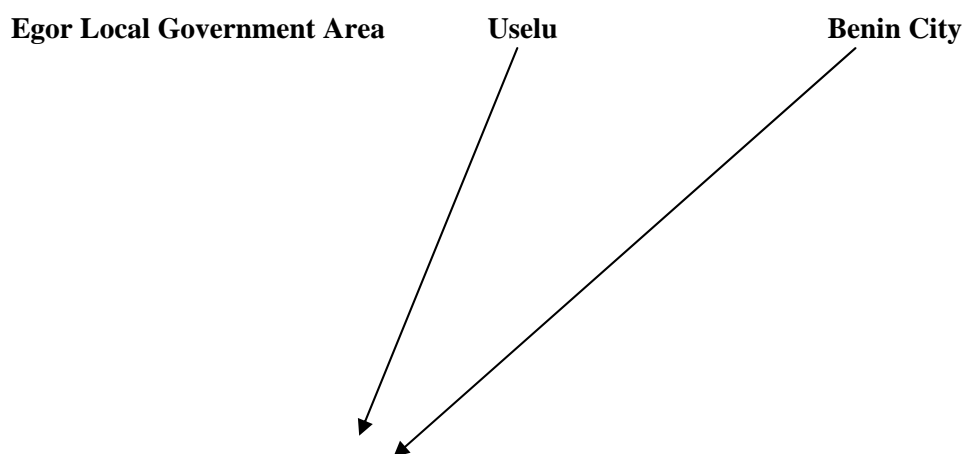




1. Deleted.
2. **Please provide general information relating to the Egor Local Government area in Benin City, including any information relating to political assassinations, other suspicious murders, corruption, connections to criminal gangs etc.**

The Local Government area of Egor is located within Edo State, in central-southern Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Uselu, which according to Google Maps is approximately 10.2 kilometres from Benin City.¹ The last census from 2006 estimated the population of the Egor Local Government area to be 339,899.² It is noted that while Benin City does not fall within the Egor Local Government area³, given the areas proximity to the capital city many sources that discuss Egor Local Government area also make reference to Benin City.

Figure 1: Map Showing Local Government Areas of Edo State, Nigeria⁴



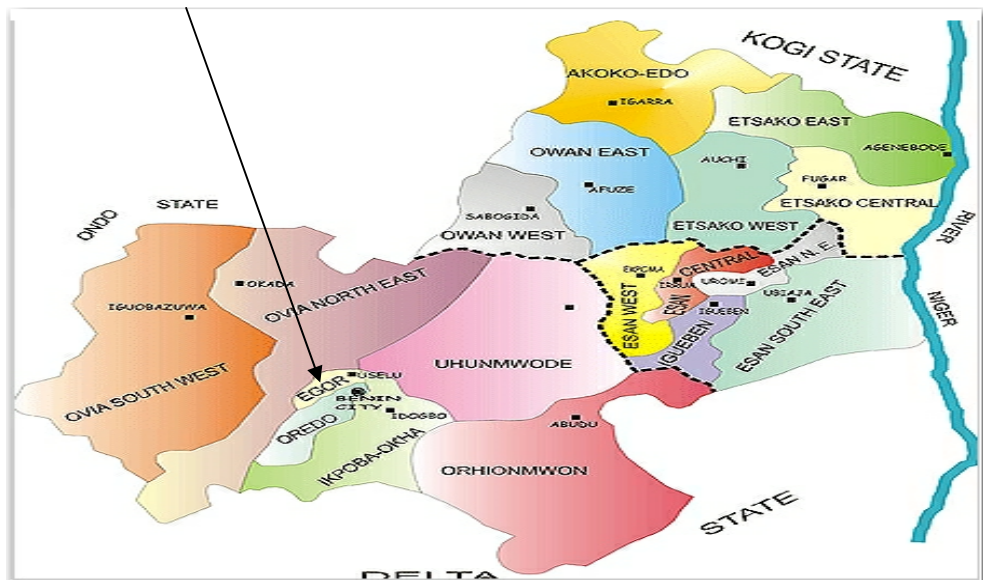
¹ Google Maps n.d., *Uselu to Benin City*

