

PROFILE/CURRICULUM VITAE OF EMEKA UMEAGBALASI

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: Emeka Godfrey Benjamin Umeagbalasi

Birth Place: Enuama, Ifite-Ezinifite, Aguata LGA, Anambra State, Southeast Nigeria

Date of Birth: February 21, 1969

Marital Status: Married

Home/Off. Add: 41, Miss Elems Street, 430003, Onitsha, Anambra State, Nigeria

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EDUCATION

1977-1983: Igwebuike Primary School, Ezinifite, Aguata LGA, Anambra State, Nigeria

1983: First School Leaving Certificate (FSLC)

1983-1992: Trade Apprenticeship, Onitsha, Nigeria

1993-1999: Estate (Adult) Comprehensive Sec. School/God's Grace Academy, Onitsha, Nigeria

2001: SSCE

2008-2014: National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN)

2014: B.Sc. (Hons), Criminology & Security Studies (2nd Class Upper Division)

2015-2017: M.Sc., Peace Studies & Conflict Resolution (NOUN)

WORK EXPERIENCE

1993-2006: Private Businessman, Onitsha, Nigeria

2006-Date: Principal Head, Umeagbalasi & Associates, Onitsha, Nigeria

HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISM/ POSITIONS HELD

- 1995: Member, Civil Liberties Organization (CLO) and Amnesty Int'l (Nigeria)
- 1997: Associate Member, Human Rights Watch, USA
- 1997-1999: Coordinator, Amnesty International, Onitsha Pre-Group (Nigerian Section)
- 1998-1999: Campaign & Publicity Secretary, Civil Liberties Organization (CLO), Anambra State Branch
- 1999-2001: Vice Chairman, Civil Liberties Organization (CLO), Anambra State Branch
- 2001-2007: Chairman, Civil Liberties Organization (CLO), Anambra State Branch
- 2005-2007: Vice Chairman, Civil Liberties Organization (CLO), Southeast Zone, Nigeria
- 2008-Date: Founder/Board Chairman, International Society for Civil Liberties & the Rule of Law (Intersociety), Onitsha, Southeast Nigeria
- 2016-Date: Convener, Southeast Coalition of Human Rights & Good Governance Organizations

HUMAN RIGHTS WORKS/RESOURCE PERSON

- ❖ Grassroots Human Rights Activist/Leader/Resource Person in the past 23yrs (since 1995)
- ❖ Played a leading role in returning credible democratic process and popular voting to Anambra State, Southeast Nigeria from 2003 to date
- ❖ Researched and authored over 400 press releases, advocacy letters and other human rights related publications since 2009
- ❖ Spearheaded advocacy campaigns against torture and extra judicial killings carried out by disbanded Onitsha Traders Vigilante Group (OTA) and dreaded Bakassi Boys Vigilante Group in Anambra State and Southeast Nigeria (1998-2002); leading to their disbandment by Federal Government in September 2002 after the killing of Barristers Barnabas and Amaka Igwe by the former on 1st September 2002
- ❖ Spearheaded advocacy campaigns against police extra judicial killings carried out by Police SARS operatives; such as killing by some of 20 detainees at the Awka CPS, Anambra State in November 2004 and another killing and dumping of about 50 bodies of slain detainees in January 2013 inside the Ezu River in Awka South LGA, Anambra State (see Intersociety's Special Report: the Untold Story of Ezu River Police SARS Killings: July 2017).

- ❖ Spearheaded advocacy campaigns for dismantling between January 2012 and May 2015 of most of the 3,500 police roadblocks/ extortion points across Nigeria majorly concentrated in the Southeast Zone; following release of a report of the country-wide findings conducted by myself on behalf of Intersociety in December 2011, using Anambra State and the Southeast Zone as a case study; resulting to dismantling of most of them by the Nigeria Police High Command.

