



*Ejagham Tradition*



# QUARTERLY REPORT

EJAGHAM TRADITION CENTER

Q1: July – September, 2020

Authorised by: President, EjT

# CONTENTS

- Organisational Direction
- President's Report
- Ejagham Nation Composition
- Organisational Model
- Organisational chart
- Secretariat
- VP's Reports
- Q1 Activities
- EjT milestones

## ORGANISATIONAL DIRECTION

### OUR MISSION

*“To Host, Promote, Harness and Update Ejagham Traditional Practices (ETP) and Ejagham Cultural Expressions (ECE) in order to Safeguard and Preserve Ejagham Tradition as a true Legacy of Ejagham People.”*

### OUR VISION

*To be a one-stop-shop for information and data about, relating to and concerning Ejagham Traditional Practices (ETP) and Ejagham Cultural Expressions (ECE)*

### OUR OBJECTIVES

- *Safeguard and preserve the cultural heritage of Ejagham people.*
- *Protect the secret and sacred cultural heritage of Ejagham people.*
- *Encourage Research and Development (R&D) on Ejagham tradition.*
- *Ensure that the none-secret and non-sacred knowledge of Ejagham Traditional Practices (ETP) and Ejagham Cultural Expressions (ECE) are globally available and easily accessible.*
- *Explore the Socio-economic potential of Ejagham tradition for the empowerment of Ejagham People and Local Communities (EPLC).*

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## President's Report

I am profoundly honoured to be the pioneer President of EjT. I recognise the challenges of building an organisation whose mission would only be accomplished by appealing to hearts and minds of its people. On behalf of EjT Management, Chairpersons and Alternate Chairpersons of EjT functional committees and their members, I would like to say thank you to all members of EjT and friends who have supported our efforts so far and in particular the first quarter of 2020 fiscal year.

Individually or as an organisation every one of us contributes to the growth and development of Ejagham Nation from a number of standpoints. We at EjT have opted to do so by pursuing EjT's mission, vision and objectives. Acting to galvanise Ejagham nation around our common heritage, we believe that accomplishing our mission, vision and objectives would help restore our common identity and confidence as Ejagham and revive our capacity to achieve milestones as our forebears did.

EjT's strategy to achieve the set mission, vision and objectives is to Document, Digitalise and Disseminate Ejagham Traditional Practices (ETP) and Ejagham Cultural Expressions (ECE). To support this strategy is an organisational structure designed to escalate ideas from the local communities i.e. villages, clans and clusters.



Engr. Chris Anom CEng, CMarEng, FIMarEST, FRINA

I must confess, this structure is yet to become fully functional and therefore a major challenge to our ability to perform optimally.

Like never before, our personal and professional networks are critical to restoring our identity, confidence and capacity as a people. As members, we all have a responsibility to support our strategy in order to transmit a healthy Ejagham heritage to future generations. In one form or another, we need to translate the *excitement* that attracted us to EjT to some *commitment* and *action*. Only by acting can we achieve results.

