

Sylvester Onoriode OBIGBA

Palynology Laboratory, Department of Archaeology & Anthropology, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria
obigbasylvester@gmail.com, sobigba9915@stu.ui.edu.ng/+234(0)703-1260-159, +234(0)905-0033-020/ORCID: 0000-0003-0420-4740

EDUCATION

- 2023: PhD – (*in view*) - Environmental Archaeology
University of Ibadan, Ibadan (Advisor: Dr Emuobosa A. Orijemie)
- 2018: M.Sc.–Botany (Palynology), with PhD Grade of 75.7%
University of Ibadan, Ibadan (Advisor: Prof M. Adebisi Sowunmi)
- 2010: B.Sc. (Hon.) – Botany, Second Class Upper with 73.2%
Delta State University, Abraka (Advisor: Prof Noyo E. Edema)
- 2005: Senior Secondary School Leaving Certificate (West African Examination Council)
Renaissance High Schools International, Ovwian
- 2002: Junior Secondary School Leaving Certificate (Delta State Ministry of Education)
Gbesa Grammar School, Ojobo
- 1999: First School Leaving Certificate (Ministry of Education) with Distinction
Zuokumor Primary School, Ojobo
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RESEARCH INTEREST

I specialise in environmental archaeology, basic and applied palynology, and plant biology. I reconstruct past ecosystems, palaeo-environmental changes, human-environment interactions, land-use legacy, and ancient human occupations using the multi-proxy approach (phytoliths, pollen, micro-/macro-charcoal, and other non-pollen palynomorphs)

PALAEO-ECOLOGICAL RESEARCH SKILLS

- Field Skills: Sediment coring, Ethnographic Surveying, Enumeration, Archaeological excavation.
- Lab. Skills: Processing of sediment cores through pollen analysis
- Quantitative: Microscopic examination and counting of palynomorphs, aggregation of counts using palaeo-ecological and standard palynological ratios and indices, use of Neotoma TILIA software, artefact inventory and classification from stratigraphic contexts.
- Qualitative: Microscopic analysis, identification and use of macro and micro-fossils, artefacts, interpretation of Holocene palynomorph proxies for palaeo-climatic, palaeo-vegetation and environmental reconstruction.
- Illustration: Processing of photomicrographs, classification of artefacts, finds and features, palynomorph graphic description, and other standard image processing techniques.
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MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL/LEARNED ASSOCIATIONS

- 2025: Managing Artificial Intelligence in Archaeology (MAIA) European Cooperation in Science and Technology (e-COST) Action CA23141
- 2023: Past Global Changes (PAGES) – C-PEAT, 2k-Diverse
- 2023: West African Archaeological Association (WAAA)
- 2023: Society of Africanist Archaeologist (SAFA)
- 2023: Archaeological Association of Nigeria (AAN)
- 2022: African Food Safety Network (AfroSAN)
- 2019: International Union for Quaternary Research (INQUA)
- 2017: International Honey Commission (IHC) Melissopalynology Working Group
- 2016: Palynological Association of Nigeria (PAN)
- 2013: Nigerian Institute of Management Chartered (NIMC)
- 2007: Botanical Society of Nigeria (BOSON)
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TEACHING/TUTORIAL ASSISTANTSHIP EXPERIENCE

1. *Biology/Basic Science Teacher*, FG N-Power (N-Teach) Volunteer Scheme (Dec.2016–Jun. 2020)

2. *Practical Biology External Examiner* (No. 5043/1863), West African Examination Council (WASSCE), Anglican Girls Grammar School Asaba Coordination Centre (Sept. 2019 to present)
3. *Biology Teacher*, Government Girls' Secondary School Abua, Rivers State (2011 – 2012)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE (VOLUNTEER)

Proficiency: Reconnaissance Survey, Ethnography, Site Gridding and Mapping, Excavation, Sorting and Bagging of Finds, Artefact Inventory and Analyses, Use of ArcGIS, Museum Curation,

