

1. Description

1.1 Name(s) of society, language, and language family:

--Name: IBIBIO

Language:

--"English is the official language of Nigeria, used in all government interactions and in state-run schools. In *a country with more than 250 individual tribal languages*, English is the only language common to most people" (2).

--While Ibibio is the main trade language of Akwa Ibom state, there is also the Efik language, which is decreasing in usage (1).

--Ijo, Igbo, and Hausa are also Nigerian languages.

--Dialects: Enyong, Central Ibibio, and Itak. (1)

--Language Family: A language of Nigeria (1)

1.2 ISO code (3 letter code from ethnologue.com): 639-3:ibb

1.3 Location (latitude/longitude):

-- "Nigeria is in West Africa, along the eastern coast of the Gulf of Guinea, and just north of the equator. It is bordered on the west by Benin, on the north by Niger and Chad, and on the east by Cameroon. Nigeria covers an area of 356,669 square miles (923,768 square kilometers)" (2)

1.4 Brief history:

--"More than 250 ethnic tribes call present-day Nigeria home. The three largest and most dominant ethnic groups are the Hausa, Yoruba, and Igbo (pronounced ee-bo). Other smaller groups include the Fulani, Ijaw, Kanuri, Ibibio, Tiv, and Edo. Prior to their conquest by Europeans, these ethnic groups had separate and independent histories. Their grouping together into a single entity known as Nigeria was a construct of their British colonizers. These various ethnic groups never considered themselves part of the same culture" (2).

-- "Nigerians are traditionally storytellers. Much of precolonial history in Nigeria is the result of stories handed down from generation to generation" (2).

1.5 Influence of missionaries/schools/governments/powerful neighbors:

--"Christian missionaries brought Western-style education to Nigeria as Christianity quickly spread throughout the south. The mission schools created an educated African elite who also sought increased contact with Europe and a Westernization of Nigeria" (2).

1.6 Ecology (natural environment):

-- “Nigeria has three main environmental regions: savanna, tropical forests, and coastal wetlands. These environmental regions greatly affect the cultures of the people who live there. The dry, open grasslands of the savanna make cereal farming and herding a way of life for the Hausa and the Fulani. The wet tropical forests to the south are good for farming fruits and vegetables—main income producers for the Yoruba, Igbo, and others in this area. The small ethnic groups living along the coast, such as the Ijaw and the Kalabari, are forced to keep their villages small due to lack of dry land. Living among creeks, lagoons, and salt marshes makes fishing and the salt trade part of everyday life in the area.” (2)

1.7 Population size, mean village size, home range size, density:

--“Nigeria has the largest population of any African country. In July 2000, Nigeria's population was estimated at more than 123 million people. At about 345 people per square mile, it is also the most densely populated country in Africa. Nearly one in six Africans is a Nigerian. Despite the rampages of AIDS, Nigeria's population continues to grow at about 2.6 percent each year. The Nigerian population is very young. Nearly 45 percent of its people are under age fourteen.” (2)

-- As for the ethnic breakdown, the Ibibio group makes up 3.5% of the population (2).

2. Economy

2.1 Main carbohydrate staple(s):

North:

-- “Grains such as millet, sorghum, and corn are boiled into a porridge-like dish that forms the basis of the diet” (2).

-- The porridge-like meal is often served with an oilbased soup, flavored with onions, okra, and tomatoes. (2).

South:

-- “Crops such as corn, yams, and sweet potatoes form the base of the diet. These vegetables are often pounded into a thick, sticky dough or paste..” (2).

-- Alcohol is more popular in the south. The most commonly consumed types of alcohol are Palm Wine and several types of beer. (2).

2.2 Main protein-lipid sources:

North:

- “[Due] to the Fulani cattle herders, fresh milk and yogurt are common even though there may not be refrigeration” (2).
- “People of the northern region (mostly Muslim, whose beliefs prohibit eating pork) have diets based on beans, sorghum (a type of grain), and brown rice” (3).

South:

- “Crops such as corn, yams, and sweet potatoes form the base of the diet. These vegetables are often pounded into a thick, sticky dough or paste. This is often served with a palm oilbased stew made with chicken, beef, goat, tomatoes, okra, onions, bitter leaves, or whatever meats and vegetables might be on hand” (2).
- “Fruits such as papaya, pineapples, coconuts, oranges, mangoes, and bananas also are very common in the tropical south” (2).

