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WORLD CUP SPECIAL



WIN ONAZI'S HOME & AWAY JERSEYS

Ogenyi Eddy Onazi

FROM HAWKING BREAD TO A BREAD WINNER

also featuring

ORLANDO D JOY PANAM DJ JHYDE



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June, 2018 issue

World Cup Special edition

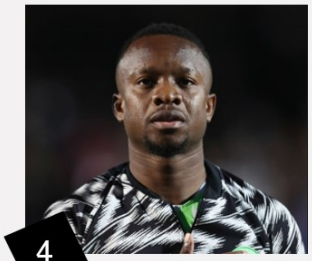
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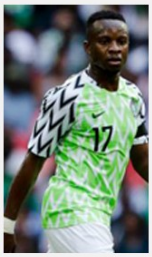
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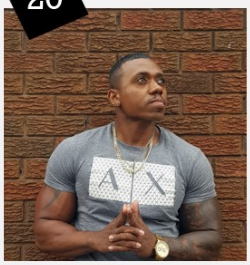
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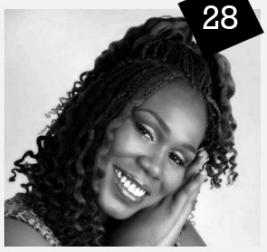
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letter from the editor



We tender our utmost apology for being offgrid for over a year. It has sincerely being a hectic year with other projects occupying our attention. The great news is that we are also publishing a special publication as our June edition with a whole pack of inspiring super stars.

This edition features the Nigerian Super Eagles Vice captain, Trabzonspor FC player & 2013 African Champion **Onazi Ogenyi** as our star cover, and 3 featured stars; **Orlando D** (a Rapper with a wonderful story), **Joy Panam** (Radio On Air Personality & Artiste) and **DJ Jhyde** (the CEO of Salt FM - a gent using his gifts to better the society) ENJOY and ENJOY!

EDITOR | PUBLISHER
SHOGGY TOSH



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Onazi Ogenyi



England's Harry Kane (left) and Nigeria's Ogenyi Onazi battle for the ball during the International Friendly match at Wembley Stadium, London. **Onazi Ogenyi.** 2018

Ogenyi Eddy Onazi (born 25 December 1992) is a Nigerian footballer who plays as a central midfielder for Turkish club Trabzonspor FC and the Nigeria national football team.

As a 16-year-old, Onazi represented his country at the 2009 FIFA U-17 World Cup, where Nigeria finished runners-up. He made his debut for the senior Nigeria national team in an African Cup of Nations qualification match against Liberia. His first goal came in his second international match, a 3–1 friendly win over Venezuela in Florida.

Onazi was called up to Nigeria's 23-man squad for the 2013 Africa Cup of Nations. He came on as a substitute in Nigeria's first match of the tournament against Burkina Faso, and played every minute of all Nigeria's games in the knockout phase, including the final. Onazi started in all four games as Nigeria were eliminated by France in the round of 16.

In June 2018 he was named in Nigeria's final 23 man squad for the 2018 World Cup in Russia.

Onazi Ogenyi



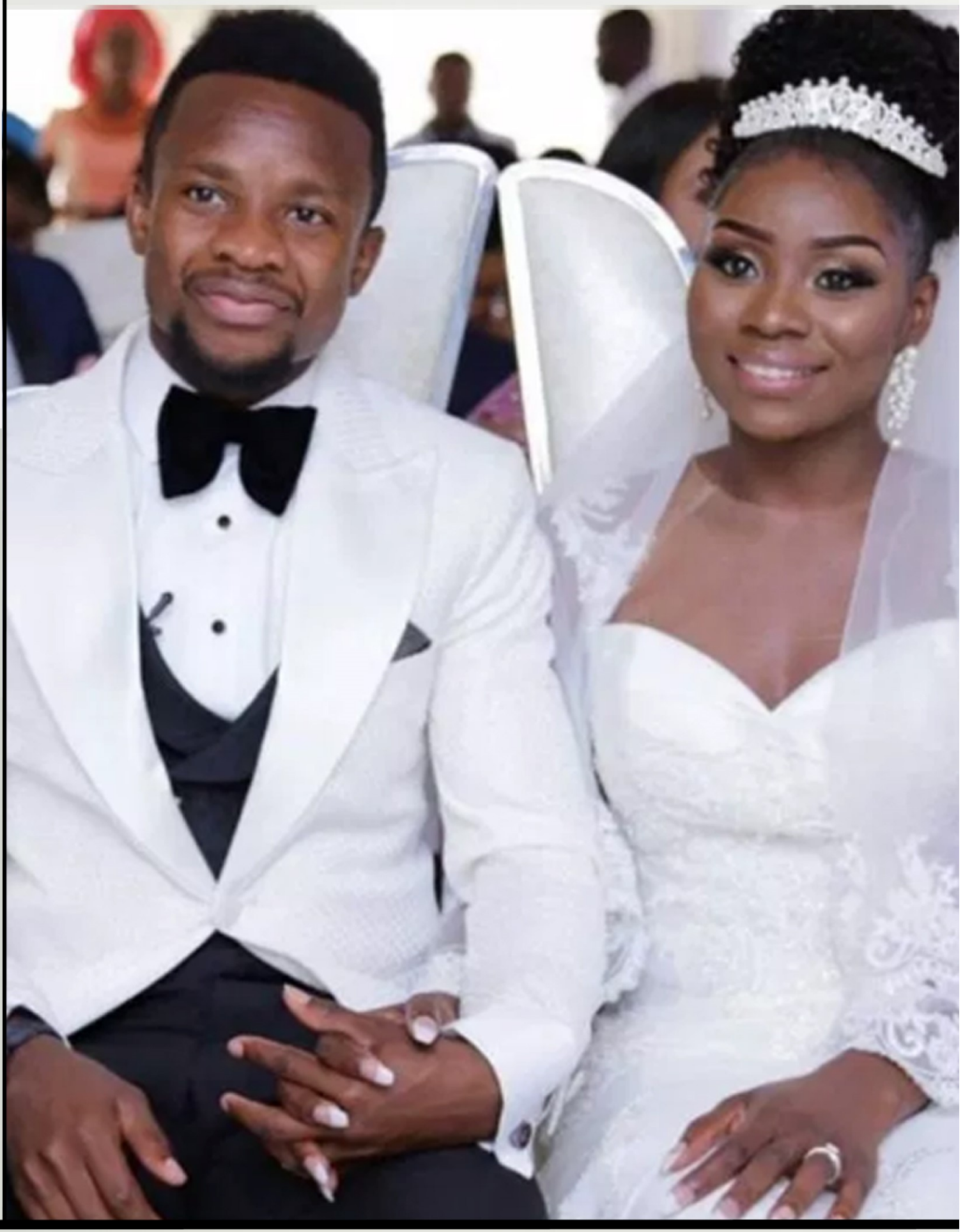
Ogenyi Onazi training ahead of the Nigeria V England friendly game. © **Getty Images & Onazi Ogenyi.** 2018

