



Foreword

It is a great honour and privilege for me to have the opportunity to write this foreword for a Festschrift in honour of a colleague and friend whom I hold in very high esteem, Professor Segun Awonusi.

The collection of papers in this volume is a fitting tribute to Professor Awonusi's lifetime of academic labour and contribution to knowledge. Awonusi being one of the pioneer sociolinguists who have explored the sociolinguistics of English as a second language in Nigeria, this volume aptly covers the four major areas of his academic interest and contribution, namely phonology and phonetics, English Language in Nigeria, Sociolinguistics and Social Media, General topics on university administration

Professor Awonusi is an unusual academic in that he is also a pragmatic and active player in the Nigerian socio-political environment, having served as a Commissioner in the Ogun State Local Service Commission, as Commissioner for Education, Science and Technology in Ogun State and as pioneer Vice-Chancellor of Tai Solarin University of Education in Ogun State. He has thus paid his dues back to the community which produced him by putting his considerable knowledge and skills at its service.

The book makes stimulating reading as it brings forth the result of recent research in the area of Nigerian English studies as carried out by a few established scholars and mostly vibrant young scholars who are venturing into new areas of enquiry and doing so creditably. The contributions from scholars outside Nigeria speak to Awonusi's ability to spread his influence beyond the shores of his native country and the respect he has earned among international scholars through his scholarship and collaborations.

I recommend the book to all who are interested in New Englishes and Nigerian English in particular.

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