



**A RARE DISEASE**  
**Gramps Morgan reveals**  
**what it is that killed his**  
**brother Peetah**

## **NAILAH TRIUMPHS**

**Blackman nominated for**  
**Song of the Year at 2024**  
**Caribbean Music Awards**





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# Woman is Boss... Again

## Nailah Blackman nominated for Song of the Year at Caribbean Music Awards

DJ Travis World, Nailah Blackman, and her manager and producer Anson Pro are nominees for this year's Caribbean Music Awards.

The Elite Magazine's Caribbean Music Awards was founded as a "platform to recognise, honour and celebrate Caribbean talent who have made significant contributions to the enhancement of our music and the development of our rich and diverse culture," its website said. It will be hosted by Wyclef Jean again.

Last year, Patrice Roberts and Machel Montano were among its winners.

The 2024 awards will be held on August 29 at Kings' Theatre, Brooklyn, New York.

Travis World was nominated for International DJ of Year.

Nailah was nominated for Female Artist of the Year, Song of the Year, Best Music Video and Collaboration of the Year for Come Home done with Skinny Fabulous.

On Instagram, Anson Pro announced his nominations for Producer for Song of the Year and writer of Song of the Year.

He said, "I really wish that I could be myself on camera and so a really cool video thanking everyone for their continuing support, but you know your boy just likes to be behind the scenes."

He thanked everyone for their continued support and called on people to vote for both him and Nailah in the respective categories.



DJ Travis World: Best International DJ



Nailah Blackman: also nominated for Female Artist of the Year

# The Power of Affirmations

I recently launched my creation "Wealth Waves", and it got me thinking about how we work and attract energy. The information flooded around us can be misinterpreted, misguided, or even ignored. So I thought that we could do something together today. Are you up for it? In today's fast-paced world, where stress and uncertainty seem ever-present, finding a sense of abundance can feel like a distant dream, to the point that it seems near impossible to reach. Yet, amidst the chaos and business of our daily lives, there still exists a powerful tool that has the potential to reshape our reality and invite prosperous abundance into every aspect of our being. This tool is none other than the humble affirmation. Please note that if this speaks to you then continue ready, a little curious then go ahead and if not then just for a moment humor me.

Affirmations are simple statements that affirm a desired outcome or belief, and they have been used for centuries as a means of supporting positive change and personal growth. Their effectiveness lies in their ability to reprogram the subconscious mind, your blueprint, replacing limiting beliefs with empowering ones and aligning our thoughts and actions with our deepest desires. It is a fact that we know that your thoughts drive your behavior, where you then take action and then produce the results you asked for. Now please know that this is your doing and actions so if you are not happy with it then point your finger to the person in the mirror. I am just being real here and there is no fluff.

One such resource, remember I mentioned that I was being creative recently is that I beautifully encapsulated the transformative power of affirmations in this eBook "Wealth Waves: Harnessing the

Power of 88 Affirmations for Abundant Living." With its carefully curated collection of affirmations, this eBook serves as a beacon of hope and inspiration for those seeking to cultivate a life filled with prosperity, joy, and fulfillment.

At its core, "Wealth Waves" acknowledges that abundance extends far beyond just material wealth. It looks at every aspect of our lives, from our relationships and health to our sense of purpose and fulfillment. Through the power of affirmations, readers are invited to tap into this boundless treasure of abundance and manifest their deepest desires into reality.

Each affirmation in "Wealth Waves" is a potent reminder of our inherent worthiness and capacity to create the life we desire. Whether it is affirming financial prosperity, vibrant health, loving relationships, or inner peace, these affirmations serve as guiding lights, illuminating the path towards a life of abundance.

For example, one affirmation from the eBook declares, "I am a radiant beacon of abundance, attracting prosperity effortlessly and spreading wealth and joy wherever I go." This simple yet powerful statement embodies the essence of abundance—the understanding that we are deserving of prosperity and joy, and by embodying this truth, we attract abundance effortlessly into our lives. Is it not true that we are hungry for these gifts?

Another affirmation emphasizes the importance of mindset in shaping our reality: "I am in perfect alignment with the universal flow of wealth, and I allow this energy to guide my actions, my decisions, and my contributions to the world." This affirmation reminds us of the profound connection between our thoughts, beliefs, and the abundance we experience



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• Be specific, very specific and positive in your affirmations, focusing on what you want rather than what you don't want.

• Repeat affirmations with deep conviction and belief, visualizing the desired outcome as you do so.

• Use present tense language to reinforce the belief that your desires are already manifesting. Live in the now.

• Incorporate affirmations into your daily routine, such as saying them during meditation or while doing household chores, including when you are driving safely of course.

DON'T:

• Use negative language or focus on what you lack.

• Repeat affirmations mindlessly without feeling or intention.

• Doubt the effectiveness of affirmations or undermine their power with negative thoughts.

• Overwhelm yourself with too many affirmations at once; focus on a few that resonate deeply with you.

• Give up if you do not see immediate results; trust in the process and continue to affirm your desires with faith and patience.

• With these practices in mind, you can harness the full potential of affirmations to transform your mindset and manifest abundance in all areas of your life.

You are the painter of your own canvas, choose the subject well.

Dianne Ojar is the author of "Wealth Waves: Harnessing the Power of 88 Affirmations for Abundant Living." eBook, and you can contact her to order your personal copy at [info@TheExperientialCoach.com](mailto:info@TheExperientialCoach.com) and details will follow.

Here are a list of Do's and Don'ts of Affirmations to help you on your journey to whatever your heart desires:

DO:

• Practice affirmations daily, ideally in the morning or before bedtime.

# Caribbean in Space

## Trini Engineer flies in zero gravity, pushes for inclusion in Aerospace industry

Kaylon Paterson, 30, a space engineer and CEO of Paterson Aerospace Systems, became only the fourth Trinidadian to fly in zero gravity when he completed his mission on May 17.

Paterson has now followed in the footsteps of Karen Braun, who became the first Trinidadian to fly in zero gravity in the 1990s, Dr Camille Wardrobe Alleyne in 2004, and Dr Aaron Persaud.

Paterson was selected to fly a scientific payload on a microgravity flight, by the ZERO G Corporation and the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) Aerospace Special Interest Group (SIG). The flight was funded by the Aurelia Institute, a media release said.

