

THE STORY OF OLOIBIRI IN THE ECONOMIC HISTORY OF NIGERIA

OGBARI C.C. AMA-OGBARI, PhD.
Department of History and Diplomacy
Niger Delta University
Wilberforce Island
Bayelsa State

Abstract

The story of Oloibiri in the economic history of Nigeria, is like the story of any other host communities to oil prospecting companies in the Niger Delta; But the case of Oloibiri is very worrisome because it is the cradle of oil exploitation in Niger Delta region and indeed in Nigeria. Oloibiri, situated in the northern fringe of the Niger Delta region of Nigeria is in Ogbia Local Government Area of Bayelsa State. Its story goes back to 1956 when crude oil was discovered. The joy, and drumbeats of celebration soon faded away, entrenching sadness, deprivation, economic woes, neglect, pains, sorry and death. After thirteen years of massive oil exploitation in Oloibiri, the area was abandoned, the natural habitat destroyed due to oil pollution, aquatic life made impotent, stunted growth in vegetal resources and a general excruciating impoverishment became noticeable. The effort by government, the oil companies and other interventionist companies were not good enough to salvage the deplorable situation of Oloibiri. This effort is therefore geared towards telling the story of Oloibiri from its settlement history through the "thick and thin" of adventurism and exploitation of crude oil in the area to its abandonment in the wake of the expiration of the oil in the region, after thirteen years. Field trip, personal collection, oral history methods and secondary sources were of immense value source materials for this discourse.

Introduction

Oloibiri is in Ogbia Local Government Area of Bayelsa State, Nigeria. Ogbia Local Government lies between longitude 14^o 15 and 14^o 17 North and Latitude 4^o 16 and 4^o 18 East. It is bounded at the North-West by Southern Ijaw Local Government Area and is flanked by South-East and South-West by Nembe and Brass Local Government Areas. The North-West of Ogbia Local Government Area is Ahoada West Local Government Area, while the North East is bounded by Abua-Odual Local government Area of Rivers State (Oliver, O. M. quoted in George, S. T. 2018).

Oloibiri is part of the Oloibiri clan which also consist of Odinate, Otuogidi, Otuabi, Otakeme, Amarokeni, Otuegela, Emeyal I and II, Otuasega, Elebele, Otuoke, Otuaba, Ewoi and Otuedu. Geographically Oloibiri clan has a dense network of creeks and rivers which makes it easy to travel round the community in canoes and engine boats. These waterways in Oloibiri are supplied by the brackish Brass River. Oloi, the founder of the settlement was said to have migrated from the Middle Belt region of Nigeria through the Great Benin Empire in the 13th century, transiting through the Nembe Kingdom before arriving at its present place of abode. The people are of an Edoid extraction, but their socio-cultural and historic ties and orientation with the Ijaws has given them an Ijaw outlook.

Their traditional occupation involves farming, fishing, palm oil production, carving, trading, gathering, etc. They possess versatile and robust socio-cultural disposition, including the reverence to their traditional deity "Ogidika" or "Obanari". With the entrance of Christianity into the area in the early 20th century, the people became prone to the Western-

European culture. However, recreational values, such as story-telling, swimming, engaging in traditional dances, etc are presented.

It was in this serene, near nature environment that the people of Oloibiri dwelt before the advent of crude oil exploration which altered their developmental process. Oloibiri Oil field onshore is about 13.75 square kilometers (5.31sqm) and lies in a swamp with OML 29 which is operated by Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria (SPDC) (Ama-Ogbari, 2009, p 14-21). Its topography is of the mangrove swamp or zone which includes the sandy outcrops with fresh water vegetation on the barrier Islands which is necessary for human habitation. This zone also occupies the inter-tidal land in a wide zone of tidal creeks behind the barrier islands and is quite different from the neighbouring region in which mangroves are found in small bands of sea water along the coast. Besides, the mangrove zone has the characteristics of trees growing in the natural habitation in the mud or at the edge of the rivers with roots above the ground. The trees growing in the creeks of the fresh water mud allow many invertebrate species, such as crabs, shrimps and fish etc to live (hang) on them. It also covers about 40km which is limited in flood dominated areas such as Oloibiri, Nembe, etc. where the discharge of the Niger has diluted and reduced to its saline waters.

