HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT: THE ANSWER TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF IZZI PEOPLE OF ABAKALIKI

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Introduction
The Izzi people constitute one of the largest clans in Abakaliki. Others include the Ezza, the Ikwo, the Ezzamgbo and Ngbo, as well as the Agba which has been traced as an offspring of the Izzi. These clans have common history of origin, migrations and settlement as well as historical experience in being marginalised and deprived, and in their resultant backwardness in relation to most other Igbo clans. In Abakaliki could also be found some non-Igbo groups like the Ntezi and Okpoto in Ishielu, the Effuim in Ohaukwu and the Amuda in Ezza. But one common aspect of all the groups or clans in Abakaliki is their relative backwardness and underdevelopment.

Some other groups in Nigeria have had similar experience from the colonial period but had since taken steps to bring about some solutions. The Izzi people have rather continued to quarrel with nature or point accusing fingers at human enemies. Izzi clan is blessed with natural and human resources but lacks the determination to develop her human resources through proper education. This tends to affect the economic development of the people. This observation is not only obvious, but also long overdue. Several problems obviously combine to inhibit the development and progress of Izzi people in the modern times, of which illiteracy is most endemic and is yet to be surmounted.

It is against the above background that this essay which is apt and timely is written. In it, we shall attempt to take a look at some conceptual issues on human resource development. This is followed by a critical examination of human resource as an answer to the economic development of Izzi people. Next the author discusses the way forward and finally makes his concluding remarks.

Human Resource Development: Some Conceptual Issues
In general terms, all organisations use four basic kinds of inputs or resources for their development, namely, human resources, financial resources, physical resources as well as information resources. This applies to every organised