2.3 Weapons: Bow and arrow, blowguns?:

2.4 Food storage:

- The food is stored in the individuals homes. (2)

2.5 Sexual division of production:

- “Many families are fairly self-sufficient where food is concerned. They harvest their own food crops, such as yams, cassava, corn, and millet” (3).
- “Traditionally, only men hold land, but as the wealth structure continues to change and develop in Nigeria, it would not be unheard of for a wealthy woman to purchase land for herself” (2).
- “The kinds of crops that women cultivate differ from those that men cultivate. In Igbo society, yams are seen as men’s crops, while beans and cassava are seen as women’s crops” (2).

2.6 Land tenure:

- “While the federal government has the legal right to allocate land as it sees fit, land tenure remains largely a local issue. Most local governments follow traditional land tenure customs in their areas” (2).
- “Land also can be bought, sold, or rented” (2).
- “Traditionally, only men hold land, but as the wealth structure continues to change and develop in Nigeria, it would not be unheard of for a wealthy woman to purchase land for herself” (2).

2.7 Ceramics:

-- "Sculpture was used in blessings, in healing rituals, or to ward off bad luck" (2).

2.8 Specified (prescribed or proscribed) sharing patterns:

-- There are no specific sharing patterns between genders, however, the Nigerian population follow an odd food 'schedule/routine'.

There routine is as followed:

-- "Many Nigerians rise as early as 5 A.M. , when a small breakfast is eaten to begin their day. Breakfast usually consists of rice and mangoes, or stewed soybeans. *Dodo* (fried plantains) is a common dish, as well as leftovers from the night before" (3).

-- "Lunch is eaten around 11 A.M. and considered the most important meal of the day. A late dinner may be served with dishes similar to those offered at lunch. Most Nigerian meals are made up of one course and are cooked outside over an open fire (gas and kerosene stoves are sometimes used, but the two fuels are very expensive for many Nigerians). Dishes such as *efo* (stew) or *moin-moin* may be served at lunch. Soups and stews are common lunchtime foods, eaten with hands cupped like a spoon. *Many Nigerians only use their right hand.* In southern Nigeria, two favorite soups are *egusi* soup and palm nut soup. *Egusi* is a spicy yellow soup made with meat, red chilies, ground dried shrimp, and greens. Palm nut soup is a stew made with meat, chilies, tomatoes, onions, and palm nut oil" (3).

2.9 Food taboos:

--"Food in Nigeria is traditionally eaten by hand. However, with the growing influence of Western culture, forks and spoons are becoming more common, even in remote villages. Whether people eat with their hand or a utensil, *it is considered dirty and rude to eat using the left hand*" (2)."

2.10 Canoes/watercraft? n/a

3. Anthropometry

3.1 Mean adult height (m and f):

3.2 Mean adult weight (m and f):

-- "About 8 percent of the population of Nigeria are classified as undernourished by the World Bank. This means they do not receive adequate nutrition in their diet. Of children under the age of five, about 39 percent are underweight, and over 39 percent are stunted (short for their age) " (3).

4. Life History, mating, marriage

4.1 Age at menarche (f):

--Ages 12-14 (2).

4.2 Age at first birth (m and f):

-- Young twenties, sometimes younger depending time of first marriage.

4.3 Completed family size (m and f):

-- "The majority of Nigerian families are very large by Western standards. Many Nigerian men take more than one wife. In some ethnic groups, the greater the number of children, the greater a man's standing in the eyes of his peers. Family units of ten or more are not uncommon" (2).

4.4 Inter-birth-interval (f):

--Men have several children due to the polygamy throughout this culture, therefore, "The majority of Nigerian families are very large by Western standards. Many Nigerian men take more than one wife. In some ethnic groups, the greater the number of children, the greater a man's standing in the eyes of his peers. Family units of ten or more are not uncommon" (2).

4.5 Age first marriage (m and f):

-- "It is also not uncommon for women to marry in their teens, often to a much older man. In instances where there are already one or more wives, it is the first wife's responsibility to look after the newest wife and help her integrate into the family" (2).

4.6 Proportion of marriages ending in divorce:

-- "While women who leave their husbands will be welcomed back into their families, they often need a justification for breaking the marriage. If the husband is seen as having treated his wife well, he can expect to have the bride price repaid" (2).

