other tribes. I was amazed and happy to be nominated and invited.

"But Eze Njoku's joy quickly turned to action. Already renowned for establishing an Igbo School in Lagos — paying teachers, funding uniforms and running costs from personal resources while building a permanent site — he discovered Honeyland had no Igbo teachers and did not teach Igbo language. His response was immediate: a public request to the school management to integrate Igbo into the curriculum, with a vow to provide and pay the teachers himself.

"School is the foundation of knowledge. This is where they teach all languages before university," he said. "Igbo culture and tradition is what I am working for and spending my money and time to establish here in Lagos. This was the right place and time to

deliver that message as a Custodian of Igbo Tradition. I will follow it up to ensure that it is done."

**"THE CHAIRMAN AND MANAGEMENT ARE DOING GREAT WORK"**

Even as he challenged the school to do more for Igbo language, Eze Njoku was generous in praise for his hosts. "The chairman and the school management are doing great work. I saw different things that day. They have set a standard," he said. "I advise all participants to continue to support the school to continue to wax strong."

That balance — commendation plus conviction — defined his Royal Father role. He celebrated Honeyland's excellence while insisting excellence must include indigenous languages. "One Culture, Our Pride" cannot be complete, he implied, if one of Nigeria's major cultures is absent from the classroom.

**ON YOUTHS, PARENTS, AND "OLD FASHION"**

## CULTURE

Asked how to convince young people who dismiss tradition as “old fashion,” Eze Njoku agreed with them — then corrected the adults.

“The young ones are 100 percent right to see it that way. When we grew up, our parents told us stories and history. Now parents don’t tell such stories. We are in the computer age,” he noted. “But the basic thing is that we have work to do — the parent work. We must transmit that culture and tradition to our children.”

He added: “The children have the right to feel it is old fashion, but we must make them know they too will become 'old fashion' as we are now, in no distant time. So it is our role to establish it in them by practicing our language and dialect at home. They are free to learn other languages in school, but we parents should teach them our language and culture at home. English is for business and relating with other tribes. But once your language is gone, your identity is gone. You are gone.”



Pastor James Ajibola Alayande,  
Honeyland Chairman at the event

## THE LANGUAGE IS FADING — SCHOOLS MUST ACT

Eze Njoku identified Igbo language as the fastest-fading element of culture, citing a UN projection that it could face extinction in 15 years. “That is why I picked up Igbo School. The main key schools need to focus on is the Igbo language. When you speak the language, other things will follow,” he said.

He lamented that Biblical proverbs and parables — traditional teaching tools — “are being kept by the side,” while “politics working through the school is also part of the problem.” His solution: “We the traditional rulers must keep pushing until the children

understand. The language is the key and it must start from every home — mother, father, seniors, uncles. We must practice our local languages at home to protect it.”

## DRESSING THE PART, PLAYING THE PART

On why he never appears at events without full Ezeship attire, he was clear: “It is not about office dressing. As an Eze, we have roles, reputation, regulations. We have a dress code that gives the Eze distinction. We must represent that name we are bearing.”

“Many people are looking up to us. Sometimes I am walking on the street, and people who want to know an Eze will easily identify me. So that is why we always represent that name and that position.”

## TECHNOLOGY: THE LIFELINE TO DIASPORA CHILDREN

Eze Njoku sees digital platforms as non-negotiable for cultural survival. “Technology has a lot of role to play. I



Eze Njoku, receiving gift from the chairman of the school, Pastor James Ajibola Alayande

am praying and hoping that God brings money and people that will sponsor the technology part of it, because it will make it easier and faster," he said.

"There are people in America, Canada, Europe, and Asia who have stayed 10 to 15 years and have not come back to Africa. Their children have no experience of our culture and language. But if they go through global internet teaching — with scheduled days where people will see it — they will learn the language, learn the culture."

"The only challenge is the financial part, which is very intensive. But it is a must for easy transmission of information."

#### **CHARGE TO TRIBAL LEADERS: NO LANGUAGE, NO TRIBE**

To fellow traditional rulers at the event, his message was blunt: "I charge them to encourage our languages, to ensure that our children take off from us. Without our language, no tribe. Without Hausa language, no Hausa. Igbo, Yoruba — same thing will happen if we allow our language to die. I charge everyone to ensure our languages are striving well for our generation to sustain it to another generation."