Onazi Ogenyi



Ogenyi Onazi after scoring at his club Trabzonspor FC in Turkey. © **Onazi Ogenyi.** 2018

Onazi Ogenyi



Onazi Ogenyi wedding his heartthrob Sandra Ogunsuyi (June 18, 2016). © Onazi Ogenyi. 2018

I see you as a very humble human being, that is able to invest time in others either great or small. You did that during the training session just before the Senegal friendly match in London and every time in Turkey either at the club or training ground. Why is it so important to be humble? Does it make a difference in spite of one's talent?

Well, we have to give thanks to God for he grace and the opportunities and the talent He has endowed us with. People have different orientations, but for me we need to give thanks to God for the talent he has given us. Pride goes before a fall. Apart from this, I see the fans as people who has made me what I am because without the fans, there is no football. They buy the tickets to watch us play. Life is very simple yet you never know what might happen tomorrow. It is vital to live your life everyday in the simplest way you can. I think if we emulate this lifestyle, the world would be a better place.

During the last camping before the 2014 World Cup in Brazil, you mixed freely at the reception for very long hours. I was with Dr Ladipo (The Nigerian Supporters Club president) and other icons. Personally I was touched by this. I believe that a character of a person determines how far he/she goes in life.

God created people in different ways. Some are quiet and do not interact, but for me staying in the room while on duty for either club or country is a bit boring for me. I love to interact with people, laugh, and make the day joyful.

I'm a little bit jealous of you simply because your birthday falls on the very same day that we celebrate Jesus Christ's birthday. How does it feel to be born on this special day?

[Onazi laughs] ...
Amazingly, on the 25th of December, everybody celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ and they forget about me. The most important thing for me with regards to the day I was born is the blessings following me. When people do not remember to give me gifts on the day, I ask God to turn those gifts to blessings. It is a blessing in disguise! I really thank God for that grace. It is a rare opportunity to share the same birthday with our Lord and Saviour. i am the most happiest. The gift does not matter but the blessings that follows is the most important thing.

| "Being born on 25th December is a blessing in disguise" |

Being an ambassador in the diaspora, How do you handle the pressure?

This is one of the things we try to get used to. When you get to the point when you are followed by the people you know and those you do not know, it is important to be cautious of everything you do. Though it is not possible to be 100 % right but you have to try to do the right things at the right time. We will keep on praying that God helps us as we live our daily lives.

You are a passionate believer. Do share with us how you met with Jesus Christ.

I was born and brought up in a Christian family. All throughout my secondary school days, I dedicated my time to Jesus and He has always been there for me. I learnt that believing in God, following His teachings and obeying Him resulted in blessings. I can not say I'm righteous as I do have up and downs, but it is so important to always ask for forgiveness as we fall short of God's glory. It is vital not to repeat the same mistakes, but try and learn from them and move ahead.

Onazi, when you signed for Lazio in Serie A, that was a huge uplift for every Nigerian. How was it for you? A different country, language, culture and weather. Kindly re-live what you experienced with us.

It was really really difficult at first. Right from my secondary school days I told God I wanted to be a footballer. I did not know how it was going to happen as I did not have any connections, yet I was determined to work hard and take my chances. My desire was to start my career in Europe and I told God what I wanted. I had no idea how He would do it, but believed. My main inspiration to work harder and achieve my dream was Mikel Obi. We played in Jos together and all of a sudden, he was at Chelsea FC! This inspired me and I saw it as a target for me to go to Europe too. I worked so hard and prayed too.

| "My inspiration to achieve my dream in football was Obi Mikel as we played in Jos before he moved to Chelsea." |

Just after the FIFA 2009 U17 World Cup in Nigeria, myself and Sani Emmanuel went to quite a number of clubs to play as a trialist. Clubs like Ajax in Holland, Panathinaikos, Basel, Young Boys, St Gallen, Chelsea, Tottenham (I met with the great manager Harry Redknapp), and as we were quite young, we had to be signed and loaned to other clubs. We were managed by too many people who all had so many opinions. Finally we settled down in Italy, and I settled in the 2nd team of Lazio. It was very difficult as the food was different, the weather was unfamiliar, the culture was totally different to ours. For me to live in such conditions was purely the grace of God. It took a lot of determination too. I really wanted to make it in life. I just told myself that I had to succeed as many are desiring the opportunity I currently have. I actually gave myself few months as a target to break into the 1st team of Lazio. I even studied the history of Lazio and noticed that most young players do not break into the first team but rather loaned to smaller clubs. However I gave myself a month to break into the 'A Side' and by God's grace I made it. I really thank God for His grace upon my life.

On a lighter note, I am aware that you are a good table tennis player. Is this just a hobby for you? Where did you learn your craft?

[Onazi Smiling]. ..
The funny thing about this is that I actually learnt how to play table tennis at Trabzonspor in Turkey. I dedicated myself to learn it and to my amazement I am quite good at it. I even go to the malls and beat other players at random! It took me a month of learning it and through dedication, I got good at it. This is a principle of life. We have a good number of table tennis players in our team but at the moment, no one seems to be better than me!

I also know you area lover of sugar canes. Whenever you travelled back home, you ensured that sugar canes were bought and consumed by you (Laughing). Did you manage to find a place to buy these abroad? Does the scarcity of Nigerian delicacies affect your performances?

