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THIS DAY

# Style



## BREAKING BOUNDARIES QUEENS OF THE SKY NIGERIAN INTERNATIONAL FEMALE PILOTS

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# COVER

In recent times, African women have been emerging and soaring in the male-dominated Aviation industry. Though comparatively few in number, these Pilots' strides and achievements have shot them to the forefront of this industry. **FUNKE BABS-KUFEJI AND KONYE NWABOGOR** report...

## THISDAY STYLE

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It was heartbreaking to learn of the recent Ethiopian Airline crash that claimed the lives of over 150 passengers. Till date, blames are still being apportioned between the airline and makers of the Boeing 737 MAX 8 operator. A can of worms has since been opened by former staff of Boeing who claim that their standard of manufacturing was compromised because of demand. Apparently some components used in building of the plane did not pass the smell test so to speak. I do hope the investigators will get to the bottom of this soon enough and the culprits are sanctioned accordingly. My heart goes to the family and loved ones of the victims and pray God gives them strength during this trying time.

Now, everyone knows the Aviation industry is male dominated. How many people can recall how macho and sexy Pilots look when they stride into the plane in their sharply cut uniforms looking like mini-gods at the cockpit. I guess the appeal comes from knowing that your life is literally in their hands! There are usually so well toned that I don't recall ever seeing an overweight Pilot coming to think of it.

Now, imagine the same role being played by women. Women are not only flying planes like their male counterparts, they are also flying the top of the range planes around the continent. Several of them have flown the famous Boeings whom we feature on our cover, interestingly Nigerian women are actually amongst the few black women that have done so. That Nigerian women are amongst these few is truly a thing of pride for us as a nation. I strongly believe when we do outstanding things, especially on the global stage, we should be celebrated. Also aside from the international female pilots, we have those here in Nigeria who have also won both the confidence of their employers and the customers they fly.

This just goes to show that regardless of gender, if you are good at what you do, your success will be acclaimed. I believe literally all jobs are gender friendly now and any form of discrimination is greatly frowned upon in today's times. If a man can be a wonderful chef or a makeup artiste, I don't see why a woman cannot be a great pilot or football player. It is all about bringing on your A game and showing the world how great you are at doing what you do.  
Kudos to all of these women!!

*Ruth*

FASHION DIRECTOR/EXECUTIVE EDITOR

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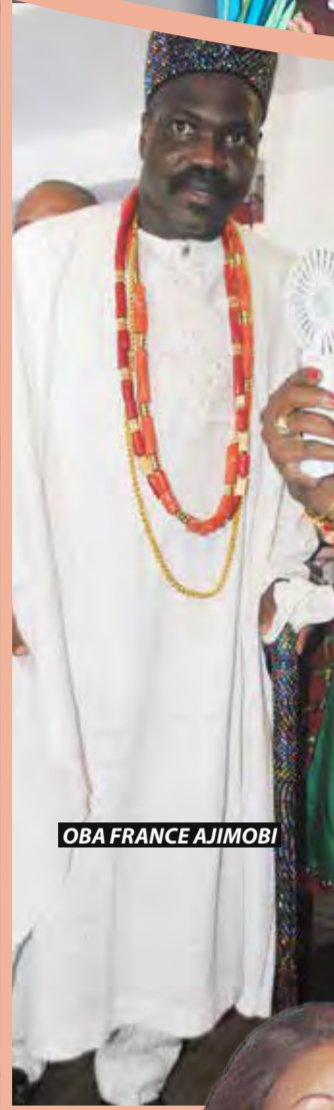
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# Scene and be Seen



