

# CONNECT

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Centre For Public  
LEADERSHIP  
FLED INSTITUTE

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## CENTRE FOR PUBLIC LEADERSHIP

### 2023 FLED ALUMNI CONFERENCE, INDUCTION INTO *PUBLIC LEADERSHIP* & AWARD PRESENTATION

National Merit House, Maitama, Abuja. November 9

#### Public Service is a Sacred assignment

By Joseph C. Ibekwe

Public leadership is not for everyone. It is an elite thing! The reason is simple. Not everyone has the courage, intellectual capacity, vision, and moral strength to stand the challenges of public leadership. At the **Centre for Public Leadership**, we understand this challenge. That is why we bring qualified professionals into an ecosystem where they can continue to learn the art and science of public leadership.

Let's get it straight: public service is very public. It is a sacred service. Public service calls for accountability to the public. Accountability is about public disclosure; it is about responsiveness to public scrutiny.

Public service is for those who will not be afraid to give account of their stewardship to the public when required to do so. Those who

faithfully service the public should have nothing to fear when called upon to render account of their stewardship. But those who help themselves with public resources while in office should be ashamed of themselves. Why? Because they violated public trust. Trust is the most important thing the public reposes on those in public office. Once you violate this trust, nothing else you do matters.

In what specific areas do public officials violate public trust? In so many areas, but a few examples will suffice.



**In the allocation of public resources.** If a public official wrongly allocates or misappropriate public

resources, public trust is broken.

#### Conversion of public resources into private use.

This is the most common in our environment. Public officials easily, and without any fear of consequences, dip their hands into public funds and resources, converting them to personal use. This violates public trust.

#### The use of discretionary powers.

Public officials operate under rules and guidelines, they also have some level of discretionary powers to operate. It's how they use statutory and discretionary powers that determines the level of breach of public trust.

#### Management of diversity.

Public officials are to serve the public. And the public is made of people of diverse backgrounds, ethnicities, religious beliefs, abilities and social inclinations. It's the way the official manages this diversity without giving

preference to one or two over others, that determines the extent of breach of public trust.

For these reasons, there are certain people who should occupy public office and there are certain people who ought not to. First, it's not good to put small people in big positions. Public office is a big deal. It's a big thing.

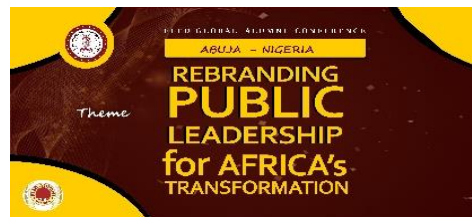
Small people are those with small minds, though they live in big bodies and may have several academic certificates. They are those who are not weaned of ego, whose hunger for applause is still very high, whose inclinations to fashion and fades are not tamed, and whose appetite for power is still raw. They are those who cannot control their quest for the acquisition of material things. These set of people ought not to occupy high public offices. They are a danger to public morality and public resources.

When big people with small minds are placed in public office, they treat the institutions they are supposed to serve as personal estates, and treat the workers with disdain. These are realities of public leadership in Nigeria and in most of Africa.

Make no mistake about it, trust and accountability are the hallmark of public office in a democracy, and all lovers of democracy should wake up to this reality. When a people cannot trust those in public office and cannot demand accountability from them, that society has no business classifying itself as a democratic society.

To serve in public office is a sacred assignment. Two things public office holders must not toy with are **trust** and **accountability**.

© Dr. Joseph C. Ibekwe  
is the President/CEO at FLED  
Group, Abuja,



Every society needs leaders. Leaders create vision, create cultures and harness available resources to promote sustainable development.

Society is multi-dimensional. Leaders that seek to make a difference in society must also become multi-dimensional, multi-disciplinary; and should not remain as one-track professionals.

Multi-dimensional leaders are often referred to as transformational leaders. They see issues from a global perspective, not just from a narrow lens of religion, race, and ethnicity or from a self-preservative mindset. This enables them to address development challenges with knowledge, boldness and confidence. Africa is in dire need of transformational public leaders.

Presently, the face of public leadership in Africa is ugly due to so many factors. There is an urgent need to **rebrand**. This is what informed the theme for the 2023 FLED Global Alumni Conference.

Our invited guest speakers will examine the theme from different perspectives as they engage with conference participants on intellectual and pragmatic approaches to re-invent public leadership for Africa's needed socio-economic transformation.

## MEET OUR SPEAKERS

**Dr. Joshua Nissi** is a leadership consultant and the Presiding Bishop at the New Testament Church, Abuja, Nigeria.



**Dr. Ngozi Chukwu, hfpl**, is a lecturer at the University of Abuja and former Director,

Nursing Services at the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital, Gwagwalada. She is an Honourary Fellow in Public Leadership at Centre for Public Leadership, FLED Institute.