Not really. For instance in our last couple of games, our National Coach - Gernot Rohr totally forbid us eating 'Swallowing foods' and spicy foods in order to perform very well as nutrition is very vital for a footballer. A lot of times we eat white rice, or spaghetti and stuff like that. When I was in Italy for instance, I dedicated my first year strictly to football. I stayed in the training complex, and all I did was eat, train and sleep. The year after that, I started to visit the city and found some Nigerian restaurants especially in Rome. When I eventually got my own apartment, (even though I do not know how to cook - the truth!) but the few dishes I could do, I did and some friends who were very good in cooking helped out too. In Turkey, there are so many restaurants where you can either eat in or buy the food and cook yourself. In the city where I play, there are not a lot of restaurants as it is a very small city. Whenever I am coming back to base from Nigeria, I travel through Istanbul where there is a lot of food choices and and stock my bags with different food. And Yes I do love my sugar cane!

Let us travel back to 2009 when you played your first international tournament in the FIFA U17 back in Nigeria. We lost to Switzerland in the final and that was tough to take by soccer loving Nigerians who expected a win as Champions. How did you handle that defeat as a very young footballer?

Well our very first game was a 3-3 draw with Germany and I was in the starting 11. The experience I had when we were warming up for the game was the best feeling I ever had in my life. The whole country was cheering us and we were so happy and conscious on what we were supposed to do. My legs were physically shaking as the occasion was enormous. But I was able to put my emotions under control. We topped our group, and beat New Zealand, South Korea and Spain to reach the final. We lost 0-1 to Switzerland in the final and were very sad about it. We just had to pick up ourselves from the disapointment and learn from the tournament in total.

The most important thing I learnt in life is to be determined. You have to speak what you want with your mouth and work hard toward it. The action you take after speaking positivity is very important. The hard work you put in and your actions are actually the 'speaking' and not the words you speak alone. You need to put in a lot of hard work to attain your dream. Let me give you an example for instance.

When I was in Jos, the place where I was training was a 50 minute drive and my house was an hour away from where I could board the car. I had to wake up at 4 am and wash the plates, fetch water and so on. Then we were living in abject poverty conditions. At 4 am in the early hours of the morning, I had to search for water and no one was willing to open their gates at that hour of the day. Then at 6 am, I had to jog all the way to the embarking point to go for training. We had double trainings so after the first session, I had to stay behind for 5-6 hours to avoid all the travelling. It was not easy at all. This was done every day. On game day, when we had to travel to other cities, I had to source for the travelling fare. This is part of the sacrifice and determination I needed to live with. Also there are so many distractions too. Some friends were discouraging me and sowing seeds of doubts with regards to my footballing career. But when you are determined, you learn to focus. I took it on myself to train hard every day and learn from others.

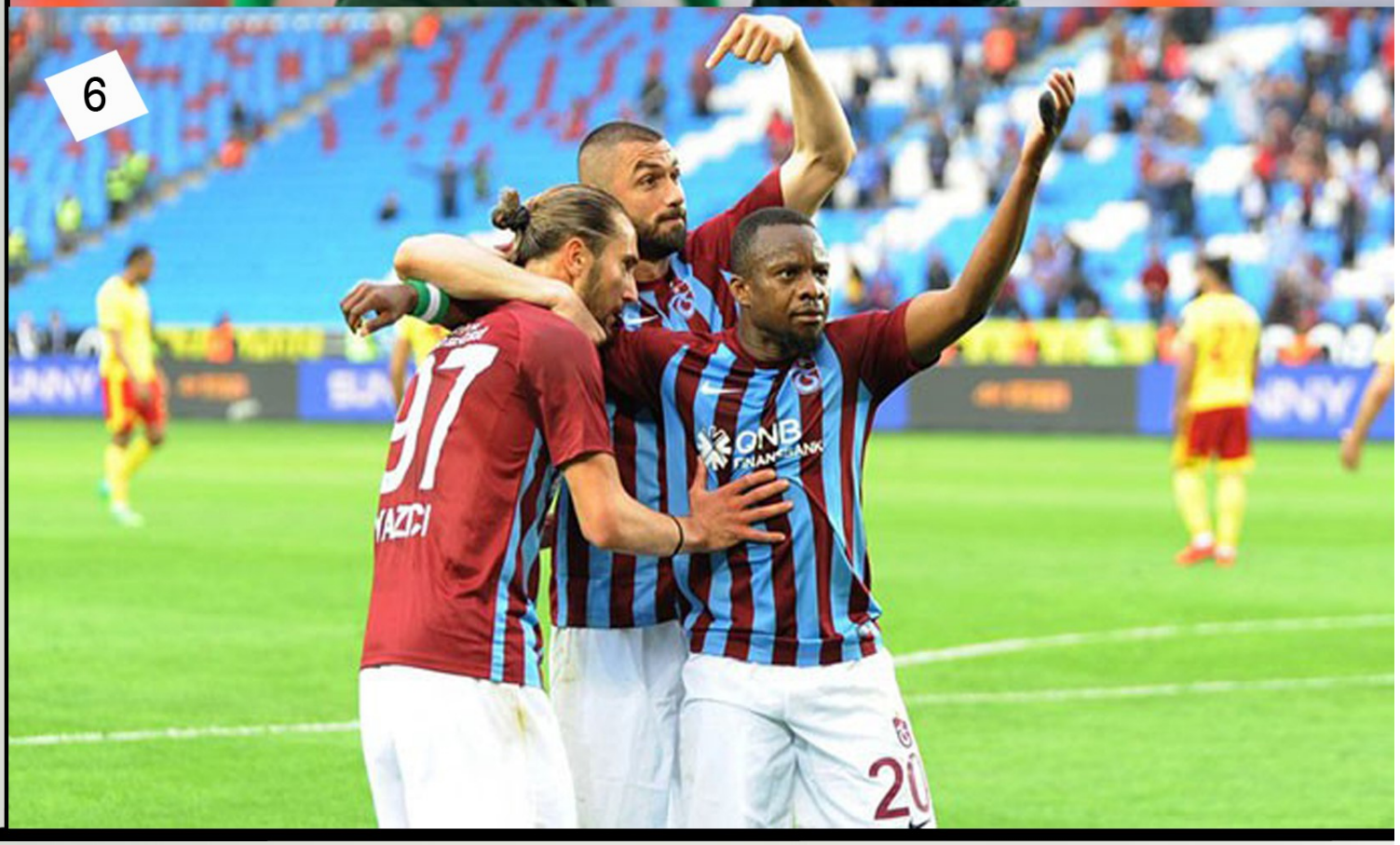
| "I had to wake up at 4 am and wash the plates, fetch water and so on. Then we were living in abject poverty conditions." |

