OGAM/IGBO VCV DICTIONARY - ARRANGED BY CONSONANTS

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SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION

The Catherine Acholonu Research Center (CARC) is the only organization on the African Continental that is engaged in Research on ancient African stone inscriptions and native Symbols as forms of linguistic expression. At the Rock Arts and Pan African Renaissance Methodology Workshop held in Kenya (May 23-24) in 2007 under the auspices of the Trust for African Rock Art (TARA) and the Center for Black and African Arts and African Civilizations (CBAAC), the Catherine Acholonu Research Center made the first ever scientific presentation on African Rock Art as a means of linguistic expression and historical documentation by the ancients, before a gathering of African and non-African stakeholders, archaeologists, historians and anthropologists. The Catherine Acholonu Research Center, through the submission made by its Director, Professor Catherine Acholonu, who is also the Country Ambassador of the UNCCD Forum of Arts and Culture, Nigeria, was able to place the Pre-historic stone inscriptions of Ikom in Cross River State, Nigeria (known as Ikom monoliths) in the 2008 World Monument Fund (WMF) Watch List of 100 Most Endangered Sites. The WMF entry on Ikom monoliths emphasized that Ikom monoliths inscriptions represented “a lost form of writing before 2,000 B.C.”. By this the Catherine Acholonu Research Center has succeeded in putting it on global record that ancient Africans had an indigenous form of writing and that they wrote on stone before 2,000 B.C. This is a great achievement of the Center and its Director, Prof. Catherine Acholonu who personally made the submission from scientific data gathered through her research.

Ogam is one of the forms of linguistic expression invented by ancient Africans. We know this because, even though Ogam has not been translated by any of the international scholars who have been researching and transcribing it since the turn of the 20th Century, we have succeed, where others have failed, to translate Ogam into meaningful passages, wise sayings, proverbs and philosophical statements (see our numerous articles on the subject - some, posted on our website, some published on the Christine Pellech website and others also published by UNESCO Nigeria). Our 20 years of research on the contributions of ancient Africans to World Civilizations
(published in three full length publications totalling (1,600 pages of research findings) have provided conclusive evidence that a Prehistoric African world conqueror and civilizer, known in ancient mythologies of the world by the name of Kush had created a Pre-historie civilization in West Africa from where he and his armies, and ministers travelled all around the world, bringing the first knowledge of religion, astronomy, alchemy or magic and writing.

Kush had an empire in the African rain forest known in various mythologies by such names as Tilmun, Punt, Meluhha, Biafra, Western Ethiopia and Old Kingdom Egypt. Its capital city was excavated in the 1950s by British archaeologist Thurstan Shaw. But Shaw (for reasons known to him alone) hid the fact that he had discovered a lost city. His dating of 900 A.D. was of course false, since he was operating ab initio from a perspective of withholding vital information. Catherine Acholonu Research Center has done extensive research on this lost civilization of Kush and discovered that the writings they gave to the world included Ogam, and Ogam has been successfully translated into the native language of the people in whose land the lost city is located. That land and its people and language are called IGBO/IBO – the city itself was known in ancient Egypt as Yebu or Heliopolis. It is located in West Africa, Nigeria to be precise. Its old name was Igbo and its new name since colonial times is Igbo Ukwu.

THE OGAM/IGBO DICTIONARY OF VCV WORDS

This dictionary will help in simple and short expressions, but for very long and complicated ones, a comprehensive Dictionary of Igbo Language will be needed. The CARC will be glad to assist in these more difficult translations if contacted. Our website is www.carcafriculture.org. email: ikomgram@yahoo.com).

Important Pronouns:

(Subjective)

m - I/me/my/mine; a ...m as in A ga m - I will; A na m – I am (present continuous tense)
i – you
a – he/she
a – impersonal pronoun/one (when the consonant is followed by open vowels e.g. a gaa, a lia);
e – impersonal pronoun/one (when the consonant is followed by open vowels e, i, e, o, e.g. e mee, e loo
Examples of open vowels are Igbo /i/ as in English ‘meat’; closed vowel as in Igbo /i/ (English ‘kit’); Igbo sound /o/ as in English ‘mutton’ is closed, while /o/ as in English ‘mould’ is open.

anyi – we
unu – you (pl)
ha/wa/wo – they
ndi – those who

(Objective)

m/mu – me, to me
gi – you/to you
ya – him/her/to him/her
mmadu – one/someone (impersonal)

anyi – us/to us
unu – you (pl)/to you
ha – them/to them
ndi mmadu – people (impersonal, pl).

