# **VOICE OF YORUBA**



### NEWSLETTER OF EGBE OMO YORUBA OF GREATER MIAMI VALLEY

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## Just for Laughs and Lesson

In pre-writing days, oral history, parables, and stories were the primary ways that new generations learned from the preceding generations. The funny story below bellows the importance of teaching young ones a lesson through sage rather than rage.

### Trick of the Age: Reverse Psychology

Once upon a time . . . . as the story goes, a wise old man retired and purchased a modest home near a high school. He spent the first few weeks of his retirement in peace and quiet. Then, a new school year began. The very next afternoon three young boys, full of youthful after-school exuberance, came down his street, beating merrily on every trash can along the street. The cacophony continued day after day, until finally the wise old man decided it was time to put a stop to it.

The next afternoon, he walked out to meet the young "percussionists" as they banged their way down the street. Stopping them, he said, "You kids are a lot of fun. I like to see you express your exuberance like that all the time. In fact, I used to do the same thing when I was your age. Will you do me a favor? I'll give you each a dollar if you would promise to come around every day and bang the cans. It reminds me of the fun steel drums of the Caribbeans." The kids were elated and continued to do a bang-up job on the trash cans.

After a few days, the sage old man greeted the kids again, but this time he had a sad smile on his face.

"Look," he said, "I haven't received my retirement payment yet, so I'm not going to be able to give you more than 25 cents. Will that be okay?"

"A lousy quarter?" the drum leader exclaimed. "If you think we're going to waste our time, beating these cans around for a quarter, you're wrong! No way, mister. We quit!" And the old man enjoyed his peace and quiet forever more.

## Member Events, Activities, and News

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to members whose birthdays occurred during April to June 2012

<u>April:</u> Alice Okunade, April 6

Rosalind Osinubi, April 14

#### May:

Christiana Okunade, May 5 Gabriel Okunade, May 10 Bisi Adegbile, May 18 Joan Apapa, May 29

#### June:

Temitayo Osinubi, June 15 Samuel Okunade, June 22 Julius Fadare, June 28 Gloria Iselaiye, June 13

### Egbe's Funny Bones:

#### \_\_\_\_\_

So, you think you know everything about Nigeria. Well, prove it by answering this quiz.

**Question**: Where is the Capital of Nigeria?

The correct answer is provided in fine print somewhere in this newsletter. Find it!

\_\_\_\_\_

<u>The benefit of youth:</u> When in youth, you may not have a watch, but you have time. When you are an adult, you have an expensive watch, buy you have no time.





#### Strange fact:

According to eye specialists and psycho-social analysts,

"When you are looking at someone you love, your pupils dilate, they do the same when you are looking at someone you hate."

So, when the pupils of the eyes of the person you are speaking with dilates right in front of you, you have a 50% chance of guessing whether the person loves you or hates you.

#### Did you know?

The first Black member of U.S. Congress was Louis Stokes from Ohio. He served 15 terms, beginning in the late 1960s.

#### Quote about talk time:

"Talk expands to fill the available time." – Deji Badiru, Project Management Best Practices, 1996

### **Salute to Our Professors**

#### Dr. Mabayoje Oriowo

Dr. Oriowo is currently a professor of pharmacology in the Department of Pharmacology, Kuwait University, Kuwait. He obtained his bachelor's (1974) and doctorate (1979) degrees in pharmacology from the University of Ibadan. He was a World Health Organization Research Fellow (1979 – 1980) and a Fogarty International Research Fellow (1984 – 1985). He was appointed a lecturer in the Department of Pharmacology, University of Ibadan in 1979 and rose to the rank of a senior lec turer in 1985. He joined Kuwait University as Professor of Pharmacology in 1992. His main research interest is in autonomic/autocoid pharmacology mostly in relation to the cardiovascular system. He has recently done some work on some aspects of the inflammatory bowel disease. He has published over 90 articles in several peer-reviewed journals. He was a visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmacology, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont, USA. He was also a visiting research scientist with SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals (now GlaxoSmithKline Plc). He was recently, a visiting Professor of Pharmacology at Wright State University. He is a member of several international



professional organizations including International Union of Pharmacological Societies, West African Society for Pharmacology, British Pharmacological Society, African Union of Pharmacological Societies and American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. He is married with children.

