VOICE OF YORUBA

NEWSLETTER OF Ẹgbẹ́ Ọmọ Yorùbá
OF GREATER MIAMI VALLEY

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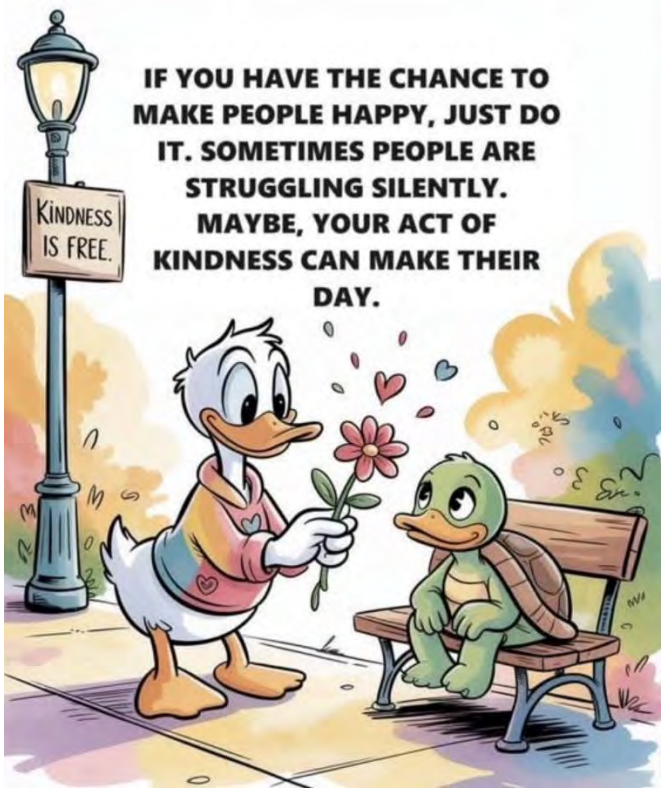
On the Act of Kindness



A Visit to Down Under



A recent visit to Australia revealed interesting eyewitness accounts of fascinating aspects of this part of the world.

Australia is uniquely positioned by itself far away in the middle of the ocean, as both a continent and a country. Unique animals and life forms evolved in such a disconnected and distant environment.

An example is this strange-looking tree found only in Australia. It is called Queensland Bottle Tree, which some people have likened to looking as a wine barrel or an upside-down carrot.



At Brisbane's City Botanical Garden, a stone's throw from our Sofitel Central Hotel, we saw several unique and strange plants.

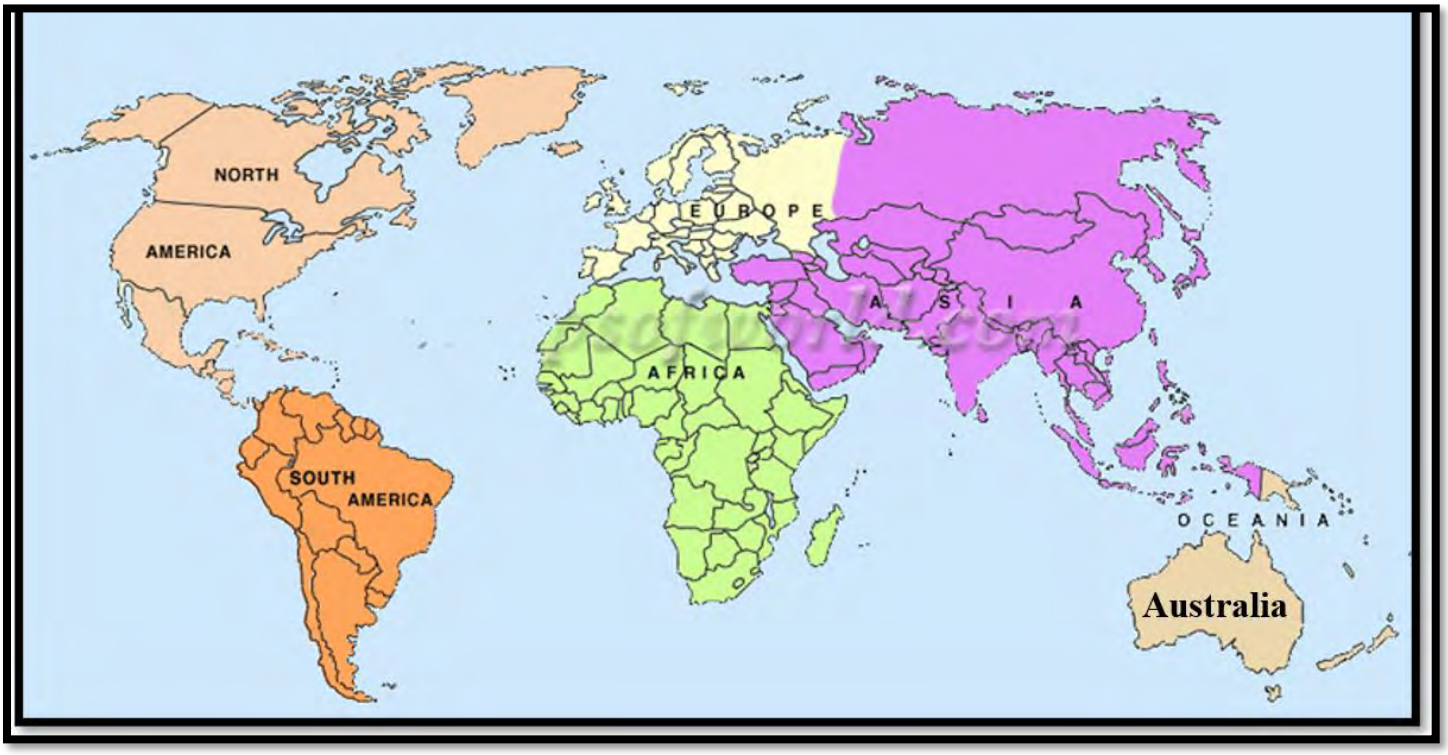




If you are inspired and interested, go and explore Australia.