***“Remember, we are stronger together than we would ever be divided.”***

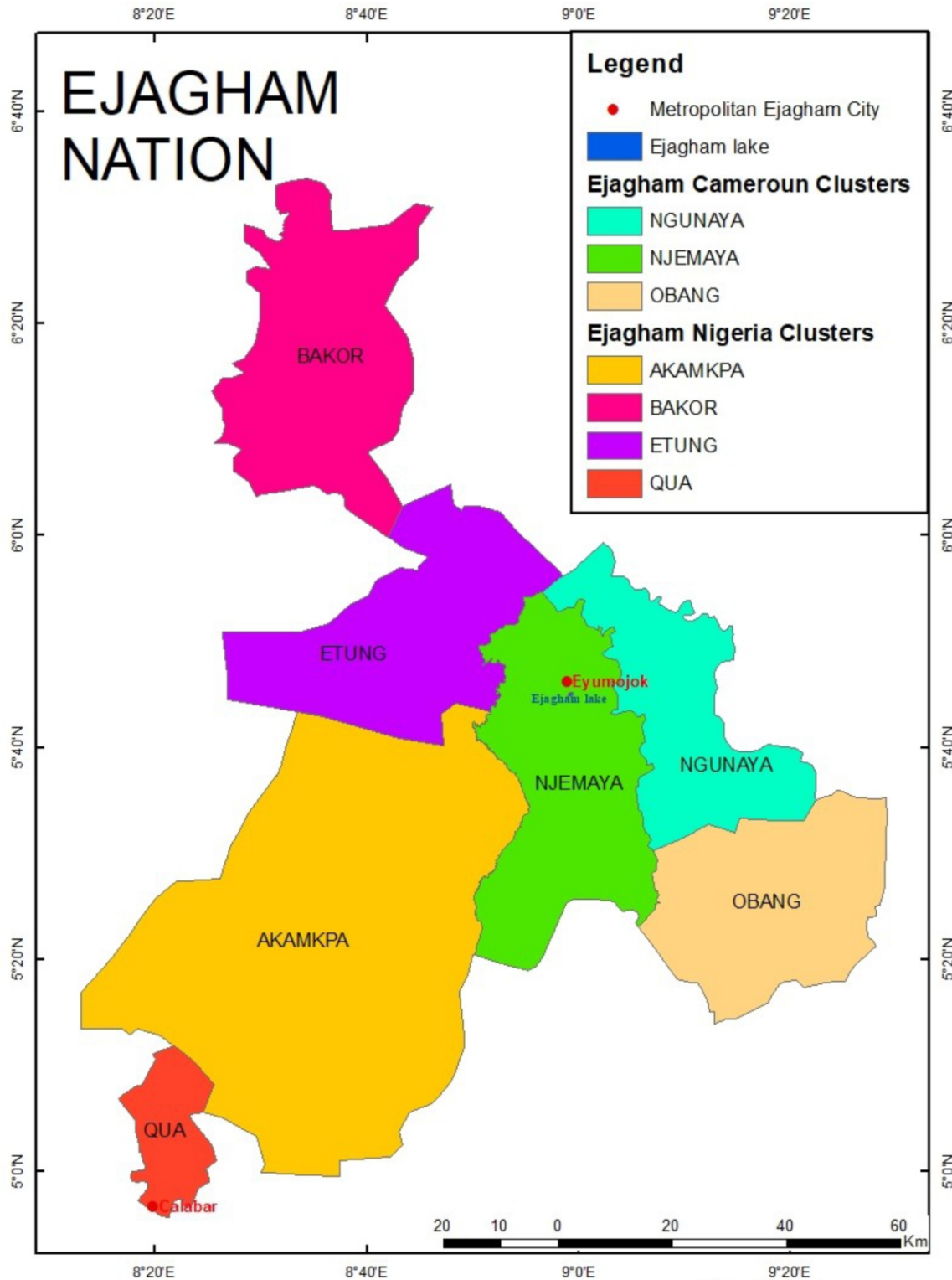
Language is the main identifier of a people. Our mother tongue; Ejagham language remains the main concern of EjT. We have therefore formed a purpose-built vehicle, Ejagham Language Codification Committee (ELCC) to manage this challenge.

In the spirit of candor, I will not hesitate to state that this first quarter (Q1) of 2020 was very challenging and leaves much to be desired. This is mainly because we have not been able to operationalise the structure to drive our strategy but we are working vigorously at it. I look forward to reporting progress in the second quarter (Q2) of 2020. Remember, we are stronger together than we would ever be divided. If we must succeed, we must jettison silo relationship between individuals, villages, clans and clusters and work together as united Ejagham that we truly are.

*Chris Anom*

Engr. Chris Anom  
President, EjT

# EJAGHAM NATION COMPOSITION



Map Projection:  
GCS WGS 1984

Map production by:  
Nkor, Bridget  
Forest Monitoring, GIS and Mapping Unit  
CRS Forestry Commission, Calabar. 2020

