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My Dear Brothers and Sisters! *Orí ire fun owo!* (Good Tidings to you!) *Itesiwaju ati Isokan* (Progress and Peace!)

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! Àse! Àse o!

Homage to The One Who Sends, and to those who are sent! Homage to *Òrìsà* and *Equn*!

Our topic in this video is: The Sixteen Truths of *Ifá*: Truth (9) – *We Must Never Initiate Harm to Another Human Being!* 

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*).

If you are new to these video lessons, we invite you to go ahead and Click the Like, Subscribe, and Notification buttons, and share this resource with your family, friends, and associates. You'll be helping our online Egbé to grow, and you never know whose life you may change by that simple act of sharing the wisdom of Ifa.

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 and for clicking that LIKE button. 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 (consultation or divination). Also check the COMMUNITY section of this Channel for periodic messages, the monthly Itadogun reading, and additional Ifá lessons.

## Let's dive in:

There are many calendars in use around the world. The Hijri Calendar, the Iranian Muslim Calendar, the Buddhist Calendar, the Chinese Calendar, and the Yoruba *Ifá* Calendar to cite a few. It's December 2024 as I am finishing up my editing and getting ready to publish this next video lesson. By the time you view this video lesson we will be in the new calendar year 2025 according to the Gregorian calendar. Today the Gregorian calendar is the internationally accepted civil calendar and is also known as the Western or Christian calendar. But it doesn't really matter what calendar we're using or what decade or year or month, or week or day, hour, minute, moment it is, does it? Does it?

The only thing! THE ONLY THING that matters are the choices that you and I make in each of those moments, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months, years, and decades to come! CHOICE! (Yiyan!) That's what we are here doing in the L'oja! We're here making choices, and all the calendars are doing, is providing a framework for us to position our choices on a horizontal timeline.

## That means:

- Choices you made in the past.
- Choices you are making in this very moment.
- Choices you are planning to make at some point in the future.

There are two timelines on the axis of time. There is the **Horizontal** timeline and the **Vertical** timeline. The Vertical timeline represents NOW (the eternal NOW), which is the only moment in which we can exercise our power to Choose.

- You made choices in the past that led to *Iyato* (contrast), *Ikoko* (contraction), and *Iyapa* (friction).
- You made choices in the past that led to *Isopo* (connection, connectivity, belonging).
- And you made choices in the past that fueled *Itelo / Iparada* (expansion, growth, transformation).

You and I have made, and are making those choices individually and collectively, and what we see around us in this moment are the consequences of all those individual and collective choices we have made up until this moment, this 'Now'. Many, if not most of us, are displeased with much of what we see, the consequences of our past choices! But it doesn't have to stay that way because we still have *Yiyan Aṣe*, the power to choose! You and I have the power to alter our future by the choices we make on the Vertical timeline (Now). Hence the saying:

*'B'ao ku ishe o tan!'*'When there is life, there is still hope!'

That's what makes these lessons so potentially valuable to you. One piece of wisdom that you receive from these lessons may help you to make a different choice that may send your life in a whole new direction, one more in line with your chosen destiny.

Let's use our imagination to make this point clearer. In this moment, you can choose to imagine adopting the Ninth Truth of *Ifá* as a guiding principle, a core value in your life (We must never initiate harm to another human being!). *How does that thought make you feel?* 

Now, image for a moment that everyone else on the planet did the same thing, not just imagining it, but also making it a part of their essential identity. Imagine for a moment that every person on the planet adopted that guiding principle for all human social interactions, in politics, healthcare, education, domestic and family relationships, business, religion, etc. *How does that thought make you feel?* Imagine what it would be like to live in Peaceful Space, in the Good Condition!

Oh! Forget about judging whether such a thing is possible. Forget about trying to figure out how to get the whole world to agree to it. Because all that is important in your world is that you do it. In the moment that you make that choice, your world changes because your *Àṣẹ Ami* (Energy Signature) changes. And as we discussed in our last lesson,

• since everything in creation is an expression of the same energy  $(\dot{A}se)$ , and Quantum Entanglement has been scientifically proven, then the Universal Law of *Isopo* 

(Connectivity) is a fact and supports the Eighth Truth of *Ifá*; 'We are part of the Universe (Multi-verse) in a literal, not just figurative, way!'

The Sixteen Truths of *Ifá* create a fabric that shelters the devotees and adherents from the pitfalls, obstacles, and challenges of the *L'oja*. When you shift your *Àṣẹ Ami* (your energy signature, vibration and frequence), you shift what you attract into your and our world. Remember, as we have shared throughout this series of lessons, 'we are spiritual beings having an experience of embodiment'. We are a tangible, visible form of a Sentient Energetic Entity (SEE) that is beyond any sense of limitation. We are, in fact, the creators of worlds and realities.

So, as we begin counting the days, weeks, and months of the year 2025, and the decades to unfold, let us not forget all those moments in which we are making choices that will have an impact on multiple lives, for better or for worst. I was writing my first draft of the script for this video lesson a week or so after the 2024 Presidential elections. So, the implication of what I am saying here should be very clear to you. And if it is not clear yet, I can just about guarantee that it will become clearer as the consequences of your and my individual and collective choices in this last election become manifest.

