The Historical Society of Nigeria elected Professor C.B.N. Ogbogbo of the University of Ibadan as its new president at the Annual General Meeting of the Society, during the 58th/59th Annual Congress held at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka on 22nd-25th September, 2014. Professor C.B.N. Ogbogbo takes over from Professor Olayemi Akinwumi, who becomes the Immediate Past-President.

Professor C.B.N. Ogbogbo is a renowned leading expert in Niger Delta History, Conflict and Legal Studies. A legal practitioner with 16 years at the bar, during his tenure in office, Professor Ogbogbo intends to apply his academic and industrial experience to recalibrate and expand the activities of the Society and to forge stronger collaborations between the Society and the world at large. He also intends to follow firmly in the footsteps of his predecessor by continuing to champion the reincorporation of Historical studies in the Nigerian curriculum.

The new Council of the Society to run the affairs of the Society for the next two years is as follows: Professor C B N Ogbogbo - President (University of Ibadan); Professor A.M. Asafa - Vice President North West Zone - (Kaduna State University); Professor Egodi Uchendu - Vice President South East Zone (University of Nigeria Nsukka); Professor Hakeem Tijani - Vice President South West Zone (Adeleke University, Osun State); Dr. John Pongri - Vice President North East, (Provost, Adamawa College of Education); Dr. Steve Olali - Vice President South - South (Bayelsa State University Yenagoa & Chief Historian / Archivist Bayelsa State); Dr. S. Y.Omoiya - Vice President North Central Zone (University of Ilorin); Professor Okpeh Okpeh - North Central Zone Representative on Council- (Federal University, Lafia); Professor J.H. Enemugwem South-South Zone Representative on Council (University of Port Harcourt); Dr. Dan O Chukwu-South East Zone Representative on Council (Nnamdi Azikiwe University Akwa); Dr. M.A. Mamman North West Zone Representative on Council (Ahmadu Bello University) Segun Ojo South -
West Representative on Council (Olabisi Onabanjo University); Dr. Zara- North East Representative on Council; Odigwe A. Nwaokocha-National Secretary (University of Benin); Elijah Ikpanor - Asst. General Secretary (Benue State University Makurdi); Animashaun Bashir - Business Manager (Lagos State University Ojo-Lagos); Dr. Mfon Ekpoottu-National Treasurer (University of Port Harcourt) and Dr. Lemuel Odeh- Public Relations Officer (University of Ilorin); Professor O. Akinwumi-Ex Officio member (Nasarawa State University, Keffi) and Professor Y. Ochefu – Ex Officio member (Kwararafa University, Taraba State).

President’s Report

Professor C.B.N. Ogbogbo FHSN, President

Email: president@historicalsocietynigeria.org

Fellow Historians and Nigerian citizens, for more than a decade now the Historical Society of Nigeria (HSN) has engaged the Federal Government of Nigeria in the quest to re-introduce history as a subject in our educational institutions. This ding-dong affair has gone on for too long. Several efforts have been made to convince those who should know the importance of historical studies and are positioned to determine the education curriculum for the country. Since 2005, the patriotic attempts of the HSN in this wise have been met with a lot of frustrations whose details need not distract us here. What is important is that as a Society, we have remained dogged in this pursuit and intend to bring this draught in the study of history in our educational institutions to an end this year.

While we are currently rigorously engaged in discussions with NERDC in Abuja, a Federal agency charged with determining the education curriculum for the country’s educational institutions at the primary and secondary school levels, we are not oblivious of the provisions of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the fact that education is on the concurrent and not exclusive list. This offers us several vistas in our quest to bring back history to the classrooms across the country.

Arising from the position of the constitution with regards to educational matters, we intend to also focus our pressure not just on the Federal Government but also the various states. The re-introduction of History as a subject and indeed a compulsory one for students at the primary
and secondary levels of education is a task that shall be achieved in 2015. I am optimistic that we will achieve this resolution because we stand on the earlier efforts of past presidents of the HSN who gave their much running around government circles and personnel in pursuit of this worthy course. We will vary our strategy in this last phase. While effort would be to consolidate our efforts with NERDC, we will also explore other important stakeholders cooperation and involvement in this matter. The History blackout must be put to an end.