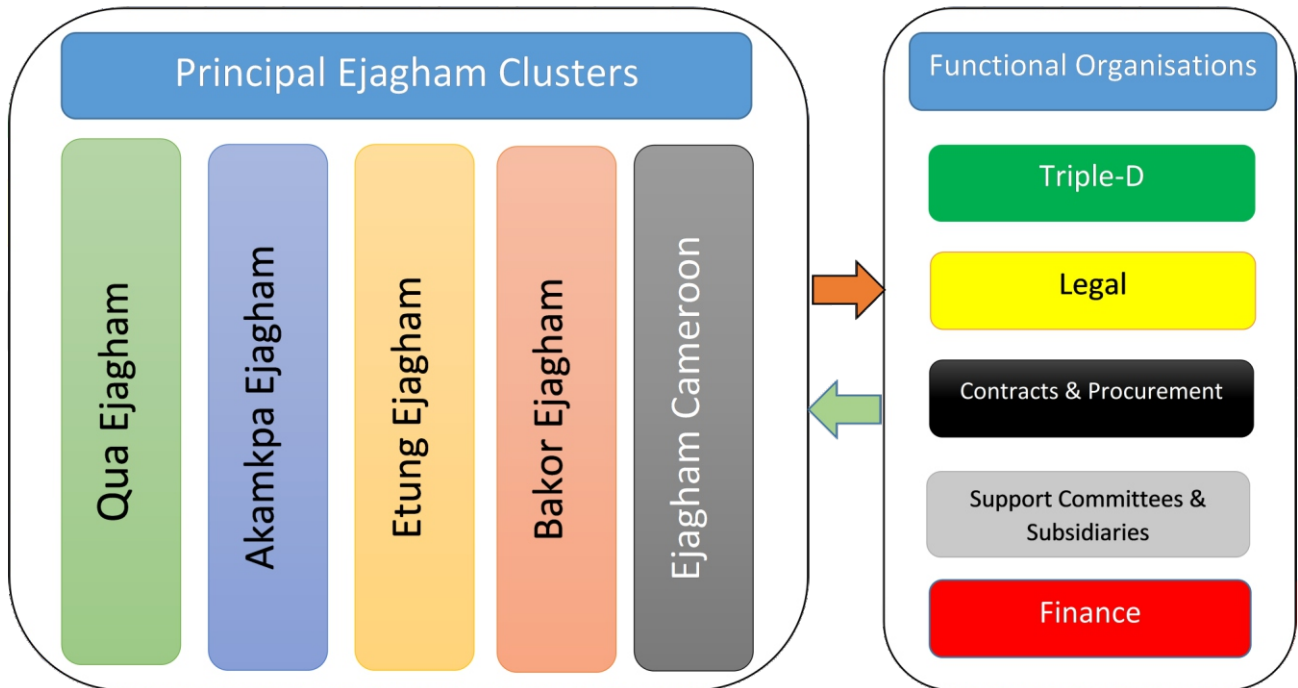
## Ejagham Nation

Although the above map shows Ejagham clusters in Nigeria and Cameroon, a wider Ejagham history reveals its Eastern and Southern African connections, with strong cultural marks in Latin America and the

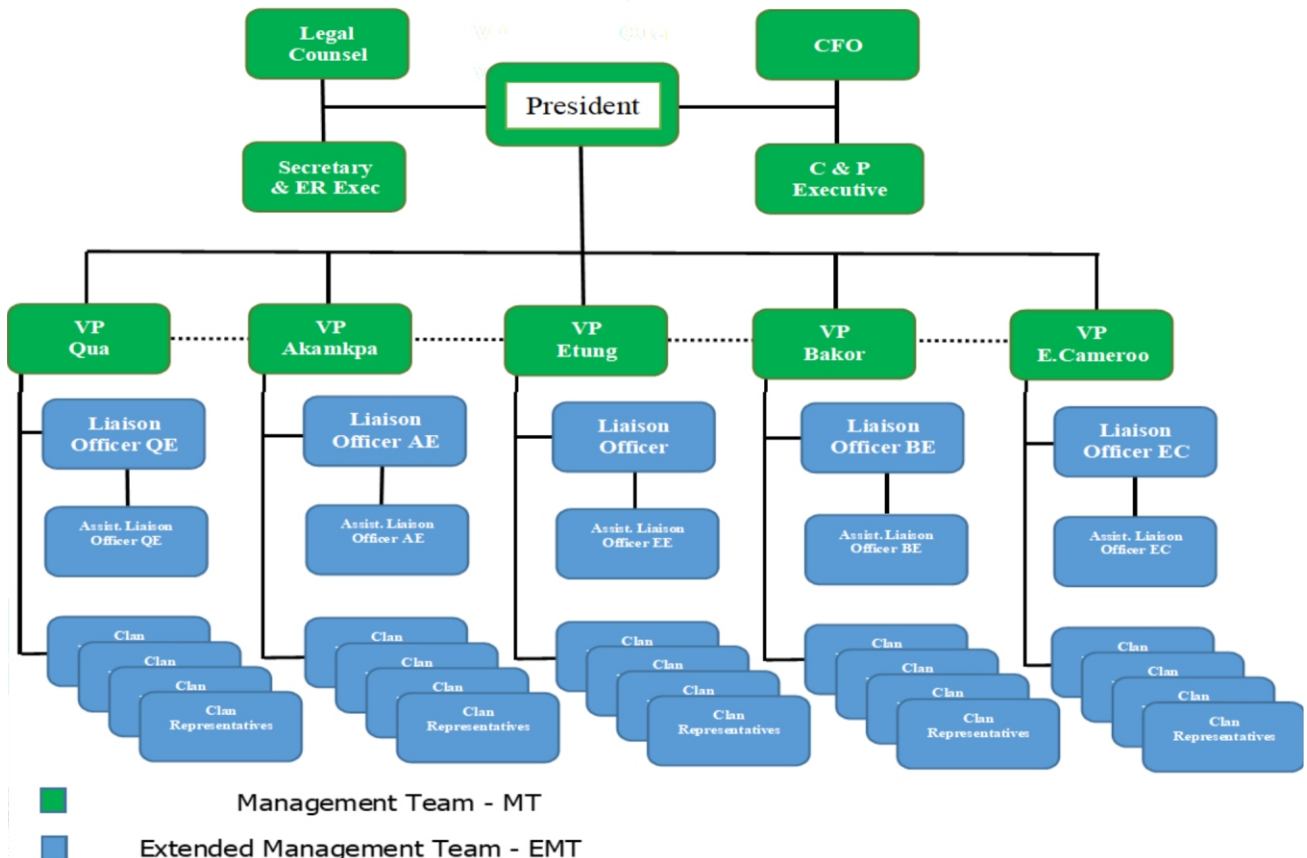
Caribbean, by the influence of the infamous Transatlantic Slave trade. These clusters would be shown on the map in the near future.

