



We Will Not Forget!



**“Unlearning
what we have
learnt to learn
what we ought to
learn”**

SORO SOKE (SPEAK UP) CONFERENCE

1ST MAY, 2021

ELECTORAL REFORM AND VOTES FOR THE VOTELESS
Dele Ogun

CIVIC EDUCATION AND ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP
Dr. Biki S. V. Minyuku

THE OUTLOOK FOR DEMOCRACY
Dr Gabriel Eke

POLICING AND ARMY REFORM
Adewale Adeoye

RESETTING EDUCATION IN NIGERIA:THE WAY FORWARD
Emeritus Professor Nwanze

THE CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION
Chief Adetola Adeniyi

ARE WE READY TO UNLEARN TO RELEARN?
Tim Modu



ABOUT US

The Fatherland Group is a global network of forward thinking Nigerians armed with a new understanding of our past, our present and our future.

CONTACT US

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Email: Admin@Fatherlandgroup.Org

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“You never change things by fighting the existing reality. To change something, build a new model that makes the existing model obsolete”

- R Buckminster Fuller

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

MR BONNY UBA

MRS ESTHER OGUN

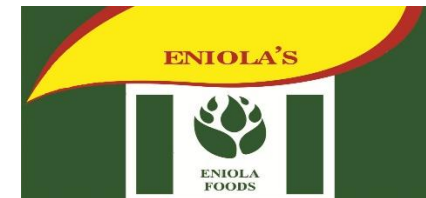
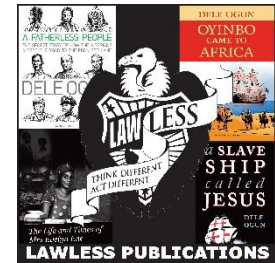
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Welcome Message from the Conference Chair



On behalf of the SoroSoke2021 organizing committee, I am honored and delighted to welcome you to the 1st Soro Soke Conference. This conference holds special value because this is the first diaspora-led conference in the history of our country where there is dedicated focus on practical solutions to address critical issues facing Nigeria. The theme of this conference is **“Unlearning what we have learnt to learn what we ought to learn”**, the reeducation required to alter the dynamics around the Nigeria Project. I believe we have chosen an approach that guarantees a successful conference amid the recent events and mood of Nigerians at home and in the diaspora.

We have experts from across the fields who will be sharing their thoughts, knowledge and opinions with the rest of us. Our conference program is rich and varied with 2 plenary speeches, 4 invited talks and around 35 discussants split between 4 workshops. Besides, there are 2 breakout sessions which provides opportunities for informal networking.

As conference chair of SoroSoke2021, I know that the success of the conference depends ultimately on the people who have worked with us in planning and organizing both the program and supporting social arrangements. In particular, we thank the Program Committee for their wise advice and brilliant suggestions on the program content, the speakers and discussants for their thorough and timely submission and review of the papers, and our sponsors who have helped us to keep down the costs of SoroSoke2021 for all participants. Recognition should go to the Organizing Committee members who have all worked extremely hard for the details of important aspects of the conference program.