-- "Divorce is quite common in Nigeria. Marriage is more of a social contract made to ensure the continuation of family lines rather than a union based on love and emotional connections. It is not uncommon for a husband and wife to live in separate homes and to be extremely independent of one another. In most ethnic groups, either the man or the woman can end the marriage. If the woman leaves her husband, she will often be taken as a second or third wife of another man. If this is the case, the new husband is responsible for repaying the bride price to the former husband. Children of a divorced woman are normally accepted into the new family as well, without any problems" (2).

4.7 Percent marriages polygynous, percent males married polygynously:

-- "There are three types of marriage in Nigeria today: religious marriage, civil marriage, and traditional marriage. A Nigerian couple may decide to take part in one or all of these marriages. Religious marriages, usually Christian or Muslim, are conducted according to the norms of the respective religious teachings and take place in a church or a mosque. Christian males are allowed only one wife, while Muslim men can take up to four wives. Civil official weddings take place in a government registry office. Men are allowed only one wife under a civil wedding, regardless of religion. Traditional marriages usually are held at the wife's house and are performed according to the customs of the ethnic group involved. Most ethnic groups traditionally allow more than one wife" (2).

-- "Depending on whom you ask, polygamy has both advantages and disadvantages in Nigerian society. Some Nigerians see polygamy as a divisive force in the family, often pitting one wife against another. Others see polygamy as a unifying factor, creating a built-in support system that allows wives to work as a team" (2).

-- "The majority of Nigerian families are very large by Western standards. Many Nigerian men take more than one wife. In some ethnic groups, the greater the number of children, the greater a man's standing in the eyes of his peers. Family units of ten or more are not uncommon" (2).

-- "In a polygamous family, each wife is responsible for feeding and caring for her own children, though the wives often help each other when needed. The wives also will take turns feeding their husband so that the cost of his food is spread equally between or among the wives. Husbands are the authority figures in the household, and many are not used to their ideas or wishes being challenged" (2).

4.8 Bride purchase (price), bride service, dowry?:

-- "Many Nigerian ethnic groups follow the practice of offering a bride price for an intended wife. Unlike a dowry, in which the woman would bring something of material value to the marriage, a bride price is some form of compensation the husband must pay before he can marry a wife. A bride price can take the form of money, cattle, wine, or other valuable goods paid to the woman's family, but it also can take a more subtle form. Men might contribute money to the education of an intended wife or help to establish her in a small-scale business or agricultural endeavor. This form of bride price is often incorporated as part of the wooing process" (2).

4.9 Inheritance patterns:

-- "For many Nigerian ethnic groups, such as the Hausa and the Igbo, inheritance is basically a male affair. Though women have a legal right to inheritance in Nigeria, they often receive nothing. This is a reflection of the forced economic independence many women live under. While their husbands are alive, wives are often responsible for providing for themselves and their children. Little changes economically after the death of the husband. Property and wealth are usually passed on to sons, if they are old enough, or to other male relatives, such as brothers or uncles. For the Fulani, if a man dies, his brother inherits his property and his wife. The wife usually returns to live with her family, but she may move in with her husband's brother and become his wife" (2).

4.10 Parent-offspring interactions and conflict:

-- "As a rule, men have little obligation to provide for their wives or children. Therefore women have traditionally had to farm or sell homemade products in the local market to ensure that they could feed and clothe their children" (2).

-- "Children may attend school. When they return home, the older boys will help their father with his work, while the girls and younger boys will go to their mothers" (2).

-- "When children reach the age of about four or five, they often are expected to start performing a share of the household duties. As the children get older, their responsibilities grow. Young men are expected to help their fathers in the fields or tend the livestock" (2).

4.11 Homosexual activities, social attitudes towards homosexuals: n/a

4.12 Pattern of exogamy (endogamy):

-- "There are three types of marriage in Nigeria today: religious marriage, civil marriage, and traditional marriage. A Nigerian couple may decide to take part in one or all of these marriages. Religious marriages, usually Christian or Muslim, are conducted according to the norms of the respective religious teachings and take place in a church or a mosque. Christian

males are allowed only one wife, while Muslim men can take up to four wives. Civil official weddings take place in a government registry office. Men are allowed only one wife under a civil wedding, regardless of religion. Traditional marriages usually are held at the wife's house and are performed according to the customs of the ethnic group involved. Most ethnic groups traditionally allow more than one wife" (2).

