
TRIBUTES TO MOBOLAJI BASHIR OGUNSANYA

(15 JUNE 1949 – 15 APRIL 2015)

Professor of Social Studies and Former President, Social Studies Association of Nigeria



PROFILES OF PROFESSOR MOBOLAJI BASHIR OGUNSANYA (fss)

Professor Mobolaji Ogunsanya was *born on the 15th of June 1949* in Oyo town, Oyo State. He had his primary education as St. Mary's Catholic school, Asogo, Oyo, and Awe High school, Awe-Oyo. He *had all his university education at the University of Ibadan* where he obtained the B.Ed. (Geography) in 1974, M.Ed. (Education Management) in 1979 and Ph.D. (Educational Management) in 1981. Professor Mobolaji Ogunsanya worked in four Grade Two Teacher Training Colleges at Abudu, Ijebu-jesha, Ipetumodu and Ibadan between 1974 and 1981 during which he **served as a pioneer teacher and head of education department in two of the Colleges**. Professor Mobolaji Ogunsanya was appointed as Lecturer II in the department of Educational Management on

September 01, 1981 and rose by dint of hard work *to become Professor in 1996*.

Professor Mobolaji Ogunsanya in 1976 had a chance of meeting Pa M.A. Makinde who led a team of top Ministry of Education Officials in his capacity as Chief Inspector of Education in the old Oyo State (before the creation of Osun State out of it), to moderate final year Teaching Practice of the Divisional Teacher Training College, Ijebu-jesha which he organized as the Teaching Practice Coordinator. ***Pa Makinde was so impressed with the organization of the teaching practice** that he developed instant likeness for the young Mr. Ogunsanya. It was there and then that **Pa Makinde introduced Social Studies as a subject and Social Studies Association of Nigeria (SOSAN) to him, enlisted his interest in the subject and invited him to join the Social Studies Association of Nigeria.***

Pa Makinde did not stop there. He ensured that Mr. Ogunsanya was adequately *trained and prepared* for the *teaching of Social Studies* and the *future role* he was to play in the Association. Hence, he was *regularly sponsored* by the Ministry of Education to various *workshops, conferences, seminars and lectures organized in different parts of the country on Social Studies* by the Ministry itself, Nigeria Educational Research Council (NERC), Comparative Education and Adaptation Centre (CESAC), Nigerian Publishers, Federal Ministry of Education etc. So, for Mr Ogunsanya, *the teaching and learning of Social Studies commenced in earnest at the Divisional Teacher Training College, Ipetumodu and continued at this level till 1981.*

In 1978, Pa Makinde further *invited* Mr Ogunsanya *to join* him in the *setting up* of a branch of Social Studies Association of Nigeria in Oyo State. In 1978, *Oyo State branch of SOSAN was set up* with Dr S.A. Adejumbi, then the Acting Head of Teacher Education Department, University of Ibadan, as the pioneer Chairman and **Mr. Mobolaji Ogunsanya, the Pioneer Secretary.** The branch had a very successful 5-day annual national conference during the last week of July, 1979. Nevertheless, Professor Mobolaji Ogunsanya has always given the credit for the establishment of the first state branch of the Social Studies Association of Nigeria to Pa Makinde who was then the founding National Secretary of the association.

At the *University of Ibadan, Dr Mobolaji Ogunsanya taught, supervised and examined Social Studies Thesis at the postgraduate level* from 1981 until his translation to the World beyond in April 2015. His strong and deep understanding of the foundation principles, theories and practice of Social Studies derived from his experiencing of the subject at the primary, teacher training, and university level, coupled with his active research interest in the subject enabled him to **pioneer** that popular and widely read *first indigenous tertiary publications on Social Studies Methods entitled "Introduction to the Methodology of Social Studies" published by Evans Brothers Publishers in 1984.* In 1988, he was invited by National Teachers Institute, Kaduna to

participate in the writing and editing of series of course materials on Social Studies for its NCE/DLS programme. He **served** on the project as *chairman of the editing team.* The project lasted five years. In addition, *between 1988 and 1992,* he was the **Chief Examiner of Social Studies in the Teachers Grade II examinations** being organized by the National Teachers Institute, Kaduna. Furthermore, Dr. Mobolaji Ogunsanya was commissioned to *develop the Bachelor of Education Social Studies curriculum for the Rivers State College of Education, Port Harcourt* (a degree awarding institution) while he was there on sabbatical appointment during 1988/1989 session.

