

# ∞ The Story of Jobelyn ∞

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**H**e is right now in court as an arrowhead for other herbal pharmacists, trying to defend the integrity of potent made-in-Nigeria herbal remedies for global diseases. A peculiar herbalist, **Olajuwon Okubena** had started out as a chartered accountant, but since he stumbled on the miracle drug Jobelyn that claims to effectively manage HIV/AIDS patients, life has not been the same.

He stunned the International Congress on Military Medicine in Washington DC in September 2004 with a presentation of stringent clinical results on the veracity of Jobelyn-claims and medical chiefs from over 110 member countries were simply amazed.

What is this wonder gift from Nigeria to the world all about? If NAFDAC-approved Jobelyn has been in the Nigerian market for 16 years, how come it has never been acknowledged as a great drug for controlling HIV/AIDS and government is still busy importing anti-retroviral drugs at exorbitant rates? Okubena makes stunning revelations.

The wonder HIV/AIDS drug called Jobelyn

**How I stumbled on the miracle herb - Okubena**

Otunba Olajuwon Okubena started out as a schoolteacher in the 60s, later became a Chartered Accountant, worked in various companies and retired in the early 80s in the capacity of an Executive Director, to live the rest of his life as a full time farmer. But fate had other plans for him; he was destined to become an herbalist.

It was in the course of establishing himself as a renowned farmer that tragedy struck and that unique twist of fate led to the discovery of Jobelyn, an herbal preparation from the leaves of a tropical plant, *Sorghum bicolor*, which now serves as a saving grace for patients with chronic and cancerous diseases, including HIV/AIDS.

This discovery opened another chapter in the life of Okubena as an herbal pharmacist as he calls himself.

The NAFDAC-approved herbal drug is said to have played a tremendous role in the management of HIV/AIDS. Jobelyn has been presented at many national and international fora, including the UK, USA, Senegal, Ghana, just to mention a few. Recently, Jobelyn was on display at the 35th International Congress on Military Medicine (ICMM) held in Washington DC, USA, September 2004.

In an abstract submitted to the Scientific Committee of the ICMM, Col. Godwin Ayuba, Consultant Pathologist at the Military Hospital, Ikoyi, Lagos states:

Jobelyn is a good alternative and/or supplement to ARDs, in the management of HIV/AIDS patients. A poster presentation on the abstract was done at the International Congress, which was attended by military medical chiefs from 110 member countries. Ayuba had conducted the clinical studies in collaboration with Dr. Patrick Erah of the Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmacy Practice, University of Benin, Nigeria.

Olajuwon Okubena, the man behind the formulation of this world-acclaimed most powerful herbal antioxidant, held nothing back in this exclusive GLITTERATI chat, revealing how he tripped upon the mysterious herb, its potency and future hope for all mankind

**What is the drug jobelyn all about?**

Jobelyn is the most powerful medicinal product in the world. Anybody would probably think that this is a mere boast but in the course of my talking to you, I would be able to establish why we believe it is the most powerful product in the world. When I came across this product in the traditional setting about 10 years ago, it was only used as a concoction. The leaf was cooked and the liquid given to people with different types of ill

nesses or to those who were short of blood. The herb did not only take care of all these sicknesses but it did it at a very fast rate. As a Chartered Accountant, I found it difficult to actually buy the idea that a single product could take care of so many things. So in an attempt to unravel the mystery, I now went into a lot of investigation about it, I went through orthodox medical doctors and then we went to the teaching hospitals here in Nigeria to find out how the herb worked. We were at the Lagos University Teaching Hospital from 1997 to 2000, around the same time too, we were also at the University of Benin, investigating the product. At that time it was called Jubi Formula but in the last two years, the name has been changed to Jobelyn.