<<http://maps.google.com/maps?saddr=benin+city&daddr=Uselu,+Benin+City,+Nigeria&hl=en&ll=6.33236,5.626717&spn=0.275712,0.393791&sll=6.409056,5.614256&sspn=0.008615,0.012306&geocode=FQI6YAAAdctpVACnxrM95YtNAEDGg3lhXwBCqhA%3BFWDLYQAdsKpVAA&mra=ls&t=m&z=12>> Accessed 25 May 2012

² Edo Heritage n.d., *Egor* <<http://edoheritage.com/egor.html>> Accessed 24 May 2012

³ Benin City falls within the Oredo Local Government area.

⁴ Nigerian Muse n.d., *April 2007 Elections in Nigeria* <<http://www.nigerianmuse.com/20071205131228zg/nm-projects/electoral-reform-project/star-information-april-2007-elections-in-nigeria-the-case-of-edo-gubernatorial-elections/>> Accessed 28 May 2012



Reports were located of three political assassinations in Benin City in 2005 and 2000, two of which involved PDP members. Further, no information was located specifically regarding corruption and links between politicians and criminal gangs in Egor Local Government area.

Political Assassinations in Benin City 1994-2008

The following reports were located of three political assassinations in Benin City in 2005 and 2000: two of which involved PDP politicians:

- On 11 August 2005, PDP Chieftain, Peter Eboigbe, was killed in Benin City by suspected hired assassins. A 2007 article by the *African Journal of Political Science and International Relations* stated that Peter Eboigbe was killed shortly after declaring his intention to run for the position of Chairman of Oredo Local Government in Edo State.⁵
- In August 2005, a PDP councillor of the Oredo Local Government area of Edo State, Felix Eboigbe, was killed by gunmen in Benin City. According to the International Crisis Group, Felix Eboigbe was killed shortly after indicating his intention to contest the chairmanship of Oredo Council in the 2007 elections.⁶ The Former Commissioner for Information and Chairman of Oredo Local Government area, Mr Victor Ebomoyi, was arrested over the murder.⁷ No information was found regarding whether Peter Eboigbe and Felix Eboigbe were related or if they were in fact the same person.
- A list of unresolved political assassinations in Nigeria between 2005-1986 published by the *African Journal of Political Science and International Relations* states that

⁵ Igbafe A A & Offiong O J 2007, 'Political Assassinations in Nigeria: An Exploratory Study 1986-2005', *African Journal of Political Science and International Relations*, Vol. 1, pp. 9-19, May, Academic Journals website <<http://academicjournals.org/ajpsir/PDF/Pdf2007/May/Igbafe%20and%20Offiong.pdf>> Accessed 25 May 2012 ;

Okhomina O 2005, 'Nigeria: Angst as a PDP Chieftan is Murdered', *Vanguard*, 28 August, All Africa website <<http://allafrica.com/stories/200508290342.html>> Accessed 25 May 2012

⁶ International Crisis Group 2007, *Nigeria's Elections: Avoiding Political Crisis*, 28 March, Africa Report No. 123, p. 10 <<http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/regions/africa/west-africa/nigeria/123-nigerias-elections-avoiding-a-political-crisis.asp>> Accessed 25 May 2012

⁷ Adekoye V 2005, 'LG Boss Arrested Over Murder of PDP Leader', 18 August, *Online Nigeria* <<http://nm.onlinenigeria.com/templates/?a=4711&z=17>> Accessed 25 May 2012

Joseph Osayande was shot in Benin City on 4 December 2000.⁸ Although his death is described as a political assassination, no information was found regarding which political party Joseph Osayande belonged to.