Where in the World is Australia, anyway?

It is way, Down Under.
One of the six inhabited continents of the world.
Antarctica, the seventh continent, is primarily uninhabited.



“Land of the Kangaroos”
Yes, there are more Kangaroos in Australia than there are human inhabitants.

Yes, we know that you already knew all of that. 😊



Photo Journal of 2025 All-Nigerians Picnic

Saturday, July 19, 2025 was an extra special day, which saw the 2025 All-Nigerians Picnic. The photos tell all the stories. Those in attendance witnessed several food-happy people. The several "salivation stations" at the picnic got everyone's throats oiled all afternoon.














98
Health Education
Mobile Unit




0:19

















Coming up next




Nigeria United
We are One!
Dayton & Miami Valley
JOIN US FOR OUR 22ND ANNIVERSARY
IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE
65TH NIGERIA INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATION
NOTE: DINNER WILL BE SERVED
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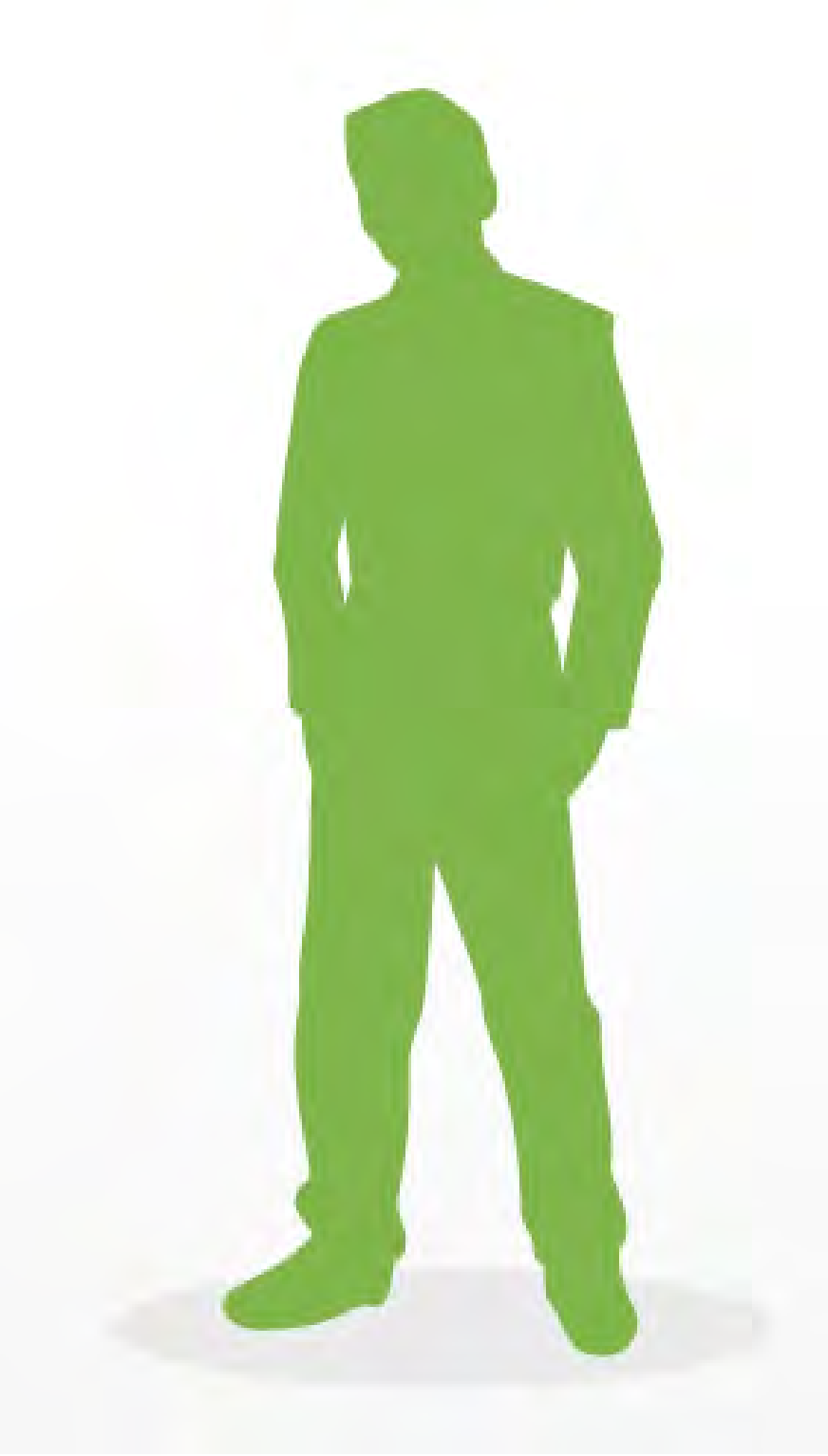
4TH OCTOBER 2025
6PM
Tickets: Adults (18 and over) $20
Children (under 18) Free of charge



Naija Man, Original

Nigeria Sets Jollof Rice World Record

According to recent reports, Nigeria has officially claimed the crown in the **"Jollof Wars"!** On September 12, 2025, chef Hilda Baci, in partnership with Gino Nigeria, set a new Guinness World Record by cooking the largest pot of Nigerian-style jollof rice — a staggering 8,780 kilograms (19,356 pounds and 9 ounces).



