

ÈKÉ (Jan 29)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Jan 30)	ÀFỌ (Jan 31)	NKWỌ (Feb 1)
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
ÈKÉ (Feb 2)	ÓRIÈ (Feb 3)	ÀFỌ (Feb 4)	NKWỌ (Feb 5)
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
ÈKÉ (Feb 6)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Feb 7)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Feb 8)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Feb 9)
Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
ÈKÉ (Feb 10)	ÓRIÈ (Feb 11)	ÀFỌ (Feb 12)	NKWO (Feb 13)
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
ÈKÉ (Feb 14)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Feb 15)	ÀFỌ (Feb 16)	NKWỌ (Feb 17)
Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
ÈKÉ (Feb 18)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Feb 19)	ÀFỌ (Feb 20)	NKWỌ (Feb 21)
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
ÈKÉ (Feb 22)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Feb 23)	ÀFỌ (Feb 24)	NKWỌ (Feb 25)
Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday

QNWA MBU – This is the first month in the Igbo Calendar and it starts in the January/February of each Gregorian year, when the New Moon appears. QNWA MBU ends after about 28 days when the new moon appears again in February.

ÈKÉ (Feb 26)	ÓRIÈ (Feb 27)	ÀFỌ (Feb 28)	NKWỌ (Mar 1)
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
ÈKÉ (Mar 2)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Mar 3)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Mar 4)	NKWO (Mar 5)
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
ÈKÉ (Mar 6)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Mar 7)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Mar 8)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Mar 9)
Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
ÈKÉ (Mar 10)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Mar 11)	ÀFỌ (Mar 12)	NKWỌ (Mar 13)
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
ÈKÉ (Mar 14)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Mar 15)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Mar 16)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Mar 17)
Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
ÈKÉ (Mar 18)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Mar 19)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Mar 20)	<mark>NKWO</mark> (Mar 21)
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
ÈKÉ (Mar 22)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Mar 23)	ÀFỌ (Mar 24)	NKWỌ (Mar 25)
Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday

QNWA ABUQ – This is the second month in the Igbo Calendar, and it starts with the appearance of the new moon towards the end of February, and continues for about 28 days into March when another new moon appears.

ONWA IFÉ EKE (March 26-April 22)

ÈKÉ (Mar 26)	ÓRIÈ (Mar 27)	ÀFỌ (Mar 28)	NKWO (Mar 29)
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
ÈKÉ (Mar 30)	ÓRIÈ (Mar 31)	ÀFỌ (Apr 1)	NKWO (Apr 2)
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
ÈKÉ (Apr 3)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Apr 4)	ÀFỌ (Apr 5)	NKWỌ (Apr 6)
Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
ÈKÉ (Apr 7)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Apr 8)	ÀFỌ (Apr 9)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Ap 10)
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
ÈKÉ (Apr 11)	ÓRIÈ (Apr 12)	ÀFỌ (Apr 13)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Apr 14)
Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
ÈKÉ (Apr 15)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Apr 16)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Apr 17)	NKWO (Apr 18)
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
ÈKÉ (Apr 19)	ÓRIÈ (Apr 20)	ÀFỌ (Apr 21)	NKWỌ (Apr 22)
Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday

Igbo Calendar 2025

QNWA IFÉ EKE- This is the third month in the Igbo Calendar, and it begins around the end of March when the new moon appears and continues till the Gregorian month of April.

ONWA ANO (April 23-May 20)

ÈKÉ (Apr 23)	ÓRIÈ (Apr 24)	ÀFO (Apr 25)	NKWO (Apr 26)
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
ÈKÉ (Apr 27)	ÓRIÈ (Apr 28)	ÀFO (Apr 29)	NKWO (Apr 30)
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
ÈKÉ (May 1)	ÓRIÈ (May 2)	ÀFO (May 3)	NKWO (May 4)
Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
ÈKÉ (May 5)	ÓRIÈ (May 6)	ÀFỌ (May 7)	NKWO (May 8)
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
ÈKÉ (May 9)	ÓRIÈ (May 10)	ÀFO (May 11)	NKWO (May 12)
Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
ÈKÉ (May 13)	ÓRIÈ (May 14)	ÀFO (May 15)	NKWO (May 16)
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
ÈKÉ (May 17)	ÓRIÈ (May 18)	ÀFO (May 19)	NKWO (May 20)
Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday

Igbo Calendar 2025

QNWA ANQ – This is the fourth month in the Igbo calendar, and starts at the end of April when yet another new moon appears. It runs its full month cycle and enters into the Gregorian month of May. QNWA ANQ ends at the beginning of May.