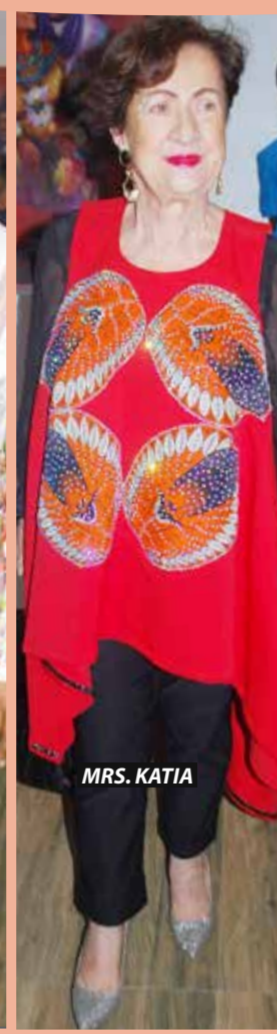
CHIMOBI AND KOKOEKA OBIOHIA



OBA FRANCE AJIMOBI



TESSY IKIMI



MRS. KATIA



JECINTA POWELL & INI EDO



LAMPE TUMAKA



RASAK ISA



ELIZABETH JIBUNOH



N. OKOYE



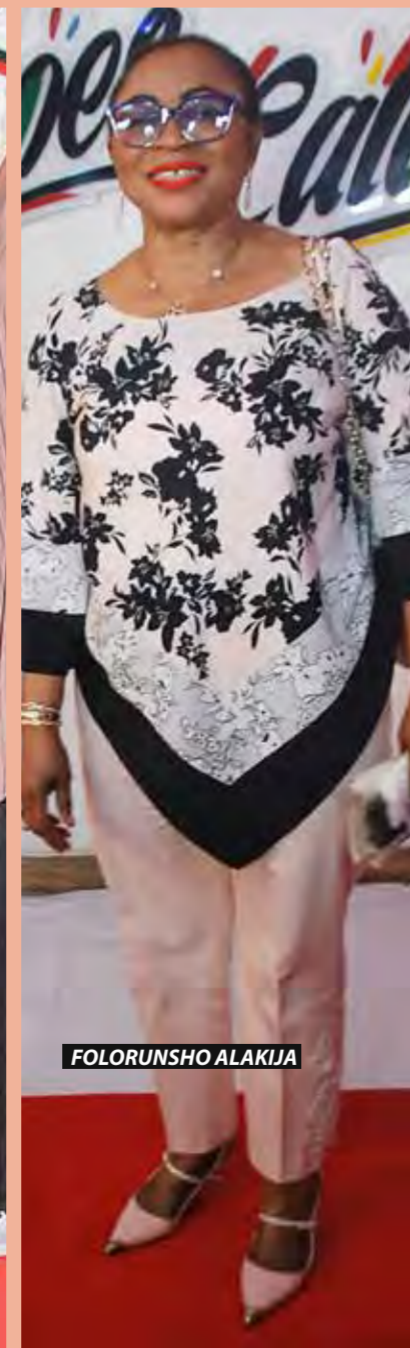
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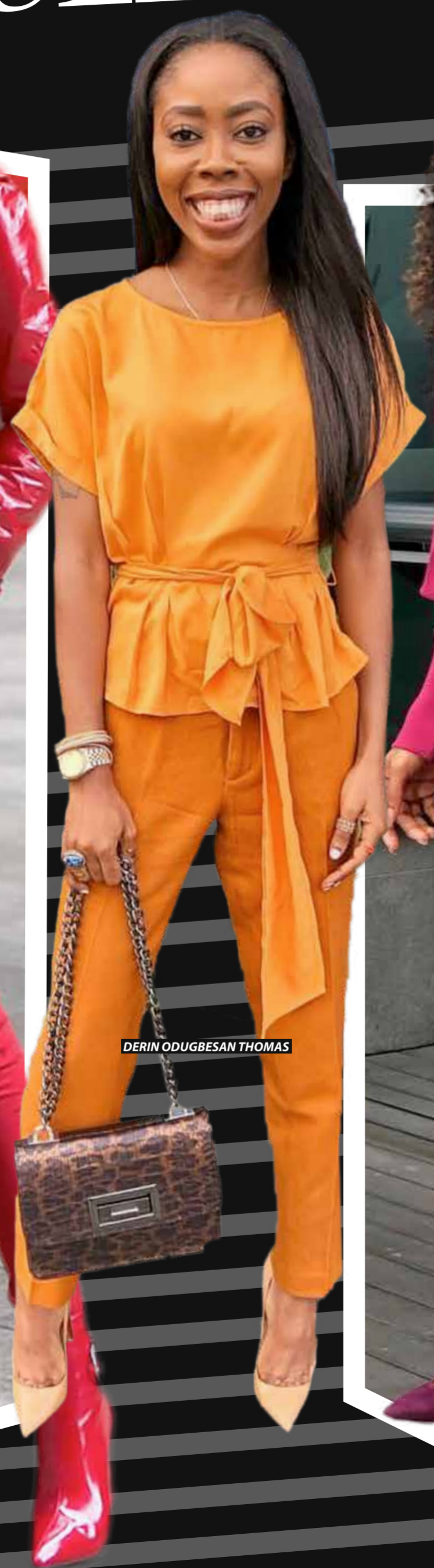
# TREND TO TRY

# MONOCHROME DRESSING

Who said one colour would be boring? Need some outfit inspiration for the weekend? Try the It-trend you'll spot on every cool girl's Instagram feed—monochrome dressing. From fashion bloggers to entertainment stars, almost every celebrity has worn this trend and made it their own. While some have gone down the head-to-toe route, where they even match their footwear with the colour of their outfit, others have incorporated heels in classic colours that toned down their bold outfits. If there's one key to acing this trend, it's keeping your accessories impactful and avoiding any unnecessary layering. So, make the most of the monochrome dressing trend by picking from a vibrant colour palette—pearl white, scarlet, pastel pink, mud brown, electric blue, grey, jet black, tangerine, muted mauve and more. As long as the outfit looks great, sticking to one tone will make it even greater!



