



# CELEBRATING A LOVING HUSBAND AND FATHER

Every minute spent with you is always a special moment. Every day, you keep excelling in care, love, kindness and sincerity of purpose to me, our children and the entire human race.

As you receive the synochure **ROLE MODEL OF THE YEAR AWARD**, it is our turn to show how exceptional you are.

We appreciate you always. We pray that the journey ahead will be more glorious and fulfilling.

You will continue to work in good health and sound mind. May your spirit never turn old. May the good lord continue to order your steps and grant you your heart desires.

We truly love and appreciate you.



## *Congratulations Dear,*

**Signed**

**Mrs Evelyn Akhimien (Ifymo)**



# CONTENT

My life is a donation to the service of God and mankind

-Sir Anthony Akhimien



Everyday with my husband seems like honeymoon

-Evelyn Ifyinwa Akhimien

25



45 Sir Akhimien is prudent at managing resources and phenomenal at managing people

Oluwashina Omotunde

Sir Akhimien is an excellent communicator, an orator and a good leader

Pharm. Oladigbolu

51



**PHARM. (SIR)**  
**ANTHONY AKHIMIEN, FPSN, mni:**

# SUCCESS NURTURED BY POSITIVE VALUES

**T**here is a way a man conducts himself diligently that will enable him leave footprints too large for anybody to match. The cap aptly fits Pharm. (Sir) Anthony Akhimien FPSN, FPCpharm, mni, founder/ CEO, TEO Pharmacy Limited. His greatest weapon is his reputation as a man of integrity and competence, whose success is hinged on probity and honesty of purpose. A detribalised Nigerian, people like Sir Anthony Akhimien come once in a long while and they naturally stand out.

They have the intellect, vision, drive and energy to get things done properly and on time. Looking back at his early years, he attributed his success to Almighty God and the opportunity given to him through the free education programme of the late Chief Obafemi Awolowo's Western Region government that made him who he is today. He is a

man with a passion for excellence in any task he engages in.

He is unarguably a dignified personality in Nigeria today. As a community leader, he knows how to make his voice heard when there is a noble cause to defend. He is a courageous defender of social justice and an incurable believer in the development of the pharmaceutical profession.

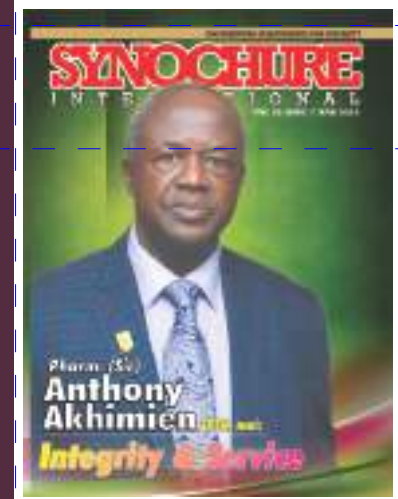
He is a man of immense value in his professional career, dazzling other watchers in his mastery of his professional craftsmanship. Sir Anthony Akhimien, FPSN, mni, is a role model to young Nigerians who are determined to succeed by dint of hard work. Humble and unassuming, his foray into the pharmaceutical profession seems destined and, since he got into the profession, he has

played various roles and handled many issues and in all he has made an outstanding mark as a man of honour and integrity.

A cursory glance at him does not give away his disposition as a man of great intellect but a thorough scrutiny of his personality reveals a man whose deep passion for the profession has been his desire from the outset of his professional career. For him, the joy of solving the pharmaceutical problems in Nigeria is one that is second to none.

On the home front Pharm., Sir Anthony Akhimien is an outstanding father to his children, a wonderful husband to his wife and a pillar of support to his extended family members. Without any gainsaying, everything about Sir Anthony Akhimien confirms his success is truly nurtured by positive values.

**'Lanre Olusunmade**  
Synochure international



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# *Felicitation* —to an— **Outstanding Professional**

On behalf of my family, we heartily rejoice with an outstanding professional **SIR ANTHONY AKHIMIEN** FPSN mni as he receives the SYNOCHURE ROLE MODEL OF THE YEAR AWARD.

Sir, you are a peerless professional and an inspiring Humanist. You have brought hope and joy to many lives and am happy to be associated with you.



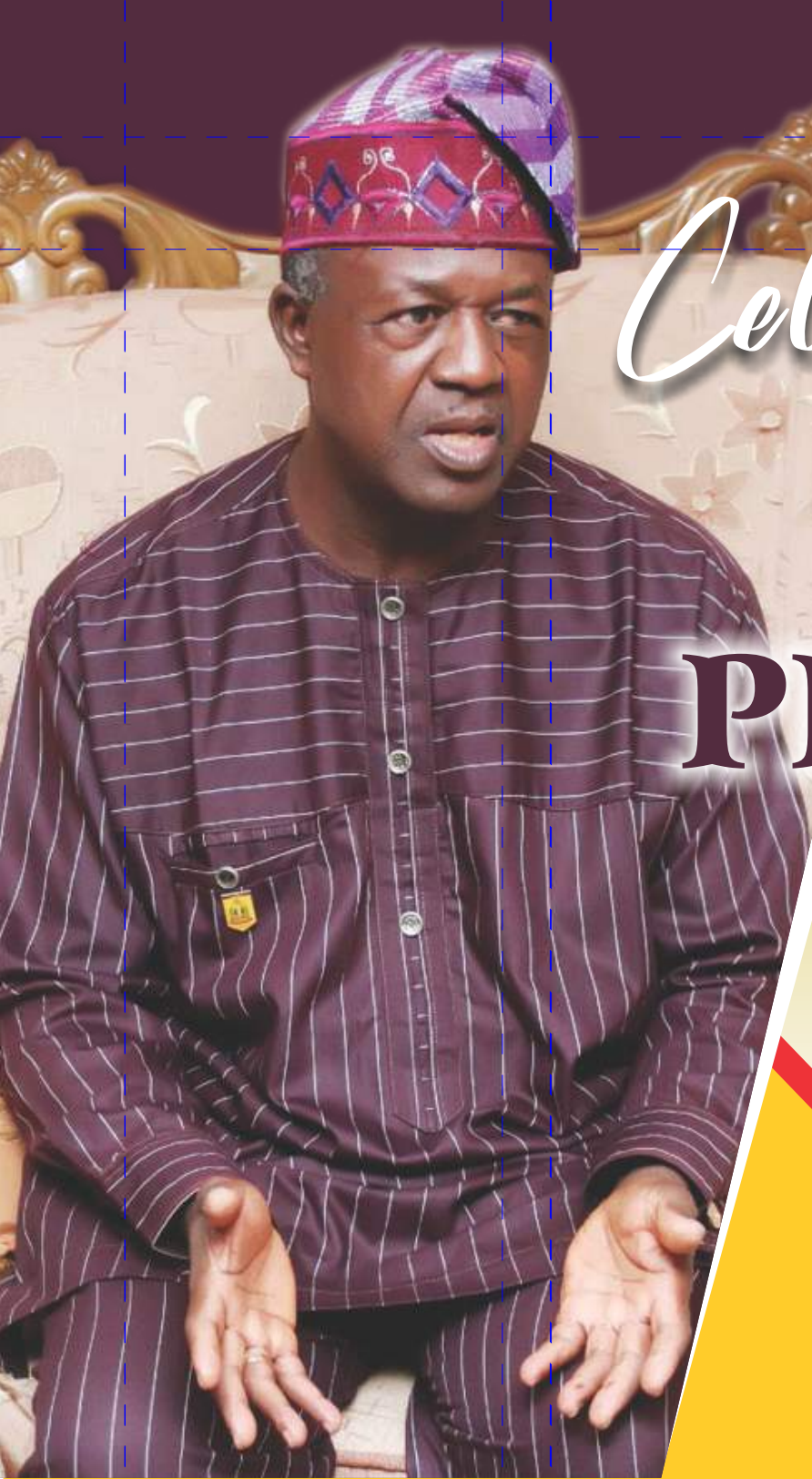
*Congratulations*

*Signed*

**Dr. Abhimien**







# *Celebrating*

## THE **MAN** OF THE **PEOPLE**

On behalf of myself and family, we heartily rejoice with **SIR ANTHONY AKHIMIEN FPSN mni** as he receives the **SYNOCHURE ROLE MODEL OF THE YEAR AWARD**.

You are indeed a role model. Your humility and forthrightness are unsurpassed.

Your commitment and diligence to any good endeavour is not hidden and this honour is surely befitting.

# *Congratulations!*

*Signed*

Mr. Adams Okoeine



# *My life is a donation to the service of God and mankind*

**—Sir Anthony Akhimien**

It was on a Sunday evening, rain drizzling, ground wet and navigating through Akowonjo-Alimosho axis to the house of Sir Anthony Akhimien at Egbeda area was somehow cumbersome. It was a big blindfold that a man of Sir Anthony Akhimien's calibre lives a silent life in a community of humble mankind. It is true that empty barrel makes the loudest noise. When most guys without any tangible investment trail or weight attached to their names tried all they can to pull strings that will eventually weigh them down or kill them are making noises, drawing unnecessary attentions to themselves, the heavy weight, the real loads are going about their daily lives unnoticed.

-Sir Akhimien is like a sleekly tiger that tears its preys into pieces in a gentle move and a deadly swipe. He is like a noiseless predator that hunts down its game in a stylish manner – not giving up until he tastes the blood of the unfortunate animal.

The tiger was never a servant to any other predator (including lion – the jungle king) but a player *infelistigris* team -and a major in the jungle.

Anthony Akhimien, considering his birth and upbringing had no chance to emerge victorious not to mention excelling in the world of ever-ready players but he did because he did not allow the environment he grew up in to limit his growth. Rather, he was challenged by the same environment to go all out and carve his name in gold. He walked among thorns barefooted and never complained of pain because his eyes were on the goal. He walked through the fire and was not scorched by the flame. He swam through troubled water of life and he was not overflowed because he knew there is a particular power in him that propels him not to settle for less.

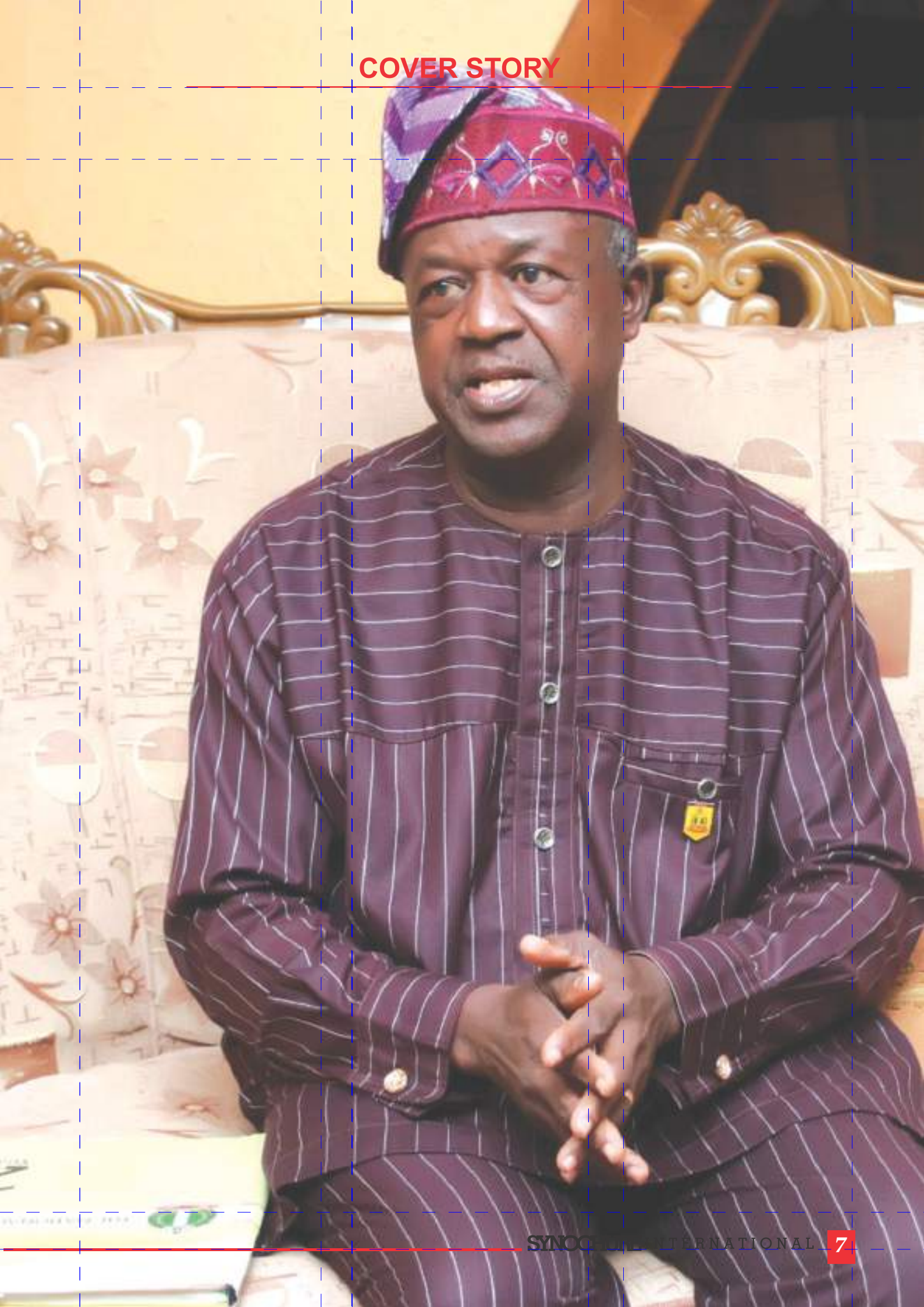
Today, Tony is an icon, a parameter for measuring success.