He became one of the 15 fliers in the 2023/24 Horizon cohort to complete the mission, after several months' delay.

Commenting on the flight, which lasted approximately one-and-a-half hours, Paterson outlined the main objectives, which were achieved with the assistance of reduced gravitational pull.

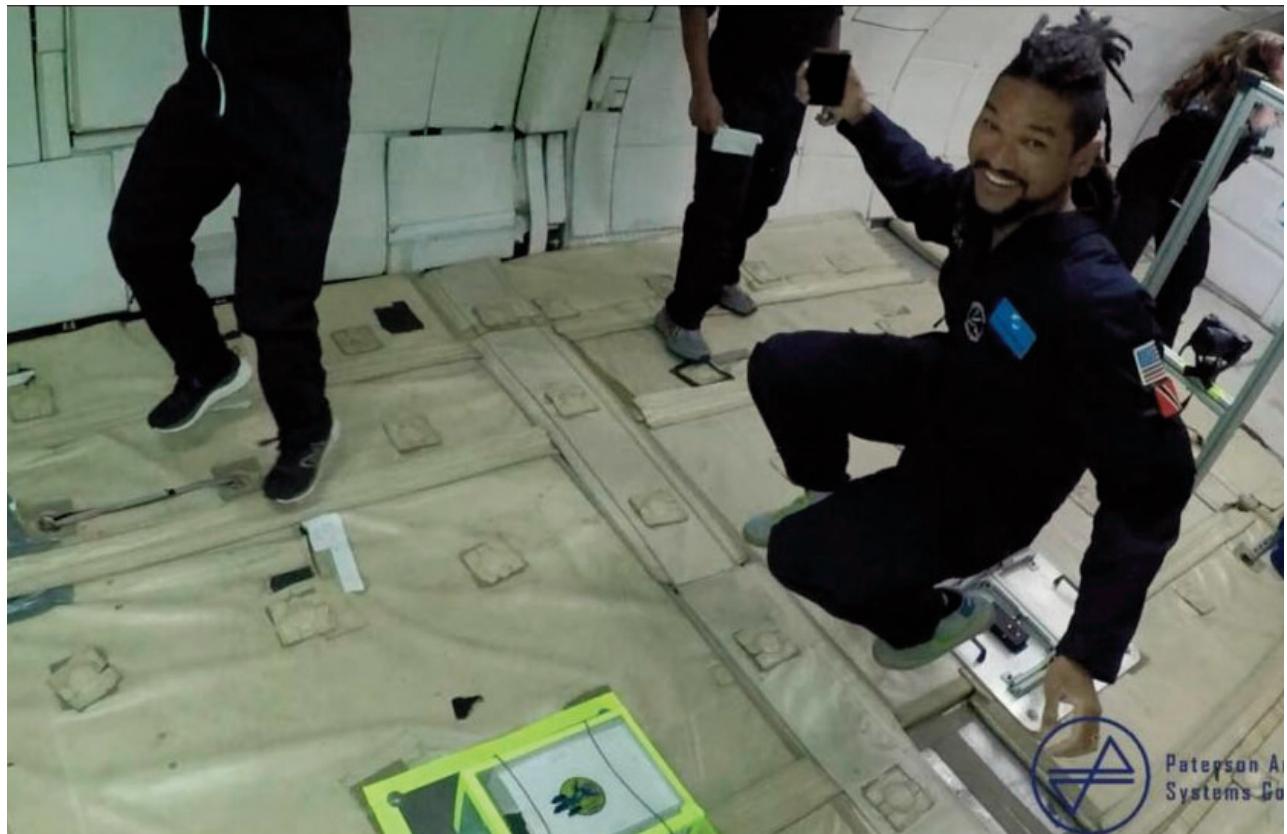
"We were able to gather data on the operation of two of our AI (artificial intelligence) algorithms which we will later compare for accuracy and performance. This has allowed our team to take one step further toward building out our technological capabilities. This data will be used to evaluate the accuracy and effectiveness of both algorithms and identify points of improvement for future space application," Paterson said in the release.

The delay of last year's flight, he said, "gave my team time to develop a secondary AI capability which is a testament to their hard work. I couldn't do any of this without them."

Noting that there are only three-six scientific flights in a year, with the opportunity being more readily available to those who can afford it, Paterson underscored the significance of his flight to him as a proud Trinidadian, and in an age when representation, inclusiveness and equity matters more than ever.

"It meant a lot to fly the Trini flag patch on my flight suit, as it reminded me how far I have come to pursue my dreams (since my days at Fatima College). I wanted to represent my homeland and show others how far their dreams can take them if they put in some effort and don't take no for an answer."

"Trinis have been working in the space in-



**Kaylon Paterson proudly wears the Trini patch on his suit during his flight**

dstry for decades and it's about time we start talking about it," he emphasised.

Looking forward, Paterson plans to propel Paterson Aerospace Systems forward, contributing meaningfully to the space industry.

"I hope to continue to push my company and our technology to new levels of development and continue to bring diversity and environmental stewardship to the space industry.

"Personally, I'm hoping to continue to stay

grounded in this industry that often sweeps me off my feet."

In addition to advocating for environmental sustainability through his company, Paterson has previously advocated for inclusion of Caribbean nations in the aerospace industry as national point of contact for TT with the Space Generation Advisory Council, and has begun working to develop educational outreach initiatives for Caribbean participation in space.



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# First Lady of the Sea

## Legendary Trinidadian sailor who circumnavigated the globe passes on

Kwailan La Borde, who, together with her husband Harold and their then five-year-old son Pierre, was one of the first Trinis to circumnavigate the globe, has died, her son Pierre has said in a Facebook post. She was 91.

La Borde posted on his FB account on May 30:

"Dear family and friends, this is to inform you that the First Lady of sailing in Trinidad and Tobago, my mom Kwailan La Borde, TC, passed away peacefully in her sleep last night. She was 91 years of age, and lived a full and successful life.

"We are not mourning but celebrating her life. Thanking you in advance for your thoughts and condolences. I will post funeral arrangements as soon as I know."

The post was accompanied by a photo of Kwailan which her son said was taken in Sydney harbour in Australia, in 1985 during the family's second circumnavigation.

