

Elders and the Sustenance of History in Nkoro Kirika Kingdom: A Comprehensive Overview

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Abstract

This paper focused on elders and the sustenance of History in Nkoro Kirika Kingdom: A Comprehensive Overview. The study opined that elders refers to someone who is older in age or has reached an advanced stage of life that is often respected and revered for their wisdom, experience, and leadership qualities. The study obtained data from both primary and secondary sources. The primary data were attained through interviews and analyzed via descriptive method of data analysis, while the secondary data were obtained from books, journals etc. The finding of the study revealed that Elders are found in various contexts, including family dynamics, indigenous tradition, and religious organizations in Nkoro Kirika traditional culture. It also exposed that Nkoro Kirika culture sees her elders from a vital perspective in the sustenance of history in her society such as preserving cultural heritage, transmitting historical knowledge, mentoring future generations, promoting intergenerational

bonding, enhancing decision-making processes, and contributing to emotional well-being. The study further discovered that the elders wisdom and experiences are invaluable resources that help shape collective memory, foster a sense of identity, and promote social cohesion within their communities. However, the study therefore concludes that, Nkoro Kirika elders are of utmost importance in her society due to their wisdom, experience, cultural preservation, role modeling, emotional support, bridging generational gaps, and contribution to decision-making processes. The work recommends that all societies should endeavour to explore on the unique perspective and accumulated knowledge of their elders as it will start as an invaluable assets to individuals, families, communities, and the general public at large.

Keywords: Elders, Sustenance, History, Nkoro Kirika Kingdom, Comprehensive Overview

Introduction

History the Elder of Society refers to the study and understanding of the elderly population's experiences, contributions, and impact on society throughout history. It encompasses various aspects such as their social, cultural, economic, and political roles, as well as their influence on shaping the world we live in today. This topic sheds light on the importance of recognizing and valuing the wisdom, knowledge, and experiences of older individuals within a historical context.

Throughout human history, older adults have played significant roles in shaping societies. Their accumulated wisdom and life experiences have often been sought after for guidance and decision-making. In many cultures, elders have been revered as sources of wisdom and knowledge, serving as advisors to leaders and communities. Their insights have helped shape laws, traditions, and customs that have endured for generations.

One aspect of studying History and the Elders of Society is examining how older adults have contributed to various fields such as politics, literature, science, art, and philosophy. Garcia, (2019) opined that many influential figures throughout history have achieved great accomplishments in their later years. For example, Michelangelo completed some of his most renowned works in his 70s and 80s.

Benjamin Franklin made significant scientific discoveries during his later years. These examples highlight that age does not necessarily limit one's ability to make meaningful contributions to society. Furthermore, understanding the historical treatment of older adults is crucial in recognizing societal attitudes towards aging. Throughout different periods in history, older individuals have faced varying levels of respect and care. In some societies, they were revered and held positions of authority, while in others they were marginalized or neglected. Studying the treatment of older adults throughout history, will help the younger ones gain insights into societal values and norms surrounding aging.

Conceptual clarifications

History: Evans, R. J. (1999) History is the study of past events, particularly human activities, societies, and civilizations. It involves the examination and interpretation of evidence such as written records, artifacts, oral traditions, and archaeological findings to understand and reconstruct the events that have shaped our world. History encompasses a wide range of subjects, including political history, social history, cultural history, economic history, military history, and intellectual history.

History is derived from the Greek word "historia," which means "inquiry" or "knowledge acquired by investigation." It seeks to provide an accurate and comprehensive understanding of the past by analyzing primary and secondary sources. Primary sources are firsthand accounts or direct evidence from the time period being studied, such as diaries, letters, official documents, photographs, or artifacts. Secondary sources are interpretations or analyses of primary sources by historians or scholars. The study of history allows people in the human society to gain insights into how societies have evolved over time and how past events have influenced the present. It helps to foster understanding of the causes and consequences of major historical events such as wars, revolutions, social movements, technological advancements, and cultural shifts. It also help the younger individuals in the society to examine patterns and trends in the past, identify recurring themes and draw lessons that can inform decision-making in the present (Carr, E. H. 1990).

