

**REPORT AND OVERVIEW PRESENTED BY OGBARU DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (O.D.A.) TO THE OGBARU
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION HELD AT THE OGBARU LOCAL GOVERNMENT HEADQUARTERS,
ATANI, DECEMBER 28, 2002, AT 10 A.M.**

**Your Royal Highnesses
Traditional Office Holders
Ndi Nze n'ozo
Fellow Ogbaru Indigenes
Ladies and Gentlemen**

Fraternal Greetings to you all. Our mode of greeting in O.D.A is O.D.A: Unity, Love and Progress. May we crave your indulgence to start with O.D.A mode of greeting. O.D.A. - UNITY, LOVE AND PROGRESS!!

What we have scheduled to do today through this gathering is primarily to look into five main areas: The areas, among others, are:

1. What has made Ogbaru one of the most neglected areas in Nigeria?
2. What has gone wrong with our love for one another.?
3. What can be done to recreate or bring about the Ogbaru of old/
4. How do we source for fund for erection of O.D.A. House?
5. How do we engender mobilization of the indigenes of Ogbaru for economic and social development of Ogbaru Land?

Some of the speakers in today's event would touch on these issues. Meanwhile, it is proper to acquaint you with the experience of our journey so far. It would be assuming so much to boast to be able to recast all that has happened in the life of the O.D.A. O.D.A is an organization that has been in existence for almost nineteen years. The Association has gone through so many trials and travails. This situation has prevailed for long because of lack of adequate manpower to run effectively the different departments of The Body. This is understandable because most of our young and bright ones are far and away in search of the Golden Fleece.

Another reason is because our famous men and women who living in and outside Ogbaru do not have the time, so it seems, to look-in for once, to proffer advice or encouragement or even to write-in. No organization can thrive under this kind of environment. In this age of instant communication mechanism through GSM, Internet or e-mail, it smacks of apathy to be far away from each other needlessly.

Neglect Of Ogbaru By The Local And State Governments And Ourselves

It is crystal clear that Ogbaru is one of the most neglected areas in Anambra State. This has become possible because we are not united as a people. Our disunity is a puzzle to so many right thinking people. Some people have said it loud, that Ogbaru people are their own enemies by not banding together when they should.

What with the array of intellectuals of international repute, legal luminaries of international repute, business moguls, great farmers, you name them. The disunity and the syndrome must be tackled head-on if we are to survive as a people. One illustration is enough to punch home the devastating effect the syndrome has caused Ogbaru. A case in point was when majority of our councilors, our very own sons, leveled grievous allegations against their chairman under whose administration they served. The allegations, which they copiously documented, dwelt on;

1. Stark neglect of Ogbaru in terms of development.
2. Embezzlement and mismanagement of funds from the Federation Account and other funds.
3. Flooding the administration with persons from outside core Ogbaru over and above all proportions, and deliberately creating ghost workers.
4. Colonizing the Ogbaru Main Market to detriment of the Ogbaru Local Government Area.
5. General corruption

At the very point we were to achieve the removal of this misfit of a Chairman through the Governor's involvement, the counselors abandoned the cause and went right back to the very Chairman to individually and collectively bargain their conscience away. O. D. A. was literally left with dirty bath water and totally helpless. All that we could do, and what we did, was to go round the entire 15

communities of core Ogbaru to blacklist the Counselors from being nominated in future, be it for election or appointment. Another battle which disunity played havoc was on the Zoning Formula adopted by O.D.A. O.D.A. resolved and adopted a formula whereby political offices will chaired on rotational basis, so that with time, every segment will taste all the elective offices pertaining to local, state and federal constituencies. The Zoning issue helped us to know how weak and disunited we can be in the face of serious National issues. Some individuals, among who were even highly placed ones, swore that the formula, which was acclaimed by the majority as a masterpiece will not see the light of day. Their goal was their self-aggrandizement. If we cannot respect our own resolutions, what manner of Leaders can we be? It is this recalcitrance that encouraged some advantaged communities who shared wards with others to develop greedy appetite and refused to honor a noble Zoning Formula. All these contributed to the neglect of Ogbaru.

