In June, 2013, in Cote d'Ivoire, Offuh James OFFUH, president and founder of the NGO United for Peace Against Conflict International (ONG UFPACI), drove with a small UFPACI team 400 km from Abidjan to facilitate historic relationship-building and ethnic, religious, and tribal healing



between the Dozos and Guerre people, deeply divided since brutal 2011 post-election slayings. This is Part #1 describing the June 2013 Guerre-Dozos healing, and <u>part of the larger Cote d'Ivoire success story</u>.

The venue was the broadcast center of Radio Voix du Guemon in Duekoue, at the heart of the March 2011 death and destruction after which no institution, organization, or government agency had even attempted to



facilitate reconciliation between the Dozos and their Malinke allies, and the Guerre and other ethnic groups. Most Cote d'Ivoire citizens including Guerre and Dozos practice traditional animist culture and religion, while 25 percent are Muslims and 12 percent Christians.



Part 1: Conference Opening at Radio Voix du Guemon in Duekoue





Animist Dozos doing traditional dancing upon arrival at the conference venue, Radio Duekoue la voix du Guemon, in Duekoue.





Guerre-Wee and Malinke men standing side-by-side for the first time.

(L to R) 1. Malinke man 2. Saturnin DEAGOUL (Guerre Animist) 3. Malinke man 4. Malinke man 5. Kbazai Bernard DIE (Guerre Christian and conference MC)

Hossie and Kbazai (in white shirts) were transformed by the earlier March 2013 Duekoue conference. They became dedicated UFPACI peacebuilders responsible for securing planning meetings with all the community chiefs that made this historic gathering possible.





Mr. Balla DEMBELE, Dozos president, welcomed by Offuh James OFFUH, conference creator.



Women's Association of Duekoue being registered before entering conference hall.



Jean Emile V. NKIRANUYE, United Nations Civil Affairs Officer, a Rwandan, welcomed at the venue.



The original conference T-shirt: "An enemy is one whose story we have not heard."





The Dozoas president and group sat separately upon entering the conference hall, with the Wee-Guerres across the aisle.





Each participant is gifted the original conference T-shirt who front side reads: "You and Me Listening in Dialogue."





MC Kbazai Bernard DIE introducers the facilitators, and Offuh James OFFUH describes the context, motives, and principles of the conference for communication skills, healing, and community building.





Dozos men participating in the ice-breaker Name Game exercise, to hear what the people's personal names mean to them.









Guerre-Wee men participating in the Name Game ice-breaker to increase familiarity in the room.





Guerre-Wee chief is sitting side-by-side with the Dozos president. All participants are now sitting with someone different from themselves.





L'ONG UFPACI (UNITED FOR PEACE AGAINST CONFLICT INTERNATIONAL)

En collaboration avec Jewish - Palestinian Living Room Dialogue Group California USA Vous souhaites la Bienvenue à la conférence de la Jeunesse sur le dialogue interculturel

Bâtir des relations intercommunautaires à travers Thème:

le dialogue interculturel avec la participation de la jeunesse

Objectif: Former des défenseurs de la Paix.

Unité - Justice - Education

06 BP 1741 Abidj 06 / Siège social: Cocody-Angré Abidjan-Côte d'Ivoire Tél: 225 055 070 18 / 41 19 08 82 / E-mail: ufpacioffice@gmail.com / N°071/PA

On the venue wall is the banner describing the Africa-USA collaboration to create this conference by the Cote d'Ivoire non-profit ONG UFPACI and the 20-year-old Jewish-Palestinian Living Room Dialogue in California.





The Name Game ice-breaker allowed both youth and adults to begin new acquaintances in a safe atmosphere.







Mr. Joseph HONDE, chief of the Guezon village, Guerre ethnics of Duekoue, sits side by side with Dozos man cooperating for the first time participating together.



Jean Emile V. NKIRANUYE, United Nations Civil Affairs Officer and a Rwandan national.



Mr Adama DEMBELLE, chief of the Senoufo community of Duekuoe, tells the room the meaning of his name to Mr Zehia DENISA, Guerre ethnic village chief.

This is Part #1 of the June 2013 Guerre-Dozos healing, and part of the larger Cote d'Ivoire success story.