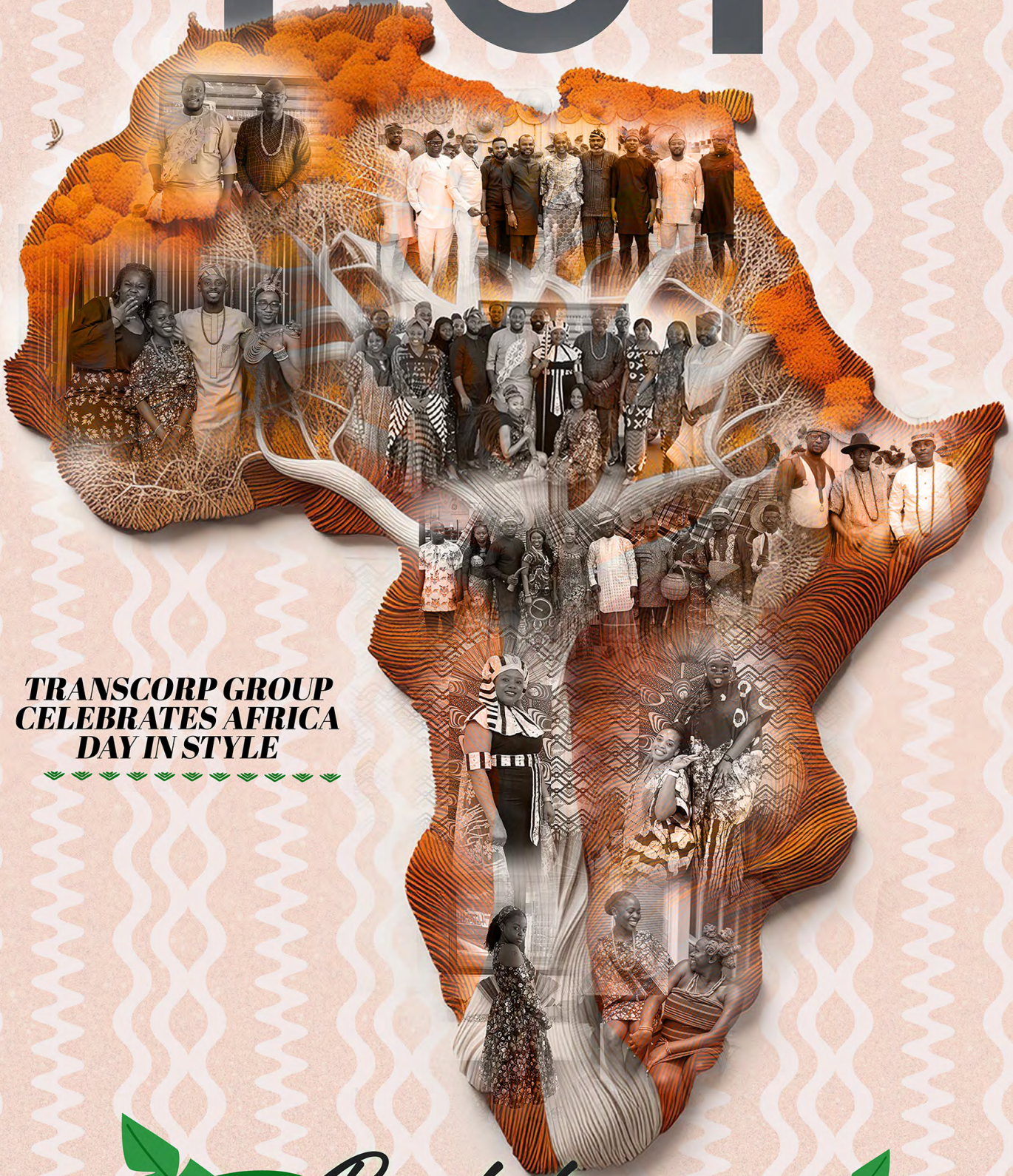


JULY 2024

15TH EDITION

DIGITAL COVER

HOT



**TRANSCORP GROUP
CELEBRATES AFRICA
DAY IN STYLE**



Back to our
ROOTS

EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome to a special edition of HOT magazine, aptly titled "Back to Our Roots." This issue is all about taking a much-needed trip down memory lane to our beloved Africa and the cherished moments of our childhood.

As we turn these pages, we're reminded of the simple joys and rich traditions that shaped us. Each story here is a piece of our shared memory, bringing to life the sights, sounds, and tastes that made our youth so special. From the aroma of home-cooked meals wafting through our homes to the lively sounds of children playing in the streets, this edition is a celebration of our past.

These nostalgic memories will warm our hearts—and inspire us to bring the spirit of Africa into everything we do at Transcorp. As you read through, I hope you feel a sense of warmth and familiarity.

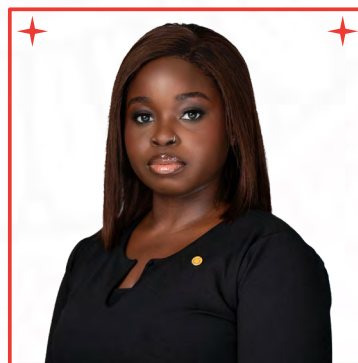
Thank you for being part of this journey. Enjoy the read, and let the memories carry you back to the heart of Africa.

Sincerely,

Deshola Shittu
Editor-in-Chief



Editor & Content Director
Nneka Onita



Art & Creative Director
Damilola Alade



Contributor
Obianuju Onyekedi



Contributor
Gift Oziri

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**A Hymn of
Distraction: The
'New' Nigerian
National Anthem**



When the news broke that Nigeria was switching back to its old national anthem, “Nigeria, We Hail Thee,” my first thought was, “This country and missing the point entirely be like 5&6!” And honestly, it sounds more like a hymn you’d hear on a sleepy Sunday morning from the church next door than a rousing call to national pride. Let’s look at the lyrics for this “symphony”.

