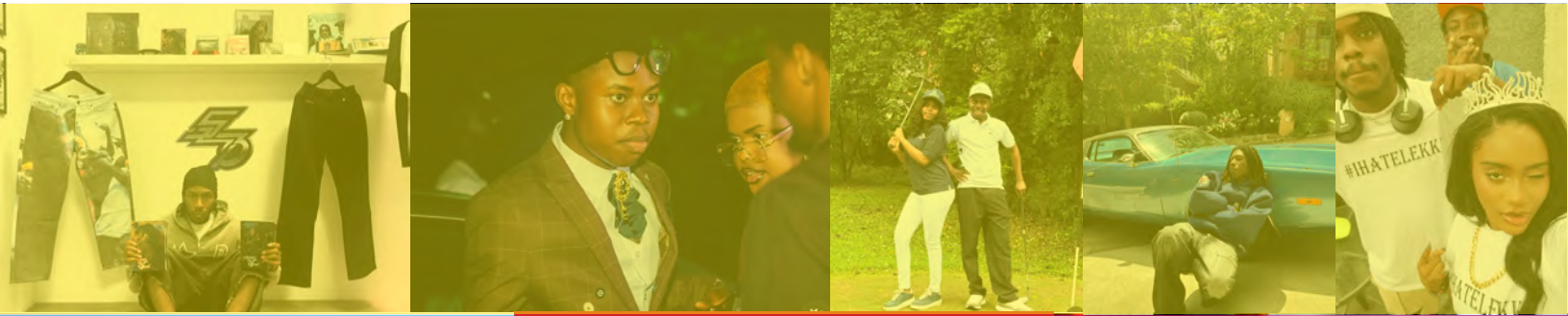


# BUSINESS DAY WEEKENDER

EDITION 254 | 09, AUGUST 2025



## Top 6 Nigerian streamers leading the digital entertainment revolution



### SPORTS

The diaspora power behind Nigeria's sporting glory



### EDUCATION

Echoing five years of female students dominant of May/June WASSCE

PUBLISHER/EDITOR IN CHIEF  
Frank Aigbogun

EDITOR  
Tayo Fagbule

DEPUTY EDITOR  
Lolade Akinmurele

FOUNDING EDITOR BD WEEKENDER  
Lehlé Balde

DEPUTY EDITOR BD WEEKENDER  
Ifeoma Okeke-Korieocha

CHIEF SALES AND MARKETING OFFICER  
Ijeoma Ude

ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER  
Queen Nkwocha

COPY SALES MANAGER  
Florence Kadiri

DIGITAL SALES MANAGER  
Linda Ochugbua

HEAD OF DIGITALS  
Nduka Asoh

DESIGN AND ART DIRECTION  
Emmanuel Odo  
(officialedenis@gmail.com)

CONTRIBUTORS

Linda Ochugbua  
Chisom Michael  
Feyisitan Ijimakinwa  
Esther Emoekpere  
Udy Osaro - Edobor  
Dr. Emmanuel Okoroafor  
Anthony Udugba  
Anthony Nlebem  
Eyesan Toritseju  
Charles Ogwo

ENQUIRIES

[weekender@businessday.ng](mailto:weekender@businessday.ng)

ADVERTS

Ijeoma Ude  
+2348033225506

PUBLISHED BY

BusinessDay Media Limited  
6A George Street, off  
Mobolaji Johnson Street, Ikoyi  
01-2799100  
[www.businessday.ng](http://www.businessday.ng)

LEGAL ADVISERS

The Law Union

**BUSINESS DAY**  
**WEEKENDER**

# C O N T E N T

---



6

## LAUGHTER IN THE MIRROR



11

## PROFILE

Championing Sustainable Creativity: Egbeichi Okoro's Transformative Leadership in the Art Economy



19

## OPINION

The 90-Day Payment Trap: How Big Corporations Are Strangling Small Businesses

---

23

## EDUCATION

AI will replace Nigerian teachers who can't use it - Onwudike-Jumbo

27

## BUSINESSS

6 Nigerian top business owners who have written books

31

## TRAVEL

Top 7 courses abroad that are gaining attention in 2025

---

40

## ART INDEX

The Curator as Storyteller\_ Crafting Narratives Through African Art

44

## BOOK REVIEW

Akwaugo

46

## MOVIE REVIEW



**BUSINESS DAY**

# TOP 25 CEOs AWARDS

**19  
SEPT.  
2025**  
**6PM**

**For information on sponsorship  
and participation call**

**Uchenna** 📞 0703 0472 336  
uchenna.okwuoha@businessday.ng  
**Daniel** 📞 08027564 653  
daniel.aluma@businessday.ng  
**Segun** 📞 0812 024 3167  
segun.asoyinkule@businessday.ng

**BUSINESS DAY**

**An increasing number of top Nigerian companies use Businessday group subscription to enhance performance and achieve corporate goals.**

Gain unlimited access to our award-winning insights and analysis, and empower your organization with the political, economic, and business knowledge you need.

Subscribe to our corporate digital subscription package today to stay informed with trusted news wherever you go.

BUSINESSDAY ©



BUSINESSDAY ©



# TOP 6 NIGERIAN STREAMERS LEADING THE DIGITAL ENTERTAINMENT REVOLUTION

**ANTHONY UDUGBA**



The streaming industry in Nigeria is growing rapidly, with creators using platforms like Twitch, YouTube, and TikTok to connect with audiences locally and globally. This rise has turned streaming into a viable career, showcasing the talent and innovation of Nigerian content creators. Six streamers have emerged as leaders in this space, gaining large followings and making a significant impact on the country's entertainment scene. They are Shank Comic, Carter Efe, Peller, SIEN, Enzo, and Cruel Santino.

## Shank Comic (Emmanuel Adesokan)

Emmanuel Adesokan, known as Shank Comic, is a major figure in Nigerian streaming. He first gained attention as a Twitter influencer, then moved into making skits. During the 2020 lockdown, his memes and videos became widely popular, earning him a spot on YouTube's Top 10 Breakout Creators list in 2022. In 2025, he shifted to full-time streaming on Twitch, starting on April 11th. Since then, he has become the most followed African streamer on the platform.

Shank Comic's streams feature live album listening

sessions and new music previews. He once hosted Nigerian artist Olamide, drawing significant viewership. His Twitch stats show 290,556 live views in the last 30 days, averaging 652 viewers per stream and totaling 22,045 hours watched, according to Streams Charts. He also represented Nigeria at Kai Cenat's 'Streamer University' in the U.S., boosting his international profile. His mix of humor and music content keeps his audience engaged.

## Carter Efe (Odahohwo Joseph Efe)

Odahohwo Joseph Efe, or Carter Efe, is another key player. Known for his skits and music, including a hit song, he entered the streaming scene in 2025 on Twitch. His top stream reached 76,000 views, one of the highest in Africa at the time. Other streams have ranged from 351 to 4,300 views, indicating steady growth potential.

Carter Efe brings his skit-making skills to his streams, often including guests and scripted segments. This approach keeps viewers interested and highlights his ability to adapt his entertainment background to the streaming format.



## Peller (Habeeb Hamzat)

Peller, whose real name is Habeeb Hamzat, is a standout in Nigeria's streaming world. He rose to prominence on TikTok with record-breaking live streams that showcased his personality. His manager, Bosa Lee, reports that Peller earns N1 million to N2 million daily on TikTok due to his energy and viewer support. In one instance, he made \$30,000 (about N46 million) in a single minute, an African record.

Streaming three times a week, Peller earns over N15 million and attracts up to 80,000 viewers per session. In 2024, he won Best Content Creator at the Trace Awards & Festival. He also holds the record for Africa's highest-viewed stream, with 76,000 views, matching Carter Efe's peak but noted as a standout achievement. His interactive style drives his success.

## SIEN

SIEN's streaming career began after his video "Make I No Die for Ikorodu" went viral. He started on YouTube to promote his content, later moving to Twitch. His streams have featured guests like Ayra Starr, Davido and Sato, and he has broadcast live from events such as the Homecoming Festival. SIEN also does IRL (In Real Life) and exploring streams, offering viewers a look into Nigerian life.

His gradual rise shows his ability to find a niche in the streaming community, blending entertainment with cultural elements.

## Rynenzo

Rynenzo popularly known as Enzo has been a steady presence among Nigerian streamers. In 2023, he had over 850 YouTube followers and 200 on Twitch.

Though not based in Nigeria, His streams cover gaming competitions and entertainment, including a notable appearance by artist Rema. Enzo's versatility appeals to both gaming fans and music enthusiasts, contributing to his increasing popularity.

## Cruel Santino (Osayaba Andrew Ize-Iyamu)

Cruel Santino, born Osayaba Andrew Ize-Iyamu, offers a unique streaming experience on Twitch. His sessions focus on connecting with fans through unreleased music, live creative sessions, and guest appearances from artists like Victor Reagan, Pretty Boy D-O, Olaolu Slawn, Teni, and Deela. Memorable moments include hosting Davido before his 5IVE album release and creating music live with emerging Nigerian artists.



Santino's streams differ from typical gaming content, emphasizing creativity and interaction. This approach sets him apart and builds a strong bond with his audience.

## The Bigger Picture

The success of these six streamers reflects the power of digital platforms in Nigeria. Streaming has become a source of income and opportunity for young creators. As internet access and smartphone use grow, the audience for these streamers is likely to increase. Their achievements are also catching the eye of brands and advertisers, who see value in their engaged followings.

Shank Comic, Carter Efe, Peller, SIEN, Enzo, and Cruel Santino are shaping Nigeria's streaming landscape. Their content, ranging from music and gaming to real-life experiences, meets diverse viewer interests. Peller's earnings and awards, Shank Comic's Twitch dominance, and Santino's creative sessions highlight the variety of paths to success in this field.

The streaming industry in Nigeria is still developing, but these pioneers are setting a foundation. Their work shows that with talent and innovation, Nigerian streamers can compete globally. As they continue to grow, they inspire others to explore streaming as a career, driving the future of digital entertainment in the country.

# THE DIASPORA POWER BEHIND NIGERIA'S SPORTING GLORY

ANTHONY NLEBEM



Nigerian sports have experienced a surge in global recognition, thanks to the growing impact of patriotic Nigerians in the diaspora who are proudly flying the national flag and helping the country dominate both continental and global competitions.

From basketball to football, the influence of athletes of Nigerian descent, born or raised abroad, is becoming increasingly significant, with their contributions leading to historic feats and titles across major international tournaments.

