

“STRANGE MENTALITY”: Amnesty for Nigerian Politicians

This masterpiece is a hidden treasure which proffered answers and solution to most multifaceted problems still facing Nigeria after 61 years of her independence from British Colonial rule. Once any leader or Crusader grabs, digests and uses it, Nigeria will be set to be among the G21 countries within half a decade. The whole world will have rest of mind when they hear about Nigerians because, all her lost glories and pride will be restored, and no nation or leader will ever speak about Nigeria with contempt and derision. This book highlights that the major problem facing Nigeria is not corruption as many people purport but strange mindsets of many of her citizens especially her leaders. According to Mr. Anthony Ikechukwu Okonkwo the author, he holds that corruption is an ‘effect’ while strange mentality is the ‘cause’ of whatever that is happening to us. The front-page pictorial chosen by the author summarizes how strange the mindsets of most Nigerian leaders are. It shows a man on a corporate suit and a tie carrying the world on his shoulder and laughing as he is been drown in a mighty river. Is it not strange for someone to carry the world on his shoulder and laughing as he loses his life? Most Nigerian politicians out of strange mindsets embezzle public funds to the level that most of them become so foolish with what they do with it and without knowing that they are nearing their biological, cultural, economic, nutritional, psychological, social and spiritual graves. The book is a critical and synthetic memoir of the bane of Nigeria as the giant of Africa and the world at large. It challenges Nigerians especially our past and present politicians to a change of our strange mentality without which our blessed nation will remain crippled. It reminds Nigerians that we all are responsible for the conspicuous corruption prevalent in all sectors of our economy and as such, we ought to stop our usual complaint about the irresponsibility of our politicians because, we deserve the type of politicians we have. Instead, we all must devote more time in doing small patriotic things that matter a lot in our great nation’s mental and infrastructural development and think more of what we can do for our country instead of what will enter our pockets. Mr. Okonkwo advocates amnesty for Nigerian Politicians because of our collective irresponsibility and stringent measures of civility and prudence for oncoming leaders. He throws light on how foreign countries can help Nigeria to develop fast instead of taking undue advantage of our strange mindsets; how foreign leaders can hold Nigerian leaders accountable by speaking out and proving them wrong with direct investments in different sectors of Nigerian economy instead of giving us grants and loans which we don’t need because most of these funds enrich the rich all the more and impoverish the poor. The book calls Vision 2020 an illusion from strange minds and mandates any realistic oncoming Nigerian President to solve only one problem in Nigeria: Provision of steady electricity supply to all parts of the country. It highlights in a very special way the following:

- Clarion call for freedom of information and freedom for civilized criticism of government without being tagged a name to arrest, victimize and even kill the person
- Mandatory explanation by Centrica and Minister of Power on what is hindering constant supply of electricity to Nigerian Citizens after 61 years of our independence.
- Mandatory need for multinational oil companies in Nigeria to explain

what is making Nigeria not to have functional refineries. •Mandatory need for Nigerian government to explain the rationale behind exportation of gas while Nigerians don't have enough for local need. •Mandatory explanation from the ministry of budget and national planning on why our annual budgets since independence have not solved basic needs of Nigerian citizens. •Mandatory explanation by the Attorney General of the Federation, Minister of Foreign Affairs on why Nigeria is using presidential system of government which is cumbersome and expensive despite being colonized by Britain. •Arguments of Mr. Okonkwo in support of 'One Nigeria' until we change our strange mindsets without which the ugly face of Nigeria will still be with restructured or separated regions; his arguments are based on balancing the six geo-political zones, relegating the argument for the creation of additional state for South Eastern part of Nigeria where he comes from and substituting a state to make South Eastern states to be six and making North Central states to be six instead of seven. •Mandatory explanation by Minister of Education and Civil Service Commission on their chronic inability to pay salaries on time to Nigerians especially our teachers, lecturers and Pensioners and their mapped out strategies of clearing arrears of salaries and pensions owed to state and federal civil servants. Also explanation on why most Nigerian students cannot study with loans, bursaries and scholarships to enable them repay after graduation and securing jobs. •Mandatory explanation by the Inspector General of Police and Army on why most of their men extort money from drivers on Nigerian roads and why they find it difficult to respond to security emergencies within civilized and reasonable minutes. •Mandatory explanation by National Youth Service Corps on why Nigerian graduates are forced to go for the service and the need to conduct a poll on the optionality of the exercise. •Mandatory explanation by the Ministry of Housing on why they have been unable to build low cost houses in most states managed by the local council. •Mandatory explanation by the state governors on why most of them have taken local council elections as an optional election or something they do whenever they want it. •Mandatory explanation by the Federal Road Safety Commission and Vehicle Inspection Officers on why they have refused to accept the reality of global warming.

The Author, Hon. Anthony Ikechukwu Okonkwo is a Nigerian born on the 6th of January 1978. He is the ninth out of ten children (seven girls and three boys) born by his late parents, Sir and Lady George and Agnes Okonkwo. He had his primary education at Peoples Primary School, Ihioma Orlu and secondary education at St. Marys Seminary, Umuowa Orlu both in Orlu, Imo State in the South Eastern Part of Nigeria. His undergraduate was on Philosophical Studies from the Pontifical Urban University Rome and postgraduate studies in Philosophy and Management of Information Systems (MIS) were from The University of Nottingham and Meridian College of Computing Greenwich respectively both in the United Kingdom. Anthony is a Crusader for mentality change and a Politician who contested as a Lawmaker in his state Imo during the 2019 Nigerian General election. Currently he is working as a Board Member of the Imo State Primary Healthcare Development Agency (ISPHCDA); Director at Softminds Benefits International Limited and Founder and President of Mentality Development and Change Foundation (www.mentalitychange.org), a Nigerian Non-Governmental Organization (NGO). Anthony has written so many books, published newspaper articles and has great passion for writing, counselling, reading, investment relations, travelling, driving and

making friends. Anthony is an uncelebrated Celebrity waiting to be picked for mutual benefits.