



**DRAFT**  
**DONORS MEETING REPORT FOR THE PA-KUDE MUSEUM HELD ON 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER, 2013**  
**AT THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS CONFERENCE HALL**

**TEJAN SAVAGE – MODERATOR**

The meeting began with silent Prayers by members and attendees

The Moderator welcomed the Chairlady of the occasion, Hon. Madam Shirley Gbujama, a past Minister of Tourism and Cultural Affairs and all present and highlighted the theme for and of the meeting namely, “Care for the Future through the past”. He and Mr. Savage noted those and that four years ago, he and Mrs. Ibiduni Jones realized the possibility and necessity of recognizing ~~the~~ various communities in Freetown with rich cultural heritage, which if not harnessed will be lost forever. Mrs. Ibiduni Jones has assumed the challenge of establishing the Pa-Kude Community museum to spearhead and bring into focus the need of communities such as Murray Town to preserve its heritage for posterity. Participants were asked to introduce themselves before deliberation commenced. Please see attached list of participants.

**STATEMENTS**

**MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE, REPRESENTATIVE – MR. JALLOH**  
**DIRECTOR OF CULTURE**

On behalf of the Minister, the Director of Culture in the Ministry of Tourism and Culture (MOTC) acknowledged the effort and foresight of organizers of Pa-Kude Museum at Murray Town, especially the coordinator, Mrs. Ibiduni Jones. He mentioned the flagship projects of the ministry that were outlined in the Performance Tracking Table (P.T.T.) including plans to have museums that

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were in line with Government's decentralization strategy and relevant the Local Government Act. The MOTC plans to devolve regional museums, cultural dance groups and art galleries to communities across the country. This he said will provide a fertile knowledge-based facility for younger folks to experience their culture and heritage. Personally, the director has been communicating with Mrs. Jones for the past four years on related issues of cultural awareness and preservation of our heritage.

**Ms. ISA BLYDEN, COMMUNICATION EXPERT, PARTICIPANT**

Sierra Leone is an endangered country; everything is endangered, and appreciated the Pa-Kude museum which may inspire other communities such as the Fourah Bay community and other early settlements in and around Freetown which are known for their historic value.

**REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MAYOR OF FREETOWN, COUNCILLOR EMMANUEL S. CONTEH**

Councillor Emmanuel S. Conteh noted Council's role in developing culture and tradition based on its mandate and for the edification of citizens of Freetown. He highlighted the history of museums and cited when the first museum was constructed in Egypt. He spoke to the global nature of museum as it is seen everywhere no matter how small it exhibit the role of museum – artifacts collection and Pa-Kude's Museum will undoubtedly support Agenda for Prosperity and Millennium Development Goals ( MDGs,) ensure collective involvement and pragmatism.

Museums tell stories of man and houses things created by nature or human civilization, as well AS house the cultural soul of a nation. It helps create the cultural conscience of a nation He further noted the Negative ideas and perceptions of museums need for the re-definition of museum with a new role as an agent of change helps mirror events and encourages development. It should foster peace, democracy, Transparency and governance in society

He noted the need for museums to use resources to meet with modern trends and dynamism. Museums must impact cultural education enriches education and positively impact on children.

He highlighted the essence of the museum at Murray Town Community which is: education and Exchange of cultural artifact. When funded, it will foster a purpose of pride and the people will see themselves as one and belonging to a unique culture.

He called for collective support of such project which would help address current problems of lack of jobs and to help preserve and promote cultural education of the people, and promote exhibition. He expressed that the Pa Kude Historical Museum should broaden their scope beyond collections and storage of artifacts in their spaces, to the museum being more than a gateway to the past and reminder of events of the past. For instance, the Apartheid museum in South Africa.

He advised that the museum should be innovations, community minded, children oriented, and disability friendly and valuable programs oriented initiatives.

#### **MODERATOR**

He acknowledged the role of City Council and hope that their input will be very valuable, rewarding and timely.

#### **PROFESSOR ALGHALIE**

He noted that the museum idea was revealed to him two to three years ago when the museum was launched in November 2011 at the Hudson Market in Murray Town. The idea was embraced and there is need for the history of the fore-bearers of Murray Town to be embraced.

He highlighted the strategic location of Murray Town, positioned along the coast and is renowned for education, culture etc.

According to him, the Pa-Kude Historical Museum will ensure an inter marriage of all of the cultures and to form a foundation for the education of our children .He assured all present that his support will be rendered as usual and reiterated the innovation role of the museum.

#### **MODERATOR**

He confirmed the possibility of replication of such initiation in other communities such as the Fourah Bay Community.

#### **CHAIRMAN, PA-KUDE HISTORICAL MUSEUM – LEVEL OF COMMITMENT AND WAY FORWARD**

He started by saying that the museum will bring back lost glory, both cultural and historic assured all of his effort and commitment to the project.