Crude oil or petroleum is a natural gift. It is an organic matter which occurs in pore spaces of sedimentary rocks. It is also derived from the decomposition of marine or vegetative matters. Four stages are identifiable in the oil industry. They include exploration stage, production, transportation and marketing. (Quoted in Tombra, G. S. 2010). The exploration stage consists of geo-physical investigation, geological survey and drilling. The production process consist of flat farms and tank farms, gas flaring, taker loading and storage depots. The transportation sector consists of laying of pipeline and the construction of roads to link oil well (Alhomu Augustus, the Punch, February 20, 1991, p. 2).

The process of oil prospection (exploration and exploitation) is very hazardous to the immediate environment and consequently on living things (men inclusive). The noticeable negative effects include destruction of vegetation and farmland during exploration and setting of locations as well as laying pipelines, the continuous presence of heat lights, noise and in some cases, sooty emission from flared gas in the environment through accidental blow-out, leakages of pipelines and storage tanks, effluents from production and refineries.

Assessment of Relevant Literatures

There are quite a number of literatures that have been written about oil and Oloibiri. Few of them are examined here.

O. C. C. Ama-Ogbari (2009), Introduction to the Economic History of the Niger Delta surveys and examines the economic potentials in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria from the distant historic past to the contemporary era. He opines that these resources enable the inhabitants to develop occupations in line with the resources of the environment. He also discuss the oil and gas industry in Nigeria as well as the nexus between crude oil and ethnic militia in the Niger Delta. Yirakina Nkonbar Clement's book titled the oil economic crisis and politics in Nigeria volume I (2010) focuses on the environmeal degradation of the Niger Delta region and that before the discovery of oil, the environment was conducive, but oil activities by shell-Nigeria, have polluted, degraded and destroyed the environment that has affected the people of the Niger Delta region.

O.C.C. Ama-Ogbari in his book "The story of Bayelsa: A documentary History (2014) discuss the historical development of Bayelsa State, as one of the component states in Nigeria. Oloibiri is discussed under Ogbia Local Government Area in focus as the first place where oil was first discovered in Commercial quantity. "Politics and conflict over oil and gas in the Niger

Delta region (the Bayelsa state experience)" is written by Ambily Etekepe (2007). The book treats the environmental degradation and deteriorating economic conditions of the Niger delta region despite the discovery of crude oil and gas in Oloibiri in 1956. He discuss a nexus between the discovery of oil at Oloibiri and Isaac Boro's Revolution of 1966. Bina Odogu (2009) writes on "Under development as an Albatross to National security in Nigeria". The Niger Delta in focus "focuses on the development of the oil rich region (the Niger Delta) of Nigeria in which the Oloibiri oil field is in total desolation after oil exploratory activities which has not changed in any part of the region that leads to agitations and violent reactions and conflicts has caused insecurity in the region. In Udemé Ekpo's book "The Niger Delta and Oil Politics" (2004), the author in his analysis describes the age-long pains and struggles in the region. He further examines the core issues which he identifies as the activities of the multi-nationals, consequences of oil activities, emergence of petro-economy, legal intrigues and the way forward. He opines that the Niger Delta oil politics is a child of circumstances that seeks to tell the complete story of the petroleum industry, Niger Delta and Nigeria.