In 1990, the Macmillan Nigeria Publishers *published fourteen titles on Social Studies* for Nigerian primary schools written by Professor Mobolaji Ogunsanya. The books which **included textbooks for Primary 1 to 6, Workbooks 1 to 6 and the Teachers' Guide 1 & 2** that are used throughout the country and other countries in Africa. Again in 1992, the Macmillan Nigerian Publishers **Published seventeen titles on citizenship education** for Nigerian primary and junior secondary schools co-authored with two other colleagues by Professor Mobolaji Ogunsanya. The books are read in all parts of the country.

Between 1990 and 1992, Dr. Ogunsanya participated in the *writing of the Social Studies primary school curriculum and the writing of the citizenship education curriculum* for the primary and junior secondary schools under auspices of the Nigeria Educational Research and Development Council.

The University Press, Plc in 1995 invited Dr. Ogunsanya to *lead a team of writers in the writing of Social Studies textbooks for the Nigerian Primary Schools in Yoruba and English languages.* Hence, Professor Mobolaji Ogunsanya has **to his credit** another set of **twelve titles in Social Studies** that have been adopted by the Federal Government and being used throughout the country. Following his activities in the writing of textbooks on Social Studies at the different levels of educational in Nigeria, he was *nominated as a Consultant to the World Bank Book Project on Social Studies* between 1990 and 1996 under the

auspices of the Nigerian Primary Education Commission in Kaduna.

As the Secretary of a State branch, Mr. Ogunsanya became close to the National body and the National Secretariat of the Social Studies Association of Nigeria and over time developed a deep understanding and insight into the inner workings, processes and political dynamics of the Association. In 1981, he and another member of Oyo State branch of SOSAN, Mr. Oyelayo Okediran, *followed Pa Makinde in a first class apartment of the Nigerian Train Service from Ibadan to Zaria to attend the annual National Conference of Social Studies Association of Nigeria*. It should be noted that he was attending the national conference of SOSAN for the first time, not just as a member but *as a State delegate* and that he *presented for the first time, an empirical paper on the romances of Social Studies at the training Colleges in Oyo State*.

Since then, he **never missed** any of the **annual national conferences** of the association held **at different parts of the country** and rose to *become a national Vice-President of the association until about 1995 when* the National body of the association collapsed irretrievably under the leadership of his President (name withheld). Professor Mobolaji Ogunsanya immediately *took up this challenge* and *invited Professor Samuel Ogundare* who was then the national editor *to join him in the establishment of the Western Zonal chapter of the Social Studies Association of Nigeria* in order to fill the vacuum created by the demise of the national body.

Since then, the two jolly friends *made personal sacrifices* and *deployed their personal resources* to ensure the sustainability of the association to date. This is why, due to **the exemplary leadership dexterity of Professor Mobolaji Ogunsanya**, it was *possible to hold the annual national conference of the association every year as at when due even outside the Southwest Zone, and publish its journal annually unfailingly* but the Professor is always quick to *give the credit for the high quality* of the technical and professional production of all editions *of our journal* as well as the consistent availability of the journal at

every annual conference of the association *to Professor Samuel Ogundare*. Professor Mobolaji Ogunsanya *handed over successfully the presidency of the association to Professor Samuel Ogundare*, a seasoned administrator, an indefatigable scholar and a passionate Social Studies man, through a popular election at the 2011 annual national conference of the association in this very large Lecture Theatre of the Faculty of Education, University of Ibadan.

Professor Mobolaji Ogunsanya has *supervised several Master degree*

Projects and doctorate degrees theses on Social Studies, served as external examiners on Social Studies to many Nigerian Universities such as Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Delta State University, Abraka, University of Abuja, Abuja as well as University of Sierra Leone and Botswana University, Gaborone. Professor Ogunsanya has also *served as assessor of several university scholars in Social Studies for promotion to various grades of senior lecturers, Readers and Professors*.