4.13 What is the belief of the role of males in conception; is paternity partible? Are these "other fathers" recognized?

-- "As a rule, men have little obligation to provide for their wives or children. Therefore women have traditionally had to farm or sell homemade products in the local market to ensure that they could feed and clothe their children" (2).

-- "The majority of Nigerian families are very large by Western standards. Many Nigerian men take more than one wife. In some ethnic groups, the greater the number of children, the greater a man's standing in the eyes of his peers. Family units of ten or more are not uncommon" (2).

-- "In a polygamous family, each wife is responsible for feeding and caring for her own children, though the wives often help each other when needed. The wives also will take turns feeding their husband so that the cost of his food is spread equally between or among the wives. Husbands are the authority figures in the household, and many are not used to their ideas or wishes being challenged" (2).

-- "In most Nigerian cultures, the father has his crops to tend to, while his wives will have their own jobs, whether they be tending the family garden, processing palm oil, or selling vegetables in the local market. Children may attend school. When they return home, the older boys will help their father with his work, while the girls and younger boys will go to their mothers" (2).

4.14 What is the belief of the mother's role in procreation exactly? (e.g., "receptacle in which fetus grows")

-- "Women are often expected to earn significant portions of the family income" (2).

-- "As a rule, men have little obligation to provide for their wives or children. Therefore women have traditionally had to farm or sell homemade products in the local market to ensure that they could feed and clothe their children

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-- "Throughout Nigeria, the bond between mother and child is very strong. During the first few years of a child's life, the mother is never far away. Nigerian women place great importance on breast-feeding and the bond that it creates between mother and child. Children are often not weaned off their mother's milk until they are toddlers. Children who are too young to walk or get around on their own are carried on their mother's backs, secured by a broad cloth that is tied around the baby and fastened at the mother's breasts. Women will often carry their children on their backs while they perform their daily chores or work in the fields" (2).

4.15 Is conception believed to be an incremental process (i.e., semen builds up over time)?

-- "The majority of Nigerian families are very large by Western standards. Many Nigerian men take more than one wife. In some ethnic groups, the greater the number of children, the greater a man's standing in the eyes of his peers. Family units of ten or more are not uncommon" (2).

4.16 Occurrence of sexual coercion, rape

-- "Men are dominant over women in virtually all areas. While Nigeria is a signatory to the international Convention on Equality for Women, it means little to the average Nigerian woman. Women still have fewer legal rights than men. According to Nigeria's Penal Code, men have the right to beat their wives as long as they do not cause permanent physical injury. Wives are often seen as little more than possessions and are subject to the rule of their husbands" (2).

4.17 Preferential category for spouse (e.g., cross cousin) n/a

4.18 Do females enjoy sexual freedoms? n/a

4.19 Evidence of giving gifts to extramarital partners or extramarital offspring

-- "Newborns in Nigerian societies are regarded with pride. They represent a community's and a family's future and often are the main reason for many marriages" (2).

-- "Children in most Nigerian societies have responsibilities, they also are allowed enough leeway to be children. Youngsters playing with homemade wooden dolls and trucks, or groups of boys playing soccer are common sights in any Nigerian village" (2).

4.20 If mother dies, whose raises children?

-- "Mothers and sisters have great say in the lives of their sons and brothers, respectively. The blood relationship allows these women certain leeway and influence that a wife does not have" (2).

-- "For the Fulani, if a man dies, his brother inherits his property and his wife. The wife usually returns to live with her family, but she may move in with her husband's brother and become his wife" (2).

-- "Neighbors often look after youngsters while parents may be busy with other chores. It is not strange to see a man disciplining a child who is not his own" (2).

4.21 Adult sex ratio: number of adult males divided by number of (reproductive) females

4.22 Evidence for couvades

--Woman is pregnant, and carries child to full term where she proceeds to give birth.

4.23 Different distinctions for potential fathers (e.g., lesser/younger vs. major/older)

-- "The majority of Nigerian families are very large by Western standards. Many Nigerian men take more than one wife. In some ethnic groups, the greater the number of children, the greater a man's standing in the eyes of his peers. Family units of ten or more are not uncommon" (2).