#### **CONCLUSION: ANYWHERE I GO, IGBO CULTURE GOES**

Eze Njoku's appearance at Honeyland College proved one thing: he promotes Igbo culture anywhere he goes — classrooms, palaces, or cultural days. He appreciates excellence, as shown in his commendation of Honeyland's chairman



Eze Njoku, Alhaji Ahmed Haruna, discussing at the event



Igbo students displaying Igbo attire and culture



Eze Njoku greeting distinguished fellow distinguished personalities

and management, but he refuses to let appreciation become silence where language is missing.

From vowing to fund Igbo teachers, to urging parents to speak Igbo at home, to pushing for tech-enabled global classes, his philosophy is simple: culture is kept by action, not applause.

On 17th April, 2026, "One Culture, Our Pride" found a Royal Father who believes pride begins with language. And for Eze Njoku, until Igbo is taught, spoken, and streamed, the work is not done.

The Unique Model Magazine  
18th April, 2026



Eze Njoku, Alhaji Haruna, receiving gifts from the chairman of the school, Pastor James Ajibola Alayande



## **“WE ARE ONE NIGERIA”: ALHAJI HARUNA, SERIKI OF ALIMOSHO HAILS HONEYLAND COLLEGE FOR REVIVING CULTURE, PRAISES SCHOOL CHAIRMAN, MANAGEMENT**

*Seriki of Alimosho says parents must teach tradition at home, commends Eze Njoku friendship, urges schools to add native languages —*

Felix Mbata, Lagos state

As Honeyland College, Ipaja celebrated its 2026 Cultural Day themed “One Culture, Our Pride”, one of the most colourful voices in the hall was Alhaji Ahmed Haruna, the overall Seriki of Alimosho Local Government, who attended as a distinguished community leader.

“My name is Alhaji Ahmed Haruna, Seriki overall Alimosho Local Government,” he told The Unique Model Magazine. “When a school is talking about culture, they are calling us, as community leaders in Lagos State. Whenever they call you, you must come — to grace the occasion, to make the children happy. This is what they will see in you that will make them love their culture.”

### **PARENTS, NOT CHILDREN, ARE THE PROBLEM**

Asked why many youths from all tribes now see culture as “old fashion,” Alhaji Haruna placed the blame squarely on homes, not children.

“The problem there is about their parents. Parents are talking to their children to go to the beach, to foreign food eateries. Wherever the children want to go, they take them there, without showing them culture, traditional foods, and places. If you don't show them, the children will not recognize culture,” he said.

“Some schools will not teach them culture and tradition. But we have some schools trying to bring the culture alive, like what is happening today. It is a remarkable programme. We are happy to see them bring culture alive more than before. Whatever contributions we have to give them, we make sure we help them out.”



### **NORTH WEARS NATIVE DAILY — SOUTH MUST COPY**

On attire fading among tribes, with Hausa men now wearing suits and jeans in the South West, the Seriki drew a sharp contrast:

“It only happens in the South West. In the North, most of our people always wear native. They work from Monday to Friday wearing native. If you check our governors, they wear native most of the time.”

### **“EZE NJOKU IS MY GOOD FRIEND” — A MODEL FOR ONE NIGERIA**

Alhaji Haruna's presence reflected the unity Honeyland preached. He spoke warmly of his relationship with Eze Ambassador Nicholas Emenike Njoku, Eze Ohazuru-mee of Ejigbo.

“We should be looking at ourselves like we are all human beings, one Nigeria. Getting closer to each other makes us friends for today and the future, so that we start doing things together,” he said. “Eze

Njoku is my good friend. Almost a year ago we met in a programme. There was a day I was doing my culture day, I had all the Igbos in Alimosho in my palace. So we are doing things together to encourage unity and peaceful co-existence. I am also in good relationship with Eze Ndigbo of Alimosho.”

“When Igbos are doing events and invite me, I will attend with my cabinet to grace the occasion. Likewise, when they are doing things I will attend if I am invited. We always hope to be working together, because we are one Nigeria, and we should think as brothers.”

### HORSE, REGALIA, REALITY: TEACHING BY EXAMPLE

The Hausa youths stole the show when they rode a horse into the auditorium, dressed in full regalia. Alhaji Haruna revealed the secret:

“As long as one wants to learn something well, the person will meet the traditional ruler on the matter. There is no way they meet the leaders that they will not be taught well on how to do it. So my youths are very close to us, and we do teach them how to exhibit our culture and tradition.”