Steve Azaiki in his book "The Evil of Oil" (2009) examines the social, economic and political malaise that had bedeviled the Niger Deltans and the region since the inception of oil in Oloibiri in 1956. Coupled with the harsh geographical and environmental degradation of the natural habitat and ecosystem of the Niger Delta, the author asserts that this unmitigated displacement finds explanation in the endemic nature of ethnic politics and the asymmetrical nature of Nigeria's federalism. In these comprehensive treaties, the author captures the realities and peculiarities of the Niger Delta. He bears the pains and struggle as well as exposed the urgency for meaningful interventionist measures rather than palliatives in the Niger delta. Ama-Ogbari and Ekundayo in "The Reiko International Journal of Social and Economic Research" Volume II, No. 1b, 2007" examines the Ogbia people of the Niger delta region of Nigeria. Historical Discourse". In its, the authors discuss the Ogbia people in their totality - ranging from their origin, migration and settlement. Other topical issues in the discourse include the Ogbia language, Ogbia brotherhood, Religion in Ogbia, Ogbia Town (Omemoma), the Ogbia traditional political system and the economy of Ogbia, including the discovery of crude oil at Oloibiri district.

These are among some of the numerous literatures written on oil, the Niger delta and Oloibiri. These literatures are important source materials for this discourse.

Oloibiri: The Genesis of Oil Business in Nigeria

On a general note, the history of oil exploration and exploitation in Nigeria dates back to 1908 when a German Company began mineral exploratory activities in the coastal area of Nigeria which was sourcing for bitumen. The company stopped its operations in 1914 due to the outbreak of the First World War.

In 1936, Shell D'Archy was incorporated in Nigeria and oil prospecting license was granted to the company in which oil prospects were jointly financed by the Royal Dutch and the Shell group of companies on equal bases. Seismic Surveying commenced in Eastern Nigeria (Imo North West, Owerri and also at Akata) without success. Enugu was the headquarter for the company in which the colonial government had also granted about 15,000 square miles of land along the coast of Lagos. The concentration centres such as Nsukka, Okigwe-Atikpo, Port Harcourt, Benin City, Cross River and Forcados was as a result of earlier Seismic Survey by the Nigerian Bitumen Company as reported by its geologist (Ama-Ogbari, 2009, p. 74-84).

Also, the concession of a vast area by the British Colonial authorities to the Shell D'Archy exploratory company attributed to the British monopoly of rights over Crude oil in the country, particularly as contained in the mineral venture between the Dutch and British owned

Royal Dutch Shell and D'Archy that later become the British Petroleum (Yirakina, 2010 quoted in Mebine, 2015 p. 12).

However, despite the effort and determination of both the multinational oil company and the colonial government, the outbreak of the Second World War brought the search for crude oil to a halt temporary in 1941.

At the end of the war in 1945, Britain adopted the Colonial Welfare and Development Act in Nigeria which was a proposed developmental plan not depending on oil exploration programme since oil has not been discovered in large commercial quantities in Nigeria, although Shell D'Archy had the maximum support of the colonial government and efforts where intensified at the end of the war for Shell D'Archy to explore Eastern Nigeria, and the rest of the country by the colonial government not minding the hostilities of the local people in Okigwe district over mineral rights vested in the crown (Annual Report of the Geographical Survey Department for the year 1960/61, Federal Government printer, Port-Harcourt, 1962).

Besides the opposition over the 1945 oil Mineral ordinance, the oil exploration by Shell continued relatively unabated after 1947, mostly its return to the Niger Delta and intensified search of crude oil in the Eastern Niger Delta of Nigeria continued. With the conduction of extensive survey of Southern Nigeria from 1948 to the early 1950s, its geographical activities were successful through aerial photography in 1951 but later was made possible by the British Colonial government land concession whereby Owerri was added (Stayn, MS, quoted in Mebine, A. R. 2015, p. 23), and Shell BP had by 1951 explored and drilled its first oil well at Iho town in the North-East of Owerri, but was found to be dry. The company's further exploration led to the discovery of more oil wells in Akata by 1953, although the oil wells were not of commercial quantity.

