



Ozi Ikòrò

AFRICAN HISTORY · CULTURE · INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE

PHOTOS

Bronze Armlet with Paired Figures Holding Ozo Title Staffs (Ngwu Agiliga)

By Idenze Ezeme

Ozikoro.com · Photos · 1 min read

FEATURE
IMAGE

NO FEATURED IMAGE IN THE RECORD

The article carries no featured image, so this panel is left as an honest empty space rather than filled with one.

Ozi Ikòrò

BRONZE ARMLET WITH PAIRED FIGURES HOLDING OZO TITLE STAFFS (NGWU AGILIGA)

Bronze Armlet with Paired Figures Holding Ozo Title Staffs (Ngwu Agiliga)

By Idenze Ezeme · Photos · Ozikoro.com

Origin: Igbo, Nigeria Date: 19th–early 20th century Material: Bronze Location: Minneapolis Institute of Art This intricately cast bronze armlet from Igboland features two stylised human figures in high relief, facing outward and each grasping a vertical staff, likely the Ngwu Agiliga, the symbolic sceptre associated with holders of the Ozo title. These staffs are...

This intricately cast bronze armlet from Igboland features two stylised human figures in high relief, facing outward and each grasping a vertical staff, likely the Ngwu Agiliga, the symbolic sceptre associated with holders of the Ozo title. These staffs are a prominent insignia of ancestral authority, moral integrity, and socio-political standing in traditional Igbo society.

The Ozo title represents one of the highest-ranking institutions in Igbo culture, marking the individual as a spiritual and communal elder, responsible for upholding truth, justice, and sacred law. The presence of these figures on a personal ornament, such as an armlet, suggests that the piece may have belonged to, or was made in honour of, a titled individual, serving as a portable expression of prestige and metaphysical protection.

Although the precise origin of this piece remains undocumented, its stylistic features and symbolic motifs firmly situate it within the cultural and artistic traditions of southeastern Nigeria. The casting technique and iconography reflect the Igbo mastery of bronze work, particularly among communities influenced by title systems such as Nri, Onitsha, and Awka.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR****Idenze Ezeme**

Nze is an Igbo history and culture enthusiast with an in-depth passion for exploring the rich cultural heritage, traditions, and historical narratives of the Igbo people. His works is mostly focused on pre-colonial Igbo societies, traditional belief systems, leadership systems, and the impact of European colonialism.



Ozi Ikòrò

History worth reading.

African history · culture · indigenous knowledge