**MODERATOR**

He asked if the management has been in contact with institutions and further asked what type of help or role the government will provide to the project. He asked if the management team is encouraged towards such direction.

**CHAIRMAN, PA-KUDE HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

The Chairman however confirmed the support from especially the Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Affairs.

**HON. SHIRLEY GBUJAMA**

She reflected her initial inspiration and passion for the Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Affairs and when she was asked, she pinned point to the Tourism Ministry as she hoped to let people know about Sierra Leone and to visit the country, however, she could not stay long as Minister of Tourism and Culture.

She noted that Tourism and Culture is important as it preserves and look at what we have, their situations and the future of them.

She noted that the Museum artifacts help to bring back memories and package our history. She expressed her appreciation of the efforts of Mrs. Jones and that she has been involved with the project since when she and Mrs. Jones were in Banjul.

She expressed that the Museum is not only to encourage students to attain education, but to see the museum an innovative and programmed based entity.

She noted the main challenge which is funding and all must help to attract donor support, be they local, overseas and most importantly, it should be local, as the museum is all about us. She hoped to see the museum as a means to attract the ordinary man or woman to know about their culture, history etc. and such should be the kind of process of the museum so that we will be conversant with our past and to brighten

our future. She mentioned that seeing such will help us improve on what is happening to us. She noted the need to train people to explain and educate people on issue of our history and culture. She further expressed her happiness that the people present are aufait with culture and tourism and all should work to see the success of the museum.

Hon. Gbujama made a direct reference to the rich history of Shengbe Pieh and encouraged all to help support the museum to attract the need funds, corroboration and awareness. The museum requires when all processes start, the support of all should be ensured, projection of the existence of the museum and to look for finances to let the program move forward. She noted that Museum gives history and history from our future and highlighted the need to see museum as an institution to be promoted to go on and on.

She advised that all should be in line in one spirit, joins hand to make the museum useful and properly organized it for our children and children's children.

#### **HON MINISTER OF TOURISM**

The Hon. Peter Bayuku Minister of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, briefly made his presence felt and expressed his happiness, support and being part of the whole process of establishing the Pa Kude Historical Museum.

#### **MODERATOR**

He noted the essence to look at capacity building – Training of teachers and the need to look at other areas in other African Countries and noted that Sierra Leone does not play well in terms of tradition and culture as obtained in other West African countries and asked what should be the role of all to motivate domestic tourism.

#### **CHAIRMAN - PA KUDE HISTORICAL MUSEUM-Emmanuel Jarret**

When we talk of domestic tourism, he slighted an example of the bell that was taken from Murray Town, to Wilberforce and Murray Town original cultural display which was part of Hudson Market.

### **COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE, MURRAY TOWN**

He noted that Murray Town community is very important with vital spots, such as, Olorshoro, peace created between the Wilberforce and Murray Town as a result of the bell. He further confirmed the community support of the Pa Kude's museum.

### **Ms ISA BLYDEN**

She created an analogy surrounding the Bell and noted that, no one knows the story of the bell between Wilberforce and Murray Town. She noted that the story of the bell will invariably be spurred due to lack of communication on the issue and that the story of the bell shall be a means of fund-raising through photos of the bell to support the museum. She also noted that every country of the world would use its history to generate income.

She additionally sighted an example of "Paddle" and how funds could be generated from the history and songs related to paddle. In the same way, funds could be generated and money will be made through the process.

She additionally noted that it is purported that no culture is false, as the various days such as Ramadan, Christmas etc. exhibits the rich history and identity as well as, display collective cohesion by Sierra Leoneans.

She further mentioned the importance of the Pa Kude Historical Museum as it highlights the history, kaba slots, bell etc. She further sighted an example of "Ronko" which is paid for US\$ 10,000 in United States despite the mystery associated with the 'Ronko'.

She noted the need to make the museum a living home, with artifacts that could be touched, created etc. to attract people as well as, learn children the skills, teach them the materials so as to enable them to know their past. She noted significant strides related to Fourah Bay as in 1847 saw the creation of an Institution for Local Language such as the krio.

In 1955 in Small Bo, Queen Victoria of England give the Queen of small Bo a staff and this suggest that the Chiefdom is a living museum and she sees it that this is how the Pa Kude should be, so that people could come to participate.

She also sighted an example of his brother's experience with local fishermen who taught him to make canoes and according to him; he noticed that each canoe has its own functions. Now, he is using the pictures of institutions to advertise their products through banners of institutions on the boats. She concluded by mentioning that all of these initiatives should be utilized to generate income.

### **MODERATOR**

He expressed that the museum should be contemporary and interactive.

