

**COMMUNIQUE FOR WORLD OWERRI PEOPLES CONGRESS
FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY MR. KESTER ATUMONYOGO.
THE 7TH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF WORLD OWERRI PEOPLES CONGRESS
HELD IN DALLAS TEXAS AT THE CROWN PLAZA HOTEL**

CONVENTION THEME "OWERRI, TIME TO RE-ASSES, RE-FOCUS AND RE-INVIGORATE"

The World Owerri Peoples Congress Inc, a non for profit organization of the three local government area of Owerri (Owerri North, Owerri West and Owerri Municipal) in Diaspora within the continent of North America and beyond held its 7th annual convention in Dallas Texas from August the 10th to August the 12th in the year of our lord 2007. The WOPC President, Chief Chris Iheanyichukwu Nwaneri, in his welcome address urged members of WOPC to re-dedicate themselves to the task of making WOPC a stronger and a more powerful organization. The convention chairman Professor Felix Ekechi advised the delegates to always be proud of their identity as Nde Owerri.

The Keynote speaker, former senator Eze Darlington Ajoku from Nigeria gave a very informative message to all the WOPC delegates. Addressing the theme of the convention, former senator Eze Ajoku advised all that the struggle for human justice and for human fairness won't be over till God says it is. The summary of his message is as follow:

1. Nde Owerri as an entity should hold strong to the lifeline called hope in God considering the constant justice denial to us.
2. Nde Owerri lack true political mentors who are willing to lend their broad shoulders for younger aspirants to see further opportunities.
3. The lack of sincere leadership class among Nde Owerri had caused severe hindrance in the demand for justice and equity and henceforth the demand for Owerri Federal Constituency to produce a governor of Imo-State had remained in constant jeopardy.
4. Collective and united spirit among Nde Owerri which are lacking should b encouraged, otherwise the spirit of "If not me, it cannot be my brother will remain dominance with its serious negative consequences

Former Senator Ajoku recognized and acknowledged Owerri people who had risen to political challenges, such as Chief Martin Agbaso, Honorable Uche Onyeagocha, Chief Chris Asoluka, Mrs. Ugochi Nana Okoro, Mrs. Kema Chikwe, Capt. Larry Iheanacho (Rtd) Mr. Jerry Chukwueke, Honorable Ernest Ibejiako and many others. The Senator advised Umu Owerri in Diaspora to see themselves as "Umu nwanwa and Nde Mgboto as a means of harnessing the political strength conferred on Owerri by its huge Diaspora population.

The guest of honor, His Royal Highness, Eze Emmanuel Sonde Okoro-Eze Omenyi 11 of Emii autonomous community, in Owerri North Local Government Area of Imo-State urged for unity, honesty and peace among Igbo leaders as a means to benefit from dividends of democracy in Nigeria.

Sir Godwin Osuji, another guest speaker from Nigeria and a representative of Mezie/Dozie Owerri spoke on the need to re-invent good governance in Imo-State. Sir Osuji emphasized on the problems of marginalization of Nde Owerri from participating on affairs of Imo-State government. He encouraged Nde Owerri to embrace economic emancipation through the use of cultural tourism, medical mission and ecological matters.

Chief Martin Agbaso, the Ochudo of Owerri sincerely thanked WOPC members for their support during his Imo-State gubernatorial race. He re-emphasized that it will only take a governor who hails from Owerri to develop Owerri. He further encouraged Nde Owerri to always strive for the best and not to settle for less. The convention was also used to raise funds for future developmental projects within the three local government areas of Owerri. The 2008 WOPC Convention will be held in Austin Texas, USA. Long live WOPC, Long live Imo-State.