CHINYERE ADOGU



DERIN ODUGBESAN THOMAS



CHINNY CO



AMA GODSON



DORIS NKUMAH

BY KONYE CHELSEA NWABOGOR



ARISE NEWS ANCHORS // FRONT ROW L-R: IDIA AISEN; OJI OKPE  
BACK ROW L-R: MODELE SHARAF YUSUF; OLANIYI OYELOWO; ARON AKEREJOLA; VICTORIA PEPL E; NDEE AMAUGO; MAERCY AJISAFE; ADESUWA OMORUAN, REUBEN ABATI; VERONICA ODEKA

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# FirstBank 125th Anniversary Flag Hoisting Event

Nigeria's Premier financial institution and iconic banking brand, First Bank of Nigeria Limited held its symbolic flag hoisting ceremony in Nigeria on 1 March 2019. The celebratory flag hoisting ceremony officially kicked off a succession of events commemorating the bank's 125 years anniversary. The ceremony was held in the Bank's subsidiaries across Africa, Europe and Asia; notably Ghana, DR Congo, Sierra Leone, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea, China, and UK.

Chief Executive Officer, First Bank of Nigeria Limited, Dr Adesola Adeduntan, in his welcome speech noted that the flag symbolised the identity, impact, permanence and reverence of a long-standing institution which predates Nigeria as a unified entity and added that FirstBank is entrenched in the nation's development; because it's woven into the very fabric of society, with the Bank's involvement in every stage of national growth and development.



1. Display of FirstBank's Flags at Samuel Asabia House, FirstBank's Head Office.
2. Mrs. Folake Ani-Mumuney, Group Head, Marketing & Corporate Communications FirstBank and Chairman FBNInsurance Brokers; UK Eke MFR, Group Managing Director, FBN Holdings Plc; Oba Otudeko CFR, Group Chairman, FBN Holdings Plc; Mrs. Ibukun Awosika, Chairman, First Bank of Nigeria Ltd and Adesola Adeduntan, Chief Executive Officer, First Bank of Nigeria Ltd.
3. Chairman, First Bank of Nigeria Ltd, Mrs. Ibukun Awosika, presenting the 125th anniversary flag to the Oba of Lagos, His Royal Majesty Oba Rilwan Akiolu, in recognition of the traditional leadership of Lagos, the State where the journey began 125 years ago.
4. Chairman, First Bank of Nigeria Ltd, Mrs. Ibukun Awosika, presenting the 125th anniversary flag to the Deputy Governor of the Central Bank, Mr Adebisi Shonubi.
5. Group Managing Director, FBN Holdings Plc, handing over the anniversary flag to Rear Admiral Adebari, the representative of the Chief of Naval Staff; in recognition of the berthing of the Bank on the Marina.
6. Hoisting of the Flag by Major Adebayo Badmus (Rtd).
7. Chief Executive Officer, First Bank of Nigeria Ltd, Dr Adesola Adeduntan delivering his welcome address at the event.
8. Group Managing Director, FBN Holdings Plc, handing over the anniversary flag to Chief Executive Officer, Nigerian Stock Exchange, Mr. Oscar N. Onyema, in recognition of the Bank as one of the oldest listed companies on the exchange.