Kehinde Oluwo
Conference Chair, Inaugural Soke Soke Conference
May, 2021

Speakers



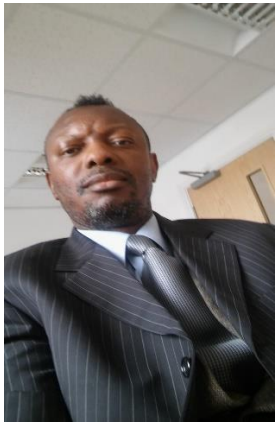
Dele Ogun
Founder, The Fatherland Group



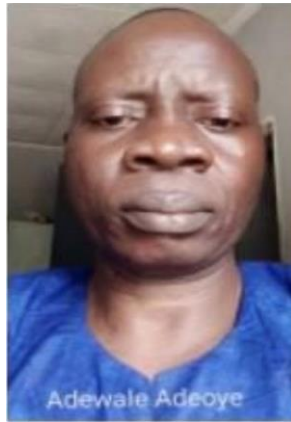
Dr. Biki S. V. Minyuku



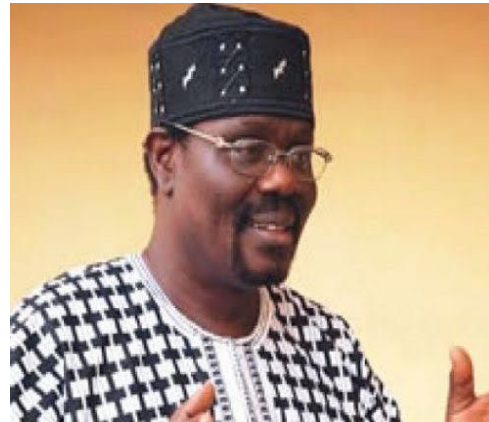
Emeritus Professor Nwanze



Dr Gabriel Eke



Mr Adewale Adeoye



Chief Tola Adeniyi



Mr Tim Modu

SORO SOKE (SPEAK UP)! CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

SESSION 1

12.00 pm to 12:15 pm Welcome Address: Ms Kehinde Oluwo (Conference Chair and Session 1 Moderator)

12.00 pm to 12:35 pm **Plenary Paper:** Electoral Reform and Votes for the Voteless – Dele Ogun (Convenor)

12:35 pm to 12:50 pm **Workshop 1: The outlook for Democracy – Dr Gabriel Eke**

Elections are scheduled for 2023. The theory of democracy is that at regular intervals citizens have the opportunity to review the mandates of their representatives by either confirming them in office or replacing them. The theory rests on the integrity of the voting system: that the electorate make informed decisions and their votes are faithfully counted and respected. This workshop will consider the democracy record in Nigeria to gauge the outlook for 2023.

12.50 pm to 1:20 pm **Discussants:** Taiwo Ayedun/Reverend David Okorodudu/ Kunle Kasumu/Father Kevin Anigbo/Professor Femi Olufunmilade/Tola Mobolurin

13:20 pm to 1:45 pm Individual Breakout sessions

1:45 pm to 2:00 pm **Workshop 2: Policing and Army Reform– Adewale Adeoye**

With daily reports of kidnappings, murder and rape across the country and against the backdrop of the global #ENDSARS protests, and pervasive fraud and corruption, it is clear that Nigeria's policing system is broken and needs replacement. Also, since President Buhari took office, we have seen the army deployed against civilian communities across various parts of the country whether as part of Operation Crocodile Smile I, II or III, or as we saw at Lekki Tollgate during the #ENDSARS protests. This workshop will consider options to remodel the police and the army.

2:00 pm to 2:30 pm **Discussants:** Idowu Ibrahim/George Alily/ Mrs Pamela Ibeh/Adeoye Fadipe/Yemi Johnson

2:30 pm to 2:50 pm Individual Breakout sessions

2:50 pm to 3:00 pm Break

SESSION 2

3:00 pm to 3:15pm Welcome Address: Timothy Modu (Session 2 Moderator)

3:15pm to 3:30pm Plenary Session: Active Citizenship – Dr Biki Minyuku

3:30 pm to 4:00pm

Workshop 3: Resetting Education – Emeritus Professor Nwanze

Education is in free fall with lack of investment and a plague of cultism and perpetual strikes manifesting with those who can opt out of the educational system into private or foreign education for their children. With education being devalued by millions of unemployed and under employed graduates and jobs and opportunities for advancement being accessed with little regard to educational attainment

4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Discussants: Ms. Olamide Akinwuntan/Ms Bola Kosoko/ Ola Alade/Adeleke Adefala/Justus C Uranta/Linda Haastrup/Ms Salewa Akindeko/Juliana Olayinka/ Dayo Fadina/Edson Aiworo/Richard George/ Lara Oyedele/Benji Classic FM/Caroline Pillay/Tolu Sokenu

5:00 pm: 5:10 pm

Tea Break

5:10 pm to 5:30 pm

Workshop 4: The Constitutional Question and the pathway to the Swiss Model –Dele Abegunde & Chief Tola Adeniyi

Do we have a Constitution? What is restructuring? What will the restructured Nigeria look like? How can it be done? A review of the draft Constitution for a Restructured Nigeria

5:30 pm to 6:30 pm

Discussants: Ayinde Katunga/Chimmi Ezigbo/Professor Olumide Ijose/Samson Jesi/Jerry Sodipe/ Tope Akeremale/ Steven Kefason/ John Palmer/Dele Osinuga/Tony Dara

6:30pm to 6:40pm

Closing Address – Dele Ogun

6:40pm

Musical Entertainment from DJ Bonny