## D'Tigress: African Queens Built Abroad

Nigeria's senior women's basketball team, D'Tigress, is a shining example of diaspora strength. Largely made up of foreign-born Nigerian athletes, the team recently clinched a record-breaking fifth consecutive FIBA Women's AfroBasket title and seventh overall at the 2025 edition of the tournament.

Their unbeaten streak now stands at 29 games, a remarkable run dating back to 2015.

Head coach Rena Wakama, born in Raleigh, North Carolina, and currently the assistant coach at the Chicago Sky in the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA), led D'Tigress to their 5th Women's AfroBasket title in Ivory Coast. Despite her U.S. upbringing, Wakama's roots trace back to Okrika, Rivers State, and her commitment to Nigeria has been unwavering.

Her tactical brilliance earned her the Best Coach of the Paris 2024 Women's Basketball Tournament by FIBA, while D'Tigress point guard Ezinne Kalu was named to the Olympics Women's Basketball All-Second Team, highlighting the squad's global class.

Interestingly, the majority of the D'Tigress players who won the 2025 AfroBasket title were either born abroad or are of Nigerian descent, an embodiment of Nigeria's rich talent pool outside its borders.



## D'Tigers and the Diaspora Engine

The men's national basketball team, D'Tigers, also leans heavily on diaspora talent. Most of the players were born in Nigeria but moved abroad at a young age, where they developed their basketball careers before committing to represent their home country.

## Super Falcons: A Blend of Local and Diaspora Strength

The 2025 Women's Africa Cup of Nations (WAFCON) showcased how the Super Falcons are benefiting from a healthy mix of homegrown and diaspora talents.

Players like Michelle Alozie, born in California to Nigerian parents from Imo State, currently play for Houston Dash in the NWSL.

Ashleigh Plumtre, born in Leicester, has Nigerian heritage through her Yoruba grandfather from Lagos and currently stars for Al-Ittihad in Saudi Arabia. Both players played pivotal roles in Nigeria's historic 10th WAFCON title, helping the team maintain four clean sheets and conceding the fewest goals in the tournament.

## Experts Speak: Diaspora Influence Must Be Balanced

Muda Yusuf, Director and CEO of the Centre for the Promotion of Private Enterprise (CPPE), praised the diaspora's contributions to national development beyond sports.

"They are already contributing a lot. Many send money home, invest in real estate, and even support talent development here in Nigeria," Yusuf said.

He noted that the \$100,000 cash reward offered by President Bola Tinubu to D'Tigress and the Super Falcons would also stimulate the local economy.

## A Call for Balance in Talent Development

Veteran sports analyst Deji Omotoyinbo acknowledged the value of diaspora players but warned against total dependence on them.

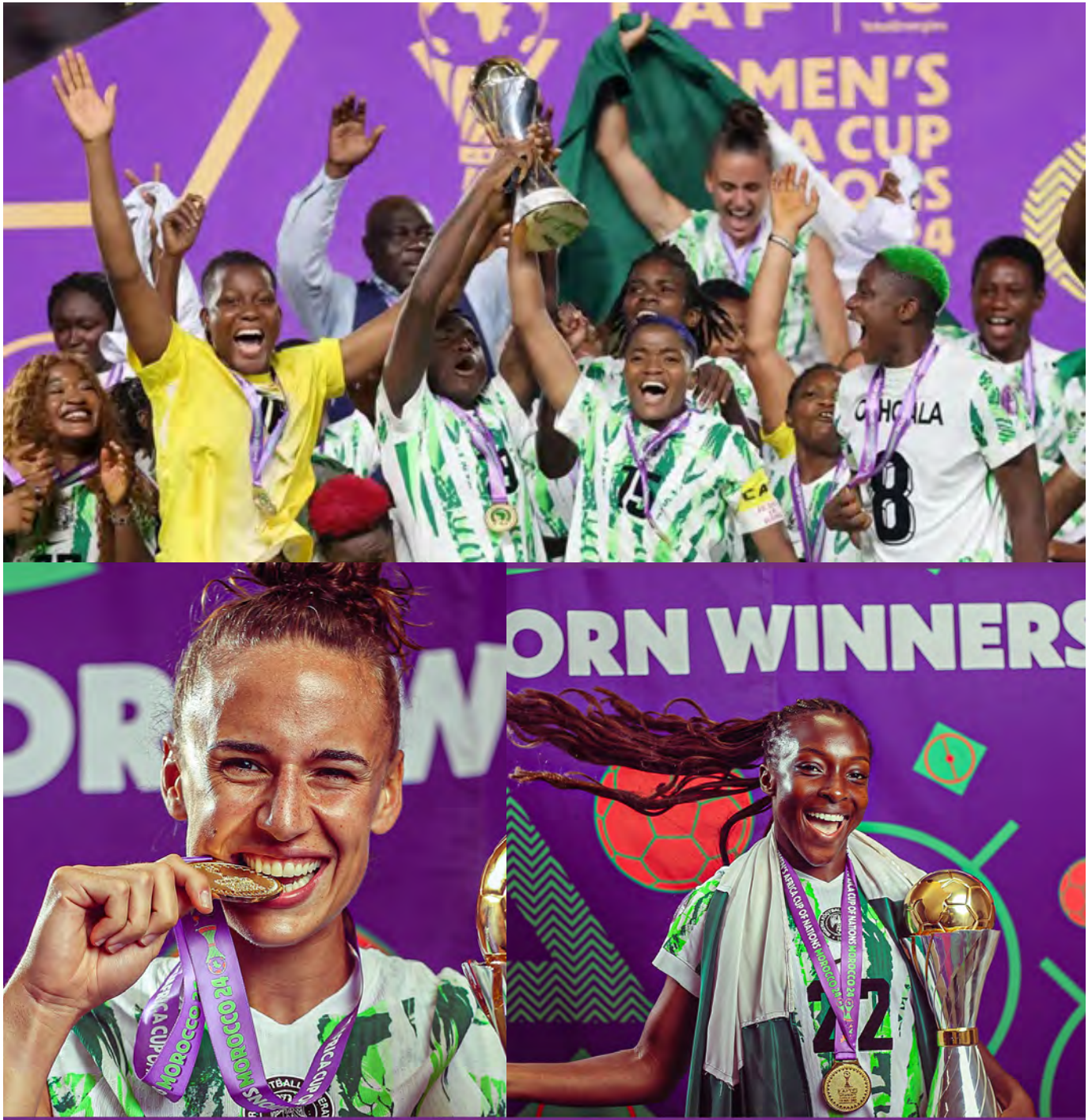
"They are Nigerians and qualified, no doubt. But we must find a balance," he said.

"We can't afford to neglect homegrown talent. Over-reliance on diaspora athletes could dry up our local talent pipeline."

Omotoyinbo praised President Tinubu's rewards but advised authorities to intensify grassroots development and invest more in sports academies.

## Rewarding Champions and Inspiring a Nation

Felix Awogu, another respected voice in Nigerian sports media, applauded the President's \$100,000 reward for the Super Falcons and D'Tigress. He pointed out that while the amount may seem large due to the current exchange rate, the emotional and inspirational value it carries far outweighs the monetary figure.



"These girls brought joy to millions. For once, we're rewarding true warriors. Let's celebrate them," Awogu said.

He also lauded diaspora athletes for choosing to represent Nigeria, often ahead of more lucrative opportunities abroad, stating:

"They could have stayed away, but they came back to lift the green and white. That's the ultimate act of patriotism."

Nigerians in the diaspora have proven to be an invaluable asset to the country's sports success. Their skills, exposure,

and discipline developed abroad have propelled Nigeria to the top in Africa and beyond.

However, sports experts agree that while this global talent is a gift, it must complement, not replace, the development of grassroots sports infrastructure and local athletes.

If managed wisely, the partnership between homegrown and diaspora talents could make Nigeria not just a continental powerhouse, but a global sporting superpower.

# ECHOING FIVE YEARS OF FEMALE STUDENTS DOMINANT OF MAY/JUNE WASSCE

...as female students lead WASSCE 2025 with 53.99 percent credit pass

**CHARLES OGWO**



For five consecutive years, female students have consistently outperformed their male peers in the May/June West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE), recording higher credit pass rates in English Language, and Mathematics.

Data from the West African Examinations Council (WAEC) shows that female candidates have maintained cumulative credit pass rates, defying stereotypes and the belief that the girl-child is less brilliant than the male peers.

On Monday, August 4, the West African Examinations Council (WAEC), Nigeria, released the results of the 2025 WASSCE, out of 1,969,313 candidates that sat the examination, 754,545 candidates (38.32 percent) achieved

credit and above in five subjects including English and Mathematics.

Of the 754,545 students who made this grade, 347,192 (46.01 percent) were male, and 407,353 (53.99 percent) were female.

In 2024, 48.30 percent were male candidates, while 51.70 percent were female candidates.

The female gender continued the dominance in 2023, with 671,006, representing 52.1 percent, while 616,914 candidates representing 47.9 percent were male candidates that obtained five credit pass and beyond including English and Maths.



In 2022, of the number of candidates that obtained credits in a minimum of five subjects including Maths and English, 37.34 percent were male while 39.02 percent were female candidates.

Similarly, in 2021, 48.93 percent of students that obtained a minimum of five credits including English and Mathematics were male candidates, while 51.07 percent were female candidates.

The female students' dominance in WASSCE or higher performance, in certain subjects or overall, experts believe suggests a shift in academic achievement patterns.

"This could indicate a decline in traditional gender stereotypes about subject preferences and abilities, highlighting the potential for girls to excel in traditionally male-dominated fields," they say.

Besides, they argue that it raises questions about factors influencing academic success, such as individual effort, teaching quality, and school environment, warranting further investigation into the reasons behind this trend.

Onyebuchi Mary, a teacher attributed the shift in academic excellence to factors such as increased female participation, and potential for shifting gender roles, among others.

"There is obviously a higher number of female students indicating greater interest in secondary education and future academic pursuits.

"This trend might reflect a societal shift where academic achievement is valued for both genders, and girls are actively pursuing opportunities that were traditionally more male-dominated," she said.

However, Christopher Ibekwe, another teacher emphasised that the dominance might not be consistent across all subjects.

"Male students might still excel in specific areas like sciences or technical fields. Besides, regional differences in access to education and cultural norms could influence these patterns," he noted.

Moreover, he reiterated that while celebrating the success of female students, it's important to ensure that male students are also encouraged and supported to reach their full potential, maintaining a balanced approach to gender representation in education.

Serialisation, CBT format, and 'Special Needs' inclusion

WAEC attributed the drop in combined English and Maths credit rates to the new security measure of serialisation in core subjects like Mathematics, English Language, Biology, and Economics.