One day I told my local coach (Coach Broos) to find a way to contact Henry Nwosu (The U17 National coach at that time) and tell him that you have a player who would love to come for the trials. If I was good enough - great but if not then at least I have tried. I prompted my coach because I was determined. My coach eventually got through and Henry Nwosu said, 'Well let him come. If he is good, I'll keep him and if not, I will send him back. It was myself and Ahmed Musa that went for the trials then. This is how it all started. I thank God for giving me the grace as the journey has not been easy.

| "We had double trainings so after the first session, I had to stay behind for 5-6 hours to avoid all the travelling. It was not easy at all. ." |

Onazi Ogenyi





5. Ogenyi Onazi against Poland in a friendly. © Getty Images. 6. In action at Trabzonspor FC in Turkey. © **Onazi Ogenyi.** 2018

Onazi Ogenyi





7. Ogenyi Onazi in Nigerian colours 8. In action for his club Trabzonspor FC in Turkey. © **Onazi Ogenyi.** 2018

Onazi Ogenyi

WIN A BRAND NEW ONAZI OGENYI EDDY'S TRABZONSPOR FC HOME SHIRT.



HOW DO YOU WIN? Screenshot the Onazi's shirt on this page and post it on twitter, instagram or facebook. Tag @ShoggyTosh & #TOSHMagOnazi The highest number of Retweets or Likes wins a jersey.

NOTE: Fake likes or retweets contests will be disqualified. Competition ends [7 July 2018]

Photography by BIWST Team. **Onazi Ogenyi.** 2018

If I actually share ever single thing I had been through, a whole year would not be enough to do so! What people have to realise is that sometimes you could hear someone pass a comment but you just smile because they have no idea of what you have been through in life. That is why I always say, 'Lord I thank you.' I do not normally reveal what I am sharing today during interviews as it would take a lot of time. Some people then could afford luxuries, but we could not even afford a single meal in a day sometimes. Now that I am saying all these things, it sounds like an exaggeration but this is life.

This is so inspiring. I had no idea that you experienced all this. Let me cool this interview down a bit. Let me try and tickle your memory a bit. What was the first team you played against in Serie A?

Atalanta! (Onazi laughs)

Accurate. You see readers, when you eat a lot of sugarcane, and play table tennis - your brain becomes so sharp! (Hehe)

(Onazi laughs again...)

Another one. You played in the Europa League. Which team do you play against in England?

Tottenham Hotspur.

Chai. Onazi is sharp oooo!

(Onazi laughs)

This is amazing because I know footballers play so many matches. Yet Onazi remembers these monumental occasions!

Which team did you score your first European goal against?

Stuggart.

Onazi did not even allow me to finish the question before he said, 'Stuggart'!

Onazi laughing ...

Kindly share with us your feelings as scoring in a Europe football competition must be every footballer's dream!

That was the time I was just recruited to the first team. There was a lot of pressure as so much attention was on me to see how I was going to perform. I was so happy especially because of my performance and the goal too. It is all about the grace of God.

Do you remember your first Serie A goal and the team you scored against?

My first Serie A goal. Ahhhh. (Onazi thinking aloud ...). Let me see. It was against Inter Milan. We won that game 3-1. That was my best goal ever. I actually came in the game as a sub. It was a memorable goal. When I was about to shoot the ball, my coach was shouting for me to pass the ball. (my team mates on the bench told me afterwards). But he was shouting 'Goaallllll' after the ball went in! I can not forget that moment forever.

Crossing over to Nigeria now. It is so refreshing seeing your passion whenever you play for the Super Eagles. I can not help but notice the green white green band you don during club duties.

I love my country. Some people might see it in another way thinking I am overdoing things. But it does not matter once you know what you are doing is right. Without me playing for the Golden eaglets of Nigeria, I do not think anyone would know who Onazi is today. So the little way I can show appreciation to my country, I do it. I also involve myself in a lot of charity work and scholarship programmes but that is personal to me. This is my little way of giving back and appreciating the people.

It was such a joy seeing Nigeria qualify in the dubbed 'group of death' 2018 World Cup African Qualifying group. (Especially against the current African champions - Cameroon & former champions - Zambia, not forgetting the highest ranked African side - Algeria). What a feat you guys achieved!

Well it is all about the grace of God, focus and concentration. Our coach has brought in a lot of organisation and discipline into the team. He also helped to instil hunger, as no one has an automatic jersey in the squad. Gernot Rohr has also given every player an equal opportunity. Personally, this has been the key.

I think it is important to give players opportunities in a country like Nigeria that has a population of over 180 million. This is why I try my utmost best every time I play for the Super eagles especially now at my peak, before I give a path for other younger players coming in the squad.

To qualify from such a tough group like ours after not qualifying for 2 consecutive Nations Cup tournaments was massive. I have to thank God for His grace and the whole team who put in a shift every time we played. Yes a lot of people thought we would not qualify for the World Cup in Russia, but I knew that, 'Wherever there is fire, there must be something around that would quench the same fire!.' I believed from the onset that we would surprise everyone and top the group, and we did. We beat Zambia away and took the rest in our stride.

I think this team will surprise the world at the World Cup. Everyone should watch out for the Super Eagles. We will try to do our best as we all want to fight for each other and put on our best performances.

| "I think this team will surprise the world at the World Cup. Everyone should watch out for the Super Eagles ." |

We aim to put a smile on lots of faces of Nigerians especially because of the financial and emotional constrains on the people.

Thank you so much for sharing your time with us. You are a breath of fresh air and a blessing to me and many others. The sky is a starting point for you. Hopefully one day we will see you in the English Premiership despite that failed Birmingham move. Do you have a final message that you would like to share with your fans?

Anything can inspire you. It just depends on which angle you are viewing life from. I will share with you all a lot of motivating stories that you had not probably read from anywhere. Not only did I fetch water and trek long distances to train daily; I hawked bread for almost 2 years! I sold leaves too because my mother sowed some in a little farm we had. This was sold at the market. I also hawked 'akara' (normally referred to as African cake) on my head on the streets, corn, firewood and many other items. This is what helps to keep me humble wherever I am in life because It has been God's grace that has kept me all these years.

