

# EKITI STATE POCKET FACTFINDER

**A Publication of Ekiti Book Club**

**(An Initiative of the Society of Young Nigerian Writers)**



**It contains all you need to know about Ekiti State**



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## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

### **HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT**

Ekiti State is one of the six new states created on 1st October 1996 by the then Provisional Ruling Council and announced by the then Head of State, General Sani Abacha in a national broadcast to mark Nigeria's 36th independence anniversary.

This makes Ekiti State one of the thirtysix states of the Federal Republic of Nigeria today. It was carved out of the former Ondo State, which itself came out of the old Western State created in 1967. It is now made up of Ekiti Central, Ekiti North, Ekiti South and Ekiti West Divisions.

Before its creation, what is now Ekiti State and compassed twelve Local Government Areas but, at its creation, four more Local Government Areas were created, bringing the number to sixteen. AdoEkiti is the capital of the state.

Ekiti was an independent state prior to the British conquest. It was one of the many Yoruba states in what is today Nigeria. Ekiti as a nation and districts of Yoruba race had her progeny in Oduduwa, the father and progenitor of Yoruba race. Just like every major subethnic division in Yorubaland. Ekiti has her origin from Ile-Ife (the cradle land of Yorubaland). The Olofin, one of the sons of the Oduduwa had sixteen (16) children and in the means of searching for the new land to

develop, they all journeyed out of Ile-Ife as they walked through the Iwo - Eleru(crave) near Akure and had stop over at a place called Igbo-Aka(forest of termites) closer to Ile-Oluji.

The Olofin, the sixteen children and some other beloved people continued with their journey, but when they got to a particular lovely and flat land, the Owa-Obokun(the monarchy of Ijesha land) and Orangun of Ila decided to stay in the present Ijesha and Igomina land of in Osun state. While the remaining fourteen (14) children continued with the journey and later settled in the present day Ekiti land. They discovered that there were many hills in the place and they said in their mother's language that this is 'Ile olokiti' the land of hills. Therefore the Okiti later blended to Ekiti. So Ekiti derived her name through hills.

These are direct children and founder of Ekitiland, Igbominaland and Ijeshaland:

1. Alara of Aramoko
2. Alaaye of Efon Alaaye Kingdom
3. Ajero of Ijero Kingdom
4. Arinjale of Ise
5. Ewi of Ado
6. Elekole of Ikole
7. Ogoga of Ikere
8. Atta of Ayede-ekiti
9. Elemure of Emure
10. Oloye of Oye
11. Olojudo of Ido

12. Onire of Ire
13. Onitaji of Itaji
14. Onisan of Isan
15. Oore of Otun Moba
16. Owatapa of Itapa
17. Orangun of Ila-Orangun
18. Owa -obokun of Ijeshaland
19. Ologotun of Ogotun

The modern Ekiti state was formed from part of Ondo in 1996.

## **LOCATION**

Ekiti State is located between latitudes  $7^{\circ}25'$  and  $80^{\circ}5'N$  and between longitudes  $4^{\circ}45'$  and  $5^{\circ}46'$  east. The state is found to the south of Kwara and Kogi States while it is bound by Osun State to the west. To the east of Ekiti State is found Edo State, while it is bounded in the south by Ondo State. Ekiti State is a landlocked state, having no coastal boundary.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS**

There are 16 Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Ekiti State. These are: Ado, Ekiti East, Gbonyin, Ekiti Southwest, Ekiti West, EfonAlaaye, Emure, Ise/Orun, Ido/Osi, Ijero, Ikere, Ikole, Irepodun/Ifelodun, Moba, Ilejemeje and Oye. The apex of the administrative areas is the capital, Ado Ekiti.

## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS**

The State has 16 local Councils which include Edo-Ekiti-East, Ekiti Southwest, Ekiti West, Ikere, Irepodun, Ijero, Oye, Ikole, Efon, Moba etc. And its major towns include Ado-Ekiti, Efon Alaaye, Aramoko-Ekiti, Ikole Ekiti, Iyin-Ekiti etc.

## **EDUCATION**

**Education is highly regarded and prioritized. The state has:**

- 541 Primary Schools
- 141 Secondary Schools
- 4 Unity Secondary Schools
- 4 Women Education Centres
- 5 Nomadic Schools
- 4 Technical Colleges
- A College of Education
- A Federal Polytechnic and
- A State University.

## **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

The state is largely agrarian. Agriculture is the mainstay of the state economy. It employs 75% of the state working population.

The State is one of the largest producers of Rice, Kolanut, oil palm and cocoa in the country. They also produce crops like cassava, yam, cocoyam, maize, cowpea, citrus, plantain and fruits like cashew, mango and orange.

As the state is within the ecological belt known for abundant forest resources the state produces high quality woods which are raw material for wood based industries within and outside the state.

Industrially, the state is arid with only few companies on the ground. However, the state government has embarked on an aggressive industrialization drive through the provision of necessary infrastructure while new industrial estates are being opened under World Bank Infrastructural Development Fund to cater for investors' needs.

The state is endowed with abundant mineral deposits of value like Clay, Kaolin, Columbite, Cassiterite, Foundry Sand, Bauxite, Clarcomite and Charcoalnite Granite.

## **TOURISM**

Tourism is another aspect which will become a veritable source of income for the state. Notable among its tourist attractions are the Ikogosi tourist centre which are referred to as the haven of tourism in Nigeria.

At Ikogosi, the warm and cold water oozing out from different sources from the earth crust flow separately to meet in a pool each retaining its thermal identity.

Facilities such as a modest non-chemical pools, standard Conference hall, opulent chalets, and a fascinating restaurant are provided to cater for the various needs of

tourists.

***Other tourist centres are:***

- Raw Material Display Centre
- Arinta Waterfall at Ipole-Iloro
- Ero Dam at Ikun-Ekiti
- Fajuyi Memorial Park at Ado-Ekiti;

and hotels like Ikogosi Motel, Owena Motel, etc.

