

P06_6_17_Truths_of_Ifa_Pt2_vscript (April 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: Sixteen Truths of Ifa (Part II)

Continuing from my last video let's consider the next eight of the **16 Truths of Ifá**. Remember in an earlier video I said, 'A people's culture is their entire design for living, passed down from generation to generation through learning.' These **16 Truths of Ifá** are part of the message of the Yoruba culture that have been passed down to us from our ancestors for generations.

(9) You must never initiate harm to another human being!

This applies not only to physical harm but also emotional, social, financial, or any other form of hardship. **DO NO HARM!** Remember the Sacred Agreement we have with **Olórun** to create the Good Condition for every human being (**Ìrosù Ìwòrì - Ìrosù'wòrì** 78). And, this not only applies to actions that you might take through physical agency but also to actions you might take through spiritual and metaphysical pathways. This means you should not wish, pray for, conjure, or will any form of harm to be visited upon another person. It is better to wish, pray for, conjure, or will that your 'enemy' or 'tormenter' have a **revelation of consciousness** or a **change of heart** rather than to wish harm upon them. Let **Olódumarè** and **Òrìṣà** be the judges of whether harm is the only way to deal with a soul in violation of righteous behavior. Trust that **Òrìṣà** will

protect their own! When someone acts as an enemy towards you, simply express this ancient *Ofo* (incantation):

Owó tógèdè bá gbé, ara rẹ ló fi ń nà!

“When the banana lifts its hand, it beats itself with it!”

This *Ofo* is based on an observation our ancestors made about the banana. When you peel a banana, notice how the skin of the banana flaps down and back to hit the banana. So, our ancestors used this incantation to say:

“In a bid to hurt you, your enemies will only hurt themselves!”

It is difficult for some of us to believe or conceive of the mysteries that our Ancestors brought from behind the veil. The religious world has casted a dark shadow over many of the practices of our Ancestors and much has been lost because of our experiences in contact with Western Culture. Many of us have forgotten that we have the power to affect the world - for better or worst – through the proper use of the tongue, that is the **powerful spiritual methodologies**, including *Oro Aṣẹ*, speaking **words of power** and *Ofo Aṣẹ* (**Incantations**).

(10) You must never harm the universe of which you are part!

Clearly the world has lost sight of this ancient wisdom. *Ifá* reminds us through the parables of the Sacred Corpus that humans are part of the fabric of ONE creation. The Western Cornucopia Worldview sees humans as a species apart, and the earth and other living things as being here to serve our selfish purposes. *Ifá* tells us that if we persist in that thinking we are bound to destroy ourselves and suffer greater and greater hardships on the road to that eventual destruction. We can clearly see this happening in the world today. This should be evident from the events taking place in the world today. All of the essentials of life, water, food, air, ecosystems, and biodiversity are being devastated. Humans have offended the domains of the *Òrìṣà* and the *Òrìṣà* are today acting according to the **Laws of Reciprocity**, and **Cause and Effect**. *Ifá* reflects an ecological philosophy of thought. Our ancestors grew in wisdom and designed a way of life based on a sense of *Isopo* (connectivity) with the natural environment and all of its **interrelated**, **interconnected**, and **interdependent** forces, elements, and creatures.

(11) Your Temporal and Spiritual capacities must work together!

We are designed with two hands, two feet, two eyes, two ears, two nostrils, and a mouth that serves two purposes – taking in and putting out. Likewise our hands, feet, eyes, ears, nostrils, and mouth can serve two masters – our physical *Orí* and our Spiritual *Orí*. Remember the *Ifá* saying –

Orí inu mi maba tode je!

May our Spiritual *Orí* not be in conflict with our physical *Orí*!

Of course, serving two masters can always create opportunities for conflict – in this case, inner dissonance, confusion, bad health, and poor relationships. The solution is to avoid the dissonance or resolve it in favor of your Spiritual *Orí*. When you are in doubt, when you feel dissonance, seek an answer from your Spiritual *Orí* by consulting *Ifá*. *Ifá* presents you with the choices, the

options that will lead you to success and leaves it to you to bring your physical *Orí* in line with your Spiritual *Orí* – the Carrier of Your Destiny!

(12) You are born with a specific path. It is your goal to travel it. Divination provides your road map!

You were not commanded or forced to come into the world. You chose to come in order to share in the wondrous experience of co-creation. You came to fulfill the longings of your own heart and the legacy of your ancestral lineage. In that process, you are a vehicle for **Ọlórún** to explore the Realm of Infinite Possibility. You and I are, in fact, avatars of **Orisun** (Source Energy) experiencing and expressing our ability to create a multiplicity of realities within the Realm of Infinite Possibility. The mystery for us is that most of us have, through the birthing process, forgotten that we are One with Source, and cannot be separated from It.

When **Ifá** says that '**Your Orí is your God!**' it is pointing you in the direction of this remembrance. Your Spiritual *Orí* is your Divine Share of the Universal Divine Consciousness, the Sentience of the **Aṣẹ**, your Divine Share of the Infinite Power of **Olódùmarè!** You are an **eda Olorun** (creature of God), an **Ọmọ Ọlórún** (child of God), an **iranse Ọlórún** (servant of God), in fact, a god in human form.