As a husband, he is a yardstick for measuring a good partner.

As a businessman, he set a record to be broken by a serious minded community pharmacists and as a professional, he carved a benchmark for honour.



COVER STORY



**In this piece, the team of *Synochure International Magazine* comprising Lanre Olusunmade, Yomi-Abayomi Olakanmi, Femi-Ikotun and Ayodele Adedamola had an interview with Sir (-Pharm.) Anthony Akhimien, a Role Model of the Year. Excerpts below:**

**Sir, let's start by congratulating you on your successful -national assignment as a member of the Nigerian Institute of Policy and Strategic Study (NIPSS). How was your experience when you saw the nomination letter and what was your first impression?**

Well, my first impression was that “*I wasn't prepared*” because I had other engagements for that particular year but I sought the opinions and advice of close friends and one of them told me, ‘*This is a lifetime experience that might never come again.*’ And of course, I had to play down the arrangement and schedule for the year to attend. I must tell you; I was about the last student who reported at the institute. They had already finished the orientation. That is to tell you that my letter came in late and I was struggling to accept or not to accept. For me, it was a fine experience. It is an institution by all standard because we had professors there, we had well-groomed and well-trained military officers that cut across all the military formations in the country, customs, immigration, road safety, air force, navy, and army, and for me it was an opportunity to also understand that the government had a good intention to gather a group of people every year as think-tank to be given a topic to discuss,

interrogate, evaluate and make suggestions to the government. Our topic was “*Strengthening Institutional Mechanism for Poverty Reduction and Inclusive Development in Nigeria*” and the government took time to take us out of this country, sponsored our trips to various parts of the world where they have succeeded in tackling poverty. We visited many countries in Africa, Europe, Asia and America studying the people and the environment, so as to translate our experiences into Nigerian context. We were made to visit six states the South and North by road but heavily guarded with all military formations. Reason for this is to give us the opportunity to see what Nigerian roads look like. There was a particular incident as we were travelling one day. My group was assigned to Abia State and we set out to travel from Abuja through Kogi and we made a stopover at the Ajaokuta steel. I can tell you some of us wept. Why? We saw the level of infrastructure wasting away in that place, the housing estate built by the government, the rail tracks that were supposed to connect to Port-Harcourt, Warri -port, the North and everywhere but just wasting away. That day, I didn't eat, just wondering how a government could invest that much and allowed it to waste. We spent about 30minutes on

the spot. We were in Abia for two weeks to see how the governor was actually serving his people – to test how sincere they are and to say it the way we saw it without any reservation. We are not afraid of anybody because we had been given immunity to talk to any governor, to challenge them on any issue and when we make our presentation at the instance, they were mandated to be around, to listen to our presentation. They didn't influence our reports as they were not allowed to cater for us. The federal government took care of our movement, accommodation, and feeding. We took nothing from nobody. Our set came up with some recommendations and implementation strategies which I thought were going to resolve issues of poverty in our country, strengthening institutional mechanism. I have looked at poverty itself but I am yet to see anything happening three years after I left the institution. I wondered if it was just supposed to be an academic exercise or a place you go for tourism. In Kuru, we don't really recommend, we set-up implementation strategy. If you make recommendations, you have not even scored up to 50%. You must hint on how to implement the recommendation given on all intensive works done on any



subject matter – and lack of implementation actually got me disappointed. When I looked at the archives, I discovered that the government spends a lot of money on this project every year, people are given a topic to look at and I learnt that some people have succeeded. The road safety and civil defence corps you see today are creations of Kuru recommendations when it was discovered that the police do not have enough capacity to do all of that job. In some areas they have succeeded but in my particular set, I do not think most of the recommendations we made and strategies we set-up have been fulfilled up to even 50% and for me, that was disappointing.

**Looking at your experience in Kuru and the one you had in your years as a successful pharmacist; was there any comparison between the dream you had earlier on and this Kuru experience?**

Well don't forget, I told you, Kuru is a national academic institute that is higher than any institute that I know in the country. Why did I say this? We had Professors and people of different career at the apex of their professions as classmates, and for me, it was quite an experience; adding knowledge to what I had gathered in a very diverse form. As a pharmacist, we were taught to think only about molecules, drugs, how to formulate a particular product or address a particular disease condition but in Kuru, we see beyond that into the

larger society. We see other professionals and rub minds together. We disagreed, researched together and analysed problems as a unit. Sometimes, the way I would think pharmaceutically might not be the way the engineer in my set or the military officer in my set will look at a case or matter – but at the end, we agreed on a consensus, a beneficial conclusion, just like the tests of the Rotary; is it beneficial to all concerned? Serving as President of PSN gave me the opportunity to

interact with high calibre of government officials before I went to Kuru but the institute gave me an experience that I will not forget. It brought me to a status that made me know I have something to offer to the government, and whenever I am called upon, I can use the experience gathered to address whatever issues placed before me, whether in my profession, at home, in a larger society, or the community. In Kuru, we were taught not to look at issues from a narrow angle but



from a larger perspective so as to have a broader evaluation model. In fact, one of our lecturers would say to us, '*Process your thought before you react to any question,*' and that means Kuru has trained us to a level where we might be in a committee and be the last to speak but when we speak, people will respect our contributions. I have had a fair share of leadership and decision making position in pharmacy but Kuru taught me to be a better leader than everything I learnt and knew at PSN. For example, I came into the institute late, after the orientation but when it was time to elect officers from the group comprising of several military and paramilitary personnel and other professionals and technocrats, the Institute Director, a Brigadier-General directed I should conduct the election. I did conduct a free and fair election that ushered in the leaders of our group comprising of over military officers, seven commissioners of police (including the former I.G.), 3 Airforce officers, 3 Naval officers, 6 permanent secretaries and few civilians drawn from six geopolitical zones in the country. It was a very unique experience for me. The commanding officer who assigned me that duty said he was in his office watching and thinking there would be chaos but I did it to the admiration of all and I was nicknamed FEDECO at the institute. It was my first assignment. The

**He walked among thorns barefooted and never complained of pain because his eyes were on the goal. He walked through the fire and was not scorched by the flame. He swam through troubled water of life and he was not over flown because he knew there is a particular power in him that propels him not to settle for less.**

second assignment was my nomination to serve in the editorial board for the Institute Annual publication. I was also chosen to be part of the committee saddled with the responsibility to compile the end of the year report. It was so tasking and very tedious. We sometimes worked till 02:00am or 03:00am writing. They could bring a document of 120 pages and say, '*Sir Anthony, we want this document reduced to only 40 pages*' and it would be done without losing any of the contents. On the day we presented our report at the villa, I was the one called upon to answer the questions concerning some general subjects while a certain military officer was called to answer the military aspect. I found myself used and being useful due to the training and the experience I have garnered over the years serving on the executive board of PSN.

*Looking back at your life from inception; it is a life dedicated to service of humanity – PSN and running your pharmacy in Egbeda. There was hardly any position you held that you did not perform credibly well. How were you able to juggle those roles effectively to the point that your pharmacy was never affected?*

I have always found myself in leadership position even from when I was a student at UNIBEN. During my NYSC service year, I was the Chairman of the health team in Kaduna. Coming back to the question, I believe that once you build a structure, you really do not have any issue. Yeah, it was quite challenging for me that I set up a business in the early 90s – 1991 precisely but it was registered in 1992 and I took up my first position in PSN as Assistant Secretary the same time. Sometimes, people asked me how I would leave my pharmacy a whole day attending meetings but that was possible because there was a structure that got the pharmacy running when I wasn't around. Whenever I was away, my wife and colleagues were there working. The structure did the magic, not me. By and large, functioning adequately in those areas I was involved in requires courage. I believe that God has given me a talent to serve in other areas, why should I refuse. Sometimes, some of the services I



## COVER STORY

rendered brought me out and showed me to the world. I was President of Rotary Club, Akowonjo; I made friends with people. I grew up in PSN to becoming the national president. Sometimes, I am on TV programmes on *Channels* and *NTA*, and other media – and that also gives some impetus. I was also lucky to have faithful colleagues to work with. They complied with the structure we built and ensured the standard was not lowered, and from the time we started till date, we have always been improving on our service delivery. Pharmacy business is not just to sell a product. Pharmacy is about rendering services to humanity. If it is just to sell a product, I don't need any pharmacist there. I don't even need to be there myself. I can just put a sales girl or boy there, and customers can just walk in, pick the drugs they need and go – but that's not what we do at TEO Pharmacy for almost 31 years. We put in element of service, product sales and service delivery because if we don't render that service, our package is not complete and if you must know, our style has also helped to bring our customers dear to our hearts and we ensure the sources of our drugs are genuine, and we can prove that, evaluate it and vouch for it. There was a time in this country that pharmacies could not be trusted due to rampant fake drugs. I can tell you in our history till date, I have never been indicted, queried, or had customers complaining that what they bought didn't work or they had complications after using the products we sold to them. That's what makes me happy, that's what made the



company grow and our patrons can vouch for our genuineness and originality. We don't believe in shortcut, we tell our customers nothing but the truth. Once they know the truth, they either buy or go elsewhere. We let them know why the price is like that, why we are charging more. In our new place, we have a place called *Point of Care* where we

mix syrups for mothers. In the course of growing the company, I discovered some women would buy some powder drugs and in the process of mixing would turn the solution into another compound. I have collected their money but I have not rendered the service. I have endangered that products and endangered the children that

would take the mixture because I did not complete my job. Nowadays, at TEO Pharmacy, we teach the mothers how to perform the act by showing them how to mix the syrup. There were challenges we have faced over the years, challenging moments synonymous with any business but we made sure we kept to the rules of the game. We are sincere with our customers. We believe in them and they believe in us. They helped us to grow to the extent we are today. We now have a new building, our corporate office that came out of service. I didn't have the money but the bank came to our rescue and the community assisted us. Without the community we won't have that building; people were pricing it three times more than what we were offering but the community leaders came out in their numbers and vouched for me. On the day I opened that place, the former Minister of Health, Prince Julius Adelus-Adeluyi was there, the then Baale of Akwonjo who played a key role for us to get the space was there with most community leaders. Rotary leaders were also there. The day attested to the fact that there is something good in our service delivery and I will always maintain and improve the tempo. I am also happy that in my lifetime, I can see that I am leaving something great behind for the coming generation.