Local Government Headquarters And Unwholesome Treatment Meted On One Of Our Own

We held discussions with the immediate past transition Chairman of Ogbaru Local Government Council on the enormity of carrying out Local Government business from outside the Local Government Headquarters at Atani. The discussions were fruitful in the sense that he promised to make amends. There was no adequate time to judge the sincerity of the Chairman because exactly three days after our meeting with him, he was removed by the state Government. An Ogbaru indigene who was the deputy was asked to step into the position of the transition Chairmanship. The predecessor refused to hand over the Administration to the successor the administration of the local government. We do not know whether his refusal to hand over to his deputy was because his said deputy was an Ogbaru indigene, but we do know that the "Powers-that-be" removed the responsibility and the assets of the Ogbaru Main Market from the new Transition Chairman, who is an Ogbaru indigene and gave it to the! ex-transition Chairman, and deliberately starving the new man of much needed funds. As if this was not enough, the Ogbaru indigene was removed from the Transition Chairmanship in less than ten days from stepping in, and a totally new person, a non indigene, a stranger who was not resident at the time, in Ogbaru Local Government Area foisted on Ogbaru as the new transition Chairman. We have no quarrels with the individuals being played as cards by the state government, and we do know that Government can post or install whomsoever she pleased. However, if government is all about people and their welfare, it smacks of utter insensitivity for government to ride roughshod over our sensibilities. If you juxtapose this insensitivity of government with the abject neglect of Ogbaru by the same government, you would as a true son or daughter of Ogbaru start to ask yourself so many questions.

State Government

We made efforts several times to see the governor on the state of development in Ogbaru. O.D.A. Executive went in strength November 7, 2002, to Awka to have audience with the governor, to no avail. He was said to have traveled to Abuja for some knotty political issues. Subsequent trips by the O.D.A. Secretary General to secure fresh dates proved abortive due largely to logistic problem on the part of government. Some of the items slated for discussion were the nature of handling of matters affecting mainland Ogbaru. The sheer insensitivity has become of general concern to all true sons and daughters of Ogbaru.

Ogbaru Road

One road in Nigeria that has been used as political factor above all other roads by all manner of political actors and pretenders is our dear Ogbaru Road. This Road as you can all see, is the most derelict and the most neglected by government. There was a time this road belonged to none of the three tiers of government. At least none was bold enough to claim responsibility. The Local Government denied responsibility. The State Government when it was convenient denied responsibility, and the Federal Government is undecided on whether to assume responsibility for the Road.

Not quite long ago, it was proved beyond all reasonable doubt that it was not so much the money as the will to tackle the rehabilitation or even reconstruction of the road. Our own son, Patrick Nduka Ugboma, (a.k.a SULE), did what Napoleon could not do, and even during the dreaded rainy season. He rehabilitated, all by himself, most of the road to make it reasonably passable. Immediately after the rains, another of our pride, in the person of Engineer Nwachukwu Egonu, descended on the Road with bulldozers, scraping and creating what you can rightly call a level playing field. Right now, government is still fiddling with Sule's request to do with his resources, a comprehensive reconstruction of the Road. Their indecision apparently is based on the calculation that their only political card is about to be taken off their chest. It must be said that it is now too late in the day for government to look for and get political point on the Road, even if they rebuild the! Road today with marble. Ogbaru people have suffered untold hardship economically, socially and psychologically because of the very bad state of the Road. Also, Ogbaru have suffered so much in the hands of known political detractors who by devious means find their way into executive political offices in Ogbaru. They have not done us any good. What we got was plunder, and plunder, and more plunder.

Federal Government And Ogbaru Road

We scheduled and rescheduled several times to visit the Presidency at Abuja to make some representations on the sorry state of our road. We have not been able to make the visit because we simply did not, and still do not, have the money to cover cost for such a visit. The idea to visit Abuja was based on the information by our Honorable Representative in the National Assembly that the Federal Government have taken over the responsibility and in fact, the information went on, budgeted for the reconstruction of the Road. One is to thank those who made the inclusion possible and to know first hand one or two other things as regards the Road and other issues.

N100 Million Constituency Project For Ogbaru Federal Constituency

There has been a lot of uncertainties about a Hundred Million Naira constituency Fund for Ogbaru Federal Constituency. If the vote is for real, it has not up till now been released to Ogbaru. In other words, we have not seen the effect or been informed of its release. O.D.A. is greatly handicapped to visit the Presidency. A visit to the Presidency by O.D.A would help the efforts of our Representative at the National Assembly to ask for what belongs or is due to Ogbaru.

