

OLUJIDE MORUFF OKE

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PERSONAL PROFILE

QS (Barr) Olujide Moruff OKE, was born and bred in the ancient city of Ibadan, Oyo state. He had his secondary school education at the prestigious Ibadan Grammar School from 1977 to 1982.

His quest for tertiary education took him to The Polytechnic Ibadan in 1983 where he cut his teeth in quantity surveying, but later proceeded to Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife from where he bagged a B.sc Degree in Quantity Surveying in 1990.

A man of great versatility, QS JIDE OKE upon graduation and mandatory service took up appointment with The Daily Times Group. As the only quantity surveyor in the Group, comprising Property Development and Editorial Departments, he provided services to both arms of the conglomerate, functioning both as a quantity surveyor in the property development subsidiary and the editorial department.

Most notably, he arguably became the first Quantity Surveyor to foray into the strange world of journalism reporting and researching on housing, construction and most especially regular price survey of construction materials and its publication for the use of practitioners in the industry. He was later to be presented with a Merit Award of the Nigerian Institute of Quantity Surveyors in 1992 for the promotion of the practice of quantity surveying profession in Nigeria.

By 1995, JIDE OKE was elected as an Associate of the institute and later acquired a Masters Degree in Construction Management from the University of Lagos in 1999 to deepen the knowledge of the profession.

A man of great passion and drive, he joined the firm of Construction Economists Partnership in 1997 from where he rose to become an Associate Partner in year 2000. By end of 2001 when he left, JIDE OKE was responsible for such projects as the PTF Rehabilitation works of UNILAG, UNAAB and FUTA among others, several Bank Projects, such as Magnum Bank (now Sterling), National Bank (now WEMA Bank) rehabilitation works across South West States and Atlantic Hall School Development Scheme

He proceeded from CEP to Standard Trust Bank as Head of QS/ Procurement and Project Management for the Projects Department and with the team was responsible for the nationwide branch roll-out of the Bank from 2002 to 2005. He was later to become Head of Projects for XL Management (an outsourcing Subsidiary for project management for Standard Trust and Continental Trust Banks).

And from here JIDE moved on to Oceanic Bank (now ECOBANK) as a Manager in charge of Branch Development, coordinating the Bank's procurement and project management strategies for the massive nationwide expansion, leading to the phenomenal growth of the Bank's branch net worth from the modest 86 to 424 branches across Nigeria.

He later resigned as a Senior Manager in 2009 to join his firm JIMS Partnership, a quantity surveying, project management and arbitration outfit as a Managing Partner.

Elected a fellow of the institute in 2011, JIDE OKE served in various capacities at the senate of the Lagos Chapter of the institute which he joined as an ex-Officio in 1996, culminating in being elected Chairman of the most populous chapter in 2008, after serving as Publicity Secretary, Treasurer and Deputy Chairman consecutively.

As Chairman of Lagos Chapter, QS JIDE OKE was instrumental to a lot of firsts in the chapter.

These among others are the Distinguished Lecture Series, a remarkable marketing programme geared to launch and position the quantity surveying profession into public consciousness (a programme that has now been replicated in many chapters of the institute) ; the first ever Chapter's International tour outside African

Continent, to iconic project sites in UAE, such as the popular Dubai Mall and the Dubai International Airport and international procurement seminar with foreign resource persons from United Kingdom.

He also championed a strategic collaboration with the Nigeria Insurers Association for the involvement of quantity surveyors in the realization of key objectives of the Insurance Act of 2004 (now amended)

He was subsequently elected as Secretary for Marketing and Corporate Affairs of the Institute in 2013 and re-elected for the second term in 2015.

His two terms as SMCA witnessed a major corporate re-branding of the institute, strategic alliance with the media institutions and revival/repositioning of major publications of NIQS for intellectual and social enrichment of members. His tenure as SMCA pioneered the self-anchoring of NIQS events by council member, rather than outsourcing to external consultants, a practice that has since endured, with enormous cost savings to the institute over the years.

With deep passion for arbitration and dispute resolution which he has practised over the years, QS Jide Oke acquired a degree in law and subsequently proceeded to the Nigerian Law School, where he was called to the prestigious Nigerian Bar in 2020 as a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court. He is a strong believer of alternative dispute resolution as a potent mechanism for resolving disputes in commercial undertakings.

