

Call for Participation: Alternative Heritages Conference, 2-3 June 2025

Dear all

We are excited to announce the upcoming Alternative Heritages Conference, a high-profile gathering for academics, culture and heritage professionals, heritage conservators, art historians, archaeologists and anthropologists taking place on 2-3 June 2025 at the National Museum Onikan Lagos. We cordially invite you to submit abstracts and present your research papers, innovative practices and/or case studies at this important event.

Conference Theme: **Beyond the Classical: Unveiling the Unsung**

The scientific focuses of the Conference that are to be explored in the papers include but are not limited to:

- The complex relationship between heritage and power dynamics,
- the representation of marginalized communities in heritage narratives,
- the impact of globalization on local traditions and its narration,
- ethical considerations in heritage presentation and tourism,
- the digital preservation of forgotten intangible heritage and tangible heritage,
- the role of heritage in reconciliation and social justice movements.

All while challenging traditions, dominant narratives and promoting diverse perspectives on cultural heritage.

Sub-themes include:

- **Decolonizing Heritage:** examining how colonial legacies influence current heritage practices and narratives, advocating for indigenous voices and perspectives in heritage interpretation and presentation.
- **Marginalized Communities:** highlighting the heritage of groups often excluded from mainstream narratives, such as LGBTQ+ communities, ethnic minorities, and working-class populations.
- **Intangible Heritage:** addressing the challenges of documenting and preserving intangible cultural practices such as oral traditions, music, and rituals in a digital age.

- **Community Engagement:** prioritizing community participation in heritage management and decision-making processes, ensuring local voices are heard.
- **Heritage Tourism Ethics:** debating the potential negative impacts of mass tourism on local communities and cultural practices, promoting sustainable heritage tourism initiatives.
- **Conflict and Heritage:** analyzing how heritage is used in conflict situations, including the destruction of cultural sites and the role of heritage in reconciliation efforts.
- **Digital Preservation:** exploring the use of digital technologies to document, archive, and disseminate heritage information, including considerations of accessibility and equity.
- **Environmental Impact:** examining the intersection of cultural heritage and environmental concerns, such as climate change threats to heritage sites and stored artefacts.

Submission Guidelines:

- **Abstract:** A concise summary of your proposed presentation (word count limit: 250- 300)
- **Biography:** A brief profile of your expertise and affiliations
- **Abstract Submission Deadline:** 20 April 2025
- **Notification of Acceptance:** 5 May 2025

Accommodation and logistics support will be provided for paper presenters at the conference

To submit your abstract for this conference kindly email your abstract to josephayodokun@gmail.com & o.edafe@ifra-nigeria.org with the subject “**Beyond the Classical Conference**”

For further scientific inquiries on the conference please kindly email your question to Dr Barbara Morovich director@ifra-nigeria.org and Joseph Ayodokun josephayodokun@gmail.com.

The Alternative Heritages Conference is part of the on-going French Embassy Fund (FEF) [Nigerian Alternative Heritages Project](#) sponsored by the French

Embassy in Nigeria through IFRA-Nigeria at the National Museum Onikan Lagos.

We look forward to receiving your contribution and making the Alternative Heritages Conference a successful platform for knowledge exchange and innovation.

Sincerely,

Mrs Nkechi Adedeji
Curator National Museum Onikan Lagos
For the Conference LOC