*Nigeria, we hail thee,
Our own dear native land,
Though tribe and tongue may differ,
In brotherhood, we stand,
Nigerians all, and proud to serve
Our sovereign Motherland.*

First of all, the lyrics. They talk about unity and brotherhood, which is all well and good. But let’s be real – this “song” is the least of our problems. While we’re busy tuning our vocal cords, inflation is the worst it has ever been, and insecurity is doing legwork to the beat.

A SYMPHONY OF MISPLACED PRIORITIES

Why, you ask, did we decide to rewind to this old tune? Proponents argue that it better represents our unity and foundational values. But many Nigerians are scratching their heads, wondering if this was really the most pressing issue on the table. We can’t eat patriotism, o!

The anthem does have its supporters, those who get misty-eyed with nostalgia. But then there are those like former education minister Oby Ezekwesili and activist Aisha Yesufu, who are less than impressed. Ezekwesili pointed out that terms like “native land” and “tribes” feel a bit dated – as if we’re living in a sepia-toned past, and I totally agree.

THE CONTROVERSIAL CHORUS

The chorus, while aimed at uniting us, feels a bit like an awkward family reunion. It’s got lines like “Our flag shall be a symbol that truth and justice reign,” which sound great, but it’s hard to sing with a straight face when you’re worried about a crate of egg costing up to N5k now, power outages and traffic jams.

SO, WHAT DO WE MAKE OF “NIGERIA, WE HAIL THEE”?

It’s a hymn-like throwback that might warm the hearts of some and perplex others like me. In the end, maybe we should have focused on the more significant issues first. But at least now, while we’re thinking about the ever-rising pound and dollar rates, we’ll have a new (old) anthem to hum to ourselves to make us feel better.



It’s a hymn-like throwback that might warm the hearts of some and perplex others like me.



11 Unwritten Nigerian Cultural Practices

As a kid growing up in Nigeria, there were many things we were told not to do or things that would happen if you did certain things. As an adult reflecting on them, many of them were unnecessary, while some others were just outright ludicrous. Regardless of where you are from or where you grew up, I can guarantee that you've heard at least one of these unwritten "rules" or cultural practices, as I have chosen to call them.

1. DON'T GIVE AN ELDER SOMETHING WITH YOUR LEFT HAND

In Nigeria, and to a large extent, Africa, handing something to an elder with your left hand is considered extremely disrespectful. Even left-handed individuals don't get a pass, why are you even left-handed? Your grandma didn't try to correct that? It's generally seen as a sign of disregard for the elder's respected status.

2. SUNDAY RICE

Almost every Nigerian household has a beloved tradition of cooking rice on Sundays. It's such a staple that even visitors are often greeted with a steaming plate of jollof rice, fried rice or rice and stew. Sundays feel a bit like Christmas, with everyone busy preparing their rice dishes. If a family skips this tradition, it can feel like something is missing.

3. HAVING BOTH HANDS ON YOUR HEAD

Placing both hands on your head is a sign of distress or bad luck. If someone sees you doing this, they'll likely rush over to check if everything is alright. It's an unwritten rule that you don't casually rest your hands on your head, reflecting the unique nuances of Nigerian customs.

4. DO NOT BEND AND LOOK BETWEEN YOUR LEGS IN THE MARKET

Children in Nigeria are often warned not to bend and look between their legs in the market. The superstition says you might see spirits walking upside down. Though it sounds spooky and funny, none of us dared to test it out, avoiding the risk of a ghostly encounter.

5. EATING YOUR MEAT AFTER FINISHING YOUR FOOD

Saving your meat for the end of the meal is like saving the best for last. It's a quirky tradition where the meat is seen as the grand prize after finishing your food. Though the origin of this practice is unknown, it remains a cherished habit across the country.

6. LOOKING INTO THE EYES OF AN ELDER

Direct eye contact with an elder, especially during a scolding, is considered highly disrespectful in Nigeria. Avoiding direct gaze shows humility and acknowledges the elder's authority.

7. LAST BORN DOING THE DISHES

In many Nigerian homes, the youngest child often has the responsibility of washing the dishes. Once they are old enough, it becomes their task, especially if the youngest is a girl. This tradition, while it might seem unfair, teaches responsibility and is a playful part of family life.

8. DO NOT CONTRIBUTE WHEN ELDERS ARE TALKING

Interrupting or contributing to a conversation among elders without being asked is a major taboo in Nigerian culture. It's considered a sign of disrespect and poor upbringing. Even if you know more about the topic, you must wait for an invitation to speak.

9. COMMUNICATING WITH EYE SIGNALS

Nigerian parents are experts in non-verbal communication, especially with their children. When visiting someone's home, a mother's eyes can say a lot more than her words. A child quickly learns to understand these signals, often meaning the difference between accepting food or facing a future beating.

10. NO FIRST NAME APPROACH

Respect for elders in Nigeria means using titles instead of first names. You'll hear people addressing others as Uncle, Aunty, or Brother, regardless of blood relation. This cultural twist emphasizes honour and respect, turning every interaction into a familial affair.

11. DECLARING MONEY RECEIVED FROM UNCLES & AUNTIES

If you like don't declare it, they will collect it from you. As a child, our parents felt we had no need for money so they would take it to "keep it for us". If your parents ever found out that you were gifted money and hid it from them, you'd definitely get into trouble.




Regardless of where you are from or where you grew up, I can guarantee that you've heard at least one of these unwritten "rules" or cultural practices.



What it means to be a Human of Transcorp





You're going to do work beyond your job description.

You're going to have a love-hate relationship with your job.

You're going to have meetings that could've definitely been an email.

You're going to receive gbas gbos, even for things that don't concern you.

Your friends & family will think you're earning an armed robber salary, and in some cases, it's true.

You're going to have nights where you can't sleep because you have a ridiculous deadline to meet.

But,

You're going to meet some of the most amazing people ever and make friends for life.

You're going to learn so much that you'll be a star wherever you go next.

You're going to have opportunities to grow if you stretch yourself.

You're going to make memories that last a lifetime.

You're going to eat a lot, and I mean a whole lot.

