



# URHOB0 HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS:**  
3 Ekeh Street (opposite Catholic Church) Okpara Inland Ethiope East LGA, Delta State, Nigeria P.O. Box 652 Effurun, Delta State, Nigeria

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## UHS MAGAZINE

*Volume 3, Issue 8, March 2024*

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### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

I am delighted to introduce the latest edition of the UHS Quarterly Magazine to you. The Magazine records recent happenings in Urhobo that touch on Urhobo history and culture, and events in the Urhobo Historical Society, as well as plans for the immediate future. I am grateful to all those who respond to our call for support at the headquarters office. I am particularly grateful to Chief Peter Obukohwo Essi and Dr. Faith O. James Mowoe in this regard. The headquarters operation of UHS is very significant in the coordination of UHS activities. There are innovations planned for the year 2024 that include setting up an ICT Centre, computer training, desktop publishing, and the revamping of our website to become more interactive, dynamic, and user-friendly. To achieve the above, the headquarters is soliciting for financial assistance from all Urhobo patriots. Below are items needed:

- I. Solar Power
- ii. Ten (10) Desktop computers @ N300,000 per unit
- iii. Five (5) Laptops @ N350,000 per unit
- iv. Router (wifi) - MTN, Airtel and Glo @ N20,000 per unit

I appreciate those who participated in our first meeting in February, and the various responses to the call for membership. Please watch out for the next invitation and make plans to respond positively. UHS is preparing for its 13th Conference fixed for July 26 and 27, 2024, in New York, USA. We are extending an invitation to the Urhobo people and friend of the Urhobo people globally to be present. There will also be an option to participate virtually for those who cannot be physically present in New York. Details of the Conference will be communicated through various channels.

Once again, I am highly appreciative of the moral and financial support for UHS and look forward to greater cooperation this year.

**Dr Aruegodore Oyiborhoro**  
*UHS President*

# UHS PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES

## ● URHOB0 HISTORICAL SOCIETY 13TH CONFERENCE AND GENERAL MEETING

**U**rhobo Historical Society is glad to announce its 13th Conference and General Meeting holding in New York, United States of America on the 26 and 27 July, 2024. Themed "Aspects of Urhobo Culture: Folklore, Poetry, Music, Language, Cosmology and Religion", the Conference is intended to celebrate various aspects of the cultural heritage of Urhobo people, adaptations in a changing world, and contributions to the advancement of the Urhobo nation.

This, the thirteenth conference in the series of UHS Conferences and the second to be held in the United States, is of great significance in our effort to promote the history and culture of the Urhobo people and as well the development of Urhoboland. The papers presented at the Conference and the recordings of the discussions and debates would form the basis of a fresh set of actions which we believe will contribute to the sustainable development and advancement of the Urhobo nation and its culture.

## ● UHS QUIZ COMPETITION ON URHOB0 HISTORY AND CULTURE

**I**n a bid to inculcate in Urhobo young people, and adults, the knowledge of Urhobo history and culture, the headquarters of Urhobo Historical Society (UHS) is organizing a quiz competition on Urhobo history and culture, for all interested Urhobo people.

- **FIRST PRIZE: N50,000**
- **SECOND PRIZE: N30,000**
- **THIRD PRIZE: N10,000**
- **10 CONSOLATION PRIZES OF: N5,000 EACH**

The competition is in two stages as explained below:

- First stage: 50 objective questions. Candidates who score 70% and above will be shortlisted for the second and final stage.

- Final stage: 50 objective questions. Top 13 (those

with highest scores) will be awarded the various prizes.

The essence of the competition is to advance the knowledge of Urhobo history and culture, especially to the younger generation. The competition will be entirely online so that participation can be possible from any part of the world. While there are no age limits, it is strongly recommended that participation be left to students and youths in high schools and universities.

Registered participants will be sent study materials through their emails and WhatsApp numbers; questions will be drawn from the study materials. The quiz link will be sent to candidates before the fixed date.

### How to Participate:

To participate in the quiz, each candidate is to register with N1,000.00 (Nigeria); \$5 (USA/UK) [for the study materials]. Use UHS account details as follows:

#### (NAIRA)

Account name: **Urhobo Historical Society**  
Account number: **2112113200**  
Bank: **Ecobank**

#### (DOLLAR)

Account name: **Urhobo Historical Society**  
Account number: **9995450375**  
Bank: **Bethpage Federal Credit Union, Newyork**

Kindly forward receipt of payment to: [uhshqtrsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:uhshqtrsecretary@gmail.com)  
or +234 (0)7060647530 (WhatsApp) and proceed to register.

