

IFA IWA (Lesson 4) *Afose* vscript

Greetings: *Oriire fun owo!* (Good Tidings to you!)

I pray that you are feeling awake, aware, and elevated in mind, body, and spirit wherever you are, and whatever may be happening around you!

Ase! Ase! Ase o!

I am *Baba Umar, Oluranse Emese, (Voice of the Emese), Member of the Isoro Traditional Council of Chiefs, and Babalawo of Ile Awo Orisa.*

We're continuing our discussions on *Ifa Iwa*, with the intention of assisting you to establish your own regular *Ifa Practice*.

Our topic for this lesson is: **Understanding *Afose*** (*Ifa* Divination)

This video will be relatively short because I've provided additional information in another video titled, ***On Consulting Ifa and Completing Your Ebos***. You'll find a link to that lesson in the **Blog Gallery for May 2021** on the website and below in the description.

Afose* is *Ifa* divination.** We cannot overstate the importance of ***Afose in the ***Ifa Tradition of Orisa and Ancestor Worship***. It is through the process of ***Ifa*** divination that the ***babalawo*** (or devotee) is able:

- to know the will of heaven,
- to know the will of their ***Ori***, and
- to gain guidance into the way forward under any circumstances.

It is ***Afose*** that allows you to verify that the prayers you made, and the messages you perceived during your ***Isha'ro*** (your period of meditation) are indeed in line with the will of your ***Ori*** (your god).

You may divine on small matters using the ***Obi*** method (casting kola nuts or cowry shells), while the ***babalawo*** may use a combination of ***Opele*** (the divining chain) and ***Obi*** to arrive at the truth revealed by ***Odu Ifa***.

In using the ***Obi*** method you can get a range of five possible responses to questions asked in a straightforward **yes** or **no** format. By understanding the **cosmology** of ***Odu Ifa***, the meaning of each of the responses, and their ***Orisa*** correspondences,

the devotee (or the *babalawo*) is able to obtain the deeper and broader significance of the responses.

In establishing the *Ose Ifa* ritual of celebrating and feeding your *Egun* and *Orisa* on every *Ojo Ose*, and casting *Obi*, during each ritual, you are *Huwa Ifa*, practicing the basic elements of *Ifa*; in the sense that you are repeating an action and its accompanying skills in order to transform them into *Ifa Iwa* (the lifestyle of the transformed being), a new way of being in the world based on *Odu Ifa*.

This lesson is just a brief overview. We will be exploring the **Cosmology of Odu Ifa** in greater detail when we begin discussing the actual *Ose Ifa* ritual.

***Ki Olodumare, Orisa, ati Egun fifun e ni
Itona, Imoye, ati Opo Ire!***

My Olodumare, Orisa, and Ancestors bestow on you
Guidance, Wisdom, and Abundant Blessings!

Ifokanbole! Peace of Mind from *Olodumare!*

Ajolo Ajobo! We go out together; We return together!

Ase! Ase! Ase o!

(See Video Lesson 4 for detailed discussion.)