According to online reference website Wikipedia, Kwailan, Harold and Pierre set out from Trinidad on February 2, 1969 in their 40-foot ketch Hummingbird II. Four years later, they became the first TT citizens to circumnavigate the globe. On their return home, the received the nation's then highest award the now discontinued Trinity Cross.

The Trinidad government bought the vessel, which is now on display.

The La Bordes went on to circumnavigate the world a second time via Cape Horn in 1984 on board Hummingbird III. This voyage was completed in 1986.

Harold and Kwailan were married in 1959. He died in June 2016.

Apart from sailing, the La Bordes also wrote several books, including *An Ocean to Ourselves* (1962), *All Oceans Blue* (1977), and *Lonely Oceans South* (1987). Kwailan would later complete an autobiography, *Wind, Sea, and Faith*.



Kwailan La Borde: passed away at age 91

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**Qatar Airways takes the top spot in the annual ratings race**



Australia-based aviation safety and product rating agency AirlineRatings.com scored Qatar Airways ahead of all airlines in its annual Airline Excellence Awards.

Singapore Airlines won Best First Class, Qatar Airways picked up Best Business Class, Emirates scooped Best Premium Economy and Air New Zealand was awarded Best Economy Class.

Qatar Airways won Best Catering, Virgin Australia had the best Cabin Crew, while Qantas triumphed with its Lounges.

For long-haul travel, AirlineRatings.com has excellence awards according to region.

For the Middle East, Qatar Airways was the top pick. Korean Air triumphed in North Asia, Cathay



**Qatar Airways placed ahead of all the world's major airlines on the annual ratings list**

Pacific Airways was the leader in Southeast Asia and Air New Zealand ruled in Australia-Pacific. Air France was the top choice for Europe, and Turkish Airlines led the

way in southern Europe. Air Canada won the award for North America, and Latam was the winner in South America.

American Airlines was last in

the list of the top 25.

In its rating of low-cost airlines, Air Canada Rouge ran third to AirAsia Group and Air Baltic in the annual ratings race.

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# US sues Hyundai over use of child labour

The U.S. Department of Labor on May 30 sued South Korean auto giant Hyundai Motor Co (005380.KS), opens new tab, an auto parts plant and a labor recruiter over illegal use of child labor in Alabama.

The complaint, filed in U.S. District Court in Montgomery, Alabama, also sought an order requiring the companies to relinquish any profits related to the use of child labor.

Reuters reported in 2022 that children, some as young as 12, worked for a Hyundai subsidiary and in other parts suppliers for the company in the Southern state.

The Labor Department filing named three companies as defendants for employing a 13-year-old child: Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama LLC; SMART Alabama LLC, an auto parts company; and Best Practice Service LLC, a staffing firm.

The Department's Wage and Hour Division found the child had worked up to 60 hours per week on a SMART assembly line operating machines that formed sheet metal into auto body parts.

The SMART plant supplies parts to Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama which assembles popular cars such as the Hyundai Santa Fe, Tucson, and Santa Cruz.

According to the Labor Department complaint, SMART informed the staffing firm that "two additional employees were not welcome back at the facility due to their appearance and other physical characteristics, which suggested they were also underage."

"Companies cannot escape liability by blaming suppliers or staffing companies for child labor violations when they are in fact also employers themselves," Solicitor of Labor Seema Nanda said in a press release.

A Reuters investigation revealed the widespread and illegal employment of migrant children in Alabama factories supplying parts to both Hyundai and sister brand Kia.

Reuters learned of underage workers at Hyundai supplier SMART, in Luverne, Alabama, following the brief disappearance in February 2022 of a Guatemalan migrant child from her family's home in Alabama.

The 13-year-old girl and her two brothers, aged 12 and 15 at the time, all worked at the plant



**The Hyundai Auto parts plant in Montgomery, Alabama**

in 2022 and were not going to school, according to people familiar with their employment.

At the time, SMART was a Hyundai subsidiary.

The Labor Department said that at the time of the alleged violations, SMART's operations were "so integrated" with Hyundai's main manufacturing plant in Montgomery that "the two companies were a single employer for purposes of liability" under U.S. labor law. And that along with the staffing firm, the three companies "jointly employed" the minor.

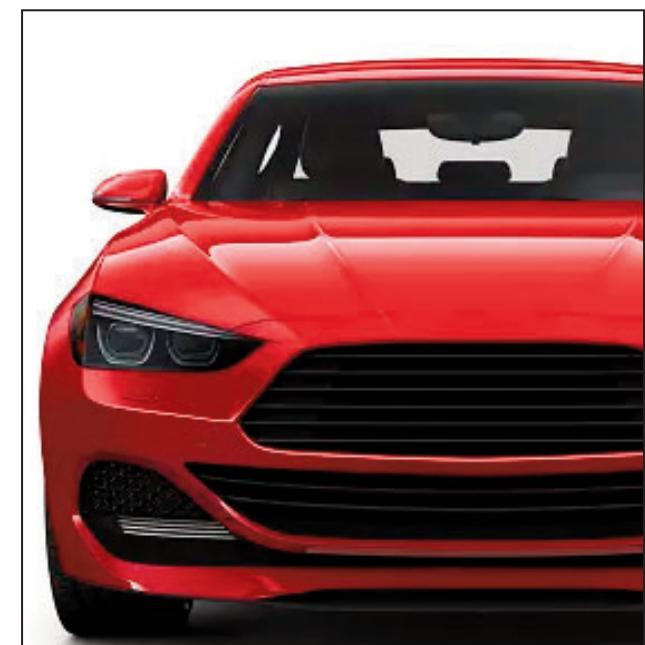
Hyundai in an emailed statement said the company no longer has any ownership in SMART. The court filing said SMART changed its name to ITAC Alabama in 2023.

Hyundai spokesperson Michael Stewart said the company had "worked over many months to thoroughly investigate this issue and took immediate and extensive remedial measures" and had presented this information to the Department of Labor to try to resolve the issue. Hyundai also required its Alabama suppliers to conduct independent workforce audits, Stewart said.

The Labor Department is seeking to apply "an unprecedented legal theory that would unfairly hold Hyundai accountable for the actions of its suppliers and set a concerning precedent for other automotive companies and manufac-

turers," Stewart said.