The state also has rich cultural carnivals like Iwemo and Udiroko in Ado-Ekiti; Ogun in Ire-Ekiti; Ijesu and Egungun which continue to attract people to the state. Ekiti state is accessible by road.

## **PEOPLE & CULTURE**

The Ekitis, whose ancestors migrate from Ile-Ife as a people, form one of the largest ethnic groups in Yorubaland. Ekitis are culturally homogeneous and the speak a dialect of Yoruba language known as Ekiti. The homogeneous nature of Ekiti confers on the state some uniqueness among the states of the federation. Slight differences are noticeable in the Ekiti dialect of the Yoruba language spoken by the people. This is informed and influenced by their spatial locations, especially the border communities to other states. For example the people of Ado local government area do not speak exactly the same dialect with the people of Ijero local government area, while the people of Ikole area speak something different from the people of Ikere area. The

communities influenced by their locations include Otun (Moba land) that speaks a dialect close to the one spoken by the Igbominas in Kwara State.

The people of Okeako, Irele, Omuo-Oke speaks a dialect similar to that of Ijumus in Kwara/Kogi States. The people of Ekiti West and Efon-Alaaye local government areas, that is, the Efon Alaaye and Okemesi communities speak a similar dialect to that of Ijesas of Osun State. However, part of the uniqueness of the Ekitis is that where ever is your own part of the state, you will understand well, when the other Ekiti man/woman speaks, inspite of the dialectal variations. in addition, all towns in Ekiti State take a common suffix, "Ekiti," after their names. the main staple food of the people of Ekiti is pounded yam with vegetable soup.

Ekiti as a people settle in nucleus urban patterns, well linked with network of roads. The State can boast of more than 127 large and small, ancient and modern towns, located on hills and valleys that characterise the state from which the confinement takes its name, Ekiti, that is, 'Okiti' meaning hill. Ekiti State, apart from the fact that it is the only state with a warm spring in Nigeria is the watershed and source of some prominent rivers such as Ero, Ose, Ogbese and others. The people of Ekiti are hard-working, upright, studious and very articulate. Ekiti men are predominantly farmers but women engage in trading.



## **RELIGION**

The people are mostly Muslims and Christians while some are still traditional religionists.

## **CULTURE & TRADITIONS**

The state is highly rich in culture. They have their own unique traditional way of: Dressing, Dancing, Festival, religion and other ways of life. As enumerated below: The rulers of the Towns are Obas like other Yoruba Towns. Traditionally, the natural rulers in Ekiti State, whose people are Yoruba, are usually described as sacred or divine kings. Their installation and coronation are performed with solemn and lengthy rites which set them apart, thereafter living an ordered ceremonial existence, secluded in their palaces, subjected to the many rituals of court and approached only with infinite respect. They rarely appeared in public, except on ceremonial occasions.

By ancient customs, the Obas were not only the heads of their towns and kingdoms, but by their personifications, reincarnating also all their ancestors back to the origin of the dynasties. They are also the titular heads of all religious sets in their kingdoms. Their appointments are, partly by divination, made by the king makers who are invariably the high chiefs. They are appointed from among the children of past rulers. The ceremonies between their appointments and coronation are elaborate. The sacredness of their offices was neither empty nor nominal; they are regarded by their people as divinity

with whose well being, their own conditions are bound up. They are the sources of honour, able to bestow titles and chieftaincies. The Obas are also the fountain of justice.

In the State's framework, Obas are not expected to take part in partisan politics. Palaces of traditional rulers are true symbolical relics of the people culture and tradition. Some of the richly endowed artifacts oriented palace in Ekiti State are the Ewi of Ado's palace, Elekole of Ikole's palace, Oore of Otun's palace, Alawo of Awo Ekiti palace and a host of others.

### **DRESSING**

The dress for man in Ekiti is Bùbá (round neck shirt) and Sòkòtò (trousers) While women dress in Bùbá (blouse) and Ìró (wrapper).

### **FOOD**

Typical Ekiti man can not do without Iyan (pounded yam) in a day, with melon soup, crowned with bush meat.

### **TOWNS & VILLAGES**

Aaye-Ekiti	Igbo-Aso-Ekiti
Asole-Ekiti	Iemoso Ekiti
Igbole-Ekiti	Asin-Ekiti
Aaye-Oja	Ekiti Igbo-gun-Ekiti
Awo-Ekiti	Ileona-Ekiti

Igbonna	Ekiti	Ilepu-Ekiti	
Ado-Ekiti		Isa	Ekiti
Bolorunduro	Ekiti	Okemesi-Ekiti	
Igede-Ekiti		Ilero-Ekiti	
Afao-EKiti		Isaba-Ekiti	
Eda-Ekiti		Oke-Ora	Ekiti
Igirigiri-Ekiti		Ilogbo-Ekiti	
Afolu	Ekiti	Isaoye	Ekiti
Eda-Oniyo-Ekiti		Oke-Oro-Ekiti	
Igogo-Ekiti		Ilogun	Ekiti
Agbado-Ekiti		Ise-Ekiti	
Efon-Alaaye		Oloje-Ekiti	
Ijan-Ekiti		Iloro-Ekiti	
Aisegba-Ekiti		Isinbode-Ekiti	
Egbe-Ekiti		Omuo-Ekiti	
Ijelu-Ekiti		Iludun-Ekiti	
Aiyebode	Ekiti	Itaji-Ekiti	
Emure-Ekiti		Ootunja-Ekiti	
Ijero-Ekiti		Ilukuno-Ekiti	
Aiyede-Ekiti		Itapa-Ekiti	
Epe-Ekiti		Ora-Ekiti	
Ijesa Modu	Ekiti	Iiuomoba-Ekiti	
Aiyedun-Odo-Ekiti		Itapaji-Ekiti	
Eporo-Ekiti		Oran Igbemo	Ekiti
Ijesa-lsu-Ekiti		Ilupeju-Ekiti	
Aiyedun-Oke-Ekiti		Itawure-Ekiti	
Erijian-Ekiti		Orin Odo	Ekiti
Ijesa-lye-Ekiti		Ilure	Ekiti
Aiyegbaju-Ekiti		Iworoko-Ekiti	
Erinmope-Ekiti		Orin-Ekiti	
Ijurin-Ekiti		Imesi-Ekiti	
Aiyegunle	Ekiti	Iye~Ekiti	