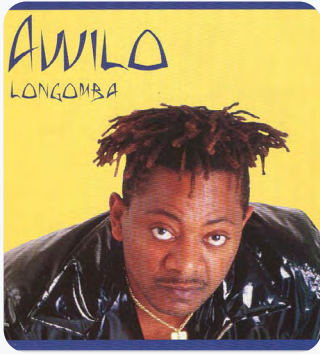
You're going to work hard and play harder.



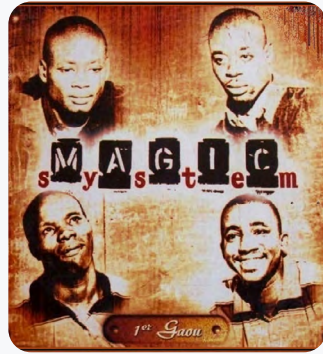
You're going to work hard and play harder.



Songs That Had Us in a Chokehold During Our Childhood



Awilo Longomba
Coupé Bibamba



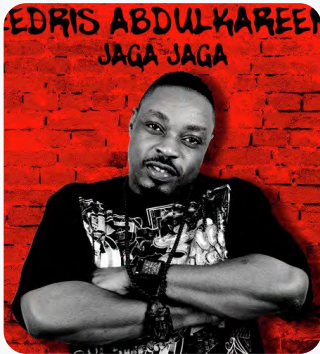
Magic System
Premiere Gaou



Brenda Fassie
Vulindlela



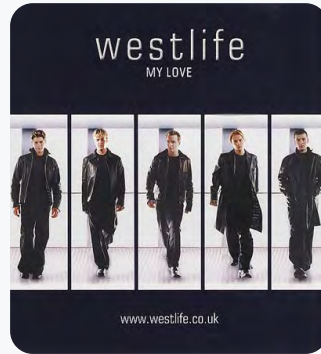
Tony Tetuila
You Don Bash My Car



Edris Abdulkareem
Nigeria Jaga Jaga



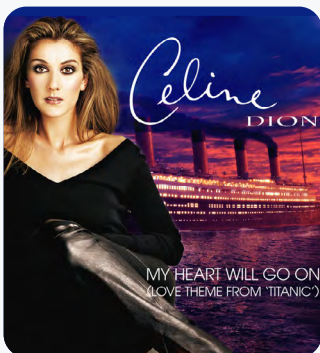
Lagbaja
Kokomma (Koko Below)



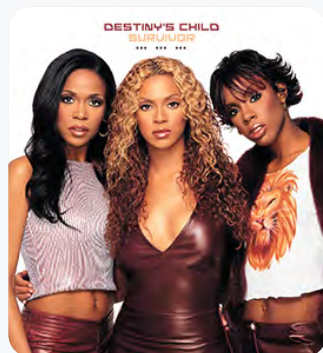
Westlife
My Love



Backstreet Boys
I Want It That Way



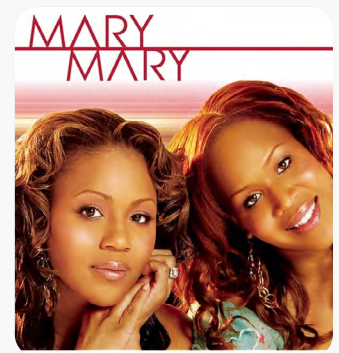
Celine Dion
My Heart Will Go On



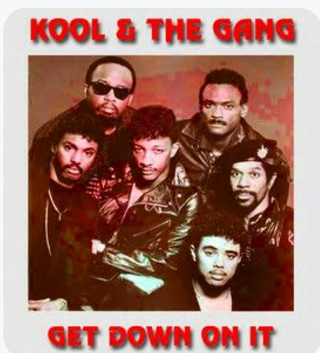
Destiny's Child
Survivor



TLC
No Scrubs



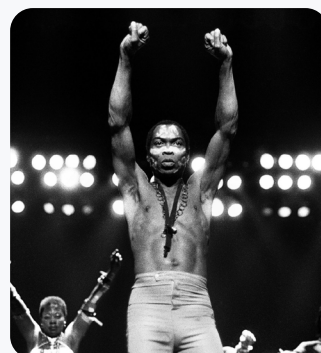
Mary Mary
Shackles (Praise You)



Kool & The Gang
Get Down on It



Michael Jackson
Thriller



Fela Kuti
Water no get enemy



Plantashun boiz
somebody say



10 Unusual Foods Eaten In Africa

AFRICA, is a continent filled with vibrant cultures, stunning landscapes, and a culinary scene that's just as diverse. While many of us are familiar with dishes like jollof rice, injera, and biltong, there's a whole world of unique and surprising foods waiting to be discovered. In this article, we're diving into the lesser-known corners of African cuisine to highlight ten unusual foods that are as fascinating as they are delicious.

BLOOD

I used to think drinking blood was strictly a vampire thing until I learned that some Africans include it in their meals. At least they consume animal blood, not human blood. The Maasai tribe of Kenya has a unique way of getting their daily dose of iron directly from cows. They extract blood and consume it in various ways: raw, cooked, or mixed with milk. The Maasai carefully cut the cow's jugular artery to collect the blood without killing the animal. This blood mixture is believed to have healing properties and is given to the sick. It is also used as a ceremonial drink to symbolize unity within the community.



WII WII, NWOGU OR OLOLO

As a child in eastern Nigeria, I joined my relatives in hunting for a creature we called "wii wii." This insect is incredibly sensitive to high-pitched sounds. While perched in trees, we would call its name with a high-pitched "wiiii," causing it to vibrate and fall to the ground.

The Igbo people believed that wii wii could cure kwashiorkor during the Biafran genocide of 1967-1970. My grandma would fry it and sauce it with palm oil and onions, enjoying it with boiled or roasted yam. Some people added it to soups for a protein boost, while others ate it as a fried snack. I never liked the look or smell of wii wii, so I can't speak to its taste.