The parts supplier and the staffing firm did not immediately respond to requests for comment.



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# Good Vibrations

## Minister Marion Hall (Lady Saw) tells churchgoers of her lust for her vibrator

Minister Marion Hall, formerly Lady Saw, latest church confession is both stunning and amusing. She revealed to her churchgoers that she is not perfect and revealed one of her vices before she became a Christian.

The former Dancehall Queen is continuing to grow in her faith, continuing her weekly church services, where she ministers to fans and followers. Her physical church space at the Holy Ghost Pentecostal Church of Jesus Christ in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, is ready for churchgoers to attend as she livestream Sunday's event, which included an interesting confession.

During the service, Hall revealed that she, in the past, grappled with having a vibration addiction. The gory details of the confession have since gone viral.

"I was married and now divorced, but I am still married to Jesus," Hall begins. "There was a time people of God, when I bought a little vi-

brator and the vibrator was so good I keep going to the drawer to get it. I told you about that already, so I have nothing in, but I take it and throw it in the garbage. When I first bought it, I said God, this is not a man, so I don't have to ask forgiveness for this, Lord God. This was just a little vibrator, but the vibrator started to act like any man."

She continued, "Me did get so nice, man, the vibrator make you get on bad inna bed, when the vibrator badda than the man dem... That is my sin, so now that I come clean with you, make God reveal every hidden agenda."

Hall's comments were not unnoticed by Jamaicans. "Sound like she a try get ahead of a leaked video," one person said. "lol nth nuh wrong wid e, save u from doing worst, shuda try the rose," another person added. "Nobody couldn't get that outta me," another person said.

In the meantime, Hall also spoke about re-

ceiving a dog as a gift from the "enemy". According to Hall, she received the dog as a gift around her birthday when around 18 people came to Jamaica for her Birthday.

After receiving the dog, Hall claims that several misfortunes began to happen to her, starting with her 18-year romantic relationship ending in a breakup, the 10-year visas for her adopted children being revoked, and the FBI questioning her adopting the children.

"The bible said they got gifts from the enemy...years ago; I had a big bash, I flew down Akon and Remy Ma. And let me tell you, there was a plan set up for me by the devil. Someone came that day and gave me a gift. The enemy knew that I loved, always got a poodle dog, so the enemy blesses me with a poodle dog," Hall said, noting that the enemy was part of the entourage.

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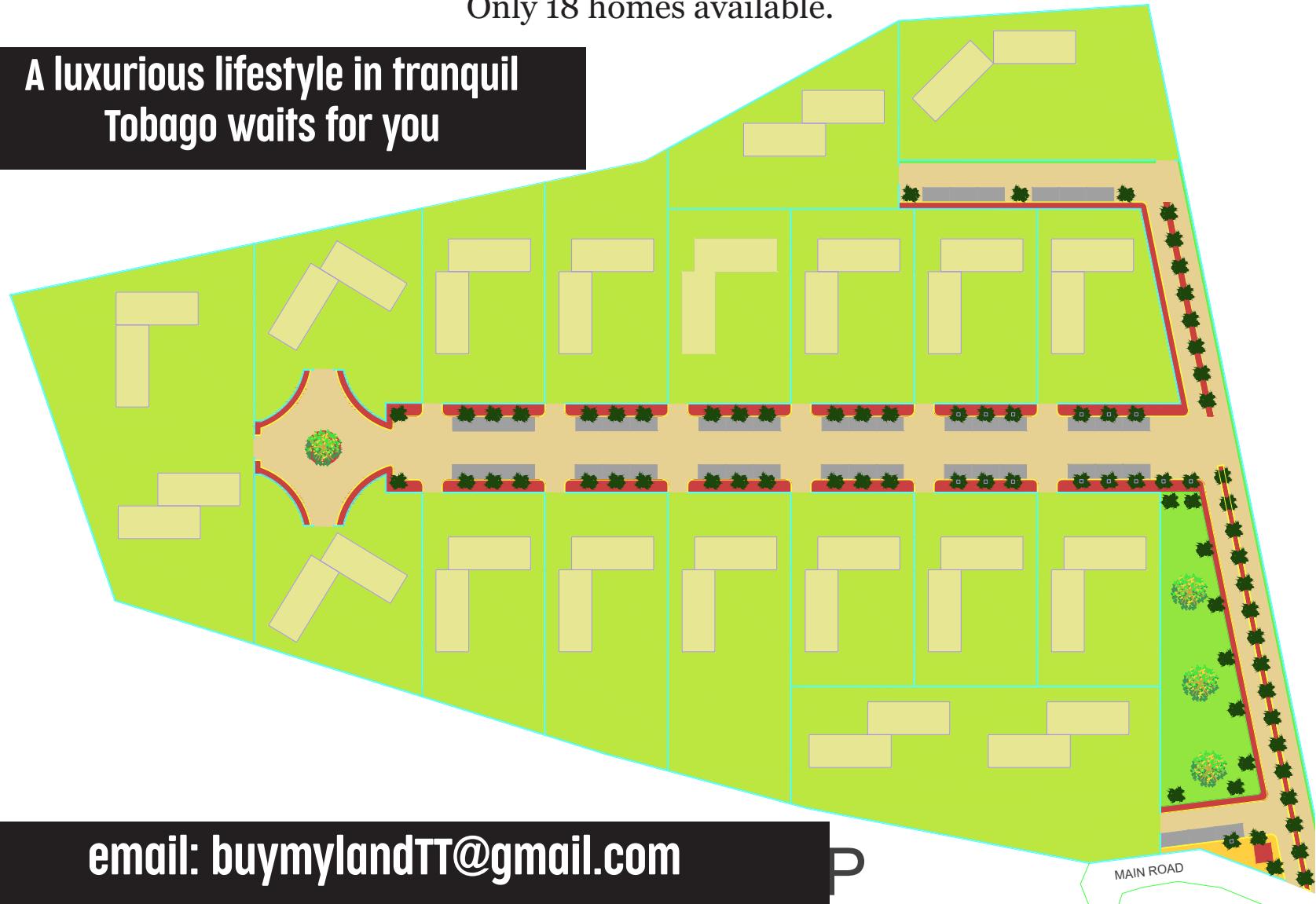
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Nikki Minaj with Beenie Man  
on stage in London UK



# Beenie My Hero

## Nikki Minaj pays tribute to Dancehall King during London show

Nicki Minaj paid homage to the King of Dancehall, Beenie Man, who she called out on stage at the opening of her performance at the London stop of her ongoing Gag City international tour.

