

# Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi



## QUALIFIED TO **SERVE**

”

**I BELIEVE THAT THE DESTINY OF NIGERIA CAN ONLY BE BEST ACTUALIZED IN THE CONTEXT OF ONE INDIVISIBLE AND UNITED NATION.**

What is required is for us to continue to work towards a nation in which the doors of opportunity are open to all our citizens irrespective of ethnicity, creed, class or circumstance.

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**C**hibuike

God is Strength

**R**otimi

Stand by Me

**A**maechi

Who Knows Tomorrow?

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Commander of the Order of the Niger (CON)

Dan Amanar of Daura

Ochi Aliri 1 of Ikwerreiland

Minister of Transportation (2015 - date)

Governor Rivers State (2007 - 2015)

Rt.Hon Speaker, Rivers State House of Assembly (1999 - 2007)

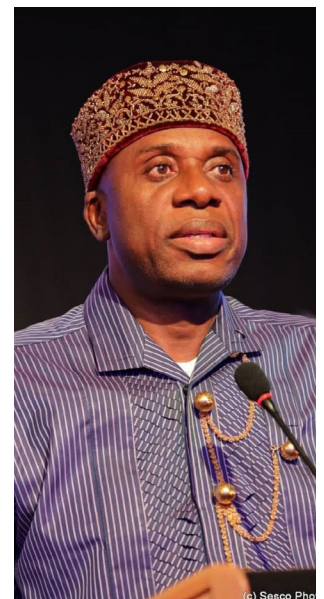
Papal Knight of Saint Sylvester

Lion of Ubima

Husband of Judith

Father of Chimkamkpa, Obinna and Lemchi

Child of God





We stand at a critical time in our nation's history.

Nigeria is grappling with insecurity, poverty, alarming rates of unemployment and rising ethnic tensions. Of course, these issues all pre-dated the current Administration and unfortunately no single individual or administration can solve all the problems of any nation. So, the hope for any incoming regime is that they make incremental and cumulative progress to our national development. Despite numerous challenges, the Buhari Administration has made highly commendable improvements in key areas that move Nigeria forward, for example, rehabilitating the country's critical infrastructure such as roads, railway and ports; broadening the country's revenue base; undermining Boko Haram and tackling endemic corruption.

**As we head towards the 2023 Presidential elections, the stakes are high.** With consideration for equity as well as the stability of the nation, we believe that the 2023 Presidential flag bearers of major parties should come from the South. While rotational presidency may not be enshrined in our Constitution, it has been the unwritten rule that we have followed since the return to democracy in 1999. In

an atmosphere of mounting ethnic divisiveness, Nigeria needs a President who represents those who feel excluded and marginalized, yet who combines both the nationalistic outlook and national presence to garner widespread support from other parts of the country.

Well-meaning citizens will need to carefully consider the choice of candidates before them. General elections are the only opportunity that we the people are given to wield some influence over the direction of the nation. Those vying for the Presidency must articulate clear policies on how to improve security, boost the economy, uplift the poor, give more opportunity to women and youth, and protect the integrity of the nation.

We need a candidate who has vision, practical experience in government and mastery of the Nigerian political terrain. Someone who can command the respect of young people, who has the ability to identify and nurture talent, manage resources and thrive under pressure. We need a leader who can govern with clarity, courage, and commitment.

There is one man who fits the bill. We add our voices to the hundreds of groups from every part of this country that are encouraging the current Minister of Transportation, Rt. Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi to throw his hat in the ring. We have watched Amaechi operate at various levels of government, analyzed his performance and concluded that he is best placed to lead Nigeria forward. In over 23 years of public service, he has shown himself to be a leader that matches his words with actions and works tirelessly to better the lives of the people.

Rt. Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi is the right person at the right time. He understands and respects the diverse and competing interests within this complex nation. He combines the savviness of a politician with the managerial capacity of a technocrat. He is determined to engage and empower the marginalized, women and he is committed to ending the scourge of extreme poverty and massive inequality that are the chief cause of instability and insecurity.



**Barr. Sam Wosu**  
Nigerians in Diaspora  
Agenda 2023

*We are ready to mobilize Nigerians both within and outside the country to ensure that a focused, detribalized, visionary, egalitarian and patriotic Nigerian like Rt. Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi, whose antecedents and feats as an Administrator is well known and acknowledged all over the world, becomes the President come 2023.*



**Comrd. Yusuf Yahuza**  
National Co-ordinator,  
Arewa Youth for  
Amaechi 2023

*As 2023 general elections approach, we are not unaware of the expectations of well-meaning citizens. This is why having looked around the country, we have been able to identify the current Minister of Transportation as one who is fit to take over the mantle of leadership when President Muhammadu Buhari leaves office. Rt. Hon. Amaechi stands out in many regards when you take a cursory look at the numerous achievements he made when he held sway as Governor of Rivers state.*



**Com. Abdullahi Bilal**

Coalition of Northern  
Youth For Good  
Governance

*For the purpose of continuity, the Coalition of Northern Youth for Good Governance has a preference that the All Progressive Congress (APC) continues its run in office. That way Nigeria will not suffer losses that arise because of the government of a different political party deciding not to press ahead with the policies and projects inaugurated by the outgoing government. It is on record that Nigeria has lost much to the lack of continuity in government. We have consequently critically assessed the eminent Nigerians that have indicated their interest to contest for the office of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and have zeroed in on the Honourable Minister of Transport, Mr. Rotimi Amaechi. He deserves to succeed President Buhari.*

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**Chibuikem Asuzu**

President-General  
Southern Mandate  
Group

*Having studied his performance in various positions as a two-term Speaker of the Rivers State House of Assembly; Governor for two terms; Chairman, Nigerian Governors Forum; Minister for over six years, we in the coalition of Southern CSOs have declared and affirmed support for Rt. Hon. Amaechi. We have resolved that the Southern block should ensure someone who has the capacity with inner love for the development of the country and capable of fostering national cohesion should be supported to lead the country.*

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**WE NEED TO QUICKLY REPLACE THE POLITICS OF IMPRESSIONS AND PERSONALITIES WITH THE POLITICS OF ISSUES AND IDEAS.**

We must seek common ground on broad national issues on a bipartisan basis, not on the basis of personalities or geopolitical zones, tribes or factions. The common ground must be based on a dispassionate grasp of national problems: how do we educate our children, heal the sick, give hope to those in despair, provide succour to the needy and find work for the unemployed? How do we build infrastructure that will quickly transform and modernize our economy for the good of all Nigerians?



02

# 7 REASONS WHY: THE COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES OF CHIBUIKE ROTIMI AMAECHI

There is no training institute or pre-determined educational path for a person who aspires to become President of Nigeria. Presidents must learn on the job how to lead the country and the speed and proficiency with which they learn, affects the well-being of the entire nation. **Being President of Nigeria is a hard task.** The President wields the biggest stick but also carries the biggest target on their back.

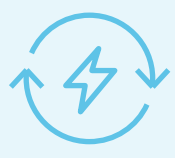
No matter how well-intentioned they may be, the individual who occupies Aso Villa will be misunderstood, berated and judged. **They must have the courage, stamina and resilience to withstand the rigours of office.** They need the acumen to select the right people to carry out their vision but at the same time, must accept ultimate responsibility for every decision or result.



COURAGE



STAMINA



RESILIENCE



If a curriculum for training future Presidents did exist, it might include a combination of leadership skills, practical political experience, strategic planning capabilities, resource management, electioneering and high-performance coaching. With these qualifications in mind, it is easy to understand why Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi can take his place at the head of the class.

For most of his adult life, Rt. Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi has been in public life. This amounts to more than 23 years championing and working for the advancement of his people at the local, state and federal level. Amaechi's powerful personal story saw him rise from humble beginnings in Ubima, Ikwerre Local Government in Rivers State, born to hard-working but poor parents. His father Fidelis had dreams of his son Chibuike one day becoming a lawyer and even gave him the name Rotimi, in honour of famed legal luminary late Rotimi Williams SAN.

Amaechi did not embark on a career in law, but today, despite his hectic work schedule, he is a final year law student at Baze University, satisfying both his own thirst for knowledge and his late father's dreams

Amaechi is driven by a desire to give every Nigerian the opportunity to create a better life for themselves and for their children. He understands that to actualize the great potential and promise of this country, he must be ready to tackle our most pressing problems - namely, security, employment, economic growth and education.

There is an adage in business - from Jack Welch, legendary CEO of General Electric (GE) America - that "if you don't have a competitive advantage, don't compete."

Rotimi Amaechi has 7 key competitive advantages that make him not only a stand-out choice but arguably the most complete candidate for the nation's highest office.



**23**

**YEARS CHAMPIONING AND WORKING FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF HIS PEOPLE**

**7**

**KEY COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES**



# 7 Reasons Why:

## The Competitive Advantages of Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi



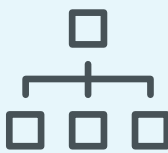
**1**  **First Among Equals**

**2**  **Broad and Deep Experience in Governance**

**3**  **Geopolitical Considerations**

**4**  **National Standing**

**5**  **Political Prowess**

**6**  **Personal Leadership Style**

**7**  **Track Record of Achievement**



*Finding solutions to the challenges that plague our nation is our duty as leaders in our country.*

**Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi**





*Leadership matters—and no leader is more important than the leader of leaders.*

**McKinsey & Co.**

The mindsets and practices of excellent CEOs

There is a rare breed of people who always rise above the rest. Wherever you place them, they shine. Whenever you give them an opportunity to lead, they become primus inter pares - first among equals.