A change of tone changes the same sentence into an affirmative statement (I si – You say. You said) a conditional statement (I si? - If you say.), or a question (I si? - Did you say?). The word ‘na’ is very important because it is an all purpose gerund. It stands for ‘and’ (mu na gi – me and you); ‘continuous tense’ (I na-ag - You are going); ‘that’ (I si na – You say that); ‘but’ – ma na (e.g. but you are going – ma-na i nd-ag); ‘with’ (He is going with you – Ya na gi na-ag).

B

1. A ba a - When one enters ... (transitive)
2. Aba - Not to enter into...; also name of a town in Igbo-land
3. A bia – When one comes...; name of a State in Igbo land (o bia – when he comes)
4. Abu - Song
5. Ebe – Where; Oracle; flying
6. Ebi – Dwelling
7. Ebo – Mound; when one is accused of...
8. Ebu – Hornet; getting fat

9. Iba – Fever; the process of entering

10. Ibe – Patrilineage; paternal relatives

11. Ibi – Swelling of the scrotum

12. Ibo – (Another spelling for ‘Igbo’), accusing falsely, placing (a load) on...

13. Ibu – Fat; the process of carrying

14. Oba - Barn

15. Obe - Cross

16. Obi – Heart; main hall of a man’s homestead

17. Obo - Scabbard

18. Obu – Ibis bird

19. Uba – Riches

20. Ube – Native pear; cry; lance

21. Ubi – Farm land

22. Ubo – Scabbard

23. Ubu – Scramble

24. Acha – Name of a grain grown in Northern Nigeria associated with famine

25. A cho (o) – When one finds/looks for... (na-acho – is looking for)

26. Achi – A seed for soup-making; name of a town

27. Achu - Pursuing

28. Eche - Trimming a tree by cutting; thinking, meditating

29. Echi – Tomorrow (Echichi – Initiation; Echi echichi – taking an initiation)

30. Echu – Become bad; collecting (water)

31. Ich a – Yellowing; passing (some on) by

32. Ich e – The Process of guarding; thinking (When a verb is preceded by the letter i, it implies a process or the second person pronoun.)

33. Ich i – Taking an initiation or coronation

34. Ich o – Looking for (a missing item)

35. Ich u – Scaring away (something or someone)

36. Oche – Seat/chair
37. Ochi - Rectum
38. Ocho - He who seeks
39. Ochu - He who seeks
40. Uche - Thought; mind
41. Uchu - Curse; attention

D

42. Ada - Daughter, fall, infant vomit
43. Adi - Not being (in a state of...)
44. Ado - Protecting; (ado o - when one plants)
45. Adu - Seed yam
46. Ede - Cocoyam; writing
47. Edi - Hyana
48. Edo - Yellow; raining
49. Edu - Guiding (O na edu - he is guiding; i na edu - you are guiding)

F

50. Ida - Falling
51. Ide - Writing
52. Idi - Being in a state of...
53. Ido - Keeping; contesting for
54. Idu - Leading; guiding
55. Oda - He who falls
56. Ode - He who writes
57. Odi - It is (o di mma - It is good)
58. Odo - He who insists on having
59. Odu - Tail; elephant tusk as a symbol of initiation
60. Uda - A kind of spice; loud sound
61. Ude - Loud sound; fame
62. Udi - Name of a place; type
63. Udo - Peace; Rope
64. Udu - Calabash pot; wine pot/jar

65. Afa - Name; oracle; (afaa - when one squeezes... )
66. Afe - Dress
67. A fi (ko) - When ... is crumbled
68. Afo - Belly/ Stomach; year - Orlu dialect
69. A fu - When one sees (transitive)...
70. Efe - Flying; dress; spare time
71. Efi - Cow (migrant Igbo dialect)
72. Efo - Dawning; Chi efo - The day is dawning.
73. Efu - Baseless; getting lost
74. Ifa - Squeezing
75. Ife - Flying; Worshipping
76. Ifi - Maka ifi - Due to; because of
77. Ifo - Folk tale; pulling out (by the root)
78. Ifu - Getting lost
79. Ofa - (Ofaa) If he squeezes
80. Ofe - Native soup; across
81. Ofo - If it remains; Piece of wood used to invoke divine power
82. Ofu - One
83. Ufe - Flight; swindle; lies
84. Ufo - Inner room of a titled man
85. Ufu - Fox