If we pause to ponder on the question, in whose interest is the non-study of history in our schools? Who wants Nigerian children to be ignorant of the nation’s history? It must be those who have negatively impacted on us and have been churning out all sorts of memoirs in an attempt to favourably position themselves in the annals of our history. There is so much junk and distortions churned out by those who have had the exceptional privilege of ruling this country in the name of providing and setting the records for future generations of Nigerians. These men / women are conscious of the weight and judgment of history and desire to be on its safe side. When they are unable to write, they encourage the non-propagation of history with the hope that with a weak memory, we will readily forget their atrocious past. It is this realization that must continue to embolden us in our quest to bring back to the schools an authentic history of Nigeria. For as JF Ade-Ajayi and Obarolkime have continuously reminded us, an enduring sense of history is a necessity for national development. An enduring sense of history anchored on the successful re-introduction of history in our classrooms, it is hoped, will be our legacy for 2015.

At the tertiary level, we currently have a sizeable number of practicing historians. However, they have shown a lot of apathy and lackadaisical attitude to the affairs of the HSN and by implications historical discipline. It is the duty of Council to reinvigorate their interest in the affairs of the Society. The Council intends in 2015 to mobilise the yet – uncommitted mass of historians. Council’s major target in the first quarter of this year is to have appointed, representatives of the Society in all tertiary institutions in the country where history is taught. This will surely include colleges of education. Such appointments will enable us update our very inadequate data base on historians in the country. We need all hands on deck for the field is very green and the harvest plentiful.

The Society’s annual congress and conference will take place from 11th October to 14th October 2014. It is the 60th and we intend to celebrate it in a big way in Abuja. The Department of History, University of Abuja, under the headship of Dr. Akpen Philip has been given the hosting right by the Council of HSN. The theme of the conference is Historical Society of Nigeria @ 60: The National Experience. It is the expectation of Council that this congress will be well attended and worthy of celebration as the oldest academic association in Nigeria. It is expected that our host will set up an LOC that will liaise with the National Organising committee headed by Prof. OkpehOkpeh.
Let me use this medium to wish you all a prosperous 2015, laced with good health and peace in your personal and our national life.

**HSN Holds Council Meeting @ Ibadan**

The Council of the Historical Society of Nigeria (HSN) at the end of a meeting held on Saturday, 29\(^{th}\) November, 2014 at the University of Ibadan came up with the following resolutions:

1. The Council approved that the Society’s constitution be reviewed.
2. Council set up several Committees and approved appointments with regards to membership of these committees. In the same vein, Prof. (Mrs.) Egodi Uchendu was appointed as the new editor of the reputable *Journal of the Historical Society of Nigeria* (JHSN).
3. Council adopted the organization of induction ceremony for graduating history students.
4. More significantly, Council, after lengthy brainstorming came up with the theme-"**HSN@60: THE NATIONAL EXPERIENCE**"- for the 60\(^{th}\) Anniversary Congress of the Society to be hosted by the University of Abuja, Nigeria from 11\(^{th}\)-14\(^{th}\) October, 2015.
5. Council also adopted the President’s proposal for the publication of a quarterly bulletin for the Society.

![Cross Section of Council Members during the Society's Meeting in Ibadan](image)

**HSN President Pays Courtesy Visit to Lagos State University**

 Barely 70 days after his election as President of the oldest professional body in the country (Historical Society of Nigeria), Prof. C.B.N. Ogbogbo on Wednesday, 3\(^{rd}\) December, 2014 paid a courtesy call to the Dean, Faculty of Arts, Professor Adeniji who is a historian and other lecturers of the Department of History at the Lagos State University campus, Ojo. In attendance at the meeting were; the Business Manager of the Historical Society of Nigeria, Mr Bashir Animashaun, Dr. Adeoti, Mr. Sanni, Mr. Lawal and Mr. David Olayinka Ajayi. Professor C.B.N Ogbogbo arrived at 12 noon with his entourage and discussed HSN related issues. In particular was the need for greater participation by colleagues in LASU in the
affairs of the Society. The meeting lasted for 2 hours. This was the first meeting between the Society and lecturers of the department.

A Group Photograph: Professor C.B.N. Ogbogbo, HSN President (middle) flanked by Professor Adeniji, Dean of Arts Lagos State University (immediate right), Mr. Bashir Animashaun, HSN Business Manager (far right), Dr. Adeoti (left) and other members of Staff of the Department of History and International Studies, Lagos State University, Ojo.