No one is perfect in this life. You will go through ups and downs but believe that God knows it all. He will always guide us and keep us. So I am encouraging any one reading this. Have a picture in your mind of where you want to be in life. There are a lot of people who exceled at their college and obtained a masters at university but has no job; but your life does not depend on this.

| "I hawked bread for almost 2 years! I sold leaves, 'akara' on my head on the streets. Also corn, firewood and many other items. This is what helps to keep me humble as It has been God's grace that has kept me all these years. ." |

The most important thing is to make a difference in whatever you do. This is what will make you unique. Try to do what others can not do. It might be challenging, but persevere. Stick to what you believe in, work hard and put it before God constantly in prayer.

God said we should ask and we will be given. He also said we should knock and it be opened unto us. Once you work hard and pray, there is no way it would not end in success. Just be diligent in all your endeavours. I wish everyone reading this the best in life. God is going to see us through.

[Interview conducted by Shoggy Tosh]

Onazi Ogenyi

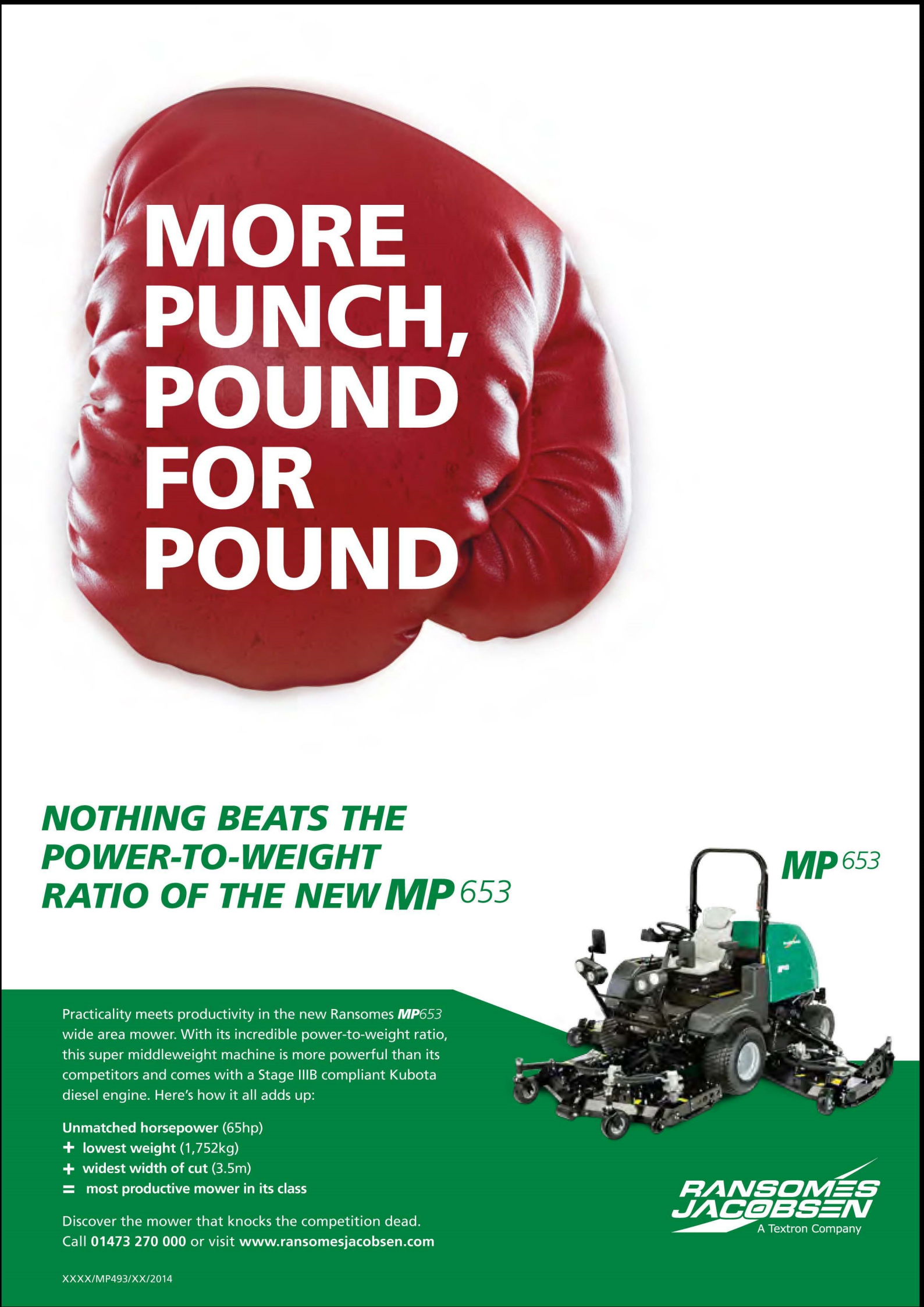
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Orlando D



Orlando D at Salt FM, United Kingdom. **Orlando D.** 2018

Orlando D is a rapper based in United Kingdom. He has a unique story and testimony of how Jesus Christ saved him from a life of confusion and death.

Orlando's latest single, 'SITUATION' has featured in the Euro Music Indie Charts and influenced so many lives.

Orlando D



Orlando D. 2018

Orlando D



Orlando D. 2018

Orlando D



Orlando D at Salt FM UK. 2018

How are you doing Orlando D? It is awesome to have you featured on this platform.

I am blessed to be here. Orlando D in the building. I am feeling blessed right now. It is a privilege to be featured on your magazine and so happy with all the responses I am receiving so far - especially with regards to my debut single release, 'SITUATION'. God is good.

We bless God. Out of curiousty, what does the D in your name stand for?

Well my name is Daniel and that is what the 'D' stands for. Orlando is my surname and when you put both together, you have Orlando D.

What inspired the song, 'SITUATION'?

This song speaks basically about my life and the situations I have been through. I have been through a lot of challenges in my life from being on the road and I'm just saying that God can change any situation for the good. I was inspired by the Holy Spirit to reach to a generation that can relate to the message I am trying to get across.

Where are you based?

I am from Birmingham. Born and bred in Birmingham - all day every day! Big up to all my people in Birmingham. My daughter, my step daughter, partner, my sisters, mum and my family and friends. The support I am receiving has been awesome. Simply awesome. It is good that I can inspire people and touch hearts in this generation that we are living in these days. I am blessed.

You actually have been doing music for a while but recently became a gospel rapper. What caused this turn around?