Highlights

Feature	Details
Location	Hilda Baci
Location	Victoria Island, Lagos, Nigeria
Event	Gino World Jollof Rice Festival
Total Weight	8,780 kg of jollof rice (19,356 pounds and 1 ounce) That's about the combined weight of 80 linebackers in the NFL
Cooking Time	9 hours
Ingredients Used	4,000 kg of basmati rice, 600 kg of onions, 750 kg of oil, and goat meat
Pot Size	6 meters wide, custom built to hold 23,000 liters
Plates Served	Over 16,000 participants (distributed attendees and guests)

Monumental Cultural Impact

- The feat was more than culinary—it was a **cultural statement**. Baci described jollof rice as a symbol of **resilience, unity, and tradition**

Egbe Member Got Promoted

Egbe's active member, Segun Jegede, is also active in national defense, as evidenced by his June 30, 2025 promotion to the senior rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Air Force. The promotion ceremony took place at AFIT on Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.



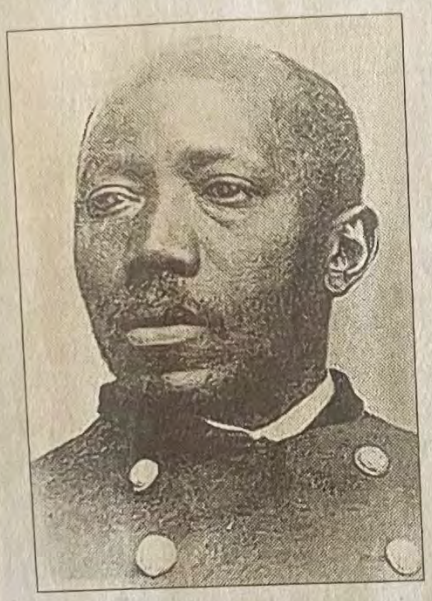
Egbe Members in the Delivery of Academic Excellence at Wilberforce University

Lest we forget, several members of Egbe have contributed to the delivery of academic excellence at Wilberforce University over the years. See below. Proud legacy!



From our Archives

Walk of Fame



Dr. Martin Robison Delany (1812-1885), the Black Major, was appointed by President Abraham Lincoln in 1864 as the highest-ranking African-American field rank officer in the Civil War. Born in Virginia, Delany settled in Pittsburgh where he earned respect as a physician and anti-slavery activist. In 1847, with Frederick L. Douglass and William C. Neal, Delany founded the North Star newspaper and was a widely published author. Mounting his own expedition to Africa's Niger Valley in 1859, Delany negotiated a settlement treaty with the Alake of Abeokota. He returned to America via London where he was honored at the prestigious scientific International Statistical Congress. When the American Civil War began, he recruited Black soldiers for the Union Army. He moved his family to Wilberforce in 1864 and enrolled his children in Wilberforce College. Stationed in South Carolina, Delany used his 104th U.S. Colored Troops to organize the Freedmen toward education, civic duty and land ownership. He returned to Wilberforce in 1885 and died there. He was buried at Massie Creek Cemetery. A new monument was dedicated to him, and an Ohio state marker was authorized for him in 2006.

Proud Product of Nigeria

(Get your morning started right with Golden Morn)



VOY Funnies
Enjoy a laugh on us.

Fun with BB Cartoons

© 2024, BB Cartoons (Original funnies and jokes)

Adventures of the Village Bathman



Drawing credit: Commercial artist, Emmanuel Dudu, Lagos, Nigeria

Mr. Village Bathman

"Today is boring. Do you have anything we can do?"

Mrs Village Bathman

"Let us reflect on some great quotes."

First quote
After marriage, husband and wife become two sides of a coin, they just can’t face each other, but still they stay together.
– Al Gore

By all means marry. If you get a good wife, you’ll be happy. If you get a bad one, you’ll become a philosopher.
– Socrates

Wife inspires us to great things and prevent us from achieving them.
– Mike Tyson

I had some words with my wife, and she had some paragraphs with me.
– Bill Clinton

There’s a way of transferring funds that is even faster than electronic banking. It’s called marriage.
– Michael Jordan

A good wife always forgives her husband when she’s wrong.
– Barack Obam*

When you are in love, wonders happen.
But once you get married, you wonder what happened.
- Steve Jobs

Marriage is a beautiful forest where Brave Lions are killed by Beautiful Deers.
- Brad Pitt

While getting married, most of the guys say to girl's parents, "I will keep your daughter happy for the rest of her life".

Have you ever heard a girl saying something like this to the boy's parents like "I will keep your son happy for the rest of his life"????