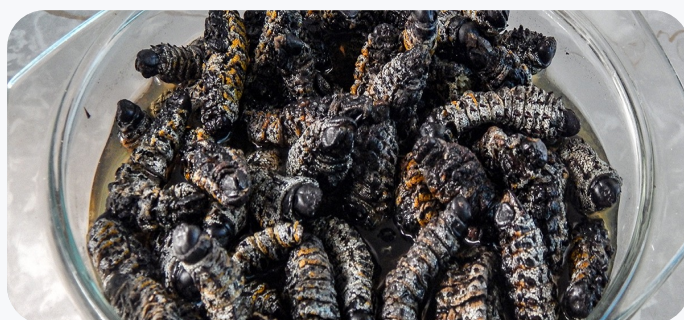
WINGED TERMITES

Picture this: it's the rainy season in the East, and excitement fills the air. As night falls, winged termites are irresistibly drawn to our glowing light bulbs, creating a swarm. Armed with long brooms, we trap them in baskets, buckets, or basins of water. Once captured, these termites get a sunbath until they are perfectly dried, then fried with a pinch of salt. I've had this treat countless times, and if you haven't tried it yet, you're missing out! These tasty termite snacks are popular not just in Nigeria, but also in other parts of Africa like Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Malawi. So why not give them a try?



MOPANE WORMS

Never thought humans would eat worms? In South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana, and Zambia, there's a wild love for caterpillars. Yep, you heard that right! These aren't your average squiggly worms; they are caterpillars from the emperor moth family. But wait, the Bemba people in Zambia take caterpillar fandom to a whole new level. They even have a special name for these delicacies: "Ifinkubala." It's like they have their own VIP club for these crunchy crawlies.



SNAKES

Africa, oh Africa! We sure know how to embrace the wild side of life. Imagine this: we munch on the very snake that, according to legend, put us on the path of toil and labor. How's that for irony? Word on the street is that snake meat tastes just like fish. We season it just right and either fry it up or roast it to golden perfection. Fear of venom? Not here! Many Africans savor this cold-blooded treat without a hint of hesitation.



PALM WEEVIL LARVAE

Worms again? You bet! After harvesting the palm wine from the palm tree, we let the tree rot away. What comes next? A delightful surprise—big, juicy worms known as "Akokuno." These wriggly treats are flawlessly sauced up, roasted, and devoured as a mouthwatering delicacy. I've tried them, and you should too.



LIZARDS AND WALL GECKOS

Eating lizards and wall geckos might sound unusual, but it's a cherished tradition in many parts of Africa. In Nigeria, it's believed that munching on wall geckos can cure bedwetting, so many children were given these little reptiles as snacks. Agama lizards were especially popular during the civil war when food was scarce. Today, these creatures are still enjoyed, though not as frequently, by adventurous kids in rural areas. The lizards are usually roasted, making for a sweet and daring treat.



GRASSHOPPERS

Grasshoppers are eaten across Africa, and for good reason! These protein-packed insects are a true delight. Traditionally, they are roasted or fried until crispy and then spiced up. Imagine a snack that is both nutritious and delicious—that's the magic of grasshoppers! In many African communities, catching grasshoppers is a fun activity. If you're feeling adventurous, give grasshoppers a try—you might just find your new favorite snack!



MONKEYS

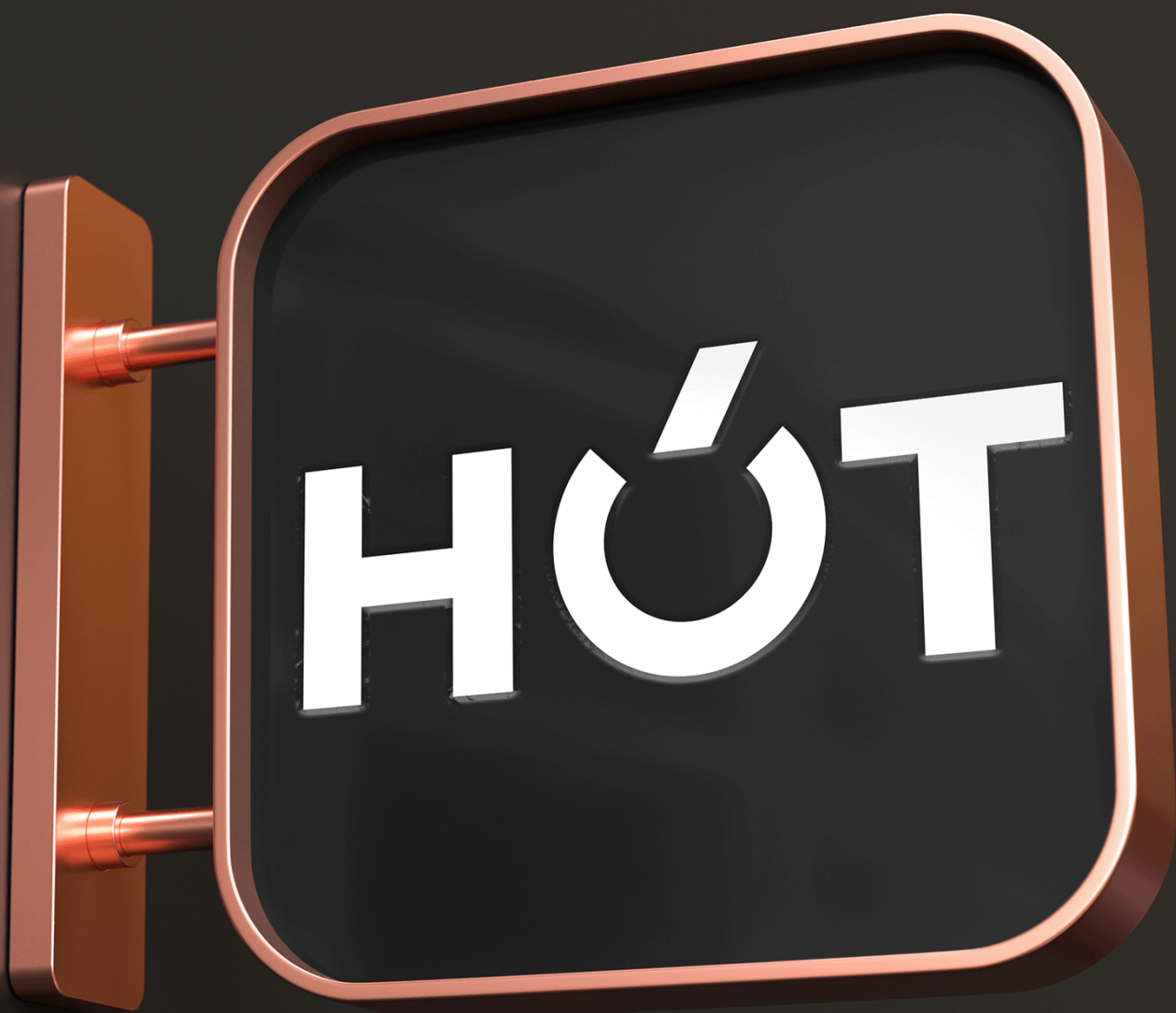
Monkeys! These mischievous critters make me wonder if eating them turns you into a little troublemaker yourself... "lol". Despite their stubborn nature and the risks of disease transmission due to our close genetic ties, monkeys have long been a staple bush meat in many parts of Africa. Even today, many Africans enjoy monkey meat without a second thought about potential health risks. Whether roasted or cooked, this unusual delicacy continues to be a part of the culinary adventure!



