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EDITOR'S NOTE

I AM DELIGHTED TO INTRODUCE the first issue of *Igbo Studies Review (ISR)* – A Journal of the Igbo Studies Association (ISA). The publication of this journal is an important milestone in the history of the association. Founded on November 8, 1999 at the African Studies Association (ASA) Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the ISA seeks to promote and encourage research and scholarship on Igbo history, culture and society; to forge intellectual links and network with scholars, policy makers, and activists inside and outside Nigeria; to participate actively and collaboratively in continental and global debates with interested organizations in Nigeria, the U.S.A. and other countries on issues specifically relevant and correlated to Igbo studies; and to work proactively for the promotion of Igbo language with interested organizations and/or institutions in diverse regions of the world. The founding of the *Igbo Studies Review* is a very important in advancing these aims. The goal of the *ISR* in particular is to serve as avenue for the dissemination of original research from scholars across the disciplines on all aspects of Igbo studies, including topics related to the Igbo Diaspora worldwide. We are interested in contributions that break new grounds or critically re-examined existing issues related to Igbo scholarship.

This maiden issue contains an array of essays from different disciplinary perspectives ranging from history, politics, gender, and language. The historical essays address the economic dynamic of labor migration, the long-term demographic implications of the Atlantic slave trade, indigenous entrepreneurship, gender dynamics of the Igbo economy, and cosmology. It also addressed contemporary issues such as the declining importance of education, changing social values, the decline in the use of the Igbo language and changing identity. We hope that this is the beginning of many years of bring cutting-edge scholarship about the Igbo people to the world.

Chima J. Korieh, PhD
Editor