Register with the link: <https://surveyheart.com/form/65fc2170a3ea3a20fde5b90c>

After registration and on confirmation of payment, candidates will be sent the study materials via email or WhatsApp.

Registration Opening: **May 1, 2024**  
Registration Deadline: **May 15, 2024**

Date of Quiz competition:  
First stage: **May 22, 2024** (4-6pm Nigerian Time).

Results will be communicated to participants shortly after the test.

Date for final stage: **May 29, 2024** (4-6pm Nigerian Time)

*Parents/Guardians are encouraged to register their children who are in the secondary and university levels for this unique competition. The essence of the competition is not on the prize money, which is quite modest, but in the effort invested, and knowledge derived from studying the materials.*

Prizes Sponsored by: Dr. Faith O. James Mowoe

For further inquiries, contact:  
Urhobo Historical Society Headquarters,  
3 Ekeh Street, Okpara Inland, Delta State, Nigeria.  
Telephone: 07060647530 & 08103108064  
Email: [uhshqtrsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:uhshqtrsecretary@gmail.com)



## UHS QUIZ COMPETITION ON URHOBO HISTORY AND CULTURE

- **FIRST PRIZE: N50,000**
- **SECOND PRIZE: N30,000**
- **THIRD PRIZE: N10,000**
- **10 CONSOLATION PRIZES OF N5,000 EACH**

THE COMPETITION  
IS IN 2 STAGES (ONLINE)

**First Stage:**  
50 Objective Questions  
(70% and above scorers  
qualify for the second stage)

**Second Stage:**  
50 Objective Questions  
(Top 13 scorers win the prizes)

**ELIGIBILITY: Secondary School  
Students & Undergraduates**

### HOW TO PARTICIPATE

#### REGISTER WITH THE LINK

<https://surveyheart.com/form/65fc2170a3ea3a20fde5b90c>  
(Study materials will be sent via email & whatsapp)

#### Registration Fee:

N1000.00 (Nigeria)  
\$5 (USA/UK)

Registration Opening Date:  
**May 1, 2024**

Registration Closing Date:  
**May 15, 2024**

#### ACCOUNT DETAILS

**NAIRA:** Urhobo  
Historical Society  
2112113200 - ECOBANK

**DOLLAR:** Urhobo  
Historical Society  
9995450375 - Bethpage  
Federal Credit Union, New York

### DATE OF QUIZ COMPETITION

**1st Stage:**  
**May 22nd 2024**  
**4-6pm Nigerian Time**

**2nd Stage:**  
**May 29th 2024**  
**4-6pm Nigerian Time**

#### FOR ENQUIRIES CALL:

**ZITA ON +234-706-0647-530**  
**OR OCHUKO ON +234-810-3108-064**

Sponsored by: **DR. FAITH O. JAMES MOWOE**

## SOME RECENT EVENTS AND DEVELOPMENTS IN URHOBOLAND AND THE DIASPORA

### UHS ONLINE GENERAL MEETING

An online general meeting of UHS Executives and members (including potential members) held on February 24, 2024. The meeting which was virtual discussed matters related to membership of UHS and rules of engagement regarding the UHS WhatsApp platform.

**Membership Registration:** Potential members were encouraged to register formally as UHS members and be current in membership dues (N12,000 to N120,000 depending on membership category), or apply for life membership by making a one-time payment of N500,000. Registered members who are not yet up-to-date in dues payment were also encouraged to pay up.

**Rules of Engagement on the UHS WhatsApp forum:** Urhobo Historical Society (UHS) is absolutely committed to promoting and protecting the interest of the Urhobo people. In doing so, it insists that ad hominem attacks **must not** be directed towards individuals or groups. Its goal is setting the historical records straight. As such, insulting posts are not allowed on the platform. Any post that is not related to the interest of the Urhobo people is also not allowed.

### JORMON EGI SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION PRESENTS CHEQUES TO DESERVING STUDENTS

The Jormon Egi Scholarship Foundation was instituted last year (2023) in honour of Mr. Jormon Egi, who contributed immensely to the development of his community Okpavuerhe and the greater Olomu at large during his life time. The Foundation, dedicated to the sponsorship of undergraduate students of Olomu origin studying at the Delta State University, Abraka, presented cheques worth Two Hundred Thousand Naira (N200,000) each to three students from Olomu subculture.