ONWA AGWU (May 21-June 16)

ÈKÉ (May 21)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (May 22)	ÀFỌ (May 23)	NKWỌ (May 24)
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
ÈKÉ (May 25)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (May 26)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (May 27)	<mark>NKWQ</mark> (May 28)
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
ÈKÉ (May 28)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (May 29)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (May 30)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (May 31)
Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
ÈKÉ (Jun 1)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Jun 2)	ÀFỌ (Jun 3)	NKWỌ (Jun 4)
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
ÈKÉ (Jun 5)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Jun 6)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Jun 7)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Jun 6)
Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
ÈKÉ (Jun 9)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Jun 10)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Jun 11)	NKWQ (Jun 12)
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
ÈKÉ (Jun 13)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Jun 14)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Jun 15)	NKWỌ (Jun 16)
Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday

Igbo Calendar 2025

QNWA AGWU – This is the fifth month in the Igbo calendar. The month starts at the appearance of the moon in May and ends when the next full moon appears in June. QNWA AGWU in the Nri Igbo calendar is the month when Agwu (the spirit of CHIUKWU's divination, knowledge, and wisdom) is celebrated.

ONWA IFEJIOKU (Ju	ne 17-July 15)
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ÈKÉ (Jun 17)	ÓRIÈ (Jun 18)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Jun 19)	NKWO (Jun 20)
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
ÈKÉ (Jun 21)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Jun 22)	ÀFỌ (Jun 23)	NKWO (Jun 24)
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
ÈKÉ (Jun 25)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Jun 26)	ÀFỌ (Jun 27)	NKW <mark>Q</mark> (Jun 28)
Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
ÈKÉ (Jun 29)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Jun 30)	ÀFỌ (Jul 1)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Jul 2)
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
ÈKÉ (Jul 3)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Jul 4)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Jul 5)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Jul 6)
Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
ÈKÉ (Jul 7)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Jul 8)	ÀFỌ (Jul 9)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Jul 10)
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
ÈKÉ (Jul 12)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Jul 13)	ÀFỌ (Jul 14)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Jul 15)
Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday

Igbo Calendar 2025

ONWA IFEJIOKU – This is the 6th month of the Igbo Calendar. This month is when the New Yam festival is celebration kicks off. This month starts at the appearance of the new moon in June and ends in July. However, Ji ofuu celebrations stretch till August and beyond. IFEJIOKU is the Igbo deity of yam, productivity, and harvest. And no matter the diverse cultural practices of the modern Igbo society, the celebration of the New Yam has become a symbol of pride and togetherness. It is important to note that other parts of Igbo land celebrate this festival till September.

ONWA ALOM CHI (July 16-August 11)

ÈKÉ (Juy 15)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Jul 16)	ÀFỌ (Jul 17)	NKW <mark>Q</mark> (Jul 18)
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
ÈKÉ (Jul 19)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Jul 20)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Jul 21)	NKWO (Jul 22)
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
ÈKÉ (Jul 23)	ÓRIÈ (Jul 24)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Jul 25)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Jul 26)
Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
ÈKÉ (Jul 27)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Jul 28)	ÀFỌ (Jul 29)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Jul 30)
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
ÈKÉ (Jul 31)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Aug 1)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Aug 2)	NKWỌ (Aug 3)
Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
ÈKÉ (Aug 4)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Aug 5)	ÀFỌ (Aug 6)	NKWO (Aug 7)
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
ÈKÉ (Aug 8)	ÓRIÈ (Aug 9)	ÀFỌ (Aug 10)	NKWỌ (Aug 11)
Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday

Igbo Calendar 2025

ONWA ALOM CHI – This is the seventh month in the Nri Igbo Calendar. It begins with the appearance of the new moon in July and ends with the coming of the next new moon in the month of August.

