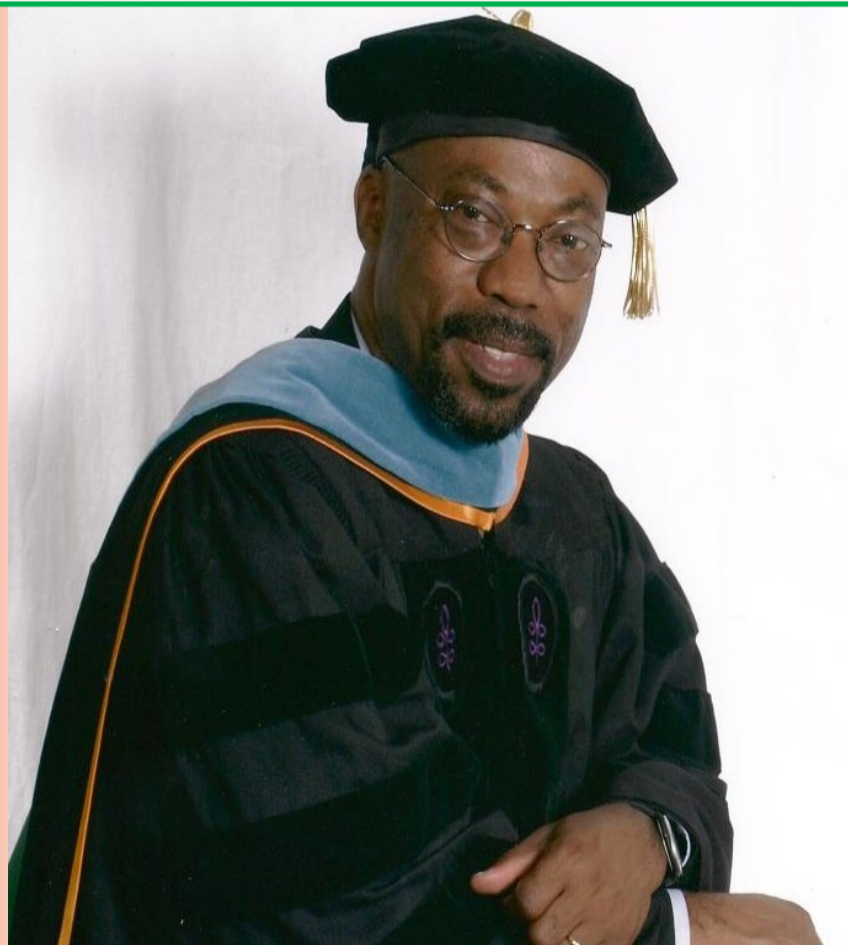




**AKWA IBOM STATE ASSOCIATION
OF NIGERIA (USA), INC.**

MANIFESTO
For the Office of National President
Presented by



**DR. TOM MBEKE-EKANEM, PRESIDENT
LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY CHAPTER**

Profile of Dr. Tom Mbeke-Ekanem, President AKISAN Los Angeles Community Chapter, California

Background:

Dr. Tom Mbeke-Ekanem is a Regulatory Engineer with California Regional Water Quality Control Board, a division of California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal-EPA). He is licensed with the State of California as a Registered Environmental Assessor (REA). He holds B.S. degree in Petroleum Engineering and M.S degree in Industrial Engineering, both from the University of Oklahoma in 1984 and 1991, respectively. In May 2009, he earned Doctorate degree in Public Administration from the University of La Verne in Los Angeles, California.

In 1986, Dr. Mbeke-Ekanem returned to Nigeria and in May 1987 enlisted in the NYSC. He was deployed with Elf Oil Company in Port Harcourt. During this time, he was exposed to, perhaps the world's most polluted environment whose indigenes never benefited from the oil revenue.

