



A History of the Republic of Biafra

The Republic of Biafra lasted for less than three years, but the war over its secession would contort Nigeria for decades to come. Samuel Fury Childs Daly examines the history of the Nigerian Civil War and its aftermath from an uncommon vantage point – the courtroom. Wartime Biafra was glutted with firearms, wracked by famine, and administered by a government that buckled under the weight of the conflict. In these dangerous conditions, many people survived by engaging in fraud, extortion, and armed violence. When the fighting ended in 1970, these survival tactics endured, even though Biafra itself disappeared from the map. Based on research using an original archive of legal records and oral histories, Daly catalogues how people navigated conditions of extreme hardship on the war front and shows how the conditions of the Nigerian Civil War paved the way for the long experience of crime that followed.

SAMUEL FURY CHILDS DALY is Assistant Professor of African and African American Studies, History, and International Comparative Studies at Duke University. A historian of twentieth-century Africa, he is the author of articles in journals including *Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History*, *African Studies Review*, and *African Affairs*.

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Law, Crime, and the Nigerian Civil War

SAMUEL FURY CHILDS DALY
Duke University



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To my parents

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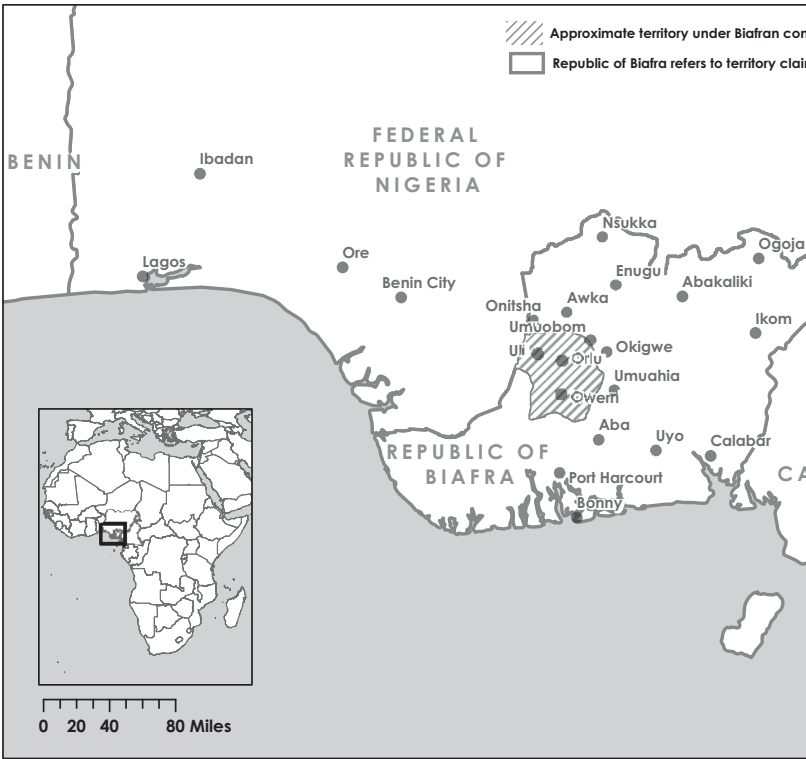
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Map 0.1 Map of the Republic of Biafra