



Qbafemi Awolowo Prize for Leadership Nomination Form

Nominee

Name: _____

Designation/Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Nominated by:

Name: _____

Designation/Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Signature of

Nominator: _____ Date: _____

This form is to be accompanied by:

- Support letters from **2** other individuals who have knowledge and involvement of/with the nominated individual's accomplishment/contribution.
- A two-page concise summary of the accomplishments that illustrates why the candidate should be considered for the Qbafemi Awolowo Prize for Leadership. The summary should be guided by the criteria (indices) listed in the appendix.
- Independent references such as mention in newspapers, journals, etc.
- Video clips and other relevant evidence supporting the nomination.
- Evidence of projects/programmes/contributions.
- Documented evidence e.g. publications.
- Any other supporting evidence.

Closing date for nominations – November 3, 2025.

Appendix

THE ỌBAFEMI AWOLỌWỌ PRIZE FOR LEADERSHIP

Preamble

The Ọbafẹmi Awolọwọ Prize for Leadership is instituted by the Ọbafẹmi Awolọwọ Foundation on the basis of one of the major recommendations of its Special Dialogue on “Transformational Leadership and Good Governance: Lessons from the Awolọwọ Example”, held in July 2011. The national Prize is instituted in the name of Chief Ọbafẹmi Awolọwọ to reward leadership and good governance.

Chief Ọbafẹmi Awolọwọ, a Nigerian and Pan-African nationalist of global repute, was the First Premier of Nigeria’s Western region and, later, Leader of Opposition in the Federal Parliament. He was also, *inter alia*, Nigeria’s Federal Commissioner (now known as Minister) of Finance and Vice Chairman, Federal Executive Council. He played crucial roles in Nigeria’s constitutional and political developments in the country’s colonial and postcolonial history.

A highly revered Nigerian federalist, Chief Awolọwọ was variously described by Nigerian leaders, upon his transition, as “the issue in Nigerian politics” and “the best president Nigeria never had” in recognition of his indomitable role as a leader in Nigerian politics and policies. Of particular relevance is Chief Ọbafẹmi Awolọwọ’s leadership bent, well acknowledged as people-centred, visionary, integrity-laden and underlined by enviable discipline. His grassroots friendly policies and transformational approach to leadership are still evident in the various legacies of the late sage.

It has been generally recognized that one of the greatest challenges facing Nigeria, and, indeed, African countries today, is the dearth of good leadership. The Ọbafẹmi Awolọwọ Prize for Leadership is therefore established to encourage, recognize, reward and celebrate excellence in leadership.

The Prize

The Prize is awarded to an individual (male or female) who has demonstrated excellence in leadership and good governance. The recipient must be a person who has made relevant vital contributions within the country or abroad in the private or public spheres.

The Awolọwọ Prize for Leadership consists of a medal, a certificate and a plaque. The emphasis is on the intrinsic value of the award, which, itself, confers honour and recognition on the recipient as a strong incentive for the pursuit of excellence in leadership and good governance.

The Prize is awarded every two years.

Indices (Criteria) for Selection

In selecting candidates, emphasis is laid on characteristics of leadership and good governance that are in tandem with Chief Awolọwọ’s values. These characteristics include:

- Integrity
- Credibility
- Discipline

- Selflessness
- Visionary leadership
- People-centred leadership
- Grassroots-friendly policies
- Positive policy intervention (in education, health, economy, etc.): Where appropriate, candidate must have demonstrated articulation and implementation of programmes leading to positive improvement in various segments of the society such as education, health and economy.
- Impact on poverty reduction/increased welfare
- Respect for rule of law
- Accountability
- Corruption perception
- Guarantee of press freedom
- Courage
- Tenacity of purpose

The selection criteria are as stated above. Kindly note that leadership qualities could be demonstrated in any or all of the following four categories:

1. Leadership in Politics & Governance

This relates to political leadership and, generally, performance of government functionaries in the three organs, namely the executive, legislature and judiciary. It also embraces bureaucratic leadership as component of public sector governance.

2. Leadership in Corporate Governance & Social Responsibility

This focuses on actors in the private sector with relevance for social responsibility and organizational performance. It also includes the leadership of state owned corporations and the leadership of the regulatory organs of the state, which supervises the private and public sector.

3. Leadership in Educational Transformation

This is targeted at individuals who have provided outstanding leadership in education. It is recognized that this could be in the public or private sector, in view of the special place of education in Chief Awolowo's scheme of things.

4. Leadership in People-Centred Advocacy and Support for the Underprivileged

Encapsulated in this category are individuals with demonstrated outstanding leadership in agitating for a just, equitable and progressive society as well as promoting the cause of the poor in the society. It also includes outstanding leadership in community service (that may be provided by traditional rulers, activists, philanthropists and other individuals)

Nomination

The call for nomination for the 2025 award is between August and November. Female nominees are especially encouraged. The deadline for the return of completed forms is November 3, 2025. Such forms shall be vetted and information on candidates verified by the Selection Committee. The Committee may seek additional independent information as may be necessary to enable it make informed decisions and recommendations.

Announcement and Award of the Prize

Announcement of the award will be made in December 2025 while the actual date of award of the Prize will be March 6, 2026, to coincide with the birthday of Chief Obafemi Awolowo. The recipient of the award will give a Lecture on the date of the award of the Prize, or as soon thereafter as practicable.

Award

The Prize is awarded once in two years. Where no suitable candidate is found in the year of award, the selection will take place in the immediate successive year.

TIME CHART

04 AUGUST 2025:	Call for Nominations.
03 NOVEMBER 2025:	Nomination closes. (Completed Forms must have been returned by this date, along with relevant documents).
04 NOVEMBER 2025 - 05 DECEMBER 2025:	Vetting of Forms, background checks and screening of candidates.
DECEMBER 2025:	Announcement of the Award.
6 MARCH 2026:	Award of the Prize and Lecture by the recipient.

For nomination forms and further information please contact:

Obafemi Awolowo Prize for Leadership Secretariat, Obafemi Awolowo Foundation, 15 Lanre Awolokun Road, Gbagada Phase 2, Lagos, Nigeria; Tel: +234-810-264-5136;
Website: www.obafemiawolowofoundation.com, www.tribuneonline.ng
Email: centenary@awolowofoundation.org or awolowofoundation@yahoo.com or awofound@gmail.org

COMPLETED NOMINATIONS CAN BE SUBMITTED VIA E-MAIL.