Elder: Elder are terms that have multiple meanings depending on the context in which it is used. In general, it refers to someone who is older in age or has reached a more advanced stage of life. The concept of elder hood is often associated with wisdom, experience, and leadership within a community or family (Alberty, (1981).

The General interpretations and Importance of Elders in the Society

Smith, J. (2010) Elders play a crucial role in society, bringing wisdom, experience, and guidance to younger generations. Their importance stems from their unique perspective and accumulated knowledge, which can greatly benefit individuals, families, and communities as a whole. In this comprehensive response, we will explore the various aspects of the importance of elders in society.

Living Archives: Elders are living archives of history, possessing firsthand experiences and knowledge of historical events, traditions, and cultural practices. They provide a unique perspective on the past, which can be verified and validated through their personal experiences.

Wisdom and Experience: Thompson, (2018), Johnson, (2015) and Brown, S. (2017) in a collective perspective opined that one of the primary reasons why elders are important in society is their wisdom and experience. Throughout their lives, they have accumulated knowledge and insights from various life experiences, challenges, and successes. This wisdom can be invaluable in guiding younger generations through similar situations or helping them make informed decisions. Elders possess a deep understanding of human nature, relationships, and societal dynamics that can help navigate complex issues. Their advice and guidance can prevent younger individuals from making mistakes or facing unnecessary hardships.

Preserving Cultural Heritage: Elders often serve as the keepers of cultural heritage and traditions. They hold valuable knowledge about customs, rituals, languages, folklore, and historical events that might otherwise be lost over time. By passing down this cultural heritage to younger generations, elders help maintain a sense of identity and continuity within communities. They provide a

link to the past and ensure that important traditions are preserved for future generations to appreciate and learn from.

Role Models and Mentors: Elders serve as role models for younger individuals in society. Through their actions, values, and behaviors, they set an example for others to follow. Elders often possess qualities such as patience, resilience, empathy, and compassion that can inspire younger generations to develop these traits themselves. They can also act as mentors by sharing their knowledge and skills with younger individuals who may be seeking guidance in various aspects of life such as career choices, personal development, or relationships.

Emotional Support: Elders provide emotional support to both their immediate families and the wider community. They offer a listening ear, empathy, and understanding to those who may be going through difficult times. Their life experiences enable them to offer valuable perspectives and advice during challenging situations. Elders often have a calming presence and can provide a sense of stability and reassurance during times of crisis or uncertainty.

Bridging Generational Gaps: In an ever-changing world, elders play a vital role in bridging generational gaps. They act as a bridge between the past and the present, helping younger generations understand the historical context and societal changes that have shaped the world they live in. Elders can provide insights into how society has evolved over time, fostering intergenerational understanding and appreciation. By promoting dialogue and mutual respect between different age groups, elders contribute to a more harmonious and cohesive society.

Decision-Making and Governance: Elders often possess a wealth of knowledge and experience that can be valuable in decision-making processes at various levels of society. Their perspectives can help inform policies, legislation, and governance structures by considering long-term consequences and the well-being of future generations. Including elders in decision-making processes ensures that their wisdom is utilized for the benefit of society as a whole.

The General interpretations of History and its Functions in the Society

According to Evans, (1999) History plays a crucial role in human society, providing numerous benefits that contribute to the understanding of the past, present, and future. The study of history allows societies to gain insights into the actions, decisions, and events that have shaped our immediate environment and world. By examining the past, we can learn from both the successes and failures of previous generations, enabling societies to make informed choices and create a better future. In agreement with Evans' view, Gaddis, J (2002) considered the following as some of the key benefits of history to the human society:

Understanding our origins and identity: History helps societies to understand where they come from and how the societies have evolved over time, through the study of the past, the younger ones trace the origins of their cultures, traditions, institutions, and beliefs. This knowledge provides a sense of identity and belonging, allowing individuals and communities to connect with their roots and heritage. Understanding their origins also fosters a sense of unity among diverse groups by highlighting shared experiences and commonalities.