According to a letter to the "Chairman, Senate Committee on Appropriation and Finance, National Assembly Complex, Abuja" dated December 11, 2000, by our Honorable Representative, the money would be used as follows:

- a) N80 million for Onitsha-Atani-Ossomala Road;
- b) N20 million for Water (to benefit the following communities: Okpoko, Atani, Umunankwo and Ossomala);

As neither the rehabilitation of the Road, nor the Water infrastructure had been put in place, and given that the tenure of the regime would expire in less than six months from now, it would be a mark of responsible leadership for O.D.A. to move, to aid the efforts of our Honourable Representative. If our thinking is right, necessary enabling empowerment should be given today by this Congress to enable O.D.A. fight for the rights of the Motherland.

Constituency Vote From The State

About N5 million was given to Ogbaru Constituency 2 from 1999-2002 from the Statutory Constituency Allocation, supposedly through the Ogbaru Constituency 2 member of the State House of Assembly. Hopefully, and if our information is right, our honourable member would use this unique opportunity to throw light on the issue and on what extent the said vote had contributed in uplifting the inhabitants of the Constituency.

O.D.A., The Motherland And Unity

Ogbaru is famous for, and proud of her cultural heritage. It is our contribution to the world. The cultural heritage is the symbol of our contiguity and unity. All over the world, unity is the most essential ingredient in the making of a nation. We love to talk of Unity because that is the one elusive key to our reaching for the stars. Unity is of great concern to us because of the effect we have seen of the alternative.

The Ogbaru of our Dream is one that would speak with one voice and with authority and integrity, and who would love all her sons and daughters with equal tenderness. It is our bounding duty to individually bring out the best in us to making Ogbaru a formidable clan. We can assure you that with Unity progress is assured. Unity is the only podium on which the trophy of progress would find its congenial resting place. We have no choice in the matter. We either swim together, or we sink together. The Ogbaru that we would like to build is one that would drink from one "ganasi" without fear. Most of us here present, met Ogbaru that shared a stick of cigarette among twenty from one "foller". What has gone wrong that there is now a Babel of noises and dichotomy in Ogbaru. Is it political immaturity or greed? To start to address the Ogbaru of our Dream, we started by restructuring and multiplying O.D.A. worldwide. We now have:

1. O.D.A East Southern Zone One
2. O.D.A Lagos
3. O.D.A. Abuja
4. O.D.A Kano
5. O.D.A America (Ogbaru National Association, USA)
6. O.D.A. Europe (UK, Italy, etc)

Our mission is to enthrone constant double-lane express communication mechanism with different zones and groupings, with a view to cross-fertilizing and harnessing ideas that would make O.D.A. do a better job of its mandate. In this vein, we urge Ogbaru men and women who have them, to drop their e-mail addresses and or phone numbers with the Secretary General, either through ourmotherland2002@yahoo.com or P.O. Box 138, Atani, or Phone 046/482299.

O.D.A. - The Only Child

O.D.A. is the only child of Ogbaru. We should protect her with our lives. If O.D.A. dies, heavens will not fall, but what is greater than the heavens will fall - the people will fall, and maggots will invade the land. Let the spirit of patriotism swamp the Land. Let the spirit of patriotism take over our lives. Our co-operation individually and collectively are needed on a regular basis to help O.D.A. succeed in meeting the great expectations and aspirations of our People. ONE O.D.A., ONE MOTHERLAND, ONE DESTINY.

O.D.A. House

In 2004, O.D.A. would be celebrating twenty (20) years of her existence. We thought it wise that O.D.A. at twenty should have something very tangible to show for the labors of our heroes past and present, and to leave such as a legacy unto posterity. We chose to erect what we would like to call O.D.A. HOUSE. Our projection is that the House, a three-floor edifice, would comprise of Secretariat, auditoriums, suites, offices, gymnasium, billiard room, warehouse, general recreation arena, etc. It would be a pride to all Ogbaru sons and daughters when completed. We also figured that if we could generate reasonable amount of money between now and mid 2003, we would be able to complete the building of the complex on or before our 20th anniversary in December 2004. The anticipated opening of the Dream House would form the climax of our celebrating the twentieth anniversary of O.D.A. We hereby call for your input as to whether Easter Monday 2003 would be convenient for the Launching of the Fund. Secondly, we have sourced and secured land at Atani from the Ogbaru Local Government for the proposed House. The importance we attach to this project has dictated that we present the proposal to you today. We cannot recount all that we did, are doing, or failed to do as an organization because of time constraints under today's program. Suffice it that we shall all agree today on when to fix for the launching of the O.D.A. House Building Fund if the Easter Monday 2003 is not convenient.