This has been the story of Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi - the quintessential leader's leader. Even as a student

activist during his undergraduate days studying English literature at the University of Port Harcourt, he was elected by his peers as National President of the National Union of Rivers State Students (NURSS). Through this platform, he organized, coordinated and advocated for the interests of Rivers States students in all tertiary institutions across Nigeria.

Fast forward several years and the young student leader had not only ascended to a seat in the Rivers State House of Assembly, but he was the unanimous choice amongst elected legislators to become the Speaker. He then became the first and only ever two-term Speaker of the House in Rivers State, presiding over a highly productive Legislature (even winning an award for the most productive State of Assembly in Nigeria from the Nigerian Union of Journalists in 2000), as he worked closely with the Executive to drive positive change in the state. No other Nigerian Speaker has ever presided over the State House of Assembly for an unbroken period of 8 years.

Amaechi's outstanding leadership and tenure as State Speaker also led to him being elected by his peers as the pioneer Chairman, Conference of Speakers of State Assemblies in November 2000. He also held this position for a record two terms because of the confidence and trust that his fellow Speakers from across Nigeria had in him.

When he was Governor of Rivers State, Amaechi's outstanding leadership skills saw him rise to the top again, as his fellow Governors elected him Chairman of the Nigerian Governors Forum in 2011, and re-elected him in 2013 for another two years. As Chairman of the Nigerian Governors Forum, Amaechi proved himself to be a bi-partisan leader who brought the governors together, advocated for their interests and always took a stand against irregularities in government.

As a Minister, Amaechi is widely regarded as a "super minister", not only because he has been appointed twice by Buhari to helm one of the most strategic portfolios in government, but also because his loyalty and hard work has earned him the respect, confidence and admiration of the President. Even Amaechi's detractors will agree that he has been the best performing Minister and he is also the first individual to have been awarded the best Minister of the Decade by This Day Newspapers

Throughout his political career, despite the cut-throat, territorial and ambitious world of politics, Amaechi has emerged time and time again as the first among equals, crowned by his colleagues to oversee and direct their collective interests. This would not be possible if he did not have the kind of values, temperament and ability that inspire trust and motivate even his peers to fall behind him. This is the kind of leader that Nigeria needs right now.



*My candidate remains the Rt. Hon. Rotimi Amaechi and I say so not just because he is from my state, because that is not enough. I say so because his track record, his commitment, his energy, his ability to get things done, his age and his ability to reach a consensus over the years, stands him in good stead. As our Speaker, he was the Chair of Speakers, as Governor, he was the Chair of Governors, as Minister, he is the best performing minister, by far. So, as president, I know the trend will continue,*

**Tonye Princewill**

Two-time governorship candidate in Rivers State

# BROAD AND DEEP EXPERIENCE IN GOVERNANCE



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*Amaechi has been in the state parliament, been a state Governor and is currently part of the Federal Executive Council as a Minister, which has afforded him the requisite experience for the job. He is conversant with what the country needs and being an appointee of President Buhari, he is in tune with the vision of the incumbent and would therefore be effective in continuing with all the laudable policies and projects that are in place with the capacity to advance them to the next logical phase.*

**Com. Abdullahi Bilal**

Coalition of Northern  
Youth For Good  
Governance



The most important attribute of any President is capacity to govern. This capacity comes from both personal disposition and experience. Presidential elections in Nigeria attract a host of candidates, many of whom enter the race with the erroneous assumption that because they have reached a level of success in their private business or careers, they should be eminently qualified for the highest office in the land. While any Nigerian can aspire to lead his or her country, it is hard to come in from the outside and start at the top.



**Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi did not start at the top. From humble beginnings, he has climbed through the ranks, each time promoted by his mentors, peers and constituents to seek higher office.** Unlike most who will emerge as pretenders to the Office of the President, he has served in both the legislative and executive arms of government and also at all levels of government - local, state and federal.

Experience in governance important. As the Brookings Institute, the famed U.S. Think-tank notes: "Politics is a difficult job, and experience matters... knowing the ropes in government, building political capital, and learning to navigate political cross-currents take time." Few Presidential hopefuls in the history of Nigeria have ever had the breadth of political experience of Amaechi. From local government to State House of Assembly to Governor and Minister, the rich practical experience he has gained in the trenches cannot be discounted or downplayed.

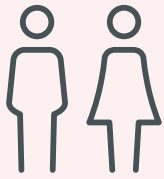
While other candidates will ask the voters to believe in them based on manifestos or what local parlance may call "big grammar", Amaechi can point to a record of performance at every level of government that can withstand any scrutiny and has drawn numerous accolades at home and abroad.

His first official political office was as Secretary of the now defunct National Republican Convention in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State. Then he was appointed Special Assistant to then Deputy Governor (and future Governor) of Rivers State, Peter Odili between 1992 and 1994. He also served as the Rivers State Secretary of the Democratic Party of Nigeria (DPN); Caretaker Committee, in 1996, during the transition programme of General Sani Abacha.

As the State Speaker of the House in the Rivers State Assembly, he presided over a period of unprecedented harmony and fruitful working relations between the Legislature and the Executive. In a stark departure from previous eras, the relationship was conflict-free, the State House and the Executive worked hand in hand to pass laws and enact policy that promoted the wellbeing of the people.

As the Governor of Rivers State the "Treasure Base of Nigeria," Amaechi became Chief Executive of one of the most strategic states of the Federation - second only to Akwa Ibom in oil production and second to Lagos in terms of internally generated revenue (IGR) averaging N10 Billion in monthly accruals. He was in charge of leading a population of 5.1 million people, supervising 50,000 public servants, managing relationships with traditional rulers, oil companies, foreign alliances, other state Governments and of course the Federal Government.

## As the Governor of Rivers State Amaechi was in charge of



leading a  
population of  
**5.1**  
million people



supervising  
**50,000**  
public servants

At the time he took office, River State was beset by many challenges including escalating violence, crumbling infrastructure, a dilapidated school system and weary citizens. He brought the experience he had gained as the two-time Speaker of the State House of Assembly to bear as a Governor - building bi-partisan relationships, implementing bold ideas and leading from the front. His administration invested massively in infrastructure development, construction of roads and bridges, modernization of transportation services and the urban renewal of the Garden City.

When he moved to the Federal level, his experience driving growth and development and executing large-scale infrastructure and transportation projects in Rivers State, meant he was able to hit the ground running as Minister. He has now been a two-term Minister overseeing arguably the most impactful portfolio. Transportation is cross-cutting and permeates many economic sectors, facilitates international trade, supports food security, delivers energy and enables industrial and infrastructural development. It generates employment and helps create prosperity, thereby fulfilling critical economic as well as social functions.



*Amaechi has held one of the most troublesome Ministries in this country, Ministry of Transportation and Nigerians have seen what he could do just as a Minister. If he could do well just as a Minister, then you can imagine what he could do if he becomes the President of this country.*

**Dr. Sokonte Davies**

former representative of  
Degema/Bonny Federal  
Constituency, Rivers State



**MY BIRTH NAMES ARE  
IGBO NAMES CHIBUIKE  
AMAECHI. I AM AN IGBO  
MAN.**

Let no one deny me my Igbo heritage, birthright, ancestry, please! Unless you want to be sectional and deny the Igbo people. I have made myself clear repeatedly, that I, Chibuike Amaechi from Ikwerre, am an Igbo man. Our people are Igbo people.



# GEOPOLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS



*We are staunchly in support of Amaechi and our hope is the Presidency be zoned to Southern Nigeria in the greater interest of equity, fair play and justice. As far as Nigeria's unity is concerned, Amaechi has demonstrated his disposition to the oneness and unity of Nigeria through his advocacies concerning the indivisibility of Nigeria.*

**General, Chibuike  
Asuzu**

Southern Mandate Group  
President

As APC prepares to conduct the primaries to choose the party's flagbearer, they must pay attention to all the geopolitical factors at play. Understandably, there is a strong push for power to shift to the South in 2023 and specifically to the Igbos. Igbos have not been at the centre since the Second Republic more than 40 years ago, when late Alex Ekwueme was Vice President in the Shehu Shagari Administration. Not surprisingly there is loud agitation from the Igbos that they should have their turn to lead the government.

Other groups are also pleading the case of the Igbos in the name of equity and the stability of the country. Leader of Pan Yoruba socio-political group, Afenifere, Chief Ayo Adebajo, has warned that Igbos should produce the president in 2023 election, if Nigeria hopes to enjoy peace. The Association of Arewa Community in Igboland has also urged Nigerians to consent to an Igbo becoming the President of the country in 2023.

Chibuike Amaechi is an Igbo man of Ikwerre stock. His hometown Ubima is on the border of Imo State and the fact that Nigeria's modern geopolitical map places it in the South-South region does not change the fact that Ikwerre are a dialectical group of the Igbo nation. By ethnicity, language and heritage, Amaechi is no less Igbo than a man from Abriba, Owerri, Ebonyi, Awka or Enugu-Ukwu.

In addition, he also has the unique advantage of being not only Igbo but a Niger Deltan. This means that Amaechi could also find favour with those currently insisting that the next President should come from the South-South on the basis that their region only completed one elected term under President R. Goodluck Jonathan. There are some in other parts of the country who may find it more politically expedient to throw their lot behind a South-South candidate than behind a "traditional" Igbo man.