Dr. Mbeke-Ekanem is a man of few words but many letters. On his return to United States in 1989, he became the first Nigerian to launch a fight for resource control. He has made many paper presentations on the subject. He chronicled his horrible experience in his widely acclaimed book titled *"Beyond the Execution – Understanding the Ethnic and Military Politics in Nigeria"*; a book many in oil producing areas now call "**Resource Control**" book.

In his presentation titled *"Economic Justice or Self Determination for the People of Akwa Ibom State"* at the AKISAN National Convention at Philadelphia in August 1994, Dr. Mbeke-Ekanem made a passionate plea to AKISAN's leadership to take up the leading role of advocating for our people. When that plea failed, Dr. Mbeke-Ekanem in July 1995 established what would eventually become Ibom Peoples Congress (IPC).

Essentially, IPC was formed to serve as a responsible advocate for the advancement of equity, social justice, economic empowerment, and promotion of credible democracy in Akwa Ibom State, among others. When in early 2000, the obnoxious onshore-offshore oil dichotomy was re-introduced, IPC kicked against it by petitioning Pres. Obasanjo and the National Assembly with nearly 1000 signatories. The signatories were later tendered to the Supreme Court by our legal team to support the abrogation of the oil dichotomy.

Dr. Mbeke-Ekanem brazened the trail when in 2002 he set up Ibom forum to give Akwa Ibomites world-wide a platform to communicate, interact, learn, and exchange ideas.

Citations & Awards:

In recognition of his distinguished accomplishment and contributions, Dr. Mbeke-Ekanem was among the maiden group of esteemed Akwa Ibomites who in August 2003 were given the First AKISAN BOT Award under the chairmanship of late Dr. Nsidibe Ikpe. In May 2004, IPC organized its 1st International Economic Summit at Houston, Texas. The summit attracted many government officials and dignitaries around the world. Following the success of that Summit, Gov. Victor Attah invited IPC for a formal presentation of the 16-page Summit Communique.

Dr. Mbeke-Ekanem and two other IPC officials had the honor of presenting the Communique to an overflowed Executive Council Hall at Uyo in Akwa Ibom State on July 19, 2004.

Dr. Mbeke-Ekanem in July 2005, participated in the United Nation sponsored workshop under the theme “*International Conference on Energy, Environment, and Disasters (INCEED 2005)*” at Charlotte, North Carolina. Also presenting a paper on a similar topic on the plight of Niger Delta States was the late governor of Bayelsa State, HE Diepreye Alamieyeseigha.

In September 2006, Dr. Mbeke-Ekanem participated in another United Nation organized workshop under the theme “*International Conference on Infra Structure Development and the Environment*” at Abuja, Nigeria

A couple of days before the UN Conference at Abuja, IPC under Dr. Mbeke-Ekanem’s leadership organized a 3-day International Summit at Uyo that witnessed the first ever nationally televised gubernatorial debate in Nigeria. In recognition of this effort, IPC was commended by Nigeria Federal House of Assembly, Abuja. Not only did the IPC summit bring Turkey’s industrialists for the purpose of establishing industries in Akwa Ibom State, it was at this summit that the concept of “*Town Hall Meeting*” was first introduced in Akwa Ibom State.

In California in 2012, Dr. Mbeke-Ekanem was appointed to serve in “*26th Senate District African Trade and Investment Commission*” set up by the California Senate under Senator Curren D. Price, Jr. In 2013, Dr. Mbeke-Ekanem was appointed to serve in the *Committee for Constituency for Africa* established by Western Union in partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to offer grants to Africans in USA to establish businesses in Africa.

P.S. For a complete list of accomplishments of IPC during Dr. Mbeke-Ekanem’s leadership, please see link:

<http://www.ibompeoplescongress.com/documents/ibom-peoples-congress-accomplishments-and-milestones.pdf>

As President of AKISAN Los Angeles: Under his leadership, all warring factions in LA were re-unified. The reinvigorated and vibrant chapter was incorporated and 501©(3) tax exempt status procured from IRS. He created various Committees such as Investment, Outreach, etc. and this enabled his administration to accomplish a lot. Produced and distribute 2015 Momentous Almanac.

