

Catalogue of a

People and Culture


Christmas
unplugged

Akwa Ibom ayaiya









“

Akwa Ibom people must reconnect with their roots, celebrate their uniqueness, and share it proudly with the world.

His Excellency
Pastor Umo Eno, Ph.D
Governor of Akwa Ibom State



“

The Christmas Village in Akwa Ibom State was a resounding success! Throughout December, Local Government Areas showcased their vibrant culture and traditions, filling the space with joy and peace from December 1st to January 1st, 2026. The event concluded without a hitch.

His Excellency
Godswill Obot Akpabio, CON
President of the Senate



Akwa Ibom Christmas Village has the most amazing ambience for fun lovers and tourists, and that was intentional. Beyond the spectacle, it is a strategic investment in our tourism drive. We wanted a venue that attracts visitors, drive local enterprise, and markets Akwa Ibom globally as a peaceful, festive destination

Mr. Udom Emmanuel
Governor, Akwa Ibom State
2015 - 2023



I am so happy about the concept around this celebration. First, for the fact that this place is being utilised. This is a green area that goes back to green after the festivities. Secondly, the concept of this Christmas Unplugged is very laudable and I commend its perfect organization.

Obong Victor Attah
Governor, Akwa Ibom State
1999 - 2003

“

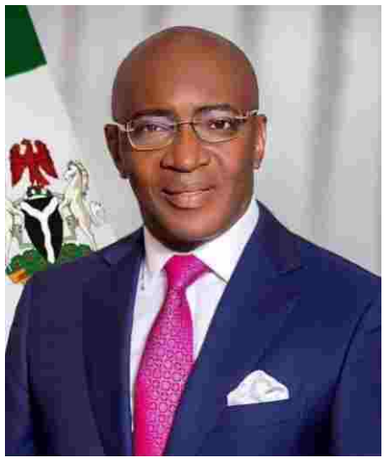
Governor Umo Eno wants unity, cohesion and love. The Christmas Unplugged is one great way our Governor has shown his love for the people and our cultural heritage. His interest is in showcasing the positive customs of our people, promoting decency and uniting everyone is commendable.

Sen. Akon Eyakenyi, PhD
Deputy Governor, Akwa Ibom State



FOREWORD

CELEBRATING UNITY & PEACE



Culture remains the enduring soul of any people, and when it is intentionally preserved, celebrated, and projected, it becomes a powerful instrument for unity, identity, and development.

Christmas Unplugged 3.0 stands as a remarkable testament to Akwa Ibom State's deliberate commitment to cultural renaissance, people-centered governance, and inclusive celebration of our shared heritage.

This publication, which documents the 2025 Akwa Ibom State Christmas festivities, beyond being a visual record of events, is a living narrative of a people deeply rooted in tradition yet confidently engaging the modern world.

Through carefully curated images and moments, it captures the richness of our cultural expressions through music, dance, cuisine, craftsmanship, and the communal warmth that defines the Akwa Ibom United spirit during the festive season.

Under the visionary leadership of His Excellency, Pastor Umo Eno, PhD, this administration has consistently demonstrated that culture is not merely ceremonial, but strategic. The Christmas Unplugged festival has evolved into a platform that stimulates economic activity, empowers creatives and youths, strengthens social cohesion, and projects Akwa Ibom Stateas a destination of cultural excellence. It reflects a governance philosophy that values peace, unity, participation, and the dignity of our people.

I congratulate the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, under the leadership of Honourable Anieti N. Udofia PhD, for the passion, professionalism, and creativity brought to the execution of Christmas Unplugged 3.0.

This catalogue rekindles memories of a truly unplugged Christmas experience and affirms our collective responsibility to preserve and promote our cultural identity.

This documentation stands as a reference point for future generations and a reminder that Akwa Ibom State remains proud of its roots, confident in its present and optimistic about its future.

Prince Enobong Uwah
Secretary to the Akwa Ibom State Government

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PREFACE

Christmas
MADE IN AKWA IBOM

It came like a jolt out of the blues that our modest effort to reposition the famous Christmas festivities in Akwa Ibom State for the year 2025, tagged Christmas Unplugged 3.0, was honoured with my nomination as Commissioner of the Year 2025 by His Excellency, Governor Umo Eno PhD. This recognition, humbling as it is, belongs not to me but to a collective vision—one powered by creativity, collaboration, and an unshakeable belief in the cultural wealth of our dear State.

May I use this medium to once again thank His Excellency Pastor Umo Bassey Eno PhD for the award and on behalf of the planning committee appreciate His Excellency for his support and encouragement that made the event very successful. We remain committed to ensuring that your vision of making Akwa Ibom Statea destination of choice is realized.

Christmas Unplugged was conceived to be a seasonal celebration beyond the normal. It was designed as a deliberate cultural statement: a return to authentic expressions of our heritage, music, food, arts, and communal spirit, presented in a way that resonates with both our people and the global audience. What began as a modest attempt to reimagine Christmas in Akwa Ibom State evolved into a vibrant platform that showcased the soul of our State—unfiltered, inclusive, and proudly indigenous.

This publication is a catalogue of our people and culture, showcased at Christmas Unplugged 3.0, and presented mainly in pictorials, to capture the essence of that journey.

Within these pages are moments of joy, colour, creativity, passion, charm, nostalgia, curiosity and shared humanity. They document emotions and performances. From the artistes and performers to the organizers, volunteers, security agencies, and enthusiastic citizens who thronged the venue, Christmas Unplugged 3.0 stood as proof that culture, when thoughtfully curated, can unite, inspire, and stimulate socio-economic activity.

I am grateful to Governor Eno for his unwavering commitment to cultural revival, tourism development, and grassroots inclusion during the festive season, and for redefining governance through peace, unity, and people-driven leadership.

Under his administration, the festival has evolved from an entertainment event into a strategic platform for economic activity, social harmony, and youth empowerment.

I also commend the tireless efforts of the staff of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the State Interministerial Tourism Committee, our partners, sponsors, and all stakeholders who believed in this vision and worked relentlessly to bring it to life. I am equally grateful to the people of Akwa Ibom Statefor their support and for embracing this renewed cultural experience with such enthusiasm.

As you turn these pages, may you relive the magic of a spectacular Christmas made in Akwa Ibom and appreciate the powerful story it tells, which is that of a people confident in their identity and bold in their aspirations. May this documentation serve as an inspiration for even greater cultural milestones in the future.

Anieti N Udofia, PhD
Hon. Commissioner, Ministry of Culture and Tourism
Akwa Ibom State/ Editor -in- Chief



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Our **Root**

The people of Akwa Ibom share a common cultural and linguistic heritage. The general language in Akwa Ibom State is Ibibio. The State is culturally and linguistically homogeneous, comprising Ibibio and her dialectal groups, namely Annang and Oron. Ibibio is widely understood across the State despite local variations. Folklore, music, dance, cuisine and beliefs show strong similarities that reinforce cultural unity.

Ibibio, Annang and Oron are the three main groups. Ibibio is widely understood across the state despite local variations. Folklore, music, dance, cuisine and beliefs show strong similarities that reinforce cultural unity.

The people are known for industry and hospitality. Many rural communities depend on farming.

Fishing, trading, hunting, woodcarving, raffia work, blacksmithing, pottery, ironwork and other crafts form part of the traditional economy.



POPULATION

Projected figures for 2019 place the population at more than seven million. The annual growth rate is estimated at 3.4 percent, with an average density of about 680 persons per square kilometre.





GEOGRAPHY

Akwa Ibom covers 8,412 square kilometres of Nigeria's coastal zone. Its location within the tropical belt gives it abundant vegetation, fertile soil and a favourable climate. Rubber, cocoa and timber are important cash crops.
Coconut, citrus, cassava, yam, maize, cowpea, plantain, banana, pineapple and kola nut are common food crops.

The state has a 129-kilometre coastline, the longest in Nigeria, with rich fishing grounds stocked with catfish, barracuda, blue marlin, squid, sardine, croaker, shrimp, prawn, crayfish, snapper and oyster. Maritime development prospects are considerable. Solid minerals include clay, glass sand, silica sand, bentonite, limestone, gravel, salt and gypsum.
There are two main seasons. The rainy season runs from April to October. The dry season extends from November to March. Coastal areas experience rainfall for most of the year. Harmattan occurs around December and January.

CULTURE

Akwa Ibom is often viewed as a monocultural state. Customs, taboos and traditions show a high level of similarity across the three main groups. Cuisine, dress, dance, music, ritual, storytelling and myth reflect shared values. These cultural features offer opportunities for tourism and related investment.

32 DAYS | 31 LGAs

1 VILLAGE SQUARE

A **Journey** into the **heart** and **culture** of the **people**

"I appreciate Governor Umo Eno, PhD for his vision for gathering people from the 31 local government areas of our state for 32 Days to have fun. This event has impacted the economically lives of our people.

For the Christmas Unplugged, it's safe to say that every passing gets better. From the first edition to the third, it always get better, and I know that the edition 4.0 will be greater.

I thank the 31 LG Chairmen for mobilising the people to attend the event, and I appreciate the Ministry of Culture and Tourism for interpreting the vision".

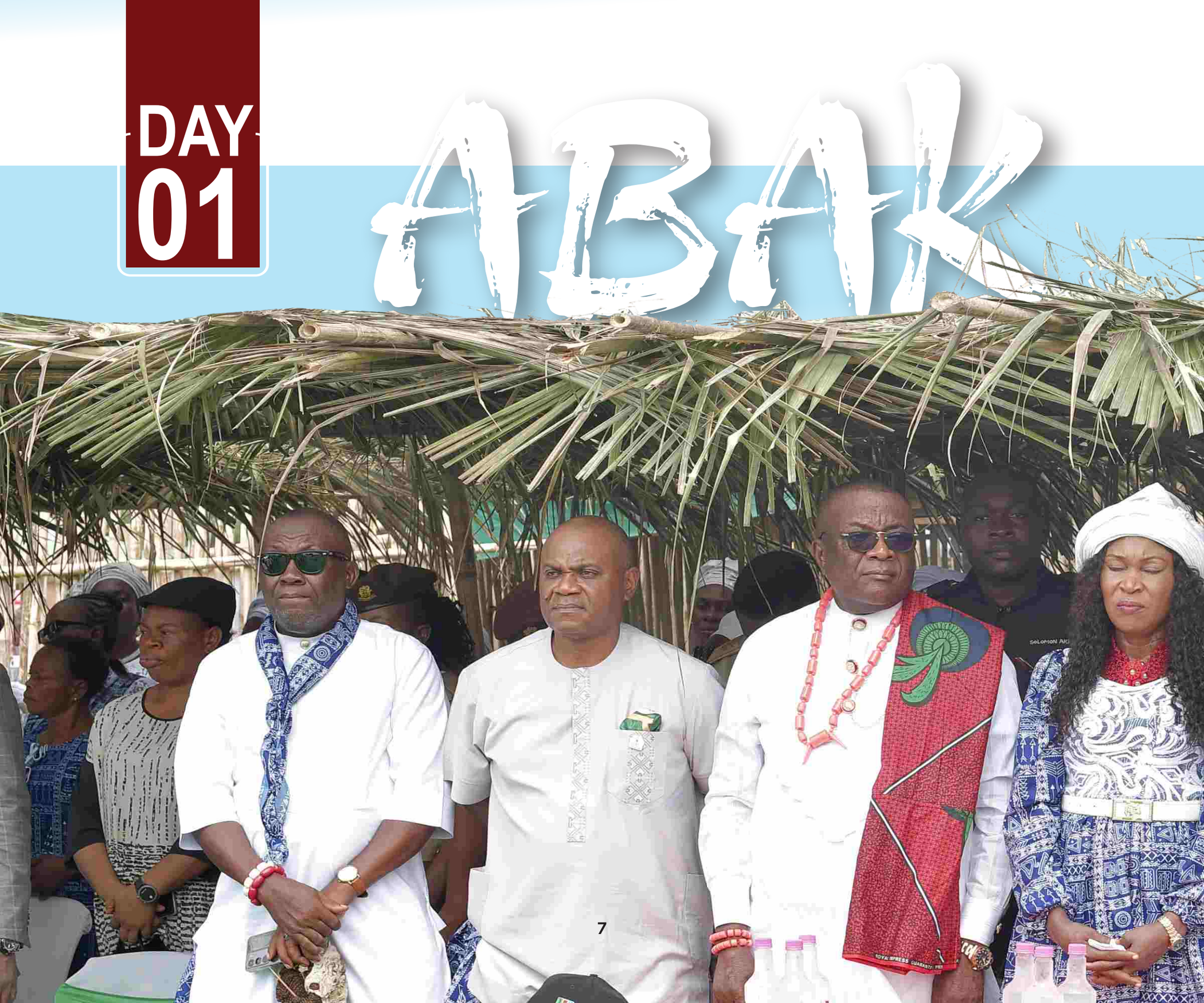
Dr. Uwemedimo Udo
Executive Chairman of Uyo Local Government Area, and the Chairman of ALGON, Akwa Ibom State



Feel the rhythm of our homeland

DAY
01

ABAK





In Brief

Abak is one of the 10 Legacy Local Government Areas of Akwa Ibom Stateat creation in 1987. It later gave birth to Oruk Anam, Etim Ekpo and Ika Local Government Areas.

Location
Abak is located in the North West of the state, about 18 kilometres from Uyo, the state capital. It shares boundaries with Etim Ekpo, Oruk Anam, Ukanafun, and Uyo Local Government Areas.

Landmass
304 square kilometres

Population
Approximately 139,090 (2006 National census), though at the moment, the figure may have doubled given extant population progression.

Headquarters
The administrative headquarters is in the town of Abak

People and Culture
The people of Abak are predominantly of the Annang ethnic group. The area has a rich cultural heritage, with traditional crafts and plays like Ekpo and Ekong.

Economy
Abak's economy is primarily based on agriculture, with crops like cassava, palm produce, yam, and maize being widely cultivated. It also has a history in palm oil production and some small-scale trading and artisan activities.

Natural Resources
Sand, gravel, clay, salt

Infrastructure
Abak hosts several primary and secondary schools, as well as churches, markets, and local health centers.

Major Institutions
6 Battalion of Nigeria Army, Ibagwa
Ime Umanah Campus of the University of Uyo

Socio-political divisions
The area is made up of 5 clans and 11 Wards

Clans
Abak Urban, Afaha Obong, Ediene, Midim, Itoro

Wards
Abak Urban I, Abak Urban II, Abak Urban III, Afaha Obong
Ediene I, Ediene II
Midim I, Midim II,
Otoro I, Otoro II, Otoro III





Town Crier (Amia Nkpo Idung)


NATION





Uko Akpan Cultural Group



ABAK





Loom Used Fox Making (Raffia Bags/Shoes/Mat



A Palmwine Tapper's Bicycle (Enang Ukwank Atuak Ukod)





DAY 02

EASTERN OBOLO





EASTERN OBOLO

In Brief

Eastern Obolo Local Government Area is one of the coastal and oil-producing Local Government Areas in Akwa Ibom State, known for its rich maritime culture, fishing heritage, and strategic coastal location along the Atlantic shoreline. The Local Government Area plays an important role in the state's blue economy.

Location
Eastern Obolo Local Government Area is located inthe southern part of the state. It shares boundaries with Ibeno Local Government Area to the east, Mkpat-Enin Local Government Area to the north, and the Atlantic Ocean to the south and west.

Landmass
Eastern Obolo covers an estimated land area of about 117 square kilometres, consisting largely of coastal terrain, creeks, mangrove swamps, and waterways.

Population
Based on recent population projections, Eastern Obolo Local Government Area has an estimated population of about 70,000 people.

Headquarters: Okoroete

People and Culture
The people of Eastern Obolo are predominantly Obolo (Andoni), with a strong maritime identity and deep respect for tradition, kinship, and communal life.
The Obolo language is widely spoken, alongside Ibibio.Cultural practices such as traditional fishing rites, festivals, dances, masquerades, and age-grade systems remain central to community life.

Economy
The economy of Eastern Obolo is largely marine-based, with fishing being the primary occupation. Major economic activities include fishing and seafood processing, fish smoking and drying, boat building and canoe carving, small-scale trading, oil and gas-related activities.
The Local Government Area supplies fish and other seafood to neighbouring communities and urban centres within Akwa Ibom State.

Natural Resources
Eastern Obolo is endowed with abundant marine and aquatic resources, mangrove forests, crude oil and natural gas deposits, sand deposits and a rich biodiversity within its coastal ecosystem

T**ourist Sites**
Tourism in Eastern Obolo is largely eco-tourism and culture-based, featuring the Atlantic Ocean coastline and beaches, mangrove forests and creeks, traditional festivals and cultural ceremonies, and a scenic riverine environment.

Infrastructure
Infrastructure in Eastern Obolo includes coastal and inter-community roads, water transportation routes (boats and jetties), public primary and secondary schools, primary health centres, local markets and administrative offices.

Sociopolitical Division
Clans
Eastern Obolo consists of several coastal communities organized around traditional clans like Okoroete, Iko, Elile, Agan-Asa, Eyin-Uya

Wards
Eastern Obolo Local Government Area is divided into the following political wards:
Okoroete 1, Okoroete 2, Iko 1, Iko 2, Elile, Agan-Asa, Eyin-Uya, Eastern Obolo Central





Iyire (Fishing Net)













Nwatam Dance

DAY 03

EKET




VILLAGE SQU
AQUAFINA

In Brief

Eket Local Government Area occupies the South central portion of Akwa Ibom State. It is popularly known as "Idong Mfianwe." This name anchored on two major reasons: first, there is also a town in Switzerland called "Eket." This buttressed the fact that the first person to write on Eket was a Swiss national. Second, Eket was the hub of political and economic activities just like Calabar and Lagos. This led to the heavy presence of the white colonial administrators and businessmen in Eket.

Location
Its territorial expanse spans Northwards between Latitudes 4˚33' and 4˚45' and Eastwards between Longitudes 7˚52' and 5˚02', and is bounded on the North by Nsit Ubium Local Government Area, on the East by Esit Eket Local Government Area, on the West by Onna Local Government Area and on the South by Ibeno Local Government Area/Bight of Bonny.

Landmass
Approximately 209.7 square kilometres

Population
By a 2022 projection, Eket is inhabited by 220,600 people

Headquarters
Eket

People and Culture
Eket is blessed with a rich and enviable cultural heritage. "Ekid," the variant of Ibibio language spoken by Eket and Esit Eket Local Government Areas conveys a unique culture and identity to the people. Eket has a plethora of cultural display such as Ekong, Eka-Ekong, Mbohg, Abon, Ekang, Ikpaa, Inam, Ibem, Ekpe, Ukahg-Aka, Abobom, Ikarag, Ntug-Unaidi. There are also many cultural practices and ceremonial prevalent in Eket and which have a defined pattern. These include burial ceremony, coronation, marriage, status initiation, land-holding, extended family system, harvesting of palm fruits, births and child-naming ceremony. Although Eket is one of those communities that embraced Christianity early, traditional religious practices are still prevalent such as the Supreme God (Abasi Anyong), some people believe in and worship deities (Edogho – "Abasi Isong".)

Geography
The physical relief of Eket Local Government Area is basically flat, though with some marshy river-washed soils around the banks of Qua Iboe River. Eket Local Government falls within the tropical zone wherein its dominant vegetation is the green foliage of trees/shrubs and the oil palm tree belt.

Tourist Sites
There are tourist attractions In the local Government Area that are privately managed. They include hotels, gardens and parks, these and many more have made the area to play host to the international oil giants, Seplat.

Natural Resources
Abundant deposit of crude oil and clay. Forest resources include timber, palm produce while the area is also noted for sea food production. Farm crops ranging from yam, cassava, coco-yam, plantain to maize and vegetables.

Economy
Traditionally, Eket people are fishermen, hunters, farmers, weavers and general craftsmanship.

Socio-Political Divisions
Eket is made up of clans and 11 political wards:

Clans
Ekid Afaha, Idua, Okon

Wards
Urban 1, Urban 2, Urban 3, Urban 4
Okon 1, Okon 2, Okon 3
Central 1, Central 2, Central 3, Central 4






EKET


EKET


EKET





Ekpe Masquerade


EKET

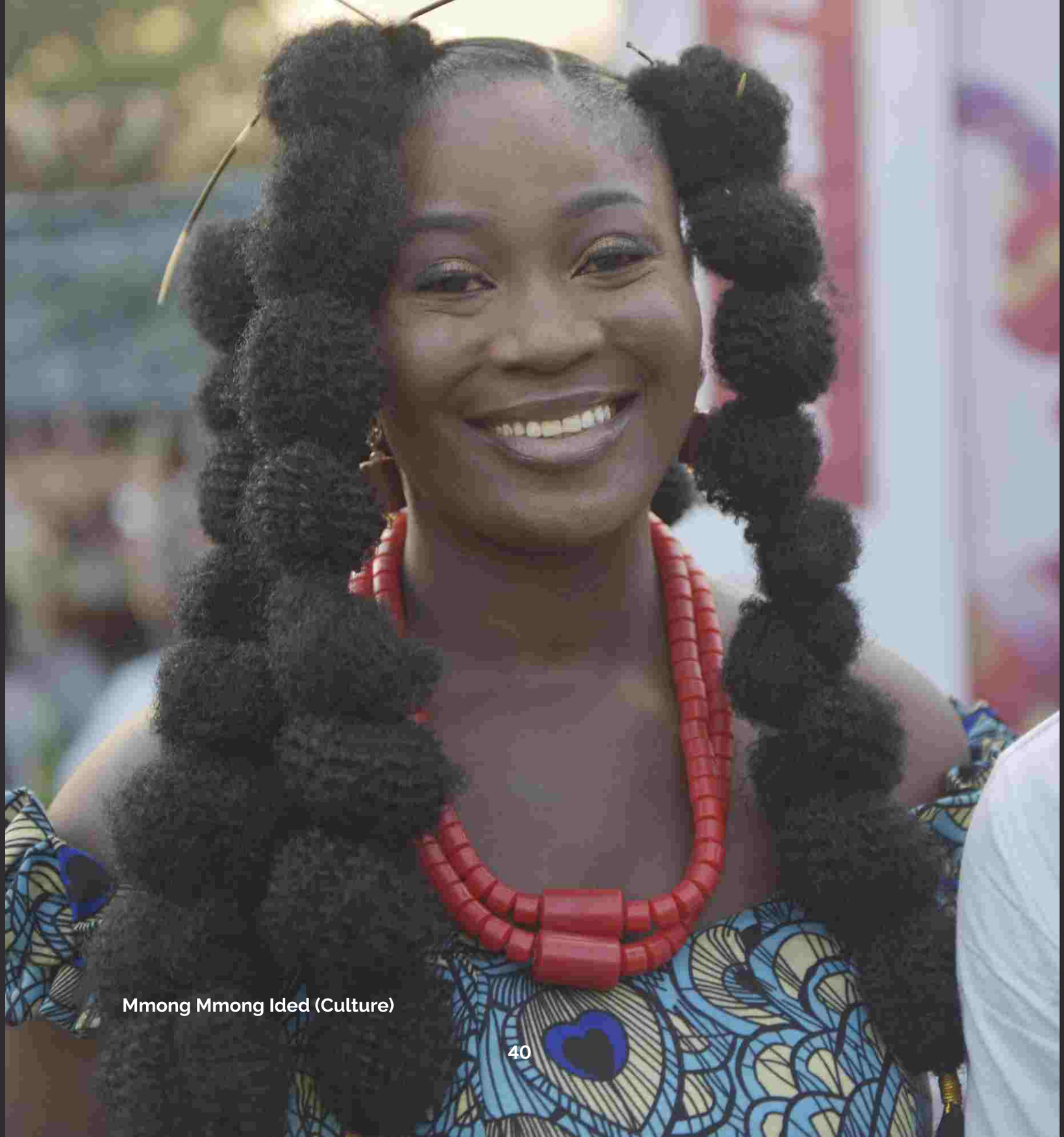
EKET





Haireditory

Tai Tai Ided



Mmong Mmong Ided (Culture)



Mkpuk Eba Ided











DAY
04

ESIT



EKET



In Brief

Esit Eket is a culturally rich Local Government Area in Akwa Ibom State, with deep historical roots and a distinct Ekid identity.

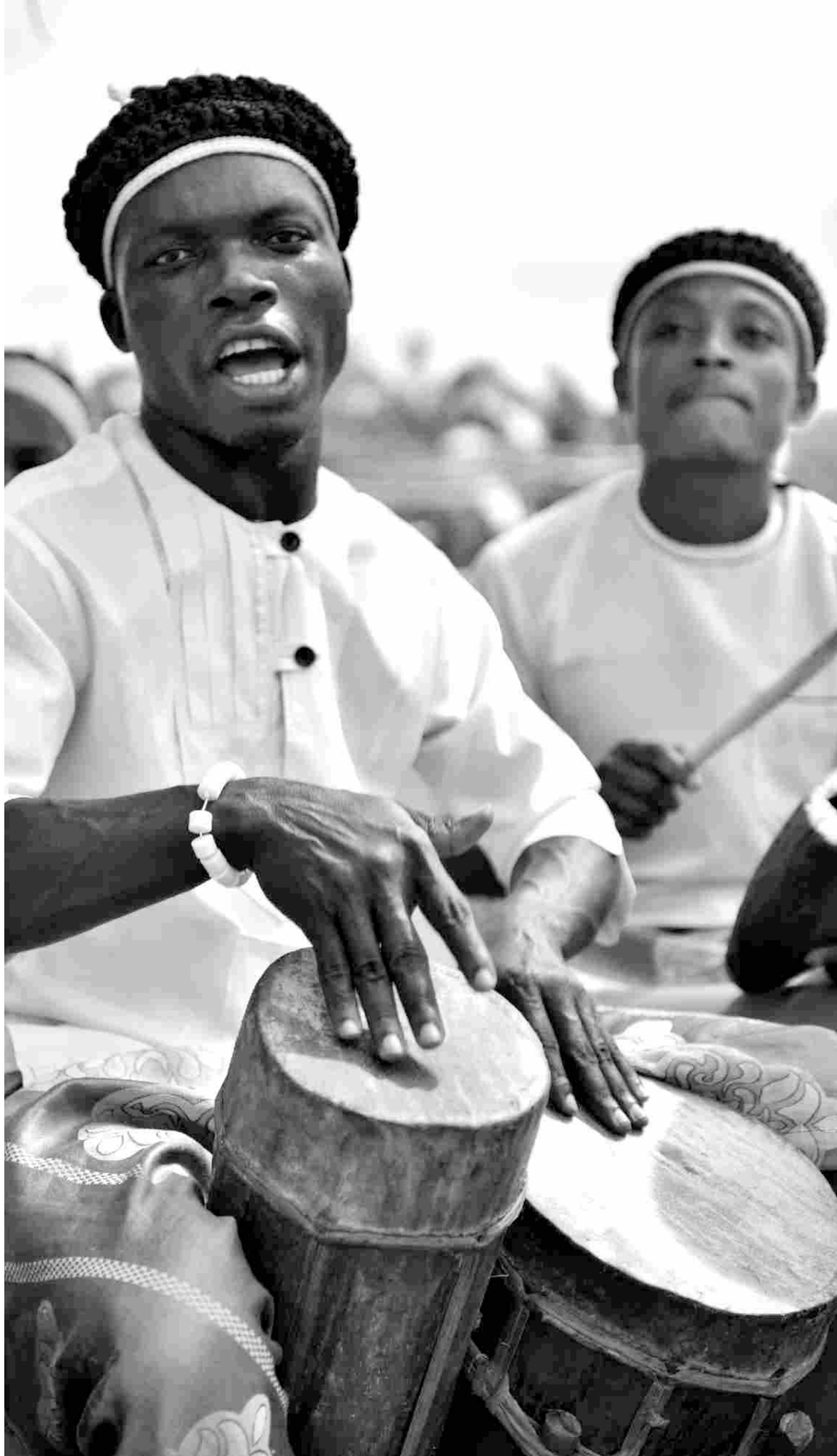
Location
Esit Eket is located in the Southern part of the state, and shares borders with Eket, Ibeno, Mbo Local Government Areas.

Landmass
Approximately 148.2 km square

Population
A 2022 projection puts the population of the area at 80,900

Headquarters
Iquo

People and Culture
Esit Eket's history is intertwined with the broader Ekid people, a subgroup of the Ibibio ethnic group.The area has a rich cultural heritage seen through cultural displays, dances, folklore and traditional displays like Ekpo masquerades which are central to traditional religion and festivals. They represent ancestral spirits and are known for their fierce and mysterious performances.Specific groups, like the Ekpo, Ekọọñ and Nyoho are renowned for their energetic, acrobatic and towering displays.



ESIT EKET



Economy
Esit Eket's economy, part of oil-rich Akwa Ibom, relies heavily on oil & gas activities (hosting NNPC/SEPLAT JV projects), supplemented by traditional agriculture and fishing which remain important sources of livelihoods.

Infrastructure
Esit Eket is host to Seplat Gas plant and the AkwaPalm, the government owned oil palm production company.

Socio-Political Divisions
Esit Eket is made up of Ekid Offiong Clan and 10 political Wards as follows:
Ekpene Obo, Edor, Ebe Ekpi, Ikpa, Uquo, EbighiOkpono, Etebi Idung Assan, Etebi Akwata, Akpautong, Ntak Inyang


ESIT EKET


ESIT EKET

ESIT EKET


Mfuon Ndito Ekid
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
EDIDIANAKIANG
MME UFORO
NDITO EKID
Motto: Peace, Unity & Development








ESIT EKET



DAY 05

ESSIEN V




IDIM

In Brief

Essien Udim Local Government Area is one of the agrarian and culturally rich Local Government Areas in the state known for its fertile land, vibrant rural communities, and strong traditions.

The Local Government Area plays an important role in agricultural production and grassroots development within the state. It is the home Local Government Area of Nigeria's Senate President. Senator Godswill Akpabio.

Location
Essien Udim Local Government Area is located in the north western part of Akwa Ibom State. It shares boundaries with Ikot Ekpene Local Government Area to the north. Abak Local Government Area to the south. Ikono Local Government Area to the east, and Obot Akara Local Government Area to the west.

Landmass
Essien Udim covers an estimated land area of about 205 square kilometres, characterized by fertile rainforest vegetation, farmlands, andgently undulating terrain.

Population
Based on recent population projections, Essien Udim Local Government Area has an estimated population of about 160,000 people.

Headquarters
Afaha Ikot Ebak

People and Culture
The people of Essien Udim are predominantly Annang, with a strong attachment to ancestral heritage, communal living, and respect for traditional authority. The Annang language is widely spoken. Cultural practices such as traditional festivals, marriage rites, masquerades, age-grade systems and clan-based leadership structures remain significant aspects of social

Economy
The economy of Essien Udim is largely agrarian. Farming is the primary occupation, with major crops including cassava, yam, maize, plantain, cocoyam, and oil palm. Other economic activities include palm oil processing, small-scale trading, livestock rearing and artisanal crafts. The area contributes significantly to food supply within the state.

Natural Resources
Essien Udim is endowed with fertile agricultural land, oil palm trees, clay: deposits. forest resources, and other minor mineral and natural resources suitable for agro-based industries.

Tourist Sites
Tourism in Essien Udim is mostly culture- and heritage-based, featuring traditional festivals and ceremonies, historic village squares, cultural masquerade displays, and scenic rural landscapes.