ÈKÉ (Aug 12)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Aug 13)	ÀFỌ (Aug 14)	NKWỌ (Aug 15)
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
ÈKÉ (Aug 16)	ÓRIÈ (Aug 17)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Aug 18)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Aug 19)
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
ÈKÉ (Aug 20)	ÓRIÈ (Aug 21)	ÀFỌ (Aug 22)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Aug 23)
Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
ÈKÉ (Aug 24)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Aug 25)	ÀFỌ (Aug 26)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Aug 27)
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
ÈKÉ (Aug 28)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Aug 29)	ÀFỌ (Aug 30)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Aug 31)
Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
ÈKÉ (Sep 1)	ÓRIÈ (Sep 2)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Sep 3)	NKWO (Sep 4)
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
ÈKÉ (Sep 5)	ÓRIÈ (Sep 6)	ÀFỌ (Sep 7)	NKWỌ (Sep 8)
Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday

Igbo Calendar 2025

ONWA ILO MMUO - This is the 8th month in the Igbo calendar, and it starts at the appearance of the new moon August and ends in September. Ilo Mmuo according to specific rituals in Igbo Odinala is the act of making sacrifices to deities and spirits of our land and offering them specific parts of the animal's body.

ONWA ANA (September 9-Octob	ber (5)
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ÈKÉ (Sep 9)	ÓRIÈ (Sep 10)	ÀFỌ (Sep 11)	NKWO (Sep 12)
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
ÈKÉ (Sep 13)	ÓRIÈ (Sep 14)	ÀFỌ (Sep 15)	NKWO (Sep 16)
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
ÈKÉ (Sep 17)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Sep 18)	ÀFO (Sep 19)	NKWỌ (Sep 20)
Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
ÈKÉ (Sep 21)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Sep 22)	ÀFỌ (Sep 23)	NKWQ (Sep 24)
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
ÈKÉ (Sep 25)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Sep 26)	ÀFỌ (Sep 27)	<mark>NKWO</mark> (Sep 28)
Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
ÈKÉ (Sep 29)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Sep 30)	ÀFỌ (Oct 1)	NKWO (Oct 2)
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
ÈKÉ (Oct 3)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Oct 4)	ÀFỌ (Oct 5)	NKWỌ (Oct 6)
Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday

Igbo Calendar 2025

QNWA ANA - This is the 9th month in the Igbo calendar. It begins at the appearance of the new moon in September and ends when the next new moon appears in October. Onwa Ana is dedicated to the Goddess of the land – Ana/Ala/Ani.

ÈKÉ (Oct 7)	ÓRIÈ (Oct 8)	ÀFO (Oct 9)	NKWO (Oct 10)
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
ÈKÉ (Oct 11)	ÓRIÈ (Oct 12)	ÀFỌ (Oct 13)	NKWO (Oct 14)
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
ÈKÉ (Oct 15)	ÓRIÈ (Oct 16)	ÀFỌ (Oct 17)	NKWỌ (Oct 18
Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
ÈKÉ (Oct 19)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Oct 20)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Oct 21)	<mark>NKWO</mark> (Oct 22
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
ÈKÉ (Oct 23)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Oct 24)	ÀFỌ (Oct 25)	NKWO (Oct 26
Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
ÈKÉ (Oct 27)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Oct 28)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Oct 29)	NKWO (Oct 30)
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
ÈKÉ (Oct 31)	ÓRIÈ (Nov 1)	ÀFỌ (Nov 2)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Nov 3)
Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday

Igbo Calendar 2025

QNWA OKIKE - This is the 10th month in the Igbo calendar. It starts at the appearance of the new moon in October and ends in early November. Onwa Okike as the name implies is set aside for the celebration of the creation and the deities in nature, Okike.

ÈKÉ (Nov 4)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Nov 5)	ÀFỌ (Nov 6)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Nov 7)
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
ÈKÉ (Nov 8)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Nov 9)	ÀFỌ (Nov 10)	NKWO (Nov 11)
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
ÈKÉ (Nov 12)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Nov 13)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Nov 14)	NKWỌ (Nov 15)
Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
ÈKÉ (Nov 16)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Nov 17)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Nov 18)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Nov 19)
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
ÈKÉ (Nov 20)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Nov 21)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Nov 22)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Nov 23)
Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
ÈKÉ (Nov 24)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Nov 25)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Nov 26)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Nov 27)
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
ÈKÉ (Nov 28)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Nov 29)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Nov 30)	NKWỌ (Dec 1)
Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday

Igbo Calendar 2025

QNWA AJA ANA – This is the 11th month of the Igbo Calendar. It starts with the appearance of the new moon in early November and ends when the moon appears in December. QNWA AJA ANA is dedicated to the soil deity, Aja Ala/Ana/Ani.