Two major and successful end-of-the year fundraising events have been organized under his leadership. Some 160 students in primary, High School, and College were recognized with Certificates of Excellence. On charity activities, our chapter visited homeless people in Los Angeles downtown and offered them food and clothes. A new website for the chapter has just been set up. Presently, we plan to organize a joint graduation party and give awards to all H.S. and College graduates.



First town-hall mtg w. Comm. of Info, Parchy Umoh



With Turkish Industrialists at Ibom Hall, Uyo in Sept. 2006



Candidates During Governorship Debate at Ibom Hall, Uyo in Sept. 2006



Hon. Nduese Essien launched Beyond the Execution at Abuja



At UN Conference



First AKISAN BOT Award in Aug. 2003



A Cross Section of IPC Houston Summit Participants in 2004



OUR PROPOSALS

First, we want to thank the current and past National Presidents, and all the leaders and everyone who over the years have given us an organization that is second to none in U.S. **Continuous Renaissance of AKISAN** is our theme and mantra. We're delighted to note that Economic Investment which is our cornerstone is similar to Gov. Emmanuel's 5-point agenda. We will embrace anything that would bring improvement to the life of a common man such as enunciated in the governor's agenda. Below are areas we intent to focus:

1) (A) INVESTMENT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

We've set up an Investment Committee in our Chapter comprising businessmen/women in our community to explore global investment opportunities that could help in the industrial development of Akwa Ibom State. Coincidentally, our investment goals happen to reflect those in the governor's agenda. Our Committee is meant to serve as investment vehicles for Akwa Ibomites in the Diaspora who are interested in investing in Akwa Ibom state.

Our Investment Committee is chaired by Pastor Ubong Essien, a shrewd businessman, who is also our BOT Chairman. In October 2015, he led a delegation of nine (9) Chinese government officials and CEOs of several Chinese corporations to Akwa Ibom State. At this very moment, the Chinese group is in negotiations with our State government to attract up to thirty (30) industries to Akwa Ibom State over the next few years, and opportunities for equity participation in some of these industries will be available to interested Akwa Ibomites in the Diaspora.

As a good number of us are retiring or nearing retirement age, we must not waste away the experience accumulated in those years. AKISAN shall expand the Investment Committee we currently have in Los Angeles Community chapter. AKISAN will liaise and collaborate with the state government to establish micro-industries in order to create employment for our teaming youth.

B) COOPERATIVE BANK

We shall encourage the state government to set up or revive the concept of the defunct Cooperative Bank which seemed to mirror the current Investment Bank at the federal level. The Cooperative bank of old used to cater to the poor peasant farmers and fishermen, most of whom are illiterates. These funds should be made available for those at home and in the Diaspora as well.

C) DIASPORA CENTER AT UYO

With investment as our foundation, AKISAN should consider teaming up with individuals, and other organizations to invest in a 15-story high rise multi-purpose building in the near future.

2) OUR CHILDREN

The population of Akwa Ibom in USA today is approximately 70% youth. In order not to lose our children into the nebulous American society, we must come up with cultural programs such as summer visits to Akwa Ibom, language studies as done by the Yorubas, Ibos, Jews, etc.

3) DIASPORA AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

In view of the rosy future painted above, we would suggest to the State government to establish Diaspora Affairs Department, possibly at a cabinet level, much like the Women Affairs or Youth and Sport, to be chaired and managed by qualified Diasporans. The Department's primary goal among others will be to coordinate activities and also serve as a clearing house for the Diasporans.

4) PARTICIPATING IN ELECTORAL PROCESS

AKISAN must get involve in the electoral process both in America and in Akwa Ibom State. There are different ways of doing this without being partisan which the law forbids. We can get involve in voter registration, organizing workshops to educate potentials voters on the benefit of democracy. This we must do to ensure a better future for all of us; especially our children.

