KOGI STATE

Kogi is a state in the central region of Nigeria. It is popularly called the Confluence State because the confluence of Rivers Niger and Benue is at its capital, Lokoja, which is the first administrative capital of modern day Nigeria. Nickname: The Confluence State.

Kogi State is the only state in Nigeria which shares boundaries with ten other states. These states are Niger (north), Kwara (northwest), Ekiti (west), Ondo (west), Edo (southwest), Anambra (south), Enugu (southeast), Benue (east), Nasarawa (northeast) and Abuja-FCT (north).

The state was created in 1991 from parts of Kwara and Benue States. There are three main ethnic groups and languages in Kogi: Igala, Ebira, and Okun (a Yoruba group) with others such as Bassa-nge, a people of Nupe extraction in Lokoja and Bassa Local Government Area, Bassa-komo of Bassa LGA, Gwari, Kakanda, Oworo people (a Yoruba group), Ogori, Magongo, Idoma, and the Eggan community under Lokoja LGA.

Kogi State consists of twenty-one (21) LGAs: Adavi, Ajaokuta, Ankpa, Bassa, Dekina, Ibaji, Idah, Igalamela-Odolu, Ijumu, Kabba/Bunu, Koton Karfe (Kogi), Lokoja, Mopa-Muro, Ofu, Ogori/Magongo, Okehi, Okene, Olamaboro, Omala, Yagba East, and Yagba West.

Tourist attractions in Kogi State include the colonial relics (such as Lord Lugard House), the confluence of Rivers Niger and Benue, Ogidi (an African town with formations of igneous rock mountains and a traditional art and craft industry).

Agriculture is the mainstay of the economy. There are many farm produce from the state, notably coffee, cocoa, palm oil, cashews, groundnuts, maize, cassava, yam, rice and melon.

Mineral resources include coal, limestone, iron, petroleum, and tin. The state is home to the largest iron and steel industry in Nigeria known as the Ajaokuta Steel Company Ltd and also the Obajana Cement Factory.