Nooo.... because women don't tell lies!

A small argument between a couple turns violent.
Husband says: Don’t let the animal in me come out!
Wife replies: Who’s afraid of a mouse??

If wife wants husband’s attention, she just has to look sad and uncomfortable.
If husband wants wife’s attention, he just has to look comfortable and happy.

A Philosopher HUSBAND said:- Every WIFE is a ‘Mistress’ of her Husband… “Miss” for first year and “Stress” for rest of the life…

Do you remember the tingling feeling when you took the decision to get married? That was common sense leaving your body.

Son : Dad, l got selected for a role in a play for annual day!

Dad: What role are you playing?
Son: A husband!
Dad: Stupid, ask for a role with dialogues!

Man outside phone booth: “Excuse me, you have been holding the phone for 29 minutes and you haven’t spoken a word”.
Man inside the phone booth: “i am talking to my wife!”

A very intelligent girl was asked the meaning of marriage.. She said- “sacrificing the admiration of hundred guys, to face the criticism of one idiot.”

Position of a husband is just like a Split AC, No matter how loud he is outdoor, He is designed to remain silent indoor!

Husband to wife: You should learn to embrace your mistakes.
She hugged him immediately.

Enjoy the quotes, but please, don’t kill the messenger.



Village Bathman's Pidgin Language Proverbs

If life dey show you pepper abeg make pepper soup.

Pesin wey dey purge no dey select toilet

Na wia pesin hand reach e dey hang e cloth

Pikin wey e mama dey sell charcoal no dey wear white.

Fish wey neva enter pot no know say water go betray am

Patience Dog na im dey chop the fatest bone

Dem dey clap for you no mean say them like you, las las na same clap na im kill mosquito

No be di mouth wey dem take borrow money, dem take dey pay am back.

Who dey use mouth dey drive motor no dey get accident.

No mata how market full na two pipo dey dia, man and woman.

If giver no dey careful, beggar go first am build house.

School bell wey sound like noise for assembly, go sound like music for closing hour.

You no fit use only eyes sabi soup wey sweet until you taste am.

No be to name am Solomon, if pikin go wise e go wise

Firewood wey dem go use for rainy season, na for dry season dem dey gada am.

Na trees wey get fruit na im people dey thrown stone

Craze no hard to form, na di trekking be di wahala.

Customer dey always right no be for police station.

Yoruba Value System

In Yorubaland, money has never been foremost in Yoruba value system

In our value system money is number six

What are the first five you may ask?

1. The first is làákà'yè - The application of knowledge, wisdom & understanding... (Ogbón and ìmò òye)

2. The second is Ìwà Omolúàbí - (integrity) Someone with integrity is a man/woman of their words.

If you have all the wealth in the world but lack integrity, you are not worth a thing. Integrity is combined with iwa, (character) which we regard as Omolúàbí.

3. The third is Akínkanjú or Akin - (Valour).

That is why Balóguns is second-in-command to the leaders in Yoruba land.

Balóguns are people that can lead them to war.

To lead with great courage in the face of danger, especially in battle.

Yoruba people have no respect for cowards.

4. The fourth is Anísélápá tí kìíse òle - (Having a visible means of livelihood).

A person must be identified with a visible means of livelihood that guarantees a lawful income or sustenance. His or her profession or job must be open and legally approved by society, and not through cheating or forcefulness.

5. The fifth is iyi - (Honour) Yoruba people place a premium on the gait with which individuals carry themselves and public reputation.

That is why Yorùbá people usually say when you set out to look for money and you meet honour on the way then you don't need the journey anymore, because if you get the money, you will still use it to buy honour.

6. The last in the Yorùbá value system is owó tàbí orò - (Money or wealth).

If putting money ahead of the other five, then you are nobody in Yoruba land of the olden days.

Unfortunately, this is being pushed to the front burner nowadays due to the erosion of our value system.

Reflection on Awolowo's Ambition

SOURCE: Moses Akin Makinde, 'AWO: The Last Conversation' (Ibadan, Nigeria: Evans Brothers, 2009).

~Ayoade Davidson Ojeniyi, September 8, 2025

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WHY MY PRESIDENTIAL AMBITION FAILED

— Obafemi Awolowo

Having suffered several cycles of electoral defeat, Chief Obafemi Awolowo never realised his life-long aspiration to lead Nigeria. In the twilight of his life, he granted an interesting and wide-ranging interview to the Nigerian philosopher, Prof. Moses Akinola Makinde, in which he reflected on his political career and lamented the failure of his longstanding presidential ambition.

Excerpts:

"In 1959, during the election that was to usher in independence in 1960, I embarked on an elaborate campaign in the North. I don't know how old you were at that time. I was using helicopter to campaign in every nook and corner of the north. The most important aspect of the campaign of the Action Group was free education, life more abundant for the generality of the people etc., etc. Our manifesto was centred on the development of man. We worked so hard that the Sardauna of Sokoto, Ahmadu Bello, was forced to come out to campaign, a thing he was never used to. My hope at that time was to liberate the north from illiteracy, ignorance, and the ranka dede mentality of the less privileged majority. If I had won the election, I would have put a lot of money educating the north in order to bridge the educational gap between that region and the western and eastern regions. This was because I saw the lack of education as a stumbling block against political enlightenment of the whole northern region."