This made cheating harder as candidates received the same questions in different orders.

The council said it also piloted computer-based testing in 2025, giving candidates the option to sit the exam digitally or with pen and paper. Essay questions were projected on screens, but students wrote answers manually.

"I want to allay the fears of Nigerians, the preparations for CBT 2026 are still on. We have done it in 2025, we won't change our modus operandi. We will do it again next year and improve on our performance this year," WAEC HNO said.

WAEC also urged schools, parents, and governments to support its digital exam transition and sustain academic integrity.

"Candidates will still try and test the technology before implementation so it can allay their fears," he noted.



# CHAMPIONING SUSTAINABLE CREATIVITY: EGBEICHI OKORO'S TRANSFORMATIVE LEADERSHIP IN THE ART ECONOMY

IFEOMA OKEKE-KORIEOCHA





**E**gbichi Egwu Okoro, Co-Founder/CEO, Zinn Arts Gallery has defined a new standard for success in the creative economy, blending the roles of a celebrated fine artist, a visionary entrepreneur, and a business strategist.

As the Co-Founder and CEO of Zinn Arts Gallery, Okoro is at the forefront of a movement that is redefining how artists can achieve economic

sustainability, global reach and intellectual property protection. With a career spanning more than a decade, Okoro's journey is marked by significant accomplishments both in the studio and the marketplace.

Her work has been exhibited in major cultural hubs, including Nigeria, Japan, and the United States, earning her recognition not only for her evocative visual art but also for her innovative approach to the business side of the industry.

What truly distinguishes Artist Okoro is her integrated approach to the creative process. Beyond creating art, she has dedicated her career to building the structural foundations that allow other artists to thrive.

Zinn Arts Gallery, under her leadership, has evolved

beyond a traditional gallery space to become a comprehensive platform for artist development.

The organisation provides resources on intellectual property, business management, and market expansion, empowering creators to commercialize their work and build scalable careers.



Okoro's work is shaped by her unique expertise in both the arts and the business field. Her ability to design solid systems for artists, from managing licensing agreements to structuring ventures for long-term profitability, is a result of a deep understanding of legal frameworks.

This is a rare asset gained from her long standing experience in this field. This perspective is a foundation of her philosophy, ensuring that Zinn Arts Gallery and its artists are artistically successful, but beyond that, commercially sound.

"My goal is to create frameworks that allow artists to professionalize their practice," Okoro notes. "It is about equipping them with the tools to turn their passion into a sustainable career, ensuring their work is both celebrated and protected."

This commitment has positioned her as a leader in the fast-growing art market. Okoro is an advisor to creative startups and has mentored numerous emerging artists, helping them build commercially viable portfolios and handle the complexities of the global market. Her work is proof that artistic integrity and business acumen can, and should, coexist.

Her impact has not gone unnoticed. Okoro's work has been featured in international media, and she is a frequent contributor to discussions on creative entrepreneurship and cultural policy.

She is currently focused on expanding Zinn Arts Gallery's reach, with plans to launch a digital platform that provides resources and mentorship to a wider network of artists.

Through these efforts, she aims to build stronger connections between the creative communities of Africa and the United States, helping to create a new era of cultural exchange and economic empowerment for artists worldwide.

Okoro's career is a powerful case study for the modern creative economy. More than being an artist, she is a builder of platforms, a protector of intellectual property, and an advocate for a more equitable and sustainable future for artists everywhere.

# UNDERSTANDING THE 3 MAIN TYPES OF FRAGRANCE: PERFUME, EAU DE PARFUM, AND EAU DE TOILETTE

ESTHER EMOEKPERE



If you have ever stood in the fragrance aisle wondering what the real difference is between perfume, eau de parfum, and eau de toilette, you're not alone. These terms can seem confusing, especially when they all seem to describe the same bottle of scent, but the differences come down to concentration, longevity, and price.

## Perfume (also called Parfum)

This is the most concentrated form of fragrance you can buy. It contains between 20% to 30% pure perfume oil, making it the strongest and longest-lasting option. A few drops are enough to last at least 6 to 8 hours on the skin without the need for top-ups. Because of its intensity, perfume tends to be more expensive and is usually packaged in smaller bottles. This is best for special occasions or long days when you do not want to reapply. A little goes a long way, too much can be overpowering.

## Eau de Parfum (EDP)

Eau de Parfum is one step down in concentration, with around 12% to 18% perfume oil. It's still long-lasting, typically 4 to 5 hours, but not as intense as pure perfume. Most luxury fragrance brands sell their popular scents in EDP form because it balances strength and wearability. It is recommended to wear EDP on dates, a night out with friends or anywhere you want to make a lasting impression.

## Eau de Toilette (EDT)

Eau de Toilette contains an average of 5% to 12% perfume oil, making it lighter and more refreshing. It lasts between 2 to 4 hours, depending on the weather and your skin type. EDTs are often used for daytime wear or in warmer climates where heavy scents can feel too much. EDT is best for light daily wear, hot weather, or layering. You may need to reapply during the day.

# THE 90-DAY PAYMENT TRAP: HOW BIG CORPORATIONS ARE STRANGLING

...Extended invoice terms are crushing SMEs and stifling economic growth  
 ...It's time for government and business associations to act

**DR. EMMANUEL OKOROAFOR**



In boardrooms and procurement departments across the world, a harmful and exploitative practice continues to gain ground—offering 60- to 90-day payment terms to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) for services rendered and goods delivered. What may appear to be a standard business procedure is, in truth, a slow, systemic strangulation of small businesses.

For many SMEs, these payment terms translate into deferred salaries, mounting debts, broken supply chains, and eventual closure. Yet, this has been normalized, even institutionalized, by some of the world's most profitable corporations.

Let's be clear: if it is illegal and unethical to owe employees for three months, then it is equally unconscionable to delay

payment to contractors and vendors—many of whom also employ staff, pay taxes, and support entire communities.

## Unfair Terms, Real Consequences

The logic behind extended payment terms is simple—preserve the cash flow of the larger company by transferring liquidity pressure to the smaller party. But the consequences are devastating. Payrolls are missed, leading to staff attrition and hardship.

Tax and pension obligations go unmet, attracting penalties. SMEs become riskier borrowers, losing access to critical credit lines.



The ripple effect spreads, destabilizing entire value chains.

This is not just bad practice; it is bad economics. In most developing countries, SMEs contribute up to 80% of employment and a significant share of GDP. To throttle this sector is to undermine the foundation of the economy itself.

### **A Form of Economic Exploitation**

The practice bears uncomfortable resemblance to a modern form of financial servitude. The SME delivers value now but must wait 90 days—sometimes more—for payment. The larger company, meanwhile, records the benefit immediately, but defers the cost. This is an imbalance of power dressed up as contractual agreement.

It is disingenuous for large firms to tout their corporate responsibility credentials, while using payment delays as a cash management tool. A company that prides itself on ESG compliance should not perpetuate a culture of “pay when convenient” at the expense of its smallest partners.

### **A Call for Urgent Reform**

Governments, regulatory agencies, and business chambers must rise to this challenge. It is time to move from advocacy to enforcement.

Policy solutions should include:  
 Legislation mandating a maximum 30-day payment window for SMEs.  
 Automatic penalties and interest on delayed payments.

Public disclosure of payment performance by large corporations.  
 Empowerment of trade associations to escalate non-compliance and advocate for members.

The UK’s Prompt Payment Code and similar initiatives in Europe are steps in the right direction, but enforcement has been weak, and compliance largely voluntary. In Africa, Asia, and Latin America, the situation is worse, with SMEs routinely waiting over 120 days for payment.

### **Why This Matters Now**

In a post-pandemic economy marked by inflation, currency volatility, and rising input costs, SMEs cannot afford to bankroll the operations of larger entities. Timely payment is not a favour—it is a contractual and ethical obligation.

If governments truly support small business, and if big corporations are sincere in their social responsibility pledges, then fair payment practices must become a non-negotiable standard.

### **Conclusion: Pay SMEs Promptly—Or Pay the Price Later**

The continued abuse of payment terms is a threat to innovation, jobs, and economic resilience. It is a silent killer of small businesses, hiding behind the bureaucracy of procurement systems.

It is time to confront this head-on. Delayed payments are not just a financial issue—they are a moral and economic crisis.

Let this be the turning point. Let us champion a new business culture where contracts are honoured, obligations are met on time, and the lifeblood of enterprise—cash flow—is respected.

### **Anything less is exploitation.**

Dr Emmanuel Okoroafor is a business executive and entrepreneur with over three decades of experience in human capital management, oil & gas, and African trade development. He is the CEO of Hobark Consultants Management Services Ltd and founder of MEPON Ltd.

# SHEEVOLUTION AFRICA TO UPSKILLS 350 GIRLS IN LEADERSHIP, CULTURE, DIGITAL INNOVATION

...as it celebrates five years of impact with changemaker 5.0

CHARLES OGWO



**S**heevolution Africa will upskill not less than 350 adolescent girls aged 11 to 19 from underserved communities in leadership, culture and digital innovation in a bold move to empower the next generation of female leaders.

The initiative aims to bridge gender gaps in technology and leadership while fostering confidence, creativity, and a strong sense of identity among young African girls.

Jadesola James-Omitiran, founder/executive director of Sheevolution Africa emphasised that the training is in celebration of the institution's landmark year.

“This milestone edition, Changemaker 5.0, marks half a decade of igniting leadership, innovation, and self-belief in Africa's future female leaders.

“Each carefully curated session is designed to shape self-led young women who can influence change within their communities and beyond.

“This camp is more than just an event. It’s a catalytic movement dedicated to raising the next generation of Africa’s leaders. We’re planting seeds of leadership across Africa, and watching them evolve,” James-Omitiran said.

The 350 adolescent girls from underserved communities will embark on a seven-day immersive journey that blends leadership development, confidence building, and digital and craft empowerment.

According to Mary Owolabi, the policy and advocacy manager at Sheevolution Africa, the fifth annual summer growth camp, an empowering convergence set to take place from August 18–26, 2025 in Lagos and Ibadan respectively.

Some of the highlights of the Changemaker 5.0 will include leadership development sessions rooted in self-leadership principles, tech education workshops, including AI and cyber-security training, and physical and mental health empowerment sessions.

Others include etiquette and personal presentation workshops, a creative crafts and public speaking day to build confidence and expression, and a full-day community service project and inspiring field trip experience.

This year’s celebration will also feature the ‘Girl Opportunity Alliance of the Obama Foundation’, which will launch a mini-documentary capturing Sheevolution Africa’s five years of transformative impact.

Alongside this, participants will take part in a leadership workshop and the unveiling of a new Leadership Journal for girls across Africa.