In February 2022, Rt. Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi was turbaned as the **Dan Amanar of Daura**. In Hausa dialect, Dan Amanar is used in reference to someone that is trustworthy, of noble character and carriage, a confidant and one whose words can be relied upon.





*We must come together to search for a leader with an inclusive agenda who will carry every Nigerian along regardless of ethnicity and religion. We will mobilize our members across the country to support Amaechi. He is a leader we can trust. This is not an issue of north versus south. It is a matter of competence, consistency and continuity.*

**Princess Sandra Onoja**

National Women Leader for Coalition for Progress and Continuity (CPC) Governance

As much as Amaechi's tribe and geo-political zone give him an advantage, he also has the advantage of being a candidate who is a true national figure - recognized all over Nigeria, with friends and allies across the length and breadth of the country. Some people vying for office also have recognizable names but are identified so resolutely with their tribe or zone that they cannot be effective national consensus candidates. Few of Amaechi's contenders have had the same opportunity or share the same disposition that allows him to travel to every state of the Federation, forge alliances and build relationships.

Beloved by his people in the Niger Delta, he is also embraced by the South East as a true Igbo son and lauded in the South West for providing the Lagos - Ibadan railway system which has been a source of pride and renewed economic activity in the region. The North see him as a friend, a truly detribalized Nigerian who does not discriminate against tribe or religion and who has worked tirelessly to support President

Muhammadu Buhari. In fact, the core of his promoters to be Buhari's successor, are leading political elements from Northern Nigeria.

Amaechi has a thorough understanding of the complexities of the nation - the challenges of balancing the interests and influences in a country of different persuasions, traditions, cultures, religions.

While others fan the flames of ethnic tension for their own selfish political advantage, Amaechi has consistently championed national unity, identifying ethnic divisiveness as an obstacle to progress. For example, as Minister of Transportation, he has fought against what he calls the "politicization of railway development" as a major challenge to the progress of the work. Undaunted by the base instincts of his detractors, he has kept to his course, arguing correctly that economic interest not ethnic bias should be the deciding factor for rail projects around the country.



*Nigerians are too ethnically conscious. You think first as your ethnicity before you think as a Nigerian. We have very few Nigerians, and ethnicity is putting pressure on the economics of railway construction.”*

C.R.A.

Over his many years in governance, Amaechi has always proved himself to be a staunch nationalist, refusing to discriminate against anyone on the basis of tribe. For example, during his time as Governor of Rivers State, non-indigenes in the state did not experience the usual discrimination that had occurred previously and that continues in most states, whereby so-called indigenes of a state enjoy greater benefits. Amaechi completely dismantled the idea of non-indigene status. He recruited more than 3000 non-Riverians into the State workforce - an unprecedented action. He also cancelled the long-standing practice of non-indigenes being charged higher school fees than state indigenes. Instead he introduced a flat rate for all residents of the State, no matter their birth place.

In February 2022, Amaechi was conferred with the traditional title of Dan Amanar Daura by His Royal Highness Emir of Daura, Alhaji (Dr.) Umar Farouq Umar CON, ruler of one of the leading Emirates in Nigeria. The title Dan Amanar in Hausa means “The Trustworthy Son” or the “Confidante” of Daura - someone of noble character; a man whose words can be relied on. This most fitting title celebrates not only his personal qualities but also the high esteem with which Amaechi

is held by the people of Daura, for his service to their most famous son President Muhammad Buhari and for bringing unparalleled investment into the community, with the siting of the \$50 million Federal University of Transport Technology in Daura, which he negotiated to be built for free by the Chinese railway contractors.

To pigeon-hole Amaechi as merely a South-South politician would be to woefully underestimate his national reach and relevance. He was a well-recognized national figure even before this current Administration and since 2015, he has spent the last 7 years criss-crossing Nigeria, delivering infrastructural development to people from North to South as Minister of Transport. These state visits have grown his own personal political capital and networks.

His antecedents prove that Amaechi has the character, inclusive heart and nationalist vision that Nigeria needs at this sensitive time in her history. On the burning questions of restructuring and calls for self-determination by various groups, he maintains a respectful stance towards the heartfelt position of those who question our unity. But he always advocates a firmly pan-Nigerian agenda, counselling against disintegration and preaching the value of unity in diversity.

Amaechi has spent the last

**7** years criss-crossing Nigeria, delivering infrastructural development to people







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**LET ME SAY WITHOUT ANY FEAR THAT THE CONCERNS BEING RAISED BY NIGERIANS ABOUT THE FUTURE OF OUR COUNTRY ARE LEGITIMATE.**

They are indications of great patriotism and love. But none of these divisive options would serve the urgent needs of this nation or the long term aspiration of all our people for a better life in a happier nation.



”

I have been Special Assistant to the Governor for two years; Speaker, eight years; Governor, eight years; Minister seven years...that's twenty-three years.

**SO I KNOW NIGERIAN POLITICS WELL.  
VERY, VERY WELL.**

● **C.R.A.**





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*The President also extols Amaechi for his willingness to make sacrifices and support the governing party, APC, recalling with appreciation, the major role he played in the 2015 and 2019 presidential elections, and his continuous contributions to promote peace and unity of purpose.*

**Statement on  
behalf of President  
Muhammadu Buhari**  
May 2020

There are many reasons why a candidate may choose to run for President - distinguished service in career or business, encouragement by followers or sycophants, desire to

serve or simply personal ambition. But deciding to run for office is not the same thing as having the capacity to win.

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Many candidates begin electoral campaigns without any concrete strategy or clear path to victory. Instead they make assumptions based on their perceived popularity, the size of their pockets and the overly optimistic view of their supporters. Or they assume that their previous success in other arenas such as business or political appointments has given them all the qualifications necessary to run for office.

However campaigning for elected office is a far cry from leading a company or carrying out the duties of an appointed public official. Politicking is a skill that comes from experience on ground, in the field and it cannot be learned overnight.

**Amaechi is both a distinguished public servant and a consummate politician.** Even his success as a Minister overseeing the high-profile Ministry of Transportation, owes as much to his deep understanding of politics as to his impressive managerial capabilities. In a politically charged and complex nation like Nigeria, there is real value in having a politician at the helm. Someone who is able to navigate the murky waters of partisanship, who has the experience to foresee challenges before they arise and who simply knows how the game is played. Other candidates may be highly competent as technocrats or business leaders, but they have limited experience in the political arena.

As a seasoned politician, Amaechi knows how to balance expectations and meet the needs of competing interests so that both sides feel accommodated. He did this expertly as Speaker of the State House of Assembly, Rivers State when the traditionally thorny relationship

between the legislature and the Executive - then Governor Peter Odili became unusually harmonious and productive.

He also has proven capacity to withstand political pressure and fight his corner. Ambitious opponents have tried to thwart Amaechi's progress every step of the way and he has seen them off successfully at every turn. In 2003, when the National Assembly tried to undermine the legislative functions of the State House of Assembly, Amaechi, as Chairman of the Speakers of State Assembly, led his colleagues into action. They took the matter to court and received a historic Supreme Court judgment that affirmed that the control and supervision of local governments is under the purview of the State House of Assembly. Then in 2007, when rivals tried to rob him of the PDP Primary ticket, he took the case to court and scored another victory when he was declared winner of the April 2007 Governorship election in Rivers State. This was not only a victory for him, but for democracy in Nigeria.

Whenever crisis brews, Amaechi has proved himself bold, politically astute and able to build the right coalitions to achieve victory. When relations between Amaechi and then-President Goodluck Jonathan and the ruling PDP turned sour, he did not bow to the intense pressure from the Administration to kowtow to the President's demands nor did he retreat to the background. Instead he formed a break-away group with five other PDP governors, which ultimately led to the creation of a new party - the All Progressives Congress (APC).



The broad national alliances that Amaechi had built up over the years, his doggedness and political savvy made him the obvious choice to be appointed Director-General of the 2015 Muhammadu Buhari Presidential Election campaign. He was able to mobilize massive cross-country support for the APC candidate and eventual winner, achieving the unprecedented feat of unseating an incumbent President. Even in more mature democracies such as the U.S., incumbent politicians achieve re-election rates as high as 90%, because they are better able to control the narrative, command press attention and benefit enormously from the resources of their office. Amaechi as DG of the Muhammadu Buhari Presidential Campaign became one of the few Africans to lead a presidential campaign that ousted a ruling party from power.

**Success breeds more work, so not surprisingly, Buhari turned to Amaechi again in 2019 to lead his re-election campaign. As he had done four years earlier, Amaechi delivered on the task at hand, helping to secure a second term for President Buhari. Amaechi knows how to move the levers of power, how to build coalitions and how to mobilize people en masse. He knows how to win.**



In  
**2019**

Buhari turned to Amaechi again. As he had done four years earlier, Amaechi delivered on the task at hand.



# C.R.A.



**WE UNDERSTAND THE NEED FOR APPRAISAL AND SO DESIRE TO KNOW FROM THE CITIZENRY HOW WE HAVE FARED, BEING THAT WE ARE ACCOUNTABLE TO YOU.**

Therefore, your feedback on the performance of the Ministry thus far is important to us. We desire to know where you feel we have succeeded or are succeeding, where we should improve, or where you feel we are failing or have failed. It is our duty and desire to do better and keep improving. Kindly email me at [chibuikemaechi128@gmail.com](mailto:chibuikemaechi128@gmail.com). I will deeply appreciate this gesture.

