

KOGI STATE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA



MINISTRY OF CULTURE & TOURISM OFFICE OF THE HONOURABLE COMMISSIONER

NEW STATE SECRETARIAT COMPLEX,
P.M.B 1011, LOKOJA, KOGI STATE

Our Ref: **SII/MCT/16/8/2021**

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REPORT ON THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND WORKS OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND TOURISM FROM YEAR 2016-2021 UNDER THE NEW DIRECTION GOVERNMENT OF HIS EXCELLENCY ALHAJI YAHAYA ADOZA BELLO IN KOGI STATE

INTRODUCTION

The Ministry for Culture and Tourism is saddled with the major responsibility of repositioning the cultural heritage and tourism of Kogi State by identifying and developing the tourism potentials of the state as a means of job creation, wealth generation as well inculcating pride and dignity in our local acts and cultural values.

AIM AND OBJECTIVES OF THIS REPORT

The report will enumerate the achievements and works in progress for the ministry for culture and tourism since 2016-2021 in-tandem with the New Direction Blueprint of Kogi State. This would not have been possible without the solid support and backing of His Excellency, Governor Alhaji Yahaya Adoza Bello.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND WORKS FROM 2016 TO 2019

CULTURAL PERFORMANCE

The Executive Governor of Kogi State sponsored Kogi contingents in 2016 for the participation of the State contingents in the 2016 edition of Abuja National Carnival during which the State won twelve (12) laurels including 1st Best performing State of the federation till date, Kogi remained the defending champion of Abuja Carnival.

- Kogi State Executive Governor approved and sponsored the Kogi State contingents to participate and represented Nigeria in the 11th Edition of festival of Pan African Music (FESPAN) in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo from 8th – 15th July, 2017.
- Kogi State Governor approved and sponsored the Kogi State contingent to participated in the 2017 Africa Drum festival 2nd edition in Abeokuta Ogun State from 20th – 22nd April, 2017.
- The Executive Governor of Kogi Professor Alhaji Yahaya Adoza Bello also sponsored State Contingents to represent and participate in the summer festival of Tourism Government from 15th July, - 15th August, 2018 in Tunisia.
- As a lover of Culture, the Executive Governor, Kogi Culture allow cultural practices to be practiced in Kogi State a case of reference was the de-proscription of 5 traditional cultural practices in Kogi East which were proscribed by the colonial master 55 years ago (1956), such festival includes Ocho, Egwu, Oghede, Ogaganyi and Italo festivals, all in Kogi East while all cultural festivals in Kogi Central and Kogi West were fortified.

HERITAGE AND TOURISM

The performance of the Kogi State Governor on Heritage and Tourism includes, among others:

- Beautification and restoration of Historical Relics to woo in tourists, investors and travelers to Kogi State, the governor approved and released fund in 2019 for:-
 - (a) Recreational activities at Mount Patti
 - (b) Restoration of Lord Lugard resident on top of the hill Mount Patti
 - (c) Beautification of European Cemetery, cenotaph, tombs of Emirs deposed from the Northern part of the country to Lokoja during the colonial era such Emirs includes, Kano, Gwandu, Zaria, Gumel, Bida, Fontoro and others.

Other Historical sites where restoration took place was the first primary school in Northern Nigeria, the first Bank in Northern Nigeria, the First prison yard in Northern Nigeria, the Royal Niger company flag spot in Lokoja and many others.

It is the wish of the Executive Governor of Kogi State to drive the State Economy through culture, Heritage and Tourism in order to boost the Kogi

State and wish to open her door to would be investors in the area of Beautification Kogi Historic Relics to attract tourists to the State.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND WORKS ONGOING 2020 TO DATE

- (1) Participation of Kogi State cultural team at the 33rd National Festival of Arts and Culture (NAFEST) at Jos 2020.
- (2) Champion, as the most Enterprising State with laurels and medals presented to the Excellency, Alhaji Yahaya Adoza Bello in November, 2020.
- (3) Monitoring and state supervision of activities of cultural and traditional festivals in Kogi State.
- (4a) Monitoring of the Initiated Executive Bill to the Kogi State House of Assembly for a Bill for a Law to repeal and re-enact Kogi State Hotels and tourism board edict No.2 of 1995 to create enabling environment for tourism in Kogi State. The Bill has passed second reading.
- (b) A bill for a law to provide for the peaceful celebration of Ebira Traditional and Cultural Festivals in Kogi State and other matters connected 2021 is almost ready for accent by the Governor.
- (5) Member, Executive committee for the construction, beautification and furnishing of Kogi Hotel Lokoja with an investor (ASMOF INVESTMENT LIMITED) already secured for the approval of His Excellency.
- (6) Member, Kogi State Revenue Growth Initiatives which impacts on the increased Internal Generated Revenue since 2020.
- (7) Strict compliance to the executive directive on Civil Servant time clocking
check for reform of Kogi State civil service since 2020 to date.

- (8) Constitution of Tourism Intervention Advisory Committee (TIAC) headed by Otunba Segun Runsewe. DG National Council for Arts and Culture (NCAC) awaiting inauguration on my humble recommendation.
- (9) Signing of Memorandum Of Understanding for the development of Mount Patti with Gold City Engineering Limited on consultancy to pull in investors.
- (9) Execution of World Tourism Day 2020.
- (10) Execution of World Cultural Day 2020/2021.
- (11) Participation of the ministry at the Pre National Festival for Arts and Culture Technical Training and Seminar at Plateau and Ekiti State 2020 and 2021.
- (12) Recommendation and promotion of the Director, Arts Council to a Substantive Director in year 2020 to enhance performance of the council.
- (13) Preparation for presentation of the African Descendants Union Worldwide Cultural Carnival for October/November 2021, ongoing with Lokoja designated as the African EPICENTER of culture and tourism to hold annually in the Kogi State.
- (14) That Nollywood in consultation with Hollywood are discussing with Kogi State Government to take the state cultural and tourism potentials to overseas for exposure to generate more revenue for the state.

RECOMMENDATIONS/PRAYERS

- a) Approval of concession for Kogi Hotel Lokoja as recommended by the Executive Committee from the State Executive Council for the completion and take-off of the Kogi Hotel Lokoja.

- b) The need to rejig Kogi State's annual cultural festival by way of competition to discover raw talents for exposure as directed by GYB2PYB is sacrosanct.
- c) The need for immediate inauguration and empowerment of the newly constituted Tourism Intervention Advisory Committee (TIAC) headed by Otunba Segun Runsewe, DG NCAC to reposition the sector.
- d) Revamping and beatification of other historical relics and tourist sites on concession with the approval for the collection of tariff to increase internal revenue generation.
- e) Guide and approve access to capacity developmental training and human resources management for the ministry.
- f) Kogi cultural and tourism sector is projected to generate a modest revenue above ₦500,000,000 (Five Hundred Million Naira) yearly upon repositioning and should therefore be given full backing by critical stakeholders.



Salifu Isah Idachaba

Hon. Commissioner, Culture and Tourism