Professor Mobolaji Ogunsanya *was happily married with children* to Mrs. M. I. Ogunsanya, the Proprietress and pioneer Principal of *Ogunsanya Girls Science Academy* of the *first science academy for the girl child in Nigeria*, exclusively established for the nurturing of the girl child to become a world class scientist and a complete woman.

Professor Mobolaji Bashir Ogunsanya, on the *25th day of November 2014, in what appeared his last official outing for the Social Studies Association of Nigeria (SOSAN)*, was appreciated in recognition of his sparkling contributions to the growth and development of Social Studies in Nigeria and Africa (Teaching of the subject, research efforts in the subject, publication of standard books in the subject, participation in the organization of the professional association of the subject, financial and other personal sacrifices for the sustenance of the association, leadership qualities that he dispensed to endear the subject to many, many other unforgettable moral donations to the course of the subject) was *awarded the epic title in the hierarchy of membership of the*

Association, Fellow of the Social Studies Association of Nigeria (fss).

Mobolaji Ogunsanya (fss) *contributed immensely to the rise and development of many* as buttressed in the tributes made by some of his friends, acquaintances, colleagues, students and followers. His impact will be felt for a very long time by humanity. Professor M.B. Ogunsanya *slept on the 15th of April,*

2015, with the hope of waking up in eternity, the home for all.

May the soul of our departed President rest in perfect peace. Amen.

WRITTEN TRIBUTES BY SOSAN MEMBERS

1. **Prof. AbdulRaheem YUSUF President, Social Studies Association of Nigeria (SOSAN)**

The legacy of Professor Mobolaji OGUNSANYA in the Social Studies Association of Nigeria (SOSAN), will live forever in the mind of those of us who were mentored by him. Professor Mobolaji OGUNSANYA traversed the roads of life. He enriched the lives of many of us that have a bank of memories of his leadership and achievements.

He was known as a significant engine of life which did not stop pulsing no matter how difficult and challenging the situation was; be it in the academics and human management, until a solution was arrived at. Good people die every day. Nevertheless, not all of them affirm for us the goodness in humanity and leadership the way Professor Mobolaji OGUNSANYA did. He passed away in April, 2015 and left a legacy of positive experiences for anyone of us who took the time to know him. Professor Mobolaji OGUNSANYA was a former National President of Social Studies Association of Nigeria (SOSAN). His zeal and hard work guided him to become a great leader with the ability to navigate and lead an association even at its most trying period and take the bulk of public criticism with finesse and grace.

Professor Mobolaji OGUNSANYA loved people and was willing to do the hard work it takes to build all kinds of relationships. Because he was a man of principle, not everyone was

satisfied. However, Professor Mobolaji OGUNSANYA made friends from enemies. He deliberately built the kind of connections in the communities he worked in, working together and bringing them along. As he was so good at relationship building, things got done. Remaining humble in life helped him to be known as someone who acted out ethically even while others in similar positions did not. Professor Mobolaji OGUNSANYA was known for mentoring others in the profession he loved; he was the “go to” person for us, young people, to gain the self-confidence needed to do the difficult work of humanity. He sought to build the people who worked in the Association because he knew they would be better leaders as a result of what they learned.

Professor Mobolaji OGUNSANYA is indeed missed. The bottom line is that he was a great leader. And when you pulled back the curtain of all that entails, you can also see that he was also a good person who cared about others. We can all learn a lot about leadership and humanity from Professor Mobolaji OGUNSANYA by following his footsteps.

2. **Professor Samuel F. Ogundare – Successor of M.B. Ogunsanya as SOSAN President**

In 1980 as one of the centre lecturers of U.I Associateship programme, I submitted forty multiple choice objective test items on Social Studies to Ogunsanya, the coordinator of examination in ACE. Ogunsanya sought for me, as he was impressed with the items and other essay questions. We eventually met, glued, associated and intimated since then till his death. He became my favourer, encourager,

well-wisher, patron, supporter and good genius. All was for Social Studies profession and our career. He encouraged and saw me through my master's and doctorate degrees in Social Studies which although I did at Obafemi Awolowo University while he was at University of Ibadan. Ogunsanya took me as a companion in the writing of Social Studies books. He introduced me to: NERC, now NERDC, for the development of national primary school Social Studies curriculum; National Teachers' Institute for the writing of course books on Social Studies for Grade two and NCE; some publishing companies as one of their resource persons in Social Studies and above all he facilitated my membership to SOSAN.