Learning from the past: History serves as a valuable teacher by offering lessons from the successes and failures of previous generations. Through the study of historical events, individuals gain insights into human behavior, decision-making processes, and the consequences of various actions. This knowledge helps societies to avoid repeating past mistakes and guides the people in making informed choices for the future. However, by analyzing historical patterns and trends, members of the society identify potential challenges and develop strategies to address them effectively.

Developing Critical Thinking Skills: The study of history encourages critical thinking skills by requiring analysis, interpretation, evaluation, and synthesis of complex information. Historians must examine multiple perspectives, evaluate sources for reliability and bias, and construct coherent narratives based on available evidence. Engaging with historical material enhances analytical reasoning, problem-solving abilities, and the capacity to think critically about different viewpoints. These skills are transferable to various aspects of life, such as

decision-making in personal relationships or evaluating information in contemporary contexts.

Promoting Empathy and Tolerance: History provides opportunities to understand and empathize with diverse cultures, societies, and individuals. By examining the experiences of different groups throughout history, we can develop a broader perspective and cultivate empathy towards others. This understanding fosters tolerance, respect, and appreciation for cultural diversity, reducing prejudice and promoting social cohesion. History also highlights the consequences of discrimination, injustice, and intolerance, encouraging societies to strive for equality and human rights.

Preserving Collective Memory: History serves as a repository of collective memory, ensuring that important events, achievements, and struggles are not forgotten. By preserving the past, history allows us to honor the contributions of previous generations and acknowledge their impact on our present lives. Collective memory is essential for maintaining cultural heritage, identity, and a sense of continuity across generations. It also provides a foundation for constructing national narratives and shaping collective identities.

Informing Policy-Making and Decision-Making: Historical knowledge is crucial for policymakers and decision-makers in various fields. By studying historical precedents and patterns, policymakers can gain insights into the long-term consequences of different policies and actions. History helps identify successful strategies and approaches that can be replicated or adapted to address contemporary challenges. Additionally, historical analysis provides context for understanding current events and trends, enabling policymakers to make more informed decisions based on a deeper understanding of the past.

Elders and the Sustenance of History in Nkoro Kirika Society

Kerene (2023) In Nkoro Kirika traditional society, elders have played a vital role in preserving and transmitting cultural knowledge, customs, and traditions from one generation to the next. The functions of elders in the sustenance of history in Nkoro Kirika society are comprehensive and extensive, which are broadly categorized into the following key areas:

Preservation of Cultural Heritage: Elders are the primary custodians of their community's cultural heritage, including its history, customs, traditions, and beliefs. They pass down this knowledge to younger generations through storytelling, oral histories, and other forms of cultural expression. By doing so, they help to preserve the community's unique identity and sense of self.

According to Dokubo (2023 oral source) Nkoro Kirika elders serve as cultural custodians, ensuring the continuity of traditions, customs, and values from one generation to another, because they possess deep-rooted knowledge about the Kingdom's cultural heritage, such as rituals, ceremonies, folklore, and traditional practices. They also passing on this cultural knowledge to younger generations, and help to maintain sense of identity and connection the younger generation to their past.

Maintenance of Social Order: Elders often play a key role in maintaining social order and resolving conflicts within the community. They provide guidance and counsel to individuals and families, and help to mediate disputes and disagreements. By doing so, they help to maintain social harmony and prevent conflicts from escalating into more serious problems.

Spiritual and Religious Leadership: In Nkoro Kirika traditional societies, elders are also spiritual and religious leaders, providing guidance and wisdom to the communities on matters of faith and spirituality. They lead religious ceremonies and rituals, and provide counsel to individuals and families on matters of faith and spirituality.