***What were the initial challenges you faced as a community pharmacist and how were you able to surmount them?***

**There was a time I begged my wife to bear with me and she agreed to budget slash. We couldn't buy new clothes or go for decent meals in a good restaurant. We couldn't even afford fine things for our kids, not to mention going on holiday. We had to cut down on groceries and dairies for the house. I must say, I am very lucky to have a good wife who grew the business with me"**

Challenges are always there; they are part of life, part of business and part of growth. The Number One challenge I faced is finance. Funding is an issue, a pharmacist is not rich but we display wealth. Why? You buy a product of 200,000 naira and the margin on it might not be up to 20%. Along the line, some products will expire, some pilfered or some will lose market value, and by the time you return to the wholesaler or distributor, the cost price has increased. How do I adjust? It requires discipline. There was a time I begged my wife to bear with

me and she agreed to budget slash. We couldn't buy new clothes or go for decent meals in a good restaurant. We couldn't even afford fine things for our kids, not to mention going on holiday. We had to cut down on groceries and dairies for the house. I must say, I am very lucky to have a good wife who grew the business with me. She was working in a construction company when we met. Few years into our marriage and this business was just growing, I had the challenge of getting somebody who believes in my vision, who could grow the business with me. She resigned her appointment and joined me to run this business. TEO is the acronym of my first name, that of my wife and my first son who is also a Pharmacy graduate since eight years ago, and manages our new outfit. He was our only child when we started. When you set up a business, do not think that return on investment is overnight. It took me 26 years to be able to secure a loan from the bank to buy a building. I don't know how many young pharmacists will be willing to wait for 26 years to do that. Some come out these days wanting to buy a car, buy a house within a year – but investment does not work that way. Every good and durable venture takes time to mature I can tell you it got to a point when my wife and I were managing one car. We got our goods from Oshodi using public buses. The young ones clamouring for a retail pharmaceutical outlet must be disciplined and



## COVER STORY



focused, and know that business of pharmacy is about service to humanity, not just selling drugs. If they cannot render value, they should not go into retailing at all. We are trained to care for human health, sympathising for them and improving their wellness by alleviating suffering. Young retail pharmacists should not be in a hurry to make so much money, buy houses and cars. The only new car we bought was my wife's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday gift, a Kia Picanto. We only buy second hand cars; I have not bought a new car since I graduated. I can afford a new car of millions naira but it will

eat deep into the business. After many years of meritorious service to humanity – via the pharmacy – I am gradually pulling out, handing over to my children and I am now at a point where I can ask them to give me 50,000 naira and they obliged, ask them to get me a flight ticket to Benin and they buy it. It is paying off gradually. I couldn't do that five to ten years ago. I always tell young pharmacists that running out of the country is not a solution to Nigeria's problem. We are well trained. Their parents invested so much on them. It is very difficult to train a pharmacist. We are not

like other graduates; to prepare a mixture, you buy the chemicals needed, prepare it and pour it away – and those chemicals can cost so much money. The chemicals we are preparing to pass an exam might cost as much as 200,000 naira, and you have to pour it away. We are not like professional doctors, we are not like other students. That's why many universities cannot have a pharmacy school. It is very difficult and very expensive to train a pharmacist because it is not just theory but pure practical. We tested every drug on animals before we can make recommendations of

appropriate dosages and applications. Why are we saying one tablet a day instead of three times daily? It is because we know that it will stay inside your blood for at least 20 hours before it can work. Therefore, we advise according to our findings during the clinical trials. We are not just producing drugs, we are also looking at how it works in a human body and we have regulatory agencies that do what we call market surveillance. The drugs you recommend for headache, are they still working effectively after 10 years? For young pharmacists working in the Government establishments or other private ventures, do your work be professional, help the patient and ensure the work is well done. That will be my piece of advice.

***For the sake of our readers, let's get to know Sir (Pharm.) Anthony Akhimien?***

I was born into the Akhimien's family on November 25<sup>th</sup> 1955 in the old Mid-Western State (now Edo State). I was a beneficiary of Awolowo's free education. If not, I would have been a farmer. I grew up like any other child in my village. I remember following my father, a peasant farmer to the farm. He was not into mechanised farming but every year we had a barn of yam, we were never hungry. There was no fence in our building and there was no case of break-in or stealing. There was one Headmaster in our village who was always persuading my father to allow me go to school. My father's usual response was, 'No money!' until free education

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reached mid-west. I was enrolled at St. Philip's Primary School; from there I sat for the common entrance, passed and entered a catholic college, (Annunciation Catholic College Irrua), one of the foremost colleges in the then Mid-West. They were always number one when it comes to exam results, football and other activities. I hosted the Lagos old boys Association last month. The school was strictly for science students. That village school actually influenced my life positively. I got admission into Federal School of Science in 1973 and I moved to Lagos. Our hostel was at near Race Course, Obalende. I was asked to step down because I had no results as our secondary school final examinations results were seized by the exam body. It was a very painful experience for me. The principal said, "You are an intelligent guy." He enrolled me for London GCE and I passed all my papers and he brought me back for my HSC. When I discovered that things were not so smooth with my family, I

changed to part-time. I got a job through somebody at the Federal Office of Statistics, and that was the first place I worked as a school certificate holder. I would close from office, cross to Polo Club, burst out at Falomo by the police barracks, cross that river by canoe to Victoria Island or I would miss the bus. I did that for two years and one day I saw my name in *Nigeria Observer* newspaper that I passed the common entrance into the University of Benin but I eventually finished my HSC and made all my papers. I went for preliminary training at University of Benin. My brother wanted me to go for medicine but I said, 'No, I preferred pharmacy.' Behold, I entered University of Benin, graduated in 1983 and went for my NYSC in Kaduna.

As a corper, leadership fell on me. I was the Chairman of the NYSC health team. I coordinated the buying and administration of drugs very well with my other colleagues includes doctors. Kaduna State government gave me a





job after my NYSC session and the place I did my primary assignment also offered me a job. I was confused but a white man there said, “Anthony, we just bought you a new car; tell us when you want to start work,” – and when I saw that Kaduna State government gave me a job with no car but a big house. I took the company's job, worked briefly in Kaduna and later transferred to Lagos office. That was how I started working with three other members of staff in Lagos at our Unity Road office where we have this custom building now. I brought my brand new car, Peugeot 504 bought for N6,000 plus, from Kaduna to Lagos. After other members of staff were laid off, I became head of the unit and when I realised I didn't have a robust career in that

establishment, I resigned in the early 90s to set-up TEO Pharmacy.

***Why did you choose University of Benin as your first choice, and why pharmacy?***

Yes! I did my HSC in Lagos and Unilag had no Pharmacy at the time. The only universities offering Pharmacy at that time was Ife, which was the nucleus of pharmacy Nsukka and ABU. Ife was so competitive and I chose Benin. My choice of Pharmacy was influenced by many factors. My late father died of dysentery and diarrhoea, and when I got to know that a mixture of salt and sugar would have saved the life of my father, I was bent on finding solutions to help a common man from dying. I was also influenced by somebody in

my village who was always wearing a white overall, in a fine car with many people lining-up to see him. I have no regrets choosing Pharmacy – and I am grateful to God for exalting me to the peak in the history of our country. I never bargained to be a president but I went through it and God helped me. I live on the proceeds of pharmacy. I'd never done any government contract, not even when I was President of PSN. I trained my children from the proceeds of pharmacy. The house I built took me almost nine years to complete but I did it from the proceeds of pharmacy, and even our new outlet is from the proceeds of pharmacy. I feel fulfilled to have chosen a profession that made me a significant person in the



society.

***Did it ever cross your mind either as a student or after graduation that you were going to be the president of PSN some day?***

I must sincerely confess to you; I never imagined I would be. Whenever I look at the pedigree, the profile of those who have been president of PSN, I was not close to them in terms of age and achievement. I

was just a young pharmacist serving without anything in mind but my predecessor who handed over to me said, I see a potential in you that you can serve this profession of ours. I told him, *“I don't have the money or even the pedigree or the resources like all the past ones,”* but he encouraged me and like joke, I contested and won. It wasn't something I imagine but when I got the chance, I contested with two

other powerful and good guys and I won the election at Concord Hotel, Owerri with just two votes. They counted the ballot papers three times and that was all as ordained by God, and my three years was very resourceful. My team and I did great service and we won national awards for some deserving pharmacists. Many pharmacists received national honours and were decorated with many medals. A lot of anomalies were also corrected in various hospitals, government offices and agencies and pharmacists were accorded their long overdue honour in various quarters. I think my team and I did our best.

***During your tenure as the president of PSN; what particular development did you bring to the profession?***

Every three years, we elect a new president to consolidate on what is on ground but in my own case, my first major assignment was to ensure that our property at Victoria Island that was left untouched, wasting away for almost 30 years was given attention. We recovered it and today, our successors are doing something good on that land. Number two was the issue of repositioning our colleagues in the hospital. I saw a lot of deficiencies in our colleagues' working condition in various hospitals. My team and I visited many hospitals, met the Boards of Federal Medical Centres, looked at where pharmacists work and make Teaching Hospital recommendations to



management. We did that in Anambra, Enugu and several other hospitals including LUTH. I'm fulfilled; I have letters of commendation from some of those bodies. What I thought was impossible happened during my tenure. I ensured my colleagues were given a better working condition and better work environment. For example, in a particular hospital in Enugu, four Deputy Directors were squeezed inside one room without AC and the point that patients stand to collect their drugs was hot and my colleagues told me that the building that was supposed to be given to Pharmacists has been given to paediatric. As their president, rather than reporting the matter, I told the CMD what I observed, hinted that the regulatory body may come and deregister the place for dispensing drugs. The management sprang into action and within six months, the place was refurbished with TV, AC, refrigerators and better furniture. I couldn't attend the commissioning of the place because I was out of the country. My colleagues sent me an appreciation letter. I built on what I met, worked on specific area to improve the practice and I wasn't surprised that after my tenure, I was dragged to be a member of the Board of UCH. I was the last man to report on that board. I told the board that pharmacists are not adding value to patients' care. They asked me to chair a subcommittee to look at the issue. I brought two consultants to look at how pharmacists practice at UCH can be improved and how we can implement innovative ideas. The board agreed to pay the two



consultants; one from the USA and a Professor from Ife. They did their jobs and at the end of the day we created three departments – Clinical Services, Admin and Special Project for cancer or HIV drugs. Each of those departments was headed by a Deputy Director. I ensured that on every floor of UCH, a pharmacy department was created during my time. It was also a board decision that pharmacy students that trained from UI should come to UCH twice a week for a structured ward rounds. The third area was on Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) which is again related to hospital services. It became very controversial in Nigeria. The doctors were against the programme, saying we want to duplicate their jobs. I brought some experts from National University Commission (NUC), from abroad and lecturers with vast knowledge in that area, those who started programmes like this to do some researches and we made presentations to National University Commission (NUC) and Minister of Health. I'm happy to report that within the first one year of my tenure, we got the approval for (Pharm.D.) recognized in Nigeria by National University Commission (NUC).

***The disparity between medical doctor and the pharmacist is like the disparity between the HND holder and the BSc***

***holder. What is your comment on this?***

Well, I think it's a form of injustice I met when I was president. We tried to table it before the Minister of Health, the Wages and Salary Commission of the federal government of Nigeria. We had a particular minister of health who distorted the whole system he met in the civil

**When you set up a business, do not think that return on investment is overnight. It took me 26 years to be able to secure a loan from the bank to buy a building. I don't know how many young pharmacists will be willing to wait for 26 years to do that. Some come out these days wanting to buy a car, buy a house within a year – but investment does not work that way. Every good and durable venture takes time to mature”**

service and brought doctors out of a scale that applied to every professional. For example, when we graduated in the late 70s or early 80s, we all started on level eight – the doctors were on step three, pharmacists on step one. After the NYSC, we all moved to level nine, the doctors were placed on step three while we were on step one. That was what was obtainable until Professor Ransome-Kuti of blessed memory moved the doctors out of this scale and formed a new salary scale for them

completely out of the civil service scale – and it is what we are still protesting till date, and the civil service commission had now set-up an evaluation committee of the federal government that met with my group when I was president to look into the matter. The other health workers felt they have been marginalized. The doctors alone cannot do the work of the healthcare team. Each health practitioner has its own role to play and that is why in countries where health indices have improved significantly, research has shown that there is cohesion among health workers, there is uniformity in what they do, there is cooperation among the health workers that brings about better health indices in those countries, but we have not been able to achieve that in Nigeria.

Sometimes, doctors want to do the work of the pharmacist but we have all been trained to specialise. I can't do the work of a doctor; I will do the work of a pharmacist – producing and giving out drugs and rendering appropriate advice. Pharmacists also carry out investigations that assist the doctors to make final decisions. In Nigeria, separation of roles is defined but not adhered to.