Infrastructure
Infrastructure in Essien Udim includes a network of rural and inter-community roads. public primary and secondary schools, health centres. markets, religious institutions, electricity supply in major communities, and local government administrative offices. Among notable institutions in the area are the Top Faith University. Mkpatak. Federal Polytechnic, Ukana and Police Secondary School. Ukana

Sociopolitical Division
Clans
Essien Udim Local Government Area is made up of eight recognized clans, including Afaha, Adiasim, Odoro Ikot, Ekpeyong Atai, Ikpe Annang. Okon. Ukana, Ukana East

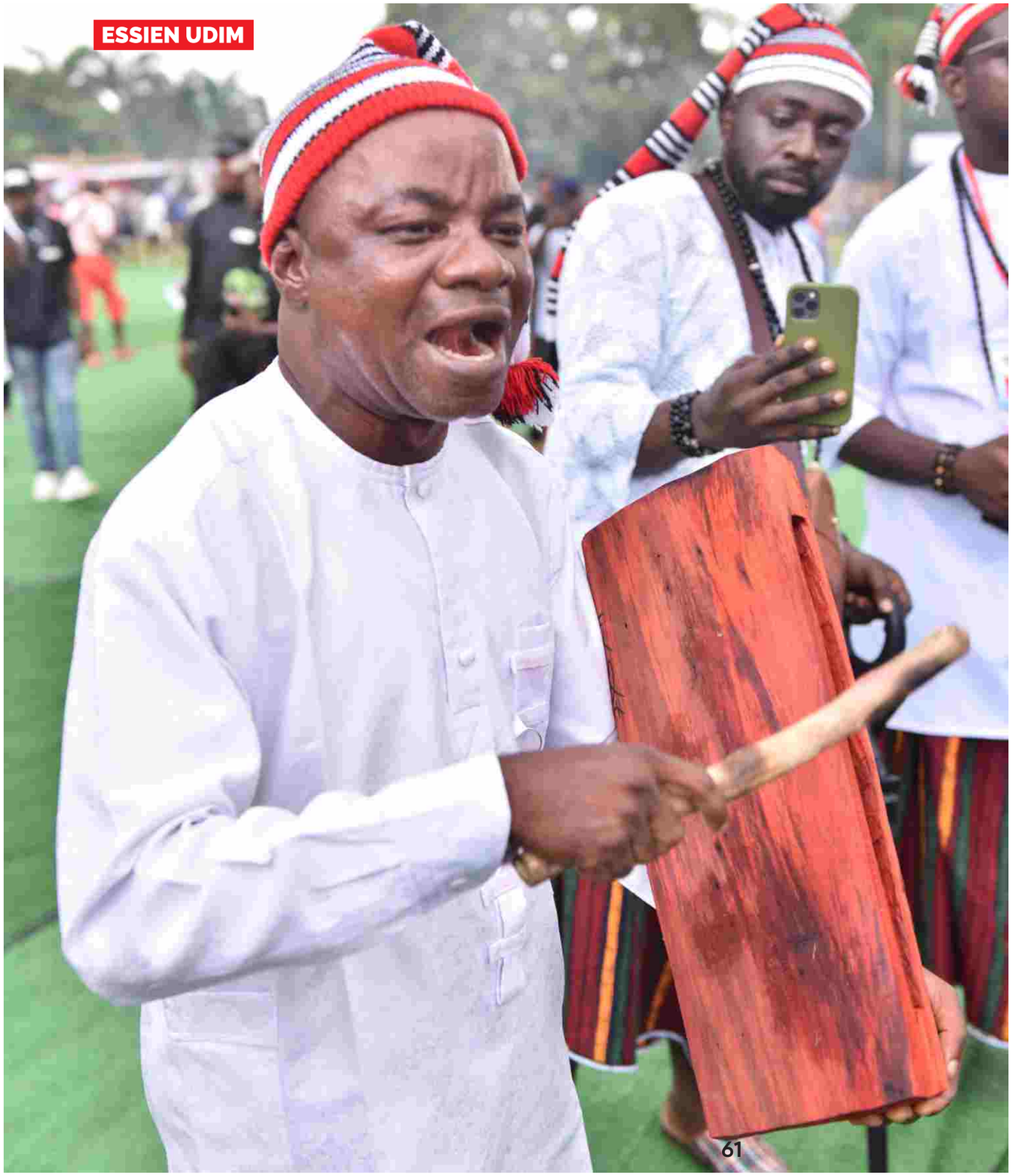
Wards
Essien Udim Local Government Area is divided into the following political wards:
Afaha Ikot Ebak 1. Afaha Ikot Ebak 2
Ikot Obong Edong, Ikot Ekpeya, Ikot Akpan Essien
Ikot Udo Essien. Essien Udim Central



ESSIEN UDIM

Atop Oyob

ESSIEN UDIM






ESSIEN UDIM






ESSIEN UDIM


ESSIEN UDIM

DAY 06

ETIM EKPO



In Brief

Etim Ekpo is a prominent Local Government Area in Akwa Ibom State, recognised as one of the oldest administrative units in the state. It served as a colonial administrative center and a major trade hub during the early 20th century.

Location
Etim Ekpo is located in the North-western part of Akwa Ibom State. It shares borders with Abia Stateto the west, Abak to the east, Ukanafun to the south, and Ika and Essien Udim to the north.

Landmass
200.4 square kilometres

Population
Based on recent projections (2022), the population is estimated to be over 135,000 people based on the national census of 2006 figure of 105,922.

Headquarters
The administrative headquarters of Etim Ekpo is in Utu Etim Ekpo.

People and Culture
The inhabitants of Etim Ekpo are predominantly of the Annang ethnic group. They speak the Annanglanguage and share a rich cultural heritage with the rest of the state.

Traditional Governance
The area is led by a Paramount Ruler, with village heads and clan heads managing local affairs.

Economy
The people are known for being highly industrious, particularly in wood carving (producing mortars and masks) and weaving. The area is largely an agrarian community, though it holds significant potential in natural resources. The primary crops cultivated there include oil palm, raffia palm (from which palm wine is produced), cassava, yams, and plantains.

Natural Resources
The area is rich in natural gas, as well as sharp sand, gravel, and timber.

Infrastructure
Etim Ekpo is home to Obong University, a private institution located in Obong Ntak, which has helped drive local development and education. It also has public primary schools, secondary schools and health centres

Sociopolitical Divisions
The Local Government Area has five clans and 11 wards

Clans
Obong, Utu, Ikono, Uruk, and Utit Annang.





Utu Ekpe


APC
ENTERTAINER




Christmas
3.0






Christmas
3.0
eva

DAY
07

ETINAN





In Brief

Etinan is one of the oldest and most culturally significant Local Government Areas in Akwa Ibom State. Often referred to as 'Iiman Ibom." it serves as a major gateway between the state capital, Uyo, and the southern oil-producing hubs of the state like Eket.

Location
Etinan is located approximately 26km south of Uyo and is characterized by a tropical rainforest climate. It is bordered by Uyo LGA on the North, Nsit Ibom and ONNA Local Government Areas on the South, Ibesikpo Asutan Local Government Area on the East and Abak and Mkpat Enin Local Government Areas on the West.

Landmass
Etinan sits on a landmass measuring 157.2 square kilometres

Population
Based on recent projections and census data, the population in Etinan LGA is approximately 215,600 people.

Headquarters
Etinan

People and Culture
Etinan is the ancestral headquarters of the Iman Ibom people. subgroup of the Ibibio ethnic nation. The primary language spoken is Ibibio. Traditional institutions like the Ekpo, Ekong and Idiong societies still play symbolic roles in the preservation of culture. The area is led by a Paramount Ruler (currently His Royal Majesty, Edidem Aniefiok Monday Akpanobong). The traditional stool is highly revered, and the "Itina Iman" at Ekom Iman is considered a sacred ancestralsite.

Economy
Etinan has a diverse economy rooted in both traditional crafts and modern industry. It is a major agricultural hub, producing palm oil, rubber, cassava, yam, and maize. The people are renowned for their skills in wood carving, sculpture, and traditional weaving.

Peacock Paints
Etinan is home to Ibom Paints Limited, one of the earliest indigenous paint manufacturing industries in Nigeria, recently resuscitated by Governor Umo Eno. It also boasts of a Leprosy Hospital, a major specialized medical facility in West Africa, established by early missionaries. It also hosts the Etinan Institute, one of the oldest and most prestigious secondary schools in the state (founded in 1915 by the Qua Iboe Mission). The Akwa Ibom State College of Health Technology is also in Etinan.

Sociopolitical division
The Local Government is a one clan local government area called Iman Ibom, which is often categorized into two



major traditional blocks for administrative ease: Northern Iman and Southern Iman.

Wards

Etinan is divided into 11 political wards:
Etinan Urban I, Etinan Urban II, Etinan Urban III
Southern Iman I, Southern Iman II, Southern Iman III
Northern Iman I, Northern Iman II, Northern Iman III, Northern Iman IV, Northern Iman V


VILLAGE SC




ETINAN



Ntuk Ododio





DAY
08

IBENO




VILLAGE SQU
UTANG
UNITY CUP
2025

In Brief

Ibeno is a strategic Local Government Area in Akwa Ibom State due to its massive oil reserves and its position as the host of the Atlantic coastline. It is often described as the 'Oil Hub' of the state.

Location
Ibeno occupies the largest Atlantic coastline in Akwa Ibom State, stretching over 129 km. Located in the Mangrove Forest Belt, it experiences rainfall almost year-round. It is bounded by the Atlantic Ocean to the south, Eket and Esit Eket to the north, Mbo to the east, and Eastern Obolo to the west

Landmass
271.2 square kilometres

Population
According to a 2022 Projection, there are approximately 95,500 people in Ibeno LGA

Headquarters
Upenekang

People and Culture
The people of Ibeno have a distinct identity and history

Economy
The economy of Ibeno is a tale of two industries: global energy and traditional fishing. It is one of the largest fishing settlements on the Nigerian coast. Most locals are involved in deep-sea fishing, often traveling as far as Cameroon for their catch.
Natural Resources
Beyond crude oil, the area is rich in titanium ore (ilmenite), lithium, and silica sand.

Cultural Heritage/Tourism Sites
The Ibeno Beach is the 'crown jewel' of tourism in Akwa Ibom. It is widely considered the longest sand beach in West Africa, stretching about 30 km from Ibeno to James Town.
The beach is a popular destination for beach soccer. horseriding, and water sports. It draws thousands of visitors every year, especially during the "Ibeno Beach Party' held every December 26.
The area is the birthplace of the Qua Iboe Church established in 1887 by the Irish missionary Samuel Alexander Bill. His tomb and that of his wife are major tourism landmarks in the area.

Infrastructure
Ibeno LGA is the operational headquarters and host community to Seplat (ExxonMobil), featuring the massive Qua Iboe Terminal (QIT).

Socio Political Division
Ibeno is usually identified by its 26 large villages. which are often grouped by their proximity to the Atlantic or the Qua Iboe River.

Wards
Ibeno is divided into 10 political wards:
Ibeno I, Ibeno II, Ibeno III. Ibeno IV. Ibeno V. Ibeno VI. Ibeno VII. Ibeno VIII, Ibeno IX. Ibeno









© MINISTRY





IBENO




IBENO





DAY 09

IBESIKPO ASUTAN





In Brief

Ibesikpo Asutan is a prominent Local Government Area in the north-eastern part of Akwa Ibom State, often recognized for its elite political history and its deep-rooted educational institutions.

Location
Ibesikpo Asutan shares borders with Uyo to the North, Nsit Atai to the East, Nsit Ibom to the South, and Etinan to the West.

Landmass
Approximately 175.5 square kilometres.

Population
The population of Ibesikpo Asutan, from its 2022 projection, is said to be 175,000. Due to its closeness to Uyo, it has one of the highest population densities in the state (nearly 1,000 people per km^2).

Headquarters
Nung Udoe Ibesikpo

People and Culture
The Local Government Area is inhabited by the Ibesikpo and Asutan Ekpe people, who are sub-groups of the Ibibio ethnic nation. The area is a hub for traditional Ibibio displays, including the Ekpe, Uta, Ekong, and Uboikpa masquerades.

Economy
Ibesikpo Asutan is largely an agrarian community, but its proximity to Uyo has turned it into a residential and commercial suburb. Primary crops in the area include oil palm, cassava, yam, and maize. Nung Udoe Market is one of the most popular markets in the region, serving as a major terminal for goods entering the state capital. The area is known for small-to-medium scale industries, particularly in palm oil processing and wood craftsmanship.

Prominent Indigenes
It is the home of Obong Victor Attah, the former Governor of Akwa Ibom State(1999–2007), and the late Air Marshal Nsikak Eduok, a former Chief of Air Staff.

Major infrastructure
Ibesikpo Asutan Local Government Area hosts several historic institutions like the headquarters of the Lutheran Church of Nigeria, Obot Idim, the Lutheran High School and the Lutheran Theological Seminary, which are among the oldest in the state.

Sociopolitical division:
Created on October 1, 1996, Ibesikpo Asutan was carved out of Uyo and Ekpe Atai LGAs. It is divided into 12 political wards (6 in Asutan and 6 in Ibesikpo), covering about 43 villages in two clans, Ibesikpo and Asutan Ekpe

Wards
Asutan 1, Asutan 2, Asutan 3, Asutan 4, Asutan 5, Asutan 6




IBESIKPO ASUTAN












IBESIKPO ASUTAN



Curiosity

His Excellency Paulo Santos, the Portuguese Ambassador to Nigeria, found himself so captivated during a private visit to Akwa Ibom State that he chose to extend his trip.

His itinerary reads like a discovery guide: a deep dive into history at the Ibibio Union Museum, and the immersive fun at the Commissioners' Hangout during the Christmas Unplugged 3.0





> This is exciting for me. I have extended my stay to enable me to further explore the state's renowned hospitality. Akwa Ibom State is indeed a place of rich culture and strong tradition whose greatness cannot be judged by land mass or size.

His Excellency
Paulo Martins Santos
Portuguese Ambassador to Nigeria

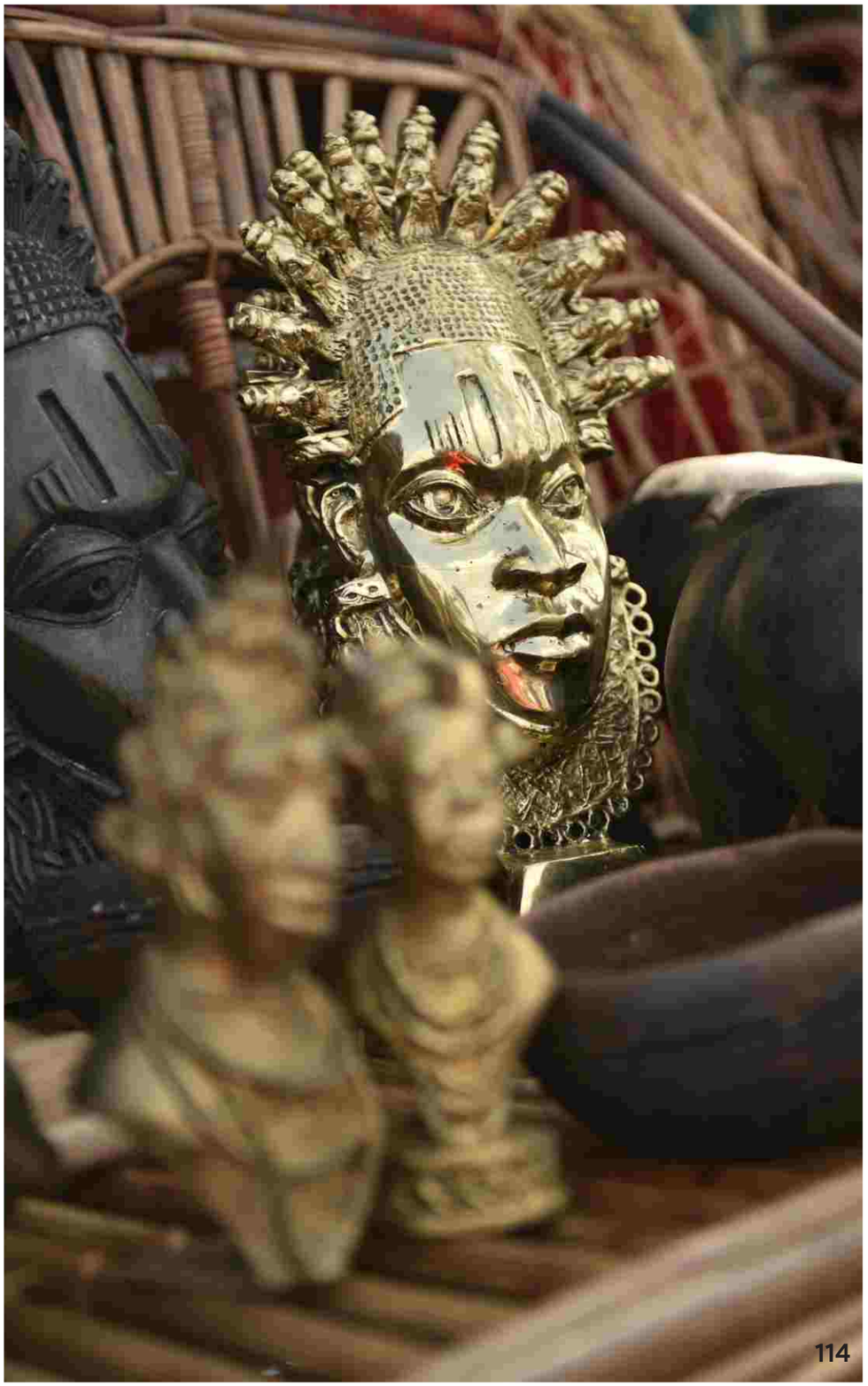

Christmas







Ibom Art & Craft

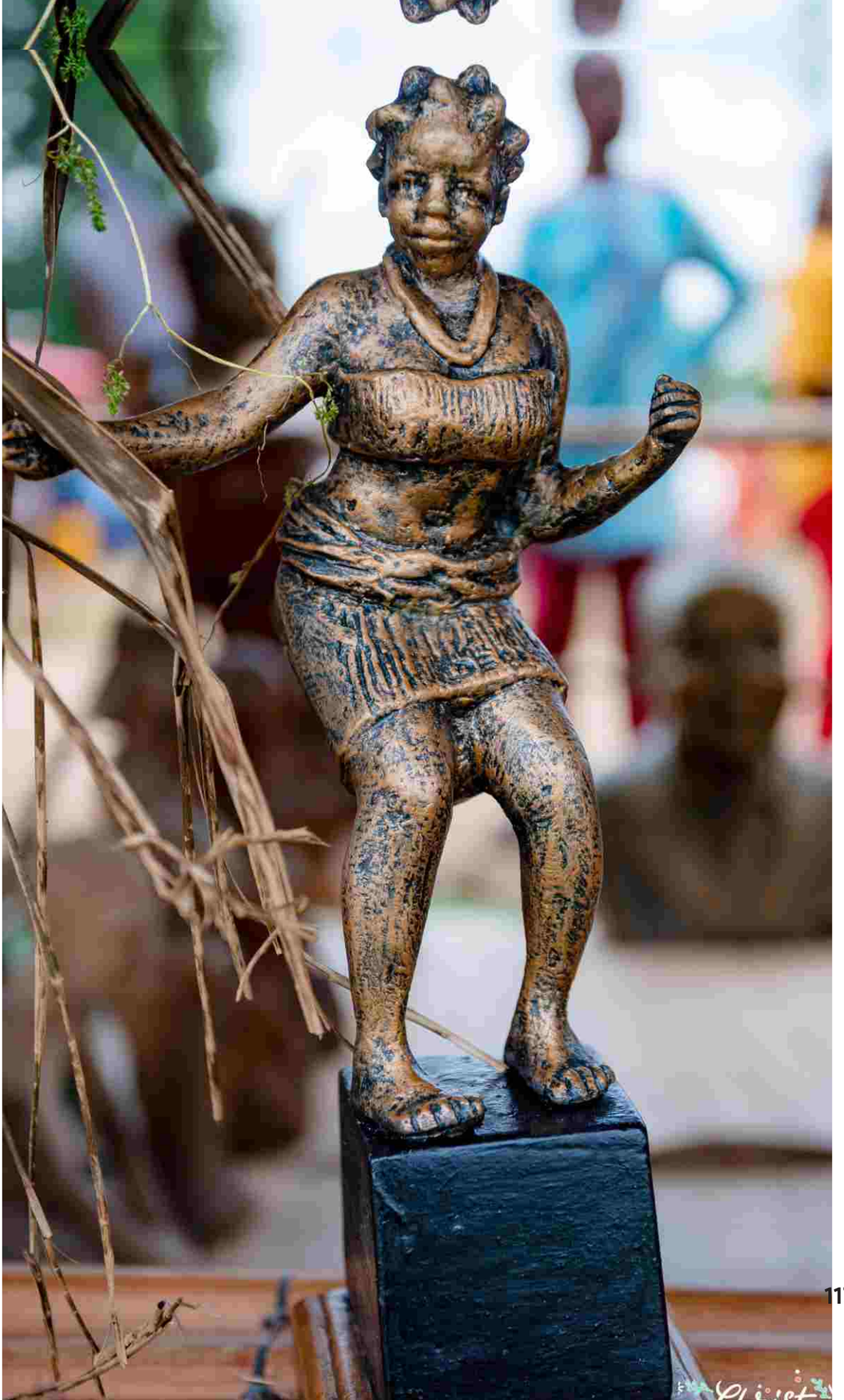






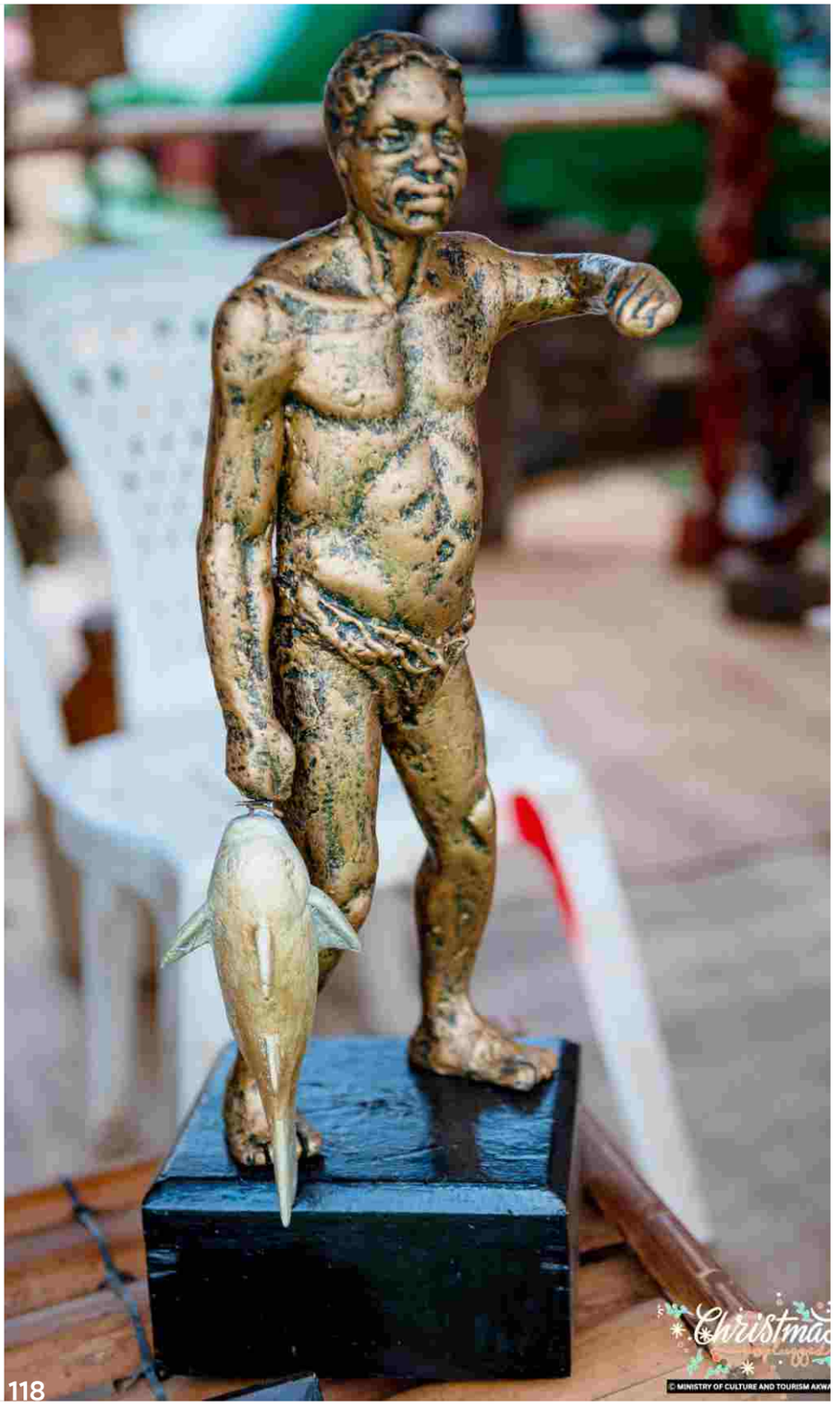



Christmas
3.0
MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND TOURISM (C) 2025











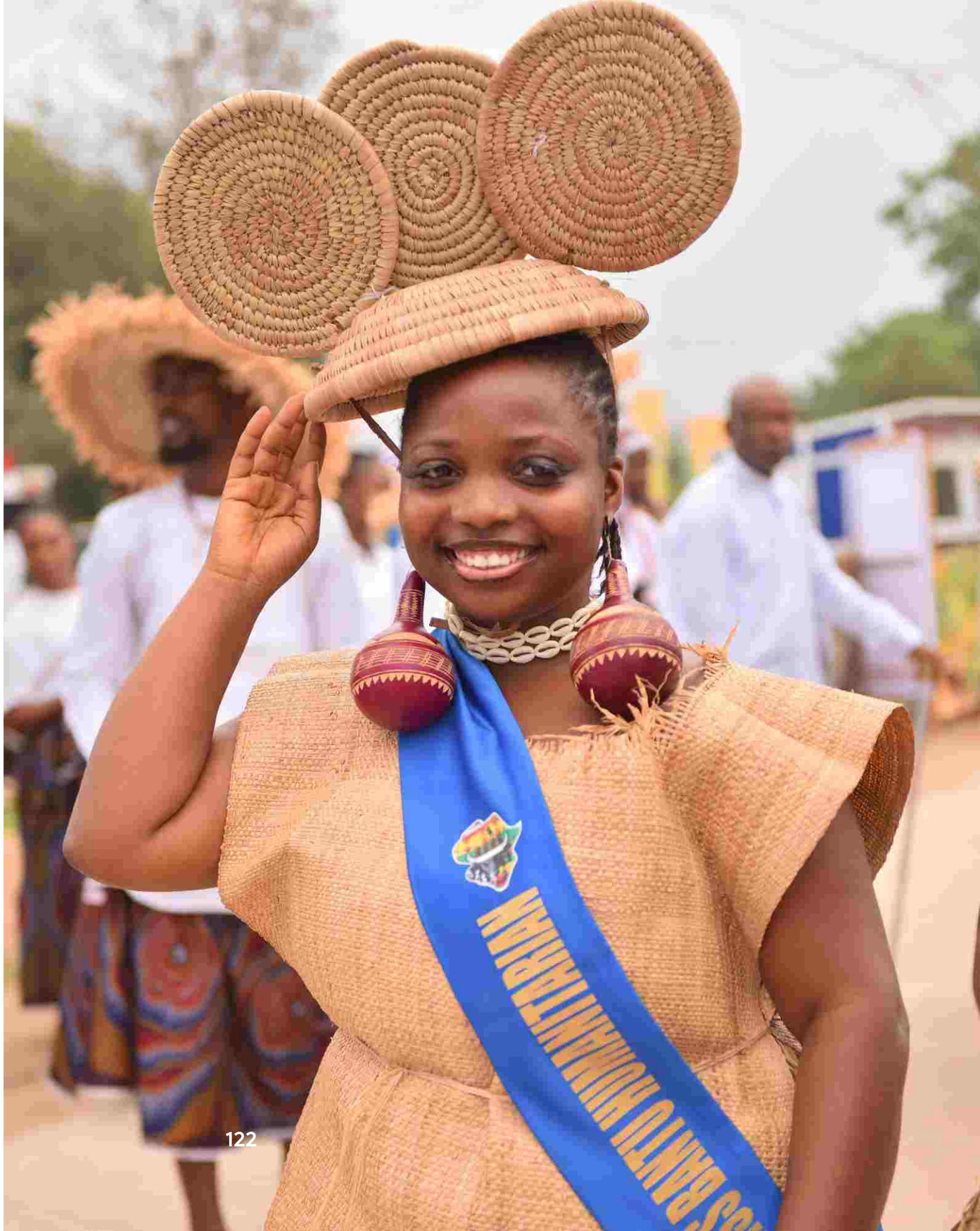











PAMTO MAMTARAM


Akwa
Delic


Ibom
acies

Mme Ndidia Nnyin
(Our Cuisines)



1. Afia Efere Okop Usem Ebot Mme Usung Udia
2. Afang Etike Mme Usung Iwa
3. Atike Ke Adusa
4. Afang Abak Mme Usung Iwa
5. Afia Efere ke Unam Ikot Mme Usung Udia/Iwa
6. Afere Hibiscus Mme Inyang Afia, Mme Usung Iwa
7. Afere Inyang Afia Mme Udod, Mme Usung Iwa/Udia
8 Afere Ekporoko Mme Usung Udia/Iwa
9. Agidi Ye Udod Efere MfiA
10. Afere Ibaba Mme Usung Iwa
11. Afere Mmong-mong Ikong Mme Usung Iwa
12. Aton-Achak, Ye Usung Udia/Iwa
13. Akara Iwa
14. Atama Mme Usung-Iwa
15. Atama Atike, Mme Usung Udia/Iwa
16. Atama Ikon Mme Usung Iwa
17. Ata Awud Okpo Mma Mmong Otong
18. Akara Ukom
19. Akara Mboro
20. Abak Atama Mme Usung Iwa
21. Adesi Abak
22. Adesi Isip
23. Asa Iwa
24. Asa Akpakpa (Ibokpot)
25. Anyan Ekpan Ke Editan
26 Anyan Ekpang Ke Ntuen
27. Afia Efere (Ibeno), Ye Usung Udia/Iwa
28. Afere Abak Ye Usung Udi
29. Anem
30. Atinkene Efere Ye Usung iwa
31. Anyan-Ekpang Ikpong Mme Otong Ntuen
32. Afia Ikpong Ke Ntuen
33. Afob Ikpong Ke Ntuen.
34. Akam Ma Obu





35. Afib Ekporoko Ye-Iyak
36. Atetem Abakpa
37. Atem-adep Anem
38. Asobo Adesi Ke Mmong Efere
39. Asobo Adesi, Ke Efere Abak
40. Asobo Adesi Ye Efere Nkong
41. Asarasa
42. Akara Ye Akamu
43. Afia-efere Ikon Ye Usungiwa
44. Afob Ukom Ke Ntuen Adan-ayob
45. Abre Ke Ndek-ekpai
46. Aforo Ikpong Ke Ntuen
47. Ufofobo Garri Mme Iyak/Ekpai/Ibat
48. Asobo Bread fruit

Brasas Efere Ikon

49. Efere Meme ke Abak Ye Usung Iwa
50. Efere Meme ke Atike Ye Usung Iwa
51. Ekpang Mboro Mme Otong
52 Efere Nsenunen Ye Garri
53. Efere Nfe Otte Mme Usung Iwe
54. Efere Ikon Ye Atike
55. Efere Ikon Ye Mbukpauyo
56. Efere mfang Ubere
57. Efere Adikpike Mfi Ye Abu
58. Efere Ekwong Ke Mbud Ukom
59.. Efere Uku Eta
60. Efere Nkoriko, Ye Usung Iwa
61. Efere Ayie Mma Aya-Abere or Mbiaha
62. Afere Abak Mme Garri
63. Ekoki Akpakpa
64. Efere Iyak (Akpa Anan Anyen Mme Foofoo)
65. Ekpa NtanUnen
66. Ekpan-nkukwo

67. Editan Atike Ye Usung Iwa
68. Editan Ke Ikon Ye Usung iwa
69. Ekpang-nkukwo Mboro
70. Etidot Mmong-mong-ikongYe Ikon, Ke Usung Iwa
71. Efere ebot, Ma Garri/Iwe
72. Efere Obu Ye Usungwa
73. Efere Nkong Ye Isobo
74. Efere Mfang Ndise, Ye Usung Iwa
75. Efere ikpong ku Nyok Mma Garri
76. Efere Mmakrak Ye Iwuk Ukom
77. Efre Ndek Iyak
78. Edita Iwa or Ifommo
79. Efere Omiong Ke Nyama
80. Efere Ntong
81. Ediam
82. Efere Ntabit
83. Efere Garri
84. Efere Mbukpapuyo
86. Efere Etike
87. Editan/Afang Etike
88. Efere Nsana Ye Mkpafere Ke Ibaba
89. Efere Ndak Ada
90. Efere Icho-Chop Ntokeyen
91. Iyak Eto-isong Ye Edita Iwa
92. Efere Ndek-iyak Oron
93. Efere Ndek-iyak Ibeno
94. Efere Ndek-iyak Ibibio
95. Iwa Ke Akpafai Ntuen (Efere-isong)
96. Iwuk Adesi Ke Edi Ye Ndek Obu
97. Iwuk Efere Iko
98. Ikon ye Mbukpabuyo
99. Iwe-mmong Ma Eto-obu
100. Iwe Ekpang Ma Otong
101. Ifrang Ukom
102. Ifrang Udia
103. Ikpan