The ceremony which was the second edition of presentation of awards to beneficiaries of the scheme held at the UHS Headquarters, 3 Ekeh Street, Okpara Inland, Delta State on Thursday, March 14, 2024.

The beneficiaries of the Foundation, awarded Thursday, March 14, 2024, are:

- (i) Evuarherhe Elohor, female, 300 level, Department of Biochemistry
- (ii) Idjesa Joy, female. 300 level, Department of Agronomy (Soil Science)
- (iii) Ovwighorienta Oghenekparobor, male, 400 level, Department of Pharmacology.



It was observed that the students made significant improvement in their academic performance from last academic session, as reflected in their CGPA, underscoring the impact of the scholarship on their studies.

The recipients expressed their profound gratitude to Mr. Michael Egi, the sponsor of the scheme, the Jormon Egi family and Urhobo Historical Society for the kind gesture extended to them. They promised to focus on their education and work hard to become worthy ambassadors of Urhobo as is expected of them.

The Jormon Egi Scholarship Foundation is sponsored by Mr. Michael Egi and administered by the Urhobo Historical Society (UHS).



## Dr. Emmanuel Ojameruaye Lays Mother to Rest



UHS Treasurer, Dr Emmanuel Ojameruaye laid his beloved mother, Mrs. Rebecca Udumebaye Ojameruaye to rest at Orokerpe, ancestral capital of Okpe Subculture on Saturday 9th March, 2024. The event which was very successful brought together friends, associates, family and well-wishers.

Late Mrs. Rebecca Udumebaye Ojameruaye, born in 1932, is described as a good wife to her husband, and beloved mother to her six children. She passed on to glory at 91, on Thursday December 21, 2023 after a brief illness. Dr. Emmanuel Ojameruaye is her eldest son.



# CHIEF COMRADE FRANK OVIE KOKORI [1943-2023] LAID TO REST

One of Nigeria's greatest social crusaders and Marxists Comrade Chief Frank Ovie Kokori was laid to rest on Friday 8th March, 2024. Comrade Kokori is remembered for his leadership of the National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG) which he led as Secretary General for several decades. He was imprisoned for 4 years (1994-1998) by the General Sanni Abacha brutal regime for his insistence on the restoration of the mandate given to Chief M.K.O Abiola in the June 12, 1993 Presidential election, to govern the country as a civilian president. Frank Kokori hailed from Ovu in Agbon Subculture.



## The Okuama and Okoloba Crisis

On Sunday 17th March, 2024, the peaceful community of Okuama was accused by military authorities in Nigeria of being responsible for the murder, through an ambush, of 17 military officers on an alleged peace keeping mission to the community. This followed a dispute between the community and her neighbouring Okoloba Community of Ijaw, over land dispute. The position of the authorities in hastily accusing the Okuama people of the murder has been challenged by the leadership of Okuama, the Urhobo Progress Union and Urhobo traditional leaders, as well as a large spectrum of opinion leaders of the Urhobo nation. They have condemned the hasty conclusion, and called for a thorough investigation of the matter.



