NSUKKA JOURNAL OF HISTORY

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 1, DECEMBER 1989.

Articles

Ebere Nwaubani,	Searching for Relevance in History
M.A.E. Okolie,	Black African History in the Negritude Design: The Case of Cheik Anta Diop.
Onwuka N. Njoku,	Agbaja Udi: Unsung Pioneers of Traditional Iron Working in Igboland.
J.O. Ahazuem,	The Nigerian Coal Industry and the Problem of Falling Coal Consumption in Nigeria.
Ikenga R.A. Ozigboh,	Religion in Nigeria's Third Republic: An Essay in Historical Projection.
Francis Anyika,	Opposition to Christian Propaganda in Igboland: A Survey of the Methodist Missionary Enterprise, 1910-1931.
Ola Oloidi,	Art and Nationalism in Colonial Nigeria.
F.O.E. Okafor,	Working at Cross Purposes: Church and State in Senegal 1817-1852.
E.O. Egboh,	Northern Nigeria Cotton for Lancashire, 1902-1913.
A.O. Ifionu,	Cultural Influences on the Igbo Traditional Music from Pre-colonial Times to 1967.

The Department of History
University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria

NSUKKA JOURNAL OF HISTORY
Volume 1, Number 1, December 1989

Published by The Department of History
University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria

DEDICATION

This maiden Volume of the Nsukka Journal of History is dedicated to Chief L.U. Uzoama in grateful acknowledgement of his singular generosity in funding this volume of this journal. Chief Uzoama hails from Uga in Aguata Local Government Area, Anambra State. He is happily married with 5 children. Chief Uzoama is one of the rising breed of Nigerian entrepreneurs. At his young age, he has already risen far and high on the Nigerian industrial firmament. He is the Chairman of Mechplant Nigeria Limited, a Building and Civil Engineering Construction Company whose head office is at No. 4, Ikorodu Road, Yaba, P. O. Box 3526, Lagos. The company has branch offices at Abuja and Enugu. The company has an enviable array of plant and construction equipment for its jobs and hiring services for mechanized farming. It has maintained great efficiency in the exposure of limestone for West African Portland Cement, Shagamu, from 1984 to date. It has executed many projects among which are:

- Civil Works at Ministerial Quarters at Abuja Capital Territory
- Construction of Feeder Roads at Karishi F.C.T. Abuja

It is currently handling the following construction works for both the Federal and State Governments.

- Construction of Enugu Ukwu - Nimo - Ichida Road in Anambra State
- Construction of Awkuzu - Igbariam Farm - Achalla Road in Anambra State
- Construction of Onitsha - Ossomari - Ogwuikpele Road in Anambra State

The Editorial Board of the journal, in consultation with the Department of History, and the Faculty of Arts, University of

Nigeria, Nsukka, is privileged to register Chief L.U. Uzoama as one of its illustrious patrons.

Editorial Board

- Professor A.E. Afigbo B.A., Ph.D. (London) Chairman
- Dr. Ikenga R.A. Ozigboh B.A. (Nig.), B.D., S.T.L. (Rome), M.A., Ph.D. (B'ham) Editor/Secretary
- Dr. P.O. Esedebe B.A. (Nig.), M.A., Ph.D. (London)
- Dr. Onwuka N. Njoku B.A. (Nig.), M.A. (B'ham), Ph.D. (Dalhousie)
- Dr. J.O. Ijoma B.A. (Nig.), M.A., Ph.D. (B'ham)
- Dr. J.B.C. Anyake B.A. (Nig.), Ph.D. (Ibadan)
- Members

Department of History
University of Nigeria, Nsukka

Editorial Policy

Nsukka Journal of History is a Departmental Journal of African history which appears twice a year in June and December. It accepts articles on any theme of historical interest. An article for the Journal should contain information on the author (name, occupation, academic status, address) and should be of a reasonable length, not exceeding 25 pages. It should also be typed and double-spaced on quarto size paper. Notes should be at the end of the text. Two copies of the articles should be sent in for the usual preliminary assessment. Review articles and reports should not exceed 10 pages while book reviews should not exceed 5 pages.

Annual Subscriptions (for two issues)	**Individuals**	**Institutions**
Nigeria	₦50.00	₦60.00
Overseas (US $ or £ sterling)	$30.00	$40.00

Overseas subscribers should add $3.00 to each year's subscription to cover the cost of postage. All papers (articles, books for review, book reviews, research notes) and subscriptions should be addressed to:

The Editor
Nsukka Journal of History
University of Nigeria
Nsukka, NIGERIA

Contributors will each receive one copy of the volume in which

their articles appear. Copyright © 1989, Department of History, University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

