

PRAGMATIC DIPLOMACY



A MEMOIR OF AMBASSADOR
ANDERSON NKEMAKONAM MADUBIKE



**PRAGMATIC DIPLOMACY: A MEMOIR OF
AMBASSADOR ANDERSON NKEMAKONAM MADUBIKE**

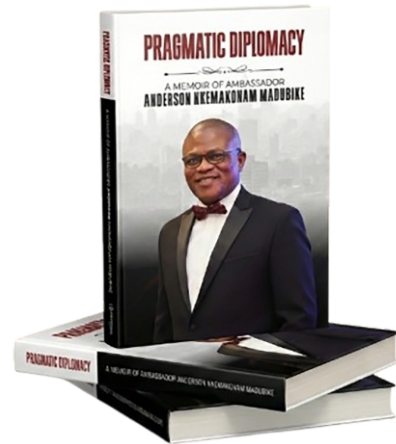
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Publisher: Titto and Katzns' Ltd. Abuja, Nigeria

Pages: 185 pages

Year of Publication: January, 2026

Price: N15,000:00



1. Introduction

Pragmatic Diplomacy is a reflective and deeply insightful memoir by Ambassador Anderson Nkemakonam Madubike, a seasoned diplomat with decades of service in Nigeria's foreign policy architecture. The book presents not merely a chronological narration of a distinguished career, but a philosophical exposition of diplomacy grounded in pragmatism, faith, and service.

With a compelling foreword by Rear Admiral Allison Madueke, the memoir is positioned within a tradition of leadership mentorship and national service. It is also deeply personal, dedicated to the author's parents, Erasmus and Bridget Madubike, whose foundational influence echoes throughout the narrative.

2. Structure and Organization

The book is well-structured into thematic and chronological segments, making it accessible and engaging. Across its 185 pages, the author organizes his life journey into key developmental phases:

- Family background and upbringing
- Early education and formative influences
- Mentorship and professional grounding
- Entry into the Nigerian Foreign Service
- Diplomatic postings and international engagements
- Sectoral contributions, especially in mining and education
- Reflections on faith, service, and legacy

The inclusion of photographs and illustrative materials adds depth and authenticity, transforming the memoir into both a scholarly and visual archive.

3. Thematic Analysis

3.1 Foundations: Family, Values, and Early Formation

One of the strongest elements of the memoir is its emphasis on foundational values. Madubike carefully traces his discipline, work ethic, and worldview to his upbringing. His parents are portrayed not only as caregivers but as moral anchors whose influence shaped his diplomatic temperament.

This section underscores a central thesis: effective diplomacy begins with strong personal values.

3.2 **Mentorship and Professional Evolution**

The influence of mentors—particularly Rear Admiral Allison Madueke—is a recurring theme. The memoir highlights how mentorship bridges the gap between potential and performance.

Madubike presents mentorship as:

- A strategic asset in career development
- A moral responsibility for leadership continuity
- A tool for institutional strengthening

3.3 **Diplomacy in Practice: A Pragmatic Approach**

The core of the book lies in its articulation of pragmatic diplomacy—a results-oriented, flexible, and context-driven approach to international relations.

Drawing from his service in Nigerian Foreign Service, the author demonstrates how diplomacy must move beyond theory to tangible outcomes.

Key features of his diplomatic philosophy include:

- Adaptability to geopolitical realities
- Strategic negotiation over rigid ideology
- Emphasis on mutual benefit and cooperation

3.4 **International Engagements and Bilateral Relations**

Madubike provides rich insights into Nigeria's diplomatic engagements, particularly during his tenure as High Commissioner to Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific.

He details efforts in:

- Strengthening educational exchanges
- Promoting economic partnerships
- Enhancing Nigeria's global image

These accounts serve as practical case studies in modern diplomacy.

3.5 **Sectoral Contributions: Education, Sports, and Mining Diplomacy**

A distinctive feature of the memoir is its exploration of sector-specific diplomacy:

- Educational Diplomacy: Building institutional collaborations

The Ambassador was pivotal to several knowledge transfer programs between UNN and Chinese universities

- Sports Diplomacy: Leveraging sports as a unifying global language

He is a strong believer in sports diplomacy, as evidenced by his strong support for the Super Falcons during the 2022 Women's World Cup in Australia.

- Mining Diplomacy: Advocating for the transformation of Nigeria's mineral sector. This man, seated with us here, facilitated an agreement for Nigerian mining professionals to undergo advanced training in Western Australia.

The mining sector discussion is particularly forward-looking, reflecting the author's vision for economic diversification beyond oil.

3.6 **Research, Statistics, and Policy Intelligence**

Madubike's experience in foreign affairs research and statistics highlights the importance of data-driven diplomacy. He emphasizes that effective policy must be informed by accurate intelligence and rigorous analysis.

3.7 **Faith, Service, and Legacy**

Perhaps the most profound dimension of the memoir is its spiritual undertone. The author consistently attributes his journey to divine grace, framing his career as a calling rather than mere profession.

Themes include:

- Faith as a guiding principle in leadership
- Service as the highest expression of patriotism
- Legacy as a function of impact, not position

4. **Style and Presentation**

The writing style is:

- Clear and reflective
- Rich in anecdotal detail
- Balanced between personal narrative and professional insight

The integration of photographs enhances reader engagement and provides historical context, making the memoir both informative and visually compelling.

5. **Strengths of the Book**

Comprehensive Coverage: Spans personal, professional, and philosophical dimensions

- Practical Insights: Offers real-world applications of diplomatic principles
- Inspirational Value: Motivates readers through a story of discipline and faith
- Policy Relevance: Provides useful perspectives for scholars and practitioners
- Visual Documentation: Photographs enrich the narrative

6. **Areas for Improvement**

While the memoir is robust, a few areas could be enhanced:

- Deeper Theoretical Engagement: Greater linkage to established diplomatic theories could strengthen its academic appeal
- Expanded Case Studies: More detailed analysis of specific diplomatic negotiations would add depth
- Comparative Perspectives: Inclusion of comparisons with other diplomatic systems could broaden its scope

7. **Contribution to Knowledge**

Pragmatic Diplomacy contributes significantly to:

- Diplomatic studies
- African foreign policy discourse
- Leadership and governance literature

It bridges the gap between theory and practice, offering a uniquely Nigerian perspective on global diplomacy.

8. **Relevance and Target Audience**

This book is highly relevant to:

- Diplomats and foreign service officers
- Scholars of international relations
- Policy makers and government officials
- Students of political science
- General readers interested in leadership and national development

9. **Conclusion**

Pragmatic Diplomacy is more than a memoir – it is a manual of leadership, service, and strategic engagement. Ambassador Anderson Nkemakonam Madubike successfully documents a life of purpose while offering valuable lessons for future generations.

The book stands as a testament to the power of disciplined upbringing, effective mentorship, and faith-driven service in shaping impactful leadership.

A compelling, insightful, and inspiring work that deserves a place in both academic and professional libraries.