

P06\_6\_2020\_ The Sixteen Truths of Ifá:  
Truth 14: Sacrifice Guarantees Success! (June 2025 Release)

Alafia Brothers and Sisters!  
*Orí ire 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 o!*

If you are striving to change your life by following the guidance of your ancestors, then you are in the right place. This is where we break things down to help you to expand your mind into the wisdom of the *Ifá* Spiritual Tradition of Ancestor and *Òrìṣà* Worship.

*Itesiwaju ati Isokan!* (Progress and Peace!)  
Everything we share here is intended to assist you in making progress and finding peace and success in your life. Your goal is consistent progress, not perfection!

*Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ o!*

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

If you are new to these video lessons, 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*). You can learn more about the *Emese* and the *Isoro* Council in the description section below and on our website.

Our topic in this video is: The Sixteen Truths of Ifá: Truth (14): Sacrifice Guarantees Success!

Some religious philosophies and paths tell the adherents that even their place in the 'hereafter' is not guaranteed. The adherents' success in achieving the purpose of their existence, and their personal dreams, goals, and aspirations in this life, is based upon a somewhat uncertain, indefinite, or unclear journey. The result is that disagreements, dissension, and divisions arise. Sometimes bringing bitterness and even hatred into the community of believers.

The Fourteenth Truth of *Ifá*, that 'Sacrifice Guarantees Success', makes a very powerful statement about this tradition, the Spiritual Tradition of Ancestor and *Òrìṣà* Worship. *Ifá* says there is a way to successfully navigate your journey in the *L'oja*. There is a way to fulfill the purpose of your existence, the reason that you chose to come into this world and this life. There is a way for you to fulfill your personal dreams, goals, and aspirations.

And then *Ifá* offers as one of its truths, that the success that you seek, whether it is to gain, to avoid, to advance, to overcome, or to evade, is guaranteed. Make sure you read the small print. The guarantee is conditional. The condition is not bad or out of line in any way. The condition is that it is up to YOU to choose (*sha*) to see (*ori*), *Òrìṣà* - to choose to see.

*Ifá* points the way to the immense joy of 'successful living' not by pointing or directing you towards someone or something outside of yourself. *Ifá*, instead, points you, the seeker or devotee, toward your own Higher Self, towards your own *Orí*, towards your own *God-Self*, and it instructs you to LISTEN and FOLLOW the guidance of your *Orí*. It is said, that when you come to the *Babaláwo* for a Divination (as many of you have come to me), the answers that come are by the guidance and permission of your own *Orí*. Nothing proceeds or emerges without the permission of your personal *Orí*.

When the energies of the *L'oja* and the forces of everyday life overwhelm, or confuse, or raise your doubts about some choice or decision, drowning out the voice of your *Orí*, you turn to your *Babaláwo*, your *Iyalorisa*, or your *Obi* to help you reset *Isopo* (connectivity) between your physical *Orí* (influenced by the *L'oja*, marketplace) and your Spiritual *Orí* (attuned to *ẹmi ọrun*, Spirit of Heaven.)

There are as many definitions or ideas about 'success' as there are people. The notion of 'sacrifice' is also somewhat difficult to pin down. What one person considers to be a sacrifice may be different for someone else. Consider all the different kinds of sacrifices that are being made right in this moment, sacrifices emerging from the COVID-19 Pandemic, wars, geopolitical conflicts, and the Plague of Racism and the institutional and social disintegration that is presently raging across the United States, and around the world.

- Sacrifice can be offering plants, herbs, or animals as our Ancestors have done for thousands of years or surrendering a possession as an offering to a God or to a divine or supernatural figure.
- The word 'sacrifice' comes from Middle English and Latin roots related to 'sacer' meaning 'holy'.
- In the religious or spiritual context, at its root, a 'sacrifice' is intended to be a holy and spiritual act.
- Sacrifice is also an act of giving up something valued for the sake of something else regarded as more important or worthy.
- In that sense sacrifice is both a negotiation and a strategy.

*Ifá* prescribes many different sacrifices. If we wanted to delineate them into broad categories, we could say that there are:

- *Ẹbọs* - sacrifices called for in the context of a reading, or a voluntary offering to *Ọrìṣà* or *Egúngún* (Spirit of Ancestors).
- *Ipese* - a provision made beforehand to clear the way to proceed with a ritual or ceremony.

Some of you have come to me for a reading (say your *Odù Ojo Ibi*) and when I consulted to see if the way was clear to for me to perform the reading the answer was Yes Conditional. This meant that there was something that the seeker had to do first, before we could proceed with the Birthing *Odù* divination. This was *Ipese*.