**What was discovered during your investigations?**

What we discovered was that it could restore blood very quickly. In both universities, rats were used for the experiments and these rats were inoculated with *Tripanosoma brucei*, which is a bacteria that causes anemia and other diseases in animals, but within a period of one week, all the animals had their blood normalized. This was mysterious to us and so we decided to develop the project by packaging the product with the assistance of pharmacists for marketing. Even at that stage we were not quite sure how it would work on other problems but we later found out that it was actually the saving grace for sickle cell anemia patients because when we launched the product into the market in 1998, we found out that 90 percent of people who bought it were sickle cell patients and many of them confessed that within two weeks of using Jobelyn, their condition was normalized. And we are so glad to report as at today that patients who have been on the product as far back as five years, don't have what we call crisis or the breakdown which they normally have, if at all any of them has crisis, it is usually very mild. ▶

## ***What other diseases or illnesses can jobelyn cure?***

We have tried the herb on so many things, apart from sickle cell anemia. It has been tried on diabetes and to our utmost surprise, we discovered that within four weeks, patients with diabetes have their sugar level normalized. We also tried it on arthritis and we discovered that at least, it takes care of about 90 percent of those who have arthritis, there are quite a few exceptions, about less than 10 percent of those who have very chronic arthritis and we are still developing another product that would take care of that. We have also tried the product on those who have different types of cancer. For breast cancer, we have many patients, who have been completely healed, not a question of just treating them. We have also tried it on those who have leukemia.

Our recent trial has been on HIV patients. In our clinic, Health Forever Limited, we decided to try it on HIV patients. Initially, we tried it on six patients and within one month, their condition improved so much that those of them who had opportunistic infections on their bodies like rashes, had it disappeared, they started putting on weight and those of them who went for laboratory test found out that their CD4 count was increasing. So it was in the process of doing this that we were introduced to the Pathologist at the Military Hospital in Lagos, Col. Godwin Ayuba, who became so interested in this product and decided to try it on some patients. So in May 2003, he started the trial on 64 patients, which he divided into three groups. The first group were those who were on anti-retroviral drugs alone; the second group were those who were on the combination of the anti-retroviral drug as well as our product, Jobelyn; and the last group were those who were just on Jobelyn alone. Within a period of three months during which the experiment/investigation was carried out, all the patients in all the groups, had their CD4 count increasing at a dramatic rate.

We also discovered that those who really did better were those on Jobelyn alone. Some of them had their blood count increase up to 600%, and then followed by those who used the combination. This made the man to submit an abstract to the conference of International Congress on Military Medicines (ICMM).

After the abstract was sent to the United States, he was invited to make a poster presentation which took place in September this year. We were all there to present the poster at a conference attended by over 100 member-countries with over 3,000 delegates and most of the delegates were surprised that people could now be talking of a herbal medicine that takes care of HIV.

It was unheard of, most especially when the situation has gone to a stage when it was almost a crime for anybody to come up and declare openly that you have an herbal medicine that can take care of HIV. But we made the presentation there, which generated a lot of interest.

When we came back, it was published in a lot of papers and nobody has been able to challenge us because the patients, who are just on maintenance doses right now are still well and alive. We were still curious on how a single product could take care of every sickness and so we went on with our investigation, during which we discovered that scientists are also moving towards the same direction, making research on how human beings can double their life span.

The normal life span is about 70 years, but they have now come to the conclusion that it is possible for human beings to live up to 150 years and in the course of their investigation, they found out that what is actually reducing man's life span is what they call free-radical. Free-radicals are those things that make people age and break down with diseases. I am 62 years old now, but you can still see that my skin is still radiant.

It has been discovered that the remedy for this is what we call antioxidants. So scientists are now trying to produce antioxidants so that when human beings take them in the long run, it would reverse the ageing process and make them live longer and better. Antioxidants are present in so many natural things - fruits, vegetables and red wine. That is why those who live on vegetables and other natural foods live better and longer.

We employed the services of a laboratory in Germany and in the USA and behold we found out that Jobelyn is the most powerful natural antioxidant so far, even more powerful than Vitamin C and of course we have documented evidence on these claims. There are two different packages for Jobelyn and why it is so is because in foreign countries, they have very strict regulation for packaging herbal medicine. In Nigeria, it is a different ball game, so the package that we market in Nigeria is a lot different but basically the same product is in the two different packages.