Preservation of Traditional Knowledge: Nkoro Kirika elders are often the keepers of traditional knowledge and skills, such as herbal medicine, fishing techniques, and other forms of practical wisdom. They pass this knowledge down to younger generations, ensuring that it is not lost over time.

Community Eldership: Elders in Nkoro Kirika are often elected or chosen to serve as community leaders via their various War Canoe Houses. They provide guidance and direction to the communities and the Kingdom at large. They serve as heads of War Canoe House units known as “Furu or Borotubo” (families), and

play a key role in decision-making and problem-solving In the “Furu or Borotubo” (families) to the War Canoe Houses and finally to the larger society Kirike se.

Preservation of History: Nkoro Kirika elders are often the keepers of the community's history, and are responsible for passing down this knowledge to younger generations. They keep historical records, such as oral histories, and provide context and perspective on important events and traditions to enable the younger generation to benefit.

Cultural Revitalization: Elders in Nkoro Kirika plays key role in cultural revitalization. They helping to revive and restore Nkoro Kirika traditional practices and customs that have been lost or forgotten over time, by doing so, they help to ensure the kingdom of its cultural heritage.

Contextualizing Historical Events: Elders in Nkoro Kirika provide a unique perspective on historical events as they have lived through different periods and witnessed societal changes firsthand. Their personal experiences offer valuable insights into the context, emotions, and impact of significant events. By sharing their stories and perspectives, elders contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of history beyond what can be found in textbooks or official records.

Moral Guidance: Nkoro Kirika elders often possess a strong sense of ethics and moral values shaped by their life experiences. They can offer guidance based on historical lessons learned from past mistakes or successes. Their wisdom helps younger generations navigate complex moral dilemmas and make informed decisions by drawing upon historical examples.

Intergenerational Bonding: Nkoro Kirika elders function in the exchange of knowledge between generations fosters intergenerational bonding and strengthens social cohesion within communities. When elders share their historical knowledge with younger individuals, it creates a sense of respect, appreciation, and connection. This intergenerational exchange promotes empathy, understanding, and a shared sense of identity.

Validation of Identity: Elders play a crucial role in validating the historical identity of marginalized communities or groups. By sharing their stories and experiences, they contribute to the recognition and acknowledgement of their community's historical contributions, struggles, and achievements. This validation helps combat historical erasure or misrepresentation and promotes a more inclusive understanding of history.

Inspiration for Future Generations: Elders serve as role models and sources of inspiration for younger generations. By sharing their life stories and the challenges they have overcome, they instill resilience, determination, and a sense of possibility in younger individuals. This inspiration can motivate future generations to learn from history, strive for positive change, and contribute to society.

Based on this testimonies testified concerning the functions of elders in the sustenance of history in Nkoro Kirika society it therefore obvious to say that Nkoro Kirika elders indeed play a vital role in preserving and transmitting cultural knowledge, maintaining social order, providing spiritual and religious leadership, and preserving traditional knowledge and skills. However, in fulfillment of these functions, Nkoro Kirika elders has succeeded to ensure the continuity of their societal cultural heritage and identity, which has play a key role in the social, spiritual, and cultural development of future generations.

Challenges Associated with Elders and the Sustenance of History in Nkoro Kirika Society

Okerenwo (2015) the sustenance of history in society is crucial for the preservation and transmission of knowledge, culture, and identity from one generation to another. Elders play a significant role in this process as they possess a wealth of knowledge and life experiences that contribute to the collective memory of a community or society. However, there are several challenges associated with elders and the sustenance of history in society.

Loss of oral tradition: One of the primary challenges is the loss of oral tradition. Historically, Nkoro Kirika society is an ancient society that relies on oral storytelling as a means of passing down historical events, cultural practices, and

traditions. And as such, Nkoro Kirika elders were often the custodians of these stories, possessing detailed knowledge about the Kingdom's past. However, with modernization and the advent of technology, oral tradition has significantly declined. Younger generations of Nkoro Kirika are increasingly disconnected from their cultural heritage, leading to a loss of historical knowledge.