After shifting its exploratory focus and activities to the Delta, Shell-BP struck oil of commercial quantity in January 1956 at Itokopiri in the Oloibiri District of the Niger Delta Area at a depth of 12,008 feet, about about 72 (kms) West of Port Harcourt in the Niger Delta. Shell BP's exploration activities led to more discoveries at Afam, Bomu and Ebubu (Ogoni) areas of the Niger Delta. Therefore the first crude oil export from Oloibiri oil field estimated at 4,000 barrels per day was achieved and from one oil well, seventeen other oil wells were successfully drilled by Shell BP in the Oloibiri District (Steyn, MS, quoted in Mebrine, A. R. page 24).

Ama-Ogbari and Ekundayo (2017) maintains that "The first oil well at Itokopiri was in a piece of land owned jointly by the communities of Otuabagi, Otuogidi and Opume. However, the name Oloibiri oil well was used by Shell as an operational name, because Oloibiri was the largest town and the district headquarters at the time. The name (Oloibiri oil well) has remained to this day."

At the success of the initial exploration of crude oil at Oloibiri district more workforces was engaged. Airfield was constructed and the place bustled with activities. It was said that a new life was injected into the landord communities as there were notable changes in the social and economic behaviour of the people, for instance, it became fashionable to speak Pidgin English, prostitution became common, night life was evident, schools, churches were established and Otuogidi indeed was referred to as "Eastern Congo" (Ama-Ogbari and Ekundayo, 2017).

The decline of oil production and eventual depletion of the oil well at Oloibiri led to the withdrawal of the oil companies in the area. This occurred in the mid-seventies after shell has successfully drilled oil in the area for thirteen years. It is on record that the first environmental pollution in form of oil pollution occurred in 1973 in the area.

The extensive regional exploration activity in the tertiary of Niger Delta by Shell-BP in 1956 to 1958 successfully brought other prospecting oil companies to Nigeria, for instance, Agip or NAOC (Nigeria Agip Oil Company) struck oil in 1956, though production began in 1970 at Ebocha in Rivers State, and since then production has increased from 4,000 barrels per day up to 17,000 and after 1960, at Independence increased to estimated 450,000 barrels per day by 1966. Though progress in oil prospection activities was slowed by the Nigerian-Biafra civil war, but by 1970 daily production has reached one million barrels and at its peak of 2.4 million barrels day in 1979 (Mebine, A. R. 25). This growth in oil production attracted international oil companies such as Texaco, Mobil and so on into the country which were licensed to operate both offshore and onshore and this ushered in the era of oil boom in Nigeria and making her to become the eleventh member of the organization of Petroleum Exporting Country (OPEC).

At Oloibiri in 1958, a network of pipelines was laid between this region and the oil port city of Port Harcourt. Infrastructural facilities for effectives operation and transportation of crude oil were put in place during this period, Shell-BP had drilled an additional 37 wild cat wells, resulting to about nine oil wells and three gas discoveries.

The Impact of Oil Exploration in Oloibiri

Generally, the discovery of marketable quantity of oil in Oloibiri placed Oloibiri in the "Crude oil map" of Nigeria and the world. It brought some level of Western Civilization to the area. Such things as employment of some indigenes of the area, western social lifestyle, etc the adverse impact greatly overwhelmed any success story in the area.

Oloibiri and its sister communities which are host to Shell are now in state of absolute underdevelopment, and the people's condition of living have not only stagnated but deteriorated as a result of oil exploratory activities.

The most important impact and left over of the oil business in Oloibiri is the environmental impacts. The communities in Oloibiri district which oil was drilled successfully had farmed, lived and depended on farm produce such as food crops, vegetables and legumes but the operation of oil companies have brought changes to the environment by 1978 when the oil wells dried up (British Petroleum achieves, Williams, JB undersecretary of state colonial office (Letter No. 18079/4/41).

The pollution by oil had eroded the soil nutrient which led to sharp reduction in agricultural productivity, as so many people were unable to engage in farming and fishing which were the main occupations of the area, but rather opted for menial jobs provided by the oil companies and government.

Ama-Ogbari and Ekundayo (2017) has this to say about the environmental degradation "... the massive exploitative activities of Shell and its subsidiary companies led to the extinction, of some vital wild and aquatic life, the destruction of vegetal resources as well as rendering the soil infertile for agricultural purposes. Besides, the host communities had suffered greatly as they "were milked dry and dumped."