Political Violence in Benin City and Edo State Since 2008

Further, the two following reports were found regarding political violence in Benin City and Edo State more generally since 2008:

- On 5 May 2012, the *Vanguard* reported the assassination of Olaitan Oyerinde, the Principal Private Secretary to the Action Congress (AC) party Governor Adams Oshiomhole and the Deputy National Secretary of the Nigeria Labour Congress. Olaitan Oyerinde was killed by four ‘suspected assassins’ at his home in Benin City.⁹
- In August 2010, *Online Nigeria* reported that Oghogho Omoregbe, of the AC party was gunned down in Edo State after declaring his intention to contest a seat in the House of Representatives during the 2011 elections.¹⁰ No information was found regarding who was responsible for the attack.

3. Please provide information in relation to People’s Democratic Party (PDP) leaders, candidates, significant events and involvement in elections in Benin City in the period between 1994 and 2008.

With respect to PDP leaders, candidates, presiding officers and involvement in elections between 2008-1994 in Benin City, the only information available relates to PDP members who held the position of Governor of Edo State during this period.

Reports were found indicating that two PDP politicians were Governor of Edo State between 1999-2007 and 2007-2008:

- Chief Lucky Igbinedion served as Governor of Edo State from 1999-2007.¹¹
- Professor Oserheimen Osunbor was elected Governor of Edo State in April 2007. He served as Governor until November 2008, when the Edo Court of Appeal ruled that Action Congress (AC) party candidate, Adams Aliyu Oshiomhole, was the legitimate winner of the election and was installed as Governor.¹²

⁸ Igbafe A A & Offiong O J 2007, ‘Political Assassinations in Nigeria: An Exploratory Study 1986-2005’, *African Journal of Political Science and International Relations*, Vol. 1, pp. 9-19, May, Academic Journals website <<http://academicjournals.org/ajpsir/PDF/Pdf2007/May/Igbafe%20and%20Offiong.pdf>> Accessed 25 May 2012

⁹ Ebegbulem S & Enogholase G 2012, ‘Political Tension Heightened As Oshiomhole’s Aide Is Assassinated’, *Vanguard*, 5 May <<http://www.vanguardngr.com/2012/05/political-tension-heightened-as-oshiomholes-aide-assassinated/>> Accessed 25 May 2012

¹⁰ ‘Aspirant Shot After Declaring His Intention to Contest’ 2010, *Online Nigeria*, 9 August <<http://news2.onlinenigeria.com/news/general/53157-Aspirant-shot-after-declaring-his-intention-contest.txt>> Accessed 25 May 2012; Onwudiwe E & Berwind-Dart C 2010, ‘Breaking the Cycle of Electoral Violence in Nigeria’, December, *US Institute of Peace*, Special Report No. 263, p. 4 <http://www.usip.org/files/resources/SR263-Breaking_the_Cycle_of_Electoral_Violence_in_Nigeria.pdf> Accessed 25 May 2012

¹¹ Izoya I n.d., *Past Governors of Edo State*, Edo Community website <http://www.edocommunityberlin.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=53&Itemid=53> Accessed 28 May 2012

¹² Izoya I n.d., *Past Governors of Edo State*, Edo Community website <http://www.edocommunityberlin.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=53&Itemid=53> Accessed 28 May 2012 ; Usigbe L, Umoru H, Aziken E, Ebegbulem S, Enogholase G, Ojeme B & A O 2008,

4. Please provide information relating to rules for obtaining passports in Nigeria, including if it is only possible to obtain a passport in your home state.

Information published on the old¹³, Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS) website between 2005 and 2011, does not state that passports must be obtained in the passport applicant's home state.¹⁴ It is noted that while this website states that a letter of identification from the passport applicant's local government must be provided when applying for a standard Nigerian passport¹⁵, this letter can be issued by the local government where the applicant originates from or where they currently reside.¹⁶

All Nigerians citizens are eligible to apply for a standard Nigerian passport: the most commonly used travel document in Nigeria.¹⁷ Individuals wishing to obtain a passport must complete an application form, provide the required documents, pay the requisite fees and attend an interview with the NIS.¹⁸ According to the old NIS website (dated between 2005-2011) standard Nigerian passports can be issued at the NIS Service Headquarters in Abuja, at 'Immigration Formations' in each of the 36 states (including Edo) and overseas at Nigerian Diplomatic Missions and Consulate Offices.¹⁹ It is noted that since the introduction of e-passports in 2007, applicants have been able to apply for passports online, although they still need to attend an interview with the NIS.²⁰