**Professional History:** Sept. 1992-Present: Professor of Pharmacology, Kuwait University. He was a visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmacology, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont, USA. He was also a visiting research scientist with SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals (now GlaxoSmithKline Plc). He was recently, a visiting Professor of Pharmacology at Wright State University.

#### Dr. Emmanuel Funso Oluyitan

Dr. E. Funso Oluvitan is a retired professor of communications of Wilberforce University, Wilberforce, Ohio, USA. A political science graduate of Bowie State University, Bowie, Maryland, Dr. Oluvitan also attended Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana where he earned a master's degree in public affairs/journalism and a doctor of education degree in instructional technology in 1980. Dr. Oluyitan is currently working on a second doctoral degree, a Ph.D. in Leadership and Change from Antioch University, in pursuit of his passion against corruption in Nigeria. Dr. Oluvitan started a career in journalism in 1964 as a reporter for the Nigerian Morning Post. He was one of the reporters that covered the 1964 Nigerian Federal Election in the then Northern Region of Nigeria. Dr. Oluvitan also worked for Radio Nigeria, Ibadan as a music librarian, Yoruba news translator and producer from 1965 to 1969. He received the Regional Controller's Letter of Commendation for Excellent Performance in Broadcasting in 1968.Upon completion of his master's degree in the United States, Dr. Oluvitan was employed by the Indianapolis Police Department as a victim assistance officer. In November 1976, he received an Award of Worthiness and



Accomplishment as the Officer of the Month. Dr. Oluyitan returned to Nigeria in 1980 to work for the Nigerian Television Authority where he also bagged an Award of Excellence as a training officer. Dr. Oluyitan taught at Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria from 1981 to 1988, where he served as Head of Educational Technology Department and Assistant Dean Postgraduate for the Faculty of Education. In 1988, Dr. Oluyitan returned to the US to work as a program officer for the National Association for Equal Opportunities in Higher Education (NAFEO), an educational organization representing 117 Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Dr. Oluyitan also worked as director of public relations for Lincoln University, Pennsylvania and Bennet College before teaching at Wilberforce University from 1997 to 2006. In 199, Dr. Oluyitan was the recipient of Wilberforce University Faculty Merit Award for Teaching Excellence. Upon retirement from Wilberforce University, Dr. Oluyitan and his wife became the founders of ASE African Center which promotes African culture through the sales of African groceries, clothing, books, as well as writing in the print media, producing for television and radio and engaging in public lectures and exhibitions. Dr. Oluyitan is listed in Who's Who in Nigeria, 1990; Who's Who in American Education, 1996; and Who's Who in America, 1997. A prolific writer and communication expert, Dr. Oluyitan has written extensively on information and communication techniques and has also produced for radio and television. He is currently the producer and host of *International Insight* and *Sermon from the Studio* on Time Warner Cable Stations in Miami Valley Area of Dayton, Ohio. He is the author of *Africa Yesterday and Today*, published in 2007, founder of the Association of Nigerians against Corruption. He is married with six children.

#### Dr. Daniel Adebayo Iselaiye

Rev. Dr. Daniel Adebayo Iselaive comes from Isanlu-Makutu, Kogi State, Nigeria. He had worked as a teacher and principal for about 17 years with the Kwara State board of education in Nigeria before coming to Xenia. He works presently at Wilberforce University as a tenured associate professor of religion and philosophy. Rev. Dr. Iselaiye graduated from the following institutions or universities in preparation for his educational career: Offa Grammar School (first set of H.S.C., 1968-69), ECWA Theological Seminary, Igbaja, Nigeria (B.Th., 1974), Wheaton College & Graduate School, Wheaton, Illinois (B.A., M.A., 1980), University of Ilorin (PGDE, 1986), PSCE-Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, VA (M.Ed., 1992)), Payne Theological Seminary, Wilberforce, OH (M.Div., 1994), Union Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio (D.Min., 1998), and Wright State University (postgraduate studies: Arming Teachers, a study of OCD, ODD, and ADHD). Rev. Dr. Iselaive received the faculty merit bonus award for teaching excellence and service in 2008 and 2012 at Wilberforce University. Rev.Dr. Iselaiye received his ministerial ordination from the ECWA Church and he serves ECWA USA as the chairperson for the Kentucky-Ohio Local Church Council (LCC). He has also been