PEACOCKS


"Why settle for chickens when you can feast on peacocks?" you might wonder. Shouldn't these majestic birds be left to flaunt their stunning plumage and maintain their beauty forever? Well, it turns out peacocks are not just a remarkable sight—they're also surprisingly tasty when cooked just right. Many Africans relish this unique delicacy, whether served with stew or simply fried.





Fresh Off the Boat





Our new Humans of Transcorp share their first impressions of Transcorp Group.

Daniel Ogbonna, Corporate Services Officer, Transcorp Plc

I saw that there is a good prospect for career growth and opportunities.

Gift Oziri, Corp Member, Transcorp Plc

Transcorp is a very organised firm and a place for growth. They also care about the wellbeing of their staff. And the people here are friendly.

Mary Oke, Legal Officer, Transcorp Plc

It struck me as a well-structured and fast paced environment. While delivering on excellence, you also must be timely with execution.

Chiazam Iwunoh, Finance Manager, Transcorp Plc

My first day at Transcorp Plc left a great impression on me! The office had such a welcoming and professional vibe, what stood out the most though, were the colleagues I met – they were incredibly helpful.

Lateef Muriana, Corp Member, Transcorp Plc

My first impression of Transcorp was incredibly positive. I was immediately struck by the amazing working environment and how welcoming everyone was. From day one, the team made me feel like a valued member, and the collaborative culture here is truly inspiring.

Feyisola Akinloye, Corp Member, Transcorp Plc

My first impression about Transcorp was the work environment and culture, it felt like a place where I could learn and grow in an environment that's conducive and void of toxicity.

Sade Fagbola, Head, Supply Chain Management

A place of great opportunities and challenges but most rewarding.

Toyosi Sanni, Corp Member, Transcorp Hotels Plc

It was a very welcoming environment, everyone was willing to help and they were friendly, but also everyone is hardworking and passionate as well so, that also motivates you.

Roland Asemu, Mechanical Engineer, Transcorp Power Plc

I had the impression that this is a passionate organization, a goal-oriented group, with a strong value to maintain and uphold the society. There are always Targets to achieve so all EYES ARE ON THE BALL And NO SLACKING.

Femi Sami, CFO, Transafam Power

I was struck by the company's dynamic and forward-thinking nature with strong focus on growth and development coupled with the diverse portfolio of businesses and its commitment to excellence in all aspects.



Ojude Oba: More Than A Yoruba Met Gala

Ojude Oba is the festival that had the internet in a chokehold for the remainder of Eid Week 2024. Though practiced for decades amongst the Ijebus of Yoruba land, the scintillating festival caught the eye of the general public last year, when popular content creator, Niyi Fagbemi released a video which captured and perfectly celebrated the regal essence of Ojude Oba, Ijebu and its people. The illustrious festival celebrated by the Ijebu people of southwestern Nigeria stands as a celebration of the diverse cultural heritage of the Yoruba people. The phrase "Ojude Oba" translates to "The King's Forecourt," highlighting the festival's deep connection to the monarchy. The origins of Ojude Oba date back over a century to the late 19th century when Islam began to gain prominence among the Ijebu people. The festival was initially established as a platform for the Muslim community to pay homage to the Awujale, the paramount ruler of Ijebuland, following the Eid-el-Kabir (Sallah) celebrations. Over the years, this tradition has evolved, embracing people of all faiths and becoming a grand cultural festival that showcases the unity and diversity of the Ijebu people.

EVOLUTION INTO A CULTURAL EXTRAVAGANZA

Today, Ojude Oba has transcended its religious roots to become a spectacular cultural and social event, akin to the Yoruba Met Gala. Held annually on the third day after Eid-el-Kabir, the festival draws thousands of Ijebu indigenes and visitors from all over the world to the city of Ijebu-Ode. The celebration is marked by a series of activities, including parades, traditional dances, music performances, and the famous regberegbe (age-grade) competitions. The regberegbe, a system of grouping people according to their age, plays a crucial role in the festival, cultivating a sense of togetherness and friendship.

One of the most striking features of Ojude Oba is the elaborate display of fashion. Attendees, dressed in dazzling traditional Yoruba attire, compete to outshine one another in a vibrant spectacle of colours, patterns, and styles. This aspect of the festival has drawn comparisons to the Met Gala, with its emphasis on fashion as a form of cultural expression. Just as the Met Gala serves as a platform for celebrities and designers to showcase their creativity, Ojude Oba provides an avenue for the Yoruba people to display their rich cultural heritage through their attire.

