A Paper presented on

The Occasion of Igbo Peace with God Conference Aba, Abia State Nigeria Titled: The Mission for Peace with God – The Solemn Assembly and What it is All About.

By the Leader of the Igbo Youths Cultural Association Nigeria Dr Samuel Ogbonna, on 17th April 2019

My God and my saviour, I stand before you and your children in this public gathering you called to make peace with you to say sorry Papa, *Gbahara anyi* – Forgive us because we refuse to accept that we have offended you.

Today, we converged here to make peace with you and lay the foundation for a **national solemnisation** with you. My MOTTO is PEACE! PEACE! And PEACE with YOU Almighty! Forgive us the IGBO Nation and Forgive Nigeria as a whole.

Brethren, I stand before you with the special privilege from God to address you, my fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters from all walks of life. With profound humility, I seek your permission to speak on the existing protocol.

Philosophically, something has to happen for some other thing (s) to take place. This is just the natural nature of "Actions and Responses or Actions and Reactions".

My brethren, we have a vision and a call from our Father in heaven. Just as you have heard from the prophet of God. God in his infinity and his likeness has invited us to make peace with him so that we will regain the freedom that has so much eluded us.

The question now is what do we do? The answer is that we shall as his people make a collective decision, carry out collective responsibility and embark on a collective mission to bring the vision to its fulfilment. The ball is now in our court.

Our Father, the God Almighty in heaven will not come down to do that, as his people we must stand up and boldly make movements. We shall do this without fear or favour. Without self-interest, it is the task of God to his children. It is God's Work!

There shall be no war, no bloodshed because many souls have already been slaughtered. As we begin this journey, we also invite all our brothers and sisters in every part of Nigeria, especially the Federal Government of Nigeria to join hands with us for the peaceful liberation of Nigeria as a whole.

No part of Nigeria will be liberated alone. The message from God is *that "His People Ndigbo will be liberated and finally resurrected"* and so shall all other ethnic nations in Nigeria. No part of Nigeria will have peace if "*Ndigbo is not free*". So says the Lord!

Because of that, I invite every one of you to individually and collectively embrace this vision and join the moving train so that we shall collectively journey down and along the mission in fulfilment of the vision. That is the divine Task that we MUST undertake. It is a must because it is God's wish and command.

Meanwhile, the aims and objectives of the solemn assembly are:

1. To deliver to you brethren the divine message from God to his children and

2. To unanimously, collectively and democratically decide the measures required to implement the message our Father in Heaven has asked us to deliver to his people.

Therefore, the simple questions are:

- i) How can we collectively go about this mission?
- ii) What is the strategy and or the strategies that will serve as a tool(s) to justify the vision? and,
- iii) Which methodology or methodologies can be applied?

Nevertheless, in a nutshell, we can and shall do the following:

- a. At the end of the presentations and discussions, "we MUST collectively say sorry Papa to God Almighty and we will ask for forgiveness"
- b. We MUST be submissive to God and obey his instructions,
- c. We shall unanimously decide now our fate and the destiny of our generation and the life of those yet unborn,
- d. We shall set up an expanded working committee and hand over "God Mandate to them".
- e. We shall contact and inform our brothers and sisters in other Igbo states and other geo-political maps in Nigeria, in the south-south and those in the north-central as God may desire,
- f. We shall stage a "NATIONAL PEACE WITH GOD ALMIGHTY CONFERENCE"
- g. Thereafter, at the convenient time according to God almighty, we shall call the attention of the Federal Government of Nigeria,
- h. We shall publish a communique on this conference to inform the general public both in Nigeria and across the nook and crannies of the universe on the aims and objectives of this "Peace with God gathering"
- i. Above all, we MUST listen to God and follow his directives.

Dear brethren, some people will be asking, why now and why in Abia State. If one walks down the tail of history, starting from the old good days of Eastern Nigeria, one will discover that today's Abia State has been playing a pivotal role in the sociopolitical, socio-religious and socio-economic development of Nigeria.

Now, let me draw your attention to certain sections of the Holy Bible. Abia is the only State in Nigeria discovered to have heritage directly to and with the "Holy Bible", Which means with God Almighty.

Abia is very religious, divine and spiritual. A look at the first (1st) chronicle chapter 3, verse 10, from the Old Testament, Mathew chapter 1, verse 7 and Luck chapter 1, verse 5 from the New Testament, unveils that Abia is a synonym for Abijah.

Abijah is alternatively spelt Abiah or Abia. In Modern Hebrew Aviya, is a Biblical Hebrew unisex name, which means "My Father is Yahweh"!

Therefore, because our father is Yahweh – meaning God Almighty, (Obasi di na-elu) Abia State is his state and we the indigenes, are his children. In the present political **segregations** and **dispersions** in Nigeria, we are called God Owns State!

This is the ultimate reason why solutions to diverse issues affecting the Igbo nation and by extension the Nigeria nation more often than not start from Abia State. Based on the aforementioned, we as "Ndi Abia" or the Abians, should stand upright and claim our right and our place in the kingdom of Jehova our *Chi*.

He is our Father, he has stretched out his hands to receive his lost sons and daughters now found. He has promised to give us the promised freedom. But only if we are ready to embark on the mission and give him and ONLY him the glory!

Therefore, in the name of God Almighty, I hereby declare this divine movement officially open. I further invite you all, Ndi Eze, Spiritual leaders and heads of churches, political and economic leaders and all illustrious sons of and daughters of Ndi Igbo around the world. And no matter where you are at this moment, join me in your spiritual state of mind in kicking off this divine mission for which we have all gathered together.

I want you to be fearless and steadfast in your doings, peaceful in your actions, obedient to God's instructions and truthful in carrying out God's directives. One with God is the majority!

Having said that, I salute every one of you who has come to answer the call of the Almighty. As you leave back to your various destinations, the God Almighty will guide you through and in anything you do. Keep you healthy and strengthen you for the work ahead of you.

Furthermore, let me use this platform to thank the members of the Organising Committee who have worked so hard and tirelessly within a short period to make this gathering a success. Thank you so much and remain **steadfast** in the responsibilities yet to come your way.

Finally, I want to assure you that we shall overcome it very soon. I thank you so much for coming and the time to listen to us as we deliver to you the **solemn message** from our heavenly father.

God bless you, bless the Igbo Nation in particular and Nigeria at large.

Dr. Samuel Ogbonna This day, 17th April 2019