Project	Location (Nigeria)	Principal Investigator	Affiliation	Date(s)
Ife-Sungbo Archaeological Project (Urban Archaeology)	Ile-Ife	Prof Gerald Chouin and Prof Adisa B. Ogunfolakan	College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia, U.S.A.	27 Jul. – 16 Aug., 2025
HUM-ADR supported British Academy Global Professorship Project	Department of Archaeology and Anthropology Museum Store, University of Ibadan	Prof Abubakar Sule Sani	Centre for African Art and Archaeology, Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK	13 June - 7 July, 2025
Ilorin-Shao Archaeological Project	Gbagba-Ilorin and Jadogo-Shao	Dr Bolaji Owoseni	University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK	23 Jan. – 17 Feb., 2025
Heritage and Loss on the West African Coast: An Historical-Archaeological Investigation of Apa, Badagry, Nigeria	Apa-Badagry	Abdulmalik Abdulmalik	A. Sainsbury Research Unit, University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK	Sept. – Oct., 2024
Ife-Sungbo Archaeological Project (Urban Archaeology)	Ile-Ife	Prof Gerald Chouin and Prof Adisa B. Ogunfolakan	College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia, U.S.A.	28 Jul. – 20 Aug., 2024
Upper Osun Archaeological Project	Ede-Ile	Cardiss Collins Professor of Arts & Science, Akinwunmi Ogundiran	Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, U.S.A.	28 Jun. – 20 Jul., 2024
Pavement Survey and Mapping Annual Field School	Ife and Modakeke Oyan	IFRA (French Institute for Research in Africa) Department of Archaeology and Anthropology	University of Ibadan, and the French Embassy University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria	6 – 23 Feb., 2024 4 – 15 Jan., 2024

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL TRAININGS

Training	Organisers	Venue	Dates
Empowering Success: Research Building Connection and Maximising Productivity (NECT)	The Association of Commonwealth Universities and University of Ilorin	University of Ilorin Auditorium Basement	6 th – 8 th , Jan., 2025
Use of Machine Learning in Palynology and Palaeoecology	Palynological Association of Nigeria & Aix-Marseille University, France	Virtual (Zoom)	May, 2024
Doctoral Academy	The Postgraduate College, University of Ibadan, Ibadan	International Conference Centre, University of Ibadan	April, 2024
ArcGIS Story-Mapping	IFRA (French Institute for Research	Museum of Natural	March, 2024

		in Africa)	History, Awolowo University, Ile-Ife	
National Housing & Population Census Data Quality Management, ArcGIS	National Population Commission, Abuja, Nigeria	Virtual and Physical (Federal Secretariat, Asaba)	Obafemi	Dec 2022 – Jul. 2023
Practical Waste Handling and Eco-Consciousness Guide (Plants for the Planet)	Plogging Nigeria (Green Switch Academy)	Virtual (WhatsApp)		Sept. – Oct. 2022
Soft Skills Training Management	Jobberman, Lagos Nigerian Institute of Management (Chartered), Lagos	Virtually (Telegram) Rivers State College of Arts and Sciences, Port Harcourt		Sept. 2021 – Nov 2011 – July, 2012
National Youth Service Scheme	National Youth Service Corp (NYSC)	Abua, Rivers State		Jul. 2011 – Jun. 2012

FAMILIARITY WITH DATA ANALYSIS TOOLS:

Neotoma TILIA, IBM SPSS, PAST (Paleontological Statistics), R Programming 3.6.1 Version (beginner), and Microsoft Office Suite

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Oyeyemi, S.D., **Obigba**, S.O., Akinyemi, A.E. & Omorayewa, E.B. 202. Proximate, phytochemical and GCMS analyses of selected honeys from Ekiti State, Nigeria. *Nigerian Journal of Life Sciences* – Accepted Manuscript.

Ajipe, J.O., & **Obigba**, S.O. 2025. Mineral composition, ratio and safety assessment of *Apis mellifera* honeys from selected states in Nigeria. *Bulletin of the University of Agricultural and Veterinary Medicine Cluj-Napoca: Animal Science and Biotechnology* – Accepted Manuscript.

Orijemie, E.A & **Obigba**, S.O. (eds.) 2024. *Palynology and Human Ecology of Africa*. IGI-Global Publishing, Hersey, PA, USA. <https://doi.org/10.4018/978-1-6684-7801-1>. <https://www.igi-global.com/book/palynology-human-ecology-africa/309742>.

Obigba, S.O. 2024. Pollen-the relatively ethno-pharmaceutically beneficial bio-entities. In, Orijemie, E.A & Obigba, S.O., *Palynology and Human Ecology of Africa* (pp. 87-108). IGI-Global Publishing, Hersey, PA, USA. <https://doi.org/10.4018/978-1-6684-7801-1.ch004>

Edema, N.E., **Obigba**, S.O., John, A.E. & Enebeli, N.B. 2023. Assessment of mineral composition and health status of honeys from selected states in southern Nigeria. *Journal of Science Research*, 20, 166 – 176.

Essien, B.C., Tsoho, S.B., **Obigba**, S.O., Atukpa, M.E., Ademoh, O.F., Oladeji, T.C., Oluwajuyigbe, B.M., & Fatoyinbo, S.O. 2024. Investigation of the health implication, abundance and spatio-temporal distribution of bioaerosols in Akoko region of Ondo State, Nigeria. *Kashere Journal of Science and Education*, 2(1), 109 – 121.