ÈKÉ (Dec 2)	ÓRIÈ (Dec 3)	ÀFỌ (Dec 4)	NKWO (Dec 5)
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
ÈKÉ (Dec 6)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Dec 7)	ÀFỌ (Dec 8)	NKWO (Dec 9)
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
ÈKÉ (Dec 10)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Dec 11)	ÀFỌ (Dec 12)	NKWỌ (Dec 13)
Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
ÈKÉ (Dec 14)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Dec 15)	ÀFỌ (Dec 16)	NKW <mark>Q</mark> (Dec 17)
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
ÈKÉ (Dec 18)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Dec 19)	ÀFỌ (Dec 20)	NKWỌ (Dec 21)
Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
ÈKÉ (Dec 22)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Dec 23)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Dec 24)	NKWO (Dec 25)
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
ÈKÉ (Dec 26)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Dec 27)	ÀFỌ (Dec 28)	NKWỌ (Dec 29)
Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday

Igbo Calendar 2025

ONWA EDE AJA ANA – This is the 12th month in the Igbo Calendar. This month starts when the new moon appears in December and ends when another new moon appears around the end of December year.

QNWA UZQ ALUSI (December 30-January 26[2026])				
ÈKÉ (Dec 30)	ÓRIÈ (Dec 31)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Jan 1)	NKWỌ (Jan 2)	
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
ÈKÉ (Jan 3)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Jan 4)	<mark>ÀFỌ</mark> (Jan 5)	<mark>NKWO</mark> (Jan 6)	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	
ÈKÉ (Jan 7)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Jan 8)	ÀFỌ (Jan 9)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Jan 10)	
Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
ÈKÉ (Jan 11)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Jan 12)	ÀFO (Jan 13)	<mark>NKWO</mark> (Jan 14)	
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	
ÈKÉ (Jan 15)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Jan 16)	ÀFỌ (Jan 17)	<mark>NKWỌ</mark> (Jan 18)	
Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	
ÈKÉ (Jan 19)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Jan 20)	ÀFỌ (Jan 21)	<mark>NKWQ</mark> (Jan 22)	
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
ÈKÉ (Jan 23)	<mark>ÓRIÈ</mark> (Jan 24)	ÀFỌ (Jan 25)	NKWỌ (Jan 26)	
Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	

Igbo Calendar 2025

ONWA UZO ALUSI - This is the 13th and last month of the Nri Igbo Calendar. It begins when the new moon appears in January and ends when another new moon appears towards the end of January

signaling the beginning of another year in the Igbo Calendar.

The Igbo Calendar strictly follows mother nature, and so it is interpreted only when the moon (Onwa) acts – appears and disappears. The Igbo cosmology is subject to the cosmos, and as such we cannot predict for nature – we cannot determine for Mother Nature on what particular date the moon should appear, disappear, and reappear. We can only approximate based on past sightings of the moon.

The yearly announcement of the Igbo Lunar Calendar is known as Igu Aro. It is a ritual performed every year in Nri, in today's Anambra State. Igu Aro is done in February, and according to an author and authority in Omenana na Odinanan Nri, all the Lunar Months in the Igbo calendar approximate 29.53059 days (29 days, 12 hours, 44 minutes, and 3 seconds).

According to the authors of the book 'Omenana Na Odinana Nri', **Chukwudi Nwokoye and Chizoba** Chukwurah, for some lunar calendars, the first day of the month is the day when the eclipsed moon appears in a particular zone. Many other lunar calendars are based on the first sighting of a lunar crescent. The Igbo Calendar just like most Lunar Calendar of the world is based on the 13 lunar months of 28 days each, plus one extra day known as a year and a day.

The Igbo market days that make up the Igbo calendar are all Alusi (deities) and have been said to have their originating shrines in Nri. According to the custodians of Odinana na Omenana Nri, Eze Nri introduced these four deities in Igboland, hence Nri priests (ezemmuo/aka ji ofo) traveled all over Igboland consecrating the alters/shrines of these deities - namely Èké, Óriè, Àfò, Nkwọ.

According to Chukwudi Nwokoye and Chizoba Chukwurah, the authors of the book 'Omenana Na Odinana Nri', the proclamation of the Igbo Lunar Calendar from year to year is the prerogative of Eze Nri, being the custodian of Igbo culture and Tradition and the keeper of the ancestral ofo of the Igbo (of that region of Igboland).

