

P05_5_17_Truths_of_Ifa_Pt1_vscript (March 2022)

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 am *Baba Umar, Oluranse Emese*, (Voice of the Emese), Member of the **Isoro** Traditional Council of Chiefs, **Olúwo** of the House of Umar, and **Babaláwo** of **Ile Awo Òrìṣà**. This **Ile** (Spiritual House), our website, and these video lessons are sanctioned by the **Isoro** Traditional Council of Chiefs in **Ile-Ife, Nigeria**.

Opo Ire (abundant blessings) to our **Egbé**, our online community of Subscribers that's growing daily. Thank you for joining us for another lesson in our Video Blog Series. Remember, as a member of our **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 are new to these video lessons, we invite you to click the links below to become a **Subscriber** and member of our **Egbé**. Also, click the **Notification** button to stay up to date, and **Share** this resource with your family, friends, associates, and anyone who you feel may benefit from this wisdom.

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 1**

If our foresight was perfect, we would have no need for Faith, life could not offer us a challenge, and we could not grow! *Olódùmarè* has challenged everything and has also provided a way for everything to succeed. For the plants, animals, insects, the earth, sun, moon, and stars *Olódùmarè's* command is for them to act according to their nature, the nature in which they were created. You and I are also given the same command but our nature is more dynamic, more complex than the nature of other things. We are not separate from them but we are different in that we can make choices that no other thing can make. Because of the complexity of the human drama, *Olódùmarè* gave us a Path to follow that can assist us in avoiding, evading, deflecting, and blocking unanticipated or undesired events and circumstances. That Path is **Ifá! Ifá** is by no means the only Path, but it is the one to which our website and YouTube videos are devoted.

Let's consider the first eight of the **16 Truths of Ifá**.

(1) **There is a single God!**

There are many who draw a sharp dichotomy between the so-called **Monotheistic** (believing in One God) and so-called **Polytheistic** (believing in many Gods) spiritual traditions. In **Ifá**, as in other indigenous belief systems, there is a Single Supreme Entity. This Supreme Entity (which the word God should not be applied) then orchestrates creation through forces, agencies, and

agents. There is no real distinction to be made here. Both Monotheistic and Polytheistic religions or cultural traditions believe in an Omnipotent Sentient Source that works through forces, agencies, and agents. The indigenous belief systems however tend to acknowledge and interact more with these forces, agencies, and agents through formal and informal rituals and ceremonies. These Agents of the Source are the ones to whom we apply the term and label 'Gods'.

When people in the so-called monotheistic religions refer to God, what tends to come to their mind is the image of an anthropomorphic (man-like) being residing out there in the sky somewhere. In the *Ifá* worldview, **Olódùmarè** the Source, is the Cauldron (or Calabash) full of all of the resources and good fortune that humans and the creation need to be sustained forever.

The All-Sufficient One!
The Cauldron That Never Runs Empty!
The Source of Abundance That Can Never Be Exhausted!
The Source That Is Always Ready and Able To Provide!

Olódùmarè is the owner and Source of *Ifá* and *Ifá* is a kind of *Akasha* (*Akashic Record*).
Olódùmarè is **The Consciousness** within which and from which all else is made manifest.
Olódùmarè and the organization of creation that we call *Ifá*, is the Cauldron of All Time (*igba*), manifested and un-manifested, past, present, and future. So, we say:

Igba Olódùmarè nigba!
Olódùmarè's time is time!

(2) **There is no Devil!**

Although *Ifá* exposes and addresses all of the frailties of humans, it does not proclaim us to be born sinners or born in sin (Original Sin). Quite the opposite! The Sacred Oracles of **Odù Ifá** make it clear the humans can be grand creatures with the potential to transform into ascendant beings. We are not created to be victims of **Olódùmarè's** wrath!

Odù Ifá says of us, the **Eniyan** (Chosen Ones)

"... a wa gegebi eniyan, ...
we as human beings

a wa ni Olódùmarè yan
we are the God's elect,

lati lo tun ile aye se,
designated to renew the world,

Eni-a yan ni wa ..."
We are the chosen ones."

Aṣẹ! Aṣẹ! Aṣẹ o!

Ifá acknowledges the existence of negative forces in Creation but none of these forces or entities can function outside of the laws established by the Ultimate Source of all things, *Olódùmarè*. We are created to fulfill the legacy of creation, to choose to overcome the forgetfulness brought on by the dynamics of the *L'oja* (marketplace), and to live in harmony with the agency and agents of *Olódùmarè*. We are Divine Spiritual Beings having a physical experience according to the Will and Intention of *Olódùmarè*.

