



# Land as Status: Why Land Ownership Still Carries Weight in Nigeria

In Nigerian society, whether openly acknowledged or not, perception often matters. Social class exists, and people are frequently judged by visible signs of success. From the phone someone uses to the car they drive and the lifestyle they display online, material possessions have become subtle but powerful indicators of status.

This reality creates pressure, especially among young professionals and upwardly mobile individuals who feel the need to constantly keep up. There is always a newer phone, a better lifestyle, a more expensive watch, or a flashier experience that seems to represent success. Over time, this cycle can become costly, distracting, and in many cases, unsustainable.

Yet beneath all these outward displays, one asset continues to hold both financial value and social significance: land.

## Why Land Still Matters

Unlike many possessions that lose value or relevance over time, land remains one of the few assets that can appreciate when properly located and documented. Beyond its financial benefits, land ownership also carries credibility.

Owning land, especially in developing areas such as Abuja, often reflects long term thinking, stability, and financial discipline. It is not as loud or visible as luxury spending, but it quietly communicates substance.

Even for those who are not ready to build immediately, owning land can represent progress and future security. It suggests planning and a commitment to wealth creation rather than short term consumption

## The Pressure to Appear Successful

A major challenge many people face today is the pressure to maintain appearances. New gadgets, vacations, fashion upgrades, and luxury experiences are often pursued to remain socially relevant. While there is nothing inherently wrong with enjoying these things, most lifestyle purchases are liabilities rather than assets. They offer short term satisfaction but rarely contribute to lasting financial growth.



Land operates differently. Its value can increase over time, especially when infrastructure develops and demand rises in the surrounding area. This creates a clear distinction between appearing successful and building genuine wealth.

### **Land as a Symbol of Progress**

Land ownership carries a unique level of respect in Nigerian society. It may not be displayed as openly as cars or designer items, but it is widely understood as a meaningful achievement. Unlike many status symbols that can lose relevance quickly, land is durable and lasting. It often becomes a marker of long term financial progress and responsible decision making. Even undeveloped land can signal foresight. It shows a focus on acquisition, planning, and future opportunity.

### **Making Ownership More Accessible**

For many people, the challenge is not understanding the value of land but being able to afford it. High entry costs often delay ownership for years. This has led to growing interest in models such as co fractional ownership, where individuals or groups pool resources to invest in land together. Such arrangements can lower the barrier to entry and make property investment more accessible. When structured properly, this approach allows more people to participate in real estate ownership and benefit from long term asset growth.

### **Final Thought**

*In a world where appearance often competes with reality, it is important to focus on assets that create lasting value. Many purchases may project status, but few contribute meaningfully to long term wealth.*

*Land stands out because it offers both financial potential and social significance. It remains one of the strongest forms of ownership, not only because of how it is perceived, but because of the real security and opportunity it can provide over time.*