I remember all our times of togetherness but no space here and I need to avoid being melodramatic. We travelled together the length and breadth of Nigeria and on many occasions slept on the same bed. We decided together the progress of SOSAN. He donated generously his time and money for the publication of SOSAN journal which I managed and edited. He raised many of the succeeding generations of social studies experts. Indeed he completed his professional race successfully, as one of the pillars and founding fathers of Social Studies profession in Nigeria. I am grateful to God for the privilege of knowing this confrere, this disciplined and highly principled academic, this forthright and defender of morality, this astute and accomplished erudite scholar, and this giant Fellow of Social Studies (FSS). Sleep on, my immediate predecessor in the office of Social Studies Association of Nigeria Presidency and my very good Quaker.

3. Prof. Alice Arinlade Jekayinfa – Vice-President to M.B. Ogunsanya

Good people die every day. Yet, not all of them affirm for us, the goodness in humanity and leadership, the way late Prof. Mobolaji Ogunsanya did. He died suddenly and 'prematurely' in 2016, but left a legacy of positive experiences for anyone who took time to know him. Most likely, you don't know him, but you can learn from the legacy he left behind. The late Prof. Mobolaji Ogunsanya was

an academic icon, a man of integrity, an incorruptible leader who was known for mentoring others in the profession and association he loved; he was the 'go to' person for young leaders to gain confidence needed to do difficult work of the academia and association. He sought to develop the people who worked in his organisation because he knew that they would be better leaders as a result of what they learned. He made history as a man who in 1998 resuscitated the Social Studies Association of Nigeria from total collapse. A man who did not compromise the ethics of the teaching service and his professional association - SOSAN. I could recall the courage, the affirmation of decision making, the sense of accommodation, the extraordinary emotional intelligence in power, the foresight, creativity and calmness of a forthright leader in times of crisis. This was exemplified in the way he reorganized SOSAN in 1998 thus, resuscitating it from total collapse.

Prof. Ogunsanya was very blunt and did not hide his feelings in his inaugural speech then, when he said that the former SOSAN was established in the South West but was killed in the North but as one of the founding fathers, he could not fold his arms and see the total collapse of SOSAN. He resuscitated SOSAN and branded it as South West Branch. He laid a durable foundation in which his successors in SOSAN have continued to build upon. Today, SOSAN is back as a national association through his efforts. He was a man I associated with and I am very proud of his achievements in SOSAN during his time in the areas of annual conference organisations and publications of the Nigerian Journal of Social Studies. The resuscitated SOSAN had shifted from being that of South West Branch when conferences were held in other geo-political zones like Alvan Nkoku College of Education, Nzugbe, Anambra State, in 2007; University of Abuja in 2008; Umar Yaradua University, Katsina in 2010 etc.

The present generation should learn from the late Prof. Ogunsanya that:

(1) One cannot hold office forever, so, mentoring of others is very necessary. (2) An individual will be remembered for the impact he made in the lives of others. (3) There are different types of leaders but only those who make a big difference will be entitled to the positive judgement of history. (4) Whatever you do at any time, maintain your integrity and good name. It seems trite to say that Prof. Mobolaji Ogunsanya will be missed but, it is also true that he left an indelible mark and we can learn a lot from leadership and humanity by following his example.