According to the old NIS website, the following documents must be provided by the applicant when applying for a passport:

- Guarantor's form duly signed by a commissioner of oaths plus
- Photocopy of; (a) Data page of guarantor's passport and
- Photocopy of National identity card
 - i. Photocopy of National Identity Card
 - ii. Drivers License

'Nigeria: Oshiomhole Wins', *Vanguard*, 12 November, All Africa website <<http://allafrica.com/stories/200811120004.html>> Accessed 28 May 2012

¹³ There are two versions of the NIS website: one dated 2005-2011 and another dated 2012. It is noted that the differences between the two versions do not appear to be major. It is assumed that information on the old NIS website was applicable between 2005-2011. As no information was found regarding passport application procedures prior to 2005, this Response will use information from the old 2005-2011 NIS website.

¹⁴ Nigeria Immigration Service 2005-2011, *Standard Nigeria Passport* <<http://www.immigration.gov.ng/index.php?id=50>> Accessed 24 May 2012; Nigeria Immigration Service 2005-2011, *Passports* <<http://www.immigration.gov.ng/index.php?id=8>> Accessed 24 May 2012 ; Nigeria Immigration Service 2005-2011, *Immigration Formations in Nigeria* <<http://www.immigration.gov.ng/index.php?id=34>> Accessed 24 May 2012

¹⁵ According to the NIS website, the Standard Passport (Green Cover) is the most commonly used travel document in Nigeria and have a life span of 10 years with an initial validity of five years. The other types of passports include; the diplomatic passport, official passport, pilgrims passport and the Seaman's Book (Certificate of Identity). Please see: Nigeria Immigration Service 2005-2011, *Passports* <<http://www.immigration.gov.ng/index.php?id=8>> Accessed 24 May 2012

¹⁶ Nigeria Immigration Service 2005-2011, *Standard Nigeria Passport* <<http://www.immigration.gov.ng/index.php?id=50>> Accessed 24 May 2012

¹⁷ Nigeria Immigration Service 2005-2011, *Standard Nigeria Passport* <<http://www.immigration.gov.ng/index.php?id=50>> Accessed 24 May 2012

¹⁸ Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 2010, *NGA1035070.FE*, 23 July <http://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca:8080/RIR_RDI/RIR_RDI.aspx?id=453080&l=e> Accessed 24 May 2012

¹⁹ Nigeria Immigration Service 2005-2011, *Passports* <<http://www.immigration.gov.ng/index.php?id=8>> Accessed 24 May 2012 ; Nigeria Immigration Service 2005-2011, *Immigration Formations in Nigeria* <<http://www.immigration.gov.ng/index.php?id=34>> Accessed 24 May 2012

²⁰ Dina D 2007, 'Nigeria: E-Passport – Restoring Dignity of Nigerian Traveller', *Daily Trust*, 31 October, All Africa website <<http://allafrica.com/stories/200710310213.html>> Accessed 24 May 2012

- Father's Letter of content for minors under 16yrs (Mother's letter of consent in case of deceased father)
- Marriage Certificate where applicable
- Husband's consent letter
 - or
 - Letter of introduction for employee of government or corporate organization
- Court affidavit and police report in case of lost passport.
- Birth Certificate or Age declaration
- **Letter of identification from Local Government of origin or residence**
- One(1) passport photograph
- Acknowledgement slip and receipt of payment²¹

Although one report was found indicating that the Nigerian Government planned to replace national Nigerian passports with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) passport by January 2011, information provided on the old 2005-2011 NIS website – as well as on the new 2012 NIS website – indicates that citizens can still apply for Nigerian passports.²²

5. Please provide information relating to violence against Christians in Kaduna State, in connection with the April 2011 Presidential election.