G

86. Aga - Childless, Will it be...? (e.g. Aga asi na ...? – Will it be said that...?
87. Ago - Defence
88. Agu - Lion, a powerful person; Aguu/Aguru - hunger
89. Ege - Listening
90. Ego - Money; a girl's common name
91. Egu - A kind of edible caterpillar
92. Iga - Going; snatch (from)
93. Ige - Listening
94. Igo - Buying; offering to, propitiating (a god)
95. Igu - Counting; palm frond
96. Oga - It will, he will, she will
97. Oge - Time; when
98. Ogo - In-law; kindness; gracious
99. Ogu - Fight; battle; stick; Divine Justice
100. Uga - Name of place; passing of time
101. Uge - Dregs of the palm-wine bottle (a nourishing drink)
102. Ugo - Falcon; eagle
103. Ugu - A legume for cooking native soup

H
104. Aha - Name (ahaa - to let go of)
105. Ahi - Squeezing
106. Aho - Choosing; year - Orsu dialect; a kind of dish
107. Ahu - Body; one sees; shaking
108. Ehe - Underbelly; (ehee/ehepu - removing excrement)
109. Ehi - Cow in the autochthon dialect
110. Ehuo - Bowing in reverence (Ehuo-ro - bowing in reverence for)
111. Ehu - bending down
112. Iha/Ira - To spare (a culprit, something cut in a net)
113. Ihe/ife - A thing; Light; to pull in (the stomach through breathing in)
114. Ihi/ifi - Cause (maka ihi/ifi - because of)
115. Iho/ifo - Folktale
116. Ihu/iru - Face
117. Oha – People; masses
118. Ohe – Ohere (space)
119. Ohu – Slave; twenty
120. Uha – A legume for cooking native soup

121. Aja – Sand; offering made to a god
122. Ajii – Hair; a kind of Big tree
123. Ajo – Evil (adjective),
124. Aju – When one refuses (transitive) ...
125. Eje – Going
126. Eji – Holding on to
127. Eju - Snail
128. Ija – To Hide
129. Ije – To go; walk; gait
130. Iji – To hold; you are holding
131. Ijo – To be ugly
132. Iju – To be plentiful; you are full of
133. Oja - Flute
134. Oje – He who goes...
135. Oji – Kola-nut; Staff of spiritual authority; black; dark; tree with large trunk
136. Ojoo - Ugly
137. Oju – Broken piece of earthenware pot
138. Uja – Dog’s bark; shouting
139. Ujo - Fear
140. Uju – Bounty; plentiful

K
141. Aka – Hand; A specie of snakes
142. Aki – Oil palm nut/nut
143. Ako - Wisdom; Prudence
144. Aku – Termites; Cocoa nut; Oil palm nut; (*akuo – when one plants...*)
145. Eke – Python; a name of one of the four Igbo market days; creation
146. Eko - Swelling
147. Eku – Wooden spoon; spooning, shovelling
148. Ika – To be greater than; to speak forth
149. Ike – Strength; to divide; to tie
150. Iko – To tell; cup
151. Iku – To carry (a baby)
152. Oka – Maize; carver
153. Oke – Rat; mouse; share
154. Okiri - Ram
155. Oko – Skin scratching
156. Oku – Fire; hot
157. Uka – Word; religion; church
158. Uke - Destiny
159. Uko – Dearth

L
160. Ala – Earth; ground
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<td>Ali - Ground</td>
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<td>162.</td>
<td>Alo – Placenta; Priest King’s sacred Staff</td>
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<td>163.</td>
<td>Alu – Abomination; Fighting</td>
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<td>164.</td>
<td>Ele – Deer; God - El; Consummate Shaman</td>
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<td>165.</td>
<td>Elo – Counsel; swallowing</td>
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<td>166.</td>
<td>Elu – High; heights</td>
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<td>167.</td>
<td>Ila – To barb (hair); to go home</td>
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<td>168.</td>
<td>Ile – To look at, to sell (also ire)</td>
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<tr>
<td>169.</td>
<td>Ili/ini – To bury</td>
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<tr>
<td>170.</td>
<td>Ilo/ino – To swallow</td>
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<tr>
<td>171.</td>
<td>Ilu - Bitter</td>
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<td>172.</td>
<td>Ola - Ring</td>
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<td>173.</td>
<td>Ole – How many</td>
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<td>174.</td>
<td>Ollii – Burying</td>
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<td>175.</td>
<td>Olu – Neck; voice</td>
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<td>176.</td>
<td>Ula – Escape, disappearance</td>
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<td>177.</td>
<td>Ule - Examination</td>
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<td>178.</td>
<td>Uli – Name of a place; tough rope clinging to a thing</td>
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M