"Because they were not educated, the voters could not make up their own minds and make their own choices. Rather, the innocent people of the north had to be dictated to by emirs and the elites who feed them on a regular basis whereas in the western region, people could argue with their Obas, could read manifestos and make an independent choice of which party and which politicians to vote for. Unfortunately, all my efforts to liberate the north from the cruel jaws of the oligarchy were frustrated by those who prefer, and will always prefer, the status quo to a new dawn of educational advancement. You can see that even now, the educational gap between the north and south is increasing by leaps and bounds. All the talk about catching up is nonsense . . . How can you catch up with somebody who is running while you are crawling?"

"But I think that sooner than later, the leaders of the north will see the repercussion of their selfishness and carelessness in their attitude towards western education. But the time will be too late, and if they don't regret it or blame themselves for lack of foresight, the northern youth may ask their leaders some questions when they see the rate of development that goes with education in many parts of southern Nigeria. They may then wonder whether it was in their stars or in the selfishness, carelessness and lack of foresight of their past and present leaders. If I had been given the chance in 1959 or 1979, I would have changed the fortunes of the north as a place that can be compared favourably with the south in terms of educational, social and economic developments."

"As for me, I don't think we should always blame a President's lapses on his advisers. It is the duty of a President, as an educated and intelligent man, to know what advice is good or bad for his people. If he considers the advice just, and of public good, he will take it as he himself would have calculated the consequences of such an action. What is more, he should be able to use his own discretion as Mr. President. If he is in doubt, he calls experts from the universities where scholars must have done researches about such things or known about similar cases with particular consequences."

"As the Premier of [the] Western Region I chose my ministers strictly on merit and because of their education, standard and discipline. Every minister or adviser and top civil servant had to do his homework properly before bringing anything to a cabinet meeting or any other important meeting where it will be subjected to rigorous debate. Where there are grey areas, expert opinion would be sought for the purpose of objectivity. As the Premier, I had to follow all procedures vigorously and meticulously, always relating our decisions and actions to the public good . . . It is because of this service to the public that I often maintained that the office of the President or Prime Minister is not for pleasure. Unfortunately, in Nigeria, it looks as if the office of the President , Minister or Adviser is for pleasure, like dining and wining and carousing with women of easy virtue both at home and abroad."



At the 1969 Commonwealth Conference: Nigerian politician and statesman, Obafemi Awolowo (1909-1987) shakes hands with United Kingdom Foreign Secretary, Michael Stewart (1906-1990) as, 3rd from left, Prime Minister Harold Wilson (1916-1995) looks in the opposite direction, during the Commonwealth Conference at Marlborough House in London in January 1969. (Photo by Rolls Press/Popperfoto via Getty Images/Getty Images)

Quarterly Recent and Forthcoming Birthdays

Looking back and forward in Birthdays

July:
Ayo Ogunduyile, July 7
Daniel Iselaiye, July 17

August:
Augustine Olu Agbebi, August 2
Abigail Odunsi, August 20
Morakinyo Kuti, August 31

September:
Deji Badiru, September 2
Wole Okunade, September 12
Tokunbo Awoshakin, September 24



October
Elizabeth Omolewu, Oct 18
Bridgette Archie-Kuti, Oct 31

November
Elizabeth Adegbile, Nov 3
Segun Jegede, Nov 7
Theo Adegboruwa, Nov 25
Abayomi Togun, Nov 24

December
Funmilayo Adegbile, Dec 3
Bamidele Apapa, Dec 6
Iswat Badiru, Dec 25



Have a *"Cakelicious"* Birthday Celebration!

Please notify the VOY editor if any new EOY member has been born in recent times so that the birthday celebration could be included on this page.

Yam a’plenty

It is often said that “No matter how hot your anger is, it cannot cook African yams.” Where yam is plenty, prosperity is certain to appear.



BEFORE



AFTER



VOY Guest Editors for December 2025

The Voice of Yoruba (VOY) has been published quarterly and consistently for over 15 years. We are now in the 16th Volume of the popular medium of informing and entertaining readers. Over the years, the editorial platform has been tweaked, here and there, to impact more readability and engagement for the benefit of all readers. In the early days, VOY was published in a printed hardcopy format on glossy paper. It was circulated then via in-person handouts. Later, it transitioned to an email distribution as a PDF attachment. That quickly became archaic as many readers did not have adequate email facilities to accommodate large email attachments. We then went to a distribution via downloads from the VOY website: www.voiceofyoruba.org. That has worked well and will continue to work. The emergence and prevalence of WhatsApp further enhanced VOY's distribution platform. The newsletter is now widely distributed and shared through WhatsApp social media groups. Future enhancements are envisioned, as new modes of communication evolve in response to new and emerging IT technologies.

In preparation for the eventual future transitioning of VOY, we are instituting an experimental process of bringing on board guest editorial teams, who are expected to approach the production and distribution of the newsletter from new, different, and exciting perspectives.

In this regard, we are excited to invite **Guest Editors** for the production of the **December 2025** issue of the VOY newsletter.

Recommendations and Volunteers are welcome.

Traditionally, the target release date of each issue of VOY is at the end of each quarter, before things creep too far into the next quarter. The guest editors, now or in the future, will ensure that the established pattern of newsletter release will be upheld.

To aid this transition plan, a written guide has been prepared for distribution to those interested in serving as VOY editors now or in the future.

