

**ANA PRESS RELEASE ON THE DEATH OF IKEMBA OF NNEWI, CHUKWUEMEKA ODUMEGWU OJUKWU**

The Association of Nigerians Abroad (ANA), an internet based that advocates for democratic ideals, human rights, the rule of law, fairness, justice, and equity in Nigeria and for all Nigerians wishes to express its sincere condolence on the death of Ikemba of Nnewi, Gen. Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu, the erstwhile leader of the Republic of Biafra.

We hold that the late Ikemba Ojukwu represents different things to many people, and indeed no one is perfect. However, there is no denying that Ojukwu was a man of many parts:-  
Warrior, Soldier, Patriot, Politician, Scholar, Historian, Hero and a Rebel that stood for the unity of Nigeria.

He was a man whose people asked for leadership and he provided it  
He was a man whose people were being massacred and he provided safety  
He was a man who had it all but decided to live a normal life  
He was a man who knew how to live a life

When the complete history of the Nigerian civil war is written, Ojukwu's name will find residence in the corridors of divergent opinions. To say the least, Ojukwu represented a case study in the complex interwoven tapestry of culture (particularly African) and leadership.

War is never an answer to settle the disagreements among people. It is bad, and a harsh reflection of human failure to reconcile all differences. The Nigerian civil war was not an exception. After the civil war, Ojukwu participated fully in Nigerian politics, and died a Nigerian.

We believe that Nigeria's best minds and finest leaders yet are ahead of us, and not all already gone in the past. Ojukwu has served his generation. May his soul rest in peace. And may the Lord God in his infinite mercy give the family that he left behind the fortitude to move on and keep his memory alive.

The glory fades, and the flower falls, but the Word of God abides forever.