The Guardian Newspaper of 2006, quoted in George, S.T. that "Disastrous ecological degradation and environmental pollution in the Oloibiri coupled with the utter neglect of the area by the oil companies have contributed to impoverish the citizens of the area. Over 50% of the 70,000 square kilometres of the territory has neither motorable roads nor hospitals."

Oloibiri town is now a rustic poor village whose inhabitants live in absolute economic deprivation. Oloibiri now remain a shadow of itself. Most of the wells in this historic oil area have aged beyond their prime and have been for long abandoned. The "golden cow has been milked dry and the carcass has been left to rot away." This infuriates the people of Oloibiri as they bemoan in utter rage of the unwholesome negligence of their town by the government.

Among other things that disturb this small, remote but historically important community is the abandoning of the Oloibiri oil and gas institute, which foundation stone was laid after the discovery of oil. (George, S. T. 2010).

Besides, the people drink polluted water out of necessity since there is no alternative source and thus the people living in the environment became unhealthy due to the impact of perennial oil spills particularly adversely affect the mangrove and the swamp water resources in the Oloibiri area. In essence, the activities of Shell in Oloibiri had precipitated the destruction of the local ecological balance and biodiversity of the Oloibiri people and their environment. The deforestation activities also led to the substantial loss of the rich Deltaic vegetation of the Niger Delta Area. The laying of pipelines, building of plate-forms, flow stations and other oil facilities is a major economic cost borne by the people. The improper disposal of dredge oils also had its consequences around the waterways and channels causing blockage to bush paths and waterways used by the coastal communities crossing to their farmlands, fishing sites and timber logging areas (Yirakina, N. C. 2010).

Also the oil exploratory activities along waterways has distorted aquatic life, and fish has become scares, thus fishing in most of the creeks and rivers have become a gainless occupation and the mangrove forest which was also a major source of economic value to the people now faces massive deforestation due to the activities of oil companies.

Oloibiri and Development Indices in the Niger Delta

At the commencement of oil exploration in Oloibiri, the people were joyous and receive the companies with wide open hands and with great hope of a prosperous future.

For instance before the discovery of oil in the area, the size of cocoyams were very big and fishes were commonly harvested with hands at the local ponds, but at the expiration of oil exploration, the ponds no longer hold fishes, palm trees and other crops no longer yield good harvest. Therefore Oloibiri was like many other communities in the Niger Delta region devoid of any expected level of development. It is also a classic example of the many rural oil producing areas that are grossly neglected in terms of development and have not justly benefited from their oil wealth. Regardless of the location, the shared signs of poverty are visibly written on the lives of the people of oil producing areas in the Niger Delta.

The oil companies in conjunction with the Nigerian government undertake projects in the region. However, these measures are not adequate and not in any way commensurate to the huge wealth derived from the region. This thus informed interventionist agencies in the area which duty it was to compliment effort of the government and oil companies in providing development projects viz infrastructural and social facilities for the Niger delta region.

Prior to the discovery of oil, the willink's commission in 1958 recommended the establishment of a board to intervene in the region's development. Thus in 1961, the federal government established the Niger Delta Development Board (NDDDB), which metamorphoses to become the Niger Delta Basin Development Authority (NDBDA) in 1976 and later renamed the Niger Delta Basin and Rural Development Authority (NDBRDA).

During the crude oil era in 1981, the 1.5 percent presidential committee was established to manage the Mineral producing Area Development Fund; similarly, the Oil Mineral Producing Area Commission (OMPADEC) was created in 1991 and finally the Niger Delta Development Commission came on board in 2000.

Retrospectively, the civilian government of Alhaji Shehu Shagari did not fund the NDRBA properly, rather the government established the Niger Delta Basin Development Authority in 1980 to provide irrigation, drainage system, check flooding, erosion, gather hydro metrological data, provide portable water, and widen waterways, dredge lands and carry out

soil analysis in the areas among other functions. It also established the River Basin Development Authority throughout the country (Ibaba, cited in Odede, 2018).