Language barriers: Language plays a crucial role in transmitting history and culture. Nkoro Kirika elders possess knowledge that is specific to the native language or dialect of the Nkoro Kirika people known as "Kirikaye". However, as younger generations Nkoro Kirika become more influenced by globalized cultures and dominant languages like the "English language", there is a risk of Nkoro Kirika society losing her indigenous languages and dialects. This language barrier hinders effective communication between elders and younger individuals, making it challenging to transfer historical information accurately.

Technological divide: The rapid advancement of technology has created a digital divide between generations in Nkoro Kirika Kingdom. While younger individuals are more adept at using digital tools and platforms for accessing information, many elders struggle with technology or lack access to it altogether. This divide limit the ability of the elders to document or share historical information through digital means such as social media platforms or online archives to the younger generation whereby leading to loss of some of Nkoro Kirika indigenous history.

Changing societal values: Societal values and priorities have shifted over time, which impact is overwhelming and occupied an importance placed on preserving history. In the cases of Nkoro Kirika traditional practices and customs, is currently devalued or considered irrelevant by the younger generations who prioritize modernization and progress. This shift in values has led to a lack of interest or appreciation for the historical knowledge held by elders, making it challenging to sustain history in Nkoro Kirika society.

Memory loss and mortality: As elders age, they experience memory loss or cognitive decline, which affects their ability to recall historical events accurately. This challenge is particularly significant when it comes to oral history, as the accuracy and detail of information diminishes over time. Additionally, the

mortality of elders in Nkoro Kirika has poses a risk of losing valuable historical knowledge since the younger ones are not interested in collection and reconstruction of their history, there were no adequately documented or passed on history before the passing on of the elders.

Benefits Associated with Elders in the Sustenance of History in Nkoro Kirika Society

Papa Dopa (2019 oral source) there several benefits associated with elders in the sustenance of history in Nkoro Kirika society. The presence of elders in historical discourse promotes intergenerational dialogue and understanding. It helps bridge the gap between different age groups, fostering empathy and respect for diverse perspectives. This inclusivity is crucial for a healthy societal growth, as it ensures that decisions are made with the interests of all members of society in mind hence the benefits will be discussed on political, social and economic bases.

The Political Benefits Associated with Elders in the Sustenance of History in Nkoro Kirika Society

The political benefits associated with elders in the sustenance of history in society are numerous and significant. In Nkoro Kirika, elders play a crucial role in preserving and passing down historical knowledge, which is essential for the development and stability of a society. The wisdom, experience, and perspective contribute to the political landscape in several ways.

Elders Serve as Living Repositories of Historical Memory; They possess firsthand knowledge of past events, traditions, and cultural practices that have shaped the Nkoro Kirika society they belong to. Sharing their experiences and stories, they provide valuable insights into the historical context of political decisions and actions. This helps young traditional rulers, policymakers and leaders in Nkoro Kirika Kingdom to make informed choices based on a deeper understanding of their society's past.

Elders Act as Custodians of Cultural Heritage: History is not just about politics; it encompasses all aspects of a society's identity, including its art, language, customs, and values. Elders often hold traditional knowledge that is passed down through generations, ensuring the preservation of cultural practices that might

otherwise be lost over time. This cultural continuity strengthens social cohesion and provides a sense of belonging for individuals within the community.

Elders Serve as Mediators and Advisors in Political Matters. Elders accumulated life experience and wisdom makes them valuable sources of guidance for decision-makers. They offer alternative perspectives, challenge assumptions, and provide nuanced insights into complex issues. the Nkoro Kirika society values the rich knowledge of elder is valuable, such that they respected and consult, their input and this has help foster more inclusive and effective governance in the Kingdom.