# PERSONALITY & LEADERSHIP STYLE



*Anybody who calls himself a leader will be announced by his character. Hon. Rotimi Amaechi is a young leader I will encourage every youth to learn from. His background was not that of silver spoon but he was still able to live above board. Today, he remains one of the few leaders whose words can be taken to the bank.*

**Engr. Augustus Okere**

The success of a President resides not only in his experience or knowledge but in who he is as an individual. As we have seen in global leaders throughout history, it is often the most personal attributes - temperament, age, personality, stamina - that enable or limit progress. Research also shows that the personality of

political leaders has an impact on their success in office - from policy accomplishments, relationships with the legislative branch, use of executive orders and the likelihood of negative behaviours. As author and leadership guru Steven Covey notes: ***“Leadership has two sides - what a person is - character and what a person does - competence.”***



Amaechi has high expectations of those who work with him because he holds himself to similarly high standards. Known as the workaholic Minister, anybody who has served under Amaechi will attest to the fact that he gives 110% to every task. As soon as he took charge of the Minister of Transportation, his first approach was to carry out a “human capacity audit” to ascertain the strength and weakness of the management staff. While some Ministers remain cocooned in their offices, appearing only for public functions, Amaechi keeps his staff on their toes by paying surprise visits to offices of the various parastatals within the Ministry, catching out those who are slacking on the job and motivating the workforce to apply themselves more fully to their jobs.

Amaechi is not a man who governs from afar or issues orders from behind the closed doors of his office. He is a hands-on leader, down to earth and closely involved in day to day running of affairs. In his time as Rivers State Governor, he knew the location of every project and would conduct inspections of capital projects, even at night, so relentless was his drive to get the job done.

He is also a true servant leader who understands that he is employed by and for the Nigerian people and it is to them that he must ultimately answer. In contrast to the opaque activities of many political leaders, Amaechi has always favoured open and transparent government. During his tenure in Rivers State, **he made the office of Governor more approachable than ever before and established a participatory-style government, maintaining constant communication with the people.**

He is not too proud to receive criticism, solicit feedback or ask for help. In fact he actively welcomes it. As Governor, he created a culture of openness with regular stakeholders’ accountability meetings and town hall sessions in which he interacted with the people

directly, answering their questions. His office also made a practice of using social media to collect feedback from the public. He continued this approach as Minister, even announcing his personal email address to the public and requesting that people get in touch with him to share suggestions on how the Ministry could serve them better.

At 56 years old, Amaechi occupies the sweet spot - old enough to have the experience and maturity for the highest office, while still young enough to have the stamina, vision and energy to get the job done. He has enough years under his belt to give comfort that the nation is in steady hands but is also young enough to have a forward-thinking approach to the job. He is also able to relate comfortably with young people who make up the majority of the Nigerian population and who see him as one of their own.

Going by what we know of Amaechi, should he reach the Presidency, Nigerians can expect an indefatigable leader, relentlessly driven to fulfill his mandate; a transparent and open public servant, who has a record of hitting the ground running whenever an assignment is placed into his hands.



**As Governor, Amaechi created a culture of openness with**



**regular stakeholders’ accountability meetings**



**town hall sessions in which he interacted with the people directly**



# ● C.R.A.



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**ONCE I GET AN ASSIGNMENT, EITHER BY  
THE PEOPLE OR BY GOD,**

I get immersed into that assignment to ensure that it's properly delivered to the satisfaction of those who pay my salary and those who gave me the assignment.

# TRACK RECORD OF PERFORMANCE



*His investments in the development of Rivers State, and current efforts in building infrastructure across the country will always be remembered by posterity, urging him to stay focused on the larger picture of working to improve lives. The change we are witnessing in the transport sector is an extraordinary legacy.*

President  
Muhammadu  
Buhari



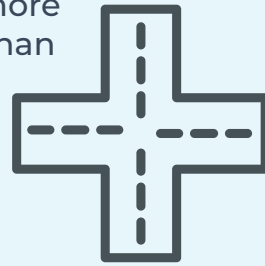
The final and most critical competitive advantage of Rt. Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi is his stellar track record of performance, especially in his two major roles as Governor of Rivers State and as Minister of Transportation. In both instances, he can be described as a change agent, brilliant manager and highly driven executive.

When he became Governor in 2007, Amaechi inherited a state that was economically comatose, battered by years of violence and militancy. Amaechi did not shrink back from the challenges. He tackled insecurity head on, restored law and order and focused on rebuilding the state's critical infrastructure. During his 8-year term, he constructed more than 890 kilometres of roads, 25 bridges, two interchanges, two flyovers, and five shore protection projects. He also invested massively in the broken educational and healthcare sectors, building hundreds of new schools and hospitals and raising the quality of services in both sectors.



During his **8** year term he constructed

more than



**890km**

of roads



**25** bridges

**Let's take a closer look at his accomplishments.**



# ● C.R.A.



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**ONE THING I INTEND DOING IS  
TO DEMYSTIFY THE OFFICE OF  
GOVERNOR.**

We (as governors) are supposed to be servants of the people; not demi-gods.



# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS: RIVERS STATE GOVERNOR (2007 - 2015)

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*The impression that I always get when I come to Africa is that these countries have enormous potential, and your country and your state (Rivers) have enormous potential and I think that you happen to have at this time in history also, a dynamic, energetic and capable leadership that can make the dreams of building up the state into a reality of life for the 5.1 million residents in Rivers State that want their lives to be of much higher and greater quality.*

**Ehud Olmert**  
Former Israeli Prime  
Minister





## SECURITY



When Rt. Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi came to office in 2007, Rivers State was under siege from various factions of Niger Delta militants engaging in all manner of violent crime from blowing up pipelines to kidnapping innocent citizens. A climate of fear prevailed in Port Harcourt and the insecurity had forced the closure of local businesses, as well as the departure of several multinationals and would-be investors from the state. Amaechi knew that his ambitious agenda to modernize and rebuild the state's decaying infrastructure could never gain traction if he didn't take control of the security situation. He made the restoration of law and order his number one priority.

Backed by the late President Umaru Yar' Adua, he launched a major military offensive in December 2007 which snuffed out militia group leaders like Ateke Tom and loosened the grip of the militants on the State. He made sure that the security agencies had all the support they

needed from the State government in terms of equipment, resources and logistics - even sending the anti terror squad to Israel for training.

Amaechi built capacity in the state security system by establishing an integrated Security Network, with a central Command, Control, Communication, Computer and Intelligence (C4I) and a 24-Hour Camera System that watched over Port Harcourt City. His security architecture for the State was the best in the nation and by 2009, Amaechi's zero tolerance policy against banditry and militants had effectively driven out the militias.

Amaechi transformed Rivers State from a hotbed of insecurity into one of the most peaceful states in Nigeria, bringing kidnapping, armed robbery and cult-related activities down to less than one percent. Under Amaechi, the formerly violence-torn state became known as the state "where you sleep with your two eyes closed."





*I must commend Governor Rotimi Amaechi of Rivers State for embarking on numerous people-oriented projects and showing enthusiasm on Niger Delta issues. We are very appreciative of all that Amaechi has done. We are quite clear that addressing the issues of the Niger Delta, the challenges require focusing on things like education development, agriculture, health, all sorts of issues.*

**Mr. Jeffrey Hawkins**  
United States'  
Consul-General in  
Lagos



# ● C.R.A.



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**WE ARE A FAMILY OF NEARLY TEN AND I HAPPEN TO BE THE ONLY ONE WHO HAD A UNIVERSITY EDUCATION AND MY FATHER STRUGGLED TO PUT ME THROUGH UNIVERSITY.**

We lived in a public compound of about 16 rooms with just one toilet and one bathroom. Most of my very good mates didn't go to university because their parents could not afford it. Some barely struggled to pass through secondary education.

”





## EDUCATION



*This is the most exciting news for every mother, for every child and for every family in Rivers State.*

**Ibrahima Fall**

Country Representative of  
UNICEF



As soon as Amaechi took office he declared a state of emergency on education. Years of neglect had resulted in dilapidated and overcrowded schools filled with children sitting on the floor because there were no desks. Passionate

about education and perhaps because he was the only one of his 8 siblings who his father could afford to send to university, he was determined that no child would be left behind in Rivers State when it came to education.

## EDUCATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Amaechi began by tackling the huge infrastructural deficiencies in the educational sector. Over the course of his 8 years in office, his Administration built 350 new model primary schools in almost every community across the State - a pace of school development unparalleled anywhere in Africa. Each of these model primary schools boasted 20 classrooms each and were equipped with computers, modern libraries, science laboratories, football fields, basketball and volleyball courts and nursery playgrounds.



Rivers State under Amaechi became the first state in Nigeria to introduce the study of ICT at the primary school level. All schools were equipped with ICT facilities and internet connection. In addition, all pupils were provided with free uniforms, free school sandals, free school bags and free textbooks - another first in Nigeria.



Amaechi also constructed 24 model secondary schools across the 23 local government areas, featuring world-class education, recreational and boarding facilities, complete with quality teachers housing.





At the tertiary level, the State established a new University of Education and built a modern 6,000 bed student hostel, along with accommodation for lecturers at the Rivers State University of Science and Technology. The University also benefited from huge investment in ICT to enhance student learning and improve academic administration. Thanks to these efforts, Rivers State University of Science and Technology skyrocketed in national educational rankings from 79th to the Best State University in Nigeria and 12th overall Best University.