4. Prof. Segun Ajiboye Registrar/Chief Executive, Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN)

M. OGUNSANYA (15 JUNE 1949 – 15 APRIL 2015) Mobolaji Bashir Ogunsanya was born into a royal family in Oyo, Oyo State on 15 June, 1949. He attended St. Mary Catholic School, Oyo (1955-1960); Oranyan Grammar School, Oyo (1962-1965); Awe High School (1966); and the University of Ibadan from 1971 to 1974 for his first degree. He also attended the same University from 1978 to 1981 where he obtained his Master's and Ph.D. degrees in Educational Management. He started his teaching career in the University of Ibadan in 1981 as a Lecturer Grade II and rose to the rank of a Professor on October 1, 1996. He bestrode the University of Ibadan like a colossus occupying such positions as Head of Department, Hall Warden, Director Centre for External Studies (now DLC) and a host of others. His quiet mien made him approachable by the low and mighty and he used that gentle disposition to resolve the most knotty issues in academics and society. He was also able to deploy his training as Educational Manager and Social Scientist to mediate in critical labour issues, especially as it relates to his Union, ASUU, though this may not be opened to many. **The myth around Ogunsanya:** His permanent adornment of white cloth materials as official dress looked very strange to many, and so they feared him because they ascribed his dressing mode to some spiritual tendencies. But to us his

academic proteges, Mobolaji Ogunsanya was an embodiment of truth, fairness, justice, and equity. He was academically and socially transparent. He was perseverance personified. In Mobolaji, we lost an astute academic, one of the founding fathers of Social Studies in Nigeria, and a personal mentor. We will continue to remember you. Sleep on, my Oga.

5. Dr. Rasheed A. Adetoro – FCE, Abeokuta; Current Vice-President (College of Education)

Adieu! A workaholic cerebral that resuscitated the dying SOSAN at a critical moment. May his gentle soul continue to rest in peace. Amen.

6. Dr. 'Gbenga Omiyefa – Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife; Current SOSAN Secretary

Continue to rest in peace Prof! Your painstaking efforts in cementing the foundations of Social Studies in Nigeria is among the 'labours of our heroes past that shall never be in vain'

7. Prof. P.A. Amosun – Financial Secretary under Professor Ogunsanya

Prof M. Ogunsanya was my Internal/External Examiner for my Ph.D. from proposal level to the final oral defence. He was instrumental in carving the right title for my thesis. That's how our intimacy started. He assessed my papers for the position of Reader/ Associate Professor as I got to know later. We all knew him to be a principled person and a disciplinarian with objectivity. I became so close to him. He would send for me and had so much confidence in me. He once chose me to be an Internal/External Examiner for oral defence of his own PhD student. We travelled together and would always want me to be around him. I was at home, some few days to his departure from this evil world, when he called me to come in connection with one of our PhD students in the department who had just defended and he was the Internal/External Examiner. As I was there I discovered he was not comfortable. I asked him about his health, he said, I will be fine. I left him but reported to one of my senior colleagues who happened to be closer to him than any of us. It was surprising to hear two or three days later that Baba Ogunsanya was dead. It was

unbelievable. I rushed to Jaja Clinic, I met the person I reported to the other day. He told me it actually happened. In fact I was the one that went to photocopy the death certificate, from there followed them to anatomy where he was preserved till the following day when he was buried. I couldn't sleep well for weeks, in fact months after I was still feeling the impact. He was my benefactor, mentor and guardian. He was my academic father. He was a visionary, motivator and moulder with deep insight and foresight. He once sat me down and told me the story of how singlehandedly with the help of Baba Ogundare started all over again to build the Social Studies Association of Nigeria (SOSAN) in South West. He's dead, but his work lives on. He produced quite a good number of us before he left for the world beyond. He's the think-tank behind and for SOSAN. He's missed by all of us at the University of Ibadan. May his soul rest in peace.

8. Prof. S.O. Ajitoni – University of Ibadan – PRO under Professor Ogunsanya

The late Prof. Mobolaji Ogunsanya was a celebrated scholar, a powerful intellectual; a lecturer with a magnificent voice under perfect musical control; a senior colleague and a public benefactor with a deep commitment to all that is good. His impact and invaluable support in raising generations of Social Studies experts cannot be underplayed. He fought gallantly for the support of intellectual freedom and scholastic independence rather than for worldly honour and profit. His display of such qualities as perseverance, self-reliance self-sacrifice and ambition, should be found everywhere among our youth for the honour of the Social Studies Association of Nigeria (SOSAN) and our country, Nigeria. Jewel of pious memory is this scholar never to be forgotten. Late Prof. Mobolaji Ogunsanya's name should be perpetuated in honourable memorials and useful institutions. Adieu, our great mentor.