O.D.A. International Secretariat

Our O.D.A. International Secretariat is expected to be at Atani. Presently, the Secretary General uses his residence at No. 93 Atani Road, Iyiowa Odeke as the secretariat. There is a crying need to have well-appointed corporate office at Atani to run the affairs of the Association. The problems of headquarters will be over the moment we have the O.D.A. House. Meanwhile, we need a computer unit at the secretariat for more efficiency. O.D.A is also overdue for a pool-car in the form of a 12-seater bus to enable the Executive move fast and nip problems in the bud before they can explode. O.D.A being non-political, non-religious, and non-partisan, has no means of income other than through annual levy on communities whose total contribution does not touch the many issues that arise from time to time. Our only hope is from outreach from good spirited individuals.

Effect Of The Degradation Of The Ogbaru Ecosystem On Food Production And Ogbaru Population

Ogbaru suffers ecological degradation. The River Niger, though a primary source of income to Ogbaru people, is eating up some shorelines of some towns and farmlands fronting the River. Erosion of ugly dimension is most prevalent during the rains when the River Niger overflows its banks. The farmer is pitted in battle against this phenomenon. The farmer is put under pressure to harvest his crops against his wish or better judgment. A farmer who does not have the means to plant in good time, harvests his crops before they reach full maturity. The ripple effect for the farmer is one of poor proceed from immature yield. Out of the fifteen communities of mainland Ogbaru, only about three are not fronting the River. If the flood-induced erosion continues unchecked, time may come when there would not be farmlands or houses for majority of our people. Apart from the inevitable hunger that would set in, with the attendant social upheaval, the population would be displaced. If this scenario takes place, Ogbaru people, having no other place they could call their own, would be the hardest hit in the event. This is an avoidable disaster if efforts would be made now through what we may call Ecology Committee. The Committee would be charged with the responsibility of making strong representations to the Federal Government, and using print and electronic media to further sensitize the Government and the people on the threatening but avoidable disaster the feared deluge would cause to lives and property. There would be no food without farmlands, and food is the first need of man. Our fears of displacement may be misplaced if the Federal Government urgently carries out its plans to dredge the River Niger. The proposed dredging may reduce the menace of flood-induced land loss as a consequence of reduced watermark at peak of the flood. In the meantime, the River Niger, in the absence of aqueducts/embankations along Ogbaru shorelines, is having a field day in its destructive march in spite of its blessings.

Farming In Ogbaru

Ogbaru is blessed with alluvial soils. Most crops grow very well without any thought about additional growth-enhancing input. Natural manure is in abundance. This nature's gift has made it possible for farmers to do more crop rotation and little shifting cultivation. Cassava production, which is mostly regarded as woman's crop of emphasis in Ogbaru, is almost overtaking yam production. It is one of the easiest crops to propagate and grow. It produces a greater yield of food per acre. It is also said to be the most productive crop in the world.\par \par Farming is the traditional occupation of the people of Ogbaru from time immemorial. In more recent times, the growth of farming of yam as a major crop in Ogbaru has been in comparative decline because of lack of capacity of farmers to match the population growth in cities and towns around them. The male farmers are involved more in yam cultivation and fishing, while the female farmers are more into the cultivation of cassava and vegetables. In spite of agricultural production of other clans lying along the River Niger, demand has continued to outstrip supply. While population is growing steadily in and around Ogbaru, the farming class is gradually dying off. There is the danger of the farming class going extinct in less than thirty (30) years from now, given that the present average age of the Ogbaru farmer is about 55 years. Efforts therefore should be made to encourage young men and women to go into farming. Population of the consuming public is increasing in leaps and bounds, without even our taking into account buyers from far away places as Port Harcourt and Lagos who prefer Ogbaru class of yams. The question is, how can the farmer keep up with the momentum in the absence of any motivation or assistance for a continuum.

Gender And Development

Women constitute over 65 per cent of the farming population in Nigeria, and more so in \par Ogbaru. The special role of women in agriculture is significant, and since their agricultural production is cost effective in relation to cash input, special consideration is being canvassed for them here. A writer captured the role of women in agriculture more succinctly, and we quote:

In recent years, the role of women has been recognized as central to the development process, and policy makers and development planners have begun to focus on the need to help women work more productively. Some even say that true development would be achieved if only when women receive more support in proportion to their work for the families and communities.

