

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: Somorika Language Group: Emale / Opamedin (our own)
2. Maximum Relief: _____ (m) Name of Nearest River: Onyam (head of all streams)
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? _____ (in yrs)
8. What is the name of the place (or village or town) the founders of this village came from to settle here? _____
9. Why did the founders of this village move out of that place to settle here?
 (i) _____
 (ii) _____
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. <u>Ekpesa</u> | ii. <u>Ogbe</u> |
| iii. <u>Ojirami</u> | iv. <u>Onidma</u> |
| v. <u>Sasano</u> | vi. <u>Eshawa</u> |
| vii. _____ | viii. _____ |

Festival: Ohomi (1 yr) Ode makere (15 yrs) age grade

12. What is the name of the oldest village or settlement in this area? Okpe
13. What is the name of the native language spoken in this village? Okpe
14. Which other villages around your village speak your language?
- i. Eshawa ii. _____
- iii. _____ iv. _____
- v. _____ vi. _____
15. Which villages around your village speak a different native language?
- i. Name: _____ Language: _____ Distance: _____ (Km)
- ii. Name: _____ Language: _____ Distance: _____ (Km)
- iii. Name: _____ Language: _____ Distance: _____ (Km)
16. What is the name of the place your ancestors once settled before this place? _____
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? Wayan (Wavoh)
Somorika

SECTION C-SOCIO-CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS

18. What is the official title of your ruler or village head? priest
- i. Onojie ii. Odafe iii. Otaro iv. Oba v. Odion
- vi. Others (Specify): Enah - 2nd God
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): Senior person in the village (Asomo)
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? Wagah
22. What was the main occupation of the founders of this village?
- ☒ Farming ii. Hunting iii. Fishing iv. Weaving
- v. Iron working/blacksmithing

If farming, please list the two most important crops planted by them then.

- i. Kolanut ii. Corn/yam

23. What is the native name of the implement(s) used by them then?
i. Are (hoe) ii. Obah Cutlass

24. What is the most important traditional food of this village?

English Name: Amala / Cassava / maize Native Name: Erelibo

25. What is the main food used during the worship of your ancestors?

English Name: Pounded yam / corn Native Name: Idimi

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 Lokoko invasion)

vi. Others (Specify)

27. What type of relationship does your village have with the following settlements or language group?

Okpamerhi common origin colonized us our enemy our slaves

Uneme: common origin colonized us our enemy our slaves

Igbira: f common origin colonized us our enemy our slaves

Yoruba: f common origin colonized us our enemy our slaves

Ate-Ivbie: common origin colonized us our enemy our slaves

Akuku: f common origin colonized us our enemy our slaves

Enwan: f common origin colonized us our enemy our slaves

Esan: f common origin colonized us our enemy our slaves

Ora: f common origin colonized us our enemy our slaves

Emai:	<u>f</u>	__common origin	__colonized us	__our enemy	__our slaves
Iuleha:		__common origin	__colonized us	__our enemy	__our slaves
Otuo:		__common origin	__colonized us	__our enemy	__our slaves
Uokha:		__common origin	__colonized us	__our enemy	__our slaves
Ihievbe:		__common origin	__colonized us	__our enemy	__our slaves
Bini:	<u>f</u>	__common origin	__colonized us	__our enemy	__our slaves
Yekhee:		__common origin	__colonized us	__our enemy	__our slaves
Igbo:	<u>f</u>	__common origin	__colonized us	__our enemy	__our slaves
Igala:	<u>f</u>	__common origin	__colonized us	__our enemy	__our slaves
Nupe:	<u>f</u>	__common origin	__colonized us	__our enemy	__our slaves

Osho / Aakpe / Ogogo / Osho /
Thune / Aakpe / makeke
Odo do — Ogu — Otu
Ekpaga → Somonke