“Even the cloth you saw the horse wearing is my own cloth. It is my cloth and I use it when I want to climb the horse and move around the area. So, we gave it to them, knowing that this is what they should look like. They should look on what is called the reality of our culture of Hausa in Nigeria.”

On Hausa cultural celebrations, he added: “We do have our anniversary — that is when we exhibit our culture for the world to see us. We do the culture day together and everybody will go to his own place after the programme.”

**“THIS SCHOOL IS A GREAT SCHOOL” — BUT ADD OUR LANGUAGE**

Alhaji Haruna did not hide his affection for Honeyland College — or his charge to them. “I will say this school is a great school. I have six children that attended this school. My first daughter already finished university, she schooled here. Now I am still having five kids in this school. They teach them good things that I always surprise,” he said.

“But one thing that they should do is to give them our culture, our language, our tradition, whereby everybody will know where he belongs to — not them speaking only English all the time.”



Hausa displaying culture

### CONCLUSION: CULTURE LIVES WHEN LEADERS SHOW UP

For Alhaji Ahmed Haruna Seriki, Honeyland's Cultural Day was proof that schools can reverse the drift from tradition — if parents, teachers, and traditional rulers all play their part. From lending his personal regalia to his horse, to

attending Igbo events with his cabinet, to enrolling six children in the school, he models the “One Nigeria” he preaches.

His message to Honeyland's chairman and management was clear: you are doing well, but add our languages. His message to parents: take your children to culture, not just eateries. His message to Nigeria: Eze Njoku and I are friends — you should be too.

On 17th April, 2026, “One Culture, Our Pride” rode into the hall on a horse. And the Seriki of Alimosho made sure everyone knew: pride begins when leaders show up, and culture lives when we teach it.

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18th April, 2026

## 'I AM IMPRESSED': YEYE BOBASELU OF AJASALAND HAILS HONEYLAND COLLEGE CULTURAL DAY, URGES SCHOOLS TO TEACH CHILDREN MOTHER TONGUE

*Chief Mrs Aderonke Adeyemi commends Chairman Pastor Alayande as "detrribalized"; backs Igbo, Yoruba, Hausa language teaching in schools*

Felix Mbata, Lagos state

I marry to Oyo State, which is Adeyemi too. So our names should like our culture."

**W**hen royalty speaks, the community listens.

And on April 17, 2026, royalty did more than speak — she beamed.

Draped in elegant Yoruba attire that announced her heritage before she said a word, Chief Mrs Aderonke Adeyemi, the Yeye Bobaselu of Ajasaland, was among the dignitaries whose presence lit up Honeyland College's 2026 Cultural Day.

"I came and I am impressed from what is happening," she told The Unique Model, surveying a school compound transformed into a living museum of Nigeria's tribes. From Isi Agu to Aso Oke, from Babban Riga to talking drums, the day lived up to its theme: "Our Culture, Our Pride."

For Yeye Bobaselu, an Ile-Ife daughter married into Oyo royalty, the event was both revelation and affirmation. "I have not been in their culture programme before... I decided to come and see the way they do their own culture here." What she saw, she said, was "wonderful, lovely and beautiful."

### 'I AM HERE FOR MY TRIBE' — WHY CULTURE MATTERS

Chief Mrs Adeyemi was clear about her mission: "I am here for my tribe because I am a Yoruba woman and I am from Osun State, Ile-Ife precisely."

Her verdict on Honeyland's effort was emphatic: "Different tribe dressed on their tribe attire, customs, kids — everybody here looks lovely and amazing. I like the programme."

But beyond pageantry, Yeye Bobaselu used the platform to address a crisis: the erosion of language and identity among youths who see culture as "old fashion."

### THE SOLUTION: SPEAK IT, NAME IT, WEAR IT, TEACH IT

Echoing actor Yemi Falade and other guests, she prescribed a home-first remedy: "In school they normally teach them English but at home, let us teach our children our language. So that when they represent us they will be able to speak our language fluently."

On indigenous names, she was personal: "I prefer we answer our indigenes name... My middle name is Aderinte, everybody know that Aderinte is from Ile-Ife, so



Chief Mrs Adeyemi, Yeye Bobaselu of Ajasaland

She warned that the "mode of dressing is dying" because "some women dress the way they are not supposed to do." As a titled chief, she added: "I don't dress that way because I have a title that I am protecting. I do dress normal dress."

