



JULY 23,

2016



Unity is Strength



WELCOME MESSAGE FROM NATA PRESIDENT



The honorable Chairman, our distinguished guest and members of Ndoki Association of the Americas (NATA), it is with the deepest sense of humility and gratitude that on behalf of NATA, I welcome you to our 2016 convention and fundraising activities. We are delighted that you have given up your time to share the evening with us.

NATA has gone through a lot of growing pains since its inception in 2012. We were like a new baby not really knowing how to navigate our existence. We cried when hungry, became cranky when uncomfortable, had stranger anxiety, and smiled at familiar faces. We learned how to sit, crawl, and stand while holding onto something. Now we are beginning to take some steps. Hopefully before long we will learn to run.

In six years of existence as an organization, we have weathered some major storms. As strong and resilient people our experiences have strengthened our resolve. Through all our difficulties we will reach the heights.

Umu Ndoki, the time is now for NATA to become relevant in Ndoki land. We should strike a balance between complacency and striving to make a difference in our homeland.

No longer is the excuse of being small in number valid. Tonight we have proven that a few devoted people can do better than a thousand uncommitted people.

We might not be able to lift all the heavy weights but we can do our best with what we can lift. According to Mother Teresa “If you cannot feed a thousand people, then just feed one.”

Gone are the days of drawn out arguments and exchanges on our Yahoo Group Medium.

Changes do not happen without actions. We cannot achieve our objectives without coming together with positive ideas and the willingness to stay the course.

“If you don’t stand for something you fall for everything.”

The theme of tonight is: **Providing Reliable Electricity for Ndoki.**

The Afam Power Station was commissioned in 1962 in Ndoki land. However, Ndoki has not had reliable electricity for years. As a result efforts to alleviate years of suffering from lack of electricity was started by well intending citizens of Ndoki. We the Ndoki sons and daughters in the diaspora have joined in these efforts, to make sure that they come to fruition.

I wish NATA a successful fundraising gala night.

I thank all our guests for honoring our invitation.

God bless you and grant you journey mercies as you return to your various destinations.

Dr. (Mrs.) Ngozi Emuchay.

President

Ndoki Association of The Americas (NATA).

NATA OFFICERS



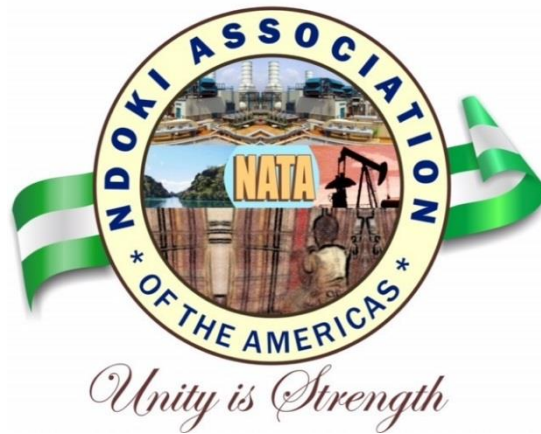
Ngozi Emuchey, President



Beatrice Owunwanne
Financial Secretary



Esiaba Stanley, VP



Charles Ojunta
General Secretary



Justina N Onwukwe, Provost



Michael Ojika, Treasurer

2016 CONVENTION PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Esiaba Stanley, Chair



Comfort Nwankwo



Nkem Emuchey



Paul Ohunna II

NDOKI PEOPLE OF NIGERIA

INTRODUCTION

The Ndoki people account for only a very small fraction of the Igbo population of Nigeria. Historical documents claim that the Ndoki founding fathers were migrants from Bonny. Although controversy is associated with the real source of Ndoki origins, the fact remains that they have occupied their present abodes since the early times of humanity. Traditionally they have always maintained cultural links with the rest of the groups in the Rivers State. According to Nwogu (2011), the Ndoki group migrated out of the Central Delta Region in search of peaceful environment because of endless crises in the 15th century Benin Kingdom. The exodus was in the south-east direction and continued until they arrived in the Imo River valley in about 1504 AD. The great anthropologist G. I. Jones argued that there were pockets of settlements of Isuama Igbos in the Imo River Valley when the Ndoki people arrived. With passage of time, the interactions between these peoples (trade, marriage, slave trade) lead to complete adoption and assimilation of the Ndoki group into generic Igbo language and culture (Nwogu, 2011).

