

Some Traditions and Customs Associated with Chieftaincy

FAMILY MORNING SALUTATIONS IN EDO KINGDOM

The strict adherence to the custom and religious observances of the land have always played a dominant role in the life of the Edo people. It is therefore no wonder that most of these observances developed from their innate consciousness of their beliefs in their creator (Osanobuwa or Osanobua or Osanoghodua) who they say can only be reached through the spirits of their ancestors or their departed parents or elders they term as Enikaro (The Originators). In like manner, the Edo have associated themselves with the past and it is not uncommon to find that every family is therefore traced to its original forebear; a fact which is borne out by their family morning salutations. In most cases, these morning salutations are interlinked with the various chieftaincy titles of the land. A common saying in Benin is that those who have no family salutations are either strangers or else not freemen, but even those who are supposed to belong to these groups (of strangers or non freemen) usually take the morning salutations of their masters or guardians as the case may be. The following morning salutations are associated with the various families, a great many of which have connections with their original chieftaincy titles:

NO. Family Name	Family Salutation
1.Royal Family (First Royal Period from Ogiso era)	Delaiso (Laiso)
2.Royal Family (Second Royal Period from Eweka 1.)	Lamogun
3.Iyase of Benin	Lavbieze
4. Oliha of Benin	Laogele
5. Edohen of Benin	Latose

6. Isiemwenro	Latose
7. Ezomo of Benin	Lagiesan
8. Ero of Benin	Lamosun
9. Eholor Nire of Benin	Laire
10. Oloton of Benin	Lamehi
11. Elema of Benin	Lagba
12. Ogiamien of Benin	Laire
13. Ogiefafa of Benin	Larendo (Laidu)
14. Ine N'Igun of Benin	Delani (or Lani)
15. Osa of Benin	Delaiki (or Laiki)
16. Osuan of Benin	Labo
17. Enogie of Ugo N' Iiyekorhionmwon	Labo
18. Osenugba	Labo
19. OdionwereN'Idunmwun Edo	Labo
20. Iyase of Udo	Lagiewan
21. Enogie of Ugo N' Eki	Delakun (or Lakun)
22. Enogie of Ute	Lagite
23. Ise of Utekon	Laeru
24. Iyase of Uselu	Layede

25. Elawure of Usen (Lauhe)	Delauhe
26. Ezima (or Ojima) of Okeluhen	Layeru
27. Enogie of Uvbe	Lauvbe
28. Enogie of Ehor	Delaeho (or Laeho)
29. Eholor of Igieduma	Delaihon (or Laihon)
30. Olokhunmwun	Delagun (or Lagun)
31. Umodu	Lamodu
32. Emezi	Lamezi
33. Eni of Uzae (Ijare)	Lamore
34. Aide	Laide
35. Olumoru	Lamoru
36. Oloke	Laloke
37. Ughe	Laughe
38. Igie	Laigie
39. Ugha	Laugha
40. Ohenukoni of Evbiekoi	Delaihe (or Laihe)
41. Enogie of Irhue	Delalu (or Lalu)
42. Enogie of Evbokabua	Lavbiuwa

43. Emeri	Lameri
44. Agia	Lagia
45. Eze	Lamero
46. Emehe	Lamehe
47. Akpan Lakpan)	Delakpan (or
48. Umolu	Lamolu
49. Ize	Laize
50. Umokun	Lamokun
51. Ureni	Lareni
52. Idu	Laidu
53. Iren	Lairen
54. Igiena	Laigena
55. Emekon	Lamekon
56. Enogie of Erua	Lagierua

Courtesy: Origin of Benin Chieftaincy titles. - Prince Ena Eweka