Nicki Minaj is a big fan and supporter of Dancehall, and she always ensures that she pays homage to the people who have fought to promote Jamaican music internationally while also

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giving other lesser-known Jamaican artists a platform for exposure. Among those she has embraced are younger artists like Skeng and Skillibeng, whose music she sampled, and others like Pamputtae, who was featured on her single "Fine 9" Likkle Miss remix.

Minaj is also a huge fan of Beenie Man, whom she would shout out from time to time. While on her latest tour stop, she ensured that the "Girl's Dem Sugar" artist knew how much she loved and respected him.

At the start of her performance on May 28, Minaj called up Beenie Man on stage, who performed his hit single "Old Dawg Like Me" from the Dalla Sign riddim. Minaj also joined Beenie Man on stage as she sang along to the lyrics and busted out a few dance moves.

Beenie Man also had the crowd belting out the lyrics of the song. While fans appeared to enjoy the short interlude, Beenie Man asked if

he could perform more songs.

"Nicki, I love you, baby; you have no more songs?" Beenie Man asks, to which Nicki replies, "No, mi nuh have nothing else fi you," she said before adding, "I have a hug." She then bows to the artist to show her adoration.

Minaj also shared a sweet message on her Instagram account, which she said inspired her.

"I just performed with the KING OF DANCEHALL. One of the most talented musicians that I looked to for inspiration my entire career. I can't believe this is my life sometimes. Wow. came to #GAGCITYLONDON yall!!!!!! One of my heroes. I love this man so much," Minaj tweeted on X.

On Instagram, she also revealed that Beenie Man inspired her first album, and she admires his talent. 'I adore you. I do. Always have. One of my biggest music heroes came out for me last night.'

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Voletta Wallace with Sean 'Diddy' Combs in happier times

# A Slap for Diddy

## Notorious B.I.G.'s mom wants to hit Puffy one for his treatment of Cassie

The Notorious B.I.G.'s mother, Voletta Wallace, shared her reaction to the violence Diddy displayed against his former girlfriend, Cassie Ventura.

As Diddy continues to dominate the headlines in hip-hop, more of his former associates continue to speak out against him. Things went downhill for the Bad Boy Records founder a few weeks ago when CNN published a video showing him attacking Cassie in 2016 at a hotel in Los Angeles. Since then, several new lawsuits have been filed against him, and many of his celebrity friends have moved to distance themselves from him.

Voletta Wallace is one of the people speaking their minds against Diddy in the aftermath of the bombshell video. In a candid comment to Rolling Stone, who published a six-month-long investigation centered around many claims against the rap mogul, the 71-year-old says, "I'm

sick to my stomach," regarding the infamous video.

"I'm praying for Cassie," Wallace continues. "I'm praying for his mother. I don't want to believe the things that I've heard, but I've seen [the hotel video]. I pray that he apologizes to her."

"I hope that I see Sean one day and the only thing I want to do is slap the daylights out of him," she added. "You can quote me on that. Because I liked him. I didn't want to believe all the awful things, but I'm so ashamed and embarrassed."

Wallace also urged Diddy to apologize to his mother and embark on an atonement journey for his misdeeds. For his part, Diddy issued a video apology for what transpired in the video. He didn't name Cassie by name, and we later learned, via a report by TMZ, that he is legally barred from mentioning her name in a public setting as part of their settlement.

In her first public statement about her ordeal with Diddy and since filing a lawsuit against him, Cassie says the abuse she experienced "broke me down to someone I never thought I would become."

While Diddy is getting condemned for his actions, Cassie is getting a ton of support from her fans and celebrity friends. "As someone who escaped their abuser last June, I feel all of this and I am SO PROUD of you! Stand in your truth! You are a strong, beautiful woman! We love you!" Tiffany wrote. Kerry said, "I'm a survivor too. I'm sorry you had to go through it all again. It's scary and I'm glad you're in a better place (I am too) May peace be with you."

Lala Anthony and Karrueche Tran, who herself experienced abuse from her ex-boyfriend, publicly supported Cassie. "Love You," Karrueche said.

# STANDING ALONE

## Drake Has No Friends and No Allies In Rap, Says 'Drake Whisperer' DJ Akademiks

Is Drake standing on a hill by himself in rap?

According to DJ Akademiks, the Canadian rapper currently has no friends in rap and no allies defending him, including those with whom he frequently collaborates.

Drake has been under a lot of stress lately, with numerous attempts to break into his Toronto property foiled by his security detail in the aftermath of his highly publicized beef with Kendrick Lamar.

Additionally, he has been getting criticism from hip-hop pundits like Joe Budden and has even been drawn into other beef with rappers like Rick Ross and his collaborator Future.

DJ Akademiks has become the "Drake whisperer" since he tends to know and speak on all things related to Drake. But recently, his comments bordered on criticizing the Toronto rapper with whom he developed a friendship.

"He got no friends, no allies, no one to really stand up for him," Akademiks said on his stream. "All the popular rappers are going against him. I found out Drake has a opp that none of us know that is a huge rapper that we all think is his friend. I found that out like two days ago I won't even drop the name."

Akademiks further shared that the rapper and Drake have big records together. When fans started questioning the rapper's identity, he assured them that it was not 21 Savage, with whom Drizzy just completed a joint album and tour. Some folks are now pointing fingers towards Travis Scott, who recently urged Future and Metro Boomin to play their song "Like That" featuring Kendrick Lamar at one of their concerts.

The move was particularly surprising to everyone since Travis Scott and Drake has some big songs together, including "Sicko Mode." The track "Like That" forms the catalyst of the Drake and Kendrick Lamar beef after K.Dot went nuclear on Drizzy and J. Cole, who formed part of



**Drake: All the popular rappers are going against him**

the so-called Big 3 in rap.

Nevertheless, Akademiks did not share the

name of the rapper who is a collaborator of Drizzy but quietly doesn't like him.