The 2025 camp comes to life through the partnership and support of Girl Opportunity Alliance, Lipton, Google, UAC, WARIF, Victoria and Watermark, Malta Guinness and Indomie and other change partners committed to advancing opportunities for African girls. Sheevolution Africa has been recognised for its work by the Girl Opportunity Alliance, a program of the Obama Foundation, and has established a partnership to reach even more girls across Nigeria.

Besides, the programmes will empower girls through its summer growth camp, equipping them with leadership, digital, and life skills that will transform their futures.

For five years, Sheevolution Africa has remained steadfast in its mission to nurture a generation of African girls who are not only equipped with essential skills but also imbued with the confidence, vision, and resilience to become architects of a better future.

Sheevolution Africa is a leadership development institution committed to empowering young girls in underserved African communities by providing them with the essential thinking, tools, and thrust to pursue their entrepreneurial dreams.

The organisation offers curated leadership development products, programs, and services to girls, including business training, digital literacy, high-impact mentorship, and networking opportunities.

# AI WILL REPLACE NIGERIAN TEACHERS WHO CAN'T USE IT - ONWUDIKE-JUMBO

IFEOMA OKEKE-KORIEOCHA



**T**emitope Ajao, a primary six teacher at Community Primary School, Ewu Tuntun, Oshodi, in Lagos, had heard of ChatGPT and used it a few times. But like many Nigerian teachers, his understanding of Artificial Intelligence (AI) was limited to surface-level use.

This changed when a social media ad led him to an AI teacher training seminar in Lagos. Curious and eager not to be left behind, he registered. By the end of the session, Ajao said he could write better prompts, explore other tools like Bard and Gemini, and teach his pupils more creatively and in line with global education standards.

Ajao is just one of millions of Nigerian teachers waking up to the urgent need to integrate AI into the classroom. With 10.5 million children aged 5–14 currently out of school, and only 915,000 teachers available for 31.7 million learners, according to the Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC), Nigeria's education system is stretched thin.

“Without proper measures, the country risks preparing children for a world that no longer exists,” said Onyekachi Onwudike-Jumbo, founder of Train the Trainer and an AI director. “We can't keep using 2019 teaching methods to prepare kids for 2030 jobs. The future of work is evolving, and education must evolve with it.”



Onwudike-Jumbo convened the “Train the Trainer” workshop to empower African teachers, especially Nigerians, integrate technology into real learning. It was also part of a broader movement to reskill the teachers and ensure they are not left behind in the global education race. “AI will not replace teachers,” she said, “but it’s a fact that it will replace teachers who don’t know how to use it.”

Her team has been hosting both physical and virtual AI training sessions for educators in cities across the country, and the Lagos training follows similar sessions in Port Harcourt and Owerri.

### **Building the 21st-century classroom with what we have**

Educators were trained at the workshop on how to use AI tools like ChatGPT, Bard, Gemini, and WhatsApp bots not only to create lesson plans but to personalise them, check for bias, and adjust based on student learning styles.

“You can’t keep teaching 40 students the same way,” the founder told BD Weekender. “You need to understand who they are and what sparks their curiosity.”

There was also a focus on low-cost, high-impact innovation. The teachers were shown how to teach complex tech concepts like algorithms, data

classification, and binary logic, using bottle caps, sticks, grains, seeds, and even broom fibres.

The seminar also debunked common AI myths. Teachers were taught how to prompt AI tools to align lesson plans with Nigeria’s curriculum and WAEC standards. They also explored tools to detect bias, plan differentiated lessons, and practised blending experiential learning with low-tech methods.

They were urged to cross-check outputs, use multiple sources, and teach students to question responses critically. “AI isn’t perfect,” the convener said, “but when used well, it can make you more effective and save time.”

Remilekun Durojaye, a teacher and administrator at Dammyville Private School, said her goal was to learn better ways to move beyond “copy-paste AI use,” and she wasn’t disappointed. “We now understand how AI can help us teach better and reach every child in class,” she said.

### **Closing Nigeria’s digital divide with innovation and intent**

Even as Nigeria makes progress in digital connectivity, with broadband penetration at 45.6 percent and 107 million internet users, rural schools remain largely disconnected.

The National Broadband Alliance aims to hit 70 percent penetration by 2025, but infrastructure and cost challenges remain steep. AI could help bridge these divides if teachers are trained to use it effectively.

“The truth is, education is a shared responsibility, but many don’t prioritise training teachers, the people who create all other professions,” Onyekachi said. “We want to reach every teacher and make training one less thing they have to worry about.”

# PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN LAGOS WHERE PUPILS BUILD REAL BUSINESSES AS PART OF THE CURRICULUM

ESTHER EMOEKPERE



In a growing shift from theory-based education, some private secondary schools in Lagos are turning classrooms into launchpads for real-world business experience. These schools are not just teaching entrepreneurship, they are embedding it into the curriculum, requiring pupils to create and manage mini enterprises as part of their academic journey.

Students take on roles that mirror actual business operations: from product development and branding to marketing, finance, and customer engagement. The goal is not to run simulations, but to build functional businesses that solve real problems, serve real customers, and generate real income, all before graduation.

This practical model is helping students develop a mindset of innovation and self-reliance, blending academic learning with entrepreneurial grit.

## Here are three private secondary schools in Lagos leading this shift:

### British International School

Since its inception in 2001, the British International School (BIS) in Lagos has established itself as a leading private institution that integrates traditional academics with entrepreneurial education. The school provides a tailored version of the British National Curriculum that suits its West African environment, including additional topics such as Yoruba and regional studies.

In addition to academic learning, students engage in business-oriented programs designed to cultivate practical skills. Through the “Young Innovators Hub,” learners have embarked on various small projects, including upcycled fashion lines and basic technological tools aimed at waste management. There is also a focus on familiarizing students with contemporary business methods: they participate in workshops covering e-commerce, customer behavior, and product testing. Occasionally, students tackle actual projects from small businesses and NGOs, which gives them valuable experience in client interaction.

An annual event allows groups to showcase their projects to local investors and grant providers. Although most projects remain within the school environment, some have progressed beyond the school year with external assistance.

BIS is part of an increasing number of private institutions that incorporate entrepreneurship not just as a theoretical subject, but as an integral aspect of students’ everyday education, providing insights into Nigeria’s economic environment and the challenges of launching new initiatives from the ground up.

### Greensprings School

Greensprings School, founded in 1985, is among a select few British international schools in Nigeria that delivers a comprehensive British curriculum. The school employs a variety of global teaching approaches across different levels, employing Montessori methods in the early years and transitioning to the International Baccalaureate for Sixth Form.

The business education at Greensprings is organized through its Young Entrepreneurs Programme, in which students operate small cooperatives with business concepts that range from organic farming to fashion design. A specialized makerspace provides students with access to tools such as 3D printers and sewing machines, facilitating hands-on creation and rapid prototyping.

To enhance learning beyond simply creating products, the school hosts professional workshops where students acquire knowledge about business registration, logistics, and online branding. Some students also test their products at public events and through digital channels.

The programme concludes with a final pitch event, during which business professionals evaluate student projects and provide limited assistance in the form of seed funding or mentorship. Although most ventures operate within the school, this initiative gives participants an introduction to the basics of starting and managing small businesses within a supportive framework.

### Dowen College

Situated in Lekki Phase 1, Lagos, Dowen College is a co-educational secondary school that provides both day and boarding facilities. Established in October 1997, the institution integrates Nigerian and British educational systems, assisting students in preparing for examinations such as BECE, Checkpoint, WASSCE, and IGCSE.

The BizTech Club incorporates entrepreneurship into student life, allowing pupils to assume leadership positions akin to those found in a real business, from CEO to head of marketing. Instead of merely simulating business scenarios, students manage actual enterprises on campus. Among their initiatives are coding classes for younger students and a student-operated café that emphasizes healthy snack options. To enhance their decision-making abilities, students track income, expenditures, and feedback through real-time data dashboards. They also gain insight into the workings of startups in Nigeria’s commercial landscape through regular visits to innovation hubs and guest lectures by tech entrepreneurs.

With a student-to-teacher ratio of 7:1, the institution merges academic rigor with hands-on experience, equipping students to comprehend and engage in practical business experience from an early age.



# 6 NIGERIAN TOP BUSINESS OWNERS WHO HAVE WRITTEN BOOKS

ESTHER EMOEKPERE



***“The lessons, setbacks, and triumphs that shaped my path are almost ready for you.”***

That was how billionaire businessman Femi Otedola introduced Making It Big, his upcoming memoir, in a tweet posted on July 17. Scheduled for release on August 18, the book promises a direct look into his business journey, including the moments of doubt and the principles that kept him going.

Femi Otedola is not the first Nigerian business owner to document his experience. Over the years, several others have published books that outline how they built their ventures, navigated challenges, and made key decisions.

## **Here are 6 Nigerian business owners who have written books sharing what they have learnt:**

### **Frank Nneji, Founder and CEO of Associated Bus Company (ABC) Transport Plc**

Frank Nneji, founder of ABC Transport Plc, the first Nigerian transport company to go public, shares his business journey in *Who Says You Can't?*. The book reflects on key lessons from building one of West Africa's leading transport brands.

Nneji started out in 1983 with Rapido Ventures, later launching ABC Transport in 1991 with a loan and five leased buses. His ventures have since grown to include Rapido Foods, Transit Support Services, and Mayfair Suites, making him a major employer in Imo State and a notable voice in Nigeria's transport and tourism sectors.

### **Akinola Alabi, Founder NairaBET**

In 2021, entrepreneur and lawmaker Akin Alabi released *How To Sell To Nigerians*, a book grounded in his own business journey. Best known for founding NairaBET and serving in the House of Representatives, Alabi also owns Lekki United FC, a football club based in Lagos. He uses the book to unpack the realities of selling in Nigeria's unique consumer landscape. Blending lessons from the street and the boardroom, the book examines what drives local buying decisions and how entrepreneurs can adapt their strategies to succeed.

### **Ibukun Awosika, Founder, The Chair Centre Group**

Ibukun Awosika is a leading Nigerian entrepreneur and the founder of The Chair Centre Group, a top furniture manufacturing company. In her book *The 'Girls' in the BoardRoom*, she highlights the journeys of women who have broken barriers to attain leadership roles—offering both inspiration and practical tools for others to rise.

Awosika became the first female Chairperson of First Bank of Nigeria, marking a historic shift in corporate leadership. She holds a Chemistry degree from Obafemi Awolowo University and has completed executive programmes at Lagos Business School, IESE (Spain), Wharton, and CEIBS. Outside business, she co-founded WIMBIZ and runs the Christian Missionary Fund, supporting missionaries across Nigeria. In 2008, she became the first Nigerian to win the IWEC award, nominated by the U.S. Department of State.