9. Prof R.W. Okunloye – University of Ilorin, Senior Member of SOSAN

Tribute to our Hero in Social Studies Curriculum Development, Innovation Diffusion and Implementation: Prof. Mobolaji

Ogunsanya. Prof. Mobolaji Ogunsanya was a Social Studies curriculum expert of national and international repute. His landmark contributions to development and introduction of Social Studies Curriculum at Basic, Teachers' and Tertiary Education schools and colleges are part of the remarkable epitaph of this great scholar. His foundational role in our flagship Professional Association, Social Studies Association of Nigeria, which he also served meritoriously as a President was most remarkable. Prof. was one of few experts that contributed very significantly to the M.Ed. and Ph.D. Degree Programmes in the Department of Social Sciences Education where he served as an External Examiner. We, members of Staff of the Department of Social Sciences Education, University of Ilorin, celebrate the life and times of Prof. Mobolaji Ogunsanya. We pray that God will grant the nuclear, extended and academic family he left behind the fortitude to bear this irreparable loss.

10. Dr. Raji - Emmanuel Alayande College of Education (EACOED), Oyo. Member, SOSAN

Professor Mobolaji Ogunsanya was my Internal /External Examiner during my PhD programme. My interactions with him showed him as a father, generous, accommodating and an embodiment of knowledge. He was also an exemplary leader of great repute. Prof Ogunsanya would do anything within his power to assist any hardworking student to accomplish his/her academic pursuit. Unfortunately, this great scholar was buried exactly a week that I bagged my Ph.D. May the soul of my Internal/External examiner continue to rest in peace and the Almighty Allah grant him Aljannah fridaous and give his immediate family /SOSAN family he left behind the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss. Adieu My Prof.

11. Dr Abiodun Oladiti - EACOED, Oyo - Member, SOSAN

Sleep on papa, your good work while on this side still speaks volumes about you. May your labour of love and quest for knowledge faint not

and may God protect all you left behind. O di owuro o! –

12. Prof. Emman Osakwe – Delta State University, Abraka - Member, SOSAN

I first met Prof Ogunsanya when I was doing my Ph.D. programme at the University of Ibadan. He was a very close friend to my friend/unofficial Supervisor. Prof Ogunsanya made sure he was with Prof. Mansaray when I defended my proposal. He maintained a cordial relationship even after I had left UI. He came to Abraka on a number of times as External Examiner on my invitation. May his gentle soul rest in peace.

13. Dr John Ogundiran Lanlate - EACOED Lanlate - Member, SOSAN

Professor Mobolaji Ogunsanya was my External Examiner during the final defence of my Ph.D. Good father he was, a teacher of teachers, thorough and detailed. May his gentle soul continue to rest in peace.

14. Mrs Alicia Ogundeji – OSCED Ila-Orangun - Member, SOSAN

You have been an invaluable support, you have burnt your life for all. May the kindness you have extended to others be remembered. May you rest in peace, Prof. Mobolaji Ogunsanya.

15. Dr Adeola Ogunsanya - Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago-Iwoye, Ogun State - Member, SOSAN

Professor Bolaji Ogunsanya was like a father to me within the shortest time I know him. He was a highly humane, generous and sincere leader who led by example. He is a personality that wished younger ones greatness in their chosen career. He is a good mentor of note. May his gentle soul continue to rest in peace.

16. Dr Rasheed Adewuyi Shofiu - University of Ilorin - Member, SOSAN

My interactions with Prof. Mobolaji Ogunsanya within few years as SOSAN member revealed him to be an embodiment of knowledge and an exemplary leader. His amazing choice of white colour during his life time was enough to pass a message of peace and tranquillity across the globe. This truly manifested in his soft and flexible approaches to issues. He would be ever

remembered for making SOSAN thrive amidst diversity.