### **DIRECTOR OF CULTURE –Mr Foday Jalloh**

He started by responding to some comments related to the lack of culture in Sierra Leone, and thanked Mrs. Blyden that Sierra Leone has a history and culture i.e. Murray Town, Fourah Bay.

He noted that the Ministry has succeeded in nominating three natural and three cultural sites to the tentative list to UNESCO. He further noted that Bounce Island and related sites and Freetown itself is a living museum, and that the Ministry's roles and works are in line with what Mrs. Blyden mentioned. He confirmed that, the Ministry has ensured to host Annual Cultural Festivals and Friday's national dress code.

### **MS Ibiduni (DUNI) JONES**

She started by explaining the important and intention of mapping of historical heritage sites as part of our awareness project in Freetown commencing from Murray Town, as a pilot project to develop historical site map, utilizing Geographical Information System (G.I.S), to conserve memories of the past 200 years of Oku-wata, Oloshuro, Cockle Bay, Hudson Market, the 1<sup>st</sup> Naval Squadron base, Lighthouse, roads at Murray Town.

The overall method to be applied involves using digitizing techniques to extract and map thematic details generated through common mapping techniques that lead to strategic places as part of Pa-Kude Historical Museum research which will be an assets to the nomination of Freetown as UNESCO Heritage sites

## PRESENTATION ON THE PA-KUDE HISTORICAL MUSEUM BY THE CHAIRMAN

Mr Emmanuel O. Jarret made presentation on the Pa- Kude Historical Museum

**The historical museum will preserve:**

- **The memories of 200 years in a systematic and contemporary manner; Research History**
- **Descendants**
- **Unique environment;**
- **Cultural Heritage and sites.**
- **Historic documents: (Example: The Prayers for Sierra Leone, written by the Lieutenant Governor John Clarkson in 1800).**

**The British born John Henry Newton, proved to be a continual problem for the crew of *Pegasus*. They left him in the shore of Freetown which he called home. He wrote the words of Amazing Grace which was selected by the Murray Town community at the Launching of the Pa-Kude Historical Museum as the Museum Anthem.**

**Sierra Leoneans who contributed to the social advancement of the nations will be honoured and their memory preserved through documents, writings, cultures, and stories in the digital archive.**

- **The Pa-Kude Historical Museum will establish The Friends of Pa-Kude Museum at the national, regional and international levels,**
- **PURPOSE: Will be encouraged to participate in activities such uploading of pectoral exhibits in the past 200 years volunteering, cultural display, sea shell handicraft, canvassing and “museum without walls” sight-seeing.**
- **APPROACH: To incorporate various technologies in identifying, preserving and conserving objects, photo archives, historical sites and overall cultural heritage, while strengthening socio-economic development and sustainability.**
- **THE MUSEUM PROGRAMME 5 YEAR ACTIVITIES:**
- **Activities based on measurable documented outcomes over a 5 year to period:**

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- Based on *Development of Objectives, Outputs, and Target Audiences* with a vision to preserve all aspects of the country's cultural heritage
- To document Sierra Leone's history and give it a national identity.

To raise awareness regarding role of history and indigenous knowledge in promoting peace within the guidelines of United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), International Council of Museum (ICOM) and Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Affairs of Sierra Leone To use tools that will comprise electronic databases, supported by the necessary hardware for converting existing paper documents into digital format, storing data of various kinds.

To use Bar-coding to facilitate data collection and preserve data integrity and security. To use State of the art data transmission tools and methods over the Internet and FTP (file transfer protocol) servers;

To adopt statutory obligation to pursue the Historical Museum's mandate in five main areas of activity: training, information, research, cooperation and awareness. It will serve as a reference library consisting of exhibitions that describe the country's culture and heritage and serve as a site for public education, national and international networking, capacity building, economic and social development and environmental knowledge

## **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

### **MODERATOR**

From the presenter, all was able to see from the management plan, an event-based institution and that is what all of us have been looking for.

### **Mr TEJAN SAVAGE – MODERATOR**

He asked if the museum have received positive commitments in terms of funding, or is the team looking to the Ministry.

### **MS Ibiduni (DUNI) JONES**

She responded by mentioning that no fund is being looked for, but they will start on their own and that from now to March, the team will be able to attract a building block machine to make the blocks made of clay and stones for the construction of the museum.

**CHAIRMAN**

The Chair mentioned that the plan is to contact all the people from Murray Town to support the project.

**MS ISA BLYDEN**

She came up with the need to know about the bell and that should there be a museum also at Wilberforce?

