

NIGERIA IN THE 20TH CENTURY
GREAT LIVES
A COMPENDIUM OF THE PERSONALITIES WHO
SHAPED THE NATION

Standing Ovation Books, 1998

The book presents abridged biographies and highlights of the achievements and contributions of selected Nigerian personalities in various areas of endeavor without whom it would be impossible to give a proper account of Nigeria's history in the 20th century.

It is a collation of historical and history-making personalities from different eras blended together, their attainments intersecting, in a chronological order, i.e. in the order of their dates of birth, in order to capture the exact milieu of their accomplishments. This makes it possible to find all the great figures of one period of history together and approximates them more accurately in relation to other figures of the era.

It should never be forgotten that it is the lot of man to navigate the ship of history. The effort of the book is mainly to collate and record the deeds of these men and women for future generations to draw inspiration or to learn from.

I have reduced Nigeria's first century to a capsule for posterity in the firm belief that our unity will be sustained and that our dear country will rejuvenate into a truly just and great nation as we totter majestically, with like fervor of our great heroes, into the next century.