17. Dr Chimezie Njoku - University of Port Harcourt - Member, SOSAN

I had the pleasure of reading some of Prof Ogunsanya's publications. I admired his scholarship. He left behind a legacy in the field of education, especially in Social Studies with his multitude of scholarly publications. You will ever be remembered.

18. Mallama Hasiya Abdullahi – Federal College of Education, Kano - Member, SOSAN

A great icon of the Social Studies family whose labour shall never be forgotten. The legacies you left behind shall continue to be in our memories.

19. Prof. (Mrs) Arisi Regina Oghenovo - Taraba State University, Jalingo – Senior Member SOSAN

Prof Mobolaji Ogunsanya is a man of exemplified life. He projected his life career with what he knows and teaches. He was a simple, humble educator, nation builder and a youth moulder through his teaching and writings. What form the background knowledge of Social Studies was his handiwork and writings, which had helped many Social Studies experts today. He left behind a legacy in the field of Social Studies. He will be forever remembered.

20. Mr. Isaac Sobola - FCE, Abeokuta - Member, SOSAN

Prof. Mobolaji Ogunsanya was an iron of note. I knew him personally in one of the SOSAN conferences that was held at Noforija, Epe, some years back. He left an indelible impact on those of us coming behind, especially in his chosen career - Social Studies. May his gentle soul continue to rest in the bosom of the Almighty God.

21. Mr. M. A. Oyekanmi - FCE (Special), Oyo - Member, SOSAN

Prof. Mobolaji Ogunsanya was my lecturer when I was a student in the College of Education in 2004/2005 academic session. He served as a part-time lecturer in our College that

time and taught us Social Studies Methods of teaching. During that period, he proofed himself as a good and matured lecturer. He always advised us not to stop our education at NCE level but we should pursue our education up to Ph.D. level. All of us in that class passed his course with good grades. May his gentle soul rest in perfect peace. Amen.

22. Dr. (Mrs) Oluwagbohunmi - Ekiti State University, Ado Ekiti - Member, SOSAN

The only personal contact I had with Prof Ogunsanya was in 2005 when I visited UI with a friend for research purpose. His warm reception and proper guidance helped us to achieve our aim. Through our interaction with him, we realised how humble, humane and accommodating he was. He was truly a good leader. May God grant him eternal rest.

23. Prof. Ogunbiyi Joseph Olukayode - Kogi State University, North Central, Nigeria - Senior Member, SOSAN

Prof. Ogunsanya, Mobolaji was an icon of knowledge. He was even a learning material on his own as far as Social Studies is concerned today. I knew this fountain of knowledge via his numerous books on Primary and Secondary Social Studies Books. In fact, he was a promoter of knowledge in Social Studies. I think if I should call him "Father of Social Studies", I will be exactly on point. Continue resting in peace, Baba.

24. Dr. Samuel Olanrewaju OLADAPO - Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba Akoko - Member, SOSAN

Professor Mobolaji Ogunsanya's impact in many lives can never be forgotten. Prof. You had been our academic father, mentor and boss. Your demise is a thunderous fall of a giant pillar of a citadel of learning in Nigeria. Your demise is a great quake in the entire literacy world. A great custodian of knowledge and standard. The standard you set when you chairman my post-field defence can never be easily forgotten. I can never forget all your

counselling when I was in University of Ibadan. Continue to rest in peace.

25. Dr. (Mrs) B. O. Abdu-Raheem. EKSU - Member, SOSAN

Inna Lilahi Wa Inna Ilayhi Rojihun. The news of Professor Mobolaji Bashir Ogunsanya's demise was a rude shock to me. I knew him as a father, gentle, patient, kind-hearted and forbearing. He was a benefactor, effective and efficient leader, an icon of Social Studies and a Professor of international repute. His good deed and legacy remain fresh in my memory. May Allah grant our erudite Professor, Aljannat Fridaus and let perpetual light shine upon him. May Allah grant the family, friends and acquaintances left behind fortitude to bear the irreparable loss.

