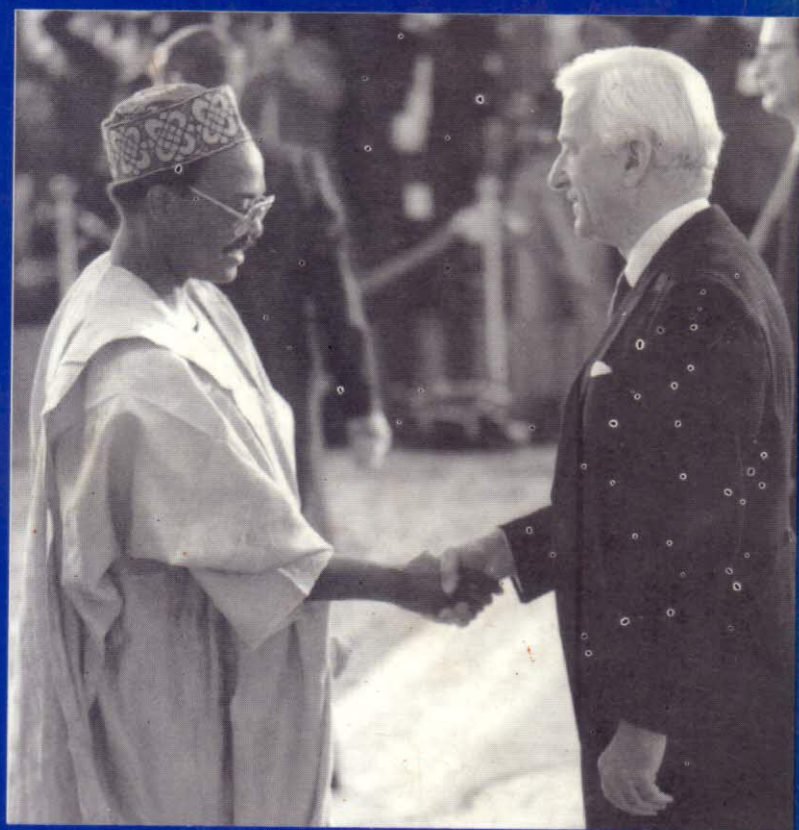


NIGERIA AND THE WIDER WORLD

**IN THE
20TH CENTURY**



**ESSAYS IN HONOUR
OF
PROFESSOR AKINJIDE OSUNTOKUN**

EDITED BY : YOMI AKINYEYE

26-04-04

NIGERIA AND THE WIDER WORLD

IN THE

20TH CENTURY

*With profound gratitude to
Nkem Akpan 26-04-04*

ESSAYS IN HONOUR

OF

PROFESSOR AKINJIDE OSUNTOKUN

*Published by Davidson Press Ibadan
U. I. P. M. B. 22808
Ibadan.*

ISBN 978-027-089-3

Published in 2003

Printed by Odu'a Printing & Publishing Company Limited, Ibadan.

Eleyele Road

P. M. B. 5121

Dugbe, Ibadan.

Oyo State.

Tel: 02-2413310, 2410985, 2414491.

This book is copyright and so no part of it should be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, electrostatic, magnetic tape, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the express written permission of the author/publisher who is the copyright owner.

COVER PICTURE

Professor Akinjide Osuntokun with the German President, Dr. Richard Von Weizsacker

FOREWORD

I feel honoured being asked to write a foreword to this book - Nigeria and The Wider World in The Twentieth Century - a piece put together by some of our young and brilliant scholars in honour of Akinjide Osuntokun. A distinguished Professor of history who served his country with distinction in Ottawa, Washington and Bonn in different capacities, Jide, as he is fondly called, turned sixty in April 2002 when he joined our club of senior citizens. Our younger colleagues have taken the initiative to call for and to obtain and screen numerous contributions from within and outside the University of Lagos. Only what were considered the best were eventually chosen and they form the chapters in this book.

I recall vividly my family's visit in 1980 from Princeton, New Jersey where I was on sabbatical leave, to Washington D.C. where Jide Osuntokun was the Director and Head of the National Universities Commission's office in that city. Professor Jubril Aminu was also visiting at that point in time. Osuntokun's family were generous hosts. I also recall a day in the third week of January 1991 when Professor Osuntokun notified me of the wish of Nigeria's Foreign Minister, Major General Ike Nwachukwu to see me at his Victoria Island residence, in connection with a pending appointment which he said I must not reject. The Foreign Minister informed me of the decision of the Commander-in-Chief to appoint me as Head of Mission with concurrent accreditation to Gaborone and Maseru, sequel to the nomination made by Ambassador Ibrahim Zakari, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

I also recall those difficult months when Jide's diplomatic mission in Bonn had no access to official information from Nigeria and it was left to Gaborone to monitor and pass on information on N.T.A. and Voice of Nigeria, a service that was later extended to New York and most of our other diplomatic missions in all other continents. Those were difficult days out there but Ambassador Osuntokun performed his duties with dignity and devotion.