Elders Act as Mentors for Younger Generations: elders nurture future leaders and instilling important values such as respect, integrity, and empathy by passing down historical knowledge and wisdom to the next generation, they ensure the continuity of political traditions while also encouraging innovation and progress. This intergenerational exchange fosters a sense of responsibility among younger individuals in Nkoro Kirika Kingdom to carry forward the legacy of their society.

Social Benefits Associated with Elders in the Sustenance of History in Nkoro Kirika Society

According to Jubonye (2023 oral source) the social benefits associated with elders in the sustenance of history in Nkoro Kirika society are numerous and significant. According to him, elders play a crucial role in preserving and passing down historical knowledge, traditions, and cultural practices to younger generations. Their wisdom, experiences, and firsthand accounts provide valuable insights into the past, helping to shape a collective understanding of history and fostering a sense of identity and continuity within Kingdom. Hence admit and outline the following as the social benefits associated with elders in the sustenance of history in Nkoro Kirika society.

Preserving Cultural Heritage: Elders are often the keepers of cultural heritage within Nkoro Kirika society. They possess deep knowledge of traditional customs, rituals, languages, arts, and crafts that have been passed down through generations. They sharing this knowledge with younger members of the community to ensure the preservation of cultural heritage and prevent its loss over

time. This helps to maintain a sense of identity and pride among individuals and communities.

Transmitting Historical Knowledge: Elders in Nkoro Kirika Kingdom serve as living repositories of historical knowledge. However, based on their age, they have witnessed significant events, societal changes, and indigenous technological advancements throughout their lives. They share these personal experiences and stories to the younger generation with the aim of providing unique perspectives on historical events that cannot be found in textbooks or official records to the future generation. This oral tradition of storytelling allows for a more nuanced understanding of history and helps to bridge the gap between past and present.

Mentoring Future Generations: Elders possess a wealth of wisdom gained through a lifetime of experiences. Through this historical knowledge, they offer guidance, advice, and mentorship to younger generations, helping them navigate life's challenges based on lessons learned from the past. This intergenerational exchange fosters mutual respect, empathy, and understanding between different age groups within society. It also promotes a sense of interconnectedness and solidarity across generations.

Promoting Intergenerational Bonding: The presence of elders in Nkoro Kirika society has helped to foster an intergenerational bond and strengthen family ties. Through regular interactions with the elderly like grandparents or older relatives, the younger Nkoro Kirika individuals develop a deeper appreciation for their family history and lineage. This connection to the past creates a sense of belonging and provides a strong foundation for personal and social development.

Enhancing Decision-Making: Elders bring a wealth of life experience and wisdom to decision-making processes within families, communities, and even at the Nkoro Kirika se-kobiri (general assembly) level. Their standpoint helps to ensure that decisions are informed by historical context, long-term consequences, and a broader understanding of societal values. By including the wealth of knowledge of elders in the decision-making processes, which is beneficial to the Nkoro Kirika society in the areas of avoiding the repeat of past mistakes.

Promoting Emotional Well-being: The presence of elders in Nkoro Kirika society has contributed to the emotional well-being of individuals, particularly the younger persons. Being valued and respected for the knowledge and experiences enhances the elders self-esteem and sense of purpose. Additionally, the intergenerational relationships fostered through interactions with younger generations provide emotional support, companionship, and a sense of belonging, reducing feelings of isolation and loneliness.

Economic Benefits Associated with Elders in the Sustenance of History in Nkoro Kirika Society.

Owuaru (2015 oral source) opined that, Elders in Nkoro Kirika possess a wealth of knowledge and experiences that contribute to the preservation of cultural heritage as the keepers of traditional practices, customs, and stories that have been passed down through generations. This historical values of Nkoro Kirika elders has strong economic values which are as follows

Preservation of cultural heritage: one of the economic values of Nkoro Kirika elders in the sustenance of history is this preservation of cultural heritage which is not only important for maintaining a sense of identity and belonging within a society but also for economic growth. Owuaru added that Cultural heritage attracts tourists, stimulates cultural tourism, and generates revenue for local economies. Visitors are often interested in experiencing authentic traditions like the fish festival, which elders provide valuable insights into.