***As an outstanding pharmacist; what do you see as the set skills needed to***

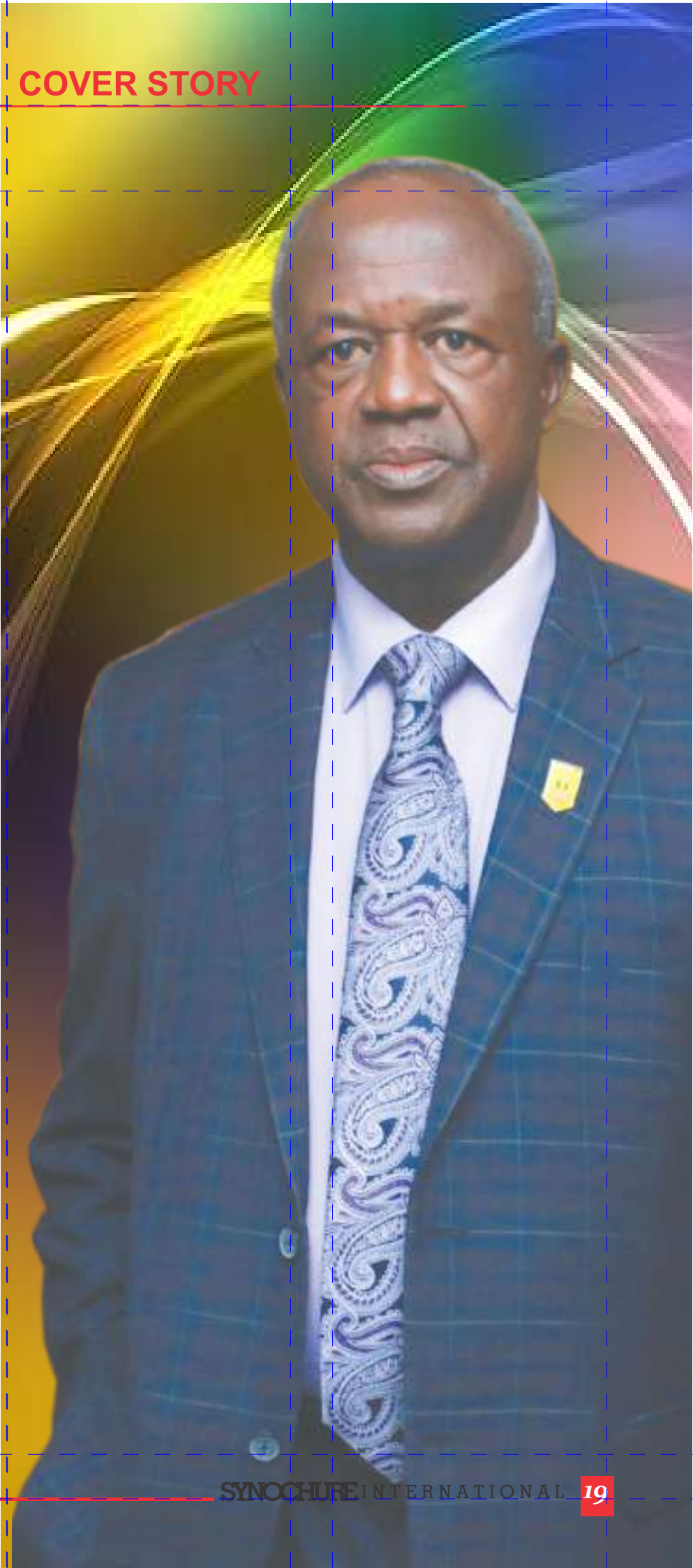


***succeed as a community pharmacist which is your area of specialisation?***

Number one; you must have the interest to support yourself because community pharmacy business or service will enslave you. *You will give more time to the clients than you give yourself* because you are there to ensure the right drugs is administered in right proportion, based on the prescription recommended by the doctor. You are to also ensure the drugs are well kept in appropriate environment and counsel the consumer that right environment is needed to preserve the chemicals from deteriorating. A community pharmacist needs to, first of all, make up his mind that he is ready to carry out this service. A community pharmacist must have keen interest in the business, then commit his resources to start and stay in business. By and large, resources are very important; money is needed to buy drugs because you are not the one manufacturing them. You need to create a template where the customers can have attention and some privacy. Once those conditions are met, you are ready for community pharmacy business.

***Looking back now, how can you describe the kind of fulfilment you get from what you are doing? And to buttress that point a little bit more, what are the set skills you have learned apart from your profession?***

I have learnt leadership skills. The profession teaches us how to lead, and through service, I have been able to garner more



of such skills. I'll give you an example, I was president of Rotary Club of Akowonjo. Out of 96 clubs, I became number one in my year and Akowonjo only achieved that feat twice. So, it's all about leadership style and acquiring skills on the job. I come across professionals through Pharmacy and Rotary. Leadership skill is one of those things I have been able to acquire in the process of serving the community, my profession and larger society. But note when we succeed is the grace of God.

### ***Who were your role models in the industry when you started?***

In the industry, I had one Pharm. Edoro Solomon. He was the marketing manager that brought me on board as a medical rep. His training was very thorough and rigorous. He trained us on communication skills and product knowledge – knowing our competitors, creating daily marketing models. He also taught us how to prepare write-ups and reports – and those skills really helped me. When I was in Kuru, writing was part of the tasks I executed.

Other role models I have are Mr. Paul Enebeli who was the sponsor on my wedding day and Prince Julius Adeniyi-Adelusi of Juli Pharmacy that chaired the occasion. When I did my 60<sup>th</sup> birthday and dedicated our office building, Prince Julius was also the

**If it were a supermarket, it will run. Once the products are there with price tags, customers can pick their choices and go away but pharmacy entails more. I grew mine through personal interaction with clients, adding value to product sales by what you say, do and keep the product. Although, some retailers such as Boluke and Alpha Pharmacy have succeeded in branching out but if they tell you what they have gone through to achieve, you may not like to venture into it.**

chairman. I've been so attached to these role models and I've learnt a lot from them. They taught me to be contented and I also preach that to my children. Whatever comes to you, take it and what eludes you, let it go but keep working hard with prayers and striving for excellence.

### ***If you've not studied pharmacy, which other course would you have gone for ... who or what would you have become?***

It's a difficult question for me to answer. All I love is pharmacy, I speak, eat, walk, drink and sleep pharmacy. Everything I do is about pharmacy to the extent that in my house, my children –

especially my two daughters detest the profession because of my extreme passion for the profession. They felt I love the profession more than them. They complained I never took them out during holidays and all they knew about their dad as little girls was, “Daddy has gone to the secretariat ... he went to see Olumide or Enebili ... daddy has gone to Abuja for a meeting,” – and when they grew up, they made up their mind not to do anything pharmacy. My last born, now in her final year, chose Chemical Engineering. They usually followed me to the Secretariat but said I never gave them the time they needed with their dad.

### ***What about your sons ... did you influence them to be pharmacists?***

I wanted my first son to read medicine but he said he preferred pharmacy. Then, I tried to influence my second son to read medicine when I was on the board of UCH. I even gave his name to the Provost of the College of Medicine but my son refused blatantly despite scoring enough marks in JAMB to study medicine. Today, he's also a pharmacist and a staff of NAFDAC.

### ***Why didn't you go into production of drugs? I mean Industrial Pharmacy?***

Well, that makes sense but



you know, everybody has his own area of interest. My interest is retailing. I think it is late for me to get into that but my children can do that if they feel like. The industry is another avenue to speak pharmacy to the world. I started with industry after my NYSC and I was therefor almost seven years. Retail gives me more fulfilment and influence.

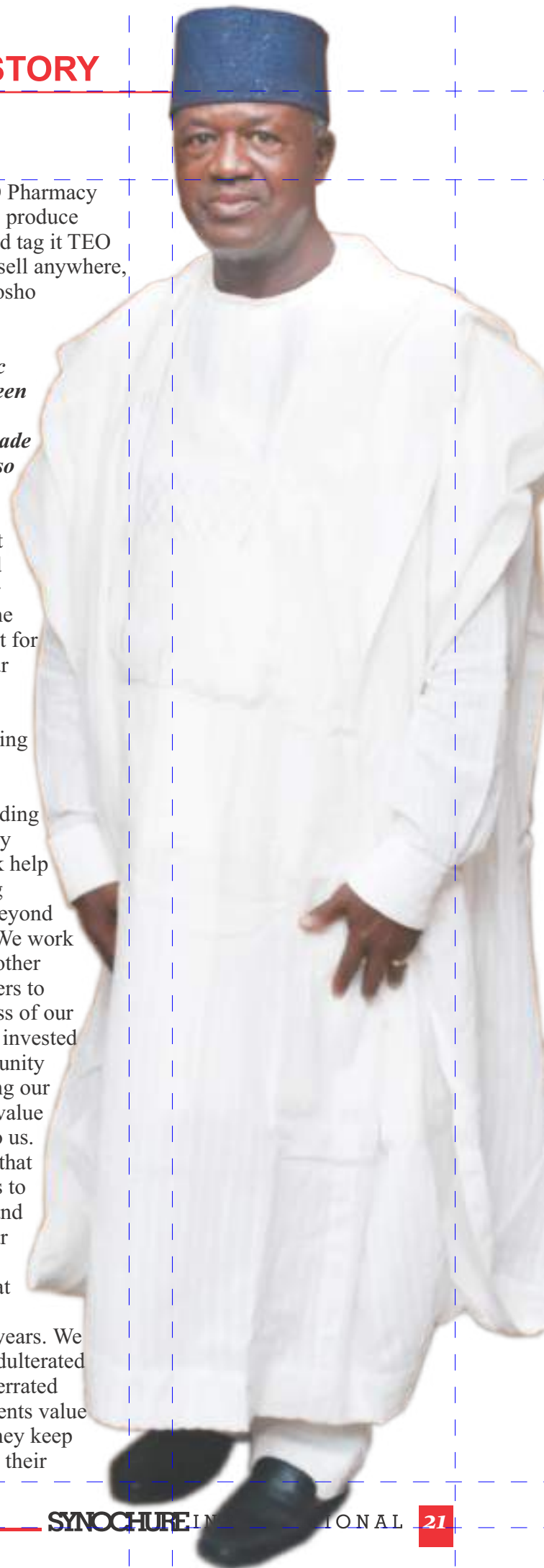
***You said TEO Pharmacy made you fulfilled as a professional, why don't you expand and branch out to other parts of the state for them to also benefit from the services you are rendering?***

That's a very good question. I look at those who have done that before me such as Juli Pharmacy. It once had branches in Ketu, Yaba and Ikoyi and other places but within 3 or 4 years, they closed and returned to Ikeja. What was the reason? I tried to ask him. The issue was incompetence, credibility and inability to get reliable hands. Pharmacy is a peculiar business. If it were a supermarket ,it will run. Once the products are there with price tags, customers can pick their choices and go away but pharmacy entails more. I grew mine through personal interaction with clients, adding value to product sales by what you say, do and keep the product. Although, some retailers such as Health Aid and Alpha Pharmacy have succeeded in branching out but if they tell you what they have gone through to achieve, you may not like to venture into it. I'm okay with what I have done so far, the children that are taking over from me should explore that area. It's a very beautiful and

creative area TEO Pharmacy can explore; if we produce anything today and tag it TEO Pharmacy, it will sell anywhere, especially in Alimosho community.

***What is the magic wand you have been using at TEO Pharmacy that made everybody speak so well about the outlet?***

Like I said, we set out an agenda and carved a niche for ourselves. Over the years, we have not for once neglected our duty and goals to satisfy our customers; rendering good services, making available good products, adding value to everybody that comes to seek help from us and doing referral in cases beyond our competence. We work with doctors and other healthcare providers to ensure the wellness of our patients. We have invested a lot in our community and we keep giving our very best, giving value for monies paid to us. I tell my workers that we are in business to serve the people and they must treat our customers as royalties – and that has made us to succeed over the years. We have never sold adulterated items or give underrated services. Our patients value what we do and they keep coming back with their



friends.