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-You First-

# FirstBank 125th Anniversary Flag Hoisting Event



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14. Alhaji Ibrahim Waziri, Alhaji Umaru Kwairanga, Chairman FBN Quest Merchant Bank; Mallam Bello Maccido, Executive Director Public Sector Group FirstBank, Alhaji Abdullahi Ibrahim; Director FBN Holdings Plc, Dr Wuro Bokki Executive Director Operations, NPF Pensions Ltd, Mr. Abdulkareem Gezawa and Executive Director Investment, NPF Pensions Ltd, Mr. Nicholas Nneji.
15. Cross section of FBNBank Ghana staff in a pose with FBNBank Ghana MD, Gbenga Odeyemi (sixth from left) and FBNBank Ghana CFO, Semiu Lamidi (sixth from right) at their flag hoisting event.
16. Cutting of the cake by Non-Executive Director FirstBank, Alhaji Lawal Kankia Ibrahim at the Kaduna Main branch.
17. Group picture from Abuja Maitama branch with the Mexican Ambassador in Nigeria, Garcia Moreno Elizondo Alejandro; MD/CEO MIA Eng. Ltd, Moses Alakiya and MD/CEO Imani And Sons, Bello Abubakar.
18. Group Head with BDM Kano Jigawa and Kano Main branch team.
19. Group picture from Uyo Main branch.
20. Group picture from UK.
21. Representative of the Ambassador of Nigeria in Senegal.

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# Highlights from the

# Think... Build Smart and Innovate

## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CONFERENCE



# BREAKING BOUNDARIES QUEENS OF THE SKY

*In recent times, even though African women have been excelling, leading and dominating in their chosen professions, not many women are making waves in male-dominated aviation industry. But though few in number, those in this industry are certainly not taking a back seat. Their strides and achievements, including some of our very own, are putting our women at the forefront of an industry less travelled by the fairer sex proving beyond reasonable doubts that women can thrive in a career which rarely gives room for them to shine.*

BY FUNKE BABS-KUFEJI & KONYE CHELSEA NWABOGOR



## FAITH BOEGHEIM

Captain Faith Odushola Boegheim started flying over 15 years ago, following in the footsteps of her father after studying for three years in 43 Air School in South Africa. Faith began her career in 2000 with Aero Contractors where she became the first and youngest female to become a Captain on Aero's Contractors Boeing 737 jet. Though she had wanted to become a Medical Doctor growing up, Faith, much to her father's delight, took a keen interest in flying and being a pilot himself, her father encouraged and nurtured her through Aviation school where she excelled far beyond her years.

Faith currently works at Corendon Airline in the Netherlands but has also worked in Italy, Bulgaria Romania and Nigeria. Her name definitely can not be omitted when it comes to leading ladies in the Aviation industry.

## HASSANA AND HUSEINA EDILI-OGAJI

Canadian trained and graduate of Canadian Aero Academy Hassana and Huseina Edili Ogaji are the first Female Nigerian twin pilots in the aviation industry. Double delight some might say. They both have several years' experience to their credits. The Ogaji twins despite living in a patriarchal society like Nigeria, have risen in the male dominated industry and are recognized for their firsts of many achievements: hard work and success. This feat and achievements will no doubt encourage more women to join in the foray as they are a living proof of how to succeed in doing so. What makes theirs unique is that they are identical twins, they are in the same industry. There is certainly an interesting story.



## ADEBANKE OLAYIWOLA

Adebanke Olayiwola is a name that stands out in the aviation industry. She is one of the very few women trail blazing and shattering glass ceilings. She is the very first black female pilot in the world to fly one of the only four Boeing 747 dream lifters also known as the Boeing 747-it is a 400 large cargo freighter, a plane she currently flies in the United States of America. The pride of many women, especially black women. Olayiwola is type rated on the Boeing 377 800, Mac Donald 83 otherwise known as the Mad Dog, which is one of the most powerful aircrafts in the world and the bombardier CRJ 900.

Born and raised in Ibadan, Oyo state, Olayiwola obtained both her primary and secondary education there and later graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Health Education from Obafemi Awolowo University, (OAU), Ile-ife. She then proceeded to the UK for a Master's of Science degree programme in International Globalization at Leicester University.

She started her career in Aviation with Etihad Airways as an Aviation health trainer, while training in UK for her Master's degree and this gave her the opportunity not only to travel the world (something she had always dreamed of), but to also work in close proximity with pilots. Her frequent travels with Etihad led to her curiosity about flying airplanes and this with the help and encouragement of a trainer pilot, led her to take an introductory flight course with the airline, the rest, as they say, is history.

Adebanke dreams of being a Captain some day but for now she is following her dreams and flying the Nigerian flag with great honour. She is also interested in philanthropy and is set on setting up an NGO that will positively impact on our youths. She feels the need to not only excel in her chosen field but also positively impact on the lives of the less privileged.



## ADEOLA OGUNMOLA-SOWEMIMO

An indigene of Ogbomosho, Oyo State, Adebanke Sowemimo is a true inspiration for Nigerian women to pursue their dreams. She is the first Nigerian female pilot to work at Qatar Airways; likewise, the first Nigerian female pilot on the gigantic Boeing 787 Dreamliner Aircraft. She is also the first Nigerian woman pilot to fly the Boeing 767 Aircraft across the Atlantic and now joins the likes of Kenya's Captain Irene Koki Mutungi, Ethiopia's Captain Amsale Gulau and a few other African women who fly the Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft.