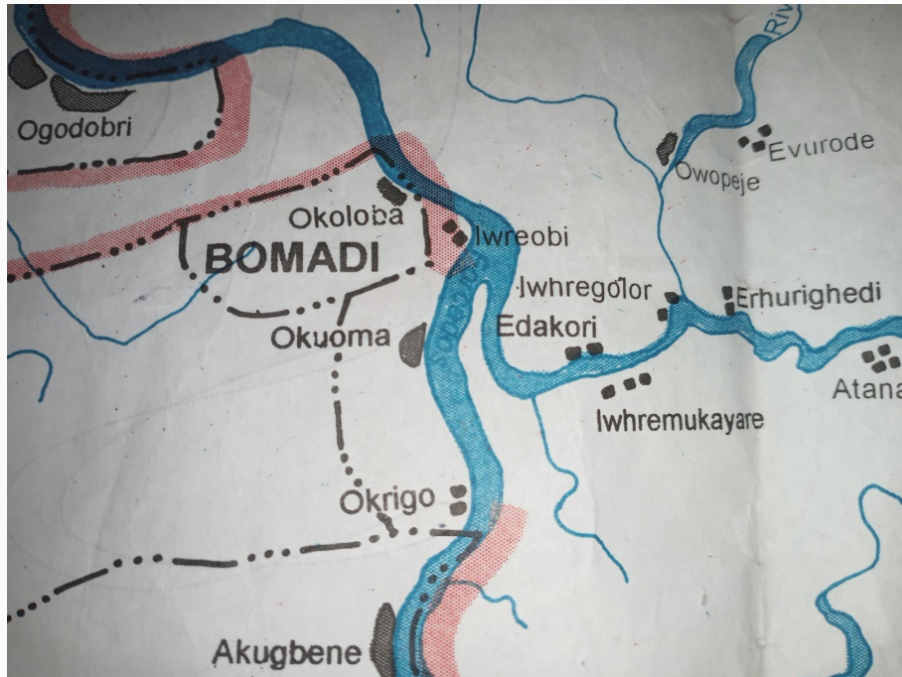
Okuama is a community of Urhobo people in Eghwu Subculture; It is the hometown of one of Urhobo's historical figures and patriot – Bishop Agori Iwe, (1906-1979), first Bishop of Benin Diocese of the Anglican Church, who did so much in the translation of the Bible to Urhobo. Okuama shares borders with Ijaw communities, which often precipitate tensions and dispute over boundary matters.



From the unfolding revelations from dispassionate objective investigation so far in the Okuama situation, it appears that state actors may have been complicit, or taken sides, or compromised, in their purported intervention between the two contending parties.

There have also been wide condemnation of the federal government-authorized military reprisal attack on the Okuama community following the incident. The military sealed off the community, even preventing the State Governor His Excellency Rt. Hon Sheriff Oborevbori as well as the State Commissioner of Police Mr Abaniwonda Olufemi from accessing the community. There are

alleged insinuations that the military has razed the community, killed many innocent citizens and sacked several others who were lucky to escape. There are already demands for adequate compensation for the havoc wrecked on the community, as well as threats to sue the government at the International Court of Justice in The Hague in demands for justice on the mayhem visited on the Okuama people.



## *Felicitations*

### Professor Mrs Rose Oro Aziza Turns 70

**F**oremost Urhobo linguist and scholar of Urhobo language studies Professor Rose Oro Aziza turned 70 on 10th March, 2024. Professor Aziza has been a leading advocate for the speaking, preservation and study of the Urhobo language. She has consistently highlighted the danger of allowing the language slide into extinction. She believes language to be the bedrock of all civilization in history, and that a future Urhobo society which would be modern and prosperous would have to be defined by a strong linguistic and cultural foundation. UHS wishes Professor Rose Aziza many more fruitful years of service to her beloved Urhobo nation.



## AS THE DOYEN OF URHOB0 LANGUAGE STUDIES TURNS 70 BY EMMANUEL OGHENEOCHUKO ARODOVWE

In history, it is observed that for any people, a turning point happens at intervals that alter their experience significantly, and charts a new path for the people. These moments are made possible by pathfinders and pacesetters, whom the German philosopher, Hegel, calls "World Historical Figures". They manifest in different facets of societal life.

For the ancient Greeks, it was Alexander the Great, turning a backward Macedonian city to an empire of global standing; for the Romans, it was Julius Caesar, transforming a modest republic to an empire that covered almost the entire world; for the French, it was Napoleon Bonaparte, turning an average French people to new rulers of a short-lived French European Empire; for the English, it was Henry VIII, Anglicizing a large chunk of the Catholic Church and making a national institution of it; for the Indians, it was Mahatma Gandhi, terminating British colonialism through a novel strategy of non-violent resistance that worked wonders.

Urhobo is a very large society, diverse and multi-complex. With a population that is approaching ten million, Urhobo have had its fair number of heroes and heroines across different times, ages and spheres.

Our celebrant, Professor Mrs Rose Oro Aziza is an Urhobo historical figure in a very important way. She pioneered the academic study of Urhobo Language in the university - she is the first to earn a PhD in Urhobo language studies.

Crucially, like Queen Cleopatra of ancient Egypt and Golda Meir of modern Israel, Rose Oro Aziza is a WOMAN. Coincidentally, she is marking her 70th birthday in a week set aside by the United Nations for the celebration of women.

Professor Mrs Rose Oro Aziza has, since her PhD in 1997, carried on her advocacy for the study and preservation of the Urhobo language - from the classroom to conference halls and townhalls, down to communities.