The aim for the establishment of River Basin Authorities throughout the country was to ensure some form of spread of developments to other parts of the country which had no oil, but which could boast of other resources of near equally importance to oil.

The Niger Delta Rivers Basin Authority collapsed and the presidential implementation commission became in charge to administer the 1.5 percent derivation fund. However, this body became moribund, giving way for the creation of the Oil Mineral Producing Area Development Commission (OMPADEC). Decree 23 of July 1992 which set up the commission empowered the body to collect revenue from the production capacity of each state, for the purpose of developing the oil bearing communities. In specific terms, the commission was charged with the responsibility to, determine oil producing areas and embark on development of projects after the approval of the communities, consult with oil firms, federal and state related institutions on how best to manage oil pollution and spillage (Odede E. 2018).

The commission was also directed to compensate materially communities, local government areas and states which have suffered or are suffering damage (ecological, environmental etc) or deprivation as a result of mineral prospection in the area and effectively link them socially and economically with other parts of the nation through establishment of adequate physical and infrastructural facilities.

Although the establishment of OMPADEC was to find permanent solutions to human, physical, environmental, ecological and economic problems that confront the oil producing area in particular and the Niger Delta region in general, it has its pitfalls. In the first instance, there were frequent interference by politicians and elites who influenced projects and site same in areas without proper cognizance of the environment, which create further problems.

Besides, there were corrupt practices which affected the first chairman; finally, it was starved of fund and thus became non-effective until the administration of Obasanjo regime which came with a new interventionist agency having a much clearer vision of its purpose and which was heavily funded to attend to the problems and developmental changes of the Niger Delta.

In furtherance of the above, the government and multi-nationals brought the issues of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to the front burner, putting in place improved socio-economic amenities creating a safe, healthy and an operating environment where the communities are considered valued stakeholders.

It is in view of achieving the above objective that government created the Ministry of Environment and the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) and also raised the derivation fund to 13%.

Government efforts were also supported by other interventionist bodies such as the World Bank, United State Agency for International Development (USAID), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Department for International Development (DEID).

In all these, Oloibiri and its environs have not been given a proper place in the process of development. Government and the interventionist bodies have not concertedly acknowledged and taken steps to facilitate the development of Oloibiri. Indeed even the proposed Petroleum Museum slated for Oloibiri which foundation was laid in 1980 had remained at its fanfare level. This is the story and despicable story of Oloibiri in Nigeria's Niger Delta.

Conclusion

This is the story of Oloibiri in the Niger Delta of Nigeria. Oloibiri shot into the limelight in 1956 with the discovery of the first commercial and marketable quantity of crude oil, but fizzle out into oblivion after thirteen years. The Oloibiri case is a “tip of the iceberg” of relationship between oil companies and their host communities in the Niger Delta. For the people of Oloibiri and indeed the Niger delta, their neglect by the Nigerian Government and oil companies have brought poverty, miseries, and death as the oil companies continued to pollute the waterways and farmlands, thereby destroying the basic sources of the people’s existence. Their natural environment contaminated, laid waste and degraded with no provision of good roads, schools, hospitals, electricity and so on.

Though some social amenities are provided by the government, oil companies and the interventionist bodies, these provisions are far from being enough to lift the people of Oloibiri district out of the excruciating underdevelopment that was perpetuated by the oil companies in the area.