I felt that I needed to make this change because even though the music I made before was real to me then, I did not feel that deep inside me anymore. Everybody in life has got a purpose and I had to find mine. I have been stabbed so many times, had a gun put to my head and yet God spared me! A lot of people that I have grown up with are either dead or in prison as we speak. I realised that in all these situations that I had been through, God has always been there. I felt I needed to encourage the youth. I have a passion of working with the youth. I feel that with the kind of music I am doing now, I can touch many in a way that maybe a pastor can not do. People look at me and see the muscles, the gold chain, the gold teeth, and wonder to themselves, 'What is going on right here?' But there is more to it that meets the eye.

God uses anyone He choses to use and if people look a certain way, it does not mean God is not using them. My desire is to appeal to the generation. They talk to me and can relate with me. Music with positivity lives longer. I mean look at someone like Bob Marley for instance. He is no more with us but his music lives on. I have noticed that there is no more messages in the music anymore. Music is supposed to lift and inspire you.

| "I have been through a lot of challenges in my life from being on the road and I'm just saying that God can change any situation or circumstance for the better and the good." |

The younger generation talk to me and open up a lot and I feel that this is what it is all about. When you put out there a positive message in your music, it lasts forever. If you are going through a bad day at work or in a certain situation, you should be able to listen to a song and it should uplift you. That is what I am doing with my music. I am planting seeds in people. A lot of people perceive Christianity as a boring way of life, but I have come to add some swag to it. However you look like, God can use you. I am letting The Holy Spirit use me and I pray for wisdom and guidance.

'SITUATION' is available for download now. Go and get your copy. It will certainly bless you.

Amazing! I love the idea of using your experience to coach others. How vital is it to share these experiences with the next generation coming through?

It is very important to share real life experiences with ones audience. A lot of people think they are in a particular situation all by themselves and they become isolated. I am here to let you know that no matter the situation you are going through right now, God is there to see you through. All you need to do is call on Him. The Bible says, 'Seek and you shall find'. If we do not seek, we can not find.

| "The younger generation opens up and relate with me a lot and this is what it is all about. When you put out a positive message in your music, it lasts forever. If you have a bad day , you should be able to listen to a song and it should uplift you.

| "I am here to let you know that no matter the situation you are going through right now, God is there to see you through. All you need to do is call on Him." |

You are so inspiring I must say. What deeply touched me was seeing your song enjoying airplay in countries like Russia, Greece and Croatia.

'SITUATION' is really enjoying airplay all over the world. It is mind blowing what God can do for you when you least expect it. I am ready by God's grace. I am on fire. I am ready.

So what is next for you? Should we expect a music video soon? More singles?

Next for me at the moment is for me to release my EP. It is called, 'From the road life to the Christ life'. It is going to be a 6 track album and there is a plan to release music videos straight afterwards.

I pray that all these releases would open new doors for me. That is why I am here and doing music - to go out there. A lot of people think this current generation is lost already - especially because of the violent crime plaguing the society. This is not the case. There is a reason why people are behaving this way. There is always a reason behind every behaviour. It is important to understand troubled youths and it is our duty to reach out to them, invest more in them and teach them the word of God.

| "It is mind blowing what God can do for you when you least expect it." |

How did you meet with Christ?

Jesus has always been with me but I got closer to Him after I got stabbed the 2nd time. I was at the hospital and felt my spirit slipping away at the point of death. This was in 2009. My daughter was unborn and I felt I just can not live on like this. I just heard a voice saying, 'It is going to be alright!' After this encounter, I regained consciousness. That was the first time I believed that I had a purpose to live and also share my story with others. That was how I got saved.

What a unique interview. Thank you for featuring on our magazine.

[Interviewed conducted by the BIWST & SALT FM UK team exclusively for TOSH Mag]

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Joy Panam



Joy Panam. 2018

Joy Panam is a singer, songwritter, On air personality on Naija 102.7 FM in Lagos, Nigeria and the daughter of Dr. Panam Percy Paul, (a Nigerian gospel singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist whose musical career spans 40 years). Joy is a lover of God, a music and a media consultant.

Joy Panam



Joy Panam. 2018

Joy Panam



Joy Panam. 2018

Joy Panam



Joy Panam. 2018

Joy Panam in the building Y'all! It is so good having you on our magazine.

It is so good to be here. I am so honoured and humbled to feature on this prestigious magazine.

Let's get straight into it. Your name Panam is royalty as your Dad is Dr Panam Percy Paul the legendary Nigerian Gospel singer, songwriter, and multi instrumentalist. How easy or difficult has it been to bear this name?

Well bearing the name has been both easy and difficult. Yes Dad is a legend but I still see him as my Daddy so that will not change anything. On the other hand it can be quite difficult because people expect you to be like Dad - sing like him and write like him. However I have been able to establish to everyone that I am me and Dad is Dad. I can not sing like him but only walk in his footsteps. I need to develop my own personal relationship with God. I can not be 'Dad', but I can be 'Joy'

So true and nicely analysed. Let us get into your music. You are sizzling. I love 2 of your songs to be precise - 'So Amazing' featuring Spaceship boi and 'Revive Me' that featured Kenny K'ore. The music is hawt men!

Basically I am enjoying all you mentioned because of my relationship with God. I have always desired to sing songs that will only minister to people. Either the beat is fast or slow, it is so important for me to leave a message with the listener.

| "I have always desired to sing songs that will only minister to people. So either the beat is fast or slow, it is important for me to leave a message with the listener." |

I need the message to be stronger than even the beat. So in a nutshell, my relationship with God is what motivates me.

You are also an On Air Personality on Naija 102.7FM but started broadcasting in Jos back in 2001. Have you always dreamt to be a broadcaster?

I never knew I was going to be a presenter. At secondary even though I did not know exactly what I wanted to specialise in, it was not law because a lot of people I knew were studying law. Due to parental influence, I decided to study Mass Communication. This was where the love for broadcasting started from. Whilst doing my industrial attachment, I noticed I actually had the potential of being a broadcaster. I eventually came back to Lagos from Jos and this move kicked off my broadcasting career.

| "I spent hours in the shower composing songs as I really loved music growing up. It was not until I gave my life to Christ, that I discovered I had a gift for singing." |

You took a break from broadcasting in 2004 and decided to focus on your music. Why this sudden move?

Well I always loved music from when I was quite young. My water bottles never returned with me back home because I used them as microphones at school and ended up losing them! I would stack chairs and pretend they were people and sing in front of them. I actually wanted to study music, but Dad would not allow it. He wanted me to study something more tangible as a security for my stability. I spent hours in the shower composing songs as I really loved music growing up. It was not until I gave my life to Christ, that I discovered that I had a gift for singing and composing songs.