### FOREIGN SCHOLARSHIPS

Believing firmly in the role of education in national growth and development, Amaechi sent more than 3,500 Rivers State indigenes and residents on scholarship to top universities around the world to study ICT, Medicine, Science, Engineering and more. While at home, he catered to the capacity needs of the self-employed and entrepreneur population by building skills acquisitions centres to train them.

## TEACHERS TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT

Recognizing the need to build capacity amongst the teaching ranks, Amaechi embarked on an ambitious teacher retraining and recertification program in partnership with the British Council. Then, in an unprecedented move, in stark contrast to other States where Governors were cutting Local Government funds, he ordered the State to take over the payment of teacher salaries from the local governments. Although this cost the State about N2bn per month, he realized that leaving things as they were, with Local Governments in charge of paying teachers, the problems of non-payment of salaries, teacher strikes, low teacher quality and loss of teachers would continue. Amaechi was determined to improve the quality and professionalism of teachers in the State. His Administration also employed more than 13,000 teachers - an unparalleled feat - which greatly improved teacher-pupil ratios in schools.

## SUSTAINABILITY MEASURES

Finally, with an eye on sustainability, Amaechi championed the signing of five new laws including the Rivers State Universal Basic Education Amendment Bill 2012 and the Rivers State Senior Secondary Schools' Board Bill 2012. He campaigned heavily for and signed into a law a social service levy to be paid by all employed and self-employed residents of Rivers State. The funds from this levy would be pooled to fund the free education programs, improvements in medical facilities and other essential social services.

## INTERNATIONAL & LOCAL RECOGNITION

Not surprisingly, the educational revolution in Rivers State attracted huge national and international acclaim. The State twice won the UBEC Award for Best State in Education Development; Rivers State Government was judged the best performing state in the Education sector within the South-South zone and the Rivers State Ministry of Education won the Babs Fafunwa Education Prize for Service Delivery.

**UNESCO recognized Rivers State for the Administration's huge strides in improving education and then in 2012, the City of Port Harcourt was voted, won and declared "World Book Capital 2014"**. Port Harcourt was the first City in Sub-Saharan Africa to win World Book Capital, beating 10 other contenders including cities like Oxford, Moscow and Lyons. In further recognition of his accomplishments in the education sector, Amaechi was appointed onto the Board of Directors of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR); and subsequently recognized and honoured as a Passport-carrying Ambassador of the United Nations.





## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EDUCATION REVOLUTION UNDER AMAECHI



Employed over **13000** teachers in one day



Sponsored over **3500** Rivers people on foreign scholarships



Built about **24** world class secondary schools with boarding facilities



**Upgraded** the status of College of Education to I. Ajuru University of Education



Gave **free school uniforms** to all primary school pupils



Port Harcourt was voted **World Book Capital**



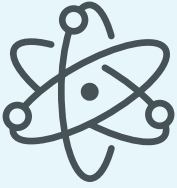
Built **350** Modern Primary schools in almost all the communities in Rivers State



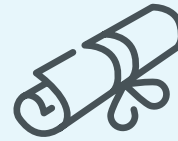
Gave **Free Education** from Primary to Secondary School level



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EDUCATION REVOLUTION UNDER AMAECHI



Upgraded  
SBS to a  
**Polytechnic**



Gave **automatic scholarships** to all indigenous Lecturers in the University of Science & Technology to upgrade their education to PhD level



Direct payment of **bursary** to Rivers State students in tertiary institutions



Supported the Federal University with **infrastructural and human capital development**



Won an award as the **BEST UBE state** in Nigeria which attracted N500 Million to the financial strength of the state.



## HEALTH



*At a time the other governors in Nigeria are being accused of tampering with Local Government funds – which is an impeachable offence, Governor Amaechi is probably the only governor in Nigeria who has taken over the funding of primary education and Primary Healthcare services which has been the responsibility of the Local Government*

Statement from  
Leadership Award for  
Excellence given to  
Amaechi in 2009



Rt. Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi completely transformed healthcare infrastructure and delivery in Rivers State during his tenure. To bring quality healthcare to as many people as possible, his Administration constructed more than 160 primary health centres in almost every ward in the state. He also built modern

medical centres of excellence such as the Prof. Kelsey Harrison Hospital and the N2 billion world-class Rivers State Dental and Maxillofacial Hospital in Port Harcourt, as well as starting construction on a new world-class School of Nursing before leaving office.

Amaechi employed 600 doctors, gave them official cars and well-furnished accommodation - a first in the history of Rivers state. Most importantly, the new health facilities delivered free services to both indigenes and non-indigenes resident in the State. To safeguard the sustainability of the

healthcare projects, he pushed for the passage of the bill establishing the Management of Primary Healthcare Board in 2010. This was to support the establishment of an organizational framework for effective management of the Model Health Centres across the state.



## AGRICULTURE



Amaechi worked to revive the lagging agricultural sector to tackle food security, create new job opportunities and diversify the economy from over-dependency on crude oil. His government collaborated with the renowned Songhai Farm in Republic of Benin, to establish the 314-hectare Songhai

Rivers Initiative Farm. This integrated farm combined livestock, arable farming, fisheries, snail farming and poultry in Bunu-Tai, Rivers State. This also led to the employment and training of young Rivers men and women in new farming methods, boosting productivity with innovative technologies in agriculture.



## Other accomplishments in agriculture include:

Acquisition of 2,000 hectares of land in Ogoni for cultivation, production and export of banana in partnership with Mexican firm San Carlos Nigeria Limited

Development of modern fish farms with the capacity to harvest up to 1000 tonnes per year from one facility

Agreement between the Government of Rivers State and SIAT Nigeria Ltd for the rehabilitation and replanting of the moribund 16,000 hectares Risonpalm estate (more than 14,000 hectares had been rehabilitated during his Administration) and rehabilitation of the 7,000 hectare Delta Rubber Company Limited.



## URBAN RENEWAL

Port Harcourt and its environs received a much needed face lift under the Amaechi Administration. He created the Greater Port Harcourt City Master plan that included the expansion and integration of new parts of the city. He tackled the housing shortage by seeking partnership with First Bank of Nigeria to build the 1000 unit Rainbow Town Estate and others that continued after

he left office. He also developed non-residential properties such as the Adokiye Amiesimaka stadium and the planned new Rivers State University of Science and Technology. His efforts were honoured by the United Nations World Habitat with an Award “for providing affordable houses and developing habitable cities as well as providing basic amenities in Rivers State, Nigeria.”



## ROADS



To tackle the excruciating traffic congestion in Port Harcourt, Amaechi expanded several key roads - such as Rumuokuta-Choba East-West road and Obi Akpo roads - into dual carriage ways and constructed more than 890 kilometres of roads, more than all his predecessors combined. Always putting the wellbeing of his citizens first, Amaechi took on

the responsibility of rehabilitating Federal roads instead of waiting for the central government, investing as much as N108 billion. He also constructed Eleme junction flyover.



## POWER



Amaechi built two new power stations in Afam and expanded the Omoku and Trans-Amadi power stations. This intervention increased the State's power generation from a low of 70MW (20% utilization in 2007) to 700MW by the time he left office in 2015, a record high of 77 percent utilization. Under Amaechi, Rivers State became the highest independent power generation centre in Nigeria, second only to the Federal Government. He also built seven transmission

stations and distribution injection sub-stations. To mitigate the debilitating impact of erratic power supply, his government sought out private sector operators and sold 70 percent equity stake in power generating assets, at premium prices to NG Power HPS.

Always visionary and thinking about the best possible deal for his constituents, he began talks with the Federal Government to allow Rivers State to distribute its own power to ensure regular power supply to its citizens.





## ARTS, CULTURE & TOURISM



Amaechi revitalized the Garden City Literary Festival and turned it into an international annual event which drew literary scholars, authors and intellectuals from around the world. The Festival explored ways to improve society through literature

and encourage a reading culture amongst the people. He also revived the huge Christmas cultural event - CARNIRIV - giving residents an opportunity to relax, attracting tourism into the State and boosting the local economy.



## ● C.R.A.



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### IT HAS BEEN MORE OF GRACE.

Though I work hard, there are millions of Nigerians who do that as well. If it were about hard work alone, what about the man who is pushing carts on the streets? God has actually been there for me and that's why my rise in politics has been quite steady. I cannot also ignore the contributions of Dr Peter Odili and Chief Rufus Ada-George to the growth of my career.”



”

OUR MAJOR FOCUS AS A MINISTRY HAS BEEN THE REVAMPING OF THE DILAPIDATED RAILWAY AND MORIBUND MARITIME SECTOR WHICH ARE KEY MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND MAJOR SOURCES OF REVENUE RESPECTIVELY.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS: MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION (2015 - DATE)



*I think in the history of Nigeria, there hasn't been a Minister of Transportation that has been able to achieve the landmark Amaechi has achieved.*

**Nasiru El-Rufai**  
Governor, Kaduna State



President Buhari came into power determined to leave a legacy when it came to infrastructure and revitalization of the transport sector. His vision was to establish an integrated national transportation

backbone combining railways, waterways and roads, to give people the ability to move around easily, enhance trade and open up new vistas for economic growth.



The fact that President Buhari appointed Chibuike Amaechi as Minister of Transportation and has retained him in that role since the beginning of his Administration speaks volumes about how highly he regards Amaechi's capabilities, commitment and drive.