Erio-Ekiti	Orun	Ekiti
Ika-Ekiti	Imojo-Ekiti	
Aiyetoro	Ekiti Iyemero	Ekiti
Esinmu-Ekiti	Osain-Ekiti	
Ikere-Ekiti	Ipao-Ekiti	
Ajaye-Ekiti	Iyin~Ekiti	
Esun-Ekiti	Osi-Ekiti	
Ikogosi-Ekiti	Ipere-Ekiti	
Ajebandele	Ekiti Ode-Ekiti	
Esure-Ekiti	Osin-Ikole-Ekiti	
Ikole-Ekiti	Ipole Iloro-Ekiti	
Alafe	Ekiti Odo Oro	Ekiti
Ewu-Ekiti	Osun-Ekiti	
Ikoro-Ekiti	Iporo-Ekiti	
Ara-Ijero-Ekiti	Odo-Ekiti	
Eyio-Ekiti	Otun-Ekiti	
Ikosun	Ekiti Ipoti-Ekiti	
Ara-Ikole	Ekiti Odofin-Ekiti	
Ido-Ekiti	Owode	Ekiti
Ikota	Ekiti Irare	Ekiti
Aramoko-Ekiti	Odo-Ora-Ekiti	
Ido-Ile	Ekiti Owosi-Ekiti	
Ikoyi-Ekiti	Ire-Ekiti	
Araromi Iyin	Ekiti Odo-Owa-Ekiti	
Ifaki-Ekiti	Oye-Ekiti	
Ikun-Ekiti	Irele-Ekiti	
Araromi Oke	Ekiti Ogbese-Ekiti	
Ifishin-Ekiti	Temidire	Ekiti
Ikunri	Ekiti Iro	Ekiti
Araromi-Ekiti	Ogbese-Ise-Ekiti	
Igbara-Odo-Ekiti	Temidire-Ikole-Ekiti	
Ilafon	Ekiti Iro-Aiyeteju-Ekiti	

Araromi-Ijero-Ekiti Ogotun-Ekiti  
Igbaja Ekiti Usi-Ekiti  
Ilasa-Ekiti Iroko-Ekiti  
Araromi-Obo-Ekiti Oke-Ako-Ekiti  
Igbemo-Ekiti Usin-Ekiti  
Ilawe Ekiti Iropora-Ekiti  
Are-Ekiti Oke-Ijebu Ekiti

## **EKITI ANTHEM**

Oun abajoro kiipe kun

Oun asepo nileye

Ehin ola wa tidara o

Awa Ekiti ati parapo

Kaparapo katun panupo

Awa Ekiti ati gbominira

Okan lawansee

Ekiti, Ekiti ati gbominira (2ce)

Awa Ekiti iwaju laomalo lagbara Olorun

Awa Ekiti okan soso ma ni'wa o lailai

## **TOURISM IN EKITI**

- Tourist Information
- What Ekiti Offers
- Places to See
- Festivals & Activities

Tourism Development is seventh (7th) in the eight (8)-Point Agenda of His Excellency Governor Fayemi's administration. The tourism objective of this administration is to make Ekiti State one of the leading tourism destinations in Nigeria. When the present government came on board, it realized that the tourism sector in Ekiti State was non-existent and superficial. In spite of the fact that the state is blessed with many tourism potentials, no meaningful step was taken by past administrations to develop the tourism sector of the state.

Facilities at the only available tourist site in Ekiti State, the Ikogosi Warm Spring were found to have deteriorated due to neglect leading to low patronage. What should be a pride for all Ekiti indigenes has become a big embarrassment to us all.

To underscore the importance attached to the tourism sector by the Kayode Fayemi administration, a new Ministry of Culture, Arts and Tourism was created immediately for the state in accordance with the practice in tourism-friendly states. A substantive Commissioner was appointed for the ministry while an experienced professional was appointed as Special Adviser to the Governor on Tourism Development.

This was followed by the provision of budgetary allocation for tourism development in the 2011 reviewed budget by Governor Kayode Fayemi, who promised to match the budgetary provision with cash backing unlike what happened in the past when funds were allocated to the tourism sector for years but no single kobo was released to the sector. A capital vote of N146million was provided in the 2011 Budget for tourism development.



Arinta Waterfall



Fajuyi Memorial Park



### Ikogosi Warm Spring

Ekiti State is blessed with many tourist sites, many of which are yet to be explored and developed. The present government believes that if the tourist sites are developed, they are capable of generating billions of Naira for the state annually. The government has therefore decided to partner with the private sector to fully develop the tourism potentials of the state so as to generate substantial revenue for government, create employment opportunities and alleviate poverty at the grassroots.

### PAST GOVERNORS

This below is the list of administrators and governors of Ekiti State, which was created on October 1, 1996, carved out of the territory of Ondo State.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Tenure</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Lt. Col. Mohammed Bawa	Administrator	7 October, 1996	Under Military rule	First administrator after State



		–		creation
		August,		
		1998		
Navy		August,		
Captain	Administrat	1998 – Under		
Atanda	or	29 Military		
Yusuf		May, rule		
		1999		
		29		
Otunba	Executive	May, Alliance	First elected	
Niyi	Governor	1999 – for	Civilian	
Adebayo		29 Democrac	Governor of	
		May, y (AD)	the State	
		2003		
				Second
				elected
				Civilian
				Governor of
				the State.
				Fayose’s
		29		impeachme
Mr. Ayo	Governor	May, Peoples’	nt on	
Fayose		2003 – Democrati	October 16	
		19 c Party	by the State	
		October (PDP)	Assembly	
		r, 2006	(and brief	
			replacement	
			by Speaker	
			Aderemi)	
			was	
			declared	

			illegal by Federal Government .
General Tunji Olurin (Rtd)	Administrator	19 October – 27 April, 2006 – 2007	Peoples’ Democratic Party (PDP) Appointed Administrator or after declaration of state of emergency in the State.
Chief Tope Ademiluyi	Acting Governor	27 April, 2007 – 29 May 2007	Peoples’ Democratic Party (PDP)
Engr Segun Oni	Governor	29 May, 2007- 17 Feb, 2009	Peoples’ Democratic Party (PDP) Oni was removed by Appeal Court (based on illegal returns of April 2007 elections), and a partial re-run was ordered.

