



International Conference

URBAN MYTHS AND EXPERIENCES IN AFRICA

Drapers Hall, Institute of African Studies

University Of Ibadan

Organised by the Department of History, University of Ibadan, the Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan and IFRA-Nigeria.

Programme for 5 and 6 October 2026

Day 1, Monday 5 October 2026

9.00-9.20 am – Arrivals and Welcoming Coffee

9.30-10.00am – Welcoming Formalities

Chief Host Opening Remark – Professor K.O.Adebowale, Mni, FAS, the Vice – Chancellor, University of Ibadan

Host Welcome Address – Professor Sola Olorunyomi, Director, Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan

Goodwill Message

Director of the Office of International Programmes – Professor Olufunmilayo. I. Fawole

Dean of Arts – Professor R. O.Olaniyi

Head, Department of History- Professor M.O.Muritala

Director IFRA-Nigeria – Dr Pauline Guinard

Group Photographs



10.00-10.10am – Introduction of the Keynote speaker

10.10am-12.00pm – Keynote address/ Plenary

Keynote speaker – (Associate Professor) Dr Olayinka Oluyemi Agunloye, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, University of Lagos, Akoka, Lagos.

Lead Paper Presenter – Professor Adekunle Morufu Alabi, Dean of the Faculty of Environmental Design and Management, University of Ibadan.

12.00-1.00pm – Lunch

1.00-3.00pm – Session 1 “Cities”

Chair: Pauline Guinard – IFRA-Nigeria

- *Dual Myths of Nigeria’s Petro-Urbanism: Infrastructure Imaginaries, Environmental Sacrifice Zones, and Lived Realities in Lagos and Port Harcourt.*
Safiya Adejoh, safiyaadejoh35@gmail.com
- *State-Led Gentrification, Forced Eviction, and the Myth of Urban Modernity in Lagos, 1972–2013.*
Samuel I. Babalola, Sambabalola612@gmail.com
- *The Forge and the Festival: Awka as a “Blacksmith City” and the Contested Life of an Urban Myth in Southeastern Nigeria.*
Geraldine Ezeobi, okaforgeraldine5@gmail.com
- *“Lagos No Dey Carry Last”: Danfo Drivers and the Everyday Performance of Urban Myth in Lagos.*
Victor Joseph, omeizavictorjoseph@gmail.com
- *Owo Eko, Eko lo n gbe: The Realities of Urban Life in Twenty-first Century Lagos.*
Olusegun Olakunle Olaniyi, oolaniyi@oauife.edu.ng



3.00-3.30pm – Break

3.30-5.30pm – Session 2 “Migration”

Chair: Kudus Oluwatoyin Adebayo – Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan

- *Urban Myths and Mobility in Africa: the Igbo Experience in Nigeria as a Case Study*
Olalekan Henry Adebodun, adebodunolalekan@gmail.com
- *Leaving the Village, Becoming Urban? Migration, Urban Myth and Everyday Life in Ibadan, 1945–1985: A Social Historical Analysis of Aspirational Urbanism.*
Abdulakeem Olamide Bello, belloao@gmail.com
- *Beyond the Mirage: Debunking Urban Myths and Aligning Urban Reputation with Proactive Planning in Contemporary Africa.*
Faruq Idowu Boge et. al, faruq.boge@lasu.edu.ng
- *Better life, Hustling struggle; Examining the Disconnectedness between Urban mobility expectations and realities in Ilorin metropolis 1975- 2024.*
Olaoluwanike Ogunrinu, nikcom247@gmail.com
- *Accra, Ghana, the New Abroad: Nigerian Migration and the Dream of the City in Post-Colonial West-Africa.*
Bosede Omayone, bosedeomayone@gmail.com
- *Urban Myths and the Negotiation of Gendered Narratives among Migrant Igbo Families in Ibadan, Nigeria.*
Oyebanke W. Oyelaja, oyebankeoyelaja@gmail.com



Day 2, Tuesday 6 October 2026

9.00-11.00am – Session 3 “Gender & Youth”

Chair: Mutiat T. Oladejo – Department of History, University of Ibadan

- *Urban Renewal Myths and the Gentrification Experiences of Female Traders in Southwest Nigeria.*
Esther Temitope Akiode et. al, akiodeofficial@gmail.com
- *Street Football and the Everyday Production of Urban Space in Ibadan 1970–2025.*
Goodness O. Ayokunle, Gayokunle87@gmail.com
- *The Complexities of Female Hausa Migrant’s Urban Experiences in the Slums of Ajegunle, Lagos.*
Oluwatoyosi Temitope Awolola, awololaoluwatoyosi@gmail.com
- *Urban Myths and Youth Agency in Peacebuilding in Nigeria.*
Efetobor Stephanie Effevottu, stephanieeffevottu@yahoo.com
- *Here Comes Women of Stones and Concrete: Interrogating Gender Roles and Occupation Realignment amongst Masons.*
Feyisitan Ijimakinwa, feyii@gmail.com

11.00-11.30am – Break



11.30am-1.30pm – Session 4 “Medicine, Health, Belief”

Chair: Janet Ogundairo – Department of Sociology, University of Ibadan

- *Context of Myths, Realities and Indigenous Knowledge System about Climate Change in Ibadan Metropolis, Oyo State, Nigeria*
Joy Ayooluwa Adedeji et. al, Joyadedeji9@gmail.com
- *Urban Myths, Cultural Heritage, and the Growth of Tourism in Oyo Township: The Sango Festival Experience.*
Ayobami Olutayo Ajayi, ayotayoakanbi@gmail.com
- *The Myth of Modern City: Urban Health, Medical Pluralism, and the Persistence of Traditional Healing in Nigeria.*
Okewole T. Charles, okewolecharles2@gmail.com
- *Magun on Trial: Ritual, Rationalization, and the Persistence of a Yoruba Myth of Adultery in Nigerian Courts and Media, 2018–2025.*
Feranmi Oluwaseun Farombi et. al, Feranmi.farombi@pgc.uniosun.edu.ng
- *Childlessness, Infertility, and the Search for Fictive Children: How Reproductive Anxieties Drive Fictitious Kinship among Urban Igbo Women in Awka.*
Blessing Nonye Onyima, bn.onyima@unizik.edu.ngs
(Presented by Geraldine Ezeobi)

1.30-2.30pm – Lunch



2.30-4.30pm – Session 5 “Literature”

Chair: Kazeem Adebisi- Adelabu – Department of English, University of Ibadan

- *From Dream City to Lived Experiences: Urban Myths and Migrant Experiences in Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie’s Americanah.*
Olayiwola Abdulqudus Lawal, olayiwolaabdulquduslawal@gmail.com
- *The African Dream as Urban Myth: Migration and Xenophobia in Alex Agyei-Agyiri’s Unexpected Joy at Dawn.*
Olayiwola Olarewaju, layilanre84@gmail.com
- *From Dream to Nightmare: Deconstructing the Myth of Lagos as the Promised City in Bayo Olupohunda’s Are you not a Nigerian?*
Toheeb Aderemi Raji, rajiaderemii5@gmail.com
- *Elizabeth and the Urban Myth in Bessie Head’s A Question of Power.*
Abiodun Olukayode Tairu, tairuabiodunolukayode@gmail.com

5.00pm – Closing Remarks – Professor M.O. Muritala