His passion in this area earned him lead role in major construction arbitration matters in Nigeria.

A certified PMP and member of the Nigerian Institute of Chartered Arbitrators, QS Jide Oke is also a Certified Construction Arbitrator.

A community man with great passion for service, he is currently a two-term Chairman of Journalists Estate Residents Development Association, an elite community with captains and chief executives of many professional organizations and media outfits (both print and electronic).

He is also a senior counsel in the firm of OLUJIDE. M. OKE & CO, a firm of private legal practitioners involved in corporate, contract interpretations and audit, property and arbitration legal advisory services.

A member of the Squash and Table Tennis Sections of the Lagos Country Club, QS (Barr) Oke is married with children.

MANIFESTOES OF QS (BARR) OLUJIDE MORUFF OKE, AS CANDIDATE FOR THE POST OF DEPUTY PRESIDENT

A. GENERALLY

In line with Section 6.5.2 (1, 2, 3 & 4) of the NIQS 2004 Constitution (as amended), the duties of the Deputy President are well cut out and these are as follows:

1. To preside in the absence of the President at all meetings in which the President by virtue of the constitution has powers to preside
2. He shall be the Chairman of the Membership Committee
3. He shall be the Chairman of the Biennial General Meeting (BGM) Committee and Biennial Election General Meeting (BEGM) Committee with responsibility for the organization and general arrangement of the Biennial Conference/General meeting including the technical programmes of the Conference; and
4. In the event of the President not being able to perform his duties by reason of ill health, or death, or other unforeseen circumstances, then the Deputy President shall, without prejudice to his other rights in this Constitution, act as the President and serve out the remainder of the term of the President.

B. PRIORITY AREAS/MANIFESTOES

However by virtue of Section 6.2.3 of same Constitution, the Deputy President of the previous National Executive Council shall automatically assume the office of the President of the Institute on the expiration of the Two (2) year term of the current President of the Institute.

Consequently, my areas of priority as the President of the Nigerian Institute of Quantity Surveyors shall be founded on four key pillars as follows:

1. MARKETING

A vigorous marketing drive shall be undertaken to ensure visibility and position the institute at the front end of the industry. This shall be achieved through the following strategies:

- A more effective collaboration and networking with the Ministries, Department and Agencies (MDAs)
- Coordinated decentralization and devolution of advocacy initiatives across the sub-nationals through the state chapters.
- To foster a strategic partnership with such platforms as the Governors Forum and the Association of Local Government of Nigeria (ALGON). This is to promote the profession and unlock the benefits accruable in the engagement of quantity surveyors at that level of government, in the wake of the recent autonomy granted to local government administration in Nigeria.
- A cordial and sustained partnership with the media (both print and electronic) to promote the profession.
- A regular engagement with the public on key policy decisions of government as they relate to the construction industry.

2. JOB CREATION

The institute derives its sustenance largely from subscription and donations from members. The inflow overtime has been impacted by unemployment and under-employment of members.

In the light of this, there is need to open new frontiers and create opportunities for members by pursuing the following strategies:

- Promoting interests in Emerging Sectors such as:
 - Infrastructure Development,
 - Sustainable construction and Green Building
 - Public- Private Partnership (PPPs)
 - Asset Management
 - Carbon Assessments
- Capacity Building through country-wide training programs such as workshop and seminars, in all the six geo-political zones in the country, to re-tool and upskill members in the emerging sectors
- Reviewing the Institute's Job Fairs for effective result
- Launch a coordinated resistance against the quackery of the profession through a strategic collaboration with relevant bodies within the Built Environment.

3. INCLUSION

A sense of belonging is required in the institute, in order to foster a robust participation across all spectrums. This shall be through a review of the constitution for the purpose of achieving the following:

- Electronic Voting and Virtual participation at the Institute Biennial Election
- Promotion of youth participation in decision making and leadership at the National
- Enhanced participation of members in the Diaspora

4. CURRICULUM REVIEW

- Work towards a review and updating of the curriculum in tertiary institutions to align with current industry needs and technologies