A graduate of Ladoko Akintola University and Sunrise Aviation Academy in the United States of America, Sowemimo has made ground-breaking records in the Middle East, a region that is home to some of the world's biggest and most recognizable luxury airlines, and more so, in a nation that is reputed to be an extremely challenging region for women hoping to be Pilots and Captains of airplanes. It is truly uplifting to see Nigeria women excelling in the Aviation industry especially on the global stage.





# WOMEN IN THE SKY

## FUN FACTS

An impressive and ever-growing league of women in aerospace are challenging sexist views that have limited their gender thus far. Africa got its first female pilot in 1964 but for many years thereafter women did not rise to take on the mantle. Instead they filled the ranks of flight attendants, leaving the men to dominate the role of piloting. However, with the number of educated and empowered women rising, so has their numbers in male-dominated fields. Here are some facts centred around women who are breaking barriers in the skies.

### FIRST NIGERIAN FEMALE PILOT



CHINYERE WITH FMR PRESIDENT GOODLUCK JONATHAN

Captain Chinyere Kalu, is the first female pilot in Nigeria. Spurred on by a relative who was rather unconventional, Chinyere forged ahead to pursue her career. This aunt of hers was the first in her family to travel overseas and saw in her niece Chinyere, a hunger to pursue a dream and excel in it regardless of going against the grain in a somewhat strict society when women were meant to have their own place and not move beyond. Chinyere wanted to travel the world, and saw better prospect in training to become a Pilot. That way she would kill two birds with one stone. Pursue her dream and also see the world while at it. She has definitely created a path for others like her to follow in the Aviation industry. Her successful climb up the ladder has established her as a role model. She has participated in so many training and leadership programs both local and abroad. So it came as no surprise that she was made a member of the Order of the Federal Republic (MFR) in the 2006 National Honours. In 2011, she was appointed the Rector and Chief Executive of the Nigerian College of Aviation Technology (NCAT), which is the largest aviation training institute in Africa.

### ALL FEMALE CREW- ETHIOPIAN AIRLINE



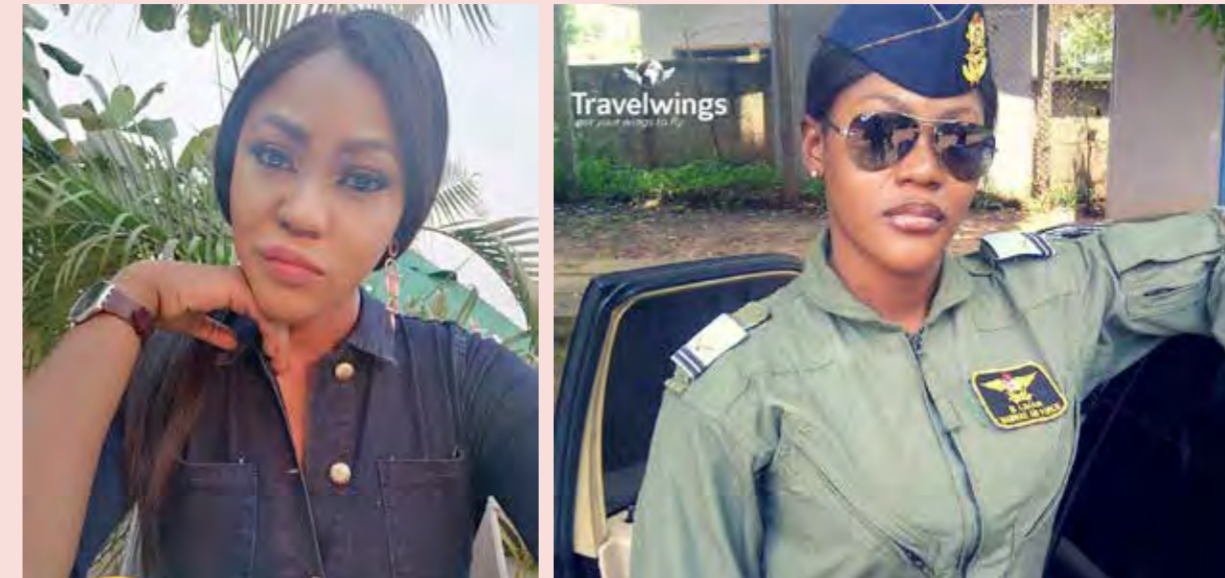
In December 16th 2017, Ethiopian Airlines flew into history by operating the first all-female crew for an African flight. Every member of the flight crew was female, including the pilots, cabin crew, flight ramp operators and dispatchers. The groundbreaking flight took off from Addis Ababa in Ethiopia and landed in Lagos, Nigeria. This trip was piloted by Captain Amsale Gualu. We seize this opportunity to commiserate with the families of all those who died in the recent plane crash that claimed many lives. We pray that their souls find eternal rest. While investigations are still on-going, blames have been apportioned to the Boeing 737 MAX 8 type in operation, complaints earlier reported by the pilot about difficulties with the flight control system. Hopefully the root cause of the tragic event will be revealed and addressed and appropriately sanctioned meted for this travesty.