During this period, Eze Nri proclaims and ushers at the beginning of Igbo planting season... Igu Aro is also the time that Eze Nri predicts what the weather holds for the farming year. In obedience to this directive by 'Chukwu'. During the Igu Aro of each year, the Eze Nri gives out yam seedlings to heads of various Igbo Igbo communities to plant and feed their families/kindred.

During the Igu Aro delegates from Igbo settlements under the Nri hegemony gathered in the Eze Nri palace to pay

tribute/homage and join in the Igu Aro for that year. The Eze Nri will then announce the New Year. He will give his blessings on the fertility of the yam planting for that year. When the British banned the Nri system in 1911 during the reign of Eze Nri Obalike, Igu Aro lost its wider ritual and political significance.

According to the book 'Omenana Na Odinana Nri', the preparation for the Igu Aro lasts for almost a month. The Eze Nri and his council Nzemabua/Orunzenano decide the day the Igu Aro for the Igbo Calendar will take place – this is done in collaboration with the various Eze Mmuo OR Akajiofo of Nri, based on the moon phases/cycles. EzeNri emissaries (priests)

announce it to all the towns under the Nri hegemony and influence. The Nzemabua/Orunzenano consult the Dibia Afia (diviner) to determine if there is any area of the festival that may likely confuse the people. Sacrifices and rituals are performed to impede 'ekwensu' and 'akalogoli' spirits from causing confusion.

In their book 'Omenana Na Odinana Nri', Chukwudi Nwokoye and Chizoba Chukwurah in describing the preparations for the Igu Aro, wrote that the Eze Nri sounds his gong morning and evening calling on Chukwu Okike, greeting 'Ndi Ichie Ukwu' and 'Ndi Ichie Nta'. While appealing for the success of the Igu Aro. The royal musicians begin to sound the ufie four market week (Izu Ino) or 16 market days before the festival, from dusk till dawn.

Frequently Asked Questions About The Igbo Calendar

The Igbo calendar is a traditional lunar calendar system that has been in use by Ndi Igbo for centuries. This unique calendar, with its months and days, may not be widely known or documented as other calendars. However, there are certain questions that the modern Igbo person may commonly ask about it for better understanding. Here are some of the frequently asked questions about the Igbo calendar:

What Is The Igbo Calendar?

The Igbo calendar is a unique system through which Ndi Igbo count their days and months, in a four-day weekly rotation that culminates in a 28-day lunar cycle. This means that the Igbo month is dependent on the cycle of the moon, with the four Igbo market days making up an Izu (week).

How Does The Igbo Calendar Work?

The Igbo calendar is made up of four market days, namely Èké, Óriè, Àfò, Nkwọ. These four market days make up the Igbo week – Izu. Seven (7) of these Izu make up an Onwa (Month), and the Igbo Calendar has 13 Onwa (months).

What Are The Names Of The Months In The Igbo Calendar?

The names of the months in the Igbo calendar are: (1) Onwa Mbu, (2) Onwa Abuo, (3) Onwa Ife Eke, (4) Onwa Ano, (5) Onwa Agwu, (6) Onwa Ifejioku, (7) Onwa Alom Chi, (8) Onwa Ilo Mmuo, (9) Onwa Ana, (10) Onwa Okike, (11) Onwa Ajana, (12) Onwa Ede Ajana, (13) Onwa Uzo Alusi

How Is The Igbo Calendar Different From The Gregorian Calendar?

The Igbo Calendar and the Gregorian calendar are slightly different in the number of months but show a great difference in the number of days that make up a week. The Igbo calendar uses 4 days for a week (called Izu), while the Gregorian Calendar has a 7 days week structure. The Igbo calendar has 7 weeks that makeup one month, while the Gregorian Calendar has 4 weeks that make up one month.

The Igbo Calendar has a 13-month lunar cycle, while the Gregorian Calendar has a 12-month cycle. The names of the days and months in the Igbo Calendar are dedicated to deities, and traditional and spiritual observances in the Igbo society, while the days and months Gregorian Calendar are dedicated to European gods and goddesses.

What Cultural Or Religious Events Are Associated With The Igbo Calendar?