(3) **There is no Predestination!**

Except for the day you were born, the family of your birth, and the day you are supposed to die, there is no single event in your life that cannot be forecast and, when necessary, changed. That means your **fate** in this life is dependent on your **choices**. *Ifá* Divination points out to you what those choices are in any given situation. **Our common Destiny** is to live so that *Olódùmarè* can experience **the fullness of the Realm of Infinite Possibility**. Our **Fate** is the consequence of our individual choices. We each live the consequences of our choices. Our *Ori Inu* (Spiritual Head) is our guide to assist us in making good choices on our journey in this world. Our destiny is not imposed on us. It is our own *Ori Inu* that chose our destiny when it was ready to return to the world.

(4) **It is your birthright to be happy, successful, and fulfilled!**

There is the potential for good and the potential for bad in the *L'oja*. *Ifá* provides the navigational system to fulfill your birthright and achieve happiness, success, and fulfillment in this life. Remember:

Ifá ni ki isin!

Ifá is not a religion!

Ifá ni bawo aiye sise!

Ifá is how the universe works!

Ifá ni iwa ti aiye!

Ifá is the nature of the universe!

Ifá kii puro;

Ifá does not lie,

Ifá kii seke;

Ifá does not mislead or deceive;

Ohun tiyoo sele nifá nwi!

Ifá simply says what will happen!

Aṣẹ! Aṣẹ! Aṣẹ o!

Ifa says,

Ohun Ori wa se, koma ni s alai se eo!
What ***Ori*** comes to fulfill, it cannot but fulfill it!

You and I are born to be successful in fulfilling our chosen Destinies.

(5) **You should grow and obtain wisdom during the process of life!**

Creation and the life that we share are full of mysteries and layers upon layers of spiritual wisdom and temporal knowledge that embrace and reinforce each other. We are not here to waste time in foolish things. That does not mean that we should not take time out to have fun. We should! But we should also keep uppermost in our mind that **knowledge is power, and it is power that is necessary to manage a world.**

Òrìṣà Òrúnmilà (Ifá), the Keeper of the Secrets of Existence knows the nature and timing of future events. **Ifá** Divination (**Afọṣẹ**) gives us the ability to tap into that knowledge and acquire the wisdom we need to be success in life.

(6) **We are reborn through our blood relatives!**

This is one of the reasons you must pursue knowledge while on your journey. Accumulated knowledge can travel back into the world with you each time you return. **The accumulated knowledge of all of your ancestors is in your bones and is downloaded into every blood cell that is manufactured by the bone marrow.** Imagine that you could give birth to your great-great-grandfather as he returns into the world carrying the wisdom of all of his rebirths (much of it to be forgotten in the birthing process). And imagine that one day in the future one of your descendants will give birth to you as you too make your return journey. This notion helps to understand why some children seem to be so wise for their age and we often use the expression that they are an 'old soul'! It should also help us to understand why it is so important to honor, respect, and care for our **Ara Ojubo** (body temple). It is the repository of the accumulated knowledge and wisdom of our ancestors dating back over 300,000 years and beyond.

(7) **Heaven is Home, the Earth is the marketplace!**

Ifá says:

Aye L'oja, Orun N'ile!
The World is the Marketplace, The Spirit World is Home!

Our journey is cyclical between interconnected realities. We move from Home to the world and return Home again before returning to this world. We choose to come! And remember from one of our earlier lessons, we come to do our part in creating the **Good Condition** for every human being (the sacred agreement we all have with **Olódùmarè**)

(8) **We are part of the Universe (Multi-verse) in a literal, not just a figurative, way!**

In the beginning there was nothing but the **Àṣẹ, (Oro)** the Black Material of the Darkness from which all things come. It first manifested sentience and the **Àṣẹ** became self-aware, **Olódùmarè**.

From this beginning all things have come into existence according to a plan. That plan and the laws that govern it is essentially the same for all things – interconnectedness, interrelatedness, and interdependent. **There is only one reality, one existence, one consciousness, one THING manifesting itself as a multiplicity of forms.** We, you and I, are one of those forms of expression.

We'll discuss the next eight Truths next month!

Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ o!

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

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

Ifokanbole! Peace of Mind from *Olódùmarè!*

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

Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ o!