### AIR PEACE AIRLINE



Nigeria's aviation industry made another milestone when Air Peace operated its first all-female flights from Lagos to Abuja, Owerri, Imo state and back to Lagos. The plane was filled to the brim and the passengers who experienced the trip had nothing but praises and admiration for the smooth flight. Capt. Sinmisola Ajibola, Senior First Officer Quincy Owen SEP Instructor Rosemary Uagbor, Cabin Executive Chidimma Chimezie and Cabin Executive Opakirite George were the crew. The flight which took off from Lagos, was operated days after Air Peace produced its first female Captain, Sinmisola Ajibola. This move is a step in the right direction for gender equality. Women all over the world, including Nigerian women, have proven beyond doubt that they are capable and can excel. This is such a proud moment for Nigerian history.

### NIGERIA'S FIRST FEMALE COMBAT PILOT



History was made in Nigeria on the 27 April 2012 when the Nigerian Air Force produced the first female combat pilot in the sub-region, following the badge decoration (winging) of Flying Officer Blessing Liman and 29 other pilots as combat flying officers. For a turf that is almost exclusively the preserve of men, the emergence of a 28yr old female as a Flying Officer was undoubtedly remarkable. It is outstanding enough joining the Nigerian Air Force, but it is doubly egregious for a young lady to become a jet fighter and the first in the country. In 2012, she received an award for excellence from THISDAY Newspaper.

### YOUNGEST BLACK WOMAN OF NIGERIAN DESCENT TO FLY A PLANE..



In 2009, Kimberly Anyadike, an African American teenager of Nigerian descent made history and became the first African American female and the youngest African American to fly an aeroplane across the United States. Kimberly achieved this great height and set the record after just two years of pilot training through a special after-school program she enrolled in which is run by the Tomorrow's Aeronautical Museum in Compton where she lives with her family. While on the 13-day flight, Kimberly successfully flew from Compton to Virginia and back. In an interview with CNN, she described the experience as a dream come true and an amazing experience with only a light storm and bad weather as her challenge.



### FIRST BLACK FEMALE PILOT



Bessie Coleman

In 1922, aviator Bessie Coleman became the first African American woman to stage a public flight in America. Her high-flying skills always won her audience. Who Was Bessie Coleman? Born in 1892, Bessie Coleman was an American aviator and the first black woman to earn a pilot's license. Because flying schools in the United States denied her entry, she taught herself French and moved to France, earning her license from France's well-known Caudron Brother's School of Aviation in just seven months. One can only imagine what obstacles and setbacks she must have encountered but she still forged on undeterred. Amidst such challenges like the colour of her skin not to mention being a woman on top of it, she dared to tread in a profession where even some men could not dare tread! Though Bessie wanted to start a flying school for African Americans when she returned to the U.S., Coleman specialized in stunt flying and parachuting, and earned a living barnstorming and performing aerial tricks. In 1922, she became the first African-American woman in America to make a public flight.

One can only presume that aside from her courage and determination, those who boarded her flight would have also had their own fair share of initial reservations but plucked up courage to do so because they were inspired by her. Sadly, like some shooting stars whose time on earth is limited, Coleman was tragically killed on April 30, 1926 at only 34 years old when an accident during a rehearsal for an aerial show sent her plummeting to her death. Till date, Coleman remains a pioneer of women in the field of Aviation.