*"Bi owe, Bi owe, ru Ifá soro!"*

*"Like proverbs, like proverbs, is how Ifá speaks!"*

The following *Ifá* Sayings and Proverbs will hopefully give you an appreciation for the beauty, power, and perspective of this amazing Spiritual Tradition and why it is adhered to by tens of millions of devotees around the world. *Ifá* persist because it works, it produces results.

Let's look at three (3) important elements of this Truth of *Ifá*: Sacrifice Guarantees Success!

- *Ti Ilana Isin* (ritual)
- *Orí*
- *Ẹbọ*

For your *Ẹbọs* to serve their intended transformative functions, all three of these elements must be integrated into a coherent vibration from your heart (and the heart of the *Babaláwo* who may be performing the divination). The transformative power and purpose of our ceremonies and rituals is clearly exemplified in the expression:

***Ti Ilana Isin:*** (Ritual)

*Awe ati Ẹbọ ni muni ri bi Òrìṣà!*

Fasting and Rituals transform you into the image of *Òrìṣà*!

And the need for coherence between the heart and all aspects of your *Orí* is expressed:

*Orí Inu wa maba tode je!*

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

***Orí:***

As we have discussed previously, you are not your body, mind, thoughts, or emotions. You are *Ìmòlára* (the Awareness) that perceives the ongoing interplay of these capacities of your *Ara Ojubo* (Body Temple), your *Avatar*.

*Ohun Orí wa se, koma ni s alai se eo!*

What *Orí* comes to fulfill, it cannot but fulfill it!

*Orí lomo ibi ton gbe ese re!*

*Orí* alone knows the direction of the feet.

***Ẹbọ:***

*Ẹbọ* is a ritual or offering made to appease deities or spiritual beings, often involving sacrifices or gifts. When you create coherence between your heart and brain, between your heart and your *Orí*, between your physical *Orí* and your Spiritual *Orí*, you will have the *Àṣẹ* (spiritual power) to bring about the changes, the transformation that you are seeking.

*Ẹbọ fin, Eru da!*

The offerings are accepted, evil departs.

*Ojo o buru, Ẹbọ nii gbe ni o!*

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

*Riru Ẹbọ ni igbe ni.*

It is the offering of sacrifice that brings blessings.

*Riru ki igbe eyan!*

Neglect of sacrifice blesses no one!

These proverbs and sayings represent some of the divine agreements made in the *Ifá* Spiritual Tradition of Ancestor and *Òrìṣà* Worship.

*Ifá kii puro.*

*Ifá* does not lie.

*Ifá kii seke.*

*Ifá* does not back bite (mislead or deceive).

*Ohun tiyoo sele nifa nwi!*

*Ifá* simply says what will happen!

*Opẹlẹ kii seke!*

*Opẹlẹ* does not mislead! (*Opẹlẹ* is the divining chain, one of the divination tools of the *Babaláwo*.)

There is so much more to this topic (*Ifá Iwa* Lessons), but these few Sayings and Proverbs can help you to see how *Ifá* points the way to enhance the connection between you and the true source of your power and guidance, your Spiritual *Orí*, your Divine-Self, your *Orí Iponri*.

**Note:**

Your *Orí Iponri* is your original "form" of pure energy, divine being, or "true spiritual entity" that manifested first, from your Original Energy Source, *Orisun*. Your *Orí Iponri* also resides in one of the first realms created by Source. That realm is termed *Orun* (heaven) in *Ifá*.

The idea of following the guidance of one's own *Orí* points to the power that lies in each of us. In too many cases however, that power remains untapped. Hence the Fifteenth Truth of *Ifá* acts as a reminder for you to override any sense of limitation.

*Ranti tani iwo ni!*

Remember who you are!

*Ranti etiri iwo de!*

Remember why you came!

*Àṣẹ o!*

The Fifteenth Truth of *Ifá* states: The *Òrìṣà* live within us! We'll discuss this truth in our next lesson.

Brothers and Sisters, if you appreciate the wisdom that we share on this channel please help us to expand our reach and grow our audience by Subscribing, clicking that LIKE button, leaving your Comments below, and sharing this channel with others.

Let's work together to help our YouTube Egbe, our spiritual family grow to 5000 or more subscribers by this time next year.

Also don't forget to please contribute to our GoFundMe Campaign for the **Ifá Temples and Shrines Restoration Project** at <https://gofund.me/d3fc5705>. Information is also posted in the Updates section of the website and in the Description section of this video below.

*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!

*Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ o!*