

**Title of Article:** From Home Owners Perspective, “*Ikun* Concept” Of Design in Benin, Nigeria: Some Like It Some Don’t

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**Abstract:** The Benin domestic courtyard design is as old as when Benin kingdom was founded in 40 BC. The Edos built huge mud houses and the *Oba* (king) lived in large extended palace that was compare to Amsterdam, Netherlands in size. The “*Ikun* concept” of designs (*Oto-eghodo Design*) was and is constructed based on cultural considerations, ornamentations and sizes of houses were determined based on the socio-political status of owners, though the concept, style and construction method might be the same. The Edo socio-political structure determines categories of home owners and arrangement/location of courtyard house types across Benin City. This includes: home for slaves, commoners/poor, nobles, chiefs, tradition doctors, chief priest, *Enigies’s* palace, *Oba’s* palace and shrines for gods. The paper highlights the quality of internal spaces and design of traditional courtyard house in order to analyse and document the value and relevance from home owners/household heads perspective. The research employed qualitative and quantitative approaches (questionnaire, interviews guide, architectural plan documentation and observation). It is expected that the result from the study would help shape the orientation and understanding of home providers/architects/builders in house provision.

**Keywords:** Home Owners, Home Owners Perspective, Courtyard Design, User Preference and “*Ikun* Concept”