# EjT ORGANISATIONAL MODEL

## Board of Trustees (BOT)



## EjT ORGANISATIONAL CHART



# THE SECRETARIAT



**ENGR. CHRIS ANOM**  
CEng CMarEng FIMarEST FRINA  
*PRESIDENT*



**SESSEKOU (IYAMBA) HON  
AGBORNDUKU ERET**  
*VICE PRESIDENT*  
EJAGHAM CAMEROON



**DR. NSAGHA OSAJI**  
*VICE PRESIDENT*  
QUA EJAGHAM



**DR. VALENTINE NTUI**  
*VICE PRESIDENT*  
AKAMKPA EJAGHAM



**MR VICTOR O. ETTA**  
*VICE PRESIDENT*  
ETUNG EJAGHAM



**MR IBU MONKOM**  
*VICE PRESIDENT*  
BAKOR EJAGHAM



**MRS GRACE A. NTUI**  
*CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER*



**MR. D.C EKUP-NSE**  
*SECRETARY &  
EXTERNAL RELATIONS EXECUTIVE*



**MR. BEN NTUI**  
*CONTRACT & PROCUREMENT  
EXECUTIVE*



**BARR. FRANCIS ANOM**  
*LEGAL COUNSEL*



**VERY REV. FR.  
DR. FELIX EJA OJONG**  
*CHAIRPERSON, ECFC,  
ALTERNATE CHAIRPERSON ELCC,  
COORDINATOR EJAGHAM JOURNAL  
& BOOK (EJB)*



**PROF. MRS ALICE E. ASIM**  
*ALTERNATE CHAIRPERSON,  
EjT CULTURAL FESTIVALS  
COMMITTEE (ECFC)*



**PROF. STELLA ANSA**  
*CHAIRPERSON,  
EJAGHAM LANGUAGE  
CODIFICATION COMMITTEE  
(ELCC)*

## Q1 2020 ACTIVITIES

This is the first Quarterly Report of EjT's 1st Fiscal year: July 2020 – June 2021. This Fiscal year was adopted by the Management Team (EjT-MT) on July 4th, 2020 as captured in the 6th Minutes of EjT-MT Monthly Meeting, which holds on the first Saturday of every month.

For the records, EjT Management Team was constituted by the President and held its inaugural meeting on January 26th, 2020. This pioneer Management Team was saddled with the responsibility of building this organisation to gain traction, in line with the provisions of EjT's Corporate Management System (CMS). Before the development and adoption of EjT Corporate Business Plan (CBP) 2020 – 2023 by the MT, with implementation from July 2020 – a period here tagged as pre-CBP, EjT had taken remarkable steps towards achieving its Mission, Vision, and Objectives, as captured in EjT's Organisational Profile 2020; with EjT's 'Performance History' well noted in pages 6 –7

***We caused the first contact between the leadership of EjT and the Eyumojock Traditional Rulers Association, the body of traditional authority in Ejagham Cameroon and key stakeholder to achieving EjT's mission.***

However, this Quarterly Report shall present all continuing projects and activities initiated during pre-CBP, into the projects initiated during the CBP era. Below is an Executive Summary of the 1st Quarter of EjT's Business year, Per Cluster Performance Report; Areas of Critical Concern; and Activities Outlook for the next Quarter.