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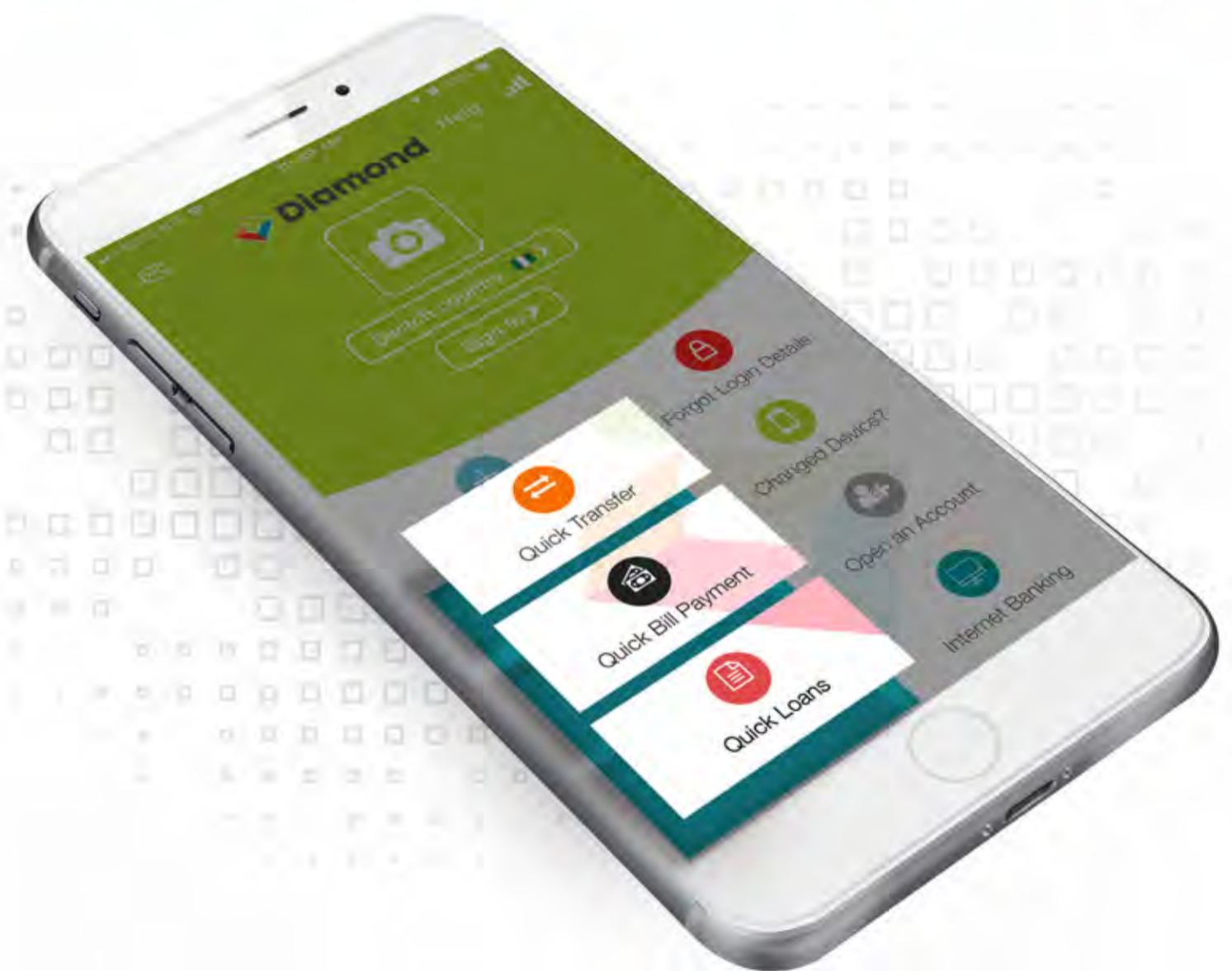
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# THE IT-girl factor

The Urban Dictionary defines an It-girl as "the girl that everyone wants to be. She has everything you want, so you tend to envy her". A large part of the draw is undeniably her sense of style. She has her fashion game on at all times, but you'd never know by looking at her as she makes it

look so effortlessly easy. If you've scrolled through her Instagramfeed too many times to count, trying to work out just what it is about

her rest, look no further: Style comes to the rescue - we studied the style of the most celebrated popular girls of today to create a handy guide.



ALERO

**Be unapologetic about your love for fashion**  
Don't pretend like you don't care when you'd rather be shouting your love for fashion from the rooftops (of your favourite department store). Flaunt it, Instagram it, celebrate it!



**Never have an off day**

Not even on your day off. As Coco Chanel once pointed out, you never know when you could have a date with destiny (or the paparazzi). "And it's best to be as pretty as possible for destiny."

YVONNE NWOSU



KEFILWE MABOTE

**Mix high street and high-end**  
Anyone can dress in designer wear from head-to-toe and call it a day. But that does not an It-girl make. It's all about curating an enviable mash-up.