Discovering your **Ojo Ibi Odu** (birthing Odu, the Odu that you brought with you into the world as your navigational roadmap), your **Ọrìṣà**, being initiated, gathering items of **Ifá** from your rituals, ceremonies, and those that just come to you, calling on your *Orí*, and listening with certainty for its response, all of these are part of your Path. Your journey to fulfill your Destiny will also involve interacting with other people in the complex area of **L'oja** (the marketplace). The **L'oja** is full of noise, distractions, temptations, challenges, and obstacles. The **L'oja** is where negative and hostile forces work to destroy humans and their works by throwing confusion in our Path. **Ifá** Divination provides us with a way of escaping confusion by getting clear answers to our problems and pointing us in the direction of our **True Identity**.

(13) Our Ancestors exist and must be honored!

Each of us is part of a long chain of souls who have come into this world, lived, and died leaving behind their genetic legacy. We return to this world (by choice) through our lineage and from that perspective it is possible for you to give birth to a child who is the return of your Great-Great-Great Grandfather or Grandmother. It is by keeping the memory of our Ancestors alive in oral and written tradition and ceremonies that we are able to recognize them when they return. Although we refer to **Ifá** as the Spiritual Tradition of Ancestor and **Ọrìṣà** Worship we in fact honor our ancestors more so than worship them.

Keep in mind that there are **two categories of Ancestors**. There are our personal ancestors, those of our familial bloodline or lineage, and then there are our primordial ancestors, the beings from the sky who fostered the seeding of human beings on planet earth. The former category are the ones we honor, and this latter category of ancestors are the ones whom we worship.

Death does not end the life of a soul or limit the capacity of the soul to feel its own connection to the ongoing legacy of the lineage. Among the forces recognized in the **Ifá** Tradition, the **Egun** (Ancestors) are always considered to be a positive force in our lives, always working to our

benefit. We can choose to honor their legacy, continue its development, and to pass it on to our descendants, or we can choose to break the chain of wisdom that lies waiting to be accessed in every cell of our body temples. One of our greatest powers in this reality is our Power to Choose, to Choose to See (*orí – shà*, to choose to see).

(14) **Sacrifice guarantees success!**

In a sense, actually in fact, *Ifá* is a give and take belief system (**Law of Reciprocity**). Most of the *Ese Ifá* (verses of the *Ifá* Corpus – Sacred Odus) carry an underlying theme – Sacrifice is necessary to avoid difficulties, solve problems, achieve success, and to fulfill ones chosen destiny. The particular offerings that must be made may vary, the client for whom *Ifá* has been read may choose to follow the advice of *Ifá* or not, but sacrifice is always advised. If you understand the *Ifá* History of the Beginning that I've spoken about in previous Posts, and if you understand the significance of *Aṣẹ* (Primordial Energy, Spiritual Energy and Power) then you can understand that sacrifice is how we can move the *Aṣẹ* and alter the configuration of the Universe. That process is accomplished by making a kind of contract with the *Òrìṣà* who hold the fabric of creation together. If your *Orí* permits it, and if *Èṣù* clears the way, you will give the *Òrìṣà* something, and they will assist you in accomplishing that which you are seeking.

Consider the *Ifá* saying:

Riru ẹbọ ni i gbe ni.

Airu ki igbe eyan!

It is the offerings of sacrifice that brings blessings.

Neglect of sacrifice blesses no one!

Ojo o buru, ẹbọ nii gbe ni o!

In the days of turbulence, it is *ẹbọ* (sacrifice) that saves!

Nothing in the Universe of Creation is isolated from anything else. Everything is connected! When you ask for some aspect of your life to change, no matter how large or how small, the entire Universe of Creation will be reconfigured to accommodate your desired reality. Consider that when you eat something, your entire body is changed because every cell in your body is connected to every other cell, so whatever changes in your stomach, changes your entire anatomical and physiological universe. So it is with the greater cosmos. Remember, **whenever we change a thing, we change more than what is intended!**

(15) **The *Òrìṣà* live within us!**

Remember **Truth 8 – You are part of the universe in a literal, not figurative, way.** Yes! The universe has an existence that we can experience as out-there, and that existence has validity in your and my journey in the *L'oja*. But, there is also a universe in us, that is both an extension and a reflection of that outer universe. So it is with the *Òrìṣà*! The *Òrìṣà* are part of the sentient matrix of entities that *Olódùmarè* called into existence in order to orchestrate and sustain the creation process. They are aspects of The Unity, The One, The Eternal, The Source. Those sentient energy matrices also exist within each of us and we choose to heighten our sensitivity and

connection to one (or more) of those **Òrìṣà** at the time that we choose to come into the world (again), and further once we arrive.

There is a saying:

Aawe ati ebo ni muni ri bi Òrìṣà!
Fasting and Rituals transform us into the image of the **Òrìṣà**

There are ways in which we can choose to live our lives that will unlock latent powers within us that are just waiting for us to understand who and what we really are. (***Iwa Pele***)

(16) You need have no fear!

Trusting in the Unseen can be difficult even for those of us who are sincere believers. Trusting in **Ifá** in the face of fear is the way to eventually overcome your fears and strengthen your faith in the Unseen. Remember the story about **The Thief** that I shared in a previous video. Certainly, the man who **Ifá** told to go out and steal like his father before him was filled with fear about following **Ifá's** guidance. But he faced his fear with the support of his wife, and learned from his experience that **Ifá** does not lie and **Òrìṣà** never break their promises!

**The way is not always straight,
but you need have no fear!**

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!