Transfer of Skills and Knowledge: Nkoro Kirika elders overtime via their historical knowledge possess a lifetime skills and knowledge that they passed on to the younger generations. In Nkoro Kirika society, crafts, trades, or professions have been practiced for centuries, and elders are often the last remaining experts in these fields. However, through the historical oral transmission, the elders transfer this skills and knowledge to the younger individuals and this contribute to the continuity of traditional industries and professions. This transfer ensures that valuable skills are not lost over times, which have positive economic impacts by preserving unique craftsmanship, promoting local industries, and fostering innovation.

Mentorship and Guidance: the transmissions of oral history, enables elders to play a crucial role in providing mentorship and guidance to younger individuals in various aspects of life, including career choices, personal development, and decision-making. This mentorship has economic benefits because it helps the younger individuals to make valid choices regarding education, training, and career paths. The elder's knowledge in history and their willingness in transmitting the knowledge help the younger ones to draw on their own experiences and wisdom, because the wisdoms offer valuable advice that lead to more successful outcomes for the younger generation. This guidance contributes to the overall productivity and success of the younger individuals in Nkoro Kirika society, ultimately benefiting the economy as a whole.

Social Cohesion and Intergenerational Bonds: The presence of elders in Nkoro Kirika society fosters social cohesion and strengthens intergenerational bonds. Nkoro Kirika elders often serve as a source of wisdom, stability, and guidance within families and communities. This intergenerational connection is essential for maintaining social harmony and a sense of belonging. When elders are respected and valued, it creates a supportive environment where individuals feel more connected to their roots and are more likely to contribute positively to society. This social cohesion has economic benefits by promoting cooperation, trust, and collaboration within the Nkoro Kirika communities, leading to increased productivity and innovation.

Conclusion

Elder refers to someone who is older in age or has reached an advanced stage of life. They are often respected and revered for their wisdom, experience, and leadership qualities. Elders are found in various contexts, including family dynamics, indigenous tradition, and religious organizations. The political benefits associated with elders in the sustenance of history in society are manifold. Their role as custodians of historical memory, cultural heritage, and mentors for future leaders contributes to informed decision-making, social cohesion, and intergenerational dialogue. Recognizing and valuing the wisdom and experience of elders is essential for the development and stability of any society. It is obvious that, elders play a vital role in the sustenance of history in Nkoro Kirika society by preserving cultural heritage, transmitting historical knowledge, mentoring future

generations, promoting intergenerational bonding, enhancing decision-making processes, and contributing to emotional well-being. Their wisdom and experiences are invaluable resources that help shape collective memory, foster a sense of identity, and promote social cohesion within communities. The economic benefits associated with elders in the sustenance of history in society are diverse and substantial. From preserving cultural heritage to transferring skills and knowledge, providing mentorship and guidance, fostering social cohesion, and stimulating consumer spending, elders play a vital role in contributing to the economic well-being of the Nkoro Kirika society. Therefore, elders are of utmost importance in society due to their wisdom, experience, cultural preservation, role modeling, emotional support, bridging generational gaps, and contribution to decision-making processes. Their unique perspective and accumulated knowledge make them invaluable assets to individuals, families, communities, and Nkoro Kirika kingdom at large.

References

Primary Sources (Oral Interview)

Name	AGE	Occupation	Place of Interview	Date of Interview
Jubunye Tugwell	50	Retired Army Officer	Nkoro Town	20/10/2022
Pa Okerenkwo Gad	101	Opu Senibo	Nkoro Town	1/1/2015
Kerene Riginal	50	Elder	Port Harcourt	21/9/2023
Owuaru	7 8	Elder	Okirika Okirika, Residence	1/10/2015
Papa Dopa	7 9	Elder	Nkoro Town	4/1/2019
Dokubo Chiniaka	4 7	Civil Servant	Nkoro Town	12/8/2022

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