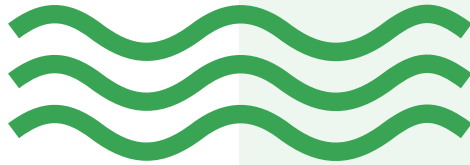
The importance of the transport sector cannot be overstated. It is a sector that affects all sectors and is essential for economic and social development, helping link products to markets, facilitating the flow of goods and people, promoting regional and national integration and expanding the country's economic progress.

As Minister of the Federal Ministry of Transportation, Amaechi's key responsibilities are to:

- To provide direction for transportation policy and control.
- To supervise and monitor and ensure that transportation policies are implemented.
- To formulate relevant transportation laws for the generality of Nigerians.
- To carry out the auditing of management of all the eight parastatals under its management.
- To liaise with the Ministry of Aviation and other ministries because it cannot achieve success in isolation.

Amaechi's Ministry embarked on huge transport infrastructure investment across the country to ensure efficiency in the transportation sector. These interventions include extensive construction of roads, rail lines with access roads, inland water ports, seaports, new terminals in existing ports, dry ports with access to rail and roads, inland container depots/ freight all geared towards building a modern and efficient transportation system that guarantees sustainable socio-economic development of Nigeria, regional integration and trade liberalisation.





**Let's take a closer look at his  
achievements as  
Minister of Transport.**





”

**MANY NIGERIANS HAVE ASKED WHY THE CONSTRUCTION OF RAILWAYS.**

Eighty percent of the cargoes we have in Nigeria are imported because the Nigerian economy is yet to generate enough production. However, the President is of the view that if we must produce, we must have infrastructure that enables that production, hence the focus on transportation, power and works.





## RAILWAYS



Despite numerous obstacles ranging from severe challenges securing finance, to unforeseen delays caused by COVID-19, and of course dealing with the political machinations that surround such a high-profile, capital intensive sector, **Amaechi has made remarkable strides as Minister of Transportation.**

Standard gauge rail lines are being built and existing narrow gauge lines reconstructed, while modern and faster locomotive trains, coaches and wagons have been introduced, including containerised freight wagons.

He flagged-off freight services on the Itakpe-Warri rail corridor and haulage of pipeline materials for the AKK gas pipeline project. He supervised the completion of the Abuja-Kaduna rail line, secured the contract for the Lagos-Ibadan-Kano rail line, and has delivered the Lagos-Ibadan section with massive state-of-the-art train stations with an extension of the line into the seaport in Apapa. He completed the Warri-Itakpe rail line and kick-started the Kano-Kaduna rail line, Kano-Maradi rail line and Port Harcourt-Maiduguri rail line.

## LAGOS - IBADAN

more than

# 40,000

passengers ride on the train monthly



The Lagos-Ibadan rail line is a double-track standard gauge rail, the first of its kind in the West African sub-region. More than 40,000 passengers ride on the train monthly, enjoying safe and comfortable passage between the two cities, with stops at 11 modern terminals along the way. In addition to making it easier for people to travel between these two economic centres, the Lagos-Ibadan rail line has enabled goods to be transported right from Apapa Port to the Inland Container Depots in Ibadan, from where they can be distributed to other parts of the country.



**Construction is underway on some critical routes:**

Ibadan-Kano

Abuja- Lokoja

Lagos-Calabar

Abuja-Itakpe  
which will link the  
existing Itakpe-Delta  
rail line

There are also three major railway projects that have been flagged off and are awaiting to gather more funding to start. The Chinese banks who had initially backed the railway projects are no longer forthcoming with funding and so

the Transportation ministry led by Amaechi is negotiating with other foreign banks to ensure that these projects do not stall.

- **Kano - Kaduna:** Ground-breaking for the 204 km standard gauge railway between Abuja and Kaduna took place in July 2021 and it will form part of the 1343km Kano-Abuja railway project.
- **Port Harcourt - Maiduguri Line:** In March 2021, the Federal Government flagged off the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the Eastern railway line, originating from Port Harcourt and terminating in Maiduguri. This 1,443 kilometer line is part of an integrated transportation plan that will also link up the Bonny Deep Seaport and the Port Harcourt Railway Industrial Park, thereby revitalizing economic activities along the Eastern corridor and easing the shipment of cargo and freight locally across the West African sub-region and in the Continental Free Trade Area. When complete, the Port Harcourt-Maiduguri railway line is expected to move about 11 million tonnes of cargo.
- **Kano - Maradi Line:** This \$1.8bn railway track being built by Portuguese construction company Mota-Engil will link Nigeria and Niger Republic. This route will boost intra-regional trade, giving Nigeria an outlet to export its produce and products to Niger and providing Niger with a safe route into Nigeria to transport her oil to Europe.

## MODERNIZATION OF PAYMENT SYSTEMS

In January 2021, Amaechi launched the first-of-its-kind e-ticketing platform called Transport Payment Solution (TPS), providing automation of ticket sales on the Abuja-Kaduna train service, making Nigeria the first nation in Africa with a global transportation e-ticketing solution. Passengers can obtain digital tickets

by downloading the NRC e-ticketing app or using the PoS terminals at the various train stations. Amaechi supervised this N900 Million Public-Private Partnership with Lagos-based company Secure ID. The world-class secured ticketing solution will reduce physical transactions and cash exchange, thereby improving efficiency, saving time and promoting accountability.



January  
**2021**

Amaechi launched the first-of-its-kind e-ticketing platform called TPS





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**WE ARE VERY PARTICULAR ABOUT LOCALISING RAILWAY TECHNOLOGY.**

That's why we are training our people in China and even made them to build a transportation university and a wagon Assembly plant here in Nigeria.

Photograph is from the launch of the \$50 Million Federal Transportation University in Daura, Katsina, built for free by the Chinese, thanks to Rt. Hon. Chibuike Amaechi.



## MARITIME



*Rt. Hon. Rotimi Chibuike Amaechi came into the maritime and transportation industry, reshaped it and spread his wings over it like an eagle. We are honouring him today because of his unique ability to move the maritime/ transportation industry from the shadow of economic dismissal of our country to becoming a major player in deciding its economic viability. Amaechi has left in his wake, a benchmark by which all subsequent ministers will now be measured.*

**Chief Margaret  
Orakwusi**  
lawyer





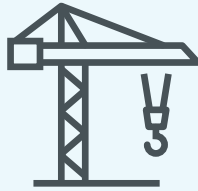
In the maritime sector, Amaechi has commissioned, upgraded and rebuilt key maritime assets. He has been working to modernize the nation's ports, improve communication, stem operational challenges and enhance both safety and security.

Among several notable achievements is the commissioning of the Command, Control, Communication and Intelligence System (CCCIS) which provides business intelligence for the movement of vessels and cargoes. Another is the establishment of the Ultra-Modern Marine and Harbour Simulation Centre at Dockyard Apapa to build capacity of ports operations personnel, attract bigger vessels to our ports and improve efficiency. This Simulation Centre also gives the Ministry the ability to deliver sophisticated training locally, thereby saving on the typically high cost of sending staff abroad for this level of training.

## PORTS CONSTRUCTION

Amaechi has executed large-scale infrastructure projects that will expand Nigeria's maritime trade potential and open up the economy. The Onitsha River Port has been concessioned and the **Lekki DeepSea port construction is on schedule to be commissioned in last quarter of 2022, with approximately 80 percent of the project already completed by January this year.** Work has also begun on the marine services jetty, which the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) will use to provide marine services for the operations of the port. This world-class port will include tug bots, pilot boats, Vessel Tracking System, 300 truck parking area, full Customs examination bay and dedicated area for impounded goods. **Upon completion, Lekki DeepSea Port will become a regional distribution and transshipment hub for the whole of Africa.**





**Amaechi is constructing more deepsea ports in Onne, Rivers and Warri, Delta State.** Construction of the Bonny Deep Seaport will run concurrently with the construction of the Port Harcourt - Maiduguri rail line. Port Harcourt port which had been near comatose since the early 2000s has been revived and **Onne Port recently hosted the largest vessel ever to berth in Nigerian waters.** The major international shipping lines such as Maersk, Comet and General cargo have fully returned to the port, **with an average of 1,500 containers every fortnight and over 20,000 MR of cargo monthly.**

### CREATING A PROFESSIONAL MARITIME SECTOR

Amaechi has been determined to professionalize the maritime sector. He promoted the development of a certification process for freight forwarders created by the Council for the Regulation of Freight Forwarding in Nigeria (CRFFN), to weed out non-professionals and touts from the industry. The professionalization of freight forwarding will improve the ease of doing business in Nigeria, reduce smuggling and enhance service delivery at the ports. The new Diploma in Freight Forwarding and Supply Chain Management has been established as the minimum standard of qualification to be

registered as a freight forwarder in Nigeria. More than 400 persons graduated from this program across 16 accredited tertiary institutions in the country.

