



1ST ANNUAL MEMORIAL LECTURE of OLOROGUN (DR.) MICHAEL C. O. IBRU, OFR

The Otota of Agbarha Kingdoms

Olusegun Obasanjo

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P.O. Box 2286, Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria

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Dr. (Mrs.) Cecilia Ibru, MFR,
Michael and Cecilia Ibru University,
Agbarha-Otor, Delta State,
Nigeria.
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Dear Cecilia,

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

I received the news of the death of Olorogun Michael Ibru with mixed feelings of sadness and gratitude to God. I was sad because we will miss his contribution to the building of a new Nigeria of his dream but I am grateful to God for such a life well spent in the service of our fatherland.

Olorogun was somebody I knew very well, from the early years of his entrepreneurship. Olorogun was one of the very few who can be said that their lives brought a blessing to their generation. I recall his inspiring career as a frontline indigenous industrialist, a foremost businessman and a tireless philanthropist. From a humble beginning as a Management-Trainee with the erstwhile United African Company, UAC, from where he made his way out in 1956, a few years after joining the company, he started a partnership, which he called Laibru. It is gratifying that he had himself built a sprawling business empire, which is a modern day employer of thousands of people. Olorogun was indeed a patriot who had made sterling contribution towards the socio-economic development of our dear country. He was a formidable pillar of the Nigerian society evincing those values that inspired others and shaped the nature of socio-economic and political engagements on several fronts.

National acclamation for his consistency, had, expectedly, come by way of his conferment with the medal of Officer of the Order of the Federal Republic (OFR) in 1981.

He was a pillar of his family and he assisted and encouraged all his siblings to be on their own.

The great outpouring of sympathy for the family and his loved ones since his death was announced is also an eloquent testimony to the enduring, nationwide bonds of comradeship and friendship which Olorogun forged in his many years of service to our nation.

My thoughts and prayers are with you and other members of his family at this time as you mourn the passing of this illustrious son of Africa. On behalf of my family and on my own behalf, I express sincere condolence and pray God to grant you all the grace to bear this great loss.

May the gentle soul of the dear departed rest in perfect peace.

Yours sorrowfully
Olusegun Obasanjo

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