**Prof. Dimoji Okoro, hfpl**, is a Professor of Public health at the Benue State University. She

is an inducted Fellow in Public Leadership at Centre for Public Leadership and is on the Board of FLED Institute.

up to continuous leadership development through training and peer learning. It is a bold step by an individual to accept responsibility to serve public interest, in whatever leadership position they occupy. It is also a privilege to be admitted into the elite group that determines how organizations, communities and nations are run.



**Prof. (Maj.) Aku Amboson fss (Rtd), hfpl**, is the Director, Centre for

Public Leadership at FLED Institute. He is an Honourary Fellow in Public Leadership

## Leadership Induction

### What does it Mean?

Being inducted into public leadership means signing

Induction into **Public Leadership** means an individual is translated from being a *Private Citizen* into a **Public Citizen**. It means the person is ready to allow their private and public life to be subject to public scrutiny. It means you are committing to **servicing the public for public interest** at all times.

## BRIEF ABOUT NEW INDUCTEES

### PROFESSIONAL PUBLIC LEADER



**MUSTAPHA AHMED UMAR** is a multifaceted entrepreneur and investor. He is the CEO at AUK Group, which business activities span agriculture, mining, and real estate.

He is a graduate of Computer Science and Technology from the Liaoning University of Technology, China. He is a member, National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies.

Mr. Mustapha is a philanthropist and runs an NGO through which he supports the less privileged with immediate reliefs and works to foster long-term sustainability and upliftment of families.

He brings his diverse skill set and valuable networks to the Institute. Particularly, he is determined to offer his strong analytical abilities and strategic thinking empower to identify opportunities, manage risks, and drive innovation that will promote growth of the Centre and the Institute.

Mr. Mustapha believes the induction into public leadership will greatly enhance his professional journey in the next five years. He hopes to take advantage of the extensive resources and

mentorship programs offered by FLED Institute to refine his leadership abilities, thus helping him to make strategic decisions, manage teams effectively, and better serve his community better.

Having completed the pre-induction requirements, **MUSTAPHA AHMED UMAR** is hereby presented for induction as a **Professional Public Leader** at the Centre for Public Leadership, FLED Institute. Consequently, he is permitted to attach the abbreviation (**ppl**) to his name as a proof of professional affiliation. He is now entitled to enjoy all the benefits and obligations associated with this induction.



**ABBAS SARAH** is an administrator, educationists, and teens mentor. She obtained her first degree from the Ahmadu Bello University Zaira, later graduate a Postgraduate Diploma in Education from the Usman Danfodio University, Sokoto and later a Masters degree in Public Administration from the Nasarawa State University.

She is currently the Director, De Angels Academy, Nasarawa State. Mrs. Abbas is an executive member of the National Association of Proprietors of Private Schools and has wide experience in community service and volunteer work both as an undergraduate student and in her local church.

Mrs. Abbas believes that being inducted into public leadership at the Centre for Public Leadership of FLED Institute will give her opportunity to strengthen her leadership skills and network with other transformational public leaders.

Having completed the pre-induction requirements, **ABBAS SARAH** is hereby presented for induction as a **Professional Public Leader** at the Centre for Public Leadership, FLED Institute. Consequently, she is permitted to attach the abbreviation (**ppl**) to her name as a proof of professional affiliation. She is now entitled to enjoy all the benefits and obligations associated with this induction.

#### **DR. NWACHUKWU KENNETH CHIWUBA**

is a lecturer at the College of Medicine University of Abuja. He had his first degree in biochemistry from the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife; got his Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery degree from the University of Calabar, and obtained a Ph. D in Medical Biochemistry from Micheal Okpara University, Umudike, Abia State.



He is the co-author of two books: "Biochemistry Manual" and "Textbook for Medical Students."

Dr. Nwachukwu is a member of Nigeria Medical Association, (NMA), and Association of Specialist Medical Doctors in Academics (ASMEDA). He has served in different leadership positions including Departmental Examination Officer and is actively involved in leadership selection processes for his community.

Having completed the pre-induction requirements, **NWACHUKWU KENNETH CHIWUBA** is hereby presented for induction as a **Professional Public Leader** at the Centre for Public Leadership, FLED Institute. Consequently, he is permitted to attach the abbreviation (**ppl**) to his name as proof of professional affiliation. He is now entitled to enjoy all the benefits and obligations associated with this induction.

## ASSOCIATE FELLOW



**IKORO MERCY UZOMA** is an entrepreneur and media consultant with a specialty in Advertising and Public Relations. She is the deputy Manager at the Sun Publishing Company Lagos, and a member Advertising Practitioners

Council of Nigeria - apcon.

