

Duroto Ojah
① Chief

① Odogami -
② Odum
③ Emejeri

Ogboniyah
(Hunter)
Eresha (Lake)

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Edwardsville, IL 62025, U.S.A.

Benin → Eme → Oragbe → Oza (old)
Questionnaire on the Physico-Cultural Landscape Evidence of Migration Pattern
in Edo North Ojah (Oza - original name)

Okeke
(Oza)

Emeiah

Section A - Administrative

Interviewer: Chief (4) Date: 7/8/02

Name of Settlement: Iloro Quarter: Iloro

Name of Clan: Ojah Year Founded: -

Section B - Physical Landscape Appreciation

1. What is the native name for the huge rock boulders we see around here? Oja Oza

2. Do these rock boulders have any special cultural meaning in this community?
☒ Yes ☐ No. If yes, what are they?
religious

3. What is the native name for the rock hills we see around here?

4. Do the rocky hills have any special cultural meaning in this community?
☐ Yes ☐ No. If yes, what are they?

5. In what ways have the people in this community used these rocky outcrops?

Religious, security, magical women collecting
bullet with basket

6. What is the name of the major river in this area? Ogaji River, Ishipo R

Please explain the name of the river: Ikpala River

7. Please, name two trees that were very important in this community in the past but are no longer seen in this area today and indicate their uses:

Serial #	Names of Trees (extinct)	Primary Uses of the Trees
1.	iroko	
2.	mehogony	

lotion take

pillow

Unname — want implement
 #030 1st settled at Orugbe
 Thick thorn bush and S 029
 #0506 located along Orugbe route

8. Please, name two trees that are very important in this community today and indicate their uses:

Serial #	Names of Trees	Primary Uses of the Trees
1.	mabosany	
2.	mbilo	Relee

African Bishop gave village name
 Section C — Settlement
 1936 — moved down
 1932 — AJ 070 moved a down
 1900 — land grides

1. What is the meaning of the village name? Bay

2. What is the name(s) of the first person(s) to settle in this village? Dgbomija (hunter)

3. Where did the first settler(s) come from? Orugbe to hunt

4. Why did the first settler(s) choose this place to settle? To hunt & take water

5. Please, list the names of all the villages in this area that have blood relationship with this village: Afike, Ochi, Osu, Osobo, Obueri, Azuruka, Obwese, UKPI, Akpara, Ufeshi, (people)

6. What do you call the people from this area? Ozah

Where do the people from this area come from? Orugbe

What made them to leave that place to come here? water supply

7. Please rank the following environmental resources in order of their importance in influencing your ancestors' decision in settling down in this place. Rank the best reason as 1 and the worst or last as 9:

Serial #	Environmental Resources	Rank
1.	Nearness to a river resource	9
2.	Nearness to a major rock outcrop	9
3.	Availability of farmland	5
4.	Nearness to a major hill or mountain shelter	8
5.	Nearness to a major forest shelter	8
6.	Expansive grassland or pasture land	7
7.	Nearness to a powerful kingdom for protection	4
8.	Taking full possession of ancestral land	4
9.	Others (specify):	

moving down
 1991
 Obu

Crops:

men: Yam, Cassava,

women: Cassava, beans, Rts, Okra,

8. Does this village have an old site? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, where is the location of the old site: _____

when was the old site abandoned? 1932 (yr) and why was it abandoned?

_____ Accessibility / Christianity _____

9. What is the major occupation of the people in this village? Farming

Section D – Farming and Food Habits

1. What is main staple food crop planted by the people of this village today? Yam,
Cassava, _____ (could list more than one crop)

2. Is this staple food crop indigenous to your people? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If No, where did it come from? _____

3. List the main staple food crop planted by the first settlers of this village, if different from question 1 above:

Yam _____

Give reasons for any differences in the two lists of staple food crops:

4. Who owns the farmland where the staple food crop(s) is produced? Community

5. What are the major farming tools used in the production of the staple food crop(s)?

Atlass, hoe (knives) _____

Are these tools similar to the ones used by the first settlers? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If no, please list the tools used by your ancestors: _____

and where are the tools from? local (uneme people)

6. Do you allow your farmland to rest (fallow) for some years after cultivation?
☒ Yes ☐ No. If yes, for how many years? 5 yrs

How long was this fallow period during the time of the first settlers? 20 yrs (years)

7. How many crops are planted on the same plot at a time? poly

Please list the crops: Yam, bean

8. How many crops were planted on the same plot at a time by the first settlers? _____

Please list the crops at that time _____

Section E – Culture, Religion and Festivals

1. What is the system of property inheritance in this community?

☐ Female inheritance

☒ Male inheritance

Family

2. Please, list those things you forbid in this village/town? _____

No marriage of 15, masquerade (Sune)

3. What is the name of the major festival celebrated in this village/town? UKpe (yearly)

What is the festival celebrating? initiation of girls / Beach

Who introduced the festival to the community? white people, no female

What part of the village/town is the festival shrine located? (None)

Who is the chief priest at the shrine? ☐ Male ☒ Female

Does the village/town have any other shrines? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, please complete the following table:

Serial #	Name of Shrine	Location of Shrine	Name of god worshipped
	<u>Akoko</u>	<u>uphill</u>	<u>problem solver</u>
	<u>Ashekpuri</u>	<u>stone (uphill)</u>	<u>Safeguard</u>

Family

Men: — Farming

Women: Cooking, care of children, maintenance of the home.

Serial	Name of Shrine	Location of Shrine	Place of Shrine
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			