a member of the communion and leadership of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) since 1991. His religious activities include sporadic supply preaching engagements. He is involved with a few recognized associations or organizations, such as the Egbe Omo Yoruba of Greater Miami Valley, the Association of American University Professors, American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), Presbyterian USA- Self Development of People (SDOP), Dayton African Community Center, Inc., USA., Christian Community Development Association (member), Chicago, Inc., USA, and etc. Rev. Dr. Iselaiye is married to Gloria, a teacher and a respiratory therapist by profession. They are blessed with children and many grandchildren.

#### Dr. Gabriel Omolewu

"I started the academic race at Baptist Day School, Okeho, Oyo, Nigeria in 1944 and had my secondary school education at Olivet Baptist High School, Oyo. I enrolled at the Meteorological Training School, Oshodi, Lagos the week following graduation at Olivet in December 1959. At the completion of the training program in 1960, I was posted to Kano Airport and later transferred to Minna. I took the Scholastic Aptitude Test in Minna and was admitted to Michigan State University and Ohio State University. I was transferred to Lagos Airport in January 1962 to assist me in my travel plans to Michigan State University. Unfortunately, my dad became seriously ill towards the middle of the year. In June 1962, Baptist Hospital, Shaki decided that there was no hope for his recovery and he was discharged and returned home to Okeho. Miraculously, he recovered and lived until he was 114 years old. Since there was nobody else to take care of the school fees of my brother and sister at Mayflower, Ikenne, and my brother, the last born, at Olivet Baptist High School, I cancelled my travel plans to USA. When two of them completed their high school education, I was admitted to the University of Nigeria. Nsukka, During the second week of my study at the University, the Biafran crisis broke out and all faculty, staff and students who were non-Ibos were escorted out of eastern Nigeria. I married in 1972 and after having two children my wife and I applied to Wilberforce University. Since we were



to travel to Wilberforce during the first week in August 1975, we applied for passports in January but we could not get the passports for six months. Early in July, I met with the Chief Passport Officer who promised to issue passports to us the same day if were willing to apply afresh. We hurriedly applied as he directed. He wanted me to wait for the new passports but he said because his messenger would take the forms to Lions Building on bike for clearance, he suggested that I should come the following morning to pick them up. When I got there the following morning, he was very happy to see me. He cheerfully opened his drawers but the passports had disappeared. He became nervous and was sweating in the air-conditioned office. He called his staff together and ordered them to find the two passports. He apologized to me for the disappointment. A few days later, the military government closed the passport office. We gave up the hope of travelling to Wilberforce. Luckily In October 1975, the passport office was reopened and 300 passports were issued daily starting with the applications as far back as about 1948. One day, our names appeared in Sunday Times for passports to be picked up the following day. We renewed our admissions to Wilberforce University for winter trimester1976 and left Nigeria on January 2, 1976 with my wife five months pregnant. I graduated with BS in Accounting and studied and earned at Wright State University MBA Accounting in 1980 and MS Economics in1981. I also received DBA, Management in 1986 at international Graduate School, St. Louis, and PhD Education at The University of Akron in 2000... I was waiting for my wife to defend her thesis at Wright State University when Wilberforce University wanted me to help teach the business courses of Mrs. Derisky who went with her husband to the South two weeks into the trimester. The University offered to assist in getting Green Card for me upon accepting the position. A few days later, Central State University at Wilberforce wanted my wife to teach Economics and offered also to assist in applying for a Green card for her. That was how God miraculously opened the doors for both of us in the two Universities. During the thirty two years of teaching at Wilberforce University, I had made presentations at local, state and international conferences in USA and other countries including Canada, China, France, Japan, Russia, South Africa, and United Kingdom. I received, several times, Faculty Merit Bonus Awards for excellent teaching and University Service. I was awarded NISSAN Fellowship in 1991 for excellent teaching. I was recognized in 2002 by Governor Bob Taft, the Governor of the State of Ohio, for developing and Teaching Business Ethics at Wilberforce University."