The well to do in our midst are urged to encourage the women farmers through micro credit at a time they would need the assistance most.

Scholarship For Ogbaru Children

Education is a right and not a privilege any more in Nigeria. Education has been defined as an agent of civilization. The level of production in whichever form is determined by the level of education of the producer. A farmer can only produce to the extent of his civilization and empowerment. In realization that education is an essential tool for increased production, O.D.A shall, in fullness of time, with the co-operation of the indigenes of Ogbaru, institute and Education Endowment Fund for the brilliant children of farmers of Ogbaru extraction in particular and other children of Ogbaru origin in general.

Accountability

We have programmed a mechanism through which our Representatives, be they political appointees such as commissioners, future ministers and elective office holders from Ogbaru Constituency, would be rendering to Ogbaru through O.D.A. on periodical basis, balance sheet of their respective activities while in office.\par \par Since the O.D.A is the umbrella body of the fifteen (out of the sixteen) autonomous communities of Ogbaru, we considered it not out of place to plan to summon to O.D.A. political office holders of every color from Ogbaru Local Government Area to answer to accountability.. Meanwhile, there is not enough, if not a lag, in information dissemination to the Ogbaru Constituency from our men and women holding elective and other manner of appointments from government.

Ogbaru - An Oil Thrust Of Anambra State

It has been established beyond doubt, that Ogbaru Land is blessed with petroleum resources. We are grateful to God for this blessing, just as we are also grateful to God for giving us a fertile land for agriculture. We are now not just the main food basket of the State, but also the "the oil thrust of the State" What roles can O.D.A and by extension Ogbaru nation play in the exploitation of the oil. We know that Ogbaru has been a highly marginalized area, for that reason Ogbaru people should be made to form at least 80 percent of the work force whenever the envisaged exploitation is put into effect. This should be so because pollution from oil exploitation and agriculture do not mix. Ogbaru for over 300 (three hundred) years have been involved in agriculture. Agriculture

therefore is the life of the Ogbaru people. We have to learn from the experience of others of the ecological devastation caused by oil. If Ogbaru people must suffer additional degradation of their farmland through oil pollution of the ecosystem, there must be an adequate structure that would remove or at least attenuate the socio-economic distortions that would inevitably arise from it. O.D.A. would play a vanguard role in the protection of, and justice for the Ogbaru people in the above connection.

Community Dues

Annual dues levied on communities were in accordance with size and perceived population of each community, thus:

1. Ossomala, Odekpe, Atani, Ogwu Ikpele, Ogwu Aniocha = N10,000 each
2. Umunankwo, Ogbakuba, Ochucho-Umuodu, Akili Ogidi, Akili Ozizor = N7,000 each
3. Ohita, Amiyi, Mputu, Umuzu, Obeagwe = N5,000 each

However, the following communities still owe on their annual dues as follows: Atani N4,250 (balance); Amiyi, N5,000; Ochucho-Umuodu, N7,000, Mputu N5,000; Ogbakuba, N2,000 (balance); Umuzu, N2,000 (balance).

Zoning Formula

O.D.A. enunciated a zoning formula on elective political offices for Ogbaru. The idea was to reduce squabbles, acrimony, and unnecessary waste of resources over elective offices. The formula was acclaimed as a masterpiece and adopted on April 21, 2002 as a vital working tool for equitable distribution of elective political offices. However, some group of people who felt disadvantaged by the formula for immediate benefit, ganged up to throw spanner in the works by submitting themselves to their parties for elective offices that were meant for zones other than their own. The bandwagon effect of their recalcitrant and unpatriotic opposition to the Formula and the Motherland became the cankerworm that has bedeviled the Formula.

Visitation Of O.D.A. Arbitration Panel

O.D.A. Arbitration Panel visited Mputu and Umunankwo on the issue of respecting the tenets of the zoning formula in relation to their councillorship squabbles. Umunankwo created a stalemate and therefore contributed in creating hiccups for a Formula that was devised to ensure equity.

Registration Of Voters Exercise

O.D.A. played very active role in sensitizing the population of Ogbaru Mainland on the importance and need of every Ogbaru indigene coming out to register his or her name for the forthcoming elections. It is good to report that Ogbaru people turned out in good number so much that the Independent National Electoral Commission was unable to provide enough Voters Cards for the Exercise. We thank all those who turned out for the Registration exercise.