## VP EJAGHAM CAMEROON REPORT

Quarter one (Q1) 2020 has been particularly challenging. The civil war, Covid-19 pandemic and borders closure on both sides made it difficult to pursue our mission. Notwithstanding the above, we have kept the wheel turning.

We took part in all but one management meeting because the VP-EC was unavoidably absent. We successfully appointed personnel to support all ongoing EjT programme. We appointed Rev. Ayamba Nkiri who worked for a long time with Dr. Watters in the early translation of the New Testament into Ejagham language and Nta Ntiamba Obintui to ELCC and Ejagham Journal and Book (EJB) projects respectively.

In spite of the difficulty in movement across the borders, we risked and received ELCC Word Lists and EjT profile booklets from Nigeria. We caused the first contact between the leadership of EjT and the Eyumojock Traditional Rulers Association, the body of traditional authority in Ejagham Cameroon and key stakeholder to achieving EjT's mission. Also, we had a meeting with the association president Ntufam Obenofunde Moses to explain how Word Lists should be used and solicit for sponsorship as well. The reaction was very positive.

We are currently managing challenges with registration due to ongoing maintenance of the registration portal on EjT's website and winning hearts and minds in areas where Ejagham language coexist with other languages in one Sub Division.

I would like to use this opportunity to enjoin all Ejagham sons and daughter of Ejagham Cameroon to come together, in spite of the difficulties, to help build, preserve and protect Ejagham heritage for future generations.

On the whole, we can say confidently that EjT is winning in the Cameroons in spite of the observed difficulties.

Sessekou (Iyamba) Agbornduku Eret  
**VP – Ejagham Cameroon**



## EJAGHAM LANGUAGE CODIFICATION

This Project was initiated by the Management Team and a viable Committee made up of reputable professionals was constituted and inaugurated on May 2nd, 2020. This committee is known as Ejagham Language Codification Committee (ELCC), with Prof. Stella Ansa (Professor of Linguistics, University of Calabar) and Rev. Fr. Dr. Felix Eja Ojong (Associate Professor of Anthropology/Sociology, University of Calabar) as Chairperson and Alternate Chairperson respectively; Nta D. C. Ekup-Nse as Secretary; and other respected Ejagham professionals drawn from all Ejagham Clusters in Nigeria and the Cameroons as Committee members and Technical Advisers.



*ELCC Leadership with Akamkpa Ejagham Traditional Rulers Council*

ELCC is charged with the responsibility of developing a Standard Variety of Ejagham Language Orthography for use in learning institutions domiciled in all Ejagham lands in Nigeria and the Cameroons. The Reason for ELCC, its Scope, Purpose, and Deliverables are captured in the committee's Terms of Reference (ToR) document.



*ELCC Leadership with Qua Ejagham Traditional Rulers Council*

It cannot be overemphasised, however, that the development of a standard Ejagham language is geared towards more socio-cultural cohesion of all Ejagham people; giving Ejagham language a global significance; and a commercial value for Ejagham language as a preservative mechanism and empowerment for Ejagham People and Local Communities (EPLC).



*From L-R: EJT VP-EC Sessekou Agbornduku Eret, Wife of Ntufam Moses Obenofunde and President Eyumojok Traditional Rulers Association, Ntufam Moses Obenofunde*

Following its Project Execution Plan, ELCC has developed and distributed its Standard Wordlist and successfully introduced this Project to Ejagham Traditional Councils in



Ejagham Language Codification Wordlist

Qua, Cameroon, Akamkpa; with arrangements concluded to engage with Bakor and Etung Traditional Councils. Ejagham people across the globe welcome this project with open arms and are very enthusiastic to see it fructify.

### **EJAGHAM CULTURAL FESTIVALS**

To mitigate the risk of Erosion, Dilution, Adulteration, Misinterpretation, and perhaps Extinction (EDAME) facing Ejagham Cultural Displays, Ejagham Cultural Festivals Committee (ECFC) was constituted and inaugurated on August 23rd, 2020 to oversee the authentic revival and genuine public exhibition of Ejagham Cultural Displays and associated institutions. This committee has



*Ejagham Creation - Akwanshi (Ancestral) monolith dated 1200 BC*

its Terms of Reference (ToR) as well as its Objectives, Scope, and Deliverables well documented.