NSUKKA JOURNAL OF HISTORY

Vol. 1, No. 1. December 1989

CONTENTS

Articles

1. Ebere Nwaubani, Searching for Relevance in History (Page 1)
2. M.A.E. Okolie, Black African History in the Negritude Design: The Case of Cheik Anta Diop (Page 16)
3. Onwuka N. Njoku, Agbaja Udi: Unsung Pioneers of Traditional Iron Working in Igboland. (Page 28)
4. J.O. Ahazuem, The Nigerian Coal Industry and the Problem of Falling Coal Consumption in Nigeria. (Page 44)
5. Ikenga R.A. Ozigboh, Religion in Nigeria's Third Republic: An Essay in Historical Projection. (Page 60)
6. Francis Anyika, Opposition to Christian Propaganda in Igboland: A Survey of the Methodist Missionary Enterprise, 1910-1931. (Page 78)
7. Ola Oloidi, Art and Nationalism in Colonial Nigeria. (Page 92)
8. F.O.E. Okafor, Working at Cross Purposes: Church and State in Senegal 1817-1852. (Page 111)
9. E.O. Egboh, Northern Nigeria Cotton for Lancashire, 1902-1913. (Page 134)
10. A.O. Ifionu, Cultural Influences on the Igbo Traditional

Music from Pre-Colonial Times to 1967. (Page 151)

Communique 34 Annual Congress of the Historical Society of Nigeria, May 15-18, 1989, University of Benin, Benin City.

Book Reviews

- Ogbu Kalu, Igbo Catholicism: The Onitsha Connection 1967-1984, (Africana-FEP Publishers, Onitsha, 1985) (by Ikenga R.A. Ozigboh).
- Toyin Falola & Bayo Oyebade, The OAU and African Diplomacy, 1963-79 (Ibadan, Impact Publishers, 1986) by S.O. Agbi.
- Onwuka N. Njoku, An Introduction to the Religion and History of Islam (Enugu, Fourth Dimension Publishers, 1988) (by Ikenga R.A. Ozigboh).
- Okechukwu Okeke, Labour Movement in Nigeria, Past & Present (Lantern Books, Lagos, 1985), by M.A. Tokunboh.

Editorial: Highlights of the Volume

This is the maiden issue of Nsukka Journal of History published by one of the oldest university Departments of History in Nigeria. The Department was born with the University of Nigeria in October 1960 - the historic year of Nigeria's political independence from Britain.

This volume of the Journal has stressed four main areas in African historiography - economic history, religious history, art history and literary history - which often receive scant attention in traditional history study and writing.

There are three articles on economic history. They explore and vent the ingenuity of the unsung Agbaja Udi pioneers of traditional iron metallurgy in Igboland; the mixed blessings of the Nigerian coal industry and the initial British attempt to introduce large scale cotton production in Nigeria.

The three articles on religious history are diversified in both range and content. All three highlight the irony of the uneasy state of tension created in both Nigeria and Senegal by religions that preach love, peace and fraternity (Christianity and Islam). The two articles on art history focus on both the growth and development of western art culture in Nigeria amidst nationalistic reactions and the highly adaptive character of Igbo music through time.

The lone article on literary history explores the historical relevance of one of the foremost African scholars - Cheik Anta Diop of Senegal.

The Journal opens with a reasoned plea for the discipline of history. It stresses the ill-considered fact that history has inherent relevance for the growth and development of peoples.

There is, in fact, an umbilical link between the humanities, the sciences and technology. Right across Africa, the young nations in a hurry to bridge the gap between them and the technologically advanced nations of the world tend to treat the study of history shabbily. A Nigerian federal minister, early in this decade, asserted that "American and Russia did not go to the moon by studying history". There is currently an ill-considered war in Nigeria against the teaching and learning of the humanities.

The truth, however, is that Nigeria and the rest of the developing countries need history - a thorough knowledge of their past - most desperately. This knowledge has the capacity to purge the mental helplessness fostered by Africa's colonial experience. History helps a people to build confidence in their own creativity. As the articles of Njoku, Oloidi, Ifionu, Okolie and others show, there was enough in Nigeria's past to give Nigerians stout confidence that they can pull themselves by the bootstraps up the high ladder of science and technology. A renewed interest in proper national and comparative history may well be African's short path to the twenty first century. Because of the limited scope of the Journal we are not able to publish a number of articles in this maiden issue.

NOTES ON THE CONTRIBUTORS

- **Professor Ogbu Kalu** is a professor of Religion in the Department of Religion, University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
- **Dr. Onwuka N. Njoku** is a senior lecturer in History and Acting Head of the Deartment of History, University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
- **Dr. M.A.E. Okolie** is a senior lecturer in French in the Department of Languages, University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
- **Dr. E.O. Egboh** is a senior lecturer in History, Department of History, University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
- **Dr. Ola Oloidi** is a senior lecturer in Art History and Criticism in the Department of Fine and Applied Arts, University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
- **Ebere Nwaubani** is a senior lecturer in the School of Humanities, Imo State University, Okigwe.
- **Mr. J.O. Ahazuem** is a lecturer I in History in the Department of History, University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
- **Dr. A.O. Ifionu** is a senior lecturer in Music in the Department of Music, University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
- **Mr. F. Anyika** is a lecturer I in the Humanities in the Division of General Studies, University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
- **Mr. F.O.E. Okafor** is a senior lecturer and Head of the Department of History, Anambra State College of Education, Awka.
- **Dr. Ikenga R.A**. Ozigboh is a senior lecturer in Religious History in the Department of History, University of

Nigeria, Nsukka.

- **Mr. Okechukwu Okeke** is an assistant lecturer in History, Imo State University, Okigwe.
- **Dr. Toyin Falola** is Senior Lecturer, Department of History, University of Ife.