ANAMBRA STATE

Anambra is a state in south-eastern Nigeria. Its name is an anglicised version of the original 'Oma-Mbala.' The capital and seat of government is Awka. Onitsha is by far the largest urban area. Boundaries are formed by Delta State to the west, Imo State and Rivers State to the south, Enugu state to the east and Kogi State to the north. The indigenous ethnic group in Anambra State are the Igbo (98%) and a small population of Olumbanasa people (2%). Nickname: Light of the Nation.

Anambra is rich in natural gas, crude oil, Bauxite, ceramic and has an almost 100 percent arable land. Also, Anambra has many other resources in terms of agro based activities like fishery and farming.

Old Anambra State was created in 1976 from part of East Central State and its capital was Enugu. A further reorganisation in 1991 Anambra and Enugu.

Agulu Crocodile Lake, Ogbunike caves with waterfall, Igbo Ukwu Museum, Niger Bridge, Agwuve Trinity Tree at Enugwu Aguleri, etc. are some good tourist centres in the state.

Awka is the centre of Nigeria's metal work and carving industries. Educationally, Anambra is a centre of excellence. There are the Nnamdi Azikiwe University (UNIZIK), Awka with a College of Medicine situated at Nnewi; the Anambra State University of Science and Technology (ASUTECH); the Federal Polytechnic, Oko; Nwafor Orizu University of Education, Nsugbe; and private universities like the Tansian University, Umunya, Madonna University, Okija and St. Paul's University Awka.

The major urban centres of Anambra are Onitsha (including Okpoko), Nnewi and Awka. Awka and Onitsha developed as pre-colonial urban centres with Awka as the craft industrial centre of the Nri hegemony; and Onitsha the city state on the Niger and a river port and commercial centre.

Anambra State consists of twenty-one (21) local government areas. They are: Aguata, Awka North, Awka South, Anambra East, Anambra West, Anaocha, Ayamehum, Dunukofia, Ekwusigo, Idemili North, Idemili South,

Ihiala, Njikoka, Nnewi North, Nnewi South, Ogbaru, Onitsha North, Onitsha South, Orumba North, Orumba South, and Oyi.

Some notable persons from the state are Chinua Achebe, Chike Obi, Osita Osadebe, Chimamanda Adichie, Nnamdi Azikiwe, and Dim. Emeka Ojukwu.