Location and its People

The people of Ndoki are found in Oyigbo LGA of Rivers State, Ukwa-East LGA in Abia State, and the Ohaobu groups of villages are a part of Akwa Ibom State. Those in Rivers State include Ayama, Okoloma, Umuosi, and Obeakpu. Oral tradition claim that from these early settlements, the people spread to Egberu, Afam-Ukwu, Afam –nta down to Umuagbai, Azogu, Maraihu, Okponton, Obunku Okwanku, and Obete. Those that later crossed the Imo River are found in Akwete, Azumini, Obunku Ugbo, Mkpuajakere, Nkpukpoha, Ohambebe, Akirika-Ukwu, Akirika-Nta, Abaki, Akanu, Akirika-Obu, Eti, Obohia, Obaozu, Ohandu, Ohanku, Ohanso, Ohuru, and Ubaku (Nwalor, Orji and Sokari-George, 2011). The Ndoki people are grouped into clans for administrative connivance. These clans include: Umuihueze I, Umuihueze II, Obohia, Ikwu-Ori-Ato, Umukobo, Ikwuorie, Umuigubeachara, Ikwueke and Ohuru/Mkporobo.

Between 1960 and now the bulk of the Ndoki people has moved from Eastern Region to Biafra, East Central State, to Imo/Rivers, and now Abia State. According to Nwogu (2011), the average Ndoki person has little or no inclination to aristocracy or monarchy. The typical Ndoki person strongly believes in the expression “Iwuru Eze, o n’ulo gi” – you are only a monarch in your household. As lovers of democracy, power has always been based with the people and groups that appeal to the masses. In earlier times, authority lay with the elders and first male born. After the Nigerian Civil War, many Ndoki persons emigrated out of the traditional Ndoki homeland in Nigeria due to an absence of federal presence, lack of jobs and poor infrastructure. Birth, marriage and burial are considered the three most important family events in most cultures, and Ndoki land is not an exception to that. Between 2008 and 2009, our homeland was subjected to very serious security challenges, with hoodlums, kidnapers and hostage takers terrorizing our people. Proper intervention by both Federal and state law enforcement agents were able to stabilize the situation. Ekeke (2010) observed that some eminent Ndoki persons have played vital roles in government and service of our dear country Nigeria.

Culture and Natural Resources

The Ancient land of Ndoki has a rich cultural heritage. From the Age Grade System, Ikoro dance, Nwaotam Cultural Festival, Okonko Secret Society to the Ekpe Masquerade and lots more. These festivals takes place at various times of the year and attract many visitors and tourists. They have being strong unifying factor for the peace loving people of Ndoki. Akwete is a hand woven cloth produced by the people of Akwete and other Ndoki communities. Petroleum oil exploration in Ndoki started with the discovery of oil by the Anglo-Dutch oil giant (Shell) in 1957 (Nwogu, 2011). The following Ndoki communities’ (Obeakpu, Afam-Ukwu, Afam-Nta, Ayama, Egberu, Okoloma, and Obunku Okwankwu) have oil wells and natural gas installations (Nwogu, 2011). In addition to crude oil and natural gas, Electric Power (1,050 Megawatts) is generated, transmitted and distributed from the giant Afam Power Plant (Nwogu, 2011). The Oil and Natural gas exploration has led to serious environmental degradation in Ndokiland. The Ndoki land and people sustained heavy suffering and deaths during the Nigerian Civil War also known as the Biafran War with Nigeria. Many children and adults died due to starvation, diseases and as casualties of war.

Religion and Education

Ndoki communities practiced traditional religion prior to advent of Christian missionary activities in 1914. Later, Niger Delta Pastorates, African Churches, Christ Army Church Stations and small Roman Catholic Missions at Obohia and Azumini were established (Nwogu, 2011). Evidence suggests that the Ndoki people have early access to western education when compared to other groups in Igbo hinterland. At the turn of the 20th century, two primary schools were

established at Akwete and Obohia respectively. In addition, secondary schools were established in Obohia, Azumini, Umuagbai plus a vocational trade school at Ohanso. Collectively, these institutions educated generations of Umu Ndoki. Despite the early access **Ndoki still lacks a post-secondary** institution in our homeland. In Europe and North America, a growing number of Ndoki people have degrees in engineering, law, business, agriculture, science, liberal arts, and medicine from top institutions.