Violent attacks against Christians occurred in Kaduna State following the 16 April 2011 Presidential election. Three days of rioting and sectarian violence between Muslims and Christians broke out when it was announced that Goodluck Jonathan – the incumbent People's Democracy Party (PDP) candidate from the mainly Christian south – had defeated a Muslim candidate from the mostly Islamic north.²³ What began as protests, degenerated into riots and sectarian violence as Muslim rioters targeted and killed Christians perceived to have supported the ruling party. Christian rioters retaliated, killing Muslims and burning mosques.²⁴ In response to the violence, the Governor of Kaduna State, Patrick Yakowa, imposed a 24-hour curfew restricting all forms of movement across Edo State.²⁵

The US Institute of Peace described the 2011 elections as the most violent in Nigeria's history.²⁶ Some of the worst post-election sectarian violence occurred in Kaduna State, including in Northern Kaduna and the predominately Christian towns of southern Kaduna

²¹ Nigeria Immigration Service 2005-2011, *Standard Nigeria Passport* <<http://www.immigration.gov.ng/index.php?id=50>> Accessed 24 May 2012

²² Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 2010, *NGA1035070.FE*, 23 July <http://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca:8080/RIR_RDI/RIR_RDI.aspx?id=453080&l=e> Accessed 24 May 2012 ; Nigeria Immigration Service 2005-2011, *Standard Nigeria Passport* <<http://www.immigration.gov.ng/index.php?id=50>> Accessed 24 May 2012 ; Nigeria Immigration Service 2012, *Passport Application Guideline(s)* <<https://portal.immigration.gov.ng/pages/passportguidelines>> Accessed 24 May 2012

²³ 'Nigerian Election Violence Left More Than 500 Dead' 2011, *BBC*, 24 April <<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-13184298>> Accessed 24 May 2012

²⁴ It is noted that members of ethnic groups from Southern Nigeria were also targeted. Please see: Human Rights Watch 2011, *Nigeria: Post-Election Violence Killed 800*, 17 May <<http://www.hrw.org/news/2011/05/16/nigeria-post-election-violence-killed-800>> Accessed 24 May 2012

²⁵ 'Post Election Riots in Kaduna, Bauchi, Yobe, Niger' 2011, *Vanguard*, 19 April <<http://www.vanguardngr.com/2011/04/post-election-riots-in-kaduna-bauchi-yobe-niger/>> Accessed 24 May 2012

²⁶ According to the following report, about 300 people died during the 2007 elections compared with 100 deaths during the 2003 elections. Please see: Bekoe D 2011, *Nigeria's 2011 Elections: Best Run, But Most Violent*, 15 August, US Institute of Peace, Brief No. 103 p. 2 <<http://www.usip.org/files/resources/PB%20103.pdf>> Accessed 24 May 2012

State such as Zonkwa, Matsirga, and Kafanchan.²⁷ In its 2011 *Nigeria: Post-Election Violence* report, Human Rights Watch stated that of the 800 who died during the violence, 500 were killed in southern Kaduna. The report notes, however, that the vast majority of these victims were Muslims.²⁸ According to the Christian Association of Nigeria, 'at least' 170 Christians died in the violence, hundreds more were injured, thousands displaced and more than 430 churches were burned or destroyed.²⁹

Reports were found indicating that the Federal Government and the Kaduna State Government are taking steps to restore peace to the State. Two commissions – a Kaduna State-based commission and a national commission – were established in May 2011 to examine the factors leading to the sectarian violence and hold perpetrators accountable. The abovementioned article by Dorina Bekoe claims, however, that given Nigeria's culture of impunity and the Government's poor track-record of implementing the findings of other commissions, it is unlikely the 2011 post-election violence commissions will make any headway.³⁰ In support of this, in 2012 the US Commission on International Religious Freedom stated that 'to date, there is no indication that Nigerian authorities have prosecuted any perpetrators involved in the post-election violence.'³¹

Sporadic Attacks On Christians In Kaduna State Since The 2011 Post-Election Violence

