

1ST ANNUAL OKPE WORLD CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 17 - 19, 2006
Sapele, Delta State. Nigeria

The Editorial Board of OKPE VOICE cordially invites all Okpe sons and daughters to participate at the **1st Annual Okpe World Conference**, which will be held on November 17 – 19, 2006.

Special Guest of Honour: His Royal Majesty Orhue 1, The Orodje of Okpe Kingdom

VENUE: Okpe Hall, Sapele..

Hotel Accommodation

Participants are advised to reserve their hotel accommodation at any of these hotels. Please, mention the Okpe World Conference when reserving your accommodation.

- § **Peemus Hotel, Sapele.** (Manager: Mr. Jude Nwakolo: Tel: 0803-340-7729. Dialling from outside Nigeria: +234-803-340-7729). Rates: Double Room: N9,775; Luxury Suite: N14,375; Peemus Chalet: N16,675; Presidential Suite: N20,125.
- § **Jes Motel. Amukpe:** (Manager: Mr. Odiri: Tel: 0802-872-7589. Dialling from outside Nigeria: +234-802-872-7589) Rates: Single Room: N2,500; Double Room: N3,500; Suite: N4,500.
- § **White City Hotel, Sapele:** (Reservation Desk: 0803-573-5273. Dialling from outside Nigeria: +234-803-573-5273.

About the OKPE VOICE

Established by a group of Okpe nationals in May 2005, OKPE VOICE provides a forum for the promotion and defence of Okpe interests. Okpe Voice provides a platform for the articulation of critical issues on leadership in Okpeland. It performs these functions by publishing papers on all aspects of development in Okpeland - History, Language, Culture, Politics, Economics, etc. It is a cyberspace institute of Okpe studies. The web site of the OKPE VOICE <http://www.okpenation.org> is the premier source of Okpe History and Culture in the cyberspace

Call for Papers

Contributors are kindly requested to submit a working title and an abstract (250 words) of their contributions by **August 31, 2006**. Two copies of all completed papers should reach Dr. Hope Eghagha, Chair, Local Organizing Committee (LOC) by **September 30, 2006**. Please, send your submissions directly to okpenig2005@yahoo.com

Registration

Prospective participants are advised to register with Dr. Hope Eghagha by sending a note to him at okpenig2005@yahoo.com by August 31, 2006.

THEME: BUILDING AND DEVELOPING AN OKPE AGENDA

Programme

Friday, November 17, 2006: 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Reception/Dinner

Venue: Okpe Hall, Sapele.

6:00 - 6:15 p.m.: Welcome Address: Hope Eghagha, PhD., Chair, Local Organizing Committee

6:15 - 7:00 p.m.: Speeches by Okpe Leaders:

Hon. Chief P. A. Gbinije, Most Senior Okakuro of Okpe Kingdom.

Senator Chief David O. Dafinone, OFR, Ogwere 1 of Okpe Kingdom.

Chief William Eradajaye, JP, Acting Otota of Okpe Kingdom

Dr. Prince Isaac S. Mebitaghan

7:00 p.m.: Dinner

7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Okpe Musical Dance Troupe Competition

Saturday, November 18, 2006: 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.: **Keynote Speaker:** O. Igho Natufe, PhD.: **Okpe: Rebirth of a Nation**

Venue: Okpe Hall, Sapele.

Session: Okpe Language, History and Culture

Venue: Okpe Hall

Chair: Chief (Mrs.) Margaret Unukegwo

10:00 - 10:25 a.m.: Chief James Goodluck Eguegu: **Who are the Okpe?**

10:25 - 10:50 a.m.: Rev. Charles E. Osume, PhD. **Towards Formulating an Okpe Orthography: A Case for the Study of Okpe Language.**

10:50 - 11:15 a.m.: Ovaborhene Idamoyibo, PhD. **Igoru Music and Issues of Leadership in Okpe: Defence, Query, Counsel, Warnings and Implications**

11:15 a.m. - 12:00 noon: Comments/Discussion

12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m. Cultural Display: Okpe musical-dancing troupe competition/Lunch

1:00 - 2:15 p.m.: Lunch

SPECIAL EVENT: LAUNCHING OF OKPE POST-GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

2:20 - 3:30 p.m.: Chief Launcher: Chief Charles Obule.

Venue: Okpe Hall

Session: The Role of Women and Youth in Okpe Kingdom

Venue: Okpe Hall

Chair:

3:30 - 3:55 p.m.: Chief (Mrs.) Margaret Unukegwo: **The Role of Women in Okpe Kingdom.**

3:55 - 4:20 p.m.: Patience Turtoe-Sanders, PhD. **An Okpe Woman's Story of Hope.**

4:20 - 4:45 p.m.: Speaker: Topic

4:45 - 6:00 p.m.: Comments/Discussion

Sunday, November 19, 2006: 8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.: Interdenominational Church Service

Venue: Okpe Hall

10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.: **Keynote Speaker:** Professor William Odiete

Venue: Okpe Hall

Session: Politics and Leadership in Okpe Kingdom

Venue: Okpe Hall

Chair: Professor S. Ejite Oyovbaire

10:35 - 10:55 a.m.: O. Igho Natufe, PhD.: **The Leadership Question in Okpe Development**

11:00 - 11:20 a.m.: Speaker: Topic

11:10 a.m. - 12:00 noon: Comments/Discussion

12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m. Cultural Display: Okpe musical-dancing troupe competition/Lunch

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.: **SPECIAL EVENT: LAUNCHING OF REV. DR. CHARLES E. OSUME'S BOOK, THE OKPE PEOPLE**

Session: Economic Development in Okpe Kingdom

Venue: Okpe Hall

Chair

2:45 - 3:05 p.m.: Mr. Moses Akpobasah (**Topic to be confirmed**)

3:05 - 3:25 p.m.: Enajite Enajero, Ph.D.: **Protecting the Interests of an Impersonal Public:
The Beginning of Economic Development**

3:25 - 3:45 p.m.: Mr. Macaulay Ofurhie, **Investment Opportunities in the Oil Industry**

3:50 - 4:30 p.m. Comments/Discussion

4:45 p.m.: GENERAL MEETING ON OKPE KINGDOM

Venue: Okpe Hall

Chair: Chief David O. Dafinone, OFR, Ogwere I of Okpe Kingdom

Tentative Agenda

§ **Opening Prayer and Traditional Welcome**

§ **Chairman's Opening Remarks**

§ **Discussions on an Okpe Agenda**

§ **Next Steps**

§ **Communique**

§ **Closing**

Hope Eghagha, Ph.D.

Chair,

Local Organizing Committee

OKPE VOICE

Editorial Board

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