#### Professor Adedeji B. Badiru

Prof. Adedeji Badiru is Professor and Head of Systems & Engineering Management at the Air Force Institute of Technology. He was previously professor and department head of Industrial & Information Engineering at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. Prior to that, he was professor of industrial engineering and Dean of University College at the University of Oklahoma. He is a registered professional engineer (PE), a certified Project Management Professional (PMP), a Fellow of the Institute of Industrial Engineers, and a Fellow of the Nigerian Academy of Engineering. He holds BS in Industrial Engineering, MS in Mathematics, and MS in Industrial Engineering from Tennessee Technological University, and Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering from the University of Central Florida. His areas of interest include mathematical modeling, systems engineering, project modeling and analysis, industrial economic analysis. He is the author of 22 books, 34 book chapters, 65 technical journal articles, 107 conference proceedings and presentations. He also has 24 magazine articles and 20 editorials and periodicals. He is a member of several professional associations several scholastic honor societies. Prof. Badiru has won several awards for his teaching,



research, and professional accomplishments. He is the recipient of the 2009 Dayton Affiliate Society Council Award for Outstanding Scientists and Engineers in the Education category with a commendation from the 128<sup>th</sup> Senate of Ohio. He also won 2010 IIE/Joint Publishers Book-of-the-Year Award for co-editing The Handbook of Military Industrial Engineering. He also won 2010 ASEE John Imhoff Award for his global contributions to Industrial Engineering Education, the 2011 Federal Employee of the

Year Award in the Managerial Category from the International Public Management Association, Wright Patterson Air Force Base, the 2012 Distinguished Engineering Alum Award from the University of Central Florida, and the 2012 Medallion Award from the Institute of Industrial Engineers for his global contributions in the advancement of the profession. He has served as a consultant to several organizations around the world including Russia, Mexico, Taiwan, Nigeria, and Ghana. He has conducted customized training workshops for numerous organizations including Sony, AT&T, Seagate Technology, U.S. Air Force, Oklahoma Gas & Electric, Oklahoma Asphalt Pavement Association, Hitachi, Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation, and ExxonMobil. He has won several awards for his teaching, research, publications, administration, and professional accomplishments. He holds a leadership certificate from the University Tennessee Leadership Institute. Prof. Badiru has served as a Technical Project Reviewer, curriculum reviewer, and proposal reviewer for several organizations including The Third-World Network of Scientific Organizations, Italy, National Science Foundation, National Research Council, and the American Council on Education. He is on the editorial and review boards of several technical journals and book publishers. Prof. Badiru has also served as an Industrial Development Consultant to the United Nations Development Program. He is also a Program Evaluator for ABET. In 2011, Prof. Badiru led a research team to develop analytical models for Systems Engineering Research Efficiency (SEER) for the Air Force acquisitions integration office at the Pentagon. Prof. Badiru has diverse areas of avocation. His professional accomplishments are coupled with his passion for writing about everyday events, interpersonal issues, and socially responsible service to the community. Outside of the academic realm, he writes self-help books, motivational poems, editorials, and newspaper commentaries; as well as engaging in paintings and crafts that can be viewed at www.badiru.com. He also manages a STEM-and-soccer education website, www.physicsofsoccer.com. He is the founder of the Association of Military Industrial Engineers (AMIE), www.amienet.org. He is married and has three grown children.

#### Dr. Samuel Okunade

Biographical Sketch not available by Press Time

#### **Dr. Florence Odetunde**

Biographical Sketch not available by Press Time

## **Congratulatory Messages**

**CONGRATULATIONS** to our very own Rev. (Dr.) **Daniel Iselaiye** for his teaching excellence as evidenced by his Faculty Merit Bonus Award at Wilberforce University on the 17<sup>th</sup> of April, 2012.