***Now that your son is managing the pharmacy, is there any transition process in place, and will you also like them to be more involved in the activities of the PSN secretariat to be more involved in the leadership?***

Well, the issue of leadership in the secretariat will be a matter of his choice. I developed my own interest in that area. That decision is his to take. I know he loves what I have done for the profession and the service I rendered. He opted for pharmacy on his own and agreed to take over the business. He was not forced in any way. He needs to discover his own areas of special interest.

I trust him to carve his own niche, develop his interest and pursue it passionately. I have given him a template to follow. His only limiting force is the sky.

***In spite of your busy schedules, how do you unwind?***

I am in the medical profession and I understand the benefits of unwinding.

Lack of rest is hazardous and dangerous to our health. I have developed culture of rest. There are days I just stay indoor, switch-off my phone and sleep. I am now approaching 70 but there are certain rituals I have built into my system like not sleeping until 1a.m to evaluate the day and plan the next day. I also listen to music and news – and I must assess what they have done at the pharmacy daily. The issue of unwinding is significant; we cannot rest when working. As our tradition, I take the children out on holidays. For example, my last daughter's was born on Christmas day and for a long time now, we are never in the house on Christmas days. She decides where to go and we move. For her last birthday, we spent the night in a hotel at Lekki, Lagos. My wife used to say I am not romantic but I have travelled to all the continents in the world with her. We are even planning to go to Australia, she has never been there. Travelling is my hobby; it may be expensive but it is part of education.

***What do you want to be remembered for?***

I want to be remembered as a man who donated his life to the service of God and humanity. I serve God in my little way as a Christian; working on myself to be like Christ. Although it is difficult to love your enemies and pray for those exploiting you – but Christ commands us to love them and as I get older, I see wisdom in that. My life is dedicated to service right from my secondary school days. At the university, I was a member of (RANS) and as a national executive member, I was the first African student to go for a 3-month international exchange programme to Sweden. I stayed with three families whilst there and my relationship with one of the families is maintained till date – and anytime I go to Sweden, I stay in their home. They don't allow me to stay in any hotel. I am a Rotarian and the maxim is service above self. He who serves above self will profit most. If we serve others, share what we have with them, life becomes better. We keep sharing and giving out of the little we have, putting smiles on the faces of the less-privileged. God blessed us so that we can bless others.

***Thank you very much sir, it is a pleasure talking to you.***









# Everyday with my husband seems like honeymoon

## -Evelyn Ifyinwa Akhimien

The majestic stride of a cock is not because of the crown on his head but due to the hen he chases. When a tiger sees the tigress, the conjugal bliss is unexplainable, and the only reason there is so much power in the lion's colony is because of the lioness prowess.

Anthony Akhimien's elegance, the power of his dynasty can only be defined by the conjugal bliss he enjoyed with his darling wife, Dame Evelyn Ifyinwa Akhimien.

Beautiful Mrs. Akhimien was born as Evelyn Ifyinwa Okafor on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1967 –the third child in a family of 12 kids –in a beautiful village called Ohumagu in Enugu State. She trained as a professional secretary and stenographer at the Royal Institute of Management Studies in Isolo, Lagos State, Nigeria. She worked as company secretary.

She spoke to our correspondents on her marriage, husband and business. Excerpts below:

***What has the journey been like after you left school? Your work experience and life after school.***

Did I really work? Yes, I worked briefly at a law firm and later in a construction company, Broadline International at Broad Street, Lagos Island before I met my husband. I worked there for about two years. I was working and attending school simultaneously. By the time I finished, I got married, and with the problem of pregnancy, I couldn't go back for my HND. Marriage switched my focus into business.

***How did you meet your husband?***

In this life, people meet in different ways.

Ours was a divine arrangement. I remember how it happened vividly. As a young girl, I was going to my friend's place at Obanikoro one Saturday. He was driving by and decided to give me a ride and I obliged. We talked on usual things like youngsters, and exchanged addresses. I gave him my office address. What I did that day has never happened to me before. Most times when I meet guys, I would lie about my name and contact but I told this guy (Tony) almost everything about me – the whole truth. I still joked with him that, 'I don't know the charms he used on me that made me say everything about me.' I told him where I worked and lived with my brother and so many more. He kept frequenting my office to the extent that I said, "Old boy, stop disturbing me. I'm still in school" but did not dissuade him a bit, he kept buying me gifts, showing love and I would say, "I don't want anything," – but there was this elderly man in my office, Mr. John, our senior driver who told me, "Give this young man a chance. He looks like a responsible man ...go out with him. Serious ones are really scarce these days." I was adamant and made excuses that, "I don't love him ... I don't want him to disturb me ... I want to go to school," – but Elder John

was unperturbed, he said, “Then, I don't want to see another guy in this office.” Whenever Tony checked me in office and I was trying to hide, Elder John would reveal my hideout. Tony still refers to the man as the person that set the pace for his marriage. To cut a long story short, it happened - and before I knew it, Tony said, “I want to meet your parents.” I said, “No, I don't want you to know my parents yet.” Eventually, I took him to my parents and he brought his brothers along to the village. Like joke, he paid the dowry and all that was requested. I got pregnant with my first son. Yeah, and the rest is history.

***What has the journey with him been like?***

Ah! Wow! It is sweet. It's been very interesting because everyday seems like honeymoon. I've come to realise that if you marry your best friend, 24 hours isn't enough in a day. It's very interesting to start life with one's husband. He was a sales rep then and I was an undergraduate. My fear initially was how to cope but he kept saying, “Don't worry!”

I would go to work, tired, unable to eat and very sick. Pregnancy really showed me 'shege.' He was the one that collected my sack letter from my MD because I would not go to work two or three days in a week. He would go and give excuse on my behalf. You know these Orients that owned the company don't

joke with work. After having my first son, we started the pharmacy. He took me to the empty space he had paid for. I said, “How do we start when we don't have money?” He said, “Don't worry, God will help us.” By the time the pharmacy commenced, I was managing the place bit-by-bit with my six-month old baby. Gradually, TEO Pharmacy became a household name.

***What can you say about your husband, the kind of man he is?***

Wow! You're asking me an interesting question about my man. I don't know how to describe him? He is an interesting human being; loving, caring, honest and very kind. He is a good man that knows he has to work hard for everything to get all good things of life. When he turned 60, myself and the children celebrated him. He is a workaholic; he will choose work above food. When it's time to share food, he will carry his bag and said, he has another work somewhere – but he loves his family so much. He loves his wife and children above everything, and he does everything to meet their needs. He's an interesting man, sometimes he would travel to three places on a stretch – from the airport, he would call and say, “I'm sorry, I won't be able to come home. I'm going to so and so place.” He wants everything he does to be perfect. He is fervent in his faith and service in church. In fact, he's the one that dragged me

to church, just as he has dragged me into everything he does and loves – and I'm enjoying myself. I'm happy to have a man like him as my husband and father of my children.

***What's that one thing you can say he has done that you will forever cherish and you will never forget?***

There are so many things. Whenever I was to deliver my babies, my husband was always in the labour room with me. We have four children, two boys and two girls. The first two deliveries were normal but the girls – especially the last one that I had through a Caesarean operation on Christmas day. Tony was in the theatre with me.

***In what way can you say he has contributed to the development of this nation?***

I can't name them all but I know that his profession will never forget him. Whenever the young ones visit the pharmacy, you will see how excited they are meeting him in person.

***What do you think he would have done differently?***

Differently? I don't know. Nothing! This is a man that is very thorough in everything he does. There is nothing to regret about.

***As a wife of a very busy professional who is always on the move; what is your advice to a wife of a budding professional?***



My dear, if you want to marry a man, get married and stay married. If you don't want to marry, stay single because marriage will strip you of all your titles and entitlement. As a wife of a busy professional, face your family and be patient. Patience is very important in anything you do, and you must be willing to sacrifice so many things including some friends because you have to be on the same page with your husband. I remember when we just got married, Akowonjo area was way out of usual track – and most of my friends deserted me. I tell my own children that if you want to marry somebody, marry his future. It may be rough now, pray hard, good times are coming. If you are married, don't put your eye outside again. Your husband is a big man enough; don't let the wealth of another man deceive you, accept your husband the way he is. I advise every young woman, if you say *I love this man*, stay with him for better or worse.



Which other animal is as acrobatic as the monkeys – who in the family of apes stands out? Pharm. Rosemary Osamudiamen Nikoro is a different breed of professional; she is enigmatic, focused and practical. She was born in Sapele, Delta State. She read pharmacy at the University of Benin where she met Sir Anthony Akhimien. She talked on the personality and

## Sir Anthony Akhimien is a peaceful mankind

-Pharm. Rosemary Osamudiamen Nikoro, FPSN

characteristics of Sir Tony Akhimien that set him above others, “We were both Catholic and we both belong to the same Christian Association on the campus. He came to the university very matured and he was not a loose talker. He was consistent in whatever he did and there was never a negative comment about him throughout our time in the university. He was a clean person.”

“Thereafter, our path crossed again in Lagos when I came for my internship and we both got involved in the activities of the

Association at the same time and we were very committed. He served God and mankind. Sir Anthony Akhimien is a peaceful mankind; settling several disputes. He is gentle, polite and accommodating. He accords respect to everybody that is older than himself or more superior or senior – irrespective of gender, age, religion, race or tribe. He will be remembered for the truth, justice and the well being of human beings. He has also done a lot of mentorship.”



# Sir Tony Akhimien pursues his goals vigorously and achieves them gallantly

**Otunba Bola Onabadejo**  
Past Rotary District Governor



A sane dog will never challenge a horse to a sprint because the journey covered by a dog in 20 years is an easy ride for a horse. Otunba Bola Onabadejo is like a stallion; a noble chief in Ijebu, an Estate Surveyor and Valuer, former Rotary District Governor, one time Lay President of the Diocese of Lagos Mainland of the Methodist Church, a business tycoon and a society delight.

Speaking to our correspondent on the personality of Sir Tony Akhimien, Otunba said, "I met Sir Akhimien at the Rotary Club of Akowonjo some years ago. He was an active member of the club – so dedicated to any

assignment given to him. Ask him to do anything; go to sleep, he will do it beyond your expectations. He is a committed community pharmacist with many accolades in Nigeria and West Africa."

"Outside Rotary, Sir Akhimien and I meet every Monday for fellowship and interactions. He is a very wonderful person. His wife is a good woman and his children are well behaved. Our relationship has been very strategic and impactful." He added.

"Sir Akhimien is a humble and unassuming Christian who believes so much in the supremacy of God through Christ. The last time I saw

him, I said 'You have lost weight.' He replied, 'My Past District Governor, thank God for me, I had food poisoning.' You wouldn't have thought of such because he is always smiling, focused on his assignments. He may not be that sociable but he knows his onions. He pursues his goals vigorously and achieves them gallantly." Otunba Onabadejo whilst congratulating Sir Tony Akhimien also described him as a reliable and responsible man.



## Sir Akhimien is prudent at managing resources and phenomenal at managing people

**Oluwashina Omotunde**

A chartered accountant, Oluwashina Omotunde is an auditor, financial and tax consultant with many years of experience in the banking industry. He is like a little animal called porcupine that huge animals cannot oppress in the wild.

He spoke to us on his relationship with Sir Anthony Akhimien, their meetings and other issues, "I met and got closer to Sir Tony at St.

Sabina's Catholic Church when both of us were in a committee set-up by the church and we have worked together on several occasions – when he was chairman of harvest committee and on church building project. He is well respected in the church because of his leadership role and he is a role model to many people in the church; anytime we talk about people who really worked their way to success, fingers are always pointing at him."

"Sir Tony's marital life is worth emulating; their union is wonderful and working with him is delightful.

He is prudent at managing resources and phenomenal at managing people. You will need self examination if he gets angry with you and when we are talking of the 3 T's – treasure, time and talent, look no further when you see Sir Akhimien, a strong member of Knight of Angel International. Sir Tony is a sticker for perfection; he won't call for a meeting and keep you waiting and at those meetings, he will welcome new ideas, and if your idea is superior than his, he takes it. His concern is the goal." He concluded with prayer and well wishes.





## Sir Akhimien is an excellent communicator, an orator and a good leader

Pharm. Adewale Aderemi Oladigbolu, FPSN

A lion's cub will never bleat like a goat; he is born to roar and rule the jungle, not to roam around in the community. So also, this Oyo Prince, Pharm. Adewale Oladigbolu will never behave like a commoner because he is a royalty from the popular Yoruba Kingdom.