## **TRADITIONAL RULERS**

- Grade 'A' Obas
- Grade 'B' Obas
- Grade 'C' Obas

<b>TRADITIONAL TITLE</b>	<b>TOWN</b>	<b>LOCAL AREA</b>	<b>GOVT.</b>
Ajero	Ijero-Ekiti	Ijero	
Alaaye	Efon Alaaye- Ekiti	Ekiti West	
Alaaye	Oke Ayedun- Ekiti	Ikole	
Alara	Aramoko- Ekiti	Ekiti West	
Alare	Are-Ekiti	Irepodun/Ifelodun	
Alawe	Ilawe-Ekiti	Ekiti South West	
Arajaka	Igbara Odo- Ekiti	Ekiti South West	
Arinjale	Ise-Ekiti	Ise/Orun	
Atta	Ayede Ekiti	Oye	
Elekole	Ikole-Ekiti	Ikole	
Elemure	Emure-Ekiti	Emure	
Ewi	Ado-Ekiti	Ado	
Obaleo	Erinmope- Ekiti	Moba	
Obanla	Ijesa	Isu- Ikole	

	Ekiti	
Ogoga	Ikere-Ekiti	Ikere
Olode	Ode-Ekiti	Gbonyin
Ologotun	Ogotun-Ekiti	Ekiti South West
Olojudo	Ido-Ekiti	Ido/Osi
Olojudo	Ido-Ile-Ekiti	Ekiti West
Olomuo	Omuo-Ekiti	Ekiti East
Olosi	Osi-Ekiti	Ido/Osi
Olotunja	Otunja-Ekiti	Ikole
Oloye	Oye-Ekiti	Oye
Olukoro	Ikoro-Ekiti	Ijero
Oluyin	Iyin-Ekiti	Irepodun/Ifelodun
Onigede	Igede-Ekiti	Irepodun/Ifelodun
Onisan	Isan-Ekiti	Oye
Onitaji	Itaji-Ekiti	Oye
Oniye	Iye-Ekiti	Ilejemeje
Oore	Otun-Ekiti	Moba
Owa Ooye	Okemesi- Ekiti	Ekiti West

### **ADO-EKITI LGA**

Ado Ekiti local Government was carved out of the defunct Ekiti Central Local Government by the Ibrahim Badamosi Babangida Administration in May 1989.

Ado Ekiti Government could be regarded as a one town local government with many farm settlements such as

Igirigiri, idwgg, Ilamuo, Ago Aduloju, Igimo-Kogo, Ago-Aso, Emirin, Temidire Esunmo, Ureje etc.

Since the Lord Lugard reforms of 1916, Ado-Ekiti has been enjoying a unique political position as a linchpin of Administration when it was made the headquarters of Ekiti divisional Council, it maintained this position until 1952 when Ado-Ekiti District Council was created and started operating in this capacity in 1955. In 1996 when Ekiti State was created, Ado-Ekiti was made the state headquarters.

### **TOWNS & VILLAGES**

<b>S/NO</b>	<b>NAME SETTLEMENT</b>	<b>OF NATURE SETTLEMENT</b>	<b>OF</b>
1	Ado	Town	
2	Odo	SemiTown	
3	Ago Aduloju	SemiTown	
4	Ago Ologunja	Village	
5	Kajola	Village	
6	Reserve	Village	
7	Ategbado	Village	
8	Aso Ayegunle	Village	
9	Ago Araromi	Village	
10	Temidire	Village	
11	Bolorunduro	Village	
12	Modelewe	Village	
13	Ajisoro	Village	

14	Atametu	Village
15	AbaMango	Village
16	AbaOyinbo	Village
17	Iyana Emirin	Village
18	AbaElede	Village
19	Emirin	Village
20	AbaFulani Oniyanrin	Village
21	Erinfun	Village
22	AbaUnity	Village
23	Ukewo	Village
24	Ita Alaoro	Village
25	Alose	Village
26	AbaCorner	Village
27	Ayoko	Village
28	Igirigiri	Village
29	Odo Asa	Village
30	Ikumute	Village
31	Olokemeji	Village
32	Igimokogo	Village
33	Idege	Village
34	Omo Tetera	Village
35	Isebodegbira	Village
36	Itamo	Village
37	Omi Oloko	Village
38	Alagborogboro	Village
39	Oke Aso	Village

40	Ifesowapo	Village
41	AbaOloro	Village
42	Olugurin,Adigboku	Village
43	AbaAlhaji	Village
44	Oke Osun	Village
45	Olokori	Village
46	Abe Egbira	Village
47	Aseusi	Village
48	Itanla/Housing Estate	Village
49	AbaIsobo	Village
50	Elemi	Village
51	Inomalu 1	Village
52	Onimalu 2	Village
53	Agboro	Village
54	Ikere Oko	Village
55	Asajeun	Village
56	Ilamuo	Village
57	AbaFulani	Village
58	Ekiti/Aba igbira	Village
59	Igbaye	Village
60	Uso Laaye	Village
61	Ajagbeladun	Village
62	Onimalu 3	Village
63	Onimalu 4	Village
64	Onimalu 5	Village
65	Ilokun/Irasa	Village

## **CULTURES AND TRADITIONS PREVALENT IN EKITI STATE**



Ikogosi Warm Spring

### **INTRODUCTION/HISTORICAL FACTS**

Ekiti State (Fountain of knowledge) was carved out of the former Ondo State, which itself came out of the old Western State in 1967.

