



## **CITATION ON**

### **PROFESSOR SAMUEL CHUKWUNONYEREM OHAEBULAM - MEDICINE**

**Mr. President, sir, I have the singular honour and privilege to present to you, on behalf of the Governing Board of the Nigerian National Merit Award, Professor Samuel Ohaegbulam.**

**Professor Samuel Ohaegbulam was born at Ezianya Obiata in IMO State. He had a brilliant Secondary School education at National High School Arondizuogu from where he gained admission to Dennis Memorial Grammar School (DMGS) Onitsha. He successfully completed the Higher School Certificate Course in 1961, winning the “best all round student award”, the College prizes for Zoology and Physics, and the Principal’s commendation for excellence.**

**Professor Ohaegbulam studied Medicine at Cairo University (1962-1967) and obtained the MB, BCh with Honours, grade “Very Good” and Distinctions in 9 of 13 subjects. He was the President of the Nigerian Students Union in Egypt (1963-1966). His postgraduate education was in the United Kingdom (1968-1974), where he had his neurosurgical training at the Hurstwood Park Hospital, Hayward’s Heath, Sussex and the Atkinson Morley’s Hospital, which was the neurosurgery department of St George’s Medical School where he was privileged to train with the Prototype CT scanner. Additional microsurgery training and research were obtained at the Henry Ford Hospital Detroit Michigan USA. His qualifications include FRCS (Edinburgh), FRCS (England), FICS, FWACS. FMCS and Certificates in Micro-neurosurgery, Skull base surgery, Stereotactic surgery, Spine Surgery and WHO Certificate in Medical Education & Curriculum.**

**On his return to Nigeria in 1974, Professor Ohaegbulam established the first neurosurgical service in Eastern Nigeria at the University of Nigeria where he rapidly progressed from Lecturer1 in 1974 to Professor of Neurosurgery in 1980. The many administrative positions held by him included Ag. Head of Anatomy, Associate Dean of Medicine, Dean of Medicine and Deputy Vice Chancellor & Head of the Enugu Campus (UNEC). Additionally, he was Consultant Neurosurgeon to the University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital. He served in many committees of the University and the Teaching Hospital.**

**Beyond the shores of Nigeria, he served as Consultant Neurosurgeon and Director of Surgical Education at North West Armed Forces Hospital Tabuk Saudi Arabia under the management of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (1989-2001) and earned the Excellent Service Award in appreciation of his contributions to the hospital.**

**Professor Ohaegbulam has contributed immensely to medical education and national development as the Founder and Neurosurgeon-in-Chief of Memfys Hospital for Neurosurgery (MHN), Enugu, a Centre for Brain and Spine Surgery as well as a provider of CT, MRI and EEG services. The hospital has managed over 8000 patients, performed over 1500 neurosurgical operations of varying complexity and employs over 100 staff. The Institution is the first and only private hospital in Africa accredited for postgraduate training in neurosurgery by the West African College of Surgeons and the Nigerian National Postgraduate Medical College. To date, about 50 doctors have done part or all of their training at the hospital.**

**Professor Ohaegbulam is an active and consistent researcher who has published extensively. His academic contributions to neurosurgery include over 170 scholarly publications that span important areas of neurosurgery such as skull-base surgery, oncology, trauma, paediatric neurosurgery and medical education. GEOGRAPHICAL NEUROSURGERY is the pioneering effort and innovation of Professor Ohaegbulam and his book: *Geographical Neurosurgery* - Published by American Congress of Neurological Surgeons as its First E-Book Publication and cited as “landmark publication” is the only book displayed permanently on its Home Page since 2002 as a testimony to the value placed on it.**

**In the field of research, Professor Ohaegbulam has made a major contribution to the microsurgical anatomy of the Cavernous Sinus (CS), a small but delicate and intimidating area of the skull base often involved in surgical treatable diseases of the brain. His work culminated in the discovery of a safer surgical corridor to the CS through a pterional roof approach. This important discovery was published in the prestigious Journal of Neurosurgery and Acta Neurochirurgica. The Year Book of Neurology and Neurosurgery, considered both publications important enough for inclusion in 1988 and 1989 respectively.**

**Numerous national and international awards and prizes are testimonies to the achievements of this erudite scholar. These include: Visiting Professorship,**

**Harvard Medical School, Boston MA 2003 and Neurosurgery Excellence Award by African Federation of Neurosurgical Societies at Rabat Morocco 2011. He is one of the founders of the African Federation of Neurosurgical Societies, a leading voice for neurosurgeons on the African continent, a body for which he was elected as the first President. He has also been honoured with several awards in his local community, nationally and internationally. He has served in many committees of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies. He is cited in several International Biographical books and is a member of Editorial Board of several Local and International Scientific Journals including Surgical Neurology International. He is Honorary President of the Nigerian Academy of Neurological Surgeons and the African Federation of Neurosurgical Societies. He is a member of numerous national and international professional associations. He was Treasurer West African College of Surgeons and past President of Nigerian Surgical Research Society.**

**Beyond academics, Prof. Samuel Ohaegbulam has also tasted royalty albeit temporarily. He resigned as Traditional Ruler (Obinyere 1) of Eziama Obi-Ato, Imo State in order to devote full attention to his neurosurgical work. Professor Ohaegbulam is happily married to Marcelle and blessed with 3 sons- Chima, Emeka and Neshmet.**

**Mr. President, sir, the Governing Board of the Nigerian National Merit Award, after diligent evaluation, is extremely delighted to present to you this world renowned neurosurgeon, Professor Samuel Ohaegbulam for conferment with the Nigerian National Order of Merit Award in Medicine for 2012.**