THE FESTIVAL TODAY: A BLEND OF TRADITION AND MODERNITY

In contemporary times, Ojude Oba has seamlessly blended tradition with modernity. The festival's venue, the expansive Awujale Palace grounds, transforms into a carnival-like setting, featuring food stalls, arts and crafts exhibitions, and various forms of entertainment. From traditional dances, such as the Bata and Eyo, to the rhythmic beats of the Dundun and Gangan drums, indigenes and high-profile guests, including politicians, business moguls, and celebrities, are ushered into this gracious event, adding a different aura to the festivities.

The highlight of the festival is the grand durbar, where elegantly dressed horse riders who are descendants of the Balogun dynasty, representing different regberegbe groups, parade before the Awujale in a display of horsemanship and pageantry. This spectacle is reminiscent of the Met Gala's red carpet, where fashion and artistry converge to create a mesmerizing visual feast. The durbar not only showcases the riders' skills but also symbolizes the historical significance of horses in Yoruba culture, representing power, nobility, and prestige.

Moreover, Ojude Oba has become a platform for promoting social causes and community development. The festival often features speeches and initiatives aimed at addressing social issues, fostering education, and encouraging youth empowerment. This aspect of Ojude Oba mirrors the philanthropic endeavours associated with the Met Gala, where proceeds from the event support the Costume Institute at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Ojude Oba, with its roots in religious tradition, has blossomed into a grand cultural festival that encapsulates the essence of the Ijebu people's heritage. The festival's evolution into a vibrant display of, music, fashion, unity, heritage and community spirit has earned it the moniker of the Yoruba Met Gala. As Ojude Oba continues to attract global attention, it exemplifies the enduring cultural legacy and steeze of the Yoruba people and their ability to blend tradition with contemporary influences. Through its celebration of fashion, artistry, and communal values, Ojude Oba honours the past and also paves the way for a vibrant and inclusive future.



The festival was initially established as a platform for the Muslim community to pay homage to the Awujale, the paramount ruler of Ijebuland, following the Eid-el-Kabir (Sallah) celebrations.



**What's the deal
with Alte?**

Alte, short for “alternative,” is more than a genre of music in Nigeria; it’s a cultural movement redefining creativity in the country. Originating from a desire to break free from the mainstream, Alte represents a fusion of diverse influences, styles, and philosophies that challenge the conventional norms of art and culture.

The Alte movement began to take shape in the early 2010s, gaining momentum as a counterculture to the dominant Afrobeat and Afropop scenes. Pioneers like BOJ, Cruel Santino (formerly Santi, Ozzy B), and Odunsi (The Engine) sought to create a space where individuality and experimentation were celebrated. Drawing inspiration from global music trends, as well as local sounds, these artists crafted a unique blend that is eclectic and genre-defying.

AESTHETIC AND STYLE

Alte is as much about visuals and fashion as it is about sound. The aesthetic is characterised by a do-it-yourself approach, vintage clothing, and an embrace of Afrocentric and futuristic elements. This visual style is often captured in the music videos and personal branding of Alte artists, who use fashion to express their individuality and challenge stereotypes. Social media has played a significant role in the proliferation of the Alte movement.

SOUND AND MUSICALITY

Before I get deep into sound, have you listened to Cruel Santino’s Mandy & The Jungle? No? What have you been doing for five years? The replay value of that body of work is phenomenal. The sound of Alte is incredibly diverse, incorporating elements of R&B, soul, hip-hop, electronic music, and traditional African rhythms. This genre fluidity is amazing, the lyrics tend to be introspective and personal, reflecting themes of identity, love, and societal issues.

CULTURAL IMPACT

The impact of Alte extends beyond music, influencing fashion, art, and even social norms in Nigeria. It encourages young people to embrace their individuality and express themselves authentically. This has led to a broader acceptance of diverse lifestyles and perspectives, challenging traditional views on gender, sexuality, and creativity.

Moreover, the Alte movement has put Nigeria on the global cultural map in a new way. While Afrobeat has been Nigeria’s most significant musical export, Alte presents a different facet of Nigerian creativity, one that resonates with global audiences seeking fresh and innovative sounds.

CHALLENGES AND CRITICISMS

Despite its growing popularity, the Alte movement faces its share of challenges. Critics argue that it remains niche and struggles to achieve mainstream commercial success. Additionally, the movement’s emphasis on Western influences has sparked debates about cultural authenticity and the preservation of traditional Nigerian music and art forms.

THE FUTURE OF ALTE

The future of Alte looks promising as more artists continue to push boundaries and explore new creative territories. Rema’s new album; HEIS for example is a new and alternative sound, an offshoot from Afrobeats called AfroRave. With increasing global recognition and a dedicated fan base, Alte is poised to remain a significant and influential force in Nigeria’s culture.

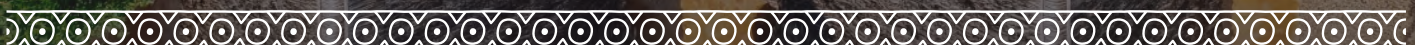
Alte is a dynamic and evolving movement that celebrates creativity, individuality, and the breaking of conventions. It creates a refreshing alternative to the mainstream, inviting both creators and audiences to explore and embrace the full spectrum of artistic expression in Nigeria.



Rema’s new album; HEIS for example is a new and alternative sound, an offshoot from Afrobeats called AfroRave.



Affordable vacation spots in Africa



Welcome to Africa, home to many affordable vacation spots that promise unforgettable experiences. Here are some budget-friendly destinations that should be on your travel radar.

BAOBAB AFRICA LODGE ZANZIBAR (Tanzania)

Zanzibar, with its breathtaking beauty and affordability, is a top destination in Africa. With over 70 aesthetically pleasing hotels, Zanzibar promises an unforgettable vacation without draining your wallet. You can enjoy this tropical paradise for under a million naira, ensuring an experiential getaway like no other.