Ekiti State is made up of Ekiti Central, Ekiti North, Ekiti South and Ekiti West Divisions. The word “Ekiti” as we know it today denotes a “mound.” This is derived from the rugged mountainous topography of the State. Ekiti which is one of the many Yoruba states in Nigeria was an independent state prior to the British conquest and the introduction of Indirect Rule. Ekiti, a nation of the Yoruba people had her progeny in Oduduwa, the father and progenitor of Yoruba race. Other important cities and towns include Ado-Ekiti, Ikere, Efon, Ikole,



Aramoko-Ekiti, Ode, Ijero, Ise, Ilawe, Omuo, Igede and many others.

The state is largely agrarian. Agriculture is the mainstay of the state economy. It employs 75% of the state working population. The State is one of the largest producers of Rice, Kolanut, oil palm and cocoa in the country. They also produce crops like cassava, yam, cocoyam, maize, cowpea, citrus, plantain and fruits like cashew, mango and orange.

## **THE PEOPLE**

The people of Erijiyan-Ekiti apart from farming engage in trading activities, selling farm products like yams, rice, vegetables like tete, ila, amunututu, adodo, odu, sokoyoto, ebolo, ewuro, tomatoes. They sell aso ofi, agbada, gbarye, kembe, dandogo, fila gobi, abeti aja, kente, dye cloths like adire of all shades and colours. The people also sell cash products like cocoa, coffee, rubber, palm tree etc. These are sold in large quantities to the visiting traders from Ado-Ekiti, Ilesa, Ibadan, and Lagos. Their trading activities take them beyond Erijiyan-Ekiti frontier especially on town's market days.

## **TOURISM**

Tourism is another aspect which will become a veritable source of income for the state. Notable among its tourist attractions are the Ikogosi tourist centre which are referred to as the haven of tourism in Nigeria.

At Ikogosi, the warm and cold water oozing out from different sources from the earth crust flow separately to meet in a pool each retaining its thermal identity. However there are other tourist centers such as:

Raw Material Display Centre  
Arinta Waterfall at Ipole-Iloro  
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Fajuyi Memorial Park at Ado-Ekiti

The state also has rich cultural carnivals like Iwemo and Udiroko in Ado-Ekiti; Ogun in Ire-Ekiti; Ijesu and Egungun which continue to attract people to the state. Tourism plays major role in relaxation of the people especially during festivals such as Erin Ayonigba, Igbo-Owa, Olookun; Ijopa and odun Oba.

## **CULTURE & TRADITIONS**

The state is highly rich in culture. They have their own unique traditional way of: Dressing, Dancing, Festival, religion and other ways of life. As enumerated below: The rulers of the Towns are Obas like other Yoruba Towns. Traditionally, the natural rulers in Ekiti State, whose people are Yoruba, are usually described as sacred or divine kings. Their installation and coronation are performed with solemn and lengthy rites which set them apart, thereafter living an ordered ceremonial existence, secluded in their palaces, subjected to the many rituals of court and approached only with infinite respect. They rarely appear in public, except on ceremonial occasions.

By ancient customs, the Obas are not only the heads of their towns and kingdoms, but by their personifications, reincarnating also all their ancestors back to the origin of the dynasties. They are also the titular heads of all religious sets in their kingdoms. Their appointments are, partly by divination, made by the king makers who are invariably the high chiefs. They are appointed from among the children of past rulers. The ceremonies between their appointments and coronation are elaborate. The sacredness of their offices was neither empty nor nominal; they are regarded by their people as divinity with whose well being, their own conditions are bound. They are the sources of honour, able to bestow titles and chieftaincies. The Obas are also the fountain of justice.

During leisure or relaxation time, people play arin and ayo games, dancing, flogging (ijopa) and so on. In the nights, especially during the moonlight children are assembled in patio and are told ancient folktales usually centre around the legendary Tortoise (Ijapa tiroko oko Yanibo). There are traditional drums such as bata, agere, gangan, sekere, obele, emele, which people play at festivals and burial ceremonies with different melodious tones.

## **CRAFT WORKS**

During the British colonial administration, many Ekiti people travelled to various parts of Nigeria: Lagos, Port Harcourt, Ibadan, Ilesa, Ondo etc to learn various trades, such as dispensary, tailoring (fashion designing), carpentry, bricklaying, etc. Some

## **OYE LGA**

Oye Local Government Area was carved out from the defunct Ekiti North Local Government on 17th May, 1989.

Oye Local Government is bounded by Ilejemeje Local Government to the North, Irepodun/Ifelodun to the South, Ikole local Government to the East and Ido/Osi Local Government to the West.

It comprises of the following towns and villages: Oye Ekiti, Ilupeju Ekiti, Ayegbaju Ekiti, Ire Ekiti, Itapa Ekiti, Osin Ekiti, Ayede Ekiti, Itaji Ekiti, Imojo Ekiti, Ilafon Ekiti, Isan Ekiti, Ilemeso Ekiti, Omu Ekiti, Ijelu Ekiti, Oloje Ekiti and a host of others.

There are no distinctive ethnic groups in the Local Government as a greater percentage of the people resident are of the Yoruba Language race. Nearly all the people speak Yoruba Language with negligible dialectical variations.

## **Moba LGA**

The Moba local government has about 110sq kilometers. According to the 2006 National Population Census, the population of the local government was put at one hundred and forty six thousand four hundred and ninety six (146,496).

There are several places of interests in the local government that could attract tourists and they include Ero Dam, Ikun; Oore Monumental Palace, Otun; Eywmojo Grave, Osan; Eegun Regalia Costumes, Ikun; and Egi Hill, Igogo.

There are several Co-operative societies in the Local Government and also thriving industries which include Timber/Saw mills and Dairy Farms e.g. Ikun Dairy Farm.