### 'SCHOOLS SHOULD START CULTURE DAY' — AND USE TECHNOLOGY

Her message to schools without cultural programmes was direct: "They should start to do that, because culture is very important, whether you're Igbo, Efik, Hausa, Yoruba, Calabar — you should make your children know your culture and tradition."

She praised Eze Nicholas E. Njoku, Eze Ndigbo of Ejigbo, who pledged to bring an Igbo teacher to support language teaching. "I do support that," she said.

On technology, Yeye Bobaselu offered a digital blueprint: "Anybody that wants to do something on internet should put it on his dialect, that people will understand his/her tribe and English version. Everybody will see it and culture and tradition will continue to grow."

### SALUTE TO A 'DETRIBALIZED CHAIRMAN'

She reserved special praise for the host: "I appreciate the chairman so much. He is a Yoruba man but he put all his efforts to ensure that all the groups that are here today practice their culture and tradition. He doesn't discriminate. He is a detrribalized chairman. So I sincerely appreciate him so much. He is a very nice and gentle man."

### CONCLUSION —

For Honeyland College, Yeye Bobaselu's endorsement is more than a compliment — it is cultural validation. When a Yoruba titleholder from Ile-Ife stands in Ipaja and declares your school's Cultural Day "lovely and beautiful," when she urges other schools to copy you, and when she calls your Yoruba chairman "detrribalized" for honoring all tribes, you know you've done more than host an event. You've built a bridge. Honeyland College, Ipaja — where every tribe finds a home, and Our Culture truly becomes Our Pride.

# 'Eze Ikenna Hails Chief Okafor: He Will Serve Ndigbo With Remarkable Results'

*Eze Ndigbo Ojo lists peace, Igbo language, traders' unity as new Ohanaeze Lagos President's first tasks; recalls Oba Ojoto's "doggedness" at Alaba.*

Felix Mbata, Lagos State

HRM Eze Sir Ferdinand Ikenna Onuegbu, Ezedioramma III, Eze Ndigbo Ojo Local Government Area, says Chief Leonard Okafor, aka Oba Ojoto, will serve Ndigbo in Lagos "with remarkable results" as the new President of Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos State.

Speaking in an exclusive interview with The Unique Model, the Eze hailed Okafor's "doggedness and resilience," insisting that the Alaba International Market turnaround under Oba Ojoto is proof he will take Ohanaeze Lagos "to stardom."

Eze Ikenna, a renowned philanthropist whose annual New Yam Festival "shakes Ojo LGA and beyond," stressed that Okafor "emerged to serve Ndigbo, not to sit on the benefits of Ndigbo." His confidence is rooted in a long-standing bond: Chief Okafor himself revealed on July 24, 2022, that Eze Onuegbu gave "big support that assisted my campaign" when he was contesting, describing the Eze as a "quiet giver who never broadcasts his benevolence."

## 'OVERWHELMED WITH JOY' — WHY OKAFOR IS THE MAN FOR THE JOB

The Unique Model: Eze, what was your first reaction when Chief Leonard Okafor was declared winner?

Eze Ikenna: I was overwhelmed with joy. It shows his doggedness and resilience, and his ability to serve Ndigbo in Lagos. I know he has much to give to Ndigbo in Lagos.



Chief Leonard Okafor is a man of integrity and a lover of people. The successes he recorded while leading Alaba International Market, Ojo, convinced me he can uplift Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos.

As a seasoned administrator known locally and internationally for successfully handling a conglomerate of businesses, he will invest his energy to take Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos State to stardom. I am convinced he will deliver successfully during his tenure.

Why is this "the ripe time" for Chief Okafor to lead?

Eze Ikenna: It is the ripe time because he has featured prominently in Ohanaeze Ndigbo programmes and administration. He is not a newcomer. He has a wealth of experience in Lagos administration and knows the character of many Ndigbo here.

Moreover, Chief Okafor is a successful businessman. Whatever is required of him to give to Ndigbo in Lagos State, I am sure he will give it. He is not poor. As a philanthropist, he emerged to serve Ndigbo, not to sit on the benefits of Ndigbo.

## THE 3-POINT AGENDA FOR "REMARKABLE RESULTS"

Eze Ikenna charged the new President to deliver results in three key areas:

1. **Settle Disputes Amicably:** "We are brothers. It is not wise to allow outsiders to handle our issues. He must ensure disputes among various Igbo groups are settled amicably."
2. **Save Igbo Language & Culture:** "Our children in

Lagos should grow with our culture, tradition, and Igbo language, because it is culture and language that distinguish us from other tribes. Most children born in Lagos cannot speak Igbo fluently. He should encourage parents to teach them Igbo at home."