Why did you decide to do gospel?

It had to be gospel due to my personal relationship with God. I know a lot of pastor's children who are secular artistes but I decided to use my gift to worship God. The temptation is there for sure but I always remember my vow to use my voice for Him.

You decided to drop 2 albums. 'Perfect Heart Mender (2006) and Revive Me (2010). These are very powerful albums with amazing songs! Share with us your journey in releasing these albums.

With Revive Me (the single in my 2010 album), the song actually belonged to a friend of mine (Dabs) in Jos. I loved the song and asked for his permission to record it. He gave me his blessing, but my producer generated a different vibe and beat. I was more of a ballad singer so I was not sure of flowing with this vibey sound. It certainly took me out of my comfort zone. This song has really blessed so many people. 'Revive Me' also featured Kenny Kore. I have always admired Kenny from his days at Infinity. in 2009, my Dad had an event and K'ore was there. We exchanged details and when he came on the song, he was awesome.

| "I decided to use my gift to worship God as I vowed to use my voice for Him." |

In 2008, you came back to Lagos from Jos with the aim to revive your first love - Radio Broadcasting. Take us through that journey and share with us the reason why you love Radio.

When I came back to Lagos, it was not to come and work. However I had no relatives to turn to, so I had to do something. I just armed myself with my CV, and headed to Galaxy TV.. The MD was around, and after I approached him, he gave me a test. He was impressed with my presenting skills but not my dictation, so he offered to sponsor me and helped to get me through some trainings. After completion, I went to Unilag 103.1FM. I started playing music on air, and then started presenting some shows, 'Old School Boogie' - one of my favourites.

| "After completion, I went to Unilag 103.1 FM. I started playing music on air, and then started presenting some shows, 'Old School Boogie' - one of my favourites." |

Listeners thought I must be an old person because of the way I owned the 80's show. That was fun. Eventually I left for Naija 103.1FM but Unilag was a good foundation for me.

You are working on your 3rd album, right?

Yes. It is called, 'So Amazing' set for a 2018 release.

Do you have a parting inspirational word that you are willing to share with our readers?

Well all I have to say is this. Never ever allow any one to call or label you as something God has not. My ex, labelled my music - Rubbish and I believed for quite a long time before I actually gained self confidence and broke loose. Whatever dream you have, do not do it by yourself. Allow God to help you achieve it. He will show you the right path to take. When challenges and problems arise (and they surely will), do not run away from God. Run towards him! It is only in God that you will find the grace and sustainability to accomplish your dream.

| "When challenges and problems arise, do not run away from God. Run towards him!" |

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DJ Jhyde



DJ Jhyde at the 2018 African Gospel Music andMedia Awards. DJ Jhyde. 2018

Jide Busari otherwise known as DJ Jhyde is the CEO of Salt FM United Kingdom, an On Air Personality and a Producer. He is an embodiment of pure gifts and helps to train the visually impaired - computer literacy and IT skills at Blind Aid in London. DJ Jhyde is blind yet unique.

DJ Jhyde



DJ Jhyde at the SALT FM UK. ©Copyright DJ Jhyde. 2018

DJ Jhyde



DJ Jhyde at the SALT FM UK. ©Copyright DJ Jhyde. 2018

DJ Jhyde





A. DJ Jhyde picking up SALT FMs 1st ever award at 2018's Cedar UKCommunity Church Awards with Mayor Cllr Marsie Skeete & Rev. Dr Mark Garner. ©Copyright DJ Jhyde. 2018
B. DJ Jhyde with Juliet Fletcher at the 2018African Gospel Music & Media Awards. ©Copyright DJ Jhyde. 2018

It is a pleasure having you on TOSH Mag. Kindly tell us how the vision of Salt FM UK was birthed.

Firstly, I give God all the glory. He was the one who ministered to me in 2010 during my birthday and He asked me to hand everything over to Him. By then I was into music and I do play a lot of music tracks and entertaining people, however God had other plans. He wanted me to call the radio station, 'SALT FM' because we are the salt of the earth. From that point on, I started to dream on how to accomplish this vision. Even though I had this vision 17 years ago, it did not materialise until 2010 (8 years ago). Between 2000 and 2010, I was researching. I am totally blind so that meant I had to look for softwares & equipment that were accessible to me. This took a while, but we are here today. The station can be accessed by anyone (visually impaired or otherwise).

The other thing that made SALT FM possible was the desire to work and not remain idle. We are in an environment that requires proof of capabilities in spite of any disabilities. Work was not forthcoming at that point, so I had to re-train. I studied English at Obafemi Awolowo University in Nigeria and studied Events Management at the University of Greenwich in England. I had to become an IT trainer and now I do train other visually impaired IT students.

| "God was the one who ministered to me in 2010 during my birthday and He asked me to hand everything over to Him." |

During my free time, I needed something to occupy myself with, hence SALT FM was birthed. So in a nutshell, that is the summary of my broadcasting journey.

| "He wanted me to call the radio station, 'SALT FM' because we are the salt of the earth. Between 2000 and 2010, I was researching. I am totally blind so that meant looking for equipment accessible to me." |

Where you at anytime tired and about to give up on your vision?

The truth of the matter is that when I conceived this vision 8 years ago, everything around me became complicated. I was thinking mainly on how I would overcome the hurdle of the finance needed to set up the departments required, equipment, studio space and so on. Where would the staff come from? How would they be paid?
When I came back to the UK in 2001, I went for IT training and at that point, it was burning in my heart to get this vision in motion. I remember those nights in my room with the laptop on my lap and thoughts on how to make this work. There was no one to train me how to use the softwares required. Even if I had found anyone, they would had found it difficult to train me since they are sighted and I use a screen reader.

At some point, I felt this was virtually impossible. I remember one particular day - I sat down in and prayed to God for a divine intervention. I heard a voice within me encouraging me to press a particular button and a file from the category window would move to the rotational window. And this happened exactly as I was told! I gave it a go in the 'spot groups' and it worked again. That was how I created my first ever rotation. I screamed with joy. I had a colleague in York (England) and the little I discovered, I shared with him.

I did not keep this 'discovery' to myself and when he utilised the same process, he screamed shouting, 'You are the man', You area genius! But I told him, 'Nope. It is not me. It is the Holy Spirit!