## **TOWNS & VILLAGES**

Towns that comprise the LGA are:

1. Otun Ekiti
2. Igogo Ekiti
3. Ikun Ekiti
4. Osun Ekiti
5. Erinmope Ekiti
6. Aaye-Oja Ekiti
7. Ikosu Ekiti
8. Isaoye Ekiti
9. Epe Ekiti
10. Iro Ekiti
11. Ira Ekiti
12. Osan Ekiti
13. Irare Ekiti

## **IREPODUN/IFELODUN LGA**

The Local Government is predominantly a homogenous society and carefully populated by Yoruba speaking people of the South West Zone of Nigeria. The Religious of the people are mainly Christian and Islamic religious while a percentage of the people are Traditional religion worshippers.

The thriving industries in the local government include Timber/Saw mills which include Mighty Sawmill at Igede-Ekiti, Ilamoye Sawmill at Igede-Ekiti, Olorunde Sawmill at Iyin-Ekiti, Okeorun Sawmill at Igbemo-Ekiti, Osalade Sawmill at Igbemo-Ekiti, Oke Uba Sawmill Awo-Ekiti and Iyedi Sawmill at Igbemo-Ekiti; Photo Studios; Hotels, some of which include CornerStone Hotel, God's Health Hotel, Liberty Hotel and many more.

The places in the Irepodun Local Government that attract tourists from all over are the Osun Tourist Center and Elemi Tourist Center, both located at Igede-Ekiti.

### **TOWNS & VILLAGES**

The major towns in the Irepodun Local Government are:

1. Igede-Ekiti
2. Iyin-Ekiti
3. Awo-Ekiti
4. Iropora-Ekiti
5. Eyio-Ekiti

6. Esure-Ekiti
7. Iworoko-Ekiti
8. Are-Ekiti
9. Afao-Ekiti
10. Araromi Obo-Ekiti
11. Igbemo-Ekiti
12. Ikogosi-Ekiti
13. Aramoko-Ekiti
14. Erijiyan Ekiti

The Local Government also comprises of villages and farmsteads which include:

- Odo Uro
- Ejiko
- Okoro
- Amadin
- Itaasae
- Aba Olorunda
- Aroto
- Tungba
- Ita Ake
- Olusegun Camp
- Oriokuta Camp
- Aba Osun
- Asa Oloro
- Abuja Camp
- Surulere
- Oriokuta Camp
- Kajola Camp
- Ajebamidele I
- Araromi Oke Aro

- Ajayi Oke
- Ajayi Odo
- Temidire Camp
- Orisumibare Camp
- Ajebamidele II
- Kosubu Town
- Ita Oko Aba Camp
- Igbo Eku Camp

## **ILEJEMEJE LGA**

Ekiti South West Local Government, Ilawe Ekiti is one of the 16 Local Governments in Ekiti State.

Sequel to the creation of Ondo State in 1976, Ekiti South West Local Government was established under the Local Government Edict of 1976 published in the Gazette as ODSL N5 of 1976. The effective date was 1st September, 1976 while the headquarter is Ilawe Ekiti.

## **IKOLE LGA**

The Local Government is predominantly a homogenous society and carefully populated by Yoruba speaking people of the South West Zone of Nigeria. The Religious of the people are mainly Christian and Islamic religious while a percentage of the people are Traditional religion worshippers.

The thriving industries in the local government include Timber/Saw mills which include Olo Sawmill, Okejebu, Eleyero Sawmill, Ilamo and Ara Sawmill, Ara;



Pharmacies which include Chuks Pharmacy and Okoli Pharmacy both located at Ikole.

The place in the Ikole Local Government that attracts tourists from all over is the Itapaji Water Dam, Itapaji-Ekiti.

## **TOWNS & VILLAGES**

The LGA comprises of twenty four town and villages. Towns that comprise the LGA are:

1. Ikole
2. Ijesha Isu
3. Oke Ayedun
4. Ootunja
5. Odo-Oro
6. Ipao
7. Itapaji
8. Ara
9. Isaba
10. Usin
11. Orin Odo
12. Odo Ayedun
13. Ayebode
14. Oke Ako
15. Irele
16. Iyemero
17. Ikosi
18. Igbona
19. Asin
20. Esun

21. Temidire
22. Ikunri
23. Ijebu-Agege
24. Ilamo

Among the villages in the LGA are:

- Aba Dam
- Ita Gbangba
- Aba Audu
- Aba Fatunla
- Arinta
- Aba Ebira, Ayedun
- Aba oko Ijebu
- Iwetin
- Aba Oke Oko, Igbona

## **IKERE LGA**

The local government has about 202.38sq kilometers shares boundaries in the east with Ise/Orun local Government; in the west with Ado local government; while it shares boundaries with Iju/Itaogbolu and Akure north local government in the south.

The total population of Ikere local government is put at one hundred and forty seven thousand three hundred and fifty five (147,355).

## **TOWNS & VILLAGES**

Towns and villages that comprise the LGA are:

1. Ikere Metropolis
2. Ajebandeele
3. Agesin
4. Olumilua
5. Olukere
6. Elekanran
7. Eleran
8. Alonge
9. Odolofin
10. Baba Oyo
11. Balogun
12. Reun
13. Onigemo
14. Ayeye
15. Orubuloye
16. Ojomo
17. Olowolagba
18. Ilesanmi
19. Ekuasa
20. Oisa
21. Wawu
22. Ajaka
23. Odofin
24. Babasale
25. Ologotun
26. Asae
27. Olabusuyi
28. Olotin
29. Eree Oke
30. Oke Oye
31. Atoka
32. Abodi

33. Popoola
34. Olona
35. Omotoso
36. Ejide
37. Edemo
38. Alake
39. Sansi
40. Amure
41. Elemose
42. Ledge
43. Seidu
44. Olobatuyi
45. Oloawu
46. Ojola
47. Saka
48. Ojokogun
49. Oko Oisa
50. Mayowa
51. Abulefan
52. Ogele
53. Oko Aso
54. Afodide
55. Ogbese Popoola
56. Ayeni
57. Adeniji
58. Asipa
59. Alao
60. Alaran
61. Adamolekun
62. Olohunebi

## **Ijero LGA**

Ijero Local Government was created in 1976. It is situated in the North-Western part of Ekiti State with Ijero Ekiti as the headquarter. Other component towns are: Ikoro, Ipoti, Iloro, Odo-Owa, Ijurin, Ara, Epe, Araromi, Oke-oro, Iroko, Ayegunle, Temidire and Ilukuno.