**Prof. Akinyeye Delivers 12th Inaugural Lecture**

The current Dean of the Faculty of Arts, University of Lagos, Professor Olajompo Abayomi Akinyeye delivered the 12th Inaugural Lecture of the University titled “Clothing Others While Naked: West Africa and Geopolitics” on Wednesday, December 3, 2014 at the Main Auditorium, UNILAG. The distinguished and internationally-acclaimed Professor of History and Strategic Studies who joined the academic staff of the University of Lagos in 1990 rose steadily through the ranks to become a Professor in 2005. He is a Fellow of the Historical Society of Nigeria.

Professor AbayomiAkinyeye and Wife in a picture with HSN President, Professor C.B.N. Ogbogbo and other well-wishers
Interim Report

Since the election of a new Executive in September 2015 @ UNN the following have taken place:

1. Council met at Ibadan in November and took a number of decisions
2. A number of Committees have been formed and members appointed. They have been contacted via e-mail and a formal letter on our letter-head will be sent to them soon.
3. We have been to meetings with NERDC twice in pursuit of restoration of History in our school system. We are now at the stage of lobbying that funds be released for the refloating of History into the school curriculum this year.
4. We have visited LASU on a sensitization and recruitment of members
5. We interacted with the Director General of the National Archives and discussed the need to partner together. They have shown willingness to collaborate with us.
6. A National Organizing Committee led by Prof. Okpeh Okpeh has been set up to coordinate the 60th congress of the Society. University of Abuja was given the hosting rights. We eagerly expect the call for papers and submission of Abstracts from the LOC.
7. We have made effort at recalibrating our website. Further suggestions are welcomed after a visit to the site.
8. Council expects that the Vice-Presidents will begin the compilation of the names of Institutional Representatives for presentation at the next Council meeting for approval. Note that this list should include colleges of education.
9. The JHSN has put out a call for papers. We are determined to bring the production of the journal up to date.

Milestones

HSN President Becomes Head of Department

The President of the Historical Society of Nigeria, Professor C.B.N. Ogbogbo has been appointed as Head, Department of History, University of Ibadan for a period of four years with effect from January 5, 2015. It is instructive to note that the last substantive Professor and Head of Department of History was Professor Omoniyi Adewoye (1992-1995). Prof. Ogbogbo thus fills a twenty years vacuum in the Ibadan School of History. Professor Ogbogbo is an accomplished African historian and has lectured for almost three decades and had served as Chair of the Department from 2008-2010. The “man with six degrees” as he is fondly called has held Visiting Scholar appointments at Northwestern University, Dartmouth College, Kennesaw State University all in the USA, St. Augustine University in Mwanza, Tanzania and the University of Benin in Nigeria. With research specialty in Nigerian History and emphasis on the Niger Delta and Legal History, Professor Ogbogbo has published extensively on oil and resource control conflicts in Nigeria. He is a Fellow of the Historical Society of Nigeria and a legal practitioner with over sixteen years experience at the bar. He is expected to bring to bear on the Society his multi–tasking skill and experience.
JHSN Gets First Female Editor

Professor Egodi Uchendu, FHSN

Egodi Uchendu, a Professor of History at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, was at the last Council meeting in Ibadan appointed the new Editor of the *Journal of the Historical Society of Nigeria*. Egodi would be the first female in the sixty years history of the Society to emerge as the editor of the reputable journal. An accomplished scholar and Fellow of the Society, Egodi has researched extensively on aspects of the history of the Anioma peoples of Delta State, Islam in Eastern Nigeria and gender issues. A widely travelled, published scholar and decorated scholar, it is expected that she will bring her very rich academic experience to improve the profile of the JHSN.

HSN@60: Dr. Akpen Becomes LOC Chair

Dr. Akpen Philip

Dr. Akpen Philip, the Head, Department of History and Diplomatic Studies, University of Abuja has been appointed as chairman of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) for the forthcoming conference of the Society tagged “HSN@60: THE NATIONAL
EXPERIENCE" - the 60th Anniversary Congress of the Society to be hosted by the University of Abuja, Nigeria from 11th-14th October, 2015. The Ahmadu Bello University and Bayero University, Kano graduate is a lecturer with specialty in African and Economic History with special reference to infrastructure and urban amenities. He is a member of the Society.

