EBONYI STATE
PEOPLE AND CULTURE

Induction Programme for International students

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GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF EBONYI STATE IN NIGERIA
EBONYI STATE

SALT OF THE NATION
HISTORIOGRAPHY OF THE STATE

• Ebonyi State is one of the 36 States that make up the country Nigeria
• It is a south eastern state
• Created on 1st Oct 1996
• Carved out of the present day Abia and Enugu states
• Ebonyi state lies at latitude 6 degrees 15 minutes N and longitude 8 degrees 5 minutes E with a land mass approximated at 5,932 square kilometers.
• It has boundaries in the North with Benue state, East with Cross River, south with Abia state and west with Enugu state.
• The state has 3 senatorial zones: North, south and central.
  • North: Izzi, Abakaliki, Ebonyi, Ohaukwu
  • South: Afikpo North, Afikpo south, Ivo, Ohaozara, Onicha
  • Central: ikwo, Ezza South, Ezza North, Ishelu
WEATHER

• We have three distinct seasons:

• Dry season lasts from February to April, temperature can get to 40 Deg C

• Raining Season starts from May to November features heavy rain and thunder storms and even flood

• Harmattan which is relatively cold, dry and windy, it lasts from November to January
TRADITIONAL LEADERSHIP

- In Ebonyi state we have communities and villages as against “cities” and districts in developed countries.

- We have traditional rulers called Ezeogo, Igwe, eze, etc.
Abakaliki, Ehugbo or Afikpo, Onueke, Uburu, Okposi, Ekoli, Owutu, Amasiri, Iboko, Nkalagu, Ezillo, Ezzamgbo, Ishieke, Nwezenyi, Nwofe, Ebunwana, Agubia, Onuebonyi Echara Ikwo, Iziogo
THE PEOPLE OF EBONYI STATE

• The people are mainly agrarians, hardworking, honest and industrious.
• They are endowed with very rich cultural heritage.
OUR OCCUPATION

• FARMERS: Most Ebonyians are farmers,
• we Produce yams, rice, cassava, palm oil, melon, local beans, fruits. Please try out our yam and urazi oil

OTHER OCCUPATIONS
• Fisher men
• Civil servants
• Traders/Business men
• Miners/Quarry Workers
• Public servants
OUR GREETINGS

- TOKWEHU
- JOKWA
- KAA
- OSHIADU
- NDEWO
- LEEKPA
Igbo language is the major language spoken by Ebonyi people, with dialect clusters in:
• EHUGBO by Afikpo North
• IZZI by Izzi people
• Ezza by Ezza people
• Ikwo by Ikwo people
• Unwara by unwara people
• Akpoha by Akpoha people
• onicha by onicha people
• Okposi by Okposi people
• Uburu by Uburu people, etc
Another distinct language spoken in Ebonyi is Orrin language spoken by Koring people who predominantly live in Okpoto, Ogbomo, Effium, Amuda, Ntezi.

Their group of dialects include; kukele, mbembe, legbo, etc
CULTURAL HERITAGE

- Nkwa umuagbogho
- Ogbaligbo
- Itutara
- Odabara
- Igbede
- Igbiri
- Edege
- Nkwa nwite
- Ichengara dance
- okperegede
MARKET DAYS

• IKWO: 8 markets days
  Igboji, ore, ekoyo, Nwankwo, Eke, Eke,
  Nchonu, Aphagu, Nwankwo Igboji
• Ezza: 4 market days
  Nkwo, Eke, Orye, Awho
• Izzi: 5 market days
  Iboko, Okpo, Nkwegu, Ophoke, Azua
• Edda: 3 market days
  Afor Owutu, Eke oso, Orie
  Ebunwana evening market
• Ehugbo: 4 market days
  (Eke, Orie, Aho, Nkwo)
OUR FOOD AND DRINKS

- **OUR FOOD**: pounded yam (usually molded into a small ball and swallowed), esesa soup, ohe sharara (nsala soup) Egburuegbe soup, Ashiboko (groundnut soup), akparata soup, egusi soup, ogbonno soup, roasted yam and plaintain.

- **Delicacies and SNACKS**: Isiewu (goat head), nkwobi (cow tail or leg), roasted fish (point and kill), okazi, corn pear/coconut, aki na ukwa, plantain chips, banana and groundnut, roasted groundnut, okpa.

- **DRINKS**: kunu, zobo, soya milk, tiger nut drink, Palm wine, beer, kpeteshi (local gin)
SOLID MINERALS

• Lead, Limestone, zinc, Marble, gypsum, quarrying reserves, coal, salt, clay, marble stones, laterites, sand, uranium, Igneous rocks, phosphates etc
RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

In villages:
Hunting
Village wrestling
Moonlight plays
IN TOWNS:

GOLF COURSE
Abakaliki recreation club
Clubs
Amusement parks
Joints,
Eateries
Beaches
RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES
OUR TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