**MS Ibiduni (DUNI) JONES**

She noted that she was inspired with an inspiration of a building he saw in The Gambia, built with burnt clay and brick blocks and which reminded her bricks stone family house in Murray Town built in the 1800 by Pa-Kude's son T.C. Fraser. The intention is to rehabilitate the Hudson Market built by Governor Hudson in 1934 (The Sunshine Governor) which was the former cultural center of Murray Town, to relive the mysterious Oloshoro steam and the narrate stories. She further noted the need to re-capture the coastal sides of the country using Murray Town, the once tourist sites as a pilot project and highlighted the importance of the following sites: Oku - Wata and its surroundings still serving the community since 1800 built by the first set of settlers and re-vamped in a photo stretch as it looked long years ago.

She mentioned that she has attracted a partner with a solar company to create solar power at Oku - Wata with solar pump for community use as well as the museum.

**PA-KUDE HISTORICAL MUSEUM CHAIRMAN**

Mr Emanuel O. Jarret mentioned that the function of Oku - Wata was for cooking and Oloshoro was for drinking.

**HON. EMMANUEL S. CONTEH**

Chairman of the Tourism and Cultural Affairs, Freetown City Council, representative of the Mayor His Worship O. Gipson discussed the council plans to control the squatters and population along this coastal area which includes Oloshoro, Cockle Bay, Odke and Aberdeen and asked how they should go about it.

**MS Ibiduni (DUNI) JONES**

She mentioned Murray Town was the areas know as the Whiteman's Bay with its historical coastline and its biodiversity heritage. It is also an area where a greater percentage of the Murray Town population lives .However this socio-economic and natural wealth is being threatened by various types of coastal degradation such as squatting, erosion, salination, population growth and sand mining.

She also sighted an example to Lagos and The Gambia whose coastlines were revaltized, preserved and has been reclaimed through; assessments of the Coastal zone, interpret Coastal dynamics for sustainable Coastal developments, facilitate sustainable economic activities, enhance Coastal Monitoring skills , relocate squatters along the beach and this could be done through dialogue . She mentioned the need to re-claim the Hudson Market the only market built a colonial governor as was used as an historical culture heritage site since 1934 - 2005.

**Mr RAYMOND – UNIVERSAL RADIO**

He asked if the Management Team has secured land, if so, what part and who provided it?

**PA-KUDE HISTORICAL MUSEUM CHAIRMAN**

He responded that the land is owned by the Jordan Methodist Church of Murray Town and will be leased for a very long, long time. It is located at High Broad Street, few yards from Hudson Market, Oku-wata and the Wesleyan church built by the first settlers from Nova Scotia.

**Ms Ibiduni (DUNI) JONES**

She noted that when she was handed the map of the house and land, she noticed that the land was owned by the granddaughter of Pa-Kude and the first daughter of T.C. Fraser

## **MODERATOR**

He noted that he has a special passion for the project, as his wife is from the Fraser family.

## **MS ISA BLYDEN**

She emphasized the need to look at how to market and raise funds for the museum and that since Murray Town is linked to Yoruba since the 1840, it could be sold through Nigerian newspapers to encourage Nigerians to visit Oloshoro and Oku wata. A linkage of all of these could attract fund from Nigeria to restore these sites. She also noted the need to involve children in the building of the museum so as to enable the process to be owned by the children and to see them as part of the project. She sighted an instance of the use of children of 6 years old to look for the 1910 penny which went amazing and over-blown, thus, they gained an award. This shows the power of what kids could do.

## **Ms Ibiduni (DUNI) JONES**

She concluded by mentioning the need to put up the Historical museum at Murray Town, the sunshine town, Whitman's bay with historical and cultural heritage which came from West Africa and now housing the oldest boys school in the original prosperity of Sir Samuel Lewis The first West African Knight First Mayor of Freetown, from Murray Town, followed by the first Female to enter Fourah Bay College, First Mining Engineer, a medical doctor the 1800. The first lady driver, the first female to ride a bike to school .To narrate the story of a Liberated African with two sons and three daughters who settled in Murray Town .The Historical Museum will bring back the rich forgotten memories of historic Murray Town which serves as community curator of the rich culture and accomplishment of Liberated African settlers in the 1800 in a town known as Whiteman's Bay. Murray Town and other Sierra Leoneans who built the country.

She continued by saying Murray Town socio-economic and natural wealth is being threatened by various types of coastal degradation such as squatting, erosion, population growth, sand mining including lorries driving into the sea causing over exploitation of degrading of sea . She asked for the endorsement from the Director and continued support and the Mayor of Freetown, to assist us preserve Murray Town cultural History.

**Signatures:**

**Moderator: Tejan Savage, Marine Engineer, Board Member**

**Co-chair: Mr Foday Jalloh, Director of Cultural Heritage**

**Chair: Honorable Sheryl G---**

**Prepared by: Ishmael Kumara, Cultural officer Tourism Department**

**Date ----**