Located in Mtende, just 35 km from Zanzibar Butterfly Centre, Baobab Africa Lodge offers an outdoor swimming pool, a beautiful beach, a garden, a terrace, and free private parking. With a budget of less than a million naira, you're in for an experiential vacation.

Cost: NGN 127,068 per night

TIADE BOUTIQUE HOTEL (Tanzania)

Situated in Pwani Mchangani, a mere 300 meters from Pwani Mchangani Beach, Tiade Boutique Hotel provides comfortable accommodation with an outdoor swimming pool, free private parking, a garden, and a terrace. Guests have free access to nearby beaches.

Cost: NGN 106,548 per night

STAYEASY CENTURY CITY (South Africa)

Cape Town offers luxurious yet affordable escapes. With over a thousand hotels, this stunning city is perfect for a relaxing getaway without breaking the bank. Yes, you can enjoy the splendours of Cape Town within a one-million-naira budget.

Located 11 km from CTICC, StayEasy Century City offers accommodations with an outdoor swimming pool, free private parking, a garden, and a shared lounge. This luxurious hotel is perfect for relieving stress.

Cost: NGN 123,801.43 per night.

THE BANTRY APARTHOTEL BY TOTALSTAY (South Africa)

Nestled between the V&A Waterfront and Camps Bay, The Bantry Aparthotel by Totalstay offers self-catering suites

with air conditioning and more. This superb location is worth trying.

Cost: NGN 117,781.49 per night.

N1 HOTEL VICTORIA FALLS (Zimbabwe)

Explore the majestic Victoria Falls with affordable accommodations that don't skimp on comfort. Located in Victoria Falls town, this budget hotel offers clean and simple rooms close to restaurants and shops. Situated at Adam Stander Drive 266, Victoria Falls, Matabeleland North, this hotel ensures you have a swell time within a budget of one million naira.

KISIMBI BEACH RESORT (Ghana)

Accra provides affordable beachfront getaways with cultural and natural charm. Located on the banks of the Volta River near Ada Foah, Kisimbi Beach Resort offers affordable beachfront cottages and rooms. It's ideal for water activities like boating and jet skiing. Visit Kisimbi Beach Resort with you family and friends and thank me later.

LA CAMPAGNE TROPICANA BEACH RESORT (Nigeria)

Lagos combines vibrant city life with relaxing beach escapes. This resort offers beachfront chalets and villas with traditional African decor. Known for its private beach, beautiful ambiance, cultural activities, and proximity to Lekki Conservation Centre, La Campagne Tropicana Beach Resort ensures a luxurious experience within a one-million-naira budget.

EPE RESORT AND SPA (Nigeria)

Surrounded by lush gardens and overlooking a serene lake, Epe Resort and Spa features chalets and cottages that offer a tranquil atmosphere, spa services, and activities like horse riding and boat cruises. This resort guarantees a relaxing getaway.

Whether you're exploring historical sites, enjoying water sports, or simply relaxing, these destinations provide an unforgettable escape without breaking the bank. Pack your bags and get ready to explore the diverse and beautiful landscapes Africa has to offer.



While I recognise that these three tribes, I do not understand the myopic view of people who try to classify every Nigerian under these three buckets.



**More Than Igbo,
Hausa, and Yoruba.**

I remember moving to Lagos and wondering why everywhere I went, people would try to speak to me in Yoruba. When I would point out that I did not understand what they were saying, I was told to learn. While learning multiple languages is a great way to integrate and relate with our fellow Nigerian brothers and sisters, the tone at which I was told to learn was very reminiscent of the way Republicans, Texans, and frankly Trump supporters would demand foreigners who have migrated to America and aren't too fluent in English to "learn the language."

I thought Lagos was a cosmopolitan city with a diverse population, cultural dynamism, and a global outlook?

And when I was not being scolded to learn Yoruba, I was being forced to accept a tribe that wasn't mine.

"Where are you from?"

"I'm from Rivers State."

"So, you're an Igbo girl."

"No, I'm an Ijaw girl."

"Ehn, Igbo, Ijaw, all the same."

"No, they're not."

"If you're not Yoruba, you're Igbo or Hausa."

"..."

This is a real conversation I've had before, with variations of it way too many times. If I'm being honest, I never really cared about tribe until I moved to Lagos. I knew where I was from and I loved my culture, but I didn't carry it on my head. It was not my entire identity; I was simply Nigerian. However, living here has radicalised me to the point where I want you to know where I am from because my identity as an Ijaw woman will not be erased.

While I recognise that these three tribes, dubbed the big three, are the largest tribes, I do not understand the myopic view of people who try to classify every Nigerian under these three buckets. You're already large, no one is dragging it with you, but why do things that further erase other tribes?

Sometimes, there is no malicious intent, but we do things that inadvertently relegate other tribes. I will give you an

example. For Africa Day, we planned a cooking competition, and the mandate was that we pick 3 - 5 food options from different tribes. Please tell me why the food options all fell into Yoruba, Igbo, and Hausa foods? There's literally no Hausa person in the office but somehow the options automatically fell under these categories. In usual fashion, I pushed back since we all want to carry tribe on our heads.

It didn't even have to be an Ijaw option. Why not Efik? Urhobo? Or any of the other various tribes in Nigeria? Why not give others an opportunity to shine? Have you ever wondered about the untold stories of Nigeria's lesser-known tribes? In a country often defined by the dominant tribes, there is a world of cultural richness waiting to be explored.

Nigeria is home to over 250 ethnic groups, each with its own unique traditions, languages, and histories. From the artistic prowess of the Tiv people to the seafaring heritage of the Itsekiri, these smaller tribes contribute to the colourful mosaic that defines Nigeria. However, their voices and stories are often overshadowed by the narratives of the big three. It is essential to recognise and celebrate the diversity that exists within our nation. We preserve the rich cultural heritage of these smaller tribes and create a sense of unity.

Imagine a Nigeria where every tribe, regardless of its size, is given the platform to showcase its traditions and contributions. This is a Nigeria where we see beyond the dominant narratives and appreciate the full spectrum of our cultural wealth.

