

University of Ibadan and Southern Illinois University  
A Questionnaire Survey of Traditions of Origin of Settlements in Northern Edo State

SECTION A-LOCATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS

1. Name of Settlement: Thievbe (sebe) Language Group: Thievbe
2. Maximum Relief: \_\_\_\_\_ (m) Name of Nearest River: Edo  
(Senior rivers)
3. Topography:  
A. Low Plain B. High Plain C. Dissected Plain D. Floodplain  
E. Rugged Terrain with Rock Outcrops F. Transition between Plain and Rock Outcrops
4. Vegetation:  
A. Closed canopy forest B. Open canopy forest C. Savanna woodland  
D. Savanna grassland E. Others (Specify): \_\_\_\_\_
5. Settlement is easily accessible from the:  
A. North B. South C. East D. West E. All sides
6. Distance to the nearest settlement? \_\_\_\_\_ (Km)

SECTION-TRADITIONS OF ORIGIN OF SETTLEMENTS

7. How many years ago, approximately, was this village founded? Oba Enaka (14th) (in yrs)
8. What is the name of the place (or village or town) the founders of this village came from to settle here? Bini (Oba-funde) Okposhi Obi (wife za native doctor)
9. Why did the founders of this village move out of that place to settle here?  
(i) revealed a secret that led to his pursuit for  
(ii) Benni
10. Has any person or group of persons ever moved out of this village to found another one?  
☒ Yes ☐ No. If yes, what is the village's name: \_\_\_\_\_
11. Please list all the villages around this village and indicate (by check mark) those villages you share a common ancestral origin:  
i. (See list) ii. \_\_\_\_\_  
iii. \_\_\_\_\_ iv. \_\_\_\_\_  
v. \_\_\_\_\_ vi. \_\_\_\_\_  
vii. \_\_\_\_\_ viii. \_\_\_\_\_

Thievbe-ogbe language has been adulterated by Yoruba & Edo



Ivbi - Etsako - Thiebo  
Bini → Ido → Erah → Ido → Thiebo (Ugbafe)

12. What is the name of the oldest village or settlement in this area? Eto QHS
13. What is the name of the native language spoken in this village? \_\_\_\_\_
14. Which other villages around your village speak your language? None
- i. \_\_\_\_\_ ii. \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. \_\_\_\_\_ iv. \_\_\_\_\_
- v. \_\_\_\_\_ vi. \_\_\_\_\_
15. Which villages around your village speak a different native language?
- i. Name: Igbesi Language: \_\_\_\_\_ Distance: \_\_\_\_\_ (Km)
- ii. Name: Ivbiaro Language: \_\_\_\_\_ Distance: \_\_\_\_\_ (Km)
- iii. Name: (Erah - waraka - Ivbiaro) Language: Uokha Distance: \_\_\_\_\_ (Km)
16. What is the name of the place your ancestors once settled before this place? Ido (roads)
17. Is there any old settlement in this area that people no longer live in today? Yes No
- If yes, what is the name of the settlement? Ido

### SECTION C - SOCIO-CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS

18. What is the official title of your ruler or village head?
- i. Onojie ii. Odafe iii. Otaro iv. Oba v. Odion
- vi. Others (Specify): Oba → Otaro → Ukor (messenger)
19. Who becomes the ruler of this village?
- i. Oldest person in the village ii. Oldest son of current ruler iii. Any of the sons
- iv. others (specify): Oldest person of the group appoint the ukor
20. What is the system of inheritance of properties in this village?
- i. Patrilinear ii. Matrilinear iii. Oldest son gets everything
- iv. Oldest daughter gets everything v. Equal sharing
21. What is the name of your most important deity? Asanobuare
22. What was the main occupation of the founders of this village?
- i. Farming ii. Hunting iii. Fishing iv. Weaving
- v. Iron working/blacksmithing Native Doctor
- If farming, please list the two most important crops planted by them then.