Ndoki in Diaspora

Ndoki in North America inaugurated The Ndoki Association of the Americas (NATA), a non-profit Association of Ndoki people in the Americas. The purpose of NATA is to serve as a forum for Ndoki people of Nigeria in the Americas to advance ideas that improve the life of Ndoki communities in Nigeria. Another objective is to see our community grow in the Americas; to have a strong voice on important issues that affect us and, by doing so, showcase the rich and exciting culture of our people, and our struggles in Diaspora and at home.

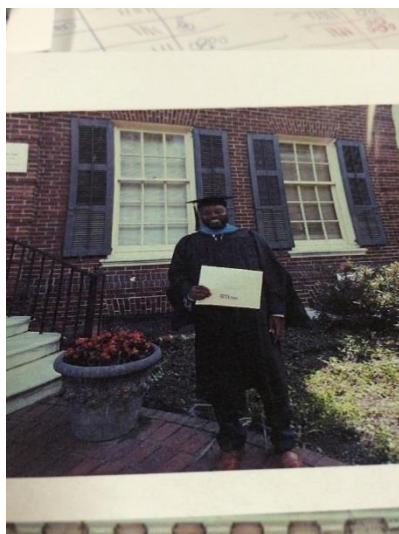
Nigerian & Americam National Anthem

***The Ohunna Family in USA
and Akirika Ndoki***



***PRAY FOR
NATA and NDOKI PEOPLE UNITY
THAT
BRINGS PROGRESS!***

Mr. A and Mrs. B Owunwanne Family

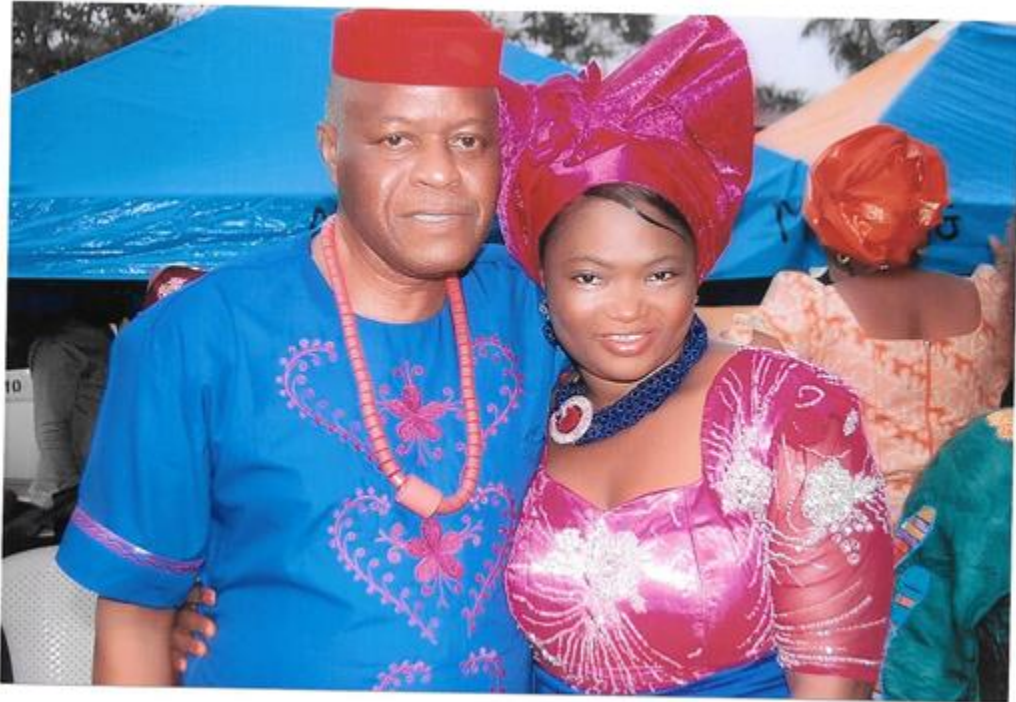


Wishes

NATA a Happy 3rd National Convention

In Chicago, Illinois, USA

CONGRATULATIONS !!!



