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Editorial

Okike has settled into a rhythm of two editions per year. Number 53 is the first for 2015; and Number 54 is expected in October/November 2015. This will be followed by a Special Edition for the Golden Jubilee of *A Man of the People* of which the celebration will be early in 2016. A journal's regularity depends on a number of inputs, including funding. We are thankful to the public-spirited individuals who have assisted us in recent times with donations. We are also grateful to the researchers and literary artists who offer their creations, compositions, and research papers to *Okike*, and the hard-working Editorial team of the Journal.

I should like to use this opportunity to mention that *Okike* Number 50 (Special Edition in memory of Professor Chinua Achebe, 1930-2013), as well as Number 51, and Number 52 (Golden Jubilee Edition for Chinua Achebe's *Arrow of God*) are still available. Interested persons, students and researchers, libraries and collectors may order copies through newafricanwriting.okike@gmail.com.

Okike Journal was founded with a mandate, to encourage and provide an outlet for creative writing by Africans. But it submits all contributions, both research papers and creative works, to the peer review process. Some individuals are probably *instinctive* artists, as Soyinka might say; for many others, the gift has to be nurtured painstakingly. *Okike* is available to both kinds of artists; at the same time, it aims to keep faith with its readers who are mainly of a scholarly background. Therefore, it encourages writers whose papers are not published the first time they are offered to do more work on them and resubmit. Even though we have only poems, research papers, and reviews in the present volume, we would like to remind interested persons that we welcome short stories and short plays as well. There is also room for other kinds of art works, like sculptures, paintings, fabric designs, and ceramics.

Research papers have special importance within the scope of the journal, for the purpose of encouraging and advancing formal study of African arts, especially literature by persons with expertise in the field regardless of where they come from. The research essays and reviews published in this volume cover works from across the continent and the African diaspora, which is as it should be, as *Okike* aims to serve the cause of African, and not only Nigerian literature. With respect to reviews, *Okike* provides a platform which has not been adequately exploited. And so publishers and authors of African literary works are

invited to make greater use of the journal for this purpose. Two copies of each of the publications intended for review are to be sent. The address is: *Okike: An African Journal of New Writing*, Box 53 Nsukka, 320015 Enugu State, Nigeria, or c/o Department of English & Literary Studies, University of Nigeria, Nsukka 320015 Enugu State, Nigeria.