3. Mobilize Traders: "He should encourage Igbo traders to attend Ohanaeze meetings so they know about the affairs of Ohanaeze in Lagos. I trust him because he has a good relationship with traders, and traders will obey him because of his legacies leading Alaba International Market."

#### 'A MAN OF PEACE' — THE ALABA & AGUENE-OSSAI PROOF

The Eze pointed to Okafor's record as evidence of the results to come. "I wasn't surprised that Chief Okafor handled the peace meeting between Chief Aguene and Chief Ossai, because I know him as a man of peace. When he was leading Alaba Market, most issues that could have escalated, he handled and calmed the tension."

"Chief Okafor believes peace is required to make progress, and he practices it. Several times, when he could have reacted against offenders, he forgave, moved forward, and still welcomed them back. These are the qualities that will produce remarkable results in Ohanaeze Lagos."

#### ROYAL COUNSEL: PRAYER, NDIEZE, AND INCLUSIVE LEADERSHIP

Eze Ikenna advised: "Chief Okafor should be prayerful and always seek the face of God when taking decisions. God's direction supersedes human knowledge."

He warned: "He shouldn't embrace gossipers and



### Chief Okafor at middle at Eze Ikenna new yam celebration 2022 at his palace

troublemakers, because without peace there is no progress."

"He should maintain a good relationship with Ndieze in Lagos State, because we share the same vision of promoting

Igbo culture and tradition. When disputes come to him, he should listen to both parties before giving judgment."

"He should embrace those who contested with him and lost. Elections involve two outcomes: win or lose. But they remain Ohanaeze members. When selecting people to work with him, he should ensure they are efficient and honest people who will not betray his administration."

CONCLUSION: 'MAY HE SET A REMARKABLE STANDARD'

Eze Ikenna ended with a prayer that ties back to the headline: "I wish him success. May Chief Okafor set a standard of leadership that will be remarkable in the history of Ohanaeze. May Almighty God use Chief Okafor to change all the challenges of Ohanaeze Ndigbo in Lagos. Good luck, and may great success be with his leadership and his family, in Jesus Christ. Amen."

For Eze Ikenna, a man known for donating land to the Four hectare land to 'Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church, Egbeda, renowned philanthropist and opening Ikenna Star Academy for Catholic programmes, the evidence of Okafor's capacity is already there. The expectation now is that Oba Ojoto will translate that capacity into the "remarkable results" Ndigbo in Lagos have long awaited.

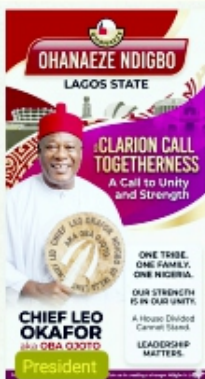
# EZE AHIZE LAUDS OKAFOR'S VICTORY, PRAISES TINUBU'S LEADERSHIP

Felix Mbata, Lagos state

**E**ze Engr. Aloysius Ahize Eze Ndigbo of Ikate Surulere, Lagos, has sent a resounding congratulatory message to Chief Leonard Okafor (Oba Ojoto) on his well-deserved victory as Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos state president. According to Eze Ahize, his timely recognition of Chief Okafor's exceptional leadership qualities, philanthropic spirit, and unwavering commitment to Igbo culture played a pivotal role in galvanizing support for his triumph.

In a heartfelt statement, Eze Ahize expressed his delight in working tirelessly for Chief Okafor's victory, citing their shared vision for the progress and prosperity of Ndigbo in Lagos. "I have always believed in Chief Okafor's ability to lead our community to greater heights," Eze Ahize said. "His outstanding leadership of Alaba International Market and various businesses is a testament to his exceptional capabilities, and I have no doubt he will bring the same level of excellence to Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos."

Eze Ahize also commended Chief Solomon Ogonna, the immediate past president of Ohanaeze Ndigbo, for his transformative leadership and legacy. "Chief Ogonna's tenure has been truly remarkable, and I believe Chief Okafor will build on the



excellent foundation he has laid," Eze Ahize stated. He urged Chief Okafor to continue the good work, leveraging his wealth of experience and resources to drive the growth and development of Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos.

