



IGBO
CONFERENCE



SOAS
University of London

The 3rd Annual Igbo Conference

Brunei Lecture Theatre, SOAS, University of London, May 2-3, 2014

Igbo Heritage: Production, Diffusion and Legacy

Friday 2nd May

8:15 - 9:15: Conference Registration. A complimentary light breakfast of akara will be available.

9:15 Welcome Address (English and Igbo)

9:30 Roundtable: Compiling Igbo Dictionaries

Yvonne Mbanefo (Kwadolgbo, The Igbo Dictionary Project)

Kelechi Isiodu (Kwadolgbo, The Igbo Dictionary Project)

Françoise Ugochukwu (Dictionnaire igbo-français avec lexique inverse)

Onyekachi Wambu (Igbo-English, English-Igbo Dictionary and Phrasebook)

10:30 Break

10:45 Tribute to Professor Thurstan Shaw led by Dr Pamela Shaw

10:55 Panel: Renegotiating Aspects of Igbo Heritage

Chike Mgbheadichie (University of Exeter) The Osu Caste System as an Afrocentric Discourse:
Reading Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*

Emelia Onyema (SOAS, University of London) Effect of a Discriminatory Custom: A Case
Study of the Ohu Phenomenon Under Igbo Custom

Chinyere Ukpokolo (University of Ibadan) Landscape, Identity and Vanishing Heritage: Socio-
cultural Dynamics of Erosion Disaster in a Rural Nanka Community, Southeast Nigeria

Stephen Delsol (Independent) Biafra and the Birth of Science, Technology, Engineering and
Mathematics (STEM)

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch (provided)

13:00 **Workshop:** Igbo Language Master Class led by Yvonne Mbanefo (LearnIgboNow.com)
which will take place in the Brunei Suite



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14:00 **Featured Speaker:** Chike Azuonye (Nigeria Art Society UK) The Influence of Uli in Contemporary Nigerian Art

15:15 **Break**

15:30 **Panel: Igbo Heritage and the Arts**

Emmanuella Ngozi Asabor (University of Cambridge) Memory, Nationhood, and Belonging in Literary Representations of Biafra

Christian Nwaru (University of Northampton) Upholding the Igbo Cultural Heritage Through Theatre

Dayo Forster (Toghal) The Tradition of Akwete Weaving in South-Eastern Nigeria

Françoise Ugochukwu (The Open University) Igbo Heritage: Nollywood as a Sharing Platform

17:15 Tribute to Professor Catherine Acholonu led by Dr Chikwendu Anyanwu

17:25 **Break**

17:40 Presentation by the convenors of the Igbo Conference on the development of an Igbo Institute in the UK.

18:10 **Roundtable: Food, Diet and Lifestyle**

Nky Iweka (Foods of Nigeria)

Nkem Ezeilo (Medical Doctor)

Ngozi Mbanu (Ngozi's Kitchen)

19:10 **Break**

19:25 **Preview Performance:** Staging of an excerpt from the new play 'Equiano, the Enslaved African' followed by a Q&A with the director, Adam Tulloch.

20:10 **Performance:** Igbo Cultural Support Network (ICSN) Dance

20:30 **Close**



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Saturday 3rd May

8:15 - 9:15: Conference Registration. A complimentary light breakfast of akara will be available.

9:15 Panel: Igbo Heritage in the Diaspora(s)

Chinwe Oriji (University of Cambridge) Raised Abroad: The Multiple Identities of Second-Generation Nigerian Diaspora Young Adults in Britain

Janelle Rodrigues (Newcastle University) "Is the very ting she want to protect you from dat will help you": Igbo Cosmology, Obeah and Spiritual Agency in Elizabeth Nunez Harrell's *When Rocks Dance*

Shantelle George (SOAS, University of London) 'King and Governor of all de Ebo people in Grenada': Tracing the Igbo through Documentary and Cultural Evidence

Kirsty Rowan (SOAS, University of London) Remnants of Isuama (Igbo) in the Cuban Abakuá Ritual Language's Numerical System

11:00 Break

11:15 Panel: Igbo Heritage, Cultural Production and Vocation

Chukwudum Ikeazor (Metropolitan Police) Pursuit of Justice in and from the Work Place: A Mandate of Igbo Heritage

Chikodili Emelumadu (Igbophilia.com) How to be Igbo in the 21st Century

Chidozie Mbanefo (New Crystal Communications Ltd) The Nnewi Phenomenon: Using Igbo Culture to Boost Entrepreneurship

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch (provided)

13:00 **Workshop:** Natural Black Hair Care Workshop, which will take place in the Brunei Suite featuring:

Natasha Dennis (Trichologist) blackhairclinic.com

Marlene Abuah (Natural Hair Consultant) Naturalglloe.com

Marsha Garrick (Natural Hair Care Video Blogger) socialcam.com

keyword search : Marsha Garrick hair talk

14:00 **Keynote Speaker:** Professor Douglas B. Chambers (The University of Southern Mississippi)
The Igbo Diaspora in the Era of the Slave Trade: Historical and Cultural Connections

15:30 Break



15:40 Panel: Igbo Spirituality and the Igbo Worldview

Winifred Obasi (SOAS, University of London) Flirting with the gods: Igbo wo/men's Religious Mobility in Historical Perspective

Sabine Jell-Bahlsen (Independent) Live Performances of Igbo Cultural Heritage; *Owu* Masquerades 1979-2009

Chikwendu Anyanwu (Independent) The Demise of Mbari Heritage: The Mistake of Our Fathers

17:00 Featured Speaker: Emeka Keazor (Alto Historical Media) 30 Igbo Pioneers in History

18:00 Break

18:15 Film Screening: *Onye Ozi* followed by a Q&A with the writer/director, Obi Emelonye (The Nollywood Factory), Ngozi Igwebuikwe (Leading Lady) and Ngozi Ideh (Co-producer).

20:15 Performance: Igbo Masquerade accompanied by the oja (Igbo Flute), played by Ichie David Nwaeje

20:45 Reception and Conference Close