## ***Having proved that it can cure hiv, why doesn't it have the appellation on it?***

There is what I would call a conflict right now. The World Health Organization declared that 80% of people living in the developing world, live and survive on traditional medicine, which means there must be something in it. But on the other hand, the orthodox doctors, even in the developing countries, are making people to believe that there is nothing in traditional medicine. As a result, it is like we are committing a crime to even mention that we have a traditional medicine that take care of HIV, not to talk of going to put it on the label. So by law, we cannot put anything on the label to indicate that it is curing anything, but we are only hoping that in a matter of time when it becomes so clear to everybody, no one would be able to stop us from putting that appellation on Jobelyn. But with what is on ground now, we are not claiming anything bogus; we have ▶

exhibited this in the United States through scientific means and of course if anybody has anything against it, let the person come out and disprove it but so far, nobody has been able to challenge us. Many patients keep patronizing us because when something is good, it advertises itself, especially here. Most of those who go to the research centre in Lagos for HIV test already have Jobelyn in their pockets because they know it is good.

### ***Can it cure hiv/aids?***

Cure is a very broad word. It is like you are moving from the ground level and you then bypass the moon and start talking of Mars or Pluto. This is a disease of the immune system that devastates people and renders them useless at various stages. The anti-retroviral drug is only just to assist them to live a better life not that it cures HIV/AIDS, but like the World Health Organization has since declared that what will cure HIV/AIDS, will come from the tropical forests of Africa. So we do not doubt the possibility that it could cure HIV/AIDS. Even then, cure comes in various stages. For example, somebody whose immune system has been down and is having rashes all over and is coughing and the CD4 count which is the real indicator has gone down from an average of about 450 to below 200. Of course with the low CD4 count, the more the chances of the man dying from cough, pneumonia or anything. But we now have a product, which within three weeks, reverses the situation completely. Can you equate this to cure or not, even though he might still test positive? We believe that over time, maybe within a year, all the various problems in the body of the patient would have become normalized, though the patient may still test HIV positive even after a few months of being normal. We have not established that but it is our expectation that if a patient continues to get better and better, with every condition being normalized, if a patient keep that status for six months it could be regarded as a cure.

### ***You said you have done a lot of research or investigation on this herb. What is your medical background like?***

I am an accountant by profession but my children who work with me on this project are qualified. My son is a chemical engineer, my daughter, a medical doctor and I have another son who does Business Administration in the USA and then another one is a lawyer who is representing us in the USA and then we have a team of scientists working for us as well. Again we contract out all our research works to research laboratories both within and outside Nigeria. We have also, a group of pharmacists who do all the scientific work for us.

### ***How did you come about the formulation of the drug?***

I would say I discovered the drug in the concoction form and I would also say that my discovery of this herb was by divine chance. I am over 62 years of age now. I started my life as a primary school teacher before I went to him Teachers Training College where I obtained a Grand II Teacher certificate in 1960. From 1960 to 1963, I studied privately and qualified as a Chartered Secretary and from 1964 to 1967, I also studied privately and became an Accountant in 1967 June. As that time, I was the Vice Principal of Jibowu High School, which was called Premier College at that time. I later worked as an accountant with the Guinness Nigeria Limited and resigned in 1974. I also so worked with other companies after that but retired in 1983 as an Executive Director and then went into full time farming. It was in the process that I was attacked in my farm. It was the attack that led the foundation to where I am today.

### ***Who attacked you?***

I was attacked by armed robbers or assassins. I was shot in the head but I didn't die. It was in the process of seeking alternative treatment that I was introduced to an herbalist that used this particular herb in curing almost everybody.

### ***Did you go to the herbalist for a cure?***

No, I wasn't there to be cured but just to investigate alternative sources of treatment. I wasn't interested in herbs at all. So it was when I was with this man in the process of learning about these alternatives that I saw that many people came to him; orthodox doctors, nurses and many other people were coming to him and he was using the same product (disguised) in curing different ailments and they were getting well in just a few days and that was how I got interested in the herb. It wasn't even because I was interested in commercializing it. I wanted to find out how it was possible for a simple herb to perform such diverse wonders. That was how I found myself involved and the more interested I was in it. It even got to a stage that I abandoned my agricultural projects, because I found out that I was diverting my working capital into the research. I knew that it would not appeal to the elite and scientists in the form it was discovered, so I thought that if I could present it in a better form, it would do a lot of good. So we now turned it into a capsule form and in that capsule form, it could be dissolved and of course there is one thing that is mysterious about it and I am going to demonstrate it to you now. (He goes about pouring a capsule of Jobelyn into a glass of water, which after it diffused was as red as real blood) You see, it acts like blood in the cell and the beautiful thing about it is that it does not have any sour taste. It is not only for those who are sick but also for those who believe that they are well because it energizes the body and repairs the blood at a very fast rate and scientists have already indicated that it can be a great substitute for blood transfusion. It is good for the aged people as well.