Newsletter 101

Editor's Mentoring Guide for Developing a Smashing Newsletter

May the force of Yoruba be with VOY now and forever more.

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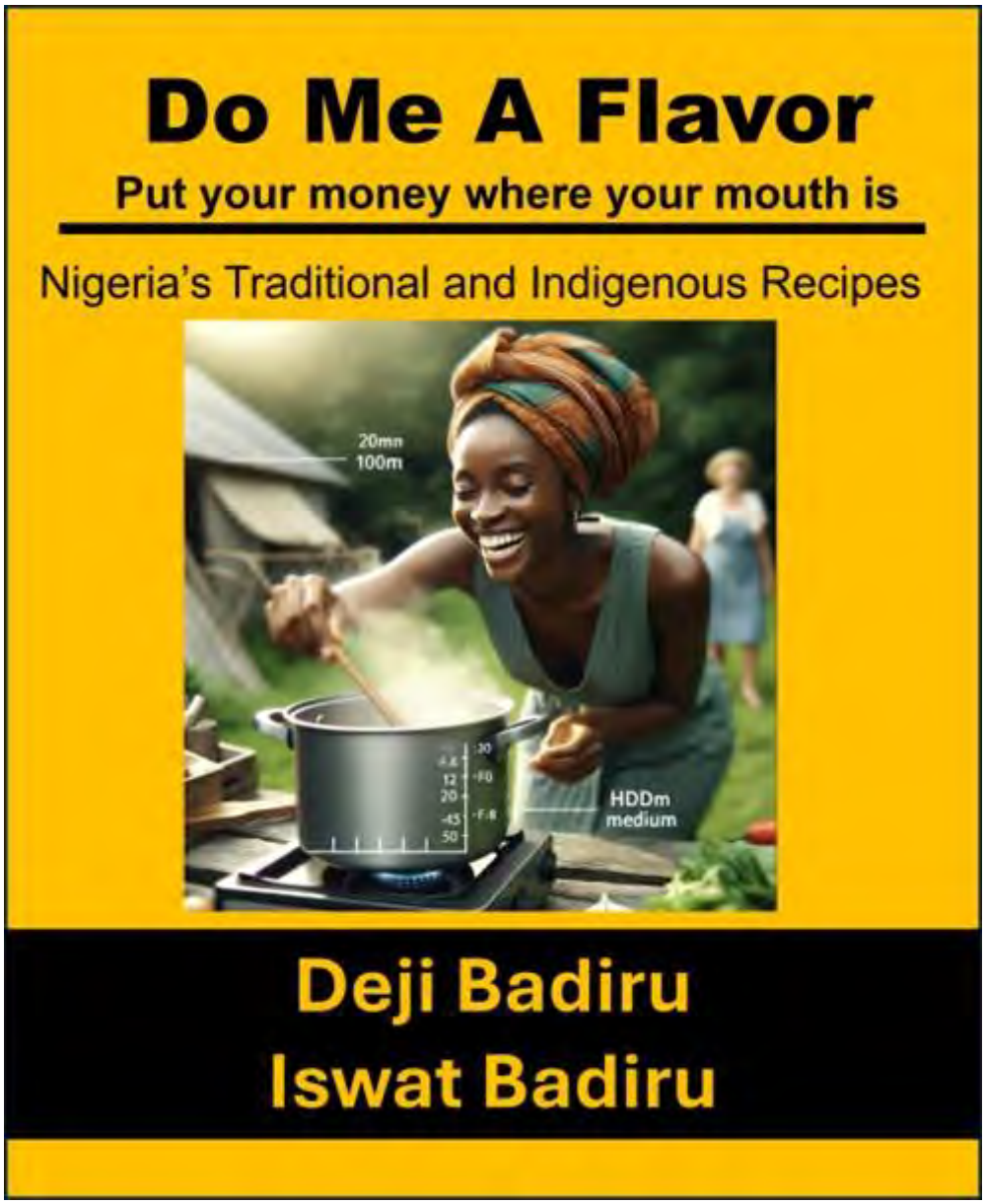

