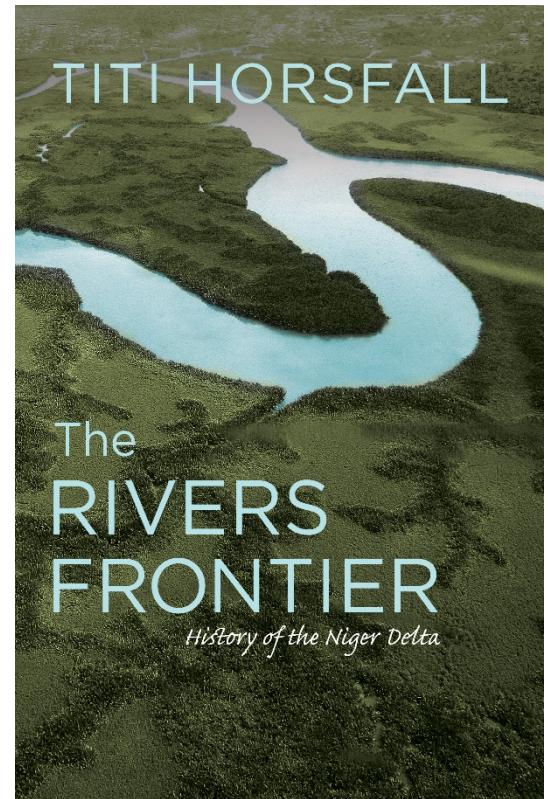


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THE RIVERS FRONTIER

HISTORY OF THE NIGER DELTA
TITI HORSFALL



The Rivers Frontier is a historic work on the Rivers State indigenes of Nigeria's Eastern Niger Delta. It encapsulates their journey from the earliest records to the present. This book details their early encounters with Europeans; views on their settlements, languages, and culture; their kings and leaders of the pre-colonial, colonial, post-colonial, and modern eras; as well as highlights from these periods.

Through the centuries, the land of the Eastern Niger Delta has remained an economic jewel. Each succeeding global economic demand has been matched with more than proportionate availability. The Rivers Frontier is a history book with a modern twist that will enable its readers to connect with the past by acknowledging the sacrifices and heroic deeds previously made, and stir a contemplation of the future, with the understanding that the world we have today is ours to preserve for those yet to come.

For more info please contact media@deeperiverbooks.com

Deep River
B O O K S

About the Author

TITI HORSFALL



Titi Horsfall is avidly invested in history, and has written multiple works, both fiction and nonfiction, inspired by her passion for it. Her previous novels – *From an Orphan to a Queen*; *Esther*, *Influence of a King*, and short story, *Fancy Loma* are tales of historic conquest and the triumph of love. She has an undergraduate marketing degree, a masters in banking and

finance, and an MBA in oil and gas management (Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen). She has been the recipient of the 2016 African Literature Prize, the Deep River Books merit award, and PR Times Africa Magazine 2017 Nominee CSR Award for Societal Change Agent Through African Literature. In both heart and profession, she is a communicator. She makes good use of this skill, creatively conveying historical facts through a variety of mediums.

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Suggested Interview Questions

For Titi Horsfall, author of

The Rivers Frontier

History of the Niger Delta

Q: What is the motivation for *The Rivers Frontier*?:

A: The Niger Delta society is a case for Africa's development. Getting leadership and society to deepen value for humanity through tolerance, love, and collective will for a better tomorrow is needed.

Q: What impression would you want to leave with your readers?

A: All lives matter. While history sets a tone for the future, everyone has a role in shaping the desired outcome. The least and mightiest in any jurisdiction of life shape the affairs of the world in every conceivable measure. Our faith, global consciousness, historical heritage, women's rights and child/youth development should be a norm in our day-to-day interactions.

Q: What is your fascination with history?

A: History is a lesson on life! It is an exploration of the mindset and actions that have shaped the course of generations. I am awestruck about the past...great wonders that would seem near impossible to replicate, the birthing of something new within an era as well as the uniqueness of every age. Chronological knowledge of our simulated historical experiences provides rich fodder for survival and wise advancement.

Q: Does *The Rivers Frontier* fill any historical gaps?

A: I think it does. Let me quote Professor Cooney whom I interviewed while writing *The Rivers Frontier*: "Unfortunately, that early idea that our history is in the past has been subsumed by our modern concerns of survival and livelihood occupations. I believe that in our schools now, we should try to have teachers that would rekindle that interest, and in our public discourse, we should also try to rekindle the enthusiasm to know where we came from, why we are doing what we are doing, and how our lives have been shaped by the past. I think that is a challenge that is facing us"

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Q: What is the target audience?

A: The text is primarily aimed at leadership - politicians, administrators, youth groups, policy makers, and intellectuals. Scholars, researchers, academicians, historians, investors, and lovers of African literature would also find the book very useful.

Q: What were the biggest challenges and triumphs in writing *The Rivers Frontier*?

A: *The Rivers Frontier* is the most challenging literary work I have undertaken, thus far. Due to the nature of the project; researching on society versed in oral tradition and restrained on recorded work required I obtain copyrights for selected works. The triumph? Writing this book was an ethical obligation and a sacrifice of love.

Q: Which among all the historical characters you captured in *The Rivers Frontier* most fascinates you and why?

A: King Edward Pepple 1 of Grand Bonny is a historical personality that won my heart. Following his return from exile to England, he was desirous to replicate the good things he observed in the western world. He believed and desired greatness for his people. Unfortunately, things did not turn out as he planned, but he nonetheless, was a peace loving king who opened his kingdom to Christianity.

Q: What pertinent message do you wish to convey through *The Rivers Frontier*?

A: While the book is centred on the people of the Niger Delta, the underlying message is a clarion call for the dignity of the black race and Africa's development. Human beings were created intentionally by God for a purpose, and people have their dignity of self to be preserved and rights to be respected.

I am passionate about gender equality and women's rights. The creation of mankind is less about the sequence of appearing but more about the final outcome – male and female; differing but complementary.

Q: Is there an emotional yearning that *The Rivers Frontier* fulfills?

A: It is my prayer that the rays of the sun would always filter through to shine on this place; as it has done in the past half a century since its recognition as a State, and indeed hundreds of years earlier. I hope that while acknowledging the gifts of nature the region has been so

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bountifully endowed with, the people would safeguard the future for generations yet unborn and deposit more historical treasures.

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