Historical Society of Nigeria: About

The Historical Society of Nigeria was established in 1955 at the University College, Ibadan. The founding fathers include distinguished scholars like Kenneth O. Dike and Abdullahi Smith. Membership of the Society is open to all persons genuinely interested and committed to the promotion of Historical scholarship in general and Nigerian History in particular. Some of the past Presidents of the Society are; Professors Kenneth Onwuka Dike, Robert Smith, J.F. Ade Ajayi, Obaro Ikime, Abdullahi Mahdi, G.N. Uzoigwe, E.J. Alagoa, M. Abassiatii, Yakubu Ochefu and OlayemiAkinwunmi.

From The Bookshelf

The House that "Lugard Built"

Perspectives on Nigeria's First Centenary: The Pains, the Gains, and the Agenda for the Future

Edited by E.J. Pontual & Hayman Adewoye

LIFE MEMBERS

Professor C.B.N. Ogbogbo
Professor Yakubu Ochefu
Professor O. Akinwumi
Dr. Oduwobi
Dr. J.G. Nkem Onyekpe
Dr. Ini Udoka
Dr. Nwaka Jacinta

SOME FELLOWS

*Professor K.O. Dike
*Professor J.F. Ade Ajayi
Professor Obaro Ikime
Professor G. Uzoigwe
Professor E.J. Alagoa
Professor A.E Ekoko
Professor O. Adewoye
Professor W. Oyemakinde
Professor U.D. Anyanwu
Professor Toyin Falola
Professor N.C. Ejituwu
Professor Stella Attoe
Professor Suleiman
Professor G. Oguntomisin
The book edited by S.U. Fwatshak and Olayemi Akinwumi is a compilation of essays delivered at the Historical Society of Nigeria (HSN) Colloquium on the nation’s centenary celebrations, held at the Sheraton Hotel and Towers, Abuja on February 19, 2014. The book x-rays various issues across the six geopolitical zones of the country by a pool of distinguished and ebullient historians. Chapter One written by S.U. Fwatshak and J.M. Ayuba examines the Amalgamation discourses in the Lugardian House during Nigeria’s first centenary. Monday Yakiban Mangvwat brings to limelight the Middle Belt and Lugard’s administration: a centenary reflection in chapter Two. Chapter Three written by Professor I.L. Bashir addresses a promise unfulfilled: economy and society in twentieth century North-East, Nigeria. Professor Okoro Ijomah analyses centenary glimpses of the Ndi Igbo of the South-East. C.B.N. Ogbogbo historicizes 100 years of the south-south in the political economy of Nigeria: the pains and the gains. Chapter Six by Professor SiyanOyeweso looks at the perspectives of the south-west on the centenary: the gains and pains since amalgamation and the agenda for the future while in Chapter Seven, S.U. Fwatshak interrogates the North-west.

**Who is where?**

**Professor Yakubu Aboki Ochefu, FHSN**

**SOME FELLOWS (CONTD)**

- Professor Yakubu Ochefu
- Professor O. Akinwumi
- Professor C.B.N. Ogbogbo
- Professor T. Ngarka
- Professor Okoro Ijomah
- Professor Jide Osuntokun
- Professor S.O. Koromah
- Professor O.O. Oyeweso
- Professor Akinrinade
- Professor Ibrahim Waziri
- Professor A. Akinyeye
- Professor Egodi Uchendu
- Professor E. Erhagbe
- Professor J. Enemugwem
- Dr. J.G. Nkem Onyekpe
- Dr. M.S. Abdulkadir
- Dr. J.H. Pongri

*Deceased*
Professor Yakubu A. Ochefu FHSN is the Vice-Chancellor of Kwararafa University, Wukari in Taraba State—the first community-owned university in Nigeria and West Africa. Prior to his emergence as Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ochefu was at Benue State University where he served in various capacities—Head of Department, Dean Student Affairs and Deputy Vice-Chancellor. He is an administrator par excellence. The distinguished professor of Economic History and Development Studies bagged his first degree from the University of Calabar in 1978 and proceeded to Birmingham University in the United Kingdom for his Masters degree. Here, he was tutored and supervised by the doyen of Economic History, A.G. Hopkins, whose classic “Economic History of West Africa” is still widely consulted. Professor Ochefu returned to his alma mater, the University of Calabar where he bagged his Ph.D. in 1992. He is a Fellow and former President of the Historical Society of Nigeria, the oldest professional association in the country. He remains a major pillar in the Society.