Additional CONGRATULATIONS to Rev. (Dr.) **Daniel Iselaiye** for his election as Chairman of ECWA USA District Church Council at the 2012 Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, which was also attended by 17 ECWA Church representatives from Nigeria. The website for ECWA USA is <u>http://www.ecwausa.org/</u>.

**CONGRATULATIONS** also to Deacon **Yakub Oladele** for a successful and exciting deacon ordination ceremony on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April, 2012.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Prof. **Adedeji Badiru** for receiving the Distinguished Alum Award from the College of Engineering at the University of Central Florida, Orlando, Florida on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March, 2012.

More **CONGRATULATIONS** to Prof. **Adedeji Badiru** for receiving the 2012 Medallion Award from the Institute of Industrial Engineers at the annual conference in Orlando, Florida on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of May, 2012. This is an international-level award that recognizes individuals who have made a notable impact on the industrial engineering profession globally.

Olumide weds Rebecca: Also, **CONGRATULATIONS** to **The Oluyitans** on the gracious wedding of their son, Olumide, to Rebecca in North Carolina on April 14, 2012. The photo below tells the happy story.



# Your Medical Stats

From CNN, April 17, 2012 -- Going to your doctor on a regular basis is one of the best ways to stay healthy. But these days, knowing all your health information can be a little confusing. LDL, BMI, BP, it's a whole new alphabet to learn.

Keeping heart healthy is many times like alphabet soup. So what do all the letters mean? Know your numbers or BP, LDL and HDL. BP is blood pressure, HDL and LDL are cholesterol.

Dr. Warren Levy, president of Virginia Heart says, "**HDL** which is your good cholesterol, that stands for **high density lipoproteins** and for men that should be above 40 and for women above 50, and you should know your **LDL** which is the **low density lipoproteins** and those are the bad ones they need to be under 100 for the general population."

And what does BMI stand for? Levy says, "BMI stands for body mass index and it's a very simple way of calculating percentage of someone's body that is made up of fat. And we have ranges that we know are healthy or unhealthy. A BMI less than 25 is healthy, above 25 you are overweight and you need to do something about it."

And an EKG or ECG? Levy says, "**EKG** is actually the German abbreviation for **Electrocardiogram** in English we say **ECG**, but it's simply a electrical measurement of the heart's activity."

And if you've suffered from a TIA, should you be worried? Levy says, "A **TIA** is a **Transient Ischemic Attack**, that's a stroke that almost happened. A TIA can be a warning sign that you are at risk of having a stroke and that should never be ignored..."

# **Special Feature Article**

# The fear of relocating to Nigeria from America

by Sabella Abidde

Reprinted from



January 25, 2012

"More Nigerians come home to visit every year between December 15 and January 15, than at any other period in the year. I would estimate the number to be between 250,000 and half-a-million who arrive in the country by road, by sea, and by air – with the majority making the pilgrimage from Britain, Canada, and the United States. Increasingly, a greater number are coming in from Southern Africa and from the West African sub-region.

For many Nigerians, especially those living in the west, this is about the only time they can get time-off from their busy and scheduled life. And so, they treasure such times: to visit their homeland, to reconnect with friends and families; and to bask in the familiar. If you have been away for a while, there is this joy, this euphoric feeling that washes over you as you step on the grounds of your ancestors. Things may have changed for good or for bad, or for worse; still, there is this happiness that envelops you.

You need not say it, and no one need tell you, you just know it – you know this is your home. This is where you belong, the country where your umbilical cord was lovingly cut. Depending on how long you've been gone or how your experiences were abroad, you may even shed a tear. Tear of joy. At the very least, your eyes well up. And your heart may even skip a beat or two. It is always nice to come back home.

For many, the trip serves as a dry run to see if indeed it is time to finally relocate. Even though migration is part of the human experience, it is also one of the most painful of all experiences. But the degree of pain may depend on several factors: why they migrated; their failures and accomplishments; their general experiences abroad; the duration of their sojourn; and what may be waiting for them once they return home.