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<td>179.</td>
<td>Ama - Compound; Original Divine Mother; open square.</td>
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<td>180.</td>
<td>Ami - Slippery</td>
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<td>181.</td>
<td>A muo - When birth is given...; When one learns...</td>
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<tr>
<td>182.</td>
<td>Amu – Male genitals;</td>
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<td>183.</td>
<td>Eme - Happening</td>
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184. Emi – Deep (*imi emi*); *omimi* - mystery
185. Emu – Gossip
186. Ima – To know (*i ma* – you know; *i ma mma* – to be beautiful, good)
187. Ime – To do (*N’ime* – inside of)
188. Imi – Nose; nasal fluid
189. Imo – Name of the longest river in Igbo land
190. Imu – To give birth to (*omumu* – many children from a single woman)
191. Oma – Mother Goddess of the Igbo
192. Ome – Tender shoot
193. Omi – Well; cistern
194. Omu – Tender shoot of a palm tree
195. Omu-mu – Genealogy
196. Ume – A caste; breath (*iku ume* – to take a breath)
197. Umu – Children of

N

198. Ana – Earth; ground
199. Ani - earth; ground
200. Ano - Four
201. Anu – Meat; that cannot be heard
202. Ene – Looking at
203. Eni - Burying
204. Eno - Swallowing
205. Enu – High; heights (migrant Igbo dialect)
206. Ina – To ask for; to take from (*ila/ina* – to go home)
207. Ine/iie – To look at
208. Ini – To bury
209. Ino – The stay; to return
210. Inu - To hear; to marry (ilu); bitter
211. Ona – A kind of native potato/yam
212. One – How many
213. Onini - Burying
214. Ono-na - He who is in ...
215. Onu - Mouth
216. Una – Going home
217. Uno - House
218. Unu – You (plural)

NY

219. Anya - Eye
220. Anyi – We; heavy
221. Anyu – Melon pod
222. Enyi – Friend
223. Enye – When one is given
224. Enyo – Peeping
225. Inya – To drive
226. I nye - If you give
227. Inyo – To peep
228. Inyu – To excrete
229. Onya – One who drives
230. Onye – One/a person who ...
231. Onyu – One who excretes
232. Unyi – Dirt

P
233. Apa – Being lifted
234. Api – Being sharpened
235. Apu – Silk cotton Tree (Igbo Ukwu dialect); being dragged along
236. Epu – Germinating
237. Ipa/ibu – To carry
238. Ipe – To break (firewood)
239. Ipi – To sharpen (a knife); to squeeze out;
240. Ipu – To germinate; to leave/step out (a room, a place)
241. Opa – Round; moon-shaped
242. Opi – Flute

KP
243. Akpa – bag;
244. Akpi – Bed Bug
245. Akpo - Calling
246. Akpu – Fufu; cassava starch meal
247. Ekpe – A secret cult *(iri ekpe – to inherit a dead person’s property)*
248. Ekpu – Wearing (a hat)
249. Ikpa – Waste land; to keep (domestic animals)
250. Ikpe – Case (in court)
251. Ikpo – To call; to call; to dry up
252. Ikpu - Vagina
253. Okpi - Heavy stick
254. Okpo - cat fish
255. Okpu - Hat; cap; eternal
256. Ukpa - Longish basket; a native nut, highly priced
257. Ukpo - A native spice for soup-making, highly price

Q/KW
258. Akwa - Cloth; Wrapper; egg; sewing
259. Akwo - Crushing, with stone or with blender
260. Akwu - Silk Cotton Tree (Orlu dialect)
261. Ekwe - Drum (ekwe ekwe - Stubborn)
262. Ekwo - Being noisy
263. Ekwu - Talking
264. Ikwa - To sew; to push; to give burial rites (to)
265. Ikwe - To agree; to sing a song - ikwe ukwe; mortar for pounding
266. Ikwo - To crush in a mortar/grind on stone
267. Ikwu - To say (ikwu udo/ima udo - to hang oneself on a rope/commit suicide)
268. Okwa - Bush fowl; wooden saucer
269. Okwe - Table games that use seeds or nuts; rubber tree/seeds
270. Okwo - He/she who carries on his back ...
271. Okwu - Word; talk; speech
272. Ukwa - A native bean, delicacy, highly priced
273. Ukwe - Song
274. Ukwo - Popularity, fame, widespread noise
275. Ukwu – Leg; waist; bundle

