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ANTHROPOLOGY AND ETHNOGRAPHY

## Igboland (Alaigbo): *A Regional Breakdown of Ethnic Divisions, Tribes, and Sub-Tribes*

By Chuka Odike

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IGBOLAND (ALAIGBO)

# Igboland (Alaigbo): A Regional Breakdown of Ethnic Divisions, Tribes, and Sub-Tribes

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“Alaigbo” A breakdown of Igboland cultural regions, ethnic divisions, tribes and sub-tribes.

1. Cross River Igbo (Aro) – Location: Found primarily in the eastern part of Igboland, close to the Cross River area. – Key areas: Arochukwu, Afikpo, Ahaba, Nguzu-Edda, Ihechiowa, Ohafia, Isuikwuato, Abiriba, Bende, and Isiama – Tribes: – Aro – Edda – Afikpo (Ehugbo) – Abam – Item – Isuikwuato
2. Northeast Igbo (Ogu Ukwu) – Location: Found in parts of present-day Ebonyi and northern Abia States. – Key Areas: Abakaliki, Izzi, Ikwo, Okposi, Ishielu, Ishiagu and Onicha Uburu. – Tribes: – Izzi – Ezza – Mgbo – Ezzamgbo – Ikwo
3. Northern Igbo (Wawaa) – Location: Found in northern parts of Igboland, primarily in Anambra, Enugu, parts of Imo, Kogi and Benue States. – Key Areas: Nnewi, Nsukka, Udi, Awka, Enugu, Ekwulobia, Agulu, Ogidi, Okigwe and Awkuzu. – Tribes: – Nri – Nsukka – Agbaja – Awka – Ezeagu – Okigwe – Idemili – Nkanu – Otanzu-Otanchara – Agbenu
4. Riverine Igbo (Oru) – Location: Found in the riverine areas near the Niger Delta, including parts of Anambra, Rivers and Delta States. – Key Areas: Onitsha, Nzam, Ahoadia, Oguta, Aboh, Awarra, Kwale, Ndoni, Omoku and Izombe. – Tribes: – Onitsha (Onicha) – Egbema – Oguta (Ugwuta) – Ekpeye – Ogba – Ogbaru – Ndokwa (Ukwuani) – Omambala

5. Southern Igbo (Isu-Urata) – Location: Primarily found in southern parts of Abia, Imo, and parts of Rivers State. – Key Areas: Owerri, Aba, Port Harcourt, Orlu, Umuahia, Aboh-Mbaise, Nkwere, Oyigbo, Elele and Igbo-Etche. – Tribes: – Isu – Ezinihitte (Mbaise) – Agbaja-Ehime (Mbano) – Asa – Ngwa – Ikwerre (Iwhuruohna) – Etche – Ndoki – Orsu – Uratta (Owerre)

6. Western Igbo (Anioma) – Location: Found primarily in Delta State and some parts of Edo and Anambra States. – Key Areas: Asaba, Agbor, Umunede, Ogwashi-Ukwu, Igbuzo, Obiariku, Idumuje Ugboko, Igbanke, Nsukwa and Issele-Ukwu. – Tribes: – Aniocha – Ika – NdiOshimili (Enuani) – Ukwuani

Law and Authority in a Nigerian Tribe – C. K. Meek

Ethnographic survey on the Ibo and Ibibio speaking people of Southeastern Nigeria – Darryl Forde and G. I. Jones.

Political Organization in Nigeria since the Late Stone Age: “A History of the Igbo People” – J. N. Oriji

Ropes of Sand: Studies in Igbo History and Culture – Adiele Afigbo

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

### Chuka Odiike

I'm a dedicated civil engineer with a passion for infrastructure development and community empowerment. With a strong background in engineering, my work focuses on creating sustainable solutions for urban and rural development projects. Outside of my professional career, I'm deeply interested in Igbo history and culture. I actively explores ways to impact society by using historical lessons to inspire and educate others about the rich cultural heritage of the Igbo people, aiming to bridge tradition and modern development.



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