Ms. Ikoro is clear about how being inducted into public leadership will enhance your professional goals in the next five years. It intends to leverage on the diverse opportunities available within the ecosystem to network with transformational leaders. She intends to take more mentoring roles, getting more decision-making power and collaborating with a wider spectrum of leaders and institutions.

Having completed the pre-induction requirements, **IKORO MERCY UZOMA** is hereby presented for induction as an **Associate Fellow in Public Leadership** at the Centre for Public Leadership, FLED International Leadership Institute. Consequently, she is permitted to attach the abbreviation (**afpl**) to her name as proof of professional affiliation. She is now entitled to enjoy all the benefits and obligations associated with this induction.



**KASSIM BABAJIDE OLAKUNLE** is public servant working with the Lagos State Water Corporation where he serves as the Head, Security Service Division. He is a member, Chartered Institute of Human Resources and Institute of Security, Nigeria.

He is actively involved in volunteer and community service. For instance, he served as a Special Marshall with Federal Road Safety Corps over 15 years. Mr. Kassim believes in making impact in the lives of individuals and communities. He is persuaded that the induction into public leadership will empower him to become part of the dynamic leadership culture of the Institute, which will enable him work effectively with diverse teams in diverse situations.

Having completed the pre-induction requirements, **KASSIM BABAJIDE OLAKUNLE** is hereby presented for induction as an **Associate Fellow in Public Leadership** at the Centre for Public Leadership, FLED Institute. Consequently, he is permitted to attach the abbreviation (**afpl**) to his name as proof of professional affiliation. He is now entitled to enjoy all the benefits and obligations associated with this induction.



## FELLOW

**DR. JAMES KOMOLAFE** is a specialist in Behavioural Health. He is the Registrar/CEO at the Institute of Behavioural Alignment of Nigeria (IOBAN) and School of Articulation and Behavioral Alignment Resources (SABA Resources).

He is a senior Consultant to Nigerian Prize for Leadership and Institute of National Transformation; as well as a Professor at School of Policies, Politics and Governance (SPPG).

He is a member of different professional bodies including NIPR, NIM, NITAD, Institute for National Transformation, African Centre for Leadership & Strategy, Massachusetts Academy GHP, etc.

Dr. Komolafe is an ordained Pastor and is actively engaged in Corporate social responsibility.

He is also an author of several books including, "Journey to significance", Divine Recipes for a Fulfilled Life", "55 Types of Capital You Need to Know", "Behavioral Health fundamentals", and others. Dr. Komolafe brings with him a wide range of professional experiences as he becomes inducted into public leadership.

Having completed the pre-induction requirements, **DR. JAMES KOMOLAFE** is hereby presented for induction as a **Fellow in Public Leadership** at the Centre for Public Leadership, FLED Institute. Consequently, he is permitted to attach the abbreviation (**fpl**) to his name as proof of professional affiliation. He is now entitled to enjoy all the benefits and obligations associated with this induction.



## HONOURARY FELLOW

**OLANIKE KOLAWOLE** is an excellent and impact-driven professional with 30+ years' experience committed to developing strategic products and building distribution networks. She is a Senior banking professional, financial inclusion expert, growth and expansion strategist.

She has consistently excelled at offering a blend of executive acumen, global team leadership, strategic product development with strong focus on operational improvement and profitability.

She has impacted East & West Africa by steering financial innovation and inclusion, spearheading digital banking & mobile money products, retail

business transformation as well as other product developments and launches over time.

As Head of Agency & Direct Banking with Ecobank, Olanike has strategically deployed branchless agent partnerships to revolutionize the Nigerian retail space, maximizing revenue and enhancing customer experience. Her efforts led to over 400% increase in financial growth, transaction counts, and value in 3 years.

She led Ecobank East Africa Team in Kenya and transformed the Consumer banking experience with strategies that made banking accessible and increased digital banking and mobile money. She led her team to attain 3rd position ranking on Mobile Money/Banking Transactions across the Ecobank Group with a unique delivery of both C2B and B2C. She strategically deployed loss reduction strategies that saw a tremendous decrease from USD 2.8 Million in 2016 to USD 200K in 2018 within two years while in East Africa.

In her previous role as the Zonal Business Banking Head, managing 56 ECOBANK branches within the Lagos region, she was responsible for providing leadership across the board. She implemented an MSME/ Consumer banking strategy that engendered revenue growth and a balance sheet growth to about USD 500 Million.

Olanike as a trained pharmacist had about 10 years stint in Pharmacy practice before moving into Banking. She worked as a Hospital Pharmacist, Community Pharmacist in Sales & Distribution with SKG-PHARMA, and rose to become Area Sales Manager, Lagos/South West.

Olanike is passionate about women's development and she was part of the team that drive ECOBANK Female Entrepreneur Initiative which has helped and funded many businesses.

She also partnered with the WIMBIZ initiative in the past, where she has helped mentor young female professionals.

