

## **Notes for Town Hall Meeting – Sunday, 29 June, 2025**

### **1. Outcome of Indianapolis Visit & Town Hall**

- Educational exchange programme (Onitsha Amaka of Indy)
- Onitsha Millennium Development Foundation
- Census of the Disabled in the domain
- Census of the Nigerian Civil War victims

### **2. Onitsha Millennium Development Foundation**

- Poses dilemma: Development fund VS Large spend on ceremonies
- Between N190 – N200 million raised in 9 months
- 75% for long-term investment; 25% recurrent expenditure
- Thus, 190 – 200 titles taken in 9 months (1/9/24 – 30/5/25)
- Average of 21/22 titles per month
- Approx. spend in 9 months: **N2,85billion** @ N15million per title
- Add spends for funerals, marriages, and other events
- Disposal of long-term assets for title taking

### **3. Escalating Cost of Social and Traditional Ceremonies**

- Situation runs counter to Values Reorientation drive
- All traditional and social events are involved
- Purely traditional rites (e.g., Ikpoko Mmuo) losing meaning
- Economics of our ceremonies becomes imperative.
- Need to grow indigenous services and supplies

### **4. Ford Foundation Grant to OnAF for GBV Project**

- Ground breaking recognition for OnAF and Onitsha
- Great morale booster for entire community
- Now in position to attract more international attention
- We're poised to deliver outstanding results

### **5. Ofala & Golibe Festivals**

- Gearing up to exceed the success of 2014

- Strong branding and revenue generation for development
- Golibe moving to a higher pedestal with a new Board
- Diaspora indigenes should plan a mass return for Ofala or Golibe

## **6. Ime Obi, and Two Okwueze**

- **Ime Obi:**
  - East Pavillion, perimeter wall
  - Facilities management is now in place
- **Okwueze Umuezeoroli:**
  - Mausoleum for Obi Onyejekwe long overdue
  - Jordan Nwora Basketball arena
  - Other facilities: Medical clinic, Stroke Action, police station
- **Okwueze Okebunabo:**
  - Perimeter wall completed
  - Front decorative wall in place
  - Major challenge on storm water drainage
  - Further development ideas being contemplated

## **7. Judgements by Agbogidi in the last 12 Months.**

- Thirteen judgments delivered in the past one year.
- All but two were involved with Okwu Mmuo/Diokpaship
- Total delivered by me are about 40 or more
- Only cases with fundamental implications for our customs
- All will be published as a two-volume book set

## **8. The New Ime Obi Onitsha Website**

- imeobionitsha.org launched early this June
- Trusted source for authentic information about our community
- Showcasing our rich history and cultural significance
- Several key features for user-friendliness
- Visit the site to check it out and stay connected!

## **9. Otu Odu Judgment of 23 June 2025**

- Nothing to add to the 14-page Judgment
- Read the judgment before reacting
- Two fundamental points emerged:

- Respect for constituted authority at all levels
- Leadership style on community affairs

## **10. Gratitude**

- Thanks to all involved in the transformation journey
- Literally all contribution is pro bono
- The only reward is inner joy and contentment
- Scope for many more to become involved
- Let's make Onicha Ado n'Idu the best homeland community

**END**

**Agbogidi**

**29 June, 2025**