She identified with Professor Peter Ekeh and the UHS quite early in its formation, presenting an Address at the London Conference of the Society in 2003.

She has served the Urhobo Progress Union (UPU) faithfully. Professor Rose Aziza is to the Urhobo people what Professor Ayo Bamgbose is to the Yoruba. Now 92, Professor Bamgbose was the first to earn a PhD in Yoruba language studies in 1963. Incidentally, Ayo Bamgbose supervised Rose Aziza's PhD thesis. It is no surprise that she has taken

after her teacher and mentor religiously.

Professor Rose Aziza joined her older Urhobo nationalist and academic brothers Professors Agwonorobo Eruvbetine, G.G. Darah and Tanure Ojaide to establish the B.A Programme in Linguistics/Urhobo at the Delta State University, Abraka - the first of its kind in the Niger Delta of Nigeria.

Professor Aziza now mentors an emerging army of Urhobo female intellectuals, possessed with fresh nationalistic fire and enthusiasm.

These include Professor Enajite Ojaruega, Dr Oghenekevwe Abamwa, Dr (Mrs) Martha Egbedi, Dr (Mrs) Ese Aleh, and so many more.

Professor Rose Aziza was at one-time Deputy Vice Chancellor, (Administration) of the Delta State University, attaining another first in her long list of firsts.

Professor Rose Aziza is a prized asset and amazon of the Urhobo nation. She deserves every accolade and good wishes on this special day of her 70th Birthday.

*Emmanuel Ogheneochuko Arodovwe wrote from Urhobo Historical Society Headquarters*

## WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

**T**he Editorial and Management Committee (EMC) of Urhobo Historical Society welcomes the following Urhobo people who recently registered officially and subscribed to the membership of UHS.

- Dr. Henry Akpotohwoeheri Monday SOTA
- Dr. Ndidi Ese UZOR
- Mr. Okejoto GOCHUA
- High Chief Godwin Jefia NOTOMA

We urge members who are yet to pay their 2023 and 2024 dues to please do so.



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935, Centennial Avenue, North Baldwin, NY 11510-1916

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Websites: [www.waado.org](http://www.waado.org); [urhobodigitalibrarymuseum.com](http://urhobodigitalibrarymuseum.com)  
Email: [uhshqtrsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:uhshqtrsecretary@gmail.com)

**Date:** April 8, 2024

*An Open Letter to Senator Bola Ahmed Tinubu, (GCFR), President of the Federal Republic of  
Nigeria  
and Rt. Hon. (Elder) Sheriff Francis Oborevwor, Governor, Delta State of Nigeria*

**IN QUEST OF THE TRUTH &  
THE RECOGNITION &  
AFFIRMATION OF OUR COMMON HUMANITY**

We are, by now, well aware of the loss of lives, the destruction of the Urhobo community of Okuama, in the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria, and the resulting distress visited on the inhabitants of the area. Now dispossessed of their lands and property, and deprived of the usual and ordinary items which aid functioning human lives, they are forced to ask why, and what follows next?

They are yet to receive credible and verifiable responses to these logical and seemingly straightforward questions, as are the rest of their fellow citizens. Expectedly, to fill the vacuum, "answers" and "explanations", many with narratives which appear clearly to be at odds one with the other, have been proffered. The result as we write this, is not light shed on the tragedy, but, in its stead, a particularly dense fog, and a citizenry not fully informed. But the citizenry - the Sovereign - in a country - in a Nigeria which professes to be a Republic - has the right and the need to know the actions in which the Nigerian state, her instrumentalities and all other operating organs engage, and why they do what they do. In the absence of the requisite information, the Sovereign is ill-served.

In the circumstances, the Urhobo Historical Society (UHS) demands that the Nigerian Government and the Government of Delta State jointly appoint an Independent Commission of Inquiry, composed of men and women of proven and publicly acclaimed independence and integrity, unconnected to either government, far removed from the military, endowed with the full authority to examine the tragedy, in all its dimensions, and submit its Report to both governments - which Report shall be simultaneously released to the public. To reiterate the point, the Citizens of the Republic of Nigeria - the Sovereign in the Republic of Nigeria - in whose name the Nigerian State

acts, and from whom the State derives its authority to act, have the right to know what actions were taken in this matter, why they were taken, on whose instruction, and at whose direction they were taken. The Urhobo Historical Society submits that constituting an Independent Commission of Inquiry with unfettered powers to examine this tragedy in its entirety, is the most likely path to uncovering and revealing the truth, and is the most likely to be salutary.

