

OKPE UNION OF NORTH AMERICA

1ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

&

CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 07 - 09, 2005

The Executive Committee invites all Okpe and friends of Okpe to the 1st Annual General Meeting (AGM) & Conference of the Okpe Union of North America to be held on October 07 - October 09, 2005.

Venue: 700 North Haven Avenue, Ontario, CA. 91764. USA.

Hotel: Hilton Ontario Airport. (close to Los Angeles-Ontario Airport):

Contact: Mr. J. R. Harrison

Telephone: Direct: (909) 481-1722; 1-800-654-1379

Please, ask for Hilton Ontario and mention the *Okpe Union of North America* when reserving your rooms with the hotel. The special rates are reserved until September 16, 2005.

Rates:

(a) Room: US\$99.00 per night (King or 2 beds)

(b) Executive Level Room: US\$119.00 per night (large rooms with robes)

(c) Suite: (only 3 available) US\$274.00 per night (suite has large room and an attached living room)

Established in December 2004, and inaugurated in April 2005, the Okpe Union of North America is the umbrella organization of Okpe organizations in North America. Its main objective is to promote and protect the interests of Okpe in North America and in Nigeria. The 1st AGM and Conference will address issues of vital importance to the Okpe Nation. Non Okpe are invited as silent observers to the AGM, and as full participants at the Conference.

AGM Tentative Agenda

Friday, October 07: Arrival of participants

Saturday, October 08

7:30 - 8:30 a.m.: Breakfast

9:00 - 9:10 a.m.: Opening Prayer

9:10 - 9:30 a.m.: Welcome (Local organizing committee chair, Mr. Edward Ederaine; and the *Uno Okpe*, Mr. Alfred Ederaine)

9:30 - 10:00 a.m.: Presidential Address

10:10 - 11:30 a.m.: Minutes of the inaugural meeting

(i) Adoption and Discussion

(ii) Unfinished Business

12:00 - 1:30 p.m.: Lunch

1:40 - 4:45 p.m.: Reports

(i) 1st Vice President

(ii) 2nd Vice President

(iii) Secretary

(iv) Treasurer

(v) Director of Research

(vi) Director of Publicity

5:00 - 6:00 p.m.: New Business

6:10 p.m.: Adjournment (Closing Prayer)

7:00 - 11:30 p.m.: Dinner (Hosted by the Okpe Union of Southern California).

Tentative Conference Agenda

Conference Theme: The Place of Okpe in Nigeria.

Sunday, October 09

8:30 a.m.: Opening

9:00 - 11:45 a.m.: Session A: Economic and Cultural Development

Chair:

Paper 1: Mr. Edward Ederaine, "Investing in Okpeland."

Paper 2: Rev. Charles Osume, Ph.D. "Learning to Speak the Okpe Language."

12:00 - 1:15 p.m.: Lunch

1:30 - 4:30 p.m.: Session B: Political Development

Chair:

Paper 1: Sam Ejite Enajero, Ph.D. "Collective Choice: Making Sapele and Okpe Local Governments Models for Africa."

Paper 2: Mr. Style Egbedi, "Governance and Accountability in Sapele and Okpe Local Government Councils."

6:00 - 9:30 p.m.: Dinner

For further information on the AGM and Conference, please contact the following:-

AGM Coordinator

Mr. Edward Ederaine

2nd Vice President

Ederaine@comcast.net

Tel: (h) 951-737-4688 Cell: 909-214-1158

Conference Coordinator

Dr. Patience Turtoe-Sanders

Director of Research

Nyphen@aol.com

Tel: 763-560-4025; 763-360-5072

Those wishing to present papers at the Conference are kindly requested to submit the titles of their proposed papers to Dr. Patience Turtoe-Sanders, and copies of their papers to reach her by September 30, 2005.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Los Angeles.

Omajuwa	Igho	Natufe,	Ph.D.
President			
Okpe	Union	of	North
Tel:		(613)	America
Fax: (613) 565-7386			565-1066

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Omajuwa Igho Natufe, Ph.D. (President); Mr. John Harry Ofurhie, (1st Vice President); Mr. Edward Ederaine, (2nd Vice President); Rev. Frank Ojogwa Ekejija, (General Secretary); Ms. Elizabeth Asenime, (Treasurer); Mr. Godwin Biokoro, (Financial Secretary); Patience Turtoe-Sanders, Ph.D. (Director of Research); Mr. Victor Igbuya, (Director of Publicity); Mr. Alfred Ederaine, (Uno Okpe)