So, the next time you find yourself in a discussion about tribes, remember that Nigeria is more than just Yoruba, Igbo, and Hausa. Make a conscious effort to learn about and celebrate the other tribes that make up our nation. If we must see tribe, let us recognise that there is a whole world beyond the big three, a world that deserves to be acknowledged and appreciated. Let us embrace our diversity and use it as a strength to build a more united and inclusive Nigeria.



While I recognise that these three tribes, I do not understand the myopic view of people who try to classify every Nigerian under these three buckets.



The Impact of African Diaspora on Global Culture

The term “African Diaspora” refers to the migration and dispersion of people of African descent to various parts of the world, far from their homeland. This movement dates back to the era of the slave trade when countless Africans were forcibly transported and sold in foreign countries. Many historical accounts consider this period the origin of the term “African diaspora.” Despite the hardships, African communities managed to preserve their culture, maintaining their traditions even in difficult circumstances.

As a proud Nigerian, I would like to discuss the impact of the African Diaspora without focusing solely on Nigeria. While it’s impossible to list all the contributions of the African Diaspora to global culture, here are a few significant ones:

CARNIVALS

Carnivals are a prime example of the Diaspora’s cultural influence. Initially rooted in the Caribbean, these vibrant celebrations have spread worldwide. Known for their colourful and culturally rich displays, carnivals attract tourists who revel in elaborate costumes, bold hairstyles, and festive parades. Visitors are able to gain a deeper understanding of Caribbean culture and the history behind these celebrations beyond the spectacle.

MUSIC

The influence of the African Diaspora on music is profound. Today, it’s rare to hear a song without African-inspired rhythms and flows. This diverse musical heritage has brought creativity across genres. Afrobeats from Nigeria and Ghana has captivated listeners worldwide, and Amapiano from South Africa continues to inspire dance floors globally. Even house music, which started in Chicago, shows traces of African American influence, particularly from West Africa. Jazz blends Caribbean sounds and European influences but is deeply rooted in African American culture. Hip-Hop emerged from a cultural fusion involving Black, Latina, and Caribbean Americans, integrating elements from jazz, blues, funk, and more. Reggae, originating in Jamaica, carries African rhythms and has become a global anthem for resistance, peace, love, and unity.

DANCE

Dance is a powerful form of expression, and African dances are among the most expressive. They have influenced popular dance styles like house, tap, jazz, and salsa. Thanks to platforms like TikTok, African dances have spread far and wide, inspiring dance challenges and showcasing the diverse talent of the African Diaspora.

SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

The African Diaspora’s impact extends to sports and entertainment. Anthony Joshua, Israel Adesanya have celebrated African culture in sports, and performers like Burnaboy, Wizkid, Tems and more are changing global entertainment and empowering audiences worldwide.

FASHION AND FOOD

Africans in the Diaspora have significantly influenced global fashion and cuisine. African fashion shows are now common in Europe and across other continents, with traditional fabrics like Adire, Aso-oke, and Ghanaian Kente gaining international popularity. In cuisine, African spices and dishes like jollof rice and egusi have made a global mark, with many people exploring African flavours and culinary traditions. There was a whole TikTok challenge around fufu and egusi soup.

LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE

African literature has given a voice to African culture, impacting global perspectives. Authors like Chinua Achebe, Chimamanda Adichie, and others have opened the world’s eyes to African experiences, celebrating African art through their words. Language has also been enriched by the African Diaspora, with African words and expressions becoming part of everyday vernacular worldwide.

The global impact of the African Diaspora is vast and ongoing especially now with the mass migration aka “the japa wave”. While research continues to explore its influence, these examples highlight the richness and significance of African culture on a global scale.



This movement dates back to the era of the slave trade when countless Africans were forcibly transported and sold in foreign countries.



HIGHLIGHTS OF
THIS QUARTER



18th Transcorp Plc Annual General Meeting



10th Transcorp Hotels Plc Annual General Meeting



11th Transcorp Power Plc Annual General Meeting



Transcorp Group celebrates Africa Day



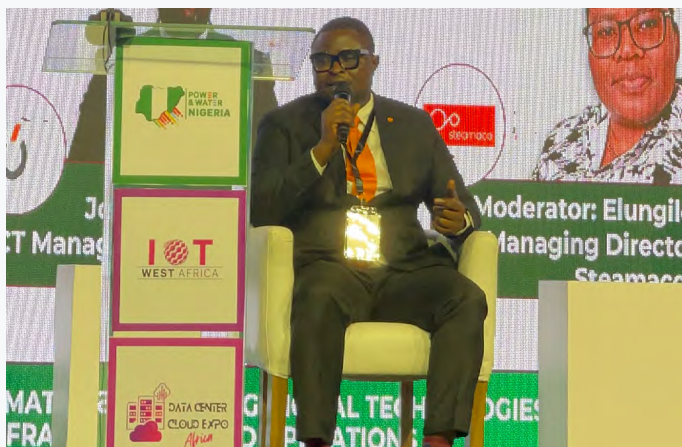
Dr. Omogiafo at the 17th German African Energy Forum in Hamburg



Heirs Holdings Group directors' Inaugural Annual Summit 2024



Transcorp Executives at the Heirs holdings x Canadian High Commission networking event



Joseph Ijaleye speaks on navigating the digital transformation at Power & Water Nigeria



Ikechukwu Onoha speaks on Grid Digitalization at Power & Water Nigeria



Seun Fadare speaks at the Nigerian Energy Forum on Integrating Energy Infrastructure Growth & Investments



Transcorp Plc holds mid-year strategy session



Strategic meeting with the High Commissioner of Canada, Jamie Christof



Executives from Heirs Holdings meet representatives from with deputy Director-General UNIDO & United Nations Resident Coordinator



Powering Progress Across Africa

From lighting up homes to empowering industries, we are at the heart of Africa's transformation.

We are a catalyst for change. Through strategic investments in Power, Hospitality, and Energy, we are building a sustainable future and nurturing the

Improving lives, Transforming Africa.