The Family of Charles and Onyinyechi Ojunta of Obunku Ndoki, on behalf of the Ojunta's at home and in Diaspora, Congratulates Members of Ndoki Association of the Americas(NATA) on the Occasion of their 3rd Biannual Convention holding in Chicago . May God Bless NATA.

Long Live NATA, God Bless Ndoki Land, and God Bless Nigeria

Charles and Onyinyechi Ojunta

Snellville Georgia.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Michael C. Ojika



Congratulate

Ndoki Association of The Americas (NATA)

On their 3rd national convention, 2016.

We also congratulate all members of the association.

The family of Onyi and Esiaba Stanley



Heartily Congratulate

the President, Executive Officers and the entire members of NATA
on her 3rd National convention and fund raising in Chicago Illinois.
We are delighted to be part of NATA and wish the association a successful
convention.

Long Live NATA !

Umuadaigbo Chicago and Environs



Heartily Congratulate

Eziadaukwu Dr. Mrs. Ngozi Emuchay a.k.a Nneoma, our able and dynamic financial secretary who combines humility, transparency and knowledge to stand out among equals. We are so proud of you.

And Congratulate

**Ndoki Association of The Americas (NATA)
On Their 3rd National Convention, CHICAGO, IL USA**

Nneife Mrs. Nkechi Okeh

President

Umuadaigbo Chicago and Environs USA Inc.



The Family of Mr. Nkem & Dr. (Mrs.) Ngozi Emuchay

Congratulates

The leadership and the members of Ndoki Association of The Americas on the occasion of their 2016 convention.

God Bless NATA

God Bless Ndoki Land

THE FAMILY OF

Dr. AND MRS OWEN N. OWUNWANNE



GREET

NATA

ON THEIR 2016 CONVENTION



DR. OKEZIE IKPEAZU PhD
Governor Abia State



THE GOVERNOR
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, UMUAHIA, ABIA STATE.

Dr. Ngozi Emuchay
President
Ndoki Association of the Americas
United States of America

17/6/2016

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Third Bi-Annual

Convention & Gala Nite

The entire good people of Abia State, my Government, family and I, with one felicitous, unanimous, sonorous voice joyfully announce our hearty *Congratulations* to you on the happy occasion of your *third Bi-Annual Convention and Gala Nite* holding at Hillside, Illinois, USA.

I seize this opportunity to express my heart-felt *appreciation* of the *many landmark achievements and laudable accomplishments* to the credit of the *many great sons and daughters of the highly erudite and urbane Ndoki clan* strewn all over Nigeria and across the globe.

Especially commendable is the noble role your Association has continually played, in the **Diaspora**, in promoting the good image of our dear nation, particularly our beloved **GOD's Own State, Abia**. I exhort you to continue blazing even stronger along this **patriotic, laudable and decorous** trail. Keep up the good job. We, your brothers and sisters at home, are **truly proud of you**.

CONGRATULATIONS once again.

OKEZIE IKPEAZU, Ph.D
Governor



RT. HON. EMEKA STANLEY (JP)
Chairman ASOPADEC



ABIA STATE OIL PRODUCING AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (ASOPADEC)

OFFICE OF THE PERMANENT SECRETARY
11, Okpara Avenue, Umuahia, Abia State, Nigeria


FELICITATION

I, Rt. Hon. Emeka Stanley (JP) happily felicitate with Ndoki Association of the Americas (NATA) on their Third Biennial Town Hall and Gala Night Meeting holding in Chicago, Illinois.

This forum is a true reflection of the adage, "there is no place like home" and has further proved you as great ambassadors of Ndoki land. The entire people of Ukwa East Local Government area of Abia State will forever remain grateful to God for such an assemblage of worthy sons and daughters of Ndoki land.

My family and I wish you a fruitful deliberation and result oriented meeting as you gear towards supporting the electricity project at Ndoki.

God bless Ndoki Clan.