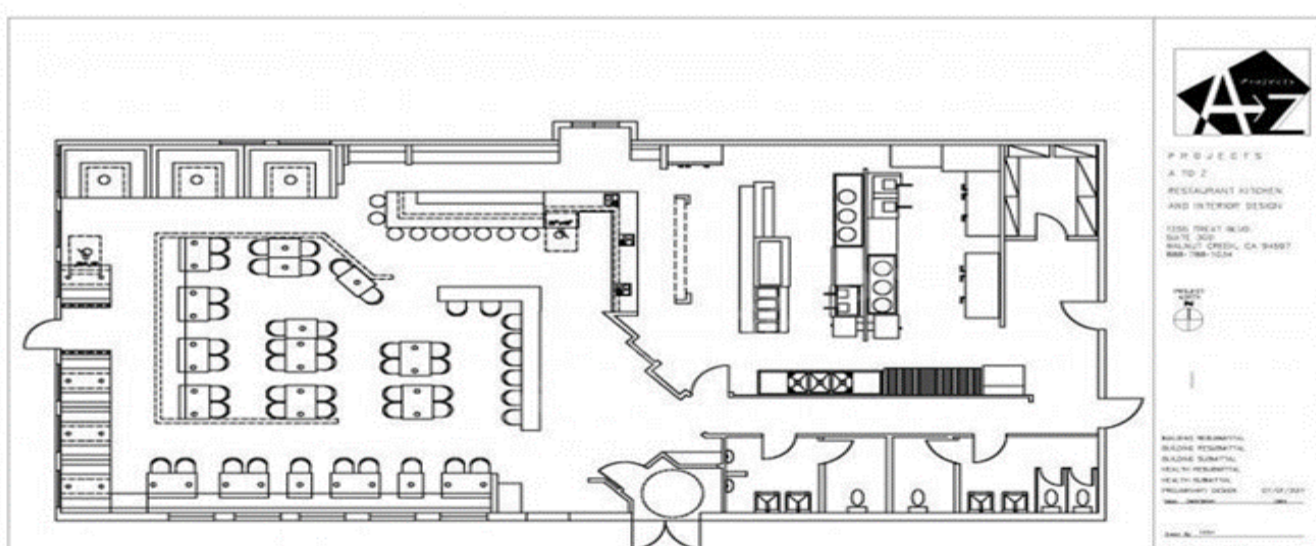
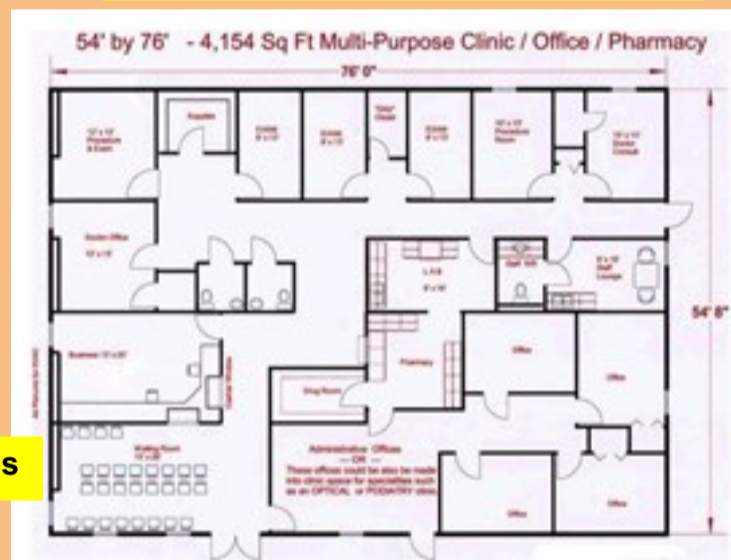
VOTE FOR CONTINUOUS RENAISSANCE, VOTE FOR DR. TOM MBEKE-EKANEM