Furthermore, Eze Ahize expressed his unwavering support for President Ahmed Bola Tinubu and the All Progressives Congress (APC), praising the President's commitment to national development and unity. "President Tinubu is a leader who has demonstrated his ability to bring people together and drive progress," Eze Ahize said. "His efforts to improve infrastructure, stabilize the economy, and promote peace and security are commendable, and I urge all Nigerians to support his re-election bid in 2027."



Eze Ahize also took a moment to address the challenges facing Nigeria, acknowledging the difficulties posed by global economic trends but expressing confidence in President Tinubu's leadership. "The President has taken bold steps to address the nation's challenges, and we must stand with him to ensure our country emerges stronger and more resilient," he said.

# 'Unite Ndigbo, Uphold Our Culture'

## Eze Oparachukwu Charges New Ohanaeze Lagos President, Okafor

**HRM Oparachukwu, hails Oba Ojoto's victory, cites Alaba peace role, market leadership as proof he'll deliver 'new dawn' for Ndigbo.**

*Felix Mbata, Lagos state*

**HRM Eze Ambassador Emmanuel U. Oparachukwu, Eze Udo 1 of Agbado Oke-Odo LCDA, has tasked newly elected Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos State President, Chief Leonard Okafor, Oba Ojoto, to prioritize unity, culture, and transformational development as he assumes office.**

In a strongly worded congratulatory message issued on Thursday 30th April, 2026, the Eze described Chief Okafor's victory as "a testament to your accumulated efforts in fostering the progress of Ohanaeze Ndigbo over the years," adding that "this is the ripe time to take the mantle of leadership of Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos State."

The endorsement from the respected Eze, whose domain hosts a significant Igbo population, is seen as a major boost for Chief Okafor as he begins reconciliation and restructuring efforts within the Lagos chapter of the apex Igbo socio-cultural body.

### THE MESSAGE: 'YOUR ALABA RECORD SPEAKS FOR YOU'

Eze Oparachukwu anchored his confidence in Chief Okafor's "renowned administrative excellence," citing his successful piloting of Alaba International Market and his conglomerate of companies as evidence that "Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos will experience a new dawn" under his watch. The Eze specifically highlighted Chief Okafor's peacemaking role between former Ohanaeze Lagos President, Chief Solomon Ogbonna Ague, and Chief Sunday Ossai, calling it "tangible evidence that the progress of Ohanaeze Ndigbo is a top priority to you."

"Your wealth of experience and exposure in handling the affairs of Alaba International Market, contributing

to peace among stakeholders, shows you understand that leadership is about bridge-building," Eze Oparachukwu stated.

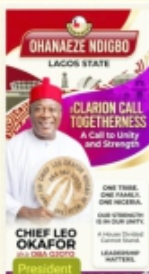
### THE CHARGE: FOCUS, CULTURE, POSTERITY

The Eze issued a three-point charge to the new President:

-Unity Above All: "My advice to you is to focus on things that unite Ndigbo. Don't listen to distractors. Remember that God installed you to create more positive change for posterity."

- Culture as Identity: "Ohanaeze Ndigbo is known for the exhibition of the culture and tradition of Ndigbo. Ensure that our culture and tradition remain paramount. It is our culture that distinguishes Ndigbo from other tribes."

- Inclusive Leadership: "I have great trust that your leadership will create opportunities for Ndigbo and embrace different groups and professionals working towards transformational development in



Eze Emmanuel Oparachukwu

Ohanaeze."

He urged Chief Okafor to "use your position to make Ndigbo in Lagos happy and beyond, so that Ohanaeze Lagos will be a focus and an enviable chapter we can all be proud of."

### CONTEXT: WHY THIS ENDORSEMENT MATTERS

Alaba International Market, which Chief Okafor previously led, is West Africa's largest electronics hub and a major economic base for Ndigbo in Lagos. His ability to maintain stability there despite market tensions is viewed by allies as a template for state-wide Ohanaeze leadership.

### CONCLUSION

Eze Oparachukwu ended his message with a royal blessing: "May God continue to bless you with more wisdom like King Solomon, good health, and long life. Long live Ohanaeze Ndigbo Lagos State. Long live Ohanaeze Worldwide. Long live Nigeria."

With this endorsement, expectations are high that Chief Okafor's tenure will mark a shift from internal wrangling to cultural renaissance and economic empowerment for Ndigbo in Lagos..



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