



NIGERIAN EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

A Federal Government Agency for the Promotion of Non- oil Exports

Office of the Chief Executive Officer

ADM/CONF/CM/60/VOL.09/63

September 18, 2021

The Family of Captain (Dr) Idahosa Wells Okunbo (JP)

38B Aiguobasimwim Crescent,
GRA, Benin City
Edo State

Tribute to Idahosa Wells Okunbo; My Friend, Brother and Benefactor, all in that order.

"The hands of the generous man are like the clouds of heaven which drop upon the earth, fruits, herbage and flowers".

Too much empathy, far too much empathy. **Empathy** is the word that resonates in my mind whilst penning this tribute.

Goleman identifies three types of empathy:

- i. Cognitive Empathy: the ability to understand another's perspective.
- ii. Emotional Empathy: the ability to physically feel what another feels.
- iii. Empathic Concern: the ability to sense what another needs from you.

Indeed, Hosa fully embodied all three definitions.

He was a man whom God had given riches and blessed him with a mind to use it for empathy.

He was a man peculiarly favoured by God,

He was pleased with his wealth because it afforded him the means to show empathy. His desire to demonstrate empathy meant he was constantly armed with a searchlight looking for people in need.

He had a large heart of which his generosity and empathy radiated to all and sundry who were fortunate enough to cross paths with him, indeed it can be said that:

"The grief and anxieties of men excite his compassions"

He considered it a duty to be a friend to mankind. His legendary acts of generosity commands admiration I'm sure even from the Saints above.



WTPO WINNER 2018

Best initiative to ensure that trade is inclusive and sustainable

EXPORT HOUSE

Plot 424, Aguiyi Ironsi way, Maitama, Abuja. P.M.B 133, Garki, Abuja - Nigeria
Tel: +234 908 744 9914, 234 704 433 3344

Mail: enquiries@nepc.gov.ng, ceo@nepc.gov.ng **Web:** www.nepc.gov.ng

However, it is written that perils and misfortunes, and want, and pain, and injury are more or less the certain lot of every man and he was no exception. His fortitude sustained him throughout his illness, he put all his trust in God. Indeed one of his favorite songs was *My Trust Is In You* by David G, I can just picture him dancing painlessly and joyfully now:

*"Lion of Judah, my trust is in you
Ancient of days my trust in you
I am that I am, God my trust is in you
Lily of the Valley, my trust is in you
I put them all on you, my trust is in you"*

In his last WhatsApp message to me, his steadiness of mind was admirable to the very end.

Alas my dear Capo, let me bid you farewell because every man has to die ***omnes moriendum.***

I look to you as a benefactor with love and esteem. I will forever treasure memories of you in my heart.

My heartfelt condolences to Nosa his dear wife and to all his children and grandchildren who were his source of boundless joy.

It is my fervent prayer to God to comfort the entire family, friends and well wishers.



Olusegun Awolowo
Executive Director/CEO
President ECOWAS TPO Network