Inauguration Of O.D.A. Zone At Owerri

On May 19, 2002, we inaugurated O.D.A EAST SOUTHERN ZONE ONE. The Zone includes Owerri, Port Harcourt, Ihiala, Umuahia, Aba and environs. The Head Office of the Zone is at Owerri. The Inauguration was well attended. Plans are in the pipeline towards inaugurating Lagos Zone, come 2003.

O.D.A. To Ogbaru Women Progressive Union

O.D.A made a donation of N20,000 (twenty thousand naira) to the Ogbaru Women Progressive Union in aid of their social activities of sand-filling of bad pot-holes along the only Ogbaru Road. We hereby once again express our gratitude to our women folk for their very patriotic spirit.

Pledges Fulfilled

Engineer Paul Agaba, Okwudili Uzoka, Dan Oduah, Emma Achike, Iweama Okwudili, Uzoije Nwachukwu. These are honourable men. They made pledges to O.D.A. December 2000, and fulfilled the pledges within minutes and few days respectively. Other pledges not mentioned here are yet to fulfill their pledges two years after they made them. They know themselves. They should ask themselves whether owing on one's pledge is the best way to build the Ogbaru of our dream.

Gifts To O.D.A.

The following free will donations were made to O.D.A at different times from late 2001 to date:

- ◆ Honorable Okwudili Uzoka - total N70,000 (and a pledge of 50 plastic chairs)
- ◆ Emma Odunze of the State Ministry of Education, Awka, N10,000
- ◆ Celestine Udemadu - One Cell phone and Two table diaries

- ◆ Dr. Nnamdi Oduah - N3, 000 at an unexpected visit to his office by O.D.A.
- ◆ Ogbaru Coalition Movement - N10,000 to aid the Voters Registration exercise
- ◆ Emma Achike - N3000 at an unexpected visit to his office by O.D.A.
- ◆ Sule Ugboma - N100,000
- ◆ George C. Nwabueze (O.D.A. President) Post Office Box 138, Atani to O.D.A.

We decided to tabulate these gifts not because of their value and volume, but because of the noble spirit behind them; none was given with a view to a reward. These gifts were very helpful to us in our journey through a sea of privations.

Death Of A Member

We lost one of the official representatives of Odekpe Community at O.D.A. in the person of Patrick Dada Akpati. O.D.A. went in strength to condole the family. Dada was a very active member of O.D.A. May his soul rest in peace.

Celebration Of Life

We thank God for the life of Sule Ugboma, and for the life of Nwachukwu Egonu for their making a very bold statement with their patriotic actions. We thank God for the life of Mrs Lavander Isamah for making it possible for Ogbaru to join the league of electricity users at an early stage. We thank God for all those whose services to the Motherland cannot be quantified. Finally we thank God for the lives of others whose mere mention of their names gives us a sense of pride.

Ogbaru Anthem

Given our history and corporate ancestry, Ogbaru is one clan that should be a model to other components in the State. In the above regard, we considered that Ogbaru is long overdue for an Ogbaru Anthem. The anthem, which would be sung in the native dialect, would be a unifying force on the people. We therefore urge that this World Congress give approval to the idea and also to approve the composition of those who would be entrusted with the assignment of composing the anthem. The anthem would be made simple, of reasonable duration and easy to be sung. The lyrics should dwell more on the theme of unity and its benefits. The Anthem Committee shall present the Anthem to the Ogbaru General Assembly on Easter Monday 2003, the proposed Fund Launching date for the O.D.A. HOUSE, for vetting and possible final approval or adoption.

Conclusion

We shall all take a decision today on how to move Ogbaru forward. In the words of The Navigator: ONE SHIP SAILS EAST AND ANOTHER WEST BY THE SAME SELF WINDS THAT BLOW IT IS THE SET OF THE SAIL AND NOT THE GALE THAT DETERMINE THE WAY THEY GO!

We would have loved to make this Report available to all Conventioneers, but we would greatly crave your indulgence for our inability arising from our "empty pocket" in going the whole hog.. This is not saying that copies would not be made available later to all those who wish to have them for a token amount.

OGBARU, THE HOME OF PLENTY, OGBARU, THE SLEEPING GIANT, IS AWAKE, OGBARU, UNITY, LOVE AND PROGRESS. Thank you very much for your patience in listening to this humble submission. WE LOVE YOU ALL.

Yours in the Service of the Motherland,
 OGBARU DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
 OBIBULU G.N. ESIMAI (Oniha)
 SECRETARY-GENERAL