Christmas
3.0
evo


Obeuk

104. Iwuk Adesi Ke Unam Edi
105. Ufob-Ukom Ke Ntuen
106. Iwuk Ukom Ye Ndise/Nditot
107. Iwuk Anem Ye Ntong
108. Iwa Panyah Ye Ntong
109. Ibok Udia
110. Ikpong Animbo Ke Ntuen
111. Kokobioko or Tinaba
112. Kpokonno-iko
113. Kongkoma-Ikpong
114. Mbrenyong MaMfi1
115. Mbun Mboro
116. Mkpaefere Ma Ibaba
117. Mbun-ikpong Ke Ukang Uta
118. Mbun-Ukom Ke Ukang Ntong
119. Mbun-Udia Ke Ukang Utasi
120. Mbun Akpana
121. Mbun Ndiaha
122. Mkpifia
123. Mkpurikpu
124. Mkpoidip Ebot Ye Enang
125. Mmong Efere Nsat lyak
126. Mkpoi-Mkpoi Efere
127. Mmumi-abak Ma Mkpogoro
128. Mbun Anem Ke Ibat Ye Utasi
129. Mfod (Ufobo-Mmong)
130. Efere Nwonwo lyak
131. Efere Nwonwo Unam
132. Ndube
133. Nsama Ye Edomo
134. Afere Nkop
135. Ndana-ikpong Ke Ntuen
136. Ndise
137. Nnyenye Afere
138. Nditot
139. Nten
140. Nsama Ye Garri

141. Ndek Iyak Enwang
142. Ntabid Ye Cocoa
143. Otokho Mboro
144. Ototor Iwe Okobo
145. Oto Ebre
146. Ototor (cocoyam) Oro
147. Oramanu
148. Oto Mboro
149. Otong Ekwong Ke Utasi
150. Otong Efere
151. Owuk Mboro
152. Otongikpa/Ekproko Ke Edita Iwa
153. Ogi Or Akamu
154. Panyalwa
155. Ufofob Idiang
156. Ufofob Ekwong
157. Ubabad efere Nkoriko
158. Ufofob Nsia Ye Ikpat Unen
159. Ukan Ekporoko
160. Ufobommong Nkukwai
161. Ukan Ibat
162. Ukan Mfi/Ibat/Ikpa
163. Udep Utim Iwa Ye Ubo Nkong Abak
164. Ufofob Iwa
165. Ukang Unam Enang
163. Usung Ikpong Ke Afere Usung Ikpong
164. Ufobo Mmong Mfi Ye Ndek Iyak
165. Ubegh Akpakpa
166. Ufobo Mmong Ndek Iyak
167. Ukang Afang
168. Ufofob Iyak Ye Ntuen
170. Ukom ke Mmong Isip
171. Unam Ewa Ye Ukom (404)
172. Ukwuho Afang
173. Utetibe or Ufofob Akpakpa
174. Ubo Nkong Abak Ye Usung Iwa





175. Ufobo Mmong Nkoriko
176. Ufobo Mmong Anem
177. Ubo Atama Ke Afiaku Eyob
178. Ufobo Mmong Ayod
179. Ufobo Mmong Isobo
180. Ubo Nkong Abak Ye Udep-utim Iwa
181. Ufafrang Ndek Iyak
182. Urod Efere Iyak Ice
183. Ukang Ikpa-enan Ye Ekpa Enang Ke Utasi
184. Uboh Ukana Ye Uboh Ubong Ke Edomo
185. Ukang Efere Afang
186. Ufobo Mmong Unen Ufok
187. Ufobo Mmong Udip
188. Ubobok Anem
189. Ufobo Mmong Anem
190. Usung Udia Ke Efere Iat
191. Ukokod Ayop
192. Ubobok Udia
193. Ubong-enyong
194. UbebemAyop
195. Ubabat Efere Ye Iwa
196. Ubobot Not Ayop
197. Ukime ma Mkpogoro
198. Ufobo Mmong Abakpa Ye Udot
199. Ufobo Mmong Ekwong
200. Ukang Ekporoko
201. Ukom Ye Isim-Enang

DESSERTS

1. Nyanyatet
2. Adiado/uluk
3. Mkpa-ntuk
4. Mffong

Uyo (mfid-uyo)

5. Mmansang Mbakara
7. Mba
8. Mbokoh
9. Ndatndat Mboro

Snacks

1. Ekpuro
2. UbongEnyong
3. Adiang
4. Nya
5. Ekom
6. Ndiya
7. Ndiyalkot
8. Editalwa Ye Ekpomo or Ye IsipMbakara/Eben IsipEyep
9. Ufafrang Abakpa

1ST - COURSE(APPETIZERS OR HORS 'DOEUVRES)

1. Ibong (Cola-nut)
2. Efiat (Bitter Cola)
3. Mkpaerong
4. Ntuenibok
5. Nkarika
6. Ndiyo
7. Ufobo mmong ntuen ke ebod
8. Ufobo mmong ntuen ke unen
9. Ufobo mmong ntuen ke unam ikot



Edita Iwa ye Isip



Iboon ye Efiat



Edomo

DAY 10

IBIONO





In Brief

Ibiono Ibom has 11 political wards, including Ibiono Eastern I–III, Ibiono Western I–III, Ibiono Southern I–II, Ibiono Northern I–II, Ibiono Central I–II, and Ikpanya. Sociopolitical Division.

The Local Government Area is endowed with fertile agricultural land, gravel, clay, and other resources, while its vegetation supports extensive farming and related economic activities.

Natural Resources
Ibiono Ibom has a predominantly agrarian economy. Farming, particularly the cultivation of cassava, yam, oil palm, maize, vegetables and plantain, is an important source of livelihood. Trading and other small-scale economic activities also contribute to the local economy.

The people of Ibiono Ibom are predominantly Ibibio. Ibibio is the principal language spoken across the Local Government Area, while traditional institutions, festivals, folklore, communal life, and age-grade systems remain important aspects of the people's cultural heritage.

Oko Ita is the Headquarters of Ibiono Ibom LGA
The 2006 National Census recorded a population of about 188,605 people, while more recent projections place the population at approximately 240,700.

Population
Approximately 336 square kilometres.

Landmass
Ibiono Ibom is located in the northern part of Akwa Ibom State. It shares boundaries with Itu, Ikono, Uyo and Ini Local Government Areas, as well as neighbouring Cross River State.

Location
Ibiono Ibom Local Government Area is one of the predominantly Ibibio-speaking Local Government Areas in the northern part of Akwa Ibom State. It is





Ibom Masquerade













Nnabo Masquerade




IBIONO

DAY 11

IKA





In Brief

Ika is an agrarian local government area in the northwestern area of the state.

Location
Ika is located in the northwestern part of Akwa Ibom State. It shares boundaries with Etim Ekpo, Abak, Abia and Rivers State

Landmass
Approximately 114 square kilometres

Population
92,400 projection in 2022 based on the national population figure of 82,900 in 2006

Headquarters
Urua Inyang

People and Culture
The people of Ika are part of the Annang ethnic group. The area is rich in cultural heritage, with traditional festivals, folklore, and masquerades such as Ekpo and Ekong

Economy
Ika's economy is mainly agrarian, with crops like cassava, yam, maize, and vegetables being widely cultivated. Palm oil production is also common, alongside fishing and small-scale trading.

Infrastructure
The Local Government Area has public schools, basic health facilities, local markets, and ongoing road development projects.

Socio-political divisions
Ika is made up of 3 clans and 11 Wards, as follows:

Clans
Achan, Ito, Odoro

Wards
Urban 1, Urban 2
Achan 1, Achan 2, Achan 3, Achan 4
Ito 1, Ito 2, Ito 3
Odoro 1, Odoro 2







Inuen Ekpo




IKA




IKA

DAY 12

IKONO




ARISE

In Brief

Ikono Local Government Area is famed as the roots of the Ibibio.

Location

Ikono is located in the north-central part of Akwa Ibom State. It shares boundaries with Ini, Itu, Ibiono Ibom, and Abak Local Government Areas.

Landmass

Ikono covers approximately 471 square kilometers

Population

The population of Ikono is approximately 168,000 people as of 2022. This is based on projections from the 2006 census, which recorded a population of 131,673

Headquarters

Ibiaku Ntok Okpo

People and Culture

Ikono is regarded as the cradle of the Ibibio people, making it culturally significant. The people are predominantly Ibibio, and the main language spoken is Ibibio. Ikono is rich in Ibibio traditions, festivals, and folklore. Traditional ceremonies and masquerades form part of their vibrant cultural life.

Economy

The economy of Ikono is largely agrarian, with residents engaged in farming, especially cassava, palm fruit, yam, plantain, and vegetables. The area also supports local trade, palm oil production, and small-scale businesses.

Infrastructure

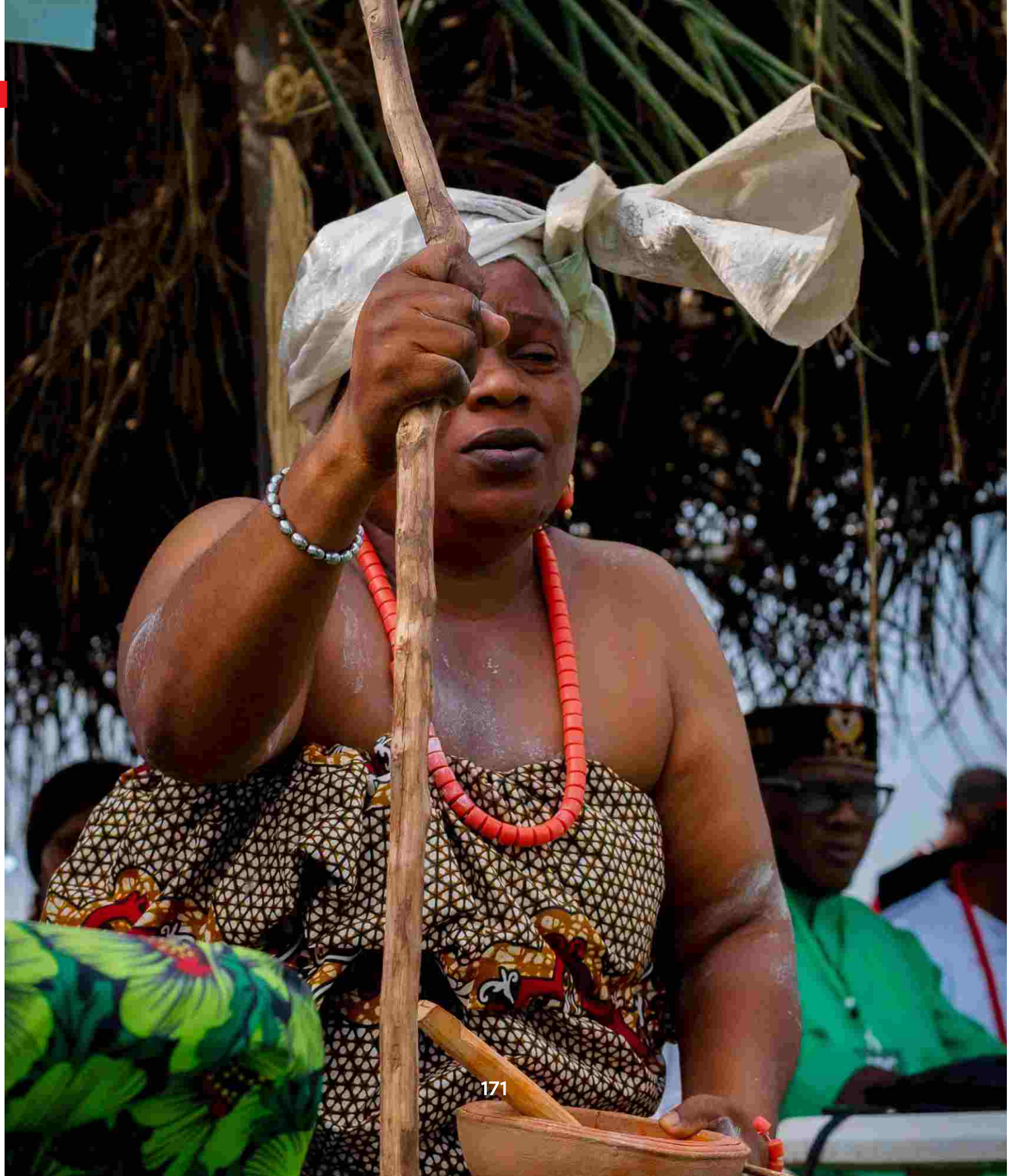
The Local Government Area has educational institutions, health centers, markets, and expanding road networks. The State College of Science and Technology is located at Ikono.











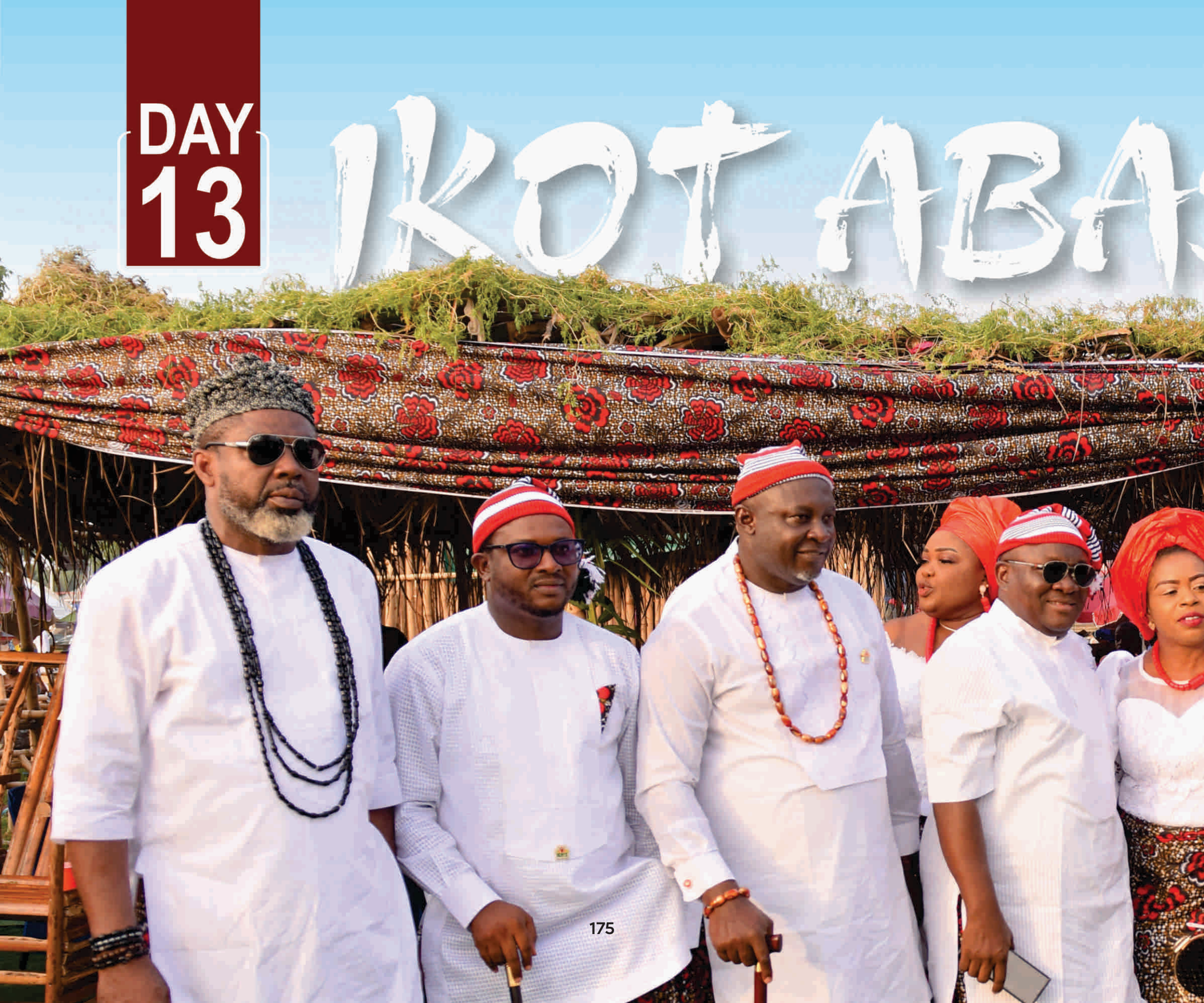






DAY 13

IKOT ABA





In Brief

Ikot Abasi is one of Akwa Ibom State's repository of history, one that dates back to pre-colonial times.

Location

IIkot Abasi is located in the southwestern part of Akwa Ibom State. It shares boundaries with Eastern Obolo, Mkpat Enin, and Oruk Anam Local Government Areas, as well as Rivers State and the Atlantic Ocean.

Landmass

Ikot Abasi covers approximately 307 square kilometers

Population

IIkot Abasi has a population of approximately 189,916 people

Headquarters

The administrative headquarters is in IIkot Abasi town

People and Culture

The people are mainly Ibibio. The people have rich cultural traditions, with festivals, traditional music, and dances, including the popular Udo dance.

Economy

Ikot Abasi is rich in oil and gas resources, with several multinational oil companies operating in the area. It also has fertile land for farming, fishing due to its coastal location, and a growing local trade economy.

Historical Significance Ikot Abasi is historically important as the location of the Amalgamation House, famed as the place where Lord Fredrick Lugard reportedly completed the 1914 amalgamation of Northern and Southern Nigeria.

Cultural Heritage/Tourism Sites

The Amalgamation House

Bridge of No Return, a historic landmark and pivotal point in the transatlantic slave trade, where enslaved Africans were forcibly taken away from their homeland to be shipped to Europe and the Americas, built in 1795 by Europeans.

1929 Women Riot Statue

It is also believed that the popular women riot of 1929, erroneously referred to as the Aba Women Riot, actually took place in Ikot Abasi, with a monument commemorating the history.

Scenic Uta Ewa Beach

ALSCON Conveyor Belt

Infrastructure

Ikot Abasi is home to the Aluminum Smelter Company of Nigeria, ALSCON, the Nigeria Navy Ship, NNS Jubilee, the Federal University of Technology, Ikot Abasi, FUTIA, part of Sterling Petrochemical Complex, NNPC Floating Filling Station and the popular Regina Coeli Secondary School, other educational and health Institutions.





Socio-political divisions
Ikot Abasi is made up of 5 Clans and 10 political Wards.

Clans
Ikpa Ibekwe, Ikpa Nnung Assang, Ukpum Ette, Ukpum Okon, Edemaya

Wards
Ikpa Ibekwe I, Ikpa Ibekwe II, Ukpum Ete I, Ukpum Ete II, Ukpum Okon, Edemaya I, Edemaya II, 8. Edemaya III, Ikpa Nung Asang I, Ikpa Nung Asang II


IKOT ABASI

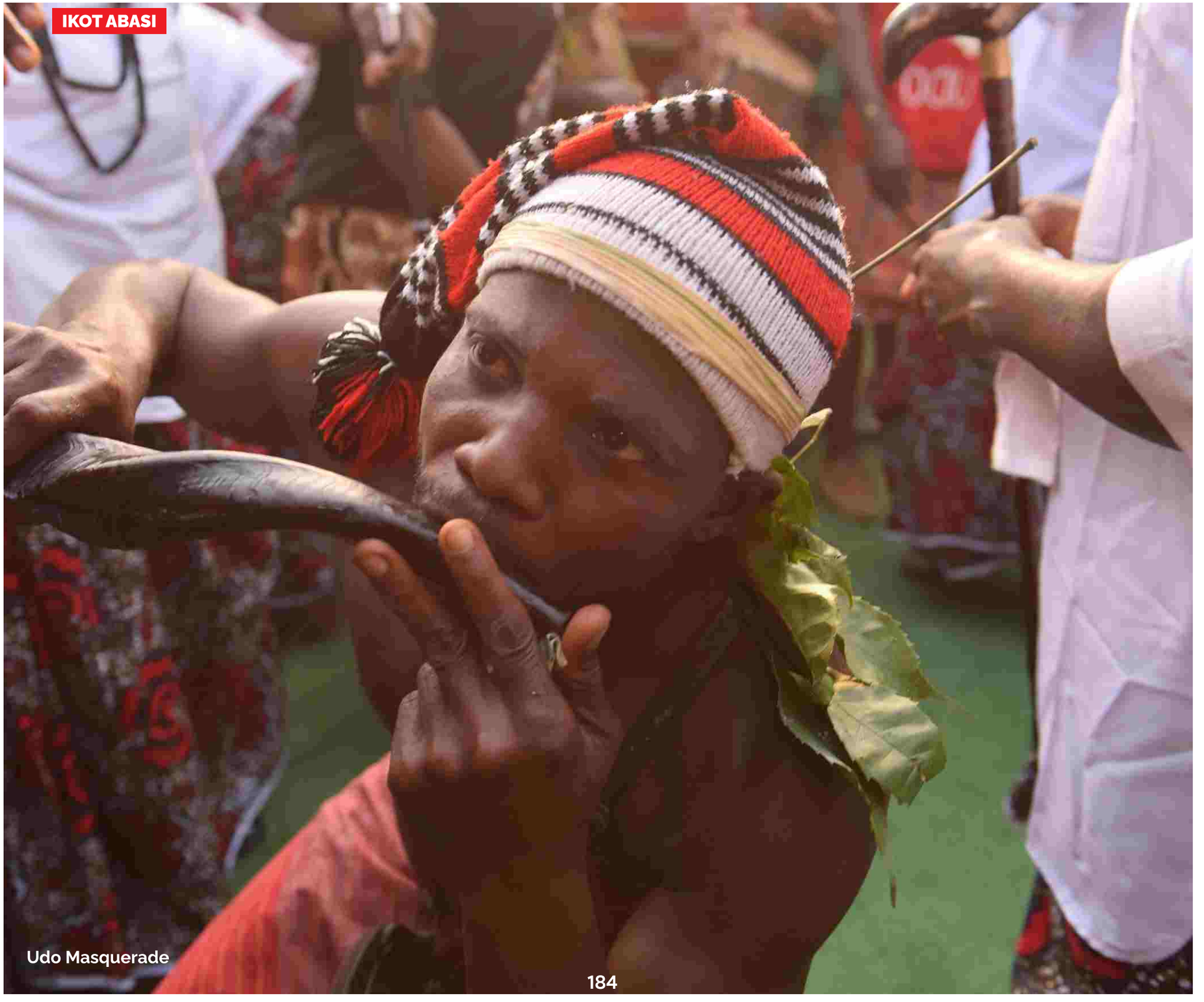





Shopping
Bag
NB
Nigerian Breweries Plc







Udo Masquerade

DAY 13

Ikot Ekpene





In Brief

Ikot Ekpene has always prided itself as the commercial nerve centre of Akwa Ibom State - moreso, because it is a city where majority of the populace are involved in one entrepreneurial venture or the other, through craftmanship, trading and commerce.

Ikot Ekpene also holds a place of pride as the area where the first experimental model for local government administration was tested in West Africa, as far back as 1951.

Location

Ikot Ekpene is located in the northwest of Akwa Ibom State. It shares boundaries with Essien Udim, Obot Akara and Abak Local Government Areas, and parts of Abia State

Landmass

Approximately 116 square kilometres

Population

Approximately 406,670 people in the urban area, making it the 43rd most populous city in Nigeria. In 2026, the population is projected to be around 486,000

Headquarters

The headquarters is in Ikot Ekpene town, often referred to as the Raffia City.

People and Culture

The people are primarily of the Annang ethnic group, with a rich cultural heritage and was one of Nigeria's earliest colonial administrative centres.

Economy

Ikot Ekpene is historically known for its raffia industry, producing items like mats, baskets, shoes, and hats. The town is a major commercial and political centre with markets, banks, hotels, and small industries. It also benefits from its proximity to major roads linking Akwa Ibom to Abia and other southeastern states.

Cultural Heritage/Tourism Sites

The area has a rich cultural heritage and was one of Nigeria's earliest colonial administrative centres.
The Ikot Ekpene Plaza
The local raffia craft market
The five star Four Point by Sheraton Hotel

Infrastructure

Ikot Ekpene hosts institutions like the Akwa Ibom State Polytechnic, Akwa Ibom College of Nursing, Ritman University and various secondary schools. It has good road networks, standard healthcare facilities, and urban infrastructure.

Socio-political divisions

Ikot Ekpene has clans and 11 political wards

Clans

Amanyam, Ikot Ekpene

Wards

Ikot Ekpene 1, Ikot Ekpene 2, Ikot Ekpene 3, Ikot Ekpene 4, Ikot Ekpene 5, Ikot Ekpene 6
Ikot Ekpene 7, Ikot Ekpene 8, Ikot Ekpene 9, Ikot Ekpene 10, Ikot Ekpene 11

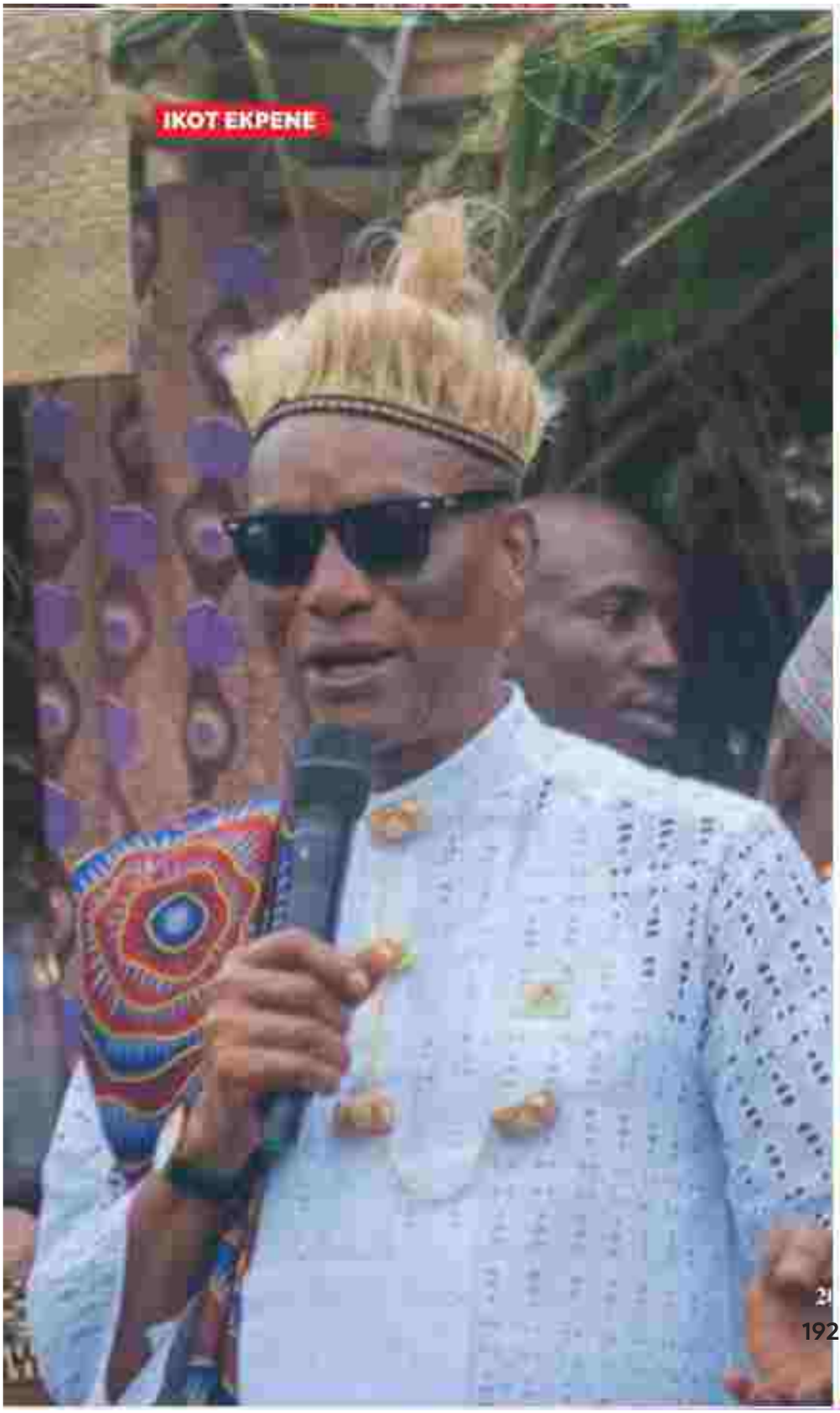





IKOT EKPENE

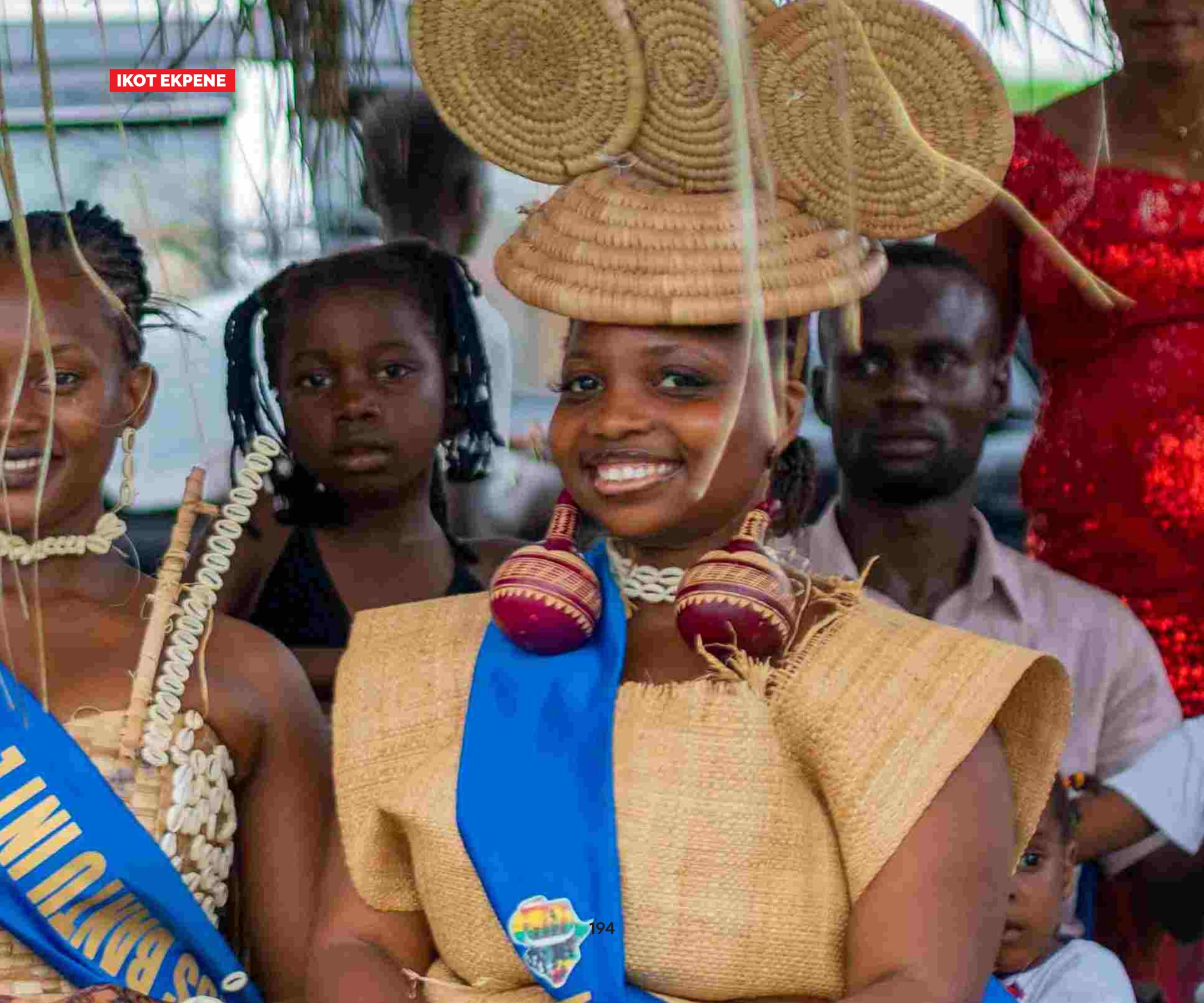





IKOT EKPENE









Tales of a Palmwine Tapper


IWADU









DAY 15

ITU





ITU

In Brief

Itu Local Government Area is one of the most historically significant Local Government Areas in Akwa Ibom State due to its strategic location along the Cross River has made it a major gateway between Akwa Ibom State and Cross River State, as well as a hub for trade, education, and early missionary activities.

Location

Itu LGA is located in the north-western part of Akwa Ibom State. It lies along the eastern bank of the Cross River and serves as a major entry point into the state. It is bounded by Uyo and Ibiono Ibom to the east, Ikono to the south, Ini to the north, and Cross River State to the west.

Landmass

Approximately 606 square kilometres.

Population

According to a 2022 population projection, Itu Local Government Area has an estimated population of about 150,000 people, with a mix of urban and rural settlements.