OG OKONKWO

**Don't discount the details**  
How is it that some girls makes even the simplest outfit a total standout? It's all about piecing the look together, right down to the last detail. A quirky neckpiece, statement shoes, vintage brooch - these are the tools you need to elevate your look.



AGATHA

**Be nonchalant about it**  
An It-girl embodies the spirit of 'I-woke-up-like-this'. Which is why it's important not to look too put together. So leave a detail undone - it could be messy, tousled hair, a carelessly half-tucked shirt, or a tote bag carried as an oversized clutch. Remember that 'effortless' is not just a catchword. It's a way of life for the superlatively stylish.



FISAYO LONGE

**Be a step ahead of the crowd**  
An It-girl doesn't queue up for the latest craze. In fact, she's the one dictating the trends that get to snag the numero uno spot on the style charts. So don't be a fashion victim. Wear what catches your fancy - even if it's sneakers with your floor-length dress or thigh high shorts.



SERWAA AMIHERE

**Cultivate a signature**  
The cardinal rule is to carve out a sensibility that becomes synonymous with your style. But note: that should never ever means being predictable.



ATINUKE ONI



OLUWAFUNMILAYO



OPEOLUWA ABITOYE

**Before not after!**

Asides scratching your lenses, you do not want to use your makeup fingers to touch the contacts. The discomfort from the makeup residue or dirt is better imagined than felt. At the end of the day, remove your contacts before taking off your makeup.

**Eyeliner friendly**

Be careful to use liners on the inside of the lash line to avoid infection and the blockage of the tear glands.

**Eye-shadows**

Instead of using a powder eyeshadow, opt for a creamy eyeshadow. This is because it is more difficult to control the dust from powder eyeshadows than the creamy eyeshadows. Also, use an eyeshadow primer.

# Makeup Tips For Ladies Wearing Contact

BY ISIOMA USIADE

Contact lenses have been the new cool for a while now. Not only is there a variety of colours to choose from, but they also give a whole new look to the wearer. However, some wearers find it difficult to wear makeup because of the fear of eye infections, red and itchy eyes. Wondering how you can pull it off? These are essential tips to help you:

**Good ol' mascaras**

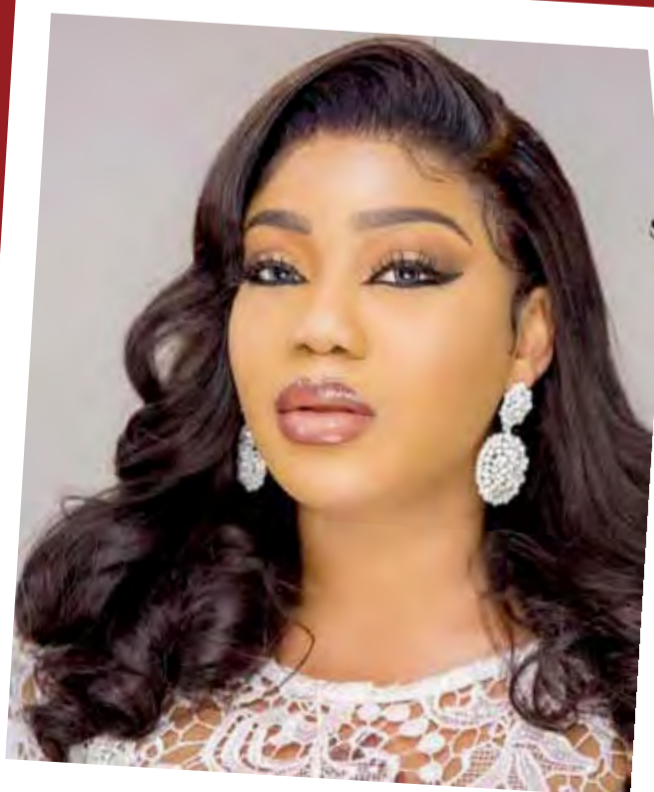
For a contact wearer, the clumps from the mascara can stay trapped under the lenses. Nothing to panic about, take the wand and brush from the middle of the lashes to the tip. More so, do not use mascaras with fibres. Opt for traditional lengthening mascaras.

**Brush it up!**

Step up your brush game with quality brushes with strong bristles. This reduces the dust of powder from getting into eyes.

**Foundation**

It is advisable to get a hypoallergenic liquid foundation as a cream foundation can irritate the eyes. Avoid products containing alcohol, fragrance and lanoline. Also, avoid oil-free products to prevent cloudy lenses.



TOYIN LAWANI



TONTO DIKEH



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