

A Toast
in the
Cemetery

Abubakar Gimba

In this collection of four short stories, Abubakar Gimba paints a clear picture of human nature in its varied propensities for love, lust, greed, betrayal, hypocrisy, and vengeance. The collection illustrates how cracks at the private level lead to chaos and degeneration at the public level. The work is a sad but insightful commentary on the insensitivity of government to the plight of her citizens, the deplorable states of the health and educational sectors, and the moral bankruptcy of those saddled with leadership.

As has become usual with Gimba, suspense, intrigue and freeflowing prose mark our this work.

Abubakar Gimba, OFR, studies Economics at the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria and at the University of Cincinnati, USA. He is a seasoned banker and former director of both Union Bank Plc and UBA Plc; an erstwhile permanent secretary with the Niger State Civil Service, and a former president of the Association of Nigerian Authors (ANA).

Gimba, a versatile writer and administrator, is the current National President of ABU Alumni Association as well as the Chairman, Evaluation and Implementation Committee (EAIC) of IBB University, Lapai, Niger State.

He writes in virtually all the genres of literature and his works include *Trail of Sacrifice*, *Innocent Victims*, *Witnesses to Tears*, *Sunset for a Mandarin*, *Sacred Apples*, *Letters to My Children*, *Inner Rumbings*, *This Land of Ours* and *Why Am I Doing This?* (his foray into journalism, due for release in 2006).

SHORT STORIES

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