- i. yam ii. Corn / Beans



23. What is the native name of the implement(s) used by them then?
- i. Egwe (hoe) ii. Opis (cutlass)  
Azohu (narrow hoe) Spean (ogador) trap (igi)  
Edege
24. What is the most important traditional food of this village?
- English Name: pounded yam Native Name: Ena la rumi
25. What is the main food used during the worship of your ancestors?
- English Name: pounded yam Native Name: "  
Egusi served in ogbon-uge (native pot)  
Okpa (Gourd)  
Ovbe (Spam)

#### SECTION D-GENERAL

26. Has this village ever been ravaged or affected by a major disaster?
- Yes No
- If yes, what type of disaster and how long ago?
- i. Major fire        (years ago) ii. Major Flood        (years ago)
- iii. Major drought ✓ (years ago) iv. Major hunger season ✓ (years ago)
- v. Major war ✓ (years ago) (war with Okoko)
- vi. Others (Specify)

27. What type of relationship does your village have with the following settlements or language group?
- Eghechi - Sasaro (boundary conflict)

|            |                             |                            |                         |                          |
|------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Okpamerhi  | <u>      </u> common origin | <u>      </u> colonized us | <u>      </u> our enemy | <u>      </u> our slaves |
| Uneme:     | <u>      </u> common origin | <u>      </u> colonized us | <u>✓</u> our enemy      | <u>      </u> our slaves |
| Igbira:    | <u>      </u> common origin | <u>      </u> colonized us | <u>      </u> our enemy | <u>      </u> our slaves |
| Yoruba:    | <u>      </u> common origin | <u>      </u> colonized us | <u>      </u> our enemy | <u>      </u> our slaves |
| Ate-Ivbie: | <u>      </u> common origin | <u>      </u> colonized us | <u>✓</u> our enemy      | <u>      </u> our slaves |
| Akuku:     | <u>      </u> common origin | <u>      </u> colonized us | <u>      </u> our enemy | <u>      </u> our slaves |
| Enwan:     | <u>      </u> common origin | <u>      </u> colonized us | <u>      </u> our enemy | <u>      </u> our slaves |
| Esan:      | <u>✓</u> common origin      | <u>      </u> colonized us | <u>      </u> our enemy | <u>      </u> our slaves |
| Ora:       | <u>✓</u> common origin      | <u>      </u> colonized us | <u>      </u> our enemy | <u>      </u> our slaves |



|           |   |                                       |   |                                     |
|-----------|---|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Emai:     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> common origin | <input type="checkbox"/> colonized us | <input type="checkbox"/> our enemy            | <input type="checkbox"/> our slaves |
| Iuleha:   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> common origin | <input type="checkbox"/> colonized us | <input type="checkbox"/> our enemy            | <input type="checkbox"/> our slaves |
| Otuo:     | <input type="checkbox"/> common origin            | <input type="checkbox"/> colonized us | <input type="checkbox"/> our enemy            | <input type="checkbox"/> our slaves |
| Uokha:    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> common origin | <input type="checkbox"/> colonized us | <input type="checkbox"/> our enemy            | <input type="checkbox"/> our slaves |
| Ihievbe:  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> common origin | <input type="checkbox"/> colonized us | <input type="checkbox"/> our enemy            | <input type="checkbox"/> our slaves |
| Bini:     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> common origin | <input type="checkbox"/> colonized us | <input type="checkbox"/> our enemy            | <input type="checkbox"/> our slaves |
| Yekhee: f | <input type="checkbox"/> common origin            | <input type="checkbox"/> colonized us | <input type="checkbox"/> our enemy            | <input type="checkbox"/> our slaves |
| Igbo:     | <input type="checkbox"/> common origin            | <input type="checkbox"/> colonized us | <input type="checkbox"/> our enemy            | <input type="checkbox"/> our slaves |
| Igala:    | <input type="checkbox"/> common origin            | <input type="checkbox"/> colonized us | <input type="checkbox"/> our enemy            | <input type="checkbox"/> our slaves |
| Nupe:     | <input type="checkbox"/> common origin            | <input type="checkbox"/> colonized us | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> our enemy | <input type="checkbox"/> our slaves |
|           |   |                                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> our enemy | <input type="checkbox"/> our slaves |

*Stedre Snygg*

*Emai from Ugboha*

*Igala from Agbo & Buy slaves*