Rt. Hon. Emeka Stanley (JP)
Chairman



DMAZ Corporation

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The President/CEO and Board of Directors of DMAZ Corporation
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Congratulates NATA

on their 3rd National Convention in Chicago, IL USA



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THE EBBIS FAMILY



THE EBBIS FAMILY REJOICES WITH
NDOKI ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTH AMERICAS.
THIRD NATIONAL CONVENTION, 2016

Akirika Salutes NATA

The Owunwanne Family Salutes NATA

Grace



Nduka

On behalf of the entire Owunwanne family in USA, Kuwait, Akirika, and all over Nigeria, My wife, children and I congratulate Ndoki Association of the Americas (NATA) on her July 23, 2016 National Convention.



Ndidi



Kelechi

May God help Ndoki to always strive to work together in unity.

“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for the brethren to dwell together in unity”, Psalm 133:1. “A cord of three strands is not easily broken”, Eccl. 4:12.

**Jesus loves you and died for you, please, give your life to Him.
He is coming very soon. GOD BLESS NDOKI.**

Daniel Nduka Owunwanne, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Dept. of Computer Information Systems
Howard University, Washington, DC



FELICITATIONS! FELICITATIONS!! FELICITATIONS!!!

Ndoki Grammar School Old Students Association.

Congratulates the Executives and the entire members of Ndoki Association of The Americas (NATA) on her Third Bi-Annual convention and Gala nite in Chicago.

It is our prayer that the good Lord will continue to direct your affairs and use each and every one of you for the betterment of the Ndoki land and to the glory of His name- Amen.

While, we join our diaspora Ndoki Community in celebrating , we encourage you not to loose sight of all the works that need to be done at home, the Great Ndoki Land.

Signed:

- i. Sir Rogers Nwachinyere**
- ii. Ms Comfort Nnenna Nwankwo**
- iii. Deacon Temple C. Iheanacho**
- iv. Mrs. Ihuoma kay Solomon-Okoli**

For Ndoki Grammar School Old Students Association.

GREETINGS FROM IKWUORIE OHANKU-NDOKI



On behalf of Frank Nnah Nwankwo's family, Comfort Nnanna congratulates NATA on their 2016 convention.

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Mrs. Lovinah S. Nnah, MD

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Nigeria.

Innocent Nwankwo, MD

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Azumini Welfare Association of North America

(AWANA)



The president and the entire members of AWANA heartily

Congratulate

The president and the members of Ndoki Association of the Americas on
the occasion of their 2016 convention in Chicago, Illinois.

Long Live AWANA

Long Live NATA

Honorable Eluwa Ebbis

President AWANA

Visit our website at: <http://www.azumini.org>



Akwete National Association USA Inc.,

Joyfully Congratulate the Executive Officers

And the Entire members of the

Ndoki Association of The Americas (NATA)

On her 3rd Bi-Annual National Convention and

Gala Night in Chicago, Illinois

Long Live NATA USA.

Esiaba Stanley (National President)

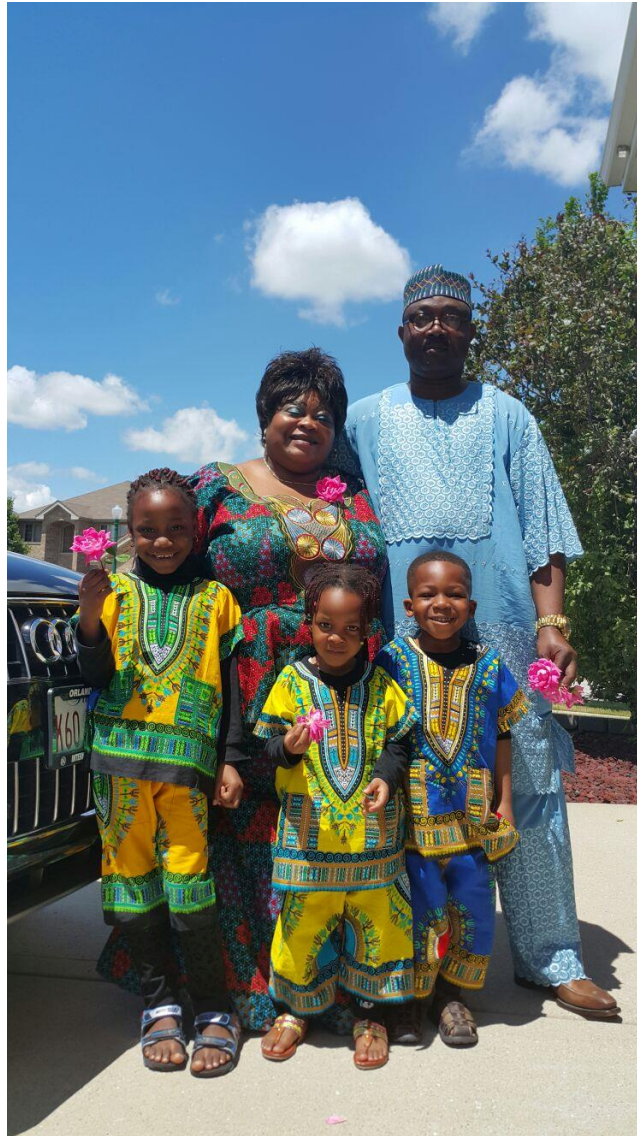
Emmanuel Ekeke (National Secretary)