To build further capacity in the maritime sector, Amaechi laid the foundation of the Institute of Transport and Logistics at the Gregory University, Uturu in Abia State. The Institute, upon completion, will offer specialised transportation courses and specialised laboratories for Maritime and Oceanography, Aviation/ Aeronautic, Designing and Construction Suites, Aerospace Engineering, Central Machining Tools Centre, Railway Engineering and simulation rooms



*Amaechi has been instrumental to a lot of achievements in the maritime industry. He brought stakeholders and the investors together to tap the potential of the maritime sector. He has enormous respect for the rule of law and is always encouraging people to invest in the sector and create jobs. We have never seen that kind of wonderful Minister. We are lucky to have him.*

**Mr Aminu Umar**  
President, Nigerian Ship  
Owners Association (NISA)



# HALLMARKS OF AMAECI'S LEADERSHIP

“

*My candidate remains the Rt. Hon. Rotimi Amaechi and I say so not just because he is from my state because that is not enough. I say so because his track record, his commitment, his energy, his ability to get things done, his age and his ability to reach a consensus over the years, stands him in good stead. As our Speaker, he was the Chair of Speakers, as Governor, he was the Chair of Governors, as Minister, he is the best performing minister, by far. So, as president, I know the trend will continue.*

**Tonye Princewill**

Two-time governorship  
candidate in Rivers State



There are certain attributes which can be considered the hallmarks of Rt. Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi's leadership. These are attributes that can be identified prominently in his

past and current work. They speak to his vision, character and values and the type of President that he would be for Nigeria.





## STRONG ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT

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*You can't question his competence and sincerity of purpose. You can't also fault the policies introduced and implemented in the transport ministry since he assumed leadership. You can't also discredit the fact that the transportation sector of the economy has been sanitised with leakages blocked and huge revenue accrued to the government over the years.*

**Ogaba Ogomola**  
in The Guardian

## MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES

Before Amaechi took over as Minister of Transportation, the sector was woefully underperforming when it came to revenue generation. Overwhelming corruption in the sector meant that parastatals and agencies in the Ministry were under-reporting their income and therefore cheating the central purse. In 2015 when the Buhari Administration came into power, the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) was remitting less than N19 billion into the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

However, within three years of Amaechi's appointment as Minister of Transportation, NPA remitted N1.02 trillion into the Consolidated Revenue Fund. The Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency, (NIMASA), another agency under the Ministry Transportation, contributed N43 billion in 2021, compared to N1 to N3 billion annually when Amaechi began his tenure. While the Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) generated N1.4 billion in 2020 compared to near zero remittances before 2015.

As Governor of Rivers State, Amaechi increased the internally generated revenue of Rivers State to about N7 billion a month from N2 billion a month when he took office in 2007. He also left the State with just three months of pension arrears after his term, even though he inherited pension arrears of over N4.5 billion. His economic management skills were most tested when the Federal Government suddenly downgraded the State monthly revenue from N20 billion to N13 billion. Despite this, the Administration forged ahead with its plans to provide quality and free education to the masses.

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## FINANCIAL PROBITY

Amaechi is to be commended for financial management of the projects in his Ministry. He ensured that the loans taken from Chinese banks to develop railway lines were to be paid directly to the contractor in China, not to the Ministry. This automatically eliminated any possibility of corruption or diversion of funds and is the first time that such an arrangement has ever been set up in the Nigerian government. While detractors attacked him for the level of borrowing, (even though such capital intensive projects could be not executed without taking on debt), the fact remains that the Chinese loans represented only 3.94% of Nigeria's total public debt as of March 2020. Furthermore, he negotiated concessionary bilateral loans with interest rates of just 2.5% over a 20 year tenor, thereby reducing the burden on the government.

Amaechi believes in transparent government and when he was Governor of Rivers State, he set up the Rivers State Due Process Commission to monitor all State Government procurements and contracts so that the expenditure of government funds was fully accountable. He also ensured that the legislature passed the Public Procurement Law, one of several notable governance and public finance reforms under his Administration.



*Amaechi has proved his mettle as an administrator of men, materials, and resources during his tenure as transportation minister...Under Amaechi's watch, Nigeria witnessed tremendous leaps in the reforms carried out in NIMASA, Nigerian Ports Authority other maritime agencies and railway sectors, which have produced outstanding results to the benefit of Nigerians.'*

**Dakuku Peterside**  
DG NIMASA





## SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability is always baked into any project that Amaechi spearheads. He champions knowledge transfer, local content and always considers the economic and social and governance (ESG) impact of every project. Examples include:

### As Minister of Transportation:

- Ensuring the overwhelming use of local materials and manpower in railway construction
- Convincing the Chinese railway contractor CCEC to establish a Wagon Assembly Plant in Kajola to make Nigeria self-sufficient in production of wagons, locomotives and other rail rolling stocks
- Securing the establishment of a \$50 Million Transportation University in Katsina built for free by the Chinese, as well as a Multi-disciplinary University in Rivers State and the training of 150 Nigerian students in Chinese Universities on railway engineering so that they can eventually take over from the Chinese
- Ensuring that every contract comes with an iron-clad maintenance contract

### As Governor:

- Establishment of the Rivers State Sustainable Development Agency in 2007, a structured intervention programme with the mandate to impact the people of Rivers State through initiatives such as the provision of infrastructure, skills development, job creation and human capital development
- Signing into law a social service levy to be paid by all employed and self-employed residents of Rivers State. The funds from this levy were pooled to fund the free education programs, improvements in medical facilities and other essential social services

## ● C.R.A.



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**I HAVE A PERSONAL CONVICTION THAT OF ALL THE CHALLENGES FACING OUR NATION'S ACTUALISATION, NONE IS MORE URGENT THAN THE SCOURGE OF INCREASING POVERTY AND THE THREAT OF MASSIVE INEQUALITY.**

Let us take the threat of mass poverty seriously and elevate inequality to the status of a perennial national emergency in the years ahead.



## CONCERN FOR THE POOR



*Governor Amaechi's vision was of providing international quality education in the state and ensuring that quality education is not restricted to the privileged members of the society. The admission into the school would be based strictly on merit, irrespective of the candidates' social background, adding that equal number of spaces would be allocated to the 23 local government areas.*

**Shantaram Hegdekatte**  
CEO (Africa) of Educomp  
Ltd

Concern for the poor has been Amaechi's biggest motivating factor ever since he entered political life more than two decades ago. Throughout his

political career, he has focused on creating policies and executing projects that will enhance the welfare of the most economically vulnerable in society.





Examples of this include:

**As Minister:**

- Mandating the contractor of Dala Dry Port to build a primary school as part of their CSR and to provide free education to children in that area
- Ignoring the calls from several quarters to repay construction loans by increasing the ticket prices on the Abuja-Kaduna rail route. As he said to reporters, "If we increase the cost of the tickets, what about the poor man that wants to move from Abuja to Kaduna? What about the poor man who works in Abuja and lives in Kaduna to save the cost of accommodation?"

**As Governor:**

- Ensuring that public education was free from primary through to secondary school and building model primary schools in almost every community in Rivers State to reach as many people as possible
- Providing children with free book bags, lunch and uniforms
- Providing free health care services and building healthcare facilities in every local government
- Establishing the social service levy to pool funds from all Rivers State citizens to fund social welfare projects



## EMPLOYMENT



*If you are able to create employment, you create security.  
If you like hire as many men as you want to hire that are policemen, you would do nothing until you put food in the hands of people.*

CRA

Rt. Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi has had a profound and lasting legacy of job creation, both from his time as Governor and through his office as Minister. He has long championed the idea of infrastructure development not only as a tool for economic growth but as a powerful vehicle for employment.

As Governor, he leveraged infrastructure development to create jobs in Rivers State. The huge projects he executed to revamp the education, health and urban infrastructure of Rivers State generated tens of thousands of direct and indirect jobs. He employed 13200 teachers in Rivers State, 7000 health workers and more than 600 medical doctors. He also created job opportunities through agricultural development,

employing 2,000 young people to learn new farming methods on the Songhai Rivers Initiative Farm, setting up banana farms which employed another 2,000 people and revitalizing Risonpalm which employed 5,000 youth. Young people were also employed at the various fish farms set up around the State.

As Minister, the ongoing construction and rehabilitation of railway lines and the revitalization of the ports have engaged more than 40,000 Nigerians in direct and indirect jobs. The continuing roll-out of the national transportation plan will generate an estimated 250,000 direct jobs and countless more indirect jobs, while also having a huge multiplier effect on economic activities.

roll-out of the national transportation plan will generate an estimated

**250,000**  
**DIRECT JOBS**

and **countless more**  
**indirect jobs**





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**I WILL ADVISE THE YOUTH TO FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION WITH ALL THEIR ENERGY INSTEAD OF GIVING TACIT SUPPORT TO THOSE THEY THINK ARE THEIR BENEFACTORS.**

Nigerian youth should start asking questions from leaders, including me, about what we are doing with our resources.





## YOUTH CHAMPION



*So far the Transportation Minister and his commitment to social inclusion is dear to us. As a governor, Amaechi championed human capital development and will run a government that will be responsive to the needs of young people.*

**Princess Sandra Onoja**  
National Women Leader  
for Coalition for Progress  
and Continuity (CPC)



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Half of Nigeria's population is under the age of 19. We are a country of youth. Yet young people have not been fully recognized, supported or sought out by the political leaders. Amaechi has always been youth-oriented, while maintaining utmost humility and respect for his elders. Coming from a background of student activism, he has long believed in the potential of young people to drive change and he committed himself to the political arena at a young age. Unlike many politicians who talk down to young people or try to manipulate them during election time, Amaechi has always treated young people with respect, while also motivating them to be more active citizens. He is popular among the youth, not only because they can identify with him, given his relatively young age, but also because he has always carried them along. He continually encourages young people to abide by the law but to speak truth to power, to step up as leaders and to demand greater accountability from their elected officials. He has consistently focused on their wellbeing by making employment a priority.

He also has helped guide many young people into political life. Hardly any prominent politician in Rivers State has not come up under the tutelage of Chibuike Amaechi.