26. Prof Okechukwu .O. Nwaubani - University of Nigeria Nsukka, Senior Member, SOSAN

Late professor Mobolaji Ogunsanya was a renowned academic giant of both national and international repute. Perhaps, unknown to many of us in SOSAN, he was primarily of Educational management at the University of Ibadan, a field in which he distinguished himself. My association with him started during my post graduate program at the University of Ibadan where I also met the likes of now professors, Ogunyemi, Ajiboye, Mansaray, Onwu etc in the 90s during my doctoral program in the then Department of Teacher Education. He was a towering academic figure and resource person whose incisive and persuasive academic knowledge and ideas were relentlessly sought after in conferences, seminars and workshops. Besides academics, he was also a renowned socialite who was easily distinguished with his outstanding dress code-immaculate white which marked him out in the entire university and beyond.

Professor Ogunsanya's contribution to Social Studies was quite outstanding and to say the least legendary. Indeed, his book titled "Introduction to Methodologies of Social Studies" published by Evans Brothers (Nigeria)

LTD was a monumental definitive classic in the field of Social Studies which conclusively revealed his methodological prowess, philosophical inquisitiveness, analytical mind, originality of thought and ideas as well as interdisciplinary research competence. He was also a towering figure in SOSAN which he also led as president for years. Indeed, under his leadership SOSAN made some giant strides, one of which is a spirited attempt at national inclusiveness. This attempt remains one of his national contributions which should be built upon as a legacy for posterity as far as the history of SOSAN in Nigeria is concerned. May God in his infinite mercy continue to grant his soul peaceful repose.

27. Dr Olalekan Elijah OJEDOKUN – Editor, Social Studies Association of Nigeria

My father, on the 26th of November 2014, a day you were awarded the title, Fellow of Social Studies Association of Nigeria, I approached you humbly to bid you farewell to Ile-Ife, Osun State, my work station. You asked me to wait. You went to your office; brought the citation written as your profile above and you gave me, with a somewhat farewell message – “please, take, go and keep it”. I never knew that you already knew that you would never see me again. The news of your departure came to me suddenly; and I was not myself for several days. How much would I recount of our relationships. You were instrumental to my getting admitted into the University of Ibadan, when you agreed with Professor Segun Ajiboye to supervise my Ph.D. Your supervision was with a difference. I never knew you were impressed by my work, not until you nominated me as the Editor to the Social Studies Association of Nigeria to step into the shoe of a great scholar, Professor S.F. Ogundare. You so much believed in me to a very large extent. You believed in me and my dreams as well, to the extent that when you

were hunted as a Sparrow, my dreams and spiritual revelations were reckoned with for some actions; and when I was to be poisoned like a rodent, you stood by me as an Agent of the Battle of the Lord. You taught me greater humility and the need for “adequate hand washing”, which is a prerequisite to eating with the elders. In real life situation, I have eaten with you in the same bowl at Ajiwumi Food Canteen, Oyo. I remember you always ask me, “Lekan, shan’t we go to Ajiwumi today?” Or at the eatery along the Agbowo Express Road or the delicious Grass-cutter Pepper Soup joint along Aroro, Ibadan on the way to your school. I found you so pleasant to eat with. You baptised me into SOSAN activities and today your impact had made me a frontline worker in the battle for the soul of our darling subject, Social Studies. You integrated me into your family and I became a friend of your children, including your daughter in whose house I ate Amala in London, United Kingdom. I admire your entrepreneurship at the Ogunsanya Girls Science Academy – a great legacy that you left behind. I pray that this your vision will never die. Today, if they call me a Doctor of Philosophy in Social Studies, it is you they are calling. The white-native-garment elder and Professor, but never a cultist. I say this because I knew you sincerely as a devoted Muslim. Your white garment showcased transparency and accountability, hard work, sincerity and success. I will never forget you, especially the way I follow you at the corridors of the Faculty of Education at the University of Ibadan, and the “Omo Baba” nickname that Professors Akinbote and Oduolowu used to call me. MY FATHER. Sleep on. Your back is already good.

28. ALL SOSAN MEMBERS

Good night and rest in perfect peace, sir, our former President, Professor Mobolaji Ogunsanya. “The labour of our heroes past shall never be in vain”.