But even before the Commission is appointed and its Report released, we are all aware of certain facts – facts which are indubitable and cannot reasonably be contested.

- We know that many lives were lost in Okuama, those of members of the Army and those of the civilian population of the area. They were all Nigerians, members of the human family, and for all, we mourn, and we pray.

- We know that contrary to the provisions of the Nigerian Constitution, the Army was apparently engaged in a civil matter in Okuama. While it is true that the Constitution admits of the involvement of the Army in defined civil circumstances, any such involvement is limited in scope and strictly circumscribed.

- We know that subsequent to the deaths of the soldiers in Okuama, the community was set alight, and many of her inhabitants lost their lives in the ensuing melee and conflagration. This is a direct consequence of what was clearly intended and effected as a collective punishment of the community for the deaths of the soldiers. In this regard, it bears noting that collective penalties constitute an offense prohibited by International Humanitarian Law, the Geneva Convention of 1949, included.

- We know that in its bid to “bring to justice” the persons it considers responsible for, and complicit in, the deaths of the soldiers, the Army is engaged in a search, and has declared them “WANTED”, in contravention of the extant law of the Republic of Nigeria. In May of 2020, the Honorable Justice Ijeoma Ojukwu of the Federal High Court in Abuja held, in the case of Issah Perry Brimah v. Nigerian Army that “The Army has no vires [jurisdiction/authority] to declare [an individual] wanted without due process of law.”

- We know, on information and belief that the Monarch of Ewu Kingdom, King Clement Ikolo Oghenerukevwe, who was among those declared “WANTED” by the Army, surrendered to the Police Authorities who, egregiously, delivered him to the Army, this in blatant violation of Nigerian law. As Justice Taiwo of the Federal High court in Abuja held, in February of 2021, in the case of Grace Anita Paul v. Chief of Army Staff, et.al, “the Nigerian Army lacks the power to arrest, investigate and hold in custody, anyone who is not subject to the Armed Forces Act or any other military law.” We are certain in the view that, until the day comes when a higher Nigerian court of law rules to the contrary, either explicitly or sub silentio, the holdings in Brimah and Paul stand as the correct and operative readings of the applicable laws. Accordingly, the Urhobo Historical Society submits that the detention of the King is violative of the laws and the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, and that adherence to the Rule of Law and the requirements of justice in a well ordered society dictates that he should be released immediately. The investigation of suspected criminal actions and the prosecution of those who are alleged to have engaged in criminal activities are, by the provisions of Section 214 of the Nigerian Constitution, and Section 4 of the Police Acts and Regulations, the province of the Nigeria Police, and not that of the Nigerian Army. That the Army takes institutional offense because an alleged criminal act results in the

deaths of its officers and men, does not, without more, abrogate the laws of the Republic of Nigeria or render inoperative the command of her Constitution – not if she is a Republic of laws, and not one of men and/or women. Even if the Republic of Nigeria could arguably be considered a society where good order and the rule of law remain, for the moment, mostly aspirational, we would urge that the time has come for a court of competent jurisdiction to issue a writ of habeas corpus, on application, in the matter of the King.

· We know that included among the roles of a state governor, is the duty to serve as the Chief Security Officer of the State. But, because we are yet to learn what part, if any, the Governor of Delta State played in this tragedy, it is among the many questions to which the Urhobo Historical Society expects answers from the Independent Commission of Inquiry.

· Finally, we know the hardship, concentrated, and unrelenting, which this tragedy has visited on the people of Okuama, and, in the recognition and affirmation of our common humanity, the Urhobo Historical Society demands the following, severally and jointly, from the governments of Nigeria and Delta State.