ECFC is Chaired and Alternated by Rev. Fr. Dr. Felix Ojong (Associate Professor of Anthropology & Sociology, University of Calabar) and Prof. (Mrs.) Alice Asim (Professor of Educational Evaluation, Research, and Statistics, University of Calabar) respectively; Nta D. C. Ekup-Nse as

Secretary; and other respected Ejagham professionals and youths drawn from all Ejagham Clusters in Nigeria and the Cameroons as Committee members. This committee has been broken down into subcommittees. It is consistently engaging, planning, and modifying its framework for the effective realisation of its objectives.

### **EJAGHAM JOURNAL AND BOOK**

Given the dearth of literature on Ejagham Traditional Practices (ETP) and Ejagham Cultural Expressions (ECE), EjT has embarked on a radical, yet constructive, documentation of all aspects of Ejagham heritage.

While Oral Tradition has its place, death, memory loss, and the need for global dissemination of ETP and ECE has informed the development of this project which will guarantee a more durable and contemporary means of preserving, promoting, and projecting Ejagham heritage for its due place in the global community of cultures.

Through the stewardship of the Project-Lead, Rev. Fr. Dr. Felix Ojong, Ejagham Journal and Book (EJB) Start-up and Execution Plan has been developed. An outstanding Editorial Board has been constituted with membership cutting across all Ejagham Clusters in Nigeria and the Cameroons; having Sesseikou (Iyamba) Hon. Agbornduku Eret, VP, Ejagham Cameroon Cluster, as Editor-in-Chief.

The journal-title is ***Ejagham Journal: An International Journal of Science, Social Sciences, and Humanities***. Here, Ejagham and Non-Ejagham intellectuals are at liberty to publish their research on any aspect of Ejagham heritage. This Journal shall not be predatory, since it is not created for academic promotions. It is simply created to preserve and update Ejagham intellectual heritage. Though, it is hoped that shortly, it shall become a high index journal where scholars around the globe can publish on Ejagham to get academic upgrading.

On the other hand, the Book project is

designed to accommodate all kinds of literature on Ejagham Tradition and Practices. Its title is: ***Ejagham Tradition and Practices***. Here, contributors are expected to simply document whatever they know about Ejagham's past and present, especially as it pertains to their immediate Ejagham community. This book shall accommodate Essays, Narratives, Poems, Folklores, Myths/Legends, Values, Beliefs, Festivals, Cultural Displays, Culinary, Recreation, Knowledge of Nature and the Universe, etc. It shall be published in volumes. This book is an open space where non-academic writers can become authors on Ejagham as well.



*Nsob Ejagham donned in EjT T-shirt & Face Cap*

members and the general public who patronise these products are equally supporting EjT's course, and such patronage is highly solicited for.

### **EJT CORPORATE BANK ACCOUNT**

As resolved by the Management Team in their 4th Monthly Meeting which was held on April 29th, 2020, a Corporate Bank Account was successfully opened for EjT on August 28th, 2020. The account had an opening balance of Ten Thousand Naira (N10,000.00) which was donated by a committed member of EjT for this purpose; and went further to personally facilitate the account opening process. Account details are:

Account name: **Ejagham Tradition Centre**  
 Account Number: **2035883685**  
 Bank: **First Bank Nigeria**

This Bank account was opened as a response to the demand of some EjT Members who often requested EjT's corporate bank account details to enable them support EjT financially, as such support is still highly solicited for by the Management Team.

### **RE-BRANDED EJT T-SHIRTS AND FACE CAPS**

EjT re-branded its T-Shirt to have a specially customised EjT T-shirt, as well as customised face caps. This new brand was modelled and publicised on EjT Telegram group chat and Facebook page in September 2020. The T-shirt is valued at four thousand naira only (N4,000), while the face cap is valued at two thousand, five hundred naira only (N2,500), with a five hundred naira (N500) discount on both items for identifiable students. All EjT

### **EEJT ORGANISATIONAL PROFILE**

As part of the Management Team's efforts to enlighten all Ejagham people and the general public of what EjT is all about and milestones covered thus far, a comprehensive Organisational Profile was developed and disseminated widely in print and electronically. This profile was published in July 2020. The overall feedback from Ejagham people and the general public is



*Copies of EjT Organisational Profile*

completely positive, with an increasing demand for its print copies which the Management Team continues to solicit for individual and/or corporate sponsorship of its production.