### ***Has this new project of yours changed your fortune?***

I thank God but everything about life is not just about money. It gives me joy to have thousands of ►

people come here to give testimonies of what this herb has done for them. Even people from England also send mails to me telling me how wonderful the herb has been for them.

***Your drug has been tested and proven to be effective scientifically, now do we describe you now as a doctor or an herbalist?***

I am a chartered accountant by profession and I am also an herbalist. It is in this country that herbalists are looked down upon. If you work on herbs you are an herbalist and herbs are the most important things in our lives. Even orthodox doctors are now coming back to the roots, because they are not curing anything in the hospitals any more, not even malaria, not to talk of diabetes or stroke or even hypertension. All they do is to manage these illnesses. Besides, chemical drugs have side effects; they take care of only 10 percent of a problem and give you 90% percent of another problem. So I am not ashamed to be called an herbalist.

***What differentiates you from other herbalists who also parade an assortment of drugs?***

By virtue of my background and education, I am different from other herbalists. Another thing that distinguishes a person like me from others is that, for example, when we brought out Jobelyn into the market and people used it and saw that it worked like magic many people were just rushing to my place thinking I must have answers to every thing. So when I now saw that people were trooping to my place, I decided it was time we did this thing more scientifically. I now called my daughter who at that time had qualified as a medical doctor and we now set up a clinic, which is being run like an orthodox clinic. We have nurses and doctors such that when you get there, they would do all the preliminary things that would be done in an orthodox hospital and if possible send you to the laboratory, so that at least we would have records of what is wrong with you. But then

the difference here is that doctors will now recommend herbal medicine instead of orthodox medicine and we have got a very big data base of people we have treated particularly of infertility, staphylococcus and the rest, so all our products are being used like we are having a mini teaching hospital and we have records of those we have treated. So that distinguishes us from the local herbalist, who doesn't even know what he is talking about. I cannot diagnose any serious disease because I am not trained to do that but my doctors will diagnose and after diagnosing, I have an array of herbal medicine which I have developed, so I am more or less like herbal pharmacist rather than a doctor but basically I am practicing on herbs so I am also an herbalist.

***Does jobelyn also take care of infertility?***

It does very well, as a matter of fact, fertility has to do with blood and one of the symptoms of infertility is irregular menstrual period and inadequate blood flow during the period. If a woman takes Jobelyn within three months, her menstrual period will be normalized. In fact many orthodox doctors are now prescribing Jobelyn for patients with infertility cases.

***How many children do you have?***

I have two sons and two daughters and all of them are involved in this project, even my daughter who is a Harvard graduate in America is partially involved and would be fully involved in the future because it is going to be a very big project.

***Is your wife part of the team?***

No, I lost my wife in 1992, so I am not married now.

***There are some people out there who will still doubt the potency of Jobelyn, especially taking into consideration the case of Dr. Abalaka who was almost crucified for claiming to cure HIV/AIDS.***

***What do you think lies ahead of jobelyn?***

We are not keeping our products to ourselves. Jobelyn is available in almost all the pharmacies in Nigeria, so whatever claims we have made about it can be verified by anybody. I have tapes to show of people who have given testimonies about the drug. Again, we were not part of the experiments that were performed at the Military Hospital and other places; the results were only brought to us and the results have been replicated by other doctors in other places. I have my mailbox being flooded with testimonies from all over the world. I mean if you are telling lies, you won't do it for too long in this type of (hostile) environment.

***How affordable is jobelyn?***

We have spent millions in the research and packaging of this drug, I sold a whole building in Allen Avenue for just N17 million and the whole money went into this project and as at now, I have not been able to buy another house to replace that one just to tell you what costs are involved here. So if we must accentuate the recovery of my investment, nobody would be able to afford the drug. But I can assure you that HIV patients who live on two capsules a day, which cost less than N50 can be well managed with just about N1,500 in one month and I don't think anything can be more affordable than that.

Jobelyn is tomorrow's drug discovered today. ■