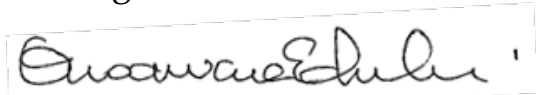
1. An immediate end to all military operations in the area, and the return of the armed forces personnel to their barracks, with the Police put in charge of assuring public order, as required by the Laws and the Constitution of The Federal Republic of Nigeria.
2. The provision of adequate shelters, to house all displaced persons whose homes were destroyed, sanitary facilities included.
3. The provision of medical facilities to cater to the health needs of the inhabitants.
4. The provision of food items, clean drinking water, and clothing, sufficient to meet the needs of the displaced population.
5. The construction of school facilities to attend to the educational needs of the children of the area.
6. We are informed by press reports that, on behalf of the Republic, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu has announced a host of benefits for the surviving members of the families of the fallen soldiers, including paid housing, educational scholarships for their children, and monetary awards. Because the soldiers came to their demise while on active duty in the service of the country, we understand and accept the solicitude of the government towards the surviving members of their families, even as we question the purpose, the propriety, and the legitimacy of the mission on which they unfortunately lost their lives. Sadly, as of this writing, the speed with which the government has manifested its concern for the survivors of the deceased soldiers has not been demonstrated, in equal measure, towards the survivors of the deceased victims of the Okuama tragedy – persons who, the Urhobo Historical Society submits, are no less deserving of the solicitude of the Republic. Payments in the form of restitution, consequential and collateral damages to all who have suffered losses, including monetary compensation to those survivors who lost members of their families, sufficient to match the support and assistance provided to the families of the departed soldiers, must, in equity, be extended to all the families of the deceased victims of the army's destruction of Okuama.
7. Payments to the community to compensate for the loss of public facilities, in order that she might, at a minimum, be made whole, must also be made.

We expect the two governments to attend to these demands with haste, not only because the social contract between the two and the Citizens of Nigeria and Delta State, the dispossessed and distressed inhabitants of Okuama included, whom both governments are sworn to serve and

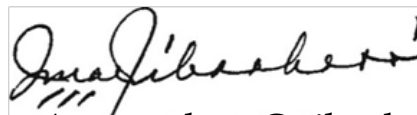
protect requires it, but because it is right and proper that both governments should do so. This must be done, and the Urhobo Historical Society expects and has high hopes that both governments will attend to their responsibilities with the urgency that the facts and circumstances of the moment make imperative. Nothing less would do, because human lives are at severe risk, our fealty to our family – the Human Family - is on trial – and neglect, incompetence, and failure are most assuredly not options. No, not in this instance.

We thank you both for your attention to, and your consideration of, the substance of this missive, and we await, with high hopes and high expectations, your favourable responses in a very timely manner.

Best regards,



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## URHOBO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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3 Ekeh Street (opposite Catholic Church) Okpara Inland  
Ethiopia East LGA, Delta State, Nigeria P.O. Box 652 Effurun, Delta State, Nigeria  
**UNITED STATES OFFICE:**  
935, Centennial Avenue, North Baldwin, NY 11510-1916

### 13TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE & GENERAL MEETING

**THEME: ASPECTS OF URHOBO CULTURE:**  
*Folklore & Poetry, Music, Language, Cosmology, Religion*

**DATE: Friday 26 - Saturday 27 July, 2024**

**VENUE: New York University, STERN School of Business Conference Hall**  
44 West, 4th Street, New York 10012, USA

## CALL FOR ADVERT AND GOODWILL MESSAGES

Please send copies of your advertisement and goodwill messages, including payment receipts to [uhsconference13@gmail.com](mailto:uhsconference13@gmail.com).

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**For enquiries contact:**

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**URHOB  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**

**INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS:**

3 Ekeh Street (opposite Catholic Church) Okpara Inland  
Ethiope East LGA, Delta State, Nigeria  
P.O. Box 652 Effurun, Delta State, Nigeria

**UNITED STATES OFFICE:**

935, Centennial Avenue, North Baldwin, NY 11510-1916

# CALL FOR MEMBERSHIP

This is an appeal for more Urhobo sons and daughters and people of other nationalities interested in Urhobo History and Culture to register as members of UHS

## UHS MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

- i. Regular Member: N12,000.00 per year.**
- ii. Student Member: (Students, including undergraduates, and Youth Corps Serving members): N2,400 per year.**
- iii. Premium Member: N60,000 per year.**
- iv. Gold Member: N120,000 per year.**
- v. Life Member: One-time membership fee of N500,000**
- vi. Corporate Member: N250,000 per year or one-time fee of N1 million.**

**Register with the link below from the UHS Headquarters with which you can register very easily:**

**[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdGWkn-kuHCXceM-3gxrFo tk9Dkh9VhJKlsSWaO0LkqaVKAg/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdGWkn-kuHCXceM-3gxrFo tk9Dkh9VhJKlsSWaO0LkqaVKAg/viewform?usp=sf_link)**

For payment use UHS account details as follows:

(a) Naira Account: Urhobo Historical Society  
2112113200 Ecobank

(b) Dollar Account: Urhobo Historical Society (USA)  
Bethpage Federal Credit Union Acct: Routing: 221 473 652  
Checking: 999 545 0567

Kindly forward receipt of payment to **[uhshqtrsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:uhshqtrsecretary@gmail.com)**  
or 07060647530 (WhatsApp).

