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The Rebellious Heritage of Anioma in Onicha Olona : *Ekumeku in the Hardship Against British Exploitation*

By Chukwunwike Ossai

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FEATURE
IMAGE

Obi Onicha Olona

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During the British expansion during the chaotic years in the early 19th century, they were faced with rebellion, fearlessness, and resistance from Onicha-Olona and Anioma society at large. A fierce campaign was planned against the British authority by The Ekumeku Chiefs of Onicha-Olona, including Dunkwu, Elumelu, Ebora, and Ikemefuna To stop the efforts to succeed a chaotic withhold in their village and the Anioma Igbo area at large. Their labor topped in the Ekumeku battle of 1902-03, a time showed by intentional rebel engagement and a relentless spirit.

Regardless the trials of the British to resolve the chaos, by installing native councils was in the communities to reduce the revolt, but the warriors of Ekumeku continued their resistance to British rule, organizing support from Ezi and Akwukwu the neighboring Anioma communities. “The hostile chiefs” as the British described them disagreed to obey the traditional orders of the native councils that were established by the colonial government, they mocked the attempts of pro-British associates by organizing their own indigenous a top-council.

The urge for Independence, and cultural pride was a unique form of rebellion, that stresses the Anioma community’s violent loyalty to their land and traditions.

In the Anioma’s strong history, the inheritance of these courageous leader remains a energetic reminder that will continue to inspire the

future generations to respect and remember the heroes, who stood unshakeable against the forces of oppression from British government

Ohadike, D. C. (1994). Anioma: A social history of the western Igbo people

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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An enthusiast in tech with deep passion for studying and showcasing the vibrant cultural heritage of southern Nigeria . Combining my skill with my obsession towards African history and traditions to create contributions that impacts the digital space.



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