4.24 Kin avoidance and respect?

-- "While men dominate Igbo society, women play an important role in kinship. All Igbos, men and women, have close ties to their mother's clan, which usually lives in a different village. When an Igbo dies, the body is usually sent back to his mother's village to be buried with his mother's kin. If an Igbo is disgraced or cast out of his community, his mother's kin will often take him in. For the Hausa, however, there is not much of a sense of wide-ranging kinship. Hausa society is based on the nuclear family. There is a sense of a larger extended family, including married siblings and their families, but there is little kinship beyond that. However, the idea of blood being thicker than water is very strong in Hausa society. For this reason, many Hausas will try to stretch familial relationships to the broader idea of clan or tribe to diffuse tensions between or among neighbors" (2).

4.24 Joking relationships?

4.25 Patterns of descent (e.g., bilateral, matrilineal) for certain rights, names or associations

-- "Men are dominant over women in virtually all areas. While Nigeria is a signatory to the international Convention on Equality for Women, it means little to the average Nigerian woman. Women still have fewer legal rights than men. According to Nigeria's Penal Code, men have the right to beat their wives as long as they do not cause permanent physical injury. Wives are often seen as little more than possessions and are subject to the rule of their husbands" (2).

4.26 Incest avoidance rules

4.27 Is there a formal marriage ceremony?

-- "There are three types of marriage in Nigeria today: religious marriage, civil marriage, and traditional marriage. A Nigerian couple may decide to take part in one or all of these marriages. Religious marriages, usually Christian or Muslim, are conducted according to the norms of the respective religious teachings and take place in a church or a mosque. Christian males are allowed only one wife, while Muslim men can take up to four wives. Civil official weddings take place in a government registry office. Men are allowed only one wife under a civil wedding, regardless of religion. Traditional marriages usually are held at the wife's house and are performed according to the customs of the ethnic group involved. Most ethnic groups traditionally allow more than one wife" (2).

-- "Though customs vary from group to group, traditional weddings are often full of dancing and lively music. There is also lots of excitement and cultural displays. For example, the Yoruba have a practice in which the bride and two or three other women come out covered from head to toe in a white shroud. It is the groom's job to identify his wife from among the shrouded women to show how well he knows his wife" (2).

4.28 In what way(s) does one get a name, change their name, and obtain another name? n/a

4.29 Is marriage usually (or preferred to be) within community or outside community? (m/f difference?)

-- "There are three types of marriage in Nigeria today: religious marriage, civil marriage, and traditional marriage. A Nigerian couple may decide to take part in one or all of these marriages. Religious marriages, usually Christian or Muslim, are conducted according to the norms of the respective religious teachings and take place in a church or a mosque. Christian males are allowed only one wife, while Muslim men can take up to four wives. Civil official weddings take place in a government registry office. Men are allowed only one wife under a civil wedding, regardless of religion. Traditional marriages usually are held at the wife's house and are performed according to the customs of the ethnic group involved. Most ethnic groups traditionally allow more than one wife" (2).

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4.30 Are marriages arranged? Who arranges (e.g., parents, close kin)?

-- "According to old customs, women did not have much choice of whom they married, though the numbers of arranged marriages are declining" (2).

4.31 Evidence for conflict of interest over who marries who:

-- "There are three types of marriage in Nigeria today: religious marriage, civil marriage, and traditional marriage. A Nigerian couple may decide to take part in one or all of these marriages. Religious marriages, usually Christian or Muslim, are conducted according to the norms of the respective religious teachings and take place in a church or a mosque. Christian males are allowed only one wife, while Muslim men can take up to four wives. Civil official weddings take place in a government registry office. Men are allowed only one wife under a civil wedding, regardless of religion. Traditional marriages usually are held at the wife's house and are performed according to the customs of the ethnic group involved. Most ethnic groups traditionally allow more than one wife" (2).

Warfare/homicide

4.14 Percent adult (male) deaths due to warfare:

4.15 Outgroup vs ingroup cause of violent death/4.16 Reported causes of in-group and out-group killing:

-- "Nigeria's greatest social problem is the internal violence plaguing the nation. Interethnic fighting throughout the country, religious rioting between Muslims and non-Muslims over the creation of Shari'a law (strict Islamic law) in the northern states, and political confrontations between ethnic minorities and backers of oil companies often spark bloody confrontations that can last days or even months" (2).

4.17 Number, diversity and relationship with neighboring societies (external relations):

-- "Poverty and lack of opportunity for many young people, especially in urban areas, have led to major crime" (2).