Prince Oladigbolu spoke to us on Sir Akhimien and cherished qualities that stand him out. "I have heard of Sir Akhimien severally but we met when he became the President of Pharmaceutical Society

of Nigeria. He is an excellent communicator, an orator and a good leader who speaks without mincing his words."

"Sir Akhimien is a thoroughbred pharmacist who will never bend rules. He is a great motivator and very disciplined. He is a great advocate of pharmaceutical profession. He withstood NAFDAC during the mandatory call that all medicine should be registered within an unrealistic time frame. He is a leader who wants to ensure that things were done right in Nigeria. He was one of the great Nigerians who

initiated the National Health Insurance Scheme."

Speaking further, Pharm. Oladigbolu reiterated how Sir Tony Akhimien fought endlessly for pharmacists in different health strata of the country and ensured that average Nigerian gains access to sound health without breaking bank vault – and in conclusion, he congratulated our Role Model and prayed that he will soar to another level. "I am very happy that his efforts of years are being recognized and I am elated that young people will learn from his life story."

## Sir Tony Akhimien is the type that renders good and godly counsels to who cares to listen

Rev. Fr. Gregg Ndaeyo, CM  
PARISH-PRIEST, CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC CHURCH, AKOWONJO

Greg is a revered Catholic Priest from Akwa-Ibom State. His childhood dream was to be a lawyer but destiny carved another path for him.

Reverend Greg lives in this world but not of this world. His ways and manners of doing things are quite different from the way others do them.

Speaking to us on the person and qualities of Sir Akhimien, Rev. Greg said, "TEO, as I fondly call him, and first met him in 2009. He is a very quiet man with sound mind and strong stance. Whatever he cannot do, he says it immediately. He is a very-disciplined man with a strong

instinct – and for about 14 years of knowing him, I can vouch for his credibility. He is a very simple, quiet, straightforward and overly committed to anything that he is convinced about. He is very dedicated and frank."

Reverend Greg also spoke about Sir Akhimien's contribution to Catholic Mission and the church, "Sir Tony Akhimien is the type that renders good and godly counsels to who cares to listen whether he is in position or not. He offers his time, treasures and resources to make sure things work fine. He was a member of the building committee of this worship centre.



He has touched lives by mentoring the young ones and being genuine, hardworking and dedicated."

"This generation should emulate Sir Akhimien's heart of love, act of kindness and perseverance. His integrity, discipline, generosity towards the people and care for the less-privileged will never be forgotten. He has put smiles on the faces of many people he has assisted without making noise." He added.

An Honour  
WELL  
Deserved

Our dear **Sir ANTHONY AKHIMIEN** FPSN, mni, as you receive the synochure **ROLE MODEL OF THE YEAR AWARD.**

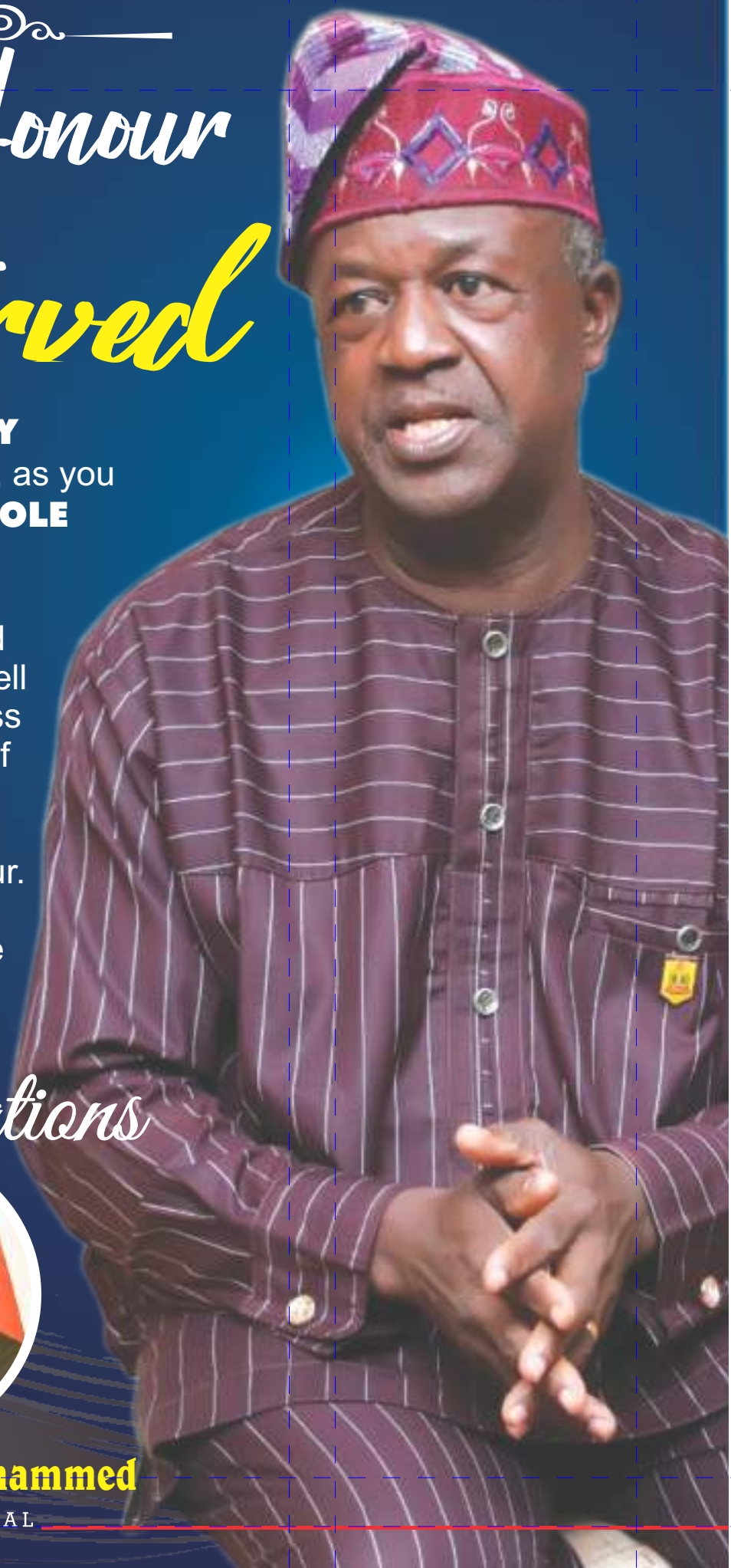
We are indeed honoured to join millions of your well wishers and family across the length and breadth of our dear nation in congratulating you on this well deserved honour. This indeed marks yet another mile stone in the annals of your enviable achievements.

*Congratulations*



*Signed*

**Pharm. (Dr) N.A.E Mohammed**





# Tony is an amazing, passionate, thoughtful, amiable and easy-going mankind

Pharm. Olumide Akintayo, FPSN

Pharm. Olumide Akintayo is like a cock that belongs in a particular house whose crowing at dawn is heard in the entire community.

This great man with great history and wonderful future talked to us on the person and attributes of Tony Akhimien, "I met Sir Tony when we were both young pharmacists. He is very diligent, hardworking and honest. He is an unrepentant and dedicated community pharmacist who will go out of

his way to help the needy. He is one of the greatest products of the Pharmaceutical Society; call and tell him there is something to be done for pharmacists, be sure he will show up and meet the deadline set for him. He is focused and tenacious."

"Tony is an amazing, passionate, thoughtful, amiable and easy-going mankind who has impacted lives in one way or the other in the course of his chosen

career as a pharmacist and in the area of community service. He dedicated his all to the successes recorded in the discipline of Pharmacy in Nigeria and West Africa, and his immense contribution to the giant strides that have been made at the sector would not go unrecognized."

In conclusion, he added, "As you receive this award, I pray that the Almighty God bless you and your family."

## Sir Tony is a man of many parts; highly passionate with any task given to him

Pharm. Gbenga Olubowale, FPSN

Pharm. Gbenga Olubowale is a Fellow of the Nigerian Academy of Pharmacists and a merit award winner of PSN Lagos State. This OAU, life graduate is like a resting lion that no animal could arouse. He is both enigmatic and charismatic.

A seasoned community pharmacist for almost 30 years, Gbenga spoke to our correspondents on the traits that make Sir Tony tick. "My first close contact with Sir Akhimien was in 2003 when I became the General Secretary of the Lagos State Association of Community Pharmacists in Nigeria and he was the National Chairman of the

association. We worked together and closely for one year, and that helped me to know who he truly is."

"Sir Tony is a man of many parts; highly passionate with any task given to him. He is a workaholic working long hours to meet target. Working with such a man will definitely put you on your toes – because you have no choice than to keep-up the pace with him or you will fall behind schedule. I also learn a lot about leadership, strategy, execution and many other skills while working with him from 2008-2009. He is highly disciplined – maybe that is due to his growing



up in a catholic setting. He is fully dedicated to whatever mission he sets his mind on, giving his best at all times." He added. "Merely looking at him, you might think he is a boring person to hang around but there was never a dull moment with him. He is such a man that will take you through the rudiments, bits and pieces of whatever he is doing." He concluded and prayed that his latter end will be better than the beginning.

# Sir Tony Akhimien is always passionate about whatever he does

## Allen Esv. Oseghale

CHAIRMAN, ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC COLLEGE OLDBOYS ASSOCIATION, LAGOS BRANCH

**Estate Surveyor and Valuer**  
Oseghale is a professional with a humble spirit, a gentleman with a lion heart. His life, how he strove for mastery and pushed his way to the top are inspirations for many people. ESV Oseghale spoke to our correspondent on his personal relationship with Sir Tony Akhimien and personality of our Role Model: "One day, I ran into one of my old school boys who finished secondary school the same year with me in 1978. He introduced me to the Old Boys Association – and there I met Sir

Akhimien who left the school in 1973. We usually hold and rotate our meetings in various members' houses on a regular basis."  
"Sir Tony Akhimien is always passionate about whatever he does; he is a perfectionist. Because he is our senior in school and an elder, we always look up to him for guidance and sometimes call him to resolve certain issues bothering the old boys – and more often than not, he comes and settles the matter amicably. He does not only sacrifice money, effort and time,

he has also made it a habit to find solutions to any problem that arises. My closeness to him revealed he is a good family man and selfless in disposition."  
"I have been privileged to grow into a responsible man and seasoned professional under his guidance. He is a mentor and a wonderful brother. He may look stern but he is a gentleman with great standards for moral and discipline. He is also a seasoned professional and successful administrator." He added.

# Sir Akhimien is humble, decisive, straightforward and focused

## Professor Cyril Usifoh, PSN President

**Professor Cyril Usifoh, the current President of Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria (PSN) is a Professor of Pharmacy since 2003 and a lecturer at the University of Benin. He is a man of dignity and power; his name is heavier than bride price when seeking a damsel's hands in marriage.**  
Speaking on how he met Sir Akhimien and his personality, Professor Usifoh said, "We are both pharmacists and as pharmacists, we have the opportunity of meeting regularly at conferences and other professional occasions. I got close to him when he was the

Deputy President and later President of PSN. I was the editor-in-chief when he was president and that allowed for more interactions. He sacrificed time and energy to ensure pharmacists are moved to higher level."  
"Sir Akhimien believes so much in our profession; he spends his life working and living for the profession. He is humble, decisive, straightforward and focused. He is a go-getter; his yes is yes and his no is no. His word is his bond and I think this is shaped by his religious belief. He is a down-to-earth man with likeable spirit. He is multi-



talented, detribalized – but never condoned what is wrong."  
"He is a dynamic, hardworking and God-fearing man, very cultured in his daily affairs. He is a respected and excellent leader. If you work closely with him, you will learn equity and fairness, emotional intelligence and critical evaluation of issues and ideas. His leadership skill is great." Professor Usifoh concluded by asking the Lord to grant Sir Akhimien more grace to function.