Headquarters

Mbak Itam

People and Culture

The people of Itu are predominantly Ibibio, though a sizable number of Efiks are also indigenes, with a rich cultural heritage rooted in traditional institutions, festivals, and communal living. Traditional music, masquerades, folklore, and festivals play an important role in preserving the people's identity.

Economy

Itu's economy is largely driven by commerce, agriculture, fishing, and education. Its location along the Cross River makes fishing a major occupation, while fertile land supports the cultivation of cassava, yam, maize, plantain, vegetables, and oil palm.
The Local Government Area is also a major commercial corridor, hosting markets, transport businesses, and river-based trade linking Akwa Ibom with Cross River State.

Natural Resources

Fertile agricultural land,
Abundant freshwater fish resources, Timber and other forest products, Clay and sand deposits for construction.

Tourist Sites

The Cross River waterfront, which offers scenic views and opportunities for leisure and cultural tourism.
Missionary heritage sites, including early church and school locations.
Traditional festivals and cultural displays that attract visitors during festive periods.

History

Itu holds a unique place in Akwa Ibom's history as the entry point of Christianity into the state.
In 1902, the Scottish missionary Mary Slessor arrived in Itu, using it as her base for missionary work that led to the abolition of harmful cultural practices such as the killing of twins.





ITU

Infrastructure
Major federal and state roads linking Akwa Ibom to Cross River State. River ports and jetties along the Cross River. Educational institutions, including primary, secondary, and tertiary establishments.
Markets, health centres, and public administrative offices

Sociopolitical Division:
Itu is made up of numerous villages and communities. These communities are often identified by clans namely: Itu, Oku Iboku, Mbiabo, Ayadehe, and Itam clans

Wards
Oku Iboku, Itu clan ward, Mbiase/Ayadehe
East Itam 1, East Itam 2, East Itam 3, East Itam 4, East Itam 5
West Itam 1, West Itam 2, West Itam 3


ITU


ITU


ITU



DAY 16




Christmas

In Brief

INI Local Government Area is the only area in Akwa Ibom State known, called and addressed as the Food Basket of the state for the important role it plays in the state's food production system. The area also contributes significantly to rural development, local commerce, and inter-state trade, particularly with neighbouring Abia State.

Location

INI Local Government Area is located in the northern part of Akwa Ibom State. It occupies a strategic border position between Akwa Ibom and Abia States. It is bounded by Ikono Local Government Area to the south, Ibiono Ibom Local Government Area to the west, Itu Local Government Area to the southwest and Abia State to the north and east

Landmass

INI Local Government Area covers a large expanse of land, making it one of the more spacious Local Government Areas in Akwa Ibom State. Its extensive landmass, approximately 320,451 square kilometres, supports farming, settlement expansion, and rural economic activities.

Population

Based on projections from the 2006 national census and population growth trends, INI Local Government Area is estimated to have a population of over 200,000 people, largely residing in rural communities and farming settlements.

Headquarters

Odoro Ikpe

People and Culture

The people of INI are predominantly Ibibio, with strong ancestral ties to the land. The Ibibio language is widely spoken with some areas like Itu Mbonuso, Nkari and Iwere speaking a distinct variant. INI communities have preserved deep-rooted cultural traditions expressed through communal living, extended family systems, traditional leadership institutions, festivals, masquerades, and age-grade associations. Cultural practices such as traditional marriages, burial rites, and seasonal festivals remain central to social life.

Economy

INI Local Government Area has a predominantly agrarian economy. The majority of residents engage in Crop farming (cassava, yam, maize, rice, vegetables), palm produce and oil processing, small-scale trading and local markets. Timber, rice and cocoa are the main commercially viable agriculture based ventures.Agriculture remains the mainstay of the local economy, with farm produce supplying markets within Akwa Ibom State and neighbouring Abia State. Beyond agriculture, the area has a large repository of minerals including limestone, gravel, clay, iron ore, rocks of different make, and corked oil wells around the Ikpe area.

Natural Resources

INI Local Government Area is endowed with notable natural resources, including: fertile agricultural land, palm trees and forest resources, clay and sand deposits for local construction.

Tourist and Cultural Sites

INI is not a conventional tourism hub but has cultural and natural attractions, including
traditional festivals and masquerade displays,
scenic farmlands and rural landscapes, and cultural heritage sites within various clans.

Infrastructure

Infrastructure development in Ini LGA is largely rural and





evolving, and includes road networks linking communities and neighbouring states, primary and secondary schools, primary healthcare centres, markets and community halls

Sociopolitical Division
Clans
INI Local Government Area is traditionally organized into five major clans
Ikpe, Itu Mbonuso, Nkari, Iwerre, Odoro Ikono

Wards
Ini LGA is divided into 11 political wards,as follows; Ikpe, Itu Mbonuso, Nkari, Iwerre, Ikono North, Ikono North, Ikono North, Odoro Ukwok, Usuk Ukwok, Ikpe


INI
BFU
Christ
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BRU-KER



Nke Ekpe War Dance



DAY 17

MBO





MBO

In Brief

Mbo Local Government Area is one of the coastal LGAs in Akwa Ibom State, located in the far southern part of the state. It is predominantly an Oron-speaking community and one of the five LGAs mainly inhabited by the Oron people in Akwa Ibom.

Location

Mbo LGA lies in the southern coastal region of Akwa Ibom State, bordering: Urue-Offong/Oruko LGA to the north, Atlantic Ocean and the Republic of Cameroon to the south, Udung Uko LGA to the east, Esit Eket and Ibeno LGAs to the west.

Landmass

Mbo covers an area of approximately 318–365 square kilometres, characterized by riverine landscapes, coastal plains, mangrove forests, and waterways.

Population

Estimates vary depending on source and projection method, but the 2006 census reported about 104,012 people in Mbo LGA.

More recent projections place the population in the range of 114,000–130,000, reflecting growth over recent decades.

Headquarters

The administrative centre and seat of government for Mbo LGA is Enwang town.

People and Culture

Mbo is primarily inhabited by the Oron ethnic group, with the Oro (Oron) language spoken widely. In addition to Oro, several other local languages are also used, including Efik, Ebughu, Efai, and Enwang-Uda, which reflect the cultural and linguistic diversity within the LGA. Traditional festivals, maritime heritage, folklore, and community ceremonies are central to local identity. Christian religious practices are widespread, with traditional customs still celebrated.

Economy

Mbo's economy is heavily marine-based due to its coastal and riverine geography: Fishing and marine transportation are major occupations, supported by rich aquatic resources.
Subsistence farming on fertile lands produces cassava, plantain, vegetables, and various fruits.
Local trade, canoe and net crafting, and artisan work also contribute to livelihoods.
The waterways and creeks also make Mbo strategically important for water trade and mobility within the Niger Delta region.

Natural Resources

Mbo is rich in a variety of natural resources, including:
Marine products and seafood
Forest resources (timber, fruits, non-timber woods)
Minerals such as clay, fine sand, salt, gravel, and crude oil found both onshore and offshore.
These resources position Mbo as both an ecological treasure and an area with potential for expanded economic development.

Tourist and Cultural Sites

Visitors to Mbo can explore;
Coastal beaches and waterfront views, ideal for leisure and cultural tourism. Traditional communities and festivals showcasing Oro cultural heritage.
Local crafts and markets, where artisanal goods reflect the identity of the people.

History

Mbo LGA was officially created in 1989, carved out of the old Oron Division as part of Nigeria's local government restructuring.





MBO

It remains an important part of the broader Oron cultural region with deep historical ties to riverine trade and community networks in southeastern Nigeria.

Sociopolitical Division
Clans/Districts: Mbo comprises several traditional clans (often now referred to as districts), including:
comprises several traditional clans including Afaha Okpo, Effiat, and Afaha Ukwong (Nkwong).

Political Wards
Notable wards include Enwang, Effiong Offiong, Udung Okung, Ibom, Ekeya, Ewang, Uya Oron, Oboetim, Ebughu, Okobo




MBO









DAY 18

MKPAT ENIN




VVIP

In Brief

Mkpat-Enin Local Government Area is one of the agrarian and culturally rich Local Government Areas in Akwa Ibom State. It is widely known for its strong agricultural base, traditional institutions, and peaceful rural communities. The Local Government Area plays a key role in food production within the state and contributes significantly to local commerce and cultural preservation.

Location

Mkpat-Enin Local Government Area is located in the south-western part of Akwa Ibom State.
It is bounded by Abak Local Government Area to the west, Etinan Local Government Area to the east, Oruk Anam Local Government Area to the north, and Ikot Abasi Local Government Area to the south.

Landmass

Mkpat-Enin LGA covers an estimated land area of about 320–330 square kilometres, consisting mainly of lowland rainforest and gently undulating terrain suitable for agriculture.

Population

Based on the 2006 national census and subsequent projections, Mkpat-Enin Local Government Area has an estimated population of about 180,000 people, largely residing in rural settlements with a few semi-urban communities.

Headquarters

Mkpat-Enin Town

People and Culture

The people of Mkpat-Enin are predominantly Ibibio, and the Ibibio language is widely spoken.
The Local Government Area has a rich cultural heritage expressed through traditional music, masquerades, folklore, age-grade systems, and communal festivals. Social life is strongly community-oriented, and cultural values emphasize respect for elders, kinship ties, and collective responsibility.

Economy

Mkpat-Enin's economy is largely agrarian, with major activities including farming, especially cassava, yam, maize, cocoyam, vegetables, and oil palm. Palm oil and palm kernel processing, both traditional and semi-mechanized, local trading and small-scale commerce, supported by periodic markets, livestock rearing, artisanal crafts, and petty trading also contribute to household incomes. Farming remains the dominant occupation, with some residents proudly measuring wealth by the size of their farms rather than bank balances.

Tourist and Cultural Sites

While Mkpat-Enin is not a major tourist hub, it offers traditional festivals and cultural ceremonies, rural landscapes and farmlands suitable for eco-touris, historic village squares and traditional meeting grounds. Festive periods often attract indigenes living outside the area, temporarily boosting local economic activity.



MKPAT ENIN



Sociopolitical Division

Mkpat-Enin is made up of numerous villages and communities traditionally grouped into the following clans: Ikpa Ibom, Ikpa Ikono, Ibiaku, Ukpum Minya


MKPAT ENIN
VVIP




MKPAT ENIN




MKPAT ENIN

DAY 19

CAROL

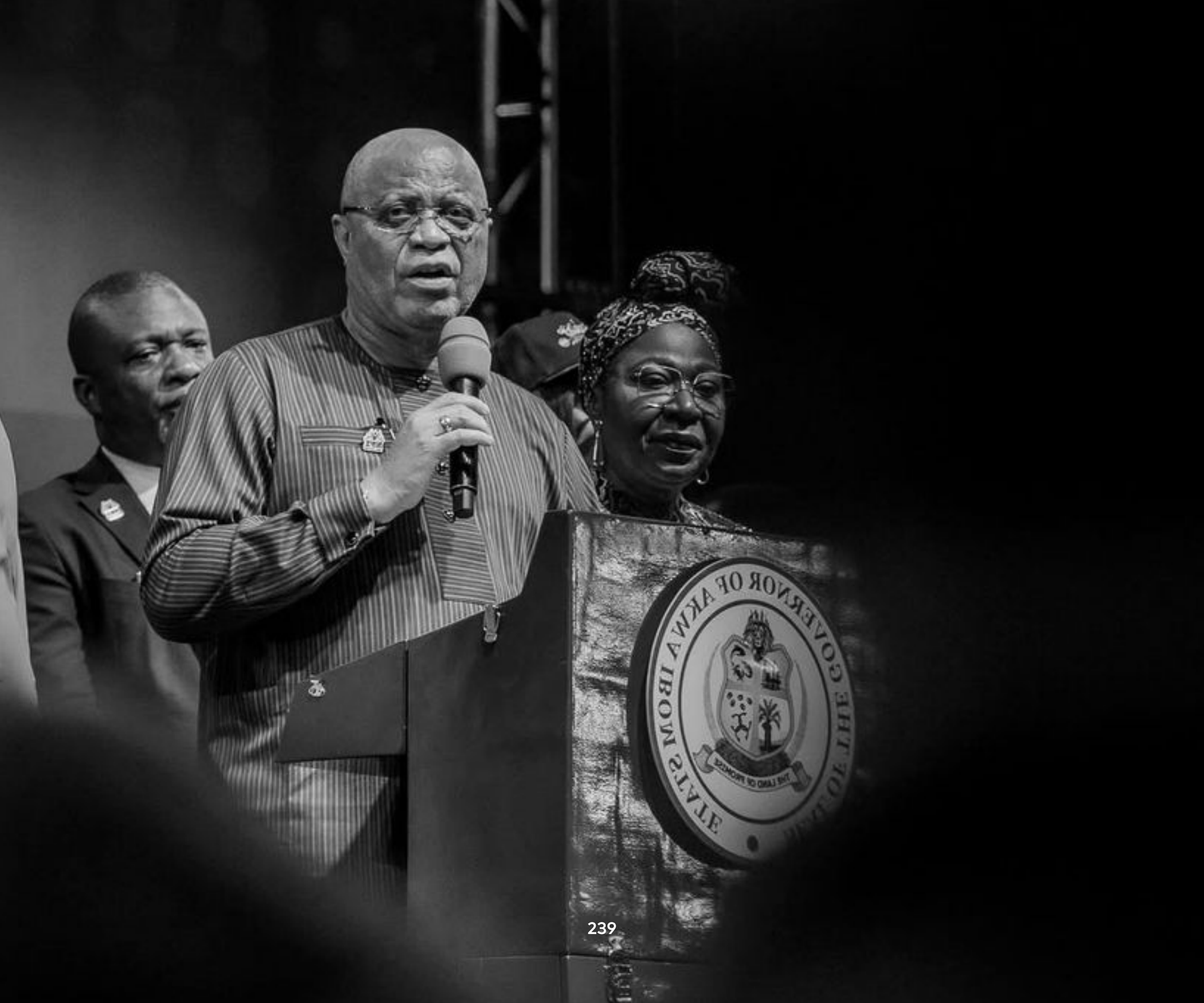



NIGHT


A
Night of
Carols

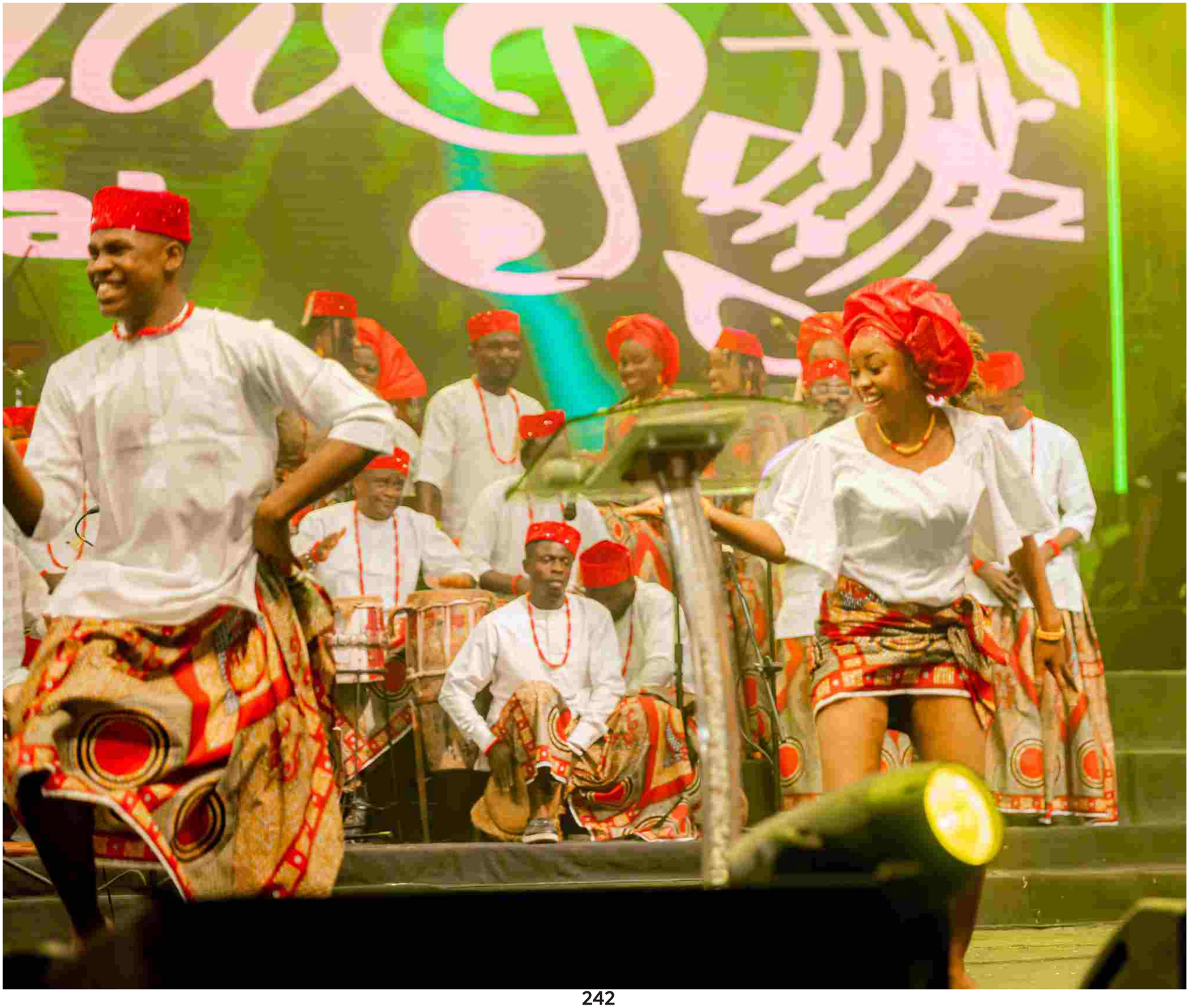


It's a tradition in Akwa Ibom for the Christmas Unplugged festival to keep aside a day for a Christmas Carol. This year's was typical, with joyful "Jingle bells," sonorous "Silent Night," and harmonious "Joy to the World," sang with rhyming patterns of catchy melodies by choirs and other musical ensembles performing to the delight of guests.


GOVERNOR OF AKWA IBOM
STATE


Christmas
unplugged
© MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND TOURISM AKWA IBOM S


Carols Festival
Friday December 19, 2025
MINISTERING:
VERNMENT HOUSE
















ARISE
AKWA IBOM STATE
Akwa Ibom
Christmas
Carols Festival
Friday December 19, 2025
MINISTERING:
CONTEMPORARY
CHOIR







© MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND TOURISM AKWA IB




GOVERNMENT OF ABIA STATE
NIGERIA
Abia State
Christmas
Carols Festival


Akwa Ibom
Christmas
Carols Festival
ARISE

DAY 20

NSIT ATAI




HA POLITIKE
NSIT ATA

In Brief

Nsit Atai Local Government Area is one of the important Local Government Areas in Akwa Ibom State, notable for its agricultural productivity and contribution to the state's rural development. The area plays a key role in local commerce, farming, and inter-state trade, particularly with neighbouring local government areas like Etinan, Uyo, and Ibesikpo Asutan.

Location
Nsit Atai Local Government Area is located in the central part of Akwa Ibom State. It is bounded by Ibesikpo Asutan Local Government Area to the north, Etinan Local Government Area to the south, Nsit Ibom Local Government Area to the west, and Uyo Local Government Area to the east. Its location provides strategic access to major trade routes within the state.

Landmass
The Local Government Area spans approximately 250,000 square kilometres.

Population
Based on projections from the 2006 national census and subsequent growth trends, Nsit Atai Local Government Area is estimated to have a population of over 150,000 people, predominantly residing in rural communities and farming settlements.

Headquarters
Odot

People and Culture
The people of Nsit Atai are predominantly Ibibio, with strong cultural ties and ancestral lineage to the land. The Ibibio language is widely spoken, and communities have preserved their traditions through communal living, extended family systems, traditional leadership, festivals, masquerades, and age-grade associations. Cultural practices such as traditional marriages, burial rites, and seasonal festivals remain central to social life in the Local Government Area.

Economy
Nsit Atai LGA has a primarily agrarian economy. Residents engage in crop farming (cassava, yam, maize, vegetables), palm produce and oil processing, small-scale trading, and local markets.

Natural Resources
Nsit Atai is rich in natural resources, including fertile agricultural land, palm trees, forests, clay, and sand deposits suitable for local construction.

Tourist and Cultural Sites
While not a major tourism hub, Nsit Atai boasts cultural and natural attractions, such as traditional festivals and masquerade displays, scenic farmlands and rural landscapes.

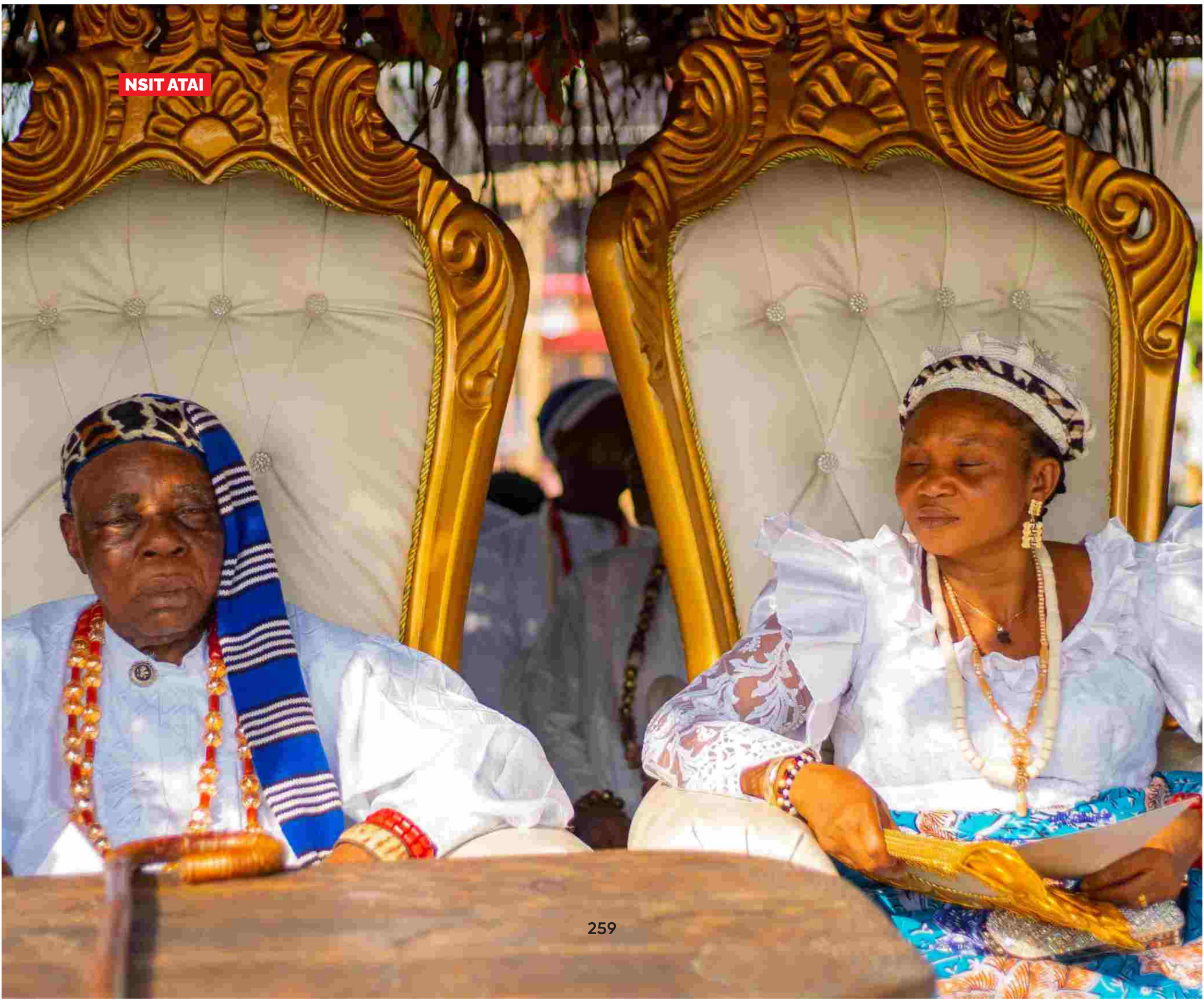
Infrastructure
Infrastructure in Nsit Atai LGA is evolving, with road networks linking communities and neighbouring Local Government Areas, primary and secondary schools, healthcare centres, markets, and community halls. Outside hosting the permanent camp of the National Youth Service Corp in the state, it is also one of the host Local Government Areas of the Victor Attah International Airport.

Sociopolitical Division
Clans
Nsit Atai Local Government Area is traditionally organized into four major clans:
Afaha Oku, Ikot Akpan, Ibiakpan, Etok

Wards
Nsit Atai LGA is divided into 10 political wards as follows:
Afaha Oku, Afaha Oku, Ikot Akpan, Ikot Akpan, Ibiakpan, Ibiakpan, Etok, Afaha Oku.
Ikot Akpan 10.






NSIT ATAI




NSIT ATAI


NSIT ATAI

NSIT ATAI

Eyob (Palm Fruit)



NSIT ATAI





DAY 21

NSIT IBOM





In Brief

Nsit Ibom is a local government area in the centre of the state and is a hub of education.

Location
Nsit Ibom is in centre of Akwa Ibom State.
It shares boundaries with Ibesikpo Asutan, Etinan, Nsit Ubium, and Uyo Local Government Areas.

Landmass
Approximately 242 square kilometres

Headquarters
Afaha Offiong.

Population
The 2006 National Census approximates the population of the area to be 108,611 while recent estimates put it at 138,000.

Economy
Farming is a major economic activity, with crops like oil palm, cassava, yam, and cocoyam cultivated.
Fishing and trade are also important livelihoods due to the area's rivers and streams.

People and Culture
The people of Nsit Ibom are predominantly of Ibibio ethnic extraction. Ibibio is the main language spoken in the area. Nsit Ibom is culturally rich, with a strong heritage seen through festivals and masquerades.

Infrastructure
Nsit Ibom is home to several educational institutions, including the
Akwa Ibom State University of Education at Afaha Nsit
Maurid Polytechnic, Mbiaso.
Nice Polytechnic, Afaha Offiong.

Socio-Political Divisions
The area is grouped into two clans — Asanga and Mbiaso.

Wards
Nsit Ibom Local Government Area has 10 wards, which are Asang I, Asang II, Asang III, Asang IV, Asang V, Mbiaso I, Mbiaso II, Mbiaso III, Mbiaso IV, Mbiaso V.




UMOH


NSIT IBOM


NSIT IBOM





Nyok Dance

DAY 22

UKANAFUN




ARISE
3.0

UKANAFUN

In Brief

Ukanafun Local Government Area is one of the legacy local government areas of Akwa Ibom State, known for its strong farming culture, resilient rural communities, and deep-rooted traditions. The Local Government Area plays an important role in food production and local commerce in the south-western axis of the state and is often described as one of Akwa Ibom's quiet but dependable contributors to agricultural sustainability.

Location
Ukanafun Local Government Area is located in the south-western part of Akwa Ibom State. It is bounded by Oruk Anam Local Government Area to the north, Abak Local Government Area to the east, Ikot Abasi Local Government Area to the south, and Essien Udim Local Government Area to the west.

Landmass
Ukanafun LGA occupies an estimated land area of about 250 square kilometres, consisting mainly of lowland rainforest and gently rolling terrain suitable for farming and settlement.

Population
Based on the 2006 national census figures and subsequent population projections, Ukanafun Local Government Area is estimated to have a population of about 230,000 people, with the majority living in rural communities and a few semi-urban settlements.

Headquarters
Ikot Akpa Nkuk

People and Culture
The people of Ukanafun are predominantly Annang, and the Annang language is widely spoken across the Local Government Area.

Economy
Numerous individuals of Ukanafun LGA engage in trade, wood cutting, and specialty crafts and artisan products.
Ukanafun's economy is largely agriculture-based, with major economic activities including cultivation of cassava, yam, maize, cocoyam, plantain, vegetables, and oil palm.
Palm oil and palm kernel processing, mostly at small and medium scales, local trading through village markets and roadside petty trading, livestock rearing, artisanal crafts, and civil service employment also contribute to household incomes.
Farming remains the backbone of the local economy and a major source of livelihood.

Natural Resources
Ukanafun Local Government Area is endowed with
Fertile agricultural land, Oil palm resources,
Timber and other forest products. Clay and sand deposits used for local construction.

Tourist Sites
Scenic rural landscapes like the Blue River and farmlands, historic village squares and ancestral meeting grounds.
During festive seasons, the local government area experiences a temporary “population explosion” as indigenes return home from urban centres.





Infrastructure
Infrastructure in Ukanafun includes roads, primary and secondary schools across villages, health centres and maternity clinics, local markets, town halls, and administrative offices.

Socio-Political Division
Ukanafun Local Government comprises five clans namely: Northern Ukanafun, Southern Ukanafun, Northern Afaha, Southern Afaha, and Adat Ifang.

Wards
Ukanafun Local Government Area is divided into several political wards, including:
Ukanafun Urban, Southern Ukanafun I, Southern Ukanafun II, Northern Ukanafun I, Northern Ukanafun II, Northern Afaha I, Northern Afaha II, Southern Afaha, Adat Ifang I, Southern Afaha, Adat Ifang II, Southern Afaha, Adat Ifang III, Southern Afaha, Adat Ifang IV.








SQUARE

DAY 23

OBOT AKARA




SQUARE
ARISE

In Brief

Obot Akara Local Government Area is one of the agrarian and culturally rich Local Government Areas in Akwa Ibom State, known for its peaceful communities, strong traditional institutions, and significant contribution to food production in the state. The Local Government Area occupies a strategic position in the north-western part of the state and serves as a link between Akwa Ibom and neighbouring Abia State.

Location
Obot Akara Local Government Area is located in the north-west part of Akwa Ibom State. It is bordered by Ikot Ekpene and Essien Udim Local Government Areas to the west, Abak Local Government Area to the south and Ika Local Government Area to the east.

Landmass
Obot Akara covers an estimated land area of about 250 square kilometres.

Population
Based on recent population projections, Obot Akara Local Government Area has an estimated population of about 150,000 people, predominantly residing in rural communities.

Headquarters
Nto Edino

People and Culture
The people of Obot Akara are predominantly Annang, with strong attachment to tradition, communal living, and respect for ancestral heritage.

The Annang language is widely spoken. Cultural expressions such as traditional dances, masquerades, folklore, marriage rites remain central to community life.

Economy
The economy of Obot Akara is largely agrarian, with farming being the primary occupation. Major crops cultivated include Cassava, Yam, Cocoyam, Maize, Oil palm, and vegetables. Small-scale trading, palm oil processing, local markets, and crafts also contribute to the local economy. The area serves as a food supply source for nearby urban centres such as Ikot Ekpene and Abak.

Natural Resources
Obot Akara is endowed with:
Fertile agricultural land
Oil palm trees and palm produce
Timber and forest resources
Clay and laterite deposits suitable for local construction

Tourist Sites
Tourism in Obot Akara is largely cultural and eco-based, featuring:
Traditional festivals and cultural displays
Sacred forests and community heritage sites
Rural landscapes suitable for cultural tourism and retreats

Infrastructure
Infrastructure in Obot Akara includes
State and local government roads linking the area to Ikot Ekpene, Abak, and Ika
Public primary and secondary schools
Health centres and maternity clinics





Local markets, civic centres, and administrative offices
Electricity supply and road networks continue to improve,

Socio- Political Division

Clans

Obot Akara is made up of numerous villages and communities organized around traditional clans. Prominent clans and groupings include communities around:

Nto Edino

Ikot Abia

Wards

Obot Akara Local Government Area is divided into the following political wards:

Ikot Abia 1, Ikot Abia 2, Ikot Abia 3

Obot Akara 1, Obot Akara 2, Obot Akara 3, Obot Akara 4

Nto Edino 1, Nto Edino 2, Nto Edino 3, Nto Edino 4













DAY 24

OKOBO





In Brief

Okobo Local Government Area is one of the five local government areas in the Oro area of the state. It is one of the hosts of the Victor Attah International Airport.

Location
Okobo is located in southeastern Akwa Ibom and has coastal and riverine areas with tropical rainforest vegetation. It is bordered by several other Local Government Areas in the state, including Uruan, Oron, Nsit Atai, Udung Uko, and Urue-Offong/Oruko.
The terrain includes lowland plains, forests, rivers, and streams.

Landmass
Approximately 475.8 square kilometres

Population
According to the 2006 national census, the population was about 102,753. Current projections, however, estimates the population around 130,000.

