

Abbreviations	5
Table of Content	7
Acknowledgement by Dr. Chinedu Paul Ezenwa.....	13
Forward by Prof. DDr. Josef Waleszczuk.....	15
General Introduction:	17
0.1 Research Objective	21
0.2 The Challenges to be resolved	22
0.3 Scope and Methodology	23

Chapter One Definition of Terms

Introduction	25
1.0 The Term Igbo	25
1.1 Crisis of Value its Meaning in the Work	26
1.2 Notion "Value"	26
1.3 The Notion Dignity	29
1.4 Culture and Human Dignity	31
1.5 The Concept Human Person	36
1.6 The Igbo Ontology of the Human Person	38
Conclusion	40

Chapter Two: Igbo Sources of Human Dignity and Socio-Cultural Values

Introduction	43
2.1 The Igbo Ethical World Views	44
2.2 Sense of the Sacred	45
2.2.1 The Human Life	48
2.3 Sense of Communalism	52
2.3.1 Importance of Being Communal Oriented	56
2.3.2 Sense of Hospitality	58
2.3.2.1 The Host	60
2.3.2.2 The Guest	60
2.4 Respect for Elders	61

2.4.1 Truth and Justice	64
2.5 Emulation and Adaptability	65
2.6 Autonomy of the Human Person	67
2.6.1 Ownership as Right and Value	71
2.6.2 Character (Agwa) and Social Competence	74
2.6.3 Work as Value in Igbo Cultural Setting	75
2.7 Igbo Personal Names as a Proof of the Value and Dignity of Human Person	76
Conclusion	78

Chapter Three: The Human Person in the Igbo Socio-political Society

Introduction	81
3.1 The Igbo Socio-Political Structure	82
3.1.1 The Role of Gender	85
3.1.2 The Role of Citizenship	86
3.1.3 The Role of Lineage	86
3.2 The Family	87
3.2.1 The Kindred (<i>Umunna</i>)	91
3.2.2 The Village (Ebo or Ebe)	94
3.2.3 The Town (Obodo or Mba)	96
3.3 The Title Holders	98
3.3.1 The Ozo	99
3.3.2 The Secret Societies (Masquerade)	100
3.3.3 The Patrilineage Daughters (<i>Umuada</i>)	101
3.3.4 Age Grade (Ogbo).....	103
3.4 The Laws of the Land (<i>Iwu Obodo</i>)	104
3.4.1 The Ofo	108
3.4.2 The Deities (<i>Alusi</i>)	110
3.4.3 The Priest	114
3.5 The King (<i>Eze</i>)	114
Conclusion	116

Chapter Four: Generational Decline of the Value of

Human Dignity: Dilemma of the Contemporary Igbo

Introduction	119
4.1 The Pre-colonial Igbo and Culture Contact	120
4.1.1 The Osu Caste System	122
4.1.2 Ohu (Domestic Slave)	125
4.2 The Question of Value and Dignity of Women in Igbo Traditional Society	127
4.2.1 Gender Inequality	129
4.3 The Trans-Atlantic slave Trade and the Inhuman Effect on the Igbo	132
4.4 The So Called Era of Civilization and its Effects	134
4.4.1 Effect of Christianity on Igboland	135
4.5 Nigeria Pluralism and the Effect on the Igbo	140
4.5.1 The Nigeria-Biafran War and the After Effects on the Igbo	141
4.5.1.1 Consequences of the War	142
4.5.2 Tribalism	144
4.5.2.1 Effect of Tribalism on Nigeria as a Nation	145
4.5.3 The Igbo Marginalization	149
4.5.4 Corruption	151
4.5.5 Non-Creativity and Lack of Working Culture	155
4.5.6 Lack of Discipline / Indiscipline	157
4.5.7 Child Labour a Threat to Human Esteem	159
4.5.7.1 Causes and Effects of Child Labour	162
4.5.8 Human Trafficking	163
4.5.8.1 Kidnapping: A Threat to the Value of Human Dignity	166
4.6 Urbanization, Modernization and Globalization.....	168
4.6.1 Urbanization and Urban Migration	168
4.6.1.1 Secularization	170
4.6.2 Science and Technology	173
4.6.3 Globalization	179
4.6.3.1 Globalization the Question of National Identity	181
4.6.4 Communication	185

4.6.4.1 Mass Media	186
Conclusion	188

Chapter Five: Some Efforts and Suggestions in Resolving the Devaluation of Human Dignity.

Introduction	191
5.1 United Nations Declaration on Human Dignity	192
5.2 African Charter on Human Dignity	194
5.3 Nigerian efforts on the Value of Human Dignity	195
5.4 Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Contribution towards Human Dignity In Nigeria.....	197
5.5 Igbo Efforts towards Human Dignity	198
5.6 Human Duty a Prerequisite for Human Dignity	200
5.7 The Church and Right to Life	202
5.8 The Role of the Catholic Bishops Conference of Nigeria	203
5.8.1 Justice	205
5.8.2 Human Welfare	207
5.8.3 Religio-politico Violence	208
5.8.4 Public Affairs of Families	210
Conclusion	211

Chapter Six: A Critical and Ethical Solution to the Devaluation of Human Dignity

Introduction	213
6.1 Observation and Findings	213
6.1.1 Decline of Parental Authority and Domestic Values	214
6.1.2 Materialism	215
6.1.3 Poverty	216
6.1.4 Hardening Social Strata	218
Recommendations	219
6.2 A Re-awakening of some Igbo Socio-cultural Values.....	219
6.2.1 Rekindling the Sense of Humanity	221
6.2.2 Education	222

6.2.3 Health Sector	226
6.2.4 Agricultural Sector	228
6.2.5 Reducing the Unemployment Rate	228
6.2.6 Political Stability	230
6.2.7 Observance of the Rule of Law	230
6.2.8 A Balanced Judiciary System	232
6.2.9 Commitment of the Church through Justice, Development and Peace Commission.....	233
6.3 General Evaluation and Conclusion	235
General Bibliography.....	241