# You can take Sir Akhimien's words to bank

**Dr. Abumere Abhimien**  
Medical Director, Doyen Hospital

Honour is meant for those who deserve it. It is only a foolish man that looks down on a noble because a king is saddled with authority whether he exercises it or not, and that is why whoever dares the king will pay dearly for it. Elegant Dr. Abumere Abhimien, an experienced medical practitioner spoke to us on his meeting and relationship with Sir Akhimien and his family. "Our first meeting was when his wife was delivering her

first son because all his children were delivered at Crystal Specialist Hospital where I was working at the time – but what brought us together was the delivery of their second son. The wife was in labour and there was nobody to manoeuvre the baby who was coming out with his bum-bum. Sir Akhimien approached me to assist, though I didn't really know who he was then but I offered my help and everything went well – and since then, I became his family Doctor. I also delivered the two daughters – and the one born on the 25th of December made me realise we

were church members and someone I could learn from." Furthermore, Dr. Abumere spoke about the good personality and godly nature of Sir Tony Akhimien, "He is very simple, humble and lovely; when he enters a place, his positive aura dispels any form of darkness and illuminates the whole environment. He is very vibrant, wanting things done in proper way. I rely so much on the genuineness of the drugs sold in his pharmacy that I always refer patients to buy from TEO Pharmacy. You can take his words to bank; he is truthful, honest and his credibility is infectious."

## Sir Anthony is a people's person

**Dr. Michael Anayo Onuoha**

Michael Anayo Onuoha is like a small rudder that controls a mighty ship in the ocean. He is ever confident and focused. He is a public relations practitioner of immense experience in the corporate sector.

Dr. Anayo spoke to our correspondent on the personality of Sir Anthony Akhimien and great attributes of the man. "Sir Anthony Akhimien is like an elder brother to me. Our paths crossed when I was at May and Baker. I can't remember when and how but it was at a PSN conference. We developed a closer relationship when we ran into each other at Christ the King Catholic Church, Akowonjo where

our deep interaction started." "Sir Anthony is a people's person. A lot of people gravitate towards him because of his leadership quality and activities inside and outside the church. He was once the harvest chairman – and to be that, you have to be a trusted person who can also mobilise people to raise funds for the church and manage the fund effectively. He is very passionate about the things of God. Once he sets his mind on doing something, he wants it done promptly and

accurately. He is approachable, accommodating and honest."

In conclusion, he prayed that Sir Akhimien will not lose focus and he will continue to enjoy sound health. "I love him for humility and selflessness. He is very religious but not a bigot. He mixes freely with people and treats them equally, irrespective of their ethnic or religious background. He speaks and practises peace and love among all mankind in general."



## **Anthony Akhimien is a disciplined man and result-oriented professional**

**Sir John Omoniyi Adeoti**

Does the name John Omoniyi Adeoti ring a bell? It is only a blind man that considers an elephant a little animal. John is a man of class and repute.

This trained executive banker and boardroom guru spoke on Pham. Sir Anthony Akhimien thus: "I am a catholic and member of Christ the King Church. I met and became closer to Anthony Akhimien in 1995. He is an honest gentleman, a man of

integrity who executes his assignments with great passion. He contributed to the church clinic that has now transformed into hospital and he freely renders help to the people in the church. You don't need to knock on his door to secure his attention for help."

"Anthony Akhimien is a disciplined man and result-oriented professional; dedicated and focused. He loves to do things the right way; not cutting corners or bending rules. He prefers to follow due processes to

achieve results. He always ensures success is achieved in whatever he is involved." Sir John Omoniyi also implored every right-thinking youth and potential leader to emulate Sir Akhimien's patience, perseverance, dedication to duty and most importantly commitment, and in conclusion, he thanked Tony Akhimien for his supports for church and members, his dedication, cooperation and understanding of people, and wished him success in his future endeavours.

## **Sir Akhimien's life is dedicated to service**

**Pharm Ignatius Anukwu**

Pharm. Ignatius Kalu is like an oak tree that holds its fort as an acorn. Which tree will compare with oak in size and girth?

This graduate of UNN and Chief Operation Officer, Alpha Pharmacy and Stores Limited spoke to our correspondent on Sir Anthony Akhimien.

"I met Sir Akhimien in the late 90s but we got closer around 2001/02.

His life is dedicated to service. He is someone that digs deep, always on his toes trying to ensure things are done properly. He is reliable and dependable; you can bank on him to defend what is right."

"Sir Anthony is an amiable person, very dedicated, committed, frank, hardworking, humble, generous, very friendly ... a man with high integrity, a responsible father and a devout catholic." Sir Akhimien is an action man, a go-getter and highly responsible with proven integrity, and astute professional to the core." He added.



# Tony is a man of value who also believes in adding values to other people's lives

**-Engr. Adams Okoeine**

There are many stars but only one moon – and yet, the collective light of the stars cannot be as bright as that of the moon.

Engr Adams Okoeine has been shining to the chagrin of his enemies because his source is God. This great man took us down the memory lane on who Sir Anthony Akhimien was and is. “We belong to the same Old Boys Association of Annunciation Catholic College.

We attend meetings and events together, commiserate and rejoice together, party and play together. Our meeting venues rotate from house to house and we have held several meetings in his house. He is not only a thoroughbred professional but also a man of values who also believes in adding values to other people's lives. He is a man of honour, commitment, wisdom



and courage.

“I admire and relate with him on an even level. He is someone I hold in high esteem.” Engr. Adams thanked God for the life of his Old Boy and prayed that God will guard, guide, strengthen and empower him for more exploits.



A seasoned pharmacist from Edo State, Dr. N.A.E Mohammed is like a torrential rain without cloud. He is a delight of the city and the country. He has been through various facets of pharmaceutical practice – community, industrial, hospital and journalism.

He recently retired as a Registrar.

Speaking to us on how and when he met Sir Anthony Akhimien and what the

## Sir Tony is caring and very accommodating

**Pham. (Dr) N.A.E Mohammed**

relationship has birthed, he said, “We went to the same university but at a distance as an activist pharmacist and a catholic. We became close when I got to Lagos and into the politics of PSN. My first major encounter with him was when he was secretary to NEGPP. We served together as executives of the Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria.

“Tony is a fine gentleman, hardworking and intelligent. He does not compromise on what he believes in. Give him a task, leave him, he will deliver if he believes in what is tabled

before him but if he doesn't believe in it, you cannot change his mind except you have a superior argument with provable facts.”

“Sir Tony is caring and very accommodating. If he finds you wanting, he is always available to assist – in church or the profession, even in his hometown. He is always serving.”

In addition, Dr. Mohammed enjoined Sir Akhimien to keep up the good works and said, “You dare not make him see you as fake because it will take him time to believe in you again.”

# Sir Anthony Akhimien is an astute board guru and a team player

-Sunny Nwanbike

It is unimaginable and incredible for a mouse to challenge a cat to a brawl. Only an uncultured mankind will question the ability of this Ibadan, Oyo State born Sunny Nwanbike, a man of experience in the field journalism – print and electronic.

What connected him to Sir Akhimien? Sunny Nwanbike hinted, “I have known Sir Akhimien for the past 20 years.

We worship in the same

church. He was chosen as harvest chairman and he picked me as one of the people to work with him and since then, we have interacted on closely, and I have discovered that he is a gentleman to the core, not overly ambitious, but focused. He has zero tolerance for mediocrity. He believes everyone should be able to work with minimal supervision. He is an astute board guru and a team player.

Speaking further on the unique traits of Sir Akhimien, Sunny showered encomia on Sir Akhimien for being a good brother, a genuine Christian who is always on the lookout for the good of everybody and congratulated him for reaching the pinnacle of his career in service, “I wish him good luck and all the best, sound health, more influence and affluence as he faces the next phase of his life.”

## Humility is Sir Tony's biggest asset

-Pharm. (Sir) Ikechukwu Onyechi, FPSN

Do not compare a lizard with a crocodile. They might both be reptiles. One is an aquatic creature while the other is created for the land but the croc is a carnivore that eats flesh while lizard is an insectivore – and that explains the reason for their size and power.

Just like a mighty croc in the ocean, Pharm. Ikechukwu Onyechi, a Pharmacy graduate of UNN is a professional of repute.

He and Sir Anthony Akhimien have been friends for many

years.

In Ikechukwu's words, “I met Sir Anthony as a smart young medical representative, a great marketer with deep knowledge of his products – and we have worked together for the good of pharmacists and attended many international conferences together.”

“Humility is Sir Tony's biggest asset .He is so humble, energetic, focused and diligent.”

He also commended Sir

Akhimien for being a good professional and godly parent, instilling moral in his kids. “His wife and children are morally upright and respectful. As a professional, his contributions to pharmaceutical development and goodwill of pharmacists in Nigeria are quite impressive. He has delivered many papers and championed many causes – helping to bring development to our nation.”



# Pharmacy is a business of trust and Sir Akhimien is a man of purpose

**-Dr. Obaloluwa Ojo**

The man Obaloluwa Ojo is like water. He is useful for drinking, cooking, bathing and other valuable use. His type is so scarce due to importance and quality. He is a blessing to every venture and association he belongs.

Dr. Obaloluwa Ojo who currently runs a pharmaceutical importation, marketing and distribution company holds a doctorate in Pharmacy and has practised for almost 40 years.

In a session with our correspondent, he spoke

about Sir Anthony Akhimien, "I got to know Akhimien as a very active pharmacist fighting for the interest of his colleagues. I met him briefly as a representative in the industry. By the time I was entering the industry, he was on his way into community pharmacy.

Our interaction is deeply rooted in activism.

"Sir Anthony Akhimien is very passionate about humanity and he pursues that with excellence. Pharmacists are

custodians of drugs and drugs are taken for remedy. Pharmacy is a business of trust and Akhimien is a man of purpose."

"Sir Anthony Akhimien is a man of God, very sincere, thorough and intelligent. He hates cheating, he relates well with people. He is also funny and accommodating. He forgives easily. Rather than proving to know too much, he takes to advice and he has never oppressed anyone with his position." He concluded.



Some people are so incredible like a lump of coal that turned into diamond. Their emergence is magical and their exploits are miraculous. Lagos lawyer, Barrister Martin's Omo is both magical and miraculous and his results are phenomenal.

Where and how did he meet Sir Anthony Akhimien? Barrister Omo replied, "I knew about Sir Anthony Akhimien at the University

## Sir Anthony Akhimien is not a doctor but he bandages the wounds of mankind

**Barrister Martin's Omo**

of Benin. He has contributed a lot to the development of mankind. He is not a doctor but he bandages the wounds of mankind. His contributions to the development of medicine in Nigeria are phenomenal. He is always insisting on excellence and rule of law. He does not cut corners, even when he knows what he's venturing into will take time. He is mentally ready, patient and prepared. When it comes to dispensing medicine and taking care of people, it is utmost carefulness and original."

"He has inputted into his wife and children good moral and godly habits. He assists those in need according to his ability – especially his friends, unless he's not aware. He is so kindhearted that he will not make a show of it unless the person he assisted mentions it.

His humility is well pronounced – even in his relationship with his subordinates; unless somebody tells you he is the boss; you won't know he is the MD."

# Sir Anthony Akhimien is one of the Living Ancestors of the Pharmaceutical Profession

Pharm Dr. Joel Ewuga Babakandzhi Adagadzu, FPSN

A Fellow of the Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria and the current Chairman of the Board of Fellows of the Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria (BOF-PSN), Pharm Dr. Joel Ewuga Babakandzhi Adagadzu is like a patient dog that eats the fattest bone. While some people fish for tilapia in the ocean, the smart ones look for whales and sharks – big and rare creatures, larger than what a net can catch.

Pharm Dr. Joel Ewuga Babakandzhi Adagadzu is a diligent, versatile and patient mankind with tangible results to show for his years of hard work. This ABU, Zaria graduate of Pharmacy spoke to our correspondents on the personality

and qualities of Sir. Anthony Akhimien, “I became more familiar with Sir Anthony Akhimien in 2006 when he was campaigning to be the President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria. He is an intelligent gentleman. His look can be highly deceptive because he is a die-hard pharmacist who believes in the sanctity of the profession and ever ready to rise to defend and protect the interests of the profession in all ramifications. He is very firm and courageous when it comes to the matter of Pharmacists or PSN.”

“Sir Anthony Akhimien has contributed to the development of Pharmacy Profession through many

leadership positions he held in PSN and ACPN. He is one of the Living Ancestors of the Profession. His many interventions yielded many positive achievements for the profession.”

