



Letter from Nafiu: Ten Years Later



March 2012

Dear Friends and Family,

The internet and social media has brought many of our students who we have lost touch with back into the fold and we are thrilled to learn about their experiences and where they are today. I was particularly touched to hear from a brilliant young man I worked with at the second youth leadership camp in 2002.

It warmed my heart to know that ten years down the line, he still cherishes the experiences he had with us and the impact the programme had on his life. I will let you read the letter he wrote to me himself.

In peace,

Nanre

Subject Title: LYNX-NIGERIA... Superb

From: babanafe

To: nanre

Thursday 1 March 2012

Hi Nanre,

Please pardon my late reply. These past few weeks have been quite demanding & very tasking.

I have successfully concluded my final MBBS exams from Igbinedion University, Okada and am now awaiting the induction ceremony & license to commence practice as a Medical Doctor.

I appreciate your kind words & modest accolades.

As regards The LYNX CAMP '02, first, let me start by registering my pleasure & deep appreciation of the concept, the organisers & financiers of the programme. There is no epithet in any human language that can describe or truly capture the impact it had on me.

I had an uncommon privilege of meeting, & exchanging views, ideas & concepts over topical issues with some of the finest brains drawn from different parts of the country, under the tutelage & able guidance of our instructors.

The Modules were apt & encapsulated a range of topics; Crises & Conflict resolution, Good governance, Curbing Corruption, Civic duties & responsibilities which reshaped & sharpened my attitude & resolve for a better Nigeria. In fact, I had derived sublime knowledge & skills that assisted me greatly in organizing vibrant Students Activism & Advocacy during my University days as well as,

negotiating particularly difficult decisions & milestones in the course of the various leadership positions I held; as Ex Vice President, Nigerian Medical Students Association (NIMSA) as President Students Consultative Forum & also as Mayor, Clinical Students (Igbinedion University). Of course; Audio-visuals on Adolescence & Sexuality (that was quite a video! almost 10yrs now & I still apply the lessons derived.)

Similarly, the extracurricular activities were interesting & created strong bonding amongst students as well as amongst students & faculty.

I had the rare opportunity at age 16, to meet & interact freely with the President of Nigeria. Met the Ambassador of United States(Howard Jetter) which was another scarce honour, these encounters amongst others bolstered my young confidence, instilled in me the courage, zeal & optimism that indeed, I could reach my potential maxim & anchor the wheels of progress & development of my community & the rest of humanity.

Overall, the Camp offered me a challenging but rewarding experience. Conference organisers demonstrated care & concern for us(though not perfect, as all human endeavours) but were satisfactorily encouraging. In one sentence, I was sufficiently energised & empowered to be an effective agent of change, for which I remain grateful.

Nanre, please extend my regards to Charlotte, Afolabi, Sophie, George, & please....Dr. Anyanwu. I look forward to working with you soon.

You are all once again, deeply appreciated!

Yours truly,

Nafiu. A