Olanike Kolawole's life philosophy is to impact lives and work to help the next generation reach their full potentials.

**OLANIKE KOLAWOLE** is being recognized for excellence in public leadership and is hereby presented for induction as an **Honourary Fellow in Public Leadership** at the Centre for Public Leadership, FLED Institute. Consequently, she is permitted to attach the abbreviation (**hfpl**) to her name as proof of professional affiliation. She is now entitled to enjoy all the benefits and obligations associated with this induction.

### 2023 FLED Alumni Award of Excellence

FLED Institute is committed to recognizing the efforts and support of its alumni. It is for this reason it established the annual Alumni Award of Excellence.

In this first edition, calls were made for nomination of Alumni members who have done the following in 2023:

1. Must have attended at least One Master Class/Course organized by the Institute.
2. Must have attended at least 2 events of FLED, including Alumni meeting.
3. Must have referred someone for leadership induction.
4. Must have volunteered in any work team at the Institute.
5. Must have offered financial to the Institute.
6. Must have facilitated a training session, online or onsite.
7. Must have served in some specific capacity during any FLED programs at the national or chapter levels.
8. Must have had a traceable active presence on FLED Whatsapp group, through comments, etc.

After thorough review of the nominations received, the following four candidates were selected to receive the **2023 FLED Alumni Award of Excellence**.



**Amb. Chinenye Amene, afpl**, is a business woman and entrepreneur. She is an inducted Associate Fellow in Public Leadership at the Centre of Public Leadership, and is a member FLED Institute Board of Directors.

**Steve Daniels, afpl**, is an entrepreneur and a politician. He is a graduate of FLED Institute and an inducted Associate Fellow in Public Leadership at the Centre of Public Leadership.



**Mosunmola Omokunga, ppl**, is a writer, a blogger, and entrepreneur. She is a graduate of FLED Institute, and an inducted Professional Public Leader at the Centre for Public



Leadership. She is the Lagos Coordinator, FLED Alumni Association.

**Chika Francis-Ndukwe, ppl**, is a multi-disciplinary professional –

chartered accountant, a digital money expert, and a graduate of FLED Institute. She an inducted Professional Public Leader at the Centre of Public Leadership, and also on the Faculty of FLED Institute.



Each of the Winners will:

1. Receive free media coverage and promotion of their businesses via

[Future World Magazine](#) for 3 months - January to March, 2023.

2. Become the FACE of FLED in 2024.
3. Receive 50% rebate to attend any Core Course of their choice at the Institute in 2024

Once again, we congratulate the winners of this maiden edition of **FLED Alumni Excellence Award**.



FLED International Leadership Institute is a postgraduate leadership school and research Institution. It was established on August 15, 1999 and incorporated in Nigeria on January 21, 2010 as a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee. It is approved by Nigeria's Federal Ministry of Education to provide leadership education and to professionalize the field of leadership development in Nigeria and Africa.

#### At FLED Institute,

- We groom public intellectuals
- We support individuals to become public citizens
- We train you to become a transformational public leader.
- We certify you to become a **Public Leadership Consultant – plc**.

The [Centre for Public Leadership](#) at FLED Institute exists to identify, recruit, and induct into public leadership, qualified leaders from all fields of professional practice including business, education, health, media, Civil service, etc, and support them in their public leadership journey.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO WORK WITH US



#### Leadership Programs

Apply for any of the Core Leadership Courses at FLED

Institute, starting February 2024. **Visit here:** <https://flededu.org/category/programs>

FLED CONNECT, NOVEMBER 2023



LEADERSHIP  
DISCOVERY  
FOR WOMEN

...Bringing fresh grace to public leadership

If you're a female professional desiring to learn the art and science of public leadership, enrol in the **Leadership Discovery for Women Program**, starting February 2024. Check here for details: <https://flededu.org/ld4women>

To apply for induction into **Public Leadership**.

Visit here: <https://flededu.org/induction>

### **FLED needs your urgent financial support**

FLED is organizing a 4-day entrepreneurial leadership program for youths in Ezinihitte Mbase, Imo State, December 20-23, 2023, tagged **Back to My Roots Project**. The cost of the program is **N1.5m**. We plan to train and empower 60 youths. We need you to help us implement this youth empowerment project this Christmas.

#### **Please send in your donation to:**

Foundation for Leadership & Education Development. **A/c no:** 2242038028. Ecobank. Description: **"BMR Project"**.

Become a regular supporter of FLED. Visit here: <https://flededu.org/support>



**here:** <https://flededu.org/graduate-leadership>

Are you a fresh graduate seeking to opportunity to build your leadership skills for employment and business start-up? Enrol in FLED Graduate Program. **Details**

#### **Contact Us:**

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*Nurturing transformational public leaders in Africa, since 1999*