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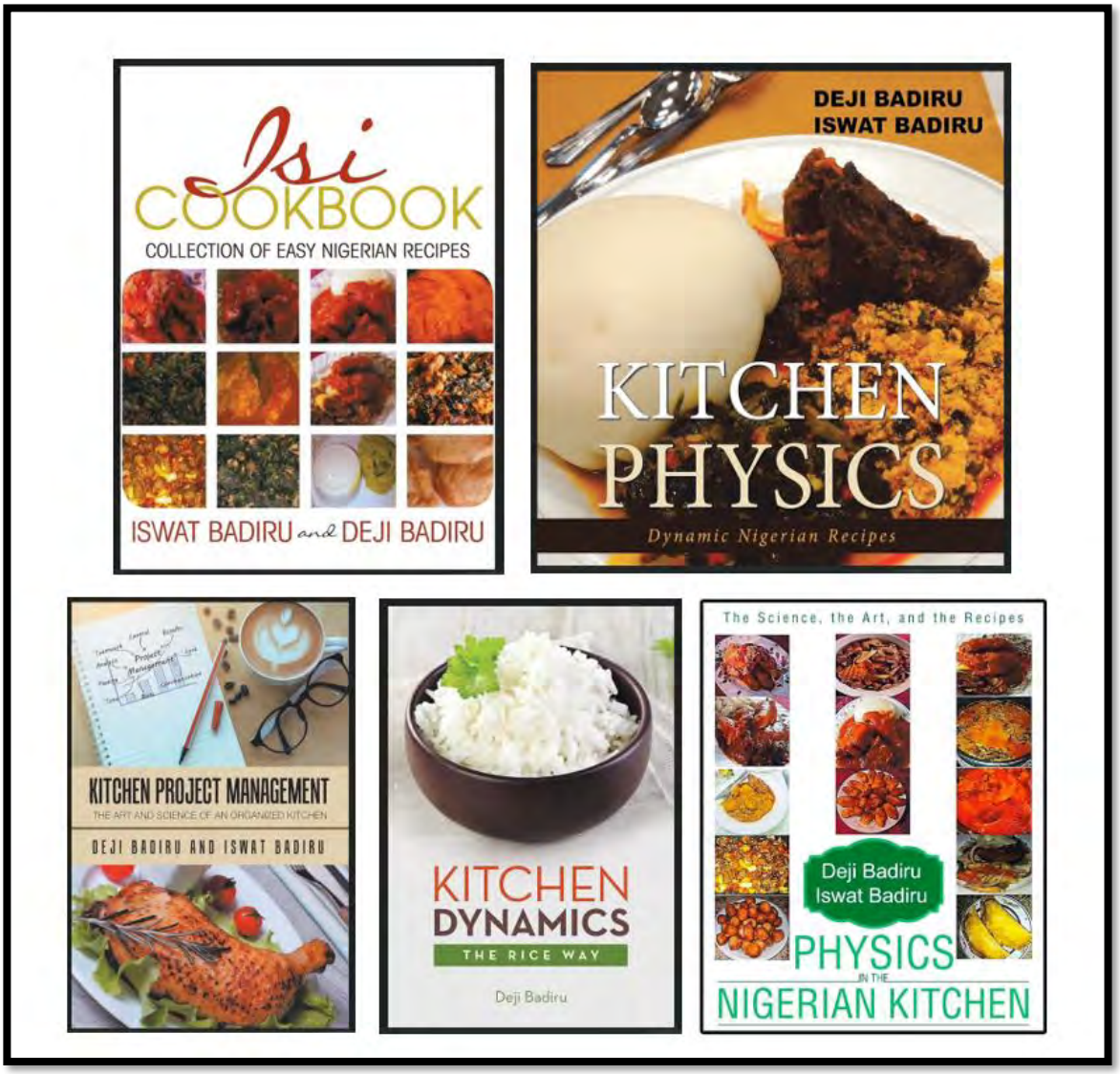