What was keeping me going was my belief that God made all things including we blind people, and because of that I believed I could be successful in what I was about to do. To God's glory, all what we have amassed till date (apart from some few equipment purchased through the support of friends and families), was purchased by me. I was squeezing money out of everything I had to buy headsets and mics. To the glory of God, we are where we are today.

| "I remember one particular day - I sat down in and prayed to God for a divine intervention. I heard a voice within me encouraging me to press a button and a file from the category window moved to the rotational window. And it worked! " |

How has been the support from media personalities? Are you always supported when you request for assistance?

Allow me to use this instance to illustrate the response to your question. There was this particular day when I called a top gospel radio station in the city of London, with the hope that I would get a technical problem solved. I got through to a gentleman who passed me to another gentleman on the same day. I was asking how to source for music with the hope of playing it on my radio station. One of them said, 'Oh you got to go out there, and source for music.' He got me off the phone but forgot to hang up! Then one said to another, 'He thinks because he is blind, he can get things for free!' I heard everything they said and I felt bad. But then I encouraged myself because I knew I was not calling to get anything for free. All I needed was a bit of advice to know the direction I should take. To the glory of God today, Salt FM is here and I am helping other stations to set up all over the world.

You are an inspiration. I mean you are a blind person yet you have achieved loads more than what some with their vision has achieved. All by the grace of God.

I must acknowledge the favour of God upon my life. God has been so good to me. I also have a loving family and friends who are so supportive.

| "I acknowledge the favour of God upon my life. God has been so good to me. I also have a loving family and friends who are so supportive." |

You have an acronym for the word, "BLIND" don't you? Share it with us.

Oh Yes I do. It just occurred to me one day that I should not encourage people to see my visual impairment as an obstacle. So I thought the word, "BLIND" can actually mean an acronym for 5 words!

B - Blessed
L - Loving
I - Intelligent
N - Nice
D - Dedicated / Devoted

So if you have these 5 attributes, you can pass for being BLIND! This is exactly how I feel for myself. When I train and inspire other visually impaired colleagues, I ensure they see their situation from this point of perspective. I do all this by the grace of God all to his glory.

Thank you for granting us this interview. Keep on being inspirational!

Pleasure. We give God all the glory.

DJ Jhyde



DJ Jhyde picking up SALT FM's 1st ever award at 2018's Cedar UKCommunity Church Awards with Mayor Cllr Marsie Skeete & Rev. Dr Mark Garner. ©Copyright DJ Jhyde. 2018



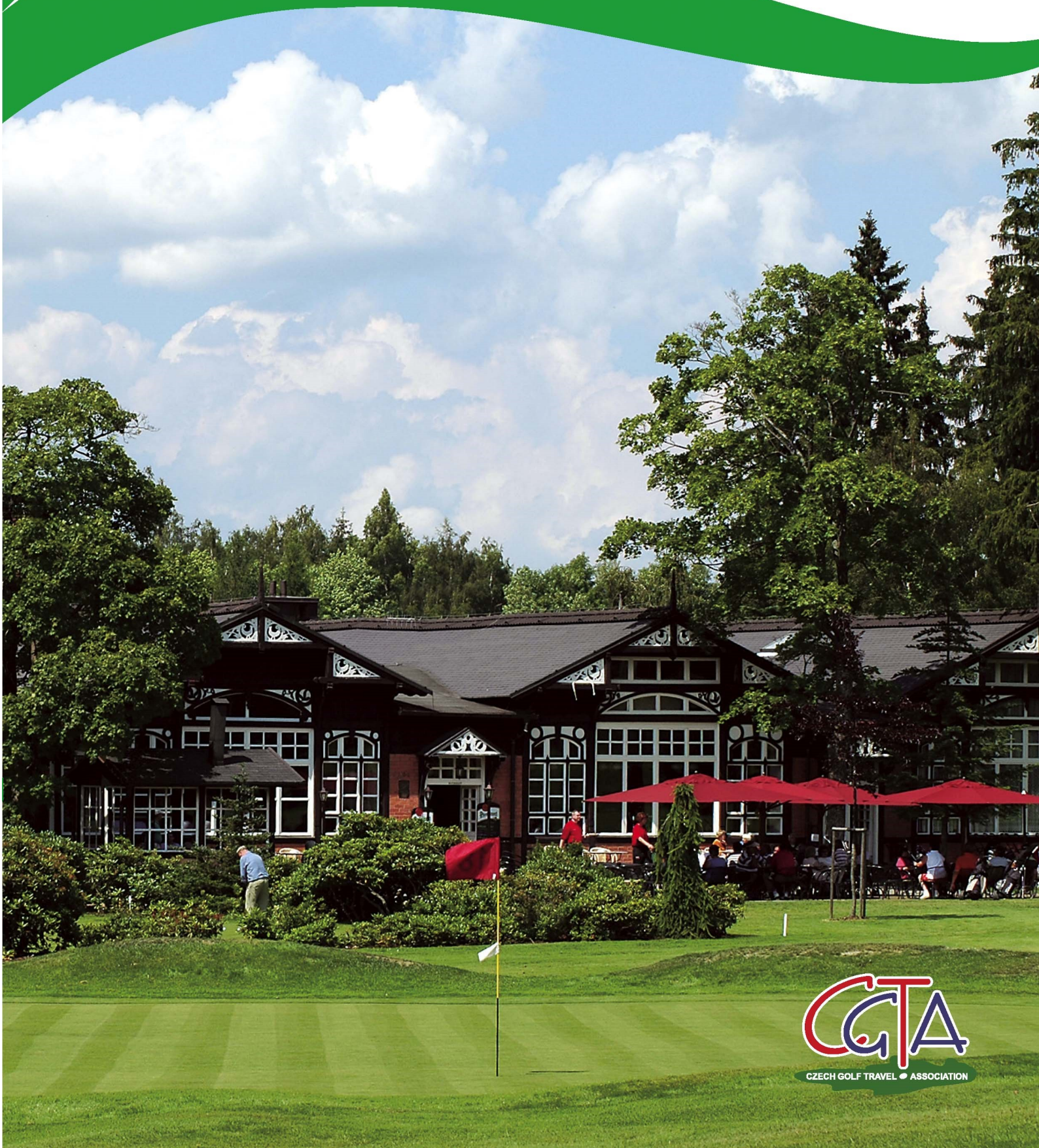
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