Headquarters
Okopedi Okobo

People and Culture
The Okobo dialect of the Oro language is widely spoken in many communities. Efik is also spoken in some clans. The area has rich cultural traditions including festivals, masquerades (like Ekpe), and distinctive ceremonies.

Economy
The local economy centres on fishing, supported by rivers and coastal access.
Agriculture (oil palm, plantain, coconut, etc.).
Trade and local markets, such as beach markets for fish and goods.

Natural Resources
Forest products, clay, and fine sand

Socio-political Divisions

Clans
Okobo is made up of three main clans: Odu, Eta, and Atabong. The Odu clan has 13 villages, Eta has 17 villages, and Atabong has four villages. Additionally, Okobo is also divided into seven districts, including Afaha Eta, Odu, Atabong, Afaha Ukwong, Ebughu, Afaha Okiuso, and Ibighi.

Wards
Okobo Local Government Area has 10 wards as follows: Okopedi I, Okopedi II, Nung Atai/Ube I, Nung AAtai/Ube II, Akai Mbukpo/Udung, Eweme I, Eweme II, Offi I, Offi II, Ekeya.








ARISE



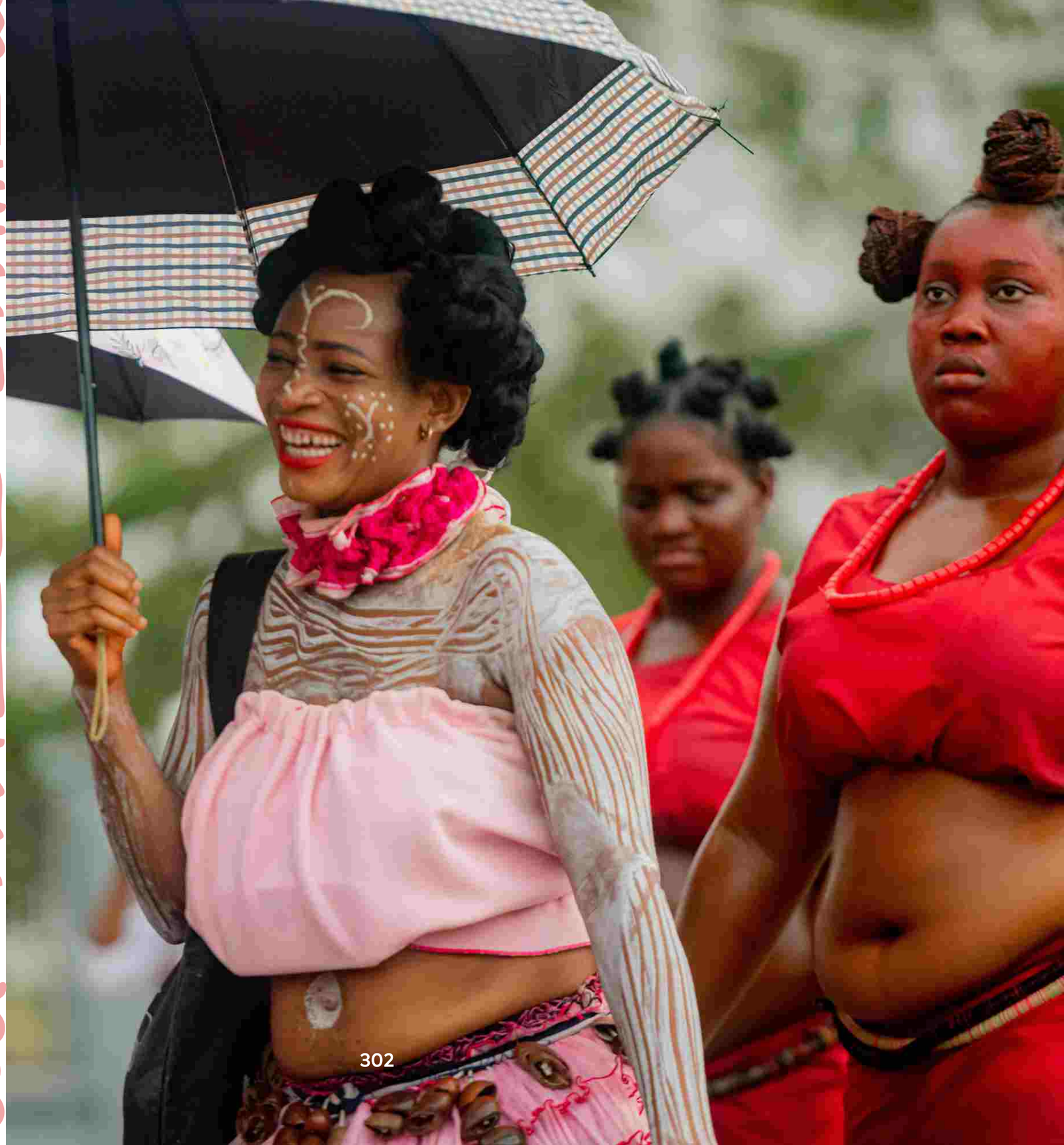



OKOBO



Mbopo









DAY 24

ONNA





In Brief

Onna Local Government Area is one of the strategically important and historically notable Local Government Areas in Akwa Ibom State. It is widely recognized for hosting key national infrastructure and for its contributions to agriculture, commerce, and human capital development. ONNA also occupies a prominent place in the state's political history, being the hometown of a former Governor of the state, Mr Udom Emmanuel.

Location
ONNA Local Government Area is located in the south-central part of Akwa Ibom State.
It is bounded by Nsit Ubium Local Government Area to the north, Mkpat-Enin Local Government Area to the west, Esit Eket Local Government Area to the east, and Eket Local Government Area to the south.

Landmass
ONNA covers an estimated land area of about 200 square kilometres, characterized by lowland rainforest vegetation and gently undulating terrain suitable for farming and settlement.

Population
Based on the 2006 national census and subsequent population projections, Onna Local Government Area has an estimated population of about 160,000 people, consisting of both rural communities and semi-urban settlements.

Headquarters
Abat
People and Culture
The people of ONNA are predominantly Ibibio, and the Ibibio language is widely spoken.
The culture of the people is deeply rooted in traditional institutions, family lineages, and communal living.
Traditional music, folklore, masquerades, marriage rites, and festivals remain important elements of social life, even as modern lifestyles gradually creep in.

Economy
ONNA's economy is largely agriculture-based, complemented by commerce and public-sector employment. Major economic activities include:
Cultivation of cassava, yam, maize, plantain, cocoyam, vegetables, and oil palm
Palm oil processing and palm produce trading
Local markets, petty trading, and transport services
The presence of major infrastructure and proximity to Eket and Uyo also provide opportunities in civil service, private business, and contract services.





Natural Resources
ONNA Local Government Area is endowed with:
Fertile agricultural land
Oil palm resources
Timber and forest products
Clay and sand deposits for construction
In addition, the area benefits indirectly from nearby petroleum-producing zones.

Infrastructure
Infrastructure in Onna includes:
Major state roads linking the LGA to Uyo, Eket, and neighboring Local Government Areas, primary and secondary schools across communities, health centres and public clinics, markets, town halls, and administrative offices.
The area benefits from its proximity to major urban and industrial centres within the state.

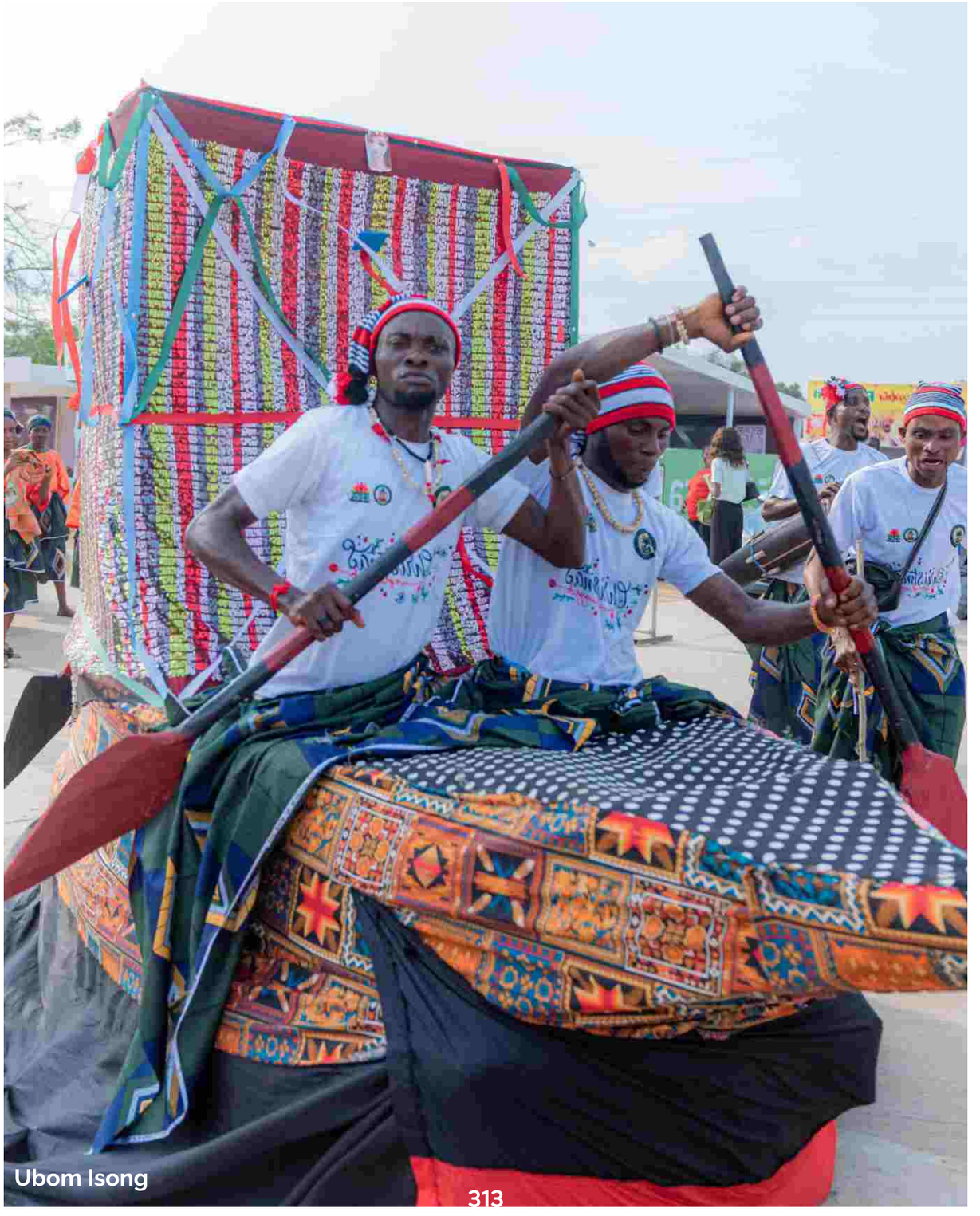
Sociopolitical Division
ONNA Local Government Area is traditionally grouped into clans such as:
Oniong, NungNdem and Awa.






ONNA
DAY





Ubom Isong


ONNA

DAY 26

UDUNG UK





In Brief

Udung Uko Local Government Area is one of the coastal local government areas of Akwa Ibom State, renowned for its rich maritime environment, fishing heritage, and resilient riverine communities. The Local Government Area plays a strategic role in fisheries, coastal trade, and agricultural activities within the state and is regarded as an important contributor to food supply and coastal economy in Akwa Ibom State.

Location

Udung Uko Local Government Area is located in the southern part of Akwa Ibom Statealong the Atlantic coastline. It is bounded by Oron Local Government Area to the north, Esit Eket Local Government Area to the east, Ibeno Local Government Area to the south, and the Atlantic Ocean to the west.

Landmass

Udung Uko LGA occupies an estimated land area of about 400 square kilometres, characterized by coastal plains, mangrove swamps, creeks, and low-lying rainforest vegetation suitable for fishing, farming, and settlement.

Population

Based on the 2006 national census figures and subsequent population projections, Udung Uko Local Government Area is estimated to have a population of about 90,000 people, with the majority residing in rural and riverine communities.

Headquarters

Udung Uko

People and Culture

The people of Udung Uko are of the Oro language.Traditional institutions, village councils, and age-grade systems play significant roles in community administration and cultural preservation.

Economy

The economy of Udung Uko Local Government Area is largely driven by fishing and agriculture. Major economic activities include:
Artisanal fishing and seafood processing
Cultivation of cassava, plantain, vegetables, and oil palm
Palm oil and palm kernel processing at small and medium scales
Local trading through village markets and coastal trade routes
Livestock rearing, petty trading, and civil service employment
Fishing remains the backbone of the local economy and a primary source of livelihood for many households.

Natural Resources

Udung Uko Local Government Area is endowed with:
Rich marine and aquatic resources
Fertile coastal agricultural land
Mangrove forests and timber resources
Sand deposits.

Tourist Sites

Notable attractions include scenic coastal landscapes, creeks and mangrove forests, traditional fishing settlements, and historic village squares. During festive periods, the Local Government Area witnesses increased population as indigenes return from urban centres.

Infrastructure

Infrastructure in Udung Uko include road networks linking major villages, primary and secondary schools, health centres and maternity clinics
Local markets and jetties.

Sociopolitical Division

Udung Uko Local Government Area comprises several clans, including
Udung, Uko, and Ibiaku.









Nkugho








Christmas

DAY 27

ORUKANAM





In Brief

Oruk Anam Local Government Area is one of the agrarian and culturally vibrant Local Government Areas in state. It is widely known for its fertile land, strong agricultural base, rich cultural heritage, and contribution to food production within the state.

Location
Oruk Anam Local Government Area is located in the central part of the state.It shares boundaries with Abak Local Government Area to the north, Ukanafun Local Government Area to the south, Ilkot Abasi Local Government Area to the southwest, and Etim Ekpo Local Government Area to the northeast.

Landmass
Oruk Anam Local Government Area covers an estimated land area of about 368 square kilometres. The terrain is largely flat to gently undulating, with fertile rainforest vegetation suitable for agriculture. The area is drained by small streams and seasonal rivers that support farming activities.

Population
Based on population projections, Oruk Anam Local Government Area has an estimated population of over 180,000 people, predominantly residing in rural communities.

Headquarters
Ikot Ibritam

People and Culture
The people of Oruk Anam Local Government Area are predominantly of the Annang ethnic group. They share common language, traditions, and cultural practices with other communities across the state.
The Annang language is widely spoken, and cultural life is characterized by traditional festivals, age-grade systems, marriage rites, masquerades, respect for elders, and strong communal ties. Traditional institutions and village councils play important roles in governance and social cohesion.

Economy
The economy of Oruk Anam Local Government Area is largely agrarian. Farming is the main occupation of the people, with major crops including oil palm, cassava, yam, maize, plantain, cocoyam, and vegetables. Palm oil and palm kernel production form a major source of income.
Other economic activities include trading, food processing, livestock rearing, small-scale businesses, and artisanal crafts. Local markets serve as centres of commerce for agricultural produce.

Natural Resources
Oruk Anam Local Government Area is richly endowed with fertile agricultural land and abundant oil palm resources. Other natural resources include timber, clay deposits, and freshwater streams that support farming and domestic use.

Tourist Sites
Tourism in Oruk Anam is largely cultural and ecological. Attractions include traditional festivals, historic village squares, cultural masquerades, shrines, and scenic rural landscapes. The area also offers opportunities for eco-tourism centered on its natural vegetation and peaceful countryside environment.





Infrastructure
Infrastructure in Oruk Anam Local Government Area includes a network of rural roads linking various villages and farming communities, public and private primary and secondary schools, health centres and markets.

Sociopolitical Division
Clans
Oruk Anam Local Government Area is made up of several clans and communities, including:
Oruk Anam Local Government Area is made up of nine distinct clans, each with its own villages and cultural heritage:Inen Clan, Obio Akpa Clan, IbesitNung Ikot Clan, Nung Ikot Clan, Nung Ita Clan, Ndot Clan, Ibesit Clan, Ekparakwa Clan, Abak/Midim Clan

Wards
Ekparakwa, Ikot Ibritam I, Ikot Ibritam II, Ndot/Ikot Okoro I, Ndot/Ikot Okoro II, Ndot/Ikot Okoro III, Ibesit, Abak Midim I, Abak Midim II, Abak Midim III, Abak Midim VI, Ibesit/Nung Ikot I, Ibesit/Nung Ikot II.


Christmas



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ORUK ANAM
VILLAGE



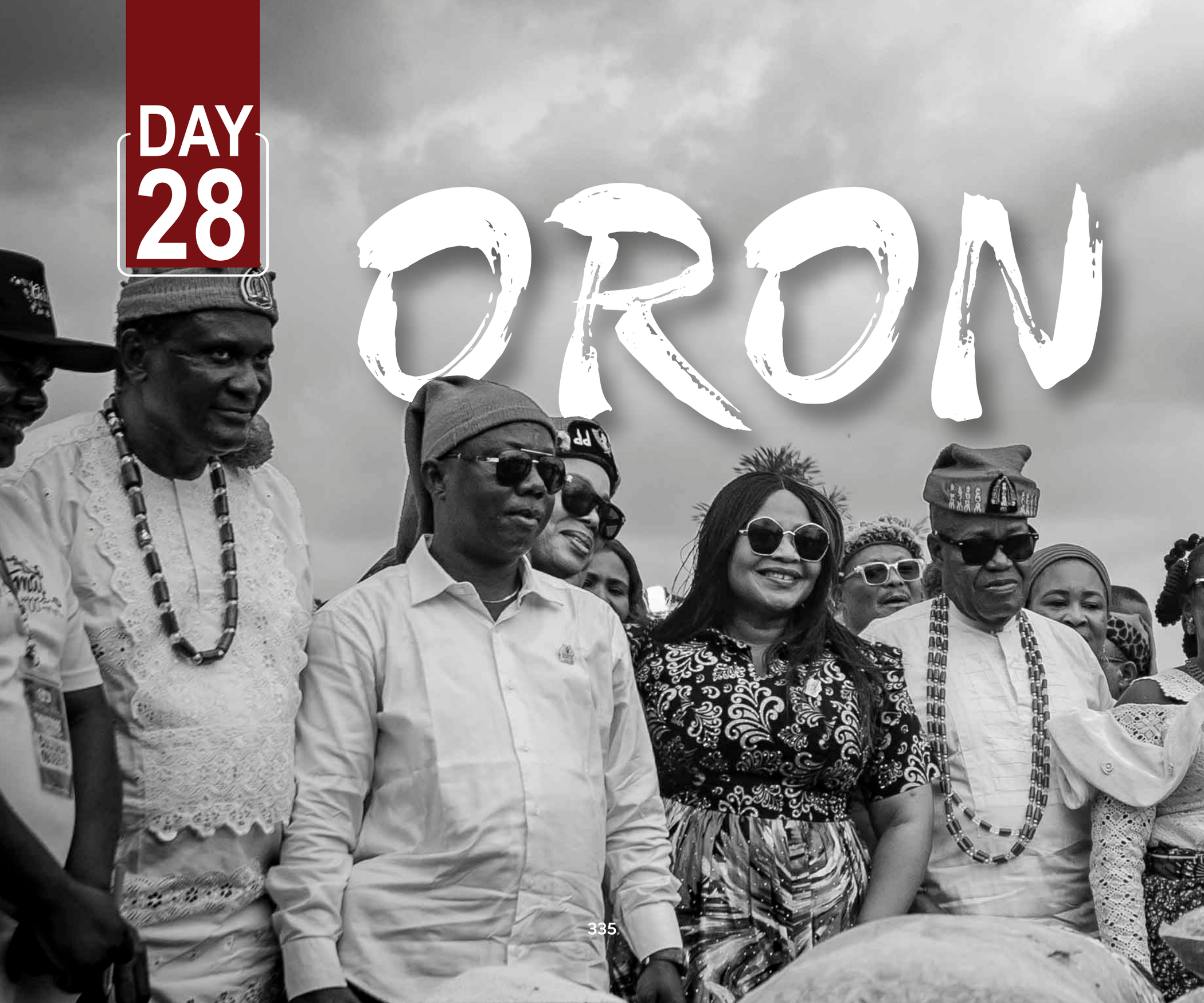
Bidak (Itam Mbong)


ORUK ANAM


Ukwak Eyop

DAY 28

ORON





ORON

In Brief

Oron Local Government Area is one of the historic, coastal, and culturally significant Local Government Areas in Akwa Ibom State, renowned for its rich maritime heritage, fishing traditions, and strategic economic importance. The Local Government Area is a major hub of trade, culture, and education in the coastal belt of the state and is widely regarded as the ancestral homeland of the Oron ethnic nationality.

Location
Oron Local Government Area is located in the southern coastal part of Akwa Ibom State. It shares boundaries with Udung Uko Local Government Area to the north, Mbo Local Government Area to the east, Okobo Local Government Area to the west, and the Atlantic Ocean to the south.

Landmass
Oron Local Government Area covers an estimated land area of about 129 square kilometres. The area is characterized by low-lying coastal plains, mangrove swamps, creeks, and riverine environments typical of the Niger Delta region.

Population
Based on recent population projections, Oron Local Government Area has an estimated population of about 150,000 people.

Headquarters
Oron Town

People and Culture
The people of Oron Local Government Area belong predominantly to the Oron ethnic group, one of the oldest ethnic nationalities in the Niger Delta. They have a strong maritime culture rooted in fishing, seafaring, trade, and craftsmanship.

The Oron language is widely spoken. Cultural practices such as traditional festivals, initiation rites, age-grade systems, masquerades, boat regattas, and respect for traditional institutions remain integral to social life.

Economy
The economy of Oron Local Government Area is largely driven by fishing and maritime-related activities. Fishing, fish processing, and fish trading are the primary occupations of the people. Other economic activities include canoe carving, boat building, salt processing, trading and small-scale commerce. The coastal location makes Oron an important contributor to seafood supply within and beyond the state.

Natural Resources
Oron Local Government Area is endowed with abundant aquatic resources, including fish, prawns, crabs, and other seafood. It also has extensive mangrove forests, timber resources, and waterways that support fishing, transportation, and trade.

Tourist Sites
Tourism in Oron is centered on its cultural and historical heritage. Notable attractions include the Oron Museum, which houses ancient monolithic artifacts, scenic waterfronts, traditional fishing settlements, cultural festivals, boat regattas, and the natural beauty of its coastal and riverine landscape.





Infrastructure
Infrastructure in Oron Local Government Area includes a network of roads linking riverine and upland communities, public and private primary and secondary schools, health facilities, markets, electricity supply in major areas, and local government administrative offices. Notable institutions in the area include the Maritime Academy of Nigeria, Oron, which plays a key role in maritime education and training in Nigeria, and the Oron Maritime Hub under construction.

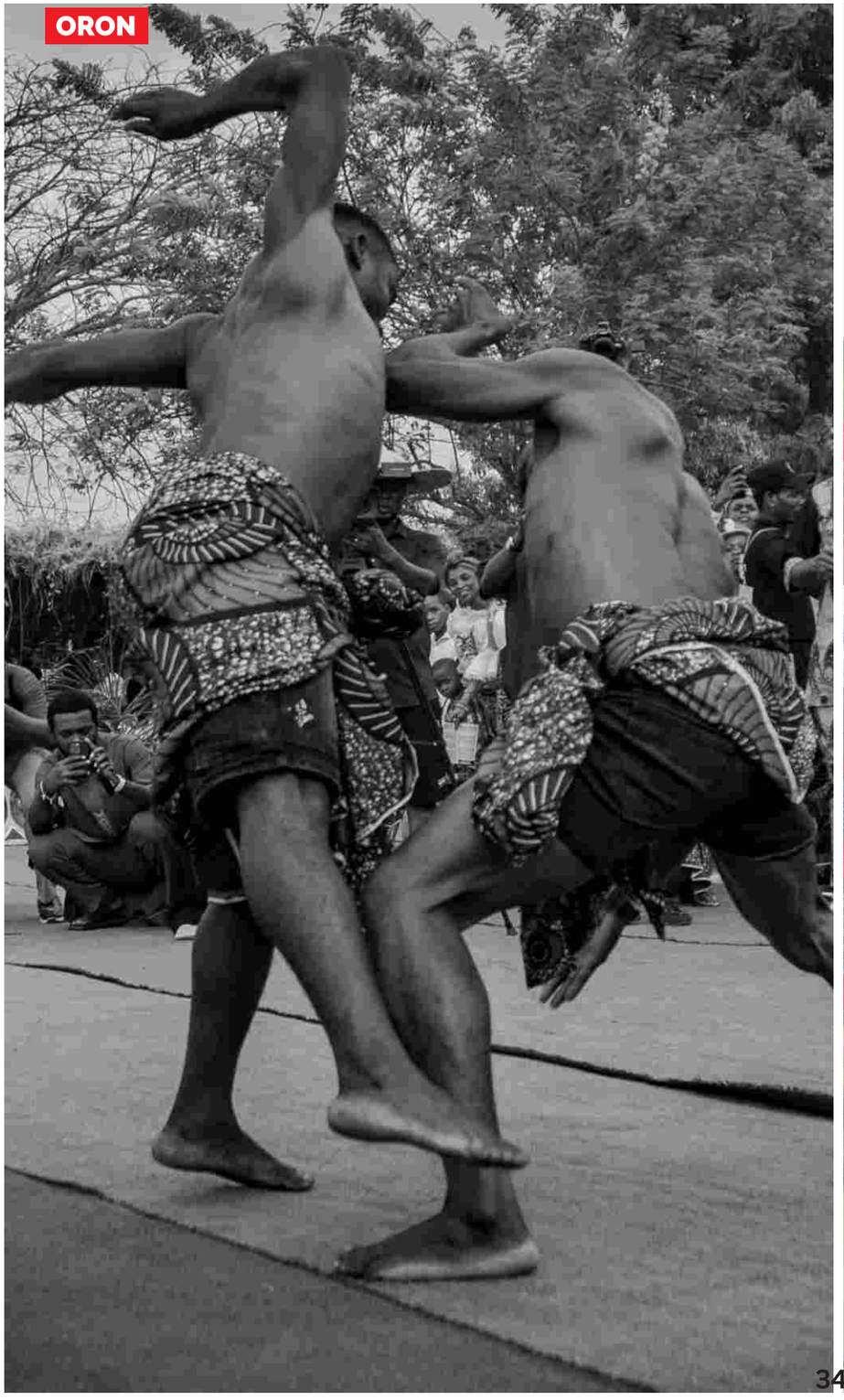
Sociopolitical Division
Clans
Oron Local Government Area is made up of 9 clans Afaha Ukwong, Ebughu, Afaha Ibighi, Effiat, Etta, Afaha Oki-uso, Afaha Idua (Iluhe) Afaha Okpo – Originally part of Afaha Ubuoho, which was split into two in 1959, and
Afaha Ubodung – The second division of the former Afaha Ubuoho clan.

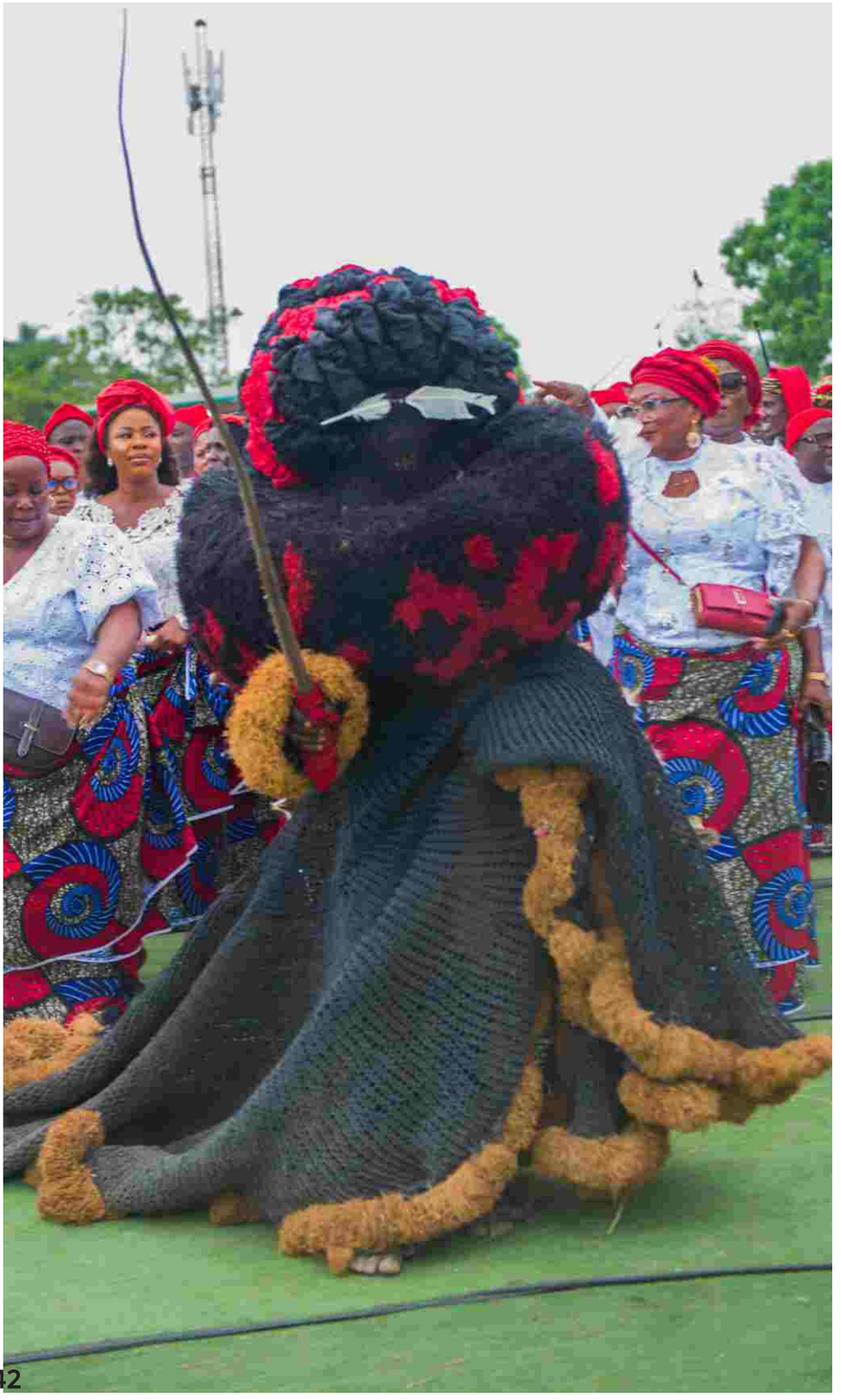
There are 4 "Afaha" (clans). These are:
Afaha Okpo(Afaha Okpo), Ibighi (Uya Oro), AfahaUkwong (Eyo Abasi), Afaha Ubodung(Eyotong).


HEALTH
AKWA IBOM INVESTMENT CORPORATION






ORON






ORON



DAY 29

NSIT UBIUM





In Brief

Usit Ubium Local Government Area is located within the Uyo Senatorial District (Akwa Ibom North-East). It has Ikot Edibon as the headquarters. The Nsit Ubium people speak Ibibio language and are known to be agrarian, and traders who ply their trade across the surrounding LGAs.

Its neighbouring LGAs include Eket, Nsit Ibom, Nsit Atai, Etinan, Ibesikpo Asutan and Okobo.

Land area: About 205.2 square kilometres according to the Local Governance Accountability Portal.
Population: The 2006 census recorded about 127,083 people. A 2022 projection puts the population at approximately 162,200.
Nsit Ubium is home to many great personalities in the state, including the incumbent State Governor, His Excellency, Pastor Imo Eno, PhD who hails from Ikot Ekpene Udo.

It has many tourist sites with Ibiakpan Water fall and Itiat Ubium in Obio Ubium Forest as some of the most prominent ones.

Nsit Ubium Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State has two main clans: Nsit and Ubium. Following the creation of Nsit Ibom LGA, Nsit Ubium retained these two clans.

Clans and groups
Nsit Clan
Ibiakpan, Obotim, Nduo Eduo, Afia Nsit

Ubium Clan
Ise, Afaha, Ukat.