Bibliography

- Abasi, E.M. Ekong (2008). *“Niger Delta Digest”* Monograph series published in the Centre for Niger Delta Studies, Niger Delta University, Bayelsa State.
- Alagoa, E. J. (1972). *A History of the Niger Delta: An Historical Interpretation of Ijaw Oral Tradition*, Ibadan, University Press.
- Alamieseigha, P. (2005). *“The Niger Delta Crisis: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow*. Punch 25th.
- Ama-Ogbari, C.C.O (2014). *The Story of Bayelsa: A Documentary History*. Yenaoga, El-Mercy Global Resources.
- Ama-Ogbari, C.C.O. (2009). *Introduction to the Economic History of the Niger Delta*, Port Harcourt, Metro Prints Limited.
- Ambily Etekepe (2007). *The Politics and Conflict over oil and gas in the Niger Delta Region (The Bayelsa State Experience)* Port-Harcourt, Tower Gate Resources.
- Boro, I, A. (1982). *The Twelve Days Revolution Benin*, Idodo Umeh Publishers.
- Caster, Fidel (1983). *“The World Oil Companies and the crisis of Development in the oil producing communities of Bayelsa state”* unpublished thesis, University of Port-Harcourt.
- Derefaka, A.A & Okorobia, A.M. (2008). *The future of the Niger Delta: The Search for a Relevant Narrative*. Port Harcourt, Onyoma Research Publications.
- George, S. T. (2010). *“Oil Exploration and Underdevelopment of the Niger Delta”* A Project of the Department of History and Diplomacy, NDU, Bayelsa State.
- Ikein, A. A. (1990). *The Impact of Oil on Developing Country: The case of Nigeria*, Ibadan, Evans Brothers Ltd.
- Mebine, A. R. (2015). *“The Neglect of Host Communities. A case study of Oloibiri Oil field: From 1956-2010”*. A project of the Department of History and Diplomacy, NDU, Bayelsa State.
- Ockuko, O. (2011). *“Gas Flaring and Power Plant in Nigeria: Socio- Economic and Environmental Impact on the People of Niger Delta”* A thesis on Environmental Management Norway.
- Odede, E.E. (2018). *“Oil Politics and the Development of the Niger Delta”* A Project of the Department of History and Diplomacy, NDU, Bayelsa State.
- Ogbebulu, B. (1999). *The Niger Delta Struggle Federal Government Amnesty and the way forward*, UK, Ben Global Services Ltd.

Okoko, K.A.B. (1995). *"SPDC and Host Communities Relation"*. The Nigerian Journal of Oil and Politics.

Onimode, B. et al (1983). *"Multi-National Cooperation in Niger Delta"* Ibadan. Lez Shyreden.

Steyn, M.S. (2003). *"Oil Politics in Nigeria" A Perspective from Environmental History on the Struggles between ethnic minority groups, multi-national oil companies and national government"*. A Thesis of the University of the Free State, Johannesburg.

Yirakina Nkonbar C. (2010). *The Oil Economic Crisis and Politics in Nigeria: The Niger Delta perspective*, Zaria, Ahmadu Bello University Press Ltd.

Yoruba, A. J. (2017). *"Oil and Militancy in the Niger Delta between 1956- 2010: Bayelsa State as a case study"*. A Project of the Department of History and Diplomacy NDU, Bayelsa State.

Newspaper and Magazines

OMPADEC "Quarterly Report Vol. 1, No. 10, October (1993).

Tell "50 years of oil in Nigeria" 18th February, 2008.

This Day "Nigerian Chevron and the Ijaws reach accord" 26th July, 1998.

Vanguard "Why NDDC was established 23rd July, 2001.

Internet Sources

<http://www.pambazuka.org/en/category/features/3800>

<http://www.state.gov/3/ct/r/s/pgtrept/2000>

<http://www.eia.gov/emeu/cabs/nigeria/html/>

Amnesty International, 2006 "Nigeria: Oil, Poverty and Violence (Online) available at: <http://www.amnesty.org>

<http://www.amnesty.org/ca/takeaction/actions/nigeriaoilpovertyviolence.php>

Niger Delta Development by Harold <http://www.waado.org/nigerdelta> htm/retrieved October, 2015.

Okogun B. *"Current efforts to enhance natural gas and reduce gas flaring in Nigeria"* <http://www.zite.org/giers> 2011 retrieve September, 2015.

The national oil spill contingency plan: natural oil spill detection agency bill 2000. <http://nassng.org/bills>. Retrieve September, 2015.