### **EJT PROGRAMMES**

In line with the Triple-D strategy of EjT's operations (Document, Digitalise, and Disseminate), three unique audio-visual programmes were designed, reviewed, and adopted into EjT's Corporate Business Plan 2020 – 2023. These programmes are currently running and explained thus:

**Inside Ejagham:** This is an EjT Documentary series that captures the totality of Ejagham's life and habitat. Here,

Ejagham's story is told from the Ejagham perspective and presented to the world in the finest video documentary style. It focuses on the legacies of Ejagham's past, present situation, and future aspirations. Inside Ejagham is the best edutainment resource in the world on Ejagham Traditional Practices (ETP) and Ejagham Cultural Expressions (ECE). Showing the real Ejagham to the wider world is the guiding philosophy of this programme.

**Ekubi EjT:** This is a special programme of Ejagham Tradition. This programme deals with periodic quality conversation exchanges by people knowledgeable on aspects of Ejagham Traditional Practices (ETP) and Ejagham Cultural Expressions (ECE). Here is the critical dialogue point on all matters of Ejagham. Ekubi EjT is the world's best platform where both Ejagham and none Ejagham intellectuals and sages converge to discuss Ejagham and Ejagham's relations with the wider world.



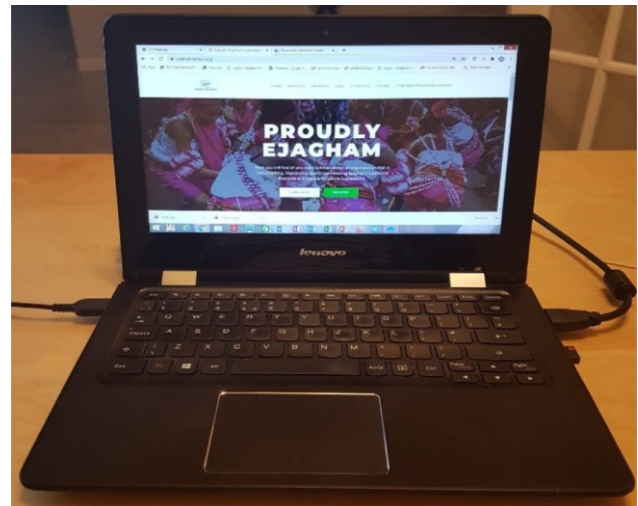
*Abon Ejagham donned in EjT T-Shirt & Face Cap*

**Uyep-Iteam:** This is an EjT programme designed to disseminate abridged audio-visual contents created by or donated to EjT. Here, short videos are disseminated to the world to pass important messages and generate traffic to all EjT New Media sites. This is one of the best quick-informing and branding programmes of EjT.

### WEBSITE REDESIGNING

By way of maintaining our innovative culture as an organisation, EjT is currently redesigning its official website to have three basic domains: Ejagham Tradition Contents; EjT Shop; and Professional Category. The website is however open for users access and EjT membership registrations. Further details about the website shall be published

in the next Quarterly Report.



*EjT Website, [www.ejaghamtradition.org](http://www.ejaghamtradition.org) undergoing upgrade*

### AREAS OF CRITICAL CONCERN

**Funding:** Given the number of ongoing projects, programmes, and activities, EjT is in critical need of financial resources to run, sustain, and execute its projects, programmes, and activities. It currently has no corporate sponsorship and thrives on voluntary donations from very few well-meaning Ejagham people.