Essien, B.C., **Obigba**, S.O., & Falaye, I.S. 2023. Floral preferences of honeybees (*Apis mellifera* var. *adansonii*) in Ijumu, Kogi State, Nigeria: a melissopalynological and biodiversity conservation perspective. *NABDA Journal of Biotechnology Research*, 2(1), 33 – 43.

Oyeyemi, S.D., **Obigba**, S.O. & Murele, O.O. 2023. Melissopalynological and physicochemical analyses of honey samples from Ekiti, southwestern Nigeria. *Singapore Journal of Scientific Research*, 13(1): 48 - 59. <https://doi.org/10.17311/sjsr.2023.48.59>.

Obigba, S.O. 2021. Understanding past and present vegetation dynamics through the palynological approach: an introductory discourse. In, Carmona, E.C., Canas, R.Q., Ortiz, A.C. & Musarella, C.M. (eds.), *Vegetation index and dynamics* (pp. 221 – 237). Rijeka, Croatia. Intech Open Publishers. <https://doi.org/10.5772/intechopen.97755>.

SELECTED PAPER(S) PRESENTED IN CONFERENCES (THE LAST 5 YEARS)

1. “*Museums and festivals: a note and comparative analysis on the status quo*” at West African Archaeological Association Colloquium, University of Ibadan, 12 – 15th October, 2025
2. “*Environmental and cultural complexities: rethinking the applicability of complex systems theory in archaeological and palaeoscience paradigms*” at West African Archaeological Association Colloquium, University of Ibadan, 12 – 15th October, 2025
3. “*Scrutiny on the differential preservation of pollen types in sediments and the implications for palaeoecology*” at Palynology Short Talk - Student Research Showcase and Infographic organized by The Palynological Society sponsored by AASP-TPS (May 25, 2021).

SELECTED ACADEMIC CONFERENCES

1. 19th West African Archaeological Association Colloquium on “*Positioning West Africa in Global Archaeology*” at University of Ibadan, 12 – 15th October, 2025
2. The Royal Society, England Maiden Conference on Peatlands in Africa, themed “*African Tropical Peatlands: their Value and Vulnerability*”, 17 – 18th February, 2025.
3. IFRA (French Institute for Research in Africa)– Nigeria Conference on African Studies and the Digital Archival Turn: Antecedents, Future, & the Nigerian Projects, University of Ibadan, 25th April, 2024.
4. Palynological Association of Nigeria (PAN) 12th Biennial International Conference/Exhibition, University of Ibadan, 30th Oct. - 2nd Nov., 2023.
5. University of Ibadan Faculty of Science 5th International Conference on Scientific Research in Nigeria themed ‘Strengthening Scientific Research for National Development’, University of Ibadan, 2th – 5th May, 2023.
6. PAN 11th Biennial International Conference/Exhibition, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, 1st – 4th Nov., 2021.
7. African Centre for Climate Actions and Rural Development (ACCARD) 2nd Niger Delta Climate Change Conference & Pre-Cops26 Meeting, on ‘*Addressing Climate Change Emergency Through Nature-Based Solutions*’ Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun, Oct. 7th – 8th, 2021.
8. Palynology Short Talk organized by The Palynological Society, Oct., 2020
9. University of Ibadan Faculty of Science 4th International Conference on Scientific Research in Nigeria themed ‘Innovative Scientific Research and National Development, University of Ibadan, 20th – 23rd May, 2019.
10. PAN 10th Annual International Conference/Exhibition, Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba-Akoko, Ondo State, Nigeria, 5th – 8th May, 2019.
11. Botanical Society of Nigeria (BOSON) 26th Annual Conference, Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti, Ekiti State, 12th – 16th Aug., 2018.
12. PAN 9th Annual International Conference/Exhibition, University of Lagos, Akoka-Lagos, 21st – 24th May, 2017.
13. BOSON 24th Annual Conference, University of Ibadan, 14th – 18th Aug., 2016.

SELECTED CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOPS

14. Pre-Conference Writing workshop, 19th West African Archaeological Association Colloquium at University of Ibadan, 9 – 12th October, 2025

15. British Academy Global Professorship Training Workshop on “*Exhibiting Past and Present African Communities*”, at the National Museum of Unity, Ibadan, 8th – 10th July, 2025
16. Ife Institute of Advanced Science 2024 Summer School themed “*Community of Practices: Collaboration and Academic Leadership for Science and Technology Education and Research in Africa*”, 19th – 23rd Nov, 2024.
17. University of Ibadan Research/Mc-Aurthur Foundation Capacity Building Workshop for Early Career & Postgraduate Researchers on ‘*Collaborative Academic Resuscitation and Transformation (UI-CART) Project in Science and Technology (ScTech)*’, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, 14th – 19th May, 2019.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND VOLUNTEER SERVICES OFFERED