- Green Lake Government house Abakaliki
- Ndibe Sand Beach Afikpo
- Amancho Cave Afikpo South
- Uburu Salt Lake
- Juju Hill, Hilltop Abakaliki
- Ndinkashi Sand Beach, Amegu Ikwo
- Fish Stream Ewuze Uburu
- Ishiagu Pottery Works Ishiagu, Ivo LGA
- Abakaliki Greater Rice Husk Abakailiki LGA
- Nwambeke Waterfall, Idembia, Ezza south LGA
- Libolo valley, Edda, Afikpo south
- Egg hill Mkpuma Ekwuoku Ndieze, Izzi LGA
FESTIVALS

- NEW YAM FESTIVAL (ojiji, oke aku, nnejioha, Igba nzu,) every zone of the state has a day set aside for the new yam festival and its normally announced, plan to attend one (August)
- ETOFIA AKAEZE HUNTING festival
- OKPURU UKE FISHING festival (there are ponds called okpuru that nobody is allowed to enter until a particular time of the year to harvest fish and in some fish is not harvested)
- UKPO AND OLO FESTIVALS (initiation for men and women in Edda)
- NDAGHA FESTIVAL Asaga Owutu Edda (rite of passage into womanhood)
- MARRIAGE AND BURIAL CEREMONIES. (plan to attend one to witness how its done)
PICTURES OF FESTIVALS
PLACES OF WORSHIP

- Catholic churches (St Theresa Abakpa, St Johns Okaugwu, St Patrick's kpirikpiri, St Joseph Cas campus, St Lukes Presco campus etc)
- Anglican (All saints Anglican cathedral off Ogoja road, Anglican church adjacent kpiripiri market)
- Presbyterian church (St Peter kpirikpiri, reformed Presbyterian Abakpa, St Andrew Azuyiokwu)
- Methodist church (Methodist cathedral water works by ogoja road, Wesley Methodist Onwe road)
- Assemblies of God church (district head quarters Ezza road, Mberi street)
- Winners chapel
- Dominion city
- Redeem Christian Church of God
- Mosques
MAJOR HEALTH INSTITUTIONS

- Alex Ekweme Teaching Hospital (Fetha 1 and 2) Abakaliki
- General Hospitals across all 13 LGAS
- Mile 4 Hospital Abakaliki
- Mater Misericordiae hospital Afikpo
- Presbyterian joint hospital Uburu
- St Vincent's hospital Ndubia
- We have many privately owned health facilities
- Ebonyi State University medical center
DRUG STORES/PHARMACY

- Mid town pharmacy
- Ekoh drugs water works Ai
- Gordal
- Ceno pharmacy
- Aziel
- Sun pharmacy
- Octovia pharmacy stores limited 29 water works
- Clanol pharmacy 28 ogoja road Ai
HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS

- Osborne La Palm Hotel Mile 50, Abakaliki
- Clavaro Hotel and Suites, Onwe Road, Abakaliki
- Hotel Geneza Onwe Road
- Monaliiss Hotels and Suites - Nnorom Street AI
- Pastoral Center - Mile 50
- Grace Court Hotels - Nna Street AI
- Crunchies
- Vegas
- Mr Biggss
BANKING INSTITUTIONS

- First bank Plc
- Union bank plc
- Guaranty trust bank (GTB)
- Zenith bank plc
- Access bank plc
- Access diamond bank plc
- Fidelity bank
- Ebsu micro Finance bank
- Polarise bank
- Etc
SECURITY SERVICES

- IMMIGRATION office along Enugu Abakaliki express road (you must ensure your international passport is valid and carry along as you travel around)
- FEDERAL road safety corps (drivers license, spare tire, fire extinguisher etc)
- POLICE headquarters opposite government house Abakaliki
- STATE SECURITY SERVICE (DSS) centenary city, Abakaliki
MODE OF TRANSPORTATION

• Tricycle called keke
• Okada (motorcycle)
• Township buses but for all routes
• Inter-state journeys (luxurious buses, Peace Mass Transit, GUO, Ifeshinachi etc)
• Airport (in Enugu 45 mins from Abakaliki, Calabar 3 hours from Abakaliki)
MARKETS AND SHOPPING PLACES

• Abakpa market central business district Kpirikpiri market
• Aha ohuu along Enugu Abakaliki Express road
• Roban stores at mile 50 Abakaliki
• His Grace supermarket old Kpirikpiri
• Confidence super market opposite the post office
• Panda super market Ogoja road
COST OF LIVING

- **House rent:**
  - (A) One room en-suite: 90 to 150 thousand naira a year
  - (B) Flat or Apartment: 120 to 500 thousand naira a year

- **Food:** A good plate of food costs from NGN 300 to NGN 2,500

- **Electricity:** Is never constant, so anytime there is light you must try and finish all you have to do

- **Laundry places:** All around town. Costs from 200 for shirt to NGN 700 for suits

- **Water supply:** Public source is not always available, but there is borehole and well to supplement
CHALLENGES

• Mosquitoes and malaria
• Dust/Flood
• Security challenges such as cultists, the acts are occultic and private to members, they could be explained away as “bullies”
REMEDY

• Choose your friends carefully
• Watch where you go to and do not stay late nights
• Any sign of fever contact the university health clinic
• For light, generator, solar panels remains an option
• Use insecticide treated mosquito nets
THANK YOU!