Numerous cultural and spiritual events are linked to the Igbo Calendar, and these events are unique to various regions of Igbo land. The Igbo calendar follows not just the moon cycle, but also the seasons. It starts at the end of the Gregorian month of February, when the rains are preparing

to come, and the grasses are springing back to life. This signifies new beginnings.

Other months such as Onwa Agwu are dedicated to celebrating the divine intelligence of the creator. Onwa Ifejioku is dedicated to the celebration of the Yam God, Ifejioku/Njoku. Onwa Ana is dedicated to the earth's deity. Onwa Okike is dedicated to the creator of the universe. Every month in the Igbo Calendar has a cosmological and spiritual importance to Ndi Igbo. Read the article above to know them all.

How Is The Igbo Calendar Used In Daily Life Or Traditional Practices?

The Igbo Calendar has a daily influence in the Igbo society. The individual market days of the Igbo Calendar are Èké, Óriè, Àfò, and Nkwo, and they are all deities that are attached to each man and woman, depending on the day you were born. The days are also attached to the reverence of one's CHI since the day your Onwa Uwa was born will be the day you offer sacrifices to your CHI.

These market days being deities, also have shrines and groves present in various markets across Igbo land, where sacrifices are offered to them. The market days are divided across four neighboring villages, with each village taking any of the Èké, Óriè, Àfò, Nkwọ. For Example, Igbo Ukwu has Nkwọ as its market day, while Ekwulummili has Óriè market, Amichi has Èké market, and Unubi has Àfò market.

The different markets enhance the relationship between various town and villages, and expands commerce among the Igbo people because they do not operate on the same day, and as such buyers and traders of all other towns will have to come to Nkwo Igbo Ukwu, for instance, to trade. The Eke market day is generally the day of rest in the Igbo Calendar, and as such, certain ceremonies cannot be fixed for that day. Ceremonies such as marriages and burials cannot be fixed on the Èké market day.

Is The Igbo Calendar Still In Use Today?

The Igbo Calendar is still in use today. The market days of the Igbo calendar are at the root of all activities in Igbo land. The Igbo calendar is part and parcel of the Igbo who are back home in Igbo land. The days of the Igbo week are the primary method of counting days. The days of the Gregorian week, are used as a substitute.

However, the months of the Igbo Calendar are not as popular as those of the Gregorian Calendar, and this is due to colonialism and the use of the Gregorian months in government, churches, schools, and in turn the general Igbo society.

Nonetheless, the recent Igbo renaissance has seen a spike in the number of Igbo people who are interested in studying the unique months in the Igbo calendar and applying it to their daily lives. It is only a matter of time before our people return fully to the cosmic knowledge buried in our observance of the Igbo Lunar Calendar.

Are There Variations Or Regional Differences In The Igbo Calendar?

Yes, there are slight variations in the Igbo calendar when you go from region to

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region in Igbo land. However, these variations are specifically found in the names of the months, and the ceremonial rituals performed in these parts of Igbo land. For Example, Onwa Agwu is celebrated in Nri in June, and in Nise in August. Other parts of Igbo land might choose a different time to celebrate Agwu. But no matter what the different times of celebration and variation in the names of the months, the lgbo market days, weeks, and 13-month lunar cycle stays the same.

How Does The Igbo Calendar Align With Modern Timekeeping?

The Igbo Calendar runs parallel to modern timekeeping and does not alter it, since

the Igbo follow the rising of the sun and its setting in marking the beginning and end of the day. Timekeeping in Igbo society follows the journey of the sun (Anyanwu) across the sky. Just by looking at the shadows of trees and sticks, one can tell the time of the day. Timekeeping in the Igbo Calendar does not follow the modern 24 hours in a clock, because not all days are equal, since not all years are equal.

Are There Efforts To Preserve Or Promote The Igbo Calendar And Its Cultural Significance?

Yes, Voice Of The Sun is at the forefront of preserving and promoting the Igbo Calendar offline and online. We have

designed one of the most accurate Igbo Calendar in modern times, and have fully listed and explained the names of the months in the Igbo Calendar. We are currently making sure that our Igbo calendar is used in every household, to mark the Igbo market days, and more importantly, make the Igbo lunar calendar a popular one among the young Igbo of this generation.



This Calendar was designed by Chuka Nduneseokwu, the Editor-in-Chief of Voice of The Sun.

To Support Us In Our Research Into The Igbo Calendar and Igbo Cosmology, Please Send Me a WhatsApp Message On +2349071459716