Phar. Dr. Adagadzu believes that Sir Akhimien's passion for pharmacy is reflected in his tireless commitment and participation in many events and meetings organised by the Professional Associations. “He has a legendary aura for smart and definitive contributions. He revels in his being a pharmacist and is eminently proud to be regarded as one. He stands out among his colleagues and other professionals.”

## Tony is a man after my heart; humble and selfless

Hon. Paul Enebeli, FPSN

It is not a mistake that the Lion was made the king of the jungle ... the fact is that it will neither bow nor tuck tail and run from any other beast. It isn't a mistake that peacock is respected among birds ... its robe of honour comes from the Almighty God.

Who will dare a king – even if he is a child? Whosoever does will have his head lifted off his shoulder.

Hon. Paul Enebeli, the Chairman, Elpha Limited, New Heights Pharma Ltd and Member, Delta State Advisory and Peace Building Council is a man of many facets. Speaking about Sir Anthony Akhimien, Hon. Enebeli said, “I have known Tony for over 40 years

as a hard working young man desiring a happy and prosperous future.

“Tony is a man after my heart; humble, deeply religious, honest, trustworthy, reliable and selfless. He is also a great husband and family man. He has contributed enormously to the growth and development of the pharmacy profession both in Nigeria and internationally. Tony worked as secretary at the 1990 National Conference in Enugu when I was Chairman of the conference committee and he was pivotal to the success of the conference. He is a recipient of all the fellowships available in the profession, and a role model to many Pharmacists

and non-Pharmacists alike.”

Hon. Enebeli credited competence and character as the traits that put Sir Akhimien above other pharmacists, “He ticks all the boxes that makes a man or woman successful. He is also a God-fearing Catholic and a Knight. He works hard, willing to learn and excel. He is respectful and unassuming, and not distracted by the vanities of the world.”

“Tony is my Pharmaceutical 'Son' and will be till the end of time. He is an integral part of my family just as I am part of his.” He opined that Tony is an investment in the future of our youths.





## Sir Tony is kind, trustworthy, generous, focused and very candid

### Mr. Christopher Akhimien

Gone are the days when an elephant and her calves cannot tusk at the same time – but things have changed, elephant and her calves can tusk simultaneously. A noble man Christopher Akhimien is younger brother of Pharm (Sir) Tony Akhimien. He is a retired Principal and educationist.

“Sir Akhimien is my immediate elder brother and first child of my mother. We grew up together. In his college days, my father used to send me to him on visiting days. My brother would arrange special lunch for me

in the Hostel. When our mother died in May 1973, he was writing his final WAEC papers. He was not informed until he returned home. It pained him, he cried for days. He gave me most of his college books. From his little savings as a statistician at Federal Office of Statistics, Lagos, he would buy and send me provisions, books and clothes. I visited him severally at UNIBEN and he always cared for me.”

“Sir Tony is kind, trustworthy, generous, focused and very candid in his approach to issues irrespective of who is involved. He is honest, considerate, a good

listener and go-getter. He is a prominent fellow of Rotary Clubs and Knight of St. John International in the Catholic Church.

He has made sacrifices that move pharmacy profession forward without being self-centered or greedy for gains. He may have stepped on people's toes because of his uncompromising nature but as a man of truth, Sir Tony cherished honesty and integrity. He is a man of diligence and absolute faith in God.” He considered his elder brother an icon who had made plausible marks in the sand of time.

## Sir Anthony Akhimien is a forthright and result oriented person

### -Sir Charles Bezim Okei

Sir Charles Okei is a pharmacist with a legal background. After studying Pharmacy at Uniben in 1983 and MBA from Unilag in 1993, he enrolled to study Law at University of Lagos graduating in 2001 and was called to the Nigerian Bar in May, 2002.

How and when did he meet Sir Anthony Akhimien, and what can he say about our Role Model? “I met Tony in 1979 as students in the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Benin. Sir Anthony Akhimien is a forthright and result oriented person. He is a devout catholic; we both belong to the Order of Knights of St. John International where we have

played and are still playing relevant roles.”

“Sir Anthony Akhimien is a committed professional who is very passionate about pharmacy practice. He is a professional par excellence. He uses every opportunity to protect and project the pharmacy profession. I recall a consultative meeting we had in 2001 in Abuja. We met to discuss some provisions/amendments proposed at the House of Representatives which were inimical to Pharmacy practice. After our review, he fought doggedly to expunge those provisions. He is very knowledgeable, focused and



a good team player. The love for the pharmacy profession is uppermost in his heart. In addition, he is a compassionate community leader, an embodiment of professionalism. He is a good mentor for most pharmacists, particularly the younger ones. There is a lot to learn and tap from his experience.” In conclusion, Sir Okei wished his friend long life, good health and prosperity and prayed that he continues to grow in wisdom and stature.

# Sir Anthony Akhimien is an outstanding pharmacist and a thoroughbred professional

-Sir Chief Chuks Amangbo



To be a king; you must be a man of intelligence, influence and affluence. You must have the backing of God, deities and the people you set to rule.

Chuks Amangbo is a financial guru and businessman.

On Sir Anthony Akhimien, Sir Chuks Amangbo said, "We met in church. Our relationship is somehow funny, I was the Harvest Committee Chairman of the church at a time and he took over from me as the chairman of the next Harvest. He also

succeeded me in the Knight of St. John, I was the immediate president and he is the current president."

"Sir Anthony Akhimien is an outstanding pharmacist and a thoroughbred professional. He is always in-charge of health issues in our house. Last year, when I had stone in my kidney, he was the one God used to heal me. He recommended various drugs that eventually cured me. I will never forget the experience in a hurry. He is

a very good man that has contributed a great deal to humanity. He is a good man with fair policies, and a hardworking professional who is very detailed with his works. He doesn't joke with his works.

Our relationship is very cordial and I like him. I'm very proud of him and his entire family. They are all wonderful people." He added.

## He is a role model to many

-Pharm. Ogheneochuko Omaruaye

No sane person will compare a dog with a tiger. The dog may charge stronger and bark louder but if it dares the tiger, it will be baptised with its own blood. Pharm. Ogheneochuko Omaruaye is a man among many boys and a captain where there are many players.

A pharmacist graduate of the University of Benin, Pharm. Omaruaye is the CEO of New Heights Pharmaceuticals, a wholesales and distribution of Health products company." His take on Sir Anthony Akhimien, "I met Sir

Akhimien in the course of my practice as a young pharmacist in Lagos. At that time, he was already the PSN president. As the president, he reaches out to everybody in the industry but we became very close when there were issues involving the PSN and NAFDAC. He appointed me and some other people to look into the problem and find a solution. Fortunately, I worked closely with him. He is an administrator par excellence. He does a lot of

things effortlessly and he is always there to encourage and assist anybody that needs his help at any given time."

Speaking further, Pharm. Omaruaye admonished the youths to learn from Akhimien the principles of dignity, diligence and discipline which he believes helped Sir Anthony Akhimien to the top of his career, and also wish Sir Tony all the best in his future endeavours because he is sure that Sir Tony is a role model to many.





# Another Feather To Your **CAP**

On behalf of my family I heartily rejoice with **SIR ANTHONY AKHIMIEN** FPSN, mni as he receives the **SYNOCHURE ROLE MODEL OF THE YEAR AWARD**. Like the jelly fish which cannot hide in water, your sterling qualities will always fish you out. This is an honour well deserved.



*Congratulations*  
**Signed**  
**Sir John Adeoti**

## *felicitation* TO A GREAT **ACHIEVER**

On behalf of my family, I heartily rejoice with my brother,  
**SIR ANTHONY AKHIMIEN**  
FPSN mni

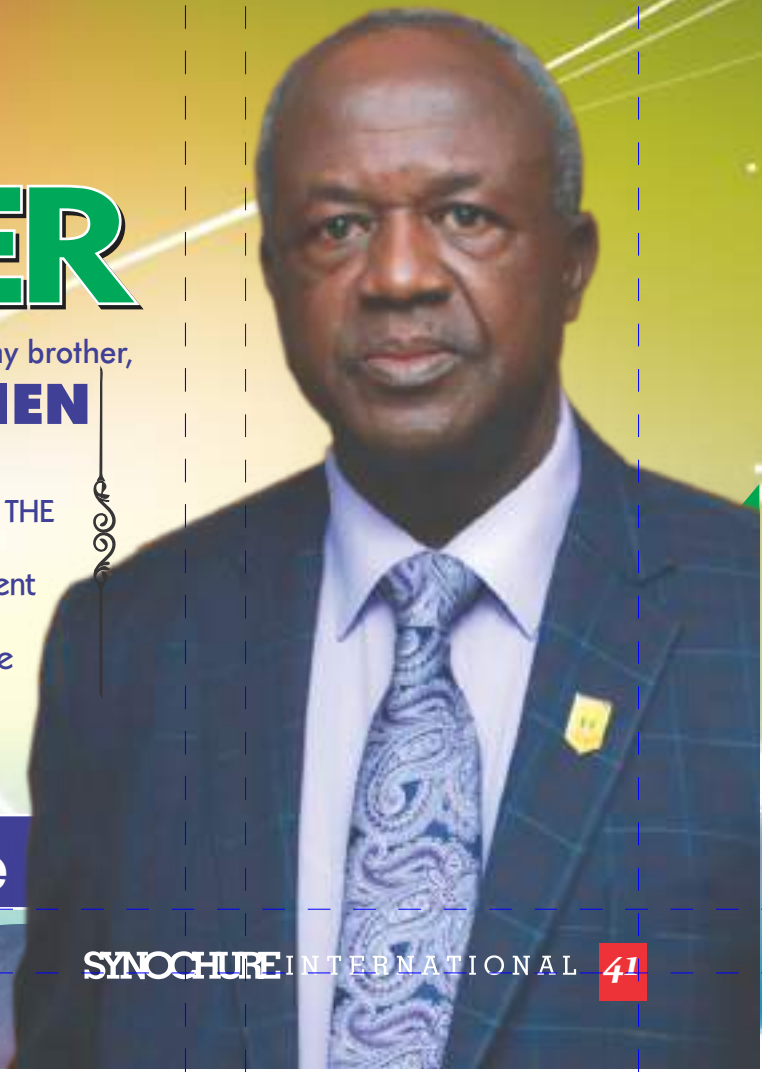
as he receives the **SYNOCHURE ROLE MODEL OF THE YEAR AWARD**.

Sir, your life has been a life of service, commitment and absolute dedication to humanity.

You have ran a good race and you deserve to be celebrated.

*Congratulations sir!*

**Signed Mrs. Stella Adedipe**





# Celebrating An Outstanding Professional

It is with heartfelt joy that I send my warmest congratulations to an outstanding professional I SIR ANTHONY AKHIMIEN FPSN as he receives the SYNOCHURE ROLE MODEL OF THE YEAR AWARD. Sir, when the list of outstanding pharmacist is to be compiled, your name will take a prominent space because of your contributions towards the development of the profession. You are a shining star to the younger generation and we pray Almighty God will grant you more years in good health and sound mind.

## *Congratulations Sir!*

*Signed*

**Pham. Ogheneochuko Omaruaye**  
MD, NEW HEIGHTS PHARMA



# Felicitation to a Dependable Brother

On behalf of my family I heartily rejoice with my brother **SIR ANTHONY AKHIMIEN** FPSN, mni as he receives the **SYNOCHURE ROLE MODEL OF THE YEAR AWARD**. Brother, you have been a loyal brother and friend. You have brought honour and dignity to your people and you deserve to be celebrated. I pray Almighty God will continue to prosper you in good health and sound mind.



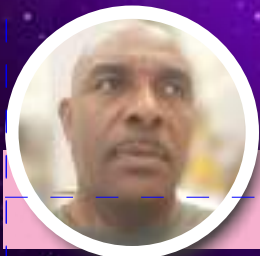
## Congratulations

Signed  
**Mr. Christopher Akhimien**



# Congratulations to an Outstanding Humanist

On behalf of my family, we heartily rejoice with an outstanding Humanist **SIR ANTHONY AKHIMIEN** FPSN, mni as he receives the **SYNOCHURE ROLE MODEL OF THE YEAR AWARD**. Beyond any reasonable doubt, excellence has always been your target and this uncommon virtue had reflected in all your endeavours.



## Congratulations sir!

Signed **Mr. Sunny Nwanbiki**