1. Oct. 2024-Sept. 2025: *Program Manager*, Heritage and You (HAY) Project, Ibadan with the Kumbu Konnect Network (KKN)
 2. May 2024 to date: *Special Adviser on Conflict Resolution*, Ojobo Urban Youth Forum, Warri
 3. May–Aug., 2023: *Assistant Secretary*, Ojobo Community Election Crisis Management Committee, Ojobo Community
 4. Dec. 2023 to date: *Secretary*, Secondary School Merit Award Ceremony Planning Committee, Ojobo Community
 5. Aug - Sept., 2022 -: *Member*, Planning and Implementation Committee, Ojobo Water Treatment Plant Installation, Ojobo Community.
 6. Oct., 2021: *Volunteer Champion*, Hygiene Quest School Project (Dettol Project), Ansarudeen Primary School, Ebute-Meta (East), Lagos.
 7. May –Aug, 2022: *Secondary School Student Mentor*, Gbesa Grammar School, Ojobo, under the Delta State Post Primary School Mentorship Programme
 8. 10-14 May 2021: *Initiated and Coordinated*, Basic First Aid Training in Gbesa Grammar School, Ojobo.
 9. May 2012: *Execution of a Community Development Project* at Government Girls’ Secondary School, Abua.
 10. Jul..2011 – Jun. 2012: *Peer Educator* on HIV/AIDS Prevention, Care, Adolescent Reproductive and Family Health, at Government Girls Secondary School, Abua.
 11. Jul..2011 – Jun. 2012: *Coordinator*, HIV/AIDS Prevention CDS Group, NYSC Abua.
 12. Oct. 2011: *Pioneer Leader and Initiator*, Sport CDS Group, NYSC Abua.
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GRANTS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- Sept. 2025: Cambridge Africa-Alborada Pre-Conference Writing Workshop and 2025 West African Archaeological Association Colloquium Participation Support – US\$250
- Mar. 2025: Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD) Doctoral Research Fellowship
- Dec. 2024: The Chief Mukoro Mowoe Research Scholars Fund, Urhobo History Society – ₦50,000
- Oct. 2024: PAGES Inter-Africa Mobility Research Fellowship – US\$3,955
- Feb. 2024: Professor Babatunde Agbaje-Williams Postgraduate Research Grant for MPhil/PhD Research Data Collection/Fieldwork – ₦570,000
- 2007-2010: Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) Nigeria University (Operational Area – West) *Undergraduate Scholarship Award* - ₦200,000
- 2000-2005: SPDC *Post Primary School Scholarships Award* for Oil Producing (Host) Communities
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LEADERSHIP POSITIONS HELD/RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2024: *Member*, Local Organising Committee, West African Archaeological Association International Conference, University of Ibadan, 12th – 14th Oct., 2025.
- 2023: *Member*, Local Organising Committee, Palynological Association of Nigeria 12th Biennial International Conference/Exhibition, University of Ibadan, 30th Oct.- 2nd Nov., 2023.
- 2022–2023 *Administrative Assistant/Secretary*, Odrich Limited, Effurun
- 2017 to date: *Assistant Secretary*, Palynological Association of Nigeria (PAN)
- 2011–2012: *Coordinator*, HIV/AIDS Prevention, Reproductive Health and Social Well-being Community Development Service, Abua

2009–2010: *Vice President*, National Association of Ojobo Students (NAOS), Ojobo Community
2008–2009: *Music Director*, Christ Chosen Campus Fellowship, Delta State University, Abraka
2009–2010: *Class Representative*, Final Year Undergraduate Class, Department of Botany, Delta State University, Abraka
2006–2007: *Class Representative, Instructor & Award Winner*, (CPN Approved) Drisoft Institute of Computer and Professional Studies, Warri
2004–2005: *Laboratory and Chemistry Prefect*, Renaissance High Schools International, Warri
2000–2002: *Class Representative*, Junior Secondary School Class, Gbesa Grammar School, Ojobo

HOBBIES

Reading, Teaching, Cooking, Singing, Swimming, Internet Surfing and Anchoring Events

REFEREES

Dr Emuobosa Akpo ORIJEMIE

-Senior Lecturer (2019), Department of Archaeology/Anthropology, University of Ibadan

-Secretary, Palynological Association of Nigeria, -Alexander von Humboldt Fellow (Experienced Researcher), Max Planck Institute of Geoanthropology, Jena, Germany

orijemie17@gmail.com or ae.oriemie@mail.ui.edu.ng/+234(0)8034789353