### **Nnamdi Ezeigbo, Founder and CEO of SLOT**

Nnamdi Ezeigbo is the founder of SLOT Systems and a co-creator of Tecno Mobile and Infinix. What began as a computer repair side hustle grew into one of Nigeria's most recognisable tech retail brands, with over 70 stores across the country. He played a key role in shaping the mobile phone market, introducing affordable smartphones that reached millions. In *Entrepreneurship The Slot Way: Succeeding in a Tough Business Environment*, Ezeigbo draws from personal experience to show what it takes to build a lasting business in Nigeria's tough operating environment. The book explores his early struggles, business philosophy, and why creating value must come before profit.

### **Jim Ovia, Founder Zenith Bank**

Jim Ovia, founder and chairman of Zenith Bank, shares the story behind one of Africa's most successful banks in Africa, Rise and Shine. Often called the “Godfather of Banking” by Forbes Africa, Ovia started Zenith in 1990 with \$4 million. Through political and economic upheaval, he built it into a pan-African powerhouse with over \$16 billion in assets and international operations in the UK, China, Ghana, and beyond. The book blends memoir with strategy, offering insight into the courage, discipline, and innovation that drove his rise.

### **Olumide Soyombo, Co-founder of Bluechip Technologies and Founder of Voltron Capital**

Olumide Soyombo has spent the last decade shaping Africa's tech startup scene, not just as a founder, but as one of its most active early-stage investors. From co-founding Bluechip Technologies in 2008 to launching Voltron Capital in 2021, his work has backed over 60 startups including Paystack, PiggyVest, Mono, and TeamApt.

In *Vantage*, his business memoir, Soyombo shares personal stories, pivotal moments, and the philosophies behind his investment journey. The book centres on long-term thinking, stewardship, and the discipline it takes to build lasting impact.

# 7 NO-COST BUSINESS IDEAS YOU CAN START TODAY WITH A LAPTOP

CHISOM MICHAEL



Launching a business no longer requires a physical store, staff, or large capital. Many people are building profitable ventures with just a laptop, internet access, and the skills they already have.

As bills increase and salaries remain unchanged, self-development is becoming a key path to financial freedom. Warren Buffett once noted that the best investment is in yourself, an asset that can't be taxed or devalued.

With focus, creativity, and a willingness to learn, it's possible to turn knowledge into income. Low-cost online opportunities are making business ownership more accessible than ever, without the burden of major startup expenses.

According to The Expert Editor, here are seven business ideas that anyone can begin immediately with no financial investment.

## 1. Freelance writing and content creation

Businesses across industries require content. From blog posts and social media captions to newsletters and web pages, demand is steady. For those who can write clearly and meet deadlines, freelance writing presents an accessible opportunity.

An individual who began by offering to write blog posts for a local yoga studio in exchange for classes said that experience taught them more than any course. Writers can specialise in areas they are familiar with, such as finance, wellness, or technology. Platforms like Upwork, Fiverr, and Contently offer entry points.

The first step is to write samples in a specific niche to showcase one's voice and ability. Small businesses, particularly those without in-house marketing teams, often need help with content. Freelancers who deliver consistent, high-quality work often find that satisfied clients bring in referrals.

## 2. Virtual assistant services

Many small business owners are overwhelmed with basic tasks such as email responses, calendar management, social media posting, and online research. People who are organised, can communicate professionally, and have basic computer skills can fill this gap.

Those who have transitioned into this field report being able to choose their clients and manage their schedules. Positioning is key. Rather than offering general support, some virtual assistants focus on industries such as real estate, tech, or coaching, or specialise in tasks such as customer service or email marketing.

## 3. Online tutoring and course creation

The growth of online learning means many people are willing to pay to learn what others already know. Whether it's how to use a tool like Excel or how to manage anxiety, everyday knowledge can be packaged and shared.

According to the World Economic Forum's Future of Jobs Report 2025, "curiosity and lifelong learning" are key skills for future work. Teaching online does not require formal credentials. Instead, practical experience or problem-solving strategies can offer real value.

People can create and sell digital courses or offer one-on-one tutoring over video calls. Unlike a traditional job, a course created once can generate long-term income.

## 4. Social media management for small businesses

Many businesses understand the value of social media but lack the time or knowledge to manage their accounts effectively. A person who spends time online can learn how to post strategically for businesses by creating content schedules, using analytics, and maintaining a consistent brand tone across platforms. Each platform has its own rules and audience expectations.

For instance, a restaurant may require daily food photos and updates to attract customers, a personal trainer might need motivational posts to engage clients, while a boutique may focus on product descriptions and community engagement to drive sales. Matching personal interest with a business's needs can lead to a consistent role as a social media manager.

## 5. Affiliate marketing and product recommendations

Affiliate marketing involves sharing links to products or services and earning a commission when someone buys through that link. It works best when based on real experiences. Someone who has used a specific app, read a helpful book, or found success with a tool can share that story and recommend the product.

The key is trust, and just as knowledge builds over time like compound interest, having a strong understanding of a niche enables useful and genuine recommendations that can drive affiliate income.

## 6. Dropshipping and e-commerce consulting

In a dropshipping model, the seller does not stock products. Instead, they list items, and suppliers ship directly to the customer. This reduces the cost of inventory and storage. However, success requires more than finding cheap goods. It involves solving a real problem for a target audience. Good customer service, fast shipping, and clear communication are important.

For those who do not want to sell physical goods, offering consulting services to others who want to set up e-commerce shops is an option. Helping clients choose platforms like Shopify, improve product descriptions, or run basic ads can be the start of a service-based business.

## 7. Digital marketing and SEO services

Having a website is only the first step for many businesses. They often struggle to attract visitors or convert leads. SEO (Search Engine Optimisation), email campaigns, and digital ads can solve this, but many owners do not know where to begin.

This knowledge gap creates space for digital marketers. Someone who learns the basics of search rankings, keyword research, or Google Ads can offer their services to small businesses.

Improvements such as faster site speed, keyword-rich pages, or geo-targeted content can make a visible difference. As clients see more traffic and enquiries, they are more likely to invest in repeat services. A 2023 IRS study found that the average millionaire has "seven streams of income". Digital marketing can be one of them, especially with steady client demand.



# THE 7 WORLD'S TOP COUNTRIES TO VISIT IN 2025

CHISOM MICHAEL



**T**ravel preferences are shifting in 2025, with global tourists exploring lesser-known gems alongside classic favourites.

According to Kayak's Travel Check-in report, countries like Zimbabwe, Lithuania, Sri Lanka, South Korea, and Moldova are gaining traction due to increased flight searches and affordable fares. From desert landscapes to glacier trails, travellers are seeking wellness, culture, and nature-rich experiences across Africa, Europe, Asia, and Latin America.

**According to Forbes, here are seven destinations that are expected to stand out this year.**

## 1. Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe is drawing attention with its mix of historical sites and natural landscapes. The Great Zimbabwe ruins continue to attract visitors who are interested in the country's past. The Victoria Falls remain a major highlight, offering views of water crashing into deep gorges. Beyond the falls, the Eastern Highlands offer trails and quiet mountain areas.

Cities such as Bulawayo and Harare have seen a sharp increase in flight interest. According to Kayak, searches for Bulawayo flights rose by over 80%, while Harare searches climbed by 56% compared to last summer.

## 2. Lithuania

Lithuania is gaining traction among travellers looking for cultural experiences and natural scenery. Its capital, Vilnius, offers cobbled streets, small courtyards, and historical churches. On the coast, the Curonian Spit draws visitors with its sand dunes and forests. The port city of Klaipėda remains active with ferry traffic and traditional seafood markets.

Kayak reports that flight searches to Vilnius more than doubled—rising by 105% over last summer.

## 3. Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka is becoming a top choice for those looking for a wide range of travel experiences. From coastal fishing villages to hill country tea plantations, the country provides a mix of urban life and rural traditions. Historical locations such as Sigiriya, Anuradhapura, and Polonnaruwa attract those interested in ancient structures and cultural heritage.

Colombo ranks among Kayak's top 10 most searched destinations for this summer, reflecting growing interest in the island nation.

## 4. South Korea

South Korea continues to appeal to travellers seeking both modern and traditional experiences. In Seoul, historical palaces and hanok houses sit beside busy city districts.

Outside the capital, mountain regions like Jirisan and Seoraksan offer trails and national parks.

Gyeongju remains a centre for ancient tombs and temples, while Jeju Island is known for volcanic landscapes. Flight searches to Seoul increased by 65% this year, according to Kayak data.

## 5. Argentina

Argentina remains a country of contrast, offering plains, cities, and mountain landscapes. Buenos Aires is known for its mix of bookstores, gardens, and traditional music venues. Farther south, El Chaltén attracts hikers and nature lovers with views of glacial lakes and granite peaks.

Other cities like Córdoba and Mendoza provide access to vineyards, colonial architecture, and regional food and wine. Kayak reports a 49% rise in flight searches to Buenos Aires compared to summer 2024.

## 6. Morocco

Morocco has maintained steady interest due to its blend of desert landscapes, mountain ranges, and coastal cities. Visitors continue to explore the alleys of Fez and the markets of Marrakech. Cities like Essaouira provide access to the Atlantic coast, while Chefchaouen offers hillside streets and mountain views.

In the countryside, olive groves and Berber communities offer a different perspective. Marrakech stands out as one of the best-value long-haul destinations, with flight prices down by 5% compared to last summer.

## 7. Norway

Norway continues to attract travellers with its fjords, forests, and northern lights. Cities such as Oslo provide a base for travel, offering efficient transport and access to museums and parks. Further north, travellers look for views of the aurora borealis and explore coastal fishing villages. The country's rural regions offer waterfalls, hiking paths, and wooden churches.

Flight prices to Oslo have dropped by 20% from the UK and 11% from the US. Searches for flights from US travellers to Norway have increased by 25% this summer.

# TOP 10 COUNTRIES WITH THE LARGEST DESERT AREAS IN THE WORLD

CHISOM MICHAEL

**D**eserts, defined by low rainfall and arid climates, cover nearly one-third of the planet's land surface, shaping both geography and ways of life across regions. While rainforests and mountains often capture attention, deserts, ranging from scorching sands to frigid stone plains, support diverse ecosystems, Indigenous cultures, and emerging renewable energy projects.