As I contemplated this lesson, I thought about sharing some statistics about all the madness and sadness going on around the world, but I'm glad that I decided not to add to the negative emotional energies by bringing it here to our spiritual studies. You see what's going on in your homes, neighborhoods, cities, across the country, and around the world.

- This lesson is about the power of our choices, and about uplifting our spirits.
- It's about your and my ability and responsibility to leave the world a better place by virtue of our having been here.
- It's about doing our part to bring about the Good Condition for every human being.

Some of you may be inspired to make large scale, highly visible changes because your *Orí* calls you to that journey. But it's not about the magnitude or the scope of the change that you bring to the world. It's about the vibrational quality of what you resonate to the world and to the multiverse. Remember one of our first lessons, *'Bit by Bit'*? We are striving for progress, not perfection. If you focus on making daily progress, you will eventually reach the point of perfection.

(3.2) *Ìwòrì Méjì / Ìwòrìméjì* Cautious Path of the Awo

This Odù also says: (speaking of the cautious path the awo must follow.)

Àbọrú Àbọyè!

"Iwori teju mo ohun ti nse ni Bi o ba te Ita tan Ki o tun iye e re te Iwori teju mo ohun ti nse ni. Awo, ma fi eja Igba gun ope. Iwori teju mo ohun ti nse ni.

Awo, ma fi aimowe wo odo. Iwori teju mo ohun ti nse ni. Awo, ma fi ibinu yo obe. Iwori teju mo ohun ti nse ni. Awo, ma ji kanjukanju jaye. Iwori teju mo ohun ti nse ni. Awo, ma fi warawara mkun ola. Iwori teju mo ohun ti nse ni. Awo, maseke, sodale. Iwori teju mo ohun ti nse ni. Awo, ma puro jaye. Iwori teju mo ohun ti nse ni. Awo, ma se igberaga si agba. Iwori teju mo ohun ti nse ni. Awo, ma so ireti nu. Iwori teju mo ohun ti nse ni. Awo, ma san bante Awo. Iwori teju mo ohun ti nse ni. Awo, bi o ba tefa tan. Ki o tun ive e re te o. Iwori teju mo ohun ti nse ni. Àse."

"Iwori take a critical look at what affects you. If you undergo *Ifá* initiation (*Itelodu*), Endeavor to use your wisdom and intelligence. *Iwori* take a critical look at what affects you. *Awo*, do not use a broken rope to climb a palm-tree. Iwori take a critical look at what affects you. *Awo*, do not enter into the river without knowing how to swim. Iwori take a critical look at what affects you. Awo, do not draw a knife in anger. Iwori take a critical look at what affects you. *Awo*, do not be in haste to enjoy your life. *Iwori* take a critical look at what affects you. Awo, do not be in a hurry to acquire wealth. Iwori take a critical look at what affects you. Awo, do not lie, do not be treacherous. *Iwori* take a critical look at what affects you. *Awo*, do not deceive in order to enjoy your life. *Iwori* take a critical look at what affects you. Awo, do not be arrogant to elders. *Iwori* take a critical look at what affects you. Awo, do not lose hope. Iwori take a critical look at what affects you.

Awo, do not make love to your colleague's spouse.

*Iwori* take a critical look at what affects you.

Awo, when you have been given Ifá initiation, Initiate yourself again using your wisdom and intelligence. Iwori take a critical look at what affects you. Àṣẹ."

Ìwòrì Méjì / Ìwòrìméjì (3)

Truth (9) of the *Ifá* Corpus applies not only to physical harm but also mental, emotional, social, financial, or any other form of harm or hardship. DO NO HARM! 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. If indeed we have the power to move the  $A\dot{s}\dot{e}$ , to bend reality, then certainly it is better to wish, pray for, conjure, and will that our 'enemies' or 'tormenters' have a revelation of consciousness or a change of heart rather than to wish harm upon them.

We choose to let Olódùmare and Orisa be the judges of whether harm is the only way to deal with a soul in violation of righteous behavior. This is not to say that we sit passively by in the face of a clear threat to our life and wellbeing, but even then, we would not be the one to initiate harm and our Ori will certainly be guiding us in the process of responding. In Ifa, we trust that the Orisa will protect their own!

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 cast a dark shadow over many of the practices of our Ancestors and much has been loss because of our experiences in contact with the western world and because of the doctrine and practices of White Supremacy Racism. Many of us have forgotten that we have the power to affect the world - for better or worst - through our powerful spiritual methodologies and our innate potentials, our *Ogun Ibi* (Birthright).

Now, broaden your thinking! Experience Itelo (Consciousness Expansion) as we invite you to consider Truth (10) of Ifa – 'You must never harm the universe of which you are part!'

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! Alafia ati Ife! Peace and Love! Ajolo Ajobo! We go out together; We return together! Àṣe! Àṣe o!