



Onitsha Traditional Council

P.O.Box 1, Ime -Obi, Onitsha

03 May 2021

Proclamation No. 2 of 2021 (P2 -2021) on Covid-19

My dear People,

Subsequent to our Proclamation No. 1 of 2021 on 25 January, 2021, several developments have taken place globally and in Nigeria in connection with the Covid-19 pandemic, including but not limited to the following:

1. Several vaccines have been successfully launched principally in the USA, UK, China and Russia, and hundreds of millions of persons have been vaccinated mainly in the major countries, with the USA alone reaching over 200 million.
2. An initial batch of about four million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine were received in Nigeria on 02 March, 2021 and distributed to the States and Abuja Capital Territory. Here in Onitsha, almost 400 persons were vaccinated at Ime Obi and the PHC Centre at Ogbe Oye as part of the Anambra State pilot programme.
3. The quantity of vaccine so far available in Nigeria is a tiny fraction of our 200 million population. It does not therefore warrant any relaxation of the protocols for hygiene and safety against the pandemic. Even the major countries with active vaccination programmes have retained these protocols for the meantime.
4. Whilst the rate of infection is stabilizing in some countries, others like Brazil and India are experiencing new surges that threaten the collapse of their medical system. In Nigeria, the present fall in the NCDC reported infection rates may be a lull before the next devastating surge.
5. Based on the continuous reviews of the developments in the country, the Federal and State Governments have relaxed some of the prior restrictions on

gathering of persons, including re-opening the schools. However, the basic protocols for hygiene and safety are still very much in place.

6. Here in Onitsha, the adherence to the Covid-19 safety and hygiene protocols have improved, thanks to the efforts of the Wellbeing Ambassadors. However, we still have a long way to go at village and kindred meetings and events.

6. In line with the current Government posture, the Obi-in-Council has reviewed Proclamation No. 1 of 2021 and consulted with the leaders of our Constituent Groups. Accordingly, the Obi-in-Council hereby directs that the Proclamation No. 1 of 2021 should be amended as follows:

A. Masquerades and dance groups may henceforth perform at funerals and other cultural events, provided that the family holding such events, through their Diokpa and Ndichie Ogbe, shall inform Orokwute and Ogbo so Achi Ani in advance of the masquerades the family has invited. This will assist in the control of the unhealthy practice whereby uninvited masquerades, some from other towns, invade our events.

B. Elderly persons and those with underlying conditions may now attend cultural and traditional events. However, respective constituent groups may decide to put in place their own internal guidelines in this regard.

C. Persons who conscientiously feel unwilling to attend compulsory events should consult their constituent group leaders and comply with the group's decision.

Please note that all other provisions of Proclamation No. 1 of 2021, and the attachment thereto, remain in effect. They will continue to be reviewed as circumstances change. The roles of the family holding a ceremony, along with their Diokpa and Ndichie Ogbe, Ogbo so Achi Ani, the Wellbeing Ambassadors, the OCCRT Communications Group, as well as the leaders of constituent groups, in upholding these protocols and regulations cannot be overemphasized. We call on everyone to cooperate with them, and continue to take personal responsibility for their own protection as well as for the community in general.

#Nduka



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