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Brothers Gramps and Peetah Morgan of the Morgan Heritage Singers

## A Rare Killer

**Gramps Morgan says 'one in a million' condition is what killed his brother**

**Peetah, 'but he didn't suffer'**

Reggae Singer Gramps Morgan has shed light on the sudden passing of his brother, Peetah Morgan — the lead singer of Morgan Heritage, who died two months ago.

According to Gramps Morgan, Peetah Morgan died from an extremely rare medical condition that doctors described as "one in a million."

"There doesn't need to be any speculations," Gramps said in a recent interview with Onstage's Winford Williams at the Love and Harmony Cruise 2024. "I mean as the family described it and the doctor described it, he had a condition that was one in a million and if it was one in a million that's what caught Peetah but the greatest thing is to know that he didn't suffer. He wasn't

in no pain and it was no cancer nor any crazy fatal disease but like I say to people I reserve that right to his wife and his children. You know it was an ailment that nobody expected."

It was the first time that any member of the Morgan Heritage family had commented on the singer's death since they announced his passing on February 25.

Gramps Morgan said Peetah's illness was both rapid and unexpected, saying that it took his life within a little over a month of its onset.

"We was in Jamaica in January and in less than 30, 45 days, my brother had a transition so we kinda leave that, that part is privacy for the family. People are going to speculate because of the nature of how it happened so fast and it

wasn't a situation that was prolonged," he said.

In addition to dealing with the loss of Peetah as their brother, Gramps said the group has also had to grapple with losing their lead singer.

"It's a hard time for the music. Peetah was truly before he passed I always say this, one of the greatest of all time. Just some of the things that he was able to do vocally within reggae music and just music period and you think of the times of us harmonizing together and looking to my right from my keyboard and knowing that will no longer happen again," he added.

Gramps admitted that he thought about retirement after losing his brother, who was his closest confidant. But he said that the family is slowly "pulling it together."

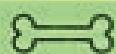
# PHOENIX

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# Love Knows No Bounds

## Author writes an interactive children's book to channel her grief over the loss of her beloved pet dog Heidi

Every pet owner has experienced the loss of a cherished companion. Unfortunately, this is a harsh reality for many animals, especially dogs as their life spans are much shorter than their humans.

However, new children's book author Vic Susanna Surajdeen has channelled her grief over the loss of Heidi, her pet Boxer companion—which she described as her elevation and reason for crossing over the rainbow bridge into creativity—into her children's Book titled "The Adventures Of Heidi The Boxer Pup!".

The book serves multiple purposes—she found that writing and revisiting the memories of Heidi's puppy days to be uplifting and therapeutic for her, she realised that her life and the way she embraced it can be potentially inspiring to other pet owners whose dogs had died and to help them cope, encourage people and children to show compassion to animals and adopt, and if sales of the book go well, a portion of the proceeds will go to animal shelters.

Surajdeen said "It's something I wanted to do a few years now to write about Heidi because she's a character, fun, goofy and my best friend. The problem was I delayed doing it, then she passed away in April earlier. I had a hard time dealing with her death, she almost made it to her 13th birthday.

"I couldn't even look at her photographs or videos, I had so many of Heidi from birth, I was visiting her from day one, we had this bond or connection from very early on. Out of nine pups, she was the one that gravitated to me and vice versa.

"Around August I saw a picture of her as a puppy and something about it spoke to me."

She said she got a notebook and started to write down her experiences and she discovered that she was dealing with her grief a lot better by writing it down.

Documenting all those happy stories about Heidi, interacting with her and having experiences that were like an adventure to her, lent themselves to the title of the book.



**Author Vic Surajdeen with the book she wrote to remember her beloved Heidi**

Surajdeen said that was where the premise came from her trying to deal with her grief; the writing was therapy in a way.

The author shared that the people who initially bought her book messaged her to say how much they enjoyed it. While she was under the impression that they had bought the book for a child to read, that wasn't always the case.

The book is interactive, she will stop and ask a question or two. Children can respond verbally or write in the book and Heidi learns a lesson on each of her days and shares this with the reader.

The book is beautifully illustrated by Shaun Riaz who captured her essence perfectly.

For more information on the book, contact [heiditheboxerdog@gmail.com](mailto:heiditheboxerdog@gmail.com)

# EENIE MEENIE FRAUD

## Sean Kingston to return to Florida to face charges

Jamaican-American rapper and singer Sean Kingston on Tuesday waived his right to fight extradition in a California court and agreed to be turned over to authorities in Florida, where he and his mother are charged with committing more than a million dollars worth of fraud.

Kingston, 34, did not make a public court appearance but signed papers agreeing to skip extradition hearings.

He remained in a Southern California jail Tuesday afternoon, but sheriff's officials will coordinate with the Broward County Sheriff's Office to return him to Florida, sheriff's spokeswoman Mara Rodriguez said in an email.

Kingston was arrested Thursday at Fort Irwin, an Army training base in California's Mojave Desert, where he was performing.

His mother, 61-year-old Janice Turner, was arrested the same day when a SWAT team raided Kingston's rented mansion in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Kingston and Turner have been charged with conducting an organized scheme to defraud, grand theft, identity theft, and related crimes, according to arrest warrants released by the Broward County Sheriff's Office. The warrants allege they stole money, jewelry, a Cadillac Escalade, and furniture.

The performer had a No. 1 hit with "Beautiful Girls" in 2007 and collaborated with Justin Bieber on the song "Eenie Meenie."

Robert Rosenblatt, an attorney for Kingston and his mother, had said Friday that they planned to waive extradition, saying they looked forward to addressing the charges in a Florida court and "are confident of a successful resolution."

The warrants in the case say that from October to March they stole almost \$500,000 in jewelry, more than \$200,000 from Bank of America, \$160,000 from the Escalade dealer, more than \$100,000 from First Republic Bank, and \$86,000 from the maker of customized beds. Specifics were not given.

Kingston, whose legal name is Kisean Anderson, was already on two years' probation for trafficking stolen property.

His mother pleaded guilty in 2006 to bank fraud for stealing over \$160,000 and served



**Sean Kingston: not the first time he's in trouble with the law**

nearly 1.5 years in prison, according to federal court records.