News reports were found indicating that there have been sporadic attacks on Christians in Kaduna State since the post-election violence in April 2011. The most recent attacks include:

- On 18 March 2012, *The Punch*³² reported that 10 people including a Christian Pastor were killed during an attack on Kufara Village in Kaduna State. The article quotes the Kaduna State Police Commissioner as saying that the attack appeared to be a reprisal by relations of Fulani³³ herdsmen who were victims of the 2011 April post-election violence.³⁴
- On 4 November 2011 *The Moment*³⁵ reported that two Christian women worshippers were shot by gunmen inside a church in Zonkwa village in Kaduna State. The attack left 11 others critically injured.³⁶

²⁷ US Commission on International Religious Freedom 2012, *Annual Report*, March, p. 109
<[http://www.uscirf.gov/images/Annual%20Report%20of%20USCIRF%202012\(2\).pdf](http://www.uscirf.gov/images/Annual%20Report%20of%20USCIRF%202012(2).pdf)> Accessed 19 March 2012 ;

Human Rights Watch 2011, *Nigeria: Post-Election Violence Killed 800*, 17 May
<<http://www.hrw.org/news/2011/05/16/nigeria-post-election-violence-killed-800>> Accessed 24 May 2012

²⁸ Human Rights Watch 2011, *Nigeria: Post-Election Violence Killed 800*, 17 May
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²⁹ Human Rights Watch 2011, *Nigeria: Post-Election Violence Killed 800*, 17 May
<<http://www.hrw.org/news/2011/05/16/nigeria-post-election-violence-killed-800>> Accessed 24 May 2012

³⁰ Bekoe D 2011, *Nigeria's 2011 Elections: Best Run, But Most Violent*, 15 August, US Institute of Peace, Brief No. 103 p. 2 <<http://www.usip.org/files/resources/PB%20103.pdf>> Accessed 24 May 2012

³¹ US Commission on International Religious Freedom 2012, *Annual Report*, March, p. 109
<[http://www.uscirf.gov/images/Annual%20Report%20of%20USCIRF%202012\(2\).pdf](http://www.uscirf.gov/images/Annual%20Report%20of%20USCIRF%202012(2).pdf)> Accessed 19 March 2012

³² *The Punch* is a Nigerian daily newspaper.

³³ The Fulani people are an ethnic group of Nigeria. Please see: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1990, *Nigeria: Information On The Treatment Of The Fulani Tribe By The Christian Tarek Tribe In The Bashar-Wase Area And Information Dealing Generally With Religious Conflict In This Area*, 1 August, UNHCR Refworld website <http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/topic_463af2212_469f2db72_3ae6abf91c_0...NGA.html> Accessed 24 May 2012

³⁴ Olatunji S 2012, 'Kaduna Killings Were Reprisal Attacks – Police', *Punch*, 18 March
<<http://www.punchng.com/news/kaduna-killings-were-reprisal-attacks-police/>> Accessed 24 May 2012

³⁵ *The Moment* is an African news provider that claims to African provide news and intelligence to domestic and international readers.

- According to the Persecution Organisation³⁷ on 17 September 2011 three Christians were killed in a Christian community in Ungwan Rana Bitaro Village in Kaduna State. Fifteen gunmen reportedly stormed three houses in the village, killing three and wounding eight people. The report states that ‘suspected Muslim extremists’ were behind the attack.³⁸

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³⁶ Muhammad G 2011, ‘Nigeria: Kaduna Boils As Gunmen Kill Women in Church’, *The Moment*, 1 November, All Africa website <<http://allafrica.com/stories/201111050035.html>> Accessed 24 May 2012

³⁷ The Persecution Organisation is a non-denominational Christian group that aims to assist ‘all persecuted Christians’.

³⁸ Persecution Organisation 2011, *Muslim Extremists in Nigeria Kill Christians in Two States*, 27 September <<http://www.persecution.org/2011/09/28/muslim-extremists-in-nigeria-kill-christians-in-two-states/>> Accessed 24 May 2012

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