The contributors to this volume could not have been privy to any of the events I have mentioned above nor was it the intention for each of them to concentrate on Osuntokun's activities. This is a book which examines Nigeria's role in the world in the last century. Written from various angles, each contributor brings to bear his or her discipline and insight in dealing with the assigned topic. Among scholars, one cannot but have differences in the interpretation of events as theoretical and ideological foundations diverge. To expect Kunle Lawal, Onyekpe, Ayo

Notes on Contributors

1. Dr. R.T. Akinyele is an Associate Professor in the Department of History, University of Lagos. His areas of interests are minority studies, ethnic militia and biography. He is widely published in leading Journals both locally and internationally. In addition to chapters in books, his articles have appeared in *Asia and African Studies*, *Immigrant and Minorities* as well as *African Affairs*, among others.
2. Dr. Kunle Lawal, Associate Professor at Lagos State University (LASU) was educated at the reputable University of Ibadan's School of History where he successfully concluded a doctoral thesis on the Transfer of Power in Nigeria. He has written extensively in local and international Journals. His publications include: *The United States and the Decolonisation Process in Nigeria (1996)*; *Britain and the Transfer of Power in Nigeria, 1945-1960 (2000)* and a recent essay entitled *British Business and the Decolonisation Process in Nigeria 1950-1996* in *African Economic History*. In 1994, he was a Visiting Senior Fulbright Research Fellow in the Office of Scholarly Programmes of the United States Library of Congress in Washington D.C.
3. Dr. Godwin Justin Nkem Onyekpe is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of History, University of Lagos. He specialises in Political Economy and has written a number of good articles in books and learned Journals.
4. Dr. Ayo Akinbobola is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Political Science, University of Lagos. He was a Visiting Scholar to Oxford University in 1979 and a recent Visiting Scholar to the University of Michigan Ann Arbor. He has published widely in his area of specialisation. Among his publications are: *Should Nigeria be in OPEC? (1979)* and *Regionalism and Regional Influentials (2001)*.
5. Professor Adebayo Ayinla Lawal is a Professor in History and teaches Economic History in the Department of History, University of Lagos. He has done a great deal of the History of Financial Administration of Nigeria during the colonial period and had been a Rockefeller and Fulbright Fellow to Universities in the United States and South Africa.
6. Dr. David Aworawo has just joined the Department of History, University of Lagos after the completion of his doctorate degree in Diplomatic History from the same University. He specialises in Nigeria-Equatorial Guinea Relations and has published a sizeable number of quality articles on Nigeria's international relations.
7. Femi Adegbulu was formerly at the Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago-Iwoye. He is about completing his doctorate degree in Diplomatic History in the University of Lagos.
8. Dr. Michael Ogbeidi is a lecturer in our Department of History, University of Lagos. Nigeria-U.S. Educational Co-operation during the Twentieth Century is his area of interest.
9. Dr. Cyril Obi is a Senior Research Fellow at the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs. He researches into Oil and Environmental Security. A recipient of many awards and fellowships, Dr. Obi is widely travelled and has written numerous essays and chapters in books published in different parts of the world.
10. Dr. Daniel Omoweh is a Research Fellow in the Division of International Economic Relations of the Research and Studies Department at the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA), Lagos. His area of primary interest is *the political economy of the oil transnational co-operations, environment and development, and industrialisation in Africa*. Among his recent publications are: *Political Economy of the Operations of Shell Petroleum Development Company in Oloibiri Nigeria, Bread for the World (Stuttgart Germany, 1998)*, *Political Economy of Steel Development in Nigeria: Lessons from South Korea, (2002)* and *Shell, the State and Underdevelopment of the Niger-Delta of Nigeria: A Study in Environmental Degradation*. Dr. Omoweh is a Fellow of the Korea Foundation and a member of the Association of Third World Studies.
11. Dr. Eno Ikpe is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of History, University of Lagos where she teaches Economic History. Her research focus is food culture and she has published a book on *Nigerian Food Culture in the 20th Century*. Dr. Ikpe is widely read at home and abroad.