The pair has faced legal troubles before. In 2015, a seller of customized watches won a law-

suit against Kingston and Turner in a New York City federal court for \$356,000 after they failed to pay. In 2018, a New York jeweler successfully sued them for \$301,000 over nine unpaid items.

# No Freedom

## Judge orders Vybz Kartel to remain in jail in spite of Privy Court ruling

Dancehall entertainer Vybz Kartel and his three co-accused are to remain behind bars.

A ruling on their habeas corpus application was delivered by Judge Andrea Thomas on May 30 following the conclusion of arguments made by the defense and the prosecution in court on May 29.

In handing down her ruling, Judge Thomas stated that as long as the issue of the retrial is pending, the charge of murder still remains in effect.

“I find that their present custodial status is not in breach of the constitution,” Judge Thomas added.

Lawyers representing Kartel and two of his three co-accused filed the habeas corpus application seeking their release on Monday, May 14 because of issues the defense did not wish to disclose.

The application targeted the release of Kartel, known legally as Adidja Palmer, along with Shawn ‘Shawn Storm’ Campbell, and Andre St John. However, the fourth co-accused, Kahira Jones, is engaged in a separate legal matter before the court.

In Jamaica, a habeas corpus application serves as a legal avenue for reporting unlawful detention or imprisonment to the court, prompting a review to determine the lawfulness of the detainment.

The application followed the Privy Council’s decision on Thursday, March 14, to quash the convictions of Kartel and his co-accused for the 2011 murder of Clive ‘Lizard’ Williams.

The Privy Council had directed that the case be sent back to Jamaica’s Appeal Court to determine if a retrial is necessary for Kartel and his co-accused.

Since the ruling, Vybz Kartel has remained in prison. In a statement to Fox 5 News, he questioned the necessity of a retrial, expressing confidence that the Jamaican Court of Appeal would act justly and free them.

“I am confident that the Court of Appeal in Jamaica will do the right thing in the name of



**Vybz Kartel: will remain in prison**

equity, fairness, and justice and free us. Some people have expressed their concern to me that a retrial may be ordered, but to them, I say (albeit with my limited knowledge of the law), ‘What is there to retry?’” he stated.

Starting June 10, the Court of Appeal will dive into arguments to decide whether a retrial is warranted. This judicial process is slated to span five days.

# The Ice Block Billionaire

## Nigerian man went from selling ice blocks to being one of the richest black people in the world

Three decades ago, Alhaji Auwalu Abdullahi Rano who hails from Northern Nigeria, was selling ice blocks and groundnut oil. Today, he is one of the richest black people in world with a net worth of \$3 billion. This is his story.

Alhaji Auwalu Abdullahi Rano, popularly known as A.A Rano was born on the 7th of February 1974 in Lausu town, Kano State, Northern Nigeria.

Unlike most billionaires today who were born into a wealthy family, Rano was born into an average Muslim Hausa-Fulani Nigerian family.

At the age of 20, Rano started hawking petroleum products on the streets of Lausu, where he was born. A focus and dedicated Rano quickly began to grow. He then started to sell ice blocks as his retail business was booming.

As his retail business grows more and bigger, Rano opened his first retail stores/outlets in Kano at just 22 years old. He named his business A.A Rano Nigeria Limited.

Nigeria is one of the world's largest oil producers, and Africa's second largest oil producer after Libya.

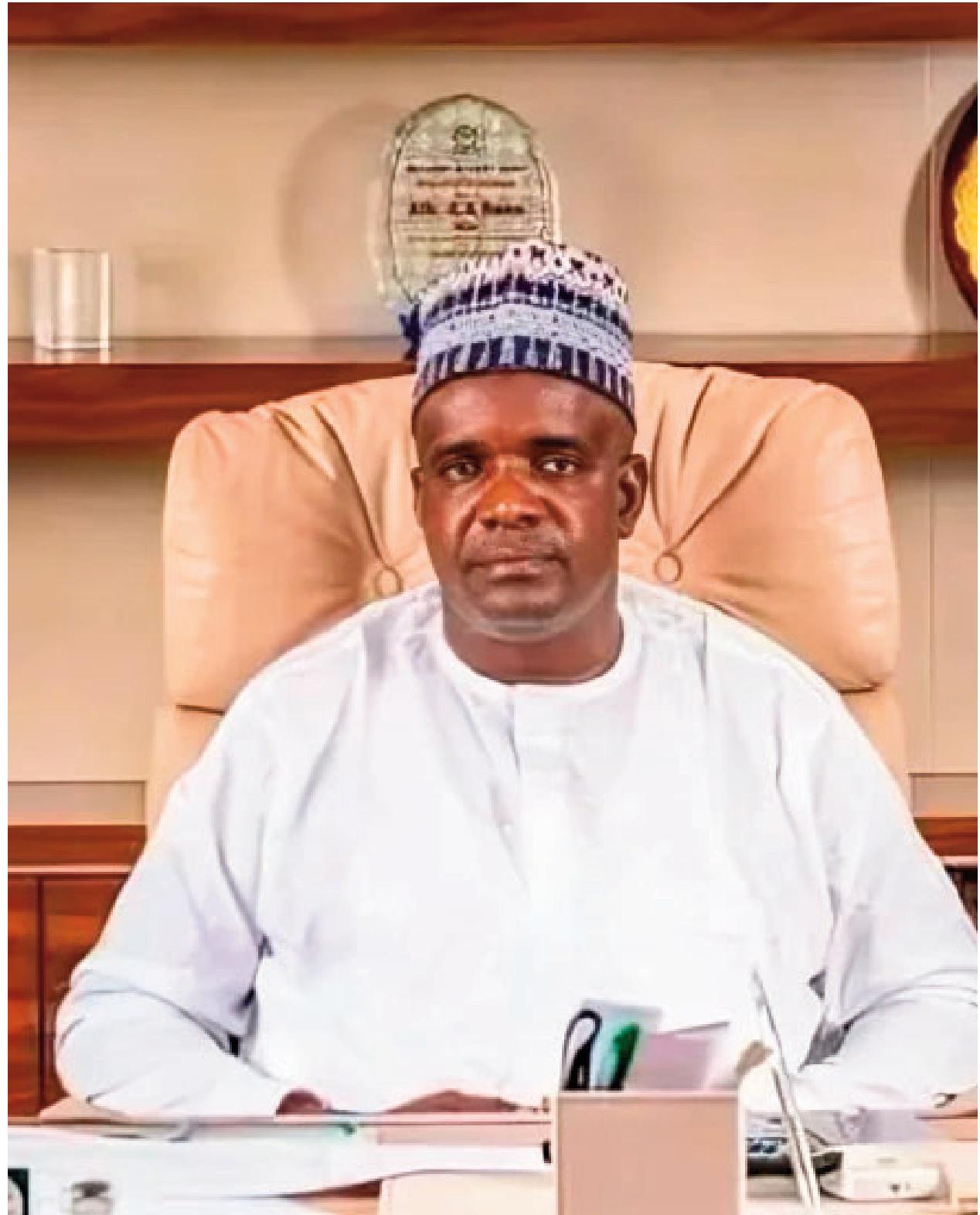
Oil has made lots of billionaires in Nigeria today. With the high demand of oil in the world, billionaires like Rano take advantage of this opportunity.