According to the World Atlas of Desertification (WAD), true deserts, hyper-arid zones, account for around 6.6% of Earth's land, while over 40% falls under broader drylands. This analysis focuses on countries with the largest expanses of true desert, using ecological classifications and satellite mapping data from the WAD, UNEP-GRID, and NASA Earth Observations.

The list highlights nations with significant desert coverage, including those hosting portions of major deserts like the Sahara, Arabian, and Gobi. National geospatial reports and climate zone maps further refine the desert boundaries, identifying where these vast, windswept regions lie within and across national borders

**According to Condé Nast Traveller, here are the top 10 countries with the largest desert areas in the world in square kilometres (sq km)**

## Algeria: 1.5 million sq km

Algeria contains the largest portion of the Sahara Desert, with desert land covering more than 80% of its territory. This makes it the country with the largest



desert area globally, spanning over 1.5 million square kilometres. The landscape includes sand dunes, rocky plateaus, and salt flats. Despite the climate, desert towns such as Tamanrasset and communities in the M'zab Valley continue to exist and adapt to the terrain.

## Saudi Arabia: 1.3 million sq km

Saudi Arabia's landmass is dominated by the Arabian Desert, which covers about 95% of the country. The "Empty Quarter", or Rub' al Khali, is the world's largest continuous sand desert and forms a major part of this area. The desert features include dune fields, gravel plains, and escarpments. These regions hold cultural significance and are now also part of the country's renewable energy development, especially in solar and wind power.



## Libya: 1.2 million sq km

Libya has one of the driest environments on Earth, with around 90% of the country covered by desert. The Libyan Desert, part of the wider Sahara, spans about 1.2 million square kilometres.



Some areas experience no rainfall for decades. Despite this, archaeological evidence such as rock art and cave paintings in the Acacus Mountains reveals earlier periods of human presence and movement.

### **Australia: 1 million sq km**

Australia's deserts are spread across the central and western regions, including the Great Victoria, Simpson, and Gibson Deserts. Together, they cover about one million square kilometres, or 18% of the country's total land area. These deserts form part of the Outback and consist of shrublands, dunes, and red plains. They are also home to native species and ecosystems that respond to the rare rainfall in the region.



### **Sudan: 800,000 sq km**

Sudan hosts over 800,000 square kilometres of desert, primarily in the northern parts of the country. The Bayuda and Nubian deserts are key regions, known for their volcanic fields, gravel plains, and historical trade routes. While the area is arid, seasonal water channels known as wadis, along with the Nile River, support limited agriculture and human settlement on the edges of the desert zones.



### **China: 700,000 sq km**

China's desert landscape includes the Gobi and Taklamakan Deserts, which together cover over 700,000 square kilometres. The Gobi Desert stretches into Mongolia and is a cold desert with rocky and gravel-filled plains. The Taklamakan, located in the Xinjiang region, is one of the most difficult sand deserts to cross, known for its harsh conditions and shifting dunes.



### **Niger: 700,000 sq km**

Niger's desert territory extends over two-thirds of the country, covering more than 700,000 square kilometres. The Ténéré Desert, in the eastern region, is part of the central Sahara. It is marked by sand dunes, rock structures shaped by wind, and low vegetation. The area is remote but remains significant for trans-Saharan routes and desert exploration.





### **Mongolia: 500,000 sq km**

The Gobi Desert dominates Mongolia's southern region, making up more than 500,000 square kilometres of the country. This desert differs from others in that it features cold temperatures and dry steppes rather than only sandy areas. Wildlife in the Gobi includes species such as the wild Bactrian camel and the snow leopard, both adapted to the harsh climate.

### **United States: 500,000 sq km**

The United States contains four major desert regions: the Mojave, Sonoran, Chihuahuan, and Great Basin deserts. These areas span over 500,000 square kilometres, mostly in the Southwest. The deserts include features such as cactus fields, salt flats, and elevated plateaus. States such as Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, California, and Utah contain the largest shares of desert land.



### **Iran: 300,000 sq km**

Iran's deserts include the Dasht-e Kavir and Dasht-e Lut, covering over 300,000 square kilometres. These deserts consist of salt flats, rocky plains, and large dune systems. The Dasht-e Lut has recorded some of the highest ground temperatures on the planet. Wind erosion continues to shape the landscape, and human activity in these regions remains minimal due to the extreme conditions.



# BRIDGING THE GAP: WHY AFRICA'S YOUTH RENAISSANCE MUST CLAIM THE SYSTEM

EYESAN TORITSEJU

On a weekend afternoon in Lagos, you might find a corner of the city transformed, an abandoned warehouse turned into a pop-up studio, where teenagers balance tripods on broken stools and film skits between generator roars. Nearby, a thrifted sunglasses vendor models his own stock for TikTok. Across the continent, the scene repeats in different textures: in Nairobi, it's fashion; in Accra, soundscapes; in Kigali, short films and animations with global polish. Young Africans are not waiting to be discovered, they are defining what is cool, shareable, and global.

You hear it in the sound of Afrobeats, now echoing from Seoul to São Paulo. You see it in the resurgence of Ankara in Paris catwalks and Instagram reels. You feel it in the slang, in the memes, in the millions of micro-creations traveling farther than state policy ever could. If the twenty-first century has a rhythm, it's coming from the bass of african drums. Yet, beneath the music and motion lies an unnerving paradox.

For all their cultural omnipresence, young Africans remain politically peripheral. They move culture, but not legislation. Their slang travels, but their votes barely move the needle at home. Their ideas trend, but rarely make it into policy.

They've mastered attention, but remain locked out of authority. Loud in culture. Muted in governance. It's a strange type of invisibility, one that coexists with global fame.

Perhaps it's easier that way. Culture is safer than critique. Governments can feature young creators on stages and in tourism reels while stalling university funding, dodging police reform, or barring independent candidacies. There's a way in which youth are celebrated precisely because they pose no real structural threat, yet. The very system that marginalizes their voices gladly monetizes their rhythm.

We often talk about soft power as if it's enough, as if being globally beloved compensates for being locally silenced. However, cultural influence without structural or governmental access is a mirage. A meme may trend, but it won't rewrite procurement laws. A viral dance won't fix housing policy. The joy is real, yes, but it risks becoming a distraction, a kind of ambient celebration that soothes without solving.

This is not to diminish what youth have built. Quite the opposite. To build cultural capital from the ruins of post-colonial dysfunction is a kind of genius. But it begs a question: can the same generation remixing soundscapes in their bedrooms also rewire a bureaucracy? Can the energy of the streets reach the chambers of state?

Historically, youth in Africa have never been passive. They led the anti-colonial charge. They marched in Soweto. They built the backbone of independence movements. More recently, they mobilized End SARS in Nigeria and led the street-level logistics of Sudan's revolution. But what often follows is a bitter fatigue. Movements flare and fade. Protests raise consciousness but rarely sustain consequence.

Somewhere between the slogans and the statutes, energy leaks. Governance requires repetition, not just rebellion. It asks for technocrats, not just trendsetters. And herein lies the tragedy: the same political systems that fail youth are often too fragile to absorb their reform.

Part of the challenge is structural. Youth-led political parties are rare, and when they do emerge, they struggle against entrenched power, archaic legal thresholds, and deep pockets. Age limits, bureaucratic hurdles, and cultural gatekeeping all conspire to keep young Africans "the leaders of tomorrow," a tomorrow that keeps being rescheduled. However, part of the challenge is also conceptual. We rarely imagine youth as credible governors. We cast them as inspiration or aesthetic, never as administrators of a complex public trust. Even in our storytelling, youth are disruptors, not designers. Yet, perhaps that's what they should be: architects of new political aesthetics, fluent not only in hashtags but in handshakes, not only in slogans but in statutes.

To get there, we need to stop romanticizing their energy and start investing in their capacity. Not in the abstract sense, "empower the youth": but in tangible mechanisms. Mock parliaments. Civic fellowships. Shadow cabinets that mirror real governments. Policy labs within universities. Townhall residencies for young artists and comedians to reimagine state messaging. We need not just to listen to youth, but to listen with them, co-authoring the grammar of reform. Equally vital are intergenerational alliances. Not the token mentorships that adorn donor reports, but authentic, messy, trust-building collaborations between the old and the emerging. If the elders own the playbook and the youth own the moment, perhaps together they can negotiate a new script.

The ultimate project isn't to dress youth in the garments of old politics but to allow them to design a different cut altogether, tailored to a generation raised on complexity, and creativity. A system that reflects their rhythm, not just repackages their rage.

For now, Africa's youth remain global vibe-makers, tapping out joy and resilience in defiance of failed states and failing systems. But the continent cannot dance its way into dignity. Sooner or later, the vibes must find its seat at the table.

We often talk about soft power as if it's a kind of sovereignty, something symbolic that can stand in for the real thing. However, soft power without structural influence is fluff. Culture carries weight, but without civic scaffolding, it floats: beautiful, unanchored, and ultimately disposable. To mistake visibility for power is one of modernity's most seductive illusions.

Africa's youth are not short on political awareness, they are short on political traction. Their critiques are sharp, but their options are blunt. Many have tried marching, protesting, even voting. But in response, they've often encountered tear gas, rigged outcomes, or a system so calcified it rebuffs innovation like an immune system rejects a transplant. And so, many turn elsewhere, to art, to entrepreneurship, to migration. The creative hustle becomes not just an outlet, but a shield. If the system won't change, perhaps you can create a world in parallel: an internet community, a startup, a sound. Something outside the state. Something that doesn't require waiting for elders to retire.

But the state remains. And eventually, it comes knocking. Even for the lucky ones, it shows up as policies you can't shape. As infrastructure you still rely on that doesn't work. As visas denied, accolades notwithstanding. As grants you can't access without connections. As silence from ministries that report your work but won't return your calls. And in the quiet moments, it shows up as the ache of limitation: the knowing that no matter how high you rise, you are still tethered to the state of the system.

#### ***So how do we bridge this gap, between cultural relevance and political irrelevance?***

Not through platitudes. Not by inviting a rapper to a state banquet or featuring an influencer in an election campaign. The bridge must be built from both sides: systems that make space, and youth that step into it with more than slogans. We need structures that don't just "empower" youth, a word that implies charity, but that recognize them as co-owners of the civic project. Youth quotas that aren't symbolic. Fellowships that lead to real appointments. Party systems that aren't gerontocracies in disguise. Education that teaches not just obedience, but civic design.

And on the other side, a new imagination of leadership, where the same skills used to build followings can be used to build frameworks, coalitions, and laws. Where spectacle deepens into structure. This is not easy work. It is not

glamorous work. But it is necessary. Because a generation that can build empires from content deserves more than being content to survive.