The local government is bordered by Moba Local Government and Ido-Osi Local Government in the East, Irepodun/Ifelodun in the West, Ekiti West in the south and Ila Orangun Local Government Area ( in Osun State) in the North-West.

### **IDO-OSI LGA**

The Local Government is basically agangan with people cultivating root crops and grains e.g. yams, cassava, maize, rice e.t.c. There are a few cottage industries in the Local Government devoted primarily to processing of agricultural produce. Other Industrial undertakings are in the area of printing , bakeries, weaving, carpentry e.t.c.

The thriving industries in the local government include Timber/Saw mills which include Ido-Ekiti Sawmill, Ora-Ekiti Sawmill, Usi-Ekiti Sawmill, and Osi-Ekiti Sawmill; Bakeries which include Negro Special Bread, Bejisko Bakery, Ona Ara Bakery, and Osi Ekiti Bakery; Banks which include UBA Usi-Ekiti, First Bank Ifaki-Ekiti, Harvest Bank Ido-Ekiti, Micro Bank Ayetoro, Skye Bank Ido-Ekiti and Enterprise Bank Ido-Ekiti; Printing Press which include Ade Commercial Press Ido-Ekiti, Jolayemi Printing Press Usi-Ekiti and Adedayo

Printing Press Ifaki-Ekiti. All the towns in the Local Government enjoy electricity although very unreliable in supply.

Each of the towns in the Local Government Area has cultural festivals which are celebrated at different times of the year. For instance, the Ifaki people have the Okorobo Festival.

## **TOWNS & VILLAGES**

Towns and farmsteads that comprise the LGA are:

1. Ido-Ekiti
  - Ajowa, Ido Ekiti
  - Odo-Oba
  - Igbo Ata
  - Iloju
  - Agunrin
  - Ipepe
  - Asure
  - Akunmopeye
  - Odo Esi
  - Adata
2. Ifaki
  - Aba Igbira, Ado Road
  - Aba Igbira, Esure Road
  - Alepupa
  - Ologun
3. Ayetoro
  - Aba Gara, Igogo Road
  - Aba Asao

- Sakete
  - Sajuku
  - Elegbeyin
  - Oladele
  - Isao
  - Orisamila
  - Abasanya
4. Ilogbo Ekiti
- Oko Odoroye
  - Osomo
  - Ifefe
  - Eleta
  - Itaewu
  - Akese
  - Eliju
  - Abalure
  - Ugbo Ogbe
  - Oko Abadofin
5. Usi Ekiti
- Borisade Farm Settlement
  - Oke Egan
  - Eforo
  - Ogudu
  - Ugbo Ore
  - Akurupa
6. Orin Ekiti
- Orin Farm Settlement
7. Ifisin Ekiti
- Aba Ilupo
  - Igun
8. Osi Ekiti
- Oke – Eniju

- Areni
  - Oke Eniju
  - Oke Esi
9. Igbole Ekiti
    - Okefolo Camp
  10. Odo-Ora Ekiti
  11. Oke –Ora Ekiti
  12. Ilogun Ekiti
  13. Aaye Ekiti

## **EMURE LGA**

### **TOWNS & VILLAGES**

1. Emure
2. Aba Isua
3. Owode
4. Alaba Marun
5. Ose Onija
6. Ose Kolade
7. Alapoto
8. Ibeji Reserve
9. Opinmi Camp
10. Adu Camp
11. Olobebe Camp
12. Akita camp
13. Ajiboye camp
14. Aro Adekanmbi Camp
15. Ibeji Shitu
16. Onigbedu Camp
17. Ajijedidun Camp
18. Aba Adeyemo



19. Peter Esan Camp
20. Badaru
21. Ibeji Eliju
22. Amuroko
23. Oloyi Camp
24. Igbo Eku
25. Ita aragba
26. Oge
27. Adeyemo
28. Ogunse
29. Akeye
30. Eporo
31. Optican 1
32. Optican 2
33. Reservoir
34. Onibuja
35. Aba Yamga
36. Kajola
37. Ajebamidele
38. Aba Egin
39. Ogunida
40. Sasere
41. Aba Aroti
42. Adedayo Camp

## **EKITI WEST LGA**

As the name implies Ekiti West Local Government Council can be located in the western part of Ekiti State it shows common boundary with the following council ifelodun/irepodun LGA, Ijero LGA and Efon Alaaye all

in Ekiti State and as well Ila, and oriade LGA in Osun State.

Most of the lands in the Local Government Area are undulating in shape. This are more pronounced in Okemesi, Ido-Ile, Ipole-Iloro, Erio and Ikogosi. This town are surrounded by rugged hills. There is a pronounced long geographical ridge which separated Ido-Ile from Okemesi. This long ridge divides entire Local Government Area into two equal parts with Ipole-Iloro in the in the Western parts and Erio, Ikogosi and Erijiyan in the southern part.

The type of unique landscape gives rise to natural features such as Ikogosi warm spring and Ipole-Iloro waterfalls.

The population of Ekiti West Local Government was estimated as 139,139 by the 1991 population census with a projection of 203,521.