Mr. Enyinna Dennar, Mrs. Ugbana Dennar
Obinna and Emiya

Congratulates

**NDOKI ASSOCIATION of
THE AMERICAS (NATA)**

For a successful 2014 convention
in Washington, D.C



The Family of Mr. Basil and Mrs. Ann Ohakosim

Congratulates

The President and Members of Ndoki Association of The Americas (NATA)

On their 2016 convention in Chicago, Illinois USA.



Mr. & Mrs. Solomon Okoli and Family

Welcome members of **Ndoki Association of the Americas (NATA)** to **Chicago**.

Congratulations on this Third Bi-Annual Convention and Gala Nite.

We wish every guest a wonderful experience in “The Windy City”

May God bless your efforts with Peace, Love & Progress!

Keep up the good work!!!

Felicitations



The family of
CHIDY & LOVETTE ANEKE
sends warm greetings
to
KINGSLEY ESIABA STANLEY
and all members of
NDOKI ASSOCIATION OF THE AMERICAS
with their friends
as they convene in Chicago, Illinois.

Good luck and enjoy!



Goodwill

M E S S A G E

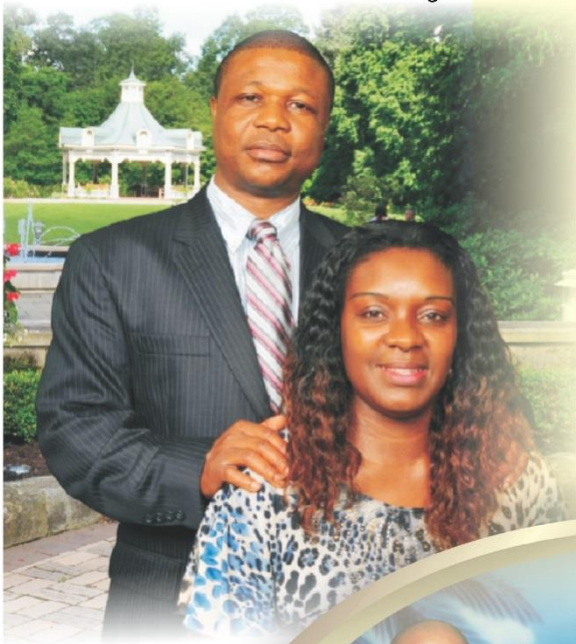
Nwa'da
OBERENACHI AKPARANTA
is very pleased to
send pleasant
greetings to
HON. KINGSLEY ESIABA STANLEY
& members of
NDOKI ASSOCIATION OF THE AMERICAS
on the
occasion of their
Chicago, Illinois Convention

The best of successes!!

The family of
AZUAKOLAM AND JULIET STANLEY
is happy to felicitate and congratulate
the good people of
NDOKI ASSOCIATION OF THE AMERICAS
as they hold their
National Convention
in Chicago Illinois



We wish you a very successful
convention and
a lot of happy time



AZUAKOLAM STANLEY
Secretary, Akwete National Association USA, East.
(New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania)

