

ASRF NEWS

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER: By George K. Kieh, Jr.

Building an Enduring Legacy for ASRF

Few months ago, I had a conversation with Brother Ike Udogu, a founding member of the ASRF and the founding Director for Research and Publications, concerning the ASRF. In our conversation, we

discussed several major issues, including our reflections about the ASRF's successes and challenges, since its founding on October 5, 1996. In our reflections, we took

collective pride in the fact that the ASRF has made invaluable contributions to knowledge production and dissemination about Africa. Particularly, we delighted in the fact that the books that have been published under "The ASRF's Book Series" have, among others, challenged the dominant approaches to African Studies, and the resulting works that

have been done using these paradigms. Significantly, the ASRF-sponsored books have proffered alternative approaches to interrogating and proffering solutions to the many challenges facing Africa,

as well as the opportunities.

"The ASRF's Legacy Fund" can be used to help train the next generation of African scholars by supporting research, training, workshops, and other areas of scholarly development

Importantly, our conversation then moved to the future of the ASRF. Brother Udogu made what I considered a profound suggestion about a major way in which we could build an enduring

legacy for the ASRF: The need to establish a "Legacy Fund." In my "two cents worth," the other aspects of our conversation, including

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MEMBERS' SCHOLARLY AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

*Egodi Uchendu,
(University of Nigeria,
Nsukka)*

Books

Egodi Uchendu, *Nigeria's Resource Wars* (Wilmington, Delaware: Vernon Press, 2020), <https://vernonpress.com/book/892>.

Book Chapter

Egodi Uchendu & Chiedozi Obia, "Youth Perspectives on Nigeria's Resource Wars," in Egodi Uchendu (ed.), *Nigeria's Resource Wars*, (Wilmington, Delaware: Vernon Press, 2020), 699-726.

Journal Articles

Egodi Uchendu, "Nigeria and Her Strategic Neighborhoods," *Strategic Lenses*, 4 (2020): 74-97.

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the reflections, notwithstanding, the suggestion about establishing “The ASRF’s Legacy Fund” will enable the ASRF to leave an indelible imprint on the African landscape, now and forever! Why? “The ASRF’s Legacy Fund” can be used to help train the next generation of African scholars by supporting research, training, workshops, and other areas of scholarly development. THIS IS IMPORTANT, BECAUSE CRITICAL KNOWLEDGE IS INDISPENSABLE TO THE BUILDING OF REAL DEMOCRACY(HUMAN-CENTERED) AND

UNDERTAKING REAL DEVELOPMENT(HUMAN-CENTERED) IN AFRICA, BASED ON THE VALUES OF INCLUSION, MUTUAL RESPECT, PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE, TOLERANCE, EQUITY, AND FAIRNESS, AMONG OTHERS!

Hence, I am placing Brother Udogu’s great idea on the “table” for discussion by the members of the ASRF. In addition, it will be placed on the agenda for our “Silver Jubilee Celebration,” and our 24th Annual Conference, which will be held in November 2021(virtually)—a “Roundtable on the ASRF’s Legacy Fund.” Finally, it is my ardent hope

that we can conclude the discussions by the end of 2020, and hopefully (if the majority of the membership accepts the idea) begin designing the modalities for the implementation of “The ASRF’s Legacy Fund.” A HUMAN-CENTERED DEMOCRATIC AND DEVELOPED AFRICA IS VERY POSSIBLE! BUT WE MUST WORK TO ACHIEVE IT!

MEMBERS’ SCHOLARLY AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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Egodi Uchendu, (University of Nigeria, Nsukka)

Egodi Uchendu & Chinyere Felicia Priest, “The Stages of Igbo Conversion to Islam: An Empirical Study,” *Review of Religious Research*, 62(2020): 121–132, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13644-020-00402-5>.

PAPERS PRESENTED AT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

Egodi Uchendu, Chukwuemeka Agbo, Emmanuel Ibuot, Chisom Uchendu, Peter Memga & Felicia Priest, “Religion and Pandemics: Interrogating Christian/Muslim Responses to Covid-19 in Nigeria” paper

presented at the 63rd Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, 19-21 November 19-21, 2020(Virtually).

OTHERS

Convened Second International and Interdisciplinary Conference on “Nigeria and Technological Advancement: 60 Years After Independence” at University of Nigeria, Nsukka, November 23-26, 2020.

George Klay Kieh, Jr. (Texas Southern University & African Methodist Episcopal University, Liberia)

Journal Article

“Liberal Peacebuilding in Post-Civil War Liberia,” *Liberian Studies Journal*, 45(1-2), 2020.