276. Ara – Madness;

277. Ari – Climbing (ariri – Suffering)

278. Aro – Year (Anambra dialect)

279. Aru – Abomination; body – Anambra dialect

280. Ere – Selling; rotting

281. 123.Eri – God-man (thought to be the Egyptian god of letters Thoth)

282. 124.Eroo – Mushroom; if ... pulled out

283. 125.Eru - Gathering (of a storm)

284. Ira – To lick; to have sexual intercourse with a woman

285. Ire – Tongue; to sell; to rot; to pronounce as from a god

286. Iro – To choose (iho); to pull by the roots (ifo)

287. Iru – Face; gathering of a storm

288. Ora – Folk; people; a legume

289. Ore – A place name

290. Ori – He/she who eats; eczema

291. Oro – He/she who plots

292. Oru – Work; slave; across the river inhabitants

293. Ura – Sleep; overnight food

294. Ure – Rot; making faces

295. Uri – Body painting, tattoo; the paint

296. Uro – Clay

297. Asa – Eel; very beautiful woman
298. Asi – Lies; *asi na*... – had it been that...
299. Aso - Holy
300. Asu – Shrivelling; pounding
301. Uru – Gain, cheat

S

302. Ese - Quarrelling
303. Esi - Smelling
304. Eso - Following
305. Esu – Millipede
306. Isa – To wash; to pass by
307. Ise – Five; to quarrel; to pull
308. Isi – Head; leader (*isii* – six); *isisi* (topmost head)
309. Iso – To follow (*iso* – you follow)
310. Isu – A clan name of the autochthons
311. Osa – Squirrel; Light colour
312. Ose - Pepper
313. Oso - Running
314. Osu – Belonging to the Osu caste
315. Usa - Gluttony
316. Uso – Sweetness (*Nso* – Holy, set apart, divine)
317. Usu – Bat

T

318. Ata – Chewing; drying up (as in ‘water is drying’ – *miri na-ata*)
319. Ato – Three; (*ato uto* – sweet)
320. Atu – Divine Word; Sore, bad wound *(atumatu – idea)*
321. Ete – Palm tree climbing rope
322. Eti – Crushing (palm nut with stone)
323. Eto – Growing *(O na eto – He is growing; i na eto - you are growing)*
324. Etu - How to; method
325. Ita – To chew; to blame
326. Ite – Pot; pottery; earthenware; to rub
327. Iti - To beat; a fool
328. Ito – To be older than; to praise
329. Itu – To point *(itu aka – to point the hand)*
330. Ota – He/she who eats
331. Ote – He who paints/rubs, etc)
332. Oto – A native dish
333. Otu - Vagina
334. Uta – Bow; blame
335. Ute - Mat
336. Uto - Sweetness
337. Utu – Penis

V

338. Ava/Afa – Name; Oracle *(ava – the name of goddess)*
339. Avu -Song
340. Evu - Carrying *(I ga evu – You will carry; will you carry?)*
341. Ivu/ibu – Fat
342. Ovu – He carries
343. Awa a – When one cuts...
344. Awo – Frog
345. A wii – When one pours...
346. Awu – One is ...
347. Ewe – Taking
348. Ewi – Rabbit
349. Ewu – Goat, reigning, in vogue
350. Iwa – To cut (iwa ji – to cut the yam; Iwa Ji - New Yam Festival)
351. Iwe - Anger; to take
352. Iwi – To fall (hair fall)
353. Iwu – Law
354. Owa – Twinkling light; dawning
355. Owu – Mermaid; water goddess
356. Uwa - World
357. Uwe – Dress

Y
358. A yi - Befriending
359. Eyi – Wearing (a dress); not to resemble
360. Iyi – To resemble
361. Oyi – Friend; sickness
362. Oyo – Musical Instrument

Z
363. Aza – One answers (to a call)
364. Azo – Struggling for
365. Azu – Fish, buying
366. Eze – King, tooth, teeth
367. Ezi – Outside; good
368. Ezu – Stealing; being complete
369. Iza – To sweep; to sieve
370. Ize – To avoid; to crash down (as in land slide)
371. Izi – To show
372. Izo – To save, to contest
373. Izu – Week, to be complete
374. Oze – That crashes
375. Ozo – Cult of Leaders and Princes; Initiate of the cult; again; gorilla;
376. Ozu – Dead body
377. Uzi – A tree with large trunk
378. Uzo – Way, road, door
379. Uzu - Noise
380. Akpu – Fufu; cassava start meal.

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