

# Prince Dr (Gen) Joseph Oluyemi Bajowa

30 August 2024

CFR, OFR, FSS, Ndc, psc, B.Sc (Hons), PhD

(Jagunmolu of Ikale Land)

&

(Ojagbulegun from The Source)

## TRIBUTE TO PA SENATOR M A E ONUKUN, OON

*"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord . . ." (Revelation 14:13).*

I write to remember the **life** and **legacy** of Pa Distinguished Senator Michael Atijosan Emmanuel Onukun who died at the threshold of his "**Centenarian Birthday**". He lived a memorable, long and symbolic life, as a humble patriotic Elder Statesman, never complex, and always with honest intentions of integrity and good character.

As a family man with highly educated children, Pa Senator Onukun was exemplary. He was a devout Christian of Anglican faith, and a grassroot politician with care, love and empathy, for the people of Ondo South Senatorial District which he represented, during the Second Republic.

I knew Pa Senator M A E Onukun, OON, who was a Prince from the Eyinmonren lineage of Jubulu Ruling House of Rebuja dynasty in Osooro Kingdom, in 1954 (**70 years ago**). He was then the Secretary of Orisun-Meta District Council. He was the one who facilitated my West African School Certificate, scholarship award, as the best "Class One", pioneer student, at Manuwa Memorial Grammar School, Iju-Odo, in December 1954.

After my retirement from the Nigerian Army in 1980, and the military truncated the Second Republic of Federal Government of Nigeria in 1983, at the time when Pa Onukun was a serving Senator, providence brought us together again in 2019, during the Ikale and Araromi-Obu settlers land dispute.

As a community and national leader, Pa Senator Onukun believed in the vision of harmonious community, peace, development and unity, and supported the establishment of "**Osooro Leaders of Thought**" (OLOt), a platform which was aimed at uniting the people of Osooro Kingdom. Pa Senator Onukun was then elected as the maiden President of this initiative, whilst I was also elected the Vice-President, and Barr Ajibola Morebise served as the General Secretary.

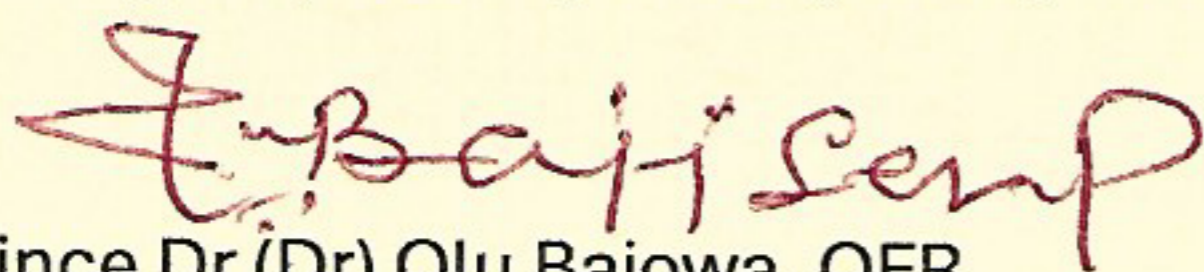
Pa Senator Onukun's dedication in defending the interests of Ikale people was evident, especially during the Ikale and Araromi-Obu land crises in Ago Alaye. It was on record that the OLOt, under the leadership of Pa Senator Onokun, became the Ikale **vanguard** to challenge the Araromi-Obu settlers, for their illegal occupation of our patrimony.

We pray that Almighty God should grant the entire Senator Onukun family of Ilutitun in Osooro Kingdom, the fortitude and strength, to bear the irreparable loss, and also pray for the repose of the soul of the departed family patriarch. We shall all miss the counsel and wisdom of our revered distinguished senator.

However, our consolation is that Pa Senator M A E Onukun, OON, left behind a **legacy** that was not tainted with **corruption**, or with any **controversy**, or accused of insatiable **avarice** and **aggrandisement**, as a Senator of the Federal Republic of Nigeria!

Adieu! "*Omo LUMURE Igopon . . . Sun re o!!*"!

Our legend, rest in perfect peace, in the bosom of the Lord, till we meet to part no more!!



Prince Dr (Dr) Olu Bajowa, OFR  
(Jagunmolo of Ikale Land)

&

(Ojagbulegun from the source)

**Call:** 234-(0)8074406526

**Click:** [jobajowa@hotmail.com](mailto:jobajowa@hotmail.com)

**Visit:** 49/50 Adekunle Fajuyi Way, G.R.A., Ikeja.

P.O. Box 72415, Victoria Island, Lagos.