We are witnessing the soft power of African youth change the global mood. But moods shift. Vibes fade. What matters is what remains after the algorithm changes. What endures when the trend moves on.

#### ***Will this be a generation that simply entertained the world, or one that reimagined its corner of it?***

We must resist the comfort of detachment. The same ingenuity that fuels their digital empires must be applied to civic architecture. We need youth who not only go viral but go deep—into budgets, bylaws, community boards. Who understand that governance isn't always glamorous, but it is most transformative. That it requires not just critique but craft. The tools they've mastered: storytelling, mobilization, brand-building, aren't just relevant; they are the very foundation needed to reimagine governance. There's a generation on this continent that knows how to build followings in hours. Imagine if we matched that with the patience to build institutions over years. If we treated statecraft not as a relic for the old, but as a medium for the bold. If vibe-makers also became rule-shapers.

The shift will not happen all at once. But it begins by asking: what if the same creativity that made the world dance to our sound could also help it listen to our voice, not just in culture, but in council chambers, courtrooms, and cabinet meetings? This generation has already shown it can move the world's attention. The question now is whether it can move its own governments.

Because while the world bops to our sound, history is asking: will we build something lasting with the moment? To do that, we will need more than likes and streams. We'll need frameworks, platforms, and coalitions. We'll need the courage to organise offline as fiercely as we trend online. We'll need creators who can also be conveners, and influencers who understand the slow burn of institutional change.

And most importantly, we'll need to stop waiting for permission to lead. The answer depends on whether we see culture not just as entertainment, but as evidence of our capacity, our clarity, and our claim to true power.

Eyesan Toritseju is a Lagos-based strategist and cultural commentator. In his writing, especially through his column, *Cosmopolitan Nigeria*, he examines how African societies confront the legacies of their past while reimagining identity, influence, and progress in the present.

# THE PSYCHOLOGY OF BELONGING: WHY PEOPLE BECOME BRAND FANS

FEYISITAN IJIMAKINWA

It is shocking that even today, many business people are not aware that every decision a consumer makes consists of complex emotions. One of such emotions is belonging, and this is one important reason every brand needs to develop a “why statement.”

To understand the complex psychology of belonging, or purpose, let's look at a simple example of that idea in practice. Here's one from the sports world.

Every year, starting in early August, the football season kicks off across Europe. Starting with the English Premier League (arguably the most followed football league in the world), fans from across the country pack stadiums, bars, living rooms, and city streets to watch the games.

Football fans adorn themselves in the colours of their chosen team, a ritual that has its roots in medieval tradition, in which people's sense of self and loyalty was tightly associated with their lords' colours and symbols.

Today's fans, while not dressing for battle, are the same—driven by an emotional connection to their team through deep-seated personal motivators. That connection (whether you call it a “desire to belong” or even “purpose”) is a reflection of self and the team they are rooting for. Such connections have even been shown to enhance someone's meaning of life.

## So, why do we care about how emotionally connected someone can get to a football team?

### The psyche of fans

Fans, by definition, are fanatics about their team because they have somehow developed a very strong connection with these fans. Why someone is a Manchester United fan versus a Liverpool FC fan is driven by much more than geography. It is a perceived sense of shared value or goals.

### For brands, it is no different

A why statement, less of a formal mission statement and more of a sense of purpose, roots the brand into the psyche of consumers and motivates them through emotion to take action. The why statement is a very simple concept. It's the very driving force behind the brand's reason for existence; it's the explanation of not WHAT you do, but WHY you do what you do.

Ask any entrepreneur why he or she is in business and that person should say, “Because I want to change the world.” For example, Google's why statement is paraphrased as “we want to make information universally accessible and useful.” What the company doesn't say is “we're a search engine.” Like Google's, a good why statement should always be inspirational and aspirational by nature.

Author Simon Sinek, best known for the concept of the “golden circle”, gave a TED talk supporting the power of simply asking why. This idea of a why statement is precisely the motivator behind avid football fans, brand consumers alike. It is the thing that pushes people, not just to buy but to believe.

## Going beyond buying into believing

Consumers don't see themselves so much as buying products but rather belonging to a larger movement. Such a movement aligns with an individual's sense of self and drives him or her to evangelize the product on behalf of the company.

"The inspired leaders and the inspired organisations, regardless of size and industry, all think and act from the inside out," Sinek says. Begin with the why and end on the what. However, most people sell, market, and communicate from the outside in, beginning with the what and sometimes even forgetting the why. For example, consider the tagline "We make great cars through great research." It's not terribly inspiring. "Love. It's what makes a Subaru, a Subaru". Now that is something a consumer can get behind. Love for the reliability and safety of the car tied in with the love of the people and pets they are transporting in that car each day.

The best companies market from deep within their development process using their inner why and speaking directly to the heart of the foundation.

Steve Jobs once commented that his most hated words were branding and marketing. Former Apple vice president of Worldwide Marketing, Allison Johnson said that in the late Apple CEO's mind "people associated brands with television advertising and commercials and artificial things. The most important thing was people's relationship to the product; any time we said 'brand' it was a dirty word."

"Marketing is when you have to sell to somebody. If you aren't providing value, if you're not educating them about the product, if you're not helping them get the most out of the product, you're selling. And you shouldn't be in that mode." So, Apple isn't in the business of selling; it's in the business of educating, of driving, of believing, of evangelising. When people believe in your mission, they will want to buy from you.

When people want to buy, they not only want to hear from you and engage with you, they expect it, are excited about it, and are anxious to share it.

## Last line

Developing or repositioning a brand is one of the most complicated and impactful endeavours marketers can undertake. By taking the time to truly understand the needs of your consumers and understanding how your product or service can meet those needs, your why statement will be the driving factor for them to not only buy from you, but also believe in you.



### FEYISITAN IJIMAKINWA

Feyisitan Ijimakinwa is a Reputation and Perception Management expert. He is a prolific writer and researcher who, at different times, served as Head of Corporate Communications of top brands quoted on the Nigerian Stock Exchange. A versatile communications specialist, he practiced extensively as a print journalist and was variously engaged in the broadcast media, working on radio and television. Feyisitan continues to write on corporate communications, brand reputation and perception management, and brand intelligence, among others. He organises the 'Brand Intelligence and the Marketplace' masterclass. Feyisitan advocates a pollution free and sustainable environment

# ART ON THE MOVE: THE IMPACT OF AFRICAN MIGRATION ON VISUAL CULTURE



Migration doesn't just move people—it moves stories, dreams, and creativity. Ever wondered how African artists adapt their work after leaving their home countries? Or how their journeys shape what they create? Today, African migration is more than a statistic. It is a force reshaping global art scenes, gallery walls, and even city streets.

From Lagos to London, Johannesburg to Berlin, African artists are using their journeys as inspiration. Whether fleeing conflict or chasing opportunity, they carry memories that come alive through paint, metal, fabric, and film. Their art becomes a voice—sometimes loud, sometimes quiet—but always powerful.

In this digest, we will explore five key ways African migration shapes visual culture. We take a closer look at how these movements create meaning and stir conversation.

## 1. Diasporic Narratives in Visual Art

More recently, exhibitions like Afro-Atlantic Histories expand on this legacy. They connect African migrations with Caribbean and Latin American visual traditions. Featuring artists from over 24 countries, the exhibit proves that art tells the shared stories of oceans crossed, lands left behind, and identities reimagined.

Migration has long been central to African diasporic art. Jacob Lawrence's iconic Migration Series tells the story of the Black movement in America. Using flat shapes and bold colours, he chronicled African Americans' journey from the South to Northern cities.

This digest is brought to you by Patrons MCAA. Think African art, think Patrons. Patrons is Africa's leading art advisory and dealership firm with deep expertise in African art, helping private and corporate art collectors diversify their wealth through art collection, appraisal, packaging & transportation, storage, insurance, maintenance, and restoration. Purchase or general inquiry? Reach out: [art@patronsmcaa.com](mailto:art@patronsmcaa.com).



Jacob Lawrence – The Migration Series, Panel No. 1

## 2. Migration as Muse: Contemporary Artists Leading the Way

Today's African artists often use personal and political migration stories in their work. Ghanaian sculptor El Anatsui transforms found objects—like bottle caps—into massive tapestries. His works comment on waste, trade, displacement, and the movement of goods and people. Similarly, Nigerian artist Fatimah Tuggar fuses tech with traditional African craft. Her Fai-Fain Gramophone reimagines colonial sound tools with indigenous materials. She blurs the lines between African pasts and global futures.



El Anatsui's bottle-cap installation, "Behind the Red Moon"

## 3. Trans-African Collectives Driving Cross-Border Collaboration

Migration is not always one-way. Sometimes, it is a loop—a constant movement across nations. The Lagos-based Invisible Borders collective captures this dynamic beautifully. Their Trans-African road trips bring photographers together to document everyday life across borders.

These journeys produce photos, essays, and exhibitions that reframe how African nations connect. Their work has been shown at the Venice Biennale and Centre Pompidou, proving African migration is more than geography—it is a creative engine.

## 4. Art as Resistance and Visual Activism

Migration is not always welcome. That's why many artists use their work to resist stereotypes and spotlight injustice. The exhibition *A Movement in Every Direction* explores the

emotional legacy of the Great Migration. Twelve Black artists examine family, home, and history through personal and political lenses.

These works foster dialogue and empathy. They highlight what statistics miss—the personal weight of leaving.

## 5. Global Influence: How African Artists Shape the World

As African artists migrate, they bring their voices into new spaces. They influence global aesthetics through street murals, digital art, and installations. The Stories of Migration project in London uses comics and animation to give migrants from the global south a platform. It's a vivid, visual reminder that migration is not just movement—it is storytelling. Their presence challenges colonial histories and offers fresh perspectives in Western institutions.

African migration continues to shape visual culture in bold and beautiful ways. Artists use movement as a lens to explore identity, challenge narratives, and build bridges. Whether through storytelling, collaboration, or activism, their works travel further than borders ever could.

Art is on the move—and with it, is the spirit of Africa.



Keturah Ovio

Keturah Ovio is an Executive at Patrons Modern & Contemporary African Art. She is also an engineer and Founder of Dukka, a Fintech startup providing bookkeeping and payments solutions for small businesses. Keturah is passionate about African Art and has been collecting art since her early 20s. Now, she advises, curates, and manages collections for individuals and corporate organisations looking to start or diversify their wealth management through art collecting. She strongly believes that a fine marriage exists between Art and Technology

# HOW BENJAMIN ŠEŠKO IS IDEAL FOR MAN UNITED

CHARLES OGWO



**W**arren Buffet, the man who understands the ideals of investment, once said, “All there is to investing is picking good stocks at good times and staying with them as long as they remain good companies.”