NSIT UBIUM





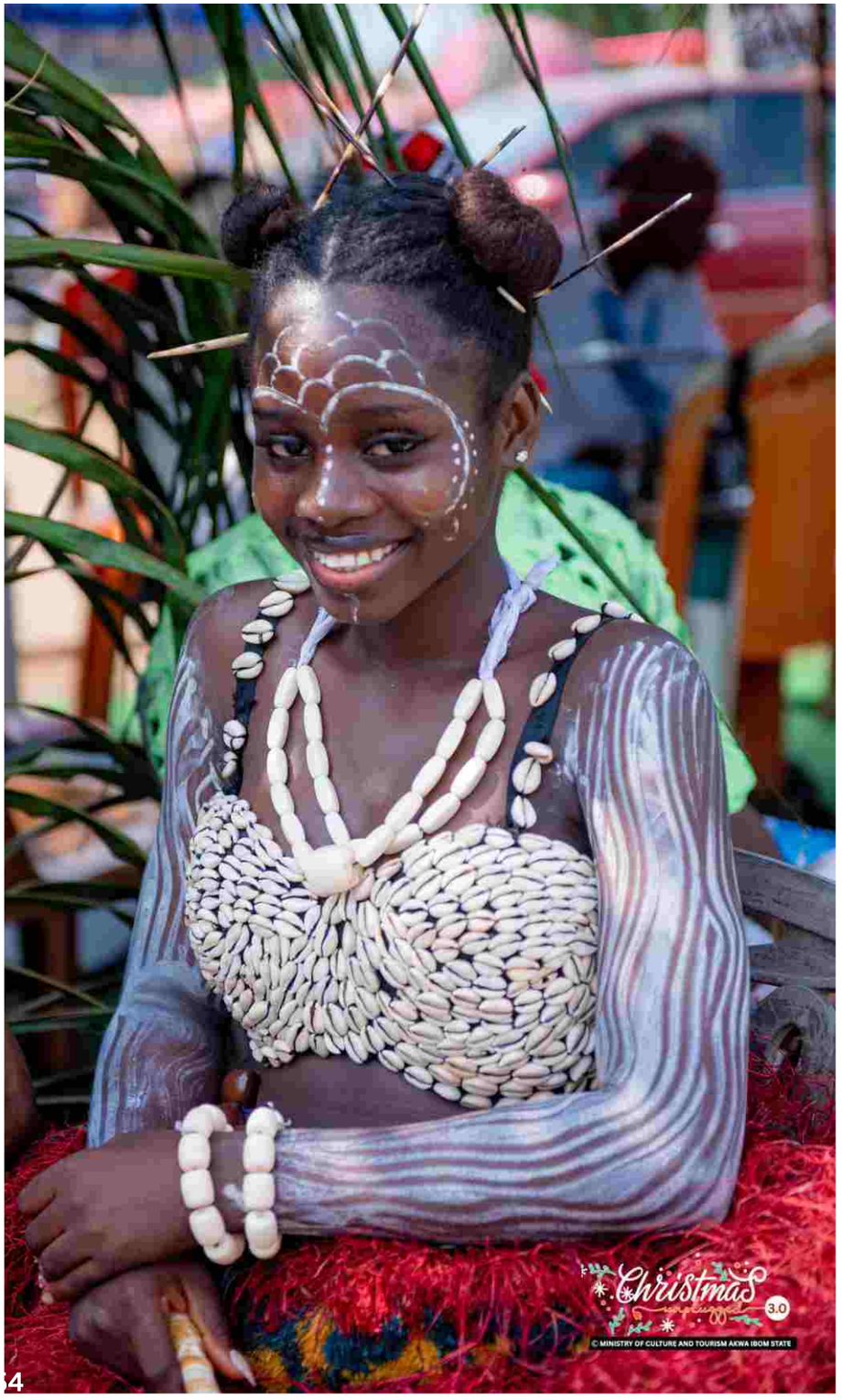
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DAY 30

URUAN





In Brief

Uruan Local Government Area is one of the ancient and culturally significant Local Government Areas in Akwa Ibom State. It is closely linked historically and culturally to Uyo, the state capital, and is regarded as one of the core Ibibio ancestral areas. Uruan is predominantly rural but strategically important due to its proximity to Uyo and its contribution to agriculture, culture, and traditional governance in the state.

Location

Uruan Local Government Area is located in the south-eastern axis of Uyo, within the central part of Akwa Ibom State.

It is bounded by Uyo Local Government Area to the north, Okobo Local Government Area to the east, Etinan Local Government Area to the west, and NsitAtai Local Government Area to the south.

Landmass

Uruan LGA covers an estimated land area of about 450 square kilometres, consisting mainly of lowland rainforest and gently undulating terrain suitable for farming and settlement.

Population

According to the 2006 national census and subsequent population projections, Uruan Local Government Area has an estimated population of about 150,000 people, largely residing in rural communities with a few semi-urban settlements influenced by Uyo's urban expansion.

Headquarters

The administrative headquarters of Uruan Local Government Area is Idu Uruan

People and Culture

The people of Uruan are predominantly Ibibio, and the Ibibio and Efik language is widely spoken across the area.

Uruan has a strong cultural heritage rooted in traditional institutions, village councils, and age-grade systems. Cultural expressions include traditional music, masquerades, folklore, rites of passage, and festivals. The people are known for their hospitality, strong family ties, and deep respect for ancestral customs—even when modern life tries to interfere.

Economy

Uruan's economy is largely agriculture-based, with the majority of residents engaged in fishing, cultivation of cassava, yam, maize, cocoyam, plantain, vegetables, and oil palm
Small-scale palm oil and palm kernel processing. Local trading through village markets due to its closeness to Uyo, some residents engage in civil service, transportation, and petty trading within the state capital while still maintaining farms back home.

Natural Resources

Uruan Local Government Area is endowed with:
Fertile agricultural land
Oil palm resources
Timber and other forest products
Clay and sand deposits for local construction
These resources support subsistence farming and small-scale commercial activities.

Tourist Sites

Uruan offers traditional festivals and cultural ceremonies like the Iboku Uruan festival celebrated every December, the iconic beach front and golf course at the Ibom Hotels and Golf Resort.
Scenic rural landscapes and farmlands
Historic village squares and ancestral shrines
Festive periods often attract indigenes living in Uyoand other cities, temporarily boosting local economic activity and traffic on village roads.

Infrastructure

Infrastructure in Uruan includes
Ibom Icon Hotel and Golf Resort
Stateand local government roads linking communities to Uyo and neighboring Local Government Areas.
Primary and secondary schools
Health centres and maternity clinics
Local markets and administrative offices
The LGA benefits significantly from its proximity to Uyo, especially in access to healthcare, education, and commercial services.

















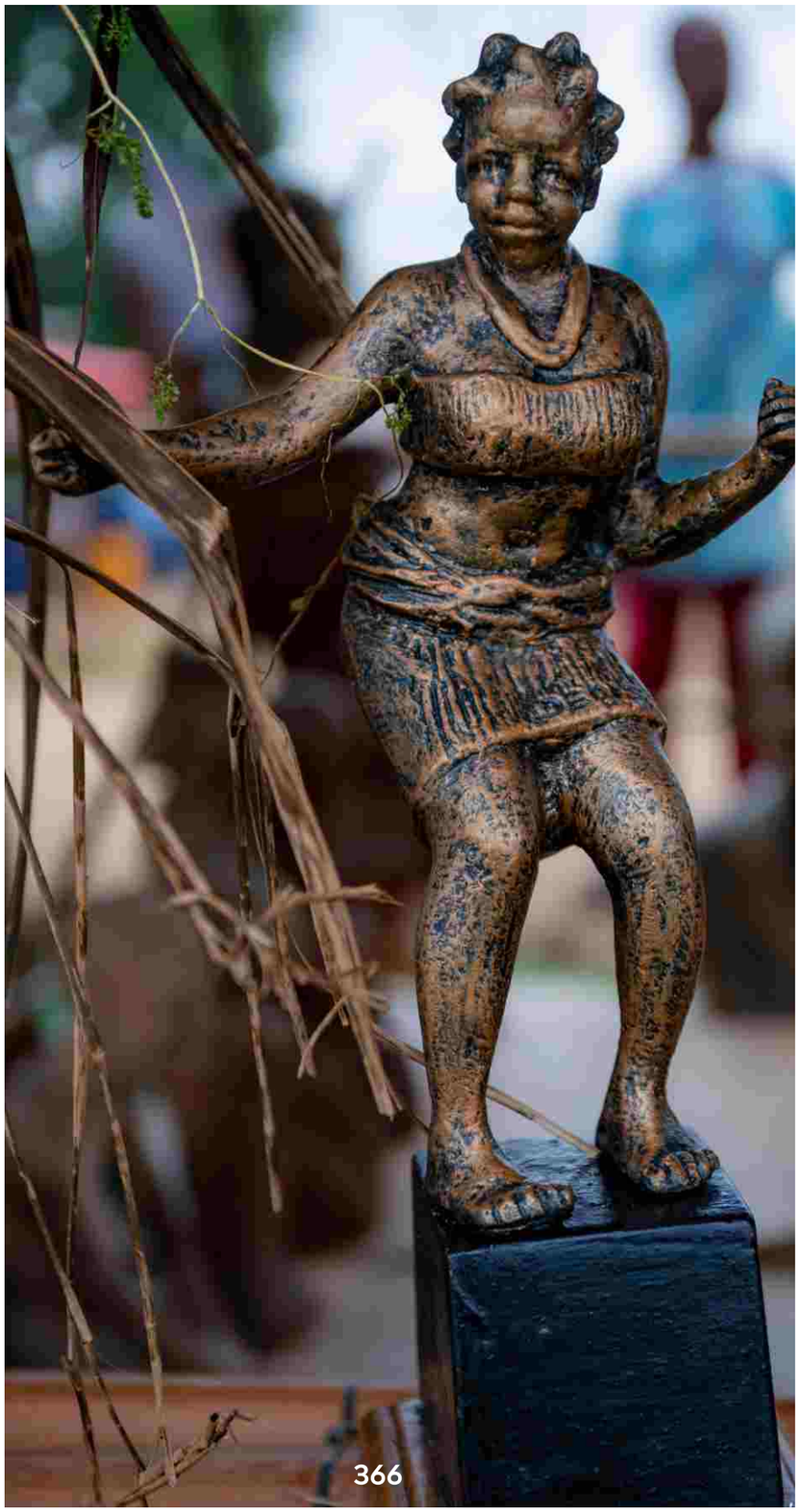
URUAN




URUAN







DAY 31

URUE-OFFONG



ORUKO



In Brief

Urue Offong/Oruko Local Government Area is one of the coastal and culturally rich Local Government Areas of Akwa Ibom State. It is predominantly inhabited by the Oron ethnic group and is noted for its strong maritime culture, riverine environment, and historical ties to trade and fishing. The area plays an important role in the coastal economy of the state and forms part of the wider Oron Nation.

Location

Urue Offong/Oruko LGA is located in the southern part of Akwa Ibom State, within the coastal belt of the Niger Delta region. It is bounded by Mbo Local Government Area to the south, Oron Local Government Area to the east, Udung Uko Local Government Area to the west, and Esit Eket Local Government Area to the north.

Landmass

The Local Government Area covers an estimated landmass of about 380 square kilometres, much of which consists of riverine terrain, mangrove swamps, creeks, and coastal lowlands.

Population

Based on the 2006 national census and subsequent population projections, Urue Offong/Oruko has an estimated population of around 95,000 people, spread across rural and semi-urban coastal communities.

Headquarters

The administrative headquarters of the Local Government Area is Urue Offong.

People and Culture

The people of Urue Offong/Oruko are predominantly Oron, and the Oro language is widely spoken.

The culture of the people is deeply connected to the sea, with traditions centered on fishing, boat making, folklore, music, masquerades, and age-grade systems. Community life is highly valued, and cultural ceremonies, festivals, and traditional institutions remain influential.

Economy

The economy of Urue Offong/Oruko is largely marine and subsistence-based, driven by fishing and seafood processing, which serve as the primary occupation,

small-scale farming, producing cassava, plantain, cocoyam, vegetables, and oil palm. Local trading and river transportation, linking communities within the area and neighboring coastal areas, petty trading, canoe building, net weaving, and palm produce trading also contribute to household incomes. In some communities, economic activities slow down during heavy rainfall seasons—an additional "feature" of coastal life.

Natural Resources

Urue Offong/Oruko LGA is endowed with several natural resources, such as abundant marine and freshwater fish, mangrove forests and timber resources, fertile alluvial soil suitable for root crops, clay and sand deposits used for local construction.

These resources support both livelihoods and small-scale economic activities.

Tourist and Cultural Sites

Notable attractions within the area include riverine waterfronts and creeks, offering scenic coastal views, traditional fishing settlements that reflect the maritime lifestyle of the Oron people, cultural festivals and masquerade displays, especially during festive periods.

History

Urue Offong/Oruko Local Government Area was created in 1996, following the restructuring of local governments in Akwa Ibom State.

Historically, the area formed part of the larger Oron Division, which was known for early contact with European traders, missionaries, and colonial administrators. The people were actively involved in coastal trade and played a role in the spread of Christianity and Western education in the Oron region.



Infrastructure
Infrastructure in the Urue Offong/Oruko includes state and local government roads connecting communities, jetties and waterways used for transportation, primary and secondary schools, health centres and cottage hospitals, local markets and administrative offices.

Socio-Political Division
Urue Offong/Oruko LGA is made up of several towns and villages, commonly grouped under traditional clans such as Afaha Ubodung, AfahaUkwong, Afaha Ibighi, Afaha Okuiso, AfahaEbughu, Afaha Okpo

Wards
Urue Offong/Oruko Local Government Area is divided into the following political wards
Urue Offong I, Urue Offong II, Urue Offong III, Urue Offong IV, Urue Offong V
Oruko I, Oruko II, Oruko III, Oruko IV, Oruko V.

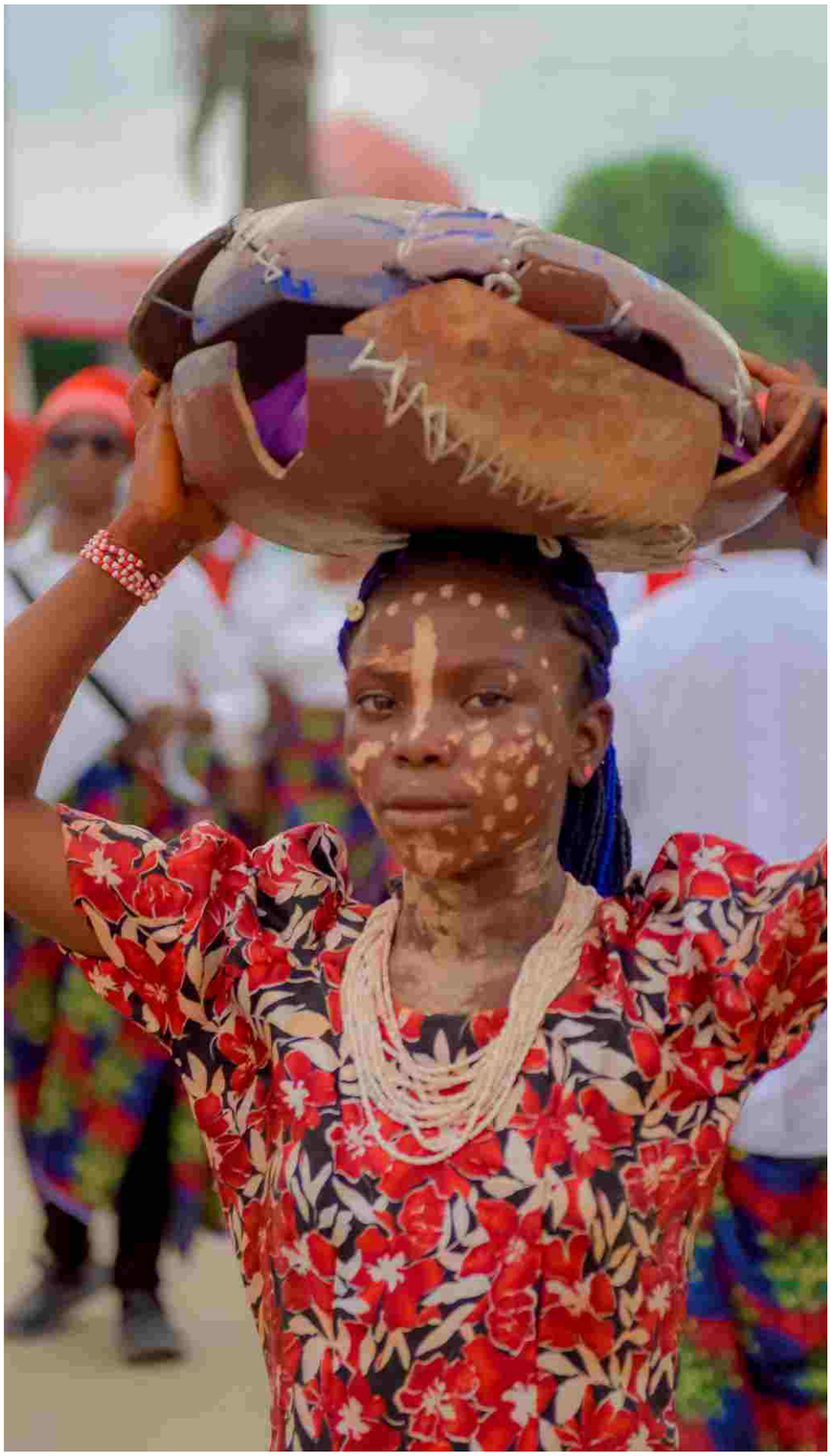





URUE-OFFONG
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URUE-OFFONG
.374







DAY 32





In Brief

Uyo Local Government Area is the administrative, political, and economic capital of Akwa Ibom State. It is one of the most urbanized Local Government Areas in the state and serves as the seat of government, hosting major state institutions, ministries, and commercial centres. Uyo is widely regarded as the nerve centre of Akwa Ibom State, playing a central role in governance, education, commerce, and culture.

Location

Uyo Local Government Area is located in the central part of Akwa Ibom State. Its central position makes it easily accessible from virtually all parts of the state. It is bounded by Uruan Local Government Area to the south, Itu Local Government Area to the north, Ibiono Ibom Local Government Area to the east, and Abak and Ibesikpo Asutan Local Government Areas to the west.

Landmass

Uyo Local Government Area covers an estimated area of about 120 square kilometres, making it one of the smallest Local Government Areas by land size in Akwa Ibom State, but one of the most densely populated and developed.

Population

Based on projections from the 2006 national census and subsequent growth trends, Uyo Local Government Area is estimated to have a population of over 500,000 people, with a largely urban population and rapidly expanding suburban settlements.

Headquarters

Uyo town

People and Culture

The people of Uyo are predominantly Ibibio, and the Ibibio language is widely spoken alongside English, which is commonly used in government, business, and educational institutions. Despite its urban character, Uyo has retained strong traditional values expressed through family systems, traditional councils, folklore, music, and cultural festivals. Ceremonial events such as traditional marriages, title-taking, and masquerade displays still hold cultural relevance—even if they now sometimes share space with traffic lights and fast-food joints.

Economy

Uyo's economy is largely service-driven, supported by public administration and civil service, commerce and retail trade, hospitality and tourism, education and professional services. Major markets, shopping complexes, banks, hotels, transport services, and entertainment hubs contribute significantly to economic activities while farming exists on a limited scale in peripheral communities, Uyo is best described as a commercial and administrative economy.

Natural Resources

Uyo's natural resources are modest and largely land-based. Limited arable land on the outskirts. Clay and sand deposits used for construction.
Human capital (arguably its most valuable resource)
Urban development has, however, reduced extensive exploitation of natural resources.

Tourist Sites

Uyo hosts several notable attractions, including:
Ibom Plaza, a major commercial and recreational hub,
Ibom Tropicana Entertainment Centre.
Godswill Akpabio International Stadium, one of the finest stadiums in Africa, hotels, parks, lounges, and cultural centres
Uyo has emerged as a conference, sports, and leisure city.

Infrastructure

Uyo boasts some of the best infrastructure in the state, including:
well-developed road networks linking it to all parts of Akwa Ibom.
Government House, StateSecretariat,
public and private hospitals,primary, secondary, and tertiary institutions like the University of Uyo, hotels, markets, motor parks, and administrative offices.






UYO
UYO
EDIDEM

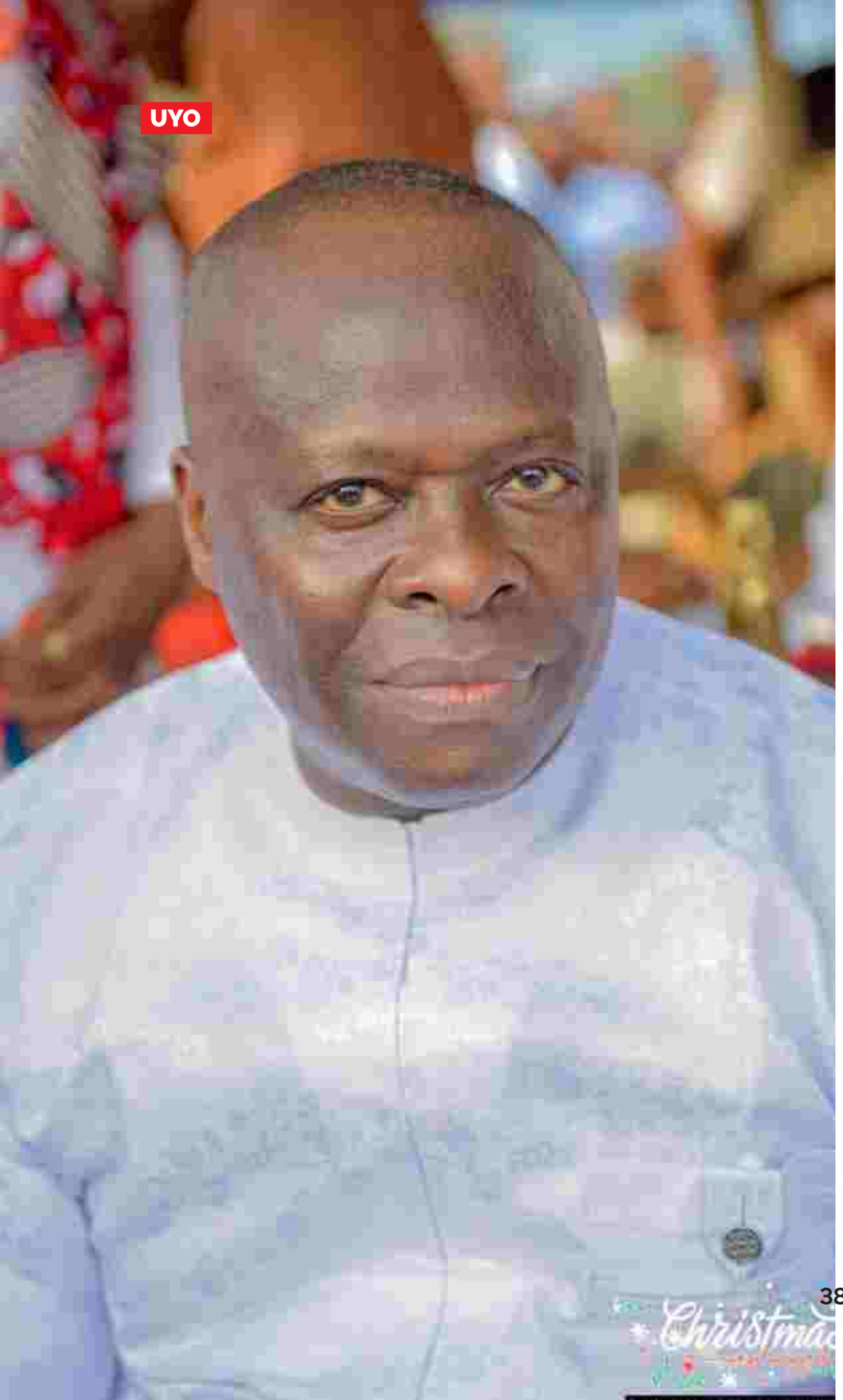





GE SQUA


UYO
UYO




UYO

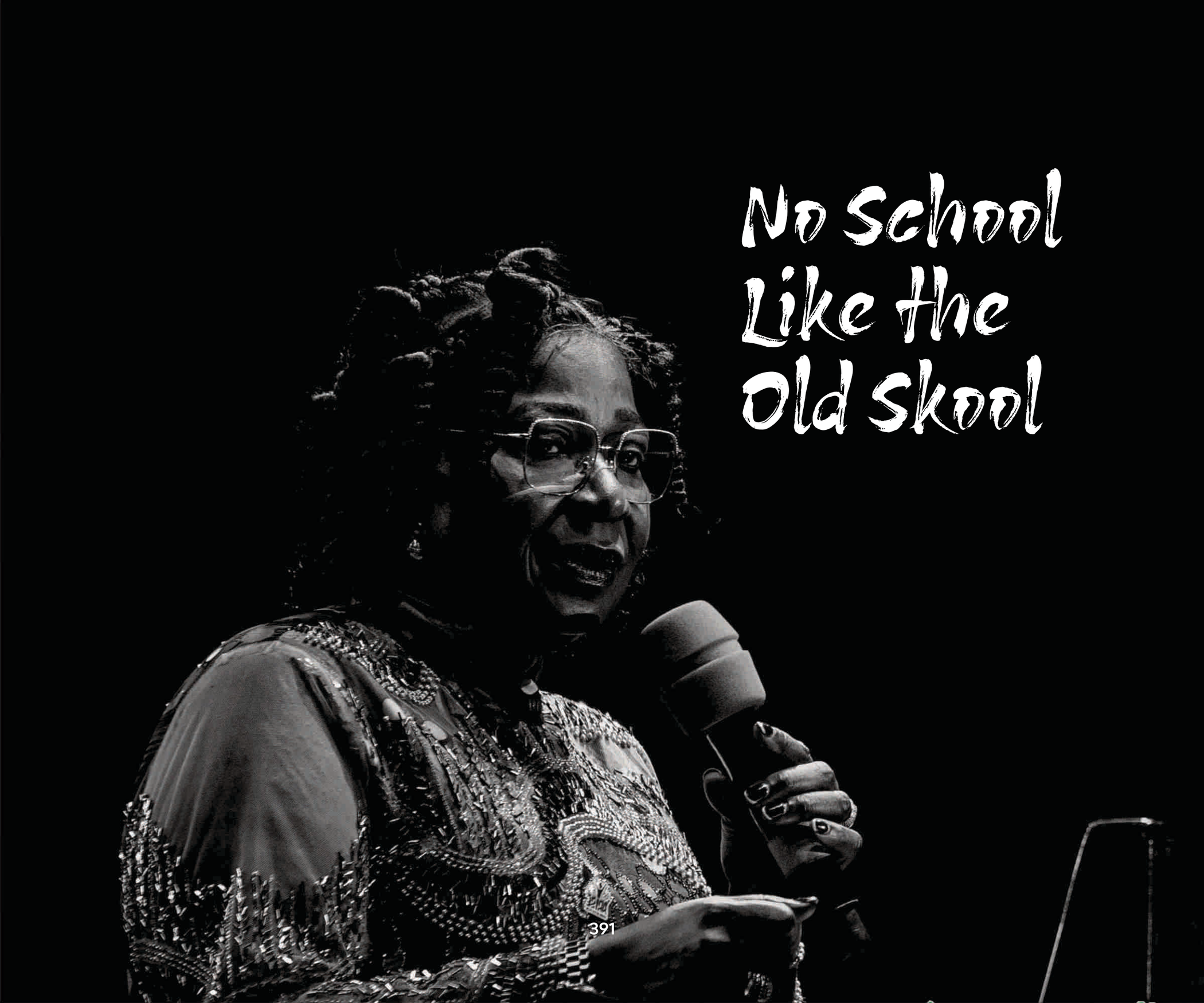

UYO



UYO




UYO



No School Like the Old Skool

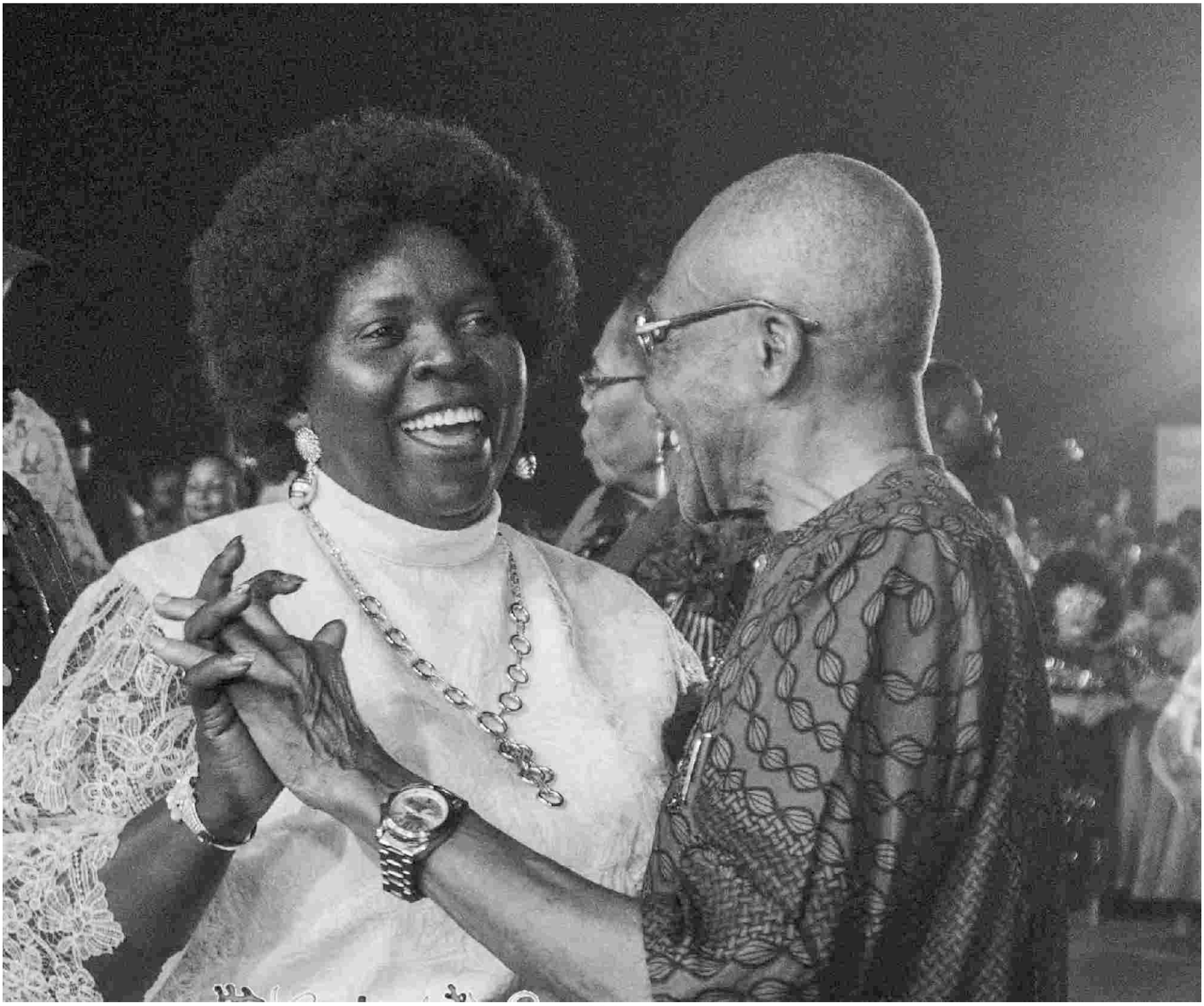
It was a different kind of schooling experience at the Old Skool Night at the Christmas Unplugged 3.0. In place of chalks, tables, black boards, canes, teachers and students, you had popular old tunes, iconic dance steps, vintage looks, reminiscences, nostalgia, memories of the parties of the 1950s to the 1990s. The highlight of the night was the star performance by the Old reliable 70 years old Jeffrey Daniels of the popular American music group, Sharlama who thrilled the audience to old tunes from the past to an electrifying conquest.