*For further enquiries and additional clarification on Membership of Urhobo Historical Society contact: Mr. Ochuko Arodovwe, 08103108064 or Zita I. Onakpoberuo, 07060647530.*



# URHOBO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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# 13TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE & GENERAL MEETING

**THEME: ASPECTS OF URHOBO CULTURE:**  
*Folklore & Poetry, Music, Language, Cosmology, Religion*

**DATE: Friday 26 - Saturday 27 July, 2024**

**VENUE: New York University, STERN School of Business Conference Hall**  
**44 West, 4th Street, New York 10012, USA**

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### CONCEPT NOTE

When Mahatma Gandhi listed “science without humanity” among his seven social sins, he was effectively underscoring the significance of the cultural sciences to the effective flourishing of the human and physical ones. China serves as a ready example. In less than half century, the Chinese have attained hitherto unimaginable scientific and economic heights that have propelled them to global reckoning; they achieved this by leveraging the philosophy of Confucianism, a way of life and principle of living developed by their ancient hero Confucius (551-479BC). There is therefore a sense in holding that the intangible and immaterial aspects of human civilization provide the substructure for the sustainable flourishing of the superstructure of civilisation, that is the visible and tangible aspects of civilisation.

Crucially, Urhobo culture is multi-complex, rich and diverse. With a history reaching back to over 2000 years, the Urhobo people have developed philosophies and original thought systems, which, if leveraged and consolidated, can serve as the bedrock of a future Urhobo nation prosperous in science, technology and the economy. It is against this background that the Urhobo Historical Society in its 13th Conference is inviting interested patriots and scholars to rigorously interrogate the underlisted sub-themes and more. We invite original papers, anchored on appropriate concepts, theories and perspectives, as well as practical and lived experiences from the field. Well written papers will be assessed and published in a new book by the Urhobo Historical Society.

## Sub-Themes

- A. Culture and National Development
- B. Urhobo Folklore
- C. Urhobo Poetry
- D. Urhobo History and Culture
- E. Language and Development
- F. Urhobo Religions
- G. Cosmology in Urhobo Worldview
- H. Eschatology in Urhobo Worldview
- I. Urhobo Culture and Educational System
- J. Urbanisation and Urhobo Culture
- K. The Diaspora and Urhobo Culture
- L. Urhobo Knowledge Systems
- M. Urhobo Philosophy
- N. Spirits in Urhobo Worldview
- O. Life and Death in Urhobo Worldview
- P. Urhobo Traditional Economy
- Q. Urhobo Music and Dance
- R. Culture and Civilization
- S. Urhobo Traditional Healing Practice
- T. Urhobo Traditional Festivals
- U. Udje Song Poetry
- V. Urhobo Arts
- W. Urhobo Migration
- X. Urhobo and the Colonial Experience

## SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS:

Abstracts of not more than 250 words should be submitted via the conference registration link:

<https://surveyheart.com/form/65fa8c553aa5e10b342f50c3>

not later than May 31st, 2024. Decision on abstracts will be communicated by June 30th, 2024. Participants may opt to present their papers via zoom.

**NOTE:** All participants including paper presenters must be registered.

Register with the link below:

<https://surveyheart.com/form/65fa8c553aa5e10b342f50c3>

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Professor Tanure Ojaide  
University of North Carolina  
Charlotte, USA

### LEAD PAPER PRESENTERS:

Onoawarie Edevbie  
Professor Rose Aziza, FNAL

### CHAIRMAN OF THE OCCASION

Olorogun Dr. Moses Oghenerume Taiga, JP. (CON)

### HOST

Mrs Julie Riesa, (LOC Chair)

### CHIEF HOST

Dr. Aruegodore Oyiborhoro (UHS President)

For goodwill messages and adverts in the Conference Brochure  
Contact@

Zita +2347060647530; Ochuko +2348103108064

**ACCOUNT: NAIRA - Ecobank, 2112113200, URHOBO HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
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