Professor Kyari Mohammed

Professor Kyari Mohammed is the Vice-Chancellor of Modibbo Adama University (MAUTECH) Yola, Adamawa State formerly Federal University of Technology, Yola. The Professor of History also doubles as the Director of the Centre for Peace and Security Studies at the University. He is an alumnus of the University of Ibadan and a member of the Historical Society of Nigeria.

Professor Ibikunle H. Tijani
An expert in Economic History, labour, policy and urban studies, Professor Ibikunle H. Tijani is the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Adeleke University, Ede in Osun State. The distinguished historian graduated in history (sociology minor) in 1988 from Lagos State University. He thereafter proceeded to the University of Lagos where he obtained his masters degree in economic history in 1990. Professor Tijani went on to the University of London (SOAS) and the University of South Africa to bag his MPhil and Ph.D. in 1998 and 2005 respectively. A recipient of several international awards, Professor Tijani is strong in pedagogy and is a member of the Historical Society of Nigeria.

**Professor Okpeh Okpeh Moves to Lafia**

The 2010 Africanist Research Excellence Award Winner, Professor Okpeh Ochayi Okpeh, formerly of the Benue State University is now Head, Department of History, Federal University Lafia, Nasarawa State. Professor Okpeh who was one time Secretary of the Historical Society of Nigeria and now the North central Zone's Representative on Council has about twenty years experience as a distinguished academic and consummate administrator. He specializes in inter-group relations, development studies, conflict and gender studies. Professor Okpeh played a pivotal role in the setting up of the Centre for Gender Studies, Benue State University. We believe he will bring his Midas touch to bear on Lafia and be a good representative of HSN in his new institution.
HSN Media Consultant Joins Veritas University


Upcoming Events

E.J. Alagoa Turns 83 in April

Professor E.J. Alagoa, FHSN, NNOM
Professor Ebiegbui Joe Alagoa, a Fellow of the Historical Society of Nigeria will be 83 come 14th April, 2015. At 82, he accompanied his academic children and grandchildren to Aso Rock to advocate for the return of history into the secondary school curriculum. He was the first Deputy Vice-Chancellor, first Dean, Faculty of the Humanities and first Inaugural Lecturer, University of Port Harcourt. He was also the first Pro-Chancellor of the Niger Delta University, Wilberforce Island, Bayelsa State. A recipient of the Nigerian National Order of Merit Award under President Goodluck Jonathan administration, Professor Alagoa is an officer of the Order of the Niger. The accomplished Niger Delta historian co-edited the colossal book, The Izon of the Niger Delta, alongside Professors Tekena Tamuno and John Pepple Clark. His other popular works are The Small Brave City-State, The Pythons Eyes: The past in the living present (Inaugural Lecture), Oral Tradition and Oral History in Africa. An alumnus of the University of Ibadan, Nigeria and University of Wisconsin, Madison in the United States, HSN celebrates this role model and mentor to several generations of historians.

Additional Information

The HSN Bulletin is the official newsletter of the Historical Society of Nigeria. It is published four times annually, in March, June, September and December. It is mailed to every HSN member free of charge, and shares information about ongoing issues concerning the Society. Each issue contains the following articles:

- **President’s Report** – A Message from HSN President
- **Society News** – Keeping you informed of developments and events as it relates to the Society
- **Milestones** – Focuses on appointments, promotions, celebrations etc.
- **From the Bookshelf** – Recently published historical books to be reviewed. Please mail copies to the HSN office
- **Who is Where** – Connect with other historians
- **Upcoming Events** – Forthcoming events
- **The Grandmaster** – Articles about or by intellectual godfathers of History
- **Youth Corner** – Articles about or by students of History

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Phone number: +2348038304447

**Advert Rates and Sizes:** To be communicated in the next issue.

**Submission Deadlines**

March Bulletin (prints early March): February 15th
June Bulletin (prints early June: May 15th)

September Bulletin (prints early September): 2nd week of August

December Bulletin (printed mid-December): 3rd week of November.

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For more information about submitting materials (articles, photographs, event listings and books for review) or to preserve space in an upcoming HSN Bulletin, please contact:

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