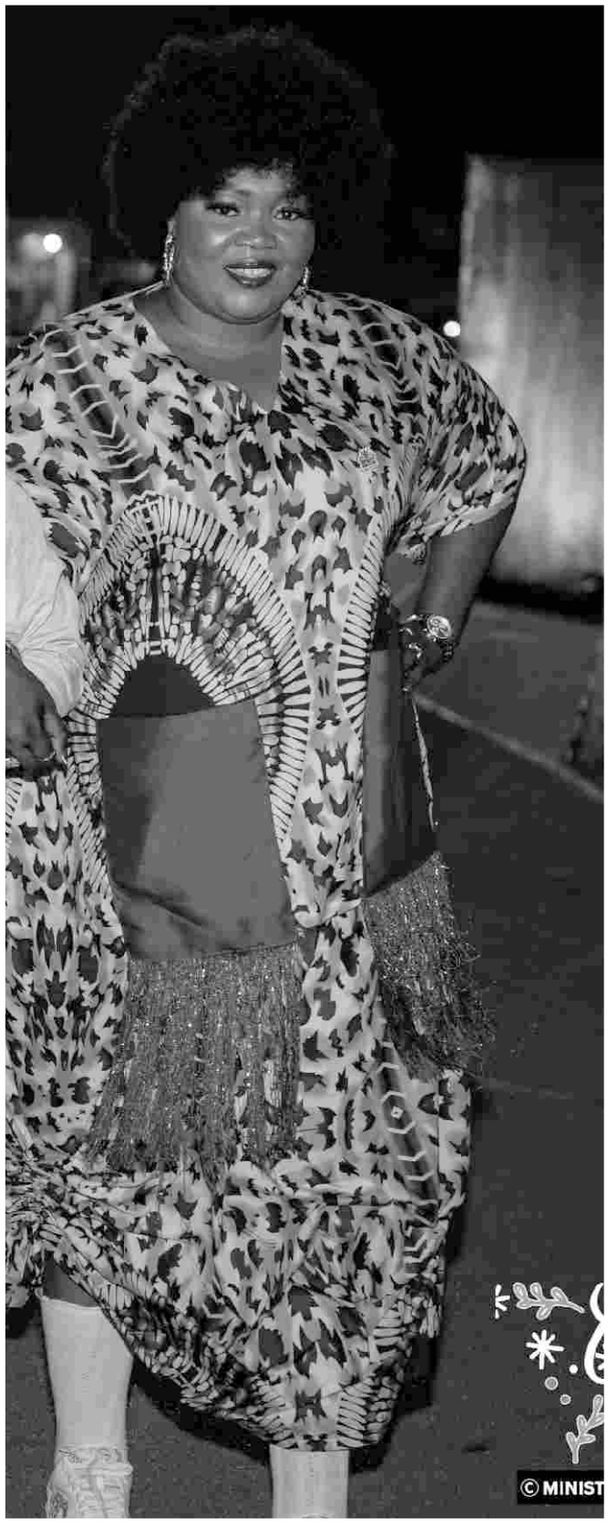

Old Skool
Night
PRISONER
OF CONSCIENCE
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Night of the First Eleven

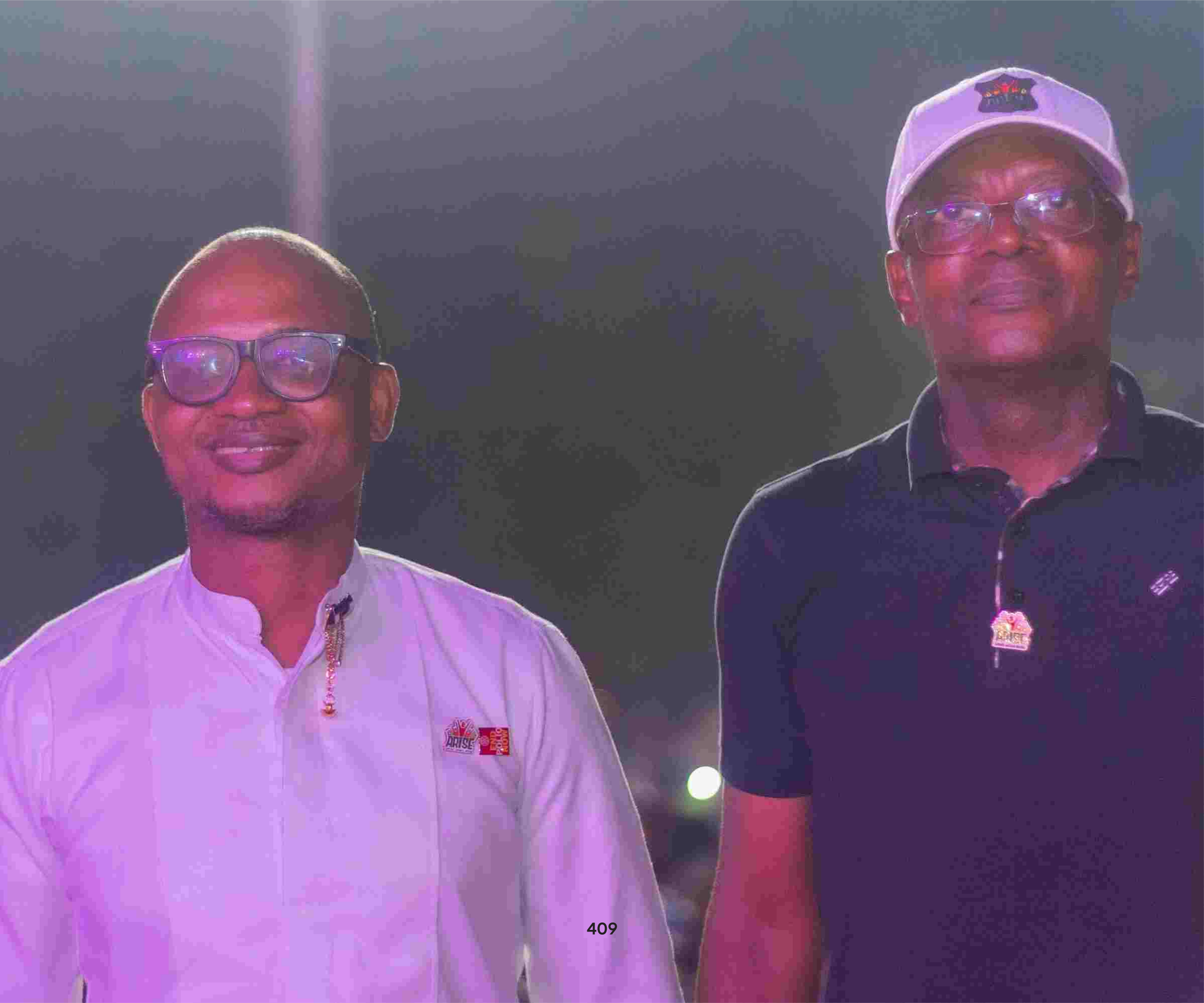
They are the Governor's first eleven. Their job is to interpret and implement the Governor's policies, run his programmes and execute his projects. They are called Commissioners and Special Advisers and belong to a select group called the State Executive Council. To unwind after the hard, tedious job they do, a day was set aside for them at Christmas Unplugged. Together, with their spouses, in a relaxed, no-stress atmosphere, they danced, sang, cracked jokes, bonded, networked and shared experiences. It was indeed, a night of all play and no work.








Christmas







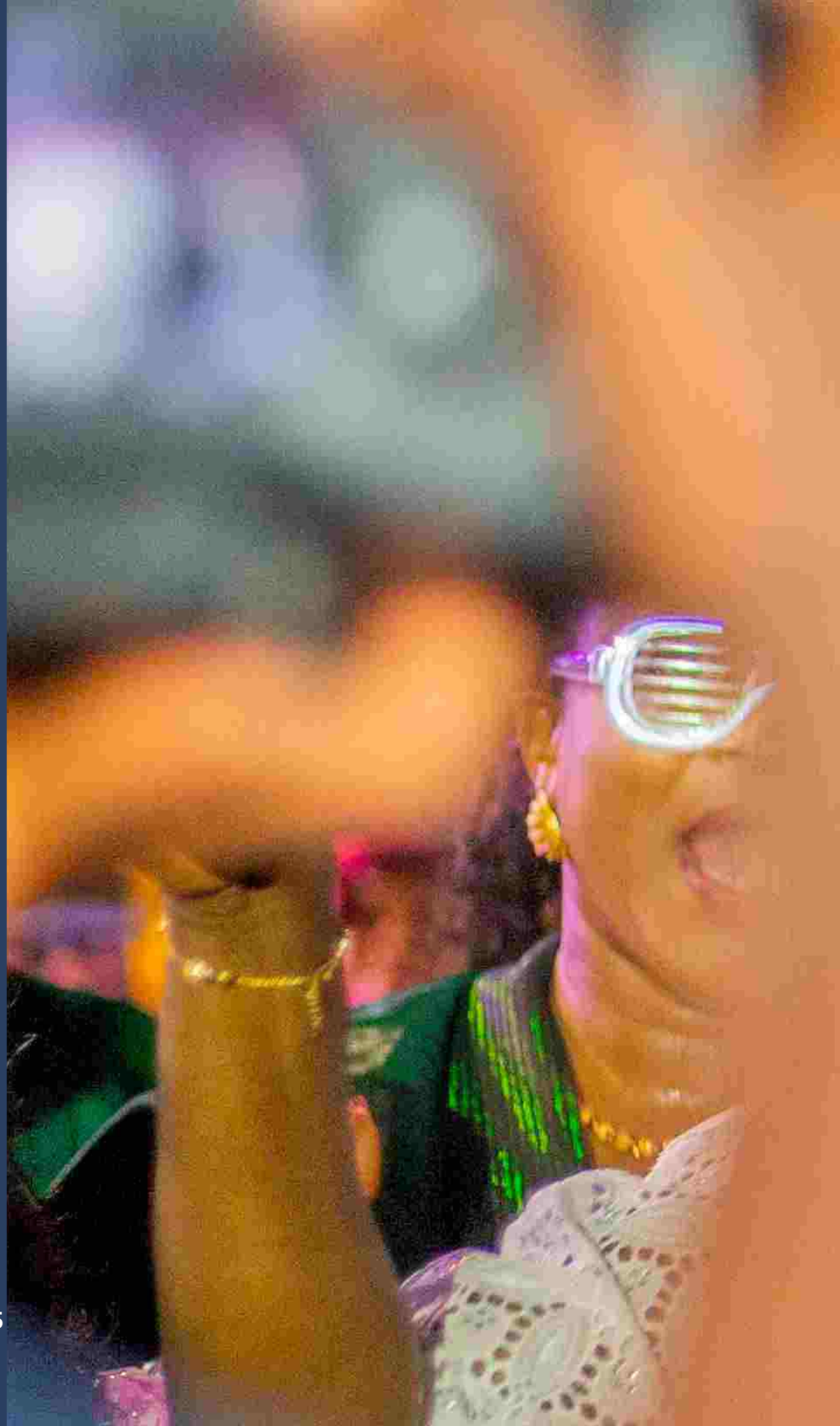





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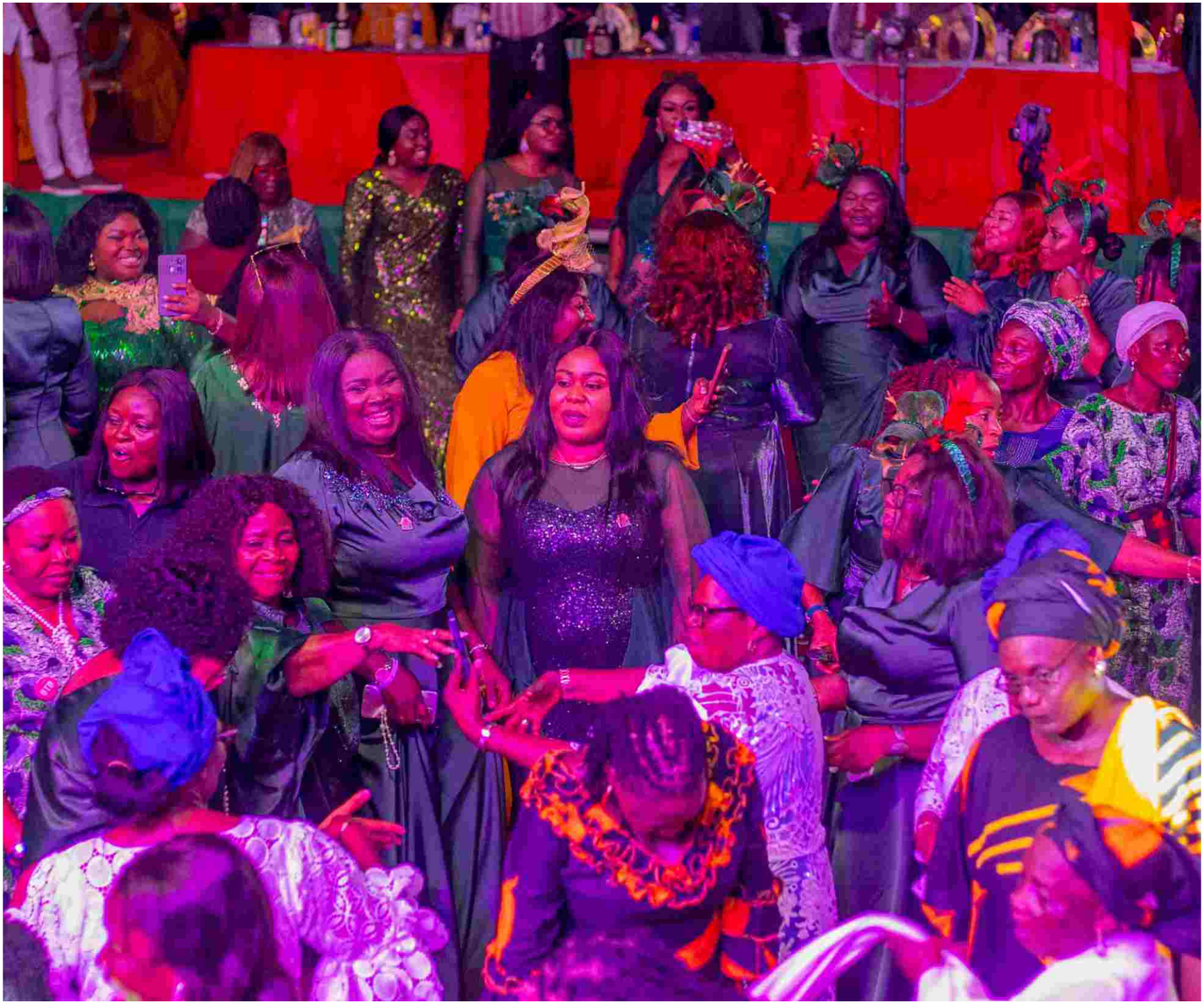
A Day for Amazons

Women's DayAll features known only to women were on show at the Women's Day of Christmas Unplugged 3.0. A little count: stylish hairstyles, well manicured nails, unique clothing styles, trending hair gears, and complementary adornments like earrings, necklaces, anklets and bracelets. Then the subtle smiles, swinging swags, fluid motions, exciting lyrics, flowing steps, extensive curves and integrating contacts brought confidence, smoothness and connectivity to the night. At the end, the power of sisterhood shoned forth as Deputy Governor, Senator Akon Eyakenyi, Coordinator, Office of the First Lady, Noble Lady Helen Obareki and the Hon. Commissioner for Women Affairs, Hon. Inibehe Silas and all the women at the party left with a surge of motivation, inspiring new friendship, shared laughter, renewed physical, psychological energy, and pleasant, positive, smooth, satisfied after glows.












NIGERIA
ARISE
Christmas
unplugged
3.0





KIDDIE DAY

Children whose backgrounds cut across class, ethnicity and educational levels gathered for a fun filled Day laced with games, dance, music, and songs at Christmas Unplugged 3.0. Hosted by the Coordinator of the Office of the First Lady, Lady Helen Obareki, the inclusive party brought together children from the 31 Local Government Areas across the state, children of security personnel, children living in government care homes, and children from non-indigenous communities.


AKWA IBOM STATE HOTELS
& TOURISM BOARD
ARISE
#ILOVEAKWAIBOM


SONIC
COLORS
ULTIMATE








Christmas
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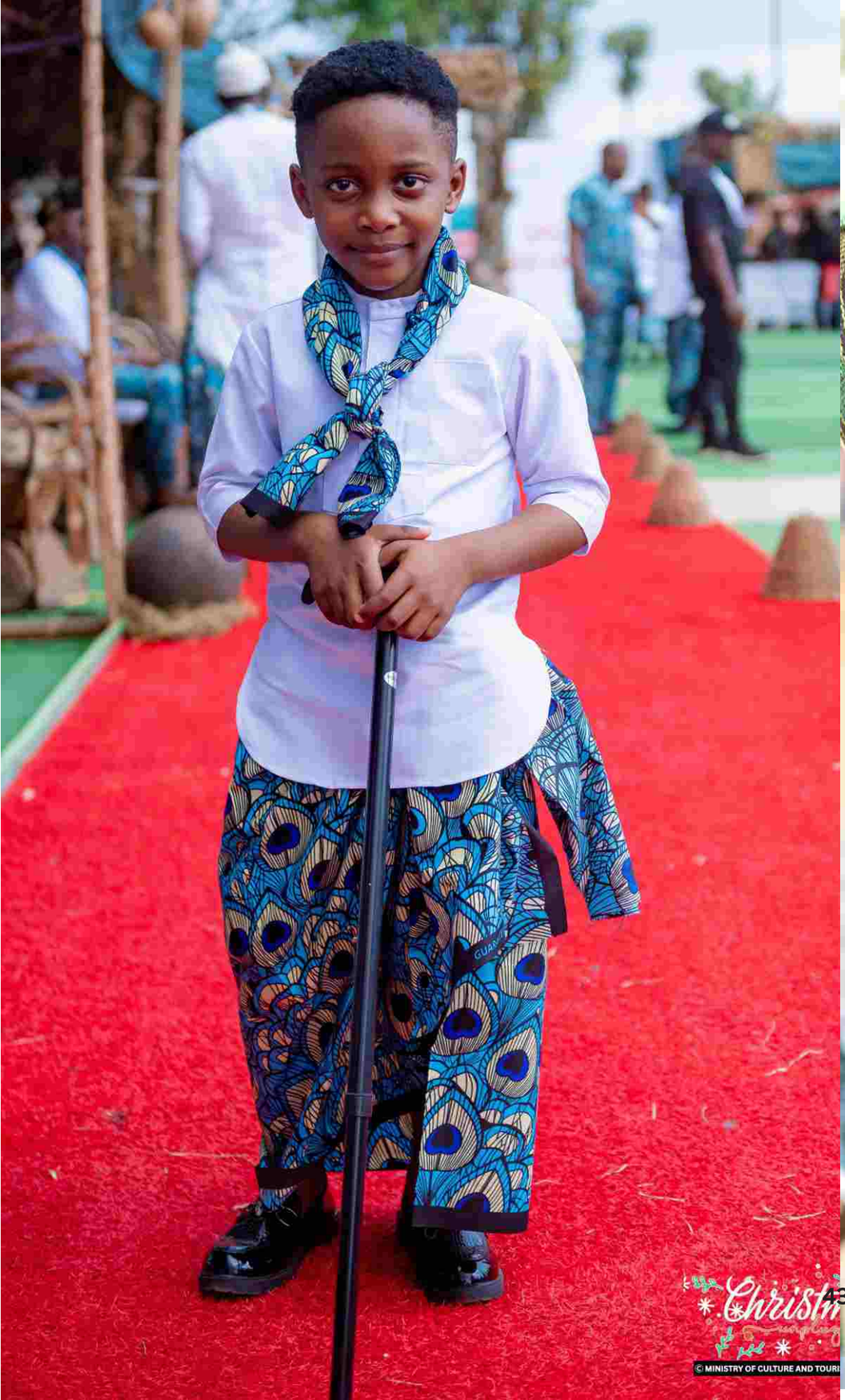




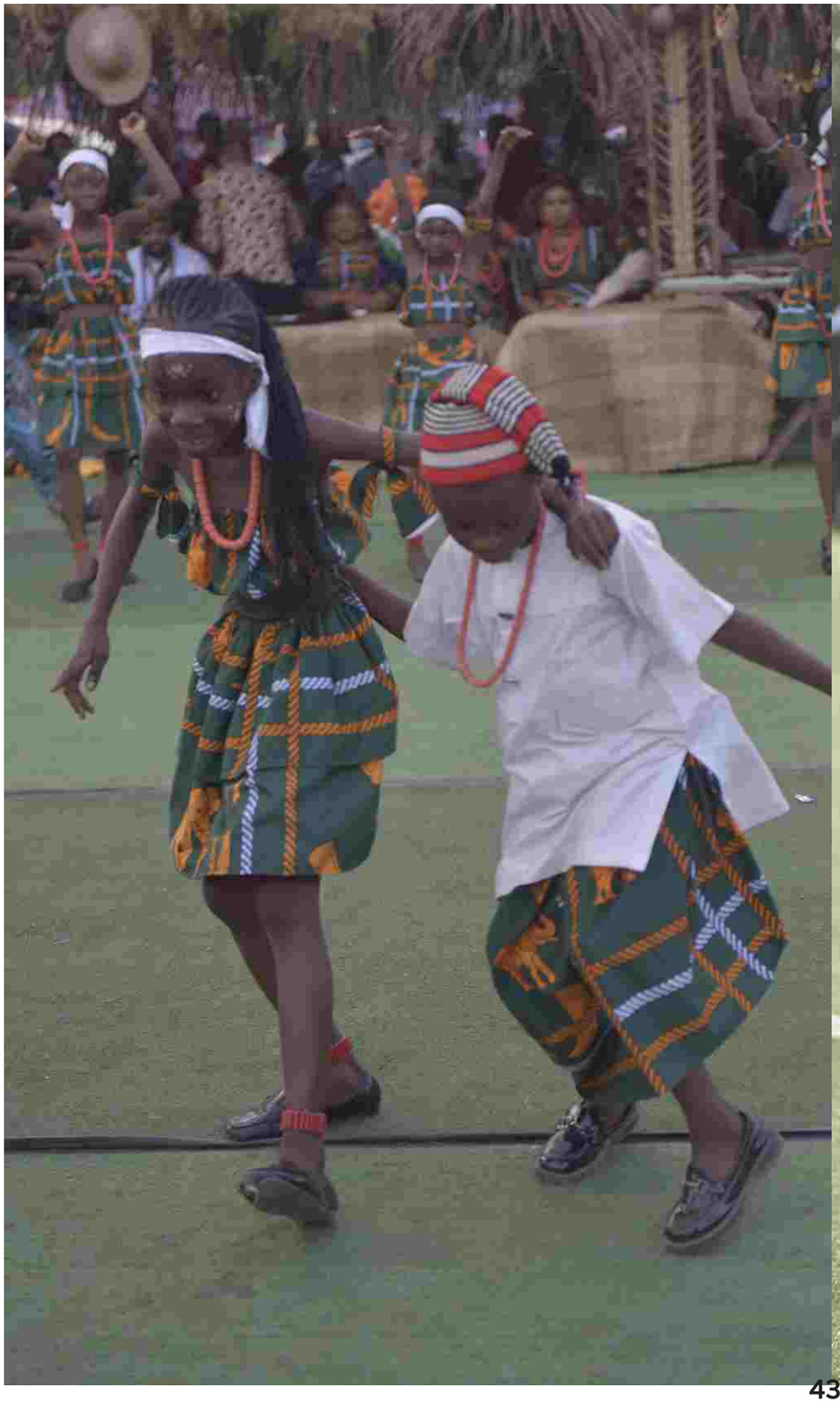







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ESIT EKET


GUESS

Celebrating Nigeria's Unity, Diversity

Non-indigenous residents of Akwa Ibom, including members of the Igbo, Yoruba, other Niger Deltans and Arewa (Northern Nigerian) communities came together in a vibrant, joyful celebration of unity in diversity. The day provided them a platform to share their cultures and be embraced as part of the wider Akwa Ibom community. In a warm, inclusive, festive atmosphere, bright and colourful vibes blended cultural pride with genuine holiday cheer. Smiles, laughter, and lively interactions between different ethnic groups set a tone of mutual respect and camaraderie with people from various backgrounds mingling with indigenes, exchanging greetings and sharing experiences. The day was marked by vibrant cultural performances by different troupes representing non-indigenous communities.







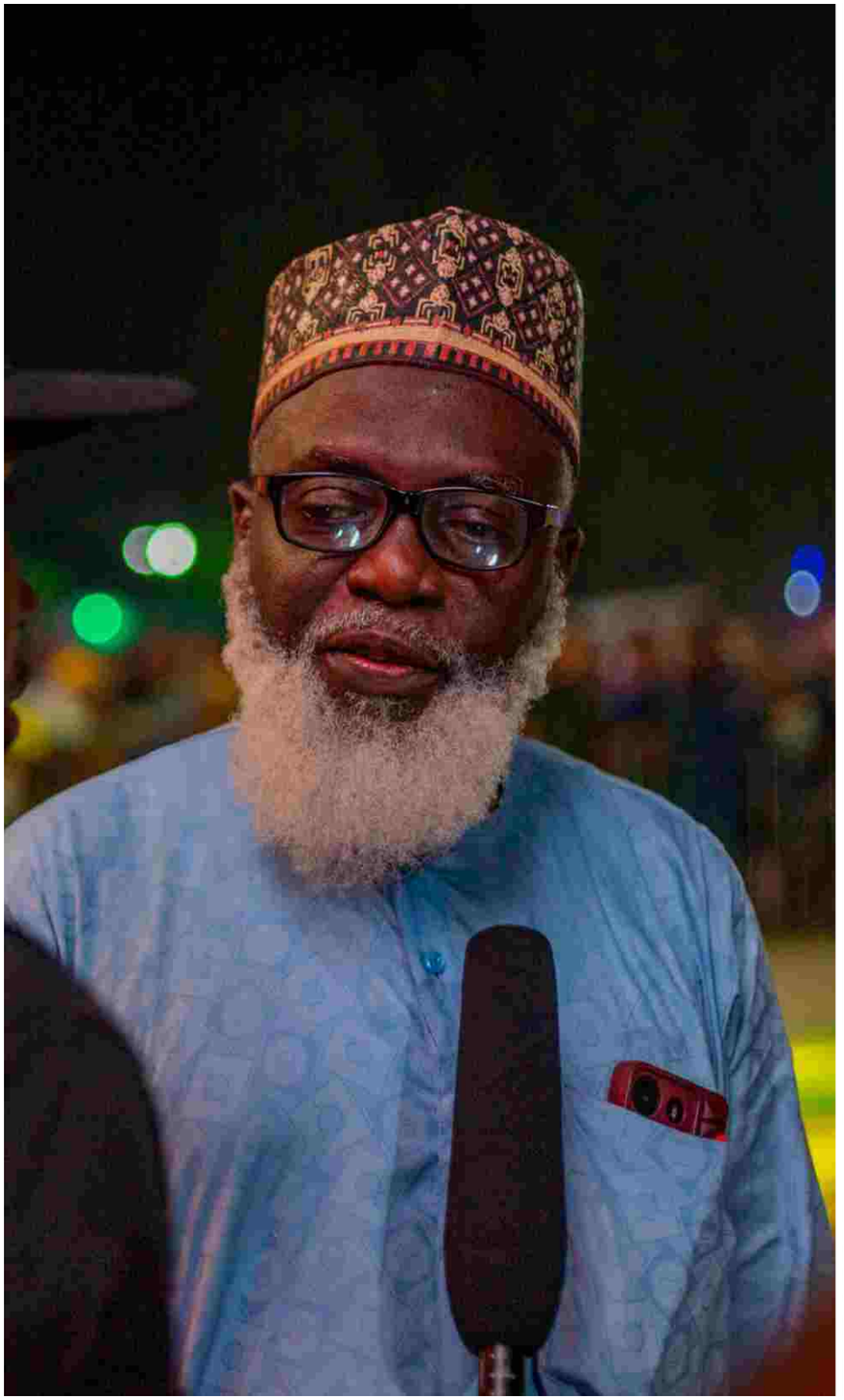

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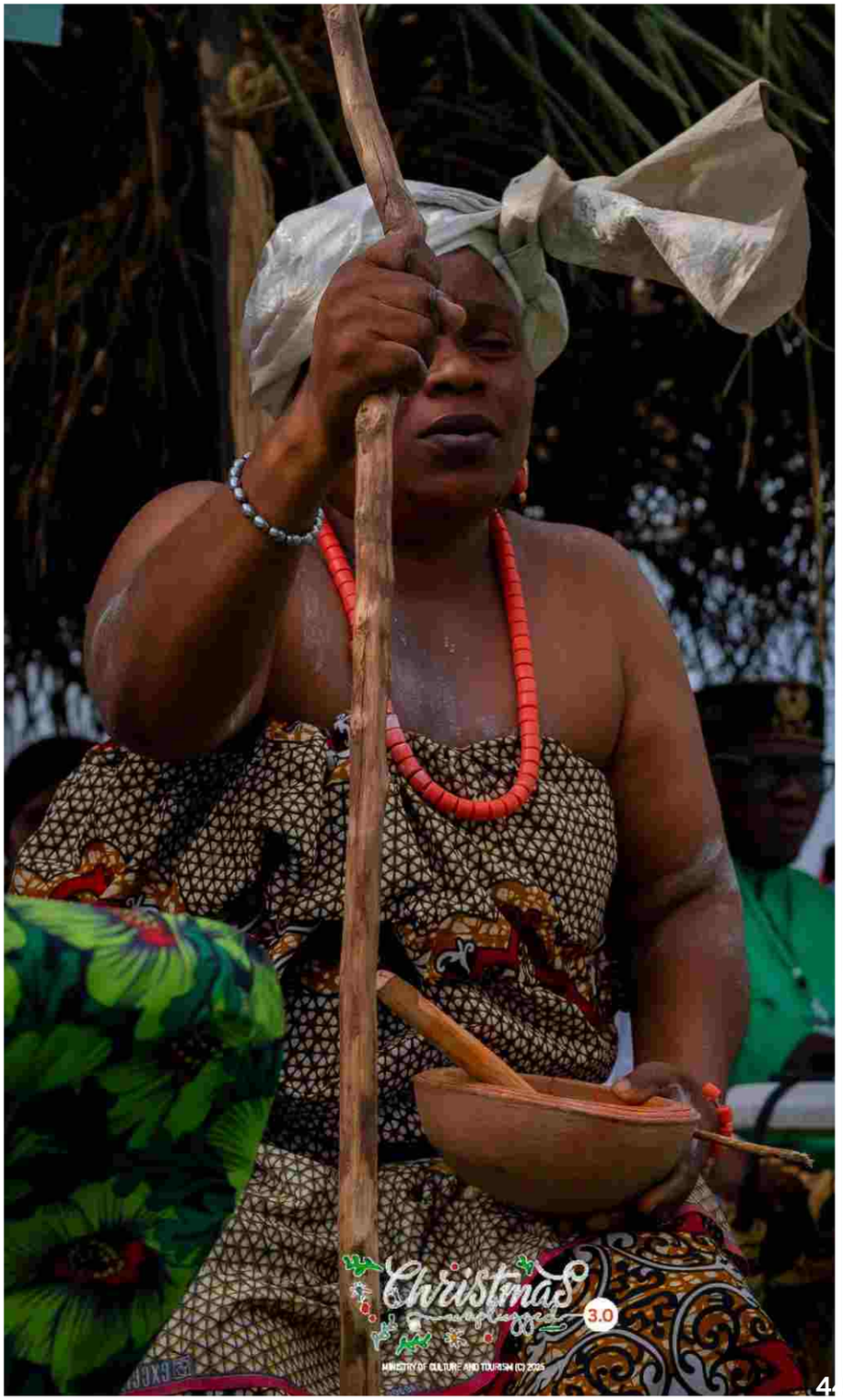