## **TOWNS & VILLAGES**

1. Ikogosi Ekiti
  - Olusegun Camp
  - Oriokuta Camp
  - Aba Osun
2. Erijiyan Ekiti
  - Asa Oloro
  - Abuja Camp
  - Surulere
  - Oriokuta Camp

- Kajola Camp
- Ajebamidele 1
- Araromi Oke Aro
- Surulere
- Ajayi Oke
- Ajayi Odo
- Temidire Camp
- Orisumibare Camp
- Ajebamidele Ii
- Kosubu Town

3. Aramoko Ekiti

- Ita Oke Aba Camp
- Igbo Eku Camp
- Igao Camp
- Ugbo Ujo Camp

4. Erio Ekiti

- Oloro Camp
- Alage Farm Settlement
- Odo Sam Camp
- Agbede Camp
- Alage Camp
- Asunokunrin
- Ajebamidele Camp Ii
- Okooloba
- Somefun Camp
- Titiloye Camp
- Olukotun Camp
- Anaye Farm
- Alafegun Camp
- Oba Odo Farm
- Ajindo Camp
- Eegunle

- Alaite Camp
- Olaifo
- Elesisan Camp
- Epinrin Kerekan Camp
- Epinrin Ogbogi
- Ogborodo Camp
- Aja Ijamosan
- Adegoke Camp
- Abayimodo Camp
- K & S Agbode Camp
- Elerio Camp
- Aniyeloye Camp
- Uyibaba Isale Camp
- Saloro Camp
- Ada Camp
- Awosin Camp

5. Okemesi Ekiti

- Ibidiran Camp
- Ajibode Camp
- Ajademo Camp
- Amile Camp
- Asoju Camp
- Olorun Camp
- Aworo Ose Camp
- Saode Camp
- Joseph Idowu Camp

6. Ido-Ile Ekiti

- Ojejelu Camp
- Ita Ido Camp
- Ile Ona Settlement
- Araromi Camp
- Ipole Iloro

## **EKITI SOUTH WEST LGA**

Ekiti South West Local Government, Ilawe Ekiti is one of the 16 Local Governments in Ekiti State.

Sequel to the creation of Ondo State in 1976, Ekiti South West Local Government was established under the Local Government Edict of 1976 published in the Gazette as ODSL N5 of 1976. The effective date was 1st September, 1976 while the headquarter is Ilawe Ekiti.

## **EKITI EAST LGA**

Ekiti East Local Government was created under the Local Government Edict of 1979. This took place as a result of the creation of Ondo – state which has its headquarter at Ibadan under the administration of the late Head of State Gen. Murtala Ramat Muhammed. At its creation, the old Gbonyin District Council which has its headquarter at Aisegba-Ekiti and part of the then Ekiti North Division were carved to form Ekiti East Local Government with its headquarter located at Omuo-Ekiti.

However, with the creation of more Local Government in 1996 as a result of the creation of Ekiti state by late Gen. Sanni Abacha, Gbonyin Local Government has been carved out of Ekiti East Local Government.

## **EFON LGA**

The Local Government now known as Efon Local Government has a long history of metamorphosis that

dated back to pre- independence Nigeria. This is evident in the fact that the former Ekiti West District Council which was created in 1955 had its administrative headquarters in Efon Alaaye. Later for what was purely ascribed to administrative convenience; the District headquarters was moved to Ijero Ekiti in 1973 after 18 years.

Sequel to the creation of Local Governments in 1976, Ekiti West Local Government was created with headquarters in Aramoko Ekiti. Efon Alaaye belonged to the Local Government. History again was made when Efon Alaaye as a result of its quest for a local government was (later) granted Efon Native Authority in 1981.

At last, reprieve came on 4th December, 1996 when Efon Local Government was created with the headquarters in Efon Alaaye. The Local Government shares boundaries with Ijebu – Ijesa in Osun State in the west, Erio Ekiti in the east, Esa – Oke in Osun State in the north and in the

## **GBONYIN LGA**

The Geographical entity known as Gbonyin Local Government was created in October 1st 1996 out of Ekiti East Local Government. Upon the creation of Ekiti State in October 1st 1996, Gbonyin Local Government (officially named Ayekire in the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria) is one of the sixteen Local Government created with the headquarters at Ode Ekiti.

The Local Government is predominantly a homogenous society and carefully populated by Yoruba speaking people of the South West Zone of Nigeria. The Religions of the people are mainly Christian and Islamic religions while a percentage of the people are Traditional religion worshippers.

## **TOWNS & VILLAGES**

The Local Government is made up of 8 major towns and several villages. All the towns have recognized traditional rulers (Obas). The major towns are:

- Ode Ekiti
- Agbado Ekiti
- Imesi Ekiti
- Aisegba Ekiti
- Egbe Ekiti
- Ijan Ekiti
- Iluomoba Ekiti
- Iro Ekiti

## ***VILLAGES***

1. Ode-Ekiti
  - Aba Baale
  - Aba Jioba
  - Ugboeku
  - Oke Afa
  - Onibedo Camp
  - Alarierin
  - Surulere Camp

- Aba Oka
- 2. Agbado-Ekiti
  - Oguniyi
  - Aba Oka
  - Isarun Better Life Road
- 3. Ijan-Ekiti
  - Ilupeju
  - Imoru Mayegun
  - The Apostolic Church, Alarudu
  - Ologoji Farm Settlement
  - Momo Farm Settlement
- 4. Iro-Ekiti
  - Iro Ayeteju
  - Ijege/Oke Agbani
  - Iro-Ayeteju/Egbe
- 5. Aisegba-Ekiti
  - Aponyinbo
- 6. Imesi-Ekiti
  - Odi-Olowo
  - Apomo
  - Ese
  - Sakunmi
  - Olorunda

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- Ijan Ekiti
- Iluomoba Ekiti
- Iro Ekiti

## ***VILLAGES***

1. Ode-Ekiti
  - Aba Baale
  - Aba Jioba
  - Ugboeku
  - Oke Afa

- Onibedo Camp
  - Alarierin
  - Surulere Camp
  - Aba Oka
2. Agbado-Ekiti
    - Oguniyi
    - Aba Oka
    - Isarun Better Life Road
  3. Ijan-Ekiti
    - Ilupeju
    - Imoru Mayegun
    - The Apostolic Church, Alarudu
    - Ologoji Farm Settlement
    - Momo Farm Settlement
  4. Iro-Ekiti
    - Iro Ayeteju
    - Ijege/Oke Agbani
    - Iro-Ayeteju/Egbe
  5. Aisegba-Ekiti
    - Aponyinbo
  6. Imesi-Ekiti
    - Odi-Olowo
    - Apomo
    - Ese
    - Sakunmi
    - Olorunda