4.18 Cannibalism? n/a

5. Socio-Political organization and interaction

5.1 Mean local residential (village) group size:

-- "More than 250 ethnic tribes call present-day Nigeria home" (2).

-- Larger areas are seen in the urban parts of Nigeria, which consumes most of the land.

5.2 Mobility pattern: (seasonality):

5.3 Political system: (chiefs, clans etc, wealth or status classes):

-- "In some Nigerian ethnic groups there is also a form of caste system that treats certain members of society as pariahs. The criteria for determining who belongs to this lowest caste vary from area to area but can include being a member of a minority group, an inhabitant of a specific village, or a member of a specific family or clan" (2).

-- "The Igbo call this lower-caste group Osu. Members of the community will often discourage personal, romantic, and business contact with any member of the Osu group, regardless of an individual's personal merits or characteristics. Because the Osu are designated as untouchable, they often lack political representation, access to basic educational or business opportunities, and general social interaction. This kind of caste system is also found among the Yoruba and the *Ibibios*" (2).

-- "Nigeria is a republic, with the president acting as both head of state and head of government" (2).

5.4 Post marital residence:

-- "While men dominate Igbo society, women play an important role in kinship. All Igbos, men and women, have close ties to their mother's clan, which usually lives in a different village" (2).

5.5 Territoriality? (defined boundaries, active defense):

-- "Wealth also can be important in marking social boundaries in rural areas. In many ethnic groups, those who have accumulated enough wealth can buy themselves local titles" (2).

5.6 Social interaction divisions ? (age and sex):

-- "There is a sense of a larger extended family, including married siblings and their families, but there is little kinship beyond that. However, the idea of blood being thicker than water is very strong in Hausa society. For this reason, many Hausas will try to stretch familial relationships to the broader idea of clan or tribe to diffuse tensions between or among neighbors" (2).

5.7 Special friendships/joking relationships:

-- "There is a sense of a larger extended family, including married siblings and their families, but there is little kinship beyond that. However, the idea of blood being thicker than water is very strong in Hausa society. For this reason, many Hausas will try to stretch familial relationships to the broader idea of clan or tribe to diffuse tensions between or among neighbors" (2).

5.8 Village and house organization:

--"With the influx of oil revenue and foreigners, Nigerian cities have grown to resemble many Western urban centers (2). "[However,] because most Nigerian cities grew out of much older towns, very little urban planning was used as the cities expanded. Streets are laid out in a confusing and often mazelike fashion, adding to the chaos for pedestrians and traffic. The influx of people into urban areas has put a strain on many services. Power cuts and disruptions of telephone service are not uncommon" (2)

--"The Ijo live in the Niger Delta region, where dry land is very scarce. To compensate for this, many Ijo homes are built on stilts over creeks and swamps, with travel between them done by boat. The houses are made of wood and bamboo and topped with a roof made of fronds from raffia palms. The houses are very airy, to allow heat and the smoke from cooking fires to escape easily" (2).

--"Igbo houses tend to be made of a bamboo frame held together with vines and mud and covered with banana leaves. They often blend into the surrounding forest and can be easily missed if you don't know where to look (2).

5.9 Specialized village structures (mens' houses):

-- "Traditionally, only men hold land, but as the wealth structure continues to change and develop in Nigeria, it would not be unheard of for a wealthy woman to purchase land for herself" (2).

5.10 Sleep in hammocks or on ground or elsewhere?

--"Many Ijo homes are built on stilts over creeks and swamps, with travel between them done by boat. The houses are made of wood and bamboo and topped with a roof made of fronds from raffia palms" (2).

--"Igbo houses tend to be made of a bamboo frame held together with vines and mud and covered with banana leaves" (2).

--"Homes are typically geometric, mud-walled structures, often with Muslim markings and decorations" because of the heavy influences from the Muslim culture. (2).

5.11 Social organization, clans, moieties, lineages, etc:

-- "In some Nigerian ethnic groups there is also a form of caste system that treats certain members of society as pariahs. The criteria for determining who belongs to this lowest caste vary from area to area but can include being a member of a minority group, an inhabitant of a specific village, or a member of a specific family or clan" (2).