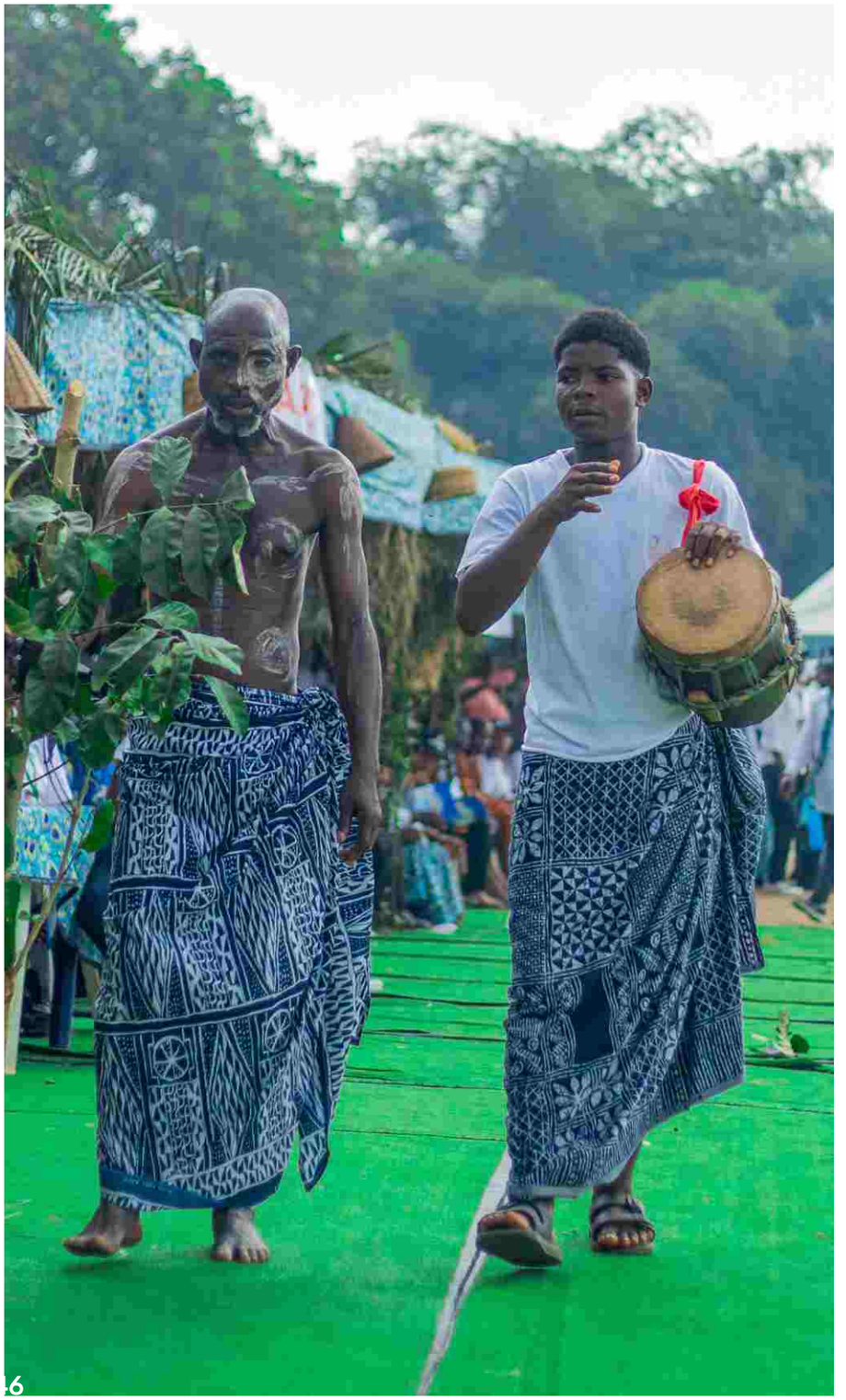


Local Theatre

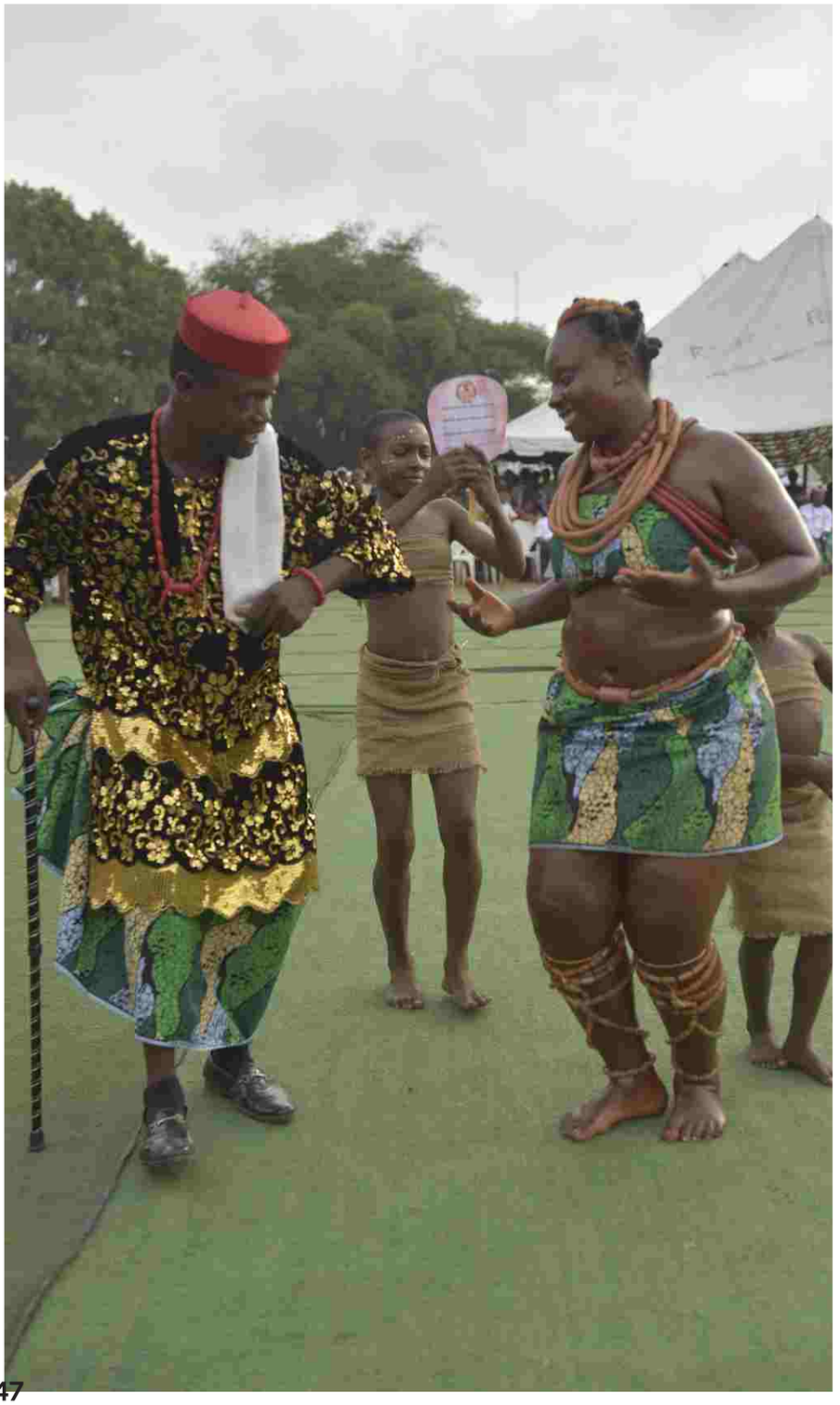





Christmas
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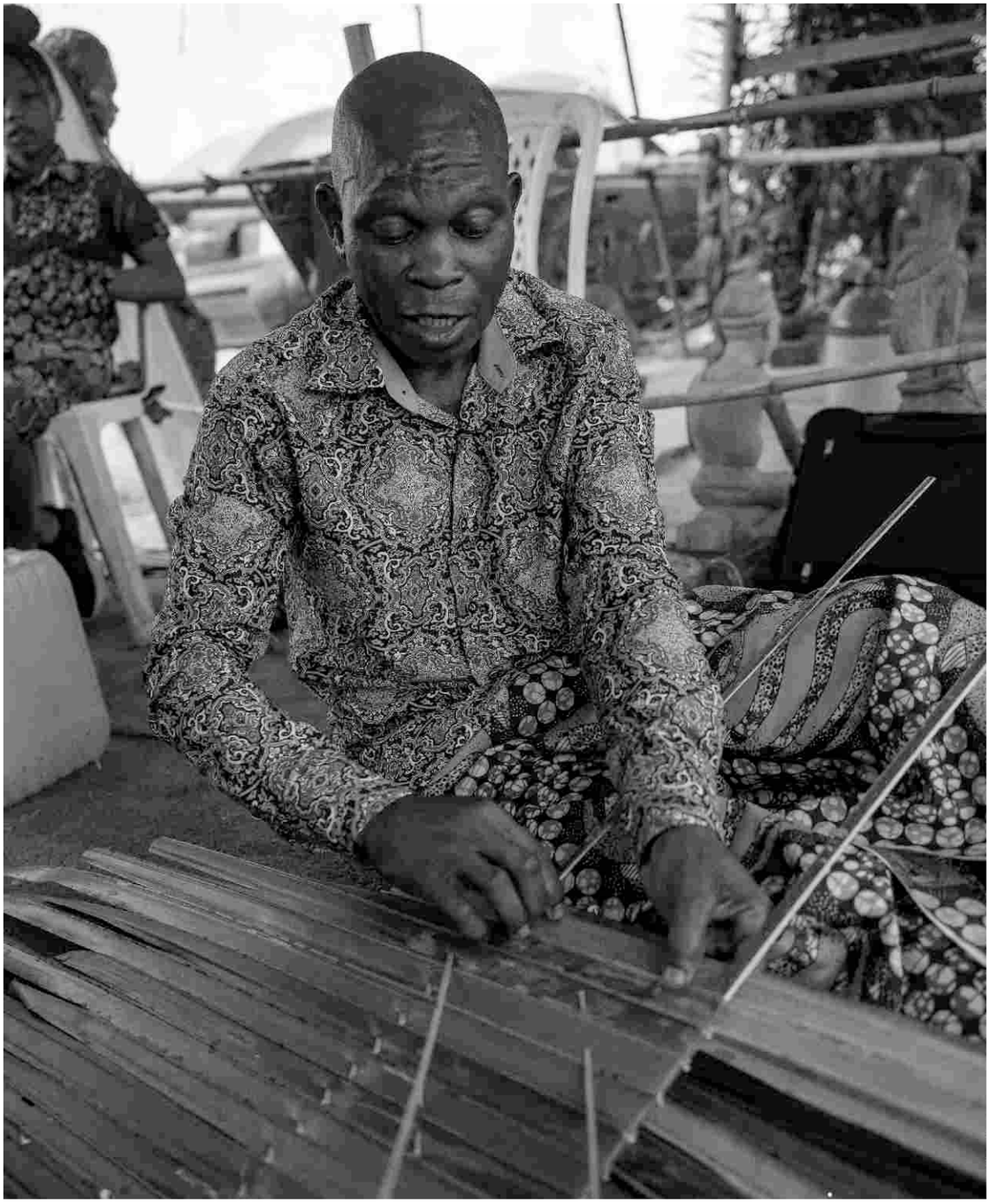




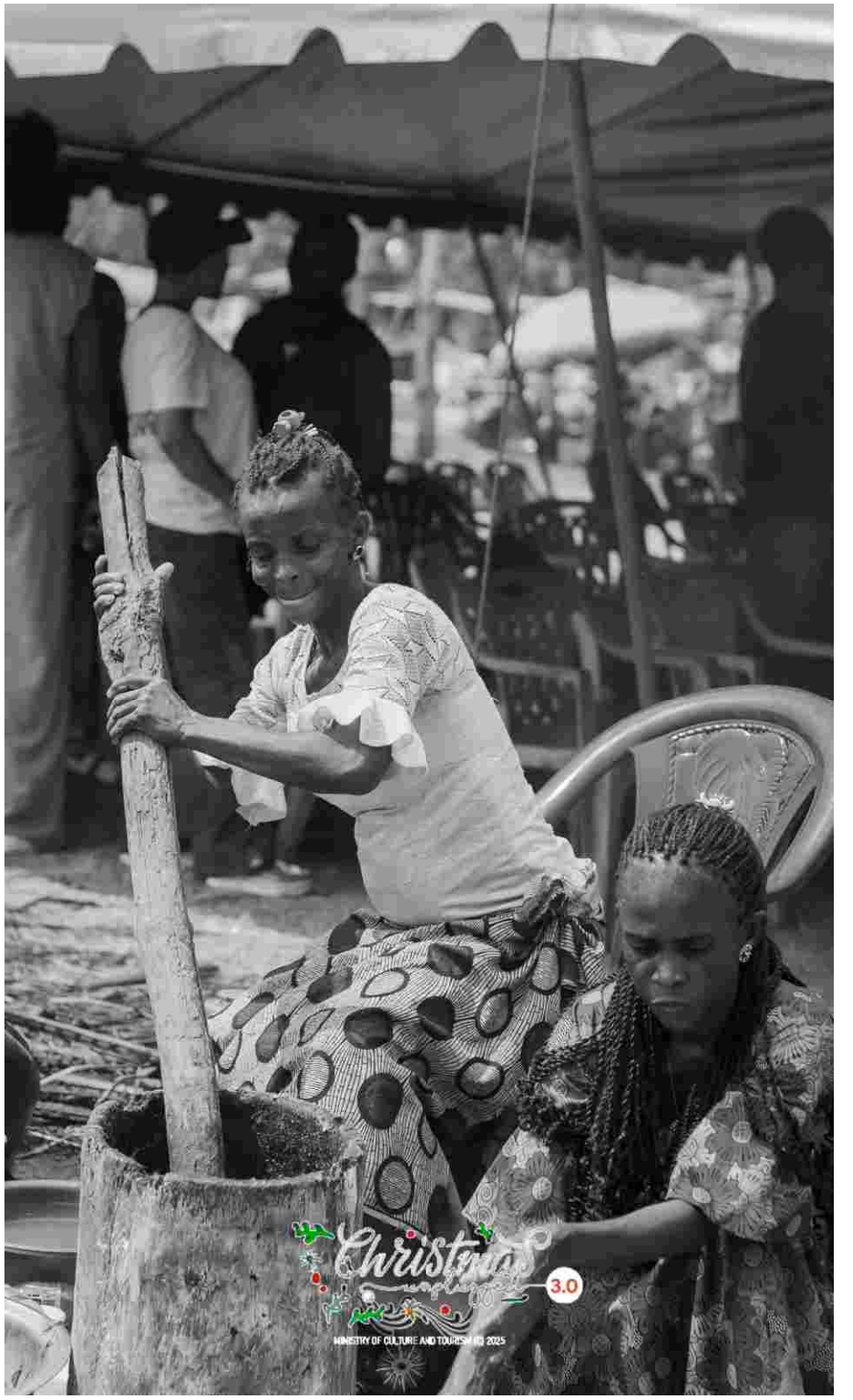


Local Industry





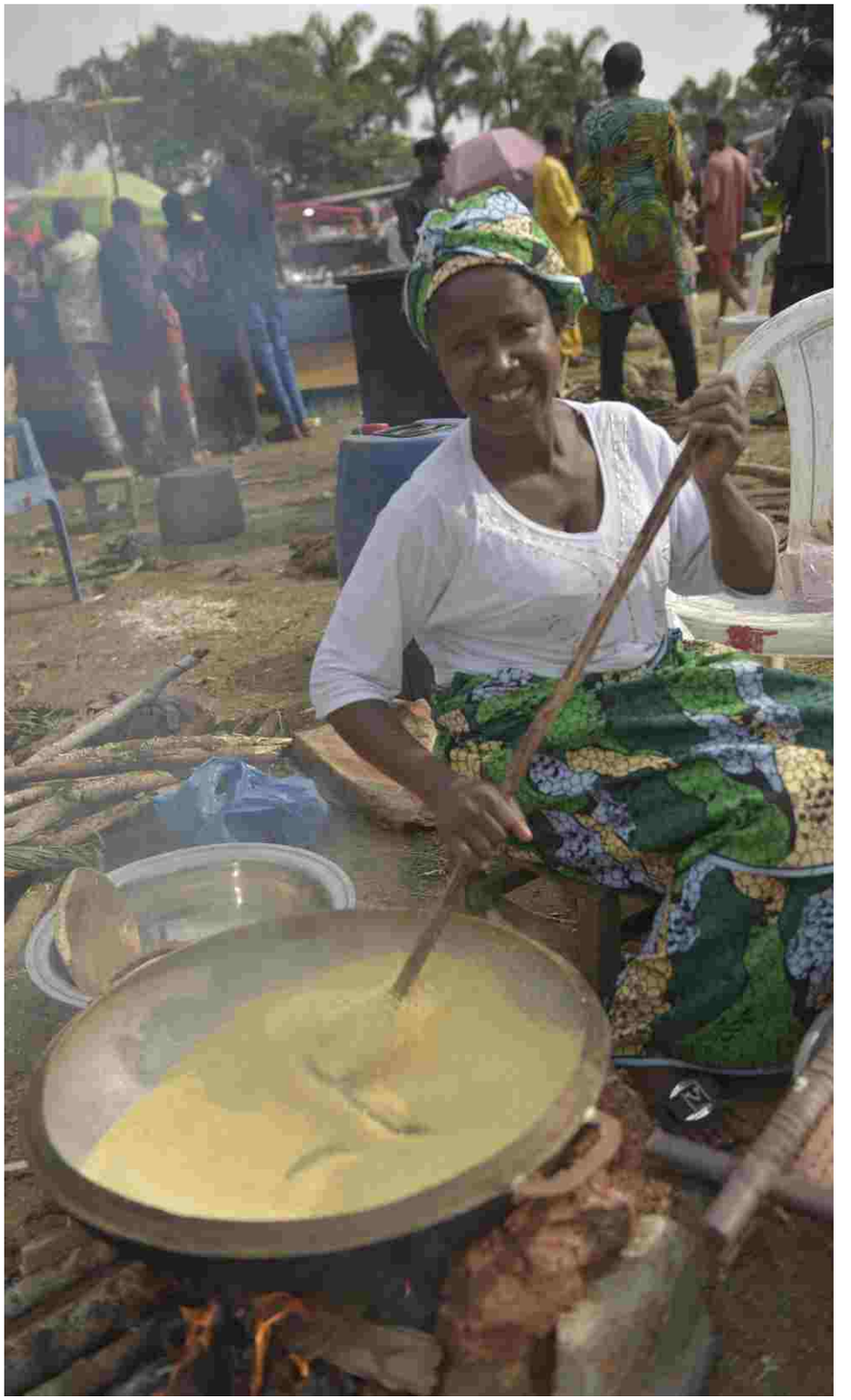

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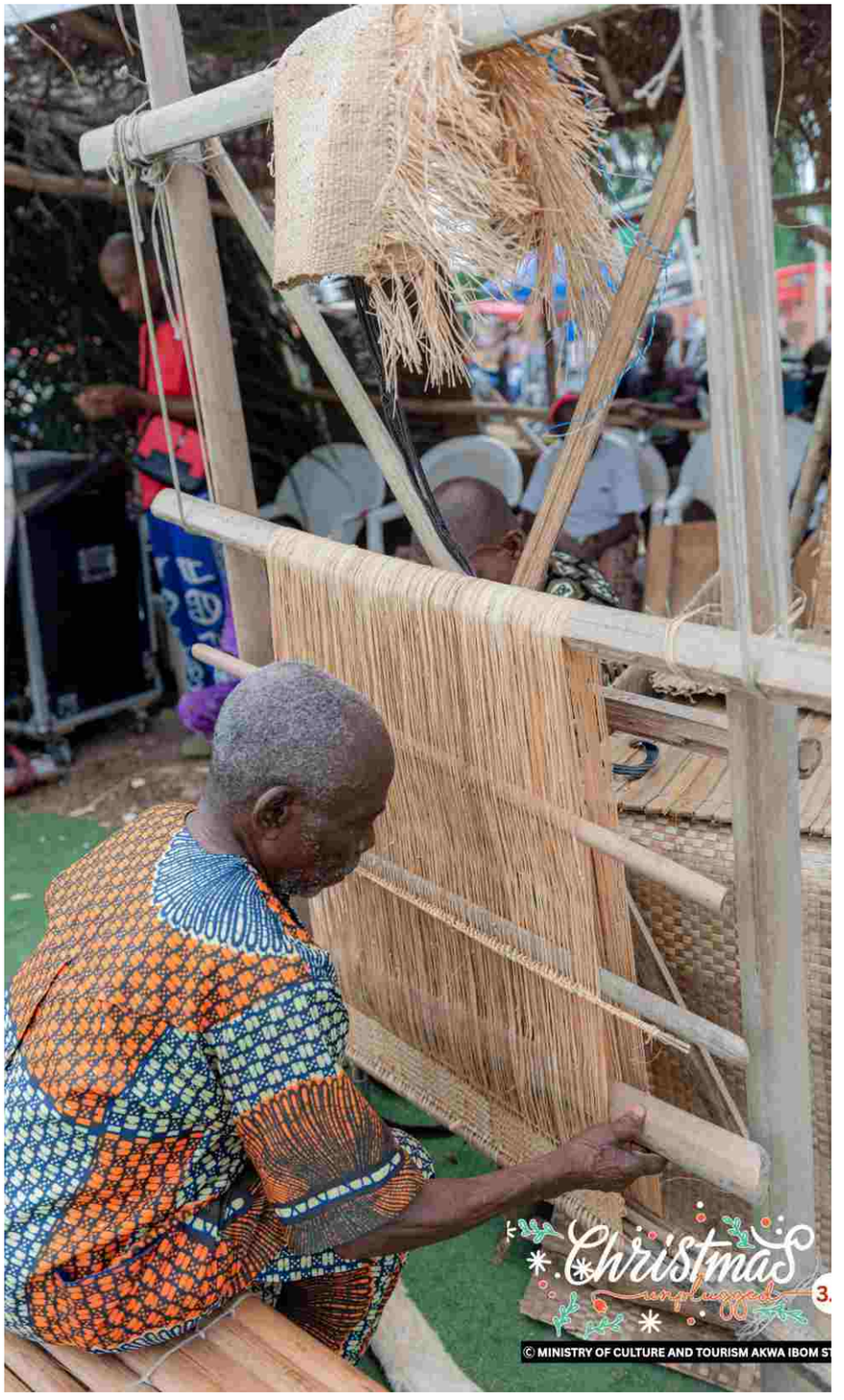


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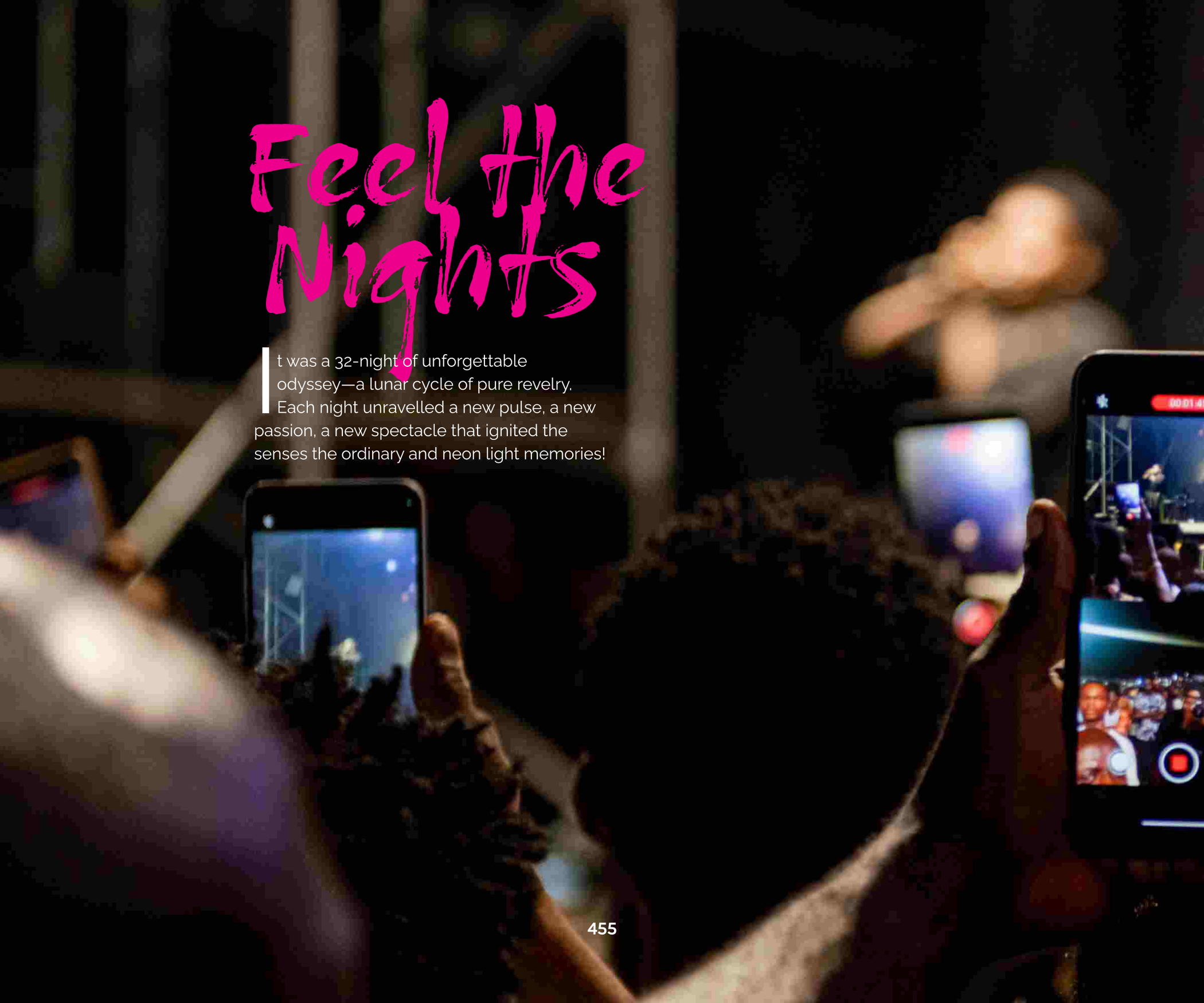


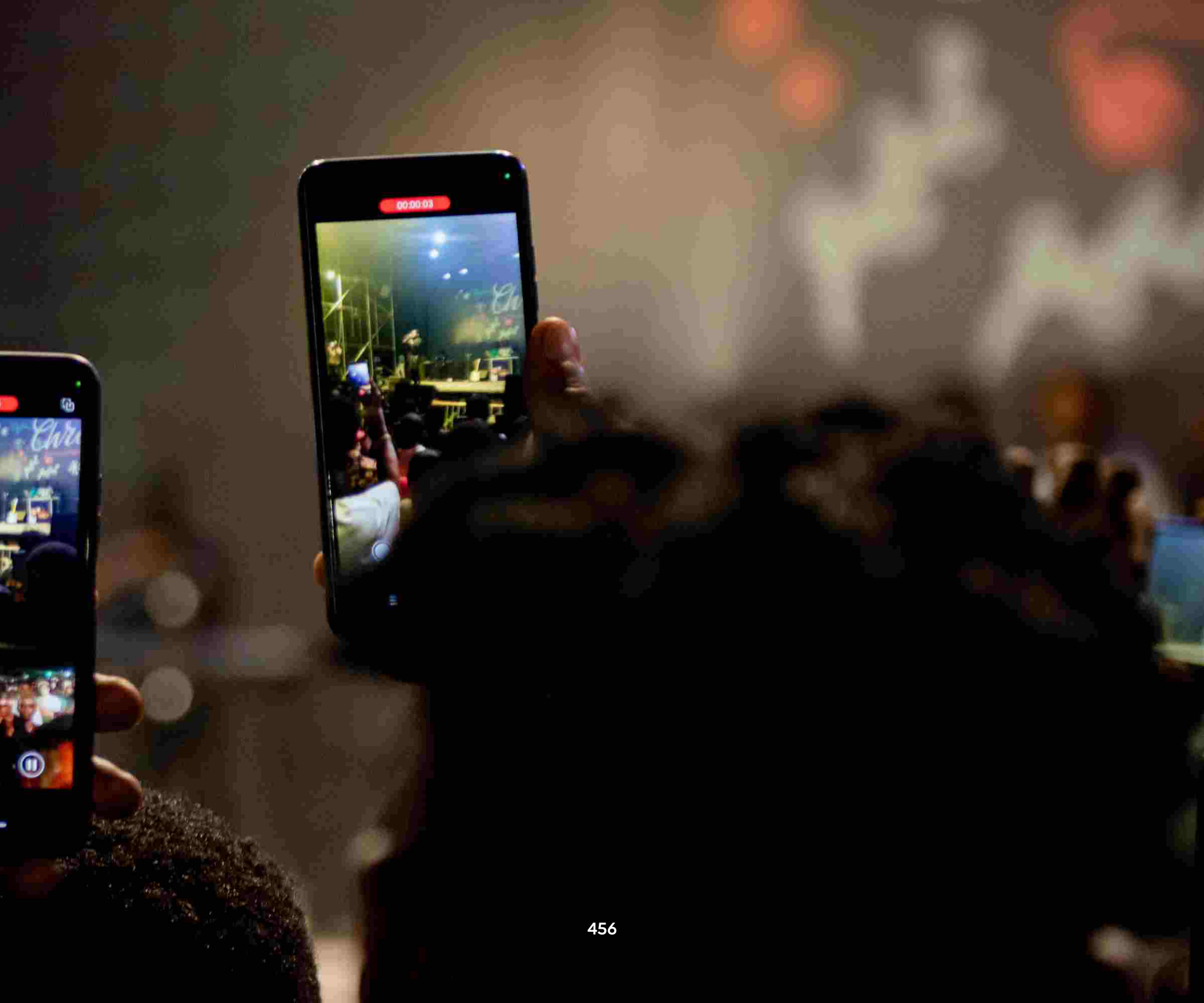



Christmas
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Feel the Nights

It was a 32-night of unforgettable odyssey—a lunar cycle of pure revelry. Each night unravelled a new pulse, a new passion, a new spectacle that ignited the senses the ordinary and neon light memories!

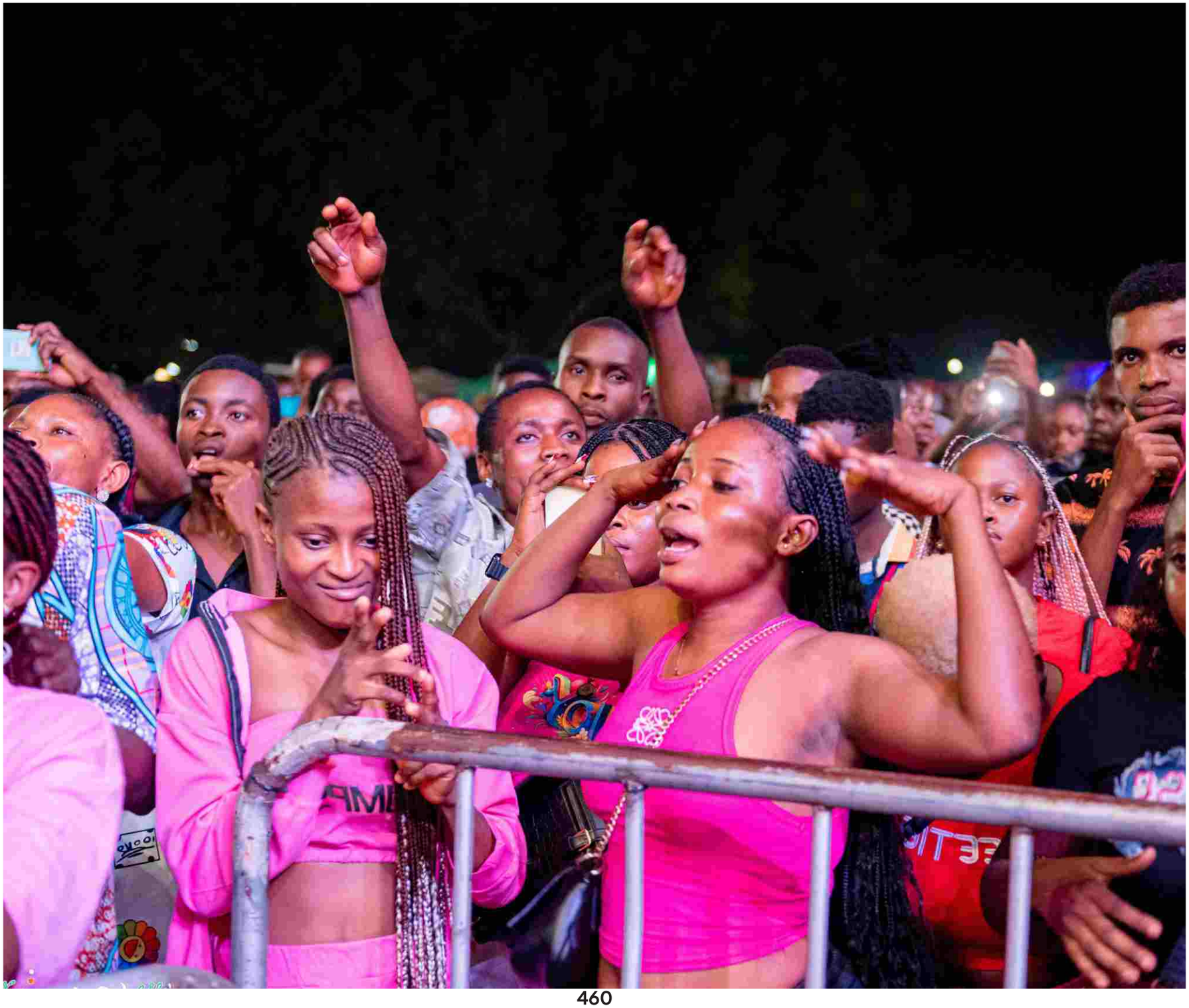



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A Glimpse into 2026

The 2026 Christmas Unplugged will return, and once again, the city of Uyo will come alive with fresh rhythms, bold creativity, explosive energy, palpable excitement, and unforgettable moments. Get Ready to Unplug again in December, 2026. Let's meet up for a new beats, latest vibes and create new memories that will stay long after the festivities fade.Christmas Unplugged 4.0! A meeting point for brands and creatives! Get involved!

For Sponsorship and Partnership,
Hon. Commissioner,
Ministry of Culture and Tourism


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