

Ondo Community illuminated after 200 years

By [Damisi Ojo](#), The Nation.

When the Dr Olusegun Mimiko-led administration came on board two and a half years ago, one of his major areas of focus was to ensure that communities in darkness got electricity.

The state government has committed a lot to the renewed effort to ensure that rural communities are connected to the national grid.

One of such communities is Imafon in Akure North Local Government Area where whose residents have never had the opportunity of living under the illumination of electricity since it was founded over 200 years ago.

However, the story is now different for the 5,000 inhabitants of Imafon community as the people for the first time on December 24, 2011 had the opportunity of enjoying electricity in the agrarian community. That day, the community was lit up as the switches were flicked on after being connected to the national grid by the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN).

According to the traditional ruler of the community, the *Olumafon*, Samuel Aliu Adegbehingbe, the project started in 2003 with the erection of poles, wiring and installation of a transformer which later became faulty due to a long delay before connection of the 33KVA line to the national grid.

He explained that after being abandoned for five years, the project contractor resurfaced in 2008 to carry out massive replacements of the bad equipment which took three years to complete before it was finally switched on.

Adegbehingbe expressed the community's satisfaction with the performance of the Dr Olusegun Mimiko administration in the area of provision of infrastructural facilities as well as rapid and even development of communities in the community and the state.

Some of the inhabitants of Imafon community could not hide their joy over the development and showered praises on the state government for the fulfillment of its electioneering promises especially its efforts to promote commerce through the market revolution and women empowerment.

They also remarked that the provision of electricity in Imafon will, among other advantages, open up the community to the outside world as well as lift up the commercial, economic and social life of the community.