

P03_3_2019_One God_Pt2_Oja (March 2024 Release)

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!

Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ o!

I'm Baba Umar, Oluranse Emese, (Voice of the Emese), Member of the Isoro Traditional Council of Chiefs in Ile-Ife, Nigeria, Olúwo of the House of Umar, and Babaláwo of Ile Awo Òrìṣà (the House of the Mysteries of the Òrìṣàs).

Opo Ire (abundant blessings) to our *Egbé*, our online community of Subscribers that continues to grow thanks to you. Thank you for joining us for another lesson. Remember, as a member of our YouTube *Egbé* you can support each other's spiritual journey by posting your questions and uplifting comments in the Comment section below. You can also email me using the link in the Description section below if you need to connect with me on a more personal matter. Also check the Community section of this Channel for periodic messages and additional *Ifá* lessons.

If you are new to these video lessons, we invite you to go ahead and Click the Subscribe and Notification buttons, and share this resource with your family, friends, and associates. You never know whose life you may change by that simple act of sharing.

Homage to The One Who Sends, and to those who are sent!
Homage to Òrìṣà and Egun!

Our topic in this video is: The Sixteen Truths of *Ifá*, Pt. 2 / Truth (1) There is a single God! Pt. 2
L'oja – The Marketplace

In this Post we want to conclude our exploration of the First Truth of *Ifá* ("There is a single God") by understanding the vantage point from which we are trying to comprehend what lies behind our conceptualizations of God. Certainly, you have had the experience of saying to someone, 'Wow! Do you see that?' only to have them reply 'No!' But when they took a few steps to the right or to the left they were able to see what you already saw from your vantage point. So, understanding the vantage point from which we are forming our opinions about God is very important.

In the *Ifá* Spiritual Tradition there is a saying:

Aye L'oja! Orun N'ile!

The world is the marketplace! The Spirit World is Home!

A marketplace is an open space where a market is or was formerly held in a town. It is the arena of competitive or commercial dealings. Broadly speaking, a marketplace is a space set aside for the exchange of goods and services. But this kind of marketplace is just a small part of what is referred to as the *L'oja*. Where the 'marketplace' is for the exchange of good and services, the *L'oja* is the dynamic reality were thoughts, feelings, emotions, beliefs, and every other aspect of

being human are in a constant state of change and exchange. Even the very molecules, atoms, and energetic vibrations that express themselves as our experiences, are constantly involved in this process of change and exchange.

In the spirit of the marketplace, let me make you an offer, a deal. Suppose I offered to give you anything and everything your heart desires (knowledge, loving relationships, a good home, money, good health, psychic powers, and anything else you want to call into your life, anything.) In return for you accessing all these wonderful things, all you would have to do in exchange is to give me your *Orí*, your consciousness.

- *Would you make that deal?*

Hopefully your answer is no, because you realize that without consciousness, without your *Orí*, you would not be able to experience any of the things I was giving to you. It is your *Orí* that gives you the ability to perceive and experience the *L'oja*. Or we might say, the *L'oja* is in your head!

I don't usually send you to a video as part of our monthly Posts but to further understand this dynamic reality, the *L'oja*, we must look at how science, metaphysics, and spirituality are beginning to converge and reinforce some of our ancestral beliefs about the nature of the *L'oja*. So, before reading further please take the time to view these two videos. The content will put what I say about the characteristics of the *L'oja* into a broader context.