-- "The Igbo call this lower-caste group Osu. Members of the community will often discourage personal, romantic, and business contact with any member of the Osu group, regardless of an individual's personal merits or characteristics. Because the Osu are designated as untouchable, they often lack political representation, access to basic educational or business opportunities, and general social interaction. This kind of caste system is also found among the Yoruba and the Ibibios" (2).

5.12 Trade:

-- "Trade was largely responsible for changing the flavors of African cuisine. Before trading between continents began, main staples included rice, millet (a type of grain), and lentils" (3).

-- "The Portuguese were the first Europeans to reach Nigeria. There, they established a slave trade center around the 1400s. Portuguese explorers and traders introduced cassava to western Africa (including present-day Nigeria) through their trade with the African coasts and nearby islands. British, Dutch, and other European traders later competed for control of the trade. By the 1700s, the British were the main traders of slaves on the Nigerian coast" (3).

-- "Major agricultural products produced in Nigeria include cocoa, peanuts, palm oil, rice, millet, corn, cassava, yams, rubber, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, timber, and fish. Major commercial industries in Nigeria include coal, tin, textiles, footwear, fertilizer, printing, ceramics, and steel" (2).

-- "Oil and petroleum-based products made up 95 percent of Nigeria's exports in 1998. Cocoa and rubber are also produced for export. Major export partners include the United States, Spain, India, France, and Italy" (2).

-- "Nigeria is a large-scale importer, depending on other countries for things such as machinery, chemicals, transportation equipment, and manufactured goods. The country also must import large quantities of food and livestock. Major import partners include the United Kingdom, the United States, Germany, France, and the Netherlands" (2).

5.13 Indications of social hierarchies?

-- "In some Nigerian ethnic groups there is also a form of caste system that treats certain members of society as pariahs. The criteria for determining who belongs to this lowest caste vary from area to area but can include being a member of a minority group, an inhabitant of a specific village, or a member of a specific family or clan" (2).

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6. Ritual/Ceremony/Religion (RCR)

6.0 Time allocation to RCR: n/a

6.1 Specialization (shamans and medicine):

-- "Most indigenous religions are based on a form of ancestor worship in which family members who have passed into the spirit world can influence things in the world of the living. This mixing of traditional ways with Islam has led to groups such as the Bori cult, who use spirit possession as a way to understand why people are suffering in this life. The mixing of traditional ways with Christianity has led to the development of the Aladura Church. Aladura priests follow basic Christian doctrine but also use prophecy, healing, and charms to ward off witchcraft" (2).

6.2 Stimulants: n/a

6.3 Passage rituals (birth, death, puberty, seasonal):

-- "Most indigenous religions are based on a form of ancestor worship in which family members who have passed into the spirit world can influence things in the world of the living. This mixing of traditional ways with Islam has led to groups such as the Bori cult, who use spirit possession as a way to understand why people are suffering in this life. The mixing of traditional ways with Christianity has led to the development of the Aladura Church. Aladura priests follow basic Christian doctrine but also use prophecy, healing, and charms to ward off witchcraft" (2).

6.4 Other rituals:

6.5 Myths (Creation):

6.6 Cultural material (art, music, games):

-- "The ethnic groups in eastern Nigeria believe that the more music and dancing at a funeral, the better that person's chances of a successful afterlife. The size of funerals depends on the social standing of the deceased. Men are expected to set aside money that will be used to ensure they have a properly elaborate funeral. Women, children, and adolescents tend to have much less elaborate funerals" (2).

6.7 Sex differences in RCR:

-- "According to Muslim and Christian traditions, officials in these religions tend to be male" (2).

-- "Muslims are buried so that their heads face the holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia. For others, it is customary to bury a man with his head turned toward the east, so he can see the rising sun. A woman is buried facing west, so she will know when the sun sets and when it is time to prepare dinner for her husband in the next life" (2).

-- "The size of funerals depends on the social standing of the deceased. Men are expected to set aside money that will be used to ensure they have a properly elaborate funeral. Women, children, and adolescents tend to have much less elaborate funerals" (2).

6.8 Missionary effect: n/a

6.9 RCR revival: n/a

6.10 Death and afterlife beliefs:

-- "Christian and Muslim Nigerians believe that following death, a person's soul is released and judged by God before hopefully going on to Heaven. Many traditional religions, especially those of the eastern tribes, believe in reincarnation. In these tribes, people believe that the dead will come back as a member of his or her mother's or sister's family. Many in-depth ceremonies are necessary to prepare the body before burial. For example, if the person was afflicted with some physical disability, steps would be taken to prevent it from being passed on to him in the next life. An infertile woman may have her abdomen cut open before burial or a blind man may have a salve made from special leaves placed over his eyes" (2).