As young Nigerians become increasingly politically aware and more empowered to use their voice, they need a leader who hears them, understands them and communicates with them freely, without political spin. In Amaechi, the youth of Nigeria can find a true champion. From job creation to education, economic development to political reform, Amaechi is a leader who always has and always will advocate for their rights, their needs and their future.



## INCLUSIVITY



*Women are by far more intelligent than men. When you get to the table, assert your authority as somebody who is brilliant, who is intelligent to get what others are getting. Don't tell me you are on the table and should be given a position because you are a woman, don't ask that any seat should be set aside for you, ask for your right, it is your right.*

**C.R.A.**

Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi is widely acknowledged to be a highly inclusive leader - a value that comes from deep personal conviction rather than attempts to curry political favour.



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Amaechi also champions women at every opportunity, pushing them to run for office and to be more assertive in seizing their rightful place at the table. When possible, he intervenes directly, for example insisting that a Federal empowerment program set up to deliver no-interest loans to the unemployed, should ensure that women make up two-thirds of the beneficiaries because they are better managers of money.

Perhaps the greatest hallmark of his inclusivity was his unprecedented policy of treating all citizens of Rivers State the same and not discriminating between indigenes and non-indigenes.



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*Amaechi has set a standard that will be difficult to match. He showed the highest level of civility, exposure and advancement with the kind of policy he pursued. He eliminated the discriminatory school fees in Rivers State University of Science and Technology between indigenes and non-indigenes in line with his policy of everybody is an indigene of Rivers State. In doing that, Amaechi showed he is 100 years ahead of every state in Nigeria.*

**Ken Henshaw**  
Acting Executive Director  
of Social Integration  
Centre

## ● C.R.A.



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### **WHATEVER CAPACITY I DEPLOYED IN RIVERS STATE, STILL EXISTS IN ME.**

One of the things I heard before I became Governor of Rivers State was that, ‘he is too young, he is too rascally’, but when I came, within six months, the kidnappers were on the run. I am the first Nigerian to call them criminals. Look at what they are doing, they are killing people, and if you kill people, are you not a criminal?



## SECURITY



*We must not fail to recognize the responsibility of our elite in creating the problem of insecurity that we are facing today. In many parts of the country, the political elite failed in their responsibility to educate the majority of children of the lower classes. These children who were denied the right to education and a better life have grown up to find themselves with no other choice than to enroll in criminal undertakings such as banditry and terrorism.*

C.R.A.



Amaechi has proved that he has the courage and capability to attack the problem of insecurity head-on. When he became Governor of Rivers State in 2007, the State was under siege, citizens lived in fear, nightlife had all but disappeared and businesses had moved out. Amaechi did

not shrink back in fear or yield to attempts to placate them with amnesty or treat them as freedom fighters. He waged war on the pipeline-bombers, kidnapers, armed robbers and other miscreants who were terrorizing citizens and destroying the economy of the State.



First of all, he met with the security chiefs and laid out a plan to take back the State from the militants and cultists. He understood that it was lack of economic opportunity, specifically lack of jobs, that was creating the insecurity. So, he focused on engaging and employing the restive youth, creating thousands of jobs through diverse capital projects in education, health, agriculture and urban renewal. He invested in skills acquisition training, entrepreneurship and paid attention to their needs. He also made sure that the security apparatus was well-funded and had the resources to fight crime. Amaechi transformed the State from a hotbed of chaos and unrest into a peaceful haven.

As Minister of Transportation, Amaechi has also led with a security-first approach. From the revolutionary e-ticketing system put in place for the trains on the Lagos - Ibadan line to his efforts to support the police to secure the railways from attack, Amaechi is always ready to invest in keeping people safe. When criminals began to threaten the Abuja-Kaduna rail line, he charged his Ministry to procure Hilux vehicles to monitor the tracks and also created a collaborative railway security response that includes local patrols, civil defence,

police and the staff of the Nigerian Railway Corporation. The Ministry is also looking to invest in surveillance technology to enhance security.

In the maritime sector, he inherited a complex and challenging problem of maritime security which he has tackled in his usual proactive and persistent manner. Amaechi solicited President Buhari's support to introduce military personnel to the country's waterways to safeguard the passage of transporters and reduce criminal activities. He is also spearheading innovative approaches such as the Integrated National Security and Waterways Protection Infrastructure, known as the Deep Blue Project.

The Deep Blue Project is designed to protect Nigerian territorial waters and the Gulf of Guinea from piracy and other maritime crimes. It involves the acquisition of assets, such as fast intervention vessels, surveillance aircraft, and other facilities, including a command and control centre for data collection and information sharing, as well as training of personnel from the security services to man the assets.

Amaechi's significant efforts to secure the waterways have garnered international attention and appreciation:



*We commend the Minister and the Ministry's initiative and the relentless implementation of the project, also because it increases the Maritime Security of Nigeria especially in the groundwater but also it contributes to the regional security and stability of the International community.*

**Choi Jong Kun**

1st Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea, ROK

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*This is in recognition for his role in the introduction and implementation of Deep Blue security project which has led to a marked reduction of the incidences of piracy at sea and overall improvement of maritime security across the Gulf of Guinea.*

**Statement from the Africa Blue Economy Forum (ABEF)**

which nominated Amaechi as Champion of Maritime Security in February 2022



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*If as a Minister he was able to translate President Buhari's agenda to reality on the scale which he did one can only wonder the extent to which he will perform when given the opportunity to pilot the affairs of Nigeria.*

**Comrade Bilal Dakiyak**

National Coordinator,  
Coalition of Northern  
Youth for Good  
Governance

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*President Buhari prays that the almighty God will position [Chibuike Amaechi] for greater glory, and grant him more opportunities to serve the country and humanity.*

**Birthday Message from  
President Muhammadu  
Buhari**

May 27, 2020







*There is no doubt that you have made an indelible mark on the sand of time as far as Nigeria's political and governance history is concerned.*

**Alhaji Nasiru Haladu Danu**

The Dan Amanar of Dutse

**Rt. Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi has spent the last 23 years doing his best to improve the lives of Nigerians.**

From his days as a student leader, to representing his local government, to serving in the State Assembly, to becoming Speaker of the State Assembly, elected Governor for 8 years, then Minister of Transport for 7 years so far, his meteoric rise has been propelled by a track record of performance.

In every role he has held in public service, Amaechi has excelled. He has worked tirelessly to reduce unemployment, increase security, diversify and strengthen the economy, uplift the poor, improve education and provide a better life for his people. In the current Administration, he has spearheaded the massive infrastructure development - from airport reconstruction to huge rail projects and revitalization of the maritime sector - that have been the major successes of President Buhari's government.



The next few years of our nation's history will be shaped by the ability of the man or woman in Aso Rock to develop and execute a transformative plan for Nigeria and its future. Amaechi is a big thinker who can bring innovative solutions to the social, economic and political challenges facing our nation. He knows how to build winning teams and galvanize people into action. He is a bridge builder, a detribalized Nigerian who has forged alliances all around the country - a critical trait at a time where rising ethnic divisions threatens the nation's stability. He is a seasoned and savvy politician who will be able to manage the delicate relationships between the different arms of government. He has also proved himself to be a man that can do much with little and who is not afraid to take bold steps to achieve the desired results.

If Amaechi joins the Presidential race, he will offer both the benefits of continuity - the ability to sustain and consolidate the gains of the current Administration - and the promise of a new tomorrow, with fresh ideas, youthful energy, tenacity and drive.

Amaechi represents hope - the possibility of a country in which the doors of opportunity are open to all irrespective of tribe, religion or social standing.

Amaechi represents vision - a narrative that inspires every citizen to believe in the great promise and potential of this nation. Amaechi represents action - a man who has proved himself capable of dealing with the burning issues of the day - insecurity, economic reform, youth unemployment and education. Amaechi represents what Nigeria needs now - a results-oriented leader with the intellect, experience and skill to lead this country into its next phase of growth and development.

Amaechi represents



**HOPE**

Amaechi represents



**VISION**

Amaechi represents  
what Nigeria needs



**NOW**

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This document has been put together by THE SECRETARIAT a group of concerned citizens committed to supporting the emergence of the best candidate for President in the February 2023 general elections.

After careful consideration of potential candidates and thorough analysis of Nigeria's current social, political and economic state, we believe that Rt. Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi has the right combination of intellect, prodigious work ethic and experience to move Nigeria forward.

The aim of this document is to help you make an informed decision. If Amaechi does choose to contest in the Presidential elections and becomes his party's flag bearer, we hope that this documents convinces you to support his ticket. Above all, we hope that you exercise your democratic rights and show up at the polls to vote. Whether you vote for Amaechi or not (assuming he is on the ballot), your participation in the electoral process constitutes a win for our growing democracy.

**Aim of this document is to help you make an informed decision**

## February 2023 general elections

Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi has the right combination of:



**INTELLECT**



**EXPERIENCE**



**PRODIGIOUS WORK  
ETHIC**

**to move Nigeria forward.**





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**WE MUST GIVE MEANING TO DEMOCRACY SO THAT EVERY NIGERIAN CAN FIND A PLACE AND A VOICE IN A LAND OF FREE MEN AND WOMEN.**

We must deploy our diversity to increase our strength. We must make our streets and highways, and now forests and farmlands, safe again for all Nigerians to fulfill their individual dreams of a good life so that, together, we can actualize the manifest destiny of this blessed land.

● **C.R.A.**