There was a time when the end goal of most émigrés was to return home once their mission was accomplished. Data may show that 80 per cent or more of Nigerians who left for Europe and for North America between 1952 and 1972, returned home. Data may also show that the number of returnees began to decline in 1976/77, and alarmingly by 1985. Between 1990 and 2005, some 90 per cent knew they were not returning to that "messed up country" any time soon.

Today, that number is about 98 per cent. Nigerians are moving to countries they otherwise wouldn't consider. They are "checking out" to God-forsaken and far-flung places. It didn't matter if these places are war zones, famine-ridden places, or places that were as cold or as hot as hell. Anywhere but Nigeria! Some even brave the hostility of the Sahara Desert just to get to Europe.

Many Nigerians living in the US would love to settle down in Nigeria. But many just talk and dream of returning home without actually implementing their plans. For some, it may not be a good time to move if the kids are still in primary or secondary school. This seems to be one of the discouraging factors especially if you consider the state of the Nigerian educational system.

There may also be a debate between husband and wife: one partner may want to return, but the other opposes it. And so it becomes a question of timing. You may also have other considerations, i.e. the number of years before retirement or before social security payments kicks in; if there are home mortgages to be made; what will be your source of income in Nigeria; do you have a permanent home; can you readily adjust your attitude to fit the Nigerian setting?

But really, many Nigerians living abroad have nothing to return home to; and on the average, it takes the typical Nigerian (in the US) 15-30 years to finally relocate. As they contemplate returning home, many will wonder if they will ever measure up to friends and family members who did not leave the country. And once they get home, many would be amazed to see friends and family who are now in positions of authority and have more money in their accounts than the returnee. After all these years in the US, I can barely get by. And so, in some ways, I envy my friends who never left. Nonetheless, I do not regret leaving Nigeria.

Every year I hear about Nigerians who returned home to success. Yet, I hear many more stories that may discourage even the bravest and the most gifted – Nigerians who return home and then run back to the US after a year or two (with horrible personal experiences in tow): tales of insecurity, non-functioning infrastructure, and of a weak and collapsing state. You hear tales of private and public violence (armedrobbers, cults and gang activities, kidnappings and assassinations).

But above all else, it is the simple things that make life wonderful and joyous and meaningful and which are in short supply that's the most deciding factor for many Nigerians. And, especially for me. For instance, do I want a cheeseburger with bacon or with mushrooms? Or both. Is there hot water in my shower or not? Or for that matter, is the tap running? And if I feel a sharp pain in my chest, would I or my loved ones be able to summon medical help?

And if I feel aggrieved, would I be able to seek redress in the court of law? In other words, choice and freedom! The freedom to choose or to refuse to choose. To be able to propagate my liberal and progressive views; to think for myself and be allowed independent actions so long as I am not violating properly constituted laws. I love Nigeria. And I want back in. But the space is just too limiting and tasking."

Editor's Note:

This article brings to mind the necessity and urgency of returning to Nigeria at some point to help make it a better place devoid of the fears of returning "home." We love it, we fear it, but we can't leave it.

#### **Energy Statistics of Interest:**

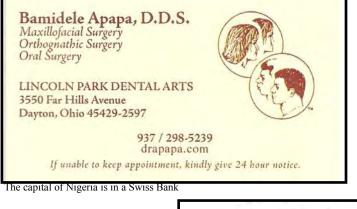
1/3 of the electricity produced on Earth is used to power electric light bulbs. We wonder where our beloved Nigeria ranks in such illuminating statistics.

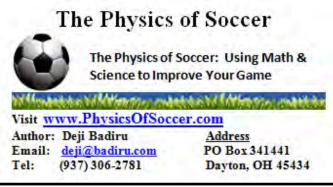
# List of 2012 Officers

President:Prof. Deji BadiruSecretary:Rev. (Dr.) Daniel IselaiyeSocial Secretary:Mr. Yakub OladeleParliamentarian:Dr. Bisi Adegbile

Vice President:	Mr. Sam Oyebanjo
Treasurer:	Mr. Samuel Banjoko
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Deji Badiru
Webmaster:	Mrs. Iswat Badiru

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