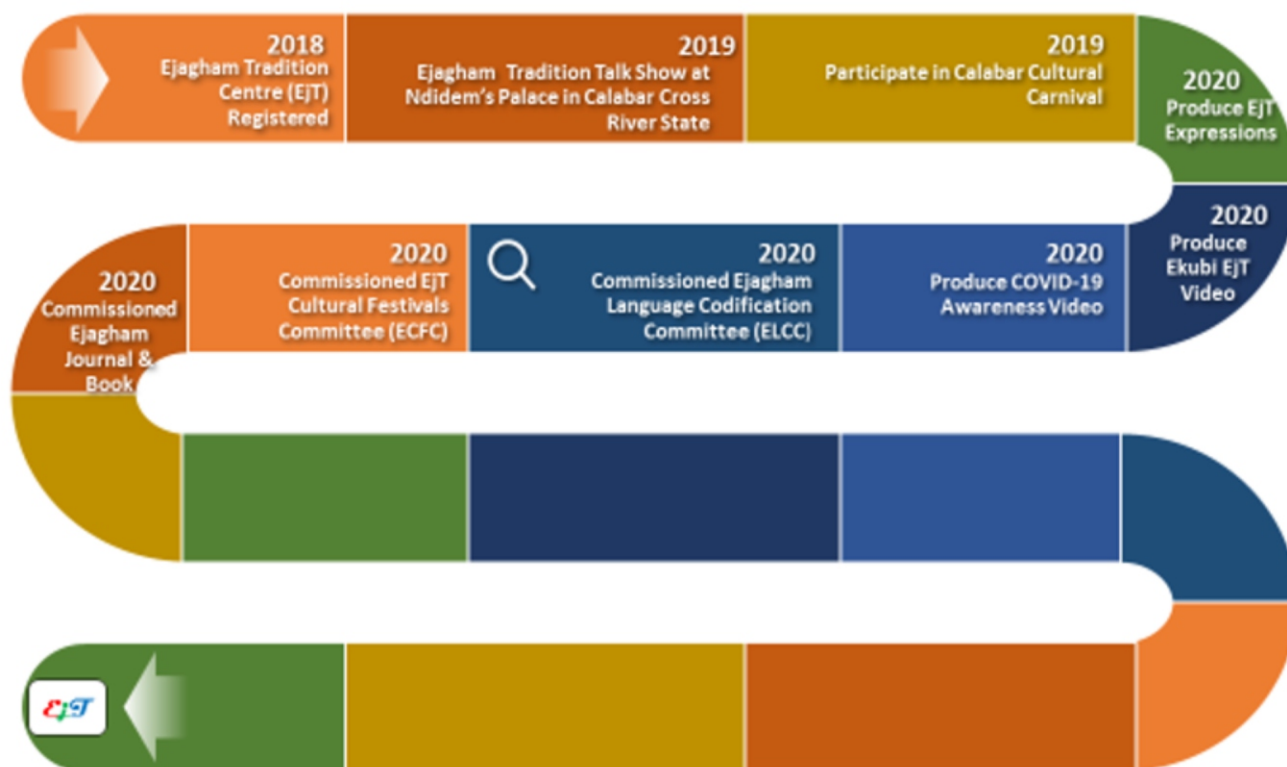
**Silo Relationships:** It is obvious that one great challenge still facing EjT is the existing silo relationships where some Ejagham people fail to see the oneness of Ejagham beyond their immediate Ejagham cluster. This calls for critical concern as Ejagham can only be stronger together.

**Motivational Deficit:** Our mission requires significant motivation among Ejagham nation to intellectualise Ejagham Traditional Practices (ETP) and Ejagham Cultural Expressions (ECE). The sure and sustainable approach is to give our ETP and ECE Triple-D treatment i.e. Document, Digitalise & Disseminate them. So far, the motivational deficit is a major concern.



*Okpere – An item of Nkoba Ekpa Anaka*

# EjT MILESTONES



## Glossary of Terms

### Acronym Meaning

MT	Management Team	ToR	Terms of Reference
EMT	Extended Management Team	ELCC	Ejagham Language Codification Committee
ETP	Ejagham Traditional Practices	ECFC	EjT Cultural Festivals Committee
ECE	Ejagham Cultural Expressions	CMS	Corporate Management System
EjT	Ejagham Tradition	KPI	Key Performance Indicator
QE	Qua Ejagham	MPR	Monthly Performance Report
AE	Akamkpa Ejagham	EJB	Ejagham Journal and Book
EE	Etung Ejagham	CBP	Corporate Business Plan
BE	Bakor Ejagham		
EC	Ejagham Cameroon		
Triple-D	Document, Digitalis and Disseminate		
EPLC	Ejagham People and Local Communities		
PET	President, Ejagham Tradition		
VP-QE	Vice President Qua Ejagham		
VP-AE	Vice President Akamkpa Ejagham		
VP-EE	Vice President Etung Ejagham		
VP-BE	Vice President Bakor Ejagham		
VP-EC	Vice President Ejagham Cameroon		
SERE	Secretary & External Relations Executive		
LC	Legal Counsel		
CPE	Contracts & Procurement Executive		
CFO	Chief Financial Officer		
LO	Liaison Officer		
ALO	Assistant Liaison Officer		