-- "Regardless of religion, Nigerians bury their dead. This is customary among Christians and Muslims, but it also is based on traditional beliefs that the body should be returned to the earth that sustained it during life" (2).

-- "Muslims are buried so that their heads face the holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia. For others, it is customary to bury a man with his head turned toward the east, so he can see the rising sun. A woman is buried facing west, so she will know when the sun sets and when it is time to prepare dinner for her husband in the next life. People also cover the body with black earth during burial because many believe that red earth will result in skin blemishes in the next life" (2).

6.11 Taboo of naming dead people?

6.12 Is there teknonymy? n/a

6.13 Briefly describe religion (animism, ancestor worship, deism, magic, totems etc.)

-- "Nigerians practice traditional African religious beliefs in addition to various branches of Islam and Christianity" (3).

-- "Christian holidays include the end of Ramadan (a month of fasting), Easter, Good Friday, and Christmas" (3).

-- "It is estimated that 50 percent of Nigerians are Muslim, 40 percent are Christian, and that the remaining 10 percent practice various indigenous religions" (2).

7. Adornment

7.1 Body paint: n/a

7.2 Piercings: none

7.3 Haircut: n/a

7.4 Scarification: none

7.5 Adornment (beads, feathers, lip plates, etc.):

-- "Nigerian art traditionally served a social or religious purpose and did not exist for the sake of art" (2).

7.6 Ceremonial/Ritual adornment:

-- "Muslims are buried so that their heads face the holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia. For others, it is customary to bury a man with his head turned toward the east, so he can see the rising sun. A woman is buried facing west, so she will know when the sun sets and when it is time to prepare dinner for her husband in the next life. People also cover the body with black earth during burial because many believe that red earth will result in skin blemishes in the next life" (2).

-- "Christian and Muslim Nigerians believe that following death, a person's soul is released and judged by God before hopefully going on to Heaven. Many traditional religions, especially those of the eastern tribes, believe in reincarnation. In these tribes, people believe that the dead will come back as a member of his or her mother's or sister's family. Many in-depth ceremonies are necessary to prepare the body before burial. For example, if the person was inflicted with some physical disability, steps would be taken to prevent it from being passed on to him in the next life. An infertile woman may have her abdomen cut open before burial or a blind man may have a salve made from special leaves placed over his eyes" (2).

7.7 Sex differences in adornment:

-- "Muslims are buried so that their heads face the holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia. For others, it is customary to bury a man with his head turned toward the east, so he can see the rising sun. A woman is buried facing west, so she will know when the sun sets and when it is time to prepare dinner for her husband in the next life. People also cover the body with black earth during burial because many believe that red earth will result in skin blemishes in the next life" (2).

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7.8 Missionary effect: n/a

7.9 Cultural revival in adornment:

8. Kinship systems

8.1 Sibling classification system:

8.2 Sororate, levirate:

8.3 Other notable kinship typology, especially cross-cousin (MBD/FZD) typology (Crow/Hawaiian/Omaha etc.):

9. Other interesting cultural features (list them):

-- "AIDS has extracted a devastating toll on Nigeria. The World Health Organization and UNAIDS estimated that 2.7 million Nigerian adults were living with AIDS or HIV in 1999. The vast majority of Nigerians who are HIV-positive do not know it. Some 1.7 million Nigerians had already died of the disease by the end of 1999. The primary mode of HIV transmission in Nigeria is through heterosexual intercourse" (2).

1.

http://bblearn.missouri.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab_group_id=21&url=%2Fwebapps%2Fblackboard%2Fexecute%2Flauncher%3Ftype%3DCourse%26id%3D70591%26url%3D

2.

http://bblearn.missouri.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab_group_id=21&url=%2Fwebapps%2Fblackboard%2Fexecute%2Flauncher%3Ftype%3DCourse%26id%3D70591%26url%3D

3. http://bblearn.missouri.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab_group_id=21&url=%2Fwebapps%2Fblackboard%2Fexecute%2Flauncher%3Ftype%3DCourse%26id%3D70591%26url%3D