There is no better way to describe Manchester United’s signing of Benjamin Sesko than a good stock and an ideal investment, at a good time.

As Manchester United look to rebuild under growing pressure to deliver results, the search for a reliable striker remains a top priority. While big names dominated the rumour mill, rising Slovenian star Benjamin Šeško quietly emerged as a smarter, long-term investment for the club.

With youth, physicality, and a growing goal tally on his side, Šeško could be the ideal fit for United’s evolving attack and a better buy than many of his high-profile rivals.

In comparison with Ollie Watkins, who would have cost United about £50 to £55 million, plus another £1.5 million each time Man United qualify for the Champions League throughout his four-year contract plus maybe another £4 million for actually winning the title.

Sesko for about £74 million plus add-ons to close is far a better striker and an ideal bargain for United’s quest for a banger front-man ready to make the difference.



In terms of their age and height, which primarily is a big factor to consider, Ollie Watkins is 29 years old and 1.79 m tall, while Benjamin Sesko is 22 years, and 1.95 m.

Football pundits believe that United has a better brand bargain with Sesko, though he is more expensive of the two, especially factoring in the difference in their salary packages.

A look at the style of play, Sesko is a better fit for Manchester United's style of play than Ollie Watkins, despite Watkins being a proven Premier League player.

Sesko's age, potential for development and physical attributes align well with Man United's potential long-term vision under a new manager such as Ruben Amorim. While Watkins offers immediate impact, Sesko's profile suggests he could become a more complete and impactful striker in the long run.

Analysing Sesko and Watkins, analysing both players statistically, Sesko's profile suggests he could be a key player in a team focused on quick transitions and exploiting space, potentially under a manager such as Ruben Amorim.

In the 20 23/24 season, Sesko's goal-scoring metrics indicate that he was not just ranking higher than Ollie

Watkins but also higher than most strikers in Europe's top five leagues, sitting in the top four percent or as high as the top one percent for metrics like non-penalty goals.

Though last season, Sesko dropped off in terms of output, there is every tendency he will bounce back to being a high-volume goal-scorer with support from Bruno Fernandez, Cunha, and others in United this season.

Sesko has the ability and skill to do everything that Watkins is able to do. From receiving direct passes to using his physicality and technical ability to link play efficiently with his back to goal, spinning wide of the centre backs to being released in a one-versus-one one pushing the defender back into their box.

With Sesko, the new chip on the block at Old Trafford, it is obvious that the Reds fans will certainly sing Glory! Glory!! Man United!!! again.



Not Your Average Love Triangle-A Review of  
Rosemary Okafor's Akwaugo

Title: Akwaugo  
Author: Rosemary Okafor  
Year of Publication: 2022  
Number of Pages: 315  
Category: Fiction

# AKWAUGO

TITILADE OYEMADE

If you were ever a fan of DStv's Epic Channel, this book might just take you back to those dramatic, intense Nollywood movies we couldn't get enough of. Akwaugo brings the same mix of forbidden love, family drama, and raw emotions with even more heat.

From the subtitle alone, you can already smell trouble. We all know how it goes, start craving what you shouldn't, and you're already neck-deep in wahala. And as you turn the pages, one question begins to stir: who's chasing the forbidden fruit here? Is it the pale-skinned girl with the strange, magnetic aura or the effortlessly cool, irresistible man?

Now let's talk about Rosemary Okafor, the daring mind behind this sizzling tale. Honestly, she might need a few prayers and deliverance, her writing is that bold. Raw, unapologetic, and definitely not PG-rated, Akwaugo is strictly for grown-ups. If you've got kids at home, you might want to hide this one on the top shelf. But once you dive in, you'll probably love it so much, you'll forgive the author and start applauding her audacity.

Right from the jump, Rosemary warns that readers might feel like punching a wall. She's not joking. This book gets under your skin. The plot centers around Akwaugo, Mezie, and Tobeckwu and it's messy. In a desperate attempt to erase her husband's shame, Akwaugo does the unthinkable, and things spiral. Nigerian readers might nod knowingly; foreign readers may raise an eyebrow or two. The book confronts heavy topics like infertility, lust, true love, and physical abuse, all delivered with intensity.

If you're a woman, brace yourself, you might end up falling for Tobe. And Akwaugo? She's a goddess, just not treated like one by her husband. There's also a standout villain: insecure and cruel to the core. You'll want to reach through the pages and shake him.

Curiously, Mezie, the husband, doesn't get much room to explain himself. Each chapter is named after a character, and his limited presence almost feels like the author herself has written him off, nudging us instead toward louder, bolder voices.

The book is deeply rooted in Eastern Nigeria, with Igbo phrases laced throughout. Don't worry if you don't speak the language, it adds flavor without getting in the way. While much of the story unfolds in the village (with Mezie,

the self-proclaimed local champion), the shift to Lagos and its business hustle is a refreshing change. It's like escaping a stifling room into open air.

One of the most powerful parts of the story is how love is shown. Strong, determined, and almost like a fairytale. The kind that makes you ask: do men like this still exist? If you're a romantic, you'll be swept off your feet. If not, you may side-eye the author, thinking she's a dreamer. Either way, the love in this book feels real (or unreal) and dangerously intense.

Then comes the twist, you start to wonder if what you're witnessing is love at all. There's heat, there's passion, and there's a ton of steamy dialogue that blurs the lines. Maybe there's a very thin border between love and lust after all.

Despite the chaos, love wins. But not without taking you on an emotional rollercoaster. This book will stress you, frustrate you, and still leave you smiling at the end.

A quick and unforgettable read.



Titilade Oyemade is a business executive in a leading organisation and holds a degree in Russian Language. She's the convener of the Hangoutwithtee Ladies Event and the publisher of Hangoutwithtee magazine. She spends her weekends attending women conferences, events and book readings. She loves to have fun and to help other women have the same in their lives. Email: titi.oyemade@gmail.com Social: @tiipreeofficial

# WEEKENDER

## MOVIE REVIEW

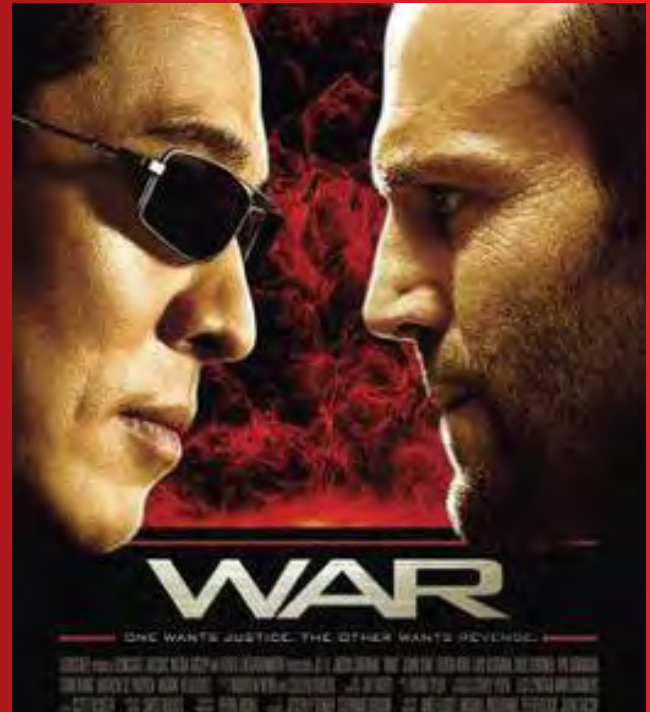
### I USED TO BE FAMOUS (2022)

This was a very simple feel-good movie, one of those stories that made you smile and feel good about life. Vince was a very popular star back in the days, he used to be part of a young popular boy band almost 2 decades ago, life happened they fell apart one went on to become more successful, while he struggled on the streets of Rye one in London, looking for gigs to attend and show his skills, but no one gave him the chance. One day as he was playing on the street an autistic boy comes drumming along with him this got the admiration of passerby's, it got recorded and the video posted online got some traction that became his breakthrough. Well, you will need to go checkout this movie to see how he became friends with the young boy and how he was blessed in the most unconventional way. The 104m buddy comedy, drama, music, was directed by Eddie Sternberg they featured actors like Ed Skrein, Eleanor Matsuura, Leo Long, Eoin Macken, Lorrain Ashbourne, Neil Stuke, Kurt Egyiawan, Stanley Morgan, Racheal Ofori, Joplin Sibtain etc.



## A NORMAL WOMAN (2025)

I wasn't really very sure of what to expect from this brand-new movie, but I gave it a shot, after I struggled 3 times to complete the movie, I finally made it, so I can could bring you, my review. Milla was from a very wealthy, healthy, luxurious family, one would expect that she would be the happiest lady on earth married to a sweet husband, but Millers reality was far from it, she was so unhappy despite having all at her beck and call. At some point in the movie Miller began to suffer from a very bad mysterious illness, that affected her mind, she began to down her reality and personality. Well, you will need to go check out the movie to see how she managed the crisis in the family and her health. The 110m Indonesian, drama, social issues movie was directed by Lucky Kuswandi, they featured actors like Marissa Anita, Dion Wiyoko, /gisella Anastasia, Widyawati, Mima Shafa, Sari Koeswoyo, Maya Hassan, Hatta Rahandy e.t.c.



## WAR (2007)

For some weird reasons this movie is trending on top ten, although it is very old, loads of people are watching it again. So if you are up for some fighting, shooting and killings then this will be worth your while. Crawford was the lead actor here in this movie, a few minutes into the movie his amazing work buddy was killed, Crawford will have to trace and track them down to avenge the date of his partner Tom Lone, his wife and child. Crawford was absolutely furious and will stop at nothing till he brings everyone of them down. You will need to go check out this thriller, action movie to find out if he was able to track them all down, it was nice to see the young version of Jason Statham. The 103m movie was directed Phillip Atwell, they featured actors like Jason Statham, Jet Li, Peter Shikoda, Devon Aoki, Brain Ho, Aaron Au, Brett Chan, John Lone, Kane Kosugi and many more.



LINDA OCHUGBUA

# WEEKEND QUOTES



1

Doubting is as murmuring when waiting for your manifestation. Receive grace .....WhispersbyTEN

2

Sustained shouts of joy always come from within . Persuaded sounds of hallelujah end at the lips .....WhispersbyTEN

3

Avoiding raw sugar is good so also is avoiding lies .....WhispersbyTEN

4

Saying “I am sorry, I missed it” is leadership; refusing to apologise is a sign of unwillingness to learn .....WhispersbyTEN