His conglomerate, A.A Rano Nigeria Limited has, since its establishment, become one of Nigeria's largest oil companies.

The former ice block seller is now the owner of A.A Rano Oil and Gas Company, which owns 120 filling stations across Nigeria, over 600 trucks & LPG terminals as well as acquired vessel.

He also owns an airline company called Rano Air, which was launched in 2019. Rano Air currently has five aircrafts that operate locally in Abuja, Lago, Kano, Sokoto, Kaduna, and Maiduguri.

Alhaji Auwalu Abdullahi Rano also owns RanoGaz, a state-of-the-art Liquified Petroleum Gas (LPG) terminal, a rice milling company, Rano Lubricant, Lausu Marine and Logistics, AA Rano Terminal, and AA Rano Road Haulage.



**Alhaji Auwalu Abdullahi Rano — from selling ice blocks to owning an airline**

As a billionaire who came from an average family, and hawked the streets of Lausu in Kano State, Rano hasn't forgotten where he came from.

With the establishment of the AA Rano Foundation, Rano has carried out dozens of community initiatives in his native land in Kano.

He has helped immensely in deprived areas

of need such as health, education, water provision, and empowerment initiatives for youth and women in Kano State.

It's not easy to become a Rano today, but with hard work and determination, and focus, you, too, can become like Rano irrespective of your background.

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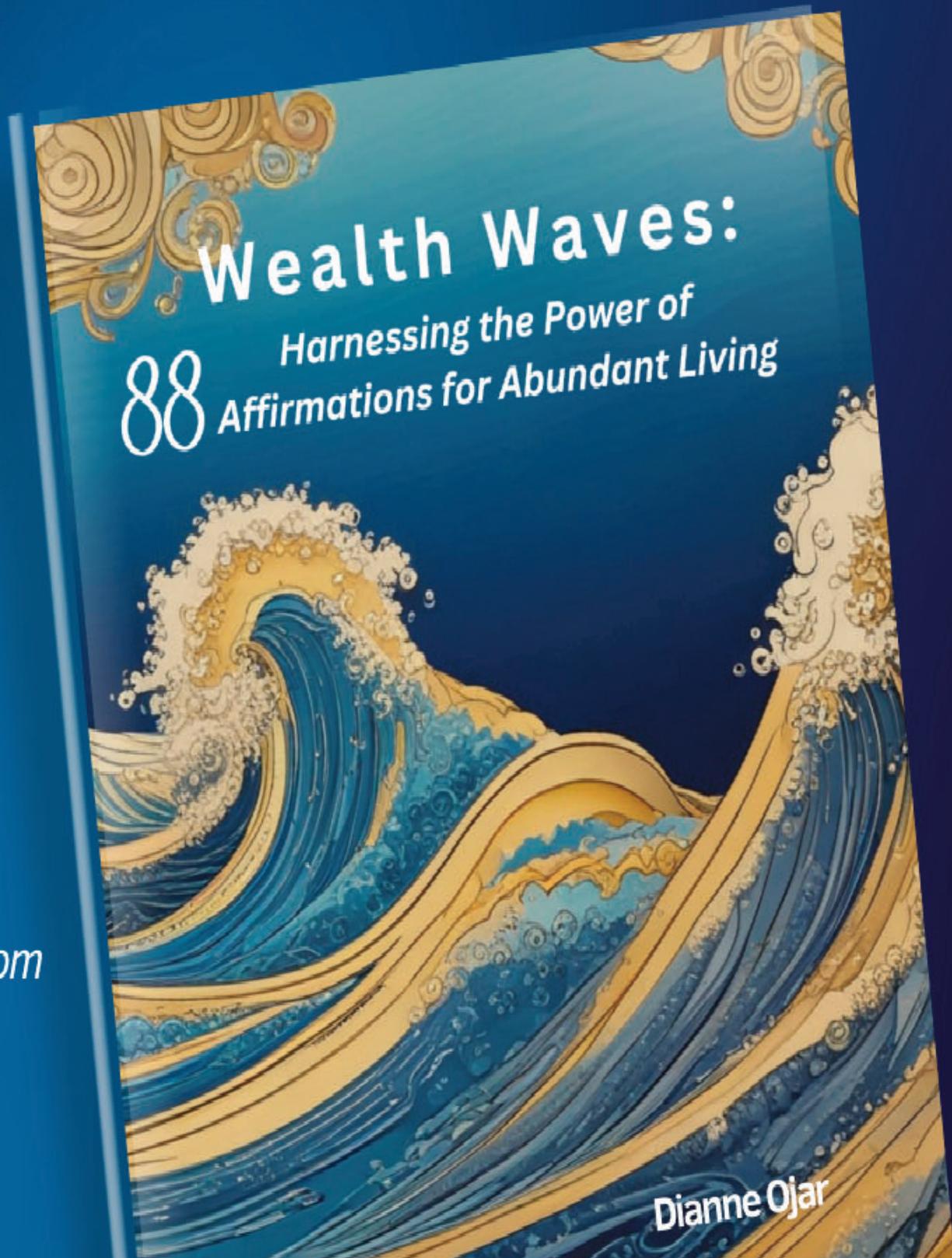
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