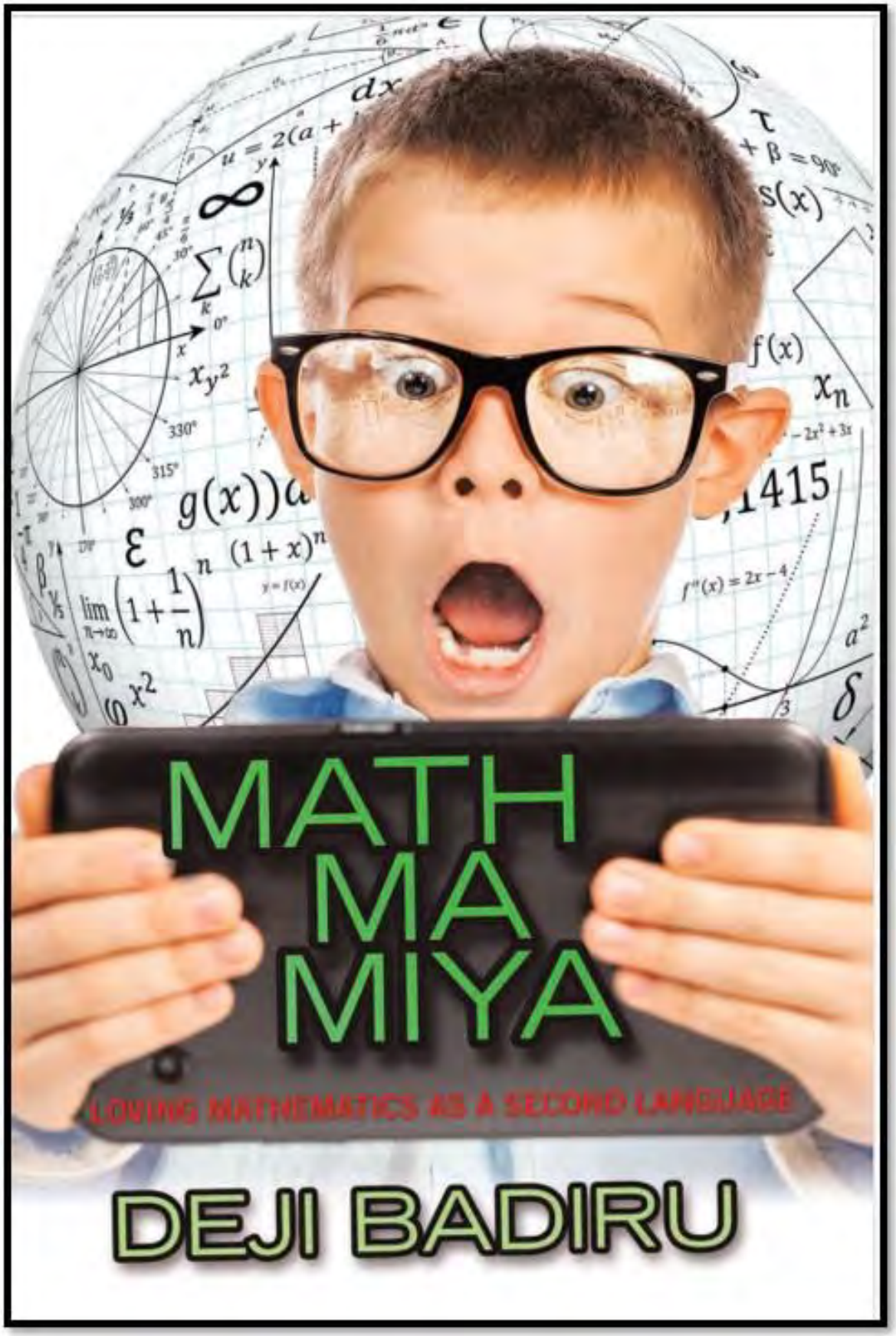
MATH
MA
MIYA
LOVING MATHEMATICS AS A SECOND LANGUAGE
DEJI BADIRU

Serving all your favorites:

- Fish pepper soup
- Goat meat pepper soup
- Vegetable soup
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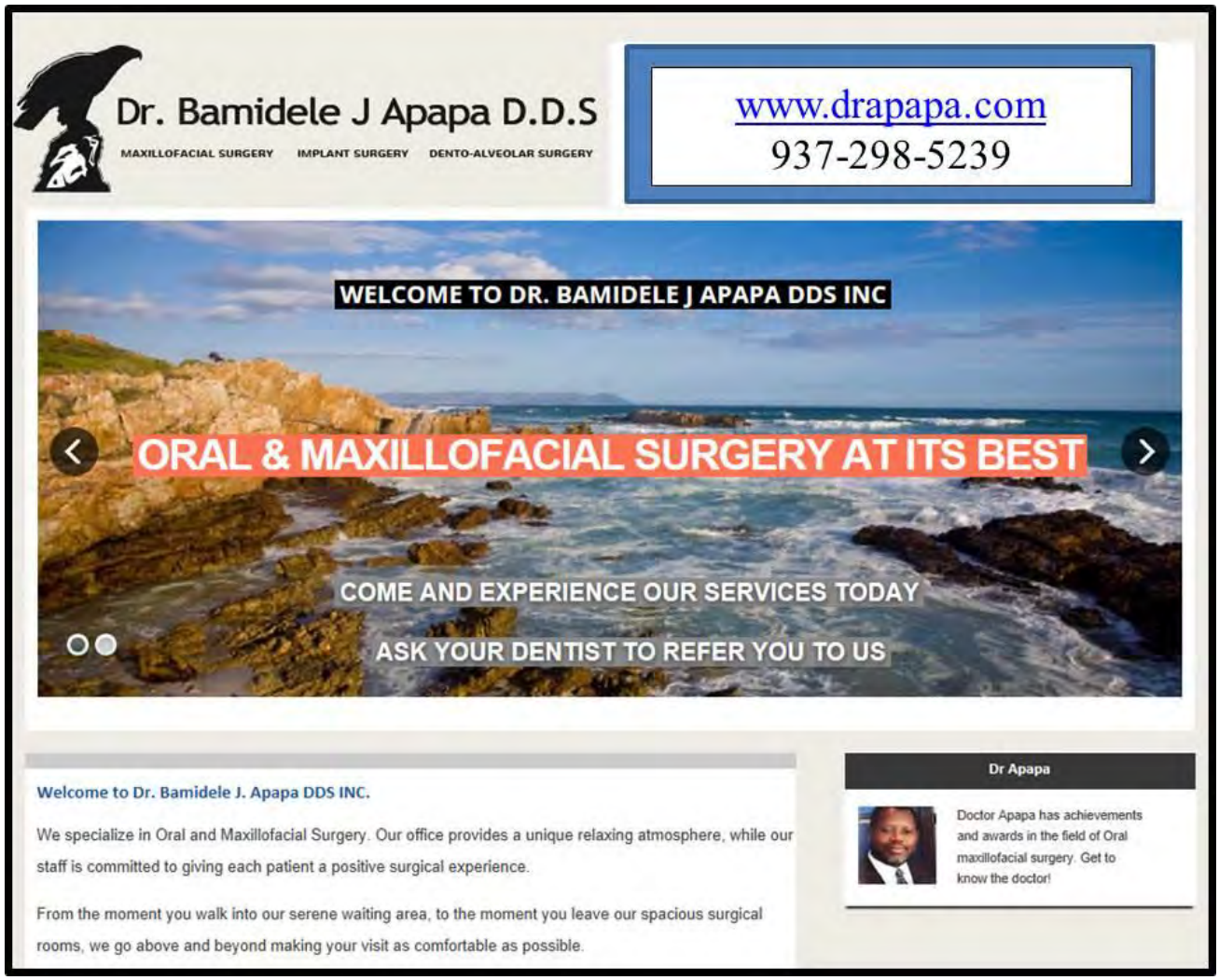
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From the Editor



To VOY readers, *Thank you..*