PUBLICATIONS

- ✚ Authored several advocacy publications for Intersociety bordering on rule of law including criminal justice, police and electoral reforms; public security and safety; democracy and public governance accountability and general human rights issues, etc.
- ✚ Police Corruption As Human Rights Abuse: How Nigeria Police Personnel Pocketed N53.4Billion From Roadblock Extortion In Three Years (2009-2011)–Intersociety: December 2011
- ✚ Nigeria In A State Of War: How 54,000 Citizens Were Killed Outside the Law Since 1999- Intersociety: December 2011
- ✚ The Effect Of Police Brutality & Corruption On Individual Adjustment In Nigeria: A Case Of Anambra State: December 2013 (unpublished)
- ✚ Special Report: Welcome to Bleeding Republic of Nigeria: A Land Flowing in Blood & Tears: March 2017
- ✚ The Untold Story of Ezu River Police SARS Killings: July 2017
- ✚ Effectiveness of Traditional Conflict Resolution & Peace in Africa: A Case Study of Igbo Ethnic Society in Nigeria: October 2017 (unpublished)
- ✚ How Nigerian Security Forces Massacred 450 Nonviolent Pro Biafra Activists & Injured Over 500 Others in Southeast and South-south Nigeria: June 2018
- ✚ Researched and authored: The Best & The Worst In Southeast Nigeria: A Comprehensive Review Of Governance Challenges Dating Back To The Second Republic(22-pages): February 2018
- ✚ Resource Person/Guest Speaker at June 8, 2018 UNIZIK LAWSA's Law, Media & Leadership Conference with a topic: the Nigerian Dream & the Rights of the Youths, the Oppressed & the Voiceless
- ✚ And Many More...

AWARDED HUMAN RIGHTS CERTIFICATES

- **Human Rights Education (Training Course) Certificate of Attendance** by the Civil Liberties Organization (CLO) held in Owerri, Nigeria: November 2001
- **Certificate of Participation** of the Workshop on Strengthening Respect for Human Life Using the Coroner System, Organized in Anambra State by **Access to Justice**, Nigeria: May 2009
- **Resource Person** at a Workshop on National Police Reforms Organized in Owerri, Imo State by the CLEEN Foundation, Nigeria: January 2011
- **International Visitor(s) Leadership (Exchange) Program Certificate (IVLP)** of the United States Department of State (DoS) on NGO Management in USA (Washington DC, USA): July 2013.

HUMAN RIGHTS & HUMANITARIAN SERVICES MERIT AWARDS

- ❖ **Henry Dunant Gold Medal Award** by the Nigerian Red Cross Society, Onitsha, Nigeria: December 2008
- ❖ **Veteran Defender of the Child Rights Defense Award**, Onitsha, Nigeria: December 2011
- ❖ **Defense of Human Rights Veteran Award** by the Law Students Association (LAWSA) of the Anambra State University, Igbariam, Anambra State: June 2012
- ❖ **The NGO Management in USA Certificate of Participation Award** by the US Department of State, Washington, DC: July 2013
- ❖ **Electricity Consumers Forum Merit Award** by the Ogbaru Electricity Consumers Welfare Forum (*in Recognition of My Numerous Contributions to the Community*), Anambra State, Nigeria: October 2015
- ❖ The **Volunteer General Award** for Service to Humanity by the Nigerian Red Cross Society, Anambra State, Nigeria: December 2015
- ❖ **Merit Award of Excellence** by the Community Sec. Secondary School, Ezinifite-Aguata, Anambra State, Nigeria: May 2017
- ❖ **Merit Award** (*in recognition of my selfless services, support and contribution to CHURCH & HUMANITY*) by Madonna Catholic Parish, Ogbaru, Anambra State, Nigeria: September 2017
- ❖ **An Award of Impact** conferred by the Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (PFN), Ogbaru Chapter, Anambra State: April 2018
- ❖ **The Peoples' Advocate Award for Human Rights Advancement** conferred by the Senate Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights & Legal Matters of the Law Students Association (LAWSA) of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, Anambra State: June 2018
- ❖ **Etc**