**PROPOSED
DIASPORA CENTER, UYO**



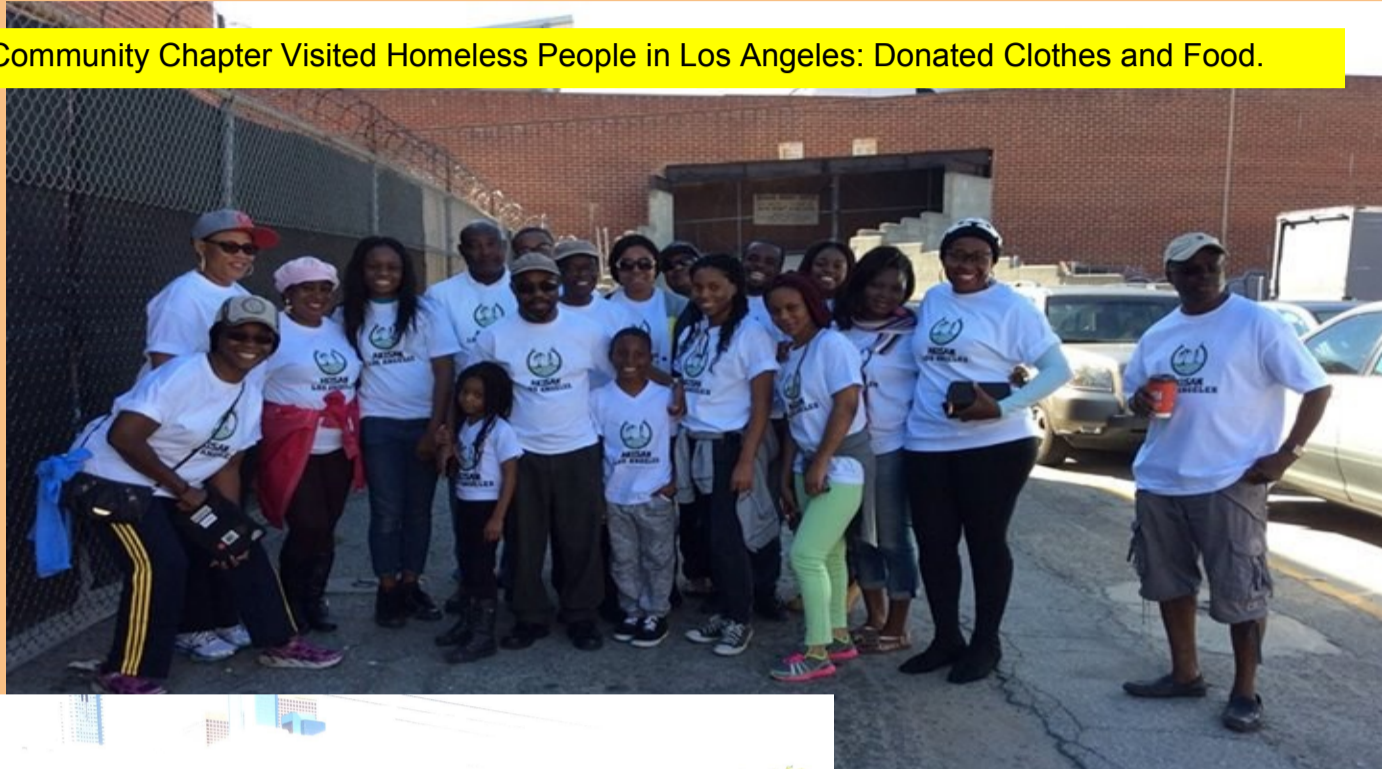
1-Bedroom flats, from 3rd to last floor

Second floor exclusive for offices



Ground floor exclusive for AKISAN. Comprises of a bar, restaurant, TV lounge, ballroom, gift shop, business center

LA Community Chapter Visited Homeless People in Los Angeles: Donated Clothes and Food.



TOURIST ATTRACTIONS IN LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA



Home to Discovery Shuttle



Disney Land



Hollywood Walk of Fame



Universal Studio



The Iconic Landmark



Boat Ride to Catalina Island



Griffith Park Observatory

MORE TOURIST ATTRACTIONS IN LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