Video One: *The Illusion of time* [<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vrqmMoI0wks>]

Video Two: *The Amazing Power of Your Mind*

[<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cLqjK3ddSy0>]

16 Characteristics of the *L'oja* and the Nature of Our Experiences:

1. The *L'oja* is a marketplace that encompasses the entire Creation, as you perceive it.
2. The *L'oja* exists as part of a Unified Field of Energy.
3. Your experiences in and of the *L'oja* are mediated through the sense organs of your body.
4. Your body is not a fixed and separate 'thing' but an ever-changing probability.
5. You are not your body.
6. Since the brain is a part of the body, it is also in a constant state of change and exchange.
7. You are not your brain although you can experience and influence the activity of your brain.
8. Your mind is a result of the activity of the brain, and therefore, it is also in a constant state of vibrational flux.
9. You are not your mind.
 - Notice that when you say, 'I', whether it was when you were 6 years old, or 15, or 30, or 70 years old, your sense of 'I' always remains the same. And notice that the experience of yourself as 'I' is aware of the thought processes of your mind as if the 'I' is an observer of the mind.

10. Your mind is the seat of your physical *Orí*.

11. Your physical *Orí* is an expression of your perceptions and experiences in the *L'oja*, and your physical, mental, and emotional reactions to those perceptions and experiences.
12. Your physical *Orí* is both an ally and a potential enemy because of its ability to distort your perceptions of 'reality'. (I've discussed the concept of the Pain Body aspect of your mind in previous Posts.) (Reflect on the content in the video *The Amazing Power of Your Mind*)
13. The *L'oja* is the realm of duality and contrast.
14. When you eliminate your body, brain, and mind as your "True Self", you must conclude that the 'I' who is aware of the body, brain, and mind must be something else or of a different vibrational nature.
 - This something else is the entity that uses the *Ara Ojubo*, the body temple, this avatar, (along with all its aspects mentioned above) to create and experience the *L'oja*.
15. You, the ('I') entity knows that the *L'oja* is a 'programmed reality' orchestrated by your thoughts.
16. You (this Entity) experiences Na Wa (expansion) by contemplating and reconciling its own sense of its immaterial existence with the manifestations of the 'programmed reality'.

If we have such difficulty in agreeing on the 'slice of space-time' that we call 'Now', how can we possibly hope to agree on the identity of God as a separate and objectified 'thing'?

- For 'something' to be Omnipresent, (present everywhere and always), and separate at the same time is a contradiction.

Referring to the video, "*The Illusion of Time*", we conclude that 'God is The Universal Consciousness, The Awareness, The Sentient Energetic Entity (SEE) in which all the slices of space-time are ever-present and occurring. But, from the vantage point of the *L'oja* we cannot hope to fully comprehend the totality of what lies hidden in the concept we call 'God'.

So, in the *Ifá* Spiritual Tradition, we acknowledge that there is a single God, and we look and reach behind the veils of illusion to find those unified forces that enable us to best navigate our way through the *L'oja*. As one Babaláwo put it, "*Ifá persists because it works!*"

The *L'oja* is not a thing but a process, the process of (God) the Primordial Sentient Energetic Entity (SEE) experiencing itself as the Realm of Infinite Possibility. Every aspect of Creation, whether animate or inanimate, material, or immaterial, seen or unseen is a part of that process. *Ifá* acknowledges this as fact, and senses the presence of 'One God', 'One Source', in the *L'oja* expressing itself in and through everything. This perspective gives rise to *Isopo* (Connectivity), the sense of oneness between each manifesting individual and the entire creation.

Emi ni okan ti Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ ni ti mi, nigbagbogbo!

I am one with the *Àṣẹ*! The *Àṣẹ* is with me, always!

Emi ni okan ti Orisun! Orisun ni ti mi, nigbagbogbo!

I am one with the Source! The Source is with me, always!

There is a single God! It is manifesting in you, and you are manifesting in it!

*Ki Olódùmarè, Òrìṣà, ati Egun fifun e ni
Itona, Imoye, ati Opo Ire!*

May Olódùmarè, Òrìṣà, and Egun bestow on you,
Guidance, Wisdom, and Abundant Blessings!

Ifokanbale! Peace of Mind from Olódùmarè!

Mo gbagbo ninu ti o! I believe in you!

Ọkàn mi idojuti o ti Ife! My heart embraces you with love!

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

Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ o!